

KEEP IT UNDER YOUR HAT

Big hats, little hats, men's hats, women's hats — you'll find shelves full of chapeaux, waiting to get ahead at Chez Pavlina. Pavlina, owner of the French restaurant that opened last year in the former Morton's Tea Room location at Foushee and East Franklin streets, encourages patrons to don headgear from the dozens of models she keeps above the coat rack.

"We wanted customers to get a taste of French ambience as well as French food, and a hat seemed as fun a way as any. It adds a certain *je ne sais quoi* to the occasion," Pavlina, who uses only the single name, says.

But that's not the sole eccentricity at this restaurant. Downstairs, in Richmond's only speakeasy, you'll find a live music club on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings where Pavlina serves drinks in teacups — "like they used to do during Prohibition," she adds. (If you're wondering where you've heard the name "Pavlina" before, she previously owned the Labouffe restaurants in Brandermill and Shockoe Bottom.)

*Patty Martino
Alspaugh, of
Edelmann Scott
Inc., flaunts her
chapeaux at
Chez Pavlina.*



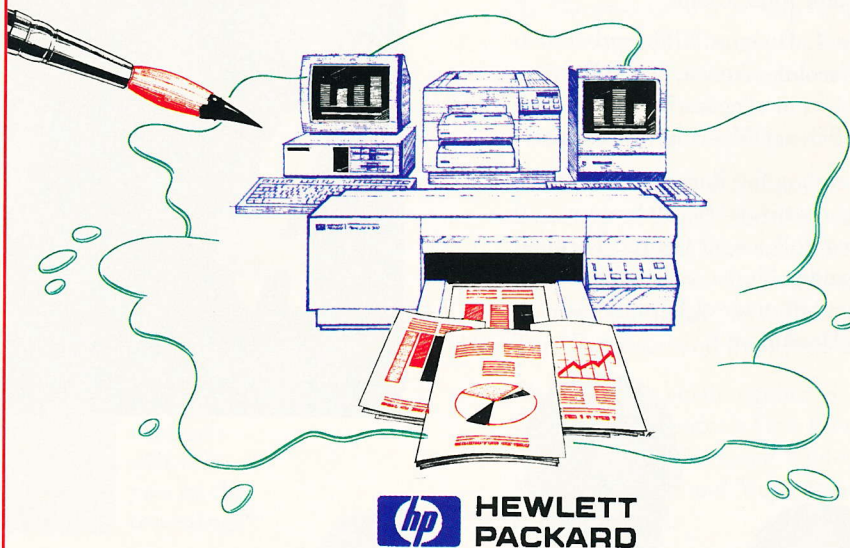
GINTER GARDEN UPDATE

The mounds of earth that were dumped for so long at the entranceway to Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden have disappeared, put to good use in landscaping the Henry M. Flagler Perennial Garden — among the largest on the East Coast — that will open in May.

If you could use a feast for the eyes and beauty for the soul, take a walking tour through the glorious gardens that surround Bloemendaal House, the Dutch Colonial country estate home that is headquarters for the garden's visitors center. Ginter Garden, 1800 Lakeside Ave., is open daily, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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