

**Katie Couric**  
She's Still Our  
Hometown Girl

From Auto Repair to Upholstery, 55 Places That Do It Right  
Ballet Is Back | Going Green | Readers' Favorite Restaurants

# WASHINGTONIAN



# Best

Delivery Pizza | Bike Shops | Holiday Sweets | Nightspots | Movie Theaters  
Cheap and Pricey Burgers | Beauty Secrets | Champagnes | Food Gifts | Country Inns  
Happy-Hour Drinks | People Who Made Their Mark | and More ...



DECEMBER 2006



\$3.95 [washingtonian.com](http://washingtonian.com)

# '06 Worst

Overrated Restaurants, Bad  
Dogs, Wacky Bushisms, and More

A puggle—the worst of both breeds? >>>



boxed domino set (\$200), all by Los Castillo, to bold silver jewelry (\$15 to more than \$1,000) and brightly embroidered wedding dresses (\$225 to \$250)—everything looks much more expensive than its price tag.

### Good News for Homeless Dogs and Cats

The first thing you'll notice in the dog room of the **Washington Animal Rescue League** (71 Oglethorpe St., NW; 202-726-2556; [warl.org](http://warl.org)) is the quiet. Instead of barks and yips, water fountains and classical music prevail. The shelter's \$4-million renovation was designed to reduce anxiety in homeless animals. Happy cats and dogs, the thinking goes, are more likely to be adopted.

In place of metal cages are glass-enclosed "dog dens" with heated floors and memory-foam beds and "cat condos" that interconnect so animals can socialize. There are also private rooms where visitors can get to know that dog with the soulful eyes or the kitten that reached a paw out to say hello.

### Best New Skin Products

Among this year's skin breakthroughs is Remergent's **DNA Repair Formula**, says Dr. Tina Alster, director of the Washington Institute of Dermatologic Laser Surgery in downtown DC. The serum—\$125 from [remergentskin.com](http://remergentskin.com)—contains enzymes that repair sun damage such as scars, wrinkles, and dryness, even from long-ago burns.

Alster also raves about **C E Ferulic** serum from SkinCeuticals, \$122 at Bluemercury stores (Georgetown, 202-965-1300; Dupont Circle, 202-462-1300) or at [bluemercury.com](http://bluemercury.com); for other retail sources, check [skinceuticals.com](http://skinceuticals.com). C E Ferulic contains several antioxi-



The newly renovated Washington Animal Rescue League is designed to make homeless pets happier—and more adoptable. This dog is enjoying the sound of water running over a skylight above him.

dants that boost collagen production. Results include more even skin tone and better elasticity.

### Best Cover Story

You're out on the town with friends or clients and wander into one of Wash-

ington's exotic-dancer bars. Oops, you're short on cash, which means evidence of your time spent ogling naked dancers will appear on your credit-card bill. Unless you wandered into the **Camelot Show Bar** (1823 M St., NW), which has you covered: The

charge on the statement is to "RAH of Washington."

You won't be so lucky at Archibald's and the Royal Palace in downtown DC or JP's and Good Guys in DC's Glover Park—their names will appear bright and clear on your statement.