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Although modern canoes are typically made of aluminum, fiberglass or plastic, their predecessors were made from hollowed-out logs or tree bark waterproofed with resin. The birchbark canoe used by the first European explorers in North America is still popular among select canoeing enthusiasts today.

Autumn Hall Creek Club

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SPRING AT LAST

Let's go to the beach is the first thing most of us around here think when the weather warms and trees awake from their winter sleep. Then we make plans to play golf immediately — or go outdoors and do something — now. In this issue Metro presents the inside story of the new Southport Marina by Diane Lea and a delightful yet in-depth story by Linda Russell who took on the Iron Man (Woman) task to visit the entire 2008 PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando.

Keeping with the coastal theme, last issue Jim Leutze discussed pressing coastal issues with candidates Bev Perdue and Fred Smith. This time he interviews Richard Moore and Pat McCrory about their views on what to do about problems facing our precious outer banks and inner bays.

With the season in mind, we present our spring Social Calendar, your indispensable guide to charitable balls and fundraisers in the region. Art Taylor reminds us that April is National Poetry Month; Louis St. Lewis suggests that the good weather means a trip to area art galleries; our fashion gurus cover skin care and the latest look for men; and Mary Ward Boerner has compiled a full calendar of events to help you plan excursions in the splendid spring weather.

Carroll Legett catches up with the venerable political pundit Roy Wilder; Liza Roberts reminds us that the American Kennel Club is headquartered in Raleigh; Dan Reeves uncovers singer Jeanne Jolly’s secret musical passion; and Philip van Vleck suggests you boogey down with the Avitt Brothers.

Food Editor Moreton Neal discovers down home eastern barbecue at The Pit in downtown Raleigh, while Wine Editor Barbara Ensrud suggest the right vino for warmer weather. And we have interesting and provocative letters, ranging from gardening to owls to a wonderful message from Kevin Finnerty — father of Duke Lacrosse player Collin Finnerty — who looks back on Metro’s coverage of their ordeal with smiles and tears.

The Fifth Raleigh Spy Conference concluded the end of March with a bang. Speakers included Pete Bagley and Brian Kelley — former CIA officers who were involved in two of the most contentious and controversial spy cases of the 20th century; CIA’s Chief Historian, David Robarge, who brought us secrets from the archival vault about the infamous James Angleton; intelligence historian Jerrold Schecter; and keynote speaker David Ignatius, considered the most knowledgeable intelligence and diplomatic correspondent in the US — who also writes respected espionage novels. New revelations were presented and history was made, right here in Raleigh.

Be sure to vote for your favorite on the Metro Bravo ballot in this issue, and we'll see you in May when we present the official guide for the ASID Designer Show House presented by the Woman's Club of Raleigh, this year featuring two townhouses in North Hills.

Cheers!
—Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher
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Correspondence

FINNERTY FAMILY REMEMBERS ARTICLE ON DUKE LACROSSE CASE
To writer Sharon Swanson:
I hope this note finds you and your family doing well. We sure are. Easter has just passed, and I must say, we enjoyed a very warm family holiday, completely different from just a year ago.

As we approach the first year anniversary of Roy Cooper's "Innocent" speech on April 11, my mind just cannot steer clear of the events of that day. I subsequently have realized it was rather courageous of Attorney General Roy Cooper to announce the three young men as "innocent" of all charges within the politically sensitive environment in which we live. Courageous, even though it was totally truthful.

I would like to reiterate for all interested parties that might have any doubt that "the truth does set you free"! I have also just re-read your article for Metro magazine (January 2007) after spending one short day with us, and I have to tell you, I believe you captured the spirit of the moment within our family at that time. Doing so while on such a relatively short visit to our home, speaks volumes of your perceptiveness, as well as to your abilities as an author. I really just wanted to let you know how much I truly appreciated your taking the time to travel and meet with us at that day, and how important your heartfelt article was for all of the Finnertys at that time. (Especially my wife Mary Ellen!)

It was not only sensitive, but it too was courageous in that it ran directly in the face of the "media madness" that was running amuck with District Attorney Nifong's bogus, election-driven assertions.

One year later, as I re-read it, I enjoy it all the more, and it actually made me cry, once again. Thought you'd like to know,

Kevin Finnerty
New York

OWL THEORY ATTACKED
I just read your recent articles about the "Owl Theory" in the March 2008 issue — two letters from "viewers" and a third piece from Bernie Reeves that suggest the "owl theory" should be re-examined. I don't know if I can continue to read your magazine after this. What is wrong with you people? I watched every second of this trial and followed it from Day 1. I think it's irresponsible to re-gurgitate a theory like this in no way supports the evidence.

Did the owl wash the walls and steps after its talons weren't able to kill Kathleen after the first attack? (you saw the pictures of the "wash out," right?) What happened to the owl's feathers/broken talons after such a violent attack? Did the owl suspend time that allowed for Kathleen to "bleed out" for several hours to match Peterson's timeline?

Did the owl try to strangle Kathleen by breaking cartilage in her neck (without any talon/beak punctures to the skin)? Was this owl such a neat freak that it went into the washroom to clean up? There was evidence in there too, you know.

I could go on ... go read the transcripts. The jurors made their decision based on 66 witnesses and more than 500 pieces of evidence. Instead of searching for a "theory," why don't the Peterson supporters spend their time fighting the evidence against him? That, at least, is a logical debate.

So, yeah ... Durham doesn't need money to improve its schools for law-abiding citizens; nor does it need money to curb the gang violence and crime rate. Spending another half million on a new trial sounds like a great idea; keep the theory going.

Lori Mahaley-Westphal
Chapel Hill (former Durham resident that left because of schools/crime)

OWLS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
In regard to your coverage of the Owl Theory in the Kathleen Peterson case put forth by Durham attorney and Peterson's next door neighbor Larry Pollard, I am sending you a portrait of one of the owls in Larry's tree in his front yard.

The picture was taken March 3, 2008, by a visitor to the US. I've been imagining an article called "The Owls of Forest Hills," featuring interviews with longtime neighbors. There are apparently barred owls, barn owls, great horned owls and perhaps others. All are protected as they are endangered. The study of them is fascinating. To get this picture, it was necessary to come to the area and sit down to wait patiently late in the afternoon. They also are said to appear early in the morning.

I don't live in Forest Hills, but I keep hearing there have "always" been many owls in the neighborhood since it is full of enormous trees amongst the rather quiet, older homes.

Joan Miner
Durham

HARDIN/NIFONG AND THE PETERSON CASE
Metro Magazine's wonderful story, "The Death Of Kathleen Peterson" in July 2005, convinced me that not only does the owl theory have merit, but an innocent man, Michael Peterson, is serving a life sentence as well.

But there are other things that make one wonder, another connection that is troublesome. In the Duke lacrosse case, the then prosecutor Mike Nifong deliberately ignored evidence that would
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clear young boys from a crime they were accused of. That behavior resulted in Nifong resigning as prosecutor, being disbarred and briefly going to jail.

One has to wonder where Nifong got his training or his belief that any evidence could be ignored. Perhaps from the time Nifong was a detective on the Michael Peterson trial? I don’t know, but it certainly makes one wonder. Just the fact Nifong was on the Hardin team at the Peterson trial taints that trial — especially since Peterson was convicted entirely on circumstantial evidence.

J. Giglio
Durham

HIGH ON THE HOG
I read Carroll Leggett’s column “High on the Hog and Other Parts” in the March 2008 issue of Metro, and I noticed the name Godwin’s Country Meats. You should go there and do an article on them. That is a great place! They actually do it the old-timey way. A lot of people in North Carolina do not even realize how their ancestors used to deal with pork. Godwin’s Country Meats is a BIG part of Eastern NC. They have been in business for 38 years — family owned and run by very good people.

Robert Lewis
Winton, NC

Thanks to all the gardeners who sent letters thanking Metro for the article on spring garden tours in the March issue... here is a sample.

WONDERFUL SERVICE FOR GARDENERS
Wow! Great article in the March 2008 issue by Helen Yoest, “Chapel Hill Kicks Off Area Spring Garden Tours.” I’ve been e-mailing everyone I know not only to read about the Chapel Hill Garden Club’s Spring Garden Tour, but also to save the list of Garden Tours and Events contained in the article.

There are many of us gardeners and wannabe gardeners out here. Your magazine performed a wonderful service by providing us with a condensed list of events that are of great interest to us. Keep the articles on gardening coming. Gardeners or not, we all love to peek into our neighbors’ back yards.

Thank you.

Linda Curcio
President
Garden Club Council of Orange County Chapel Hill

CORRECTIONS
In the item “Owl Theory Returns” in the My Usual Charming Self column by Bernie Reeves in the March 2008 issue, the back date for the Metro article on the subject was published as July 2006. The correct date is July 2005.

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AKC HQ Courts New Members

It may have been grey and dank outside, but Triangle-area dog lovers were in heaven one Saturday last February as they packed the NC State Fairgrounds’ Dorton Arena with hundreds of purebred canine companions, eager to learn how to turn their pets into high-stepping, “Best in Show”-worthy champs.

The American Kennel Club’s “Canine Experience” — part of the AKC’s effort to spread the word about its dog shows and sports — was one of several similar events across the country, all run out of an operations base right here in the Triangle. Though it isn’t widely known, the world’s largest and second-oldest purebred dog registry in the world is effectively run out of its Raleigh-based Operations Center, home to more than 300 administrative and professional employees.

More than a third of those local hands volunteered at the February event, which brought together purebreds of every stripe: St. Bernards, poodles, dachshunds, weimaraners, Nova Scotia Duck Trolling Retrievers — you name it, they were there. As the dogs strained on their leashes, eager to greet one another, their owners, more than 500 in all, picked up tips from local groomers, trainers and AKC volunteers. Puppies and their little masters scampered about, sleek adult dogs trotted in show rings and area dog clubs lined the walls, offering information on particular breeds. Tutorials in grooming and handling, obedience, and rally and agility filled the floor.

“The whole format is designed to be very informal, welcoming and educational,” AKC spokesperson Lisa Peterson told Metro.

Brian Hicks of Clayton brought his children, wife and black Labrador Retriever “Max” to the event. He signed Max up for the AKC Canine Good Citizen 10-step basic obedience test and passed. “It feels like an accomplishment,” Hicks said. “He did really well. I was impressed.”

Bronwyn Merritt brought her husband and three children from Carrboro for their first-ever AKC event. Her 8-year-old daughter, Esme Merritt-Dorosin, led “Neko,” a 9-month-old border terrier, in the ring. “She’s learning to communicate with the dog properly and control the dog,” she said. “I think it’s really good for the children.”

The AKC registers 900,000 dogs annually, representing 155 dog breeds (the newest additions include the Tibetan Mastiff and the Plott Hound — NC’s official hound — and sanctions more than 18,500 events a year, all from its Raleigh office. It also fields more than 800,000 cus-
tomer service calls and runs its compliance, event and judging operations, and companion and performance events here. Two AKC-affiliate, nonprofit organizations also call Raleigh home, one a nationwide effort that supplies microchips to veterinarians and aids in reconnecting lost dogs with their owners; the other awards grants to research scientists in genetic canine disease.

The whole operation is currently in the process of making a move that should raise the AKC's local profile. Soon it will pick up from its current location on Centerview Drive and head to brand new offices in the fast-growing Brier Creek area. This more prominent location — near major roads and the RDU Airport — was chosen after a search of more than 40 locations in the Raleigh area. New, distinctive signage visible from I-540 is part of the plan.

— Liza Roberts

Singer Jeanne Jolly Heads Down A Country Road

Jeanne Jolly has taken her golden voice down a road to a sound we haven’t heard yet — country. A Master of Vocal Performance in opera from the New England Conservatory in Boston and known to the public as a jazz artist, Jolly has taken a new and different direction entirely with her new EP (extended play) — to us at least. Her performances as a guest singer with highly regarded trumpeter Chris Botti a few years ago proved that in a virtual sea of singers, she is more than a catch. But that was just jazz.

After living in Los Angeles for a few years, Jolly has chosen to make the music she adores the most. Growing up cultivating her voice, she says she “always loved country, bluegrass, Americana, folk, honky tonk, rock and roots music.”

Within her initial five country songs — now accessible online but later part of an album — Jolly shares a piece of her conscience and the experience of a broken heart, maybe a heart that was smashed to smithereens, and quite possibly a reawakening into a fulfilling existence. “Desert of my Mind” draws from a truly solemn and forlorn place in her memory, while “Don’t Say I’m Sorry” assures us that she won’t be licking her wounds for long.

The raw purity of what some would call “true” country is evident in each song, backed by sturdy country instrumentation — an imperative piece to the country music puzzle. Jolly teamed up with an exceptional group of musicians for this project, a few currently recording in Nashville with the band Stonehoney. A fiddle here, a dobro there, twangy guitar — and the kind of piano seen in wild west saloons — joins with the sincerity and serene tone of Jolly’s voice to make this effort a moving and genuine example of good real country.

But, it’s not Hank Williams. It has a rock likeability, which certainly leans toward the alternative country genre. Although Jolly has been singing since she could talk, this particular string of songs is the product of a fledgling songwriter, a process to which she is relatively new. Fortunately, she had Shawn Davis, also with Stonehoney, there to pen a significant amount of the lyrics. Jolly gratefully reported that “Shawn wrote solid and...
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Parade Set For April

A Salute to Our Troops parade will kick off Saturday, April 26, at 10 a.m. on Fayetteville Street in Raleigh.

Parade participants will include troops from all of the state's military bases, military bands, drill teams and honor guards, and bands from state universities, colleges, and high schools. The parade will proceed north on Fayetteville Street around the Capitol Building followed by an open demonstration of modern military equipment.

The military and their families will enjoy complimentary barbecue from the NC Pork Council and free access to the Marbles Kids Museum. Tickets will be available to the Carolina RailHawks as they host their opening night game at the WakeMed Soccer Park. Mobile USO,
Speaker Tells Raleigh Spy Conference To Blow Up CIA

David Ignatius, a ground-breaking reporter in espionage coverage — and author of five spy novels highly praised by members of the intelligence community — is worried about the CIA.

Speaking at the Fifth Raleigh Spy Conference, Ignatius warned that so-called intelligence reforms put in place following the 9/11 terrorist attacks have left the Agency and the United States vulnerable to terror attacks and espionage by other enemies.

"To be honest, I'd blow up the CIA — get rid of it," The Washington Post columnist told the crowd in his closing keynote address. Rather than keep the CIA as it exists under the National Director of Intelligence, the CIA's headquarters in Langley, VA, should be "turned into a theme park," he said.

In an address that covered his career dating from the 1970s that included his interview as a young reporter with legendary CIA counterintelligence chief James Angleton, Ignatius said the CIA had degenerated from a "robust, well-wired organization" capable of penetrating Yasser Arafat's inner circle to an organization today that is encumbered by bureaucracy, "an administration that doesn't like it" and is "risk adverse."

His calls for change would not be unwelcome in Langley, said Brian Kelley, a 40-year CIA counterintelligence veteran who was also a guest speaker.

"Some in the CIA would agree with him," said Kelley, who was exonerated by the FBI after a tortuous three-year investigation that targeted him as a Soviet "mole." The actual spy turned out to be the FBI's own Robert Hanssen. "To separate the clandestine service is necessary to get us out from the bureaucracy. I'm not sure how it would work, but he is not alone in saying this."

A strong CIA is needed as much now as ever, added Tennent "Pete" Bagley, an Agency veteran of the 1960s and '70s who was the case officer charged with handling Soviet KGB defector Yuri Nosenko. Nosenko came to the US with the story that the Soviets had no ties to John F. Kennedy assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. Bagley never believed him.

In his new book Spy Wars, Bagley relates how he ultimately failed to convince the CIA leadership that Nosenko was an instrument in a KGB deception operation. He told the conference he believes that the Agency's failure to pressure Nosenko for his true knowledge of all Soviet efforts — such as "turning" cryptologists and running unidentified moles — is being felt today.

"I don't want to see those traitors escape justice," he said. "There is always a contin-
"The world is a more dangerous place than ever. There is no balance in terror that prevents the worst from happening, as there was between the Soviet Union and the United States."

— David Robarge

uum in espionage, so the spies of the past have roots in the future.

Although retired for 30 years, Bagley, 82, also insisted in an interview that the Cold War continues with Russia. Under Vladimir Putin, the Russian spy services are as active as ever, he said. On a recent visit to Moscow he met a former KGB rival who said the hate didn't die with the collapse of the Berlin Wall.

“He looked me straight in the eye and said, ‘We are STILL working against you,'” Bagley said. “Was I surprised? Not at all.”

The Raleigh Spy Conference drew a host of former and current intelligence operatives and members of the public to hear additional speakers, including former Time magazine Bureau Chief Jerrold Schecter and CIA chief historian David Robarge.

“The world is a more dangerous place than ever,” Robarge told Metro in an interview. “There is no balance in terror that prevents the worst from happening, as there was between the Soviet Union and the United States.

“The worst,” he warned, “could happen tomorrow.”

Go to www.raleighspyconference.com for more information and biographies of conference speakers.

— Rick Smith

continued on page 91
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Results will appear in two blockbuster issues, divided by categories:
Part one in our July issue and part two in our August issue.

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**April 2008 Metromagazine**
Research teams at ECU are closing in on a possible cure for diabetes. With it would come new hope for thousands, many of them living right here in eastern North Carolina, now facing the chronic burdens of this disease.

We’re setting the pace for research at ECU Physicians. Whether it's diabetes, heart disease, or old-fashioned prevention, we’re working on solutions for tomorrow that mean better treatments today.

Finding answers that save lives. That’s smart medicine.
MOORE SUPPORTS COASTAL INITIATIVES

When he walks into the room, you almost want to check your notes — is this the North Carolina Treasurer charged with our financial future and the management of our $60 billion retirement trust fund? He hardly looks old enough; he looks more like Jimmy Stewart in Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, but Stewart was only 31 years old.

But no, Richard Moore is 48, born in Oxford, NC, in 1960. In some ways, he seemed destined to run for political office since, on his mother's side, there was a long line of elected officials, including one member of the US House of Representatives. Although an Episcopalian, Moore was drawn to North Carolina's leading Baptist institution, Wake Forest. He graduated with a BA in 1982 and then went to the London School of Economics where he earned a graduate degree in accounting. Upon returning to the United States, he re-entered Wake Forest where he received his law degree in 1986. Three years later he began his public career in North Carolina serving as a federal prosecutor. Building on his success as a crime fighter, he was elected to the North Carolina House in 1992. Though serving for only one term, Moore had a very productive legislation session. On the basis of that record, Gov. Jim Hunt appointed him Secretary of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety. Unluckily for the state, but providentially for Moore, Hurricanes Fran and Floyd occurred on his watch, giving him the chance to demonstrate his hands-on leadership style. Working apparently without the need of sleep and a regular meal, Moore caught the public's attention as a dedicated public servant. This record helped propel him into the State Treasurer's position where he has served since 2000.

We started our conversation talking about the rapid development along the coast. A declared beach enthusiast, he exhibited a real interest in what was going on in our coastal communities. He was well aware, for instance, about the building moratorium in Wilmington. "You all just haven't kept up with your infrastructure," he said. In his opinion, "it is the paramount response" of elected officials to plan for an implementing needed infrastructure development. "If not," he said, "everyone loses." It was clear to him that we would face more development in our coastal region, and it would be coming at a faster pace, so responsible officials needed to get out in front of it.

I pointed out that Brunswick County had just voted down a proposal for impact fees to help pay for infrastructure. His smile implied that he was well aware of that, as well as of the fact that Dare County had chosen a far different route. "Nationally," he said, "these fees are generally voted down the first time around; then when people begin to see more growth and inadequate infrastructure, they change their minds." It also was his feeling that Raleigh should cede more taxing and decision making authority to the local areas. Centralizing authority might have been a good idea in the 1930s, but he thought that now we needed more flexibility and creativity. Local communities had a better idea, in his mind, on how to address their problems than did the folks in the capital.

That kind of fresh approach also marked his answer regarding beach renourishment and dredging. He didn't think we should give up on the Feds quite yet, but he did think we should begin recognizing the value of tourism and investing in our tourism industry. Everyone agreed that tourism was important, but that didn't translate into action. "OK," he said, "we agree on its importance, but does our funding support our priorities?" He had studied the Florida model for supporting tourist amenities and thought that they were way ahead of us. "At the end of the day," he said, "the Feds, the locals or the state has to pay." While not eager to do so, he said he'd make no "no new taxes pledge" — life was just too uncertain.

Though Moore was born in Oxford, his knowledge on coastal issues makes me think it must have been on the east side of Interstate 85. On one subject he clearly has a unique insight; his first "real girlfriend" was the daughter of a commercial fisherman. That experience gave him an insight into that tough, tenuous life. It also gave him a determination to do all he can to save this valuable part of North Carolina's coastal heritage. I'm glad he feels that way since our fishermen need all the help they can get.
FLATLANDER MCCORY WILL STAND UP FOR COASTAL NEEDS

T here were a couple of things about this interview that didn't seem quite right. To start with, calling Mayor Pat McCrory “Mayor” seems somehow inadequate since he has been elected Mayor of the state's biggest city seven times — a record. How about “High Mayor” or “Super Mayor” or some other high-falutin' title like “Chancellor” or something — just kidding! The other thing was to be interviewing the Mayor of Charlotte about coastal issues didn't seem fair — maybe he'd never seen the beach. But as will be revealed, I needn't have worried.

Let's start by setting the record straight by noting that McCrory is not really from Charlotte. He grew up in Jamestown in Guilford County; much closer to the middle of the state. I know this is important since Charlotte, or even Mecklenburg County, does not own a great record for having residents elected to statewide office — in fact, they have no record. Consequently, being from Guilford County is of moment.

McCrory attended Catawba College and earned a degree in Political Science/Education with a teaching certificate as added insurance. But he was hired by Duke Energy where he served in various management positions. First elected to the city council in 1989, he rose through the ranks to become mayor pro tem and mayor in 1995. His strengths have been in crime control, transportation issues and planning. His overall expertise on urban issues was recognized by President George Bush, who in 2002 appointed him to the Homeland Security Advisory Committee.

We started talking about growth along the coast. “Growth is going to come, it's the quality of growth that should concern us,” he said. In Charlotte, he had used pictures to illustrate to developers the different ways in which the corridors into the city should be designed. “Good developers, and often they are the big developers, can see the value in sustainable development. It is the job of leadership,” in his view, “to pique their imagination and lead the dialogue about the long-range future.” He pointed to the 25-year land and transportation plan he had championed in the Queen City as one of his proudest accomplishments and an illustration of his approach to problem solving.

On beach renourishment, he allowed that, unfortunately, there was no such obvious answer. He recognized the complexity of the issue with its cost, economic benefits and environmental implications. He said his basic approach would be pragmatic, i.e., renourish those areas with the highest economic liability and possibly shortchange those less heavily developed areas. “Who's to pay for it?” I asked. Again, pragmatically, he espoused beginning a dialogue with those industries that had the most to gain or lose. He pointed to his success in convincing hotel and motel owners to support a room tax to help pay for the NASCAR museum. “I did it by convincing them that they would gain more than they would be giving up.” I then asked about the state paying a share. “Sure,” he said, “but taxpayers would have to be convinced that they'd benefit.” Great, I thought, thinking I had him in a box. “Do you think that people from Charlotte would be willing to pay for our sand?” That set him off on an intense and impressive discussion of the need to move beyond the traditional antagonism between the coast, the Piedmont and the mountains. “Our state may have been settled by waves of immigrants flooding into those different regions,” he said, “but it's now way past time to view our problems and their solutions that way.” In his opinion, our biggest problems are competition between our state and other states and other countries. “It may have been fine to compete against other regions in the 1820s or the 1920s, but this is the 21st century, and we need to compete as one state, not several.”

At the same time, he pointed out that he had been willing to reach across state boundaries and work closely with South Carolina. He recognized that many of our problems, like water and air quality, respected neither intrastate nor interstate lines. When I mentioned a possible coastal alliance between North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, he enthusiastically endorsed the idea.

I next asked him about dredging the ICWW and who should pay for it. With refreshing candor he said, “I don't know.” It wasn't that he was unaware of the problem, it was his recognition that this was a daunting state/federal problem. “What I can assure you is that I'd be in Washington arguing for our fair share,” he said. He made it very clear that he didn't think North Carolina's case, on this and other matters, had been made forcefully enough. “I'll be lobbyist-in-chief,” he said, “we shouldn't just rely on our Washington delegation.” I'll say this, if he's elected, Washington better get ready to hear a lot more from a forceful and articulate North Carolina advocate.

I ended by telling him that my other interviewees all had lyrical praise for the coast; did he, a flatlander, have any similar tales? “I'm not sure lyrical is the word,” he said, “but some of my happiest and some of my scariest memories are of sailing with my father out of Wrightsville Beach, Morehead City and Little Washington.” So clearly etched are those memories that he chose to scatter his father's ashes in Banks Channel behind Wrightsville Beach. “Each time I return there, I go to the dock where my father had his boat. When I leave, I write a note to him in the sand.”

Do you think this guy cares about the coast — you betcha.
Disney World Of Golf

Metro Golf Reporter Linda Russell Visits The Mecca Of Golf Merchandising

by Linda Russell
Flight 1412 was making its initial descent into West Palm Beach when I struck up a conversation with my seatmate. We both had been busy prior to the pilot’s announcement — the man in the window seat with his Blackberry and me with The Match, Mark Frost’s latest book. When he found out that I am a golfer and write for Metro, he handed me his business card and offered me two media passes to the PGA Merchandising Show in Orlando — Ed Several, Vice President, Reed Expo, also vice president and general manager, PGA Golf Exhibitions.

My GPS helped me get to the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC) from South Florida without any trouble. I am plagued with geographic dyslexia and rely heavily on technology for directional guidance. Confusion set in when I was listening to “Go one mile and make a U-turn,” while trying to decide which entrance I needed to find, East/West, North/South. That problem was solved when I realized that I was in a “turn only” lane and was directed to park … or else! Ten dollars later and five minutes of driving around a muddy field akin to the NC State Fair, I threaded my car into a narrow slot created by two SUVs. This was going to be one excellent adventure.

Entering the West doors of the OCCC, I knew I was in the right place. Well-appointed signs led me to the media center. I registered, hoisted my tote bag over my shoulder, opened the map and hit the corridors. I WAS IN THE DISNEY WORLD OF GOLF!

The 55th PGA Merchandise Show covered 500,000 square feet of exhibition space, with more than 1250 vendors displaying their wares, according to Ed. PGA professionals, golf retailers and industry executives from 89 countries and all 50 states were in attendance, totaling an expected 45,000 people. The OCCC was overwhelming in size, yet architecturally appealing — and well-organized. New equipment demonstrations were to the far left (west?) and moving to the right (that must be east) were golf course technology, more equipment, golf cars and gadgets, health and fitness, services, and finally fashion (see Metro, March 2008). I set my Nikes on cruise control and coasted through each territory without going up and down the 10 miles of the indi-
individual aisles. After gleaning some sense of "what was where," I returned to the Equipment Test Center (ETC) and "Indoor Demo Days."

This massive 180-foot deep range has 45 hitting bays, a putting green and short game challenge area. It is America's largest indoor golf range equipment test center where professionals and peons alike can test the newest equipment before making purchases. Over 400,000 golf balls were hit there last year.

**ADJUSTABLE CLUBS**

The hottest topic at the show was the USGA approval of the adjustable golf club. The new ruling not only allows the interchangeability of the shaft to the club head, but also to the entire club; that is grip, shaft, clubface, soleplate or crown.

This change gives our club pros the ability to customize clubs for our individual needs even further. And as our abilities progress, we can easily and affordably change shafts to fit our new skill levels. I am currently testing the new Callaway Hyper X driver head with a 10 degree graphite shaft for less loft and more roll. I call it the Cialis of clubs!

**PUTTERS**

A putter is a golfer's best friend, although a putter is easier to replace than a real best friend. How many putters do
Tired of waiting at the same pro shop to play the same course every week?

McConnell Golf, LLC

There is a better way!

At McConnell Golf, we offer the most unique value in golf found anywhere in the area. Joining any one of our private clubs allows you access to not one, but all four of our legendary designed golf courses. Best part is that each of our properties is a top-ranked private facility where the membership is regulated and the play is always of the highest quality possible. When it comes to championship golf, nobody does it like McConnell Golf.

you have? How many putters have you had over a lifetime? Would you trade in one of your putters for a new one? Would you keep the old one and add a new one? Well, there are plenty of new putters to choose from if you’re unhappy with your old one.

Odyssey presented three new men’s putters using words like “sabertooth” and “fangs” in its description. I love my Odyssey two-ball putter and wouldn’t trade it for something that advertises a putter with teeth. But Odyssey has launched a new “Divine Line” of putters that are sized and weighted for women.

Greens were available for trying out the putters and for testing lasers and other devices to straighten out the pulls and pushes that curse our otherwise smooth, “tick-tock” motions on the green. The choices are endless, and all new putters can be viewed on the Internet by entering their brand names.

HYBRIDS

Remember the Ginty utility club produced in the 1980s? It was probably the genesis of the hybrid revolution. This user-friendly club allowed us to get the ball airborne from difficult lies. Golf manufacturers have since perfected this half wood/half iron club to meet the demands of pros and weekend golfers. (What took them so long?) Our difficult-to-hit 3- and 4-irons have become virtually extinct for many of us as we gain confidence using these crossbreeds of clubs. Many retail stores report that hybrid sales have surpassed putters, slightly lagging behind drivers as the top sellers.

GOLF BALLS

Golf balls look pretty much the same; they’re white with dimples. But I know I get more control and distance with a Titleist Pro-V1 than any other ball. I don’t know why, nor do I need to know why. Bridgestone says that the right ball can add up to 20 yards to your game and recom-
The Course. The Community. The Amenities
...only a few can call it home.

The community of Innsbrook is set on a sprawling nine hundred acre plantation surrounded by the Albemarle Sound, Salmon Creek, and protected Nature Conservancy property. A spectacular setting which serves as the backdrop to a lifestyle sure to be the gem of northeast North Carolina. Limited to those who recognize its distinction and act now.


Located in Merry Hill, North Carolina. Just 129 miles east of Raleigh and 75 miles west of The Outer Banks.

To find out more about Innsbrook Golf & Boat Community, visit our website at www.InnsbrookGolfandBoat.com, or call 800-482-9012 ext. #1011 or 252-482-5065.
Leaderboard

Mountain Golf Clinic

The Club at Jefferson Landing in Ashe County on the New River in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains, featuring a Larry Nelson-designed 7110-yard course layout at par 72 and a slope of 135, announces it will open a new golf academy this summer under the direction of golf pro and Tar Heel-native Dean Spainhour. The club is open all year with peak season from April through November.

For further information on The Club at Jefferson Landing or a stay at Jeremy's Lodge, log on to www.visitjeffersonlanding.com or call 1-800-292-627A.

Haig Point to Host Collegiate Tourney

Haig Point, one of South Carolina's private golf clubs, announced it will host the inaugural Rees Jones Collegiate Invitational on the club's Signature Course Sept. 6-8, 2008.

Hosted annually by golf course architect Rees Jones and Haig Point, the tournament will consist of 12 to 15 men's teams, representing 11 universities, including Michigan State, Connecticut, Jackson State, Eastern Michigan, San Diego State, Toledo, Columbia, Texas-Arlington, Georgia State, Methodist, and San Jose State.

The teams will play a practice round on Sept. 6, followed by 36 holes of competition on Sept. 7 with the final 18 holes played on Sept. 8. The Michigan State University golf team, led by Head Coach Sam Puryear, will serve as the host school for this year's tournament. Puryear helped make the tournament possible by partnering with Mark Nordman, Haig Point's chief operating officer.

Haig Point's Signature Course has just undergone a $5.5 million renovation and restoration overseen by Jones and his design associate Greg Muirhead.

Scholarship Program Helps Young Golfers

McConnell Golf (MCG) will announce the recipients of the MCG High School Golf Scholarship Program this month. The program was launched earlier this year to provide amateur and junior golfers access to the company's golf courses and practice facilities, which includes Raleigh Country Club, Treyburn Country Club in Durham, Cardinal Golf and Country Club in Greensboro and Musgrove Mill Golf Club in Clinton, SC.

The program gives talented young golfers, who cannot afford a membership to a private golf course, the ability to elevate their game through practice and play at a McConnell Golf property. Scholarships will be awarded to one golfer in each county in which McConnell Golf has a club.

Recipients must be currently enrolled in high school (grades 9-12) and play on a school-sponsored golf team. To be considered for the scholarship, recipients must be nominated by their current golf coach and will be required to submit and maintain a handicap on the GolfNet handicap system. Scholarships will be awarded for the recipients' full high school career.

RedTail Mountain

RedTail Mountain, the 720-acre golf community near Boone, NC, in Mountain City, TN, featuring a par 72, 18-hole golf course with 400 feet of elevation, is offering golf programs this spring and summer. Area amenities include boating on Watauga Lake, hiking on the Appalachian Trail and skiing at nearby Sugar and Beech Mountains.

New Book Focuses on Psychological Side of Golf

Tom Dorsel's new book, *Golf: The Mental Game: Thinking Your Way Around the Course*, looks at more than 65 issues that can impact a golfer's success and happiness. The book is divided into five sections — the basics, thinking clearly, controlling emotions, effective action, the mental mysteries of golf — and will help answer the age-old saying, "I've got the game; it's something psychological that's holding me back."

Dorsel, professor of psychology at Francis Marion University in South Carolina, is widely recognized for his contributions in sports psychology and has been listed by *Golf Magazine* as one of the leading golf psychologists in the country. *Golf: The Mental Game* is the culmination of more than 25 years of writing about the psychological side of golf and is available on www.amazon.com.
mends ball-fitting by your pro. Sergio Garcia was purported to have tested prototypes for 12-14 hours from within just 100 yards. I don't know which one he selected, but you can go to www.golfballselector.com to investigate your own speed, drag, distance and spin — or you can go to the golf course for 12 hours.

**TEACHING AIDS AND TECHNOLOGY**

Simulated golf courses on large screens were available for evaluating club head speed, driving accuracy, ball flight and direction. They offered immediate feedback for the student of the game — which you no doubt are if you're reading this article. One man tested his testosterone, aka his driver, on this device and attained a club head speed of 90 mph. I said to the rep, "Hmm, not bad for a short, fat, old guy." The rep chuckled and agreed, but didn't offer me the challenge — not a short, skinny, middle-aged, menopausal female. I moved on.

Computer programs with lessons on all aspects of the game were offered at every corner, and I accepted them all. I especially like the scientific approach of Geoff Man-

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 Kyle Lograsso

The highlight of celebrities was Kyle Lograsso. He is a 5-year-old lefty who has been featured on *YouTube*, *CBS Evening News* and in *Golf Digest* for his amazing talent ... especially after having had one eye removed due to a malignant tumor. His laugh was contagious when he performed impromptu imitations of golf pros we all know. He nailed Gary Player. I LOVED HIM! You can visit his Web site and view the astonishing videos at www.kylelograsso.org.

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**CELEBRITIES**

Celebrities were everywhere, Annika Sorenstam, Jim Furyk, Justin Rose, Charles Howell III and Paula Creamer, to name a few. I even saw Raleigh's own Ted Kiegiel, head pro at the Carolina Country Club, and Julian Bunn of Carolina Custom Golf. When I appeared at appointed locations, thinking I would hear a "star" talk about golf, I would find them only signing autographs. (Not my style.) Butch Harmon did speak, but mostly about the equipment that Momentus Golf was promoting. David Leadbetter charmed an informal group at the Golf Pride booth. His words are familiar to most of us, but in person he's a delight. After his presentation, I was given a set of Golf Pride grips. They are bright yellow and look fabulous on my clubs.
The golf industry has brought us better golf equipment, but we baby boomers (9 million of us) are attempting to improve our biological equipment by lifting weights, running, practicing Pilates, yoga and Zen — and by eating better and assuming healthier overall lifestyles. Fitness experts were on site at the show expressing definite ideas about how we golfers should train to maximize our games.

Sean Cochran, certified fitness trainer for Phil Mickelson, “performed” his teaching methods with equipment that he was promoting for Momentus, but I didn’t really learn much from him. Jim Sorenson, president and CEO of the company, spent some time with me confirming that “certified” fitness trainers are an essential component for the golfer who wants to play into the sunset years. Certification ensures that the trainer is well-educated in physical therapy and cognizant of the safest and most efficient training methods for the individual. I was referred to the Titleist Performance Institute (TPI) booth for more information. The TPI is the gold standard for golf fitness, providing computer programs with lists of certified trainers in the United States. (Go to www.mytpi.com.) Alas, there are none in The Research Triangle Park. The closest certified instructors are in Pinehurst and Southern Pines.

YOGA
“Deep breathing and mental focus are core philosophies in the practice of yoga for golfers. Quieting the mind through the use of deep breathing facilitates mental focus and a fluid swing tempo,” according to Katherine Roberts (Golf Fitness Magazine, Fall 2007). I visited Ms. Roberts, Golf Fitness Magazine advisory team member, at the Yoga station several times, but she was never in. I can only suppose that she was out practicing her down dog or rising sun. So I centered my own self, did my three-part breathing and, once again, moved on.

THE BEST RESOURCE
There isn’t enough time, space, energy or pages in Metro for me to talk about: 1.) Zen as it applies to the mandatory positive mental game, 2.) Pilates for crucial core strengthening, 3.) Weight-lifting hazards when inappropriately performed, or 4.) the role of nutrition as it pertains to golf. But all these health and fitness topics can be accessed at www.golfersmd.com.

I spent 45 minutes with Tom Carter, owner and CEO of GolfersMD and was convinced, beyond any reasonable doubt, that this company offers the latest, most reliable material available on golf. This free Web site offers information on anatomy, sports injuries, fitness, nutrition, golf instruction and every imaginable health-related topic. Three-minute videos on specific topics are accessible for viewing by clicking on “video.” There are clips for short game, long game, head game, positive momentum and fitness. The site allows the user to move around freely and quickly.

One of the most impressive features about Tom’s company is the quality of his advisory team. The researchers, physicians, trainers and nutritionists are reputable professionals who offer the most current information available. I encourage you to go there. I, myself, have spent many hours working on my game at www.golfersmd.com, and I hope I’ll see you there soon.

THE FINAL WORD
I was overwhelmed by the volume of resources available for golfers at the PGA Show, and although I had originally planned to focus this entire article on fitness for golf, I felt that I would be remiss if I neglected to share the overall experience. I hope you have the opportunity to attend the Expo yourself sometime. If you attended this year, I know you had as an enjoyable a time as I did. But most of all ... I hope that the wind will always be at your back.
No matter what you shoot, today may be your best game ever.

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You've been inside all Winter. Step outside into Spring at North Hills. Shop the latest Spring fashions and home décor, dine at our outdoor cafes and renew at our spas and salons.
Social Calendar
Spring/Summer 2008
by Meagan O’Daniel, Cyndi Harris and Jennifer Hadra

April 2nd
ANNUAL DINNER
For: Hospice of Wake County
Join special guest Nancy Giles of CBS for dinner and a live auction. Event will be held at Weston II, 5020 Weston Parkway, Cary. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Sloan Browning at 919-828-0890.

April 5th
WISH BALL
For: Make-A-Wish Foundation
This annual black-tie ball will include a live and silent auction, music featuring The Castaways, dinner and dancing. Tickets are $125 per person. Prestonwood Country Club, Cary. For more information, e-mail Leona Taylor at ltaylor@eastncwish.org or call the chapter office at 800-432-9474. For questions regarding sponsorship opportunities, contact Cindy Williams at cwilliams-eastncwish.org.

April 7th
6TH ANNUAL LEE FOWLER CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC
For: ALS Association Jim “Catfish” Hunter Chapter
All proceeds support cutting-edge research, local patient services and Chapter programs for the ALS Association. Range opens at 11 a.m. and shotgun start will be at 12 p.m. Prestonwood Country Club, Cary. For more information, call Megan Gardner at 919-755-9001 or visit www.catfishchapter.org.

April 12th
CRAB BALL GALA AND AUCTION
For: Beaufort County Humane Society and other local charities
Enjoy food from Eastern North Carolina’s finest restaurants and music by the 360 Degree Band. Seventeen giant crab sculptures will be auctioned to benefit Zion Shelter, Boys and Girls Options to Domestic Violence, Beaufort County Humane Society and other local charities. Event includes live auction, hors d’oeuvres, libations and music. Washington Civic Center; black tie optional, tickets are $60. For information, call 800-546-0162 or visit www.orginal-washington.com.

April 13th
AN EVENING WITH MASTER CHEFS
For: Cystic Fibrosis Foundation – NC Chapter
Enjoy “A Night of Southern Elegance” while supporting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Chef Coordinators Walter...
Royal, Iron Chef America 2006, executive chef of the Angus Barn; David Gaydeski, executive chef of the Carolina Club; and Joe Lumbrazo, executive chef of Treyburn Country Club, along with other renowned chefs from the Triangle will prepare a gourmet five-course meal accompanied by specially selected wines. The Carolina Club in Chapel Hill. For more information, call 919-845-2155 or e-mail carolinas@cff.org.

April 19th
WALK TO DEFEAT ALS - WILMINGTON
For: ALS Association Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter
One of several fundraising events held each year by the Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter of the ALS Association. All proceeds go toward research and raising awareness to help provide invaluable

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services to people living with ALS. For more information, call Matthew Morrison at 877-568-4347 or visit www.catfishchapter.org.

**April 19th**

**CAPITAL CITY GALA**

**For: Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh**

Join Bob Dumas from Bob & The Showgram and Susan Hite from the Susan Hite Show at a casino and auction fund-raising event while supporting the Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh. Tickets are $50 per person. Brier Creek Country Club, 9400 Club Hill Drive, Raleigh. For more information, visit online at www.jwcraleigh.org.

**April 19th**

**2008 SONC PLANE PULL**

**For: Special Olympics North Carolina**

Five-person teams compete to see who can pull an American Eagle jet the fastest! Festivities include games, contests, prizes, food and loads of fun! This event is presented by Credit Suisse and benefits the NC Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics North Carolina. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. UPS Tarmac at RDU Airport, Raleigh. For more information, visit online at www.sonc.net.

**April 19th**

**HOPE GALA**

**For: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation**

Black-tie event honoring the 2008 Living and Giving Award recipients with entertainment provided by Bull City Syndicate. Evening includes dinner, program, live and silent auction with Master of Ceremonies Bill Jordan of Mix 101.5. North Ridge Country Club, Raleigh. For information, call 919-431-8330.

**April 23rd-27th**

**BEAUFORT WINE AND FOOD WEEKEND**

**For: Carteret County Tourism**

Five-day event featuring tastings, dinners, music, auctions, a grand outdoor tasting village and more with celebrity guest chefs and premier winemakers and wineries. The charitable event raises money for the Beaufort Historical Association, the Friends of the Maritime Museum, and the Carteret Community College Culinary School. For information, call 252-728-5225, visit www.beaufortwineandfood.com or e-mail info@beaufortwineandfood.com. Historical Assoc-

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**Wednesday** • Wine Social $15 over 20 wines around the world live music by Darryl Olivier

**Thursday** • Single Night Out live music by Steve Hobbs $5 mixed drinks

**Friday** • Live music by Steve Hobbs

**Saturday** • Music by Darryl Olivier

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Showcase of Kitchens
Presented by The Junior League of Raleigh

Friday & Saturday, April 25 – 26

Spend the day (or two) touring eight kitchens in homes located in central Raleigh. Kitchen docents will direct you to unique features in each kitchen and highlight design elements. Various homes will feature special displays of trends in home décor and entertaining as well as food samplings from local favorites.

Two-day tour tickets: $20 in advance; $25 at the door | Order tickets online at www.jlraleigh.org
For more information call (919) 787-7480.

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April 24th
TOAST TO THE TOUR!
For: Junior League of Raleigh
Toast to the Tour! is the kickoff event for the Showcase of Kitchens. The event will feature chef demonstrations, a silent auction, live music, the latest in kitchen options and fabulous food by B&B Catering. Advance Tickets Required: $75 per person; $125 per couple, includes food and beverages. Ferguson Enterprises, 2700-A Yonkers Road, Raleigh. For more information, contact Tracy Mitchell at 919-247-4774.

April 26th
2ND ANNUAL PROMISES OF LAUGHTER GALA
For: The North Carolina Children’s Promise
Event will feature a nationally recognized comedy headliner and others. Highlights of the evening include cocktails, a formal dinner, entertainment and the “promises of laughter.” For more information, visit www.ncchildrenspromise.org.

April 26th
ANGELS AMONG US 5K AND FAMILY FUN WALK
For: The Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center
A 5k walk through Duke Campus including the Sarah P. Duke Gardens is a celebration of life, strength, courage and commitment. Activities include a raffle, food, entertainment, souvenirs, activities and prizes for children and more. There is also a closing ceremony where the top 10 fundraising teams receive an award, and the grand total for the event is announced. For registration and sponsorship information, visit www.angelsamongus.org.

April 26th
18TH ANNUAL PENDER GOLF TOURNAMENT
For: Lower Cape Fear Hospice & Life Care Center

Enjoy a day of golf while supporting the Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Life Care Center. This golf tournament celebrates
the lives of Jack Hinton and Toby Skemp. It will be held April 26 at Olde Point Golf Course in Hampstead with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. For more information, visit www.hospiceandlifecarecenter.org.

April 27th
BLOSSOMS OF HOPE
For: The Inter-Faith Food Shuttle
Enjoy wine and a unique four-course luncheon at Second Empire with food prepared by Second Empire, 18 Sea­board, J. Betski's and the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle's Culinary Job Training program. $75 donation per person. RSVP by April 20 to Maxine Solomon at 919-847-0567 or foodiemax@nc.rr.com.

May 2nd
THE OPERA BALL
For: The Opera Company of North Carolina
Evening includes dinner, entertainment, live and silent auctions. Single tickets and full table tickets available. For information, call 919-792-3850 or visit www.opera­nc.com.

May 3rd
STRUT '08 FASHION SHOW AND SILENT AUCTION
For: Interact of Raleigh
The fashion event will feature nationally known fashion designers who have ties to the Triangle, live music and dance performances. A silent auction of items personally selected and donated by the designers will be held online before the show. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.strut08.com.

Online Only!

Bernie Reeves writes
Between Issues
at www.metronc.com
METRO SOCIAL CALENDAR

May 9th
7TH ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION
For: The Carying Place
Event includes hors d'oeuvres, great music, live and silent auction. Call Susan Marcinko at 919-462-1800 or e-mail at msusan@thecaryingplace.org for more information.

May 10th- June 1st
ASID CAROLINAS DESIGNER SHOWHOUSE
For: Hospice of Wake County and other organizations
The Women’s Club of Raleigh is once again partnering with the Carolinas Chapter of the ASID and has chosen approximately 25 from over 250 local area ASID designers to feature their designs in two Ramblewood at North Hills town homes. Each designer will make over a specific space in the house. The finished houses will open to the public. Preview Party will be held May 9. For more information, visit www.asidshowhouse.org.

May 17th- 18th
29TH ANNUAL ARTSPLOSURE - THE RALEIGH ARTS FESTIVAL
For: Artsplosure
This yearly spring festival is one of North Carolina's most acclaimed and well-attended outdoor art festivals. Weekend

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APRIL 2008 METROMAGAZINE
includes music by various artists, student art exhibitions, juried visual arts and crafts exhibitors from across the country. Moore Square, downtown Raleigh. For information about this year's event, call 919-832-8699 or visit www.artsplosure.org.

May 17th
3RD ANNUAL DRÉ BLY CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC
For: Dré Bly Foundation and CarolinaPros, Inc.
This event brings several stars from the...
NFL, NBA and Carolina family together with the members of the Carolina community for a fun and exciting golf tournament. For more information, visit online at www.dreblygolfreg.com.

May 30th
TRIANGLE GO RED FOR WOMEN LUNCHEON
For: The American Heart Association
The 2008 luncheon will be held on from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Marriott Crabtree in Raleigh. Corporate tables are now available, and individual tickets will go on sale April 30. For more information, contact the American Heart Association at 919-463-8353.

May 30th-June 1st
DUKE CHILDREN'S CLASSIC
For: Duke Children's Hospital and Health Center
The 35th Anniversary Golf Tournament that includes celebrity players and numerous activities for families. Over the
years, the Classic has raised $14 million for pediatric programs at Duke Children’s and created priceless lifelong friendships. For sponsorship and volunteer information, go to www.dukechildrens.org or call 919-667-2577.

May 31st
2008 SUMMER SALUTE
For: Hospice of Wake County
Beach party at North Ridge Country Club with great entertainment! Tickets are $75 per person. For more information or sponsor inquiries, call 919-719-5931.

June 14th
7TH ANNUAL PAW JAM
This day-long event will feature live bands, arts and crafts, an educational tent and lots of food and beverages. Proceeds support nonprofit animal rescue groups. For more information, visit online at www.pawjam.net. Battleship Park, Wrightsville Beach.

April 23rd - 27th
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June 19th
20TH ANNUAL CAROLINA KIDS CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT
For: Chapel Hill Ronald McDonald House
Join the Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill and UNC Hospitals at the Finley Golf Course in Chapel Hill for the

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15TH ANNUAL
WALLACE WADE STADIUM / WEST GATE
DUKE UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, NC

REGISTRATION AND ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT
www.angelsamongus.org

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**June 28th**
FISH TOWNE GET DOWN
For: Friends of the NC Maritime Museum
A casual beach party that will include live music by the Waller Family, food from signature regional restaurants, great wines, a full bar, dancing and a live auction with lots to bid on! The party will be under the big top circus tent at Gallants Channel, Beaufort. Tickets are $125 per person. For more information, contact

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JULY

AUGUST

August 10
JIMMY V CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC FOR CANCER RESEARCH
For: Jimmy V Foundation
Annual event, which features a blend of generous sponsors, celebrities and golf to fund cancer research. Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst. For information, call 919-319-0441 or online at www.golf-classic.org.

SEPTEMBER

September 21st
3RD ANNUAL SOUTHERN LADIES PURSE GALA
For: Me Fine Foundation, Inc.
The event will feature a live auction of unique, one-of-a-kind purses, including items donated by local celebrities and designers nationwide, and will also feature wine and hors d'oeuvres. For ticket information, contact Lisa Valentino at mefinedevelop@aol.com or visit online at www.mefinefoundation.org. All proceeds will benefit Me Fine Foundation and will provide assistance for children and families at Duke Children's Hospital and the North Carolina Children's Hospital at UNC.

NOVEMBER

November 22nd
THE MANNEQUIN BALL
Details to follow.

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Southport Marina

INNOVATIVE DESIGN — BY LAND AND SEA

Situated on the Intracoastal Waterway at the mouth of the Cape Fear River, the romantic coastal town of Southport, NC, is noted for its village charm, historic houses and a host of nearby attractions, including Bald Head Island and the Smith Island Museum and Lighthouse, the Historic Southport Trail, and the North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport. Boaters find the sheltered waters of Southport located on the marine charts halfway between Wrightsville Beach, NC, and Myrtle Beach, SC.

To capitalize on Southport’s mid-point location, the state of North Carolina passed a bond issue in 1959 to fund the Port Authority’s construction of the Southport Boat Harbor. The facility was dedicated with great fanfare in 1965, but four decades later, the marina, with obsolete equipment and overdue maintenance, was showing its age. As a result, Southport Marina was often bypassed by the Intracoastal Waterway boating crowd who wanted more modern conveniences.

PRESTON TEAM GOES TO WORK

In 2006 a visionary team from the Cary-based Preston Development Company entered the scene and undertook the revitalization of Southport Marina with the goal of creating one of the most amenity-rich marinas in North Carolina. Project Managers Robin Rose and Thad Moore began the complex process of planning and securing state and local permits for the renovation of the declining facility.

“We purchased the lease for Southport Marina with the idea that we were looking at a $7 million remodeling of the facility,” says Rose. “We started to apply for our permits based on a remodeling plan, which included extensive water component improvements and the modernizing and expanding of the marina facility amenities. We were prepared to add new docks, a new pump-out system, high-speed diesel and gas fuel systems, as well as dedicated slip-holder parking and a drop-off area, a floating ship’s store, upscale restrooms with showers and laundry facilities for slip holders, and what everyone wants these days — cable TV/Internet, high-speed wireless Internet and 30/50 amp power enclosed in new dock boxes.” Laughing, Rose adds, “What we didn’t realize was that the planned improvements were just the tip of the iceberg!”

Addressing the issues one at a time, Project Manager Moore divided the marina redevelopment tasks into water components and land components.

Photography by Kinsley Dey
The Marina Office Complex draws upon Low Country architecture.
“We spent two years addressing the environmental issues,” says Moore, “including dredging the entire marina to a 6-foot depth at low tide and providing storm water swales around the marina to protect the harbor water from run-off.”

Preston Development was also faced with removing and appropriately disposing of deteriorated concrete docks. Coordinating with the Department of Marine Fisheries, Preston cut the corroded 66-foot-long concrete docks into 5-foot segments, washed them to remove the accumulated petroleum residue and took them out to sea by barge to enlarge the Yaupon Reef, a prime fish habitat. The old stationary docks were replaced with floating docks made of elegant Brazilian Cumaru wood by Sound Marine, and the marina was redesigned to accommodate a transient and recreational dock with dock house, a marina office complex and a state-of-the-art dry stack storage facility.

**DESIGN TEAM KEYS ON HISTORY**

While Rose and Moore were dealing with the practical aspects of creating a major marina facility on the Intracoastal Waterway, they were also sensitive to the aesthetics of the development and how it related to Southport’s historic character. Preston Development chose the Low Country look for the marina and commissioned Wilmington-based designer Bryan Humphrey to design and build the Dockhouse, a major amenity to serve recreational boaters. The waterfront staff works from there to dispense fuel — including ValvTect, the highest quality marine fuel — boating necessities, ice, drinks and snacks. Located at the end of Dock C, 360 feet from the marina bulkhead, the single story structure is situated on a floating dock and features a standing seam metal roof with horizontal cupola, a bracketed endgable roof and siding of weather resistant synthetic shakes, tested to withstand winds up to 130 miles per hour.

“We consider the Dockhouse to be the heart of the marina,” says Moore. “That’s where our waterfront staff is stationed and where we first meet and serve our boating guests.”
Deteriorating concrete docks were replaced with floating docks of dense Brazilian Cumaru wood.

Presenting the Residences at The Lafayette, an inspired way of life. These beautifully appointed condominiums with soaring 11-foot ceilings offer luxuriously different living in Downtown Raleigh. Relax at the rooftop pool and bar atop the twenty-second floor, dine at the signature restaurant, unwind at the fitness center or with a spa treatment. Indulge yourself with 24-hour concierge, housekeeping, in-home dining, laundry services and valet.
The Low Country theme is continued in the recently completed renovation of the Marina Office Complex, designed by Southport architect Stephanie Van Noordt. The two-story structure, once a restaurant, now boasts a second floor porch, a handsome cupola and the same weather-worthy standing seam metal roof and synthetic shake siding used on the Dockhouse. The interiors of the handsome office complex were designed by Vanessa Jenkins, Preston Development's sales and marketing director. Local contractor Jeff Ward built the office complex and is remodeling the old marina office. Moore notes that the Cumaru wood decking used on the office complex porch is also used to construct the 12-foot-wide marina complex boardwalk.

"When we arrived at Southport Marina, the trees were stressed and yellowing. We worked with David Nash with the state of North Carolina. He, in turn, worked with a local landscaper to trim, prune and fertilize the oak's root systems. They are now thriving again," Rose reports. "The trees provide shade for picnic tables and some local families have indicated their interest in having weddings on the activity deck, which is part of the Office Marina Complex and adjoins the live oak park."

**LIFE ON THE WATER GOES ON**

As a public facility, it was particularly important that Southport Marina remain open and functioning during the renovation and expansion. Preston Development is particularly proud that they were able to maintain the schedule of traditional events dear to Southport and its visitors, such as the Chamber of Commerce-sponsored King Mackerel Tournament held each October.

"We were in the throws of construction in October 2007," says Rose, "but the tournament went on as it always has. It provides a huge boost to the local economy, and we couldn't disturb that."

(The US Open King Mackerel Tournament was started over 30 years ago when a group of community leaders met and decided to establish an event to showcase the great fall fishing season in the Southport-Oak Island area. As they say, the rest is history. The tournament, the largest in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Virginia, now attracts almost 450 boats annually, and anglers can place in 55 categories to compete for prize money. The grand prize is $25,000 for the largest king mackerel.)

Karen Sphar, executive vice president of the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce, puts the role of the Southport Marina in a geographic and economic context.

"Our community is comprised of six municipalities," says Sphar, "and includes the towns of Southport, Bald Head Island, Caswell Beach and Oak Island (Long Beach and Yaupon Beach), Boiling Springs Lakes and St. James."
The Dockhouse is the heart of the Marina.
Come Discover Life in Historic Manteo on The Outer Banks of North Carolina.

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Condominium Homes and Homesites.
Sphar points out that the beaches, waterways and fishing grounds of this cluster of communities on the southeastern coast of the Brunswick Islands are a major basis for the area's economy.

"People come here for the recreational activities and want to stay. That's how many of our most popular residential communities got started," says Sphar.

**MORE SERVICES SLATED**

Preston Development continues the renovation and revitalization of Southport Marina with an eye on creating more services and business opportunities for the local economy. At present, Rose and Moore are touting the marina's 75-ton Travelift and two 25,000-pound forklifts.

"The Southport Marina Boatyard will offer bottom cleaning and painting, detailing, surveying, canvas making, and air-conditioning and engine service," says Moore.

"We have reconfigured the drop zones where boats can be placed for repair and placed them near the Travelift well."

The marina has a list of local and area marine service providers available to the boating public; only those approved by the

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Boat storage options will soon include enclosed dry dock storage.
Marina can provide service on site. At present, planning is in the works for two dry-stack boat storage options that will join outdoor storage currently nearing completion. Boat owners have access to 307 feet of staging dock space to pick up and drop off boats taken from dry storage.

As the initial phase of the renovation of the Southport Marina nears completion, Rose notes that the marina can accommodate 210 boats in the water and anticipates accommodating 350-400 boats in storage.

Keying on the view of the Intracoastal Waterway, the Preston Development team of Moore and Rose survey the handsome new marina facility with its boat launching areas, live oak park and attractive boardwalk.

"We will complete the renovation with a three-day open house to show our residents and visitors their new marina," says Rose. "It's a way to display this beautiful facility, which accommodates passive recreation, as well as traditional water-related recreational activities and boating. At Southport Marina, everyone has access to the water."
Metro Magazine announces The Mannequin Ball November 22, 2008 at the new Raleigh Civic Center For more info call Metro Magazine at 919-831-0999.
Known as the sandhills’ rite of spring, The Stoneybrook Steeplechase at Carolina Horse Park in Hoke County includes picnics, tailgating, a hat show and the most exciting horse race around. [See Preview Potpourri for details.]

The Chapel Hill Spring Garden Tour focuses on 10 private gardens that feature unique plants, sculptures and water features. The gardens span from a backyard wildlife habitat to a whimsical garden full of sculptural surprises. [See Preview Home & Garden Tours for details.]

Beaufort Wine & Food Weekend opens with wine seminars, tastings, live music, celebrity chefs and related activities in historic Beaufort, April 23-27. [See Preview Museums for details.]
APRIL EVENTS ARE IN FULL BLOOM

GALLERIES

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR TROUBLE, YOU CAME TO THE RIGHT PLACE: Featuring new works by Louis St. Lewis; Craven Art Gallery, Durham; Thru April 19. Contact 919-286-4837 or www.cravenallengallery.com.


THE IMPORTANCE OF PLACE — IMAGES FROM NEAR AND FAR BY RUSSELL GORGA: Miriam Preston Block Art Gallery at the Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, Raleigh; April 4-June 10. Call 919-890-3610.

FLORA & FAUNA — BATIKS ON SILK: Fiber art by Amy Chapman Braun; The Nature Art Gallery at The Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh; April 4-27. Contact 919-733-7450 or wvwv.naturalsciences.org.

ARTWALK: Art galleries, shopping, performing arts

Blue Room by the Sea, by Karen Lawrence, 24 X 20, oil on canvas will be on view at City Art Gallery during "Reflections," a show of new works by gallery artists, April 3-26 in Greenville.

PRIDE OF PLACE MEANS WE BUILD FOR THE FUTURE WITH LARRY KIRKLAND: A free public art presentation; Page-Walker Arts and History Center, Cary; April 10. Contact 919-531-2821.

ARTWALK: Art galleries, shopping, performing arts and pottery throwing demonstration by potter Jim Bisbee; Downtown New Bern; April 11. Contact 252-638-2577 or www.carolinacroations.com.


REFLECTIONS — NEW WORKS BY KAREN LAWRENCE, HILARIE LAMBERT AND JENNY LOU SHERBURNE: City Art Gallery, Greenville; April 3-26 (Opening Reception April 3). Call 252-353-7000 or www.city-art-gallery.com.

REMEMBERING THE WORKS OF ARTHUR BOUCIAS: Over 60 works by the late Arthur Boucias; The Bank of the Arts, New Bern; April 3-May 3 (Opening Reception April 11). Call 252-638-2577 or www.cravenarts.org.

THE ILLUSTRATED WORLD: An exhibition pairing North Carolina writers and printmakers together to produce specially commissioned illustrations; Flanders 311, Raleigh; April 4-30 (Opening Reception April 4). Contact 919-834-5044 or www.flandersartgallery.com.

POP!: New work by gallery artists including Brenda Behr, Jennifer Crowell, Mike Rooney and others; Carolina Creations Fine Art & Contemporary Craft Gallery, New Bern; April 11- June 30. Contact 252-633-4369 or www.carolinacroations.com.

FEREYDOON FAMILY — STEPPING BLIND: Flanders Art Gallery, Raleigh; April 1-25 (Artists Reception April 4). Contact 919-834-5044 or online at www.flandersartgallery.com.


DURHAM ART WALK: A self-guided tour of galleries, artist studios and impromptu exhibits, featuring the original artwork of over 150 artists; Durham Arts Council, Durham; April 5-6. Contact www.durhamart-walk.com.


LANDSCAPE DETAILS — SARAH POWERS: Lobby; Thru April 26.

CLASSICAL

WORLD VOICE CELEBRATION WITH GRANT LLEWELLYN AND DUKE VOICE CARE CENTER: Meymandi Concert Hall at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; April 6. Contact www.ncsymphony.org or 919-733-2750.

THE JUPITER STRING QUARTET: Presented by The Raleigh Chamber Music Guild; Fletcher Opera Theater at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; April 13. Contact 919-821-2030 or online at www.rcmg.org.

NORTH CAROLINA MASTER CHORALE PERFORMS VERDI'S REQUIEM: Meymandi Concert Hall, the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; April 19. Contact 919-850-9700 or www.ncmasterchorale.org.

RALEIGH RINGERS IN CONCERT: Sponsored by the Arts Council of Moore County; Pinecrest High School, Southern Pines; April 20. Contact 910-692-4356.

SIGHTS & SOUNDS ON SUNDAYS — WORLD PREMIERE OF ICEBLANK: A multimedia event featuring the sights and sounds of Antarctica with words, music and images; April 27. NC Museum of Art, Raleigh. Contact 919-735-5923 or www.ncartmuseum.org.


A TRIBUTE TO MAXINE SWALIN: Memorial Hall at UNC, Chapel Hill; April 27. Contact 919-967-6629 or 919-843-3333.

DURHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Free pops in the park outdoor concert event; April 27; 3 p.m. at Cameron Park. Contact www.durhamsymphony.org.

SONGS OF INNOCENCE AND DREAMS: Spring concert by Women's Voices Chorus; University United Methodist Church, Chapel Hill; May 4. Contact www.womensvoiceschorus.org.


• DUKE WIND SYMPHONY — OUT OF THIS WORLD: Baldwin Auditorium; April 3.

• DUKE NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE — THE CARILLON IN MY LIFE: Duke Biddle Music Building Lobby; April 4.

• DUKE WIND SYMPHONY — GARDENS CONCERT: Duke Gardens; April 6.

• CIOMPI QUARTET — FIRST COURSE CONCERT: Doris Duke Center, Duke Gardens; April 10.

• DUKE JAZZ ENSEMBLE: John Brown Director, Baldwin Auditorium; April 11.

• PRISM CONCERT — GALA PERFORMANCE: Baldwin Auditorium; April 12.

• CIOMPI QUARTET W/ALLAN WARE, CLARINET: Nelson Music Room; April 12.

• DUKE CHORALE & CHAPEL CHOIR, CHORAL SOCIETY OF DURHAM, DURHAM CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND SOLOISTS WITH ORCHESTRA PRO CANTORES: Performing Brit-
• DUKE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Baldwin Auditorium; April 3 & 20.
• DUKE CHORALE — CHORALE CELEBRATION: Biddle Music Building; April 25.
 • DUKE STRING SCHOOL — SPRING FESTIVAL: Baldwin Auditorium; April 26.

POPMUSIC

WITNESS TO AN EXECUTION: Presented by PlayMakers; Paul Green Theatre at UNC-Chapel Hill; April 23-27. Call 919-962-PLAY or www.playmakersrep.org.

MUSEUMS
OUR SUNKEN HISTORY — ARCHEOLOGICAL TREASURES FROM NORTH CAROLINA SHIPWRECKS: NC Maritime Museum expansion site at Gallants Channel, Beaufort; Open Thursdays for guided tours; Contact 252-728-7317 or www.ncmuseumtimemuseum.org.

34TH ANNUAL WOODEN BOAT SHOW: Demonstrations, special guests and entertainment; Downtown Beaufort; May 3. Contact 252-728-7317 or www.ncmuseumtimemuseum.org.

EVENTS AT THE NASHER MUSEUM OF ART: Duke University, Durham; Contact www.nasher.duke.edu.
• FAMILY: OF THE MODERN — ROTHKO, RAUSCHENBERG, OLDENBURG, KUNE; Thru Sept. 14, 2008
• THE PAST IS PRESENT — CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES AT THE NASHER MUSEUM: Thru Spring 2008
• NEW AT THE NASHER: On view thru July 6, 2008.
• BARKLEY L. HENDRICKS — BIRTH OF THE COOL: Thru July 13

EVENTS AT THE NC MUSEUM OF ART: Raleigh; Contact 919-839-6262 or www.ncartmuseum.org.
• MODERN AMERICAN PAINTINGS FROM THE BEQUEST OF FANNIE AND ALAN LESLIE: Thru Fall 2009
• FAR FROM HOME: Through March 1, 2009
• CHILDREN’S PERFORMANCE — SALSA CINDERELLA WITH THE GREY SEAL PUPPETS: April 5
• DROP-IN CRAFTS: April 5
• GALLERY CLASS — INSPIRATIONS FOR CINEMATIC COSTUMES: April 10, 17, 24 and May 1
• FAMLY FUN SATURDAYS: April 12, 26
• LUNCH & LEARN — THE WONDERS OF WILDFLOWERS: April 15, 22
• LUNCH & LEARN — ART + NATURE + ARCHITECTURE: April 18, 19
• FILM — THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER:April 18
• PARK FESTIVAL — EARTH DAY RALEIGH: April 19
• FILM — THE HITCHHIKER: April 25
• LUNCH & LEARN — WHAT’S IN A FRAME?: April 26
• HUMBER LECTURE — THE AGING OF ART AND ARTISTS: April 27
• CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT — ICEBLINK: April 27

EVENTS AT THE NC MUSEUM OF HISTORY: Raleigh; Contact 919-807-7900 or www.ncmuseumofhistory.org.
• BEARING WITNESS — CIVIL RIGHTS PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALEXANDER RIVERA: Through March 1, 2009
• CURATOR’S TOUR — ARTDUCXO: April 5
• HISTORY À LA CARTE — NORTH CAROLINA INTERSTATE HISTORY: April 9
• CURATOR’S TOUR — CHEROKEE POTTERY, PEOPLE OF ONE FIRE: April 12
• MUSIC OF THE CAROLINAS — RALEIGH MORAVIAN BRASS BAND: April 13
• TIME FOR TOTS — JUST DUCKY!: April 15
• FROLIC IN WILMINGTON: Museum Associates annual weekend fundraiser to benefit The Museum of History; April 18-19
• ARTIST AT WORK — MARIA SHERZOV: April 26, 27
• TRIANGLE JAZZ ENSEMBLE: April 27

EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM OF LIFE AND SCIENCE: Durham; Contact 919-220-5429 or online at www.lifeandscience.org.
• 5TH ANNUAL BUTTERFLY Bash: April 12

PLAY TO LEARN: New Exhibit Now Open
 • CATCH THE WIND & EXPLORE THE WILD: Ongoing

EVENTS AT THE AICKLAND ART MUSEUM: UNC-Chapel Hill; Contact www.ackland.org.
• PICTURING THE WORLD — CAROLINA’S CELEBRATED PHOTOJOURNALISTS: Thru April 6
• PERSPECTIVES ON PUBLIC JUSTICE: Thru May 4
• THE PURSUIT OF LEARNING — IMAGES OF STUDY, SCHOLARSHIP, AND EDUCATION: Thru May 18

GLORIFYING PATRONAGE — ART IN SERVICE OF FAMILY, FAME AND FORTUNE: Thru Aug. 16

• OCEAN: EXPLORE DISCOVER: An interactive marine science experience where visitors learn about ocean research projects and explore human interaction with the ocean; Thru Jan. 4, 2009.
• OCEAN: EXPLORE. DISCOVER. — KEYNOTE ADDRESS, STATE OF THE OCEAN: Lumina Theatre, UNCW Fisher Student Center; 7 p.m.; April 8.
• CAPE FEAR SEASHORES: Ongoing Temporary Exhibit
• WINTER JAZZ — THE RIVERSIDE 8 WITH LAURA MCFAYDEN: Williston Auditorium; April 4.
• LEARNING CENTER — BUILD IT: April 5, 12, 19
• COMMUNITY CONVERSATION — COLONIAL EXPERIENCES: Cultural Perspectives in the Colonial South; April 15.
• CAPE FEAR SKIES: April 20
• JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT DAY — WATER WONDERS: April 26

EVENTS AT THE BEAUFORT HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION: Beaufort Historic Site, Beaufort; Call 800-575-7483
• STEPHEN MOORE APRIL FEATURED ARTIST: Mattie King Davis Art Gallery; April 5-30 (Opening Reception April 5).

Tryon Palace
Historic Sites & Gardens - New Bern

GARDEN LOVERS’ WEEKEND
April 11 - April 13, 2008
HISTORY PLANT SALE
April 11, 12
Free Garden Admission
252-514-4900
www.tryonpalace.org
**PUBLICK DAY:** Old-fashion flea market on the Beau­fort Historic Site; April 19

**WINE & FOOD WEEKEND:** Wine and the food of coastal Carolina’s restaurants with seminars, dinners, tast­ings and more; April 23-27.

**POTPOURRI**

**SOUTHERN IDEAL HOME SHOW:** Three-day event pro­vides homeowners with the opportunity to shop, compare and buy the latest products and services for home and garden; NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh; April 4-6. Contact 800-849-0248.

**STONEYBROOK STEEPLECHASE:** Caroline Horse Park at Five Points, Hoke County; April 5. Contact 910-246-9808 or www.carolinahorsepark.com

**6TH ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP:** Volunteers join the Neuse River Foundation in collecting trash from the Neuse River to be delivered to the landfill where it will be weighed and documented; April 5. For more infor­mation, contact Pat Gulley or Larry Baldwin with the Neuse River Foundation at 252-637-7972.

**BEAUFORT COUNTY’S BIGGEST CATCH, CRAB BALL GALA & AUCTION:** Seventeen giant crab sculptures will be auctioned to benefit local charities, live auction, hors d’oeuvres, dancing, and entertainment by 360 Degree Band; Washington Visitors Center; April 12. Contact 800-546-0162 or online at www.originalwash­ington.com.

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April 25–27, 2008
NC State Fairgrounds
Friday 10am–8pm; Saturday 10am–8pm; Sunday 11am–5pm
Adults $9.00; Youth 6–12 $5.00; Under 6 free with paying adult

Advance Tickets at Harris Teeter $7

www.SouthernWomensShow.com

**5TH ANNUAL BEACH BALL — FANTASEA:** Fundraiser to benefit UNC’s Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center; University Mall, Chapel Hill; April 12. Contact www.unclineberger.org/giftevents/bb.

**DURHAM COMMUNITY DINNER:** Downtown Durham Armory, Durham; April 13. Contact www.durhamcommunitydinner.org.

**HAUNTED EVENING — A HISTORICAL DRAMA:** A New Bern Historical Society program; Attmore-Oliver House, New Bern; April 25. Contact 252-638-8558 or www.newbernhistorical.org.

**FESTIVAL OF FUN:** A full day of games, arts and crafts, educational information, and fun; Union Point Park, New Bern; April 26. Contact 252-639-2902 or www.newbernnc.org.

**PAGES TO PODIUM WITH SPEAKER DR. KATHY REICHS:** A biannual author’s series that brings a national speak­
er to the Triangle to present information on topics of interest, sponsored by the Raleigh Professional Women’s Forum; Brier Creek Country Club, Raleigh; April 24.

**MEBANE DOGWOOD FESTIVAL:** Arts & crafts, rides for children, golf tournament, 5k run, food and entertainment; Downtown Mebane; April 25-27. Contact www.mbanebame.com.

**DOWNTOWN MOREHEAD CITY REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION’S FAMILY BOATING AND IN-WATER BOAT SHOW:** Exhibits, programs and power boats, in the water and on shore; Morehead City Waterfront; May 16-18. Contact 910-808-0440.

**EVENTS AT TRYON PALACE HISTORIC SITES & GARDENS:** New Bern; Call 800-767-1560 or online at www.tryonpalace.org.

- **TRYON PALACE THEATER:** April 5, 19
- **TRYON PALACE GARDEN LOVERS WEEKEND:** April 11-13
- **TRYON PALACE HERITAGE PLANT SALE:** April 11-12

**EVENTS AT A SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS PROJECT:** Raleigh; April 26. Contact www.saluteournctroops.org.

- **SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIRCRAFT FLYOVER:** Downtown Raleigh; 10 a.m.
- **A SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS PARADE:** Fayetteville and Davie Street intersection, Raleigh; 10 a.m.
- **OPEN STATIC DISPLAY AREA OF MODERN MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND 2008 NASCAR NATIONWIDE SERIES SHOW CARS ON EXHIBITION:** Beginning at 11:30 a.m.
- **MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY CENTER STAGE AND FAMILY FUN LAND OPEN:** Beginning at 11:30 a.m.
- **FREE LUNCH FOR MILITARY FAMILIES PROVIDED BY THE PORK COUNCIL OF NORTH CAROLINA:** 12 p.m.
- **FREE ACCESS TO MARBLES KIDS MUSEUM, NC MUSEUM OF HISTORY, AND THE NC MUSEUM OF SCIENCE:** 12-5 p.m.
- **CAROLINA RAILHAWKS PROFESSIONAL SOCCER TEAM HOST OPENING NIGHT GAME AT WAKEMED MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT:** Game begins at 7 p.m.

**EVENTS AT THE NORTH CAROLINA RENAISSANCE FAIRE:** NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh; Contact www.ncrenfaire.com or 800-838-3006.

- **TARTAN DAY:** April 5-6
- **RENAISSANCE FAIRE:** April 12-13

**HOME & GARDEN TOURS**

- **59TH ANNUAL HOME AND GARDEN TOUR OF SOUTHERN PINES:** Southern Pines Garden Club’s tour of six homes and their gardens; Tour begins at Campbell House, 555 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines; April 2. Contact 910-528-2129.
- **SPRING HISTORIC HOMES & GARDENS TOUR:** Seventeen historic homes and gardens of free admission to Tryon Palace Gardens; New Bern Historical Society, New Bern; April 11-12. Contact 252-638-8558 or www.newbernhistorical.org.

- **55TH ANNUAL AZALEA GARDEN TOUR — GARDENS FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA:** Eleven private gardens highlight the Cape Fear Region’s coastal and river landscapes; Wilmington; April 11-13. Contact 910-262-3036 or www.azaleagardentour.org.
- **HISTORIC BATH GARDEN CLUB HOMES AND GARDENS TOUR:** Bath Visitors Center; April 12. Contact 252-923-0972 or 252-923-9931.
- **CHAPEL HILL SPRING GARDEN TOUR:** Benefiting the North Carolina Botanical Garden Visitor Education Center; North Carolina Botanical Garden, Chapel Hill; April 12-13. Contact 919-962-0522 or www.chapel-hillgardentour.net.

**PRESERVATION WARRENTON PRESENTS A TOUR OF PLANTATION HOMES IN THE INEZ COMMUNITY OF WARREN COUNTY:** Seven historical plantations, historical churches, landscapes and a luncheon; Inez, NC; April 26-27. Contact 252-257-3054.

Our thanks to Cyndi Harris for her assistance with MetroPreview.

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

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**NORTH STATE BANK**

**Summer Salute**

For Hospice of Wake County

May 31, 2008 • 7:00 p.m.

North Ridge Country Club

6612 Falls of Neuse Road • Raleigh, NC

**The Embers**

Heavy Hors d’oeuvres • Raffle Prizes
Silent Auction • Souvenir Photos

Ticket Cost: $75 ($35 is tax deductible)

Contact North State Bank at (919) 645-2726 or summersalute@northstatebank.com

Net proceeds benefit Hospice of Wake County
On the Town
by Katie Poole

Toast to the Triangle
Tammy Lynn Foundation
McKimmon Center
Raleigh, NC
March 9th, 2008

Denim and Diamonds
Benefiting The Boys and Girls Club
Saks Fifth Avenue - Triangle Town Center
Raleigh, NC
February 28th, 2008

AAF Raleigh-Durham Chapter
presents the ADDY Awards
Bay 7, American Tobacco Campus
February 29th, 2008
Durham, NC

HM&P Creative Team- Back Row (L to R): Ann Parrent, Chris Kroeper, Billy Barnes, Jim Cobb, Scott Piggott, Ann Neely, Donna Mercer, Denise Lingenfelser, Joe Ivey, John Moore
Front Row (L to R): Stephanie Dunford, Barbara Schneider, Nicole Bucalo
As the Weather Heats Up, Check Out These Helpful Products:

SIZZLING SKIN CARE

WARM WEATHER SKIN CARE 101:

According to Fiquet Bailey, owner of Luxe Apothecary, the biggest skincare problem men and women in the South face is sun damage. While playing golf or tennis and going to the beach may be the perfect way to relax, all the outdoor activity can wreak havoc on your skin.

"By the end of the summer people have to start backpedaling to repair all the damage they did to their skin over the past few months," Bailey says.

To prevent sunburns and skin damage before they start, Bailey recommends purchasing a broad spectrum sunscreen that protects skin from both UVA and UVB rays.

Bailey says: "The general rule is that if a sunscreen has a SPF of 15, you can stay in the sun 15 times longer than you would normally be able to before your skin begins to burn. So if you typically burn within 10 minutes of being out in the sun, you will need to reapply SPF 15 sunscreen after 150 minutes."

KATE SOMERVILLE

Kate Somerville’s pledge to “renew skin, restore health and deliver results” has already caught the attention of stars like Jessica Alba and Debra Messing, but her strategy for achieving beautiful skin through her Skin Health Pyramid is universally attainable. A result of years of research and partnering with clients, dermatologists and cosmetic surgeons, the pyramid is based on five elements: protect, hydrate, feed, stimulate and detox. Each product in Somerville’s skincare lines addresses these five elements and promotes skin wellness both internally and externally.

1. Bathina “Touch Me Then Try To Leave” body cream — Benefit — Thick enough to hydrate. Light enough for warm weather.


3. Quench — Kate Somerville — Hollywood’s secret to a “dewy complexion” keeps skin hydrated 24/7.

4. MD Skincare Sun Protection Wipes — Sunscreen pads glide on clear leaving no residue on beards or darker skin tones. Dr. Dennis Gross. Available at Luxe Apothecary.

5. Defincils — Lancôme’s best-selling mascara separates, elongates and defines each lash.

CLOTHES MAKE THE MAN

Attention male readers: Not all clothes are created equal. While words like "fashionable" or "stylish" once carried a feminine connotation, the terms have become more gender neutral in recent years as men begin to see that clothes really do make the man.

For guys who like to set the trend, jackets made of synthetic material and pedal pusher pants will put them on the cutting edge this spring. For Southern gentlemen wanting to stay in style, this springs blend of versatile colors, patterns and fabrics will keep them on the best dressed list at work and at play.

Get the Blues: Whether its navy, royal or baby, the color blue is at the top of designers’ color wheel. Other colors making a more prominent, albeit surprising, appearance in men’s clothing this spring are shades of yellow and pink.

Accessorize: From pocket squares to belts with scored leather to 1930s-inspired buffalo skin luggage, masculine accessories are a must-have for every man this spring.

Pick a Pattern: Pinstriped suits and plaid sport coats made their way down the runway and into stores. For men not wanting to dress in prints from head to toe, designers adorned solid colored dress shirts.

“The changes in men’s fashions are often very subtle. While women wear a dress one time, men will wear a suit for 10 years. This season I’m seeing two button suits and sport coats instead of three button, center and side vents on suits and a trimming down of the lapels.”

- Hill Stockton, Norman Stockton, Chapel Hill & Winston-Salem

FASHION NEWS

The Elaine Miller Collection will host a Jeffrey Mazza trunk show on April 3-4. Choose from one of Mazza’s own creations or bring your used jewelry and let him create a piece just for you. Elaine Miller Collection, The Lassiter at North Hills, Raleigh. Call 919.571.8888 or visit www.elainemillercollection.com

Join Vermillion for a Tuleh trunk show featuring their complete fall 2008 collection. April 15-16, 10 am to 6 pm. Call 919.787.9780 for details.

Women’s clothing designer Rachel Pally will make a personal appearance at Gena Chandler on Thursday, April 17. Pally will be at the store the entire day, and Gena Chandler will host an event at the store that night with drinks and a DJ. Gena Chandler, The Lassiter at North Hills, Raleigh. Call 919.881.9480 or visit www.genachandler.com for more details.

Join CT Weekends for a fashion show featuring the spring and summer collections from designers like La Belle Marine Paris. The show will be held at St. Jaques Restaurant on April 22. Call 919.787.9073 for more information.

The week of April 22nd will be Green Designer Week at Uniquities and Uniquities Mix. The stores will introduce organic tees, jeans and dresses from new and current designers. A “green” tote will be given away with every purchase for customers to reuse for subsequent purchases and receive $2 off their purchase. Contact Uniquities in Chapel Hill at 919.933.4007, Uniquities in Cameron Village at 919.832.1234 or Uniquities Mix in North Hills at 919.785.3385.

Skin Sense, a day spa will host events to launch Dermalogica’s new Shave product line and Age Smart product line and gloMinerals new Spring Butterfly Makeup Collection throughout the month of April at the Brier Creek, North Raleigh and Cary locations. Call 919.870.0700 or visit www.skinside.com for more information.

Events at Saks Fifth Avenue:
• April 3-6: Contemporary Week; Receive an exclusive See by Chloe tee and $50 Saks Gift Card to use during the event with your Women’s Contemporary purchase of $450 or more. One per customer, please. While supplies last. Call 792.9100 ext.5338 for more information.
• April 5: Roberto Coin Trunk Show with Susan Burcham 10-4.
• April 5: Sunglass Event 10-5; Come view the Spring 2008 Sunglass Collection and let a Sunglass specialist fit a frame for your face. Featuring Sunglasses by: Jimmy Choo, Chanel, Oliver Peoples, Gucci, Prada, Fendi, Dolce and Gabbana, Tom Ford, Marc Jacobs and Ray Ban. Call 792.9100, ext. 5355 for more information.
• April 9-12: Park and Madison Jewelry Trunk Burcham 10-4.
• April 10: Kay Unger Personal Appearance 1-4; Come and meet Kay and view her Spring 2008 Evening Dress Collection. To reserve your appointment, call 792.9100, ext. 5336.
• April 16: Meet Jay Strongwater 7-9 pm; Come and meet Jay Strongwater, presenting his jewels for the home and enjoy an evening of wine, hors d’oeuvres and shopping. Five percent of event sales will benefit the Frankie Lemmon School. RSVP by April 11 to 792.9100 ext. 5205.
• April 17: Jay Strongwater Personal Appearance 10-3; Come and let Jay Strongwater help with your home and gift décor selection. To reserve your appointment, call 792.9100, ext. 5380.
• April 17: Armani Women’s Spring 2008 Trend Presentation. To reserve your appointment, call 792.9100, ext. 5374.
• April 18 & 19: Armani Men’s Made-To-Measure Suiting Event 10-7; View the impeccable quality and style of Armani Spring 2008 Collection. To book an appointment, call 792.9100, ext. 5381.
• April 24-26: Oscar Heyman Jewelry Trunk Show 10-5; To reserve your appointment, call 792.9100, ext. 5318.

Check out Talk to the Tan, a tinted facial lotion, new from Benefit Cosmetics this month. Available at Belk or Sephora. Visit www.benefitcosmetics.com for more details.

Fine Feathers announces that Max Mara and Marimekko lines have just arrived for spring.

April 2008 METROMAGAZINE
SPORTSWEAR
LaFAYETTE 148 • SARAH CAMPELL • BERNARD ZINS
BELFORD • MARISA BARATELLI • AUDREY TALBOTT
ZANELLA • ELLEN TRACY • JILL MCGOWAN
ONE GIRL WHO • YANSI FUGEL • ELLIOTT LAUREN
FRENCH DRESSING • FABRIZIO GIANNI • VANILLA

DRESSES Daytime, Special Occasion,
Mother of, Guest of
BADGLEY MISCHKA • CHRIS KOLE • CHETTA B
CARMEN MARC VALVO • FLORES & FLORES
MARISA BARATELLI • JOVANI • TERI JON • BIGIO
THE MICHAEL COLLECTION

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with patterned collars and cuffs.

**Be Flexible:** Mixing fabrics like wool and linen with microfiber and nanotechnology give clothing a linen texture without the wrinkle while the soft, lightweight feel of the clothing makes it comfortable for business trips or summer travel.

**AT A STORE NEAR YOU:**
Check out these unique lines from local and national designers.

- **VK Nagrani** luxury socks with colored details and unique patterns. Available at Liles Clothing Studio, North Hills, Raleigh.
- **Bobby Jones** golf apparel for men with complimentary fashions for their female golfing partners. Available at Variety Men's Wear, Crabtree Valley Mall, Raleigh.
- **TrueBlue** polo and dress shirts, neckties and accessories for UNC-Chapel Hill fans. Available at Julian's, Chapel Hill.
- Self-collared polo shirts from Peter Millar with collars made from the same material as the shirt itself for a dressier look. Available at Norman Stockton, Nowell's, Variety Men's Wear and other Triangle retailers.

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GALLERIES GOING ALL OUT

Someone was asking me just the other evening if I was concerned that these were bad days for artists in light of uncertainty in the financial markets — which appears to be improving as I write this. But if things do become uncertain, these are still excellent days to be an artist because artists are by nature adaptive and creative folks who often see new paths where others only see dead-end roads. Times of social upheaval often help inspire some of the more exciting art that you will witness ... so I say bring it on. In case you haven't noticed, even during rough days, there are always plenty of folks with plenty of money, and some of them are more than willing to spend it on fine art.

CITY ART GALLERY BASH

Two ladies who should be given gold stars for sticking it out in the rough and tumble world of art — Peg Hardee and Torrey Stroud — recently celebrated the first decade of City Art Gallery in Greenville (www.city-art-gallery.com) with the bash of the season. Explosions of lightning from the inclement skies gave the effect of a million camera flashes, a celestial paparazzi if you will, welcoming the crowds of collectors and friends who walked the enormous red carpet laid before the gallery. Limo after limo deposited a who's who of art lovers to the festively decorated gallery who parried until the wee hours of the night. You couldn't tell if you were at Carnival in Rio or Mardi Gras in New Orleans but one thing you did know if you were there ... you were in the right place.

HOFFMAN JOINS ART WORLD

Speaking of the right places and limos, I just happened to be in one a few weeks ago. As always, you meet very interesting people, and they always wind up inviting you to this party or that. Sometimes this is good, sometimes this is great. Recently it was great because I wound up at the North Carolina Museum of Art to celebrate Ms. Karen Hoffman, the founding president of the North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research. The place was packed, the nibbles were fantastic and the main speaker was none other than Oliver Smithies, PhD, recent recipient of the Nobel Prize for his scientific research. This was all fantastic, as I had never shared cocktails with a Nobel laureate before, but the real thrill came when I was informed that the night's honoree, Ms. Hoffman, wasn't leaving the firm to consult for some think tank or to sail the seven seas — no, no, no. This lady of intelligence and breeding was leaving the world of science to become, you guessed it, an ARTIST. Seems that her very first summer job was working for the National Gallery of Art, and that her family claims...
descent from the very talented 18th century French master Jean-Baptiste-Simeon Chardin! All I can say is, if Ms. Hoffman is half the artist that she is scientist, the art world is in for a huge treat. Good luck to her and best wishes on her journey.

GALLERIES FIGHT BACK ON FRANKLIN STREET

Everyone who is anyone is throwing great parties nowadays, and just the other evening I wound up at the soft opening for Toots & Magoo, otherwise known as Jernigan-Wicker Fine Arts & Pearson Fine Arts, located at 142 E. Franklin St. in Chapel Hill. My good friends Cheryle Wicker, her beautiful daughter Chloe and Maggie Pearson have really decided to dive right in and take Franklin Street back from the T-shirt and poster sellers. If this behind-the-scenes party is any indication of their abilities, it signals a new era. All the money-eyed folks were there having a great time and grabbing for the delicious food while they gawked and ogled the oh-so-chic antique furniture and the over-the-top glam artwork by luminaries such as Ben Long, master of the fresco. The studies and paintings by Long are as close as any of us will get to the works of a living old master — and they will certainly keep their value — but they are not cheap, so you better have a nice nest egg to draw from if you want to hang one above your Charles X sofa.

ART IN WILMINGTON

I recently met a lovely artist, Fritzi Huber who wowed me with her gorgeous handmade paper/mixed-media works. Sensitive to line, color and texture, Ms. Huber produces some very engaging artwork that I think more people need to know about. The next time you are in Wilmington, you could do worse than to spend some time taking a gander at the talented artists represented by Three Hounds Gallery, located for your convenience at 28 S. Front St. (www.threehoundsgallery.com). Gallery Director Kate Osborn will be more than happy to help navigate you through the talented stable of artists. More likely than not, you will wind up with art under your arm as you walk back to your SUV. Just 2 years old, this gallery proves once again that nature abhors a vacuum, and that where a gallery needs to go, a gallery WILL go. But why take my word for it, go see for yourself. HHH

Bernie Reeves writes Between Issues at www.metronc.com
ROY WILDER REMEMBERS TAR HEEL CHARACTERS

At 92 years old, Roy Wilder could lay claim to the title of “Oldest Rat in the Democratic Barn.” But unlike the late Secretary of State Thad Eure, who took great pride in that title, Roy has never held public office. Regardless, he has been a player in North Carolina politics going back to the Kerr Scott campaign for governor in the ’40s. He talks with familiarity about Gov. R. Kerr Scott campaign for governor in the ’40s. He talks with familiarity about Gov. R. Kerr Scott campaign for governor in the ’40s.

Cherry, of Gastonia, was a noted attorney with a penchant for alcohol and a reputation for straight talk. As we sat before the handcrafted stone fireplace in Roy’s Spring Hope home, he told me a couple of Gregg Cherry stories.

Cherry and the late Strom Thurmond of South Carolina were contemporaries, and their terms as governor of their respective states overlapped. Sometime during their relationship, according to Roy, Thurmond became exasperated with Cherry. “Gregg,” Thurmond supposedly said, “I think you don’t like me.”

“Strom, I like you, but I’m no damn fool about you,” Gov. Cherry replied.

When Kerr Scott was commissioner of agriculture, he still lived on a dirt road in Alamance County. When he decided to run for governor to succeed Cherry, Scott went to Cherry and asked for a favor. Scott explained that living on a dirt road would be a shame for the future governor. “If I pave it after getting elected there will be a hue and cry from the press,” Scott said. Cherry obliged him. Former Gov. Bob Scott, Kerr Scott’s son, and wife Jessie Rae still live on the Scott family homestead. Their address, appropriately, is Cherry Lane Road.

Journalism was Roy Wilder’s first love, and he started out in a most conventional way. He attended the UNC School of Journalism, but he was eager to get on with it and never finished. Some time ago, the dean called to chat and inform him that he is the School’s oldest living graduate. Roy, in his usual fashion, cut straight to the chase. “You are wrong on both counts,” Roy said. “First, I never graduated, and two, you have a graduate older than I am living right there in Chapel Hill.” He gave the dean his name.

Roy is a voracious reader and a stickler for facts. His sitting room is a clutter of materials, including The New Yorker magazines, and he draws on a network of friends in libraries and elsewhere that he calls for instant information. A mainstay of the local historical society, he has made a personal cause of reviving the cultivation of horse apples in Nash County. Roy says the apples accounted for the fine reputation of Nash County bootleg brandy. The historical society has planted a small grove of horse apple trees beside its offices in Roy’s honor. We checked it out on our way home from lunch at the Nashville Exchange, Roy’s favorite eating spot in the county seat.

As a fledgling journalist, Roy was drawn to New York. He had short stints with the World-Telegram and New York Post and then wrote for the Herald Tribune, an experience interrupted by service in WWII. He wrote for newspapers in Wallace, Sanford and Greensboro and returned to the World-Telegram for awhile.

While in New York, Roy established a life-long friendship with North Carolina native Joseph Mitchell of Robeson County who wrote for The New Yorker for almost 60 years (1938-1996). Mitchell crafted what has been described as “plain spoken essays about gypsies, oystermen, bartenders and other colorful New York characters.” One work, Joe Gould’s Secret, was made into a movie in 2000. He and Mitchell corresponded, and Roy has given those papers, as well as his collection of Mitchell’s work, to the Southern Historical Collection at UNC.

Roy Wilder cut his teeth in the campaign of Gov. Kerr Scott, becoming a friend and political ally of former Gov. and Sen. Terry Sanford, who was Kerr Scott’s campaign manager. He was in the thick of things. He was a driver for Frank Porter Graham in his unsuccessful campaign against Willis Smith for election to the United States Senate. Smith died in office, and Wilmington Congressman Alton Lennon was appointed to fill the term. Scott challenged Lennon in the Democratic primary and defeated him, then went on to win the seat in the General Election. Roy, along with Scott family loyalist Ben Roney, went to Washington and served on Kerr Scott’s senate staff.

To prove that all is fair in love and war and politics, there is this story. Kerr Scott also died in office, and Gov. Luther Hodges would appoint his successor. It was agreed that after Scott’s funeral, Dr. Henry Jordan—a cousin of Kerr Scott’s wife, “Miss Mary,” and a mover and shaker in Democratic politics—Terry Sanford, Ben Roney, and Roy would meet at Roy’s place in Spring Hope to talk about a successor. However, Dr. Jordan did not show up. Soon they got a call saying that Gov. Hodges was going to appoint Dr. Jordan’s brother, B. Everett Jordan, a textile executive, to the seat. Jordan was to serve out the term and then step down for Hodges to run for the seat when his term as governor was up. Sanford was furious, and according to Roy, sat down at his typewriter and fired off a heated statement to The News & Observer.

But the deal backfired on Hodges. Everett Jordan took a liking to the US Senate and decided to stay. Hodges never got to serve. Despite the family connections, there had always been bad political blood between the Scotts and Jordans, and when Jordan was appointed, Roy and Ben Roney both resigned and came back to North Carolina.

Before going by Roy’s house on my Saturday morning visit to Spring Hope, I stopped
in at Joe Wilkinson's antique shop downtown. I mentioned my destination. Joe started laughing. "Roy Wilder has showed me the fountain of youth," Joe said. "Two martinis a day."

Later, while talking about Terry Sanford, Roy commented, "You know Terry had a better sense of humor than most folks gave him credit for. One day I received an envelope with the return address of one of New York's best hotels. I recognized the handwriting as Terry's. There was nothing inside but a dried lemon twist. He just wanted me to know that he was living the high life and drinking martinis in New York."

Roy was in and out of politics, handling press in Sanford's gubernatorial campaign and then working with Hargrove "Skipper" Bowles in the old department of Conservation and Development. I was a great fan of Skipper's. We talked about how Skipper's bid for governor ran aground in the final days when campaign consultant Walt DeVries gave an interview to a reporter and turned off voters with insider descriptions of campaign tactics that most voters today accept as business as usual. Many people believe that interview, plus an 11th hour rebuke of state employees by Skipper, gave the election to Jim Holshouser. During the Bob Scott administration, Roy had the state's lucrative advertising contract. Skipper did not endear himself to Scott loyalists like Roy when he told the press that when he got elected his folks would get the "white meat" and the Scott folks would get the "dark meat."

After lunch in Nashville, we decided to stop by former Congressman Tim Valentine's house. Roy's home was built by Tim's parents around 1920 with pine logs off the place. Tim lived there until second grade when his father, an attorney destined to become a Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, moved the family to Nashville. It's one of Down East's most unique homes.

We never found Tim, but we did pass the home of the late Congressman Harold Cooley. Built in the early 1900s by a merchantile tycoon named Bissett, today it is a showplace owned by Betsy and Jack Lawrence.

Cooley represented the 4th Congressional District from 1933-1967 and chaired the House Agriculture Committee longer than anyone else in history. He was a powerful man, but he lost touch with the folks in his district. It is said that on occasion he would campaign from the back seat of his limousine, shaking hands through the window.

During his heyday, Cooley brought a host of national political figures to Nashville — folks like former President Harry Truman, Congressman Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman and Gov. Frank Clement of Tennessee. Tim Valentine said the lights burned bright when Cooley, who lost his seat to Rocky Mount's Jim Gardner, was home. Cooley's last campaign, which featured billboards with a picture of his committee gavel, proved that running on experience doesn't always work — even against a brash young challenger like Jim Gardner.

Roy Wilder authored a delightful book, titled You All Spoken Here, about the way we native North Carolinians talk. I am sure you can find it on the Internet. And if you want to hear some stories from the "Oldest Rat" himself, stop by FD Bissett & Sons in downtown Spring Hope almost any weekday morning about nine or so when Roy and buddies Joe Bartholomew, Marshall Edwards, Joe Woodward, Warren Boone and others gather under a bold sign reading, "Politics, Truth, Lies, Exaggerations." Between you and me, I expect it would be hard to get a word in edgewise.
The Pit:

DOWN HOME MOVES UPTOWN

Gourmet

by Moreton Neal

Ed Mitchell (r) and his brother Aubrey (ll).

G Martin is frustrated. The host of UNC-TV's North Carolina Bookwatch and syndicated newspaper columnist wears yet another hat — food writer — and his job isn't going well. As he works on the second edition of the popular Interstate Eateries first published five years ago, Martin finds the locally owned meat-and-three diners and 'cue shacks he describes in the guide are a dying breed.

Some of these eateries have burned down (an occupational hazard), others closed as the owners retired or passed away, the heirs declining to pick up the barbecue baton.

There is one major exception, an eatery that is moving on up ... into swanky new digs with low lights, a large bar serving 14 brands of bourbon, as well as a selection of appropriate wines, and a menu that, in addition to its pit-cooked selection, offers uptown options including "pan-seared salmon with crab and artichoke sauce." That one special place, smiled upon by the barbecue gods, is Mitchell's Barbecue in Wilson, newly reincarnated in Raleigh as The Pit.

To say that Ed Mitchell has interesting karma is an understatement. After a highly publicized low period when the original Mitchell's was closed down by the IRS a few years ago, the ambitious chef found himself again in the spotlight, this time demonstrating the art of pig cookery to Anthony Bourdain on the infamous No Reservations cable TV show. Mitchell's gregarious personality and niche cooking expertise have made him a darling of the media and traditional food associations. He makes regular appearances at Southern Foodways Alliance's culinary seminars and cooks up his Eastern NC barbecue at New York's annual Big Apple Barbecue Block Party and Charleston's Spring Food and Wine Festival.

It should come as no surprise then that Mitchell's star quality caught the astute eye of Greg Hatem, an impresario of Raleigh's downtown revival. Hatem invited him to join forces with his group of urban eateries, poised to attract the hungry hordes expected to flood the downtown area when the new convention center opens.

This pit master was more than ripe for the pickin'. When Nana's Chophouse folded last October, Mitchell was champing to move into its artfully renovated building near the Amtrack station.

"I really wanted to bring my kind of food to an upscale atmosphere," he says. "There's no reason not to have barbecue with fine dining."

The Pit may look several notches slicker than the average Carolina 'cue shack, but the unmistakable aroma of
smoky-sweet pork flesh marks the real thing. The menu offers a dozen "pit-cooked entrees" including a sampling plate, served family style with side dishes du jour. Our plate was piled high with slow-smoked ribs, pulled pork shoulder, chopped whole hog and several pieces of vinegar-basted barbecued chicken. Sides included mashed potatoes and gravy, macaroni and cheese — all delicious. Collard greens had been simmered just long enough for a soft chew, and the horseradish slaw was a welcome variation of that often too sweet genre.

The pulled pork and chopped 'cue were juicy and subtly seasoned, meeting expectations set by Jim Early in *The Best Tar Heel Barbecue: Manteo to Murphy*: "[Mitchell's barbecue] has a good vinegar, pepper taste, but it's not too spicy ... it's moist and hand chopped. The old fashioned way is alive and well with Ed Mitchell." Though both Eastern and Western NC-style sauces are placed at every table, I found them unnecessary. Collard greens had simmered just long enough for a soft chew, and the horseradish slaw was a welcome variation of that often too sweet genre.

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Smokeless entrees are offered as well, though they seemed a bit superfluous until I had my first bite of pan-fried tilapia and Mother Mitchell's incredibly succulent fried chicken, made "just like my mama did with a thick buttermilk batter that fries up to a good crunch," according to Mitchell. There are a couple of misses (BBQ shrimp cocktail and an overly gussied up banana pudding), and a few tempting bistro standards — rosemary roasted chicken and the aforementioned salmon dish — I have yet to try. But really, why bother when one of the world's great pit masters is alive and well here at The Pit.

It may now be too upscale to qualify for DG's latest edition of *Interstate Eateries*, but The Pit perfectly suits my idea of hog heaven. Sublime barbecue served in an attractive, softly lit setting with blues playing in the background — what could be better? And at The Pit, there are other drink options besides the ubiquitous sweet tea. You can have your pork and bourbon, too.

**NIBBLES**

Joining the downtown Raleigh restaurant boom is *Sono*, opened last month at 310 Fayetteville St. by the folks who own Mura. Sono is a sophisticated Japanese restaurant with two bars — one for liquor, one for sushi. Visit www.sonoraleigh.com for menu and photos of this sleek new venue.

*Savoy* will open this month at 7713-39 Leadmine Road in North Raleigh. The new restaurant features "contemporary cuisine and a large wine list, designed as a multi-course experience influenced by seasonal availability," according to Chefs Peter Gibson and Marshall Smith. For more information, call 919-848-3535 or visit www.restaurant-savoy.com.

Rocky Top Hospitality, owners of seven Raleigh restaurants, including 1705 Prime, Michael Dean's and Bogart's, has announced a Brunch 101 cooking class on April 12 at Red Room Tapas Lounge at 510 S. Glenwood Ave. The class will teach how to plan a Sunday brunch party with a menu featuring omelets, crab cakes, sand fresh berry crepes. Participants will receive a take-home bag that will include recipes and Champagne. For more information, visit www.rockytophospitality.com.

Head Chef John Wright of Raleigh's Glenwood Grill invites wine lovers to meet Ron Rosso of Oyster Bay Winery Sunday, April 13, at a four-course dinner with various Oyster Bay offerings from the Marlborough Wine Region of New Zealand. For reservations, call 919-782-3102 or go to avenue@oberlin.com.

On April 10, McIntyre's Fine Books will host Lynne Rossetto Kasper at The Barn to discuss her third cookbook, *The Splendid Table: How To Eat Supper*. The James Beard Award-winner has been recognized as one of America's leading food authorities, commentators and cultural historians. Her radio show, *The Splendid Table*, is a staple of American Public Media. Call McIntyre's at 919-542-3030 to reserve a seat.

Southern Foodways Alliance will celebrate the publication of *Cornbread Nation* 4 edited by Chapel Hillians Dale Volberg Reed and John Shelton Reed at "Shells, Swine, and Sweet Dinner" at City Grocery in Oxford, MS, April 4. To reserve, call 662-232-8080 or e-mail sfamil@olemiss.edu.

The Franklin Hotel will launch the first of its Franklin Wine Dinner Events on April 10. The wine dinner menu, created and prepared by Chef Michael Opdyke, will feature specialties such as Shiitake and Goat Cheese Tart paired with Champagne, and Prime New York Strip Steak Carpet-bagger-Style with oysters and veal demi-glace paired with Pinot Noir. The dinner will take place in The Franklin's Grand Terrace overlooking Franklin Street. For reservations and information, call 919-442-9000.

Wine lovers and history buffs will enjoy Kay Miller's April 29 trip to Charlottesville, "Merlot and Monticello." The group will travel from Raleigh to Thomas Jefferson's...
and James Madison's homes and stop at Barboursville Winery to sample more than 15 award-winning Virginia wines. Visit www.agoinconcern.com for more information.


Toast Paninoteca is now open in downtown Durham at Five Points, serving hot grilled panini, tramezzini, crostini and bruschetta, as well as homemade soups and salads.

Citrus (100 Westgreen Drive in Southern Village outside Chapel Hill) is now open for dinner Thursday and Friday evenings from 5-9 p.m. Open for breakfast and lunch seven days a week since late 2006, Citrus says it has extended its hours due to customer demand. Chef Marc Lucero has brought Citrus' "eclectic American" aesthetic to the dinner menu. More information can be found at www.citruschapelhill.com.

Foster's Market in Durham and Chapel Hill now offers "Family Dinner," a program that allows customers to take out week's worth of Sara Foster's delicious cooking to reheat at home. To reserve your dinners, call 919-489-4114 or visit www.fostersmarket.com.

In Cary, Maximilian's sister restaurant, Terra Nova, has closed making way for a new venture, Maximillian's Pizza Kitchen on Chapel Hill Road. Specializing in California-style gourmet pizzas, such as Zuni, topped with barbecue chicken and roasted poblanos, and other familiar favorites from the original Maximillian's on Buck Jones Road. Call 919-461-3882 for information.

A new Triangle-area farmers’ market will open Saturday, April 5, from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at University Mall in Chapel Hill and will be sponsored by A Southern Season. The Farmers of Orange Market will be located in a corner of the University Mall parking lot facing South Estes Drive just outside the main entrance of A Southern Season. For more information about Farmers of Orange, check out http://farmersoforange.org.

Carrboro's Farmers' Market has a new manager, Sarah Blacklin, replacing Sheila Neal who left to open Neal's Deli on S. Greensboro Street in Carrboro with husband Matt Neal. The couple's combined restaurant experience includes stints at Enoteca Vin, Lantern, Whole Foods, and Crook's Corner. The deli, anticipating a mid-April opening, will serve urban-style sandwiches, soups and cured meats. In the interests of full disclosure, Matt is my son. I wish him and his talented wife Sheila, a graduate of the French Culinary School, well in their new venture. So ... Metro Gourmets, check it out! MM

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

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


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


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

GIANNI & GAITANO’S – Towne North Shopping Center, 8311 Creedmoor Rd, Raleigh. 847-8223; Wakefield Shopping Center, 14460 Falls of Neuse, Raleigh. 256-8100; Triangle Town Center, 3751 Sumer Blvd, Raleigh. 449-0728. Presented by the Cinelli Family, the unique environment at these three locations offers a choice of family or adult dining and authentic family recipes. With an inspired wine list and only the finest and freshest ingredients, a visit to Gianni and Gaitano’s isn’t simply a meal – it’s a magnificent experience. Open for Lunch: M-Sat 11am-4pm; Dinner: M-Th 4-10pm, F-Sat 4-11pm; Sun Noon-9pm.


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


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


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


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

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


VINNIES STEAKHOUSE AND TAVERN - 7440 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh. 847-7319. Treat yourself to all the luxuries this classic New York style chophouse has to offer. Certified Angus Beef, the freshest seafood available and an extensive selection of wines from around the world.


DURHAM/APEX

CAFÉ PARIZADE - 2200 W. Main St., Durham. 286-9712. Renaissance-inspired murals, colorful surrealists 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.

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

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

CHAPEL HILL/HILLSBOROUGH

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


GLASSHALF - 106 S. Greensboro St., Carrboro. 919-967-9784. www.glashalfull.net. Downtown Carrboro's own organic wine bar, wine shop and kitchen. Serving small plates of the flavorful cuisines of the Mediterranean coast as well as an intriguing selection of wines from around the world. The wine shop specializes in affordable bottles for everyday drinking. Open Mon-Sat; Serving dinner, 5 pm-10 pm.


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 Swan's eclectic menu includes references from Asia, France and America. For a balanced plate, enjoy a well-matched wine to accompany your entreé. Dinner Tues-Sat.


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


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

METROMAGAZINE APRIL 2008
SPRING WINE ROUNDUP

As we shift into spring, it's a good time to look at transitional wines for the season, with an emphasis on drinkability — full-bodied whites, smooth, flavorful reds that offer excellent palate pleasure and, in some cases, pretty good bang for the buck.

Grant Burge Barossa Shiraz 2005, Australia, $15. A delicious Shiraz from Australia's Barossa Valley, with vivid ripe berry flavors and spicy accents, including a hint of black pepper. Nice intensity for such a smooth wine. Try it with roast lamb or loin of pork.

Artezin Zinfandel 2006, Mendocino, $18. A play on the term for "artisan" wines, the Hess Collection's Artezin line produces intense reds from specific regions or vineyards. This 2006 Zin is more balanced — and thus more drinkable and food-friendly — than a lot of the huge Zinfandels coming out of warm growing regions. Very appealing for current drinking, but quite hearty enough to handle rich meat and cheese dishes.

True Grit Petite Sirah 2003, Mendocino, $16-$19, depending where you buy.

One expects Petite Sirah to be intensely dark and tannic. While this one has a nice grip, its bold character is offset by the smooth texture, making it very nice for drinking now, a great companion for roast or grilled meats. The 2004 has recently been released and seems a bit lighter.

Shannon Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon 2006, Lake County, $19. This very attractive Cabernet, containing about 10 percent Petit Verdot, seems lean on opening, but with air the flavors blossom out and show appealing black cherry and spicy notes of cinnamon, clove and vanilla. This wine won a Double Gold medal at the San Francisco Chronicle wine competition in January of this year. Superb for roast leg of lamb, butterflied and grilled.

Clos du Bois Merlot Reserve 2004, Alexander Valley, $22. A Merlot worth drinking now, or cellaring for three or four years. Clos du Bois of Sonoma has long had a handle on Merlot, often a significant portion of their proprietary blend, Marlstone. The 2006 Merlot has lots of the blackberry flavors that characterize Alexander Valley fruit — no wimpy wine.

Tenuta di Arceno "PrimaVoce" 2004, Tuscany, $19.99. Tenuta di Arceno is a reputable producer of Chianti Classico and Super Tuscan blends. Prima voce means "first voice" in Italian; it's the estate's earliest release red wine. Made of 85 percent Merlot and 15 percent Cabernet Sauvignon, it's kind of a baby Super Tuscan. If you get several bottles, be assured it will improve further over the next three to five years and develop more aroma and complexity.

Boxcar Syrah 2006, $27-$28. Red Car's "entry-level" Syrah, plenty big enough for my taste, with chewy black fruit, lively spice notes and a long and intriguing finish. This one will get even better with two or three years cellaring to mellow the tannins — but many like it right now.

WINE BUYS OF THE MONTH

Archeo Nero d'Avola 2005, Sicily, $4.99 at Trader Joe's. You can pay up to $20 a bottle for the Sicilian red, Nero d'Avola, but why when such a good one as this — with a punchy thrust of black fruit flavors, a bit of tannin to give it lift and grip, can be had for a mere 5 bucks? Nero d'Avola is the name of the grape, as well as the wine, a grape native to Sicily, probably since very ancient days. This dark little gem makes a great everyday red, but can also handle heartier fare such as meaty pizzas or pastas. Better lay in a case.
WHITE WINES. For me, seasonal whites include well-made Chardonnay — not too heavily oaked, which complements few foods really, except perhaps steamed crab or lobster with drawn butter. Here are a couple of very attractive ones for those who like a touch of oak, but not too much:

Silverado Vineyards 2005 Chardonnay, Napa Valley, $20. Graceful and balanced, this Chardonnay has appealing flavors of pear and lemony citrus, a deft touch of oak — just the wine for scallops, Dover sole or flounder sautéed in butter with herbs such as tarragon or dill.

Kendall-Jackson Grand Reserve Chardonnay 2006, $21. K-J makes several Chardonnays, but this is one of the most well-balanced and elegant, thanks to a very fine balance of acidity and fruit. It comes from two of California's coolest regions — 55 percent from Monterey County, 45 percent from Santa Barbara County. Aged in French and American oak, the wine has appealing accents of vanilla and toast but not the least overdone. Lovely for white meat chicken or veal scaloppini with mushrooms.

We're seeing more "unoaked" Chardonnays, too. For a taste of pure Chardonnay fruit, check out 2006 Chardonnays from France, found in Macon-Villages, Chablis and Petit Chablis, Saint-Veran or Beaujolais Blanc. Unfortunately, many unoaked Chardonnays made in this country have residual sugar, which hides the character of the variety. One that doesn't is from New Zealand: Kim Crawford 2007 Unoaked Chardonnay, $17-$18. Zesty with citrus notes, crisp and flavorful, very tasty.

Cellar Selection

How's your wine cellar closing? Here's a candidate for lying down:

Speakeasy Syrah 2006, California, $50-$60. Those who like blockbuster reds will find this wine a knockout, packed with dark ripe berry and black plum jam flavors. Rich and lively, this powerhouse is seductive — so much so that it may be hard to cellar it for any length of time, especially if you taste it first and get a mouthful of all that fruit and spice. Nestled quietly in the dark abode of your cellar, it will haunt you, luring you to revel again in its massive flavors.

Produced by Red Car, a young cult winery that believes wine and storytelling go hand in hand, each label has a story to tell — or the continuation of a story vintage to vintage, sort of like a mini-series, only you have to wait a year for the next installment. Thus, on Speakeasy, when a guy walks into a bar and the bartender looks at him in alarm, he touches his forehead and finds blood on his hand. What happened? Check the 2005 Syrah, Shake, Rattle and Roll, to find out.

Both available at Chapel Hill Wine Company.
The Baum Plan for Financial Independence and Other Stories marks John Kessel's first collection of short fiction since 1997's The Pure Product — but that 10-year "absence" from booksellers' shelves has hardly been downtime.

The earliest of the stories in this new offering was published in Fantasy & Science Fiction just a year after The Pure Product, showing Kessel right back at work. The most recent was published in the same magazine earlier this year, making the new collection as up-to-date as possible, and the stories in between have graced some of the genre's finest magazines. The novella-length "Stories for Men" won the 2002 James Tiptree Jr. Award as a work that "expands or explores our understanding of gender." In 2006, Kessel co-edited Feeling Very Strange: The Slipstream Anthology, gathering works that cross the boundaries between so-called mainstream fiction and science fiction. In 2007, he co-edited Rewired: The Post-Cyberpunk Anthology, and 2007 saw one of his stories, "A Clean Escape," adapted for the premiere episode of ABC's Masters of Science Fiction series. If all that wasn't enough, Kessel also spearheaded the development of the MFA Program in Creative Writing at North Carolina State University, which he now directs with fellow writer and professor Wilton Barnhardt.

Fans of Kessel's work will find themselves on somewhat familiar ground in the new collection. As in earlier stories, he engages explicitly with so-called high literature: "Every Angel Is Terrifying" literally picks up where Flannery O'Connor's "A Good Man Is Hard to Find" leaves off; "Pride and Prometheus" melds the worlds of Jane Austen and Mary Shelley; and the title story finds resonance with The Wizard of Oz.

"I am a man who has lived much of his life in the world of stories: fictional stories, historical ones," said Kessel in an interview on the eve of The Baum Plan's publication. "I believe that stories and story-making are among the most remarkable and transformative things human beings do. John Gardner said that 'Nothing in the world has greater power to enslave than does fiction.' I suppose you might say that I have been both enslaved and liberated by stories. So I think it's not surprising that my mind might reach for other stories as a kind of metaphor for the magic of great unerved wealth, as I did in The Baum Plan (though I had no idea as I wrote it that Oz would function that way in my story), or that I might find the collision of Pride and Prejudice and Frankenstein a good way to think about marriage, among other things. What starts me on such projects is a fascination with the materials, the desire to explore corners of these worlds that might not have been explored in their initial visions, to seize some of the power of those almost archetypal themes and characters and turn it to new purposes, or simply to play in someone else's garden."

Such play has both its challenges — "you have to work within the strictures set up by the original narratives" — and its risks: "I do have to admit that writing a sequel to Flannery O'Connor's 'A Good Man is Hard to Find' — in my opinion one of the greatest short stories ever written — is an act of hubris that I would not blame anyone for condemning." But Kessel also stresses that his own thematic concerns are predominant "whether I'm doing pastiche or metafiction or independent fiction."

Here, as in Kessel's earlier fiction, those themes often reveal the author's political astuteness and social awareness, and the resulting stories prove provocative in their observations and commentaries — using alternative histories or future worlds to offer startling perspectives on our own present. Nowhere is this clearer than in the linked stories about the Society of Cousins, a group of humans who have fled Earth and its troubles to set up an alternative society on the far side of the moon.

"I seem to have gone through a period of thinking about male/female issues that has most obviously shown up in the Society of Cousins stories, but that also is apparent in most of the other stories in this collection," said Kessel. "The initial idea for the Society of Cousins came from reading about bonobos, the so-called 'pygmy chimpanzees.' But whereas chimps are patriarchal, and indulge in murder and infanticide, for instance, bonobos are matriarchal and less violent. Men in the Cousins society basically give up political power for sexual and social privilege."

While the Society of Cousins may seem both figuratively and literally a world apart from 2008 American society, Kessel drew some inspiration from US history in writing these stories. "I set their society on the far side of the moon in analogy to early utopian alternative societies in North America," he explained. "There was a tradi-
tion of oddball social groups, with different sexual mores — the Shakers, the Oneida Community, the Mormons — moving out into the wilderness to get away from interference of ‘normal’ society.”

He also sees these stories as commentary on American politics and society today. “I do think that too much of what is wrong with the world is connected to the degree to which various human societies are patriarchal,” he said. “In the current primary competition between Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, for instance, I read a quote from a Steelworker in Ohio, a Clinton supporter who had to hide his support for her from his co-workers because, he said, ‘People don’t want to speak out against Obama because of the fear of being seen as racist ... [but] you can call a woman anything.’ I think that’s funny and appalling.”

Lest it seem from these excerpts that the collection is all pastiche or gender politics, I should stress that The Baum Plan offers a wide range of stories: a time-traveling filmmaker who steps back into the Golden Age of Hollywood; a college romance that takes a surprising twist; and even a pair of playful and humorous short-shorts about dating in the future. And throughout the collection, Kessel proves himself again a master not just of science fiction, but also of the modern short story, crafting compelling characters and following them through plots that never fail to please — or to defy prediction.

Ten years has definitely been too long between books, but good news for us: These stories were worth the wait.

Kessel will be reading from The Baum Plan for Financial Independence at several Triangle locations: on Wednesday evening, April 16, at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh; on Tuesday evening, April 22, at the Regulator Bookshop in Durham; and on Friday afternoon, May 16, with author Gregory Frost at McIntyre’s Books in Farrington Village.

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

April is National Poetry Month, and Raleigh’s Quail Ridge Books and Durham’s Regulator Bookshop are celebrating accordingly. The Regulator has scheduled a full series of poetry readings, beginning on Thursday evening, April 3, with Joanna Catherine Scott reading from her prose poetry collection, Night Huntress, inspired by a drunk-driving death; preceding Scott’s reading is a presentation by the Black Socks Poets, a group from Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Durham.

Additional events throughout the Triangle include:

- Ken Eill, author of Variations on a Theme: Poems of Jazz, on Wednesday evening, April 9, at the Regulator.
- Janie Fink, author of Bubble Opera, and NCSU professor Jon Thompson, author of The Book of the Floating World, on Friday evening, April 11, at Raleigh’s Quail Ridge Books.
- Michael Chitwood, author of Spill, on Wednesday evening, April 16, at the Regulator.
- Richard Krawiec, author of Breakdown: A Father’s Journey, and Maureen Sherbondy, author of Praying at Coffee Shops, on Thursday evening, April 24, at the Regulator; the event also features a performance by Fleur de Lisas, an a capella group performing original songs based on poems by the North Carolina Haiku Society.
- Betty Adcock, author of Slantwise, and Elizabeth Seydel Morgan, author of Without a Philosophy, on Sunday afternoon, April 27, at Quail Ridge Books.
- Gerald Barrax, Richard Krawiec and other contributors to Living in Storms: Contemporary Poetry and the Moods of Manic-Depression, on Tuesday evening, April 29, at the Regulator, and again on Wednesday evening, April 30, at Quail Ridge Books; the Quail Ridge event also features a performance by the a cappella group Fleur de Lisas.

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

Beyond the poetry readings, a wide range of additional literary events is scheduled this month throughout Eastern North Carolina. Perhaps the most noteworthy event is a presentation by Shirin Ebadi, the first Muslim woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. Ebadi will speak and sign copies of her book, Iran Awakening: One Woman’s Journey to Reclaim Her Life and Country, on Friday, April 11, at 5:30 p.m. in the Richard White Auditorium on Duke University’s East Campus. The event is sponsored by the Duke Human Rights Center and the Regulator Bookshop.

Additional events this month include:

- Gary Gallagher, author of Causes Won, Lost, And Forgotten: How Hollywood and Popular Art Shape What We Know About The Civil War, on Tuesday evening, April 1, at Raleigh’s Quail Ridge Books.
- Charlotte author Kevin Keck, author of the memoir Are You There, God? It’s Me, Kevin, on Tuesday evening, April 1, at Durham’s Regulator Bookshop.
- Susan Kelly, author of Now You Know, on Tuesday evening, April 1, at the Greenville Barnes & Noble.
- Carolyn Hart, author of Death Walked In, on Tuesday evening, April 1, at the Country Bookshop in Southern Pines; and again on Wednesday evening, April 2, at Quail Ridge Books.
- Stephanie Grant, author of Map of Ireland, on Wednesday evening, April 2, at the Regulator.
- Karen Joy Fowler, author of Wit’s End, on Thursday evening, April 3, at Quail Ridge Books.
- Kris Radish, author of Searching for Paradise in Parker, PA, on Sunday afternoon, April 6, at the Regulator.
- Durham native Kate Torgovnick, author of Cheer!: Three Teams on a Quest for College Cheerleading’s Ultimate Prize, on Tuesday evening, April 8, at the Regulator.
- Ida Lynch, author of North Carolina State Parks: A Niche Guide, on Wednesday evening, April 9, at Quail Ridge Books; and on Thursday evening, April 17, at the Regulator.
- Lynne Rossetto Kasper, author of The Splendid Table’s How To Eat Supper, on Thursday afternoon, April 10, at McIntyre’s Books in Farrington Village.
- Virginia Ironside, author of No, I Don’t Want to Join a Book Club, on Sat-
urday morning, April 12, at McIntyre's.
  • Ann B. Ross, author of *Miss Julia Paints the Town*, on Sunday afternoon, April 13, at the Country Bookshop.
  • Sarah Hall, author of *Daughters of the North*, on Tuesday evening, April 15, at the Regulator; and on Wednesday afternoon, April 16, at McIntyre's.
  • Dorothea Benton Frank, author of *Bulls Island*, at an author tea on Thursday afternoon, April 17, at McIntyre's Books. (Tickets are $40 and include a signed copy of the book; purchase by April 10 by contacting McIntyre's at 919-542-3030.)
  • Rob Christensen, *News & Observer* columnist and author of *The Paradox of Tar Heel Politics: The Personalities, Elections, and Events that Shaped Modern North Carolina*, on Thursday evening, April 10, at Quail Ridge Books; on Saturday morning, April 19, at McIntyre's; and on Monday evening, April 28, at the Regulator.
  • William Link, author of *Righteous Warrior: Jesse Helms and the Rise of Modern Conservatism*, on Saturday afternoon, April 12, at the Regulator.
  • Nancy Peacock, author of *A Broom of One's Own: Words on Writing, Housecleaning, and Life*, on Thursday evening, April 17, at Quail Ridge Books; on Saturday morning, April 26, at McIntyre's; and on Thursday evening, May 1, at the Regulator.
  • Food Network Host Robin Miller, author of *Robin to the Rescue: 200 Quick & Simple Recipes for Delicious Home Cooking*, on Sunday afternoon, April 20, at the Cary Barnes & Noble.
  • Chapel Hill novelist Sarah Dessen, author of *Lock and Key*, on Monday evening, April 21, at the Regulator.
  • Elizabeth Strout, author of *Olive Kitteridge*, on Tuesday evening, April 22, at Quail Ridge Books; and on Wednesday evening, April 23, at McIntyre's.
  • Frances Richey, author of the verse-memoir *The Warrior*, on Wednesday evening, April 23, at Quail Ridge Books.
  • Katie Crouch, author of *Girls in Trucks*, on Wednesday evening, April 23, at the Cary Barnes & Noble; and again on Thursday evening, April 24, at McIntyre's.
  • Julia Spencer-Fleming, author of *All Mortal Flesh*, on Thursday evening, April 24, at Quail Ridge Books.
  • Brad Land, author of *Pilgrims Upon the Earth*, on Thursday evening, April 24, at Pomegranate Books in Wilmington.
  • Durham author Melissa Delbridge, author of the memoir *Family Bible*, on Friday evening, April 25, at the Regulator.
  • Katherine Hall Page, author of *The Body in the Ivy*, on Tuesday afternoon, April 29, at McIntyre's; later that evening at Quail Ridge Books; and again on Wednesday afternoon, April 30, at the Country Bookshop. MM
Combustible Art Form:

DOLPH RAMSEUR AND THE AVETT BROTHERS

orth Carolina's Avett Brothers are a known quantity for music fans from Charlotte to San Francisco. Their distinctive sound—an anarchic amalgam of bluegrass, Americana and rock; their outstanding songwriting; and their highly combustible live performances have made the trio an unlikely sensation.

The silent partner in the continuing success of The Avett Brothers is Dolph Ramseur, founder of Ramseur Records. He's the indefatigable indie label owner, as much the architect of The Avett Brothers rise to prominence as the Avetts themselves.

Ramseur is a native of North Carolina, born and raised in Concord. He was a young tennis whiz, which eventually led him to enroll at Ferris State University in Michigan.

"I graduated from Ferris State in 1991," Ramseur said during a recent conversation. "I worked in country clubs in Florida and Kentucky and North Carolina, but I'm back in my hometown now.

"I was a tennis pro," he noted. "Ferris State is like a trade school. They've got the best pharmacy program in the country. They also have four-year golf and tennis programs, like a marketing degree with a minor in professional tennis management."

Asked how music managed to intrude on his tennis playing, Ramseur explained that he has always been a true music fanatic.

"I grew up about 10 miles from Davidson College, and they used to have a great college radio station," he recalled. "In the evenings they'd play all forms of music, from alternative stuff to acoustic. It was great, but sadly the Charlotte region doesn't have any radio like that anymore."

Ramseur was tuned in to Davidson's student station from the time he was 11 years old. He noted he also benefited from his father's taste in music, which ran from Johnny Cash and Roy Orbison to The Platters and Pavarotti.

"I got into Piedmont blues when I was about 12 years old," he said. "I found it fascinating that music from the North Carolina Piedmont could be such an influence on the whole world."

"There was a station at UNC-Charlotte that had a Piedmont blues show, and I spent about six years staying home on Fridays or Saturdays just to hear that show. So I had that Davidson station, which was playing a lot of stuff like Sex Pistols and Dead Kennedys, and I had this UNC-C station playing Piedmont blues."

Ramseur went on to explain that when he was playing tennis tournaments as a teenager, he traveled all over the US, which provided the opportunity to discover great record stores from coast to coast.

"The best record store I ever visited was in Grand Rapids, MI," he said. "I think it was called Vinyl Solution. That place was unbelievable. I don't know if it's still open. [It is, sort of. It's been reincarnated as Vertigo Music.]"

Ramseur's transition from tennis pro to record label owner was a move that featured a few interludes, but he eventually landed where he clearly belongs.

"I never had any dreams of being in the music business," he said. "I'm a music fan, first and foremost. I just love music. I love most forms of music, and I study it. I can talk to anybody about music. That quality has served me well.

"I've met quite a few people in the music industry who aren't really music fans. I think that's one reason why the industry is so screwed up. You've got to remember that music is an art form, and when you put too much business into it — when you start thinking about it with your billfold — it messes things up."

While still working at a country club, Ramseur made a connection that led him to a tentative involvement in the music business.

"I was a big fan of a guy named Martin Stephenson, an English singer-songwriter," he explained. "I ordered some CDs from him. He was on London Records and Capitol Records at one time. He decided to do his own thing, however, and I had to order the albums directly from him. When he noticed that I was from North Carolina, he wrote back to me saying he was a big Charlie Poole and Doc Watson and Piedmont blues fan. We started a correspondence; I'd send him rare recordings, like Piedmont stuff, and we developed a rapport. Next thing I know —
in 1999 — I’m organizing a little tour for him, which happened in July 2000, so he could get over to North Carolina and meet a lot of roots musicians. That was how I got started in the music business.”

When Ramseur did leave tennis, it was to work in venture capital with his father-in-law. He pursued this line of work between 1999 and 2003, but the capital venture ended with the death of his father-in-law.

“During that time between 1999 and 2003, I was getting deeper into the music business,” Ramseur recalled. “I’d brought Martin Stephenson over here, and I was working with a guy from Mount Holly, NC, named David Childers, and I put out a couple records with him.

“I learned a good deal from working with Childers and Martin Stephenson. He’d been on major labels. He was a good influence.”

Ramseur’s experience working with Stephenson and Childers was timely, since his initial encounter with The Avett Brothers was in his immediate future.

“I met The Avett Brothers in 2002 and put out a record with them in 2003 [A Carolina Jubilee], and right when we released that record my father-in-law died,” he said.

“So I was out of a job, and I decided to pursue music full time. I was moving furniture just to make ends meet. It’s been a struggle, but I was in a sink or swim situation.”

Fortunately for Ramseur, his mother intervened. She showed him a newspaper article about The Avett Brothers characterizing the band as bluegrassers. Ramseur wasn’t a particular fan of bluegrass, but then Eric Lovell, who played guitar with Childers, informed Ramseur that he should catch The Avett Brothers in action.

“He said they were totally unique, that they’d play out of tune and sing off key, but the spirit and the heart of it was real and honest, and they were great songwriters,” Ramseur recalled. “So I went to see them up in Charlotte. They were playing at The Wine Vault, outside on this little patio. There were a couple hundred people there, really enjoying themselves. At the time the brothers were playing about 60 percent bluegrass, old-timey folk tunes and about 40 percent of their material was original and that’s what really struck me. I knew that they had something. They had the crowd in the palm of their hand; they were entertainers; they had some serious charisma.

“I let Scott Avett know right then that I’d really like to put out a record with them,” he continued. “Everybody sees the success of The Avett Brothers now, but it was a big challenge in the beginning. I’ve been told ‘no’ so much that it doesn’t even affect me anymore. A lot of people wouldn’t give them a chance, but I believed in them 100 percent. I made sure that anyone who told me no eventually came around to my viewpoint or had to eat their words.”

In reflecting on the Ramseur Records/Avett Brothers story from then to now, Ramseur remarked: “When my father-in-law died and I was trying to make music a full-time thing, I had to take some odd jobs, like moving furniture for instance, and didn’t have the nerve to tell the guys that I was moving furniture. I mean, I was their record label, their manager and their booking agent.

“I remember Scott [Avett] called me one day and I was huffing and puffing, and he asked me what I was doing. I told him I was moving furniture just to put food on the table. Scott said that hearing that got him fired up. He said, ‘We’re gonna make it. We’re gonna do whatever we’ve gotta do to make it.’ I knew then that they were good people.”

Check out Ramseur Records artists online at: www.ramseurrecords.net.

DISCOLOGY
Keith Jarrett, Gary Peacock, Jack DeJohnette, My Foolish Heart [ECM]
This monumental jazz trio was recorded on stage at the 2001 Montreux Jazz Festival. Keith Jarrett, Gary Peacock and Jack DeJohnette all played with Miles Davis at one time or another, and the album opens with a Miles tune, “Four.” The performance is superb. Jarrett is, of course, an astonishing solo improvisational pianist, but he combines fabulously with DeJohnette and Peacock. DeJohnette is arguably the best drummer in jazz today, and Peacock is absolutely on par with the likes of Ron Carter and Dave Holland. For a sample of what’s in store on this double CD, cue up the title track. Peacock assay a bass solo that’s as expressive and fluid as Jarrett’s beautifully phrased piano.
The American Advertising Federation (AAF) Raleigh-Durham Chapter presented its 2008 ADDY® Awards for advertising creative excellence at the end of February. Of the over 550 entries received by the Raleigh-Durham Chapter, 48 gold ADDY® awards, 92 silver ADDY® awards and 39 bronze ADDY® awards were presented. Entries were judged based on creativity, originality and creative strategy.

Top awards of the evening went to:
- The Republik — Broadcast Best in Show for Triumph Divine Intervention Test
- Ogilvy — Print Best in Show for Lenovo Scout Brochure
- Ulanguzi Creative Strategies — Interactive Media Best in Show for Soleil Web site
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — Student Best In Show for Job Corps: Paper Doll
- The Republik — Judge’s Choice for Marquis Yachts 2008 Brochure
- Ogilvy Durham — Judge’s Choice for Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill Poster Series
- Ogilvy Durham — Judge’s Choice for Ronald McDonald House, “Total Body of Work”
- Howard, Merrell & Partners — Judge’s Choice for Interactive Gift Idea Generator
- FWV Distilled — Judge’s Choice — Small Space Obituary Ad
- Stop Studios — Mosaic Award for The Hill Center Capital Campaign

The groundbreaking for The CAPTRUST Tower at North Hills, a joint venture of Kane Realty Corporation and Duke Realty Corporation, took place March 11, 2008. The building, set to open in fall 2009, is the first 17-story, mixed-use office tower at North Hills. Standing 230 feet tall, The CAPTRUST Tower will be the tallest building on the 1-440 beltline with 300,000 square feet of premier rentable space when it opens in fall 2009.

The Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle will host the first Competition for Young String Soloists April 4-6 at the Carswell Concert Hall at Meredith College. Sixteen artists, out of nearly 40 entrants, will be selected to perform for the judges in the semi-final round on April 5, and five finalists will perform in the final round on April 6. First prize in the competition will consist of $10,000 and an appearance with the Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle during the 2008-2009 season. For more information, visit www.chamberorchestraofthetriangle.org.

Most of us are extroverts. But if you are an introvert, Mario Watts’ book — The Introvert’s Handbook On How To Make & Keep Friends As We Get Older — will teach you how to overcome your weaknesses and use it to your advantage. The Introvert’s Handbook is now available on www.lulu.com or contact Watts at caddin@aol.com.

A new firm, Jetcombo.com, says 98 percent of the US population lives within 20 miles of an airport, yet most travelers spend hours en route to their departure only to face delays, layovers and cancellations due to the reality that 450 million passengers are jammed through the same 30 airports each year.

JetCombo.com taps into a broadest selection of private and commercial air transportation services, allowing users to combine private and first-class commercial jet service in a single itinerary using the company’s database of aircrafts and operators that includes thousands of small jets and hundreds of small props capable of serving rural areas with small airports. Users simply enter the city name of their true departure and destination points, and JetCombo.com delivers the most efficient route. For more information, visit www.jetcombo.com.

Morehead City’s Family Boating and In-Water Boat Show will take place May 16-18 with exhibits, programs and power boats in water and on shore. A Gala Celebration of Morehead City’s new docks for visiting boaters will kick off the weekend on May 16, with the Family Boating and In-Water Boat Show on May 17 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and on May 18 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, contact Connie at 252-808-0440 or dmcra@embarqmail.com.

Porto, a home furnishings store in Raleigh and Chapel Hill (www.portohome.com), announces the second fundraiser for Habitat/Wake County, continuing until Saturday, Oct. 18, with Triangle area artists “recycling” used wooden chairs — in stock at Habitat/Wake’s ReStore Center in Raleigh — into works of art. The chairs are free to artists, who will be asked to translate this year’s theme: “Going Green Just Got Elegant.” Artists should contact Kim Weiss at blueplate pr (919-272-8615; kjw27612@yahoo.com) by April 1. Habitat/Wake County’s ReStore is located at 2420 Raleigh Blvd. Habitat has set aside at least 55 chairs for the project.

The Richardson Homeplace, a one-story frame farm house featuring Italianate and Victorian design elements dated ca. 1870, has been saved and moved by the developers of Wendell Falls, a new 1400-acre residential community in Eastern Wake County. Dr. William E. Richardson (1845-1895) was a member of the North Carolina legislature in 1879 and a survivor of the Civil War. He joined the Confederacy at age 15 and served in the 62nd Georgia Calvary, which became the 16th Battalion of North Carolina Calvary. Greg Ferguson of the Wendell Falls company said, “We moved the house and put it next to the gravesite where Dr. Richardson is buried next to his wife and twin daughters. Mrs. Richardson and her daughters all died in childbirth,” said Ferguson. “The house, cemetery and the newly created lot will be donated to the town of Wendell.”

Triangle Land Conservancy celebrated its 25th anniversary Feb. 29 at the Barn at Fearrington Village in Chatham County, using the occasion to announce a $5.5 million fundraising campaign named Our Water, Our Land to fund TLC’s conservation efforts and The Land Opportunity Fund, a revolving fund that allows the organization to respond quickly to conserve critical natural lands. TLC has conserved more than 10,000 acres of the region’s natural lands.

APPOINTMENTS

Gerald Jeutter has announced the opening of a new practice for the general practice of law in Raleigh at 615 Oberlin Road. E-mail for the new practice is jeb@jeutterlaw.com.

Sam Atkins has been promoted to assistant vice president of the North Carolina Bankers Association. Atkins is also community affairs coordinator and editor of the Association’s magazine, Carolina Banker.
ACCESSORIES TO THE MURDER OF EVE CARSON

Sure enough the commentary is already out there that the murder of UNC Student Body President Eve Carson — allegedly by two or three black males who are members of a gang — was society's fault for its racist past. This view is usually propagated by white extreme liberals. Black political leadership is predictably quiet. When it comes to black gangs, they are nowhere to be found. This failure of leadership is a hardship on the vast majority of decent, law-abiding blacks who shuddered when the arrested suspects were black — and connected to gangs. They have a bigger stake in what happens next than the white majority.

The propaganda machinery claiming the perpetrators are “victims” themselves cannot overcome the outrage over the murder of Eve Carson. Sadly, this anger was not palpable over the outrage over the murder of Eve Carson just weeks before — allegedly by one of the suspects in the Eve Carson murder — was society's fault for not forcing our legal system, sending a message to other gangs — and to the rest of us.

There are other accessories to the murder of Eve Carson. How about the doctors here and around the country — and their cohorts in the anti-death penalty crusade — who have forced the suspension of the administration of the death penalty, claiming lethal injection is “cruel and unusual punishment”? Would these recent murders have occurred if the perpetrators knew they could be executed? Are the anti-gang groups already in place accessories for their failure to prevent random murders in the community?

Naturally, the anti-gun lobby will be out preaching that the murder of Eve Carson would not have happened if firearms were banned. I am hardly an enthusiast for unregulated gun proliferation, but with gangs and their related types roaming the streets, a well-armed citizenry is a better solution than simply wringing our collective hands until the next murder. And how about the overburdened parole system, crowded prisons and the inept courthouse failures that allowed Eve Carson's alleged killers out on the street? Accessories to murder — all of them. A sharp prosecutor would indict them too.

In effect, we are all accessories to the murder of Eve Carson for not forcing our legal system to act on our behalf, and not constantly on behalf of those who break the law — and murder people as an afterthought. The pendulum has swung so far over to the rights of criminals in our society that we accept the mayhem without demanding a change. That's because it's impossible to hack through the embedded sociology that generates legislation. While the rest of us are going about our daily business, dozens of activist groups are chipping away at our domestic tranquility by inventing new rights for those who deserve none. Our lawmakers react to these squeaky wheels and not to the generally hard-working majority of citizens — black and white — who don't have time to influence legislation.

We can do one thing: force the creation of a Gang Task Force, but not another federally funded toothless group that ends up talking and observing — and often blaming "society" for the actions of gang members — but a well-armed police unit backed with legislation that allows them to arrest gang members for associating with each other. The GTF should be empowered to enter neighborhoods and homes and make arrests based on the suspicion that a crime is to be committed.

What's it going to be? Are you going to sit on your backside until you end up being blamed for the murder of Eve Carson? That's what's coming from the nanny state activists as the case wears on. Will you watch as we evolve into a vigilante culture with blacks and whites glaring across an ever-widening social divide? Better we all work together to create the Gang Task Force — and now.

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

Red Charles Meeker and his moronic Raleigh City Council may have finally gone too far. Rushing to enact edicts while the water shortage was in full swing — greenies think development caused it — a resolution was enacted to ban garbage disposals (or, generically, disposers) in one fell totalitarian swoop. No new homes can have one and existing machines cannot be replaced — enforced by draconian fines usually reserved for dumping nuclear waste and PCBs.

I learned this intrusive and preposterous act was motivated by a nationwide program that recruits green-leaning mayors into environmental action city by city in response to President George Bush's refusal to sign the ridiculous Kyoto Protocol — an effort to shut down capitalism in the name of fighting "man-made" global warming, a theory transformed into a manifesto by the washed up Marxists who lost the Cold War. Get it? Capitalism is killing the earth, so shoulder-to-shoulder the new green proletariat will save living creatures by shutting it down. Old Karl would be proud.

And like the old one-world Bolsheviks, the green apparat has no use for individual rights or the facts of the matter. Meeker could slip into Lenin's uniform with no alterations. I wrote him a little note you can access at www.metronc.com. Click on my online only Between Issues column.

by Bernie Reeves

My Usual Charming Self

by Bernie Reeves

APRIL 2008

METROMAGAZINE

92
Steering clear of colon cancer has never been this easy.

Get screened today.

Colon cancer kills more people than breast cancer and AIDS combined, and it's the third leading cause of cancer deaths for both women and men. But it doesn't have to be: most cases of colon cancer are preventable and curable with early detection. Duke's nationally ranked team of gastroenterologists offer the full range of colon cancer screening procedures at clinics throughout the Triangle—including two locations in Wake County. With world-class expertise and innovative technology available in a comfortable, convenient clinic near you, it's never been easier to keep your health on track. THIS IS DUKE MEDICINE.

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For more information, view Metro.RenaissancePark.com or call 919-779-1277.

DIRECTIONS

Take Dawson St. out of Downtown. Continue on S. Saunders St. and merge onto S. Wilmington St. Continue for one mile. Turn right on Tryon Rd., then right on Junction Blvd.