

DC

ARTS & POWER ISSUE

The Marvel-ous Frank Cho Opens Up!
Bethesda Broadway Baby Grows Up!
Hirshhorn Heavy Blows Up!
Mrs. Obama Takes DC Artists
Up, Up and Away!

CHO

+ PLUS

URBAN ARTISTRY: COUTURE DE FORCE!
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DAVID RUBENSTEIN'S BENE-FACTION

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POLIT-ARAZZI

About To Blow Up!

The Who has *Tommy*, Green Day has *American Idiot*, and now DC band Dirty Bomb has *King of the Hill*, a rock opera ode to Jack Abramoff. Reuters reporter Andy Sullivan wrote the songs after covering the infamous lobbyist's trial, then formed a group with his colleagues. Their debut record—dropped the same month as Abramoff's prison release and coincidentally the premiere of the film *Casino Jack*—tells “a classic rise and fall narrative” through meaty lyrics and ACDC-like power chords. Originally intending to create a Broadway musical, Sullivan wrote an album with as many emotional hooks as guitar riffs. “There's perhaps a little bit of Jack Abramoff in us all,” he says. —*Lauren Sloat*



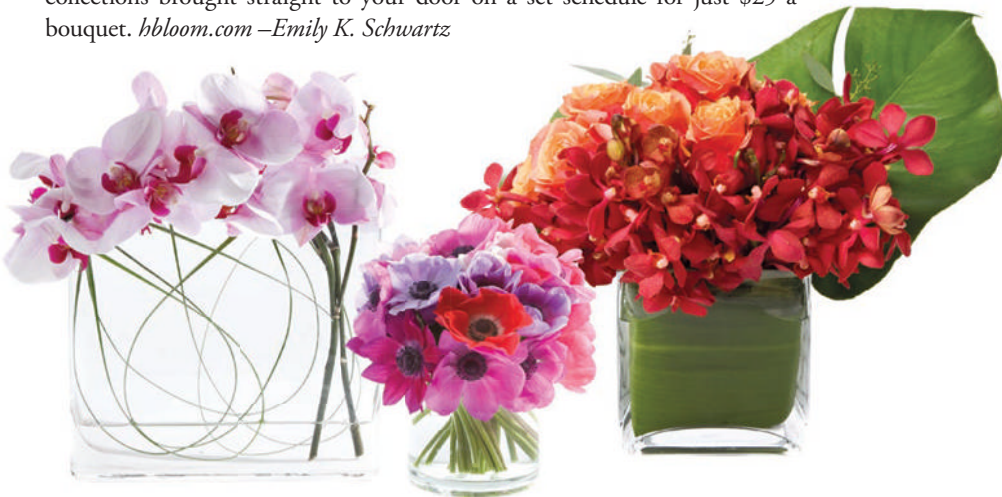
KING OF THE HILL
Journalist by day, rock star by night—Andy Sullivan is the ink-stained composer of a Capitol Hill epic.

PETAL PUSHERS

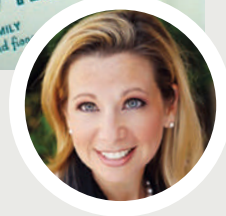
In Full Bloom

The economy might not be a bed of roses, but H.BLOOM just received an infusion of capital to help it launch in the nation's capital. Aiming to revolutionize flowers the way Netflix changed movies, the luxurious Internet-based florist—formerly serving NYC only—is bringing its deluxe, subscription delivery style to Washington. From exotic orchids to local annuals, former Urban Petals wonder-designer Sarah von Pollaro is assembling dazzling collections for both residential and corporate clients to spearhead the launch. Tempted? Select from arrange-your-own, pre-arranged and customized stem collections brought straight to your door on a set schedule for just \$25 a bouquet. hbloom.com —*Emily K. Schwartz*

FLOWER POWER
Keep your outlook fresh as a daisy with H.BLOOM's subscription service—for an endless stream of green dreams.



FIRST IMPRESSION The Dandelion Patch founder Heidi Kallett helps stylish party-throwers go postal.



Q&A

Get Carded

When Texas-native Heidi Kallett was looking for career inspiration, she turned to her girlfriends—and wine. Kallett now runs The Dandelion Patch, a fine stationery boutique with locations in Vienna, Leesburg, Reston and most recently Georgetown. We caught up with this mother of two to ask about her passion for paper. —*Christina Holevas*

Why come to the Dandelion Patch rather than double-click? The store is warm and welcoming. In a society that is so focused on technology, we want to help make life personal. **In such a fast-paced era, is longevity a factor?** The days when people sent a custom invitation for a backyard barbecue are over. We focus on milestones—events that you are going to want to scrapbook and remember forever. **How do you keep things spirited during the holidays?** When you get 300 emails a week, it's nice to see a special letter in your mailbox. Letter press cards make the holidays feel more special, unique, personal. **What can the savvy set find in your new Georgetown Park store?** I scour the countryside for the perfect hostess, baby shower, teacher, children's gifts. It's about foregoing the bottle of wine and showing up to the party with something you're proud to give and the hostess is thrilled to receive.