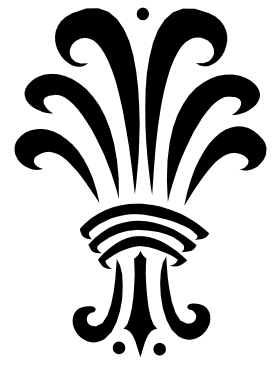


Harmonyville Chronicle



Sunday, September 25
The Last Hurrah!

All the news that's worth repeating!

Weather Forecast:
Dry, Partly Cloudy
High near 69° F

The Harmony Kingdom Story - Exclusive!

Editor's Note: Many Harmonyville residents have asked about the group that has been meeting in our town this weekend. In an effort to answer some of these questions, the Chronicle has obtained an exclusive copy of an article by one of the group's founders, Lisa Yashon. We have been unable to verify the accuracy of all of the stories - though a few photos have surfaced that lend credibility to at least some of them.

Since I am unable to join in the Harmonyville festivities, Leanna asked that I write a story for the event newsletter so that my "presence" would be felt. Having never really outgrown my childhood shyness, I didn't think my absence would be much missed. At events, I'm usually tucked away in a quiet corner. But Leanna said to write a little something anyway, perhaps a synopsis starting from the early days and concluding with our September 2005 introductions. She suggested I begin at the point when Noel and I first met. Never wanting to disappoint the tireless Lady Barron, I have tried my best, but keep in mind that there is a lot of ground to cover - 23 years to be precise.

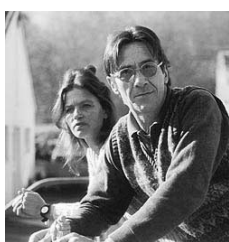
As some of you may know, Noel and I were "a couple" during our college years. We were dorm mates at Brown University and met within the first month of school. Noel was a well-traveled, urbane city boy (well, as urbane as a reckless 17-year old can be), and I was a jean-jacket wearing girl from the Midwest. An odd pair to be sure, but we shared many things in common. We both had a great sense of adventure and loved to create things - magazines, films, even a little mischief (Noel more than I, of course). Our romance fizzled, but what remained was the most steadfast of friendships.



Noel Wiggins &
Lisa Yashon

Business can be brutal, especially for people without business temperaments, so having a trusted partner with whom to share the ups and downs has been a blessing. Sometimes I'm proud of what we've helped to create - a friendly working environment full of camaraderie, a forum for artists to express themselves, and I would say a lucrative secondary market if such a thing still existed. But most of the time, I dizzy myself with all of the less-than-perfect details. Thank goodness for Noel, whose grander view often puts my concerns to rest.

Our pre-Harmony Kingdom early business days were pure delight. We didn't have children then and could thus spend all hours of the day and night working away at the now fabled Gay Street office of yore. Nearly every evening, at 10pm, before we'd start our late night shift, we'd pop down to the lesbian bar beneath our warehouse office, or to the black Republican bar down the street, to review the day's work, concoct plans for the future, and mingle with people who were not always like-minded but always welcoming and interesting to talk with. One of the things that Noel and I realized early in our lives, possibly from being outsiders and watching more than participating, is that all people are well-meaning and that our differences are what make life interesting and worthwhile.



Corinna & Martin
Perry

After meeting Martin in 1994, our focus widened and it wasn't only people that were of fascination but the world of flora and fauna. Martin was a former shepherd, child of the 1960's, and closet philosopher, and before we knew it, we were under his spell. It's hard to believe that he is no longer a part of

our lives.

But thanks to Martin, we've had the pleasure of working with and knowing Peter, who has given us all so much. Sometimes, especially recently, my spirits have been low, and into my inbox pops e-mails from Peter - his 500 Club newsletter writings. Reading his words, so humorous and elegant, magically uplifts me. He is truly one-of-a-kind. And the trivia that he's taught us about the world in which we live! I would have never known about the swimming Van Cat who makes its home in Turkey. Just imagine diving into and swimming through the exotic waters of Lake Van. Or the female hornbill that sequesters herself inside a sealed nest full of mud and water, waiting for her mate to feed her and her young. Oh to be waited upon! And sometimes when life seems unimaginably cruel, I think about the opossum which births up to 25 young but has nipples for only thirteen. No wonder they don't seem terribly friendly. And if not for Peter, would many of us know that such a thing as a pangolin exists, or would we think of vultures as creatures who love and seek love? Peter is extraordinary, and we hope that someday his unique worldview spreads to the furthest and widest reaches of the globe.



Peter
Calvesbert



David
Lawrence

David is the ethereal talent - a true and timeless entertainer - a man who marches to his own Morris drum. He is the quintessential artist, resisting any categorization. His Harmony Circus will always be my favorite treasure. You are all so lucky to have the opportunity to spend time with his wife and daughters, whom I've never met but imagine as untamed yet

mannerly eco-princesses with the knowledge of the ages.

There are so many collectors and retailers that I will miss seeing at Harmonyville. Phone and e-mail conversations just aren't the same. And events always help to frame my reference. All of the sweetness of HK is summed up in my mind by the "Three Hour Cruise" aboard the Eleanor R on Lake Michigan. The Ugly Duck reminds me of HBC's pinnacle of order and efficiency, in 1998.



The Ugly Duck

The Primordial Crooze was a period of internal strife that was echoed by the overly choppy seas. But three month's later, in June of 1999, "The Grand Investiture" at Medieval Times felt creatively and organizationally redemptive. 800 HKer's cheered on their knights and watched the medal ceremony, which admittedly seemed to last as long as The Academy Awards, but what a grand evening we all had. And Clair de Lune, in June of 2000, marked in my mind the first true collaboration between HBC and HOP, which has lasted ever since.



Quiz Show Participants at Clair de Lune

Just think of all of the outings, shows, conventions, signing events, and fundraisers we've participated in over the years. And all of the curious little box figurines that have brought us so much entertainment and edification.



Peter Calvesbert, Janice Cothorn, Johnia Browning, Ellen Schnaible, Leanna Barron, Eve Prussner, Monique Baldwin, & Mary Kay DeMayo at Let Freedom Ring

But mostly, it all goes back to the people. Noel and I are considerably older, only a little bit wiser, but we still have the same youthful fascination and admiration for those that we've met throughout these many years. Thank you for being a part of our lives.

Around Town - People in the News

EDITOR'S NOTE:
Our intrepid reporter, Ms. Eloise Saber, has been working overtime this weekend to bring you "All the news that's worth repeating!" We are proud of her dedication to reporting the truth no matter the personal cost. Cards and flowers may be sent to Ms. Saber at the Shady Rest Nursing Home for the foreseeable future.

A missing animal report was filed Friday in Mountaintop for the stranger in our midst, Periwinkle the Shepherd. Apparently, when the blizzard ended, Periwinkle's flock could find no trace of him. Harmonyville officials let Mountaintop authorities know of Periwinkle's safe arrival in our town. On a side note, after hearing the news of our town election, David Attenborough, who is widely known for his in-depth penguin interviews, plans a visit to Harmonyville to interview our new penguin Mayor & the runner-up.



David Attenborough, or a look-alike?

Fire trucks responded to a call at the home of Tamira & Tour de Force Dragon late Saturday night. Neighbors had reported billowing clouds of smoke coming out of a second floor window. Tamira Dragon explained, blushing a bit, "I was simply welcoming my husband home from a signing tour, and I got a bit carried away!". Her husband declined to comment but was heard whistling 'Love Me Tender' as he hobbled back into the house.



Love Birds or Sparring Partners???

Rufus the Red Dragon was held over for trial Thursday when he refused to return to his court ordered anger-management classes. Rufus, who suffers from a rare pigment loss condition that causes his red scales to turn pink, defends his violent behavior with the statement that "anyone who calls a red dragon "CUTE" deserves whatever he gets!".



Rufus "Not Cute" Dragon

A Post Traumatic Stress Disorder victim was found yesterday holed up in a mother Hornbill's former nesting tree cavity. Worry the Bird was clawing his way through the seal of



Worry Bird - or just cuckoo?

mud & water enclosing the entrance to his hideout, when authorities noticed his strange behavior. Bird was admitted to the Hospital for psychological evaluation when he kept chanting, "Don't be sad, don't be blue, cause I'm the bird who'll worry for you! My fanny, I will! Stop bothering me! Grow up! Solve your own problems! DEAL WITH IT!"

Rumor has it a group of Friends of David Lawrence members closed down the Regatta Bar on the 3rd floor last night. Rowdy singing and Morris Dancing abounded! Try a couple of Bucknell Double Capers when you're a bit tipsy, and you can imagine why the bartender suggested they move to the patio. Wonder if they were joined by the master Morris dancer himself? One member swears she saw Cedric Sosajskin crouched over a pint at a corner table. Obviously amused by the groups' shenanigans, he was busily jotting down notes. Perhaps we'll read his observations of this night sometime on the FDL site.



Was this man at the Regatta Bar?

LATE BREAKING NEWS!
Local tattoo artist, Raymond Ward of Tatoos R Us, slipped us a look at this titillating photo that might possibly be one of HK's own! Ray stated, "I know the guy is staying in this hotel. While I was doing his tattoo, all he could talk about were these funky little marble boxes. He promised me a couple of cool ones that had tattoos on them. I'm here to collect.". Ward was last seen showing this photo to people in the hotel lobby, hoping someone will recognize his talkative client. Look familiar, anybody?



THE LAST WORD -
Hot off the presses! The Chronicle's dedicated staff has worked long hours researching and reporting the news, running the press long into the night, and rising early to deliver the paper to you. All to live up to our motto:



All the news that's worth repeating!

Well done!