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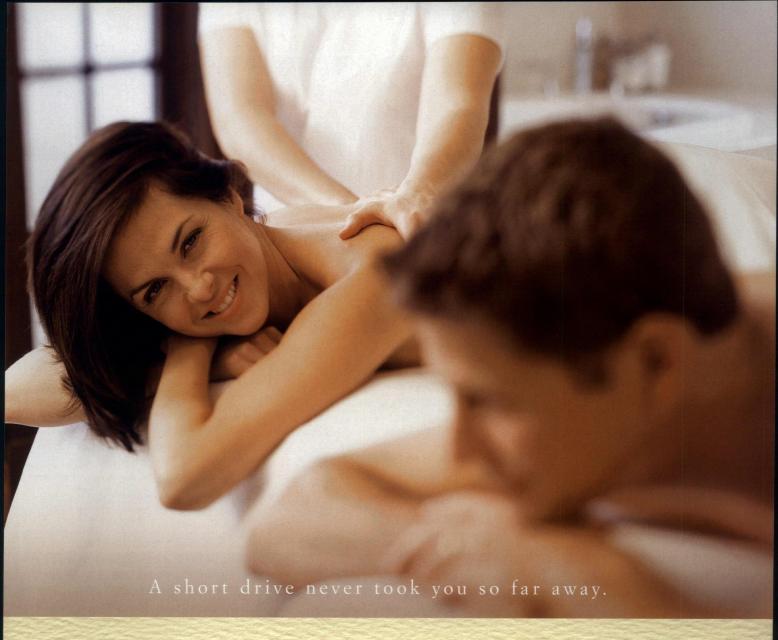
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I HEAR IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY

ou gotta' love it when two writers for the same magazine go a few rounds. George Leef questioned Jim Leutze's understanding of economics in his column in the November issue and Dr. Leutze shoots right that he does. This exchange kicks off the 12th issue of the year and the advent of our tenth year of publishing in 2009. As usual, it lives up to expectations.

We conclude the year with our quarterly Southern Style special section featuring a story by Diane Lea about the bounteous Blount-Bridgers House that graces the beautiful town commons in Tarboro, NC, a town that treasures its past and looks forward to a dynamic future as eastern North Carolina continues to grow and thrive. And Diane talks with architect Phil Szostak who

Film critic Godfrey Cheshire returns with his second essay on movies and culture (read his online-only entry on the new James Bond flick at www.metronc.com); Jim Leutze visits Mugabe's heart of darkness; Carroll Leggett celebrates the return of football at Campbell University; Louis St. Lewis reminds us to seek the contentment of beautiful things in a stressful world; Philip Van Vleck talks to Raleigh jazz great Elmer Gibson about his new - yet old - CD; Art Taylor asks area book dealers for their ideas for gifts under the tree; and Mary Ward Boerner includes a special section for holiday happenings in our popular Preview of events.

Senior Writer Liza Roberts unearths the history literally under our feet in Raleigh's City Cemeteries; Bill Morris follows up on

his feature on famous NC writer Robert Ruark with the controversy behind the auction of the great man's bust in New York City; and the Triangle chapter of the NC American Association of Architects has purchased land on Blount Street Commons for a new design center. As for me, I want to know why Congress has not scheduled hearings so we can see under blazing lights and TV cameras the crooks that ruined our economy right here at Christmas.

In January, as part of our 10th birthday celebration, we begin a monthly series looking at the cities and towns that comprise our community from the Triangle to the Coast. We start with the amazing story of Cary and the surrounding area, moving on to Chapel Hill in February; Durham in March; Raleigh in April; and the coastal region in May. Alert your local chambers of commerce, visitors' bureaus and city councils that Metro will be reporting on what's ahead for the next ten years. And advertisers, be sure to reserve a position in these important issues to identify your role in your community. They will be read world wide, across the street and online for years to come.

The 6th Raleigh Spy Conference is set for March 25-27, tentatively at the new Downtown Raleigh Marriott. The subject is: Sexspionage: Famous Women Spies and the Ancient Art of Seduction. Email maury@metromagazine.net to reserve your tickets and go to www.raleighspyconference.com for updates and conference information.

May you all share the spirit of the season.

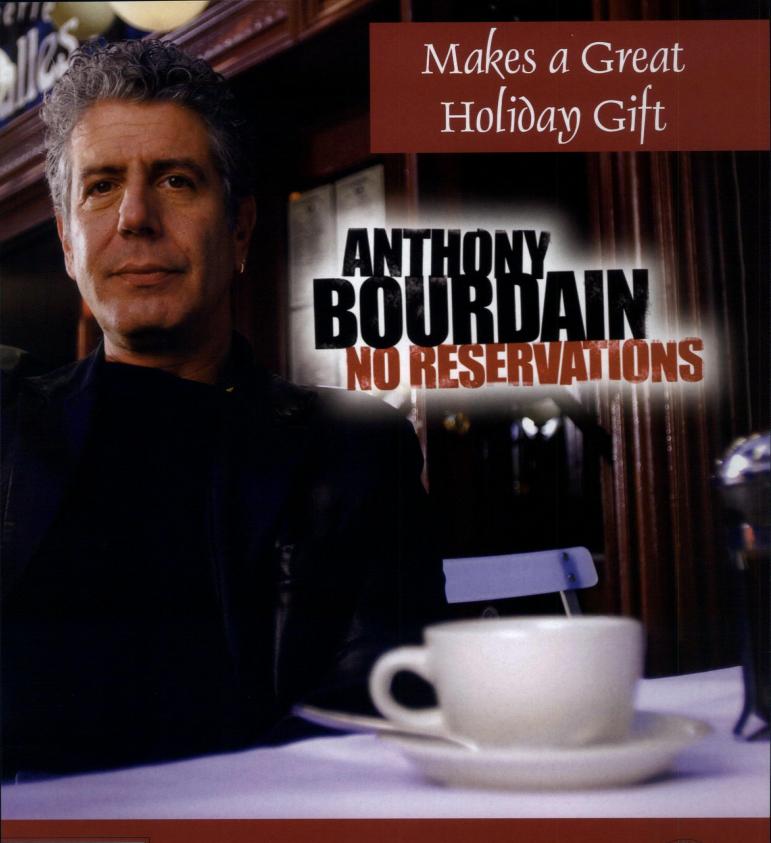
-Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher

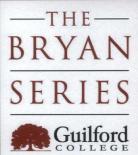


explains his vision for a new gallery in downtown Durham.

Fashionista Molly Heintz – Metro's Raleigh girl in New York City – returns with observations and ideas for haute couture in a tough economy and Maury Jefferson gathers a full schedule of fashion events during the season. Helen Yoest visits creative gardens with an Asian flair and Metro elves worked 24/7 to compile our final seasonal gift guide and – just in time for your New Year's resolutions – a complete listing of luxury spas in the region.

Food editor Moreton Neal learns the hard way that keeping Christmas dinner simple is the only way to go, and wine editor Barbara Ensrud recommends the right wines to create that special touch for holiday feasting.





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Correspondence

ORIGINS OF COMBOLAND

In his excellent article on the online Comboland Radio (*Metro*, November 2008), Philip van Vleck says that I "coined the term Comboland in 1985 via Mitch Easter." Since this leaves the word's origins a bit diffuse, let me offer some clarification.

When I was in junior high school in the early '60s, I had never heard of "garage bands." Guys who gathered in their folks' garages to bash out versions of "Pipeline" or "Louie Louie" were known as combos. The term endured for a while, then became decidedly passé and uncool.

In 1985, putting together a collection of local music to promote in Great Britain (the project was backed by Bernie Reeves, editor and publisher of *Spectator Magazine*), I decided I needed a catchy name to substitute for the cumbersome and uncatchy "New North Carolina Rock Music." Since the NC scene's salient attribute was that it contained an astonishing number of bands hailing from locales throughout the state (there was no single-city focus as in Minneapolis, MN, or Athens, GA), I considered terms like "Garageland" and "Land of a Thousand Bands," but nothing seemed quite right.

One day, I recalled that my friend Mitch Easter (as well as some other local musicians) had, in a kind of retro-hip/ironic slang, revived "combo" as a synonym for band. I thought: "Land of Combos"? And then it clicked: *Comboland*.

I subsequently learned that a catchy title

is a great help to a project like Comboland's 1985 outreach to Europe. And "Comboland" has survived as a synonym for NC rock 'n roll of the '80s. I'm happy that, via projects like Comboland Radio, it continues to beckon people toward the wonderful music of that era.

Godfrey Cheshire New York City

Editor's note: Go to www.metronc.com and click on the Comboland link to hear the music.

CLARIFYING THE INVISIBLE HAND

Jim Leutze and I have this in common — we're both former college professors. He probably remembers (and I certainly do) receiving exam answers from students where they filled up a lot of space with sentences demonstrating that they had no idea what they were talking about.

Leutze's musings about economics in his November column remind me of that. He admits that he's no economist, then proceeds to offer economic thoughts based on his "knowledge of history and human nature." That's fine, but he doesn't base anything on facts of history or human nature, but instead his absolutely mistaken notions of what Adam Smith and Ayn Rand said.

First, Smith did argue that people pursuing their own interests are driven "as if by an invisible hand" to also promote the best interest of others. But then Leutze adds sarcastically that Smith was saying that laissez

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faire "would assure that everyone prospered." That isn't Smith's claim, and it's evident that Leutze has never studied The Wealth of Nations.

What Smith meant was that people tend to search out the goods and services they might offer for sale in the market based on the most urgent needs and desires of other people. For example, in a poorly fed community, people strongly desire more food, so it's likely that a newcomer would be more apt to become a farmer or baker than a musician. Why? Hungry people will pay more for food than to hear music, so it's more in the self-interest of that person to work at satisfying their most urgent wants.

Smith's conclusion was that there is a spontaneous order in a free economy that works to harmonize the interests of producers and consumers. The highest profits are to be obtained in putting land, labor and capital to use in making what consumers want the most.

Smith was not saying that the "invisible hand" automatically means that "everyone prospers," but that if we want to move most rapidly toward prosperity, the government should not alter the natural profit and loss signals of the market. And, emphatically, he was not saying that, as Leutze puts it, "We could have it all and not pay for it." There is nothing in Smith's work that even remotely suggests that idea. Obviously, Leutze has never spent any time around economists, or he'd know that one of their favorite sayings is, "There ain't no such thing as a free lunch."

In almost any course in the principles of economics, students are soon taught that everything has a cost. (For an outstanding exposition of basic economics, Leutze ought to start with Henry Hazlitt's venerable Economics in One Lesson.) Every person understands that in his own decision-making: If I do this, I won't have time to do that: if I buy this, I won't have enough money for that. Recognizing the scarcity of their own resources, individuals are very careful in evaluating costs and benefits.

With politicians, however, things are markedly different. First, they aren't playing with their own money. They spend other people's money. Second, they seldom stand to either directly benefit from good decisions or to suffer from bad ones. Third, the ability to spend beyond their means through the creation of fiat paper money

makes it seem that they can dispense free benefits, but that is just an illusion.

That brings us to Rand. Leutze labels her a "Libertarian," but she rejected that term, preferring "Objectivist." The terminology isn't the important thing here; getting her views right is. Rand, like most libertarians, favored a government limited to just those few "night watchman" functions Thomas Jefferson thought necessary — the protection of life, liberty and property, and the adjudication of disputes. Rand, contrary to Leutze's assertion, did not "distrust all government," but wanted to see it limited to just those few necessary functions. The reason is that she understood how easily government can be turned into a weapon for the expropriation of property and the abrogation of freedom. Her concern was exactly what James Madison feared when he wrote about the evils of "faction" in Federalist Paper #10 — interest groups forming and working for political favors.

The United States today is Madison's nightmare. Factionalism is rampant, with countless interest groups lobbying for government benefits. More and more of our resources and energies are sucked into the game of power politics, a game played ever more ruthlessly. We are a poorer and more divided society for it.

Back to Rand and her "devotee" Alan Greenspan. Rand advocated sound money, as prescribed in the Constitution. That is, money based on tangible value such as a precious metal. (The dollar, incidentally, is defined by the Coinage Act of 1792 as a coin of 371.25 grains of pure silver.) Rand rejected the idea of a monetary system based solely on government fiat that pieces of paper are money and must be accepted. At one time Greenspan agreed, but later decided that his life would be more lucrative if he threw in with the big government types, and he eventually rose to become chairman of the Federal Reserve.

More than anything else, it's the Federal Reserve that is behind our economic cycles of boom and bust. Its blunders triggered and then greatly exacerbated the Great Depression. (There are several books to consult on that, e.g., Gene Smiley's Rethinking the Great Depression.) Without the Fed's easy money policies driving interest rates down to artificially low levels, the housing bubble wouldn't have blown up in 2002-2005. (Fiat money isn't the only culprit here; other federal policies that meddled

with the housing finance market are also at fault.)

Blaming free market economics and thinkers like Smith and Rand for our current troubles gets things exactly backward. It is the intrusion of the state into the orderly functioning of civil society, substituting its clumsy mandates and prohibitions for the spontaneous order of voluntary human interactions that deserves the blame.

> George C. Leef Director of Research John W. Pope Center for Higher Education Policy Raleigh

JIM LEUTZE RESPONDS:

Picky, picky, picky. While I may have, indeed, received exams from students who filled a lot of space indicating that they didn't know what they were talking about, I never spent 925 words correcting their misdirected ramblings.

In The Wealth of Nations (which I admit I read, but not willingly, many years ago), Adam Smith says that while an individual may be seeking only his own gain, he is "led by an invisible hand to promote an end which was no part of his intention. Nor is it always the worst for society that it was no part of it. By pursuing his own interest he frequently promotes that of society more effectively than when he really intends to promote it." That, to me, sounds a lot like saying the invisible hand ensures that society prospers when individuals pursue their self-interests which is what I said.

Basically Smith argued, as the writer says, that "government should not alter the natural profit and loss signals of the market." To my mind this is nuts — it's like saying that since drivers will all look out for their own interest, we don't need traffic signals or police. Indeed, back in the 19th century, which is where the Bush administration wanted to carry us (William McKinley was Karl Rove's ideal president), government didn't interfere with the "natural profit and loss signals of the market," which led to regular economic panics and ultimately helped spawn the progressive movement. After 1929, we accepted the fact that government did need to interfere in the market because Smith, your writer and Alan Greenspan did not factor in that "invisible hand" that inclines one to be greedy.

Now my opinion piece was actually more about how Greenspan interpreted Smith, so if you want to know that, look to his Adam

Smith Memorial Lecture delivered in Scotland on Feb. 8, 2005. In Greenspan's view, Smith understood that "the competitive force unleashed by individuals in pursuit of their rational self-interest induces each person to do better." Moreover, he said that "the individual is driven by private gain but is 'led by an invisible hand' to promote the public good which was no part of his intention." To drive the point home, Greenspan added that Smith laid the groundwork for our current (2005) success by creating the "modern vision of people free to choose and act according to their individual self interest." Need I remind anyone that that "self interest" also led directly to our current crisis.

Now, though I hate to, let's bring in Ayn Rand. How could a hack screenwriter and awful novelist come to have such sway over some ostensibly intelligent people? Although the prolix, turgid Atlas Shrugged is her bestknown work, her previous The Virtue of Selfishness gives a better picture of her pinched, stingy personal philosophy. Even her friends admit that she was an awful human being who was a devout atheist, not just because she didn't believe in God, but because she believed the church encouraged charity, which to her was wrong. She became, and still is, an icon of the arch conservative movement, many of whom share her ludicrous view that government should limit itself to crime control and the judiciary. To liken her views to those of Thomas Jefferson stretches credulity.

As to Rand and Greenspan, the writer implies that Greenspan, who actually wrote articles for Rand's magazine, broke with her later when he went into government service. In fact, he continued his association and attended both her funeral and her memorial service

My understanding of history suggests that the experiment with laissez faire economics in the 19th century led directly to the government oversight that the Bush administration unwisely gutted. They were aided by those Democrats who encouraged Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to loosen regulations on risky mortgages. In each case, less oversight resulted in more exploitation by greedy financiers. I guess it is this process of less and more what the writer calls the "spontaneous order of voluntary human interactions..."

I'm no economist, but early on I learned about kids and cookie jars.

Jim Leutze

SIGN UP FOR LEUTZE

I look forward to receiving *Metro Magazine* each month and congratulate Bernie Reeves and his able cadre of writers for consistent delivery of a periodical that informs, stimulates and entertains.

As a former student of Dr. Jim Leutze during my years in Chapel Hill, I especially enjoy reading his columns and remember that he had the ability to make even military history a fascinating subject for coeds. His latest offering in the November 2008 issue, "What Will Tomorrow Bring?", made me want to sign up for another class.

Willa Kane Raleigh

BANKS ARE THE PROBLEM

I wanted to compliment Bernie Reeves for his November editorial. Usually, given my political leanings, I find his column rather over-the-top ("Beware the Man Behind Obama" was difficult to take seriously) but always a worthwhile read. Though it did contain the predictable conservative argument implicating Senate Democrats in the mortgage crisis, the article stuck to the point: it was banks that caused this situation with their greed and lack of foresight. It was an intelligent, refreshing read with a focus I'd like to see more of in other articles on the issue, regardless of their political slant.

David Henderson Raleigh

EDGE RECIPIENT OF METRO MIRACLE

I can't thank you enough for the great article Liza Roberts did on the EDGE School (www.edgetp.org) for young high school drop outs in Durham. We were all pleased and proud to appear in your beautiful magazine. Since the interview, I've enrolled six new students who are qualified to begin study and nine of the current students passed their practice tests showing they are ready to begin taking the GED at Durham-Tech. The date is set to bring in 10 additional students for testing. The waiting list is still growing daily, and hopefully we can start an afternoon program soon.

EDGE sails along regardless of rough seas. One marvelous result of your article happened one afternoon when I least expected it. An African-American lady, casually dressed, who had read the story, called and said she wanted to come by the school. When she arrived, she asked for a tour. After the tour, she asked how much I needed as she got out her checkbook and began to write three checks. I was overjoyed by her unselfish desire to help someone she didn't know; I couldn't thank her enough. She said, "Don't thank me, thank God; he told me to do it." This was the miracle EDGE needed. A big thank you to *Metro* for spreading the word and bringing in help. I hope you'll write about us again next year for your education issue, and we'll have a lot of progress to report.

Fran Alexander, Executive Director EDGE Training & Placement, Inc. Durham

SON DEFENDS MICHAEL PETERSON

My father, Michael Peterson, is a casualty of the Durham legal system. I write today on his behalf, and also on behalf of my family: my brother, Todd; my sisters, Martha and Margaret; my mother, Patricia; and my uncles, Bill and Jack. We are Michael Peterson's family, and we are hoping for justice – true justice. My family and I are also victims of the legal system – after suffering the tragic loss of a beloved family member, we then had another loved one wrongly taken from us.

The details of the motion, filed last Wednesday by my father's lawyer, Jason Anthony, show the errors in the case against Michael Peterson, and reveal unanswered questions and unresolved issues. The errors are inexcusable; had the investigators of Kathleen Peterson's death and the prosecutors of Michael Peterson done their duty, we believe the very outcome of this trial would have been quite different.

Several cases have come to light in the past few years, in which it is apparent that people within the Durham District Attorney's Office, and the Durham Police Department, have not performed their duties as the law requires, or with Durham's best interest at heart. The Duke Lacrosse case, and the cases of Mr. Erick Daniels and Mr. Frankie Delano Washington, are known examples where the misconduct of a few has led to an egregious miscarriage of justice.

Many of the same people involved in those cases – Freda Black, Art Holland, and Michael Nifong – also played key roles in the investigation and prosecution of Michael Peterson. The same mind-set – that a conviction is far more important than the truth – sullied those cases, and had an equally damaging effect on both the investigation into Kathleen's death, and Michael's subsequent trial.

Unfortunately, this kind of story is nothing new in the city of Durham. It is discouraging to think that Durham's residents may have grown accustomed to news of another grievous error in the legal system – a fault that should not have been, that

must not happen again, that we pray will be remedied.

A trial is not fair when the prosecution withholds exculpatory evidence and the police investigate only the details that support their foregone conclusions. Michael Peterson's trial was marred by countless instances of prosecution secrecy and investigative tunnel vision. The courts must remedy this injustice, must overturn this conviction, and must release this man.

We firmly believe in our father's inno-

cence. We fully believe that justice will eventually prevail. We will not rest until Michael Peterson's freedom is restored.

Sincerely,

Clayton Peterson

CORRECTION

In the piece "Comboland Radio" in the November 2008 issue, one of the founders of the '80s rock band The Fabulous Knobs was Jack Cornell, not Rick Cornell as stated in the article.



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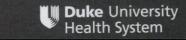
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Robert Ruark Bust Sold At Auction

On Nov. 3 a bronze bust of noted North Carolina journalist and author Robert Ruark was auctioned off in New York City, along with two massive elephant tusks from one of his safaris. Of local interest, the bust and tusks — which together fetched \$25,000 — were bequeathed to the Southern Historical Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill in the will of Marilyn Kaytor, one of Ruark's many mistresses, who claimed to have been his fiancée at the time of his death in 1965.

As reported in *Metro's* October 2008 cover story, the Robert Ruark Society of Chapel Hill has been lobbying hard to gain one of the state's undeniable literary superstars (and UNC alumnus) a long-denied spot in the University's Journalism Hall of Fame. (According to the school, Ruark will be accepted in January 2009 and inducted the following April.)



It was the Society's founder, Jim Cheatham, who brought attention to the issue of the bust, the work of Lithuanian sculptor Nison Tregor — a celebrity artist whose famous subjects include Dwight D.

Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur and John F. Kennedy.

Cheatham told *Metro* that he believes the bust was once part of the Southern Historical Collection's Ruark holdings, which exceed 12,000 items. According to Cheatham, sometime in the last 30 years it was turned over to Kaytor when she threatened to sue.

"That's the lore," says Michele Fletcher, director of Library Development at UNC-Chapel Hill. "We have nothing to confirm that it belonged to us, and we gave it back."

Fletcher was able to confirm that Kaytor indeed left the bust and tusks to the University's archive, but with the stipulation that they would be put on permanent display.

"There was no way we could agree to that," she says. The issue was devoting scarce space in Wilson Library to the tusks, which are 5-feet high and weigh 150 pounds each. (The bust is a mere 15 inches.)

"We had a very thorough discussion among the curators over whether there was a place for the display, and the consensus was there isn't."

And so the bequest was, as Fletcher put it, "renounced." The bust and tusks were sold by the Kaytor estate to a person identified by the auction house Doyle New York as "a West Coast buyer."

Forty-three years after his death from a ruined liver, the lore surrounding Ruark continues to grow.

-Bill Morris

City Cemeteries Repositories of Raleigh's History

The rebirth of downtown Raleigh has in many ways brought the capital city's history to life.

This is apparent along the 211-year-old cobblestone carriageways of City Cemetery, its seven acres home to some of Raleigh's most illustrious founders at the corner of Hargett and East streets, bounded on three sides by a handsome, deteriorating, iron fence and shadowed by the gleaming spire of RBC's new 33-story tower.

Here, under a small marker, lies Joel Lane, whose land was sold to the state to create Raleigh as the state's capital in 1792. Here lies John Rex, whose bequest built



Rex Hospital; Thomas Meredith, for whom Meredith College was named; William Boylan, the newspaper publisher; Jacob Johnson, father of President Andrew Johnson.

Here also lie the plots of veterans from five wars and the clustered graves of the Scottish stonemasons who cut the stones to build Raleigh's Capitol building in 1831. Here lie the unmarked graves of blacks, both free and slave, buried between 1798 and 1872.



"The stories of the people who are buried here are the stories of the people who built this city," says Jane Thurman, the chair of Raleigh City Cemeteries Preservation, Inc.

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Nevertheless, the cemetery, like so many across the country, has deteriorated badly in recent decades. The substantial walled plot of the Peace family — whose scion, William Peace (1773-1865) donated the money and land to found Peace College in 1857 — is crumbled, its stately "table tomb" in pieces on the ground. Other monuments and markers tilt alarmingly or lie

haphazardly in the grass. Though the grounds themselves are well-tended by the city, individual graves are the responsibility of family members. Needless to say, most have died off or moved away.

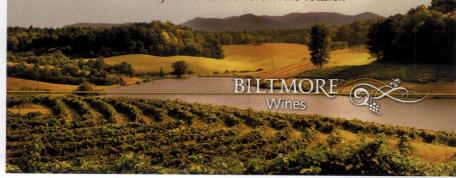
And that's where Thurman's group comes in. A nonprofit founded in 2006, it aims to work with the city of Raleigh to restore and preserve City Cemetery and

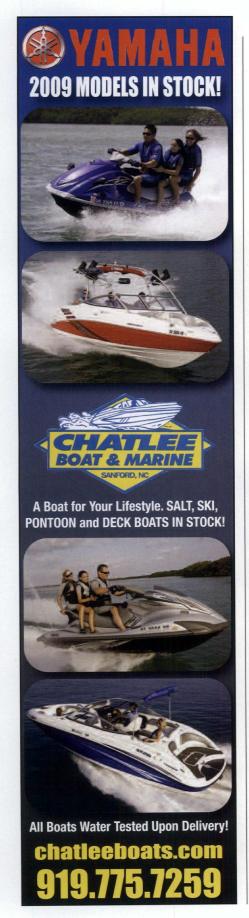


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Raleigh's other two historic city-owned cemeteries — O'Rorke at the corner of Tarboro Road and E. Lane St. — and Mt. Hope, the 34-acre African-American cemetery between South Saunders and Fayette-ville streets.

The group believes these cemeteries should serve as revered monuments, befitting the capital city and honoring the his-

tory they hold. In less than two years, they've accomplished a lot, securing the state's nomination for City Cemetery to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, creating a Geographic Information Systems map of City Cemetery, and developing a database of the three cemeteries.

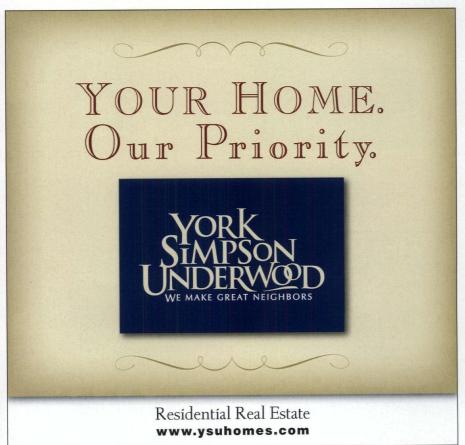
For Thurman, it's a labor of love. She recalls visiting Mt. Hope cemetery for the first

AIA To Build New Center In Downtown Raleigh

The American Institute of Architects NC Chapter has purchased an acre of land from LNR Property Corporation, developers of Blount Street Commons in downtown Raleigh, to build the 12,000-square- foot AIA North Carolina Center for Architecture and Design. The new facility will incorporate "deep green" technology and serve as a model for sustainable construction. Located at the corner of Peace and Wilmington streets, the Center is scheduled to open in 2010. A panel of nationally acclaimed jurors selected Raleigh-based Frank Harmon Architect PA to design the building.

Blount Street Commons was recently recognized as one of the Top Three Best New Residential Developments by North Carolina's *Raleigh Metro Magazine*.

For more information on the AIANC, visit www.aianc.org or call 919-833-2015.



time and seeing a grave marker for Blanche Pitts, who died in 1901. Her husband had put a porcelain photograph of his wife wearing a hat on her monument.

"I thought it was so poignant and interesting," Thurman says, "these fragments of history. I realized the importance of what these cemeteries have to offer in terms of the historic fabric of Raleigh. Not just its famous citizens, but the people who worked hard and lived ordinary lives."

Raleigh City Cemeteries Preservation, Inc. is seeking to raise the money needed to complete their mapping work and to secure National Register designation for Mt. Hope Cemetery. Visit their Web site at www.rccpreservation.org to learn more.

—Liza Roberts

Coastal Federation License Plates Help Protect the NC Coast

The NC Coastal Federation license plate depicting a pristine beach scene surpassed 5000 plates sold. The popular program, which began in 2006 through North Carolina's Division of Motor Vehicles, has

contributed \$177,000 to date to the non-profit environmental group, headquartered in Ocean, NC.

Todd Miller, the Coastal Federation's executive director, said, "The \$20 the Coastal Federation receives from plate sales is used for Federation projects, including placing educators, coastkeepers and restoration specialists in the field and working with students and adults to protect and restore coastal North Carolina."



Funds from the program have helped the Federation engage more than 25,000 students in environmental projects, protect more than 300 acres through conservation easements and land purchases, and restore more than 260 acres of wetlands and oyster habitats.

The fee for a Coastal Federation plate is an additional \$30 a year, with \$20 going to the Federation and \$10 back to the state to support the state's visitor centers and beautification programs. Plates can be purchased at any local license bureau office in the state. To learn more, visit the Federation's Web site at www.nccoast.org/license.

New Book Names Spies

John Earl Haynes and Harvey Klehr, the best-known American researchers on Cold War politics and espionage, have published

a new book available in April 2009 that puts to rest continuing controversies lingering from the epic confrontation between the United States and the USSR. Both scholars appeared at the



third Raleigh Spy Conference in 2005.

Spies: The Rise and Fall of the KGB in America, co-authored by former KGB officer Alexander Vassiliev — who kept copious notebooks of Soviet intelligence oper-



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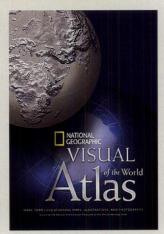
A SPECTACULAR NEW WORLD ATLAS

National Geographic's *Visual Atlas of the World*, just published, combines spectacular color photographs, maps, charts, and diagrams with explanatory text. It portrays the world geographically, culturally, economically, politically, and otherwise. It even locates the earth in the universe graphically over time and space. It is a resource for the whole family and a perfect medium for parents to share learning with their children. A visual pleasure, it is an ideal holiday gift.

- Arch T. Allen

Visual Atlas of the World

by the National Geographic Society (2008, 416 pp.)



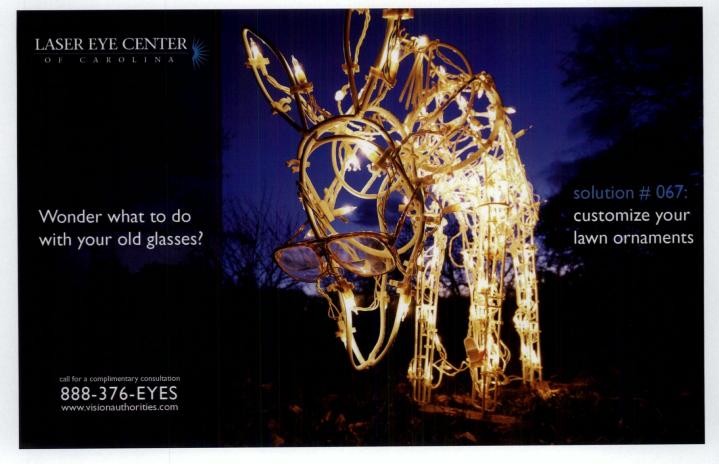
ations against the United States — reveals that Alger Hiss co-operated with Soviet intelligence for a longer period than suspected and that journalist IF Stone worked on behalf of the KGB in the 1930s. The book also reveals that atomic scientist Robert Oppenheimer was never recruited by the Soviets and the names of previously uniden-

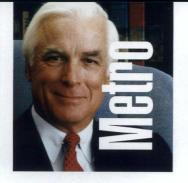
tified American nuclear spies working for USSR intelligence agencies.

Haynes is a historian at the Library of Congress. Klehr is Andrew Mellon Professor of Politics and History at Emory University (he gained his PhD from UNC-Chapel Hill). The authors were among the handful of scholars allowed to view the KGB/Comintern archives after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The new Russian government thought better of this fit of perestroika and sealed the documents after a few months upon the realization the secrets were too explosive to publicize.

The authors have published several works on the Cold War, including *The Secret World of American Communism* for Yale Press and *In Denial*, a scathing indictment of the liberal arts academic community at major US universities for their refusal to recognize the huge volume of scholarship gleaned from declassified sources since 1991. Other books on the subject of Soviet espionage co-authored by Haynes and Klehr include: *Venona: Decoding Soviet Espionage in America; The American Communist Movement; Early Cold War Spies*; and *The Soviet World of American Communism*.

Go to http://yalepress.yale.edu for more information and to www.raleighspyconference.com to read about the appearance of the two authors at the 2005 Raleigh Spy Conference.





Editor-at-Large by Jim Leutze

MUGABE'S HEART OF DARKNESS

don't know how George W. Bush's speech writer came up with the list of the countries that comprised the "Axis of Evil," but I do know one that was left out -Zimbabwe, a country in Africa of 12 million people once one of the richest places on the continent. At one point one dollar in Zimbabwe money was worth one US dollar. As part of the British Colonial Empire, it was called Rhodesia in honor of the mining magnate, Cecil Rhodes. In the late 1960s and into the 1970s, there was an ongoing battle between the majority black population supported by the Soviet Union and China, and the white minority that fielded a well-trained, well-armed military. Finally, in 1979 the white Rhodesians negotiated a settlement that brought the rebels and Robert Mugabe to power.

Once in power in the new state of Zimbabwe, Mugabe never relinquished it. But unlike his neighbor, Nelson Mandela in South Africa, Mugabe embarked on a radical, race-based initiative. His goal was to drive out the white farmers, who had made the country a major exporter of food, and turn their land over to blacks, who "had a right to it." According to the CIA World Factbook, "his chaotic land redistribution campaign ... caused an exodus of white farmers, crippled the economy and ushered in widespread shortages of basic commodities." For a local illustration of how white farmers were treated, see the excellent frontpage article on the Herbst family in the Raleigh News & Observer, Sunday, Oct. 19.

Mugabe's other goal was to stay in office. Consequently, he rigged elections and using "fraud and intimidation" led his ZANU-PF party to win a two-thirds majority in Parliament. These numbers allowed him to rule as his megalomania inclined him. In 2005, it inclined him to destroy the homes and businesses of 700,000 supporters of the opposition party. In 2007, he instituted price controls on basic commodities "causing panic buying and leaving store shelves empty for months."

Today, inflation is approximately 3000 percent. I have a \$5 billion Zimbabwe bill, and the government only recently stopped

printing trillion dollar notes because it invoked ridicule.

In March of this year, Mugabe, despite strong-arm tactics, lost the election to opposition leader, Morgan Tsvangirai. However, Mugabe deigned to give up power. But international condemnation led to a powersharing agreement that was announced during our visit to Zimbabwe in September. The people I talked to were very hopeful, but I noted that Mugabe, now 84, held on to control over the police and the army — not to my mind a hopeful sign.

The people of Zimbabwe are obviously suffering terribly. There is very little food, no gasoline, and schools and other institutions have collapsed. The HIV rate is 35 percent; at a privately supported school we visited, 65 percent of the students were orphans. People are in rags and often shoeless. The country is one groan of human anguish brought on by a power-hungry, racist dictator. He blames the whites for all problems, but the blacks I talked to (who spoke only when away from the watchful eyes of security personnel) knew full well the country wouldn't rebound until the whites came back. I am very pessimistic about that happening any time soon, but I am even more concerned about the ecological future of the country.

Even if Mugabe is replaced soon, and I assured people that sooner or later he would die, the evil he has done will long haunt his country. It is bad enough that he has driven the best and brightest out of the country, savaged the economy, killed several thousand of his political opponents, and is now systematically starving his constituents. His policies have ravaged the land. When the farms were handed over to black subsistence farmers, they had no idea what to do. Moreover, they had no money for seed or fertilizer.

Consequently, they did what they knew how to do — cut the trees for firewood, rashly deforesting the countryside. Then they brought in cattle to graze the marginal grasslands; livestock now exceed the land's capacity to feed them. The result: over 92 percent of the land is in a marginal state and

quickly drying into desert. Other settlers dug out the river banks looking for gold or diamonds. They seldom found any, but their activities and the deforested hillsides led to siltation in the rivers. Poachers burned the grass and scrub to drive out game they needed to survive. Then there is climate change that comes unbidden by any politician. All in all, it adds up to a situation which may not be remediable no matter who follows Mugabe.

Why am I telling you all of this? Don't do what I did: Don't go to Zimbabwe. Although there is still game to see or even hunt, and the people are pleasant — though long-suffering - my view is we shouldn't put one more cent in the treasury that Mugabe uses as his private bank account. I know, you're told that money spent there will trickle down to the people, but if true at all, you can bet it's a pretty small trickle. Painful as it may be in the short run, I believe the US should economically isolate Zimbabwe. Freeze any accounts in the US, bar trade and bar tourists. Although the people are amazingly patient, there will be a popular revolt. With Mugabe and his cronies gone, the people, with international aid, can get on with the job of restoring their once wonderful country. I just hope it won't be too late.

Since I initially drafted this article, the leaders of the Southern African Development Community met to bring their collective wisdom to bear on Zimbabwe's political future. Instead of doing what all reasonable people hoped, requiring a true power-sharing between Mugabe and Tsvangirai, or more reasonably yet, pressure Mugabe to step down, they chose to allow Mugabe to retain control of the army and the police. Making this regrettable decision all the more disturbing is the fact that it was the South African Development Community that helped negotiate the power-sharing deal in the first place.

If the Africans aren't going to control the ruinous, brutal, corrupt policies of their local governments, I'm even more of a mind that we need to show them what true democratic leaders can do.

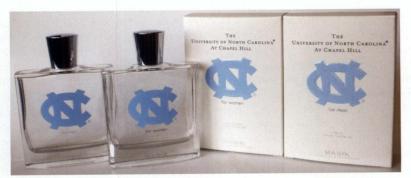
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Gift Guide Part 2

Ready or not, the holidays are upon us, and *Metro* is here to help! Our holiday elves have been busy compiling listings of the season's most popular items, as well as selections of unique gifts for that special person. Shop and enjoy!

by Maury Jefferson and Taylor McCune

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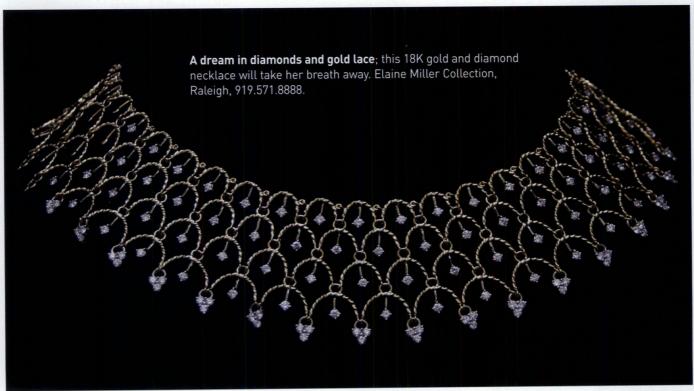
Sensational Diamond Studs starting under \$900. Elaine Miller Collection, Raleigh, 919.571.8888.

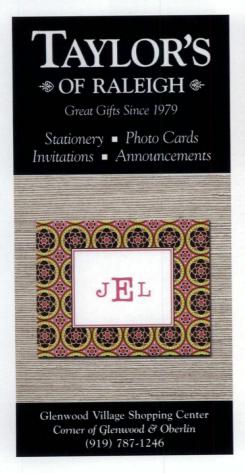




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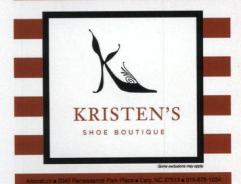
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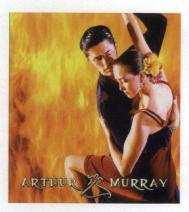
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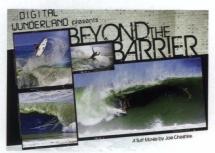
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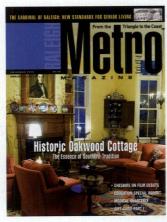
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Call For Entries

The Raleigh City Museum is accepting entries for a juried photography exhibition March 6, 2009 titled "Portraits of

Raleigh: Images of City and her People". The competition is open to all for a \$5.00 entry fee with no restrictions on equipment or date of the photo.

Submissions are due January 5, 2009. Email submis-



sions@raleighcitymuseum.org - or drop off entries to Ladye Jane Vickers at the Museum (919-832-3775 - Ext. 14).

The Museum will make the photos available for sale at a price set by the artist who will receive 75% of the proceeds. Prizes are offered. Go to www.raleighcitymuseum.org for more information.

Winners will be published in Raleigh Metro Magazine.





GIFT GUIDE

The perfect gift to share during the holidays. Skin Scentuals **Pure Soy Massage Candles** create a relaxing ambience while moisturizing. Created with 100 percent soy and essential oils, the handblended candles are biodegradable and come in eight scents. Available at Skin Sense, a day spa. Visit a location, call 919. 870.0700 or go to www.skinsense.com.





Folks in Spruce Pine, NC, began the nonprofit **Home of the Perfect Christmas Tree** to support artistic entrepreneurs by selling locally made ornaments at a downtown store. Products include all-natural spa accessories, pottery blown miniature glass Christmas trees and holiday décor. Visit www.homeoftheperfectchristmastree.org.

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RON OLIVE, formerly counterintelligence officer for the US Marine Corps, NCIS investigator and author of *Capturing Jonathan Pollard* on the role of Pollard's wife **SCOTT CARMICHAEL**, Defense Intelligence Agency, lead agent in the Ana Montes Cuban spy case and author of the book *True Believer*

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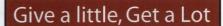
The Farmer's Market is extended featuring wreaths, garlands, greenery and decorations.



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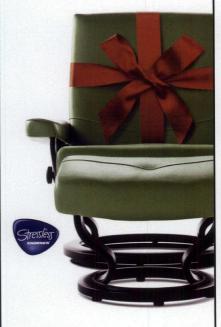
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Tarboro's Blount-Bridgers House Centerpiece Of Historic Renaissance

by Diane Lea

astern North Carolina is full of wonderful surprises — and rich in history. The first settlers ensconced themselves in the coastal areas and their descendants worked their way inland. The region retains its beautiful, agrarian topography where livelihoods and living remain tied to small towns, farms, waterways, sounds and coastal waters. A leisurely drive from the Triangle down NC Highway 64 East to the colonial town of Tarboro in central Edgecombe County is a trip back in time.

Incorporated in 1760, Tarboro is situated in the bend of the Tar River in what is now called North Carolina's Inner Banks. It

has one of the country's last largely intact Town Common, set aside as public green space when the town was chartered. It was on the Town Common that children played, livestock grazed, farriers plied their trade and thrifty housewives perused a tinker's wares. The Tarboro Town Common features a rare historic 1840 cotton press, indicating the importance of King Cotton.

In his book *Edgecombe County: Twelve North Carolina Counties in 1810-1811*, Jeremiah Battle, a descendant of Revolutionary War soldier Elisha Battle, describes the town around the common as having "about 50 private houses, generally from 15 to 20 private stores, a church, a jail, two warehouses and a large court-



house." However, Battle's most eloquent words are lavished upon the home I am seeking.

"Adjacent to the town," he continues, "is the county seat of Gen. Thomas Blount, where he has lately built a very good house, the best that is in the county. This is a beautiful eminence overlooking the town. An extensive green surrounds the house, back of which is a tract of 20 or 30 acres of rich swamp land, well ditched and drained, and is in a high state of cultivation."

It is most gratifying to see upon arriving at the Blount-Bridgers House, a significant site in Tarboro's 45-block Historic District formerly known as *The Grove* that the home and its setting are still in a high state of cultivation. Today, however, its bounty features historic architecture, fine art, and the cultural and natural heritage of a distinguished family home and an historic region.

EDGECOMBE ARTS

Approaching the house that Revolutionary War hero Thomas Blount built on this blue-skied late fall weekend, we blend with a stream of visitors ascending its wide, welcoming steps to participate in the 200th anniversary of the Blount-Bridgers House, and to enjoy the Great Tarboro Art Bazaar — an annual event organized by the Edgecombe County Cultural Arts Council, Inc. The Blount-Bridgers House is headquarters of the Council, known informally as Edgecombe Arts. With its companion structure the Silas Everette House, it also serves as a history museum, arts gallery, community center and site of gardens displaying the plants indigenous to the Tar-Roanoke River Basin.

Entering the ca.1808 house, a Federalstyle, two-story dwelling with attic and raised basement, the visitor is struck by the meticulously detailed and imposing residence — characterized by pairs of gable-end chimneys and lovely porches. The Italianate porch facing the Tarboro Common, added in the 1850s, is distinguished by posts entwined with a graceful lattice work pattern unique to Edgecombe County. The home's irregular central hall passage floor plan conveniently accom-



modates two smaller rooms used for offices and similar functions, and opens to access two elegantly appointed rooms on the 1850s elevation. A formal parlor and a dining room display period furnishings

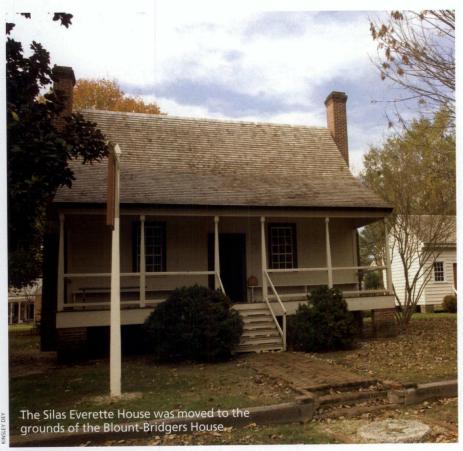
The work and office of impressionist painter and Edgecombe County native son Hobson Pittman are on display.



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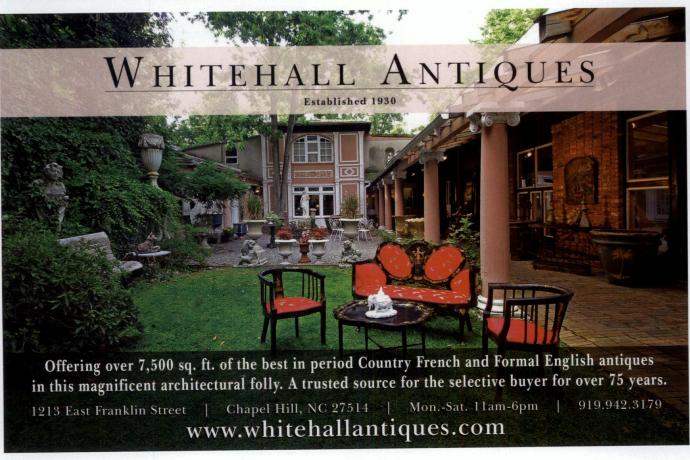


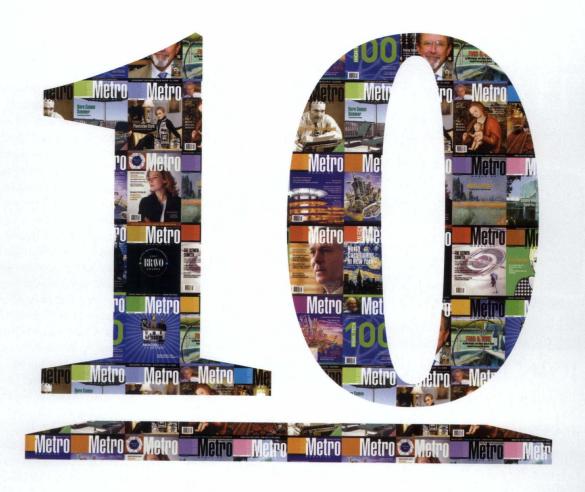
and portraits of the notable members of North Carolina's planter aristocracy who once owned the home.

THE BLOUNT FAMILY

Buddy Hooks, executive director of the Edgecombe County Cultural Arts Council, and his friend and colleague Hiram Perkinson, are on hand to greet the steady stream of locals and out-of-town guests and to guide us through the house and interpret its significance. Though architecturally the Blount-Bridgers House is a testament to the wealthy and politically active planter aristocracy, it is perhaps most appreciated today as the home of an internationally recognized collection of art by Edgecombe County native and nationally known American Impressionist Hobson Pittman.

Perkinson, a docent volunteer who knows the Blount-Bridgers House story thoroughly, recounts that: "Thomas Blount, who built this house in 1808, was part of the extensive Blount family, headed by John Gray Blount of Washington, just down the Tar River. The Blount fam-





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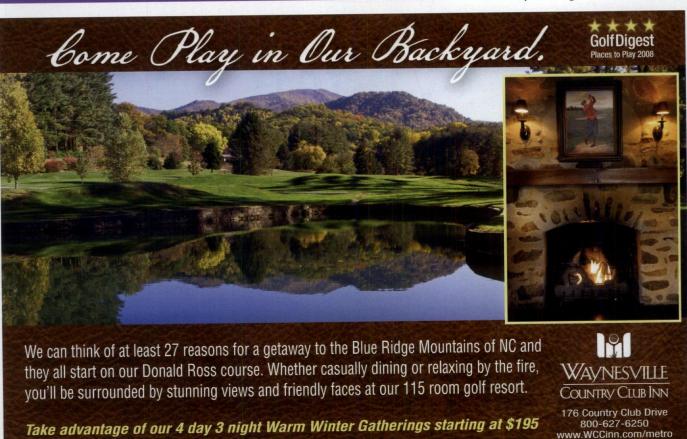
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ily was engaged in naval stores and shipping via the Tar River, which provided access to the Pamlico Sound. Thomas served in the American Revolutionary War and was imprisoned by the British and sent to England. After the war, he was able to return to Tarboro and take up the family mercantile business and was elected to the State House of Commons in 1788. Thomas' brother, William Blount, was more adventurous and led his family to Tennessee where he became governor."

There are two marvelous portraits of Thomas and his well-connected wife, Mary Jacqueline Sumner Blount — or "Jackie," daughter of Gen. Jethro Sumner of Warren County, and through the Sumner family connected to the Mordecai family of Raleigh. Her portrait is on loan from the Mordecai House. Thomas' portrait is on loan from the North Carolina Museum of History.

Hooks adds: "The Blount-Bridgers House has been owned by the Town of Tarboro since 1932. It has served as the town library, administrative offices and community meeting room, and the town's





Furnished to portray the average Edgecombe County household, the Silas Everette House dates from the early 1800s.

first swimming pool was constructed on its grounds."

The historic residence was saved from neglect by Meade Bridgers, whose family owned the house after the Blounts, and subsequent owner Col. Louis Wilson. Bridgers cooperated with the town to make the residence the Arts Council head-quarters in 1982. Hooks points out that the spacious grounds of the Blount-Bridgers House extend a full city block.

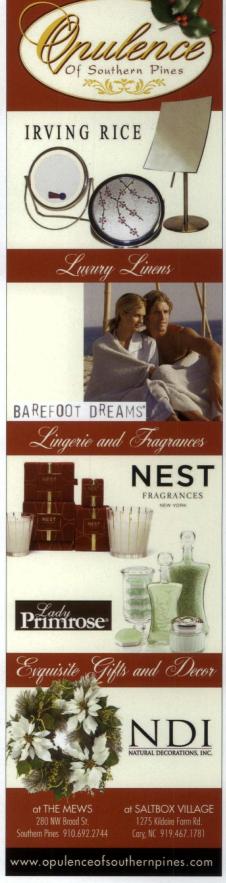
"When the town removed the community pool, we reclaimed the grounds for our teaching gardens, and as you see, we have plenty of room left for outdoor festivities like the dinner and silent auction we hosted last night under the tent."

ART COLLECTION

But how did the Blount-Bridgers

House become the repository of one of America's most notable American Impressionist collections? Watson Brown, an Edgecombe County native and former Tarboro planning director, recalls that the transformation of the Blount-Bridgers House began when Alice Weeks Gordon, Hobson Pittman's niece, wanted to contribute a large part of the Hobson Pittman Collection to the Town of Tarboro, provided it could be housed in a gallery able to display and preserve the works. In a generous move, Larry Wheeler, executive director of the North Carolina Museum of Art, agreed to the de-accession of a number of Hobson Pittman paintings and transfer them to the newly emerging Blount-Bridgers House/Hobson Pittman Memorial Gallery.

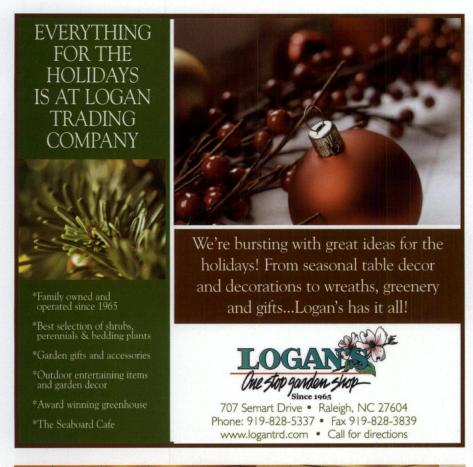
"It took a lot of fundraising and grant-





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writing," Brown continues, "spearheaded by many people, including Tarboro native Motsie Brooks, the late Bob Burns, a Presbyterian minister, and Barbara Boney, who is now with the State Capitol Foundation, and of course, the indefatigable Minnie Lou Parker Creech who died recently. They helped to raise \$400,000 for the project, which was part of an ongoing series of town projects to celebrate the 1976 US Bicentennial."



The Blount-Bridgers House parlor mantel suggests a transitional Georgian-Federal style.

Brown looks to the Blount-Bridgers House as an example of how heritage and cultural tourism can play a large part in Eastern North Carolina's economic revitalization. Tarboro is one of the stops on the Historic Albemarle Tour, a self-guided heritage driving tour of the historic locations in Eastern and Northeastern North Carolina. In addition, the town's comfortable drive time, an hour and a half from Raleigh, makes it an easy day trip from the Triangle and from most of the eastern part of the state. And as Greenville continues to rise as a hub for business, medical care and education, the 30-minute drive is attracting newcomers to settle in this historic and charming community. •

Szostak-Designed Gallery Space Complements Durham Arts Revival

Architect Phil Szostak was invited to view the new space for Joe Rowand's Somerhill Gallery in The Venable Center in Durham's Downtown Arts District. Szostak took in the concrete block exterior, part of the old historic tobacco warehouse and walked inside to view the rough concrete floors, steel support beams and tall ceilings. His response: "Great, let's go to work."

The choice of the Venable Center space at 303 S. Roxboro St., came after Rowand and Szostak had visited several New York galleries to stoke their creative fires. Szostak points out that what impressed them most were the galleries that demanded exploration. "It is enticing not to see everything at once," says Szostak. "We proceeded to unfold Somerhill's spaces by using

good geometry." Upon entering the gallery, lit by 40 skylights, the visitor is aware of a slightly angled wall running the length of the sparkling fine art glass and jewelry gallery immediately to the left of the entrance foyer. That quirky angle, which is idiosyncratic to the old building, adds visual interest and showcases the tall custom cabinetry and white oak floors that run throughout the gallery.

Straight ahead as you enter is a patinated steel and marble reception desk. A slight jog to the right places the visitor on the axis that runs into the deep hidden recesses of the 9600-square-foot gallery displaying contemporary photography, a huge private viewing room, art storage space and Rowand's glass-walled office, overlooking a tropical open-air atrium. To the right of the internal corridor is the gallery's L-shaped salon/living room, with a fireplace, white leather Le Corbusier sofas and 16-foot



walls swathed in fabric. The L-shape allows the separation of the salon into two distinct gallery spaces. "We often use this space for formal dinners, and we can accommodate up to 100 people comfortably at round tables for eight or 10," says Szostak, who recently hosted a reception and dinner for the AIA Triangle Forum in the space. •



Fashion In A Tough Economy

By Molly Fulghum Heintz

olie laide, a French phrase that literally means "pretty-ugly," is used to describe someone that does not conform to conventional standards of beauty but is still attractive or appealing. It's also an apt description of certain oddball fashion trends, such as the pervasive open-toe boot that came on the scene last summer. In case you haven't seen it, designers have taken unsuspecting high-heeled ankle boots and peeled back the toe. Sound weird? It is. And it raises an existential question: Is this still a boot?

Even the most fashion-forward couture serves a primary function of clothing the body in some way. Having achieved that basic purpose, which distinguishes it from being art for art's sake, it's



Jimmy Choo

allowed to go off in any direction. For example, most will agree that the function of what we call a "shoe" is to protect the sole of the foot from the ground. On top of the sole, it might morph into a stiletto, a slide, a sandal, but if the sole is covered, a shoe is doing its job. Look up "boot" in the dictionary, and you'll find something along the lines of: "Protective footgear, as of leather or rubber, covering the foot and part or all of the leg."

So the open-toe boot is not

really a boot at all, but rather a very elaborate, maddeningly impractical shoe. An intriguing visual conundrum that confuses form and function, the open-toe boot has become an object of fascination, seen on the front rows of fashion shows and now on shelves at Macy's. If you're going in for this trend, check out the more wearable ankle styles, such as Jimmy Choo's Glint peep-toe booties (www.saksfifthavenue.com). Warning: The sparkly blue suede booties have a \$995 price tag, so by "check out" I mean study for inspiration, not run to the cash-wrap counter.

TEST OF TIME

What's the fate of designer fashions in a tough economy? For one thing, shoppers are more likely to pass over the quirky *jolie laide* pieces and invest their money in styles that will stand the test of time. The savvy buyer can uncover amazing deals — Yves Saint Laurent's must-have handbag of the season, the Muse Two, is floating around on eBay for half the original price — and anyone who is paying attention will stumble upon bargains (I recently bought a pair of boots — including the toe — at a New York department store, and later the same day I found the exact pair on sale for over 50 percent less at a boutique).

Smart lower-priced retailers are using this time to turn the heads of would-be customers by raising the fashion stakes. H&M launched its latest guest designer collection on Nov. 13, featuring pieces from Commes des Garçons, the "brainy" line by Japanese

designer Rei Kawakubo. J.Crew is another mass retailer positioned to do well as wallets become leaner. The brand has attracted stylish shoppers in recent seasons by creating a line of bold accessories and producing visually stunning catalogues featuring on location shoots that evoke a chic, cosmopolitan lifestyle. The new J.Crew Collections store on Madison Avenue in New York mixes the J.Crew line with a curated selection of vintage items, a clever strategy to lure trendsetters who seek hard-to-find and unique pieces. The brand also received a timely plug from

elegant first lady to-be Michelle Obama, who appeared on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* in October wearing a snappy J.Crew ensemble.

J.Crew

AFFORDABLE LUXURIES

Even if the only change you can believe in is the last two digits of your checking account balance, there are some comparatively affordable little luxuries that would sit well in the most discerning Christmas stockings. Sometimes things that are ephemeral and meant to be enjoyed in the moment feel the most luxurious of all. An under \$500 luxury: "Chocolate and the Nose Sensory Collection" from Vosges Haut-Chocolat, the designer chocolatier. This gift absolutely will not — and should not — stand the test of time. The beautifully packaged chocolate Sensory Collection is a guide to tasting the flavors found in the accompanying varietal chocolates and includes 42 sniffing aromas and a



Fashion News

Verses Jeans, a locally designed and produced line, will be renamed **RaleighDenim** in 2009. The men's line is available at NV in North Hills, Edge of Urge in Wilmington and at the downtown Raleigh studio at 1407 S. Bloodworth St. The new woman's line is currently only available at the studio. Visit www.raleighdenim.com or call 919.274.5999.

On Dec. 2, **Elaine Miller Collection** will host a Slane & Slane Trunk Show from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and a Holiday Open House from 6-8 p.m. Bijoux de Mer Jewelry will be in-store Dec. 18-19. Raleigh, 919.571.8888.

On Dec. 4 from 4-8 p.m., join **Kristen's Shoe Boutique**, and surrounding stores in The Arboretum, for a Holiday Open House with wine, cheese, prizes and more. Cary, 919.678.1234.

Shop for the holidays at **Ten Thousands Villages** between 5-8 p.m. on Dec. 4 and 15 percent of proceeds will benefit Hospice of Wake County. Raleigh, 919.821.1100.

Visit **Cameron Clothing** Dec. 4-5 for a Lafayette 148 Spring 2009 Trunk Show. Raleigh, 919.829.1511.

Meet the designer of Dianaira for a two-day trunk show Dec. 4-5 at **Soho Clothing** in Cameron Village. Call for details. Raleigh, 919.833.8550.

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from different services and packages, including personal shopping and special occasions, to personalized color analysis and closet clarity. Visit. www.onechicmama.com for details. Raleigh, 919.828.7529.

Main & Taylor will begin its semi-annual sale in December with fall and winter items reduced up to 30 percent — including boots. The sale is progressive with reductions becoming deeper as selections become smaller. Wrapping and gift certificates available. Raleigh, 919.821.1556.

Buy two pairs of regularly priced shoes and get a third pair 30 percent off during a December Special at **Walk, Scout & Molly's Shoetique**. Raleigh, 919.881.0303.

Fine Feathers announces Armani Collezioni Spring 2009 has arrived and a Marisa Baratelli Spring Showing is scheduled for January. Ladies plan ahead for spring and summer special occasions. Chapel Hill, 919.942.3151.

Visit **Liles Clothing Studio** through December for a Pre-Holiday Sale. Raleigh, 919.510.5556.

December events at **Saks Fifth Avenue**, Raleigh, 919.792.9100:

- Holiday Cheer is Free at Saks this Dec. 4, 11 & 18 from 5-8 p.m. with free stocking stuffers, makeovers and beauty treatments (while supplies last)
- Sisley Spa Event, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. enjoy a one-on-one spa treatment and make-

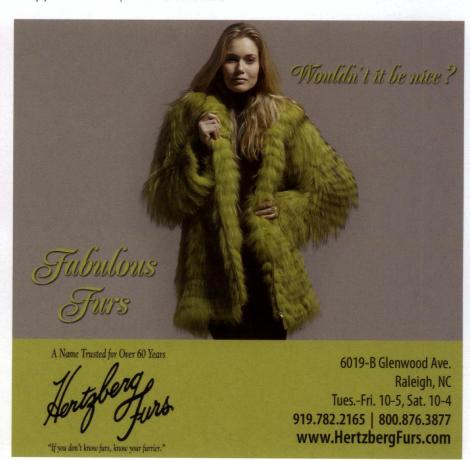
- over with National Makeup artist Oke Yu. Ext. 5371.
- Laura Mercier Event, Dec. 19-20. Meet Saks Laura Mercier specialist for a spa, makeover and last-minute wish list. Ext. 5362.
- John Hardy Trunk Show, Dec. 4. Come view John Hardy's newest collection for fall between 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Ext. 5318.
- Roberto Coin Trunk Show, Dec. 10-15. An exclusive Roberto Coin collection only at Saks.
- A Flake Like Mike holiday book reading, Dec.
 11, at 6 p.m. bring the children to join Saks and WRAL-TV news anchor Gerald Owens for a book reading. Saks will donate \$2 for every book sold to the St. Jude 2008 Thanks and Giving Campaign. Call the Holiday Department, ext. 5205

December events at **Belk**, Crabtree Valley Mall, Raleigh, 919.782-7010:

- Ralph Lauren Fashion Show, Dec. 13 from 12-1 p.m. tips on making the wardrobe transition from fall to winter and the latest trends for the upcoming season from our Ralph Lauren regional teams. Open to the public; prizes will be given away.
- Chanel presents "The Gentle Glow of Gold" event to get ready for the holidays Dec. 3-6 from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Call ext. 273 to book your appointment.
- Bobbi Brown "Beauty Team" event Dec 11-13 and Dec. 18-20. Makeup artist team will be in the store for personal consultations and applications tips. Call ext. 275 to book appointments.







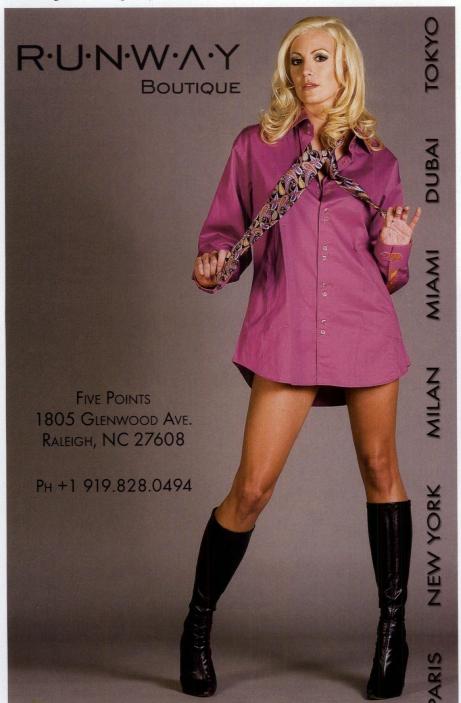
blindfold for making a game of it (\$375 at www.vosgeschocolate.com). Under \$250: Frederic Malle, the perfume impresario, has commissioned a new fragrance from perfume genius Maurice Roucel called Dans Tes Bras ("In Your Embrace"). Peppery and earthy, the unusual unisex fragrance falls squarely in



Malle

the *jolie laide* category but will be coveted and appreciated by true perfume connoisseurs (\$220 at www.barneys.com). Under \$100: Vera Wang's new "Look" fragrance is equally modern but more wearable, with a green, citrusy top note that dries down to floral body and a pretty warm finish (\$70 for 1.7 ounces at

www.verawangonweddings.com). Under \$20: Fragonard, the French perfumer, has developed a new line of soaps made from plant oils and blended with refined natural fragrances, such as sweet almond oil soap perfumed with rose, or olive oil soap scented with lavender (\$16 at www.basic-frenchonline.com). *Jolie jolie!*







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by Taylor McCune

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Services: body wraps, bronzing treatments, massage, steam room, reflexology, aromatherapy massage, hot stone therapy, nails, makeup artistry, waxing

BODYLASE SKIN SPA

501 Keisler Drive

919-851-8989

www.getbodylase.com

Services: laser hair removal, skin rejuvenation, Botox, wrinkle fillers, lip augmentation, laser vein care, waxing, facials, eyelash extensions, LipoDissolve

BORJA DAY SPA

324 S. Academy St.

919-467-4772

www.borjadayspa.com

Services: massage, nails, waxing, facials, makeup, body treatments

CARY MASSAGE THERAPY CENTER

1330 SE Maynard Road

Suite 203

919-319-4911

www.carymassagetherapy.com

Services: facials, massage, reflexology, acupressure, waxing, hot stone therapy, aromatherapy

CARY SKIN CENTER

200 Welleslev Trade Lane

919-363-7546

www.caryskincenter.com

Services: aesthetic surgery, laser treatments

IATRIA SPA AND HEALTH CENTER

The Arboretum at Weston

2058 Renaissance Park Place Suite 200

www.iatria.com

919-870-6114

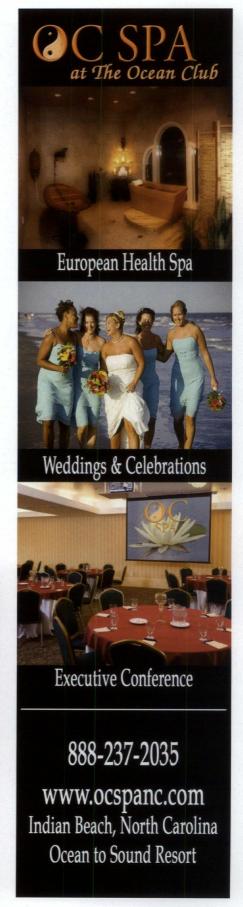
Services: facial treatments, microdermabrasion, reflexology, massage, nails, body scrubs and wraps, elos hair removal

Pinehurst Offers Special Spring Package

Indulge your senses in pure bliss at the annual The Spa at Pinehurst Spring Renewal Weekend March 13-15, 2009. A two-night accommodation at The Holly Inn includes a welcoming reception with mini spa service, a gourmet gala dinner with wine tasting, life enriching and aromatherapy workshops, motivational seminars, morning group fitness sessions, receptions and luncheons, spa product samples and a \$100 gift card. The entire package is only \$499 per person

Four featured quests are scheduled during the weekend: Mimi Donaldson, author, speaker and leader, has captivated audiences for over 20 years. Her most recent book, Bless Your Stress: It Means You're Still Alive!, has generated exceptional reviews; Julie Luther, founder and president of PurEnergy Health and Wellness Services and teacher of "Nutrition 101" will hold her patented workout over the weekend; Illiana Kiernan, director of operations for Sothys USA, will provide tips during her "How to Spa at Home" session focusing on taking care of yourself without spending much time in front of a mirror; and Ashley Perryman, mineral specialist for La Bella Donna Minerals of New York, presents her unique approach to looking naturally flawless.

The Spa Renewal Weekend offers plenty of personal time to enjoy 40 spa services, resort venues, shopping and other activities. Call 800-487-4653 to reserve or go to www.pinehurst.com/spa_vacation_packages.asp.



LA THÉRAPIE DAY SPA

1000 Darrington Drive 919-380-0041

1,1-300-0041

www.ltdayspa.com

Services: facial treatments, massage, body treatments, nails, waxing, tinting, Endermologie

MASSAGE ENVY

1385 Kildaire Farm Road 919-467-5400

www.massageenvy.com

Services: deep tissue, Swedish, sports, hot stone and reflexology massages

MY DAY SPA

2056 Kildaire Farm Road 919-816-8228

www.mydayspa.com

Services: nails, Swedish and deep tissue massage, pregnancy massage, facials

SKIN SENSE

1269 Kildaire Farm Road 919-870-0700

www.skinsense.com

Services: nails, body treatments, seaweed treatments, body wraps, facial treatments, massage, reflexology, hair removal, makeup artist

TANAS HAIR DESIGNS AND DAY SPA

105 Baines Court 919-380-0221

www.tanashairdesigns.com

Services: hair, nails, microdermabrasion, body wraps, lash and brow services, massage therapy, body treatments, hair removal

THE SPA BY MITCHELLS

1105 Walnut St. Unit F-160

919-467-9641

www.mitchellspas.com Services: healing massage, cleansing facial, body treatment,

manicure and pedicure VON KEKEL SALON SPA

2230 Walnut St.

919-859-0888

www.vonkekel.com

Services: facials, body treatments, massages, brow and lash tinting, hair, nails, waxing

THE UMSTEAD SPA

100 Woodland Pond

919-447-4170

www.theumsteadspa.com

Services: hydrotherapy, massage therapies, skin care, facials, nails, hand and foot treatments, waxing, tinting

APEX BOTALIA MED SPA

2046 Creekside Landing Drive

919-363-8400

www.botaliamedspa.com

Services: Botox, Juvederm, peels, facials, vibradermabrasion, laser hair removal, eyelash extensions

LIFE'S LITTLE PLEASURES

134 Salem Towne Court

919-362-6311

www.llpleasures.com

Services: massages, facials, body wraps, nails, microdermabrasion, photo light therapy, cellulite reduction

NATURAL MARVEL'S SPA

800 W. Williams St.

919-367-9880

www.naturalmarvelspa.com

Services: massage therapy, skin therapy, skin resurfacing, hair removal, spa treatments

SYENI SALON & SPA

225 N. Salem St.

Suite 101

919-387-4166

www.syenispa.com

Services: hair care, manicures, pedicures, facials, peels, waxing, massage, body polishes, men's services

CLAYTON BOTANICALS II LASER CENTER & DAY SPA

11690 US 70 West

919-553-1293

www.botanicals2.com

Services: massages, facials, nails, laser treatments, chemical peels, waxing, Botox, hair

REGIONAL A SPA-INN ASHEVILLE

128 Hillside St.

Asheville, NC

828-255-0051

www.ashevillespa.com

Services: massage, body treatments, sauna, reflexology, aromatherapy

BALLANTYNE RESORT

10000 Ballantyne Commons Parkway

Charlotte, NC

704-248-4000

www.ballantyneresort.com

Services: facials, facial enhancements, massage, exfoliation, body massage and wraps, nails, hair, makeup, hair removal

CHETOLA RESORT

North Main St.

Blowing Rock, NC

800-243-8652

www.chetola.com

Services: massage, reflexology, facials

GRANDOVER RESORT

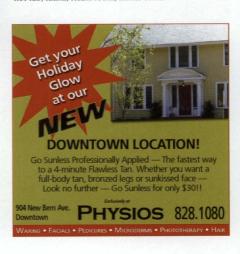
1000 Club Road

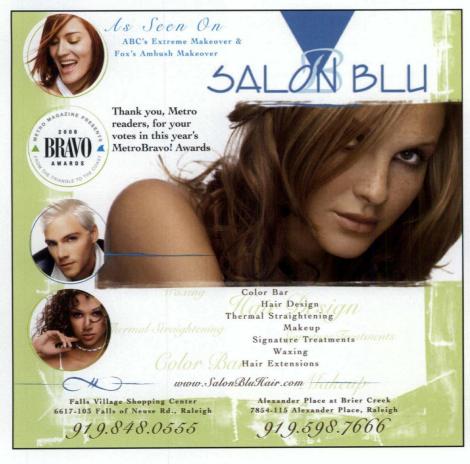
Greensboro, NC

336-294-1800

www.grandover.com

Services: massage, facials, body treatments, nails, waxing, hot tub, sauna, steam room, fitness center





HOT SPRINGS RESORT & SPA

315 Bridge St.

Hot Springs, NC

828-622-7676

www.nchotsprings.com

Services: massage, body treatments, mineral baths

KINGSMILL RESORT

1010 Kings Mill Road

Williamsburg, VA

800-832-5665

www.kingsmill.com

Services: massage, nails, hair, facials, body treatments,

fitness center

NANTAHALA VILLAGE RESORT & SPA

9400 Hwy. 19 West

Bryson City, NC

828-488-2826

www.nvnc.com

Services: massage, facials, body treatments

OLD EDWARDS INN AND SPA

445 Main St.

Highlands, NC

828-526-8008

www.oldedwardsinn.com

Services: sauna, fitness center, facials, body treatments,

massage, baths, hair, nails

SEA ISLAND SPA AT THE CLOISTER

Sea Island, GA

912-638-3611

www.seaisland.com

Services: holistic therapeutics, body wraps, skin care, nails,

fitness center, massage, hair

SPA AT COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG RESORT

307 S. England St.

Williamsburg, VA

777-220-7720

www.colonialwilliamsburgresort.com/spa

Services: massage, body scrubs, wraps, baths, skin care,

romatherapy

SPA KORU - HATTERAS

40920 Hwy. 12

Avon, NC

252-995-3125

www.spakoru.com

Services: facials, massage, body wraps and scrubs

THE GREENBRIER

300 W. Main St.

White Sulphur Springs, WV

800-624-6070

www.greenbrier.com

Services: holistic treatments, massages, baths in indigenous spring water, sprays, reflexology, body scrubs and polishes,

acials, nail

THE HOMESTEAD RESORT

1766 Homestead Drive

Hot Springs, VA

866-354-4653

www.thehomestead.com

Services: fitness and relaxation lounges, massage therapies,

hydrotherapy, body wraps, facials, hair, nails

THE OCEAN CLUB

1701 Salter Path Road

Indian Beach, NC

888-237-2035

www.ocspanc.com

Services: facials, massage, body treatments, hydrotherapy, hair, nails

THE SANDERLING RESORT & SPA

1461 Duck Road

800-701-4111

Duck, NC

www.thesanderling.com

Services: hair, nails, waxing, massage, facials, body treat-

ments

THE SPA AT THE GROVE PARK INN RESORT

290 Macon Ave.

Asheville, NC

800-438-5800

www.groveparkinn.com

Services: nails, skin care, hydro-bath treatments, massage

treatments, body wraps

THE SPA AT PINEHURST

1 Carolina Vista Drive

910-235-8320

Pinehurst, NC

www.pinehurst.com

Services: nails, facials, massage, body and hydrotherapy

treatments, whirlpool relaxation

WESTGLOW SPA

224 Westglow Circle

Blowing Rock, NC

800-562-0807

www.westglow.com

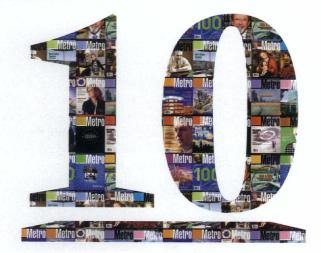
Services: face and body treatments, salon services, heath

and fitness therapies

Many spas offer gift certificates, day and weekend

packages. Call for details.

METRO MAGAZINE CELEBRATES 10 YEARS SERVING THE TRIANGLE TO THE COAST.





Each month of our 10th Anniversary year, Metro will highlight a different "vision" feature along with great content Metro readers have come to expect. We will cover each of the Triangle cities as well as Eastern North Carolina and the coast. Other features include special coverage of our MetroBravo Awards, a Real Estate Guide, Medical "vision", Fashion, Cultural Review, Education and a special Writer's Review Collectors Edition.

Metro

Call your sales rep for information on advertising at 831-0999.



Creative Design Draws On Asian Influences

By Helen Yoest

ommy and Linda Bunn purchased a lot in Olde Raleigh knowing they would build a garden with strong Japanese influences based on their interest in Asian artifacts.

The lot, however, was going to be a challenge. The property had a pond spillway considered by others to be a detriment to the landscape. However, Linda saw the spillway as part of the plan.

Collaborating with Phil Hathcock of Natural Stone Sculptures in Apex — known for their Japanese garden design — she made her vision a reality. Most of us are satisfied having a garden with two or even three seasons of interest. The Bunn's garden is not only a four season's garden, but they also enjoy it most in the winter.

Linda points out that, "The winter shows form instead of foliage, bringing out the elegant lines of the trees and shrubs." Japanese maples show nicely in the winter especially with night lighting, as do shrubs such as the Harry Lauder's walking stick.

And winter is when this garden really shines with color. From the bark of the Coral Bark maples, flame dogwoods and Nandina berries, the color red is echoed throughout. The

lush greens from the magnolias and cast iron plants add warmth to the wintry landscape.

Major features of this serene multilevel design include Japanese-style seating, a Machiai — a meeting shelter where you wait and gather before going to the tea house — and of course the spillway, which now holds sculpture and plantings. The stream bed created from the spillway is crossed with bridges and is surrounded with unique plantings, many from the JC

Raulston Arboretum's connoisseur and premier collections.

While it was important to create a garden with respect to Asiatic design, the Bunns also added materials from their respective family farms. As an

example, wood used in making the Machiai came from the church where Tommy grew up. "We love the garden, but also felt it was important to include our heritage — to have a part of our past with us in the present," says Tommy.

JC Raulston Arboretum Events

To see and learn about adding winter interest to your garden, attend a free lecture and tour at the JC Raulston Arboretum, 4415 Beryl Road, Raleigh:

Feb. 15, 2009, 1-4 p.m.

A Walk in the Winter Garden and Lecture "Beyond Dwarf Alberta: Conifers for Every Garden" presented by Mark Weathington, assistant director

Tours at 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Plant sale 2-4 p.m.

JC Raulston Arboretum at NCSU

For more information, please contact Chris Glenn at 919-513-7005 or visit www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum/.

Garden Events

Selection of garden events, shops and centers for inspiration, design and gifts for this holiday season

OAKWOOD CANDLELIGHT TOUR

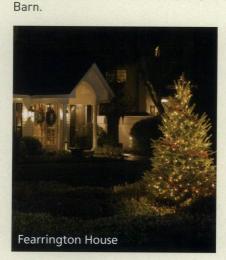
Raleigh; Contact www.historicoakwood.org Saturday, Dec. 13, and Sunday, Dec. 14, from 1-7 p.m. both days

EVENTS AT FEARRINGTON VILLAGE

Pittsboro; Contact 919-542-2121 or www.fearrington.com

Fearrington Holiday Market

Dec. 7, 12-4 p.m. Inspired by Christmas Markets in Europe, the holiday market offers a variety of unique gifts and decorations by local artisans at the Fearrington



This year's event will feature an openair performance by the accomplished Bronze Voices Handbell Choir from the United Church of Chapel Hill.
Also: Saturday, Dec. 20, 11 a.m.
Holiday Storytelling with Donald Davis.

EVENTS AT THE JC RAULSTON ARBORETUM

JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University, 4415 Beryl Road, Raleigh. Ruby C. McSwain Education Center Raleigh; call 919-515-3132 www.ncsu .edu/jcraulstonarboretum

Poinsettia Open House

Dec. 7, 1-5p.m.
Over 110 different cultivars of poinsettias will be displayed. Vote for your favorite.
York Auditorium

Holiday Landscape Plants Tour Dec. 7, 2 p.m.

GARDEN GIFT SHOPS

A Proper Garden 2 Ann St. Wilmington, NC 27401

Bloom Where You Are Planted

708 Market St. Southern Village Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dovecote at Fearrington Village 2000 Fearrington Village Center Pittsboro, NC 27312

Smith & Hawken Crabtree Valley Mall Raleigh, NC 27612

Market Imports

At the State Farmers Market 1208 Farmers Market Drive Raleigh, NC 27603 919-833-0466

Late Bloomer

Garden and Gift Shop 809 Pollock St. New Bern, NC 28562

GARDEN CENTERS

Atlantic Avenue Orchid & Garden Center

5217 Atlantic Ave. Raleigh, NC 27616 919-878-8877

Fairview Greenhouse & Garden Center

8224 Holly Spring Road Raleigh, NC 27606 919-851-6821

Garden Supply Co.

1421 Old Apex Road Cary, NC 27513 919-460-7747

Homewood Nursery

10809 Honeycutt Road Raleigh, NC 27614 919-847-0117

Logan Trading Company

707 Semart Drive Raleigh, NC 27604 919-828-5337

The Garden Hut

1004 Old Honeycutt Road Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526 919-552-0590

The Farmers' Market Raleigh, NC



Give the Gift of Nutcracker! Memories Included

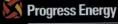


For details: 919-719-0900 or ww.carolinaballet.com/nutcracker



utcracker

December 19-28, 2008 • Raleigh Memorial Auditorium at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts



Center for the Performing Arts

Sponsor:



Sponsors:







Performance



ticketmaster 919.834.4000

Group Discounts Available • www.carolinaballet.com The Coastal Carolina Christmas Walk offers open house tours of Beaufort's bed and breakfast inns and the Beaufort Historic Site buildings decorated in period fashion for the holiday season. A narrated holiday bus tour through the historic district is available aboard the vintage British double-decker bus on Dec. 13 in Beaufort. (See Preview Holiday Events for details.)

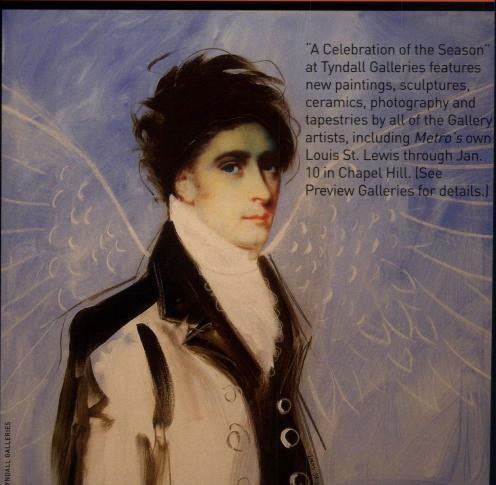
SQ HERES SERVICE

Historic Besulort

PlayMakers Repertory Company presents *The Little Prince*, adapted by Rick Cummins and John Scoullar and based on the book by Antoine de St. Exupéry, through Dec. 14 at the Paul Green Theatre Center for Dramatic Art at UNC, Chapel Hill. (See Preview Stage & Screen for details.)



Openings





Preview

by Mary Ward Boerner

DECEMBER DELIVERS THE HOLIDAY CHEER!

GALLERIES

JAM SESSION — AMERICA'S JAZZ AMBASSADORS: Exhibit includes nearly 100 images of musicians visiting 35 countries providing a unique insight into the diplomatic initiative of the United States State Department during The Cold War; The Community Council for the Arts at The Arts Center, Kinston; Thru Dec. 6. Contact 252-527-2517.

NEW PAINTINGS & SELECTED WORKS BY GALLERY ARTISTS: Featuring works by Anatoly Kostovsky, Murat Kaboulov, Victor Yegorov, Igor Shuliev, Olga Kalashnikova, and more; Thru Dec. 31. Russian Art Gallery, Cary, Contact 919-468-1800 or online at www.RussianArt.us.com

NEW WORK, 2008: Oil paintings by Anthony Ulinski; Allenton Gallery at The Durham Arts Council, Durham; Thru Dec. 14. Contact 919-560-2787 or www.durhamarts.org.

EMERGING POLYTYCHS: Acrylic paintings by Suzy Andron; Semans Gallery at The Durham Arts Council, Durham; Thru Dec. 14. Contact 919-560-2787 or www.durhamarts.org.

INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL JURIED SCULPTURE EXHIBIT: Bank of the Arts, New Bern; Thru Dec. 24. Contact 252-638-2577 or www.cravenarts.org.



The Photography of Charles Dennis including Bald Head Island photographs and Hurricane Fran images on view at UNC's Center for the Study of the American South in Chapel Hill through Jan. 30, 2009.

KIMBERLY ALVIS — A REPRESENTATIONAL COLLECTION:
A collection of recent oil paintings by Chapel Hill artist
Kimberly Alvis presented by The Carrboro Town Hall
and Carrboro Arts Commission; 301 W. Main St. in
Carrboro; Thru Dec. 31. Contact 919-942-8541 or
www.alvisart.com.

THE BIG PICTURE — PAINTING ON A LARGE SCALE: An exhibition of 38 large-scale paintings by 18 artists organized by Lee Hansley, owner of Lee Hansley Gallery; Ballroom level, Main Lobby and Cabarrus Street Lobby at The Raleigh Convention Center; Thru Dec. 31. Contact 919-828-7557.

ARTSOURCE HOLIDAY SHOWCASE: Featuring fine art and crafts from gallery artists; ArtSource Gallery at North Hills, Raleigh; Thru Dec. 31. Contact 919-787-9533 or www.artsource-raleigh.com.

city art gallery's HOLIDAY SHOWCASE: Showcasing inventory of fine art featuring new paintings by gallery artists, hand-crafted ceramics, blown glass vessels, stemware and Christmas ornaments; Greenville; Thru December. Contact 252-353-7000 or www.city-artgallery.com.

31ST ANNUAL HOLIDAY ART EXHIBITION: Including new works by gallery artists created just for the holiday season; Somerhill Gallery, Durham; Thru Jan. 2. Contact 919-688-8867 or www.somerhill.com.

NEW PAINTINGS BY PAUL HRUSOVSKY AND POTS BY JIM LUX: Craven Allen Gallery, Durham; Thru Jan. 3. Contact 919-286-4837 or www.cravenallengallery.com.



"Restructured," works by Cameron Johnson will be on view in Gallery Two at ArtSpace in Raleigh through January 2009. Opening Reception and First Friday Gallery Walk on Dec. 5.

DRIPS, CAPS, AND FLICKS CURATED BY FLANDERS ART GALLERY: A group show of graffiti and hip hop aesthetics; Room 100 at Golden Belt, Durham; Thru Jan. 4. Contact 919-834-5044 or www.flandersartgallery.com.

A CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON — NEW WORKS BY GALLERY ARTISTS: Including paintings, sculptures, ceramics, photography and tapestries; Tyndall Galleries at University Mall, Chapel Hill; Thru Jan. 10. Contact 919-942-2290 or www.tyndallgalleries.com.

WORKS BY SCOTT UPTON AT THE UMSTEAD HOTEL & SPA: Paintings by Scott Upton are featured throughout the public areas of the hotel; The Umstead Hotel & Spa, Cary; Thru Feb. 2009.

BALD HEAD ISLAND AND HURRICANE FRAN — IN MEMORY OF TREES, PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHARLES DENNIS (1952-2005): UNC Center for the Study of the American South, Chapel Hill; Dec. 1-Jan. 30. Contact 919-967-8817 or www.annstewartfineart.com.

RECENT WORK BY HOLLY FISCHER, MARGIE STEWART & SCOTT UPTON: Flanders Art Gallery, Raleigh; Dec. 2-Jan. 17. Contact 919-834-5044 or www.flandersartgallery.com.

6TH ANNUAL NATIONAL ARTS PROGRAM EXHIBITION: Featuring a diversity of artwork by City of Raleigh and Wake County employees and their families; Miriam Preston Block Art Gallery at The Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, Raleigh; Dec. 4-Jan. 13 (Opening Reception Dec. 4). Contact 919-996-3610.

WORKS BY ANGELA ZAPPALA: Frameworks Gallery, Raleigh; Dec. 4-Jan. 8 (Opening Reception Dec. 4). Contact 919-781-3118.

NANCY COOK — TEXTILES: Nature Art Gallery at The Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh; Dec. 5-28. Contact 919-733-7450.

HOLIDAY 2008: Events include a Holiday Exhibition and Opening Reception, Holiday Party and Open House to benefit Alliance Medical Ministry and a Last Minute Shopping Spree; The Collectors Gallery, Raleigh; Events held every Friday in December. Contact 919-828-6500 or www.thecollectorsgallery.com.

UNC ART DEPARTMENT'S SECOND ANNUAL STUDENT HOLIDAY PRINT SALE: Hanes Art Center at UNC, Chapel Hill; Dec. 12. Contact http://2ndfridayartwalk.com.

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

- FIRST FRIDAY ARTISTS RECEPTION WITH MUSIC BY TONY THOMPSON: Dec. 5; 6-10 p.m.
- FINE CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS EXHIBITION: Gallery One; Thru Jan. 10.
- MARIE CORDELLA-REGIONAL EMERGING ARTIST-IN-RES-IDENCE: Studio 106; Thru January 2009.
- RESTRUCTURED CAMERON JOHNSON: Gallery 2; Dec.
- 5-Jan. 23.
 THE CORPORATE ART SHOW KEITH NORVAL: Upfront
- Gallery; Dec. 5-27.
 CUBBY HOLE CATHERINE THORNTON: Lobby; Dec. 5-
- CUBBY HOLE CATHERINE THORNTON: Lobby; Dec. 5 27.

CLASSICAL

JOY OF THE SEASON — PRESENTED BY NORTH CAROL-INA MASTER CHORALE: Meymandi Concert Hall, Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts; Dec. 13. Contact 919-834-4000 or www.ncmasterchorale.org.



The Duke University Department of Music presents December concerts by The Duke Jazz Ensemble featuring guest guitarist Russell Malone, The Duke Collegium Musicum (pictured) and The Duke Chapel Choir performing *Handel's Messiah*.

HOLIDAY CONCERT WITH THE RALEIGH FLUTE CHOIR: NC Museum of Art, Raleigh; Dec. 14. Contact 919-715-5923 or www.ncartmuseum.org.

EVENTS AT THE DUKE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC: Duke University, Durham; 919-684-4444 or www.music.duke.edu.

- DUKE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA A SALUTE TO RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH: Baldwin Auditorium; Dec. 3.
- DUKE CHAPEL CHOIR PRESENTS HANDEL'S MESSIAH: Duke Chapel Dec. 5-7.

- DUKE JAZZ ENSEMBLE: Baldwin Auditorium; Dec. 5.
- DUKE UNIVERSITY STRING SCHOOLWINTER FESTIVAL:
 Baldwin Auditorium; Concerts at 3 p.m., 4 p.m., and 7 p.m.; Dec. 6.
- DUKE COLLEGIUM MUSICUM, TOM MOORE, DIRECTOR: Jewish Music of the Baroque with vocal works in Hebrew by Salamone Rossi with additional music for viols & recorders; Freeman Center for Jewish Life at Duke; Dec. 6.

POP MUSIC

JARMAN OPRY THEATER: A classic country, gospel bluegrass Christmas show; Masonic Theatre, New Bern; Dec. 6 & 13 . Contact 252-675-7689 or 252-636-6225.

DARDEN SMITH: Freedoms Hall at Long View Center, Raleigh: Dec. 6. Contact 919-835-1868

EVENTS AT THE NCSU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC: North Carolina State University, Raleigh; Contact 919-515-1100 or www.ncsu.edu/arts.

- WIND ENSEMBLE/JAZZ HOLIDAY CONCERT: Stewart Theatre: Dec. 3.
- LADIES IN RED: Stewart Theatre; Dec. 4.
- GRAINS OF TIME: Stewart Theatre; Dec. 5.

STAGE & SCREEN

THE LITTLE PRINCE: Presented by PlayMakers Repertory Company; Paul Green Theatre Center for the Dramatic Art at UNC, Chapel Hill; Thru Dec. 14. Contact 919-962-7529 or www.playmakersrep.org.

SCROOGE — A MUSICAL CHRISTMAS PLAY: New Bern Civic Theatre, New Bern; Dec. 5 & 6. Contact 252-634-9057 or www.newberncivictheatre.org.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Family musical comedy adapted from the classic story by Charles Dickens written, directed and starring Ira David Wood III; Durham Performing Arts Center, Durham; Dec. 5-7 &

Memorial Auditorium at the Progress Energy Center for Performing Arts, Raleigh; Dec. 9-17. Contact 919-680-ARTS or www.dpacnc.com (DURHAM); 919-834-4000 or www.ticketmaster.com (RALEIGH).

A CHRISTMAS MEMORY BY TRUMAN CAPOTE: Presented by Theatre in the Park and starring Ira David Wood III; Theatre in the Park, Raleigh; Dec. 19-21. Call 919-831-6058 or www.theatreinthepark.com.

THE NUTCRACKER — PRESENTED BY CAROLINA BALLET: Memorial Auditorium at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; Dec. 19-28. Contact 919-719-0900 or www.carolinaballet.com

CAROLINA BALLET PRESENTS THE NUTCRACKER: Carolina Ballet offers two performances of this seasonal classic as part of the Carolina Performing Arts Series; Memorial Hall at UNC, Chapel Hill; Dec. 6 & 7. Contact 919-843-3333 or www.carolinaperformingarts.org.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE PRESENTED BY THE CARY PLAY-ERS: Cary Town Council Chambers at Cary Town Hall; Dec. 12-14. Contact 919-469-4061 or www.caryplayers.org/wonderful.html.

EVENTS AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER: Durham; Contact 919-680-ARTS or www.dpacnc.com.

- THEATRE IN THE PARK PRESENTS IRA DAVID WOOD III'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Dec. 5-7
- KENNY ROGERS CHRISTMAS & HITS: Dec. 11
- JIM BRICKMAN WITH THE NC SYMPHONY CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Dec. 18
- DIVINE PERFORMING ARTS: Dec. 28

MUSEUMS

LET ME CALL YOU SWEETHEART — ONE COLLECTOR'S VISION: Sweetheart jewelry from the Rhoda Berkowitz Collection; Gregg Museum of Art and Design at NC State, Raleigh; Thru Dec. 17. Contact online at www.ncsu.edu/arts.

KNIGHTS OF THE BLACK FLAG: A new exhibit featuring the history of pirates and their exploits; North Carolina Maritime Museum, Beaufort; Thru Dec. 28. Call 252-728-7317 or www.ncmaritimemuseum.org.

THE REVOLUTION OF MEDIA: The Raleigh City Museum, Raleigh; Thru 2008. Contact 919-832-3775 or www.raleighcitymuseum.org.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM: A seasonal show allowing guests an opportunity to explore the many theories behind this mysterious star; Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, Chapel Hill; Thru Jan. 1. Contact 919-962-1236 or www.moreheadplanetarium.org.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS EXHIBIT: Portions of the Dead Sea Scrolls along with more than 100 artifacts from the land and time of the scrolls will be on view; North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh; Thru Dec. 28. Contact 919-733-7450 or www.naturalsciences.org.

EVENTS AT THE NASHER MUSEUM OF ART: Duke University, Durham; Contact www.nasher.duke.edu.

- THE PAST IS PRESENT CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES AT THE NASHER MUSEUM: Ongoing
- ESPEJO NEGRO/BLACK MIRROR A MUSEUM INSTALLATION BY PEDRO LASCH: On view through Jan. 18, 2009.

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

- MODERN AMERICAN PAINTINGS FROM THE BEQUEST OF FANNIE AND ALAN LESLIE: Thru Fall 2009
- LITTLE RED AND THE GINGERBREAD MAN: Children's Performance: Dec. 6
- CONCERT CANTOR ALBERTO MIZRAHI, VOICE OF THE PEOPLE: Dec. 7
- WHAT'S IN THE BOX Preschool program; Dec. 10
- LUNCH & LEARN GLORIOUS RUINS, CITIES OF ANCIENT EGYPT, PART I: Dec. 12



- FAMILY FUN SATURDAY: Dec. 13 & 20
- HOLIDAY CONCERT RALEIGH FLUTE CHOIR: Dec. 14
- PARTY BRR! IT'S A WINTRY MIX-ER: Dec. 18

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

- EXHIBIT EVERYDAY ARTISTRY: Now Open
- BEARING WITNESS CIVIL RIGHTS PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALEXANDER RIVERA: Thru March 1, 2009
- EXHIBIT MUSEUM SLEUTHS, WHATCHAMICALLITS AND THINGAMAJIGS: Now Open
- FIRST FLIGHT: Dec. 3
- ASSOCIATES HOLIDAY PARTY: Dec. 7
- HISTORY À LA CARTE THEY WON'T HANG A WOMAN: Dec. 10
- CAPITOL TREE LIGHTING: Dec. 10
- HOLY SMOKE THE BIG BOOK OF NORTH CAROLINA BAR-BECUE: Dec. 13
- SHAPE NOTE SING: Dec. 14
- FIRST NIGHT RALEIGH CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION: 2-6 p.m., Dec. 31.
- FIRST NIGHT RALEIGH NIGHTTIME EVENTS: 7-11 p.m, Dec. 31.

EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM OF LIFE AND SCIENCE: Durham; Contact 919-220-5429 or www.lifeand-science.org.

- CATCH THE WIND & EXPLORE THE WILD: Ongoing
- NEW EXHIBIT SOUND SPACE HEAR MOTION: Thru December 2008

EVENTS AT THE ACKLAND MUSEUM OF ART: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Contact 919-966-1400 or www.ackland.org.

- CIRCA 1958 BREAKING GROUND IN AMERICAN ART: Thru Jan. 4, 2009
- THE FIFTIES AND THE ANTI-FIFTIES ROBERT FRANK'S THE AMERICANS: Thru Jan. 4, 2009

- FEMININE AND MASCULINE IN OVID'S POETRY AND EARLY MODERN ART: Thru Feb. 1, 2009
- ANNUAL HOLIDAY PAJAMA PARTY: Dec. 12
- MUSIC IN THE GALLERIES: With North Carolina Symphony violinist Jenny Leach plays seasonal music; Dec. 21.

EVENTS AT WILSON LIBRARY: The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill; Contact www.lib.unc.edu.

 SOAPBOXES AND TREE STUMPS — POLITICAL CAMPAIGN-ING IN NORTH CAROLINA: North Carolina Collection Gallery; Thru Jan. 31, 2009.



"Quiet Spirit, Skillful Hand: The Graphic Work of Clare Leighton" is currently on view at Cameron Art Museum in Wilmington through April 5, 2009.

EVENTS AT THE CAMERON ART MUSEUM: Wilmington; Contact 910-395-5999, ext. 1005 or www.cameronartmuseum.com.

- BEARDEN TO RUSCHA CONTEMPORARY ART FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF ART: Thru May 24, 2009
- TOY CRAZY AN EXHIBITION OF TOYS OF ALL KINDS: Thru Feb. 1, 2009
- BOB DEYOUNG INSTALLATION (PHANTASM): Thru April 26, 2009
- QUIET SPIRIT, SKILLFUL HAND THE GRAPHIC WORK OF CLARE LEIGHTON: Thru April 5, 2009
- MUSIC JACQUELINE BROWN, SPIRITUALS AND HOLIDAY MUSIC: Dec. 4
- MUSIC CHRISTMAS AT CAM WITH WILMINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY, HOLIDAY MUSIC: Dec. 11
- KIDS @ CAM: Enjoy the Disney film *Toy Story* and a special visitor from the North Pole; Dec. 13

EVENTS AT THE CAPE FEAR MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND SCIENCE: Wilmington; Contact 910-798-4350 or www.capefearmuseum.com.

- OCEAN EXPLORE, DISCOVER: Thru Jan. 4, 2009
- ONGOING EXHIBIT CAPE FEAR VOLUNTEERS: Ongoing
- ONGOING EXHIBIT CAPE FEAR SEASHELLS: Ongoing
- WINTER JAZZ JIM FIELDS QUARTET WITH SARAH PARKER: Dec. 5
- LEARNING CENTER THE SCIENCE OF TOYS: Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27
- OCEAN PERSPECTIVES NORTH CAROLINA'S ENDAN-GERED WHALES: Dec. 9
- CAPE FEAR SKIES STAR TOUR: Dec. 21

POTPOURRI

THE BERLIN AIRLIFT SIXTY YEARS ON: Is the subject of presentations Dec. 13 from 9:15 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. by William Rand Kenan Emeritus Professor of History Gerhard L. Weinberg as part of the Distinguished Scholar Seminar series at UNC-Chapel Hill. Presentations include "The Origins of the Situation: Ger-

many in Zones and Sectors;" "The Origins and the Operation of the Blockade"; and "The Airlift: The Importance and Effects of the Blockade and the Airlift." Cost is \$120 with an optional \$10 for lunch. Teachers and first-time participants receive 50 percent off tuition, which includes break food and seminar readings mailed before the event. Contact Caroline Dyar at 919-962-1546 or www.unc.edu/depts./human/level_3/2008_fall/93-BerlinAirlift.htm.

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH HOSTS THE 2009 INAU-GURAL BALL: Honoring the governor, lieutenant governor and the members of the Council of State; Raleigh; January 9-10. Contact www.ncgovernorsball.org.

EVENTS AT THE GARDEN HUT: Fuquay-Varina; Contact 919-552-0590 or www.nelsasgardenhut.com.

- CAROL STEIN'S GARDENERS FORUM 12 MONTHS OF GARDENING TOGETHER: Dec. 13
- CAROL STEIN'S GARDENERS FORUM GOT THE BLUES: Jan. 10

EVENTS AT THE ROANOKE ISLAND FESTIVAL PARK: Manteo; Contact 252-475-1500 or www.roanokeisland.com

- OAKWOOD WAITS CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Film Theatre; Dec. 6.
- BILLY BROWN LOCAL COLOR: Dec. 8-29 (Opening Reception Dec. 7).
- ELIZABETHAN CHRISTMAS: Dec. 27
- OAKWOOD WAITS ELIZIBETHAN CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Art Gallery; Dec. 28.

EVENTS AT THE JC RAULSTON ARBORETUM: Raleigh; Contact 919-513-7005 or www.ncsu.edu/jcraulstonarboretum.

- FRIENDS OF THE ARBORETUM LECTURE APPLES IN NORTH CAROLINA WHAT'S NEW?: Ruby C. McSwain Education Center; Dec. 4
- POINSETTIA OPEN HOUSE: Dec. 7
- PLANTSMAN'S TOUR WINTER PERENNIALS: Dec. 9

HOLIDAY EVENTS

ROCKY HOCK PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS THE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL STAR OVER BETHLEHEM: Rocky Hock Playhouse, Edenton; Thru Dec. 20. Contact 252-482-4621 or www.rockyhockplayhouse.com.

CARY ACADEMY'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOPPE 2008: Sports and Education Annex at Cary Academy, Cary; Dec. 4-6. Contact 919-228-4542.

HOLIDAY FAIRE AT EMERSON WALDORF SCHOOL: Featuring crafts, puppet shows, games, food, music and an opportunity to both make and purchase handmade crafts; Emerson Waldorf School, Chapel Hill; Dec. 6. Contact 919-967-1858 or www.emersonwaldorf.org.

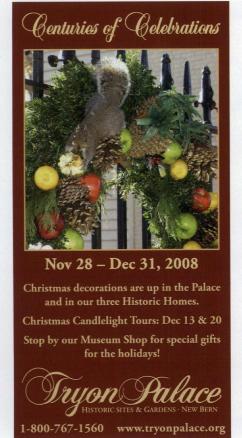
THE RALEIGH CITY MUSEUM AND ANN FEARRINGTON PRESENT — HOLIDAY LIGHTS FAMILY PROGRAM: Raleigh City Museum, Raleigh; Dec. 13. Contact 919-832-3775 or www.raleighcitymuseum.org.

NATURAL DECORATIONS THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS: Join Helen Yoest to learn tips on decorating for the holidays; Smith & Hawken at Crabtree Valley Mall, Raleigh; Dec. 13. Contact 919-786-1557.

A COLONIAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: Featuring traditional greenery, children's games and tours by costumed docents; Joel Lane Museum House, Raleigh; Dec. 6 & 7. Contact 919-833-3431.

2008 HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH CHRISTMAS CANDLE-LIGHT TOUR: The 22nd annual tour features historic homes, churches and public buildings decorated for the season, as well as live music and refreshments; Hillsborough/Orange County Chamber; Dec. 7. Contact 919-732-8156 or www.candlelighttour.com.

COASTAL CAROLINA CHRISTMAS WALK: Beaufort Historic Site and the local inns and B&Bs decorated



for the holiday season; Beaufort; Dec. 13. Contact 252-728-5225 or www.beauforthistoricsite.org.

BEAUFORT CANDLELIGHT HOMES TOUR: Tour private homes decorated for the holidays and open for candlelight tour to benefit the Beaufort Historical Association; Beaufort; Dec. 13. Contact 252-728-5225 or www.beauforthistoricsite.org.

2008 CHAPEL HILL HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR: The New Treasures Holiday House Tour sponsored by Preservation Society of Chapel Hill includes numerous private homes decorated for the holidays; Horace Williams House, Chapel Hill; Dec. 13 & 14. Contact 919-942-7818 or www.chapelhillpreservation.com.

THE RALEIGH RINGERS PRESENT ANNUAL HOLIDAY CON-CERTS: Meymandi Concert Hall at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; Dec. 20-21. Contact 919-834-4000 or www.rr.org.



Tryon Palace in New Bern celebrates the holidays colonial style with a month-long historic holiday celebration including candlelight tours on Dec. 13 & 20 and a fireworks show on Dec. 20.

HOLIDAY EVENTS IN HISTORIC EDENTON: Contact Chowan County Tourism and Development Authority 1-800-775-0111 or www.visitedenton.com.

- LIGHTING OF THE TREE AND SANTA'S VISIT: Downtown Edenton; Event begins at 6 p.m.; Dec. 5. Contact 252-482-2962
- THE ALBEMARLE CHORALE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CON-CERT: Edenton United Methodist Church; Event begins at 4 p.m.; Dec. 7. Contact 252-337-4511.
- HISTORIC EDENTON CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF HOMES SPONSORED BY THE EDENTON HISTORICAL COM-MISSION: Tour and other holiday events will be held on Dec. 12 & 13. Contact 252-482-7800.

EVENTS AT THE NORTH CAROLINA MARITIME MUSEUM: Beaufort; Contact 252-728-1638 or www.ncmaritimemuseum.org.

- CHRISTMAS FLOTILLA: Boat parade begins in Morehead City at 5:30 p.m. and arrives in Beaufort about 6:15 p.m., Awards follow at the Watercraft Center; Dec. 6
- HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: Friends of the Museum annual membership meeting and holiday reception; Dec. 14.

EVENTS AT NORTH HILLS: Raleigh; Contact www.north-hillsraleigh.com.

- CHRISTMAS CHORUS FOR CHARITY: Saturdays thru Dec 13.
- NORTH HILLS HOLIDAY GREENS MARKET: Featuring wreaths and garlands, greenery and decorations and holiday goodies; Commons Lawn at North Hills, Raleigh; Saturdays 11 a.m-3 p.m. through December.

HOLIDAY EVENTS AT TRYON PALACE HISTORIC SITES & GARDENS: New Bern; Contact 252-514-4935 or online at www.tryonpalace.org.

- EVENING CANDLELIGHT TOURS OF PALACE COMPLEX: Dec. 13 & 20; tours are from 5-9 p.m.
- HOLIDAY TOURS: Tryon Palace and the site's three

historic homes, the Museum Shop and the New Bern Academy Museum will be decorated for the holidays; Nov. 28-Dec. 31; tours run from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1-4 p.m. on Sunday.

A VISIT WITH SANTA CLAUS: Santa will be at NOFO to visit with children and hot chocolate and cookies will be served; NOFO @ the Pig, Raleigh; Dec. 6. Contact 919-821-1240 or www.nofo.com.

A DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS IN DOWNTOWN NEW BERN: Various locations in downtown New Bern; Contact 252-637-31.11 or www.downtownnewbern.blogspotcom for event times and details

- DOWNTOWN ILLUMINATION: Downtown will have luminaries throughout the business district from 5-8 p.m.; Fridays thru December.
- ILLUMINATION TROLLY: Tours available on Friday

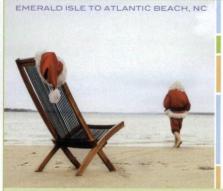
evenings; Fridays through December.

• TINY TIM'S TOYS FOR TOTS AND FOOD DRIVE: Bring an unwrapped gift or canned goods to the Santa House; Dec. 5-7, 12-14, 19-24.

SANTA HOUSE: Visit with Santa and have your picture made; Near Bear Plaza in downtown New Bern; Dec. 5-7, 12-14, 19-24. Call 252-637-3111 or www.downtownnewbern.blogspot.com.

Our thanks to Cyndi Harris for her assistance with MetroPreview.

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



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On the Town

by Katie Poole

7th Annual Artspace Collectors Gala

Artspace Raleigh, NC November 15th, 2008



Phillip and Laura Isley



Stephen Gaddy, Kevin Schneide



Lauren and Jim Holmes



Mike and Amy Petty



Bo and Heather Brewer



Trish and John Heale

Citizens of the World Dinner

Brier Creek Country Club Raleigh, NC October 16th, 2008



Ray Buchanan, Todd Culpepper and JoAnna Tierney



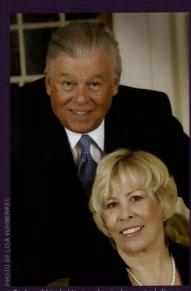
Ralph DiLeone and Tom Booti





Millie Ravenel, NC Center for International Understanding, presents the 2008 Citizen of the World Award to Ray Buchanan, Stop Hunger Now.

Tom Booth and Emily Aker



Carl and Linda Venters hosted a seated dinner at Wilmington's Cape Fear Country Club November 15 celebrating Carl's 75th birthday and his 50th anniversary as a pioneer in radio and television in North Carolina.

Raleigh Roundup

Benefiting the American Cancer Society Kerr Scott Building Raleigh, NC November 7th, 2008



Carolyn Younger, Josie Hall and Mary Laurie Cece



Ashley Harris and Elizabeth Goodwin

Lee and Beatrice Joyner, Blake Simpson, Wesley Fricks

Ford Robertson, Chris Willard and Jack Dunn



Rick and Hargrave McElroy

Smoke House

The Pitt Raleigh, NC November 13th, 2008



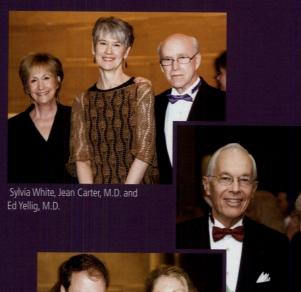
William Shirley, Samuel Jones , Chip Stanley



John Reed (left) poses with wife and co-author Dale Reed at a party for the launch of the couple's definitive new book *Holy Smoke*. David Perry of UNC Press is center.

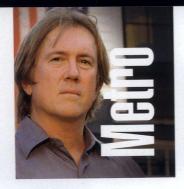
Rex Gala

Raleigh Convention Center Raleigh, NC November 1st, 2008



Mr. and Mrs. J. Gregory Poole, Jr.

Russell and Kipley Killen (Mayor of Knightdale and wife)



Cheshire on Film

by Godfrey Cheshire

Two Tar Heels In Hollywood:

WORKING WITH DENZEL WASHINGTON AND WILL SMITH

or many folks, the December holidays mean seeing old friends and new movies. For me, this year, the convergence is unusually personal and intriguing.

Peyton Reed and Hughes Winborne are Raleigh natives and graduates of UNC-Chapel Hill who now live in Los Angeles. They're not acquainted with each other, but I've known both for decades and have enjoyed watching the successful careers they've built in Hollywood. Hughes, a film editor, won an Oscar for his work on the 2004 drama *Crash*. Peyton, a director, has made four features, all comedies; the last, *The Break-Up*, starring Vince Vaughan and Jennifer Aniston, earned over \$200 million worldwide.

I would venture that the success of both filmmakers proves that studio moviemaking not only permits intelligence and integrity, but in many cases also requires them. That may be especially true when the movies in question involve Hollywood's most valuable commodity: A-list movie stars.

The movies these two have in store for us this month illustrate the importance of top talent to Hollywood's year-end sweep-stakes. Peyton's *Yes Man* stars Jim Carrey, a comic actor whose movies have surely grossed in the billions by now. *Seven Pounds*, Hughes' latest project, toplines Will Smith, whose earnings have made him the world's number one movie star.

I caught up with Hughes and Peyton separately in mid-November to talk about their latest movies and the challenges of working with two of Hollywood's priciest leading men. We were all aware that their films will be going head-to-head in the movie year's busiest week: Both open nationwide on Dec. 19.

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PEYTON AND JIM

"I was challenged because Jim Carrey was interested in the material," Peyton recalls of first sizing up the script of *Yes Man*, as we chat in a mutual friend's apartment in New York's Greenwich Village.

There's a subtle distinction in his use of "interested." Carrey hadn't "developed" the project, nor was he "attached," in the usual Hollywood parlance. His potential involvement was conditional: He would consider moving forward *if* he liked the director and his ideas about how the script should be shaped.



The script under consideration, adapted from a comic memoir by British writer Danny Wallace, concerns a guy who, depressed after a breakup, meets a man on a bus who urges him to turn his life around by saying "yes" to everything. Peyton's interest in working with Carrey on the material was likewise conditional: He inclined toward it *if* the high-concept nonsense of many studio comedies could be jettisoned in favor of a much more realistic, down-to-earth approach.

"When I went in and first talked to Warner Bros. about what I wanted to do with the script, and in the movie, I said that most Jim Carrey comedies have some kind of magical conceit, like the ones in *Liar*,

Liar and *Bruce Almighty*. And I liked the idea of doing that type of comedy with Jim, but without the conceit.

"Also, when I think of those movies, I think of a setting that's like Anytown, USA, or the back lot. And I really wanted to take Jim out and put him in real locations. I made the choice to place the story in a very specific part of Los Angeles: Echo Park, Silver Lake, Los Feliz, that area just east of Hollywood. So it was shot all on real locations, and that part of Los Angeles is a real presence in the movie. To me, that was important because it was all about trying to make Jim Carrey seem like a real guy."

Fortunately, the guy himself welcomed the idea of playing a real guy.

"I met with him at his house the first time. With so many actors that have been around for a while, you never quite know what to expect. There's a certain amount of legend that surrounds Jim. So I was very surprised to meet him and find that in person he's a very kind of quiet and thoughtful person. And it became clear to me very early on that we did have the same movie in mind.

"I talked to him very straightforwardly. I said for me this film needs to have one foot in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*— in terms of his performance— and one foot in a more straightforward studio comedy. And that was what we really clicked on. When the comedy comes, it's got to be aggressive and funny, but it's also got to be very character-based and situation-based and grounded."

That basic agreement, Peyton says, led to a collaboration that was consistently smooth and collegial, belying the rumors of difficulty that tend to accrue to stars like Carrey. Budget and schedule meant that they had to shoot in a tight 60 days, rather

than the 100 that many studio movies take, and Carrey kept the team spirit up by hanging out on the set and joking with the crew — a quality Peyton feels is reflected in the movie.

"I had my personal feelings about what I'd like to capture of Jim. For me it was — particularly when I started to spend time with him in these writing sessions, discussing the movie — I wanted to capture that guy. Because Jim is really, really funny in real life, but it's a very different, more grounded type of comedy than what you think of in his more stylized, broad movies. I wanted to capture that Jim Carrey, who seems like someone you would hang out with, someone you would know in real life."

I ask if he would work with Carrey again. He replies without a pause: "Yes, absolutely."

HUGHES AND WILL (AND DENZEL)

"What, are you trying to get me in trouble?" Hughes laughs over the phone. We're talking as he drives from his home in east LA to his editing suite on the Sony Pictures lot. I've just asked him to compare the last two stars he's worked with: Denzel Washington and Will Smith.

In a serendipitous career turn, Hughes has developed associations with the country's two top African-American male movie stars. Recommended by *Crash* director Paul Haggis, he edited *The Pursuit of Happyness*, starring Smith. Then he cut last year's *The Great Debaters*, directed by and starring Washington. Now he's working with Smith again, on *Seven Pounds*. How, I wonder, did he get to work with both stars?

"I guess it's my plantation background," he deadpans. There's another pause for laughter, then he explains that one of the producers of *Pursuit of Happyness* also produced *Great Debaters*, and recommended Hughes to Washington.

He clearly likes both stars personally, and says that, for him, the differences between them have to do not only with their personalities, but also with the circumstances in which he worked with them. Since Washington directed *Great Debaters*, he and Hughes spent seven months in close, daily contact. Their schedule was so tight that when Hughes wanted to get mar-

ried he did so in the editing room with Denzel serving as best man.

Smith's latest, by contrast, was directed by Gabriele Muccino, an Italian handpicked by the star for *Pursuit of Happyness*. There's no question who the final arbiter is, Hughes says.

"In *Seven Pounds*, Will is very involved. He's the last word. After all the producers and everybody have signed off, it's not done until Will signs off. And he has his own perspective on things. This is kind of a trickier film, and trickier for him.

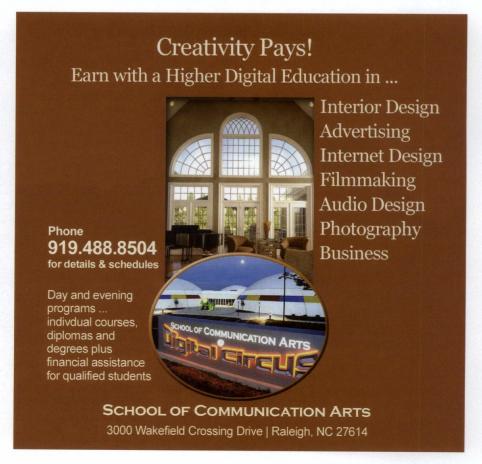
"It feels very plastic. It could be restructured in many different ways, and characters could be drawn differently just by dropping a few lines. Will's character could become more accessible or more inaccessible or less dangerous by dropping lines. He has a bit to say about that. He tends to want his jokes to be more edgy than some of the producers do. He's taken a lot of chances on this film.

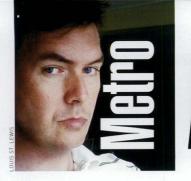
"It's dark. I can't tell you that much because it's a mystery and I would give the whole thing away. But I can tell you it's about a guy who's done something horrible, in his mind, and is trying to do something to make up for it. He's trying to help a certain number of people. One is a woman, played by Rosario Dawson, that he wants to help and happens to fall in love with. That changes everything and puts him in a real quandary."

I ask why he thinks Smith has pursued so many dark, dramatic roles in recent years, when his forte clearly is light comedy.

"I think he's a very ambitious guy. I don't think he wants to do just the things that he's good at. He likes to take risks. He's a very smart person and, you know, he's not hurting for cash. It's not that he's not thinking of his future in the industry. He's very good at promoting himself. He loves people, and it's totally genuine. He loves performing. But he also wants to broaden his horizons. He wants more respect than would come from just doing a comedy. I mean, he's a natural for that. It's almost effortless for him.

"He wants to expand his abilities, to improve. I truly think that's what he's trying to do."





Artist-at-Large

THE CONTENTMENT OF BEAUTIFUL THINGS

ilver bells and shotgun shells!!! Yes ladies and gentlemen, the holidays are upon us once again, and I hope that you are getting in the spirit. I got into the spirits the other evening, and while I was sipping a little slurp of Lagavulin in front of a roaring fire, I contemplated the world we live in today.

Now, for months I have heard folks wailing like banshees about the stock market, 401-Ks and the general decline of Western civilization. Some folks holler, "I lost \$500,000 this week on the stock market." Well, first of all, you haven't lost anything until you sell it, so just sit back and take it easy. I don't know what all the fuss is about. You may not be able to buy that new Maserati Quattroporte this year, but you can still treat yourself well and spend

a few bucks for some fabulous art.

It makes me think of Napoleon and his philosophy toward Champagne, which he always took into battle. He deserved it when he won, and he needed it when he lost. You should take that philosophy to heart when acquiring art, and to be quite honest, if some of y'all had bought more art and fewer stocks, you would probably be much happier and potentially richer to boot. All those stocks and bonds just sitting around in some lockbox at the bank don't enrich the soul, and some of the richest folks I know are some of the most miserable people on the planet, so find your happiness elsewhere. I may not be rich, but when I return home I am happy and at peace, surrounded by objects and paintings collected over the decades. I can only wish for each and every one of you to find the same contentment in living with beautiful things.

CLAYMAKERS COLLECTIVE

And speaking of beautiful things, you find them in the most unexpected places. Just the other day while buying spirits at my local Trader Joe's, I met a delightful and talented young ceramicist named Laura Korch, who has recently decided to grace our fair state after graduating from Eastern Michigan University and now calls Durham home. She is part of a great collective of ceramic artists who have joined forces under the name Claymakers, located for your convenience at 705 Foster St. Korch produces a wide variety of functional artworks that all posses a gentle whimsy and



ALIBA KORC



Sam Shelby, Spring Storm, acrylic on linen

a clean professionalism. I think that many of her pieces would make lovely Christmas presents. Each one is unique, and they won't break the piggy bank. (www.claymakers.com)

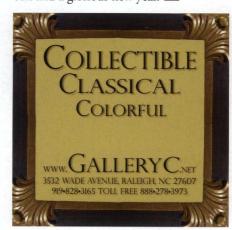
STARS IN DURHAM

I noticed while I was skipping through the Triangle that the new \$45.8 million Durham Performing Arts Center is opening up right there in the shadow of the Durham County Jail. I read the other day that a man was electrocuted and became a spirit right then and there while trying to steal copper wire that had electrical current running through it. I wonder if this was the place that happened. There certainly should be enough wire and metal in the building to keep scavengers busy for weeks. What I do know is that stars are lining up to play the venue: Kenny Rogers with his most recent face-lift and Bill Cosby. Who knows, but I'm certain that in the future if we are very, very lucky they will even have Charo or Latoya Jackson belting out some tunes. Robin Williams is brave enough to be performing in Durham in March with his "Weapons of Self-Destruction Tour." I think this is the perfect venue for him, don't you? After all he did make that movie Good Morning Vietnam didn't he?

BLOOM LIFTS SPIRITS

Now I don't normally do magic mushroom developments. You know what I mean, those fake towns that spring up from nowhere overnight complete with church, bank, townhouses and little picket

fences made out of molded white plastic. But to be honest, there is one just down the road from me here in Chapel Hill called Southern Village that I stumbled into the other day, and I found myself in a great shop filled with all sorts of treasures and it really lifted my spirits. My lovely friend Mary Clara Capel, of those industrious Capel Rug Capels, has taken over garden-inspired store Bloom (www.bloomnc.com) and completely made it her own. Not just plants here I assure you. From fine jewelry and pearls, to decorative and useful items for the bath and home, to artworks of all sorts, this store has it all. I was impressed with the bold impressionistic paintings by Sam Shelby, as well as the very playful and unique papier mâché clocks done as dog heads. The company will even make a clock based on photographs of your own pooch — and they look terrific. Go see for yourself and have a very happy holiday season and a glorious new year.





35 of these artists have open

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inspiring creative energy

Between you and me...

WHAT IT WAS, WAS FOOTBALL! AT CAMPBELL

le Andy — Andy Griffith, that is — has picked him another winner. Wish he would give me some numbers for the lottery. Eight years ago he endorsed Mike Easley for governor, and Easley got elected. This year Andy put in a good word with voters for Bev Perdue. She'd make a mighty fine governor, he allowed, and she won. For the next four years, at least, she's going to be front and center.

Then there is the case of Dean Smith, whom I interviewed recently. I asked him about his involvement in public affairs,

including his endorsement of a candidate for governor. He explained. "One of my former players, Richard Vinroot, asked me to do a commercial for him, and I couldn't say no to him even though I am a Democrat and he's a Republican. He lost, so I guess that shows you how much clout I have," said the self-effacing former coach with a wry smile. Smith received the prestigious North Carolina Award for Public Service from the governor at ceremonies held just a couple of weeks ago. Well deserved, Coach.

Who knows whether anybody listens when icons like Andy and Dean Smith give their blessing in the heat of a political campaign,

but for sure it doesn't do any harm. And it ensures for them a front row seat at the swearing in if their candidate wins.

I was thinking about Andy Griffith because I was thinking about football — particularly football at Campbell University — and those of us who have been around many moons remember that Andy launched his entertainment career with a comedy monologue titled, "What it was, was football." It took Andy, who was born in 1925, awhile to find his calling. He studied for the ministry and taught at Goldsboro High School from 1949-1951. But he had acting in his blood and was an accomplished stand-up comedian. He recorded his now famous football story in

1953. In 1954, he delivered the monologue on The Ed Sullivan Show and the rest is history.

In the football sketch, Andy used his ah-shucks demeanor and country twang to great advantage, explaining how he and friends came into town for a tent revival, spotted a crowd and a concession stand, and decided to stop and get a hot dog and "a big orange drink." They opened the gates, and Andy got swept up in the crowd and carried inside a football stadium.

The spectacle he viewed was totally foreign but in his mind had something to do



Campbell vs. Davidson. "Purty girls a'wearing those itty-bitty skirts and a dancing around."

- Andy Griffith, What it Was, Was Football

with boys running up and down a cow pasture engaged in "the awfulest fight" he had ever seen. He described "these purty girls a'wearing those itty-bitty skirts and a dancing around" and the enthusiasm of the crowd. At one point, a spectator pounded him on the back and in a gesture of newfound friendship exclaimed, "Buddy, have a drink." Andy's reply was the line that made the monologue famous, "Well, I believe I will have another big orange."

After being ejected for not having a ticket, Andy mused about the experience. "And I don't know, friends, to this day what it was that they was a'doing down there, but I have studied over it. And I think it was some kinda of a contest where a bunchful

of them men can take that punkin and run from one end of that cow pasture to the other without either gittin' knocked down or a stepping in something."

Over at Campbell University, it's the first football season in 58 years, and home games played in Buies Creek have brought a level of excitement to Baptist Hollow unmatched even by the memorable revivals conducted by famed evangelist Rev. Charles Howard during my boyhood. Opening game against Birmingham-Southern drew some 5800 people. My lord, that's probably 10 times the number

of people who attended the annual Campbell May Day festivities—the biggest event of the year in Buies Creek—that Frances Lloyd so beautifully choreographed, and the largest number ever to attend a sporting event in the history of Harnett County, according to local media. It was the second largest attendance ever for a Pioneer Conference game.

I was there for the first kick off, and I can tell you that the talented, determined young men sporting the orange and black are not playing in a cow pasture. They are playing on artificial turf in a jewel box of a little stadium that butts up against Highway 421 still in the process of becoming. The Fighting

Camels are filling the stands.

The stadium already boasts a handsome fieldhouse and as soon as this season
is over, the temporary press box and
bleachers will come down and construction will begin on spacious, permanent
accommodations for media and seating for
home team fans. A pair of \$2 million gifts
from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barker of
Fuquay-Varina, NC, and Dr. and Mrs.
Don Lane are making this possible. BarkerLane Stadium is named for them, and the
scoreboard sited beside the highway is
notice to the tens of thousands of motorists
who pass it each day that football has
returned, and Campbell is serious about it.

But perhaps not quite as serious as Leo

Jenkins, the late ECU chancellor, when he announced that he intended to make ECU an athletic powerhouse a few decades ago. He didn't mince words. We're going to build a program, and we are going to win, said Jenkins, because, "It's not about how you play the game but whether you win or lose." It was classic Leo, the brusque former Marine, and the press jumped all over him. The editorialists had a field day. But look at collegiate athletics today. Was Leo right or wrong?

Campbell fans went into this first season knowing it wasn't going to be pretty. The Fighting Camels have given them one victory — a 36-27 win over Carthage in Wisconsin. On homecoming they took a licking from Pioneer Conference foe Davidson, but wouldn't you have thunk it? The Davidson offensive line averaged about 300 pounds. Campbell's defensive line averaged about 230. It was a one-sided match between 19-year-old freshmen striplings and seasoned, beefed-up college players. But the Fighting Camels, representing high schools from all over the state — especially Down East — have prom-

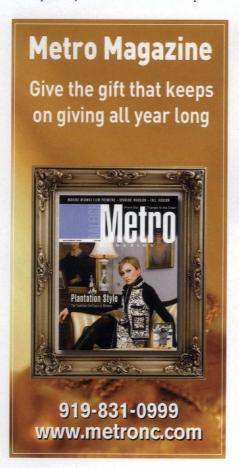
ise, and they have fans who are willing to turn out for the sport of it as the players mature and the program gains strength. Attendance is averaging about 4000 at each Campbell home game. That's the second highest in the conference and higher than the average attendance at Davidson home games.

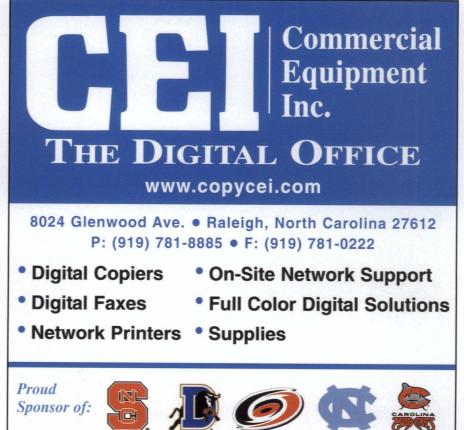
It's worth the trip to see Buies Creek on Football Saturday. Tailgaters start rolling in mid-morning and firing up grills in an area right beside the highway. The parking lots fill up. The smell of burgers, sausages, pork loins and steaks greets travelers as they slow to make their way through the temporary lanes manned by Highway Patrol officers and Harnett County Sheriff's deputies.

At brother Frank's house just behind the stadium — now dubbed "CameLot" — a host of friends gather for pre-game food and fellowship. The spacious wraparound porch accommodates neighbors and other guests who gather to visit and await the short hike to the stadium for the kickoff. Kids toss footballs. Liz, the Chocolate Lab, makes the rounds. For the

Davidson game, Hog Slat executive David Herring cooked a pig and wife Lisa made killer black-eyed peas. Lots of sides. A classic pig pickin' and doggone good Easternstyle barbecue. And everybody wanted Lisa's recipe. She shared her secret ingredient — pickled jalapeño peppers. Lisa, gonna be some in my black-eyed peas on New Year's Dav.

One last bit on information to share with you. A young man from West Virginia, Robert Harper, is doing play-by-play for the live broadcast of Campbell football games on 107.3 FM. Though he had never broadcast football before, Robert is determined to excel. He is so determined, in fact, that he returned to his alma mater, Marshall, last year and did play-by-play for Marshall's home games, then spent countless hours listening to his recordings and honing his skills. Opening game at Campbell saw temperatures in the 90s. Fans were dropping from the heat. Robert broadcast live from an un-air-conditioned booth with cold towels on his head. That's dedication. Between you and me, one day Robert Harper will be the best in the business.







Gourmet

by Moreton Neal

AVOID HOLIDAY STRESS WITH A SIMPLE CHRISTMAS DINNER

his time each year I ask myself the same question: Why can't Christmas be more like Thanksgiving? Even if you're not that crazy about turkey or cranberries or pumpkin pie, it's comforting to revisit that predictable menu year after year with only slight variations. I don't know anyone who doesn't love the greatest of American holidays. The ritual is so simple: set aside one day to give thanks for our blessings (and this year aren't we all grateful that turkey is so inexpensive), to cook for and break bread with family, and to relax and enjoy their good company.

Christmas, on the other hand, always seems fraught with complications. No matter what relationship you have or don't have with Jesus, most of us still celebrate some variation of a winter holiday. There's



7440 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh



no getting away from the months-long "holiday season" that begins the moment we blow out the candle in our jack-olanterns. By the time Christmas finally rolls around, most of us are exhausted from all the hoopla that surrounds the extended celebration.

If you are a person who sends every card, buys every present, bakes all the expected cookies and candies, decks all the halls, and still manages to go caroling or get to a performance of the *Messiah* or *The Nutcracker* without even one little anxiety attack before Christmas Eve, I don't know you.

If you are clever enough to reserve a table for Christmas dinner at one of our four-star hotel dining rooms (Herons at The Umstead, Washington Duke, The Carolina Inn, and The Siena), I'll admit to a twinge of envy and the faint hope of an invitation.

Yet I do look forward to dinner at home on Christmas.

Last year I made a misguided attempt to change our usual tradition — family dinner on Christmas Eve preceded by an informal cocktail hour when a few friends drop by for a little Christmas cheer. Instead of the tried and true menu honed over the years to please the tastebuds of every family member, I ratcheted up the occasion to an open house. I served ham, turkey, cheeses, an assortment of breads and condiments, and old-fashioned holiday sweets — fudge, jam tarts, sandies — the same menu my grandmother always carried off so effortlessly — or so I thought.

By the time guests arrived I was a wreck. In the middle of the party, I collapsed and had to go to bed. For three weeks.

It wasn't a nervous breakdown. Really. I had a bad case of flu and had ignored it until the virus got the best of me. Still, the experience taught me a lesson. This year, I'll stick to the old low-stress menu, based on no other Christmas tradition but

our own.

For the sake of domestic harmony and my mental health, everything can be made ahead and reheated with little effort. This means I can turn on the Christmas music, relax with a Champagne cocktail and relish my family, their significant others and pre-dinner guests. That's the moment when the "Christmas spirit" finally arrives and this old world seems full of joy.

MORETON NEAL AND HUSBAND DRAKE MAYNARD CHRISTMAS MENU

Christmas Champagne Cocktail
Stilton Spread and Crackers
Roasted Pecans
Salad of Mixed Greens with Radishes
and Sherry Vinaigrette
Shrimp Creole with Basmati Rice
Chocolate Chess Pie with Whipped
Cream

CHRISTMAS CHAMPAGNE COCKTAIL

- 1 part freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 2 parts cointreau
- 3 parts brandy

Champagne or sparkling wine

At least an hour before serving, chill the lemon juice, cointreau and brandy mixture. When ready to serve, pour 2 tablespoons (or to taste) into Champagne flutes. Add Champagne to fill the glass.

Served very cold in a martini glass, its rim dipped in lemon juice, then sugar — omitting the bubbly — this is the classic sidecar cocktail, a delicious holiday drink on its own.

STILTON SPREAD

- 5 ounces Stilton cheese
- 4 ounces cream cheese



2-1/2 ounces (5 Tablespoons) butter 1/4 cup toasted chopped walnuts 3 scallions, finely chopped Water biscuits such as Carr's

Let the Stilton cheese, cream cheese and butter come to room temperature. Cream together with an electric mixer. Spoon into a terrine or attractive serving bowl. Can be chilled for hours, but serve at room temperature.

Sprinkle the top with walnuts and scallions and serve with Carr's crackers or baguette slices.

SHRIMP CREOLE

Serves 8-10

3 pounds shrimp, preferably with heads

6 Tablespoons butter

1-1/2 cups celery, chopped

2 cups onions, chopped

1-1/2 cups green bell pepper, chopped

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 bay leaf

1/2 teaspoon cayenne

1/4 teaspoon Tabasco

1 Tablespoon dried thyme

1 teaspoon dried basil

2 14-ounce cans diced tomatoes with juice 1/2 cup canned tomato sauce

1 teaspoon sugar

1-1/2 teaspoons salt

1 teaspoon pepper

Basmati rice

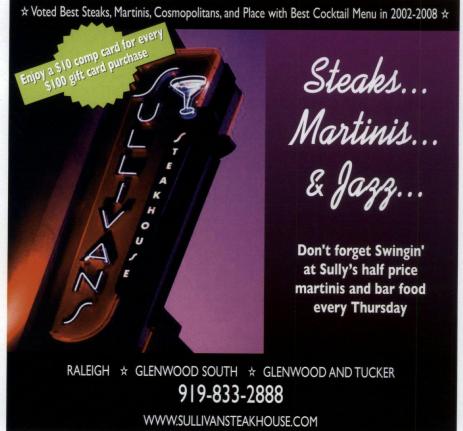
Chopped fresh parsley

Peel shrimp, keeping shells and heads for stock. Refrigerate the shrimp until ready to cook.

Make stock by boiling shells and heads with one halved onion, one halved stalk of celery, a bay leaf and two cloves garlic in two quarts water for at least a half hour, preferably more to concentrate the stock. Strain and save at least 2 cups of this stock for the Creole.

In a large pan, sauté the onions, peppers and celery in the butter for about five minutes or until they are soft and translucent. Add garlic, Tabasco, cayenne, thyme, basil. Add a few tablespoons of the stock. Simmer, stirring, for five minutes before adding tomatoes, tomato sauce, sugar, rest of stock, and salt and pepper. Simmer 20 minutes longer.

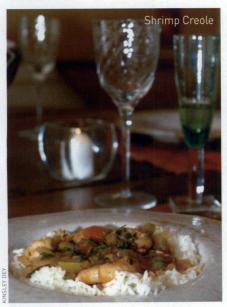
At this point, add the shrimp and cook



just a few minutes longer until the shrimp turn pink and opaque. Or chill the sauce, then reheat to a simmer when you cook the rice, and add the shrimp to cook just before serving.

Serve the creole over cooked rice and sprinkle with parsley.

And relax!



NIBBLES

Sure to be a popular stocking stuffer, the cookbook written and compiled by the **Ravenscroft School** community in Raleigh, *Excellent Courses — A Culinary Legacy of Ravenscroft*, just received "Finalist" honors in the Regional Cookbook category of the USA Book News' Best Books Of 2008 contest.

Some of the most intriguing holiday special dinners I've seen will take place at **Zely & Ritz Tapas Restaurant** in Raleigh's Glenwood South this month. A tequila dinner, featuring silver, reposado and añejo tequilas from Mexico, will be served Dec. 3. A five-course holiday liquor dinner will follow on Dec. 7, featuring spirits from around the world. Call 919-828-0018 for reservations. Other December special dinners are scheduled on www.zeliandritz.com.

Bring the kids to The Umstead Hotel and Spa for **Tea with Santa** Dec. 6 and 13. Parents and children will have the opportunity to chat with Mr. Claus while listening to Christmas carols by the Raleigh Boys

Choir and enjoying sweet and savory finger foods. Throughout December, "The Umstead Express" will replace the property's traditional afternoon tea with specialty hot chocolates accompanied by delectable treats such as peppermint bars and mint patties. Starting on Dec. 2, chocolaty drinks, gingerbread cookies and holiday cheer will be served in the lobby. Check www.heronsrestaurant.com for other dinners and events or call 919-447-4200.

Always one of the most festive seasonal treats in the Triangle, **The Carolina Inn's Twelve Days of Christmas** begins Dec. 7 with a community open house. Make reservations for high tea in the lobby or for one of the many other special dinners by calling 919-933-2001.

The Sheraton Chapel Hill has announced the opening of **Shula's 347 Grill**, now serving breakfast, lunch and dinner at the full-service hotel, located on Europa Drive in Chapel Hill. Shula's 347 Grill is named in honor of Hall of Fame Coach Don Shula, the "winningest coach in NFL history."

The Pinehurst Hotel welcomes a new executive chef, Thierry Debailleul, a graduate of the esteemed École Supérieure de Cuisine Française. His classic training launched a career that has spanned from Michelin-star rated restaurants from northern France to the West Indies, and acclaimed luxury resorts around the world.

Congratulations to **Chef Mario Huante**, owner and executive chef of Chef Mario's Personal Chef Services, who won both categories at the 2008 Great Chefs of the Triangle Competition held on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2008, at Prestonwood Country Club. The awards were given for the Best Station Presentation and for Overall Excellence.

La Farm Bakery (4248 Cary Parkway, 919-657-0657, www.lafarmbakery.com) will expand in January to include a café next to the current bakery and retail store. The expansion will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner, all featuring Master Baker Lionel Vatinet's creations: tartines (toasted

and melted open-faced sandwiches) and pastries, soups, salads, cheese and charcuteries plates and French wine.

Foodies are enjoying Chef Robert Bland's steak frites, moules frites, steak tartare, crispy frog legs, cassoulet and other French classic dishes at **Coquette Brasserie** in the former location of South in North Hills. Phone 919-789-0606 or check www.coquetteraleigh.com for details.

The Raleigh Marriott City Center's new upscale bar and lounge, **Bar Posta**, is into the giving spirit offering three new holiday cocktails. One dollar from the sale of each of these drinks in December through Christmas will also go to the Food Bank. Holiday cocktails include the Poinsettia, with Prosecco and cranberry juice; the Peppermint Martini made of peppermint schnapps, dark crème de cacao and cream; and the Holiday Truffle with Godiva chocolate liqueur plus Bailey's Irish Cream.

Wilson food enthusiasts are delighted at the recent opening of **Quince**, a "Southern bistro," at the Shoppes at Brentwood. Chef/Owner Peter Edgar describes his palate of fresh ingredients as "the original flavors of America." Quince is open for lunch and dinner and has an extensive wine list. For reservations, call 252-237-6463.

Planning a large party or reception in the new year? Try the stunning new "Pavilions" at The Angus Barn, which features a lovely view of Umstead Lake from its spacious terrace. Choose from a selection of event menus developed by Iron Chef winner Chef Walter Royal and his staff. The venue is convenient to everyone in the Triangle and can accommodate more than 300 guests.

Fins in downtown Raleigh has caught the eye of *Bon Appétit* magazine. The December issue cites Chef William D'Auvray's establishment in its list of America's Top 10 seafood restaurants. Andrew Knowlton's article has high praise for Fin's Japanesestyle *robata yaki* bar: "... the daily catch is char-grilled; it is seafood at its most simple and sublime."

RESTAURANT GUIDE

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.

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

AN — 2800 Renaissance Park Place, Cary. 677-9229. www.ancuisines.com. Chef Michael Chuong showcases his signature 'New World' cuisine, an elegant blend of Southeast Asian flavors and European influences. Voted Best New Restaurant in 2007 by Metro Magazine & Cary Magazine, Best Appetizers in 2008 by Metro Magazine. Lunch Mon-Fri and Dinner Mon-Sat.

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.

BELLA MONICA — 3121-103 Edwards Mill Rd, Raleigh. 881-9778. www.bellamonica.com. Authentic Neapolitan entrées from family recipes. Neighborhood wine bar with all-Italian list. Patio dining. Lunch & Dinner. Closed Sunday. Voted "Best Italian" by *City-Search & AOL Cityguide. Wine Spectator* Award of Excellence.

BENTLEY'S AT CROSSROADS — 2007 Walnut St., Cary. 854-0644. www.BentleysAtCrossroads.com. Offering aged steaks and fresh seafood in a casually elegant atmosphere. Lunch M-F from \$6. Dinner daily from \$8. Stunning lounge area. A/V equipped boardroom available for private events. Look for Bentley's clock tower at Crossroads Plaza.

BLOOMSBURY BISTRO — 509 W. Whitaker Mill Rd. Ste 101, Raleigh. 834-9011. Sophisticated food and wine in a comfortable neighborhood setting. Featured in *Southern Living, Gourmet Magazine* and *USA Today*. Voted Best Restaurant two years running, Best Chef and Best Waitstaff 2006 MetroBravo! Awards.

BLUE RIDGE, THE MUSEUM RESTAURANT — 2110 Blue Ridge Rd., Raleigh. 839-6262. Visit Web site online at www.ncartmuseum.org. Offering renowned visual art and culinary masterpieces at the NC Museum of Art. Eclectic fare ranges from salads, sandwiches and entrées at lunch to sumptuous weekend brunches.

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

CAROLINA ALE HOUSE — 513 Creekside Dr., 835-2222; 4512 Falls of Neuse Rd., 431-0001; 7981 Skyland Ridge Pkwy., 957-4200; 2240 Walnut St., Cary, 854-9444. Hwy 98 bypass and US1, 11685 Northpark Drive, Wake Forest, 556-8666. Visit Web site online at www.CarolinaAleHouse.com. A family-friendly sports-themed restaurant consistently awarded top honors for its atmosphere, hand-breaded wings, menu selection, and wide variety of ales. Full menu served 11–2 a.m. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Kid's menu 99¢ every Tuesday.

THE DUCK & DUMPLING — 222 S. Blount St., Raleigh. 838-0085. www.theduckanddumpling.com. Overlooking 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.

GLENWOOD GRILL — 2603-151 Glenwood Ave. at Oberlin Rd. 782.3102. glenwoodgrill.com. Head Chef John Wright continues to add new and exciting offerings to our new Expanded Menu. Open Mon-Fri for Lunch, Mon-Sat for Dinner. Available on Sundays for Private Parties, from stand-up Buffets to sit-down Dinners

GLOBE — 510 Glenwood Avenue Suite 103, Raleigh. 836-1811. Chefs Heath Holloman (co-owner) and Gray Modlin present a menu influenced by cuisines from all over the GLOBE, with their own twists. Choose a wine from the comprehensive list or have Henry Burgess (co-owner/sommelier) assist in a selection that will pair well with your food. "GLOBE...come taste a world of difference!

HERONS — 100 Woodland Pond, Cary. 447-4200. www.heronsrestaurant.com. Now open at The Umstead Hotel and Spa offering modern American cuisine with regional influnces and an extensive wine selection. Live music and classic cocktails in the bar.

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

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.

NINA'S RISTORANTE — 8801 Leadmine Rd., Raleigh. 845-1122. www.ninasristorante.com. Vibrant flowers,

paintings and hand-crafted sculptures are arranged throughout the terra cotta walls of the restaurant. The restaurant provides the ever-growing area with Tuscan Cuisine that is heavy on flavor and light on the ingredients, Wine Spectator Award of Excellence 2000-2006. Hours of operation M-Sat. 5-10 p.m.

NOFO MARKET AND CAFE — 2014 Fairview Road, Raleigh. 821-1240. Cafe, bar and deck seating. Awardwinning salads, soups, sandwiches and entrees. "Best Brunch," "Best Eggs Benedict," "Best Bloody Mary," Metro Magazine. Lunch M-F, Brunch Sat & Sun, Dinner M-Sat.

THE PIT — 328 W. Davie St., Raleigh. 890-4500. www.thepit-raleigh.com. Country meets city with down-home barbecue offered as a gourmet meal to be savored. Featuring legendary pitmaster Ed Mitchell's authentic NC pit-cooked barbecue, complemented by creative, seasonal appetizers and sides. Enticing beer and wine selection. Open for Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., M-F; Dinner: 5-10 p.m., M-Th; 5-11 p.m. Fri - Sat.

THE RALEIGH TIMES BAR — 14 E. Hargett St., Raleigh. 833-0999. www.raleightimesbar.com. The beautifully restored 100-year-old *Raleigh Times* building is now home to a timeless local watering hole in Downtown Raleigh. Featuring hand-crafted, creative takes on classic bar fare favorites, an inventive drink menu and extensive Belgian beer selection. Open 11:30–2 a.m., Mon-Sat; Noon – Midnight Sun.

SAINT JACQUES — 6112 Falls of Neuse, North Ridge Shopping Center, Raleigh. 862-2770. www.saint-jacquesfrenchcuisine.com. Owned and operated by French native, Lil Lacassagne – fine dining at its best. Voted "Best French Food in the Triangle – 2006 by *Citysearch* and "Best French Restaurant" in *Metro's* Bravo awards. Lunch and Dinner served Tues-Sat.

SAVOY — 7713-39 Lead Mine Rd., Raleigh 848-3535 www.restaurantsavoy.com. Smoke-free lunch M-F and dinner M-Sat. Chef brothers Peter Gibson and Marshall Smith make everything in-house, including breads and desserts. The contemporary menu features farmer's market produce and seasonal entrées. Convenient N. Raleigh location for business or pleasure! Classic. Simple. Delicious.

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

SOLOMON'S RESTAURANT — 7333 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh. 844-4977. 4610 N. Capital Blvd, Raleigh. 790-0090. 10410 Moncreiffe Rd, Raleigh. 313-1381. 780 W. Williams St, Apex. 249-2433. Visit Web site online at www.solomons-restaurant.com. Offering a combination of the Mediterranean with the sophistication of the city. Enjoy dishes prepared using only the finest, fresh ingredients in an indulgent, casual atmosphere. Wine list and outdoor seating available. Open for Lunch and Dinner.

SONO JAPANESE RESTAURANT — 319 Fayetteville Street #101, Raleigh. 521-5328. www.sonoraleigh.com. This new and exciting Japanese restaurant is unlike

RESTAURANT GUIDE

any other in the Triangle area. From the chic/modern decor to exciting new fusion dishes, this restaurant will please any taste buds.

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

SUSHI BLUES — 301 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. 664-8061. www.sushibluescafe.com. A Glenwood South Original located downtown for 10 great years. Featured in *Southern Living Magazine, Esquire, Rachel Ray Magazine, The Independent, News* and *Observer* and *Spectator.* Voted best sushi by readers of *Metro Magazine*, Citysearch, *Spectator*, and *The Independent*.

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.

TROPICAL SMOOTHIE CAFÉ — 1028 Oberlin Rd, Raleigh. 755-2222. 6910 Fayetteville Rd #148, Durham. 806-1173. www.tropicalsmoothiecafe.com. More than just great tasting smoothies. Offering high quality, healthy alternatives to regular fast food. Gourmet wraps, specialty sandwiches and salads are made with the highest quality Dietz and Watson meats and chesses. Come early to enjoy breakfast wraps and bagels — catering available.

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

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

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 1995. Dine in our café or outdoor patio. Enjoy the Home Art selection of fun and whimsical home accessories and gifts. Lunch Tues.-Sat., Dinner Wed.-Sat. and Sunday Brunch.

DURHAM/APEX/MORRISVILLE

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

CAROLINA ALE HOUSE — 3911 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd., Durham, 490-2001.

GEORGE'S GARAGE — 737 Ninth St., Durham. 286-4131. Enjoy our casual upbeat atmosphere with the freshest seafood and authentic sushi bar. After-hour

celebration and dancing and a fresh to-go market and bakery.

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

TAVERNA NIKOS — 905 W. Main Street, Durham. 682-0043. NIKOS TAVERNA- 4075 Davis Drive, Morrisville. 462-1148. www.nikostavernainc.com Executive Chef Georgios S. Kastanias. Family-owned restaurant featuring authentic Greek specialties. Showcasing a new menu with a wide variety of entrées, as well as nightly specials — the perfect place to experience traditional Greek dining.

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

CHAPEL HILL/HILLSBOROUGH

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

CROOK'S CORNER — 610 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 929-7643. www.crookscorner.com. "Sacred ground of Southern foodies," *New York Times*. Patio dining, weather permitting. Acclaimed Sunday brunch. Dinner Tues.-Sun. at 5:30 p.m., Sun. Brunch 10:30-2 p.m.

PANCIUTO — 110 C. Churton St., Hillsborough. 732-6261. www.panciuto.com. Fine dining blending Italian recipes with local ingredients, prepared fresh daily. Pastas, breads, desserts made on-site. Wine, beer, mixed beverages available. Upscale yet comfortable "old world" style dining room. Opens 5:30 p.m. for dinner. Wed-Sat.

PENANG - MALAYSIAN, THAI & SUSHI — 431 W. Franklin St, Chapel Hill. 919-933-2288. Online at www.penangnc.com. Surprising balance of Southeast Asian spices and fruits. Intriguing menu based on family recipes, with curries, noodles, soups and sushi. Attractive, open atmosphere, vegetarian options and weekday lunch specials. "4 ½ Stars" from CitySearch. Open daily.

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

BEYOND THE TRIANGLE

AQUA — 214 Middle Lane, Beaufort, NC 28516. 252-728-7777. www.aquaexperience.com. "Aqua's urbanchic 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.

BEAUFORT GROCERY CO — 117 Queen St., Beaufort. 252-728-3899. www.beaufortgrocery.com Beaufort's

oldest and continuously operating fine dining restaurant since 1991. Specializing in regional cuisine fused with global techniques and influences. Lunch M, W-Sat 11:30-3 p.m.; Dinner M, W-Sat 5:30-9:30 p.m. and Sun brunch at 11:30 a.m. Closed Tues.

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 wellmatched wine to accompany your entrée. Dinner Tues-Sat.



CAFÉ ZITO — 105 South 11th St., Morehead City. 252-726-6676. www.cafezito.com. Be delighted by the creative cuisine at this neighborhood restaurant. Chef Baptist Knaven offers a tantalizing menu of local favorites influenced by the Mediterranean. Located in a historic downtown home, enjoy dining inside or on the porch.

CHEF AND THE FARMER — 120 W. Gordon St., Kinston. 252-208-2433. www.chefandthefarmer.com. A converted mule stable never looked so good. Blending old architecture and contemporary design with local ingredients and urban techniques makes this progressive eatery an epicurean oasis.

DELUXE — 114 Market Street, Wilmington. 910-251-0333. Offering upscale dining with an emphasis on fresh local ingredients. Largest selection of fine wines in the region and one of Wilmingon's superior brunches. Open for dinner and Sunday brunch. *Wine Spectator* Award of Excellence, www.deluxenc.com.

FRONT STREET GRILL AT STILLWATER — 300 Front St., Beaufort. 252-728-4956. Visit 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.

SHARPIES GRILL & BAR — 521 Front St., Beaufort. 252-838-0101. www.sharpiesgrill.com Coastal Carolina cuisine. Every occasion is a special occasion. Rated four starts by John Batchelor. Serving local seafood, Certified Angus Beef, farm grown local produce, house-maid pastas and desserts. Tableside preparations, outstanding wine list and full bar.

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

COPK Report



WINES FOR THE CHRISTMAS FEAST

hhh, the hubbub of Christmas morning — the gifts, the glitter, the sound of bells and carols, the smell of cinnamon and roasting birds. For some reason I think of red plaid — red plaid? Red plaid … what? Christmas jogs the memory, and I seem to recall the jolly gathering after Christmas morning service at

the home of family friends. That's it: The host greeted us in a red *plaid* jacket and green bow tie, with a grin on his face and a cocktail in hand.

The annual tradition in this family was an open house where the ritual tipple was the **Sidecar**. It's a festive drink, typically 1/3 cognac, 1/3 cointreau, 1/3 lemon juice served in a martini glass — the rim dipped in lemon juice and then in fine or powdered sugar. Potent, too, though I was never allowed more than a tiny taste from my Dad's glass. (See Moreton Neal's variation in this issue.)

We also had a tradition at our house. For Christmas dinner — if the family hunters had bagged their limit — the main course was wild duck or goose, gently braised for hours in a seasoned broth that kept the lean, dark meat nicely moist, as well as tender. A host of side dishes rounded out the meal — rice with almonds and raisins, Mom's asparagus or squash casserole, glazed roasted sweet potatoes, my grandmother's buttery yeast-risin' rolls — feather light and mouth-watering.

It was a feast all right, and whether we had it on Christmas afternoon or, when we girls were older, on Christmas Eve, it was just possibly *the* meal of the year. There might be as many as 14 gathered round the table, rarely fewer than seven or eight.

Whenever I can, I repeat the menu, or come as close as I can. Now, happily, a major highlight is the wine — I get a huge kick out of rummaging in my wine cellar to pick out a few treasures.

So here's my Christmas feast menu ... which I may tweak in some way or other 'tween now and then:

Barbara Ensrud's Christmas Feast Totten Inlet Oysters-on-the-half-shell Delamotte Blanc de Blancs Champagne 1999 Goose Liver Paté Schramsberg Brut Rosé Braised Wild Goose Wild Rice with Currants Braised Red Cabbage with Chestnuts & Carraway Roasted Brussels Sprouts with Pearl Onions & Walnuts Joseph Drouhin Beaune Clos des Mouches 2006 Merry Edwards 2002 Pinot Noir Olivet Lane Pumpkin Tart Royal Tokaji 2003 5 Puttonyos

(See notes and alternatives below.)

OYSTERS: Totten Inlets, a delectable oyster from the Pacific Northwest, can be ordered from Taylor Shellfish Farms (www.taylorshellfishfarms.com). Personally I prefer Blanc de Blancs Champagne, made

from all Chardonnay, for raw oysters. The Delamotte, \$70-\$80, is brisk and elegant. Equally fine choices: Pol Roger Brut Chardonnay 1999, Taittinger Comtes de Champagne.

GOOSE LIVER PATÉ: *Brut Rosé*, made from Pinot Noir (and sometimes Pinot Meunier), is my preference here for its dry

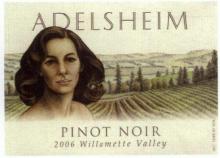
(brut) but juicy fruitiness. Other good ones: Domaine Carneros, Iron Horse, Domaine Mumm Blanc de Noirs.

WILD GOOSE OR DUCK: Red Burgundies are wonderful with gamebirds, and Beaune reds are among my first choices. Drouhin's Clos des Mouches is the firm's signature red. Though today the French word for "flies" is mouches, in the 15th century it was the Burgundian name for honeybees. Clos means "enclosed field," so the speculation is that once the vineyard was home to hives of honeybees. Elegant and beautifully balanced, the 2006 is a better buy for the feast than the 2005 because the fruit is more upfront and plushy right now (the 2005 will be more impressive in the long run - say in six to eight years).

Merry Edwards' Olivet Lane Pinot is always one of her best, and the 2002 is drinking very well right now. But there are many wonderful Pinots to choose, such as Willowbrook 2006, Russian Hill Estate 2006, La Crema 2006 or "J" Vine-

yards 2006, all with big ripe fruit from Sonoma's Russian River Valley.

Dessert: The distinctiveness of richly sweet **Tokaji**, a legendary favorite of Russian czars, can be savored by itself, but it will also go wonderfully with pumpkin tart or pumpkin pie. *Puttonyos* refers to the



level of sweetness in this honeyed nectar, five puttonyos being the sweetest. I recently tasted this and other **Royal Tokaji** with Ben Howkins, one of the best-known experts on this Hungarian rarity, as well as fine port and sherry. Silken in texture, its sweetness sublimely offset with bright acidity, it is great to find this exceptional wine available again.

If your main course is roast turkey, roast crown of pork or pork loin, the above named **Pinots** will suit equally well, though I might add a couple of lighter ones for these lighter meats, such as **Adelsheim 2006** from Oregon or **Lockwood Block 7** from Monterey County, CA.

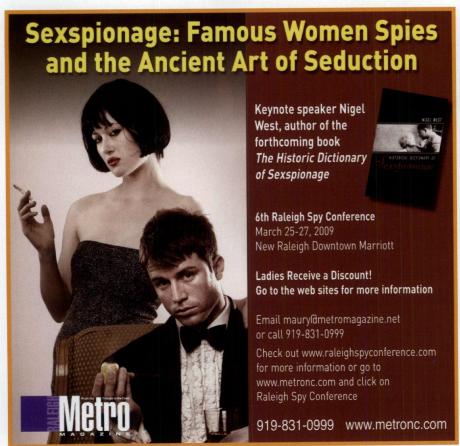
If, on the other hand, your entrée is crown roast of beef or standing rib roast, then you want a bigger, meatier red. If you can dip into a cache of older, mature reds, you are fortunate indeed. But there are some terrific Cabernets out there young and juicy enough to handle a good beef such as Shafer 2004 One Point Five, \$65, a massively rich Cabernet Sauvignon from the Stag's Leap District of Napa Valley. Father and son, John and Doug Shafer, coined the term to represent their generation-and-a-half ownership of this top property. Or the 2003 Mayacamas Cabernet, \$75, with its great depth of mountaingrown fruit. Look also for Owl Ridge 2004 Brigden Vineyard, \$47 — dark and chewy, rich and deep.

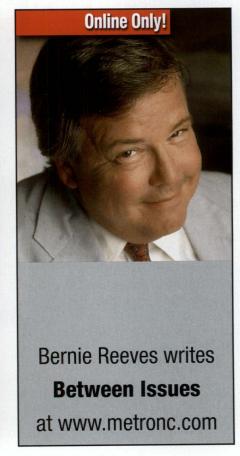
RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR

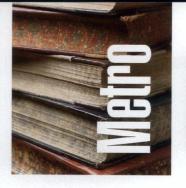
Name your price — and you can find a good if not thrilling bubbly to suit your taste — whether it is \$225 for Pol Roger Sir Winston Churchill Cuvée, or \$9 for Segura Viudas Brut Reserva, or somewhere in between. There are numerous sparkling wine

tastings at wine shops and restaurants this month, so by all means go and discover. Who knows if a global economy sinking to its knees will put pressure on high-end Champagnes to moderate? Hmm ... I'll just have a glass (I always keep a good sparkler on the chill) right now, and think about that. Cheers...









Books

BOOKS FOR UNDER THE TREE; JAKI SHELTON GREEN NAMED PIEDMONT POET LAUREATE

by Art Taylor

ach December, we invite area booksellers to share their recommendations for holiday gift-giving. This year's entries cover a wide range of North Carolina titles and other selections from beyond the state's borders.

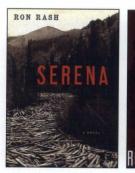
Nancy Olsen, owner of Raleigh's Quail Ridge Books, tops her list with Ron Rash's recent novel *Serena*, set in the North Carolina highlands at the start of the Depression. "The language of this novel is absolutely beautiful, reminiscent of *Cold Mountain* in the way Rash incorporates heirloom words to bring a bygone era to life," says Olsen. "The lovely descriptions and vintage language heighten the sense of foreboding and evil that develops."

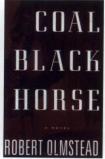
Olsen also recommends Bill Leslie's *Blue Ridge Reunion*, a collection of the WRAL-TV anchorman's essays and his father's watercolors — a suggestion that was seconded by Linda Malouf, community relations manager of the Cary Barnes & Noble.

She calls *Blue Ridge Reunion* a "picturesque view of mountain life and a treasured childhood" and also recommends *Making Notes: Music of the Carolinas* edited by Ann Wicker. Explains Malouf, "The music scene has its own notoriety and heritage. *Making Notes* is a collection of essays, articles and recollections from notable North Carolinians who share their memories of the musical traditions that have shaped their lives."

Jamie Fiocco, manager of McIntyre's Fine Books in Fearrington Village, offers two personal suggestions. Robert Olmstead's Civil War novel *Coal Black Horse*, now out in paperback, is "a darn enjoyable read. Lyrical writing makes the story flow, and although set during wartime, this is about what's going on with people on the outskirts of the war rather than tactics or

actual battles. Fiocco also recommends Joyce Hinnefeld's *In Hovering Flight*: "It's the story of bird artist and activist Addie Sturmer Kavanagh and her husband Tom as told by their daughter Scarlet. The reader knows from the beginning that Addie's days are numbered, but the story is anything but sorrowful. A wonderful look at families and how humans interconnect with the natural world, this first novel by Hinnefeld is a quiet celebration of relationships."





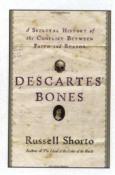
Beyond those personal suggestions, Fiocco also passes along a staff recommendation — two books by Leif Enger, So Brave, Young and Handsome and Peace Like a River — and a top pick by the store's "mystery guru" Pete Mock, who says Russell Shorto's Descartes' Bones, "has taken the bones of René Descartes, the philosopher whose simple 'I think, therefore I am' laid the foundation of the modern world and follows them on their sinuous path through the ages as relics of logical thought in the rough-and-tumble conflict between faith and reason."

Rob McDaniel, community relations manager for the Greenville Barnes & Noble, heartily suggests Josh Hamilton's memoir *Beyond Belief*. McDaniel writes: "Josh is an outfielder for the Texas Rangers and holds the record for the most home runs in a single round of the All-Star Home

Run Derby. A Raleigh native, he has struggled with drug and alcohol addiction, and he writes about overcoming his demons in this book."

And Valerie Bullaughey, community relations manager for the Barnes & Noble at New Hope Commons in Durham, indulges a personal passion with her suggestion of Paul Simon's new book, *Lyrics* 1964-2008. "I'm a huge Paul Simon fan!" Bullaughey exclaims, and then takes a more reserved and scholarly approach in her offi-





cial recommendation: "By dissociating Simon's lyrics from his tuneful melodies, this unique volume illuminates his poetic brilliance." Either way, the message comes through loud and clear from Bullaughey and each of these booksellers: There are great new books to be discovered across a wide variety of genres.

As for my own "wish list" this season, I'm finally ready to upgrade my one-volume Encyclopedia of Southern Culture by beginning to collect the individual volumes of the *New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*. The 13th volume — *Music* — of the planned 24-volume publication is due out in January, with a photo of Elvis gracing the cover. I'm equally excited about a couple of earlier volumes: *Literature* (vol. 10) and *Language* (vol. 5) — a promising collection, with volumes to match your individual subject of interest.

JAKI SHELTON GREEN NAMED PIEDMONT LAUREATE

Poet Jaki Shelton Green was formally introduced as the first-ever Piedmont Laureate on Nov. 15 at a luncheon reading at the North Carolina Writers' Network's annual fall conference.

Green has already been honored twice before for her contributions. In 2003, she received the North Carolina Award for Literature — the state's highest honor — in recognition of "the countless lives she touches by word and deed." Last year, Green was awarded the Sam Ragan Award for "outstanding contributions to the Fine Arts of North Carolina." For her upcom-



Green

ing one-year term as Piedmont Laureate, Green will present readings, lead workshops, attend public functions and "create at least one original activity to expand appreciation of literature" — all intended "to promote aware-

ness and heighten appreciation for excellence in the literary arts throughout the Piedmont region," according to the program's mission.

Green, a native of Efland, NC, and a current resident of Mebane, NC, is the author of several poetry collections, including *Dead on Arrival, Masks, Conjure Blues* and most recently, 2005's *Breath of the Song: New and Selected Poems*, each published by Carolina Wren Press. The title poem of *Breath of the Song* closes with a celebration of her art and of humanity:

today everyday heads crush earth bends toward grace hearts inhale new life and our blessings clothe us in colored threads that weave

In addition to these collections, Green's poetry has appeared in journals including *The Crucible, African American Review, Obsidian, Poets for Peace, Ms. Magazine, Essence* magazine, *Callaloo* and others, and her poems have been incorporated into works by the Chuck Davis African American Dance Ensemble, the Miami City Ballet, and the Naropa Dance Institute of

Colorado. Green is also the author of a play, *Blue Opal*, and contributed a chapter (one of the standout chapters, in my opinion) to *Pete & Shirley: The Great Tar Heel Novel*.

Green is also a writing instructor and lecturer — sometimes specializing, as the North Carolina Humanities Council has pointed out, in "marginalized populations such as the homeless, the newly literate, the incarcerated and the writer-as-survivor." As the 2003 North Carolina Award citation pointed out, Green is "broadly recognized as an inveterate champion of the underdog."

The Piedmont Laureate program is cosponsored by the City of Raleigh Arts Commission, Durham Arts Council, Orange County Arts Commission, and United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County. The selection committee for the appointment included Dr. Sally Buckner, poet and teacher; Dr. Anjail Rashida Ahmad, director of North Carolina A&T's Creative Writing Program; Richard Krawiec, novelist, poet and director of "Voices"; and Banu Valladares, manager of the North Carolina Arts Council's cART Wheels Program.

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

Area bookstores are also hosting a variety of holiday events and a full range of author readings this month, including:

• UNC-Chapel Hill professor Joseph M. Flora, author of *Reading Hemingway's Men Without Women*, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 2, at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh, and again on Saturday morning, Dec. 13, at McIntyre's Books in Fearrington Village.

• Joseph "Skipper" Funderburg, author of *Surfing on the Cape Fear Coast*, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 2, at Pomegranate Books in Wilmington.

• Raleigh author Joel Haas, author of *Adlerhof: A Novel*, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 3, at Quail Ridge Books.

• John Shelton Reed & Dale Volberg Reed, authors of *Holy Smoke: The Big Book* of *North Carolina Barbecue*, on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 3, at the Country Bookshop in Southern Pines, and again on Friday evening, Dec. 5, at Quail Ridge Books.

• Chapel Hill author Kate Betterton, author of *Where the Lake Becomes the River*, on Thursday evening, Dec. 4, at

Quail Ridge Books, and again on Wednesday evening, Dec. 17, at Barnes & Noble, New Hope Commons, Durham.

• Dr. Mardy Grothe, Raleigh-based psychologist, management consultant and author of *I Never Metaphor I Didn't Like: A Comprehensive Compilation of History's Greatest Analogies, Metaphors, and Similes*, on Thursday afternoon, Dec. 4, at The Country Bookshop.

• Bruce Roberts, former director of photography for *Southern Living* and author of *Just Yesterday: NC People and Places*, on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 6, at Quail Ridge Books.

• The Carolina Youth Ballet, performing scenes from *The Nutcracker*, on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 6, at the Cary Barnes & Noble.

• Randy Owen, lead singer of Alabama and author of *Born Country: How Faith, Family, and Music Brought Me Home*, on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 7, at Quail Ridge Books.

• Paul Austin, author of Something for the Pain: One Doctor's Account of Life and Death in the ER, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 9, at Pomegranate Books.

 Food Network sensation Rachael Ray, with her latest cookbook, Rachael Ray's Big Orange Book, on Friday afternoon, Dec. 12, at the Cary Barnes & Noble.

• The Cary High School Choral Ensemble, performing songs of the season on Friday evening, Dec. 12, at the Cary Barnes & Noble.

• Elliott Engel, discussing Dickens and Christmas, on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 14, at Quail Ridge Books.

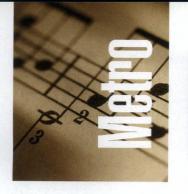
• Celia Rivenbark, author of *Belle Weather*, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 17, at Pomegranate Books.

• Novelist Reynolds Price, offering his annual Christmas reading on Friday evening, Dec. 19, at Quail Ridge Books.

• Nationally recognized storyteller Donald Davis with his annual holiday storytelling on Saturday morning, Dec. 20, at McIntyre's Books.

• Rabbi Aaron Herman, sharing the story of Hanukkah (while juggling!) on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 21, at the Cary Barnes & Noble.

To have your literary event considered for inclusion in this column, please e-mail MetroBooksNC@gmail.com.



by Philip van Vleck

The Loner Hexilogy:

JAZZ GREAT ELMER GIBSON'S LONG ROAD HOME

azz pianist and composer Elmer Gibson has a new album. Titled *The Loner Hexilogy*, it's actually a very old album. Twenty-five years ago, Gibson went into Soundtrax Studios in Raleigh intending to cut a solo piano album to use as a demo. Recording engineer Perry Cheatham informed Gibson that the studio had just purchased a Prophet 5000 analog synthesizer and were anxious for someone to use it.

As Gibson explained during a recent conversation at Whole Foods in Raleigh: "They offered me an opportunity to do this expansive bit of recording with the Prophet, plus my electric piano, an acoustic piano and a Minimoog. I was taken aback by the offer because I was not prepared for any such thing. I soon realized that I needed to think more seriously about this album — it could be more than just something to help me get gigs."

After an interlude in which Gibson re-imagined his objective in cutting the album, he took up Cheatham on his offer and plunged into the emerging art of electronica. The result was an outstanding sixsong record titled *The Loner*.

The album is a finely wrought jazz-fusion project. Gibson's performance is marvelous, and his songs are vivid conceptual gems, but he got no love when he shopped the finished product.

Record labels couldn't figure out how to market a jazz album with no drums. As it turned out, *The Loner* was an apt title.

Gibson explained that the original recording was done on 16-track tape, which was then mastered as a

two-track stereo recording. Gibson dubbed off some cassette copies, but otherwise, the master was relegated to a storage locker.

When Elmer recently unearthed the master and listened to it, he was amazed by what he heard. He realized he had an album

that was as sweet today as it was 25 years ago. Thanks to the sea change that has made it possible for artists to release their own material without having to deal with the dubious minds that run record labels, Gibson has at last released *The Loner* under a slightly amplified title.

Gibson recalled that he wanted a concept for *The Loner*. "At this same time I'd been doing this family research with my

son Oliver at the Museum of History. I thought I'd employ some of the information I'd found in this album I was calling *The Loner*. I visualized the six songs that are on the record as representing a larger story. Each one kind of crystallized a particular idea."

The first song on the album is titled "Bobbin' & Weavin'."

"The idea here comes from an experience I had when I was living in Philadelphia back in 1966," he noted. "I worked on Broad Street, and every morning when I was walking to work I'd see this black guy on the street. He was obviously a former boxer who'd gone too many rounds in the ring. He would be walking down the sidewalk like he was shadow boxing, up on his toes, sort of bouncing rather than walking.

"At first I avoided the cat," he laughed. "He didn't seem like someone you'd want to approach. I finally got up the nerve to speak to him, and one morning I got up beside him and asked him how he was doing. He said, 'Just bobbin' and weavin', keep movin'."

That phrase stuck with Gibson, and he eventually wrote a song titled "Bobbin' & Weavin'." He intended

to use the tune in his solo piano recording session, and he updated the piece when he got a chance to use the analog synthesizer. "Now at the time there was this video game called 'Galaga,'"

Gibson said. "Everybody was playing it, including me, and you

Gibson

The album is a finely wrought jazzfusion project. Gibson's performance is marvelous, and his songs are vivid conceptual gems, but he got no love when he shopped the finished product.

METROMAGAZINE DECEMBER 2008



could really get caught up in it. One day I was in an arcade and this kid came in. He was the top guy in the city, and he was going around to all the arcades playing 'Galaga,' looking to log the top score, so his name would be number one on that particular game's list, right?

"When I updated 'Bobbin' & Weavin' I put those 'Galaga' sound effects in the opening of the song, like the coins dropping in the game and the shooting sounds. Then the song becomes how I felt about dealing with life, you know, bobbin' and weavin' and how you have to keep moving

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to avoid the knockout punch."

The second song on the album, "Changes," expresses Gibson's frustration with all the changes life puts us through. He sees this as the beginning of a transformative process that hopefully leads to self-knowledge.

Gibson explained that the third tune on the record, "Peaches At The Disco," is a reference to Nina Simone's song "Four Women," from her album *Wild is the Wind* (1966).

"She wrote this song describing four black women. The most defiant of them was Peaches. I thought I would visit her again, and I found out she had been coopted and she was at the disco. At the end of the song you can hear me saying I found her and I'm outta here; I'm into something else. My son Oliver is the other voice on that song."

The title track follows, and it's a song that expresses a personal victory of sorts for Gibson.

"Having realized that I'd achieved this sort of state of grace, where I wasn't affected by all the bobbin' and weavin' and all the changes, I then recognized that I had to figure out what I wanted to do," he said. "How do you move on? How do you approach this new environment — this new reality?"

The song "Spirit Dance" grew out of Gibson's genealogy research. He returned to the site in Gibsonville, NC, where his grandfather was born.

"I'd never felt any real connection with America," he observed. "After I did all this research and found all this information about my grandfather and great-grandfather, I actually felt like I had a stake in the destiny of America. I felt like I had a foothold on some piece of property somewhere.

"I was trying to write this piece that was a dance. I was trying to invoke the spirit of my grandfather, to make him rise up out of the ground. The song is about wherever it is we go to get our solace."

The last song, "Ecstasy," is a vocal piece that Gibson sings. He remarked that he's singing about, "how we live our lives and hope that we are what we think we are. It's difficult to find someone to share that with, so ecstasy is that point where you do

find that person."

Gibson's thoughts on ecstasy might also apply to creating music and sharing it with the larger world, even if it takes 25 years to complete that circle. *The Loner Hexilogy* is available online at www.cdbaby.com.

DISCOLOGY

Chet Baker: Chet in Chicago (Enja)

Trumpet wiz Chet Baker led a weird life. He was one of the masters of West Coast cool jazz, and when he was in top form, he had a sound that was gorgeous. He was also a major-league junkie, and his drug habit tended to erode his skills from time to time. Even



his finale was bizarre. He fell out a second-story window in Amsterdam and the fall — actually it was the land-

ing - killed him. Baker's gigs in the 1980s were notoriously unpredictable. If he showed up, he might sound awful or he might sound amazing. Chet in Chicago, an unreleased studio session tracked in 1986, finds Baker in extraordinary form. Just check out "We'll Be Together Again." His sound is rich, and the silence between his phrases is as articulate as his supremely cool solo. On the bop gem "Ornithology," Baker plays with a fine economy. His sound is fluid and easy. Tenor sax man Ed Petersen and pianist Bradley Young also turn in strong solo efforts on this number. The album finishes with a pair of Miles Davis tunes — "Sippin' At Bells" and "Solar." The former tune is of little interest, but they have a good go at "Solar." Baker's solos are nicely understated and, again, his tone is golden. The album also features a vocal version of "My Funny Valentine," a song that came to be identified with Baker in his younger days. This track, however, is not a keeper. Chet in Chicago is more than a curiosity. Baker actually sounds quite good here, and his backing trio -Young on piano, Larry Gray on bass and Rusty Jones on drums, is proficient.



The Berlin Airlift Sixty Years On is the subject of presentations Dec. 13 from 9:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m. by William Rand Kenan Emeritus Professor of History Gerhard L. Weinberg as part of the Distinguished Scholar Seminar series at UNC-Chapel Hill. The program is partially supported by The Center for European Studies. Presentations include "The Origins of the Situation: Germany in Zones and Sectors"; "The Origins and the Operation of the Blockade" and "The Airlift: The Importance and Effects of the Blockade and the Airlift." Cost is \$120 with an optional \$10 for lunch. Teachers and first-time participants receive 50 percent off tuition, which includes break food and seminar readings mailed before the event. Visit www.unc.edu/depts/human/level 3/ 2008_fall/93-BerlinAirlift.htm or contact Caroline Dyar at 919-962-1546 for more information and location of the event.

A new entrepreneurship initiative at North Carolina State University was launched in November led by Tom Miller, whose Engineering Entrepreneurs Program has graduated several "serial entrepreneurs." Miller plans to develop introductory courses suitable for the university general education requirement, a K-12 outreach program for high school students interested in entrepreneurship, as well as reaching out to the surrounding business and NC State communities. To learn more, visit www.ncsu.edu/ei.

ms consultants, inc., founded in Ohio in 1963 and ranked in the Top 500 architecture firms nationally since 1987 with offices in six states, has acquired HS Annis Architect, AIA, located in Garner.

Raleigh-based artist Jason Craighead will exhibit new paintings Nov. 7 through Jan. 11, 2009, at the Fayetteville Museum of Art entitled "The Energy of a Line."

Craighead's work was described by *Metro Magazine* Art Critic Louis St. Lewis as "conjuring up ghosts of everyone from Motherwell to Franz Kline to Cy Twombly." For more in-

formation, visit www.fayettevillemuseum-art.org.

Kill Devil Hills on the NC coast was named the No. 1 "Great Turning Points" in history location for the Wright Brothers' first flight by the Best In Travel 2009 guidebook by Lonely Planet, ranked ahead of the Battle of Hastings on Senlac Hill, England and The Printing Press in Mainz, Germany. Another first for North Carolina: The Cape Hatteras lighthouse was named the #1 "Flashiest Lighthouse" above Hook Head in Ireland, Créach in France and eight other famous lighthouses.

The Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center raised \$12,000 with a golf salute and homes tour at North River Golf Club in Beaufort in mid-November honoring longtime museum supporter Cap'n Purcell Jones, the former owner of Camp Morehead.

Check our **www.bustersports.com**, the latest online sports site from rabid sports entrepreneur Ray Goodmon, brother of Jim of Capitol Broadcasting, owners of the Durham Bulls. The site is comprehensive and informative, as you would expect.

The Northern Albemarle Chapter of the North Carolina Society Sons of the American Revolution invites the public to a commemoration of the life and accomplishments of Samuel Johnston of Edenton on the occasion of his 275th Birthday Party, Sunday, Dec. 13, 2 p.m. at Hayes Plantation in Edenton, NC.

Johnston was born in Dundee, Scotland in 1733 and settled in NC in 1736. In 1754 he moved to Chowan County and established his home, Hayes Plantation. An early supporter of independence, he served on the Colonial Assembly's Committee of Correspondence beginning in 1773 and was elected to the first four Provincial Congresses, presiding over the third in 1775 (Hillsborough) and the fourth in 1776 (Halifax), the latter of which produced the Halifax Resolves, the first official call for independence from any of the 13 colonies.

He also served as the colonial treasurer, district paymaster of troops (1775), state senator (1779, 1783, 1784) and a delegate from NC to the Continental Congresses of 1780 and 1781. He was elected the first "President of the United States in Congress Assembled" on

July 10, 1781, under the Articles of Confederation, but declined the office due to health and financial reasons. After the Revolution, he served as governor of NC from 1787-1789 and presided over the 1788 and 1789 Constitutional Conventions. He died on August 17, 1816, and was buried at his home.

SciQuest, a Morrisville-based company that delivers procurement solutions over the Internet, received two of the top honors at the North Carolina Technology Association's annual "21 Awards" event on Nov. 13.

Stephen Wiehe, the company's chief executive officer, received the technology executive of the year honor. SciQuest was named the top software company.

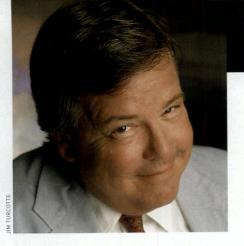
The tech association lobbies on behalf of business, technology and life science firms across the state.

The other top individual honor for outstanding achievement went to Mirsad Hadzikadic, dean of the College of Computing and Informatics at The University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

Other Triangle companies receiving awards included SAS, Lenovo, Epic Games, EMC Corp., and the law firm Wyrick Robbins Yates & Ponton.

Individuals cited for public service included Jane Patterson, head of the e-NC Authority; Joe Freddoso, CEO at MCNC; Phil Emer, NC State University; Peter Asmar, Department of Public Instruction, State of North Carolina; George Bakolia, Information Technology Services, State of North Carolina; Myra Best, Executive Business Education Technology Alliance, E-Learning Commission; and state Sen. Vernon Malone, as well as state Rep. Joe Tolson.





TRACK DOWN WALL STREET CROOKS FIRST

was wrong. I predicted Hillary Clinton would make a bid at the Convention to wrest away the nomination from Barack Obama that she and Bill figured was rightfully theirs. At least the theory gained legs and created drama and excitement to an otherwise dull affair.

And I wrote John McCain could still win even as the odds stacked higher and higher against his bid for president. In the end he did manage to garner 46 percent of the popular vote, despite what is considered one of the worst-run campaigns in US history. And Obama's organization was frighteningly efficient, as if the team studied and learned from every previous race to apply what works for Democrats to the fullest extent. They even unashamedly recruited school teachers to propagandize kids.

The Obama team registered anyone that moved — and some that didn't, as evidenced by the dodgy tactics of ACORN. They simply got out the vote, whether eligible or not. And while the elusive youth vote and the application of the Internet to campaigns had not panned out in the recent past, Obama's strategists reached out and touched their comrades-in-arms at Google for help.

The omnipresent and omnivorous search engine — exposed now as very left-of-center — harnessed the chaos of the net and landed voters who had never thought about pulling the lever. And, obviously, Google was the mechanism that raised an obscene amount of money for Obama. Whether or not this cash came from legitimate donors will come out in the wash.

But it took an economic catastrophe four weeks before the election to cement the win for Obama. As the mortgage crisis turned into a global financial meltdown, it was revealed that Obama and other senators and congressmen encouraged Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac

My Usual Charming Self

by Bernie Reeves

— the huge semi-governmental secondary market for mortgages — to facilitate dicey loans to minorities with bad credit in a massive affirmative action mission. Somehow McCain, who was on record complaining about the excesses at Fannie and Freddie, got left holding Obama's bag. And the rest is ... well, history.

Enduring the worst financial collapse right before the election while the Republicans held the White House appeared insurmountable. But the McCain team's handling of this unfortunate stroke of fate was so ineffective he was bound to lose. In effect, the best team won, but with a lot of help from their friends — the blatantly biased and unethical media — local and national — who have since the election boasted they abandoned the basic principles of journalism to help their man win the White House.

But I predicted one thing right. I wrote in April that the Obama phenomenon should be compared to the drama created by the death of Princess Diana, so aptly portrayed in the film The Queen. Elizabeth II did not understand the outpouring of grief over Diana until she was hit with the insight there was a "subtle shift" in her subjects. Over here the subtle shift came sooner than expected with the adoration and beatification of Barack Obama, a candidate with little substance but who uttered the platitudes a nation conditioned by 30 years of multicultural and politically correct doctrine voters today wanted to hear. It's not a brave new world, it is political terra incognita - an America we don't know anymore. But, based in the uncontroversial appointments by Obama thus far, he appears to be seeking the middle ground and "change" will arrive as the re-establishment of the Clinton administration. Even better, Obama smokes.

So here we are in the midst of a crippling global financial disaster that has trickled down from the corridors of haute finance to contaminate the so-called "core economy" of small businesses and hard-working employees that makes America tick. Our new president is one of the responsible parties and our media outlets are untrustworthy - undermining the very essence of our representative democracy. The financial gurus can't put the fallen Humpty Dumpty of our collapsed economy back together again and the lame duck Congress is just that - lame, while the new Congress coming in 2009 is allegedly poised to take us down the road to socialist solutions — the great idea that doesn't work.

Gazing over the scarred ground and casualties littering the landscape of this just recently vibrant economy, you have to ask — how did this happen? We know massive affirmative action by Congress forced the bad mortgage loans. But what about the ensuing global collapse? The criminals who brought down the economy are actually identifiable, but no one has sought to punish them — yet.

America would feel a lot better and gird its loins to fight out the downturn if the culprits were metaphorically hanged in public. Supposedly, there are a dozen or so FBI investigations in progress to expose the financial crooks, but why is it kept from the public? And why aren't there any arrests? What about the credit default swap scam? And let's ask the banks under oath why they aren't lending the bailout money provided with our tax dollars (see my column "Don't Bank On Banks" in the November 2008 *Metro*).

Instead of prattling on about the auto makers, health insurance, unions and defense spending, why hasn't Congress impaneled a committee to investigate the high crimes on Wall Street now affecting the lives of all Americans? I'd haul the investment bankers, hedge fund managers, big bank executives and financial product salesmen before the hearing room cameras so the nation can hear how they screwed us to the wall.

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

While you wait for Osama bin Laden's new book (yes, he has one on the way), I recommend you read *The Forsaken* by Tim Tzouliadis about the Americans who emigrated to the USSR in the 1930s lured by the slogans of communism only to be sucked into the vortex of the gulags or the execution chambers of the NKVD.

One more time: If the Wake County School Board would adhere to the ruling that bussing is unconstitutional, perhaps they would plan school expansion and renovation without the need to upset thousands of households with re-assignments and all-year calendars. Moving people around without regard to the damage to their individual needs is a hallmark of the tyranny imposed by the collective mind-set: their goals ignore the needs and desires of the family in the name of unattainable political theory.

(Read commentary by Bernie Reeves in his Between Issues column online at www.metronc.com.)



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