

LAURA ON LIFE

One Good Chair

My bedroom also doubles as my office. We do have an actual office in our house, but my husband's computer menagerie has been procreating, it seems. He collects computer parts and peripherals like some people collect stamps or coins. Unfortunately, computer parts do not fit neatly into an album. As a result our office has become our computer parts museum. He has everything from a Commodore 64, still in its original box, to a floppy drive from the Middle Ages.

My bedroom is the only remaining haven where I can write, compose e-mails, and conduct business (like making grocery lists). It stands to reason that I would spend a lot of time in there.

For this reason, I need a good chair. The one I had was okay, but the cushioning had

gone flat and I had to place a small pillow in the back for lumbar support. I think that is where I keep my lumbar, anyway.

This situation was okay, but not ideal.

I would have kept my chair if my husband's chair didn't break. It was the second chair he had broken in two years. I saw his misfortune as my ticket to a new chair. The plan? He could take my old chair and I would get a new one for my "office."

Lest you think I was being selfish to suggest this, you need to consider my willingness to take his old iPhone when my contract was up so that he could upgrade to the new one.

We have a give and take relationship. Sometimes he does the taking and sometimes I do.

He wanted a new iPhone. I wanted a new

chair.

Besides, men's posteriors are accustomed to sitting for hours on metal bleachers and fishing boat benches. My chair with its 1/2 inch of padding would be no sacrifice for my husband.

In fact, because he is over 6 feet tall, his lumbar would probably be at least six inches above mine. If my old chair had any support at all, it would fit his lumbar much better than mine.

Finding a chair that would fit me, however, proved to be quite a challenge. Not only was I looking for more padding in the seat and built-in lumbar support for my irregularly shaped behind, but it seemed the more chairs in which I sat, the more features I decided I needed.

The first one that drew my eyes was an executive chair with



Laura Snyder

fine Corinthian leather. It may have been "pleather" for all I know, but it looked like something in which Ricardo Montalban would sit, behind a monstrous mahogany desk. No matter that my "desk" was actually a plastic card table, complete with a calendar, a grammar cheat sheet, a card with the warning signs for a heart attack, various scraps of paper with information I don't want to forget, and pic-

tures my children have drawn for me over the past 5 years, scotch-taped to the wall behind it.

Yeah, okay, leather was too cold to sit on anyway. I needed a cloth chair. A high back would be nice, too, in case I wanted to rest my head. Truthfully, if I wanted to rest my head, I could walk 5 feet to my left and crawl into my bed. However, writers have to be disciplined. I can't lie down simply because I'm tired. If I had a "real" job, I'd be fired. So, I decided a high back is a must. I wouldn't want to be forced to fire myself. It would be awkward.

Armrests are really unnecessary, but they are a luxury I can't resist. I thought it would be nice to not have to support my arms all by myself. Sometimes you just have to pamper yourself.

When I finally lit on a chair that met my many criteria, I bought it and brought it home. To add extra fuel to the fire of my husband's envy, I asked him to help me build it.

I could see that he was as jealous of my new chair as I was of his new iPhone, but he took my old chair, knowing that his only other option was perching on one of his 1980's CRT monitors. Considering his habit of breaking chairs, he wouldn't want to take that chance with the contents of his computer museum.

Laura Snyder is a nationally syndicated columnist, author & speaker. You can reach Laura at lsnyder@lauraonlife.com Or visit her website www.lauraonlife.com for more info.

Tell them you saw it in the Broadcaster!
624-4429



The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

- ACROSS
1. LL Cool J's role on "NCIS: Los Angeles"

4. Actor Epps

8. "Teen ___"; reality series

11. Period of time

12. Andrews or Carvey

13. "Message ___ Bottle"; Kevin Costner movie

14. "Flashpoint" actress (3)

17. "Days of ___ Lives"

18. Topsy one

19. "My Name Is ___"

21. Portrayer of Amy's mom

24. Initials for Duvall

25. "___ Blue Eyes"

26. One of the Kettles

27. Lansing's initials

28. Hemsley sitcom

30. 1996 Gwyneth Paltrow film

32. Some "ER" characters: abbr.

34. Monogram for a "Little House on the Prairie" actress

35. Actor on "NCIS" (2)

41. Diane Sawyer's employer

42. Spoken

43. "We ___ Marshall"; 2006 film for Matthew Fox

44. ___ Long

45. Stein and Stiller

46. Freddie the Freeloader's portrayer
4. Reason to bathe

5. Hot Lips

6. "I'd like to buy ___ ___ Pat"

7. Cheers from the fans

8. "Play ___ for Me"; 1971 Clint Eastwood movie

9. Most famous 1980 widow

10. "Spider-___"

15. Actress Margulies

16. "This Is ___ ___"; 2008 Tom Arnold film

19. Late columnist Bombeck

20. Sandler

22. Role on "Cheers"

23. "Queen of Jazz"

29. Actress Durance

31. Debi

33. Haughty person

34. Diner on "Alice"

35. Forbid

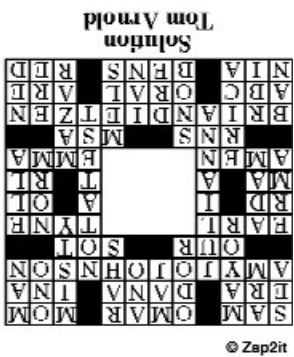
36. Baseball stat.

37. Dr. of rap

38. McShane or McKellen

39. Before, to a poet

40. Stacey's man



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THE PUBLIC IS INVITED to take part in a non-partisan budget discussion, learn about state budget basics, and begin a consensus-building discussion. Local Legislators will be invited to attend as distinguished listeners.

A free meal will be served. Please RSVP by Nov. 11 to annb@vermillionchamber.com or call 624-5571.

YOUR PERSPECTIVE IS IMPORTANT! Participation is limited so please let us know as soon as possible if you can join us.

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