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AUTUMN IS IN THE AIR

Next thing you know it's October and fall is upon us — and Metro is ready with autumnal flourishes and unique content you can't find anywhere else.

For example, who would ever decide to upsize their home for retirement? Diane Lea discovered a Chapel Hill couple with a scientific bent who remain active competing in marathons and traveling the world who wanted a home that accommodates grandchildren, family in England and regular visits from friends. The contemporary design, set on five elevated acres in Oxbow Crossing, offers an attractive and interesting approach to an active agenda in the autumn of life.

The fall is the New Year in the region, touching off a flurry of activities. To keep you in the know, Maury Poole presents our annual Social and Cultural Calendars, each one worthy of future reference for months to come. The Social Calendar highlights fund-raising events for area charities and non-profits, while the Cultural Calendar provides details on the dozens of upcoming concerts, performances and exhibitions that make the Triangle the cultural center of the South.

New movies highlight the fall season, and Godfrey Cheshire zeroes in on two significant films you must see: the haunting Never Let Me Go, that features startling secrets and a haunting theme; and Oliver Stone's Gordon Gekko Returns: Money Never Sleeps, a sequel to his famous look at 1980s greed in the film Wall Street.

Moreton Neal jumps the Christmas season with a compilation of favorite books preferred by southern chefs; Barbara Ensmd discovers America's equivalent to France's Rhone Valley; and Jim Leutze is taking the month off as his campaign for state Senate in Wilmington heats up before the November 2 election.

Carroll Leggett, who was close to the State Bureau of Investigation in his stint working for former NC Attorney General Robert Morgan (Morgan was later a US Senator and ran the SBI after returning from Washington), laments the recent scandal and provides an interesting history of the Bureau's ups and downs. Louis St Lewis says Andy Warhol was his hero; Mike Welton reports in Form+Function that Triangle architects swept the recent NC AIA awards; the letters pages are buzzing and include a fascinating medical miracle by famous jazz pianist and composer Elmer Gibson; and Fashion News follows up on September's major spread on the right look for fall.

November's Holiday Issue includes an exclusive interview by Dan Reeves with Ike Atkinson, the North Carolina man who organized and ran the largest heroin smuggling ring of the 1970s and 80s that stretched from Goldsboro to Asia's Golden Triangle and back to major US cities — and involved a huge cast of characters, including a prominent Raleigh attorney. Author Ron Chepeik has written Sergeant Smack, an account of the Atkinson saga showing that the recent film American Gangster misrepresented actual events. Atkinson and Chepeik will appear at a book signing at Raleigh's Quail Ridge Books Sunday November 14.

Enjoy your Metro....

— Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher
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When I awoke I found myself in bed on my back lying next to this strange object that kept touching me, and waking me with a start. I discovered that this stranger was my left hand and asked whether I had heard it. I don't remember a thing.

In 2006, after years of lower back problems, I eventually lost all use of my left hand. As it turned out the real problem was stenosis of the spinal cord between my 4th and 5th cervical vertebrae. Complaining about increased numbness in my left arm, thumb and forefinger, my GP Dr. Leroy Darles, MD, thought it enough of a problem to call in a specialist. Enter neurosurgeon Dr. Timothy Garner, MD. After looking at my MRI, Dr. Garner said that I should have immediate surgery. The timing couldn't have been worse and I told the good doctor that I was at the beginning of my busy season, and since music was my only source of income I would have to wait. This did not make Dr. Garner happy and he warned me that my condition was so severe that a rear end collision with my car or a sudden movement of my neck could leave me a quadriplegic.

I acknowledged the risk and said I would call him when I could have the operation. I was playing in a Latin group at the time and the left hand montuno, or constant rhythm, is obligatory. About a month later after a gig, I found that I needed assistance in packing and loading my instrument in my car. On the drive home I had trouble gripping the steering wheel. By the time I got home I knew it was the time and called Dr. Garner. Before I knew it I was in the operating room. Earlier, I had given Dr. Garner a copy of my newly released solo CD, The Reach of Memory, saying rather cavalierly (actually scared to death!), "This is what you are attempting to save." Dr. Garner actually played my CD during the operation, and asked whether I had heard it. I don't remember a thing.

When I awoke I found myself in bed on my back lying next to this strange object that kept touching me, and waking me with a start. I discovered that this stranger was my left hand and...
that felt like a garden rake or some other inanimate object. Eventually I realized that I had survived the operation and would not permit myself to think of playing the piano. For over a year and a half after the operation, I struggled to regain my sense of touch and feel. Perhaps six months went by before I accepted the fact that I was going to have to test myself at the piano, no matter what the outcome. I discovered that much of my ability, that I had taken for granted, was now a real challenge.

Later I was offered the opportunity to play on a well-tuned grand piano three days a week for two hours during lunch at SAS. I had been practicing on an electric keyboard with unweighted keys, akin to a weight lifter working with five pound weights, which made the challenge of the acoustic instrument extremely daunting. However I felt it was an opportunity I could not pass up. Gradually my facility began to emerge. After eight months an employee passed by and told me that he noticed “my playing was becoming smoother,” which for me was a watershed moment. I began to think that I might really overcome this disability.

This life-changing experience inspired me to record the music I’ve been asked to play so many times during my time in North Carolina. Even though I may not have completely arrived, I felt I could re-arrange the music to fit my capability, which is what I had been doing all along.

All the Seasons, my new solo piano recording, because of time constraints, was put together rather quickly by my partner Lori Barmer and myself. I had discovered this amazing room, the Roman Strada, in the Tremont Grand in Baltimore, Maryland. My intent was to record the CD as an homage to my physicians for their genuine concern and medical genius.

Elmer Gibson
Raleigh

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DON’T BLAME BUSH

Writer Adam Christian (Letters, September 2010) is correct that the Obama administration did not create our current economic slump, but he is mistaken in blaming it on the prior Bush administration. The fact is that the recession is the result of economic meddling under Democrats and Republicans. Without the great housing bubble and its subsequent bust, the economy would not have gone through the recent gyrations. The bubble was brought about by Federal Reserve policies that drove interest rates down to extremely low levels coupled with policies that the federal government intended to increase home ownership rates. That political mania began under the Clinton administration and when Bush was in office, Republicans were happy to continue it. As a consequence of all that meddling with the market, the housing industry over-expanded and a vast amount of bad mortgage-backed securities were purchased. The bubble was, of course, unsustainable and the nation has been paying the price since 2007.

Recessions occur after government policies have caused significant economic distortions. We are still recovering from the bipartisan blundering that gave us the housing bubble. Although the Obama administration should not be blamed for causing our current recession, its policies have prolonged and deepened it.

George C. Leef
Raleigh
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COVER: PHOTOGRAPHY BY KINSLEY DEY
Drug-Smuggling Master-Mind Ike Atkinson Subject Of New Book

Ike Atkinson was born in Goldsboro, NC, served in the US Army and ran the biggest heroin smuggling ring of the '70s and '80s, shipping hundreds of pounds of heroin from Asia's Golden Triangle to the US clearing nearly around 1/2 billion dollars. His most well-known distributor was the infamous Frank Lucas — from La Grange, NC — and his "country boys" who operated out of New York City. Lucas is the hero/villain of the recent hit film American Gangster starring Denzel Washington that Atkinson vehemently claims grossly misrepresents the real story.

You can hear Atkinson in person at Quail Ridge Books on Nov. 14 at 3 p.m. discussing the new book, Sergeant Smack, with author Ron Chepesiuk that sets the record straight, describing in detail it was Atkinson who originated and operated the notorious drug ring, not Lucas.

In the book, Atkinson also dispels the urban legend perpetuated in the film that heroin was shipped in GI body bags, and weaves together the intricate plots and cast of characters involved in the smuggling ring — and the myriad of law enforcement officers and lawyers who became entangled in the intricate web of intrigue that involved several Tar Heels, including a prominent Raleigh attorney.

In Metro's special Holiday Issue coming out in November, Assistant Editor Dan Reeves presents an extensive interview with Atkinson, the master-mind of a drug ring that continues to make history.

Go to www.quailridgebooks.com or call 919-828-1588 for more information and to arrange for signed copies before the Nov. 14 event. 

Walk Supports Mental Health Research

The 22nd annual Walk for Hope, the only annual community event in the United States raising funds exclusively for mental health research, will be held Sunday, Oct. 10, at the Angus Barn restaurant to raise funds for the Foundation of Hope established by the late Thad and Alice Eure, founders of the Angus Barn. The annual Walk is chaired by their daughter Van Eure, owner of the Angus Barn.

The Walk begins at 10 a.m. at the Angus Barn Restaurant and the 10k Run for Hope begins at 8 a.m. The events are followed by a Post Walk Party with food and prizes. Register at www.walkforhope.com or for more information call 919-781-9255.

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Eclectic Conference Shares Unique Ideas

Ten local speakers from highly eclectic professional backgrounds will present their career paths and experiences and share ideas from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 15 at the Marbles Kids Museum in downtown Raleigh, according to event organizer Matt Murray. TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading that started as a four-day conference in California 25 years ago. Go to info@TEDxRaleigh.com or call 919-345-4913 for more information.

TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Al Gore, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Nandan Nilekani, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Isabel Allende and UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Presenters for the Raleigh event include:

- Liz Bradford – scientific illustrator
- Bob Davis – urban chicken farmer
- Dean Hering – chief innovator of OVO Innovation
- Clark Hipolito – designer, fine artist, decorator and founder of The Art Company
- Richard Holcomb – organic farmer and owner of Zely & Ritz Tapas Restaurant and Wine Bar
- David Hwang – head cheerleader of software company Thrive
- Fred Lybrand – nanotechnology and nutrition specialist
- Ryan Richards – executive director of nonprofit movement Nourish International
- Joan Siefert Rose – president of the Council for Entrepreneurial Development
- Josh Whiton – social/ecological reformist and founder of TransLoc Transit Visualization Systems

NC Symphony To Present Two Young All-Star Orchestras

The North Carolina Symphony is now taking applications to audition for two Young All-Stars Orchestras for advanced high school musicians led by Music Director Grant Llewellyn in partnership with the Triangle’s Philharmonic Association.

Accepted students will participate in a week of intensive rehearsals with Llewellyn and sectional rehearsals with North Carolina Symphony musicians.

The winter orchestra will perform in Meymandi Concert Hall on Jan. 30, 2011, and the spring orchestra at Edenton Street United Methodist Church on May 15, 2011. North Carolina high school students between the ages of 14 and 19 are invited to participate in the auditions at Meymandi Concert Hall in downtown Raleigh’s Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. Auditions for the winter orchestra will be held on Oct. 9. Auditions for the spring orchestra will be held on Feb. 8 and Feb. 12, 2011.

If accepted, a participation fee of $50 is required for each orchestra and scholarships may be available. The audition application, full schedule and a detailed description of requirements can be found at www.ncsymphony.org/education. Questions about the NC Symphony To Present Two Young All-Star Orchestras
Young All-Stars Orchestra can be directed to North Carolina Symphony Education Manager Jessica Nalbone at 919-789-5461 or jnalbone@ncsymphony.org. For more information on the North Carolina Symphony, visit www.ncsymphony.org.

**Norman Rockwell Show Visits Art Museum**

“American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell” opens Nov. 7 and is the first exhibition in the North Carolina Museum of Art’s transformed East Building, now home to rotating exhibitions and education programming. The show, organized by the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA, features 40 original paintings and more than 300 Saturday Evening Post covers.

“American Chronicles” traces the evolution of Rockwell’s art throughout his 60-year career — from his nostalgic scenes of idealistic American life to dealing with desegregation in the South. “Most people are unfamiliar with — or have forgotten — Rockwell’s crusade in support of the Civil Rights Movement,” says John Coffey, curator of American and modern art for the NCMA.

“American Chronicles,” on view until Jan. 30, 2011, is one of five inaugural special exhibitions opening on Nov. 7 in the Museum's East Building. The others are: “Bob Trotman: Inverted Utopias,” “Fins and Feathers: Original Children's Book Illustrations from the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art,” “Binh Danh: In the Eclipse of Angkor,” and “John James Audubon’s The Birds of America.”

The exhibition is underwritten by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, American Masterpieces Program. Publication support is provided by the Henry Luce Foundation, with media sponsorship by Curtis Publishing Company of Raleigh, and the Norman Rockwell Estate Licensing Company. Conservation support has been provided by the Stockman Family Foundation. In Raleigh, the presenting sponsor is Duke Energy, and supporting sponsors are Quintiles and ABC 11 Eyewitness News.

Timed-entry tickets are required to view “American Chronicles.” Admission is $15 for adults; $12 for students, seniors, military personnel and groups of 10 or more; $7.50 for children ages 7 to 12; and free for children 6 and under and Museum members on the first visit.

Tickets are available in person at the Museum Box Office, by calling 919-715-5923 or online at www.ncartmuseum.org where there is information on special events associated with the exhibition.
NEVER LET ME GO ORIGINAL AND HAUNTING; GORDON GEKKO RETURNS IN WALL STREET SEQUEL

I sometimes feel film critics are fortunate in seeing movies before reviews and other press coverage appear. For me, the latest case in point is Never Let Me Go. Based on the recommendation of a friend, I attended an early press screening of the film knowing nothing about it except that it was British and based on a novel by Kazuo Ishiguro, the author of The Remains of the Day, the basis of a very successful Merchant Ivory film starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson. That caveat notwithstanding, the film is not, in any conventional sense, a mystery or suspense film. (Stay tuned for some words on its actual genre.) After opening with a brief, cryptic scene that shows a winsome young woman watching a man on an hospital operating table, the story jumps back to the 1970s and a co-educational boarding school in the lush English countryside. Hailsham it is called, and at first it seems entirely normal. It's only after we've begun to settle into its rhythms that we slowly begin to notice occasional oddities: There is no mention of parents or relatives (are the kids all orphans?); the students seem to have no knowledge of the outside world and harbor strange notions about what would happen if they ventured off the school's grounds.

Aided by the advantage of surprise, the movie bowled me over in two senses. Beyond being beautifully mounted and acted, with one of the most original and haunting stories I've seen in a film in ages, it kept me entranced with a narrative unfolding that depends heavily on the gradual revelation of certain crucial — and very startling — secrets.

By the time you read this, reviews, articles and TV ads about the movie will be all over the place. If you've managed to avoid them till now, I urge you to see Never Let Me Go right away and read the reviews (this one included) afterward. If, on the other hand, you're inclined to read ahead without having seen the film, be warned that it can't be discussed without the disclosure of some of its most surprising elements.

During this initial section, when the film has a summery, lyrical, inexplicably off-kilter feel, our attention is focused on three young students: Kathy, Tommy and Ruth. They are all friends, but almost from the first there's a rivalry between the two girls over the boy's attentions. Playing on Kathy's generous nature, the manipulative Ruth soon devises strategies that draw the mostly passive Tommy into her affections. When the film's second act begins, the three characters are in their late teens, living in a semi-rural off-campus facility called "The Cottages," and now played by the three actors who will play them through the rest of the film: Carey Mulligan as Kathy, Andrew Garfield as Tommy and Keira Knightley as Ruth. The relations between the three are much as before. While Kathy remains benignly supportive of her friends, Ruth seems to brandish her relationship with Tommy as a kind of trophy. But by this time we're aware of something far more important about these characters.

The film very cleverly releases this information in small, almost imperceptible bits, rather than in one big "aha" moment, but its gist (here comes the spoiler) can be simply conveyed: The graduates of Hailsham are not, in a strict sense, humans. They are clones, grown by medical science to give up their organs for transplant. Generally they don't last past the third organ removal, which means that most expire by their late 20s. Exceptions are made for "carers" who help the others through their ordeals. Also, according to a rumor, "deferrals" are given for those genuinely in love — a possibility that makes the romantic triangle here literally a matter of life and death.

Thus we become aware that Never Let Me Go is, in fact, science-fiction. But I wouldn't apply that label too rigidly...
because, like the best such literature, the film suggests multiple levels of meaning. On the most obvious (and perhaps least interesting) level, it looks to the future to pose questions about the ethical choices humanity will face when people can be cloned. (To me, Ishiguro's most clever conceit lies in locating this "futuristic" story in the recent past.) On another level, like George Orwell's 1984, the tale encloses a sharp satire of English character and society. Like the servants in Remains of the Day, the "sub-humans" here never question the social order they inhabit, including the perquisites of a national health system that creates and destroys them.

But the level of the film that's most trenchant and affecting is the philosophical. What constitutes a human? Is it human form, features or feeling? Is love really transformative or redemptive? Is the value of a life undermined or defined by the death that will inevitably follow it? Such questions point toward the double "trick" that makes Never Let Me Go so richly and purposefully metaphorical: After convincing us to care about people that it reveals aren't people at all, the film obliges us to realize that we are in fact not so different from these beings in the constraining contingency of our existence.

To describe a film of ideas can make it sound too abstract and cerebral, yet Never Let Me Go is anything but. At its core is a love story that's powerful and deeply poignant. If the whole tale had a whole new aura of interest.

How one feels about the sequel depends, no doubt, on one's perspective. Here's mine: A couple of flaws (most notably Darryl Hannah's stilted performance) notwithstanding, the first Wall Street strikes me as one of the great American movies of the last 30 years, and among the most gifted English actors of their generation.

Though they are vastly different in many ways, Never Let Me Go brought to mind 2001: A Space Odyssey in being the rare film that both ennobles and transcends a frequently debased genre. Like Stanley Kubrick's film, Romanek's finally doesn't depend on surprises nearly as much as it does on resonances that last long after the last plot twist has been revealed.

In Oliver Stone's Wall Street (1987), renegade financier Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas) famously proclaimed, "Greed is good!"  In Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps, Gekko, newly returned to real life after a stint in federal prison, is peddling a book he's written, titled Is Greed Good?

You might say that the central differences between the earlier film and its new sequel are aptly symbolized by the exclamation point of that first locution and the question mark of the second. If the first film was bold, balmy and declamatory, the second by comparison is scrupulous, ironic and a bit quizzical.

Reportedly the new film was developed over several years by the original's producer, Edward R. Pressman. Stone wasn't at all interested in returning to the characters and subject matter himself, he said. Then came the economic collapse of 2008, and suddenly the subject had a whole new aura of interest.

In this new Wall Street, set in 2008, Shia LaBeouf plays a young comer in a Lehman Brothers-like firm, headed by the venerable Frank Langella, that goes under thanks to the devious manipulations of a Goldman Sachs-like outfit run by the predatory Josh Brolin. In addition to the two symbolic father figures just named, our hero has one other: Gordon Gekko, to whose daughter (Carey Mulligan again, excellent in a Yank role) he is engaged. But is the post-prison Gekko really reformed and in need of reconciliation with his estranged little girl, or is this just another one of his scams?

For incisiveness and punch, I do think the new film is a notch or two below its prototype. But again, that's judging it by the highest of standards. I have no doubt that anyone who liked the first film will find this one wholly absorbing and pleasurable on any number of levels, including the visceral mastery of Stone's filmmaking and his superlative skills with the great cast he has assembled.
Oxbow Crossing, a residential neighborhood and conservation area that hugs the meandering edges of lovely Morgan Creek, lies to the northwest of downtown Chapel Hill and borders a portion of Orange County where it is still possible to see cows grazing and crops growing in verdant fields. A drive through the neighborhood reveals spacious homes set nicely in mature landscaping on large parcels with enough elevation to remind you that Chapel Hill was, indeed, built on hills.

When Heather and David Yeowell looked for a retirement home, they found it in this pleasant corner of the town where they had lived and reared their three children since moving to Chapel Hill in 1970. Like many other area scientists, the Yeowells came with New York-based Burroughs Wellcome to the company's new facilities in Research Triangle Park. The move gave Heather the opportunity to earn a doctorate in biochemistry from UNC-Chapel Hill, stimulated by her work at Burroughs Wellcome with Nobel Laureates George Hitchings and Gertrude Elion.

David, with a doctorate from England's University of Bristol in chemistry, remained with Burroughs Wellcome, becoming vice president of technical development through the organization's merger with Glaxo. He then took on a cross-country commute to work with a San Francisco-based biochemistry start-up until his "almost" retirement a little more than a year ago. Meanwhile, Heather pursued academics and collagen research in dermatology at Duke where she recently became a professor emeritus, continuing the research that has spanned 20 years.

So what did this dual-PhD, marathon-running, world-traveling couple choose when they looked for a place to spend the next phase of their life together? A stunning contemporary home on five acres almost exactly
Stylized mullions resonate with surrounding tree branches.
twice the size of their former residence and property.

“Our friends all joked that we were the only retirees in Chapel Hill who were ‘upsizing’ instead of ‘downsizing,’” says Heather.

While David was occupied with his startup company, Heather began touring with her real estate agent. When she was shown the Oxbow Crossing house, she knew she had found the place.

“David and I both like contemporary architecture,” says Heather, “and this was one of the few contemporary homes on the market.”

The residence, constructed in 2003 for the family of Pascal and Emily Goldschmidt by Triangle homebuilder LE Meyers Builders, is based on a design drawn by architect Bill Waddell of Distinctive Architecture in Durham with technical support from Raleigh-based architectural design draftsman JG Craig.

Waddell describes the design as on the Frank Lloyd Wright and E. Fay Jones end of the broad Modernist spectrum.

“It’s a plan that allows the house to be viewed in its entirety upon first approaching it,” says Waddell. And as you drive down the curving driveway, the long exposure reveals a sweep of engaged horizontal rooflines punctuated by prominent gables. The front-facing gables include one that projects over the home’s sheltered and human-scale entrance and a stepped-back two-story floor-to-ceiling glass gable with criss-crossed mullions. Waddell notes that the mullion design is an abstraction of tree branches and is most appropriate for the wooded setting. Building materials include a subtle buff-toned brick that blends well with rough cedar siding. A brick retaining wall runs the length of the façade and incorporates a curved terrace just off the great room.

Stepping into the transverse foyer, guests are immediately aware that blending the visual and tactile is this couple’s strong suit. The varied tones in the foyer’s African slate floor set off a pair of sleek abstract paintings by a friend and former Burroughs Wellcome colleague, Eduardo Lapetina. The thick impasto texture and intense primary colors of the art play well with a gleaming lacquered Chinese sidepiece inlaid with mother of pearl. An alabaster vase filled with roses from the home’s ever-expanding gardens completes the vignette.

The open floor plan of the Yeowell residence allows views simultaneously to the cozy family room that adjoins a screened-in grill porch, the family dining area adjacent to the well-appointed kitchen and the great room that includes a formal dining area and sitting area. The focus of the two-story-tall great room is a floor-to-ceiling dry stack two-sided fireplace of mellow Tennessee orchard stone. The fireplace is flanked by stone niches and further highlighted by the room’s slanting exposed ceiling beams. Beyond the fireplace is an intimate seating area and a sculptural metal and wood open riser staircase that ascends to a master bedroom on the upper level. Architect Bill Waddell points out that from the stair one is visually connected to all the key spaces of the home.

From the vantage point of the upper level stair landing it is a delight to look down into the great room and become aware that the home is filled with color and texture. As the foyer’s composition suggested, the Yeowells’ taste in furnishings and design are as bold as their home’s architecture. An antique Persian carpet of deep blues and reds defines the seating area in front of the fireplace. The space includes a nicely scaled, locally designed and

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crafted sofa covered in a red and blue Chinoiserie patterned fabric featuring figures with geometric coolie hats accompanied by a pair of matching footstools. A deep rose suede side chair, a purchase from Nowell's Contemporary Furniture in Cary, is a pleasing accompaniment to the Chinoiserie grouping. An end table of polished petrified wood with swirling red orange rings is set on a wrought-iron base, a birthday present from David to Heather. Two gnarled benches of California redwood interlock to make a coffee table. Heather admits that their son Andrew, now an emergency room physician in Colorado, once delighted in dropping his tiny toy cars and figures into the wood’s crevices.

The Yeowells’ fondness for modern teak furniture is evident in the formal dining room where a teak dining table and matching chairs are placed before an intricate teak sideboard. “We have purchased many pieces of Scandinavian-crafted furniture from Danco in Raleigh,” says Heather. “We buy teak oil in quantity!”

In the family room, a camel-colored leather teak-framed sofa is set before a coffee Brillant oversized flowers bloom on a coverlet beneath an hexagonal window.
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A metal and wood semi-open stringer stair gives lightness to the staircase.
table inlaid with ceramic insets that radiate like Northern Lights. These pieces were acquired in San Francisco from their house there to suit their transcontinental lifestyle at that time.

"David bought quite a lot of furnishings for our San Francisco life at an Italian furniture store," says Heather.

Their favorite purchase now serves as the family's informal dining table and is convenient to the kitchen. The granite top of the chic table and chair ensemble has glints of Duke blue and is romantically named "Blue Eyes." The chairs of the set have blue backs and are shaped like Canna lilies.

There is good separation between the public areas and the private areas in the Yeowell house. The small sitting area on the far side of the fireplace is cozy and offers a second colorful petrified wood table, this one a present for David's birthday. A second rose suede side chair and one of similar modern design upholstered in a small scale rose pattern make for comfortable stops where they can read a book or simply gaze at the fireplace with its gas lit construction of river stone.

The staircase to the upper level leads past two mid-level bedrooms, just right for daughter Karen (an environmental toxicologist) and her husband (chief engineer in a data storage company), and their two pre-teen children when they visit from the Boston area. On the stair landing just outside the master suite, an Indonesian-made settee and matching end table, both purchased in San Francisco, occupy a space beneath a hanging Persian rug.

"That rug depicts the Tree of Life," says Heather, "and we bought it when we visited Iran."

Travel has always been a big part of the Yeowells' life together. Now naturalized American citizens, both Heather and David were born and grew to young adulthood in England. They are ardent hikers, as well as marathon runners and often choose exotic locales to test their hiking skills. Not long ago, they hiked through New Zealand, staying in simple shelters and enjoying the wildness of the landscape. A more luxurious trip to Hawaii's island of Kauai to visit friends resulted in the purchase of a coverlet for the master bed. Massive caladiums in forest greens, blues and reds decorate the bed that is, of course, set before a teak interlocking bookcase headboard.

Flowers and blooming shrubs abound in the home's numerous gardens. There is ample green space for grandchildren's play equipment and a handmade greenhouse that David fashioned from recycled wood and fiberglass. A variety of plants are taking root in pots on the rear deck waiting to be used in one of several beds that David is cultivating. Perhaps it is a cliché to remark on the gardening abilities that seem a genetic characteristic of the English, but David has been at it since he grew vegetables as a pre-teen and sold them door to door in his London neighborhood.

Though it is not the norm to "upsize" as one contemplates retirement, the choice suits the Yeowells. Their youngest daughter Angie is a performance artist living in Berlin and takes every opportunity to visit Chapel Hill, usually with her boyfriend and her travel savvy dog. There are now three grandchildren, the two in the Boston area and a 2-year-old in Colorado. In addition, the Yeowells' English family is often in house for longish stays or to launch an excursion to interesting locations. Old friends from many eras in the Yeowells' life are always dropping in, and the Oxbow Crossing house has become the go-to place for Fourth of July picnics and any spur-of-the-moment festivities that may be called for.

The Yeowell home reflects their adventurous lives, punctuated with notable hospitality and devotion to graciousness and style.
AIA TRIANGLE DOMINATES AIA NC AWARDS

Of the 33 awards presented by AIA North Carolina at Biltmore Estate in Asheville on Sept. 18, 27 went to AIA Triangle members and firms. The F. Kamphoefner Prize, which had been missing in action for the past nine years, was at last awarded — to both Jeffrey S. Lee, FAIA of Raleigh and Phil Szostak, FAIA of Chapel Hill. The Firm of the Year Award went to BJAC, PA of Raleigh; the E. Carter Williams Gold Medal to Philip G. Freelon, FAIA of Durham; and the Gail Lindsey Sustainability Award to Douglas M. Brinkley, FAIA, Raleigh.

DUDA PAINE LAUNCHES AEROSPACE MUSEUM IN CHINA

Durham’s own Duda Paine has broken ground on The Museum of Aerospace in the ancient capital of Xi’an, China. Interiors of the building are arranged to coincide with a timeline of space exploration. Visitors circulate in an orbit-like ramp, and at each level a new layer of history is revealed through ancient artifacts, early exploratory machines and interactive holograms.

At the top of the ramp, visitors look out over a solar energy farm of photovoltaic tiles, while in a theater known as The Orb, they can glimpse other planets, other worlds, other galaxies and other dimensions. The museum is slated for completion in summer of 2011.

OYSTER HATCHERY TO OPEN THIS MONTH

North Carolina’s first oyster hatchery research facility is nearing completion this month at the Center for Marine Science Campus at The University of North Carolina-Wilmington. The 10,000-square-foot hatchery designed by Frank Harmon, FAIA of Raleigh actually began in 2006 when the North Carolina Aquarium Division asked his firm to study the feasibility of three eco-friendly hatcheries along the Carolina coast.

The oyster population in North Carolina has declined an estimated 90 percent since the early 1900s. Habitat loss, declining water quality, diseases and over-harvesting have all taken their toll — and the state recognized it’s time for action.

“The goal is for the state to learn more about the oyster species and its living habits,” Harmon said. “We’ll start with the very young embryos, which will grow into spat and can grow into mature oysters. We want to introduce the very young oysters into reefs up and down the North Carolina coast.”

The new hatchery, composed of steel and light-toned brick, preserves trees and topography and retains 100 percent of storm water on site for cleaning the interior. Harmon designed the building to allow fresh air ventilation during favorable weather, eliminating the need for HVAC during spring and fall. In addition, he and project architect Matt Griffith used daylighting to the building’s advantage, reducing dependence on electric lights.

“It’s a very simple, very lightweight building, but it’s very durable,” Harmon said.

HARWELL HARRIS HOME/OFFICE NAMED HISTORIC LANDMARK

As noted by George Smart in his Triangle Modernist Houses newsletter, Raleigh City Council has named the Harwell Hamilton Harris home and office a Raleigh historic landmark. The city calls the building at 122 Cox Ave., built in 1968, an outstanding expression of the work of the internationally known modernist. Harris designed the house and office for himself and his wife for their final working years and as their retirement home. The building is considered to be an excellent example of early modern residential design in Raleigh.

AIA Triangle organized its first-ever Triangle Homes Tour on Oct. 2, the first AIA homes tour on the East Coast. Bravo!

Mike Welton also writes a blog on architecture and the people who make it possible at: www.architectsandartisans.com.
OCTOBER

Oct. 2
BIG BAD BALL
For: Hospice of Wake County
A black tie event open to the community. Tickets are $125 per person. Enjoy food, two bands and multiple silent auction items. Capital City Club, Raleigh. For reservations or ticket info, call the Capital City Club at 919-832-5526 or visit online at www.bigbadball.com.

Oct. 3
FUR BALL
For: SPCA of Wake County
A black tie event with a live and silent auction, heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine, and live music celebrating this 15th Annual SPCA fundraising event. Tickets are $125 per person. The State Club, Raleigh. Call 919-532-2083 or visit www.spcawake.org.

Oct. 9
20TH ANNUAL WORKS OF HEART ART AUCTION
For: Alliance of AIDS Services-Carolina
Bid on both live and silent auctions to fight AIDS. This year’s 2010 signature artist is Joyce Watkins King. Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh. Call 919-834-2437 or visit online at www.worksofheart.org for more information.

Oct. 15
BARGAIN SALE BASH
For: Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties
It’s time to kick up your spurs, break out your boots and favorite Western wear to kick off this Bargain
**BIG BAD BALL 2010**

Sale in style. Enjoy music by Shotgun Romance, dinner from Gillis's BBQ and a silent auction. Tickets are $30 per person or $50 per couple. American Legion, Chapel Hill. Contact 919-682-8999 or visit www.jldoc.org. Oct. 21-24

**26TH ANNUAL "A SHOPPING SPREE!"**

Presented by the Junior League of Raleigh

For: Junior League of Raleigh

This four-day spree will include over 140 exhibitors showcasing jewelry, clothing and accessories for women, men and children, home décor and gifts. A four-day pass is $10; Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh. Visit www.jlraleigh.org for details.

**BHA FALL FUNDRAISING PARTY**

For: Beaufort Historic Site

Enjoy this gala fundraiser featuring works of artist Dan Nelson in the historic c.1778 Rumley House. 114 Marsh St, Beaufort. Contact 252-728-5225 or www.beauforthistoricsite.org for more information.

**For: NC Cancer Hospital at Rex**

A black tie fundraiser benefitting the new NC Cancer Hospital. Highlights include a VIP reception, gala reception, auction, dessert bar and dancing. Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh. Call 919-784-4434 for reservations, ticket and sponsorship information, or visit www.rexhealth.com.

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Thurs., October 14 – 9:00AM
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(Grades 6-12)
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NOVEMBER

7TH ANNUAL A VINTAGE AFFAIR
For: Children's Flight of Hope
Hosted in the General Aviation Terminal at RDU Airport, enjoy entertainment and food in support of the Children's Flight of Hope. Tickets are $50 per person, Raleigh. Contact 919-466-8593 or visit www.childrensflightofhope.org for further information.

FESTIVAL OF TREES
For: Sandhills Children's Center
A display of over 200 decorated holiday trees, wreaths, gingerbread and gift baskets will be available for silent auction. The Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst. Contact 910-692-3323 or visit online at www.sandhillschildrenscenter.org.

THE GALA FESTIVAL OF TREES
For: Assistance League of Raleigh
Showcasing Christmas trees decorated by some of Raleigh's most noted designers and the women of Assistance League. Enjoy a silent auction, heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine and music. Tickets are $75. Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh. Call 919-623-7734 for details.

RALEIGH ROUNDUP
For: American Cancer Society
Hosted by Red Sword Guild, highlights include live and silent auction, raffle, food provided by Chefs for a Cure, and live entertainment. Tickets are $125. Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds. Call 919-334-5218 or www.raleighroundup.com.

WINE, WOMEN & SHOES
For: Make-A-Wish Foundation of Eastern North Carolina
During this signature event, learn about new wines, shop for the latest in shoes and accessories all in the name of a great cause. Coastline Event Center, Wilmington. Visit www.winewomenandshoes.com for more information.

NC CHILDREN'S PROMISE
RADIOTHON/TELETHON
For: NC Children's Hospital
In conjunction with Curtis Media Group and Time
Warner Cable, this signature event raises funds to benefit children's programs and further support the continuation of excellence within the medical and surgical programs. Listen, watch, pledge! Housed at the NC Children's Hospital. Call 919-843-3948 or visit www.ncchildrenspromise.org.

Nov. 19
JUPITER BALL
For: Morehead Planetarium and Science Center
Guests will enjoy music by Florence Peacock and food catered by Durham Catering Company to help fund need-based scholarships for Morehead field trips and outreach visits, as well as a Jupiter Ball Fellow, a student employee selected to develop a special project sustaining Morehead’s Mission. Morehead Planetarium and Science Center at UNC; Chapel Hill. Call 919-843-3474 to request an invitation.

Nov. 19
ART BALL 2010
For: Cary Visual Art
Enjoy an evening of artistic celebrations as you raise awareness and support for art and artists in your community. Grand Ballroom at Prestonwood Country Club, Cary. Call 919-531-8149 for ticket or sponsorship information.

Nov. 20
ANNUAL COLLECTORS GALA
For: Artspace
Benefiting the exhibitors, educational programming and community outreach, this event will feature a dinner in the artist studio, live and silent auctions. Tickets are $125 per person. Artspace, Raleigh. Call 919-821-2787 or visit online at www.artspacenc.org.

Nov. 21
TRIANGLE SIGNATURE CHEFS AUCTION
For: March of Dimes Eastern Carolina Division
This black tie event will feature local chefs and caterers presenting their signature dish in tasting-size portions during a cocktail reception and silent auctions. Tickets are $150. Prestonwood Country Club, Cary. Contact 919-424-2156 or visit online at www.marchofdimes.com.

Nov. 21
HOLIDAY HOME TOUR AND PARTY
For: Habitat for Humanity
Help raise money to build another affordable home

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Saturday, November 13
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To purchase tickets or for more information visit naturalsciences.org or call 919.733.7450 x303.
Wake County children during the holiday season, this 17th annual event will include food and drink provided by Rocky Top Hospitality, NC Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Pepsi Bottling Ventures and more. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child with a $20 value, or $30 for admission. Marbles Kids Museum, Raleigh. Visit www.jingleball.org for more information.

Dec. 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION
For: NC Symphony
This popular year-end celebration takes on a local flavor with Associate Conductor Sarah Hicks leading the symphony and the winners of their Triangle Talent Search. Meymandi Concert Hall, Raleigh. Visit www.ncsymphony.org or call 919-733-2750.

JANUARY
Jan. 23
TASTE OF HOPE
For: Inter-Faith Food Shuttle
Experience several gourmet courses, each created by a different celebrity chef, variety of fine wine and both a live and silent auction to benefit the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle. Renaissance Hotel, Raleigh. Call 919-250-0043 or visit www.foodshuttle.org.

Jan. 29
FOUNDERS' GALA
For: New Hanover Regional Medical Center Foundation
This black tie event brings together some of NHRMC Foundation's followers in support of the

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for a local family while enjoying food and desserts from local restaurants and live music by Craig Thompson of Old Habits. Tickets are $50 per person. Habitat ReStore, Raleigh. Contact 919-833-1999 or visit www.habitatwake.org.

DECEMBER

Dec. 4
TEDDY BEAR BALL
For: Duke Children's Hospital
This black tie event provides sponsors, donors and guests with the opportunity to don their finest apparel and enjoy fine food and company all in the name of helping sick children. Single ticket is $200. Durham Marriott Convention Center, Durham. Visit www.dukechildrens.org or call 919-687-2562.

Dec. 9
JINGLE BELL BALL
For: The Salvation Army
With a goal to collect 3000 toys to distribute to

**FEBRUARY**

Feb. 3-5

TRIANGLE WINE EXPERIENCE  
For: Frankie Lemmon Foundation  
Experience the Triangle and Carolina's premier wine event encompassing tasting, dinners and a Grand Gala with Fine Wine Auction over a three-day period. Visit www.trianglewineexperience.org or call 919-845-8880.

Feb. 26

NEW BERN HEART BALL  
For: American Heart Association  
This black tie affair will include live music, gourmet food, live and silent auctions. New Bern Riverfront, New Bern. Visit www.newbernconventions.com.

**MARCH**

March 5

TRIANGLE HEART BALL  
For: American Heart Association  
With over 500 guests representing the Triangle's top business, medical, civic and social leaders, join them in the advancement of groundbreaking medical research and lifesaving knowledge for the Triangle community for this social event. Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh. Visit www.heart.org for details.

March 6

A TOAST TO THE TRIANGLE  
For: Tammy Lynn Center for Development Disabilities  
Enjoy an evening of entertainment and culinary splendor showcasing many of the Triangle's finest, including restaurants, caterers and purveyors of fine wines and beer. NCSU McKimmon Center, Raleigh. Call 919-755-2667 or visit online at www.toast2011.org for further information.

March 8

FAT TUESDAY CELEBRATION  
For: Meals on Wheels  
Supporters will gather for the Triangle's premier Mardi Gras and enjoy returning band, ZYDECOPI- OUS. Tickets are $125 per person. Visit online at www.wavemom.org or call 919-833-1749.

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Cultural Calendar

GALLERIES

"OPPOSITES ATTRACT": Featuring the work of artists Hilan Lambert and Wayne Trapp; City Art Gallery, Greenville; Thru Oct. 10. Contact 252-393-7000 or www.hilambert.com.

HARRY DeMAINE: Oil paintings of Gloucester, Massachusetts from the 1930s and 1940s; Gallery C, Raleigh; thru Oct. 19. Contact 919-969-3165.


"PEOPLE YOU MAY KNOW": Exhibition about the diversity and richness of the Triangle Community; Durham Arts Council, Durham; Artist reception Oct. 15 from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 8- Jan. 9. Contact 919-560-2719 or www.durhamarts.org.

EVENTS AT GALLERY C: Raleigh; Contact 919-828-3165 or www.gallerycnet.com.

EVENTS AT ARTSOURCE: Raleigh; Contact 919.787-9533 or www.artsource-raleigh.com.

EVENTS AT ARTSPACE: Raleigh; Contact 919-821-2767 or www.artspace.org.

"MAPPING MEMORY": Featuring Darren Goins, Mario Marzan, Renee Van der Stelt and Rosemary Wimb; thru Oct. 30.

"FIRST STEPS...BEGINNING AGAIN": Alice Levinson; Oct. 1-30.

"MOUNTAIN DESCENTS": Max Halperen; Oct. 1-30.

"NATURAL SPACES/SMOOTH SURFACES": Opening reception for photography by Eric Saunders, paintings by Marc Lomax and furniture by O’Neal Jones; The Hillsborough Gallery of Arts, Hillsborough; Oct. 29 from 6-9 p.m. exhibit runs thru Nov. 21. Contact 919-732-5001 or www.hillsboroughgallery.com.

CLASSICAL

CUARTETO LATINOAMERICANO: All Latin-American music presented by Raleigh Chamber Music Guild; Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Raleigh; Oct. 10 at 3 p.m. Contact 919-821-2030 or www.rcmg.com.

Puccini’s Tosca: Performance launching NC Opera’s debut season; Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh; Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. Contact 919-792-3859 or www.ncoera.org.

EVENTS AT SERTOMA AMPHITHEATER: Fall Sertoma Concert Series; Bond Park, Cary; Contact 919-469-4061 or www.townofcary.org.

RoGER DAY: Children’s Music; Oct. 2 at 3 p.m.

The Winter Tale: Presented by Bare Theatre and The Delta Boys; Oct. 8-10, Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m.

Brass at Bond: Oct. 9 at 1 p.m., Rain Date Oct. 10 at 1 p.m.

Triangle Youth Jazz Ensemble: Oct. 17 at 3 p.m.

CAULIFLOWER: Oil paintings of Gloucester, Massachusetts from the 1930s and 1940s; thru Oct. 19.

NC SYMPHONY

EVENTS AT THE NC SYMPHONY: Raleigh; Contact 919.733.2750 or online at www.ncsymphony.org.

CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE: Meymandi Concert Hall; Oct. 12 at 8 p.m., Oct. 3 at 3 p.m.

ELEGANT AND ELEMENTAL: Meymandi Concert Hall; Oct. 8 at 8 p.m.

COMPOSER PORTRAITS: Tchaikovsky: Meymandi Concert Hall; Oct. 22 at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY FAVORITES – ART IN MUSIC: Oct. 15 at 10 a.m.

YOUNG PEOPLE’S CONCERTS – HALLOWEEN MAGIC: Oct. 30 at 4 p.m.

FROM BRAHMS TO BACH AND BACK AGAIN: Meymandi Concert Hall; Nov. 5 at 8 p.m.

ORCHESTRA SHOWCASE: Beethoven’s “Eroica”: Meymandi Concert Hall; Nov. 19-20 at 8 p.m.

HOLIDAY POPS: Nov. 23-24, 26-27, Dec. 7-11, 14-16

NEW YEAR’S EVE CELEBRATION: Dec. 31 at 7:30 p.m.

POP MUSIC

EVENTS AT TIME WARNER CABLE MUSIC PAVILION AT WALKNUT CREEK: Raleigh; Contact www.wirestation.com.

Sugarland: Oct. 2

The Avett Brothers: Oct. 8

Jonas Brothers: Oct. 16

Mario: Nov. 7


EVENTS AT KOKA BOOTH AMPHITHEATRE: Cary; for more information go online to www.booamptheatre.com.

4th ANNUAL CARY EID FESTIVAL: Oct. 9 at 11 a.m.

10th CELEBRATION OF CARY DIWALI INDIAN MOVIE NIGHT: Oct. 8 at 7 p.m.

10th CELEBRATION OF CARY DIWALI: Oct. 16 at 11 a.m.

Reel-ly Scary Movie Series: Oct. 26-30 at 7:30 p.m.

EVENTS AT THE RALEIGH AMPHITHEATRE: Raleigh; Contact 919-831-6400 or online at www.raleighconvention.com

Stone Temple Pilots: Oct 5

Vampire Weekend: Oct. 17

311: Oct. 30

Pinecone Events: Raleigh; Call 919-664-8333 or www.pinecones.org.

John Dee Holman & Andy Coates: Presented by NC Museum of History and PineCone; Oct. 10 at 3 p.m.

Mountain Heart & Tony Rice: Presented by NCSU Center Stage and PineCone; Stewart Theatre; Oct. 29 at 8 p.m.

T-R-N-A-NOG Irish Music Session: Cottage; Every Sunday from 3-6 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam: Busy Bee Café; Second & Fourth Monday each month at 7 p.m.

Shane-Note Sing: Glenaire Retirement Community; Fourth Sunday each month from 2-4 p.m.

Carolina Ballet, Nutcracker

October 2009 METROMAGAZINE
STAGE AND SCREEN

"OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS": Enjoy this tale by Joe DePietro with the entire family presented by Cary Players; Page Walker Arts & History Center, Cary; Oct 1-3 and 7-10, Thurs.-Sun. 8 p.m. and Sun. 3 p.m. More information online at www.caryplayers.org.

CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN IN THE ARTS: Event featuring local visual and performing arts; Cary Ballet Conservatory, Cary; Oct 16 from 2:30-6 p.m. Contact 919-513-1820 or at www.ncsu.edu/centerforthearts.

MOVE YOUR FEET WITH THE CARY TOWN BAND: Cary Senior Center; Oct 22 at 7:30 p.m. Contact 919-848-3333 or www.carolinaperformingarts.org.

STAGE AND SCREEN

CHRISTMAS WITH AMY & VINCE TOUR: Dec 14-15
MOSCOW BALLET: Dec 22
DISNEY'S THE LION KING: Jan 4-30
THE MERCE CUNNINGHAM DANCE COMPANY: Feb. 4-5
THE TEMPTATIONS AND THE FOUR TOPS: Feb. 9
DANIEL O'DONNELL: Irish singer; Mar 2 at 7 p.m.
AN EVENING WITH GARRISON KEILLOR: Mar 7

DUKE PERFORMANCES EVENTS: Durham, Call 919-660-3348 or www.dukeperformances.org.

THE AMERICAN BEAUTY PROJECT: Page Auditorium; Oct 15 at 8 p.m.
EMERSON STRING QUARTET: Reynolds Industries Theater; Oct 22 at 8 p.m.
SFAZZ COLLECTIVE – THE MUSIC of HORACE SILVER: Page Auditorium; Oct 28 at 8 p.m.
DEL MCCOURY BAND & PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND: Page Auditorium, Oct 30 at 8 p.m.
RALPH LEMON: Reynolds Industries Theater; Nov 5, 6 at 8 p.m.
ALLEN TOUSSAINT: With special guest Nicholas Payton & Jown Krown Trio; Reynolds Industries Theater; Nov 7 at 7 p.m.
CEDRIC WATSON & BIJOU CREOLE – RED STICK RAMBLERS: Reynolds Industries Theater; Nov 13 at 8 p.m.
ARNALDO COHEN AND MIHAELA URSULEASA: Pianos, Reynolds Industries Theater; Nov 18 at 8 p.m.
TRIO SOLISTI: Nov 19, 20 at 8 p.m.

VIJAY IYER TRIO: Reynolds Industries Theater; Dec 3 at 8 p.m.
BONNIE "PRINCE" BILLY AND THE CAIRO GANG: Dec 4 at 8 p.m.
OPUS ONE: Reynolds Industries Theater; Dec 11 at 8 p.m.

CAROLINA PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS: Chapel Hill, Contact 919-848-3333 or online at www.carolinaperformingarts.org.

OZOMATLI: Oct 1 at 8 p.m.
CEDAR LAKE CONTEMPORARY BALLET: Oct 5 at 8 p.m.
HUGH MASEKELA: World music; Oct 11 at 7:30
MARIINSKY ORCHESTRA: Oct 13-14, 8 p.m.
OMARA PORTUONDO: Nov 5 at 8 p.m.
KREMERATA BALTIICA: Nov 8 at 7:30 p.m.
SUTRA: Sadler’s Wells London: Nov 10-11 at 7:30 p.m.
CARRIE RODRIGUEZ AND BEN SOLLEE: Nov 17 at 7:30 p.m.
NUTCRACKER: Dec 4 at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m, Dec 5 at 2 p.m.

EVENTS AT THE CAROLINA THEATRE: Star Series, Durham, Contact 919-560-3030 or online at www.carolinhatheatre.org.

MAVIS STAPLES: Oct 1 at 8 p.m.
DAVID SANBORN TRIO: Oct 2 at 8 p.m.
JEFF DANIELS: Oct 27 at 8 p.m.
BELLYDANCE STARS: Oct 29 at 8 p.m.
MIKE BIRBIGLIA: Nov 6
SHEMEKIA COPPELAND: Nov 11 at 8 p.m.
BETTY BUCKLEY: Nov 20 at 8 p.m.
NATALIE MACMASTER: Dec 16 at 8 p.m.
KATHLEEN MADIGAN: Jan 29 at 8 p.m.

CAROLINA BALLET EVENTS; Raleigh, Contact www.carolinaballet.com.

DRACULA: The Masque of the Red Death; Fletcher Opera Theater; Oct 14-31
PINOCCHIO: Raleigh Memorial Auditorium; Nov 24-28
NUTCRACKER: 10th Anniversary; Raleigh Memorial Auditorium; Dec 17-26
THE UGLY DUCKLING: Feb 17- Mar 6
CARMEN: Mar 24-Apr 10
MONET IMPRESSIONS: Apr 14-17
A MIDSUMMER’S NIGHT DREAM: May 19-22

2010 Chopin Festival

ARTISTS OF TOMORROW BENEFIT CONCERT
Friday, October 15, 7-30 PM - RECITAL (Ruggiero Piano)
Saturday, October 16, 11:00 AM-2:30 PM - MASTER CLASS (Ruggiero Piano)
FREE

Saturday, October 16, 7:00 PM - RECITAL (NCSU Stewart Theatre)
Sunday, October 17, 4:00 PM - RECITAL (NCSU Stewart Theatre)
Tickets $15, $8 seniors; $5 NCSU students
Ticket Central - 919-515-1100
EVENTS AT RBC CENTER: Raleigh; Contact 919-861-2300 or www.ticketmaster.com.
- **JEFF DUNHAM IDENTITY CRISIS TOUR:** Live ventriloquist comedy act, Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m.
- **SALT-N-PEPPER LEGENDS OF HIP HOP:** Oct. 8 at 8 p.m.
- **DAVE RAMSEY — TOTAL MONEY MAKEOVER LIVE:** Oct. 16 at 1 p.m.
- **ROWDY FRIENDS TOUR 2010:** Hank Williams Jr., Jamey Johnson, Colt Ford & Josh Thompson; Oct. 23 at 7 p.m.
- **MUSE:** Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m.
- **TRANS SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA:** Dec. 5 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- **DISNEY ON ICE PRESENTS DISNEY PIXAR'S TOY STORY 3:** Dec. 8, 9 at 7 p.m., Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 11 at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.; and Dec. 12 at 1:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

**RBC CENTER**

PLAYMAKERS REPERTORY COMPANY: The Center for Dramatic Arts, Chapel Hill; Contact 919-962-7529 or www.playmakersrep.org.
- **"FENCES"**: PlayMakers presents play by August Wilson; Paul Green Theatre, Oct. 27-Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. nightly except Mon. & Sun., 2 p.m. on Oct. 31, Nov. 7 & 14.
- **"SHIPWRECKED"**: PlayMakers presents the amazing adventures of Louis de Rougemont; Dec. 1-19

ECU/LOESSIN PLAYHOUSE EVENTS: Eastern Carolina University, Greenville; Call 252-328-6829 or www.ecuarts.com.
- **ORPHEUS DESCENDING**: By Tennessee Williams; thru Oct. 5
- **BRIGADOON**: Book and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner, music by Frederick Loewe; Nov. 18-23

MUSEUMS

ANIMAL GROSSOLOGY: Exhibit that takes a unique and scientific look at nature's "gross" creatures; NC Museum of Natural Science, Raleigh; Oct 2- Apr. 24. Call 919-733-7450 or www.naturalsciences.org.

NC MUSEUM OF ART EVENTS: Raleigh, Contact 919-839-6262 or visit www.ncartmuseum.org.
- **CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION**: Oct 1-19

- **NEW HANOVER COUNTY RESIDENTS DAY**: Oct. 3
- **VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE**: Oct. 6 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- **SCIENCE**: Oct. 9 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **LEARNING CENTER - WEIRD SCIENCE**: Oct. 16, 23 & 30
- **CAPE FEAR SKIES - FALL CONSTELLATIONS**: Oct. 17 at 12:30, 2:30 & 3:30 p.m.
- **THE RECORD - CONTEMPORARY ART AND VINYL**: Website launch, exhibition to explore vinyl records through 50 years of contemporary art; Nasher Museum at Art, Durham; From Feb 6. Contact 919-684-5135 or www.nashermuseum.edu.
- **SOUTHERN ROOTS OF MID-CENTURY MODERN**: Examples of modern furniture, textiles, ceramics and design explaining how modern design made its way to NC; The Gregg Museum of Art & Design, NCSU, Raleigh; Exhibition thru Dec 18
- **PUPPETART**: Exhibition featuring large-scale puppets and set designs; Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington; thru Jan. 10. Contact 919-395-5999.

POTPOURRI

AIA TRIANGLE HOMES TOUR: Discover residential architecture on a self-guided tour of ten homes; Raleigh; Oct. 2 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information contact www.trianglehomestour.com.

BLACK RIVER CRUISES: Take a guided cruise along the Cape Fear River with sunset views; Battleship North Carolina dock, Cape Fear; Oct. 6, 13 & 20 departing by 10 a.m. Contact 866-266-9690 or www.gocapefearcoast.com.

CAPE FEAR HEART WALK: American Heart Association annual event to raise funds to fight heart disease and stroke begins at 8 a.m. with fun family activities, participation and festivities begin at 9 a.m., walk at 10 a.m; the Campus of UNC Wilmington; Oct. 16. Call 919-598-8270 or www.startcapefear.org.

CAPE FEAR MUSEUM'S "TERRAVITA FOOD & WINE EVENT": Bringing together organic and biodynamic wines and microbrews, with sample tastings prepared by North Carolina's top chefs; On the Green at Southern Village; Chapel Hill; Oct. 16 from 1-5 p.m. Contact www.terravitaevent.com.

SPEAKER'S FORUM: Followed by a reception at the Barker House, 1767 Chowan County Courthouse, Edenton; Oct 21. Contact 252-482-7800 or online at www.edentonhistoricalcommission.org.

HISTORIC WILMINGTON FOUNDATION 2010 GALA: Partner with Historic Wilmington Foundation at this seated, formal dinner to protect and preserve this architectural heritage; Live Oaks on Masonboro Sound, Wilmington; Oct. 23 at 6:30 p.m. Contact 910-782-2511.

HOPE PLANTATION FUNDRAISER: Includes tours of historic homes and demonstrations of crafts, hayrides, music, food and fun for the entire family; Windsor; Nov. 6, Contact www.hopeplantation.com.

- **LITERARY EVENTS**: Desegregating Cary; Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.
- **MORE MYSTERIES AND SECRETS OF CARY AREA CEMETERIES**: Oct. 26 at 7-30 p.m.

WINE TASTINGS AT CHAPEL HILL AND HILLSBOROUGH WINE COMPANY: Call 919-968-1864 or www.wcchapelhillwinecompany.com.
- **THIRSTY THURSDAYS**: Chapel Hill Wine Co; Every Thursday from 5-7 p.m.
- **FIRST FRIDAYS**: Hillsborough Wine Co; First Friday of every month from 5-7 p.m.

OUTDOOR SPORTS IN WILMINGTON AND CAPE FEAR COAST: Wilmington/Cape Fear Coast CVB; Contact 910-341-4030 or view events online at www.gocapefearcoast.com.
- **RUN THE RIVER 5K**: CFCC Parking Lot; Oct. 3
- **PLEASURE ISLAND SURF FISHING CHALLENGE**: Oct. 15-17
- **SOUTHEAST SUP CHAMPIONSHIP**: Oct. 23
- **CAPE FEAR RED TROUT CELEBRITY CLASSIC**: Oct. 26-30
- **"FLAT BOTTOM GIRLS" FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT**: Nov. 6
- **BATTLESHIP NC 1/2 MARATHON & BAY SIX BATTLESHIP SKI**: Nov. 7
- **PADDLE BEACH BATTLESHIP IRON DISTANCE TRIATHLON**: Nov. 13

- **SK8 CONTEST**: Oct. 23 at 10 a.m.
- **IN LINE SKATE CONTEST**: Oct. 23 at 10 a.m.
- **EASTERN BIKES BMX CONTEST**: Oct 24 at 10 a.m.

- **NC CHILI FESTIVAL & BIG BOY TOY SHOW**: Oct 16 at 1 p.m.
- **DOWN EAST FOLKARTSOCIETY CONCERT**:
- **NEW HANOVER COUNTY RESIDENTS DAY**:
- **MORE MYSTERIES AND SECRETS OF CARY AREA CEMETERIES**: Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

META CULTURAL CALENDAR
• AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR: Tryon Palace Visitor’s Center Lobby; Oct. 17 at 2 p.m.

• EMANACIPATION COMMUNITIES: NC Contraband/Refugee Camps during the American Civil War, Tryon Palace Auditorium; Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.

• THE BRIDE’S BALL: Carolina Colours Pavilion; Oct. 22 at 5 p.m.-12 a.m.

• LOBSTERFEST: St. Paul Catholic School/Family Life Center; Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

• GRAND OPENING OF NC HISTORY CENTER: Oct. 22-23

• DOWN EAST FOLKART SOCIETY CONTRA DANCE: Christ Episcopal Church Ministry Center; Oct. 23 at 7 p.m.

• NEW BERN HISTORY BOWL: Orringer Auditorium; Oct. 23 at 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

• GHOSTWALK: Oct. 28-30 from 5-9 p.m.

• QUILTS FOR 300 YEARS: New Bern Riverfront Convention Center; Oct. 29-30

EVENTS AT THE GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Raleigh; Contact online at www.raleighchamber.org.

• NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST: Cardinal Club; Oct. 6 from 8-9:30 a.m.

• CENTRAL AM NETWORK: Café Carolina; Oct. 7 from 7:30-9 a.m.

• NOTARY PUBLIC CLASS: Greater Raleigh Chamber; Oct. 8 from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

• NORTH AM NETWORK: Carolina Ale House; Oct. 14 from 7:30-9 a.m.

• CHAMBER EXECUTIVE WOMEN’S LUNCH: Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown; Oct. 14 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

• WEST AM NETWORK: Taverna Agora; Oct. 21 from 7:30-9 a.m.

• NETWORKING WITH POWER WORKSHOP: Greater Raleigh Chamber; Oct. 22 from 8-9 a.m.

• CHAMBER ROUNDTABLES INFO SESSION: Nov. 2

• NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST: Nov. 3

27th ANNUAL NORTH HOLIDAY FLOTILLA EVENT: Wrightsville Beach Park; Contact 919-538-9270 or www.ncholidayflotilla.org.

• 5K RUN AND FUN LOOP WALK: Nov. 6 at 9 a.m.

• TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY WITH SANTA: Nov. 26 at 5:30 p.m.

• FESTIVAL IN THE PARK: Nov. 27 from 10-4 p.m.

EVENTS AT TRYON PALACE: New Bern; Contact 800-767-1560 or www.tryonpalace.org.

• MUMFEST WEEKEND: Includes Heritage Plant Sale and Fife & Drum Corps Concerts; Oct. 8-10, Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

• GRAND OPENING OF THE NC HISTORY CENTER AT TRYON PALACE: Oct. 22-24

• GHOST WALK: Oct. 29-30

• WHIT PRESENTS DRACULA: Tryon Palace Theater; Oct. 30 at 1 p.m.

• GARDEN LECTURE: Fallscapes by Helen Yoest; Nov. 6 at 10 a.m.

• DEFENDING NEW BERN: 300 years of Stewardship; Nov. 11-14

FALL FESTIVALS/HALLOWEEN EVENTS
25th INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF RALEIGH: Enjoy 3 days of food, performances, music, culture and fun from around the globe; Convention Center, Raleigh; Oct. 1 from 4:30-10 p.m., Oct. 2 from 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Oct. 3 from 12 p.m.-6 p.m. Contact 919-632-4331 or online at www.internationalfestival.org.

HARVEST TIME AT THE BHA: Living History program for children including demonstrations of Beaufort family life in the 1700s and 1800s; reservations required; The Beaufort Historical Association, Beaufort; Oct. 27-29. Contact 252-728-5225 or online at www.beauforthistoricalsiteweb.org.

19th ANNUAL SCUPPENONG RIVER FESTIVAL: Old Fashion Small Town Homecoming, honoring Tyrrell County’s Heritage with fun, festivities and fireworks for the entire family; Waterfront and downtown streets, Columbia; Oct. 8. Contact 252-796-2781.


HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE: Enjoy wine, candy and complimentary Flight Tasting; RayLen Vineyards.

METROMAGAZINE OCTOBER 2009

METRO CULTURAL CALENDAR
and Wine, Mocksville; Oct. 30 from 6-10 p.m. Contact 336-998-3100 or www.raylenvineyards.com.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR: NC Fairgrounds, Raleigh; Contact 919-821-7400 or visit online at www.ncstatefair.org.

- DANNY GOKEY: $5 ticket, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.
- CASTING CROWNS: $15 ticket, Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m.
- HONOR SOCIETY: $5 ticket, Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m.
- CAROLINA CHOCOLATE DROPS: $5 ticket, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.
- EASTON CORBIN: $5 ticket, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.
- CHRISS YOUNG: $5 ticket, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- GLORIANA: $5 ticket, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
- JEFFREY OSBORNE: $10 ticket, Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.
- CHRISTOMLIN: $10 ticket, Oct. 22, 7:30 p.m.
- DARIUS RUCKER: $20 ticket, Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m.
- JUSTIN MOORE: $5 ticket, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.

EVENTS HOSTED BY RALEIGH PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Raleigh; Contact 919-831-6640 or www.parks.raleighnc.gov

- KIDFEST: Spring Forest Road Park, Oct. 9 from 12-4 p.m.
- HAUNTED TROLLEY TOURS: Oct. 23, 29 & 30 in the evening
- HAUNTED MORDECAI LANTERN TOURS: Oct. 30 from 5-10 p.m.
- HAUNTED MORDECAI FREE FESTIVAL: Mordecai Historic Park, Oct. 30 from 5-10 p.m.


- SPOOKYWOODS HAUNTED ADVENTURE: For ages 12-17; Herbert C. Young Community Center; Oct. 16 from 4:30-11 p.m.
- HAUNTED TWILIGHT TOUR OF DOWNTOWN CARY: Page-Walker Arts and History Center; Oct. 22 from 6:30-8 p.m, 7-8:30 p.m, 7:30-9 p.m.
- FRIENDS OF HEMLOCK BLUFFS "ANNUAL RECYCLE SALE": Stevens Nature Center/Hemlock Bluffs; Oct. 29 from 10 am-6 p.m.
- TRICKS & TREATS HALLOWEEN BASH: Herbert C. Young Community Center; Oct. 30 from 5-9 p.m.
- SAFE N SANE HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION: For ages 15 and under; Cary Towne Center Mall; Oct. 31 from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

HALLOWEEN WEEKEND IN DOWNTOWN HILLSBOROUGH EVENTS: Hillsborough; Contact 919-732-7741.

- TRICK OR TREATING: Downtown for kids in costume; Oct. 29
- HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR: Show off your costume, enjoy carnival games, cake walk and more; Central Recreation Center; Oct. 29 from 6-8:30 p.m.
- SPIRITS OF HILLSBOROUGH HALLOWEEN TOURS: Alexander Dickson House; Oct. 29 every half hour from 7-8:30 p.m.
- LAST FRIDAY ART WALK: Oct. 20 from 6-9 p.m. Contact www.hillsboroughartsnc.org/art_walk
- 1922 SILENT VAMPIRE FILM: Oct. 29
- HAUNTED HALLWAYS EVENT: Coldwell Banker; Oct. 29 from 5-7 p.m.
FALL FASHION ESSENTIALS
Designers and Where to Shop Local

1. Rebecca Taylor — Beanie + Cecil
2. H&M Trench — H&M
3. Frye Melissa Button Boot — Belk
4. Diane von Furstenberg Clog — Gena Chandler
5. Yosi Samara Flat — Uniquities
6. Donna Degnan Suit — Tyler House
7. Stuart Weitzman Swing Bag — Main & Taylor
8. Hudson Signature Boot Cut Jean — Scout & Molly's
9. Vince Sweater Coat — Saks Fifth Avenue
10. Lafayette 148 Lofty Crepe Ruched Dress — Cameron Clothing
11. AKA New York Deco Sweater — Vermillion
12. See by Chloe Black Sequin Cardigan — Fleur
**FASHION NEWS**

Check out **Beanie + Cecil** of Raleigh Oct. 6-7 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. for a Thread Social Trunk Show. Raleigh, 919-821-5455.


Stop by **Ciao Bella** Oct. 7 for a Grand Opening Event celebrating half their store will carry men's wear featuring local designer Chris Knott's collection, Peter Millar, and partner Coffmans Men's Wear. Cary, 919-678-8320.

On Oct. 7, stop by **Gena Chandler** from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. for a J Brand and Karina Grimaldi event. Meet Miami designer Karina Grimaldi and Oscar with J Brand while enjoying music by DJ Joe Bunn. Raleigh, 919-881-9480.

On Oct. 7, **Priscilla of Boston** invites you to toast the arrival of their new Cameron Village location. From 7-9 p.m. enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres while browsing their bridal collection and meeting local wedding vendors. Raleigh, 919-747-4707.

On Oct. 7, **Liles Clothing** will have a Coppley Trunk Show with Coppley representative Gasper Tirone showing the new fall collection, including suits, sport coats, trousers and outerwear. During this event, enjoy 20 percent off Coppley in stock. On Oct. 23, Liles will feature Oxxford Clothing, including handmade suits, sport coats and trousers made in Chicago. Representative Chris Brueckner will be present and they will also offer 20 percent new Oxxford custom orders during the event. Raleigh, 919-510-5556.

Oct. 14 **CT Weekends** will host a fashion show on the rooftop at Solas during lunch. Call for details and reservations. Raleigh, 919-787-9073.

**Vermillion** will host a Lela Rose Spring Trunk Show Oct. 13 & 14. View the entire Spring 2011 Lela Rose collection from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. both days. Call Vermillion for details and your appointment. Raleigh, 919-787-9780.

**SoHo Clothing** will celebrate its 25th birthday for the entire week beginning Oct. 18. Enjoy daily trunk shows, bubbly, birthday cake and gifts with purchase. Raleigh, 919-833-8550.

**Elaine Miller Collection** will host an exclusive two-day trunk show featuring designer Jeff Mazza of The Mazza Company Oct. 26-27. Also be sure to keep an eye out for their October sale. Raleigh, 919-571-8888.

**Main & Taylor** will host a Stuart Weitzman Trunk Show Oct 28-30 in Raleigh and Oct. 27 in Greensboro. They will also host a Donald J. Pliner event Oct. 22 in Raleigh. Meet the rep and Pliner's wife, Lisa, who will feature her more edgy collection but with the comfortable Pliner fit. Stop by to check out four new lines carried by Main & Taylor, including Think!, Gabor, Snipe and Spring Step, all chosen for their euro comfort and unique design. Contact 919-821-1556.

**Fine Feathers** invites you to an Armani Collezioni Spring Preview event in October, and an Emmelle showing of classic, comfortable, wearable separates for day to day in November. On Nov. 9-13 there will be a Nina McLemore holiday show featuring jackets with matching separates. Chapel Hill, 919-942-3151.

Stop by **Beanie + Cecil** of Wilmington to view their new Fall 2010 arrivals from Loeffler Randall. Wilmington, 910-509-9197.

October events at **Saks Fifth Avenue**, Triangle Town Center, Raleigh. Call 919-792-9100 for further details on events.
- On Oct. 16 American designer David Meister will make an appearance at Saks to show off his latest collection. Meister is an American designer known for his sophisticated, yet body-conscious, women's wear.
- Sept. 30-Oct. 9 enjoy a Fall Beauty Event featuring an exotic tote, deluxe samples and irresistible offers with a $100 beauty purchase.
- Evening gown designer David Meister will be hosting a luncheon from 12-2 p.m. Oct. 16 to benefit the NC Symphony.
- During Oct. 21-24 for Saks' Key To The Cure event, they will donate 2 percent of sales from Oct. 21-24 to WakeMed. Donna Karan has designed a limited edition T-shirt exclusively for Saks Fifth Avenue's KEY TO THE CURE. The T-shirt will retail for $35, with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting WakeMed.
- Saks will host a David Harris Trunk Show Oct. 21-22.
- On Nov. 6 visit Saks for a Michele Watches Trunk Show from 6-10 a.m. on Nov. 6 stop by any Belk location for a Fall Charity Sale benefiting local charities, schools and non-profit organizations throughout the company's 16-state area. The in-store shopping event will allow customers to support worthwhile charities and enjoy special discounts on purchases made during the event. Call for details. All Belk locations, 919-782-7010.

**Revolver** will host its 5th Anniversary Party Nov. 19. Raleigh, 919-834-3053.

Four years ago local West Point graduate from Durham, Nick Palmisciano, began Ranger Up, a clothing line of patriotic and military apparel. **Ranger Up** sponsors military veterans who wish to complete Mixed Martial Arts and also donates a large portion of proceeds to Soldiers' Angels. Visit their website at www.rangerup.com.
On the Town
by Helen Wallace

Washington Gala Celebration
NC Museum of History
September 16, 2010
Raleigh, NC

Mary Wiseman, Mount Vernon's official Martha Washington, in character with Jim Carlisle and Secretary of Cultural Resources Linda Carlisle

Dean Malissa, Mount Vernon's official General George Washington, in character with Barbara Thompson

Mary Powell White, gala chairman, Morris and Beverly Marley with Dunlop and Jane White

Vermillion 2010 Fashion Show
Raleigh, NC
September 16, 2010

Betty Vermillion, Willa Kane

Chef's Challenge
For: Meals on Wheels of Wake County
Date: September 9, 2010
Garner TV & Appliance North Raleigh showroom
Plantation Point Shopping Center

Heba Salama and Elise Johnson

Chef James Boyle of The Duck & Dumpling, Chef Elise Johnson of NBC-17 Cooking With Elise, and Chef Chris Hylton of The Mint
If you have never read the diary of Andy Warhol, you should pick up a copy. It's racier than anything Jackie Collins or Jacqueline Susann ever imagined. From his accounts of partying with everyone from Elizabeth Taylor to Liza and Halston, Warhol was burning his candle at both ends and also re-energizing art from the early '60s until his untimely death at age 58. He has always been one of my artistic heroes and for that reason I'm really excited about the new Andy Warhol exhibition at the Ackland Museum (www.ackland.org). I feel exceptionally privileged I had the opportunity to hang out with Warhol for a while in the mid '80s. As time goes on, his paintings climb into ever more rarified atmospheres in the auction world — $20 million, $30 million, the sky seems the limit.

Now when I met Warhol back in 1984, the art world was not feeling the love. Folks in the museums considered him passé. He was making a zillion dollars by doing portraits of jowly millionaires (check out the Nasher family portrait by Warhol at their eponymous museum in Durham), but his reviews were getting rougher each year. Folks howled at his dollar sign paintings and were dismissive at best about his collaborations with Jean Michelle Basquiat. Warhol was still popular as always with the media and had done a stint on “The Love Boat” and a great series of commercials for Vidal Sassoon shampoo — even though he was bald as a coot without his wig. However, I was in love. I had been weaned on the teat of pop art and viewed Warhol as a demi-god.

I met the great man in the studio of Julian Schnabel, who was hot as a firecracker at the time and cranking out those amazing broken plate paintings. His studio was ginormous, with oversized marble busts on columns and ultra-chic sculptural furniture. It was a rainy January evening, and I was soaked in my pale blue tuxedo. My black eyeliner was lining more of my...
cheeks than my eyes by then, and my mink hat was looking a little dodgy as well. But for some reason Warhol liked what he saw, and we started up a friendly conversation about the aborted Warhol Temple planned to be built in Chapel Hill. That's right y'all, back in the day some of his rich patrons had planned on building a temple filled with Warhol's masterpieces right here in the Triangle.

He knew all about it and was impressed that I was privy to the info, and I didn't look half bad back in the day so he pulled out his camera and started shooting. A few moments later, none other than Grace Jones slinked into the room wearing a blue leather jumpsuit, missing one leg on one side and one arm on the other. The one arm missing also exposed her left breast, and her nipple had been gilded — not the blushing violet type as you can imagine. There was a huge bowl of cocaine nearby and Miss Jones walked over to the vessel, placed her entire face in the bowl and emerged in amazing chemical white face. Warhol just laughed and told her that she looked fabulous, and then several people descended upon Grace and started licking the powder from her face. I had never done coke before, but I have to admit, I think I chose the right venue and the right time to give it a go, and it does give an interesting lilt to a night of drinking Champagne.

Next thing you know, the entire mob was down at the Palladium, the successor to Studio 54, hanging out in the private Michael Todd VIP room, filled with gilded mirrors and candles à la Cocteau (named for the fact that purportedly Todd had banged his future wife Elizabeth Taylor there back in the day). Between the booze and the drugs and the glamor of Warhol's entourage, I was, as you can well imagine, quite sensually satiated. Only a year or two later, Warhol was dead as a doornail, and my coke cap and jade decorated human skull Post Mortem Portrait of Andy Warhol had been featured in ART-FORUM Magazine.

How amused Warhol would be with all of the brouhaha about him now. More enduring than any of his critics would have imagined or wished, his legacy still casts a dramatic shadow over new generations of artists. The exhibition of Warhol’s polaroids and other images at the Ackland will continue to inspire young folks about just how good a time you can have as an artist, and, it is hoped, the gala will live up to his inspiration. Sometimes museums can be a little dowdy, but when you are throwing an extravaganza based on such a wild party animal, surrounded his entire adult life by the beautiful and the suicidal, the aristocrat and the bohemian, you hope that they will do him justice. So bring on the drag queens and the tanks of nitrous oxide and the walls of porn movies while Maria Callas sings, and remember that the very creativity you are celebrating was not born of a sterile studio, but from a life of edgy, shocking and sensual excesses.

ADIEU TO SOMERHILL

People are always asking if you can hear a tree fall in the forest if no one is there. I don't know, and I don't spend much time listening to falling trees. I do however know that the closing of Joe Rowand’s Somerhill Gallery is being heard and felt by many in the area with a great sense of loss to the artistic community. The epitome of the suave, sophisticated mover-and-shaker, Rowand’s style was elegant and his spaces always glamorous. While some may choose to kick lions when they are down, I prefer to allow them the chance to simply lick their wounds and hopefully come back even stronger in their next incarnation.
GRIEVING FOR THE SBI

I am grieving for an old friend. The SBI. I’ll tell you why.

My last year of law school at Wake Forest University, I passed up a chance to write for the Law Review so I could help Robert Morgan run for Attorney General. We had no full-time staff, and primarily we divided duties among Morgan’s executive assistant, Peggy Stewart Seifert, Nick Weaver — who was a student at Campbell University and traveled with Morgan — and me, also a student, who wrote speeches and even held press conferences in the PAD law fraternity house on the Wake Forest campus.

What we did have were a lot of friends and volunteers who believed in Morgan and his unique brand of populist politics and his passion for the underdog. He didn’t mind taking on the big boys. Surprisingly, Morgan won the Democratic primary in a crowded field without a runoff and cruised to victory in the fall. The three of us went with him to the Attorney General’s office. He trusted us, and although we were all in our 20s, he gave us responsible positions.

In January 1969, we moved into our offices at the North Carolina Department of Justice across the street from the Capitol. The Department of Justice, which also had lawyers scattered about in various state agencies, shared a building with the Supreme Court. The SBI, which was a part of the Department of Justice and answered to the Attorney General, had one half of the first floor and some space in the basement. The new Attorney General designated me as the liaison with the Bureau.

It took only a quick walk-through to see that the facilities were woefully lacking. Tests were being done in cramped cubby holes and badly needed equipment was stacked in closets, still in the boxes it came in because there was no place to install it. Ballistics tests, including firing of weapons, were conducted a couple of floors from where lawyers argued cases before the Supreme Court — and often without warning.

A handful of respected agents were scattered about the state, almost all serving multi-county areas. Sheriffs especially valued them and maneuvered to have one in their county so they could get to a crime scene quickly to collaborate on cases that required special expertise. Except for a few areas, such as arson, gambling and narcotics, the Bureau could not intervene in an investigation, had no original jurisdiction, and was at the beck and call of local law enforcement.

Morgan had serious concerns about the leadership of the Bureau and had made it clear he intended to make changes. The director resigned prior to Morgan’s being sworn in, opening the way for new leadership at the top.

We considered carefully what sort of leader the times called for. Should it be an experienced law enforcement official or someone respected by the law enforcement community but with strong communications skills who could sell the Bureau to the General Assembly and rally support from the general public? We went with the second alternative. And we chose Charles Dunn.

Charlie had been a newspaper reporter, worked for Congressmen Horace Kornegay, and, prior to coming to the Bureau, had been on the staff of Gov. Dan K. Moore. I met Charlie while working briefly for the Governor’s Committee on Law and Order. Charlie, while writing speeches and handling media, also was Moore’s liaison with the law enforcement community. He had boyish good looks, a winning personality, and a way with words and, like Morgan, a willingness to take on challenges.

I put Charlie’s name in the mix, and the more we thought about it, the more it seemed to make sense. His appointment involved some political risk, but it paid off. No hue and cry went up, Charlie stepped boldly into the leadership vacuum at the Bureau, and immediately he and Morgan assembled a legislative wish list. The Bureau got most of it: quarters of their own outside the Justice Building; more agents; better equipment, including police radios; cars to replace the clunkers they were driving on rugged mountain roads and in the sparsely populated eastern counties; and enhanced training, often by experienced lawyers from the Attorney General’s office. Tom Earnhardt, now famous for his nature shows on UNC-TV, was one of the attorneys who taught classes at the Bureau.

Field agents received a substantial morale boost from the Attorney General himself. He got to know the members of each new class personally. When he traveled, we made sure agents knew he would be in the area, and they were invited to spend time with him. He respected them and their work, and he took great pride in introducing them around as part of his team. For the agents, Raleigh no longer seemed so far away. He built strong relationships with sheriffs and chiefs of police, which enhanced the credibility of agents and their ability to be of assistance to them.

But remember one thing: Robert Morgan had been one of the state’s best defense attorneys. While he respected law enforcement
and became one of its most effective advocates in the history of the state, he would never have tolerated the prosecution tampering with the scales of justice. His dedication to professionalism in the law enforcement community is symbolized by the Criminal Justice Training Academy in Salemburg, NC, which he prompted the General Assembly to create, and the Criminal Justice Standards Council. He would agree, I am sure, with the language that the present Attorney General has coined recently — that the mission of the SBI lab should be to provide evidence that will help convict the guilty and exonerate the innocent.

For six years, I was a part of the building effort at the SBI. I am extremely proud of the part I was privileged to play. That's why I grieve for it and dedicated old timers still around, like former Director Haywood Starling. In my mind, I know that those who have stepped out of the traces over the years, although causing great harm when they have done so, are a tiny fraction. I hope they are ashamed.

I don't know how the SBI went afield. It may have been the victim of priorities. Attorney General Lacy Thornburg obviously believed strongly in the SBI and its mission when he leaned on his longtime friend Robert Morgan, after he returned from service in the US Senate, and persuaded him to serve as director of the organization we had invested so much time and effort in strengthening less than a decade before. For Thornburg, the SBI surely was a top priority.

I have never known any directors of the Bureau since that time. Correct me, but it seems to me that they have been drawn from the close circle of the Attorney Generals who have served since, who chose rather colorless personalities with little possibility of enhancing the status of the Bureau or substantially advancing its mission. In the meantime, if we are to believe media reports, a small number of agents more concerned about notches on their guns than seeing that justice was done, slipped through the screening process. And those in positions of authority turned a deaf ear to complaints. I will not speak to the absurdity of allowing a communications specialist to be in charge of a sophisticated forensics operation.

Morgan always said that the best politics is to do your job well. People like Morgan, and more recently the late Jim Long and Steve Troxler, have proved that.

I will conclude with this thought. To me, a disturbing trend has developed recently in state government. When voters go to the polls and elect persons to statewide office, they expect them to do their jobs well. Elected officials should not have to create panels of persons who have served with distinction in various areas of public life or hire experts to sort out their problems, restore their credibility and rescue them. I think my mother probably would have called that "hiding behind their coattails."
BOOKS FOR SOUTHERN COOKS

"Nobody cooks anymore," cookbook author Nancie McDermott overhears at a professional culinary association meeting, of all places. Neither of us believes it for a minute. If nobody cooks, who are all those people watching cable cooking shows, obsessing over big green eggs and investing in millions of copies of cookbooks published each year? They can't all be just food voyeurs.

Women may not be working in the kitchen from dawn to dusk like their home-making grandmothers, but the slack is taken up these days by men. No longer afraid of putting on an apron, males have moved beyond occasional grilling into home and professional kitchens in droves. Cooking is even invading the academic world. Next year's curriculum at Harvard — yes, Harvard University — will include a cooking course taught by a quartet of macho chefs including Ferran Adria, the king of molecular gastronomy.

Cooking passe? No way. This country is getting foodier by the minute, especially in the South. This year's Metro Gourmet cookbook picks include the latest Southern regional books, many of them penned by local authors. The cookbook column arrives early this year, in time for you to meet your favorite writers this fall at signings all over the Triangle. And get a jump on holiday shopping.

PIG: King of the Southern Table
by James Villas

James Villas, a North Carolinian by birth and breeding, has written the ultimate treatise on our fascination with growing, cooking and eating pig — all of the pig. This wonderful volume earns back the purchase price in the introductory section, and then goes on to cover itself with porky glory in the remaining sections on every kind of pork recipe you can imagine (and some I'd rather not imagine). I said "treatise" in the first sentence, but know that this chatty, intelligent collection of pig knowledge and pork recipes is anything but drily academic.

If you hunger for knowledge about the many possibilities of cooking pork, or just a hunger for a wonderfully written and useful cookbook, buy it now.

Southern Pies
by Nancie McDermott

Nancie McDermott, best known for her popular Asian cookbooks, has taken another geographical detour with Southern Pies following the success of Southern Cakes. Her latest effort is a compilation of familiar classics (black bottom and pecan pies), idiosyncratic regional specialties (Japanese fruit and muscadine grape hull pies) and quirky creations by contemporary chefs (spicy peanut and sweet tea pies). McDermott credits well-known professionals, as well as out-of-print regional cookbooks for many of her recipes. Each is introduced by a history of its origin and a chapter is devoted to making a perfect pie crust whether your preference of fat is butter, shortening or good old porky lard.

Falling Off the Bone
by Jean Anderson

Inexpensive cuts of meat can be transformed into mouthwatering treats using Jean Anderson's Falling Off the Bone. With this jewel of a cookbook, already a staple of my kitchen, the James Beard Hall of Fame member demonstrates, once again, why she is one of the most reliable and inspirational cookbook writers in America. Anderson's braises and stews, roasts and soups are her personal renditions of slow-cooked classics from all over the globe: borsch, goulash, osso bucco, posole, Irish stew and many more. Her instructions couldn't be easier to follow and her tips make these dishes fool-proof. As she always does, the thoughtful Anderson goes beyond most cookbook writers by revealing local and Internet sources for unusual cuts of meat.

Every Day in Tuscany: Seasons of an Italian Life
by Frances Mayes

Neither Southern nor, technically, a cookbook, Every Day in Tuscany celebrates the Italian lifestyle, which, as everyone knows, is all about eating and drinking. Mayes, a Southerner who spends half of the year at her home in Durham County, is known for evoking a palpable sense of place. In Every Day in Tuscany, the backdrop is her second renovated dwelling outside Cortona, Tuscany. Mayes' new memoir is a celebration of 20 years spent absorbing the philosophy of the locals and sharing their secrets with readers. "[Italians] live better than mere living," she writes. "Even those with little live as though they were put here to flourish and praise." Chapters end with menus or recipes from meals described in loving detail, gifts to us from Mayes' own personal Eden.

Bourbon: 50 Rousing Recipes for a Classic American Spirit
by Fred Thompson

This is the perfect holiday gift for drinkers. Recipes require not a whole lot more than a glass, some ice, a spoon and a jigger. Prolific cookbook writer Fred Thompson reminds us of the joys of corn whiskey, including delectable Old Fashions, Manhattans and other classics dormant until TV's "Mad Men" restored them to former glory. His entertaining lore and history behind Southerners' favorite alcoholic beverage add to the fun.

The New Blue Ridge Cookbook: Authentic Recipes from Virginia's Highlands to the North Carolina Mountains
by Elizabeth Wiegand

On the heels of The Outer Banks Cookbook, Raleigh-based Elizabeth Wiegand shifts gears and heads west with a collection of recipes using our mountain bounty, includ-
ing wild mushrooms, ramps, venison, elderberries, apples and honey. With a farmer’s daughter’s sensitivity, Wiegand researched the book by traveling the area, talking to farmers and chefs about the products they grow and use in these recipes. Wiegand’s enthusiasm shines through in the engaging background stories preceding each dish.

Fruitcake: Heirloom Recipes and Memories of Truman Capote and Cousin Sook
by Marie Rudisill

My grandmother always said if you don’t get your fruitcakes baked by Thanksgiving, they won’t ripen in time for Christmas. Rum and Memories of Truman Capote and Cousin Sook is out in plenty of time for whipping up your favorites from Marie Rudisill’s two dozen recipes. Food historians will enjoy the late Rudisill’s tips and memories of her nephew Truman and cousin Sook’s kitchen adventures. And Jean Anderson’s forward explains why Southern fruitcakes are, without doubt, the best in the world.

The Southern Foodways Alliance Community Cookbook
edited by Sara Roahen and John T. Edge

This nostalgic-looking cookbook is modeled after those old-fashioned spiral-bound community efforts, mainstays of every Southern mother’s kitchen. The community here is the membership of the SFA, a motley crew that includes professional chefs, writers, academics, ham curers, catfish farmers and home cooks. The Triangle is well represented in these pages. You will find stories and recipes from baker Phoebe Lawless, novelist Lee Smith, cookbook writers Sara Foster, Debbie Moose and Sheri Castle, jam entrepreneur April McGreger, chefs Ben Barker, Karen Barker, Brett Jennings and Bill Smith, among others.

Real Cajun: Rustic Home Cooking from Donald Link’s Louisiana
by Donald Link

After a spectacular dinner at Cochon this summer, I wanted to bring Chef Donald Link’s restaurant back from New Orleans with me. Instead I brought home his cookbook, Real Cajun: Rustic Home Cooking from Donald Link’s Louisiana. Now Link’s interpretations of marinated shrimp, braised sausage with chiles, smothered collard greens and okra and tomatoes have become part of our dinner repertoire. His unpretentious recipes may sound mundane, but Link’s professional technique and subtle seasonings elevate familiar dishes to delicacies. The book garnered a James Beard Award for best American cookbook in 2010, a confirmation that honest provincial cooking — interpreted by a talented professional — never goes out of style.

NIBBLES
Throughout the fall season, Jean Anderson, Nancie McDermott and Sheri Castle, among others, will hold tastings and signings of their new books at Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh, The Rector in Durham, Flyleaf Books in Chapel Hill, McIntyre’s in Fearrington Village, and A Southern Season’s cooking school. Check the website of each author, as well as those of your favorite bookstores, for dates and times.

Hot off the press in time for holiday cookbook shopping is the paperback edition of Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South by UNC professor Marcie Ferris. While shopping your favorite bookstore, keep your eyes peeled for the gorgeous American version of A Taste of Relais & Châteaux Cookbook, including three recipes by Fearrington House Executive Chef Colin Bedford.

On Oct. 16, the TerraVITA Food & Wine Event will bring together chefs, cheese-makers, and food artisans with some of the finest organically grown wines and microbrews in the world. The event takes place at Chapel Hill’s Southern Village. Participating restaurants’ chefs include Chef & The Farmer in Kinston, On The Square in Tarboro, Early Girl Eatery in Asheville, Bonnie Soirée, Lucky 32, Neal’s Deli, Herons and many more. Proceeds will be donated to two nonprofit organizations — the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association and TABLE, dedicated to serving hungry children in our community. For more information, go online to www.terravitaevent.com.

The Umstead Hotel has reopened its signature restaurant, Herons, after a million dollar redesign of the restaurant’s open kitchen. Executive Chef Scott Crawford comments, “One look at this kitchen and you will know we are serious about cooking!” For reservations, call 919-447-4050.

Gourmet cooks will enjoy the new Savory Spice Shop now open in the Lafayette Village shopping center in Raleigh. The store sells more than 400 fresh ground herbs and spices, hand-blended seasonings, organic herbs and spices ground weekly to ensure freshness. A similar concept, Penzeys Spices, is scheduled to open in Cameron Village this fall.

1001 Ways to Cook Southern
by the staff at Southern Living magazine

In addition to traditional Southern fare, this 928-page tome includes tacos, osso bucco and other dishes from beyond the expected borders. Recipes are short and easy to follow; chapters run the gamut from breakfast fare to cocktail beverages to sandwiches. Special features add to the fun, such as “Taste of the South,” identifying what makes dishes truly Southern, and “Taking Sides,” a collection of Southern cooking legends from differing sources.
COQUEHE BRASSERIE and contemporary decor, will give fine dining at its best. 6196-120 Falls of Neuse Rd., Raleigh. Brunch Mon-Sat. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sun: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Dinner Mon-Sat. 5-11 p.m., Sun: 4-11 p.m. Free parking. Credit cards accepted. www.coffeeatrealeigh.com

CAFÉ MISU — 4p.m.-11 p.m., Sun: 4 p.m.-IO p.m. 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.


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 1970s, the basic principals — hospitality, attractive atmosphere, and value have remained the same.


SAVOY — 4351-100 Lassiter at North Hills Ave., Raleigh. 788-8778. A unique style of American cuisine that originated in Aspen, Colorado. Open-flame grilled steaks, herb crusted prime rib, fresh seafood, hearty pasta, awesome burgers and giant salads served in a cozy, comfortable setting. Bar and outdoor patio seating available. M-Th: 11 a.m.-10 p.m., F-Sat: 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

THE FLYING BISCUIT CAFÉ — 2016 Clark Ave., Raleigh. 833-6924. Online at www.flyingbiscuit.com and www.raleighbiscuit.com. Serving breakfast all day and hearty entrées, sandwiches and salads for lunch and dinner, this Cameron Village restaurant also boasts a full bar. Open 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. daily.


GLOBE — 510 Glenwood Avenue Suite 103, Raleigh. 836-1816. Chefs Heath Hollandam (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!"


HOT POINTE CAFÉ — 4209-136 Lassiter Mill Rd, Raleigh. 788-8240. A contemporary American cafe known as Midtown Raleigh's "neighborhood cafe" serving traditional breakfast and Mediterranean-influenced lunch and dinner. Famous for their California-style pizzas, sandwiches and house-baked focaccia. Wine and beer served. Outdoor patio dining available. Located at North Hills M-Th: 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri: 7 a.m.-10 p.m., Sat: 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun: 8 a.m.-9 p.m.


JIBARRA RESTAURANT — 327-102 West Davie Street, Raleigh. www.jibarrarestaurant.com. 755-0555. Housed in historic Depot building in the warehouse district, this upscale Mexican restaurant couples indigenous ingredients with modern techniques and sensibilities elevating timeless recipes. Blending contemporary and Mexican style, the energetic atmosphere is dominated by a sleek tequila tower showcasing an array of premium, 100 percent blue agave spirits. Creative margaritas and an emphasized Spanish and Latin American wine list available.


THE MINT RESTAURANT — 219 Fayetteville St., Raleigh. 821-0011. www.themintrestaurant.com. Mon.-Thurs. 5-9 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 5-10 p.m. The Mint in downtown Raleigh offers contemporary fine southern dining with global influences. Culinary Director Christopher Hyton presents new and exciting culinary combinations paired with The Mint's unflappable service standards.


THE O-SHACK — 4120-135 Main at North Hills St., Raleigh. [919] 786-4381. Locally owned and operated, specializing in Western Carolina and Texas-style BBQ, salads and sides made from local, farm-fresh ingredients, 100% locally raised, hormone-free pork, chicken, turkey and beef. Catering and delivery. Outdoor sidewalk seating available. M-Th: 11 a.m.-9 p.m., F-Sat: 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun: 12 p.m.-8 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE — 4381-100 Lassiter at North Hills Ave, Raleigh. [919] 791-1103. New Orleans-inspired appetizers, aged USDA Prime steaks, fresh seafood, signature side dishes and homemade desserts served with genuine hospitality. Among the most distinctive dining destinations in the area. M-Th: 4 p.m.-10 p.m., F-Sat: 4 p.m.-11 p.m., Sun: 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

Gibson and Marshall Smith make everything in-house, including breads and desserts. The contemporary, American dining experience is enhanced by the elegant yet relaxed atmosphere. Upstairs enjoy the ultimate in downtown Raleigh, serving Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner in an open atrium atmosphere. The atmosphere is American Continental, serving a daily Breakfast & Lunch Buffet, and a complete menu for all day dining. Also enjoy live entertainment on Wednesday nights in The Bar. SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE - 416 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. 383-2888. The atmosphere at Sullivan's resembles a 1940s steakhouse, featuring fine steaks and seafood. Enjoy the unparalled martinis and live jazz played seven nights a week.

TROPICAL SMOOTHCHEF - 1028 Oberlin Rd, Raleigh. 755-2222. www.tropicalsmoothiecafe.com. Tropical Smoothie Cafe is more than just great tasting smoothies. Keeping in line with the great taste and high quality that Tropical Smoothie is known for, we also offer healthy alternatives to regular fast food. Our gourmet wraps, sandwich specials and salads are made with the highest quality Dietz and Watson meats and cheeses. Come early to enjoy our breakfast wraps and bagels. Catering is available.


Vinny's Steakhouse and Tavern - 7440 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh. 847-7319. Treat yourself 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.

Watts Grocery - 1116 Broad Street, Durham/1911 Mel and Watts Grove. With a distinctive take on North Carolina cuisine, Watts Grocery features fresh seasonal and local foods from the forkful. Our menu changes seasonally so please check our website for new items at www.watsgrocery.com.

Chapel Hill/Hillsborough

The Carolina Crossroads Restaurant - 211 Pittsboro Street, Chapel Hill. 918-2777. Visit Web site online at www.carolinairain.com. The Four Star and Four Diamond Carolina Crossroads Restaurant combines the graceful traditions of the south with Executive Chef James Reale's progressive new American fine. Fine dining menus change seasonally to highlight the best products from local and regional farms.


Mez Contemporary Mexican - 5410 Page Road, Research Triangle Park, Exit 282 off I-40. 941-1630. Visit online at www.mezdurham.com. Mez is the latest offering from the Chapel Hill Restaurant Group, operators of 411 West, 518 West, Squid's, and Spanky's. Featuring traditional Mexican dishes with a lighter, healthier twist, all made with the freshest ingredients. A beautiful private room upstairs overlooks the RTP and can accommodate up to 100. North Carolina's first LEED designed restaurant.


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.
Paso Robles Wines:
NEW WORLD VERSION OF THE RHÔNE VALLEY

Paso Robles was a sleepy little California hamlet for most of its life, a mere dot on the map off Highway 101 between Monterey and Santa Barbara. Today, it is one of California's most dynamic wine regions. With over 200 wineries, it is rapidly becoming a New World version of France's Rhône Valley.

Two and a half decades ago I was invited to visit the Paso Robles region by Andre Tchelistcheff, wine consultant to Hoffman Mountain Ranch, one of only a handful of the region's small wineries, Tchelistcheff was excited about the potential here for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Ten miles to the east, however, Paso Robles' future was already in the ground. In 1974, Gary Eberle planted syrah at Estrella River, the first such planting in California since the repeal of Prohibition.

The earthquake of 1997 gravely damaged the little town, but by then it was already known for producing rich, ripe sensuous reds — Zinfandel, Syrah and Rhône-style blends, as well as Cabernet Sauvignon. When I was invited to serve as a judge at the Central Coast Wine Competition in Paso Robles last June, I was eager to return ... and absolutely delighted with what I found.

The little one-horse cow town of yore is still intact. I watched a quarter horse show at the town fairgrounds near the hall where we judged the wines near real cowboys and cowgirls, sporting spurs and well-worn and dusty broad-brimmed hats. But Paso Robles is all grown up now, rebuilt since the earthquake with chic restaurants and shops surrounding its lush grassy central plaza. It's become quite a tourist draw — every weekend there are festivals on the village green that feature music, art, cinema and, always, local wines.

Red wines predominate here, as they always have been. Some 20 miles inland from the Pacific, the Paso Robles region is warm and dry and drenched in sunlight but cools down dramatically overnight (which grapevines love). Temperatures typically drop some 40 degrees; on summer evenings you may not need a jacket when you head out for dinner at sundown, but by 10 p.m. you likely will.

These conditions are similar to the southern Rhône, so when the Perrin brothers, owners of Château de Beaucastel, a top producer of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, partnered with US importer Robert Haas and began scouring California for vineyard land in the 1990s, a limestone plateau 12 miles from the Pacific proved the perfect spot. They brought over vine cuttings from the home vineyard — syrah, mourvèdre, grenache, cinsault, counoise, picpoul noir and blanc, roussanne, viognier and a few others — and planted Tablas Creek Vineyards in 1993. When the first wines were released they attracted immediate notice from critics and wine enthusiasts, fueling the region's rise.

The white wines of this region were the real revelation — many of them stunningly aromatic, with a flourish of enticing scents and flavors: lime blossom, Granny Smith apples, intense citrus, tangerine, white peach, pear and lychee, underlaced with the minerally, stony accents that characterize the soils of the region.

Wines such as Vina Robles 2009...
WHITE, a blend of vermentino, vedelho and viognier, which won Best of Show White Wine in the 2010 competition. Roussanne is a little-known variety as yet, but one I think Americans will cotton to, because of its zesty fruit and minerally tang. It's made on its own but is also an important component in fine blends, such as Adelaida Version, Tablas Creek's Esprit de Beaucastel and Côtes de Tablas, Halter Ranch White and Eberle Côte de Robles Blanc.

EBERLE WINERY

Paso Robles has its showplace wineries, mostly 21st century operations such as Niner, Robert Hall and Vina Robles, many constructed of local stone with red tile roofs and lots of glass to take in the region's magnificent vistas — steeply curving rows of green vines on golden hills, silvery stands of olive trees intermixed with banks of pink oleander. Lavender thrusts its short, stiff spikes of color here and there — all of which give the region a decidedly Mediterranean aspect. The modern structures are built to last. Robert Hall, for instance, proudly touts his 16-inch-thick walls reinforced with steel rebars, "good enough for an 8.5 quake," he grins.

HALTER RANCH VINEYARD

The region has its share of mavericks too. It's a young region with lots of youthful, brash, innovative winemakers whose enthusiasm for wine is contagious, despite the sometimes overweening power of the wines, which register 15 and 16 percent alcohol — a bit too often for my taste. But not for the millennial generation, who love the challenge of keeping up with the likes of, say, Christian Tietje, the restless, energetic winemaker at Four Vines who is constantly experimenting with new blends and techniques. He gives his multitude of wines catchy names such as Heretic, Cypher, Phoenix, Anarchy, Loco and Biker Zin — small lots of intense, concentrated blends, reds mostly, of limited availability and a cult following willing to pony up $40 to $90 a bottle.

Silver Horse Winery Bacchanalia

"I want to make varietally correct, age-worthy, food friendly wines," says Steve Kroener, founder of Silver Horse, a small hilltop winery with a spectacular view, "but we're all about entertainment too." Wine clubs are huge out here, and wineries cater to members with discounts and special bottlings of wines available exclusively to them. Silver Horse regularly hosts wine club gatherings at its outdoor kitchen and patio garden, complete with a bocce ball court and live music. Inside the winery, visitors play with iPads to see wine listings, the newsletter and blog. "We're hitting the millennials hard," says Kroener. "They're really into wine and having fun with it."

Paso Robles is a great spot to visit, so you might want to make it a destination on your next trip to California. I stayed at Le Cheval, a small elegant hotel just off the plaza, convenient to several tasting rooms, fine restaurants such as Artisan, Thomas Hill Organics and Villa Creek, and the local cinema. But go for the wines — you'll make some memorable discoveries.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED WINES

Look for the Paso Robles or Central Coast appellation. These wines are available in North Carolina, though not all wine shops carry them. All can be ordered with a minimum of two bottles.

Adelaida Cellars HMR 2007 Pinot Noir, $50. Yes, Paso can make great Pinot — lush and rich, deep and well-balanced, living up to Tchelistcheff's promise.

Anglim 2006 Grenache, $24, cherries and red currants in a bold frame
Austin Hope 2007 Grenache, $30, lively, mouth-filling flavors, long finish;
Treana Red 2007, $38, a smooth but vigorous blend of cabernet and syrah
Castoro Merlot 2006, $15, juicy flavors — and a bargain!
Eberle 2009 Viognier "Mill Road," $22; Côtes-du-Robles 2007, $21; Cabernet Sauvignon 2006, $34, age-worthy to 2025
Four Vines 2008 Anarchy Zin, $40; 2008 Heretic Petite Sirah, $40, huge and heady
Halter Ranch Cotes de Paso 2007 Red Rhône Blend, $28, bold and deep
Justin 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Paso Robles, $23-$26, Justin's most balanced red
Tablas Creek Côtes de Robles Blanc 2008, and C-d-R red, both $25, superb Rhône blends; Esprit de Beaucastel, a homage to the owner's Châteauneuf-du-Pape, gorgeously rich and vivid fruit with peppery accents

Vina Robles Huerohuero WHITE

Vina Robles Huerohuero WHITE, 2009, $16, a zesty, tangy white blend; and 2008 Red4, $16, 2007 Signature, a lush blend of petit verdot and cabernet
NEW TABOOS PREVENT HONEST MOSQUE DISCUSSION

National Brotherhood Week was one of those touchy-feely ideas from the 1960s satirized brilliantly by comedian songwriter Tom Lehrer. And, like almost all of the Ivy League math professor's oeuvre, the song remains relevant today as the ruling elite avoids the truth about Islam in the Western world. I can still belt out a half-dozen Lehrer ditties, including "The Vatican Rag"— commemorating Vatican II, when the Roman Catholic Church allowed the vernacular to replace Latin in services; "Who's Next," about the proliferation of nuclear weapons; "Wernher von Braun," reminding us that in the rocket programs of the era, "one of the fingers on the button will be German"; "So Long Mom I'm Off To Drop The Bomb"; and "New Math," perhaps Lehrer's best-known work.

Lehrer preceded Monty Python by a few years, and both never shirked from irreverent confrontations with the absurd, maudlin veneer of political correctness that has now become institutionalized in the West, smothering free expression with laws and regulations and censure. Honesty is now taboo, enforced in the 21st century with something a new and far more menacing dimension: fear of retribution by Islamic mullahs and splinter terrorist groups.

The grand Pooh-Bah of contemporary failure to state the issues clearly is Barack Obama. And the most pressing one he refuses to confront honestly is the plan to build a 13-story Islamic center and mosque within shrapnel distance from the hole in the ground that contained the twin towers of the World Trade Center. The attacks on 9/11 by Muslim jihadists represent the most devastating assault on American soil since the Japanese sneak attack on the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard on Dec. 7, 1941. Yet Obama and a chorus of PC advocates support the establishment of a building by our enemies that humiliates Americans and defiles the memory of the victims of the monstrous events of that fateful day.

If the PC shoe was on the other foot in this debate, with the PC against the mosque, they would trot out the term "inappropriate," the code word they wield to vilify behavior that engenders their disapproval. But no one has simply stated that building the mosque is simply that. Nor has the mainstream media, and only a few in public office for fear of retaliation by jihadists. In Europe, as we learned, daring to speak against Islam is dangerous, as exemplified by the cartoon riots in Copenhagen and the assassination of politician Theo van Gogh in Amsterdam.

Media and politicians are hiding behind the skirts of the kinder, gentler mode of doublespeak so common today, when actually they have been blackmailed by fear of reprisal for speaking out against the mosque. The same goes for every confrontation with Islam: everyone runs for cover rather than face honestly what has become the most serious conflict amongst the peoples of the world in living memory. Add in the low self-esteem of Americans (and Europeans) after 40 years of multicultural outrage from radical scholars against our own culture for being racists, chauvinists, homophobes and imperialists, it is clear the ruling elite will not stand up and fight.

One brave citizen is expressing the true feelings of most Americans, Renee Elmers, 2nd District candidate for Congress in North Carolina. Her campaign ad against the New York City mosque lays it out with no equivocation, which captured the attention of CNN's Anderson Cooper, the poster boy for elitist opinion. Cooper and Elmers mixed it up on-air, producing an odd mixture of left-wing selective history from Cooper, and Catholic Christian certitudes from the candidate. But in this isolated slice of political confrontation, the vastness of the chasm between the government/media/university view of the mosque and the true feelings of American citizens were dramatized clearly.

This gap grows wider as the ephemeral fear of violating sensitivities rules the political and cultural debate — and the real fear of violent retribution actually assists the inroads of Islam into Western culture. A change in Congress and state legislatures in November should be a step in the right direction and send some of the Islamic appeasers and politically correct charlatans home. But we really need a new Tom Lehrer to remind us that we are even bigger fools than we were in his day.

NOTES FROM LA-LA LAND

New studies prove the media slanted the Tet Offensive during the Vietnam War by reporting the victory by US and South Vietnamese forces against the Northern army and its Viet Cong irregulars was actually a defeat. In this space I pointed out that venerable CBS-TV anchorman Walter Cronkite was the main culprit who led the disinformation campaign by stating Tet proved we were losing the war. Most interestingly, a re-examination of poll data reveals that the majority of Americans — including college students — supported US involvement in the conflict. The disconnect between the media elite and the true feelings of the US public has escalated since, despite the onset of alternative media.

There has been renewed discussion about Obama's beliefs centered on his adoration for the political leanings of his radical father whom he hardly knew. What emerges helps explain his foreign policy that departs from existing practice since World War II. Obama's father was a left-wing activist before his native Kenya was granted independence from Great Britain. He was involved in the Mau Mau rebellion orchestrated by Jomo Kenyatta, who later became the country's elected but dictatorial president. (Tar Heel author Robert Ruark gained his fame from his book Something of Value — later a hit film — about the Mau-Mau rebellion). This anti-imperialist angst remains with Obama, causing him to snub the UK, our greatest ally, as soon as he took office. It also explains his policy to treat Israel as a second-class ally since the nation is, in his mind, a imperialist construct that relied on the Balfour Declaration of 1917, named for UK's Foreign Secretary, that stated "His Majesty's Government" supports a homeland in Palestine for the Jewish people.

There is hope in the world now that the BBC has issued a public statement confessing to a left-wing bias in its news coverage since the 1960s. US mainstream media should follow suit and gain back the trust of the American people and act as an honest broker that covers all sides of important issues. (Read commentary by Bernie Reeves in his Between Lines column at www.metronc.com.)
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Dr. Michael Law is a board-certified plastic surgeon. He grew up in Raleigh, trained at UCLA and USC, and practiced aesthetic plastic surgery in Beverly Hills. In 2002 he returned to his hometown to be near family and open his solo practice. He and his wife reside in Raleigh with their two young sons. Dr. Law is the top provider of Botox and Juvederm in the Raleigh area. The Blue Water Spa food drive has raised more than 90,000 lbs. of food for hungry children. Dr. Law and his staff want to thank all clients and patients for their loyalty and generosity as they approach their goal of donating 100,000 lbs. of food donated to the Interfaith Food Shuttle.

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