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August came quickly this year. Was it the mild July that fooled us into thinking summer hasn't started yet, or is time just going by at a faster clip? No matter how it got here, Metro's content for this dog day month is eclectic and interesting.

Summertime is the best season to sense the essence of Edenton, North Carolina's historic former royal capital that sits astride the Albemarle Sound nearly exactly as it did in colonial times. Diane Lea visits an enterprising family that nurtures an authentic working plantation and undertook to renovate one of the town's most visible landmarks. There is also coverage of other creative Edenton activity and the publication of a new, carefully researched book on Hayes Plantation, one of the best-known early buildings in the South.

Swinging down from the Albemarle region to Wilmington, writer Steve Row uncovers the latest news from award-winning actress Linda Lavin, who made the port city her home after a film shoot in the 1990s. This summer, she and her husband opened a new theater to stage intimate productions to great acclaim.

And there's more from the culturally rich East. In Roxobel, members of a rock 'n roll band engage in the kingly sport of falconry. It turns out to be an effective way to meet the neighbors, says writer Peter Eichenberger. And there's more coastal coverage, including a new book on NC ferries, environmental initiatives on Bald Head Island and full listings of coastal events through August.

Suddenly diabetes is constantly in the news. Diagnosis and treatment have become a national concern as the population ages. In our quarterly medical report, Rick Smith catches up with the top expert on the subject right here in the Triangle. He offers good advice on prevention and cures, and discusses knotty political issues that need to be solved to win the war on this serious disease. And in Medical Briefs, you can catch up on the latest developments that keep the region in the first ranks in medicine and medical science, including the latest national rankings of area hospitals.

For your summer reading, Arch T. Allen discusses new books on the twin evils of Nazism and Communism; fiction editor Art Taylor reviews the latest offering from NC's own Margaret Maron and insights into selections for the 2007 Algonquin Books Anthology; and music guru Philip van Vleck offers his annual end-of-summer music and video update.

Jim Leutze continues to prod state leaders and citizens to take action to save our precious coast; Carroll Leggett visits Charleston, SC, and uncovers Tar Heel connections; Louis St. Lewis reports that art and the arts are flourishing in Fayetteville; and Katie Poole reports that summer is not slowing down the region's rising sense of fashion and brings back images of the area's social life in this month's installment of On The Town.

On the culinary front, Moreton Neal reports on the increasing interest in good German food (and flies to Milwaukee to make the comparison); Barbara Ensrud recommends chardonnay for summer dining; and Mary Ward Younger serves up a full plate of activities for the last month of summer.

But there is sad news. The death of Pulitzer-winning political cartoonist and acclaimed novelist Doug Marlette shocked us all. Note our tribute to Doug in this issue, and go to www.metro-nc.com to read three of the eulogies delivered at his funeral service by me, syndicated columnist Kathleen Parker and Doug's closest friend, novelist Pat Conroy. Readers will note Metro ran a cartoon of Doug's in the July issue.

On a happier note, this issue we bring you Part Two of our MetroBravo! “best of” readers' poll winners for categories including: retail, home life, health care, tech life and more. It's great beach reading. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to our readers for casting your ballots.

The big news is the first ever MetroBravo! Party set for the Koka Booth Amphitheatre in Cary from 6-10 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27. Ticket price includes access to the 30-plus booths provided by Bravo winners with food, giveaways and surprises. Look for special guests and music by Bravo winners The Dune Dogs, The Proclivities and special musical attraction, by the ever-popular Arrogance. Go online to www.ticketmaster.com or call 919-834-4000. You can also check out the party at www.metronc.com or call Koka Booth for more information. For booths, corporate tables and sponsorship opportunities, call Katie Poole at 919-831-0999. A portion of the proceeds for the Bravo party go to United Arts Council of Wake County. There is definitely a party going on!

Next month: Metro's quarterly Southern Style special section is loaded with architecture, fashion and special surprises.

As the song says, “See you in September.”

—Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher
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HOU# CLEANING NEEDED AT DUKE

What a great column ("Shame on Duke": www.metronc.com/charmingself, July 2007 Raleigh Metro Magazine)! What I hear is, more than half of the unrepentant and fiercely unapologetic Duke Group of 88 is already gone and more will be going. It would be nice to know how many of the Duke 88 have gone elsewhere on their own accord, and how many failed to receive tenure or get their contracts renewed. A long-needed "house cleaning" may already be under way. Indeed, I would like to think that Duke University President Richard H. Brodhead has thinned the Politically Correct vineyard in Durham.

Duke's self-appointed commissars of Political Correctness have done irrevocable harm, not only to David Evans, Collin Finnerty, and Reade Seligmann and their reputations and futures and their families' finances, but also to the cause of academic freedom and to the reputation of Duke itself as one of the nation's most progressive liberal-arts institutions. Yet, few pundits have stepped forward to condemn the stupefying arrogance and intolerance of the Duke Group of 88 bluntly and unequivocally. Why? Because unwarranted — and potentially career-ending — accusations of racism and sexism have become the first refuge of a new generation of scoundrels, hiding in academic robes and clandestinely punishing students and junior faculty members who dare reject the Orwellian double-think and double-speak of the Gospel of Political Correctness.

Your unflinching "Shame on Duke" commentary and Orlando Sentinel columnist Kathleen Parker's incredibly bold "Nifong's legacy, feminism's shame" column (www.orlandosentinel.com/news/opinion/columnists/orl-parker2007/jun20.0,4308430.column) separate you both from the media herd. They are two of the bravest responses to the ongoing news media circus that Brooklyn College history professor KC Johnson chronicles on his marvelous multimedia Web site: "Durham-in-Wonderland: Comments and Analysis About the Duke/Nifong Case" (http://durham-in-wonderland.blogspot.com).

True healing will not begin at Duke University until every last member of the Group of 88 publicly retracts and repents the part that s/he played in the unseemly rush to judgment that followed the blatantly false accusations about the Duke lacrosse team and Messrs. Evans, Finnerty and Seligmann. Justice and honor require no less.

Robert W. McDowell
Raleigh, NC

COVERT ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

(This piece first appeared in the Washington Times, Washington, DC. Metro feels it is an appropriate addition to comments by Bob McGehee, chairman and chief executive officer of Progress Energy, in a Letter published in the July 2007 issue.)

The global warming alarmists' bell has been answered, but that is not good enough for environmentalists. State by state they not only are convincing elected officials to address climate change, but they are also placing their own advocates in positions that will push policies on a snoozing populace like smart growth, subsidies for renewable power sources, fuel surcharges and higher taxes on electricity.

How? Through the savvy efforts of a nearly undetectable organization called The Climate Strategies, which is developing plans for greenhouse gas reduction for several states. The "service" provided by CCS costs its client-states next to nothing because liberal environmentalist foundations foot the bill instead.

The Harrisburg, PA-based group was created by another Keystone State nonprofit called the Pennsylvania Environmental Council. By its own description, PEC has advocated for ecological protections for more than 30 years.

CCS's model is effective and attractive for cash-strapped states. Typically, CCS representatives develop relationships with key decision makers in their target governments.

Like a governor's environmental agency officials — and lobby them to develop a strategy to address global warming. Familiar lines are invoked: "The Bush administration is doing nothing about this"; "The states are where real innovation is happening"; and "You need to get out front on this to gain the economic advantage over other states." The last statement means your state must be among the first in the carbon offsets market in order to be a revenue-gainer instead of a revenue-drainer.

Having convinced an environmentalist cabinet member (real tough), CCS then goes for the official decree: get the governor to issue an executive order deeming global warming a crisis and that something must be done about it. The remedy, included as part of the proclamation, is the creation of a climate action advisory panel, a so-called "stakeholder" group that will approve several recommendations for state legislators to put into law.

Once the executive order is issued, guess who is poised as the expert who can provide the technical analysis, hold the hands of the stakeholder group, run the meetings, write the reports and meeting minutes, maintain their Web site, and "facilitate the development of potential policy solutions? That's right, CCS.

The reasons why CCS is so attractive, once they get a state to buy into their global warming pitch, are twofold: They have an easy, ready-made template to help a state to create its own greenhouse gas reduction policy, and states pay very little for CCS's services. That is because CCS promises to bring money it has raised from environmental advocacy foundations to pay their consultants, while the states themselves pay comparatively little. For example, the state of New Mexico only discusses $100,000.

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had to pay $20,000 of what is typically a $350,000 to $400,000 cost for CCS’s total services. Minnesota will pay no more than $40,000 for its climate policy development program.

Meanwhile, CCS has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to help pay for the consultants it hires. The Rockefeller Brothers Fund, which has been characterized by the Capital Research Center as “reflexively anti-capitalist,” supplied at least $255,000 for CCS projects in Minnesota, New Mexico and North Carolina. The New York-based Surdna Foundation gave $260,000 for CCS’s work in seven states. At least eight other organizations have sent large contributions to CCS for its work in various states.

What does a state get? A process in which the conclusion is pretty much determined from the outset. CCS arrives at “stakeholder” meetings with all the rules and voting procedures in place. They have a prepared list of dozens of options to be considered for recommendation by the governor-appointed stakeholder group. No cost-benefit analysis is provided for any of the options — instead CCS supplies numbers that highlight the benefits in amount of greenhouse gases reduced, rather than their actual effect on the climate. Analysis is limited to the “cost effectiveness” of implementing the policy options (like smart growth or a renewable fuels portfolio). Meanwhile, important factors such as influence on the state’s economy, impacts on health and safety, and effects from increased regulation on businesses and consumers are not taken into account.

As for the process itself, stakeholders do not vote to endorse any policies. Instead, all options are presumed acceptable up front, and for them to be eliminated from consideration, advisory group members must register their disapproval. In other words, it is an “opt out,” system, not “opt in.” That procedure weighs heavily in favor of the passage of the majority of choices, given that most are shown to have some “benefit” while the real price tag for each option is cloaked.

CCS has finished its work in both Arizona and New Mexico and has also assisted the climate policy process in several other states, including California. It currently is guiding policy decisions in North and South Carolina, Minnesota, Montana and Washington State. CCS advisers are currently trying to get the attention of Florida Gov. Charlie Crist and undoubtedly others.

So environmentalist advocates are overtly funding, while covertly orchestrating, global warming policies in the states. It’s a cheap process but in the end will cost a bundle. Why isn’t anyone putting heat on their elected officials about it?

Paul Chesser
Associate Editor
John Locke Foundation
Raleigh

OAKWOOD HISTORY INCOMPLETE

Was there ever a time when black people could not be buried in Oakwood Cemetery? Has that policy changed? Are there any black folk buried there? Is the serenity of Oakwood Cemetery rooted in the invisibility of the black people whose labor created the wealth displayed there?

Diane Lea situates her article in “history.” The history of North Carolina is defined by racially constructed slavery and segregation. In that context, it is not acceptable to write “history,” or journalism, as if black people don’t exist.

Robert Hinton
New York University
New York City

EDITOR’S NOTE: An Oakwood spokesman reports that the cemetery does not “differentiate by race” and that there are blacks interred at the cemetery. Records are not kept by race. The mother of a well-known black Raleigh television personality, JD Lewis, was buried there in October 1986. The event is remembered due to the status of her son.

Robert Hinton
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MetroBravo Winners
Part II

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ECU Literary Tradition Recognized

In celebration of ECU’s 100th anniversary, *The North Carolina Literary Review* is presenting a special feature section in the 2007 issue commemorating writers and writing at ECU, according to NCLR editor Margaret Bauer, the Rives chair of Southern literature at ECU.

The special feature section includes selections by current and emeriti creative writing faculty and graduates of the creative writing program. The issue also features artwork and photography by ECU School of Art faculty, alumni and graduate students.

The edition includes Robert Morgan’s commencement address from his tenure at ECU as the Whidowch chair in the humanities, offerings by Allan Gurganus and an interview with Eastern North Carolina playwright/screenwriter Samm-Art Williams, who will be the keynote speaker at this fall’s Literary Homecoming.

Other articles in *NCLR* include an essay on the writings of and an original essay by Ovid Williams Pierce, the first writer-in-residence at ECU; “Searching for Hannah Crafts,” considered the first African-American female novelist; an interview with NCLR’s poetry editor Jeffrey Franklin; and the essay, “My Father’s Library” by David S. Cecelski.

Fictional works include the short stories, “Lost Colony” by Constance Pierce; “Spawning Season” by Erica Plouffe Lazure; “Marianne Moore’s Tricorn Hat” by Luke Whisnant; and “Night Light” by Rhonda Strickland, which won the 2006 Doris Betts Fiction Prize from the North Carolina Writers Network; “Lot’s Wife Speaks,” a novel excerpt by Alex Albright; “Driving Miss Molly Home” by James Dodson; and poems by several different authors, including Peter Makuck and Patrick Bizzaro. Also included is “Katmandu,” a one-act play by Robert Siegel.

*NCLR* will be available for purchase at Dowdy Student Stores at ECU, RA Fountain, NC, and Sunflower Books in Washington, NC. *NCLR* is also available online at www.ecu.edu/nclr and at the Fourth Eastern North Carolina Literary Homecoming Sept. 28-29 in Greenville.

Hayes Plantation Subject of New Book

**Hayes: The Plantation, Its People, and Their Papers**

By John G. Zehmer Jr.

Photography by John O. Peters

The publication of *Hayes: The Plantation, Its People, and Their Papers* by John Zehmer Jr., with photography by John O. Peters, is an auspicious moment for historical scholars, lovers of North Caroliniana and the reading public. Commissioned by the North Carolina Society, a private non-profit corporation “dedicated to the promotion of increased knowledge and appreciation of North Carolina’s heritage,” and published in cooperation with the Society by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Hayes is comprehensively researched and beautifully written. Zehmer, who recently retired from the Capital Region Office of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, spent part of his early career setting up the North Carolina Office of Archives & History historic sites survey program.

The book is visually compelling, with gorgeous color photographs by Peters of the current Hayes house and farm, and historic photographs and documents from the Hayes Collection in the Manuscripts Department of Wilson Library and the Southern Historical Collection at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Additionally, the lively remembrances of the people who grew up living in, working for, visiting and loving Hayes are enhanced by priceless personal photographs.

Owned for 140 years by the extended family descended from Edward Wood, who was chosen by then owner-builder Cathcart Johnston to inherit and care for Hayes, the home and farm remain one of the most intact and evocative examples of North Carolina’s architectural and cultural history. Completed in 1817, Hayes was designed and constructed with the help of...
English architect-builder William Nichols, who left his mark on North Carolina's gracious State Capitol Building and many other North Carolina public buildings and residences. Johnston was the son of Samuel Johnston, governor of North Carolina from 1787 to 1789, and nephew of James Iredell, North Carolina's first US Supreme Court justice. He was a successful businessman and an innovative farmer whose decision to leave Hayes Plantation to a friend and business associate caused a lawsuit that engaged some of the best legal minds of the time.

The obligation of the legacy of Hayes has resonated with each generation of the Wood family to the present day. With the publication of Hayes: The Plantation, Its People, and Their Papers, we can all share the bounty of their dedicated stewardship and genuine love for this treasure of North Carolina's heritage.

Golf Hall Of Fame Induction Has NC Memories for Arnold Palmer

Arnold Palmer started playing the sport at a young age as the son of a golf course superintendent in Latrobe, PA. But few remember he spent many of his formative years 60 years ago in Wake County. Palmer arrived in North Carolina in 1947 to attend Wake Forest College, when the school was north of Raleigh before shifting to Winston-Salem.

"Most people weren't even born, it was so long ago," said Palmer, who was recently voted into the Carolinas Golf Hall of Fame. "Coming to North Carolina sent a spark through my body and my mind. I've wondered sometimes if it hadn't happened if I would have been as successful as I have been. My years at Wake Forest and in North Carolina were very valuable to me and to my life and to the things that I value very much — the competition on the golf course and all the things that happened while I was in school."

Palmer added: "I have a whole list of friends in North Carolina, and all of them have been a very important part of my life."

Palmer won 62 PGA Tour events. His rabid following, called "Arnie's Army," helped grow the popularity of the sport in the 1960s.

Also inducted with Palmer was golf course architect Tom Jackson, who designed Prestonwood Country Club in Cary (home of the SAS Championship — a Champions Tour event in the fall).

"This is probably the most humbling experience I've ever had," Jackson said of his Hall of Fame honor. "I have a job that I enjoy getting up every morning, working with nature, clients and contractors."

Palmer was actually in the area twice in a two-week period in late June and early July. In addition to receiving his Hall of Fame honor in Pinehurst, the golfing leg-
end was in Raleigh to help kick-start a new golf course project at North Carolina State University.

Palmer, who also designed Brier Creek Country Club near RDU International Airport, said his public course on NC State's Centennial Campus is expected to be completed by spring 2009. — David Droschak

UNC Recognizes Filmmaker Godfrey Cheshire

Film critic and now filmmaker Godfrey Cheshire of Raleigh — a New Yorker since 1994 — was recognized for his achievements with the John L. Haber Award, presented annually by the New York Carolina Club, the UNC Department of Dramatic Art, Carolina Performing Arts and the UNC General Alumni Association for outstanding contributions to the arts. Cheshire is the ninth recipient of the award — named for a theater production executive — according to a report in the Carolina Alumni Review magazine.

Cheshire began as film critic and executive editor with Raleigh's Spectator Magazine, founded in 1978 by Bernie Reeves, editor and publisher of Metro Magazine. He was the first in the US to write about the Iranian film culture. After moving to New York City, he was elected chairman of the New York Film Critics Circle. Cheshire taught film history at UNC as a guest lecturer in spring 2007.

Cheshire is the writer and director of the documentary film Moving Midway (www.movingmidway.com), set in Wake County. The film premiered at the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in April 2007 and is expected to hit movie screens in early 2008.

Previous winners of the "Habey," as the award is nick-named, include actor Billy Crudup, costume designer William Ivey Long, director Jane Comfort and comedian Lewis Black.

Victims of Communism

President George W. Bush dedicated the Victims of Communism Memorial in June stating that we will never know the names of all who perished in the name of world socialism. The total estimate is over 100 million from 1917 to 1991, including 20 million under the USSR and 70 million under the Chinese Communists.

Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, sponsor of the legislation authorizing the Memorial, noted that the dedication took place exactly 20 years since President Ronald Reagan delivered his famous 1987 challenge at Berlin's Brandenburg Gate: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

Following the dedication, an afternoon roundtable discussed the victims and crimes of communism, featuring presentations by former political prisoners in China, Vietnam and Cuba, as well as noted historians Richard Pipes, Paul Hollander and Alan Kors.

At the gala dinner that evening, the Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom was presented to William F. Buckley Jr. by Jack Kemp and to the late Sen. Henry M. Jackson by Sen. Joe Lieberman. Elena Bonner, the widow of Soviet dissident and Nobel Laureate Andrei Sakharov, told the group about the harrowing life under Soviet repression.

The Foreign Ministry of Communist China and the leader of the Russian Communist Party both denounced the Memorial, prompting VOCMF Chairman Lee Edwards to comment: "When you are denounced by both the Chinese Communists and the Russian Communists, you know you're doing the right thing."
The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation was established by Authorization of Congressional Resolution H.R. 3000 & Presidential Approval, Public Law 103-199. The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

UNC Folks On Stage

Summer and fall '07 musical productions, in venues from Broadway to Edinburgh's Fringe Festival, have Carolina creative writing connections.

Lone Star Love, or the Merry Wives of Windsor, Texas (conceived by John Haber '70, score by Jack Herrick '70, with contributions from Michael Bogdanov, Bland Simpson '70 and the late Tommy Thompson) is bound for Broadway. Simpson is director of the creative writing program in UNC's department of English and comparative literature and a Bowman and Gordon Gray professor.

Lone Star Love, an adaptation of William Shakespeare's The Merry Wives of Windsor set in post-Civil War Texas, will have a Seattle staging Sept. 8-30 at the 5th Avenue Theatre, then head for Broadway's Belasco Theatre on W. 44th St. in New York City, previewing in November and opening in early December.

Kudzu: The Hometown Musical, hits the stage at the Edinburgh (Scotland) Fringe Festival Aug. 17-18 and Aug. 20 and 22. The musical was co-authored by Herrick '70, Simpson '70 and the late Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonist Doug Marlette. The musical brings to life the character of Kudzu Dubose in Marlette's comic strip, Kudzu. Kudzu's pursuit of true love and his dreams of becoming a writer and leaving the town of Bypass set him on a series of zany adventures in this coming-of-age story set against the changing face of the American South.

The People vs. Mona, a rocking new musical comedy about the "New South" by
Jim Wann ’70 and Patricia Miller and produced by Kate Middleton ’00, will open off-Broadway at the Abingdon Theatre at 312 W. 36th St. in New York City July 12-Aug. 4. (Wann is the composer for the Tony Award-nominated musical, Pump Boys and Dinettes.)

Set in Tippo, GA (population: 8000), The People vs. Mona is “a love story, courtroom drama, musical comedy and fate-of-a-small-town-hanging-in-the-balance story all rolled into one,” according to Broadwayworld.com. Mona Mae Katt, owner of the musical hangout, The Frog Pad, stands accused of killing her husband on their wedding day. If convicted, Mona will go to jail, and her beloved Frog Pad will be turned over to developers.

Closer to Chapel Hill, Wann ’70, Simpson ’70 and Don Dixon ’71 will bring “Coastal Cohorts in Concert” to the Carrboro ArtsCenter Sept. 7-8. The trio will perform songs from King Mackerel & The Blues are Running, and their new CD, Wild Ponies: More Songs from the Carolina Coast.

In “Coastal Cohorts,” Dixon, Simpson and Wann conjure up flatboat fever and saucy breezes, turning tides and catfish fries in their songs and stories of the Carolina coast.

Clive Barnes of The New York Post called King Mackerel “a pure, salt-watered delight,” and The Charlotte Observer wrote: “So pro-DiVerse, Banks, the Legislature should pass a bill designating it the State Musical of North Carolina!”

Raleigh Hall of Fame Ceremony Set

The third annual induction celebration for the Raleigh Hall of Fame will be held Thursday, Sept. 13, 2007, at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, in Meymandi Concert Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Among the 2007 Raleigh Hall of Fame inductees are:

• John H. Baker Sr. and John H. Baker Jr. for their combined 60 years of law enforcement and community service to Raleigh and Wake County
• Dr. Frederick D. Burroughs, the first African-American physician to devote his practice completely to the specialty of pediatrics in Raleigh, for mentoring three generations of medical students and serving as a role model for young African-American men
• Fred Fletcher Sr. for 50 years of dedicated service to the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation system
• Seby B. Jones for his leadership in business, public service and philanthropy that helped to move Raleigh into the nationally recognized economic powerhouse that it is today
• LeRoy B. Martin Sr. for his role in shaping both Raleigh’s and North Carolina’s public school systems

• Nancy Olson for her advocacy of locally owned businesses, her commitment to literacy programs and for putting Raleigh on the nation’s literary map
• George W. Paschal and Beth C. Paschal for his groundbreaking work in integrating the hospital system and her work in establishing the North Carolina Museum of Art
• Susie Vick Perry for an outstanding lifetime of volunteerism and her exemplary career as a teacher, mentor and role model
• Sarah D. Williamson for almost 50 years of working to preserve Raleigh’s history and its historic sites
• John Winters, the first African American elected to the Raleigh City Council, for his trailblazing efforts to build affordable homes in East Raleigh and for being one of the best bridge-builders between the races
• Smedes York for his visionary leadership in business, public service and charitable fundraising, and for his continued dedication to improving the quality of life for everyone in Raleigh
• Kay Yow, a pioneer in the sport of women’s basketball, for her outstanding accomplishments both locally and internationally, and for being a vital beacon for those suffering from cancer
• The Raleigh Little Theatre, one of the oldest community theaters in the country, for providing a thriving cultural environment for over 80 years
• The Wake County Medical Society Alliance for over 80 years of dedicated health education, most notably, the establishment of the Alice Aycock Poe Center, which offers quality health education programs to students and teachers from all over the state

The 2007 inductees for the Centennial Hall of Fame are:

• Lawrence M. Cheek, founder of the Raleigh Independent newspaper, known today as The Carolinian, was a champion of African-American rights in the early 1900s and ran for a seat on the Raleigh City Council in 1919
• Dr. Manassa Pope, an African-American physician who courageously challenged the Jim Crow system by running for mayor of Raleigh.

Tickets are $45 and are now available continued on page 95
As an English professor of mine put it, "he was a renaissance man with a small 'r'."

Perhaps a rather precise usage, but it demarcates those who did not live in the 15th century who achieved above the plane of mere mortals. The term aptly applies to Doug Marlette, who died in a car crash July 10 at age 57 on a rural Mississippi blacktop road in the pouring rain. He was on his way to advise high school kids rehearsing a version of the musical play *Kudzu*, based on Doug’s long-running comic strip. As befitting a “renaissance” man, he died with his boots on in the midst of his life’s work.

His was a ferocious talent, penning gut-check political cartoons and the *Kudzu* strip each morning at dawn. He won the Pulitzer and was dubbed a Neiman Fellow at Harvard. Only a man driven by his muses could find additional time and creative energy to pen two acclaimed novels (with a third in the works), teach university courses, collaborate on a musical — and allocate quality time to family and friends. The Calvinist in us would say he was driven to create at this pace by the unconscious knowledge his time bound to earth was running out.

I can’t claim lifetime kinship with this unique human. We became friends seven years ago when he moved to Hillsborough, NC, with the beautiful Melinda and their son Jackson. But we had something in common. He was under attack by a cadre of the literary and intellectual elite over the publication of his first novel, *The Bridge*. I knew who they were, and we both realized that his attackers were possessed with a moral insanity. We asked: “Is it that those driven to create often harbor a jealous grudge — a repressed animus from childhood — that drives their art?” Perhaps it remains disguised until triggered by someone else’s success. We saw the parallels with the antics of the radical scholars on campus who use similar tactics to destroy their colleagues.

Doug realized he was the object of a campaign of innuendo by fellow artists when he dared step from cartooning to writing novels, treading on sacred ground zealously protected by a literary secret police that protected its own by lashing out at the enemy breaching their sacred wall. The assault was a life-defining incident for this thoughtful man who invested his intellect in understanding human behavior. Terrorism, he realized, was not confined to Islam.

In the July issue of *Metro*, published before his death, we ran a cartoon by Doug chastising the infamous Group of 88 at Duke who made fools of themselves attacking the accused lacrosse players. I added a short caption mentioning that Doug Marlette knows what it’s like to be the victim of a vicious personal attack by a clique of cowards. The evening before the accident, he and I signed off on a deal to run his cartoons every issue.

Doug’s death is an appalling loss. His famous cartoons are the chronicle of a nation; his novels the essence of the South in the modern era.

To join in the salute to the life of Doug Marlette, go to www.metronc.com and read eulogies from his funeral service by me, novelist and closest friend Pat Conroy and syndicated columnist Kathleen Parker.
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A portion of the proceeds will go to benefit the United Arts Council of Wake County
If you’ve been out binging and gained a few LBs at last month’s award-winning restaurants in Part One, Part Two of the Eighth Annual MetroBravo! Awards are just the right fit. Whether you need a new pair of jeans or somewhere to get your old ones tailored, this month’s results offer a compendium of the area’s best retail shops and services — from best clothing boutiques, jewelry shops and furniture stores to best dry cleaner, wine retailer and marina.

As Metro readers know, the region is home to some of the most prestigious hospitals in the nation. The healthcare categories will help you pick the right facility to ensure the best care for you and your family. And be sure to schedule some time to pamper yourself at one of the winners in the day spa, hair salon or health club categories. For readers deciding which elementary school is right for your child, or where your high school student should apply to college, flip to the back of the Bravo! Awards to educate yourselves on the best lower schools and high schools, and the state’s best public and private colleges.

Thanks to our readers for their votes and congratulations to the winners! And remember to purchase your tickets or reserve a booth at the first annual MetroBravo! party on Sept. 27 at the Koka Booth Amphitheatre in Cary. Visit www.metronc.com or call Katie Poole [919-831-0999] to make sure you don’t miss out on the music, food and fun.

— Jennifer Hadra
The Best of the Best
by Jennifer Hadra and Mary Constangy

FASHION/WHERE TO SHOP

MALL
Standing Ovation
Crabtree Valley Mall, Raleigh
MetroBravo
The Streets at Southpoint, Durham
Honorable Mention
Triangle Town Center, Raleigh

SHOPPING CENTER
Standing Ovation
North Hills, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Cameron Village, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Crossroads Plaza, Cary

DEPARTMENT STORE
Standing Ovation
Belk, Triangle-wide
MetroBravo
Nordstrom, Durham
Honorable Mention
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh

GIFT STORE
Standing Ovation
Charlotte’s, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Quintessentials, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Frances T. King Stationery, Raleigh

MEN’S CLOTHING STORE
Standing Ovation
Nowell’s Clothing, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Brooks Brothers, Triangle-wide
Honorable Mention
JoS. A. Bank, Triangle-wide

TIES
Standing Ovation
Brooks Brothers, Triangle-wide
MetroBravo
Nordstrom, Durham
Honorable Mention
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh

MEN’S SHOES
Standing Ovation
Nordstrom, Durham
MetroBravo
Belk, Triangle-wide
Honorable Mention
Nowell’s Clothing, Raleigh
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh

WOMEN’S CLOTHING STORE
Standing Ovation
Gena Chandler, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Vermillion, Raleigh

Honorable Mention
Fleur Boutique, Raleigh and Chapel Hill
Beanie + Cecil, Raleigh and Wilmington

EVENING/COCKTAIL WEAR
Standing Ovation
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Beanie + Cecil, Raleigh and Wilmington
Honorable Mention
Cameron Clothing Co., Raleigh

FUR COAT
Standing Ovation
Hertzberg Furs, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Serotta’s of Raleigh, Raleigh

WEDDING DRESS
Standing Ovation
Traditions Bridal Shop, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Victorian Rose Bridals, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Alexia’s Bridal Boutique, Cary

CONTEMPORARY CLOTHING
Standing Ovation
Gena Chandler, Raleigh
**MetroBravo**
Uniquities, Raleigh

**Honorable Mention**
Fleur Boutique, Raleigh and Chapel Hill
Scout & Molly's, Raleigh

**DESIGNER JEANS**
Standing Ovation
Uniquities, Raleigh

**MetroBravo**
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh

**Honorable Mention**
Scout & Molly's, Raleigh

**WOMEN'S SHOES**
Standing Ovation

**MetroBravo**
Main & Taylor, Raleigh

**Honorable Mention**
Monkee's, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, Southern Pines and Wilmington

**Uniquities**

**Standing Ovation**
Victoria's Secret, Triangle-wide

**MetroBravo**
J. Alane's Fine Lingerie and Other Essentials, Raleigh

**Honorable Mention**
Lavender and Lace, Raleigh

**LINGERIE**
Standing Ovation

**MetroBravo**
Cravings - A Maternity Boutique, Raleigh

**Honorable Mention**
A Pea in the Pod, Triangle-wide

**MATERNITY CLOTHING**
Standing Ovation

**MetroBravo**
Cravings - A Maternity Boutique, Raleigh

**Honorable Mention**
A Pea in the Pod, Triangle-wide

**BATHING SUIT**
Standing Ovation

**MetroBravo**
Everything But Water, Triangle-wide

**Honorable Mention**
Palm Avenue, Raleigh
Palm Garden, Wilmington

**KIDS' CLOTHING**
Standing Ovation

**MetroBravo**
Lamb's Ear, Raleigh

**Honorable Mention**
GapKids, Triangle-wide

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REI, Triangle-wide
Honorable Mention
Dick's Sporting Goods, Triangle-wide

**DESIGNER JEWELRY**
Standing Ovation
Bailey's Fine Jewelry, Raleigh and Rocky Mount
MetroBravo
Elaine Miller Collection, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Jewelsmith, Durham

**ESTATE JEWELRY**
Standing Ovation
Elaine Miller Collection, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Joint Ventures Estate Jewelers, Cary
Honorable Mention
Jolly's Jewelers, Raleigh

**WEDDING RINGS**
Standing Ovation
Bailey's Fine Jewelry, Raleigh and Rocky Mount
MetroBravo

**PEARLS**
Standing Ovation
Elaine Miller Collection, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Joint Ventures Estate Jewelers, Cary
Honorable Mention
Jolly's Jewelers, Raleigh

**WATCHES**
Standing Ovation
Bailey's Fine Jewelry, Raleigh and Rocky Mount
MetroBravo
Joint Ventures Estate Jewelers, Cary
Honorable Mention
Haydon & Company, Raleigh

**PERFUME**
Standing Ovation
Belk, Triangle-wide
MetroBravo
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Sephora, Triangle-wide

**SUNGLASSES**
Standing Ovation
Sunglass Hut, Triangle-wide
MetroBravo
Saks Fifth Avenue, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Eye Care Associates, Triangle-wide

**TAILOR**
Standing Ovation
Lee's Tailor Shop, Triangle-wide
MetroBravo
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PET BOUTIQUE/SALON
Standing Ovation
Wag Pet Boutique, Raleigh
MetroBravo
La Di Dogs Inc., Raleigh
Honorable Mention
PetSmart, Triangle-wide

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70 West Marina, Atlantic Beach
MetroBravo
Coral Bay Marina, Morehead City
Honorable Mention
Crocker’s Marine, Morehead City

BOOKSTORE
Standing Ovation
Quail Ridge Books, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Barnes & Noble, Triangle-wide
Honorable Mention
Borders, Triangle-wide

WINE RETAILER
Standing Ovation
The Wine Merchant, Raleigh and Cary
MetroBravo
Total Wine & More, Triangle-wide
Honorable Mention
Seaboard Wine Warehouse, Raleigh

LINENS
Standing Ovation
Lavender and Lace, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Yves Delorme, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Linens-n-Things, Triangle-wide

GOLF EQUIPMENT
Standing Ovation
Carolina Custom Golf, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Dick’s Sporting Goods, Triangle-wide
Honorable Mention
Falls Village Golf Club, Durham

PICTURE FRAMING
Standing Ovation
Frameworks, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Jill Flink Fine Art & Framing, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Michaels, Triangle-wide

PIANO
Standing Ovation
Hopper Piano & Organ Co., Raleigh
MetroBravo
Ruggiero Piano, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Maus Piano & Organ Co., Raleigh

STATIONERY
Standing Ovation
Frances T. King Stationery, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Taylor’s of Raleigh Fine Papers, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Swoozie’s, Raleigh

CHILDREN’S TOYS
Standing Ovation
Learning Express Toys, Cary and Raleigh
MetroBravo
Tookie’s Toys, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Toys “R” Us, Triangle-wide

BOAT
Standing Ovation
Chatlee Boat & Marine, Sanford

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LINENS
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Lavender and Lace, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Yves Delorme, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Linens-n-Things, Triangle-wide

GOLF EQUIPMENT
Standing Ovation
Carolina Custom Golf, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Dick’s Sporting Goods, Triangle-wide
Honorable Mention
Falls Village Golf Club, Durham

PICTURE FRAMING
Standing Ovation
Frameworks, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Jill Flink Fine Art & Framing, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Michaels, Triangle-wide

PIANO
Standing Ovation
Hopper Piano & Organ Co., Raleigh
MetroBravo
Ruggiero Piano, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Maus Piano & Organ Co., Raleigh

STATIONERY
Standing Ovation
Frances T. King Stationery, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Taylor’s of Raleigh Fine Papers, Raleigh
Honorable Mention
Swoozie’s, Raleigh

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Learning Express Toys, Cary and Raleigh
MetroBravo
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MetroBravo
Promarine Boat Sales & Service, Burlington
Honorable Mention
Hatteras Yachts, Triangle-wide

FLORIST
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Kelly Odom Flowers, Raleigh
MetroBravo
Fallon's Creative Flowers, Raleigh
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Tweeter, Triangle-wide
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Ethan Allen
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The folks at Audio Advice (voted best Media Center) make sure their customers are not only observers, but participants in their home theater systems. With a team of an acoustical engineer, theater designer, and complete construction manager to help every step of the way, installation is hassle-free, and the systems can be created in any size space. The home theater systems’ starting price is about $20,000 and can increase up to $1 million with more features or a larger space. Audio Advice creates their theaters with high definition front projectors and subwoofers throughout the room to put viewers into the action. With top-of-the-line brands such as Kaleidescape, a system can play films throughout multiple rooms and can even have child restrictions set. Audio Advice sells everything from equipment to seating to lighting to make your home theater complete.

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The Wicker Gallery, Raleigh

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Furnitureland South, Jamestown

Cherry

BEDS
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Fred's Beds, Morehead City, Raleigh, Rocky Mount and Wilmington
MetroBravo
Home Comfort Furniture, Raleigh

Honorable Mention
Porto, Raleigh

LAMPS
Standing Ovation
Thompson-Lynch Co., Raleigh

North Carolina Furniture
Whether you’re looking for a chair from the Chippendale period or a 1970s-inspired tulip table, you can find the piece to complete your room or collection right here. As this year’s Bravo! Awards show, North Carolina’s furniture industry is burgeoning outward to the Triangle and coast, offering contemporary and traditional galleries with selections to suit every decorating style.

With over 20,000 square feet of designs, Standing Ovation winner Nowell’s boasts the largest showroom of contemporary furniture in the state, and fellow Bravo! winners ECKO and Cherry Modern Design offer an eclectic mix of modern products that add fresh, functional flare to any home or office. Furniture shoppers with more traditional tastes will want to check out the elegant hand-crafted furniture and unique imports at Green Front Furniture or peruse the timeless pieces at iconic furniture manufacturer Ethan Allen.

Not sure how to decorate? Most stores, including Boyles Distinctive Furniture, offer in-store assistance to help you complete any interior design project from start to finish.

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Hospital Facts
As any Tar Heel knows, the Triangle is home to some of the nation’s premier hospitals and academic medical centers. All four of the area’s major health systems — Rex Hospital, WakeMed Health and Hospitals, University of North Carolina Hospitals and Duke University Hospitals — boast impressive healthcare statistics and provide quality services to patients in North Carolina and surrounding states each year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Licensed Beds</th>
<th>Inpatient Discharges</th>
<th>Surgeries</th>
<th>Births</th>
<th>ED Visits</th>
<th>Physicians on Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rex Hospital: FY 2006 statistics</td>
<td>665 (63 general acute beds, 6 inpatient hospice and 226 skilled nursing)</td>
<td>32,224</td>
<td>31,772</td>
<td>5,571</td>
<td>54,612</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina Hospitals: FY 2007 statistics</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>31,934 (not newborns)</td>
<td>22,247</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>61,200</td>
<td>1188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University Hospital, Durham: FY 2005 statistics</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>[number not available]</td>
<td>32,884*</td>
<td>2908*</td>
<td>61,009*</td>
<td>846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Figures are for Duke University Health System including Duke University Hospital, Duke University Medical Center, Durham Regional Hospital, Duke Health Raleigh Hospital, Private Diagnostic Clinic, Duke Community Home Health, Duke Affiliated Physicians.
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War On Diabetes Waged On Many Fronts: 
Lifestyle Management Crucial For Success
by Rick Smith

Dr. John Buse, The University of North Carolina Diabetes Care Center director, is dedicated to helping people recognize the dangers of the disease. Buse, 48, who received his medical degree at Duke, is chief of endocrinology at UNC. He has spent years researching and writing about diabetes and has spoken out in Congress against the side effects of the popular GlaxoSmithKline drug Avandia, noting that in 1999 he received threatening phone calls from GSK.

"During those calls, it was mentioned on two occasions that there were some in the company who felt that my actions were scurrilous enough to attempt to hold me liable for a loss in market capitalization of $4 billion," Buse said. "I was characterized as a liar."

After the hearings, triggered in large part by a recent study in the New England Journal of Medicine that linked Avandia to increased heart attack risks, the Food and Drug Administration slapped tougher warnings on the drug.

In September, Buse will take his advocacy for improvements in diabetes care to a higher level when he assumes the presidency of the American Diabetes Association. He knows he has a fight on his hands to help the organization wage its battle for effective diabetes treatment.

He is looking for allies, such as doctors on the front lines. And he wants more federal funding to increase research into treatments. "I want more doctors involved," Buse said. "We have some excellent publications, and I'd like to make them more freely available. The second part is service. I want to partner with the American Academy of Family Physicians to make sure primary care doctors have all the tools they need for patients."

THE CHALLENGE OF OBESITY

As the ranks of the obese in the United States continue to swell, so too do the number of people with the often crippling — even deadly — disease. Nearly 21 million Americans have diabetes, but only 15 million have been diagnosed, according to federal statistics. Diabetes was a contributing factor to more than 200,000 deaths in 2002. More than 20 percent of Americans over the age of 60 are believed to have diabetes in various forms. And blacks are 1.8 times as likely to have diabetes as whites of the same age, with more than 13 percent afflicted with a type of the disease.

Even more people — some 54 million — have what is called "pre-diabetes," which is higher than normal blood sugar levels but not high enough to be diagnosed as a diabetic, the ADA estimates.

Side effects range from blindness to amputations, heart disease and stroke to kidney disease.

"I hope to involve more primary care doctors in the ADA," Buse explained. "There are a lot of diabetes specialists, scientists, pharmacists, nurse practitioners and others who are members, but I think we need greater involvement of primary care doctors because they deliver 90 percent of the care."

ABSOLUTELY ALARMED

Buse also was clear on his other priority: "to reverse the back sliding on the research budget at the National Institutes of Health that has occurred in the last five or six years. Our current administration is more focused on the war on terrorism."

NIH figures show that diabetes funding declined from $1.055 billion in fiscal year 2005 to $1.038 billion in 2006. The NIH forecast further declines to $1.035 billion in 2007 and $1.031 billion in 2008.

To put it succinctly, Buse said he is "absolutely alarmed" about the prevalence of diabetes.

He also advocates more NIH funding for research for a critical three-year study at UNC. Buse and others reported this summer that use of the drug exenatide, which is a synthetic form of a substance found in Gila monster saliva, led to healthy glucose levels and weight loss in people with type 2 diabetes.

"Senators tease the NIH and ask why they are giving money to drugs based on the saliva of reptiles," Buse said. "In this case,
it worked.”

Exenatide, which is marketed as Byetta, was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 2005. Buse's study reported that patients lost 12 to 15 pounds with "about a quarter losing twice as much. Associated with the weight loss, there were improvements in cardiovascular, cholesterol and blood pressure."

Research on exenatide and other GLP-1 (glucagon-like peptide-1) drugs encourages Buse.

"There is real hope that these kind of medications will really improve blood sugar control and help diabetes patients lose weight at the same time," he said.

**Lifestyle Management Crucial**

However, people shouldn't rely just on drugs to control diabetes or prevent its onset, Buse said.

"It's critical," he explained about people augmenting care with diet and exercise.

"It's arguably the most important thing," he added. "Anybody can work their way through diabetes drugs, but unless the patients make an effort, they won't do well.

"There is no other disease where people can take such an active role. Doctors cannot take care of it alone. End of story. Patient participation is the critical bit."

Buse will be an active proponent of the ADA's position on what he calls "lifestyle management."

"It's the cornerstone of care," he said.

Buse also would like to see the insurance industry follow the ADA's lead for improved lifestyle management by helping patients join health clubs.

"It's amazing. I will write a prescription for a drug that costs $200 a month and 95 times out of 100 I will get absolutely no push back from the insurance company or the patient," he explained. "But when we talk about joining a health club, which costs about half as much a month, and going to work out half an hour a day, there is absolutely no coverage or no support."

**Personal Side**

Dr. John Buse believes in exercise. When not practicing medicine, teaching future doctors, conducting research or traveling for speaking engagements, Buse likes to "throw the ball with my dog" and spend time with his family. He and his wife, Laura, have two daughters, Katherine and Caroline.

**Medical Briefs**

**Hospitals Expand**

Rex Healthcare plans to build a $9.5 million outpatient center near Knightdale near the intersection of Interstate 540 and US 64 to offer urgent care and other services. Targeted opening date is 2009.

WakeMed also is seeking to expand in Eastern Wake County with a $24 million facility. State officials still must approve the projects.

**ECU Master's Program in Health Care Receives Certification**

The Council on Education for Public Health has given its blessing to the master's of public health program at East Carolina's Brody School of Medicine.

The accreditation is for five years.

The Council on Education for Public Health is recognized by the US Department of Education to provide accreditation for schools of public health and some public health programs. The accreditation process included peer reviewers who visited ECU. The process took two years to complete.

The master's in public health program was launched in 2003 to help develop health professionals who in turn can improve health through disease prevention and health promotion, especially in rural, and what ECU calls, "underserved" areas. The program drew 70 students for the 2006-2007 school year.

**ECU Institute Receives $1 Million to Combat Diabetes**

The Metabolic Institute at East Carolina University recently received a $1 million grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation to combat diabetes.

The Institute, launched in 2004, includes scientists and physicians with expertise in gastric bypass surgery used to help reduce obesity.

"As you can imagine, we are delighted by the grant," said Dr. Walter Pories, the Institute's leader and professor of surgery and biochemistry at ECU's Brody School of Medicine. He is an internationally recognized leader in diabetes and gastric bypass surgery. Pories received a lifetime achievement award from the American Society for Bariatric Surgery in June.

Researchers at the Institute have discovered that exclusion of part of the intestine through the gastric bypass surgery leads to remission of type 2 diabetes.

The Institute is also using $491,000 in funding from Johnson & Johnson to seek a medicine that would mimic the effect of gastric bypass surgery.

**Diabetes Facts**

**Type 1 Diabetes**

Results from the failure to produce insulin, the hormone that "unlocks" the cells of the body, allowing glucose to enter and fuel. It is estimated that 5-10 percent of Americans diagnosed have type 1 diabetes.

**Type 2 Diabetes**

Results from insulin resistance (a condition in which the body fails to properly use insulin), combined with relative insulin deficiency. Most Americans who are diagnosed have type 2 diabetes.

**Gestational Diabetes**

Gestational diabetes affects 4 percent of pregnant women — about 135,000 cases in the United States each year.

**Pre-Diabetes**

Pre-diabetes is a condition in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal, but not high enough for a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes. There are 54 million Americans with this condition, in addition to the 20.8 million with diabetes.

**Related Web Sites:**
National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse

All About Diabetes: Web site of American Diabetes Association
www.diabetes.org/about-diabetes.jsp
WakeMed Names Chief Nursing Officer

Mary Ann Wilcox, a healthcare veteran from Ohio, is the new vice president of operations and chief nursing officer at WakeMed's Raleigh Campus.

Wilcox most recently served for 20 years at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH, as chief nursing officer. She also has held executive positions as vice president of women's health services and director of women's health services.

Wilcox received an undergraduate degree in nursing at the Saint Xavier College School of Nursing in Chicago and a master's degree at the Ohio State College of Nursing.

At WakeMed, she will direct all areas of nursing.

UNC Researcher Named Chief Medical Officer

InnerPulse, a medical device company focused on treatment of abnormal heart rhythms, has hired Dr. W. Eugene Sanders Jr. as its chief medical officer and vice president of medical affairs.

Sanders spent more than 15 years in cardiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

His most recent position at UNC was as director of clinical cardiac electrophysiology and pacing. He also was an associate professor of medicine and pathology in the division of cardiology.

Sanders is a graduate of the UNC School of Medicine.

Duke Med Student Remains on American Medical Association Board

Chris DeRienzo, a medical student at Duke University, has been elected to a second term on the American Medical Association board.

DeRienzo is only the fourth student ever elected to a second one-year term by the AMA.

DeRienzo is in the fifth year of his medical program at Duke. He graduated magna cum laude with degrees in biochemistry, biology and psychology from Brandeis University.

iPhone Heart Images

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To bring a higher level of care to southeastern North Carolina, we evaluated 19 cardiac surgery programs from around the country. Our choice for a surgical partnership was unanimous: Cleveland Clinic. Now our patients will have access to world-class heart surgery — without the 10-hour drive. Welcome to a new era in heart surgery.
HeartIT’s Director of Software Development Brent Reed added that “privacy concerns can be addressed using the same encryption technologies employed by online banking and credit card transactions.”

To view examples of the technology, visit www.heartit.com.

**CIGNA HealthCare Names Top Medical Executive for Carolinas**

Dr. Edward Hunsinger is the new senior medical executive for CIGNA HealthCare in the Carolinas. A family practitioner, he founded Aegis Family Health Centers, a subsidiary of Wake Forest University. His most recent position was market medical director for United HealthCare of the Carolinas. Hunsinger received his medical degree from the University of Florida.

**Most Patients Wish to Donate Embryos**

Sixty percent of patients surveyed by Duke University say they would likely donate unused frozen embryos for stem cell research.

Researchers at Duke and Johns Hopkins University conducted the study, which was based on surveys of more than 1000 patients. *Science Express*, an online publication of the journal *Science*, published the findings.

The study indicates that the number of embryos for stem cell research could be “10 times higher than previous estimates,” according to Duke. Previous estimates had said some 11,000 embryos would be available.

The Bush administration has barred stem cell research involving frozen embryos.

“This has significant implications for potential policy change on stem cell research,” said Dr. Anne Drapkin Lyerly. Lyerly, an obstetrician/gynecologist and bioethicist at Duke, was the lead investigator on the study.

**WakeMed Joins Forces**

WakeMed Health & Hospitals has joined forces with the Triangle Aphasia Project (TAP) to provide therapeutic support to patients through the TAP at WakeMed Rehab. The TAP will offer treatment groups, personalized home programs, family education, and training and support to patients with aphasia — a communication disorder usually the result of a stroke, traumatic brain injury, brain tumor or progressive neurological condition.

**UNC Researchers Find Way to Stop Tough Bacteria**

Researchers at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill believe they have found a way to kill antibiotic-resistant bacteria. By using drugs called biophosphanes, researchers stopped an enzyme that bacteria use to swap genes in developing drug resistance. Biophosphanes are used to treat bone loss.

The discovery could be helpful in combating especially tough bacteria that can be deadly and difficult to cure in hospitals.
Breast cancer is personal.

Your treatment should be, too.

Your loved ones know it best: There's no one quite like you. We at Duke Medicine understand that your treatment profile is unique, too. Our internationally renowned physicians and scientists are developing genomic tests that analyze the unique traits of a cancerous tumor to determine which type of chemotherapy will be most effective against it. We also provide extensive support services, including the Duke Cancer Center of Raleigh’s Patient Navigator Program, which connects you to a patient navigator who will guide you through each step of cancer diagnosis and treatment. We provide this patient navigator service to all our cancer patients—because whether it's tailored therapies or a helping hand along the journey, we know that care is more powerful when it's personal.

Learn more about our cancer services and support groups:

Duke Cancer Center of Raleigh
dukeraleighhospital.org/cancer
“Our discoveries may lead to the ability to selectively kill antibiotic-resistant bacteria in patients, and to halt the spread of resistance in clinical settings,” said Dr. Matt Redinbo at UNC. He is a professor of chemistry, biochemistry and biophysics at UNC-Chapel Hill.

The study was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The National Institutes of Health funded the program.

Duke University Hospital Ranks 7th in US News Report
UNC Hospital Cracks Top 50 in Six of 16 Care Categories

In the 2007 rankings released July 13 by US News & World Report magazine, Duke ranked seventh, the same position it held in 2006.

Data for 5462 hospitals was reviewed. Only 18 made the magazine’s “honor roll.” To make the list, a hospital had to be ranked highly in six or more of the 16 categories for care that were reviewed. The annual survey is conducted by Research Triangle Institute, based in RTP.

Duke received a top 10 ranking in 10 of the 16 specialties covered by the magazine’s annual report. Its best rating came in gynecology (fourth) followed by geriatrics (fifth); orthopedics (sixth); digestive disorders and ophthalmology (seventh in each); heart and heart surgery (eighth); cancer, urology and kidney disease (ninth in each); and respiratory disease/pulmonary (10th).

Other rankings included psychiatry and rheumatology (13th each); ear, nose and throat (20th); neurology/neurosurgery (23rd), and endocrinology (26th).

Pediatrics will be covered in a separate report according to RTI.

University of North Carolina’s medical center was ranked in several categories, including: gynecology (24th); respiratory disorders (25th); kidney disease (28th); ear, nose and throat (38th); cancer (40th); and urology (43rd).

Johns Hopkins, Mayo Clinic and UCLA Medical Center ranked 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

For more information visit online at http://health.usnews.com/sections/health/best-hospitals.
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Two Edenton Landmarks:
ONE RESOURCEFUL FAMILY

It is deep summer and a thin plume of dust rises from the gravel lane leading to Poplar Neck Plantation, just southeast of Downtown Edenton. Behind white board fences, sleek cattle graze on either side of the poplar-flanked lane. The Greek Revival plantation house, dating from 1853, is surrounded by a complement of structures indicating a working farm and a hospitable family. Indeed, Simon (known as Cy) and Nancy Rich have owned and worked the 300-acre property for more than 30 years. They reared their five children there and now, while commuting to busy careers at Duke University (Duke Divinity School for Nancy and the Nicholas School of the Environment for Cy), the Rich family has made Poplar Neck Plantation the focus of their passion for the conservation of history, architecture, land and natural resources.

"We have the second largest solar power installation in the state," says Nancy, as she walks the gravel paths from the boxwood garden to the stately old home. She gives a nod in the direction of six large arrays of solar panels that are part of the farm's alternative energy system.

But there is conservation of another irreplaceable resource, historic architecture, evident when entering the plantation house, with a breeze maximizing double galleries on the front and rear elevations. It is evident they have retained Poplar Neck with few changes. Nancy notes that except for adding bathrooms, closets, a simple kitchen in the original Keeping Room and a few bookcases, Poplar Neck looks much as it did when it was built for its first owner, Suzanna Jordan Armistead Moore, widow of Chowan Superior Court Judge Augustus Moore. The Moores occupied the Barker-Moore House on South Broad Street in Edenton; their descendants owned it until 1952 when it was moved to the waterfront and was adapted as the Edenton Visitor Center. Upon Augustus' death in 1851, Suzanna chose to leave the Barker-Moore House and build her new home on land that Moore had purchased in 1835, commenting that Edenton was too worldly a place in which to bring up her seven children unassisted.

"We purchased Poplar Neck from Benbury Wood and Virginia Hall Wood in 1975, just as they were preparing to restore Greenfield Plantation, a home and working farm that has remained in the Wood family for over 200 years," Nancy adds. "Both the Wood family and Cy and I respected the symmetry of the house, which is organized around a 12-foot by 50-foot center hall with four rooms above and four rooms down. Even the staircase is symmetrically placed, so that you see a portion of the transom window over the rear entrance in the stairwell wall."

The Riches took 10 months to refinish the house, rebuilding fireplaces, replastering walls and refinishing floors, all the while marveling at the quality of construction from cypress and heart pine wood. While resituating the pocket doors between the double parlors, workmen discovered historical treasure in the door tracks.

"There was a ship's manifest for the schooner Mary Browning dated 1803 and a letter written to Henrietta Moore, one of Suzanna Moore's daughters, by a classmate at Miss Willard's Seminary in Troy, NY. It appears that Henrietta had returned home and her friend was chiding her for perhaps having fallen in love with a handsome beau."

The 1853 Greek Revival home built for Suzanna Jordan Armistead Moore features breeze-catching double balconies.
DELIGHTFUL LIVING

The dining room is one of the most delightful rooms in the house. The elegant columned woodwork surrounding the doors and windows, described by Minard Lefever in the 1835 book *The Beauties of Modern Architecture*, shows to great advantage. The room also contains many of the Rich family's most prized furnishings, including an Irish hunt table obtained from friends and former owners Benbury and Virginia Wood — and the 500-pound 1750 two-piece Philadelphia corner cupboard unearthed in a shop in Virginia. Another favorite piece is a handcrafted buffet built by local artisan Ben Hobbs.

"One of our greatest joys has been working with Ben Hobbs," says Nancy. "In addition to being a fine furniture maker, he is knowledgeable about timber frame construction and early building technologies."

As the Rich family settled into life with grown children and grandchildren, they decided to remodel the third floor of the house as two comfortable guest rooms and a bath. "We used good salvaged heart pine for the floors, plastered the walls and added a cedar-lined hall closet," says Rich. "The addition of the two additional guest rooms gave Cy and me the opportunity to reinstall the pocket doors removed from our master bedroom when baths and closets were added. Now, we have a bathroom-sitting room with fireplace and a master bedroom suite served by the original pocket doors."

Though the kitchen house located behind the main house remained until the 1920s, none of the original outbuildings have survived. The barn dates from the period of ownership by the Wood family.

Library bookshelves are an addition made by former owners Benbury & Virginia Wood. A 1903 Texaco station with the original service counter was adapted as the guest house.

and the guest house is an old Texaco service station dating from around 1903 that they moved and adapted to a guest cottage — complete with the original service counter doing duty as a kitchen island for the refrigerator-freezer. Of greatest appeal
In warm weather, most meals are taken in the summer house, which was constructed by Simon Rich. A cozy guest bedroom awaits family and friends.

and utility among the new accessory buildings is the summer house, the creation of son Simon, built as a project while he was living at the farm just after college. The small gabled structure overlooks the pool and features a screened porch where the senior Rich family members take their meals in the summer.

“The porch has a divided galley kitchen, with a dishwasher and sink on one side of the interior door and a refrigerator on the other. There is a small room with a bath beyond the porch. It is now my office and the best one I’ve ever had,” says Nancy.

LANDMARK RESTORATION

To meet Simon and discuss the next family renovation, take a left at the end of the lane and follow the Poplar Neck Road to the offices of Stevens Towing Company and the Edenton River Barge Company in Edenton's revitalizing mill neighborhood, a tugboat and barge business that transports cargo up and down the eastern seaboard. It is easy to spot the offices: the building is the 1909 Edenton Peanut Mill, a five-story, approximately 66-foot square Italianate Revival structure adjacent to the railroad tracks. Simon, like his parents Cy and Nancy, is enthusiastic about historic preservation and resource conservation and found a very practical application for his talent by renovating the historic peanut mill. Using mostly local artisans, including Mike and Andy Faircloth of the Edenton Construction Company, Simon and Cy have adapted an early industrial building to serve the needs of several flourishing modern businesses.

“I grew up at Poplar Neck,” says Simon, “and every time my father and I drove into town, we'd pass the old derelict Edenton
Peanut Mill and say how much we wished we could find a way to save it.” The building now serves their own enterprises, a large accounting firm, a fitness center and new tenant, the regional director’s office for Albemarle Health.

The impressive renovation, though accomplished in a record 24 months, was formidable. The low-hipped roof with projecting eaves was significantly deteriorated. What would become Simon’s fifth floor office was filled with snow during a freakish 2003 snowstorm. But Simon maintains that the heavy timber frame construction, the 3-foot thick walls that taper up from the base sheathed with sturdy brick pilasters — that rise four stories on each five-bay elevation — was built to last. “We consulted with Raleigh restoration architect Jerry Traub on the building’s design and inner structure,” says Simon. “Then my father and I worked through how to divide the floors into offices.”

What to do with the interior was most problematic. They wanted to retain as much of the old machine works as possible to show how the peanuts were processed by gravity flow, wending their way downward to the first floor where they were bagged and shipped. An additional chal-
The reception area for Stevens Towing Company & the Edenton Barge Company incorporates part of the Edenton Peanut Mill's original millworks.

The challenge was finding suitable salvage materials of the weight and quality needed to mend and patch 19-foot-long pine timber beams, double grooved and interlocked for strength. Fortunately, Simon and Cy were able to acquire several truck loads of material from the Reidsville American Tobacco Warehouse when it was dismantled.

Today, the offices of Simon's barge business and Cy's varied interests contain the equivalent of a museum of historic industrial and building technology, a studio of innovative contemporary design — and an art gallery. The conference room is separated from the open floorplan reception area — with its massive mill machinery — by doors reflecting the design of the building's original loading dock doors. New ductwork has been coated with a non-reflective paint, and the newly installed wooden walls are coated with a powder and water finish developed by local artisan Don Jordan. The energy efficient brushed aluminum lights by Peerless Lighting are candidates to win a lighting design award. Late 19th and early 20th century American prints and photographs line the walls, and several paintings of Edenton landscapes by contemporary Edenton artist Cam Waff are prominently displayed.

The space of accounting firm Sykes & Company, that has taken two floors of the Edenton Peanut Mill, features a stunning lobby incorporating the original drive shaft for the mill. Contractor and designer Don Herr worked closely with the Sykes group on the interior design and décor of the offices. A custom-made ensemble of Italian leather provides clients a comfortable sitting area, and an elegant conference room with stained glass and handcrafted interiors completes the setting. Not to be outdone, the first floor occupant, The Toning Peanut Mill, has a separate aerobics room in the space formerly occupied by the coal and peanut shell burning furnace. Specialized exercise equipment, a tasteful color scheme and another superb painting by Waff demonstrate that a quality gym doesn’t have to be aesthetically unappealing.

The Rich family — Nancy, Cy and Simon — have brought energy and drive to their passion for historic preservation and conservation. They are deeply committed to Poplar Neck Plantation, their home place, and to the future of Edenton and Chowan County.
Sumnerville House

The Sumnerville House, an unusual gambrel-roofed residence constructed in 1791 for Thomas Sumner in Perquimans County, has been moved 19 miles to Chowan County and renovated. The home will serve as a real estate office and occasion setting for the development of the Mulberry Hill Golf Course and homesite project near Edenton. Situated on the grounds of historic Mulberry Hill, an early 19th century Federal-style residence located on the banks of the Albemarle Sound, the residence has been associated with Revolutionary Militia Col. James Blount, who owned Mulberry Hill at one time.

Raleigh attorney Tom Wood, developer of the golf course and homesites project, notes that Blount was a relative of Nancy Blount Sumner, who resided at Sumnerville. "It is even more interesting," says Wood, "that the name James Blount is etched in one of the window panes of the Sumnerville House." Wood, a historian, writer and historic preservationist, credits local craftsmen and artisans, Ben Hobbs, Don Jordan, Victor Cruz, Mike Ray and Judge Chris Bean, with restoring the house and sensitively adding a great room and kitchen. Worth Hare moved the house, an effort requiring dividing it into two parts and rejoining them on the site.

NEIGHBORHOOD FUN INSIDE THE BELTLINE

Charcoal, hot dogs and all the fixings... I guess I have everything I need for the kids' sleepover. After a day at the pool, they won't last long. Neither will I. I'm taking them to the Museum of Natural Science in the morning, then to Exploris and lunch on Moore Square. It's all right here, practically next to my neighborhood. I fell in love with the area but never realized I could enjoy the convenience of having everything I need within minutes of my home. My girlfriends and I love lunch at NoFo or the Bistro, and my husband and I enjoy having the symphony and fine dining so close by. We find ourselves lingering downtown. Now I understand why they called it "inspired living."

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CALLING FOR CONSERVATION LIKE SHOUTING DOWN A WELL

When we celebrate the growth and transformation of North Carolina into the 10th largest state in the Union (we've passed New Jersey — a dubious distinction) and an emerging biotech center, we sometimes fail to calculate the cost. Statewide, for instance, we are losing 277 acres of natural or agricultural land every day to development; the number of farms is rapidly decreasing, while the numbers of people and their activities have a deleterious effect on our air and water.

Along the coast, the real estate boom is changing not only the tax evaluations, but also the very character and quality of life that brought people here in the first place. Despite these changes, efforts to stimulate our representatives into action are being met with a deafening silence.

In view of what many of us consider a crisis, a coalition of conservationists, local governments, health professionals, rural interests and local elected officials got together (no mean feat) and urged the state to allow the voters to approve, among other things, $1 billion in bonds to increase funds for land and water conservation and historic preservation. This concept was first broached in the 2006 "short" session of the General Assembly, but ran into opposition from Gov. Mike Easley who worried about the state's debt limit. He did, however, in company with the General Assembly, establish a Land and Water Conservation Commission.

After a series of public meetings, the Commission found just what you might have expected. We are losing open space at an unprecedented rate and polluting our air and water in equally alarming ways. The Commission went on to recommend that the General Assembly "provide an additional $1 billion in funding over five years for land and water conservation, cultural and historic preservation and related economic development needs" — this is the so-called "Land for Tomorrow" initiative.

The Commission stopped short of recommending any specific revenue stream to underwrite these bonds, instead listing a variety of potential resources. Most particularly they modestly noted that since we are losing open space to development, "a portion of the costs of conservation and preservation should be borne by those responsible for the changing environment." For instance, an excise tax on conveyances of real property (an additional 0.1 percent per $1000 of value transferred) would generate $60 million; or a statewide building permit fee of $100 would generate $10 million, since approximately 100,000 privately owned residential units are constructed a year; or a landfill tipping tax (a $10 per ton tax on construction and demolition waste) would generate approximately $24 million or maybe an additional 1 percent meal tax ($100 million).

As you can imagine, realtors, developers and restaurant owners went ballistic. But as I say, you knew that would be the case even though you also know that adding $2000 to the cost of a $200,000 house is not going to deter anyone from buying a residence. Nor will 50 cents added to a $50 restaurant bill turn away hungry customers. But the politicians do their math a different way.

But before turning to that story, let's look to the work of another related committee — the North Carolina Waterfront Access Study Committee. This group of distinguished experts and elected officials was established by the same 2006 General Assembly. Their charge was to study the disappearance of boat launching sites and traditional working waterfronts. Since North Carolina "adheres to the public trust doctrine, which provides that the coastal waters of North Carolina ... shall be available for their [the public's] use and enjoyment," the Committee was reacting to the rapid loss of access to our waters. As has often been noted in this space, this is a multi-faceted problem — partly principle, partly economics, partly sociology and
partly aesthetics. The principle is that if the public owns the state's waters, they must be allowed to get to them. There are only 205 public boat ramps in North Carolina to serve the rapidly increasing number of boat owners — now over 363,000. A visit to any one of these ramps on a weekend will reveal a scene of only slightly organized chaos. They are crowded; parking is limited; talented boat/car/trailer drivers mix with amateurs and tempers often flare. If a fisherman turns away in disgust, deciding instead to go to a fishing pier, he is in for a surprise. In 1980 there were 36; in 2000 there were 25; and as of this writing there are 20 fishing piers left.

Then to economics. Commercial seafood landings in North Carolina range in value from $60 to $100 million per year. When you throw in recreational angling, you are, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service, adding another $1 billion. We rank sixth in the country in total boating expenditures ($625 million) with 3500 marine-related companies, 30,000 jobs and $500 million in annual boat sales. To no one's surprise, the sociology and aesthetics become much less quantifiable. Fishermen and fishing communities have been a vital part of North Carolina's history. The salty-talking, sun-tanned, gnarled-handed, squinty-eyed, independent waterman is a valued part of our culture as captured in song and legend. But you better look quick because his way of life is being squeezed out. To take only the aspect of the problem relevant to this article, between 2000 and 2006, 39 of 117 fish houses closed or were up for sale. That is a 33.3 percent decline.

What is happening to the trailerable boat access marinas and those that offer services to non-sailing boaters? They are being swamped by the frantic growth in our coastal counties. A recent article in The News & Observer noted that there recently have been 100 new subdivisions with 34,000 new homes approved along the "Inner Banks" of North Carolina. The boaters and the fishermen are losing out to development, not to mention the fact that tax evaluations are driving out longtime residents.

The Waterfront Access Committee had a number of suggestions, just as the Land and Water Conservation Commission, but its most logical and simplest proposal was to "extend eligibility of present use value taxation to working waterfront properties..." This is what has been done in this state on farmland since 1973, insulating farms and farmers from increasing tax assessments as surrounding land sky-rockets in value. Florida and Maine have done this, as well as instituting other ideas we might profitably borrow.

Now, were Land for Tomorrow with its $1 billion available, it would include funds for purchasing historically significant land, such as working waterfronts — thus the connection between these two conservation measures. So, where is the General Assembly as far as enacting any of the recommendations of these two groups? Hello, did I hear my question coming back to me? Is there an echo in here?

I hope that I'm wrong and that by this time next month the General Assembly will have taken some action on these two urgent public policy issues. But my hopes are about as secure as the boat yard between two condominiums. As noted earlier, politicians do their math differently; their calculations are to do with votes, and they are convinced that votes don't go to anyone who votes for a tax regardless of how little or how worthy.

Don't get me wrong, these elected officials are all trying to do the right thing, but I don't think they have enough confidence in the intelligence of the voters. We see what's going on around us, and we know we're going to pay one way or another — either through increased local taxes to pay for infrastructure, or by the loss of beloved landmarks and open spaces.
Actress Linda Lavin became intrigued by the port city of Wilmington more than a dozen years ago, not because it had so little theater, but because it had so much.

"I came here in 1995 and decided to move to Wilmington while in town producing and starring in the movie Stolen Memories: Secrets from the Rose Garden. I fell in love with the town and the people. There was an artist’s community here and so many lovely people. And I had to be near the water."

Lavin brought celebrity status with her to Wilmington as the star of the critically acclaimed television comedy Alice, broadcast from 1976 to 1985. Also well-known as a singer and stage actress, she has won a Tony, Drama Desk and Golden Globe award for her work.

Since her arrival, Lavin has directed a production of The Man Who Came to Dinner for Opera House Theatre Company, a production of ART and Dinner With Friends for Theatre Exchange. She established the Linda Lavin Arts Foundation a decade ago to reach 11- to 13-year-old inner-city girls with summer programs to involve them in performing and fine arts.

But this summer, Lavin dramatically expanded her role in Wilmington by opening her own community theater, the Red Barn Studio, on South Third Street not far from the historic downtown district. The new theater is part of a small neighborhood south of downtown that she and her husband, Steve Bakunas, refer to as “BakuLaville.”

Lavin remembers that she and Bakunas, "started with one house that, frankly, had been a crack house. It backed up to an alley that opened onto several small houses. We began to rebuild five houses in about one and half years." She credits her jack-of-all-trades husband — carpenter, set designer, actor, drummer, painter, sculptor — for the backbreaking work that transformed the houses into rental residences.

As she explained in the program of her first play this spring, "during a complete renovation, problems like the theft of all Steve’s tools, stolen cars left in the alley, four stitches over Steve’s eye after confronting a burglar in progress, we wondered if we had made a mistake."

They persevered. Then, a garage nearby became available ("It still had the hydraulic lifts inside,") Lavin notes., so they bought it for some future use.

“We didn’t want to open a restaurant. We are theater people. Steve built a set in the garage, which let us rehearse for the play ART with a set. To be able to have a set for rehearsals is almost unheard of.”

Peter Jurasik, a friend from Los Angeles, wanted to give classes in film acting at UNC-Wilmington, and he wanted to use the space.

“And we thought, ‘Maybe this is a theater,’” she says.

She and Bakunas and a group of stagehands, technicians and workers converted the old garage into a 50-seat theater. They created a lobby, bathrooms, sound and light equipment space, and through what Lavin calls “just a natural evolution,” the Red Barn Studio was born.

She emphasizes that the facility, that incorporates theater, the arts and education, “is not a professional company. This is community theater. We call it our ‘mom & pop’ theater.”

The Red Barn opened in the spring with a production of John Patrick Shanley’s Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning play Doubt before a sold-out audience at each performance during its April run. Lavin portrayed Sister Aloysius, an older nun seeking the truth about a popular priest who might have been involved in inappropriate behavior with a student.

Despite her years of performing, she still felt opening-night jitters on the new stage.

“It’s a combination of things. It doesn’t matter where you are, you want to do a good job, but the whole thing is an unknown, and there’s no net. You still are stepping off a precipice every time you do something live. Yet the experience is wonderful because you are always a beginner and always learning.”

Lavin says a season of plays has not been set for 2007-08, though the first fall production, probably early to mid-October, will be Collected Stories by Donald Margulies. The play, which she performed in Los Angeles and on public television, is about the relationship between a veteran teacher and young student.
try to get out of, a town where the only stoplight was taken out by a logging truck decades ago. Lounging under a gracious oak in his yard, I have to ask, "Why Bertie (Bur-tee) County?"

Bon smiles. "It's different now. Before, you had to be in New York where the studios were, your label representative. You needed to be where they told you to be. I don't need to be in a busy place to be busy. One person lives in Montreal, one lives in Brooklyn. I live here. We couldn't do this without the Internet. We found the house [think Oakwood at a hundredth the price] because of the Internet."

Lozaga and his falcon

"We all have a place to come to, hang out together," says his tough-cookie ol' lady Susan.

"And everyone has their own room," adds Bon.

"People who are independent are able to do things, whereas before you couldn't be independent. The mandolin player flew in from Wisconsin. We have people coming in from foreign countries. They've all met the locals. The locals like coming to talk to them. It's a real social event. There's plenty to do if you are busy like me. There's a record being made in Roxobel that will be sold worldwide. It's interesting down here. Wildlife, peace and quiet. I can keep up with the music and fly the birds."

Fly The Birds

We walk to a homemade dream-shed. I am startled by a wild shriek. Behind the wire are three Peregrine Falcons. Turns out Bon's other passion is the "sport of kings," falconry: hunting with swift raptors who eviscerate ducks with the speed of an assassin, the precision of a surgeon.

"The fastest bird in a dive." One glance at the birds' glittering eyes makes me glad I'm not a duck.

"I just knew Eastern North Carolina was flat. I was looking for that for the falcons. One of the reasons I got out of Jersey was just to get out and fly the birds. I had to go..."
through so much traffic; the process of getting out to do what you wanted to do was aggravating. Here I can walk out the back door, walk over to that field on the other side of those buildings and let the birds go. They caught a pigeon over in this lady's backyard.

“What'd she think about that?”

“She smiled, 'OK.'

“In Jersey they'd call the police, you might get sued. The downside is I'll be hunting and three or four pick-ups come up. It takes half an hour. You have to speak to everybody.”

“How about that old 'don't cotton to strangers’ thing?”

“That's bullshit,” Susan says.

“The first week we moved,” says Bon, “three or four people came with baked chicken, desserts, without ever meeting us. They see me out in the fields flying the birds. They know everything about me already, that I have the birds, where I live. They call us 'the couple who lives in the Woody Vick house.' They'll go 10 miles to pick you up if you broke down.”

“So there was a sort of acceptance?”

“They've accepted us, for sure. When you leave, go on the road, that people are watching our place, know who's in and out of town. It's a community, a real community. Two hundred fifty people and everybody knows everyone. In Riverton, NJ, all the 20 year olds are living in one area, all the old people are living in one area, all the yuppies are living in one area. There's no mix. Everything's isolated. Here, it's everybody.”

Braaaaaack, came a loud sound from a watering can hung from a nail.

“Including frogs.”

“Frogs, too.”

“The people make it, the local people,” says Susan. “They’re great. But, you'd better have something that keeps you busy, a career from home, a writer, an artist.”

“Ever going back to New Jersey?”

They look at each other, shake their heads.

“We're interrupted by Roxobel's fire siren. As the howl dies to a growl, I fathom the conversation.

“Mr. 'Round-The-World’s a volunteer fireman?”

Bon grins. "Yup. In Roxobel, North Carolina.”

To check out Gongzilla online, visit www.lolorecords.com.

NC Watermelon Festival: Aug. 1 – 4. This year’s theme for the NC Watermelon Festival, “Celebration of Music,” will include amusement rides, crafts, food, along with a street dance and parade. Murfreesboro. Call 252-398-5922 or visit www.murfreesboro nc.com.


Long Bay Lady Angler King Mackerel Tournament: Aug. 3 – 5. The largest ladies only tournament on the East Coast sponsored by the Oak Island Fishing Club. Per boat fee charged to enter tournament. Oak Island. Call 910-278-1117 or visit www.oak-islandfishingclub.org.

Haunted Evening Historical Drama: Aug. 4. Experience a candlelight tour of the 19th century, Attmore Oliver House. Learn about Southern funeral customs, life after the Civil War and paranormal activity. Dinner packages are available. New Bern. Call 252-638-8558 or visit online at www.newbernhistorical.org.

2007 Pirate Invasion: Aug. 10 – 11. Located on Beaufort’s historic waterfront, this reenactment features Capt. Horatio Sinbad, his sailing vessel Meka II, and of course, pirates. The Beaufort Historic Site will entertain the entire family with pirates demonstrating what life was like on the open seas. Beaufort. Call 252-728-3917.


Mud Day: Aug. 11. The 5th annual Mud Day is a great day for kids, with everything from mud pies to mud painting and mud baths. Wilminton. Visit www.playwilmington.org.

16th Annual Sneads Ferry Rotary King Mackerel Tournament: Aug. 11. This yearly tournament, open to amateurs, features a 23-foot boat for the first place winner along with over $130,000 in additional prizes. Sneads Ferry. Call 910-327-2376.


11th Annual OBX Boomerang Competition: Aug. 18. Come watch some of the world’s best boomerang throwers compete at Nags Head. The day will also include free demonstrations, kite-making lessons and fun for the whole family. Nags Head. Call 877-
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Virginia Dare’s Birthday Celebration: Aug. 18. The 420th celebration of Virginia Dare’s birthday includes free activities for the entire family at Fort Raleigh. Music will begin at the Elizabethan Gardens at 11 a.m. followed by evening performances. Manteo. Call 252-473-3414 or visit www.thelostcolony.org.


OBX Beach Music Festival: Aug. 19. Roanoke Island Festival Park opens at 11:30 a.m. for a day of beach music including Johnny Dollar Band, The Embers, and Band of Oz. In addition there will be two shag contests. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the gate. Manteo. Call 252-475-1500 or visit www.roanokeisland.com.


Flavor of the Past: Entertaining Wilmington: Aug. 25. Local restaurants pair with historic sites throughout Wilmington to bring the past to life. This unique historic tour features dance, music, theater and visual arts. Wilmington. Call 910-778-4362 or visit online at www.capefearmuseum.com.

Kitty Hawk Kites Kiteboarding Competition: Aug. 25 – 26. Best kiteboarders in the world will compete at Windmill Point. Free demonstrations will also be held, will manufacturers on site and boards for sale. Nags Head. Call 877-359-8447 or visit www.kittyhawk.com.


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Sarah Powers, Dec. 2007, acrylic/mixed media
20" x 20"

Amy F. Levine, World View
acrylic/mixed media
26" x 29" x 7.5"

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11 AUGUST 2007 METROMAGAZINE
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Linda Hartman's mixed media sculpture, *Little Miss Sunnyfish*, is on view during "Blue Planet: Undersea Adventures," at Spectrum Gallery in Wilmington featuring Hartman's fanciful ocean-themed sculptures Aug. 10 through Sept. 11. (See Coastal Preview for details.)

"Greetings from North Carolina: A Century of Postcards from the Durwood Barbour Collection" features 150 postcards from a collection of over 7000 given to the UNC library in 2006 and runs through Sept. 30 at the North Carolina Collection Gallery at UNC. (See Preview Museums for details.)

PineCone presents Merle Haggard in concert on Wednesday, Aug. 8, in Meymandi Concert Hall. The concert kicks off an exciting third season of PineCone's Down Home Series at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts in Raleigh. (See Preview Pop Music for details.)
AWE-INSPIRING AUGUST

by Mary Ward Younger

GALLERIES

TRAVELOGUE — WORKS BY RACHEL CAMPBELL, JACOB COOLEY & GAYLE STOTT LOWRY: Tyndall Galleries at University Mall, Chapel Hill; Thru Aug. 18. Contact www.tyndallgalleries.com.


SURF DU JOUR — ORIGINAL ARTWORK ON HANDCRAFTED SURFBOARDS BY CLARK HIPOLITO: Deluxe Restaurant, Wilmington and April & George Art Bar and Wine Gallery, Raleigh; Thru Sept.


RICHARD MARSHALL & KEITH NORVAL — CHANCES ARE, CREATURES THAT: Miriam Preston Block Gallery at the Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, Raleigh.


FAMILY FUN DAY: Aug. 18, 12:30-2:30 p.m.


AN EVENING OF ART AND FINE WINE AT THE BIG EASY RESTAURANT: The evening is intended to call attention to the 2nd anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and will include live jazz, wine tasting and a silent auction. American Red Cross volunteers will speak about their experience in conducting relief efforts and the important role they played during this disaster; The Big Easy Restaurant, Raleigh; Aug. 23. Contact 919-880-1737.

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

ALISON OVERTON — ANGELS OF GOOD FORTUNE: Visual Art/Photography; Artspace Lobby; Aug. 3-31 (Opening Reception Aug. 3).

CATHERINE THERTON — AN IDIOT CERAMIC SHOW WITH OTHER MEDIA: Artspace Upfront Gallery; Aug. 3-31 (Opening Reception Aug. 3).

See the important role they played during this disaster; The Big Easy Restaurant, Raleigh; Aug. 23. Contact 919-880-1737.

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EVENTS AT THE CAROLINA CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL: New Bern; Contact 252-626-5419 or www.carolinachambermusic.org.

- HARP SPECTACULAR: Christ Episcopal Church, New Bern; Sept. 8.
- A FESTIVE FAMILY CONCERT: New Bern-Craven County Public Library; Sept. 9.
- FESTIVAL FINALE CONCERT: First Baptist Church, New Bern; Sept. 15.

POP MUSIC

- PINECONE PRESENTS MERLE HAGGARD: Part of the Down Home Music Series; Meymandi Concert Hall at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; Aug. 8. Contact 919-664-8302 or online at www.pinecone.org.

EVENTS AT WALNUT CREEK AMPHITHEATRE: Raleigh; Contact 919-8344000 or www.livenation.com.

- RASCAL FLATTS W/ SPECIAL GUEST JASON ALDEAN: Aug. 19
- DEF LEPPARD, STYX & FOREIGNER: Aug. 21
- THE BEACH BOYS W/ FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS: Aug. 23

EVENTS AT THE BUD LIGHT DOWNTOWN LIVE CONCERT SERIES: Moore Square Park, Raleigh; More information online at www.budlightdowntownlive.com.

- SOUL ASYLUM: Aug. 11
- WARRANT: Aug. 25

EVENTS AT THE BERRY HILL PLANTATION SUMMER MUSIC SERIES: Berry Hill Plantation, South Boston, VA; Contact 434-517-7000 or www.berryhillinn.com.

- ROYCE CAMPBELL TRIO: Featuring Royce Campbell of the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra; Aug. 23.
- JUANITA WILLIAMS GROUP: Featuring Grammy-nominated jazz vocalist Juanita Williams; Sept. 2.
- BLUES AND BREWS BALLOON FESTIVAL: Sept. 3.

STAGE & SCREEN

- DEEP DISH THEATER COMPANY PRESENTS HOW I GOT THAT STORY: Derrick Ivey stars in the satire about an embedded war reporter; Deep Dish Theater Company, University Mall in Chapel Hill; Aug. 23-Sept. 15. Contact 919-968-1515.
- 5 WOMEN WEARING THE SAME DRESS: Aug. 8-19
- AIN'T MISBEHAVIN': Aug. 22-Sept. 2

MUSEUMS

- PRACTICING CONTEMPORARIES — STUDIO ART FACULTY AT UNC-CHAPEL HILL: Exhibition features the work of UNC faculty in the studio art program; Ackland Art Museum at UNC, Chapel Hill; Thru Sept. 9. Contact www.ackland.org.
- WILD MUSIC — SOUNDS & SONGS OF LIFE: Thru Sept. 16
- WILD MUSIC FESTIVAL: Aug. 4
- COLTRANE TRIBUTE: Celebrate the birth month of jazz giant and North Carolina native, John Coltrane; Sept. 7

Surround yourself in luxury and relaxation at The Inn at Berry Hill, a National Historic landmark, situated on 650 acres.
EVENTS AT THE NASHER MUSEUM OF ART: Duke University, Durham; Contact www.nasher.duke.edu.

• NASHER MUSEUM PRESENTS PERJOVSKI RETROSPECTIVE: The first retrospective of the work of Romanian artists Dan and Lia Perjovschi; Aug. 23-Jan. 6.

• COLLECTED IDENTITIES — GIFTS FROM THE BLAKE BYRNE COLLECTION: On view thru Sept. 30

• THE PAST IS PRESENT — CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES AT THE NASHER MUSEUM: On view thru Feb. 2008

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

• EXHIBITION — THE BIG PICTURE: Thru Sept. 2

• MOVIE — DREAMGIRLS: Aug. 3

• MUSIC & MOVIE COMBO — TRES CHICAS WITH SHUT UP & SING: Aug. 4

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

• HISTORY À LA CARTE — THE SPORT OF KINGS (AND PEASANTS) HORSE RACING IN NORTH CAROLINA, 1700-1942: Aug. 8

• SUMMER PERFORMANCE SERIES — DONNA WASHINGTON: Aug. 12

• MAKE IT, TAKE IT — MAKING MUSIC: Aug. 25-26

POTPOURRI

SUNFEST — A HOMETOWN FAMILY FUN DAY: One-day festival of traditional games and activities; Downtown Mebane; Aug. 11. Contact 919-304-6019 or online at www.downtownmebane.com.

SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE HOSTED BY RALEIGH-WAKE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION: Event targets thought leaders and those involved with human resource-related tasks in small businesses; McKinnon Center at NCSU, Raleigh; Aug. 14. Contact 919-483-5348 or www.rwhrma.org.

A NIGHT OF FINE ART & WINES: Delicious food paired with fine wines and silent auction featuring local art, all proceeds benefit local Red Cross services; Austin Creek, Wake Forest; Aug. 16. Contact 919-861-1662.

BACK TO SCHOOL ... WAY BACK: Celebrate the return to school with Schoolmaster Brown, music by Bobby Nicholson and brown bag lunches; Orange County Historical Museum, Hillsborough; Aug. 31. Contact 919-732-2201 or www.orangenchistory.org.

EVENTS AT THE SENATOR BOB MARTIN EASTERN AGRICULTURAL CENTER: Williamston; Contact 252-792-5111.


• NE DISTRICT 4-H HORSEMANSHIP SCHOOL & SHOW: Aug. 17-19


Our thanks to Cyndi Harris for her assistance with MetroPreview.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please send events info and color images, slides or photos 6 weeks before publication date. Send to Mary Ward Younger, Metro Magazine, 1023 Oberlin Rd. Suite 100, Raleigh, 27605 or e-mail: mary@metromagazine.net.

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On the Town
by Katie Poole

Valvano Kids Klassic
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FAYETTEVILLE'S NEW ART IMAGE

Growing up as a child in the Sandhills of North Carolina, the city of Fayetteville had a sordid reputation. Hay Street was notorious for its demimondaines, street hustlers and tattoo parlors. Downtown was a ghost town at night and cultural pursuits were unheard of. What a difference a couple of decades make. Banished are the hookers of Hay Street, with gourmet shops and art houses now in vogue. With the new influx of thousands of high-ranking military officers to Fort Bragg, Fayetteville is striving to become more sophisticated and — thank goodness — even fine art has been given a place of honor.

The Fayetteville Museum of Art (www.fayettevillemuseumart.org) is currently showcasing an exhibition curated by my great friend Judy Broadhurst and her son, Jason McKinney, of Pinehurst's Broadhurst Gallery (www.broadhurstgallery.com). The show, "Object of One's Collection," features plum pickings from some of our state's most interesting private holdings of art and artifacts. From portraits to landscapes to sculpture, this show has a little bit of everything, and most of the work is from the hands of talented North Carolina artists. Judy has the eye and the experience to pick the best of the best and is so personable that it's not surprising that she can call up a collector and get them to relinquish cherished art for an exhibition that the public may have never seen. Jason shares his mother's keen eye for art, and it's only a matter of time before he is running his own gallery, as well. The Fayetteville Museum of Art is gaining momentum from what I can tell, and exhibitions like this one are definitely helping to set a new standard.

DURHAM FEEDBACK

Speaking of cities with sordid reputations, I wish to thank all the folks over in Durham who watch over the city's image so ferociously for the deluge of e-mails I received last month critical of comments made in this column. Someone just the other day asked me why Durham was called "The City of Medicine," and I told them it was also "The City of Gunshot Wounds," so the name made perfect sense.

I consider it fun to go to Durham to see great art, like a safari close to home, and the danger involved with getting there only adds to the sweetness of the experience. I strongly suggest that you put on your pith helmet and make your way over to the art...
oasis of Craven Allen Gallery (www.cravenallengallery.com) to see "BIG: Figurative Drawings & Botanical Prints by Ippy Patterson" that runs from July 21-Sept. 8. Ippy has really gone all out with this one. In addition to her always elegant figure drawings, she has gone hog wild with a series of HUGE 7-foot giclees of her botanical drawings. The details and nuances of her noted and respected botanicals take on heroic proportions and dominate the space of the gallery. I’d love to see an entire room done only in these. It would take on the grandness of ancient Chinese hand-painted wallpapers. Ippy could have a whole new career going back through her amazing production of garden images and converting them to these new huge formats for us all to enjoy.

PHOTO SHOW AT NCMA

If you like 'em big, you might also be very interested in taking a tour of the show "The Big Picture" at our own North Carolina Museum of Art featuring 23 large-scale photographs by 12 photographers. The images are really super. I loved the one of a man jumping off a bridge trestle by Kerry Skarbakka. I immediately imagined several people that I know jumping off trestles and that made my day. Some of the images I really love are the ones by the uber-talented Anthony Goicolea. Several of the images in this show of fine art photography are from the collection of Allen G. Thomas Jr. In just a few short years, he has built a world-class collection of photography in little ole Wilson, NC. Allen graciously invited me to his home last month to join with the NCMA Friends of Photography to view his collection. I was truly blown away by the depth, breadth and sophistication, not only of his choices of photography, but also by his sensitivity of placement. Not to mention he served great wine, and that made the viewing so sublime. I strongly suggest that all the local museums have an open bar. I’m certain that they would be amazed at the jump in attendance.
**Charleston:**
**RICE AND GRITS AND TAR HEEL CONNECTIONS**

I have just spent several great days in Charleston. Any trip to the historic South Carolina seaport town would be “great,” but going as part of a Southern Foodways Alliance “field trip” ensured that it would be memorable. Chapel Hill’s Marcie Ferris now chairs this group that calls Ole Miss its home.

Marcie also is heading the planning for a SFA gathering of southern food aficionados in Chapel Hill Sept. 8-9 to explore Triangle food and foodways. Bill Smith of Crook’s Corner, whose signature watermelon and tomato salad was featured on the cover of the July issue of *Southern Living,* is lending his considerable expertise and will host the group for Sunday brunch. Sheri Castle, who shares her cooking skills with patrons of A Southern Season, is part of the planning group, as well as Fred Thompson, whose new book *Barbecue Nation* is the talk of the outdoor grilling crowd. Add the name of Nancie McDermott, whose book *Southern Cakes,* has landed her a gig on The Food Network; the Barkers at Durham’s Magnolia Grill; and Metro’s own Moreton Neal, and you find in the Triangle one of the South’s most impressive groups of cookbook authors and food writers.

While Charleston may sound like a far piece from Down East, it actually is an easy drive — only about four hours, for example, from Greenville, the heartbeat of the Northeast. I mention Greenville because I learned before going to Charleston that my friend, prominent Greenville trial attorney and political leader Tom Taft, and his wife, Liz, have a home there. Tom and Liz, an ECU faculty member with awesome credentials, manage to spend at least one weekend a month in Charleston. I envy them that luxury.

Their Charleston place is not just any old house. But it is an “old house” — one of the oldest in the city, located on historic Rainbow Row just one block off Waterfront Park. My mistake was not calling Tom before my trip. We sipped Madeira and ate cauliflower custard almost in its shadow, and I could have knocked on the door and asked the housekeeper for the quarter tour. Tom assured me I would have been welcomed.

The buildings on Rainbow Row were built in the mid-1700s and at one point were the commercial center of the city. Now they are a unique street of brightly painted homes — pink, yellow and blue. Tom and Liz caused a bit of a stir when they painted their house blue — yes, Carolina Blue — in honor of the university where Tom received his law degree. I wonder if the folks at Duke, where Tom was student body president, will be miffed when they find out. The Board of Directors of the East Carolina University Foundation, chaired by ECU alumnus Ken Chalk of Winston-Salem, met in Charleston last year, and the Tafts entertained them on Rainbow Row. Tom is an officer of the Foundation. Suppose he and Liz had chosen the ECU colors, purple and gold. Old Charleston would have been abuzz.

The Taft’s Charleston place is slated to be featured in the September issue of *Charleston Magazine.* I can’t wait to see the photos. Speaking of *Charleston Magazine,* one of my dinner companions at Circa 1886 on my first night in Charleston was Marion Sullivan, food editor of the magazine. Anchoring the other end of the table was Nathalie Dupree, Grande Dame of southern cooking and author of countless cookbooks. Both are close friends of Circa 1886 Chef Mark Collins, so he gave us lots of attention and sent samples of his specialties out between courses. Mark, along with Marion and Nathalie, were key founders of the Charleston Food + Wine Festival that sold out last spring. I plan to be there in 2008.

Wake Forest alums from the 1960s should know that one of Charleston’s major restaurant groups, Maverick Southern Kitchens, is owned and operated by Wake alumna Danya Carlin Tate (1968) and her husband, former Burlington Industries corporate counsel, Dick Elliott. Danya was a high profile campus beauty, an officer in the student government association and a Fidele. They own several of Charleston’s best restaurants — Slightly North of Broad (S.N.O.B), High Cotton, and Old Village Post House.

My first event in Charleston was a rice cooking demonstration in the studio kitchen at Charleston Cooks, Danya and Dick’s upscale boutique. Danya’s office was upstairs, so I had a chance to visit with her — gracious, hospitable and obviously the successful businesswoman.

I was surprised at the considerable North Carolina presence in Charleston. I knew that Tog Newman, long-time chair of the North Carolina Arts Council, and her husband Michael have a place on Montagu Court, but I did not know about the Tafts and others until recently.

Folks who have been around for a while will remember the Farmville antique business, Mandarin Gallery, that for years...
offered one of the East Coast’s largest selections of Asian furniture and furnishings. The proprietor, Don Baucom, now has a shop in Charleston.

Bob Ward of Greensboro, the Unifi executive who chaired the Board of Trustees at East Carolina University, and wife Margaret, now a member of the Board, have a Charleston home, as do Chapel Hill attorneys Steve and Dorothy Bernholz. Edwin Clark, the Wilco Hess oil company executive from Greenville, and his wife, Ann, enjoy Charleston and may be in the market for a place also. This Old South city is going to have quite a Tar Heel enclave.

Let me share a few things with you that I learned in Charleston. Anson Mills, the South Carolina company created by former architect Glenn Roberts, has a major presence. Roberts closed his practice and set out to grow and mill near-extinct varieties of heirloom corn, rice and wheat organically — and recreate ingredients that were in the Southern larder before the Civil War. Today, his company produces grits, cornmeal, Carolina Gold rice, graham and biscuit flour, and polenta milled fresh for the table.

Carolina Gold was the predominant rice variety grown in the coastal Carolinas and Georgia. Thanks to Roberts and his tenacity, this rice — famous for its color, texture and buttery taste — is growing again in North Carolina near New Bern. He would like to find available land on the Cape Fear, the location of many early North Carolina rice plantations, including Orton. I suspect it was Carolina Gold that was grown at Somerset Place at Creswell in Tyrrell County.

Charlestonians believe their city to be the epicenter of the old rice culture and themselves to be the ultimate authorities on rice. I know no good reason to challenge that claim, and I did come home with a few hints for cooking better rice (like washing it first to remove excess starch) in case you have been lying awake at night worrying about it. Start with Carolina Gold, if possible. It’s available in Triangle specialty markets and online at www.ansonmills.com. It ain’t cheap, folks, but you get bragging rights for serving “designer” rice.

Friends and I cooked Carolina Gold last night. Carla Della Valentina, who was reared in Italy, started the process as if she were going to make risotto. She sautéed a little onion in butter, then added the rice and shortly some white wine, stirring all the while. We didn’t have chicken broth in the cupboard at our spontaneous gathering, so we added water, covered the pot and let it simmer for about 15 minutes — Down East style. We set it off for two or three minutes before removing the lid and stirring. Some folks say stir immediately. Even without the chicken broth, it was delicious.

We talked a lot about grits in Charleston, since Nathalie Dupree, whom I mentioned earlier, along with Marion Sullivan, have authored the definitive Shrimp and Grits Cookbook. Buy locally, ground grits and store them in the freezer. In my neighborhood, I prefer Daniel Boone stone-ground grits from the Boonville Flour & Feed Mill — the kind that comes in a paper bag that is twisted up and tied with a string at the top. Ask distinguished Raleigh attorneys Edwin Speas and John Shaw to bring you some when they go home to Yadkin County.

Between you and me, folks, it helps if you put a little love in your grits. Cook them in milk or cream or chicken broth. Add some cheese, garlic or butter. Stay with them, stir them and adjust the liquid. For shrimp and grits, especially, you want thick, creamy and hearty grits. With luck, someone will say, “My goodness, is this really GRITS?” and you can reply, “Why, yeeeeeessss. Can you believe it?”
Owners Jack and Joelle Ray recently learned that their remodeled and renovated salon in North Raleigh has been named First Runner-Up in Salon Today's annual “Salons of the Year” décor competition, placing it second to Frederic Fekkai's new salon in New York City's trendy meat-packing district.

"Frederick Fekkai is an icon in this industry, and New York is the most fashion-forward city in the nation," Joelle said. "We are so proud and honored to be considered in the same league."

Located at 240 Newton Road in Raleigh, Samuel Cole Salon officially unveiled its new, modern, curvilinear interior in February of this year. It was designed by Clark Hipolito of The Art Company with Michael Perry of Porto in Raleigh, in direct collaboration with the Rays. The award-winning interior features sleek espresso-colored cabinetry, a polished Pakistani onyx reception counter, a glowing shampoo station with sculptural bowls, and bamboo and cork flooring. Jack Ryan of Glasgow Metalworks in Raleigh created the handcrafted, stainless steel color bar.

The remodeling enlarged the salon from 1400 to 3000 square feet, providing space for Hipolito and Perry to use custom-designed cabinetry to juxtapose modern aspects of the interior with a pale blue ceiling and honey-hued flooring.

Based in Lincolnshire, IL, and published by Vance Publishing, Salon Today is a business magazine for fine salon and spa owners. Its sister publications include Modern Salon, Process, and Renew magazines.

For more information on Samuel Cole Salon, visit www.samuelcole.com.
The color bar.

Custom espresso-colored cabinets are featured in the retail center.

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Metro ventured out onto the hot summer streets of Raleigh to see if any fashion-forward pedestrians were out and about. Sashaying around town, we noticed several bold individuals willing to withstand the elements in style, especially women who captured an effortless summer look with airy dresses, whimsical tops, straight-leg denim and polished flats.

Could it be Raleigh is turning into quite the fashion metropolis? Happily, women here today can access the latest styles without having to jet off to New York. Trends coveted on the runway are available through area contemporary fashion boutiques, and department stores are translating catwalk looks into wearable ensembles.

Already respected for its flourishing economy, cultural offerings, literary offerings, sports teams and a burgeoning entertainment scene, we noticed Raleigh is developing an excellent sense of fashion, as well.

Metro asked our street style subjects a few fashion-related questions. Let’s see what they had to say.

**JENNIFER BLACKWELL**
- **What are you wearing?** Saja sweater and Stella Forrest dress
- **Where do you most often shop in Raleigh?** Vermillion
- **What is your flawless summer outfit?** Summer dress, cardigan and flats

**MEGAN ORELL**
- **What are you wearing?** Velvet top and Haviana flip flops
- **Who is your favorite designer?** Rebecca Taylor
- **What is your biggest fashion weakness?** Accessories — shoes, bags, and jewelry

**TAYLOR DELBRIDGE**
- **What are you wearing?** J-Brand denim, Dolce Vita sandals, Prairie NY top
- **Who is your favorite designer?** Rachel Pailey
- **Where do you most often shop in Raleigh?** Gena Chandler

**FERNANDA PALAMONE**
- **What are you wearing?** Summer dress and Chanel bag
- **Who is your favorite designer?** Christian Loubitan
- **What trends are you anticipating for fall?** Boots
Benefit Cosmetics introduces new "That Gal" brightening face primer available in August. The primer can be worn alone or applied before makeup, and helps skin retain its natural moisture, for a soft and silky finish. Available at Sephora and Belk Department Stores.

Fine Feathers will host a Louis Féraud fall trunk show Aug. 21-23, as well as a Linda McMillan fall trunk show Aug. 27-31. University Square, Chapel Hill, 919-942-3151.

Cameron Clothing will host a LaFayette 148 trunk show Aug. 24-25. North Hills, Raleigh, 919.420.0411.

Liles Clothing Studio will be having its final clearance sale of up to 60%-80% off spring and summer merchandise during August. North Hills, Raleigh, 919.510.5556.

Saks Fifth Avenue will be hosting a Bridal Event Aug. 16 from 7-9 p.m. Also, the week of Aug. 19-25 will be Escada Focus Week, and Aug. 23-26 will be Contemporary Week. Triangle Town Center, Raleigh, 919.792.9100.

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German food had been the last thing on my mind when I began this article on the hottest day of summer. Why even think about schnitzel, sauerbraten and spätzle when fresh sweet corn, tomatoes, squash, soft-shelled crab, melons and shrimp — the best of North Carolina’s summer bounty — are served creatively in so many of our local eateries?

Yet despite my natural inclinations for lighter fare this time of year, I suddenly found myself on a plane headed to Wisconsin for dinner at the most famous German restaurant in the US.

Sometimes one thing just leads to another.

Like most food writers, I weed through a daily onslaught of foodie spam — pitches for the latest useless cooking gadget or another frozen yogurt chain opening in our rapidly metastasizing metropolitan area. Then the other day, an eye-catching e-mail appeared out of thin air — Midwestern air to be exact. Midwest Airlines, which initiated service to RDU this summer, claimed to have the best food of any US airline. To prove it, they sent a photo of a beautifully garnished, fat juicy steak.

I must have been hungry when the e-mail came because my finger veered away from delete and hit reply instead.

“Let us fly you to our hub in Milwaukee, and you can experience our wonderful airplane food, the best in the country,” they shot back, an offer I could hardly refuse.

Thus, fighting back my usual airplane phobia, I boarded a non-stop flight to Milwaukee expecting to be distracted by a grand lunch. Instead, I was offered a “snack.” For the price of five bucks, I got half of a turkey salad sandwich served with taco chips and salsa in lieu of a free bag of pretzels. Only because I was on a mission to taste the food, was I willing to fork over the money. Five dollars for half a sandwich! How good could it be? The turkey and salsa were pretty tasty, but certainly not worth the risk of an airport strip search.

Once the plane safely landed, my sour mood dissipated when I was greeted by the airline’s attractive food director, who also happens to be the executive chef of the venerable Mader’s German Restaurant.

Chef Shawn Monroe whisked me off to tour the airline kitchens to show me that the turkey salad and salsa had indeed been made from scratch, as well as the more elaborate meals used on Midwest’s larger planes. After the kitchen tour, he showed me the sights of the city to work up an appetite for dinner at the highly touted Mader’s. Suddenly, I was glad to have eaten such a skimpy lunch.

Situated just across the street from Milwaukee’s famous Usinger’s sausage headquarters, the hundred year old restaurant looks like other old-fashioned Bavarian dining rooms of its ilk, though most, come to think of it, are now defunct (Kolb’s in New Orleans and Luchow’s in New York are distant memories). Mader’s grand dining room has vaulted ceilings, stained glass, displays of beer steins — its décor, charmingly Old World. Autographed pictures of dead celebrities are scattered throughout the halls, all presumably big Mader’s fans. I was pleased to see
that Cary Grant was among the group. When Chef Monroe deposited me at a table with Cary’s name on the plaque, I just knew I’d like the place.

Then, one by one, appeared a sampling of classic German cuisine: wiener schnitzel (veal cutlet with a delicate crunchy breading) and buttered spaetzle. Bavarian sauerbraten (beef marinated in beer) with a ginger snap sauce, a smoked pork loin with sauerkraut and a fluffy potato dumpling, all served with appropriate beverages — from lager to ale to porter.

On the flight back, I was given another chance to buy a half sandwich, but I was no longer irritated. Next time I fly to Milwaukee, I’ll know to accept Midwest’s free pretzels and save room for another succulent Bavarian spread at Mader’s.

Now addicted to good German fare, I realized that I’d never darkened the door of Raleigh’s only Central European café, J. Betski’s, open since January. Half an hour’s drive from Chapel Hill to Seaboard Avenue in Raleigh no longer seemed very far to go to appease my new cravings.

J. Betski’s space is the opposite of Mader’s — the tiny, sleek dining room is lined with windows that provide a light-filled airiness on summer evenings. The menu, like the décor, is straightforward; just one page of German and other Central European dishes, recognizable classics with a contemporary flair. Dilly sour cream-topped pierogies (Polish dumplings filled with a spiced ground meat reminiscent of ravioli) melt in the mouth. Seared scallops perch on top of a paprika-laden sauce (whimsically called goulash vinaigrette). Holstein schnitzel is served with a fried egg on top, the sweet blandness of the veal cutlet balanced by the pungency of white anchovies, capers and delicate slices of black truffle. Occasionally the chef gives a nod to Mediterranean countries and local seasonal produce. A seared grouper dish was served with a light gazpacho sauce, loaded with fresh diced cucumbers and a touch of tomato. A dessert of house-made quark (a mild creamy cheese) and fresh apricot strudel topped off a lovely meal, enjoyable any time of year.

I have Midwest Airlines to thank for indirectly leading me to J. Betski’s. Not many folks would fly all the way to Milwaukee just for a dinner at Mader’s, but if you find yourself in that attractive city, don’t miss the experience. Meanwhile here at home, J. Betski’s will delight German food lovers, as well as the yet-to-be initiated. And don’t hesitate a second to go there in hot weather. J. Betski’s thermostat is set to the temperature of a perfect autumn day in Munich.
2007 is shaping up to be the year of downtown Durham, culinarily speaking. The recently renovated area has become a magnet for new independent restaurants, and several popular chefs and restaurateurs from other parts of the Triangle are following Piedmont and Rue Cler to the area.

Slated to open downtown in September, Six Plates will feature tapas-style portions matched with appropriate wines. The new bistro is the creation of Matt Beeson, formerly of Pop's and Rue Cler.

By wintertime, Charlie Deal (chef/owner of Jujube in Chapel Hill) plans to branch out and open a second upscale, casual restaurant, this one in downtown Durham, to be called Dos Perros. Deal's followers can look forward to his innovative take on classic Mexican dishes and drinks.

Even Il Palio's former chef, Jim Anile, is joining the crowd. He plans to open his own spot called Revolution on Main Street before the end of the year.

At Duke, The Café at the Nasher Museum of Art, recently closed when Amy Tornquist left to focus on her own new Durham restaurant (Watts Grocery to open later this year), re-opened in July under the direction of George Bakatsias.

In the Ninth Street area, brand new Blu Seafood and Bar occupies the spot next to Vin Rouge vacated by Bakatsias' short-lived Asian venture, Grasshopper. Newcomer Chef Tim Lyons brings years of seafood cooking experience from one of Key West's best restaurants, Louie's Backyard. Lyons envisions an accessible menu of "clean, simple food" including seafood paella, pan roasted trout and conch fritters in the renovated space he describes as "comfortable, simple, casual and sexy."

In Cary, another Floridian, Robert Cardoso, and his wife Aleida, just opened Havana Grill at 404 W. Chatham St. Serving three meals a day, Havana offers Cuban-style omelets for breakfast, a lunch buffet, and Caribbean specialties such as arroz con pollo, ropa vieja and tostones for dinner.

This summer, Vivace at North Hills began a series of monthly regional Italian wine dinners. Family-style meals, composed of three or four courses, will be paired with the wine of a specific region. On Tuesday evening, Aug. 21, the food and wine of Sicily will be featured. Contact Vivace for reservations at 919-787-7747 or www.vivaceraleigh.com.

The Pinehurst Wine Festival has become a Labor Day tradition in the Sandhills. From Aug. 30 – Sept. 3, you can celebrate the beginning of harvest season at the posh Pinehurst Resort by tasting over a hundred great wines. By day, learn about food and wine in seminars with world renowned experts and The Angus Barn Iron Chef Walter Royal. After classes, enjoy gala dinners, dances and picnics. See www.pinehurst.com for details or call 800-487-4653.

In Wilmington's historic district, curious gourmets can take a peek at other cooks' kitchens this fall. Raleigh-based tour group "A Going Concern" plans a women-only tour on Saturday Oct. 6. Sign up by Aug. 24 for "Come 'Round the Back" or drive down for the "Backdoor Kitchen Tour," a benefit sponsored by ROW (Residents of Old Wilmington).

The Southern Foodways Alliance brings "Camp Carolina: Preserving the Taste of Place" to Chapel Hill Sept. 7 – 9. Included in the weekend of learning about and celebrating our culinary heritage: bluegrass on the porch at the Carolina Inn; a tour of the Carrboro Farmers' Market with a talk by Ben Barker of Magnolia Grill; and visits to Peregrine Farm and Siglinda Scarpa's Goat-house Gallery, Foster's Market, and much more. To sign up, call 662-915-5993 or e-mail sfamail@olemiss.edu.

Chef Michael Opdyke, formerly of the Giorgios Hospitality Group, has moved to Roberts At The Franklin Hotel in Chapel Hill. Opdyke has introduced a new bistro menu available every day after 4:00.
METRO MAGAZINE RESTAURANT GUIDE

RALEIGH/CARY

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


WINE selecting recommended. Gathering, private parties & events.


Look for Bentley's Glock Tower. An LM atmosphere. Private Tatami rooms, chef covered, patio, extensive wine and martini list. Lunch and dinner.


MYTHOS MEDITERRANEAN BISTRO & LOUNGE – 6490 Tryon Rd. Cary. 233-7555. www.myth-
Winner of the DiRoNA Award, AAA four Diamond Award & the Wine Spectator Award.

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


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 PARIDADE – 2200 W. Main St., Durham. 286-9712. Renaissance-inspired murals, colorful surrealistic 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.

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

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

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


CHARITY 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.


GLASSHALFULL – 106 S. Greensboro St., Carrboro. 794-4107. www.glasshalfull.net. Downtown Carrboro's own optimistic wine bar, wine shop and kitchen serving small plates of the flavorful cuisines of the Mediterranean coast with an intriguing selection of wines from around the world. Wine shop specializes in affordable bottles for everyday drinking. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat.


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

BEYOND THE TRIANGLE


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


THE DAYS OF SUMMER AND CHARDONNAY

Ah ... the dog days of summer. Wilting. What to drink? Unless you’re a member of the ABC club (Anything But Chardonnay), read on. Because for summer specialties of shellfish and seafood, a simple, dry Chardonnay — preferably (for me, anyway) with a bit of mineral zest — is an excellent match.

WINE BUYS OF THE MONTH

Francis Coppola Sofia Rosé 2005, $15

When I tasted this wine back in early spring, I wasn’t impressed, but with a few months in bottle it has bloomed and become quite charming. Made from Carneros-grown Pinot Noir, it has a rich coral color and vibrant berryish flavors. Quite dry, it is heartier than some and can handle a variety of seasonal foods.

Martin Codax ERGO Tempranillo, Rioja Spain, $15

Very like a Rioja crianza (young Rioja, aged up to a year), this appealing red is juicy and smooth, with just enough backbone to handle grilled meats, chicken or sausage. It is balanced and tasty enough just to sip on its own.

Chardonnays from the Mâconais — Macon-Villages, Macon Blanc, Macon-Lugny, Saint-Véran — offer some terrific values in dry Chardonnays, and they have that touch of minerality that makes them very good with shellfish. A thread of limestone runs north to south through Burgundy, giving most of the whites a mineral edge that provides backbone and structure. Naturally higher acidity also makes them more refreshing. Saint-Véran tends to be a little more full-bodied than Macon, fleshed out with flavors of ripe pear and nectarine. These wines offer excellent value, most from $12-$15 a bottle.

Wines from 2006 are beginning to appear, but I really prefer 2005s — that extra year has allowed the wines to blossom a bit — as Chardonnay will do when it is well-made. Labels to look for: Domaine de Deux Roches, Joseph Drouhin, Louis Jadot, Les Trois Pecheurs, Louis Latour, Verget.

Down Under: Unoaked Chardonnays from New Zealand and Australia are mostly dry, sometimes not quite, but they often have an appealing flavor accent of lemon or lime.

Styles of Chardonnay can be all over the place — many of them way too potent (high in alcohol) and oaky for the likes of seafood pastas, moules marinières, and grilled or sautéed whitefish. If you are delving into steamed lobster or crab dipped in melted butter, then the rich oaky versions, with their accents of toasty oak, vanilla and clove can be perfect.

Some people don’t like that style, however, and eschew Chardonnay altogether. You can miss some good wines that way. Un-oaked Chardonnays have become more popular of late. They boldly proclaim the fact on the label, with quite a few surfacing in these parts from New Zealand and Australia, as well as Argentina and Chile. Even California winemakers — possibly the planet’s biggest devotees of oaked Chardonnays — have gotten into the act. Sometimes they compensate, though, making the wines a little sweet — and they are often as full-bodied as oak-aged Chardonnay. I mostly like my summer Chardonnays dry, oaked or not, and a little lighter.

Chardonnay that emphasizes fruit instead of oak has been around a long time, starting in the Burgundy region of France. Mention of white Burgundy brings to mind, for many wine drinkers, those oaky wonders of the Côte d’Or, such as Meursault, Corton-Charlemagne, Montrachet. Glorious wines, indeed, and rarely, if ever, too oaky. North and south of the “golden slope,” however, are bone-dry Chardonnays that see little or no oak in the regions of Chablis and the Mâconais.
zest. I’ve liked these 2006s: Kim Crawford, Margaret River, Nepenthe, The Wishing Tree.

LOBSTER AND CHARDONNAY

I do love lobster, steamed or broiled, with melted butter and a touch of lemon. For that I have some excellent oak-aged Chardonnays to recommend, all well-balanced in terms of oak and fruit — and quite delectable:

Clos du Val 2005, Los Carneros, $18-$20. The creamy fruit of Carneros Chardonnay can be lovely when it is not over-oaked — and founding winemaker Bernard Portet won’t allow that in any Clos du Val wines.

Freemark Abbey 2004 Chardonnay, Napa Valley, $20. Freemark Abbey has produced some of Napa’s best Chardonnays since the 1970s, a traditional style that nicely balances oak with fruit, much of which comes from Carneros.

La Crema 2005 Russian River Valley, $25-$30. As with Pinot Noir, the Russian River Valley in Western Sonoma produces big, bold wines, high in alcohol, which can pull lots of oak into a wine as it ages in barrel. There’s a lighter influence in La Crema’s 2005. Winemaker Melissa Stackhouse has a deft touch.

Mayacamas 2004 Chardonnay, Napa Valley, $35. Another venerable and noted Napa Valley estate, Mayacamas produces outstanding Chardonnay grown in the Mt. Veeder region of the Mayacamas Mountains. Mountain-grown grapes always exhibit intensity of fruit. This superbly structured Chardonnay is excellent now and will evolve further over the next two to three years (so buy at least two bottles!).

SWIRL, SIP AND ... CHEW??

Years ago, my dentist wondered why I had so little plaque on my teeth and gums when I went for semi-annual checkups. He thought it might have to do with tasting wine.

Now, scientific studies have shown that wine — red and white (and presumably pink) — destroys some of the dental bacteria that cause plaque to form. The study, soon to appear in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, notes that compounds found in wine acids — such as malic, tartaric, succinic and lactic acids — kill dental and sore throat bacteria on contact. Red wine appears to have only slightly more of an effect than white wine. You can be sure I will apprise my wine class at Duke this fall of the new findings, when I demonstrate how to taste: sniff the aroma, check the color and clarity, take a sip and roll it around in the mouth to get the maximum impact of flavor ... then spit, of course.

One caveat — these same acids can also erode dental enamel, so it’s best to wait 20 minutes or so after drinking wine (or consuming any acidic food) to brush your teeth. Cheers! 🍷
A mong modern literary forms, mysteries and thrillers have an almost unparalleled capacity for attracting a wide audience while confronting contemporary social issues. While other genres — more scholarly writing, for example — might reach a greater depth, they can’t reach people in plentiful numbers or in packaging quite so compelling.

In her award-winning books featuring North Carolina Judge Deborah Knott, Margaret Maron has created a set of characters with everyday triumphs and tribulations in their families and relationships and jobs — people whom readers like so much they’ll follow them from book to book — but she has also surveyed some of the most controversial topics in the region and state, such as race, class and culture or problems, pulled (as they say) straight from the headlines, as she did with church burnings in 1998’s Home Fires.

In her latest book, Hard Row, Maron tackles head-on the hot-button topic of immigration with a keen eye focused on the changing cultural and economic landscape of North Carolina. While readers of the series will enjoy watching Knott’s adjustment to married life with Sheriff’s Deputy Dwight Bryant and stepmotherhood with Bryant’s young son, several of the cases she’s dealing with in the courtroom, or that Bryant faces out in the field, touch to one degree or another on the immigrant issue. A bar brawl erupts between a jealous white man and the migrant worker who has taken his ex-wife out on a date. A wealthy farmer disappears on a date. A wealthy farmer disappears.

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Weaving these and other storylines together, Maron provides the inhabitants of fictional Colleton County the opportunity to voice various opinions on the multi-edged issue of immigration — and on other subjects, ranging from the failure of the court system to rein in domestic violence to the difficulties (and liabilities) of nursing home care for the elderly. While her own political leanings might ultimately be apparent, Maron skillfully avoids didacticism, focusing first and foremost on crafting a fine novel and telling a good story. And Hard Row is first and foremost a good story, driven by its characters and its plot, not by any preaching. It’s just a bonus that the characters and the plot are part and parcel of a North Carolina that we each, inevitably, see evolving around us. Our good fortune is that Maron has a gift for depicting those people, their community and their stories with such grace and humanity.

Maron will read from Hard Row at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh on Friday evening, Aug. 24.

NORTH CAROLINA BOOKWATCH

Margaret Maron is also one of five North Carolina authors who will appear this month on North Carolina Bookwatch, celebrating its 10th season on UNC-TV. Host DG Martin interviews Maron about Hard Row on Friday, Aug. 31, at 9:30 p.m., and the show repeats on Sunday, Sept. 2, at 5 p.m.

Earlier in the month (and on a similar format: Fridays at 9:30 p.m., Sundays at 5 p.m.), Martin will also welcome:

- Poet Joseph Bathanti, author of Cov-
school basketball coach's affair with one of his young charges, who suddenly announces she's pregnant. Angela Threatt offers the semi-autobiographical "Bela Lugosi's Dead," a wonderful mosaic of memories about a young girl's coming of age. And a pair of tales feels constantly perched just on the threshold of violence; and Agustín Maes' unsettling and unpredictable "Beauty and Virtue," which crosses that threshold and then some. Fine work all around, and once again a collection not to be missed.

Guest Editor Jones will be joined by contributors to the new anthology on Saturday morning, Sept. 8, at McIntyre's Books in Fearrington Village.

Additionally, Jones will also celebrate the paperback publication of his own short story collection, All Aunt Hagar's Children, with readings on Friday evening, Sept. 7, at Raleigh's Quail Ridge Books and again on Saturday evening, Sept. 8, at Durham's Regulator Bookshop.

HARD CASE CRIME
In a column last summer, I surveyed the work of Hard Case Crime, a young publishing house that is almost single-handedly reviving the pulp tradition by reprinting works by crime writers such as Lawrence Block, David Goodis and Ed McBain — and debuting books by hot young talents toiling in the same milieu: Allan Guthrie, Max Phillips, Domenic Stansberry, Ken Bruen and Jason Starr.

One of the first books published by Hard Case Crime was Richard Aleas' Little Girl Lost. His follow-up book stands out as a real model of the genre. Songs of Innocence finds former private investigator John Blake delving into the apparent suicide of close friend Dorrie Burke, a college student with a secret life in New York's sex trade. As you might expect, there's some adult content here — and be forewarned, parts of the book are both bleak and brutal. But fans of contemporary hard-boiled crime writing will like this book, which features rich characterizations, a strong emotional current and some plot twists that will leave you almost literally racing to the end — and your heart racing, as well.

OTHER NEW AND NOTEWORTHY
Triangle and Eastern North Carolina bookstores boast a number of other great authors this month, including:


• Jasper Fforde, author of The Eyre Affair, with Thursday Next: First Amongst Sequels, on Saturday evening, Aug. 4, at Quail Ridge.

• Bob Steele, author of Golf Carolinas! North Carolina Golf Guide, on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 4, at Barnes & Noble, New Hope Commons, Durham.

• Banjoist Bob Carlin, author of The Birth of the Banjo: Joel Walker Sweeney and Early Minstrelsy, about the "Elvis Presley of the 1840s," on Tuesday evening, Aug. 7, at the Regulator.

• Debbie Moose, author of Fan Fare: A Cookbook of Great Recipes for Tailgating or Watching the Game at Home, on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 12, at Quail Ridge.

• Bill Benners of New Bern, author of My Sister's Keeper, a suspense novel set in Wilmington, on Wednesday evening, Aug. 15, at the Regulator.

• Jerry Radford, author of Follow the Money, Swimming in Terror, and No One Can Know, with his latest novel Captured Audience, on Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 15, at Manteo Bookellers in Manteo.

• Ellen Elizabeth Hunter, author of Murder on the Cape Fear, on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 18, at Barnes & Noble, Brier Creek Commons, Raleigh.


• Michael Greger, with his study Bird Flu: A Virus of Our Own Hatching, on Thursday evening, Aug. 30, at the Regulator.

Nazism and Communism: Twin Evils, Different Memories
By Arch T. Allen

Of the twin evils of the 20th century — Communism and Nazism — there are different memories. As French scholar Alain Besançon explains in A Century of Horrors, although Nazism was defeated and disappeared more than a half century ago, we remember it with appropriate abhorrence: "Our horrified reflection on Nazism seems to even gain in breadth and depth each year." On the other hand, Communism, "although still fresh and just recently fallen, benefits from an amnesia and an amnesty that receive the almost unanimous consent, not only of its supporters — because they still exist — but of its most determined enemies, and even its victims."

Both emerged from different histories and they were enemies, but they shared similarities. First, and often overlooked, both were variations of socialism: German National Socialism and Soviet Communism. Each pretended to create a perfect society by eliminating threats — for Nazism, supremacy of the German Aryans by elimination of the Jews, and for Communism, supremacy of socialism by elimination of non-socialists. Most in common, Besançon states, "is that they arrogated themselves the right — and even the duty — to kill, and they both did..."
so with similar methods, on a scale unknown in history.”

Under Nazism, it is estimated 25 million people were killed; under the Communists, 100 million. Either statistic is horrific, but regardless of the scale, Besançon concludes that the Holocaust, or Shoah, must be considered unique and distinct from the horrors of the Soviet gulag and other Communist killing fields. But despite their differences, he sees Nazism and Communism as twin ideological evils. Besançon, who has examined ideological evil in earlier works, extends his analysis in *A Century of Horrors*, first published in France and here now in translation by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, recording his reflections on the physical, moral and political destruction wrought by the twin evils.

Besançon’s reflective condemnations of Communism and Nazism, like those of some of his fellow French intellectuals who once flirted with Communism, are especially credible in light of his past. As he lamented earlier, “At some point, one realizes that we played a part in the worst the century produced, in a vast enterprise of evil.” Commenting now on The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression (1997, American edition 1999) (See “MetroBooks” May 2000), Besançon commends that book for its account of the deaths caused by Communism and for its opening of their collective coffin. But he regrets that the resulting horror “was short-lived” and that, under a cloud of amnesia, “the coffin is already closing again.” Besançon reopens the coffin, not for recounting the dead, but to peer into it with penetrating philosophical and theological insights.

As he explains, the different memories of Nazism and Communism are forced often “into the endless struggle between the ‘right’ and ‘left.’” He explains, however, that Communism redefined the political spectrum; first falsely attaching Nazism to capitalism, and later to fascism, to fit its propaganda needs. Communism always placed socialist Nazism on the far right, opposite socialist Communism on the far left. This Communist classification has become fixed in Western thought, with Communism on the left, liberal democracies and their left and right parties in the middle, and Nazism and other forms of fascism on the right. Besançon concludes that the correct classification, one proposed by Hannah Arendt earlier, groups the two totalitarian regimes of Communism and Nazism at one end, places liberal regimes in the middle, and groups authoritarian regimes at the other extreme.

**DUKE, UNC INCLUDED IN ACCOUNT BY PAUL HOLLANDER**

However the abstract spectrum is defined, Paul Hollander lived as a young man under actual Nazism and Communism. Like other Jewish Hungarians spared the Holocaust by the Soviet liberation of his native country from the Nazis, Hollander was briefly pro-Soviet and pro-Communist. He soon had second thoughts. Later he escaped to America, where he became a scholarly critic of Communism. Especially interested in the search by intellectuals for utopia through Communism, Hollander has studied and documented their political pilgrimages to the Soviet Union and other Communist countries — such as Cuba — their anti-Americanism, and, after the collapse of Soviet Communism limited their destinations, their philosophical pilgrimage into postmodernism as a new vision of Marxism and anti-Americanism. (See “MetroBooks” May 2002). In *The End of Commitment*, Hollander expands his scholarship to examine and explain disillusionment by some intellectuals with Communism. Of course, many intellectuals had second thoughts years ago, as expressed by several in *The God That Failed* (1950). Continuing the theme of disillusionment, Hollander focuses now on recently disillusioned individuals who span the globe from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to the Third World and, of course, to the West — including America.

One American example, Sidney Rittenberg, became a Communist in the 1940s while a student at UNC-Chapel Hill. (There were secret Communist cells in Chapel Hill then, as acknowledged elsewhere by another UNC student in the ‘40s, Junius Scales, who became an underground Communist Party organizer recruiting others for a violent revolution; his criminal conviction based on those activities and their connection to his membership in the Communist Party was upheld by the Supreme Court.) Rittenberg learned Chinese and settled in China where, despite intermittent imprisonment as an alleged spy, he served the Communist regime for years. Although he was formerly a “true believer,” Rittenberg came to see that his “life’s vision
was flawed” and left China and Communism. Later, he became a visiting professor at UNC-CH and then a consultant on trade between the United States and China.

Another American example is historian Eugene Genovese. Not only did this former supporter of Marxism and Communism abandon both, but he also questioned American Marxists about their responsibility for the horrors of Communism. The question itself angered the Left, further incensed by Genovese’s assessment that: “The horrors did not arise from perversion of radical ideology but from the ideology itself. We were led into complicity with mass murder ... Our whole project of human liberation has rested on a series of gigantic illusions. The catastrophic consequences ... cannot be dismissed as aberrations.”

Among other disillusioned Americans are David Horowitz and Ronald Radosh, both “red diaper babies” of Communist parents. Both became Marxist leaders of the 1960s New Left. Horowitz broke with his cohorts after learning of its crimes. He is now a conservative critic of the Left’s influence on American politics, culture and education. Radosh’s research as a historian of Communist espionage in America gave him second thoughts, and subsequent events, including publication of Horowitz’s autobiography, Radical Son (1997), caused Radosh to break from Communism and become a conservative critic, as he explained in Commies: A Journey Through the Old Left, the New Left and the Leftover Left (2001). (See “MetroBooks” July/August 2001.)

Of the “leftover Left,” Radosh says that his former friends still “dream secretly of revolution” and that, quoting Arthur Koestler from The God That Failed, they are still “clinging to the last shred of the torn illusion.” Among those still clinging, Hollander chronicles prominent examples, such as British historian Eric Hobsbawm and American linguist Noam Chomsky. Younger devotees include Duke University literature professor Michael Hardt, co-author with Communist and convicted terrorist Antonio Negri of Empire (2000), an attack on capitalism praised by academic leftists — including Hardt’s Duke colleague Fredric Jameson — for its postmodernist theorizing. Hollander also profiles former 1960s Weather Underground terrorist-bomber and one-time fugitive Bill Ayers, now sheltered in academia with his wife and fellow Weather Underground terrorist, Bernadine Dohrn, where both remain unrepentant. (See “MetroBooks” December 2001/January 2002, and “My Usual Charming Self,” February 2006, “You Don’t Need A Weatherman.”)

Despite the focus on individuals, Hollander includes some generalizations. He expands upon applications of the Left’s slogan that “the personal is political.” He explains that both religious and secular “true believers” sometimes subordinate their personal morality to larger causes. In the case of the Communist cause, he notes the religious-like attitudes and emotions that motivated many Communists.

In the “century of horrors” that followed Sigmund Freud’s proclamation that God is “an illusion” and Friedrich Nietzsche’s that “God is dead,” Communism became for many intellectuals a new god. Ironically, it became exposed as an “illusion” itself and as “the god that failed.” To expose the many ghosts it left behind, Besançon reopens the horrific coffin from which they escaped, and he and Hollander explore their haunting memories.

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END-OF-SUMMER MUSIC & VIDEO UPDATE

Charles Mingus Sextet: Charles Mingus Sextet with Eric Dolphy: Cornell 1964 (Blue Note)

This double-CD was tracked live in March 1964 at Cornell University, but it was not released, so this is not a reissued album. This July '07 release is a fortunate event for jazz fans, as it captures a monumental performance by the Mingus Sextet at a point in time when the group was at its apex. What you've got here are some of Mingus' most noteworthy compositions blended with several inspired cover tunes. For instance, the CD offers a 31-minute version of "Meditations" and a 30-minute tour-de-force on "Fables Of Faubus." Amidst this jazz bounty, note Mingus Sextet's first recording of Billy Strayhorn's "Take The 'A' Train" and a compelling, terribly inventive rendition of Ellington's "Sophisticated Lady," featuring some fine keyboard work by Jaki Byard. And there's still more thrills, including what was the concert debut of Mingus' absorbing, idiosyncratic original, "Orange Was The Colour Of Her Dress, Then Blue Silk." The tracks are a clever mix of free-form jazz and songs that receive a more straight-up, modern treatment. Cornell 1964 is an important release; many jazz fans will want to grab a copy of this double-CD.

Tab Benoit: Power of the Pontchartrain (Telarc)

Louisiana bluesman Tab Benoit has delivered a number of excellent albums in the past five years. He's been productive in the studio and on tour — facts that are indicative of a music career that's in the fast lane. As if we needed further verification of this truth, Benoit has just delivered what may well be the best album of his musical life thus far. Power of the Pontchartrain is an 11-track marvel that reveals a blues player who's definitely in command of the genre and confident in his abilities. Benoit brings it all together on this disc — excellent songwriting, tasty lead guitar and sturdy vocal work. He laid down these tracks with the Louisiana band LeRoux — a crew that carries a formidable reputation in Southern Louisiana. Benoit opens the album with a rough-and-tumble blues number titled "Don't Make No Sense" — and the following 10 songs make good on the promise of this opening tune. Benoit references his Cajun roots for the laid-back vibe of "Sac-Au-Lait-Fishing." "I'm Guilty Of Lovin' You" serves as a timely reminder that Benoit can not only write a solid soul song, but can sing the hell out of one, as well. He evokes a remembrance of things past with a blues-rich cover of the CSNY hit "For What It's Worth." The title track immediately makes us think of the ongoing Katrina mess in New Orleans and thereabout, though the song itself is essentially a contemplation of the shadowy legends associated with this storied body of water. Power of the Pontchartrain is without question one of the top blues albums of 2007; blues lovers should give it a listen.

Tinsley Ellis: Moment of Truth (Alligator)

As long as I'm on the subject of blues players who have absolutely arrived and mean to stay for quite a while, consider Tinsley Ellis and his latest album project. This Atlanta-based blues/rock champ has been throwing down consistently stellar blues discs for several years, and Moment of Truth continues his winning streak. Ellis has emerged in recent times as one of the top blues songwriters, and his lead guitar work is purely amazing at this point in his career. Moment of Truth is a thorough Ellis experience — he produced the disc, authored nine of the 11 songs, sings everything with conviction, and wields one of the most intense lead guitars in the business. The album also cooks to nearly the same degree that an Ellis concert does, which in itself is a noteworthy accomplishment. Take a listen to Ellis' guitar on the mid-tempo number "Freeway Soul" — one of the sweetest arrangements on the CD. For something in a more turbulent mode, both "Somebody" and his cover of "I Take What I Want" will do nicely. Another must-hear blues/rock disc.

Dobet Gnahoré: Na Afriki (Cumbancha)

Côte d'Ivoire native Dobet Gnahoré is poised on the cusp of a major world music career that will rival that of Oumou Sangare and Rokia Traoré. Na Afriki is only her second album, and yet, she comes across as a veteran artist. Gnahoré is a sublime vocalist. She has an elegant, versatile voice and a knack for turning a song into a sonic treasure. Gnahoré is also a talented songwriter — she co-authored all 15 tracks on the album
with Colin Laroche de Féline. In the mode of most African songwriters, Gnahré is dedicated to providing social commentary via song. Consider titles such as “Incest (Khabone-N’daw),” “Pillage,” “Massacre,” “Polygamy (Mousse Tilou),” and “Woman (Djiguene)” — the titles alone are quite suggestive of her pointed authorial agenda. Her pan-African mindset is also much in evidence here. She performs her songs in Wolof (Senegal), Xhosa (South Africa), Malinké (Mali), Fon (Benin), Lingala (Congo), Dida and Guéré (Côte d’Ivoire). As far as the general feel of Na Afriki, the arrangements have an acoustic, melodious vibe, though “Ma Poo” and the aboriginal “Pygmees” are upbeat, grittier numbers. For those who grok world music, take note of this woman — she’s a major talent.

Soweto Kinch: A Life in the Day of B19: Tales of the Tower Block (Dune)

Music lovers who follow jazz don’t often run across a concept album, but that’s exactly what English sax man Soweto Kinch has contrived with A Life in the Day of B19. Get up with the dreams and tribulations of S, Adrian and Marcus — residing in the projects in Birmingham, England’s postal district B19 — and take in some very hip jazz in the process. I’ve always believed there’s a native affinity between jazz and hip hop, but the only artists I’ve heard who get it have been either British or West African, which is an unfortunate commentary on the whopping mediocrity of the American rap/hip hop scene. One of those English players who is all over this jazz/hip hop thing is Kinch, and he does it with major style and ineffable cool. For a sample of what I’m talking about, cue up “Ridez.” As far as Kinch’s jazz cred is concerned, check out his take on the ballad form with “Adrian’s Ballad,” and take note of the dissonant “The House That Love Built” and the polyphonic vibe of “Out There.” This is Kinch’s second album, and he’s definitely a hot item in the Euro jazz scene. It seems only a question of time before he finds his way stateside.

Monty Python alumnus Michael Palin has become known in recent years for undertaking intrepid journeys on film. In 1989, for instance, he set out to break the fictional record of Phineas Fogg with Around the World in 80 Days. Palin also went bipolar with Pole to Pole (1992), circumnavigated the entire Pacific Rim [Full Circle, 1997), trod in the footsteps of Ernest Hemingway [Hemingway Adventure, 1999), and took on the forbidding Sahara Desert in Sahara (2002).

With Himalaya, Palin undertakes his most daunting challenge — a six-month, 2000-mile stroll across the roof of the earth, the Himalaya mountain range. He begins at the Khyber Pass in Pakistan and traverses bits of Nepal, Tibet, India, China and Bhutan, his ultimate destination being the Bay of Bengal in Bangladesh. Along the way, Palin plays cricket with some Pakistani boys — and gets his butt waxed in the process — visits the Golden Temple of Amritsar, meets the Dalai Lama (a delightful interlude), and is nearly done-in by the altitude by the time he reaches Katmandu. He also encounters a British army officer recruiting for the storied Gurkhas, encounters the last of the headhunters, takes a ride on the Himalayan Queen railway, and gets up with an amazing variety of peoples and cultures scattered across the breadth of the Himalayas.

The scenery is breathtaking, to put it mildly. In terms of visual impact, no journey Palin has taken previously remotely compares with the sights we experience in the Himalayas. The film is incredibly well-edited; director Roger Mills delivers one spectacular vista after another. This is also Palin’s best turn as explorer. His interaction with an amazing range of people is as intelligent and curious as it is charming.

This title is also available as a rental from Netflix.
and can be purchased at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts box office, Quail Ridge Books & Music located in the Ridgewood Shopping Center (919-828-1588) and the Raleigh City Museum located downtown at 220 Fayetteville St. (919-832-3085). Tickets can also be purchased online through Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.

For more information, please write: Raleigh Hall of Fame, PO Box 6128, Raleigh, NC 27628-6128, or e-mail info@raleighhalloffame.org, or call (919) 787-9617.

Check the organization's Web site at www.raleighhalloffame.org for updates regarding the 2007 Raleigh Hall of Fame.

StepUP Ministry’s Jubilee Jobs program recently placed its 500th unemployed Wake County adult in a full-time job, according to Robert Battle, director of employment services for the Raleigh-based nonprofit organization. The Jubilee Jobs program helps unemployed people in the area identify strengths, weaknesses and skill sets, and prepare a resume. Program participants complete a series of workshops dealing with communication skills, conflict management, dressing for success and interviewing techniques. The program also works closely with businesses to match applicants with employer criteria for training, experience and personality types. In 2007, the program seeks to place 225 people in first-time jobs. Participants can continue their involvement at StepUp Ministry at a Life Skills program, which addresses issues such as financial literacy, physical and mental health, and positive relationships. Scholarship grants, a skills-development program for children and their parents, and housing assistance are also available. For more information about the Jubilee Jobs program or StepUP Ministry, visit www.step-up.us or contact Robert Battle at 919-781-0156.

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SECRETS OF STATE
Here’s a spy story for you — with Raleigh connections, links to the assassination of John F. Kennedy and the rekindling of a battle that has festered within CIA for 40 years.

Worth Bagley, commemorated by a statue on the grounds of the Capitol Building on Raleigh's Union Square, was the first American killed in the 1898 Spanish-American War. Worth Bagley's brother was born in Raleigh, and his son, Tennent "Pete" Bagley — now retired and living in Brussels, Belgium — joined the Central Intelligence Agency and rose to chief of Soviet bloc counterintelligence before retiring after 22 years in the espionage game. (Frank Daniels Jr., former publisher of The News & Observer, is the grandson of Pete Bagley's first cousin, whose mother married Josephus Daniels, the paper's founder and Secretary of the Navy under Woodrow Wilson and later ambassador to Mexico.)

Though retired, Pete Bagley is far from inactive. He has ignited a battle royale within CIA with his new book: Spy Wars: Moles, Mysteries and Deadly Games (Yale Press-Caravan Books) over a contentious and divisive episode involving the KGB defector Yuri Nosenko. JFK assassination buffs will remember that Nosenko, who had been working within the USSR for the CIA since 1962, announced in 1964 — two months after the JFK killing — that he now desired to come over to the West. The CIA officer who handled Nosenko's defection in Austria was Pete Bagley.

To complicate matters, Nosenko had a message for his new friends in the West: The Soviet Union, he reported, had nothing to do with the killing of US President John F. Kennedy in November 1963; and furthermore, the KGB had no contact with assassin Lee Harvey Oswald while he lived in the USSR for nearly three years before returning to the US and taking his vantage point at the Texas Book Depository.

Naturally, Bagley and others in CIA had their doubts about Nosenko. It seemed pious that he would suddenly pop over to assure the US about Soviet involvement in the JFK murder so soon after the event — and it was hardly credible that the KGB would not have contact with Oswald in the USSR. And beyond those issues, there were problems with Nosenko's bona fides: He was not actually a colonel in the KGB, his stated career path was inconsistent with the facts and some of the information on Soviet activities he provided was suspect. It also appeared he had another motive: to discredit the information provided to CIA from a previous Soviet defector.

Bagley conferred with the infamous chief of counterintelligence for CIA, James Jesus Angleton, later forced into early retirement for his supposedly paranoid pursuit of "moles" in the Agency. The badly wrought recent film The Good Shepherd was loosely based on Angleton, and his name is legend in spy circles for his quirky habits and relentless search for traitors.

Bagley and Angleton and others kept the heat on Nosenko, finally placing him in a stockaded safe house in rural Virginia for three years where he was subjected to intense interrogation, lie detector tests and deprivation tactics. Nosenko was released to find a constituency of Agency people had become suspicious to his plight. By the time William Colby became DCI (Director, Central Intelligence) in the mid-'70s, Nosenko was elevated to the status of a hero, capping off his career as an intelligence double agent delivering lectures at CIA headquarters at Langley and at the Farm in Virginia, the training base for covert operatives.

Nosenko's treatment by Bagley and Angleton became a cause celebre at CIA, creating deep divisions in the ranks over how he was "handled," with a majority taking his side and a strong minority maintaining he was a KGB plant from the beginning. And lurking underneath the Nosenko affair was the link to Oswald and the JFK assassination. Though Bagley never makes this connection the focus of his book, it lingers on every page, begging the question: Why was Nosenko sent by his KGB masters to deliver the message that the Soviets were not involved in the events in Dallas and had no contact with Oswald in the USSR? Why would they feel it necessary to do so? And why would they entrust the message to a defector who could not keep his stories straight?

Bagley's new book goes over the ground again, but with a twist, new information available from old Soviet spy hands since the collapse of the USSR. Then all hell broke out at Langley. As Bagley was set to deliver a talk on the book at CIA the morning of June 28, followed by a public lecture at the International Spy Museum, both talks were abruptly cancelled. The old wounds were opened and his enemies won the day. Since then, several articles and Web postings have been published attacking Bagley and Angleton and their treatment of Nosenko. They include my good friend and leading intelligence scholar Chris Andrew, his co-author and former KGB double agent Oleg Gordievsky and Leonard McCoy, former deputy chief of counterintelligence at CIA.

In the midst of severe attacks on CIA in several new books, the Bagley affair suddenly exposes perhaps the most divisive internal dispute in the history of the Agency, the obscure four decade-long argument over the treatment of Nosenko. Bagley's enemies feel so strongly about the issue they were willing to violate the principles of free speech and break every rule of decency and respect for a high-ranking colleague. What is going on here? Why would they not just let Bagley speak and let the issue fade away?

Something is going on here, so I've invited Pete Bagley — and he accepted — to be the keynote speaker for the fifth Raleigh Spy Conference, tentatively set for March 26-28, 2008. Old friend Brian Kelley, the former CIA officer who made his first public appearance at the inaugural Raleigh Spy Conference in 2003 after it was revealed the FBI harassed him, thinking he was the mole who turned out to be the notorious Robert Hanssen — has agreed to serve as moderator. The full speaker line-up and details of the conference will appear over the next few weeks, so check out www.raleighspycopference.com and Metro Magazine (www.metronc.com) for further details. I expect we will have quite an event.

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

I'm riding along one of our shoddy roads recently and happen upon the most articulate woman I've ever heard since Margaret Thatcher. She carefully answered each predictable anti-Iraq War question from a National Public Radio reporter with composed and, so rare in the era of the decline of media, factual explanations. I finally figured out who she was: my new candidate for the first woman President of the United States, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.
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