

# WORKING LIFE



## Stork.Com

It's an e-male!

By Haidee E. Allerton

Illustration by Sybille Schwartz

A Silicon Valley hospital brands new babies with a domain name at birth, according to a report in Reuters.

Sequoia Hospital, in partnership with Namezero.com, offers parents the option to give their infants a personalized domain name and email address before they even take their bundles of joy home. The service will provide the option of free email and URL forwarding, as well as online tips and resources for child care and parenting.

"It's a fun way to welcome new

babies to the 21st century," said a hospital spokesperson.

<http://news.cnet.com/news/010052006032035.html?tag=prntfr>

### Forward Twenty Years

The CEO of a dot.com startup auctioned his mom over the Web this past Mother's Day. The highest bidder would receive regular motherly attention for about three months.

"She will call to make sure the winner is eating right and cleaning up his



or her room," promised Charles Low, CEO of Surpluzz, based in Canoga Park, California.

<|> [www.surpluzz.com](http://www.surpluzz.com)

The Friday before Mother's Day, there were 22 bids, topping at \$50.

"I think they all work for my son," said the CEO's mom, Marilyn.

<|> [Source/Reuters](#)

## Aloof But Altruistic

Most business travelers do not strike up conversations with other passengers, according to a survey conducted by Harris Interactive for Delta Air Lines. However, 60 percent of respondents said they share their airline food. (Well, maybe that's not so altruistic.)

## Nekkid News Update

Remember those naked newscasters in Canada

(Working Life, May)? Well, one just became a mom.

(In a sudden burst of decorum, we shall deter from making the obvious jokes.)

## True Tales From the Workplace

A summer intern went to an administrative assistant saying he was almost out of paper and asking what to do. She said, "Just use copy machine paper." So, he took his last piece of paper, put it on the copier, and made a bunch of blank copies."

<|> [Source/ivillage.com](http://Source/ivillage.com)

## StressFactoids

● Think commuting is hell? It may surprise you to learn that fewer than 1 percent of Americans would give up their daily commute, according to a study at University of California, Davis. "People use commuting as a de-stressor," says a researcher.

● The most stressful job? Cop? Firefighter? Surgeon? Nope. Lawyer, according to scientists at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

● Of 20 online support sites, the most visited are those for alcoholism, anorexia, and other diseases with a social stigma. The study in *American Psychologist* credits the anonymity of the Internet with making it easier for people to seek help for such problems.

<|> [Source/Self](#); try Relax Deck (Chronicle, \$13), a deck of stress-relieving cards

## Do You Have a True Tale From the Workplace?

Tell us actual stories that happen at your work, and we'll mention you as a contributor to Working Life (or grant you anonymity, if you prefer).

Just email Haidee Allerton at [worklife@astd.org](mailto:worklife@astd.org) or write to me at T+D, 1640 King Street, Box 1443, Alexandria, VA 22313-2043.

Fame can be yours!—or a place in the Working Life witness protection program.