

Friday Talk

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PEACH BUZZ / JENNIFER BRETT, butterfly@ajc.com

Driven to bid on fancy cars? Try Jackie O's

The folks at Red Baron expect a glitzy crowd at next month's auction. The "diamond-studded celebration" marks the 75th time bidders have swarmed there to eye high-end furniture, art, jewelry and other necessities.

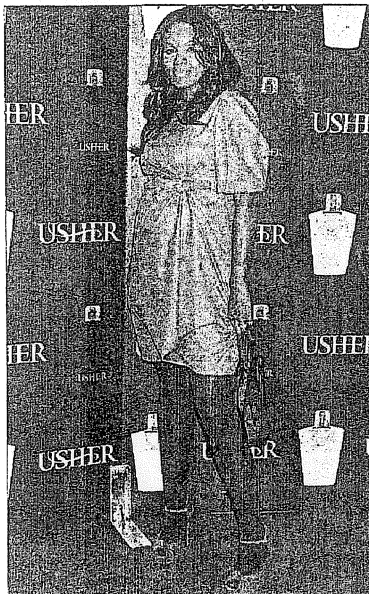
Among the treasures going on the block during the Oct. 13-14 event is a 1952 Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith—once belonging to Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and her second husband, Aristotle Onassis. Special features include a cigar box and rack—and pinion windows. Owing to Jackie's understandable fears after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy,

the car is bullet-proof.

"I think there's only 8,000 miles on it," says Red Baron owner Bob Brown. "I went out to dinner in it twice. It handles really nice."

(He had someone else drive the elegant machine, expected to fetch between a half-million and \$750,000.) Other items include a fabulous collection of Louis Comfort Tiffany stained glass taken from a church in Connecticut, a Confederate flag that has been in the same South Carolina family for several generations, and plenty of bling, including a diamond dog collar.

Brown won't name names, but dropped a few



JOHN SMOCK / Associated Press

Usher and wife Tameka Foster are expecting a boy, they announced during an "Extra" interview.

tantlizing hints.

"There's been several of them already come in and look," he said. "Entertainers, sports figures, several team owners, both from the world of football and the world of hockey. We've had an incredible response."

Red Baron is at 6450 Roswell Road. The auction preview will be Oct. 8-12, with a preview party Oct. 12 for registered bidders. All the details are at www.rbantiques.com.

Little Usher V on the way?

Atlanta's favorite R&B king and his bride are expecting a boy, the celeb show "Extra" reports. Usher (full name, Usher Raymond IV) and wife Tameka Foster were interviewed about Usher's new fragrance line and revealed, "It's a boy!" "I'm really looking forward to that moment in my life where I meet that little man, that little boy," Usher said.

Partying for parks

Patrice Dickey's book "Back to the Garden: Getting From Shadow to Joy" has been released in audio-book form. To celebrate, she threw a CD release party at Silk Monday night benefiting Park Pride.

Attendees included Charles H. Green, Jim Withers and Lisa Haverly, Dr. Robert and Carol Dallas, Dr. Rick Thode, Novia Lytle, Norma Poindexter, Susan Howick, Sarah Trackston, Cecile Ingraham, Brad and Pamela Campbell, Ted Rubenstein, Billy Quinn, John Kale and Cortne Pappa and wife Monica Walsh.

The group munched on Shanghai spring rolls in mango vinaigrette, beef dumplings, California sushi rolls and knocked back pomegranate and green apple martinis and cosmos. Park Pride advocates action for parks and green space throughout metro Atlanta.

Amid the revelry, director of development Abigail Paine reminded everyone about the "Get Connected to the Belt-Line Great Green Mile Clean-up" coming up on Oct. 20. (All the info: www.parkpride.org). Dickey's book and CD advocate the healing power of parks and nature. Details: www.patricedickey.com.

Classic brings back days of disco

Atlanta's party scene just keeps getting hotter. And when you're able to nab one of the ATL's hottest DJs, you can pretty much count on a good time.

Tonight marks the debut of Classic at the new Ice Private Bar at 840 Marietta St. in Atlanta. DJ KemIt brings old-school R&B and disco

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Actor William Windom ("Murder, She Wrote") is 84. Actor Arnold Stang is 82. Blues singer Kokoa Taylor is 79. Actress Brigitte Bardot is 73. Singer Ben E. King is 69. Actor Joel Higgins ("Silver Spoons") is 64. Actor Jeffrey Jones is 61. Writer-director-actor John Sayles is 57. Actress Sylvia Kristel ("Emmanuelle," "Private Lessons") is 55. Actress-comedian Janeane Garofalo is 43. Country singer Matt King is 41. Actress Mira Sorvino is 40. TV personality Moon Zappa is 40. Actress Naomi Watts is 39. Country singer Randy Barnett is 32. Rapper Young Jeezy is 30. Actress Hilary Duff is 20.

to the water-filled dance floor in the space connected to Utopia Martini Tapas Lounge.

"It's your old-school music, not necessarily hip-hop but very genre," says spokeswoman Charlene L. Sanders. "From Phil Collins along with Curtis Mayfield to Donnie Hathaway along with Earth, Wind & Fire and Parliament, this isn't going to be a meat-market experience," Sanders says. "People are coming out to have a good time." The party kicks off from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. and promoters say come dressed to impress. Admission: \$20. Call 404-698-8788 or go to www.myspace.com/macosypa for details.

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OVERSCENE

Antwan "Big Boi" Patton, half of the Grammy Award-winning duo OutKast, was on hand Wednesday night at the Atlanta Ballet's season launch party at King Phob Arts Center on West Marietta Street, as partygoers got a sneak preview of a new ballet set to his music. Dancers clad all in white, some holding red umbrellas, took the stage while others danced among the crowd—often within inches of surprised guests, who included Michael Taormina, managing director of the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre.

The ballet's artistic director, John McFall, said it has been a pleasure working with Big Boi, whom he called "a remarkable gentleman" and said some of the music in the upcoming ballet is brand new, composed specifically for the dance. The ballet, choreographed by Lauri Stallings, will be performed April 10-13 at the Fox Theatre.