

Life

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What's inside this week

- What has an outdoor tiki bar, six widescreen TVs and an exercise room? The ultimate bachelor pad. **Triad Homes, D11**
- How to avoid unsatisfying snacks. **Basics, D5**
- Shops will showcase their wares during First Friday festivities. **Savvy Shopper, D10**



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Do you have a suggestion or a question for Life? Reach us at 373-7145.



Sunday, January 29, 2012

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SUSAN
LADD

My name is Susan, and I'm a klutz

I am the clumsiest human who ever walked the face of the Earth.

A bold statement, to be sure, but I can back it up.

The other day, I was simply going from one room to another when I managed to nearly knock my kneecap off on the door frame. How does that happen, anyway? How hard is it to walk through a doorway? People do it all the time.

I'm prone to whacking the side of my arm on doorways, too. The kneecap thing was rare, but it was certainly memorable. I was downstairs contemplating an ice pack when I noticed my arm was stinging. A crescent-shaped cut tracked about three inches across my forearm.

How did I get it? No clue. Was it part of the whole door mash-up, or did I do it earlier, when I was taking out the trash? Who's to say?

When I am intent on a task, I am oblivious to pain. I only notice after I stop doing something that I have rubbed a blister the size of a tennis ball or that one of my joints is swollen to twice its normal size.

I move too fast, that's part of the problem. I unconsciously try to cut corners through doorways and around hallway turns, and whammo!

I may have lousy depth perception, or bad peripheral vision. But I think I'm just a klutz.

I have the kind of accidents that are embarrassing to explain.

Once fell into my car. Really.

I was getting into the driver's seat and simultaneously slinging my purse onto the passenger seat, when something went wrong. I'm still not sure what. But it resulted in my shoulder making contact with the center console.

There was the Halloween roadkill incident, where an uneven bit of curbing sent me sprawling into the street, just as one of the neighbors caught me in his headlights.

Let's not even talk about what happens in the kitchen. I have sheared off small chunks of skin chopping vegetables, I burn myself almost every time I turn on the oven, and once I dropped a ketchup bottle which exploded, splattering everything in a 4-foot radius.

One of the most memorable episodes involved a

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WANT TO GO?

What: Rock the Runway, a fashion show fundraiser benefitting Goodwill Industries of Central North Carolina.

When: 7-10 p.m. Friday

Where: Empire Room, 203 S. Elm St., Greensboro

Tickets: \$35 per person; \$75 Plus package, includes two admission tickets and two Rock the Runway T-shirts; \$100 VIP package, includes two admission tickets, front-row seats at the show, valet parking, two Rock the Runway T-shirts and Red Carpet photo. Admission includes two drink tickets and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Information: www.goodwillrocktherunway.org



FASHION FORECAST

Expect to see casual wear showcasing bold colors, prints and "island-themed classics" in earth tones and natural fabrics.

In the professional realm, feminine knee-length dresses that can go from day to evening, will be paired with menswear-inspired tailored jackets.

Eveningwear looks include little black dresses embellished with gold- and silver-toned accessories, colorful cocktail dresses and floor-length, vintage-inspired glamorous evening gowns.

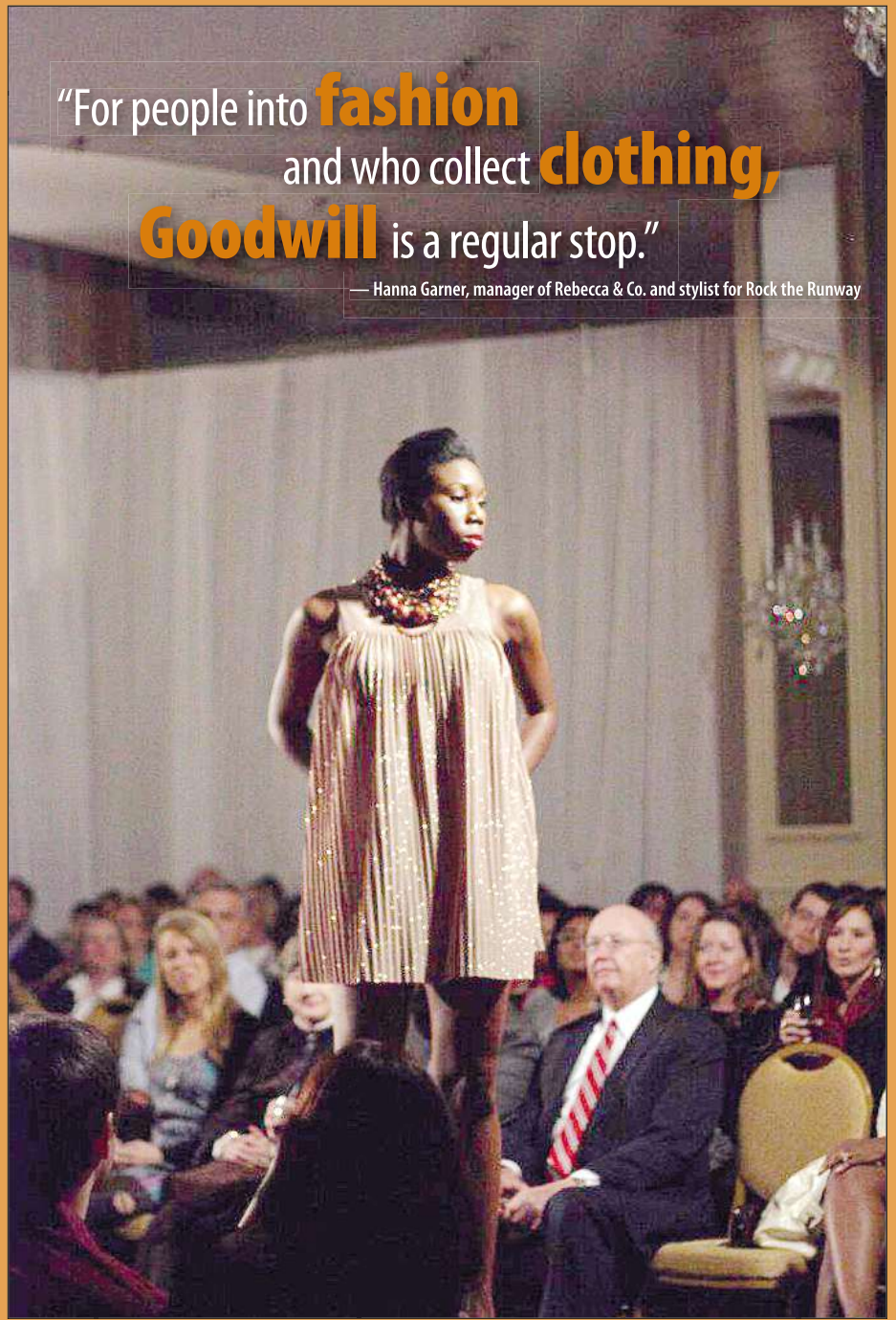
One hot trend this season is to pair a dark frock with footwear in lighter colors.

Stylist favorites include vintage classics — a palazzo-pant jumpsuit and terra-cotta microsuede culottes.



"For people into **fashion** and who collect **clothing**, Goodwill is a regular stop."

— Hanna Garner, manager of Rebecca & Co. and stylist for Rock the Runway



Photos courtesy of Brittany Butterworth

Jalessa Allen, a marketing and sales professional, models a dress at last year's Rock the Runway.

Goodwill's mission is in the SPOTLIGHT

Rock the Runway raises stores' profile for fashionistas

BY TINA FIRESHEETS
Staff Writer

High-fashion ensembles can be created from outdated cast-offs.

You just need an eye for fashion and a sense of adventure.

And it doesn't hurt to have Hanna Garner's expertise.

Garner, who manages the upscale boutique Rebecca & Co., also frequents local Goodwill stores to pair vintage items with modern, upscale pieces to create her own looks. But she blitzed the Goodwill racks recently for a greater purpose: the Rock the Runway fashion show.

The third annual Goodwill fundraiser, to be held Friday, benefits the organization's job-training programs. It also aims to show people that fashionable clothing, shoes and accessories can be found at Goodwill stores.

Garner, a stylist for the fashion show, says Goodwill stores have significant



Allen models a shorts ensemble in last year's fashion show.

inventories.

"For people into fashion and who collect clothing, Goodwill is a regular stop," she says.

She was part of a creative team that assembled more than 75 looks for the 90-minute show. Local volunteer models — average people who are students, artists, working professionals and military servicemen — will strut a runway flanked by rows of spectators.

The event itself, which

begins with a cocktail-hour mixer, gives people a taste of what it's like to attend a fashion show in New York.

Freida Bailey, the event's producer and creative director, took on the project last year. Her goal was to create an authentic show that was chic and elegant.

"We also wanted to enhance Goodwill's branding and change the

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ABOUT GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

Revenue generated through retail stores and recycling initiatives provides funding for local residents to become self-sufficient and employed.

- Community resource centers in Asheboro, Greensboro and Reidsville provide job-skills classes.
- 9,134 people were served at Goodwill resource centers.
- 1,725 people were placed in jobs last year. That's \$20 million in new wages.

■ Partnerships were formed with 60 community agencies and 30 business associates last year.

■ 407 people were served at the newly opened North Elm Career Center last year.

■ 18 retail stores with 23 donor sites operate in Alamance, Caswell, Guilford, Randolph and Rockingham counties.

■ 1,121,298 customers were served in stores and at shopgoodwill.com.

■ 86 cents of every dollar earned funds Goodwill programs.

■ 7,717 pounds of goods were collected from 115 single-family households through a pilot program that retrieves donations directly from people's homes.

■ 334,254 donations were accepted in 2010-11.

■ 8,104,488 pounds of products were kept from local landfills through recycling initiatives.



Courtesy of Brittany Butterworth

Models line up for last year's Rock the Runway fashion show. This year's event will be Friday at the Empire Room in Greensboro.

Runway

Continued from Page D1

impression of Goodwill as a place to shop," Bailey says.

"We wanted to make Goodwill cool."

Bailey, vice president of operations at Ralph Lauren, wanted to serve Goodwill after touring its center on South Eugene Street. Her company encourages philanthropy and community involvement.

People who attend the show will learn about Goodwill's mission in a subtle but important way, she says. And in a glamorous setting. Bailey says it's a good excuse for people to dress up, mix and min-

gle for a worthy cause.

Ever fantasize about walking a red carpet and posing like a celebrity? This is your chance — without the risk of Joan Rivers and a panel of fashion experts ripping your hair and outfit to shreds.

Goodwill marketing specialist Deanna Miller said people who attended last year's sold-out show were amazed that such clothing could be found at Goodwill.

The perception is that shopping at Goodwill is for poor people, she says. But people wanted to purchase the model's outfits last year.

"It's a different way of looking at our clothes," Miller says.

The recession, Miller says, has forced people to

take a second look at how they spend money. The average ensemble in the show costs between \$5 and \$10.

Garner says it's easy to shop at Goodwill. Merchandise is color coordinated, and signs over the racks show how much items cost.

She gets excited about shopping there because she never knows what she may find: vintage lingerie, gown and robe sets from the 1950s, jewelry, even designer jeans.

Garner advises fashionistas: "No one has to know how you spent your money. Have fun and put things together."

Contact Tina Firesheets at 373-3498 or tina.firesheets@news-record.com

GOODWILL STORES

Greensboro:

- 3921 Battleground Ave., 545-1212
- 3519 N. Elm St., 282-6402
- 106 Muirs Chapel Road, 315-0277
- 1235 S. Eugene St., 275-2150. Also houses Computer Junction and corporate office.
- 3739-A High Point Road, 294-2033

High Point:

- 1145 E. Lexington Ave., 883-1257
- 5301 Samet Drive, 882-3772