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Happy New Year! Around here, it's September that kicks off our season of celebrations and activities. Colleges and universities, an elemental part of our identity, open their gates and the ritual pageant of football (and basketball and hockey mania on the horizon) signifies the end of summer and the onset of cool fall weather, social and cultural events galore, and a generally better collective disposition. It's everyone's favorite time of year.

Nested in the soon to be changing trees east of Raleigh, Midway Plantation has settled snugly into its new location a few miles from where the venerable home surveyed the surrounding forests and fields for over 150 years before a dramatic move — chronicled in the highly praised documentary film *Moving Midway,* written and directed by Midway family member Godfrey Cheshire.

*Moving Midway* opens in New York City Sept. 12, followed by national distribution and the Raleigh premiere Sept. 19 at Raleigh's Rialto Theatre — with additional screenings in Cary and Chapel Hill. Writer Sharon Swanson caught up with filmmaker Cheshire and brings us a captivating story of how the film was made and why the critics are already singing its praise for penetrating the essence of family, race and the myth of the South.

Diane Lea made a call at the newly situated Midway for *Metros* quarterly Southern Style special section and discovered the move has only enhanced the integrity of the home. And Katie Reeves orchestrated a fashion shoot on the grounds that evoke the charm of days gone by with the excitement of modern couture.

Molly's back! in Southern Style. *Metros* Raleigh Girl In New York City brings us the latest in fashion from the Big Apple and the Triangle — with a superhero theme. Maury Jefferson investigates where fall brides can learn the latest in high-fashion wedding dresses from famous designers; and Liza Roberts discovers the elegant type of Officina Briani that uses antique printing presses to produce elegant and personalized products — including wedding invitations. Helen Yoest previews September's Garden Conservancy tour, and Liza Roberts reports on Miss Nancy's famous Manners Camp in Hertford. Style we got.

The Spanish are here, over at Duke University's Nasher Museum of Art where the hit exhibition "El Greco to Velázquez" has inspired *Metro* writers to seize the theme, starting with art columnist Louis St. Lewis, who provides a little history in his inimitable style. Food Editor Moreton Neal notes that Spanish food in the region — inspired by the Nasher show — is the next big thing in culinary circles, and wine critic Barbara Ensrud agrees by recommending the best in Spanish wines.

Jim Leutze compares Down East Congressman Walter Jones to Jesse Helms for sticking to his principles; Carroll Leggett remembers the Tar Heel old boy network and Skipper Bowles, father of UNC President Erskine Bowles; Philip van Vleck recommends the new CD by Lois Deloatch evoking the tunes of famous keyboardist Oscar Peterson with her own original lyrics; Art Taylor kicks off the fall book season; and Mary Ward Boerner lassos the bevy of fall activities in *Metros* Preview.

In October look for a portrait of an unsung Tar Heel literary hero and the fall edition of our ever-popular Social Calendar. And check online (www.metronc.com) for some blasts from the past presented in the 1980s by the old Spectator. Click the link Welcome to Comboland to an online radio station spinning cuts from the collection of area music organized and hand-delivered to the UK in 1986 and Europe by the paper's Arts Editor Godfrey Cheshire. For jazz fans, click on the link for Blossom Dearie, Dave Frishberg and Bob Dorough to dig their historic concert in the Triangle in 1985 sponsored by WUNC-FM and Spectator.

*Vaya con Dios,* as they say in Spain.

—Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher
Bière blanche belge originale. Anno 1445.
EDWARDS AND MEDIA BIAS

With respect to the column entitled "John Edwards Takes Gold In Sleazeball Triathlon" by Bernie Reeves in his online-only column Between Issues (www.metronc.com), posted Aug. 11, I compliment him for drawing attention to the pervasive political bias in the national media most glaringly evident in The New York Times' reporting of politicians' trysts.

On February 21, 2008, The New York Times ran a front-page article entitled "For McCain, Self-Confidence on Ethics Poses Its Own Risks," which all but indicted John McCain for an alleged affair with female lobbyist Vicki Iseman. The article was based on little more than unconfirmed rumors, not to mention the fact that the alleged affair took place over eight years ago.

However, that did not stop The New York Times from "faithfully" reporting the alleged indiscretions of Sen. McCain and, in doing so, called into question his ethical standards and personal integrity. Conversely, The New York Times seemed to conveniently bury or ignore the Edwards story altogether.

The story attracted The New York Times front page attention once the Champagne Socialist himself publically acknowledged his affair with Rielle Hunter. One clear take away from the inequitable treatment of these stories is that while the McCain article, unsubstantiated as it may have been, merited front-page attention, the Edwards story did not rise to The New York Times' subjective standard of "[all] the news fit to print."

Thanks for yet again reminding readers to remain vigilant in our search for the truth.

Wesley Andrews
Raleigh

VACCINE CONTROVERS

In the August 2008 Metro, Senior Writer Rick Smith authored an article called "Fear of Vaccines Unwarranted; Health Scares Not Proven."

Smith wrote, "The vaccine Gardasil from Merck helps prevent the human papillomavirus, which is linked to cervical cancer."

Contrary to this claim, a NaturalNews investigative report reveals:

- The FDA has, for years, known that HPV was not the cause of cervical cancer and has no direct link to cervical cancer.
- How it may actually increase the risk of precancerous lesions by 44.6 percent.
- Why mandatory HPV vaccination policies may cause great harm to young girls (in fact at least 11 have died directly from the HPV vaccination). (The Great HPV Vaccine Hoax Exposed www.naturalnews.com/Report_HPV_Vaccine_0 .html)

When Smith asked Duke's Dr. Katz about what causes autism and if it "could perhaps be triggered by the cocktail of vaccines for measles, mumps and other maladies," Katz said, "all have been proved to be fallacious."

Katz also suggests that the mercury preservative called Thimerosal is not a causative factor in autism.

Contrary to Katz's professional view and statements, the US Government Concedes Vaccines Cause Autism (26 February 2008).

http://mercury-free-drugs.org


I personally have an aversion to the comment made by Katz, "You must have faith and trust in your physician."

I hope that I am not alone in saying this is a new era of individual responsibility and giving blind faith to one's doctor, or anyone, doesn't cut it for me.

I'd like to think that the other readers of Metro will do their own research before vaccinating and not limit their healing modalities to an MD.

For more information toward other healthy solutions:

Dr. Sherri Tenpenny
www.nmaseminars.com

VIC (Vaccine Injured Children) www.vaccineinfo.org

Mercury Free Dentists, Mercury Detoxification, & Amalgam Fillings www.mercuryfreenow.com

High quality, non-toxic, safe silver product that treats more than 650 different diseases (Science Journal 1978). www.invive.com

Miracle Mineral www.miraclemineral.org

Natural Health Information by Dr. Joseph Mercola www.mercola.com

CHEMIST SAYS VACCINE ARTICLE ONE-SIDED

In Rick Smith's article, "Fear of Vaccines Unwarranted" (Metro Medical Report, August 2008), he unfortunately presents only one side of the vaccine safety controversy. Citing epidemiological (statistical) studies done by the medical establishment does not extinguish any parental fears.

As a chemist with 27 years of experience evaluating material for heavy metal contamination, I found it simply astonishing that mercury is added to multi-dose vaccine vials at a concentration of 50,000 parts per billion. This level of mercury is 250 times higher than what the EPA classifies as hazardous waste based on toxicity characteristics (www.epa.gov/epaomega/hazard/miracle/regregs.htm#hazardwaste). The type of mercury added, which is linked to cervical cancer."
Mercury added to vaccines is quickly distributed to a child's brain (Burbacher T, Shen D, Liberato N, Grant K, Cernichiari E, Clarkson T. 2005. Comparison of blood and brain mercury levels in infant monkeys exposed to methylmercury or vaccines containing thimerosal. Environmental Health Perspectives. 113:1015-1021).

While it has been reduced in infant vaccines used in the US, it is still added at the full concentration to adolescent flu, tetanus and meningococcal vaccines. This issue alone has many people concerned about vaccine safety.

Even without mercury, aluminum is used as an adjuvant in most childhood and adult vaccines. This includes 250 micrograms in the Hepatitis B vaccine administered at birth. At 2 months of age, a child could be exposed to 1250 micrograms of aluminum from vaccination. If all this aluminum enters the blood, the level would be 25 times higher than what is documented to cause neurological damage in infants. This process is repeated again at 4, 6 and 12 months of age. Aluminum is especially dangerous for people with poor kidney function. Some infants have very limited kidney function. Aluminum in vaccines has now been linked to Gulf War illness (Petrik MS, Wong MC, Tabata RC, Garry RF, Shaw CA. Aluminum adjuvant linked to Gulf War illness induces motor neuron death in mice. Neumolecular Medicine 2007; 9(1):83-100).

If it can cause injury to a healthy adult soldier, what is it doing to a newborn baby?

These are just a couple of concerns parents have about the safety of vaccines. This doesn't even include exposing infants to multiple engineered, live viruses. Until these issues are seriously addressed by independent researchers, this controversy will only get worse.

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- Opening the Doors of the New Midway
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- Garden Conservancy's Open Days Tour

On the Cover:
Majestic turtle neck: Vermillion
Balenciaga suit: Vermillion
Loeffler Randall boot: Vermillion
Hue tights: Belk

Above:
D&G Boustier: Uniquities Mix
Stella McCartney jeans: Uniquities Mix
Bettye Muller heels: Kristin's Shoe Boutique
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Grandioso Debut For Edenton Street Organ

The pews at Edenton Street United Methodist Church began to fill an hour early one warm night in late July with over 1000 music lovers and church members making sure they had a chance to hear the church's extraordinary new organ — a multi-million dollar, handmade thing of beauty — in its first concert.

"This is an occasion you will never forget," promised Dr. William Weisser, minister of music at Edenton Street, as the concert began. Two hours, three standing ovations and three encores later, it was clear Weisser hadn't oversold.

Known as "Opus 112," and created by hand by the famed organ maker Orgues Létourneau Limitee of Quebec, Canada, Edenton Street's organ is deemed by the church to be "a gift to God from the heart of Raleigh." Indeed, Opus 112 is no run-of-the-mill instrument. It is one of the largest organs in the Southeastern United States and one of the most technically up-to-date — an electropneumatic behemoth with 5447 pipes, 101 stops, and elaborate casing made of oak, maple and yellow poplar. Its cockpit-like console, boasting carved bone and ebony keys and stops, can be moved for concerts from its location on the side of the chancel and rotated center-stage, so to speak. Just to look at Opus 112 up close is to begin to understand why Mozart called the organ "the King of instruments." To hear it play is to be convinced.

"How Magnificent"

Renowned organist Ken Cowan began Opus 112's first concert with Bach and ended it with Liszt. His back to the audience (the better to see him at work), Cowan played with inexhaustible vigor and without sheet music, literally and figuratively "pulling out all the stops."

For anyone who hasn't seen an organist at work, it is truly an astonishing feat, even an aerobic event. At times Cowan appeared to be dancing a jig upon the pedals below — his legs sometimes even crossing in order to reach the right spot — while his hands gracefully navigated five stepped keyboards above and innumerable stops beside. It is so compelling to see an organ played like this that an observer might need to be reminded to listen too. Though this organ makes that hard to avoid.

At one point in the middle of the concert, Cowan stood up. "I am overwhelmed by how magnificent this instrument is," he told the church.

The church has made every effort to ensure that its new organ is, indeed, magnificent. The significant necessary funds were
raised in large part by many small donations, and a careful search was undertaken to find an organ maker that would agree to use the salvageable parts of the church's former organ in the construction of the new one.

Design began in 2005 and delivery came over two years later. A 150-church-member "pipe brigade" helped to unload two 53-foot tractor-trailers holding the instrument. Assembly took weeks.

"The organ literally helps us to become more receptive to God," Weisser says. "It helps us explore the mysteries of faith by touching our hearts."

Now the next thing is to complete the instrument. It was built to accommodate an additional 190 pipes to be located in the rear of the sanctuary above the balcony. Weisser predicts that next phase will be finished in two years and will require additional funds.

In the meantime, concerts like the historic first one will continue to be held on a monthly basis. The next concert is scheduled for Sept. 12 when Dr. David Arcus will play at 7:30 p.m. For more information on Edenton Street's Létourneau Pipe Organ Series, go to www.esumc.org. 306

— Liza Roberts

**Comboland Is Back: The High Renaissance of Rock Rolls On**

The Triangle area dished up some of the best rock music in the world in the 1980s — really. And there's living proof thanks to the resurgence of *Welcome To Comboland*, a compilation of area music organized in 1985 by Godfrey Cheshire, then arts editor for the weekly *Spectator*. Cheshire was angry our talented musicians were being ignored by record labels and radio station geeks, so he convinced me as editor and publisher to underwrite the project and send him to Britain where he figured advanced civilizations would recognize talent.

He was right. The BBC sent a film crew to the Triangle, and the UK and European press ran several articles on the quality of music emanating from North Carolina, resulting in recording and publishing deals for area artists. Britain's Making Waves Records issued an album of *Comboland* cuts in 1986.

Twenty years down the road, *Comboland* is being discovered all over again on YouTube, but more specifically on www.live365.com via a Web radio station created by Triangle music aficionado Michael "Moose" Smith, who operates standard stations in Dare County.

Simply enter "Comboland" in the search bar. All 27 of the bands Cheshire selected and recorded perform 48 songs from the original package. Other selections from area groups are represented, some in later incarnations, such as solo Don Dixon and Rod Abernethy from Arrogance, and the Woods — comprised of Fabulous Knobs veterans. The original music demonstrates again the High Renaissance of rock music that happened right here — recognized only in media by Cheshire and *Spectator*.

We're working on a link to the Metro site (www.metronc.com) but that shouldn't stop you from going right to the source and once again enjoying the sounds of Arrogance, The Fabulous Knobs, The Connells, Mitch Easter and Let's Active, Southern Culture On The Skids, Bad Checks, Glass Moon, Superchunk, Th' Cigaretz, Spongetones, Pressure Boys, Rick Rock (also with Southern Culture and as Parthenon Huxley), Othermothers, Accelerators, Fetchin' Bones, dB's, Dillon Fence and Eight Or Nine Feet — and more and more.

So return with *Comboland* to the thrilling days of yesteryear when rock was rock and the beat went on and on. 308

— Bernie Reeves

**Board Games Event Draws Enthusiasts**

There's been something of a quiet revolution going on in the world of traditional tabletop board games recently. This revolution is not about the latest Indiana Jones version of Monopoly, or the Pirates of the Caribbean edition of *The Game of Life*. It's about a whole new generation of board games coming out of Europe since 1995 with the release of a game called *Settlers of Catan*.

Here in the Triangle, evidence of this revolution will be on display at ThatBG (board game) Thing, a games convention scheduled for Sept. 4-7 at the Crestwood Suites in Durham. According to Raleigh's Rob Reinhard, who has organized the event since 2004, it started out as a handful of board game hob-
byists in the Triangle area looking for a central location to play. "There really wasn't any," said Reinhard, "so (gaming) groups were splintered all over the area."

Several years ago, Reinhard started a group called the Triangle Unplugging Game Association (TUGA) in the hopes of providing area residents with a "one-stop" shop for organizing and communicating events related to card and board games. TUGA never fully developed, but on the heels of the recent board game "revolution," ThatBGThing has developed, by direct invitation of one board gamer to another, to the point that 100 gamers attended last year's event. Reinhard is looking for a bigger turnout this year. "These events are still pretty small in the overall scheme of things," said Reinhard, "it's not like a rock concert or sporting event."

For further information about ThatBGThing and board game enthusiasts in the Triangle, you can reach Reinhard at icarus@nc.rr.com.

Your move. —Skip Maloney

**ECU To Open Heart Institute**

Patients from across the state and nation will be able to receive the latest advances in heart and vascular disease treatment with the opening of the East Carolina Heart Institute at East Carolina University Sept. 30. Adult cardiologists, pediatric heart specialists, heart surgeons, vascular surgeons and other healthcare professionals will provide care for a full range of heart and circulatory conditions.

Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood Jr., director of the institute, is senior associate vice chancellor for health sciences at ECU and chief of cardiothoracic and vascular surgery in the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences at the Brody School of Medicine at ECU.

The four-story $60 million, 206,000-square-foot clinical, research and education building was funded by legislative appropriations along with private donations. The second building is the six-story, 375,000-square-foot, $160 million cardiovascular hospital being built by Pitt County Memorial Hospital, ECU’s teaching hospital. It will house operating rooms, interventional labs and 120 patient beds. University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina, parent corporation of PCMH, is funding this construction. The new hospital will open in early 2009.

According to ECU, the mortality rate from coronary heart disease is 12.9 percent greater in the 29-county eastern region compared to the rest of the state. The age-adjusted coronary heart disease death rate is 185.8 for every 100,000 people. If the region were a state, that rate would rank it 13th worst in the country, according to the ECU Center for Health Services Research and Development.

**Arts Commission Announces Recipients Of 24th Annual Raleigh Medal Of Arts**

The City of Raleigh Arts Commission has announced that five individuals and one organization have been selected to receive the 24th Annual Raleigh Medal of Arts. The recipients are Dr. Lucy Daniels, Chuck Davis, Lenard D. Moore, Susan Newberry, Jeffery H. Richardson and Capital Bank.

The Raleigh Medal of Arts is awarded for lifetime extraordinary achievement in the practice of, or in support of, local arts. Originally based on the National Medal of Arts program, the Raleigh Medal of Arts program was inaugurated in 1984 by the Arts Commission so that excellence in the arts could be given special recognition. Over the past 24 years, 122 medals have been awarded. The recipients have ranged from businesses, such as Progress Energy, to artists, including sculptor Thomas Sayre and choreographer Robert Weiss.

The 24th Annual Medal of Arts ceremony will take place on Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. in Fletcher Opera Theater at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. The ceremony will feature special guests (to be announced) and performances, followed by a festive reception. The event will be free and open to the public.

Following is additional information on each of the 24th Annual Raleigh Medal of Arts recipients:

- Dr. Lucy Daniels holds a PhD and is a writer and clinical psychologist based in Raleigh. In 1989, she founded the Lucy Daniels Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering emotional and creative freedom through psychoanalytic treatment and research, education and outreach; and the Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood, which uses psychoanalytic principles to pro-
mote the emotional development of young children and their parents. A prolific author, Daniels works both in her private practice and her foundation to help other creative individuals overcome emotional conflicts. In 2002, she published her memoir, *With a Woman's Voice: A Writer's Struggle for Emotional Freedom*. She also simultaneously published a primer, *Dreaming Your Way to Creative Freedom*, and her first novel in more than 40 years, *The Eyes of the Father*. The primer chronicles her 30-year struggle against writer's block and offers a road map for others to use on their personal journeys. *The Eyes of the Father* is a compelling story of people controlled by the past.

- Dr. Charles "Chuck" Davis is founder and artistic director of the African American Dance Ensemble. A native of Raleigh, Davis attended Howard University and majored in theater/dance. Continuing his study in African dance under the guidance of Babatunde Olatunji, Eleo Pomare and the Bernice Johnson Dance Company, Davis was recruited by the American Dance Festival in 1982 as an artist-in-residence to organize and manage its outreach program. From this effort sprung the African American Dance Ensemble in 1984, one of the most beloved dance companies in the country. Davis' awards include: North Carolina Dance Alliance Award, North Carolina Artist Award, North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina Award in Fine Arts, Triangle Community Foundation Kathryn H. Wallace Award for Artists In Community Service; the Dance Heritage Coalition recognition as one of 100 Irreplaceable Dance Treasures in the United States; NY Bessie Award and the very prestigious Brooklyn Academy of Music Award for distinguished service.

- Jeffery H. Richardson graduated with honors from The University of Tennessee with a bachelor's degree in music education in 1978. He then moved to Wake County where he accepted a position as the Broughton High School band director. He proceeded to transform the Broughton band into a powerhouse music program that has gained national and international respect. Richardson currently splits his time between Underwood Elementary School, where he teaches music education in the morning, and Broughton, where he directs nearly 200 adolescent band
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students. Richardson's tireless devotion to music in Wake County Public Schools has touched the lives of thousands of students, with his motto: "Excellence is our standard — not our goal." He has taken the Broughton Band to countless competitions and on trips throughout the United States and Europe, including marching in the 2008 Tournament of Roses Parade.

- Lenard D. Moore is a Raleigh resident and native of Jacksonville, NC. He earned his master's degree in English/African American Literature from North Carolina A&T State University and his bachelor's degree with Magna Cum Laude honors from Shaw University. He was also educated at Coastal Carolina Community College and the University of Maryland and is currently assistant professor of English at Mount Olive College. He is a writer of more than 20 forms of poetry, drama, essays and literary criticism. In 2008, he became the first Southerner and the first African American to be elected president of the Haiku Society of America. Moore is the haiku editor for Simply Haiku, and he is the founder of the Carolina African American Writers' Collective. He recently won the Sam Ragan Fine Arts Award for his contribution to the fine arts of North Carolina. Moore is executive chairman of the North Carolina Haiku Society, haiku editor of the online magazine Simply Haiku and cofounder of the Washington Street Writers Group.

- Susan Newberry was hired as PineCone's first full-time director in 1987, about two and a half years after the organization was incorporated as a nonprofit. Under her leadership, PineCone became the largest, most active traditional music organization in North Carolina. During Newberry's long tenure, PineCone has presented a list of performers that reads like a "Who's Who" in the world of roots music, including Bill Monroe, Ralph Stanley, Earl Scruggs, Emmylou Harris, Merle Haggard, Kris Kristofferson, Taj Mahal, Mary Black and many more. While bringing stellar national and international acts, Newberry remained equally committed to showcasing the very best traditional musicians found in our own city, state and region. She is particularly proud of the fact that PineCone has presented nearly every musician honored by the North Carolina Arts Council with the North Carolina Folk Heritage Award, including Etta

continued on page 83
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New York and Triangle Premieres Set For Mid-September

Moving Midway: The Inside Story Of A Southern Plantation
by Sharon Swanson

Raleigh-native Godfrey Cheshire, a highly regarded New York film critic since the early 1990s, exudes an easy Southern comfort whether he’s discussing three decades of writing for national and Triangle audiences or discussing memories of a special piece of real estate he shares in common with other family members — including cousins with nicknames like Possum, Winkie and Pooh.

Cheshire has been returning home to Raleigh to tell the story of Midway Plantation, his mother’s family home, in Moving Midway, the Oscar-sighted documentary that opens in New York on Sept. 12 and then nationally, including premieres in Raleigh, Chapel Hill and Cary on Sept. 19.

Perhaps only Cheshire could have directed this particular film about a grand plantation and family life, slavery and race relations — including the mythology of the South that Cheshire convincingly traces back to big Hollywood hits such as The Birth of a Nation, Gone with the Wind and the TV hit series Roots.

Ultimately, this is also a story of his mother's family, the Hintons. Cheshire takes on what others with Southern families might view as the unenviable task of documenting this history by peering...
the reaction when one family member gets buckets of money from commercial developers for the land sitting under the old home place and decides to move the house, taking out 200-year-old trees in the process? And did everyone really welcome those newly discovered black relatives with open arms?

Cheshire acknowledged that there were "conflicting emotions and agendas."

"It was strange because people had very strong feelings, and yet we are all such polite, well-bred Southerners that it was hard for us to open up about it," said Cheshire. "I asked what I thought were fair and logical questions, but if people didn't want to go in certain areas, I didn't push them."

Cheshire, whose work has been published in the New York Press, Variety, The New York Times, Film Comment and The Village Voice, and appears locally in The Independent Weekly, had long thought that Midway was worth a movie. "But I started with the idea of a digital camera and making a family movie," he said.

Cheshire's New York film friends encouraged him to do more, especially when cousin Charlie Silver and his wife Dena, the current residents of Midway, decided that an interchange of Interstate-540 rising up a quarter of a mile away, made moving the plantation home and its outbuildings a necessity.

Five years later, Cheshire's efforts are being recognized throughout the country as Moving Midway goes nationwide.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Bernie Reeves, editor and publisher of Raleigh's Metro Magazine, is also executive producer for Moving Midway. When Reeves started the weekly Spectator in 1978, he asked Cheshire to join him as film critic and arts editor, where Cheshire not only wrote about the arts scene in the Triangle, but he also helped create it, said Reeves, staging some of the first festivals of independent films in the state, culminating with the North Carolina Film and Video Festival that ran for three years in the mid-'90s.

But the two old friends didn't make this film alone. Scrolling through the extraordinarily long list of credits, I noted the names of many well-known Triangle families: "We have 60 investors," said Reeves, "friends of the family, either from North Carolina, New York or somehow connected."

Private donations for their half million plus budget allowed the producing team of Cheshire, Jay Spain (who also served as cinematographer), Reeves and New York associate Vin Farrell, the artistic freedom they felt necessary to produce an honest and authentic film, unencumbered by foundation agendas.

"We represent investors," said Reeves, "who love this community, who understand the South and realize that we don't need to condescend to audiences to tell this dramatic and compelling story."

Cheshire and friends have created an engrossing film that actually penetrates the reality of the South of the past and today, while reflecting on a time that has been wrapped in myth for generations, mostly created in the minds of Hollywood filmmakers. After viewing the film, I predict Moving Midway will continue to be warmly praised nationally and internationally for its candid portrayals of today's South and for its clear look at the myths of the past.

Those of us who call this region of the country home have always known that the truth was far more complicated than anything Hollywood could envision.
Opening the Doors of the New Midway

Plantation Sits Serenely In New Setting

by Diane Lea

Turn on Old Crews Road in Eastern Wake County. Look closely for a simple farm gate set in a pasture of mustard flowers and follow a gravel road through meadows and woods. With each bumpy click of the odometer you will feel like a time-traveler re-entering the period before the Civil War when a few large Wake County plantation owners used slaves to pick cotton and many more substantial yeoman farmers made a good living from their own hard work.

At the end of the road stands Midway Plantation, built in 1848 as the seat of the extended Hinton family, whose many thousands of acres once stretched westward from around Smithfield to what is now Knightdale outside Raleigh. Midway Plantation now graces a site a few miles from its original site on Highway 64 after a dramatic move in 2005 that is the subject of a major new documentary film by Hinton cousin and film critic Godfrey Cheshire. (Moving Midway opens in New York City on Sept. 12 and in Raleigh and the Triangle Sept. 19 before screening in theaters nationally. See related article in this issue of Metro and go to www.moving-midway.com.)

The home's new-old setting was carefully planned using historical, structural and design research by landscape architect Tom Hunter to ensure that the house did not lose the sense of history that setting — as much as a meticulous renovation — lends to a house.

So, today Midway and its complement of outbuildings present quite a sight. What awaits the visitor inside is a delightful blending of family, friends, scholarship and craftsmanship, making 21st century Midway the best Midway of all.
TO THE MANOR BORN

Charlie Silver and his wife and business partner Dena greet visitors on the elegantly columned porch and usher us through double-paneled doors set with sidelights and a transom into the light-filled center hall. The hall is indicative of how the couple has chosen to live in this venerable family home, making daily life comfortable and fun while preserving a refurbished historic landmark. The hall's pale apple green wall color plays a perfect foil to the interior woodwork, which includes deep baseboards painted in faux jasper and a bright white Greek Revival door surround with simple corner blocks. Charlie credits historic paint expert George Fore with uncovering the baseboard's gorgeous combination of green, gold and pale umber.

"George did the research, which led us to replicate much of the original painting, marbleizing and faux painting," says Charlie. "This hall would have had striped wallpaper typical of the period, but Dena and I wanted a light and lively house, so we opted to use a glazed stripe in the wall paint to suggest a subtle wall paper. Sharon Stein, the wife of our painter John Stein, did the glazing and striping."

To the right of the door leading to the formal parlor hangs an oil painting of the Coats of Arms of the Royal Families of England, lovingly painted by Mary Hilliard Hinton, fondly known as Miss Mary. Miss Mary, Charlie's great-great aunt, painted three of them, and all are still in the family. "Miss Mary held sway over Midway for her long and productive life," says Charlie. "Whenever Dena and I failed to promptly hang her Coats of Arms wherever we were living, certain mishaps would start occurring," referring to the friendly ghosts that inhabit the home. Needless to say, the painting has found the perfect place here.

In playful contrast to Miss Mary's symbols of royalty, a sculptural pair of men's legs and feet, sheathed in decorative copper patches and thrust into proper leather shoes, stands in a corner topped by a fern. "That piece is from my brother John Silver's gallery in Manteo," says Charlie. "It is the work of Andy Cobb, an artist who often sculpts silly frogs. When a friend suggested he do something sensible, he came up with this sculpture, which logically enough is titled, Sensible Shoes."

The hall is also home to an impressive Empire-style sofa upholstered in silk damask with varying widths of peach and gold stripes. "This piece was the only one broken in the move," says Charlie. "Our designer Nancy Brenneman found the exact fabric to replace what was damaged."

The couple found the piece in a Leesburg, VA, antique store. Dena immediately thought the style and fabric would be perfect for Midway's hall. "The owner wouldn't sell it because it was a family piece," says Charlie.
An Empire sofa in the center hall was found in a Leesburg, VA, antique store. Designeer Nancy Brenneman matched the fabric when repairs were needed.

After a year of haggling, Charlie was able to convince the owner that the sofa was a Johnston family piece that belonged at Midway since the family was related. It now occupies center stage next to another signature piece, a large-scale sideboard given to the couple by Charlie's mother.

"That is a Howison piece," says Charlie.
The parlor's embossed gold wallpaper was steamed off and reinstalled after the move.
After my mother Betty Wales Silver was widowed, she married Bob Howison, a well-known Raleigh lawyer. It comes from their home.

CONNECTIONS
At the end of the center hall is the dog-trot, a traditional means of connecting two separate portions of a house or cabin — in this case an interior connector that also creates a comfortable room set with dark wicker love seats upholstered in a slightly grayish tone of apple green fabric and furnished with a collection of family pieces and hand-crafted objects.

“This room allows access to the kitchen and the butler’s pantry and to the covered porch we use as both a place to sit and rock and a convenient rear entrance from the graveled drive where we park,” says Charlie.

The porch is set with oversized wooden rockers Dena found on sale at Sam’s Club. They are complemented by a narrow antique deacon’s bench, a married piece, which features a paneled door as a back and still showing its old paint — an almost iridescent green.

Crafted from wood salvaged from the old Midway site, this bowl was made by Bill Wallace of New Light Wood Works.

The dog-trot also provides a side entrance to the home from the west elevation, a comfortable staging area where guests can gather and enjoy pre-dinner cocktails while the cook (Charlie) prepares food. A large pie safe set against the wall is a family piece that came to Charlie after brother John couldn’t find a wall for it in his new home. The numerous turned bowls set about are the work of Bill Wallace of New Light Wood Works. Charlie and Dena saw his work at the NC State Fair and asked him to take pieces of the trees removed from the original Midway site and make what he liked from them. The results include several contemporary bowls with classic lines perfectly displaying the grain of holly, cedar and white oak. A narrow dovetailed plank table set on splayed legs flanks one of the three French doors between the dog-trot and the main house. It is also made from salvaged Midway trees.

“Mike Robbins of Apex took this crotched piece of white oak and created this table,” says Charlie, who points out that the flooring of the dog-trot also came from Midway.

Steve Sherwood of Mullis Millworks in Louisburg milled the wood, and “Silly P” Sedaris of Raleigh installed it. I Like You, a
book by Amy Sedaris, (Silly P's sister) and *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*, by his brother David Sedaris, sit on a coffee table for all to enjoy.

The reuse of materials is a link to the heritage of Midway and especially to Charlie's memory of his father. Pine cabinets, made by Charles Silver for his kitchen, added in the 1960s, almost perfectly fitted Midway's new kitchen addition constructed with the same dimensions as the original outbuilding. The room's pine floors were also salvaged from the old school house residence. The beams that support the kitchen's cathedral ceiling came from an old tobacco warehouse and were worked by Fulford in Wilson.

Gracious Traditions

Midway's dining room and formal parlor are two rooms that have remained the same since Charlie can remember. There is the same gracious dining table, which belonged to Charles Lewis Hinton, Charlie's great-great-great grandfather, who served twice as North Carolina State Treasurer and served on the Commission to build the current State Capitol. The family traveled with the

Charlie's portrait by John de la Vega has joined the portraits of Midway's other owners.

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silver service, which sits on the sideboard, and the large wooden box in which its five shapely pieces fit is used as an end table in the parlor. Perhaps one of the most interesting pieces in the dining room is a tall glass-front china cabinet filled top-to-bottom with Canton ware. Charlie's grandmother Bessie Cain Hinton purchased it at a yard sale for $20 and filled it with the blue and white china. Charlie and Dena have added to the collection over the years. Splendid swag draperies in yellows, golds and peach are held back by glass flower pulls, a gift of Charlie's aunt Sis Cheshire.

The living room retains the original wallpaper, which had to be steamed off, restored and reinstalled. The embossed gold leaf technique used to create its distinctive pattern is no longer used, so additional panels will be difficult to replicate. Notable for portraits reflecting Midway's chain of title, the parlor-living room now features a new portrait of its latest owner. Painted by John de la Vega, Charlie's smiling visage adds a contemporary touch to the rest of the collection, which includes Charles Lewis Hinton, who built Midway as a present to his son.
David. Though David's portrait went missing after the Civil War, a portrait of his wife, Mary Boddie Carr Hinton, was recovered and hangs to the right of the marbleized white-on-black mantel. A portrait of Charlie's father hangs above the mantel.

A slant-top desk, signed Oct. 17, 1775, by Travis Harper, the joiner, holds another family face, Jonas Johnston Carr, Mary Boddie Carr's father. Mary Hilliard Hinton — from whom Charlie's father inherited Midway — hangs next to her mother Mary Boddie Carr Hinton on the room's west wall. A secretary that also belonged to Charles Lewis Hinton is set with a bouquet of roses in an ornate Tiffany pitcher. A simple metal box is carefully enclosed in its drawer.

"That's the money box my family threw in the pond when the Yankees came through," says Charlie. "The family was able to retrieve it after the war, and it gave them the means to hold on to Midway."

Lucky Midway. Now securely situated in its new incarnation, the gracious home is placed again to share its history — our history — for generations to come.

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Fall Fashion and Tradition: A Plantation State of Mind

Photography by Kinsey Dey
Edited by Katie Reeves
This page:
D&G Ruffle blouse - Uniquities Mix
Piazza Sempione pencil skirt - Uniquities Mix
Claudia Ciuti heel - Kristin's Shoe Boutique

Opposite:
Escada suit - Saks Fifth Avenue
Rag & Bone blazer - Vermillion
Citizens for Humanity jeans - Saks Fifth Avenue
Majestic top - Vermillion
Vintage Christian Dior hat
SOUTHERN STYLE

Left:
See by Chloé dress - Fleur
Claudia Ciuti booties- Kristin’s Shoe Boutique
Hue Tights - Belk

Right:
Rag & Bone pant - Vermilion
Charles Chang-tama jacket- Vermilion
Diego Deluga heel - Kristin’s Shoe Boutique
A special thank you to Dena and Charlie Silver for the use of Midway Plantation
Fall Fashion Superheroes

Justice League Meets Junior League

By Molly Fulghum Heintz

Autumn's aesthetic evokes the visual style of the graphic novel. Maybe it's because "Superheroes," the featured exhibition at the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, is fresh on the brain, but it seems that the combination of two-dimensional minimalism, tailored silhouettes and precise calligraphic flourishes were last seen on the pages of Marvel Comics. This season's pen-and-ink, color-block fashion emanates a vibe of anticipation, restrained optimism or even double identity. Think Clark Kent or Diana Prince (aka Wonder Woman) — buttoned-up and business-like one moment, sparkly and KA-POW! the next. This fall, anything is possible.

Folds and pleats offer volume while keeping a well-defined, graphic shape. Jil Sander's gray wool sheath is the latest incarnation of the power suit, with its armor-like horizontal folds. Riccardo Tisci's georgette jabot blouse takes a softer approach with small knife pleats in a filmy fabric, while Marc Jacobs' stretch crepe blouse creates sensuous sculptural forms along the torso. Jacobs showed wide-leg, pleated trousers for his New York collection, as well as the one he designs for Louis Vuitton. In Paris, he paired the voluminous tapering pants with tops cinched at the waist, but no matter how you nip it, this style will flatter few figures (fashionista rule of thumb: if something manages to make a runway model look hefty, then do not attempt at home). Stefano Pilati's version for Yves Saint Laurent is easier to wear, with a cuffed ankle and a more tailored shape.
BULLETPROOF

With all the fabric flowing, the waistline becomes the strategic zone where it’s all reined in. Alexander McQueen’s dirndl-style dresses with crinolines represent an edgy version of Dior’s mid-century New Look. Prada’s detachable peplums are a fun accessory that can instantly alter a silhouette to become more flirty and feminine. But the must-have accessory for fall is simply a big, bold belt. Wear it with everything, including outerwear, for an hourglass effect.

Superheroes need a little theatrical flair, and there is plenty to make one gleam this season. Designers applied sequins with a heavy hand for evening, and the results are separates worthy of Studio 54. Proenza Schouler’s wide-leg gold pants are effortlessly fabulous; Oscar de la Renta’s red sequined suit would be super chic for a holiday cocktail; and Donna Karan’s cashmere sequined halter will never go out of style. Bejeweled dresses offer strategic bits of bling, like the super-chic blue and black strapless dress from Vera Wang’s Lavender Label with its jewel-encrusted felt belt. Josie Natori, known for lingerie, has a new ready-to-wear line that features silk and jersey tops embellished with sequins and metallic embroidery. But the most obvious superhero gear is Balenciaga’s shiny latex...
WHIPLASH LACE

Although lace isn’t often associated with ballistics or superhuman feats, it’s a key element this season and works surprisingly well with fall’s strong shapes, where it becomes an interesting graphic component rather than a fussy detail. BCBG’s pretty black lace top has clean cap sleeves and plunging v-neck. Newcomer siblings Rodarte’s loose open knit tights are lacey in a cool, deconstructed way. But Prada’s overblown lace skirts and tops steal the show, and induce major double-take whiplash — the pieces manage to look tailored and modest while also being completely transparent. Lace puffed up to giant proportions may have been inspired by the highly successful contemporary patterns of the venerable Royal Copenhagen porcelain company. Wanting to create products that appealed to a younger audience while staying with tradition, they took old-fashioned blue-on-white floral themes and enlarged them to
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THE COLOR PURPLE

In terms of color for fall, think regal. Purple reigns this season and is present in almost every collection, from a brilliantly colored Valentino wool coat to Ann Demeuemeester's Mongolian lamb jacket to a charming off-the-shoulder dress by Paul & Joe. A plum-colored accessory is a necessity, whether it's handbag or platform shoe. The color black appears in many textures, such as Ralph Lauren's black rayon and silk velvet gown, Chanel's standout wool and mesh dress with appliqués, and Derek Lam's strategic black layers. Plaid and tweed are the patterns of choice, with Dolce & Gabbana appearing to have cornered the market on both in their generous tweed skirts and chic mixes of plaid separates. Unusual this season is the presence of bold floral patterns, normally reserved for spring. Up-and-coming designer Thakoon features relaxed floral coats and dresses, while Michael Kors' retro florals are shiny and glamorous.

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onyx, turquoise and coin pearls necklace $64, earrings $18 bracelet (not shown) $40

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HEROIC SHOES

The superheroes represent a new pantheon, a kind of secular mythology for the modern era. However, one special group of accessories this season — Prada's sculptural shoes — recalls the ancient Greek god Hermes and his winged feet. With its beautiful fins and fans, each shoe appears to be an object in motion even before you slip it on. Practical? No. Heroic? Absolutely.
Fashion News

Join Cameron Clothing Co. on Sept. 4 & 5 from 10-6 p.m. for a trunk show featuring Sara Campbell. Raleigh, 919.829-1511

Wakefield Women’s Club will host a fall fashion show Sept. 10 at the TPC Wakefield Plantation. Proceeds will benefit several charity organizations in the area. Raleigh, 919.349.3902

Enjoy drinks and appetizers at Uniquities Mix Fall Fashion Evening on Sept. 11 from 6-8 p.m. Co-hosted by Paige Crowther and Lisa Marie Ferrall, check out the new line of designers and learn how easy it is to use a personal shopping service. Raleigh, 919.785.3385.

The Vera Wang Salon at Alexia’s Bridal Boutique will present a Vera Wang Spring 2009 collection in custom fittings. Raleigh, 919.510.5556. Selections. Chapel Hill, 919.942.3151. Special occasions. Also presenting Sportswear representative will be available to provide style and fit expertise. Please call to schedule an appointment. Raleigh, 919.481.6633.

Fine Feathers will hold a “Best of Fall” show Sept. 16-20 featuring designer collections of long and short dresses in different styles and colors for special occasions. Also presenting Sportswear selections. Chapel Hill, 919.942.3151.

Through Sept. 19-20, Liles Clothing Studio will offer a Custom Event featuring suit and sport coat maker Adrian Jules and shirt maker Ike Behen. Representatives from New York will be in store for custom fittings. Raleigh, 919.510.5556.

On Sept. 25, Vermillion will host a Fashion Show featuring new fall arrivals. Call for details. Raleigh, 919.787.9780

Stop in for a sale up to 80% off at Gena Chandler and check out new arrivals including Rebecca Taylor and Catherine Malandrino. On Oct. 2, don’t miss a Diane Von Furstenberg trunk show and meet a representative from New York. Raleigh, 919.881.9480.

Benefit Cosmetics introduces a new line of eye brow cosmetics including Speed Brow, High Brow, Instant Brow Pencil and a professional brow shaping kit available in September. Sephora and Belk Department Stores or www.benefitcosmetics.com

Come view the new arrivals at Polkadotz throughout the month of September. Morehead City, 252.808-2000.

Calypso Cottage invites shoppers to come see the new line of jewelry from high karat gold and gemstone to vermeil and silver pieces. View a broad selection of Faux Luxe, Van Cleef inspired “travel jewelry” including necklaces, bracelets and pins. Now a source for handmade S. Winslow Co. jewelry. Beaufort, 252.728.4299.

Lush Fresh Homemade Cosmetics encourages shoppers to stop in the new fresh-style “beauty deli” store to view their natural and innovative selection of bath, body, skin and hair care products that maintain a minimal environmental footprint. Crabtree Valley Mall, Raleigh, www.lush.com.

Check out third place winner of INSTORE America’s Coolest Stores small cool award Hamilton Hill International Designer Jewelry. View collections of lines from stainless steel to 24-karat gold by designers from Germany, Spain and Brazil in the historic Brightleaf Square store warehouse. Durham, 919.683.1474 or www.hamiltonhilljewelry.com.

September events at Saks Fifth Avenue, Triangle Town Center, Raleigh, 919.792.9100:

- Ippolita Silver Jewelry Collection, Sept. 2. Don’t miss this exclusive silver jewelry collection by Ippolita.
- WANT IT! Fashion Show, Sept. 10. Enjoy hors d’oeuvres and cocktails while shopping for the season’s top trends between 6-9 p.m. Five percent of event sales will benefit The Frankie Lemmon School. Call ext. 5205.
- Armani Collezioni Caravan, Sept. 10-14. Join Saks in viewing Fall 2008 Armani Caravan. On Sept. 11, meet an Armani style expert, Pauline Pardo who will be on hand to assist with selections. Call ext. 5390.
- Men’s Modern and Contemporary Sportswear Event, Sept. 19-20. Check out the newest Fall collection in Men’s modern and Contemporary Sportswear Department. Cocktail party hosted by Detail’s Magazine and 02 Fitness on Sept. 18 from 6-9 p.m. First 30 customers to spend $500 or more will receive a pair of Michael Kors Aviators. Call ext. 5205.
- Créme de La Mer Spa Day, Sept. 25. Reserve an appointment for one on one spa day with Saks Créme de La Mer specialist in a private spa room. Call ext. 5370.
- Bobbi Brown Event, Sept. 26-27 from 10-5 p.m. Saks and their Bobbi Brown make-up artists will introduce the latest shimmering nude shadows. Call ext. 5361.

“Healthy, Beautiful, At our Best” Fashion Show presented by Mina’s Studio, Lark Home Apparel and Purple Puddle on Sept. 10 from 7-9 p.m. will benefit the UNC Center for Women’s Health Research and the UNC Center for Women’s Mood Disorders. Call for tickets. Chapel Hill, 919.933.3902.

September events at Belk, Crabtree Valley, Raleigh, 919.782-7010:

- Fit For the Cure, Sept. 5 from 11-5 p.m. For every Wacoal bra sold during the event, Belk and Wacoal will donate $2 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Gift with every purchase and light refreshments; walk-ins welcome, or call to schedule appointment. Call ext. 330.
- Kristin Davis Launch, Sept. 6. Kristin Davis, from “Sex and the City”, will launch a fashion line exclusive to Belk including fashion apparel, shoes, accessories, handbags, and lingerie. Davis will make an appearance in Spring 2009 at Crabtree to support the launch. Call ext. 206.
- Girl’s Night Out Contemporary Cocktail Party, Sept 25, 6-9 p.m. The second annual party, with full catering, champagne and martini bars, will include sales of designer brands like Seven for Mankind, Theory, Free People, and Elle Tahari. Includes exclusive Vanity Fair premium. Call ext. 9844.
- Vineyard Vines Launch, In the Belk men’s store. Vineyard Vines will launch their classic look for today’s man with an eye for fashion. Call ext. 206.

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Designers Create Elegant And Unique Choices For Brides

By Maury Jefferson

From novel necklines to body-conscious silhouette gowns, this season’s bride can choose from a variety of fashionable couture. Distinctive embellishments by Oscar de la Renta add an elegant yet unique look for any wedding décor. Vera Wang and Carolina Herrera have stepped back into the history of fashion to create their new lines, while designers, such as Monique Lhuillier, have perfected the timeless romantic dress.

Flourished lace and fluid lines seem to run through this season’s collections. Designers, including Elizabeth Fillmore and Lela Rose, use chiffon and lace fabrics with the occasional dramatic texture.

Romona Keveza experiments with the traditional feminine gown using the crumb-catcher look paired with folds and pleats. More delicate fabrics that flatter the figure have been paired with the deep V or high neckline drape. Carolina Herrera and Vera Wang use long white and ivory coats with oversized floral adornment for fall, while Angel Sanchez shortened hemlines and added lacy ruffles and sheer fabrics for his spring collection.

No matter what your style may be, there is something for every bride in this season’s designs.
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Brian Allen knows his letters. His favorite one is A. He can tell you that the Phoenicians wrote it upside-down to resemble a horned ox head, and the Greeks began to turn it around sideways. The Romans set it on its feet — as it stands today.

“The history of the alphabet is very interesting,” Allen says, looking around his studio in North Raleigh at the various forms of A he has displayed, cast into glass and pressed into paper. Beautiful hand-printed papers are framed on the walls: poems, quotations, invitations and announcements he has created over the years as a letterpress printer in Colorado and California. Now he has brought his craft to Raleigh.

Officina Briani — Latin for “Workshop of Brian” — occupies an unassuming space in a small one-story office building off Millbrook Road. Inside, Allen’s workshop is a world of its own, thrumming with classical music and artwork — and everywhere paean to the beauty of the printed word, and the printed word itself.

TACTILE QUALITY

Laid out on a worktable beside his 158-year-old, cast iron English hand press are the various pieces of a wedding invitation. It is his latest project, a beauty of intricate, deeply grooved detail, soft brown ink and thick paper. “It’s difficult to understand what letterpress is without touching it,” he says. “I have to show people a piece and have them run their hand over it. I can use beautiful handmade paper, and the printing creates a wonderful tactile quality.”

Allen has been working with letters and their forms for over 30 years, as a typesetter, calligrapher and letterpress printer. He also for many years designed fonts for IBM, specializing in turning analog typefaces into digital letters and creating missing characters: a euro sign, for
instance, or one for percent; also unusual pieces of punctuation. But he soon realized that his passion was in the physical act and craft of printing. “I am happiest when I use my hands,” he says.

**HANDWRITING AS INSPIRATION**

Letters, indeed, seem to be in Allen’s blood. His admirably tidy and interesting handwriting itself was turned into the font Segoe Script. As a result, Allen can pull off the uncanny trick of writing a sentence out longhand on a piece of paper with a pen and turning to his computer, typing in the same sentence and printing out its nearly identical twin.

“I’ve had an interest in letterforms since the end of college,” Allen says. His first job was with a Boston mapmaker, where he typeset street names and indexes and began to learn calligraphy on the side. By the time he was creating fonts for IBM, he’d bought his first printing press, a 1000-pound behemoth he put in his living room and used to moonlight as a letterpress printer on the weekends. “I was not married, and so it was OK,” he jokes today. “I realized that this was what I was meant to do. I became very attracted to the idea of craft and wanting to do something well.”

Now Allen’s sideline has become his life. His clients are both corporate and
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individual, and his products range from business cards and product announce­ments to invitations and personal stationery. Also, Allen has begun to teach his craft. “People have been bugging me for 20 years, saying I should teach,” he says. “I love showing people. It’s tremendously gratifying.”

Information about Officina Briani’s products and Allen’s classes can be found at www.officinabriani.com.”

SOUTHERN STYLE
A trip back to a slower, more genteel time begins with the turn onto Old Neck Road, where tidy fields of deep green soybeans shimmer in the sun and well-worn paths lead down to the Perquimans River.

The Fletcher-Skinner-Nixon House stands proudly here, its white-painted, double-decked porches and four brick chimneys looking much as they have for nearly 200 years. What's going on in the house hasn't changed much either. Inside, Nancy Rascoe is teaching children their manners. Good, old-fashioned manners.

In her yellow linen suit, jawbreaker pearls and silvery bob, Miss Nancy, as she is called, speaks in a slow, low-pitched drawl, kindly nudging a group of wiggly 6-12-year-olds to address one another properly, set a table with care, write a letter, arrange flowers, eat politely, make a bed and be a good sport.

Because her face wears a broad and infectious smile so much of the time, her voice is suffused with it too. “Lovely to have you, darlin',” she says upon introduction. “We're delighted you're here.”

Nancy and her husband Peter Rascoe, both in their late 70's, have been holding what they call “Summer House Parties for Etiquette for Young Ladies and Gentlemen” (colloquially referred to as “manners camp”) out of their historic family home in Hertford, NC — one of the state's earliest permanent settlements — for 15 years. During five-day sleepover sessions, campers canoe, swim, sail and fish, and play tennis, football, horseshoes, and croquet in addition to learning Miss Nancy's brand of etiquette, which is broadly about human kindness, but garnished with a delightful dose of old-fashioned arcana as well.

Mister Peter, as the campers know him, takes charge of all of the cooking and is famed for his lessons in how to skin a fish. Miss Nancy instructs and participates in nearly all of the sports, which she admits to taking quite seriously. After dinner, individual meetings with each camper and evening prayer, lights out is at 9 p.m. While the children sleep upstairs under white coverlets in antique four-poster beds, presumably the Rascoes get some rest as well. All of this culminates, on the fifth day, in a graduation tea.

GRADUATION TEA

"Etiquette is today what it has always been," says a sweet 7-year-old Raleigh girl, standing at the front of the antique home's broad center hall in her Sunday best, a long-stemmed, ribboned daisy bouquet gripped tightly in her hands, "a code of behavior based on kindness, consideration and unselfishness. Something that should not and will not ever change."

The hall is lined with oriental rugs, oil portraits, settees and chairs. Poised in them sit the girl's parents, her grandparents and those of her 12 fellow campers. Lined up on the stairs, peering down from above, their chins flattened on the banister, their flowers fidgeting and their hearts no doubt aflutter, fellow campers await Miss Nancy's sonorous introduction of their full names, signifying their turn to descend the staircase, take their place at the front of the hall and recite.

"Here's to the land of the long leaf pine," the next graduate begins, in a lisp-ing rendition of the Tar Heel Toast. He's particularly little and very serious. His damp hair is combed carefully across his brow, and his blazer buttons are in the...
wrong holes. He pauses and looks at his daisies. A junior counselor stage-whispers in his direction. He gulps and continues: "The summer land where the sun doth shine, where the weak grow strong and the strong grow great; here’s to down home, the old North State."

After each of the children has completed their recitations, received their applause, handed their mothers their flowers, together sung "Apple Red Happiness," "Doe a Deer" and "You’re a Grand Old Flag" (accompanied on the piano by septuagenarian Miss Blue, who assists the Rascoes with every part of their endeavor), and received one of many awards, including Best Host and Tidiest Room, they and their families adjourn to the dining room where a teatime buffet is laid with shining china and crystal.

The children shake off their straight-standing comportment — some even shake off their blazers — and clamor for pound cake and round, crustless cucumber sandwiches, deviled eggs and ham biscuits prepared (at least in good part) by the children themselves. They have arranged armfuls of hydrangeas in crystal bowls and vases to decorate the scene.

**DOCUMENTARY IN THE WORKS**

"It’s so hard to describe," says filmmaker Martha Daniel, who, with her colleague Caroline Paxton, is at work on a documentary about Miss Nancy and the manners camp. "I sat there three years ago, at the graduation tea for one of my own granddaughters, and the truth is, I went without knowing what to expect. The first thing that struck me was when Miss Blue began to play a hymn on the piano, and it was like a time warp. Tears sprung to my eyes. It was almost a religious experience."

Daniel, like many camp visitors, was struck with the notion that something special was going on, something important, elusive and uniquely Southern. She also realized that it wouldn’t last forever and that its story needed to be told.

Daniel bought a video camera, learned to use it and began to record the Rascoe’s manners camps. She learned how to edit her footage at the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University where Paxton, who runs her own production company, saw some of Daniel’s footage.

"I approached Martha and elbowed my way in," Paxton jokes. Together, the two are now hard at work on a documentary, *Miss Nancy Minds Their Manners.*

"Miss Nancy has so much energy and so much patience, and she’s really hysterically funny. The things that go on are right out of a Southern novel," Paxton says. She particularly admires Miss Nancy’s uncanny ability to hold the attention of her young, often rambunctious charges. "The children have an innate respect for her. I think sometimes they were just in awe of her for jumping in the river, canoeing in 100-degree heat and all with a gracefulness in her demeanor. They really have respect and really listen."

The duo is trying to raise the money they need to complete their piece. Paxton estimates they’ve raised about 20 percent of their total budget to date, and with the sponsorship of the Southern Documentary Fund — enabling them to accept tax-deductible donations — they hope to close the gap soon. Then they plan to submit the film to film festivals and try to have it aired on public television and cable channels like Lifetime or the Discovery Channel.

Both women are convinced, as are the parents of the Rascoe’s countless campers over the years, that the wider world has something to learn from Miss Nancy — that our hurly-burly society of technology and immediacy could do with a soft reminder of the benefits of a gentler way, of respect and fair play, of kindness and care.

For more information on *Miss Nancy Minds Their Manners,* go to www.missnancymindstheirmanners.com. 

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On Sept. 20-21, the national Garden Conservancy's Open Days Tour, also benefiting the JC Raulston Arboretum, will be represented in Raleigh and Cary, providing our local gardens national presence as national magazines rely on the Garden Conservancy as a means for scouting gardens for their publications.

Six gardens will open their gates for a peek at what the nation will soon be reading about, and should we be surprised when considering the wealth of talent in the Triangle gardening community? NC State University is producing the next generation of horticulturists and landscape architects, and we have many talented gardeners living here who have helped put the region on the gardening map nationally.

Tour Locations:

**Judy and Frank Harmon Residence**
114 Brooks Ave.
Raleigh

The Harmon residence is surrounded by a mellow-colored stucco garden wall. Frank, the notable sustainable environmental architect, and his wife Judy — a landscape architect — together applied their skills to create a home that is part of the garden and a garden that is part of the home.

According to Frank, "Our compact house and garden were designed to allow as much sunlight in, while offering a view and privacy within a busy university neighborhood. The total "home" is half house, half garden; the exterior is as much a part of our living experience as the interior."

Determined to preserve four large oaks and two large mulberry trees along the perimeter of the one-third-acre corner lot, the house is built on 14 concrete piers. To give the house a sense of both strength and lightness, steel was used for the structure.

The garden walls are covered in vines that create secluded gardens within continuous, curvilinear gardens that combine sunny, open spaces with lush areas of dense fauna and flora. The gardens, carefully planted to offer something to see and enjoy year-round, create a rhythm of activity and repose of light and dark.

The Harmon residence was featured in Julie Moir Messervy and Sarah Susanka's book, *Outside the Not So Big House — Creating the Landscape of Home.* Messervy is a noted landscape and garden designer and lecturer. She is best known for designing the Toronto Music Garden in collaboration with cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

**Garden of Jean and Lawrence Shuping**
2441 West Lake Dr.
Raleigh

Great gardens are not born mature; they require the resolve to dedicate time,
care and determination. Jean and Lawrence Shuping are an example of such resolve. Collaborating with longtime gardener Brandon Duncan, the Shuping's have created a retreat, a destination garden they call home. According to Duncan, “My favorite part of the job is collecting rare and unusual plants. In the Triangle, we are fortunate to have cutting-edge plant growers so close to home. The NC Farmers' Market in Raleigh, Plant Delights Nursery in South Raleigh and Camellia Forest Nursery in Chapel Hill are a few of my favorites.”

This garden’s journey begins through a calming natural area giving rise to a classic Georgian manor. The spring welcomes visitors with redbuds, dogwoods and stately magnolias; the fall welcomes with a sense of place. Take your time visiting these gardens. Stroll and enjoy the cistern in the gated courtyard, the piazza and quatrefoil fountain on the ground's lower level. The cloud-pruned Boulevard Cypress will catch your attention as you step up into the upper-level gardens where you will find an array of unique treasures.

Garden of Peggy Titus
10101 Roadstead Way E.
North Raleigh

The walled garden of this shady quarter-acre lot is a sanctuary of calmness and lushness. Many features anchor this garden connected with stone and gravel paths. Down the paths you will find stone-faced spill ponds, including a large pond with a three-tier waterfall containing over 300 colorful fish.

One part of the garden is anchored with an octagon-shaped gazebo raised on stilts emanating an otherworldly feeling. Another area of the garden features a large vine-covered pergola with a crystal chandelier and dining seating for 12. Garden plantings include over 300 specimens of mature trees, shrubs, perennials, hostas, ferns and other plants.

Garden of Karen and Ted Harris
4352 Blossom Hill Court
North Raleigh

A sense of calmness washes over you as you enter these gardens. Gently curving and shaded walkways lead visitors to a variety of private and restful retreats throughout. Designed and developed by Karen and Ted Harris over the last 16 years, this 2.3-acre informal garden features a natural stream and two well-stocked ponds home to water lilies, irises and rush. The connecting paths are draped by mature trees intermingled with evergreens, Japanese maples, oak leaf hydrangeas, native magnolias and a variety of ferns. The relaxing sound of a waterfall and presence of abundant wildlife invites visitors to sit and stay awhile.

Garden of Georgina and Denny Werner
5901 Fordland Drive
South Raleigh

If you ever wondered what a director of an arboretum’s garden looks like, wonder no more. Dr. Dennis (Denny) Werner — director of the JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University and a plant breeder in the NCSU College of Agriculture and Life Science — and his wife Georgina, also a PhD horticulturist, will open their garden for the tour. Their informal collector's garden features a herbaceous perennial border 160 feet in length. Colorful annual plantings surround the swimming pool, and the gazebo, or what the Werner’s refer to as “the pass-through,” is shaped by planting areas designed by local designer Suzanne Edney. All the plantings were chosen by Denny. The pass-through is centrally located on the property to offer a view of most of the perimeter's gardens. This “mini-arboretum” also features natural areas featuring a diversity of small trees, shrubs, herbaceous perennials and ferns.

The Werner garden recently caught the
eye of the editor of *Nature's Garden*, a publication distributed by the same firm that publishes *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine. Look for the Werner garden between the covers on newsstands next fall.

**Lakeside Paradise**

**GARDEN OF JERE AND RICHARD STEVENS**

132 Lochwood West Drive
Cary

The gardens of Richard and Jere Stevens, a master gardener, are designed to take full advantage of their borrowed landscape — the lovely Lake Lochmere. Native trees are nestled among this magnificent garden. The front garden makes a statement with a formal symmetrical brick courtyard with seating that offers an opportunity to stop and smell the roses that line the garden beds. Pruned boxwoods, topiaries, statuary and teak benches give a distinct English garden feel. Wide brick paths lead to the back gardens as the sound of soothing water slows the journey. The sights of the pond, arbor, gazebo and the lake beyond beckon you in. Peek over the expansive lakeside viewing deck to visit with the white swan, turtles, ducks and abundant fish.

The Stevens garden was recently photographed for an upcoming issue of *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine. Look for this in early summer 2009.

Tickets for Saturday, Sept. 20, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 21, from 12-5 p.m. can be purchased in advance at the JC Raulston Arboretum by calling 919-513-3463, directly through the Garden Conservancy www.gardenconservancy.org or at Smith & Hawken, Crabtree Valley Mall, Raleigh.

Tickets can also be purchased during the days of the tour at the individual gardens or at the Bobby Wilder Visitor's Center at the JC Raulston Arboretum, 4511 Beryl Road, Raleigh. Tickets are $5 per garden or a book of six tickets for $25. Garden Conservancy members receive a further discount of $15 per book of six tickets. Mother's Day weekend 2009 will host the Garden Conservancy Open Days Tour in Western Wake County.

**THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY**

The Garden Conservancy is a national organization with a mission to preserve exceptional American gardens for public education and enjoyment. The Open Days Program serves as the primary educational outreach for the Conservancy. Founded in 1989 by American gardener Frank Cabot, the Garden Conservancy works in partnership with individual garden owners and public and private organizations and uses legal, financial and horticultural resources to help secure the future of hundreds of gardens across the country. North Carolina is fortunate to have two Garden Conservancy preservation projects: Montrose in Hillsborough and The Elizabeth Lawrence garden in Charlotte.

The Open Days tour allows proceeds to be shared with another nonprofit. Helen Yoest, regional representative of the Raleigh tour, chose the JC Raulston Arboretum as the shared benefactor.
A Sampling of 2008/2009 Performances & Exhibitions

Aug 21-Dec 17  Frozen Music: Frank Gehry and the Walt Disney Concert Hall
Sept 20  Reduced Shakespeare Company: The Complete History of America (abridged)
Oct 1-5  The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas
Oct 7  DBR & The SQ Unit
Oct 17  Susan Werner
Oct 26  TheatreworksUSA: Seussical
Oct 28  LA Theatre Works: War of the Worlds & The Lost World
Nov 8  NCSU Pipes & Drums 40th Anniversary Concert
Nov 14  Ruthie Foster
Nov 16  Raleigh Civic Symphony
Nov 19-23  Christmas Belles
Nov 22  Holiday Craft Fair & Sale
Nov 23  Raleigh Civic Chamber Orchestra
Dec 3  Wind Ensemble/Jazz Holiday Concert
Dec 4-5  Ladies in Red
Dec 23  Grains of Time
Jan 22-Mar 29  Norm Schulman: A Life in Clay
Jan 22-May 10  New Work by Thomas Sayre
Feb 12  Jazz for Valentine's Day
Feb 18-22  Never the Sinner
Feb 22  Baseball, Apple Pie & American Piano Music
Mar 18  John Pizzarelli
Mar 28  Shanghai Huai Opera
Apr 23 & 24  NCSU Dance Company Spring Concert
Apr 25  Habib Koité & Bamada

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The Dance Program
Gregg Museum of Art & Design
Music @ NC State
The Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University presents “El Greco to Velázquez: Art During the Reign of Phillip III,” the first exhibition to show both Spanish masters in context with other accomplished painters of their time. The exhibition is co-organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the Nasher Museum. On view through Nov. 9 in Durham. (See Preview Museums for details.)

The two-day Raleigh.com Benefit Concert for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the John Entwistle Foundation features a classic rock line-up with performances by Dave Mason of Traffic (pictured); Dennis DeYoung of Styx, Jefferson Starship; Buck Dharma of Blue Oyster Cult; Joe Lynn Turner of Deep Purple; Mark Farner of the original Grand Funk Railroad; famed North Carolina band Arrogance; and Raleigh’s own The Connells. Sept. 19 & 20 at Koka Booth Amphitheatre in Cary. (See Preview Pop Music for details.)

The fourth annual Ava Gardner Film Festival takes place Sept. 24-27 in Smithfield and celebrates independent films from around the world, as well as several of Ava Gardner’s classic films. (See Preview Museums for details.)
SEPTEMBER KICKS OFF NEW SEASON

GALLERIES

WHERE I LIVE: An exhibition showcasing the artwork of local children and instructors; Miriam Preston Block Gallery at the Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, Raleigh; Thru Sept. 16. Contact 919-890-3610.


NEW WORKS BY NICOLE SCARAGNO: Oil and acrylic paintings; Salon Moxie, Raleigh; Sept. 26- Nov. 13 (Opening Reception Sept. 26). Contact 919-850-0721 or www.salon-moxie.com

BUILDING/BURNING/GROWING: Works by Ashlynn Browning; Flanders Art Gallery, Raleigh; Sept. 2-30. Contact 919-834-5044 or online at www.flandersartgallery.com.


FIVE WOMEN — STUDIO GALLERY OF ELIZABETH CITY:

WHERE I LIVE, showcasing the artwork of children and instructors, will be on display through Sept. 16 in the Miriam Preston Block Gallery in Raleigh.

Roanoke Island Festival Park Art Gallery, Manteo; Sept. 8-29 (Opening Reception Sept. 7) Contact 252-475-1500 or www.roanokeisland.com.


JAM SESSION — AMERICA'S JAZZ AMBASSADORS: Exhibit includes nearly 100 images of musicians visiting 35 countries; The Community Council for the Arts at The Arts Center, Kinston; Sept. 2-Dec. 6. Contact 252-527-2517 or www.kinstoncca.com.

FREIGHT: A collaborative exhibit between visual artist Owen Beckmann and musician/filmmaker Tane Addington; Flanders 311, Raleigh; Sept. 5-30 (Opening Reception Sept. 5). Contact 919-834-5044 or www.flandersartgallery.com.

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SEPTEMBER 2008 METROMAGAZINE


EVENTS AT ARTSPACE: Raleigh; Contact 919-821-0383 or www.artspaceenc.org.

• BRICOLEUR — LOUIS ST. LEWIS: Gallery 2; Thu Oct. 5 (Opening Reception Sept. 5).
• LAUREN VAN HEMERT — OUT OF THE BOX: Uptown Gallery; Sept. 5-27 (Opening Reception Sept. 5).
• CASEY PORN — DRAWING CONCLUSIONS: Lobby; Sept. 5-27 (Opening Reception Sept. 5).
• NOW IN PRINT — PRINTMAKING INVITATIONAL: Gallery 1; Sept. 13-Nov. 15.

CLASSICAL

SEPTEMBER PRELUDE V W/ CHIARA STRING QUARTET: Performing works by Brahms and Chausson with UNC faculty pianist Mayron Tsong and faculty violinist Richard Luby; A Music on the Hill Concert at UNC-Chapel Hill; Sept. 5. Contact 919-843-3333 or www.carolinaperformingarts.org.

DUKE MEDICINE RALEIGH CLASSICAL SERIES SEASON OPENER: Grant Llewellyn, musical director, and Nicole Cabell, Soprano; Meymandi Concert Hall at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; Sept. 7. Contact 919-821-2030 or www.rcmg.org.


THE RALEIGH PREMIERE MOVING MIDWAY
Rialto Theatre in Five Points, Raleigh; September 19.

Additional screenings in Cary and Chapel Hill on September 19, and at the Carolina Theatre in Durham on October 3. Contact www.movingmidway.com

STEFAN LITWIN, PIANO: Pianist, composer and scholar Stefan Litwin offers a debut recital; Gerrard Hall at UNC, Chapel Hill; Sept. 18. Contact 919-843-3333 or www.carolinaperformingarts.org.


• CABEZON TO CABANILLES — THE GOLDEN AGE OF IBERIAN KEYBOARD MUSIC, ROBERT PARKINS, HARPSI-

CHORD: Nasher Museum Auditorium; Sept. 11.

• ECHOS OF THE PAST — SOUNDS OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR: Perkins Library Rare Book Room; Sept. 12.

• DUKE JAZZ FESTIVAL: Call 919-684-4444 for event times and locations; Sept. 25-28.


POP MUSIC

ABIGAIL WASHBURN AND THE SPARROW QUARTET FEATURING GRAMMY-WINNING BANJO PLAYER AND PRODUCER BELA FLECK: Memorial Hall at UNC, Chapel Hill; Sept. 11. Contact 919-843-3333 or www.carolinaperformingarts.org.


EVENTS AT THE 2008 FALL SERTOMA CONCERT SERIES: Sertoma Amphitheater at Bond Park, Cary; Contact 919-469-4061 or www.townofcary.org.

• GREAT BIG GONE: Sept. 6
• BRASS AT BOND: Sept. 13; Rain Date Sept. 14
• CARY TOWN BAND: Sept. 26

EVENTS AT KOKA BOOTH AMPITHEATRE: Cary; Contact www.bootampitheatre.com or www.ticketmaster.com.

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11 Abigail Washburn and the Sparrow Quartet featuring Béla Fleck with Casey Driessen and Ben Sollee
19 Vanguard Jazz Orchestra: The Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Legacy

OCTOBER 2008

3 Buckwheat Zydeco with Nathan and the Zydeco Cha Chas
5 Anne-Sophie Mutter and Camerata Salzburg
9/10 To Be Straight With You: DV8 Physical Theatre
21 Vivien and The Shadows: Ong Keng Sen/Theatreworks
23 Hesperion XXI with Jordi Savall, conductor and viola da gamba
25 The Rite of Spring: Compagnie Hedy Maalem
29/30 The Shadow of the Glen and The Playboy of the Western World: Druid Theatre Company
restaurants with proceeds benefiting Just for Kids Campaign at WakeMed; Sept. 14.
• 4TH ANNUAL TRIANGLE UNCORKEO: Hosted by The Frankie Lemmon Foundation and the North Raleigh Rotary Club; Sept. 27.

EVENTS AT THE TIME WARNER CABLE MUSIC PALAVENT AT WALNUT CREEK: Raleigh; Contact 919-834-4000 or www.livenation.com.
• BROOKS AND DUNN W/ RODNEY ATKINS: Sept. 6
• 3 DOORS DOWN W/ SPECIAL GUEST HINDER & FINGER ELEVEN: Sept. 16
• THIRD DAY, SWITCHFOOT, ROBERT RANDOLPH & THE FAMILY BAND, JARS OF CLAY: Sept. 19
• MARTINA McBRIE W/ A SPECIAL GUEST: Oct. 4

EVENTS AT THE ARTSCENTER: Carrboro; Contact 919-929-2787 or www.artscenterlive.org.
• SETH WALKER: Sept. 25
• 11TH ANNUAL CARRBORO MUSIC FESTIVAL: This day-long free festival features music at indoor and outdoor venues throughout town; Sept. 28.

STAGE & SCREEN


MUSEUMS


JOEL LANE MUSEUM HOUSE PRESENTS LIZZIE LANE'S COLONIAL TEA: At the Joel Lane Museum House ladies will learn the etiquette of taking tea and crumpets in the colonial manner; Joel Lane Museum House, Raleigh; Sept. 28. Contact 919-833-3431.


EVENTS AT THE NASHER MUSEUM OF ART: Duke University, Durham; Contact www.nasher.duke.edu.
• EL GRECO TO VELÁZQUEZ — ART DURING THE REIGN OF PHILIP II: Aug. 21-Nov. 9
• THE PAST IS PRESENT — CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES AT THE NASHER MUSEUM: Ongoing
• LECTURE SERIES — THE HISTORICAL AND RELIGIOUS CONTEXT IN 17TH CENTURY SPAIN: Conversation with Antonio Feros and Rosemarie Mulcahy, contributors to the exhibition catalogue; Sept. 25.

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 LESUE: Thru Fall 2009
• FAMILY FUN SATURDAY: Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27
• SPECIAL EXHIBITION — JUUE MEHRETU, CITY SITINGS: Thru Nov. 30.
• GALLERY CLASS: PICTURING WOMEN: Sept. 10, 17, 24 and Oct. 1
• PERFORMANCE — PAPERHAND PUPPET INTERVENTION: Sept. 12, 13

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• JULIE MEHRETU, CITY SITINGS, MEET THE ARTIST: Sept. 13
• ART IN THE EVENING: Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26
• ARTIST LECTURE: JULIE MEHRETU, CITY SITINGS: Sept. 14
• LUNCH & LEARN: Sept. 19

EVENTS AT THE NC MUSEUM OF HISTORY: Raleigh; Contact 919-807-7900 or www.ncmuseumofhistory.org.
• EXHIBIT — EVERYDAY ARTISTRY: Opening Aug. 22
• TIME FOR TOTS — IN A PICKLE: Sept. 9
• HISTORY À LA CARTE — HORSE SENSE: Sept. 10
• VOTING COUNTS — MY VOICE, MY CHOICE: Sept. 13
• SUMMER PERFORMANCE SERIES — ALAN HOAL: Sept. 21
• EXHIBIT OPENING — MUSEUM SLEUTHS, WHATCHAMACALLITS AND THINGAMAJIGS: Sept. 22
• ARTIST AT WORK — PETER BLUM: Sept. 26 & 28
• FAMILY DAY — COLONIAL NORTH CAROLINA: Sept. 27

EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM OF LIFE AND SCIENCE: Durham; Contact 919-220-5429 or www.lifescience.org.
• NEW EXHIBIT — SOUNDSPACE, HEAR MOTION: Now Open thru Oct. 2008
• SEASONAL EXHIBIT — SUMMER WINGS: Now Open
• HEROES, VILLAINS AND SPECIAL EFFECTS THE SCIENCE OF ENTERTAINMENT: Sept. 13

• LEARNING CENTER — UNDER THE SEA: Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27
• COMMUNITY CONVERSATION — COLONIAL EXPERIENCES, EXPLORING THE LONG LEAF PINE: Sept. 16
• CAPE FEAR SKIES — STAR STORIES: Sept. 21
• 2008 NORTH CAROLINA SHELL SHOW: Sept. 26-28
• OCEAN PERSPECTIVES: NORTH CAROLINA’S HURRICANE HISTORY: Sept. 30

EVENTS AT WILSON LIBRARY: The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill; Contact www.lib.unc.edu
• BOOK LAUNCH OF ANNA HAYES’ WITHOUT PRECEDENT — THE LIFE OF SUSIE MARSHALL SHARP: Anna Hayes speaks about her book on Susie Marshall Sharp., Pleasants Family Assembly Room; Sept. 11. Contact 919-962-4207.
• SOUNDS OF THE SOUTH ON RLM — BALLADS TO GOSPEL TO HIP HOP: Sept. 9, 10

POTPOURRI
• HOLDING OUT AND HANGING ON, SURVIVING HURRICANE KATRINA: Featuring photography by Thomas Neff; The Love House and Hutchins Forum at UNC, Chapel Hill; Thru Sept. 30. Contact www.uncsouth.org.

JODDING CARTER III DELIVERS THE THOMAS W. LAMBETH LECTURE IN PUBLIC POLICY: Hodding Carter III, a professor of leadership and public policy at UNC and award-winning journalist, was assistant secretary of state for public affairs and state department spokesman under former President Jimmy Carter; Gerrard Hall at UNC-Chapel Hill; Sept. 16. Contact 919-962-4207.

TRIANGLE MODERNIST HOUSES TOUR EVENT: Tour the normally inaccessible 5000-square-foot Empyean DWELL NextHouse designed by Joe Turkel; Hillsborough; Oct. 4. Contact www.trianglemodernisthouses.com

2008 WORLD BEER FESTIVAL-DURHAM: Festival features samples of over 300 different beers from over 150 worldwide breweries, live music, and educational seminars; Durham Bulls Athletic Park, Durham; Oct. 4. Contact www.allaboutbeer.com/wbf

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, 1023 Oberlin Rd. Suite 100, Raleigh, 27605 or e-mail: mary@metromagazine.net.

Discover your own back yard! The mountains of Boone, Blowing Rock and Watauga County are just a short drive away, yet the cool, crisp air, stunning views, and abundant opportunities for outdoor adventure make this area seem worlds apart. Enjoy family attractions including Tweetsie Railroad and the original Mast General Store, downtown shopping and world class restaurants, a range of accommodations, performing arts, festivals and much more.

Boone & Blowing Rock in Watauga County

800-699-5097 (Boone) | 877-750-4636 (Blowing Rock) | www.ExploreBooneArea.com
Have you read the recent census report that states that by 2042 non-Hispanic whites will be a minority in the good old US of A? Here in North Carolina we probably don't even have to wait that long since we have one of the fastest growing immigrant populations in the entire country. I lived in Mexico for a while, and I fell in love with the culture and the cuisine, so I am happy as a bug in a rug that I can go just about anywhere here in the Triangle now and grab an authentic tamale, and it tastes just as good as I remember. Now Spain wasn't all that kind to their colonies in the New World, but their culture and mores did take root and now are omnipresent in our society.

The legacy of Spain is obviously going to be a big part of our state for a long time to come. With that in mind, The Nasher Museum of Art (www.nasher.duke.edu) has jumped right in the deep end of the pool with its current exhibition: "El Greco to Velázquez: Art During the Reign of Philip III."

Before Philip II of Spain died, he woefully regretted that God had not given him a capable son who could rule effectively, and in fact predicted that Philip III would be led by his servants. Well, sure enough, Philip III turned out to be about as worthless a ruler as his father predicted, and the new king spent most of his time wasting money and throwing the Moors out of Spain. The rumor going around when he died was that he was such a stickler for formal etiquette he was burned to death by a pan of hot charcoal used to warm the bed ... because the proper official to take it away wasn't around!

The main positive of his reign is that it also coincided with the lives of two outstanding artists — El Greco and Velázquez. Of the two, I prefer El Greco. His stuff is wild, and it looks like he was

Juan Pantoja de la Cruz, King Philip III of Spain, about 1601-1602. Oil on canvas, 69 5/16 x 45 11/16 inches. [Juan Pantoja de la Cruz, Spanish, 1553-1608]
on acid — something definitely was in
the air in his studio that wasn't present in
the studios of his contemporaries. Actually, his contemporaries really didn't
think too much of him, and he only came
into his own at the dawn of the 20th cen­
tury when suddenly he looked oh-so­
modern. El Greco (Doménicos Theo­
tocópolis) was even more modern than
you might expect. He had the jump on
Ellen Degeneres and Portia de Rossi by
over 400 years since he lived with his life
partner Francesco Preboste for many
decades. While some historians refer to
Preboste as his servant, most people can
read between the lines.

Ask me sometime and I'll tell you about
a very rich man here in our state who for
years introduced his boyfriend as his "chauffeur" wink-wink. Velázquez on the
other hand produced volumes of lush and
elegant portraits and found great pleasure
in painting dwarfs, buffoons and court
jesters. There were really only two patrons
of the arts in Spain then, the Catholic
Church and the king. Velázquez made the
right choice and grew filthy rich, while his
contemporary Bartolome Murillo was
fined by the church and didn't even have
enough to pay for his own burial. All in all,
a fascinating look at a slice of history that
still resonates with us today, and definitely
a must see.

BROWNING AT FLANDERS

Speaking of must-sees, trot yourself
right on down to Raleigh’s Flanders Art
Gallery to check out the colorful new
works, “Building/Burning/Growing,” by
talented artist Ashlynn Browning. Brown­
ning has always had a little bit of a Cy
Twombly vibe with her works on paper,
but these new pieces seem more confident
and more personal to her own unique
viewpoint. They are still as charged with
energy as before, but now bold color has
swung onto the panels to amazing effect.
Non-figurative artists sometimes have a
hard go here in our fair state, where peo­
ple are inclined to lean toward bland land­
scape and corporate wallpaper. But hope­
fully, with the area growing in sophistica­
tion more and more, Browning will be rec­
ognized for what she is — a talented, com­
petent art professional worthy of your
patronage and collecting.

In the beginning, I had my doubts
about Flanders Art, but they very quickly
have tightened their aesthetics to become
THE cutting-edge gallery in the Triangle.
Sure, there are other galleries in the area
where they show rooms full of Styrofoam
or walls full of sock monkeys, but to find
challenging artwork that you can actually
live with … I think this might be the spot
of the moment. Go see for yourself.
WALTER JONES AND JESSE HELMS: STICKING TO PRINCIPLES

Just when it seemed that we had lost one maverick legislator, up pops another. Last month Sen. Jesse Helms, popularly known as Senator “No,” died at age 86. His death was noted around the world; The Times of London wrote, “In private he was known as a courtly Southern gentleman, unfailingly polite to employees, friends and family.” They went on to mention that he was “the scourge of all liberals, homosexuals, civil rights activist, the United Nations” … etc., etc., etc. In other words, there was a real difference between the benign Helms in private and the fire-breathing contrarian in public. We now have another soft-spoken, gentle man in private — and often in public — who is proving very adept at running against the tide.

I met with Sen. Helms on several occasions, and he was always warm and gracious, even though he knew that I did not share his prejudices. And over the last several years, it has been my pleasure to make the acquaintance of Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC). He is mild-mannered, soft-spoken and appears to be the spittin’ image of what his campaign biography describes as someone who “strongly believes in the strength of faith and family…” He often ends his public comments with, “may God bless you,” and you get the impression he really means it.

When the Iraq War began, Jones leaped into the papers and the public consciousness by proposing “French fries” be called “Freedom fries” and managed to get the menus in the House of Representatives restaurants duly reprinted. Less spectacularly he also banished French toast. Hmm, this doesn’t sound like heavy lifting or running against the tide.

But shortly thereafter he again proved his willingness to stand up for what he believed by calling for more money for the Intracoastal Waterway, knowing full well that the powerful chairman of the House Resources Committee, on which Jones serves, had said there would be no more money. Those who knew the Republican House leadership (remember Tom DeLay? — “The Hammer”) knew the importance placed on party discipline and the punishment doled out to those who broke ranks. “Walter is dead meat,” went the refrain, “no one will vote for him since he’ll never get anything else for his district.” Jones was re-elected.

Then came a more definitive breaking of the ranks. Jones was one of the first, Republican or Democrat, to call for a troop withdrawal from Iraq. This, coming from a representative with Camp Lejeune in his district was like heresy. But Jones believed that the best way to represent all his constituents was to call it the way he saw it, and the way he saw it was that more body bags were not in the Marines or anybody else’s interest.

Speaking of body bags, Jones has recently called for allowing the news media to cover funerals and other events that honor troops who have died on active duty. He also favors media coverage of the caskets being unloaded from military aircraft in Dover, DE. In other words, he believes that the policy of “no press” initiated by Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Vice President Dick Cheney, was intended to keep the public from being reminded of the cost of war. Jones believes the public should be kept aware of the war and its consequences.

But the apogee of maverickdom came in late July. In short order, Jones said that Karl Rove should be hauled before Congress to talk about political influence in appointing US attorneys and that we should engage the Iranians diplomatically. The litany of defiance of the White House also included a frontal assault on the heart of the Bush-Cheney administrative agenda — the growth of executive power. Many have noted the bending of the Constitution in favor of the president and his staff, but few have taken sharper aim.

On July 25, Jones issued a statement citing “signing statements” as an assault on the constitutional principle of separation of powers, saying that 78 percent of the statements issued by President Bush raised “constitutional or legal objections.” In response, Jones introduced HR 5993, the Presidential Signing Statement Act. This Act would require that signing statements be published in the Federal Register; allow the House and Senate Judiciary Committee to request testimony on the substance and justification of the statement; and that if these provisions were not complied with, to deny funding for the underlying bill to which the statements were attached. Ouch!

The White House has not commented, but I doubt they share the opinion voiced by one of Jones’ House colleagues, Rep. Mike McIntyre (D-NC) who wrote, “Walter Jones is a man of strong faith who is willing to put principles over political partisanship and political posturing. And he is greatly respected because of that.”

Now, since I started by comparing Sen. Helms and Rep. Jones as mavericks, I need to point out the differences. As hard as motives are to penetrate, my guess is that Helms took some of his contrarian positions because he knew his base was contrarian. In other words, he knew he wasn’t taking much of a risk — in fact, he legitimized the prejudices of many voters. Jones, on the other hand, knows full well many of his constituents voted for Bush twice and won’t like his “principled” stands.

Jones is an independent thinker who feels what he thinks is right and by golly is going to say it. His defense of the Constitution is courageous and puts me in mind of another North Carolina legislator — Sen. Sam Ervin, “the simple country lawyer.” Ervin, who had the same North Carolina voters as Helms, venerated the Constitution and won the support of people across the political spectrum by his staunch defense of civil liberties (not civil rights) and his assault on executive privilege. Speaking of Nixon, Ervin said, “What he says is executive privilege is executive poppycock.” So, Congressman Jones, choose your model, Helms or Ervin. And may God bless you.
"POLITICS AS USUAL" NO LONGER POLITICS AS USUAL

In 1972, Roy Parker, The News & Observer’s chief political reporter, left the paper to join the campaign of Democratic gubernatorial candidate Hargrove “Skipper” Bowles. For you folks who aren’t from here, Skipper was the father of Erskine Bowles, now president of The University of North Carolina. While Skipper was an astute businessman like Erskine, he was natured differently. Skipper was the epitome of “hail fellow well met.” When he walked into a room, the pace quickened. There was gentle ribbing, laughter and a lot of camaraderie. Just the other day, Jane Sugg down in New Bern declared, “There will never be another Skipper, will there?” It is easy to see how my friend Roy would have felt “called” to join his friend Skipper’s campaign, even if doing so was a bit out of the ordinary for a political writer whose stock in trade was impartiality and objectivity.

This is the sort of fellow Skipper was. When I was working in the US Senate, a Russian diplomat with whom I dealt told me he wanted to take his family on a vacation to North Carolina. He asked if I could find him “ordinary” Americans he and his family could visit. My first call was to Skipper. As busy as he must have been, he didn’t hesitate. He organized a cookout, got the sizes of all the family members and presented them with locally made blue jean outfits. He absolutely charmed them.

Skipper lost the general election in 1972 by a hair. Jim Holshouser woke up on the morning after as the newly elected governor of North Carolina. I have heard him say more than once that no one was more surprised than he was. The fact that Skipper got the Democratic nomination was primarily due to a network of friends across North Carolina he developed at UNC-Chapel Hill and who remained loyal to him for a lifetime. The same sort of network that landed the nomination he developed at UNC-Chapel Hill and who remained loyal to him was the backbone of the undergraduate dormitories and law schools of our major universities served as incubators of life-long political alliances and leadership. (Think Terry Sanford, Skipper Bowles, Jim Hunt, Mike Easley.)

When Robert Morgan decided to run for attorney general of North Carolina in 1968, I was a law student at Wake Forest. I had clerked for Morgan the summer of 1968 and devoted a good portion of my last year at the Wake Law School to working on his campaign. Much of the work was done from the PAD Law Fraternity on the Wake Forest campus. I dispatched friends to hand out literature at political events. Burley Mitchell — later to be chief justice — was a student at UNC Law School, and he rallied support among friends there. Morgan called on his own classmates from the 1950s — people such as Raleigh’s George Anderson, Harold Edwards of Charlotte and former Sen. John J. Burney of Wilmington. These people accounted for his re-election as attorney general and his subsequent election to the United States Senate. They were the backbone of the Morgan organization.

I called the popular political consultant and pundit Brad Crone and asked him for his reaction to Ferrel’s statement. Brad is from an old North Carolina political family and knows something about traditional networks and loyalty. He concurred that the old networks formed in college and law school are disappearing. Perhaps it was recognition of this fact that prompted Elon Law School Dean Leary...
Davis, now dean emeritus and professor, to build leadership training into the curriculum at the state's newest law school — a first, as far I know, in North Carolina.

Brad says campaigns are relying less on networks and people on the ground — county chairs and area keys — and more on media. The best developed networks in current statewide campaigns are the fundraising operations, and it is key fundraisers who get personal time with the candidates. It's not only pay-as-you-go, but also pay-if-you-go. I wonder if either gubernatorial candidate has called a single statewide gathering of local supporters to “rally” them. They used to be highlights of campaigns and one way media measured support. I dare say the percentage of the population that actually meets a candidate in person has been decreasing steadily over the last elections. Prove me wrong. Pressing the flesh is not a priority. Television ads are.

Brad and veteran political consultant Ballard Everett, whom I also called, agree that Democratic and Republican Party organizations and the networks they spawn have declined substantially in importance. They know both sides of the aisle. The Internet, according to Ballard, is the key to contemporary networking among people who have no roots in common educational experiences or previous interpersonal connections. He notes MySpace, Facebook, and popular blogs such as BlueNC and Red Clay Citizen. Activists with expansive electronic address books can totally eclipse the efforts of old-style county campaign chairs or area keys who lined up support through personal contacts. And they don’t have to wait to be anointed by a campaign.

In some areas of Harnett County, where I was reared, there once were go-to-people — the old ward heelers — and once you garnered their support, it was a done deal. The word was passed. Today, those precincts are composed of newcomers who would not even answer the door for those folks. And they certainly would have no reason to do their bidding on Election Day. Those precincts have become wild cards.

The most impressive networking I saw during the recent primary was by Mary Fant Donnan, who emerged as the Democratic nominee for Labor Commissioner. She led a crowded field in the first primary and then trounced former Labor Commissioner John Brooks in the costly second primary that he forced. Mary had little money and minimal name recognition. A media campaign was not an option. Networking was not a choice — it was pure necessity. She called on extensive contacts in the nonprofit community and friends and professional associates she made during her service in the Department of Labor. And she used Internet technology effectively.

Between you and me, I worry about the depersonalization of politics. Contacts formed for a candidate via the Internet are virtual networks that tend to dissolve on Election Day. I do not believe they are continuing forces, and they do not represent long-term commitments. While there is a thin line between “networks” and “machines,” there is value in enduring political relationships and the ability to rally the faithful when a cause presents itself. What is politics about if not friendships and personal loyalties?
Spanish Cuisine: The Next Big Thing

NASHER VELÁZQUEZ SHOW INSPIRES IBERIAN DISHES IN THE TRIANGLE

There must be hundreds of Italian eateries in the Triangle, scores of Mexican and Chinese, a plethora of Indian, Greek and Thai. French cuisine can be found in all corners of the area. Even traditional foods of Argentina, Brazil, Korea and Vietnam are pretty well represented here.

Conspicuously omitted from our international smorgasbord is Spain. There’s just one modest Spanish restaurant in Raleigh, Tasca Brava, that recently relocated to Glenwood South. The only other quasi-Spanish venue, Serena in RTP, identifies itself as “American with Metropolitan Flair” as if association with Spain were a handicap.

The reason for this culinary vacuum eludes me. I can only speculate that Spaniards are so happy in their own country that they have no reason to leave.

A summer in Salamanca, Spain many years ago introduced me to the delights of Spanish cuisine, and I keep my eye out for it. You can find a tasty paella at Spice Street or blu seafood and bar, gazpacho at Globe or Café 101, and colonial versions of arroz con pollo at Carmen’s Cuban Café and Fiesta Grill. The Spanish national dessert, flan al caramel, is served at most of our neighborhood taquerias. Manchego and Cabrales cheeses, Marcona almonds, pickled caperberries, and bottles of Rioja or albariño are always in stock, I’m happy to report, at Whole Foods.

Even so, the cuisine hasn’t really taken off in this area or across the country. But with the best ham in the world, jamón Ibérico, now legally imported to America, and the recent boom in good Spanish wines, the time is ripe for Spanish food to become the Next Big Thing. Even PBS is getting in on the act. Mario Batali and Gwyneth Paltrow, surely an odder couple than Felix and Oscar, will host a series chronicling their gastronomic tour of the Iberian Peninsula. Spain ... On the Road Again aired in August following Batali, Paltrow and cookbook writer Mark Bittman — doubtless taking cues from Anthony Bourdain’s cult hit No Reservations, as they chomped their way through Spain’s culturally varied regions.

That the Nasher Museum of Art’s first blockbuster show, “El Greco to Velázquez: Art During the Reign of Phillip III,” opens just as the Spanish food trend waxes, is a fortuitous coincidence. Duke’s chief curator Sarah Schroth has been gearing up for this show, a dazzling display of early 17th century Spanish art, just about all of her professional life. We have Schroth to thank, not only for a stunning exhibit, but also for a rare opportunity to taste authentic Spanish food and wine in the Metro area this fall during the run of the show from Aug. 21-Nov. 9.

Years of study in Madrid and Toledo left Schroth with a taste for the country’s delicacies, and she actively sought restaurant part-
VENUES OFFERING SPANISH-THMEID MEALS AND WINE TASTINGS

Here is a list of venues recruited by the Nasher to offer Spanish-themed meals and wine tastings this fall. Each one offers an excellent opportunity to sample the wonderful cuisine of Spain. Who knows if these dishes are popular enough, some of these restaurants might offer them on a regular basis!

A Southern Season
University Mall
201 S. Estes Drive,
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 919-929-7133
www.southernsseason.com

Sept. 19 — "El Greco to Velázquez" — a cooking class and lunch with Sarah Schroth and Marilyn Markel.

Celebrate the Golden Age of Spain with Schroth. Spanish-inspired tapas will be prepared by Markel as Schroth takes us behind the scenes of her own art sleuthing story in Toledo.

The menu will include fried calamari, citrus chicken medallions with spicy aioli, zucchini and carrot ribbon salad with sherry vinaigrette, and pomegranate sangria.

The lunch will kick off a storewide Spanish celebration, which will run through Sept. 30.

The store’s WeatherVane Restaurant will hold a Spanish wine dinner Sept. 10.

The Fairview at the Washington Duke Hotel
3001 Cameron Blvd.
Durham, NC 27705
Phone: 919-493-6699
www.washingtondukeinn.com

On Sept. 23, the Fairview presents “An Evening of Art and Wine,” a six-course dinner of rustic specialties, including Spanish omelet “tortilla” with charred red pepper relish, rabbit confit a la Plancha with caramelized fennel in saffron cream, cedar roasted quail with spicy chorizo, and pan-roasted cod with tomato ragout and fried capers. A lecture on the exhibition and reception will feature the award-winning Cava sparkling wine from Juve y Camps in Penedès.

Elaine’s on Franklin
454 West Franklin St.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 919-960-2770
www.elainesonfranklin.com

After Chef Bret Jennings’ Spanish wine dinner Aug. 24, Elaine’s will be serving Spanish tapas throughout the fall and will offer flights from various Spanish regional vineyards. Check the restaurant’s Web site for more information on the wine tastings.

Vin Rouge
737 9th St.
Durham, NC 27705
Phone: 919-416-0406
www.ghghrestaurants.com

Chef Matt Kelly’s menu will expand beyond the French border to include Spanish dishes and tapas every evening through Nov. 11. A selection of Spanish wines will be available for pairing. Other Giorgio’s Hospitality Group restaurants, Spice Street and Parizade, will also offer Spanish wine and menu specials.

Nasher Café
The Nasher Museum
2001 Campus Drive,
Durham, NC 27705
Phone: 919-684-5135
www.nasher.duke.edu

Spanish favorites dot the menu during the run of the exhibit. Gazpacho, bocadillos (chorizo sandwiches), bacalao (dried salt cod), Serrano ham with melon, smoked paprika pork loin and a choice of tapas including tortilla Espanola, will be available through Nov. 11.

Four Square
2701 Chapel Hill Road
Durham, NC 27707
Phone: 919-401-9877
www.foursquarerestaurant.com

Chef Shane Ingram will create a multi-course Spanish dinner to benefit the Nasher Museum on Oct. 5.

Every week during the “Spanish season,” Four Square will offer “Friday night flights” featuring wines of Spain. The first week showcases cavas from Seguras Viudas Aria, the second, Riojas from Lan vineyards. Check the Web site for flights of sherry, Bodegas Arzuaga and other wines for the duration of the exhibit. Tapas will be served with the wine.
ners for the duration of the exhibit. The Nasher has recruited local chefs to create special culinary events, and many will continue to offer tapas and Spanish wines throughout the full run.

To learn more about Spanish food and cooking, I recommend *The Foods and Wines of Spain* by Penelope Casas (or any of her cookbooks), *The Cuisines of Spain: Exploring Regional Home Cooking* by Barrenechea and *1080 Recipes* by Simone Ortega. *Culinaire: Spain* edited by Marion Trutter is a gastronomical armchair tour of every region of that fascinating country.

**NIBBLES**

“A Fabulous Fig Festival” will benefit the Goathouse Refuge, Inc. on Sept. 13. Cooking teacher and potter Siglinda Scarpa will serve 13 Italian dishes with figs in the garden outside Goathouse Gallery. For information and tickets, check out www.goathouse-refuge.org/figfestival.html.

This month, North Raleigh’s Zest Café offers an opportunity to learn about pairing beer with food. Zest will host a six course “small plate and beer dinner” Sunday, Sept. 14. For details, log on to www.zestcafe-homeart.com.

Tickets for the annual two-day “Corks for Kids Wine Extravaganza” are still available by calling 919-968-1884. Wine dinners at Pazzo and Bin 54 in Chapel Hill, and Acme in Carrboro will be held Friday evening, Sept. 12, culminating in the huge wine tasting and auction event at the William and Ida Friday Center Sept. 13.

Executive chef and television host of *Turn Up The Heat*, G. Garvin, will join Raleigh’s Chef Walter Royal of The Angus Barn at the Progress Energy Center in Raleigh for “G. Garvin Presents: Cooking Live!” a live and engaging cooking demonstration followed by a Q&A session. Each chef will highlight their own unique take on great cooking, simple recipes while interacting with the attendees. For more information and ticket sales, log on to www.ticketmaster.com.

Herons, the signature restaurant at Cary’s Umstead Hotel and Spa, has received *Wine Spectator’s* 2008 “Award of Excellence” in recognition of its comprehensive wine list. Heron’s new director of food and beverage, Nick Pijerov, and executive chef, Paul Kellum, have introduced a new slate of American regional dishes for the fall season. Both menus and wine list appear on the hotel Web site www.theumstead.com.

Battistella’s New Orleans Kitchen at the Raleigh Crabtree Inn will close Sept. 27, but owner/chef Brian Battistella is on the look for a new location. Check out Battistella’s Cajun menu for his closing specials at www.battistellaskitchen.com.

*Bon Appetit’s* restaurant issue, now on newsstands, features Ashley Christensen (executive chef of both Poole’s Diner and Vin) among five other prominent women chefs. Discover Christensen’s favorite eats in the article, “Women Chefs: The Next Generation.”

Metro congratulates The Angus Barn, winner of the *Wine Spectator’s* Grand Award — its highest honor. The Barn is one of just 73 restaurants in the United States receiving the award for “uncompromising, passionate devotion to the quality of their wine program.”

**TORTILLA ESPANAÑA**

The Nasher’s senior curator, Sarah Scroth, is an excellent cook, known to whip up a mean Iberian feast. Here is her recipe for Tortilla Espanola, the simple and addictive omelet served in homes and tapas bars all over Spain.

4 large eggs  
salt and pepper to taste  
1 cup olive oil  
3 large Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced  
1 medium onion, halved and thinly sliced  

In a large bowl, lightly beat the eggs. Heat the oil in a heavy skillet until medium hot. Add the potatoes, one slice at a time to prevent sticking. Layer onions and potatoes, lightly salting each layer. When all the potatoes are in the pan, the oil should cover the top of the potatoes. Lower the heat and cook until the potatoes are soft, but not brown.

Drain the potato mixture in colander, reserving 3 tablespoons of the oil. Add the cooked potatoes to eggs in the bowl and press down so that they are completely covered by the eggs. Let mixture sit for 15 minutes.

Add 2 tablespoons of the oil back into the skillet, which has been wiped clean. Heat the oil until very hot before pouring in the egg mixture, spreading out to sides of the pan. Turn the heat down to medium. Shake the skillet to prevent sticking.

When the eggs begin to brown, place a large inverted plate over skillet, turn upside down, flipping the tortilla onto the plate. Add 1 tablespoon of oil to the skillet, then slide the mixture back to brown the other side. Lower heat to medium and flip two or three more times. The omelet should be slightly juicy inside.

Serve at room temperature, cut into wedges.
RALEIGH/CARY

18 SEABOARD — 18 Seaboard Avenue, Suite 100 Raleigh. 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.


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.


Kid’s menu 99¢ every Tuesday.

THE DUCK & DUMPLING — 222 S. Blount St., Raleigh. 838-0085, www.theduckanddumpling.com. Over-looking Moore Square, this contemporary Asian Bistro is home to Chef David Mao’s unique blend of Chinese and Vietnamese cuisine. Open for Lunch: 11:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m., M-F; Dinner: 5-10 p.m. T-Th; 5-11 p.m. 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. Presented by the Cinelli Family, the unique environment at these three locations offers a choice of family or adult dining and authentic family recipes. Guests can enjoy an inspiring wine list and only the finest and freshest ingredients. Open for Lunch: M-Sat 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner: M-Th 4-10 p.m., F-Sat 4-11 p.m.; Sun Noon-9 p.m.

THE MINT RESTAURANT — 219 Fayetteville St. Raleigh. 821-0011, www.themintrestaurant.com Tues-Sat. 6 p.m.-10 p.m. The Mint in downtown Raleigh offers contemporary fine southern dining with global influences. Executive Chef Jeremy Clayman presents new and exciting culinary combinations paired with The Mint’s unflappable service standards.


SECOND EMPIRE RESTAURANT & TAVERN — 230 Hillsborough St., Raleigh. 829-3663. Visit Web site online at www.second-empire.com. Located in the historic Dodd-Hindsdale 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.

SOLOMON’S RESTAURANT — 7333 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh. 844-4977, 4610 N. Capital Blvd, Raleigh. 790-
RESTAURANT GUIDE

BEYOND THE TRIANGLE

AQUA — 214 Middle Lane, Beaufort, NC 28516. 252-728-7777. www.aquaexperience.com. 'Aqua's urban-chic décor whets the appetite for sophisticated, internationally inspired food... On all counts, Aqua was an exceptional dining experience.' Moreton Neal in Metro Magazine June 2005. Open for dinner: Tues.-Thurs. 6 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 5:30 p.m.


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

CHEF AND THE FARMER — 120 W. Gordon St., Kinston. 252-208-2433. www.chefandthefarmer.com. A converted 1940s stable nestled behind a good-looking old architecture and contemporary design with local ingredients and urban techniques makes this progressive eatery an epicurean oasis.


FRONT STREET GRILL AT STILLWATER — 300 Front St., Beaufort. 252-728-4956. Visit their Web site online at 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.


DURHAM/APEX/MORRISVILLE

Café Parizade — 2200 W. Main St., Durham. 286-9712. Renaissance-inspired murals, colorful surrealistic works of art and casually chic crowds feasting on Mediterranean dishes. Lunch M-F 11:30-2:30 p.m., Dinner M-Th 5:30-10 p.m., F and Sat. 5:30-11 p.m., Sun. 5:30-9 p.m.


George's Garage — 737 Ninth St., Durham. 286-4311. Enjoy our casual upbeat atmosphere with the freshest seafood and authentic sushi bar. After-hour celebration and dancing and a fresh to-go market and bakery.

Gloft — 737 Ninth St., Durham. 286-4311. For meeting friends after work, for after dinner drinks, or exciting late-night entertainment. Also available to host your private event where we can have a party or a full sit-down dinner for a chosen few or a large gathering.


TaVerna Agora — 6101 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh 881-8333. www.TavernaAgora.com. Taverna Agora is the premier restaurant in the Triangle for authentic Greek cuisine. Enjoy the rustic ambiance of our dining room or our beautiful garden patio. Venue may be reserved for special events.


Vinnie's Steakhouse and Tavern — 7440 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh. 544-7319. 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.

Zest Café & Home Art — 8831 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh. 848-4792. www.zestcafehomeart.com. Offering the freshest, finest food served with a zesty outlook since 1983. 8831 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh. 544-7319. For meet­ing room or our beautiful garden patio. Venue may be reserved for special events.

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 atmospheric rich in stylish romance.


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

METROMAGAZINE SEPTEMBER 2008
SPANISH WINE — OLÉ!!

With all eyes on the grandeur of Spain this fall, as the Nasher Museum in Durham pays homage to Spanish painters and artists from El Greco to Velázquez, we can get into the spirit of things with Spanish wine. There are plenty of good ones, from fortified Sherry to meaty reds — Rioja, Jumilla and Toro, Priorat and Ribera del Duero — as well as crisp whites and dry pinks.

Although no one can pinpoint the exact origin of tapas in Spain, my first experience with these delightful little morsels was in Jerez, the Sherry country southwest of Seville in Andalusia. Every evening at sundown, the promenades of coastal towns, such as Jerez de la Frontera, are thronged with people — couples, families (often with babies in strollers), young singles, oldsters. They mosey from tapas bar to tapas bar sampling gambas (shrimp), fava beans, toasted nuts, Serrano ham, cockles and mussels, squid, olives, cubes of Manchego cheese and myriad other “tastes,” accompanied by little glasses of Fino or Manzanilla, the dry Sherries that work so well with savory foods — and sometimes Tinto (red wine) or Rosado (dry rosé).

The paseo is a lovely, convivial custom, several centuries old in Spain, a sort of “happy hour” outdoors and on the move: Not exactly pub-crawling, but a nice way to end the day and start the evening. Be it known, however, that so-called “tapas” in these parts aren’t always Spanish; they’re often just small plates of appetizers and tidbits of food that have appropriated the name — except at genuinely Spanish restaurants such as Tasca Brava (soon to reopen in Glenwood South) and Jibarra in Raleigh, where you will find the real thing.

Since so much attention will be focused on Spanish wines these next few months, it’s worth clarifying a few of the terms you’re likely to see.

Bodega: cellar or winery
Cava: the term for Spanish sparkling wine made in the méthode champenoise, or traditional Champagne method. Those labeled brut or natur are very dry; some of the best are Seguras Viudas, Mont Marcal, Freixenet Brut Rosé, Codorníu, Juve y Camps — an excellent value.
Cosecha: harvest, followed by vintage date, as in Cosecha 2004
Crianza: reds aged a year in oak and a year in bottle; most often seen on young Rioja, medium-bodied, juicy and very drinkable.
Reserva: lots of better reds aged three years, at least one in oak barrels.
Gran Reserva: made only in best vintages, wines aged at least two years in oak and generally three in bottle. Limited production, usually expensive.
Viejo: old
WINE BUYS OF THE MONTH

Naia 2007, Rueda, $12. A crisp, dry white from northern Spain made from the verdejo grape. Mineral accents give it a pleasing zest and make it an excellent accompaniment to shellfish and seafood. Other good Ruedas include Marques de Riscal and Martinsancho.

Coto Haya Rosado 2006, Rioja, $10. Fresh, dry and lively rose — delightful to sip, versatile with food. Also quite good: Cruz de Piedra 2007, $11.

Viña Gormaz Tempranillo 2006, Ribera del Duero, $11. Quite a meaty little red for this price; juicy black fruit flavors; great for burgers, grilled chicken, pizza. Ribera del Duero can be a very serious red, with top-rated wines going for $50-$100 and more. But there are very solid ones for less, such as Vizzcarra Senda del Oro 2006, $18; Viña Sastre 2005, $18.50; Condado de Haza 2005, $29.

Baltos 2005 Dominio de Tares, Bierzo, $17. A dark, juicy but firm red made from the mencia grape, an old Spanish grape but little known until recently. The 2004 Exaltos from Dominio de Tares is bigger, oakier and more tannic, well worth aging four to eight years.

Monastrell 2005/2006, $12-$14, Jumilla. Jumilla (pronounced hoo-mee-yah) is the region, monastrell the grape, known as mourvèdre in France. There are several of these sturdy, robust little reds, very drinkable and versatile with food. Look for these labels: Carchelo, Casa Castillo, Altos de la Hoya, Castano.

Special Occasion Wines: These are more expensive, more complex reds for grilled or roasted meats:


We seem to choose from reliably good Spanish wines at all price levels here in the Triangle, from $10 a bottle to $70 or more. Naturally, the inexpensive ones tend to be lighter and more drinkable, though some of the reds are surprisingly robust at $10-$14 a bottle. There are excellent wines ranging from $16-$25, including reds, dry whites and pinks.

WINE FOR A GOOD CAUSE...

The Triangle celebrates wine in several venues throughout the year, such as the annual Triangle Wine Experience each February in Raleigh. Another excellent event comes on early this month: “Corks for Kids,” Sept. 12 and 13 in Chapel Hill, which benefits the North Carolina Children’s Hospital. In addition to several wine dinners at area restaurants (Bin 54, Acme in Carrboro, Four Square in Durham — most already sold out), Todd Wielar of Chapel Hill Wine Company has once again organized the Saturday evening tasting at the Friday Center — and he really knows how to pick ‘em.

For $65, you can taste more than 80 wines — including top Shiraz, Sauvignon Blancs and Pinot Noirs — from Australia and New Zealand. Wines will also be available for purchase and there is a silent auction of special wine lots. Tickets include hors d’oeuvres plus top-rated (93 points or higher) Shiraz to quaff at leisure — First Drop the Cream, Henty’s Beast and Piombo.

All proceeds from the event and wine sales will go to the North Carolina Children’s Hospital. Last year’s event raised over $50,000. They hope to double that this year. For tickets and reservations, call Wielar at 919-968-1884 or e-mail todd@chapelhillwinecompany.com.

Here’s your chance to break bread—and break the ice—with one of our state’s great artists.

Reservations begin online on Sept. 15 at www.unitedarts.org.

For more information, please contact:
dinners@unitedarts.org
919-839-1498 x228

Here's your chance to break bread—and break the ice—with one of our state's great artists.

Guess WHO'S coming to Dinner

Who will it be?
A writer, a singer, an actor?

October 23-25
Opening Night Party on Wed., Oct. 22

Progress Energy
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united arts
Bring the arts home.
C

hapel Hill’s William Conescu is talking to you in his debut novel. Literally: you.

*Being Written*, which Conescu began writing while a student in the MFA program in creative writing at NC State University, offers much of its story in the second person. Here’s a sample from an early scene in which “you” are chatting up a girl in a bar:

“You smile and take a sip of beer to fill the pause, but then you swallow wrong and start to choke. So you hold your breath for a few seconds, but you can feel your face turning red as the foam starts to move back up. And she’s watching you, her brow slightly wrinkled, and you will the beer not to shoot out of your nose. Not now. But it’s close, and you’re going to need to breathe again soon, and this moment is not helping move the conversation along…”

Of course, the “you” here isn’t really you; the “you” is a fellow in Boston by the name of Daniel Fischer. And while the approach is interesting, second-person narration is not entirely new. Perhaps the most famous use of this technique was in Jay McInerney’s *Bright Lights, Big City* (or else in those old Choose Your Own Adventure books, equally ubiquitous reads). But what Conescu does with this second-person narration and with Daniel’s story makes the novel unique because in this case, the “you” is acutely aware that a novel is being written; after all, you can hear the author’s pencil scratching from page to page. And being the savvy reader that you are, you try to make a good impression, so the author will think you worthy of being included in more scenes. And so the book unfolds, upping the ante at each chapter — all of which makes *Being Written* one of the most impressive and memorable debuts this year.

“I enjoy playful narrative choices and thought a story like this would be fun to read and to write,” said Conescu in a recent interview with Metro. “Daniel not only witnesses events that are being written, but has also made the disheartening discovery that he’s only a minor character in the imagination of the author, the literary equivalent of a movie extra. I was interested in the lengths to which he might go to win a bigger role.”

Some of Daniel’s efforts in that regard offer what seem to be a wry wink at aspiring ambitions and at Conescu’s own work in local writing programs, not just at NC State, but also as an undergraduate at UNC-Chapel Hill. (In complete fairness to the big three local universities, Conescu now works in development communications at Duke.)

“Daniel has found a by-the-numbers book on how to write a bestseller,” explained Conescu, “and he’s treating it like a self-help manual for an aspiring protagonist.” Some of the book’s funniest scenes involve Daniel worrying if cleaning his apartment is interesting enough for the attention the author is giving him, or contemplating what a love triangle would do for the plot, or considering Chekhov’s advice that if a gun appears in the first act, it’s got to be used by the third. In one pivotal scene, Daniel remarks that the novel is “becoming the kind of book people can’t put down, the kind they sell at the airport.”

To give a different perspective on the character of you/Daniel, Conescu alternates these second-person sections with more traditional chapters focused on other characters, including Delia, an aspiring singer and the person Daniel was talking to in the excerpt above — and Delia’s boyfriend Graham, a pianist who’s not just down on his luck, but also not doing much to work his way back up. This couple and two of their friends, Jon and Monty, form a small clique that Daniel wants to be a part of as desperately as he wants to be in the book. To some degree, those quests are the same thing, since these relationships, their artistic aspirations, and their small dreams and disappointments form the drama of the novel.

“When I first came up with the idea for *Being Written*, I was also interested in writing a story about artistically minded people in their twenties and thirties trying to figure out how best to live their lives,” said Conescu. “So the two ideas collide in this novel. Daniel discovers a story being written about these artsy friends, and he thrusts himself into it — and hijacks it, to some extent — in an effort to have a bigger part and thereby give his life meaning too. It was only after I’d finished and sold the novel that I considered a connection between it and reality television. Ordinary people want a shot at fame. They want to capture and hold the attention of the producers and the audience. And sometimes they don’t exercise the best judgment in their pursuit of this moment in the spotlight. The same could be said of Daniel.”

At once experimentally playful and existentially poignant, and both ultra literary and ultra readable, *Being Written* succeeds on several levels, and perhaps drawing on Daniel’s own studies into what makes a bestseller, the novel ultimately includes both that love triangle, and a few suspenseful turns and even a surprise twist at the end.

You really won’t believe where you end up, and how.

Conescu makes several area appearances in September and October, reading from the new novel on Wednesday evening, Sept. 24 at Raleigh’s Quail Ridge Books; again on Wednesday evening, Oct. 1, at Durham’s Regulator Book; and finally on Thursday evening, Oct. 16, at McIntyre’s Books in Fearrington Village. For more information on the author, visit online at www.williamconescu.com.

Go to www.metronc.com for more new and Noteworthy and Bookwatch events.

*Being Written* by William Conescu
(Harper Perennial, 2008, 224 pp.)

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**By Art Taylor**

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**By Wm. Conescu**

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Lois Deloatch: REMEMBERING OSCAR PETERSON — WITH LOVE

Jazz vocalist Lois Deloatch has just released a new album titled *Hymn to Freedom*. The 10-song project was conceived as a tribute to the great jazz pianist Oscar Peterson.

Deloatch tracked the record with Rick Dior engineering at Acoustic Barn Studios in Charlotte. The mastering was done by Brent Lambert at Kitchen Mastering in Chapel Hill.

During our recent conversation, Deloatch pointed out that every aspect of her album was done locally.

"The photographer, Chris Ferrer, is someone I met through John Brown," she said. "And the art design was done by Nathan Golub, who works for *The Independent* in Durham. These are young guys who are very good at what they do, and if there's one thing I've learned through experience, it's to let people do what they're good at. You just have to find the right people."

Even the very bad orange dress Deloatch is wearing on the cover of the CD is the result of artistic collaboration. Susan Branion is the brains behind the dress. Deloatch acknowledged that she needed Branion's advice and counsel.

"I'm one of 10 children," she remarked, "and I have four sisters who are definitely into clothes. I was more of a throw-on-the-blue-jeans and go-climb-a-tree girl. So I took Susan's advice on the outfit for the cover photo."

And speaking of letting people do what they're good at doing, Deloatch was joined on the album by drummer Ed Thigpen, who spent about six years (1959-65) with the Oscar Peterson Trio (Ray Brown was the bassist). Scott Sawyer (guitar), John Brown (bass) and Willie Pickens (piano) are also featured on *Hymn to Freedom*, and Tyson Rogers handled the piano chores on the final track, "Auld Lang Syne."

The album oscillates between tunes that have a marked gospel foundation, such as "Down By The Riverside," and songs that offer a straight-up jazz groove, as with "Stardust."

Deloatch's voice is a compelling instrument. There's a soulful quality to her vocals that isn't typical of jazz singers today. There's quite a bit of body to her voice, and she does an awfully good job of harnessing that depth in quiet passages.

On "The Very Thought Of You," for instance, pianist Pickens glides through an extended, delicate introduction, which Deloatch slips into with a deftness that matches the mood Pickens sets.

On the title track, Deloatch easily opens up vocally in a robust, gospel-oriented number — a Peterson original to which Deloatch has written lyrics. She also penned lyrics for the Peterson tune "When Summer Comes" — another pensive jazz piece. Again, Deloatch's vocal is an uncommon blending of earthiness and adroit modulation.

*Hymn to Freedom* comes three years after Deloatch released her CD titled *Closure* — an album that took a very long time to hit the racks.

"Right around the time I was to release it, the great tragedy in New York happened, and it just didn't seem like the right time to get it out," Deloatch recalled during a recent conversation. "I sat on it for a very long time, but it was finally released in 2005."

Once Deloatch parted ways with *Closure*, she began to scheme on a new album.

"*Hymn To Freedom* was recorded in 2006," she noted, "but the concept started before that, and my friend Donald Meade played a role."

"What I say in the liner notes is very true. I've been friends with Donald Meade for so long that I can't remember when we first became friends. We met at an IAJE conference. Donald was a close confidant of Ray Brown, and it was through Donald that I met Ray, as well as Ed Thigpen and Tommy Flanagan and all..."
these guys he knew. When I decided that I wanted to do another recording, and I wanted to do it at a level that I was not able to achieve on my own, I was able to make the most of some of the connections I'd made thanks to Donald.”

Deloatch began planning *Hymn to Freedom* in late 2005. “I’ve always loved Oscar Peterson’s music,” she said, “partly because of that sound he had, which combined a gospel feel — that heavy, rhythmic, swing kind of sound — and partly because he had that virtuosity that not a lot of players have. I loved Oscar Peterson’s trio with Ray Brown and Ed Thigpen. I thought if I could get Ed on a recording, I’d love to pay tribute to Oscar Peterson.”

Deloatch’s friendship with Meade led to a congenial relationship with Thigpen who, of course, handled drums in the Oscar Peterson Trio during some of Peterson’s most creative and productive years. When Deloatch needed a solid Peterson connection, Thigpen answered her call.

Indeed, several outstanding players sat in with Deloatch on *Hymn to Freedom*. Sawyer is an incredibly versatile guitarist who’s on top of everything from rock to blues to fusion to straight-ahead jazz. Brown is equally superb on acoustic bass, whether the gig is Mozart or Miles Davis. Pickens is a Chicago cat; he’s a stylish and expansive pianist who’s been playing for 50 years and is as solid with gospel as he is with mainstream jazz.

“As you can imagine, when you’re doing something as an independent artist, you have a very limited budget,” Deloatch observed. “The guys who played on the album were more than generous with their time and didn’t expect much of an honorarium.

“I went up to Chicago and worked on arrangements with Willie Pickens,” she said. “When Ed joined us in Charlotte we pretty much rehearsed one afternoon and then we did it in two afternoons. Most of the tracks are first takes. Considering the time and money I had to invest in this project, I’m pleased with what we were able to capture.”

Deloatch went on to note that: “Up to this point I’d been doing indie releases. I’ve had interest in the past from labels, but I knew I was not ready or prepared to do the type of touring that a major label would want me to do.

“My hope now is that I can do some international touring, and it’s quite possible that I’ll do some of that next summer and fall. I’d like to get out there in a way that I haven’t really done before. I also have several other album projects in mind, and next time around I want to work with a really good producer.

“I’m hoping that *Hymn to Freedom* will draw some attention, which in turn would help me find a producer that I would like to work with,” she added. “I’m talking about someone the caliber of Delfeayo Marsalis.”

Deloatch’s long view of her role in jazz isn’t solely focused on singing.

“Frankly, I enjoy performing,” she said, “but my goal is to develop my skills as a writer and capture some of this music in ways that I think help advance the knowledge and appreciation of jazz.”

**DISCOLOGY**

Reckless Kelly: *Bulletproof* (Yep Roc)

This Austin band has been at it for about a decade, tracking albums that split the difference between Texas country music and rock. *Bulletproof* is their best project to date. The album is basically one killer tune after another. The songwriting, largely the work of vocalist-guitarist Willy Braun, is consistently strong and occasionally brilliant. Check out “How Was California?,” a fantastic lyric that could be a reality check for anyone’s most misanthropic friend. “A Guy Like Me” rocks most efficaciously behind a sly lyric, and “One False Move” is the essence of southern rock — a perfect distillation of the vibe of bands such as The Outlaws, Marshall Tucker and, more recently, Drive-by Truckers. The song “God Forsaken Town” is a gritty tribute to The Big Easy survivors of Katrina. Reckless Kelly can also do a slow number, or, at least, relatively slow, as we hear on the excellent original piece “You Don’t Have To Stay Forever.” Although we might label this music alt country or possibly Americana, it’s best to default to Braun’s understanding of his own band. Braun describes Reckless Kelly as a rock band with a fiddle, and that pretty well sums it up. *Bulletproof* is an album for anyone who likes Steve Earle, Drive-by Truckers, Raleigh’s Patty Hurst Shifter, I See Hawks in LA, or Jason and the Scorchers.
view at West Point, Natural Bridge in Virginia and Niagara Falls.

continued from page 22

Baker, Doc Watson, Joe Thompson and others.

- Capital Bank, under the visionary leadership of their Chief Executive Officer B. Grant Yarber, has been a steadfast and valiant supporter of the Raleigh arts community through sponsorship and advocacy. The bank supports numerous arts agencies including Artsplace, Artspace, Carolina Ballet, Opera Company of North Carolina and Raleigh Little Theatre.

The bank also purchases and displays works of local artists in all branches and in the lobby of its headquarters downtown. Two examples of Capital Bank's outstanding arts leadership are highlighted through the bank's sponsorship of North Carolina Theatre's Capital Awards program (beginning in 2007) and the North Carolina Symphony's statewide "Blue Skies, Red Earth" series of concerts (2007). In both cases, Yarber personally led fundraising campaigns that fueled the success of these significant art programs.

The City of Raleigh Arts Commission holds the distinction of being the first municipal arts commission created in North Carolina. The Arts Commission serves as the official advisory body and advocate for arts to the Raleigh City Council.

For more information about the 24th Annual Raleigh Medal of Arts, contact the Arts Commission office at 919-890-3610 or e-mail belva.parker@ci.raleigh.nc.us.

Dress for Success Triangle NC (www.dressforsuccess.org), an international nonprofit organization that promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and career development tools to help them succeed in work and life, held a ceremony Aug. 25 coinciding with the establishment of Women's Equality Day.

Since its establishment in 1997, the organization has expanded to more than 85 locations in the US, Canada, New Zealand, the Netherlands and the UK. To date, Dress for Success has helped more than 400,000 women work toward self-sufficiency, with 40 women participating in the Triangle chapter since opening in June 2008.


Loaves and Fishes — a private, nonprofit organization in Raleigh that serves as an extended family to at-risk children through long-term, individualized support to help them succeed in school and society — presents the 8th annual Low Country Boil Sept. 27 at Tara Farms from 3-7 p.m. Tickets are $40 per person in advance or $50 at the door and children under 12 get in free. For more information, go to www.loavesandfisheschildren.org or call 919-231-4687.

A book signing for Sea of Greed — the book by NC Appeals Court Judge Doug McCulloch about the NC connection to the biggest drug bust in US history — will take place at ArtSource North Hills on Thursday, Sept. 11, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, contact ArtSource North Hills at 919-787-9533 or artsource2@bellsouth.net.

On Sept. 30 at 7:30 p.m., Judge McCulloch will be on hand for a signing at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh's Ridgewood Shopping Center — call 919-828-1588 for more information. Metro Magazine published an excerpt of the book in the July 2006 issue (go to www.metronc.com).

The Liaison Capitol Hill, an Affinia hotel, 415 New Jersey Avenue NW in Washington DC, that opened on April 1, 2008, following a multi-million dollar renovation, is offering election-themed packages. The Liaison is managed by Denihan Hospitality Group (DHG) under the company's Affinia brand umbrella with locations in New York and Chicago. For more information, visit www.affinia.com or call 1-866-AFFINIA.

Members of the business community will show their appreciation for the services provided by area first responders with a breakfast at North Ridge Country Club on Sept. 4. Wake County Emergency Medical Services, the Wake County Sheriff's Office, the Raleigh-Wake County Emergency Communications Center, the City of Raleigh Fire Department, and the City of Raleigh Police Department will be recognized at the event. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The 200 Club of Wake County.

APPOINTMENTS

RBC Bank has appointed Brookey Hardee as banking center manager for the new RBC Plaza banking center in downtown Raleigh located in the bank's new tower, the tallest building in the city.
CASE FEATHERS FLYING IN MICHAEL PETERSON CASE

The Owl Theory is back in the news. The man who hypothesized that an owl could have caused the wounds on Kathleen Peterson's head and elbows discovered last month there is indeed a "feather" on the SBI evidence list taken from a clump of hair grasped in her left hand. Naturally, the prosecutors in the case, District Attorney Jim Hardin — now a Superior Court judge — and his assistant Freda Black — now in private practice — pooh-poohed the newly unmasked evidence, citing the testimony of Deborah Radisch, a pathologist from the state medical examiner's office, who testified in the famous trial. Problem is, she didn't testify about the owl, she testified that it was indeed possible the "blow-poke," the hypothetical murder weapon presented by the prosecutors, could have inflicted the wounds on Kathleen's head.

That's a disingenuous piece of pedantry. If Michael Peterson's attorney David Rudolph did anything well in his failed effort to save his client, it was his cross-examination of Radisch. How, Rudolph queried, could a hollow aluminum tube with a sharp blade extending from the top kill Kathleen? Were there any contusions or hematomas on her head or body from wielding the blow-poke? No, answered Radisch. Then, he continued, how did the blow-poke kill her? She didn't seem to know.

Not only did she not know how the blow-poke could have killed Kathleen, she certainly doesn't know an owl could not have caused the wounds. The only way Michael Peterson could have killed her with the blow-poke is to hold Kathleen's head dead still and surgically carve the wounds in her head. That sound plausible to you?

It never did to me, and that's why Metro has stood by Larry Pollard's theory (go to www.metronc.com and enter key words "owl theory," or go to the July 2006 issue). Maybe Michael Peterson did kill his wife, but the prosecution certainly did not prove he did. At least the owl theory matches the wounds. And since the theory was presented in 2003, it has come out that owls do attack people — and inflict serious wounds. Ask the man from Apex who was attacked outside his place of business last spring. It was captured on CCTV, and the victim — a big ole boy — appeared at Pollard's recent press conference to testify that the owl hit him hard, knocking him down and causing profuse bleeding where it struck his head.

Actually, the owl theory is far more plausible than the blow-poke theory. This weapon was chosen by the prosecution because the victim's sister noticed the one she gave Kathleen was missing. There was no weapon, just speculation. It actually was discovered at the end of the trial in the Peterson's garage, covered in cobwebs.

Yet from the outset, the owl theory has been derided and ridiculed, on first blush because it is an extraordinary story. But then again, maybe because there was a conspiracy to assure the theory was discredited on purpose at the very beginning. The early criticisms of Pollard's hypothesis seem to linger, even though most of the criticism is untrue.

The first big lie in the account of Pollard's theory centers on the opinion he was seeking publicity. Actually, Pollard never approached the media until very recently. As a member of the Durham bar, Pollard took his theory to the proper authorities, as his oath as an attorney requires. The DA never would talk to him, and the police and sheriff's office listened but ignored what he was trying to say. Yet an article appeared in the Durham Herald-Sun newspaper ridiculing Pollard and discrediting his theory as insane. But the newspaper, I learned later, violated the cardinal principle of journalism: They did not call Pollard for a quote or a response or to tell him the piece was going to run. Pollard did not seek publicity, so was the DA's office in touch with the Herald-Sun in a cabal to discredit Pollard?

Sure enough, every news article from most other media relies on that meretricious news story and its inaccuracies — and several other spurious articles in the Herald-Sun. That's why reporters kept asking how an owl got into the Peterson's home. Pollard never said it did. In his theory, Kathleen was attacked outside in the yard. That's important because the next question has usually been: "Then, where are the feathers," as if the owl was a cartoon bird in a fight like Tweetie or Foghorn Leghorn. The answer is that no one looked outside for feathers at the crime scene — and the owl might not have lost any feathers extending his legs to extend his talons into Kathleen's scalp.

Then like clockwork, the question is, "Where's the blood outside?" Again, no one was looking for it, but her blood was found on the porch and door where she re-entered the house after the attack. Next comes: "How did she die from this, and how does this explain the blood sprayed up the staircase?"

According to Pollard, Kathleen was attacked outside by an owl — one of the sev­eral spotted in the neighborhood. She strug­gled and fought off the raptor and staggered inside the house bleeding profusely — as vic­tims of head wounds do. She faints at the foot of the steps, then awakens and slips in her own blood, causing her head to hit the bottom step, knocking her out and killing her as she bled. This explains her footprints in her own blood, how blood was tossed up the staircase and why Michael Peterson was covered in her blood as he reached down to save her.

Or, for all I know, somehow Michael Peterson killed his wife. But the Durham DAs didn't prove he did, and no other method has presented itself: except the owl.

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

Lowering the drinking age back where it belongs is finally on the table as a group of college presidents are lobbying that the restrictions have led to binge drinking and antisocial behavior on campus. I objected to the legislation when it was passed and was pilloried for my stand. Worse, the legislation was forced through under threat, like the failed 55 MPH federal speed limit imposed on the driving public by federal extortion in the mid-'70s. In both cases of bad law, either states created a law that conformed to the federal edicts or their own highway money was confiscated. Smile Stalin smile. (Read commentary by Bernie Reeves in his online-only Between Issues column at www.metronc.com.)
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