



Away with Words... again

A Halloween Horror Story

By LE Hughes

It was 1965 and Go-Go Girls were all the rage. Being an eight-year-old fashionista, I lived on that cutting edge. For some, long-lost in my mind reason, I thought a Go-Go suit was what I should Go-Go to my school Halloween party in. This was the days before the Wal-Mart costume aisle and kids had to create their own costumes — a trend, in fact that led to many a ghoulish humiliation of the less than clever Trick-or-Treater.

Dressing up and going out in public in an outfit put together with my own hands from an idea from my own head seemed like a good idea.

Back then, Mod was the style, and my interpretation of Mod fashion was a pair of red tights, paired with a tucked-in red shirt and white Go-Go boots. My eight-year-old body lacked any curves that would hold those tights in place so the crotch dragged to my knees, threatening to fall further with each step of my Go-Go-booted feet. I wore a string of plastic Hippie beads and my “Gloria Swanson” cigarette holder, complete with a candy cigarette, dangled from my heavily painted lips. A cheap pair of sunglasses dangled from my fingers. The thing is, there was never an outfit like mine worn by anyone, anywhere-then or now. Why I thought a pair of tights was the style of the times is still a mystery.

It was during the parade around the classroom that it dawned on me: everyone could see my underwear! From the expressions on my classmates faces’ it was obvious my white, little girl granny panties showed plainly through my tights.

The term Go-Go is derived from the French expression à gogo, meaning “in abundance, galore,” which is exactly how much of me was showing that shouldn’t have been. A bun dance indeed! I was mortified, but I’d be more so if I let anyone know how humiliated I felt. My cheeks were as red as my cheeks. This was worse than the time I stood on a desk and screeched “O Tannenbaum” to my second grade class during our Christmas party. This was worse than the time I sent a note to Kenny asking if he liked me and he checked the “no” box with a huge red X.

If ever there was a day a little girl wanted to end, (for the sake of hers) this was it. Have you ever had the dream of showing up in public without your pants? I can tell you from experience it’s a nightmare.

Throughout the years that followed, I continued to create my own outfits, but stayed ever mindful of the trick my costume could play on me! Enjoy your treats this year and try not to become like me — your own horror show.

Town Office Phone Numbers

Avon: 639-5326

Eustis/Stratton: 246-4401

New Vineyard: 652-2222 (selectmen)

Phillips: 639-3561

Carrabassett Valley: 235-2645

Kingfield: 265-4637

Rangeley: 864-3326

Coplin Pt.: 246-5141

New Portland: 628-4441

Strong: 684-4002

Cook on Maine Biz’s ‘Next List’

PORTLAND — Despite the rocking wake of economic turbulence that includes the financial crisis, the housing slump followed by tax reform, health care debates and more, Maine Biz, Maine’s business news publication, sees a brighter future brought by those it has named to its “Next List.”

Among those on this list is Warren Cook the CEO and General Manager of Saddleback Maine in Rangeley.

This is a list of 10 persons the magazine says “don’t let headlines derail them from their mission to get their businesses and organizations in gear and, in the process, shape Maine’s economy and future.”

The 10 Mainers, selected from numerous nominations, have, according to Maine Biz, “The passion and vision to bring Maine to a better place.” Some are young just embarking on their careers and some are experienced. “Together, they present a brighter future for Maine.”

Maine Biz’s “Next List”:

Bettina Doulton — owner, Cellardoor Vineyard, Lincolnville

Jonathan LaBonte — Executive director, Androscoggin Land Trust, Lewiston

Matt Bell — Owner, Northeast Pellets, Ashland

Matt McHatten — Senior VP of external operations, MMG Insurance, Presque Isle

Megan Williams — Executive director, Hardy Girls Healthy Women, Waterville

William Sulinski — CEO, AccelGolf, Portland

Devore Culver — Executive director, HealthInfoNet, Portland

Chris Roberts — Co-founder, Barkwheats, Stockton Springs

Suzanne Fox — President, Fox Intercultural Consulting Services, Falmouth

Warren Cook — CEO and general manager, Saddleback Maine, Rangeley

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Owners: Steve and Christi Mitman

Free workshops for adults going to college

SOUTH PARIS & RUMFORD — Adults considering college are invited to participate in free college-planning workshops sponsored by the Maine Educational Opportunity Center.

Workshops will be held at the South Paris CareerCenter, 232 Main Street, on Monday, Nov. 2 and 16 at 10 a.m. and at the Rumford CareerCenter, 35 Congress Street, on Monday, Nov. 23 at 11:30 a.m.

MEOC provides support services to help students from low income and working families successfully enter college. It is a student-centered, performance-based, non-bureaucratic program. MEOC helps adult students overcome class, social, academic and cultural barriers to higher education.

Its services include: choosing a college, tutoring, personal and financial counseling, assistance in applying to college, workplace and college visits, and assistance in applying for financial aid.

To register for one of these free workshops, call 1-800-281-3703.

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the plantations having a voice in the new unified district, cost savings, the election of the new board in January with their role in building the budget for 2010-2011, and the ability of the new school board to make changes in the parts of the plan, once they take over on July 1, 2010.

Questions about the Reorganization Plan can be directed to the Reorganization Committee members: Virginia Nuttall, Rangeley; Linda Dexter, Dallas Plantation; Paul Ferguson-Packard, Sandy River Plantation; Carmen Glidden, Sandy River Plantation; Harold Schaezle, Rangeley; Bruce Bean, Lincoln & Magalloway; Rob Welch, Rangeley; Scott Millbury, Rangeley Plantation; and Brian Foster, Superintendent RLRS.