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Apricots, glorious and emotional, April personifies the height of passion during the calendar year. Love is in the air, along with allergies and sudden swings in the weather. Fortunately around here, our reputation for beautiful women takes center stage as winter blues give way to spring colors. Southern beauties and new arrivals blossom like dogwoods and azaleas, providing a perpetual canvas of beauty. And girls old and young with brains and beauty await this issue to see what Molly Fulghum Heintz — Metro’s Raleigh girl in New York City — has to say in our annual Spring Fashion special report before choosing their unique look for the season. And Alison Teer adds the local angle, ensuring complete coverage for this seminal season for the fairer sex. For you guys, too, there are suggestions to make your sartorial presence noticed and appreciated.

Then there’s golf. Some may still turn their thoughts to baseball in April, but heading out to the links reigns supreme here, the home of golf in America. Metro golf gurus Jim Hughes and Dave Droschak researched and listed the best courses in the state, categorized by type — residential, community, private, fee and toughness — and “enjoyability,” an important consideration when investing half a day to chase the little white ball.

And our female golf analyst, Linda Russell, returns to our pages with observations on the major changes on the LPGA Tour as formerly dowdy lady golfers are replaced by hot young girls in sexy attire. TV ratings are up and Linda knows why.

We Southerners love continuity, especially when it comes to homes and land. Near Hillsborough, Diane Lea discovers the charms of Chatwood, an estate with a genuine pedigree and enchanting gardens, preserved and tended with loving care. Also in Design, take a look at information on the Hillsborough Garden Tour and the Junior League of Raleigh’s Showcase of Kitchens — and check out the listing of garden tours in this month’s Preview section.

This month we present one of our two annual Social Calendar sections to assist you in supporting area nonprofits. Louis St. Lewis delves into the spiritual side of art; Jim Leutze finds a large coastal home built for efficiency; Carroll Leggett joins forces with Civil War re-enactors in historic New Bern; Philip van Vleck praises the unique and African-influenced music of Asheville’s Toubab Krewe; Art Taylor reminds us that spring also means a crop of new fiction; non-fiction editor Arch T. Allen reviews recent books that define the role of the South in national politics; and Mary Ward Younger has taken the reins of Metro’s Preview calendar section just when things are really popping with springtime events from the Triangle to the coast.

And while you are out and about these balmy April days and nights, food editor Moreton Neal suggests you visit the new Herons restaurant in the snazzy Umstead Hotel in Cary — and Barbara Ensrud discovers that wine lists at area eateries are reaching a new pinnacle of sophistication.

We have revamped the Metro Web site so check it out at www.metronc.com and try out my column “Between Issues,” designed for those who can’t wait for “My Usual Charming Self” each month. The site is receiving 890,000 hits a month, so we must be doing something right.

We’ll be back in May with another installment of Southern Style and the kick-off of added summer coverage of the Inner and Outer Banks of North Carolina.

—Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher
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DEFENDING NEW JERSEY

Your Secrets of State collection in the March 2007 issue contains some thoughts about the "soul" of Raleigh. The writer, Liza Roberts, maintains that the no-soul complaints are said to be the fault of the transplants from "mediocre spots" like New Jersey, Ohio and Connecticut.

There's a broad-brush slam in this indictment, but it's that word "mediocre" that sticks. The Webster Dictionary here at hand says it means "of low quality, undistinguished." I can't speak for Ohio or Connecticut (although I was born in one and have delighted in the charms of the other), but this writer's inclusion of New Jersey under her broad-brush prompted both eyebrows to be raised.

A per capita income that's right at or near the top of our country's list should be more than five minutes trying to guard him. One time he faked me so badly, I fell down — not that I was very coordinated.

I remember the old Sir Walter Hotel mentioned in the "My Usual Charming Self" column, and the cast of characters Carroll Leggett refers to in his column from my father's days in the Legislature. I was disappointed you left out NC Supreme Court Chief Justice Susie Sharp, who also lived at the Sir Walter. Judge Sharp was the first woman elected to a State Supreme Court and the only woman Chief Justice in the US at the time.

Michael R. Ragsdale
Morehead City
described as mediocre? The place where the swing battle of the Revolution routed both the British and their paid buddies from Germany? The vast farms that created the slogan the Garden State? The place from whence came two Yankees who helped settle and build this hometown of mine, which was the first colonial capital of this colony, and who later, respectfully, signed the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution? The list could go on and on.

I suspect that most of us transplants who discovered North Carolina over the years are happy we did and are doing what we can to make it better, just as our forefathers did. But we don’t make a practice of erroneously slamming our former ZIP code.

Livy Goodman
Edenton

COCKTAIL MISSION

For years I have torn out the restaurant section of Metro magazine and refer to it whenever I want a night on the town, hot spot to entertain or just to stay informed as to the latest and greatest eateries and wineries in this neck of the woods.

This month brought an even bigger smile, 10 great cocktails from area restaurants. I consider my personal mission in life to go to each one of these establishments and try each one of these drinks. Kudos to this idea, and I will get back to you at the end of my journey.

Maybe I will have a few more for your list.

Of course, writer Diane Lea and photographer Kinsley Dey did yet another smashing job on the Hayes Barton home.

Sandra Simpson
Holly Springs, NC

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ECU Marks 100 Years
East Carolina University celebrated its 100th birthday March 8 with recognition by the North Carolina General Assembly in a special Joint Session at the ECU campus, dedication of the Trustees Fountain in front of Wright Auditorium, performances by the ECU Jazz Ensemble and Gospel Choir, awards for service to the University, a commemorative Pepsi can, a donation of $1 million and a forum on the importance of service. More celebrations will come in the next two and a half years leading up to Oct. 5, 2009, commemorating the first day students arrived on campus.

Lawmakers noted ECU’s plans for a dental school to ease the shortage of dentists in rural areas, and University of North Carolina President Erskine Bowles expressed his continued support and his excitement for the accomplishments of the University in its first 100 years.

“it is truly phenomenal to see the return on the vision and the foresight that a small fledging teachers-training school could become a research university,” Bowles said. “Right here in the middle of tobacco country, to build a world-class medical facility is remarkable.”

Barbara Goodman Honored
Community leader Barbara Goodman was honored March 28 at the RBC Center for her role in the founding of The Healing Place of Wake County, the rescue, recovery and rehabilitation facility for homeless men and women with drug and alcohol dependency. Opened in 2001 with founding support from Fred Barber and Maria Spaulding, the home added a women’s facility in 2006.

Today, The Healing Place offers several programs to the over 1000 homeless people of Wake County with services ranging from an overnight emergency shelter to an off-the-street motivational program. With a greater than 70 percent success rate, The Healing Place offers an alternative course for victims of drug and alcohol addiction.

The gala featured entertainment from the North Carolina School of the Arts Jazz Band, the Fletcher Opera Theatre, Chuck Davis & the African American Dance Ensemble, Broadway and television star Roz Ryan, country singer Larry Gatlin, Raleigh-native and Tony Award-winner Beth Leavel, inspirational singer Ester Nicholson and Mrs. North Carolina Staci Wallace.

Moving Midway Premiere Set
The highly anticipated film Moving Midway, the story of a Southern plantation in transit, premieres Saturday, April 14, in the Durham Civic Center as part of the documentary competition of the 2007 Full Frame Documentary Film Festival set for April 12-15. Written and directed by Raleigh-born and New York City-based film critic Godfrey Cheshire, Moving Midway offers drama on several levels, including the actual move of Raleigh’s historic Midway Plantation from its original site, the reaction of family members, the evolution of the “Plantation Myth” in American popular culture and the migra-
tion of black slaves from plantation life to freedom — with several surprises about the relationship between slave-owners and slaves.

While the physical transit of the plantation offers drama and excitement, *Moving Midway* has received advanced praise for its human story and revelatory narrative about the antebellum and modern South. Cheshire and crew capture the essence of the age-old questions: What exactly is the South, and does being Southern have any relevance in today’s world? What do the descendants of slaves think of their status then and now? And what common ground exists in modern society in the South?

In this entertaining story with surprises at every turn, humor joins history and ghosts from the past — both figurative and literal — in an informative drama that keeps audiences enthralled. Go to www.fullframefest.org or call 919-687-4100 for information and tickets. You can visit the film’s Web site at www.moving-midway.com.

**Raleigh Spy Event Set for 2008**

The Raleigh International Spy Conference has been postponed from August 2007 to an unspecified date in 2008 due to the need to change locations and to provide extra time to plan for the event’s fifth anniversary, according to conference founder Bernie Reeves.

“The premise that history is in the midst of a major re-write based on the flow of new declassified material has made the Raleigh Spy Conference the best-known event of its type in the world,” says Reeves. “Each year we have attracted the top experts to Raleigh to discuss Cold War espionage; the connection of intelligence to the war on terror; the scholarship of the Cold War era — from McCarthy to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the effect of Soviet propaganda on American academia; and in 2006, the very timely topic: Castro and the future of Cuba that was picked up and broadcast on C-SPAN-TV.”

Speakers at the conference have included UK intelligence scholar and official historian of MI5 Christopher Andrew; former KGB Maj. Gen. Oleg Kalugin — a bitter enemy of Vladimir Putin; the wrong man in the Robert Hanssen spy probe, Brian Kelley, now retired from the CIA; Bruce Hoffman of RAND Corporation, the acknowledged expert on al-Qaeda; the top researcher on suicide bombers Kim Cragin; Nigel West, one of the most prolific writers on Cold War espionage; Ronald Radosh, the expert on Hollywood communists; Harvey Klehr and John Earl Haynes — authors of the
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semiannual book on the Left in academia, In Denial; former FBI agent IC Smith on the looming threat of China; Cuba expert Brian Latell on the rise of Raúl Castro; top science and technology intelligence officer Gene Poteat on the Cuban Missile Crisis; and other informative speakers that have kept the Raleigh Spy Conference in the forefront of intelligence revelations.

Adds Reeves: “We are unique. We think the public is interested in the real story behind recent history and current events. Intelligence is the key to understanding the world today.”

Go to www.raleighspyconference.com for more on the conference and for updates about the fifth anniversary event planned for 2008.

Umstead Offers Afternoon Tea
Cary’s new Umstead Hotel and Spa is now offering Afternoon Tea — Southern style, with culinary offerings by Chef Phil Evans and Pastry Chef Daniel Benjamin, arranged by Food & Beverage Director Patrick Kemmache, who collaborated with tea experts to pair outstanding loose-leaf teas with savory selections of mini sandwiches and tasty treats.

Afternoon Tea includes a sampling of mini buttermilk-chive biscuits with Johnston County country ham and jalapeño-strawberry preserves; house smoked salmon with dill and crème fraîche on pumpernickel; cornbread madeleines; and strawberries with Grand Marnier Chantilly cream. Selections include flavored and organic black teas, as well as oolong, green and herbal choices served in Villeroy & Boch China poured from silver tea services.

The Umstead Afternoon Tea is served Monday through Saturday from 2:30–4:00 p.m. in the hotel lobby.

Farmers Market to Open
The Moore Square Farmers Market, organized by the Downtown Raleigh Alli-

Temples and Tombs
Beginning April 15, the North Carolina Museum of Art presents a rare opportunity to see 85 masterworks and seldom-seen treasures in its first major exhibition of Egyptian art: Temples and Tombs: Treasures of Egyptian Art from The British Museum, organized by the American Federation of Arts and The British Museum. The exhibition explores four distinct themes: The King and the Temple; Objects from the Lives of Artists and Nobles; Statues of Egyptians from Temples and Tombs; and The Tomb, Death, and the Afterlife.

Temples and Tombs includes sculpture, relief, papyri, jewelry, cosmetic implements, and funerary items, and provides a rare look at more than 3000 years of Egyptian history, according to Mary Ellen Soles, curator of ancient art and an NCMA organizing co-curator of the exhibition.

Provenance unknown, Late Period, 26th Dynasty, reign of Psamtik II, Kneeling Figure of Nekhthorheb, 595–589 B.C., quartzite, H. 44 3/8 in., EA 1646, acquired in 1914, purchased from J. Backshall, formerly in the collections of H. T. Montresor and E. Coke, Trustees of The British Museum, Courtesy of the American Federation of Arts.
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ance to bring local growers and food artisans together to support and preserve family farms, will open for its second season on Wednesday, April 4. The market, located in downtown Raleigh on Moore Square, will be open Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. from April through October.

Whole Foods Market has agreed to be the main sponsor during the market season, but market organizers are seeking additional sponsors and vendors to add to the offerings of vegetables, fruits, pastured meats, fresh eggs, artisanal breads, organic products and offerings from North Carolina wineries on a rotating basis. Plans are also underway for a chefs’ demo series, educational programs and live music.

Contact Ellen Fragola at ellenfragola@downtownraleigh.org or 919-832-1231 to request an application, or visit www.godowntownraleigh.com/FarmersMarket.

Cherokee Wins National Green Award

With its National Homebuilder Mainstream GreenHome™ gaining attention nationwide, Raleigh-based Cherokee Investment Partners was honored at the 2007 National Association of Home Builders’ (NAHB) Green Building Conference with the National Group Advocate of the Year award, recognizing the company’s efforts to bring green building concepts to the mainstream. Cherokee Chief Executive Officer and President Tom Darden was on hand to receive the award. For more information about project features for the Mainstream GreenHome, please visit www.mainstreamgreenhome.com.

Fired-Up Fundraising

Raleigh’s Gail Perry celebrated the launch of her book *Fired-Up Fundraising: Turn Board Passion Into Action* aimed at nonprofit chief executives and community board members. Published by John Wiley & Sons, the book examines the fundraising process and methods to raise money for nonprofit organizations. E-mail kate@gailperry.com for more information.

Big Hats Wanted For Derby Day

Place your bets now and make plans to attend the Mint Jubilee on Derby Day at McNair’s Country Acres, 2721 Dover Farm Road. The fundraiser is sponsored by The Jones Street Society for the Extra Special Super Kids Foundation from 2-7 p.m. May 5. Tickets are $40 in advance and $50 at the door and include barbecue — courtesy of Wilber’s of Goldsboro — beer, wine and mint juleps. Founded by former NC Attorney General and Secretary of State Rufus Edmisten, the Foundation supports children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

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MetroStyle

Spring Fashion
by Molly Fulghum Heintz

T.G.I.S! And Fashion Takes Note With Fresh Colors and Clean Cuts

Three cheers for springtime! Just as winter becomes totally tedious and you’re in danger of overdosing on hot chocolate, Daylight Savings Time goes into effect earlier than usual, the extra hour of sunlight luring us out of hibernation. This year’s spring fashions also offer an appealing wake-up call: extra fresh colors and clean cuts radiate a determined optimism.
WHITE HOT

White usually belongs to high summer, a color to be worn with a tan and sandals. No longer! Spring fashions usher in a wave of white, and even those with Snow White complexions will be partaking: Alberta Ferretti’s three-quarter-sleeve dress in vanilla sateen epitomizes the season's crisp simplicity; a bespoke mini dress by Chloe in cream colored silk-cotton seems almost suitable for the office (but is probably better left to Saturday brunch); and Theory's pretty and versatile white embroidered blouse feels timeless yet utterly current. White is paired with black for the ultimate crisp combo, as in Chanel’s '60s-inspired shifts, or Generra’s cool printed tunic with a new take on the keyhole neckline. Ralph Lauren’s spring collection is exclusively black and white — aside from shimmering metallic silver for evening.

But things aren't all chiaroscuro. Bold solids play a key role this season, especially the primaries. Pure red, blue and yellow recall the fearless '80s. Prada’s...
tiered belted trench in red silk faille is the coat of the season. And Zac Posen's red evening gown with a plunging neckline and pink sash evokes the colorful birds of the tropics, as does Valentino's canary colored cotton-silk faille skirt with a rosette at the hip. Proenza Schouler's double-breasted cotton jacket in yellow enlivens any outfit. A bright blue cotton mini dress by Stella McCartney with a halter-style neckline and matching sash is guaranteed to stop traffic. And don't forget green fashion. Not the color, but the eco-friendly designs that are becoming an ever-larger percentage of fashion offerings. (More on that next month!)
METROSTYLE SPRING FASHION

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The season's assertive color scheme is given a little levity by patterns, including polka-dots, animal prints and checks. But it's florals that steal the show, with some flowers even popping off the fabric to inhabit the third dimension. Oscar de la Renta's red poppy print cap-sleeve dress is undeniably cheerful; 3.1 Phillip Lim showed pants with rosettes at the cummerbund-style waist; and a Rodarte shift is a fashion-forward confection of applied pink silk flowers.
Flattering Your Figure: And Tips From Area Fashion Retailers by Alison Teer

Season after season we look to New York, Milan and Paris and fashionista locales in between to help dictate the trends and styles we’ll see in local boutiques and department stores. Trends range from glamorous, grungy, feminine, masculine, slimming and unflattering. What is certain, no matter the season or trend du jour, wearing styles, colors and shapes that flatter your figure always keeps you in style.

With that in mind, we’ve asked the experts to weigh in on their must-haves for spring. With the variety of selections, there is certain to be a trend perfect for everyone.

For you men, add some color to your spring and summer basics and you’ll be set to go. Lee Costa of Noman Stockton says, “suits are always in style,” but also added some key recommendations for the gentlemen: Knit shirts and shorts from Peter Millar and Bobby Jones are key for a casual look, and in the evening add a lightweight cashmere sweater from Peter Millar — available in the season’s brightest colors. Headed to the beach? Don’t miss the Vineyard Vines trunk show at Nowell’s, April 9-14. The entire men’s and women’s summer line will be offered — but the quick drying swim trunks for men are a must.

Saks Fifth Avenue also has recommendations for the men in our lives. For spring, they are showing the navy blazer, white jeans, dressed up shorts, seersucker short-sleeve shirts and sporty sunglasses.

For the ladies, “it’s the year of the dress,” says Susan Nichols, regional visual coordinator for Belk. Mariah Harrell of Fine Feathers agrees, recommending “soft, feminine dresses” for spring and summer. With the season’s fitted or flowing shapes, bold and quiet colors and short and longer styles — the perfect dress is out there for everyone.

Other must-haves for the season? Nichols recommends the pencil shirt, tunic blouse, wedge shoe and a great over-sized handbag. Harrell says, cool, breathable fabrics in fun colors are popular this spring and summer and “add color to casual sportswear, but black, white and taupe bring sophistication.”

Finally, beauty expert Fiquet Bailey, owner or Luxe Apothecary in Raleigh’s North Hills can keep your skin glowing. To make skin even and healthy, Bailey recommends BECCA Cosmetics’ Shimmering Skin Perfector.

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SHAPE SHIFTERS

Skirts remain short for spring, so start practicing your lunges now. A number of designers even decided to forego the skirt altogether for high-waist hot pants, a look that is probably destined to remain on the runway or in the clubs of Miami Beach. Proper pants, however, take on a more generous silhouette. Waists are moving up, up, up in general (so long, bellybuttons!) and wider legs prevail. This trend extends to the realm of denim, as well: Seven For All Mankind’s “Ginger” jean has a luxurious leg that has become the new favorite of celebs like Liv Tyler. Create an instant high-waist look by wearing a baby-doll top with pants.
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or try belting a blouse higher up on the torso.

Dresses are a spring staple, both the baby-doll silhouette with its *au courant* high waist and the ’60s-style shift. Byzantine meets Mod in Gucci’s white shift, heavily embroidered with metallic beads and threads. “The Veronique” by Tory Burch, a blue and white embroidered dress with an abstract floral pattern, will look graphically great at any springtime mixer. The shift perfectly captures the season’s vibe: a balance between relaxed and shapely. Structure is the building block of other pieces, but then recedes into the background, as with slouchy necklines and drawstring hemlines. While fabrics
**Fashion News**

**Monkee's of Raleigh** announces the opening of their new location in North Hills across from Starbucks. Raleigh, 919.785.1400

**Vermillion** will host a Charles Chang-Lima trunk show April 10-11 featuring chic, sophisticated clothing for fall. North Hills, Raleigh, 919.787.9780

Events at **Main & Taylor** this month include a Van Eli, Rangoni, Sesto Meucci spring/summer trunk show on April 13, as well as a Cole Haan spring/summer trunk show April 20 and 21. A fall Stuart Weitzman trunk show will be held April 26-28. Cameron Village, Raleigh, 919.821.1556

**Elaine Miller Collection** will host an Elizabeth Locke trunk show on April 24. North Hills, Raleigh, 919.571.8888

**Bobbi Brown**, founder of the well-known cosmetic line, has written a new book, *Living Beauty*, which gives women over 40 make-up instructions and other health tips to take years off their faces. Her new spring line has been developed to revive the appearance of skin and brighten the face for an effect she calls the "Makeup Face Lift." Available at local Belk, Nordstrom and Saks Fifth Avenue locations.

**Southern Proper**, a southern inspired line of neckties, bowties and accessories announces new colors and patterns just in time for spring and an idea for Father's Day gifts. Available in over 50 fine men's stores throughout the country and at www.southernproper.com.

**CT Weekends** will participate in the Spring for a Cure event at the Raleigh Racquet Club April 24 to benefit the Sisko Foundation in the fight against breast cancer. For more info, visit www.siskofoundation.org.

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this season typically have some heft, there is also plenty of gauzy mousseline and organza, especially for eveningwear. The silk chiffon gowns by J. Mendel are fabulously foamy. And don't shy away from sequins or pailletes: Hussein Chalayan's black silk organza dress has a layer of chain mail incorporating Swarovski crystals, creating the dazzling effect of emerging from a treasure chest.
BOOK HIM

Men, no sparkles for you this season, but you can find a certain degree of sheen if you’re looking. Dolce & Gabbana’s NASA-like track suit certainly makes a shiny statement, but Emporio Armani’s silk blazer is a more practical way to reflect the trend. Men’s styles for spring tend to the extremes of suiting or sporty, with stripes or checks supplementing both looks. But the easiest way to refresh your image for springtime may be with a new fragrance. Designer Paul Smith has just developed a men’s scent based on the smell of vintage books. Top notes of grapefruit, bergamot and green ivy give way to jasmine and green rose, with base notes of musk, mineral amber and cedar wood. So if not well-dressed, you can at least ... um, smell ... well-read.
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NORTH HILLS
INNIES AND OUTIES:
THOSE STRIKING YOUNG LADIES ON THE LPGA TOUR
by Linda Russell

As bellybuttons go, I think mine is kind of cute. But it's just that ... mine. I have no intentions of showing it off. It served its purpose when it attached me to my mother when I was a mere fetus in a uterus that I shared with my twin sister — and it fell off at the appointed time in infancy without leaving any protrusions. I'm an "inny."

Michelle Wie is an "inny," too, as are Natalie Gulbis, Paula Creamer and Annika Sorenstam, although Sorenstam usually has her shirt tucked in. Brittany Lincicome sports a ring in her navel. How do we know that?

We know that from watching the LPGA tournaments and reading Golf For Women, or rather, looking at the pictures. The wardrobe for female golfers has reached new lows and highs, literally. Golf skirts and shorts ride lower on the hips and higher on the thighs. Shirts are shorter, too, exposing the bellies of babes who swing golf clubs with abandon.

Perhaps Venus and Serena Williams set the precedent when they totally re-"vamped" tennis attire for women. Permission appears to have been implicitly granted for tennis professionals to wear backless, low-cut, revealing, spandex-enhanced outfits. They don jewelry around their necks and ears, and, overall, have generated a fashion trend that has influenced the golfing community. Our younger golfers decorate themselves with huge dangling earrings, bracelets, anklets, necklaces and belly button bling that enhance their otherwise minimalist outfits. But, if you watch them play golf, you’ll see that nothing, not giant jewelry nor clinging clothing, interferes with their games. They’re focused, dedicated and honed in on each shot.

Michelle Wie is better remembered for how she marketed herself and the LPGA, posing for magazines and a calendar for her sponsor, Dunlop, than for her golf game. She was ostracized by her peers at that time, unfortunately, but has gone on to enjoy business success and is currently embarking on the Women’s Senior Golf Tour.

Today, we have another Calendar Girl by the name of Natalie Gulbis. The mere mention of her name causes men to melt. They are mesmerized by her, and not entirely by her prowess on the golf course, but by her presence, her physical fitness and her perkiness. Her calendar, which was banned by the male-dominated USGA at the 2004 Women’s Open, had men drooling over her divots. When asked what they think of her, the uniform response is the Groucho Marx eyebrow thing. They envision a sexy blonde with short, short "skorts" topping long, long legs, a tiny waist with bare skin peeking out from under her hiked-up shirt and large bosoms that ... well, you get the picture.

Women, on the other hand, or at least yours truly, describe Gulbis as an athletic female with a long braided ponytail stragglng from a stylish baseball cap with a gift for the game. (If only I could do that head-dip thing, maybe I could drive 252 yards like she does.) We admire the control she has, commanding the ball to soar through the skies and follow the fairways. Yes, we agree that she is darling and that she has a compelling personality, but we view this golf icon from a different point of view. Or do we?
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STRIKING YOUNG WOMEN

Upon initially observing these girls/women in their “less is more” garb, I was stunned, maybe even offended, by the amount of skin being displayed. My old 1960s mentality that women shouldn’t use their womanly wiles to their advantage kicked in. But I overcame my neurotic, provincial way of thinking and, feeling a little guilty (thanks, Mom), have actually expressed OUT LOUD that I like their cheeky ways. I think the young golfers have given us permission, once again, to act like women, and to look like women on the golf course.

The difference in the styles of the previous golfing generation and the millennium generation is dramatic. No one from the era of Nancy Lopez, Laura Davies or even Juli Inkster could pull off the amount of clothing that the new group has, and “pull it off.” The younger golfers are physically fit and are also not afraid to flaunt their femininity. If you don’t believe me, just watch Gulbis’ TV show and see how hard she works out with her equally fit trainer. Of course, the show doesn’t let us see her sweating or anything as banal as that. She actually smiles while E-F Trainer postures over her and imposes a full body press on her flexed knee under the pretense of stretching her hamstrings. (Ha! Ha! Oops, I’ve lost my ‘train’ of thought here.)

Gulbis is only one of the many striking young women striking the ball on the LPGA tour. She and her contemporaries have heightened our interest in the tour by not only excelling at the game, but also by pushing the dress codes to the limit. While Sorenstam has taken the women’s game itself to a new level, these slightly younger players have elevated the LPGA to new attitudes and attitudes, exercising their freedom to be themselves. I predict great things for the future of the LPGA based on the talent of these new young professionals and the freshness they bring to the tour. (When is the USGA going to allow professional male golfers to wear shorts on the links so we can see THEIR legs?)

And just one more thing ... I am thankful these young golfers maintain a certain decorum and haven’t adopted the practice of their tennis compatriots who eructate those awful grunts with every swing.

Metro Ranks The Top Golf Courses in North Carolina

THE ENJOYABILITY FACTOR

by Jim Hughes and David Droschak

Mark Twain said most people wouldn’t know what love is unless they read about it. You could say the same thing about golfers. Most of us wouldn’t know what a great course is unless we’d read about it in a golf magazine.

Metro invited golf writers David Droschak and Jim Hughes — with advice from a few of their well-chosen friends — to give us the scoop on North Carolina’s best courses. They came back with not just one list, but several to cover the rich offerings in North Carolina. And their Best in State list is quite different from Golf Digest and other publications.

Naturally, we demanded they explain/defend their choices:

Jim Hughes: “This is an exercise that gets harder every year. Droschak’s been saying for years there are probably 25 or 30 Top 10 courses in North Carolina. And that number is getting bigger all the time.

“So we talked about the best way to rank the best courses and decided it comes down to just one thing: We call it The Enjoyability Factor. If God wouldn’t let you play but one course for the rest of your life, which one — day in and day out — would keep you coming back for more?

“Because that’s really the most important thing. It’s like Jimmy Demaret said in the best golf quote of all time: ‘Golf and sex are the only two things you don’t have to be good at to enjoy.

“We factored in all the other stuff — shot values, playability, aesthetics, setting, history, tradition. But basically we just looked at that one thing. And by that standard, our list was unlike all the others. Some of the names are the same, but the order definitely isn’t.

“Once we got our Best in State list, we realized a lot of outstanding courses never had a chance to make the grade. So we came up with six other categories — Best Places to Live (Classic and Modern), Best Fee Courses You Can Play, Best Places You Can Stay, Best on the Horizon, and Pure Golf.

“One more thing: You’ll note that Primland ranks number one in that last category, even though it’s 20 miles over the Virginia line. We say that’s an accident that goes back to William Byrd’s Dividing Line of 1733. So make the trip, shell out the $175 green fee, and if you don’t agree it’s the best pure golf experience you’ve ever had, we’ll pay for your year’s subscription to Metro Magazine.”

Best in State
1. Pinehurst No. 2 — Donald Ross, Pinehurst Resort
2. Old North State — Tom Fazio, Badin Lake
3. Grandfather Mountain — Ellis Maples, Linville
4. CCNC Dogwood — Ellis Maples, Pinehurst
5. Wade Hampton — Tom Fazio, Cashiers
6. Pinehurst No. 8 — Tom Fazio, Pinehurst Resort
7. Linville Golf Club — Donald Ross, Linville
8. Eagle Point — Tom Fazio, Wilmington
9. Old Chatham — Rees Jones, Durham
10. Landfall — Pete Dye, Wilmington
11. Longview — Jack Nicklaus, Charlotte
12. Elk River — Jack Nicklaus, Banner Elk
13. Pine Needles — Donald Ross, Pinehurst
15. Forest Creek — Tom Fazio, Pinehurst
16. Governors Club — Jack Nicklaus, Chapel Hill
17. Wakefield — Hale Irwin, Raleigh
18. River Landing — Clyde Johnson, Wallace

Classic Communities
1. Grandfather Mountain
2. CCNC Pinehurst
3. Charlotte Country Club
4. Old Town — Donald Ross, Winston-Salem

Metro Golf Section

APRIL 2007 METROMAGAZINE
5. Biltmore Forest – Donald Ross, Asheville
7. Hope Valley Country Club – Donald Ross, Durham
8. Cape Fear Country Club – Donald Ross, Wilmington
9. Greensboro Country Club – Donald Ross, Greensboro
10. Croasdaile Country Club – George Cobb, Durham
11. North Ridge Country Club – George Cobb/Gene Hamm (36 holes), Raleigh
13. Carolina Country Club – attributed to Donald Ross, Raleigh

Modern Communities
1. Old North State
2. Wade Hampton
3. Forest Creek
4. Landfall
5. Longview
6. Elk River
7. Governors Club
8. Wakefield
9. Prestonwood Country Club – Tom Jackson, Cary (54 holes)
10. Linville Ridge – George Cobb, Linville
11. Quail Hollow – George Cobb/Tom Fazio, Charlotte
13. Currituck Club – Rees Jones, Corolla

Best Fee Courses You Can Play
1. Tanglewood Park – Robert Trent Jones, Winston-Salem
2. Finley – Tom Fazio, Chapel Hill
3. Tobacco Road – Mike Strantz, Sanford
4. Bryan Park – George Cobb and Robert Trent Jones (36 holes), Greensboro
7. Mount Mitchell Golf Resort – Fred Hawtree, Burnsville
8. Crow Creek – Rick Robbins, Calabash
9. Anderson Creek – Davis Love, III, Spring Lake
11. The Preserve at Jordan Lake – Davis Love III, Chapel Hill
12. Keith Hills – Ellis Maples, Buies Creek

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4. Grandover – David Graham, Greensboro
5. Bald Head Island – George Cobb, Bald Head Island

Best on the Horizon
1. Hasentree – Tom Fazio, Raleigh
2. Laurelmor – Tom Kite, Boone
3. Queens Gap – Jack Nicklaus, Rutherfordton
4. Leopard’s Chase – Tim Cate,

Hasentree on Tour
Hasentree has earned a spot on the PGA Tour.
Professional golfer Carl Pettersson is carrying the Hasentree logo on his golf bag this year, and that could result in a lot of Sunday afternoon air time for the 953-acre luxury golf community.

Pettersson, a former NC State star and Raleigh resident, is a rising star on tour, earning $2.6 million last year, including a win at The Memorial. He had six top 10 finishes, including a tie for eighth at The British Open and The PLAYERS Championship.

The 29-year-old Pettersson is excited about affiliating with Hasentree. “I’m a big fan of Tom Fazio,” he said. “His courses will test you, but they’re also fun to play. And that’s going to be true at Hasentree. Plus, when you’re out on tour, it’s always nice to take a reminder of home with you everywhere you go.”

Pettersson learned some exciting news while playing in Hawaii in January: He and wife Deanna (a NC native) are expecting their second child later this year.

For the Love of Golf
Davis Love III can still be a force on the PGA Tour, but his mark on golf in the future will likely come from his skill as a golf course designer. He combined the two careers last year with a win at Forest Oaks in Greensboro, a course he re-designed in 2003.

Now Love and his brother Mark have been commissioned to build a new course in Kannapolis by David Murdock of Castle & Cooke, the brains and money behind the $1.3 billion North Carolina Research Campus.

The Love course is the centerpiece of an upscale golf community Murdock is creating to help attract top executives and scientists to the Research Campus. The course is expected to open by the end of 2007, about the same time as buildings from Core Lab, Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State.

The Love family roots run deep in North Carolina. Love and Mark grew up in Charlotte where their father was head pro at Charlotte Country Club. Both went to UNC-Chapel Hill where Love earned All-America Honors. Together, they’ve designed seven courses in the state, including The Preserve at Jordan Lake and Anderson Creek in Spring Lake.

Pinehurst No. 2 Turns 100
Happy Birthday, Pinehurst No. 2! Donald Ross’ best-known masterpiece turns 100 this year (are you listening, Willard Scott?). It’s universally acknowledged that playing No. 2 with a caddy remains one of the great experiences in golf. Even the high-handicapper can enjoy its timeless and singular beauty.

“Why haven’t the great artists painted another Mona Lisa?” said master architect Tom Fazio, who has called No. 2 “the best second-shot course in America.”

“Why did Picasso do what he did? Why didn’t Ross take all his other courses at Pinehurst and make them look like No. 2? He could have done it, but he didn’t do it. Why mess with a masterpiece?”

Today’s designers could learn much from the way Ross used sight lines, mounds, hollows and bunkers to create one of the game’s best tests of talent, skill and mental fortitude.

Ever since No. 2 hosted US Opens in 1999 and 2005, interest in Ross’ mastery has continued to grow — the grand old course will receive more national attention next year when it hosts the US Amateur.

Sweeter Than Scuppernong Wine?
The same team that developed the River Landing community in Wallace is moving across US Highway 41 to develop a new neighborhood called The Vineyards.

Murphy Family Ventures of Rose Hill has begun development of the 400-acre site, featuring 300 home sites grouped around large common areas of Scuppernong grape vineyards. The developers hope to play off the growing popularity of wine made from Duplin County Scuppernongs.

Though the details are still being worked out, residents of The Vineyards will have privileges at River Landing’s two Clyde Johnston golf courses, the resort-style swimming complex and fitness center, and the $12 million clubhouse now under construction.

With an average home price of $325,000, The Vineyards will add an estimated $100 million to the Duplin tax base, on top of the $350 million tax boost of River Landing.

First Tee
The TPC at Wakefield Plantation announces its second annual golf tournament on April 30. Proceeds will benefit The First Tee of Wake County, whose mission is to impact the lives of young people through golf. Sponsorships available, call 919-232-4503.
18 PREMIER OPPORTUNITIES TO GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS.

Along the beautiful Southern-style homes at the Wakefield Development community of 12 Oaks, you'll find a championship golf course designed by the Nicklaus Design Group. You'll also find swimming pools, parks, an clubhouse and other amenities. That's because we created 12 Oaks with careful attention to detail, to make sure your life here abounds with style and enjoyment. These are just a few of the reasons why the ideal community for spending time with friends and family—and perfecting your golf as well.

more information on 12 Oaks, call 919-622-3779 or go to www.metro.visit12oaks.com.

12 Oaks is Wakefield Development's newest signature community. Known for exceptional communities, such as Wakefield Plantation and Bedford at Falls River, Wakefield Development is creating 12 Oaks with the same quality and attention to detail. Become a founding family at 12 Oaks today, and enjoy quality for a lifetime.
Romantic Chatwood

HISTORICAL HOME SET IN ENCHANTING GARDENS

The spring light filters through ancient trees, warming meadows blanketed by wildflowers and gently awakened beds of roses, perennials, ferns and blossoming shrubs. From a knoll, a simple but dignified house overlooks this lovely, seemingly timeless setting. Is the scene a landscape by Monet, a visual idyll by Fragonard? No, it is a remarkable home and garden just outside the historic village of Hillsborough, located at a crossroads where rural vistas of mown hayfields, dairy barns and tidily fenced horse paddocks are still commonplace. The home is Chatwood, a unique combination of both a natural and a "made" landscape of garden rooms, some featuring heritage roses, and a varied complex of structures that were once associated with Faucette Mill, one of many grist mills that served the agrarian population of Orange County in the early to mid-1800s.

Chief among Chatwood structures is the coach house that served as the mill owner's house and a public house or tavern for travelers and farmers waiting for their grain to be ground at the mill. Featuring two front doors, one for the family and the other for the public, the house is cited by the National Register of Historic Places as perhaps the only surviving example of a rural antebellum inn associated with a mill in Orange County. Dating from around 1808, built as a replacement for a former house on the site, Chatwood is situated down a lane once part of the Great Road between Oxford and Salisbury.

But this story is about the successful effort by owners Rex and Ellen Adams to renovate the Chatwood residence and refurbish...
Chatwood is cited by the Garden Conservancy as having a unique relationship "among historic house to intimate garden to agrarian meadow."

This view is of Chatwood's Spring Meadow.
they overgrown and storm-struck gardens. And it is about the preservation of place, which is something more.

**DISAPPEARING VISTAS**

"We chose Chatwood when I was retiring from the position of Dean of Duke’s Fuqua School of Business," says Rex, a Duke graduate and former football player who returned to his alma mater after an executive career with Mobil Corporation. "The property appealed to me because the house looked like those authentic Southern country houses I had seen on rural farmsteads in my home state of West Virginia. They always seemed to disappear to be replaced by housing developments. I think Chatwood appealed to Ellen, who grew up in Montgomery, AL, for its gardens and for the charm and friendliness of nearby Hillsborough."

The Adamses were more prepared than most to become the owners of a historic house and what is considered a nationally significant garden. In 1993, shortly after the death of long-time Chatwood owner and garden designer Helen Blake Watkins, the newly formed New York-based Garden Conservancy considered purchasing the property and opening it as a public gar-

### HILLSBOROUGH GARDEN TOUR

By Diane Lea

The Alliance for Historic Hillsborough, an educational organization, which also assists other nonprofit entities in Hillsborough, is sponsoring the 2007 Spring Garden Tour to benefit the Alliance’s educational programs. The tour will be held Saturday, May 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 20, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This year's event includes a selection of Hillsborough’s most notable garden settings.

**PRIVATE GARDENS:**
- Chatwood Gardens — 1900 Faucette Mill Road, Ellen and Rex Adams
- Burnside — 201 S. Cameron St., Maureen Quilligan and Michael Malone
- Fulton Garden — 524 N. Occoneechee, Gloria Fulton
- Frogview Cottage — 121 E. Union St., Jim O’Donnell and Jesse Savage
- Ashe House Garden — 144 N. Wake St., Patricia and Max Preston
- Horseshoe in the Dogwood — St. Mary’s Road, Penny Rand

**PUBLIC SITES:**
- Helen’s Garden — 150 E. King St., Historic Alexander Dickson House
- Burwell School Historic Site — 319 N. Churton St.
- Orange County Historical Museum — 201 N. Churton St.

Several events will take place in town during the Garden Tour. The Burwell School will host the annual Plant Sale sponsored by the Hillsborough Garden Club, as well as an exhibition of botanical art by Ippy Patterson. Patterson and fellow artist Laura Frankstone will be at work in the garden. The Orange County Historical Museum will feature a garden-themed quilt exhibit. Fetch, a Churton Street emporium specializing in antique furnishings and garden art, will hold workshops on container gardening and giving a garden tea, and Muriel Williamson of the Hillsborough Wine Shop will conduct a composting workshop.

Tickets may be purchased in advance of the tour for $15 and for $20 the days of the tour. Check www.historichillsborough.org or call 919-732-7741 for sources of tickets and a calendar of events.
den. The Adamses lived in England, a hotbed of ardent gardeners, while Rex was a Rhodes Scholar attending Merton College, Oxford, and subsequently on assignment in London for Mobil. Then, upon returning to the United States, they purchased a historic house with a beautiful English perennial border in Rye, NY. Another move led them to build and landscape a contemporary home in Great Falls, VA, before coming to live in Chapel Hill and later Hillsborough during Rex's tenure with Duke. Ellen recalls her first experience with roses during her London sojourn, when she and Rex lived in an 1820 Georgian townhouse with a rose garden. "Our neighbor Rosanna James, herself the daughter of a master gardener, tutored me in rose culture," says Ellen.

In July 2001, when the Adamses acquired Chatwood, they were not daunted by the prospect of the typical old house and old land problems. They had more than the routine tasks facing them due to the need to clean up extensive damage left by Hurricane Fran in 1996, as well as damage incurred earlier in spring 2001.
The Great Room of Chatwood is actually a separate residence that was saved from destruction and seamed to the historic coach house.

when a freak band of mini tornadoes swept across Mebane and Hillsborough cutting right through the Chatwood property. "We had broken trees and snags on the hillside behind the house and a damaged water feature that had been designed by landscape designer Doug Ruhren and created of artificial stones," says Ellen. "The barn had taken a hit from a falling tree, and Mrs. Watkins' shade garden was now a sunny bare spot prominently in view of our sun room." Hillsborough restoration contractor John Shoneman brought the barn back to plumb, and reconstructed it with appropriate salvaged wood and added a strong metal roof, while Ellen went to work redesigning the former Woodland Garden with horticulturist Greg Piotrowski and landscaper David Beckett. "We added all the sun-loving plants that the Chatwood gardens had not been able to support," says Ellen. "Spirea, dianthus, numerous bulbs, styrax — even an apricot tree — live there now and make a wonderful forecourt for the repaired and now operable water feature."

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The Adamses made two additional adjustments to the gardens. The first was to open up the vista from the house to Watkins' beloved Spring Meadow, a view west toward the Eno River. The Sanctuary, where Watkins had long ago rooted clippings from heritage roses taken from old Hillsborough gardens, and the Secret Garden, where an antique bench offered a gardener's respite, had become crowded with overgrowth that blocked the view. "I was reading the notes from the 1993 report to the Garden Conservancy that characterized Chatwood as quintessentially rural and American, having as it did a unique relationship among 'historic house to intimate garden to agrarian meadow and hardwood forest,'" says Ellen. "I turned to Rex and said, 'Where is the relationship to the meadow?'" That led to the couple's careful and prolonged process of opening up the view from the house and upper gardens to the Spring Meadow. Rex selected and oversaw the transformation — removing overgrown trees, shrubby thickets and just plain brambles. As a result, the view west from the house at the end of the day is simply breathtaking.

A visit from the Garden Conservancy led to the second major landscape element created by the couple. "We opened the gardens for a Garden Conservancy benefit," says Ellen. "As we were touring the gardens with the Conservancy representative, he remarked that, though the perennial border against the outer wall of the Williamsburg rose garden was lovely, the slope downward from it was disconcerting. Like falling down Alice's rabbit hole," laughs Ellen. "His remark led us to commission the terracing of that slope to provide a level place for walking and enjoying the beautiful year-round border created by Raleigh garden designer Alicia Berry. The other advantage was having a place to set up a tent for large event entertaining, which we always have done and enjoy."

**THIS OLD HOUSE**

While the gardens and grounds were priorities for the new owners, Ellen was also turning her seasoned householder's hand to making the house livable. "The kitchen had been reconfigured from Mrs. Watkins' day to an efficient L-shape, but I noticed that Rex and I were always in the same corner." Ellen solved the problem by commissioning the installation of a separate coffee and wine bar located away from the deep copper farm-style sink and eight-burner gas cook-top. Made by Aventine, who finished the cabinetry throughout the kitchen, the coffee bar is of heart pine with counter and backsplash of rich earth-colored, hand-thrown pottery tiles. The selection of a round-top breakfast table made from a beautiful piece of wood taken from one of Chatwood's storm-damaged trees, and a Shaker-style, dove-tailed cupboard by noted Maine furniture-maker Thomas Moser, gives the Chatwood kitchen great warmth and style.

A particular asset for the kitchen is a former storeroom and half-bath that Ellen turned into a butler's pantry and laundry.
If you're looking for something you've seen before, may we suggest you turn the page.

Woodleaf prides itself by producing some of the world’s finest custom furniture. Like this small server with a quilted pattern of fiddleback makore inlays woven into cherry planking. Double conical solid mahogany leg turnings. And a fitted marble top. Can’t say you’ve seen that before.

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With floor-to-ceiling storage shelves and drawers. Again, Aventine’s use of mellow heart pine and finely detailed drawers and pulls makes the pantry a beautiful multi-purpose space.

Baths are always problematic when working within the footprint of eccentric historic homes, and Chatwood’s upstairs baths were no exception. A veteran of many houses, Ellen knew to call upon one of the Triangle’s favorite designers, Durham’s Rodney Ward, for help with the master bath and the guest room bath, both of which had to fit into defined spaces. For the master bath, Ward and Ellen moved back an entryway, opened up a beamed ceiling and rearranged all the fixtures. The selected pale gold marble for counters and the walls and floor of the glass-door shower cabinet blends nicely with the gleaming white porcelain of the pedestal tub and matching his-and-her country house standing sinks. Height was added to the guest room bath by opening up the ceiling to feature the home’s hand-pegged, timber-

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framed construction above the glass-walled shower cabinet. A veined white marble was chosen for the countertop of the handy vanity cupboard with a white porcelain rectangular wash basin placed above.

The simplicity of the house is its greatest asset, yet Chatwood perfectly accommodates many favorite furnishings and collections that the Adamses have acquired in a life together. Now a library and office for Rex, the former public room, like the rest of this interesting house, is sheathed in wide heart pine boards. A 1902 English

Junior League Presents
Raleigh Showcase of Kitchens

By Diane Lea

The Junior League of Raleigh Showcase of Kitchens will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, April 27-28, for a tour of area homes. The Showcase brings a new and exciting opportunity to tour some of the best designed residential kitchens in the Triangle. Knowledgeable commentators will be on hand to highlight and discuss special features, new equipment and dining trends during the self-guided tour. Patterned after similar successful events in Atlanta and New Orleans, the tour will benefit the League’s Center for Community Leadership.

Plan to participate in the kick-off event, Toast to the Tour!, Thursday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the showrooms of sponsor Ferguson Enterprises, 2700-A Yonkers Road, featuring cooking demonstrations by area chefs, live music and silent and live auctions of specialty items and services. Tickets for the pre-tour event are $60 per person or $100 per couple. Two-day tour tickets for the Showcase are $20 in advance and $25 on the day of the tour. Order tickets online or call 919-787-7480.
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The center hall, furnished with a drop-leaf Sheraton table, opens to both the library office and the home's dining room. An elegantly proportioned English pedestal table welcomes guests, and Ellen has added a 1790 sideboard featuring five different kinds of inlaid wood. "We found this on King's Road, in London, before King's Road became so well known," she notes. A card table made in 1926 in Michigan for Ellen's maternal grandmother seems right at home among its stylish neighbors. Above the mantel, an unusual John Beerman landscape of a stony northeastern beach partner's desk sits before the fireplace. "My mother sent us the money to buy a desk as a wedding gift when we were in London," remembers Rex. "At the time, large pieces like this were out of style as people weren't able to afford many luxuries, even 25 years after the end of World War II. So we got it for a good price and were able to ship it back." A Kittinger sideboard teams well with the desk, and an antique Sheraton arm chair nestsles against the room's built-in bookshelves added by some long-ago bookworm, perhaps Watkins.

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with boats was selected as a reminder of the Adams’ other favorite house, their summer cottage in Woods Hole, MA. “As if we didn’t have enough to do with old houses, the summer cottage, which is the family gathering place, dates from the 1920s and has a fairly elaborate garden of its own,” says Ellen with a wry smile.

Chatwood’s great room, which is actually the lower story of a separate house joined successfully to the earlier coach house, is perhaps the most enticing room in the house. Known historically as the Naile Johnson House, it was salvaged from ruin by the Vernon Alvater family, who owned and cared for Chatwood during the late 1930s and early 1940s. The Alvater family joined it to the original structure, and a screened porch off the room was later adapted as the home’s sun room. The room is spacious, yet made quite cozy by the heart pine sheathing on the walls and ceiling. A tall fireplace at the end of the room has been fitted with a reeded mantel similar to those found in many historic Hillsborough homes. Above it is displayed a Ben Berns landscape of Chatwood’s western vista across the Spring Meadow, which Rex and Ellen commissioned. A rug from Kazakhstan brings a brightly colored pattern to the room, which features many of Ellen’s furnishings in new upholstery. “We worked with Linda Allen, who did much of the decorating for the Hope Valley Country Club, to select new fabrics for our pieces, which have been with us a long time,” says Ellen. Adjacent to the great room, the slate-floored sunroom looks out over most of Chatwood’s remarkable gardens and the romantic lanai, which provides a favorite outdoor dining space in the balmy spring and fall seasons.

Chatwood is a nationally recognized historical treasure and a site that captures every visitor’s visual imagination. But far beyond that, Chatwood is that most prized of human desires — home. It holds its past intact while facing a new millennium with grace and beauty. That this remarkable house, set on a centuries old trading path, also honors the history of the land and our ancestors who worked and lived on it makes it a microcosm of what we all seek to preserve. 

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Beaufort Wine and Food Weekend opens with wine seminars, tastings, live music, celebrity chefs and related activities in historic Beaufort April 26-29. (See Preview Tours and Festivals for more information.)
APRIL SHOWER OF EVENTS

GALLERIES

HUSTLE & SHOW — FAHAMI PECOU: An exhibit designed to turn stereotypes of black masculinity on its ear and play with notions of fame, image and black masculinity, as well as fine art insider politics; Flanders Art Gallery, Raleigh; Thru April 12. Call 919-834-5044 or www.flandersartgallery.com.

FEAST YOUR EYES — WORKS BY TAMI CARDNELLA: Fifteen still-life oil paintings focusing on the love of food; Fountain-side Art Gallery, Wilmington; Thru April 15. Call 910-256-9956 or www.fountainsidegallery.com.


NANCY TUTTLE MAY STUDIO PRESENTS COLORS OF MID WINTER: Nancy Tuttle May Studio, 806 Ninth Street, Durham; Thru April 23. Contact 919-286-2097 or www.nancytuttlemay.com.

LYNN BOGGESS RECENT PAINTINGS: Tyndall Galleries at University Mall, Chapel Hill; April 3-May 12 (Opening Reception April 12). Contact 919-942-2290 or www.tyndallgalleries.com.

ARTWORK BY MANDY JOHNSON — FEATURED ARTIST FOR MATTIE KING DAVIS ART GALLERY AND BEAUFORT WINE AND FOODS WEEKEND: Mattie King Davis Art Gallery at Beaufort Historic site, Beaufort: April 5-30 (Opening Reception April 5). Contact 1-800-575-7483 or www.beauforthistoricsite.org.

YOU ARE HERE — THE LIFE & WORK OF CHARLES DENNIS: Presented by The Durham Arts Council; DAC Allenton & Semans Galleries, Durham; April 8-May 27 (Opening Reception April 19). Contact 919-560-2787 or online at www.durhamarts.org.


LEWIS ST. LOUIS SOLO EXHIBITION AT THE DURHAM ART GUILD: Durham Art Guild, Durham; April 12-May 27. Contact 919-560-2713 or www.durhamartguild.org.

PASSING THROUGH TIME — WORKS BY FRANK STELU: Animation and Fine Art Galleries at University Mall, Chapel Hill; April 13-May 10 (Opening Reception April 13). Contact 919-968-8068 or www.animationandfineart.com.


YOU WILL BE REMEMBERED — A LOST APRIL 2007 METROMAGAZINE
COLONY RETROSPECTIVE: Featuring photographs, costumes and memorabilia from America's longest running symphonic outdoor drama; Historic Gallery Center at Roanoke Island Festival Park, Manteo; Thru Dec. 31. Contact 252-473-2127 or www.thelost-colony.org.

EVENTS AT ARTSPACE: Raleigh; Contact 919-821-2787 or www.artspaceenc.org.

- CHIRP, SQUAWK, CLUCK — KEITH NORVAL: A new series of oil paintings exploring birds as subject matter; Lobby; April 6-28 (Opening Reception April 6).
- NEW MEMBERS EXHIBITION — ARTSPACE ARTISTS ASSOCIATION: New members of the Artspace Artists Association (since fall 2005) will be exhibiting their work; Upfront Gallery; April 6-28 (Opening Reception April 6).

CLASSICAL

ORPHEUS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA WITH GIL SHAHAM, VIOLIN: Beasley Curtis Auditorium at Memorial Hall, Chapel Hill; April 10. Contact 919-843-3333 or www.carolinaperformingarts.org.

LA BOHEME: Presented by The Opera Company of North Carolina; Memorial Auditorium at the Progress Energy Center for Performing Arts, Raleigh; April 13 & 15. Contact 919-783-0098 or www.operanc.com.

ANDRE WATTS, PIANO: Program includes works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy and Liszt; Beasley Curtis Auditorium at Memorial Hall, Chapel Hill; April 20. Contact 919-843-3333 or online at www.carolinaperformingarts.org.

MOZART'S REQUIEM: NC Master Chorale, Alfred E. Sturgis, Music Director; Meymandi Concert Hall at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; April 22. Contact 919-856-9700 or online at www.ncmasterchorale.org.

PACIFICA QUARTET WITH WU HAN, PIANO: A Masters Series Concert presented by The Raleigh Chamber Music Guild; Fletcher Opera Theater at The Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; April 29. Contact 919-821-2030 or www.rcmg.org.

EVENTS AT THE DUKE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC: Duke University, Durham; Contact 919-660-3333 or www.duke.edu/music.

- ARIAS, DANCES, AND SUITES — BAROQUE MUSIC BY BACH, TELEMANN AND OTHERS: Nelson Music Room; April 7.
- DUKE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — VIENNESE CONNEC T I ONS: Also featuring Student Concerto Competition winners; Baldwin Auditorium; April 11.
- PRISM CONCERT: A gala performance featuring several Duke music groups and genres; Baldwin Auditorium; April 14.
- CIOMPI QUARTET — FIRST COURSE CONCERT: Goodson Chapel, Westbrook Building; April 19.
- DUKE WIND SYMPOPHONY: Baldwin Auditorium; April 19.
- DUKE STRING SCHOOL SPRING FESTIVAL: Baldwin Auditorium; April 28.

POP MUSIC

LOS ANGELES GUITAR QUARTET WITH LUCIANA SOUZA: NCSU Center Stage; Stewart Theatre at NCSU, Raleigh; April 14. Contact 919-515-1100 or online at www.ncsu.edu/arts.


BILL LESLIE & LORICA: Performing songs from Leslie's latest CD; Fred G. Bond Park, Cary; April 22. Contact 919-469-4061 or www.townofcary.org.


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<tr>
<td>CARY PERFORMS:</td>
<td>Cary Performs celebrates and highlights local performing groups who will showcase their talents for the public; Fred G. Bond Park, Cary; April 15. Contact 919-469-4061 or <a href="http://www.townofcary.org">www.townofcary.org</a>.</td>
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| Robert Weiss' spectacular Swan Lake premiered in 2005 and was inspired by the story and illustrations of Austrian artist Lisbeth Zwerger. |

| JOAN COLLINS, LINDA EVANS — LEGENDS! | A comedy by Tony-award winning author, James Kirkwood. |

| MUSEUMS | |
| STREET LEVEL — MARK BRADFORD, WILLIAM CORDOVA AND ROBIN RHODE: | An exhibition of recent work by three urban-focused artists who are exhibiting together for the first time; Nasher Museum of Art, Durham; Thru July 29. Contact www.nasher.duke.edu. |
| THE PAST IS PRESENT — CLASSICAL ANTIQUES AT THE NASHER MUSEUM: | Sixty works of art from the ancient Mediterranean world ranging in date from about 2800 BCE to 300 CE will be on view in this new exhibition; Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham; Ongoing. Contact www.nasher.duke.edu. |
| PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF CHAPEL HILL PRESENTS GARDEN TO TABLE — RELAY FOR KELLY O'BRIEN: | Recent work inspired by perceptions of the garden and moments at the table; Horace Williams House, Chapel Hill; April 1-29. Contact 919-942-7818. |
| EVENTS AT THE NC MUSEUM OF ART: | Raleigh; Contact 919-839-6262 or www.ncartmuseum.org. |
| THE BIG PICTURE: | Thru Sept. 2 |
| TEMPLES & TOMBS: | TREASURES OF EGYPTIAN ART FROM THE BRITISH MUSEUM; April 15-July 8 |
| PARK FESTIVAL — AN EVENING IN EGYPT: | April 13 |
| WEINBERG LECTURE — UNDERSTANDING TEMPLES AND TOMBS: | April 15 |
| LUNCH AND LECTURE — PAINTING FOR THE PHARAOHS: | April 27 & 28 |
| PUBLIC TOUR — CELEBRATING THE SEASONS: | April 7, 14, 21, 28 |
| HUMBER LECTURE — TOUGH STORIES, STREET CHILDREN IN 19TH-CENTURY AMERICAN ART: | April 22 |
| FILM — LAND OF THE PHARAOHS: | April 27 |
EVENTS AT THE CAMERON ART MUSEUM: Wilmington; Contact 910-395-5999 or online at www.cameronartmuseum.com.

- DANCE — CAPE FEAR CONTRA DANCERS: April 6
- MUSIC — COSMIC GROOVE LIZARDS: April 13
- MUSIC — GIRLS' CHOIR OF WILMINGTON: April 15
- TANGO FILM AND DEMONSTRATION — ABRAZO, TANGO IN BUENOS AIRES: April 20
- LITERARY READING BY DAVID GESNER: April 22
- BETWEEN TASTE AND TRAVESTY; COSTUME DESIGNS BY WILLIAM IVEY LONG: April 29 (Public Opening Reception)
- MUSEUM ANNIVERSARY PARTY: April 29

THE GREENVILLE MUSEUM OF ART: Greenville; Contact 252-758-1946 or www.gmoa.org.

- MUSEUM OF FABRIC: April 29
- HIGH FASHION GOOD TIMES AT GMA: April 25
- BETWEEN TASTE AND TRAVESTY, COSTUME DESIGNS BY WILLIAM IVEY LONG: April 29 (Public Opening Reception)

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THE GREENV
April 1
A TOAST TO THE TRIANGLE
For: The Tammy Lynn Foundation
Memorial Inc.
Over 40 locally owned and operated restaurants and caterers strut their culinary stuff in one of the largest fine-dining tasting experiences in the Southeast. NC State University McKimmon Center – Raleigh, NC. For more information, visit www.atoasttothetriangle.org.

April 3
HOPE, LOVE, DINNER.
For: The Opera Company of NC
Experience a Puccini Wine & Song Dinner, an opportunity to enjoy wine and song paired with a four-course meal at The Grape at Cameron Village including five wines, five arias and a 4-course meal. Tickets are $100, which includes a $50 tax-deductible donation to OCNC and may be purchased by calling 919-792-3855.

April 13-15
DUKE MBA GAMES
For: Special Olympics of North Carolina
More than 100 student volunteers and key corporate sponsors host several fundraising events throughout the year, highlighted by the MBA Games Weekend, a sports competition involving teams from top business schools. For more information, contact Julie Fullerton at julie.fullerton@fuqua.duke.edu.

April 13-14
ARTS TOGETHER’S RAINBOW DANCE COMPANY CONCERT
For: Arts Together
The Triangle’s only multi-age, modern dance company, The Rainbow Dance Company, will perform its annual concert of new works by choreographers Kathryn Auman, Glenda Mackie and Michelle Pearson. For more information, contact 919-828-1713 or visit www.artsgether.org.

April 14
BETWEEN TASTE AND TRAVESTY: COSTUME DESIGNS BY WILLIAM IVEY LONG
For: The Cameron Art Museum
Illustrated lecture by Tony award-winning costume designer William Ivey Long. Limited seating. RSVP by April 14: For more information, call 910-395-5999 ext. 1005.

April 21
CONTEMPORARIES 2ND ANNUAL FUN RUN
For: The North Carolina Museum of Art
The 5K course will feature oasis-themed water stations along the route, and participants can compete in the “Run Like an Egyptian” costume contest. Proceeds benefit NCMA education programs. Visit www.contemporaries.org or contact Ellen Shepard at 919-844-6484 or Ellenshepard123@bellsouth.net.

April 21
PROMISES OF LAUGHTER GALA
For: The North Carolina Children’s Promise
Event will feature a nationally recognized comedy headliner and others. Highlights of this black tie evening include cocktails, a formal dinner, entertainment and the “promises of laughter.” Tickets are $200. Visit www.ncchildrenspromise.org or call 919-843-2915.

April 21
MIRACLE CHALLENGE MINI GRAND PRIX
For: Duke Children’s Hospital
Admission to this annual event is free and open to the public. Bring your family out to experience racing, a KidZone filled with games and prizes, various contests and concessions. Call 919-667-2574 or e-mail at karen.mcclure@duke.edu.

April 21
2007 SONC PLANE PULL
For: Special Olympics NC
Five-member teams will compete to see who can pull an American Airlines/American Eagle regional jet the fastest. The event will feature contests, entertainment, food and more. Call Sheila Ryan at 919-719-7662 ext. 103 for more information.

April 21
GREAT STRIDES – TAKING STEPS TO CURE CYSTIC FIBROSIS
For: Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Through the simple act of walking, you can contribute to the lives of those suffering from Cystic Fibrosis. Walks to be held in Cary, Chapel Hill, Durham and Raleigh. For more information, call 919 845-2155 or to register a team visit online at www.cff.org/great_strides.

April 22
BLOSSOMS OF HOPE
For: Inter-Faith Food Shuttle
Second Empire restaurant in downtown Raleigh will host its annual fundraiser. The gala luncheon features wines and courses created by guest chefs from noted local restaurants. Visit www.foodshuttle.org for more information.

April 30
3RD ANNUAL HOSPICE OF WAKE COUNTY GOLF CLASSIC
For: Hospice of Wake County
Tournament will be held at Brier Creek Country Club. Corporate sponsorships available. Teams and individual players welcome. Call Tom Alexander at 919-782-1270 or David Buffaloe at 919-522-6131.

May 5
RAISE A RACQUET AGAINST BREAST CANCER
For: The Sisko Foundation
The sixth annual Pro/Am and Pro Exhibition Tournament will be held at the Raleigh Racquet Club, rain or shine. Visit online at www.siskofoundation.org.
May 5  
THE MINT JUBILEE  
For: Extra Special Super Kids Foundation  
Event will offer live music and the Kentucky Derby on several televisions. Large hats and derby attire encouraged. Tickets are $40 in advance, $50 at the door. Ticket includes BBQ by Wilber's BBQ, beer, wine and mint juleps. McNair's Country Acres, Raleigh. Contact Susanne Streb 919-829-1988 or Thomas Moore 919-829-1988.

May 6-7  
ANNUAL CHARITY AUCTION AND PRO-AM GOLF TOURNAMENT  
For: Children's Flight of Hope  
The Pro-Am Golf Tournament, which will be played May 7 at the Brier Creek Country Club in Raleigh, will feature approximately 20 PGA Tour professionals. Past pros have included Bobby Clampett, Neal Lancaster, Carl Pettersson, Allen Doyle, Tim Clark and Brenden Pappas. Tickets are $75. Contact Meredith Hornola at 919-269-4668 or visit www.isisevents.com.

May 7  
THE 6TH ANNUAL BISHOP'S HOPE GOLF CLASSIC  
For: Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Shotgun start at The Golf Club at Chapel Ridge in Pittsboro, NC. For more information, contact Sophia Olson at 919-845-2155 or e-mail at solson@cff.org.

May 11  
SIXTH ANNUAL ART AND TREASURE BENEFIT AUCTION  
For: The Carying Place  
Event includes hors d'oeuvres, live music and silent auction with various art forms, sports memorabilia, antiques, golf packages, jewelry, vacations, gift certificates, electronics and more. Evening ends with a live auction. Call Sameena Rashid at 919-462-1800 or srashid@thecaryingplace.org.

May 15  
HOSPICE OF WAKE COUNTY ANNUAL DINNER  
For: Hospice of Wake County  
Join special guest Joel Siegel of Good Morning America for dinner and a live auction. Event will be held at North Ridge Country Club. Space is limited, call 919-828-0890 ext. 5931.

May 17  
PLAYSPACE'S BLACK & WHITE BASH  
For: Playspace Childrens Museum  
Live and silent auction, live band, black-and-white themed attire, drinks, desserts, door prizes and a slide show will highlight children's art and
creations in the décor. Tickets are $45 for members, $50 for non-members. Call 919-832-2617.

May 19-20
2ND ANNUAL DRÉ BLY CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC
For: Dré Bly Foundation and CarolinaPros, Inc.
Held at The Preserve Golf Club in Chapel Hill, this historic event brings Bly and many stars from the NFL, NBA and Carolina family together with members of the Carolina community for a weekend of golf. For more information, log on to www.dreblygolfreg.com or call 919-942-9993.

June 2
SUMMER SALUTE
For: Hospice of Wake County
Beach party at North Ridge Country Club with entertainment provided by The Embers. To sponsor or for ticket information, call Prudy Frederick at North State Bank, 919-645-2726.

June 18
THE SIXTH ANNUAL JIMMY V CELEBRITY JUNIOR GOLF CLASSIC
For: The V Foundation for Cancer Research
Golf tournament to raise money for pediatric cancer research. Golfers between the ages of 6 and 17 are eligible to participate in this fun-filled event. Participating celebrities include numerous local sports personalities and professional athletes. For more information, please call 919-391-0449.

June 21
CAROLINA KIDS CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT
For: The North Carolina Children's Hospital, The Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill, and the Childhood Trust
Held at UNC's Finley Golf Course, participants have the opportunity to play golf with Host Emeritus Dean Smith and Honorary Hosts Roy Williams and Butch Davis. Sponsorship opportunities are available starting at $3000. Call 919-843-2915.

July 13-14
VALVANO KIDS KLASSIC
For: Duke Children's Hospital
This golf tournament features a silent auction, prizes and food prepared by a well-known chef TBD. Dinner following the tournament will feature dancing and a live auction. Call Don Shea at 919-667-2564.

July 28
FIELD OF DREAMS GALA
For: The ALS Foundation
Gala will feature dancing, dinner, live and silent auction. Ron and Mary Lou Francis will be awarded with the ALS Humanitarian Award at this year's event. Mark Roberts from WRAL will be the Master of Ceremonies. Celebrity guests include Bucky Waters and Tommy John. Call Kim Shope at 919-786-0109.
raisers to raise money for cancer research. The week begins with Dessert First Women's Dinner and Auction and an evening of cocktails, dinner, a live and silent auction with a special appearance by Olympic skating champion and cancer survivor, Peggy Fleming. Other events include a day of cycling, family activities, a Reverse Raffle, the Jimmy V Racquets for Research tennis tournament and more. The week closes with the prestigious Celebrity Classic, held for the first time at Pinehurst Resort. For a complete schedule and more information, contact Anna Jackson at anna.jackson@golfclassics.org or 919-319-0441 or visit www.jimmyv.org.

August 18
CAPE FEAR TEDDY BEAR BALL
For: Duke Children's Hospital
Guests will enjoy an evening of dinner, dancing and shopping at the silent and live auctions. Some items up for bid included jewelry, art, golf and ski packages, Coach K-signed items, and more. Featured items of the 2006 event included a painting by George Pocheptsov, a 14-year-old child prodigy; a Jimmy Buffett-signed guitar; live music by Chris Bellamy; and Duke Men's basketball tickets. Contact Janis Netherland at 910-793-8466 or e-mail jnetherland@ec.rr.com.

SEPTEMBER

September 14
THE NORTH CAROLINA ROADRUNNERS CLUB WOMEN'S 5K RACE & HEALTH WALK
For: Interact of NC
Join hundreds of runners for the 14th annual walk to benefit the work being accomplished at Interact. For more information, contact Linda Turner at 919-828-7501.

September 15
WORLD'S LARGEST TRUCK CONVOY
For: Special Olympics of North Carolina
A one-day celebration in which local law enforcement officers escort a convoy of trucks through cities and towns in nearly 30 US states and Canadian provinces to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics athletes. Alltel Pavilion at Walnut Creek, Raleigh. For more information, visit www.firstgiving.com/sonc.

OCTOBER

October 2
FIFTH ANNUAL MAKE-A-WISH GOLF CLASSIC
For: Make-A-Wish Foundation
Join event host, Bill Gaines, anchor with WGCL-TV 46 Atlanta GA for this captain's choice scramble. Each adult foursome is paired with a wish child playing the full 18 holes as a fifth member of the team. Visit online at www.east-ncwish.org.

October 6
BIG BAD BALL
For: Hospice of North Carolina
The Young Executives at the Capital City Club present the Big Bad Ball to benefit Hospice of Wake County. Event includes music, dancing and dinner, and silent auction. For sponsorships or tickets, please call 919-828-0890 ext. 5931.

October 14
19TH ANNUAL THAD AND ALICE EURE WALK FOR HOPE
The 10K walk begins at the Angus Barn and continues through Umstead Park, culminating in a festival with food, music, prizes and more. For more information, call 919-781-9255 or visit www.walkforhope.com.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH presents the
Showcase of Kitchens
April 27-28
Raleigh, North Carolina
jlraleigh.org
On the Town
by Katie Poole

16th Annual Red Cross Ball
Honoring Dr. William K. Atkinson
March 10, 2007
Embassy Suites, Cary NC

Monty and Virginia Parker, Jill Gammon and Virginia Yopp

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Runway for Hospice
Lower Cape Fear Hospice
March 16, 2007
St. James Preservation Hall, Wilmington NC

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Here in Beaufort we live the laid back life. Sunsets dictate our daily schedules and ocean breezes temper our moods. But when it comes to life’s finer things, we accept nothing but the best! The Beaufort Wine & Food Weekend combines a series of carefully crafted events to create an unforgettable cultural experience. Whether you are a fledgling connoisseur or a veteran oenophile, we promise an experience that will educate and entertain. Sante!

Grand Gala & Auction - Carolina Nights - Champagne Brunch - Wine Dinners
Wine Seminars - Fashion Show - Grand Tasting Village - Cooking Demonstration

Music by: Countdown Quartet - The Attractions - Resounding Steel
Long View:
THE SPIRITUAL SIDE OF ART

Even though I have often been accused of being an outright hedonist, it may come as a surprise to some of my readers that I do indeed have a spiritual side. I was therefore quite pleased to have the opportunity to view the exhibition at Long View Gallery that specializes in contemporary spiritual art. Located in downtown Raleigh at 323 Blake St., right on historic Moore Square, a recent show — titled Forever Lost? — featured works dealing with the concepts of loss and regret.

Marty Baird, Some Flooding, Loss of Power

The space is over 2000 square feet with exposed brick walls and a stage for performance or readings. Curator Marty Baird has done a wonderful job pulling together a talented and diverse selection of artists from as far away as Brazil and Qatar, and as close as right here in the Capital City. Artwork by Baird is also included in the exhibition. I was especially drawn to several of her touching Waterlines installations that immediately conjure up images of Katrina-ravaged New Orleans. Utilizing doors salvaged from demolished houses, old wallpaper, oils and acrylics, Baird proves a fascinating storyteller.

Artists Jerry Jackson and Andre' Leon Gray also utilize assemblage to very strong effect, with my favorite work by Jackson, Thirty six years-three hours-thirty minutes, transforming a grandfather clock into a gothic coffin. Remember that old nursery rhyme about the grandfather clock, "but it stopped short, never to run again when the old man died"? This brings it all home with clever poignancy. Sally Van Gorder sent her video work all the way from Qatar in order to share her story of the lives and loss of women across the globe, and Meg Madison contributed some lovely photographs — Girls at Eleven — which marks that tumultuous period when childhood is lost and womanhood is found. Other talented artists in the show include Sara Powers, Blair Ligon and Brazilian artist Malu Fatorelli.

This month, the gallery is rallying to save the planet with Saving the Places You Love, An Invitational Exhibition of North Carolina Artists. The show benefits the Conservation Trust of NC. The grand opening and fundraiser is set for April 20 and features images by visual luminaries Nancy Tuttle May, Richard Garrison, Doug Van de Zande and Bob Irwin.

Long View is a side project of The Collectors Gallery (www.thecollectors-gallery.com) and has limited hours for viewing, so call ahead to The Collectors Gallery to make certain it's open. Rory
Parnell, formerly of Raleigh Contemporary Gallery, and Megg Rader, former executive director of Artspace, have teamed up, and it seems that they are taking over the downtown Raleigh arts scene with exhibition spaces on Fayetteville Street, the historic City Market, as well as Long View. Obviously ladies to keep your eyes on!

**NEWS FROM THE ART SCENE**

Congratulations to NC native Beverly McIver, who was recently featured in a most complimentary article in the prestigious *ARTnews*. McIver is living out west in Phoenix right now, but still makes time in her busy life to have a show now and then back here in the Tar Heel state where I hear she sells much better than in her New York gallery! You can view her current creations at Chapel Hill's Tyndall Galleries.

Also in Chapel Hill, sculptor William Moore has recently started showing over at University Square with Bill Hester Fine Art. Moore has a knack for the sensuous in any medium, from marble, to bronze to ceramics. His recent offerings find him in rare form. While the trip to his geodesic dome studio is a treat, it is also an adventure, so I'm certain that many of his fans will find it much more convenient to pop into the gallery off Franklin Street to see what's new.

Congratulations to Nancy Tuttle May on being chosen as a featured artist for WUNC's capital campaign. Her painting, *The Passion of the Moment*, has been displayed to adorn everything and anything...
associated with the campaign, from T-shirts to coffee mugs and posters. Every year hundreds more artists move into our area, but the quality of May's work always keeps her in the spotlight.

There must be something in the water with lots of artists playing musical chairs with galleries right now. Perhaps the artistic sap is rising in anticipation of spring. Abstract expressionist Jason Craighead recently made the jump from Glance Gallery of Raleigh to join Joe Rowand’s stable of artists at Somerhill Gallery (www.somerhill.com). I think the new pairing will be a good fit. Craighead is talented, ambitious and driven, Rowand is erudite and a survivor if there ever was one. Could there be a better mix?

And last but not least, congratulations to Glance Gallery (www.glancegallery.com) that recently opened up a second gallery in Hotanta. From what people are saying, the opening was a huge success with a crush of hundreds of Atlanta swells and piles of red dots on the walls before the evening concluded!
ne of my favorite quotations, "Consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds," is actually, in part: "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds," which is then illustrated by the addition of, "Shouldn't I carry an umbrella because it wasn't raining yesterday?" By this point you have probably guessed that I'm not just demonstrating my erudition, but getting ready to be inconsistent.

As readers of this column probably know by now, I'm something of a tree hugger — actually I do like trees and am even more likely to embrace shrubs that act as buffers along waterways. I'm at least light green and anti-sprawl. I worry about storm water runoff, and I am not enthusiastic about "McMansions" along our coast or waterways.

However ... I have found a really big house I like.

This is a three-story, 9300-square-foot house on the Intracoastal Waterway in Porters Neck outside Wilmington on the road to Figure Eight Island. But this is a "green" house that has been thoughtfully designed and built to conserve energy while preserving the environment. The 6-inch thick walls are insulated with Icynene foam, a very efficient insulation with the additional benefit of not allowing moisture and mold to build up. The windows are all double-paned, positioned when open to maximize air circulation. They are also designed to catch sunlight, which helps to heat the 80 cubic yards of concrete masonry on the ground floor — thus providing passive solar heat.

Conversely, on the side of the house that catches the summer sun, the roof overhangs two feet, thus providing 7.6 feet of shade to reduce passive solar heating. So well insulated is the house, and so effective are these heating and cooling techniques, that instead of a 15-ton heating/cooling pump, it gets along with 7 tons. The whole idea was to keep energy consumption as low as possible, including the use of compact fluorescent light bulbs, on demand water heaters, and energy efficient refrigerators and washer/dryers.

But that's not all. The electric power is provided by 50 solar panels. These provide 9.9 kilowatts of electricity — more than is need — which allows the owners to sell the extra power to Progress Energy for others to use. An organization called www.ncgreenpower.com as a way of encouraging green energy production, pays 22 cents for every unit not used in the house. Once the sun goes down, the owners have to buy electricity at 9 cents per unit, so if you can produce one-third more than you use, it's a wash. In other words, you are energy self-sufficient. And even the boat lift has its own little solar energy source, so no energy cost there either.

But before you rush off to hook up solar panels on your roof, realize that it is not a simple matter. For instance, the panels produce direct current (DC), and this has to be converted to alternating current (AC). Moreover, the paperwork for getting into the Progress Energy grid makes mapping the human genome look simple. In other words, "Kids, don't try this trick at home," as it takes professionals, namely engineers and skilled builders.

On the environmental side, all the existing trees (actually not many) were left along with a buffer along the waterway. There aren't rain gutters, so the runoff doesn't pool, but instead sinks into the sand. The driveway and parking areas are a loose sea shell mash, which virtually soaks up water. And in a final neat touch, the washer doesn't use detergent. Don't ask me exactly how it works, but the owners all look clean enough.

So you're saying this is all great, but it's a huge house and indeed it is. However, and this is a huge however, this is a multi-generational house. Living there are the grandmother, the sister, her husband, their three children, and the builder and his wife. So, instead of having three footprints, three roofs, three driveways and much more run-off, it is all contained on one lot and in one envelope.

Now, full disclosure requires that I let you know that I know these people. They are the extended Senior family who grew up across the street from us in Chapel Hill when I as a professor at UNC. Bob Senior was the town's (it was a town then) much-beloved pediatrician. He and his wife Gwen had five children, the oldest of whom is Christopher (Chris) Senior. I'm proud to say that I mentored Chris, and I might say I inspired his green building as it was partially based on my advice that he went to Appalachian State University to pursue a degree in anthropology/archeology. Then it was my suggestion that he attend Catholic University to get an MA — which he did. Then he slipped out from under my influence and went to Alaska, then worked for Dean Witter and finally was employed by some big production builders. It was while doing this that he became inspired to do some "tasteful" development and then green development.

So, how can I claim any credit for his environmentally sensitive work? Well, when he was at Appalachian, his senior project was to locate 10 Indian settlements in the surrounding area. Instead of going out and blundering around, he called me — no he didn't. Where, he asked himself, would Indians build their campsites to maximize natural warming? The answer came back: South, facing rock overhangs where they'd get sun and passive solar heat. He located a topographic map and quickly discovered 10 likely sites. Bingo. He attributes this eureka moment for his senior project to my advice that he go back to school as it was partially based on my suggestion that he study archeology. And quickly discovered 10 likely sites. Bingo. He attributes this eureka moment for his senior project to my advice that he go back to school as it was partially based on my suggestion that he study archeology.

Chris, and I might say I inspired his green building as it was partially based on my advice that he went to Appalachian State University to pursue a degree in anthropology/archeology. Then it was my suggestion that he attend Catholic University to get an MA — which he did. Then he slipped out from under my influence and went to Alaska, then worked for Dean Witter and finally was employed by some big production builders. It was while doing this that he became inspired to do some "tasteful" development and then green development.

Now, Chris has built the first totally green house east of Raleigh after increasingly incorporating various environmentally sound techniques in his houses for the past 10 years. This time he says he's done everything he could think of, except perhaps geothermal heating.

I think I'll suggest he go back to school and take geology.
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THE BEST FROM THE TRIANGLE TO THE COAST

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NEW BERN CONTINUES TO FLOURISH

A neat roundabout at the bank of the Neuse River politely redirects you where the old US Highway 17 bridge used to take you over to Bridgeport and Pamlico County. Just across the way from the new bridge is a piece of art, sculpted just for this spot on God’s earth. Nearby, there is a service station with more style than any I have seen elsewhere in Eastern North Carolina. Just beyond, a restaurant that will complement the waterscape has taken shape on a spit that will give it a commanding view of the confluence of the Neuse and Trent rivers and make it a regional dining destination.

Between you and me, I have told owner Mark Mangum that I will be down in July when it opens. May I have a table on the deck?

New Bern. There is so much more I could say, but for the moment, let’s leave it with this: After all these years, our colonial capital is still doing things right.

I was down just days ago for the pageantry surrounding the dedication of a monument at the Civil War Battlefield just beyond New Bern on US Highway 70. The two-day event included an encampment by the re-enactors of the 26th North Carolina Infantry Regiment, who raised tens of thousands of dollars to purchase the impressive monument similar to those at Gettysburg. It is the first placed on the visitor trail in the 26.5-acre site, now under development, which was part of the famous battle of New Bern. Other monuments will be added as groups come forward to perpetuate the memory of units wearing both the blue and the gray who fought and died there in the War Between the States.

The Battle of New Bern, one of the most significant conflicts of the war, occurred on March 14, 1862 — 145 years ago. Union Gen. Ambrose Burnside was determined to capture the port and interrupt the rail line. After a fierce battle in the swamps and wood lots along the railroad south of New Bern, he succeeded, cutting off rail and naval supply lines to the north and denying provisions to the Confederate Army of Virginia. Like most of coastal North Carolina, New Bern came under Union occupation and control early in the war, and federal gunboats prowled the coastal waters and rivers.

I heard one interesting and sad piece of Civil War lore. The lovesick lad tied it around his neck and made himself a prime target. For the first hail of Yankee bullets. It struck me that had he just tucked it in his back pocket, he might well have survived the battle with a few pieces of lead in his behind.

I have seen the 26th North Carolina re-enactors in action before, and they are a remarkable group. Don’t ask me what inspires such a cross section of our citizenry, including financial planners, lawyers, plumbers and businessmen like Mangum, to spend their weekends giving large-as-life history lessons to all takers. I don’t know the answer, but I can say that I am always impressed by their dedication to authenticity and their in-depth knowledge of the period and its historical events.

The 26th North Carolina has a special strength. Its two musical groups — the 26th North Carolina Regimental Band and its Fife and Drum Corps — are among the finest in the nation. The Regimental Band is a performing unit of The Federal City Brass Band, famous in its own right, and its members are professional musicians, music educators, historians and re-enactors. The 26th Regimental Band was one of the best-known Civil War bands, composed of Moravians from Salem, NC, who refused to engage in combat for religious reasons but played lively marches and quicksteps to lift the spirits of soldiers on the march and inspire them before battle. They also served as corpsmen and assisted in field hospitals and on the battlefield. The Moravians to this day are famous for their brass bands, an important part of the traditional Easter sunrise service that draws thousands of tourists each year to Old Salem in Winston-Salem.

The 26th NC Fife and Drum Corps is an assortment of talented, unpresumptuous fellows including a farmer, a researcher and a filmmaker. My friends Aubrey and Noah Raper from Madison County are drummers and masters of the field music that Confederates and Union soldiers woke up to, marched to and went to bed to. In contrast to the Band, most are not professional musicians, yet they have produced two CDs and hundreds of tunes in their repertoire.

Two New Bern natives and long-time friends of mine played major roles in the weekend activities. Nelson McDaniel, once head of the Friends group at Tryon Palace, which I always describe as the “crown jewel of North Carolina historical sites,” presided at the Saturday evening Ball; and Ken McCotter, a prominent New Bern attorney, is chairing the New Bern Historical Society that owns Battlefield Park and is preserving it for the people of this state and nation.

They both give credit for Battlefield Park becoming a reality to Mark Maynard. His dogged persistence is bringing to fruition what he described as “once only a dream.” The Weyerhaeuser Corporation owned the land and deeded it over to the Civil War Preservation Trust, which in turn passed it over to the New Bern Historical Society. Development of the trails and the visitor orientation facility will cost...
almost a half million dollars. Maynard is chairing the Battlefield Committee and is optimistic about reaching its goal. The Battlefield is going to be yet one more feather in New Bern's hat and strengthen its position as North Carolina's premier destination for history buffs. It's time for New Bern folks to come forward with the few missing dollars and wrap this project up.

The vitality and attractiveness of New Bern today is a product of decades of vision and thoughtful planning. The reconstruction of Tryon Palace began the process of building critical mass. But as the Palace began to bloom as a tourist destination, downtown, like most downtowns Down East, was dying. A host of local stalwarts, including Robert Stallings, Gerrtrude and Rose Carraway, David Ward, Kay Williams, Pop and Duff Beasley, Harold Tarlton and others refused to let it happen. They got the wake-up call and responded by creating the Swiss Bear to promote the town, pulling together resources such as the Chamber of Commerce and the Tourism Development Authority. It wasn't easy, and I have seen ups and downs over the years. But last Saturday, as I sat on Middle Street and observed, I saw a viable town with energy, inviting restaurants and shops, and a bright future — the perfect place for sophisticated Triangle residents to spend a relaxing weekend.

At the corner of Middle and Front streets, Captain Hatty's Seafood anchors restaurant row, along with MJ's Raw Bar & Grille, Marina Sweets, and The Baker's Square. In their midst is the upscale Fraser's Wine, Cheese and More where gregarious shopkeeper Alex Bowdle presided, assisting with equal enthusiasm, the young Marine couple from Camp Lejuene looking for a good, affordable bottle of wine and the Junior Leaguer preparing for a chic dinner party.

Posters in windows along the street heralded a number of coming cultural events — an Art Walk, a local theater production of Charlotte's Web, a Jazz and Blues Fest, and a Verdi opera by an Asheville company. Bank of the Arts, that promotes local artists and markets their works, is just across the street from a public art park. Plentiful benches invite you to rest a spell and soak in the ambiance. Members of New Bern's growing, affluent retirement community must think they already have died and gone to heaven.

New Bern knows that tourism is where its bread and butter lie, and it has spent years developing a hospitable culture that works. It is no accident. It takes training and retraining and constant focus. An excellent example is India, the attractive front desk woman at the Comfort Suites where I spent two comfortable nights waterside. I asked for directions to Battlefield Park. She checked the paper, called the Chamber, which was closed, and quizzed colleagues. No luck, but she promised to keep looking. Shortly the phone rang in my room. She had the info and even offered to send it up to me — way, way beyond the call of duty, but the kind of hospitality and service that sends folks home singing the praises of a town such as New Bern that is serious about itself and where it is going.
The expression, "The first bite is with the eye," usually refers to the presentation of food on a plate. In the case of Herons, the new Umstead Hotel's fine dining room, the eye's first bite is a magnificent installation by the world's preeminent glass sculptor, Dale Chihuly — a hard act to follow.

In last month's Metro, Louis St. Lewis compared The Umstead to the Wynn Hotel in Las Vegas, a veritable art museum. But it brings to my mind a more intimate venue, La Colombe d'Or just up the hill from Nice in the South of France. This small inn's restaurant is adorned with paintings by Matisse, Picasso and Chagall, artists who traded their artwork for food. I have no doubt Chihuly can afford to pay cash for a meal at Herons, and the place is nothing less than grand, yet its ambiance has that same personal quality as La Colombe d'Or.

At The Umstead, this visual harmony suggests a perfect melding of minds among its architect, decorator and owner, Ann Goodnight.

Expectations reached the stratosphere by the time we were seated at our gorgeous custom-made table surrounded by perfectly lit Ben Owens and Mark Hewitt pottery urns, the sounds of soft jazz wafting through the room. My eyes and ears were already so well fed, I might have been happy with a peanut butter sandwich.

But passing through the luxurious bar on the way to the dining room, I had already sampled a single pickled okra plucked from an elegant crystal container. That perfect okra — crunchy, delicately tangy and fresh tasting — portended great things to come.

Heron's kitchen is open to view, an exquisite glass wall etched in maple leaves framing the action in the kitchen as if its kinetic activities were part of the artwork. Chef Phil Evans can be seen concentrating on his work, his serene visage part of the room's eye candy.

Recruited from the St. Regis in Aspen, Evans was challenged to gear his trademark regional American cuisine southward. He wisely scoured this area for high-quality local produce and discovered pickings were far from slim. Among many other goodies, he located artisan cheeses from Elodie Farms, truffles from Garland's oak groves in Hillsborough, boutique pork from Cane Creek Farm, and a plethora of seafood from the Carolina coast.

His seasonal menu showcases his finds. Goat's milk agnoletti with tasso ham, diver scallops and foie gras with truffle-potato puree, lobster/crab bisque, poached lobster with Carolina stone-ground grits, butterscotch beans and ham hock stew are just a few of the appetizers featuring local ingredients.

Main courses, paired with the wine steward's astute choices (an option not to miss), were just as delectable. Pan-roasted chicken was served with smoked duck sausage and fresh Brussels sprouts; black bass drizzled in a beurre blanc sauce shared a plate with lobster and potato hash; grilled lamb loin and braised lamb shank accompanied a delicate celery root risotto.

Pastry Chef Daniel Benjamin's sweet creations were equally impressive. His riff on red velvet cake was delightful with salt-
ed butter pecan ice cream. A subtly tart winesap apple pie was topped with clotted cream. The richest coffee ice cream accompanied a soufflé-like baked chocolate mousse.

Though every bite tasted delicious and exhibited the chefs' substantial skills, there was a slight dissonance between the dining room's flawless contemporary atmosphere and the more elaborate culinary tone. A pinch of restraint would correct this subtle imbalance. Take away the braised lamb from the lamb plate, the lobster from the she crab bisque, and the scallops from the foie gras — and these dishes would gain the simple elegance of an ungilded lily. (By the time you read this, the new spring menu will be introduced and my point may well be moot.)

This tiny criticism certainly doesn’t mean I don’t want to return tomorrow … for a breakfast of bourbon waffles, for lunch in the bar, for tea in the lobby, for warm weather grilled suppers on the terrace overlooking the lake and pool. Let’s face it, I want to move in!

But first, I must thank the visionary who created this breathtaking restaurant, as well as the extraordinary An in Cary. Our good luck is due to Goodnight. How blessed we are to have both these spectacular world-class restaurants right under our noses.

Mrs. Goodnight, I am overwhelmed. Brava!

NIBBLES

Herons will host a Clos Pegase Dinner on April 25: Founder/owner Jan Shrem of Clos Pegase Winery in Calistoga, CA, will visit for a very special wine-paired dinner and presentation on art and wine: *Bacchus the Rascal: A Bacchanalian History of Wine Seen Through 4000 Years of Art.*

And on May 7, Herons is hosting a huge benefit for Share Our Strength — the international anti-hunger organization — featuring 20 of the best Triangle chefs participating in a unique cocktail and dinner, including silent auction.

If you hurry, you can reserve dinner on April 7 with Thomas Jefferson and John Adams at the Duplin Winery! After the meal, these two former presidents (channeled by Colonial Williamsburg interpreters) offer a conversation from their perspectives about what is ahead for the country. Information about the trip (which includes a docent-led tour of the Liberty Hall plantation, plus dinner and wine tasting) is found under the Go-Ed listings at www.agoingconcern.com.

Watch for Sara Foster’s appearances at local bookstores to promote her new cookbook, *Sara Foster's Casual Cooking.* An
autographed copy can be ordered at www.fostersmarket.com. All three of Foster's books are geared to seasonal produce and provide simple recipes, perfect for local farmers market produce. Durham, Carrboro and Moore's Square farmers' markets will be open this month offering the best of the season — peas, asparagus, turnips and field strawberries should be at their peak in April.  

**South** opened as promised by Valentine's Day and offers Jeremy Sabo's interpretations of Southern favorites. Don't miss the great apps — fried oysters and pimento cheese beignets are standouts — with a flight of bourbon or Southern wines in the bar.  

Fans of Rob Ragsdale, former sous chef at Bloomsbury Bistro, will be glad to hear he is alive and well in Indiana. He writes: "I left Raleigh and moved to Indianapolis to contemplate my future in the restaurant business. I decided that it was time to get out of the kitchen and move into the management of the whole business ... I went to work for Biaggi's three years ago, in Fort Wayne, IN ... where I am now the Managing Partner. Biaggi's is an upscale Italian restaurant, privately owned with 20 restaurants nationwide ... including one in Cary, NC. For more information on Biaggi's, you can go to: www.biaggis.com."

Celebrate spring by learning to bake at Cary's La Farm Bakery. April classes include kids' baking (including Easter cookie decoration) and for grownups, Easter and Passover baked goods. La Farm's delicious breads are now available at Whole Foods Market stores throughout the Triangle. Visit www.lafarmbakery.com for more information.  

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* which means "to dine," or "to eat" in Vietnamese showcases Chef Michael Chuong's signature 'New World' cuisine, an elegant blend of Southeast Asian flavors and European influences. Chuong has artfully combined the elegance of a French four-star restaurant with the sensational flavors of a Southeast Asian market.
RALEIGH/CARY


THE ANGUS BARN – 9401 Glenwood Avenue. Raleigh. 919-781-2444. www.angusbarn.com The Angus Barn, a Raleigh landmark offers Angus steaks, seafood, an extensive wine list, experienced and knowledgeable staff and much more in its eclectic barn setting. Since opening in the 1960s, the basic principals – hospitality, attractive atmosphere, and value have remained the same.


BENTLEY’S AMERICAN GRILL – 2007 Walnut St., (Crossroads) Cary 854-0644. From one-on-one business lunches to board meetings to banquets or group dinners, Bentley’s is here to help you seal the deal with prime aged beef and fresh seafood. Superior food in a classic, yet casual setting. Private Board Room with state of the art audio visual equipment. Lunches from $8 and daily specials in the lounge. Look for the Bentley’s Clock Tower at Crossroads in Cary. M-F 11am – 11pm, Sat-Sun 4pm-11pm. www.BentleysAmericanGrill.com. An LM Restaurant.


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

CAROLINA ALE HOUSE – 513 Creekside Dr, Raleigh 835-2222. 4512 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh 431-0001, 2240 Walnut St, Cary 854-9444, 7981 Skyland Ridge Pkwy, Raleigh 957-4200, 3911 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd, Durham 490-2001, and coming Summer 2007 to US1 North & Hwy 98, Wake Forest. We offer our award-winning menu 7 days a week from 11am until 2am and serve up all the sports action on over 40 TVs. Daily lunch and dinner specials, the coldest $2 pints in town, 99 cent Kid’s Tuesdays, we’ve got your family covered. The One & Only Carolina Ale House, Accept NO Substitutes. www.CarolinaAleHouse.com. An LM Restaurant.


THE GRAPE AT CAMERON VILLAGE – 403 Daniels St., Raleigh. 833-2669. The ultimate destination for great-tasting wine and food in a relaxed, entertaining atmosphere. Over 120 unique wines and delicious gourmet fare. Wine tastings, wine dinners, catering and live entertainment. Call for hours.


JIBARRA RESTAURANT – 7420 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh. 844-6330. www.jibarra.net. The first upscale Mexican restaurant in the area featuring eclectic, flavorfiul dishes representative of each region of Mexico. Unique wine list and posh tequila lounge. Now offering Sunday brunch and new lunch menu.


NANA’S CHOPHOUSE – 328 W. Davie St., Raleigh. 829-1212. High energy contemporary Italian-style chophouse infused with local flavors and ingredients. Complimentary valet parking, live music and fresh seafood. Call for reservations.

MYTHOS MEDITERRANEAN BISTRO & LOUNGE – 6490 Tryon Rd. Cary. 233-7555. www.mythosbistro.net Chef Pete invites you to explore your senses through his eclectic style of cooking in a homey and cozy ambiance. Offering only the freshest ingredients found (seafood, Aged Beef, poultry). Live your myth through essence.


UNO CHICAGO GRILL – 8401 Brier Creek Parkway, Raleigh. 544-6700. Enjoy original Chicago-style deep dish pizza along with a wide selection of appetizers, steaks, pastas, burgers and desserts. Kids Menu. Curbside pick-up. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m for dinner.


ZELY & RITZ – 301 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. 828-0018. Fresh, organic, locally grown dishes served tapas style in an upscale yet hip and smoke-free environment. Named as one of the Top 20 Organic Restaurants in America by Organic Style Magazine and offering a Wine Spectator Award-Winning boutique wine list.


DURHAM/APEX

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


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

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

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

VERDE – 2200 W. Main St., Durham. 286-9755. New American Cuisine in a sleek and modern atmosphere.


CHAPEL HILL/HILLSBOROUGH

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


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

BEYOND THE TRIANGLE


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BEYOND THE TRIANGLE


**AREA EATERIES OFFER SUPERB WINE OFFERINGS**

It's happening right under our noses: the growing sophistication of the Triangle's gastronomic scene. Not only are new restaurants popping up all over, they seem to "get" the fact that Triangle diners are more adventurous and willing to try new tastes, new combinations, new wines and new ways with traditional flavors.

We have so many choices these days — whether it's a heckuva good steak at such tried and true spots as The Angus Barn or Sullivan's, the latest twist on shrimp and grits at just-opened South in North Hills, or tucking into heartwarming bistro fare at Rue Cler in Durham. The range of flavors is terrific ... and the wines to go with them delight me. Restaurateurs have noticed the demands of area wine lovers and are more adventurous, too. It's gratifying to see good Riesling, Tempranillo, Dolcetto, Grüner Veltliner, Bordeaux blends, Pinot Blanc and Gris on wine lists — thoughtful selections that invite us to try things we perhaps haven't tasted before. It's been fun checking these places out, so let me share a few with you.

The Umstead Hotel and Spa in Cary is the grandest new establishment in the Triangle. Restaurant Herons is airy and elegant inside, with a handsome terrace extending over woodlands — definitely a destination, especially on warm-weather evenings and for weekend brunch. The wine list — already impressive — is on its way to joining the ranks of classic Triangle offerings with its broad range of choices and exceptional depth in Pinot Noir and red Burgundy. Wine Director Steve Eudy has created a list worthy of a world-class hotel, including an astute selection of California wines notable for balance and finesse rather than just raw power. I had lunch there with Doug Fletcher, director of winemaking for the Terlato Wine Group. We were tasting wines from Chimney Rock in Napa Valley. Once an 18-hole golf course, this property in the cool Stags Leap District became way too valuable to serve as mere turf, so the golf greens were transformed into vineyards. The 120-acre estate now yields outstanding red wines — and whites — including a very fine Bordeaux blend, Chimney Rock 2003 Elevage. Dominated by Merlot, this Pomerol-style red is the perfect pairing for the grilled lamb with braised lambshank on Herons' dinner menu.

Herons also offers "tasting" flights on the by-the-glass list — three whites or reds paired with food in two-ounce pours that give diners a chance to try several wines.

Most gratifying? The first page of the extensive wine list is devoted exclusively to North Carolina wines, 15 among the state's best. Eudy is enthusiastic about our local wines, and he has picked some good ones. Try the Childress 2006 Viognier with the meaty crab cake and corn succotash, or Raylen Category 5 with the Kobe beef burger or braised short ribs.

In Chapel Hill, Bonne Soirée's elegant, sophisticated cuisine merits an equally elegant wine list. The restaurant delivers with some very fine selections from France, California and elsewhere. From the delectable Valle d'Aosta red by the glass ($7.50) to the '02 Château Belregard-Figeac ($51 a bottle) to a dense Washington Syrah (Townshend '03, $39), it is a well-thought-out list. At a special dinner during the Triangle Wine Experience, two new young California wineries were showcased. With seared scallops and American sturgeon caviar, Bjornstad 2005 Chardonnay from the Russian River Valley was superb. And the fork-tender beef filet au jus was set off handsomely by the intensely rich Proprietary Red from Blackbird Vineyards in Napa Valley.

**NIFTY PAIRING:** Chef Chip Smith's tender thigh of pheasant and Etude '04 Pinot Noir — or put yourself in the restaurant's hands with the wine-pairing menu and make your own discoveries!

Vivace, in Raleigh's North Hills relies on Wine Director Scott Luergenau to put together a terrific list of Italian wines for the restaurant's flavor-rich, Tuscan-inspired dishes. With selections from all the top wine regions of Italy — with special emphasis on Tuscany and the Piedmont — familiar favorites are featured, but I urge you to explore and experiment from some
of the lesser-known regions, such as Campania, Marche and Basilicata. Perplexed? Try one of the wine flights featuring three white or three reds, with 2-ounce pours for $12 or $21.

**GREAT MATCH:** Shrimp with Creamy White Polenta (an Italian take on shrimp and grits) with the crisp 2005 Vermentino. And save room for dessert — or at least a glass of an exotic Italian dessert wine, such as the '05 Moscato d'asti "Scarpona" or the sweet, thick dessert red, Barolo Chinato, a knockout with chocolate.

**South,** also in North Hills, has taken over and refurbished the old Savannah's space. Now owned by The Urban Food Group (Vivace, Frazier's), the very comfortable dining room is lively but conducive to conversation (something of a rarity with all the hard-surface interiors of many restaurants where you can't hear yourself think), and the spacious bar is inviting for drinks or full fare. The wine list is in transition, but Luetgenau promises to add Southern regional wines. I hope so because Moreton Neal and I loved the food — creative twists on Southern specialties, like the lighter-than-usual shrimp and grits — a Virginia or North Carolina Pinot Grigio would be perfect with it — or the savory blackened tuna that longed for a balanced regional red such as RayLen Carolinian. The roasted chicken and dumplings fairly cries for a local Viognier.

And, hey guys, don't forget scuppernong, our native NC grape, for the dessert list. You might be surprised to find diners curious about these "infamous" wines, and more than willing to try them. Check out offerings from Duplin, Benjamin, Dennis and Hinnant.

**BEST CURRENT MATCH:** Homemade meatloaf with Robert Sinskey 2003 Merlot.

Rue Cler in Durham has feel-good food with Provençal character in a relaxed bistro atmosphere. I very much like the varied country-French fare, the very reasonable prix fixe menu ($25, three courses), and the manageable, well-focused wine list. Go early or late for a table. They don't take reservations, so if it's crowded, try a glass of sparkling Vouvray, $7, or the dry and scintillating Muscadet. $6.75. These are very fair prices, and I wish other restaurants would take note — $8 for a glass of carafe of the '05 cru Beaujolais, Juliéna$, $16, which was perfect with his Toulouse Sausage and my Coq au Vin.

The Grape, in Raleigh's Cameron Village, is one of two spots that focuses mostly on wine, both innovative in their way. The Grape attracts adventurous palates with its policy of opening any of the 120 or so wines on the list for diners to taste. The wines are from diverse points on the globe, in a range of styles that encourages trying something you haven't had before. The Grape, which started in Atlanta and has successful spots in several Southern cities, also has its own bottlings under the label Oriel, which are an excellent value. All the wines are available for retail purchase.

Glasshalfull in Carrboro is my newest go-to place for savory small plates and dozens of wines by the glass ($4.50-12), tasting portion (3 ounces at $2.50-3.50) or bottle ($18-58). Jim Wald and Mickey Maloney, formerly of Santé Wine Import Company, have opened a spiffy new space on South Greensboro Street just off Main Street in Carrboro. These two know their wines, so there are some great choices: a fragrant Spanish Albariño, a brisk Grüner Veltliner, the juicy Chateau de Campuget from Southern France, JL Chave's marvelous Saint-Joseph and many others. Bottle prices are an excellent value, but Glasshalfull also offers the wines at retail. For an $8 corkage fee, you can buy a bottle from the retail section and have it with supper. They are open for dinner Monday through Saturday and will soon open for lunch.
We are fortunate that one of the foremost historians of the American presidency lives in Chapel Hill. William E. Leuchtenburg, a native of New York City and former professor at Columbia University, ventured south as a fellow at the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park, and later became a William R. Kenan Jr. Professor at UNC-Chapel Hill. Although now retired from his professorship, Leuchtenburg continues his scholarly studies of American political history with an emphasis on events, people and places.

In *The White House Looks South*, he focuses on Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman and Lyndon B. Johnson and their relationships with and policies toward the South. In great detail, Leuchtenburg describes the connections of the three presidents with the region, the changes they brought about and their effects on the nation. Roosevelt, a New Yorker, spent much time in Warm Springs, GA, at his “Little White House,” where he endeared himself to many Southerners, sometimes even patronizing their ways in words Leuchtenburg excuses as merely “ham-fisted.” Truman, a border-state Missourian, grew up in a pro-Confederacy, “Lost Cause” environment, but looked Westward for his bearings. Johnson, from the former Confederate state of Texas, was a Westerner, except when advantageous to act as a Southerner. All three were Democrats.

Roosevelt forged the New Deal coalition that also elected Truman and Johnson and consolidated Democrat congressional power for decades. As aptly described by Wilfred M. McClay in *Commentary* magazine, Roosevelt’s coalition was “a political philosopher’s nightmare but a political scientist’s joy, a hodgepodge of conflicting political principles and starkly opposed regional coalitions, the most notable of which was the now nearly incomprehensible alliance of Northern liberals and Southern segregationists.”

Prior to this coalition, Republicans had largely dominated national politics since the Civil War. Because the underlying sectional strains that erupted in conflict continued afterward, Republicans largely ignored the South and won in the North by margins sufficient to rule. Democrats ruled the South, however, after their “redemption” from Republicans through terror — first with the Ku Klux Klan and later with the Red Shirt Brigades. At the turn of the 20th century throughout the South, Democrats established white supremacist rule, disfranchised black voters and enacted Jim Crow segregation laws.

Three decades later, the Great Depression enabled Roosevelt to overcome those sectional strains and build his Democratic coalition of Northern liberals and segregationist Southerners. Here in North Carolina, a prominent participant in the coalition was Josephus Daniels, publisher and editor of *The News & Observer*. A white supremacist, Daniels had been an instigator of the Wilmington Race Riot of 1898, a white Democratic reaction to black participation in statewide Republican election victories in 1896. The riot became a coup d’etat, with whites overthrowing that city’s elected biracial government and imposing white Democratic rule. Those events set the stage for the 1900 statewide elections, won by the Daniels-inspired Democrats with a white-supremacy campaign and horseback-riding Red Shirt Brigades that intimidated black Republicans from voting. The 1900 elections began Democratic control of the state for most of the 20th century. Daniels, who heralded Democratic control in his newspaper, served as Secretary of the Navy in the Woodrow Wilson administration with Roosevelt serving as an undersecretary. Later, Daniels became an ardent supporter of Roosevelt and the New Deal. Daniels changed over time, perhaps explaining why Leuchtenburg ignores Daniels’ racist past and lauds him as a “progressive” and a “statesman.”

The Democratic coalition changed, too. It divided over the critical issue of civil rights for black Americans. Roosevelt had played both sides, but in the 1940s, Tru-
man began to take sides with his President's Committee on Civil Rights, his integration of the military and his support for the Democratic Party's 1948 civil rights platform. By the 1960s, a decade after the Supreme Court held that public-school segregation was unconstitutional, the divide deepened for the Democrats. Johnson, serving in the US Senate, aggressively pushed passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 — assuring equal access for blacks to places of public accommodation — and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, creating special rules in designated states to facilitate black access to the ballot box. Because of opposition by Southern Democrats within their own Party-controlled Congress, passage of both acts required Republican votes. Despite regional division between Democrats and Republicans, Johnson predicted that the passage of the 1965 Act would deliver the South to the Republicans. His prediction proved true, although for other reasons.

Although Johnson split the Democratic coalition, he bridged American principles across racial differences, and thereby changed the South. In an epilogue, "The South on the Move," Leuchtenburg concludes his book with a personal look at the changed South. He maintains he likes many of the changes he has seen, especially the enforcement of civil rights for blacks and the enhancement of relations between races. In a frank acknowledgment, but one not surprising for a New Deal liberal, Leuchtenburg laments the political shift of the South from the Democrats to the Republicans in national elections. He sees racial politics underlying the shift, but as other scholars have shown, the South shifted for other reasons, as well, including new "R" words — not race, but Ronald Reagan.

THE REAGAN REVOLUTION

In The America That Reagan Built, Clemson University political science professor J. David Woodard, a rare conservative in academia, explains that Reagan's landslide 1980 election and 1984 re-election not only ended a string of failed presidencies stretching from Johnson to Carter, but they also changed America: "Just as Lincoln re-made the country after the Civil War, and Roosevelt after the Great Depression, Reagan changed America for the new century."

The America That Reagan Built is about more than Reagan, however. Woodard analyzes the three subsequent presidencies to Reagan's by applying three premises. First, Woodard says that our culture has shifted from a "modern" reliance on objective meaning and reasoning to a "postmodern" society that rejects objectivity and rests on impulses and emotions. Second, we are divided politically more along cultural than economic lines. And third, those who win elections can change the cultural values of the country. Reagan then personified the modern, and Bill Clinton personified the postmodern. Both presidencies reflected cultural divides, and both presidents changed the culture.

As a result, Woodard finds our politics caught in strident and partisan conflict between two cultures. A quarter of a century after the nation appeared to turn away from Roosevelt's big-government liberalism to Reagan's limited-government conservatism — and a decade after Clinton declared that "the era of big government is over" — debate continues between those conflicting visions. This divide between postmodernism and modernism — and their underlying cultures — are today recast as "blue" and "red" America.

The America That Reagan Built illustrates the chasm between the old liberalism of Roosevelt, Truman, and Johnson and the modern conservatism of Reagan. An example came in the person of Clark Clifford, adviser to two of the earlier presidents and lion of the old liberal establishment. After insisting on a meeting with the new president in 1981, he came away unimpressed with Reagan and declared him to be "an amiable dunce." Within a decade, however, history had cast Clifford as the dunce, leaving the liberal insider in disgrace and his condescending liberalism in disarray. History has vindicated the amiable Reagan as an effective leader who extended freedom at home and abroad. Reagan's free-market economic policies had restored American prosperity, and his defend-freedom foreign policies helped end the Cold War by contributing to the collapse of Soviet Communism.

For better understanding of our political history over the past three quarters of a century, both Leuchtenburg and Woodard, from their different perspectives and with works on different historical periods, provide valuable texts. From them we can summarize: The Roosevelt coalition required the South; the South left that coalition for Reagan; and the "Reagan Revolution" began.

Yet, as Woodard notes, in the three post-Reagan presidencies, "the ruling majorities were always tenuous." As the 2006 elections suggest, they may continue that way for some time, fraught with fissure between the old Roosevelt liberalism and modern Reagan conservatism, the new divide between postmodernism and modernism, and the caricature of "blue" and "red" America. And the South continues to be central in the politics of the nation.

New and Noteworthy

by Art Taylor

ARCHITECTURE AND POETRY TOP APRIL BOOKS

For many, Chapel Hill is the quintessential college town: sleepy when it wants to be, raucous at other times; dense with character and charm; graced by history and tradition — both the University and the neighborhoods; elegant, too — almost effortlessly so. But truly effortlessly?

Architectural historian M. Ruth Little's latest book — The Town and Gown Architecture of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1795-1975 — studies the town's evolution over nearly two centuries and its design under the guidance of dozens of architects who may not have always shared the same vision, but whose work has come together in some unified way. As Little writes in her Preface, "If there is an underlying theme to all of the town's historic buildings ... it may be their modesty and their modernity," qualities which she locates in the community's valuation of knowledge over ostentation, and in the town's generally progressive spirit.
While other books have specifically examined the campus and its history, Little's offering encompasses the larger community, as well, and the focus is not only on what was built, but also on what was preserved and why. As comprehensive as it is elegant, *The Town and Gown Architecture* offers a historical survey of Chapel Hill from its earliest years through Civil War and Reconstruction and along each of the "major building campaigns of the 20th century," including the housing boom after the Second World War. Additionally, the second half of the book includes a catalogue of specific buildings and historic sites. Photographs and maps throughout the volume — many of them archival — help to ground the text, literally, in the community. And Little is careful to provide both a basic glossary for readers unfamiliar with architectural terms and a generous bibliography for others who wish to delve into her source material or explore other aspects of the topic.

The book is produced by the Preservation Society of Chapel Hill, and copies are on sale at the Society's home base — the Horace Williams House, 610 E. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill — or through its Web site at http://chapelhillpreservation.com. Copies are also available at local bookstores, and Little herself will be discussing the project at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh on Friday evening, May 4. Plenty of time to mark your calendars!

**COAL BLACK HORSE ARRIVES AT A GALLOP**

While I'm hesitant to recommend a book that I haven't read myself, an April release from Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill has already generated such advanced acclaim that it's hard not to pass along the good word.

So instead of a review here, just some news.

Robert Olmstead's sixth book, *Coal Black Horse*, has already been named this month's No. 1 Book Sense Pick — a monthly list of books highly recommended by independent booksellers across the nation. (For the full list, visit www.booksense.com.) Set in the Civil War, the novel follows a 14-year-old boy sent into the battlefield to find his father and bring him home. The mission has been ordered by the boy's mother after she experienced a dire premonition about her husband. So the boy begins his trek, wearing a coat that's blue on one side and gray on the other, and riding the horse of the title — an integral character to this quest.

The last of Algonquin's books to earn the top spot — Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants* — became a runaway bestseller, and hopes are high for a repeat with Olmstead's novel. Given the praise from booksellers nationwide, the book may merit not only success, but perhaps even honors, as well. Nan Hadden of Books Etc. in Portland, ME, has said that the book "deserves to become a classic of the 21st century." And a voice closer to home — Tom Campbell of Durham's Regulator Bookshop — compares Olmstead to Cormac McCarthy and Charles Frazier and names the book "a remarkable and haunting achievement."

Does that guarantee you'll like it? Or that I will? Only one way to find out: I'm moving it up on my current list of books to read — and read soon.

**PLUM WINE: NEW PACKAGE, SAME STELLAR VINTAGE**

As for a book I'm glad to recommend again — and recommend heartily...

Angela Davis-Gardner, long-time professor of creative writing at NC State University, delivered her readers a remarkable novel early last year: *Plum Wine*, about a North Carolina woman named Barbara Jefferson, teaching in Japan in the 1960s and coming to terms with the death — and the life — of Michiko Nakamoto, her friend, fellow teacher and surrogate mother in that country. In the aftermath of that death, Jefferson embarks on a new love affair, enters into a new understanding of Japanese culture and ends with a great understanding of herself, as well.

Readers who missed the book in hardcover now have another opportunity to seek it out — this time on the occasion of its paperback publication. And in conjunction with this new release, Davis-Gardner will be offering readings in our area: first on Tuesday afternoon, April 17, at the Country Bookshop in Southern Pines, and then on Wednesday evening, April 25, at Quail Ridge Books.

**AUDEN CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**

In honor of the 100th anniversary of WH Auden's birth, UNC-Chapel Hill's Program in Humanities and Human Values will devote one of its "Adventures in Ideas" seminars to this seminal poet.

The two-day course takes place Friday and Saturday, April 27-28, and features several of the University's distinguished scholars speaking on aspects of Auden's life and work, including his poetry and his verse plays and criticism, and his collaborations as a librettist on operas for composers including Igor Stravinsky. The faculty for the seminar includes: Christopher M. Armitage, Bowman and Gordon Gray Professor of English and Comparative Literature; Matthew Paul Carlson, Doctoral Candidate, Department of English and Comparative Literature; William R. Harmon, James Gordon Hanes Professor in the Humanities; and George S. Lensing, Bowman and Gordon Gray Professor of English and Comparative Literature.

Tuition for the seminar is $140, which includes a Friday night dinner. For registration or more information, visit http://adventuresinideas.unc.edu.

**NEW & NOTEWORTHY**

April is National Poetry Month, and several area bookstores are getting into the spirit of the occasion. Raleigh's Quail Ridge Books kicks off the celebration on day one with a trio of noted North Carolina poets: Ellen Bush, author of *Licorice*; Michael McFe, author of *The Smallest Talk* (a collection of one-line poems!); and Alice Osborn, author of *Right Lane Ends*, each of whom will offer samples of their works beginning at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 1 — no fooling.

Go to www.metronc.com for more New & Noteworthy and Bookwatch events.
From Asheville to Africa:
THE DISTINCTIVE SOUND OF TOUBAB KREWE

One of the more intriguing bands to emerge in North Carolina in the past couple years is the Asheville-based quintet Toubab Krewe.


Their sound is an extraordinary amalgam of rock and West African influences, the end result creating a vibe that's really quite distinctive. TbK's unique music explains, in part, their rather abrupt success. The band has been together only two years; yet, in that time they've won a significant following. TbK's fans come from a wide spectrum of music lovers — a measure of their diverse appeal is evident in noting the variety of venues the band has played or will soon play: BB King Blues Club (NYC), Ram's Head (Annapolis, MD), Phoenix Concert Theatre (Toronto), Bonnaroo, and Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In March, TbK showcased at the South by Southwest Music, Film and Interactive Conferences and Festivals in Austin, TX. Later this month, they will perform at the Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival in Silk Hope, NC, and MerleFest.

Perhaps most impressive of all, TbK played the Festival in the Desert this past January in Mali. Held annually in Essakane, Mali — the locale is, indeed, beyond Timbuktu in the Sahara. This international festival draws some of the great acts from Africa and Europe. The 2007 version included Habib Koité, Oumou Sangare, Salif Keita, Vieux Farka Touré, Tinarwen, and, remarkably, Toubab Krewe.

TbK was keeping August company in Essakane.

TbK percussionist Quaranta, recently returned from the adventure in the desert, allowed, during a phone conversation, that the experience was a major thrill.

“We arrived in Bamako on Jan. 7 and had a few days to get ourselves together, and then we traveled to Timbuktu by plane,” he explained. “It was about a four-hour 4×4 ride through the desert to Essakane. It was other-worldly. It was an amazing experience.”

Quaranta went on to note that the response to TbK was quite good, especially from other artists.

“We connected with Baba Salah, who was Oumou Sangare’s lead guitarist for some studying. During their stay, they released a cassette of their self-titled debut album.

As noted above, TbK is based in Asheville, and three of the band members — Brown, Heller and Perkins are from there. Bassist Pransky hails from Vermont, and Quaranta grew up in New Rochelle, NY.

“Both Dave and I came to music a little bit late,” Quaranta said. “I grew up in a musical family. My mom played drums, and my dad actually played, as well. I mostly got interested in West African percussion when I was about 18. That interest led me to travel over there to West Africa.”

Quaranta attended Warren Wilson College (Asheville area) and became involved in a small drum circle.

“That led me to wonder about where the actual drums came from and about the years,” he said. “We actually sat in with him on a couple songs at one of his shows in Bamako. Toumani Diabaté didn’t hear us play, but he got our record, and he had some positive things to say. These are artists who we’ve admired for years, so it was really thrilling to meet them and get some feedback on our music.”

All the band members remained in Mali until Feb. 6, performing and doing
traditional music of Africa,” he recalled. “Our first trip over there was in 1999. We went to Guinea — there’s a really rich culture of djembe music over there.

“Then in 2001, we had a drum and dance group called Common Ground — based in Asheville — and all 15 of us went to Guinea and Ivory Coast for two months to continue our musical studies. Since then it’s just been a progression of trips to West Africa.”

According to Quaranta, it was also during 2001 that Heller and Perkins pursued a growing interest in West African string music — guitar music — to Mali.

“In 2004, they took a four-month to Bamako, Mali, and Justin began to play kmele ngoni,” Quaranta said. “When they got back, they gave Teal (drums) and Dave (mandolinist turned bass player) and me a call and were like, ‘guys, we gotta start a band.’

Quaranta was ready to go. He’d stayed active with West African percussion with a season with Chuck Davis and the African American Dance Ensemble in Durham, and a two-year stint with a drum and dance company in New York City.

“The group came together perfectly, and the chemistry was there right off the bat. It’s been a pretty amazing two years.”

Asked if the band members had a sense of what they wanted to do musically when they got Tbk together, Quaranta replied: “I think we definitely had a vision of staying really true to all the traditional music and studying what we’d done in West Africa, but at the same time we wanted to let all the music we’d grown up with come to the forefront, as well.

“We didn’t have a vision of the actual sound we wanted, however. The band’s chemistry took over there — in the creative process.”

In citing influences, Quaranta initially mentioned rock, which came as no surprise.

“Drew has studied a lot of Gypsy guitar — Django Reinhardt has been a big influence, for instance,” he continued. “Soul music and hip hop are also influence; there’s a Dirty South backbeat feel to what we do.

“The West African influences are pretty clear with our instrumentation and a lot of our stylings. Even compositionally, the way we shift feels within a song, that’s kind of a trademark of the West African thing — like going from a 4/4 to a 6/8 feel in the middle of a song is definitely characteristic of some of the West African styles.”

Toubab Krewe’s debut CD is available online from CD Baby, and the Krewe is online at www.myspace.com/toubabkrewe and www.toubabkrewe.com.
Out Of Hungary

The Hungarian Uprising in 1956 is considered the first hot battle in the Cold War. Raleigh artist Balazs Szabo was there as a 13-year-old, forced to make his way out of his own country to freedom in America, leaving behind 50,000 freedom fighters dead or wounded. The question is still debated about the cowardice of the United Nations and the Western powers who stood by as Hungary was crushed under the boot heel of the Soviet army, giving the green light for the oppression of Eastern Europe until the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

On March 29 at Borders Books on Six Forks and Strickland Road, Szabo, a well-known artist who calls Raleigh home, discussed his book, Knock In The Night, that describes his ordeal and explores the historical consequences of what happened to him and his country within the gripping story of his escape from behind the Iron Curtain. Says Szabo: “The book comes on the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution when a small nation dared to challenge the Soviet system and through a bloody defeat, showed the world the terror of communism.”

Literary Contest Attracts 880 Entries

Writing is alive and well in the public schools. Students in 17 of 29 Wake County high schools submitted 880 manuscripts to the Raleigh Fine Arts Society annual Literary Contest, with 44 finalists selected by 50 preliminary judges from nine different local high schools. The 15 winners, judged by three final judges, represent six different high schools in the Wake County system:

- Overall Best Story, Mildred Dwyer Patton Memorial Award: Miss Denise Anne Rickman, Mr. Sandman, Southeast Raleigh High School; Teacher, Mrs. Elizabeth Kaufluss - 12th Grade
- Best Story by an Eligible Junior or Sophomore, Hollins University Award: Miss Rachel Rowe, Eighty-Eight Keys, Enloe High School - 10th Grade
- Best Story by a Varsity Athlete, Dave Patton Award: Mr. Thomas DiCiaccio, Spring, Raleigh Charter School - 11th Grade

First Place Awards
- Miss Hannah Thurman, Firebird, Enloe High School - 12th Grade
- Mr. Christopher Boone, Mother Bus, Southeast Raleigh High School - 11th Grade
- Mr. Andrew Heil, Meema, Enloe High School - 10th Grade
- Miss Christina Boucher, Memories, Southeast Raleigh High School - 11th Grade
- Miss Jennifer Yeh, Evanescent, Raleigh Charter School - 10th Grade

Second Place Awards
- Miss Emily Clayton DeCamillis, Of Arguments, Raleigh Charter School - 12th Grade
- Miss Kayla Chevallier, What Comes Around, Raleigh Charter School - 11th Grade
- Miss Kate Selway, Christ In The World, Enloe High School - 12th Grade
- Mr. David Doren Bellard, A Sermon on Gravity, Broughton High School - 12th Grade

Honorable Mention
- Mr. Andrew Heil, Meema, Enloe High School - 10th Grade
- Miss Christine Boucher, Memories, Southeast Raleigh High School - 11th Grade
- Miss Cathleen Austin Wise, Water, Raleigh Charter School - 11th Grade
- Miss Jordan Ashley Lankford, Jaynee's Wind, Middle Creek High School - 12th Grade

The Oakwood Garden Club presents its 18th annual spring garden tour in one of Raleigh’s oldest neighborhoods. On May 5-6, Oakwood historians will guide tour groups, pointing out notable garden and architectural features of the neighborhood.

New to the tour this year: two seatings of a traditional Victorian tea, complete with tea sandwiches, cakes, hors d’oeuvres and other treats will be offered, a unique way for mothers and daughters to celebrate Mother’s Day a week early.

The groundbreaking of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s 2007 Showcase for a Cure home took place Wednesday, March 14. The four-bedroom, stucco and stone home — located in Hidden Lake, a Crescent Builders community in Youngsville, NC — features green-building techniques and will be showcased in the area’s Parade of Homes.

Teenaged crime-solver Nancy Drew is hot again as the theme of new licensed and branded products, including the new Papercutz Graphic Novels and the upcoming Warner Bros. movie, Nancy Drew: The Mystery in Hollywood Hills. Papercutz is preparing several online crime-solving contests and fun activities with prizes in cooperation with Web sites throughout the spring-summer 2007 season. Stay tuned to www.papercutz.com for information on all of the Nancy Drew happenings this year.

A Puccini Wine & Song Dinner, designed to pair wine and song with a four-course meal benefiting The Opera Company of North Carolina (OCNC), is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at The Grape at Cameron Village. Tickets are $100 per person, which includes a $50 tax-deductible donation to OCNC. Tickets may be purchased by calling 919-792-3855.

Raleigh’s legendary jazz stylist and teacher, Elmer Gibson, performed at the piano and shared with the public the inner vision that inspired his latest CD, The Reach of Memory, March 23 at Quail Ridge Books. Gibson, known worldwide as a teacher, composer and performer with an intelligent style, also shared his dedication for a loved one suffering from Alzheimer’s disease.
My Usual Charming Self

by Bernie Reeves

CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Could it be that universities are finally wising up? Over at Duke, the Group of 88 activist professors — who ratted the usual cash-stache sharks screaming for the heads of the lacrosse players — are now exposed as the fools they are. And this time the public is aware of their influence on campus, causing negative feedback from alumni that is rocking the stone edifices of Mr. Duke’s University.

Now comes more hopeful news from the academic front at Duke, the Focus and Gerst programs — funded by class of 1961 alum Gary Gerst — that creates a return to traditional learning by bringing together undergraduates in an interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on a single subject or subjects for the academic year. Since the arrival of radical English department chair Stanley Fish in 1985, Duke’s academic reputation has suffered from a core menu of politically correct, post-modern, multi-cultural nonsense. The Gerst program is indeed a hopeful sign of a return to sanity in the liberal arts at Duke.

There is more good news. Over at UNC, the new chairman of the ubiquitous College of Arts & Sciences is a chemist rather than a radical scholar. And at the University of Virginia, the faculty and administration have refused to sign The American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment pledge that calls for a two-year planning period and a statement of “climate neutrality.” These developments at three well-known schools may not be the end of the grip of radical scholars on academic policy, but it could be the beginning of the end.

Will the new sanity slowly asserting itself on some campuses have the same effect in the world of media and politics? After all, campus radicalism has literally set the American and Western media agenda for 30 years, informing the public that they are all racists, chauvinists, homophobes, war-mongers and imperialists who are destroying the planet with their capitalist consumption. This anti-Americanism has been the backbeat of the news for so long, most people have tuned it off, while others have been mesmerized into joining the chorus. This then is the fissure in the political arena, an echo from the old campus radicalism that carries on as the academic source declines into disgrace.

These echoes are bouncing around more with resonance due to the Democrat majority in the US Congress, where giving aid and comfort to the enemy in Iraq dominates the agenda. The always reliable gravity-goods of Vietnam are bandied about: a timetable for withdrawal; the quagmire metaphor; cutting off funds for our own troops; incessant interviews with the families of soldiers overseas; how our allies hate us; the usual babble of pundits from think tanks against anything the US does in the world. Yet anti-war rallies draw few protestors as most Americans, while troubled over Iraq, know in their bones we have to fight somewhere. No matter how you feel, the net-net is that there has not been a terrorist attack on US soil since 9/11.

GLOBAL WARMING

Side by side with tired anti-war rhetoric, the activist environmental wing — upset that we are enjoying the best economy since the age of Pericles — enjoyed good timing with Al Gore winning an Academy Award for his film, An Inconvenient Truth. Gore was asked to testify in Congress, where man-made global warming adherents went beyond compliments to downright celebrity worship for the former Veep and his film, especially when Gore characterized the crusade against carbon dioxide in the same category as fighting Nazis and Communists. Sounding like flag-wavers at a Nuremburg rally, Congresspeople called Gore a prophet as they figuratively lifted him on their shoulders, hoping he would run again for president. Gore, covering all the ground, said his mission was to glorify God by saving the planet — even if it kills us.

Judging from the foregoing, it will be some time before the memo reaches Congress that all that campus propaganda they rely on is being discredited slowly but surely. But as an esteemed friend once told me: “The wheel of history moves slowly, but it moves,” so hope springs eternal that sanity and patriotism will return. But it might be too late to save us from the people who are hell-bent to save us and the planet. The man-made global warming crowd is riding high as more scientists and bien pensants join the chorus.

Yet, an examination of these scientists begs the question. They haven’t been right about anything ever, so why suddenly should we believe them now?

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

Another nefarious pattern arising from righteous activism born on campus and now part of our culture is the brazen and unchecked power of district attorneys. Remember the gaggle of DAs from various states declaring war on tobacco? This was followed by Ken Starr’s style in prosecuting Bill Clinton and Eliot Spitzer’s metamorphosis into the self-appointed arbiter of corporate America. Just recently Patrick Fitzgerald went after Scooter Libby simply to help the Democrats fight the Bush administration and to advance his own career. This trend influenced the antics of Mike Nifong. Perhaps his outrageous behavior has brought the process to an ignominious conclusion, as there is legislation in the NC General Assembly to control runaway DAs.

Andy Rooney is a duplicitous old sod who uses his grandfatherly demeanor to sell an agenda. I caught his monologue recently where he disingenuously hid racist and unethical comments about the quality of Americans joining the armed services by suggesting the US does in the world. Yet anti-war rallies draw few protestors as most Americans, while troubled over Iraq, know in their bones we have to fight somewhere. No matter how you feel, the net-net is that there has not been a terrorist attack on US soil since 9/11.

NPR takes the prize for regurgitating political propaganda emanating from biased sources. The Hillary Clinton people sold them a story with the premise that Bill Clinton’s shenanigans won’t hurt her campaign because Bill’s sins don’t measure up to George Bush’s transgressions, such as Abu Ghraib and the Walter Reed Hospital investigation. Really?

The Metro Web site continues to amaze with nearly 900,000 hits a month. Check it out and read my “Between Issues” column available only online. I discuss the proposed smoking ban in the most current posting. Go to www.metronc.com.
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