

Former ballerina still dances every day



Linda Richards poses with her daughters. SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

Special to the Democrat

A few artful questions from COCA for... Linda Richards, owner of the Cake Shop.

Q. Can you play a musical instrument?

A. I can play the clarinet, bass clarinet and piano. My mother was a music teacher, and when we were children she instilled in us that we all had to choose an instrument to play.

Q. Do you own any original art?

A. I own original art work by Nancy Ponn and Danny Pietrodangelo, and also some original paintings from traveling.

Q. What was the first concert you ever attended?

A. The first concert I attended as a very young girl was the Christmas performance of Handel's "Messiah," which I actually would attend every holiday season (as well as "The Nutcracker" performed by the Cleveland Ballet).

Q. What book is on your nightstand right now?

A. There are many books on my dresser beside my bed, as I read all the time. Deepak Chopra, Nicholas Sparks, James Patterson, and John Grisham are some of the authors that are stacked there.

Q. When was the last time you danced?

A. The last time I

danced was this morning. As a former ballerina, I am quite accustomed to dancing every day for the beauty, exercise and pleasure it brings to my spirit.

Q. What was the last live performance you saw?

A. The last live performance I saw was my daughter Jessica with the Tallahassee Ballet.

Q. What movie has most affected you?

A. The movie that had a lasting effect was Alex Haley's "Roots" that my parents had all of us children watch together. As a child, it was hard to comprehend such hardships that were inflicted upon a human race.

Q. What was the last thing you made by hand?

A. The last thing I made by hand was a curtain I sewed for the bathroom. My mother taught all of the girls how to sew at a young age, and it has remained a hobby for me.

Q. What artistic talent do you wish you had?

A. I wish I could play the piano like my mother played. She was an amazing pianist. She played classical music every night as we drifted off to sleep. Those memories are the most precious.

Visit COCA's websites at www.cocanet.org and www.morethanyouthought.com. Send suggestions to cultural@cocanet.org.



COUNCIL ON CULTURE & ARTS
FOR TALLAHASSEE/LEON COUNTY

ONLINE

Visit www.cocanet.org

Old treasures made new



Do you own a piece of jewelry that's worth more than its weight in gold to you... but it's been damaged or worn through the years? Bring it to us for a free cleaning and inspection.

We can...



- * Rebuild the prongs
- * Replace or rebuild the shank
- * Repair or replace the head
- * Restore it to new condition

The Gem Collection

3501 Thomasville Road • (850) 893-4171

www.gemcollection.com

TD-0000213555