



Tuesday, October 27, 2009

The dogs that strike yoga poses for a bizarre new yoga calendar



San Antonio, TX -- Relax, breathe in and hold it, stretch and stop that tail from wagging... these bendy pooches show off their athletic prowess by striking incredible poses for the 2010 Yoga Dogs calendar. A golden retriever in a warrior posture and a chihuahua chilling out in the pendant position are the dogs that are featured in the calendar, which will bring a smile to the faces of pet lovers. The tongue-in-cheek calendar hosts a year full of images showing popular dog breeds positioned in classic yoga postures created using computer wizardry by Texan couple Dan and Alejandra Borris. The animals were never in distress, said Dan who got Alejandra, a former yoga

teacher, to hold and coax the dogs into position - and then Photoshop did the rest. 'I had the inspiration for this a few years ago when I was living in Mexico,' said Dan. 'A friend of mine was a yoga practitioner and she had an English bull terrier named Otis. 'She would say that Otis was always next to her, trying to get involved and would be licking her face while she was doing a head stand. 'I thought it would be great if it was Otis who was doing the yoga. The idea stuck in my head for a couple of years and then I finally got going on it. 'It has been a really fun project.'

[\(More Photos\)](#)

'Never quit working,' 90-year-old retail worker says



CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- Adele McFarland has uncovered the secret to longevity. "Never quit working," she says. The Sissonville resident is certainly qualified to dole out advice on the subject. McFarland turned 90 Oct. 10. How did she choose to celebrate nine decades of life? The nonagenarian hopped on a bus and traveled to Charleston's Town Center Mall to work an eight-hour shift in the Macy's Menswear Department. For more than 20 years, McFarland has been making that trek from her home in Sissonville to the Town Center Mall, logging 15 to 20 hours every week at Kaufmann's

Department Store, before it became Macy's. At her age, McFarland might not seem like much of a force for customers to contend with. But don't let the 95-pound frame, white hair, and glasses fool you. After spending most of her adult life working in retail, one thing Adele McFarland knows how to do is close a sale. "She's as aggressive a salesperson as you'll ever see," said Tom Beard, manager of the Macy's Menswear Department in Charleston. "She'll nail you before you walk in the door." Originally from Richmond, Va., McFarland moved to West Virginia with her husband in the 1950s. She worked at the old Diamond department store in Charleston before it closed in 1983 and once owned a bridal shop downtown with her daughter. McFarland has

experience working in pretty much every department but says she feels at home in Menswear. "It's easier to work with men, and men are not as messy," she said. Among her current co-workers, McFarland is considered the resident expert at meticulously folding dress shirts and ties for display. Her slender white fingers move with the agility of a woman's less than half her age, precisely pinning and molding the material into crisp creases. "No one can do what those delicate hands can do," Beard said. McFarland's passion is pairing dress shirts and ties with a suit. She says creating the perfect combination all comes down to the right tie. "I love working with ties. You'd think I was a man, I'm so fascinated with ties," she said. ([Photos and Video](#))

From No Home to Back Home on Broadway



New York -- Midway through "Finian's Rainbow," which opens Thursday on Broadway, the stage veteran Terri White delivers a bluesy, rasping version of the song "Necessity." The character wants to play, to rest her "head in the shade," but, Ms. White belts out, turning to the face the audience directly, "the rent ain't paid!" It is one of those crucial moments in musical theater, a flash of heartbreak that tethers the fanciful, carefree world of the show to the familiar, harsh realities of the everyday. If Ms. White's delivery feels particularly authentic, it is because she has lived

those lyrics more personally than even the most diehard method actress would want. In the summer of 2008, Ms. White, 61, could not make rent. She was evicted from her apartment of 14 years, after a breakup with a longtime girlfriend. She could not work. She also could not find a way to ask for help. For three months, when she was not crashing on a friend's couch, she slept in Washington Square Park. The daughter of traveling performers, Ms. White has been performing in musicals since she was 8, and the language of the medium infects her life narrative. She started out as a "hooper," a tap-dancer. She has a theme song: "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out." And as of July 2008, she felt she was "all washed up." Between gigs on Broadway and singing with Liza Minnelli, Ms. White had always worked for tips in piano bars around the West Village. She was a regular at 88's until it closed, then found a new home at Rose's Turn on Grove Street — until it, too, closed. She struggled to get a perch at the few surviving piano bars around town. Heartfelt if campy renditions of American songbook classics were out. Spoofy if campy versions of '80s pop were in. "They want to bring in the younger crowd," Ms. White said. "And I'm old." She still played one night a week at the Duplex, on Christopher Street, earning enough to keep her phone on and get by on Ramen noodles, and kept some clothing there after losing her apartment. In the park, Ms. White slept on a bench near the bathroom because it made her feel more civilized. She knew some of the longstanding homeless there from her years in the neighborhood (they often tried to bum cigarettes as she smoked on the sidewalk). And she got to know the temporarily homeless like herself. "Their clothes did not look like they were from Goodwill," she said. "They looked like they'd had jobs." ([Full Story, Video, Photos](#))

What sort of man spends 15 years building an oil rig from matches in his front room?



Bursledon, UK -- Finding your way round the Brent Bravo oil rig is a surprisingly bewildering business, even with a retired rig engineer called David Reynolds as your guide. 'I'm afraid it's a bit cluttered,' says David. 'But that's how oil rigs are.' There's the main body of the rig itself, supported by three enormous circular buttresses, littered with cranes, lifeboats and a helipad marked with an 'H'. Then there's what's called the platform - almost as big as the rig itself and designed to bob about to one side on an enormous floating pontoon. 'So this is your drilling platform,' he continues. 'With the drill floor, pipes, crane housing... That's the derrick - where the oil comes in. And there's an oil

tanker - look!' It's impossible not to look. Not least because, rather than marching round a rain-lashed oil rig in the middle of the North Sea and shouting at the tops of our voices to be heard over the wind, David and I are several miles inland, in a very quiet museum in a little village called Bursledon, on the outskirts of Southampton. Oh yes, and the entire oil rig - buttresses, cranes, derricks, even the oil tanker - is made out of matchsticks. A staggering 4,075,000 matchsticks, to be precise - all individually whittled to size and glued together by David over the past 15 years. 'It's not my finest work,' he says. 'I was pretty happy with the drilling platform, but the rest's pretty basic - though I suppose that's how rigs are. And it could do with a bit more sanding down. The ships in my "Matchstick Armada" are much better.' But David's enormous model has caused quite a stir. Last week, it was recognised by Guinness World Records as the world's biggest matchstick model, trouncing the previous record-holder, a 3.5 million matchstick model of the Titanic, and throwing the international matchstick modelling community - yes, there really is one - into a frenzy of excitement. It has also given David, 51, and his wife Julie, 49, a bit of a jolt. So far in the past week, they've been on television and the radio and their phone has been ringing off the hook with interview requests from all around the world. 'It's been very strange, all this fuss,' says David. 'And quite a change from our usual life, which tends to be rather quiet. But mostly I'm surprised that anyone wants to look at it at all.'

Half-million worth of feminine products stolen

Conway, AK -- Conway Police Department investigators are tracking down leads in the theft of two 53-foot shipping containers belonging to Kimberly Clark, according to Conway Chief of Police A. J. Gary, and "it will be very interesting when they get to the bottom of it." According to a police report, officers were told by a representative of Exel Logistics at 1475 William J. Clark Drive that at some point between 2 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, someone cut a lock and entered the property. The thief or thieves broke into seven trailer containers, removing the seals that secure them in the process, eventually stealing two of them and leaving behind a seal that didn't seem to belong on any of Exel's containers. Inside the containers, according to the report, were 9,064 cases of Kotex- and Poise-brand feminine hygiene products of every description, 152 cases of Huggies Soft Skin baby wash and 380 cases of baby wipes — each case containing 10 to 20 individual consumer packages. The total value of the containers and their contents is listed in the report at over \$474,000.

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