AXTELLUSTRATION

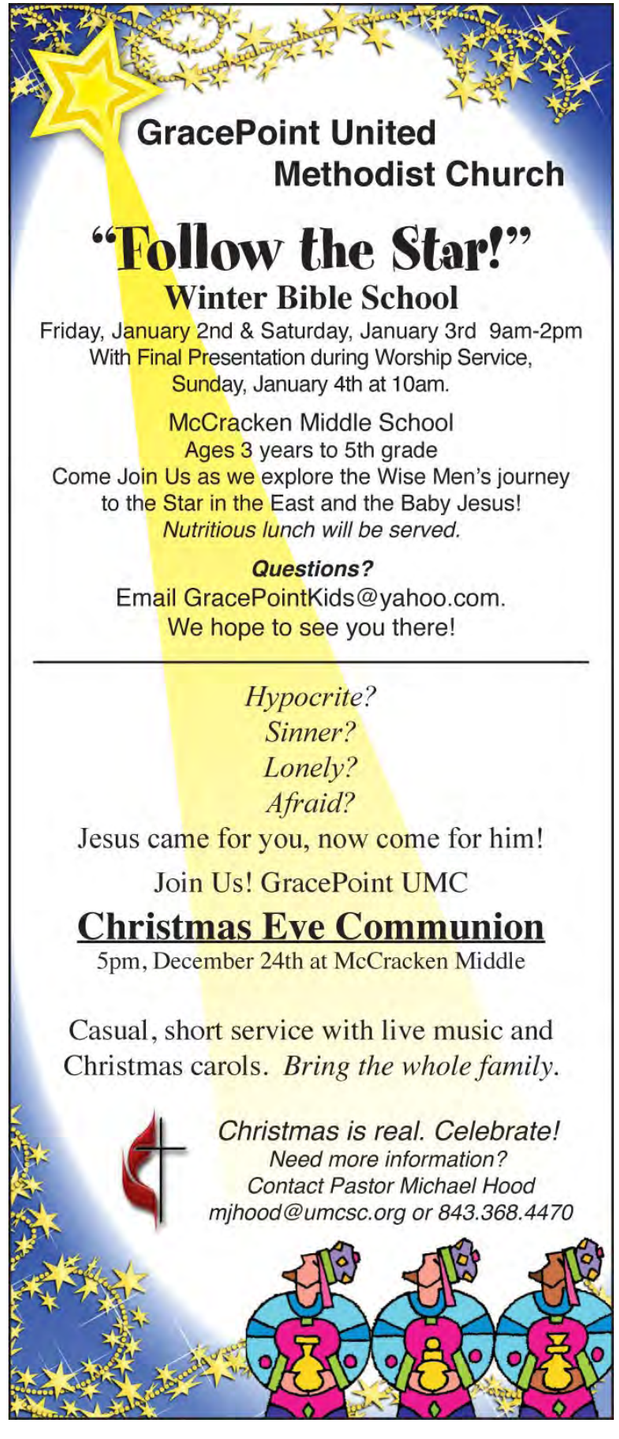
JASON E. AXTELL: DESIGN

DRAWING CLUB, PRINT POSTERS & WEB BANNER

CLIENT: THE ART INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON
MEDIA: ADOBE INDESIGN / SIZE: 11" X 17", 768 PX X 240 PX

PRINT & WEB AD DESIGNS

CLIENTS: BLUFFTON TODAY, ISLAND PACKET
MEDIA: ADOBE INDESIGN / SIZE: VARIED



BANNER DESIGN (LEFT)
CLIENT: THE WRITING CENTER AT NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
MEDIA: ADOBE INDESIGN / SIZE: 32" X 80"

AD DESIGNS (CENTER AND RIGHT)
CLIENT: BLUFFTON TODAY
MEDIA: ADOBE INDESIGN / SIZE: VARIED

LOGO DESIGNS, C89 AND GENEVA'S CHICKEN & CORNBREAD

CLIENTS: STEPHEN BENSON II (LEFT)/ GENEVA WADE (CENTER)
ADOBE PHOTOSHOP AND ILLUSTRATOR

LOGO DESIGN, THE COOL CONSUMER

CLIENT: MICAH BINNS
MEDIA: ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR

Savannah Morning News.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2005 • SAVANNAHNOW.COM LIGHT OF THE COASTAL EMPIRE • $1.25

ROUNDHOUSE RAILROAD MUSEUM ADDITION

Photos by Steve Bisson/Savannah Morning News

Cranes lower an 1880s wooden Georgia Railroad passenger car to its new home Wednesday at the Roundhouse Railroad Museum, where it will be restored.

1880s passenger car pulls into Roundhouse Railroad Museum

Historic piece of rolling stock served as a railcar, house, shop and office.

By Chuck Mobley
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David Bird, site manager for the Roundhouse Railroad Museum, points out the ceiling molding of the 19th-century railroad car that was converted to a home during World War II and later a business office.

It's partially covered with shingles, sports several colors of fading paint, and has a gap in one side where a bathroom was attached, but old No. 67 is finally back where it belongs - in a railroad yard.

David Bird, site manager for the Roundhouse Railroad Museum, said Wednesday morning the "fairly rare" wooden passenger car was a day coach and was built for the Georgia Railroad Co.Looking through a hole in the railcar's ceiling, he pointed to the words "Safety, Courtesy, Service." That was the Georgia Railroad's slogan back when the Augusta-based company was competing with the Central of Georgia, he said.

"It will take us a couple of years to restore it," Bird said.

A sign on the back of one of its doors says the car was built in 1911, but Bird is convinced it's much older.

John Hankey, former curator of the B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore and a leading railroad historian, said the car was built in the 1880s, according to Bird, a 37-year-old graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

The next chapter of the car's story came in "1941 or 1942" when it was removed from the tracks and turned into a house, said Bird. This occurred about the time when Camp Gordon was becoming a major Army installation, greatly expanding the need for housing in the Augusta area.

"I can't think of any other railroad museum that has a car that was once used as a home," said Bird.

By the mid-1990s, the car had undergone more changes. It had been used as an office and as a crafts store when Cindy Bryson of Martinez, a suburb of Augusta, came across it.

"It had been sitting there for a long time and had a 'for sale' sign," said Bryson in a telephone interview. The old car was exactly what she was looking for. "My husband's company (Bryson Heating and Cooling) works on Trane air-conditioning, so I thought, 'That would be neat,'" she said.

The Brysons bought the car and worked out of it for about three years. When it became too small for their office needs, she wanted the car moved and restored. She soon realized that would be impractical. "It would take me forever to do it," she said.< Her efforts to find the car a new home took on a sense of urgency when the owner of the property on which it sat "threatened to take a backhoe and knock it down."

An Augusta museum was unable to take it, she said, but put her in touch with the Roundhouse. She was more than happy to donate the car to the Savannah museum. "It would have killed me to see it destroyed," she said.

There was still one more worry, though - the trip to its new home. Two cranes gingerly loaded the 63-foot-long car onto a flatbed truck Tuesday morning, and it arrived in Savannah that afternoon. Wednesday morning, it was carefully lifted off the truck and placed inside the Roundhouse grounds.

No one was happier than Bryson.

"I'm so glad it's got a new home," she said from her company's Martinez office. "I worried all night long about it getting there."

VELOXES, FEATURE STORY REDESIGNS
CLIENT: SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS
MEDIA: ADOBE INDESIGN, ADOBE INCOPY / SIZE: VARIED

Savannah Morning News.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007 • SAVANNAHNOW.COM LIGHT OF THE COASTAL EMPIRE • 50 CENTS

The gift of tradition

Hanukkah starts at sundown: Jewish families combine faith with holiday spirit to build identity and lasting memories

BY DANA CLARK FELTY
912-652-0311
dana.felty@savannahnow.com

Wendy Cohen has no childhood memories of Hanukkah to pass on to her three children.

No heirloom menorah to light together.

No family latke recipes to share.

However, she has plenty of memories of celebrating Christmas.

The Christian-born Savannahian converted to Judaism after marrying husband Jon.

As a relative newcomer to the faith, Cohen has made special efforts to learn cultural and religious nuances so she can help her children build a strong Jewish identity.

One way the family has learned to do that is through rituals.

"I guess in the same way some families get together and make Easter eggs for Easter, we make candles for Hanukkah," Cohen said. "Our family will sometimes help us do that. We'll decorate them, put glitter on them and make them fancy."

Each night during the eight-day "Festival of Lights," the family will light one of the candles on the menorah.

Developing family rituals helps shift emphasis away from presents and onto the true meaning of the holidays, says syndicated Jewish parenting columnist Sharon Duke Estroff.

In her new book "Can I Have a Cell Phone for Hanukkah: The Essential Scoop on Raising Jewish Kids," the Atlanta author explains how family traditions can also help build Jewish identity despite the overwhelming influences of Christmas this time of year.

"Thanks to its opportune timing, Hanukkah - once a minor holiday - has become a defining Jewish event for American children," Estroff said in the book.

"It's especially important, therefore, that we take this holiday beyond a materialistic level."

Estroff suggests centering each night of the eight-day celebration around a theme, such as giving to charity, watching movies together, discussing books or inviting non-Jewish friends over to play games and sing songs.

Learning the rituals

At the Shalom School in Savannah, religious education involves learning about the daily rituals and traditions of the Jewish faith.

"There are rituals connected with our religion every day of the week and every action in life," said Principal Jules Kerness. "All of this creates an identity that connects you with your roots and with your religion."

As the holidays approach, the school leads the students in Hanukkah songs and games, the telling of the Hanukkah story and special blessings said over lighting the menorah.

Because many children at the Shalom School are from interfaith families, teachers also talk to the children about distinguishing the difference between Hanukkah and Christmas.

"That's a fact of life today. There's a great deal of intermarriage," Kerness said.

"We talk about Hanukkah being our holiday, but it's certainly OK to help your other relatives celebrate their holiday. We try to maintain the separate identity for the child."

A preschool teacher at the Shalom School, Wendy Cohen understands the pressure some parents feel to compensate for the Christmas fervor.

She explained how questions from her 5-year-old caused her to think carefully about her response.

"Does Santa Claus come to our house?" he recently asked.

"No, we're Jewish," she replied. "Santa Claus brings presents to children who celebrate Christmas. We don't celebrate Christmas in our house."

Cohen said she tries help steer children away from "Christmasizing" Hanukkah.

"Some families I know have a Hanukkah bush they'll decorate," she said. "They'll give a present for each night of Hanukkah, which I think is very confusing to some children.

"While being Jewish on Christmas could seem like one of the worse things in the world when you're not doing anything on Christmas - especially when Hanukkah doesn't fall on Christmas - I think it's important for kids to understand that being Jewish means that you're different."

Hunter McRae/Savannah Morning News

Wendy Cohen teaches her daughter, Reese, 2, how to make a beeswax candle Monday while making candles for menorahs in preparation for Hanukkah.

> "I guess in the same way some families get together and make Easter eggs for Easter, we make candles for Hanukkah."
>
> **Wendy Cohen**

ABOUT HANUKKAH

Also known as the festival of lights, Hanukkah honors the story of the Maccabees, a small band of Jewish fighters who liberated the land of Israel from the Syrian Greeks who occupied it. Since they were unable to celebrate the holiday of Sukkot at its proper time in early autumn, the victorious Maccabees decided it should be celebrated once they rededicated the temple, which they did on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev in 164 B.C. Since Sukkot lasts eight days, this became the time frame adopted for Hanukkah.

Source: Judaism 101 (www.jewfaq.com), Myjewishlearning.com

Hunter McRae/Savannah Morning News

Max Cohen, 8, makes beeswax candles with friends, including Uri Locker, 7, back, at his house Monday in preparation for Hanukkah and places one of the candles on a menorah.

HANUKKAH IDEAS FOR THE FAMILY

- **Charity night:** Give your children a set amount to spend and take them to the toy store, where they can pick out a gift for a needy child. Let them personally deliver it to a children's hospital, homeless shelter or charity drop-off point.
- **Treasure hunt night:** Make a treasure map for your kids to follow in order to find their loot for the night.
- **Latke-making night:** Whether it is peeling, washing or frying, making latkes, Jewish potato pancakes, is almost as much fun for kids as eating them. If you're feeling ambitious, make some extra and take them to a soup kitchen or shelter.
- **Homemade present night:** By stocking up on art supplies, having each family member draw a name and proceeding to make a special gift for that person, you create a tradition as meaningful as it is messy.

Source: "Can I Have a Cell Phone for Hanukkah? The Essential Scoop on Raising Jewish Kids" by Sharon Duke Estroff. Published by Broadway Books, a division of Random House, in 2007.

Bluffton Today

BLUFFTON'S ONLY DAILY HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2009 • blufftontoday.com • 25 CENTS

A CLASS ACT

Special education section honors the Bluffton High School Class of 2009. **Inside**

Volume 5, Number 66 • **COMING TOMORROW:** County mosquito control workers try to keep the bloodsuckers at bay.

SPORTS

Catching on

The S.C. Department of Natural Resources uses cobia carcasses to study an important recreational fishery, says columnist Dave Harter.
Page 24

CAUSES

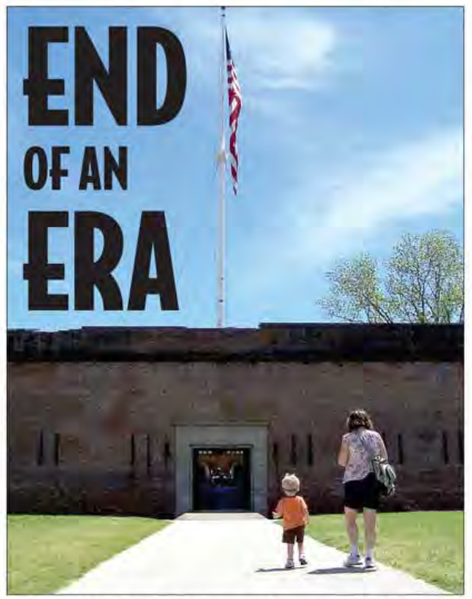
Bye-bye G.M.

BT columnist John David Rose says the General Motors bankruptcy is the logical result of making bad cars.
Page 11

REGION

Friendly feud

South Carolina and Georgia compete for tourism dollars closer to home as more people opt for "staycations" during the recession.
Page 6



Savannah's Fort Pulaski serves a fine reminder of the Civil War, and a nice day trip from Bluffton. **Pages 22-23**

NEWS

Residents want sidewalks to new Bluffton Middle School

Road widening project may provide impetus for pedestrian access.

BY FRANK MORRIS
BLUFFTON TODAY

Widening of Buck Island and Simmonsville roads near the new Bluffton Middle School campus will be delayed while the school district explores a proposal by residents to enable sidewalk construction, a district construction official said.

Several residents at a public information session on the roads widening project Monday evening suggested revising plans to replace open ditches with underground stormwater sewers.

That way, they said, there would be room in the right of

SEE 'BMS' ON PAGE 20

IF THESE BRICKS COULD TALK...

They'd probably say 'ouch.' Fort Pulaski saw its share of fighting during the Civil War.

PAST POSTS
Rob Dawig

It was supposed to be invincible. It just wasn't.

When Fort Pulaski was built in 1847, it was to be the impenetrable, permanent first line of defense for the bustling port of Savannah. Engineer Lt. Robert E. Lee (yes, that Robert E. Lee) erected the 25 million-brick fort on a series of piers sunk into the deep mud of Cockspur Island and lined it with cannon.

Georgia seceded in December 1861 and newly minted Confederates took the fort from its pair of keepers without a fight. The Union, however, took Tybee Island soon after. And there the sides stood, staring each other down, the Confederates believing their fort impregnable, the Union almost believing them.

Almost.

Capt. Quincy A. Gillmore and his commander, Gen. Thomas Sherman (no, not that Sherman), believed otherwise, despite appearances.

Gillmore, an engineer, constructed a series of earthen forts around Pulaski, mostly on Tybee, and armed them with fancy new rifled cannon. The smoothbore cannon in the fort could never have penetrated its walls; the Yankees' rifled cannon, with their spinning, screwing shells, could and did.

Although the code of chivalry is now long dead, Sherman sent a message to Confederate commander Col. Charles Olmstead asking for his surrender on April 10, 1862. It was refused, naturally.

So the bombardment began. An entire casemated battery collapsed into a pile of rubble. Men were injured, killed. Two days later, Olmstead handed his sword to his conqueror with these famous words: "I yield my sword, but I trust I have not disgraced it."

The fort remained in Union hands for the rest of the war, effectively bottling up Savannah and rendering it useless to the Confederates as a shipping port.

The battle meant even more than the loss of the Savannah – it meant the end of an era, the end of brick forts. Although the Union was unable to capture the brick Fort Sumter in Charleston until the war's end, cannon utterly reduced it to rubble. That's why Fort Pulaski, which the Union repaired and used for a prison for much of the war, is in so much better condition than Fort Sumter – it didn't last as long in battle.

Fort Pulaski is barely an hour from downtown Bluffton, admission is cheap and the history is priceless. Make the trip.

Jake Richardson, 2, sits in one of the gunports in Fort Pulaski's lower level. The fort was built of brick, which Union rifled cannon proved outdated when their crews obliterated the Confederate fort and forced its surrender in early 1862. The Union rebuilt it and used it as a prison until the war's end.

Getting there

It takes almost exactly an hour to reach Fort Pulaski from downtown Bluffton, although traffic in Savannah is always unpredictable.

To get there, take S.C. 170 west from Bluffton, turn right onto U.S. 17, follow it across the big bridge and turn right at the first exit – Oglethorpe Ave. Turn left at MLK, right on Bay (which eventually, strangely, becomes General McIntosh Boulevard) and continue east. Follow U.S. 80 toward Tybee; the fort will be on your left.

Admission is $3 per person; children 15 and younger are free.

Cris, Jake and Samuel (in Mommy's tummy) cross the drawbridge that marks the exit to Savannah's Fort Pulaski.

After its capture by Union forces, this area of the fort served as a prison for Confederates.

Damage from the Union bombardment can still be seen in front of this ancient Confederate banded rifle.

Jake Richardson of Bluffton stands behind one of the fort's twin 32-pound rifles loaned to the U.S. Park Service from Shiloh, where they really belong. The carriage is wrong for the fort.

CANNON, MUSKETS, COOKIES MAKE FOR A FINE OUTING

BY MATT RICHARDSON
SPECIAL TO BLUFFTON TODAY

The boom of cannons, the crack of muskets, people in Civil War uniforms, a picnic basket containing homemade chocolate chip cookies – it was a good day for history lovers and a great day for 2-year olds to visit Fort Pulaski.

Recently, my family and I traveled to Fort Pulaski near Savannah to enjoy an afternoon exploring the old Civil War-era fort and experiencing a "living history" day with re-enactors in period clothes and the firing of actual cannons.

My son Jake thoroughly enjoyed running along underground passageways, peering through gunports and climbing on cannons inside the old fort's walls. My other son, Samuel, hadn't yet been born. (He was born June 1.)

For just $3 a person, we had a fine day at the fort and a great afternoon as a family.

Jake loved the demonstrations but seemed to enjoy snacks on a picnic blanket on the soft grass outside the walls just as well. Fort Pulaski is fun for the whole family, easy on the wallet and packs a wallop of real history and outdoor enjoyment all year long.

OODLES ONLINE

For much more information about the fort, its lighthouse, its occupants and its history, visit www.nps.gov/fopu

FEATURE STORY, EDITORIAL & LAYOUT

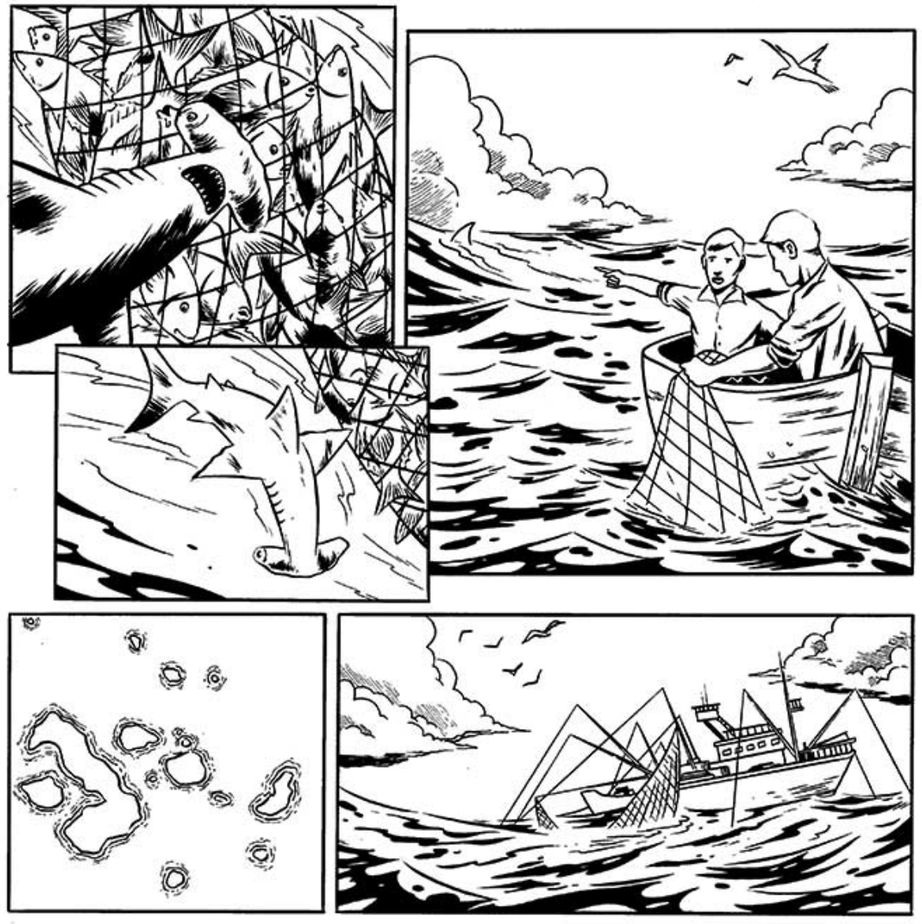
CLIENT: BLUFFTON TODAY
MEDIA: ADOBE INDESIGN, ADOBE INCOPY / SIZE: VARIED

MASTER KHAN, ART REFURBISH

CLIENT: MARVEL COMICS
MEDIA: ADOBE PHOTOSHOP

PHOTOGRAPH RETOUCH

BY: JASON E. AXTELL
MEDIA: ADOBE PHOTOSHOP



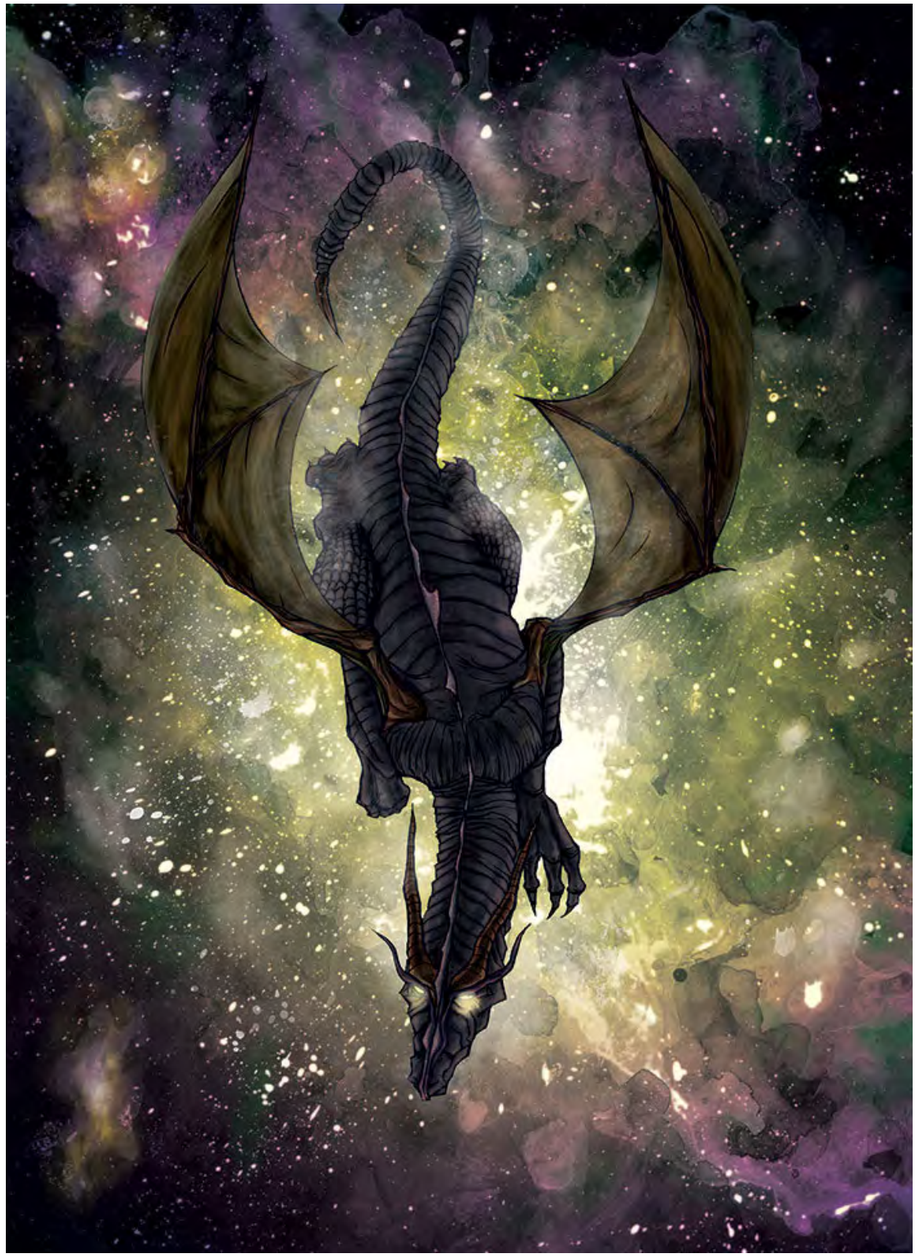
WILD OCEAN: ‘‘GALÅPAGOS’’

PUBLISHER: SKYHORSE PUBLISHING / ORIGINAL B&W ART BY: MATT DEMBICKI
MEDIA: PHOTOSHOP / SIZE: 10.75” x 10.75”

MR. BIG, PAGE 86

PUBLISHER: SKYHORSE PUBLISHING / ORIGINAL B&W ART BY: MATT DEMBICKI
MEDIA: PHOTOSHOP / PRINT SIZE: 6.5” X 10”

ARYA'S REVENGE
BY: JASON E. AXTELL
MEDIA: GRAPHITE, PHOTOSHOP / SIZE: 11" x 17"



DARK LEGACY: CELESTIAL DRAGON
PUBLISHER: BRYAN TILLMAN
MEDIA: INK, PHOTOSHOP / SIZE: 10.5" x 14.5"

AXTELLUSTRATION

JASON E. AXTELL: DESIGN