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This ad created by the daughter of a satisfied resident — from the actual checklist she used.

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NORTHWEST PASSAGES Lifestyles

NORTHWEST PASSAGES

Logan Circle cousins head to Cannes

By TERESA G. GIONIS
Current Correspondent

Logan Circle residents Dan Boylan and Guy Taylor, first cousins whose mothers are identical twins, are living out their childhood dream: They are making movies together.

This week, they are screening their latest creation, a comedy called "A Free Radical," at the illustrious Cannes Film Festival in France, in a portion of the festival known as "The Short Corner." An official part of the event for the last several years, The Short Corner showcases new films from countries all over the world, with each entry running less than 35 minutes. It is also a prime networking opportunity for directors looking for exposure.

Boylan and Taylor are fairly new to filmmaking,

having established their company, A.S. Films International, about 18 months ago. Boylan, 37, and Taylor, 31, are former journalists who have traveled extensively throughout the world covering international stories (Taylor also wrote several freelance articles for The Current).

Taylor settled in Washington in 2000, and Boylan joined his cousin in D.C. in 2007 after 10 years of living abroad.

"It was then that we finally decided to stop talking about making movies together and just do it," said Taylor. "It's been an amazing experience. I really wanted to make movies that are artistic, and we've approached filmmaking as an art."

He credits his wife, video editor Anita Olkkola, with guiding them through their initial forays into filmmaking. "Her influence and her

See **Cannes**/Page 25

Courtesy of Guy Taylor

Dan Boylan, left, and Guy Taylor, center, are showing "A Free Radical" at Cannes.

FAVORITE PLACES

Chinatown to Chinatown, on a dime

By AMANDA L. ANDREI
Current Correspondent

"Come on, come on," I muttered as I hit the speed dial for the fifth time. "Where are you?"

I was standing on the steps of the Sixth and I Historic Synagogue in Chinatown, waiting for my friend Alex to arrive so we could catch the bus to New York. This normally wouldn't have been a huge deal, but it was the middle of January and the middle of night. Being cold was bearable; being alone and in the dark was not. I had already been asked for change and told to, "Tell people in New York you know good ol' Sam! They'll know who I am! Tell 'em!" before I retreated to the front of the synagogue, the best well-lit sanctuary I could find in the neighborhood without having to pay for egg-drop soup or steamed dumplings. That could wait for later.

I could tell Alex had come out of the Metro when my call finally went through. "Come get me!" I insisted. "I'm not far from the bus stop."



Bill Petros/The Current

Amanda Andrei, with her friend Alex Truong, was skeptical about Chinatown until spending an evening there awaiting a bus to New York.

"OK, OK, geisha! Geez, so demanding." His voice was coming to me in double — I realized he was walking down the block toward me.

After our initial squeals of greeting — "How are you?" "How's school?" "I'm hungry!" — we decided to walk back around the block and sit in a warm restaurant while we waited for the bus.

I used to — and on occasion

still do — scoff at D.C.'s Chinatown. ("It's just a fancy gate with three Chinese restaurants and 'Fuddrucker's' written in Mandarin.") But in later months, as a subletter in the District, I would come to appreciate the Chinese Cultural Community Center's free tai chi classes and the local \$3.50 lunch specials — both ideal for the tightwad college student or summer

See **Chinatown**/Page 42

The Current welcomes submissions of "Favorite Places" in Washington. Stories should be 600 to 900 words and written in the first person. They will be subject to editing, and authors must be available to pose for a picture. The Current will pay \$50 for submissions that are printed. Email pieces to features@currentnewspapers.com.