

Hidek Herald

*An online newsletter for
your enjoyment.*

Proprietor's Message

by John Trotta

This is the first issue of our online newsletter. I hope you take a few minutes out of your day to enjoy it.

We'd like to introduce Mark Lupton, a blogger friend of Pat's, who will take on the entertainment chores. If you enjoy his column, drop him a line.

Feel free to pass this newsletter along to your friends and acquaintances. If you have any suggestions or comments, let me know at john@hidek.com.

The new HIDEK website is substantially completed now. You might want to take a look: www.hidek.com

Lupton's Blazaar



by Mark Lupton

One of the side jobs I do from time to time is mystery shopping, where I secretly evaluate a business, usually fast food, and the whole time pretending to be a typical customer. It doesn't pay that great but it does include **free food**, which are two of my favorite words!

One mystery job I had to do was to secretly collect the prices of all food offered in several fast food chains. Not an easy job to go into McDonald's and record their menu without getting caught. I finally got wise and went through the drive through, taking a picture of the menu board with my digital camera.

Before I had that figured out, though, I stopped at a local McDonald's and with clipboard in hand, I went in and ordered some food. While I sat at the table eating I kept

looking up at their menu board, recording prices.

I was only a couple of minutes into writing down their prices when I noticed management was staring at me. Not wanting to have to deal with them asking questions and possibly taking my clipboard away (with my recorded info), I decided to leave. I went to my car, got in and called my boss.

While I was on the phone, I noticed I could see the drive-through window in my mirror, where employees of McDonald's were standing, looking at me and my car. Freaky. I left, did a few more odd jobs and went home.

At the time I was currently living with Mistake #1. When I entered the door she greeted me, asking me, "What have you been doing today?"

I told her I had some odd jobs, different things, when she told me the police had called asking about me.

"WHAT??" was my response.

It seems the employees of McDonald's had become concerned with me and called the cops.

I can imagine that phone call:

Restaurant: "Hello, police? I want to report a man acting funny in my restaurant"

Police: "What's he doing?"

Restaurant: "He keeps looking at our menu."

Fortunately Mistake #1 knew I was mystery shopping and told the police why I was in the restaurant. Still....kind of weird....

I made sure I kept away from that place because who knows? Next time I might do something really crazy like use their bathroom!

For more of funnyman Mark Lupton, visit his blog at:

<http://www.xanga.com/MarkLupton>

Don't Forget The Lyrics

With the popularity of this new game show, why don't you try your hand at it? Here is your question:

Song:
My Eyes Adored You
Artist:
Frankie Valli
Year:
1975

My eyes adored you
Though I never laid a hand on you,
My eyes adored you
Like a million miles away from me
You couldn't see
How I adored you:
So close, so close and yet so far

Carried your books from school,
Playing make-believe you're married to me:
You were fifth grade,
I was sixth
When we came to be
Walking home every day over (4 words)

Answer at the end of newsletter.

Free Help for Your Computer

by Steve Hoffman

We would like to announce a new website that you may find useful. It is www.byusersforusers.com a site dedicated to helping computer users with any problems they may have.

Just post your questions and another user will offer you solutions. The forum administrator, a computer expert with twenty-five years of experience, will also help.

Best of all, the site is totally free.

Sports Corner

The Super Bowl was Sunday, February 3, 2008. The New York Giants defeated the New England Patriots 17-14. Congratulations to the Giants.

The final NFL game of the season, the Pro Bowl, will be played Sunday, February 10th.

Notable February sporting events include NASCAR's Daytona 500 on February 17th and PGA's AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am February 7th through the 10th.

Coffee Accidents

Those of us in the industrial construction industry are known for consuming large amount of caffeine. Our work can be tedious and we need the boost. But with coffee comes accidents.

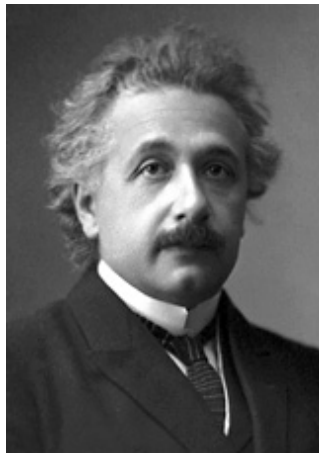
Have you ever:

- Poured 10 cups of fresh water in the pot when you already did it last night?
- Not noticed that your stainless steel carafe had yesterday's coffee still in it, when you made a "fresh pot"?
- Forgotten to put a filter in?
- Forgotten to put the coffee in?
- Spilled coffee on your desk?
- How many times?

If you haven't had enough coffee accidents, you can buy a pretend one:



How Smart Are You?



Who is this?

Multiple Choice:

1. John Trotta, proprietor of Hidek Supply
2. Jim Ho, owner of American Grating
3. Al Borden
4. Al Gore
5. Al Einstein

Getting to Know Me

by John Trotta

Some of you might not know that when I am not selling grating and spiral staircases, I am playing piano with my jazz trio, Likewise.



My secret passion:



In the month of October, I play in a German band called The Holzhackern. I have a pair of lederhosen but it's not pretty.

***Answer to Lyric
contest:***

The four words are:
Barnegat Bridge and
Bay. This is an actual
place on the Jersey
shore:



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