

It's **read** all over!
Vol. 1, No. 8
September 2011

Zelora



**Dennis
Whitestone:
50 Years
Under
the Hood**

See page 4

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Over the past few months, I kept seeing those little square boxes filled with black geometric shapes, not fully understanding what in the heck they were for, who would ever be using them, and why do I have to embrace one more piece of advancing technology just when I am finally adept at my now outdated BlackBerry I bought three years ago. Now what, is all I could think.

So I checked around and did a little research, and all I can figure is that the little black squares are here to stay and I better get used to them, and not only that, get one for the Zebra. It turns out they are called QR codes, which stands for "Quick Response" codes, because if you have a smartphone with a QR code reader, all you do is flash your camera eye at the little nifty thing and within seconds, you are directed immediately to the company's website, or special promotional event information, or whatever else you folks want their codes to exhibit.

Turns out they are similar to barcodes, which retailers have been using for decades to track inventory, but the old barcodes only hold up to 20 numerical digits, while the new QR codes are two-dimensional matrixes than can hold thousands of alphanumeric informational bits. They are still considered somewhat a novelty here, but they have actively been used in Japan for over a decade where they were invented, actually by a subsidiary of Toyota. The invention company, Denso Wave, has chosen not to exercise their patent rights and that has encouraged their widespread use. You can get your own for free on numerous QR code-generating websites. Zebra found one of the easier ones, and has provided a link on our website at thezebra.org, where in just minutes you can have your very own little square box filled with jigsawed black shapes.

So in this issue, you'll find your way to getting your own QR code, take a look at our continuing Civil War Series, enjoy another feature story of an Alexandria business prospering for over 50 years, and a few other tidbits we hope will entertain.

As always, keep letting us know how we are doing, and let's hope this month the Earth stays still and the winds don't rage and the creeks don't rise. Enjoy the beautiful September days.

Mary Wadland
Owner/Publisher

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For advertising information call 703-919-7533

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Publisher's assistant Lucy readies herself for Halloween, exclaiming, "I don't think I'm in Kansas anymore." Be sure and enter the Zebra Halloween Pet Photo Contest. Details inside.

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On Cover: Dennis Whitestone of Automotive Service Garage and Olde Towne Paint and Body. Photo by Greg Knott.



INBOX

HOW TO GIVE US FEEDBACK

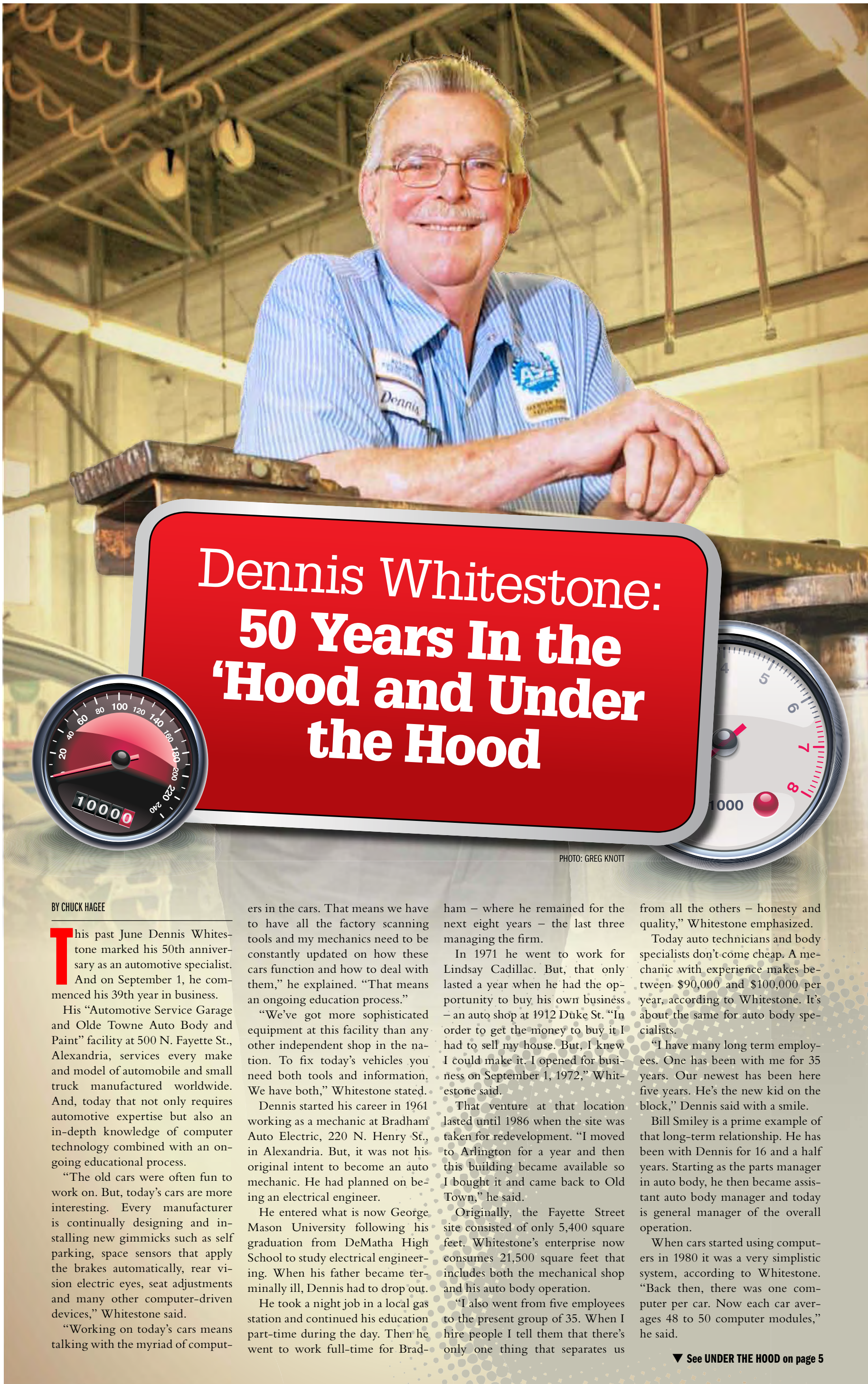
If you would like to send us a comment, send your mail to mary@thezebra.org or Zebra, PO Box 6504, Arlington, VA 22206. Submission of a letter constitutes permission to publish it. Letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity.

Dear Zebra,

Over the last week or so, I noticed that I was shipping quite a lot of items to Virginia. I looked on your website and saw the article [eBay: It's Personal Now]. It is awesome! We are working on paying down Hudson's expenses and just pampering him right now. We are hoping to be able to do his next surgery by Christmas. Thanks for spotlighting Hudson and helping to steer business to my eBay listings to offset his medical expenses.

My sincere appreciation,

Laura
"lekbuttefly" on eBay



Dennis Whitestone: 50 Years In the 'Hood and Under the Hood

PHOTO: GREG KNOTT

BY CHUCK HAGEE

This past June Dennis Whitestone marked his 50th anniversary as an automotive specialist. And on September 1, he commenced his 39th year in business.

His "Automotive Service Garage and Olde Towne Auto Body and Paint" facility at 500 N. Fayette St., Alexandria, services every make and model of automobile and small truck manufactured worldwide. And, today that not only requires automotive expertise but also an in-depth knowledge of computer technology combined with an ongoing educational process.

"The old cars were often fun to work on. But, today's cars are more interesting. Every manufacturer is continually designing and installing new gimmicks such as self parking, space sensors that apply the brakes automatically, rear vision electric eyes, seat adjustments and many other computer-driven devices," Whitestone said.

"Working on today's cars means talking with the myriad of comput-

ers in the cars. That means we have to have all the factory scanning tools and my mechanics need to be constantly updated on how these cars function and how to deal with them," he explained. "That means an ongoing education process."

"We've got more sophisticated equipment at this facility than any other independent shop in the nation. To fix today's vehicles you need both tools and information. We have both," Whitestone stated.

Dennis started his career in 1961 working as a mechanic at Bradham Auto Electric, 220 N. Henry St., in Alexandria. But, it was not his original intent to become an auto mechanic. He had planned on being an electrical engineer.

He entered what is now George Mason University following his graduation from DeMatha High School to study electrical engineering. When his father became terminally ill, Dennis had to drop out.

He took a night job in a local gas station and continued his education part-time during the day. Then he went to work full-time for Brad-

ham – where he remained for the next eight years – the last three managing the firm.

In 1971 he went to work for Lindsay Cadillac. But, that only lasted a year when he had the opportunity to buy his own business – an auto shop at 1912 Duke St. "In order to get the money to buy it I had to sell my house. But, I knew I could make it. I opened for business on September 1, 1972," Whitestone said.

That venture at that location lasted until 1986 when the site was taken for redevelopment. "I moved to Arlington for a year and then this building became available so I bought it and came back to Old Town," he said.

Originally, the Fayette Street site consisted of only 5,400 square feet. Whitestone's enterprise now consumes 21,500 square feet that includes both the mechanical shop and his auto body operation.

"I also went from five employees to the present group of 35. When I hire people I tell them that there's only one thing that separates us

from all the others – honesty and quality," Whitestone emphasized.

Today auto technicians and body specialists don't come cheap. A mechanic with experience makes between \$90,000 and \$100,000 per year, according to Whitestone. It's about the same for auto body specialists.

"I have many long term employees. One has been with me for 35 years. Our newest has been here five years. He's the new kid on the block," Dennis said with a smile.

Bill Smiley is a prime example of that long-term relationship. He has been with Dennis for 16 and a half years. Starting as the parts manager in auto body, he then became assistant auto body manager and today is general manager of the overall operation.

When cars started using computers in 1980 it was a very simplistic system, according to Whitestone. "Back then, there was one computer per car. Now each car averages 48 to 50 computer modules," he said.

▼ See UNDER THE HOOD on page 5



Automotive Service Garage & Olde Towne Auto Body & Paint

PHOTO: GREG KNOTT

▲ UNDER THE HOOD from page 4

“The new phase now is a CAN communications system which is similar to a local area network in an office building. Plus, fiber optics are replacing wiring in cars,” Whitestone explained.

This technological evolution, which is quickly becoming a revolution, requires constant continuing education on the part of auto technicians – both mechanical and body. “In 1996, I saw that I needed to learn a lot more about computers. So, at age 54, I went back to college to take advanced computer classes,” he stated. “Now we build our own computers and networks right here.”

Technology has also become a major component of auto body work. It’s no longer smash, bend, fill and sand.

“The main change here is going from using lead to plastic bondo. We now pull the dent from the outside rather than knocking it out from the inside,” Whitestone explained.

“Frame-measuring was a mechanical process. Now it is computer-generated. When we are finished making sure a car’s alignment is correct through our computer technology, after repairing damage, it is better than when the vehicle came off the assembly line,” Dennis insisted.

Painting vehicles has also changed radically to protect the environment and those doing the work. “Vehicle paints used to be solvent-based. Now they are water-based. There are no VOC (volatile organic compound) fumes. We use different paint guns, primers and a vastly improved drying system,” he explained.

The new drying system was actually perfected by Whitestone at his Alexandria garage. The manufacturers originally had the drying mechanism placed at the corners of the drying room at floor level. That caused excess dust, according to Whitestone.

“I told them they needed to put the mechanism on the walls higher than the vehicle. They argued with me but I proved it by installing the units our way. Now the manufacturers’ sales people are selling the system the way I designed it here to other customers,” he noted.

Married and the father of three grown children, who all live in the area, none of whom are in the auto industry, Dennis and his wife, Lois, reside in Springfield. But he travels throughout the nation and world as part of his other love and avocation – building and driving race cars.

Unfortunately or fortunately, depending on who is assessing the situ-

ation, the latter is now relegated to a fond memory. But, not the building part. In fact, he has two clients for whom he builds dragster engines and travels with them to competitions. They are Bunny Burkett of Spotsylvania, VA, and Dr. Thomas Carter of Victoria, TX.

Dennis started his racing career in stock cars but soon became fascinated with the speed of drag strip racing. From 1963 to 1972 he built and drove engines for himself and others.

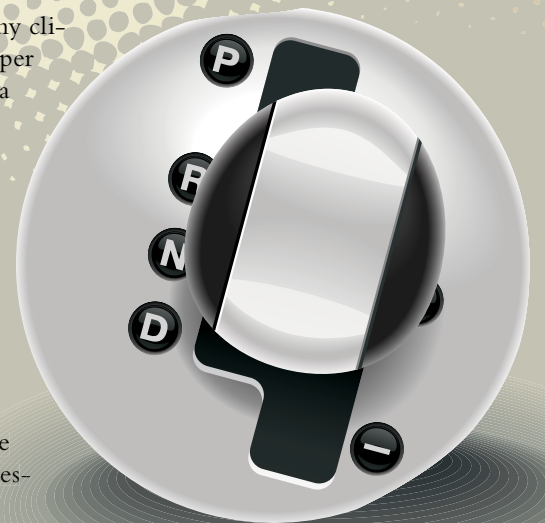
“In 1972 I started building and racing supercharged fuel coupes or dragsters. The formal name is fuel coupe (FC) but then someone started calling them “funny cars” and it stuck,” he explained.

“The ones I build for my clients can reach 260 miles per hour in 5.5 seconds on a quarter mile run from a standing start. We recently had a race in Puerto Rico – shipping the car down there,” Dennis said. The engine alone can be worth \$200,000 or more.

Looking back over his 50 years in the automotive business, Dennis Whites-

tone considers himself a very fortunate man. “I really believe God has blessed me. I’ve been successful in business, in racing and in life,” he reflected.

Now begins the next 50 years. Perhaps it will lead to racing rockets. But, there will remain one constant – Dennis Whitestone’s insatiable desire for knowledge combined with know-how, ingenuity and his love of anything electrical. “It is the love of my professional life,” he concluded.



Alexandria's Shipbuilding History

Who is that guy in Waterfront Park? And, why is he there?

BY CHUCK HAGEE

Alexandria's history as a vital colonial seaport is well known and publicized. But, it was also home to a robust shipbuilding industry that was located at what is now known as Jones Point Park.

There was no park there at that time -- only a sliver of land that jutted out from the southern tip of the city to the lighthouse on the edge of the river. The vast majority of what citizens now know as Jones Point Park was actually water.

To honor and recognize that shipbuilding heritage a monument entitled "The Shipbuilder" was created by local sculptor Michael Curtis and dedicated to the City by the Alexandria Arts Safari. The seven foot bronze statue atop a three



Jones Point statue of Colonial-era shipbuilder by local sculptor Michael Curtis.

PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE



The dedication plaque at base of statue.

PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE

foot granite base depicts a 19th century shipbuilder.

At the time of its dedication, October 2004, Curtis explained, "We actually started to develop the statue five years ago with interviews of various shipbuilding companies about the dress and other details of workers at that time." The clothing of the statue is based on a photo of a shipbuilder of that era, according to Curtis.

"Most of a shipbuilder's clothes of that time would have been made from left over sail cloth. There were also 30 different trades involved in shipbuilding. This statue is of a rigger or lineman. He is holding what is called a "run around

sue" type of rope," Curtis explained at the unveiling.

The concept for the monument was originally brought forth as part of Alexandria's 250th Anniversary. At a total cost of \$430,000, the monument was financed through a series of corporate and individual donations as noted on its base.

Curtis' works can be found at the U.S. Supreme Court, The Library of Congress, various museums, at corporate headquarters and in public buildings throughout the nation. He created the bust of the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall that graces the Thurgood Marshall Building in the District of Columbia.

Alexandria's shipbuilding history will also be on display with the completion of the new Jones Point Park. At its peak that industry consumed most of the southern portion of the Potomac River shoreline.



Plan of the town of Alexandria in the District of Columbia, 1798 / engraved by T. Clarke, New York

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



Virginia Historical Society Begins Work on Massive Civil War Mural Conservation Project \$375,000 Grant Will Help Save an American Treasure

Richmond, VA—The National Park Service and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities—in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation—recently awarded \$14.3 million in federal competitive Save America's Treasures (SAT) grants to 61 organizations and agencies that will conserve nationally significant cultural and historic sites, buildings, objects, documents, and collections.

Among the recipients is the Virginia Historical Society (VHS), awarded \$375,000 to clean and conserve Charles Hoffbauer's Memorial Military Murals depicting Confederate leaders and soldiers during the spring, summer, autumn, and winter "seasons" of the American Civil War. Save America's Treasures received 338 grant applications from eligible federal agencies; state, local, and tribal governments; and not-for-profit organizations. The VHS, a private nonprofit, received the largest monetary award grant-

ed to any applicant in Virginia and the largest SAT grant the organization has ever received.

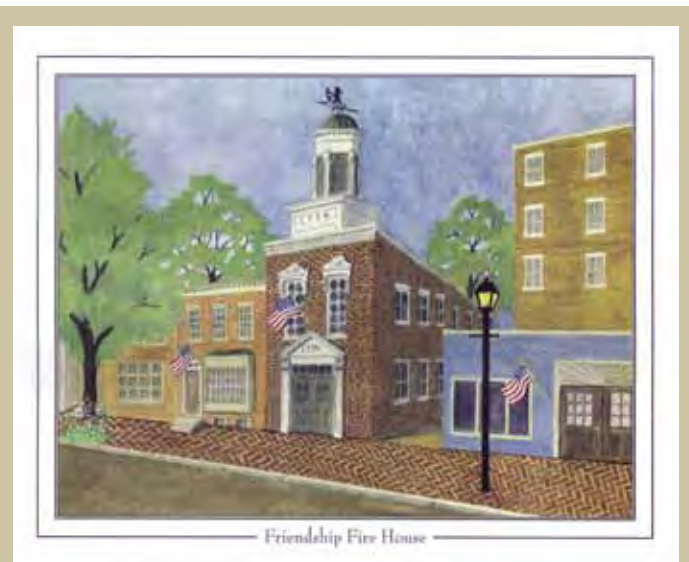
"The Memorial Military Murals by Charles Hoffbauer are an American treasure because they are one of the best examples of how elements of the United States population overcame the pain and destruction of our bloodiest conflict," said Dr. Paul Levengood, VHS President and CEO. "They are the preeminent visual artistic symbol of what came to be known as the 'Lost Cause,' a southern response to defeat in the American Civil War."

The oil paintings were commissioned by the Confederate Memorial Association and painted by French artist Charles Hoffbauer (1875–1957)—a leading historical muralist of the early twentieth century—between 1913 and 1920. There are four main murals, two measuring 26' x 14' and the largest two spanning 36' x 14', and four smaller flanking panels that are 3.5' x 14' each. Outside of the cycloramas at Gettysburg and Grant Park in Atlanta, these murals are one of the few large-scale pieces of Civil War artwork on public view.

"The complete cleaning, restoration, and protective coating of the murals will be accompanied by upgrades to the gallery that houses them, including cleaning and repairing the skylight, repainting the remaining surfaces, and refurbishing the hardwood floors," said Levengood. "This plan will not only stop and correct the loss and damage already affecting the murals' condition, but it will also offer further protection to prevent future threats and ensure continued proper maintenance. The project will provide the ideal conditions for the murals so that they may be enjoyed by the public—free of charge—for many years to come."

The Memorial Military Murals conservation project is scheduled to be completed in 2014. As allowable by the work, the VHS plans to let visitors view the conservation project as it progresses.

VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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ORIGINAL WATERCOLOR BY TODD HEALY

STROLLING BY HISTORY

The Friendship Fire Company

Located at 107 South Alfred Street. Alexandria's first volunteer fire fighting organization, the Friendship Fire Company was established in 1774 and the current firehouse was built in 1855. The firehouse features exhibits which interpret the history of fire fighting in Alexandria and explain the evolving ceremonial and social functions of its members. One of the country's best collections of early firefighting equipment and related objects is located here.

Limited editions of this print are available at Todd Healy's Studio at 320 King Street in Alexandria, 703-549-7883. Todd is also available for private commissions.

Z - H O T S A U C E P I C K O F T H E M O N T H

Eat Sh*t and Die! has received mixed reviews on the web, but in my opinion it deserves a taste. This habanero sauce has become one of my favorites of late. Although the color and label may not be as appealing as other hot sauces, it has a mild taste with a mild heat that adds a nice flavor to steamed veggies or fries. And don't stop there. I tried it on some shrimp tacos the other night and it added just the right flavor. This inexpensive sauce is made for and available through Peppers.com in Rehobeth Beach, Delaware and is a great deal. Try some and let us know what you think at info@thezebra.org.



Contributed by Mike Sade



Remembrance of 9/11

At the Arlington County Historical Society's Hume School House, students from Oakridge Elementary School rang the school bell 184 times, one for each person who perished at the Pentagon. Here Jonathan Rosales rings the bell as Lynne Faris, Robert Emery, Samantha Whichard and Meghan Jones wait their turn.

PHOTO BY HARRY MERRITT



Christine Roland Garner

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Rosemont



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Beautiful 3 level brick colonial with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths just blocks from the METRO, shops and restaurants in Old Town and Del Ray. Entry foyer welcomes you to a spacious living room with a gas fireplace and adjacent den. Formal dining room is open to a gorgeous updated kitchen. Large finished lower level family room with full bath. Freshly painted rooms, wood floors and ample storage. Great fenced yard with large deck and off street parking.

Ford Landing

875,000

Wonderful brick garage townhouse in historic Old Town. Three finished levels, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and a fabulous open floor plan. Private Master Suite with vaulted ceilings, luxury bath and walk-in closet. Eat-in updated kitchen with a pass thru to the dining room and living room with wood floors, a fireplace and double french doors to the deck...entertaining is a breeze!



Old Town Greens

\$829,000

Spacious garage townhome with 4 finished levels, 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Wonderful open floor plans, with wood floors on main level, high ceilings and tall windows. Community pool & tennis, minutes to Old Town, Arlington & D.C.



Old Town

739,000

Fabulous DETACHED home circa 1870 with huge deep yard in the desirable S.E. Quad! 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, hardwood floors, arched doorways and mouldings throughout! Entry foyer, living room with fireplace and formal dining room with butler's pantry. Spacious updated kitchen with breakfast niche. Outdoor entertaining at its best with a custom stone patio, lush lawn and gardens. Close to river, bike path, shops & restaurants!



Old Town

659,000

Enjoy city living in this urban townhouse with off street parking! Three finished levels with 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths and refinished wood floors. Entry foyer welcomes you to the open floor plan with high ceilings, dining room and living room with fireplace, built-ins and french door to the patio. Updated kitchen, ample closet and storage space and just a few blocks to the King St METRO, shops & restaurants!



The Royalton



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Spectacular 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo ideally located just a few blocks from the King St METRO, shops & restaurants in Old Town and the Carlyle! Contemporary with high ceilings, tall windows and a ground level balcony that opens to a beautiful center courtyard. Chic lobby, fitness room, community room and garage parking! Steps to Whole Foods Market!

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ASK THE CLOCKMAN



BY PHIL WADLAND



Bushing Repair BEFORE



Bushing Repair DURING



Bushing Repair AFTER

PHOTOS BY PHIL WADLAND



Q: I've been told by a local clock repair man that my grandfather clock needs new bearings. I looked in the back of the clock and I cannot find any roller bearings. Is this some sort of a scam?

A: When we talk about a clock bearing, we are talking about "any" spot where two pieces of metal rub against each other, or as they "bear" on each other. In a clock, every wheel has an axle that goes into the brass clock plates. You're right that there are no "roller bearings" like you would find in a car. These are very small holes in the clock plates. In order

to make this repair, the clock movement must be completely disassembled. The old bearings must be drilled out and a new bushing installed. I've included photos to show before, during after of this type of repair. This type of clock repair is not cheap. Some clock makers charge by the bearing and other charge by the job. Once this repair has been made, the clock should run another 20 years before it needs to be done again.

Q: I have been given a grandfather clock by my Great Uncle who made it years ago. He

and my Great Aunt are deceased and they were very dear to me so it is a special gift. We recently moved and the center weight seems to be stuck. I can get the chimes to ring by moving the hands but I can't get it to re-set and start on its own. Any suggestions????

A: It may be something simple, but it's not anything you can do. The clock needs to be set up by a clock man. There is a very fine adjustment to the pendulum which is called "setting the beat." The clock should be ticking with a rhythmic sound. Only a trained person

can make this adjustment. Look in the phone book for a clock man. Tell him your clock needs to be set up after moving. This house call should be somewhere around \$100. Good luck I know the clock will run again.

Phil Wadland is a third-generation clockmaker and horologist, residing in Manchester, New Hampshire. If you have questions for the Clockman, email clockman@thezebra.org

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QUOTABLE:

“I always read the last page of a book first, so that if I die before I finish I'll know how it turned out.”

Nora Ephron



COURTESY PHOTO

Art On The Avenue Celebrates Its 16th Year

Multicultural arts festival takes place October 1st

The 16th annual Art on the Avenue festival will take place Saturday, October 1, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria. The event is free and open to all.

Held each fall on Mount Vernon Avenue between Hume and Bellefonte Avenues, Art on the Avenue celebrates the diversity of the Potomac West community. Now in its sixteenth year, the event is entirely

volunteer-run, with support from the local business community.

Art on the Avenue strives to reflect the vibrant mix of the Del Ray community through the artists and their work. Last year's event drew more than 50,000 people from throughout the metropolitan Washington area.

The multicultural arts and music festi-

val features over 350 area artists and craftspeople selling their original works, international food, and three stages of live music. Free children's craft activities and entertainment, artists' demonstrations and a pie-baking contest complete the day's program.

Debuting this year is the Kids Art Korner, located on the field at Mount Vernon Community School. Local artists and non-profit

groups will team up to give young visitors a creative experience — creating a special work of art to take home, or participating in a project that will go on display in the neighborhood.

Free DASH transportation will be provided from the Braddock Road Metro Station to the festival. For more information, visit www.artontheavenue.org.

If you hear a voice within you say "You cannot paint" Then by all means, paint and that voice will be silenced.

— Vincent Van Gogh

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QUOTABLE:

“Smartness runs in my family. When I went to school I was so smart my teacher was in my class for five years.” — Gracie Allen



September Is Sports Eye Injury Prevention Awareness Month

Shin guards for soccer. Shoulder pads for football. Batting helmets for baseball and softball. Almost every sport has its own unique protective gear. But according to Therapeutic Optometrists, most participants in sports forget to protect one of the most important parts of the body: the eyes.

"Every year, more than 32,000 people suffer injuries to the eyes while playing sports," Brahm & Powell Opticians said, "According to Prevent Blindness America 90% of all eye injuries are preventable."

Protective Sports Eyewear can help prevent injuries such as fracture of the eye socket, scratched corneas, swollen retinas and even cataracts caused by trauma to the eye. Parents of children who participate in sports should consider protective eyewear to be as essential as the faceguard on a football or baseball helmet.

Brahm & Powell Opticians is an Authorized Sport Eye Injury Prevention Center and has committed to preventing blindness caused by sports eye injuries in our community. September means back to school and time for organized sports and the potential for eye injuries. This year we want to be proactive and reach out to the parents, coaches and school nurses, and encourage young athletes to have their eyes examined and be fitted for the proper protective sports eyewear. Our entire staff has received special training to prevent this needless loss of sight and we have a selection of new, stylish protective sports eyewear that not only protect eyes but also look good. Which is more tragic, a blind eye or a bruised shin?"

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QUOTABLE:

“I’ve developed a new philosophy... I only dread one day at a time.”

Charlie Brown

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3&4	20th Anniversary Celebration! MAYSA GORDON CHAMBERS
7	BRET MICHAELS JASON DEAN "GET YOUR ROCK ON 2011"
8	THREE DOG NIGHT (Rescheduled from 8/28. All 8/28 tix honored)
9	Phil Perry
10	The Seldom Scene The Honeycutters
11	BILAL
12	BILLY JOE SHAVER JIMMIE DALE GILMORE & THE WRONGLERS
13	MEDIAEVAL BAEBS
14	Elliott Yamin Mikey Wax
15	BASIA
16	MARSHALL CRENSHAW "30th Anniversary Tour" w/THE BOTTLE ROCKETS
17	RAHSAAN PATTERSON Antone "Chokey" Caldwell
20	VAN HUNT SMOKE SIGNALS
21	All Standing in the Bandstand! LEFTOVER SALMON with Elephant Revival
22	<i>Renaissance</i> "Timeless Albums in Their Entirety" "Turn of the Cards & Scheherazade and Other Stories"
23	HIROSHIMA
24	Melissa Ferrick Ria Mae
25	KINDRED THE FAMILY SOUL & FRIENDS 13th Anniversary Concert Celebration
27	All Standing in the Bandstand! X - "The Unheard Music" & Los Angeles X will be showing their movie "The Unheard Music," and then performing their album "Los Angeles" along with other hits.
28	All Standing in the Bandstand! STAFF BENDA BILILI
29	STANLEY JORDAN
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Art and Wine Festival Coming to Alexandria's West End

Alexandria's West End is buzzing with the news that a brand new Art and Wine Festival will debut October 8 and 9, 2011 at the Cameron Station community and adjoining Ben Brenman Park. Visitors will enjoy over 100 juried artists, representing quality artwork in a variety of media, as well as impressive hand crafters showcasing their wares. DelFosse Winery will showcase 9 wines and 2 sangrias to taste and enjoy at a special Wine Garden featuring local musicians Viki Dee, Matthew Mills Acoustic Music, and Samovar Russian Folk Music Ensemble located at the scenic gazebo.

The West End Business Association and the City of Alexandria have joined with the title sponsor Hadeed Carpet and festival producers West End Event Productions, LLC, to launch the festival. The event will showcase West End businesses, sponsors and organizations to a projected audience of 20,000 festival attendees. West End sponsor booths will include Hadeed Carpet, Macy's at Landmark, Washington Suites, First Command Financial Planning, Burke and Herbert, Mercedes-Benz, Virginia Commerce Bank, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*, *Zebra*, the Artisan Group Services, Toka Salon and Day Spa, Soleli Salon and Spa, and Alexandria Capital Caring, the event charity.

A "Taste of West End" will feature a variety of the area's most popular restaurants, including Alley Cat (American), Caboose (Ethiopian and Mediterranean), Crepe Deli (French and German), Dunya (Afghanistan); Grapevine (Greek and Italian), Hana Tokyo (Japanese), Heebien (Korean), Mango Mikes (Caribbean), Reynolds Bar and Grill (American), Tempo (Italian), Everona Cheese (Cheese), and Walker's Grille (Eco-friendly American).

"We are so excited that the Alex-



EVENT DETAILS

What: Hadeed Carpet Alexandria West End Art and Wine Festival 2011

When: (Saturday October 8, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday October 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Where: Cameron Station subdivision and adjoining Ben Brenman Park, Alexandria, Virginia

Admission: Festival Free; Wine Garden \$5.00

Parking: Transportation provided from Van Dorn Metro and Macy's Landmark Mall

Phone: 703-567-5539

Website/Schedule of Events: www.AlexandriaWest-EndArtandWineFestival.com

andria's West End will finally get to show off why this area has seen such thriving growth, even during these difficult economic times," said festival co-producer Donna L. Kenley. Her co-producer, Sonia Agosto, agreed. "The West End is home to such a wonderful melting pot of creativity and variety; we felt it was time for the West End to join Old Town and Del Ray as a culinary hot spot in Alexandria."

The call for artists and hand crafters is still open! Fees are \$250 for juried artists, \$125 for quality crafters whose art work sale price is \$125 or less, and \$125 for organizations.



ZEBRA Photographer Remembers *That* September Day

BY HARRY MERRITT

On September 11, 2001, I was a facilities contractor escorting personnel through the Secretary of Air Force, Finance, Management, Budget (SAF/FMB) office in the Pentagon. At the time we were all monitoring events taking place in New York City. A major sitting near me asked the senior officer, a Colonel Weeks, if anyone would ever hit the Pentagon?

No sooner had he asked the question than we felt a concussion and saw thick black smoke rising up from the heliport area. My first thoughts were a helicopter had side-swiped the building. Colonel Weeks told me to get everyone out of the office. We immediately started to evacuate the site. The smartest thing I ever did was call my wife and let her know something was going on in the Pentagon, and I was alright.

This particular room was a "secure room" and had a procedure to follow before locking the door. I was in charge of securing the room before leaving. A major was tasked with the "additional duty" as a security officer and I made sure all had evacuated when we started securing the site. Parts of our closing procedure were to phone security police and confirm the room was locked down. When we did this, they said they would have to put us on "hold", because "something was going on". We waited until we could smell smoke and then walked very quickly out of the building. Security personnel made everyone get away from the building for fear of another plane coming in to attack the Pentagon.

Living nearby, I walked home, finding my wife in tears. I assured her I was okay. As the day progressed and we followed the intense media coverage, we learned Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld wanted us back to work the next day. Later that evening I received a call from my boss, Ed Parker, and told him I was alright and we should report back to work the next day. I'll never forget what he said, "You mean we are supposed to report to the burning building?" I told him that was my understanding. At 5:55 a.m. September 12th, I opened up the SAF/FMB office and the world would never be the same again.

Harry Merritt in a recent shot outside the Pentagon.
PHOTO BY LESLIE MERRITT-BONNER





Dog Parks: A Learned Experience

BY MARY WADLAND

Let's face it. Dogs today are more pampered, more socialized and better dressed, and often take the place of children in many modern households. Outlandish examples exist, most notably the deceased hotel magnate, Leona Helmsley, who left \$12 million to her precious Maltese, "Trouble," while choosing to financially abandon her grandchildren. Dogs are now staying in luxury hotels with massages, cable televisions and private pools. They are being "whispered to" by experts, analyzed by shrinks who interpret their simple canine errors as cause for puppy uppers, and then there are the dog parks.

You've seen them I'm sure, perhaps passing one or two on your way to work: a group of women or men standing around in a large circle, their arms tensely folded, quietly chatting so as not to disturb "the children." A familiar scene, a playground, sometimes surrounded by a tall, secure, chain-link fence. But look carefully. They are not observing children at play, but, rather, dogs – of all shapes and sizes, ages and dispositions. Their "parents" look on, hoping – praying really – that their little ones do not lunge, cause a fight, bite another park patron (especially a two-legged one) or fail to distinguish him or herself as the ideal companion for fear of bringing shame to the family name.

On any given day in a dog park throughout the country, you will find a Jasper, the Boxer who won't release a deflated soccer ball; Millie, the elderly Bichon, who wanders the perimeter in fear of being run over by a pack of young Golden Retrievers; Pidgeon, the white Toy Poodle, who just turned four months old today, and is finally allowed inside the park gates; and then, of course, there is the annoying, aloof and growling (in suspicion of everyone) park snob. And worse of all, she's mine.

I love dogs and have lived with a dog most of my life.

There have been few nights when I have not been kept awake by the sound of a snoozing canine, snoring next to me like a freight train. I have endured the agony of stepping on half-chewed rawhides, left in the hallway for me to find on my way to the bathroom. Nine years ago, I entered a farmhouse in Davidsonville, Maryland and emerged with a 12-week old Yorkshire Terrier. I had no intentions of getting a dog that day, but things

I had installed for her protection, or her decision to wet the hardwood floor instead of the carpet. I once found \$13 hidden under the pillow in her dog bed. I guess she wanted to have money for a rainy day. She is a thief, through and through. She looks for things to steal that I can only get back by bartering with Milk Bones or Dingos. She is a character, the product of me. I have single-handedly created a monster some would say, corrupted

be the second gate of the sally port type entrance. I was panicked. Lucy looked up at me, terrified, as if to say, "What could possibly be in there that we need to see?" I was stunned for a moment, feeling an urge to turn and leave, but we plodded on, trying to be brave, strong modern women who would persevere in the face of imminent death.

Once the first gate was securely closed behind us, we flipped up the latch of the second one and entered – me first, Lucy following, so close she was on top of my feet, still connected to me by her red leather leash. We were surrounded. I was being pelted with licks and nudges. At first, I was afraid, but then realized they had come to greet us.

But Lucy had not yet gotten that same message. Just then, a gruff, faceless voice bellowed, "If you'd just take her off the damned leash, she'd have a chance!" I followed instructions instinctively, not stopping to take note of who had yelled at us. I bent down and released Lucy. The sniffing began, and everything was quiet. I went over to a lone bench and sat down, never taking my eyes off Lucy. Only a few seconds passed before she made her way over and sat next to me, closer than usual. We did not go back the next day, but on the third day, we tried again. This time, Lucy ran around with dogs her own size and then came and sat with me on the bench.

For a while, we were regulars. Lucy was the park snob,

and I was her mother. Lucy loved the dog park. And I often wondered where she kept her Timex, as she signaled me everyday precisely at 9, 12 and 4 on the dot. It is not that she needed exercise or an opportunity to graze unencumbered. She wanted to socialize, see her friends. So we went over, and I stood, observing with the other mothers and fathers. It's funny. We all knew each other, but only through our dogs. I waved to Bilbo's mother, chatted with Gracie's dad, and acknowledged the various dog walkers – nannies to the likes of Bentley, Toby and Apollo. The parents' names eluded me, as they were not the mainstay of the park. It was all about the dogs, each with their own unique personality, coming together with attributes reminiscent of a toddler play group.

I have enormous respect for actual parents. They must teach, hold close and then let go, watch their children move away from them into adulthood. But Lucy will never go off to college or get married or move away. Mine is a finite release, unclipping her before entering the second gate of the park, and although I chide her public persona, if I had to do it over, I would still, without hesitation, take her from that farmhouse.

She is my baby. She is part of me, and all that she is, good or bad, I brought to bear in her personality. She has given me tremendous joy, laughter and love, and when she would ignore me in the park, romping with her friends, I stood idly by. And then, all at once, her head would turn, and she would gaze, long and hard, up and down the length of the park, searching for me. Our eyes would lock and she would run to me, and we would head home.

Because of Lucy's health, we no longer frequent the dog park as often. But it is a wonderful experience that every dog should have the opportunity to enjoy.



changed. She made her way into my arms and settled in, her eyes staring me down, as if to say, "Get me out of here." I could not leave without her, and placed the required ransom on the farmer's kitchen table, leaving with my bundle wrapped in a torn blanket.

I raised Lucy to be a free spirit, which means I spoiled her rotten. I never scolded or shamed, and I always praised her ingenuity – like when she climbed over a four-foot wall

my child with every possible indulgence that I could provide.

When I first moved back to Arlington, following a month of walking around the block in a bone-chilling January, Lucy and I discovered a dog park no more than a hundred yards from our front door. So one morning, we gingerly walked over and entered the first gate. The park was filled with dogs, and they all came bounding towards us, kept at bay only

DOG PARK ETIQUETTE

- When entering the park, unclip your dog's leash. When the dog is leashed, the dog feels powerless and cannot acclimate quickly to the other dogs and the park environment.
- You are expected to pick up after your dog. Don't turn away and ignore what just happened. Trust me, everyone else *knows* what just happened and is expecting you to react promptly. Some parks provide bags, but to be on the safe side, have some in your pocket always. You never know when they may come in handy.
- Parents (of children), please be aware that a

dog park is not a petting zoo. Some dogs do not like children (regrettably, mine is one of them).

- Stay out of the fray. Dogs, especially larger breeds, like to run in a pack. A person could easily be injured (run over).
- Do not bring food or dog treats into the park. You may spoil your dog at home, but others might not want their dogs near the stuff. Your Krispy Kreme donut could really be the death of you should a large Rottweiler take a fancy to it.

Alexandria and Arlington have many dog parks of different types – some with and some without fences. Some even have creeks for dogs to swim. For a complete list, check the web.



BY MARCUS FISK

Keeping Faith

If you are keeping current with the budget crunch news these days you would know that the Department of Defense is doing the annual mating dance with Congress, cutting weak or 'non-performing' weapons systems, closing bases around the world, slashing medical benefits, and proposing cuts to the number of personnel serving in the ranks, what the private sector calls right-sizing or as it's been called in the Department as re-alignment. Whatever you call it, the Defense Department is also looking at another cost-cutting initiative to balance the books – changing the military retirement system.

Some say there are no sacred cows. Yet, for over a century, the military retirement system has been one of those sacred cows that continually evaded the green-shade wearing accountants. When compared with the private sector, the military retirement is pretty generous. The current retirement system pays 50% of the base pay for every Soldier, Sailor, Marine or Airman who serves 20 years for the rest of their natural lives. Wear the cloth of the nation for up to 35 years and that amount increases to 87% of base pay. Why? Businesses exist to make a profit. In the vernacular the military exists to go in harm's way, break things, and when necessary, kill people.

The Defense Business Board, a small select group of business gurus were asked last year to examine the military retirement system and see if there was a way to provide a more cost-effective retirement program for the future. Their recommendation – go to a 401(k)-like system.

When the Board announced this recommendation the bean-counters were grinning ear-to-ear and began sharpening their pencils.

At a recent National Defense University appearance, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta fielded questions from the audience about the future of the retirement system based on the DBB's recommendations. He said, "No decisions have been made yet. You've got to look at everything on the table." Obviously considering his audience of predominantly military officers he followed with, "You have to do it in a way that

does not break faith with our troops and their families." He continued, "If you're going to do something like this, you've got to think very seriously about grandfathering in order to protect the benefits that are there."

Assuming Panetta included his active duty audience as benefactors of this caveat, I wanted to bring a couple of other considerations into the mix -- for the record.

The military has had Reservists for decades. In the past these 'weekend warriors' contributed one weekend a month and two weeks a year to train for the potential for recall to active duty in the event of a national emergency. They served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm. Many lost their civilian jobs after recall despite federal laws protecting their reemployment rights. September 11, 2001 changed all that. Just for example and lacking more complete numbers at press time, in 2009 some 833,616 reservists were on the books.

The average Reservist also can receive a retirement after 20 years service or more. Your compensation is based on the amount of drilling time you served and any active duty conducted during one's service. Your 'retire' but a Reservist does not start receiving their pay until age 60. These folks are referred to as 'gray area' reservists.

If DOD wants to reexamine their retirement system, then they have to take a serious look at how they treat reservists so that they don't 'break faith' again. Again, you say? Realizing that Reservists have done so much active duty since 9-11 at great personal and civilian career expense, Congress approved a new retirement plan where each retiree can start receiving their pay earlier based on how much time they spent mobilized. For example, if you went to Afghanistan for a year then your retirement pay starts at age 59 instead of 60. Good deal, right? But Congress also said that the new system was a reward only for those reservists activated after January 2008. In essence the legislation said all you other 700,000 some reservists who volunteered or were volun-told to show up – you have to wait until you are age 60.



Marcus Fisk (at right) before his last convoy in Iraq before being de-mobilized and returning home to Alexandria. January 29th 2007.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MARCUS FISK COLLECTION

This includes me but I am not selfishly writing this. I am going to do a little name dropping though for some of the folks I served with in the hopes that it puts a personal angle on some very impersonal legislation and policies.

Doug H. was in Iraq. In his 'real life' he is a Merchant Mariner with a Master, Oceans Unlimited Tons license. Butch Bornt is an engineer and left a job in New York to deploy to Iraq. Gary "Wolfman" Wolfe left the federal government in Nevada to spend a year's 'sabbatical' in Iraq. Jeff McClanahan served with me in our reserve unit in St Louis, MO and left his job as a Captain for Delta Airlines to serve on the ground in Iraq. Chris Johnson, also from St. Louis, works in the IT arena just returned from a year's tour in Bahrain (IT). My good friend and shipmate Gary Holmes is a defense contractor and spent two tours in Iraq flying special operations helicopters. Now Mike Polidoro, also a reservist, is packing his

seabag to deploy to the Middle East. Each one of these 'weekend warriors' missed anniversaries, birthdays, soccer games, children being born, many of those days dodging incoming ordnance, standing watch, just like their active duty counterparts.

Winston Churchill once said that being a Reservist was being 'twice a citizen.' I sincerely hope that the new Secretary of Defense is as good as his word when he considers a new retirement system and truly keeps faith with these citizens – his serving and 'gray area' reservists. By my count it's over one million of them since that horrific day, September 11th 2001.

Marcus Fisk is a retired Navy Captain, Naval Academy graduate, sometime actor, sculptor, pick-up soccer player, and playwright. He and his wife Pamela live in Alexandria.

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Are You a Curious Epicurean?

BY HOLLY BURNETT

As American cuisine has become more sophisticated, many modern menus are splattered with interesting new ingredients and mysterious preparation methods. A few years ago, it was merely a matter of au gratin meaning “with cheese” or calamari posing as an elegant term for squid. But the culinary world has become serious, and what was once simple is now quite complicated. So before you venture out on your next Alexandria dining excursion, test yourself and your friends with the following short glossary of some of the most popular culinary terms that will likely show up on your plate.



Amuse Bouche
Small complimentary one-bite appetizer served at the beginning of a meal to stimulate the appetite.

Beurre Blanc
Seasoned butter sauce flavored with white wine, shallots, and vinegar or lemon juice, served most often with fish.

Bouillabaisse
Seafood stew, made with

assorted fish and shellfish, onions, tomatoes, white wine, olive oil, garlic, saffron and herbs, often ladled over thick slices of French bread.

Carpaccio
Thinly sliced raw meat or fish often served with a sauce.

Coq au Vin
Classic French dish, composed of chicken, mushrooms, onions, bacon and various herbs cooked together with red wine. A Julia Child classic!

Coquilles St. Jacques
Broiled or baked scallops served in the shell, bathed in a wine sauce with bread crumbs or cheese.

Crème Anglaise
Vanilla-flavored custard sauce, usually served with desserts.

Crème Fraîche
Heavy cream thickened and slightly soured with buttermilk, similar to sour cream, but richer.

Gastrique
Thick sauce produced through a reduction of vinegar, wine, sugar and fruit, often served over meat or seafood or to help balance acidity.

Haricot Vert
Thin green French bean.

Mole
Dark, reddish-brown sauce of onion, garlic, chiles, ground seeds and most notably Mexican chocolate.

Oysters Rockefeller
Named for John D. Rockefeller because of its rich texture, it is simply oysters on the half shell topped with spinach, butter, bread crumbs and seasonings, baked or broiled.



Profiteroles
Miniature cream puffs filled with either a sweet or savory mixture, most often served as a dessert filled with ice cream or custard.

Ragoût
Thick, well-seasoned stew of meat, poultry or fish that can be made with or without vegetables.

Remoulade
Spicy condiment or dressing, resembling mayonnaise, most often served with fried seafood.

Steak Tartare
Heavily seasoned ground beef, eaten raw.

Sweetbreads
Thymus glands of either veal, young beef, lamb or pork, prepared in a variety of ways, including poached, sautéed and braised.

Tarte Tatin
Caramelized apple tart, baked with pastry on top and inverted for serving.

Truffles
Not to be confused with the liqueur-filled chocolate balls, coated with cocoa, these are the much sought after dark or light edible, subterranean fungi.



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Remember, while knowledge may be power, dining is supposed to be an enjoyable experience. So it really doesn't matter the name, how it is spelled or who invented it. The most important quality about food is its taste. So take the bison by the horns and be a curious epicurean. All you really need is a fork. Bon appétit!

Do you have your own QR Code yet?

QR codes (or Quick Response codes) are two-dimensional bar codes expected to gain wide-spread use over the next year and beyond. Why? Because consumers want immediate access to what is relevant. Read by iPhones, Androids and other camera-enabled Smartphones, QR codes link to digital content on the web; activate a number of phone functions including email, IM and SMS; and connect the mobile device to a web browser.

The ability of QR codes to connect people with each other and to multimedia digital content is very useful for businesses and consumers alike.

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Remembrance of 9/11



PHOTO BY JOHN MCDONNELL/WASHINGTON POST

BY CHUCK HAGEE

One of the lasting images of September 11, 2001 was the unfurling of the American flag from the roof of The Pentagon after most of the fire had been quenched and the horrifying devastation revealed. It came to represent the symbol of American resilience in the face of disaster.

The majority of those who performed that act of national pride were members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, Station #11, Penn Daw. They were joined by members of the Armed Forces stationed at The Pentagon on that fateful day.

What is most significant about that historic photo is that it captures what has always been the underlying strength of this nation. Whenever there has been a significant threat to its existence the ultimate defense has come from the everyday citizenry.

That was true at Valley Forge, at Gettysburg, at Pearl Harbor and down through the years. It has always been We The People!

The three most important words in the American experiment were never more important and representative than they were on September 11, 2001.

It is these three words, and what they embody, that our enemies, and many times our friends, have never fully comprehended.

It is not the American government, the American military establishment, the barons of finance and industry, or even the political and religious leaders that make this experiment so unique and indispensable to human history. It is We The People!

It was we the people who fled the tyranny of persecution of England and Europe to chart an unknown course of human survival and endeavor.

It was we the people who froze

and starved in the tiny wooden huts at Valley Forge.

It was we the people, on both sides of the conflict, who fell at Gettysburg for their beliefs and then reunited to continue the experiment.

It was we the people who returned to the European continent "to make the world safe for Democracy" and swallowed lung searing gas in the trenches of France.

It was we the people who stood in the bread lines and held on to existence by performing public works during the Great Depression.

It was we the people that fought back from the burning seafaring tombs of Pearl Harbor.

It was we the people that died at Normandy, in the Argonne Forest, at Bataan, Guadalcanal, and Iwo Jima.

It was we the people who answered the call to fight under the international flag of the United Nations and carried our own dead and wounded out of the Chosin Reservoir.

It was we the people who trudged through the booby trapped jungles of Viet Nam and remains we the people who touch The Wall to connect to our past and reaffirm our future.

It was we the people who died and struggled to save others in Oklahoma City, The Pentagon, The World Trade Center, and aboard four destiny bound airliners.

We the people are not perfect nor omnipotent. But we, the American experiment, are, as Lincoln said, "the last, best hope of earth."

This experiment will only fail if we the people fail in our resolve to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

We the people must not and will not fail!



Thousands participated in the sold out 10th Annual Arlington Police, Sheriff and Fire 9-11 5K race. Money generated from the race is given to military charities.

PHOTO BY HARRY MERRITT



Fireman Brad Garmon places a wreath at the Air Force Memorial, which overlooks the area of the Pentagon which was hit by American Airlines Flight 77 on September 11, 2001.

PHOTO BY HARRY MERRITT



America's 9/11 Foundation RIDERS

At the end of August, thousands of America's 9/11 Foundation riders passed through Washington on their way to New York commemorating the 10-year anniversary of 9-11-01.

PHOTOS BY HARRY MERRITT



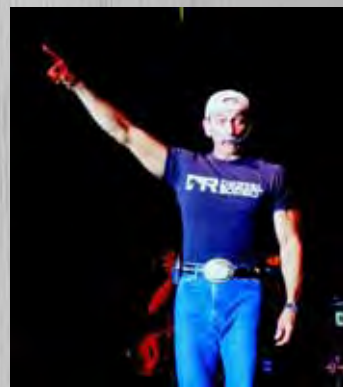
In front of the Pentagon, hundreds of America's 9/11 Foundation riders pass under a huge American flag held up by a ladder truck from Arlington's engine company #105.



Police escorted the 9/11 riders throughout their travels. Their procession sometimes stretched 15 miles long.



The road was blocked off next to the Double Tree hotel to set up a stage for America's 9/11 Foundation events.



Singer/songwriter Aaron Tippin performed for the America's 9/11 Foundation riders the evening before they motored to New York.

Ritz-Carlton hosts 9/11 FIRST RESPONDER EVENT



Congressman Jim Moran was guest speaker at the Ritz-Carlton 9-11 Remembrance Breakfast.



Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta presents a 9-11 Commemorative Frame to Chief Doug Scott (Arlington Police Dept.), Sheriff Beth Arthur (Arlington County), Chief James Schwartz Jr. (Arlington Fire Dept.), and Chief Richard Keavill (Pentagon Police Dept.).

The Ritz-Carlton at Pentagon City hosted a 9-11 Remembrance Breakfast for fireman and policemen first responders who reported to the Pentagon when American Airline flight 77 crashed into it. The Honorable Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta was the guest speaker. Students from Kenmore Middle School participated in paying tribute to the first responders with readings and musical performances.

PHOTOS BY HARRY MERRITT



Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta addresses first responders' police and firemen at Ritz-Carlton 9-11 Remembrance breakfast.



Each year, the United States Golf Association and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Scotland receive thousands of phone calls and letters regarding clarification of the Rules of Golf. In order to help millions of golfers around the world better understand how these detailed rules are applied and interpreted, the USGA and R&A developed the comprehensive *Decisions on the Rules of Golf*. For fun and perhaps even to decide a serious match on the links, I have decided to include a sample question straight from the book in each forthcoming issue. Now let's get started with an easy one.

Question: A ball overhangs the lip of the hole. The player jumps close to the hole in hope of jarring the earth and causing the ball to fall into the hole, which it does. Is this permissible?

Answer: No.
If the ball was still moving when the player jumped, the player took action to influence the movement of the ball. In match play, the player loses the hole. In stroke play, the player incurs a penalty of two strokes, and the ball was holed. *If the ball was at rest* when the player jumped, it should be assumed that the player caused the ball to move, and he incurred a penalty of one stroke in both match and stroke play and was required to replace the ball.

--Mary Wadland



Alexandria Chamber of Commerce 2011 Golf Classic

Not even a hurricane could stop the Golf Committee from putting on a terrific golf tournament. The weather was ideal and Belle Haven Country Club and its staff made us feel at home this



past Monday. We filled the course to capacity and all eighteen holes were sponsored or accented with beautiful cars from Mercedes-Benz, Land Rover, Hundai and Alexandria Toyota/Scion. Winners included



the first place Hampton Inn foursome followed closely by Virginia Commerce Bank and Duke Street Speedy Lube's team. The BB&Tee themed Drive & Dine included t-shirts, tees and ice teas along with golf instruc-

tion thanks to Ryan Fannon, Bishop Ireton's golf coach and Alumni Relations Director. Congratulations to Gerry Stoltz who took home the driving range prize, Kay Tyler and Shawn McLaughlin for winning longest drive and Ryan Timball who won both straightest drive and closest to the pin. We also want to thank everyone for generous contributions which allowed me and presenting sponsor Oscar Wiygul along with W.D. Wiygul to present a \$3,700 check to Executive Director, Ken Naser of ALIVE!

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Mike Anderson (Chair, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce), Tina Leone, (President & CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce) pose with host Earl Reed (Owner, Doctors Express of Mt Vernon Urgent Care Center).



Jay Palermino (Director of Membership & Sponsorship Investments) presents door prize basket to Zibby Koppelman (NovaGold).



Alexandria Chamber of Commerce members meet on a regular basis for munchies, socializing and networking. More information can be found at www.AlexChamber.com.

CHAMBER CORNER

Alexandria's Chamber of Commerce recently held their "After Hours" social at Doctors Express of Mt Vernon Urgent Care Center. During this event local business members get to socialize and network. Discussions on market activities, taxes, parking and how best to find solutions to common issues were addressed. Fine food and door prizes were part of the entertainment for the evening. The primary purpose of the Chamber of Commerce is to act as an advocacy group for the business community. The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce consists of 850 professional businesses and was established in 1906.

PHOTOS BY HARRY MERRITT

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BY HOLLY BURNETT

“Welcome to Our Drive-Thru...and Enjoy Your Un-’Happy’ Meal!”

McDonald’s salt is special. I don’t want anything from McDonald’s if I can’t have their salt. It is not Morton salt, nor is it like any other fast food restaurant salt. McDonald’s salt is powdered, something akin to popcorn salt. It is a taste I equate with my childhood, when my father would take me to the “golden arches” on Saturdays in Tallahassee, Florida, and we would stand in line to have men and women in white paper hats take our order. Then, we’d sit outside on half-moon concrete benches and eat burgers, fries and milk shakes, complete with ketchup and that salt, from little packets that actually made a snapping sound when you bent them in half.

I have lived the McDonald’s experience – Happy Meals, McDonaldland cookies and Shamrock shakes. I was thrilled to meet Ronald, Grimace and the Hamburglar, and I still have my very own hat and glassware collection. I know their 70s theme song by heart: “You deserve a break today, so get up and get away to McDonald’s...,” coined then by a little-known jingle composer named Barry Manilow. I am a McDonald’s baby, a byproduct of their marketing, and might as well have their logo tattooed on my back side.

So, at age 46, I resent the dismissive, rude behavior as I sit in my car on Sunday mornings at the Bradlee McDonald’s, clad in an old raincoat and nightgown (hiked up by a thick leather belt so it does not hang below the slicker’s hem), asking for salt and ketchup or requesting that my order be repeated back.

After ordering eight breakfast items, including a side order of bacon for the dog, I am confronted with sheer ignorance. A lone small bag is passed to me, filled to the brim, so I am unable to fold it down to keep the food warm as I drive home. I ask for a larger bag. In turn, I receive a prolonged look of disgust as I remove all the items from the tiny bag and place them into the begrudgingly-provided larger one.

I then request my condiments and seasoning – ketchup and salt – and am handed two ketchups and one salt – for three sandwiches and four hash browns? The person at the window should be able to employ the tiniest amount of deductive reasoning to conclude that

I ordered three sandwiches, most likely for three people, who would each like their own ketchup and their own salt. So, at minimum, I should be given three of each, not even factoring in the hash browns. “I need more,” I politely ask. I am then handed a third ketchup, accompanied by an expression akin to attempting to enter a foreign country without a Visa.

What is McDonald’s teaching their staff at old Hamburger University these days? They are turning out employees who have no understanding of how McDonald’s patrons eat. I am not coming there to reduce my salt intake or to suddenly dismiss my love of ketchup on eggs. I am there to receive service, so give me what I ask for with a smile on your face.

Once home, I distribute the items only to discover that my order is wrong. And this happens about 80 percent of the time. I have sent emails of complaint through their website, called both the local and regional managers, and, still, the items that I pay for, that are listed correctly on my receipt,



are not the items in my bag. While I have had the occasional similar experience with other area fast food restaurants (such as the actual chicken being left out of the bag at the Kentucky Fried Chicken – KFC to the under-40 crowd – on Glebe Road), McDonald’s is the worst offender of this drive-thru food fraud.

While I partially attribute this to McDonald’s inability to match employee demograph-

ics with restaurant location (to avoid miscommunication due to language barriers), bottom line, McDonald’s staff simply don’t care what they fling out their sliding glass windows. They know their drive-thru customers are in a hurry and are not coming back to correct an order.

So McDonald’s has left me no choice now but to literally unwrap each and every item to ensure my order is correct be-

fore I drive away. They want me to leave, they ask me leave, they beg me to leave, but I am not budging until all my items, including the salt and ketchup, are in my (large) bag.

I apologize in advance if you are ever stuck behind me. You may be annoyed at the time, but wait until you get home and realize your Big Mac is actually a Filet-O-Fish. Oh, and would you like salt with that? Good luck to ya.

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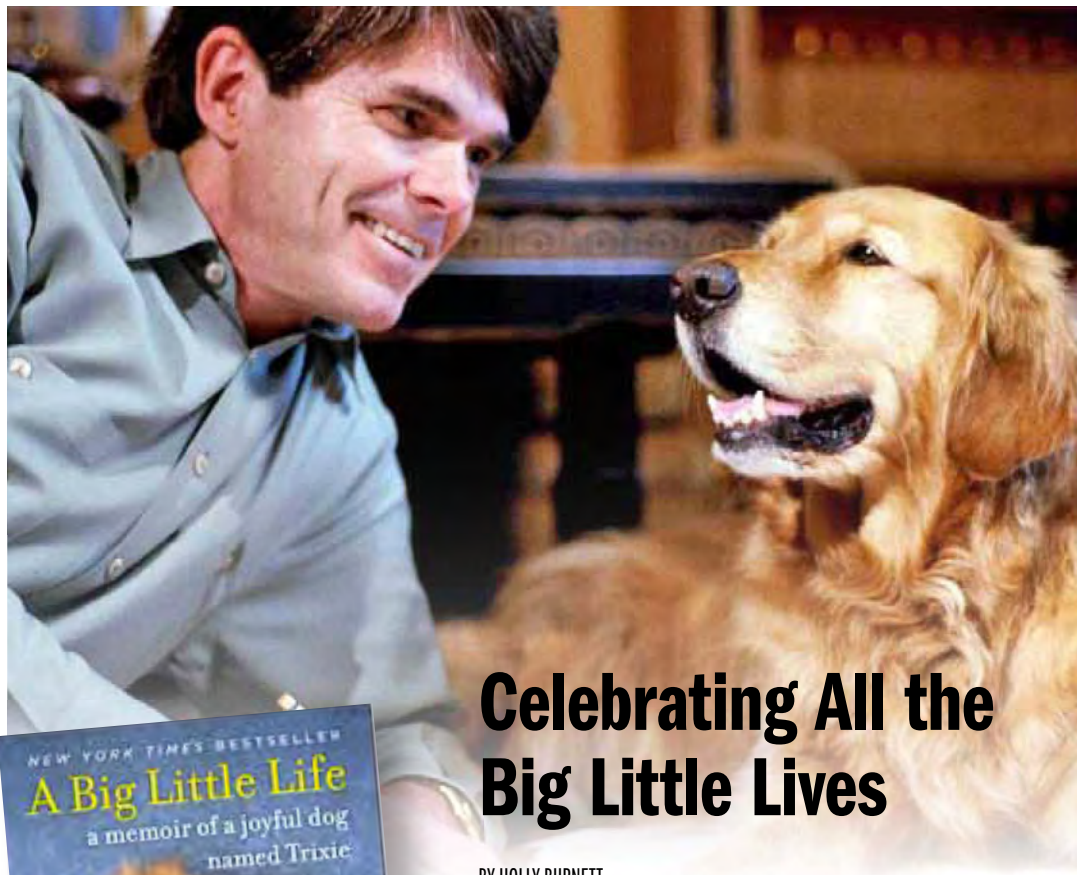


Did You Know?

Do you remember watching the original *Willy Wonka* movie and seeing the yet-undeveloped futuristic gum that tasted like a meal? Well, that gum is now a reality, for the most part.

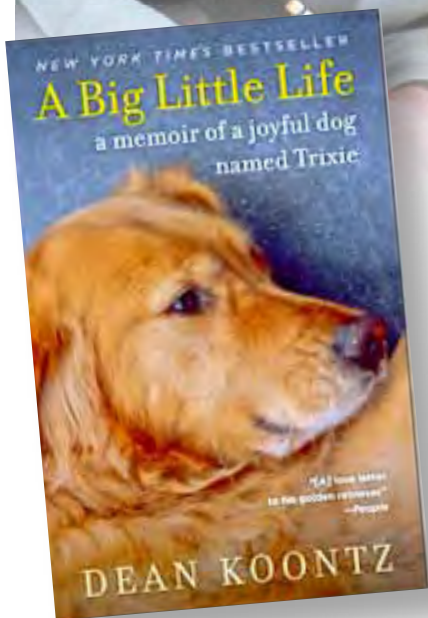
Wrigley’s has introduced Extra Dessert Delights sugarfree gum, with only 2 grams of carbs and zero grams of fat per stick. As Wonka may have said himself, the Mint Chocolate Chip tastes identical to the beloved green ice cream, and the Apple Pie is only lacking the ice cream or cheddar cheese from your grandmother’s kitchen. Other favors include Strawberry Shortcake, Key Lime Pie and Orange Crème Pop.

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Celebrating All the Big Little Lives

BY HOLLY BURNETT



In 1998, famed novelist Dean Koontz and his wife adopted Trixie, a three-year old golden retriever and trained service dog, forced to retire due to elbow problems. Her impact on their lives is eloquently documented in Koontz's 2009 *New York Times* bestseller, *A Big Little Life: A Memoir of a Joyful Dog Named Trixie*, recently released in paperback and eBook. This is a must read for all dog lovers, and testament to the philosophy that a dog is indeed man's (and woman's) best friend. Join the 1,110,614 fans who have visited Trixie's Facebook page, located at abiglittlelife.com, to upload your dog's photo and tell his/her story because every dog has a "big little life" that deserves to be told.

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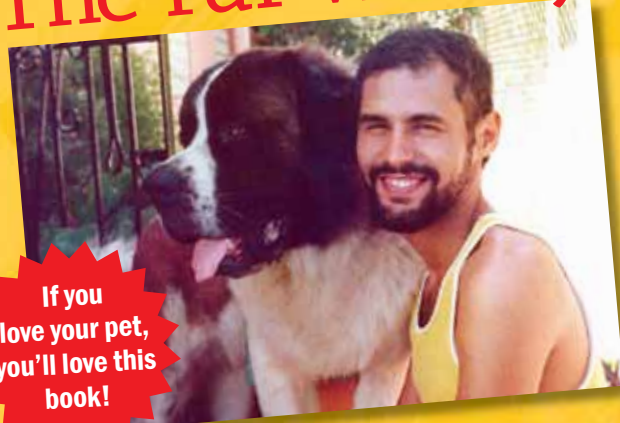
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“If dogs could talk it would take a lot of the fun out of owning one.”
 Andy Rooney

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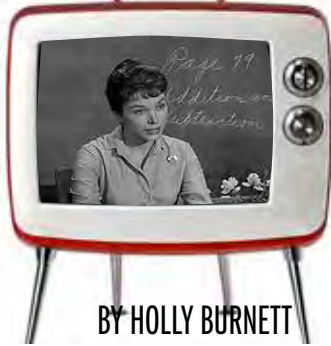
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MATCH GAME Television Teachers



BY HOLLY BURNETT

Match the teachers in the left column to their television shows in the right column. Correct answers will be revealed in our October issue. Enjoy the game!

Liz McIntyre	Gilligan's Island
Miss Crabtree	The Big C
George Feeny	I Love Lucy
Connie Brooks	Head of the Class
Helen Crump	The Paper Chase
Mr. Collins	Leave It to Beaver
Cathy Jamison	The Simpsons
Miss Canfield	Our Miss Brooks
Gabe Kotter	Room 222
Miss Beadle	The Little Rascals
Professor Charles W. Kingsfield, Jr.	Boy Meets World
Charlie Moore	The Andy Griffith Show
Edna Krabappel	The Wonder Years
Professor Roy Hinkley	Welcome Back, Kotter
Madame Le Mond	Little House on the Prairie

August Match Game Answers:

Miss Ellie/Dallas; Lt. Colonel Henry Blake/M*A*S*H; Laura Palmer/Twin Peaks; Willie Loomis/Dark Shadows; Margaret Pyncheon/Lou Grant; Kate Lawrence/Family; Leo McGarry/The West Wing; Desmond Hume/LOST; Angela Channing/Falcon Crest; Victoria Barkley/The Big Valley; Dr. Mark Greene/ER; Krystle Carrington/Dynasty; Rosalind Shays/L.A. Law; Jerry Espenson/Boston Legal; Miles Drentell/thirtysomething; Lt. Bert Samuels/Cagney & Lacey; Holling Vincoeur/Northern Exposure; Dr. Victor Ehrlich/St. Elsewhere; Dixie McCall, RN/Emergency; Joyce Davenport/Hill Street Blues.



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- 1/4 cup stick margarine/butter, melted
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

Preheat oven to 450. Mix Bisquick, milk and cheese to make a soft dough. Beat vigorously for 30 seconds. Drop 10-12 spoonfuls of dough onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes or until golden brown. Mix melted margarine/butter and garlic powder. Brush onto warm biscuits.



If you have a tried and trusted recipe that is quick and easy and gets rave reviews, please share it with us by emailing recipes@thezebra.org.



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A S K D R . K N A P P

BY ROBERT KNAPP



Lighten the Load: Dr. Knapp Offers Backpack Safety Tips

Although they're practically a necessity for today's students, improperly worn backpacks are a leading cause of back and shoulder pain for millions of children. As students head back to school, the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) offers parents the following checklist to help select the best backpack for their children:

- Is the backpack the correct size for your child? The backpack should never be wider or longer than your child's torso, and the pack should not hang more than 4 inches below the waistline. A backpack that hangs too low increases the weight on the shoulders, causing your child to lean forward when walking.
- Does the backpack have two wide padded shoulder straps? Non-padded straps are not only uncomfortable, but they also can place unnecessary pressure on the neck and shoulder muscles.
- Does your child use both straps? Lugging a heavy backpack by one strap can cause a disproportionate shift of weight to one side, leading to neck and muscle spasms, low-back pain, and poor posture.
- Are the shoulder straps adjustable? The shoulder straps should be adjustable so the backpack can be fitted to your child's back.
- Does the back pack have a padded back? A padded back not only provides increased comfort, but also protects your child from being poked by sharp edges on school supplies (pencils, rulers, notebooks, etc.) inside the pack.
- Does the pack have several compartments? A backpack with individualized compartments helps position the contents most effectively. Make sure that pointy or bulky objects are packed away from the area that will rest on your child's back, and try to place the heaviest items closest to the body.
- Are all those books really necessary? If the backpack is still too heavy, talk to your child's teacher. Ask if your child could leave



the heaviest books at school, and bring home only lighter hand-out materials or workbooks- or perhaps books on CD-ROM.

The ACA recommends that parents help children pack their backpacks properly and make sure children never carry more than 10% of their body weight. For example, a child who weighs 100 pounds shouldn't carry a backpack heavier than 10 pounds.

To learn more about backpack safety, visit ACA's website at www.acatoday.org/backpacks.

Dr. Robert Knapp constantly strives to improve and update his knowledge in the field of chiropractic medicine; he participates in advanced orthopedic post-graduate courses and numerous seminars across the country. If you have a question for Dr. Knapp, please email him at dr.knapp@aachiropractic.com or call his Alexandria office at 703-823-2201.

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BY MARI STULL

The White House Wines From Jefferson to Obama



My last column looked across the pond at Buckingham Palace's Champagne preferences. This month, we'll meander through The White House cellar and peruse her Presidential tastes in wine.

Thomas Jefferson - Presidential Wine-OH

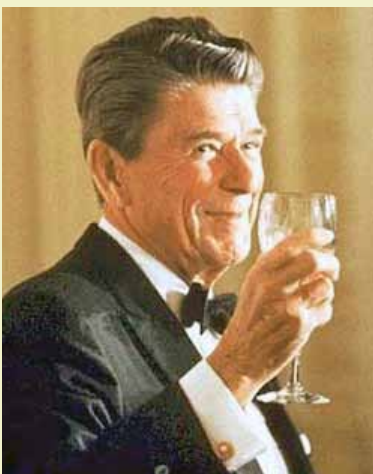
Possibly the most well-rounded and renaissance of our Presidents, Thomas Jefferson. He was a statesman, lawyer, inventor, scientist, architect, farmer, archeologist, violinist – and oenologist.

As US Minister (Ambassador) to France, Jefferson developed a passion for French wines. Jefferson's appreciation for wine was so intense that he was one of the first Americans to enjoy a wine tour through the vineyards of France and Italy (even his vacations were ahead of his time). Jefferson's vino vacation lasted 3 ½ months and spanned 3000 miles through some of the best vineyards in Bordeaux, Burgundy, Rhone, and Northern Italy. Jefferson sipped some of the finest Bordeaux, even of today. Reading like a reserve list from a four star restaurant, our Presidential wine snob was sipping and collecting the likes of Chateau Latour, Chateau Haut-Brion, Chateau Lafine-Rothschild – and this was before the Bordeaux Classification System or Parker's 100 pointers came out.

Thomas Jefferson had an amazing palate for excellent wine and cellared thousands of the best Montrachets, Mersaults, and Bordeaux in his Champs Elysees mansion. And when he returned to our shores, he brought both his palate and wine to America... and eventually to The White House.

The First White House Cellar

When President Jefferson became President in 1801, The White House was barely constructed – and had no wine cellar. Jefferson had the



first "wine cellar" built on the grounds just west of The White House, which was called the "ice house." Jefferson stored about \$175,000 of wine in today's sum in the ice house, and eventually built a wine vault under The White House's east colonnade – probably for easier access, as our President reportedly enjoyed up to four glasses of wine a day and served four to six different wines while entertaining (a bon vivant and brilliant President).

The Kennedy Era

The next significant wine period for The White House was during the elegant Kennedy era. Known for their gracious entertaining, and Mrs Kennedy's exquisite (and French) taste, Kennedy's White House poured Dom Perignon, Chateau Petrus (thrusting this \$1500 Pomerol into the fame it continues to enjoy), Haut Brion, and Moet Chandon Imperial – French were the preferred wines of the couple.

The Johnson Era

The French proclivities of the Kennedy White House quickly changed when Texan Lyndon Johnson declared that only American wine would be served in the Mansion. The tradition has since stuck and all modern Presidents continue to pour American wine – although rumor has it that President Nixon continued to sip his French Champagne by ensuring the bottle was wrapped in a napkin as he was served (that tricky Dick...).

Reagan so loved his California wines that he practically eschewed the rest of America's vineyards. President Ford tried to show off Michigan wines, to the dismay of his guests. And President George W. Bush often served Texas' Becker wine at his Crawford Ranch, as well as the White House.

The Obama Days

Although President Obama's

Chicago home sported a 1000 bottle wine cellar he confessed to People Magazine in 2008 that mass-produced Kendall-Jackson's Vintner Reserve Chardonnay was a staple around their home. Made sense – President Obama is often seen as a "man of the people", and Kendall-Jackson is one of the best selling wines to "the people".

But, it seems that President Obama's "man of the people" tastes in wine soon began to reflect his White House status as "leader of the people." A few of his selections at earlier White House dinners include:

Poet's Leap Riesling "botrytis" 2008 ~ \$40 (half bottle)

Herrera Cabernet Sauvignon 2006 "Selección Rebecca" ~\$125 (if you can find it)

Now with our economy in the worst shape in decades and heading straight towards depression levels, Obama's White House has scaled back on their wine budget. At the most recent State Dinner with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, The White House served the following budget-friendly wines:

2008 Sauvignon Blanc, Modus Operandi, Napa Valley, California ~\$35

2007 Grenache, Beckmen Vineyards, Santa Ynez, California ~\$25

Sparkling Chardonnay, Thibaut Janisson Brut ~\$30

Vino Vixen Prediction: White House Wines Beyond 2012

President Obama – Much more emphasis on organic and even biodynamic wines.

Governor Mitt Romney or Congresswoman Michele Bachmann – A return to the Carter years where The White House was a veritable teetotalar's paradise (what an oxymoron).

Cheers! And God Bless America – and her wines,

VV



Z P I C K O F T H E M O N T H



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A friend of mine recently had surgery and told people jokingly that in lieu of flowers, should folks feel “compelled” to send a token wishing her well during her recovery, that they should give her eBay gift cards. Granted, this is a somewhat “pushy” friend I have, but it was actually a terrific idea. Instead of flowers that would wilt and die, and require too much effort on her part to water, and re-arrange as they lost leaves and buds, she set herself up in bed, laptop at the ready and went shopping for days. She had a ball buying the most random things and told me one \$25 card had yielded four very cool items.

Available in various denominations in grocery and drug stores on the gift card kiosks, or even online, I say eBay gift cards are suitable for any occasion and the recipient will have a blast shopping inside the world’s biggest treasure chest.

--Mary Wadland

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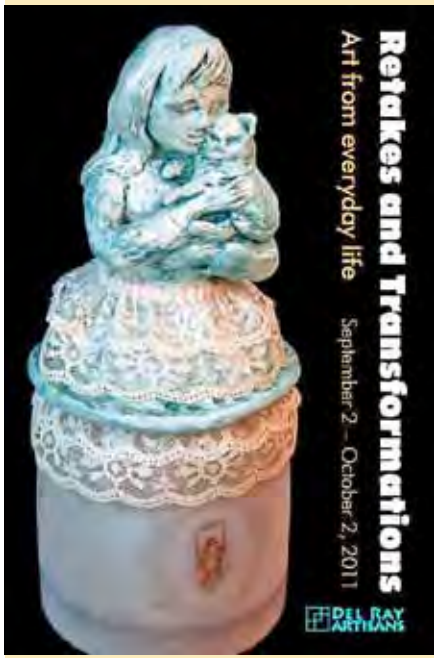


Halloween Pet Photo Contest

Send pictures of your pets in costume to
mary@thezebra.org by November 2, 2011.

EVENTS

If you would like your event listed, please send an email to events@thezebra.org



"Retakes and Transformations: Art from Everyday Life"

Del Ray Artisans
September 2-October 2
Del Ray Artisans Gallery
2704 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria
DelRayArtisans.org
703/407-6992

Art from everyday life showcases DRA members' artwork delving into habits, routines, favorite things and surroundings – giving familiar items new life through art. FREE!

"Savage in Limbo"

September 8-October 16
MetroStage
1201 North Royal
Alexandria
703/548-9044
metrostage.org

Contemporary classic by Award-winning playwright John Patrick Shanley, starring Natascia Diaz. The Bronx tale about a quintet of bar regulars in search of life, love, and answers to some of life's most existential questions. Thurs and Fri at 8, Sat at 5 & 8, and Sun at 3 & 7. Tickets \$45-50.



"In Search of Matthew Henson's Roots"

Black History and North Pole Exploration
September 24
Alexandria Black History Museum
902 Wythe Street
Alexandria
703/746-4356
alexandriahistory.org
Genealogist Char McCargo Bah will discuss how Alexandria native Henson is related to the African-American arctic explorer who reached the North Pole in 1909 with Admiral Peary's expedition. She will also examine the McGuire family, ancestors of Henson and area resident

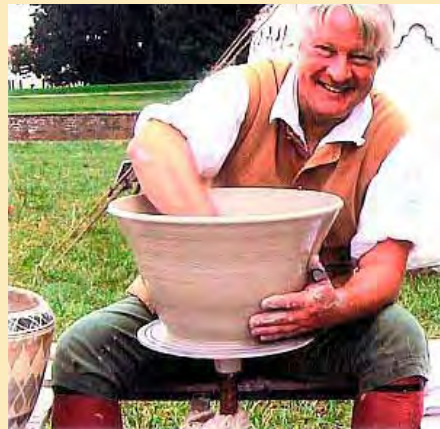
Mary Webster Morris. This event is part of Bah's Alexandria genealogy lecture series entitled "Their Voices can be Heard." It began with her research into descendants of people buried at Freedmen's Cemetery. She will also share her techniques in tracing African-American ancestors. 11 am – 1 pm. Admission is \$5 per person and reservations are requested.



"Headstone Records for US Veterans, 1862-2011"

September 20
Mount Vernon Genealogical Society
Hollin Hall Senior Center Room 112
1500 Sheandoah Road
Alexandria
703/360-0920
MVGenealogy.org

Since 1873, the U.S. Government has provided headstones (gravestones) to mark the graves of U.S. military veterans upon request by their families or veterans' organizations. This lecture will illustrate the changes in headstone designs over time, discuss the records that document the headstones provided for veterans in non-Federal cemeteries, and show example record searches. 1 pm. FREE!



Colonial Market and Fair

September 17-18
Mount Vernon Estate
George Washington Parkway
703/780-2000
Alexandria
mountvernon.org
The annual Colonial Market & Fair at Mount Vernon features dozens of America's finest craftspeople and plenty of family fun! Colonial-attired artisans demonstrate 18th-century crafts and sell traditional wares such as baskets, woodcarvings, tin and ironwork, leatherworkings, weavings, furniture, and much more. The event also features lively 18th-century entertainment including music, fire-eating, sword-swallowing, puppet and magic shows, plus hearty specialty food for sale onsite. This weekend only, Potomac River sightseeing cruises, courtesy of Spirit Cruises and Potomac Riverboat Company, are free-of-charge. The Colonial Market & Fair at Mount Vernon is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15.00; children ages 6-11, \$7.00; and children under 5 are admitted free.

Fall Wine Festival and Sunset Tour

September 30-October 2
Mount Vernon Estate
George Washington Parkway
703/780-2000
Alexandria
mountvernon.org
Enjoy live blues and spectacular views of the Potomac River while sampling wine from 16 Virginia wineries. Visitors learn about the successes and failures of our Founding Father's wine endeavors, enjoy live blues music, and meet "George and Martha Washington" on the Mansion's piazza. Guests experience an evening tour of George Washington's home and are invited to visit the rarely-open basement where he stored his wine. Tickets to the Fall Wine Festival & Sunset Tour are \$35. 6-9 pm.



The Singers' Project
October 2
George Washington National Masonic Memorial
101 Callahan Drive
Alexandria
thesingersproject-dcfmc.org
301/499-1099

This event will highlight an Orchestra, with the Met Singers and four soloists. The Orchestra, led by Barry S. Hemphill, is comprised of members of the Strolling Strings, The United States Army Band, The United States Field Band and other professional musicians. The Met Singers, under the able baton of their director, Barry S. Hemphill, along with four acclaimed soloists in their respective areas will share their gifts and talents as the text of the mass, Stabat Mater, is brought to life. 3 pm. FREE!



Woodrow Wilson Half Bridge Marathon

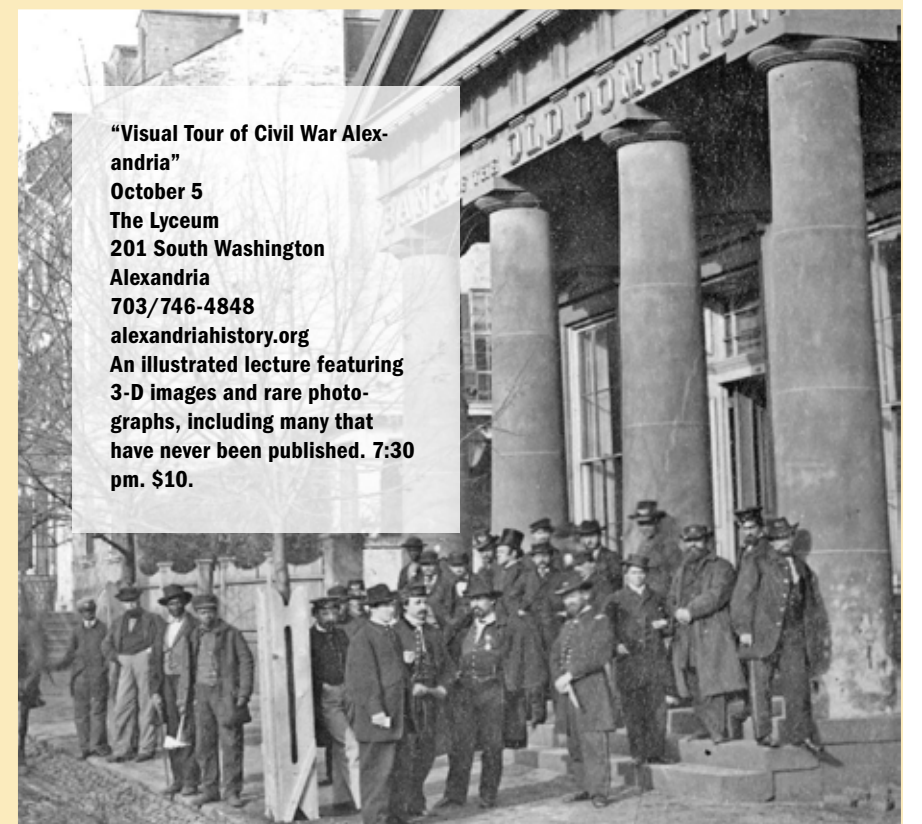
October 2
Alexandria to National Harbor
Alexandria
wilsonbridgehalf.com
703/587-4321
The Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon is a 13.1 mile point-to-point race that begins at Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens, continues up the George Washington Memorial Parkway, crosses the Potomac River on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and finishes at National Harbor, MD, site of the Michelob ULTRA Finish Line Festival. Cash prizes. Registration fees vary. 7:30 am.

Foster Parent Orientation

September 28
UMFS Northern Virginia
5400 Shawnee Road, Suite 101
Alexandria
703/941-9008
umfs.org
Discover the joys of being a foster parent. Come and ask questions. 6-7pm. Free!

"A Grand Night of Opera"

Repertory Opera Theatre of Washington
September 17
Immanuel Church on the Hill
3600 Seminary Lane
Alexandria
repopera.com
571/403-0814
Featuring romantic & dramatic opera solo arias, duets, & trios, including closing scene from first act of La Bohème, Flower Duet, & Make Our Garden Grow octet from Candide. 8 pm. \$15. Under 10 is FREE!



"Visual Tour of Civil War Alexandria"
October 5
The Lyceum
201 South Washington
Alexandria
703/746-4848
alexandriahistory.org
An illustrated lecture featuring 3-D images and rare photographs, including many that have never been published. 7:30 pm. \$10.



What should I do if I get pulled over for a DWI?



I am constantly asked about DWI cases in Virginia. What should I do? Should I take the test(s) they ask me to take? What happens to me if I am convicted? For the reasons we should all believe in; driving after drinking is a very, very bad move. This short article therefore will be more informative than advisory. It is very simple, if you drink at all DO NOT DRIVE. After 30+ years of handling these cases, I know and you should know that the penalties are severe. Not only what the government will do at sentencing with fines etc., but attorney's fees and insurance increases will be very costly. In fact, you may well face cancellation of your insurance and possibly jail.

If you are pulled over because you are suspected of driving while intoxicated you will be

asked to submit to testing as to your Blood Alcohol Content (B.A.C.). The police will ask you what we attorneys consider to be "standard" questions. Have you had anything to drink, etc.? Often times they indicate that they smell alcohol or otherwise feel that your driving indicates that you are impaired. Following these events if they feel there is probable cause that you have been drinking you will be asked to exit the vehicle and the test(s) will begin. If they have what is known as an Alka-Sensor Device they will ask you to blow into it. They will also ask you to do what we call "Field Sobriety Tests". This encompasses such things as "walking a straight line" and reciting the "ABCs" in some designated order.

The Field Sobriety Device

is utilized by the police to preliminarily determine if you are "over the limit". The police may use it only if they have one available; otherwise, it is not required at this level. You have a right to refuse this test and your refusal cannot thereafter be used against you if charged. In fact, if you do take this mechanical test, the results are furthermore not admissible against you should you ultimately be charged with DWI. It is a preliminary test. If, however, you are arrested for DWI then you will be asked to take a much more sophisticated test at the police station. If you "unreasonably" refuse this test, they will charge you with refusal and you are subject to the loss of your license for 12 months.

This breath test is offered at the police station only if it is available and if it is not available

or you are physically unable to take this breath test, you must be offered a blood test which you also must take subject to a charge of refusal and the 12 month loss of license.

In conclusion, refrain from drinking and driving. Also, do not consider this article at all exhaustive as to your rights regarding DWI's. Lastly if you are charged with DWI you do need a lawyer.

Christopher Paul Schewe is a former City of Alexandria attorney and has been practicing over 32 years specializing in personal injury and DUI/DWI cases. If you have a question for Chris, please email him at cpschewe@verizon.net or call his office at 216 South Patrick Street, Alexandria at 703-684-8200.

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—mid-atlantic magazine

QUOTABLE:

"If I had my life to live again, I'd make the same mistakes—only sooner."

Tallulah Bankhead

Catch Our Mistakes

Lydia Fogle caught the most with 7 typos. Congratulations Lydia who wins a \$25 gift certificate to Target.

We know we make mistakes, and to make a game of it, we welcome your catches. Please send them to info@thezebra.org for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate from an area retailer, restaurant or cruise line!

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CIVIL WAR SERIES | PART 4

SEPT. 1861
Private Brink's
Long Journey

BY CHUCK HAGEE

Although September 1861 did not spawn any major battles, in many ways it was the turning point for both sides. Dashing hopes for a short definable conflict, to the realization that they were in for a long, bloody war, the time for debate was over.

As noted in its September 9, 1861 edition, Richmond's Daily Dispatch stated, "Words are now of no avail: blood is more potent than rhetoric, more profound than logic." That was brought home thousands of times to both U.S. President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate President Jefferson Davis throughout the next four years.

It's not to say that September 1861 didn't see its share of battles. On September 2, there was The Battle of the Mules that went to the Confederates and The Battle of Dry Wood Creek for the Union.

On September 4, Gideon Pillow takes Columbus, KY, on the vital Mississippi River. Two days later General Ulysses S. Grant takes Paducah, KY, with no resistance. There were also the battles of Carnifax Ferry and Cheat Mountain in West Virginia as well as Lexington, Missouri. In the latter case, a force of 18,000 Confederate soldiers, under the command of Sterling Price, forced the surrender of 3,000 Union troops commanded by Col. James Mulligan on September 20.

And the internal battles continued to plague Lincoln. General McClellan persisted in fighting the war by his standards rather than the President's. Lincoln had to order an overzealous Union General John Fremont to rescind his order freeing the slaves by edict in a portion of Missouri in order to issue a new order conforming with the Confiscation Act passed by Congress.

Then there was the order from Lincoln to Secretary of War Simon Cameron to arrest Maryland "openly pro-South"



COURTESY PHOTO

Alexandria National Cemetery Circa 1870
Established as one of the original national cemeteries in 1862, Alexandria National Cemetery served to be the burial grounds for soldiers who died in the numerous hospitals around the Alexandria area, but by 1864 it was almost filled to capacity. This led to the development of the Arlington National Cemetery.

eral Grant in a September letter to his sister, "This war is formidable and I regret to say cannot end so soon as I anticipated at first."

That proved to be no more prophetic than in the life of Union soldier David N. Brink of the 1st Michigan Cavalry, Company A.

For it was in September 1861 that his young life and the city of Alexandria commenced on their collision course with eternity. However, it took 145 years and 28 days to set the record straight.

Born in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York, Brink had moved west to Michigan. When the war commenced he enlisted for three years at a Detroit recruiting station on August 21, 1861 and was mustered into Federal Service on September 13, 1861.

lized in wide ranging activities throughout Northern Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley beginning on February 25, 1862. During the days following, Brink was either wounded or suffered a serious illness.

He was admitted to Alexandria's Washington Street Hospital where he died about 6 p.m. on June 3, 1862. His death certificate stated the cause of death was "peritonitis."

This was not uncommon at that time and often occurred as a result of a wound to the trunk of the body. However, his service record mentioned nothing about Brink being in battle or sustaining a battle wound.

His regiment had been involved in several skirmishes in Northern Virginia. One of those was the First Battle of Winchester on May 25, 1862.

Private Brink was buried in

For it was in September 1861 that Brink's young life and the city of Alexandria commenced on their collision course with eternity. However, it took 145 years and 28 days to set the record straight.

REPRINTED FROM HARPER'S WEEKLY, 1862

Drawing entitled "The Battle of Winchester - Decisive Charge Upon the Rebels at Stone Wall" where Private Brink may have been mortally wounded.



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE

Alexandria National Cemetery Today
The cemetery today is the site of 4,230 internments. Located at 1450 Wilkes Street, it is open daily from dawn to dusk.

istration's History Department had to rule on changing the headstone. Their policy is that it can only be requested by a veteran's spouse or children - neither of which qualification she met.

Enter the Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War, Lincoln-Cushing Camp #2. Coming to the aid of Mrs. Bridgewater they persevered and finally got approval for a new headstone with the correct name. It was put in place by the Veterans Administration in November 2006.

On Saturday, June 30, 2007, Private David N. Brink was honored by a contingent of the Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War, Lincoln-Cushing Camp #2 who rededicated his gravestone and gave Brink full military honors for service to his county.

That day the grave was adorned with a wreath, a single white rose and a small American flag. He received a divine blessing by the Camp Chaplain.

Finally, after 145 years and 28 days this 22 year-old, five foot nine inch, former ax maker who had a light complexion with hazel brown eyes and dark hair regained his rightful place in American history. His historic journey started in September 1861 and officially ended on June 30, 2007. Thousands more would inherit their personal plot of earth before it all ended at Appomattox on April 9, 1865.

what was then called the New Military Cemetery in Alexandria. It became the Alexandria National Cemetery, pre-dating the establishment of Arlington National Cemetery.

His grave was number 41 in a cemetery that had been receiving burials for only a few days at that point. And, that is where mystery begins.

In the confusion that accompanies any war, his gravestone was inscribed with the wrong name due to mistakes in his military records. The tombstone read David P. Fink while other references in his military records referred to him as David N. Drink.

Some 144 years later a distant relative, Mrs. Betty Bridgewater of Fort Wayne, Indiana, attempted to have the gravestone corrected. Her great-grandfather was David Brink's brother.

But, there was a stumbling block. The Veteran's Admin-

“By way of
nourishment,
not by way of
knowledge.”

— Rabbi Isaac the Blind



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D E W E Y C O R N E R

BY STUART STONE



1. Second language acquisition -- Study and teaching.
 2. Second language acquisition – Humor.
- (418.0071-22, Dewey Decimal Classification)

From childhood, I have always been very intrigued by speakers of foreign languages. The sounds and music of a foreign language always seemed so impossible to explain. How could there be these jumbled sounds coming out of visitors to my church and my school? How could these sounds actually mean something coherent? The visiting missionaries and foreign exchange students of my childhood planted a curiosity and a need in me that have persisted to this day.

I'm certain that the final deciding moment had to have been when my step-mother's cousin came with his family to St. Louis on a "home visit" from his church mission in Venezuela. I was jealous beyond believe at my distant cousins who were speaking English, Spanish, and a Dutch-Native Indian dialect with each other. The four of them seemed to have their favorite language, even though they all spoke each of the languages, and they alternated between them. I was hooked.

Even though I am a slow learner, I am persistent. I began with French in the 8th grade and am still to this day studying/using/teaching one or more of my languages even though I'm not always doing it well. Nonetheless, let there be no doubt that using a language is the best way to study or teach it.

I always learned as much from reviewing a test in school as I learned in studying to take it. I also learn a lot from my mistakes. Maybe I'm lucky that I make so many!

There was the time that I was speaking at length with a French professor at Georgetown who lived across the street from me on Capitol Hill. Of course we were speaking in French, why not? My sophistication knew no bounds. Unfortunately, I was thoroughly confusing the professor with my knowledge of English history because I was insisting that the wife of Henry II was of African descent from the south of France. Finally "we" realized that I was slightly mispronouncing her name and instead of calling Eleanor "E-le-a-nor" I was saying "Elle est noire" (She is black). A minor

mistake ... and I learned from it.

Once, while in my second year living in Lisbon, I walked into the neighborhood hardware store and flung my best Portuguese at the shop manager. "By any chance, do you have screws?" I said correctly in Portuguese. His reply sounded like "uh par uh ce man ya." No problem, I caught that! He

Spanish and many of the cleaning crews at the Library are from Central and South America. So, none of us was surprised that morning when the cleaning crew arrived in our area and Jeff greeted them in Spanish. Unfortunately, his greeting was "one consonant off!" Let me explain. Jeff looked up at one of the young clean-



With friends in Lisbon, 1982

PHOTO FROM THE STUART STONE COLLECTION

had just said "aparece amanhã" (come back tomorrow morning). He was a little surprised when I walked into the shop the next morning, and we exchanged the same question/answer. And, he did seem even more surprised on the third morning and we had the same question/answer exchange. OK, the fourth morning was the final straw for him. He took the calendar off the wall and pointed to the following week. At that time I realized that he was saying, "é para a semana." (It is for the week, i.e. come back next week.) I learned the difference, and I got my screws to hang the pictures in my living room on the following Tuesday.

I have an even funnier example from my 4 ½ years in Lisbon, but the story about the athletic supporter that I needed for my volleyball team practices will have to wait for another day.

While I have made mistakes in Spanish, and some have been good ones, I have to say that the most outstanding mistake I've heard was one made by a young cataloger who worked with me when I was cataloging newly purchased Spanish and Portuguese books at the Library. Let's call my colleague Jeff. Jeff was keen to improve his spoken

ing crew members and warmly shouted out ... "Holá, bienvenido al maricomio!" He was trying to welcome them to the "nut house" (manicomio, place of maniacs). Unfortunately, he used the wrong stem word ... marica. The "r" should have been an "n" and the cleaning crew would not have finished so quickly and rushed off to another division to clean their area in safety. It took about 15 minutes for one of us to stand up and ask over the cubicle walls if Jeff had understood what he said... He was embarrassed. We never saw that same cleaner again in our area.

Speaking, making the effort, and learning from our mistakes. These are very valid ways to improve your foreign language skills.

Stuart Stone is a 26 year veteran of trench warfare at the Library of Congress, currently a Lusophone Acquisitions Specialist (Portugal, Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia, and Ecuador) and the Gaelic Recommending Officer for Scots Gaelic. Bruidhinn riumse 'sa Ghàidhlig! He bikes to work, weather permitting, and frequently stops at stop signs.

RESCUED



PHOTO BY GERA CLARK

Rosie and Sebastian aka Seabass

Both rescued locally by Gera Clark and Brian O'Dwyer
If you have heart-warming or funny story about adopting a pet, please submit it to mary@thezebra.org and we will try and publish it as soon as we are able.

C A T I N A B O X



"Our sweet little calico kitten, Chiquita, boxed herself cozily in my purse! She was so adorable it made it hard for me to kick her out so I could go to work."

SUBMITTED BY JULIE CARMONA

If you have a cute photo of your cat in a box, please send it to mary@thezebra.org and we will try and get it published as soon as we are able.

QUOTABLE :

“When I played pro football, I never set out to hurt anyone deliberately – unless it was, you know, important, like a league game or something.”

Dick Butkus

REAL ESTATE NEWS



MONTHLY HOME SALES RECAP

through Aug. 31, 2011

What's happening with home sales in your neighborhood?

Be in the know: watch for this column every month and stay informed of recent home sales in your community. With interest rates still at historic lows, now is a great time to buy or sell!

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OLD TOWN													
706 KAHN PL	\$1,795,000	\$1,700,000	15-Aug-11	4	3	2	2	4	No	470		FORDS LANDING	Colonial
529 BELLVUE PL	\$750,000	\$725,000	31-Aug-11	3	3	2	1	4	No	458		PITT ST STATION	Federal
507 SAINT ASAPH ST	\$739,999	\$725,000	26-Aug-11	4	2	1		4	No	306		TANNERY YARD	Colonial
2121 JAMIESON AVE #1504-1505	\$600,000	\$600,000	25-Aug-11	3	2	0	2	1	No	251		CARLYLE TOWERS	Contemporary
320 WEST ST S #305	\$595,000	\$580,000	26-Aug-11	2	2	0	1	1	No	194		THE DUKE	Colonial
1117 PITT ST N #3B	\$285,000	\$260,000	15-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	151		CANAL PLACE	Traditional
904 ORONOCO ST	\$618,900	\$616,900	26-Aug-11	3	2	0		4	Yes	155		CARRIAGE WORKS	Contemporary
222 FAYETTE ST S	\$650,000	\$625,000	17-Aug-11	2	1	1		3	Yes	110		OLD TOWN	Colonial
1636 ABINGDON DR W #102	\$234,500	\$218,000	19-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	128		POTOWMACK CROSSING	Contemporary
820 WASHINGTON ST S #125	\$205,000	\$185,000	26-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	88		BEARINGS SOUTH	Rambler
1323 CHETWORTH CT	\$534,000	\$527,000	25-Aug-11	2	3	1		3	Yes	123		BASHFORD CLUSTER	Colonial
1200 BRADDOCK PL #611	\$375,000	\$370,000	22-Aug-11	2	1	1		1	No	98		BRADDOCK PLACE	Contemporary
718 WOLFE ST	\$839,000	\$805,000	26-Aug-11	2	2	1		3	Yes	112		NONE	Colonial
1409 ABINGDON DR E #3	\$249,000	\$244,000	26-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	81		HARBOR TERRACE	Colonial
1200 BRADDOCK PL #606	\$299,990	\$285,000	17-Aug-11	1	1	0	1	1	No	98		BRADDOCK PLACE	Other
901 PRINCESS ST	\$549,500	\$525,000	18-Aug-11	3	1	1		2	No	37		OLD TOWN	Colonial
520 JOHN CARLYLE ST #439	\$330,000	\$325,000	19-Aug-11	1	1	0	1	1	No	81		CARLYLE SQUARE	Contemporary
1221 POWHATAN ST	\$564,900	\$562,000	25-Aug-11	3	2	1		3	Yes	71		OLD TOWN	Colonial
722 GIBBON ST	\$709,000	\$705,000	31-Aug-11	3	2	1		3	No	38		GOLDFARBS	Federal
318 COLUMBUS ST S	\$519,000	\$505,000	29-Aug-11	3	1	1		2	No	77		OLD TOWN	Traditional
801 PITT ST N #314	\$145,000	\$131,000	17-Aug-11	0	1	0		1	No	55		PORT ROYAL	Traditional
945 POWHATAN ST	\$649,000	\$640,000	21-Aug-11	2	2	1		3	No	33		OLD TOWN GATEWAY	Colonial
801 PITT ST N #309	\$128,000	\$125,000	15-Aug-11	0	1	0		1	No	34		PORT ROYAL	Traditional
1115 PITT ST N #3B	\$249,900	\$246,600	19-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	21		CANAL PLACE	Contemporary
1611 HUNTING CREEK DR #B	\$500,000	\$493,000	30-Aug-11	2	2	0	1	3	No	30		OLD TOWN GREENS	Colonial
635 FIRST ST #305	\$789,000	\$755,000	19-Aug-11	3	2	1	2	1	No	37		LIBERTY ROW	Federal
1634 ABINGDON DR W #202	\$171,500	\$165,000	24-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	21		POTOWMACK CROSSING	Colonial
2151 JAMIESON AVE #1511	\$377,500	\$377,500	19-Aug-11	1	1	1	1	1	No	7		CARLYLE TOWERS	Contemporary
1100 ABINGDON W	\$535,000	\$535,000	30-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	14		NETHERGATE	Colonial
435 FAYETTE ST	\$624,888	\$625,000	26-Aug-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	18		CITY OF ALEXANDRIA	Traditional
1305 ABINGDON DR E #3	\$235,000	\$231,531	29-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	24		HARBOR TERRACE	Rambler
312 PRINCETON BLVD	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	30-Aug-11	5	4	1		3	Yes	7		COLLEGE PARK	Colonial
430 UNION ST N	\$1,100,000	\$1,090,000	31-Aug-11	3	3	0	1	4	Yes	0		OLD TOWN	Colonial
1226 ROUNDHOUSE LN	\$810,000	\$810,000	29-Aug-11	3	3	1	2	4	Yes	60		OLD TOWN VILLAGE	Federal
UPPER BRADDOCK													
3309 WYNDHAM CL #4180	\$174,900	\$171,000	15-Aug-11	1	1	0	1	1	No	162		POINTE AT PARK C	Colonial
3307 WYNDHAM CL #3164	\$179,500	\$173,000	25-Aug-11	1	1	0	1	1	No	132		POINTE AT PARK C	Traditional
3101 HAMPTON DR N #413	\$199,999	\$200,000	19-Aug-11	1	1	0	1	1	No	70		NORTHAMPTON PLACE	Contemporary
2500 VAN DORN ST N #703	\$191,000	\$170,000	26-Aug-11	2	2	0	1	1	No	10		PARK PLACE	Other
3218 WELLINGTON RD #103-32	\$281,900	\$265,000	29-Aug-11	2	1	0		2	No	74		PARKFAIRFAX	Colonial
1620 FITZGERALD LN #914-16	\$374,500	\$368,000	15-Aug-11	3	1	0		2	No	76		PARKFAIRFAX	Other
3230 RAVENSWORTH PL #840-32	\$289,999	\$290,000	15-Aug-11	2	1	0		2	No	72		PARKFAIRFAX	Colonial
3101 HAMPTON DR #519	\$150,000	\$150,000	25-Aug-11	0	1	0	1	1	No	42		NORTHAMPTON PLACE	Contemporary
1809 KENWOOD AVE #303	\$299,000	\$305,000	26-Aug-11	2	2	1		2	No	45		KINGSGATE	Contemporary
415 FONTAINE ST	\$925,000	\$927,000	1-Sep-11	4	3	1	1	3	Yes	4		JEFFERSON PARK	Colonial
3706 KING ST #4	\$358,900	\$348,800	26-Aug-11	2	1	1		2	No	35		FAIRLINGTON TOWNE	Colonial
1225 MARTHA CUSTIS DR #611	\$189,900	\$181,000	31-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	16		PARKEAST	Other
DEL RAY/ ROSEMONT													
1801 DE WITT AVE #1801-A	\$199,900	\$189,900	1-Sep-11	1	1	0		1	No	238		ALEXANDRIA SQUARE	Colonial
510 HOWELL AVE E	\$479,900	\$473,000	16-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	62		DEL RAY	Contemporary
714 WEST VIEW TER	\$759,900	\$735,000	17-Aug-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	22		GEO WASHINGTON PARK	Colonial
429 LURAY AVE E	\$499,000	\$490,000	16-Aug-11	2	1	1		3	Yes	9		BRENTON	Colonial
1 MASONIC VIEW AVE E	\$574,900	\$569,000	19-Aug-11	3	1	1		1	No	16		ROSEMONT	Cottage
515 LURAY AVE	\$495,000	\$484,000	19-Aug-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	20		BRENTON	Colonial
307 DUNCAN AVE #307-G	\$199,900	\$184,500	31-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	12		ALEXANDRIA SQUARE	Colonial
3 LINDEN ST E	\$554,900	\$578,000	15-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	11		ROSEMONT	Colonial
406 ALEXANDRIA AVE E	\$485,000	\$485,000	17-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	4		DEL RAY	Colonial
81/2 MASONIC VIEW AVE E	\$429,000	\$423,000	19-Aug-11	2	1	0		3	Yes	7		ROSEMONT	Colonial
611 JOHNSTON PL	\$827,700	\$827,700	26-Aug-11	4	3	0		3	Yes	7		ROSEMONT PARK	Colonial
522 NELSON AVE E	\$474,900	\$480,000	18-Aug-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	6		LINDEN GARDENS	Colonial
ARLINGTON													
3457 KEMPER RD	\$650,720	\$654,605	18-Aug-11	3	2	2	2	3	Yes	84		SHIRLINGTON CREST	Contemporary
2919E WOODLEY ST S #1	\$200,000	\$200,000	24-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	121		COURTBRDGE I&II	Contemporary
4426 36TH ST S #B2	\$319,900	\$310,000	29-Aug-11	2	1	0		2	No	102		FAIRLINGTON ARBR	Colonial
4537 28TH RD S #C	\$359,900	\$361,500	22-Aug-11	2	1	0		1	No	81		HEATHERLEA	Contemporary
3014 COLUMBUS ST S #B1	\$289,000	\$275,000	15-Aug-11	1	1	0		2	No	58		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
5004 25TH ST S	\$460,000	\$457,000	17-Aug-11	3	1	1		3	Yes	8		CLAREMONT	Colonial
3007 BUCHANAN ST S #B1	\$219,900	\$215,000	29-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	49		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
4317 35TH ST S	\$407,500	\$402,000	26-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	53		FAIRLINGTON MDWS	Colonial
3080 ABINGDON ST S #2045	\$224,000	\$222,000	15-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	54		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
3010 COLUMBUS ST S #C1	\$324,900	\$315,000	22-Aug-11	2	1	0		2	No	52		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
3035 BUCHANAN ST S #C2	\$320,000	\$315,000	30-Aug-11	2	1	0		2	No	61		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
3319 STAFFORD ST S #422	\$374,000	\$360,800	25-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	32		FAIRLINGTON MDWS	Cape Cod
3047 BUCHANAN ST S #C2	\$275,000	\$270,000	19-Aug-11	1	1	0		2	No	10		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
3420 STAFFORD ST	\$443,500	\$439,500	16-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	13		FAIRLINGTON MDWS	Traditional
3070 WOODROW ST #1878	\$407,000	\$405,000	31-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	38		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
4884 28TH ST S #B	\$399,900	\$399,900	30-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	13		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
2622 UHLE ST S	\$375,000	\$375,000	31-Aug-11	3	2	0		3	No	19		LONGBRANCH PARK	Colonial
2608 TROY ST S	\$300,000	\$292,000	31-Aug-11	2	3	0		3	Yes	0		ARLINGTON	Federal
4820 28TH ST S #2616	\$378,800	\$376,800	30-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	3		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial
3036 ABINGDON ST S	\$425,000	\$428,474	31-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	5		FAIRLINGTON VIL	Contemporary
4640 36TH ST S #B2	\$289,000	\$289,000	1-Sep-11	1	1	0		2	No	7		FAIRLINGTON MEWS	Contemporary
3456 WAKEFIELD ST S #3456	\$439,900	\$440,000	31-Aug-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	1		FAIRLINGTON MEWS	Colonial
1300 CRYSTAL DR #1305	\$517,000	\$505,000	15-Aug-11	3	2	1	1	1	No	145		CRYSTAL GATEWAY	Contemporary
1200 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD S #405	\$229,000	\$228,000	25-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	87		THE CAVENDISH	Contemporary
1106 20TH ST S	\$899,500	\$870,000	26-Aug-11	4	2	1	1	3	Yes	86		ADDISON HEIGHTS	Colonial
1300 ARMY NAVY DR #805	\$245,000	\$245,000	30-Aug-11	1	1	0		1	No	52		HORIZON HOUSE	Contemporary
1300 CRYSTAL DR #1204S	\$585,000	\$550,000	31-Aug-11	2	2	0	1	1	No	29		CRYSTAL GATEWAY	Contemporary
1100 16TH ST S	\$530,000	\$534,000	19-Aug-11	2	2	0		4	Yes	7		ADDISON HEIGHTS	Colonial

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BY GINGER RODRIGUEZ

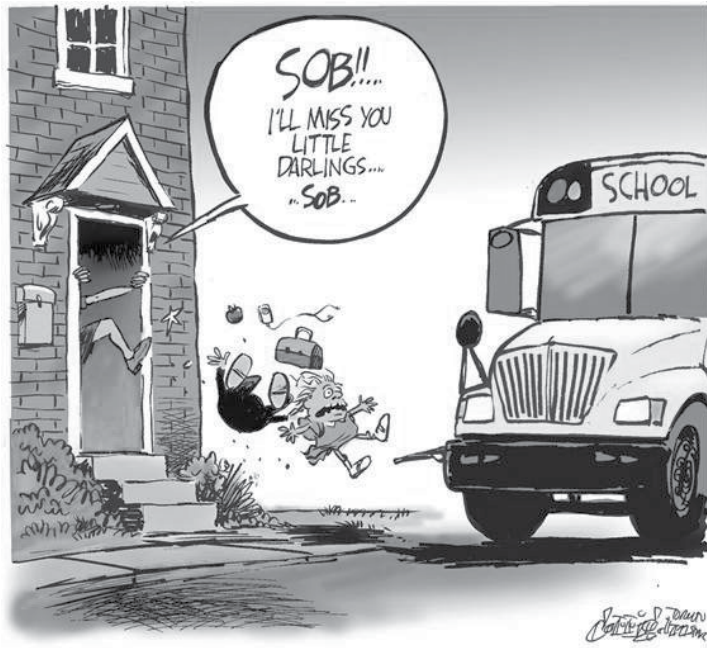
YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

It can't POSSIBLY be the end of summer already! Time is just going WAY too fast for me to keep track of. So, the kids are going to be BACK TO SCHOOL? And I am going to actually get the house to myself again - for hours on end, five days a week? Okay, well, more like an hour or so-but I'll take it! YIPPIE!

After you've stopped turning cartwheels and wanting to sneak booze at the bus stop, you finally can get back into your well-oiled school-year routine, including squeezing in just a little precious "me time."

It's the Season to:

- Get the kids up without ice water. Avoid morning chaos by starting a new morning routine with music. Pull out the Bee Gees soundtrack and get your groove on.
- Get the house back under control (no harm in dreaming)
- Get rolling on latest home decorating projects ... in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas
- Get back to your workouts. No longer will you have to skip your favorite abs-hardening, mind-clarifying yoga class to pick the kids up after a matinee movie. There will be no more (or at least fewer, we hope) calls while you're on the elliptical machine asking you to retrieve a forgotten retainer at the pool, etc. So it might just be the



perfect time to tackle a new, improved workout routine - boot camp, anyone?

- Catch up with your girlfriend.
- After your kids get on the school bus, meet the friend you haven't seen in weeks for long-overdue latte.
- Get those renovation projects rolling
- With so many different schedules to manage in the summer, our homes often fall by the wayside. Many Northern Virginia families find autumn to be the perfect time to catch-up on house maintenance, add some space, re-purpose a room or re-vamp things for a fresh look.

I hate to put pressure on you but, if you are going to be doing any hostessing for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas... and if you want to accomplish any projects like this.... then, you must get started NOW, in order to have it done and cleaned-up and gorgeous in time for the Holidays. Do you know you have to

make improvements but don't know where to start?

Need guidance and someone to hand-hold you through it?

I can help you with the elements of design: space, line, shape and mass, texture, light, color, and pattern. As a designer, I use my knowledge in these areas to create interiors that are comfortable, as well as beautiful and functional. I can help you enhance your style, solve design problems, prevent costly mistakes, simplify the process, make sure the job gets done, and provide access to resources perhaps unavailable to you; there is a world of furnishings, fabrics and accessories that are "to the trade only" you want to know about. Sometimes, all you might need is for someone to come in for a couple of hours and give you some professional advice and ideas. WBI offers "Anytime Hours" for only \$99/hr. You will be amazed at how much can get accomplished in a couple hours!

Ahhh, yes! The kids are Back to School. And isn't that

grand! Because, after all your kids' education is the most important thing..... for YOUR sanity!

I'm taking new clients for this fall/winter! If you'd like help creating a home that fills your spirit with delight as you step in the door...come step into ours...www.westbayinteriors.com.

A Virginia native, Ginger shares her experiences: some personal, some professional, in her light-hearted Blog Coffee With Ginger (www.westbayinteriors.com/blog) and teaches monthly design seminars (The Alexandria Design Dilemma Meetup Group) FREE to the community. She lives in Alexandria with her husband and two sons.

Have a design dilemma or question you want answered in the Zebra? Email: info@westbayinteriors.com.

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- Design Dilemma?
- Interior Emergency?
- Domestic Decorating Dispute?

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Bruno - (Male) - Available
Breed: Pug / Beagle Mix

Age: 4 Years

History: Owner Release

Description: Bruno is house broken, crate trained, neutered and current on his shots. He would be happy as either part of a pack or as an only dog. He is not good with cats. He loves to cuddle and snuggle under the covers. His crate is not his favorite place to be, but goes in by himself when told to. He loves other dogs. He is neither high maintenance nor high energy. When he wants your attention though, he is very persistent. He's been known to jump right up in your lap no matter what you are doing. Once he receives his love though, he is content to curl up next to you and take a nap.



Chili - (Male) - Available
Breed: Pomeranian / Chihuahua Mix

Age: 9 Years

History: Owner Release

Description: Chili is a Pom/Chi mix. He was given up because his owner passed away. He is housetrained and very sweet. Chili is

good with other dogs. He has not been around young children. He loves being held.

Cody (Sampson) - (Male) - Available

Breed: Australian Shepherd / Labrador Retriever Mix

Age: 20 Months

Weight: 60 Pounds

History: Owner Release

Description: Cody is an Aussie/Lab mix. He is being given up because his family can no longer care for him. Cody is a happy boy with lots of energy. He loves everyone and does great with other dogs.



Eleven Puppies - (Mixed Gender) - Available
Breed: Labrador Retriever

Age: 10 Weeks

History: Owner Release to Shelter

Description: This litter of eleven was found nursing in the middle of the road! Their owners were found and they were released to the shelter. Mom is a pure-bred Lab. No word on dad, but the pups look mostly lab. There are 3 boys and 8 girls in this bunch.



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AFH is ALWAYS in need of foster homes!

It is fun and rewarding. Without enough foster homes we can't save as many pets. Since AFH tries hard to not use boarding facilities, we cannot accept new, deserving animals into our program without ready foster homes. If you are interested in making your home available to a deserving pet, please drop us an email at Foster@foreverhome.org.

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Honey - (Female) - Available
Breed: Beagle Mix

Age: Years

Weight: 20 Pounds

History: Shelter

Description: This beautiful little beagle mix (20 lbs) was found on the side of the road with her six newborn puppies. She is a wonderful mom, not wanting to leave her puppies for a second, but definitely prefers children to adults. When the foster's children are near, her tail is wagging and she is quite happy. She's so sweet she was instantly named "Honey" by the foster's daughter. Honey is still very tentative and shy with adults. Honey will be available for adoption after the puppies are weaned at eight weeks of age.



Kirby (Female) - Available
Breed: Rottweiler Mix

Age: 5 Months

History: Shelter

Description: My litter was called The Rockin Rotties and we can Skateboard! So you can imagine how quickly we will be potty trained!

McKenzie - (Female) - Available

Breed: Australian Shepherd

Age: 3 Years

Weight: 20 Pounds

History: Owner Release

Description: Hi my name is McKenzie or

Kenzie for short. I am a beautiful, pure-bred tan and red merle Toy Australian Shepherd. I am full grown at only 20 pounds. I was just given up so my foster mom is still trying to get to know me. I am a family dog in that I am extremely dedicated to my family, they are my world and I would do anything for them. I am a very friendly and loving dog and like to be cuddled. I love the attention of my family and like to follow them around everywhere. I am crate trained and so far have not had any accidents in my foster home so mostly housetrained. I know the word sit, come, and shake.

Kenzie for short. I am a beautiful, pure-bred tan and red merle Toy Australian Shepherd. I am full grown at only 20 pounds. I was just given up so my foster mom is still trying to get to know me. I am a family dog in that I am extremely dedicated to my family, they are my world and I would do anything for them. I am a very friendly and loving dog and like to be cuddled. I love the attention of my family and like to follow them around everywhere. I am crate trained and so far have not had any accidents in my foster home so mostly housetrained. I know the word sit, come, and shake.



Monroe - (Female) - Available

Breed: Yorkshire Terrier Yorkie / Poodle Mix

Age: 6 Months

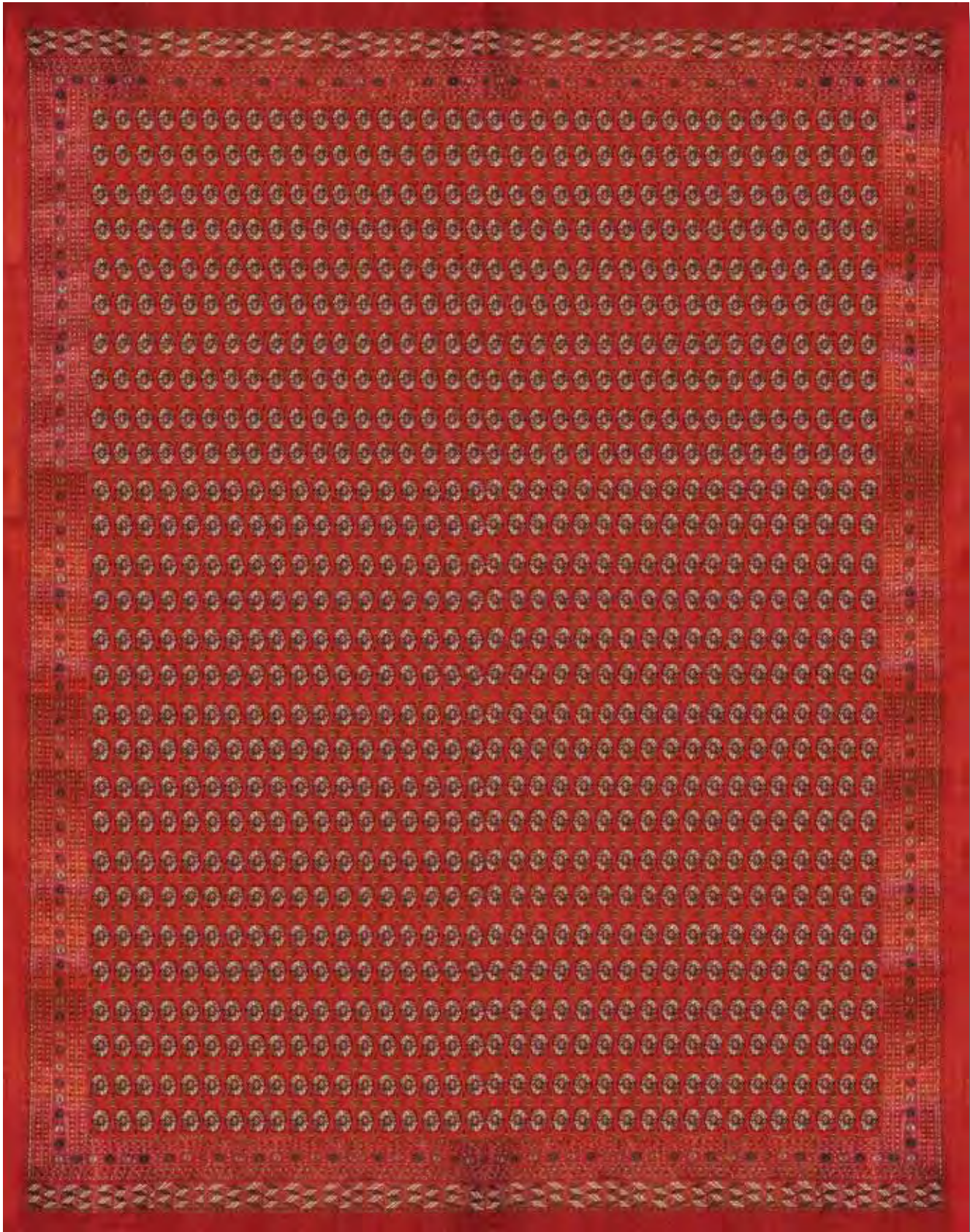
History: Owner Release



Description: Monroe is an adorable yorkie poo. She came to us after being hit by a car and the owners could not afford her care. She has undergone surgery and is now recovering. We expect her to make a full recovery so that she can go to her forever home.

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