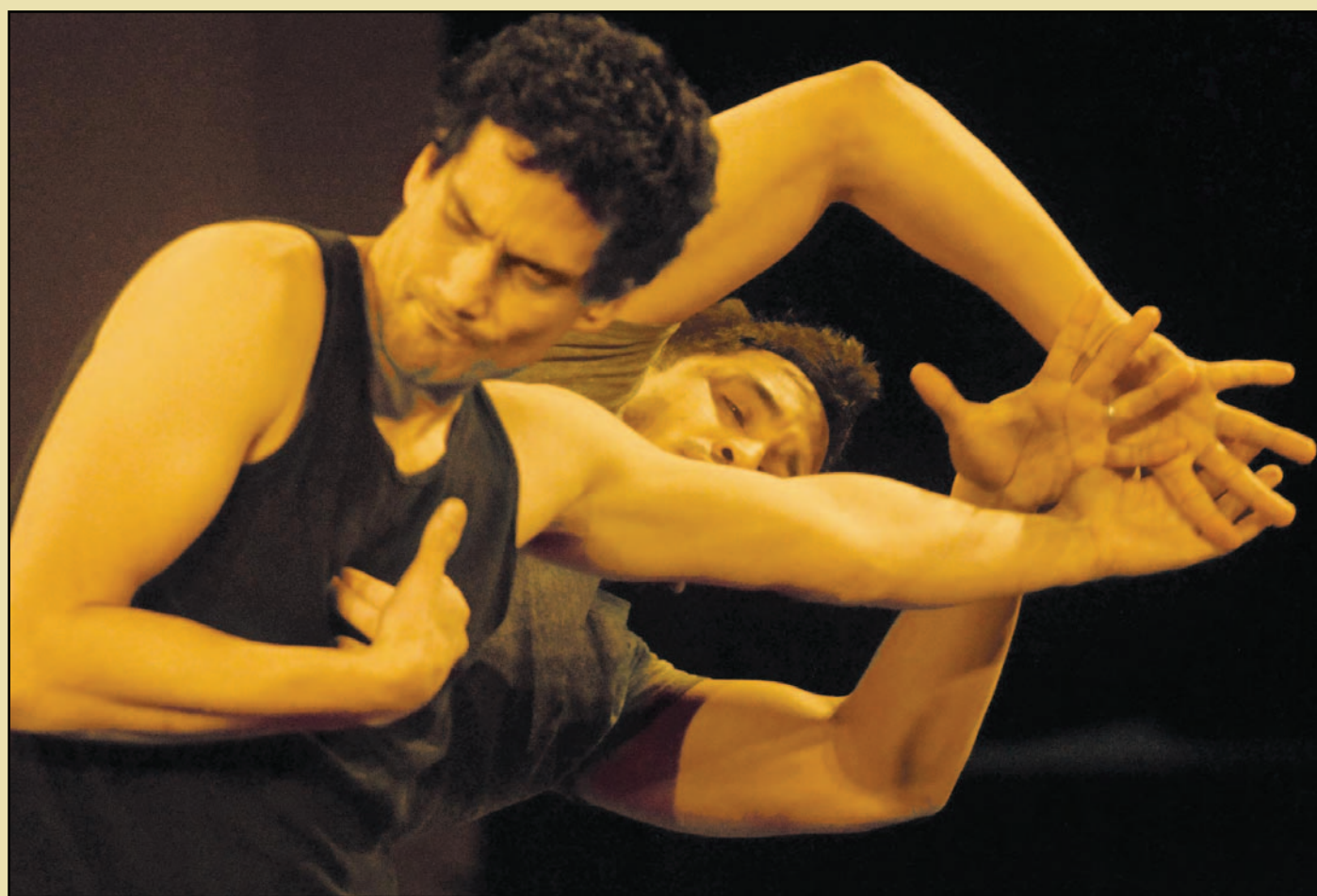


## Interpreting resilience



Staff photos by Rod Mikinski

From left, Melecop Estrella and Alexander Zendzian are members of the Joe Goode Performance Group, which met with families of military veterans to interpret different parts of their lives. The group focused mainly on the theme of resilience for their performance.

### Modern dance company turns military pain, stories into art

Rose Schneider  
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A California dance company this week worked with military families to interpret their resilience through modern dance.

Joe Goode Dance Company performed Wednesday night at Kansas State University's Nichols Theatre. The performance, "Human Kind: What Does it Mean to be Resilient?" was put together during a week-long residency at K-State. It was part of the dance company's two-year traveling project, "Human Kind."

"The idea behind our work is to get down to the nitty-gritty of human beings," said the company's artistic director, Joe Goode. "We thought the topic of resiliency would be interesting to work with because of issues like post traumatic stress disorder, wounded warriors, dislocation and separation, which are all huge life issues. The Army actually uses resilience as a term for returning veterans and the impact their injuries or post-traumatic stress disorder has on their families."

Previous shows have highlighted other controversial issues relevant to towns the group has performed in. However, never before had the group tackled the topic of the military and issues surrounding its members' service and discharge.

Before coming to Manhattan, Goode's company worked with Briana Nelson Goff, director of the Institute for Health and Security of Military Families and professor of family studies and human services at K-State. With her assistance, the company interacted with diverse military families, caregivers and civilian employees who have been affected by war-related illnesses, injuries and other life-changing events while being resilient in one way or another.

From the conversations Goode had with these people, he choreo-



Members perform at a practice performance at Nichols Theater. Goode said his group tries to "get down to the nitty-gritty of human beings."

graphed the resilience-themed performance, which integrated speech, music, song and dance to share their experiences with the audience. The piece revolved around speaking word-for-word from the contributors' life experiences.

"The word resilience... 'How do you bounce back from something really tragic — a difficult circumstance?' and 'Can you really heal from those situations?' were questions we asked," Goode said. "I got to speak to some really interesting people who were very frank and open about what it has been like to have someone with PTSD in the family and what it has been like to take care of a wounded veteran for 30 years."

Most of the conversations took place through email or Skype; however, Goode was able to meet with some of the people his dance company would be representing in person.

"Some people would say, 'That is too much for me right now,' or 'I don't want to talk about that; I'm not ready yet,' which I thought was really wise to know that it wasn't within their comfort level at that time," Goode said.

One of the stories enacted in the performance came from 19-year-old K-State freshman, Courtney Hall, who lived with her father's two-year battle with depression and attempted suicide after he returned from his second tour in Iraq.

"I've heard my dad say that speech so many times at suicide prevention conferences and in interviews and didn't think I still had an emotional attachment to the story," Hall said. "Seeing the company do the movements with his words brought it meaning — all the meaning it had before and then some."

For Hall and her parents, who had dealt with the risk of suicide on a daily basis, the healing process was difficult. She believes performances like this one could benefit people like her father by helping them understand the emotional challenges they're enduring as a result of their service time.

"This is a problem many people with PTSD are having, and it needs to be talked about... If it wasn't brought up to my dad, he wouldn't be alive today," Hall said.

Carolyn Tolliver-Lee also talked about how her experiences inspired the resiliency performance. Tolliver-Lee's husband, Earnest, suffered a severe traumatic brain injury just after the Gulf War in 1993.

His injury came after 18 years of service and just four years before his planned retirement while he was serving at Fort Riley. His injuries left him totally and permanently disabled, changing Tolliver-Lee's life and marriage forever.

"It has been a tough journey for me and my children who are all



Joe Goode, accompanied by members of his 17-person dance ensemble, holds a question and answer session to explain the process of interpreting the different stories they were introduced to.



Director Joe Goode talks with Carolyn Tolliver-Lee during a practice performance at Nichols Theater. Goode's dance troupe took stories like Tolliver-Lee's post-Gulf War injured husband and turned them into an interpretive dance.

### OFF THE BEAT

MEGAN MOSER



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## Words we love; words we hate

Last week, my boss casually asked whether we could use a certain word in the newspaper. My reaction was immediate and severe—I kind of gagged and shouted "No!" at the same time—and it made several people nearby giggle.

I'll not tell you the word here, partly because we decided against using it in print, but also in part because it's one of the words I hate most in the world. I loathe it. In fact, I told everyone listening that it ranked in the top 10 on my list of least-favorite words.

(This prompted an excruciatingly long discussion in which that awful word was repeated a few dozen more times.)

This is a real, physical list which, as I think of it, fulfills no purpose other than my love of making lists. But I find it fascinating that some words can evoke such a strong visceral response—positive or negative—just by the sound they make when you say them.

Now, their definition, their connotation or their etymology can add or detract from that effect, but here I'm really just talking about the sound.

I hate—HATE!—the word "suckle," for instance. "Suss," "meme" and "totes" (a recent innovation shortening the word "totally") are like fingernails on a chalkboard. Even writing them here makes me cringe. I don't really know why. But what I found with a little searching online is that the words people hate really vary.

I knew a guy in college who would have an absolute conniption if someone said "muffin" or "panty." And it does seem that quite a few people online hate the word "moist," for whatever reason. There's even an old Monty Python sketch that has become sort of a running joke between my husband and me. (You have to imagine it read by actors with thick British accents.)

The scene begins with some people talking about croquet hoops.

Cleveland: Ugh! Dreadful tin things.

Idle: I did tell her to stick to wood.

Chapman: Yes, you can't beat wood. Gorn.

Idle: What's gorn, dear?

Chapman: Nothing, nothing — just like the word. It gives me confidence. Gorn. Gorn. It's got a sort of woody quality about it. Gorn. Gooorn. Much better than "newspaper" or "litter bin." Dreadful tinny sort of words.

Cleveland: Ugh! Frightful words!

If you know anything about Monty Python, you can imagine how it goes on from there. Anyway, now my husband and I always talk about how words are either good and woody or bad and tinny.

I have a list of favorite words, too. Woody words, all of them. Elucidate. Plethora. Voluptuous. Ephemeral. Effervescent. In the book "Eat, Pray, Love" (don't make fun) Elizabeth Gilbert talks about her favorite Italian word, "attraversiamo," which means "Let's cross over." I think it's a great word. You don't have to know the language to like the way a word rolls off the tongue.

I think it was in middle school that I really became aware of the sound of words and how they can be used to create different effects. I had a great teacher, Mrs. Jennings, and we read Poe's "The Bells," a poem I can still recite to this day.

(It's also a poem that introduced me to another of my all-time favorite words: tintinnabulation.)

She explained how in the first stanza, words like "twinkle" and "sprinkle" evoke the silver sleigh bells that represent childhood, and how "molten golden notes" in the second stanza brings to mind the golden wedding bells of adulthood. As someone who loved to read and write, this was a revelation. Molten golden notes.

Those words are so soothing, in contrast to the later parts of the poem, which use words to describe disease and death and are almost difficult to read because of it.

But it shows that even tinny or cacophonous words serve a purpose. Just some of them don't belong in a newspaper. Although, as we've seen, "newspaper" is a rather tinny word itself. Gorn.

Share your favorite and least favorite words at [www.themercury.com](http://www.themercury.com).

# Explore Lincoln in D.C.

Beth J. Harpaz  
AP Travel Editor

WASHINGTON — Whether you're interested in Lincoln the president or "Lincoln" the movie, Washington is a downright thrilling destination.

Abraham Lincoln was the 16th president of the United States and one of the country's most admired, rising from humble roots in a frontier cabin to become a self-educated lawyer and brilliant politician. As president, he ended slavery by issuing the Emancipation Proclamation and preserved the nation despite the Civil War. The story of his assassination is one of the best-known chapters of American history.

Many museums are offering special exhibits for the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation. Other sites can be visited any time: the Lincoln Memorial, the cottage where he summered, Ford's Theatre, where he was shot, and the Petersen House, where he died.

**LINCOLN MEMORIAL:** A larger-than-life white marble statue of Lincoln, completed in 1922, sits inside a massive columned building. The design, according to the National Park Service, was inspired by the Parthenon, the ancient Greek temple that is considered the birthplace of democracy. About 6 million people visit the memorial each year. Even on a cold winter day, the steps are crowded with visitors from around the world taking pictures and speaking many languages. Located on the National Mall, <http://www.nps.gov/linc/>.

**FORD'S THEATRE AND PETERSEN HOUSE:** Lincoln was shot at Ford's Theatre in 1865 while watching a play with his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln. He was brought to a house across the street, now a museum and historic site called the Petersen House. You can see the room where he died and where his war secretary, Edwin Stanton, was said to have uttered the famous words: "Now he belongs to the ages."

A visit to Ford's and the Petersen House reveals fascinating details of the crime: The assassin, John Wilkes Booth, an actor as famous in his day as Justin Bieber or George Clooney, walked right up to the box where Lincoln was sitting and shot him in the head. He then leapt to the stage, ran out and fled by horse. Booth was hunted down and shot in a barn 12 days later. A plaque marks the site of a nearby boarding-house where conspirators

## THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

SEVEN BLURBS FOR SEVEN BIOGRAPHIES  
By Samuel A. Donaldson / Edited by Will Shortz

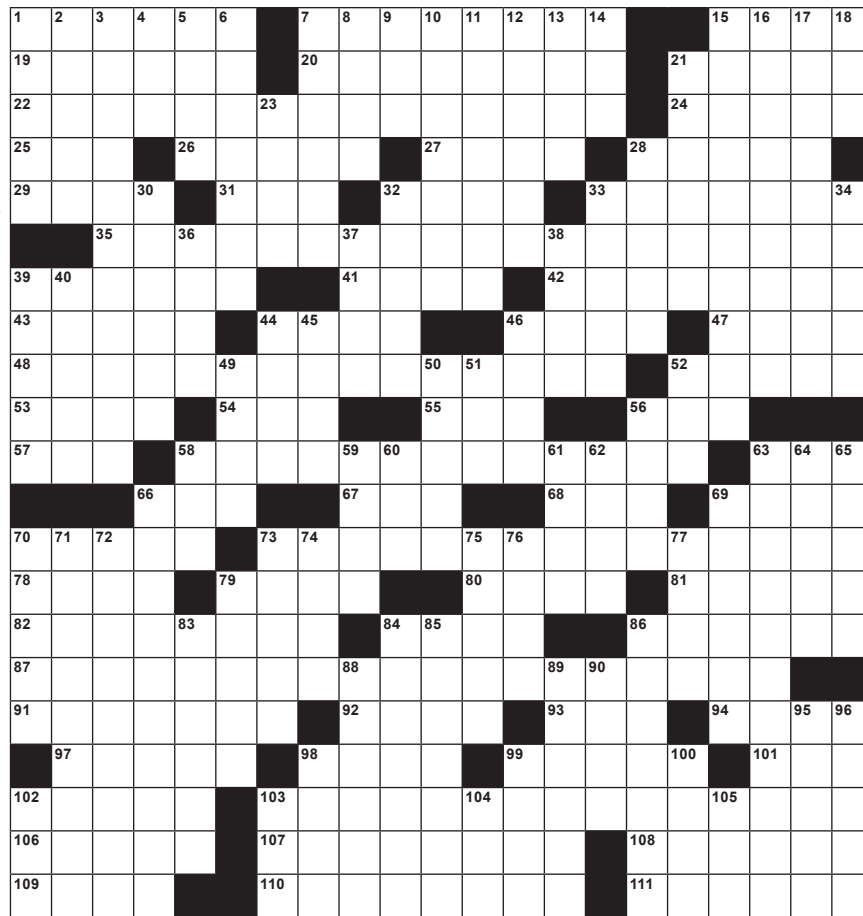
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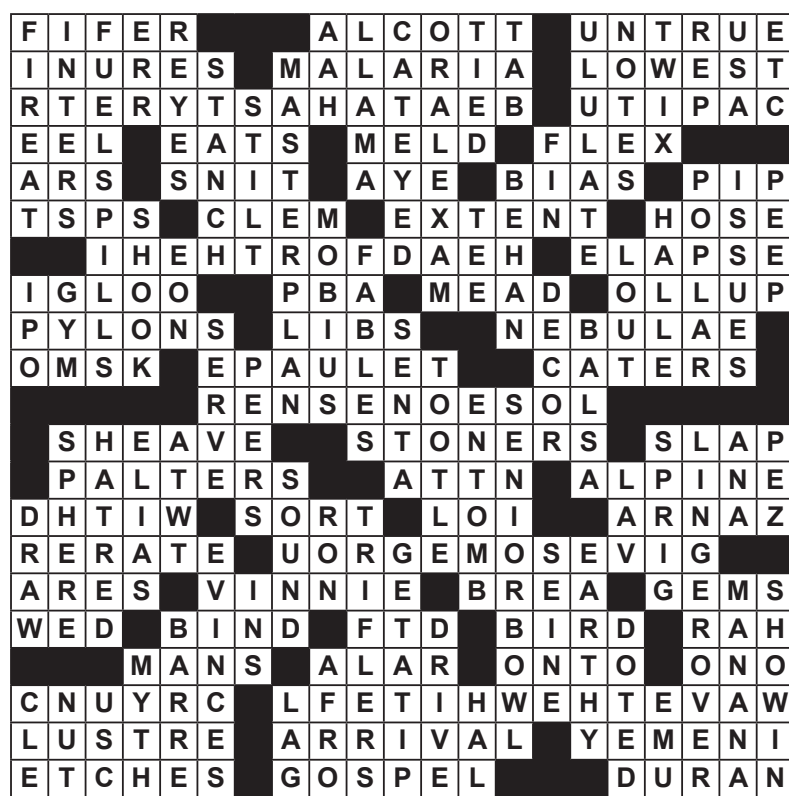
- 1 Insect pupa sold as fish food
- 7 Doesn't get the memo, maybe
- 15 Make do
- 19 Show instability
- 20 Offering with potato chips
- 21 Amount owed by an insurance policy holder
- 22 "It's worth it just for Ms. Behar's famous lasagna recipe"
- 24 Crop up
- 25 Cleverness
- 26 TV's Peter and literature's Ben
- 27 Walk through
- 28 Mathematician Paul
- 29 Bolivian bears
- 31 Born as
- 32 British actress Diana
- 33 "Start already!"
- 35 "An insightful look at how playing Miss Brooks took its toll on Ms. Arden"
- 39 Spanish beaches
- 41 Cole Porter title
- 42 Slickers and galoshes
- 43 Conger catcher
- 44 Captain Hook's alma mater
- 46 Engine attachment
- 47 Crumbs
- 48 "You don't have to be a gardener to dig this book about Kerouac's tools"
- 52 Long time follower?
- 53 Sight at a supermarket or golf course
- 54 Pack number
- 55 Indisposed
- 56 Relief
- 57 Anesthesiologists' locales, for short
- 58 "Finally, we learn how one Jonas brother defined an entire generation"
- 63 Jaguar rival
- 66 Frozen dessert name
- 67 It could pave the way
- 68 Second most populous continent: Abbr.
- 69 On the safe side

- 70 Legal helpers, briefly
- 73 "Clinton's a well-known southpaw, so this exposé on his other-handed punches is an eye-opener"
- 78 "Really?"
- 79 Writer \_\_\_ Hubbard
- 80 Many an aria
- 81 Notable flop
- 82 Chicago lakefront attraction
- 84 Family head
- 86 Nasty ones
- 87 "Required reading for all 'Purple Rain' fans who think their idol is too goody-goody"
- 91 Night lights
- 92 Very often
- 93 Take the lion's share of
- 94 Duffer's hazard
- 97 Drives a getaway car, maybe
- 98 British submachine gun
- 99 Reach rival
- 101 Duffer's org.
- 102 Like some calls
- 103 "A gripping narrative about one folk singer's violent turn against Paul Simon"
- 106 It beats ace-high
- 107 Open quality
- 108 "\_\_\_ Restaurant"
- 109 Bulb unit
- 110 Northeast nickname
- 111 Political symbol

- 17 Give an anticorrosive coating
- 18 Check out
- 21 Cigarette purchase
- 23 Reflex test site
- 28 Start of an elimination process
- 30 Reserved to the maximum extent
- 32 Some bathroom crystals
- 33 "\_\_\_ your mother"
- 34 Like tweets, by necessity
- 36 "Tombstone" role
- 37 Some fight finishes, for short
- 38 \_\_\_-Z (classic car)
- 39 Retailer for Rover
- 40 Composer of the "Gold and Silver" waltz
- 44 Falco of "Nurse Jackie"
- 45 Be all thumbs as a writer?
- 46 Word with pay or page
- 49 Pale
- 50 Food Network host
- 51 Former "Idol" judge
- 52 An ending to beat
- 56 Prefix with phobia
- 58 Receiving stats
- 59 Calif.-to-Fla. hwy.
- 60 Blemish
- 61 N.B.A. part: Abbr.
- 62 In that case
- 63 Plastic casing for some pills
- 64 Donnybrook
- 65 Fargo's partner
- 66 "Nice and slow"
- 69 Take aboard a spaceship, maybe
- 70 One of a nautical trio
- 71 Last Incan emperor
- 72 Casino that's partly underwater?
- 73 Long expeditions
- 74 Butt (in)
- 75 Sexologist's subject
- 76 Clop maker
- 77 "Charlotte's Web" girl
- 79 Old Italian dough
- 83 Two-\_\_\_ (extended TV episode)
- 84 Author with a fan site called "Into the Wardrobe"
- 85 Unvoiced
- 86 It may get squandered in a game



- 88 Diner
- 89 "Wheel of Fortune" category
- 90 Din
- 95 Match
- 96 Stogie
- 98 Actor LaBeouf
- 99 Spirit \_\_\_ Louis
- 100 String tie
- 102 Avian call
- 103 File extension
- 104 Mens \_\_\_
- 105 End: Fr.



Get answers to any three clues by touch-tone phone:  
1-900-285-5656 (\$1.20 each minute)

were said to have plotted the assassination, the building at 604 H St. (originally 541 H St.) is now a restaurant. The boarding-house owner, Mary Surratt, was hanged.

Within 16 months of the assassination, Ford's Theatre closed and the federal government bought the building. The interior was ripped out and turned into offices. In 1933, the National Park Service acquired the building as a site of historic significance. In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson sanctioned the restoration of a working theater and the interior was recreated to look the way it did when Lincoln was shot. Every president since 1968 has

attended a show here, though they now sit near the stage, not in the box. Exhibits at Ford's and at Petersen House include Booth's diary and pistol, Lincoln's shawl, campaign memorabilia and photos. Located at 511 10th St., NW, <http://www.fordstheatre.org/>. Hours vary, depending on show schedules. Tickets do sell out. Tickets for a self-guided walk-through of Ford's and Petersen House bought through Ticketmaster including fees are \$9.75.

**PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE:** This was Lincoln's summer home, where he and his family escaped Washington's heat and

humidity. Located on a breezy hill three miles (4.8 kilometers) from the White House, it was the 19th century equivalent of contemporary presidential retreats like Camp David. A statue of Lincoln and his horse evoke his daily half-hour commute to the White House on horseback. He first visited the house three days after his inauguration and last rode to the site the day before he was shot.

Wagonloads of furniture were brought here each summer from the White House. But unlike many historic sites, the house today is not filled with furniture or personal items, and that's the point. Guided tours of the mostly

empty rooms emphasize Lincoln's ideas and the people he encountered during his stays here and on his daily rides, from favor-seekers and foreigners to former slaves and soldiers. You'll stand in the room where he read Shakespeare and the Bible, hear about his meetings with the secretary of war, see the view from the porch that once offered a clear sightline all the way to downtown Washington, and walk up the stairs where his footsteps were heard when he couldn't sleep. Through April 30, an exhibit here displays one of just 26 existing signed copies of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Located on the grounds of one of the country's first federally funded homes for soldiers, known today as the Armed Forces Retirement Home. Entrance at Rock Creek Church Road NW and Upshur Street NW, near 140 Rock Creek Church Road NW. Free parking. Closest metro station, near-

ly a mile (1.2 kilometers) away, Georgia Avenue/Petworth stop on green/yellow lines. From the metro, the local H8 bus takes four minutes and stops at the site's front gate. Open 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Saturday (first tour 10 a.m., last 3 p.m.) and 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sundays (tours 11 a.m.-3 p.m.). Guided tour tickets required, \$15 (\$5 for children ages 6-12), <http://lincolncottage.org/>.

**SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY:** Lincoln's famous top hat, brown and glossy with age, is currently on display here in the "Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 and the March on Washington, 1963" exhibit (second floor east through Sept. 15). Lincoln was tall at 6 foot 3 (1.9 meters) and the hat made him even taller. He wore the hat to Ford's Theatre the night he was murdered.

## California dance group interprets military families' resilience

**NO. 1, FROM PAGE D1**

grown now," she said. "Mr. Lee has been ill a long time... There has been a lot of pain and tears over the years; his injury took the family and our marriage on a very different course."

Lee hasn't lived at home for 10 years and currently resides at the Topeka VA. After years of therapy, he has come to recognize his family members. He also has some speech and can walk but can't answer simple questions like "What is your birthday?" without being prompted.

"Learning how to communicate with him has been an art," Tolliver-Lee said.

Although someone else spoke her words, they were especially powerful during the dance company's performance.

"Don't take this the wrong way, ladies and gentlemen, but in order for me

to function I don't commonly refer to him as my husband; I refer to him as Mr. Lee," said one of the performers, reading Tolliver-Lee's words. "It took me years to get to that point. Whenever—and you may see it in my eyes now—whenever I start to say 'husband,' I tear up, but if I say 'Mr. Lee,' I've separated myself emotionally, and I needed to do that in order to live."

As a result of the positive response Goode received from this performance, he hopes to be able to do something similar in the future in another town.

"With the crisis of suicide in the military, families are dealing with traumatic injuries and loved ones returning home very different than when they left," Goode said. "There is a need for conversation and visibility for people to come out in a way and say, 'We are dealing with this

problem; it's really hard, and we need your help, and people need to know about it."

Carrying the consequences of war can be a very heavy burden. Speaking about it in a direct or indirect way, as the Joe Goode Dance Company did, can help lessen the burden—even temporarily.

"We layered the words into the dance," Goode said. "Dance has a way of expressing something visceral that sometimes is hard to do in words; you can go farther in the feeling and the intensity of the feeling when you're expressing it with the body. Sometimes it feels like our dancing is the subtle or interior feelings of the words."

Goode started his company 25 years ago with the desire to make a type of dance that was both athletic and aesthetically beau-

tiful while being relevant in the topics it dealt with by speaking to the audience in a controversial way. Goode broke the mold time and again by having his dancers sing, talk and even act during some of their performances.

"We're a unique dance company in so many ways; we sing and talk and write and do real life stories. We're not fairies or whatever some dance is about," he said. "We were already different; what we're doing here is just a new wrinkle."

The company currently has seven dancers, one of whom has been a member for 17 years.

"We're not documentarians," he said. "We just take little nuggets of people's experiences and explore the feelings inside of them in a very different, abstract and more passionate way that creates an opportunity for invention."

## Lopez will host jazz festival

**Associated Press**

LOS ANGELES — George Lopez is taking over as master of ceremonies of the annual Playboy Jazz Festival.

The comedian was announced as the festival's new host last week at an event at the Playboy Mansion.

"This is iconic," said the former star of the ABC sitcom "George Lopez" and the TBS talk show "Lopez Tonight." "I've never been here before. I was married for 17 years. I couldn't even have a Playboy air freshener."

Bill Cosby served as the festival's host for more than 30 years. Cosby was a fixture at the gathering of jazz luminaries since the first festival was held in 1979.

Lopez said Cosby called him to give him advice on the gig. His tips included not letting musicians in his dressing room "because they'll eat all your food and drink all your drink," joked Lopez.

This year's show will feature artists Herbie Hancock, Jeffrey Osborne, Sheila E. and Grace Kelly.