

An Education For Ansel Head

2014 In Pictures

Nelson H. Head



An Education For Ansel Head 2014 In Pictures

Nelson H. Head

An Education For Ansel Head, 2014 In Pictures
Nelson H. Head

© 2015 by Nelson H. Head
All Photographs © Nelson H. Head

Published by Nelson H. Head

Notice of Rights

All Rights Reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the author. For more information on obtaining such permission, contact the author at nelson.head@dixiebones.com.



This book is dedicated to Charlie the Cat who died in 2014 as a result of multiple complications. Charlie was the last of a pride of cowardly guard cats. Unlike the others, Charlie appeared to tolerate his human benefactors, particularly when fed treats.



Introduction

Ansel Head felt he owed his family and friends some relief. Even though he was pretty certain that none had ever looked at his previous "Continuing Education" books, he felt their interest would be better served if he tried to improve his photography skills before gifting them new editions. To that end, he went to Jay Maisel's week long, photography boot camp in the Bowery district of New York City. Eight others from around the world were also in attendance.

There the Brooklyn native and Yale graduate desperately strove to educate his minions on what constitutes a good picture. His opening instructions: "Get your ass out of bed before dawn so you can bring pictures to review." Intense classes started three hours later with a break for lunch, two to three hours of afternoon shooting, three more hours of classes, and then dinner until ten or eleven. Five days of this ensued.

And just what was he trying to get the least intellectual Head boy to absorb. (The quotes that follow are directly from Maisel.)

Light is; it can be spectacular or dull; but it is the first thing that "calls to us." "Use the light that is in front of you." "Without it, you keep bumping into things and can't see color or gesture." "Be aware of the multiplicity of possibilities with light. The variety is infinite."

Gesture reveals something about a person, place, or object. That something that gesture conveys could be an emotion, an idea, an opinion, an attitude, a feeling, or a history. It may be fleeting, only a moment in time. A photograph is a record of a moment in time. For the picture to resonate, we must capture gesture, that "decisive moment", with clarity. Only then can a viewer perceive the gesture and thereby relate to the emotion, idea, opinion, attitude, feeling, or history that we saw and felt. All of this said another way is, "Gesture is the expression of what we are trying to shoot."

Color is "not logical, it is seductive." But do not "dilute the impact of color by adding more." "What we want is the interaction of color."

Light, gesture, and color are the voices that matter in a photograph. Any one of the three can carry the day if it is strong enough. But gesture, because it is about content, will always do the job.

One must learn to "see" light, gesture, and color before one can photograph them. Jay ended his class saying that for some, this will be easy; for others, it will be hard and a long time coming; and for others.... Head wanted desperately to believe that he was in the hard, long time coming group; but there is little evidence in what follows that he has graduated to that level.

Nelson H. Head
March, 2015



Global warming via the Flat Earth Society.









Friendly New Yorkers.

















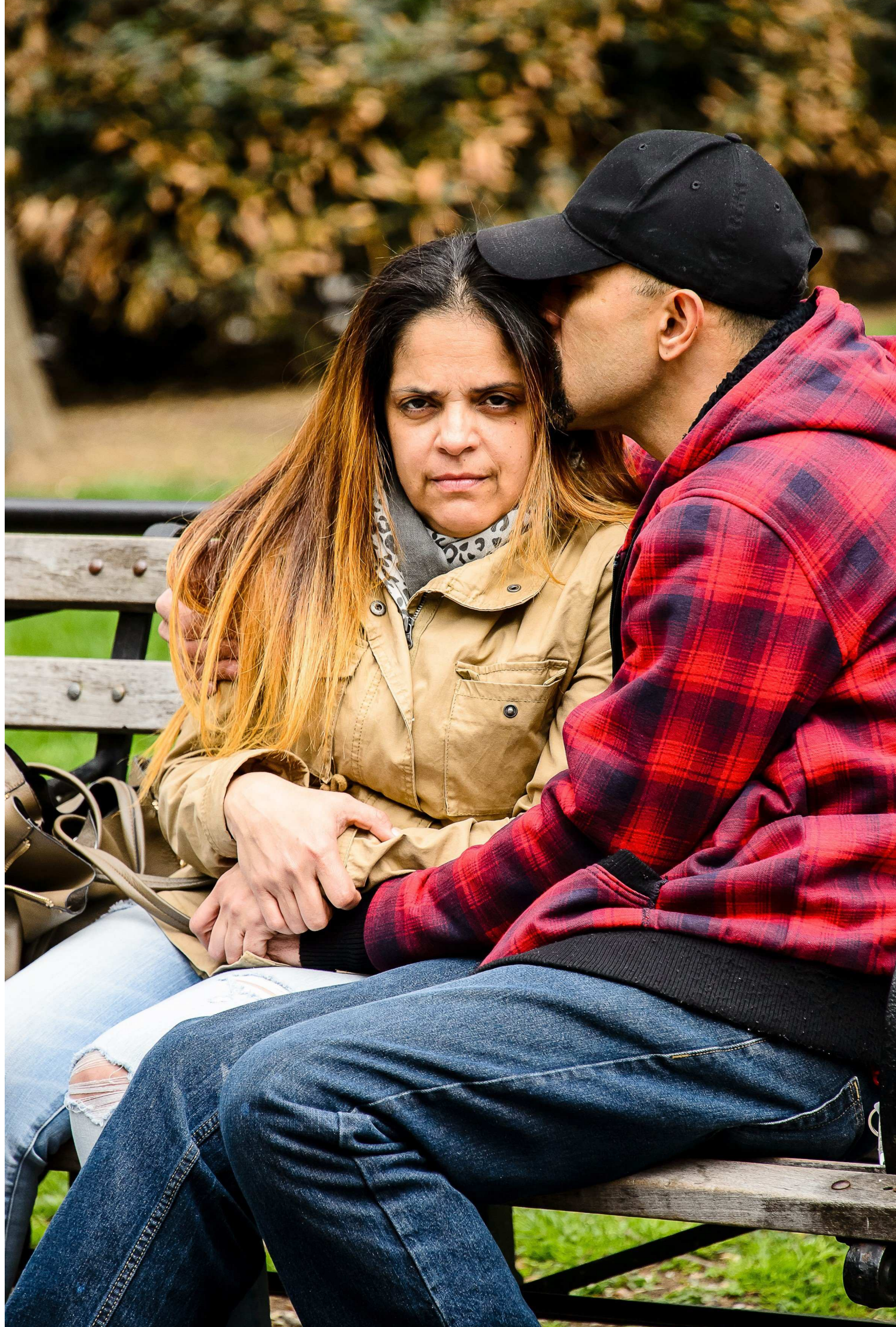














Jay Maisel



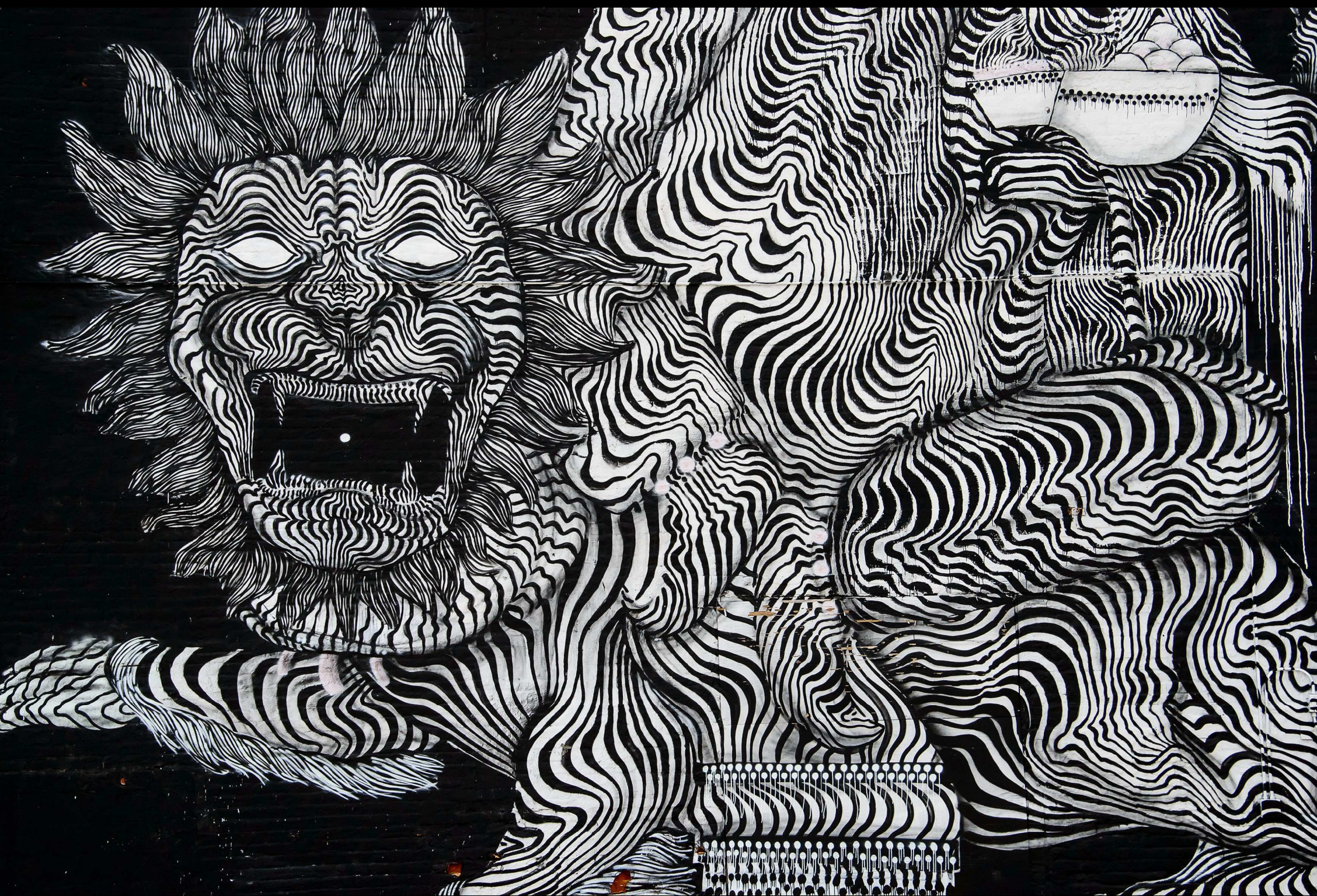
A picture Jay took with Head's camera.



Kirsten, a fellow student
at the conclusion of
Maisel's boot camp.











A painting by Robert J. Head, age 6.



Ben's father was killed in action in Afghanistan. He is demonstrating how to relieve stress when he thinks of his father. Ben was attending Good Grief Camp sponsored by the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors in Arlington, VA.





Some of the 2,000 middle schoolers from Knoxville, TN on thier annual tour of Washington.





The aftermath of a day
spent at the National
Zoo.











At the ice rink next to the National Gallery in Washington.



Isabella at a Peruvian Festival.





Clint



Lory



"Put on your red dress
Linda, cause we're goin
out tonight!"





DC Dignitaries





Eugenia



The pause that
refreshes.





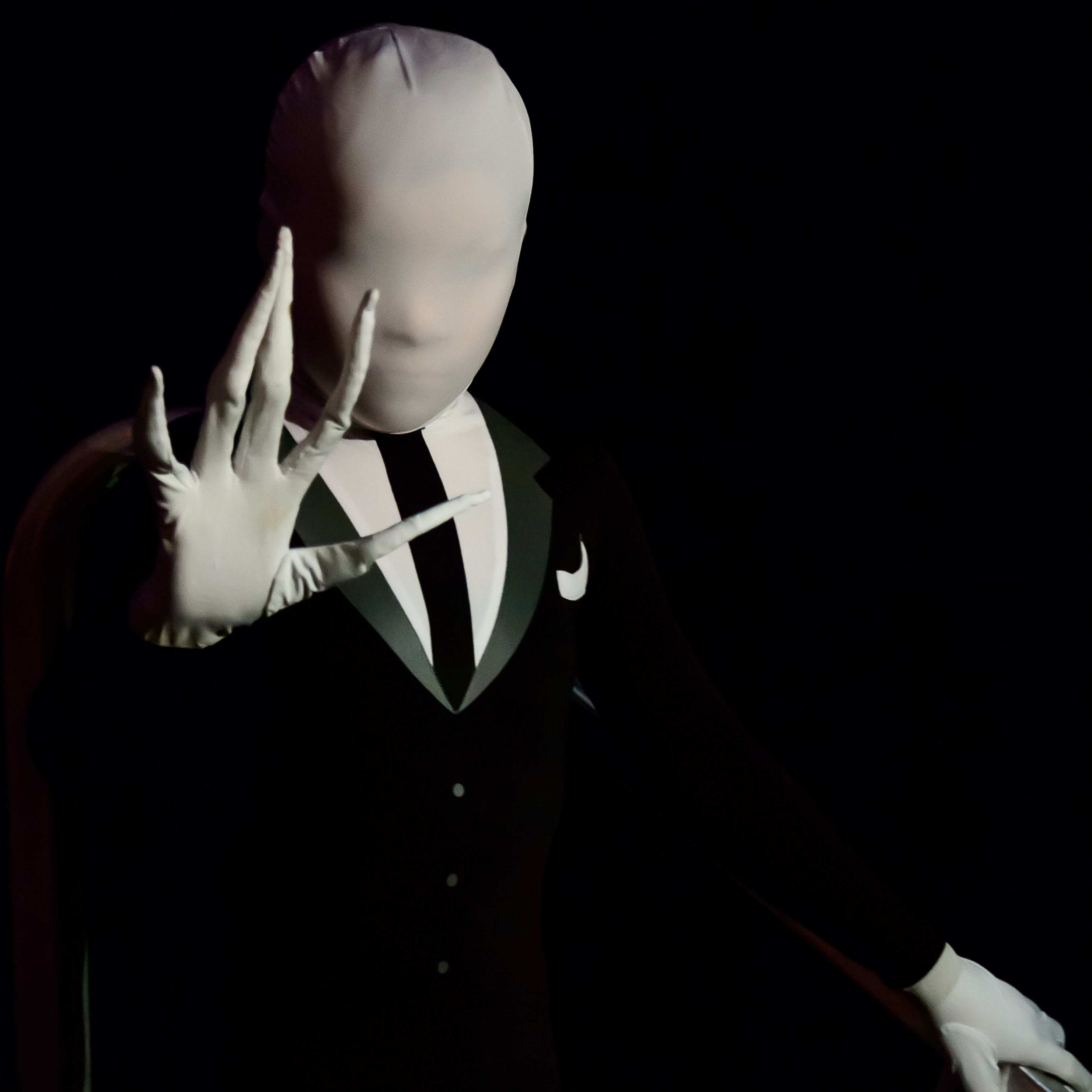






"Oh say can you see?"









Otto





Patsy



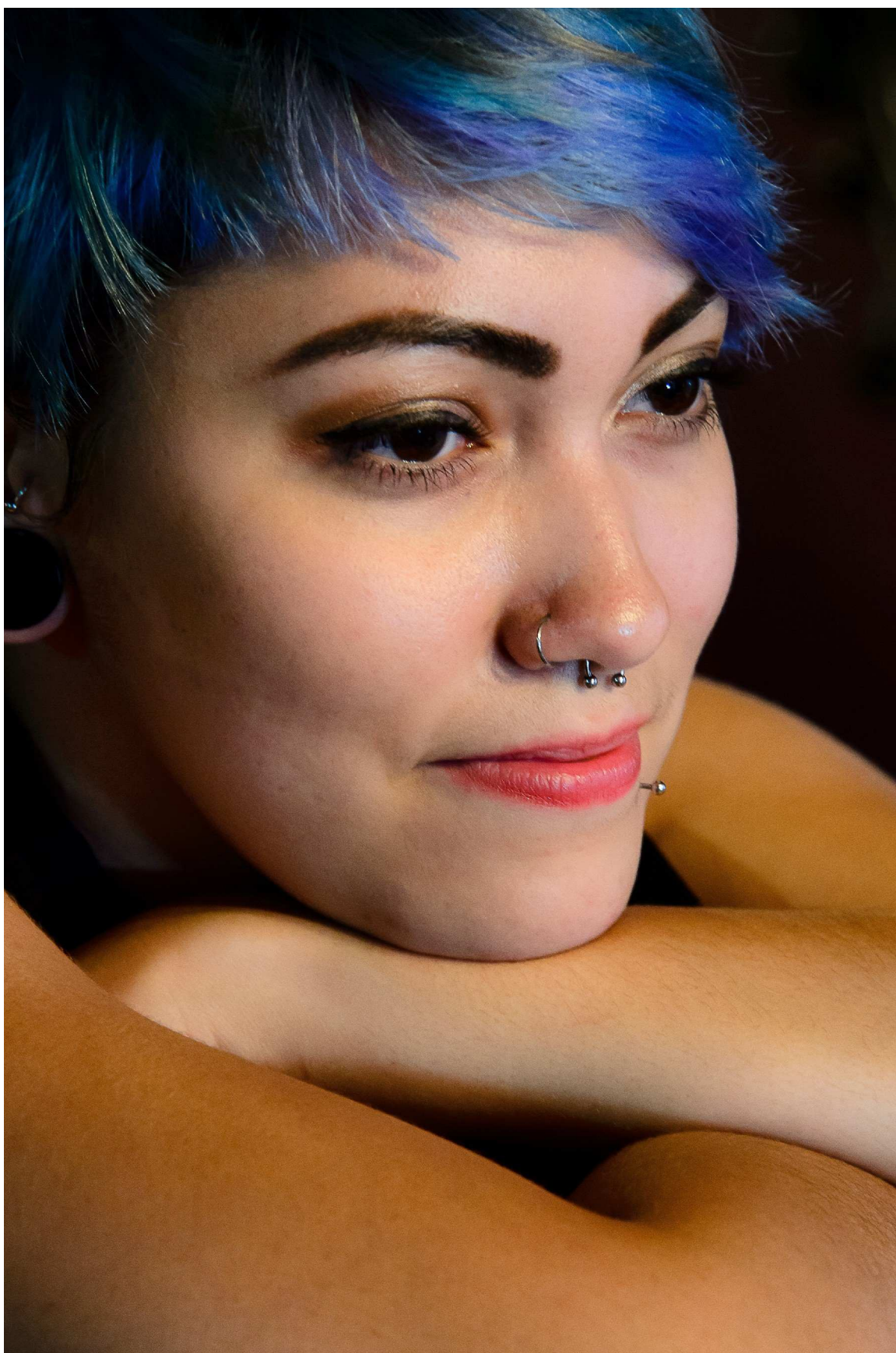


Jonathan
Gibson '64













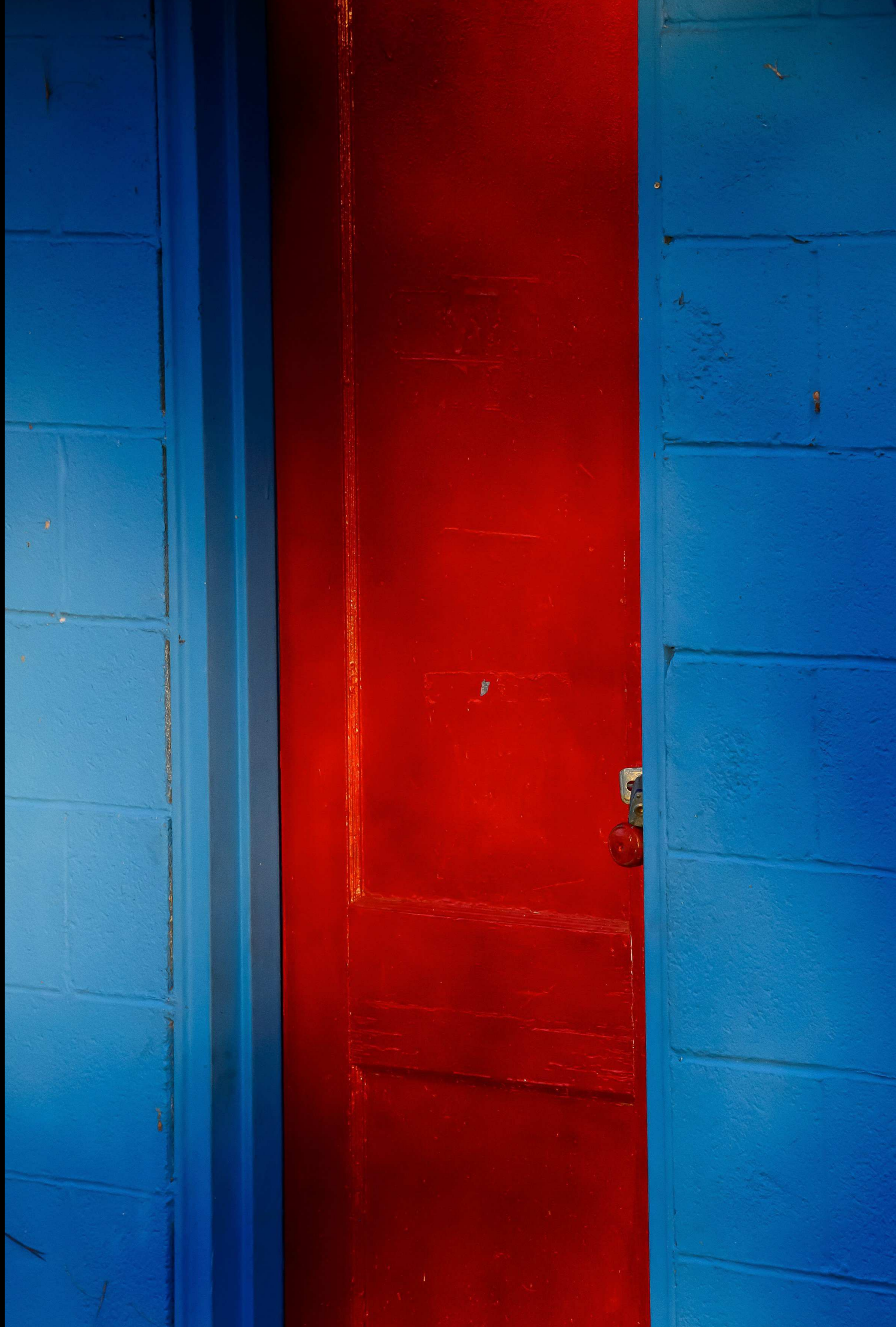
At the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Show.





112

Color carries the day.



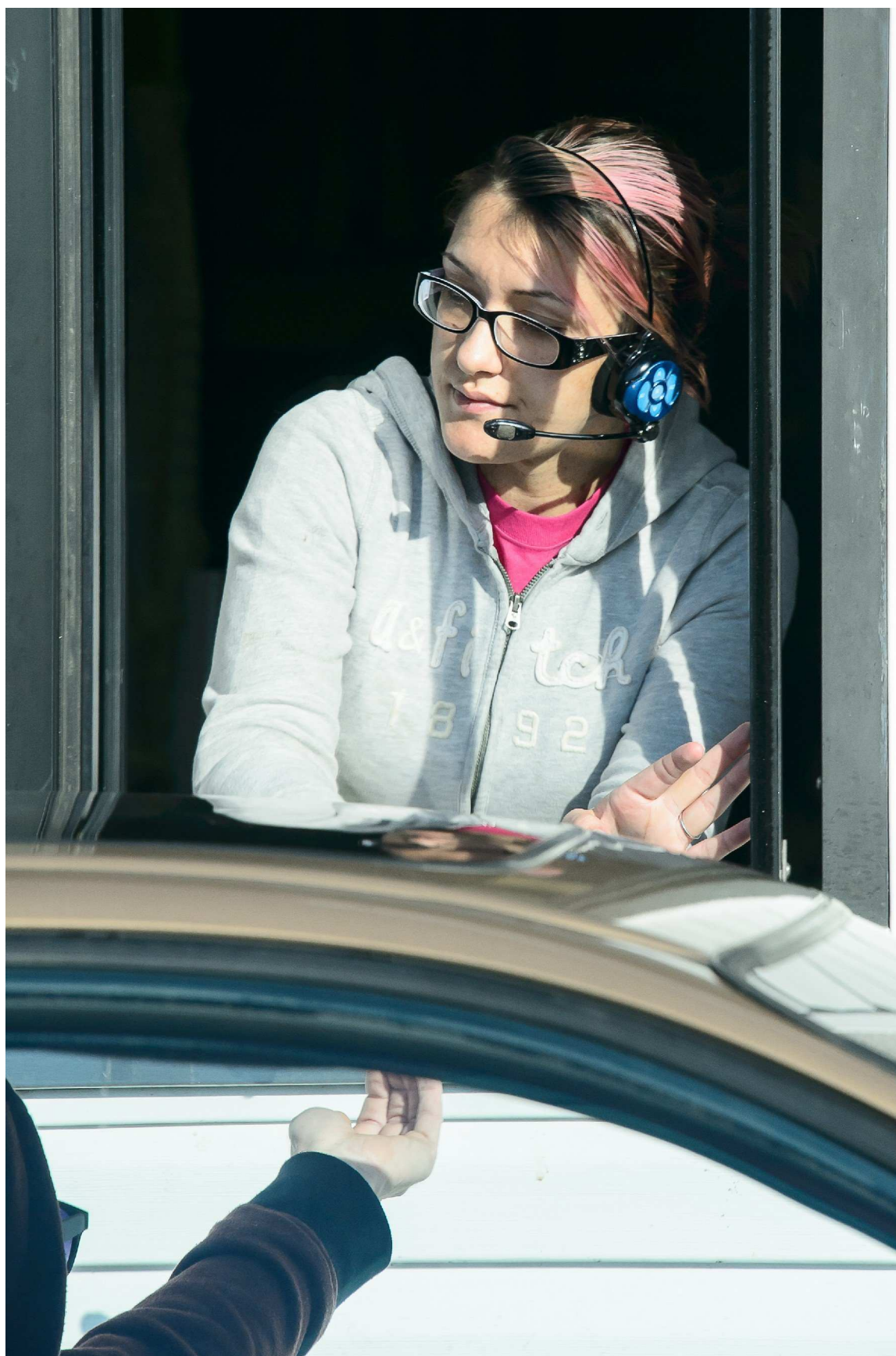








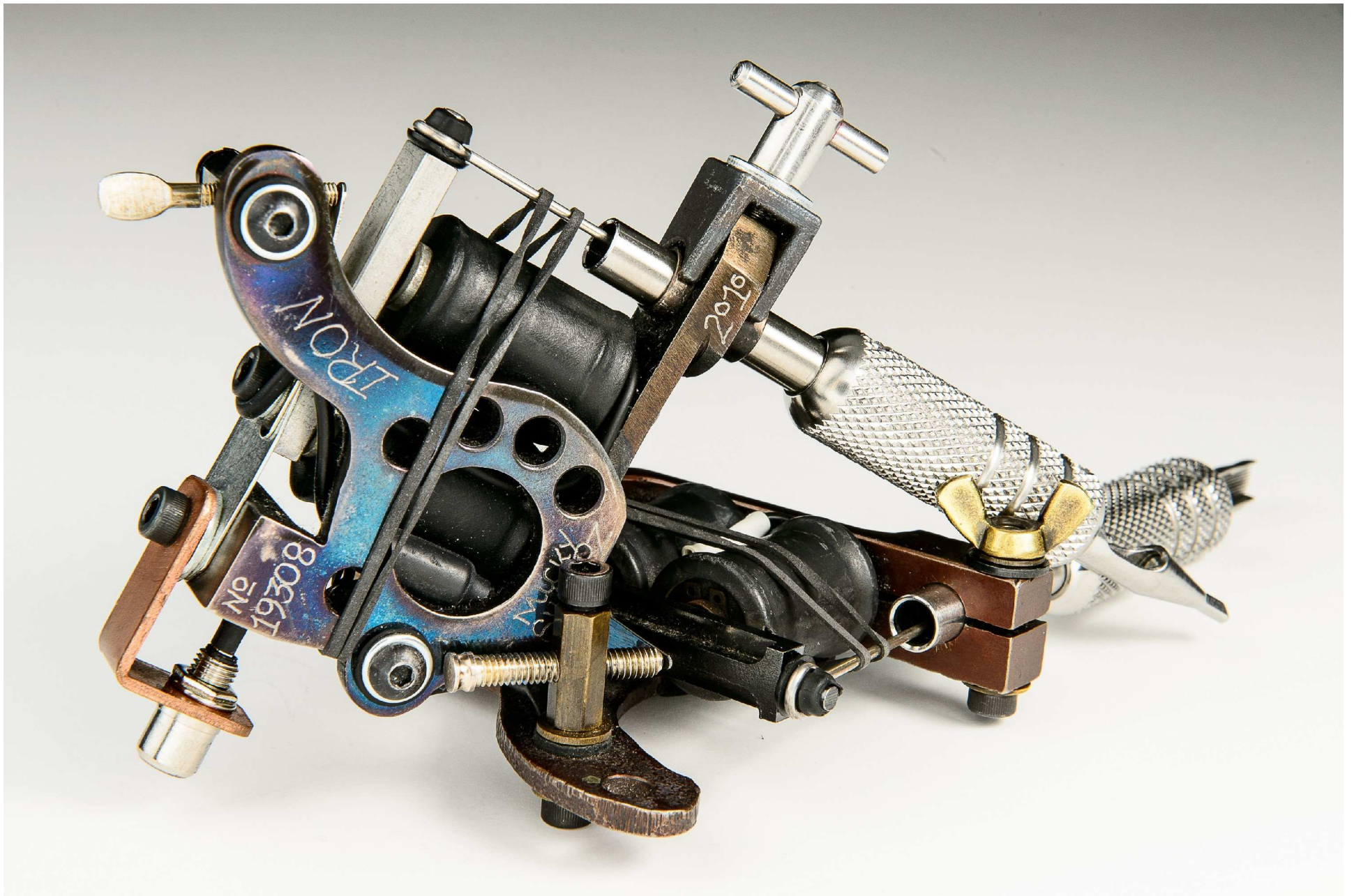






Piercings at the Tattoo Shop.















Rolling Thunder









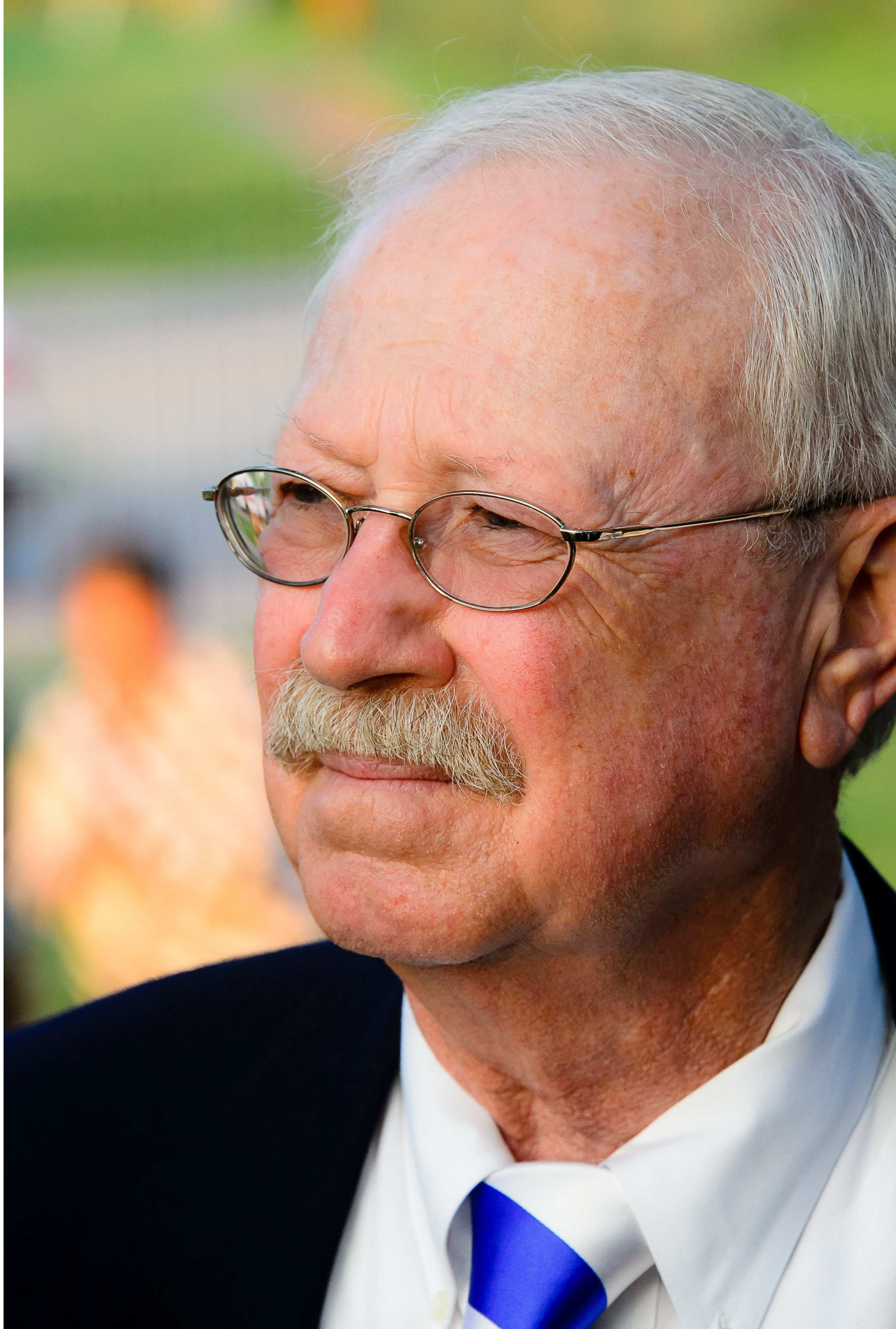




The Crumps at the McCallie 50th Reunion.



Old Roommates
Giles & Vandergriff

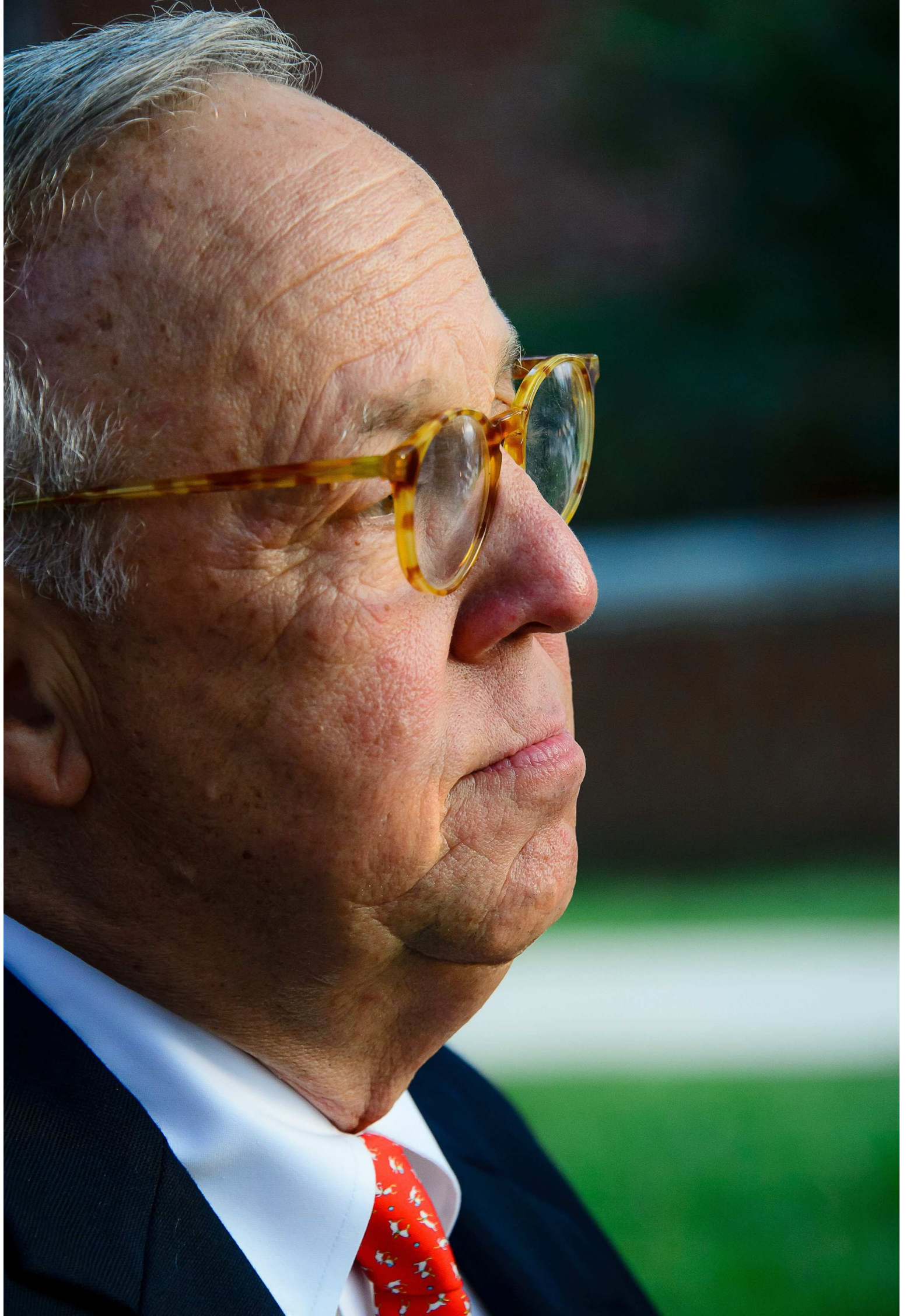


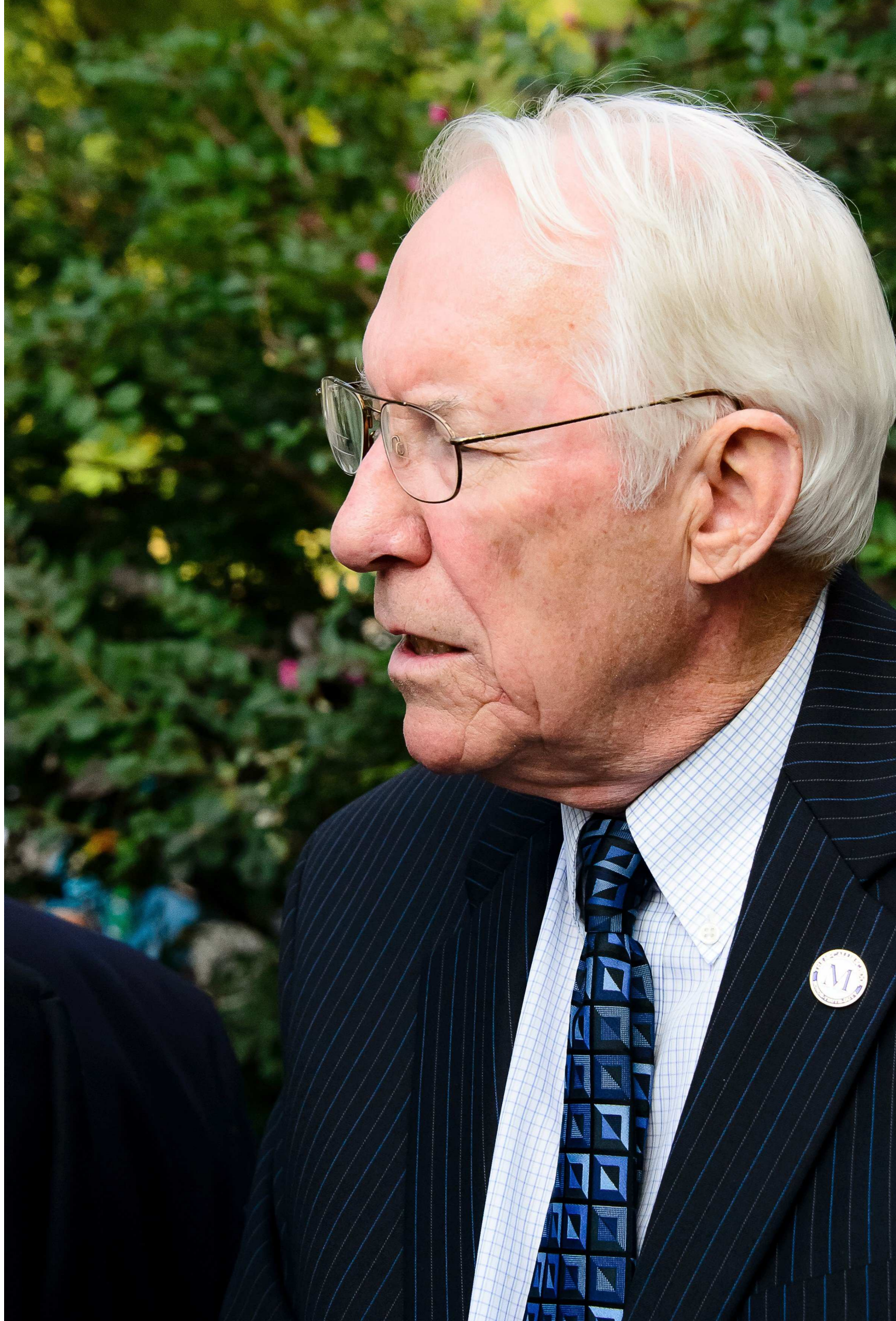




**Old Roomates
Rogers & Holland**

One of Dr. Spence's
"favorite boys", His
Honor & Mayor For
Life, Charlie Beach
of Beattyville, KY.





**Dr. Spence's
mellow son and
successor, Spencer
the Third.**

Swing Low,
Sweet
Chariot
at a
Civil War
Reenactment



















Sailor of the Year
Awards.











Neglected





Abandoned factory in Lexington, NC.









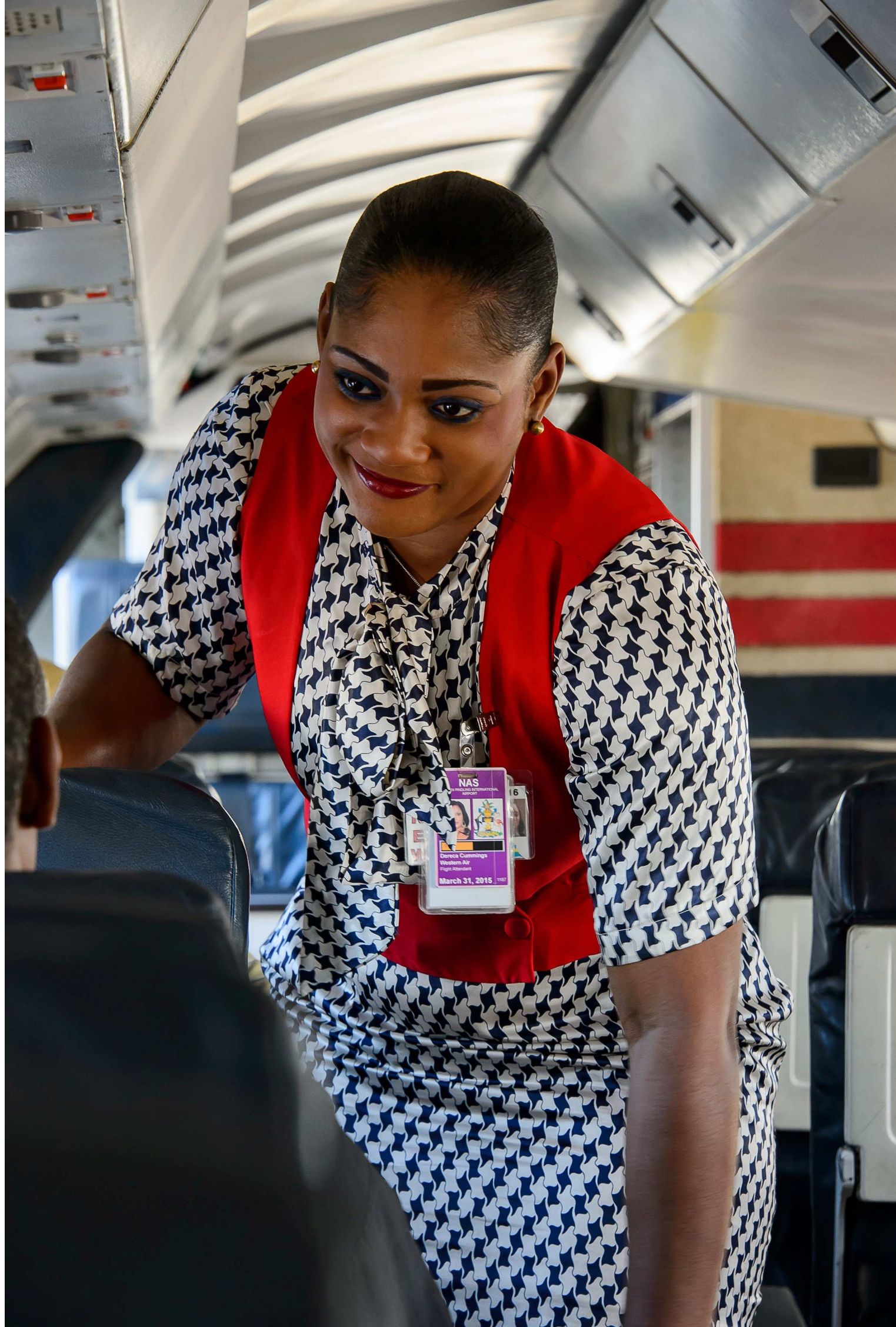
Occoquan, VA







Gone bonefishing in the
Great Bahamas.









Bart



Nathaniel



Variety **SNACKS**
TREATS & NOTIONS.

TOURIST INFORMATION

**SERVING
BREAKFAST**

**COFFEE
TEA &
JUICES**













Passing Alexandria, VA on the way to Reagan National.



Fashion Statements

HEADQUARTER
S. APPAREL
TODAYS HOTTEST FASHIONS
704.310.8227

412 '09
7/11/11

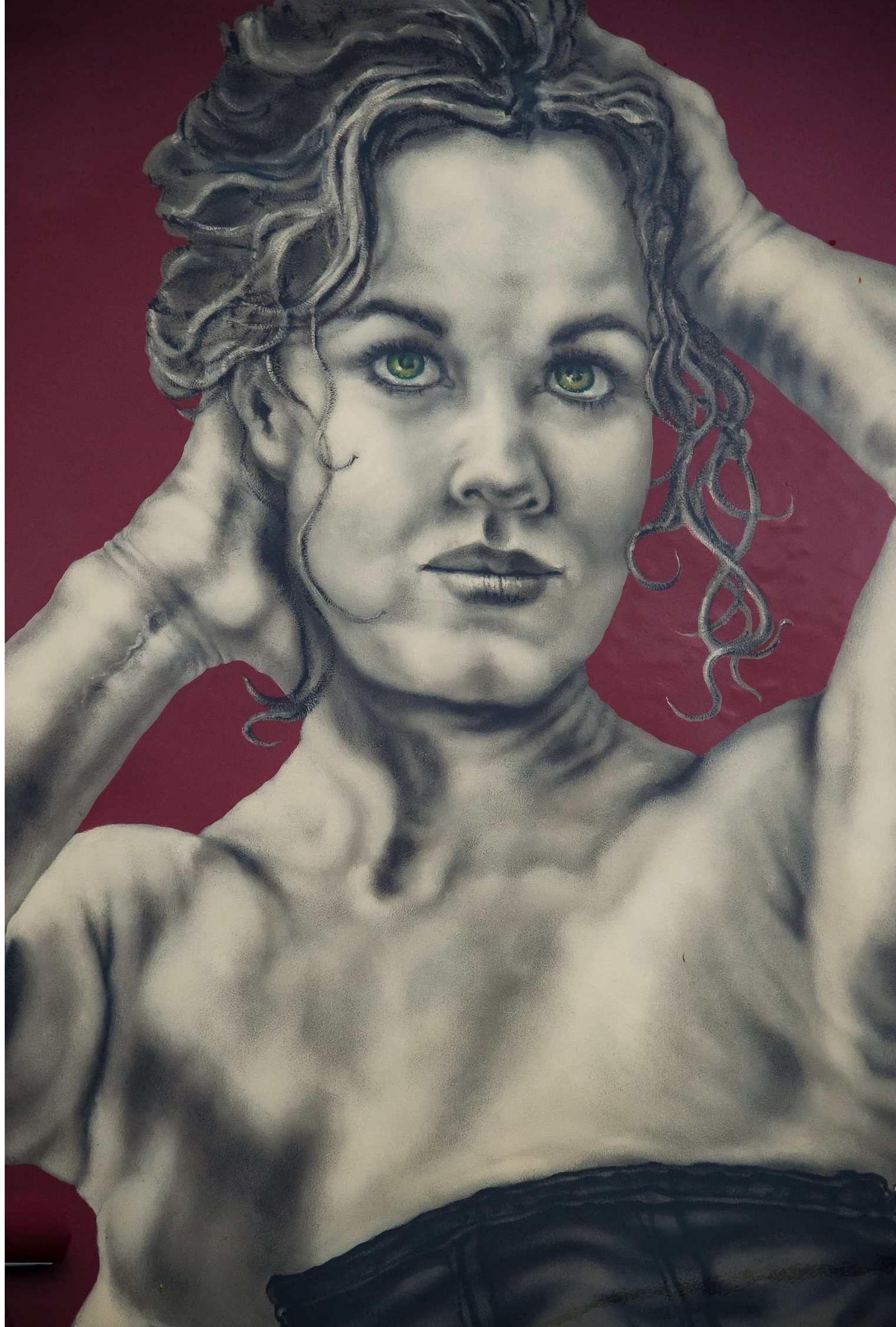
Chloe
Wine! 7-21-2004

1 2 4

1
2
4

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12













Richard

The Young Penalosa



Melanie



Maria at Haloween











Washington, DC









Contemporaries



CHILDREN
927

The Emperor Napoleon in
His Study at the Tuileries
by Jacques-Louis David
1806

DIRECTION
16



At the National Gallery



FRENCH NEOCLASSICAL
PAINTING AND SCULPTURE
LATE 18TH -
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
GALLERY 56











Ms. Wolfe's Hosta













VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

F O R D

1057



A Virginia veranda.





Ms. Wolfe at the ultimate junk store.



DO NOT
Disturb
Lou

