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Editor’s Notes

The annual Taste of Georgetown was a spectacular success this year. In the first place, Saturday, October 14th, was an absolutely perfect autumn day - unlike the horrible heavy rain the year before. The two large tents sheltering the many best restaurants of our town were jammed with customers who received 5 tickets for their twenty dollar bills, which provided them with five delicious Tastes from their favorite chefs. One could choose a soup here, a crabcake there, a salad elsewhere, and finish with a pastry from somewhere else. Lines began to form at favorite spots as the crowd grew and grew. Tables and chairs were available on the lawn of Grace Church where some spectators sat to listen to the free entertainment which included the Blues Alley Youth Orchestra, the Six String Theory, and the Blues Alley All Stars. Chances on a Raffle were sold by some of the many volunteers from neighborhood churches, who support the Georgetown Ministry Center in its work helping the area’s homeless people. Many other neighborhood businesses sponsored this worthy endeavor which not only raised funds for a good cause and gave guests a delicious lunch, but also is always a good fun occasion.

“It is like an urban county fair”, one guest was heard to say. That is true. It is our neighbors and other guests gathering together for a good cause and a good time, a community effort.

Founded in 1796 with a $50 contribution from President Thomas Jefferson, St. John’s Episcopal Church, Georgetown Branch, is now celebrating its 210th anniversary. In 1817 ongoing problems between the clergy and the parishioners caused some to resign and form Christ Church four blocks away. In 1834 the old church was closed but in 1938 it was bought back for $50 and reopened. In 1983 it was rededicated with an addition and it held together during the Civil War. In 1874 the Victorian rectory was constructed.

From 1902 and 1914 this church grew to 2,000 members. After the Rev Peter Winterble left as rector, the Rev. Edward Lee was chosen following his years of service as Episcopal pastor in Florence, Italy. He and his wife, Kathryn and their daughter lived here while he served from 1982 until 1989, when he was called to become the Bishop of Western Michigan. In 1992-4 much remodeling was done in preparation for the Bicentennial in 1996. The Reverend “Meg” Graham was the first woman rector. She was chosen after the term of the Rev. Marston Price, but her much-too-early death last year is still mourned by all who knew her. The Reverend Dr. Albert Scariato was so capable at holding this parish together after that tragedy that - to the delight of the congregation – Bishop Chane was persuaded to keep him on as Priest-in-Charge. It is he, therefore, who welcomed the Lees back to celebrate this historic rededication. Older parishioners welcomed this reunion, remembering Lee as a brilliant preacher and a genuine pastoral leader. The Lees were impressed with the architectural improvements since their term here in Georgetown. Throughout these years, this church has continued its support for outreach programs especially in our area but also in serving the needy elsewhere.

Since 1954, The Georgetown newspaper has been bringing you the latest news from the most famous village in the world: Georgetown, D.C. For only $24 a year you will receive 26 editions of The Georgetowner, check full of profiles of the famous and not-so-famous, gallery and theater reviews, dining reviews, opinion pieces, business and local news of the village, and lots of society coverage.

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Whitehurst - Up or Down?

The Citizens Association of Georgetown meeting on Monday, October 16, featured an informative session on the recently completed Phase I Whitehurst Freeway study. Catherine Shaw, chair of the CAG Whitehurst Committee, announced that CAG has contracted with an independent firm to conduct a survey of CAG members on opinions concerning the Whitehurst options. This brief survey is being emailed and mailed to all CAG members. The survey will be coded to ensure that each respondent (2006 dues-paying members of CAG) votes only once, but all responses will be completely confidential and viewed only by ReData. When you receive your survey form, we urge you to complete and return it as soon as possible.

The subject is complex and to aid you in better understanding the alternatives, you can visit the CAG website (www.cagtow.org) where you can read the complete study including the key findings and also two opinion pieces—one pro and one con—by members of the CAG Whitehurst Taskforce. The complete study is also available on the DDOT website.

The following are two opinion pieces—one pro and one con—regarding taking down the Whitehurst by Ray Kukulski and Walter Groszyk.

– Denise Cunningham, First Vice President Citizens Association of Georgetown

Now is the Time: The Whitehurst Should Come Down:
by Ray Kukulski

Georgetown now enjoys a rare opportunity to improve its waterfront, facilitate access to it, and alleviate the maddening daily traffic jams clogging M Street.

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has been evaluating replacement of the Whitehurst land bridge with a ramp connecting the existing part of the bridge west of the centerline of Key Bridge with a ramp joining K Street at 34th. To the east, K would become a five or six lane boulevard. (Additional options include a ramp from Key Bridge to connect to K at 33rd, enhancing the intersection of 27th and K to improve access to and from Georgetown and downtown, and building a tunnel under K from 33rd to either 29th or Washington Circle.)

Phase I of the study is almost complete. DDOT’s consultants, DMJM Harris, used 17 evaluation criteria identified by local citizens to evaluate 22 jointly developed alternatives to the Whitehurst. Of the 22, 15 scored higher than the current “no build” option (= doing nothing) required by law as a basis for comparison.

The consultants subjected the top four alternatives to a series of traffic simulation analyses using the Federal Highway Administration software model to determine potential impacts on peak hour traffic for the year 2030. Depending on the alternative selected, drivers would save almost a quarter of an hour and the worst of the few increases would be a mere 3 minutes. For example, on one alternative, travel time for 7 of the 8 trips measured would decrease an average of almost 5 minutes (to a maximum of 12 minutes) with one increase of less than 2 minutes.

Phase II of the study will end this year. Phase II will comprise 18 months of further analysis including an assessment of the environmental impact of the four alternatives, a recommended alternative, and detailed costing.

The Whitehurst was built at the end of WWII as a land bridge across Georgetown’s industrial waterfront. Today, the waterfront is a major destination. Replacing it with an avenue is a win-win scenario which would improve access to the waterfront’s park, many garages and attractions, and improve traffic flow 24/7. DDOT’s important study makes the arguments for preserving the Whitehurst look increasingly tenuous.

Tearing Down the Whitehurst? Neither Wise nor Likely Soon
by Walter Groszyk

The Whitehurst is an ugly, industrial-era scar that creases the riverscape and darkens K Street. But this is not reason enough to “deconstruct” it. A deconstruction of this study reveals a document replete with omissions and hollow assumptions. Let’s examine a few:

A. The study’s focus was so isolated from reality that several projects affecting the Whitehurst and K Street are never referenced. The city will spend about $500 million between 2010 and 2025 to remedy ongoing pollution of the Potomac by Georgetown sewers, K Street runoff problems are corrected. What folly to tear down the Whitehurst, convert K Street to a thoroughfare, and then dig it up.

The city will also spend $35 million re-building and widening the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. This will be completed in 2014, and the K Street and the Whitehurst would be an alternate interim route for TR bridge users. These projects almost certainly dictate that the Whitehurst will remain standing for at least the next 15 years.

B. Deconstruction enthusiasm will wane when Georgetowners realize they are the only ones paying. Property owners near the Whitehurst might see their taxes rise by 300 to 500 percent. This ‘who gets to pay’ feature is perhaps so fatal to deconstruction that it is omitted from the latest version of the study.

Claims that traffic flow will improve are based on flawed assumptions. Data to the contrary is omitted. For example, the study does not: address potential traffic effects on every street north of M Street; provide flow and speed estimates for non rush-hour traffic; consider the traffic impact from the phalanx of parking garage portals and loading docks lining K Street; count the on-street parking spaces that will be lost; or specifically mention that a slice of the new Waterfront Park will be taken. The need for a large-sized ventilation building(s) for the tunnels was overlooked.

When all the missing or omitted data is presented and considered, it’s unlikely to support assertions that -- without a Whitehurst -- traveling in Georgetown will become easier and quicker for most people through much of the day and night.

St. John’s at 210

At the 210th year anniversary of Saint John’s Church Georgetown Parish on O Street last weekend, the former rector and his wife, Rt. Reverend Edward L. Lee, Jr. and Mrs. Lee greeted friends from their days at Saint John’s.

Taste GT

Last Saturday’s Taste of Georgetown at Grace Church drew thousands of patrons sampling $5 tasters from area restaurants. Sponsored by Georgetown’s BID, all proceeds went to Grace Church in their efforts to feed, clothe and help the homeless.

Left: Paul and Heidi Strain enjoying the Taste of Georgetown.
DC DIARY

Talking Baseball in October

By Jack Evans

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon on Oct. 1, the second season of the Washington Nationals came to an end. Although the 2006 Nationals finished with 71 wins and 91 losses, not as successful as the 2005 team which went 81 and 81, it was still a great season. Who can forget the series against the New York Yankees when we took two out of three games in front of the three largest crowds in RFK Stadium’s history? And, Ryan Zimmerman’s walk off home run which won the second game!

The season saw some real progress regarding baseball in DC. In May, Major League Baseball (MLB) finally picked an owner, Ted Lerner and his family. They teamed up with Stan Kasten and his group to form the new ownership structure. The Lerners are a local family and Kasten is recognized as the best person to rebuild a franchise having done it successfully in Atlanta. They wish them the best and look forward to an even better team in 2007.

Also in May, the District broke ground on its new baseball stadium in Southeast Washington. It is amazing how fast the stadium is being constructed. As of today, the stadium construction is ahead of schedule and should be completed and ready for opening day April 2008. The bonds to finance the new stadium were AAA rated and sold immediately – showing confidence in the District. And, as I have said before, unless you go to the games, you as a resident pay nothing for this stadium.

Remember, the debt service on the bonds comes from three sources:
- The baseball fee, which as of August 31, 2006 has brought in $31,160,401;
- The utilities tax fee, which as of August 31, 2006 has brought in $19,276,230; and
- The taxes on concessions, tickets and other stadium related items, which as of August 31, 2006 have brought in $16,808,703.

This year’s major accomplishments have been the selection of team ownership and breaking ground at the stadium site - the only major outstanding issue is parking at the new stadium. In addition to the 1225 parking spaces immediately at the stadium, the team owners are working to identify an additional 6,000 spaces for those driving to the games. Additionally, the city has worked closely with Metro and private developers to expand the Metro stop to ensure fans can take public transportation.

Come next year, fans will be back for one last year at the now familiar RFK Stadium. The team will have some new faces and we will have said our goodbyes to Frank Robinson, who has been a great asset for MLB and a great manager for the Nationals. With most of the major discussions behind us, I look forward to a successful off-season and an exciting 2007 season. It is finally becoming real that baseball has returned permanently to Washington, DC.

Jack Evans is the Ward Two Councilman. His column appears in each edition of this paper.
No Mayor Left Behind

S
ince Adrian Fenty wants to take over the school system, he deserves a little stan-
dardized testing himself. Here are some guidelines to help you tell how well he’s doing.

– Does he fire Chief Ramsey as he should?
– Does he take any steps to end the Roslinsm-
tion of DC by developers?
– Does he end the gross imbalance of services and programs in the city that has severely dam-
aged such things as libraries, health services, recreation and education?
– Does he stop the pandering to suburban busi-
ness interests that have supported programs greatly increasing the number of suburban teach-
ers using the city without paying anything for it?
– Does he become a rare DC mayor who actually increases employment for DC residents?
– Does he understand that a city’s wealth is not determined by how much money flows through it but how much money stays here?
– Will he end the indented servitude of our transit system to suburban interests and come up with ways that public transit better serves DC residents? Better yet, will he seek ways we don’t have to move around so much?

– Will he work for statehood or continue to hide behind the colonial charade of a token seat in the House for Eleanor Holmes Norton?
– Will he represent the interests of genuine local businesses - including small businesses like his parents’ - or will he continue to slave over every con of the suburban oriented Board of Trade?
– Will he save the taxi zones or will he let the industry be taken over by a few big cab com-
panies at a cost of fewer taxis, fewer jobs and higher fares?
– Does he define progress in terms of number of new high rises or by the level of satisfaction felt by those who live here?
– Will he get in order the house he was elected to run before he tries to take over the school sys-
tem?

In Loco Parents:
One House Page’s Story

By John Crabtree-Ireland

I
was a U.S. House page seven years before Mark Foley was elected, so never met him.
I can, however, shed some light on a page’s perception of power and what it means to be the object of a congressman’s attention. There is a system of oversight built into the page program, but it fell prey to politics. This time, politi-
cal ‘damage control’ led otherwise responsible adults to look the other way.
Most members of Congress utterly ignore pages. This may be a result of the page sex scandal in the early 1980s, but it’s just as likely it’s because most adults interact primarily with other adults. A page is clearly a child and the knowledge we have of children is often met with disbelief.

When I worked in the Democratic cloakroom and every day I tended to the details of the day and members’ needs as they arose. I’d get a sand-
wich for one, hang up a jacket for another, or re-
lay a message from a member about the current debate to his legislative analyst or chief of staff.

I looked forward to the afternoons, when I could be alone with my thoughts. I could ruminate on what was going on, often with a bit of my own family’s living room with the serious-
ness of a fast-paced workplace.

Rep. Dale Kildee (D-MI), who was and still is on the Page Board, was consistently kind and welcoming, regularly dropping by the Page Desk, asking the group how we were enjoying our work, and thanking us for our service. In-
stead of singling out individuals, he was pas-
sionate about the program and the opportuni-
ties it brings young Americans. I never left an inter-
action with Kildee without feeling uplifted and proud...and protected. This is the type of inter-
action that feels right and every page knows it.

I feel badly for any page who is single out and approached on anything other than professional or collegial terms.

The war and Foley and the page scandal are not the only things to concern us now. The Foley Scandal. The mid-term elections. Those three stories, stuck together uncomfort-
able, awkwardly, and painfully. So, we have to make ourselves look a little more like a civil war, our troops caught in the crossfire between Shiites and Sunnis.

In those weeks, there were a number of school shootings and multiple murders, the most hor-
rific of which was the takeover of a one-room Amish school house in Nickel Mines, Pennsyl-
vania where a lone gunman lined up ten girl stu-
dents, ranging in ages from 6 to 13 and shot them all, killing five of them before he killed himself.

For the Amish, known for their sense of digni-

To the Editor:
Over the past few years, I have enjoyed read-
ing the generally helpful and common sense editorials in the Georgetown. However, your flippant and highly partisan comparisons be-
tween Georgetown and McLean [October 4, 2006, “Georgetown is Over”] were in very bad taste.

Surely, you must have realized that your snide ad hominem slur of former President George H.
W. Bush would be offensive to many George-
towners, including those who worked for him over his many years in Washington. Moreover, the fact that registered Democrats are a major-
ity in Georgetown does not make Georgetown a better place to live as you unfairly imply. Like-
wise, the fact that McLean is home to thousands of foreign diplomats and World Bank types does not make it a less desirable place to live.

I believe that the vast majority of George-
towners, regardless of political affiliation, would welcome former Speaker Gingrich, former So-
licitor General Starr, or former Secretary of State Colin Powell to our community which has been home to many other distinguished Republicans such as former Secretary of State Kissinger, for-
mer Senator Pyatt, Senator Warner, and Major-
ity Whip Roy Blunt, to name only a few.

As a resident of Georgetown for the past 33 years, I have found that one’s political affiliation has no bearing whatsoever on the many local is-
sues and problems that confront us every day in Georgetown. Since the Georgetowner is a community paper, it should editorialize with re-
spect to issues that effect Georgetown and leave it to the apparently partisan political views for some other forum. Otherwise, the Georgetowner may experience the “Dixie Chicks effect” with re-
spect to residents who find your apparent politi-
cal prejudices be out of place.

– Don W. Crockett

Dear Editor:
Those who propose tearing down the White-
hurst Freeway claim—contrary to common sense (just picture this in your mind’s eye)—that dropping hordes of cars onto K Street and Water Street along the river will somehow make the waterfront more accessible. They’ve got it ex-
tactly backwards.

With traffic on the Freeway suspended above ground level, few cars clog Water Street, so in-
umerable pedestrians, bikers, joggers and roller bladers currently enjoy easy access to the river and Crescent Trail. Collapsing the highway to the ground and routing vehicular commuter and inner city traffic across a multi –lane K Street/ Water Street would impede access to the river and Crescent Trail.

Collapsing the highway will also impede views of the river from ground level along K and Water Streets. Those views are now un-
affected precisely because traffic is suspended above it. My apartment building is on Water St. I frequently walk along Water and K Streets and enjoy the clear view of the river, which will only improve once the planned new parkland is completed along Water Street. Better a parkland there than a ground-level highway.

– Samuel Halpern
Georgetown resident

Dear Mr. Roffman:
Thank you for publishing such a lovely ar-
ticle about me as well as the most recent edition of The Georgetowner. I am very excited to be a part of the Georgetown community in my new role as Principal of Hyde Elementary School. I look forward to partnering with your publication in the future to highlight the wonderful work our students do under the guidance of our outstanding teachers and parents. Thank you for your support.

– Sincerely, Dana L. Nerenberg
Send letters to: editorial @ georgetowner.com
Playing with Players

By Bob Madigan

As we begin the second season of “The Player” series, where we introduce you to the movers and shakers of greater Washington you may not already know, it is fun to look back at our first group of “Players”.

Veena Trehan and I began our quest for “Players” with Angie Fox of Cultural Tourism DC, followed by uber-lobbyists Tom Quinn & Erik Huey of Venable LLP and then Bill Miller, Vice President for Congressional Affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The combined energy of those four individuals was enough to power the presses for several years, but we were only beginning. There was Michele Conley, founder of Living in Pink, Neale Perl of the Washington Performing Arts Society, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company co-creator Howard Shalwitz, and D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams’ Press Secretary Vince Morris. All players on different stages.

Susie Kay and her Hoop Dreams kicked off (or should that be tipped off?) the new year, followed by Georgetown sculptor and owner of Halcyon House John Dreyfuss, Kennedy Center Vice President of Production Mickey Berra shared some super backstage stories. Then entrepreneur Steve Delonga gave us his $2 bill’s worth, while Nathans’ owner Carol Joynt told us how she keeps the joint hopping with the Q&A Cafe.

Many of the “Players” really do know how to play and shared how, including Mark Ein, C.E.O. of Venturehouse Group; Debra Ness, president of the National Partnership for Women & Families; Paige Dunn, Regional Director of Sales & Marketing for Kimpton Hotels on the East Coast; and Ron Perlman, M.D., plastic surgeon to the powerful and the powerless through Second Chance Employment Services.

The fun didn’t end there, we broke bread with Cafe Milano’s Franco Nuschese, Ashok Bajaj owner and creator of six D.C. power restaurants including the Oval Room & 701 and then dined with Tony Cibel of Tony & Joe’s Seafood Place.

We learned how Beth Mendelson, Executive Producer and Owner of Mendelson Productions helps make other women Players, too. And AOL Founding C.E.O turned philanthropist Jim Kimsey shared so many great stories we could write a book.

This is just the beginning because there are many more “Players” we wish to profile. But if you know of one you don’t want us to miss considering, please “drop a dime” as they used to say and let us know.

Veena Trehan writes the Players column.

She is pursuing her Masters at the University of Maryland under a fellowship from Reuters and has reported for Reuters, Bloomberg News and various local publications.
At last, Sweden has a new home in America. The shining facade of House of Sweden has created a spectacular new landmark on Washington’s waterfront right in the heart of Georgetown.

The opening festivities for House of Sweden will take place on Oct. 21 through Oct. 23 when Their Majesties the King and Queen of Sweden will inaugurate the building. The guests of honor will include distinguished members of the United States’ and Sweden’s governments.

The President and Mrs. Bush will welcome Their Majesties to the White House on Oct. 23. The visit is an opportunity to further strengthen the U.S.-Swedish friendship.

With the K Street location, Sweden has one of the best addresses in D.C. The building on the waterfront is a beacon of openness and transparency. A warm Nordic glow emanates from the backlit glass facade with its patterns of pressed wood – quite extraordinary when viewed from the bridges across the Potomac or from the Kennedy Center.

“House of Sweden is much more than an embassy. It is a place for Sweden and Europe to meet America to exchange ideas and promote dialogue. This gives us a great opportunity to carry on public diplomacy and project our modern and dynamic Sweden,” said Gunnar Lund, Sweden’s Ambassador to the United States.

In celebration of the Inauguration of House of Sweden, local shops, restaurants and art galleries in Georgetown will launch a “Salute to Sweden” weekend on Oct. 20-22. Georgetown will be covered in yellow and blue this weekend. The 26 flag poles at the Waterfront will fly both Swedish and American flags. Neighboring restaurants will feature special Swedish menu items, local shops will feature Swedish music and art galleries will showcase Swedish artists.

On Sunday Oct. 22, between 1 and 5 p.m., an outdoor event – The Salute to Sweden Waterfront Festival – will take place in the open area between House of Sweden and the Potomac River. An historic cavalcade of Swedes who traveled by sea to America will connect Sweden with House of Sweden. Well-known Swedish performers will participate through song, dance and music.

The crescendo of the Waterfront Festival will be a performance by The Ark, one of Sweden’s most famous and eccentric rock bands. The performance also kicks off the band’s U.S. tour. The festival is free and open to the public.

After the Waterfront Festival, an Inaugural Reception, in the presence of Their Majesties the King and Queen, will take place in House of Sweden for invited distinguished guests.

House of Sweden will remain open: Wednesday through Friday from 12 pm to 7 pm. Saturday and Sunday from 12 pm to 4 pm. Visitors’ entrance: 901 30th Street N.W. (south of K Street, N.W., next to Washington Harbour in Georgetown.

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Trick Or Treat

By Nancy Carpenter

Even though we are living in an activity-rich and time-poor society, we always find an occasion to celebrate Halloween in some way, shape, or form. I think the key to a successful Halloween for children is to provide them with an experience that is age appropriate. Whether that choice is a pumpkin patch, corn maze, hay-ride, or haunted house, it’s the perfect opportunity to spend a memorable fall day in the country.

Halloween memories are vivid for most children raised in America and they look forward to this unique celebration. I clearly remember explaining to my son Ian when he was just two that he and all of the other kids in the neighborhood were actually going to dress up in costumes and knock on doors to collect a wide variety of candies. He leapt and squealed with joy like I have never seen since! However, I never should have told him at 10 O’clock in the morning. That was one of the longest days in my life. “When will it get dark, Mommy, When?” I thought the sun would never go down. But it was so cute to see him climb up those big steps to the front door. It must have seemed like a small mountain to him at the time. He couldn’t always reach the door bell, but he had one heck of a knock!

As far as Halloween decorations, I don’t think my husband has ever really been amused by these quirky objects. But my 5-year-old loves them! I try to steer him away amused by these quirky objects. But my 5-year-old loves them! I try to steer him away

trated to it like a magnet. And this stuff just happens to be located at the entrance of every grocery store in town.

This brings me to candy shopping. Be sure not to go too early or you run the risk of coming up short on Halloween. But don’t buy candy too late or your choices at the store may be limited and only the worst candy will be left.

We enjoy handing out seasonal candy to fellow costumed celebrators just as much as we love receiving it door to door. It’s so fun to see all of the creatively carved pumpkins lit up at night. So please be sure to leave your porch light on Oct. 31st and stock up on sweets because we’re comin’ a-knockin’.

Trick or treat? Your choice.

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Our preschool classes are LONGER, DROP-OFF classes and VERY DIFFERENT from our morning program! Learn more about our imagination and cooperative play classes for 3 and 4-year-olds by attending a trial “Lions” class at the end of Halloween Open House! We will also speak about Imagination Treehouse, our DROP-OFF playacting and storytelling program.

Friday, October 27th
2:00-5:00

• Live Music
• Sample “Lions” Class (3s and 4s)
• Games & Activities
• Plus Scary Treats!

2:00-2:30: Arrivals, greetings and play
2:30-3:00: Live concert by singer Laura Baron
3:00-3:30: Circle and parachute games
3:30-4:00: Live concert by singer Laura Baron
4:00-4:15: Scary treats
4:15-5:00: Preview “Lions” class for 3 and 4-year-olds

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GMG, Inc. October 18, 2006 9
By David Roffman

The Octagon House Museum
1799 New York Avenue, NW

The Octagon House was designed for John Tayloe III by architect William Thornton, the first architect of the United States Capitol. Built between 1799 and 1801, this unusual house was the first house to be completed “in the neighborhood” of the White House, establishing a beginning point for future development. In today’s vernacular, the name Octagon seems an inaccurate name for the six-sided house. During the 18th century, however, the term “octagon salon” was often used to describe a round room created with eight angled walls, such as the Octagon House entrance hall.

When the President’s House, as the White House was known at the time, was destroyed during the War of 1812, James and Dolley Madison accepted John Tayloe’s offer to live in the Octagon House temporarily. In 1817 the Tayloe family established permanent residency in the house, but trouble was soon to follow. Possibly because of arguments with her father about “the man in her life,” one of Tayloe’s fifteen children either fell or jumped to her death through the center of the grand winding staircase. Later a similar accident claimed the life of a second daughter.

Another ghost story associated with the U.S. Capitol Building recounts haunted nights when all of the statues in the National Statuary Hall come to life and dance around the room. Yet another tale tells of a Civil War soldier who occasionally dashes through the Rotunda, which was used as a hospital during the Civil War. Finally, there have been rumors about the ghost of an unfortunate worker who was mistakenly sealed into a wall where he died.

Haunted Hallways of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, 17th St. and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, (next to the West Wing of the White House)

Known as the Old Executive Office Building before it was renamed in 1999 and rededicated in 2002, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building is, by far, one of the most haunted looking buildings in Washington, D.C. The building design, based on an addition to the Louvre, is in an ornate style that is known today as the French Second Empire Style.

Unquestionably one of the most grandiose buildings in the nation’s capital, the Eisenhower Executive Building has had its share of accidental and natural deaths, as well as a few suicides, possibly leaving a number of lost souls wandering the halls. In several instances, staff members working overnight in the building have reported seeing apparitions, especially in the early morning hours. The ghost-like figures apparently prefer the corridors of the building, as there do not seem to have been any reported sightings in the private offices.

Stephen Decatur House Museum
1600 H Street, NW

If, at the Stephen Decatur House, you happen to see a shadowy figure gazing out of the second floor window or stealthily leaving the house from the back door, many will tell you that it...
During the duel at the Clarendon Dueling Grounds in Maryland, just 14 months after moving into their new Lafayette Square home, Decatur was fatally wounded during the duel. Just 14 months later, he died several hours later at his home.

Stephen Decatur agreed to a guilty verdict, which marked the tragic end of Stephen Decatur’s life. His was a life of comfort, however, did not prevent the Massachusetts North Shore near Boston. Decatur commissioned Benjamin Henry Latrobe to design a home fit for entertaining in a style that would reflect their prominence and social position. It was the first private residence built on the President’s Park, neighboring the White House. The couple moved into their grand house in 1819 and spent their first several months cementing their social prominence in Washington by hosting a number of extravagant parties. There were even rumors that Stephen Decatur had his eye on the presidency. Little did Stephen and Susan know, at the time, how near they were to the tragic end of Stephen Decatur’s life.

Years earlier, while sitting on the trial of his former friend and colleague, James Barron, Stephen Decatur agreed to a guilty verdict, which expelled Barron from the Navy. A thirteen year quarrel ensued between the two men, which finally culminated in a duel at the Bladensburg Dueling Grounds in Maryland. Just 14 months after moving into their new Lafayette Square Park home, Stephen and Susan Decatur’s expectations of a fine life at the center of Washington, D.C. Lafayette Square mansion, which was located on the site of the Hay-Adams Hotel. Summers were enjoyed on the Massachusetts North Shore near Boston. This life of comfort, however, did not prevent Marian Adams from bouts of melancholy and depression, which eventually led to her suicide in December of 1885. In memory of his wife, Henry Adams erected a statue of a hooded female figure, by sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, in Rock Creek Church Cemetery. The memorial statue, which was originally named “The Mystery of the Hereafter and The Peace of God that Passeth Understanding” is commonly referred to today as “Grief.” People say that looking at the statute causes a feeling of great sorrow and weeping.

Tales of the ghost of Marian Adams say that she visits the Hay-Adams Hotel, usually in early December around the anniversary of her death. Staff housekeepers have reported someone unseen calling their names and the sensation of invisible arms around them. Locked doors fling themselves open and the scent of Mimosa mysteriously fills the air on certain floors at night. On repeated occasions, a tearful woman has been heard asking, “What do you want?”

The Taste of Halloween

WITCH’S BREW Happy Halloween

2 Bottles of Champagne
1 Gallon Orange Juice
1/2 Gallon Orange Sherbert
1 Bunch peeled Black Grapes
Sugar to taste

1 Bottle (2l) Lemon-Lime Soda

Combine Champagne and orange juice in large punch bowl. Scoop sherbert into bowl until it has produced a nice scum over the top. Add sugar to taste if desired. Float peeled grapes in mixture, and garnish bowl with the rest of the grapes. Drop in pieces of dry ice for steaming effect, but note that no one should put dry ice in his/her mouth. If you want to raise or lower the alcohol content in the punch, add vodka or clear soda respectively.

Boo at the Zoo

Visit bats, spiders, owls, and other animals at the zoo while trick-or-treating at the National Zoo in Washington, DC. Enjoy animal encounters, keeper talks, festive decorations, and haunted trails at the annual National Zoo’s Halloween celebration, “Boo at the Zoo” from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Costumed volunteers will hand out candy at more than 40 treat stations.

Halloween Concerts at the Kennedy Center

NSO Pops: Marvin’s Halloween Monster Mash October 26-28: Marvin Hamlisch and friends perform songs from The Phantom of the Opera, the theme to Psycho, and much more.

Meet the Ghosts of Rockville’s Past during a haunted storytelling hour at Beall-Dawson House. Reservations are required, call (301) 340-2825. This Halloween event is not recommended for children under 9 years old.

Markoff’s Haunted Forest

Get spooked at this Halloween event in Dickerson, Maryland. Markoff’s Haunted Forest has been rated the #1 Halloween attraction by Channel 7 (ABC).

Ghost Story Tour of Washington: Discover the secrets of Washington’s past. Reservations are required, call (301) 588-9255. Tours begin at Lafayette Square in front of the White House.


Alexandria Ghost and Graveyard Tours: Take a walking tour of Old Town Alexandria and see the most haunted buildings in town. Tours depart at the southeast corner of King & Fairfax Streets. Reservations are recommended. Call (703) 519-1749.

Freak House

1027 7th Street NW Washington DC 20001. The Lobster Boy Revue and Cherry Red Productions have joined hipster forces to bring you the most horrifying haunted house Washington DC has ever seen. Only $15 - October 25th-Oct 31st from 7pm till close Must be 16+ to ride this ride!

Lobster Boy! Mystery of the Deep!

Now the bitter host of his own burlesque side-show, Lobster Boy drags his gang of misfits and marauders to the stage at the Theatre, 1027 7th Street, NW, for your horrifying amusement. With a cigar in one claw and a bottle of bourbon in the other, Lobster Boy brings you the strangest vaudeville and burlesque Washington, D.C. has to offer. Call the Lobster Line at 202-402-6331.

Annual High Heel Drag Race

October 24 - Each Year on the Tuesday before Halloween from 7 - 9 p.m. Spectators by the thousands head for 17th Street NW near Dupont Circle to enjoy Washington’s unofficial, but fabulously raucous Drag Queen Parade and High Heel Drag Race.

Nic Whynmey’s Pumpkin Party and Parade

At Discovery Theater - October 27 and 30 at 10:15 and 11:30 a.m. / Saturday Family Spectacle on October 28 at 11 a.m. for face painting and a 12 noon performance. Children ages 2 - 8 are invited to arrive in costume (or not) for this fun interactive show, a parade and a treat. Discovery 1 heater is located at the Hipsey Center.

Nightmare on M Street

October 28-Register from 1-6 pm at Rumors (1900 M Street, NW) or Front Page (1333 New Hampshire Avenue, NW) for the 7th Annual Nightmare on M Street. Then, from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m., Bar at M Street. Bar will be booted with thousands of party-goers decked out in their best costumes.

A Civil War Halloween at Tudor Place

October 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Have some spooky history fun with Civil War Stories and Halloween tales while interacting with Civil War re-enactors from the 1860s. Other activities include children’s games, bobbying for apples, mask making, and pumpkin painting.

Creepy Crawlers Family Saturday at Washington National Cathedral

October 28 - Two sessions: 10 – 11:30 a.m. and noon – 1:30 p.m. Creep through a Halloween haunted museum and tour the thousands of ghosts who have been rated the #1 Halloween attraction by Channel 7 (ABC).

Spooky Sounds and Scary Tales

- NSO Family Concert

October 29 - Performances at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Ages 7 and up. Dress in your scariest costume for a “spirited” Sunday afternoon concert, featuring music from Bride of Frankenstein, the Harry Potter films, King Kong, and more. Conductor Emil de Cou and the National Symphony Orchestra musicians will wear their own costumes as they perform.

A Turn of the Century Halloween

October 30 at 6 and 7:30 p.m. A Victorian All Hallows’ Eve at the National Theatre will feature Eric Henning’s demonstrations of parlor magic – Halloween entertainment with Victorian attire are encouraged. Free tickets are distributed one-half hour before the performances - first come, first seated. Seating is limited.

Poe in Alexandria

October 30 and 31 at 8 p.m.

The Lyceum, Alexandria’s History Museum, will present two evenings with Edgar Allen Poe. This earliest master of macabre, a re-creation, by actor Uwe Ketz, will include recitations from Poe’s classic works such as “The Raven,” “Annabel Lee” and “The Tell-Tale Heart.” Best suited for ages 12 and up due to content. Seating is limited so advance purchase is highly recommended. Telephone - 703-638-4994.

Faerie Art

Artists Uana Ilyyn and Hussein U. Hicks celebrate the most funny bone for laughter and pain. Artist Reception - Oct 20 6-8pm. (in conjunction with FREAK HOUSE. A cherry red / lobster boy production).

Ghouls & Ghosts in Old Town

Alexandria Colonial tours presents its extra-crevy tour at this time of year, including a visit to either Gadby’s Tavern Museum or House in the Country, to hear tales of the women who haunt these historic buildings. Tours run every 15 minutes, 6:30-9:15 p.m. between October 27-31. For more information please contact Alexandria Colonial tours at 703-519-1749.

Death once again knocks on the door of the Carlyle House. You, too, can visit the Carlyle House Museum on October 28 between 6-9 p.m. and participate in a historic recreation of John Carlyle’s 1781 funeral. Living history reenactors will play the part of family and townsmen at the funeral procession. Call 703-549-2997.
One of the most popular mortgages are adjustable rate mortgages (ARMS), especially five and seven year interest only mortgages. No mortgage product is perfect for all consumers. A true professional will first listen to the needs of the client and then they will recommend the mortgage that is tailored best for that client. There are a couple of key advantages of interest only mortgages.

With interest only mortgages the borrower is only responsible for the interest on the loan. On a $400,000 loan with a rate of 6% the required monthly interest payment would be $2,000.00. On a principle and interest mortgage with the same interest rate, the payment would be $2398 a month. This represents a savings of $398 a month on the interest only loan.

Another advantage of an interest only loan is any money that is paid above the required interest payment is reflected in a lower balance the following month. If the homeowner pays an extra $10,000 over the required payment, the new balance becomes $390,000.

For professionals whose income changes monthly, interest only loans can be ideal. A partner in a law firm that gets paid a set amount every month and at year-end gets a large distribution from the law firm would benefit from an interest only loan. With an interest only loan the attorney can pay a low payment for most of the year, and then at the end of the year they can use the partnership distribution to pay down the principle.

Sales professionals whose compensation is based on commission are used to great months when business is good and less profitable months when business is slow. With an interest only loan, a commissioned salesperson can tailor the payments to their cash flow. Investors like to maximize the return of their money. With an interest only loan, cash flow is king. If an interest only loan is set at 6%, the cost of the mortgage after tax for someone with a 40% tax burden is only 3.6%. If the money can produce returns of 6% with tax free bonds (and much greater potential returns with stocks) the investor can make more money using an interest only loan.

Another popular feature of interest only loans is that most banks allow borrowers to choose stated income and stated asset features which eases the paperwork required at application. No tax returns, pay stubs or bank or stock statements may be needed.

It pays to explore all avenues when selecting a mortgage. Like people there are many different mortgage products and it makes sense to pick the right one for your situation.

Bill Starrels lives in Georgetown.
**Business**: More than a dozen stylists from one of Washington DC’s hottest beauty salons will offer free styling tips to 50 Washington couples at Cabanas Restaurant in Georgetown Harbor, 3000 K St. NW, on Thursday, October 26 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. The event, which is free and open to the public, coincides with DC’s recognition of Oct. 26 as “Good Hair Day” and is designed to promote recognition for the beauty industry’s commitment to their clients and the communities in which they serve. Stylists from Roche Salon will instruct men on how to style their ladies’ hair using pink, limited edition GHD styling irons (nearly foolproof) while enjoying champagne, pink martinis and hors d’oeuvres. Tips from the women will benefit the Young Survivors Coalition, formed to support the 250,000 women under 40 living with breast cancer. The purpose of the event is to kick off a national grassroots effort to gain recognition for the beauty industry’s good works and to build on this momentum to get others involved. Members of the local beauty industry (including hairdressers, salon/spa owners, estheticians, massage therapists, makeup artists, manicurists, hair product manufacturers, cosmetic manufacturers, salon furnishing manufacturers and related associations), local, state and national elected officials, DC business leaders, sports celebrities, DC philanthropists and community leaders are expected to attend. For more information, contact Dennis Roche at 202-775-0775 or at dennis@rochesalon.com. <mailto:dennis@rochesalon.com>

**Calendar**

**Sunday, October 22**
The House of Sweden presents the Waterfront Festival from 1 to 5 p.m. The festival will be an afternoon of music and entertainment celebrating Swedish-American heritage. For more information visit www.houseofsweden.com.

**Wednesday, October 25**
The Private Life of George Washington at Tudor Place; 7 pm; 1644 31st St. NW; Registration Required; $10 members/ $15 nonmember; call 965-0400.

**Thursday, October 27**
Chamber Music Concert, 7:30 PM, the Duke Ellington School of the Arts Instrumental Music Department presents a concert of Classical and Baroque Chamber Music. Featured will be works composed for flute, clarinet, saxophone, and strings; including performances by the guitar ensemble and vocal jazz ensemble. At The Ellington Theater, 3500 R St. NW, Washington DC. Admission: $10.00 general; $5 for students/seniors. (Tickets available at the door). For ticket information call: (202) 342-7589.

**Friday, October 27**
Come support the Washington Professional Theatre at the 18th Annual Helen Hayes Awards Benefit Auction at the Four Seasons Hotel (2800 Pennsylvania Ave.) This black-tie evening will begin with a cocktail hour and silent auction, followed by dinner and a live auction. Individual tickets are $250. For more information and sponsorship opportunities call (202) 337-4572, email info@helenhayes.org or visit www.helenhayes.org.

**Saturday, October 28**
Fall Garden Day-A Civil War Halloween at Tudor Place; Includes children’s activities; 11 – 3 pm; 1644 31st Street; Registration Required; $10 member/$14 nonmember; Children under 18 free; food provided by Clyde’s; call 965-0400.

**Monday, October 30**
Meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E, which encompasses Burleith, Hillandale and Georgetown. At 6:30pm at: Georgetown Visitation School Heritage Room, 2nd Floor, Main Building 35th St at Volta Place, NW Washington, DC 20007

**Sunday, November 5**
Christ Church, Georgetown (31st and O Streets, N.W.) continues its Choral Evensong series at 5:00 p.m. with the music of Richard Ayleward, Herbert Howells, and William H. Harris. Sung by the professional Choir of Christ Church, this series is free and open to the public as a gift to the community. 202-333-6677.
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“Split” Settlements

By Joe Russo

What is a “split” settlement? No really, I’m asking, what is a “split” settlement?

I’m sure everyone in our industry thinks they know what a split settlement is, but having just had occasion to discuss this very topic with both the Virginia Bureau of Insurance, and the Virginia State Bar, it became clear to me that a “split” settlement is yet another legal fiction created so that residential real estate transactions can have some semblance of a legitimate event.

I recently had a transaction where my company was named the settlement agent in the sales contract. Thereby thinking that this made my company the settlement agent, we commenced work on said contract, as the contract directs. We were contacted by the listing agent, who explained that her sellers, a very nice elderly couple, were moving to Florida, and she asked would it be possible for them to sign off on their documents some two weeks prior to the scheduled settlement date. We gladly accommodated, and when I met with this nice couple, they signed their settlement statement, title documents and the Deed. At our meeting, as I do at all closings, I explained to these sellers that I do not represent them or the purchaser, and neither does my company. They acknowledged this, we exchanged our pleasantries, and they headed south.

Low and behold, one week prior to the scheduled settlement date, the purchasers to this transaction, the very same sellers who when I met with them, clearly understood that I did not represent them. But the new settlement agent needs the Deed the seller’s signed, the Deed that I prepared, and all the accompanying documents, in order for them to perform their duties as settlement agent. So what do we do? We call it a “split” settlement. Even though when I met with the sellers my company was the settlement agent, and not the seller’s representative, to make sense of all this, either now my company or I must represent the seller in order to properly effectuate the aims of the lender/title company joint venture relationship, which is getting the fees for both the loan and the title insurance premium.

I did give all documents in my possession to the new settlement agent. Now, I guess I could have just told them to start all over; but that would have only inconvenienced the nice

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October 18, 2006 GMG, Inc.
elderly couple in Florida, who thought they had completed everything that was necessary. In fact, the new non-attorney settlement agent assured the listing agent, in writing, that there was nothing further required of her clients. But there was, and that’s when they needed to pull the old “you represent the seller’s” card on me to bail them out.

Of course, the new settlement agent is not an attorney, though I believe he did drop out of law school on at least one occasion. Apparently, he must not have made it to the day in law school where they tell you that non-attorneys do not get to tell attorneys who they represent. No matter, non-attorneys normally get to act with impunity in the world of residential real estate transactions, and the people who think they would have made the best attorneys are usually the ones who never got around to going to law school. The Bar, who governs my actions, because I am an attorney, refrains from intervening in any way, because the settlement agent at issue here is not an attorney. This matter was referred to the bureau of insurance for the blatant violations of state law by the non attorney settlement agent, but to the best of my knowledge, the bureau has yet to act on this case.

The lesson learned here is that buyers and sellers need to be perfectly clear about whom they are dealing with, and who, if anyone, represents them. Most if not all settlement companies will have a disclosure which states that they are dealing with, and who, if anyone, represents them. The regional sales contract goes on to state that “Either party may retain their own legal counsel.” Whether legal counsel is retained or not, I contend that the settlement agent named in the contract is responsible for all aspects of conducting the transaction, and cannot disclaim away their duties to anyone, even if an attorney is involved. In my situation described above, a dispute arose as to who would file a 1099 form on behalf of the seller. When I met with the sellers, I had collected all the information I would need to do so, but after making their assurances that nothing else was needed, the new settlement agent realized that they had other forms to be completed. I don’t have their forms, yet they came back to me to get their forms signed. The very discussion I had with the bureau of insurance was, if it was my responsibility to do this for them, where does my obligation, and more importantly, my liability, end? Am I then still responsible for paying off loans? Releasing liens of record?

In fact, the new non-attorney settlement agent named in the contract is responsible for all aspects of conducting the transaction, and cannot disclaim away their duties to anyone, even if an attorney is involved. In my situation described above, a dispute arose as to who would file a 1099 form on behalf of the seller. When I met with the sellers, I had collected all the information I would need to do so, but after making their assurances that nothing else was needed, the new settlement agent realized that they had other forms to be completed. I don’t have their forms, yet they came back to me to get their forms signed. The very discussion I had with the bureau of insurance was, if it was my responsibility to do this for them, where does my obligation, and more importantly, my liability, end? Am I then still responsible for paying off loans? Releasing liens of record? Recording the Deed? Remember, my company was written out of the contract by both parties.

Final note of caution, if you truly want someone to represent your interests at a residential real estate closing, retain an attorney to do so, and never rely on a non attorney settlement agent to “represent” you. They can’t, and even if they say they do, which they normally do with impunity, they really don’t.
IN COUNTRY CALENDAR

Saturday, October 21
International Gold Cup

Over 35,000 spectators will gather at Great Meadow near The Plains, Virginia, to celebrate the 69th running of the International Gold Cup Races presented by Porsche. This event provides a full day of entertainment beginning with Jack Russell Terrier Races, The Navy Seals Parachute Team demonstration supported by GTSN, and Ms. Sheila C. Johnson singing the National Anthem. With the first of seven nationally sanctioned races starting at 1 PM. Seven steeplechase races highlight this event, and pony races are also run for your enjoyment. Crisp fall air, beautifully colored foliage and an elegant Hunt Country backdrop set an outdoor stage for this grand fall tradition and fixture of the Washington social calendar.

October 26-29
Virginia Film Festival

This year’s Charlottesville festival is built around the theme of Revelations: Finding God at the Movies. The Festival will feature more than 60 films and more than 100 guest speakers and is built around the theme of the relationship between faith and cinema. I have pasted the full release on the program below, but wanted to point out a couple of highlights:

Robert Duvall will be on hand to receive the Virginia Film Award and participate in a screening and post-film discussion on The Apostle, moderated by New York Magazine critic/writer David Edelstein.

Liev Schreiber will be here with Everything Else, due in theaters October 13. They will be discussing the film in New York on October 12th.

Other sites visited include Manor Church, a centuries old church built as a refuge for civilians during the battle; McClellan’s former importer and retailer of wine. Departs 4th and Independence Ave., S.W. by bus, pickup stop at Stingers Restaurant in Boonsboro is included. Lunch at the Historic Oratorio Guild of Missouri, Piedmont and Willowcroft. A 3-course lunch is served at 1 PM. Seven steeplechase races highlight this event, and pony races are also run for your enjoyment.

Guide Rob Stewart is a wine instructor for the Sommelier Society and a former importer and retailer of wine. Departs 4th and Independence Ave., S.W. by bus, pickup stop about 9:25 a.m. from the southeast corner of the Air & Space Museum. Members $119, Gen. Admission $139. For tickets and information call 202.357.3030 or visit www.smithsonianassociates.org.

Saturday, October 28
Antietam Off the Beaten Path

Thousands of people visit Antietam National Battlefield annually. However, most do not explore the many hidden treasures right outside the boundary of the National Park Service site. This tour, led by Ted Alexander, chief historian of Antietam National Battlefield, and historian Kevin Walker, looks at these sites.

The day begins in Hagerstown, Maryland, to visit the site of the Rochester Mansion. Here, Lt. Oliver Wendell Holmes, the future Supreme Court justice, was treated for a wound incurred at Antietam. A large mural depicts the mansion’s 19th-century appearance. Then visit the Washington Confederate cemetery, final resting place for most of the Confederates killed in the Battle of Antietam, also known as Sharpsburg.

Castle Hill, Keswick, Virginia

c.1764 & c.1824, 601 acres; estate setting with exceptional gardens, guest house, pool with pool house as well as five original dependencies aligned in colonial design. Listed in National Register of Historic Places and The Virginia Landmarks Register.

Country Living in Charlottesville, Virginia

Castle Hill, Keswick, Virginia

c.1764 & c.1824, 601 acres; estate setting with exceptional gardens, guest house, pool with pool house as well as five original dependencies aligned in colonial design. Listed in National Register of Historic Places and The Virginia Landmarks Register.

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Albemarle County

Established in 1744 by an act of the General Assembly, Albemarle County was named for the Albermarle of the colony. Charlottesville, the county seat, is located 70 miles from Richmond, 120 miles from Washington, DC, and 20 minutes from Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway. Beyond Charlottesville’s urban crown of courthouse and university, nature still reigns. The county’s country roads offer a legacy of scenes and stories to their travelers. Around any bend in the road a magnificent vista might make its bold claim, or a relic of a craftsman’s skill or rural industry draw the traveler back in time.

Central Virginia is home to Wine Country, an abundance of award-winning wineries that dot the beautiful countryside and host special events throughout the year. One winery we are familiar with is the King Family Vineyards, owned by David and Ellen King. Well-known grape grower and consultant Chris Hill helped plan the vineyards and selected the grape varieties and clones in 1998. The first eight acres were planted with Merlot and Viognier in the spring of 1999, followed the next year by six acres of Chardonnay and Cabernet Franc. And in 1999, the vineyards sold its first grapes to local wineries – the Merlot and Viognier planted the year before. The grapes proved to be of good quality, and local winemakers, crafted some fine wines from the new fruit.

When visiting this spectacular region, be sure to take advantage of its many cultural and educational amenities – Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe’s Ashlawn-Highland and its renowned Music Festival, James Madison’s Montpelier, the University of Virginia. Today you may decide to take some time and relax in your getaway from the city chaos. The exquisite, covered front porch provides shade with the breeze still able to blow through your hair. Conveniently located near Rt. 29 and located in the Bull Run and Keswick hunt areas makes this property perfect for the small horse owner. So sit back and enjoy the wonderful gardens which surround this house and watch your horses run through the pastures with great enthusiasm. Offered for $485,000.

CONTINUED PAGE 18

By David Roffman

Albemarle County lies at the center of the Piedmont of Virginia, a broad sweep of land rising from the fall line of the rivers to the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Her scenic rivers drain pasture lands and ridges that cover deposits of granite, soapstone, slate and mica. The architects of Albemarle, many of whom also shaped our nation, surveyed this dramatic and verdant terrain, acquired land and settled here.

When visiting this spectacular region, be sure to take advantage of its many cultural and educational amenities – Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe’s Ashlawn-Highland and its renowned Music Festival, James Madison’s Montpelier, the University of Virginia. Today you may decide to take some time and relax in the county. This is a perfect home for a permanent residence or your get-away from the city chaos. The exquisite, covered front porch provides shade with the breeze still able to blow through your hair. Conveniently located near Rt. 29 and located in the Bull Run and Keswick hunt areas makes this property perfect for the small horse owner. So sit back and enjoy the wonderful gardens which surround this house and watch your horses run through the pastures with great enthusiasm. Offered for $485,000.

CONTINUED PAGE 18
For a self-guided driving tour outline for Virginia, turn to Susan De Alba’s Country Roads: Albemarle County, Virginia. Pioneer and Civil War history is firmly embedded in a guide which corrects many fallacies, provides some lively new facts, and treats domestic vacationers to a variety of scenery. The book provides answers for Sunday drivers and it’s also a practical guide for visitors unfamiliar with the area. De Alba includes not only information on what the traveler can see now, but also what used to be there ... and gives advice on picnic sites, steep grades, narrow roads and where to buy lunch.

**Off the Beaten Path**

If you have a little extra time, a car and an urge to catch some of the sites that might elude some of your fellow travelers, Charlottesville and Albemarle County have plenty to offer just a little outside of the historic city proper.

Most visitors to Charlottesville will undoubtedly check out Monticello, Thomas Jefferson’s magnificent self-designed estate, and perhaps will all stop off down the street at Ash Lawn-Highland, the historic home of James Monroe. But many visitors to the region will miss out on the equally spectacular Montpelier, the grand Piedmont tobacco plantation where the man who served as President between them spent his later years. About 40 minutes outside of Charlot-
tesville, the home of James Madison, 4th Presi-
dent and primary author of the Constitution, is
a 2,750-acre estate with 130 buildings set in a
breathtaking corner of the Virginia Hills.

Where to Stay
If you do decide to venture further afield, you’ll
find yourself right in the middle of Virginia’s
wine country, home to a number of vineyards
producing great grapes and bottles. One of the
most popular, Oakencroft Vineyard, is also the
oldest in the region and the closest to the heart
town. Also an interesting find, Jefferson
Vineyards began in 1986 producing wines on
the site of the historic site of the President’s per-
sonal winery, just a mile south of Monticello.

From bed and breakfasts to luxury hotels, Char-
lottesville/Albemarle County provides visitors
with comfortable accommodations to suit ev-
ey need. Long-term rentals are available for
extended stays, and the area is home to several
spectacular resorts, offering a full range of ser-
vices and activities. Whether you’d like to stay
in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, in
downtown Charlottesville, or at another loca-
tion within scenic Albemarle County, we can
help you find just what you’re looking for in our
comprehensive list of accommodations.

High Meadows Vineyard Inn
As Virginia’s only Inn that combines its place on
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renaissance farm vineyard (leading producer
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new, exciting years of viticultural happening.

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and operated by the Abbitt/Sushka and Farber/
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breakfast, candlelight dining nightly. Virginia
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breakfast, candlelight dining nightly. Virginia
vaca. 12 romantic, historic guest rooms. Full
buildings, shop buildings, 29 acres already re-
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$750,000/ea or both for $1,400,000

$525,000

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$675,000

$1,100,000

$315,000

$345,000

$249-$440/ Extra

$245-$440/ Extra

$235,000 and $245,000

$1,100,000

Monticello (West Front), home of Thomas Jefferson

Boating on the James River at Scottsville
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurant</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>curry club</td>
<td>1734 Wisconsin Ave., NW</td>
<td>(202) 625-9090</td>
<td>The restaurant is a home from home in upper Georgetown. A neighborhood restaurant with stylish, candlelit dining offering Indian food with a twist. The menu changes daily using seasonal and local produce and the meats are antibiotic and hormone free.</td>
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<td>BISTROT LEPIC &amp; WINE BAR</td>
<td>1736 Wisconsin Ave., NW</td>
<td>(202) 333-0111</td>
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<td>1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW</td>
<td>(202) 338-6161</td>
<td>One of Washington’s most celebrated restaurants, Filomena is a Georgetown landmark that has endured the test of time for almost a quarter of a century. Lunch or dinner, our old-world cooking styles and recipes brought to America by the early Italian immigrants, carefully passed down from one generation to the next, alongside the culinary cutting edge creations of Italy’s foods of today, executed by our award winning Italian Chef. Try our spectacular Lunch buffet on Fridays and Saturdays or our Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. <a href="http://www.filomena.com">www.filomena.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>DAILY GRILL</td>
<td>1310 Wisconsin Ave., NW</td>
<td>(202) 337-4900</td>
<td>Reminiscent of the classic American Grills, Daily Grill is best known for its large portions of fresh seasonal fare including Steaks &amp; Chops, Cobb Salad, Meatloaf and Warm Berry Cobbler.</td>
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<td>(The Latham Hotel) 3000 M Street, NW</td>
<td>(202) 625-2150</td>
<td>Internationally renowned chef and restaurateur Michel Richard creates magic with fresh and innovative American-French Cuisine, an exceptional wine list and stylish ambiance.</td>
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<td>CLYDE’S OF GEORGETOWN</td>
<td>3236 M Street, NW</td>
<td>(202) 333-9180</td>
<td>This animated tavern, in the heart of Georgetown, popularized saloon food and practically invented Sunday brunch. Clyde’s is the People’s Choice — for bacon cheeseburgers, steaks, fresh seafood, grilled chicken salads, fresh pastas and desserts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FILOMENA RISTORANTE</td>
<td>1063 Wisconsin Ave., NW</td>
<td>(202) 338-8800</td>
<td>One of Washington’s most celebrated restaurants, Filomena is a Georgetown landmark that has endured the test of time for almost a quarter of a century. Lunch or dinner, our old-world cooking styles and recipes brought to America by the early Italian immigrants, carefully passed down from one generation to the next, alongside the culinary cutting edge creations of Italy’s foods of today, executed by our award winning Italian Chef. Try our spectacular Lunch buffet on Fridays and Saturdays or our Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. <a href="http://www.filomena.com">www.filomena.com</a></td>
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www.CafeMilano.net

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BANGKOK JOE’S
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(One block from Georgetown’s Lowe’s theatres)
(202) 333-4422
Georgetown introduces Washington’s first “Dumpling Bar” featuring more than 12 varieties. Come and enjoy the new exotic Thai cuisine inspired by French cooking techniques. Bangkok Joe’s is upscale, colorful and refined. Absolutely the perfect place for lunch or dinner or just a private gathering.

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(202) 337-2244
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Open for lunch and dinner.
www.bangkokbistrodc.com
Sun-Thurs. 11:30am - 10:30pm
Fri-Sat. 11:30am - 11:30pm

BARTA
3205 K Street, NW
(202) 333-2565
Sette Osteria
1666 Conn. Ave at R St. NW
(202) 333-5640
Now in Old Town Alexandria. Sette Osteria is a new Italian restaurant, which is a blend of the Italian's charm and PJ's American bar atmosphere. The menu is traditional with an American twist. The restaurant offers a variety of pastas, pizzas and many different Italian wines. The menu is geared towards sharing, so you can taste many different dishes with friends. Sette Osteria offers a variety of private party rooms and a smoke-free terrace as well as a second-floor dining area. The restaurant is a perfect place for any event! Sette Osteria is open for dinner every day.

TOWN HALL
2218 Wisconsin Ave NW
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The newest edition to the heart of Glover Park, TownHall is a classic neighborhood restaurant and bar with contemporary charm. Come and enjoy cuisine from Executive Chef Paul Madrid as he adds new twists on old favorites and explore our dynamic yet approachable wine selections.
Sun-Thur 5pm-11:30pm and Fri-Sat 5pm-12:30am.

GARRETT’S
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A favorite in Georgetown since 1979. Garrett’s occupies two floors of a colonial house. Contemporary American dishes are served at a moderate price with daily specials. Garrett’s features two private party rooms and a smoke-free terrace as well as a second-floor dining area. Garrett’sdc.com
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Washington, DC 20007
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1/2 hour free parking at PNC Bank lot with $20 purchase

SAVOR THE GOOD LIFE

By Natalie Bovis-Nelsen

The end of summer also brings new beginnings. Students start the school year, football season kicks off, new must-see TV shows launch and of course, the much-anticipated Theatre Season begins! With so many wonderful theatres in the District, an entertaining and culturally rich experience is yours for the price of a seat. Make it a truly sumptuous evening by sampling these pre- and post-theatre dining specials...

Offering a panoramic skyline view of Washington, DC, The Roof Terrace Restaurant at the Kennedy Center offers Chef Jose Urutia’s pre-theatre menu featuring simply prepared fish caught in the wild; scrumptious crab cakes using jumbo lump meat; and dry-aged beef accompanied by fresh, seasonal vegetables. Following major evening performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, the restaurant also offers a post-theatre small plates such as Yellow Tail and Tuna Tartar and Braised Leek Salad, entrees, cocktails, coffee drinks and dessert by award-winning Pastry Chef Hartyoun Sarkees. Reservations are strongly recommended. Located on the terrace level of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, 2700 F Street, NW; www.roofterracerestaurant.com.

Downtown Morton’s (1050 Connecticut Avenue) offers pre- and post-show $4 Bar Bites (exclusively at the bar) from 4:30–6:30pm and 9:30–11:00pm on weekdays. The Bar Bites menu includes: Three Prime Cheesburgers; Jumbo Lump Crab; Spinach & Artichoke Dip; Four Petite Filet Mignon Sandwiches; and a perennial favorite, Chicken Goujonettes. (Also available at Tysons Corner, Bethesda and Reston locations.) www.mortons.com

Aria Trattoria has a three-course, prix-fixe, pre-theater menu for $29 on Fridays from 4-7 pm and Saturdays from 5-7 pm. Highlights include Chilled Tomato Basil Soup, Mushroom Cannelloni with imported ricotta, baby spinach and a Barolo wine reduction and Blood Orange Cheesecake. (A note for those looking to really live it up: A decadent dessert buffet is featured every Friday and Saturday from 5 pm-10 pm.) Aria Trattoria is located in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW; www.ariatrattoria.com

Café MoZU, Mandarin Oriental’s chic eatery, offers choices such as Crisp Chicken Lollypops served with a trio of dipping sauces, Tempura Shrimp served with stir fried udon noodles and vegetables and Peach Upside-Down Cornmeal Cake. Reservations are encouraged. 1330 Maryland Avenue, SW; www.cafemozu.com

Swanky IndeBleu’s $35 three-course, pre-theatre menu from 5:30–6:30pm features Executive chef Vikram Garg’s exotic fare such as Ku-momota oysters with champagne-lime sorbet and candied jalapeno, crispy red snapper with fennel-tomato salad and mussel “rasam” and chocolate sorbet enveloped in coconut froth and vanilla almonds. Reservations suggested. 707 G Street NW; www.bleu.com

Circle Bistro extends its $35 Pre-Theatre Menu until 7:00pm. Executive Chef Brendan Cox whips up Sweet Corn and Yellow Pepper Soup, Pan Seared Brook Trout, Haricots Verts, Fines Herb Muenster and desserts such as Local Blackberry Croustade, Lemon Cream or Valrhona Chocolate Cake, Espresso Anglaise. 1 Washington Circle, NW; www.thecirclehotel.com

(Read Natalie’s cocktail coverage at: www.the-liquidmuse.com)
COOKING WITH MICHEL RICHARD

BY NATALIE BOVIS-NEBEN

Feeling tarty? Calm down, now, I’m talking about Chef Richard’s Onion Tart! Delicious as a first course, or pair with a salad and crisp white wine for an elegant, light lunch.

ONION TART

4 ounces sliced applewood bacon
1 cup flour
1 1/2 cups water
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 medium (1 pound) yellow onions, peeled
1 tablespoon unsalted butter

1/3 cup crème fraîche
1/2 teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon for onion filling

ONION TART

Place a 9” non-stick crepe pan or frying pan over medium high heat. Toss the onions in the butter, reduce the heat and sauté gently for about 2 minutes to soften the onions without browning. Place the onions in a mixing bowl and mix in the crème fraîche, salt and pepper.

Slice the onion in half through the root end and then on a mandolin or with a very sharp knife, cut crosswise into paper thin slices. You should have about 2 cups of firmly packed onions.

Mix well.

Cook the crepe approximately 3 minutes or until set and browned on the bottom side. Do not flip the crepe. If the crepe puffs, poke small holes in the crepe with a fork. The crepe should not flip the crepe. If the crepe puffs, poke small holes in the crepe with a fork. The crepe should be dried out and the edges curled.

Place two crepes, browned side down, on each greased baking sheet. Slide crepe onto a sheet pan. Repeat 3 more times to make 4 crepes, rubbing the pan with more bacon or melting more butter between times to make 4 crepes, rubbing the pan with more bacon or melting more butter between crepes.

Remove and discard the root end of the onions.

Cover with a piece of plastic wrap and pat the bacon slivers over the top, again, extend the to the edges. Smooth again with the sheet of plastic wrap. These can be covered with plastic wrap and refrigerated for up to a day.

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. Place in the oven for 15 minutes, or until the crust is crispy and the bacon is brown. Cut each tart into quarters and grind some black pepper over the top.
VINO & LIQUERS

FRENCH WINE AFFAIR 2006

By Adra Williams

French Wine affair 2006 at the French Embassy, an amazing event featuring more than 200 wines from Alsace, Bordeaux, Burgundy, Champagne, Loire, Rhone and the South of France. Complemented by a lavish buffet of fine hors d’oeuvres as well as a selection of French cheeses provided by Calvert Woodley's La Cheeserie.

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Off the beaten path, nestled at the end of 24th, Agua Ardiente located at 1250 24th St NW boasts with an A-list crowd and an amazing tapas menu. No virgin to success, Owner Juan Carlos Fierro, also owner of the popular U Street Restaurant and hang out spot Chi Cha Lounge, embodies rich Spanish culture and urban chic lifestyle with Agua Ardiente. Deep red décor complete with plush velvet drapes and old world furniture is accented by bright bold paintings and a warm atmosphere created by friendly staff and authentic cuisine. Chef Carlos Mendes, a Native of Portugal, puts the love of his heritage in every creation. From succulent Lamb chops accompanied by eggplant puree to perfectly fried calamari and wildly flavorful salads, Chef Mendes’ philosophy is to “create the most honest food as I can to exemplify all the flavors.” Along with an extensive wine list with an emphasis on Spanish wines, the menu is quite distinctive as well. Entrees range from rack of lamb, Salmon Contisto, and of course Paella!

After dinner socialize with DC’s elite to the sounds of House DJ, DJ Leo spinning International music Fridays, Saturdays and an occasional Thursday

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Music World

by Vera Tilson

The Middle East, the role of women in Islam, Iraq and the Iraq war continue to excite the imaginations of writers and playwrights.

Playwright Heather Ruffo has written, created and performs all the parts in “Nine Parts of Desire:”, a Washington premiere production now at Arena Stage’s Kreeger Theater through November 12. It’s a play about eight Iraqi women and one American-Iraqi woman sharing stories about how the war has impacted their lives irrevocably and often tragically.

Ruffo, whose father was born in Iran, conceived the play during a family trip to Iraq and has worked on it for years. Characters include a painter, a grieving mother, a doctor, a wife and other characters. The play, which Arena Stage artistic director Molly Smith calls “politically charged”, comes to Washington with only weeks remaining in the intense off-year congressional election campaign.

“Beneath the Veil”, meanwhile, a new play by Mary Apic, which deals with various issues of oppression and secrecy as experienced by women in Islamic countries, will be performed at the Kennedy Center’s Terrace Theater October 27.

Thursday, October 19, ought to be a packed night at almost all of Washington’s theaters who are participating in the Washington League of Theater’s Free Night of Theater, in which 25 theaters open up at least a portion of their house to free tickets, first come first served. The initial allotment of some 2100 tickets—which could be reserved by e-mailing the WLT website-disappeared in half an hour.

The free night of theater was presented in conjunction with Theatre Communications Group, which ran a successful pilot program last year in San Francisco, Austin and Philadelphia. This year Free Night of Theater was nation-wide again with 12 cities and four states participating.

Among the Washington participants was Theater J, which took the major step of donating its entire complement of house tickets for its production of “Spring Forward/Fall Back” on October 19. The play is part of Theater J’s “Robert Brustein in Residence” project to help celebrate its 10th anniversary. Brustein, a noted theater scholar, writer and critic (for the New Republic) has also announced that he is turning to writing plays for the stage late in his career, a brave thing to do for a critic. “Spring Forward/Fall Back” is a highly personal play, about family and assimilation and runs through November 16 at Theater J’s digs at the Washington Jewish Community Center.

The residency also included a staged reading of “Slemil the First” and will feature an October 23 lecture by Brustein.

Because of a small fire that broke out in the Folger Shakespeare Library and Theater-without lasting damage—the theater will postpone its opening performances of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” directed by Joe Banno scheduled to start October 19. For information, call 202-673-0342.

If Iraq and politics seem to be on everyone’s mind, you can add our favorite monster Frankenstein as being someone who’s suddenly very popular in the theater world. “Monster” by Neal Bell, based on Mary Shelley’s book, will kick of the 2006-2007 Rorschach Theatre Season October 31 and storyteller and writer Jon Spellman’s “Frankenstein” will be on hand at the Round House Theater Silver Spring beginning October 19. That doesn’t include Syntex Theater’s recent production of “Frankenstein” at the Kennedy Center.

Here’s a look at what’s playing at Washington area theaters:

Red Light Winter—This new play by rising playwright Adam Rapp is a contemporary drama about sex, heartbreak and obsession and takes place in Amsterdam and New York. A standout production of a just-too-smart, rough play. The 2006-2007 season opener, directed by Joy Zinoman, for the Studio Theater at 1501 14th Street. September 6 through October 22. Call 202-332-3500.

Cabaret—Arena Stage Artistic Director Molly Smith takes on Kander and Ebb’s dark, scathing and hugely entertaining musical about a slowly brownskinned cabaret in Weimar Berlin and recounts the adventures of a young American and the dazzling but dizzy Sally Bowles and a certain sinister gentleman who is “your host.” Up-to-date and terrific. Come to the Cabaret through October 29. Call 202-488-3300 for the box office.

Twelve Angry Men—Reginald Rose’s golden age television play became a hit movie with Henry Fonda, Lee Cobb and Ed Begley), then became a hit television movie with George C Scott and Jack Lemmon and was revived on Broadway.
Manon Cleary Retrospective

By John Bee

Manon Cleary is one of the great DC artists. For all her fans her current retrospective (at Edison Place Gallery, 701 9th Street NW, entrance on 8th Street, Noon-4 p.m., Tuesdays-Fridays, 202-462-0048) is a highlight of the season. Manon has kiddingly dubbed it her “retrospective.”

The exhibit spans forty years of Cleary’s career. There are few artists who could sustain such an extensive take on their work. It is shown to perfection in the generous space of the Edison Gallery, organized and very ably put together by Jean Lawlor Cohen. The Cleary exhibition is part of a year-round schedule of exhibitions sponsored by Washington Arts Museum (WAM). The Museum, almost ten years old, is dedicated to showing the works of DC-based artists.

My take on the rats of Manon, is that they are on a level with Durer’s drawings of animals. Durer managed to summon a kind of warmth for his hare that Manon tops in her ongoing series that could be dubbed “The Adoration of the Rat.” What she does is present the rat in a vastly enlarged scale that approximates eye-to-eye contact, bringing its being into focus. Manon has a childlike delight in her relation to these small animals and depicts them as inquisitive, alert and loving. They are adoringly rendered in a seamless magic realism. In her hands their fur takes on incandescent flight.

Many of Manon’s drawings in the show are portraits of people, including self-portraits. She has flawess technique, where the graphite seems to breath. Usually in comparable realism, it’s as if there is no air. Here there is air and light.

Light is for me the subject of the show. It is the norm of her work. Sinel’s paint quality has a tautness that comes from willful intent. Yet it is allowed to break on occasion.

“Myriad of Grasses: Intervals” is sunny and alert. Light on the grass is rhythmic. “Reflection” is more abstract and takes on a counter-rhythm in an obtruding branch to the right.

Sometimes there is a jumpiness in the rhythm as in “Orange Skies” that could perhaps get even more so. Sinel’s polyptychs work off and are amputated by their divisions.

Staring at the “Zebra bar table” of Margery Goldberg one can see as much as in many paintings. The humor of the baseball bat legs tugs or pulls your leg. Goldberg is a classicist in many of her pieces as in “Please come in” (in cocobola and broadwood). The junctures and turnings mark her deceptive simplicity.

Goldberg has learned an expert shorthand in her silhouette figures. The figures range from highly symbolic (“He She Tree”) to hanging birch figures that are new-folk art. They are made from trees in her backyard each named for a dead relative. As Goldberg says, “Trees and people have a symbiotic relationship.”

Never far from the Japanese, Goldberg’s “Opposites Attract” (in walnut and aspen sitting in a glass vase filled with river rock) is one of many Zen gardens in the show.

Goldberg’s grasses, a furthering of her silhouette people, are the most lyrical pieces I have seen by her. They undulate in their own wind.
By Gary Tischler

The enormously successful playwright Neil Simon often saw himself as a kind of theatrical Rodney Dangerfield. For a large part of his career, he craved respect, in terms of literature, seriousness, and maybe a Pulitzer Prize. He had everything else—huge commercial success, the love of good women and lots of money in the bank.

Simon—who had at one time four plays running on Broadway at the same time and who was the author of "The Odd Couple," "Come Blow Your Horn," "Barefoot in the Park," "Plaza Suite," and a host of other successful comedies and film scripts—never was seen as a "serious" playwright. This is what happens when you write comedy.

Finally, after failing to win one for years, Simon was honored with the Pulitzer Prize in 1991 for "Lost In Yonkers," which arguably is his best work, period. "Lost in Yonkers" opened at the National Theater on the night of the beginning of the Gulf War prior to a Broadway opening, and received a less than enthusiastic notice from a local, big-paper critic who is no notice from a local, big-paper critic who is no mention of the obvious affair.

Simon is the only author-writer ever to receive the award which has been given to the likes of Carl Reiner, Bob Newhart, Richard Pryor, Jonathan Winters, Lily Tomlin, Steve Martin, Lorne Michaels and Whoopie Goldberg. Both Tavin and Simon were landmark figures in American literature and their works were hugely popular and commercially successful.

Simon is an almost painfully shy man who hates getting up in front of a crowd of people, even a friendly crowd, and he muffed parts of his written notes in his very brief acceptance speech which appeared to center around how he came up with the title for "Come Blow Your Horn" (It's from a nursery rhyme). Twain, on the other hand, made his own persona a part of his legend and took himself on the road whenever he could, doing a fair imitation of Hal Holbrook as Mark Twain.

The Mark Twain Award for American Humor, not to mention the obvious affection and gratitude shown by the array of assembled actors and performers were frosting on the cake for Simon. Never has there been an honoree—alive and well in the days been quite so complimented. Of course, you know you're in good hands when the night starts off with a splendid-looking (from a distance at least) Robert Redford, who had his first major success in Simon's "Barefoot in the Park," a sweet comedy of young love in a New York walkup, which he originated on Broadway with Elizabeth Ashley, and in the film version with Jane Fonda.

Movies (and a view of television clips) played a big part of the evening, and proved, as they have been prone to be, the funniest thing going. An acerbic exchange with old vaudeville partners and rivals George Burns and Walter Matthau as "The Sunshine Boys," and another from "The Odd Couple" with Matthau and Jack Lemmon, were as funny as anything ever written for stage or film.

The gathered performers criss-crossed all over each other's careers, with the obvious denominator being Simon's plays. There was still youthful Jonathan Silverman, who had played the Simon alter ego in "Laughter on the 45th Floor," and "Broadway Bound," and Matthew Broderick, eternally young, who had performed similar chores in "Brighton Beach Memoirs" (Stage) and "Biloxi Blues" (Film), not to mention a recent revival of "The Odd Couple" with Nathan Lane. Richard Dreyfuss was there, thanking Simon for putting him in "The Goodbye Girl," with Marsha Mason, for which Dreyfuss won an Oscar. Patricia Heaton, of "Everybody Loves Raymond" fame, was featured in a clip from the television version of "The Goodbye Girl" and Dreyfuss showed up in a clip from "Lost in Yonkers" with Mercedes Ruehl, introduced by television's Jane Kaczmarek, who succeeded Ruehl in the role. Christina Applegate came to sing "Hey Big Spender" from "Sweet Charity" for which Simon wrote the book. Silverman and Jason Alexander reprised a scene from "Laughter on the 35th Floor" and Luci Arnaz and Robert Klein manically sang their older hearts out with the title tune from Simon's "They're Playing Our Song." A scene stealer was a clip of a sketch—written by Simon—from Sid Caesar's old "Your Show of Shows," in which the cast, including Caesar, performed as the parts of an old Bavarian tower clock, which malfunctions. Almost wordless, the sketch was a riot.

So was Nathan Lane, who seemed to have some idea that he was in Washington, managing to get in a Foley scandal joke. The Mark Twain Awards have become two things over time—a fan friendly trip on the red carpet for attendees, and a way to celebrate a career profusely. (Is Simon really our contemporary "Shakespeare"?) It's a controlled, fun show, a chance to see the stars in person and to honor the career of influential and talented people like Simon. What's missing is the anachronistic spirit of comedy, the kind of hilarious chaos that occurred when Richard Pryor and Jonathan Winters were honored during the first two occasions. That's also when folks like Robin Williams, Chris Rock and the mighty Sid Caesar himself showed up, not to mention the completely unpredictable Winners. It was a little scary back then, in a good way.

Photo by Margot Schulman

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PET ADOPTION

Helen, my name is Kenya and I am a 6 year old Shepherd/Rottie mix. I am spayed, up to date on vaccinations, and on heartworm preventive. I am a healthy, happy girl who loves to play. The only thing I lack in my life is someone to love me forever. Maybe it’s you?

Before I tell you all about myself, I want to say how happy we (me and all my four-legged friends at A Forever Home Rescue Foundation (AFH) - www.aforeverhome.org) are to be in The Georgetown! I am very excited to be the first dog featured in this wonderful column and all of us want to thank The Pet Gallery in Georgetown for helping us find forever homes of our own. Don’t worry – I won’t let fame go to my head – I’m not that kind of girl. I was rescued right before the 4th of July, and not a moment too soon as far as I’m concerned. My original guardian moved and left me in the care of some family members. At first they gave me a lot of attention but as the days went on, they just left me out in the back, yard alone. Sometimes they forgot to feed me.

One day they moved away without me. For a few days they came back and fed me, but then they would miss a day, then a few days. One day they didn’t come back. They just left me there alone. I don’t know why because I am a very nice girl and I didn’t do anything wrong. I cried and cried for days because I missed them terribly. How could my family desert me like that? I was getting scared.

Luckily for me, my neighbors—a very nice lady and her son—took responsibility for me and fed and walked me. They contacted rescue groups to see if anyone could help me find a forever home. When AFH heard my story, they immediately sent someone to my house to meet me. These people took me to their home and let me live inside! They also fed me good food and made sure I always had clean water. I even had toys!!! They promised to find me a forever home with someone who will love me and take care of me and never desert me.

Why should you adopt me? There are lots of reasons. I am house-trained and know basic commands like sit and shake. I’m smart too, and I think I can learn just about anything you want to teach me. When we’re not playing, I am happy to lay at your feet, nice and close to you. I love to ride in the car but I’m pretty fearless so you have to make sure to keep the windows rolled halfway up. My foster mom says that I walk pretty well on a leash but I still need to be reminded every once in a while not to pull. She also says that I’m a good girl since I don’t chew anything that I’m not supposed to chew (ok—maybe an occasional slipper but that’s because I couldn’t find my toy). I will stay in my crate during the day if you have to go to work. Just take me for a walk in the morning before you leave and give me a marrow bone to chew on and I will wait for you to come back to me. We can then go out for another walk or even a jog! If you would like to meet me, please email me at info@aforeverhome.org and put “Kenya” in the subject line, or call my foster mom at 540-439-2260. You’ll have to wait for a call back until she gets home from work because I don’t know how to use the answering machine or the phone, but I will make sure to tell her that you called. I’ll sit next to her to make sure she calls you right away, because even though I love her, it’s not the same as having a family of my own......

Thank you for reading my story.

Love, Kenya.

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IN LOCAL FASHION NEWS

Franco Nueschese of Café Milano partners with Michele Con- trini for men’s life style company Manufacto. With focus on Italian fabrics and tailoring, Manufacto combines quality, detail, and luxury. Store offices are located in the Georgetown Court complex. All Manufacto fabrics are imported from Milan and designs feature quintessential Italian tailoring touches such as hand sewn under-collars as well as modern tailoring techniques such as cell phone pockets. www.manufacto.com

PERFECT JEANS

Under the tents at New York Fashion week this past September, I stumbled upon what just may be the best thing since sliced bread: the perfect Jeans!!! Yes ladies, voluptuous or petite, you too can find the perfect pair of jeans! Thanks to Lycra, this January we will be able to purchase jeans that seem to be made specifically for us! Lycra X Fit, a new technology, in the works for about 4 years, will make it possible for denim to stretch four ways as opposed to two, hugging every part of your body just right! Top designers such as Rock and Republic, Doo Ri, Serfontain, Phillip Lim, and Zac Posen have all implemented the new Lycra X Fit technology into their spring 2007 denim collections.
By Brian Mulholland

So, why in the world would a single, straight man who has already raised two kids want to write a gossip column? Because the late Sonya Bernhardt asked and no one says no to Sonya. Now, I don’t call her late because she is dead, I call her late because she is always late.

My first mission was to attend the Living in Pink Breast Cancer fundraiser last Friday at the Fairmont Hotel at 24th and M. I thought I was pretty smart putting on a pink tie but all of the two dozen men present did the same and all of the 400 women in attendance wore some variation of pink. Kudos to Director of Banquets Sami Kattrif for flawless service and an exceptional meal.

The founder, of course, is Michele Conley, a survivor with her own remarkable story, but her children stole the show. Young Brendan Riley Conley (what a nice Jewish name) played hooky from Little Flower School where he is in eighth grade in order to sell raffle tickets. So why are you here? “My Mom is the founder and raising money for breast cancer is something I am very proud of her for.” Watch this guy — he’s headed for big things.

The first woman I met was Audrey Mulholland and while we are not related, you just don’t run into somebody with my name very often. Audrey lives in McLean and points out that her husband, Bill, have Sarah (3 1⁄2) and two-year old twins Caroline and Katherine. Bill is known for sending flowers for no good reason and surprising Nancy with great vacations like the Ritz-Carlton Naples. So, 400 hot women on a rainy Friday afternoon. Fast forward. The hottest power breakfast in Washington has always been at the Four Seasons. I have had the same waiter, Tom, for 15 years. He knows exactly how I like my eggs prepared and remembers to bring the ketchup without my asking. I was sorry to learn that the new owners plan to close the restaurant, convert it to banquet space, move the restaurant upstairs behind the Garden Bar and make other changes that we natives will find unsettling. All of this is expected early next year.

Look for the new fall menu appearing at Nage (1600 Rhode Island Avenue) and the official grand opening of Max Mara (Collection at Chevy Chase) on October 19, a Washington Life extravaganza celebrating 50 years of fashion and food. In case you miss them, I’ll tell you how they went — next time.

Got a tip? Got a story? Give me a call at (202) 587-5750 or bmm@wmgroup-dc.com.
I am a marketing and public relations expert who helps high tech, healthcare, and professional services grow. My personal interest and support for breast cancer causes such as Living in Pink stem from a highly personal experience. My mother was one of the first women in the country to have been diagnosed with breast cancer and had her operation on my 9th birthday. My mother’s battle with this unspoken diagnosis was lonely and hard won. Today, My mother is in remission and her life’s work is focused on giving back to breast cancer support groups, research efforts, and hands-on care giving to the courageous women who continue to fight this disease. My hope is that a cure will be found in my lifetime ensuring that my three daughters and mothers and daughters everywhere will be freed from this devastating disease. Together, let’s make that a reality.

Michele Conley is a breast cancer survivor, successful representative of State Farm Insurance, Wife, and mother of four beautiful children; twins Denver and Brooke (16), Brenden Riley (13), and Forrest Ryan (11). Michele received her degree from the University of Maryland on athletic scholarship as an accomplished tennis player. Ultimately a happy woman and driven businesswoman Michele’s first diagnosis of Breast Cancer in 1998 was a “harsh reality.” After that and a second diagnosis in 2002 not only did she complete her sophomore victory at the 2002 Sloan Kettering New York marathon just four days before her extensive breast surgery, but ad also conquered the Avon 3 day walk. As an involved community advocate and active, enthused mother, Michele thrives on spreading optimism, the importance of support, understanding, and healthy living. Michele continues to be an avid skier, runner, biker and tennis player in her desire to live life to the fullest. As a survivor, continuing the fight and finding a cure is not a vision but her mission. Living in Pink has become a community provider, aide, and leader in breast caner awareness, education, and fundraising. Through Living in Pink, Michele strives to remind us that this disease can be defeated and those battling breast cancer can still love, laugh, and live in pink.
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Show House

Guests at the preview party for the 2006 National Symphony Orchestra Decorators’ Show House hosted by the Women’s Committee for the NSO, were on historic ground in Potomac as Ayrlawn was the home of Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ambassador Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa and his wife Lillian Somoza de Sevilla-Sacasa, the only daughter of a Nicaraguan dynasty. Kelley Proxmire’s sunroom, which had once been the repository of the Ambassador’s over sixty medals, fittingly displayed several photographs from former days. Under the honorary patronage of the Ambassador of Argentina and Mrs. Jose Octavio Bordon, the evening featured a performance by QuinTango and an Argentine buffet.

By Mary Bird
Photos by Neshan H. Naltchayan

Aging Gelessly

Ambassador of France Jean-David and Marie-Cecile Levitte hosted the Eighteenth Anniversary Benefit Gala for Arts for the Aging at their residence on Oct. 11. Founded in 1988 by renowned sculptor Lolo Sarnoff, AFTA provides more than 900 artistic outreach programs each year to seniors with age-related impairments such as Alzheimer’s disease. Hailing “our beloved Lolo,” the Ambassador lauded AFTA’s artistic vision which has enabled the elderly to flourish. Lolo rejoined “I have not decided how old I am yet.” Dr. Steven and Julia Hopping were the gala chairs and Julia noted that “I’m married to Steven but I’m also married to Lolo and AFTA.”

By Mary Bird
Photos by Gene Carl Feldman

Giorgio Via, wife of the Finnish Ambassador Laurel Coles, Anna Maria Via, Finnish Ambassador Pekka Lintu

Julia S. Hopping with daughter Julia C. Sacasa de Checa

Timothy D. Albrecht of Consider It Done

Marie-Cecile Levitte pulls the winning raffle ticket
ANNUAL ROAST FOR SPINA BIFIDA

It is a Washington tradition, indeed an institution, for members of the press to put our political leaders on the hot seat.

Every year since 1989, the Spina Bifida Association has been changing the natural order of the way things work in Washington as they turn the tables on illustrious representatives of the 4th Estate as Washington’s most prominent representatives of politics and the media grill a member of the press for an outstanding cause. This year, it was none other than CBS’s Bob Shieffer, who was roasted with sizzling humor and entertainment. The SBA Roast is a rare night when differences are set aside, in fact, when differences are cause for celebration.

Back in 1989, Bob Novak was the first member of the media to be roasted. The following year it was Sam Donaldson. Pat Buchanan, Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee, Tim Russert, Larry King, Andrea Mitchell, William Safire, Don Imus, Dan Rather, Tony Kornheiser, Tom Brokaw, Don Hewitt, Bernard Shaw and Barbara Walters all were skewered in previous years. So, it was Bob Shieffer’s turn at last.

The inimitable Mark Shields returned as the Master of Ceremonies

HNATIONAL HISPANIC FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS GALA

Renaissance Mayflower, Hotel Washington D.C. The National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts honored acclaimed film director, producer and screenwriter John Singleton, actor Michael Pena of “Fast Food Nation,” at the Tenth Annual “Noche de Gala” dinner benefitting the National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts (NHFA), at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 3. Also featured at the ‘Noche De Gala’ event were singer/songwriter Fanny Lu. Some of the guests that attended included Jimmy Smits, Merel Julia, Esai Morales, Felix Sanchez and U.S. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton.
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The Departed
Fed from iconic figures and weighty themes, Martin Scorsese gets to riff and rock in this huge, bloody, profane gangland entertainment. Set in Boston, and tracking the trajectories of two cops—one crooked, one undercover—the pic stars Matt Damon and Leonardo DiCaprio, and Jack Nicholson, Alec Baldwin, Martin Sheen and Mark Wahlberg. They all rock. Best film since The Godfather.

All the King’s Men
The only thing big about Sean Penn, who plays Stark in this laughably ill-advised and whoppingly miscast remake of All the King’s Men, is his hair. With a pie-eating grin and a serious case of restless arm syndrome (wore to anyone who stands too near), the actor sports a messy, mountaininous coif—all better to illustrate his country bumpkinness.

The Black Dahlia
The atmosphere of “The Black Dahlia” is incendiary. It has style but burn. For the most part, the performances are all wet. Josh Friedman’s screenplay doesn’t so much distill the flavor of Ellroy’s hard-boiled writing as serve up indigestible clumps of verbiage.

Employee of the Month
Looking for a funny movie this weekend? You’d better shop around, because Employee of the Month is a comedy as vacuous and tacky as the discount big-box stores it imagines it is spoofing.

Flyboys
Flyboys has computer imaging and a fleet of vintage aircraft on its side, but it remains considerably less convincing than Wings, a 1927 silent film characterized as the daring aerial dogfights of World War I. It’s also less exciting.

Gridiron Gang
Based on a 1993 Emmy-winning documentary, “The Gridiron Gang,” from director Phil Joanou, brims with sincerity and good intentions, but brings little new to the game.

The Grudge 2
“The Snooze 2” is more like it. Crap.

The Guardian
A long, soggy tale of mentorship and courage—of jumping into stormy seas to pull folks from sinking ships, of staring deep into shot glasses, roaring the ones that got away. The Guardian is a pass-the-baton-of-bravery pic, with Costner as the old ace, and Kutcher the cocky newcomer.

The Illusionist
A wonderful anachronism of a movie, The Illusionist— with its clip-clopping horses, gaslamps and Hollywood stars eloquing in quasi-lusionist— with its clip-clopping horses, gaslit rueing the ones that got away— The Guardian is of jumping into stormy seas to pull folks from sinking ships, of staring deep into shot glasses, roaring the ones that got away.

Friday, October 20
U.S. Consul Night Auction & Dinner
The USO of Metropolitan Washington (USO-Metro) presents their 3rd Annual Stars & Stripes, Diamonds & Clubs Casino Night, showcasing an evening of top-notch casino games, well-known celebrities, delectable entrees and much more, from 6:00 pm till 11:00 pm at the Sheraton National Hotel (300 South Creme Street, Arlington, VA). This black-tie event will support the area’s active and retired military personnel and will help fund vital programs and services to our troops and their families. For available tickets and additional information, please visit: www.usometrodc.org.

Saturday, October 21
Best Buddies Gala
A tradition for 18 years, the Best Buddies Ball is a spectacular black tie gala that features a formal dinner, silent and live auctions and a private concert by Superstar Ska band The Skatalites featuring Ken Boothe and Shy Windry. A private concert by musical guest tildon. The 18th Annual best buddies black tie will honor CSI: Miami star Martin Kove and Best Buddies board member David Caruso with the Spirit of Leadership Award. For more information: (305) 374-2233, EXT. 207.

Tuesday, November 2
Arts Fall Affair
The National Museum of Women in the Arts will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the museum with a delightful evening of fabulous food, dancing and entertainment in the museum’s Great Hall. The evening includes cocktails and dinner. Honored guest will be Jane Seymour, ac- cess and artist. Tickets are $250; patron tickets $500. Conact Jilliam Timm at 202-266-2815 or jilliam@moma.org.

Fly Night
This black-tie event supports Fight for Children’s commitment to increasing the number of urban and rural children who graduate from high school, get into and complete college, and achieve career opportunities. A highlight of every Fight Night is the appearance of such boxing legends as Sugar Ray Leonard, Evander Holyfield and Joe Frazier among others. The Washington Hilton and Towers. Black Tie. Tickets: Jackie Ala- mire at (202) 223-7029.

Freer and Sackler Galleries Gala
This year, the annual event is themed “Celebrat- ing 100 Years of the Freer Gallery of Art.” First Lady Laura Bush will be the Honorary Chairperson, Patron, Reception in the Sackler Gallery, dinner in the Freer Gallery. Tickets: (202) 632-0417.
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**LINCOLN, VIRGINIA**
Absolute luxury in Virginia horse country. Goose Creek Historic District. 6,000 sf. Colonial. 4 BRs, state-of-the-art kitchen, media room, 14.5 acres, 4 stall barn. $1,409,000

Ruth Ripley 540-687-6395

**HAMILTON, VIRGINIA**
Quaker built, federal style brick residence with original charm on 24+ acres. Large brick barn, stone shed, springhouse, pond and creek. $1,399,000

Anita Sisney 703-973-1987
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**LEESBURG, VIRGINIA**
Exceptional c. 1820 log and stone home on 10.3 acres. 3 BRs, 2.5 BAs, 10’ beamed ceilings, heart of pine firs., pool, spring house, creek, studio. Very private and convenent. $1,285,000

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The Cassin House - Exceptionally fine Federal in Georgetown w/lovely pool-sized grounds, exquisite architectural detail, beautiful entertaining spaces, 6 BR suites & parking.
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GEOGRTOWN, WASHINGTON, DC
Impressive sun-filled “Smith’s Row” Federal, elegantly renovated, fabulous entertaining spaces, gracious dining room, lovely rear garden, 6 BR, 7 fl, elevator & 3 car garage.
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GEOGRTOWN, WASHINGTON, DC
Charming 2-3 BR, 2.5 BA house. Living room with fireplace. Sunny kitchen overlooks lovely garden. In-law suite with separate entrance, family room & bath.
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Colleen Cayton 301-765-8330

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Spectacular 186 acres with 1+ mile on the Rappahannock River. Mostly mature woods w/open fields. Several excellent building sites & terrific wildlife or hunting preserve.
Carole Miller 703-705-9110

Leesburg, Virginia
Graceful 1935 stone residence, lovingly restored on 20 acres, 4,700 sf, 6 BRs, pool, tennis court, carriage house w/apt, guest house. 2,250,000
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Anita Slinsky 703-973-1987

HUME, VIRGINIA
4 BR farm house on 10 acres with 6-stall barn and fenced paddocks. Gourmet kitchen. Wrap-around porch and screen porch. $1,399,500
Kathryn Harrell 703-216-1118
Jim Thompson 540-687-3216

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