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Cocktail concoctions
Seasonal listings

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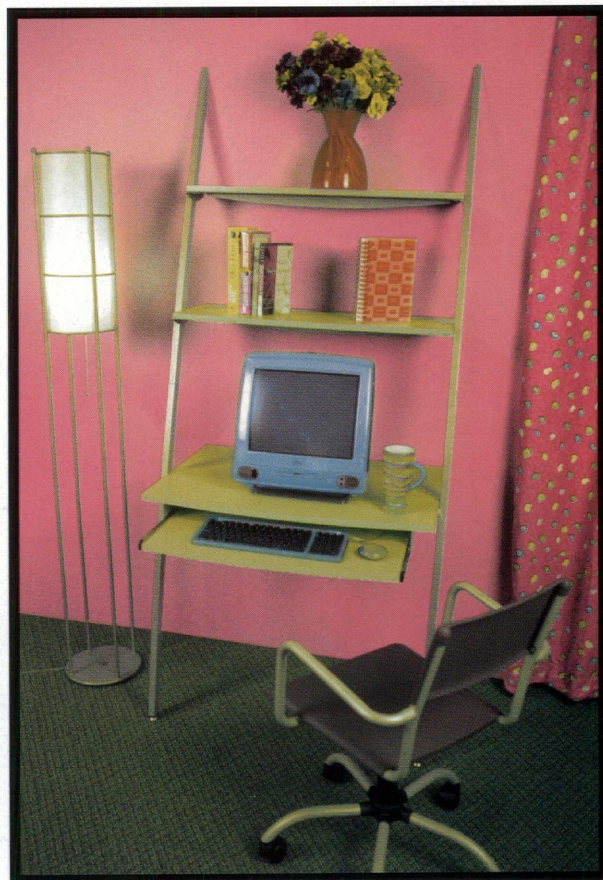


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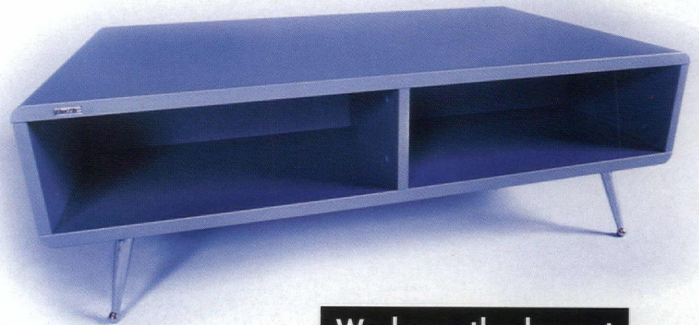


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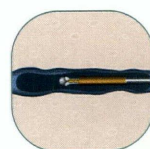
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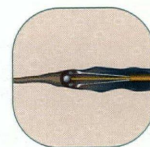
CATHETER TECHNIQUE



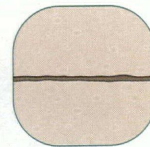
Catheter inserted
into diseased vein.



Catheter is
turned on.



Heat is applied as
catheter is
slowly withdrawn.

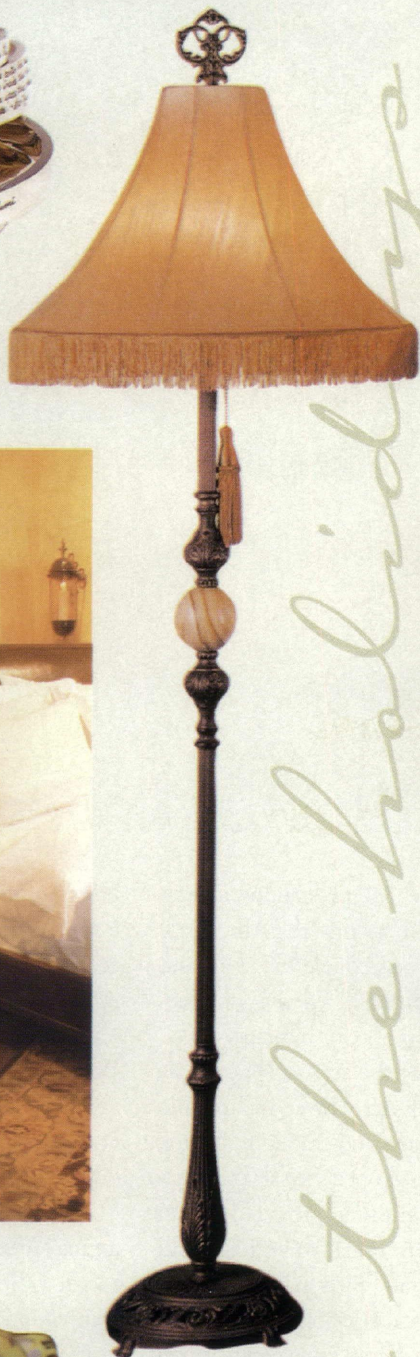
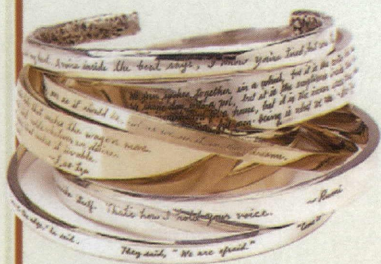


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A VERY MERRY METRO

Those in the know know that Edenton is a timeless frame of mind. As one of the country's few authentic, continually occupied colonial communities—and as a pre-Revolutionary capital of North Carolina—it holds a place of honor in preservation circles for the tireless dedication of its citizens to protecting and maintaining the dozens of historic homes and outlying plantations by volunteer groups or by descendants of the families that settled in the Albemarle Sound region as early as the mid-1600s.

One of those founding families invited MetroDesign editor Diane Lea to visit in the midst of preparations for the wedding of a scion of one of Edenton's most prominent families. The opportunity provided a rare and intimate view of the community's

best-known homes and plantations, including Mulberry Hill astride the Albemarle Sound where the new couple will reside and continue the tradition of Edenton families to the stewardship of their heritage.

In the spirit of the season MetroStyle editor Kimberly Kyser weaves a Christmas tapestry of memories and emotions, Carroll Leggett reminisces about a special Christmas memory of his mother provided by an unsung sports hero from Down East. And the *Metro* sales staff, with help from little elves, offers up a holiday shopping gift guide that will cause you to breathe easier as you select that perfect gift for that special person.

Frances Smith has been making a list of holiday events and checking it twice, then adding a number of important January happenings for MetroPreview. And to top off our Christmas offerings, MetroGourmet features "spirits of the season," holiday cocktail concoctions that will make you and your guests even merrier as the old year fades and 2003 opens with new hopes and aspirations.

Rick Smith, in his after.com column,

brings news of Red Hat's new hiring philosophy and good tidings from a UNC economist who sees blue skies ahead in the economy. Polymathic music editor Philip Van Vleck profiles sax man James Brown, Patrik Jonsson's MetroIndex has useful trivia about NC lighthouses, and Secrets of State and Eyes Only are stuffed like stockings with useful information.

We will kick off 2003 with our first annual Who's Who list of people who have made a difference and left a permanent impression on our region in the previous year. This is already causing excitement. Advertisers, space is limited, so call us now to be a part of this exciting event. And don't forget a gift subscription to *Metro* is indeed the gift that keeps on giving. Call now or go online and make somebody really happy.


And to all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year...

—Bernie Reeves, *Editor & Publisher*



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Correspondence

EDITOR'S NOTE: *We have received many letters in reaction to our Education Special Report in the November issue. Due to space limitations and our desire for these responses to be seen together, they will appear in the January issue.*

TAKING ISSUE WITH CAMPUS JIHAD, PASSIVE SMOKE AND MORE

I enjoyed reading the September issue of *Metro*. Congratulations are due to you and staff for an excellent publication. I would like, however, to critique your editorial in that issue.

In the section headed "Campus Jihad," you castigate the faculty committee of UNC-Chapel Hill for assigning to incoming freshmen a study of basic teachings in Islam. You seem to be confusing the study of a religion with its advocacy. A quote from another religious text: "Get wisdom: and with all your getting get understanding" (Proverbs 4:7). As our country sinks more deeply into a developing clash of cultures, wouldn't the pursuit of wisdom by our future leaders include a basic understanding of what makes the opposition tick? A little more mutual understanding might help defuse this clash before it explodes.

In another section you write that there is "no evidence... that passive smoke has any measurable negative effect." A quick Medline search of "passive smoking" spewed out an index of 24,678 articles. The most accessed article was a massive review of other reviews on the subject. After ponderous analysis the authors summarized, "the only factor associated with concluding that passive smoking is not harmful was whether an author was affiliated with the tobacco industry" (Barnes and Bera, "Why Review Articles on the Health Effects of Passive Smoking Reach Different Conclusions." In *JAMA*, May 1998). Evidence of affiliation appeared to be grants of money.

Essentially the same problem lies with your disapproval of the "health fascists." Our government has a constitutional mandate "to promote the general welfare." This mandate has evolved into numerous agencies, many of which are involved with health issues. The dust that continues to settle from various studies reveals conclusions such as: Obesity

contributes to diabetes and other undesirable ailments; too much salt is a contributing cause of hypertension; habitual overeating shortens the life span; a lot of saturated fat is bad for the arteries, etc. These are matters of public as well as individual concern. In our country we are seeing an epidemic of diseases of overindulgence with consequent problems in our medical delivery systems, health insurance premiums, restaurant menus, etc. Perhaps someday most of us will pay attention.

Regarding your comment about "no campaign against alcohol," perhaps you will recall from your readings of US history that the government tried to prohibit intoxicating beverages (Amendment 18 of the US Constitution). It didn't work (Amendment 21) so the US and state governments have proceeded to regulate the heck out of it, the producers, vendors and the consumers. There are numerous controls, penalties, warnings, etc. Many private groups have their own crusades.

Your assertions are "puzzling indeed." But thanks for inspiring some of your readers to think about these issues.

*Henry Singletary MD
Wilmington*

AN ARTIST'S VIEW OF SHACKLEFORD HORSES

I read your article in the June issue titled "First Foal of Spring on Shackleford Banks" and was amazed at the similarity of your picture and the print enclosed. The little ones are always curious, aren't they?

I became interested in the horses several years ago and painted two portraits of them, made these prints from the one. I donated the originals to the foundation and sell the prints for \$65 (set by the foundation) and donate 60 percent of what I receive to the foundation (and give some away too). The members around Beaufort also have prints to sell and they are available on the Web site.

Thanks for the nice article and I hope you enjoy the print.

*Shirley Leysdon
Elm City*

Bernie Reeves
Editor and Publisher

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TOBACCO MARKETS STIR MEMORIES

I enjoyed Carroll Leggett's recent piece (November 2002) on North Carolina's tobacco markets. It brought back many memories of my younger days in Tarboro in Edgecombe County. My grandmother ran a tourist home in those days and during the selling season it was filled with tobacco people.

My fondest memories are the SMELL; the rich odor of cured tobacco is one never to be forgotten. Also Mr. Leggett did not mention enough about the stars of the show—the auctioneers. Each one had his (no women here) own distinct style, cured by heavy unfiltered cigarette smoking and yes, heavy alcohol consumption.

Thanks again, for the memories. Oh, he also mentioned Parker's BBQ in the article. Thank goodness for that. It's more than a memory—I will be there, standing in line, the day after Thanksgiving to load up my cooler for many months of pleasure back in Georgia.

*Lisle Millard
Newman, GA*

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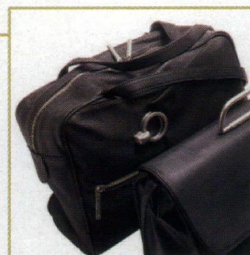
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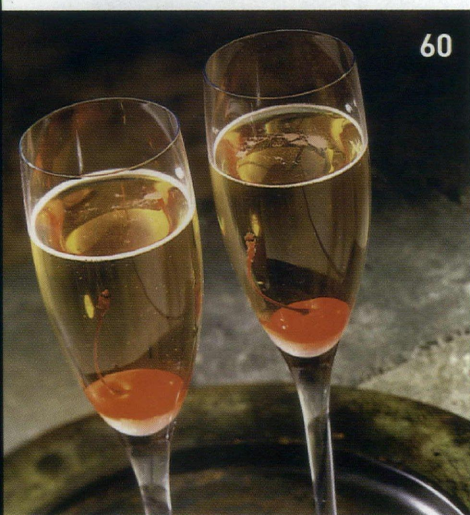
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Go out &
PLAY!

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3



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A very merry Metro...

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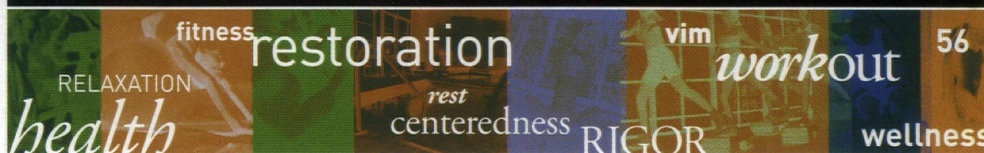
Feature...

- 20 **WEDDING BELLS RING IN EDENTON: HISTORIC TOWN'S FINEST HOMES AND PLANTATIONS CELEBRATE**—Rarely are the great homes of Edenton opened all at one time, but the wedding of Thomas Wood was cause for joy and hospitality in the "old style". Diane Lea was on the scene and brings back an exclusive inside look at the grand homes of this authentic colonial community.



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PHOTO BY JOYE PHOTOGRAPHY



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And for after the holidays...

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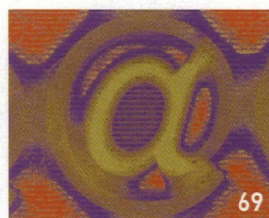
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SECRETS OF STATE

The Healing Place

REGAINING HOPE FOR LOST LIVES

The first thing I heard when I approached The Healing Place was the gentle laughter of men at peace with themselves and each other. Gathered on the back porch of the place they now call home, the men were having a break between classes and chores. They were polite and personable, opening doors for me and taking me to the office of Mary Leaver, development associate, who was to show me around the facility.

None of these men had known peace or laughter for a very long time before they came here because each man living in this special place came because he had such a severe addiction to drugs or alcohol that he could not face life or deal with it alone. Gradually, addiction had eroded their lives and worn away all usefulness and happiness. Many were homeless, all living in dire poverty.



Now things are better. These residents at The Healing Place live in clean, comfortable quarters, wear good clothes, eat nourishing food and learn, step by step, through much effort and study, to master the 12-step recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous that will release them from their addictions and enable them to lead good lives.

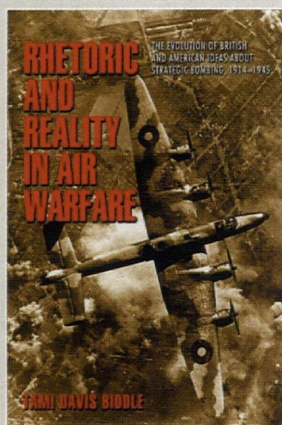
The Healing Place of Wake County opened in January 2001 on a tract of state land out from Raleigh on Goode Street near the Farmers Market. Modeled after a recovery program established in Louisville, Kentucky, the shelter operates in partner-

ship with state and local agencies, the Wake County ABC Board, the city of Raleigh, hospitals, churches and an increasing number of sponsoring businesses as well as restaurants, stores and individuals that provide food, clothing and necessities. The men attend classes twice a day, have needed counseling and work on the premises doing landscaping and lawn care, laundry, cooking and other group tasks that help with expenses and enable them to feel that they are contributing to the program. The cost of all services and the recovery program is less than \$25 per day, per person.

Allen Reep, director of development at The Healing Place, joined us to show me the new courtyard and garden that were installed recently on the back lawn. Focal points are two vertical sculptures. "They symbolize the journey the men must make to attain free and productive lives," said Allen. The first sculpture is a tall, solid door of concrete and clay that represents the impenetrable wall that addicts slam into and cannot break through. The wall is pocked and dented as though pummeled by a thousand fists or heads trying futilely to get through. On the other side of the wall is a garden of hope, now being planted in flowers and flowering shrubbery. Surrounding the garden are benches where the men can go for quiet talks or to meditate. Each of the 12 steps is carved on 12 stone pillars flanking the garden. At the far end is another tall door—not solid like the first—but open, symbolizing the opening that the men may walk through and proceed to a bright and productive future when they have passed the 12 steps and have

Duke professor questions policy

THE SKINNY ON STRATEGIC BOMBING



Anyone who believes that air power alone might subdue Saddam Hussein or some other dictator might want to check out a new book by a Duke University professor.

Tami Davis Biddle, who spent time teaching at the US Army's Carlisle Barracks program in Pennsylvania, recently published *Rhetoric and Reality in Air Warfare: The Evolution of British and American Ideas About Strategic Bombing, 1914-1945* (Princeton University Press).

"During World War II, British and American air forces sought to prove the soundness of the central claim of interwar years: that modern societies and economies are vulnerable to aerial bombardment," writes Biddle, who is an assistant professor of history at Duke. "The claim proved weaker than expected."

Her re-examination of the strategic bombing of Germany and Japan has won considerable critical praise. "This will be the best overall treatment of Anglo-American bombing policy that we will see for a long time," wrote Robert Jervis of Columbia University.

While air power has become much more accurate, as clearly demonstrated over Iraq in 1991 and in the Kosovo campaign, Biddle cautions against believing any hype about bombing. "It is probably too early to judge the efficacy of precision air attacks as a political tool," she says. "Certainly its effectiveness remains hotly contested as this book is written." The tools of air warfare have changed dramatically since the canvas and plywood planes of the First World War, but it is striking just how little the basic ideas behind the use of these tools have changed." —Rick Smith

followed the teachings of the program.

"I must leave you now," said Allen. I'm going to Swannanoa to pick up 120 blankets that Charles B. Owen Manufacturing is donating. But before he left he told me about the remarkable success rate of The Healing Place. "The 180 beds are filled," he said, "and there is a waiting list of men for a permanent bed in the program." Of 92 graduates, he said, 86 are sober and working. Allen also told me that a similar facility for women is planned for the near future.

"I never thought I would look forward to getting up every morning and coming to work at a shelter," Mary said, "but there's something so very gratifying and uplifting about working here."

The Healing Place teaches no formal religion, but it has a chapel room and the men are encouraged to place faith in a higher power, following whatever doctrines they may choose to understand and reach God, the ultimate goal of every religion. There's an old song that begins, "There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God." So it is at The Healing Place.

—Frances Smith

To send contributions to The Healing Place, mail to The Healing Place of Wake County, 1251 Goode Ave., Raleigh, NC 27603.

Call for entries

ARTISTS EXHIBITION OPENS 25TH YEAR

The Raleigh Fine Arts Society will celebrate the 25th year of its annual Artists Exhibition, opening March 9 and running until April 6, in the Gaddy-Hamrick Art Center on the campus of Raleigh's Meredith College. Previous winners of the Exhibition include artists Joe Cox and Herb Jackson. Cheryl Brutvan, Beal curator of Contemporary Art at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston has been named the Society's juror for the 25th annual exhibition.

North Carolina residents, college and university students and faculty are eligible to submit two original paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, photographs and crafts executed within the last two years. Deadline for entries is January 10. Entry fee is \$20.

The Juror's Lecture will be March 2 at the North Carolina Museum of Art, followed by a reception at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Daniels III. Winners will be announced at the opening reception for the Exhibition on March 9 and will be open to the public through April 6.

New River to base first squadron

OSPREY TESTING RATCHETS UP

The V-22 Osprey, a tilt-wing combat aircraft wanted by the Marine Corps to replace its aging helicopter fleet, will resume aggressive flight testing in December.

The first operational squadron of Ospreys is supposed to be based at New River Air Station in North Carolina. But the aircraft's deployment has been delayed by a series of fatal accidents, investigations of cover-ups about maintenance and renewed concern in the Pentagon that the Osprey can perform as billed.



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One Osprey crash near Jacksonville killed four Marines just a year ago. That accident led to the fledgling fleet's grounding.

In the next round of tests, the Marines will push the aircraft into rapid descent maneuvers—one of which killed 19 Marines in April 2000.

The Marines pushed aggressively to get modified Ospreys back in the air, and flights resumed in May at the Naval air base at Patuxent River, MD. According to the *San Diego Tribune*, the Marines have received two new aircraft.

—Rick Smith

Home for the holidays

CARY ACADEMY SPONSORS TOUR

Cary Academy's inaugural "Home for the Holidays" house tour will spotlight some of the area's distinctive residences as well as raise funds for need-based scholarships and community outreach. The tour is scheduled for Dec. 6 and 7 with a preview party in a Raleigh home on the evening of Dec. 5, following a luncheon with guest speaker (two seatings) in the Cary Academy Administration Building lobby.

Houses on the tour, including the homes of Dr. and Mrs. James H. Goodnight (Cary), Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Barish (Olde Raleigh Village), Mr. and Mrs. Al Blalock (Cameron Park Inn) and Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Ogle (Cary), will reflect how homeowners celebrate their personal holiday traditions. Ambassador Jeanette Hyde and her husband, Wallace, will host the preview party at their historic Raleigh home and a Holiday Boutique will be set up at the Goodnight's home, offering special holiday shopping, including seasonal ornaments and decorations as well as fine pottery and an array of distinctive gifts.

Another feature of the event will be the Table Setting Raffle at the Cameron Park Inn. Tour-goers will have the opportunity to win the complete table setting—china, flatware, a centerpiece and glassware. For more information about "Home for the Holidays," call 919-677-1946, ext. 2104.

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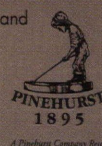
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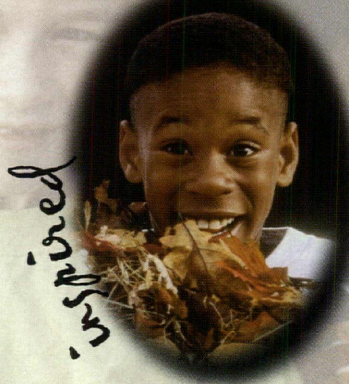
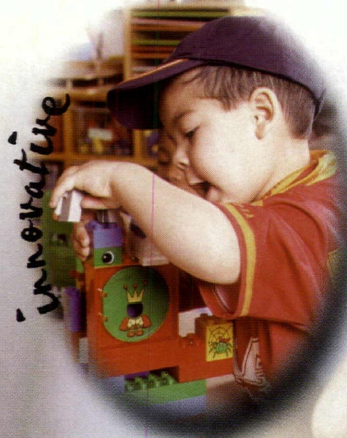


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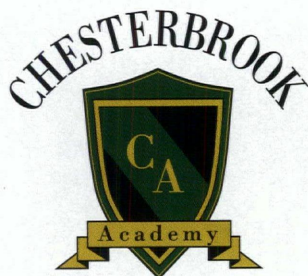
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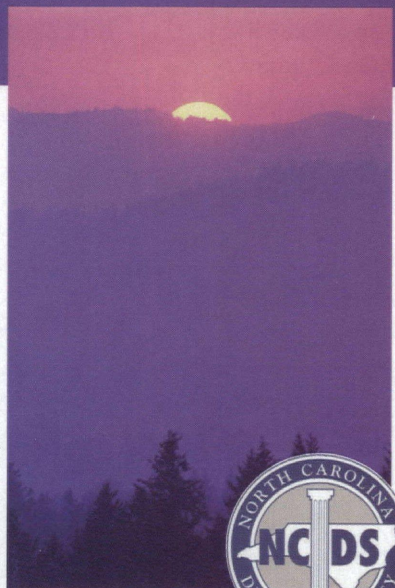
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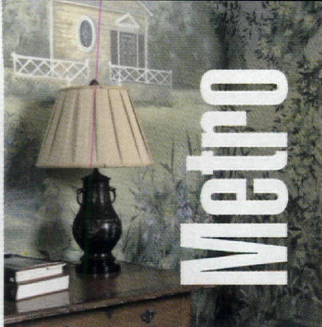


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EDENTON HISTORIC HOMES OPEN DOORS FOR WOOD WEDDING

A sparkling expanse of water, a shoreline dotted with narrow docks jutting from sweeping green lawns, and the beautiful blue sky high above distant forests and fields: This is the landscape across North Carolina's scenic Albemarle Sound in the tranquil environs of historic Edenton. Off NC Highway 32, directions call for a right turn onto bucolic Soundside Road, and with one more turn the farmlands and woods give way to a delicate line of willow oaks that ornament a boulevard bordering quiet golf greens and stately homes.

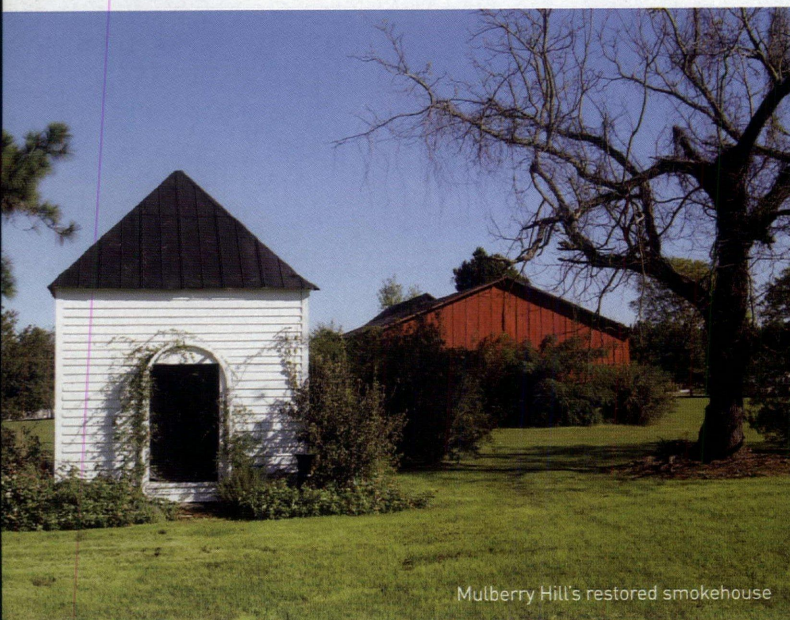
The setting is comfortably familiar and also timeless, characteristics of Mulberry Hill, the

historic home for which this pleasant neighborhood is named. "When Mulberry Hill was built about 1810," says owner Tom Wood, who developed the country club community around it, "it became the seat of a Blount family plantation which had been owned and expanded since 1684." That plantation and the house, which was built for Clement Hall Blount and patterned after his brother Frederick's home in New Bern, has been in the Wood family since 1866.

Mulberry Hill, a graceful Federal brick townhouse residence with a tall side-hall form, is quite at home overlooking the sparkling waters of Albemarle Sound. It is a clear fall

A sparkling expanse of water, a shoreline dotted with narrow docks jutting from sweeping green lawns, and the beautiful blue sky high above distant forests and fields: This is the landscape across North Carolina's scenic Albemarle Sound in the tranquil environs of historic Edenton.

day, two days before the wedding of Tom and Janie Wood's son, Thomas Benbury Paxton Wood, to Rocky Mount native Adrian Thorpe Harrold. Cars parked casually here and there on the front lawn give notice that the wedding preparations are in high gear. Wood, a man evincing considerable grace under pressure, walks toward the striped tent set up for the reception that will follow the evening wedding in the historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church, built in Edenton between 1736 and 1774. "You'll meet Janie at Wessington," says Wood. "She and friends are arranging flowers for the party there tomorrow night. Janie hand-painted the invitations for that event."



Mulberry Hill's restored smokehouse



Mulberry Hill's cemetery



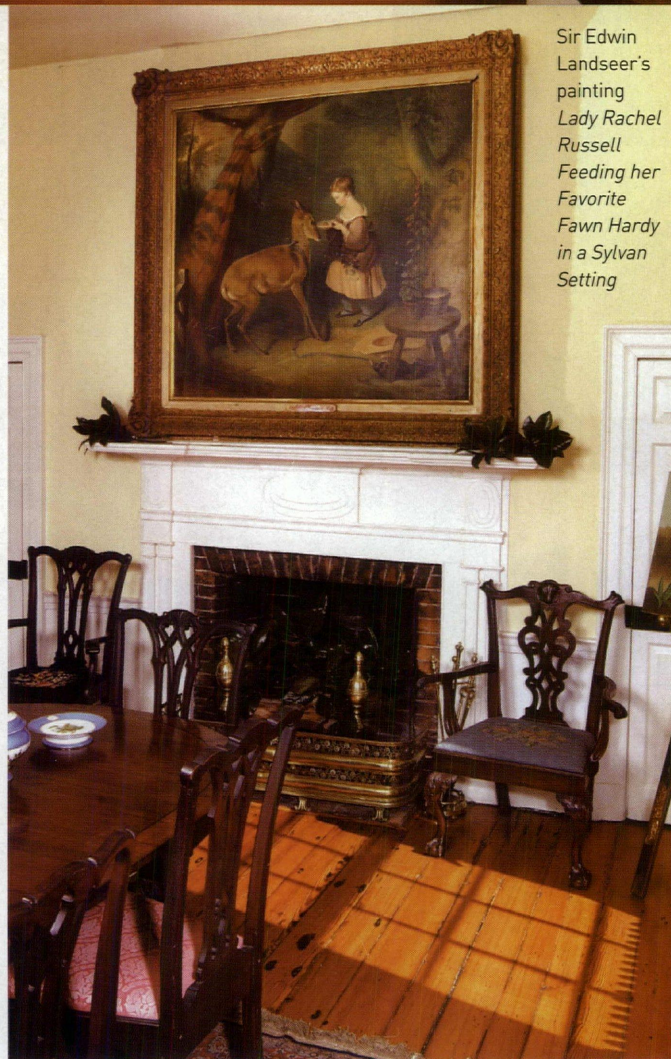
Mulberry Hill



Mulberry Hill's
entrance hall

Wood, a lawyer, who resides in Raleigh, but whose heart lives in Edenton, stops to chat with Blair and Alice Harrold, the bride's parents. The Harrolds are occupied with the myriad requirements of a wedding with 500 guests attending the reception. Both sets of parents had held their collective breath hoping for the blossoming of the young couple's friendship, which developed at North Carolina State University while Adrian, who is currently working on a doctorate in educational research and policy analysis, was completing her master's degree. She was among the group of friends that young Thomas Wood, also an NCSU student, regularly brought home for weekends at Mulberry Hill. "What's even more exciting," says Tom, "is that Thomas and Adrian have decided to live at Mulberry Hill when Thomas finishes law school and joins the law practice of our friend and cousin Sambo Dixon."

As we continue our tour of the grounds, the old and new are



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carefully juxtaposed. The home's recently renovated original smokehouse and kitchen flank the festive reception tent, and the historic Mulberry Hill cemetery occupies a high knoll near the Sound. As we wander among the graves, Tom Wood discusses their occupants with respect and familiarity. It is apparent that he has researched the lives of his kinsmen and has much to say. "James Blount was a colonel in the Militia during the Revolutionary War," said Wood, indicating a tomb of rounded brick. "His wife, Ann Hall Blount, was the daughter of Clement Hall, who was the rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Ann was also a signer of the Edenton Tea Party Resolves," a forerunner of the famous event in Boston that would kick off the Revolutionary War.

The interior of Mulberry Hill is highlighted by renowned Adamesque woodwork and beautifully proportioned rooms. The entrance hall's transverse arch frames the elegant stair, and in a pair of rooms to the left are the Woods' carefully selected period antiques. Of special note is the portrait in the dining room that Wood acquired at an Old Masters Sale in London. It is *Lady Rachel Russell Feeding her Favorite Fawn Hardy in a Sylvan Setting*, by Sir Edwin Landseer, a member of the Royal Academy.

NUPTIALS CREATE UNIQUE GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

Friends and relatives of the Woods are preparing their family homes, notable for heritage and hospitality, for four days of festivities in celebration of the Wood-Harrold wedding. "The bridesmaid luncheon on Friday will be held at Greenfield, owned by my second cousin

Benbury Wood and his wife Virginia," Wood explained. "The party tonight for many of the younger folks will be in town at Beverly Hall, owned by Sambo Dixon and his wife Gray Thorpe Dixon, also of Rocky Mount. Sambo's name is Samuel Bobbitt Dixon, but we all call him Sambo. Then Friday night, our friend and another of Janie's Cameron relatives, Anne Cameron Graham Rowe, will hold the rehearsal dinner at her home, Wessington, which is right next door to Beverly Hall on King Street. The wedding breakfast will be hosted at Hayes by another cousin John and his wife Susan. Susan and John are rearing their two boys at Hayes, which is now a lively family home. It is also one of Edenton's three National Historic Landmark buildings."

The route to Greenfield is through acres of lustrous green cotton plants ornamented with heavy bolls of cotton. Greenfield, the oldest of the Wood family homes, is still a working farm. With the turn down the lane to this circa 1752 residence, its double porches reminiscent of homes in the Caribbean, the 21st century slips away.



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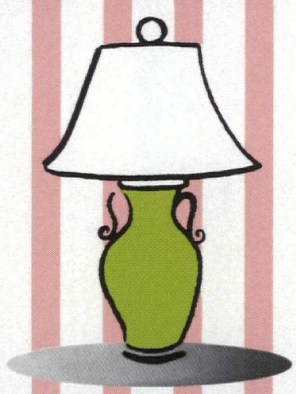
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Striding across the lawn, broad-brimmed hat in hand, a tall, distinguished man waves a welcome. Benbury Wood, whose grandfather was the brother of Tom Wood's grandfather, could have stepped out of one of Chowan County native Inglis Fletcher's historical novels. He opens the doors to this gracious historic home, and in the center hall, visitors are instantly immersed in an expansive mural, covering four walls and the stairwell, portraying the various Wood plantations and their residents. Painted for Benbury Wood's parents in the 1930s by




Henry McMillan and his sister Helen McMillan, the mural commemorates the history of this enduring Albemarle family. "We were fishermen first," says Benbury Wood, pointing to a saucy sloop on the Sound. "In fact, the mural is painted on sailing canvas. All the Sound families first made their living by seining and packing herring and other fish for market up in the Chesapeake."

We stroll through the rooms together. Portraits of ancestors smile on the parlor's tea table, a reproduction of the one used at Edenton's 1774 tea party. "Fifty-one of the town's ladies signed a proclamation boycotting English tea and other goods," says Benbury Wood. "It was the first political action by women in the colonies." We pause before the unusual Irish wake table, a pleasing elliptically shaped dining table



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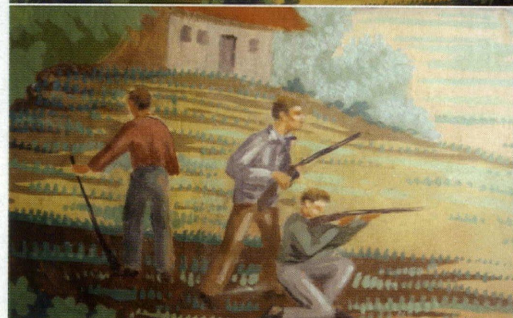
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Greenfield Plantation

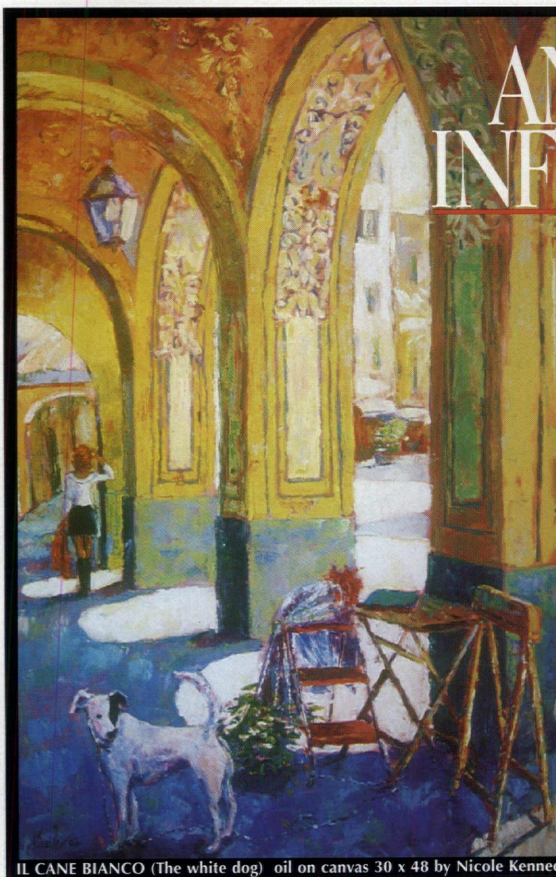


Greenfield murals



whose leaves fold down to form a stand for a casket display.

Greenfield was the first of four farms purchased in 1851 by ancestor Edward Wood, an organizer of the successful Albemarle Steam and Navigation Company, which carried passengers between Edenton and Franklin, Virginia. The plantation was also the site of one of the Sound's largest fisheries. As his many enterprises flourished, Wood was approached by his long-time friend James C. Johnston, owner of both Hayes and Mulberry Hill, who asked Wood to become the inheritor of the two plantations. "Johnston had no direct heirs," says



IL CANE BIANCO (The white dog) oil on canvas 30 x 48 by Nicole Kennedy

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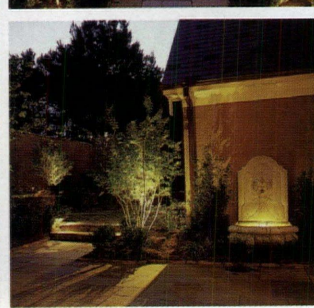
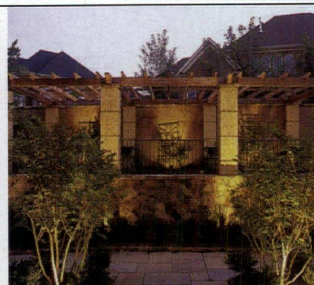


Wessington Plantation

Benbury Wood, "and he knew that his best chance of keeping his land together after the Civil War was to place it in Wood's capable hands." Though Johnston's relatives contested the inheritance in a famous court case, Johnston's will held, and the Woods have owned the two properties since 1866.

TOWN AND COUNTRY HOMES HIGH-LIGHT EDENTON'S UNIQUE HISTORY

Leaving Benbury Wood and Greenfield, I turn toward town and Wessington, constructed in 1850-51 for Dr. Thomas Warren, once one of the wealthiest men in Chowan County. Wessington's architectural plan is based on "A Villa in the French Style," taken from William Ranclett's 1847 pattern book, *The Architect*. Its entry porch features a cast-iron balustrade and matching cast-iron lanterns. There is a sense of New Orleans nostalgia in this delightful home whose imposing center hall is 50 feet long and 16



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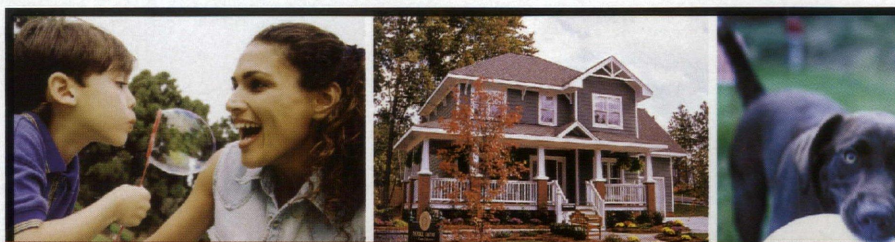


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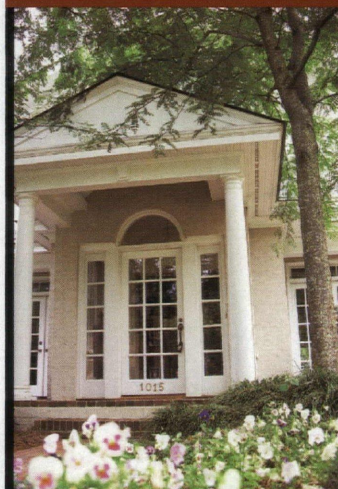


feet high. Anne Rowe, a small, gently smiling woman, greets me and invites me to overlook the preparations for the rehearsal dinner the following evening. Rowe takes a break from supervising arrangements for more than 150 guests to talk about her life in Edenton.

"I returned home to take care of an invalid parent and rear my young daughter," says Rowe. "In addition, I've taken on the stewardship of this house, which I've tried to open whenever asked for house tours, garden tours and more informal events like an Easter egg hunt for my daughter Emily's kindergarten class." Rowe's hospitality comes naturally from her deep North Carolina roots whose lineage can be traced back to the Collins family of nearby Somerset Plantation (now a North Carolina Historic Site) and the equally notable Cameron family of Hillsborough. A natural educator, Rowe sees Wessington as a way



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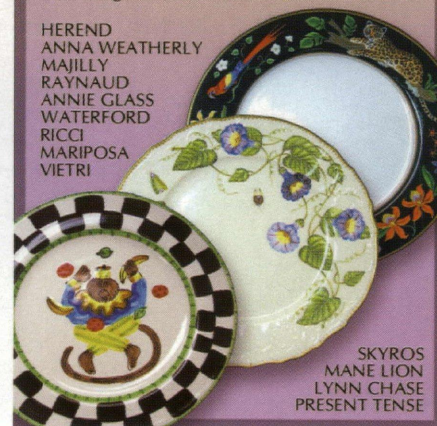
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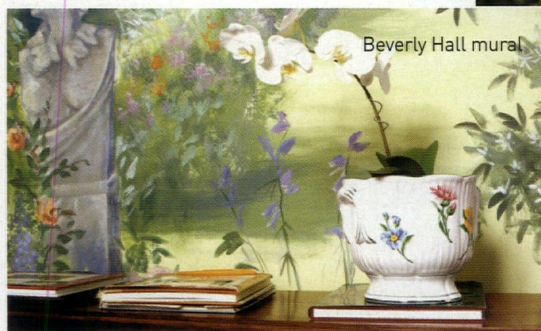
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to make history as alive to visitors as it is to her fellow Edentonians. "That's my contribution to those who went before me," says Rowe as she leads me through her garden to introduce me to Janie Wood, who with friends is busy arranging lush bouquets of roses for tomorrow's rehearsal dinner. With a quick wave, I am on the way to the kitchen entrance of the next home on my list, the Dixon family's Beverly Hall.

Beverly Hall is a lovely 1810 Federal home, portions of which are attributed to State Capitol architect William Nichols, and today the smells from its kitchen bode well for tonight's casual supper party. I am greeted by Nancy Hagan, who was intro-



Beverly Hall



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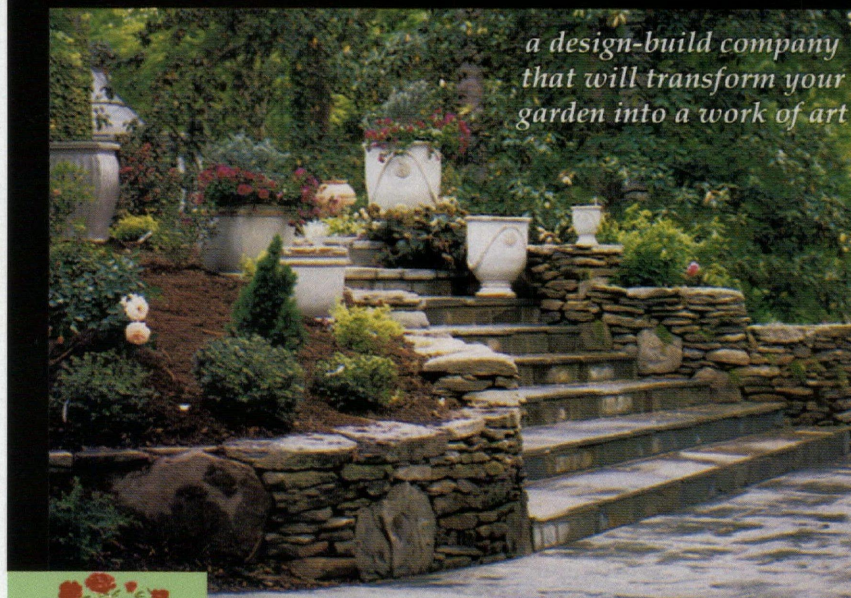
A portrait of Sambo Dixon, painted by his artist grandmother



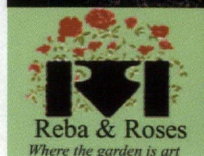
duced to Edenton by parents who retired here. Her company, Catering by Nancy, is enthusiastically supported by the hospitable Edentonians, as well as by clients from as far away as Raleigh. The aroma of her distinctive recipe for shrimp with red eye gravy, ham and bacon over grits is a better advertisement for her skills than any business card. As Nancy prepares her glorious fresh green beans, produce from a nearby Rocky Hock farm, I move to the public rooms.



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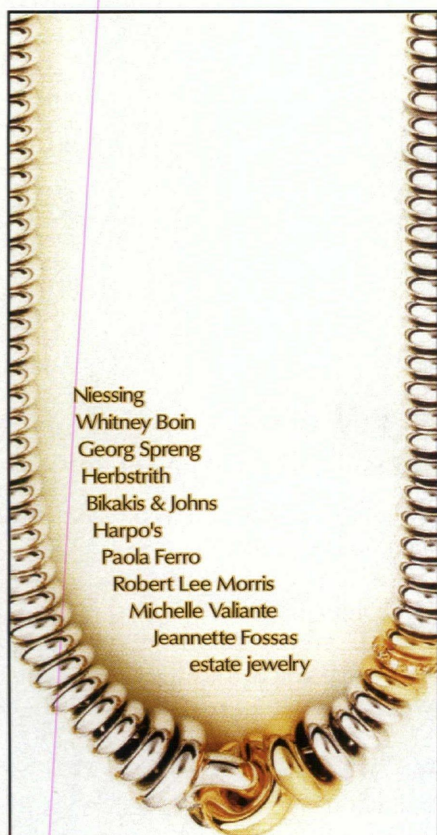
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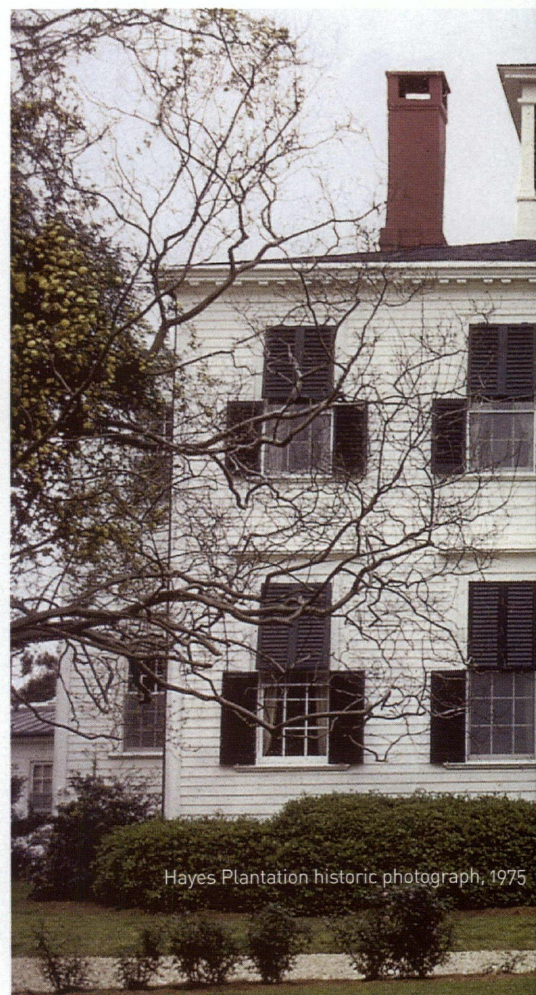


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It is a special delight to wander through this glorious home, which served from 1816 until 1835 as a branch of the State Bank of North Carolina and was modified by Dixon ancestor William Badham in 1855. The bank vault from the State Bank is still in place, a feature in the gracious library where a portrait of Sambo Dixon, painted by his artist grandmother, is hung above a classic Federal sunburst mantel. In the 1855 entrance hall, with its Moorish door added by Badham, visitors are charmed by yet another family mural. In this romantic depiction, Beverly Hall is shown surrounded by its remarkable gardens, gardens which Sambo and Gray and their two children take pleasure in restoring and maintaining. The main Victorian garden was developed to focus on the cast-iron fountain. There is also a Rose Walk and an Italian Garden beneath a graceful pergola.

ELEGANT, GRACEFUL HAYES

There is simply no way to prepare for a visit to Hayes, the home designed by William Nichols and constructed in 1814 for James C. Johnston, son of Revolutionary War patriot and former North Carolina governor Samuel Johnston. Set at the end of a divided carriageway flanked by thick evergreen trees and sited to enjoy an enviable view of Edenton



Hayes Plantation historic photograph, 1975



Hayes Plantation's center hall runs through the house directly to the home's waterside with its two-story porch

PHOTO BY JOYE PHOTOGRAPHY



The rear face of Hayes

Bay, Hayes is absolutely breathtaking. Its form is a classic Palladian configuration with a tall hipped-roofed central section flanked by colonnaded pedimented wings. Returned to the original color scheme discovered by paint expert George Fore, the two-tiered blinds at Hayes are a deep forest green, which shows nicely on the warm-toned siding. Susan Hemingway Wood, whose interest in history and architecture may come from growing up in architecturally rich Tarboro, explains that the main color was probably chosen to resemble stone. The center hall or passage runs through the house directly to the home's waterside with its two-story porch. An arched and columned screen divides the hall and lends human scale and intimacy. The dining room, one of a pair of flanking rooms off the hall, is hung with magnificent portraits. There, North Carolina's governors mingle with other well-known figures such as Daniel Webster, Henry Clay and Virginia's John Marshall. A table once used

at Greenfield is set for the wedding breakfast with family china dating back to Edward Wood's time. "We are so fortunate to be living where John grew up and sharing it with our children," says Susan Wood, as we walk through the other rooms flanking the hall. I am particularly struck by the sitting room, with its deep gray walls and an Empire sofa. "The sofa was in the original Johnston inven-

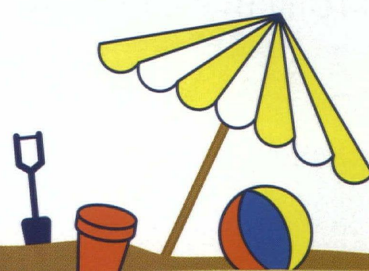
tory," says Susan Wood. "It was in good condition, and we wanted to use it."

Our tour of this important Wood family home concludes in the high-ceilinged Gothic Revival library that Nichols designed for James Johnston. "We think Johnston saw a similar Gothic library in England at Strawberry Hill," says Susan Wood. "The family has donated many of the books to the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where they have recreated this room to house them."

The day draws to a close and anticipation builds for the events to come. The families of Edenton prepare to gather and celebrate one of their own. They will do it as they have for almost 250 years, at home, surrounded by relatives and a diverse group of friends, and with an appreciation that they are still together with every prospect of continuing their traditions and dedication to their heritage for another century or two. It is greatly to the benefit of all of us in North Carolina that they do so. **MM**

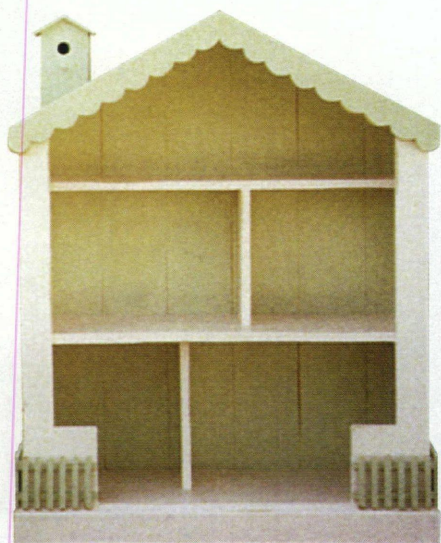
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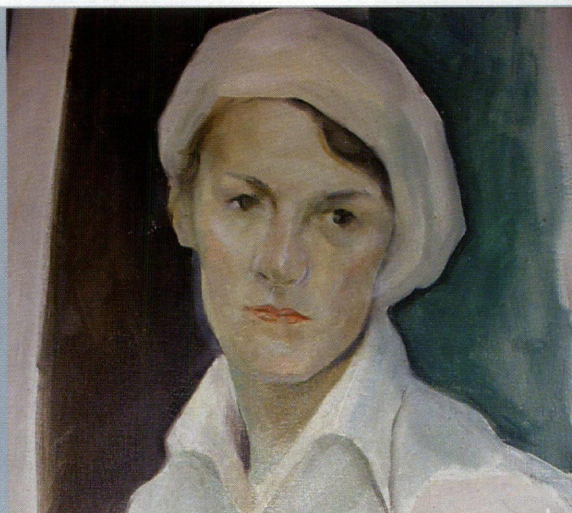
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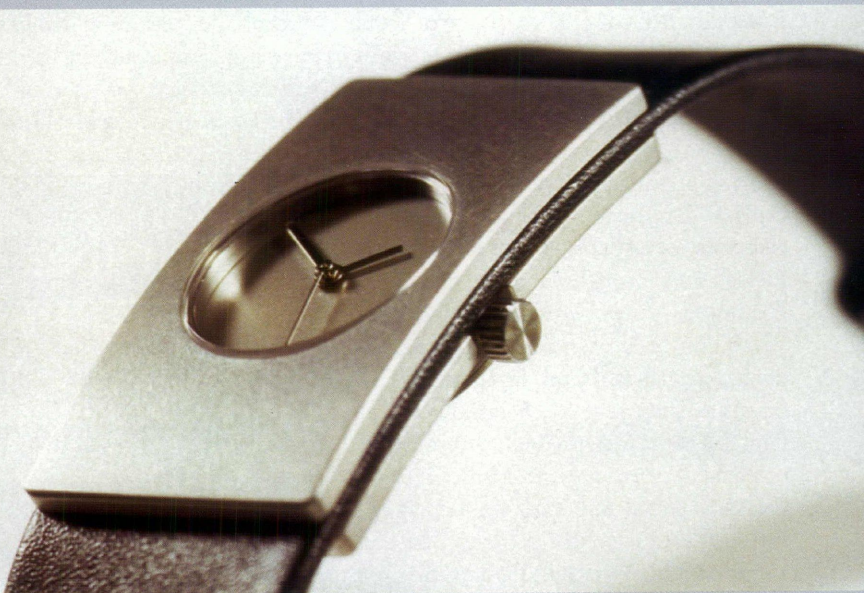
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Doncaster's exclusive line of clothing is available only through a private appointment with your own Wardrobe Consultant. She'll help you choose clothing that reflects your individuality through exquisite fabrics, sophisticated details and lasting quality. Doncaster Wardrobe Consultants are redefining luxury with a personal shopping experience in a private setting.

To see the current collection, contact:
Pamela Wilson at 919-787-1970 or
www.doncasterbytanner.com/pwilson.

D O N C A S T E R .



Skin Sense combines state-of-the-art techniques with a holistic philosophy to promote total body wellness. Whether you spend an hour or a day, your rejuvenation is their goal. Treat someone special this season! Raleigh and Cary locations. **Call 919-870-0700 for more information.**

He shoots baskets, he flies by on roller blades, he whizzes past you on the ski slopes. How can he wear shoddy performing sunglasses? **Arnette Deure's Deuce style #111159** is designed for the extreme competition. Lightweight and durable—their wrap design stays firmly in place through every curve, jump and whiz. The poly carbonate lenses are impact resistant and feature a special reflective chrome coating to reduce glare. Available in tons of colors at **Sunglass Hut**, 1-800-SUNGLAS, www.sunglasshut.com.



VIRginia International Raceway

Fun, Fast, & World Class

What to give the enthusiast who has everything? How about a gift from **Virginia International Raceway**, the finest road racing facility in the East. Gift ideas could range from a VIR Club membership to a day at the new VIR Euro Rally School and Corporate Motorsport Experience, either in rally cars or go-karts. Plus, there are all sorts of VIR clothing and accessories that would go nicely with a gift card under the tree. **For more information, visit www.virclub.com or call 888-RACE099.**

ARTSOURCE

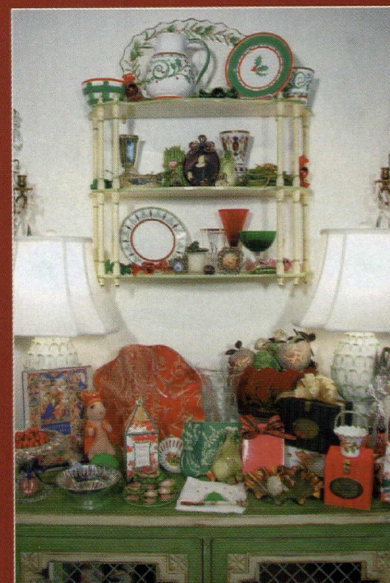
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THE LASSITER AT NORTH HILLS
RALEIGH



Cravings brings the region a fresh approach to maternity fashion. Blending the boutique experience with affordability and quality, Cravings offers chic styles from designers such as **Olian**, **Japanese Weekend** and **L'Attesa**. Falls Village Shopping Center, Raleigh. **Metro incorrectly listed Cravings' phone number in last month's Gift Guide. The correct number is 919-676-4446.**

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- ✓ Decorative House Flags
- ✓ Pimpernel Placemats
- ✓ Reed & Barton
Jewelry Boxes
- ✓ Possible Dream Santas
- ✓ Cat's Meow Houses
- ✓ Windchimes &
Bird Houses
- ✓ Collegiate Statues
- ✓ Yankee Candles

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FINE JEWELRY

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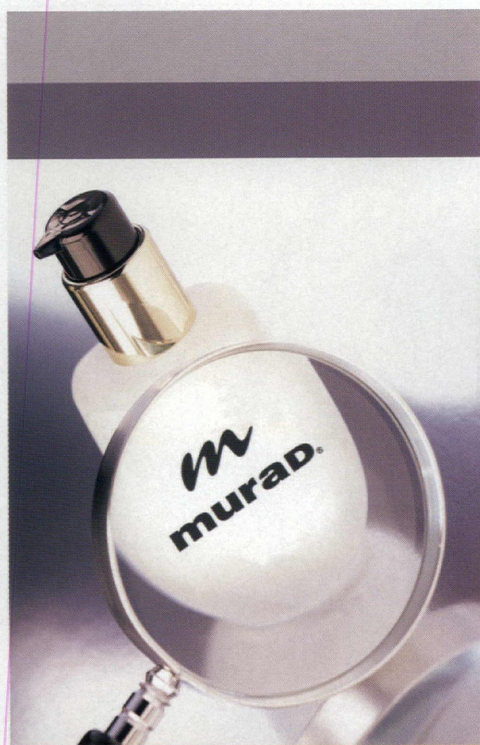


With their exquisite hand granulation, these **mandarin garnet and ruby 22k gold earrings** by **Bikakis & Johns** are sure to be winners. **Hamilton Hill, Historic Brightleaf District, Durham, 919-683-1474.**



Domicile invites shoppers to a sensory feast where the passion for exquisite design and furnishings will awaken and gratify the desire to create the perfect home. **Domicile** features an evolving collection of European and Asian-inspired furniture, lighting and home collectables. Featured here are **The Cat's Pajamas**—these adorable and comfy pajamas have been seen on "Will & Grace," "Ally McBeal," and other celebrity sleepers. **Domicile, Raleigh, 709 Hillsborough St., 919-834-1927 and Chapel Hill, One Eastgate, 919-932-7172.**

Hair Affair Inc.



A salon and full-service day spa established in 1973, our commitment to quality is reflected in professional service and products. Our focus is on you, the client. We combine technical skills, communication skills and creative talent to make you the very best you can be in a friendly, clean, relaxed environment.

We carry an exclusive line of **Murad skin & hair care products.**

Raleigh ■ 919-847-8186



For the music, news or entertainment junkie on your holiday list, how about **Sirius Satellite Radio**. Sirius broadcasts 60 commercial-free channels and 40 news, talk, sports and information channels to motorists across the continental United States. Whether you're driving to the grocery store, sitting in commuter traffic or traveling cross-country, you'll never lose the signal of your favorite music again. **www.sirius.com**



Sensational black and white floor length column gown with white silk shantung bodice and asymmetrical bow by **Chris Cole** at **Cameron Clothing Co., Cameron Village, Raleigh, 919-829-1511.**

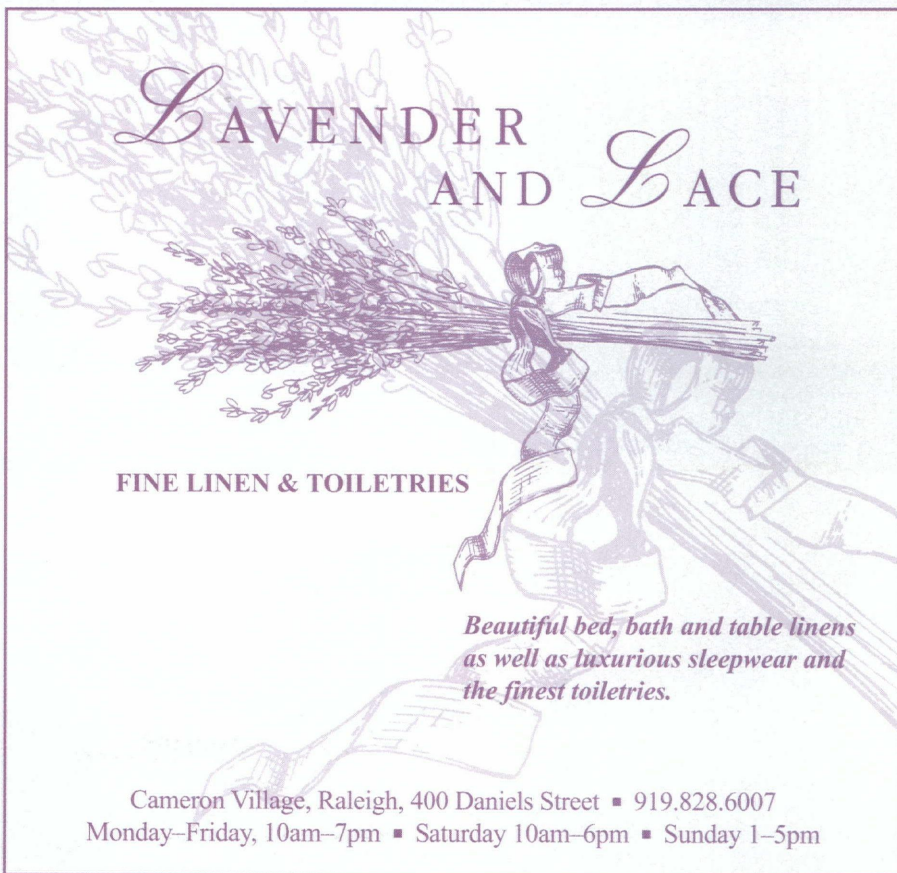


"Pig Out" available at **NOFO**. Great gifts and food products combined in the usual basket or an unexpected container: www.nofocom.com. **NOFO at the Pig**, 919-821-1240, Raleigh and **NOFO at the Forum**, 910-256-0467, Wilmington.



Business or pleasure, **Lana's Studio Separates** are sure to please the eye, body and pocketbook. Made in Canada and carried exclusively at the **Gray Dolphin Boutique**, 114 Main Street, Swansboro, 910-326-4958.

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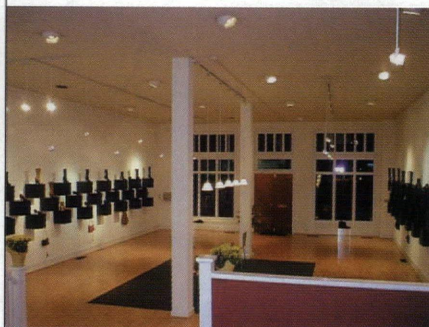
Tue – Sat
12:00 – 7:00 p.m.

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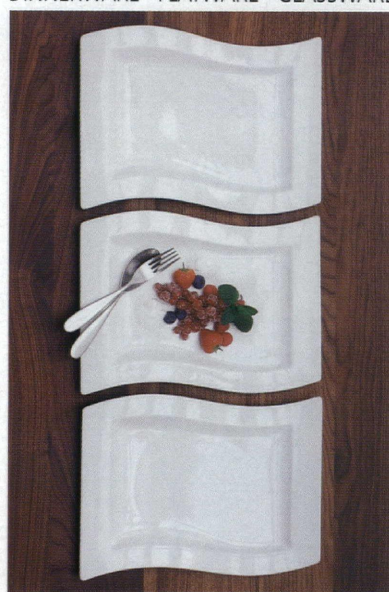
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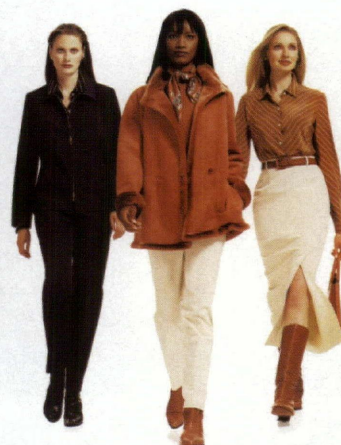
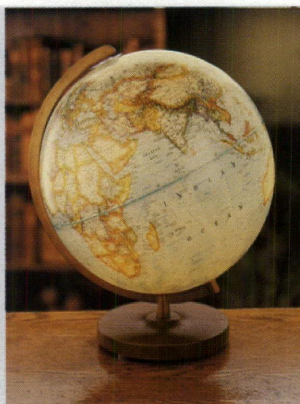
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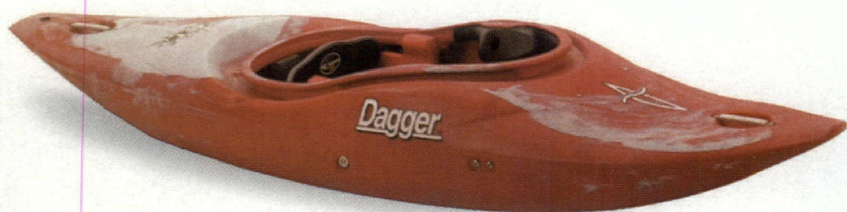


Come enter a world that is magic. Enjoy their coffee bar while you shop. There's everything from a special gift basket to a ten foot kangaroo. **Reba & Roses, Hillsborough, 919-644-2677.**

The **Explorer Desktop Illuminated Globe** offers a new perspective of our world with the flick of a switch. Flip between a physical or political view of the Earth to increase your knowledge and understanding of the world and its geography. **www.national-geographic.com**



This season, the designers at **Doncaster** have given you the diversity you need to go from day to evening, from home entertaining to outside parties, and the flexibility and resources to make dressing simple. Not only does Doncaster have beautiful clothes for the season, but gorgeous accessories to complete your outfits and make gift giving fun. Complimentary gift-wrapping and delivery to home or office is also available. **To see the current collection, contact Pamela Wilson at 919-787-1970 or www.doncasterbytanner.com/pwilson.**

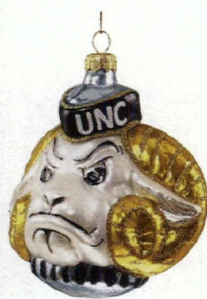


For the adventurous water lover, **Dagger** has excellent boats for whitewater kayaking. The GTX and GT are fast river-runners designed specifically to maximize maneuverability, speed and safety. The GT is designed for smaller paddlers while the GTX is a great roomy boat for larger paddlers. Both are offered in a variety of colors, subtle and bright. **www.dagger.com**

Special Christmas Collectibles For Everyone On Your List

The Green Shutter

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Wilmington, NC 28403
910-791-3504 ■ 800-852-1114



"Bubbles"



"Flapper"



"Miss Fran"

Blue Sky
December Diamonds
Willow Tree Angels
Slavic Treasures
Fanciful Flights
Snowbabies
Old World Ornaments

Corporate Gifting &
Custom Gift Baskets



Come discover the amazing selection of stylish baby clothing and the best gifts for your little one at **Oopsie Daisy**. Pictured is an adorable little outfit made from chenille and your classic Jack-in-the-box. You can find these along with a great selection of unique wooden, classic and European toys at **Oopsie Daisy, MacGregor Village, Cary, 919-380-7448**.

**Give yourself
a gift this holiday season.**

Serenity Day Spa

Gift Certificates

Extraordinary services for the face, body, hands and feet.
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161 Rams Plaza, Chapel Hill (919) 932-6800
www.serenity-day-spa.com

Treat your sweetheart to the crème de la crème—a **gift certificate** from Chapel Hill's famous restaurant **La Résidence**. It's one sure way to sweeten the holidays. Gift certificates available in all sizes. Call **919-967-2506** for more information.



Unique Gifts are just around the corner.



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BIRKENSTOCK
COMFORTABLE SHOES
BLACK MOUNTAIN GALLERY
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HOLD YOUR OWN
THE LOOP GRILL
LYNN'S HALLMARK
MINTA BELL INTERIORS
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POTTED PLANT
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ROSE NAILS
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THE WEATHERVANE CAFÉ
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WILD BIRD CENTER
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HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE - December 14 & 15, 2002

Let the merchants at Eastgate welcome you with unique gift ideas, holiday refreshments, strolling carolers and special savings all weekend-long!

Featuring MetroBravo! Winners: The WeatherVane Café & Somerhill Gallery

East Franklin Street & 15-501 Bypass, Chapel Hill

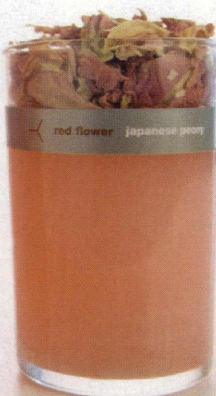
A Federal Realty Investment Trust Property NYSE: FRT • www.federalrealty.com



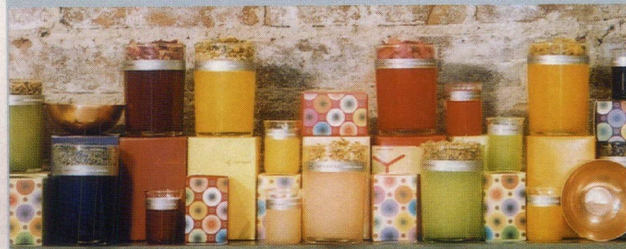
Keep someone warm and in style with the **Quo** stone corduroy blazer with rose appliqué. Available at Shop 2012, 4421 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, 919-787-4476, at The Lassiter, across from North Hills Mall.



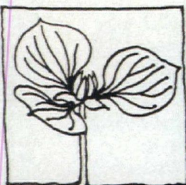
Dagmar Kratochvilova is a Czech ceramics artist specializing in intricate and whimsical **Majolica**. Originality and devotion to the authenticity of the folklore of her country are hallmarks of her work. Each piece is handcrafted and exclusive to **Quintessentials**, located at **The Lassiter, Raleigh**, 919-785-0787 or 888-858-6944.



Beyond your basic candle. Each **Red Flower** candle is topped with dried flowers to be used to scent the bath, a room or as a drawer sachet. Fragrances ranging from Thai Honeysuckle to Japanese Peony (pictured on the left). Available exclusively at **Luxe, The Lassiter, Raleigh**, 919-881-7828.



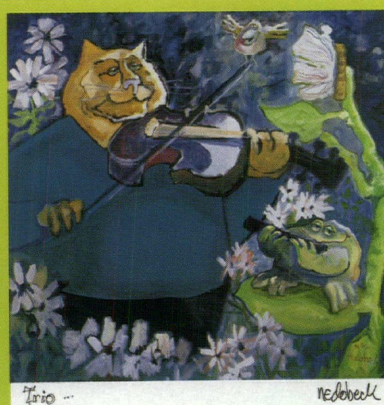
Jay Strongwater is known for his intricate metalwork and his inspired use of color, form and fantasy. All of his pieces are just as beautifully detailed on the back as they are on the front. Cast in metal, then antiqued and hand set with 40-2000 **SWAROVSKI** crystals and completed with the application of exquisitely colored enamels. Exclusive in Raleigh at **Divine Collections, The Lassiter**, 919-786-0301.



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Trillium 919-783-0030

Olde Raleigh Village
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Raleigh, NC 27612



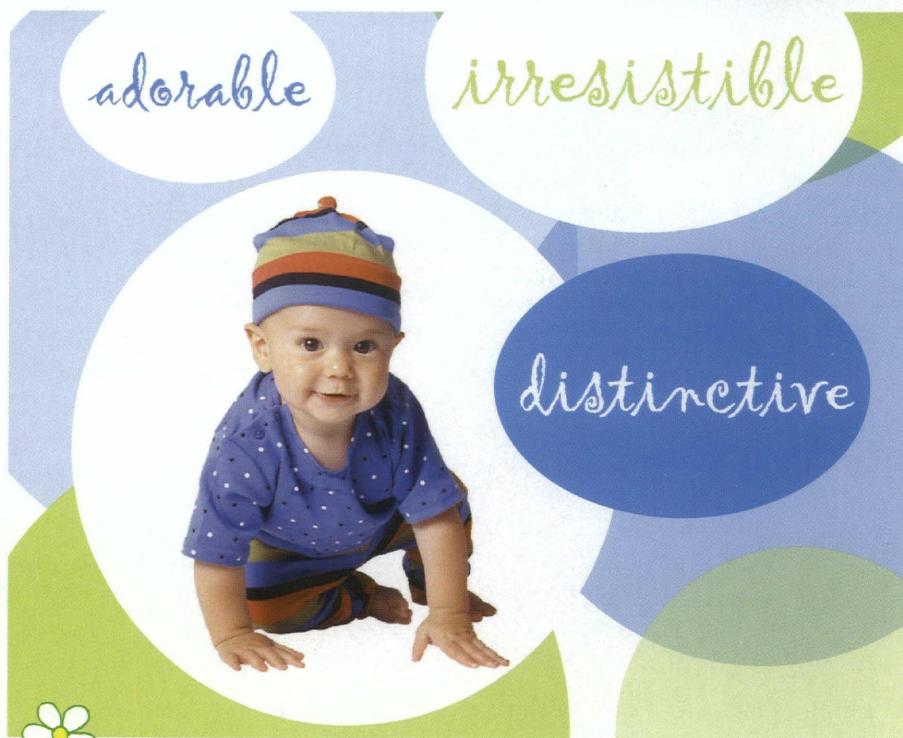
Unique Accessories &
Antiques For
The Home and Garden
1000 North Salem Street, Apex
919-387-FROG



Diane Von Furstenberg flame print silk wrap dress. Available at Beanie + Cecil, Cameron Village, Raleigh, 919-821-5455; The Lassiter, Raleigh, 919-789-4885; Wilmington, 910-762-6585.



These stunning rings are reflective of the many exquisite jewelry designs you will find at Elaine Miller Collection, The Lassiter, Raleigh, 919-571-8888.



Oopsie Daisy

Unique toys, gifts, and clothing for little ones

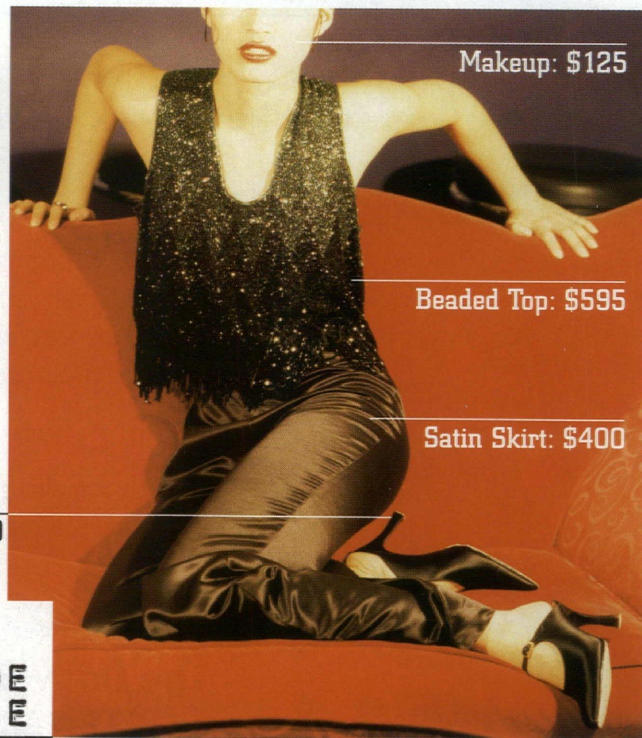
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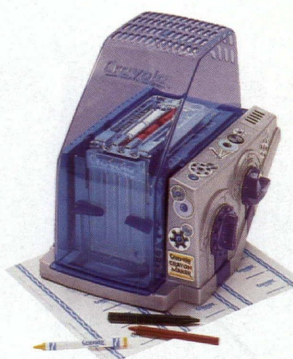
Thursdays 10 - 6 / Fridays 10 - 9 / Saturdays 10 - 6 / Sundays 1 - 6



Scout & Molly's, a Raleigh Boutique offers everything from a great pair of **Paper Denim Jeans** to an elegant cocktail dress by **Nanette Le Pore**. Featured is a multi-colored skirt by **Tocca**. Falls Village, Raleigh, 919-848-8732.



When holiday shopping tires you out, you can look forward to coming home and cuddling up in this beautiful **slipcovered day bed**. Offered in your choice of 1000 washable fabric covers, this classic style is also available as a sofa, sleeper, chair-and-a-half, upholstered sleigh bed, and headboard only. Available exclusively at **The Great Couch Company**, Downtown Raleigh, 919-829-9343.



Gather around this **Memorex Spheres TV Video Ball** for some Holiday movies... and for the creative child on the list, take a peek at the **Crayola Crayon Maker**. Both are available at **Target**, www.target.com.

Attention Ladies... when was the last time you felt like a work of art?



*Lift your backside, tighten your arms,
flatten your belly,
unveil your beautiful shoulders,
fit into "that" dress again... be admired!*



*You can change your life,
and you are worth it.*

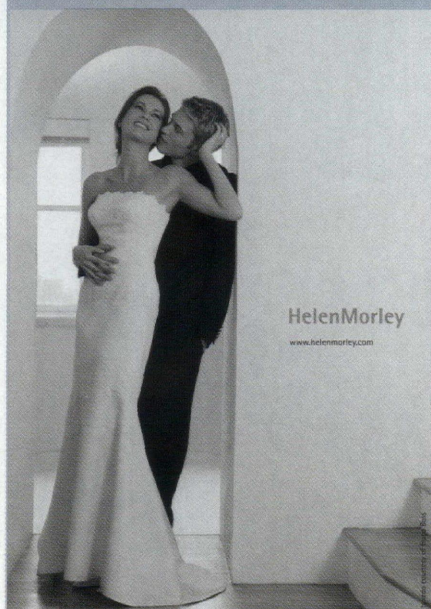
For pricing and possibilities, call
The Body Sculptress
919-788-8981

By appointment only
www.thebodysculptress.com



Crisp, clear and very, very cool— Fall in Raleigh and **Pattini shoes**. **Pattini The Collection**, 126 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh, 919-835-1355, www.pattinicollecion.com.

Bridal, debutante and social occasion attire. Now is the perfect time to secure your designs for the upcoming social season. Call **Enchanting Moments in Fuquay-Varina** to schedule an appointment, 919-552-6393.



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THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING. DO YOU HAVE YOUR REINDEER FOOD? YOUR PEOPLE FOOD? YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS? YOUR HOME DECORATIONS? WE'VE GOT IT ALL AND THEN SOME. **NOFO** STOP BY. SHOP. DINE. REJOICE.

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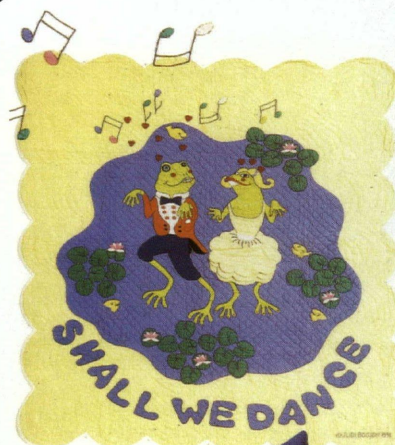


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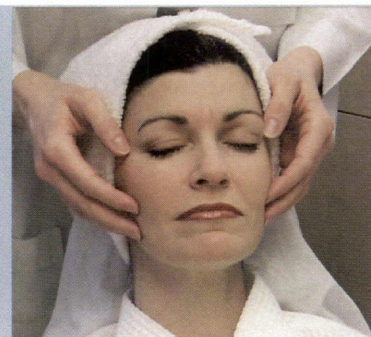
Falls Village - (919) 844-7557, north raleigh
Cameron Village - (919) 833-8822, raleigh



Treat yourself or someone you love to a gift of total relaxation: the **Stressless chair from Ekornes**. Available in dozens of styles and hundreds of leathers and fabrics at **Nowell's Contemporary and Scandinavian Furniture in Cary, 919-467-9224**.



Who wouldn't love a **Gift Certificate to The Museum Spa**? They will bring balance back to your body and spirit. Whether through therapeutic massage, a hydrating facial, or one of their many other services, you will leave feeling completely rejuvenated. Call today to order an elegant Gift Certificate for that special someone. **3633 Harden Road, Raleigh, www.themuseumspa.com, 919-785-9696**.



Turn some heads with sumptuous alligator **Zelli** or calfskin **Cole Hahn shoes**; any size, style or color is available. **Norman Stockton, Meadowmont Village, Chapel Hill, 919-945-0800**.



This gorgeous **dyed blush fox collar** makes the perfect gift for that special lady in your life. **Hertzberg Furs** has an exquisite selection of furs and fur accessories that range from casual to formal. **6019B Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, 919-782-2165 or 800-876-3877**.

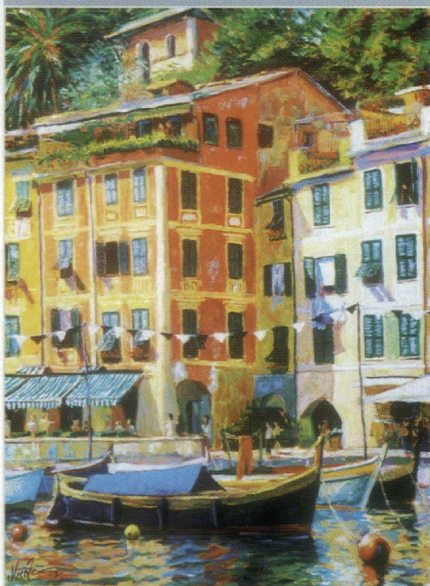
Knit of pure cashmere, these sumptuously soft, extra-long **Portolano cashmere gloves** are available in a wide range of fashionable colors... from lemon yellow to deep black and every gorgeous color in between. **Garnet Hill, www.garnethill.com, 1-800-622-6216**.



Fresh, Fabulous and Fragrantly Florabundant. A rambling mix of cultivars: color-shy English roses, blushing teas, courtly cerises, heavenly hybrid hues... all tenderly petal-escant and softly in the pink... inexcusably romantic. A rose is a rose is a rose and sometimes **M-A-C Fab Floral**. Let them go to your head. Available at all **M-A-C** locations, for more information contact **M-A-C Global Communications** at 212-965-6333.



Warm someone on your list with this dyed sheared beaver hand knitted vest by **Paula Lishman**. Available at **Hertzberg Furs**, 6019B Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, 919-782-2165 or 800-876-3877.



Nicole White Kennedy, known for her award-winning art of Italy and owner of **Nicole's Studio & Art Gallery** now offers limited edition giclee prints of her favorite paintings. You can find more info online at www.nicolestudio.com or call or stop by the studio at 715 N. Person St., Raleigh, 919-838-8580. Open Tue-Sat, 11-6 pm.



Pamper someone special on your list with **Kate Spade** travel cosmetic cases and **Fredrick Fekkai** hair care products... or maybe even pamper yourself. Available at **Beanie + Cecil Cameron Village**, 919-821-5455, **The Lassiter** 919-789-4885, **Wilmington** 910-762-6585.

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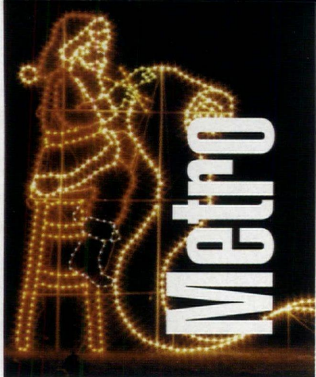


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Preview

Edited and compiled by
Frances Smith, senior editor

*Our thanks to Jack Morton
for collecting and editing
pop music this month.*

Music, pageantry, feasts and ceremonies

THE REGION REJOICES IN THE SYMPHONY OF CHRISTMAS

IN THE MUSEUMS

Two simultaneous photography exhibitions have opened at the **Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum** in Wilmington. **Twentieth Century Masters of Photography** showcases a collection of 42 images by 28 masters who helped to lift photography to an art form that communicated universal meaning. The other exhibition, **Vera Sprunt: Whole Hybrid Photographs and Photogravures** displays 24 works by the Wilmington native. The exhibit comprises the artist's recent series *Auriculae* (oracle), focusing on the beauty and mystery of the human ear. Call 910-395-5999.

The **Greenville Museum of Art** has opened two new exhibitions. **Paul Hartley: A Retrospective** is a tribute to Greenville artist Paul Hartley. Longtime teacher in the School of Art at East Carolina

University, he is currently professor and coordinator of painting and drawing. A color catalogue with an essay by Raleigh art critic Max Halperen accompanies the exhibition. **Gerry Lynch: Works in Steel** is a unique collection that incorporates steel into each piece of work. Lynch, a Raleigh artist, maintains a studio at Raleigh's Artspace. Call 252-758-1946.

The **North Carolina Museum of Art** continues its four-exhibition festival, **Art in the Age of Rubens and Rembrandt** through Jan. 5. The extraordinary, multifaceted event celebrates the glories of Northern European painting and introduces the permanent installation of a 17th-century kurstkamer or "art room." Call 919-839-6262.

Exploris, a museum about the world in Raleigh, has on view the Triangle's fourth annual **CANSTRUC-TION** competition and exhibition, open through January 5. Eight area

architecture and design firms have built sculptures using only food cans and packages—in the interest of fighting hunger. Visitors to the exhibit may bring canned goods to donate. All packaged food will be given to the Food Bank of North Carolina. Winners will be picked from six categories. Call 919-834-4040 or visit www.exploris.org.

Raleigh City Museum is **Celebrating a Capital Season** with special photographic displays of Raleigh's Christmas past now until Jan. 5. The Museum's Holiday Open House will be on Dec. 14, featuring seasonal music, refreshments and costumed hosts. Call 919-832-3775 or visit www.raleigh-citymuseum.org.

Board the **Museum of Life and Science's** Ellerbee Creek Train for a **moonlight ride to meet Santa** at the North Pole, then enjoy hot chocolate and holiday entertainment under the stars. The special Santa

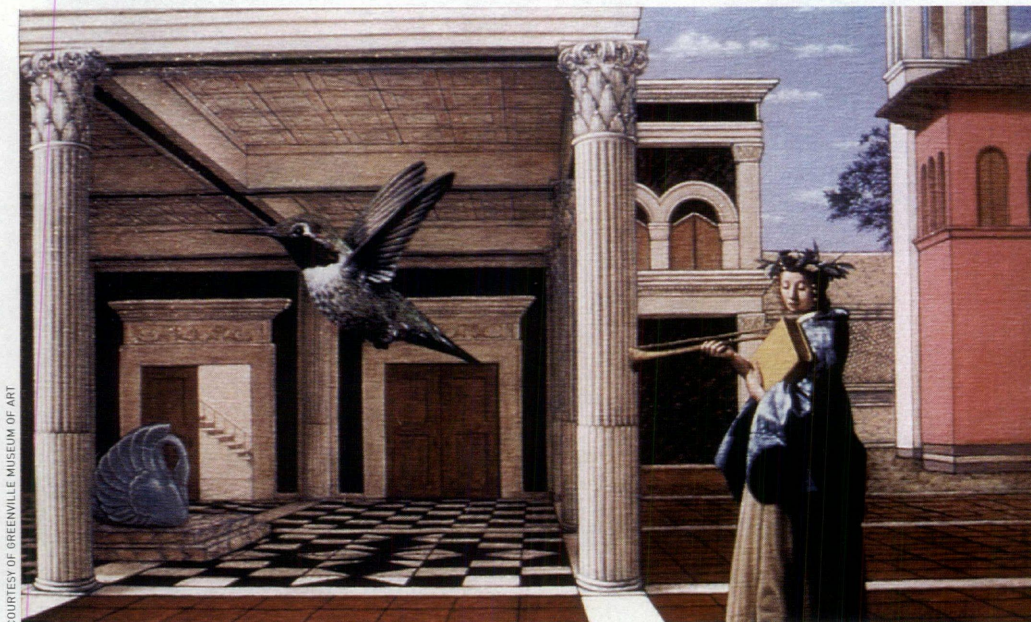
Train will chug around the museum grounds on Dec. 6 & 7, 13-15, & 20-22. First train pulls out at 5:40 p.m., last train at 8:20 p.m. The Museum of Life and Science is located at 433 Murray Ave., Durham. Call 919-220-5429 or visit <http://ils.unc.edu/NCMLS/ncmls.html>.

The **NC Museum of History** will pay tribute to the season with a concert by the **Branchettes**, recipients of an NC Folk Heritage Award. The group, co-sponsored by PineCone, will perform hymns and gospel songs on Dec. 8. Call 919-715-0200.

GALLERIES & TOURS

The Fine Art Gallery at **Animation & Fine Art Galleries** at University Mall in Chapel Hill has on exhibit and for sale, now through Dec. 31, **The Gift of Art**, original works by Chagall, Dalí, Masson, Matisse, Miró, Picasso and Warhol. The Animation Gallery is showing until Dec. 31, **The Grinch, Marvin the Martian, and Bugs Bunny!** Call 919-968-8008 or visit www.animationandfineart.com.

Trees, animals and flowers have been scaled down by artists to only inches in height for the **N.C. Botanical Garden Diminutive Nature Art Show**, Chapel Hill, open now through Dec. 31 in the garden's Totten Center classroom. Artwork is by local artists and by students from the garden's botanical illustration classes. The diminutive nature art will be placed on silent auction on Dec. 2-8. All proceeds will benefit the garden and its programs. The Botanical Garden is on Old Mason Farm Road at Fordham Boulevard. Call 919-962-0522.



COURTESY OF GREENVILLE MUSEUM OF ART

Piero Space, 2000 by Paul Hartley, acrylic and oil on canvas, on view at the Greenville Museum of Art

The **Little Art Gallery and Craft Collection** in Raleigh's Cameron Village will display the recent work of **NC artist Stephen White** throughout the month of December. White is especially noted for the



COURTESY OF EXPLORIS

*Never has
"canned" fish looked so
artistic—on view at Exploris*

elegant
and sedate women
that grace his painting. Call
919-890-4111.

The **Wilson Arts Center** is holding a **Holiday Invitational Art Exhibition and Sale**, now through Dec. 18 at the Arts Center. Enjoy fine art and buy holiday gifts. The Wilson Arts Center is located at 124 Nash Street in Wilson. Call 252-291-4329.

Green Tara Gallery has on view two new exhibitions: **Glamorous Pots** is juried clay work, the result of a call for entries across the US and Canada, open until Feb. 22. **Visions from Ordinary Life** features painter Anthony Ulinski's works in oil that reflect a contemporary yet nostalgic attitude, showing until Jan. 18. The opening reception is Dec. 1. Green Tara Gallery is located at 1800 E. Franklin St., 18b Eastgate, Chapel Hill. Call 919-932-6400 or visit www.greentaragallery.com.

The **Cotton Company** of Wake Forest is opening a new gallery space adjacent to the current Cotton Company marketplace. The first exhibition, **Hearts & Hands—A Season of Giving**, runs from Dec. 2–31 and features the work of the gallery's resident artists, Janice Eagle Roberts (jewelry design); Michael Searle (stained glass); Evans Lau (mixed media); and Kittie Rue Deemer (photography and mixed media). An artist reception

and wine tasting will be held on Dec. 13 at the Cotton Company, 306 S. White St. Call 919-570-0087.

The **Sandy Nelson McNeal Art Show** will be on view at the **Festival Park Art Gallery** in Manteo, Dec. 4–31. This local artist presents impressionistic interpretations of local and European scenes in a variety of mediums. The works are for sale. An opening reception will be held on Dec. 8. Call 800-446-6262.

The **Annual Durham Art Walk** through downtown Durham art studios and galleries will be held on Dec. 7. Over 50 downtown artists and galleries will open their doors to the public during this self-guided tour.

Maps are available in the lobby of the Durham Arts Council. Refreshments, poetry readings and music are also components of the day. Call 919-560-2713 or visit www.durhamarts.org.

The **Chapel Hill/Carrboro 2nd Friday Art Walk**, Dec. 13, promises to be a festive evening of art, entertainment and hors d'oeuvres spotlighting area art exhibit venues. The Carrboro ArtsCenter's Gallery will feature the work of the Pastel Society. Free. Call 919-929-2787.

Steinway Gallery will exhibit **Sculpture Spectacular II**, Dec. 13–March 14, featuring indoor sculpture including freestanding pieces, wall pieces and mobiles as well as

human-size and monumental outdoor sculpture by regional, national and international sculptors.

Steinway Gallery is located at 1289 N. Fordham Blvd., Chapel Hill. Call 919-942-8780 or visit www.steinwaygallery.com.

AT THE THEATER

The magic of **Carolina Ballet's** performance of **Nutcracker** began on Nov. 29, continued through Dec. 1 and now picks up again, offering ballet lovers more stunning classical ballet with dazzling costumes and lavish sets, including an enormous Christmas tree. Performances will run Dec. 20–29 in Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh. Call 919-719-0900.

At the **ArtsCenter** in Carrboro, Ghost and Spice Productions will present **Road to Nirvana** by Arthur Kopit on Dec. 1, 8 & 15 (twice daily). The hilarious comedy is about three producers who try to get a handle on a movie about a lovely but loopy pop star. Call 919-929-2787.

The **Sandhills Theater Company** will present Dickens' **A Christmas Carol**, Dec. 4–8, in Sunrise Theater, NW Broad Street, Southern Pines. For more information call 910-692-3799.

An original adaptation of Dickens' **A Christmas Carol** will be staged in **Thalian Hall**, Wilmington, Dec. 5–8, 12–15, 19–22. In addition to favorite characters and scenes, expect a few surprises as Dickens' themes of community and redemption are heightened by this version's fresh, timely approach. Call 800-523-2820, 910-343-3664.

Cinderella, the annual holiday treat from **Raleigh Little Theatre**, will be presented in the A.J. Fletcher

Opera Theater in the BTI Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh, Dec. 6–8 & 13–15. Cinderella, her prince and the ugliest stepsisters in the kingdom invite you to King Darling's ball for a delightful musical retelling of this favorite fairytale. Call 919-821-3111 or visit www.raleigh-littletheatre.org.

Theatre in the Park will present the 28th Annual production of **A Christmas Carol** starring Ira David Wood in his now-famous performance as Scrooge, Dec. 10–18, in Memorial Auditorium, BTI Performing Arts Center, Raleigh. Call the BTI Box Office, 919-831-6060 or Ticketmaster, 919-834-4000 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

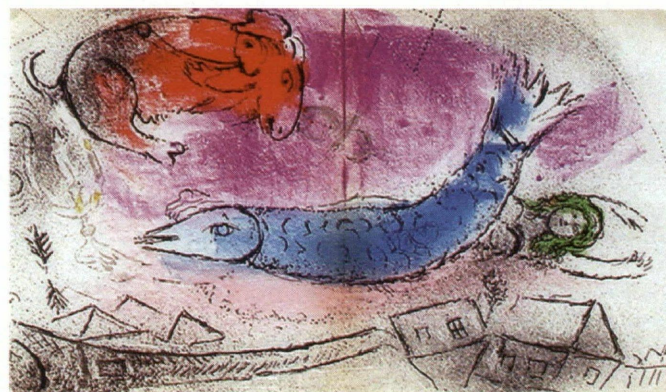
The Thalian Association will present **Once Upon a Mattress**, Dec. 12–15 at Thalian Hall in Wilmington. Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, this rollicking spin on the familiar classic of royal courtship and comeuppance provides for some side-splitting shenanigans. Call 800-523-2820, 910-343-3664 or visit www.thalian.org.

Manbites Dog Theater Company in Durham will present Elliot Engel's play, **The Night before Christmas Carol**, Dec. 14 & 15 in their theater at 703 Foster St., Durham. In this entertaining production about the creation of Dickens' most beloved work, **David Zum Brunnen** will portray Charles Dickens and 15 other characters. The presentation is to benefit Manbites Dog Theater. Call 919-682-3343 or visit www.manbitesdogtheater.org.

Linda Humes, founder and artistic director of Yaffa Cultural Arts Inc. in New York City, will host a **celebration of Kwanzaa** in St. Joseph's Performance Hall at the Hayti Heritage Center in Durham, Dec. 26–31. Humes will be joined by area artists to conduct nightly candle ceremonies traditional in the celebration of Kwanzaa. Performers include Toya Chinflou, Bradley Simmons, Magic of African Rhythm, Resounding Steel and more. Call 919-683-1709 or visit www.hayti.org.

Open Door Theatre will present Sam Shepard's **True West** at the ArtsCenter in Carrboro, Jan. 1–5, 9–12 & 16–19. The play reveals an identity of the American landscape through two offbeat and misguided brothers. Each wants the life of the other. Call 919-929-2787.

Ailey II will return to **The Carolina Theatre** in Durham, Jan. 17, with a



The Blue Fish (Le Poisson Bleu) by Marc Chagall, Lithograph, 1954, is on exhibit at Animation & Fine Art Galleries

COURTESY OF ANIMATION & FINE ART GALLERIES

new program of dazzling athletic dances culled from Alvin Ailey's rich 30-year repertoire, plus recent works by other up-and-coming choreographers. Call 919-560-3040.

HAIR: The American Tribal Love Rock Musical will be presented in Wilmington on **City Stage**, Level 5, Jan. 10-19. The stage is located at 21 N. Front St. Call 910-762-5807.

The musical **Tango Buenos Aires** will feature a bevy of dancers and musicians on stage at the **Carolina Theatre** in Durham, Jan. 22. On their international tour, the company has amazed audiences with the true tango, Argentina's native dance. Call 919-560-3040.

The **East Carolina Dance Theatre** in Greenville gets on its toes with its production of **Dance 2003**, Jan. 30-Feb. 4. Ballet, modern, jazz and tap-dance are all brought to the stage in this annual event that has become popular with dance aficionados and newcomers alike. Choreographed by the ECU dance faculty and guest artists, this event is fast-paced and unpredictable. Call 252-328-4736 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS or visit www.ecu.edu/ecuarts.

CLASSICAL CONCERTS

The **North Carolina Symphony's** annual **Holiday Pops Concert** will be held Dec. 1-5 in Meymandi Concert Hall in Raleigh. William Henry Curry, associate conductor, will direct the Symphony in a performance of seasonal music with sing-along and festive decorations. For information about the Pops performances in Meymandi or those in other towns in the region, call 919-733-2750 or visit www.ncsymphony.org.

The **Duke Chorale**, under the direction of Rodney Wynkoop, will present their annual **Christmas Concert in Duke Chapel**, Durham, on Dec. 3. The evening will begin with seasonal music on the Carillon and for organ and afterward the Chorale will sing holiday selections and Christmas carols for audience participation. Admission is one non-perishable food item for needy families in Durham. Call 919-660-3300.

The **Duke Symphony Orchestra**, under the direction of Harry Davidson, will present a concert of selections from **Beethoven and Brahms** in Baldwin Auditorium on



The Duke Chorale will lift voices in celebration of Christmas on Dec. 3

the Duke campus, Durham, on Dec. 4. Featured musicians will be Hsiao-Mei Ku, violin, and Fred Raimi, cello. Call 919-660-3300.

The **Duke Chapel Choir's** annual performances of **Handel's Messiah** with orchestra will be held in Duke Chapel, Durham, Dec. 6-8. Call 919-684-4444 or visit www.chapel-duke.edu.

The **Wilmington Symphony's** **Holiday Concert** will be presented Dec. 7 in Kenan Auditorium at UNC-Wilmington. The program will include music of the season and Part I of Handel's *Messiah* with the Wilmington Choral Society. Call 910-962-3500 or 800-732-3643.

The **Moore County Choral Society Christmas Concert** of popular and classical seasonal music will be held on Dec. 7 & 8 in Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College, Airport Rd., Southern Pines. Call 910-295-5525.

The 102-member **Girls Choir** of Wilmington will perform a variety of holiday songs, classical selections, and sacred pieces in their winter **Holiday Concert** on Dec. 8. The Wilmington **Boys Choir** will perform their **Holiday Concert** on Dec. 14 & 15. Both choirs are directed by **Sandy Errante** and accompanied by Dr. Steven Errante and will perform in St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wilmington. Call about either concert 910-799-5073.

The **NC Master Chorale** of

Raleigh will present **Joy of the Season**, a holiday event featuring both the 170-voice Chorale and the 22-voice professional Chamber Choir, in Meymandi Concert Hall, Raleigh, on Dec. 14 & 15. The first half of the program will include music by great masters, followed by John Rutter's *Gloria*. The second half will offer popular carols and Christmas songs. Call 919-856-9700.

The **Choral Society of Durham** will present a **Christmas Concert** in Duke Chapel, Durham on Dec. 14 & 15. The program will include Brubeck's *La fiesta de la posada* and carols with harp and guitar. Joining the chorus for this performance will be the Durham School of the Arts Camerata Singers. Call 919-560-2733.

The **Concert Dancers of Raleigh** will present a **Winter Concert** on Dec. 15 at Jones Auditorium, Meredith College, Raleigh. The dancers, ages 5 to 17 from Raleigh, Cary & Apex, will perform *'Twas the Night before Christmas* and other holiday works. Call 919-847-4815.

The annual concert of **The Raleigh Boychoir** will be presented in Edenton Street United Methodist Church in Raleigh on Dec. 20. The music will feature traditional American and European Christmas carols, plus musical selections celebrating the Advent, Christmas and Chanukah. Call 919-881-9259.

The **Raleigh Ringers**, a commu-

nity handbell choir, will perform their **Annual Holiday Concert** on Dec. 21 & 22 in Raleigh's Meymandi Concert Hall. UNC-TV has selected The Raleigh Ringers Holiday Special to air several times this month. Watch television schedules for times. And on Dec. 4, the Ringers will give a concert at White Plains United Methodist Church in Cary. The choir, which performs on 330 bells comprising 27 octaves, is made up of auditioned musicians under the direction of David M. Harris. Call 919-847-7574 or visit www.rr.org.

The **North Carolina Symphony's** **New Year's Eve Concert**, William Henry Curry conducting, will feature Viennese favorites and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* in Meymandi Concert Hall in Raleigh. The Symphony also offers a gala package for Dec. 31, which will include an entire evening of events at the **Crabtree Marriott** as well as the concert at Meymandi—a pre-concert cocktail party, transportation to and from Meymandi, lavish dining at the Marriott, dancing to the big band sounds of Leon Jordan's *Continental*, a Champagne toast at midnight and optional overnight accommodations. Call 919-733-2750 or visit www.ncsymphony.org.

The **North Carolina Symphony** will make music in Meymandi Concert Hall again on Jan. 4 when they will present **Toon Tunes**, with Jeffrey Pollock, assistant conductor. The program will present familiar music used in favorite cartoons, including: Wagner: Ride of the Valkyries, Rossini: Overture to *Barber of Seville* and Grieg: Music from *Peer Gynt*. Call 919-733-2750 or visit www.ncsymphony.org.

James Ogle, artistic director of the Boise Philharmonic Association, will return to New Bern for the 21st performance of **Handel's Messiah**, Jan. 5 & 6, in Centenary United Methodist Church. Co-directors of the Craven Messiah Chorus are B. J. Oglesby and Pat K. Rowlett. For advance tickets, call 252-349-3056 or visit the Craven Arts Council, 317 Middle St., Dec. 16-20.

Bolcom & Morris, featuring Pulitzer-prize winning composer and pianist William Bolcom and mezzo-soprano Joan Morris, will appear in UNC-Wilmington's **Kenan Auditorium** on Jan. 18. This husband-and-wife duo is highly acclaimed for its interpretations of

COURTESY OF DUKE UNIVERSITY MUSIC DEPARTMENT

American popular songs from the '20s and '30s. Call 800-732-3643 or 910-962-3500.

The **American Music Festival** at the NC Maritime Museum, Beaufort, Jan. 18, will present the **Carolina Piano Trio** performing Meira Warshauer's *Aekah* (*Lamentations*) for Piano Trio. The Festival's 2002-2003 season features contemporary composers of North Carolina. Call 252-504-3787.

Pianist **Lorin Hollander**, considered one of the world's foremost conductors and pianists, will perform in **Thalian Hall**, Wilmington, Jan. 31. Call 800-523-2820, 910-343-3664, or visit www.thalianhall.com.

The **Opera Company of North Carolina** will present Camille Saint Saëns' *Samson et Dalila* in Raleigh Memorial Auditorium, Jan 31 & Feb. 2. The opera will star North Carolina's own Metropolitan Opera mezzo-soprano **Victoria Livengood** as the tempestuous Dalila. Call 919-783-5638.

POP MUSIC & DANCE

An Evening with **John Berry** will kick off the holiday season at **Durham's Carolina Theatre** when two shows of the **7th Annual Toys for Tots Holiday Country Concert** are presented at 3 and 7 p.m. on Dec. 1. The country star will sing soulful renditions of holiday classics and his own greatest hits. Call 919-560-3040.

The **Oakwood Waits**, a vocal ensemble specializing in a cappella renditions of favorite holiday selections and dressed as 14 Victorian carolers in gay apparel, will perform on Dec. 7 at the **Film Theatre** in Manteo. The free event is partially funded by the Manteo Preservation Trust. Call 800-446-6262.

The **ArtsCenter** in Carrboro plays host to **Songs for Peace**, a benefit concert on Dec. 7. The evening of songs will support the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolition and will feature Triangle area songwriters including Kathleen Hannan and Beth Padgett. Call 919-929-2787.

HeJazz, a fusion between various styles of world music, will take center-stage at the **ArtsCenter** in Carrboro on Dec. 13. The evening begins with **Aziza Fadwa and the Flowers of the Desert**, a form of belly dancing. And on Dec. 14, the high-energy music and driving

rhythms that have made **El Grupo Camaleon** one of the Triangle's most popular Latin dance bands will fill the ArtsCenter. Call 919-929-2787.

Celebrate the season with the piano stylings of **Emile Pandolfi** in Wilson's **Boykin Center**, Dec. 14. Join Emile in this intimate return engagement. Call 252-291-4329.

Sandhills Community College in Southern Pines will present their annual **Christmas Concert** on Dec. 15 in Owens Auditorium. Call 910-695-3829.

The **American Music Jubilee Christmas Show** is in full swing in Selma and will continue through Dec. 23. This celebration of a Southern Christmas is on stage in the Rudy Theater, 300 N. Raiford St, Selma. Call 919-202-9927 or toll-free 877-843-7839.

The **DownEast FolkArts Society Contra Dance** will whirl into action on Jan. 11 at the **Duke Marine Lab**, Beaufort. Music will be by Bill & Libby Hicks/Louie Cromartie. Call 252-509-2787.

Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder will bring their traditional bluegrass legacy to **Thalian Hall** in Wilmington for two concerts on Jan. 18. Call 800-523-2820.

Legendary gospel singers, the **Blind Boys of Alabama** with **Clarence Fountain** will perform in Duke's **Baldwin Auditorium**, Durham, on

Jan. 24. Their retrospective of gospel and spiritual music will include the foot-stomping, hand-clapping versions of old favorites and rare gems. Call 919-660-3356 or visit www.duke.edu/web/dia.

Nevermore Horror and Gothic Film Festival is coming to the **Carolina Theatre** in Durham, Jan. 24-26. Created in 1999, The Nevermore Horror and Gothic Film Festival is dedicated to screening audience-requested horror flicks as well as brand-new films from around the world. The festival will also create a walk-through lobby display filled with original horror movie memorabilia. Call 919-560-3040 or visit www.carolinatheatre.org.

The **North Carolina Jazz Festival** will present world-class jazz musicians performing in one of the state's top jazz celebrations at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside, Wilmington, on Jan. 31-Feb. 1. The Festival Preview will be held on Jan. 30 in UNC-Wilmington's Kenan Auditorium. Call 910-763-8585.

POTPOURRI

The **2002 Chick-fil-A Celebration of Lights** has opened on the grounds of **ALLTEL Pavilion** at Walnut Creek, just east of Raleigh. The lighting spectacle, a two-mile drive-through

event with over 200 displays of holiday lights, will be open seven days a week through Jan. 4. The show is a City of Raleigh event, powered by Progress Energy. A portion of the proceeds will benefit **Play It Again Carolina**, a new program that collects and distributes instruments to local students who wish to play music but cannot afford an instrument. Call 919-831-6666 or visit www.alltelpavilion.com.

A **Festival of Trees** at the **Hilton Wilmington Riverside** will provide a storybook Christmas now through Dec. 8—with over 120 decorated trees, holiday entertainment in a castle's courtyard, goodies in a Gingerbread House and gift shopping in the Holiday Room. The Lower Cape Fear Hospice will use ALL proceeds from the Festival of Trees to provide terminally ill patients and their loved ones with special care. Call 910-772-5474 or visit www.hospicelowercapefear.org.

Historic Oakview County Park in Raleigh will celebrate **Holidays Around the World**, Dec. 3-8, with an open house and candlelight tour on Dec. 7. The event will feature over 20 trees and displays depicting the holiday customs of countries in all corners of the world. Enjoy carols in the 1855 farmstead, hot apple cider and Christmas stories. Call 919-250-1013.

The public is invited to **Homewood Nursery** in North Raleigh on Dec. 5 when it will open its version of the **J.C. Raulston Arboretum Poinsettia Trials** with 113 cultivars on display! Call 919-515-3132 or visit www.homewood.citysearch.com/.

Kane Realty and the merchants of The Lassiter at North Hills will present **Ira David Wood** and carolers from *A Christmas Carol*, who will entertain at **The Lassiter's Holiday Open House** on Dec. 5. In addition, expect food, drink and, of course, seasonal shopping, as well as a chance to win gift certificates, tickets and more! Call 919-833-7755.

The Triangle Mothers of Twins and Triplets, a non-profit community-support organization, will hold its annual **TMOTT Holiday Auction** on Dec. 5 at the **Amran Shriners Lodge**, Raleigh. TMOTT, with over 450 members, supports families of twins, triplets, and higher multiples in the Triangle area. Money raised is used exclusively to fund vital community service projects. Call 919-272-2781.

The **Friends of Hospice Festival**



John Berry, country star, will appear at the Carolina Theatre

COURTESY OF CAROLINA THEATRE



COURTESY OF CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

Swan on Sparkling Water, one of hundreds of displays at the Celebration of Lights

of Trees Preview will be held on Dec. 6 in the Crystal Coast Civic Center, **Morehead City**, and the 14th annual **Festival of Trees** will be open Dec. 7-14. Ticket donations will benefit Hospice of Carteret County. The Festival of Trees is an annual gift of Hospice to the Crystal Coast. Call 252-247-1390 or 252-726-0092.

The second annual **Gingerbread Fantasyland Celebration**, featuring a life-size replica of a gingerbread house in an enchanting holiday winter setting, will be held on **Wrightsville Beach**, Dec. 6-22. The event will include a display of miniature gingerbread houses from an area contest, fireside cooking demonstrations, evening storytelling with cookies and cocoa, special appearances by Santa Claus and other activities. Free. Call 910-256-2231 or visit www.wrightsville.sun-spreeresorts.com.

Home for the Holidays, Cary Academy's Christmas tour, Dec. 6 & 7, will take visitors into some of the area's most beautiful homes decked out in Christmas finery. To learn more about this elegant occasion, see SOS in this issue of *Metro* or call 677-1946, ext. 2104.

Local garden clubs are decorating Weymouth Center in live greens along with other Christmas decorations for a special **Christmas at Weymouth Center**, Dec. 6 & 7. The Center is located on Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. Call 910-692-6261.

For the 74th year, the city of **Wilmington** Recreation Division will illuminate the **World's Largest Living Christmas Tree** nightly at 6 p.m. during the Christmas season,

Dec. 6-Jan. 1. The ceremony will include entertainment, lighting of the tree in Hilton Park, and the arrival of Santa Claus. Free. Call 910-341-7855.

The **Core Sound Waterfowl Weekend** will be in session at the **Core Sound Waterfowl Museum** on Harkers Island, Dec. 6-8. Exhibitors and events showcase Core Sound regional boat building, hunting and guide services, conservation organizations and activities. The **Decoy Festival** will be held at the Harkers Island school on Dec. 7 & 8. Call 252-728-1500 or visit www.core-sound.com.

The **Joel Lane Museum House**, Raleigh's oldest home, constructed in 1770, will sponsor its annual **Christmas Open House** on Dec. 7 & 8. The house will feature traditional decorations and will reflect the way our ancestors celebrated the Christmas holiday. Free tours of the house and grounds will be offered by costumed docents. Refreshments will be wassail and cookies. The house will be open for holiday tours until mid-December. Call 919-833-3431.

The **Swan Days Festival** will fly into **Mattamuskeett Lodge** in Hyde County on Dec. 7 & 8. The event celebrates the return of the tundra swans and other waterfowl to the Hyde County lake. The variety of activities will include a guided tour of the refuge, arts & crafts, vendor displays, live craft demonstrations, historic displays and workshops. Lunch will be prepared by a local civic group. Call 252-926-4021.

The **Duke Homestead State**



COURTESY OF J.C. RAULSTON ARBORETUM

Poinsettias on trial at Homewood Nursery

Historic Site and Tobacco Museum in Durham will present **Christmas by Candlelight**, Dec. 6 & 13. The 1852 homestead will be decorated as the Washington Duke family would have had it to celebrate Christmas.

Evening tours of the house will be led by costumed interpreters and special music and refreshments will be served. Donations will be accepted. Duke Homestead is located at 2828 Duke Homestead Rd., Durham. Call 919-477-5498.

Part of historic downtown Wilmington's annual holiday light celebration and naval tradition, is the annual **Lighting of the Battleship North Carolina**, dressed in lights strung from the bow up to the masts and down to the stern. It will be lighted nightly, Dec. 6-Jan. 6. Free viewing from **downtown Wilmington**. Call 910-251-5797 or visit www.battleshipnc.com.

The **Crystal Coast Christmas Flotilla** will float down the **Morehead City** and **Beaufort** waterfronts on Dec. 7. Yachts and work boats will be decorated and lighted for Christmas. The water parade will organize on the Morehead City Waterfront. Call 252-726-8148.

Also on Dec. 7, the **Island of Lights Holiday Flotilla** will cruise the Intracoastal Waterway along **Carolina and Kure beaches**. Fishing boats and pleasure craft will be electrically decorated with thousands of lights. Call 910-458-7116, 910-458-3514 or visit www.island-oflights.com.

The **Southern Pines Christmas Horse & Carriage Drive and Tree Lighting** will be held on Dec. 7 in

downtown Southern Pines.

Entertainment will follow the carriage drive and the tree lighting will be at dusk. Call 910-692-6928.

A longstanding holiday tradition, the **Moravian Candle Tea**, will be held on Dec. 7 at **Covenant Moravian Church** in Wilmington. Features will include a holiday craft bazaar, cooking demonstrations, candlemaking, music, refreshments and the annual Putz, a 15-minute narrated nativity scene. Call 910-799-9256.

The Alliance of AIDS Services-Carolina will sponsor an **AIDS-WALK** on Dec. 7 in **downtown Raleigh**. The one-mile walk is symbolic of walking a mile to help others in need and to enable persons with physical disabilities to participate. Walk teams are recruited through participating organizations and 100 percent of the proceeds raised by walkers will support direct-care services for those with AIDS. Call 919-834-2437.

The Fifth Annual **Twelve Days of Christmas** will begin on Dec. 8 at the **Carolina Inn** on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. The Inn will be festively adorned for the holidays with elaborate decorations based on the traditional song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." There will be self-guided tours and holiday activities, including a display of gingerbread houses featuring historic homes in Chapel Hill. Activities will run through Jan. 6. Call 800-962-8519 or visit www.carolinainn.com.

With the theme **Viewing Art as a Way of Life**, 52 professional artists in Chatham County will open their studios to the public on Dec. 7-8 &

14-15 during the **10th Anniversary Open Studio Tour**, the largest showcase in the Tour's history. An opening reception will be held on Dec. 6 at **Central Carolina Community College** in Pittsboro. The artists' studios are located throughout Chatham County. Maps are available from the Chatham County Arts Council and on their Web site: www.chathamarts.org, also through Chatham County Travel and Tourism. Call 919-542-0394.

In Durham on Dec. 7, **Light Up Durham 2002**, will feature a community march from Mangum at Ramseur to Morgan at Morris St. The schedule of events will include Talent All Over Town, with simultaneous performances at several venues, and a Pre-Parade Jam in Durham Central Park followed by the Holiday Parade. A Grand Finale with live performances and fireworks will light up Durham Central Park. Call 919-687-6561 or visit www.lightupdurham.org/.

The **Preservation Society of Chapel Hill** will hold its **Holiday Tour of Homes** on Dec. 7 & 8. The tour features homes in the Franklin-Rosemary Historic District, including the Gravely-Khachatourian house. Call 919-942-7818.

The **2002 Historic Hillsborough Christmas Candlelight Tour** will take place on Dec. 8, featuring 20 to 25 stops at historic inns, churches, public buildings and private homes in Hillsborough—all exquisitely decorated for the holiday season, some offering live music. The event will feature horse-drawn carriage rides and a tree-lighting ceremony. Sponsor is the Hillsborough/Orange County Chamber. Call 919-732-8156.

The 17th annual **Candlelight Christmas Tour** in **Historic Murfreesboro** will be held on Dec. 9 & 10. This year's theme will be Home for the Holidays and will offer guests a tour of six historically significant private homes in the Historic District—in addition to tours of historic buildings. As in previous years, the event is a progressive dinner and will feature live seasonal music played on dulcimer, fiddle, violin and handbells as well as performances by vocal groups. Call 252-398-5922.

The **Opened Gates Book Club's Annual Holiday Bash** will be held in the **Headquarters Library** of the **Cumberland County Public Libraries** on Dec. 11. People are invited to come, hear or read poems and booktalk, with tea and holiday refreshments. Call 910-483-7727.

The annual **Governor's Tree Lighting Ceremony** will light up the **State Capitol** in Raleigh on Dec. 12. The NC Museum of Natural Sciences will remain open late and present special holiday entertainment following the tree lighting. Call Bob Flook at 919/733-7450, ext. 503.

The **Shaw House Christmas Open House** will be held Dec. 12-15 at the historic Shaw House, Britt Sanders Cabin and Garner House on S. Broad St., **Southern Pines**. The event will celebrate the holidays with native greenery, 19th-century decorations and refreshments by the Moore County Historical Association. Free. Call 910-692-2051.

A Live Nativity: From the Manger to the Cross, plus a tour of ancient Israel, occurs this

Christmas at the **Crystal Coast Amphitheater**, Dec. 13 & 14; 20 & 21. A tour of the set of *Worthy Is The Lamb* is scheduled for every 20 minutes. Visitors will meet costumed actors and live animals, enjoy seasonal music and refreshments, and have a Christmas photo made. Call 252-393-8373 or 800-662-5960.

The **Tryon Palace Christmas Candlelight Tour** will be held on Dec. 13 & 14, 20 & 21. The tour will visit the decorated first-floor rooms of the Palace, the Kitchen Office and historic homes, and a Civil War camp. At the Palace stable holiday music, cider and cookies will greet you. On the same evenings, costumed singers, dancers and musicians will re-create an **African American yuletide tradition**, the **Jonkonnu Celebration**.

The festive procession will wind from house to house in New Bern, bringing to life a 19th-century blend of African, Caribbean and English customs. Call 800-767-1560 or 252-514-4900.

The **SuperFun for Kids Series** at the **ArtsCenter** in Carrboro will sponsor a **Kwanzaa Celebration** on Dec. 13, presented by The Healing Force. Steeped in the rich traditions of West Africa, the Anderson family of four will share the traditions, practices and meaning of Kwanzaa with music, dance, drumming and storytelling. Call 919-929-2787.

Edenton's Christmas Candlelight Tour will lend small town charm to the season on Dec. 13 & 14. **The Barker House** on the Edenton Waterfront will be Tour Headquarters and will



THE RALEIGH BOYCHOIR

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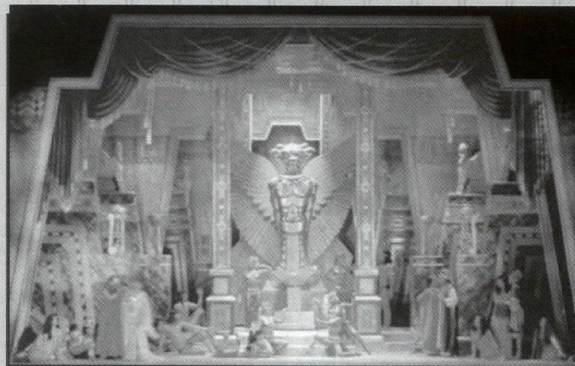
Monday, December 16, 2002
Duke Children's Hospital • Erwin Road, Durham

6:30 pm Performance
7:00-8:00 pm Black-Tie Formal Event
Reception-Catered by Sisters

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Friday, January 31, 2003 at 8:00 PM

Sunday, February 2, 2003 at 2:00 PM

Opening Night Champagne Reception
Friday, January 31, 6:30-7:30 PM

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offer a Holiday Repast. A new feature this year will be an **Old Fashioned Oyster Roast with All the Trimmings** on both evenings. Other activities during the Candlelight Tour Weekend will include the Annual Groaning Board at the James Iredell House; the Annual Wassail Bowl at the Cupola House; Caroling on the Green in front of the historic courthouse; Confection Perfection at the Chowan Arts Council; and floats, boats and bands lining Broad Street on Saturday for the Christmas Parade. Call 252-482-7800.

The **JC Raulston Arboretum Plantsmen's Tours** will present Wintergreen Plants on Dec. 17 and More Fun with Conifers on Jan. 21. **Todd Lasseigne**, JCRA Assistant Director, will lead both of these free tours. Meet at Ruby C. McSwain Education Center entrance at the JCRA. Call 919-515-3132 or visit www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum.

Sing **Christmas carols with Santa** on his special "reindeer"-drawn trolley/carriage through downtown Wilmington, Dec. 20-24. You will be snuggled under warm lap blankets while enjoying the Christmas lights, and the children will delight in free candy canes. Call 910-251-8889.

FIRST NIGHT RALEIGH 12 31 02

First Night Raleigh will again present entertainment all over the downtown Raleigh area on Dec. 31, culminating in ushering in the New Year with the dropping of the **Giant Acorn**. There will be over 100 entertainments to choose from, in 32 venues over a four-block radius in downtown Raleigh, inside the Convention and Conference Center, along Fayetteville Street Mall, in church sanctuaries and at the Museums, featuring comedy, storytelling, folk, jazz, pop, choral and classical music artists from throughout the state, and from New York and Key West. The **NC Museum of Natural Sciences** will join the festivities with special performances at the Children's Celebration in the afternoon. Activities will continue late into the night and the Acro Café will serve a holiday menu until 9 p.m. The **NC Museum of History** will also have a children's celebration in the afternoon and nighttime events until

AUTHOR SIGHTINGS

With the holiday season in full swing, December is generally a slower time for author visits at the bookstores or for reading series at colleges throughout the area. But one highpoint this month is a visit by Al and Tipper Gore to Raleigh's Quail Ridge Books on Dec. 16. And a local literary favorite, Bland Simpson, continues to promote his new book, *Ghost Ship of Diamond Shoals*, with several coastal visits worth checking out. Happy Holidays to all!

RALEIGH

B. Dalton, Crabtree, 919-787-1003: Margaret Hoffman, *Blackbeard*, Dec. 18.

Barnes & Noble, 919-782-0030.

Quail Ridge Books, 919-828-1588: John Ferguson, *Music Makers: Portraits and Songs from the Roots of America*, Dec. 1; Lee Stringer, *Grand Central Winter*, Dec. 3; Gregory Frost, *Fitcher's Brides*, Dec. 4; Rob Jackson, *The Earth Remains Forever: Defining Success for Generations to Come*, Dec. 5; Al Sim, Sally Shivan and Doug Frelke, *Silver Rose Anthology*, Dec. 6; Roy Jacobstein, *Ripe*, Danny Powell, *Ecstasy of Regret*, and Pamela Uschuk, *One Legged Dancer*, Dec. 7; Elliot Engel, *A Dab of Dickens and a Touch of Twain: Literary Lives from Shakespeare's Old England to Frost's New England*, Dec. 8; Dan Morrill, *The Civil War in the Carolinas*, Dec. 11;

11:30. Call 919-832-8699.

A New Year's Eve Countdown Party/Fireworks at the **Kure Beach Pier** will feature live music and a dropping beach ball. A street dance and refreshments precede the fireworks. Free. Call 910-458-7116.

A New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Beach, will light up **Emerald Isle** at Bogue Inlet Pier, beginning on Dec. 31 and spilling into Jan. 1. Call 252-354-3315 ext. 249.

The **EJW Outdoors Big Buck Banquet**, a game hunting show and dinner, will be held on Jan. 24 at the Crystal Coast Civic Center, **Morehead City**. Call 252-247-4725.

The **33rd Annual Greater Wilmington Antique Show & Sale** will be held in the Coast Line Convention Center, **Wilmington**, on

Zelda Lockhard, *Fifth Born*, Dec. 12; Sara Foster, *The Foster's Market Cookbook*, Dec. 14; Al and Tipper Gore, *Joined at the Heart: The Transformation of the American Family and The Spirit of the Family*, Dec. 16.

Waldenbooks—Crabtree, 919-828-1177: Margaret Hoffman, *Blackbeard*, Dec. 7.

CARY

Barnes & Noble, 919-467-3866. Rabbi Aaron Herman, *Hanukkah Story Time*, Dec. 1; Jean Anderson, *Process This*, Dec. 5; Dick Morris, *Power Plays*, Dec. 11.

DURHAM

Barnes & Noble—New Hope Commons, 919-419-3012.

Barnes & Noble—Southpoint, 919-806-1930. Rob Amberg, *Sodom Laurel Album*, Dec. 13; Donna Washington, *The Story of Kwanzaa*, Dec. 20.

The Regulator Bookshop, 919-286-2700: Louis Rubin, *My Father's People: A Family of Southern Jews*, Dec. 3; Doug Marlette, *The Bridge*, Dec. 5; Rob Amberg, *Sodom Laurel Album*, Dec. 14.

PITTSBORO

McIntyre's Fine Books, 919-542-3030: Open Mike Literary Night, Dec. 5; Nicholas Delbanco, *The Suitcase and The Countess of Stanlein Restored*, and Andrew Delbanco, *The Real American Dream*, Dec. 7; Rob Amberg,

Jan. 24-26. Over 30 dealers from three states will display formal, primitive and country furniture, jewelry, Oriental rugs, clocks, silver, glassware, and china. Proceeds will benefit area charities supported by the NC Junior Sorosis. Call 910-395-4747.

The **Durham Symphony** will hold its **Annual Gala Fundraiser** at the Marriott Downtown in Durham on Jan. 25. The festive event will be an **Evening at the Copa**, with casino, band, dinner and auction. Call 919-560-2736 or visit www.durham-symphony.org.

The **Carteret County AARP** Chapter No. 1714 will present the **Inaugural International Chocolate Festival** on Feb. 1 for the pleasure of chocolate lovers and to raise

Sodom Laurel Album, Dec. 14; Donald Davis, Dec. 21.

GREENVILLE

Barnes & Noble, 252-321-8119. Chantelle Goodman, *Veggies on Our Pizza*, Dec. 3.

Waldenbooks, 252-756-8725: Margaret Hoffman, *Blackbeard*, Dec. 8.

MOREHEAD CITY

Dee Gee's, 252-726-3314: Rachel Willis, *Gertie's Quilt: A History of Harker's Island*, Dec. 1; Bland Simpson, *Ghost Ship of Diamond Shoals*, Dec. 7; J.T. Garrett, *Cherokee Full Circle*, Dec. 14.

NEW BERN

Waldenbooks, 252-637-5262: Margaret Hoffman, *Blackbeard*, Dec. 20.

WILMINGTON

Bristol Books, 910-256-4490. Bland Simpson, *Ghost Ship of Diamond Shoals*, Dec. 5; Nathaniel Stone, *Rowing Across America*, Dec. 6; Ralph Grizzle, *Charles Kuralt's People*, Dec. 8.

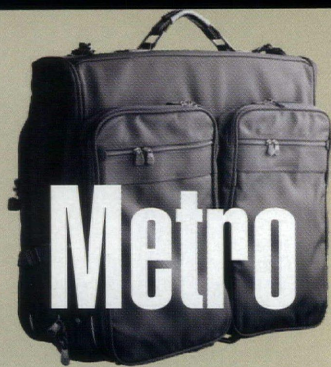
ADDITIONAL VENUES & EVENTS

Literary Night open mike readings, Dec. 17 (and third Tuesday of each month), **The Cave**, Chapel Hill.

NOTE: To have your readings schedule included in Metro, fax information to 919-856-9363 or email MetroBooksNC@aol.com two months before issue publication.

funds to help local charities reduce their dependence on local merchants. A Chocolate cooking competition for both professional and amateur chefs will offer \$1000 winner-take-all for the pros. Among other attractions will be a chocolate syrup dunking booth, chocolate bingo, a chocolate grazing field and sales of chocolates and chocolate-related items. Call 252-504-2203. **MM**

EDITOR'S NOTE: There will be no January Preview. Please send February events and color images, slides or photos by Dec. 20 to Frances A. Smith, Metro Magazine, 5012 Brookhaven Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27612 or email fsmith5@nc.rr.com.



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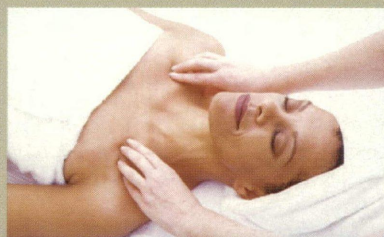
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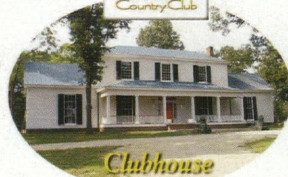


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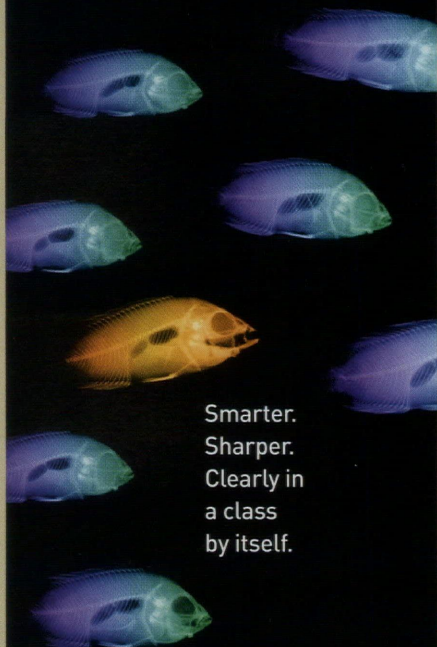
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WOODROW, A CHRISTMAS MEMORY

I read Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory* again—it's lying on the coffee table in the living room now—thinking I might get inspired to write the great Christmas column you deserve.

Between you and me, Capote's account of gathering pecans and making fruitcakes did stir up some memories. It reminded me of a fellow named Jefferson Woodrow Upchurch, and I was surprised, but, honestly, very pleased, that I thought of him. He was our next-door neighbor in Buies Creek for a couple of years and a lifelong friend of my family.

In 1935 and 1936, Woodrow pitched for the Philadelphia Athletics and the legendary manager Connie Mack. The first year, he wore number 9 for the A's. The next year, 21. Years later, when the Athletics played an exhibition game at Devereaux Meadow, Woodrow loaded some of us crew-cut boys into his pickup truck, drove us to Raleigh and introduced us—a bunch of bug-eyed country kids—to the aged, silver-haired baseball great, Connie Mack.

As they say, I remember it to this day...

What impressed us most was that Woodrow—our friend Woodrow from Buies Creek with the battered pickup truck—knew Connie Mack, and that Connie Mack (for the record, Cornelius McGillicutty) broke into a big smile when he saw Woodrow, greeted him halfway and gathered us around him with his long arms like we were a bunch of dear grandchildren he hadn't seen in years.

And why in the world would a story about gathering pecans remind me of Woodrow? Because at Christmas when I was a boy, he picked up pecans from his trees and brought them to Mother for her Christmas baking—cakes, cookies and pies—sweets made special by the fact that Mother made them only once a year and each contained a dash of love. If the weather was good, she and Woodrow would sit on

the front steps and visit awhile.

Mother made applesauce and German chocolate cakes. The German chocolate cakes ended when someone in the family—can't remember who—gorged himself and got sick in front of company. It was an ugly sight. Nobody at our house had much of a stomach for German chocolate cake after that, and Mother never made another one. She would tell you exactly why if you asked. Then there were chocolate cakes she made down in Bertie that brother Don remembers, with whole pecans on the top.

There were tall, four-layer cakes with frothy icing made with fresh coconut from shells filled with coconut "milk"—cloyingly sweet coconut milk—shells that you emptied by punching two holes in the end with an ice pick, one for pouring and one for air so the juice would come out. A coconut has three "eyes" on the little end—the only place you can pierce the shell—and that is where you have to make the holes. Guess that extra eye is for good measure.

There is a science to cracking a coconut shell. The uninitiated pound away with a hammer, and the hammer jumps back as if it has springs. But, ah, just one carefully directed, solid blow by someone who knows what he is doing and holds the coconut right can split the shaggy shell a dozen ways.

Mother would grate fresh coconut by hand, nicking a finger occasionally, fussing a bit, and then when the piece was too small to work with, she would select a mouth and stick the nubbin in it. There were never enough nubbins to suit us, and I vowed Christmas after Christmas that when I got grown, I would buy me a coconut and eat the whole thing at one sitting. I guess I am about grown now, but I still haven't done it.

There were "plantation sweet potato pies"—my favorite—with nuts and coconut and meringue that was three

inches high and wept sticky, syrupy drops. And cookies with funny names Mother had given them that, regretfully, neither my brothers nor I can remember—each kind with its special container that, once emptied, was not filled again for a year.

Mother was a widow, you know, and she had a bunch of boys to feed. My stepfather had grown up with Woodrow, and they were friends. When I think about it, I believe bringing us pecans was something Woodrow, who had to scramble to make a living himself, could do to say he remembered Worth and that he cared about his widow and her boys.

Widows were remembered at Christmas time. On more than one Christmas Eve, a knock signaled that a member of the local volunteer fire department—still a source of great pride and community involvement in Buies Creek—was at the front door with a fruit basket for Mother. It seemed strange to me then that Mother's face would brighten so at the receipt of such a simple gift. Fact was, we had fruit and nuts and grapes aplenty.

There was a lot I didn't understand...

A widow's life Downeast was pretty lonely. She didn't wear the black, widow's weeds shown in the photograph of my great grandmother Henrietta Ariabella Harden, who was a girl in Plymouth during the Civil War battles there, but I remember that men sitting around the store sometimes would refer to my mother, not by her given name, Ruby, but respectfully as Worth Lanier's widow, implying that her life was inextricably tied to his and that when he died, something of her died with him.

Downeast there was no funeral pyre for a widow to throw herself upon, but when a woman's life was largely defined by that of her husband, many felt her life had ended when the last shovel of dirt was tossed upon her husband's grave. When at Christmas she was remembered—even in the smallest way—like my mother, she smiled.

■ ■ ■

One lesson I learned early on was not to expect life to be fair. I might have learned it from knowing Woodrow, because some might say life wasn't fair to Woodrow Upchurch.

Woodrow was a 6-foot, 180-pound southpaw who had what Connie Mack once called a "million dollar arm." And that was when a million dollars meant something. He pitched in the heyday of players like Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig and, I understand, he faced them on the mound.

Woodrow was the only major league pitcher our hamlet ever produced. Don't guess we can rightly claim the Perry brothers—Gaylord and Jim—who attended Campbell College but were raised in Martin County, or Calvin Koonce, my classmate and friend from Route 3, Fayetteville, who pitched for the Cubs, or at least one other who attended Campbell and whose name I don't remember. Calvin was also co-captain of the basketball team, and his brother Charles attended Campbell at the same time.

Regardless, they all had great fans in Buies Creek such as John Tyler Johnson and former Campbell coach Fred McCall, who would get up a load from time to time and go see them pitch. Brother Frank has a baseball autographed by Jim Perry that his brother Bill Lanier brought him back from one of those excursions. I think Cleveland played the Yankees that day. (Folks from Downeast would know not to ask why my name is Leggett, and I have a brother with a brother whose last name is Lanier. This is the South, you know, and if your family tree isn't convoluted, you probably ain't from here.)

Gaylord—famous for throwing an illegal spitball at blistering speeds—pitched for several teams including the Giants, and, of course, has long since retired and is back home in Martin County farming. He and his pickup truck are a familiar sight down around Williamston. Jim pitched for the Indians and the Twins. I think he and his wife Daphne Snell, also my classmate at Campbell, live in Minneapolis where Jim pitched for the Twins.

Calvin, a great guy who later coached baseball at Campbell, died of cancer while still a young man.

Jim and Gaylord both won the Cy Young award. Don't know whether they were the only brothers ever to do that or not. I do know that the folks at home and in Martin County were mighty proud of them.

■ ■ ■

Like I said, life dealt Woodrow a bad hand. Just two years after joining the A's, he was critically injured in an auto accident, and his pitching arm was ruined. He lost his career, but he never lost his love for baseball. On spring afternoons you would find him at the high school baseball field helping kids perfect their



pitching. He taught brother Don, whose natural style was sidearm, to throw straight overhand so the ball came right by his ear before he released the pitch.

Those days, most small towns Downeast had baseball teams. Buies Creek had one, and I was the bat boy. Guys who had come home from the war (the "Big War") and already were local heroes added to that status by donning uniforms on the weekend and taking on the boys from the next town. For some reason Pea Ridge, a rural community near Angier, was a great rival and, if I remember correctly, had the best ballpark. Woodrow always called the balls and strikes when we played at Buies Creek.

He loved my brothers and our kind of

adopted brother, Bill Henshaw, now a dentist in Shelby, and after they moved away and I was left at home, he always asked after them, as we say Downeast. It was never just a casual, "How're your brothers doing?" He would stop, look at me intently and ask about each of them individually. Then he would ask how my mother was doing.

I almost forgot to tell you about old "Toot." Toot was Woodrow's bulldog—dingy white with a few spots here and there—and the town mascot. Toot generally slept on the sidewalk in front of Mr. Leland Stewart's store.

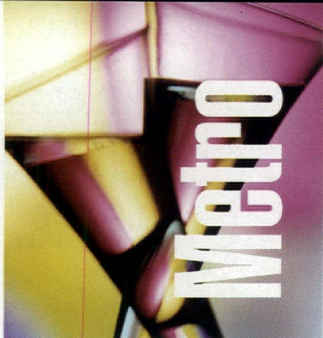
(Mr. Leland's wife, Miss Rosa, was Woodrow's sister and Woodrow spent a lot of time around the store) or in the street. There wasn't much traffic, and folks knew to watch for Toot and either drive around him or wait for him grudgingly to get up and amble on his short legs over to the sidewalk.

Toot had a gentle spirit when dealing with humans but a propensity to fight, and fight savagely, with other dogs. Like most folks, Toot did most of his rambling and fussing and fighting under cover of darkness. He would show up of a morning cut up and chewed up. Toot's condition often would be the main topic of conversation around the store and beauty parlor.

■ ■ ■

I was living in Raleigh when Woodrow died in 1971. He was only 60. I remembered what Mother had said about Buies Creek. "This town has more widows than any place I have ever seen. A man doesn't stand a chance here." She would count on her fingers the number of widows living within sight of her house and shake her head. Another widow in Buies Creek, I thought.

I wrote Woodrow's widow a note and told her how much I appreciated his small acts of kindness and the interest he always had shown in my brothers and me. I haven't lived in Buies Creek since then, so I can't tell you that each Christmas I have delivered a fruit basket to her door. Would make a good story, though. But I hope someone has and that for the moment it has brought a smile to her face. Merry Christmas, Agnes. And Woody. MM



Gourmet

Warm your holiday season

WITH RECIPES FROM JACK DANIEL'S AND AREA RESTAURANTS

Metro joins with Jack Daniel's and area restaurants to offer some perfect recipes to warm body and soul this holiday season—something for the weary shopper, something for that sweet tooth, and something for folks who crave those traditional holiday recipes.

From *Jack Daniel's The Spirit of Tennessee Cookbook*;

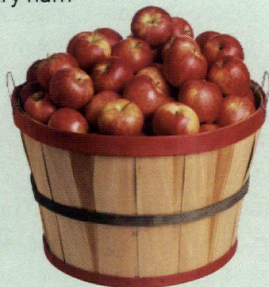
HOT TODDY

- 1 shot Jack Daniel's Whiskey
- 1 tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 lemon
- boiling water

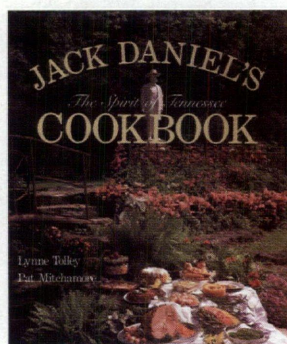
Use a heavy glass tumbler. Fill approximately half full with Jack Daniel's Whiskey. Add sugar. Squeeze lemon and drop into glass. Stir until sugar dissolves. Fill glass with boiling water. Makes 1 serving.

COUNTRY HAM-STUFFED APPLES

- 1/3 c. raisins
- 1 tbsp. Jack Daniel's Whiskey
- 1 c. finely chopped country ham
- 3 tbsp. butter, softened
- 1/4 c. chopped pecans
- 3 tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice
- 4 large baking apples (Winesaps are best), unpeeled and cored
- 1/4 c. cider vinegar



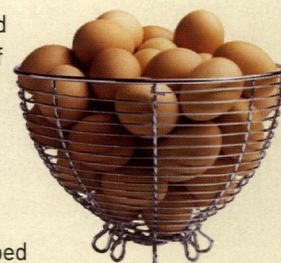
Soak raisins in Jack Daniel's Whiskey, stirring often, for 30 minutes. Preheat oven to 350°. Combine ham, butter, raisins and whiskey, pecans and brown sugar. Place apples in a greased baking dish; sprinkle lemon juice inside cavity. Divide filling evenly among apples. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes, basting outside of apples with vinegar. Make 4 servings.



Jack Daniel's The Spirit of Tennessee Cookbook
by Lynne Tolley and Pat Mitchamore
Rutledge Hill Press, 192 pp.

EGGNOG

- 12 eggs, separated and whites whipped stiff
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 c. milk
- 2 c. Jack Daniel's Whiskey
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3 pts. heavy cream, whipped
- grated fresh nutmeg to taste



Start this recipe the night before serving. Combine all ingredients, except nutmeg, and chill until serving time. Garnish with freshly grated nutmeg. Makes approximately 2 1/2 quarts.

TIPSY SWEET POTATOES

- 2 c. cooked, mashed sweet potatoes
- 4 tbsp. butter, softened
- 1/2 c. firmly packed light brown sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1/3 c. Jack Daniel's Whiskey
- Pecan halves or marshmallow for topping

Preheat oven to 325°. Combine all ingredients except topping. Spoon into a greased 1-quart casserole. Top with pecan halves or marshmallows. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes until bubbly. Makes 6 to 8 servings, but be careful, everyone will want seconds!

ADULT CHRISTMAS TREATS

- 2 c. pecans
- 2 c. vanilla wafer crumbs
- 2 c. sifted confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 c. cocoa
- Pinch of salt
- 3 tbsp. white corn syrup
- 1/4 c. plus 2 tablespoons Jack Daniel's Whiskey
- confectioners' sugar, sifted

Toast pecans in a 300° oven until lightly browned (do not over cook as nuts tend to darken and become crisper as they cool); chop. Combine crumbs, pecans, sugar, cocoa and salt. Stir together Jack Daniel's Whiskey and corn syrup; combine with crumb mixture. Shape into balls using one tablespoon each. Roll in confectioners' sugar. Makes 6 to 7 dozen.



PIATTO FORTE (Italian Trifle)

*Creation of Robert Franceschini,
Memphis, Tennessee*

- 24 ladyfingers (48 halves)
- 3 oz. Jack Daniel's Whiskey
- 3 oz. light rum
- 1 1/2 oz. vermouth
- 2 large packages vanilla pudding, prepared
- 1/2 pt. heavy cream
- Red and green maraschino cherries, cut into halves

Place half the ladyfingers on bottom of platter. Combine Jack Daniel's Whiskey, rum and vermouth. Put 1/4 teaspoon of combined liquor on each ladyfinger. Cover with vanilla pudding. Place the rest of the ladyfingers on top of custard. Put 1/2 teaspoon of combined liquor on each ladyfinger. Cover with vanilla pudding. Top with whipped cream; dot with a design of red and green cherries. Refrigerate for 2 hours and serve.



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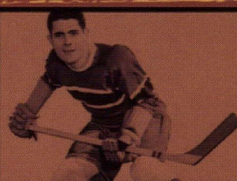


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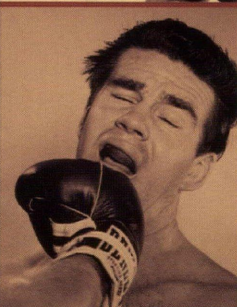
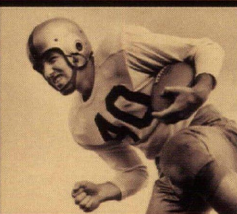


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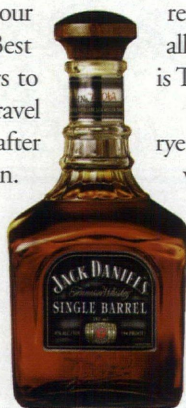


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Three issues and many letters ago in our MetroBravo! Awards issue, our "Best of" rankings where we ask readers to vote on their favorite things from travel to linens, to liquor, a debate arose after Jack Daniel's won for Best Bourbon. So. Is it bourbon? A sour mash? And just what makes it different?

This we can say. Jack Daniel's is not bourbon. We know it, they know it, and so do several of our readers. The distillers in Tennessee are all too familiar with this incor-



rect classification. Seems it happens all the time. The correct classification is Tennessee Whiskey.

It begins with a mixture of corn, rye and barley malt, which is mixed with water to form a fermentable mixture called "mash". There is nothing "sour" about the "sour mash process" of fermentation. Basically, the distiller uses part of the previous day's mash to start a new batch. Therefore, all batches



are related. At the end of fermentation the result is "still's beer," which is sent on to the still for distillation. If Jack Daniel's was placed in a barrel and aged immediately after distillation, it would be a bourbon. This is not the case. JD is trickled slowly through 10 feet of hard maple charcoal, right after distillation. This one extra step is the big difference, what distinguishes Jack Daniel's from a bourbon.

With that issue clear, enjoy your holiday, and drive safely.

ARMAGNAC TRUFFLES

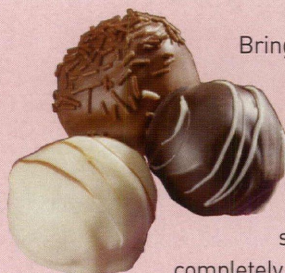
Recipe from Café Atlantique, Wilmington

Truffle:

- 17 oz. bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped
- 2 1/2 tbsp. Karo Syrup
- 2 c. heavy cream
- 3 1/2 tbsp. Armagnac

Coating:

- 9 oz. bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- 1 2/3 c. Dutch Cocoa powder



Bring cream to boil. Place chopped chocolate and Karo syrup into a bowl. Pour cream over the chocolate and whisk until smooth. Add the Armagnac. Put mixture in fridge until hardened (about 1 hour). Melt the chopped chocolate in a double boiler. Sieve the cocoa onto a baking sheet. Use a melon baller to scoop out a rounded truffle; you may use hands to completely round. Dip truffles into the melted chocolate with a fork and shake off the excess. Roll in the cocoa until coated. Shake off excess cocoa by rolling truffles in a sieve. Place in gold or silver foil cups.

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GRASSHOPPER CHEESECAKE

Recipe from Clarice Ohle, pastry chef for Michael Dean's Bogart's and Hi5.


Cheesecake batter:

- 2 lbs. Cream cheese (room temperature)
- 1 3/4 c. sugar
- 8 eggs
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 1/3 c. heavy cream
- 2 oz. milk
- 5 mint sprigs (leaves)
- 2 oz. Green crème de menthe
- 1 tbsp. crème de cacao (optional)

Preheat oven to 300°. Boil the cream with the mint. Let sit while you prepare the batter. Cream cheese with sugar until smooth and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, then vanilla. Allow batter to continue to mix. Strain cream, discard mint. Combine with milk. Add to batter slowly. Scrape sides of bowl. Add two liquors slowly, scrape sides and allow to mix.

Crust:

- 1 c. graham cracker crumbs
- 2 tbsp. light brown sugar
- 1 tbsp. cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 tbsp. melted butter

Combine all ingredients until butter is evenly distributed. Press mixture into bottom of springform pan. Wrap foil around the bottom of pan to catch any batter that may escape or any water from getting in it. Pour the batter on top of crust. Place pan inside a 9"x13" cake pan or a pan large enough to contain the springform pan. Fill the outer pan with hot water until it reaches halfway up the sides of the springform pan. Cover with foil or an inverted pan that will not touch the cheesecake as it rises, and place in the oven and bake for approx. 2 hours or until just the very center of the cheesecake jiggles slightly. Uncover, turn off oven and allow to cool in the water bath with oven door open for 45 min. To remove from pan, run a hot, clean knife around cake to release. 

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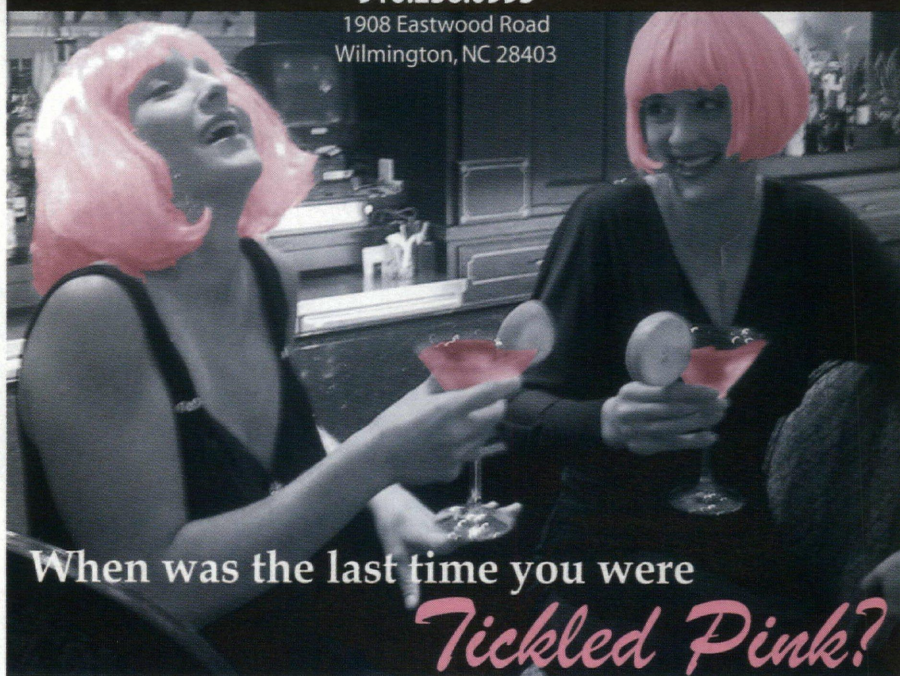
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Style

by Kimberly Kyser

Home for the holidays

A LITTLE TOUCH OF TRADITION

Not long ago I was approached by a UNC journalism student who recognized me from the photos in the September *Metro*. She told me that it is her dream to write about clothes. Eager to learn, she asked many questions; when she offered to be my intern, I laughed, then explained that I fashion the columns alone. Have to.

Walking home, I recalled the challenge of focusing on a topic for my very first *Metro* column, an especially difficult writing project since so much about clothing and style is interesting to me.

Later, I found in my computer the beginnings of a first attempt written during the busy holiday season last year. At the time, I decided that it was inappropriate, too wacky and self-mocking for a first column and abandoned it, half finished. Re-reading it like a diary with the journalism student in mind, I thought it might be helpful to share glimpses of the creative

process, random as it may seem, and my childlike zeal for the season.

...

Just after Christmas, a foot of snow fell on Chapel Hill, and I set out for a short, icy walk to the office supply store on Franklin Street. It was a quest like the ones I make for the perfect shoe or special sweater to complete an outfit, except this time it was a search for the odd-size envelope to match my homemade thank you note cards.

Chapel Hill was still decked out for Christmas and so was I. I breathed deeply the winter air and marveled at the beauty of my town dressed all in white. Enlivened by the cold and the snow, I was feeling perky, playful in my winter wonderland outfit. I was wearing my favorite Gap stretch jeans, a flame red Ramosport coat set from Paris, green Wellington boots, suede gloves lined in flame fleece to match my coat, and I was carrying my new faux-fur handbag replete with

flame nylon strap. I designed and made this purse myself. A 1970s homespun, betassled red-wool knit scarf was a last-minute addition to the mix, and I wore it flung about my neck with a devil-may-care Daisy Buchanan attitude.

Also well bundled was anxiety about my first "style" article for *Metro Magazine*. Dodging icy patches, slipping every now and then and quickly regaining my balance, I strode and stewed over my writing assignment, talking to myself and even moving my mouth as I sometimes do when hyper-focusing. Walking and problem solving go hand in hand.

In spite of my best efforts to stay calm, the pressure to produce was getting to me. Yogic breathing surrendered to pant-blow. Headlines jumped into my head rapid fire. Now Gucci, now Pucci, now pashminas and perfumes, power ties, piercings and Saville Row suits. On Patagonia! On Puma!

On Furla and Fendi, Hermes and hair shirts, and Diesel and dandies!

I arrived at the office supply store just as the proprietor was closing early. He unlocked the door just for me. We chatted about the weather and our holidays as I measured and fiddled with envelopes, quickly deciding that none would do. Wrong size. But I was still in a holiday, as in shopping, mood. My eyes darted around the store searching for merchandise I hadn't seen before. As I was about to leave, I spotted a new rack of starkly graphic greeting cards with inspirational quotes on the front.

"Never, never, never give up."
—Winston Churchill

"DANCE as though no one is watching, LOVE as though you have never been hurt before, SING as though no one can hear you, LIVE as though heaven is on earth." —Souza

There were also cards with quotes by Nietzsche and Emerson. All made me emotional, and when the owner noticed, he asked with surprise if I have a soft heart. I answered that I do, but as an introvert I don't always reveal my feelings and with that, I pulled the curtain. Personal was not information I was willing to reveal willy-nilly, face-to-face. I need time to think, to digest, better still, to write, like a prepubescent fifth grader with her first diary, lock and key to boot. Thank goodness I did not spontaneously confess that I am a recovering romantic, that one of my favorite movies of all times is *The Piano*, that I adore clothes and metaphors and reading between the lines, and that all the voice lessons and dancing lessons and training in the school of hard knocks have taught me more about life and love than I ever wanted to know or could ever express singing and dancing alone in front of the kitchen sink. So much for Mr. Souza.

But I felt strangely vulnerable, in the throes of an unfamiliar retail therapy. Psycho-purging in front of dayrunners and three-in-one pens is definitely not my style.

I plucked the cards off the shelves, and hurriedly moved toward the cash register, ready once again to leave. Then in one epiphanic moment I saw a card I hadn't noticed at the very back of the bottom shelf.

**The bleak beauty of barren
landscapes inspires me.
Warm weather fans tell
me that's nuts. They look at
winter and see nature
stripped naked and shivering,
while I see poetry, serene
minimalist paintings, elegant
backdrops for the prettiest
clothes of the year.**

In bold letters it read, "Good clothes open all doors," from 17th-century English cleric, historian, and wit Thomas Fuller—not Ralph Lauren. My heart leapt. With quiet

assurance I added this angel message to my stack of purchases, paying nearly \$25 for the experience, and dashed home with the Rudolph of my *Metro* writing debut. I had my lead story!

■ ■ ■

Or so I thought. For in the year that has followed, I have not titled a column "Good Clothes Open All Doors," though the concept is most assuredly woven into the brocade of my being and is implied in everything I write. Good in my book means well designed, appropriate, high quality, none of which are synonymous with expensive.

■ ■ ■

It is December again, my favorite month, and I excitedly await winter's grand entrance—and Christmas. I adore Christmas. I love family traditions and cold weather. I can't get enough cold weather. The bleak beauty of barren landscapes inspires me. Warm weather fans tell me that's nuts. They look at winter and see nature stripped naked and shivering, while I see poetry, serene minimalist paintings, elegant backdrops for the prettiest clothes of the year.

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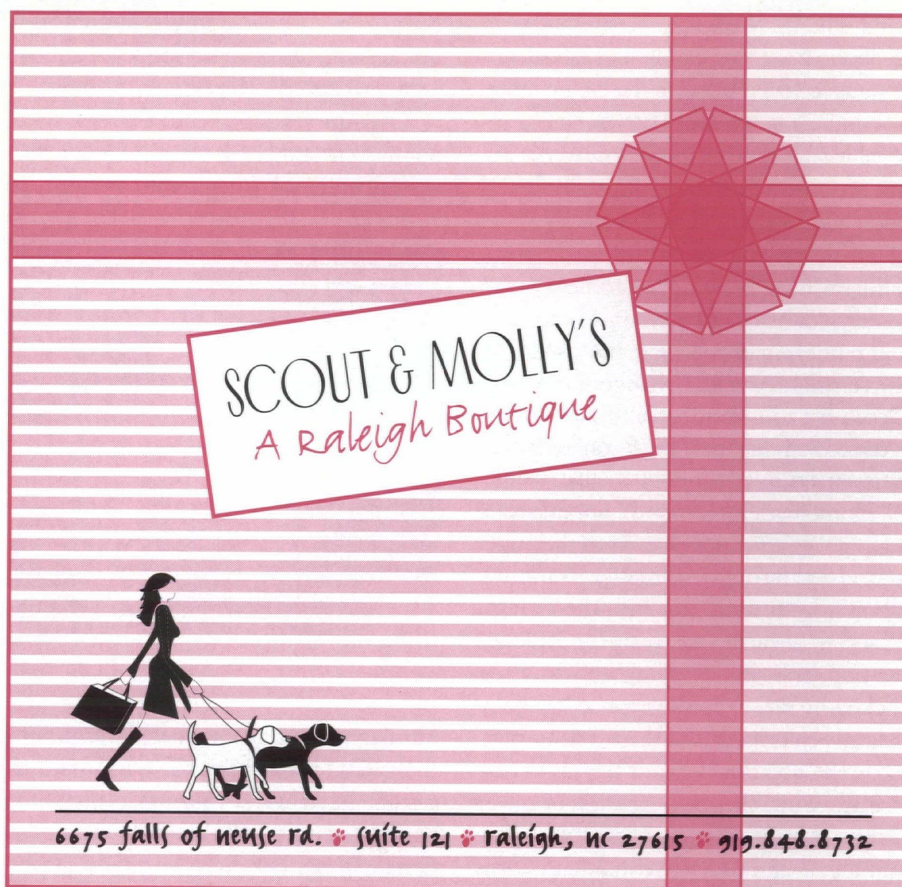
In style for the holidays are fur, brocades, luscious color, rich detailing, 1890s and 1980s feminine, romantic styling merged and modernized. Bustier gowns, petticoats and ball skirts, Juliette sleeves and the pencil skirt, making a comeback from its last incarnation in the 1980s. This is right up my alley and takes me back to my future as a fashion designer and the 17-year-old inventory I carefully preserved. (I will be wearing some recycled treasures.)

Cossack hats trimmed in mink or fox, ankle-length embroidered sheepskin coats are high fashion and conjure visions of *Dr. Zhivago*, sleigh rides and snow as far as the eye can see. Sadly, this is neither North Carolina nor a look practical for riding in heated cars on I-40. But I do admit that along with a new hoola hoop, a miniature color TV, a smattering of Gucci and Pucci, and the two-CD recording of Chopin's Nocturnes, performed by Marie Joao Pires, a natural mink hat is on my Santa wish-list—while visions of sugardaddies dance in my head.

It is reported that December is the most profitable month of the year for retailers, yet I seldom contribute to these statistics. In August I begin thinking about December. Gradually, I buy Christmas gifts as I find them. No last-minute rush to crowded malls or panicky purchases for me. Of course, this creates storage problems and while everyone else is still running around in bathing suits, my office looks like the North Pole. A bit eager, yes, but I will do anything to make the holidays less stressful and to prolong the pleasurable part of Christmas shopping—the search.

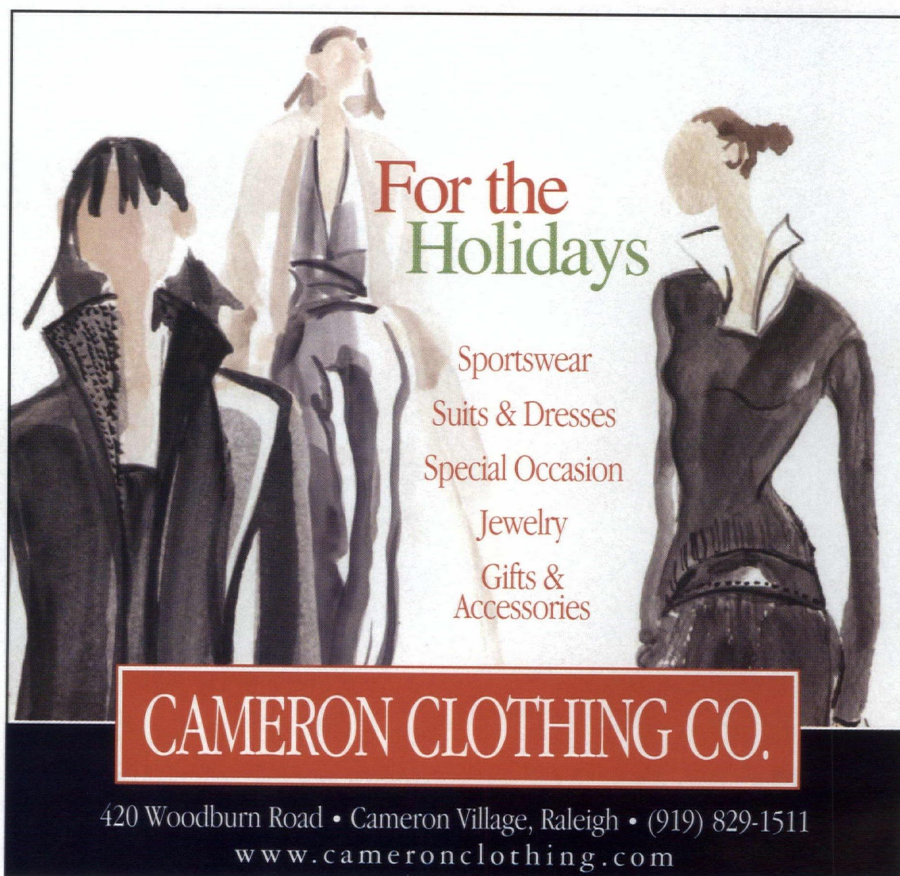
It is the Kyser family tradition to have a formal, seated dinner on Christmas Eve, a dressy occasion for immediate family and a few very close friends who appreciate putting on good clothes and their best behavior for an intimate evening with their nearest and dearest (who better deserve to be treated like guests?) Women wear festive dress-up clothes, some repeating the same “ceremonial” holiday outfit for several seasons (like me in my kelly-green silk damask skirt and black velvet sweater), and men wear coat and tie, dark suit, or as on several occasions in the late 1980s, a tuxedo.

Our evening begins before a roaring fire in the original 1814 living room of my



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family's home. We sip champagne and non-alcoholic cider, sing carols, and exchange a few gifts before moving to the dining room.

Mother's 19th-century harvest table comfortably seats eight or 10. On Christmas Eve our group swells to 14 or 18, so stools and odd chairs are added to the matching set of armchairs. Blue and white Spode china, Williamsburg blown-glass goblets, and a centerpiece made of boxwood, clementines and pomegranates decorate the table. Like the setting, the menu changes little from December to December, and the cooking is divided among us. (I must confess to fantasies of a catered dinner.)

Homemade place cards organize the seating. We serve ourselves from the buffet and crowd around the table. Bumping elbows, we merrily tear into the English "crackers" at each plate, vying for the loudest pop, the silliest saying and tiny toy tucked inside, unfolding oh-so-carefully delicate, colorful crown-shaped tissue hats. Only the occasional visitor refuses to participate, while the rest, regardless of age or hairdo, don the unflattering diadem to pose and giggle and prove irrefutably that it is

not possible to take seriously the conversation of someone with hot-pink paper hovering precariously above their eyebrows.

Over the years, as grandchildren arrived on the scene, husbands came and went, and a multitude of imaginable as well as



unimaginable tragedies befell our group, the gaiety of Christmas Eve was hard to sustain. In eight short years our core numbers were cut in half. Yet we never, never, never gave up. Faithfully, we came together,

lifted each other through laughter and intense self-expression. We cooked, made personalized gifts, wrapped beautiful, artistic packages, wrote poems and sang (if anyone were listening or not). And there was always room at the table for a displaced soul, the graduate student too far from home to travel.

Last year after dinner, still dressed in our best, my children, all the cousins and I kicked off our shoes, and with arms flailing, hips gyrating amidst uncontrollable laughter, danced with complete abandon to "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"—as if no one were watching.

This Christmas Eve will be a variation on those past. We will crowd around the harvest table; grown children will sit next to parents and grandmother and cherished neighbors, all grateful to be together, holding closely to each other, to our traditions, and the presence of those who are no longer with us, their voices harmonizing with ours as we fling wide Spirit's doors to sing "Joy to the World" and demonstrate once again the power of living as though heaven is on earth. **MM**

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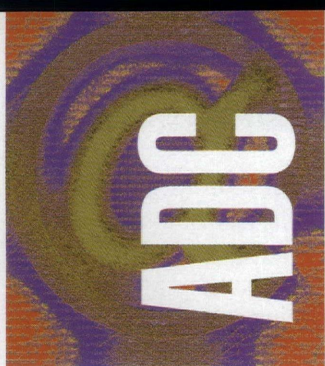


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by Rick Smith

CEO admits software firm is demanding place

WANTED AT REDHAT—A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

Matthew Szulik is looking for a few good people to expand his team at Red Hat. But the Linux open source software and services firm has pretty stiff requirements, according to the chief hatter.

"It's very hard to build a great company," he said with a wry grin. "It's very easy to find someone who wants to work at a great company. It's much more difficult to find people who want to build a great company."

Szulik is looking for energy and creativity as well as technical knowledge.

"You have to have the capacity to compete 13 hours a day," he told me in a recent interview. "You have to understand commitment."

Why is that?

"Because we are a global company," he said. "Somewhere in the world at any time our competitors are hard at work."

"The business doesn't shut off. When I go home, someone in China can be doing something that has an impact on us."

"Over the last 25 years, you could say vendors drove customers. Now, because of the Internet, [customers] have some choices, and what that means among other things is lower prices and more competition."

Szulik also pointed out that the average age of Red Hat's workforce is 28.

Making the task of finding good workers more difficult is the current quality of public education, Szulik says. It's not good enough in his opinion.

"I lose a lot of sleep over this," said Szulik, who has been a prime mover within the North Carolina Electronics and Information Technology Association and other groups and boards calling for improvements in North Carolina's schools.

The CEO doesn't exclude himself from the demands on all employees either. He's on the road constantly. But Szulik insisted he's still fired up.

"I find this wildly exciting," he said, again with a smile.

But in an earlier talk at a conference, Szulik showed another side—frustration.

He vented on how much time and money he has to spend on lobbying in Washington and dealing with new issues such as Sarbanes-Oxley legislation that is intended to clean up Wall Street corruption.

"Being CEO of a publicly traded company is increasingly losing its luster," he said. Szulik called for campaign finance reform, noting that Red Hat spends enough money each month on lobbying and legal issues "to hire four more engineers."

UNC ECONOMIST BULLISH ON ECONOMY

The high-tech economy has stuttered this year, but a prominent UNC economist is down-

right bullish on the overall economy. And that's good news for high tech.

A return of excitement to the capital markets will free up capital, create opportunities for initial public offerings (IPOs) and other exit strategies. And, it is hoped, get venture capitalists to turn loose some of the billions in money they are sitting on rather than risking it in the post-Internet bubble hangover.

Dr. James Smith, a senior fellow and director of the Center for Business Forecasting at UNC's Kenan Institute of private Enterprise, won't hear of a double-dip recession.

"The recession ended last year, but they won't tell us for a while," said Dr. Smith recently. Third-quarter gross domestic product figures did back his claim, showing 3 percent plus growth. And Wall Street posted strong gains through October, a trend that continued into early November.

Smith, who is widely quoted by the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today* and other publications, boldly predicted that Christmas sales would set a record. "This year will see the best Christmas shopping season ever, although not by the largest margin ever," he said, "and that will set us up for good growth in 2003."

He didn't stop there, but



Matthew Szulik is CEO of Red Hat, the largest and most recognized provider of open source technology. Red Hat is headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina, on the Centennial Campus of NC State University and has 22 locations worldwide.



predicted more good news is on the way.

"We are likely to go to war with Iraq but not until next year," he said. "We will win, and the world will be amazed as peace and democracy begin to break out in the Middle East as they have in Latin America, Eastern and Central Europe and Asia over the past 20 years."

Smith predicts 2.6 GDP growth for this year and 4.2 percent in 2003.

Want more good news?

"[GDP growth] should then average about 3.5 percent a year for the next eight years before we enter the next recession," he said. "So sit back, relax and get ready to enjoy the good times that are on their way."

SO LONG, INTERPATH

Interpath and CoastalNet, two of the first regional Internet Service Providers in North Carolina, are disappearing from the scene.

Interpath, which turned itself into an Application Services provider, recently sold 150 major customer data and Internet accounts to US LEC. Its palatial headquarters in Morrisville has largely been turned over to Hired Guns and Peak 10 Technologies—firms that are focused on network management and web hosting. And most Interpath employees have been laid off or moved on to other jobs.

Another ISP with Southeast roots, EarthLink (which bought Atlanta-born MindSpring) is apparently ready to make a new acquisition. The target reportedly is Volaris, which claims 250,000 customers in North Carolina and several other southern states.

CoastalNet is now part of Volaris Online. Formerly known as Durocom, Volaris Online scooped up several ISPs, including Coastal Net, which was built in New Bern, WAVE Communications, Surf South in Georgia and more.

MAKING MONEY ONLINE?

TRY CLASSIFIEDS

A new study shows want ads are the fastest growing sector to make money for online advertising as opposed to banner ads and so-called pop-ups—those annoying ads and animations that appear on your screen when you visit a site.

Jupiter Research said online classified spending grew 38 percent, to \$1.2 billion, in 2001 and should hit \$2.3 billion by 2007. Online advertising is growing at a 10 percent clip, Jupiter says, and should reach \$14 billion in 2007.

The hottest sector, Jupiter says, is job recruiting. Here's where spending stood in 2002 and where Jupiter forecasts the money will be in 2007:

FOLLOW THE MONEY

(in millions)	2002	2007
Recruitment	\$ 799	\$ 1498
Automotive	115	231
Real Estate	241	424
For Sale	10	23
Personals	59	130
Other	19	36
Total	1242	2343

Source: Jupiter Research

CORNING DECISION SPARES WILMINGTON

Increasing losses, triggered largely by the economic downturn in the telecommunications

industry, had several hundred employees at Corning's fiber plant in Wilmington on edge. Would they lose their jobs if Corning chose to reduce fiber production capacity?

Fortunately for the port city, Corning did choose to close a plant—but it's a newer one in Concord. The facility will be mothballed and some jobs will be transferred to Wilmington. Corning lost more than \$260 million alone in the third quarter, triggering the plant shutdown and some layoffs.

Will the telecom industry

improve in 2003 and thus ignite demand for high-speed optical fiber? Corning execs say they have a "goal" of returning to profitability next year.

But Corning's chief financial officer pointed out just how grim news has been for telecom-related companies.

"The challenge confronting the telecommunications industry is the most serious we have faced," said James Flaws. "Telecom carriers continue to indicate they will further reduce investments in 2003." More cuts could happen, he added. **MM**

TECH BRIEFS

In the wake of Wall Street scandals and the complex **Sarbanes-Oxley legislation** which is intended to clean up corporate money managing, a lot of executives, chief financial officers and board members have questions about what they can and can't do. Raleigh attorney **Jim Verdonik** has launched a web site, **www.boardstrategies.com**, which is designed to help executives navigate the new regulations. "The 1990s were the decade of doing deals fast," Verdonik explained. "The first decade of this century is about doing it right." Verdonik is a partner in Kilpatrick, Stockton. **■■■** Universities and other institutions connected to the **North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN)**, which is run by MCNC, are reaping big benefits from the telecom sector market's woes. They are getting access to 50 percent more bandwidth—at no additional cost. MCNC moved its backbone connectivity from Qwest to **Level 3** under a three-year contract, which was signed in July and implemented in mid-October. **■■■** **Ascot Technologies**, a software and systems integration company that provides wireless services for the real estate sector, has moved into new headquarters in **Cary**. **■■■** The **Michael and Laura Brader-Araje Foundation** recently gave **\$50,000** to the **Mariposa School** in Durham. The school focuses on one-on-one instruction for children with autism. Brader-Araje is one of the better-known high-tech entrepreneurs in the Triangle. **■■■** **Garmen**, a product innovation and automation consulting and services firm, is expanding into Asian markets. **John Messer**, former director of product development for Invensys, has been hired to manage the effort. **■■■** **Dan Allred**, a long-time executive at the Council for Entrepreneurial Development, has been named the third member of **Silicon Valley Bank's** office in Research Triangle Park. Allred, who helped match entrepreneurs with investors, now will use his contacts and expertise to provide money directly to startup companies. **MM**



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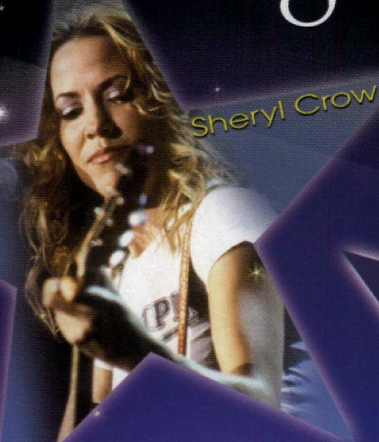
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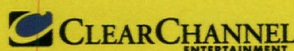
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Feelin' good

SAX PLAYER JAMES BROWN

In May 2000, Durham-based recording artist (arranger/studio owner/songwriter) Willie Hill held a CD release party for his album *Open Door* at Montas International Lounge in Durham. The evening was a triumph for Willie, and one of the highlights was alto saxophonist James Brown reprising his solo from Willie's song "Me & JB." Brown strolled through the crowd, laying down an off-the-hook solo that was a masterpiece of melodic spontaneity. It was another special musical moment from a musician who's been in love with music since childhood and continues to play live, and on studio sessions all over North Carolina and the Southeast. Brown has played everything from rock to soul to jazz.

When I mentioned to James his solo stroll at Montas, he laughed and noted: "I wasn't supposed to do that. I was supposed to be over there by Willie's keyboard. I didn't feel that, however. I felt like I needed to get out there in the crowd and say, 'hey, this is for you.' I wanted everyone to feel as good as I felt about that song."

Feelin' good about music has been a defining aspect of who James Brown is since his childhood in Fuquay-Varina.

"I grew up on a dairy farm/tobacco farm," Brown said. "My grandparents lived there, too. I got in a band and figured out I

loved music. That was how I got off the farm, in a sense. When I was growing up, nobody in the area played music. Nobody in my family played music except my grandmother; she played a little piano. I had to bring my love of music through that. I didn't have anybody pushing me or encouraging me when I started doing music in school. The band director put me on drums. I eventually moved from percussion to clarinet, and from clarinet I went to the saxophone.

"I was going to school over in Willow Springs, which was about five miles from where we lived, and oftentimes I had no ride to get to band rehearsals. I didn't let that deter me, however. Even when I was 11, 12 years old, I'd find a ride; because I wasn't gonna miss band rehearsals.

"Eventually the band director noticed that I did have a love for the music, and he started helping me, you know, making sure someone would pick me up for rehearsals and take me home," he added. "It showed me that when people see that you're serious and that you're interested, they'll give a hand. That kind of help got me through college, too."

Brown went to undergraduate school at Shaw University and majored in music and education. From there he attended



Fuquay's sax man James Brown plays what he feels

NCCU and continued his interest in music. When he was graduated from NCCU he became involved with bands. He also got into the automobile business.

"That happened because I went to graduate school," Brown explained. "Money was shy, and there weren't a lot of music gigs. I decided to get into the automobile business over the summer, and I made a handful of money. I thought, 'oh yeah.' I liked the checks in that auto business, but I also liked my music. I figured I could do both, somehow, so I wouldn't be robbing Peter to pay Paul all the time."

Brown stuck with the auto business and moved up from sales manager to floor manager to business manager, then became a department manager.

He spent 13 years at Durham's Hendrick Chevrolet, while maintaining his music contacts and playing gigs, saxophone in hand.

When asked what turned him on to saxophone, Brown's reply was instantaneous.

"I saw Boots Randolph on TV, on The Ed Sullivan Show," he said. "He walked out on stage with nothin' but a saxophone, in front of this huge audience, and he took control. Boots entertained those people. I mean, some guys would've just got out there and played. Boots, however, had everybody's attention. He was right there center stage doin' it. I said to myself, 'that's the instrument I want to play.' That's the honest-to-God truth."

In talking further about saxophones, Brown went on to

observe that which saxophone a player is most comfortable playing may have a lot to do with the sax that person's mentor played.

"Either that or one will gravitate toward a particular sound," he added. "I started out with tenor sax, but I fell in love with the melodic expression of the alto saxophone. It has a good, bright, range. The tenor sound, on the other hand, has a nice, rich, body. I can also play baritone and soprano saxes, and each instrument has its idiosyncrasies. If you can play one type of sax you can play them all, to a point, but that's sort of like saying if you can drive a car you can drive an 18-wheeler. The various saxophones are a bit more different, soprano-to-baritone, than people might think. They don't just sound different; they require different fingering techniques and they have different relative ranges."

When Brown got his hands on his first saxophone, he'd found his instrument. What he would do with it was the next issue. He was living in a world full of music, but there had to be some style that initially attracted him.

"Let me tell you something," Brown began. "Think about Fuquay 40 years ago. When I was growing up we had a couple little radio stations we could listen to. I saw Boots Randolph on TV and that was an influence, but I needed to find more music than I was hearing on the radio. I felt like the sax should be like a voice, you know, should phrase like a voice. So I started listening to singers, okay? Sam Cooke, for instance. So my style started to grow from studying vocalists. I liked Junior Walker. He had a soul in his sax playing, yet he sang just as well. He'd take a song and do his own version of it, and add the sax. Just think about his version of

Marvin Gaye's 'How Sweet It Is.' Yeah. I heard that and I was like, 'that's the way to go.'

"As far as a sax player developing his or her sound, well, that's got to come from way down deep inside," he continued. "I think you've got to play what you feel, and you've got to go with how you feel. I'll play the same song differently, depending on how I'm feeling, you know? When it comes to soloing, I again think about phrasing, like a singer. There's a lot to be said for how you approach and release a note, that is, what you do with it while you have it, and how you let go of it. That's where a person's sound comes from."

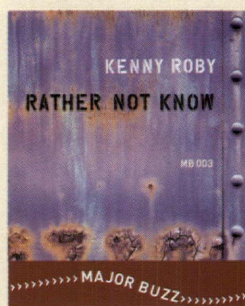
Brown wouldn't claim that his life has been all roses and hearts, but he's been a solid working man and he's got his music. He's had his highs and lows, and he hit one of those lows when, at age 50, he was diagnosed with prostate cancer (that was over a year ago).

"Hearing that diagnosis was like running into a brick wall," Brown confided. "I talked with my wife, Cassandra, and she's my soul mate. She's always been behind me 100 percent. She told me to back away from my obligations and think about doing what I loved. Well, I love playing, so that's where I'm focused now. I'm doing a number of recording projects and playing as often as five, six nights a week. I play with an R&B/Top 40 group, and I play with this Band of Gold group out of Charlotte—sponsored by WWMG-FM, and I do jazz gigs.

"I've gone through all my treatments and everything is fine," he added with a smile. "They implanted these radiation seeds in my prostate and I'm good. I feel better than I have in the last 15 years." **MM**

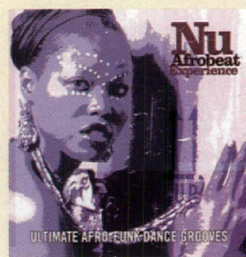
MUSIC FOR SALE

Kenny Roby:
Rather Not Know (Morebarn Records)



Kenny Roby released his debut solo album, *Mercury's Blues*, in 2000, and it was, by any reasonable estimate, one of the best rock albums of the year. His sophomore effort, *Rather Not Know*, was released in October 2002, and it more than fulfills the promise of his initial solo foray. Roby wrote all 11 songs on the record—including several in tandem with co-producer/key-boardist Rob Farris—and although there isn't a track as overwhelming as "Mercury's Blues," the tunes on *Rather Not Know* are more uniformly excellent. Roby has a good bit of country soul, as both a singer and a songwriter, and the same can be said in terms of his rock sensibilities. When all those aptitudes come together, the result is a formidable blending of rock and country that feels wholly organic. With this new album to his credit, Roby's credibility as a major talent is unquestionable.

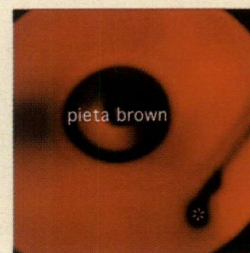
Various Artists:
Nu Afrobeat Experience
(Shanachie)



The legendary Nigerian musician/composer Fela Anikulapo-Kuti is the artist responsible for creating the Afro-Beat sound—a style that draws heavily on West African high life music and supercharges it with a heavy dose of American-influenced funk (James Brown is a guiding light here) and jazz. The

resulting sound is high-energy, intensely rhythmic music. This Shanachie compilation collects 13 tracks from the best Afro-Beat crews in Nigeria. Awa-Klash, masters of Afro-Latin grooves, is represented by "Akoba." Tony Allen, one of Fela Kuti's original drummers, brings hip-hop to the Afro-Beat mix with "Jekalewa." Ayetoro has the best song title on the CD—"Revenge of the Flying Monkeys"—and is one of the most jazz-influenced tracks as well. Tamedun's "Tamedun Don Come" is classic Afro-Beat, complete with the sort of social commentary that's always been a key facet of this music. Dele Sosimi's "Turbulent Times" is a perfect example of the highly percussive, jazz-rich sound of Fela Kuti's Afro-Beat.

Pieta Brown:
Pieta Brown (Rubric)



The daughter of Grammy-nominated songwriter Greg Brown, Pieta has quickly become a formidable singer/songwriter in her own right. Already being compared to Cowboy Junkies vocalist Margo Timmins, Pieta does have a low-keyed delivery and a breathy voice, as does Timmins, and upon listening to Brown's song "Down to Memphis" it's nearly impossible to avoid instantly referencing Cowboy Junkies hypnotic style. Let's check out Pieta on her own terms, however. She wrote every song on her debut album and it's her laid-back, pensive tunes that will be her great forte over the course of time. Bo Ramsay, who's worked with Lucinda Williams, Ani DiFranco, Kate Campbell and Pieta's dad, co-produced the CD with Pieta, and together they've elicited a cool, understated, folk/rock groove that's perfectly attuned to Pieta's vocal style. Cue up "Bury Me," "Lullaby," "Even When" and "Fly Right"—get acquainted with one of the most promising artists in modern folk music.

MUSIC FOR SALE, continued

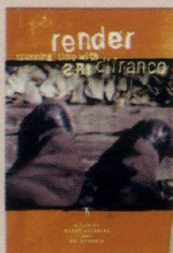
Steve Earle:
Jerusalem (Artemis)



This is a seminal album for Earle. He's written some tunes here that are politically charged, to put it mildly, and he's drawn some heated criticism, mainly for his song "John Walker's Blues." The Walker tune is a divisive item, for

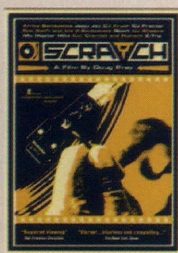
sure, but it's a good song written from a thoroughly unexplored perspective. There's more here than this lone song. There's the hope expressed in the title track (as futile as that hope seems), as well as the informed cynicism of the menacing "Ashes to Ashes," "Conspiracy Theory" and "Amerika v. 6.0." When Earle isn't making us think about what it's really like nowadays, he's offering a pair of beautiful tunes for us to contemplate—"The Kind" and "I Remember You." He hasn't forgotten how to rock, either, and "Shadowland" nicely fills that bill. "What's a Simple Man To Do?" one of the coolest tracks on *Jerusalem*, might well have been labeled a tribute to fellow Texan Doug Sahm.

VIDEOCENTRIC



Render: Spanning Time with Ani DiFranco. Righteous Babe Records. 112 mins. DVD. For those who've longed to go on tour with the Queen of indie music, dream on. The next best thing, however, has arrived, in the form of this nearly two-hour long-form music video. This is an insider's look at Ani tours in 2000 and 2001, with footage shot all over the country. *Render* is lots of great live music mixed with some good talk. The video quality is excellent, as is the audio, and there's an intimate feel to the whole viewing experience. An excellent DVD companion to the recently released DiFranco double live album, *So Much Shouting/So Much Laughter* (reviewed in this column in October 2002).

Scratch. Palm Pictures. Feature running time 92 mins; Bonus material running time 255 mins. DVD. If you're still waiting for someone to explain the difference between rap and hip-hop, this is a must-see video. It also serves as a very hip introduction to the world of deejays



—aka turntablists—and the art of scratching. Featuring such master turntablists as Qbert, Mix Master Mike, DJ Shadow, DJ Crush, Cut Chemist and DJ Craze, this is a super-authoritative summary of hip-hop culture and the deejay thing. It's as much music history as it is music. This is a fabulously entertaining piece of work.

Gin Blossoms: Just South of Nowhere. A&M Records. DVD. This Tempe, Arizona, bar band came out of the blue in 1992 with their first full-length album, *New Miserable Experience*—an album that generated four major hit singles: "Hey Jealousy," "Allison Road," "Found Out About You" and "Until I Fall Away." By 1997 the group had disbanded, though, frankly, the loss of songwriter Doug Hopkins to suicide in 1993 was a telling blow from which the band never really recovered. This DVD combines concert footage and music videos for a look back at one of the truly great power pop bands of the '90s. **MN**



Metro INDEX

Number of lighthouses across the country currently up for bid by the Federal government: 20

Number of lighthouses up for sale in North Carolina: 1

The number of North Carolina lighthouses, including the Currituck Beach Lighthouse currently up for sale, that are open to the public: 1

Total number of anglers who fish in North Carolina per year: 1.1 million

Average income of the state's anglers: \$50,000

Percent of fishermen in North Carolina who hail from out-of-state: 58 percent

Total number of tree species in North Carolina: 120

Days of sunshine in North Carolina, per year: 210

Number of days in the North Carolina growing season: 295

Number of Research Triangle Park employees who work for multinational corporations: 50 percent

Percentage of work at RTP directed at research and development: 99.4 percent

Average salary of an RTP worker: \$56,000

Total payroll of RTP: \$2.7 billion

Average SAT score for students nationally in 2001: 1020

Average SAT score last year for North Carolina students: 992

Percentage of North Carolina high school graduates planning to go on to a four-year college: 48 percent

Percentage who will choose a two-year college: 32 percent

Percentage who will go directly into the workforce: 10 percent

Percentage of Tar Heel grads who will choose military service: 4 percent

Average US teacher salary: \$44,500

Average North Carolina teacher salary: \$43,000

continued from page 16

Building racial bridges

HARRIS HONORED AS UNSUNG HERO

Cader Harris of Elizabeth City has been awarded the Nancy Susan Reynolds Award. The awards are presented by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and each carries with it a \$25,000 prize.

Harris, 84, received the award, which is given to three "unsung heroes" annually, for his work in promoting good race relations in his community.

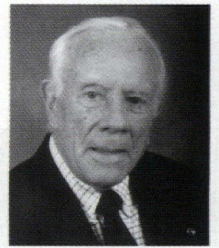
He leads by example. Every day, in his own quiet and personal way, he does

good—inquiring, helping, encouraging, reaching out across racial and cultural lines.

For many years, Harris ran the family's clothing store in downtown Elizabeth City. Local citizens—black and white—tell stories about how he extended credit liberally to blacks and whites alike. In the '60s, young civil rights protesters targeted Harris' clothing store, demanding that he employ black clerks during the upcoming Christmas season. He already had committed his jobs. The protesters left, and black customers trickled back in. But the business was in decline, and, eventually, Harris locked the doors.

He was not embittered and life went on. He and Dr. W.C. Witherspoon, a distinguished, retired African-American educator in Elizabeth City, became firm friends and

decided to assemble The Hope Group that would interact across racial lines, be a model for race relations in the community and promote understanding in Elizabeth City.



Cader Harris

The two other winners of the Nancy Susan Reynolds award are Dr. Margaret A. Noel, a physician who has developed a new model for treating memory loss disorders, in the Awards' personal service category; and Diane Bauknight, who has made it her personal crusade to ensure more and better services for mentally ill children, in the advocacy category. —Carroll Leggett **MM**



BETWEEN ISSUES—Metro's web site has added bonus commentary, "Between Issues," at www.metronc.com.

Carolina Ballet receives more national accolades, this time in the *Wall Street Journal*. Go to www.wsj.com for the full report. ■■ ■ Raleigh lawyer **James K. Dorsett III** was installed as **president of the North Carolina State Bar** at its annual meeting in October. The State Bar is the agency charged with regulating the practice of law in North Carolina. A partner with Smith Anderson Blount Mitchell & Jernigan since 1978, Dorsett has practiced in the area of civil litigation. ■■ ■ The **UNC-CH School of Medicine's** psychiatry department has received a five-year grant worth more than \$9.3 million to form a new **Silvio O. Conte Center for the Neuroscience of Mental Disorders** to study the onset of schizophrenia. The center brings together experts from four universities to conduct studies of brain development in the earliest stages of life through early adulthood, when the disease is typically diagnosed. ■■ ■ The **John Locke Foundation** has launched a newly redesigned website at www.JohnLocke.org. It is designed to be a one-stop shop for researchers, journalists, public officials, political activists, and others looking for studies, statistics, analysis and commentary on **key North Carolina issues**. ■■ ■ The PlayMakers Repertory Company's recent 15th annual **PlayMakers Ball** honored famed *New York Times* theatre critic, columnist and author **Frank Rich** with the **PlayMaker Award for Lifetime Achievement**. Rich began his career at the *Times* as chief drama critic in 1980. A columnist on the Op-Ed Page since

January 1994, he was given the additional title of senior writer in January 1999. ■■ ■ **MerleFest**, the premier Americana music, crafts and food festival, has entered into an agreement with **Edge Marketing** of Charlotte to produce a **television program** to be shot at **MerleFest 2003**. Wilkes Community College will present MerleFest 2003, the 16th annual festival in celebration of the music of the late Merle Watson and his father Doc Watson, on its campus in Wilkesboro, April 24–27. ■■ ■ **Federal Communications Commissioner** and Carolina alumnus **Kevin Martin** will speak at the **UNC-CH's School of Journalism and Mass Communication** on Dec. 6. Martin, who was graduated in political science at UNC in 1989, is a panelist for a symposium about telecommunications that will focus on current issues facing the industry. ■■ ■ The **State Board of Community Colleges** recently presented its highest award, the **I.E. Ready award**, to three people who have contributed significantly to the establishment and growth of North Carolina's Community Colleges: Caldwell County native and former community college president **Dr. H. Edwin Beam**; the late **Meigs C. Golden**, who served as a member of the State Board of Community Colleges; and **J. Gregory Poole Jr.**, Raleigh businessman and former NC Community Colleges Foundation Chair. ■■ ■ The **Government of Spain** has officially appointed **Rafael Lopez-Barrantes Trinchant** as the **Honorary Consul of Spain** in North Carolina. The Spanish Authorities are interested in building and developing the relationship between North Carolina and each region of the Spanish Nation. ■■ ■ **MetaPartners**, an industry-leading corporate real estate consulting and services firm, has acquired regional Facility Project Management specialty firm **JHowe Consulting**. With the agreement in place, MetaPartners has brought on board JHowe's Principal, **Jane Howe**, to further strengthen the recent rollout of its Facility Project Management Division. ■■ ■ **PGA Club** professionals from all across the U.S., along with three of their members, will soon make their annual migration to the Lowcountry of South Carolina for **Kiawah Island Resorts' 4th annual National Club Championship**, Feb. 23–27. The 72-hole stroke play event, sponsored by Club Car, will be held on four of Kiawah Island Resorts' championship courses. ■■ ■

Michael McFee, poet and Bowman and Gordan Gray Distinguished Professor of English at **UNC-Chapel Hill**, was the featured honoree of the 21st Annual **Literary Festival at Emory & Henry College** in Emory, VA. Other writers and scholars gave presentations on McFee's work, and Chapel Hill poet **Michael Chitwood** interviewed him. McFee, a UNC graduate, has published six collections of poetry and won numerous awards, including the 2001 Roanoke-Chowan Award for Poetry from the NC Literary & Historical Association. ■■ ■ **Dr. William R. Ferris**, a leader in Southern studies, Black music and folklore, based at UNC-CH, has been named a **fellow of the American Folklore Society** for significant contributions to the field. He is professor of history and folklore and senior associate director of the **Center for the Study of the American South**. Ferris, former chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, has written or edited 10 books and created 15 documentary films. ■■ ■ The Nov/Dec issue of **Garden Design** magazine ranks Raleigh as the **eighth city** in the US for **gardening**. Their article specifically mentions the J.C. Raulston Arboretum, Plant Delights, NC Botanical Gardens and Niche Gardens as contributing factors to their ranking decision. ■■ ■ The **Cape Fear Museum** in Wilmington is presenting an exhibition that provides a taste of **Cape Fear's past** for the holidays. What were the sights, smells and sounds of food in Wilmington during the 1800s and what was going on? Workers harvested peanuts in the field at Porter's Neck; the grist mill churned corn into meal at Greenfield Pond; seine fishing flourished on the sound; and Wilmington's wharves and Port were brisk with commerce. The exhibit will be on view at the Museum, 814 Market Street in Wilmington, until Sept. 1, 2003. ■■ ■ To demonstrate their appreciation of ongoing support from the downtown merchant community, producers of the hit TV series **Dawson's Creek** and film crew members of Local I.A.T.S.E. 491 will decorate Wilmington's **Riverfront Park** for the holidays. In addition, **Dawson's Creek** has made a donation to DARE Inc. to produce and promote **Celebrate the Season**, a series of downtown holiday events as a donation "to the community that has so graciously provided location sites for the show's six seasons." **MM**

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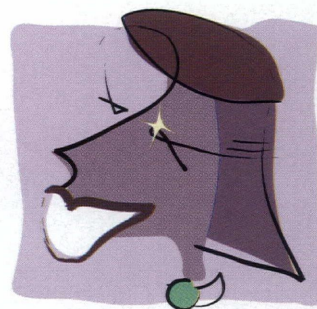
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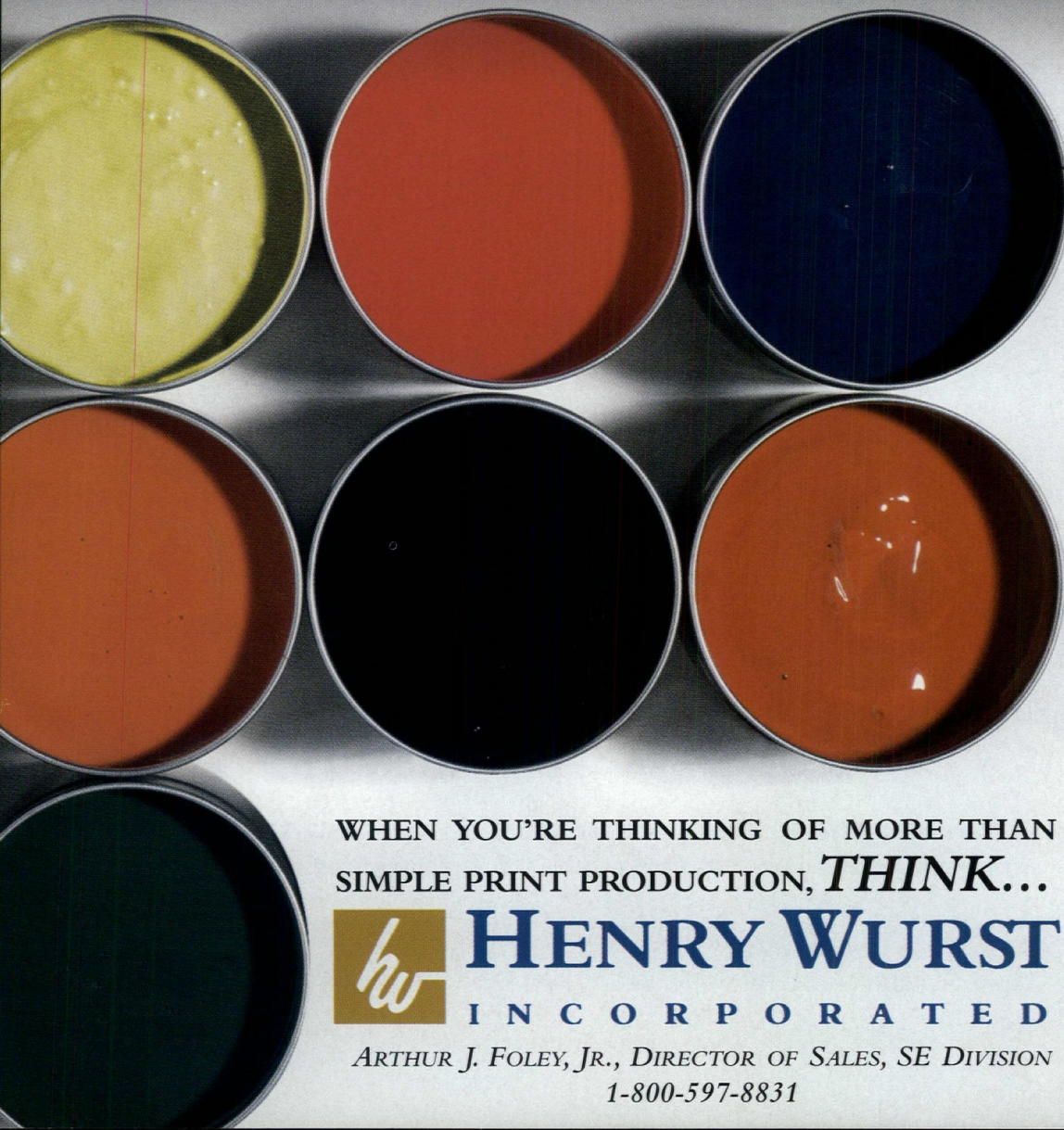
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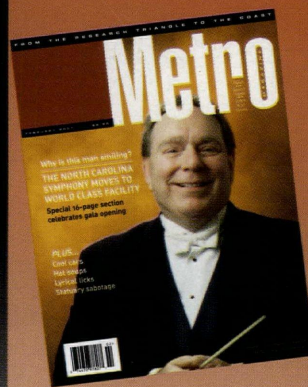
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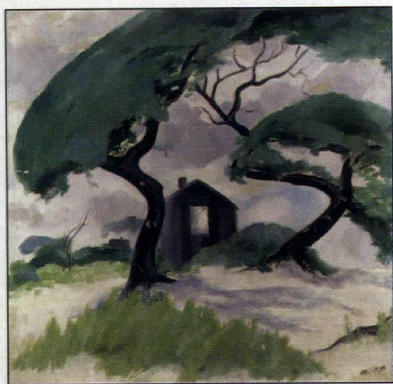
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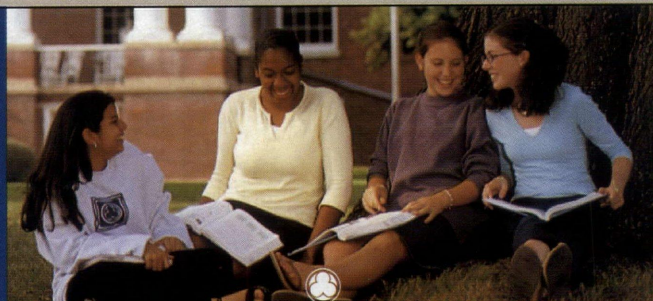


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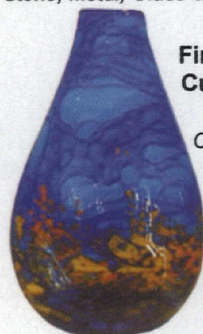
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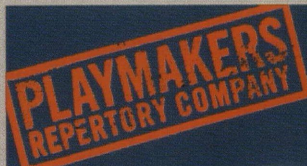


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My Usual Charming Self

by Bernie Reeves

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ASHES & SWITCHES

What has happened to “the customer,” formerly the hero of the American economic system, the guy who is always right and never wrong, who is sought after, catered to and pampered, whose pleasure is the credo of success in business? Please the customer, the saying goes, and you will succeed.

There is something sinister going on today, subtle shifts in customer philosophy that have become gradually manifest, an ugly agenda that is turning the customer into a victim to be exploited, persecuted and told what to do to further the aims of the suits. These are the malevolent bean counters and collections specialists who, hidden from view in shadowy suburban buildings, concealed from the public and fellow employees, are altering the essence of American commerce to “speed up cash flow” on the backs of their own customers.

If you are overdue on an account, the calls are understood as part of doing business. However, there is a new collection scheme loose in the land harassing customers who are current. In the guise of a courtesy call, mortgage companies ring up to ensure you have sent payment before the due date. Credit card companies now impose a \$29 fee if payment is not received when they demand, which is about 10 days after you receive the bill. If the Post Office is not on its toes, and can't get the payment there in five days, the credit card folks just don't give a damn and charge the fee anyway.

Then the call comes saying what a great customer you are so your card is being charged for a service (insurance etc.) that you can cancel in 30 days if you desire. This is the insidious cycle of exploiting the customer to charge more fees, penalize late payments and shorten the due date. They know that you will take a call from your credit card company—out of fear of a lost payment or a black mark against your credit score. They know they have you captive to threaten or cajole you with fear that you will offend them if you don't take the offer. It's like

the KGB calling. Next they will be knocking on your door in the middle of the night.

Now all creditors, from utilities to credit card and mortgage companies, have unilaterally imposed their own payment schedule at certain points in the month. This means the customer can't sit down and pay bills once a month anymore, but has to pay almost literally every day to meet the relentless demands of the computer-generated collections cycles that make management look good. But in reality they have turned the customer, that once sacred personage who makes the economy go around, into a victim to be plucked and threatened with a bad credit report, even for paying his bills on time. Now the trend is to persuade customers to pay online so they can control accounts even more thoroughly and efficiently—for them. If you dare resist, the callers take on an additional indignant tone, disturbing your tranquility and softly threatening that they are making notes on your account.

Telephone, cell phone, satellite and cable bills are littered with fees and charges. An accountant working full time would take a week to figure them out. The attitude is that the squeeze is on to enhance collections and add new fees at will—now that you are captive. If you ask why they are calling, the next 10 minutes of your life are sucked into a quagmire of innuendo and veiled threats. You aren't a customer anymore; you're a patsy.

THE CUSTOMER AT LARGE

In this environment, going to a certain breed of restaurant has turned into a face-off due to a similar shift in the theory of customer hospitality. Today, most chefs are more concerned with their precious presentations than with pleasing the customer. If you are a smoker, it's best to stay home rather than confront haughty and often hostile hosts and hostesses whose only exposure to proper manners is the company handbook, leaving them helpless and hopeless in handling actual interventions with customers. At one new eatery in Raleigh it was demanded that our party submit a credit card to order food from the bar. Like a German under the Nazis, he was “just following orders.” In another case a new bistro on the coast refused to accommodate an increase by one in a dinner reservation since “the owners can only serve eight to a table due to the preparation process” by the chef. To them, excluding a last-minute addition to the party was anathema and completely at odds with the accepted version of hospitality. Instead of saying, “great,

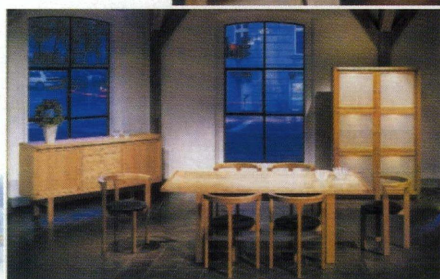
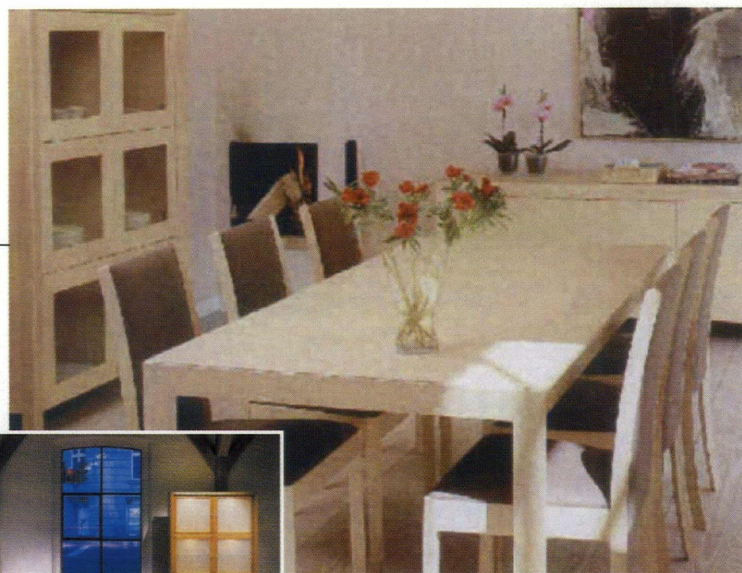
come on and we'll figure it out,” they preferred to follow the party line. And by the way, “no smoking even at the bar. It affects the aroma of the food.” Come on, at the beach where you go to get away from the politically correct posturing in the Triangle? Our party of nine dined elsewhere.

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

Peggy Noonan in the *Wall Street Journal* recently came to the aid of “Them,” the poor smokers huddled outside doorways across America, the victims of a punitive campaign by health fascists committed to humiliating 30 percent of the population based on junk science that purports that passive smoke is harmful. This in the wake of the Stalinesque fiat issued by New York mayor Michael Bloomberg banning smoking in bars, ruining revenues for small businesses all in the name of the collective good. Hitler banned smoking too for the same reason. Go to: <http://opinionjournal.com/columnists/pnoonan>. ■■■ Not surprisingly, the Triangle Transit Authority is already over budget by \$100 million, five years before the wheels meet the rails. This millstone that is being laid around our necks needs to be stopped “in its tracks” before it unilaterally alters our community (without our permission) and sinks us financially when the federal money is gone and we are left to pay for it. The good news is that plans are moving ahead for a high-speed rail link from North Carolina to Virginia. Intra-city rail is a gigantic mistake; inter-city high-speed rail is welcome news indeed. ■■■ Interesting isn't it that the November elections were exciting because the exit interview people, Voter News Service, couldn't influence voting with “projected” winners before the polls closed due to computer malfunctions. Instead of “calling” the election before any hard votes were counted, the smiling mannequins at the network had to stay on camera and report actual balloting rather than statistical winners and losers. This time the medium was not the message. ■■■ *Fox News* carried a report recently about cities that are abandoning recycling programs because they are expensive and serve no value except to make people with certain propensities feel good about themselves by thinking they are helping the environment. One reporter commented that the biggest resistance to abolishing the burdensome and costly recycling programs is pressure on parents from kids who have been propagandized by their teachers and made to feel guilty about the environment. ■■■

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