It Takes A Village . . .

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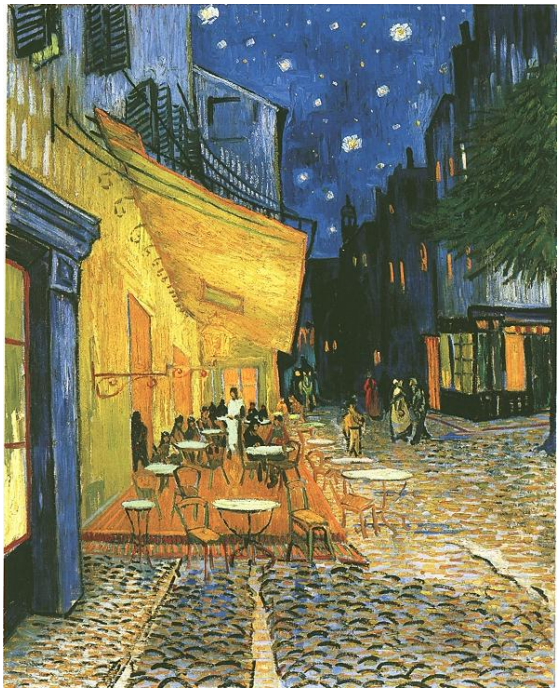

Can you tell me where
I can find a Starbucks?

Next They Want One That Looks Like San Francisco. Washington Post Staff Writer Al Kamen reported Friday (at page 2) a nifty opportunity for a construction company willing to see its project immediately blown up by shells from a 105 mm howitzer. Mr. Kamen wrote:

> The Haqqani clan and other Taliban types in North Waziristan and in the rugged Afghanistan mountains may think those Predator attacks are a major problem. But things may be getting worse for them soon, judging from a recent Air Force solicitation notice.
>
> Cannon Air Force Base, just west of Clovis, N.M., is looking for a contractor to build a "rustic village which reflects the likeness of an Afghanistan village." The base, pretty much in the middle of nowhere near the Texas-New Mexico border, warns that the "site is remote, and located on Melrose Firing Range
>
> What's more, "with exception of non-potable well-water, there are no utilities available," the notice says, so bring your own generator, water, porta-facilities and so forth.

Definitely - defiantly - rustic.

HMMMM . . . My brother-In-Law Has A Backhoe. And I have a hammer. So, excitedly, I

sought out the Air Force's offer, and found it at FedBizOpps.com. In case you're interested, here it is (I highlighted the best parts):

Mountain Village and Caves Construction Solicitation Number: FA4855-11-R-0004

Agency: Department of the Air Force

Air Force Special Operations Command

Location: 27 SOCONS

Solicitation Number: FA4855-11-R-0004

Notice Type: Sources Sought

Synopsis: Added: January 12, 2011

Cannon Air Force Base, located 10 miles west of Clovis, NM , is conducting a market survey with the intent of determining the interest, capabilities and qualifications of potential small businesses in performing construction of a Mountain Village and Caves as a PRIME contractor for a potential firm fixed-price (to include economic price adjustment FAR Clause 52.216-4). A firm requirement has not yet been established. Upon review of industry response to this Sources Sought Synopsis, the Government will determine whether a set-aside acquisition in lieu of full and open competition is in the Government's best interest.

The contractor shall be required to provide all labor, materials, tools, and equipment in order to perform all excavation and concrete work or similar for construction work to build a rustic village which reflects the likeness of an Afghanistan village. The site is remote, and located on Melrose Firing Range. With exception of non-potable well water, there are no utilities available. In addition to the Mountain Village construction, this project will incorporate four caves to be composed of, at minimum, 36" thick, 5000 psi reinforced concrete, to withstand repeated 105mm target practice rounds and 40mm armor piercing rounds. Necessary site work for site build-up may include, but not limited to: clearing and grubbing where applicable, and providing of own means of electricity for construction.

Hell, I'll do it for nothing!