

# hampt style



Dan's Magazine 8 | 21 | 2006

**The Entertainment  
Industry List**

**Andy Warhol's Montauk**

**The Social Survival Guide**

**Going Broke on a  
Million Dollars a Year:  
Exploration**

**Town Spotlight:  
Sag Harbor**

**AT HOME WITH  
ELISABETH ROHM**





*This page, Elisabeth wears a top by Diane Von Furstenberg, jeans by Seven For All Mankind, shoes by Giuseppe Zanotti Design. Opposite, she wears a dress by Tocca, earrings by Stephen Dweck, ring by Boetic Fine Jewelry*

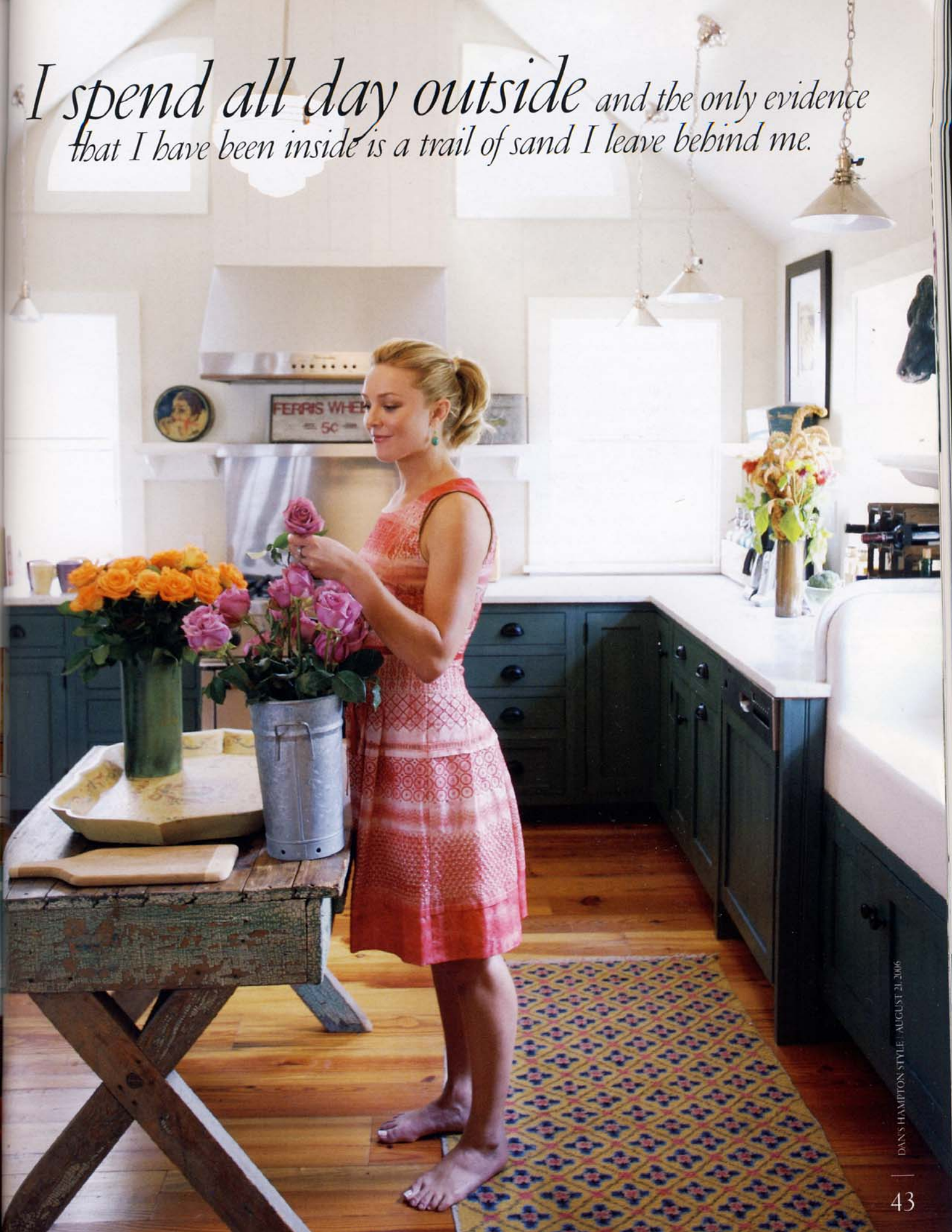
But having wrapped several projects back-to-back this spring, she says, it was time to catch her breath. Returning home to the Hamptons has proven the perfect refuge from a relentless bi-coastal flight pattern. Tucked away in the north woods between Southampton and Sag Harbor, Rohm's home for the last six years has become integral to her peace of mind. She shares the house with ex-fiancé Dan Abrams (MSNBC's new General Manager) and his friend David Zincenko, (Editor-in-Chief of *Men's Health*). Like Rohm, both men have been busy; all three having achieved much acclaim at young ages. The media mavens alternate weekends with Elisabeth, and when they are in residence it's a veritable Michael's-on-the Beach. Elisabeth remained friendly with Dan after their split and jokingly likens the housing arrangement to amiable child visitation between divorced parents.

This particular weekend, Elisabeth is in residence and is enjoying the great outdoors and a spate of good weather. "As beautiful as the houses are out here, I always find myself outside. I will be in my bikini from breakfast to dinner if I can, and the only reason I will go inside is to get water or wine for a friend who stops by." Whether cooking an informal dinner for friends or reading a book on the covered porch, Elisabeth has found the home to be an oasis and a place where all of her favorite sports beckon. Kayaking, tennis, running and biking helped the actress drop the 15 pounds she just gained for her breakthrough new film role, transforming herself into Donna Harris, mother of





*I spend all day outside and the only evidence that I have been inside is a trail of sand I leave behind me.*





*Elisabeth poolside in a dress  
by Diane Von Furstenberg  
Opposite in a top by Diane  
Von Furstenberg and jeans  
by Seven for all Mankind*



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW STYLING BY ANDREW STYLING





Amber Harris and the woman behind the Amber Alert.

Donna Harris is as different from the slim blonde actress as it comes, and that was part of the appeal. In addition to gaining weight for her role in *Amber's Story*, (it airs on Lifetime September 4th), Rohm also wore a suit to bring her up to a size 16.

According to Rohm, the transformation went beyond the physical. "It was an inspiring story. Here is a woman who suffered this unspeakable tragedy and then made it her mission to lobby for the Amber Alert." Harris was on the set as they filmed and she consulted on the script. For research, Rohm was able to turn to raw footage of Harris at the time of her daughter's disappearance and murder. "Before the abduction a local news channel had been filming her for a series on single mothers. When her daughter disappeared, the crew filmed her from day to night, and asked for the exclusive on the footage for a documentary. I can't believe she endured that, but because of the filming I had the real woman on tape; I had an amazing template to work from. I am the furthest thing from a single-mother in Texas, so I had to go inside of her memories, gain weight, and nail the accent. It was a very new experience." The physical aspect of the character also helped her to shift into Harris' world and mindset. "I'm pretty athletic and the hardest part of preparing for the role was injecting the sense of lethargy; you walk differently and you feel yourself in your body differently."

Shortly after *Amber's Story*, Rohm filmed part of a series for ABC titled "Masters of Science Fiction" and narrated by Stephen Hawking, which will air this fall. Now, as she prepares to take off for Missouri to film yet another project, she's making the most of her free time. "I am off to Barbuda for a few days this week, but until then I am indulging







## ELISABETH ROHM'S LITTLE BLACK BOOK

In her beach bag: a baseball hat and Chanel sunscreen; a stack of unopened mail, an I-pod loaded with Damien Rice, Tim McGraw, Lucinda Williams and Johnnie Cash; scripts, and *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. Her summer uniform: dresses by Diane Von Furstenberg, preppy looks from Ports, bikinis from La Perla and Michael Kors, jeans and strappy Jimmy Choo sandals. Her local shopping: Ralph Lauren, Christopher Fisher, Bookhampton and Schmidt's for groceries. Her summer recipe: grilled chicken with fennel and grapes; Her restaurants: The American Hotel, Savanna's, The Golden Pear for croissants and eggs, Armand's for pizza and La Parmigiana for Italian fare. Her favorite places: North of the Highway and Sag Harbor; Her favorite events: The Hampton Classic and the Hamptons Film Festival.



*Elisabeth kayaks wearing a dress by BCBG by Max Azaria, earrings by Bobbi Fine Jewelry*



*Elisabeth wears a Fila tank top  
and warm up jacket.*







*Elisabeth wears a shirt and shorts by Diane Von Furstenberg, earrings by Stephen Dweck. Her shoes, above, and shown below on shelves are all by Giuseppe Zanotti Design.*



in my favorite sports out here. "When you kayak in salt water you have to be fearless and agile. Recently I started playing tennis with my boyfriend who's a very good player; we play four times a week now. It's the tunnel vision focus of the sport, and finesse that I love. It's a very detailed sport like riding. And like acting, it's all about the art of subtlety."

"I've been thinking about making Southampton my permanent home," she continues. In many ways, I think that it's always been my home. It's the place I feel the most relaxed and lighthearted." Rohm, who grew up summering in Southampton until her parents moved to Greenwich, found herself being pulled back to the places she loved as a child. "I just try to ignore the region's growth in McMansions and traffic congestion...maybe that's why I so seldom leave the house other than for a quick change of scenery. Occasionally I'll go to the Candy Kitchen in Bridgehampton or maybe a farmstand. North Sea Farm has always been my favorite since I was a little kid. When I am here I try to get back to the kid in me. I remember dipping the ocean before bedtime when the crickets are singing and the sky is still thick and darkening. To me the Hamptons are a family place, not a transplanted Manhattan. That's why I try to keep it simple here, just the way it always was to me."

Although her work will invariably take her to Hollywood, Rohm relishes her opportunities to work on the East Coast. "Law & Order was the best possible job for a New Yorker. I can understand how happy Sarah Jessica Parker must have felt when making *Sex and the City*. You get to have a job you love and at the end of the day, you go home to your own bed. So much of my business takes place in LA and it was always a struggle for me, but a friend once gave me sage advice on this front: 'In the end it's just about multiple homes; you love them all.' Of course right now I'm loving my suitcase just for getting me from A to B." Rohm also stays grounded by taking her golden retriever, Homer, with her whenever she can. "I have a pillow that I bought in Napa that says, 'Be the Person Your Dog Thinks You Are.' So I am trying to be the person Homer thinks I am."

This fall, Rohm hopes to do just that, turning her energies to a project with The Red Cross, for which she is on the National Board. With a possible trip to Vietnam or Lebanon in the coming months, Rohm has also used her celebrity to rally other notables to support the international organization. "I called the photographer Timothy Greenfield-Sanders and said, 'How do you feel about working for free?'" It worked, and the duo has paired up to create portraits of the celebrity committee of the Red Cross to help inspire further volunteerism. With that and a number of films premiering this fall, Rohm has hit her stride and is looking forward to fall weekends, relaxing on the East End. "The house feels more like a cabin than a beach house with all of these warm colors and the big fireplace, so it's perfect off-season. In the fall I'll be curling up here with scripts and books, enjoying the peace and quiet. But for now, while it's still summer, I just want to play outside until I'm exhausted." ♦



Elisabeth wears a dress by  
BCBG Max Azria, ring by  
Bocic Fine Jewelry.

