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Peach Buzz

Your daily roundup of celeb news and chatter
By Jennifer Brett jbrett@ajc.com



Calling all 'Glee' fans

Earlier this year the Earl Smith Strand Theatre in Marietta hosted a big-screen viewing of the "Lost" finale. Now it once again welcomes avid TV fans, for the Sept. 21 season launch of "Glee." The evening begins at 7 p.m. to give you time to get a drink, buy a raffle ticket benefiting the Atlanta Lyric Theatre and mingle with fellow Gleeks before the show begins at 8 p.m. Admission is free, and the \$25 VIP tickets get you front-row seats and a drink ticket if you're at least 21. See www.EarlSmithStrand.org for more information.

Soap opera notes



Victoria Rowell will speak at a breakfast meeting of the Buckhead Business Association. Chris Pizzello/Associated Press

Victoria Rowell, known to "Young & the Restless" fans as Drucilla, speaks at this week's breakfast meeting of the Buckhead Business Association. The event starts at 7:30 a.m. Thursday at the City Club of Buckhead, 3343 Peachtree Road, Suite 1850. Rowell, now an author living in Atlanta with her husband, artist Radcliffe Bailey, has written a memoir, "The Women Who Raised Me," and a novel, "Secrets of a Soap Opera Diva." (She'd been rumored as a possible addition to the "Real Housewives of Atlanta" but she told us that the reality show just isn't her "cup of tea.") Thursday's event is \$10 for members and \$20 for visitors and guests. Heather Wright is president of the organization. See www.buckheadbusiness.org for more information.

Celebrity birthdays

Actress Elizabeth Ashley is 71. Actress Peggy Lipton ("The Mod Squad") is 63. Comedian Lewis Black is 62. Actor Michael Chiklis is 47. Actress Michael Michele is 44. Country singer Sherrie Austin is 39. Guitarist Lars Frederiksen of Rancid is 39. Actress Cameron Diaz is 38. TV personality Lisa Ling is 37. Singer-guitarist Aaron Barrett of Reel Big Fish is 36. Singer Rich Cronin of LFO is 35. Guitarist Ryan Ross (Panic at the Disco) is 24.



Cameron Diaz

A sweet response to burglary

Thieves struck the Alzheimer's Association's Atlanta offices recently, making off with more than 20 computers and causing a fair amount of damage. In response, staff and board members, volunteers and local businesses are whipping up a benefit cupcake sale planned for Thursday morning. Piece of Cake, Cookie Creations, Highland Bakery and Gabriel's are all contributing delicacies. The sale will also feature homemade treats from the staff, board and volunteers, along with special \$1,000 "good karma" cupcakes, for donors who'd like to go a long way to defray the expenses associated with the crime. "The response from the community has been quite positive, and we are most thankful," statewide development coordinator Sally Huffstetler said. "We want people to know that even when bad things happen, people always give back." If you'd like to get involved, drop by the office at 1925 Century Blvd., Suite 10 or contribute online: www.alz.org/georgia.

Opera notes



Alfred Kennedy Jr.

The Heritage Committee, a group of past chairs and honorary chairs of the Atlanta Opera's annual gala, gathered recently at the home of Jack Sawyer and Bill Torres to salute this year's honoree, Alfred Kennedy. "Alfred Kennedy has continued the Kennedy family legacy of leadership," Sawyer said, explaining that the late Alfred D. Kennedy Sr. and wife Gina Kennedy were longtime supporters. (Gina Kennedy was honored in 1987, at the opera's first ball.) This year's event will be held Sept. 25 at the St. Regis Atlanta, and chairs are Sawyer, Monica DiDona and Marlene Alexander. Individual tickets start at \$300. Call 404-881-8801 or see www.atlantaopera.org for information.

A paint

Scientists come up with material.

Discovery could destroy dangerous microbes.

By Cathleen F. Crowley
Albany Times Union

TROY, N.Y. — Imagine a coating on a hospital doorknob that safely kills deadly drug-resistant bacteria on contact.

Well, researchers at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute believe they have invented just that.

Their discovery may lead to commercial products for walls, furniture, medical equipment and hospital gowns to destroy methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA, and other dangerous microbes that cir-

Friend in not her o



Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

Dear Abby: I have a good friend, "Nina," whom I have known more than 35 years. I relocated 1,500 miles from her recently and would like to invite her to visit me. The problem is, I want her to come alone. My husband and I have no desire to entertain her husband,

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