

'Thanksgiving' provides seasonal silliness / E3

'Great Indoors' could use a change in attitude / E8

# Life & Arts

Section E | The Columbus Dispatch | Thursday, October 27, 2011



SO TO SPEAK

## Sports fans: Let's retire silly stories about curses



JOE BLUNDO

I'm delighted that either the Chicago Cubs or the Cleveland Indians will win the World Series because the outcome will subtract a "curse" from the media's arsenal of clichés.

In a few days, we will have heard the last of either:

■ The Curse of the Billy Goat, blamed for Chicago's failure to make a World Series since 1945 and win one since 1908.

■ The Curse of Rocky Colavito (one of several Cleveland curse stories). Colavito's trade to another team in 1960 is said to have brought down the wrath of the heavens on the poor Indians, who haven't won the series since 1948. (Apparently, the curse was retroactive.)

Those are really dumb curses.

Supposedly, a tavern owner cursed the Cubs because the team wouldn't allow his goat in the stadium during the '45 series. Seriously? Wouldn't feeling compelled to travel everywhere with a goat be a curse in and of itself? Are we sure the Cubs weren't just trying to stage an intervention?

As for Colavito, he has said he never cursed the Indians — which makes sense, given that the team brought him back a few years later. In other words, to believe the curse story you would have to believe that Colavito put a curse on himself, too.

SEE BLUNDO, E2

### SOLICITATION

#### Mini-phobias, anyone? We'd like to hear more

We know a woman who won't touch cotton balls because she can't stand the feel of them. And, when one of our co-workers eats a Popsicle, she melts it in a microwave and enjoys it like soup, to avoid touching the stick. How about you: Do you have a similar mini-phobia or quirky habit? If you don't mind sharing, send the details to Dispatch Reporter Eric Lagatta at [elagatta@dispatch.com](mailto:elagatta@dispatch.com).

### ANIMALS



Lisa Inman Lee of Granville cuddles with Cinderella, left, and Repunzel, both Sealyham terriers. TOM DODGE/DISPATCH

### BOOK REVIEW TWO BY TWO

## Sparks offers a fresh story about love in 20th novel

By Lincee Ray  
Associated Press

In 1996, Nicholas Sparks introduced the world to Allie and Noah in his best-selling novel "The Notebook."

Their story became an overnight sensation.

Two decades later, Sparks continues to prove his expertise in exploring real-world challenges in a believable romantic genre.

His 20th work, "Two by Two," extends his impressive collection of literary tales.

Russell Green is living a dream life. His young daughter, London, is adorable; his career is taking him places; and his wife, Vivian, is the total package.

From the outside looking in, the Greens appear to be the perfect family. Behind closed doors, however, Russell can't help noticing that his wife is distancing herself. And nothing can prepare him for the day that Vivian decides to leave the family and move to another state to start a high-end job.

He must learn how to navigate the world as a single father raising a 6-year-old. He begins washing dance outfits, driving to art classes, making nutritious meals and assuaging the anxiety of his little

SEE SPARKS, E8



■ "Two By Two" (Grand Central Publishing, 496 pages, \$27) by Nicholas Sparks

## A rare breed, indeed

Few in number but big in heart, Sealyham terriers championed in Granville

By Allison Ward | The Columbus Dispatch

The animals roaming Lisa Inman Lee's expansive Granville property are rarer than tigers, pandas and even lowland gorillas. But what "endangered species" might be living in central Ohio? Six of the estimated 500 or fewer Sealyham terriers in the world call Licking County home. SEE TERRIERS, E2

## DAILY ALMANAC

Today is **Thursday, Oct. 27**, the 301st day of 2016. There are 65 days left in the year.

### Highlights in history



- In **1858**, the 26th president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt (above), was born in New York City.
- In **1938**, Du Pont announced a name for its new synthetic yarn: "nylon."
- In **1954**, U.S. Air Force Col. Benjamin O. Davis Jr. was promoted to brigadier general, the first black officer to achieve that rank in the USAF.
- In **1978**, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin were named winners of the Nobel Peace Prize for their progress toward achieving a Middle East accord.
- In **1986**, the New York Mets won the World Series, coming from behind to beat the Boston Red Sox in game 7.
- **Ten years ago**: President George W. Bush said the United States did not torture prisoners, trying to calm a controversy created when Vice President Dick Cheney embraced the suggestion that a "dunk in water" might be useful to get terrorist suspects to talk, a comment the White House said did not refer to "water boarding."

### Birthdays

- **96**: Nanette Fabray, actress
- **77**: John Cleese, actor-comedian
- **39**: Sheeri Rappaport, actress
- **30**: Christine Evangelista, actress

### Thought for today

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing." — Theodore Roosevelt, U.S. president (1858-1919)

Source: *The Associated Press*

## CONTACT US

### MANAGING EDITOR, FEATURES

Mary Lynn Plageman..... 614-461-5536  
Email: mplageman@dispatch.com  
Fax: 614-559-1754

### WEEKENDER EDITOR

Terry Mikesell..... 614-461-8534  
Email: tmikesell@dispatch.com  
Listings: weekender@dispatch.com

## BLUNDO

Continued from E1

(Granted, a Cleveland mayor once set his own hair on fire, so there is a pattern of self-destructive behavior up there.)

I think we need to come up with more convincing signs of supernatural influence on the two teams.

Here are some possibilities:

- At the 2016 Olympics,

Matthew Centrowitz Jr. became the first American to win gold in the 1,500-meter run since — guess when? — 1908.

Thus did Centrowitz break what I'm calling the Curse of Henry Ford, who, I propose, was upset that American runners could move faster than his Model T, introduced in 1908 in Detroit. For good measure, Ford cursed the Cubs, too, for defeating Detroit in the

series that year.

■ In October 1945, the No. 1 pop song was Perry Como's "Till the End of Time." Some say it was just a pleasant ditty by the crooner. Others say Como, guided by mysterious forces, was predicting how long it would be until the Cubs won a championship. (I'm writing before the 2016 series starts, so if the Cubs are up 2-0, blame Como for not singing more emphatically.)

■ A full moon occurred on the summer solstice in 2016 for the first time since, yes, 1948 — the year Cleveland last won a World Series.

So clearly, a heavenly alignment, not a curse, has been keeping the Indians from victory.

All will soon be well.

Joe Blundo is a *Dispatch* columnist  
jblundo@dispatch.com  
@joeblundo

## TERRIERS

Continued from E1

Once the dog of choice for Hollywood legends and European royalty — actors Cary Grant, Elizabeth Taylor and Bette Davis all had one — the small Welsh terrier has declined in numbers since the breed's heyday of the 1930s and '40s, Inman Lee said, because of the growth in designer breeds and the reduced need for hunting dogs.

"People's lives have changed, and they don't live on farms," she said. "It would be such a shame for the Seals to no longer be around — they have so much to offer people."

That's why she and her husband, Geiger Lee, have made it their mission to save the "clownish" white terriers, by breeding them responsibly through her business, Afterglow Kennels, and by educating others about the distinctive dogs' history and quirks.

The couple and three of their Sealyham terriers — Cinderella; Rapunzel; and Inman Lee's first Sealy, Pollyanna — will visit the Gateway Film Center tonight and Friday for its screenings of Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds." The famed director, owner of three Sealyhams at one point, showcased his dogs in his movies, including "The Birds."

The Lees made a similar appearance this month at the McConnell Arts Center, for a screening of "Rear Window."

In 2012, Cinderella and Rapunzel portrayed Hitchcock's dogs in the biopic "Hitchcock" when they were about 7 months old. They appear in scenes with actors Anthony Hopkins and Helen Mirren.

"Producers were having a hard time finding two Seals, and they were almost going to use two Westies (West Highland White Terriers)," Inman Lee said.

That would've been a disservice to viewers, said Mr. Lee, who had long wondered what kind of dogs were



Lisa Inman Lee walking two of her Seals TOM DODGE/DISPATCH

### At a glance

■ A "Meet-the-Breed" display will be hosted by Afterglow Kennels at the 7 p.m. screenings of "The Birds" today and Friday at the Gateway Film Center, 1550 N. High St. Geiger Lee and Lisa Inman Lee will have three of their Sealyham terriers with them. "The Birds" will also be shown at midnight both days and 2 p.m. Saturday. Tickets cost \$12. Call 614-247-4433, or visit [www.gatewayfilmcenter.org](http://www.gatewayfilmcenter.org).

featured at the beginning of "The Birds" — until he met his wife.

He was shocked to learn how rare Seals are. "Because there are so few in the world, breeders have to send dogs around the world so there is no in-breeding," he said. Afterglow Kennels has welcomed terriers from Belarus, Russia and Ukraine to breed at their Granville farm.

"All the Sealy breeders around the world know each other, which is why they are pretty sure of the 500 number."

At its lowest point in 2008, the Kennel Club, of the

United Kingdom, registered 44 puppies born, but the number rebounded to 92 in 2014. The American Kennel Club doesn't report registrations, Mr. Lee said, but does rank breeds based on the number of puppies registered per year.

The Sealyham terrier ranked 158th among 184 breeds in 2015, an improvement from 169th in 2014.

"Last year was one of our best years," said Sharon Yard, a resident of northern Virginia and president of the American Sealyham Terrier Club. "We registered over 80 Sealyhams with the American Kennel Club. Compared with the thousands of Labradors, for example, that are registered every year, that's a pretty small number."

Yard said the "Meet-the-Breed" events that the Lees host help increase awareness of the breed.

The first time Inman Lee met a Sealyham a decade ago, she quickly fell for the dogs, which typically weigh about 20 pounds and can have brown or black markings on their white base. A few years later, she met Charmin — "He's the No. 1 Sealyham of all time," she said.

One of the dog's owners — Margery Good of Pennsylvania — commented on the flawless grooming of her Scottish terriers, which Inman Lee still breeds, and offered to help get her a Sealyham.

Pollyanna, now 7, is Charmin's daughter.

"I never thought, in a million years, I'd be able to purchase a dog myself," she said. "There are not a lot who are willing to share them."

Grooming a Sealyham is important because the breed doesn't shed. A Sealyham cut requires a shaved body with a 2-inch skirt — and the beard and the fall (hair that runs from the eyebrow to the nose) are never cut.

Already breeding Scottish terriers, Inman Lee took on Sealyhams, too, with the cost starting at \$2,000. She has placed dogs all over the world, including one with former NFL tight end Jeremy Shockey.

The Lees typically rear two or three litters of Sealyham puppies a year and always have a waiting list. Pamela Ignatz-Nowell, a Lorain County resident, had her heart set on another Scottish terrier until she learned about Sealyhams from the Lees.

Gus (show name: Master of Suspense Cary Grant) joined her family this fall, with her neighbors all eagerly anticipating the puppy's arrival.

"I had people come to my door and say, 'I couldn't wait to see him,'" she said. "He's definitely the talk of the neighborhood."

Because of the interest, Ignatz-Nowell said, she feels a responsibility to breed him in the future.

The Lees ask those who adopt their puppies to be open to breeding, to ensure the survival of the breed.

"The breed is at risk because people don't know they exist," Mr. Lee said. "They can't make a decision that they want one if they don't know about them."

"Everyone we meet loves them."

award@dispatch.com  
@AllisonAWard