

# 'It's a wonderful place to write'

Islip resident releases sixth novel

BY MARIANA DOMINGUEZ

Burt Weissbourd has been a storyteller for quite some time. In the 1970s, the 73-year-old Islip resident was a movie producer who produced films including "Ghost Story," starring Fred Astaire, and "Raggedy Man," starring Sissy Spacek and Sam Shepard.

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Today, Weissbourd has written six novels with his most recent, "Rough Justice," published on Oct. 11. "Rough Justice" is a thriller and the sequel to "Danger in Plain Sight." "Danger in Plain Sight" introduces readers to Callie James and Cash Logan, two people who dislike each other and are forced to become allies. Throughout the novel, the two become an unlikely team. "Rough Justice" catches up with Callie and Cash a year later when Sara, a 25-year-old half-Algerian woman, shows up at the restaurant and insists on telling them her shocking, unbelievable story. Cash and Callie assemble an unconventional ragtag family to help Sara.

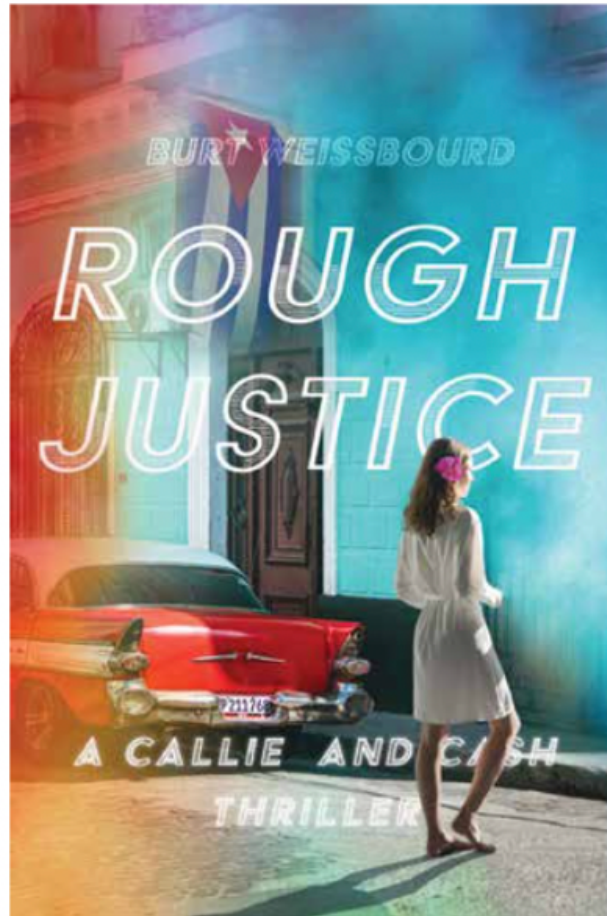
"This is an unconventional family, but it's very sophisticated," Weissbourd said of the "found family" he wrote. "They make her feel welcome. She is a very isolated woman in great danger and comes into her own and really grows into this remarkable young woman and changes the lives of all of the people around her."

Weissbourd noted that one of the things he is most proud of in his books is that they're about people who are in some way not operating at their capacity and throughout the book, the characters grow and become more self-aware. He provided the example of Callie, who in "Danger in Plain Sight," lives for her restaurant and doesn't really have a life outside of it. Throughout the novel, Callie grows and changes for the better.

"Emotionally, it's very satisfying," Weissbourd said.

Along with the emotional tether of the novels, the plot is fast-paced with violence and action.

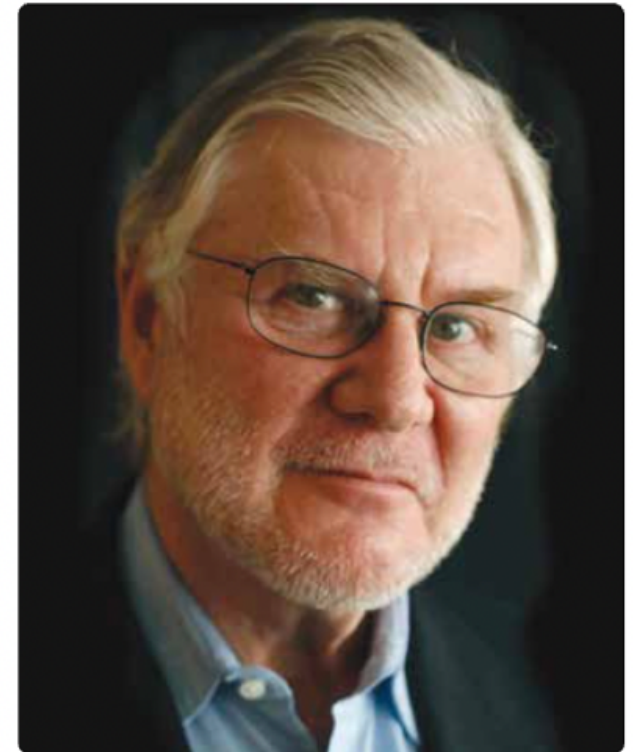
Weissbourd is currently working on his next novel,



Weissbourd's most recent novel "Rough Justice" came out on October 11.

which will feature Sara as the main protagonist.

"Right now, I'm at Islip looking out at the water and I write every day," Weissbourd said. "I am very much a person that writes and rewrites until I have it right. It's a lot of going over things that I've already written



Thriller author Burt Weissbourd resides in Islip.

Courtesy photos

and changing them until I'm satisfied, and it's usually from the morning until about 4 p.m. and it's seven days a week."

Weissbourd was born in Chicago, lived in Los Angeles when he was a producer, raised his children in Seattle and now resides in Islip with his wife, who grew up in nearby Babylon.

"It's very beautiful and very peaceful," he said of the town. "It's a wonderful place to write."

For more information about Weissbourd or to buy his novels visit <https://burtweissbourd.com/>. ■