



On The Horizon

USS Horizon

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The filming for "Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince" began in September. Of this film Daniel Radcliffe said "It is the funniest of the films so far."

Battlestar Galactica: The final season

Battlestar Galactica is a science fiction television program created by Ronald D. Moore that first aired on October 18, 2004 in the United Kingdom and Ireland on Sky One, and January 14, 2005 in the United States on the Sci Fi Channel. Repeats of episodes have been shown in the United States on NBC, Bravo, and in high definition on Universal HD. The introduction to the television series

is a three-hour mini-series that aired from December 8-9, 2003, on the Sci Fi Channel. The series has gained a wide range of critical acclaim and has won Peabody, Hugo, and Saturn awards. This will be the final season for Battlestar Galactica. After a very successful run on Sci Fi Channel the decision was made to end the series. The question remains, Will they finally find earth and

Deathly Hallows in 2 Parts

Producers have announced that J.K. Rowling's last "Potter" installment, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," will be split into two parts on the big screen. The first film is slated for release in November 2010, with part two following in May 2011. The producers have done this because there are too many elements that cannot be left out of this book.

USS Horizon Member: Linda Sneed

The week prior to Easter long time member Linda Sneed was struck by a tragedy. Her parent's home was destroyed by a gas explosion. Unfortunately Linda's dad did not survive the explosion. Her mother, at this writing, has also passed on after a valiant battle with injuries that were inflicted in the accident. Our sympathy and love goes out to Linda and her sisters at this terrible time.

Linda has been the art coordinator and artistic director for the Horizon. She has assisted in the design of the Horizon awards, created hand made cards for the CO and XO for the Christmas season. She also created a beautiful card to send to the troops serving in Iraq. Linda has won the Horizon Order Of the Shining Star several years in a row. Her talent and spirit truly portray the spirit of the Horizon.

Her community service is expressed in her passion for the written word and the ability to share it though the public library. For many years Linda has been a member of the Friends of the Columbia Public Library and very active in the Friends book sales. Her tireless effort has helped to increase the volume and improve the quality of the Horizon library. Linda, thanks for all you do and the great friend you are to the Horizon members. We are so fortunate to have you with us on our journeys.



Shuttle Launch

The space shuttle roared from its seaside pad at Cape Canaveral's Kennedy Space Center at 2:28 a.m. ET, lighting up the sky for miles around and giving a beautiful orange glow to the low level clouds before disappearing into the darkness. The last time NASA launched a

shuttle at night was in 2006. The Endeavor and its crew of 7 planned a 16 day stay, the longest space station visit ever, to build a robot arm and add a room for Japan's future lab. This launch was a rarity for NASA. Only about a quarter of the shuttle launches have been at night. The mission was a success and the shuttle landed as it took off, in the dark.



Fleet Captain,
Khane Williams
Executive Officer,
USS Horizon
Khane@sbcglobal.net

At last Spring has arrived. March brings such interesting fluctuations in weather. The freezing cold, balmy days of 60+ degrees, the wind and torrential rains will fade into the softer days of April. After the winter cold we had here, the softer, warmer days of March and April will be most welcome. One of the things that

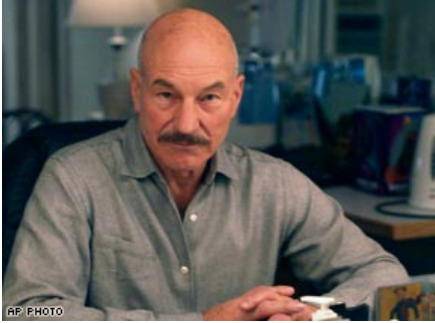
Spring always brings is the celebration of Easter. With Easter comes the promise of new life as the grass begins to green up and the crocus and daffodils begin blooming. The air freshens and has a sweeter smell. Spring also brings the Region 12 Summit. This year it will be held in Columbia, MO on May 2-4 at the Best Western. It looks like a lovely location. This year on Friday night we are invited to participate in the Romulan Ale contest. The entries can be either alcoholic or non-alcoholic in nature. Chelle Westfall is the person to contact if you want to participate. I highly recommend the Summit as a way to reconnect with many of our old friends from the region and have a great time.



Star Wars: The Clone Wars

In Las Vegas George Lucas offered a glimpse into the latest creation in his sci-fi universe at the theater-owners convention ShoWest on Thursday, March 13, 2008, showing a sequence from "Star Wars: The Clone Wars," a computer-animated movie due in theaters Aug. 15. It will be followed by a TV series of the same name, to air on the Cartoon Network and TNT this fall.

The movie came about as an afterthought while Lucas was developing an animated TV show of the same name. That show debuts this fall, but Lucas figured it was ripe for big-screen treatment, too. Set in the years between episodes II and III — "Attack of the Clones" and "Revenge of the Sith" — of the big-screen "Star Wars" chronicle, the movie and series present fresh adventures of Jedi warrior Anakin Skywalker, **Star Wars (Cont.)** his mentor, Obi-Wan Kenobi, and other colleagues. The movie introduces a female Jedi, Ahsoki, who is Anakin's young apprentice.



Patrick Stewart

He didn't have to go to work -- his play "Macbeth" was closed for the night. And Stewart, who has earned raves playing the doomed Scottish king, had not made any other plans.

"I did actually think, 'This is the saddest thing.' Here's a leading actor in a Broadway show on his night off and he's sitting at home on his own. Nobody to see, nothing to do, nowhere to go. What am I going to do?"

Then his eyes fell on a copy of "Hamlet."

So Stewart cracked open a bottle of good Napa wine and settled down to reread another Shakespeare tragedy.

"It just turned into the greatest evening," says Stewart, wistfully.

"After 50 years, it still takes my breath away."

Stewart is a hard-core Shakespeare freak. He's a man who memorized Shakespeare for fun as a teen and spent 14 years with the Royal Shakespeare Company. He never abandoned The Bard despite commanding a star ship for seven years on TV's "Star Trek: The Next Generation." Even on vacation he can't let go: Stewart, who managed to slip away to the Caribbean for a few days before "Macbeth" debuted on Broadway, found that the misty moors followed.

Raised in Yorkshire, England, Stewart joined an amateur drama group at 12 and later won a schol-



"To shine like a beacon on the horizon that others may follow."
Motto of the USS Horizon

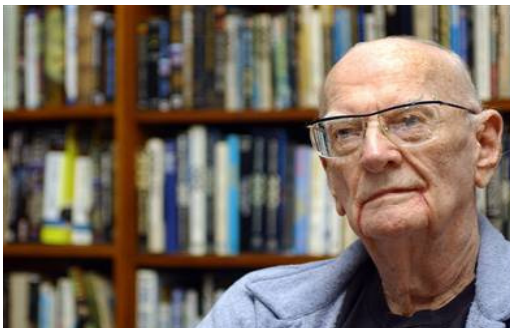
arship to the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, launching a career as a character actor.

"What I'm doing now is all I ever wanted to do. I didn't have any other ambitions," he says. "Once I'd been accepted into the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1966, I was perfectly content."

He stayed for an eyebrow-raising 14 years, playing everything from Mark Anthony to Henry IV to Shylock to Oberon.

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Sci-Fi Author Arthur C. Clark dies at age 90



Arthur C. Clark at his home in Sri Lanka December 2007

Arthur C. Clark, writer, under water explorer and space promoter, died on March 19, 2008 in the early morning. He has been suffering from the debilitating post polio syndrome for years and recently suffered from breathing problems.

He was born in Minehead, western

England, on Dec. 16, 1917. His father was a farmer. Arthur Charles Clark became addicted to science fiction after buying his first copies of the pulp magazine "Amazing Stories" at Woolworth's. He read English writers H.G. Wells and Olaf Stapledon and began writing for his school magazine in his teens.

Clark worked as a clerk in Her Majesty's Exchequer and Audit Department in London, where he joined the British Interplanetary Society and wrote his first short stories and scientific articles on space travel.

During World War II he served

in the Royal Air Force. During that time he wrote a memo about using satellites to revolutionize communications. He later sent it to Wireless World, a publisher, who almost rejected it as too far fetched. Because of this work he has been called the "godfather" of satellite revolution. Geosynchronous orbits, which keep satellites in a fix position to the ground are often called Clark orbits.

After the war he received a Bachelor of Science degree from Kings College in London in the disciplines of Mathematics and Physics.

Although he may be best known for his work in science

Arthur C. Clark (Cont.)

fiction literature such as "Rendezvous with Rama," "Imperial Earth," and "Songs of Distant Earth," he was also a writer of non-fiction works on the exploration of the Great Barrier Reef and the Indian Ocean.

The visionary author won worldwide acclaim with more than 100 books on space, science and the future. The 1968 story "2001: A Space Odyssey" — written simultaneously as a novel and screenplay with director Stanley Kubrick — was a frightening prophecy of artificial intelligence run amok.

Clark will not soon be forgotten. He recently reviewed the manuscript of his latest novel, "The Last Theorem," co-written with Frederik Pohl. It will be published later this year. Clarke's fiction inspired real-life space exploration. After the first moon landing in 1969 — an event Clarke predicted decades earlier — NASA Administrator Tom Paine said in an inscription to the writer that he "provided the essential intellectual drive that led us to the moon."

Of Arthur C. Clark, Apollo 11 moonwalker Buzz Aldrin said "Sir Arthur's positive vision of the future excited generations about space exploration, and inspired millions to pursue scientific careers."

In an interview with The Associated Press, Clarke said he did not regret having never traveled to space himself, though he arranged to have DNA from his hair sent into orbit. "One day, some super civilization may encounter this relic from the vanished species and I may exist in another time," he said. "Move over, Stephen King."

Along with his DNA sample, Clarke enclosed a handwritten note that read "Fare well, my clone."

On the occasion of his 90th birthday last December, Clarke delivered a speech to a small gathering during which he passed along three wishes: for ethnically divided Sri Lanka to find a lasting peace, for the world to embrace cleaner energy resources, and for extra-terrestrial beings to "call us or give us a sign."

He will be buried in Columbo, Sri Lanka, his adopted home. True to his vision he left written instructions that the funeral

Cyber Black Holes: I know I sent that message

You're pounding the keyboard, double-clicking away, sighing and grumbling, but to no avail: That devilish little hourglass icon refuses to give way to the Web site you're trying to reach. Most Internet users have encountered trouble reaching online destinations, but they often attribute the problem to their wireless network cutting out or a server momentarily going down.

At any given moment, messages throughout the world are lost to cyber black holes, according to new computer science research.

Ethan Katz-Bassett, a graduate student in computer science at the University of Washington, and his advisor, Arvind Krishnamurthy, designed a program to continuously search for these strange Internet gaps, when a request to visit a Web site or an outgoing e-mail gets

lost along a pathway that was known to be working before. To make sure the black holes they detect are not simply due to a problem with the end user or the host server, they look for computers that can be reached from some, but not all, of the Internet, meaning the issue must be occurring en route.

The scientists named their monitoring system Hubble after the Hubble Space Telescope, which can also detect black holes, albeit the astrophysical kind. They hope their data will help improve the consistency of the Internet, where we increasingly entrust vital information.



A screenshot from the University of Washington's Hubble Web site pinpoints "black holes" on the Internet. Green pointers indicate black holes that have lasted less than 8 minutes. Yellow, pink and red pointers highlight Internet addresses that have been inaccessible for longer periods.

Harry Goes to Court: J. K. Rowling defends her creation

Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling arrived at Manhattan federal court in New York on April 14.

Rowling told a New York court that she had stopped work on a new novel because the federal lawsuit had "decimated my creative work over the last month." Rowling is suing RDR Books to stop publication of Steven Vander Ark's "Harry Potter Lexicon" on the grounds that her copyrights are being violated.

"This book constitutes wholesale theft of 17 years of my hard work," she testified Monday. The trial comes eight months after Rowling published her seventh and final book in the series. The books have been published in 64 languages, sold more than 400 million copies and spawned a film franchise that has pulled in \$4.5 billion at the worldwide box office.

Patrick Stewart (Cont.)

"People who were not in the company would say to me, 'Give it a break. Why don't you go somewhere else?' And I would say, 'To do what?' " he says. "Telly?" Stewart eventually left to look for more modern fare. He had just done a production of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" in 1987 when an interesting offer came along. "I found myself in Hollywood shooting a syndicated science fiction series, which I was assured would fail."

It didn't, of course. Thanks to Stewart's rich baritone and noble bearing, the "Star Trek" franchise ran for seven years, 178 episodes and produced four feature films. Despite the Borg and Klingons,

Horizon Calendar - April—May 2008

- Apr 26 (Mission) Monthly Meeting 1:30
The Bread Basket Café 2101 W. Broadway, 573-445-1965
After the meeting we will go to the first showing after 4 pm of "The Forbidden Kingdom" at Forum 8
- May 2-4, (Fleet) Region 12 Summit
Best Western, 3100 I-70 Drive, Columbia 573-474-6161
<http://summit2008.region12.org/>
For those interested, we will be going to see the Movie "Ironman" during the afternoon while everyone else is doing breakouts. We will go to the first movie after the CO/XO meeting is done or after lunch. Our lunch location will be chosen by those attending Summit.
- May 24 (Mission) Monthly Meeting 1:30 p.m.
at China Star 3301 W. Broadway, Columbia 573-446-8866
After the meeting we will go to the first movie after 4 pm of "The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian" at Forum 8.
- May 26 (Mission) Holiday BBQ
C.O.'s house in Columbia. This will replace the Allen Family BBQ. The Dinner will be at 1:00 pm and we will go to the next movie At Forum 8 after the lunch to see "Indiana Jones: And the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull." at the Forum 8.

Stewart still managed to make room for blank verse. He established the Paramount Shakespeare Company, a workshop on Saturday and Sunday mornings for any actor interested. "I was keeping my hand in," he says.

The show gave him a higher visibility, which led to more work, including roles in the films "Conspiracy Theory," "L.A. Story" and the "X-Men" series, and Broadway, where he starred in "The Tempest," "The Caretaker" and multiple outings of his one-man "A Christmas Carol." "The lure of Shakespeare continued unabated, even if playing Hamlet, Romeo or Orlando were now out of reach. Lear or Falstaff or Macbeth were still manageable -- and he leapt at the Scot. Before the play arrived in the United States, Stewart spent a few days alone in Italy. He found himself in Florence, staring at Michelangelo's famous four unfinished slave sculptures, forever emerging from their blocks of stone.

"It was wonderful standing in front of them, because it became a very vivid symbol for me of what I actually feel creating a role. It's there and you have to strip away bits of yourself until -- whoop -- there's Macbeth."

Stewart already has more Shakespeare on the horizon. He's signed up to appear as Claudius for a six-month Royal Shakespeare Company run of "Hamlet." His yearlong journey in "Macbeth" is due to end on May 24 but, for Stewart, it will remain unfinished.

"You can never say this job is done, mission accomplished. That's impossible with Shakespeare."