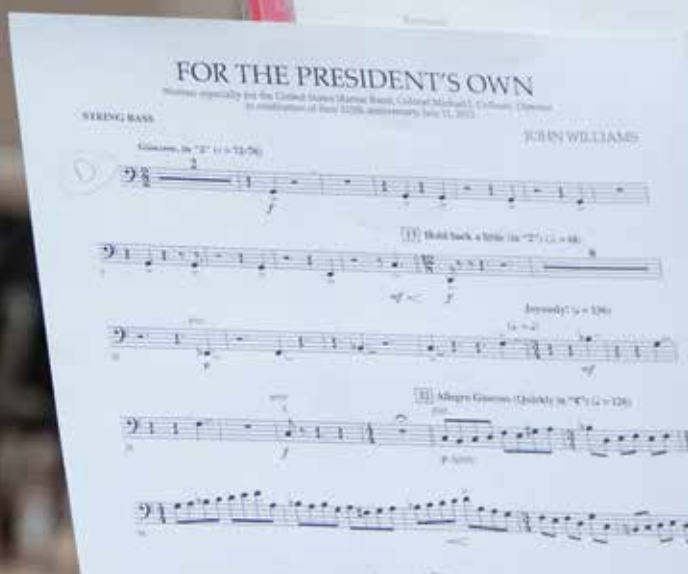


notes

September
October



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2013 TOUR TO THE MIDWEST CANCELLED

U.S. MARINE CORPS PUBLIC AFFAIRS HAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

IT IS WITH SINCERE REGRET THAT WE ANNOUNCE THE CANCELLATION OF "THE PRESIDENT'S OWN" UNITED STATES MARINE BAND'S 2013 NATIONAL CONCERT TOUR TO THE MIDWEST. BUDGET CUTS MANDATED BY THE BUDGET CONTROL ACT OF 2011 (ALSO KNOWN AS SEQUESTRATION) NECESSITATED THIS DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS AND WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS CANCELLATION HAS ON OUR SPONSORS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES. THE U.S. MARINE BAND LOOKS FORWARD TO BRINGING THE MUSIC OF "THE PRESIDENT'S OWN" BACK TO THESE COMMUNITIES AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING IN THIS MATTER.

Marine Band Director Colonel Michael J. Colburn and the men and women of "The President's Own" would like to thank the following organizations who had signed on to sponsor the cancelled tour performances in Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania:

Omaha, NE

Millard South High School Music Boosters

Lincoln, NE

Nebraska Wesleyan University

Grand Island, NE

Grand Island Independent

North Platte, NE

The North Platte Telegraph and
North Platte High School

Scottsbluff, NE

Western Nebraska Community College and
Star Herald

Cheyenne, WY

The Cheyenne Civic Center for the
Performing Arts and KGWN-TV

Casper, WY

Natrona County High School

Sheridan, WY

Sheridan Media and Northern Wyoming
Community College District/
Sheridan College

Billings, MT

Alberta Bair Theater and
Billings Gazette

Glendive, MT

Dawson County High School and
The Glendive Ranger Review

Dickinson, ND

Dickinson High School and
The Dickinson Press

Bismarck, ND

Military Ovation,
Townsquare Media, and
The Bismarck Tribune

Pierre, SD

The Capital Journal

Sioux Falls, SD

Augusta College and
Washington Pavillion

Fargo, ND

North Dakota State University Gold Star
Bands and North Dakota State University

Grand Forks, ND

University of North Dakota Department of
Music and *Grand Forks Herald*

Fergus Falls, MN

Fergus Falls Band Boosters and
Fergus Falls Daily Journal

Brainerd, MN

The Brainerd Dispatch

Mahtomedi, MN

The Wildwood Artist Series

Mankato, MN

Mankato West High School Bands

Mason City, IA

North Iowa Area Community College and
Globe Gazette

Cedar Falls, IA

University of Northern Iowa School of Music
and Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts
Center

Urbandale, IA

Urbandale High School and
Southeast Polk High School

Davenport, IA

Davenport Community Schools and
Quad City Times

Burlington, IA

Burlington Community High School Music
Boosters and *The Hawk Eye*

Normal, IL

Illinois State University and
The Pantagraph

Muncie, IN

Ball State University's Emens Auditorium

Columbus, OH

Ohio State University Bands

Washington, PA

Trinity High School

WHITE HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS



Recent appearances by “The President’s Own” at the White House include:

- Memorial Day Breakfast
- Remarks on Student Loans
- Ford’s Theatre Gala Reception
- Remarks at the National Conference on Mental Health
- Announcement of Key Administration Posts
- NFL Champion Baltimore Ravens Visit
- Remarks on Immigration Reform
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Reception
- Father’s Day Event
- WNBA Champion Indiana Fever Visit

2014 Marine Band Concerto Competition Deadline:
Postmarked by Nov. 15, 2013

Please visit www.marineband.usmc.mil for the application.

FEATURED DOWNLOADS



SEPTEMBER

March of the Month
“The Free Lance”
John Philip Sousa*

New Music Corner
Ecstatic Fanfare
Steven Bryant

OCTOBER

March of the Month
March of the Pasha’s Guard
from *Tobasco*
George Whitefield Chadwick
arranged by John R. Bourgeois*

Director’s Choice
Suite from *The American Maid*
John Philip Sousa*
edited by MSgt Donald
Patterson*

*Member, U.S. Marine Band

For the September/October Featured Downloads visit
www.marineband.usmc.mil.

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR CONCERT

By Master Sergeant Kristin duBois

On Friday, Sept. 20, the Marine Band will perform a special concert at Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania in conjunction with the Congressional Medal of Honor Society’s (CMOHS) annual convention. This year marks the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address and of the Battle of Gettysburg, where 63 men received Medals of Honor (MoH). In addition, 2013 is the 55th anniversary of President Dwight D. Eisenhower chartering the CMOHS.

A bill was passed on Dec. 21, 1861, authorizing 200 medals to be produced “which shall be bestowed upon such petty officers, seamen, landsmen, and marines as shall distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action and other seamanlike qualities during the present war.” President Lincoln signed the bill and the Medal of Honor was born. As of Aug. 28, 2013, the number of living Medal of Honor recipients is at 79—its lowest point in history.

The Foundation’s 2013 convention seeks to highlight and celebrate the MoH recipients, but also to honor the history of Gettysburg and its connection to the MoH. In keeping with the theme, Marine Band Director Colonel Michael J. Colburn has chosen a diverse program representing the different conflicts in America’s history to include “Chester,” John Philip Sousa’s march “Solid Men to the Front,” music from the television series “Band of Brothers,” a medley of popular music from the World War II era called “Sentimental Journey,” and a musical depiction of the Gettysburg Address.

This isn’t the first time the Marine Band has traveled to Gettysburg for an event commemorating war heroes. On Nov. 18, 1863, the band accompanied President Abraham Lincoln when he traveled to Gettysburg by train for the dedication of the National Cemetery. President Lincoln had a fondness for the band and a budding friendship with

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Marine Band musicians and Leader Francis Scala stand in front of the Gettysburg monument in an artist’s rendering by Col. Donna Neary, USMC (Ret.).

THE BIRTHDAY GIFT OF MUSIC

by Staff Sergeant Rachel Ghadiali

In celebration of the Marine Band's 215th anniversary in July, "The President's Own" experienced the gift of music and friendship during a rehearsal and recording session with renowned composer and conductor John Williams, the latest collaboration in a relationship between two American musical icons. It all started when a hopeful Marine musician mailed a fortuitous letter to the son of a jazz drummer.

In 2002, with the Marine Band's 205th anniversary approaching, then-Assistant Director Major Michael J. Colburn thought, "Wouldn't it be great to have John Williams conduct the band?" He wrote a letter to the Academy Award-winning composer and conductor laureate of the Boston Pops, inviting him to conduct the band in its upcoming anniversary gala concert to be held at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

One of the greatest film composers of all time, Williams hadn't conducted a band since he was an active duty member of the Air Force in the early 1950s, so Maj. Colburn understood that it was a long shot. But as a young boy, Williams' father had instilled in him a respect and admiration for the Marine Band, so he was excited at the prospect of conducting the ensemble he had learned about decades earlier. Williams agreed to conduct, forging a fruitful relationship between a giant of Hollywood music and America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization.

Williams arrived for rehearsals on July 10 and 11, 2003, and by the gala concert on July 12, everything his father had taught him about the Marine Band rang true. "My father, who was a professional musician, always imparted the idea that the maximum quality of wind and brass playing in our country was the U.S. Marine Band," Williams said. "So it was then, and so it is today."

The program included some of his most widely recognized works, including "Adventures on Earth" from *E.T. (the Extra-Terrestrial)*, and Olympic Fanfare and Theme, written specifically for the opening ceremonies of the 1984 Summer Olympics. "I'd never heard any of it played better," the composer said enthusiastically. "And the brilliance of the

brass particularly thrilled me; as brilliant and exciting as any of the ensembles we have peppered generously across the country. It was a thrilling revelation to hear my music played by a concert band, a first for me."

Williams returned in 2008 for the band's 210th anniversary gala performance at the Kennedy Center, noting that "The United States Marine Band is one of the finest music ensembles that our country has produced. It is to the everlasting credit of the Marine Corps that it has maintained and nurtured its beloved band over so many glorious years." He also appeared as a surprise guest conductor in a 2009 National Tour Concert performance at Royce Hall at the University of California, Los Angeles, his alma mater.

Each experience with Mr. Williams is exhilarating for the members of the Marine Band. In addition to his astounding talent as a composer, Williams is a gifted and thoughtful conductor. "He is one of the kindest and most courteous conductors we have ever had on our podium, and his ability to get the most out of the musicians is awe-inspiring," said Marine Band Director Colonel Colburn. "One can sense that he is always listening and responding to the musicianship of our players."

In an interview conducted in 2004 for "The Instrumentalist" by then-Maj. Colburn, Williams said, "Film work keeps me so busy. I would be interested in writing for bands again, but it is far down on the scale of probability. If providence would allow for the creation of a work for band, I wouldn't resist it."

Apparently, providence allowed for its creation.

The most recent collaboration between the band and the legendary film composer came in the form of an anniversary gift. In honor of the Marine Band's 215th anniversary this year, Williams composed a new work for band aptly titled "For 'The President's Own.'"

The new piece was inspired by the virtuosic performance abilities of the members of "The President's Own," and Williams' memories of "the first blast of sound that I heard from the group. Certainly loud, but loud and beautiful. Never harsh, and never ugly in any way. It's a noble, brilliant sound. It's a beautiful balance, and articulate." And the

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HISTORIAN RECEIVES LEGION OF MERIT

by Staff Sergeant Rachel Ghadiali

On a warm and sunny Friday morning, the Marines of the “Oldest Post of the Corps” stood at attention as one of their own received the Legion of Merit, one of the military’s highest decorations.

On July 19, contingents of Marines from all seven companies at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., (MBW) were seated in bleachers and posted on the parade deck as Marine Band Historian Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Ressler was honored by MBW commanding officer Colonel Christian G. Cabaniss.

The Legion of Merit—the fifth highest in the Navy and Marine Corps order of precedence—is awarded to members of the military for exceptionally meritorious service and achievement while performing duties in a key position of responsibility. Ressler has demonstrated this

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trumpets, Williams noted, “They’re so beautifully matched and balanced. It’s extraordinary the amount of clarity and brilliance they bring to the whole range of the instrument.”

The spirited work, perhaps best described by the casual term “curtain raiser,” begins with a dialogue among six trumpet parts and weaves together bright fanfares from the high brass, exciting rhythmic woodwind interjections, pulsing bass lines, along with many other motives, each with their own gripping kinetic vigor. There is a quiet and ever-building energy replete with the bustling rhythmic activity and brilliant brass writing that characterizes many of Williams’ finest scores. The excitement of the music continues to grow until the brass and percussion engage in a dialogue that brings the work to a dazzling conclusion.

In writing the band piece, Williams admitted, “It was a little scary. So much of my work in the commercial world has had to do with film and it’s almost always orchestra. The strings have to be substituted for by wind passages. I’ve had the luxury of all these violins who

can keep bowing and bowing without ever having to worry about breathing and revisit some of the techniques and basics of writing for band. Scoring for band is an art in itself.”

The band rehearsed and recorded the work under Williams’ baton in July in the John Philip Sousa Band Hall in Washington, D.C. Principal flute Master Gunnery Sgt. Betsy Hill said Williams’ love of music came through with every gesture. “Just a small nuance gave us all the information we needed to know how to play a certain phrase.” She continued: “To think that one of the most prolific, influential, and successful composers of our era was standing on the podium ... thrilled with our performance of his piece; it’s humbling ... a highlight of my career.”

The rehearsal began promptly at 11 a.m. Many of the musicians had worked with Williams before, and they relished the opportunity to play for him again. But for others it was their first time under the direction of the living legend. Wearing his signature black turtleneck, the spry 81-year-old stepped onto the podium and said, “I’m happy to see

exceptionally meritorious conduct while serving as a euphonium player, Assistant Chief Librarian, Chief Librarian, section commander, and Historian for the United States Marine Band. He joined “The President’s Own” in 1974 and is widely known as the “institutional memory” of Marine Barracks Washington, D.C.

After Col. Cabaniss pinned the medal to Ressler’s uniform, he joked that he was only five years old when Ressler joined the Marine Band.

“He has brought great credit upon the Marine Corps,” Col. Cabaniss said. He went on to say that the Marines at the Barracks understand their legacy because of Marines like Master Gunnery Sgt. Ressler. “He’s made the people around him better and enhanced [our] legacy.”

For almost four decades, he has served in key positions, leaving an indelible mark on the Marine Band that will endure long beyond his period of active service.

you again.” The band members clapped their hands and shuffled their feet in agreement. Williams conducted the band through one full take of the piece, turned to Col. Colburn and exclaimed, “Colonel, you have a hot band!”

During the past 10 years, the relationship between John Williams and the Marine Band has evolved into a truly unique friendship, and the collaborations with the composer have been career highlights for many members of “The President’s Own.” His rapport with the band is one of mutual respect and admiration. Although he is one of the most accomplished composers of his time, he always brings great humility to his work with the band. In his parting remarks to Col. Colburn, he quietly said of his composition “For ‘The President’s Own,’” “I hope it’s turned out to be something reasonably worthy of these players.”

To hear “For ‘The President’s Own,’” visit www.marineband.usmc.mil. To view video of the rehearsal and interview with John Williams, visit www.youtube.com/usmarineband.



Marine Chamber Ensembles will offer free performances at 2 p.m., Sundays, Oct. 6, 13, 20, and 27 at the John Philip Sousa Band Hall in southeast Washington, D.C. The recitals are organized by the musicians and feature a wide range of musical genres from staple works to the most challenging new compositions. Patrons have the opportunity to hear tremendous variety in both the musical selections and the players featured each week. The John Philip Sousa Band Hall is located in the Marine Barracks Annex at 7th and K Streets, SE, Washington, D.C. For program details visit www.marineband.usmc.mil. No tickets are required and free parking is available.

Medal of Honor continued from page 2

then-Marine Band Leader Francis Scala. It is believed that Lincoln left the car carrying the entourage of politicians and diplomats from Washington and chose to make the journey with the musicians.

President Eisenhower officially recognized the CMOHS on Aug. 5, 1958, combining the previous Medal of Honor Legion and Medal of Honor Society. The purposes of the organization were to create a bond of brotherhood and comradeship among all living recipients of the MoH; maintain the memory and respect for those who had died receiving the MoH, as well as those living recipients who had since died; protect and preserve the dignity and honor of the MoH; protect the name of the MoH as well as individual recipients from exploitation; provide assistance and aid to needy recipients; promote patriotism and allegiance to the government and Constitution of the United States; and to foster patriotism and inspire and stimulate youth to become worthy citizens. The CMOHS Foundation was created more recently to promote awareness of America's highest military award for valor in combat.

The concert will take place from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20, at the Pennsylvania Monument in the Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania. Although this event is free, tickets are required. Transportation will be provided from both the Eisenhower Hotel parking lot and the Gettysburg High School parking lot where tickets will be scanned and collected. Patrons will not be permitted to enter the concert site if their ticket has not been scanned. The last shuttle will depart from the parking lots at 6:15 p.m.; there will be no other mode of transportation for latecomers. To register for tickets, please visit cmoh2013.org and

BAND MEMBER NEWS

OPERATION: OPERA ON YOUTUBE

by Staff Sgt. Rachel Ghadiali

“The President’s Own” is pleased to offer a new video playlist on YouTube featuring the Marine Chamber Orchestra performing the 2012 Young People’s Concert titled “Operation: Opera.” The playlist consists of selected videos from the concert which took place on Sunday, April 22, 2012, at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center in Alexandria, Va.

Visit the YouTube channel and you’ll see that Gioachino Rossini’s familiar “Figaro” can be substituted for birthday cake, a fire-breathing dragon can make a nice gift for a little girl, and the Marine Chamber Orchestra knows how to throw a party—all in the name of opera!

In a unique expression of music and drama, Assistant Director Major Jason K. Fettig led the orchestra during the concert to dispel the myths and stereotypes of opera, a genre often daunting and somewhat intimidating to many people. “The concept of this program was to disarm the mysteries of opera, including the unusual concept of telling a story entirely through singing and the difficulties of the language

barrier in many operas,” Maj. Fettig said.

“I wanted to bring the wonderful world of opera to an audience that may not have entered it before,” he continued. “We used music from some of the greatest operas in the repertoire, and in the original languages of Italian and German, to demonstrate what makes opera so special and exciting.”

Though this is the first Young People’s Concert to be made available online, Maj. Fettig launched the Young People’s Concert initiative in 2006 when he sought to expand the Marine Band’s educational outreach to include a major annual event that would get both kids and their families involved. The programs offer an opportunity for families to share a concert together and get excited about music, and are aimed at keeping music fresh and interesting to every member of the audience.

“Every year, patrons ask me if there is a way to share these popular concerts with a wider audience, and our YouTube channel seemed like the perfect vehicle to do this,” Major



GySgt Mark Jenkins **Principal euphonium**

BIRTHDAY
April 23, 1978

HOMETOWN
Reno, Nevada

FAMILY
Married to Agatha

EDUCATION

BM in euphonium performance, University of North Texas in Denton; MM in euphonium performance, University of Maryland, College Park; currently working on a DMA in euphonium performance, George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

JOINED THE BAND
July 23, 2002

SELF-PORTRAIT
Binocular, cymotrichous, binaural

FAVORITE SAYING OR MOTTO
“What e’er thou art, Act well thy part.”

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE
Mr. Bean

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

Achieving the goal I’ve had since age 11—becoming a member of the “The President’s Own”

PET PEEVES

D.C. traffic, politics, overly sticky brand labels that won’t come off

WALTER MITTY FANTASY

Beating chef Bobby Flay in a smoked brisket throwdown.

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN BAND

The first time performing Richard Wagner’s “Elsa’s Procession to the Cathedral” from *Lohengrin* on the band’s 2002 concert tour

INSPIRATION

Personally, my family; professionally, my teacher Brian Bowman

BEST-KEPT SECRET

To help make ends meet in college I worked as a gumball machine repairman on the weekends.

FAVORITE FOODS

Cooper’s smoked brisket in Llano, Texas, seafood, anything my wife bakes

LUXURY DEFINED

Cool weather, good food, and spending time with family

HOBBIES

History, fishing, hunting, weekend roadtrips with my wife

BAD HABITS

Self-critical, driving too fast to make it to work, not working on my dissertation

THREE THINGS FOUND IN THE FRIDGE

Diet soda, French cheese, bbq sauce

MOST INFLUENTIAL TEACHER

Dr. Brian L. Bowman, Regents Professor of Euphonium, University of North Texas

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE THE BAND

Dallas Wind Symphony

BOOKS AT BEDSIDE

Historical non-fiction, scriptures

FAVORITE PIECE OF MUSIC

Johannes Brahms’ Piano Concerto No. 2

PLACE YOU’D MOST LIKE TO BE STRANDED

In the hill country of Texas

LAST WORDS

Is anyone gonna eat that last rib?

Fettig explained. "Anyone with access to a computer now has a chance to see nearly the entire concert online, start to finish, including all of the unique theatrical elements of this particular program."

Throughout the concert, Gunnery Sgts. mezzo-soprano Sara Dell'Omo and baritone Kevin Bennear used props, drama, and excerpts of arias and duets to illustrate the power of opera in expressing emotions such as love, joy, sadness, and anger.

The playlist begins with a video of Bennear singing one of the most famous pieces of music in the world of opera, Rossini's "Largo al factotum," from *The Barber of Seville*. The piece has for many years appealed to lovers of opera as well as to children, performed by cartoon characters Tom and Jerry and conducted by Bugs Bunny in the 1980s. Later in the playlist, viewers can see kids relating to opera, as the word "Figaro" is transformed to "birthday cake" during an operatic birthday party complete with cake, party favors, and a surprise gift.

"The orchestra and I had a great time working on this program and I know that our vocalists did too," Maj. Fettig said. "I hope our YouTube viewers enjoy 'Operation: Opera' as much as we did!" Please visit www.youtube.com/usmarineband.

RETIREMENTS

Clarinetist Master Sgt. Randall Riffle retired on June 21 after serving 25 years with "The President's Own." Over the course of his career, Riffle served as principal second clarinet, performed more than 700 concerts during 16 U.S. Marine Band National Concert Tours, and performed for the inaugural events of Presidents George H. W. Bush, William Jefferson Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama.

French horn player Master Sgt. Kristin Davidson retired on June 28 after serving 20 years with "The President's Own." During her time with the Marine Band, she served as assistant section leader, assistant principal, and co-principal. She performed during the inaugurations of Presidents William Jefferson Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama, and also for the State Funeral of President Ronald Reagan. In addition to playing the French horn, Davidson also served as the Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., uniformed victim advocate from 2007-08.

NEW MEMBERS

French horn player Staff Sergeant Cecilia Kozlowski joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in May 2013. Staff Sgt. Kozlowski graduated from Sterling Heights High School in Michigan in 2004 and earned a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo in 2008. In 2010, she earned a master's degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Prior to joining the band, Staff Sgt. Kozlowski was the acting principal horn of the Beijing National Opera House in China and performed with the Columbus and Lima Symphony Orchestras in Ohio, the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra in Newport, the Richmond Symphony Orchestra in Indiana, and the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra in St. Joseph.



Tuba player Staff Sergeant Simon Wildman joined "The President's Own" United States Marine Band in June 2013. Staff Sgt. Wildman graduated from Morgantown High School in West Virginia in 2004 and earned a bachelor's degree from West Virginia University in Morgantown in 2008. He continued his studies earning a master's degree from Ohio University in Athens in 2010 and a doctorate from the University of Georgia in Athens in 2012. Prior to joining the band, Staff Sgt. Wildman performed with the Dayton Philharmonic in Ohio.

VACANCY

"The President's Own" announces an audition for the following vacancy:

Saxophone: Dec. 2-3

For information contact the Marine Band Operations Officer at marineband.operations@usmc.mil or (202) 433-5714.

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