

# Alex Haley's memorabilia to be auctioned to pay debts

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Memorabilia and property of the late author Alex Haley, including his 1977 Pulitzer Prize for *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*, will be auctioned next month to pay off his estate's debts.

Haley died of a heart attack in February in Seattle at age 70.

Haley's search for his family history produced *Roots*, which traced six generations of his mother's family from Africa through slavery and led to a 1977 TV miniseries with an audience of 130 million viewers. Haley became an international celebrity.

George Haley, the administrator of his late brother's estate, said the estate faces more than \$570,000 claims to date, although he said finances are in fair shape.

Haley's \$1.25 million farm at Norris is also to be auctioned off. First Tennessee Bank, which owns the mortgage, stopped foreclosure proceedings in late June to give the estate a chance to work out arrangements to pay off the debt.

Also for sale are hand-edited working drafts of *Roots*, which the estate says are the original drafts. However, the University of Tennessee's Special Collections Department said the original working drafts are among 75 boxes of papers Haley gave the university.

The Pulitzer Prize office at Columbia University in New York said it has no record of a Pulitzer ever being sold.

Also for sale are personal notes and tape-recorded messages about *Roots*, plus edited television scripts, various first edition books and some single-edition books inscribed to Haley, and nine Emmys for the television miniseries.

The stained and feathered brown derby worn by actor Ben Vereen when he played "Chicken George" in the miniseries is also for sale, as are Haley's medals from his Coast Guard service.

Other personal mementoes include photographs of Haley with *Playboy Magazine* publisher Hugh Hefner and American Nazi Party leader George Lincoln Rockwell.

The auction on Oct. 1-3 will be conducted by Kimball M. Sterling of Johnson City. Household furniture, oil paintings of the author and scenes from *Roots*, will be sold.

George Haley said he considered putting the items in a museum, but decided an auction was best for the estate. He said he isn't personally keeping anything from the farm, but is holding onto the letters his brother sent him from all over the world over the years.

One of the author's most treasured possessions that will be sold is a smoked plastic frame box containing two sardine cans from Maine and 18 cents. The unopened sardine cans and the change were once all he owned while he was working on the "Roots" saga.

Born in Ithaca, N.Y., Haley spent his boyhood in rural western Tennessee. He served 20 years in the Coast Guard, and after *Roots*, traveled the world to talk about his literary works.

Haley also is known for *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, based on a series of interviews articles written for *Playboy Magazine*.

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### Your perfume is making me sick

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Strong perfumes that send some people into raptures may send you into the next room. But you're probably just irritated, not allergic, to the scent, says an allergy specialist.

"A dislike of strong odors is a normal human trait. Almost everyone will display some sort of symptoms or experience a reaction when in an enclosed, polluted, environment," says Dr. James Wells of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

But he says that an allergic basis for complaints about perfume can't be demonstrated. "People who complain about strong perfumes also usually are sensitive to other irritants, such as detergents, cleansers, deodorizers, etc. Weather changes also can set off this type of reaction."

"Plus, while there is growing scientific evidence that 'passive' smoke is harmful, fragrance reactions are usually only a nuisance. Very seldom are they life threatening."

A few people are very sensitive to perfumes, but physicians don't yet know why, he says. The irritation seems to be age-related. "It seems to be something that develops over time and shows up mostly in people who are middle-aged and older."

### Spice up an old look with accessories

AP — Not everything you need for your wardrobe comes on hangers. Here's a sampling of accessories on the market now:

The Dressier Sensible Shoe. Wearing sneakers en route to work probably has saved you a lot of orthopedic grief, but sometimes you might like something a little more formal. Maybe something that you might even wear through the day.

Some oxfords or low boots might make good alternatives, particularly if you favor the tweedy, tailored look. Classic wingtips or streamlined ghillie blucher oxfords from Dexter — both with padded footbeds and flexible soles — come in several deep natural colors on oiled leathers.

Top Masts. If you never wear hats, you may miss an opportunity to stand out in a crowd. A business-like leather bowler or a sly downward-brimmed hat in fur felt, both by Patricia Underwood, is likely to attract respectable second takes.

Eyewear. The animal print mania has reached the bridge of the nose. Look for eyeglasses in animal prints, bright patterns, plaids, and strong colors, says the Vision Council of America, a trade group. According to Carmel Monti, VICA president, subtly modified round, elongated oval and aviator shapes will be popular this season.

Watching It. Real time is embodied in a water-resistant jeweled chronograph watch that has a perpetual calendar programmed to the year 2100, built-in change of time zone, stop watch function, and electronic sewing and battery indicators. According to Baume & Mercier, the makers, the Ladies' Transpacific is the first such watch ever designed for women. Models are 2.5 mm thin and available 18K gold and stainless steel; all 18K gold; and 18K gold with a diamond bezel. Beltways. Some new twists