

A man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a yellow and white striped tie, stands in a textile shop. He is holding a piece of red and blue patterned fabric. The background shows shelves filled with various colored threads and spools of yarn. The title 'Zebra' is written in a large, stylized font with a yellow outline and a black and white striped pattern.

Zebra

It's **read** all over!
Vol. 1, No. 2
February 2011

ART Under Foot

*The Hadeeds:
Preserving Family
Treasures One Thread
At a Time*

See page 4

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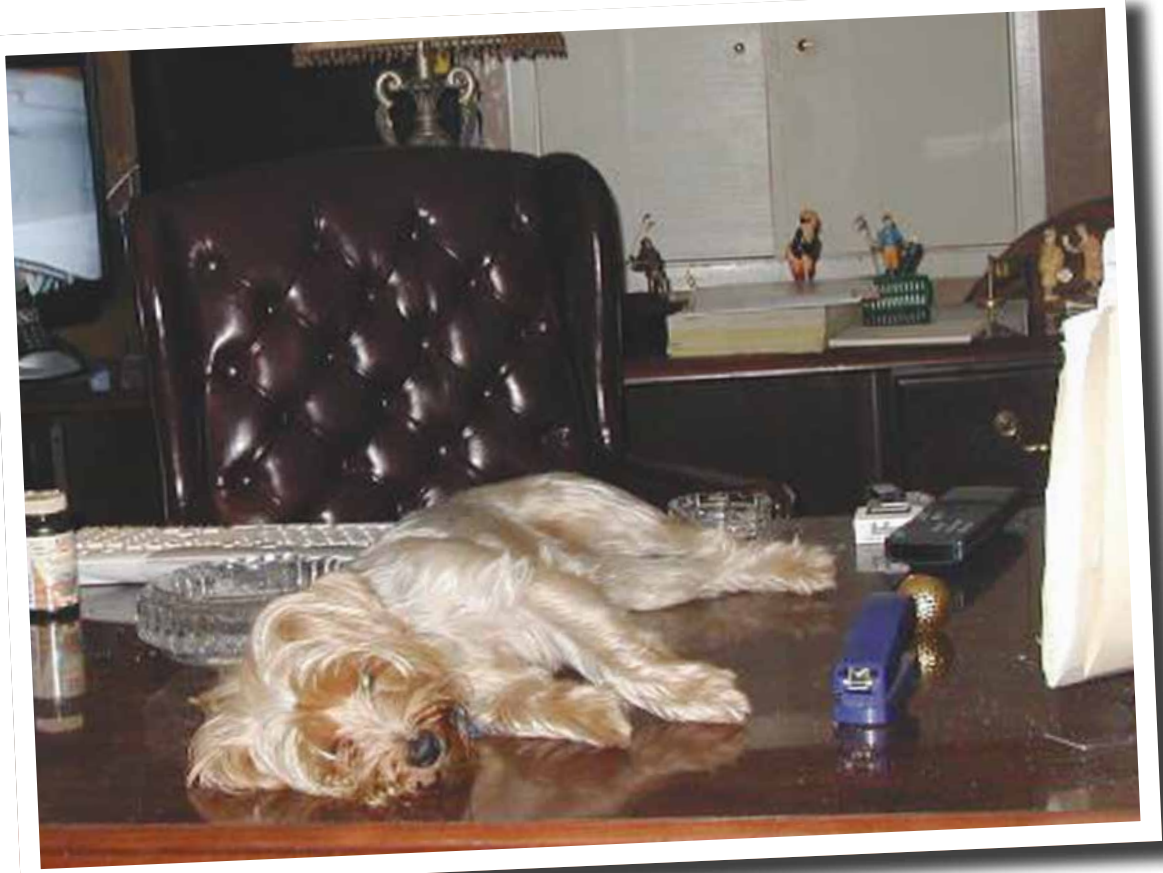



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Publisher's assistant Lucy hard at work in the Zebra office.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Many years ago, probably more than 25 in fact, I read a copy of a note that actor Alan Alda wrote to his daughter upon her college graduation, in which he told her, "Be brave enough to live life creatively. The creative is the place no one else has ever been. You can't get there by bus, or by train, only by hard work and not quite knowing where you are going. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover will be yourself." I've always remembered his words, and hoped one day I'd know exactly what he was hoping she would find, and that maybe I would find it too.

The *Zebra* is helping me discover just what Alda meant. It's hard work, and it's an adventure toward the nebulous definition of "creative," and I hope the magazine will always be exploring and getting nearer to it with each printing, and, that sometimes, we hit upon the "wonderful," or at least make you laugh and think along the way.

In this issue, you'll read about the "creative" inside so many, and the rewards returned from hard work and determination as each defines it in his or her own way. You'll get to know Joe Hadeed and learn about the sacrifices and long journey that has made his family business a respected, thriving part of Alexandria for over 55 years. Read how it took a team of professional and loving experts to restore a little dog's eyesight, and jump from column to column enjoying the quips and colorful kernels of little-known information offered by our many talented contributors. And if you get the chance, please attend any of the unique performances and exhibits to applaud the efforts of the skilled creators who act, write, dance, paint and lecture every day, all around us.

I hope you enjoy our second issue, and that you'll look forward to each and every time a new *Zebra* edition greets you at your doorstep, or at any of the over 100 locations where we distribute within the metropolitan area.

Cheers in 2011!
Mary Wadland
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

Zebra

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For advertising information call 703-919-7533



BY CHUCK HAGEE

It's been said "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder." That also applies to art in general — in what ever form or medium.

However, when most people think of art and its preservation, they usually think of galleries, museums and special places in their homes or offices where the precious works can be displayed, admired and appreciated. Often they are protected from even the human touch because they are considered family heirlooms, to be cherished and passed from generation to generation.

Who would even think of walking on a precious work of art, or of chancing the family pet to treat it as a patch of sod when nature calls? Yet it happens, everyday. And, it has throughout the centuries.

These works of art are oriental rugs. They grace the floors and walls of homes and offices not only within the Washington Metropolitan Area but also throughout the world. And, like any true works of art they must be cared for and preserved as professionally and expertly as when they were created.

In 1955, in a driveway in the Del Ray section of Alexandria, Michael Hadeed, along with his brother Teddy, decided it was their calling to preserve these magnificent works of art that had been created by Middle Eastern and Asian artisans. Thus was born Hadeed Oriental Rug Cleaning.

Today, the business, now owned and operated by his two sons,

Caretakers of Carpets

Joseph and the younger Michael Hadeed, has grown into a multi-million dollar enterprise that cleans and preserves more than 25,000 rugs each year in its many-faceted plant at 3228 Duke St., Alexandria, VA.

To accomplish this feat they rely on 120 employees, ranging from rug cleaning experts to skilled weavers and artists, capable of restoring not only the vivid colors woven into these practical creations but also the intricate fringes on the edges and the very threads within the body of the rug. They also have 16 trucks on the road and eight drop-off locations throughout Northern Virginia.

Joe Hadeed is the Chief Executive Officer, as well as the public face and voice of the organization. An innovative businessman, Joe spearheads the company's advertising campaigns,

and even does his own voiceovers in Hadeed's radio and television spots. His brother Michael is the Chief Operating Officer.

In addition to bringing rugs to the plant for cleaning and restoration, they also clean carpeting on site whether it be in a private home, office, or hotel. "Each of our steam trucks carries equipment worth more than \$35,000 to clean carpet on site," said Joe Hadeed.

No job is too large or too small. To emphasize the former of that claim, the Hadeed organization has performed the task of cleaning the 400-year old, 30 ft. by 60 ft. oriental rug in the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Temple in Alexandria. It has been appraised at \$4 million, according to Joe Hadeed.

"It took eight men to lift that rug when it was dry before we started the cleaning process," he

emphasized. And, just how does one clean such a national treasure? With soap and water, naturally.

"This is the only sure way to clean an oriental rug and be sure that it is done thoroughly. Oriental rugs are woven. Therefore, the dirt can get between the fibers, so steaming or deep vacuuming will not reach those fibers. Only washing with soap and water and being squeegeed over and over will flush out all the contaminants and ground-in dirt, bringing the lush colors back to life," Joe emphasized.

"My motto is, you know you are near when the water is clear," he exclaimed.

Every rug delivered to the plant for cleaning and/or restoration is thoroughly inspected. The customer then gets a call to tell them exactly what the rug needs. "It's up to the customer to decide what they want done based on our

expert evaluation. If it just needs cleaning then that's all that is done," Joe stated.

If it needs repairs to the fringe or the body, that can be done by expert, meticulous stitchers. If the colors need restoring Hadeed has artisans on staff daily that are capable of painstaking revitalization that would make Michelangelo envious.

"All the colors in all the various rugs that come to us are mixed from five basic colors," Joe Hadeed explained. As for the fibers, there are a myriad of wool and silk strands hanging on the walls behind the stitchers. All work throughout the various areas of the Hadeed plant, whether it be washing, weaving or art is done by hand following centuries' old methods and techniques.

In this period of economic downturn one might assume that a business such as this would be negatively impacted. In truth, it has been just the opposite, according to Mike Hadeed.

"We've actually been blessed by an increase in business because we have focused on our cleaning and preservation service as opposed to sales. Many other companies which have emphasized sales have been hit hard," he explained.

"People look on these rugs as heirlooms — either one they have inherited or one that they want to pass on to the next generation — or both," Mike said.

▼ See ART UNDER FOOT on page 5



PHOTO | GREG KNOTT

Painstaking attention is paid to every thread in one of the restoration rooms at the Hadeed plant in Alexandria.

“They often associate these rugs with family memories. That’s why we place so much emphasis on preservation. And, that’s why we take such pride in what we do,” he exclaimed.

There are constant inspections of the work on every rug as it travels through the process. Plus, each goes through a final inspection before it is returned to the customer.

“Most of our customers would rather preserve their existing rugs than replace them with new ones. We are a preservation-minded society, whether it be antique automobiles, childhood toys, or beautiful oriental rugs,” Mike said.

Every rug arriving at the plant goes through a mandatory washing, according to Mike Hadeed. “We want to make sure that no rug is contaminating other rugs with whatever may be lodged within its fibers,” he said.

Hadeed Oriental Rug Cleaning now stretches from Baltimore, MD, to Virginia’s Tidewater area. “We service eight regions with drop-off locations and we have trucks operating in each of those regions daily,” Mike explained. “We plan to open a new drop-off location in Bethesda this coming Spring.”

In addition to enlarging their service area to encompass more of the eastern seaboard, the Hadeeds also plan to expand their wall-to-wall carpet cleaning division and add the service of refinishing hardwood floors, according to Mike.

This April 13 will mark the 56th anniversary of when Michael Hadeed, Sr., and his brother Teddy, initiated the business where Al’s Steak House now stands on Mount Vernon Avenue. Joe Hadeed bought the business from his father in 1990. Teddy had died in 1981. He then proceeded to grow it from what he described as a “a mom and pop business” into today’s multi-million dollar enterprise with its cadre of professionally trained employees.

“I started here when I was 19, learning the business from my uncle Teddy, by doing everything from the bottom up, starting in the rug drying room,” Joe stated. Mike started learning the rug cleaning business at age 12. However, he went to law school and then practiced law for 25 years before joining his brother Joe in the family business approximately 18 months ago.

The elder Michael Hadeed arrived in this country in 1905 from the Middle East where he had been



PHOTO | GREG KNOTT

Joe Hadeed explains the hand-washing process that is the only way to properly clean the rugs he services.

involved in the rug business. After serving in the U.S. Army during World War I, he took a job with the Hinkel Rug Cleaning Co. before establishing his own firm.

In a letter to customers last year Joe Hadeed noted that “George Washington, the greatest of all Alexandrians, owned and posed on an oriental rug” in one of his most famous portraits. “If rugs could talk, they would have stories to tell. They represent beauty, drama and mystery, and are an integral part of the places people occupy,” Joe noted.

Viewing a beautifully cleaned and restored oriental rug by Hadeed, which awakens in its life and vibrancy, brings to mind a quote from Claude Bernard in his work dealing with the study of experimental medicine, “The mental never influences the physical. It is always the physical that modifies the mental.”

One of Joe Hadeed’s advertising commercials notes, the mission of

Hadeed Oriental Rug Cleaning is “to see to it that your treasurers are cleaned and maintained to ensure that they provide warmth, beauty and longevity as they gain value over time.” And, often a non-monetary vital element of that value is providing a mental well being to meet life’s challenges.

As Mike explained, Hadeed Carpet Cleaning & Repair is a generational business. It has transitioned from father to sons. But at 81 years young, proud father Michael, Sr., still gives advise and counsel. “Even our sister, who is an artist, in her own right, and mother of four, sometimes helps with the reweaving process,” Mike said.

A generational business is a good way to explain it—for it applies equally to both the labor of love in cleaning and preserving these practical works of art and to the pride and emotional comfort they provide their owners — in many cases generation after generation.



Test Your Rug and Rug Cleaning Knowledge:

1. What is the foundation of an oriental rug called?
2. What are the three types of materials of which rugs are commonly made?
3. What types of rugs cannot be thoroughly wet washed?
4. Are chemicals used in the rug cleaning process?
5. How does animal urine affect a rug?
6. What is an oriental rug?
7. How can you tell real silk from what is known as “Art” silk?
8. How can you tell if a rug is machine made?
9. What are common damages to rugs?
10. Why is a rug pad useful?

(Answers on the right)



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ANSWERS TO THE CARPET QUIZ: 1. Weft and warp. 2. Wool, silk and cotton. 3. Wool on wool tribal rugs because most have a cotton foundation. 4. No. Only soap and water. 5. It causes color bleeding and attracts harmful insects that weaken the fibers. 6. It is a general term referring primarily to handmade rugs from Asia and the Middle East. 7. “Art” silk actually means artificial silk. 8. By looking at the back of the rug. Machine made rugs show a white stream from the machine. 9. Loss of color, breaks and damage in the fibers, breaks or wear in the fringe. 10. For three reasons: 1. It cushions the trauma to the fibers from walking. 2. It protects hardwood flooring underneath the rug. 3. It protects people from falling by not allowing the rug to slide on the hard floor surface.



PHOTO | COURTESY BISHOP IRETON

Pictured above are Principal Tom Hamer and students Liz Collins, Sarah Rupp and Olivia Babiec.

Three Bishop Ireton Seniors Sign Letters of Intent

Principal Tim Hamer joined three Cardinal athletes who signed national letters of intent to attend college to play division I athletics. Seniors Liz Collins, Sarah Rupp, and Olivia Babiec all inked letters on December 15th at Bishop Ireton.

Collins, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Collins of Alexandria, is headed to the College of William & Mary to swim for the Tribe. She swims for Coach John Gullickson on the Ireton team as well as for Coach Evan Stiles on the Arlington Aquatic Swim Club. Liz was a Virginia State Independent School Champion in the 100 Breaststroke last year, National Catholics finalist, Metros finalist and received All American Consideration accolades along with her Medley Relay teammates. Liz is also a team record holder, scholar athlete, member of National Honor Society and a volunteer with Fairfax County Adapted Aquatics.

Sarah Rupp is a returning first team, all-WCAC performer for Bishop Ireton's girls' lacrosse team and a three-year varsity letter winner. She plays for the extremely competitive Capital Blue lacrosse club team, Ireton's leader in ground balls last season, and will head to the University of California Davis in the fall of 2011. Rupp is a member of the National Honor Society and active with Haitian relief programs at the School. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Steve Rupp of Alexandria.

Olivia Babiec is the second from her family to head to collegiate rowing. Her brother, Thaddeus, rows for the Terriers of Boston University as a freshman this year. Olivia, a star

on the girls' national qualifying team, led Ireton to its highest place ever, third place, at the historic Stotesbury Cup regatta last spring. She will be going to Drexel University in Philadelphia, where she will row for the Dragons. Like her classmates, she is an active member of the National Honor Society. Olivia is the daughter of Dr. & Mrs. Dan Babiec of Alexandria.

Alexandria Highlights Black History Month Events

Noted genealogist Char McCargo Bah will present "In Search of Parker and Gray: Two African American Education Icons" at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19**. It is one of several programs throughout the City recognizing February as Black History Month.

Admission to this event is \$5 with advanced registration recommended. For additional information or to register call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

On **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5**, the Black History Museum is hosting "Play Date with Pride." A special activity designed for children ages five to 12, it provides an interactive workshop with hands-on creative arts involving storytelling, crafts, music and dance.

Organized by Culture Kingdom Kids, a mobile learning environment provides the opportunity for children to gain knowledge of their rich heritages through the creative arts. It is scheduled from 1 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. at a cost of \$5 per child. Reservations are recommended

and parents must accompany the children. For more information or to make reservations visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-4356.

Dr. Peter Henriques, professor emeritus of history from George Mason University, will deliver a lecture entitled "Those Who Labor For Me -- A Closer Look at Some of George Washington's Enslaved Workers" at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16**, as part of the George Washington Lecture Series.

With the goal of introducing these largely forgotten people to a wider audience, Henriques illustrates not only the horrors of slavery, but also demonstrates that the story is more complicated than generally believed. Tickets are \$12 per person and \$10 for members of Gabsby's Tavern Museum Society Volunteers. Doors open at 7 P.M. with the lecture beginning at 7:30 P.M.

Tickets may be purchased by calling 703-746-4242 or going through the online shop at www.gadsbystavern.org.

On **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26**, historian Carroll R. Gibbs will present his lecture, "Whirlwind Coming: African Americans in the District and Alexandria During the Civil War" at Fort Ward Park Museum, 4301 Braddock Road, Alexandria, commencing at 1 P.M. in the Museum Library. Cost for this event is \$10 per person. Reservations are suggested and can be made by calling 703-746-4848.

In this presentation, Gibbs will discuss the Civil War experiences and contributions of African Americans living in the Greater Washington Area with a particular emphasis on Alexandria, which became a headquarters and transportation center for the Union Army. His lecture will highlight the role of civilians and U.S. Colored Troop regiments associated with the camps and forts that comprised the Civil War defenses of nation's Capitol.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Now Accepting Junior Docent Applications

Parents and teachers, does your child or student enjoy history, learning, and talking about what



COURTESY PHOTO

Junior docent at Gadsby's Tavern Museum giving a tour.

they know? Gadsby's Tavern Museum's Junior Docent Program is a wonderful way to encourage their interest and enthusiasm!

Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, is now accepting 3rd, 4th, and 5th-grade applicants for the Junior Docent Program. Junior Docents learn the museum tour and provide tours in 18th-century clothing during special events in the spring and summer. They offer an important service by engaging children visiting the museum and sharing their interest in history.

Applicants must be available for the training classes on the Sunday afternoons of March 13, 20, and 27. Due to the popularity of this program, applicants must call to reserve an audition time, where the child can tell about one of his or her favorite events in history. Call 703.746.4739 to make an appointment or to learn more. Auditions will be held on Sunday, February 6 between noon and 5 p.m.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Gadsby's Tavern was the center of social and political life in Alexandria and the new Federal City of Washington. The tavern served as the premier gathering place for residents -- including George Washington -- and visitors to eat, drink, learn, and influence history.

Recruiting Day At Fort Ward: Lessons In War

Want to learn more about portraying the lives of those who experienced the Civil War first hand? Then report in to the Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, on Saturday, February 5 to participate in "Recruiting Day."

Soldiers and civilians of the 3rd U.S. Regular Infantry, Company K, will be on hand from noon to 3 P.M. to talk about becoming a Civil War reenactor. They will discuss uniforms and equipment, demonstrate drills, and explain the differing roles of

military and civilians in this fun hobby.

Visitors will learn how to join local reenactment units as well as what clothing and equipment a novice reenactor must acquire. Admission is free.

Nearly 50,000 men, women and children across the nation participate in Civil War reenacting. They take on the roles of individuals who fought as soldiers between 1861 and 1865 or who were an active part of the civilian homefront.

In addition to learning more about this critical period in U.S. history, reenactors can employ dramatic and interpretive skills, converse with the public, and perform activities such as campfire cooking, drilling, needlework, medical care and setting up camp. Reenactor roles include soldiers, clergy, politicians, laborers, doctors, farmers, merchants and many other walks of life in the 19th century.

For additional information about this event visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

Marine Corps Marathon Offers Registration Discount to Service Members

Geico Teams with MCM to Offer 15 Percent Discount Jan. 19 Through Feb. 22

As of noon on Wednesday, January 19, active duty and reserve military members can register for the 36th Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) online at www.marinemarathon.com, over one month before online registration opens to the public.

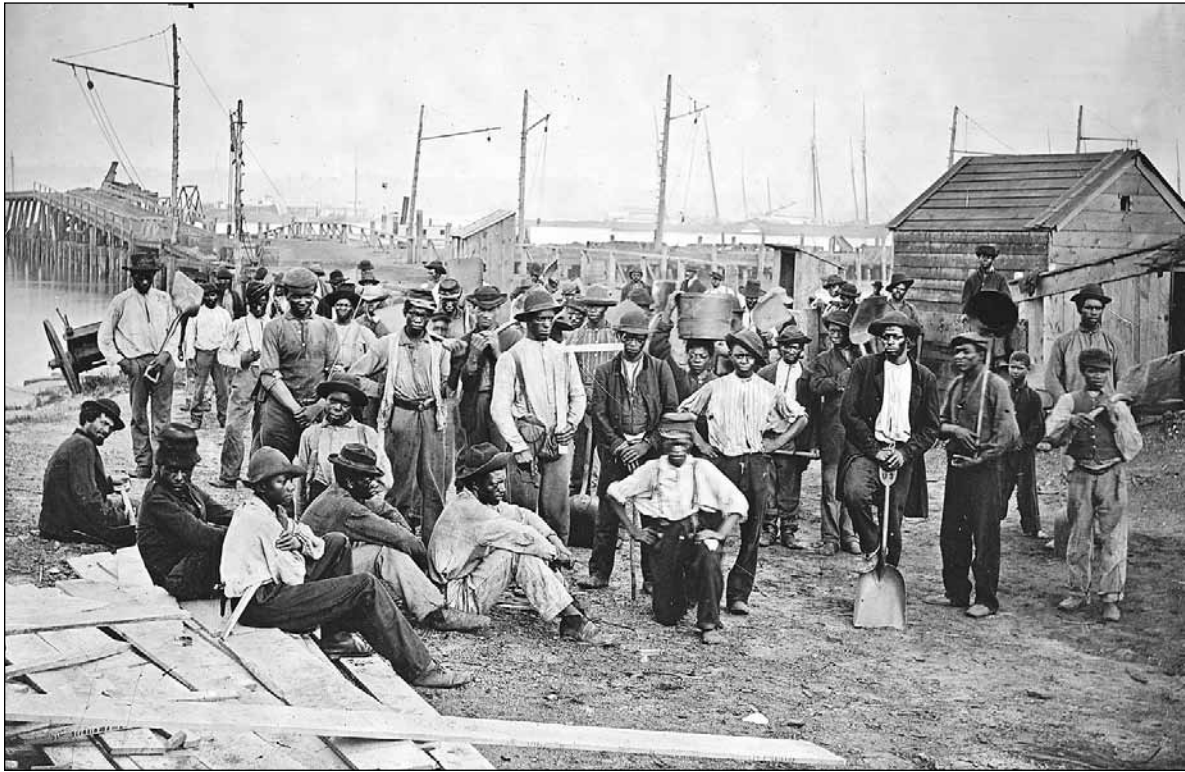
From January 19 through February 22, active duty and reserve personnel will receive a discount of \$13.50 and pay \$76.50 to register for the MCM to be held on Oct. 30. The 15 percent discount offered in partnership with MCM sponsor Geico, reflects the company's popular slogan "15 minutes can save you 15 percent or more on car insurance."

"Geico has been a strong supporter of military service members and their families for 75 years," says Mike Baker, GEICO director of military marketing. "Teaming up with the U.S. Marine Corps for a prestigious event such as the Marine Corps Marathon shows GEICO's ongoing commitment to serve the broader military community."

Military members registering after February 22 will pay the full \$90 public registration cost.

"The Marine Corps Marathon and Geico offer this discount for one month to allow military members throughout the world dedicated time to register for „The People's Marathon, which typically is a fast sell out," says Rick Nealis, MCM Director. "In 2010, the MCM experienced the largest participation to date with 21,948 finishers, many of who are members of the military -- including the 2010 top finisher, Jacob Bradosky, who is a second lieutenant in the Air Force."

The 2011 Marine Corps Marathon will be open to 30,000 registered participants. The marathon will start in Arlington, VA, wind through the nation's capital and cross the scenic Potomac River before heading back into Northern Virginia for the iconic finish at the Marine Corps War Memorial.

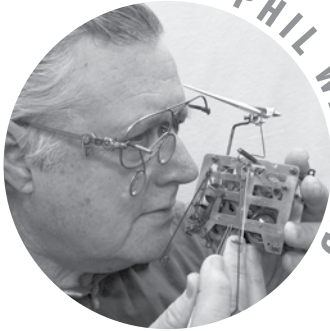


COURTESY PHOTO

African Americans in Civil War Alexandria.

ASK THE CLOCKMAN

BY PHIL WADLAND



Q: Dear Clockman, I know this is not a clock, but I was told that most clock people understand barometers. I have a barometer made by Seth Thomas (photo provided), and it has never worked, or so I believe. What is a barometer, and how does it operate?

A: I have been repairing barometers as long as I have been repairing clocks. This is a very simple explanation for me, so here goes. Before the advent of sophisticated weather forecasting, a barometer measured the air pressure, helping to predict the impending weather. High pres-

sure indicated fair weather, while low pressure suggested a storm might be coming. Very low pressure usually signified a hurricane.

Your barometer may indeed be working fine; you just don't know how to operate it. Let me explain. Your barometer has an air pressure can located just above its center in the instrument – a chrome, round disk about one and a half inches across. As the air pressure rises and falls, this can causes the needle to move left or right. The trick to using a barometer is that you must tap the glass like you were trying to get the attention of a goldfish in a bowl. The barometer is so sensitive that until you cause this slight vibration to the inner workings, the needle will not move. Take note that, in the very center, there is a large brass knob on the outside of the glass. This knob controls the indicator hand, which can be moved. Follow these steps:

Step 1: Tap the glass and the hand should move slightly.

Step 2: Move the indicator needle to directly above the barometer needle. Wait 24 hours.

Step 3: Tap the glass again. You will now notice a slight change in the position of the barometer needle. This is the new reading on your barometer. If the needle moves left, it is low air pressure, while a move to the right indicates high air pressure. Under normal conditions, this movement will only fluctuate a maximum of about a half inch left or right.

Step 4: After you have noticed the barometer needle move, repeat Step 2. And remember, the needle will only dip below 29 when a hurricane is approaching.

Also of significance, the reason your barometer has its shape and the numbers 29, 30 and 31 inches on the dial is because the original barometer was manufactured with a long tube of mercury inside the case – a glass float on an open pool of mercury, which rose and fell based on the air pressure. The float

was attached to a string that ran around a pulley, causing the hand to move. This mercury tube was about 33 inches tall.

Almost all antique barometers today do not function because no one knows to cork the open tubes before transporting them. Movers just take them off walls and lay them down, causing the mercury to run out.

Now think about this a moment...and know that an actual moment is equal to 1.5 minutes.

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.



Z
PICK OF THE
MONTH

MagicJack!

Over and over, in the middle of the night, I'd see the infomercials for something called MagicJack. \$19.95 a year guaranteed you would never have to pay a telephone bill again, and promised unlimited local and long distance calls, free voice mail and even free 411 dialing.

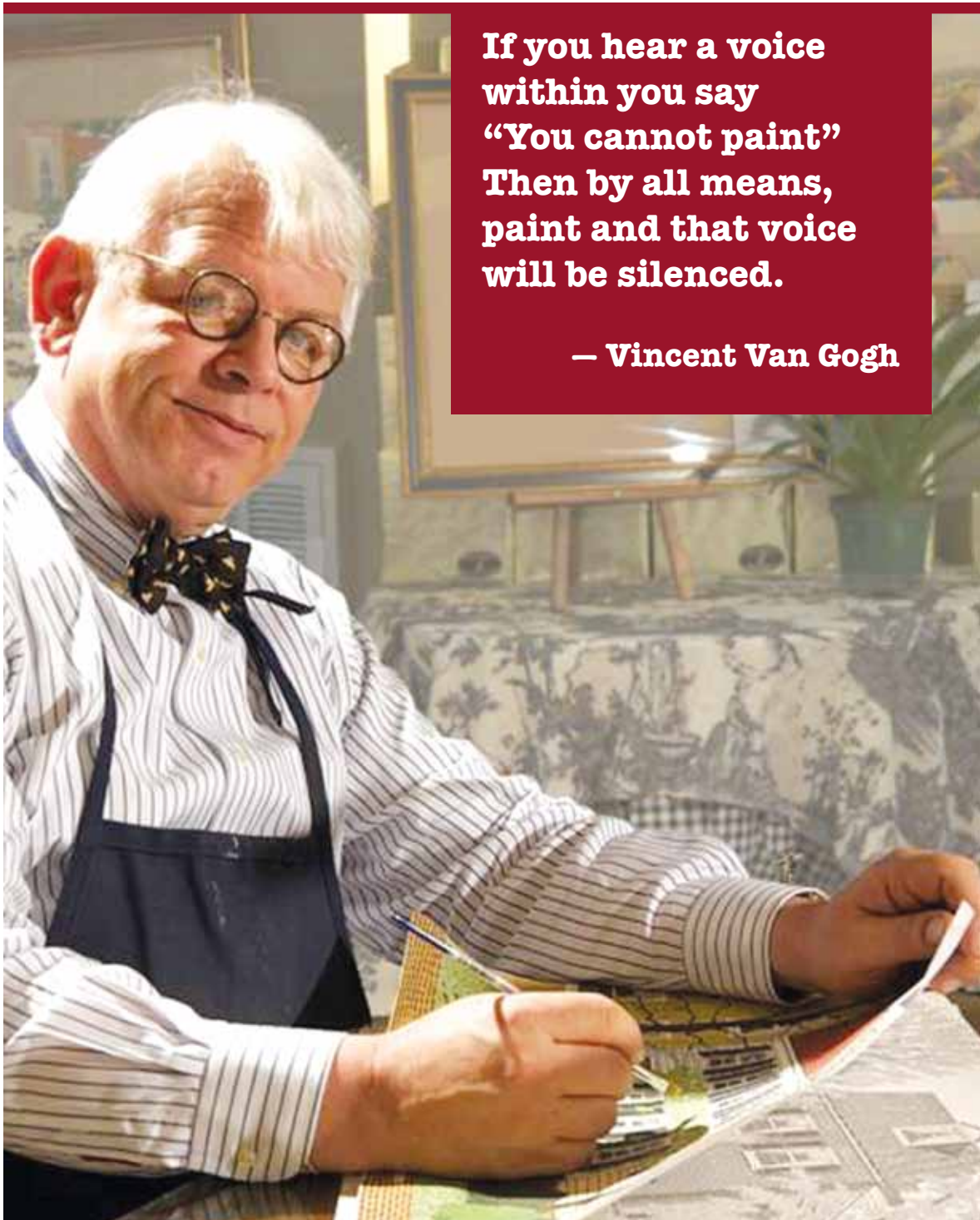
There had to be a catch. Setting out to debunk this "As Seen on TV" product, I ambled into the local CVS, where the television ad said I could buy it, and indeed, it was there. \$39.95. "Ah ha," I thought, not \$19.95, as advertised! But the clerk quickly pointed out that it included the actual device to plug into a USB port, plus one year of pre-paid phone service.

So I took it home and admittedly wrestled with a box cutter to break my way into the hard plastic shell surrounding the little square, plug-in gadget about the size of a tic tac box. Inserting it into the side of my laptop, a small screen popped up within seconds giving me easy installation instructions. Less than five minutes later, my desk phone was plugged into the MagicJack and I had I had been assigned a telephone number, with a local area code and I had a dial tone!

If you are currently paying some ridiculous fee for a land line you use only about five or six times a month, then MagicJack is for you. It's cheap, it's easy, and it fills the void. The down side is that your computer does have to be turned on to make and receive calls, but the voice mail still works, power or no power. And cooler still, MagicJack actually texts my cell phone and notifies me each time I have a message.

MagicJack works and Zebra calls it a complete winner!

— Mary Wadland



**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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Lucy's Story

BY MARY WADLAND

Approaching the age of 40, I became selfish. All my life, I had been a caregiver. Now, I didn't want to be responsible for anyone, no appendages, no baggage – no one dependent upon me for happiness or attention. I never wanted children. While I had several dogs and cats throughout, I was currently “without animal” and had decided to investigate a cat, mainly due to their independent nature.

My companion at the time, an equally loner-type fellow, had other ideas. On Valentine's Day, he asked to take me for a drive, and we travelled for over an hour to a farm in upper Maryland. Upon entering the farmhouse kitchen, a huge litter of Yorkshire terrier puppies scampered towards me. “On no,” I thought. I didn't want to end up an old lady with a frail-looking, yappy dog in her purse. I didn't even carry a purse – just one more thing to lose.

One pup was quiet, hanging back from the others, so I picked her up and held her while we chatted with the farmer and his wife. All the while, the fist-full of life was burrowing herself into the lapel of my blazer. After a few minutes, to my complete amazement, I turned to my friend Jerry, and, out of my mouth came, “I'm not leaving without her. Pay the money.” Jerry laid \$650 cash down on the kitchen table, and she was bundled in a tattered terry cloth blanket and placed in my arms, the adoption complete.

On the way home, she

told me her name was Lucy. I never liked the name Lucy, but her communication was deafening, so Lucy it was. The first night, I bedded her down in the kitchen with the customary cardboard box, blanket and alarm clock. Dogs and cats had always slept with me, but, again, I was putting up walls – to build her independence and solidify mine.

Night Two: She slept in my bed...and went to the bathroom in it as well. I was a caregiver once more.

The following year, Jerry suffered a massive coronary and died within minutes. I was not there. No goodbyes. Although we had been together for 16 years, we had no formally-recognized union. We liked it that way, but now, here I was, with nothing of him, from him, but this dog.

Our love for Jerry bonded us even closer, and she was my constant companion. I took her everywhere...and not in a purse! She had turned out to be a rather large Yorkie, weighing in at around 12 pounds. If anything, she needed an L.L. Bean tote bag or luggage with wheels.

By last year, she was a plump 22.8 pounds and could not tolerate the hot Washington summers. When I took her along to a meeting with my graphic designer in Leesburg, she began honking like some prehistoric bird after only 10 minutes in the sun. On the way home, I stopped at 7-11 and got a large cup of water.

She drank half, and I pouring the

rest over her head and body to try and cool her down. Buying plants at Eclectic Nature, without warning, she jumped out of my arms into a display fountain and just sat there, her tri-colored hair splaying in the water.

A friend remarked at Lucy's constant lip-smacking, as if she had been stranded in the Gobi Desert rather than a 68-degree air conditioning townhouse. Further, she was consuming an inordinate amount of water and urinating shortly thereafter. Diabetes was brought into the conversation, and I shut it down.

But within a week, Lucy's desperation to create saliva in her mouth was palpable. So I took her in to see Dr. Lynn Schutt at Belle Haven Animal Medical Centre. He had looked after my last dog, Sophomore, and had been instrumental in extending his life. I trusted Dr. Schutt. He was my Dr. Doolittle, and I knew he would give Lucy the best care and be straight up with me about her circumstances.

And there it was, the words I didn't want to hear. He walked back into the room having run a blood glucose test on Lucy and uttered, “Your friend was right; Lucy's blood sugar is over 700. She's diabetic.” Suddenly the room narrowed. I couldn't breathe. I looked down at Lucy on her leash, attached to me.

While I had never left her with anyone or boarded her, now I never could. She would need multiple daily insulin shots, a feeding schedule and special food. I had taught her to be an independent spirit, knowing she could survive on her own for a few hours or in a kennel for a week if I went on a golf outing. But now, everything changed with his words.

I was her primary caregiver, the only person in her universe who loved her despite her foibles and now ill health. In the toughest of times, when I had joked to friends I was going to send her to “Yorkie Rescue,” I knew now that I was all she had. Her very life was now my daily, hourly responsibility,

and I was terrified I would screw it up.

Dr. Schutt referred me to Dr. Doree Katz at Belle

Haven who specializes in feline and canine diabetes. Along with a team of other doctors, she taught me how and where to inject her insulin and what foods she could and could no longer have. Lucy was great throughout, even when I removed milk bones from her diet, as they were 30 to 65 carbohydrates per bone depending on the brand. Now, each morning, she stands in the kitchen, waiting to eat her breakfast until I give her the morning injection.

Dr. Katz, although optimistic about Lucy's longevity, was quick to point out that, at some point, Lucy would get cataracts and go blind. It could be months, a year, five years, but it was inevitable, and it could happen overnight. Lucy's overall health at the time would determine if she was a candidate for cataract surgery. But we would cross that bridge when we came to it.

On Thursday, November 4, we came to that bridge. Lucy went blind overnight.

A week earlier, I had awoken to see Lucy with what appeared to be a white golf ball stuck in her left eye. It was oozing and bulbous, something out of a horror movie. I called my best friend who drove as I held Lucy in my arms. I didn't bother to call Belle Haven until we were already in the car. When we arrived, Dr. Elizabeth MacDonald saw us right away, and, after fully examining Lucy's bulging eye, said Lucy's condition was very serious and she needed to be seen by a canine ophthalmologist immediately, and could I go directly there now? “Yes.” They had obtained an appointment for us, and we were out the door within two minutes, driving directions in hand.

We arrived at SouthPaws Veterinary Specialists & Emergency Center within 20 minutes. Located on Arlington Boulevard in Fairfax, the multi-story building was impressive. Open 24/7 for emergency walk-ins, I memorized exactly how to get there should Lucy need their services in the middle of the night. Upon entering, the waiting room was something akin to a grand hotel lobby, featuring oriental rugs, wingback chairs and a massive registration desk running the full length of the room. Each check-in denoted a specialty service: Oncology, radiology, cardiology, holistic medicine and ophthalmology. That's us.

Leave it to Lucy, upon putting her down



▼ See LUCY'S STORY on page 9

▲ **LUCY'S STORY** from page 8

on the floor, she immediately went to bathroom, and the lady at the registration desk quickly orated into a telephone, "Housekeeping!" I knew Lucy was destined to "bond" with those oriental carpets, and it was not the last time housekeeping would be called upon Lucy's arrival.

We were escorted upstairs to an examining room where we met Dr. Nancy Bromberg. She examined Lucy and explained a condition called Lipidosis in which ingesting foods high in fat had caused the fatty lipids to come through the back of Lucy's eye, weakened by the diabetes and onset of cataracts. She prescribed medication and additional meal requirements, but noted that cataracts were already present in Lucy's clear eye, although not fully matured.

Thursday, November 4 was devastating for both Lucy and me. While the Lipidosis had become less prominent, Lucy was completely blind. As Dr. Katz had warned, it happened overnight.

The dog who loved sitting on the patio bench at night starrng up at the stars, playing fetch with her collection of stuffed animals, rejoicing in stealing and dismantling lighters, Tivo controls and eyeglasses and then holding them for ransom, was now standing in the corner facing the wall, like some canine version of *The Blair Witch Project*. She was an instant invalid, falling off the sofa, walking backwards down the stairs, bumping into furniture. It was heartbreaking to see her so lost in darkness. Worse, she could no longer see me, so I held her a lot as she was safest that way, and she lay hard against me, just as she did that first day in the farmhouse kitchen.

We returned to SouthPaws, and Dr. Bromberg issued the encouraging news that Lucy was a good candidate for cataract surgery. Unfortunately, some dogs do not have this medical option with the onset of matured cataracts or other problems resulting in blindness. We were lucky, but then came the crushing realization that cataract

surgery for both eyes would cost between \$4,200 and \$7,000 depending upon any complications. Coupled with this news was the additional burden that there was only a small window of time, little more than a week, in which to have the surgery. Once Lucy's cataracts hardened, they would be impossible to remove, and she would be blind for the rest of her life.

Dr. Bromberg remarked that the surgery was elective, but I never considered not having the surgery for Lucy. She was only 7 years old, but \$7,000 was not sitting in my bank account, someone else's maybe, but not mine. Lucy and I left without making the surgical appointment. How could I schedule a surgery I couldn't afford? This is what it came down to, a matter of money. So if Lucy was blind for the rest of her life, I had failed to find the money in time. I had failed her.

I arrived home in a panic, and got on the telephone, securing financing within the hour. I then called and scheduled Lucy's surgery

held Lucy in my arms and her paws wrapped around my shoulders, her tiny claws digging into me.

I was then presented with a form I had not anticipated – what extraordinary measures Dr. Bromberg would take if Lucy's heart stopped on the table – do not resuscitate, non-invasive soft heart massage or invasive heart massage, in which she would be cracked open like a New England Maine lobster. I chose the second option, kissed her goodbye and quickly left, breaking down in the car. Should she die today, I feel she would have agreed that this chance for regained sight was worth the risk. Neither she nor I could survive her being permanently blind if it was fixable.

At 3:00 PM, Dr. Bromberg called. Lucy was out of surgery, and I could come get her. Maria, a post-surgical nurse, sat with us on the floor in a recovery room as she explained the five medications, three pills and two eye drops, Lucy would need throughout the following weeks at varying intervals each day.

Maria carried her to
the car, and we
laid her on
a blanket
in the



the
following
Monday, November
15.

That morning, I placed Lucy on the seat next to me, and we drove to SouthPaws, all the while telling Lucy how much I loved her. As we were escorted to the surgical unit, I



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John and Ruby Thompson reflect on 62 years of marriage as they recall the events of their lives in the living room of the home they have occupied for the past 56 years.

PHOTO | CHUCK HAGEE

Love With Longevity

BY CHUCK HAGEE

Theologian Paul Tillich, in his treatise “Love, Power, and Justice,” stated, “Love as an emotion can not be commanded” and that “love is one.” Both those assertions could not apply more than to the life-long love affair of John and Ruby Thompson, now 87 and 88 years young respectively.

On April 23, 2011, these two native Virginians and long time residents of Southeastern Fairfax County’s Mount Vernon District will celebrate their sixty second wedding anniversary. And, they are definitely living examples of the old adage, “Age is a state of mind.”

Oh sure, there is some of the physical decline that takes place with the passage of time. But the true measure life’s journey is in one’s intellectual prowess and ability to appreciate that journey, with all its twists and turns.

“We go to the Hollin Hall Senior Center every Wednesday to participate in the Canasta Club. There’s enough going on there to go everyday and do something different if you wanted to,” said Ruby sitting in the living room of their home on Shenandoah Road which they have occupied for the past 56 years.

“We’ve never had a real serious argument in all the time we’ve been together. People don’t believe me but it’s true,” she maintained.

The secret of that accomplishment, according to Ruby, is “I let him believe that an idea is his and then I do what I want if it’s something different,” she stated. John, sitting across the living room, nodded his head with a knowing smile.

John was born and raised in Charlotte Court House, VA, and Ruby hails from Shipman, VA, about 50 miles apart in the south central portion of the state. “We met in church, Alexandria’s Washington Street United Methodist. That’s a pretty good place to meet don’t you think?” John asked rhetorically. “We’ve been going there all these years.”

“I took him away from redhead named Josephine,” Ruby chimed in -- with obvious pride in her conquest all these years later.

Immediately after graduating from high school, John entered the U.S. Army and saw service in the Philippines and New Guinea. “I got out 33 months later and went to work for the U.S. Post Office,” he said.

“I was also a runner for a bank for several years. That was an easy job and I had a real good lady boss. I got to

ride around in a new car and deliver things as far away as Richmond,” John recalled.

Ruby, on the other hand, ended up in the Washington area almost by default and somewhat against her better judgement. “I had gone to a school in Charlottesville on scholarship to learn to be a secretary. It was a nine month course at the end of which they gave you a civil service exam,” she said.

“It was 1941 and I had no intention of coming to Washington. I passed the exam and about a week later I got a letter telling me to report for work at the Department of Labor. I ignored it and then I got another one asking me why I didn’t want the job,” Ruby stated.

“I had a friend who lived in this area so I decided to come up here and try the job. I was there 11 years. Then I quit working for about six or seven years to raise our children until they were school age,” she explained. After that, Ruby returned to work with a Washington based CPA firm.

The Thompsons have two sons living in the area, John, 58 and Steve, 56. “Steve was born in this house,” Ruby said. “You can tell I don’t like to move much.”

But, that may be changing out of necessity -- not desire. They have been looking at a variety of retirement communities and have settled on Greenspring. “We’re both getting somewhat unsteady on our feet and we’re afraid that one of these days we won’t be able to take care of each other,” Ruby said. “We’re just waiting for the right accommodations to become available.”

“All meals are included in the fee,” John proclaimed. But, Ruby didn’t necessarily put that fact on the plus side of the ledger because, in her mind, it might be hard to beat John’s culinary expertise. “John is a very good cook. In Fact he does all the grocery shopping and the dishes,” she emphasized.

“But, I’m not too fond of doing laundry or running the vacuum,” John said. “However, he’s got to get his hearing taken care of or we might have that serious argument we’ve never had,” she declared. “He has to have the television up so loud and he misses a lot by not being able to hear properly.” John reluctantly acquiesced with the caveat, “She hears everything.”

As all the card merchants and florists advertise each year, Valentine’s Day is for lovers. Well, John and Ruby Thompson certainly qualify. But as George Bernard Shaw once noted, “It’s too bad youth is waste on the young.”

It's Classified!



ZEBRAS
(599.665/7, Dewey Decimal Classification)

Zebras are African equids best known for their distinctive black and white stripes. Their stripes come in different patterns unique to each individual. They are generally social animals that live in small harems to large herds.

There are three species of zebras: the plains zebra (belongs to subgenus *Hippotigris*; and is horse-like), the Grévy's zebra (sole species of subgenus *Dolichohippus*; and is ass-like), the mountain zebra (also belongs to the subgenus *Hippotigris*; and is horse-like). A subspecies, quagga, became extinct in the late 19th century. All three remaining species belong to the higher genus *Equus*.

The Oxford English Dictionary lists the origin of the name (zebra) as being Congolese.

This Zebra is not to be confused with Zebra danio (Indian Zebra

fish), Zebra sharks, Zebra parrots (Budgerigar), Zebra mussels, Zebra finches, and especially Zebra crossings (pedestrian).

Scientific classification: Kingdom/Animalia; Phylum/Chordata; Class/Mammalia; Order/Perissodactyla; Family/Equidae; Genus/*Equus*; Subgenus/*Hippotigris* & *Dolichohippus*; Species/*Equus zebra*, *Equus quagga*, *Equus grevyi*.

Let us add to this list the newest and most important Zebra ... the new monthly magazine Zebra from Northern Virginia. The Library of Congress subject heading for this new publication will be: Virginia — Social life and customs — Periodicals. The Library of Congress classification number will be F221.V9155. The Dewey Decimal classification number will be 917/13.

Sources: Library of Congress online subject headings, Dewey Decimal Classification Tables (DDC22/2003), and Wikipedia online.

Stuart Stone is a 26 year veteran of trench warfare at the Library of Congress, currently a Lusophone/Hispanic 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.*

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— Phyllis Diller

DID YOU KNOW?

Abraham Lincoln Wore Brooks Brothers—who knew?

The National Park Service and Ford's Theatre Society announced that Abraham Lincoln's wool overcoat, worn to Ford's Theatre the night of his assassination, will return to its display in the Ford's Theatre Atlantic Lobby on February 9, 2011. A replica of the Brooks Brothers coat has been on display since June 2010 while the original spent several months in conservation storage as arranged by the National Park Service. The original coat will remain on display until August 2011.

The National Park Service with the support of Ford's Theatre Society has agreed to display the original Lincoln coat for six months annually in an effort to balance conservation of and public access to the historic artifact worn by Abraham Lincoln on the night he was shot at Ford's Theatre. Additional clothing artifacts worn by Abraham Lincoln to Ford's Theatre (suit coat, vest, pants, bowtie and boots) remain on permanent display within the Ford's Theatre Museum.



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Viva Las Vegas!

2011 Consumer Electronics Show

BY DAVID GOLDHAGEN

From around the world, they came by the thousands and conquered the world's biggest technology trade show. With 2,700 vendors and 1.6 million square-feet of exhibit space, the 2011 Consumer Electronics Show was held once again at the Las Vegas Convention Center from Jan. 6-9.

Tablet computers were by far the most popular at this year's show and 3D technology continued to gain ground in affordable consumer devices like TVs and gaming consoles.

While it wasn't easy keeping up with all the new technology and products on display at CES, CNET.com, a leading industry website, broke down the latest gadgets into various categories and presented the official "Best of CES" awards at the end of this year's show.

At look at what's ahead in consumer electronics:

DESIGN

Casio Tryx

When looking at the Tryx it, looks like an ultracompact camcorder with a bit of design flair. Once you play with it, you realize that this is no ordinary camcorder. On the back there is a high-resolution 3-inch touch-screen LCD that allows for almost no actual buttons. The display is held inside a frame, which allows it to pivot a full 360 degrees,

and allows the display to rotate 270 degrees. This and the built-in orientation sensor allow the user to film either right or left handed.

CAR TECH

Toyota's new Entune telematics service

Toyota Entune service brings common apps like Pandora, OpenTable, Bing and MovieTickets.com to the head unit on your car. This enables the driver to make reservations, search the web and listen to Internet radio all by using physical controls or voice controls.

DIGITAL IMAGING

Sony Handycam HDR-PJ Series

Aside from the 220GB hard drive, 12x zoom lens, 3-inch LCD and the GPS receiver for geotagging, the new Sony Handycam offers a projector built into the flip out display that can produce an image up to 60 inches diagonal. This comes in very handy (no pun intended) if you want to play videos you recorded for a large group of friends and eliminates everyone having to gather around the small LCD.

GAMING

Nintendo 3DS

The new "game changer" out of the Nintendo Corporation is the Nintendo 3DS. Like previous systems, the 3DS offers dual screens with the

bottom being a touch screen, a front facing camera, and backward compatibility with older games, but the similarities stop there. The new 3DS is redesigned with two forward facing cameras which allows for 3D picture taking which you can view on the eyeglass-free 3D display that has a slider which lets the user decide just how much 3D-ness they want.

HOME THEATER

Samsung BD-D7000

Samsung's new Blu-ray player, apart from its small design, features 2D to 3D converting allowing the users to play most of their already purchased DVD content in 3D. This Blu-ray player has built in Wi-Fi that allows access to Samsung Apps such as Netflix, Vudu, YouTube and more. Also promised are faster loading times than previous Samsung Blu-ray players.

PCS AND LAPTOPS

Intel Sandy Bridge chips

Intel has revamped its processor with a more energy-efficient performance and much better 3D handling. This is a much-needed improvement due to the past chips lagging behind even while performing the most basic 3D game rendering. This new chip has boosted game performance up 50 percent, and content creation up 42 percent.

PROTOTYPE

Toshiba 3D eyeglass-free prototype

The otherwise nameless laptop by Toshiba features an eyeglass free 3D display that is made possible by the Qosmio webcam that is capable of tracking where the user's eyes are at all times and adjusting the stereoscopic 3D image in real time based on that location. If no eyes are detected, the laptop with turn off the 3D feature. There is no date on when this will be available, but it will be aimed toward movie watching and not gaming.

SMARTPHONES

Motorola Atrix 4G

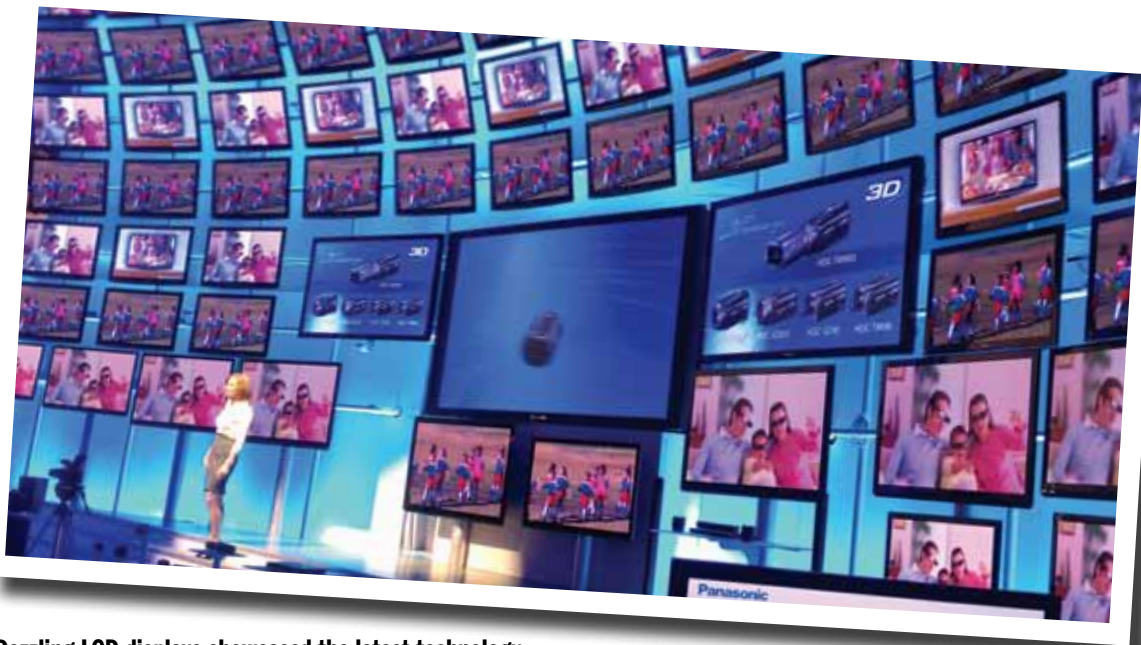
The Motorola Atrix 4G is a cool phone with two built-in 1GHz processors that makes the



PHOTOS BY DAVID GOLDHAGEN

3D applications continue to grow in popularity, especially in gaming technology.

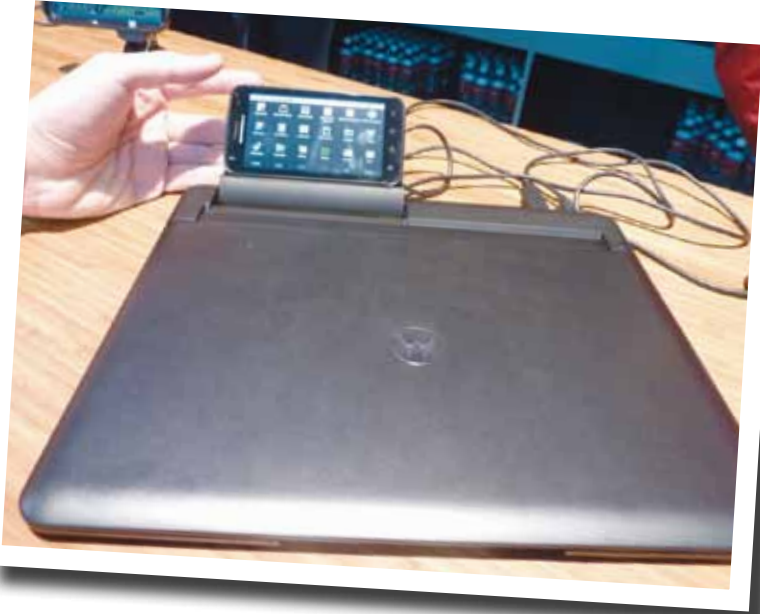
▼ See CES on page 13



Dazzling LCD displays showcased the latest technology.

▲ CES from page 12

phone feel like it is never “thinking” on what to do next. Also packed into this “handheld desktop” are 1GB of RAM and 16GB of onboard storage with the expandability of a micro SD card slot. The Atrix 4G has a rear 5-megapixel camera with a LED flash and a front facing VGA camera for self-portraits. The 960x540 qHD (yes high definition) screen brings all the features together. To top it off, Motorola unveiled its laptop docking station that the phone plugs into and the entire phone can be used through this laptop. It is essentially an empty laptop shell with a screen and full QWERTY keyboard that brings the Web browsing and media experience from the handheld 4-inch screen to the much bigger screen of the laptop.



The Motorola Atrix 4G won Best of CES in the Smartphone category. It is shown with its laptop docking station, which allows the phone to be used as portable laptop.

TABLETS

Motorola Xoom

This year’s best of CES was the Motorola Xoom (pronounced zoom). This Android powered tablet includes features such as front and rear facing cameras, HD recording, Adobe flash support, 3G from Verizon and the capability of upgrading to 4G. These features plus the new Android operating system, known as Honeycomb, make

this device a serious and very cool competitor to the iPad.

TVS

Vizio XVT3D6SP series

Vizio has stepped up its game with this Google TV compatible TV. The XVT3D6SP is feature packed boosting a full-array LED backlight with local dimming (which allows for much deeper blacks), passive 3D compatibility, 480Hz refresh

rate, VIA (Vizio Internet Apps) and built-in WiFi. Not only can you control the TV with the very cool touch-pad remote but also this TV allows interoperability with Android powered devices.

David Goldhagen is a 17-year-old junior at Ronald Reagan High School in San Antonio. He serves on the student council and is a class officer. A straight-A student, he is ranked #18 in a class of 780.

CES: The Best of the Rest

The 2011 International Consumer Electronics Show was the largest show yet, with over 140,000 attendees, which is a 14 percent increase over last year. The show kicked off with a keynote address by Gary Shapiro, the president of the Consumer Electronic Association. Among other things, Shapiro discussed the recent financial slump and how innovation is the way to bounce back.

Shapiro also promoted his new book “The Comeback,” which examines how innovation will restore the American Dream. After his speech, Verizon execs took the floor and talked about their new 4G LTE network, which is the fastest network ever. This new network claims to allow users to be able to download a full song in four seconds.

As any CES patron knows, one of the staples at CES are the “booth babes.” For anyone not familiar with the term, “booth babes” are very attractive girls (usually wearing very skimpy clothing) that are hired to attract men into their booth. Most booth babes are located in the car section of CES where they sign posters and pose for pictures. If you have never been to CES, they are definitely a must see.

One great product that is surprisingly not electronic is the DryCASE by Dry Corp. This crystal clear plastic case fits almost any device, whether it be an iPhone or an Android device, and protects it in up to 100 feet of

water. The case works by utilizing a one-way valve on the side, which is used to pump out the air, creating an airtight seal. One of the great features of the case is its ability to allow the user to listen to music on their device via the auxiliary cable that plugs into your device and outputs on the bottom of the case.

After meeting with Dr. Arch, the founder of Dry Corp, and receiving my own DryCase, I couldn’t help but try it out as soon as possible, and sure enough it works perfectly! With my HTC Evo 4G inside and the waterproof headphones, I was able to listen to music while my device and I were completely submerged under water. I was able to use the touchscreen and the case even allowed me to use the side volume rocker and sleep button on top. This is a great product for anyone that enjoys the outdoors and wants their technology to be protected. DryCASE is available now and even comes in a size that fits the Kindle and iPad.

Booth swag is another perk at CES. The best was by far a free Bluetooth headset and even Hershey’s got into the CES frenzy by dramatically unveiling their new Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup Minis as “the next big thing” and giving away seemingly unlimited samples of the new candy.

Between booth babes, free stuff and the all the latest technology, CES and Las Vegas made for a pretty great trip. But next year I’m ditching my aunt, who gave me “the look” every time I asked her to take my picture with one of the babes.

CURTAIN CALL

The Boulevard of Broken Dreams Gets Signature’s Intimate Touch

“Yes, this is Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. It’s about five o’clock in the morning. That’s the homicide squad, complete with detectives and newspaper men.”

— Joe Gillis, narrator, *Sunset Boulevard*, 1950



My life changed one Wednesday night at 8:00 PM when my father called me downstairs and, while tuning the television to Los Angeles’ local Channel 5 told me, “I want you to watch this movie. You’ll love it.” A grainy black and white film began with Joe Gillis’ narration and images of a dead man being fished from a swimming pool with pruning hooks, and I was snagged too, hauled

onto that same tiled wet ledge and into Billy Wilder’s world that was *Sunset Boulevard*.

Directed and co-written by Wilder, it was released in 1950 to initially mixed reviews, primarily due to the Hollywood community’s fear of how it might harm Tinseltown’s image. This was the first film to ever take the makeup off Hollywood, revealing the depravity hiding amongst the hedges and creeping up the walls like overgrown ivy.

Wilder stopped at nothing to provide a real backdrop for his Hollywood tale, complete with the female lead, Gloria Swanson, playing Norma Desmond, a caricature of herself – a famous early screen star who had not made the transition from silent to talking pictures and, as a result, was living in the past. Buster Keaton made a cameo as a member of Norma’s “waxworks,” silent film relics who got together once a week to play cards. And as the final scene unfolds, just for good measure, Wilder wrangled infamous gossip columnist Hedda Hopper to deliver the imminent newspaper headline, “As death looms over the murder house, Norma Desmond...is in a complete state of mental shock.”

Initially tapped to play Joe Gillis, the film’s narrator and male lead, Montgomery Clift turned down the part of the unemployed screenwriter who takes up residence with Norma out of pity and financial self-preservation. Rumor had it that Clift said no because the real life lady he was keeping company with threatened to kill herself because *Sunset*’s plot was just a little too close to home. Cary Grant said no too. Ultimately, a young Paramount contract player, William Holden, was cast, and it made him a star. *Sunset* garnered 11 Academy Award nominations and three wins. Not bad for a movie that threatened so many and unleashed a revolution of films hell bent on depicting Hollywood in less than a Technicolor light.

I have perhaps seen Wilder’s *Sunset Boulevard* over 100 times, and wrote an essay on it for a college film class that might as well have been a thesis considering its 75-page length...single spaced. Teaching a “Film as a Narrative Art” class in Alexandria years later, I scrubbed *Citizen Kane* from the syllabus in favor of *Sunset* as it was included in the first group of films selected for preservation in the National Film Registry and was ranked number 12 on the American Film Institute’s list of the 100 best American films of the 20th century.

So it came as no surprise to my friends that when, in the 90s, Andrew Lloyd Webber was mounting a Broadway musical of *Sunset* (one of only a handful of films ever to be a movie first and a stage production second), I ordered tickets six months in advance to see Glenn Close (first row, center orchestra) descend the palazzo staircase as Norma Desmond. And I went back months later to see Elaine Paige in the role, and caught Patti

▼ See *SUNSET BOULEVARD* on page 17



COURTESY PHOTO

Florence Lacey as silent screen start Norma Desmond returns to her beloved spotlight, stealing the show in Signature Theatre’s production of *Sunset Boulevard* through February 13.



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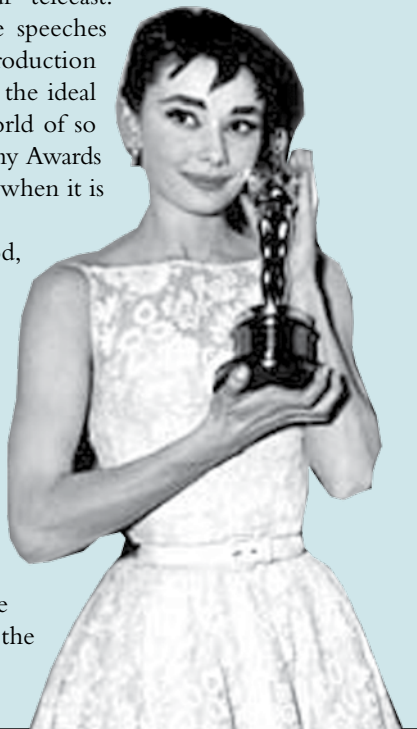
BY HOLLY BURNETT

Circa 1972, I recall sitting on the living room sofa in my footed, flannel Carter's pajamas watching the Academy Awards with my parents. It was one of the few nights of the year that I was allowed to stay up past 8:00 o'clock. I watched the brown Magnavox with great fascination, marveling at the actresses in layers of swirling chiffon, sporting French twists and borrowed diamonds, and the actors clad in white or black dinner jackets with perfect bow ties.

Little has changed for me since those days. If I am not attending an Oscar party or hosting one, I am invariably sitting on my living room sofa in a Lanz nightgown, with the lights turned down, watching the live broadcast and reflecting on the enormous happiness this annual event has brought to my life. This is my Super Bowl, and I will not tolerate detractors. I am aware the show has its shortcomings, but I liken them to a well-loved aunt who got into the sherry. As Johnny Carson once remarked, the show is "two hours of sparkling entertainment spread out over a four-hour telecast."

Okay, so it's a little long, the speeches a little boring, and the production numbers hokey, making them the ideal bathroom break. But in a world of so much uncertainty, the Academy Awards has remained consistent (even when it is consistently bad).

Through childhood, adolescence, and now mature adulthood, these broadcasts, and the films they honor, have marked time – my time. To steal a line from Norma Desmond in her final Sunset Boulevard close-up: "You see, this is my life! It always will be! There's nothing else – just us, and the cameras, and those wonderful people out there in the dark!" Enjoy the show...



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- ☐ **"BLACK SWAN"** Mike Medavoy, Brian Oliver and Scott Franklin, Producers
- ☐ **"THE FIGHTER"** David Hoberman, Todd Lieberman and Mark Wahlberg, Producers
- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Emma Thomas and Christopher Nolan, Producers
- ☐ **"THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT"** Gary Gilbert, Jeffrey Levy-Hinte and Celine Rattray, Producers
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Iain Canning, Emile Sherman and Gareth Unwin, Producers
- ☐ **"127 HOURS"** Christian Colson, Danny Boyle and John Smithson, Producers
- ☐ **"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"** Scott Rudin, Dana Brunetti, Michael De Luca and Ceán Chaffin, Producers
- ☐ **"TOY STORY 3"** Darla K. Anderson, Producer
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Scott Rudin, Ethan Coen and Joel Coen, Producers
- ☐ **"WINTER'S BONE"** Anne Rosellini and Alix Madigan-Yorkin, Producers

Actor in a Leading Role

- ☐ **JAVIER BARDEM** in "Biutiful"
- ☐ **JEFF BRIDGES** in "True Grit"
- ☐ **JESSE EISENBERG** in "The Social Network"
- ☐ **COLIN FIRTH** in "The King's Speech"
- ☐ **JAMES FRANCO** in "127 Hours"

Actress in a Leading Role

- ☐ **ANNETTE BENING** in "The Kids Are All Right"
- ☐ **NICOLE KIDMAN** in "Rabbit Hole"
- ☐ **JENNIFER LAWRENCE** in "Winter's Bone"
- ☐ **NATALIE PORTMAN** in "Black Swan"
- ☐ **MICHELLE WILLIAMS** in "Blue Valentine"

Actor in a Supporting Role

- ☐ **CHRISTIAN BALE** in "The Fighter"
- ☐ **JOHN HAWKES** in "Winter's Bone"
- ☐ **JEREMY RENNER** in "The Town"
- ☐ **MARK RUFFALO** in "The Kids Are All Right"
- ☐ **GEOFFREY RUSH** in "The King's Speech"

Actress in a Supporting Role

- ☐ **AMY ADAMS** in "The Fighter"
- ☐ **HELENA BONHAM CARTER** in "The King's Speech"
- ☐ **MELISSA LEO** in "The Fighter"
- ☐ **HAILEE STEINFELD** in "True Grit"
- ☐ **JACKI WEAVER** in "Animal Kingdom"

Directing

- ☐ **"BLACK SWAN"** Darren Aronofsky
- ☐ **"THE FIGHTER"** David O. Russell
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Tom Hooper
- ☐ **"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"** David Fincher
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Joel Coen and Ethan Coen

Writing (Adapted Screenplay)

- ☐ **"127 HOURS"** Screenplay by Danny Boyle & Simon Beaufoy
- ☐ **"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"** Screenplay by Aaron Sorkin
- ☐ **"TOY STORY 3"** Screenplay by Michael Arndt; Story by John Lasseter, Andrew Stanton and Lee Unkrich
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Written for the screen by Joel Coen & Ethan Coen
- ☐ **"WINTER'S BONE"** Adapted for the screen by Debra Granik & Anne Rosellini

Writing (Original Screenplay)

- ☐ **"ANOTHER YEAR"** Written by Mike Leigh
- ☐ **"THE FIGHTER"** Screenplay by Scott Silver and Paul Tamasy & Eric Johnson; Story by Keith Dorrington & Paul Tamasy & Eric Johnson
- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Written by Christopher Nolan
- ☐ **"THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT"** Written by Lisa Cholodenko & Stuart Blumberg

TEAR OUT AND COMPLETE THIS BALLOT.

The winner will receive a dinner for two at the La Bergerie restaurant in Old Town Alexandria (tip, tax and alcohol excluded).

All ballots must be postmarked no later than Saturday, February 26, 2011 to be eligible.

Please submit only one ballot per person. After ballot tabulations, the winner will be notified by telephone and announced in the next edition of the Zebra.

Please include your full name, mailing address and telephone number(s) with your ballot and mail to:

Zebra Oscars, PO Box 6504, Arlington, VA 22206.

If you are so inclined, you may also submit your ballot by email to oscars@thezebra.org

Please include the category name for each prediction.



- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Screenplay by David Seidler

Animated Feature Film

- ☐ **"HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON"** Chris Sanders and Dean DeBlois
- ☐ **"THE ILLUSIONIST"** Sylvain Chomet
- ☐ **"TOY STORY 3"** Lee Unkrich

Art Direction

- ☐ **"ALICE IN WONDERLAND"** Production Design: Robert Stromberg; Set Decoration: Karen O'Hara
- ☐ **"HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1"** Production Design: Stuart Craig; Set Decoration: Stephenie McMillan
- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Production Design: Guy Hendrix Dyas; Set Decoration: Larry Dias and Doug Mowat
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Production Design: Eve Stewart; Set Decoration: Judy Farr
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Production Design: Jess Gonchor; Set Decoration: Nancy Haigh

Cinematography

- ☐ **"BLACK SWAN"** Matthew Libatique
- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Wally Pfister
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Danny Cohen
- ☐ **"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"** Jeff Cronenweth
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Roger Deakins

Costume Design

- ☐ **"ALICE IN WONDERLAND"** Colleen Atwood
- ☐ **"I AM LOVE"** Antonella Cannarozzi
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Jenny Beavan
- ☐ **"THE TEMPEST"** Sandy Powell
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Mary Zophres

Documentary (Feature)

- ☐ **"EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP"** Banksy and Jaimie D'Cruz
- ☐ **"GASLAND"** Josh Fox and Trish Adlesic
- ☐ **"INSIDE JOB"** Charles Ferguson and Audrey Marrs
- ☐ **"RESTREPO"** Tim Hetherington and Sebastian Junger
- ☐ **"WASTE LAND"** Lucy Walker and Angus Aynsley

Documentary (Short Subject)

- ☐ **"KILLING IN THE NAME"** Nominees to be

- determined
- ☐ **"POSTER GIRL"** Nominees to be determined
- ☐ **"STRANGERS NO MORE"** Karen Goodman and Kirk Simon
- ☐ **"SUN COME UP"** Jennifer Redfearn and Tim Metzger
- ☐ **"THE WARRIORS OF QIUGANG"** Ruby Yang and Thomas Lennon

Film Editing

- ☐ **"BLACK SWAN"** Andrew Weisblum
- ☐ **"THE FIGHTER"** Pamela Martin
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Tariq Anwar
- ☐ **"127 HOURS"** Jon Harris
- ☐ **"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"** Angus Wall and Kirk Baxter

Foreign Language Film

- ☐ **"BIUTIFUL"** Mexico
- ☐ **"DOGTTOOTH"** Greece
- ☐ **"IN A BETTER WORLD"** Denmark
- ☐ **"INCENDIES"** Canada
- ☐ **"OUTSIDE THE LAW (HORS-LA-LOI)"** Algeria

Makeup

- ☐ **"BARNEY'S VERSION"** Adrien Morot
- ☐ **"THE WAY BACK"** Edouard F. Henriques, Gregory Funk and Yolanda Toussieing
- ☐ **"THE WOLFMAN"** Rick Baker and Dave Elsey

Music (Original Score)

- ☐ **"HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON"** John Powell
- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Hans Zimmer
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Alexandre Desplat
- ☐ **"127 HOURS"** A.R. Rahman
- ☐ **"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"** Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross

Music (Original Song)

- ☐ **"COMING HOME"** from "Country Strong" Music and Lyric by Tom Douglas, Troy Verges and Hillary Lindsey
- ☐ **"I SEE THE LIGHT"** from "Tangled" Music by Alan Menken Lyric by Glenn Slater
- ☐ **"IF I RISE"** from "127 Hours" Music by A.R. Rahman Lyric by Dido and Rollo Armstrong
- ☐ **"WE BELONG TOGETHER"** from "Toy Story 3" Music and Lyric by Randy Newman

Short Film (Animated)

- ☐ **"DAY & NIGHT"** Teddy Newton
- ☐ **"THE GRUFFALO"** Jakob Schuh and Max Lang
- ☐ **"LET'S POLLUTE"** Geefwee Boedoe
- ☐ **"THE LOST THING"** Shaun Tan and Andrew Ruhemann
- ☐ **"MADAGASCAR, CARNET DE VOYAGE (MADAGASCAR, A JOURNEY DIARY)"** Bastien Dubois

Short Film (Live Action)

- ☐ **"THE CONFESSION"** Tanel Toom
- ☐ **"THE CRUSH"** Michael Creagh
- ☐ **"GOD OF LOVE"** Luke Matheny
- ☐ **"NA WEWE"** Ivan Goldschmidt
- ☐ **"WISH 143"** Ian Barnes and Samantha Waite

Sound Editing

- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Richard King
- ☐ **"TOY STORY 3"** Tom Myers and Michael Silvers
- ☐ **"TRON: LEGACY"** Gwendolyn Yates Whittle and Addison Teague
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Skip Lievsay and Craig Berkey
- ☐ **"UNSTOPPABLE"** Mark P. Stoeckinger

Sound Mixing

- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Lora Hirschberg, Gary A. Rizzo and Ed Novick
- ☐ **"THE KING'S SPEECH"** Paul Hamblin, Martin Jensen and John Midgley
- ☐ **"SALT"** Jeffrey J. Haboush, Greg P. Russell, Scott Millan and William Sarokin
- ☐ **"THE SOCIAL NETWORK"** Ren Klyce, David Parker, Michael Semanick and Mark Weingarten
- ☐ **"TRUE GRIT"** Skip Lievsay, Craig Berkey, Greg Orloff and Peter F. Kurland

Visual Effects

- ☐ **"ALICE IN WONDERLAND"** Ken Ralston, David Schaub, Carey Villegas and Sean Phillips
- ☐ **"HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1"** Tim Burke, John Richardson, Christian Manz and Nicolas Aithadi
- ☐ **"HEREAFTER"** Michael Owens, Bryan Grill, Stephan Trojanski and Joe Farrell
- ☐ **"INCEPTION"** Paul Franklin, Chris Corbould, Andrew Lockley and Peter Bebb
- ☐ **"IRON MAN 2"** Janek Sirrs, Ben Snow, Ged Wright and Daniel Sudick

TIE BREAKER QUESTION

The 83rd Academy Awards is scheduled to air on Sunday, February 27, 2011 at 8 PM on ABC and historically runs beyond its three-hour time slot. Guesstimate the length of this broadcast in hours and minutes (for example, 3 hours and 47 minutes): _____

Good Luck!



Go Colonial with Gadsby's Tavern Sunday Brunch



Entering its doors, you are immediately transported back in time. From the traditional long skirts sweeping the warm hardwood floors as you are served, to the period-inspired hearths, festooned with cornucopias of fresh fruits and seasonal flowers, Gadsby's Tavern is Alexandria's premier colonial destination.

Located on the corner of Cameron and Royal Streets, Gadsby's Tavern was the center of Alexandria life in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The site of brilliant balls and considered the finest public house in America, Gadsby's became the social, cultural and political hub of its time, hosting such notables as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, James Madison and James Monroe. Nearly all the founders of our country's independence enjoyed the hospitality of the tavern.

Named after Englishman John Gadsby, an entrepreneur who leased the two buildings comprising the tavern and operated them as tavern keeper from 1796 until 1808, Gadsby's is still one of Alexandria's most beloved landmarks, and its Sunday brunch is a time traveler's treat.

Begin with the restaurant's award-winning Rum Punch (not currently on the menu, but you can always special order it). If you want something a little more laid back, try the Poinsettia, a concoction of cranberry juice and champagne, or Martha's Remedy, coffee and cocoa served with brandy.

Appetizers include traditional Surrey County Peanut Soup and Gratinee des Halles (French onion soup), presented piping hot in historically-appointed crocks. The Virginia Poached Eggs Benedict is served over biscuits with ham or

jumbo lump crab cakes topped with asparagus and hollandaise sauce.

More surprises abound with the maple sausage served with scrambled eggs and country bacon, the Sally Lunn Rum Laced French Toast with bananas, blueberries and sumptuous melted brie, and the smoked salmon and country bacon sandwich adorned with cracked peppercorn mayonnaise. Dessert borders on the decadent with such offerings as English trifle, bread budding and warm gingerbread with cinnamon icing.

Gadsby's presents classic American cuisine with a nod to its

past, paying homage to the many travelers who came to the tavern after long journeys, seeking good food and amiable service. Sunday brunch is a reasonably priced à la carte menu making it an ideal culinary adventure that may well become your weekly trip back in time.

Also serving lunch Monday through Saturday and dinner seven days a week, Gadsby's Tavern is located at 128 North Royal Street. For more information, telephone 703/548-1288 or visit gadsbystavernrestaurant.com.

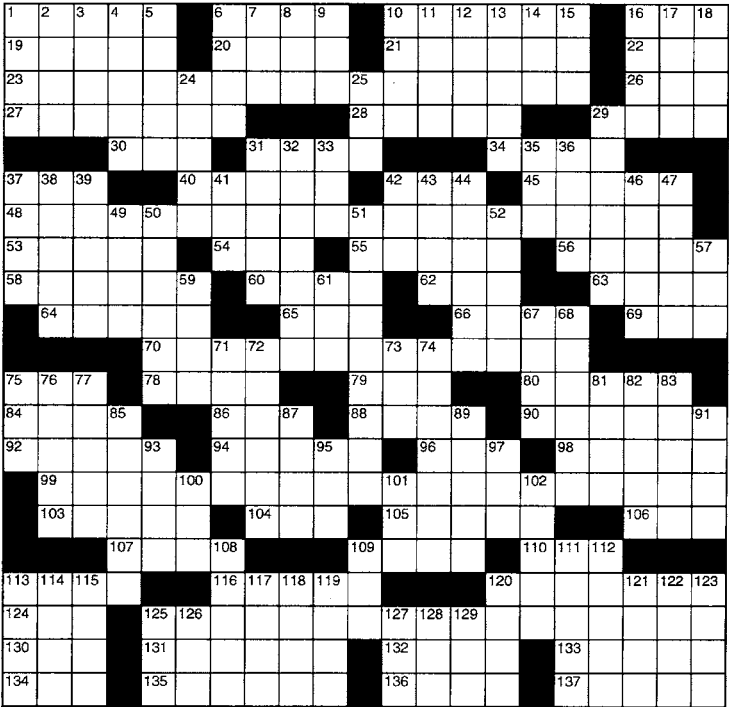


PHOTO BY HARRY MERRITT

Just a small sampling of the scrumptious desserts.

Just for fun ...

- ACROSS
- 1 A lot
 - 6 Bungle
 - 10 Makes a touchdown
 - 16 Hen's hubby
 - 19 Deck type
 - 20 Ford or Grey
 - 21 Frolic
 - 22 Poster
 - 23 Start of a remark by Jack Simmons
 - 26 Distant
 - 27 Expensive appetizer
 - 28 Common contraction
 - 29 Charon's river
 - 30 Wallach or Whitney
 - 31 Moore of "G.I. Jane"
 - 34 Writer
 - 37 Actor
 - 40 Tremayne
 - 42 Command to Fido
 - 45 Cries like a baby
 - 48 Part 2 of remark
 - 53 React to a pun
 - 54 Enthusiast
 - 55 "Dallas" matriarch
 - 56 Lummoxlake
 - 58 Had a hankering
 - 60 Miser, in
- Munich
- 62 Architect's add-on
 - 63 Harness part
 - 64 Radio and TV
 - 65 Duncan's denial
 - 66 "— a Song Go Out of My Heart" ('38 tune)
 - 69 — Bank, NJ
 - 70 Part 3 of remark
 - 75 HST's successor
 - 78 On the briny
 - 79 Service charge
 - 80 Disconcert
 - 84 Cubist
 - 86 Business abbr.
 - 88 Starchy tuber
 - 90 Moved like a mouse
 - 92 — del Sol
 - 94 Teatime
 - 96 Tachometer meas.
 - 98 Lawn ornament
 - 99 Part 4 of remark
 - 103 Lots of laughter
 - 104 JFK lander
 - 105 Intense
 - 106 Vane letters
 - 107 Tend the
- garden
- 109 Pipe part
 - 110 Cry of discovery
 - 113 Spanish dance
 - 116 Alien's partner
 - 120 Passed into law
 - 124 — Baba
 - 125 End of remark
 - 130 — Buddhism
 - 131 Lunar spacecraft
 - 132 Skater
 - 133 Kovacs or Pyle
 - 134 Actress Caldwell
 - 135 Scrimshaw material
 - 136 Mr. Walesa
 - 137 Cassandra and Merlin
- DOWN
- 1 Fountain order
 - 2 Nursery furniture
 - 3 Alan of "California Suite"
 - 4 Holmes' creator
 - 5 Reel
 - 6 Take off
 - 7 Tyler or Ullmann
 - 8 Colorado native
 - 9 Saloon
 - 10 Trauma aftermath
 - 11 Spelunker's spot
 - 12 It bakes the cake
 - 13 Alex Haley book
 - 14 Directional suffix
 - 15 Sault —
 - 16 27th president
 - 17 All right
 - 18 Chico or Karl
 - 24 Textbook headings
 - 25 "Ball —"
 - 29 Finn's friend
 - 31 See
 - 32 Distinguished
 - 33 Flavor enhancer: abbr.
 - 35 Honest name
 - 36 Durban dough
 - 37 Word form for "study"
 - 38 — Zimbalist, Jr.
 - 39 Rock's —
 - 40 Poneys
 - 41 Ring official
 - 42 Missouri airport abbr.
 - 43 Presque —, ME
 - 44 Dimly illuminated
 - 46 Solitary sort
 - 47 "Wake Up
 - 48 Card collection
 - 50 Silverware city
 - 51 From now on
 - 52 Opening remark?
 - 57 Wrap up
 - 59 Place to pontificate
 - 61 Unrefined
 - 67 "Gracious me!"
 - 68 Trinidad's neighbor
 - 71 Voltaire, for one
 - 72 Reagan and Wilson
 - 73 Teachers' org.
 - 74 O'Hara's "From the —"
 - 75 Cal. page
 - 76 Sag
 - 77 Follow
 - 81 "New Yorker" cartoonist
 - 82 Tend a fire
 - 83 Macho types
 - 85 Canada's capital
 - 87 Dovecote sounds
 - 89 Soporific substance
 - 91 With
 - 93 Down, '58 Frankie
 - 93 Qualified
 - 95 Squirrel's snack
 - 97 "The A-Team" actor
 - 100 Manipulate
 - 101 Toque or tam
 - 102 Hotelier
 - 103 Helmsley
 - 108 Sailvate
 - 109 Silly Caesar
 - 111 Basketball's Elvin
 - 112 Paint pigment
 - 113 "All That —" ('79 film)
 - 114 Toast topper
 - 115 Prong
 - 117 Eye appreciatively
 - 118 Flatfish
 - 119 Before long
 - 120 Engrave
 - 121 Mood
 - 122 Kuwaiti ruler
 - 123 Poor grades
 - 125 Zipper part
 - 126 — Locka, FL
 - 127 Form of comm.
 - 128 Mine find
 - 129 Incite Rover



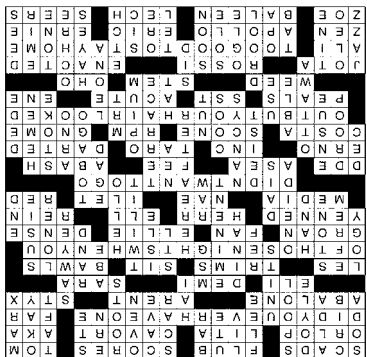
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PHOTO BY HARRY MERRITT

Colonial-costumed servers complete the experience.

CROSSWORD ANSWER

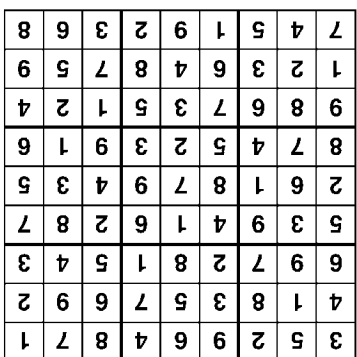


QUOTABLE:

Isn't it about time we were able to buy Girl Scout cookies in the grocery store rather than on a card table outside?

— Anonymous

SUDOKU ANSWER



February Sudoku

by Linda Thistle

	5		9	6		8		
4	1		3					2
		7			1		4	3
			9		6	2		7
	6		8	7			3	
8		4		2		9		
		6			5	1		
1	2			4			5	
7			1				6	8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Puzzle Difficulty ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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▲ SUNSET BOULEVARD from page 13

LuPone's interpretation in London as well. So, as a self-proclaimed *Sunset* aficionado and certainly one of Norma's "wonderful people out there in the dark," I had mild, or rather crippling, trepidation at the thought of seeing a regional theatre production of *Sunset Boulevard*. But I ask you, how bad could it possibly be?

Well I should have known... The recipient of the 2009 Regional Theatre Tony Award, the Signature Theatre has set the standard for creative, quality productions, and their interpretation of *Sunset Boulevard* is utterly breathtaking.

Taking a minimalist approach to the sets and special effects, with the exception of a staircase that makes an affectionate clanking noise to herald its onstage appearances, Signature's *Sunset* succeeds by focusing on the actors and the music. The Broadway and London versions set themselves up for financial ruin with entire sets built on hydraulic lifts and 30 or

Special Press Time Announcement:

Florence Lacey has been cast as Sandra Crane in the new Kennedy Center production of *Follies*, May 7 - June 19, also starring Elaine Paige, Bernadette Peters and Linda Lavin. Visit kennedy-center.org for tickets.

so computers to generate the two-minute car chase scene, virtually bankrupting both productions and taking *Sunset* out of the running for bankable touring companies.

Upon entering Signature's 276-seat MAX Theatre, you are immediately overtaken by the intimacy of the room. There is not a bad seat in the house. At eye level with the actors, you, the audience, become almost part of the production, a participant in the pathos ensuing just inches away. Veins are visible, sagging skin, drawn eyes, chests rising to take in breaths that will resonate in Wilder's words, sometimes verbatim from the film, wrapped in Webber's haunting melodies.

Florence Lacey as Norma is fabulous, demanding empathy when all other theatrical Normas have failed to garner pity, let alone sympathy. Moreover, Lacey's vocal abilities far exceed those of Glenn Close, and are reminiscent in both manner and tenor of Dame Judi Dench. For the very first time, when Hog Eye, a lighting technician at Paramount casts a spotlight on Norma when she comes to visit Cecil B. DeMille's soundstage, I found myself choked up. I knew how much this moment, this return to the world she had loved so much, meant to Norma, and I silently wept.

In turn, D.B. Bonds' portrayal of Joe Gillis is a welcome addition as

the Holdenesque guy in baggy pants who never quite fit in to Norma's opulent 1920s décor. Although handsome when he is outfitted in a tux to the tune of "The Lady's Paving," he still avoids Broadway's pretty playboy-like Alan Campbell who looked and acted more a Jay Gatsby than a Joe Gillis. Plus, Bonds is acting the words he is singing, especially the show's title song, which he lyrically orates while seated on a chaise lounge. Of equal pleasure is Ed Dixon as Max von Mayerling, Susan Derry as Betty Schaefer and J. Fred Shifman as Sheldrake.


Send Signature's production to Broadway or on a national tour. There is not a sour apple in the lot. Jon Kalbflesch leads the 20-member orchestra, the largest in Signature's history, hidden behind ironworks at the top of the stage as if caged in Norma's world. And as the music swells, you too will be taken in, whether you are a previous *Sunset* fan or not, pruning hook, line and sinker to join Joe at the bottom of that pool that is the Hollywood of

broken dreams and bears the address 10086 Sunset Boulevard.

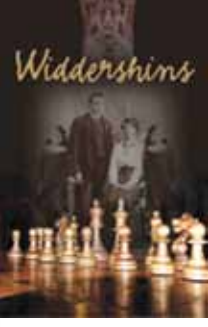
"Well, this is where you came in, back at that pool again, the one I always wanted. It's dawn now, and they must have photographed me a thousand times. Then they got a couple of pruning hooks from the garden and fished me out...ever so gently. Funny, how gentle people get with you once you're dead."

— Joe Gillis, narrator, *Sunset Boulevard*, 1950

Signature Theatre is located in Arlington at 4200 Campbell Avenue in Shirlington. For tickets, visit signature-theatre.org or telephone 571/527-1860. The production runs through February 13.



February 26-March 11, 2011



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5 **Walter Beasley**

8 **Jake Shimabukuro**

10 An Evening with **WR**

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THE VINTAGE RECIPE BOX



Panhandle Oyster Stew

Stay warm this winter with a bowl of these sumptuous shellfish drenched in a buttery cream broth. Perfected by an old Southern couple who still shuck their own oysters on a dock alongside Florida's Panhandle.

4 Tbsp butter
1 pint oysters (or however many you wish)
Half & half, scalded (amount is cook's preference)
2 tsp salt
Dash of pepper
Dash of Beau Monde Seasoning (optional)
Paprika to garnish

In a saucepan over medium-high heat (large enough to hold the amount of oysters and half- &-half you prefer), melt butter.

Add oysters and their liquid.
Cook until oyster edges curl.

Slowly add scalded half- &-half to oyster mixture.

Season with salt, pepper and Beau Monde (if desired). Reduce heat to very low and allow to simmer for 15 minutes.

Garnish with paprika and serve with oyster crackers or soft sourdough bread and butter.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

'There's Never Been a Better Banana Cake!'

Through the late 60s and 70s, Sara Lee sold a frozen banana cake in an aluminum loaf pan, protected with a thin layer of wax paper beneath its cardboard lid to keep the wavy icing in place. A popular family dessert, many over the age of 40 still remember it as their favorite after- dinner treat, which disappeared from supermarket freezers in the early 80s.

Well, surprise! For all those who remember the delight of folding the accordion metal rim back to reveal the luscious little cake, Sara Lee has reintroduced it. Using the original recipe, it's now twice the size and at a grocery store near you. As Liza Minnelli sang in her ode Sara Lee, "There's never been a better banana cake!"



QUOTABLE:

“All great change in America begins
at the dinner table.

— Ronald Reagan

BACKYARD HISTORY

Arlington and Alexandria:

A Tale of Two Counties and One City



Arlington and Alexandria not only share boundaries, they share an intertwined, somewhat complex history dating to the mid eighteenth century. It is the history of the same land mass, an area influenced by the formation of the District of Columbia, by George Washington, by a Scotsman named John Alexander, and by the Civil War.

Until 1920, much of the area today known as Arlington was called Alexandria County. Since the late 1800s, Alexandria City had existed, independent of Alexandria County. According to history, having a city and a county with the same name caused confusion. As a result, the Virginia General Assembly enacted legislation in 1920 renaming Alexandria County as Arlington County, honoring Gen. Robert E. Lee, whose home

was Arlington House for 30 years.

How did Alexandria get its name? In 1669, Robert Howson received a land grant from Sir William Berkeley, Governor of Virginia. Soon afterward he sold the land to John Alexander for 6,000 pounds of tobacco. By the mid eighteenth century, farming had spread inland and commerce was thriving. In need of a shipping center, local English and Scottish merchants petitioned the Virginia General Assembly to establish a town in 1748.

The town of Alexandria, named for the Scotsman and farmer John Alexander, was incorporated in 1779. Initially the town comprised 60 acres surveyed in 1749 by Fairfax County surveyor John West and his assistant George Washington, who was seventeen. A busy port, the town of Alexandria expanded its borders in 1762 and 1796.

As President, George Washington played an instrumental role in the histories of Alexandria and Arlington. After the Virginia General Assembly voted to cede land to the District of Columbia, President Washington ordered a survey of the land for the District. The 1791 survey included the town of Alexandria and the new Alexandria County, which was carved out of Fairfax County in 1801 to be annexed to the District.

In total, the area ceded by Virginia measured about 34 square miles.

By the mid nineteenth century, the Virginia side of the District of Columbia felt disconnected from the rest of the nation's capital. The Potomac River created separation, with the federal government growing on the Maryland side. Alexandria County and the town of Alexandria were retroceded to Virginia in 1846 after a referendum of the residents.

By 1852, the town of Alexandria had grown into a populous city. In 1869, the new Constitution of Virginia that readmitted the Commonwealth of Virginia to the United States after the Civil War dictated that a county could not overlap a city or town having a "separate organization" or 5,000 or more residents. This resulted in the establishment of Alexandria City and Alexandria County as completely separate, independent entities in 1870.

If you ever wondered why we have Arlington, a county without a city, and Alexandria, a city without a county, now you know why.

Meg Peters is a web designer, a history buff and a contractor at the Library of Congress. Formerly a resident of Arlington, she now lives in Alexandria, just over the boundary line.

ASK DR. KNAPP



Why does my back hurt?

Most people don't know why their backs hurt. I am told by many that while just sitting at work, they just got up, and threw out their back. Well, it's the proverbial straw on the camel's back. Getting up was not the one move that caused the problem; the problem had been gaining momentum for many years. So why now?

The patient is most likely suffering from a subluxation complex, which can be defined as two vertebrae (bones of the spine) that have locked together, for one reason or another, and are not moving. When two vertebrae don't move, the disk (the cartilage shock absorber between the bones) starts to dry out, causing degenerative disk disease. Disks are comprised of approximately 88% water, and they need to be hydrated in order

to properly function. Normally, the motion of the bones provides the disk with the moisture it needs to maintain its flexibility. When the disk dries out, it shrinks. This explains why most people actually will lose a few inches in height as they grow older. The process continues, incorporating the joints in the back of the vertebra (facets), which telescope into one another, then causing arthritis (destruction of the joints and swelling). Nerve irritation is the end result of the swelling, which actually is causing the pain. Next, the joint above the subluxated one starts to become *too* mobile, and since the body cannot tolerate a hyper-mobile vertebra, it locks up the joint in response. This process continues up the spine during your lifetime, unless it is treated.

What caused the first insult to the spine? It could have been as simple as a fall from a bicycle when you were ten years old, and sport injuries can certainly start the degenerative process. Then you ask, but why do I suffer now, after sitting in front of a computer for a number of years? Well, did you know the average person puts 300 pounds of pressure on the last disc, while sitting? When standing, the average weight on the disk is only about 180 pounds. It is all about the angle. How about when running? Running can place as much as 800 to 900 pounds of pressure on the last disc. It is no wonder people suffer from lower back pain. Being overweight causes



further complications.

But there is no need to suffer. Chiropractic care goes to the root of the problem, and can have a 90-95% success rate by treating degenerative disk disease through spinal adjustments, physical therapy, stretching and exercise regimes.

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.

February

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

"SUNSET BOULEVARD"

Now thru February 13
Signature Theatre
4200 Campbell Avenue
Arlington
571/527-1860
signature-theatre.org
The area's first staging of the Tony Award winning musical. With a cast and orchestra of 38 strong, Sunset Boulevard is the the musical event of the season! \$78-\$80.

"LET ME DOWN EASY"

Now thru February 13
Arena Stage
1100 Sixth Street, SW
Washington, DC
arenastage.org
202/488-3300
Called "the most exciting individual in American theater" by Newsweek magazine, Anna Deavere Smith explores the power of the body, the price of health and the resilience of the spirit. Ticket prices vary.

"MIXING BOWL"

Now thru February 27
Torpedo Factory Art Center
Target Gallery
105 North Union Street
Alexandria
torpedofactory.org
703/838-4565
An exhibition examining the hot topic issue of immigration in America. Artists were invited to submit work for consideration addressing their personal views on immigration and diversity in America today. Our jurors, Amy Cavanaugh Royce and Briony Evans Hynson, selected 16 artists for the exhibition. The work on view ranges from a large-scale video installation, photorealistic drawings, collage, and assemblage to photography. Daily 10 1am-6pm. Free!



LOVE LETTERS EXHIBIT

Del Ray Artisans
Now thru February 27
Del Ray Artisans Gallery
2704 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria
DelRayArtisans.org
703/407-6992
Whether you have it, lost it, want it, avoid it, need it or ignore it; love makes us do crazy things Throughout time love has inspired artists, writers and musicians to produce some of their most memorable works. "Love Letters" will exhibit a unique juried collection of love-inspired artworks paired with the artist's love letter to the object of their affection. Please join us as we eavesdrop on the private conversation between artist and

admiration in "Love Letters". Free!

ICE SKATING

Now thru March
Pentagon Row Skating
1201 South Joyce Street
Arlington
pentagonrowskating.com
703/418-6666
The ice skating rink is now open! \$8 adults/\$7 children. Skate rental \$3. Open everyday including the holidays with extended hours when school is closed.

14TH NATIONAL SHOW

Thru March 6
Gallery West
1213 King Street
Alexandria
Gallery-west.info
703/549-6006
Gallery West is one of the oldest cooperative galleries in Northern Virginia. Members are award-winning artists working in such diverse mediums as painting, collage, photography, digital art, ceramics, sculpture and jewelry. Gallery hours in February are Wednesday through Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

"HIS EYE IS ON THE SPARROW"

Now thru March 20
MetroStage
1201 North Royal Street
Alexandria
metrostage.org
703/548-9044
Inspirational musical about the life of the renowned African American singer and groundbreaking Broadway actor Ethel Waters. \$45-\$50.

TAVERN TODDLERS - COLORS

Thru April 25 Weekly
Gadsby's Tavern Museum
134 North Royal Street
Alexandria
gadsbystavern.org
703/746-4242
It is never too early for your kids to appreciate history! A special program for toddlers (walkers through 36 months) and their caregivers. Features weekly open playtime on Mondays anytime between 10:30 am and noon, and a new craft activity each week. Each week costs \$7 for a group of three, including one adult and additional people are \$3 each.

PIERCE PETTIS

February 7
Church of the Resurrection
2280 N. Beauregard Street
Alexandria
focusmusic.org
703/501-6061
Focus presents folk singer/songwriter Pierce Pettis along with special guest Rj Cowdery at 7 pm. Adored by both critics and public alike, Pettis is one of this generation's most masterful songwriters. His music is a mix of



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE AND SHOWS

March 5
Alexandria
ballyshaners.org

This family fun celebration in Old Town starts with the car show at 10 am held in the 100 block of North Pitt Street, a dog show at 10:30 am, and finishes with the 30th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Join the Grand Marshalls, Nancy and Tom VanCovedan along with federal, state, and local elected officials; the Irish Ambassador; military commanders; and other local celebrities along with local scouts, marines and high school bands as they cover the parade route as it runs along King Street beginning at West Street and ending at Fairfax Street.



rock, folk, country and R&B. \$15 in advance/\$18 at the door.

second thursday ART night

SECOND THURSDAY ART NIGHT

February 10
Torpedo Factory Art Center
Target Gallery
105 North Union Street
Alexandria
torpedofactory.org
703/838-4565
Find a gift for that special someone, smooch in the Kissing (photo) Booth, and visit a DIY Valentine Station in honor of the upcoming lover's holiday! Round out an enchanting evening with a spoken word event in Target Gallery and artist talk in Multiple Exposures Gallery. 6-10 pm. Free!

MAKE YOUR OWN VICTORIAN VALENTINE

February 13
Lee-Fendall House Museum and Gardens
614 Oronoco Street
Alexandria
703/548-1789
leefendallhouse.org
Make your own Victorian Valentine. Use traditional techniques to produce a modern card. Adults and children. \$5 per crafter.

VALENTINE'S DAY MIXER

Del Ray Artisans
February 14
Del Ray Artisans Gallery

2704 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria
DelRayArtisans.org
703/407-6992

Valentine's Day Mixer where you have a choice of conversing about the walls of love-inspired artwork and artist love letters in the Love Letters exhibit or joining in the game of guessing the mystery bottles of wine decorated in the style of artists tortured by love. While you're busy entertaining your new acquaintances with witty anecdotes and insightful perceptions about art, make sure to enjoy the savory hors d'oeuvres, skewers of cheesy fondue and flowing chocolate fountains. Party favors, mood music, and a Valentine raffle round out the evening. \$10 per person.



IRISH SINGERS

John Doyle, Niall Vallely and Cillian Vallely
February 15
The Lyceum
201 South Washington

Alexandria
800/404-9049
sunspotpro.com
Three of the most accomplished performers in Irish music, come together for a special night of reels, jigs and songs. 8 pm. \$25 in advance/\$29 at the door.

LIFE DRAWING WORKSHOP: GESTURE DRAWING

Del Ray Artisans
February 16
Del Ray Artisans Gallery
2704 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria
DelRayArtisans.org
703/407-6992
Still looking for ways to get the most out of those short poses? During this workshop instructor Robin Croft will offer exercises and commentary intended to encourage a loose gestural approach to drawing the figure. Bring a LARGE paper or newsprint pad and one or more of the following: red or black Conte; stick charcoal; woodless pencils; chalk pastel; brush and India ink. 6:30-9:30 pm. \$15 for DRA members/\$18 for non-members. Register by February 13.

STORY TIME AT LEE-FENDALL HOUSE

February 24
Lee-Fendall House Museum and Gardens
614 Oronoco Street
Alexandria
703/548-1789
leefendallhouse.org
Designed for young children and caregivers, this event will feature story time and a small craft. 11 am-12:30 pm. \$3 per family.

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The Harsh Reality of Command

By the time you read this, the USS Enterprise (CVN 65), the nation's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, will be heading for the Mediterranean Sea and the Northern Arabian Gulf. She is 4.5 acres of American sovereignty glistening across the ocean, casting a giant shadow and carrying a wicked punch.

However, despite its girth, the eighth ship to carry the proud name Enterprise will undoubtedly be plagued for the remainder of her service life as the USS "YouTube" (CVN 65).

I'll be the first to admit that I haven't seen the videos written, produced and starring Captain Owen Honors, the former Commanding Officer of the current Enterprise. Although, having served in the Navy, I am particularly aware when a relevant bad news story hits the front page of The Washington Post, gets aired every 20 minutes on CNN or goes viral on the web. So this story was hard to miss.

The recent spate of negative press regarding commanding officers relieved "for cause" is not new, and this won't be the last time you hear about a commanding officer yanked from position. We commanding officers work for you — the American people. You buy us ships, planes, helicopters, tanks, etc., at a pretty penny, to protect you. We then drive, sail and fly this machinery with your tax dollars, paid from your own pockets. In addition, you expect us to take care of these "toys" as well as the sailors whom we "command."

I can't speak for the other services, but since the beginning of 2010, some 15 commanding officers have been relieved of duty, six of whom commanded ships. The reasons are varied — running a ship aground, collision at sea, impropriety, misconduct and, my personal favorite, the catch-all, "loss of confidence."

Navy regulations make it pretty



PHOTO | YOUTUBE

A racy video broadcast on the USS Enterprise cost Captain Owen Honors his job.

simple for even the uninitiated. Chapter 8, Article 0802 says point-blank, "The responsibility of the commanding officer for his or her command is absolute..."

A ship's commanding officer has unparalleled responsibility and authority, compared to the other services. Historically, a ship's commanding officer acts on his/her own initiative in the international arena, frequently without benefit of orders. Before the advent of telegraph, telephone or the internet, air mail was the only means of communicating with a ship at sea. It was sporadic at best and lagged by months, so commanding officers were responsible to officially represent the United States. War or peace implications often hinged on their decisions.

Two recent high-profile commanding officer firings were ironically polar opposites. In the case of Captain Honors, he went overboard (figuratively) trying to endear himself to his crew by providing comedy videos of questionable taste under the guise of improving morale. Regardless of whether the crew loved him or not, the moral of the story is — leave the comedy to the professionals.

The other extreme is the case of Captain Holly Graf, former Commanding Officer of USS Cowpens (CG 63). She claimed she took over a poor ship and crew and wanted to square it and them away. She ruled with an iron fist and vicious tongue, publicly screaming at and berating officers and enlisted personnel. She ran such a despotic reign of terror that her officers and crew almost quit their posts out of fear. Clearly, Dale Carnegie wasn't on her bedside table. So what's the

moral of this story? Sure, you can be tough, but flogging of any kind went out with the days of sail.

If there is any concern that the Navy is responding to political correctness, Navy regulations take the wind right out of that argument with, "The Commanding Officer and his or her subordinates shall exercise leadership through personal example, moral responsibility and judicious attention to the welfare of persons under their control or supervision." In both of these cases, it looks like these folks didn't get the memo.

Over the course of its history, the Navy has tried to select only the best and the brightest for those coveted commanding officer billets. The careers of a select few who rise to command are meteoric. Most times, the Navy gets it spot-on. Sometimes however, a few sneak through the cracks. Like Henry Fonda in the stage play and film *Mister Roberts*, who says to the captain (played by James Cagney in the film), "How did you ever get command of a ship? I realize in wartime they have to scrape the bottom of the barrel, but where did they ever scrape you up?"

If what goes up must come down, then the laws of physics apply to commanding officers as well. What goes up like a rocket sometimes will come down with a monumental thud. Fail in command and you fail magnificently.

The news is sometimes bad and the repercussions painful to bear, but in relieving Captain Pee-wee Herman and Captain Madame Defarge, the Navy has done their country a great service. In some small way, it has restored some lustre to the mantle of command at sea.

The USO: Bringing Home to Troops Abroad

Supporting America's troops was the first mission of the United Service Organizations (USO). In 1941, as it became clear that the nation was heading into World War II, several organizations mobilized to support the growing U.S. military: the Salvation Army, Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, National Catholic Community Services, National Travelers Aid Association and the National Jewish Welfare Board. President Franklin D. Roosevelt combined the efforts of these organizations for



the military by forming the United Service Organizations (USO), with the objective of providing the emotional support the troops needed.

Today the USO's programs reach service members and their families at more than 150 centers in 27 countries, and through hundreds of entertainment events each year.

Volunteers play a crucial role at the USO. Thousands of USO volunteers do everything possible to provide a home away from home for our troops and to keep them connected to the families they left behind. Volunteers provide hundreds of thousands of hours of service, from welcoming home deployed troops to providing support for individual service members and their families.

Want to become involved? Contact the USO at <http://www.uso.org/ways-to-volunteer.aspx>

The USO is now, and always will be, about our troops. Wherever and whenever they go, the USO will be there, until every one comes home.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Fife Corps marching proudly at the 2010 GW Parade in Alexandria.

Presidents' Day: Something For Everyone

BY CHUCK HAGEE

The annual Presidents' Day celebrations and festivities take on particular significance in 2011, the year we also will recognize the 150th Anniversary of the commencement of the Civil War. On Monday, February 21, we will honor the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, February 22 and 12 respectively -- the two men most recognized as providing the leadership needed to establish and preserve the American dream at its most critical junctures with history.

However, on the Northern Virginia side of the Potomac River, in both Alexandria and at Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens, it is General George who takes center stage in local festivities. Known as Washington's "hometown," Alexandria features the largest George Washington Birthday Parade in the nation. While just 11 miles south, Mount Vernon Estate, Washington's plantation home, is the site of myriad activities commencing on Friday, February 18 and concluding, Tuesday, February 22.

Entrance to Mount Vernon Estate is free for every visitor on Presidents' Day and for a select few on February 22.

In Alexandria something new has been added to the agenda -- a "George Washington Birthday Parade Mile" race commencing at 12:30 P.M., just one half hour before the annual parade on Monday, February 21. It will start and finish near the parade reviewing stand at King and Royal streets. All participants "must be able to finish the mile in 15 minutes or less," according to the rules. No strollers or pets allowed.

That foot race will be preceded on Saturday, February 19, by the "George Washington Classic" 10-K and the 2-K "Fun Race." The 10-K event starts at 8:30 A.M. with start and finish in Eisenhower Valley.

On Presidents Day itself, Alexandria festivities get officially underway at 9 A.M. with the annual breakfast sponsored by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association held at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 625 First St, Alexandria. Everyone is welcome to attend for an admission fee of \$30.

Established in 1774, the Friendship Fire Company is one of the oldest in the nation and is known as "Washington's Fire Company," since he was a member. Practically every U.S. President since Washington has been named an honorary or active member.

Highlights of the breakfast include the induction of newly named Association members, the presentation of "The Rev. Ben Lynt Distinguished Service Award," the Association's highest award, and a keynote address by a distinguished national personality. This year General Colin Powell has been invited, according to Association Secretary-Treasurer William W. Kehoe.

Following the breakfast at 11 A.M. a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution is held in the courtyard cemetery behind the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St., in Old Town Alexandria. A free event, as is the parade, the ceremony is accompanied by a Colonial Military and Civilian Honor Guard as well as a reading by a distinguished guest.

At 11 A.M. on Presidents' Day at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., visitors will be able to hear from another well known American President who has a very real, physical connection to Alexandria. President Woodrow Wilson will be brought to life by actor Brian Hilton to discuss his views on current events during his presidency, 1913 to 1921. Following Hilton's presentation he will entertain questions from the audience. This event and admission to The Lyceum are free on Presidents' Day.

One of eight Virginia-born U.S. Presidents, Wilson visited Alexandria on several occasions. On May 30, 1918 he drove the first rivet into the keel of the "Gunston Hall," the first ship constructed at the Virginia Shipbuilding Corporation yard at Jones Point. Little did Wilson imagine at that time that decades later a bridge connecting Maryland and Virginia would be constructed over the shipyard site and named for him.

At 1 P.M. the two hour parade steps off at the intersection of South Fairfax and Gibbon streets. Traveling approximately 16 blocks through the heart of Alexandria's Historic District, it terminates at South Royal and Wilkes streets. Prime viewing is near the reviewing stands at King and Royal streets.

On parade day, parking is free at some parking lots adjacent to the Eisenhower Avenue Metro Station with free DASH Bus shuttle service to and from Old Town. There are also a variety of lots and garages in Old Town itself, but they tend to fill up early.

All streets on the parade route and in the assembly area will be posted to prohibit vehicle access with no parking beginning at 10 A.M. until after the parade, except for residents and vehicles with authorized permits. Links to maps and transportation information can be found at www.washingtonbirthday.net, the parade website.



Monthly Home Sales Recap

January 3-20, 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!

Listings courtesy
Becky Arnold,
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Address	ListPrice	ClosePrice	Close Date	BR's	BA	LVLS	Basement Y/N	Garage Spaces	Days On Market	Subdivision	Style
Old Town:											
309 HOLLAND LANE, #228	285000	300000	1/6/11	1	1	1	0	1	150	THE ROYALTON AT KING STREET	Contemporary
813 CHETWORTH PL	475000	445000	1/20/11	2	2	3	1		205	DEMPSEY	Colonial
2050 JAMIESON AVE #1506	449900	436500	1/6/11	2	2	1	0	1	179	THE JAMIESON	Contemporary
706 MILLER LN	799900	810000	1/13/11	5	5	4	0	2	85	POTOMAC GREENS	Colonial
725 FORDS LANDING WAY	895000	820000	1/13/11	3	2	4	0	1	92	FORDS LANDING	Colonial
301 PRINCETON BLVD	849000	839000	1/4/11	4	3	2	0	1	58	COLLEGE PARK	Other
130 CAMERON #CS-110	325000	315000	1/5/11	1	1	1	0	1	61	TORPEDO FACTORY	Colonial
1720 ABINGDON DR W #302	234000	237000	1/4/11	1	1	1	0		71	POTOWMACK CROSSING	Colonial
1630 HUNTING CREEK DR	674000	648000	1/14/11	3	4	3	0	2	57	OLD TOWN GREENS	Traditional
1034 ROYAL ST N #1034	579000	571000	1/20/11	2	3	3	0	2	17	WATERGATE OF ALEXANDRIA	Colonial
824 DUKE ST	658600	658600	1/14/11	2	2	2	1	1	50	OLD TOWN	Colonial
508 QUEEN ST	1595000	1602000	1/17/11	3	5	4	1		7	OLD TOWN	Colonial
607 HENRY ST	343000	311314	1/13/11	2	2	3	1		151	JEFFERSON HOMES	Colonial
2121 JAMIESON AVE #1004	388500	370000	1/10/11	1	1	1	0	1	35	CARLYLE TOWERS	Other
627 SAINT ASAPH ST S	684500	755000	1/11/11	3	3	3	1		13	THOMAS SHELTON ESTATE	Colonial
308 FAYETTE ST S	759900	783000	1/20/11	3	4	4	0	2	130	OLD TOWN VILLAGE	Colonial
3303 WYNDHAM CIR #141	164900	162500	1/14/11	1	1	1	0		135	POINTE AT PARK C	Contemporary
3307 WYNDHAM CL #3164	154900	126000	1/7/11	1	1	1	0		219	POINTE AT PARK CENTRE	Colonial
2723 FRANKLIN CT	484900	470000	1/10/11	3	4	3	1		46	CHAPEL HILL	Colonial
1735 BRADDOCK PL W #303	349000	351500	1/10/11	2	3	2	0		19	KINGSGATE	Contemporary
DEL RAY / ROSEMONT											
404 RUSSELL RD	899000	850000	1/14/11	4	4	3	1	1	123	ROSEMONT	Dutch Colonial
27 MYRTLE ST W	907800	907800	1/6/11	4	4	3	1	1	40	ROSEMONT	Bungalow
436 NELSON AVE E	515000	510000	1/12/11	3	2	3	1		15	DEL RAY	Traditional
542 LURAY AVE E	515000	512000	1/7/11	2	2	3	1		3	BRENTON	Colonial
2A MASON AVE E	529900	529900	1/13/11	3	3	3	1		13	DEL RAY	Colonial
12 EAST MASONIC VIEW AVE	600000	600000	1/14/11	3	2	3	1		3	ROSEMONT PARK	Colonial
FAIRLINGTON											
2538F ARLINGTON MILL DR S #6	499900	485000	1/3/11	3	4	3	1		41	WINDGATE OF ARL	Colonial
3437 UTAH ST S	444000	438000	1/7/11	2	2	3	1		22	FAIRLINGTON MDWS	Colonial
3467 STAFFORD ST #A	420000	410000	1/5/11	2	2	3	1		59	FAIRLINGTON MDWS	Colonial
4811 29TH ST S #B-2	263500	263500	1/3/11	1	1	1	0		9	FAIRLINGTON VILLAGES	Colonial
4241 32ND RD S #270	449900	449900	1/14/11	2	2	3	1		32	FAIRLINGTON GREEN	Colonial
3609 FOUR MILE RUN DR	180000	180000	1/7/11	2	1	3	1		14	FORT BARNARD HEIGHTS	Colonial
4656 34TH ST S #A1	358900	358900	1/18/11	1	2	2	1		13	FAIRLINGTON MEWS	Traditional
4838 28TH ST S #B1	249900	252500	1/14/11	1	1	1	0		71	FAIRLINGTON VIL	Colonial

Don't Miss These Upcoming Spring Home Shows!

SUBURBAN MARYLAND HOME SHOW
Show Place Arena
14900 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Upper Marlboro, MD.

Dates & Times:
Friday, February 4 — 11 A.M. To 9 P.M.
Saturday, February 5 — 10 A.M. to 8 P.M.
Sunday, February 6 — 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.
Admission: Free

MAYMOUNT FOUNDATION FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
Greater Richmond Convention Center
Richmond, VA
Part of the MAC Events Home Show at the same location

Dates & Times:
Thursday, February 10 — 1 P.M. to 9 P.M.
Friday & Saturday, February 11 & 12 — 11 A.M. to 9 P.M.
Sunday, February 13 — 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Admission:
Adults \$12, Children (12 - 17) \$6;
Seniors \$8 (Discount on Thursday & Friday only; Children 11 and under Free.
Two for one adult admission tickets after 5 P.M.

For complete information call MAC Events at 800-332-3976 or go on- line.

51ST ANNUAL WASHINGTON HOME & GARDEN SHOW
Washington Convention Center
801 Mount Vernon Place
Washington, DC

Dates & Times:
Thursday, March 11 — 11 A.M. to 9 P.M.
Friday, March 12 — 10 A.M. to 9 P.M.
Saturday, March 13 — 11 A.M. to 6 P.M.
Admission:
Adults \$12; Ages 6 to 12 \$5; Under 5 Free

Community Bulletin Board

FOR SALE - The Ravenator

As avid Baltimore Ravens Fans, we purchased this 1975 Champion Mobile Home for our family tailgating experience. My brothers and I completed renovated the interior for the optimal tailgating experience. The great amenities include wrap-around bench, table, above head and below seat storage for all your tailgating needs and a restroom. It also includes heat and air conditioning unit, set up for portable generator, and a cabinet to stow your food and alcohol.The Ravenator has served the family well with many fond tailgating memories with family and friends.

\$3,000. Call Mike at 703-244-6738

Antique Bicycle

Authentic 60's era turquoise ladies Schwinn Tank® bike. Original paint Original seat Whitewall tires Been left outside and now shows a lot of rust—needs restoration

\$50.

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GRAPHIC DESIGNER WANTED

Do you literally think outside the box?

Need an innovative and creative self-starter for special projects. Extensive print publishing experience required. Web savvy would be a big plus.

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Would you like to put your ad here?

Call 703-919-7533

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— Charlene Smith

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- Ceramic Tile
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February 2011

THE ZEBRA

21

BY MARI STULL



Valentine Wine: From Lust to Love

Valentine's Day Checklist:

- Champagne – check
- Roses – Check
- Chocolate – Check
- Store-Bought Card – Check

Now uncheck a few of those boxes and get it right this year. The VINO Vixen will never turn down a flute of Champagne, and will devour dark chocolate at any opportunity. But, to really woo your Valentine, you need to put a little extra thought into your romantic arsenal. There is an optimal wine for every stage of your relationship – and here are but a few...

The Courtship

You're in the beginning of what might be true love. You get a little nervous when you call her. You change your outfit three times before he picks you up. Everything he says is witty and everything you say is profound. Time to rev it up and begin the seduction now.

2004 Brunelli Amarone della Valpolicella Classico - \$42
Veneto, Italy

Simply let the name of this wine roll off your tongue and you sound romantic. This wine is lusciously intense with extracted plums, raisins and top notes of chocolate. A sensuous wine from the dark ruby color to the nose of cedar. That's amore!



The Lust

You can't keep your hands off each other. You boldly send racy text messages to each other, and you're skipping the chocolate this year and going straight to Victoria's Secret. You need a bold, sexy wine.

2004 Banfi Brunello di Montalcino

The '03 Banfi vintage was held hostage by Italian officials for six months last year to ensure it was 100% Sangiovese, as Italian law dictates (it was)– if you can grab that vintage, do so for it's storied journey into the US. Otherwise, try the '04 vintage, which is gutsy, lusty and makes no apologies for it's



aggressiveness. Loaded with dark plum and notes of hedonistic saddle leather. I feel sexy just thinking about it.

Everlasting Love

You've made gorgeous children together, traveled the world, and experienced more ups and downs than a roller coaster. And you'd do it all again with her if you could. Go ahead – be a little cliché and go for the Champagne. But, not just any Champagne. Search for one as unique and special as your relationship.



Champagne Egly-Ouriet - \$72
Brut Tradition Grand Cru

You won't find this artisanal Champagne on your grocery shelf. But a very good wine shop will be thrilled that you asked for it. A "Grower Champagne" that is made in miniscule quantity relative to the big boys like Moët Chandon or Veuve Clicquot. This blend of 75% Pinot Noir and 25% Chardonnay has notes of green apple, a bit of raspberry, and light toast. She'll be impressed you took the effort to find this special bubbly.

The End

Well, I did say there is a wine for every stage. You didn't have the heart to break up with him just before Valentine's Day. But, you both know it is O V E R. You can probably make this point over a bottle of two buck Chuck (Charles Shaw, Trader Joe's) or Boones Farm Tickle Me Pink. But, you are far too creative for that. Try one of these:



Bitch
100% Grenache
Barossa Valley, AU

Ball Buster
Shiraz Blend
Barossa, AU

Enough said.

For All of Us in Love

Forget about that sappy, store-bought card and craft a letter from your own heart and on your own paper. Remind her why you fell in love with her. Remind him how much you admire his good taste in women. Then raise a glass to each other and enjoy this Valentine's Day!

Cheers!

Barkley Square Goes Virtual

BY CHUCK HAGEE

Barkley Square, the home of "Gourmet Dog Bakery & Boutique" and "Karing by Kristina," located at 2006 Mount Vernon Avenue, in the Del Ray section of Alexandria, for the last four years, is going virtual. But, that change in the delivery of their unique pet services will have "no adverse impact on our customers," owner Kristina Robertson assured in her recent announcement.

"I will be working out of my home office and will be working with all of my customers from there. Our email address, phone numbers, and mailing address (which is a P.O.Box) will all remain the same. And, the website will remain available for scheduling appointments," she stated.

The actual move is planned for early February. However, a moving sale has been in progress since the latter part of January.

The move was actually prompted by several factors, according to Robertson. "We recently received notice that our building was being sold. And, since we were outgrowing this space I figured it was a good time to initiate the move," she said.

"Also, the economic climate has presented some real challenges. This past holiday season was particularly bad for walk-in business. But, on the flip side, we did a great website business. It was wild," Robertson exclaimed.

"I have no intention of letting this present economic downturn beat me. We are just changing direction as many other retail businesses have. We are taking Barkley online," she stated.

Robertson will offer her customers free shipping of her products for the first three months of the new operation. After that she plans to deliver her doggy treats to her customers.

Karing by Kristina is actually a four fold business, with the pet sitting element being the longest established element having commenced in 1991. It consists of two services: (1) Dog walking; and (2) A "bed and

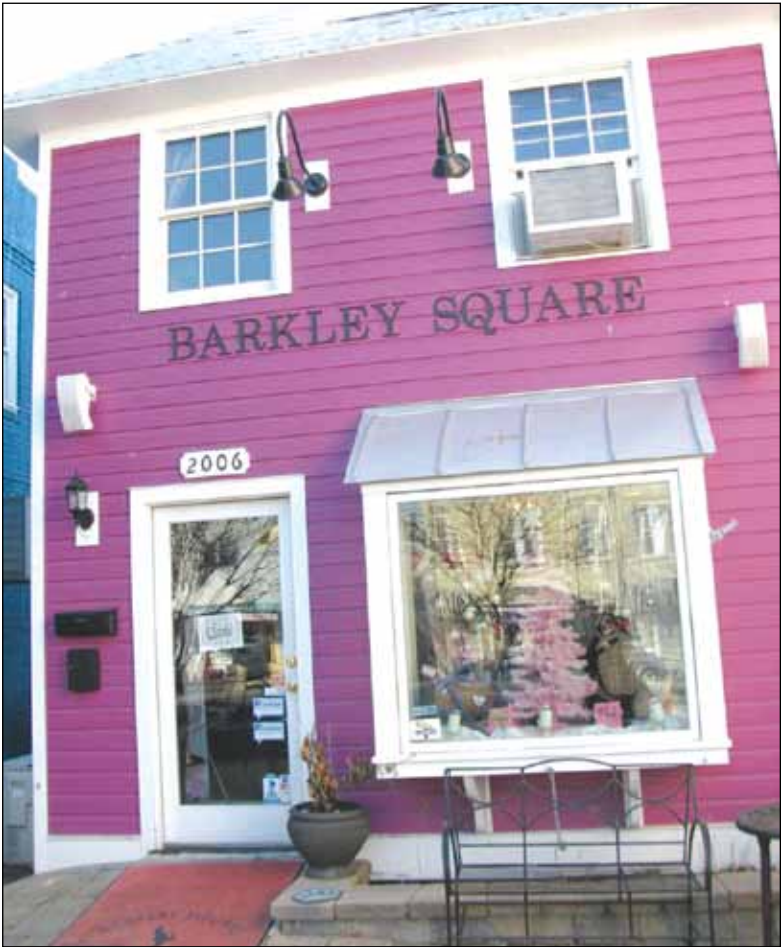


PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE

Barkley Square will enter a new phase as it transitions from the brightly colored building on Del Ray's Mount Vernon Avenue to an online enterprise.

breakfast" option, where clients can have their pets cared for in their homes or at the home of their dog walker while they're absent.

Presently, Robertson employs approximately 30 dog walkers who exercise and care for an estimated 1,000 pets per week. In addition, there is the Barkley Square Dog & Cat Boutique, which offers a wide variety of pet accessories as well as customized, homemade dog and cat treats.

One of the latter service's real specialties is preparing a full course holiday dinner for her customers' furry friends. This year it included snowman shaped mashed potatoes, vegetables, and holiday meatballs of turkey, chicken or beef. For desert there was a decorated Christmas cookie. All for \$16.

And, her tasty treats are not limited to the holidays. Robertson bakes cakes, cookies, and other treats throughout the year for her customers' pets.

"That's going to be one of the real pluses of working out of my home. It will enable me to prepare all the treats with out transporting them here. I've had to do that since

moving here because we don't have a kitchen," she said.

Prior to locating in Del Ray, Robertson had her business in Old Town Alexandria on the Unit Block Wales Alley from 2000 to 2006, until that building was also sold. "Do you think there's a message here?" she said jokingly.

In addition to herself, Robertson has four employees in her Del Ray store. "We hope to be able to offer them continued employment either in the baking operation or as pet sitters. We don't want to leave them unemployed if they wish to stay with us," she said.

Robertson also participates in community outreach services for both the Alexandria and District of Columbia animal shelters. She presently hopes to open another pet facility in the next two years in the Alexandria area.

"Going online is a readjustment to the present business climate that was precipitated by the sale of the building. I would encourage any business entrepreneur to readjust. Don't give up in the face of this economic downtown," Robertson advised.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Monroe

09/2003 ~ 01/2011

After eight great years, a heart murmur took my beloved friend. He was part Maine Coon and part who knows what. He loved having his neck scratched and he cooed rather than purred. He was a good brother to Morty (my M&M's) and the best alarm clock I ever had! Even though his heart gave out, his spirit will live on forever.

Submitted by Judi Renaud

If you would like to memorialize your animal companions, please email petobits@thezebra.org for fee and submission information.

Patch - (Female)

Breed: Hound / Beagle
Age: 5 Years
History: Confiscation case



Hi, my name is Patch but my foster Mom likes to call me Patches. I came to AFH because I was taken away from my owner who was not taking proper care of me. Now I live with my new foster family--Mom, Dad and 3 foster beagle sisters. I'm doing so well now. I'm 100% house and crate trained. I'm a good walker on a leash and do very well with other dogs and small children. I will fit in great with any family, especially for a retired couple that likes to go for nice long walks and enjoy the scenery. I don't pull at all, I'll walk at your pace. I'm smart too; in less than 24 hours I learned from my beagle sisters how to use a dog door. I'm so easy going and lovable.

Emma - (Female)

Breed: Pit Bull Terrier Mix
Age: 4 Years
History: Owner Release



Emma would love nothing more than to cuddle up with her human in a warm home on a soft bed for long nap. She loves to go on walks and take car rides. She is happy to lean against you for a long body rub while you watch TV, read a book, etc. Emma is a "cuddle bug" but will let you know when she does not want to be loved on. She has been dubbed an "amazing house guest" and will lay quietly by a fire, open sunny window or heat vent for most of the day if given a choice. Emma has a "silly" streak which often has her hopping like a bunny into the room, full body wiggles, and squeaking along to your favorite song. She comes with a life time Barkbusters training contract. Emma would do best as an only dog and is not good with cats. She needs a home with older children.

Olivia - (Female)

Breed: Boxer
Age: 2 Years
History: Shelter/Owner Release



I'm Olivia and am a 2-year old purebred boxer. My family gave me up along with my puppies. I'm very affectionate and a playful boxer although I'm still figuring out which soft fuzzy things are my toys, and which are slippers, etc. I have a calm disposition but do get "mouthy" when I get excited, so I'm probably not a good fit for a home with young children. But here's the thing--I'm still young--I AM crate trained, and house trained, but told I lack basic obedience and leash skills and need someone who will take the time to train me. And you should SEE my puppies--they are available too!



Find LOVE for Valentine's Day

Paisley - (Male)

Breed: Catahoula Leopard Dog Mix
Age: 5 Months
History: Shelter



Hi my name is Paisley and I am a Catahoula mix, or at least that is what they think I am. I have a beautiful red brindle coat and soft amber eyes, sure to get your attention. My foster mom believes I may get to be about 55 pounds or so when I'm grown up. I walk pretty well on the leash although have a tendency to jump forward or run around you in excitement, but when given direction, will walk quite nicely. I also do well during bath time although sometimes try to jump out if you're not looking. I can be kind of yappy at times, so I would probably not do well in apartments. I get along great with my foster brother and sister, two energetic dogs like myself.

Desi - (Male)

Breed: Chihuahua
Age: 6 Years
History: Puppy Mill



Hello! My name is Desi and I am a purebred Chihuahua and weigh only 7 pounds. I was rescued from a place called a puppy mill. I lived in a cage 24/7. I received little to no socialization so I need a lot of patience to understand that people are okay. I just learned what toys are and I LOVE to play with my foster brothers and sisters. I am going to need someone to keep me on a schedule so that I know what to expect and help me get house trained and crate trained. I am looking for a family with older or no children, as the little kids are very noisy and intimidating for a nervous guy like me. I'm hoping my family will have another small dog as they could help show me the ropes.

Artie (Pluto) - (Male)

Breed: Black Labrador Retriever / Collie Mix
Age: 21 Months
History: Owner Release



I'm Artie. I am told I am a gorgeous black lab/collie/hound mix. I am fully housebroken and even went to obedience school. I loves people and gets along with everyone. I am a very happy go lucky dog without a care in the world. The vet calls me very well adjusted and people laugh at me, but I sleep spread eagle on my back. I think it makes me super lovable, so please call about me and take me home.

PLEASE HELP CODY

At 2 AM, Christmas Eve 2010, A Forever Home (AFH) received a desperate plea for help from an emergency veterinary clinic. A family brought in a Shih Tzu named Cody that had eaten rat poison a few days before and was hemorrhaging internally. The family, after paying for his diagnosis, was forced to choose euthanasia because they were unable to pay for his life-saving treatment. AFH agreed to take on this poor little boy who is only four years old, because his situation was indeed treatable.



Initial estimates were between \$2500 and \$4000 . Please consider making a donation to our Brownie's Fund to help defray the costs for little Cody's medical expenses. Once Cody is cleared by the vet, he will be available for adoption.

Our Brownie's Fund is used specifically for medical costs for dogs and pups with extraordinary medical expenses. When you make a donation to this fund, you will help Cody and make it possible for AFH to consider helping others like him. Donations can be made via our Donate button on the front of our website or by sending a check to: AFH, Brownie's Fund - Cody, PO Box 222801, Chantilly, VA 20153. Donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated.

A FOREVER-HOME RESCUE FOUNDATION

is a non-profit dog rescue group located in Chantilly, Virginia that operates in the Northern Virginia / Washington Metropolitan area. We strive to make quality dogs available for adoption and do our best to match prospective adopters with the right animal!

Because AFH is a 100% volunteer-run organization, we cannot function without your help. In particular, we need: foster homes, transporters for adoptions and vet visits, handlers at adoption days, and helpers at fundraising events. If you think you would like to help, e-mail: volunteer@foreverhome.org.



For more information about adoption, call
703-961-8690
or visit us online at www.aforeverhome.com

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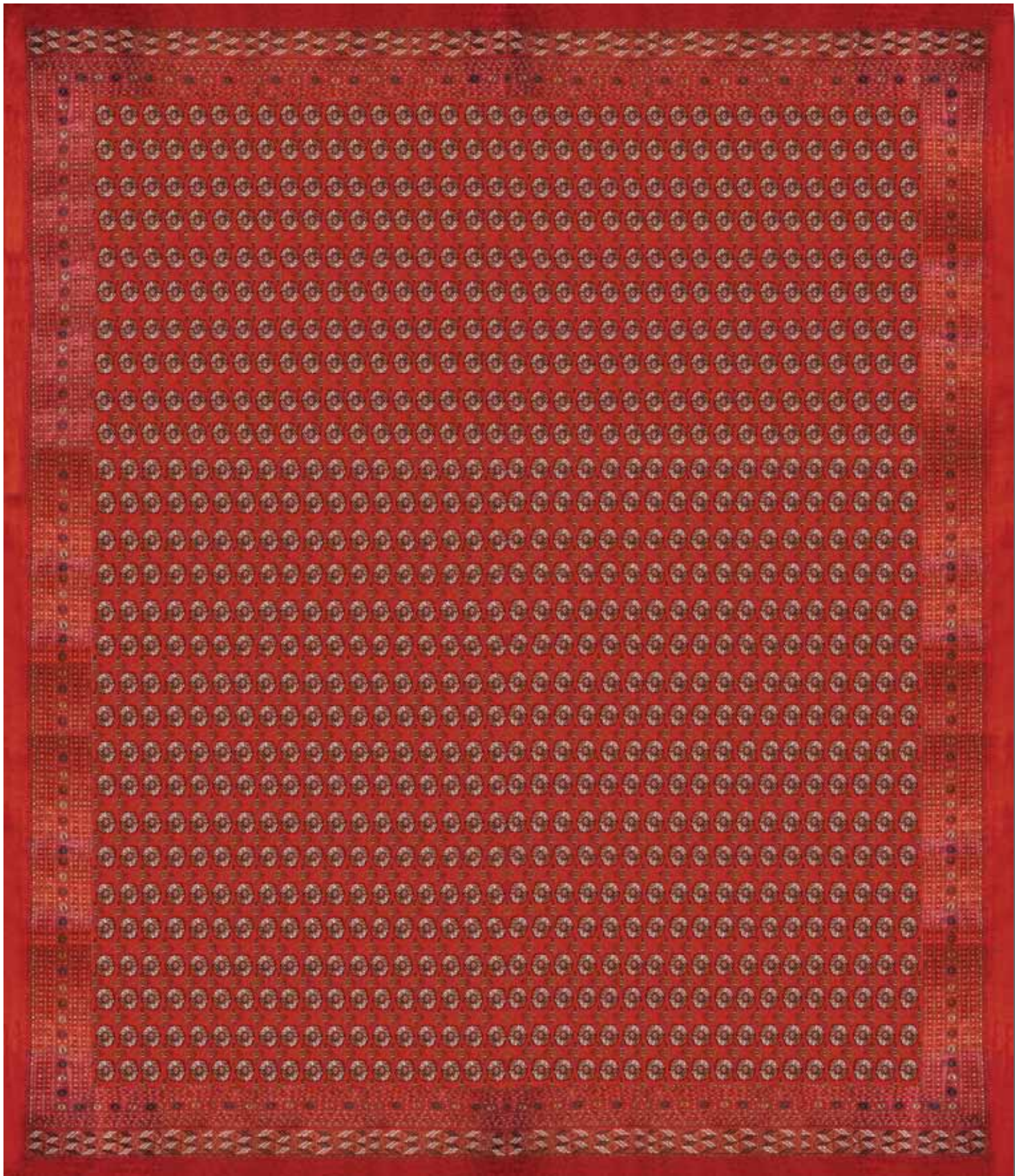


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If you pursue an adoption, or volunteer with AFH, email the Zebra to tell your story!

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