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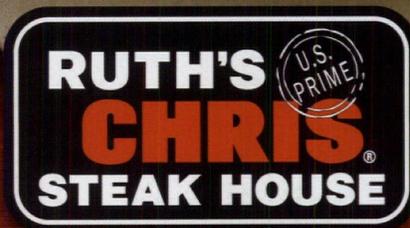


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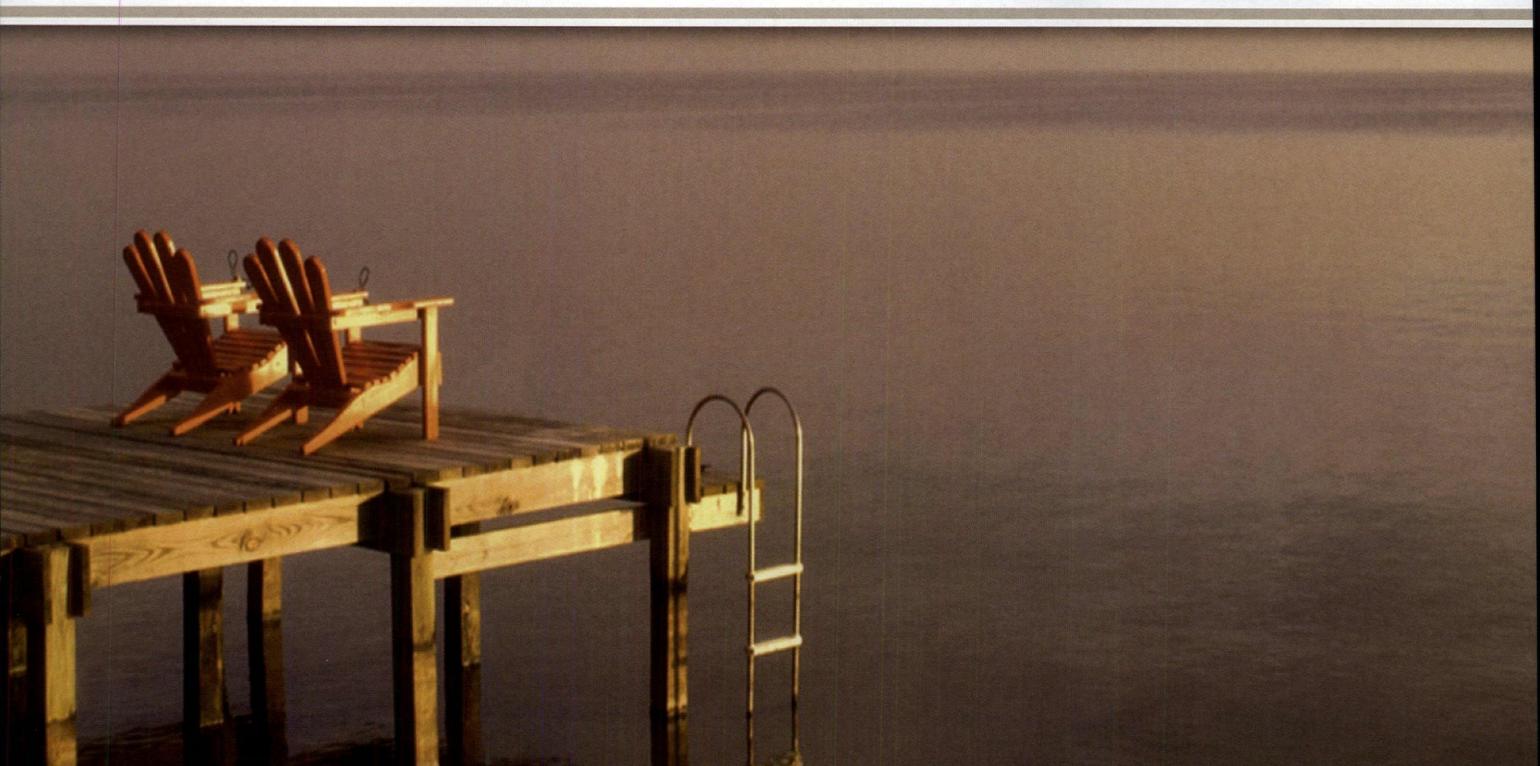
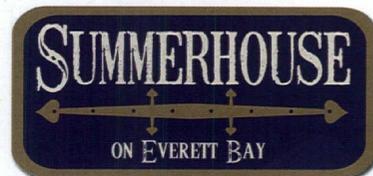
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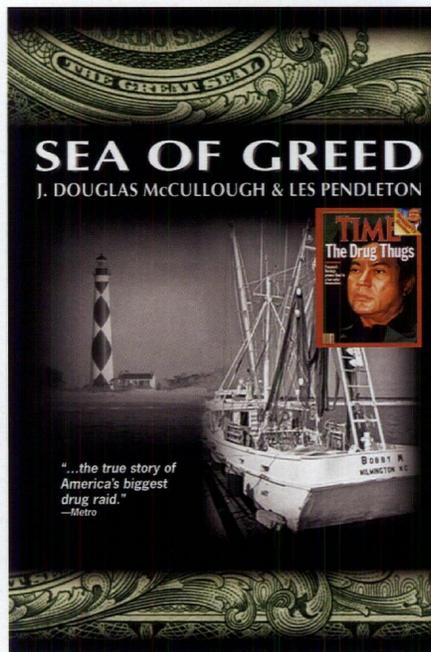
IT'S ALL ABOUT PLACE

I wish I could claim this perfect confluence was planned. It's as if James Michener — the author who focused on place — penned a table of contents relying on the circulation footprint of *Metro Magazine* for this July issue, personifying our mission to cover our “place” from the Triangle to the coast. We start within the sacred circle of Research Triangle Park, extend eastward over fertile farmland to the southern coast, and up the Outer Banks to the place it all started: Roanoke Island and the Lost Colony. And we announce the best of it all with Part One of our annual MetroBravo! Readers' Poll.

As Michener would say, it's all about the land and that means real estate, which begs the question: How are we doing in our region compared to the nationwide slump in home values since the securitized mortgage instrument scandal that hit Wall Street this past spring? Patricia Staino and Rick Smith went searching for answers and heard from residential and commercial industry leaders that, well, it's not too bad here compared to the rest of the country — and there are many exciting new developments on the drawing boards that will transform the cityscape in the next few years. It's not all good, and it's not all bad, so take a look at *Metro's* annual survey of regional real estate and see for yourself.

Diane Lea was fascinated with the design metrics of the new headquarters building for the Research Triangle Foundation. Each element of the modern and green structure points to motifs of the past and visions for the future for the research park that transformed the region into a

world-class center, today hosting over 40,000 workers dedicated to high-tech, bio-tech, medical research, and environmental and health sciences. You name it, and RTP is pushing the envelope — and the new headquarters is a modern manifesto announcing the future is happening here.



Skipping on down to the coast, Appeals Court Judge Doug McCullough appeared in Beaufort at the end of June to sign copies of his long-awaited book *Sea of Greed*. *Metro* readers have been asking us when the book was coming out since we ran an excerpt in the July 2006 issue describing the first hints that the North Carolina sounds and inlets were the staging ground for what became the biggest drug ring in history, leading in the end to the arrest of Panama's President Manuel Noriega. McCullough was the federal prosecutor who opened the case and was on hand when this Hollywood-like cast of characters was finally rounded up.

Up the coast on Roanoke Island and environs, Steve Row reports news is in the

making keyed on the first English settlers in America, the so-called Lost Colonists, who disappeared from Fort Raleigh never to be heard from again. New excavations are uncovering exciting new artifacts that could assist in solving what some call the greatest mystery in American history.

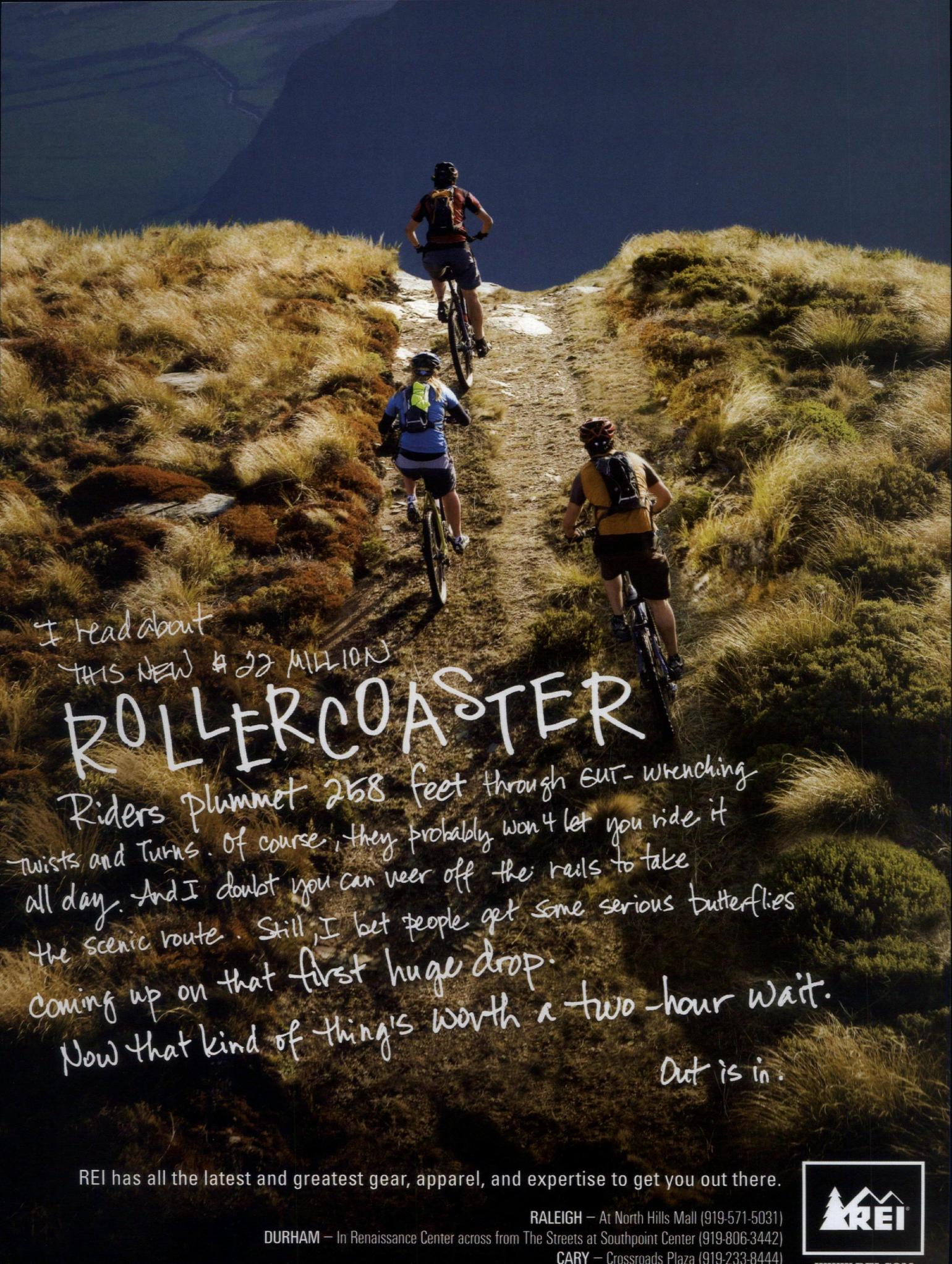
And summer is the time for North Carolina's Coastal Report Card. Editor-At-Large Jim Leutze says we're doing OK, but not well enough to assure the future viability of our volatile coastal landscape. And there is much more from the beaches and sounds in our July edition of Coastal Preview and News, edited by Cyndi Harris and bringing you a detailed compendium of events to help you plan your summer visit.

On the culinary front, food editor Moreton Neal notes the subtle tastes and fine fare at the new MEZ restaurant in RTP, and wine critic Barbara Ensrud suggests you will be pleased with dry *rosé* for summer.

The season makes Carroll Leggett want to grow his own garden and Katie Poole to think about fashionable attire for men and women as temperatures rise. Louis St. Lewis prepared for the hot months here with a sojourn in Paris; Art Taylor suggests good books for summer reading; and Philip van Vleck recommends the latest from singer Claire Holley.

We thank the thousands of readers who voted in the 2008 annual “best of” MetroBravo! Poll. Grab your copy of the results in this issue and take it somewhere cool — or on the beach — and discover the best in just about everything. There are some interesting changes in this year's final tally, a sure sign we are growing and changing. Part Two is set for August, so stay tuned — and stay cool!

—Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher



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EVE CARSON OUTRAGE

As I recently stated in a letter to *The Raleigh News & Observer*, I am outraged at the murders of Eve Carson and Abhijit Mahato. I am almost more outraged about how the North Carolina Justice System and, particularly, the North Carolina Division of Community Corrections mishandled the cases of the two alleged perpetrators. May I remind you that these are the people who are supposed to be keeping us, the citizens, safe from people who have already been found to be dangerous!

I have learned, however, that outrage in cases like these is just not enough. It is particularly not enough when the powers-that-be seem to be in no hurry to fix blame or hold anyone accountable. (Oh, I'm wrong, two people have been transferred.) What is far more productive in cases like this is an incensed public that calls for reform. We need root and branch changes in our Justice System because it's NOT WORKING!! Here it is election season and several hundred people in North Carolina are running for public office. I haven't heard a one of them call for an overhaul of the Division of Community Corrections.

Well, I'm calling for such an overhaul.

The official response, not to me, but to the situation has not been heartwarming. The governor put \$4 million in his budget — which seemed to me like a pittance given the enormity of the problem. Then the House **cut out** \$1 million. Where is our sense of outrage?

What would have been the value of the life of just one victim — Eve Carson — killed by someone “under control of the courts”? In a sense, we're all victims when our families and our children are put at risk by an underfunded, under-staffed, technologically creaking system.

Let's hope the final budget does better; I'm not about to drop this from my list of priorities.

Jim Leutze

Editor-At-Large
Raleigh Metro Magazine
Chancellor Emeritus
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LOVELY GARDEN

I wanted to let you know that I really enjoyed the article on the Richard Urquhart garden in the June 2008 issue. I had no idea such lovely personal gardens existed in Raleigh. It was a pleasant surprise to find that we have such hidden gems. I hope to see more articles on gardening in the future.

Michele Little

Raleigh

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Richard Urquhart passed away the day after reading the article on his garden in Metro. He was 89.

CANADIAN MAGAZINE OBJECT OF PERSECUTION

America's columnists and editorial writers

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have been curiously silent concerning Canada's persecution of *Macleans*, its largest circulation magazine, and Mark Steyn, highly regarded author of *America Alone*. They are in the dock of the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal and the Canadian Human Rights Commission for a factually accurate article by Steyn pointing out that demographic trends in Canada and elsewhere foretell "Islamification" of Western nations and values.

Based on the prior records of the HRT and CRC, the prediction is that both the magazine and the author will be effectively banned

in Canada. The Canadian government, aggressively prosecuting a complaint by a Muslim advocacy organization, is not required to establish that Steyn's assertions are factually wrong, or that the opinions he expresses incite violence. To find them guilty of "hate speech," it need only demonstrate that the sensitivities of the Muslim community are "offended" by his ideas.

Given the United States' core belief that freedom of expression is sacrosanct, the Canadian show trials seem preposterous and quirky — exemplifying an alarming and feck-

less intellectual trend throughout the Western democracies. The silence of the American media over the Steyn/*Macleans* affair is a disturbing reminder that influential voices in this country tolerate, and in many instances advocate, similar policing of dissent and expression.

Ross C. Reeves
Norfolk VA

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Go to www.metronc.com to hear Bernie Reeves' interviews with WGAU, Eve Carson's hometown talk radio station in Athens, GA.



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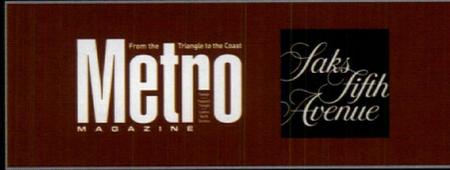


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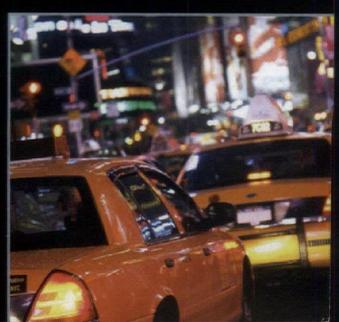
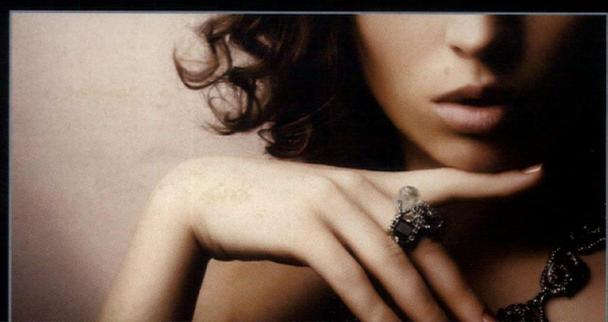


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SECRETS OF STATE

Civil War Battle Flag On Display

The NC Museum of History in Raleigh has acquired a Confederate battle flag associated with the death of Lt. Gen. Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson during the Civil War. The flag was carried by the 18th



Regiment North Carolina Troops, which were responsible for the accidental shooting of the Confederate general at Chan-

cellorsville, VA, on May 2, 1863. Severely injured by gunfire, Jackson died a week later of pneumonia.

The 18th North Carolina was in a line of battle ready to attack retreating Union troops as Jackson and his staff rode out in front of the Confederate line on reconnaissance. Firing broke out along the Southern battle line as Jackson returned to his command unannounced. In the confusion, soldiers from the 18th North Carolina fired into the dark woods at what they believed were Federal cavalry, mortally wounding Jackson.

In addition to its significance in battle, the 18th North Carolina flag has two unusual features. In late 1862, the five regiments in the North Carolina Branch-Lane Brigade received new battle flags. Unlike other flags issued to North Carolina regiments, the new banners carried white battle honors instead of the usual blue or black — with the honors painted on both sides of the flag.

The flag acquisition is in anticipation of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Celebration, which will take place from 2011 to

2015. Sponsored by the NC Office of Archives and History and the NC Department of Cultural Resources, the celebration will commemorate the war’s 150th anniversary with events and activities.

For more information about the Museum, call 919-807-7900 or visit www.nc-museumofhistory.org.

Classical Greek Ring Given To NC Art Museum

The North Carolina Museum of Art’s Friends of Greek Art recognized First Lady Mary P. Easley with the purchase of a classical Greek gold ring, given to the Museum in her honor. The fourth century ring, the third work of art purchased by the Friends of Greek Art, an affiliate membership group of the Museum since 2003, is the first piece of jewelry acquired by the Museum.



The Friends, founded by Easley, have raised more than \$400,000 for the Museum’s classical art collection.

“By giving North Carolinians more Greek art to view and study, we are encouraging an appreciation of Greek culture and a better understanding of the role classical Greece has played in shaping who we are today,” said Easley.

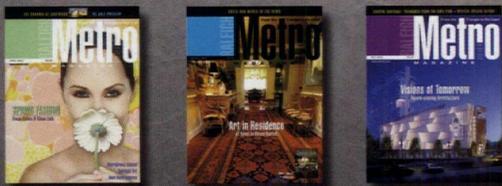
The Museum’s classical art collection consists of approximately 100 objects — sculpture, vase painting and now jewelry — to be on view in the new gallery building, slated to open in spring 2010.

For more information on the North Carolina Museum of Art, the Museum’s classical collection or the Friends of Greek Art, visit www.ncartmuseum.org or call 919-839-NCMA (6262).

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18 Seaboard, Raleigh

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With ambiance akin to a swanky Manhattan restaurant and a menu with metropolitan twists on Southern classics, The Mint is downtown Raleigh's newest culinary treasure. Jeremy Clayman's delectable creations and the luxe atmosphere created inside the four walls of an old bank vault leave an unforgettable impression.

Savoy

Another fine addition to the Raleigh scene, Savoy is the result of Chef Peter Gibson and Marshall Smith's lifelong dream to serve the community scrumptious bites from their extensive culinary experience.

MEZ

From the celebrated creators of 518 West, 411 West, Spanky's, and Squid's now comes MEZ. The contemporary Mexican restaurant has all the classic dishes peppered with vibrant, modern touches coupled with locally grown organic foods.

COASTAL RESTAURANT

Standing Ovation

Dockside Restaurant & Marina,
Wrightsville Beach
The Oceanic Restaurant, Wrightsville Beach

MetroBravo

Jerry's Food, Wine & Spirits, Wilmington

Honorable Mention

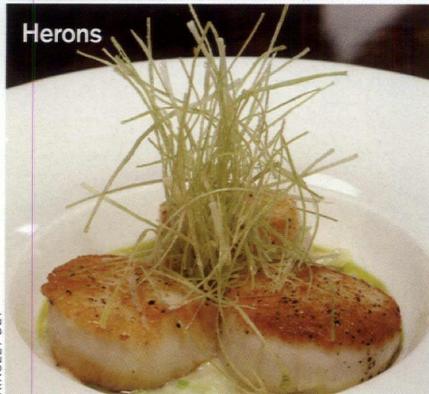
Front Street Restaurant & Brewery, Wilmington
Blue Moon Bistro, Beaufort

Try It With an Orange.

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KINSLEY DEY



KINSLEY DEY



KINSLEY DEY

COASTAL RESTAURANT

Dockside Restaurant & Marina

Nothing says Wrightsville Beach like Dockside Restaurant & Marina. Gas up your boat, order up some fresh crab legs and cold beers, and watch the sun set over the sound. The seafood is fresh and the atmosphere authentically beachy. Dockside is a true channel marker for dining on the coast.

The Oceanic

Casual coastal dining perfect for the family on vacation, The Oceanic offers breathtaking views of the Atlantic from Wrightsville Beach and fresh seafood caught daily from the adjacent waters. Eat inside or on the Pier, either way your surroundings will make for an unforgettable seaside dining experience.



OUTDOOR DINING

Standing Ovation

Vivace, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Mellow Mushroom, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Winston's Grille, Raleigh

DELI

Standing Ovation

Village Deli, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Jason's Deli, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Neomonde Deli & Bakery, Morrisville and Raleigh

COFFEEHOUSE

Standing Ovation

Starbucks, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Third Place Coffeehouse, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Café Helios, Raleigh

SPORTS BAR

Standing Ovation

Carolina Ale House, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Hi5, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Village Draft House, Raleigh

PLACE WITH BEST COCKTAIL MENU

Standing Ovation

Blue Martini Bar and Lounge, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Sullivan's Steakhouse, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Bogart's American Grill, Raleigh

CATERER

Standing Ovation

LadyFingers Caterers, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Catering Works, Raleigh

DELI

Village Deli

Since 1996, the folks at the Village Deli (now with four Triangle locations) have given us a welcoming establishment characterized by the quality of their wide variety of homemade delights — and a welcoming atmosphere. Choose from burgers, hot dogs, chili, soups, Philly's, salads, seafood, gourmet desserts and of course great deli sandwiches.

Honorable Mention

Mitchell's Catering & Events, Raleigh

CHEF

Standing Ovation

Jason Smith, 18 Seaboard, Raleigh

MetroBravo

John Toler, Bloomsbury Bistro, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Ashley Christensen, Enoteca Vin & Poole's Diner, Raleigh



KINSLEY DEY

Shaba Shabu

COFFEE

The Third Place Coffeehouse

After nearly a decade of residency at Five Points, The Third Place has become an institution. Customers return for more than just java and sandwiches — it is a place to read, think and talk in an eclectic atmosphere.



KINSLEY DEY

WAIT STAFF

Standing Ovation

The Angus Barn, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Bloomsbury Bistro, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Hérons at The Umstead, Cary

FRENCH CUISINE

Standing Ovation

Saint-Jacques French Cuisine, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Provence, Carrboro

Honorable Mention

Bonne Soirée, Chapel Hill

Margaux's Restaurant, Raleigh

ITALIAN CUISINE

Standing Ovation

Vivace, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Café Tiramisu, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Casa Carbone Ristorante, Raleigh

MEXICAN CUISINE

Standing Ovation

Dos Taquitos Mexican Restaurant, Raleigh

MetroBravo

El Rodeo Mexican Restaurant, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Jibarra Modern Mexican Tequila Lounge, Raleigh

CHINESE CUISINE

Standing Ovation

Red Dragon Chinese Restaurant, Raleigh

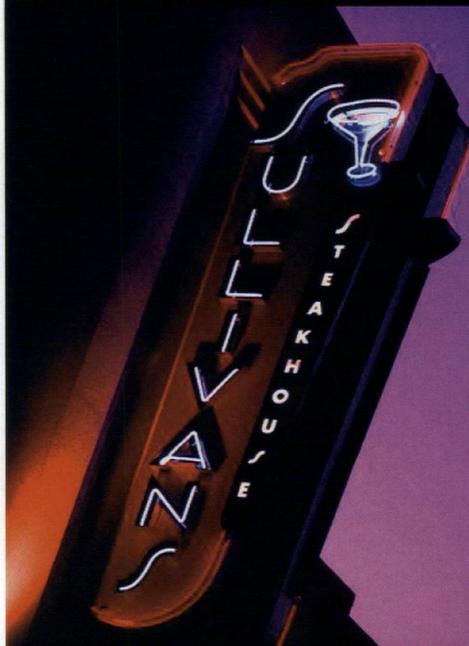
MetroBravo

PF Chang's China Bistro, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Neo-China Restaurant, Triangle-wide

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KINSLEY DEY

Char-Grill



KINSLEY DEY

Five Guys



KINSLEY DEY

TAPAS/SMALL PLATES

Standing Ovation

Humble Pie, Raleigh

MetroBravo

The Red Room Tapas Lounge, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Zely & Ritz Tapas Restaurant and Wine Bar, Raleigh

SUSHI

Standing Ovation

Shaba Shabu, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Mura Japanese Restaurant, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Waraji Japanese Restaurant, Raleigh

TAPAS

Humble Pie

Legend has it Tapas originated under the orders of an ailing Castilian king who used small portions of food and wine to regain his strength. The Spanish tradition has carried on boldly ever since, giving us places like Humble Pie. Keep with the tradition and share a variety of plates from their colorful menu and bottles from their extensive wine selection. Humble Pie invites you to "dine alfresco on downtown's largest patio."

APPETIZERS

Standing Ovation

Sullivan's Steakhouse, Raleigh

MetroBravo

An, Cary

Honorable Mention

Herons at The Umstead, Cary

BARBECUE/RIBS

Standing Ovation

Danny's Bar-B-Que, Cary, Durham and Morrisville

MetroBravo

The Pit, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Cooper's Barbeque, Raleigh

HOT DOG

Standing Ovation

Snoopy's Hot Dogs, Raleigh

MetroBravo

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and
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Honorable Mention

The Roast Grill, Raleigh

HAMBURGER

Standing Ovation

Char-Grill, Raleigh and Cary

MetroBravo

Five Guys Famous Burgers and Fries, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Red Robin, Triangle-wide

HOT DOGS

Snoopy's Hot Dogs & More

Snoopy's is a shoo-in every year for "best hot dog." Everyone knows exactly where to go for tasty take-out, fast service and oh so convenient late night hours of operation. Nothing compares to hot dogs and onion rings at two o'clock in the morning — or in the afternoon for that matter.

FRENCH FRIES

Standing Ovation

Char-Grill, Raleigh and Cary

MetroBravo

Five Guys Famous Burgers and Fries, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Snoopy's Hot Dogs, Raleigh

PIZZA

Standing Ovation

Lilly's Pizza, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Mellow Mushroom, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Capital Creations Gourmet Pizza, Raleigh

STEAKS

Ruth's Chris

Ruth is quite a lady. Ruth's Chris started as a little corner joint in New Orleans and has grown into a steakhouse chain of tremendous repute. With carefully selected cuts of meat aged, cut and seared to a step above perfection, it is little wonder *Metro* readers voted Ruth's Chris "Best Steak." And a story like Ruth's makes the steaks taste all the better.

STEAKS

Standing Ovation

The Angus Barn, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Ruth's Chris, Cary and Raleigh

Sullivan's Steakhouse, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Vinnie's Steakhouse and Tavern, Raleigh

SEAFOOD

Standing Ovation

42nd Street Oyster Bar, Raleigh



KINSLEY DEY

Raleigh Times Bar

MetroBravo

Fins Restaurant, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Bonefish Grill, Triangle-wide

OYSTERS

Standing Ovation

42nd Street Oyster Bar, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Tony's Bourbon Street Oyster Bar, Cary

Honorable Mention

Fins Restaurant, Raleigh



KINSLEY DEY

Hayes Barton

DESSERT

Standing Ovation

Hayes Barton Dessertery & Café, Raleigh

MetroBravo

The Cheesecake Factory, Durham and Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Heregthy Heavenly Delicious, Raleigh

BRUNCH

Enoteca Vin

When you've missed breakfast at the fast food chains and it's still too early for lunch, brunch at Enoteca Vin will hit the spot. From banana French toast to shrimp and grits, paired with a white peach bellini or a pomegranate mimosa, Chef Ashley Christensen's seasonal dishes complement a late night on Glenwood South.

BRUNCH

Standing Ovation

Enoteca Vin Restaurant and Wine Bar, Raleigh

MetroBravo

NOFO Café, Raleigh and Wilmington

Honorable Mention

Poole's Diner, Raleigh

SMOOTHIES

Standing Ovation

Planet Smoothie, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Keva Juice, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Baskin-Robbins, Triangle-wide

EGGS BENEDICT

Enoteca Vin

There are several accounts as to the origin of eggs Benedict, but regardless of who came up with the dish, *Metro* readers are in agreement that Enoteca Vin and Chef Ashley Christensen's recipe is the best in the Triangle. Whether you choose it with prosciutto and roasted potatoes or sunny side up with gravy du jour, the fresh, local ingredients make the dish stand out against all others.

EGGS BENEDICT

Standing Ovation

Brigs Restaurants, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

NOFO Café, Raleigh and Wilmington

Honorable Mention

Enoteca Vin Restaurant and Wine Bar, Raleigh

FRIED CHICKEN

Standing Ovation

Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Mama Dip's Kitchen, Chapel Hill



THE BILTMORE ESTATE

The Biltmore Estate

PLACE FOR BREAKFAST

Brigs Restaurant

If you've ever wanted breakfast for lunch or dinner, but wanted to spice things up, Brigs is your place. Serving a wide variety of breakfast creations since 1988, Brigs is a family restaurant with great service and an extensive menu. Brigs has kept *Metro* readers coming back to their four Triangle locations by creating a new omelet every week and a new eggs Benedict every month. Try this best place for breakfast and help Brigs come up with other menu items.

Honorable Mention

Kentucky Fried Chicken, Triangle-wide

MARGARITA

Standing Ovation

Dos Taquitos Mexican Restaurant, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Mellow Mushroom, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

El Rodeo Mexican Restaurant, Raleigh

Jibarra Modern Mexican Tequila Lounge, Raleigh

MARTINI

Standing Ovation

Sullivan's Steakhouse, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Blue Martini Bar and Lounge, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Bogart's American Grill, Raleigh

BLOODY MARY

Standing Ovation

NOFO Café, Raleigh and Wilmington

MetroBravo

Winston's Grille, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

The Raleigh Times Bar, Raleigh

Sullivan's Steakhouse, Raleigh

COSMOPOLITAN

Standing Ovation

Sullivan's Steakhouse, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Bogart's American Grill, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Bloomsbury Bistro, Raleigh

BEER

Standing Ovation

Flying Saucer Draught Emporium, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Hi5, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

The Raleigh Times Bar, Raleigh

WINE

Standing Ovation

The Angus Barn, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Enoteca Vin Restaurant and Wine Bar, Raleigh



CHATHAM HILL

Honorable Mention

18 Seaboard, Raleigh

NC VINEYARD/WINERY

Standing Ovation

Biltmore Estate, Asheville

MetroBravo

Shelton Vineyards, Dobson

Honorable Mention

Chatham Hill Winery, Morrisville

PLACE FOR BREAKFAST

Standing Ovation

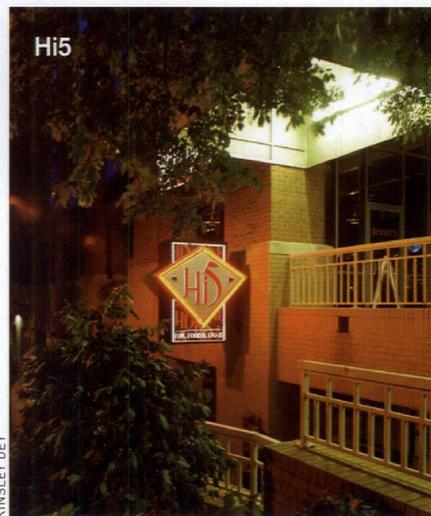
Brigs Restaurants, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Big Ed's City Market Restaurant, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Courtney's Restaurant, Cary and Raleigh



KINSLEY DEY

LATE NIGHT DINING

Standing Ovation

Hi5, Raleigh

MetroBravo

The Raleigh Times Bar, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Snoopy's Hot Dogs, Raleigh

SPECIALTY FOOD STORE

Standing Ovation

Trader Joe's, Cary and Chapel Hill

Whole Foods Market, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

The Fresh Market, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

A Southern Season, Chapel Hill

FAVORITE BRAND OF:

BOTTLED WATER

Standing Ovation

Fiji

Dasani

MetroBravo

Evian

SPECIALTY FOODS

Trader Joe's

Part Polynesian trading post, part value superstore, Trader Joe's brings the best of specialty foods to the Triangle at the best of prices. The store prides itself on providing quality products from around the world at affordable prices. With the staff in Hawaiian shirts and island bells replacing a PA system, Trader Joe's is anything but your typical grocery buying experience. This makes perfect sense, as Metro readers voted it as Best Specialty Foods. And who can resist the "Two Buck Chuck"?

Honorable Mention

Aquafina

BEER

Standing Ovation

Blue Moon

MetroBravo

Miller Lite

Bud Light

Honorable Mention

Corona

BEER

Blue Moon Beer

Blue Moon Brewing Company started brewing in 1995 in Denver, CO, with the goal of creating uniquely flavored, high quality, handcrafted beer and has kept the fun going ever since. They've created a beer for every season, and in the balmy North Carolina summers when you're able to add a piece of fruit to your beer, in this case an orange slice, it usually means that you're going to have a refreshing experience.



VODKA

Standing Ovation

Grey Goose

MetroBravo

Absolut

Honorable Mention

Ketel One

BOURBON/WHISKEY

Standing Ovation

Jack Daniel's

MetroBravo

Maker's Mark

Honorable Mention

Crown Royal

GIN

Standing Ovation

Tanqueray



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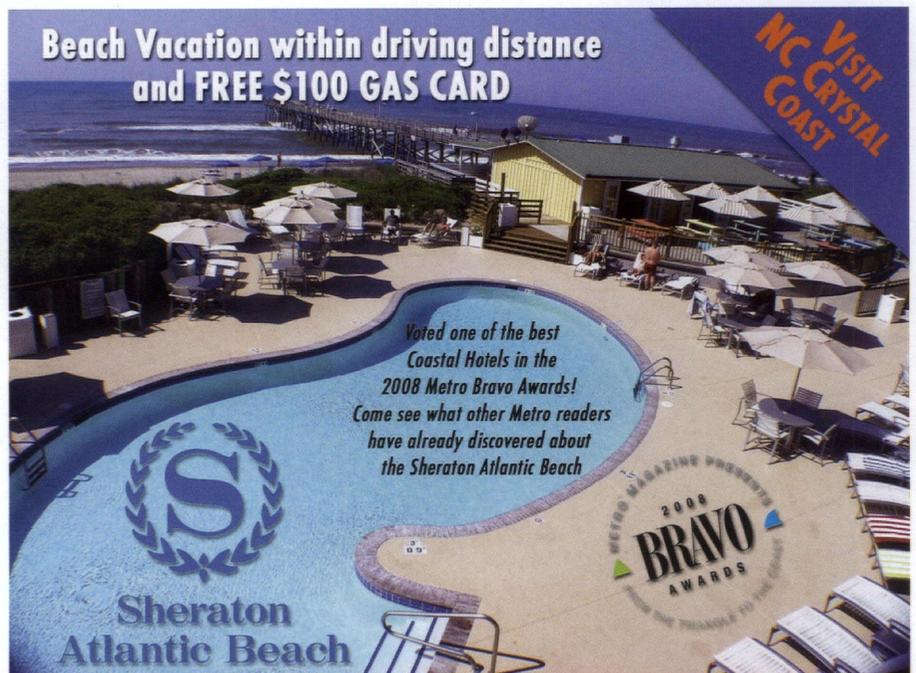
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MetroBravo 2008

MetroBravo

Bombay Sapphire

Honorable Mention

Beefeater



KINSLEY DEY

SCOTCH

Standing Ovation

Dewar's

MetroBravo

The Macallan

Honorable Mention

Chivas Regal

RUM

Standing Ovation

Bacardi

MetroBravo

Captain Morgan

Honorable Mention

Mount Gay



Travel should exceed expectations.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE CO.

Standing Ovation

York Simpson Underwood, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Coldwell Banker Howard Perry and Walston,
Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Fonville Morisey, Triangle-wide

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE CO.

Standing Ovation

York Properties, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Coldwell Banker Commercial, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Carolantic Realty, Triangle-wide

COASTAL REAL ESTATE CO.

Standing Ovation

Intracoastal Realty Corporation, Wrightsville
Beach and surrounding area

MetroBravo

Al Williams Properties, Atlantic Beach

Honorable Mention

Cannon & Gruber Realtors, Atlantic Beach

Eddy Myers Real Estate, Beaufort

BANK

Standing Ovation

Wachovia, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

BB&T, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

State Employees Credit Union, Triangle-wide

First Citizens Bank, Triangle-wide

BANK FOR LOAN

Standing Ovation

BB&T, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Wachovia, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

State Employees Credit Union, Triangle-wide

INSURANCE COMPANY

Standing Ovation

Nationwide, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

State Farm Insurance, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Allstate, Triangle-wide

MORTGAGE FIRM

Standing Ovation

Wachovia, Triangle-wide

BB&T, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Great Southern Mortgage Corporation, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Countrywide Financial, Triangle-wide

BROKERAGE FIRM

Standing Ovation

Scott & Stringfellow, Cary, Raleigh & Wilmington

MetroBravo

Wachovia Securities, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Capital Investment Companies, Raleigh

ACCOUNTING FIRM

Standing Ovation

Batchelor Tillery & Roberts, LLP, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Hughes Pittman & Gupton, LLP, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Ernst & Young, Raleigh

Cherry Bekaert & Holland, Raleigh

LAW FIRM FOR:

GENERAL

Standing Ovation

Poyner & Spruill LLP, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Manning Fulton & Skinner PA, Raleigh
and Wilmington

Honorable Mention

Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell

& Jernigan, Raleigh

Ragsdale Liggett, Raleigh

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The Franklin Hotel

KINSLEY DEY

MetroBravo

Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan LLP, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Manning Fulton & Skinner, Raleigh and Wilmington

DIVORCE

Standing Ovation

Wyrick Robbins, Yates & Ponton LLP, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Smith Debnam, LLP, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Tharrington Smith LLP, Raleigh

CORPORATE

Standing Ovation

Poyner & Spruill LLP, Raleigh
Williams Mullen Maupin Taylor PA, Raleigh and Wilmington

MetroBravo

Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan LLP, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Hunton & Williams LLP, Raleigh

CRIMINAL

Standing Ovation

Cheshire Parker Schneider Bryan & Vitale LLP, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Tharrington Smith LLP, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

McMillan, Smith & Plyler, Raleigh

TAXES

Standing Ovation

Hunton & Williams LLP, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Manning Fulton & Skinner PA, Raleigh and Wilmington

Honorable Mention

Bailey & Dixon LLP, Raleigh

BEST CAR WASH

Standing Ovation

Bunkey's, Cary, Raleigh & Durham

MetroBravo

Sudz, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Autobell, Triangle-wide

RESORT/TRAVEL/HOTEL

AIRLINE

Standing Ovation

American Airlines

MetroBravo

Southwest Airlines

Honorable Mention

Delta Airlines

CAR RENTAL FIRM

Standing Ovation

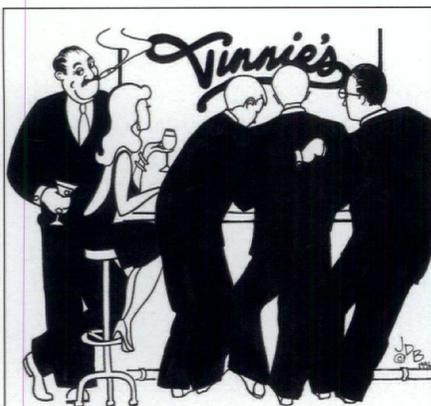
Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Triangle-wide

MetroBravo

Hertz Rent-A-Car, Triangle-wide

Honorable Mention

Avis Rent-A-Car, Triangle-wide



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MetroBravo

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Honorable Mention

Midtown Express, Raleigh

CITY HOTEL

Standing Ovation

The Umstead Hotel and Spa, Cary

MetroBravo

The Franklin Hotel, Chapel Hill

Honorable Mention

The Siena Hotel, Chapel Hill

COASTAL HOTEL

Standing Ovation

The Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort,

Wrightsville Beach

MetroBravo

Blockade Runner, Wrightsville Beach

Honorable Mention

Sheraton Atlantic Beach Oceanfront Hotel,

Atlantic Beach

HOTEL FOR OUT OF TOWN GUEST

Standing Ovation

The Umstead Hotel and Spa, Cary

MetroBravo

Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Embassy Suites Hotel Raleigh – Crabtree, Raleigh

HOTEL FOR MEETINGS/CONVENTIONS

Standing Ovation

Hilton North Raleigh, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Sheraton Imperial, Durham

Honorable Mention

Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley, Raleigh

NC BEACH RESORT

Standing Ovation

Bald Head Island

MetroBravo

The Sanderling Resort & Spa, Duck

Honorable Mention

The Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort,

Wrightsville Beach

NC MOUNTAIN RESORT

Standing Ovation

Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa, Asheville

MetroBravo

Inn on Biltmore Estate, Asheville

Honorable Mention

The Highlands

GOLF RESORT

Standing Ovation

Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst

Beach Sales and Rentals



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Oak Island, Topsail Island,
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Wilmington, Southport

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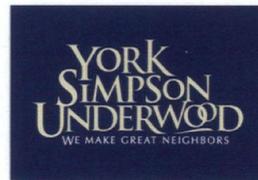
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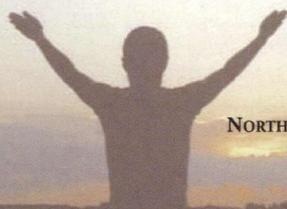


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Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa, Asheville

Honorable Mention

The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV

PEOPLE AND PLACES

REGIONAL TV PERSONALITY

Standing Ovation

David Crabtree, WRAL-TV5

MetroBravo

Bill Leslie, WRAL-TV5

Honorable Mention

Pam Saulsby, WRAL-TV5

NATIONAL TV PERSONALITY

Standing Ovation

Charlie Gibson, *ABC World News*

MetroBravo

Katie Couric, *CBS Evening News*

Honorable Mention

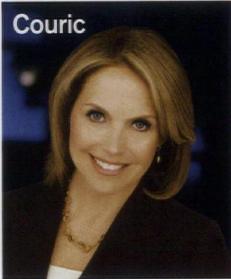
Oprah Winfrey, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*

Thank you.
Thank you.
Thank you.

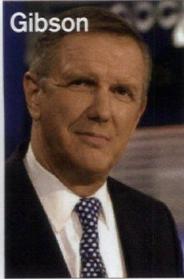
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Standing Ovation

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Bob Dumas

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WEATHER PERSONALITY

Standing Ovation

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MetroBravo

Elizabeth Gardner, WRAL-TV5

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COLLEGE COACH

Standing Ovation

Roy Williams, UNC Men’s Basketball

MetroBravo

Mike Krzyzewski, Duke University

Men’s Basketball

Honorable Mention

Sidney Lowe, NCSU Men’s Basketball

LOCAL AUTHOR

Standing Ovation

Nicholas Sparks

MetroBravo

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LOCAL ARTIST

Standing Ovation

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WRAL-TV5: Maze, Saulsby, Fischel

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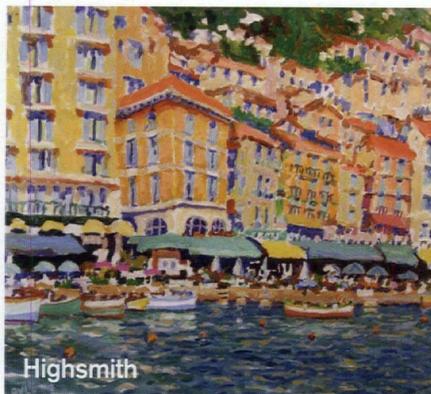
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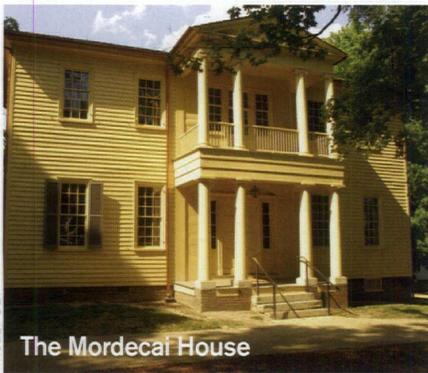


Highsmith

Eric McRay
MetroBravo
 Kyle Highsmith
Honorable Mention
 Bob Rankin

LOCAL POLITICIAN

Standing Ovation
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MetroBravo
 Beverly Perdue, Lieutenant Governor of NC
Honorable Mention
 Philip Isley, Raleigh City Councilman



The Mordecai House

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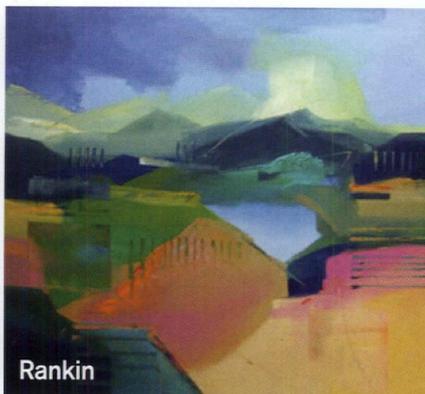
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 UNC Tar Heels
MetroBravo
 NC State Wolfpack
Honorable Mention
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 NC Museum of History, Raleigh



Rankin

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 NC Capitol Building, Raleigh
MetroBravo
 The Mordecai House, Raleigh
 Biltmore Estate, Asheville
Honorable Mention
 Fort Macon, Atlantic Beach

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 A Shopping SPREE!, Raleigh
MetroBravo
 Race for the Cure, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 Duke Children's Classic, Durham

CULTURAL EVENT

Standing Ovation
A Christmas Carol; Theatre in the Park, Raleigh
 Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh
MetroBravo
The Nutcracker; Carolina Ballet, Raleigh Memorial
 Auditorium, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 Artsposure, downtown Raleigh



Craighead

DANCE CLUB

Standing Ovation
 The Longbranch Entertainment Complex, Raleigh
MetroBravo
 Red's Beach Music, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 Hi5, Raleigh

DANCE STUDIO

Standing Ovation
 Arthur Murray Dance Studio, Raleigh
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 North Carolina Dance Theatre

CLUB TO HEAR LIVE MUSIC

Standing Ovation
 Cat's Cradle, Chapel Hill
MetroBravo
 Lincoln Theatre, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 The Pour House, Raleigh

GOLF COURSE

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Aiken



Leslie

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Regal North Hills Stadium 14, Raleigh

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The Embers

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Cameron Bar and Grill



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Fosters

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The RBC Plaza

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MetroBravo

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NC, Durham

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Standing Ovation

Clay Aiken

MetroBravo

Chris Boerner, Tift Merritt

Honorable Mention

Bill Leslie

NEW WATERING HOLE

Standing Ovation

Amra's, Raleigh

MetroBravo

Fosters American Grille, Raleigh

Honorable Mention

Cameron Bar and Grill, Raleigh

CAMPUS BUILDING

Standing Ovation

Duke Chapel, Duke University, Durham

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

THEATER BUILDING

Standing Ovation

Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh

MetroBravo

The Carolina Theatre, Durham

Honorable Mention

Raleigh Little Theatre, Raleigh



The Hue

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Standing Ovation
 Time Warner Cable Music Pavilion
 at Walnut Creek, Raleigh
MetroBravo
 NC Museum of Art Outdoor Amphitheatre,
 Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 Koka Booth Amphitheatre at Regency Park, Cary

LOCAL SKYSCRAPER

Standing Ovation
 RBC Plaza Building, Raleigh
MetroBravo
 Wachovia Building, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 BB&T Building, Raleigh

COOLEST NEW CONDOS

Standing Ovation
 The Plaza Condominiums, RBC Plaza
 Building, Raleigh
MetroBravo
 Palladium Plaza, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 Hue, Raleigh

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 RESIDENTIAL**

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MetroBravo
 Bloomsbury Estates, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
 Blount Street Commons, Raleigh

MULTI-USE

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 North Hills, Raleigh
MetroBravo
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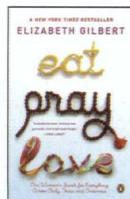
MEDIA

FICTION BOOK

Standing Ovation
Gone with the Wind, Margaret Mitchell
 The *Harry Potter* Series, JK Rowling
MetroBravo
A Thousand Splendid Suns, Khaled Hosseini
Honorable Mention
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan, Lisa See

NON-FICTION BOOK

Standing Ovation
Eat, Pray, Love, Elizabeth Gilbert
MetroBravo
Three Cups of Tea, Greg Mortenson
 and David Oliver Relin
Honorable Mention
A New Earth, Eckhart Tolle



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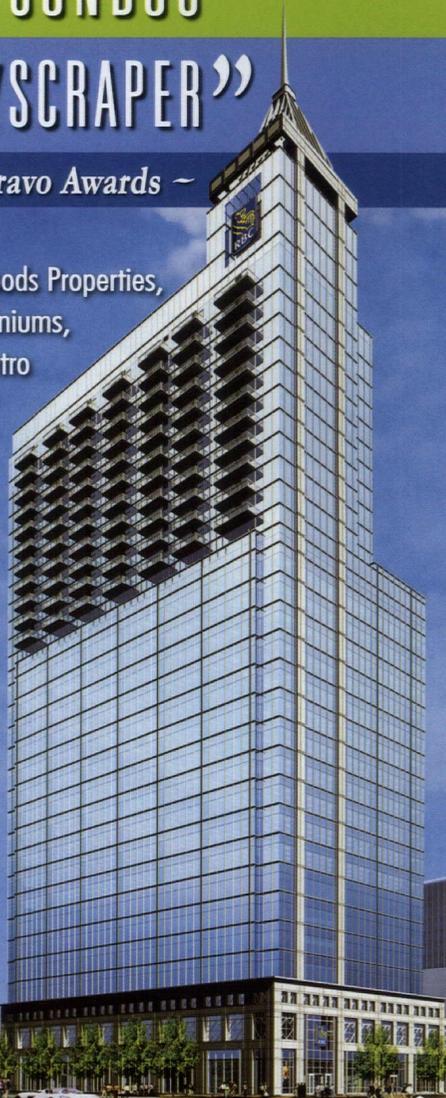
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“BEST LOCAL SKYSCRAPER”

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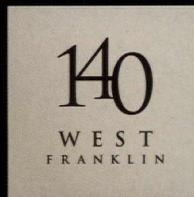
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ANNUAL REAL ESTATE REPORT

Triangle and Coastal Real Estate Holding Its Own:

Quality Projects Succeeding

By Patricia Staino

In a time when so much attention is focused on infills and tear-downs, the Triangle's real estate market has remained steady in a shaky economy because everything old is new again. Developers and builders are working on re-energizing old neighborhoods, recreating old lifestyles and renewing a desire for community living — and the residential real estate market is responding.

Since January, home sales in Wake County are down about 20 percent. But at the same time there were approximately 8000 sales of homes — and the average home price has slowly inched up. And there continues to be a gradual increase in home values year-to-year (2 to 3 percent yearly for the last 10 years). In April alone there were almost 2000 sales in Wake County. Fifty people move to the county each day, says Ed Willer, executive vice president of sales for York Simpson Underwood, “and they have to live somewhere — they're not putting up tent cities!”

The hot locations for home sales, as always, will be those that offer an easy commute. While what Tom Bland, president of regional builder Preservation Homes, calls the “RTP side of anywhere” is always going to be popular, another trend in the last few years has been the resurgence of residential downtown Raleigh.

Many are choosing to move inside the Beltline, including downtown, where a number of luxury condo and mixed-use developments are changing the face of some very commercial and perhaps not-too-aesthetic ZIP codes. Although North Raleigh, Cary, Wake Forest and southern Wake are still among the top choices for buyers, inside the Beltline is still most desirable, and the downtown and Glenwood South neighborhoods are generating the most buzz.

“No matter what the economy, buyers always want a good value, homes in good condition, good schools and improvements like upgraded kitchens and bonus rooms. The difference now is that buyers are a little more cognizant, and they have more choices, so they take their time,” says Phyllis Brookshire, regional vice pres-

ident of the Triangle office for Allen Tate realtors, adding that business has been solid this year. The firm moved into the Triangle area at the end of January 2007 and has expanded to eight offices in the area.

A down market is not usually the time to take the chance on innovative projects, but for the Triangle, some of the most cutting-edge ideas are proving to be the most successful.



The RBC Plaza

CONDOS

When several downtown Raleigh condo projects were first proposed, many questioned the practicality of the luxury price tags in an area that had not drawn many interested buyers in the past. However, the draw to live within walking distance of restaurants and shops and place of work has lured buyers into downtown, and so far the condo experiment seems to be more success than folly.

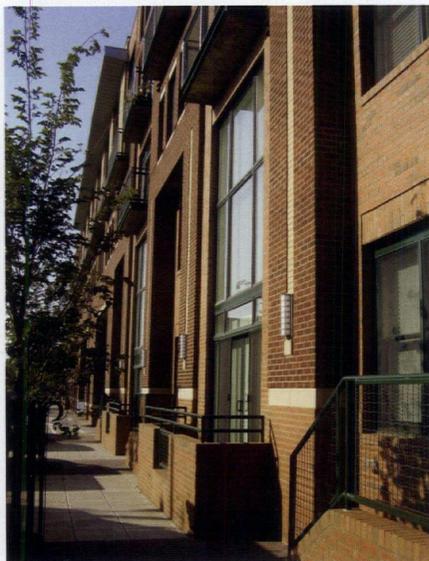
Currently in the planning stages, under construction or leasing are 111 Seaboard, West at North, The Hue, The Plaza Condos, The Lofts at Glenwood South, Bloomsbury Estates and Boylan Flats, among others. By the end of the year, many of the cranes currently dotting the skyline will be replaced by high-rise buildings quite unlike anything Raleigh has seen before. While Willer

says it is too early to take a definitive read on the condo market since so many more are coming down the pike, sales seem on the uptick, and he wonders aloud if the current gas prices will fuel the trend to be able to walk from home to work to school to grocery shopping. For example, the condominiums atop the nearly completed RBC Plaza on Fayetteville Street are already completely sold out with a move-in date of late this year.

“In my opinion, sales for the remaining new construction have slowed,” says Deb Brown of Allen Tate. “However, it is clear that since March condo re-sales have increased and the market remains balanced, which is to say around six months of inventory.”

Additionally, changing economic conditions have not had a

The Hue



Palladium Plaza

dramatic effect on condo sales to date because buyers are locked into their contract pricing, unlike new and proposed projects in which rising material and fuel costs have raised prices. In addition, many developers and banks are safeguarding their investments by requiring a larger percentage of reservations before allowing construction to start. These factors may have slowed construction schedules a bit, but existing plans for size and amenities have not been amended.

“I happen to believe that downtown may benefit from the economic situation with people considering a move there to be closer to their work, making a less expensive commute,” says Brown.

She points out that the sales price for two-thirds of the condos sold since March was less than \$300,000. Of the available re-sale condos, only 20 percent are priced under \$300,000. This is consistent with home sale trends and inventories for single-family homes. In residential real estate, there is a “balanced” market under

\$300,000, while it becomes a seller’s market over that price.

For the next year, Brown expects downtown’s new condos and re-sales to slow a bit, based on the fact there will be empty new units competing with re-sales. Eventually this will even out, starting at the lower price points.

“The trend toward urban living is not going away, so eventually demand will exceed supply. I don’t believe it will happen next year, but possibly before the next wave of projects starts.”

THE BLOUNT STREET PROJECT

In the last few years a major “downtown revitalization” project began in earnest in Raleigh with the development of luxury condo sites and mixed-used developments.

Most interesting and unique among them is the Blount Street Project, combining existing structures with new construction in what is transforming a mix of stately old homes and former state employee park-

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The coastal area of North Carolina is experiencing a market similar to the Triangle. As Lee Whitley, agent for Marshes Light in Manteo says, "We're not particularly impacted by the nationwide slump."

North Carolina homebuyers may benefit in the end because such a market allows quality builders to rise to the top while weeding out the lesser quality contractors.

"We're doing our homework, taking our time," says Whitley. "In 2004, you could just put something up on the beach and it would sell. Not anymore."

And much like the communities being developed inland, Marshes Light, a waterfront development of single-family homes, townhouses, condos, flats and an inn, was designed to enhance the historic aura of the town. An extension of the historic district of Manteo, plans were drawn up with input from the North Carolina School of Design and Architecture to blend the old with the new. The goal was to maintain a small-town feel from a time gone by.

"Our buildings do not feel contemporary at all," says Whitley.

Marshes Light does have easy access to the bustling entertainment venues in the town via a boardwalk promenade, as well as to the North Carolina Aquarium and Roanoke Island Festival Park. Access to an active lifestyle is the newest trend among beachhouse buyers.

"People are always going to go on vacation, and they are always going to go to the beach, but they don't want to just sit on the beach and bake anymore."



Top: Blount Street carriage home rendering. Left: The Jordan house, a late Queen Anne style house, being moved to Blount Street.

ing areas into a neighborhood.

In 2004, the NC Legislature declared the Blount Street district surplus property and began to explore ideas for developing the area. State representatives met with neighbors and hired consultants to decide what the area should become. Many of the old homes have been serving as state offices, so the original plans included converting the existing homes and buildings into state employees' offices and parking areas. But the development team soon found that the private homes were not necessarily meeting the requirements of office space. The state decided to sell the property so it could be turned back into a livable neighborhood.

LNR Property was chosen as developers, and since 2006 has been transforming the area by restoring the historic homes and encouraging contemporary new structures. Eight existing historic homes will remain, although they are being moved around to more appropriate sites along the street.

"At one point, Blount Street was the finest, best address for people living in the

Raleigh area," says Doug Redford, senior project manager, LNR. "We can't recreate an historic district, but we can recreate the feeling of what this area once was."

When the project is completed in two years, 21 acres along Blount Street will be lined with 25 historic homes and a total of 495 residential units including condos, townhouses and carriage homes. Carriage-ways will allow for what Redford calls "communication" between one-way streets while allowing parking sites (including some garages with living space above) to be hidden behind the residential buildings. There will be approximately five urban parks for built-in green space; an urban mixed-use site that will allow for ground-floor retail sites with condo living above; 90,000 square feet of commercial development; and 20,000 square feet of office space that will in part house the new AIA headquarters building that will be modern in design, using sustainable construction.

"We just moved to downtown Raleigh ourselves this past October," says Redford. "It's a good place to live, a nice lifestyle. This is part of the trend — that downtown living is attractive — to not have to get in your car, to have places to walk to, to have places to eat, to get your groceries not too far away. Raleigh is starting to develop a

downtown living option.”

While LNR is involved with a number of mixed-use developments around the country, Redford says the Blount Street Project is truly unique because it is incorporating existing, historical structures with new construction.

“There is a kind of hole in the fabric down here. This was largely a parking lot for state employees, but in a year it will be a neighborhood where people are living, shopping, buying coffee, walking to work.”

Despite an overall downturn in residential real estate across the country, the Triangle’s market is still strong due to continued job growth, and Redford says although the project’s schedule may have slowed down a bit, the scope has not changed.

“It’s good, it’s steady, even if it’s not the hit-it-out-of-the-park homerun that some people expected,” he says. “In the marketplace in general there has been a lot of uncertainty. Raleigh is in a lot better shape than a lot of other markets; there’s still activity, there’s still sales happening if in



some cases it’s taking longer.”

Redford acknowledges there are a lot of people who would like to buy but are sitting on the sidelines because they are not certain of the direction of things yet. The credit situation has made it more difficult

The Bailey-Gallant house was built circa 1898 and remodeled in the Neo-Federal style.

for people to get loans, so it’s back to the old way of doing business where buyers have to put a bit of a down payment and

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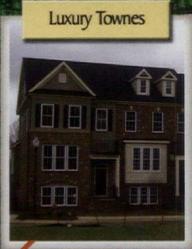
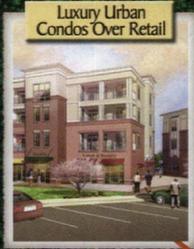
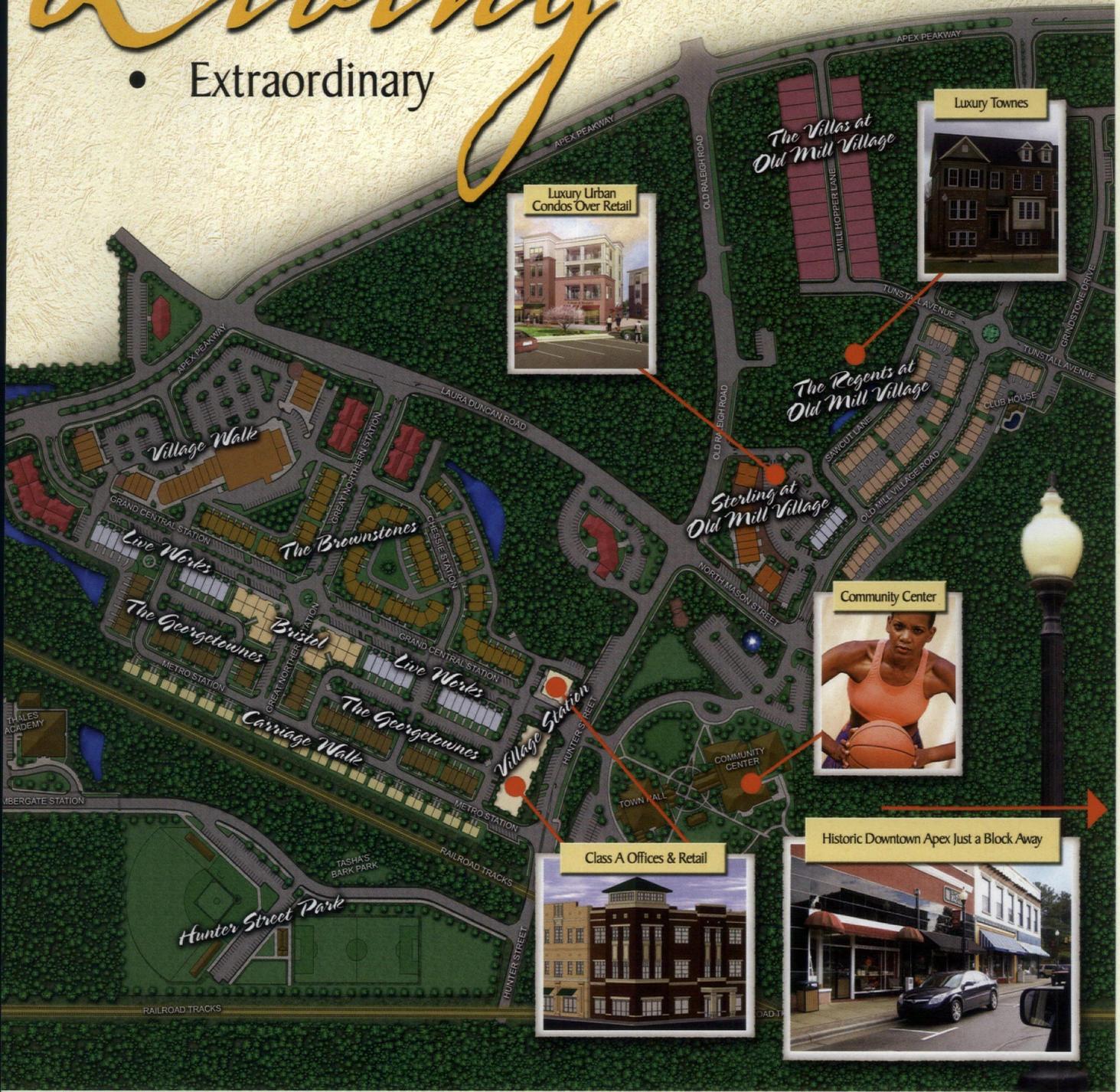
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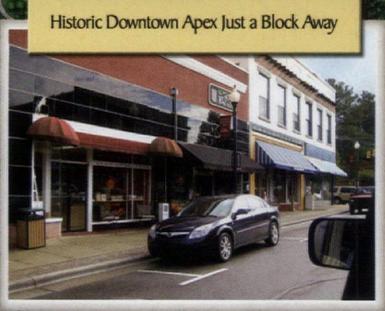
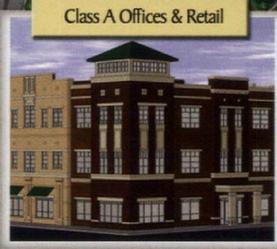
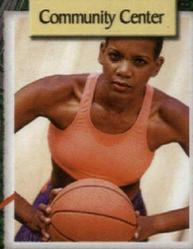
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do some work to qualify for loans. But the draw of a unique home with quaint aesthetics and a living history is making it worth the effort for many buyers.

"The Blount Street Commons is going to add a new living component to downtown," says Brown. "I think of it as a connector between downtown and Oakwood. This project is not going to redefine the profile of the condo buyer, but will certainly begin to offer more choices and possibly draw more people to downtown living."

TRADITIONAL DESIGN

The Blount Street Project, in addition to offering the convenience of downtown living, will attract many buyers because of its historic nature, appealing aesthetics and unique lifestyle amenities such as hidden garages and built-in green space. According to Bland, a self-proclaimed "fan of historic architecture," real estate is in a trying economic time, maintaining that the homes that will sell will be the ones that offer individualistic touches and attractive exteriors.

"I realized when I first started out that people were willing to pay for character and personality," says Bland, who has designed the home plans for his developments himself. "Builders like us are making buyers want more character in the exterior of their homes. People don't want a vanilla house on the outside."

At the center of Preservation Homes' communities is the American Bungalow, a style that dominated new construction in the 1920s and 1930s, when homeowners could actually order build-it-yourself-kits from retailers like Sears. When he was first starting out, Bland sought out authentic bungalows from that period and photographed them for inspiration and ideas. He has based many of his house plans on the craftsman-style elements most treasured in these homes, such as the rocking-chair-deep porches, overhangs and bold colors. (For one development, he partnered with designer Alexander Julian to create colorful interiors, as well as exteriors, with some houses offering color schemes with up to 25 different hues throughout.) Bland is so committed to custom-building quality structures with aesthetic touches that

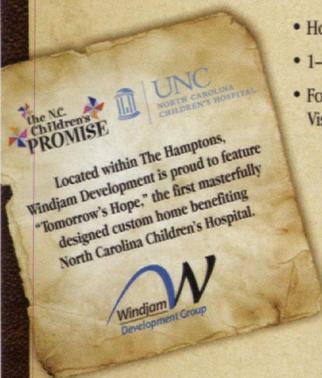
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Bungalow Park

he even took a chance in designing bungalow-style townhomes for the Scotts Mill development in Apex, which sell at a lower price point than the builder's usual single-family detached designs.

Buyers will probably see more new construction with such attention to detail and personality since it is the custom builders who fare best in a down real estate market. Bland built 87 homes last year, but sales

are down one-third so far this year, but he is optimistic sales will pick up soon.

Unlike tract builders, who are accustomed to building 400 homes a year and a 20 percent drop in sales changes the whole face of the business, "custom builders are still enjoying healthy sales although they are not selling as many homes," says Bland. "People are still relocating here, and there are still plenty of people buying houses, just not as many."

RETIREMENT LIVING

Another burgeoning sector of residential real estate is being driven by the needs of current area residents rather than those relocating to the area. A number of retirement communities are being planned or built in the Triangle, and while they vary in type, all are aimed at accommodating the aging population in Wake County.

The two most prominent developments are located in North Raleigh — The Cardinal (at North Hills) and The Cypress of Raleigh. Both are continuing care retirement communities (CCRC), which means



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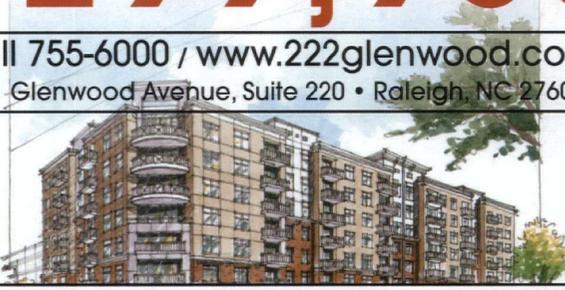
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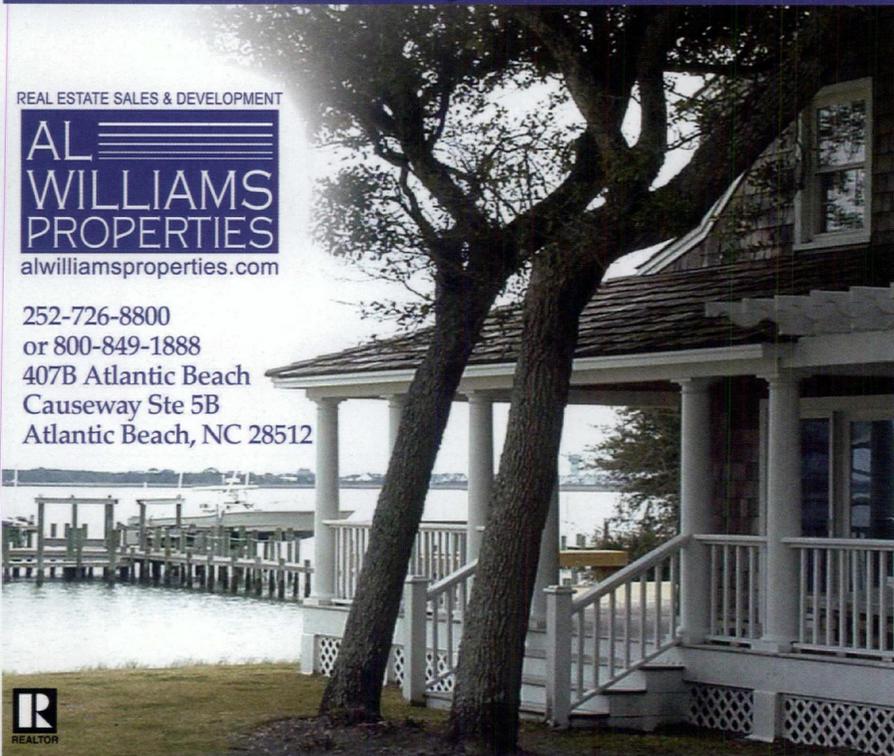
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they are full-service communities that provide a continuum of care from retirement to assisted living to nursing services, all on one campus. Such developments are very difficult to get started, as the North Carolina Department of Insurance requires that half of the phase planned for construction be sold before any construction begins. Mark Andrews of The Cypress of Raleigh says this is the reason many planned communities may never even break ground.

Wake County is one of the fastest growing areas for the retirement communities due to its target demographic, says Andrews. In the next 20 years, there will be an increase of 179 percent in residents who are 65 and older, the highest rate of growth in the state, although the number of CCRC beds in the county has the smallest growth rate compared to surrounding areas.

“We are a lifestyle first and a real estate sale second,” says Andrews. “Many of our residents say they make this decision for

WHY THE L



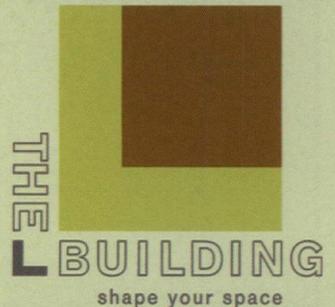
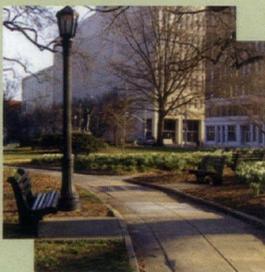
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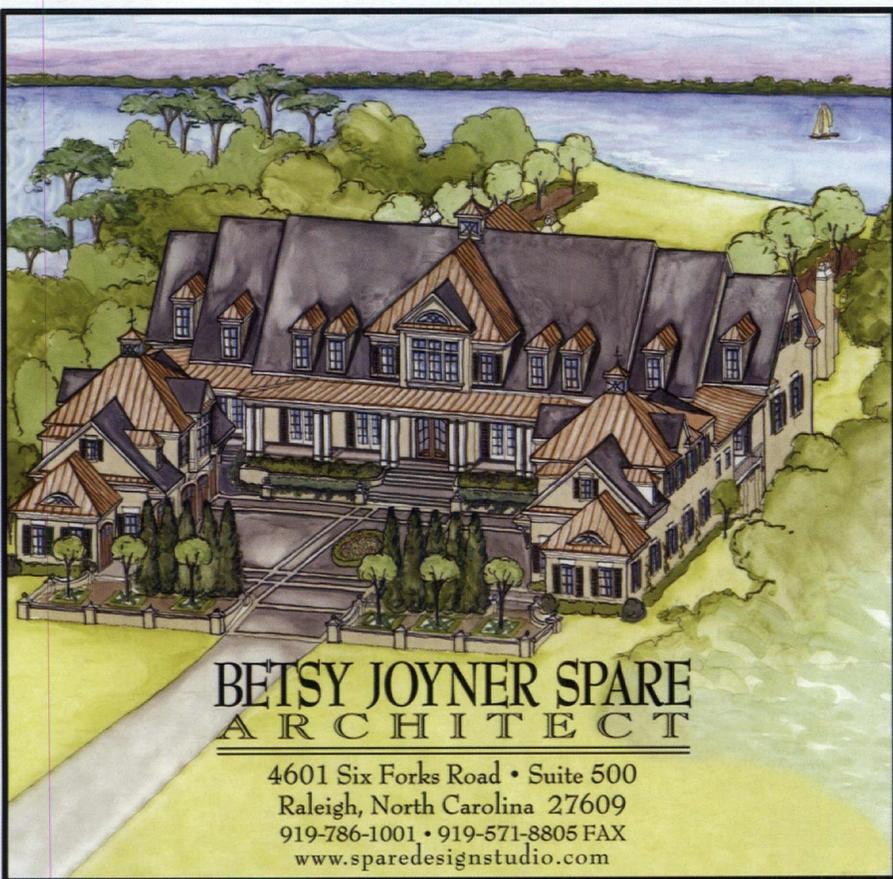


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their children; they don't want to be a burden to them."

The Triangle is also a natural fit for retirement living because as more people relocate here from across the country, it makes sense that their retiring parents will want to move here to be closer to their families.

The Cypress of Raleigh covers 48 acres off Strickland Road. The campus is designed to be reminiscent of the neighborhoods from which the residents are moving, with detached single-family homes, two miles of walking trails and a clubhouse that includes a bank, a beauty salon, a fitness center and four restaurants. Seventy-five percent of sales so far have been to residents who currently live within a 10-mile radius of the campus. The majority is 65 or older, and the average age is 75. All new residents must come to the facility capable of independent living.

Prices at The Cypress range from \$375,000 to \$925,000, and residents are buying in an equity ownership community. Owners get the value of the appreciation of their homes. According to Andrews, The Cypress of Charlotte has seen an appreciation of 11 percent per year. If residential real estate sales have slowed, The Cypress of Raleigh is not feeling the backlash. Homes in the community have been selling steadily over the last year, reaching \$30 million in sales. By June, 85 percent of the first phase that opens in September were already pre-sold.

According to John Kane of Kane Realty, retirement communities are not affected in the same way that other residential developments may be in a down economy. Most experts agree that because the retirement lifestyle is something people have been planning for throughout their working lives, where the average homeowner may put off buying or selling until they have a better idea of what the economy will do next, it would be rare for retirees to postpone the golden years they've been anticipating.

The Cardinal, a CCRC planned by Kane Realty, received approval to begin construction this past May. Its condominium-type units will run from the low \$300,000s to \$1 million and will be nes-



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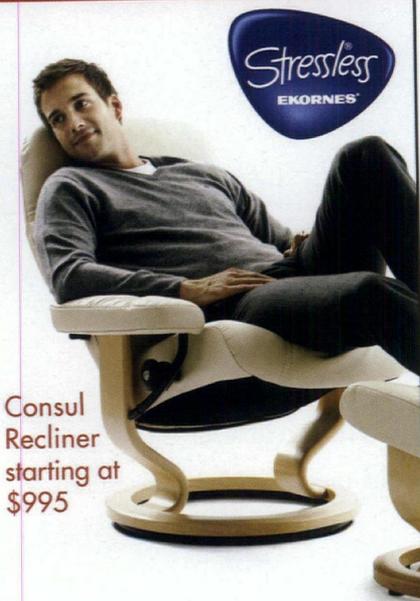


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tled among the new midtown environment of Kane's North Hills development with its high-end shops and restaurants.

"I've always planned for the North Hills area to be a midtown district that appeals to all walks of life, and that's still our long-range plan. Residential to rental lofts to luxury living to senior living and everything in between is part of that plan, so it was natural to build The Cardinal," says Kane.

Kane's plans for The Cardinal purposely make it unique among CCRC facilities, which tend to be located on their own campuses where all services are contained. The Cardinal will offer urban living, in condo-type buildings within walking distance of the offerings of midtown and North Hills.

"All the services will be just steps away, and we think that will make for a much more enjoyable living environment for active seniors," says Kane. "This setting will also be a place where children and grandchildren are going to want to come visit because there's something here for them to do. It will be a much more energetic environment to live in."

GROWING MIDTOWN

While Kane believes the Triangle real estate market is better than most areas of the country, there are still some challenges. That hasn't prevented his group from moving full-steam ahead on its plans for continued revitalization of the North Hills area to create Raleigh's midtown district. This year has seen further expansion with construction of the Ramblewood residential neighborhood, The Cardinal and the Renaissance Raleigh Hotel, among other projects.

Ramblewood, a development of garden homes, townhomes and condos (called "Stacked Flats"), has been in the works for three years, and Kane is seeing healthy sales of the residences as they are built. While he'd hoped sales would move at a faster pace, Kane says it's going very well, the community is well-received, and he has not made any changes in his plans for the development due to the current economy.

Ramblewood's designs are a return to elegant urban living in a neighborhood setting, where homeowners can enjoy features,

such as brick exteriors with traditional architecture, high ceilings, hardwood floors, terraces and manicured outdoor spaces just a short drive away from the vibrant whirl provided by North Hills' shops, restaurants, entertainment and farmers' market.

"We have paid a lot of attention to detail — the streetlamps, the landscaping, the ambience of it," Kane says. "We want to make it feel homey and nice and friendly. We think it has a warm feeling, and the style is indigenous to the Raleigh area and to North Carolina in general.

"I've always planned for the North Hills area to be a midtown district that appeals to all walks of life, and that's still our long-range plan."

—John Kane

"With North Hills, for many years unfortunately, as the mall was in a kind of state of demise, it wasn't helping residential values," says Kane. "As we've revitalized the area and made it a place that has goods and services and entertainment, it has certainly improved the home values and quality of life of all those already living in the neighborhood. I think you have seen pretty substantial appreciation of home values in the area."

HOLDING OUR OWN

The Triangle area real estate market is holding its own in a sketchy economy. While other locales, such as Florida, California and the coastal areas, are experiencing a sharp drop in residential sales and new construction after a huge run-up in pricing and appreciation that this area never saw, the Triangle is still seeing slow, steady growth overall. Perhaps in search of the stable and familiar, the market is being built on a return to classic architecture styles, once-popular addresses and a desire for traditional neighborhood living.

"In the last big recession in 1991, Wake County closed 3017 single-family detached homes," says Bland. "The last few years we've been closing 10,000 a year. So now our market is falling back to 'normal' for us, which will be fine." **MM**

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Commercial Real Estate Market Defies Economic Downturn

By Rick Smith

From downtown Raleigh's rapidly changing skyline to a mix of new and revitalized structures in Durham, from a 43-story office tower near Crabtree Valley Mall to Greenville's growing medical complex and Wilmington's riverfront, the commercial real estate market across most of the *Metro* coverage region continues to flourish from the Triangle to the coast.

Despite a national economic slowdown, new buildings that mix office space and condominiums, hotels and retail centers continue to be built across the region — and more are planned.



Greg Hatem

"We are going to be announcing two new projects in the next few weeks," says Billie Redmond, president of Coldwell Banker Commercial TradeMark Properties, the largest commercial real estate firm in the Triangle. "One is in the Crabtree Valley corridor, another is in Cary."

So why is this part of the country doing so well, with office occupancy rates at near 96 percent in downtown Raleigh alone even as more space comes online?

"We just have the best story to tell," says Redmond. "Our business environment is friendly, plus the quality of life. We have the three major universities in the Triangle plus East Carolina in Greenville and UNC-Wilmington. We have a strong and diverse economy that draws businesses here. Look at the research and development, the medical and biomedical research, and the universities are really a jewel."

Developers John Kane and Greg Hatem, architect Jeff Davis and real estate veteran Smedes York echo Redmond's observations. Raleigh, the Triangle and points east continue to grow even as other parts of the country struggle.

RALEIGH'S DOWNTOWN RENAISSANCE

At the hub of the commercial property growth is Raleigh's once sleepy downtown. Some \$2.5 billion is being spent on projects, including the RBC Plaza that recently topped out at a city-best 30 stories. A \$270 million convention center is nearing completion. And the remodeled Fayetteville Street corridor is brimming with new businesses and restaurants.

Near the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, construction continues on Charter Square and the so-called "L Building" at Davie and McDowell streets.

On the drawing boards just east of Fayetteville Street is The Edison, a mammoth project that will include two skyscrapers taller than the RBC Plaza, plus two additional office buildings.

To Greg Hatem, managing partner of Empire Properties, the changes in downtown are nothing short of breathtaking.

"When we started almost 15 years ago, the opportunities to do the bigger projects didn't exist because there wasn't enough activity on the street," Hatem says. "Now there is lots of activity."

Empire is involved in new construction and preserving historic buildings in downtown. Along with the L project, Empire over the years has also remodeled the Masonic Temple Building — dating to 1907 on Fayetteville Street — to a structure on East Hargett Street that houses The Morning Times restaurant and bar. Hatem lives in a studio above the Morning Times, which he owns.

Hatem had more reasons than business for wanting to protect Raleigh's history. "It's important because when people come to Raleigh they can understand its character," he says. "One of the knocks on Charlotte is that they tore everything down. Charlotte is soulless now."

The RBC Tower is going up on ground once occupied by the First Citizens Bank building that was demolished in 1992. It had been constructed in the 1920s.



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Building the new is the primary task for JDavis Architects. Jeff Davis and his firm designed the Charter Square project and are also helping create The Edison. And business continues to be good in the Triangle, he says, but not red hot.

"It's crazy," he says in referencing the Raleigh market. "I'm not sure it's hot for everybody. The architectural billing index nationally is the lowest it's been since 1995. It's not the best of times for a lot of design firms, but certain pockets are better than others. I don't want to leave the impression that things are as hot as a firecracker."

However, Davis, who has been doing business in Raleigh since 1986, noted that projects, such as The Edison, are "driven by market demand. You just don't build a \$120 million tower and wait for tenants to come."

Davis also sees a pretty good development picture outside of Raleigh. His firm is working on North Landing, a revitalization project in Washington, NC, and a new

waterfront condo project in New Bern.

NORTH HILLS RISING

At Raleigh's North Hills, developer John Kane is completing the Raleigh Renaissance Hotel. Across Six Forks Road from the shopping, residential and office development, Kane is working on the 17-story CAPTRUST tower, plus a Hyatt hotel and the \$100 million St. Albans at North Hills, a mix of retail and apartments. The Cardinal, an extended care facility, also is underway.

"It's great real estate," Kane says of the Six Forks projects. He also considers his firm to be fortunate, financing for his projects had been secured before the credit markets tightened. "Construction loans are still out there," he adds. "The lenders are just requiring more equity, and the underwriting is stricter than before."

He also notes that sales "are going extremely well" with the Triangle's continuing growth, helping fuel demand.

"Our employment base continues to grow," he says. "Small and medium companies continue to move into the area, and that keeps people moving in. They keep moving to the area because of our quality of life and the quality of education that is available — things those of us who live here enjoy every day."

Near Crabtree Valley Mall, what's expected to be the region's tallest building — the 43-story Soleil Center — is underway.

Changes also could be in store for Raleigh's Cameron Village, one of the nation's first shopping centers that has been updated numerous times in the past. Crescent Resources in Charlotte wants to build a 120-foot-tall structure at Oberlin Road and Clark Avenue for a mix of retail and residential space.

Smedes York of York Properties, which oversees Cameron, as well as other properties, says the proposed Crescent project and the other Triangle-area projects underway exemplify a market that is "generally good."

While the housing market should cause developers to be "prudent" about condominiums and single-family homes, York notes that he didn't see overbuilding in the commercial sector. He also notes that funds for commercial projects remain available "depending on the project and who's doing it."

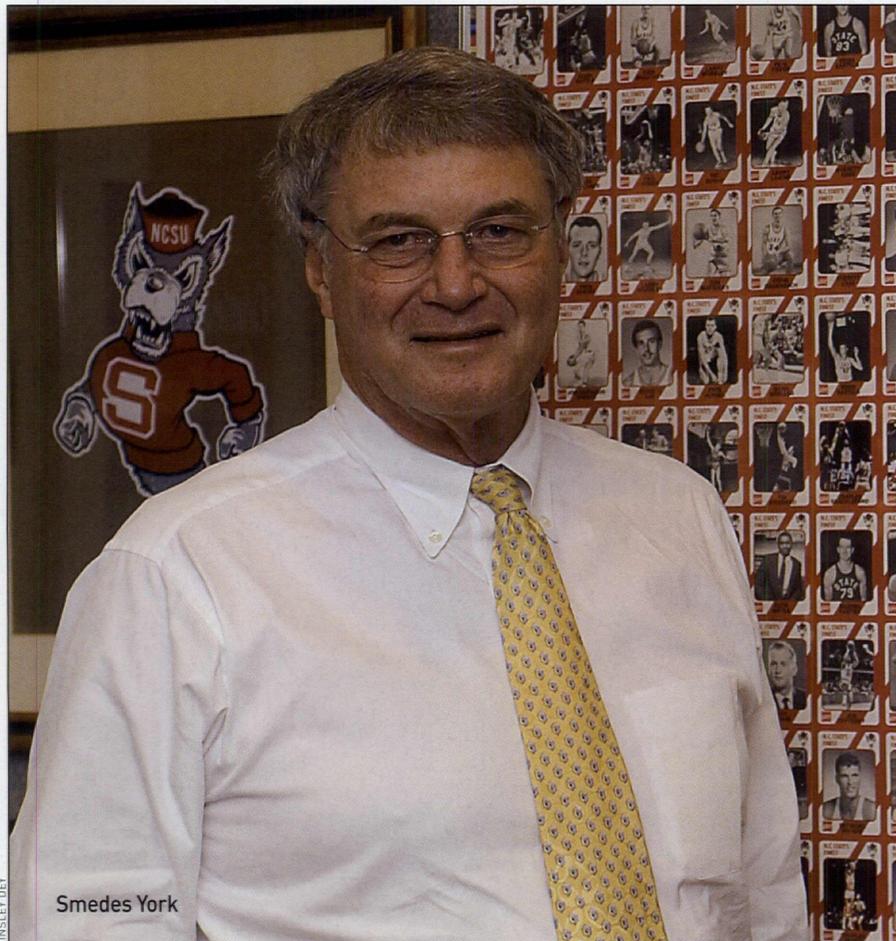
LOOKING WEST

Enough capital has been accessible to fuel growth well outside of Raleigh.

Durham's downtown also is undergoing a renaissance. Greenfire Development is pouring more than \$280 million into a variety of new and restoration projects. Two office towers now sit above the left field wall at Durham Bulls Athletic Park.

Next door to the ballpark, The American Tobacco Historical District, converted by Capitol Broadcasting from an abandoned tobacco factory into an eclectic mix of restaurants and office space, continues to add tenants.

Across the Research Triangle Park itself, high-tech firm NetApp recently moved into a new space, and Davis Park, a mixed-use project is in the works. In Morrisville, computer manufacturer Lenovo is constructing a third building as part of its campus.



Smedes York

KINSLEY DEY



John Kane

KINSLEY DEY

Quintiles Transnational, the world's largest pharmaceutical contract research company, is constructing a new global headquarters just outside the RTP boundary.

The new Carolina North development will add substantially to The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill campus, as will a new state-funded cancer hospital.

"With American Tobacco and the work downtown in Durham and projects in the park, the market looks good for the whole Triangle when you compare it to the rest of the country," Kane says. "It's pretty exciting."

LOOKING EAST

Eastern Wake County is experiencing its own boom, with new retail shops in Knightdale at the intersection of Interstate 540 and US Highway 64.

Redmond's firm, meanwhile, continues development work on EastPoint, a 60-acre business development centered around a building once occupied by Square D. The company remains a tenant, but EastPoint is developing flex space for warehousing and office space for professional services providers.

"The opening of the I-540 bypass and the Highway 64 bypass have really opened several significant options," Redmond says of Eastern Wake development.

Further up Highway 64, Wendell is swelling with Wendell Falls, a planned 4000-home development that will include

nearly 500,000 square feet of commercial space.

Down East, meanwhile, Wilson is fostering commercial development downtown with construction of its own high-speed fiber-optic network.

A planned cardiovascular institute is a

cornerstone for further development of the East Carolina University and Pitt County Memorial health complex. And Kinston's Global TransPark received a tremendous boost in May when Spirit AeroSystems announced plans for a \$260 million assembly plant and 1000 jobs.

Commercial building in Wilmington received a major boost in April when GE-Hitachi Nuclear announced plans to add 900 jobs and to investing more than \$700 million in expanding its facilities. The city, meanwhile, is selling more than \$70 million in bonds for new waterfront construction and renovation.

However, Kane notes that if the economy continues to sour and financing becomes harder to get, the commercial building boon could slow.

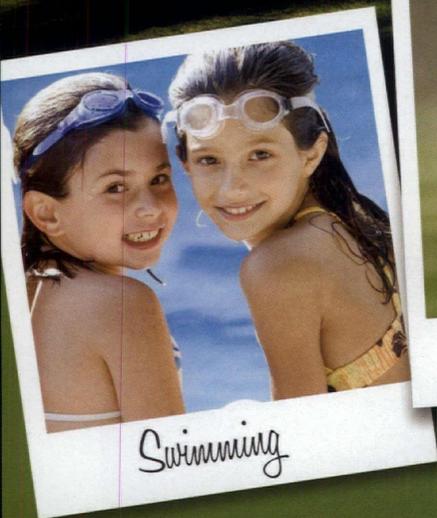
"There are an awful lot of projects on hold," Kane says. "I'm hoping the capital markets start to settle down soon. Otherwise you are going to see stricter terms continue on underwriting. That means pre-leasing and pre-sales will be a heavier requirement than before." **MM**

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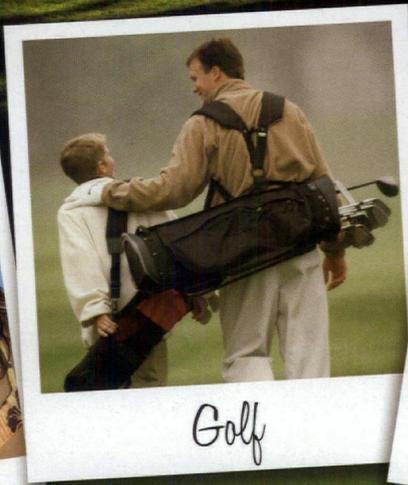
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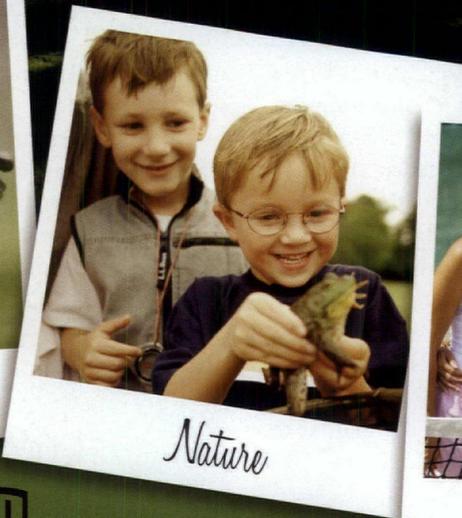
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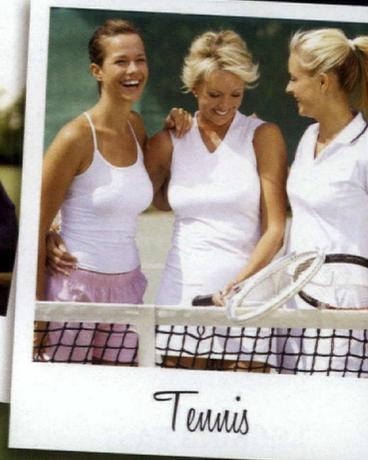
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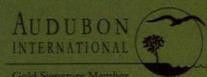
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by Diane Lea

NEW RTP HEADQUARTERS BUILDING BOWS TO THE PAST, SIGNIFIES THE FUTURE

Take a moment to turn onto Davis Drive, off Interstate 40 between Chapel Hill and Raleigh, and enjoy a visit to the new Research Triangle Park Headquarters, a modernist building on an 18-acre site set in a horseshoe of mature willow oaks. Take the Davis Drive off-ramp and swing into the parking court planted with native trees and flowering plants, and enjoy the delightful brick, glass and pre-patinaed copper-clad building.

The building is designed around a scalene triangle-shaped tower topped by a glass skylight that radiates out toward the three institutional founders of The Research Triangle Park: Duke University in Durham, North Carolina State University in Raleigh, and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Designed by the well-known firm of O'Brien/Atkins Associates, PA — in concert with The Research Triangle Park Building Committee — and constructed by Barnhill Contracting Company, the building's form is defined by its role as the "Living Room of the Park."

Rick Weddle, president and CEO of The Research Triangle Park (RTP), confirms that the headquarters building is all about people.

"We see this building as a welcome center for the region's citizens and as a town hall for the members of the companies and organizations that comprise the Park," says Weddle.

To emphasize the user-friendly nature of the building, the main lobby — named the Triangle Gallery — features a state-of-the-art video portal providing a dynamic display of six 50-inch widescreen DLP cubes that present a virtual tour of The Research Triangle Park through seven interactive features. Produced by Clean Design, interactive features include a 10-minute introduction to the Park, detailing the ori-

gins of the concept; a history of the Park from the 1950s through the 2000s; and highlights from among the 170 companies that employ over 40,000 knowledge workers. A profile of the RTP Community is led by the Owners & Tenants Association.

a difficult and expensive accomplishment for a small building due to the requisite number of points in several categories that must be earned in order to qualify.

"This building is only a little more than 17,000 square feet," says Rooks. "To meet



A scalene triangle-shaped tower is the focal point of The RTP Headquarters building.

Their wide-ranging programs address transportation through SmartCommute@rtp; the Park's natural setting through Environment@rtp; social interaction by means of amenities, sports activities and Techie Tuesdays@rtp; and descriptions of the recreational and cultural resources of the Triangle region.

Green Credentials

RTP's executive vice president, Liz Rooks, is particularly proud that the RTP Headquarters building is on target to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED Silver status,

the certification standards set by the US Green Building Council, all our materials, systems, landscaping and furnishings had to meet certain specifications and accumulate a certain number of points. Often the upfront costs for such building components are high and the return is only seen over the long-term."

State-Of-The-Art Space

Weddle describes the triangular tower that soars above the Triangle Gallery lobby as the center post of the building. To the left of the Gallery is the Archie K. Davis Conference Center, featuring a comfort-



Briefing center is equipped with state-of-art technology.

able pre-function area — set with gorgeous leather chairs — and suitable for large parties or smaller affairs. The space looks out through a floor-to-ceiling window wall into the building's naturally landscaped brick courtyard. Tall rectangular cherry panels sheath the area's other wall; a projecting floor-to-ceiling panel of a contrasting wood provides a suitable space for Joseph Wallace's 1988 portrait of Davis, one of the Park's early visionaries and promoters. Communications Director Jennifer Ferris points out that this evening 300 people will gather in the combined spaces of the pre-function room and the Triangle Gallery for cocktails and dinner.

"We've already hosted about 150 functions in our new headquarters," says Ferris, "and we only opened in December 2007."

Adjoining the pre-function area is a multi-purpose space, which can function as a single large room or two individual meeting rooms with sophisticated audiovisual capabilities, including three screens and three projection systems by Technical Innovation, LLC. When opened as a single space, the room can seat participants at tables or 150-plus guests in an auditorium configuration. Individually, the two rooms accommodate 36 and 48 seats. A large catering kitchen and other utilitarian functions are housed behind the multi-purpose room.

Rooks recalls when the room became command central for viewing the NCAA basketball tournament as employees from around

the Park enjoyed food and beverages and took advantage of the building's Wi-Fi access to work on their laptops.

The Triangle Gallery functions as a light and airy connector between the public space of the Davis wing and the Administrative Center named for Robert M. Hanes, the former chairman of Wachovia Bank and RTP leader who passed the baton to his employee Archie Davis after falling ill just as the original headquarters named for him was set to open. The reception desk offers every courtesy, including an interactive touch screen for Park facility information. Guests can also access information about nearby restaurants, cultural facilities and other resources and even have directions to them printed out to take along. On the wall behind the reception desk, an edgy graphic depicting an open-sided triangle is at first perceived as attractive modern art. Weddle explains that this design is the new Park logo. In full color, the design features dark blue, red and sky blue for each leg of the triangle.

"We used the colors of each of the major universities in the logo, and it really makes for an appealing and meaningful symbol," says Weddle.

Immediately to the right of the reception desk is Conference Room 1, set behind glass walls and featuring a sleek walnut and granite table, an audiovisual wall and a narrow shelf where boards of architectural sketches and plans can be displayed for review by the Park's

Board of Design. A larger conference room, known as the Briefing Center, is situated a short hall's length away.

"This one has all the bells and whistles," says Rooks. "We can do video conferencing here, there are microphones in the table to provide balanced sound and the audio system is in the ceiling."

The view through the room's window looks onto leafy oak trees that frame the building.

Natural Features

The administrative offices are set along a tastefully appointed column-lined corridor. One wall is formed by energy-efficient windows that block out heat and seal in air conditioning. Rooks points out that 75 percent of the headquarters building is penetrated by natural daylight, reducing the amount of electricity needed to light public areas, work spaces and conference rooms.

"We don't overlight any areas," says Rooks, "and our contemporary aluminum ceiling light fixtures are clean-lined and energy efficient."

The individual office spaces are arranged around an open area where visiting interns and consultants can find places at a large desk to work while visiting the building. A natural curve to the glossy wood countertop of the desk is punctuated by stainless steel-edged glass partitions like the half-walls that enclose individual offices.

"The staff tested three ergonomically designed desk chairs and the decision to use this one was unanimous," says Rooks as she displays a sculptural upholstered chair with curvy stainless steel supports.

The décor of the headquarters building was the result of an intense collaboration among the designer, Leah Faile of O'Brien/Atkins, the Headquarters' Building Committee and the staff. The upholstered carpet squares are low VOC (volatile organic compound) emitting materials in shades of brown with threads of color for contrast. Many of the wall and furniture panels are either of natural silk or made of recycled corn husks and add to the building's excellent acoustics, as well as its serene aesthetic. Many of the furnishings are manufactured in North Carolina and were obtained through Alfred Williams & Company.

The success of the interior design's perfect melding of form and function is especially apparent in a small conference room in the

administrative center featuring only six comfortable armchairs equipped with cup holders and small circular desktops. The buttery-toned leather contrasts nicely with the ebony desk tops, and the chairs are arrayed three to a side facing each other. The design of the chairs and the fact that the room has no table makes for a different kind of interaction among the participants.

"The absence of a table, the view out the tall window and the total functionality of the chairs seem to generate creative thinking and interaction," says Rooks.

Much attention was paid to the landscaping of the building on a site where a former building had been removed.

"This site had been sold to a private developer and a building constructed, which was leased to the government with the provision that the Park could buy the property back if it ceased to function, which we did," says Rooks. "We preserved the willow oaks that had matured and sited the headquarters

building to take maximum advantage of their shade and the pastoral views around them."

Drainage from the parking lot and drive is channeled into grassy swales and rain gardens in the medians of the parking lot.

"The plants are all native, or hardy adaptive species, and we have something blooming every season," says Rooks.

The daffodils and other bulbs of the spring season are gone, but soon a profusion of drought-resistant grasses and showy black-eyed susans will appear. A grassy amphitheater fits neatly into the bowl-shaped site at the rear of the property. The site also connects to the extensive 14 miles of jogging and pedestrian trails that the Park has developed and maintains.

Building Serves Needs

Weddle summarizes the process that led to the creation of this beautiful building and how it fits the focus of The Research Triangle Park.

"The Building Committee headed by Tallman Trask III, worked with the management team for months to determine the needs the building would serve for the Park community and our regional and statewide partners," says Weddle. "Our current tasks are to continue to support our Park programs through the Owners & Tenants Association, to refine our marketing, sales and redevelopment roles, and to make sure that the Park retains its competitiveness on local, regional, national and international levels."

In June 2009, the new Research Triangle Park Headquarters and Conference Center will host (with the Raleigh Convention Center and other venues in the Triangle) the annual world conference of the International Association of Science Parks (IASP), an event that serves as a capstone to the 50th anniversary of the Park.

"This is the first time the IASP World Conference will be held in the United States," says Weddle. "We'll be ready." **MM**

Cary Firm Launches New Yacht Design

By Kim Weiss

Setzer Design Group of Cary has introduced the "S-70," one of 16 futuristic yacht designs from 30 to 80 meters as part of its new "Vision Line."

"We are attempting to redefine what is to become the modern mega-yacht for the year 2010 and beyond — and only those boats that can actually be built and taken to sea," said Ward Setzer, principal of the firm, describing the thinking behind the 70-meter, plumb bow mega-yacht *Brazen Sea*.

Brazen Sea is partially inspired by the industry's recent experimentation with the classic plumb type of bow, said Setzer. "And yet this design is full of refinements and details that can only come about after careful observations of what works and does not work in real sea-going conditions."

The new line represents Setzer's evolution from classic vessels and toward more modern designs in keeping with the studio's holistic approach to superyacht design and Setzer's concerns that the company's yachts be buildable, useable, serviceable, stylistic and elegant.

The S-70 has five deck levels plus large, below-waterline holds and systems spaces. With a beam of 10.7M and a draft of 3.4M, the yacht is designed to carry enough volume to accommodate large fuel and water stores, as well as large cabins for owners and guests on multiple levels.

Powered by a Diesel-Electric drive system, and capable of cruising speeds of 15 knots, the hull design has been refined to provide ocean travel capabilities, according to Setzer. A helicopter hangar sits within the bow, as well as a full beam tender garage/cabana with dockage doors deploying port and starboard.

A multi-level glass elevator is a central feature, along with rounded windows offering dramatic views port and starboard within the forward accommodations.

The vessel also features a grand theater space with seating for 16 and a spa area within a two-level gym. There are six large guest cabins and one master cabin near an office/den with a private meeting area and video link studio.

For the crew, *Brazen Sea* can accommodate 12 forward in six cabins with one dedicated pilot's cabin and two aft in the engineer's space, as well as a crew lounge, galley and utility areas.

The interior style and outfitting creates "a clean-line look in lighter woods. The outer decks feature retractable awnings, integral to the design, a hot tub/swimming pool with retention system for lap swimming, multiple seating areas, bars, grills and an observation lounge.

For more information, visit www.setzerdesign.com or call Setzer directly at 919-859-7014. **MM**

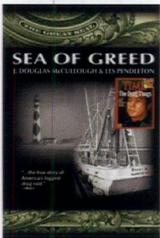


COASTAL NEWS

JUDGE'S BOOK ON DRUG SMUGGLING RING NOW AVAILABLE

Finally! The book *Metro* readers have been waiting for is available. *Sea of Greed*, written by North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge Douglas McCullough — and excerpted in the July 2006 issue of *Metro Magazine* — can be purchased through your book dealer or online, published by Beaufort's Fish Towne Press.

Readers were hooked by the first chapter, published in the July 2006 issue — and



haven't stopped asking us when the book was coming out so they could read the rest of the story of the largest drug operation on the East Coast. *Sea of Greed* is positively gripping — and true — with a cast of characters right out of a

Hollywood movie, including slick deal makers, tough smugglers, movie stars and even President Manuel Noriega of Panama.

Judge McCullough was a young US Attorney in Eastern North Carolina in the mid-'80s when he led the investigation culminating in "America's biggest drug raid." It's taken two years to publish *Sea of Greed*, but the wait was worth the effort as McCullough unwinds a tale for the ages — and it's all true.

Go to www.seaofgreedbook.com for more information. **MM**

LOST COLONY RESEARCH UNCOVERS EXCITING EVIDENCE

By Steve Row

New research is replacing rumor and science is supplanting speculation as historians work smarter to solve what many still consider the greatest mystery in American history:

Where were the first English settlements along the mid-Atlantic coast actually situated, and what happened to more than 100 colonists who disappeared from Roanoke Island a mere 420 years ago?

Advanced technology to discover aspects of early America is being applied on the northeast side of Roanoke Island in mid-May. The First Colony Foundation, headed by Durham lawyer Phil Evans, is seeking remnants of domestic habitation in the area north of present-day Manteo, where the first English attempts at colonization took place from 1585-1590.

While digging into the history of the so-called "Lost Colony" on Roanoke Island this spring, a crew from *Time Team: America* —

the public television series that examines archeological sites in America and brings in specialists who assist with the excavations — joined the First Colony Foundation to work at the site to film the work at the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site to be broadcast in 2009 or 2010.

Several specialists from *Time Team: America*, including geophysicists, artists and an expert on Native American archeology, joined with Evans, archeologist Nick Lucchetti from Williamsburg, VA, Dr. Eric Klingelhofer from Mercer University in Georgia and top officials in the foundation to supervise the dig.

New Technology Seeks Hot Spots

Today, satellite imaging and radar tomography can be used to detect so-called "hot spots" in the ground — man-made disturbances such as actual artifacts or just evidence of cuts and plowing. The geophysicists were on hand during the May excavation, for example, to trace and interpret such possible disturbances.



Archeological work during the first week of the First Colony Foundation dig at Fort Raleigh.

"In earlier days, there was not as widespread use of remote sensing devices," says Klingelhofer. "Plus, our recording and surveying devices are more precise than before."

But the older methods of archeological testing — digging test pits and making auguring bores — are still used, he adds.

What if the digs prove barren? Would that be considered a failure?

"You very rarely have an unsuccessful dig. Even negative evidence is still evidence," Klingelhofer says.

Evans planned for the May excavation to be the foundation's annual two-week "field season" dig, hoping to determine where the first colonists lived. This site was chosen based on previous excavations a few years ago when artifacts were found indicating an area of 16th century activity. In some respects, this was like looking for needles in haystacks. Despite the detailed watercolors of Indians in the area that Gov. John White

had painted during the initial years of the colony, neither he nor anyone else apparently sketched or mapped the colonists' own settlement.

The *Time Team: America* television program, meanwhile, was preparing to begin production of its series and had a three-day block available with photographers, sound technicians, producers and specialists that coincided with the First Colony Foundation's plans.

As Lucchetti explains, the two organizations came together as the result of "a happy circumstance," that blended cutting-edge science and technology with painstakingly simple trowel-and-brush work, a down-on-the-ground effort that puts dirt under the fingernails and on the clothes of Evans and all members of the excavation team.

But it also brought together world-class historians who were invited to assemble at the site and offer their expertise: Ivor Noël Hume, the eminent retired chief archeologist at Colonial Williamsburg — who in the early 1990s found evidence of a science laboratory set up by the colonists — and Karen Ordahl Kupperman, a historian and expert in early American history from New York University. Both have written extensively on the earliest English settlements in the New World. James Horn, vice president of research for Colonial Williamsburg and author of a soon-to-be-published book on the fate of the Lost Colonists, was also on the site.

Tantalizing Clues

This most recent excavation yielded some tantalizing clues pointing to possible domestic habitation: tiny slivers of glass (perhaps from a drinking glass or a goblet owned by a well-to-do English gentleman?); a fragment of a flask made from unglazed stoneware widely used in the 16th and 17th centuries called Martincamp; and a tiny, heavily encrusted object that might be a copper bell used in trading with Native Americans. Fragments of clay pipes were found, including at least one from the 18th century.

But the researchers might have found even more.

On the dig's third day, the crew became excited, not over an object, but over a discoloration in the soil in one of two 4-by-10-meter rectangular pits.

Four clearly visible dark stains in a line could be seen on the floor of one pit. Other dark stains were visible nearby. Such darker areas often indicate post holes, the residue of wooden posts inserted into the ground years earlier as part of a fort palisade or a frame building, such as a house. A settler's house, perhaps?

Lucchetti initially liked the look of the dis-

colorations, but added that extensive work must take place to establish their authenticity. They could be remains of trees that were growing or planted in a row. As researchers later discovered, the discoloration did not descend deeply enough into the soil and could have been the residue of some kind of fire.

But then...

Near the end of the second week, in the same pit where the soil discolorations had been found, excavators uncovered 14 one-inch copper squares, each with holes in opposite corners, indicating pieces of a necklace. Such a necklace would have been worn by only the highest ranking of Native Americans.

Not far from the copper pieces, team members also found more than a dozen small white glass beads, the kind that 17th century English colonists brought to trade with Native Americans. And the floor of the pit also produced an even better looking indication of a post hole.

"We are very pleased and excited that the artifacts date to the time of the colonists," Evans says. "The necklace is a pretty phenomenal find. This is big-time, high-fashion jewelry. The small white glass beads are pretty clearly European and were fairly common in trade."

Sooner Rather Than Later

Evans says the most recent finds might require adjusting the foundation's research calendar, calling for additional excavations to be undertaken sooner rather than later — perhaps as early as this fall, if funds can be found.

"We'd like some sort of excavation to resume in the fall," he says. "The issue is how many workers and who among professionals we can get. We've got to have enough to manage the volunteers."

A next research step will be to determine where the copper came from — Native

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Americans, English colonists or Spanish explorers — and to try to establish a range of dates for the copper pieces. A closer look at the soil discoloration is obviously warranted.

A few years ago, the foundation undertook underwater archeological work near Shallowbag Bay (the Manteo harbor) for any settlement remains that might be found just offshore. Now, the foundation might examine more closely a five-acre wooded area near the harbor for new evidence of the original fort and domestic habitation, says Lucchetti, visibly excited by the recent excavations.

"We moved more dirt in two weeks than in the past 14 years. We found more European artifacts than in the past 14 years. We actually have a real feature that points us in the direction of future investigation.

"We are tremendously excited by our finds and the prospects of what they will lead us to in the discovery of what happened on the north end of Roanoke Island."

"This is the first page of a new chapter," Evans says. **MM**

COASTAL CALENDAR

By Meagan O'Daniel and Cyndi Harris

Concert in the Park: Summer concert series will perform every Friday night at 7 p.m. Sponsored

by the Friends of Fort Macon; admission is free. **Fort Macon State Park.** Visit www.crystal-coast.com.

Wine Festival on the Lawn: July. Every Wednesday afternoon in July from 3-7 p.m., enjoy a wine tasting hosted by the Whalehead Club on the North Lawn. Includes live music and food concessions. Children and leashed pets are welcome. Admission is \$20. **Corolla.** Visit www.whaleheadclub.org or call 252-453-9612.

Morehead City Parks and Recreation Summer Concerts: Concert series runs from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend. Each Saturday evening from 7-8:30 p.m. at Jaycee Park; **Morehead City.** Performances are free and open to the public. Call 252-726-5083.

Carolina Beach's "Film and Fireworks Series": Family-friendly movies each Sunday night throughout the summer, weather permitting, at the Carolina Beach Lake Park. Fireworks display and live music each Thursday night near the boardwalk. Free admission; **Carolina Beach.** Visit www.carolinabeachweekend.com or call 910-458-8434.

4th Annual Mayfaire "Music on the Town" Concert Series: Every Friday evening on the Mayfaire event lawn. Free admission, pets and coolers welcome. 6-9 p.m. Mayfaire Town Center. **Wilmington.** Visit www.mayfairetown.com.

16th Annual Independence Day Festival of Fireworks: July 4. Food, fun, and entertainment for the entire family at Currituck Heritage

Park. Fireworks will begin at dusk overlooking the Currituck Sound. Bring blankets or beach chairs. 6-11 p.m.; admission is free. Sponsored by Currituck County. **Corolla.** Visit www.whaleheadclub.org or call 252-453-9612.

North Carolina School of the Arts Summer Performance Festival: Various events each week through Aug. 2. **Manteo.** Visit www.ncsasummerfest.org or call 252-475-1506 for details.

Fourth of July Celebration with fireworks by the Town of Manteo: July 4. 8 p.m. Admission is free. Outdoor Pavilion. **Manteo.** Visit online at www.roanokeisland.com.

Battleship Blast — 4th of July Celebration and Fireworks: July 4. The largest choreographed fireworks display in the state takes place over the Battleship at 9:05 p.m. **Wilmington.** Call 910-251-5797 ext. 2048 or visit www.battleship-nc.com.

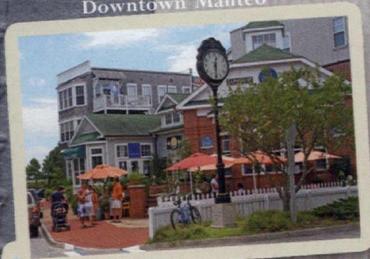
Fourth of July Parade & Community Picnic: July 4. Parade begins at 11 a.m. at the fire department and will go through downtown and along the waterfront. Pets are welcome. **Beaufort.** Call 252-728-3917.

Fourth of July Cruise: July 4. Celebrate aboard North Carolina's largest riverboat with fireworks, food and drinks. Reservations are required and tickets must be paid for in advance. Price: \$55. **Wilmington.** Call 910-343-1611 or visit www.cfr-boats.com.

3rd Annual Harbor Nights Goes Fourth:

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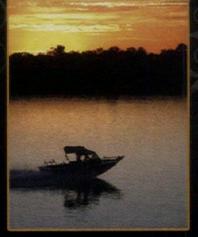
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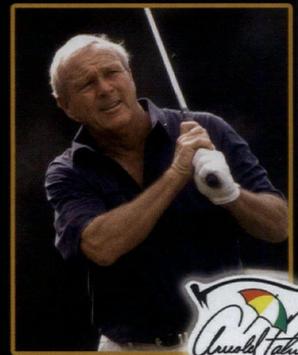


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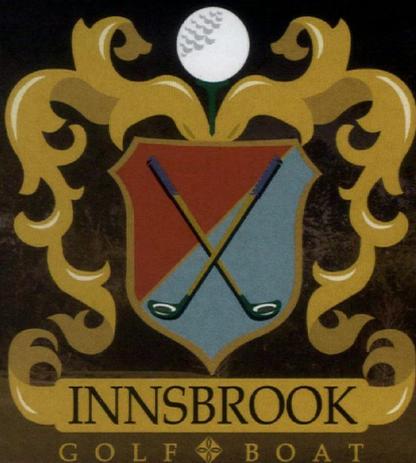
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Music at Airlie: Enjoy an eclectic mix of jazz July 4 and beach music July 18 from 6-8 p.m. at Airlie Gardens. **Wilmington.** Call 910.798.7700 or visit www.airliegarden.com.

Dramatic Reading of the Declaration of Independence: July 4. Hear the Declaration read from the Palace steps by costumed characters portraying famous North Carolinians from the Revolutionary era, listen to the Tryon Palace Fife & Drum Corps, and participate in thematic and patriotic craft activities. **New Bern.** Free Garden Admission. Visit www.tryonpalace.org.

Fireworks at Bogue Inlet Pier: July 4. Fireworks sponsored by Bogue Inlet Pier and Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation. 9:30 p.m.; **Emerald Isle.** Call 252-354-6350.

4th of July High Fly Kite Festival: July 4. Fly with the Whalehead Club at this year's 4th of July Celebration. Don't miss the toy demos and rock climbing wall. The Whalehead Club; **Corolla.** Call 252-441-4124 or visit www.kittyhawk.com.

66th Annual 4th of July Parade and Celebration: July 4. One of the largest Independence Day events in Eastern NC includes a street dance and fireworks. Parade begins at 11 a.m. and fireworks will start at dark. **Belhaven.** Visit www.belhavenchamber.com.

4th Annual Fourth of July Celebration: July 4. Entertainment, food and more with firework display over **Edenton Harbor.** Sponsored by The Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club. Call 252-482-2323.

27th Annual Croaker Festival: July 4-5. Festival includes a parade, street dances on Friday and Saturday night, kids' entertainment, arts and crafts, music, food, and more. Enjoy a fireworks display on Saturday night. **Oriental.** Visit online at www.croakerfestival.com.

Classy-Chassis Car Show & Country Flea Market: July 5. View antique cars and motorcycles on the grounds of Poplar Grove. **Wilmington.** Visit www.poplargrove.com.

Beach Run Series: July 10. A Carteret County summer tradition, enjoy running the mile, 5K or 10K races on the beach strand during low tide. Registra-

tion starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Atlantic Beach Circle. **Atlantic Beach.** Call 252-808-3480 or visit www.ccparksrec.com.

3rd Annual Reef/Pro-Am Surf Fest: July 10-13. Watch some of the world's best professional and amateur surfers ride the waves, while you soak up some rays. Begins at 7 a.m. daily. **Wrightsville Beach.** Visit www.wblivesurf.com.

Nature Night at the Museum: July 11. Themed family event with games and activities to discover coastal natures. Reservations and fee required. NC Maritime Museum; **Beaufort.** Call 252-728-7317 or www.ncmaritimemuseum.org.

Free Summer Concert Series: July 11 and July 25. A free concert for the whole family to enjoy. Bring your own chairs, blankets or picnic. **Kure Beach.** Call 910 458-8434 or visit www.pleasureislandnc.org.

Spanish Mackerel Challenge Family Fishing Tourney: July 12. Sponsored by Carteret Community College Foundation, Inc. Radio Island Marina; **Beaufort.** Call 252-222-6222.

29th Annual Wright Kite Festival: July 12-13. Enjoy flying kites at the base of the Kitty Hawk memorial, the site of the Wright Brothers' first flight. The day also includes competitions in kite making and stunts for kids and adults. **Nags Head.** Call 252-441-4124 or visit www.kittyhawk.com.

Edenton Bay Challenge Annual Sailboat Race: July 12-13. **Edenton.** For information, call 252-482-3400 or visit www.visitedenton.com.

Beach Jive After Five Summer Concert: July 17. This event includes horseshoes, bocce ball, hula hoop contests, beach blanket bingo and more. Refreshments will be available for purchase and the Beach Jive begins at 4 p.m. with a free concert featuring Deja Groove. **Emerald Isle.** Call 252-354-6350 or visit www.emeraldisle-nc.org.

Barta Boys & Girls Club Billfish Tournament: July 17-19. Events for the annual billfish tournament will take place on the Beaufort Town Docks. The tournament will conclude with awards and an art auction. **Beaufort.** All proceeds will go to the Boys & Girls Club of Coastal Carolina. Call Cynthia Barber at 252-808-2286 or visit www.barta-boysandgirlsclubbillfish.com.

Gregory Poole Boys & Girls Club Art &



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Kids Fair: July 17-19. This event is in conjunction with the Barta Boys and Girls Club Billfish Tournament, also taking place in downtown **Beaufort**. E-mail: crb59@coastalnet.com.

5th Annual Dare County Boat Builders Challenge: July 17-20. Registration opens on July 17 with fishing on July 18, 19 and 20. **Manteo**. Visit www.fishpiratescove.com or call 800-422-3610.

Colonial Camp Life: July 21-25. A new program at Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens offers 4th-8th grade students a chance to step back into the past. Participants will explore how colonists lived in 18th century North Carolina. **New Bern**. Advance registration is necessary. Visit www.tryonpalace.org or call 252-514-4939.

NC Ducks Unlimited Band The Billfish Tournament: July 24-26. Headquartered at Anchorage Marina, Atlantic Beach for registration and weigh-ins. Tournament events are located at the Crystal Coast Civic Center. **Morehead City**. Call Mark Shouse at 252-237-3717.

Music in the Streets: July 18. In its 6th season, this event includes live music on the Pamlico waterfront, a street festival, food and more. **Downtown Washington**. Call 800-999-3857 or visit www.visitwashingtonnc.com.

28th Annual Historic Beaufort Road Race: July 20. The morning event includes a certified 10K run, a certified 5K run and walk, and a 1-mile run and walk. There are also 10K and 5K wheelchair events and a 5K baby-jogger race. All the events



BRAD PILAND

Girls on the beach means summer is here on the North Carolina coast.

start and end on the **Beaufort** waterfront. For more information, visit www.insiders.com or call 252-222-6359.

Kitty Hawk Kites — Hatteras Kite Festival: July 24. There will be exhibitions, casual competition and games for kids from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. Free fun for the whole family! Call 252-441-4124 or visit www.kittyhawk.com.

Greater Wilmington Hydra Sports King Mackerel Tournament: July 25-26. Catch the largest King Mackerel and win up to \$25,000. Captain's meeting Friday 12-8 p.m.; fish Saturday 6 a.m.-5 p.m. Awards to follow. Entry fee is \$300 to be mailed and postmarked on or before July 15. Entry fees received after July 15, 2008 will be \$350. **Wilmington**. Call 910.409.5234 or e-mail: aberlet@msn.com.

16th Annual Tarpon Tournament: July 25-

27. The Tournament will be headquartered at the Whittaker Pointe Marina. The Rotary club will host a barbecue dinner and a free concert on Saturday night. Tickets for the dinner will be available for purchase from any Rotary club member. **Oriental**. Contact Paul Miller at 252-249-1443 or e-mail: orc-tarpon@hotmail.com.

13th Annual Cape Fear Blues Festival: July 25 - 27. This year's festival includes a Blues Cruise, an all-day blues jam in the park, live club shows, outdoor concerts, workshops and more. Events will take place between the beaches of the Cape Fear Coast and the historic riverfront of downtown **Wilmington**. Visit online at www.capefearblues.org.

19th Annual Knotts Island Peach Festival: July 26-27. A weekend filled with live entertainment, children's activities and more in Knotts Island Ruritan Park. **Knotts Island**. Visit online at www.knottsislandonline.com.

Southeastern North Carolina Watermelon Festival: July 26-27. This coastal tradition offers crafts, food, entertainment, a parade and more. **Flair Bluff**. Call 910-212-0013 or visit www.ncwatermelonfestival.com.

Buddy Pelletier Longboard Memorial Contest: July 26-27. Come out to watch this surfing competition, which attracts a number of amateurs and professionals to the shores of Atlantic Beach every year. **Atlantic Beach**. Call 252-726-2341.

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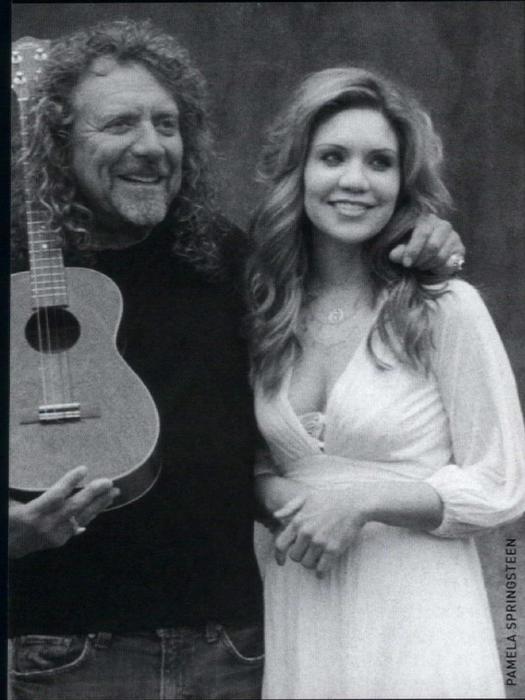
A portion of the proceeds from this event will benefit The Tisch Brain Tumor Center
at Duke Medical Center and The Raleigh Fine Arts Society.



The Summer Wings Carolina Butterfly Pavilion, a seasonal outdoor exhibit at The Museum of Life and Science in Durham, enables visitors to get a closer look at butterflies native to the Southeastern United States and experience their lifecycle within a screened-in garden habitat. Open through September. (See Preview Museums for details.)



MUSEUM OF LIFE AND SCIENCE



PAMELA SPRINGSTEEN

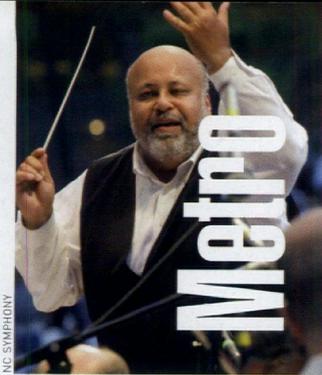
Robert Plant and Alison Krauss, with a band led by T Bone Burnett, will perform songs from the acclaimed album *Raising Sand* (Rounder Records), as well as a few selections from each artist's discography at the RBC Center in Raleigh on July 11. (See Preview Pop Music for details.)

Openings

BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet takes the Cajun traditions of Louisiana and artfully blends elements of zydeco, New Orleans jazz, Tex-Mex, country and blues into a unique musical recipe. BeauSoleil performs July 12 at the NC Museum of Art, Raleigh. (See Preview Museums for details.)



RICK OLIVIER



Preview

by Mary Ward Boerner

SIMPLY SUMMER FUN

GALLERIES

ENTRANCES AND EXITS — PAINTINGS BY KIM WHEATON AND PATRICIA MERRIMAN: Hillsborough Gallery of Arts, Hillsborough; Thru July 19. Contact 919-732-5001 or www.hillsboroughgallery.com.

INVITATION TO OPTIMISM — NEW PAINTINGS BY DUJ HUYNH: Tyndall Galleries at University Mall, Chapel Hill; Thru July 5 (Opening Reception June 7). Contact 919-942-2290 or www.tyndallgalleries.com.

ABUNDANCE OF NATURE: Works by Eric Saunders, Lori White and Rachel Souza; Miriam Preston Block Gallery at the Municipal Building, Raleigh; Thru Aug. 5. Contact 919-890-3610 or www.raleighnc.gov/arts.

THE NATURAL WORLD WORKS BY DIANNE T. RODWELL: Original oils on paper and canvas, and wax resist/ acrylics on rice paper; Gallery A, Raleigh; July 1-Aug. 31. Contact 919-546-9011 or www.gallerya-nc.com.



ArtSource at Five Points hosts "Dog Days of Summer," an animal-themed art show featuring works by gallery artists to benefit the SPCA of Wake County.

CITY BY THE BAY AND OTHER NEW WORKS BY JOAN VANDERMEER: Mad Hatter Bake Shop & Café, Durham; Thru Sept. 10. Contact 919-286-1987.

SUMMER IN THE CITY: Featuring new paintings by gallery artists; Carolina Creations, New Bern; Thru Sept. 1. Contact 252-633-4369 or www.carolinacreations.com.

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: Animal-themed art works by selected gallery artists and a portion of proceeds benefit the SPCA of Wake County; ArtSource at Five Points, Raleigh; July 1-Aug. 1. Contact 919-787-9533 or www.artsource-raleigh.com.

LEMONADE STAND SHOW: Small summer works by local artists at affordable prices; The Nature of Art Gallery, Holly Springs; July 1-31 (Opening Reception July 11). Contact 919-387-9448 or www.thenatureofartframeshop.com.

CAROLINA NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY ASSOCIATION: Nature Art Gallery at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh; July 4-27. Contact 919-733-7450.

ARTWALK: Organized by the Craven Arts Council and includes art galleries, shopping and performing arts from 5-8 p.m.; downtown New Bern; July 11. Contact 252-638-2577.

EVENTS AT ARTSPACE: Raleigh; Contact 919-821-0383 or www.artspacenc.org.

• **STAMMER:** Bi-monthly, multi-art extravaganza; Gallery 2; July 11.

• **MEREDITH BRICKELL — DRAWN:** Visual Art/Ceramics; Upfront Gallery; July 4-26 (Meet the Artist Reception July 11).

• **SUSAN MARTIN — TERRITORIES:** Visual Art/Printmaking; Lobby; July 4-26 (Meet the Artist Reception July 11).

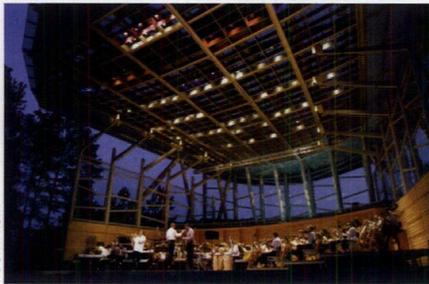
• **EILEEN DOKTORSKI, SUMMER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE:** July 1-30 (Meet the Artist Reception July 11).

• **SUMMER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE LECTURE:** July 17

CLASSICAL

FINDING IDENTITY FAR FROM HOME, BLUE MOUNTAIN ENSEMBLE: NCMA Chamber Music Concert Series performance; NC Museum of Art, Raleigh; July 13. Contact 919-715-5923 or www.ncartmuseum.org.

RALEIGH CHAMBER MUSIC GUILD PRESENTS BRUSSELS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: Works by Elgar, Nielsen, Barber and Tchaikovsky; Fletcher Opera Theater at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; July 5. Contact 919-821-2030 or online at www.rcmg.org.



The North Carolina Symphony, led by Resident Conductor William Henry Curry, performs Saturday evenings under the stars during the Summerfest concert series at Cary's Koka Booth Amphitheatre.

EVENTS AT THE NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY SUMMERFEST CONCERT SERIES: Booth Amphitheatre, Cary; Contact 919-733-2750 or www.ncsymphony.org.

• **INDEPENDENCE DAY CONCERT & FIREWORKS:** July 4

• **CONCERT SINGERS OF CARY SALUTE TO THE GREATEST GENERATION:** July 5

• **BLUES IN THE NIGHT PERFORMED BY PIEDMONT BLUES DUO CEPHAS & WIGGINS:** July 12

• **TAKE IT TO THE LIMIT — A SYMPHONIC TRIBUTE TO THE EAGLES:** July 19

POP MUSIC

INDEPENDENCE EVE CELEBRATION: Event features The Cary Town Band and *Applause!* Cary Youth Theatre;

Sertoma Amphitheatre at Fred G. Bond Park, Cary; July 3. Contact 919-469-4061.

JARMAN OPRY THEATER: A classic country, gospel bluegrass Christmas show; Masonic Theatre, New Bern; July 5. Contact 252-675-7689 or 252-636-6225.

ROBERT PLANT & ALISON KRAUSS FEATURING T BONE BURNETT: RBC Center, Raleigh; July 11. Contact 919-834-4000 or www.ticketmaster.com.

MUSIC IN THE PARK — NEW BERN IDOL FINALISTS: New Bern Idol contestants perform; Union Point Park, New Bern; July 11. Contact 252-639-2902.

COOL CABANA DECK PARTY: Live entertainment every Friday evening from 5-9 p.m.; Sheraton New Bern Hotel; July 4, 11, 18, 25. Contact 252-638-3585.

JAZZ ON THE TRENT: Free live jazz concerts every Sunday; Sheraton New Bern Hotel; July 6, 13, 20, 27. Contact 252-638-3585.

RUSSELL JOHNSON & FRIENDS PRESENTED BY PINECONE AND THE TOWN OF GARNER: Featuring bluegrass singer-songwriter Russell Johnson; Lake Benson Park, Garner; July 19. Contact 919-990-1902 or online at www.pinecone.org.

EVENTS AT THE MIDTOWN MUSIC SHAG SERIES: Commons Lawn at North Hills, Raleigh; Contact online at www.northhillsraleigh.com.

• **THE TAMS:** July 10

• **THE EMBERS:** July 17

• **BILLY SCOTT & THE PARTY PROPHETS:** July 24

EVENTS AT THE DOWNTOWN LIVE CONCERT SERIES: Moore Square Park, Raleigh; Contact www.raleigh-downtownlive.com.

• **ALTER BRIDGE, TANTRIC, THE TS, KENNEBEC, CORI YARKIN:** July 12

• **THE OLD 97S:** July 26

EVENTS AT THE STARLIGHT CONCERT SERIES: Page-Walker Arts & History Center Garden, Cary; Contact 919-460-4963 or www.townofcary.org.

• **JAMROCK:** July 11

• **LAURA RIDGEWAY AND FRIENDS:** July 18

• **CARNAVALITO:** Aug. 1

EVENTS AT THE AMERICAN TOBACCO CAMPUS 2008 MUSIC ON THE LAWN SERIES: Durham; Contact 919-433-1566 or www.americantobaccocampus.com.

• **A NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC RADIO — WUNC BACK PORCH MUSIC CONCERT W/ ROBIN & LINDA WILLIAMS:** July 25

EVENTS AT THE TIME WARNER CABLE MUSIC PAVILION AT WALNUT CREEK: Raleigh; Contact 919-834-4000 or www.livenation.com.

• **DAVE MATTHEWS BAND W/ MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD:** July 2

• **TOM PETTY & THE HEARTBREAKERS W/ STEVE WINWOOD:** July 12

• **BRAD PAISLEY W/ JEWEL, CHUCK WICKS & JULIANNE HOUGH:** July 19

• **311 W/ SNOOP DOGG & FICTION PLANE:** July 23

- **PROJEKT REVOLUTION W/ LINKIN PARK, CHRIS CORNELL, THE BRAVERY AND MORE:** July 25
- **MAROON 5 & COUNTING CROWS W/ SARA BAREILLES:** July 29
- **JONAS BROTHERS & AVRIL LAVIGNE W/ DEMI LOVATO:** July 30
- **RASCAL FLATTS W/ TAYLOR SWIFT:** Aug. 2

STAGE & SCREEN

HAUNTED EVENING HISTORICAL DRAMA: An evening of history, mystery and shadows; Attmore-Oliver House, New Bern; July 11. Contact 252-638-8558 or online at www.newbernhistorical.org.

ARSENIC & OLD LACE: Presented by ECU/Loessin Summer Theatre; Turnage Theater, Washington; July 10-19. Contact 252-975-1192 or www.turnagetheater.com.

PETER PAN PRESENTED BY NC THEATRE: Starring Ira David Wood III as Captain Hook; Memorial Auditorium at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; July 12-20. Contact 919-834-4000 or www.nctheatre.com.

SPIRITED THROUGH TIME — HISTORICAL DRAMA: New Bern Historical Society, New Bern; July 18, 25. Contact 252-638-8558 or online at www.newbernhistorical.org.

THE ALL NIGHT STRUT! Presented by ECU/Loessin Summer Theatre; Turnage Theater, Washington; July 24-Aug. 2. Contact 252-975-1192 or online at www.turnagetheater.com.

THE MUSIC MAN: Presented by PlayMakers Repertory Company and The ArtsCenter of Carrboro; Paul Green Theatre Center for Dramatic Art, UNC-Chapel Hill; July 24-27. Contact 919-962-PLAY or www.playmakersrep.org.

CAROLINIAN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL PRESENTS ROMEO & JULIET: New Bern Civic Theatre, New Bern; July 31-

Aug. 17. Contact 252-633-0567 or www.newbernhistorical.org.

EVENTS AT HOT SUMMER NIGHTS AT THE KENNEDY: Kennedy Theatre at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; Contact 919-831-6060 or www.hotsummernightsatthekennedy.org.

- **TRUE WEST BY SAM SHEPARD:** Directed by Broadway's Lauren Kennedy; July 2-13.
- **SKYLIGHT BY DAVID HARE:** July 23-Aug. 3

EVENTS AT THE NC MUSEUM OF ART: Raleigh; Contact 919-839-6262 or www.ncartmuseum.org.

- **OUTDOOR MOVIE — FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF:** July 11
- **OUTDOOR MOVIE — THE 400 BLOWS:** July 18
- **MUSIC/MOVIE COMBO — LES PRIMITIFS DU FUTUR/THE RED BALLOON AND THE WHITE MANE:** July 19
- **OUTDOOR MOVIE — I'M NOT THERE:** July 25
- **OUTDOOR MOVIE — HAIRSPRAY:** July 26

MUSEUMS

WORKS BY PITT COUNTY SCHOOL K-12 ART STUDENTS: Greenville Museum of Art, Greenville; Thru July 19. Contact 252-758-1946 or www.gmoa.org.

EVENTS AT THE NASHER MUSEUM OF ART: Duke University, Durham; Contact www.nasher.duke.edu.

- **LES SAVY FAV — CONCERT:** July 12
- **TASTE OF THE MODERN — ROTHKO, RAUSCHENBERG, OLDENBURG, KLINE:** Thru Sept. 14
- **THE PAST IS PRESENT — CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES AT THE NASHER MUSEUM:** Ongoing
- **NEW AT THE NASHER:** On view thru July 6
- **BARKLEY L. HENDRICKS — BIRTH OF THE COOL:** Thru July 13

EVENTS AT THE NC MUSEUM OF ART: Raleigh; Contact 919-839-6262 or www.ncartmuseum.org.

- **FAR FROM HOME:** Thru July 13

- **MODERN AMERICAN PAINTINGS FROM THE BEQUEST OF FANNIE AND ALAN LESLIE:** Thru Fall 2009
- **GALLERY CLASS:** July 10
- **ART IN THE EVENING:** July 4, 11, 18, 25
- **FAMILY FUN SATURDAY:** July 5, 12, 19, 26
- **DROP-IN CRAFTS:** July 9, 16, 23,
- **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS:** July 9, 16, 23
- **LUNCH & LEARN:** July 11, 25
- **OUTDOOR CONCERT — BEAUSOLEIL AVEC MICHAEL DOUCET:** July 12
- **FLORAL DEMONSTRATION:** July 30

EVENTS AT THE NC MUSEUM OF HISTORY: Raleigh; Contact 919-807-7900 or www.ncmuseumofhistory.org.

- **BEARING WITNESS — CIVIL RIGHTS PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALEXANDER RIVERA:** Through March 1, 2009
- **HISTORY À LA CARTE — ONCE UPON A TIME:** Rob Franklin Fox, director of the Institute of Outdoor Drama at UNC-Chapel Hill speaks about outdoor historical drama in North Carolina; July 9.
- **A CLOSER LOOK — MAKING MUSIC IN NORTH CAROLINA:** July 13
- **SUMMER PERFORMANCE SERIES — LEON JORDAN'S CONTINENTALS:** July 13
- **MAKE IT, TAKE IT — DANCING DOLLS:** July 26
- **SHIKSHA — INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE LECTURE AND DEMONSTRATION:** July 27

EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM OF LIFE AND SCIENCE: Durham; Contact 919-220-5429 or online at www.lifeandscience.org.

- **SPECIAL EVENT — DINO DAY:** July 12
- **SEASONAL EXHIBIT — SUMMER WINGS BUTTERFLY PAVILION:** Open thru Sept. 2008.
- **CATCH THE WIND & EXPLORE THE WILD:** Ongoing
- **NEW EXHIBIT — SOUNDSPACE, HEAR MOTION:** Now Open thru Oct. 2008.

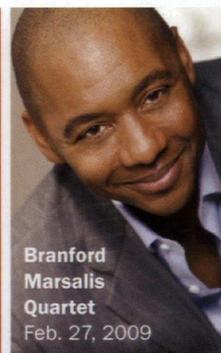
The Bolshoi Ballet's
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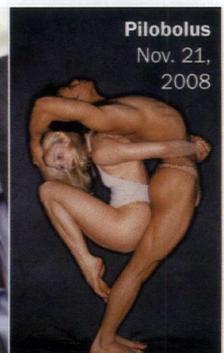
www.carolinaperformingarts.org



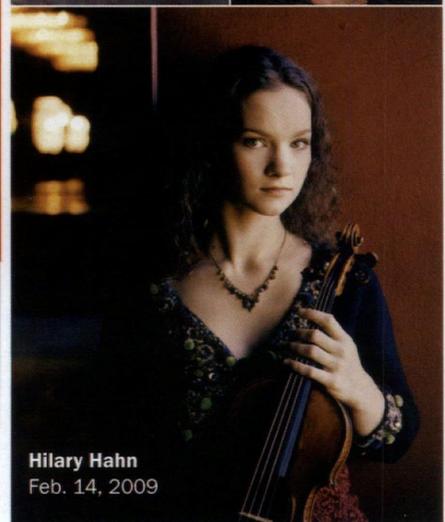
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• **SEASONAL EXHIBIT — SUMMER WINGS:** Now open

EVENTS AT MARBLES KIDS MUSEUM: Raleigh; Contact 919-834-4040 or www.marbleskidsmuseum.org.

- **IMAX THEATRE MOVIES:** Call 919-882-IMAX for movies and show times.
- **FAMILY FUN NIGHT:** An evening for special needs children and their families.
- **OPENING DAY OF MARBLES OLYMPICS:** July 12
- **TEAM MARBLES MONDAY:** Members, donors and volunteers meet to receive training and information; July 28. For more information, contact 919-857-1021.



AMANDA MARSALIS

The Brooklyn-based art-rock band Les Savay Fav will perform at The Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University on July 12.

EVENTS AT THE ACKLAND ART MUSEUM: UNC-Chapel Hill; Contact www.ackland.org.

- **EXHIBIT — CONTEMPORARY DRAWINGS FROM THE ACKLAND COLLECTION:** Thru Aug. 17
- **EXHIBITION — THE ART OF LOVE:** Thru Sep. 7
- **EXHIBIT: GLORIFYING PATRONAGE — ART IN SERVICE OF FAMILY, FAME, AND FORTUNE:** Thru Aug. 16
- **EXHIBIT: IN AND AROUND THE GARDEN — PERSPECTIVES EAST AND WEST:** Thru Aug. 31
- **EXHIBITION: FLOWING LIKE WATER — THE ART OF LIQUIDITY:** Thru Aug. 31
- **YOGA IN THE GALLERIES:** July 7
- **ART AFTER DARK:** July 11
- **DRAWING IN THE GALLERIES:** July 12
- **MUSIC IN THE GALLERIES:** July 20
- **ART & LITERATURE IN THE GALLERIES:** July 26
- **LUNCH WITH ONE:** July 16
- **COMMUNITY DAY — CELEBRATING THE GARDEN:** July 27

EVENTS AT THE MOREHEAD PLANETARIUM AND SCIENCE CENTER: Chapel Hill; Contact 919-549-6863 or www.moreheadplanetarium.org.

- **CURRENT SCIENCE FORUMS:** July 10
- **DESTINY DAY:** July 11
- **STORY TIME SCIENCE CHILDREN'S PRESENTATION:** July 19

EVENTS AT WILSON LIBRARY: The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Contact www.lib.unc.edu.

- **THE BEATS AND BEYOND — COUNTERCULTURE POETICS 1952-1975:** Melba Remig Saltarelli Exhibit Room; Thru July 3. Contact 919-962-1143.
- **SATAN IN A BOTTLE — A HISTORY OF THE PRODUCTION AND CONTROL OF ALCOHOL IN NORTH CAROLINA:** North Carolina Collection Gallery; July 16 -Aug. 31. Contact 919-962-1172.
- **HECHO A MANO — BOOK ARTS OF LATIN AMERICA:** Melba Remig Saltarelli Exhibit Room; Thru July 23. Contact 919-962-1143.



NC MUSEUM OF HISTORY

A tradition since *The Last Colony* premiered in 1937, North Carolina's outdoor historical dramas blend intriguing stories with music, dance and spectacle. Discover the history behind these productions with the History à la Carte program, *Once Upon a Time*, at the NC Museum of History, July 9.

TRYON PALACE CELEBRATES NORTH CAROLINA'S FIRST FOURTH: Tryon Palace Historic Site and Gardens, New Bern; July 4. Contact 1-800-767-1560 or www.tryonpalace.org.

POTPOURRI

NORTH HILLS FARMERS' MARKET: Featuring fresh local produce, homemade goods, local artists and entertainment: Commons Lawn at North Hills, Raleigh; Saturdays 8 a.m. until noon through October. Contact www.northhillsraleigh.com.

FAMILIES OF ABRAHAM: An exhibit of 207 photo-

graphs depicting traditions and holy days of the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths; Frank Porter Graham Student Union Art Gallery at UNC, Chapel Hill; Thru July 31. Contact online at www.artvisionexhibitions.com/familiesofabrahamexhibit.html.

JOEL LANE MUSEUM HOUSE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION: Annual Independence Day open house with outdoor activities, crafts, demonstrations and games for children; Joel Lane Museum House, Raleigh; July 4. Contact 919-833-3431.

SATURDAY SHINDIG FEATURING MUSIC BY THE CATALINAS: Concert benefits the Yadkin Food Closet; Rag-Apple Lassie Vineyard, Booneville; July 12. Contact www.ragapplelassie.com.

THE FRANKLIN HOTEL PRESENTS 2008 WINE DINNER SERIES: A four-course dinner with wine pairings on the grand terrace; The Franklin Hotel, Chapel Hill; July 17. Contact 919-442-4091.

EVENTS AT THE GARDEN HUT: Fuquay-Varina; Contact 919-552-0590 or www.nelsasgardenhut.com.

- **CAROL STEIN'S GARDENERS FORUM — DROUGHT IS NOT THAT CHALLENGING:** July 19
- **CAROL STEIN'S GARDENERS FORUM — CRITTERS ARE PEOPLE TOO:** Aug. 9

EVENTS AT THE SENATOR BOB MARTIN EASTERN AGRICULTURAL CENTER: Williamston; Contact www.showwithus.com.

- **FIRECRACKER JUBILEE & LIBERTY BELL CLASSIC GAITED HORSE SHOW:** July 3-5. Contact www.fourbeatsforpleasure.net.



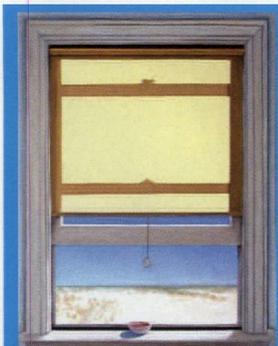
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Hear the Declaration of Independence read from the Palace steps by costumed characters portraying famous North Carolinians from the Revolutionary era during the First Fourth Celebration at Tryon Palace Historic Site and Gardens in New Bern, July 4.

- **ECOSC 5TH ANNUAL ROANOKE RENTALS — SOUTHERN STATES OPEN HORSE SHOW:** July 19-20. Contact www.eastcoasthorses.com.
- **SUMMERTIME BLUES DRESSAGE HORSE SHOW:** July 26-27. Contact www.NCDCTA.org.
- **AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSE ASSOCIATION REGIONAL FINALS:** July 31- Aug. 3. Contact www.AMHA.org.

Our thanks to Cyndi Harris for her assistance with MetroPreview.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please send events info and color images, slides or photos 6 weeks before publication date. Send to Mary Ward Boerner, Metro Magazine, 1033 Oberlin Rd. Suite 100, Raleigh, 27605 or e-mail: mary@metromagazine.net.



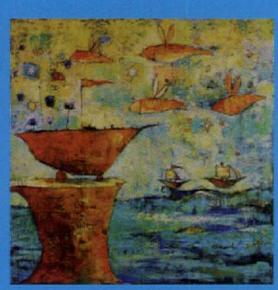
Thomas Teague, "Window Sill"
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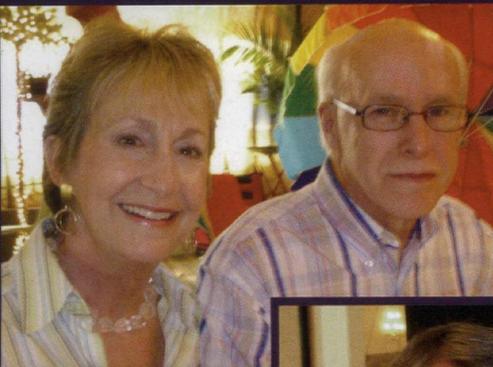
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On the town

by Katie Poole

North State Bank's Summer Salute for Hospice of Wake County

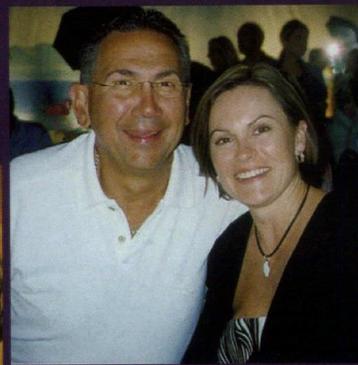
North Ridge Country Club
Saturday, May 31



Sylvia White and Dr. Ned Yelig



Dr. Billy Dunlap



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Summer Solstice Celebration

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Catherine Phillips, Meredith Bell



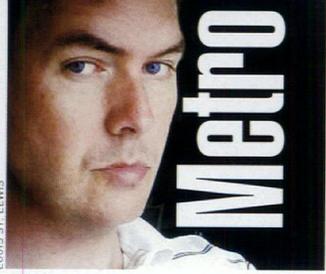
Larry Hines, Susan Baldwin Stevens



Marla Turlington, Helen Yoest



Lynn Longest, Mitzi Melton



Artist-at-Large

I LOVE PARIS ANYTIME

I'm very frugal, always have been. When gas prices started climbing the charts to uncomfortable levels, I did what any sensible person would do: I took off to Europe for a month. You see, in Paris I have no need of a car, so not only am I saving on gas, but I'm also getting plenty of exercise each day by walking around town

ore, so dine elsewhere, but do come for the scenery. Twilight is especially alluring, and even on a dreary day there is something to look at since the restaurant is known for hiring staff based on beauty as opposed to competence.

Speaking of Georges, the next day while walking around town I stumbled into a

the Basilica of St. Denis, the burial site of all the French monarchs since Clovis I in the year 511. It's almost the last stop on the train. By the time you get out there you are wondering where the hell you are, but luckily as soon as you step out of the station there it is — dark and grimy like all of Paris before they started requiring folks to power wash every 10 years.

St. Denis was the Bishop of Paris back around the third century. The Romans decided to execute him and trotted him up the Montmartre. But the soldiers were lazy, so they just chopped his head off about halfway up the hill. St. Denis was not tired it seems because he picked his head right up off the ground and proceeded to walk several miles before he keeled over in the soft Parisian clover where they built the church, in the exact spot where his head stopped rolling around.

The Basilica is simply amazing. Doves fly through the chapel and perch on columns, and light from the rose windows turns the floor into a kaleidoscopic vision. On one side, Francis I is lying barefoot and in repose on his crypt near the urn containing his heart. During the revolution, folks were plenty worked up since all they had to eat was cake, so the mob just came running in and yanked every last corpse out of the crypts and tossed them in a pit behind the building. Somebody even sold King Louis XIV's heart to an artist to grind up to make brown oil glaze for paintings. After the restoration they dug them all back up, but since one old bone looks just about like any other old bone, they just piled them all back up in the basement with a plaque to list who's who. All these fabulous carved and gilded crypts just sit filled with history as opposed to bodies, memories as opposed to bones. The place is quiet, contemplative and makes you very appreciative of Rudyard Kipling's line: "if you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs..."



Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette at the Basilica of St. Denis

and burning off the calories from that last glass of Champagne. It's a win-win situation. At the same time, I get to soak up all the history and culture that I crave. Luckily, I was just in time to catch the major retrospective of Louise Bourgeois at the glorious Centre Pompidou (www.centrepompidou.fr).

They really pulled out the stops displaying over 200 paintings, sculptures and drawings by this 95-year-old master. Afterward, I slipped onto the roof to have cocktails at Georges Restaurant, which I think has one of the prettiest views in the city. The food is just an inch above medi-

venue featuring snapshots by famed photographer Georges Rouse. You might remember him for his installation in Durham a while back. I stood in line with everyone else to take a peek at his painted interior construct, which he then photographs to fool the eye ... yawn. Luckily, the Parisian venue was also featuring the work of the very talented Valérie Belin, whose wit, style and dash were more than a match for the more staid and academic M. Rouse. Google her name and see what I mean.

You can only take so much art, so being the natural born monarchist that I am, my friends and I took off on the metro to visit



Fantaisie #3 by Stephen Aubuchon

Speaking of Parisian fashion, it seems that Raleigh is feeling its oats, due to a new couturier in our midst. Former professional model Miranda Laughlin has returned to the Triangle and set her mind to transforming the fashion landscape. This lovely lass has the chops. Not only is she a graduate of the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC, but she was also the fit model for famed designer Zac Posen — so this lady knows her fashion. Her new collection “Bleighm” (www.bleighm.com) is very crisp and sculpted. I get the sense of 1940s Hollywood glamour in her inspiration.

Adam Cave Fine Art (www.adamcave-fineart.com) recently grabbed the bull by the horns and staged a fashion happening combining Laughlin’s sensual designs along with sleek photography by the likes of Stephen Aubuchon, Diana Bloomfield, Andrew Ross and Kim Kauffman. With the Mannequin Ball just around the corner in November (www.themannequin-ball.com), I wonder how many of these new dresses will be strutted out to wow the crowds? Congratulations to Adam Cave for reaching beyond the normal gallery opening and creating a true event. **MM**



Miranda Laughlin — “Bleighm” — the Turner dress

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JUST A BIT OF LAND

I live in a condominium. My balcony overlooks a creek. The surrounding woods in the middle of the city create an aviary with an abundance of goldfinches, cardinals and mockingbirds that create a natural buffer from traffic noise. After summer foliage appears, I can sit in complete privacy and read while catching bits of random conversation from people using the walking path on the opposite creek bank. My private perch is a wonderful place to be in the cool spring and early summer months. I should be content, yet it is the time of the year that I most yearn to have a house on a bit of land ... a bit of land just large enough for a vegetable garden.

We always had a garden when I was growing up. It was just across the dusty dirt road on a small patch of land that our neighbors Dot and JL Reardon graciously allowed us to carve out of their corn field. They had their own bountiful garden down the road and, in addition, sowed about an acre of field peas they shared with neighbors.

My mother had to struggle to get a common petunia to grow in her yard, but she could look at a piece of ground and hold her mouth just right and rows of robust vegetables would appear, starting with English peas, onions and salad greens in the spring and ending in the fall with collards that would last through the winter and grow sweeter and more delicious after each frost. In late June and through the summer, we would have butter beans and field peas, luscious tomatoes (usually "Big Boys"), green peppers and cayenne peppers hot enough to curl your toenails, Irish potatoes, Kentucky Wonder string beans and Early Jersey Wakefield cabbage shaped like a cone.

Late one afternoon, recently, I picked up my copy of *Southern Harvest* I purchased from The Bookshop in Chapel Hill and went to the balcony. I sat down, propped my feet on the small metal table that hosts a pot of thyme, and began looking at the remarkable engravings by Clare Leighton. I brushed against a tomato plant

that I have high hopes for this summer and was startled by the strong smell this fledgling "German Johnson" gave off. The heat and high humidity of the day gave it added intensity. I remembered then going out to pick tomatoes when the sun was high and feeling enveloped by the unique odor of the plants. I rubbed a leaf between my fingers and wondered how I would describe it. Sweet, I thought, and a bit spicy. Cloying perhaps. A friend came by and I had him smell the tomato plant. It took coaxing.



"Smells spicy, doesn't it?" I asked.

"I don't think so," he replied.

"You don't think it has a spicy smell? A sweet, spicy, musty smell?"

"Not at all. Smells very clean to me."

Shortly afterward I received an e-mail from my friend Miriam Rubin in Greene County, PA. Miriam is a food writer and has a column in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. We had talked recently about "garden peas," and I had told her that Down East we also called them "English peas" or "June peas." Hers are late making this year, and she started last week's column with these words, "The green peas are not ready yet. June peas, my Southern friend Carroll

Leggett calls them, and this year it is true."

I was flattered that she would mention this fellow from the provinces, and I told her so. Then I asked her help.

"Do me a favor," I wrote Miriam. "Go to the garden, handle a tomato plant, smell it and describe the odor for me. I am writing a piece this evening that needs that information. I would like the opinion of another foodie."

I got an answer. It further confused me.

"I can only say that it is intensely green. I think I know that appley smell you are thinking of. I got distracted by a ground hog in the peas. Varmint!" We didn't have ground hogs in Harnett County.

I don't know how to describe the aroma that gave me such delight. I leave it to you. Tiptoe through your tomatoes at high noon. Brush gently against the plants. Crush a few leaves in your fingers. Hold them gently to your nose and take long, deep breaths. Don't worry about the neighbors. They probably already think you are a tad wacky.

Ah, for just a bit of land to grow some potatoes. Just plain old red potatoes that in the spring of the year make tiny "new" potatoes — "creamers," my friend Miriam calls them. When the vines begin to mature, you grapple around the bottoms, searching out with your fingers the first edible ones, carefully covering the fledgling potatoes you leave behind to grow for dinner at a later date. They were mighty good, those new potatoes, cooked with a bit of seasoning meat and some June peas. But when I was growing up, they came at a price.

After I grappled enough potatoes for supper, I had to scrape them. My mother never cooked potatoes in their skin. I would sit on the back steps with potatoes in a pan of water and scrape away the thin skin of each, being careful to clean every "eye." Even one piece of grit left behind was a spoiler. It seemed to take hours. As I prepared "broasted" potatoes last Sunday night and left the skins on, I thought about all that time I spent as a child sitting on the

backdoor step with a paring knife scraping and scraping.

Miriam passed along to her readers this recipe for "Crushed Creamer Potatoes" that she adapted from a recipe in *Frank Siitt's Southern Table*. Frank is a delightful, gracious fellow who owns several restaurants in Birmingham, including Highlands Bar and Grill. I have notions about visiting him in October on my annual pilgrimage to Oxford, MS, for the Southern Foodways Alliance gathering. "Creamer" potatoes are the "tiniest new potatoes," Frank explains.

- Kosher salt
- 2 pounds tiny red creamer (new) potatoes
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons very fruity olive oil
- Snipped chives or chopped flat-leaf parsley

Bring medium saucepan of water to boil over high heat. Add 1 teaspoon salt and potatoes. Return to boil. Partially cover and cook over medium heat until potatoes are tender, 10 to 12 minutes.

Drain potatoes thoroughly, return to pot and lightly crush with pastry cutter or

potato masher. Season with salt, pepper and olive oil. Sprinkle with herbs and serve immediately.

Ah, for a bit of land for some okra — the first vegetable I ever grew and brought to the family table. I wanted a garden of my own, and we had an abundance of okra seed. So I found a spot in the back yard and planted a row. By all rights, they should never have sprouted. The area was nearly a bog. But they did and produced a bountiful crop.

Many people avoid okra, which is a cousin of the cotton plant and in the mallow family. Julia Reed, of Greenville, MS, whose commentaries on Southern food and culture are hilarious, says that so few people eat okra that it never even makes it onto the list of Top 10 Hated Foods. It is sad that almost every article I read used the same word to describe okra — "slimy." This must be a bad word because former President Bill Clinton went off on reporters who he said "slimed" his wife Hillary. I have heard that



in coastal South Carolina, where every garden has a few rows of okra, some people make "okra water," soaking okra overnight to extract the "slime" to thicken soups and stews.

As for me, I love okra and eat it boiled, fried, baked and in soups and stews. I have a recipe that will make you an instant okra lover:

Select small, tender okra and remove the woody caps by trimming the tops.

Place in a plastic bag and drizzle olive oil over them and salt and pepper to taste. Add a few dashes of Tabasco Sauce. Shake well. Place them on a cookie sheet in a 425 degree oven and bake for about 13 minutes. Eat them as finger food or serve them as a side dish. You'll be glad you did.

It is hard for me to complain because I have a farmer's market convenient to my home. Throughout the summer, I have access to delicious, homegrown vegetables. But my friends with a bit of land, I still envy you at this time of year. **MM**

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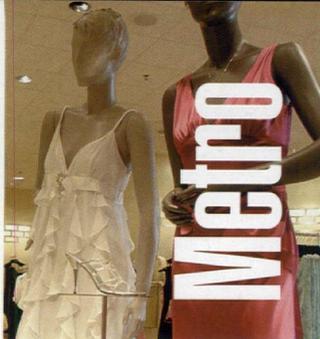
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Style

by Katie Poole

SUMMER FASHION: AND ALL THAT JAZZ

Model and fashion icon Kate Moss initiated a trend when she wore a vintage beaded bolero to Britain's Glastonbury Festival in 2007. Recently, the classic drop-waist silhouettes and sporty knit and blazer styles from the '20s and '30s have been seen all over catwalks. Fringe, beading and vintage looks have replaced the mod and micro-mini trends that have been so prevalent. As summer temperatures rise, following Moss' lead and embracing the '20s flapper trend is the surest way to stay "cool."

Although Moss reintroduced the look, Coco Chanel was the original innovator of the 1920s style. From tight, corseted costumes to softer, more comfortable, almost boyish ensembles, Chanel revolutionized women's fashion. Almost overnight,

pullover sweaters and box blazer jackets were the newest fashion craze. At one point, Chanel accidentally singed her hair, and the mishap forced her to cut her locks completely off: The "bob" hairstyle was invented. Both classic and progressive, the "bob's" popularity remains in tact today.



Moschino Cheap and Chic's Linen T-Strap Sandals

Men's fashion is also taking a cue from the Jazz Resurrected look. Noticeably the men's suit profile is moving away from a roomy, shapeless form to a slim fit. Men are donning a fitted, straight pant and a tight, single-breasted blazer. Haute couture fashion houses Balenciaga and Dior have incorporated this trend and are reshaping the look to fit their own collections. Without a doubt, this summer the look for men is the cat's meow.

FASHION NEWS

Join **Liles Clothing Studio** during the month of July for a **Made to Measure** event featuring Coppley suits, trousers and sports coats. Coppley merchandise will be 25 percent off. Raleigh, 919.510.5556.

Stop by **CT Weekends** at Glenwood Village on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 4-6 p.m. for Wine and Fashion Tips from CT Weekends co-owner Kristi Hipple. Raleigh, 919.787.9073.

Uniquities Mix has extended store hours until 8 p.m. on Thursday evenings during the summer in celebration of North Hills' beach music festival. The store is also now offering free alterations on purchases. North Hills, Raleigh; 919.785.3385 or www.uniquities.com.

Don't miss the storewide sale at **Ciao Bella** in Cary. The sale starts on July 7 and will continue through the month of July. Cary, 919.678.8320.

The **annual sidewalk sale** in **Cameron Village**, July 18-19: Deals on fashion, jewelry, home décor, shoes and more 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

July events at **Saks Fifth Avenue**, Triangle Town Center, Raleigh, 919.792.9100:

- **Lancôme Gift with Purchase**, June 30-July 19. Receive a free gift with any Lancôme purchase of \$50 or more — while supplies last. One per customer. Call ext. 5371.

- **Jo Malone**, July 6-30. Saks invites you and a friend to visit Jo Malone to experience the new Vitamin E Body Scrub and the Art of Fragrance combining and receive a pampering hand and arm massage. Call ext. 5367.

- **Louis Vuitton Event**, July 10. View the 2008 Spring/Summer Black and White Collection while enjoying cocktails and live music. Featuring leather goods and accessories. RSVP by July 7. Call ext. 5205.

- **Ippolita Trunk Show**, July 10. Join special representative, Catalina Ruiz-Urquiola while viewing her one-of-a-kind 18k gold jewelry collection. Saks First clients receive double points. To book a personal appointment, call ext. 5318.

- **Christian Louboutin**, July 13-26. Join Saks in launching Christian Louboutin shoes. Call ext. 5351.

- **Kieh'l's Spa Days**, July 15-16 and July 24-25.

Enjoy a one-on-one spa session with Saks experts. To reserve an appointment, call ext. 5366.

- **Akris Punto Designer Event**, July 16. Meet Edwin Giebolini, Akris Punto representative, and have a personal wardrobing consultation while viewing the Fall 2008 Collection. To reserve a personal appointment, call ext. 5390.

- **Sunglass Fit Event**, July 24. Sunglass specialist Cheryl Dobbins will fit you with the best frame for your face. Featuring sunglasses by: Jimmy Choo, Chanel, Oliver Peoples, Gucci, Prada, Fendi, Dolce & Gabbana, Tom Ford, Marc Jacobs and Ray Ban. To reserve your appointment, call ext. 5355.

- **CHANEL Master Class**, July 25. Join Renowned Premier Makeup Artist Ryan Willis and experience the world of CHANEL. You will learn the proper skincare regiment, proper color application and professional tips and tricks to look younger and more vibrant. To reserve a seat, call ext. 5362.

Join **Fine Feathers** for the launch of the Fall Armani Collezioni on July 9. More fall collections arriving daily. University Square, Chapel Hill; 919.942.3151.



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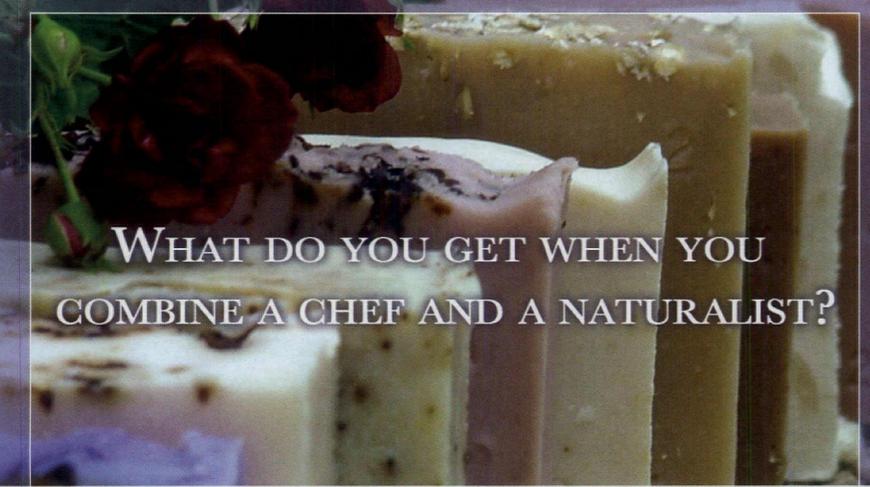
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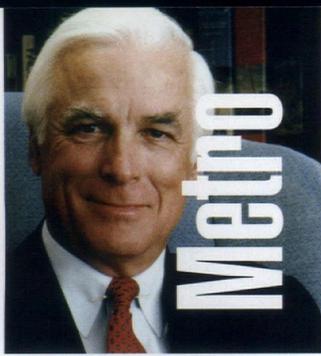
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Editor-at-Large

by Jim Leutze

COASTAL REPORT CARD MIXED

The North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterways Association (NCBIWA) has just issued its annual Report Card, the yearly assessment of the health of our coastal region.

This year our beaches earned an “incomplete” in view of the fact that last year the Association believed that North Carolina’s biggest challenge was to find ways to “make restored beaches last longer.” This year NCBIWA thought that a wait-and-see attitude was the most judicious since the General Assembly is now considering allowing an experimental terminal groin project, which might extend the life of restored beaches.

Inlets received a “D.” As you have read in this space before, many of our inlets are dangerous because of shoaling caused by shifting sands. Rich’s Inlet, at the north end of Figure Eight Island, claimed a boater’s life just this month. There simply is not enough money to keep all of our inlets adequately dredged. In the view of NCBIWA, this lack of funding not only puts individuals at risk, but also has an economic impact on our commercial and sports fishing industry. With the price of gas soaring, every additional mile a boat has to go to find safe access to the sea adds to the cost of the catch.

On that subject, if you think \$3.90 a gallon is high for fueling your car, try \$5 at most marinas for gas and \$6 for diesel. For a trip to the Gulf Stream (57 miles off Wrightsville), you may be looking at \$500, although there are lots of variables, including boat size, speed and type of engine. The point is that it costs approximately twice what it did last June. If this isn’t bad enough, remember that boat hulls are made from fiberglass, which is acutely sensitive to oil prices since it is an oil by-product. What all this adds up to is a severe downward pressure on our boat building and recreational boating economy.

But I digress; NCBIWA gave the Intracoastal Waterway (ICWW) a “C.” The Association was cheered with the progress being made toward a Southeastern Atlantic Coastal Alliance, which would help our sister states join together to address, among other things, common concerns such as the ICWW. The members of the Association have formally endorsed the formation of a Coastal Alliance as a way of engaging our neighboring states in seeking best practices in protecting our beaches, our homes from storms, our fish stocks and, in general, working with the federal government whose support is vital. The pressures and challenges facing our coastal region are not unique, so there is much to be learned from sharing information. This year North Carolina received more money for the ICWW than in the recent past, but there still are

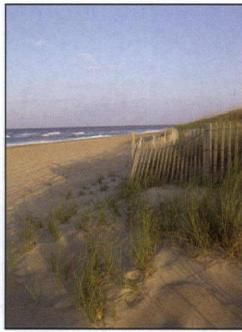
not enough funds to keep the waterway at its required depth.

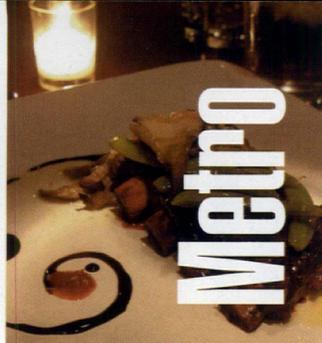
Public Access to Beaches got a “B.” I’m not sure I totally agree with this grade given what I see in terms of the thousands more people seeking beach access. The Report Card notes that “North Carolina’s access is better than most states, but the need is growing.” Indeed it is, and one way I see that need expressing itself is the literally hundreds of boaters who are accessing our uninhabited islands like Masonboro and Lee. On Saturdays and Sundays, the ends of these islands look like the parking lots at Wal-Mart. As long as beachgoers don’t leave their trash or trample nesting birds, this is OK, but it indicates to me that many of them just can’t get to Wrightsville Beach, Carolina Beach and other, more traditional strands.

Public Access to Coastal Waters received the only “A.” This grade was largely based on improvement, not necessarily more access. Last year’s report called for “an immediate, comprehensive and creative response” to the rapid loss of public access to public trust waters. The General Assembly responded by allocating \$20 million to a Waterfront Access and Marine Industry Fund to seek more launching sites, piers and other types of access points. When the fund sought solicitations for grants, they received 159 applications and 20 formal proposals seeking \$89 million. Obviously, the \$20 million will need to be augmented if this year’s grade is to hold up. (Here’s another area where we can learn how other states are grappling with the same problems.)

The overall grade for our coast was C+, with the Report Card noting that a dependable source of funding for long-term maintenance and repair was the key to resolving most of our issues. This is another way of saying that North Carolina must find a dependable funding source, which will include participation by federal, state and local fund providers. The funding issue is a major part of what those who work on coastal issues call a Comprehensive Coastal Management Plan — a plan, that is, that deals with setback rules, beach renourishment, hardened structures and protection of the ecosystem upstream of our beaches and in our valuable sounds. For too long we have practiced damage control and piecemeal approaches rather than investing the time and the money to stitch together a long-term, comprehensive approach.

And, if I may quote myself from a recent Coastal Resources Commission meeting, we must begin considering our coastal needs as infrastructure, like roads, bridges and water lines. Our coastal areas are vulnerable and no less valuable than those other things we consider infrastructure — although the coast was bestowed to us, not built by us. **MM**





Gourmet

by Moreton Neal

MEZ:

THE CHAPEL HILL RESTAURANT GROUP DOES IT AGAIN

There's just no arguing with the old cliché: "The first taste is with the eye." In the case of MEZ, my first taste occurred before darkening the door of the handsome new building sandwiched between massive steel and glass structures on Page Road. It happened in the parking lot where spaces near the front were conspicuously labeled "HYBRID." I pulled in my new Prius a little sanctimoniously, already enjoying my dining experience.

MEZ is a fascinating hybrid in itself. One of the first "green" restaurants in the country, and one of the first urban Mexican restaurants in the Southeast, its food has the earthy taste of Veracruz, but its sleek façade is completely at home in corporate RTP. It is owned and operated by the Chapel Hill Restaurant Group (Mickey Ewell, Greg Overbeck, Pete Dorrance and Kenny Carlson), a synergistic partnership that has always been ahead of the curve. The group's fifth and most ambitious venture, MEZ proves the group hasn't lost its touch since launching 518 West in Raleigh over a decade ago.

Chapel Hillian Mickey Ewell started the company after he opened Spanky's on Franklin Street. With no experience in the food business back in the 1970s, Ewell was an astute businessman who recognized a need — for a good hamburger — and filled it, serving outstanding burgers now for over 30 years. Overbeck, Dorrance and Carlson bused tables and washed dishes at Spanky's, eventually working up to team managers of the eatery.

Partners by 1986, the four men identified another unfilled niche in town: a seafood restaurant. Overbeck says, "Squid's was conceived as a combination of Southern fish camp, oyster bar and Northeastern lobster shack." Its menu offered seafood classics from Calabash to Kennebunkport. Locals were hooked from day one, and it continues to fill up nightly on Fordham Boulevard.

Their next project was modeled after a



Georgetown pizzeria and featured the first wood-burning pizza oven in this area. 411 West Italian Café opened on West Franklin in 1990 featuring pizzas, but Italian and other Mediterranean specialties dot the menu. "That region is just a starting point for our chef," says Overbeck, who describes the menu as eclectic, even though it has consistently been voted "Best Italian Restaurant in the Triangle" in readers' polls over the years.

518 West followed in 1996, repeating

both the format and the success of 411. The eatery was one of the first in a neighborhood considered risky — Glenwood South, years before the area became the popular restaurant row it is today.

Now, more than a decade later, MEZ forges a new trail. Described by Overbeck as "upscale casual," MEZ is a lunch draw for Research Triangle businesses, and a convenient meeting place between Raleigh and Durham/Chapel Hill. New hotels under construction should add legions to its fol-



Bière blanche belge originale. Anno 1445.



The Original Belgian White Beer.

lowing. Its story is typical of the group's modus operandi — identify a void and fill it, with distinctive panache.

This time the unfilled niche was “contemporary Mexican” — exemplified by New York's Rosa Mexicana and Chicago's Frontera Grill and Adobo Grill, restaurants specializing in South-of-the-Border flavors using fresh local produce. The partners sent Chef Aaron Stumb, a Wake Tech graduate and Crook's Corner alum, up to Adobo for training. They sought a native Mexican chef, David Peraza, to help create a menu, and voilà — a sleek, urban-style Mexican restaurant smack in the middle of the Triangle. Its green-ness extends to the dining area where it is joined by orange and yellow and blue. Cheerful tropical colors bathe the walls of the vast bar/dining room. You almost forget the building is surrounded by concrete and asphalt.

The food is as colorful as the décor. Shredded chicken tacos in an avocado-tomatillo salsa, mahi Veracruzano (olives, capers and peppers), chipotle-infused tilapia tacos, crab cakes with a hint of mint and cilantro served with a crunchy mango-jicama slaw — all are well-prepared and bursting with bright, clean flavors. Soups were lovely, especially the unusually savory melon with champagne and buttermilk, and the simple fresh corn chowder.

Portions are large, but save room for the sweets. Our mango upside-down cake and chocolate soufflé cake were delicious, and the tres leche cake, exceptional. Served with a custard sauce drizzled with caramel and topped with toasted, cinnamon-dusted almonds, I'm still drooling over it days later.

At cocktail hour, MEZ serves \$2 tacos at the bar (the excellent fish taco will set you back \$3) along with its delicious Margaritas, mojitos, sangritas and sangrias. Here I was initiated into the joys of caipirinha, the classic Brazilian concoction made from gaudaia cachaca, lime and sugar, which instantly became my new favorite summer cocktail.

Like its sibling eateries in the Chapel Hill Group, MEZ offers Triangle food lovers style, consistency and good value. Ewell, Overbeck, Dorrance and Carlson have a strong track record discerning the culinary zeitgeist here, then responding by creating the right place at the right time. Another cliché comes to mind, “If you build it, they will come.”

With MEZ, the group has hit the ball out of the park. My crystal ball tells me that this American-Mexican hybrid, like the Prius, is destined to be a raging success.

NIBBLES

After the closing of South in North Hills, the **Urban Food Group** is remodeling the space for its latest venture, a French-style brasserie. Chef de Cuisine Rob Bland brings experience from New York's famous Les Halles to the Triangle with a menu offering classic French brasserie fare. Plans include sidewalk and patio dining. The brasserie will be open continuously from breakfast to dinner.

Revolution, Jim Anile's new venture previously scheduled to open this spring, promises to be in business in downtown Durham by summer's end. Anile headed the kitchen at Il Palio for several years prior to his first solo endeavor in the Triangle. For news of the opening date, link to www.revolutionrestaurant.com.

Dream Catcher Café patrons will miss the little French bistro, now closed in Chapel Hill's Timberlyne Shopping Center.

Bistro 607 on Glenwood South has also closed, making way for *Tasca Brava*, Raleigh's only Spanish restaurant to move into its spot. The owners of 607 can be found at the new *Globe* just down the street.

Tim Lyons, one of the most talented chefs in the Triangle, will celebrate the first anniversary of blu seafood and bar on July 11 with appetizers and blu-tinis. Check out details at www.bluseafoodandbar.com.

“**Diamonds Are a Chef's Best Friend**” dinners continue with another sumptuous feast July 17. It will be hosted by Chef Jason Cunningham at *Fairview Restaurant* at the *Washington Duke Hotel*. Call 919-493-6699 for reservations.

Gregory's is back in Cary after an absence of three years. Owner Greg Papadopoulos has re-opened at 111 Shannon Oaks Circle offering a familiar breakfast/brunch/lunch menu, including seafood crepes, banana chocolate chip pancakes, huevos rancheros and a large selection of sandwiches.

This month, **Ruth's Chris** will celebrate the grand opening of its new steakhouse at North Hills. The upscale franchise plans to open two more venues in North Carolina, one in Durham and another in Wilmington, both by the end of the year.

Metro toasts Raleigh-native **Jean Anderson**, whose book, *A Love Affair with Southern Cooking*, won the James Beard Award for best “Americana” cookbook at the foundation's June awards ceremony. And another toast to Crook's Corner former busboy Robert Stehling, named Best Chef in the Southeast. Stehling and his wife Nunally Kersh own *Hominy Grill* in Charleston. **MM**

BEACH EATS

Gourmets heading to the Morehead area will enjoy **Café Zito** for exotic flavors set in an old home and the venerable **Windandsea** near William's restaurant on the waterfront. The new **Piccata's** on Arendell Street serves eclectic Mediterranean fare in the spot formerly occupied by Calypso Café. The newly expanded **Watermark** and the newer **Scotch Harbor** offer carnivores a choice with their fish at Atlantic Station Shopping Center on Atlantic Beach ... toward Fort Macon, Amos Mosquito's specializes in Calabash-style fried shrimp with the traditional fixins'.

For sandwiches, try the **New York Deli**; for burgers, **Beach Bums**. **El's** shrimp burgers have been pleasing locals for 50 years. Pizza cravings can be satisfied at **Michaelangelo's** at Atlantic Station Shopping Center and Emerald Plantation Shopping Center.

In Beaufort, you can't beat the **Blue Moon** for inventive seafood dishes, among them “Bernie's Shrimp,” named for our own Bernie Reeves. **Stillwater** still reigns as the dean of fine cuisine on the waterfront, providing a lovely view and an ambitious wine list. The sophisticated interior and menu make **Sharpies** on Front Street a choice for yachtsman and landlubbers alike.

The Wilmington/Wrightsville area has become a magnet for talented chefs and offers a plethora of chef-owned eateries. A sampling of these small gems are **Marc's on Market**, **Artisan and Mason's Haunt and Catch**. Among the tried and true are **Savannah's** and **Dockside** in Wrightsville, the stellar **Port Land Grille** and **Brasserie du Soleil** both in Lumina Station, and **Caprice Bistro** and **Deluxe** in downtown Wilmington.

Among the many Asian restaurants in the area, some of the most interesting are **Yosake**, the **Bento Box** and my own favorite, the exuberant **Indochine**. **MM**

RESTAURANT GUIDE

RALEIGH/CARY

18 SEABOARD – 18 Seaboard Avenue, Suite 100 Raleigh. 919-861-4318. www.18seaboard.com. Chef-Proprietor Jason Smith welcomes you with sensibly, inventive American Cuisine using North Carolina ingredients. From the downtown views of our open-air mezzanine to the staff's warm hospitality, 18 Seaboard is the place for casual dining or special occasions.

42ND STREET OYSTER BAR – 508 W. Jones St., Raleigh. 831-2811. Serving quality seafood, steaks and pasta in a casual atmosphere. Steamed oysters and clams available. Lunch M-F, Dinner seven nights a week.

THE ANGUS BARN – 9401 Glenwood Avenue. Raleigh. 781-2444. www.angusbarn.com The Angus Barn, a Raleigh landmark offers Angus steaks, seafood, an extensive wine list, experienced and knowledgeable staff and much more in its eclectic barn setting. Since opening in the 1960s, the basic principals – hospitality, attractive atmosphere, and value have remained the same.

BELLA MONICA – 3121-103 Edwards Mill Rd, Raleigh. 881-9778. www.bellamonica.com. Authentic Neapolitan entrées from family recipes. Neighborhood wine bar with all-Italian list. Patio dining. Lunch & Dinner. Closed Sunday. Voted "Best Italian" by *CitySearch* & *AOL Cityguide*. *Wine Spectator* Award of Excellence.

BENTLEY'S AT CROSSROADS – 2007 Walnut St., Cary. 854-0644. www.BentleysAtCrossroads.com. Offering aged steaks and fresh seafood in a casually elegant atmosphere. Lunch M-F from \$6. Dinner daily from \$8. Stunning lounge area. A/V equipped boardroom available for private events. Look for Bentley's clock tower at Crossroads Plaza.

BLOOMSBURY BISTRO – 509 W. Whitaker Mill Rd. Ste 101, Raleigh. 834-9011. Sophisticated food and wine in a comfortable neighborhood setting. Featured in *Southern Living*, *Gourmet Magazine* and *USA Today*. Voted Best Restaurant two years running, Best Chef and Best Waitstaff 2006 MetroBravo! Awards.

BLUE RIDGE, THE MUSEUM RESTAURANT – 2110 Blue Ridge Rd., Raleigh. 839-6262. www.ncartmuseum.org. Offering renowned visual art and culinary masterpieces at the NC Museum of Art. Eclectic fare ranges from salads, sandwiches and entrées at lunch to sumptuous weekend brunches.

CAFÉ TIRAMISU – 6196-120 Falls of Neuse Rd., Raleigh. 981-0305. Northern Italian Cuisine: A family owned and operated restaurant originating from an old Raleigh favorite Piccolo Mondo restaurant. Slick and contemporary décor, will give fine dining at its best.

CAROLINA ALE HOUSE – 513 Creekside Dr., 835-2222; 4512 Falls of Neuse Rd., 431-0001; 7981 Skyland Ridge Pkwy., 957-4200; 2240 Walnut St., Cary, 854-9444. Hwy 98 bypass and US1, 11685 Northpark Drive, Wake Forest, 556-8666. www.CarolinaAleHouse.com. A family-friendly sports-themed restaurant consistently awarded top honors for its atmosphere, hand-breaded wings, menu selection, and wide variety of ales. Full menu served 11 am – 2 am. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Kid's menu 99¢ every Tuesday.

THE DUCK & DUMPLING – 222 S. Blount St., Raleigh. 919-838-0085. www.theduckanddumpling.com. Over-looking Moore Square, this contemporary Asian Bistro is home to Chef David Mao's unique blend of Chinese and Vietnamese cuisine. Open for Lunch: 11:30am – 2:30pm, M-F; Dinner: 5pm – 10pm T-Th; 5pm – 11pm Fri-Sat.

GIANNI & GAITANO'S – Towne North Shopping Center, 8311 Creedmoor Rd, Raleigh. 847-8223. Wakefield Shopping Center, 14460 Falls of Neuse, Raleigh. 256-8100. Presented by the Cinelli Family, the unique environment at these three locations offers a choice of family or adult dining and authentic family recipes. Guests can enjoy an inspiring wine list and only the finest and freshest ingredients. Open for Lunch: M-Sat 11am-4pm; Dinner: M-Th 4-10pm, F-Sat 4-11pm; Sun Noon-9pm.

GLENWOOD GRILL – 2603-151 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. 782-3102. www.glenwoodgrill.com. Head Chef John Wright announces an expanded Dinner Menu with new items, more options. Old favorites remain. Three-time MetroBravo winner for Power Lunch. Glenwood Ave at Oberlin Rd. Available for Private Parties on Sundays.



GLOBE – 510 Glenwood Avenue Suite 103, Raleigh. 836-1811. Chefs Heath Holloman (co-owner) and Gray Modlin present a menu influenced by cuisines from all over the GLOBE, with their own twists. Choose a wine from the comprehensive list or have Henry Burgess (co-owner/sommelier) assist in a selection that will pair well with your food. "GLOBE...come taste a world of difference!"

HERONS – 100 Woodland Pond, Cary. 447-4200. www.heronrestaurant.com. Now open at The Umstead Hotel and Spa offering modern American cuisine with regional influences and an extensive wine selection. Live music and classic cocktails in the bar.

JIBARRA – 7420 Six Forks Rd. Raleigh 27615. 919-844-6330. www.jibarra.net. Offering some of the most creative and modern dishes in the Triangle. Chef Ricardo Quintero has cooked alongside some of Spain's greatest innovators, thus incorporating avante-garde techniques into his repertoire of traditional Mexican dishes. Lounge showcases premium tequilas, fresh-squeezed margaritas, and distinct wine list rich in Spanish and South American selections. T.-Th. 5-

10pm. Fri.-Sat. 5-11pm. Sun. brunch 11am-2:30.

MARGAUX'S RESTAURANT – 8111 Creedmoor Rd. Ste. 111, North Raleigh. (919) 846-9846. At Margaux's, every experience is new. It's the relentless pursuit of innovation. Chef Andy Pettifer prepares a *new menu EVERY night* including our 3 Course Prix Fixe menu at \$27.95/pp. Check our website daily. www.margauxs-restaurant.com

THE MINT RESTAURANT – 219 Fayetteville St. Raleigh. 919-821-0011. www.themintrestaurant.com Tues-Sat. 6pm-10pm. The Mint in downtown Raleigh offers contemporary fine southern dining with global influences. Executive Chef Jeremy Clayman presents new and exciting culinary combinations paired with The Mint's unflappable service standards.

NINA'S RISTORANTE – 8801 Leadmine Rd., Raleigh. 845-1122. www.ninasristorante.com. Vibrant flowers, paintings and hand-crafted sculptures are arranged throughout the terra cotta walls of the restaurant. The restaurant provides the ever-growing area with Tuscan Cuisine that is heavy on flavor and light on the ingredients, Wine Spectator Award of Excellence 2000-2006. Hours of operation M-Sat. 5-10 p.m.

NOFO MARKET AND CAFE – 2014 Fairview Road, Raleigh. 821-1240. Cafe, bar and deck seating. Award-winning salads, soups, sandwiches and entrees. "Best Brunch," "Best Eggs Benedict," "Best Bloody Mary," *Metro Magazine*. Lunch M-F, Brunch Sat & Sun, Dinner M-Sat.

THE PIT – 328 W. Davie St., Raleigh. 919-890-4500. www.thepit-raleigh.com. Country meets city with down-home barbecue offered as a gourmet meal to be savored. Featuring legendary pitmaster Ed Mitchell's authentic NC pit-cooked barbecue, complemented by creative, seasonal appetizers and sides. Enticing beer and wine selection. Open for Lunch 11:30am – 5pm, M-F; Dinner: 5pm – 10pm, M-Th; 5pm – 11pm Fri – Sat.

THE RALEIGH TIMES BAR – 14 E. Hargett St., Raleigh. 833-0999. www.raleightimesbar.com. The beautifully restored 100-year-old *Raleigh Times* building is now home to a timeless local watering hole in Downtown Raleigh. Featuring hand-crafted, creative takes on classic bar fare favorites, an inventive drink menu and extensive Belgian beer selection. Open 11:30am –

RESTAURANT GUIDE

2am, Mon-Sat; Noon – Midnight Sun.

SAINT JACQUES – 6112 Falls of Neuse, North Ridge Shopping Center, Raleigh. (919) 862-2770. www.saint-jacquesfrenchcuisine.com. Owned and operated by French native, Lil Lacassagne – fine dining at its best. Voted “Best French Food in the Triangle – 2006 by *Citysearch* and “Best French Restaurant” in *Metro’s* Bravo awards. Lunch and Dinner served Tues-Sat.

SAVOY – 7713-39 Lead Mine Rd., Raleigh 848-3535 www.restaurantsavoy.com. Smoke-free lunch M-F and dinner M-Sat. Chef brothers Peter Gibson and Marshall Smith make everything in-house, including breads and desserts. The contemporary menu features farmer’s market produce and seasonal entrées. Convenient N. Raleigh location for business or pleasure! Classic. Simple. Delicious.

SECOND EMPIRE RESTAURANT & TAVERN – 330 Hillsborough St., Raleigh. 829-3663. www.second-empire.com. Located in the historic Dodd-Hinsdale House. Offering elegant upstairs dining, as well as the lighter fare menu and casual atmosphere of the tavern. Winner of the DiRoNA Award, AAA four Diamond Award & the *Wine Spectator* Award.

SOLOMON’S RESTAURANT – 7333 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh. 919-844-4977. 4610 N. Capital Blvd, Raleigh. 919-790-0090. 10410 Moncreiffe Rd, Raleigh. 919-313-1381. 780 W. Williams St, Apex. 919-249-2433. www.solomons-restaurant.com. Offering a combination of the Mediterranean with the sophistication of the city. Enjoy dishes prepared using only the finest, fresh ingredients in an indulgent, casual atmosphere. Wine list and outdoor seating available. Open for Lunch and Dinner.

SONO JAPANESE RESTAURANT – 319 Fayetteville Street #101, Raleigh. 919-521-5328. www.sono-raleigh.com. This new and exciting Japanese restaurant is unlike any other in the Triangle area. From the chic/modern decor to exciting new fusion dishes, this restaurant will please any taste buds.

SULLIVAN’S STEAKHOUSE – 414 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. 833-2888. The atmosphere at Sullivan’s resembles a 1940s steakhouse, featuring fine steaks and seafood. Enjoy the unparalleled martinis and live jazz played seven nights a week.

SUSHI BLUES – 301 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. 664-8061. www.sushibluescafe.com. A Glenwood South Original located downtown for ten great years. Featured in *Southern Living Magazine*, *Esquire*, *Rachel Ray Magazine*, *The Independent*, *News and Observer* and *Spectator*. Voted best sushi by readers of *Metro Magazine*, *Citysearch*, *Spectator*, and *The Independent*.

TAVERNA AGORA – 6101 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh 919.881.8333. www.TavernaAgora.com. Taverna Agora is the premier restaurant in the Triangle for authentic Greek cuisine. Enjoy the rustic ambiance of our dining room or our beautiful garden patio. Venue may be reserved for special events.

UNO CHICAGO GRILL – 8401 Brier Creek Parkway, Raleigh. 544-6700. Enjoy original Chicago-style deep dish pizza along with a wide selection of appetizers, steaks, pastas, burgers and desserts. Kids Menu. Curbside pick-up. Open daily from 11 a.m.

VINNIE’S STEAKHOUSE AND TAVERN – 7440 Six Forks

Rd, Raleigh. 847-7319. Treat yourself to all the luxuries this classic New York style chophouse has to offer. Certified Angus Beef, the freshest seafood available and an extensive selection of wines from around the world.

ZEST CAFÉ & HOME ART – 8831 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh. 848-4792. www.zestcafehometart.com. Offering the freshest, finest food served with a zesty outlook since 1995. Dine in our café or outdoor patio. Enjoy the Home Art selection of fun and whimsical home accessories and gifts. Lunch Tues.-Sat., Dinner Wed.-Sat. and Sunday Brunch.

DURHAM/APEX

CAFÉ PARIZADE – 2200 W. Main St., Durham. 286-9712. Renaissance-inspired murals, colorful surrealist works of art and casually chic crowds feasting on Mediterranean dishes. Lunch M-F 11:30-2:30, Dinner M-Th 5:30-10, F and Sat. 5:30-11, Sun. 5:30-9.

CAROLINA ALE HOUSE – 3911 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd., Durham. 490-2001.

GEORGE’S GARAGE – 737 Ninth St., Durham. 286-4131. Enjoy our casual upbeat atmosphere with the freshest seafood and authentic sushi bar. After-hour celebration and dancing and a fresh to-go market and bakery.

GLOFT – 737 Ninth St., Durham. 286-4131. For meeting friends after work, for after dinner drinks, or exciting late-night entertainment. Also available to host your private event where we can throw a party or a full sit-down dinner for a chosen few or a large gathering.

GRASSHOPPER – 2010 Hillsborough Rd., Durham. 286-1600. Experience the essence of pure Asian food – a balance of flavors with Chinese and Vietnamese influences that delight the senses while nourishing the body.

VIN ROUGE – 2010 Hillsborough Rd., Durham. 416-0406. Vin Rouge, a French café and wine bar, treats guests to provincial cooking at its finest in a chic, intimate setting. Dinner Tues.-Sun. 5:30-11, Brunch Sun. 10:30-2.

CHAPEL HILL/HILLSBOROUGH

BIN 54 – 1201-M Raleigh Rd., Chapel Hill. 969-1155. Chapel Hill’s high-end steakhouse has it all: delectable dishes, stellar service and an atmosphere rich in stylish romance.

CROOK’S CORNER – 610 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 929-7643. www.crookscorner.com. “Sacred ground of Southern foodies,” *New York Times*. Patio dining, weather permitting. Acclaimed Sunday brunch. Dinner Tues.-Sun. at 5:30, Sun. Brunch 10:30-2.

PANCIUTO – 110 C. Churton St., Hillsborough. 732-6261. www.panciuto.com. Fine dining blending Italian recipes with local ingredients, prepared fresh daily. Pastas, breads, desserts made on-site. Wine, beer, mixed beverages available. Upscale yet comfortable “old world” style dining room. Opens 6p.m. for dinner, Tues- Sat.

SPICE STREET – 201 S. Estes Dr., Chapel Hill. 928-8200. A revolutionary experience in dining entertainment, Spice Street is a culinary experience created to nourish the soul and share flavors from around the

world. Spice Street celebrates food and life.

BEYOND THE TRIANGLE

AQUA – 214 Middle Lane, Beaufort, NC 28516. 252-728-7777. www.aquaexperience.com. “Aqua’s urban-chic décor whets the appetite for sophisticated, internationally inspired food... On all counts, Aqua was an exceptional dining experience.” Moreton Neal in *Metro Magazine* June 2005. Open for dinner: Tues-Thurs. 6pm, Fri. & Sat. 5:30pm.

BEAUFORT GROCERY CO – 117 Queen St., Beaufort. (252) 728-3899. www.beaufortgrocery.com Beaufort’s oldest and continuously operating fine dining restaurant since 1991. Specializing in regional cuisine fused with global techniques and influences. Lunch M, W-Sat 11:30-3; dinner M, W-Sat 5:30-9:30 and Sun brunch at 11:30. Closed Tues.

BLUE MOON BISTRO – 119 Queen Street, Beaufort. (252) 728-5800. Coastal cuisine in a casual historic setting. Offering innovative dishes that bring a welcomed departure from other coastal venues. Chef Swain’s eclectic menu includes references from Asia, France and America. For a balanced plate, enjoy a well-matched wine to accompany your entrée. Dinner Tues-Sat.

CAFÉ ZITO – 105 South 11th St., Morehead City. 252-726-6676. www.cafezito.com. Be delighted by the creative cuisine at this neighborhood restaurant. Chef Baptist Knaven offers a tantalizing menu of local favorites influenced by the Mediterranean. Located in a historic downtown home, enjoy dining inside or on the porch.

CHEF AND THE FARMER – 120 W. Gordon St., Kinston. (252) 208-2433. www.chefandthefarmer.com. A converted mule stable never looked so good. Blending old architecture and contemporary design with local ingredients and urban techniques makes this progressive eatery an epicurean oasis.

DELUXE – 114 Market Street, Wilmington. (910) 251-0333. Offering upscale dining with an emphasis on fresh local ingredients. Largest selection of fine wines in the region and one of Wilmington’s superior brunches. Open for dinner and Sunday brunch. *Wine Spectator* Award of Excellence, www.deluxenc.com.

FRONT STREET GRILL AT STILLWATER – 300 Front St., Beaufort. (252) 728-4956. www.frontstreetgrill-atstillwater.com Historic Waterfront Bistro showcasing New World Cuisine. Perennial winner of the prestigious *Wine Spectator* Award of Excellence, serving lunch and dinner daily with inside and outside dining. New floating docks and outside waterfront bar.

SHARPIES GRILL & BAR – 521 Front St., Beaufort. (252) 838-0101. www.sharpiessgrill.com Coastal Carolina cuisine. Every occasion is a special occasion. Rated four stars by John Batchelor. Serving local seafood, Certified Angus Beef, farm grown local produce, house-maid pastas and desserts. Tableside preparations, outstanding wine list and full bar.

SHEPARD’S POINT – 913 Arendell St., Morehead City. (252) 727-0815. www.beaufortgrocery.com Contemporary fine dining in downtown Morehead City focusing on quality, value and service. Featuring seafood, steaks and spirits. Come casual and leave impressed. Dinner M, Th-Sat 5:30-10; Sun brunch begins at 11 a.m. Closed Tues.

Cork Report

by Barbara Ensrud



COOLING DOWN

Let's think drinking cool this month with perhaps that most refreshing of summer quaffs: dry rosés.

Once upon a time many American wine drinkers shied away from rosés, thinking they were all sweet. But rosés from the south of France, and from Spain and Italy, are reliably dry! It takes only a sip to convince you how delightful they are. And we see them in increasing numbers — there are literally dozens of dry pinks, even a few from California (see WBOM box). One caveat, though — don't expect the blush wines labeled White Zinfandel to be dry — they range from lightly sweet to quite sweet and are a category unto themselves.

Dry rosés are infinitely more versatile with food. The other night at **Watts Grocery** in Durham, a friend and I ordered the **2007 Commanderie de Peyrassol**, a pale dry blush from Provence that perfectly complemented our respective dishes (braised rabbit for me, yellowfin tuna with crabmeat for my friend).

Because dry rosés are so "in" now (finally!), prices for some of them have shot up unconscionably. Demand for limited-production wines, such as **Domaine Tempier's Bandol Rosé**, has pushed its price tag to \$42 a bottle. A couple of years ago it was \$22, a much fairer price for a wine that's quite delicious but basically simple and fresh. Such are the ways of commerce. Even the 2007 **Peyrassol** ranges up to \$27

— but it also goes for \$15.99. You can find many excellent dry rosés for \$16, \$14, even \$10 a bottle if you know what to look for — such as the following (get the youngest available, 2006 or 2007):

France: **Château de Campuget**, Provence, \$12.99; **Ch. L'Ermitage**, Costière de Nîmes, \$10; **Ch. D'Aqueria**, Tavel, \$17; **Grand Cassagne**, Nîmes, \$10; **Domaine de Fenouillet**, Côte de Ventoux, \$12.99; **Commanderie de la Barge-mone**, Provence, \$13.99; **Domaine de Fontsaïnte Gris de Gris**, Languedoc, \$15.95; **Mas de Gourgonnier**, Les Baux de Provence, \$15.99; **Trienne Rosé**, Provence, \$15.99; **Vidal-Fleury Rosé**, Rhône, \$11.99.

Italy: **Bastianich Rosato '07**, \$14; **Masi Rosato delle Venezie**, \$12

Spain: Rosados from **Rioja**, Navarra and **La Mancha**, \$10-\$14

Argentina: 'Crios' Rosé of Malbec, \$10.99; **Altosur Malbec Rosé 2007**, \$10-11

A NEW BREW. Sometimes it's too hot even for wine, when the most refreshing prospect is a cold beer. There's a new brew that may be just right for the beastly heat



WINE BUY OF THE MONTH

Incognito Pink 2007, \$14, Lodi, CA. This dry pink — with its brilliant color of pomegranate juice — has a full-bodied "punch" of flavor, somewhat melony with citrus accents. Made from Rhône grapes (cinsault, grenache, mourvèdre), it will pair well with country pâtés, smoked meats, grilled sausages ... and North Carolina barbecue.



La Grenouille Rougant 2007, Napa Valley, \$14. Look closely at the label and you'll see a tiny red frog (*grenouille* in French) in a graceful leap. Yes, it is produced by Frog's Leap in the heart of Napa Valley. I loved this rosé! And so have several friends who've had it *chez moi*. With its bright cherry fruit and light structure, it makes a great aperitif — but can also carry right through dinner with the likes of grilled salmon or light meats, even duck breast (try it with grilled duck breasts, chopped and sautéed with green onions over pasta).

... or anytime, really. Blue Moon has just released its newest: **Pale Moon**, a Belgian-style pale ale widely available in the Triangle. Introduced in May at an elegant reception at the North Carolina Museum of Art, Pale Moon is handcrafted with European malts and cascade hops — noted for their spicy, floral and citrus character that gives Pale Moon its brisk flavor. But there's another component that makes it unique.

The brewer adds crushed dried hibiscus flowers to the fermentation, giving the amber ale an appealing zest — sharp, but wholesome and clean, and very refreshing. Blue Moon brewery, a subsidiary of Coors, is a craft brewer known for its excellent *hefenweisen*, or wheat beer (as opposed to traditional beers and ales made from barley malt). Earlier this year, Blue Moon was named 2008 Champion Brewery in the Beer World Cup Competition in San Diego. If you haven't tasted Pale Moon yet, it's worth icing some down on one of these steamy evenings ... and enjoy. **MM**

Cellar Selection

2005 BORDEAUX

A great vintage is like the swell of high tide that floats all boats. The 2005 vintage is like that: Its outstanding quality lifts virtually all the wines of the vintage, surpassing the previous "great" vintage of 2000. The 2000 vintage *is* a great one, but '05 has greater depth, concentration and potential for developing complexity and lasting longer.

The top growths of Bordeaux — the likes of Lafite, Latour, Margaux, Cheval Blanc and Pétrus, among others — have already disappeared from the market and will only be available at auction. They sold out even before they landed on these shores, and at astronomical prices (I think I mentioned in a previous column that Château Pétrus was going for nearly \$50,000 a case!). But 2005 was so uniformly good that lesser lights excelled as well. Local wine shops have stocks of more moderately priced red Bordeaux, wines with wonderful potential that make great cellar candidates. Try some of the '05 Bordeaux and lay down a case or two of those you like — they can only improve. Even the rather broad appellation of Bordeaux Supérieur, rarely notable in normal vintages, produced some surprises.

Among them is **Pézat**, a newly developed property adjacent to one of the best Saint-Émilion estates. The **2005 Pézat**, made mostly from merlot, is excellent. It drinks well now — you can certainly enjoy it with grilled steak or lamb, as I have recently — but because of its balance, structure and concentrated flavors, it will evolve nicely over the next three to five years and probably hold eight to 10. Chapel Hill Wine Company has it for \$23.99. **MM**



A Top Award-Winning Winery

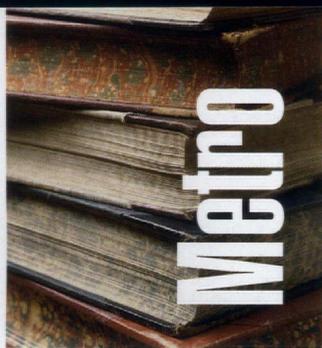
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Books

IRISH MURDER MYSTERY SEQUEL WORKS WELL

by Art Taylor

One year ago this month, I had the great fortune to review Tana French's debut novel, *In the Woods*, for *The Washington Post*. In addition to my recommendation there, I've been grabbing individual friends by the elbow ever since and urging them, "Read this book." What makes me feel even better than seeing them take my advice is that moment when they finish and turn to yet another friend, thrusting the book toward that next person and echoing my words right on down the line.

In the Woods was a marvel — not just a gripping psychological thriller about two Dublin detectives trying to solve a child's murder, but also one of the most ambitious and assured debuts I recall reading. I'm not just talking about the mystery genre when I write that. Stylistically, structurally, thematically — French simply excels on all counts. Her characters are compelling, her plots are multi-layered, dense and unpredictable, and the world she creates becomes so palpable on the page it's as if you're right there.

In May, *In the Woods* very deservedly won the Edgar Award for Best First Mystery Novel from the Mystery Writers of America. And now French has returned — just a year after her first novel — with a new book, *The Likeness*. It's hard not to think that this one is a rush job of sorts, meant to capitalize on the critical and popular success of that debut, to make the most of her Edgar recognition, and to keep all that momentum going. And yet...

And yet again, I find myself with the new book urging: *Read this*. And to our readers here: Go see her too because the new book tour is bringing her to the Triangle.

(You'll have to imagine me tugging at your elbow, nudging you along.)

The Likeness picks up a mere months after the close of Operation Vestal — the subject of *In the Woods* — and while I hesitate to give away the ending of the first book, let's just say that things didn't finish entirely well. Where Rob Ryan narrated *In the Woods*, his partner Cassie Maddox takes the helm on this one — or perhaps "takes center stage" is more apt, since acting plays such an important role.

In her first years as a detective, Cassie had worked undercover to investigate a drug ring at University College Dublin; her alias was Alexandra "Lexie" Madison, a name that was put aside after Cassie was stabbed by one of her targets and left undercover work

for the Murder Squad. But as *The Likeness* opens, Lexie has come back: A corpse has been found, a woman carrying Lexie Madison's ID. She's been stabbed once, very near the spot where Cassie had been stabbed. Even more chilling, she's Cassie's mirror image.

Cassie is called in, of course — called to view the body, called to add insight about who *her* Lexie Madison was and to speculate on who *this* Lexie Madison is, and ultimately called back to undercover work. As her old supervisor tells her, "You can walk straight back into her life and pick up where she left off." A rare opportunity — one that you know Cassie's destined to take.

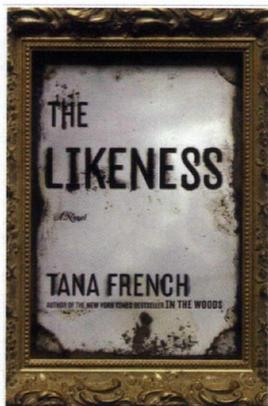
What follows is a real nail-biter, as Cassie steps into the new

Lexie's circle of friends and daily routine to begin her search from the inside for the killer. Even the simplest things seem charged with suspense: How will Cassie get all the necessary information about this Lexie's speech patterns or her food preferences, for example? About the small mannerisms that her friends have grown accustomed to? Or about the memories that make up any person's life, even more completely than their facial features? After Cassie is embedded in the house with Lexie's four roommates — graduate students at Trinity College — each conversation seems a tightrope walk, with the potential for error on every side. And with her boss on the case casting each of those roommates as a potential killer, the stakes are high on even the slightest misstep.

What's fascinating about the book, however, isn't just the simple suspense generated by Cassie having to function in the world out there. Instead, Cassie

is also trying to understand the secret life and hidden history of the woman she's impersonating. In the process, we readers are made privy to Cassie's inner life as well: Cassie as a woman who's been feeling adrift in her own existence, especially since the events of *In the Woods*, and who suddenly finds behind this false front and among these strangers a sense of family and of belonging — making Cassie in many ways her own worst enemy as she tries to ferret out the truth.

It's a great plot; it features the requisite twists and turns; and even if the ending stretches a little long, it'll still keep pulling you ahead straight through the last page. But what raises this author above so many of her peers is her high level of craftsmanship: the nuanced characterizations, the attention to even the smallest details of each scene and the smooth intensity of her writing, those steady



The Likeness
by Tana French (Viking
Adult, 2008, 480 pp.)

rhythms, those lyrical flourishes. French's books aren't just exciting psychological thrillers or great mysteries; they're great novels, period.

And did I mention "Read this" enough?

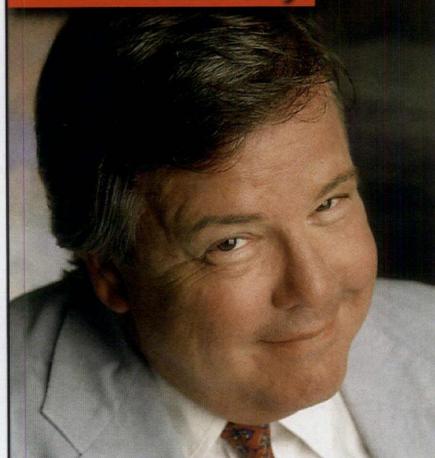
French will be discussing *The Likeness* and signing copies of both her novels at a pair of Triangle bookstores this month: on Saturday evening, July 26, at Durham's Regulator Bookshop and again on Monday evening, July 28, at McIntyre's Books in Fearington Village. Additionally, she'll be signing books on Saturday afternoon, July 26, at Sam's Club on Calvary Drive in Raleigh, and again on Sunday afternoon, July 28, at Sam's Club on Harrison Avenue in Cary; each of those afternoon events begins at 2 p.m.

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

A pair of books previously reviewed in this space are the subject of special events this month.

Barnes & Noble in Cary welcomes local artists and farmers on Wednesday evening, July 9, for a celebration of *Homegrown Handmade: Art Roads and Farm Trails*, a

Online Only!



Bernie Reeves writes
Between Issues
at www.metronc.com

new guidebook produced by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, and the North Carolina Arts Council.

And McIntyre's Books in Fearington Village hosts WRAL-TV's Amanda Lamb on Friday afternoon, July 25, as she continues to tour with her new true crime book, *Deadly Dose: The Untold Story of a Homicide Investigator's Crusade For Truth and Justice*.

Additional events of note this month include:

- Susan Richards, author of *Chosen Forever*, a sequel to her bestselling debut *Chosen by a Horse*, on Tuesday evening, July 8, at McIntyre's Books, and again on Wednesday afternoon, July 9, at the Country Bookshop in Southern Pines.

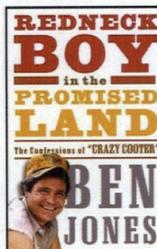
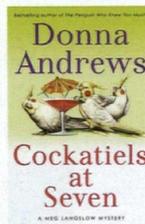
- Bestselling mystery novelist Donna Andrews with her latest, *Cockatiels at Seven*, on Wednesday evening, July 9, at Raleigh's Quail Ridge Books; on Thursday evening, July 10, at Durham's Regulator Bookshop; on Friday afternoon, July 11, at the Country Bookshop; and on Saturday morning, July 12, at McIntyre's Books.

- Virginia Willis, author of *Bon Appetit, Y'all: Recipes And Stories From Three Generations Of Southern Cooking*, on Thursday evening, July 10, at Quail Ridge Books (with samples!).

- Ben Jones — Cooter from *The Dukes of Hazzard* — with his memoir *Redneck Boy in the Promised Land: The Confessions of Crazy Cooter*, on Thursday evening, July 10, at McIntyre's.

- Lewis Shiner, author of the novel *Black & White*, set in Durham's Hayti neighborhood, on Friday evening, July 11, at the Regulator, and again on Wednesday evening, July 23, at Quail Ridge Books — with Hayti historian Andre Vann at the latter reading.

- Local author Robert Brown with his debut suspense novel, *Sonnets*, on Tuesday



evening, July 15, at Barnes & Noble in Cary.

- Maryann McFadden, author of the novel *The Richest Season*, set on Pawley's Island, SC, on Thursday, July 17, at the Regulator.

- Mark Cryan, former general manager of the Burlington Indians and author of *Cradle of the Game: Baseball & Ballparks in North Carolina*, on Thursday evening, July 17, at McIntyre's.

- Suzetta Perkins, author of *Ex-Terminator: Life After Marriage*, on Saturday afternoon, July 19, at Barnes & Noble at New Hope Commons, Durham.

- Bestselling novelist E. Lynn Harris with his latest novel, *Just Too Good to be True*, on Monday evening, July 21, at the Regulator.

- Yale law professor Stephen L. Carter with his new novel, *Palace Council*, on Tuesday evening, July 22, at the Regulator.

- Author and filmmaker Kevin Duffus with *The Last Days of Black Beard the Pirate* on Tuesday evening, July 22, at Barnes & Noble in Cary.

- Dale Volberg Reed and John Shelton Reed, editors of *Cornbread Nation IV: The Best of Southern Food Writing*, along with contributors Marcie Ferris and Michael McFee, on Saturday morning, July 26, at McIntyre's.

- Gisela Von Zur Muehlen Ives, author of *In God's Hands: A Noblewoman's Struggle for Survival in War and Revolution*, on Saturday afternoon, July 26 at Barnes & Noble at New Hope Commons, Durham.

- JA Jance, author of *Damage Control*, and Ann Ross, author of *Miss Julia Paints the Town*, on Thursday evening, July 31, at Quail Ridge Books.

- And looking ahead: Acclaimed novelist Martin Clark, author of *The Many Aspects of Mobile Home Living*, with his new novel, *The Legal Limit*, on Friday evening, Aug. 1, at the Regulator.

To have your literary event considered for inclusion in this column, please e-mail MetroBooksNC@gmail.com. MM





PvW

by Philip van Vleck

QUIET RECORD COMES ON STRONG FOR CLAIRE HOLLEY

Singer-songwriter Claire Holley is presently living in California with her husband and their son, but she spent some very productive years in North Carolina where she has a sturdy fan base.

Holley also has a new album in hand titled *Hush*. Released in late May, the work was produced by John Plymale and features a dozen tunes, 10 of which are Holley originals. The song "Innisfree" is the Yeats poem set to Holley's music. The 12th tune is an excellent cover of a nugget from the American Songbook, "Stars Fell On Alabama."

Hush is a beautiful album project; it's as strong a piece of work as anything Holley has ever released. Her songwriting is, as always, exceptionally musical and literate. The musical arrangements are polished and intriguing, full of ear-catching sonic gems contributed by a number of fine players, including Greg Leisz, Ben Harris, Don Heffington, Laura Thomas and Plymale.

The album opens with "Visit Me," one of the finest tunes I've heard in quite a while. Holley's vocal is lovely, and her poignant lyrics impart a wonderful sense of yearning born on a quiet strength. We can miss a loved one and be uncertain in our longing, or we can miss that person and remain centered and confident in our longing. "Visit Me" evokes constancy in affection and faith in the return of a loved one. The song has a deeply moving subtext flowing beneath a lyric that's personally resonant and modestly articulated.

The arrangement is a deft layering of voices and strings that put some air in the song without making it sound ethereal. This opening track reveals the character of the album: Holley's elegant, economical songwriting, her vocal clarity, and Plymale's subtle, in-the-pocket production sensibility.

Holley has transitioned from singer-songwriter to singer-song-

writer-mom in the past four years, and that's evident from the songs "Go Away Now" and "Say Goodnight." The former tune offers an admonition to things that go bump in the night: "Go away now, silent monster / With song you will not take me / Go away now, the baby sleeps / Go away now, the baby sleeps." The latter song is a charming lullaby for little boys who may be reluctant to hit the rack.



CATHY AKERS

Another winning track is Holley's transposition of Yeats' poem "Innisfree." This is monumental poetry, so from a lyrical perspective she's in the tall cotton. The arrangement is uncluttered yet quite evocative of the mood of the poem. The outcome is a sweet piece of work. For yet more appealing music, cue up "Another Day" — a tune that feels like a ray of sunshine — and "Simple Meals," a truly Southern love song that finds its inspiration in an intimate supper.

Hush is a roaring artistic success for Holley and Plymale, albeit a fairly mellow roar. Holley's original material is golden, and Plymale's production is the equal of Holley's stellar performance. Snag a copy of *Hush* online at: www.cdbaby.com.

In discussing the new record, Holley noted that she spent a year working on *Hush*.

"The basic tracks were done in about a week in a house in Glendale. We took the better part

of a week, and I just recorded live with an upright bass player. It really just felt like the start of something.

"For several months I tried stuff in my own little studio," she said, "and John would have people come in and overdub. We sent things remotely to people in Arkansas and Nashville, and in the end we had to go through it all and see what was working."

When asked if she thought the project took too long, Holley replied that, "I think with an album the question is often when to stop. You know, initially, I thought I'd try to make an album

like Patty Griffin's *Living with Ghosts* — where it's just her and her acoustic guitar. In the end I realized I don't do that as well. It's one thing to have a live show like that, but with a record, well, I just like production.

"I don't want my records to sound over-produced," she allowed, "but I definitely like layers of vocals, for instance. We wanted the sound to be lean, you know, but there are ways to keep it interesting. If you want to hold a listener's attention you need to keep something coming. You don't want to just record some songs because you can."

Holley noted that Plymale's contribution as engineer and producer was key.

"Plymale knows his stuff and he knows people — he understands people. I think that's a good start; he's a kind soul."

She explained how they went about cutting the album, given the distance between Plymale in Durham and Holley in Los Angeles

"John sent four UPS boxes with lots of different equipment. I kept that stuff in

our apartment for a while. We rented monitors. John flew out here for about a week, and we made a little makeshift studio in this guy's house in Glendale. We tried the guitar in different places in the room; we spent about a day in pre-production, just getting everything arranged, and then we started.

"After that I flew out to Durham, stayed about a week and did a little bit more at John's studio, Overdub Lane. Most of the songs were done here in California, but I did three new songs in Durham. We ended up not using two of those songs, however. The song "Another Day" was the one we did in Durham and kept."

"Another Day" led to Jack, Holley's son, who will be turning 4 on the last day of July, and his stimulating presence in her life, which accounts for several songs on *Hush*.

"Jack's quite an inspiring person, so I think I've tapped into something that I had not tapped into before," she observed. "I feel like my songwriting in the past had been sort of journalistic, talking about things outside of me and stories that might have happened or did happen. With *Hush*, however, I tried to go inward more, and I think having a child was something that made that easier for me."

When asked specifically about the song "Visit Me," Holley noted, "Three summers ago we were living in a little cottage in northern Alabama across the lake from a boy's camp. We were living in Los Angeles and moved away for the summer so my husband could work at this summer camp. This place where we lived was right by the DeSoto State Park, and there were these trails that I'd walk on with Jack, and there was this river we could hear at night that was very soothing. Even when all the windows were closed you could hear the water going over the rocks.

"I think that environment, and going for our walks every day, just reduced all the clutter in our life and made these moments count for more. I couldn't even get e-mail at our cottage. I had to drive 20 minutes to the library in Fort Payne just to check my e-mail, so I didn't have that distraction. That made it a very inspiring place for me. The song may sound like someone miss-

ing a loved one, but it's really more about being alone and being OK with that.

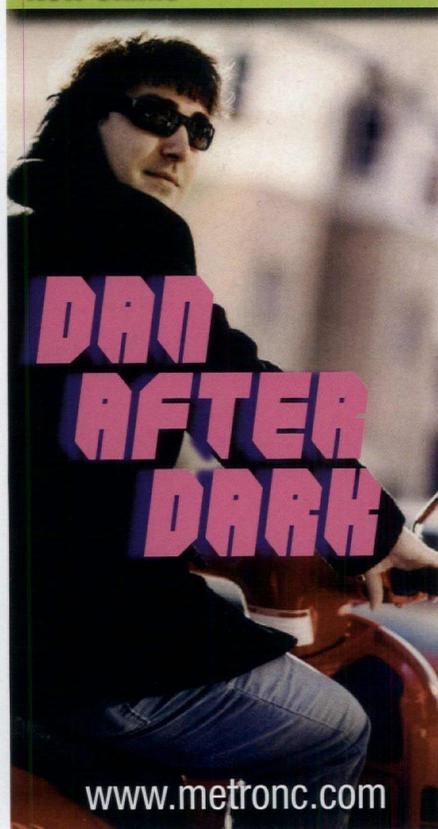
"I think Greg Leisz on pedal steel makes that song," she added. "I wanted him to make it watery, like he played on kd lang's album *Ingénue*."

Holley wryly observed: "On this album I had to make peace with the fact that I'm not a rock star. I never thought I was, but with other albums I think I tried to push that part of me. With this record, however, I just let it be a quiet record, and I was OK with that."

Anyone who listens to *Hush* will be OK with that, too. **MM**



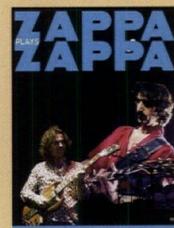
New Online



VIDEOCENTRIC

Zappa Plays Zappa (Razor & Tie)

Fans of the late, great Frank Zappa will find this double-disc DVD offering quite irresistible. Dweezil Zappa, son of Frank, has assembled a 10-piece band to deliver dad's music in a definitive fashion. This two-disc set was recorded in Seattle before a packed house, and everyone in attendance clearly got their money's worth. Dweezil and friends knocked down 29 Zappa gems, including "Call Any Vegetable," "Inca Roads," "Tell Me You Love Me," "I'm So Cute," "Son Of Orange County," "Don't Eat The Yellow Snow," "The Torture Never Stops," and "Zomby Woof." The ensemble effort is a study in collective virtuosity and serves as a nice reminder that Frank Zappa was a freaking genius composer who routinely crafted songs that were as intricate and demanding as they were appealingly weird. The best thing about this audio/video treat is that Dweezil orchestrated a detailed, impeccable replication of his father's songs. It's an accomplishment that must have required an alarming amount of time spent in rehearsal, given the awe-inspiring nature of the band's performance. This is a DVD a Zappa zealot can love. **MM**



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A Temple Looming, the new book of poetry by Lenard Moore, was launched with a book signing June 14 at Raleigh's Richard B. Harrison Library.

Audubon North Carolina has presented three annual awards at the group's annual meeting held at Haw River State Park last month: Volunteer of the Year — Phil Dickinson of Winston-Salem, president of Audubon Society of Forsyth County; Honorary Warden — Lewis Ledford, director of the NC Division of Parks and Recreation; and Honorary Warden — Billy Totten, North District Superintendent with the NC Division of Parks and Recreation.

Audubon North Carolina protects birds and other wildlife and their habitats with a network of 10,000 members in nine community-based chapters.

Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood Jr., the pioneering ECU Brody School of Medicine cardiothoracic surgeon and director of the East Carolina Heart Institute — who is currently serving as president of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons — performed his 400th mitral valve repair in June at Pitt County Memorial Hospital (PCMH), the teaching hospital for the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. Chitwood has performed more robotic-assisted mitral valve repair operations than any surgeon in the world.

Autumn Hall Inc., the new Wilmington mixed-use community, and Creative Wilmington's Pedestrian Art Program, have established a new public art venue. The three-year contract, set to begin in 2009, calls for three sculptures to be exhibited simultaneously in the development's 11 gardens, with new sculptures installed annually. The nine selected works, representing artists from the greater Wilmington area, will be exhibited in Shannon Garden, an English-style park with a formal plan including ornate hedges, a foun-

tain and reflecting pools. Go to www.autumn-hall.com for more information.

Cary Visual Art, Inc. selected artist and brick sculptor Brad Spencer, of Reidsville NC, to create pieces for the Black Creek Greenway Public Art Project.

The project will feature art on three locations near the intersection of NW Maynard and Chapel Hill roads.

Kane Realty Corporation is partnering with Raleigh-based Concord Hospitality Enterprises Company to build a Hyatt Summerfield Suites hotel at North Hills. The hotel will be located at the corner of Park and Market streets across Six Forks Road from the current North Hills development. Construction is expected to begin in early 2009 with completion scheduled in spring 2010. The seven-story, all-suite Hyatt Summerfield Suites is the second hotel in Kane's North Hills development, joining Renaissance Raleigh Hotel at North Hills, also built by Kane and Concord. This will be the second Hyatt Summerfield Suites hotel in North Carolina. The first is located in Charlotte.

Natural Handcrafted Soap, a Raleigh-based company specializing in natural soaps made from ingredients found in the Amazon Rainforest, opened its online store, www.naturalhandcrafted-soap.com, May 25. The soaps are crafted from natural oils, butters and botanicals with a portion of all sales being donated to help the Amazon Rainforest.

RiverShore, a new Neuse River riverfront community for New Bern, was officially announced June 28 by Clear Water marketing. The project will include a proposed 44-slip marina, walking trails, a community lake and protected common areas all bordering the Neuse. All homesites in RiverShore will include a boat slip in the protected harbor. Over half of RiverShore will be dedicated as a natural preserve. Go to www.river-shorenwbern.com for more information.

Ruth's Chris Steak House opened in Wilmington June 16 as part of the \$10 million renovation to the Hilton Wilmington Riverside hotel. The Wilmington restaurant will be the first of three Ruth's Chris Steak Houses opening in

North Carolina in 2008 by Big Steaks Management, LLC, a Ruth's Chris franchisee. The two additional locations are opening in Raleigh (July 2008) and Durham (Fall 2008).

APPOINTMENTS

Art Padilla, professor of management at North Carolina State University's College of Management, has been named head of the college's Department of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (MIE). Padilla received the Holladay Medal from the NC State University Board of Trustees in 2006, the highest honor bestowed on faculty members. His popular book, *Portraits in Leadership*, is used by presidential search committees at several major universities. Last year, the NC State Board of Trustees named the executive conference room in the refurbished Peele Hall — which houses the Park Scholars Program — in his honor in recognition of his contributions to NC State. In addition to teaching at NC State, Padilla has served in senior administrative roles for The University of North Carolina 16-campus system and at NC State University. He received his PhD from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1978.

Patrick O'Keefe, AIA, LEED AP and Neil W. Sauer, AIA, LEED AP have been named associates of Clark Nexsen architects, engineers and interior design.

Kate Shirah, formerly of the UNC Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, has been named program director for the John Rex Endowment.

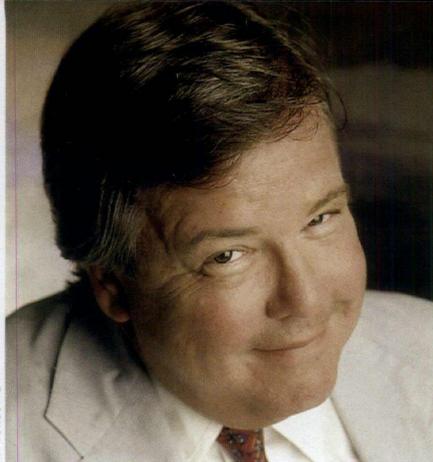
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My Usual Charming Self

by Bernie Reeves



JIM TURCOTTE

THE HILLARY FACTOR

Here's what I think. Kay Hagan is on the phone to Democrat headquarters frightened that Liddy Dole is going to retain her US Senate seat because John McCain is going to cover North Carolina with a coattail so steep dust mites will be swept into office. In other states, Democrat candidates are jamming the lines with the same lament. "Obama is going to kill us," they're saying privately. But in public they aren't utter a cross word for fear of reprisal by the radical Left of the Party. They're taking names and kicking butt if anyone in the race breaks ranks with the new Messiah of the Age of Multiculturalism.

It's as if DreamWorks Studio is designing the campaign with only the recorded voices of the candidates who appear as animated puppets programmed into the party line. Obama is the dream come true in this tableau, so how do you criticize the man who means everything to the triumphant party radicals? You don't. You listen to National Public Radio and believe everything they say.

But out there in the real world, reality is not a cartoon, no matter how earnestly the nomination for president is sliced and diced by media into politically correct nuggets — and then regurgitated back to the pollsters. Yes, America has come a long way in racial rapport; yes, young people are a new generation reared in multiculturalism; yes, George Bush is down in the polls, thus setting the stage for "change" — whatever that means exactly.

Statistics, however, will tell the story in the end. Despite incessant reports that we live in a multi-racial society, the numbers beg to differ. Nearly 80 percent of Americans today are European-descended; and a mere 12 percent classify themselves as black or African-American. Obama's big delegate victory in North Carolina is not indicative of the actual demographics of the state. While over 40 per-

cent of registered Democrats are black, the percentage statewide is under 27 percent. Come election day...

This is not to suggest that Obama is an unattractive candidate, or that a black man can't win the presidency. But without a sound platform and with the stats working against him, it's not his time — even if there has been a "subtle shift" in the electorate as I suggested could be happening in this space last month ("Prince Obama" — June 2008 *Metro*). Nor do I think that President Obama would mean the end of the world as we know it. Whoever wins in November will be a different person when they take office in January. A visit to the White House and Pentagon situation rooms will toughen the new president's attitude against terrorists and gird the loins for the need for America to be ever-vigilant as the force that keeps the world secure. George Bush will rise in esteem, and the new administration will hardly deviate from our present policies.

The problem for Obama is Hillary Clinton. Husband Bill curried favor with the black community while president and located his post-presidency office in Harlem, increasing his reputation as the friend and advocate of African-Americans. Thus the Clinton dynasty views Obama as apostate for daring to usurp Hillary's run for the gold and ungrateful in the extreme for dissing Bill. The modern day political equivalent of Mr. and Mrs. Macbeth are not taking Obama's delegate victory lying down.

In Denver, as the Democrats convene to anoint Obama, they will find a palace coup has been in the works since the last primary. Hillary's Mamelukes, led by the notorious scoundrel Terry McAuliffe, helped re-write the rules of the Party in 2006 — and they can certainly unwrite them by the time the RVs arrive at the foot of the Rocky Mountains.

The main structural change the McAuliffe cadre created was allowing candidates for president to win proportional delegates in each state primary or caucus. They also created so-called "super-delegates" to use as relief troops if things didn't go their way. The new Democrat constitution reads somewhere between *The Communist Manifesto* and the *Port Huron Statement* — meaning the Party was altered from a controlled free-for-all into bureaucratic fine print in which every contingency is thought of and every expression

of individual volition is quashed.

For example, in the Texas primary it was revealed that voters in certain counties had their vote cut in half as punishment for low turn-out in previous elections. Or take Michigan and Florida where the entire primary was disallowed, excommunicating millions of voters because the Democrat Politburo wasn't pleased with the dates these states chose for their primaries. At least Michigan and Florida folks weren't carted off to a re-education camp or the gulag for their apostasy, but they certainly were flogged within an inch of their political lives for daring to deviate from orders sent down from Big Brother.

The party later split the baby and gave Hillary and Obama one-half of the delegates each. But why should Hillary wear that when Obama didn't enter the Michigan primary at all? Plainly, the Democrat Party has violated the constitutional rights of Hillary Clinton by arbitrarily divvying up undeserved delegates to Obama.

In a cosmic intervention during the primaries, the HBO docudrama *Recount* aired reenacting the events in Florida during the 2000 election that pitted George W. Bush against the Master of Space and Time (sorry Jerry Brown, he deserves the title now) Al Gore. If nothing else, the film dramatized that it ain't over until it's over in politics today. The Democrats tried every angle available to upset the vote count, including demands for recounts, appeals to the Florida legislature and courts all the way to the United States Supreme Court. And the man stoking the star-making machinery for the Democrats? Terry McAuliffe, currently Hillary's campaign manager.

Poor Obama is out on the ledge fending off the push. I suspect that as he dithers and dodges in an attempt to coagulate his views from campaign hot air into actual campaign policy, Hillary's Palace Guard is watching intently, waiting to pounce with a law suit against the Party for denying her delegates and polishing press releases stating she is the only chance the Democrats have to beat McCain.

The road to Denver is paved with pitfalls for candidate Obama. I don't think he will leave town with the nomination.

(Read commentary by Bernie Reeves in his online-only *Between Issues* column online at www.metronc.com.) **MM**

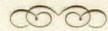
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