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BIRTHDAY BOYS AND GIRLS

Five years seems either a long time or the blink of the eye but it's here for Metro. So celebrate with us in this combination New Year and birthday issue.

Our annual Who's Who listing is a favorite of mine and, I hear, of our readers. This year's selection reminds us once again that it is the people who make a community. And boy, are we fortunate that some of the most interesting and accomplished live and work right here amongst us.

We also look back at the previous year through the eyes of our columnists. Carroll Leggett, Arch T. Allen, Art Taylor, Moreton Neal, Barbara Ensrud and Philip Van Vleck remind us that 2004 was a very good year indeed.

Design Editor Diane Lea chronicles the rebirth of a cherished home in Chapel Hill and Editor-at-Large Jim Leutze provides what you need to know about the organizations empowered to monitor our precious coastal region. Louis St. Lewis spends an eventful day with fashion guru Andre Leon Talley; Fred Benton keeps his ear to the ground for the latest in restaurant and food events; Patrik Jonsson offers data on NC wine and NASCAR in MetroIndex; Molly Fulghum-Heintz recommends the latest in winter attire; and Frances Smith says MetroPreview hasn't slowed down much after the holiday season.

The candle in this birthday issue is a time-line of the past five years in Metro. It should jog some memories and remind us what a long strange trip it's been, to quote the Grateful Dead loosely. But it has been and it's because our readers compliment, cajole and chastise us everywhere we go from the Triangle to the coast, letting us know you are there and that you care. So this is your birthday too.

Next year is already shaping up to outdo the last. We will present a major jewelry special section in February, a food, wine and restaurant annual extravaganza in March and in April we are honored to present the official program for the ASID Designer Show house. The Women's club of Raleigh will retain top designers to re-design the historic Andrews-London house in downtown Raleigh room by room with a grand opening in late April—stay tuned in Metro for details.

Now for the thank-yous. It does indeed take a village to make Metro happen and I thank you all...

—Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher
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OBGYN MALPRACTICE INSURANCE PROBLEMS

The piece "Obstetricians Seek To Avoid A Malpractice Train Wreck" in your December issue takes a superficial and one-sided view of a very complex issue. It's true that some OBGYNs in our state pay high malpractice insurance premiums. But the suggestion that these practitioners are being driven from business in droves is just plain false.

You assert that, because of the threat of frivolous lawsuits, OBGYNs are fleeing North Carolina or quitting obstetrics. You also allege that fewer medical students are pursuing careers as OBGYNs. In the end, you do your very best to perpetuate the unfounded notion that North Carolina is facing a medical-care crisis caused by an explosion of medical malpractice cases.
Fortunately for us all, the statistics don’t back you up.

The reality is that, according to the highly regarded Sheps Center at the University of North Carolina, the number of physicians in our state is growing 2.5 times faster than the general population—and the number of OB/GYNs is increasing by 24.5 percent. The state’s medical schools do not report any shortage of quality students seeking careers in obstetrics. Moreover, the number of medical malpractice lawsuits filed in North Carolina during the past seven years has not risen; in fact, it has remained flat.

Even the state’s coastal and mountain regions, which contain many distressed rural communities, have added OB/GYNs since 1990. Unfortunately, there exist some poor, isolated communities where it’s hard to keep quality OB/GYNs, but that’s been the case for more than a century and is caused by factors other than lawsuits.

And don’t forget: North Carolina ranks as one of the most favorable places in the country to practice by the medical industry’s own magazine, Modern Physician.

Regardless, we don’t want to see competent OB/GYNs paying more for malpractice insurance than necessary. To that end, we have proposed measures that almost certainly would have a positive effect. We’d like the state to explore legitimate insurance reform aimed at bringing high premiums back into line with what is being paid by doctors such as family practitioners. We’d like to see the state consider tax breaks for qualifying OB/GYNs whose insurance rates represent a large amount of their annual income. We’d like to see the state push for meaningful medical-safety guidelines in an attempt to eliminate more cases of medical malpractice in the first place. Finally, we’d like to see litigation reforms that would curb costs when cases do reach the courtroom.

Most OB/GYNs who practice in North Carolina are hard-working, skilled professionals who serve their communities admirably, and we should all do what we can to help them continue that valuable service. But engaging in the sort of naïve and blustery rhetoric that marked your recent reporting doesn’t help at all.

Dick Taylor
CEO, NC Academy of Trial Lawyers
Raleigh

“BIG LIE” PIECE ARTICULATE

I sincerely enjoyed your article, “Election Exposes The Big Lie,” that I stumbled across on the Time Warner Cable homepage (My Usual Charming Self, December 2004).

You articulated much of what I think, plus a whole lot more. I hope you don’t mind, but I emailed it to several friends who in turn share other good articles from across the US.

All the best, and keep up the great work!

Sean Sunkel
Chapel Hill-Carrboro

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Film Critic Cheshire to Produce Film, Teach at UNC


Cheshire, known internationally for his intellectual approach to film criticism, has written for numerous national publications, including Variety and Film Comment. He has served as a judge for numerous film festivals and served as chairman of the New York Film Critics Circle.

He has chosen a personal subject for his debut as a documentary filmmaker, shooting footage, gathering material and conducting interviews in the Raleigh area for Moving Midway, his forthcoming film about the actual moving of the historic plantation house occupied continuously by his family since the 1760’s.

Joining writer/director/producer Cheshire are Vincent Farrell of Iron Films in New York City and Jay Spain (also cinematographer) of The Communications Group in Raleigh.

Godfrey Cheshire will be a guest professor teaching the History of Film at UNC-Chapel Hill this spring.

—RB Reeves, IV

When a tree falls... “Frankenforests” Debate

A different view of the woods might seem a little more positive, not to mention reasonable: Using new ways to cut and splice tree DNA, and by limiting exposure to native forests, the pulp industry could, indeed, rescue millions of acres of virgin forest by harvesting quick-growing and soft-wooded GE pines instead. The government has ordered trees that will change color in the case of a bio-terror attack. Hawaii’s papaya industry, in fact, has already been rescued by insect-resistant GE trees.

Either way, with federal approval nearing for commercial use, Raleigh is in the middle of the debate. Already, genetically engineered trees are growing on secret test plots on the Tar Heel pine plains. The South is where the first commercial applications are likely to take place, with the region next year set to take the No. 1 production slot away from the West and establish itself firmly as a world leader in paper-making. Meanwhile, South Carolina’s Arborgen—a consortium of pulp companies from New Zealand and the US—has grown from 30 to 90 employees in three years. Late this fall, the burgeoning Institute of Forest Biotechnology at N.C. State hosted the “New Trees, New Century” conference in Raleigh, which brought together a high-profile group of scientists, activists and policymakers that will likely take a lead role in getting federal approval.

The rhetoric is so heated on the topic that much of the conference was off-limits to the press so everybody, whether scientists, industry reps, or activists, could speak a little freer.

Even as China and Brazil are going ahead with United Nations-approved test-tube groves, both sides say that taking it slow is the best policy. Unlike GE corn and soybean, which have no native cousins, GE trees would grow in close proximity to native copes—and even scientists can’t say for certain what would happen.

“There are inevitable risks that can irreversibly alter native systems,” says Alyx Perry, director of the Southern Forests Network in Asheville. “We’re looking at a very dramatic impact on the ground here in the US, and especially the South.”

Scientists, for their part, are confident that the technology will improve quickly as the new exemplars—which can carry genes for insect resistance and for carbon-dioxide absorption—take their sweet time growing up. Trees are genetically more complex than humans—thus their success as the earth’s ultimate survivalists. But even if GE pollen does drift for hundreds of miles, any subsequent wild seedlings would be hard pressed to express the new genetic material.

“When it escapes, the [new genetic material] may act differently or it may not express at all,” says Jim Hemrick, a tree genetics expert at the University of Georgia in Athens. “Indeed, traits are likely to be selected against the material, which will work against it escaping.”

Still, if the science works, the legal ramifications are still unresolved. Who, for example, will own any trees that “escape” from the plantations? So far, Monsanto and other companies have successfully sued over GE agricrops, saying that their material is copyrighted, even if it expresses on someone else’s property.

Like Tolkien’s lumbering Ents, native tree enthusiasts see the lungs of the world in the balance in the GE tree debate. With profits on the line and the alchemy at hand, Washington will be hard-pressed to stall progress. At the heart of the debate remains the naturalist John Muir, who may well have been prescient when he wrote: “The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness.”

In the end, wide-scale damage to America’s treasured forests is possible, but unlikely, scientists say. “It’s good to be conservative, it’s good to have people reminding us that a worst-case scenario could happen,” says Mr. Hemrick at UGA. “But it’s fairly unrealistic that we’ll get a disaster.”

—Patrik Jonsson

Rescue Mission Provides Helping Hand Up

With over 200 women and children still without shelter each night, the need to aide the homeless in the Raleigh area is growing. But a none faith-based organization is helping to break the cycle of homelessness—one person at a time, and with a view to life-long rehabilitation.

Not only does the Raleigh Rescue Mission help meet the needs of food, clothing and shelter, Mission residents are placed on a Life Plan program that helps them address their own individual issues. The Mission offers Christian discipleship, an adult learning center with a computer lab, a children’s development center, and a medical clinic for resident’s use.

“We believe in giving a hand up, not a
hand out,” executive director Lynn Daniels said. “Shelters that provide emergency relief are very important, but this is a process ministry. Our staff is different because we want to establish a life for a person.”

To address a shortage of beds—there are only 50 beds for women and children and 30 beds for men in their current facility on E. Hargett St. in Downtown Raleigh—the Mission launched a $3 million capital campaign for expansion that will add 40 beds and upgrade the Mission’s facilities.

The new addition will provide 7,300 additional square feet of space for staff offices and rooms to house women and children. According to Melody Foster, director of women and family, the expansion will also provide female residents with a commons area for meetings and social gatherings.

Foster, who has been involved with the Mission for nearly three years, said one of her goals as director is to help women realize they are worthy of living a happy, fulfilled life.

“For many people, the program is the first thing they have ever completed,” Foster said. “Many people aren’t ready to leave until they feel that can have what they need to succeed.”

The three-phase Life Plan helps Mission residents work through their problems and work with staff members to learn how to dress and act during an interview, how to create a resume and how to search for a job.

“Change doesn’t come in two weeks or two months,” Daniels said. “We ask people to make a commitment to staying at the Mission for at least six months so we can help them recover from the life they have been leading and then give them a skill.”

According to Foster, the Mission’s Life Plan takes the average person two and a half years to complete. In addition, the Mission continues to help people after they have left the program, providing them with linens and furniture for their first apartment.

In 2003, the Mission’s Life Program served 100 men and over 300 women. In addition, the Mission’s emergency shelter served over 600 people last year.

For more information about the capital campaign and how you can help, please contact Lynn Daniels at 919-828-9014, ext. 105. For a tour of the Mission, please contact Leslie Currin at 919-828-9014, ext. 115.

—Jennifer Hadra

Duke’s Nasher Museum of Art
Set to Open October 2, 2005

A major new center for the arts on the Duke University campus, the Nasher Museum of Art, will open its new building on Oct. 2, 2005.

Designed by architect Rafael Viñoly, the $23 million museum, a 65,000 square-foot facility, is destined to become a cornerstone for cultural activities on campus, serving as a venue for performing arts events, lectures, film series and social gatherings and allowing for leading-edge exhibitions in collaboration with museums around the country. It will provide an important cultural resource for the university and the public.

The museum will foster multidisciplinary learning and will place new importance on modern and contemporary art. The first two exhibitions in the new galleries, “The Evolution of the Nasher Collection” and “The Forest: Politics, Poetics and Practice,” will reflect that new interest. Kimberly Rorschach, the Mary D.B.T. and James H. Semans director of the Nasher at Duke, expresses enthusiasm for the new emphasis.

“We are thrilled to inaugurate our building with two exceptional exhibitions,” she says.

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"and in doing so, usher in a new era at the museum of increasing our focus on modern and contemporary art."

The Nasher at Duke, named in honor of the family of Raymond D. Nasher, an internationally prominent art collector and philanthropist who was graduated from Duke in 1943, comprises five pavilions that will house three large gallery spaces, a 173-seat auditorium, museum shop, classrooms, administrative offices and a café. The building will provide 14,000 square feet of gallery space and another 13,000 square feet of display space in the atrium, which can accommodate large works and temporary installations.

Raymond Nasher provided the largest gift, $7.5 million, toward the new building. The Nasher Foundation of Dallas subsequently donated another $2.5 million in honor of Nasher, its founder. The Duke Endowment, a charitable trust in Charlotte, has contributed $2.5 million in honor of its chairman emerita and former Duke University trustee Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans. The atrium will be named in her honor.

The new museum is located in Durham at Anderson Street and Duke University Road between Duke's East and West campuses, adjacent to the 55-acre Sarah P. Duke Gardens, one of the region's most popular visitor destinations.

Additional information on the Nasher Museum is available at www.nasheratduke.org.

Evenings for Two

For couples tired of the dinner and movie rut, Chapel Hill author Laura Zavelson has solutions in her book, *Evenings for Two in the Triangle*, complete with 50 romantic itineraries and almost 100 restaurant recommendations. With a year's worth of suggestions in categories such as Neighborhood Explorations, Cultural Exposures and Outdoor Adventures, the 128-page book offers couples a chance to choose a date that will spark the interests of both parties. Packed with color photographs, *Evenings for Two in the Triangle* is a descriptive resource for romance, fine dining and fun. Sample evenings include a guided stroll through a historical area followed by four-star cuisine or a tasting of creative dishes with live music. To find out more about the book and see sample chapters, go to www.eveningsfortwo.com.

Add a Little Drama to Your Life

If you're curious about what goes on behind the scenes at Raleigh Little Theatre, here's your chance to find out. RLT is holding "Backstage Night," the theatre's twice yearly open house on January 11, at 7:30 p.m.

At "Backstage Night," RLT staff members give backstage tours and discuss ways people may get involved with theater life, including painting and constructing scenery, sewing costumes, running lights and learning sound design. They also discuss projects less involved with the stage, such as ushering, selling tickets, answering phones, troubleshooting computers and/or writing press releases. With 11 shows produced each season, there are auditions for local actors and/or singers almost every month. In all, over 400 volunteers produce RLT's plays and musicals each season.

Audiences come to Raleigh Little Theatre for the professional caliber of its shows, but many do not realize that all the actors and technicians onstage and backstage are amateurs—some who will go on to become stars. Clay Aiken, Jamie Denton and Andy Griffith all performed at RLT before going on to highly successful professional careers.

"Backstage Night" will be held at Raleigh Little Theatre, 301 Pogue Street (two blocks off Hillsborough St.), Raleigh. For more information, call RLT at 919-821-4579 or go to the theater's Web site at www.raleighlittletheatre.org.

WPBA Women's Billiard Classic Coming to Rocky Mount

Sixty-four of the world's best women's billiards players will go at it in Rocky Mount at the Carolina Women's Billiard Classic to be held in Nash Community College's Brown Auditorium, February 10-13.

The PrimeQuest Association, a nonprofit group founded to increase awareness of billiards and promote Rocky Mount, recently announced that the Carolina Classic has been added to the WPBA (Women's Professional Billiard Association) Classic Tour, which presents only eight WPBA
events in the United States.

"We have worked closely with the WPBA, Nash Community College, the Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce and the Nash County Visitor’s Bureau to bring this event to eastern North Carolina," says Tony Davis, President of PrimeQuest Association and PrimeQuest Inc. "The Southeast is one of the hotbeds for billiards in the United States, so we expect that billiard fans across North Carolina will be eager to sit only a few feet away from their favorite WPBA players as they compete." On the roster of players in the Rocky Mount event are Allison Fisher, Karen Corr and Jeanette Lee, also known as "The Black Widow."

There will be six elimination sessions held Thursday-Saturday at Brown Auditorium. The semi-final and final rounds will be aired nationally on ESPN & ESPN 2, and will be held on Sunday, February 13.

PrimeQuest Inc., creator of The Spider (www.thespideronline.com), a revolutionary billiards training and aiming device, will be site sponsor for the Premier Sponsorships are still available. Many industry vendors will also be on site showcasing some of the newest billiard products on the market.

The Nash County Visitor’s Bureau expects the inaugural tournament to bring increased travel and tourism to the Rocky Mount area with 3500-4000 people spending the weekend and needing lodging, shopping and food.

Many hotels in the area will offer special rates to people attending the tournament. For more information on becoming a sponsor, please contact PrimeQuest Association at 252-937-4722.

To purchase tickets and learn more about the event, visit www.carolinawbc.com or call 1-800-326-9321. Both the PrimeQuest Association and WPBA plan to make this an annual event. 

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Interesting isn't it that often the most productive people stay below the radar, usually on purpose. Or if they are in the public eye, many of their accomplishments stay private, indicating that gaining credit is not the purpose for giving and caring.

The 2004 line-up of Metro Magazine's Who's Who once again achieves the quality of previous honorees: talented people who reach beyond what is expected to another level of sacrifice to help others and make our community better.

I may be immodest in my belief that we have better citizens with a love for their region that transcends anywhere else in the country. Yet I know it's true. And here are 10 reasons why.

Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher

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MARY EASLEY
FIRST LADY OF NORTH CAROLINA

The dynamic First Lady of North Carolina sweeps into the room with a smile big enough to light the Governor's Mansion and a personality so warm it drives out winter's chill.

When asked to describe her role, she laughs and says she is a "minister without portfolio," someone "without a job description." But in Governor Michael Easley's administration, Mary P. Easley stands with her husband—and second to no one. At many events across the state she appears on behalf of the governor.

"I have tried to think of ways wherein I could contribute and have a positive impact—without being disruptive," she says. Although not an elected official herself, she has wielded the power of First Lady to drive numerous initiatives. The record shows that Mrs. Easley, an attorney by training, has proven quite adroit at bringing together disparate groups in an attempt to boost educational, health and philanthropic efforts in several areas. But she insists ego isn't what drives her.

"Other First Ladies have created their own organizations, their own brand," she says in a dismissive tone. "I'm not into that."

A hectic schedule reflects a commitment to others. One morning, Mary Easley is reading in a classroom to a group of 5-year-olds. Later in the day, she is announcing a new grant program for teacher retention. Before the night is over, she attends a charitable function.

During the recent campaign, she "did whatever I was asked to do," she says. But once a speech or appearance was over, she returned to her primary role. "My job as First Lady was much more important than the rumble and tumble life of everyday politics."

As draining as the demands may be at times, Mary Easley draws energy from people and the children she meets. "It's so wonderful to have the opportunity to go into a classroom and read to eager children. I am by nature an optimist, so this is easier for me," she says with a smile. "I get to meet a lot of people whose hearts and minds are in the right places. It's been very energizing. It's also very challenging.

"I am a big, big supporter of charitable work. I like to seek ways to combine things, to find needs that can be met by bringing groups together. The opportunities are there but perhaps not seen. I like to be flexible. ... I don't want to supplant what others do, but I do what I can to help."

Life in Raleigh has not always been as fulfilling for her. When husband Michael won his first statewide office—attorney general—in 1992, she had to sell her own law practice. The two had dated while working in district attorney's offices in the Cape Fear region. She was graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wake Forest University in 1972 and earned her law degree there in 1975. A promising legal career beckoned. Then Mike Easley became the top law enforcement officer in the state.

"Yes, big time," Mrs. Easley says candidly about the impact leaving the Wilmington area had on her life. "It was a seismic shift. It was not a happy time for me. It was like losing a child. I loved that firm and my employees," she recalls. "I was miserable for a year or more."

The change from self-standing attorney to life associated with a statewide politician forced her to change. "I had fallen into the trap of being defined by professional credentials," she explains. "I realized after some time that I had made that mistake. I learned a great deal in that year."

Easley dismisses any talk that either of the state's top power couple ever saw a political career as a destiny. "We were following opportunities," she says. "Mike was following his interests, and as doors opened, he took advantage of them."

As a district attorney, Easley had earned a national reputation as a "drug buster." He turned that record into the Attorney General's job and then defied political tradition by beating the sitting lieutenant governor to succeed Jim Hunt in 2000.

"I adopted that philosophy," the First Lady says of her husband's seizing a chance. "It's very freeing. It opens you to more opportunities. There are always unexpected opportunities that come along, and you have to be flexible enough to handle them."

Through Easley's two terms as attorney general and first term as governor, his wife found other roles. The couple had a son to rear, Michael Jr. She also took a position as a law professor at North Carolina Central University and teaches a graduate level course in management training at North Carolina State University.

Over time, Mary Easley embraced the life of a politician and grew to savor the First Lady's role. She has not flinched from the opportunity to lead. The charming reader to children becomes in business the administrator working with the discipline of her law school training and the skills learned as an assistant district attorney to maximize coordination and production. She talks about her "very good corporate partners" and setting up "incubators" for assistance and offering a variety of programs, not mandates. "The cool thing is, each county's goals and needs are different," she says. "We want to give them a menu of choices."

The Governor will soon begin his second term, and Mary Easley has pledged to maintain her role in aggressively working to support education, teacher recruitment and child healthcare initiatives, to discourage underage drinking and to reach out to North Carolina's new immigrants. Neither he, who is a lame duck as governor, nor she plans to rest, she emphasizes.

"Some adjustments" will be made, she explains. "I will talk with our partners, discuss where we have been and where we are going."

Communities and Schools—where she is a member of the board; Teach for America—the Latino Health Task Force Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free; and Immunize for Healthy Lives are three of the many programs she has supported. Corporate sponsors such as McDonald's, Glaxo-SmithKline and the Progress Energy

As wife of Gov. Mike Easley, the "minister without portfolio" seeks her own opportunities to be a public servant and a caring mother while maintaining a professorship at the NCCU School of Law.
Foundation offer corporate support. Mrs. Easley has also worked with the Junior League of Raleigh to turn the inaugural ball into a $400,000 fundraiser for charity.

Being First Lady does not control her life, despite the demands. Whatever new opportunities or challenges emerge in a second term, Mary Easley remains passionately committed to her role as law school professor. “Teaching is just the best thing I have ever done,” she maintains.

The Easleys also keep up with Michael Jr., now 20 and a double major (psychology and political science) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. “Maybe he’s trying to understand us,” she says with a chuckle.

Then there are responsibilities as a spouse. Michael and Mary Easley have been married for 24 years and in public life since 1982. She says they strive to spend time with each other. “We have long, long dinners almost every night.” The First Lady says she enjoys the conversations over private meals—“especially when we start cooking and chopping.” In what spare time she has, she calls herself an omnivore when it comes to reading (“I’ll read the toothpaste box”) and loves to knit.

The love of public life also does have its limits, she conceded. Looking to 2008 when his term ends, Mrs. Easley dismisses talk of national politics. “We’re going to be very happy spending time with each other.”

Reminded that Democrats might be looking for a governor from a Southern state with a record of success to run for president, she scoffs.

“Let them look,” she says.

With that, Mary Easley smiles, says a warm farewell and goes off to another meeting.

**DR. FRANK LONGO**

**PHYSICIAN, ATHLETE AND VISIONARY**

For someone trained to care for people’s well-being, Dr. Frank Longo certainly has a lot of nerve.

— the nerve to jump out of a helicopter and go skiing down a mountain
— the nerve to push his body to the breaking point in marathons
— and the nerve-wracking ambition to
believe that he will succeed in building one of the nation's premier departments of neurology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Actually, three years into the job as department chair, Longo has achieved that goal. Regarded as a visionary by his peers, he is a driving force at UNC Hospital's outreach and treatment efforts for brain disorders. He has already recruited more than 20 high-profile physicians, enabling the spearheading of research into the fight against stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's diseases, epilepsy, sleep disorders, multiple sclerosis and neuromuscular diseases.

Longo, who runs every day to stay in shape, only loses his breath when he recounts the fast pace of development at UNC.

"We recently launched our new Alzheimer's program and will be expanding to create a major center in 2005," Longo said excitedly. Longo has lined up William Friday, the legendary former president of the UNC university system—and a state leader in philanthropic endeavors—to help with fundraising, demonstrating he is moving ahead quickly to address the growing problem of dementia.

"The number of people in North Carolina with Alzheimer's and other dementia is skyrocketing," he said. "The personal costs alone are overwhelming, and the economic costs will be increasingly significant to the state. Bill Friday and we believe that the center with a goal of prevention and detection and treatment as early as possible will be a benefit to North Carolina."

Longo has already hired a number of neurologists to launch an Alzheimer's and dementia program. The next step is to raise between $6-8 million to create what he predicted would be "a major national, prominent center."

Helping him is his wife, Anne. A former marketing executive at Charles Schwab headquarters in San Francisco and director of programs at the Washington DC-based Alliance for Aging Research, she is director of development for the Department of Neurology. Mrs. Longo is charged with helping raise funds for endowed professorship chairs with targets of $500,000 and up. She has helped establish four already.
From mountain climbing to downhill skiing to running the Department of Neurology at UNC to launching a major initiative to combat Alzheimer's, Frank Longo demonstrates the steady nerves of leadership.

“The opportunity to work with my wife toward the goal of creating a cutting-edge department has been a lot of fun,” Longo said. But he also acknowledged each day brings new challenges for the Longos, who have been married for five years and have two children, Sophia, 3, and Daniel, 1. “This is the type of work where you are never done,” he said. “You are always pushing in other directions, pushing to make things better.”

Longo’s interest in matters of the brain can be traced to his younger sister, Patti, who was afflicted with severe cerebral palsy. Patti was his inspiration to enter the medical field rather than to work for his late father, Dominic, who built the largest automobile dealership in the world—Longo Toyota in Los Angeles. Longo said he reads “two novel’s worth of material” in research every week, and he’s determined to stay in the race of discovery and implementation.

“This is an exciting time to be involved in creating new therapies for neurological diseases. For example, in our laboratory we have created a new class of potential drugs for Alzheimer’s.” In the area of Parkinson’s, Longo led the development of one of the largest deep brain stimulation programs in the country. “At UNC we are using electrodes implanted in particular areas of the brain and, when they are stimulated, Parkinson’s symptoms can be dramatically improved.” Those efforts led in part to UNC’s designation as a “center of excellence” by the National Parkinson’s Foundation.

In matters of the heart, UNC is pioneering use of a new device that literally retrieves blood clots from stroke victims—especially among patients who are already on blood-thinning drugs.

“Our stroke team was part of the trial for the clot retriever. It has received FDA approval, and now we are using it on the first patients,” Longo said. “This is truly a significant development to combat strokes, which are caused by clots.

“We had a patient come in who was on a blood-thinning drug and wasn’t able to receive the standard clot buster. We were able to use the clot retriever. He went from being paralyzed to being normal. If he had gone anywhere else, the procedure could not have been done.”

Longo, a 1981 graduate of the medical school at the University of California at San Diego, was recruited to UNC in 2001 from his position as professor and vice chair of the Department of Neurology at the University of California at San Francisco. But he was not brought in simply to develop a showcase program. North Carolina’s population is one of the most stroke-prone in the country.

“The prevalence for stroke here is exceptional, so we have to have one of the best programs in the country,” Longo said. “We take pride in our mission as the medical university for the state that belongs to the people of North Carolina, and our goal is to make sure we are one of the best in the country.”

The Department of Neurology has created a nationally recognized sleep center and is targeting problems such as epilepsy with an expanded use of surgery to augment pharmacological treatments. Multiple sclerosis is also on the target list.

In addition to running what in reality is a large institution, Longo continues to see patients, to teach and often travel around the state to discuss with other physicians the latest developments and trends in neurology. But his UNC daybook is quite filled.

“As department chair, I have to make sure that we have enough resources to achieve our goals, whether its space or funding. I am truly privileged to have so many talented colleagues who have made all this happen,” Longo said.

His devotion to the profession—and his staff was reflected in a recent job satisfaction survey of the UNC medical school. The Department of Neurology ranked first. 

JOHN SKVARALA III
ENTREPRENEUR EXTRAORDINAIRE

In the quiet of his office amidst the evergreen trees of Whispering Pines, John Skvarla has the best of both worlds—business and pleasure.

Just as he begins to talk about becoming a new owner of the Country Club of Whispering Pines, in walks Grady Little, former manager of the Boston Red Sox and a club member.

“Grady,” he said loudly as if greeting an old friend—as well as a paying member. “How are you?”

Skvarla runs the club and takes time to play golf anytime he wants on the two Ellis Maples-designed courses and socialize with members like Little who call the Pinehurst resort area home.

“This is the best-kept secret in the Sandhills,” Skvarla says proudly. “When I heard that it was being sold at the end of 2003, I had never even been here.”

Now, Skvarla calls the 50-year-old club “a tuxedo with tennis shoes that nobody knows about. With a small amount of capital, we’ll get the tennis shoes off the tuxedo.”

Skvarla, born and raised in Tuxedo, NY (coincidentally), is an attorney who founded one of the first firms focused on high tech in the Triangle. He went on to build, rescue and sell three other firms, and is now fully immersed in the task of turning the Country Club of Whispering Pines into a “must see, must play” addition to the Pinehurst golf paradise.

“We have ‘treed’ the courses,” he said, referring to the removal or trimming of trees that had crowded the fairways. “We have painted, and now we have to make people aware that we have got this marvelous, marvelous facility to use.”

With membership roles declining in 2002-03, the club’s collective owners accepted a bid from Skvarla, Pinehurst resident E.W. Davis and Eric Franckovitch of West Virginia to save it. Knowing that Davis lived there, and that Skvarla had owned a home in Pinehurst for more than a decade, they selected the Skvarla team.

“We were not the highest bidder,” Skvarla said. “I love to play golf, I love Pinehurst, and I had bought a permanent
home here. The membership knew all this; knew that my partners and I understood the ethic of a private country club and that we wanted to maintain that.

"Although we need to have outside activities and visitors to generate business, this will still be a private club and not a bubbling tourist facility."

To increase membership and drive revenues, Skvarla has applied the same technique he has used in other turnaround ventures. "The vision is to fix it, to get it stable financially," he said. "With the 80 new members we've added (now at 360), we've already taken a huge step in that direction."

In addition to the two courses, the club offers a spacious clubhouse completed in 1998 and 41 overnight villas. Skvarla wants to draw outside visitors to the villas and to play on the two courses while protecting the interests of the 1500 home and lot owners. Some 1100 private homes dot the club's landscape.

Given his record in business, the decision to take on the revitalization project didn't come as a surprise to Skvarla's wife, Elizabeth. "If you ask her what I do, she will say, 'What day of the week is it?'" Skvarla said with a laugh.

The Skvarlas, who have been married for 33 years, have a daughter, Kate, and son, Matt.

A 1973 graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law, Skvarla decided to practice in the Tar Heel State. He worked at a boutique business and tax firm, rose to partner and in 1978 helped launch

**From law to aviation to trash collection and now to golf as the co-owner of the Country Club of Whispering Pines, Skvarla has demonstrated a knack for fixing what's broken and finding business where others don't.**
the law firm Skvarla, Wyrick and Robbins. He remained there until 1984 as the firm grew to 65 attorneys, dealing with corporate and business affairs and raising capital for business clients.

"No one was tending to the budding and new entrepreneurial class," Skvarla recalled. "That was a niche I was very interested in. Venture capital and entrepreneurship became the hallmarks of the firm."

The entrepreneurial bug struck again in 1984 when he joined The Aviation Group, a firm that helped launch the all-cargo airline business. Skvarla played a key role in taking the company public. It was later sold for $150 million.

Skvarla's next venture was Pro Active Therapy, a chain of physical therapy outlets stretching across the Carolinas and Virginia. His experiences led him to write a book (The People's Prescription for What Really Ails America's Healthcare System). When that company was sold, he joined Duff & Phelps, an investment bank. He then tackled a turnaround project—Wilkinson Hi-Rise, a fabricator of metal products that produced huge recycling compactors for high-rise buildings. Skvarla brought in his son to help revive the firm. They sold it 18 months later, mission accomplished.

"That experience was absolutely the most fun I ever had," he recalled. "We did a million-dollar turnaround. We got down and got our fingernails dirty. I called myself the garbage man."

The willingness to deal with the grit and grim is a reflection of Skvarla's share-in-the-toil, share-in-the-attitude attitude. "To be successful, I made sure to put people first, to show people how to have a whole lot of fun as entrepreneurs, and to surround myself with people who were better than me," he explained. "To be honest with you, I have left tons of money on the table so everyone could benefit. I look in the mirror, and I am very happy I tried to make a lot of people comfortable and happy, and I've had a lot of fun doing it."

Skvarla also stressed that Elizabeth has been a significant reason for the success he has enjoyed so far.

"I have to say that through all this, my real backbone has been my wife," he said with a smile. "From attorney to aviation to healthcare to garbage to golf, she's been there for all of it." 

CARL VENTERS
BROADCASTING PIONEER

The laugh is deep and long as Carl Venters remembers the heady 1970s when he unleashed a new music format that rocked the radio world.

"Stairway to Heaven"—how many times have we all heard that, said Venters, who is recognized as one of the pioneers in North Carolina broadcasting. The laugh erupted as he remembered putting hard rock group Led Zeppelin's 7-minute classic on Raleigh's WQDR-FM in 1973 just months into a 10-year career as head of Durham Life Broadcasting, owners of powerhouse WPTF-AM (We Protect The Family) that took advantage of the opportunity to change over their WPTF-FM license—granted along with the AM but not commercially viable until the 1970s—to WQDR. The company had also recently purchased WRDU-TV—a UHF originally created in the 1950s by the daily News & Observer newspaper that had been reactivated and, in a landmark FCC decision, given full network affiliation due to the efforts of Duke law professor Robinson O. Everett.

Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd and other rock groups made it onto commercial FM radio as part of Venters' AOR (album-oriented rock) format. No longer was "hard rock" confined to dorm rooms and underground radio. With AM only playing popular "hits" and FM used mostly for "simcasting" the AM signal or for special programming such as jazz and classical and the Metropolitan Opera broadcast by WPTF-FM on Saturdays, Venters, encouraged by his then college-age and rock-fan son Chip, took a chance to capitalize on a growing market of college students who wanted to hear the rock music that was galvanizing a generation.

Venters brought in radio consultant Lee Abrams, who went on to his own successful career and is now chief programming officer for XM Radio, to create the AOR format. "I was fortunate to have Lee work with me," Venters said.

It was a revolutionary move—one that caused an uprising by the station's classical listeners.

"I took the beautiful music off the air, and the letters to the editor of the News & Observer filled the pages," Venters recalled. "They were saying, 'What is this Pink Floyd stuff? I thought people were going to run me out of town!'

After leaving Durham Life Broadcasting in 1982, he used the success of the AOR format to help build the regional broadcast chain Voyager Communications with partner Jack McCarthy. Their success was based on technological improvements, most importantly coming up with the idea to put signal boosters for radio stations on TV towers to turn rural stations into metropolitan market players after the Federal Communications Commission altered some broadcasting guidelines. These "sticks," as they are called, took advantage of the phenomenon that the signal reach of FM is directly related to the height of the tower. He and McCarthy (and FCC attorney Wade Hargrove) bought an AM-FM in Wilson, leased tower space on WRAL-TV's 2000-foot tower, pointed the FM signal to the emerging Triangle market and created WRDU-FM. Even today, the station's "id's" on the half-hour with "serving Wilson-Raleigh-Durham. His success with AOR, operating radio stations in multiple entertainment formats and operating TV stations earned him a spot in the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

These days, Venters can sit back in his desk chair and relax, savoring the breeze and enjoying the view from his home along the Intracoastal Waterway in the Wilmington area. He and McCarthy sold Voyager in 1993, and Venters went on to launch Ocean Broadcasting, buying up four stations in and around Wilmington along with his son-in-law, Chuck Sullivan. They sold the last of the stations in 2003.

Taking into account his college and military days, Venters, born in Jacksonville, NC, has actually spent five decades in broadcasting. He got his start as a radio, television and motion pictures student at UNC (he was graduated in 1955), then spent three years in the Marines as an artillery communications officer, returning to UNC to run WUNC-TV for three years. He bought his first radio station in 1960 in Farmville, before joining Durham Life Broadcasting.

Love of the business is part of the Venters family. His daughter Julie is married to Chuck Sullivan, who is president-elect of the NC Broadcasters Association, and son Lee works for Fox television. His son Chip
Harl Venters is in the software industry. Carl and his wife, Linda, have another daughter, Andrea Stephens, who lives in California.

As a new era of his life unfolds, Venters is far from idle. He monitors the business even as he now spends time dabbling in real estate.

"I don't consider myself retired," Venters said. "I'm still in broadcasting as far as I'm concerned. I follow what's happening. But this is the first time in 40 years I've not either owned or operated a radio or TV station. Taking that in mind, I miss broadcasting. But, given that I've done broadcasting for 40 years, I'm perfectly fine not doing it."

The founder of the album rock format that changed FM forever is out of broadcasting for the moment. But he stays tuned in for trends—and opportunities.

Venters also dismissed with modesty any talk about being a pioneer.

"I would not say I am a pioneer, but having done this for 40 years—it's a relatively long time," he said. "I have gone through many changes, from the dominance of AM to the transformation of FM and then the rebirth of AM through talk format and now satellite," he said. "Of course, in television, I started with the NBC affiliate in Raleigh (Channel 28) when it was a UHF station and people needed UHF antennas. Now, with cable systems, the UHF stations are equal in force with the VHF stations."

Venters stressed that he remains a strong believer in the power of radio, even as satellite transmission grows as a threat. "Really, the competition for radio is the CD player in the car," he said. "Satellite has no local news, no local weather, but they are trying to do traffic."

The glut of advertising—what he calls "spot load" in broadcast speak—does concern him. "On a break now, you can hear six to eight ad spots in a row," Venters complained. "I always thought that was wrong."
Another worry is lack of local content. “People don’t want music machines,” he said. “They don’t want cookie-cutter formats. Radio will have to change. It’s beginning to.”

And if the right opportunity comes along to re-enter the business for Venter—well, just stay tuned.

**DR. KIMERLY RORSCHACH**

**LOVER OF ART**

The appreciation of art history and its significance is something that grew in Dr. Kimerly Rorschach. She quite candidly and with humor concedes she did not inherit it.

“One of my earliest memories is throwing a tantrum on the floor of a museum—with huge columns all around,” said Rorschach, who is the director of the $23 million Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, scheduled to open October 2. She laughed as she recounted the tale. “Like many children, I was dragged to the museum by my parents,” Rorschach recalled. But somehow, someway what she saw on that trip and others planted a seed of love for art. By the time she entered college at Brandeis University and enrolled in an art history course, her appreciation blossomed, winning out over a conventional history major.

“I became interested in art in high school, not to be an artist but very interested in the artists themselves, what they did and how they related to history,” she explained. “An example is a portrait of George Washington, done face-to-face. The artist who created that portrait was closer than you or I could ever be to Washington. These objects have lived in these various times.

“When I went to college, I thought I would major in Russian and Soviet studies. I took an art history course, and that sealed it for me. The course was absolutely fascinating. I just never looked back, nor have I had any doubts.”

Rorschach earned a bachelor's degree in arts at Brandeis, was named a Fulbright Scholar and went on to a Ph.D. in art history at Yale. By that point, a fervent desire to work in an art museum had become her career choice.

“I learned early on I wanted to work in a museum,” she said, the enthusiasm filling her voice. “To be around art objects, to hold them, to experience them face-to-face—a museum is the best place to do that.”

Rorschach landed a position as a curator at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Rosenbach Museum & Library in Philadelphia. After working to help organize exhibitions and to write catalogues and studies on a wide variety of subjects from historic art to contemporary photography, Rorschach was named director of the David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago.

As a director, she created a track record as a talented administrator and fundraiser. In her 10-year tenure at the University of Chicago, she is credited with increasing the museum’s endowment to $15 million—five times what she inherited—and drove up private support by 300 percent a year while also making more than 500 acquisitions.

When Duke launched an international
search to hire the Nasher Museum's first director—endowed in the name of Mary DBT and James Seamans—Rorschach was selected from among more than 100 candidates. Her appointment was announced in April. Rorschach, who is married to John Hart and has two teenage daughters, took on the challenge with enthusiasm.

"I accepted the position because of what a wonderful opportunity it is," she said. "Building something new, the opportunity to make a tremendous difference in a museum and a community.

"I had been at Chicago for 10 years; I was very proud of what had been accomplished there. And I was feeling that I had fulfilled my commitment. It was time to switch gears, and here was a great position to make a tremendous difference in a museum and a community.

While she misses her work as a curator, Rorschach said she also appreciates the importance that a director plays in creating the work of art a museum becomes.

"It's very exciting to be building a new museum, to be making a real leap," she said. "I am building on what was here before I was hired. The new building, which I can't take any credit for, is going to be wonderful—a very, very beautiful and exciting space. It will be a revelation to many people, a great civic space for the whole metro area and the region.

"My job is to make it come alive," she added. "The director has a crucial role, bringing all the resources together. Without those, a curator can't do his or her work. Being a director is also rewarding in its own way. At least I still get to have some contact with original works of art. The director sets the general artistic policy, deciding what exhibitions are to be produced, and working with the curators to produce and present them.

"The director is also very much involved in the acquisition of new works of art. There are many decisions to be made in this role."

Rorschach wants to create a museum that "operates on a national stage," develops exhibitions that can be sent on tour and also serves as a source for art education—which the Nasher will provide with its education wing.

She is already planning exhibitions and preparing to fill the 65,000-square-foot museum. Designed by Rafael Vonoly, the Nasher is under construction near the Sarah P. Duke Gardens. She plans to emphasize modern and contemporary art. "We see an opportunity for that in this region," she said. "We believe modern and contemporary art isn't provided as fully as it could be. This emphasis is also well suited to the museum's architecture and its patron."

The Nasher Museum of Art is named for Raymond Nasher, a real estate developer in Dallas, TX, who was among the first to incorporate art and sculpture in his projects. The well-known philanthropist and art collector was graduated from Duke in 1943 and served as a Duke trustee from 1968-74. He made the largest gift for construction of the Museum ($7.5 million), and the Nasher Foundation contributed $2.5 million. The museum is an effort by the university to offer to its students more in the way of art study and appreciation and includes an auditorium for the performing arts, film series and lectures.

"He said that for many years he loved the student experience of living here, but that it was not strong enough in the arts," said Weddle Weddle. "He is very much involved, which is wonderful. He is very experienced and very wise."

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RICK WEDDLE
NEW FACE OF THE RESEARCH TRIANGLE FOUNDATION

Rick Weddle does not claim to be clairvoyant about the future of Research Triangle Park. But the new president and chief executive of the Research Triangle Foundation, the organization that oversees the crown jewel of North Carolina's high-tech economy, is implementing plans to nurture and grow the Park through the 21st century.

"Some say the Park is almost finished, but I say it's almost the beginning," Weddle said. "It's really a unique urban landform that has only begun to see its real potential."

"We are building a series of nodes and developing niches around the Park that are much more urbanized and dense than we would have seen 25 years ago. We also are seeing more diversification over time. We are trying to offer more robust amenities and to meet contemporary work patterns. After all, when the Park was formed, Starbucks had not been invented."

While the Foundation will remain committed to its core values, Weddle said change is necessary. "It's necessary to enhance the Park in order to preserve it. I don't think we can sit still on our hands and declare victory."

As the metropolitan complex of Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill swells, I-40 widens, I-540 expands, mass transit nears realization, and the RDU airport continues to grow, Weddle wants to see the Park enhance its appeal as a global destination for business, research and development.

"It's more a journey rather than a destination," said Weddle when asked about specific goals for the sprawling 7000-acre complex of high-tech, life science and government entities that hire over 40,000 workers with a payroll that exceeds $1.2 billion in annual salaries. Created in the 1950s, the Park is home to global giants, including GlaxoSmithKline, IBM and Cisco as well as the smallest startups at the First Flight Venture Center business incubator.

"Just as the original founders of the Park couldn't have known how it would develop over time, we can't know exactly how it will develop over the next couple of decades. But we do know that there are several things we have to do to continue the model of acquiring and developing real estate for technology-based development and job creation."

Weddle took over the RTP executive's post in July after the retirement of longtime CEO Jim Roberson and set forth immediately on framing a vision for the future while maximizing current resources and opportunities.

"The Park is the engine of regional job creation," Weddle said. "As a Foundation and as the CEO, we have fiduciary responsibilities to make sure the engine hits on all cylinders."

"We now have 20 million square feet of filled space, so we are also looking at strategies for adaptive reuse of property as we have turnover," he explained. "We also have to be ever mindful of—and strengthen—the global brand identity of RTP. This is perhaps the best branded real estate in the world, and we want to maintain that."

The challenges he and the Park's leaders face are not those that would be welcomed by the faint of heart. Weddle cites a list that includes transportation, innovation to encourage the formation of new companies,
improving relationships with the Triangle's universities, working with developers who are building more real estate properties at the boundaries of the Park, and developing 1100 acres of still pristine land while seeking more for future endeavors. Weddle also has in mind “satellite” locations—property managed by the Foundation but not within the existing geographic borders.

In the mix of all those challenges is where Weddle says he has to be.

“As president and CEO, I am responsible for all of the strategic and operational activities of the Foundation, the Park and its related entities. The most important role the CEO plays is working with the leadership and helping frame the overall strategic vision,” he explained. “I have initiated a planning process, and management and leadership is working to frame a vision for the next 15 years. We are beginning to build action plans to achieve those objectives.”

The World Famous Research Triangle Park is not completed, but at the beginning of a new era for growth—says the man picked to manage and shape the Park’s future.

In picking Weddle, the Foundation selected a man who had known and worked with the retired Roberson before. Roberson is a legend in economic development circles, based in large part on his success in growing RTP. Weddle also has his own impressive track record in the field since he was graduated from the University of Oklahoma with an emphasis on public administration.

“Those are really big shoes to fill,” Weddle said of Roberson. “But I’m not filling his shoes, I am following in his footsteps.”

Weddle came to RTP from Arizona where he was president and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, leading programs that helped create more than 26,000 jobs over a five-year span. Earlier, Weddle established the Regional Growth Partnership in Toledo, OH, and served as
president and CEO of the San Joaquin Partnership & Business Council in Stockton, CA. His career also included a four-year stint in Winston-Salem as president and CEO of Winston-Salem Business Inc.

Weddle, an avid reader and motivational speaker, lives in Cary with his wife Ginger and three children.

SMEDES YORK
COMMUNITY LEADER AND URBAN DEVELOPER

To label G. Smedes York as a towering figure in Raleigh real estate development is both literally and figuratively true. The former NC State basketball player, at 6 feet five inches, towers over most people and has a record of achievement as both developer and community leader that stands second to few—along side that of his legendary father, the late J.W. “Willie” York.

“Real estate development is in my blood,” said York during an interview at his spacious offices in Raleigh's Cameron Village. “My dad encouraged me to get involved with a construction job as a child. I heard my dad talking about development, working construction. His desire drew my attention, and there’s never been anything else.”

Willie York, who worked with his father C.V. York on many landmark projects in the region before WWII, was the driving force behind the creation of Cameron Village in 1949. A landmark in retail development, the Village has gone through several re-designs and ownership over the years.

Smedes, who went to work for his father after graduation from NCSU with a degree in civil engineering, a stint in the US Army Corps of Engineers and an MBA from UNC-Chapel Hill, learned at his father’s side. He has turned that knowledge into his own career of achievements, including his current role as president of York Properties and board chairman of two other firms—York Simpson Underwood residential realtors and McDonald-York Construction.

His love for the business also drew him to the world-renowned Urban Land Institute, where he once served as president. As part of the organization, he has participated in planning for revitalization and construction projects around the world.

That ULI role took him to New York City earlier this year where he chaired a ULI advisory panel that made recommendations for reconstruction of the retail portion of the destroyed World Trade Center and other
The son of legendary developer Willie York has built an empire of real estate, construction and commercial properties. He says his passion for the business is “in my blood.”

parts of Lower Manhattan.

“It was an intense process,” York recalled. “This is much more than the two towers. It’s five towers and Lower Manhattan. It’s a question of phasing the rebuilding, figuring out what type of merchants need to be there, and the importance of getting retail there.”

Helping create a vision for projects, be they shopping centers or tower skyscrapers or home developments, is a significant part of what York finds appealing about his profession.

“The visualization of something that can happen is quite strong,” he said.

York also learned from his father about the need of a developer to evolve, both as a professional and in properties owned or managed. “You have to evolve; you can’t live in the past,” he said. “You also have to take care of your customers. My Dad always said, ‘Don’t worry about your competition; take care of your customers. Then your competitors will worry about you.’”

York’s desire to build communities has reached beyond bricks and mortar over the years. Twice he served as Mayor of Raleigh, from 1979-83. One of his goals was to help bring the Triangle together as one cooperative entity.

“Raleigh really is intertwined with the Triangle now,” he said. “I was very excited to be mayor.”

York also has a long record of involvement in civic groups and public service. He was a chairman and longtime member of the NCSU Board of Trustees. He is also a former chairman of North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry, the most powerful pro-business lobbying group in the state, and is actively involved in the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, the Research Triangle Park Foundation, the Triangle United Way, and the YMCA of the Triangle.

“Success is a matter of persistence,” he says, “of conceptualizing things and then pursuing that vision while not getting bogged down in the everyday detail. Success is built on a desire to be the BEST, regardless of how big you are, regardless of whether you are in full-service retail or construction or property management.”

But further political aspirations are not on his career development path. Asked if he gave any thought to running for governor, he shook his head no. “It’s a compliment to have people talk about it,” he admitted.

York, who is married to Rosemary Adair York, said the commercial ventures and other community roles require a tremendous amount of his attention. So too does his strategy of devolving control of his various endeavors to sons George and William and other people within the organizations.

The gradual evolution of control is part of his business philosophy, he explained. “I believe in building different ventures with common goals,” York said, but added, “I leave the individual businesses to other people to run on a day-to-day basis. I want to empower others, and I believe in partnering. Once you set the goals and direction, you hire people to support those.”

Despite taking less of a day-to-day role, York certainly has no intention of retiring. “My dad never retired,” he said. “Retirement is not a goal.”

Contributing to his desire to keep working is the fact he is in strong shape physically. He remains very active athletically, running or riding a bicycle daily.

A multi-sport star at Broughton High School where he was graduated in 1959, York has filled his office with sports memorabilia—most of it of Wolfpack variety. But a collection of stuffed animals lining one wall brings a smile to his face.

“See these,” he said, picking up a pink elephant. “I win these shooting free throws at the State Fair, and then I give them away.”

Anyone who has ever tried to win a stuffed animal at the Fair knows how difficult the task is. But York has 20 or more sharp-shooting trophies. “The rim is higher, the distance is longer, and the rim is smaller,” York said of the obstacles to be overcome.

In other words, he can still shoot.

An observer points out that York seems to have a gentle manner, someone who talks with a low voice. But that image doesn’t fit—either in business, where York’s success shows he is not someone to be pushed around. The same holds true on the basketball court.

Chuckling at the remark about his reserved manner, York said: “There are some guys at the ‘Y’ who will tell you that’s not true at all.”

DR. PETER MORRIS
PUBLIC SERVANT

Those who know Dr. Peter Morris should not have been surprised to learn that the longtime child advocate and pediatrician received the “Hands of Help Award” from the John Rex Endowment earlier this year.

Morris’s record is filled with positions of leadership in professional and community organizations and advocacy groups, including Smart Start, with awards dating back to 1984 when he was named to the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels for his service in poor communities of Appalachia when he was fresh out of his medical residency at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Morris, the medical director for Wake County Human Services, is grateful for the honors but chooses to stress the importance of his service as a doctor, especially to the underprivileged.

“Most people talk about having a job; some people talk about having a career. I think medicine is a profession,” said Morris, who managed to squeeze in a few minutes for an interview during a hectic, schedule-packed week. “This is not what I do 9 to 5 or on weekend hours. A profession means you contribute to the community beyond what your job might be.”

Willingness to serve is something Morris takes quite seriously. He grew up in New York and didn’t decide to become a doctor until near the end of his undergraduate days at Georgetown University. Once started down the medical path, he said he quickly learned the benefits and costs for those who are to obey the Hippocratic Oath.

“People say to me they would like to have a career in medicine; I say ‘Ah hah, you need to ask yourself a question. Are you ready for

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the profession of medicine? To practice medicine is a privilege, and with that privilege comes awesome responsibility.

"I have been fortunate that my entire career in pediatrics and public health has been spent serving the underserved," Morris added. "I'm always amazed that I have made a very nice living taking care of people who might not have access to care. It has been a privilege to be able to work with families and children on a daily basis."

**The Medical Director for Wake County Human Services sees his career as a profession, not a job. He is on a mission of service, determined to fight inequities in healthcare and education.**

Morris grew up as an asthmatic. His desire in part to help others with similar ailments led him to the coalmine mountains of Kentucky, where he practiced from 1981-84. He returned to UNC, deciding to pursue epidemiology, preventive medicine, teach at the medical school, and to become a community servant. It's a decision he said he has never regretted.

"While I was in Kentucky, it became clear that you couldn't care for a child without caring for the family, and you couldn't care for the family without caring for the community," Morris recalled.

"There are very few things that are more important than to be allowed for brief moments of time to be part of a family that is having a crisis—and to be part of the solution," he added. "Doctors should never forget that this sharing is a privilege, not a right."

In 1986, upon completing his training at UNC's School of Public Health and serving for two years as chief resident for preventive medicine at NC Memorial Hospital, Morris joined the Wake County Department of Health as an assistant director. He also went to work at Wake Medical Center as an attending physician, and continues to work there today. He was named medical director of Wake County Human Services in 1999 and added the title of
Director of Clinical Strategies in 2001. If those duties weren’t enough, Morris began public service in 1996 by acting as secretary for the Hospital Alliance for Community Health and joined the board for Wake County Smart Start in 1996. He served as the group’s president from 2002-04. Morris has also worked with Triangle United Way, served as president of the Wake County Medical Society and is very active in the American Public Welfare Association.

Morris and his wife, Sara Anna Smith, who is a professional too, working at Dorothea Dix Hospital as a clinical social worker, have a daughter, Leah, who lives in Colorado.

Despite the demands of those activities for time and attention, Morris said he remains determined to provide better medical care to all who need it.

“Our greatest problem continues to be the disparity in health outcomes between the minority population and the Caucasian population, whether it be infant mortality, asthma or other illnesses,” he said with a stern tone in his voice. “We have to continue to develop means of attacking these disparate outcomes whether it is in health or education.”

His work with the County helped trigger an interest in the statewide Smart Start initiative launched by former Gov. Jim Hunt. Morris was one of the founders in Wake County.

A desire to serve also extends to his faith. He is actively involved in the St. Ambrose Episcopal Church in Raleigh, a historically African-American-american parish. Morris’ decision to attend there is based in part on “its strong tradition of church and social activism.” He is also seeking a master’s in divinity at Duke University.

“My heart,” Evan says, “is in acting.” And fulfilling that heart-felt desire comes with a cost. The actor’s craft, Evan says in a warning to those dreaming of stardom, is not an easy one, physically or mentally. The proof is in the role that established the Evan Rachel Wood as a marquee name.

She was 14 when she filmed thirteen. The movie was released two years later in 2003, followed by nominations for Evan for the Golden Globe and the Screen Actors Guild award for best actress. Rumor was she was very close to a nomination for an Academy Award.

“I did go through some preliminary Oscar interviews. Just the fact that they were considering me—it was surreal!” Evan says with a smile. “After what I went through on the set, I thought I better get nominated for something.”

Three years later, Evan grimmaces and often raises her hands to her face or waves her arms as she recounts with great intensity the transfiguration she had to make to become the fictitious Tracie in thirteen.

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“God, half way through—there was no way I thought I could finish it,” Evan says, her blue eyes wide open. “I couldn’t get in to it any more.”

Clad in a David Bowie T-shirt and loose-fitting slacks, wavy blond hair hanging loosely across her shoulders and knees tucked under her chin, Evan gathers an afghan tight around her to fight the afternoon chill and savors being a young daughter who has come back to her hometown for Christmas with her father, actor and director Ira David Wood. “Not as often as I would like to,” she says when asked how often Raleigh is a stop on a busy itinerary of film shoots both in America and abroad.

Evan describes it as “channeling,” the process of becoming a character by combining experiences gleaned from years of her own training, watching others, her own interpretations of how a story should be told, the demands required of the script and the instructions of the director to produce a character. And she studies nearly every day to improve, constantly watching and listening on sets or sitting in a theater or popping in a DVD. Others, she senses, are seeing improvement and refinement in her technique.

“Like, people have asked me after the last couple of movies, ‘What are you channeling? We have never seen you do that before,’” Evan says. “Definitely, you have to be very focused. You do not see the camera. You do not know you are on a set. You have to completely leave yourself and become what the role requires.”

In the case of thirteen, the transformation required nearly led her to turn down the part.

“Tracie” is a seemingly sinless 13-year-old, rail-thin, middle schooler who in the span of four months becomes a pot-smoking, sexually promiscuous, drug-using, physically self-abusing wreck. An extended, deep lesbian kiss scene with “Evie,” her friend, and scenes of drug use made the film riveting for.
movie-goers, but took a toll on the star.

"That's not me," Evan says of the troubled Tracie. The pierced tongue was fake, the jewel held on by a suction cup. The belly piercing wasn't real, either. So too were the slashes in her arm—supposedly inflicted by scissors and a razor blade as the rebellious, frustrated Tracie vented her anger on her body. But the bodywork was not Evan's worst concerns.

Several scenes were so disturbing that Evan banished her mother, actress Sarah who went to the movie sets every day.

"Sometimes I would send her off for a scene," Evan says, her voice growing softer yet more intense. "I couldn't do them with my mother watching."

The physical demands were as excruciating as the mental transformation. *thirteen* was independently produced, which meant limited resources and a compressed shoot.

"Definitely, it was hard," Evan says. "We had no time and no money. We worked every day for 24 days, all day. We would get 30 minutes for lunch. Some days, I could barely move."

What affected Evan most, however, was having to "live" the Tracie role.

"Once you commit, you commit. You can't hold back," Evan says. "We all knew that the only way we would pull this [movie] off was for everyone to give everything they had. I could not hold back."

"I had to constantly be in the mind of the character. I couldn't shake it. I had to dig so deep into myself. This was so personal."

Evan regrouped and finished the film. She drew support from Holly Hunter as her screen Mom, Mel. She also was determined to send a message with the film.

"One of the reasons I took the role was because it is so real," Evan says. "God, the pressure. I have seen many 'Evie Girls'—ones like Evie. I have never talked to an adult who understands what it's like to be a teenage girl. That role—that's what it's like. Sometimes you are so out of control. Adults are so blind to it."

A look of disgust crosses her face when she talks about some of her fans.

"I've had girls come up to me and say, 'Oh, I saw you in *thirteen*. That's my favorite movie. You were so cool.' I want to say back, 'God, what are you thinking?'"

Evan moved to Hollywood in 1994 with her mother after she and her father divorced.
Having parents who were deeply involved in acting meant that Evan spent a great deal of time growing up in theaters or backstage. "I was singing before I talked, and I was always dancing," Evan said with a smile. "My first role was when I was 4. I played a baby rabbit in one of Dad's plays."

Evan took various stage roles in Wood's Theater in the Park productions and others. She began to audition for movie roles and landed the Digging to China part opposite Kevin Bacon at age 8. Ever more prominent movie and TV roles followed, including a 1999-2002 stint on the ABC series Once & Again. She remains close friends with the cast, calling them "my second family."

A full-time career led to home schooling. "I had tutors on the set with me every day," she says. High school requirements now fulfilled, she is focused on her career and exercising at the black belt level of Tai Kwan Do, swimming and singing.

"I like to hang out with my friends," she says. "My best friend and I are both black belts. If anyone ever threatens us, we're ready."

Evan also believes she is ready for the next steps in her career. She would like to perform in a musical and try a role in comedy, although she says comedy is "really hard."

Evan realizes she has arrived at a difficult point in her career, aware that many of the child actors seemingly destined for success failed to make the transition to adult star. "thirteen has really helped," Evan says of the transition. And she clearly can handle adult roles. "I've been really careful about what roles to accept," she adds, saying she has learned from Al Pacino (Simone), Kevin Costner (forthcoming Upside of Anger), her favorite actress Cate Blanchett and director Ron Howard (The Missing).

She also remains remarkably modest about an impressive filmography that led Esquire magazine to choose her as its "Best & Brightest" pick for movies among "people who will really shape our future."

"I am so superstitious. I don't think too much about what may happen," Evan explains when asked about future fame. "If it happens, it happens."

"If the world were to end tomorrow, I really believe I could say I have lived a full life already—and that I have been extremely lucky." —Evan

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THEODORE LEINBAUGH

As a professor of English, Theodore Leinbaugh perhaps knows better than most people that Winston Churchill was quite correct when he said the United States and Great Britain are two countries separated by a common language.

The holder of a Bowmann and Gordon Gray professorship of English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has also worked for many years to bridge that gap, both cultural and educationally.

"Part of the educational mission is to increase international understanding in these troubled times," Leinbaugh explained.

In recognition of his endeavors, received this spring one of Britain's highest honors, the Order of the British Empire, or OBE. For a man who professes a deep love of "all things English"—from language and Old English, which he teaches, to culture to tourist sites—Leinbaugh could not have received an award that would make him more proud.

"This was incredibly thrilling, a great and unexpected honor," Leinbaugh said proudly of the OBE, which was presented to him by Queen Elizabeth II. He stood near well-known celebrities such as the actor Sir Roger Moore at a special dedication ceremony in St. Paul's Cathedral. Other recipients included Pierce Brosnan (best known as Agent 007) and international soccer star David Beckham.

"I had no previous hint that the award was coming to me," he added. "This was great, good luck. I enjoy the work I have been doing."

The OBE, created by King George V, dates to 1917 and is bestowed upon select military personnel and civilians; the motto of the order is: "For God and the Empire."

Sir David Manning, Britain's ambassador to the United States, also recognized Leinbaugh at a special ceremony at the British Embassy. While Leinbaugh has not been told the specifics as to why he was selected, he is reasonably sure the OBE is linked to work he has done on Britain's behalf to select recipients for the prestigious Marshall Scholarship program and his service on the Ambassador's Advisory Council.

The program, now in its 51st year, is named for Gen. George Marshall, the World War II Army chief of staff (later Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense) and architect of the European Recovery Program, referred to as The Marshall Plan, that facilitated aide to rebuild Europe after the war. Great Britain's Parliament created the scholarship program in 1953 in his honor.

Each year 40 American students receive scholarships valued at more than $100,000 for post-graduate studies in Britain. The British government pays for the scholarships, and a select few Americans such as Leinbaugh assist in the screening process. Leinbaugh also received a Marshall Scholarship to pursue his Degree of Master in Philosophy in Old English at Oxford.

"The competition is exceedingly fierce," said Leinbaugh, who was recruited by friends eight years ago to assist the British consulate in Atlanta to pick winners. Over the years, he came to know David Wright, Britain's Consul-General in Atlanta, and the two were reunited when Leinbaugh accompanied UNC Chancellor David Moeser to Qatar where Wright had been named British ambassador.

His diplomatic role didn't end there. The professor was tapped by Ambassador Manning to serve on his advisory council in the United States, as well as a cultural affairs attaché. On another occasion, he helped arrange a visit by another British ambassador to the UNC campus.

Leinbaugh also has been actively involved in the Harry S. Truman Founda-

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The 'love of all things English' propels the UNC professor to improve relations between Great Britain and his native land. Working with prestigious Marshall Scholarship program helps him win an honor from the Queen.
tion that picks US students to receive scholarships for study abroad.

He does all the work as a volunteer, too, saying there are more important duties to perform than just those for pay. "I'm a great believer in the value of these programs," he said. "They are incredibly important to creating international ties and understanding."

Years ago, Leinbaugh seemed destined for a much different career path. The son of an FBI special agent, he grew up in Alexandria, VA, and went to Yale University with the intent to major in molecular biophysics.

As fate would have it, Yale's requirements stipulated that he take an English course.

"The teacher was absolutely fantastic. I was fascinated by his course, his materials, and the chance to understand history from a much larger perspective," Leinbaugh recalled. "I was so enchanted by it, I decided to take whatever Professor Barney was teaching the next semester. It turned out he was teaching a yearlong course in Chaucer. That was in my junior year. I decided to switch majors, and I really haven't looked back."

Leinbaugh earned his Bachelor of Arts in English at Yale, his Masters in English at Harvard and then won the Marshall Scholarship. He chose to attend Oxford and later earned a Ph.D. in English at Harvard. His career at UNC stretches to nearly 20 years; he lives in Chapel Hill with his son Ian.

Early next year, he will head to London to lead UNC's honors program with 30 students. He can't wait to introduce them to 'The London Experience.' A class that includes visits to the Houses of Parliament, The Globe Theater, and Stonehenge. "It's going to be very exciting," he said.

Leinbaugh will never forget his days at Oxford, an eclectic mix of different experiences. He was the only US member on Oxford's judo team after earning a black belt and a varsity letter. "That was a great way to get to know the Brits and to see England," he said with a chuckle.

Professionally, Leinbaugh also had a chance to "work with manuscripts that were one thousand years old. It was a Rosetta Stone experience: Translating these texts gives us a portal on history. That is one reason why I am looking forward to the semester."
To be considered for the 2005 Raleigh Hall of Fame, nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Candidate must have made a significant and worthy contribution to Raleigh.
2. Candidate may be living or deceased and must have been or is currently a resident of Raleigh at some point in his or her lifetime.
3. Raleigh organizations are also eligible for nomination.
4. The enduring value of achievement(s) and lasting importance of contribution(s) should have stood the test of time.
5. The achievements or contributions of the nominee must have occurred ten or more (10+) years ago.
6. Nominations must be received by January 15, 2005.

Submit a statement to explain the significant and worthy contribution this candidate has made to Raleigh. This should be no more than two pages, double-spaced. Please include any pertinent biographical information that supports consideration of this candidate. Additional supporting material that can be documented and directly attests to the candidate's contributions, achievements and character may be included. Supporting letters of recommendation will be accepted. All materials will become property of the Raleigh Hall of Fame, Inc. and will not be returned.

Please submit ten (10) copies of the completed nomination form by January 15, 2005 with supporting documentation to:

RALEIGH HALL OF FAME
Attention: Selection Committee
4301 City of Oaks Wynd
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612

Living selected nominees will be asked to sign a statement of release of confidentiality to have their names posted in a public place.

The Raleigh Hall of Fame, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to celebrating the proud history of the City of Raleigh by honoring its outstanding citizens and organizations.
RALEIGH HALL OF FAME
2005 Nomination Form

Please Nominate Within The Categories Below:
Business ____  Arts & Culture ____  Science & Medicine ____  Sports ____  Other ____

NOMINATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL:
Name of Candidate _____________________________________________________________
Date of Birth ________________________________________________________________
If Living, Current Address ______________________________________________________
Phone Number ________________________________________________________________
If Deceased, Date of Death _____________________________________________________
Please list any descendants, along with their address and phone numbers if possible (use separate sheet, if additional space is needed)
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

NOMINATION OF AN ORGANIZATION:
Name of Organization ___________________________________________________________
Date when First Organized _____________________________________________________
Name of Contact Person _______________________________________________________
Current Address ______________________________________________________________
Phone Number ________________________________________________________________

NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY:
Name ________________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________________
Phone Number ___________________________  Cell Phone Number ______________________
Email Address ____________________________________________________________

NOMINATOR TO READ THE FOLLOWING AND SIGN:
I hereby attest, to the best of my ability, the accuracy of the information included in this nomination form.
Signature ______________________________________  Date ________________________

OUR MISSION

The Raleigh Hall of Fame, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to celebrating the proud history of the City of Raleigh by honoring its outstanding citizens and organizations.
Metro Magazine’s Fifth Anniversary:

A Timeline

December 1999—The Millennium Launch Issue

Editor & Publisher Bernie Reeves and wife Katie launch Metro as “a new publication that cares about where we came from and where we’re going.” Reeves, who was the first in area media to view the Triangle region as a unified market with the launch of weekly Spectator in 1978 and Triangle Business Journal in 1984, now sees the future configuration of the regional community as the “Triangle to the Coast” and includes the eastern part of North Carolina in the service area for the new four-color Metro Magazine. The first issue looks back to our origins and the region throughout the 20th century, including the religious element in our identity, the storms we’ve weathered, the changing business community, women’s leadership, the role of the UNC system of colleges and universities in shaping the state, past sports heroes and events, the literary scene—including an in-depth interview with Reynolds Price—and the evolution of Research Triangle Park. A complete calendar of events will become a hallmark of Metro coverage.

February 2000—The Millennium Launch Issue, Part II

In a follow-up to the first issue, the second Millennium issue looks ahead to the new century in the categories from Issue One while adding the importance of the presence of the military in the state, a photo report on the architecture of the region (design is a continuing category of coverage for the magazine), an interview with Dan Blue—the first black Speaker of the NC House of Representatives, and the beginning of thoughtful letters to the editor that continue to keep Metro’s readers in touch with the magazine.

April 2000

Metro’s first monthly issue uncovers, in the midst of the economic downturn, the thriving boat-building industry in the region with a feature by Patrik Jonsson, and profiles former British submarine commander Doug Littlejohns, who was in the area to head up a games firm founded by his close friend Tom Clancy. After.com, covering technology starts up. Music Editor Philip Van Vleck writes his first column. Attorney Arch T. Allen begins as non-fiction editor and reviewer and My Usual Charming Self is born, written by Editor and Publisher Bernie Reeves. The ever-popular MetroIndex begins, written by contributor Patrik Jonsson, and Secrets of State and Eyes Only become permanent features of Metro. And eastern North Carolina expert Carroll Leggett becomes a regular columnist with his Between You and Me column. Frances Smith becomes senior editor and rules over the calendar listings as well as serving as copy editor, and Rick Smith, also senior editor, writes the tech column, major medical sections and other features.

May 2000

The monthly MetroDesign feature by Diane Lea is introduced, and Metro’s first golf special appears, with Zen-like commentary by NCSU Philosophy Dean Tom Regan. The main feature is an in-depth interview with Raleigh teenage tennis phenom Ally Baker, and MetroGourmet becomes a staple of Metro’s monthly coverage.

June 2000

In an issue devoted to the joy of summer in our area, a castle on a sandbar is discovered and the results of the first annual MetroBravo! reader poll toast the likes of David Crabtree, Greg Fishel, the Bob and Madison Show, Mama Dip’s, the North Carolina Museum of Art, UNC-Chapel Hill’s scenic campus and Artspace.

July/August 2000

Metro debuts its High-Tech 100 issue, compiled by Rick Smith, to focus on the Triangle and eastern North Carolina’s tech world, ranked by Wired magazine as the fifth most significant high-tech region in the world. The section spotlights biotech, environmental science, software, research, gaming and Internet publishing companies in the area and quickly becomes the annual must-read for the RTP set.
September 2000
In an issue that highlights the treasures of the North Carolina Museum of Art, Bernie Reeves also salutes the emergence of the “Bobos,” or the Bohemian Bourgeoisie, the “emerging class of IPO-wealthy dot com and high tech professionals with money to burn.” The famous area band Arrogance reunites for a concert.

October 2000
Metro is the first to discover Raleigh singer and songwriter Tift Merritt with an up close and personal cover story by Patrik Jonsson. In recognition of the upcoming election to choose a new president and a new NC governor, Metro addresses the crisis in education in its annual education special report.

November 2000
Metro is the first to cover the new cyberspace business court. The Navy’s dual use helicopter, the controversial Osprey, is given in-depth coverage, and the annual gift guide debuts in an issue full of information on the rich artistic and cultural environment of the Triangle, including a cover story on the home of art gallery owner Joe Rowand.

December 2000
In its first birthday issue, Metro covers the monumental achievement of restoring the state’s historic Capitol building and profiles Reyn Bowman who promotes the city of Durham at the expense of regional unity. Art Taylor signs on as Fiction Editor and Molly Fulghum-Heintz, a Raleigh girl living in New York City, presents Metro’s first Gift Guide.

January/February 2001
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March 2001
Eastern NC legislator and political powerhouse Marc Basnight of Manteo is the cover story. Metro’s golf section features the PGA’s chief agronomist in the Carolinas. Coverage of local spa-culture, local world-class food writer Jean Anderson, area book publisher Shannon Ravenel puts the area’s urbanity and sophistication on proud display. Bernie Reeves reveals the UNC-based project that produced the monumental Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World.

April 2001
Metro focuses on homegrown excellence, spotlighting Raleigh Broughton junior and basketball phenom Shavlik Randolph now starring on the Duke basketball team. The Wake County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is featured as well as the forward-looking Meadowmont community.

May 2001
The culture of eastern NC is recognized with a feature on Hope Plantation in Windsor. Metro spotlights the cultural awareness of the region with its first MetroGallery, providing a marketplace to help local artists find buyers and for buyers to find the next great piece for their collection. Also featured is a certain “sexy senator” in a piece entitled, “The Deification of John Edwards.”

June 2001
Finer tastes are on display in Metro’s second annual MetroBravo! poll results. Top picks in various categories include Biltmore Estate, Bald Head Island, Paris, Pinehurst

JANUARY 2005 METROMAGAZINE
No. 2, and Tom Brokaw's The Greatest Generation. But proving their lack of pretension, readers also laud Winston cigarettes, Coke, Miller Lite and Wild Turkey. Carroll Leggett remembers Uncle John in one of his most memorable columns.

July/August 2001
Despite the downturn in the tech economy, Metro still finds plenty of hot topics for its annual High Tech 100 issue. This year highlights the medical science and biotech industries, and profiles Cisco's top R&D executive. In the East, the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum and the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum open to celebrate our coastal heritage.

September 2001
The Carolina Ballet has become a jewel in the crown of regional culture and Metro writer Patrik Jonsson goes behind the scenes to discover how this brilliant troupe works and performs. And Carroll Leggett visits the argument that will not go away: Who has the better barbecue, eastern or western North Carolina? You better know who wins.

Philip van Vleck recognizes Barden Winstead for his unflagging contributions to bring original music to the region. Bernie Reeves writes that "in the not too distant future, if things continue as they are, human beings will be fighting their way from the front door through phalanxes of animal species just to get to their cars."

October 2001
The centerpiece of the magazine's annual special report on education is a profile by Rick Smith of Governor Mike Easley, who was cool enough to tell readers why he liked Zorro: "That guy could cut a Z on anybody's satin vest without ripping the silken shirt!"

Judge Howard Manning is profiled as his famous Leandro ruling comes down, and Diane Lea reports on the wonders of island life at Bald Head Island.

November 2001
A holiday-themed issue is a bit more reflective in the wake of the 9/11 tragedy; the annual gift guide encourages more meaningful gift-giving, the cover story focuses on the rebirth of a home after Hurricane Fran, and Bernie gives some thought to the defining moments in our lives.

December 2001/January 2002
A design-focused issue features the annual Isosceles Design Awards honoring area structures such as AV Metro, the RDU International Airport Parking Garage, NCCU Biomedical/Biotechnical Research Institute and Incara Pharmaceuticals. Metro covers the new spa at Pinehurst, and Raleigh's Betty Debnam, who started the internationally syndicated Mini Page for daily newspapers, is honored. George Leef begins as a decidedly opinionated book reviewer.

February/March 2002
Another issue spotlighting the great culture and leisure activities available in our area features a story by Art Taylor on best-selling author Kaye Gibbons. But all is not well for everyone in the state according to the report by the NC Progress Board, authorized by the Legislature to look ahead at future problems. Tom Covington, long-term legislative fiscal officer and executive director of the Board at that time, remarked, "It's time to pay attention to what North Carolina needs... now... today."

(Metro columnist and former UNC-Wilmington chancellor Jim Leutze is currently acting executive director.)

April 2002
Metro publishes a cover story on the message of controversial evangelist Anne Graham Lotz. Secrets of State reveals that Salisbury native Brit Snider, recently retired as Inspector General of the CIA, is briefly named to head the committee established to
investigate the 9-11 attack. Bernie Reeves points a finger at the increase in environmental junk science used to make public policy.

**May 2002**

_Metro_ publishes its now annual feature on the best eastern NC has to offer—beach communities, haute cuisine buried in small towns, historic homes, and the opening of a French restaurant in an abandoned McDonald’s in Clinton by the son-in-law of former US Senator Lauch Faircloth. Bernie Reeves says it’s high time to make English, the lingua of the modern world, the official language of the United States.

**June 2002**

This issue is all about rebirth and renaissance—urban renewal in downtown Raleigh, development on Glenwood Avenue South, overhaul of the UNC system, and resurrection of the old Piggly Wiggly at Five Points into the hip NOFO at the Pig. Bernie Reeves lambastes environmentalists for stopping sand renewal on the Eastern Seaboard over one tiny turtle.

**July/August 2002**

Diane Lea visits Chinqua-Penn, a hidden castle near Reidsville. The week the issue hit the street, the grand home was closed. This year’s MetroBravo! poll exhibits eclectic tastes, honoring Nordstrom’s shoe department, Snoopy’s hot dogs, Assagio’s cheesecake, and Sullivan’s martini, among many other local favorites. Some things never change, though—Winston cigarettes and Greg Fishel are still on top. Arch T. Allen reveals that the Scots invented the modern world, and Bernie Reeves reports on his visit to the gala grand opening of the International Museum in Washington, DC, laying the groundwork for the Raleigh International Spy Conference.

**September 2002**

The annual High-Tech issue gives techies what they’ve been waiting for, but more importantly, _Metro_ once again addresses the great barbecue debate. Carroll Leggett declares after much consideration of our state’s western style barbecue, “My Mother told me that if you can’t say something nice, don’t say anything.” ‘Nuff said. Diane Lea covers the opening of the region’s two new mega-malls, the Streets at Southpoint and Triangle Town Center, which Bernie Reeves calls the “retail cities of the future.” At UNC, freshman reading requirements stir up a jihad in My Usual Charming Self.

**October 2002**

The Hurricanes, first NC ice hockey team, tries to repeat its 2001 Stanley Cup appearance and _Metro_ previews the coming season with reflections on what the team means for our area. NCSU’s Raulston Arboretum opens the Ruby McSwain Education Center, and two opera companies merge to form the Opera Company of North Carolina with an appearance by Luciano Pavarotti.

**November 2002.**

In our largest education special report to date, Bernie Reeves declares: “The solution to the tragedy in public education is not higher pay but better teacher performance. ... Instead of acting more like Teamsters than teachers... involved teachers need to take it upon themselves to change the cur-
rent status quo from the inside out." The 
now retired Van Eure of the famous Angus 
Barn is profiled in a special feature on fine 
wines, and Jim Leutze is interviewed con­
cerning his role in helping to bring the state 
up to date in technology.

December 2002
Diane Lea gets an up-close and personal 
look at the historic homes of colonial 
Edenton when the community opens up for 
a native son's wedding. Seasonal cocktails are 
suggested, a spa guide is listed to cure after 
the holiday blues and Carroll Leggett 
remembers unsung heroes.

January 2003
Metro introduces its first annual Who's 
Who issue, with bios of the winners by Rick 
Smith, and moves from publishing 10 times 
a year to monthly. Amongst the Who's Who 
personalities named are Carolina Hurricanes 
G.M. Jim Rutherford, actress Emily Procter, 
Larry Wheeler of the NC Museum of Art, 
songwriter Tift Merritt, author Kaye 
Gibbons, Joseph Kalanowski of ECU who 
invented a cure for stuttering, political war­ 
horse Tom Ellis, opera operatives Bob and 
Margaret Galbraith, broadcast magnate Jim 
Goodmon, boat maker Eddie Smith and 
ballet director Ricky 
Weiss. Regular con­
tributors review the 
landmarks of the 
previous year and 
Chris Andrew, the 
Cambridge don and 
intelligence guru— a 
friend of publisher 
Reeves, is named to write the official history 
of Britain's security service, MI5.

February 2003
The magazine's first bridal section 
includes favorite wedding venues by Diane 
Lea and the debut of MetroStyle, a monthly 
column written with wit and flair and a 
touch of humor by Molly Fulghum-Heintz. 
The golf special section includes an inter­
view by Jim Hughes with the “Ross doctor,” 
a golf course architect who refurbishes 
course designed by the famous Donald 
Ross. Bernie Reeves says “SUV you too!” to 
the New Republic's Greg Easterbrook for his 
insane attack on the automobile.

March 2003
Metro publishes its first quarterly 
medical special report, focusing on caring 
for the body and mind at different ages. 
Dr. Frank Longo, director of the new 
Stroke Center at UNC Hospital, is featured, 
along with the area's newest facilities
May 2003

In an issue gearing up for summer fun and focusing on the Coast, Diane Lea writes an in-depth piece on the charm and history of Washington, NC (not DC, mind you— and not Little Washington as the residents remind us). The big news is the announcement of the first Raleigh International Spy Conference, founded by Bernie Reeves in association with Metro and the NC Museum of History and its Associates Group to be held in late August.

June 2003

In its biggest medical report yet, Metro focuses on the great strides being made in healthcare in our region by spotlighting a wide variety of pertinent topics—sports medicine and psychology, LASIK surgery advances, 3-D software imaging, and plans for the American Institute for Healthcare and Fitness off Lead Mine Road. Diane Lea spotlights the stately Dubose mansion in Chapel Hill now transformed into a facility for the UNC Business School and named for Paul Rizzo, the former IBM executive who served as head of the Kenan-Flagler facility during the 1980s and early 1990s. Louis St. Lewis debuts his Artist-At-Large column covering the art scene from the Triangle to the coast.

July 2003

The Gingerbread Cottage on Raleigh’s White Oak Road is featured along with the winners of the 2003 MetroBravo! Awards—with a turn toward local and regional favorites including the NC State Wolfpack, Quail Ridge Books, Shaba Shabu, Gallery C and Ravenscroft School. Bill Neal, the founder of modern southern cooking, is remembered by his former wife Moreton Neal. She and Bill founded La Residence in Chapel Hill before Bill moved on to create cuisine at Crook’s Corner. Moreton is joined by area writer Maudy Benz to form a formidable food writing team for Metro. Bernie Reeves offers Me and the Cold War as a prelude to the upcoming spy conference.

August 2003

Metro spotlights the coming of the spies to Raleigh for the first annual Raleigh International Spy Conference, entitled: “Spies, Lies and Treason: The KGB in America.” With Christopher Andrew, the world’s leading intelligence historian as keynote speaker, the first Raleigh spy event, held at the NC Museum of History, is a major success garnering worldwide notice. Other speakers included former CIA officer Brian Kelley who was mistaken to be the
notorious spy Robert Hanssen; British espionage expert Nigel West, a former Member of Parliament; former KGB Major-General Oleg Kalugin; and CIA curator Hayden Peake. The last High Tech 100 appears as the dot.com industry continues to languish.

September 2003

Metro profiles North Carolinians in New York who seem to hold more influence and power than any other state. The feature, written by PC Magazine writer and editor Cade Metz (originally from Raleigh), includes: Dick Jenrette, founder of DLJ and former chairman of the Equitable, dedicated to restoring important historic properties; financial analyst Reba White Williams of Lillington; New York Times theatre critic Ben Brantley from Winston-Salem; Raleigh-born film critic Godfrey Cheshire who helped found the weekly Spectator with Bernie Reeves in 1978; Revson Foundation president Eli Evans of Durham; Burgaw native James Forbes, chief minister at NYC’s influential Riverside Church; Lee Hennessee, the Raleigh-born hedge fund manager; Tony-winning costume designer William Ivey Long of Seaboard; rising black actor Marc Johnson of Elizabeth City; Coty-award winning clothing and design artist Alexander Julian of Chapel Hill; Raleigh broadway singing star Lauren Kennedy; Broadway director Michael Wilson of Winston-Salem; Public television host Charlie Rose; Interior Design guru and TV host Frances Schultz; and painter and sculptor Randy Wray. The piece ended with a group shot at Manhattan’s Jimmy’s Barbecue of young Tar Heels just getting started to take their bite out of the Big Apple. Bernie Reeves sums up the issues dividing the Episcopal Church.

October 2003

Metro merges local flavor with worldwide relevance in a profile by Kristy Shumaker of Doug Marlette, novelist, cartoonist and commentator known for his editorial-page cartoons as well as his popular Kudzu comic strip. At this time, Marlette is under a fat-wah from Islamic groups for his cartoon,
What Would Mohammed Drive? It's the anniversary of the Birth of Flight and the NC Museum of Art displays a stunning exhibition commemorating the historic feat of flying at Kitty Hawk on the NC coast.

November 2003

East Carolina University takes center stage in a special report on the school and the challenge it poses for the big three Triangle Universities. Exciting plans are announced for the 160-plus acres surrounding the NC Museum of Art, and

December 2003

Christmas at Midway, the oldest continuously occupied plantation in Wake County, is featured in a piece covering history, design and a few ghosts. For the holiday season there is a spa guide, a gift guide, holiday event listings, wine recommendations for holiday feasts, and Carroll Leggett ruminating on Southern Living's determination to convince him to give some gift subscriptions.

January 2004

This year's Who's Who features former UNC president William Friday, Ira David Wood III (Raleigh's Ebenezer Scrooge), Wake County's District Attorney C. Colon Willoughby Jr., community leader Jim Talton, AIDS pioneer Dr. Danny Bolognesi, UNC J-School professor Chuck Stone, State Treasurer Richard Moore, Edenton mayor Roland Vaughan, education patron and arts leader Ann Goodnight and Dr. Billy Dunlap, one of the founders and a major force for Hospice of Wake County.
Columnists offered their picks of the best from the previous year and long letters take Bernie Reeves to task. Reeves predicts that George Bush will win handily in November.

February 2004
A special medical report focuses on the forward-thinking heart surgeons and specialists located in the Triangle and eastern North Carolina who are making a difference on a national level. Carroll Leggett remembers Strom Thurmond, and John Toler of Bloomsbury Bistro is regarded as the best chef in the Triangle. Bernie Reeves predicts NC’s John Edwards will make the Democrat ticket as a candidate for Vice-president.

March 2004
Metro goes all out on local nuptials, covering everything from dresses and gifts to etiquette, finances and venues. Letters include a concept for the Dorothea Dix hospital property and Secrets of State reports that Alzheimer’s patients at Carolina House of Pinehurst find expression in painting. Art Taylor recognizes new spring books in New & Noteworthy, and MetroPreview says spring is here.

April 2004
NC writer Kaye Gibbons makes the cover, and culture and creativity are on display in a special feature covering the NC Literary Festival, including essays by Tar Heel kids. Spring fashion, April flowers and festivals, jazz pianist Chip Crawford, the story of Bordeaux by wine editor Barbara Ensrud and a trek through the delights of Raleigh hot spot Glenwood South say spring has arrived.

May 2004
Just in time for summer, a Toast to the Coast includes features on living on Figure Eight Island through the eyes of regional...
architect Ligon Flyn, beachside dining, the golf scene, and an essay on historic Fort Caswell near Wilmington. Arch T. Allen reveals presidential personalities on the golf course, and Molly Fulghum-Heintz warns of the perfume wars in NYC.

**June 2004**

Historic Tarboro, the town with a remarkable past is keying on the future. A record number of ballots are received for this year’s Metro Bravo! awards with the results split over two issues. This year’s honorees include Cameron Village, Rex Hospital, Skin Sense, Club O2 and Luxe. The Medical special report worries about your aching back, and Arch T Allen and Art Taylor present an array of non-fiction and fiction.

**July 2004**

More Metro Bravo! awards are handed out to winners like Mellow Mushroom, Enoteca Vin, the Jimmy V Celebrity Golf Classic, The DaVinci Code and the Bible. More importantly, after years of landslide victory, Winston cigarettes are unseated by Marlboro Lights. Barbara Ensmud selects cool red wines for hot summer nights, and Bernie Reeves falls in love with Ivy Meeropol, the daughter of one of the two Rosenberg children adopted after their parents were executed for espionage.

**August 2004**

A special in-depth section by Rick Smith and Patricia Staino spotlights Hospice of Wake County as the organization reaches the 25-year mark. Diane Lea visits Flo and Charles Winston at home, Philip Van Vleck reviews Tift Merritt’s hot new CD, and military scholar and expert conservationist Jim Leutze, the former chancellor of UNC-Wilmington, begins his new column for Metro, Editor at Large.

**September 2004**

Landscape architect Dick Bell, a huge force in the profession, is profiled and discusses his future plans for his fabled Water Garden complex. With an eye toward putting it all together for fall, Metro is filled with ideas and advice about weddings (including advice from the national expert) landscaping, fall clothing styles and fusion cuisine in the Sandhills.

**October 2004**

Metro debuts its social calendar, a listing of charitable events throughout the Triangle.
over the next year. The Second Raleigh International Spy Conference turns from the Cold War to modern terrorism featuring the top experts on Al-Qaeda, suicide bombers, worldwide threats, the Irish Republican Army and a comparison of Pearl Harbor and 9-11. The medical special report covers stroke techniques, eating disorders and vertigo, Louis St. Lewis visits the extensive Cone sisters exhibition at the NC Museum of Art, and Diane Lea visits charming and historic Manteo. Arch T. Allen suggests John Kerry could be a war criminal, and Bernie Reeves predicts the demise of Dan Rather and Kerry as part of the dissolution of the Left in America.

November 2004
North Carolina’s long-lost Bill of Rights and the controversy over Civil War loot is the cover story by Metro veteran feature writer Patrik Jonsson. The annual education special report says good education is going to cost, Diane Lea covers the new Progress Energy Building in downtown Raleigh, Secrets of State announces the formation of the Robert Ruark Society in Chapel Hill, and great art is discovered in coastal enclaves Down East.

December 2004
Three historic homes are covered for the holidays, the medical special report is all about having babies (and the problems harming OB-GYN doctors), the gift guide is especially alluring, and a complete spa guide offers options to getting back in shape after the holidays. Jim Leutze ponders the future of Carolina Beach, and Metro ends its fifth year of publication.

The comment we hear most is “I read it from cover to cover.” Thanks for that, and hang on for another great year.

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NEW OWNERS EXHIBIT CARE AND STYLE FOR OLDER CHAPEL HILL HOME

When long-time Chapel Hill residents Anne and John Allen Cates decided to move from the home they had occupied for 45 years, the one where their two daughters had grown up, it was always in their minds to sell it to someone with a young family. “John and I had loved living in the heart of Chapel Hill where we and our children felt a part of the town and the University,” says Anne, a member of the University of North Carolina’s Board of Governors. “We were especially hopeful that the buyers would have children young enough to appreciate the big back yard and the pool, which was one of the first in Chapel Hill.” Well, the Cates found their dream buyers in a North Carolina couple, one of whom was graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill and whose two children were just the right ages to enjoy the very things the Cates children had enjoyed in the stately 1920s house on a shady street in Old Chapel Hill.

As the Cates bid their lovely old home adieu and prepared for a move to The Cedars, Chapel Hill’s desirable new retirement community, the new owners were thinking about how they could adapt the home to their own needs. Consulting with Pittsboro-based remodeling contractor Stan Stutts of Additions Plus, the couple laid out a multi-phased approach, which included short-term, interim and long-term projects. Stutts, whose company has remodeled many of Chapel Hill’s fine historic homes, was pleased to learn that the wife’s background in design had given her a firm idea of what she wanted to do in remodeling the kitchen and third floor attic during the second, or interim phase.

“My client was experienced in both new construction and renovation,” says Stutts. “She had done a large family kitchen in a new home they had built on the coast and still use as a family retreat, and she had remodeled another house in Chapel Hill. She knew what she wanted and came to our meetings prepared with kitchen photos taken from a British edition of *House and Garden* magazine.” Stutts worked closely with Don Rigsbee of D & R Custom Cabinetry in Durham and with his own skilled carpenters and sub-contractors to flesh out a floor plan based on his client’s specifications and on the photos from the magazine. “The wife is a wonderful cook, and she and her husband like to entertain. She wanted a kitchen where she could have friends and family around while she was cooking. The kitchen she envisioned accommodates perfectly to a family evening at home or a party for 100 friends.

**CHIMNEYS AND KITCHENS**

The challenge for Stutts was that in order to create the kitchen he had to remove a chimney and combine the original kitchen and a small breakfast room. In consultation with a structural engineer, Stutts began the removal of the chimney from its stack, down through the attic, the second floor bedroom area, main level and basement. He then removed the coverings—walls, floors and ceilings—of the new kitchen space in preparation for the new interiors. Stutts also laid new foundation for a small 100-square-foot “bump out” where a multi-windowed and paneled kitchen-dining area was to be added. The size and configuration of the addition is compatible with the balance and symmetry typical of the home’s Colonial Revival style. “Everything you see in this completely equipped kitchen, with the exception of the dining area, fits into the original footprint of the house,” says Stutts.

Randy Williams, Don Rigsbee’s partner in D & R Custom Cabinetry, recalls that the owners wanted the cabinetry as well as the woodwork and moldings to conform to the period of the house. That meant having
Stutts' carpenters recreate the moldings of the original window and door surrounds where needed—making sure that the two prominent design elements of the kitchen, the 8-foot-long island and the floor-to-ceiling sideboard-bar combination, read like free-standing pieces of cabinetry. "I admire the owner's determination that the renovation of the kitchen would be compatible with the house," says Williams. "If you buy an old house because you like the character and age of it, you don't want to spoil it."

The kitchen is true to this philosophy and to the wife's consummate knowledge of cooking and her talent for space allocation. Entering the kitchen from the back hall, you open two single-leaf doors with ornate lock plates. Stewart Johnson, a carpenter-craftsman who often works with Stutts, found them on old doors left in the basement. He thought they looked interesting and he suspected there might be some nice brass work under the accumulated grime. When cleaned and installed on new doors painted in the kitchen's trim color, Sherman Williams Dove White, the lock plates added a special period charm to the room.

Even though it occupies an impressive 500 square feet, the kitchen is all of a piece—perfectly proportioned and elegantly styled and equipped with a selection of appliances that might be the envy of a small restaurant. The eye is immediately drawn to the large multi-purpose kitchen island with its nearly 3-inch-thick maple butcher block counter top, finished with a distinctive ogee curved edge. The owner was able to work with the local Lowe's to find the wood and a fabricator to cut the edge. The island, clearly the heart of the room's work and entertainment space, is equipped with a six-burner continuous-grate Dacor cook-top with a pop-up downdraft. A large griddle can be placed over the burners for grilling meats and making sandwiches. Opposite the cook-top the butcher block extends to accommodate three stools, and nearby a lamp adapted from a heavy silver hotel pitcher purchased at Branching Out, a local shop, provides a decorative touch. "My client designed an open rack at the end of the island where the basket of vegetables sits. That rack and the distinctive cabinet feet make the island look unattached, more like..."
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glassware, along with a well-used collection of cookbooks, the sideboard has a built-in Sub-Zero chiller drawer with a separate freezer drawer beneath it. (A Sub Zero refrigerator and a separate Sub Zero Freezer are located near the island.) The counter top selected for this piece is the same Absolute Black granite (also from Lowe's) used in the kitchen's other counters and in a specially designed rack for the faucet, taps and sprayer unit installed above the double stainless sinks.

Other special touches in this cook's kitchen include the small halogen spots from Chapel Hill's The Lighting Store that provide crisp clear light. The clever use of space is apparent in the back-to-back closets created when a large display cabinet was moved to the third floor. The space was divided between an organizing closet, accessed from the kitchen, used for children's crafts and school book bags, and a closet that opens from the hall where a door fitted with hanging racks for table cloths is camouflaged as part of the paneling. Located directly behind the wall with the Sub Zero refrigerator-freezer is a spacious pantry with floor-to-ceiling open shelving and an 18-inch top shelf where large quantities of paper towels and other staples can be stored.

A cabinet that formerly displayed china now holds Nintendo games and a television set in the home's media room.
The home’s third floor has been converted into a media room and provided with a full bath.

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SKILLFUL OWNERS

Changes to the home’s public rooms were minimal, though Stutts did replace the floor in the foyer with 1-by-8-inch white oak plank flooring and bordered it with a double band of 1-by-8-inch planks. Stutts points out that the intent here was for a lighter wood to blend with the foyer’s existing silk wallpaper, still in excellent condition. “My client is skilled at everything from faux painting to tailoring, and she was brave enough to rub the silk paper with strong tea to give it an antique look.” A collection of English ironstone displayed above a bamboo cabinet complements the tone of the wallpaper.

The new owners also made use of the living room draperies in a pale cream silk that Anne Cates had chosen in consultation with Durham interior designer Daniel S. Addison. Changing the trim on the Chinoiserie-styled cornices from a double band of blue and red to a single trim of russet was in keeping with the use of russet as an accent throughout the house. (The most lavish application of this timeless color is in the continuous interlaced roping of the kitchen’s Clarence House wallpaper.) The oriental theme established in the living room by the cornices is carried into a patterned fabric used on two cushioned chairs flanking the living room fireplace. A military chest selected at Chapel Hill’s Whitehall Antiques is placed on an imported hand-knotted Indian rug from Capel Rugs that

The new owner retained the home’s draperies and distinctive Chinoiserie cornices.
blends well with the theme.

In the dining room, classic mural wallpaper showing 18th-century scenes of Charleston harbor predates the Gates and is remarkably intact. The touches of brick red in the military-style coats worn by the characters in the paper were added by Addison’s artisans for the Gates and blend well with the new owner’s russet accent color.

Although removing the chimney and installing the new kitchen presented Stutts and his team with several structural challenges, remodeling of home’s third floor attic into a media room and a small sewing room required an exceptionally creative use of space to allow existing heating and air conditioning ducts to be re-routed from the center of the space to more discreet areas under the eaves. Stutts boxed around the windows in the gable ends of the house to conceal the ducting and raised the ceiling. A segmented oval window enclosed by a dormer was trimmed out in an angular arch that is consistent with the peaked and beadboard-covered ceiling of the media room. There was already a bath with a claw-footed tub on this floor when the new owners purchased the house. The new owners kept the tub and added to the room bead-board wainscot, a pedestal sink and hardware and accessories from Restoration Hardware. A coat of Sherwin Williams Celery paint and small-scale black and white tile flooring give the room a feel reminiscent of old New England beach houses.

It was necessary to rework the fixed staircase to incorporate a mahogany balustrade and newel post from a Grimesland, North Carolina, antiques store with the ear-catching name The Shipwreck. “Fitting that beautiful old hand rail and posts into that space took some doing,” says Stutts.

Completing the objective of conserving and reusing what the house had to offer, the client had Stutts hang the former breakfast room light fixture over the newly reworked staircase and install the open-work, glass-doored china cabinet as the focal point of the third floor media room. It is now the convenient repository for Nintendo games, television sets and videotapes.

The transfer of this fine older home in Chapel Hill from one family who loved it to another family of owners and caretakers is what old house living is all about. The key to the successful transition from one family’s needs and preferences to those of another is the skill and talent of an experienced remodeling specialist like Stan Stutts and his cadre of good craftsmen. And caring owners.

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COASTAL MANAGEMENT

North Carolina has one of the best coastal management programs in the country. The bedrock of the system is CAMA, the Coastal Area Management Act, passed in 1974. Out of this forward-looking legislation grew the Division of Coastal Management and the Coastal Resources Commission that "designates areas of environmental concern, adopts rules and policies for coastal development within those areas and certifies local land-use plans." Because of the "rules" and "policies" aspect of their work, the CRC is often criticized in many coastal communities because it often requires paperwork when someone wants to develop coastal habitats, and sometimes says "no." Anyone who has been following what has been going on along the coast knows that the CRC doesn't say "no" very often, but that's not the issue for those who don't want to see any restrictions placed on private property or "progress."

As it turns out, coastal resources are multifaceted. Along our coast we find a whole, interrelated, ecosystem in which one thing is linked to another thing, sorta like the song says about the hip-bone being connected to the leg-bone and so on. For instance, storm water that runs off hardened surfaces (houses, roads, parking lots) carries pollution into coastal waters where clams and oysters live. These waters are also nursery areas for fish, shrimp and crabs that are the basic diet of the larger fish that provide a livelihood for fishermen who sell the fish to markets that provide them for you and me. If the nursery areas become polluted, either the shrimp and other bait die, or they carry the pollution into the food chain where we eat it. Recognizing this web of relationships, the North Carolina General Assembly wisely, in my view, ordered in 1997 the Fisheries Reform Act, that the environmental regulatory commissions coordinate efforts to produce a Coastal Habitat Protection Plan (CHPP). This meant that Coastal Resources, Environmental Management and Marine Fisheries Commissions should work together in designing the CHPP to be adopted by all three by December 2004.

With the Division of Marine Fisheries taking the lead, the groups spent the next seven years putting together a truly comprehensive plan to protect and restore the resources critical to North Carolina's fisheries. Under supervision of the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, the 600-page Plan has four general goals: "(1) improve the existing rules and programs in order to protect coastal habitats; (2) designate and protect habitat areas judged strategic; (3) enhance and protect critical habitats; and (4) enhance and protect water quality."! Big job, big plan. But remarkably it is on track to be completed on schedule.
organized opposition by the commercial fishing industry. It will be most helpful if none emerges, but given their record on opposition to things that restrict their catches, it also will be most surprising. It's something like going from preaching to meddling.

And while I've said that North Carolina has done a generally good job in managing coastal matters, that should not be taken to mean that we have been immune to special pleading by powerful interests. For instance, we have the most lenient rules regarding net fishing of any state on the Atlantic seaboard. Moreover, we have too few fisheries officers to cover the largest estuarine system of any Atlantic Coast state so the rules we do have on netting, size restrictions, etc. are not really enforced. We also allow gigging of flounder wherein so-called recreational fishermen or commercial license holders can harvest hundreds of pounds of flounder a night. Among other objections to this practice is the fact that if a recreational hook and line fisherman catches a flounder under 13 inches, he releases it; if a gigger makes a mistake, the fish is dead.

Obviously, if CHPP is to do anything more than make a set of high-minded, well-intentioned observations about cause and effect, it will have to do something to modify behavior. Moreover, there will be links between some of these modifications if the hip-bone to the leg-bone principle is to apply.

A LICENSE TO FISH

Let's take an example. This session the General Assembly passed a watered down, but still very welcome, salt-water recreational fishing license bill. Some of the money to be generated will go to restore fish habitats, as recommended in the CHPP. However, because of objections raised by some fishermen, pier owners and charter boat captains about tedious record keeping, the salt-water fishing license may be in jeopardy. No fishing license, no money for CHPP habitat restoration. In my view much of what the CHPP proposes is valuable and long overdue.

So, the whole process bears watching. The CRC, MFC, and EMC will in all probability pass the CHPP in time to meet the deadline. Much that is included has to do with more coordination and cooperation between state agencies and changes in non-regulatory programs. But to modify the behavior of all of us, some new rules will probably have to be adopted. Since the rules and programs cover a range of areas, many different legislative committees will have a chance to act on them—or not. My fear is that those who have disliked CAMA will dislike CHPP even more. Should the various interest groups that don't like rules—primarily development groups and the commercial fishing lobbyists—outmaneuver the environmental and recreational interests, our whole complicated protection effort could come unraveled. 

Dr. James Leutze recently retired as Chancellor of UNC-Wilmington. He has produced documentaries on eastern North Carolina conservation and is Chairman of the North Carolina Progress Board.
Genes, Chromosomes, DNA.
We have ways to make them talk.

Our genetic makeup can tell us a lot about the undisclosed events of our future health. Thanks to NC State University’s Dr. Bruce Weir and SAS Institute’s Dr. Wendy Czika, we’re closer to loosening its tongue. A team from NC State’s Bioinformatics Research Center worked with SAS to develop software that maps the association between disease traits and known genetic markers. It’s a tool that is giving pharmaceutical research a way to identify our tendencies to develop disease. That’s what happens when NC State and SAS scientists spend time playing in the same gene pool. Most notably, the deep end. To learn more about achievement at NC State, visit achieve.ncsu.edu
The untitled photograph (below) by Stephen Marc of Tempe, AZ, is one of five $1000 winners exhibited in ECU's Fourth Photography Image Biennial, a national show hosted by the Wellington B. Gray Gallery in Greenville. The show, which drew 709 entries from 37 states, to open Jan. 21- Feb. 20. (See Preview Galleries for details.)

Steve Forbert, rock and folk singer shown here, will open The ArtsCenter of Carrboro's Second Annual American Roots Series on Jan. 7. The four-month series showcasing pioneers of music—forms nurtured in America and known worldwide—from blues, folk & bluegrass to Old-Time, country & finger-style guitar—will conclude with Steep Canyon Rangers on May 7. (See Preview Pop Music for details.)

January Rejuvenation

GALLERIES

8TH ANNUAL STUDIO SHOW, Return To Taos, mixed media works and southwestern painted furniture; Nancy Tuttle May Studio, Ninth Street, Durham; thru Jan. 30. Call 919-668-8552.

AT ARTarama, Raleigh: Contact 919-876-6610 or www.jerrysartevents.com:

• SHARON DIGILIO EXHIBIT, abstract expressionist combines photography, found objects and color in one-of-a-kind collages; Jan 1-30

• ADVANCED ENCAUSTICS workshop with Dianne Rodwell exploring modern methods of working with the ancient molten wax medium; Jan. 29 & 30


4TH ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL featuring 80 photographic images; Wellington B. Gray Gallery, ECU, Greenville; exhibition opens Jan. 21 with a lecture by juror Maggie Taylor and runs through Feb. 20. Contact 252-328-1313.


CLASSICAL

NC SYMPHONY CONCERTS, RALEIGH: (for other venues and info, contact 919-733-2750 or www.ncsymphony.org):

• GERHARDT ZIMMERMANN, CONDUCTOR;
  Program: Piazzolla, The Four Seasons; Strauss: First Waltz Sequence from Der Rosenkavalier; Strauss, Till Eulenspiegel’s Merry Pranks; Meymandi Concert Hall; Jan. 7-8. Pre-concert lecture by J. Mark Scearce (NCSU)

• CELEBRATING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and the American Spirit, NC Symphony’s Young People’s Series, with William Henry Curry, conductor; Meymandi Concert Hall; Jan. 15

• LET’S FACE THE MUSIC AND DANCE: A Tribute to Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers; NC Symphony Pops, Kenneth Raskin, conductor, Meymandi Concert Hall; Jan. 21-22

• JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, PIANO: William Eddins, guest conductor; program includes Gershwin’s An American in Paris; Meymandi Concert Hall; Jan. 28 & 29

CHAMBER ARTS SOCIETY, THE EROTICA TRIO PROGRAM: Beethoven; Trio in D-flat; Piazzolla; [3] Tangos; & Schubert: Trio No. 1. in B-flat; Reynolds Theater,

PATIENCE by Paige Williams Harris hangs in a new exhibition featuring works from the artist’s “Quiet Dignity Series,” an exploration of southern farm women from the early 20th century, opening Jan. 22 at the Garden Gallery, Raleigh

EVENTS AT ARTSPACE, DOWNTOWN RALEIGH: Contact 919-821-2787 or www.artspaceinc.org (First Friday Gallery Walk Jan. 7):

• CROSSING BORDERS, an exhibition of paintings by Christin Moulds Kleinsteuer; Upfront Gallery; Jan. 7-29

• MURAL PROJECT by Sean Kernick & Rick McIsaac; Connecting Gallery; Jan. 7-March 5

• LOOKING BACK, an exhibition of sculpture by Kevin Kennedy; Gallery 1; Jan. 22-March 12; meet the artist Feb. 4

This Montage of 6 Works is from “Jews of the 20th Century,” Andy Warhol’s 1980 portfolio of screen prints, opening Jan. 14 at Animation & Fine Art Galleries, Chapel Hill

Fauve Nude by Steve Moore will be on view in “Embodiment,” an exhibit opening Jan. 4 at ArtSource, Raleigh

EMBODIMENT, fine art portraying the human figure by Andrea Pejeau, Mandy Johnson, Eric McRay, James Kerr, and Steve Moore; ArtSource, Raleigh; Jan. 4-Feb. 15. Contact 919-833-0013 or www.artsource-raleigh.com.

WINTER’S SPLASH OF COLOR; 20 Glenwood south, Raleigh; Jan. 7 (with opening reception) thru Feb. 28. Contact 919-831-5454.

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Fagade by Kevin Kennedy is a sculptural work from the artist’s exhibition “Looking Back” on view Jan. 22-March 12 at Artspace, Raleigh


MELTING SANDS, an exhibit of glass arts; Chowan Arts Council, Edenton; Jan. 14. Contact 252-482-8005


4TH ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL featuring 80 photographic images; Wellington B. Gray Gallery, ECU, Greenville; exhibition opens Jan. 21 with a lecture by juror Maggie Taylor and runs through Feb. 20. Contact 252-328-1313.


**HANDEL’S MESSIAH**, performed by Craven Messiah Chorus with members of the NC Symphony; First Presbyterian Church, New Bern; Jan. 9 &10. Contact 252-637-3270.


**FACULTY/GUEST ARTIST RECITAL**, Eric Pritchard & Katie Lansdale, violinists, concert of duos featuring Peter Alexander’s Funk Shui and works by Craven Messiah Chorus with members of the NC Symphony; First Presbyterian Church, New Bern; Jan. 9 &10. Contact 252-637-3270.

**UNCW FACULTY TRIO**, featuring Dr. Frank Boghiorno, saxophone; St. James Parish, Wilmington; Jan. 28. Call 910-763-1628.

**LIONHEART**, one of America’s leading ensembles in vocal chamber music, presented by The Raleigh Chamber Music Guild; Fletcher Opera Theater, BTI Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; Jan. 23. Contact 919-821-4579 or www.raleighlittletheatre.org.

**JANET MONHEIT;** Carolina Theatre, Durham; Jan. 29. Contact 919-560-3030 or www.carolinatheatre.org.

**BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA;** Carolina Union, UNC-Chapel Hill; Jan. 31. Contact 919-962-1449.

**JOSH GROBAN WITH CHRIS BOTTI;** RBC Center; Raleigh, Feb. 4. Contact 919-834-4000 or www.cc.com. Visit www.joshgrobanc.com

**CLARENCE DARROW**, a one man play, intimate dinner theatre; Chelsea Restaurant, downtown New Bern; Jan 7-8 & 13-16. Contact 252-637-5469.


**The Del McCoury Band will perform in NCSU’s Stewart Theatre, Raleigh, on Jan. 21.**

**THE DELE McCOURY BAND**, presented by PineCone; Stewart Theatre, NCSU Campus, Raleigh; Jan. 21. Contact 919-515-1100.

**DOWNTOWN NEW BERN’S Chelsea Restaurant will present CLARENCE DARROW, A One Man Play, starring Paul White, Jan. 7 & 8 and Jan. 13,14, 15 & 16 (matinee)**

**RELIGIOUS ARTS FESTIVAL HYMN FESTIVAL;** “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing: a Journey of Song and Spirit”; First United Methodist Church, Rocky Mount; Jan. 28

**RELIGIOUS ARTS FESTIVAL SERVICE;** “Living Into the Resurrection”; First United Methodist Church, Rocky Mount; Jan. 29

**UNCW FACULTY TRIO**, featuring Dr. Frank Boghiorno, saxophone; St. James Parish, Wilmington; Jan. 28. Call 910-763-1628.

**STAGE & SCREEN**

**MOVIN’ OUT**, Billy Joel musical; Broadway Series South; Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh; Jan. 4-9. Contact 919-684-4000.

**MAGIC SHARK;** Bradley Fields uses comedy, mime & magic to captivate; Carolina Theatre, Durham; Jan. 7. Contact 919-560-3030 or www.carolinatheatre.org.

**PLAY SLAM;** audience calls the shots; The ArtsCenter, Carrboro. Contact 919-929-2787 or www.artscenterlive.org.

**SECOND CITY COMEDY TRouPE,** Chicago’s legendary theatre presents some of its best sketches, songs and improvisations; Boykin Center, Wilson; Jan. 22. Contact 252-291-4329.

**CHESTNUT BRASS**; Thalian Hall, Wilmington; Jan. 27. Contact 910-343-3660.

**BAND TOGETHER FOR MUSIC MAKER RELIEF FOUNDATION,** concert featuring Derek Trucks Band to benefit struggling Blues artists; Fletcher Opera Theater, BTI Center for Performing Arts, Raleigh; Jan. 20. Contact www.bandtogethernc.org

**BAND TOGETHER FOR MUSIC MAKER RELIEF FOUNDATION,** concert featuring Derek Trucks Band to benefit struggling Blues artists; Fletcher Opera Theater, BTI Center for Performing Arts, Raleigh; Jan. 20. Contact www.bandtogethernc.org

**FIDDLER ON THE ROOF;** NC Theatre, Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh; Jan. 22-30. Contact 919-831-6950.

**ECHOES OF WAR;** multimedia presentation featuring Terry Rhodes, soprano; Ellen Williams, mezzo-soprano; Jane Hawkins, piano; John Creagh, narrator; John Kincheloe, video presentation, Meredith College, Carswell Concert Hall, Jan. 23. Call 919-760-8536. Also playing in Nelson Music Room, Duke University, Durham; Feb. 4. Call 919-884-4444.

**HUBBARD STREET 2,** six young dancers performing jazz, modern and classical dance; Stewart Theatre, NCSU campus, Raleigh; Jan. 26. Call 919-515-1100 or www.ncsu.edu/arts

**RAGTIME;** production by the Cape

MUSEUMS

• THREE PICASSO, MATISSE PRINTS, new donations to the collection; Ackland Art Museum, UNC-Chapel Hill; thru March. Contact 919-843-3675.

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

• JOHN DEE HOLEMAN & MIKE LIGHTNING WELLS, part of the Music of the Carolinas Series presented by Pinecone; NC Museum of History, Raleigh; Jan. 9. Visit www.pinecone.org

• A STATE OF CHANGE: NC AND ITS GOVERNORS, a new exhibit that traces the history of the state’s leaders for more than 400 years; NC Museum of History, Raleigh; Jan. 15-Sept. 4

• SKATES, SLEDS & SKIS, A Time for Tots (ages 3-5 with adult) registration needed; Jan. 4 & 11

• FOURTH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CELEBRATION, activities, crafts, music entertainment & food; Jan. 22

• AFRICAN AMERICAN READING ROOM, books and other works about African American communities & history, Jan 22 & 23, 29 & 30

EVENTS AT NC MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES, Raleigh. Contact 919-733-7450:

• TREASURE UNEARTHED: North Carolina’s rare gems and minerals, thru June 12th

• WINTER PLANT PROPAGATION, Woody Stem Cutting sessions, Jan. 8 & 15, and April 9

• ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN: Hidden Homes, Jan. 10 & Bugs ‘R’ Us, Jan. 15

• ASTRONOMY DAYS, NASA joins forces with the Museum Jan. 29-30

• WHERE SWANS FLY AND BEARS WALK: Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, reservations needed; Jan. 28-30

EXHIBITIONS AT NC MUSEUM OF ART, Raleigh. Contact 919-839-6262 or visit www.ncartmuseum.org:

• MATISSE, PICASSO AND THE SCHOOL OF PARIS: Masterpieces from Baltimore Museum of Art, featuring selections from collection of Etta & Claribel Cone; thru Jan. 16

• OBJECTS OF DESIRE: THE MUSEUM COLLECTS, 1994-2004; thru Feb. 27

• CROSSING CONTINENTS AND EXPLORING CULTURE: Art by Students from Ghana, West Africa— thru Jan. 9


POTPOURRI

NEW YEAR HIKE AT JORDAN LAKE, Wake County; Jan 8 & 9. Contact 919-362-0586.

CRYSTAL COAST BRIDAL FAIR featuring wedding services and products; Crystal Coast Civic Center, Morehead City; Jan. 15. Contact 252-247-3883.

MARTIN LUTHER KING BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, Crystal Coast Civic Center, Morehead City; Jan. 17. Contact 252-247-3883.

THE BRING YOUR BUSINESS TO LIFE WORKSHOP led by business coach Sherry Essig, four consecutive Tuesdays, Jan. 18, 25, February 1 & 8; Meredith College; Raleigh. Contact 919-834-6960 or www.bringyourbusinessalive.com.

BRIDAL SHOw; Fearrington Village; Jan. 23. Contact 919-542-2121.

ANTIQUEx SHOW & SALE, 30-plus dealers to benefit charities; Coastline Convention Center, Wilmington; Jan. 28-30. Call 910-262-6161.

SYLVAN HEIGHTS WATERFOWL CENTER, field trip to tour NC Zoological Park’s waterfowl facility, Scotland Neck (reservations needed); Feb. 1. Call 252-728-7317.

Our thanks to Suzie Humphrey for her assistance with Preview.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Please send events info and color images, slides or photos 6 weeks before publication date. Send to Frances A. Smith, Metro Magazine, 1033 Oberlin Rd. Suite 100, Raleigh, 27605 or email: fsmith5@nc.rr.com.
MY DAY WITH ANDRE

The Durham Arts Council honored native son Andre Leon Talley, editor-at-large for VOGUE, with a huge bash a few months ago in downtown Durham in the newly renovated American Tobacco complex. I remember reading a snippet from Andre back in the '80s in which he advised gentlemen always to have the soles of their shoes blackened before riding in a limousine so as to not offend the other occupants. I have always been interested in the intersection of fashion and art, and knew that Andre had been a cohort of Warhol, a protégé of the late great Dianna Vreeland, best friends with Karl Lagerfeld and still had time to sit on the board of the Savannah College of Art and Design. This was a fashion icon I really had to meet in the flesh.

I threw on a vintage riding habit and zoomed over to meet Andre in the parking lot of the local news station. He was being interviewed inside, so I just hung out with his limousine driver and chatted about the driver's earlier career as a drug-runner back in the 1970s. Suddenly around the corner came Andre. Andre is a big man. I mean BIG, 6 feet 7 inches big. He sauntered over wearing a floor-length custom-made Prada Russian broadtail fur coat over a sweatshirt that said, "VOTE OR DIE." This Goliath of the fashion world looked down at me and said, "Fantastic Hermes boots, lovely jacket, beautiful hourglass shape, slash pockets, perfect herringbone fabric, reminds me of the great riding gear made in the old days by Millers on 24th street. It's fabulous FAB-U-LOUS." I opened the lapel of the jacket to show the label The Equestrian Shop at Millers NYC.

"Get in the limousine, I must go vote," he commanded and off we went. Showing up at Andre's old high school to vote was like arriving at a Hollywood premiere. Everyone knew him—women came running up, men asked for autographs, students fainted. One young teenager took one look at my green riding britches and started screaming, "Peter Pan Peter Pan!" Andre chastised her: "This is not Peter Pan. This is a hacking jacket and riding pants; this gentleman is dressed elegantly, and where are your books? You need an education." After the drama of democracy in action, Andre informed the driver that we must go to the video store to find a Jean Harlow movie for him to watch at home that evening. He swept into the store like he owned the place and belled: "Where is the Jean Harlow section? The young tattooed and pierced man behind the counter looked up and said, "Who?" I thought Andre would have an aneurysm. "JEAN HARLOW, don't you know who that is? THE original blonde, the blondest blonde, blonde like a full moon in St. Petersburg, blonde like no other blonde before or since—poor girl died so young, so talented... so where is the Jean Harlow section? I have to know immediately, and do you have any books back there behind the register, or do you just sit there all day long? You NEED to read... be informed."

Unfortunately, Miss Harlow's films were not to be found and by this time Andre was getting thirsty so we trotted into the Food Lion next door to find organic chocolate milk by Harmony Farms. "Where is the organic chocolate milk department? Louis St. Lewis, please find the organic chocolate milk department immediately. I came back with a container of soymilk and some chocolate syrup... as close as it was going to be. "I'll take it, let's go. I have a book signing at Nordstrom's, and you must be my assistant."

The line at Nordstrom's went out the door and into the mall. Everyone but everyone wanted to meet Andre and have him autograph his book A.L.T. a Memoir. Fans came, family came, family Andre didn't even know he had, came. Models came asking for advice; old women came asking advice on the length of their hems. And with each and every one Andre showed himself to be generous, courteous and encouraging.

Later that evening at the Durham Art Council gala, Andre showed up wearing a black cape held in place with diamante pins the size of flying saucers, and exquisite hand-made Prada loafers with gild starbursts. He walked from table to table, thanking the guests for coming and showing the flair and enthusiasm for life that has helped keep him on top of the fashion game for decades. There's the old saying, the bigger they are, the harder they fall, but in my opinion, this big man is going to be standing tall for a long time to come.
A SOMBER NOTE
The North Carolina art scene is mourning the loss of painter Maud Gatewood. I have to be honest, I didn't like Maud and she didn't like me. Our personalities clashed from day one when she was wearing a leather pantsuit and I was in a kilt, and that's just how it was. I can, however, appreciate and respect her talent and her artistic accomplishments. Maud's stylized paintings were always well crafted and her unique paint application often gave the works a sophisticated and elegant look. Many of her works carried a touch of mys-
Year in Review

THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS

For months I have looked forward to this moment when I would sit down in the quiet of my little library with Chopin waltzes playing ever so softly in the background—a birthday CD from my friend Judge Peter Hairston—and tell you about my Top Ten 2004 Down East people, organizations and events. Each year it is great fun, and I think about how lucky I am to have an opportunity to toss bouquets to people and organizations that are preserving the culture and enhancing the quality of life of some of God’s best folks.

Let’s not tarry. As in years past, I have declined to rank my 10 best, but this year I am giving my single blue ribbon to the North Carolina Arts Council and its partners at the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and HandMade in America for their “Homemade Handmade” program. With great imagination, enthusiasm and, yes, vision they are developing “Art Roads and Farm Trails” to showcase Down East’s rural riches and bring cultural tourism dollars to a part of the state that needs an economic boost.

By going to the Web site www.HomegrownHandmade.com, travelers can plan a memorable, one-of-a-kind experience. Triangle urbanites can discover the wonders of what so many of us take for granted and spread a little of the Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill green around Down East.

“Giddyup, Red, White and Blue” is the latest trail and covers Duplin, Onslow, Pender and Sampson counties. “Front Porch to Back 40” is a trail in Bertie, Chowan and Perquimans. “Music, Millponds & Mousetraps” (love these names) covers Halifax, Northampton, Hertford and Gates counties. Other trails are being developed and will be online soon. “Art Roads and Farm Trails” will provide tourists with activities such as visiting horse farms, festivals, pick-it-yourself farms, craft centers, and fairs. Kudos also to the Golden LEAF Foundation for making a substantial investment in this Agri-Cultural Tourism project to encourage travel to areas hard hit by the decline in tobacco production.

Small towns once had family-owned clothing stores that specialized in quality brands and superior personal service where you could order a tux for the senior prom. A few miles away in Dunn, we had The Men’s Store operated by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Belote. I bought my first topcoat there when I was in college—an “Alligator” with Ragland sleeves. It lasted me through law school and beyond. In the opposite direction in Fuquay was Ashworth’s. Skinny Ashworth and his younger brother Jimmy had followed in their father’s footsteps and were the proprietors. After law school, I got a few dollars together and bought my firstcashmere topcoat at Ashworth’s—special order.

Skinny has retired and Jimmy and his son Steve now run Ashworth’s. Willa Mae Wells is still coming in from time to time to help out—a lovely, gracious lady. Ashworth’s, where my brother, the judge, bought his expertly tailored, pin-striped, swearing-in suit a year ago, is still going strong selling Bill’s Khakis (my favorites), Robert Talbot ties, Gitman Bros. shirts, Cole Hahn shoes and custom order suits. Ashworth’s, rightfully proud of its decades-old reputation for personal service, is high on my list.

Let’s talk about William McKinney for a bit. William (call him William, not Will or Bill) is my top foodie. By day he is a communications officer in the state Attorney General’s office, but his passion is food—southern style. As a student at UNC-Chapel Hill, he organized the UNC Barbecue Club. Word spread and soon students, faculty, administration officials and others were meeting in local restaurants to discuss southern culture over generous helpings of, yes, barbecue. At 20-something, William is an insider in southern foodway circles and is helping host a food message board through the Southern Foodways Alliance—my all-time favorite organization headquartered at Ole Miss in Oxford, Mississippi. William, say goodbye to Greenville, South Carolina. You have tar on your heels, now.

Elizabeth City State University in the far northeast corner of the state brought home the prize this year—a brand-new school of pharmacy. Congratulations. North Carolina needs more pharmacists and having this new school at a historically black institution Down East will mean that more minority students will have entrée to a profession that pays well and offers opportunities for economic and social advancement. A strong black middle class is to the advantage of everyone. The haves in the university system weren’t happy with the $28 million the new school at Elizabeth City State snagged. Sorry if they’re in a snit. Elizabeth City State University, you’re tops with me.
Governor Jodi Rell of Connecticut is on my list—my top Down East ex patriot. Bless her heart, she has made it from Colerain, North Carolina, to the executive mansion in Hartford. That's no small accomplishment. She was Lt. Governor and when the Governor tripped up and had to get out of town fast, she became the state's chief executive. When I learned of her roots, I emailed her office. Within hours an assistant had met with Governor Rell and forwarded family information to me. Governor Rell's grandparents were John and Molly Perry from Bertie County. The Governor's mother, Foy Perry Revis, died when she was seven, and after that the Governor spent summers in Perrytown with her aunt Hallie Perry Daniels. She has cousins in Bertie including Treva Daniels and Carroll (another Bertie County Carroll) Daniels. Go, Governor! By golly, I think we ought to get up a busload and go see her.

The Edgecombe County Cultural Arts Council and executive director Jai Jordan make my list for the cultural coup of the year. The Council booked blues legend B.B. King for a performance in Edgecombe Community College's Keihim Auditorium in Tarboro and sold out the house at $40 a ticket. Jai is an old friend from his days at Historic Hope Plantation and was a good pick to succeed local legend Mead Horne. For years Edgecombe County has been setting the pace for arts programming in the east. Community support in the classy old-south town of Tarboro and throughout the county is the key.

My friend Dr. Lawrence Wheeler at the North Carolina Museum of Art receives so many accolades that he hardly needs one from me. Perhaps he will stand still for yet one more because I must include him in my Top Ten for continuing to dream impossible dreams and then make them come true. His most ambitious exhibition to date, Matisse, Picasso and the School of Paris—hanging through January 16—is stunning, especially the Matisses. Also, congratulations to Dr. Wheeler and the museum board on their recent selection of Alexis Vaughn as the museum's chief operating officer. She brings to the job intelligence, a wealth of experience, a delightful sense of humor and an enviable zest for life. And she's good company.

I will conclude by revisiting two columns I wrote in 2004. The first was about the Airlie Arts Festival. I said that it was the most ambitious and well-executed event I have ever seen staged Down East. The professionals at Airlie and hundreds of Wilmington area volunteers dazzled me and everyone else who attended with their organizational ability and fundraising acumen. Indeed, the Airlie Arts Festival took the cake, and Mr. and Mrs. Pembroke Jones, the creators of Airlie and hosts par excellence, must have been smiling down from heaven. However, if that is indeed where you are, dear folks, please do your part, have a little talk with the man upstairs, and arrange for sunshine and clear skies in 2005.

I saved until last my new friends at Jordan and Hope in Clinton because I just wrote about them last month. I have great respect for family-run businesses, especially when they are carrying on Down East foodway traditions. Hubbard Jordan, wife Mildred, daughter Ann, grandson Josh, nieces and son-in-law Jerry all make their unique contributions to running this jam-packed little country store that turns out tons of sausage for skillets, provides truckloads of collards for the pot, seasoning meat for greens, and fresh field peas and turnips for home cooking lovers. What makes me happy is knowing the torch will be passed and that Jordan and Hope will still be there when I am knocking on the Pearly Gates.

That's 10, folks, and that's good because I just realized that the Chopin CD quit playing long ago. It's all quiet in the house and, between you and me, it's time to go to bed. Hope I don't wake up worrying about the two or three things I had jotted down that didn't make the list.
TECHNICOLOR DREAMS

January is the favored month of many followers of fashion. "How can this be?" you ask, "The weather is horrid and any cute outfit is at the mercy of puffy coats and sensible shoes." The answer, my friend, is simple: S-A-L-E-S. Armed with a little insider knowledge, forward-thinking fashionistas can snap up sale items that will be hits in the following season. The key is to have an inkling of what colors are on the fashion horizon and then choose pieces that can metamorphose from the leftovers of fall to the appetizers of spring. You don't need a crystal ball; you just need to visit www.pantone.com. The Pantone Company is the color resource for all areas of design. Its numbered color-chip system allows designers to communicate with each other in color, an otherwise highly subjective field (you say "Robin's Egg," I say "Carolina Blue"). Pantone's color trend forecasts influence many textile manufacturers and, therefore, the fashion designers who use their fabric. As designers create their next collection, Pantone polls them to see what colors they favor most and then publishes a kind of "Top Ten" color list for the following season. This in turn influences accessories designers and even home décor. Color tends to shift gradually from season to season, which is why you can do well at sales if you know the direction of the color winds. Green was the sought-after shade for fall; come spring, green will shift toward blue, becoming turquoise. Complementing this will be shades of deep and pale coral, with the starring colors of recent springtimes with pink and yellow back in the chorus.

HOOKED ON CROCHET

The long evenings of winter provide the perfect time to get a head start on another spring trend: crochet. Handcrafted looks were big on the runways, and, as you read this, crocheted tops and accessories are on their way to a store near you. Talented with a crochet hook? Start looping away on a chic little skullcap. For those of us who have been using our crochet hooks as backscratchers and letter openers ever since fifth grade, a refresher course may be in order. I was delighted when a copy of Hooked on Crochet: 20 Sassy Projects by Candi Jensen came across my desk. This beginner's guide to crochet is easy-to-follow with ideas and instructions for stylish garments and accessories, including a very cool '70s-era crocheted bikini. From handbags to little flowers for anyplace, Jensen's book will open up a world of possibilities beyond afghans ($18.95, Storey Publishing).
THE CROCODILE COMETH

And speaking of bikinis... When designers show "resort" collections in their windows, don't they make the cruelest months feel that much worse? If you don't have a chance to jet down to the Caymans or Palm Beach this winter, console yourself with some accessories from early-bird spring collections. In February, Lacoste will launch its line of men's and women's leather goods, including handbags, backpacks and golf bags, all with the signature crocodile. Manufactured and distributed by Samsonite, the new collection is sporty and full of audacious colors, such as tangerine, sky and Lacoste green of the "Croco-lite" Collection. But one of the most striking pieces is also the simplest: a white and brown over-the-shoulder bag from the "ID by Lacoste" Collection. Look for the reasonably priced line ($150-$425 for handbags and duffels) in department stores next month.

DESIGNER WELLIES

As long as there is frost crunching under your feet, cheer yourself up with some zippy boots. Forget shearling or those puffy moon boots for snow; I'm talking about the old-fashioned kind for rain. Recently, simple rubber wellies have become a canvas for designers to express themselves, making them an inexpensive way to put a high-design name in your closet. Brit Paul Smith
Burberry offers a striped ankle-length version with a kitten heel ($115) while Marc by Marc Jacob's sassy knee-length version has a three-inch stacked heel with a laced grommet detail at the top. More traditional rain-boot shapes are updated with bold prints and colors, like DKNY's floral version ($85), Burberry's plaid boot ($125), Pucci's...
Polo Sport by Ralph Lauren

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Peter Storm

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Emilio Pucci
swirling signature print boot ($100), and Polo Sport by Ralph Lauren's boot in extra bright solid colors ($60). Many of these looks are available at saksfifthavenue.com, neimanmarcus.com or nordstrom.com.

Spring will be here before you know it. In the meantime, snuggle up in a cozy spot, play with seasonable "pick-me-up" sprays from Demeter fragrances like Snow and Hot Toddy ($18 each from Sephora), flip through Pantone's latest color chip book (available on amazon.com) and dream in Technicolor.
2005 already!

Can it be possible that five years have already zipped by since, facing certain millennial disaster, we hoarded cans of soup and tuna fish?

Though the 20th century seems like yesterday, the Metro area restaurant scene actually has changed quite a bit in the first half-decade of the 21st. For a while after 9/11, it seemed that more restaurants were closing than opening in these parts. Happily, this past year saw several new restaurants appear on the scene, notably Nana's Chophouse in Raleigh, Starlu in Durham, and Chapel Hill's Talulla. I can vouch for the excellence of the latter and intend to check out the other two as soon as possible.

I've visited many wonderful restaurants and had more than my share of great meals in 2004, but there are a couple of stand-outs—one old, one new. Vin's can't be called an old-timer quite yet, but is certainly in its prime. Chef Ashley Christenson's simple but sophisticated flavors paired with her recommendations of wines on Vin's superb list—heaven! Fairly new on the scene is Duck and Dumpling in downtown Raleigh. I was infatuated upon entering the door and totally besotted after only a few bites of David Mao's divine dumplings.

Among the eateries I look forward to trying in the New Year are Port Land Grille and Jerry's in Wilmington, and Blue Moon Bistro in Beaufort. All receive consistent raves from beach-loving foodies.

This year I asked other food writers in our Metro neighborhood to join me in sharing their favorite restaurants of 2004.

Al Carson, Features Editor for Durham's Herald Sun, who writes a weekly food column: "My favorite place for getting a little fancy is Burkenstocks in downtown Wake Forest. It is run by a husband and wife team who met while studying at Johnson & Wales in Charleston. He does great things with crabs and crawdads.

"As for good ol' greasy spoons, you gotta love Wimpy's ('I'll gladly pay Tuesday for a hamburger today') Grill off Hillsborough Street in Durham, where former butcher Larry Mishoe still grinds his own beef fresh daily. While I love the hot dogs, the cheeseburger with mustard, chili, onions and slaw is to die for."

Susan Houston, Food Editor for Raleigh News and Observer. "My favorite special occasion place is Elaine's. There's always a dazzling choice of menu options and interesting surprises from the chef and the service is just perfect—professional, efficient and cordial. Yet I also have a weakness for the bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwiches at Merritt's Store, a hole in the wall place in Chapel Hill that serves up the largest and tastiest BLTs in the Triangle. The ingredients are cleverly layered so you get a generous taste of each in every bite."

Jean Anderson, author of dozens of cookbooks including American Century Cookbook: "My particular area favorites, I
suppose, are all the obvious ones: Crook's and Dip's in CH (I also quite like The Carolina Inn's Crossroads Restaurant), and, of course, the Durham troika: Magnolia Grill, Nana's, and Four Square.

"Recently, my nieces introduced me to two of their favorites and I thought both very good. One's in Cary, a mom-and-pop Spanish restaurant called Cocina Brava and Sweet Basil, and a mom-and-pop Asian (mostly Thai) restaurant in, of all places, Holly Springs. Both are spotless, both prepare everything to order, both are small, family-run and folksy. Of the two, the Spanish restaurant has a bigger menu. Wonderful homemade soups, delicious fish and shellfish."

Barbara Ensrud, who writes Cork Report for Raleigh Metro, "I've got to say that I can't think of a better restaurant in North Carolina than Magnolia Grill. The high caliber of Ben Barker's cuisine is just so consistently excellent. For a casual meal, I like the Market Café at Fearrington Village. Nice menu selections, great beer, good wine, and it's fun to visit the neighboring shops when I'm there."

Penny Rich with Judith Ferguson Foreman writes "Two Chefs in a Triangle," which regularly appears in Southern Neighbor Newspaper and Cary Magazine. "Lantern in Chapel Hill has a fabulous menu—it always has interesting choices for vegetarians like me. I love the noodle bowl. It may be a little loud, but the staff is wonderful, and it's a perfect date night place. With the kids we go to Margaret's Cantina, also in Chapel Hill. The whole family loves her southwestern menu.

"For special occasions, Judith and her husband eat at Raleigh's Margaux's. For weekday family meals, they prefer Nina's in Raleigh—consistently good Italian food."

Maudy Benz, Gourmet columnist for Metro Magazine: "Fearrington House has entered into the realm of the great restaurants in the state, if not the South. A very classy place. I was bowled over by my last meal there. French trained Chef Graham Fox is doing an incredible job.

"For a casual meal, my family enjoys NoFo in Raleigh. It has a fun ambience—you can work up an appetite shopping before dinner. It's well priced and the menu offers selections that please the whole family, including my ravenous teenaged son."

Fred Benton, host of WDNCh Food Forum and Metro contributor: "My new favorite restaurant is Starlu in Durham, just opened in October. It serves upscale items as well as a terrific macaroni and cheese and an incredible hamburger with a fried egg and flaky onion rings on top, my favorite meal there.

"In Raleigh, I like Simpson's Beef and Seafood for the prime rib and Gino Russo's for the best she-crab soup in the world. The energetic, warm service at Gino's reflects the man's hospitable nature. I go there all the time."

D.G. Martin, restaurant columnist for Our State Magazine and author of Interstate Eateries. "Our favorite place for fine but casual is O'Neil's at Meadowmont in Chapel Hill. Glen has taken the wonderful neighborhood atmosphere of The Grill at Glen Lennox and made it a little more informal. The menu always has some fine choices and there is a welcoming feeling that makes every guest feel at home.

"For simple fare, you can't beat Stephenson's Barbecue Restaurant, a mile and a half detour from the highway near Clayton. I can't get enough of the slaw there that gives just the right touch to go with great barbecued pork and chicken, Brunswick stew, fried chicken and hush-puppies."
**Off the Menu**

by Fred Benton

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**Starlu is Born**

The hottest new dining room to open in Durham is **Restaurant Starlu** now occupying the space vacated by Seasoned Ticket in the South Court Building, 3211 Shannon Road, at the corner of Shannon and University Drive. Owned and operated by chef Sam Poley, formerly of A Southern Season, Starlu is, as Sam describes it, “elegantly hip.” For example, Grilled Shrimp with Sweet Pea and Tarragon Ravioli meets a gussied up Baked Macaroni and Cheese on the menu. Entrées range from $10 to $19. And while Seasoned Ticket Ravioli meets a gussied up Baked Macaroni and Cheese on the menu. Entrées prices range from $10 to $19. And while Seasoned Ticket could come across as cavernous and forbidding, the interior has now been totally changed to engender an atmosphere of warmth and conviviality.

Along with upscale viands there’s an irresistible burger: Angus beef, grilled and topped with Vermont cheddar cheese, fried onion rings to engender an atmosphere of warmth and this burger is, garnished with homemade shoeless burger: Angus beef, grilled and topped with Vermont cheddar cheese, fried onion rings to engender an atmosphere of warmth and this burger is, garnished with homemade shoe­...

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**Chocolate Heaven**

Early February should be like Christmas to chocoholics! The **Carolina Chocolate Festival**, for the third year, will be held at the Crystal Coast Civic Center in Morehead City on Saturday, February 5, and Sunday, February 6, 2005. Last year over 8000 people roamed the center agog at the chocolate bounty. The event includes 27 exhibit booths that feature, for example, cooking with chocolate with demonstrations offered from professional chefs who themselves are competing for honors in the best chocolate dessert competition. There are chocolate eating contests (one for the kids), a fountain of chocolate fondue, 40 feet of chocolate brownies and chocolate candies of all sizes and shapes. Lots of free samples! Ticket price is $10 per person per day ($5 for kids 5 to 12; younger children are admitted free). No adult ticket sales at the door are planned. To secure your tickets call 800-404-5409. There is a supervised place for kids to play, and the modest admission price supports a local charity.

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**Romantic Italian**

If love and romance is already invading your thoughts, then can Valentine’s Day be far away? Consider this a handy segue to introducing readers to a relatively new restaurant in Raleigh—and one of the loveliest and most romantic: **Tavola Rossa**. The name, meaning “red table” in Italian, is a large eatery situated in the former location of Cactus Flower at 5300 Homewood Banks Drive behind Crabtree Valley Mall. Large though it is, the pervading color (that I call cerise, but that Tavola Rossa owner Leslie Lewis says is “officially raspberry ripple”) cozes up the space into what could only be termed luscious and romantic, especially given the overhead lighting, that looks like mammoth closed lily buds. The interior is eye­

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**Bye to Broad Street**

A foodie friend of mine sent me word that **Broad Street Coffee Roasters** has closed. Broad Street was a long-time supplier of fine coffees in the Triangle, and the business will be missed. Happily, however, my friend went on to write that some former employees are trying to establish their own coffee business under the tentative name Carrboro Coffee Company.
Metro Magazine's Premiere
Restaurant Guide

RALEIGH/CARY

42nd Street Oyster Bar - 508 West Jones Street, Raleigh. (919) 831-2811. A Raleigh tradition since 1931. Serving quality seafood, steaks and pasta in a casual atmosphere. Steamed oysters and clams available. Serving lunch Monday through Friday and dinner seven nights a week.


Bloomsbury Bistro - 509 West Whitaker Mill Road, Suite 101, Raleigh. (919) 834-9011. Everything you love about fine dining without the hype. Sophisticated food and wine in a comfortable neighborhood setting. Featured in Southern Living, Gourmet Magazine and USA Today.


Carolina Ale House - 512. Creekside Drive, Raleigh. (919) 835-2222, 4512 Falls of Neuse Road, Raleigh. (919) 431-0001, 2240 Walnut Street, Cary. (919) 854-9444. Carolina Ale House has something for everyone - we serve our award-winning menu from 11 am until 2 am and give you over 40 TVs for your front row seat to all the sports action. Daily lunch and dinner specials, the coldest $2 pints in town, Shrimp Special Mondays and 99 cent Kid's Tuesdays. We've got your family covered. So come home to the Carolina Ale House today: great food, sports and fun.

Cuba - 19 West Hargett Street, Raleigh. (919) 890-4500. Enjoy Latin flavors and Spanish wines in a colorful and lively atmosphere. Salsa music adds spice to an already sizzling dining experience.

Enoteca Vin - 410 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 350, Raleigh. (919) 834-3070. Located in Glenwood South's Creamery building. Enoteca Vin's warm urban interior, bar and patio provide a casual but sophisticated environ for serious dinners or spontaneous rendezvous over wine and cocktails. Metro Best Chef Ashley Christensen proudly accepts the responsibility of supporting our local and organic farmers and purveyors. Our ingredient-driven menu is built around the seasons, with small and large plates, artisan cheeses and cured meats. Our wine list features 56 wines by the glass and received Wine Spectator's Best of Award or Excellence in 2004. Serving dinner Tuesday through Saturday, Sunday brunch and late night Fridays and Saturdays. For menus, events and hours please visit www.enotecavin.com.

Est Est Est Trattoria - 19 West Hargett Street, Raleigh. (919) 833-4440. Since 1984, customers have loved their delicious North Italian dishes. Pastas, breads, mozzarella and desserts are made in-house.

Frazier's - 2418 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh. (919) 829-6699. Frazier's has been rated as one of the top ten restaurants in the triangle since opening in 1998. An eclectic, ever changing menu is executed in a newly renovated, very hip but casual atmosphere.

H5 - 510 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh. (919) 834-4335. For food and fans, H5 is the place to watch. Over 30 TVs, including 10 plasma screens and a huge projection screen. Full menu with the 20 varieties of wings, pizza, burgers, nachos and more. DJ on Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Open 7 days. 11:30-2 am. www.h5raleigh.com.

The Irregardless Café - 901 West Morgan Street, Raleigh. (919) 833-8898. Thirty years old and fresh every day! Serving market fresh produce, fish, poultry, beef, lamb, vegetarian meals with menus changing daily. Live music nightly, catering and more! www.irregardless.com.

Maximilians - 8314 Chapel Hill Road, Cary (919) 465-2455. Maximilians, operated and

Michael Dean's Wood Oven and Seafood Grill - 1305 Millbrook Road, Raleigh. (919) 790-9992. Casual American seafood and wood-fired specialties. Menu changes weekly with delicious low-carb options as well. Enjoy the wide drink selection, outdoor patio and live party bands on Friday and Saturday. Where there's smoke, there's fire. Lunch Mon-Fri, Dinner 7 days. www.michaeldenas.com

Nana's Chophouse - 328 West Davie Street, Raleigh. (919) 829-1212. Nana's Chophouse is a high energy, contemporary Italian style chophouse infused with Southern American flavors and local ingredients. Nana's features complementary valet parking, live jazz, generous fresh salads, seafood and Scott Howell's signature risottos. Seating in the bar and outdoor patio are first-come-first-serve. Hours of operation are Monday-Thursday 5:00-10:00 pm and Friday and Saturday 5:00-11:00 pm. Call for dinner reservations.

Mario's Chophouse - 901 West Morgan Street, Raleigh. (919) 833-8898. Thirty years old and fresh every day! Serving market fresh produce, fish, poultry, beef, lamb, vegetarian meals with menus changing daily. Live music nightly, catering and more! www.irregardless.com.

NoFo Market and Café - 2014 Fairview Road, Raleigh. (919) 821-1240. 1125 Military Cutoff Road, Wilmington (910) 256-5665. NoFo Market and Cafe is open for breakfast or brunch, lunch and dinner everyday. Sit inside in our cafe, sit at the bar, or dine outdoors. Choose from award winning salads, soups, sandwiches and entrees. Don't miss the nightly specials like prime rib, country fried chicken and shrimp and grits. Winner of "Best Salads," Wilmington Magazine, "Best Bloody Mary," Metro Magazine, and "Best Gift Store," Citisearch.

Porter's City Tavern - 2412 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh. (919) 821-2133. Porter's City Tavern was chosen "Best New Restaurant" of 2004 by the readers of MetroMagazine. A fresh open floor and sidewalk/patio showcases a diverse menu of steaks, pastas, salads, sandwiches, and fresh fish. The menu is prepared using the freshest local ingredients available.

The Red Room Tapas Lounge - 510 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh. (919) 835-1322. When you want to paint the town, only one color will do. Serving appetizer-sized, Spanish-style tapas.


**Second Empire Restaurant and Tavern** – 330 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh. (919) 326-3663. Two Menus, One Experience! Enjoy the ultimate fine dining experience in the elegant yet relaxed atmosphere of our main dining rooms or a more casual dining experience in our Tavern. Raleigh’s own AAA Four Diamond Restaurant!! Wine Spectator Awards of Excellence.

**Taverna Agora** – 6101 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh. (919) 881-8333. Candlelit tables enhance the festive mood of this rustic, welcoming restaurant. Meet at the bar for a quiet drink or unwind under the pergola as you contemplate the extensive menu and wine list. Fresh poultry, meats and seafood are always the rule of the kitchen. Open nightly for dinner, Sunday brunch, catering available. Taverna Agora, Absolutely Greek.

**Tavola Rossa Ristorante Italiano** – (919) 5300 Homewood Banks Drive, Raleigh. (919) 532-7100. Our menu features pasta, brick oven pizza, chicken, veal and seafood. The open kitchen lets you in on the action while our patio allows you to dine al fresco. Fabulous wine menu. Serving lunch 11:30 am – 3:00 pm 7 days and dinner 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm Sunday – Thursday and 5:00 pm – 11:00 pm Friday and Saturday.


**Vinnie’s Steakhouse and Tavern** – 7440 Six Forks Road, Raleigh (919) 847-7319. Since 1987, Vinnie’s has established itself as a culinary icon in the Triangle area. Vinnie’s has become known as Uptown Raleigh’s very own “Legendary Hangout.” Enjoy true New York-Style steakhouse ambiance serving the finest steaks, seafood and Italian fare. Vinnie’s will make your dining experience a lasting and memorable occasion.

**Chapel Hill**

**Café Parizade** – 2200 West Main Street, Durham. (919) 286-9712. High ceiling with Renaissance-inspired murals, brilliantly colorful surrealist works of art and casually chic crowds feasting on Mediterranean dishes. Serving lunch Monday-Friday 11:30 am – 2:30 pm and dinner Monday – Thursday 5:30 - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday 5:30 – 11:00, and Sunday 5:30 – 9:00 pm.

**George’s Garage** – 737 9th Street, Durham. (919) 286-4131. Enjoy our casual upbeat atmosphere with the freshest seafood and authentic sushi bar. After hour celebration and dancing and a fresh to-go market and bakery.

**Nana’s Chophouse** – 2514 University Drive, Durham. (919) 493-8545. See Raleigh listing.

**Vin Rouge** – 2010 Hillsborough Road, Durham. (919) 416-0406. Vin Rouge, a French café and wine bar, treats guests to provincial cooking at its finest in a chic, intimate setting. Serving dinner Tuesday – Sunday, 5:30 – 11:00 pm and Sunday brunch 10:30 am – 2:00 pm.

**Verde** – 2200 West Main Street, Durham. (919) 286-9755. New American cuisine in a sleek and modern atmosphere.

**La Residence** – 202 West Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill. (919) 967-2506. French-inflected, new American cuisine, warm inviting, ambiance, superb service, all are combined for your dining pleasure in downtown Chapel Hill. Enclosed heated patio, late night live music.

**Pazzo!** – Southern Village, 700 Market Street, Chapel Hill. (919) 929-9984. Pazzo’s dining room welcomes you with contemporary Italian cuisine in an intimate casual environment. Need a quick bite on the run? Our Gourmet-To-Go offers fresh salads, antipasto, as well as traditional and gourmet pizza.

**Spice Street** – 201 Estes Drive, Chapel Hill. (919) 928-8200. A revolutionary new concept in dining entertainment, Spice Street is a culinary experience created to nourish the soul and share flavors from around the world. Spice Street celebrates food and life.

**Talullas Restaurant** – 456 West Franklin Street, Chapel Hill. (919) 933-1177. The newest addition to the Restaurant Mecca of West Franklin Street in Chapel Hill. Talullas is an instant success with its “ethnic elegance” and “beautifully prepared food!” Its Eastern Mediterranean cuisine is simple, fresh, and exotic. Tuesday – Sunday 6-10 Dinner, 10-2 Bar/Lounge. www.talullas.com

**The Weathervane** – 201 South Estes Drive, Chapel Hill. (919) 929-9466. Seasonal menu reflects the good taste that made A Southern Season famous. Memorable patio setting and sophisticated dining rooms. Comfortable bar offers quality pours and live music nightly.
Year in Review

THE YEAR IN WINE—A LOOK BACK, A PEEK AHEAD

It’s always fun to look back and assess the past year while some of its highlights are still fresh. The year 2004—vinously speaking—had its highs... and a few lows. Let’s start with the year as a vintage. It’s one that’s likely to please wine lovers just about everywhere.

Harvest 2004. After the excesses and weather disasters of 2003—record heat in Europe as well as hailstorms that destroyed crops in some unlucky spots (the Côte de Beaune in Burgundy)—the 2004 harvest is good to outstanding worldwide. Winning whites from Burgundy and the cooler regions of California, warm and ripe reds from Bordeaux, Burgundy, the Piedmont and Tuscany in Italy, as well as Spain and Portugal (including Port). Most places the crops were large—a record crop in Champagne, in fact. Normally, this would have a positive effect on consumer wine prices were it not offset by the strength of the euro against the dollar. At least maybe they won’t go up (as much), but on the positive there should be lots of good and tasty wines on the way.

The Rise Down Under. Huge crops in Australia (the southern hemisphere harvest is in March/April) could result in a grape glut, which often works in our favor—better wines at lower prices—and the largest crop yet in New Zealand, which means more of those luscious Sauvignon Blancs headed our way by summer.

In 2004 we also saw a much greater influx of wines from other Down Under regions, notably South Africa, with its stylish, well-priced wines, and Argentina, where wine quality has begun to improve dramatically. We’ll explore these areas more thoroughly in the months ahead.

The Rise of Riesling. Finally! For years my colleagues and I have touted the delights of fine Riesling, both the dry styles from Alsace as well as the remarkable thrills German Rieslings offer the unprejudiced palate. For too long Americans have passed on Riesling thinking it “too sweet”—never mind those non-dry Chardonnays they guzzle by the bucketful. This may be the mindset for the 40-and-over crowd, but at last a new generation has come along that looks at Riesling with a fresh eye and appreciates good ones as the perfect choice for Asian and fusion dishes, or sipping with blue cheeses... or just on their own. Wonderful wines from 2003—check them out. We’ll take an in-depth look at Riesling, too, sometime this year.

Labels to look for: Biltmore (newly stylish), Hanover 77...
Park, Hinnant (luscious Scuppernong), Old North State, Rag Apple Lassie (Viognier won Best of Show at NC State Fair), RayLen (very tasty blends), Rockhouse, Shelton (especially the Merlot), Silk Hope, Westbend... and a new name to watch: Childress, opened in October by NASCAR enthusiast Ron Childress.

The Triangle Wine Experience is the region's very own special wine event, a gastronomic extravaganza mounted for a good cause, with proceeds going to The Frankie Lemmon School for Children with Special Needs. Thanks to the tireless efforts of event founder, Murray Gould of Raleigh, the 2004 TWE was a rousing success with fabulous wine tastings and wine dinners at some of our top local restaurants in Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, raising some $400,000. This year's event, February 17-19, should be another great one, so watch for details.

**DOWNSIDES**

The year 2004 wasn't without its somewhat more negative happenings. One shocker was the Mondavi debacle, perhaps an example of overweening hubris in a field where most of the players are infected, to greater or lesser degree. But, then, it's not exactly a sense of humility that propels folks into the competitive world of winemaking.

When the Mondavis went public, it put too much pressure on the bottom line. The inexpensive Woodbridge line did all right, but the fine wines of Robert Mondavi Napa Valley weren't pulling sufficient weight for the board of directors. It was hard to see for those of us who had seen Robert create the flagship Napa Valley wine estate, which grew and thrived into the new century, all to have it unravel in the years since. No one really knows what will happen. The family is said to want to buy the Napa Valley operation (Woodbridge is in Lodi, south of Sacramento), including Opus One, but it remains to be seen if they can pull it off. I hope so.

**ALCOHOLIC WHOPPERS**

Ever bigger, high alcohol, monster-extract wines are more prevalent than ever—wines made not by the numbers but for the numbers, aiming for high scores from critics whose overtaxed palates can only recognize “gobs of fruit” and “massive extraction.” These wines may offer a nice smack of flavor for one or two sips (which is when the number jockeys record their scores); after that, your palate feels slugged as the juice is overtaken by tannin, alcohol, wood and other thick and oily extracts. Thud! These wines aren’t balanced, so they don’t age well either.

**My top wine of 2004:** 1984 Mayacamas Cabernet Sauvignon—from my wine cellar. Utterly delicious—rich but balanced, complex flavors well-integrated, long smooth finish. For a similar experience in a few years, seek out a more recent Mayacamas Cab, and age it properly. You won’t be disappointed.

P.S. What wine—or aspect of wine—would you like to read about in 2005? Send me an email at b_e@bewinewise.com
"How can 59,054,087 people be so DUMB?" screamed the exasperated headline in a British newspaper after the George Bush victory, expressing the elitist attitude about America in much of "old" Europe and in our own "old" American media, entertainment industry, and academia. Although this attitude arose from the modernity: The British, French, and American Enlightenments (2004). In these reflections, American historian Gertrude Himmelfarb distinguishes three lines of Enlightenment thought: the path of British moral philosophers extolling personal and public virtues expressed through political economy; the French philosophers exalting abstract reason; and Lewis Gaddis explains how our responses to the terrorist attacks of September 11 have sound historical precedent. Preemption, unilateralism and hegemony, now expressed in the Bush Doctrine, are parts of earlier American experiences, as Gaddis explains through comparisons with our responses to the British burning of Washington during the War of 1812 and the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 that brought us into World War II. He does so with an eloquence and patriotism rarely expressed in academia.

The thoughts that led to the modern world and American exceptionalism in it are explained in The Roads to the American Founding Fathers, who established our "politics of liberty." She concludes that America combines virtue and reason with liberty better than Europe, and explains that among our exceptional attributes "Americans take for granted what Europeans regard as an inexplicable paradox: that the United States is the most capitalistic and at the same time the most moralistic of countries."

Exemplifying Enlightenment ideals, America shines a light of liberty to the world. It threatens the Islamofascists, of course, and they are trying to extinguish it. Our responses to their terrorism are examined in Surprise, Security, and the American Experience (2004). In these endowed lectures, Yale historian John the 2004 election results, the American electorate's defiance of the opinions of the elitists is deeper than any political or other "global test" they may wish to give us. The defiance reflects the underlying exceptionalism established earlier in our American Revolution against a European Crown that later rejected subsequent European ideologies—ranging from Fascism to Communism—and now the ideology de jour of Islamofascism.

Whatever the context, American exceptionalism implicates this country's current and future roles in the modern world. The question should be, why we are so exceptional?

From a British perspective, William Shawcross explains in Allies: the U.S., Britain, Europe, and the War in Iraq (2004) why we had to invade Iraq and end Saddam Hussein's regime, and he excoriates the French and Germans for opposing us. Shawcross acknowledges that we have made mistakes in Iraq, especially in intelligence and postwar administration and security, but he concludes that the alternatives to success "are too terrible to contemplate." Despite our
faults, he sees us as the only country with "both the power and the optimism to defend the international community against what really are forces of darkness."

Beyond the War on Terrorism, two books provide provocative perspectives on America's broader roles in the modern world. In *The Case for Sovereignty: Why the World Should Welcome American Independence* (2004), Cornell political philosopher Jeremy Rabkin explains how the idea of sovereignty arose during the Enlightenment and since has fostered democracy and other political virtues. Despite those past successes, Rabkin sees sovereignty threatened now by internationalists who prefer its subordination to global governance. He warns that Americans must preserve a sovereign and independent structure under which they can "live together in confidence and mutual respect, as fellow citizens of the same solid republic." In *Colossus: The Price of American Empire* (2004), British historian Niall Ferguson, who now holds an endowed chair at New York University and a fellowship at the Hoover Institution at Stanford while maintaining a post at Oxford, explains that we have an American "empire" even as we dare not call it such. An authority on the subject, scholar Paul Hollander, of constitutional liberty. Not the ancestral identity or religion, but the resulting culture and civic creed have nurtured the nation through waves of immigration and assimilated millions of people with diverse ancestries and religions into becoming Americans. A traditional scholar, Huntington sees the trendy doctrines of multiculturalism and diversity as threats to our national identity and civic creed, empowering racial and ethnic groups rather than individuals. They encourage new immigrants, especially the Spanish-speaking, to disdain our culture and creed and to resist assimilation as Americans, leading Huntington to fear a bifurcated America with two cultures and languages. Certain to offend the politically correct, Huntington can envision Hispanics fulfilling the American dream only if they dream in English.

Our nation has other characteristics, explains political analyst Michael Barone in *Hard America, Soft America: Competition vs. Coddling and the Battle for the Nation's Future* (2004). Soft, coddling America produces incompetent 18-year-olds, while Hard, competitive America produces competent 30-year-olds. As the 18-year-olds make the transition from school to the marketplace or military, individual responsibility and accountability make the difference. Barone favors Hard America, but he values some Soft America. He warns: "We have the luxury of keeping parts of our society Soft only if we keep enough of it Hard."

Other American characteristics are explained in *The Right Nation: Conservative Power in America* (2004) by
John Micklethwait and Adrian Wool­dridge, Oxford educated Britons who cover America for the British magazine the Economist. Drawing on their own observations and other scholarly studies, they explain the fusion of traditional conservatism and libertarianism into modern American conservatism. At its core, they find "a very moderate sort of liberty: the freedom for individuals as far as possible to pursue their own ends unconstrained by government interference." They recognize an American re­formulation of traditional conservatism, in effect acknowledging that modern American conservatism reflects post-Enlightenment classical liberalism. In other words, although the American Left has misappropriated the word liberalism and misapplied it to its group-think and big-government ideas, it is the American Right that holds classical liberalism's ideals of individual liberty under limited government.

GREAT PRESIDENTS

As the nation prepares to inaugurate George W. Bush for his second term as our 43rd president, Presidential Lead­ership: Rating the Best and the Worst in the White House (2004) provides profiles and rankings of his predecessors. Edited by James Taranto and Leonard Leo, it completes a survey conducted by the Wall Street Journal and the Federalist Society of a variety of scholars. (The only North Carolina survey participant is UNC-Chapel Hill historian William Leuchtenburg.) Only three presidents are ranked as great: George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D. Roosevelt. Eight presidents ranked as near great include Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower and Ronald Reagan. Beyond those and other rankings, an introduction explains the constitutional provisions for the presidency, brief essays discuss each president, and fuller essays focus on four issues of presidential leadership. Together, they provide a composite American history, written by notables including Northwestern University's Steven G. Calabresi, Princeton's Robert P. George, and Harvard's Harvey C. Mansfield. In a foreword, William J. Bennett warns of the whirlwind we could reap if we do not know our history, and he notes that Ronald Reagan expressed in his farewell address a fear of the "eradication of the American memory that could result, ultimately, in an erosion of the American spirit."

Through these readings, we can better understand the modern world, threats to it, and Americans' roles in the world. And we can better understand our nation itself, an important task, as British his­torian Paul Johnson reminded us in his History of the American People (1999): "No other national story holds such tremendous lessons, for the American people themselves and for the rest of mankind. It now spans four centuries and, as we enter the new millennium, we need to retell it, for if we can learn these lessons and build upon them, the whole of humanity will benefit in the new age which is now opening."
GOOD YEAR FOR BOOKS AND BOOK EVENTS

A great way to prepare for the New Year is to look back at the previous annum’s accomplishments. As many of my peers in these pages are ranking their top tens in various genres, I want to provide a quick review of events that—for one reason or another—made literary news in the area this past year. I also want to issue my standard disclaimer for this column: My reading list over the course of any year is eclectic and too often not focused solely on the latest publications (my recent books have included a Malamud, a Melville and a Morrison, only one of which was published even within my own lifetime), and so I feel hesitant to recommend a more traditional “top ten” books of 2004—even on a regional level, where my attention often does focus. That said, near the end of this list is at least one major recommendation of a recent book about which I have no hesitation. In the meantime, without further ado:

1. In January of last year, the Wake County Public Library system announced that county readers had chosen one of my own personal favorite novels—Lewis Nordan’s Wolf Whistle—for the 2004 Wake Reads Together program, a community-wide initiative to put readers throughout the region on, quite literally, the same page. A series of programs took place at libraries, bookstores and other venues between the January announcement and April 1, when the author himself delivered a reading at Jones Chapel on the Meredith College campus. More than 1000 people attended program events, and the library estimates that more than 5,200 people read the novel during that three-month period. And stay tuned: The 2005 title will be announced on Jan. 2, and a kick-off event takes place on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at Kenan Recital Hall at Peace College. The five finalists are: T. Coraghessan Boyle’s Tortilla Curtain; Mark Haddon’s The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time; Silas House’s Clay’s Quilt; James McBride’s The Color of Water—A Black Man’s Tribute to His White Mother; and Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein.

2. Though Kaye Gibbons’ Divining Women ultimately received mixed reviews—Booklist, for example, called it a “gorgeously moody and piquant fairy tale” while Publisher’s Weekly noted its “erratic storytelling”—fans celebrated the long-awaited publication of the Raleigh author’s seventh novel last April, and like wise celebrated the book’s topic and themes, which explored the resonance between women’s struggles just before World War I and their emotional lives today. As Gibbons explained it in an interview with Metro last year: “I desperately tried to convey the fact that, when it comes to the interior landscapes of our minds and hearts, time is meaningless. … When you strip the place in time away, you’re left with the unchanging core emotional issue.” The novel, still in its hardcover run, is due for paperback publication in mid-2005.

3. Also in April, North Carolina State University hosted the biennial North Carolina Literary Festival, featuring Pulitzer Prize winner Alice Walker, author of The Color Purple, and best-selling novelist Dennis Lehane, who penned Mystic River, and is now a who’s who of North Carolina writers. Metro, with a sponsorship from SAS, published the first ever Student Essay Contest during the NC Literary Festival. Entries were judged as submitted from public schools across the state.


4. Last year marked anniversaries for several NC literary institutions—all of which merit mention among 2004’s top literary events. First up is the 50th anniversary of John F. Blair, Publisher, in Winston-Salem, a small publishing house whose dedication to regional titles has made it a model among small presses. Over the last half-century, Blair publications have won each of North Carolina’s major literary awards: the Mayflower Cup (Ben Dixon MacNeill’s The Hatterasman), the Sir Walter Raleigh Award (Charles F. Price’s Freedom’s Altar) and the Roanoke-Chowan Award (Guy Owens’ The White Stallion and Other Poems). Other titles worth looking up include: Legends of the Outer Banks by Charles Harry Whedbee; Here to Get My Baby Out of Jail by Louise Shivers; My Folks Don’t Want Me to Talk About Slavery, a collection of oral histories by former slaves; and Steven Sherrill’s The Minotaur Takes a Cigarette Break.

5. Raleigh’s Quail Ridge Books also celebrated an anniversary in 2004—20 years since it first opened for business as Books at Quail Corners on Falls of Neuse Road. While owner Nancy Olson has recounted a lonely book signing for Jill McCorkle in the business’s early days (just the two of them, apparently), the store has come a long way since (as has McCorkle): Now QRB’s biggest book signings find crowds lined up for hours, and Publishers Weekly named the store Bookseller of the Year just a few years back. The 20th anniversary celebration
on the first Saturday and Sunday in October drew large and devoted crowds, including Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker with a surprise proclamation for "Quail Ridge Books & Music Day"—just one component of a weekend that Olson recently called "the pinnacle of her career."

6. Then the last weekend in October celebrated another 20th: The NC Writers’ Network's 20th annual Fall Conference, attended by more than 250 writers and aspiring writers and marked by several highlights. "Reynolds Price gave a fabulous interview-format keynote speech on Friday," said NCWN executive director Cynthia Barnett, "and many said it was the best they had ever heard from him—warm, humorous insights and personal reminiscences, with the help of interviewer and friend Jeff Anderson." Barnett also cited among the highlights an unusual contribution: a performance by prison women writers, courtesy of writing coach Jude Reitman—proof of the Network’s continuing eagerness to help writers at all stages of their careers and in every corner of the state.

7. Over the past year, several authors have lent their voices to various causes with fundraising readings at one level or another. While not all can be discussed here, mention of a couple of events can help demonstrate the effect writers can have with their words. An early March fundraiser at McIntyre's Books in Fearrington Village—featuring readings by Kaye Gibbons and Virginia Holman and presented in memory of Joshua Field Seay, son of poet James Seay and novelist Lee Smith—raised $2400 for the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of North Carolina. And Wilmington-based author Ellyn Bache headlined November’s WordFeast, a group reading by regional Jewish writers at Raleigh's Temple Beth Or, which raised $1300 for ROAR (Raleigh Organizing for Action and Results), a grassroots coalition seeking to bring together racially, economically and religiously diverse people to improve life in our area. Good writing, it seems, leads to good work in more ways than one.

8. While several high profile writers have visited the Triangle over the past year—ranging from Margaret Atwood in April to Sue Grafton and Walter Mosley over the summer to Tom Wolfe at the beginning of the holiday season—one author merits a special mention here: Ellen Gilchrist, the author of 23 novels, short story collections and collections of essays, who received the fifth annual Thomas Wolfe Prize at UNC-Chapel Hill in early October. Gilchrist met with creative writing students at UNC and then delivered a reading from her story collection In the Land of Dreamy Dreams to a packed (and enthusiastic) Carroll Hall. Previous recipients of the award have included Tom Wolfe, Larry Brown, Elizabeth Spencer and Pat Conroy—esteemed company, to say the least (as if Gilchrist weren't already in good company with her previous achievements and accolades).

9. The mention of Larry Brown introduces some sad news. A few months ago, I encouraged a recent acquaintance to check into Brown's short stories and novels. Two days before Thanksgiving, the acquaintance thanked me for that recommendation, telling me in awe-struck tones how much he'd admired and enjoyed the books he'd picked up so far. In this context, I was particularly saddened to learn the following evening that Brown had just died of a heart attack at age 53—a shock for those who knew him and a loss for us all. It would be easy to call Brown a gifted writer, except for the fact that he worked so hard to earn those gifts; perhaps the term "relentless craftsman" would be better suited, but in either case, I can do no better here than to recommend you to read his books, beginning with the masterful short story collection Facing the Music, first published in 1988 by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill. His other titles include the story collection Big Bad Love, the novels Dirty Work, Joe, Father and Son, Fay and The Rabbit Factory, and two collections of essays, On Fire and Billy Ray's Farm.

10. As promised, I also want to include mention of at least one of my favorite books over the last year—one that has also been making “best of” lists elsewhere around the country. Philip Roth's The Plot Against America, an alternative history of the US in which Charles Lindbergh defeats FDR for the presidency in 1940, stands as one of his most daring books—both as personal and as political as any he's written. Despite an accelerated ending, the book is a triumph, managing to be edgily contemporary in its themes, without a single mention of today's social and political divisions.

Finally, as with last year, a bonus mention of a book from the past. I've recently been rereading Allan Gurganus' 1991 short story collection White People and want to recommend that other readers give the volume a look as well, especially the opening story, “Minor Heroism,” first published in the early 1970s. (While you are at it, also check out his recent New Yorker contribution, “My Heart Is A Snake Farm.”) Though Gurganus may be best known for his novels, particularly Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All, his short stories are simply masterful—revealing luminous insights, unexpected architectural details and (as always) a generous humor about the human condition. Highly recommended.
The time has come, as it does every year, to make note of some of the best music released on CD last year. Though the Internet has made downloadable tunes the hot new thing, music journalists are still being inundated with CDs. It isn't humanly possible to listen to every album we receive, but we continue to wade through the stacks of CDs that pile up, looking for the good stuff. Here's some of the best of the good stuff.

Buddy Miller:
Universal United House of Prayer
(New West)

This isn't just the best Americana album released in 2004—it's the best album released in 2004. Buddy Miller has attracted a good bit of well-deserved attention as the boss of Emmylou Harris' band, but his solo albums, as well as the album he released with his wife, Julie (Buddy & Julie Miller, Hightone, 2001), have been uniformly inspiring. Universal United House of Prayer, however, is just plain astonishing. This is a masterpiece of Americana music, loaded with tunes that artfully, effortlessly blend rock, country, traditional and gospel into a tour-de-force that saw no equal in the avalanche of albums released last year. As noted when I reviewed this record in the October 2004 issue of Metro, "Miller stands triumphant amidst Nashville's major-label artists like Gulliver amidst the Lilliputians." Universal United House of Prayer earned a 2004 Grammy Award nomination.

Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra:
What Is This America? (Ropeadope)

The Afrobeat vibe of Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra has grown sharper with every album the band has released, and now they deliver What Is This America? a collection of seven tunes with an edge like a straight razor. Fans of the late Fela Kuti will revel in the undiluted essence of Afrobeat they discover here. This Brooklyn-based band has learned the voodoo that invokes the spirit of Fela and the devilish groove of his music.

Omar Sosa:
Mulatos (Ota Records)

Cuban-born pianist/composer Omar Sosa has been living in the avant-garde lane with his recent albums, working solely with a percussionist on Ayaguno (2003) and Pictures of the Soul (2004). With Mulatos, however, Sosa returns to a larger, though not necessarily more conventional, setting, performing with a septet of superb players. This is one of most creative and compelling jazz albums of 2004.

Marah:
20,000 Streets Under the Sky (Yep Roc)

This sure enough could have been the best rock album of 2004. Serge and Dave Bielanko, the brother duo that animates this great Philly band, have become two of the most distinctive and vital songwriters out there, and their band definitely rocks. A CD meant to invoke the real Philadelphia has come to be widely perceived as an indie rock masterwork, and rightfully so.

Various Artists:
Beautiful Dreamer: The Songs of Stephen Foster (American Roots Publishing)

Stephen Foster was one of America's greatest songwriters, yet during his lifetime he was consistently ripped-off by parasitic publishers and saw little of the money his songs earned. At the time of his accidental death in 1864 he was 37 years old and impoverished. Talent like Foster's, however, will endure, and today he is recognized as a national treasure. This recording project brought together a number of excellent musicians, including Mavis Staples, Raul Malo, Alison Krauss and John Prine, for the purpose of tracking 18 of Foster's most memorable tunes. The result is a Grammy-nominated album that's a distinct listening pleasure.

Mylab:
Mylab (Terminus)

Seattle is the home base for Tucker Martine and Wayne Horvitz, the genre-crunching duo that constitutes Mylab. Their self-titled debut album is as much electronica as it is jazz, as much soundscape as it is electronica. Mylab features compositions that incorporate elements of trip hop, rock, mainstream, avant and fusion jazz, Afrobeat, lounge, and Malian traditional song. Each track is an intriguing musical world unto itself. This is a brilliant debut album.

Diana Krall:
The Girl in the Other Room (Verve)

Jazz vocalist/pianist Diana Krall steps outside the standard repertoire that has made her skyrocketing career to take on tunes that range from blues to pop to jazz. Husband Elvis Costello co-wrote two of the best tracks on the album with...
Various Artists:
*The Rough Guide to Italia Nova* [World Music Network]
Italia Nova is the meeting of traditional Italian folk music forms, electronica, and club culture. Particular favorites include Nidi D'Arca's "Ronde Noe," a prime example of their dance-ready folktronica sound. Farautalla, a wildly talented, all-female, vocal quartet, contributes the dark groove of "Mascare" (Witch mix). Another must-listen tune, "Tangerine Café," from Luigi Cinque & Tarantula Hypertext Orchestra, is a jazz-driven hypnotic beat that melds jazz and North African melodic elements into a true bomb track.

**I See Hawks in LA:**
*Grapevine* [Western Seeds Records]
Grapevine is an absolute must-buy for any fan of true country music. I See Hawks embody everything tried-and-true about genuine country music while offering us something new as well. Fronted by ace vocalist/songwriter Robert Rex Waller and guitar/steel guitar player Paul Lacques, I See Hawks' basic sound is California country, though shades of bluegrass and rockabilly are welcome.

**Ojos de Brujo:**
*Bari* [World Village]
This dynamic collective from Barcelona has tapped into a sound that's as innovative as it is seductive. Led by flamenco vocalist Marina "Las Canillas" Abad, Ojos de Brujo (Eyes of the Sorcerer) melds traditional flamenco with a hop-hop turntablist, heavy percussion, bass guitar, and an unfailing sense of groove. Prime cuts include "Tiempo de Solea" and "Quien Engaña no Gana." One of the most addictive world music releases of 2004.

**Gabriela Anders:**
*Last Tango in Rio* [Narada]
Argentinian vocalist Gabriela Anders mingles her musical influences in *Last Tango in Rio* to create a sophisticated, sensually appealing jazz sound that achieves a feel somewhere between Tom Jobim's languid sambas and Piazzolla's passionate tango nuevo. This wonderful record should take Anders' career to a brave new world.

**Sergent Garcia:**
*La Semilla Escondida* [Shakti]
Parisian Bruno Garcia, a.k.a. Sergent Garcia, former indie rocker (Ludwig Von 88), has released three albums in Europe via his Sergent Garcia incarnation. *La Semilla Escondida* is his US debut, and with it comes a music that he's coined Salsamuffin. That catchy name nicely references two of Garcia's major passions: Cuban music and Jamaican reggae. Sergent Garcia borrows from son, ragga, rumba, ska, to shape a 14-track celebration of everything we find irresistible about Cuban and Jamaican music.

**Tony C and The Truth:**
*Demonophonic Blues* [Lava]
This band from upstate New York will rock your world. Leading singer Tony C. has a throaty, rock-shouter voice, and his band radiates a bruising, 70-mile-an-hour-on-a-gravel-road vibe. Their sound is the unadulterated hard stuff, infused with a bit of the blues and a savvy appreciation for rap. A very impressive debut.

**Charlie Robison:**
*Good Times* [Dualtone]
Charlie Robison has released a string of fine albums since 1996, and, as it should be with any serious artist, his most recent record is his best record. Anyone who's enamored of genuine Texas honky-tonk music should be a Charlie Robison fan, and should certainly be in possession of *Good Times*. Give this CD a test drive, and be sure to cue up "El Cerrito Place," "Photograph," and "New Year's Day."

**Hot Club of Cowtown:**
*Continental Stomp* [Hightone]
Produced by Lloyd Maines and recorded live at the Continental Club in Austin, this album swings mercilessly. Elana Fremerman is the reigning goddess of the fiddle, and Whit Smith is her match on guitar. Hot Club is working the terrain between the Hot Club of Paris and Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys, with a little Tin Pan Alley on the side, and they're very good at what they do. *Continental Stomp* is the next best thing to sitting in the audience when Hot Club takes the stage.

**Charlie Robison**
*Por Vida: A Tribute to the Songs of Alejandro Escovedo* [Or Music]
Lucinda Williams, Tres Chicas, Steve Earle, Son Volt, Rosie Flores, among many others, got together and recorded Alejandro Escovedo tunes as a way to help defray Escovedo's medical expenses. It was all good. Escovedo obtained more than a little help from his friends, and we got a fabulous double-CD. If there was any doubt as to Escovedo's brilliance as a songwriter, this album killed that notion dead.

The Gourds:
*Blood of the Ram* [Eleven Thirty Records]
The Gourds are past masters of musical eclecticism, and *Blood of the Ram* is their latest effort to underscore their nonconformist sound for those hip enough to listen. What we're hearing on this record is a band that crunches musical genres with gusto, drawing astutely from the deep well of roots music, then welding lyrics to that music that often relate rather peculiar experiences and perceptions. Add to this dynamic the songs of guitarist/vocalist Kevin Russell, which often challenge the listener's normal cognitive processes and, in doing so, are endlessly intriguing.

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The new Center for Interdisciplinary Engineering, Medicine and Applied Sciences at Duke University's Pratt School of Engineering has been named for Duke alumni Michael and Patty Fitzpatrick, who have provided substantial support to a variety of Duke programs, particularly to the Pratt School. The $97 million, 322,000 square-foot Fitzpatrick Center was recently dedicated at Duke. A new design of the website www.tasteofdurham.org has been launched to support the mission of The Community Chest Inc. and the premier Taste of Durham Festival scheduled for May 28th, 2005. The theme for the first festival is "Celebrating the Good Life" with international food, music, and cultural arts and entertainment. The Raleigh Ringers, an internationally acclaimed community handbell group, will hold auditions for its 2005 season in mid-January 2005. All ringing positions are open. If interested, contact Music Director David M Harris at rringer@rr.org or 919-847-7574. MerleFest 2005 will again hold the annual Chris Austin Songwriting Contest. To enter, obtain an entry form by calling 800-799-3838 or visiting www.merlefest.org or enter online at www.sonicbids.com/chrisaustinsongcontest. Send form, entry fee of $25 and an audiotape or compact disc by March 18 to Chris Austin Songwriting Contest, Box 121855, Nashville, TN 37212. State Senator Tony Rand of Cumberland County recently was awarded the Library Champion Award for 2004 from NC Public Library Director's Association. Television personality Bob Barker has donated $1 million to Duke Law School to create the Bob Barker Endowment Fund for the Study of Animal Rights Law. The Barker fund will support teaching in this field, including opportunity for students to work on cases involving compliance with state animal cruelty laws & other forms of animal rights advocacy. NC State University's Spring 2005 Distance Education registration is now open to all students, faculty and staff through the office of NC State Distance Education. These programs enable students to enroll in college-credit courses online over the Internet, on CD ROM, through VCR tapes or on Raleigh Colleges Education Channel (channel 18). For information about registration and a list of course offerings, go to http://distance.ncsu.edu/registration, or call NC State Office of Credit Programs and Summer Sessions at 919-515-2265. Dr. Jonathan M. Hess, professor of Germanic languages and director of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill, has received international recognition for his book Germans, Jews and the Claims of Modernity. The Modern Language Association awarded the book honorable mention for the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Studies in Germanic Languages and Literature. The Foundation of Hope for Research and Treatment of Mental Illness recently announced that walkers, runners and volunteers at the 16th Thad and Alice Eure Walk for Hope in October raised over $405,000, the 10K event's greatest total revenue to date. For more information on the walk, go to www.walkforhope.com and mark your calendars for the 17th Walk on October 9, 2005. MCNC recently hosted the 20th annual North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) Community Day in Research Triangle Park. Former NC Gov. Jim Hunt was the keynote speaker. NCREN delivers Internet, video, audio and computing services to all of North Carolina's public universities and most of the state's private universities and colleges. Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP, has opened a new office in the Raleigh/Durham/Research Triangle Park area. This is the Atlanta-based firm's fifth city location, and its second in North Carolina. Four years ago the firm opened its Charlotte office, which recently moved to larger quarters to accommodate its growth. Americans for Legal Immigration PAC or ALIPAC, based out of Raleigh is a national Political Action Committee designed to endorse and fund candidates for US Congress and Senate that are dedicated to enforcing our existing immigration laws. Duke University's Pratt School of Engineering, in collaboration with RTI International, has launched a new program designed to identify, evaluate and bring research products to market. Unlike traditional technology transfer processes, the new program, named TechEval, pairs researchers with experienced business leaders and students from the Masters of Engineering Management (MEM) program at Duke who then evaluate the technology in a practical, real-world environment.
I stopped for gas near Smithfield on a crisp day recently and noticed that the dominant clientele were Chinese, which set me to thinking. The next big thing for the US is China, but not necessarily whether or not there will be global confrontation with the ancient culture of the Middle Kingdom and America, but the reality that Chinese immigrants are steadily coming our way. Those I saw in the gas station grocery are here to work in a textile factory, but the region’s largest employer, IBM, has sold its laptop business located at Research Triangle Park to a Chinese global computer maker. The Chinese are coming, and soon.

My first thought: to accommodate the newcomers, are we to publish signs in English and Chinese as we now do for English and Spanish? Will we be asked to hit option #2 for service in Chinese? Will English be taught as a “second language” for Chinese school kids?

We opened the Pandora’s box of special treatment for Hispanic immigrants over the dozens of other groups that have moved to America, elevating their status and diminishing our pride in our own language. Why did we do this, and what do we next now that we have allowed a cadre of education activists to institute the concept that our language, English, should not be required for citizenship?

Here’s my theory. In 1968 Robert Kennedy ran for president as a liberal Democrat, defined back then by opposition to the war in Vietnam and a commitment to overcome racism against black Americans. Behind him rallied a large portion of the hard Left, members of the Movement, mostly campus radicals who hated America (they spelled it “Amerika” to connote a Germanic fascist regime) and sought a “Revolution” to align the US with the one-world concept of government.

This group was pro-union as a matter of natural course as they saw business owners as “capitalist pigs” and sought to elevate the working class to the “vanguard elite” proletariat that would lead the nation to our own American style of socialism, modeled after their heroes in the Soviet Union. “Power to the people” and “Down with Amerika” were the clarion calls. America, they hollered, was run by an international cabal of capitalists, and war, intolerance and racism were the result.

In this charged atmosphere, Bobby Kennedy toured the country seeking the Democrat nomination, a departure from his early days as a firm anti-communist and a turbulent scourge of corrupt union activity. After the death of his brother John, and knowing that he had perhaps been a cause of the assassination due to his hard line against union leaders (most notably Jimmy Hoffa of the Teamsters)—who had delivered Illinois and West Virginia to JFK by unseemly methods—and were then attacked after the election, Bobby became a convert to the Left.

It was in California, where he was later murdered, that he came under the thrall of Caesar Chavez, leader of the grape pickers union. Suddenly, according to the RFK campaign, America was not just guilty of black racism but now responsible for exploiting Hispanic agricultural workers. This was a natural for the campaign activists who could now steer their rhetoric to concentrate on exploitation of the workers, fitting nicely into the Soviet directed world-wide effort to destroy capitalism.

Thus Mexican and other Latino immigrants, legal and illegal, were thrust to the top of the agenda, their trials covered daily in the press and Chavez deified into a trusted savant whose every word became sacred to the Kennedy campaign. Now the fellow traveling activists had what they wanted: actual workers seemingly trampled by the capitalist state. Twinned with the exploitation of black Americans, the potency of the Revolution was palpable—and a Kennedy was leading the charge.

RFK was shot and his campaign dissipated, but the attachment of the Left to Hispanics and the “teachings” of Caesar Chavez became inculcated into the blueprint of the members of the Movement, who continued to labor to make Latino immigrants a special class of the victimized, right in there with blacks, women and gays.

They strives to show “Amerika” that its European roots and English language, the spoken word of “Imperialists,” does not dominate. Ironically, now that the world has adopted English as the lingua franca of communication among nations—a necessary tool for economic advancement—these same activists have blocked efforts to make it the official language of the United States. The rest of us sit back in wonder that our cherished language is denigrated in our own country due to the antics of a handful of righteous and deranged anti-American monks who defended the Soviet model and still hate their own country.

Nearly 40 years later their labors remain imprinted in the American system. His-
panic causes are championed in every facet of government largesse. But the singular victory above all others is the creation of a bilingual America. In a nation comprising dozens of cultures, Spanish is given special status, even at the expense of English. I wonder what the Chinese moving here must think.

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

Readers of this column will remember my prediction that soon we will be darting and thrusting through phalanxes of wild animals in suburban America. The “deep” environmental crackpots, relying on junk science and the dangerous notion that human population growth is dangerous and impedes the existence of our animal friends, have “protected” just about any creature in nature, often at the expense of mankind. One example is the dwarf wedge mussel, a microscopic organism plentifully found near lakes and rivers that has held up the much-needed bypass around Clayton on Highway 70 east of Raleigh for seven years. Or consider that deer are now the number one cause of death on US highways, that sharks are now protected, the gray wolf is being re-introduced into Eastern North Carolina, alligators are free to roam around the lower Southeastern coastal regions at their pleasure and the noisy woodpecker tells the Army what to do at Fort Bragg.

Now comes news that the coyotes are lurking about the state, including the Triangle area. At least for now they are classified as a nuisance and are not protected—yet. They are mostly nocturnal and hunt small animals, but, as a family in North Raleigh reported, they can tear down a rabbit hutch and make off with the family pet with little effort. “It makes us very nervous about children being outside. If a coyote could come in and get a rabbit, it could get a child too,” said a Lead Mine Road mother.

So what do you do to protect your pets and children from coyotes? A pamphlet by the NC State Cooperative Extension Service suggests “keeping donkeys and llamas, which can be aggressive toward coyotes.” I guess they forgot that humans can’t keep large animals in the City or shoot predators prowling in the yard. But humans don’t count for much anymore.

I’m sure George Bush can’t wait to rid himself of Secretary of State Colin Powell, the reluctant warrior who was quoted often by John Kerry and John Edwards to communicate their campaign platform against Powell’s boss. According to Fox commentator Fred Barnes, writing in the Weekly Standard, “Powell was at odds with the president on Iraq, Israel and the Palestinians, the pursuit of democracy in the Middle East and Arab countries, Iran, North Korea, and who knows what else.”

But here is the kicker: “Powell allowed at least one senior official to tell European counterparts they should wait for John Kerry to be elected. Then policies they and the American official premier would be put in place.” Add treason to Powell’s record of cowardice and deceit.

Have you noticed that our TV “meteorologists” can’t get the weather right even with Doppler radar and all sorts of high-tech equipment and graphics? I have a simple solution. Have them use the business model of reporting performance compared to the same period last year or to the budget. Under this scenario, the next evening they report what they predicted compared to the actual weather we experienced. This format could lead to a little modesty and cease the reference to the actions of nature as “my forecast.”

Now for my Man of the Year for 2004. Last year I chose President George Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair. This year it’s Bill Cosby, who finally looked his fellow black Americans straight in the eye and let them know that blaming white people is not the answer to their problems. He also pointed out the problems he sees: rude behavior in public, misusing the language, abusing opportunities for education and committing crime far out of proportion to their percentage of the population. It is indeed high time that the black leadership ceases exploiting white guilt and addresses the facts of the matter. The illegitimacy rate among blacks is an unbelievable 70 percent; the education gap is severe and the violent crime issue cripples the public peace.

Bill Cosby is why America is great: the unexpected hero.
A beautiful smile is one that is both healthy and attractive. It can be considered the ultimate essential. Today there is technology to solve just about any smile problem. But, to create a smile that is both healthy, attractive and long-lasting, it takes more than just technology.

What is missing? An Accredited Member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, Steven B. Andreaus, DDS and the Five Points Center for Aesthetic Dentistry. Dr. Andreaus brings the eye of a skilled artist and experience of a journeyman to the field of aesthetic and restorative dentistry. He is the only dentist in the Triangle to be accredited by the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD), and one of less than 240 accredited cosmetic dentists in the world. Dr. Andreaus and his staff use the latest technology and treatment, while offering every convenience to assure you that your visits with his office are pleasant, unhurried and comfortable.

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