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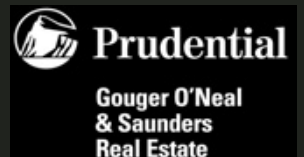
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June 2010

Volume 5, No. 6

FEATURES

- 54 The Piney Awards** By Ashley Wahl
Our 2010 nominees make a wholly talented trinity of local artists.
- 60 Guess Who's Coming To Dinner**
Three-dimensional design has never seemed so ... delectable.
- 64 Story of a House** By Deborah Salomon
Artist Sherry Samkus could teach Martha Stewart a thing or two about home decorating.
- 70 The Garden Path** By Noah Salt
This plant diva can't contain her excitement for plants — or container gardening.

DEPARTMENTS

- 7 Sweet Tea Chronicles**
Jim Dodson
- 10 PinePitch**
- 15 Cos and Effect** Cos Barnes
- 17 The Omnivorous Reader**
Stephen E. Smith
- 21 Bookshelf**
- 24 PineBuzz** Jack Dodson
- 27 Hitting Home** Dale Nixon
- 29 Vine Wisdom** Robyn James
- 31 The Kitchen Garden** Jan Leitschuh
- 35 Pleasures of Life** Sherry Nemmers
- 37 Material World** Claudia Watson
- 39 Birdwatch** Susan Campbell
- 41 The Sporting Life** Tom Bryant
- 47 Golftown Journal** Lee Pace
- 51 Icons: The Putter Boy** Paul Dunn
- 76 Calendar**
- 84 SandhillSeen**
- 96 The Accidental Astrologer**
Astrid Stellanova
- 99 PineNeedler** Mart Dickerson
- 100 SouthWords** Florence Gilkeson



THIS PAGE "AVA AT TWO"
BY SHERRY SAMKUS

COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY TIM SAYER

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Blackberry Summer



BY JIM DODSON

The other day, with June and summer vacation on the doorstep, I casually asked several friends about their most unforgettable summers.

For one middle-aged friend it was the summer she spent in Greece following her college junior year abroad. “After all those dreary, rainy months in England,” she explained, “Greece was pure bliss. Two girlfriends and I shared a small house on Corfu for six weeks, swimming and sunning by day, drinking ouzo in a great little zinc bar every night. I almost got engaged to an Irishman who owned a racing yacht,” she added with a remarkably girlish laugh, blushing two decades after the fact. “My parents, of course, never knew a thing about it.”

Another friend remembered setting off across America on his first motorcycle; he was 18. “It was 1979. I had relatives who lived in Arkansas. I rode out to see them and kept going all the way to Texas, staying in funky motels, meeting some great characters along the way. I still have that old motorcycle sitting in my garage. I always wanted to ride it all the way to California and back — but have yet to do it. Maybe some summer.”

My young friend Ashley, 23, told me about how her high school sweetheart broke up with her just days before a planned trip to Europe with her younger brother. “It was a real shock to the system, something I never saw coming. So the change of scenery couldn’t have been better timed. It was my first trip to Europe. We stayed in youth hostels and met all sorts of interesting people, roaming without any firm schedule from Germany to Ireland. In short, we had a blast. It was a great bonding experience for us both — and inspired some terrific poetry.”

Kit, the mother of a precocious 6-year-old, remembered how she and her younger brother used to ride their bikes to the movie theater in town near Puget Sound, picking blackberries as they went. “Life seemed very different then,” she added, a touch wistfully. “The blackberries were huge.”

One friend told me about being left at summer camp in the Blue Ridge mountains while her parents went through a divorce. “I made enough crafts that summer to fill the trunk of a car. But I also learned to swim and made a best friend I’m still in touch with.”

Another went to Washington with her grandmother. “We stayed in a beautiful hotel, the Madison, I think, and toured all the major sights. We met Vice President Johnson having breakfast. When you’re 10, that’s pretty heady stuff.”

A third told me about being a life-guard at a community pool in Richmond, Virginia. “It was the summer before my senior year in high school. I felt like a god, swinging my whistle around and bossing little kids. I had more girls interested in me that summer than ever. Not much happened — hey, it was summer — but I never forgot that feeling. Summers were great in those days.”

Was summer really better back then? More than one of my friends seemed to think so. “I think American life was so different back then,” says Kit. “We were either more trusting or there weren’t the things out there that worry parents so much today. My brother and I would go out the door and not come home again until supper-time. Then we would go out again until dark. We had so much freedom.”

Or are we human beings simply prone to shellac the past with a rosy varnish that sets only the sweeter images of a previous time forever in place like prom flowers pressed in a book?

When my friend who went with her pals to Greece in the late 1960s asked me about my own most memorable summer, I thought about it for a moment and confessed that three summers stayed with me for some reason or another. Two involved my own young children, a third belonged exclusively to me.

Each, in its own way, involved a final summer of relative innocence.

My own blackberry summer came in 1968, the year I was 15, the last year I rode my bicycle everywhere I went, the last time I went to Boy Scout camp. I mowed neighborhood lawns and taught guitar at a music shop. Some afternoons I went to the community pool we belonged to in Greensboro and swam with friends. Other evenings I played golf till dark at Green Valley Golf Club.

My buddy Pat and I flipped a coin to see who was going to try to buy our first *Playboy* at the Eckerd Drugstore in Friendly Shopping Center. Naturally, I lost.

The *Playboys* were kept behind the counter where a biddy with a box-turtle mouth and half-rim glasses on her pointy nose ran the cash register. I walked up and brazenly put down my three dollars, selecting a pack of Juicy Fruit gum and pointing to the *Playboys*.

“Oh, yeah,” I said casually. “I’ll have one of those, too.”

She turned to see where I was pointing and stared with confusion at the display.

“One of that what, son?” she blared.

“Uh, Ma’am, the *Playboys*.”

She glared at me for a long and terrifying moment. I was

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tempted to turn and bolt but suddenly she lifted the magazine out and rang it up, mercifully sliding it into a paper bag seconds before another customer came up behind me in line. I turned around triumphantly only to discover Meryl Corry, my other best friend's mom, holding a box of Lady Clairol hair coloring.

"Well, hello, Jimmy," Mrs. Corry declared with her usual Donna Reed sweetness. "What are buying? Something for your mama?"

"No ma'am," I swallowed hard. "Just some gum."

Nothing much else happened to me that summer. I swam, mowed lawns, played golf till dark, went to movies, admired the visual charms of Miss July on the sly — kept her safely hidden, in fact, behind the bookshelf in my bedroom.

America itself, on the other hand, went through a powerful gestalt that summer. With things going badly in Vietnam — the Tet Offensive happened that January — antiwar protests intensified that summer, leading to several violent confrontations. Martin Luther King's assassination in April created race riots that burned in the hearts of several cities through my blackberry summer. Robert Kennedy's assassination in June made ordinary folks wonder if America was coming apart at the seams.

Some called 1968 the year that "shaped a generation," and other historians have singled out that summer as the nation's most challenging time since the Civil War.

"That was the summer my friends and I were on Corfu," remembered my older friend. "We heard about all those things happening back home. I remember wondering if there would be an America to come home to. It was nice to be away from it all — an unearned happiness."

She wondered about my other two summers — my children's best summers

I smiled and told her about the June my daughter Maggie and I and our old dog Amos set off on an 8,000-mile fly-fishing and camping odyssey across America. Her mom and I had agreed to separate and that seemed like an excellent time to get away from home. We lost the dog briefly in Yellowstone and blew up the truck in the middle of Oklahoma. But those eight weeks in search of America, and ourselves, were nothing

short of a magical time, looking back. My best book came out of that summer adventure.

A few years later, my son Jack demanded his own odyssey. So we set off to see the Seven Wonders of the ancient World but only got as far as the island of Crete before the chaos of the world caught up to us in the form of terrorist alerts and strong travel warnings from the state department for American tourists abroad. Still, we managed to visit several of most grisley medieval castle in Western Europe, get tossed from half a dozen of the Western world's finest museums, and follow Odysseus' route through the Greek Isles before the journey came to a halt mere days before events of 9/11.

**With luck,
somewhere a kid
will get on his
bike and ride
it like mad for a
final summer
of his life.**

A nice book — certainly the most fun to write — came out of this adventure, too.

“Sounds like you gave your children a summer adventure they would never forget,” said my Corfu friend.


“Time will tell,” I said. “They’re in college now. But I sure won’t ever forget those summers.”

And maybe that’s the point of a summer, any summer, this summer of 2010.

Near as I can tell, despite the gloomy picture media pounds into our skulls at every turn, the world is probably no more chaotic and dangerous than it’s ever been to parents who quietly worry about their children and children who will lose their innocence soon enough.


With luck, somewhere a kid will get on his bike and ride it like mad for a final summer of his life. Another will go to camp in the Blue Ridge and make her new best friend. Others will go abroad or just to the neighborhood swimming pool. Some will work their first summer jobs, other have their first summer crushes. Hopefully a few will stop and pick ripe blackberries.

Eckerds is long gone and so is Miss July,



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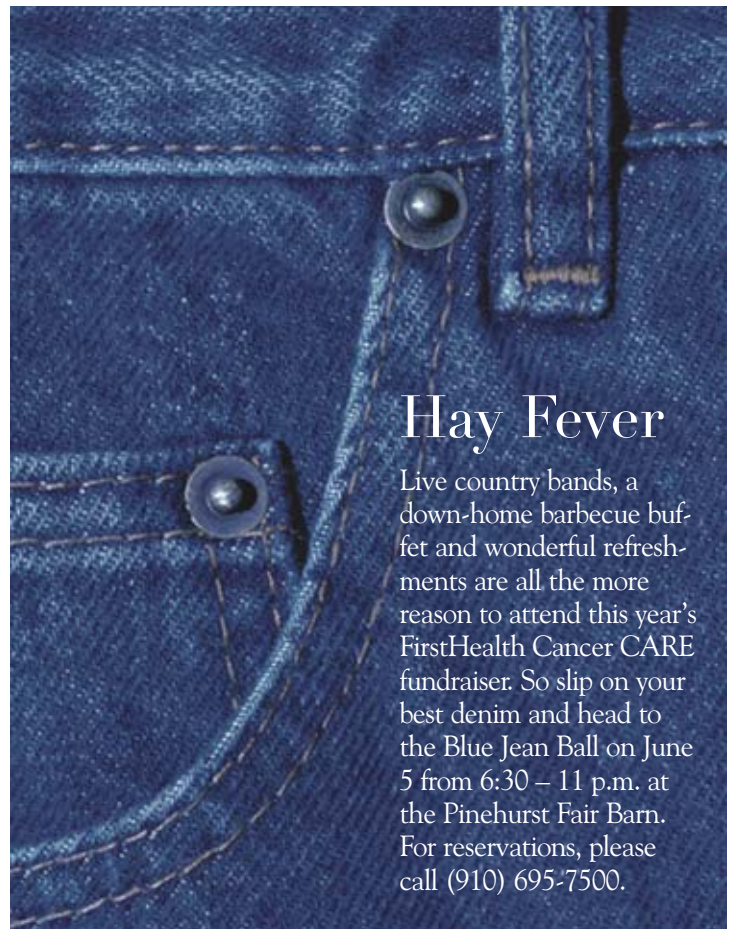


A Saturday To-Do

Looking for family fun that doesn't break your budget? Check out 2nd Saturday at House in the Horseshoe in June, July and August where arts and heritage are combined with food and fun. On June 12, kids can learn about birds, mammals and all sorts of wonderful wildlife at the historic House in the Horseshoe, 228 Alston House Road, Sanford. Information: (919) 947-2051

A Painting by Any Other Name...

Art Anonymous, the annual Arts Council of Moore County fundraiser, is a secret that people are still talking about! On June 3 from 6 – 8 p.m., the Campbell House will host the Art Anonymous Preview — go take a peek at 200 unsigned works and learn what all of the buzz is about. Art Anonymous will be open from June 4 – July 16 at Campbell House Galleries, 482 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. Reservations are required for June 3. For more information, please call (910) 692-2787 or visit www.mooreart.org.



Hay Fever

Live country bands, a down-home barbecue buffet and wonderful refreshments are all the more reason to attend this year's FirstHealth Cancer CARE fundraiser. So slip on your best denim and head to the Blue Jean Ball on June 5 from 6:30 – 11 p.m. at the Pinehurst Fair Barn. For reservations, please call (910) 695-7500.



Brown Bags and Jazz

Who says Mondays should be boring? Bring a lawn chair or blanket to the SCC Jazz Band Outdoor Concert on June 14 and be wowed by the “Big Band

Sound of the Sandhills” while enjoying a picnic dinner with your family or friends. Concert begins at 6:30 p.m., free admission. In the event of rain, concert will move to Owens Auditorium. Sandhills Community College, Airport Road, Southern Pines. Information: (910) 692-7966



Shining S.T.A.R.S.

Prepare to be dazzled by the students of Sandhills Theatre Arts and Renaissance School when they present “Pivot Pointe,” a Broadway-style show featuring music, dialogue, costumes and props crafted and composed by the youngsters themselves. Sit back and watch the arts impact and reshape a father’s relationship with his dancing daughter as the story unfolds. Performance begins at 7:30 p.m. on June 10 – 12 at Pinecrest High School’s Robert E. Lee Auditorium. Tickets: \$10. Information: (910) 695-1004



First Love

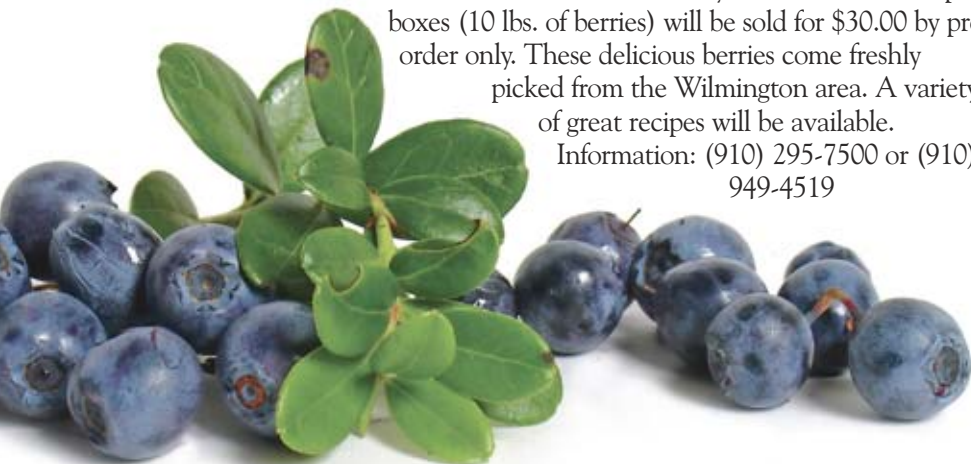
First Friday is fun for the whole family from 5 – 8 p.m. on June 4, featuring one of the most desirable live performers in the Southeast. Eat, drink and be serenaded by the soulful voice of Laura Reed in the grassy knoll adjacent to the Sunrise Theater in downtown Southern Pines. Free admission, children’s activities, food and beverages for sale. Information: www.firstfridaysouthernpines.com



A Berry Good Cause

The Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills is hosting the first annual Blueberry Sale on Saturday, June 19 at Aberdeen Lake Park. The blueberry fundraising campaign is an effort to raise money to support the major charitable activities for children that the Club undertakes each year. Flats of 12 one-pint boxes (10 lbs. of berries) will be sold for \$30.00 by pre-order only. These delicious berries come freshly picked from the Wilmington area. A variety of great recipes will be available.

Information: (910) 295-7500 or (910) 949-4519



Malcolm Bluegrass Fun

The Malcolm Blue Farm Bluegrass Festival is the annual event that folks are still tapping their toes to. From 12 – 7 p.m. on June 12, come partake in the bluegrass fun in the shade of 100-year-old Darlington oaks at the site of a historic 1825 farmhouse. Great music, great food and entertainment are just down Bethesda Road in Aberdeen. For additional information, please call (910) 944-7558 or visit www.malcolmbbluefarm.com.



For Crustaceans' Sake

On June 22, North Carolina Audubon Society Director of Education Andy Wood will speak on an issue responsible for killing thousands of animals each year: crab pots. Derelict or unattended crab pots are a huge problem on our coast, trapping animals that then become bait to attract even more. Learn how this serious topic is affecting the salt marsh Diamondback Terrapin at the Sandhills Natural History Society meeting at Weymouth Woods, 7 p.m. Location: 1024 Ft. Bragg Road, Southern Pines. Information: (910) 692-2167



Editor's Correction

We would like to give credit to Kelsey Rea, our beautiful model found on page 49 of last month's issue. *Photo by Hannah Sharpe*

Picnic Perfect

The Rooster's Wife Summer on the Porch series is outdoors at the Postmaster's House in Aberdeen at 6 p.m. on June 6 with Brooks Williams, followed by Dehlia Low on June 13, Martha Bassett Band on June 20, and Morwenna Lasko and Jay Pun on June 27. Picnics encouraged. Bring blankets and chairs. Rain location: 114 Knight St. Admission: \$8 for adults, children under 12 free. Information: www.theroosterswife.org



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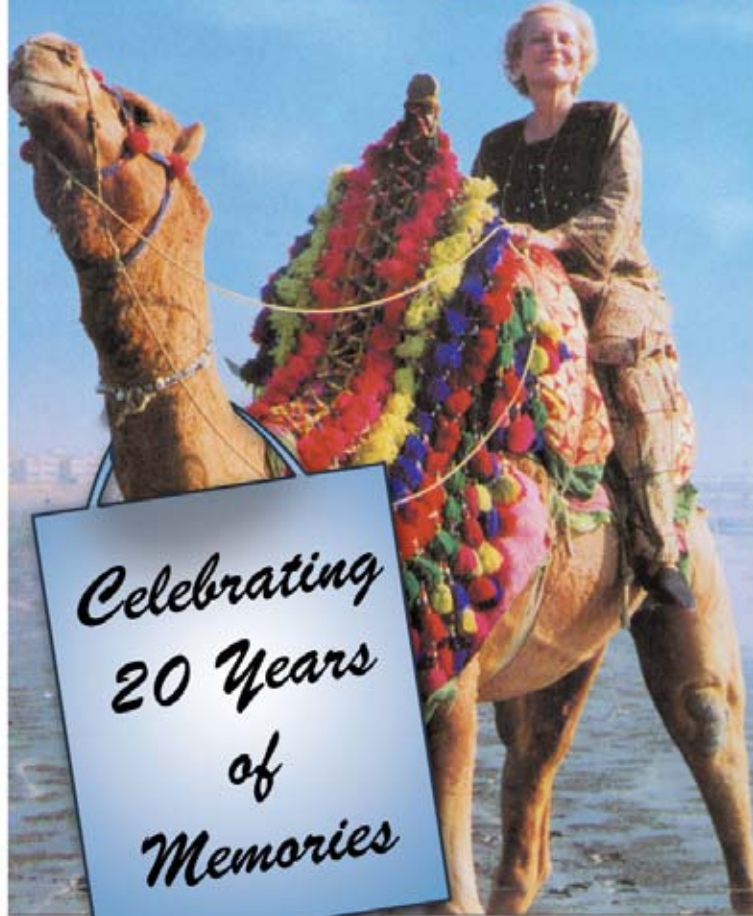
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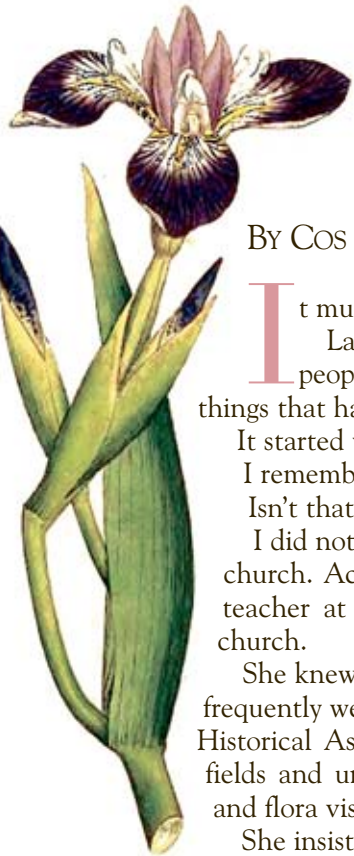
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Things Given and Done



BY COS BARNES

It must be age. Lately I have had lots of thoughts about people who have given me gifts or done things that have definitely enriched my life.

It started when my irises bloomed.

I remembered Melba Avent.

Isn't that a glorious name?

I did not know her well, but Melba attended my church. Actually, she was in my deacon group. A teacher at Fort Bragg, she always wore a hat to church.

She knew everything a teacher should know. She frequently went on day trips with the Moore County Historical Association, and as we tromped through fields and underbrush, she identified all the fauna and flora visible. Nobody else knew what she knew.

She insisted I come and dig up some irises. Today they add brilliant color to my yard. And each day when I pass Melba's former house, I enjoy those blooming irises in the yard and silently thank her again for sharing.

About five years ago, I was in Yanceyville, NC, trying to track down some long-lost relatives. The woman helping me had to be in her 90s, but upon hearing I was from Southern Pines, she asked, "Did you know Melba Avent?"

They had been in school together. How proud I was to say, "Yes."

Another deceased Sandhills resident whom I speak of frequently but met only once is a Mr. English. My husband and I had called around looking for someone to repair the rush in our dining room chairs, but with no luck. We attended an investment luncheon at which a friend of mine pointed out Mr. English and said, "He can fix your chairs."

"How did you know about my dining room chairs?" I asked, and was told, "Lois told me." Then and there I realized the strength of the woman's network, which has nothing to do with my story, but our antique dining room chairs, which were given to us by my in-laws, needed new rush in the seats. We called Mr. English and took the seats to his home in Whispering Pines. As we talked we learned that he was originally from upstate New York. He told us his mother belonged to a Co-op, and rush was her forte. When she died, he said, there were two chairs waiting for her to repair. He did them for the owners. He did them for his mother. He did mine for me.

When I read of his death, I wrote his widow and told her how I treasure his craftsmanship. **PS**

Cos Barnes, we're thrilled to say, lives and writes in Southern Pines. She is a longtime contributor to PineStraw magazine.



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5 Ridge Road – 3 BR / 2.5 BA / Golf Front

This wonderful home has lots of curb appeal and a well designed floor plan. The spacious kitchen offers an island, breakfast bar, lots of cabinets and an eating area. The split bedroom plan allows for maximum privacy. You'll enjoy everything this home has to offer including: a brick fireplace, sunroom, cathedral ceiling with skylights, a workshop, tile and hardwood floors and fabulous golf views! \$292,000 Code 630

www.5RidgeRoad.com

WHISPERING PINES



114 S. Lakeshore Drive – 2 BR / 2.5 BA / Water Front

This Thagard Lake ranch style home has wide open water views. The home has been beautifully maintained and offers an open floor plan. You'll enjoy the Carolina room with it's views, the great kitchen with custom cabinets and the living room with stone fireplace and built-ins. The master bedroom features a private bath, walkin closet and lake views. Don't forget the den, workshop and private boat dock! \$345,000 Code 631

www.114LakeshoreDrive.com

PINWILD CC



16 McMichael Drive – 3 BR / 3.5 BA / Golf Front

This fabulous golf front home offers exceptional details throughout. From the well designed kitchen with Alder wood cabinets to the master bedroom with it's private bath w/ glass block shower, you'll enjoy it all. This custom home also offers a lower level workshop, a sunny Carolina room, 2 car garage, a study, formal dining room, a living room with built-ins, a gas fireplace and large deck overlooking the course! \$624,500 Code 635

www.16McMichaelDrive.com

SEVEN LAKES WEST



101 Simmons Drive – 3 BR / 3.5 BA / Gated Community

This 2 level home is perfect for elegant and casual living. The main level features a split bedroom plan, an office, formal dining room, living room with gas fireplace, gourmet kitchen and separate laundry room. The lower level has a guest suite with private bath, bonus room and a study. This home also offers a covered front porch, rear stone patio and 2 car garage! \$375,000 Code 627

www.101SimmonsDrive.com

PINWILD CC



43 McMichael Drive – 2 BR / 3.5 BA / Golf Front

This custom home was awarded Home of the Year in 1995. The home was designed by Suzy Morgan and takes full advantage of the golf views and offers a wonderful floor plan and lots of upgrades. You'll find 14' ceilings, palladium windows, beautiful built-ins, hardwood and tile floors and crown molding. You'll enjoy entertaining on the large patio or watching the golfers tee it up! \$529,000 Code 640

www.43McMichaelDrive.com

SEVEN LAKES NORTH



105 Brown Bark Road – 2 BR / 2.5 BA / Water Front

Located on Lake Sequoia, this home offers 119 feet of water frontage and the best views of the lake. The floor plan features large wood beams, Pine board walls, an inviting kitchen, large stone fireplace, tile and heart pine floors to give a comfortable rustic feel. Be sure to take in the view from the 2 tier deck and enjoy the stacked stone planting beds! \$395,000 Code 628

www.105BrownBarkRoad.com

MCLENDON HILLS



254 McLendon Hills Drive – 3 BR / 3.5 BA / Equestrian Community

This gorgeous custom built home welcomes family and guests with a covered front porch and views of rolling pastures. Once inside you'll find a Southern Living floor plan that is light and open. The kitchen is spacious, the master suite is tucked away for privacy and the family room has built-in cabinetry. Upstairs you'll find a third bedroom, full bath and storage space! \$479,000 Code 637

www.254McLendonHillsDrive.com

SEVEN LAKES WEST



131 Owens Circle – 3 BR / 3.5 BA / Water Front

This exceptional custom built home offers wide water views. The features throughout the house add warmth and charm: beamed ceilings, custom kitchen cabinets, heart of pine floors, an oversized brick fireplace and large windows. The upper level features 2 guest bedrooms and full bath. The lower level features a heated and cooled workshop. By the lake you'll find a private boat dock! \$775,000 Code 636

www.131OwensCircle.com

SEVEN LAKES NORTH



105 Cobblestone Court – 3 BR / 2 BA / Water View

Enjoy the relaxing water views from the enclosed front porch. Inside the functional kitchen will be a favorite gathering spot with a pretty workspace and oak cabinets. The home features 2 guest bedrooms and a master suite with private bath. The living room has a vaulted ceiling with wood beams and brick fireplace. Enjoy time on the lower level with a rec room and workshop! \$163,500 Code 633

www.105CobblestoneCourt.com

MCLENDON HILLS



460 Broken Ridge Trail – 4 BR / 4 BA / Equestrian Community

This spacious custom home is beautiful inside and out. Outside you'll appreciate the 3 acres of gently rolling land, covered front porch, landscaped flower beds and storage shed. Inside let your eyes gaze over the bright and airy floor plan. The kitchen is well designed with all the bells and whistles. The master suite is on the main level along with a formal dining and living room, a family room and workshop. The upper level features 3 bedrooms, an office and bonus room! \$545,000 Code 647

www.460BrokenRidgeTrail.com

NATIONAL



114 Killiney Court – 4 BR / 3.5 BA / Water View

This terrific home is located on a quiet cul-de-sac. This home has many appealing features: extensive hardwood flooring, crown molding, 9' ceilings, recessed lighting, built-ins, tile floors, mature landscaping and a screened porch just to name a few. You'll appreciate the lower walk-out level, the large deck and the beautiful water views! \$530,000 Code 643

www.114KillineyCourt.com

CCNC



H-5 Ponte Vedra Drive – 5 BR / 4.5 BA / 1.89 Acres

This luxurious cedar shake 3 level home sits on a corner lot with beautiful picturesque landscaping. Soaring ceilings, chair rails, a tray ceiling, Pecky Cypress walls, hardwood and tile flooring, crown molding and 3 fireplaces compliment the Southern Living design of this house. From the inviting foyer to the gentle sounds of water running under the bridge in the backyard you'll feel comfortable and right at home! \$849,900 Code 642

www.H5PonteVedraDrive.com

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Love in the Ruins

In war-ravaged Congo, amorous bonobo apes reveal more humanity than many people

BY STEPHEN E. SMITH

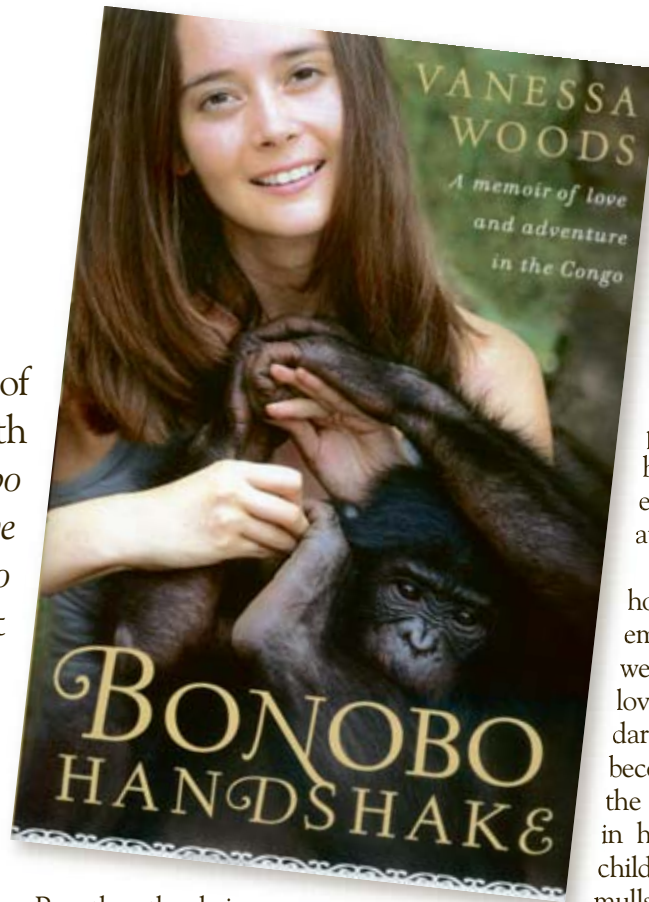
The likelihood of your becoming enthralled with Vanessa Woods' *Bonobo Handshake: A Memoir of Love and Adventure in the Congo* depends on how you want your reality served up.

The book's title and cover photograph — Woods' perfect smile, deep brown eyes, flawless complexion — suggest that you're in for an adventure story sweetened with an ample dose of kissypoo-romance. The bonobo — the smaller of the two ape species that comprise the genus *Pan*, the other being the common chimpanzee—with whom Woods is entangled at the margin of the cover photo appears grateful, ingenuous, even bemused. So you'll be primed for a sweet love story with J. Fred Muggs thrown in for comic relief.

But Woods is no kissypoo heroine, and by the time you've read through Chapter 3, you'll know this is no Harlequin romance, cuddly bonobo notwithstanding. In describing the atrocities committed in the war-ravaged Congo, Woods presents the naive reader with unspeakable images. "When she woke up, the soldiers were eating part of her thigh. They cut her right foot, her left arm, and her right breast to collect her blood. They drank her blood mixed with water and ate pieces of her flesh." And that's one of the least unpleasant descriptions in the passage. What the soldiers did to the woman's children is — believe it or not (pray you don't believe it) — even more horrific.

But it is, finally, the unvarnished truth that lifts this memoir above the commonplace. When it comes to reality, Woods isn't the least bit bashful, and she relates her reality in language that is straightforward. Memoirists generally avoid the use of street jargon, but Woods doesn't hesitate to employ the F-word and other kitschy expressions when conveying her feelings, especially as they apply to her marriage. No doubt there are a few readers who will be offended, but you've got to love it when a memoirist doesn't give herself all the best lines.

The story is relatively simple. A young woman marries a scientist, Brian, who takes her to Africa to help with his studies on bonobos.



He's seeking evidence of altruism in primates other than human beings. At first Woods is timid around the bonobos and a trifle put off by their sexual proclivities, which include the bonobo handshake (Woods will, no doubt, explain the handshake when she reads at The Country Bookshop in June).

The conditions in her new African home are far from comfortable, and the emotional demands of caring for bonobos weigh heavily upon her, but she learns to love many of the test subjects for their — dare I say it? — humanity, and she becomes particularly attached to a few of the bonobos as she suffers through a crisis in her marriage and flees Africa for her childhood home in Australia, where she mulls over her domestic circumstances.

Interspersed with this "memoir of love and adventure" are stories of the Congo and anecdotes concerning its people, wildlife and natural resources — and the ongoing genocide: "I know what's going on outside the electrified fences of Lola [the bonobo sanctuary]. I know over a thousand people die a day and children are being forced to become soldiers who then recruit other child soldiers. I know rape is still a weapon and no one will ever know the extent of its physical and psychological devastation."

Stories of the various bonobos constitute most of the narrative, and by the conclusion of the memoir, the bonobos are more human than the humans; indeed, there are passages where it's difficult to discern if Woods is writing about a human being or a bonobo, so intense is her connection with Semendwa, Elikia, Bolombe, etc.

By the final chapters, she and Brian are in Durham, where they have taken jobs at Duke University. Brian is a professor of evolutionary anthropology and Woods is a research scientist in the anthropology department. They've pieced their marriage back together, and she's settled into the academic life.

But if Woods has come to terms with her marriage, it's a fragile peace: "We may not be perfect, but we are perfect for each other. The Chinese say that love is balance. He is the water to my fire. The chimpanzee to my bonobo. When I am mired in life's ugliness, when I can see only what's decaying both inside and outside my head, he is the blindness I need, the mindless faith of happy endings."

So what do bonobos have to teach us? The lessons are simple: schoolchildren should learn that when bonobos get angry, they hug.

Women should understand that when they band together, they are strong. And men can come to the realization that it's possible to live life without war.

When you've finished reading *Bonobo Handshake*, you'll likely ask yourself: Was it necessary to include those horrific descriptions of the genocide in the Congo? Is the inclusion of such inhuman events merely gratuitous? Does a writer have a responsibility to share the terrors of life? Maxim Gorky said it best: "I know of genuine horrors, everyday terrors and I have the undeniable right to excite you unpleasantly by telling you about them, in order that you may remember how we live, and under what circumstances. A low and unclean life it is, ours, and that is the truth."

Indeed it is.

Vanessa Woods will read from *Bonobo Handshake* on Wednesday, June 30th at 5:30 p.m. at *The Country Bookshop* in Southern Pines. **PS**



Stephen E. Smith is a regular contributor to *PineStraw*. Contact him at traviss-es@hotmail.com.



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New Releases for June

By KAY GRISMER AND ANGIE TALLY FOR THE COUNTRY BOOKSHOP

FICTION – HARDCOVER

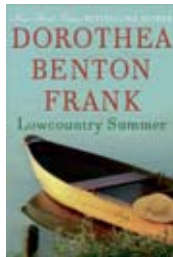
BACKSEAT SAINTS by Joshilyn Jackson. Rose Mae Lolly, from *Gods in Alabama*, struggles to evade certain death at the hands of her abusive husband while uncovering the family secrets that have held her prisoner.



BOOK OF SHADOWS by Alexandra Sokoloff. Sokoloff, the NC author of *The Harrowing*, returns with a classic murder-mystery with supernatural occult undertones as detectives investigate the ritualistic murder of a wealthy Boston co-ed. Alexandra Sokoloff will be at The Country Bookshop on Thursday, July 15, at 4 p.m.

DEVIL AMONGST THE LAWYERS by Sharyn McCrumb. The author of *The Rosewood Casket* returns with her new novel set in the mountains of Virginia in 1934, where a young woman is on trial for the murder of her father, and a young journalist sets out to find the truth.

LOWCOUNTRY SUMMER by Dorothea Benton Frank. Family-centric Caroline Wimbley Levine confronts a mix of personalities who deliver nonstop clashes, mysteries, and meltdowns in Frank's long-awaited sequel to *Plantation*. The Country Bookshop will host Dorothea Benton Frank on Monday, June 28, at 2 p.m. at Penick Village in Southern Pines.

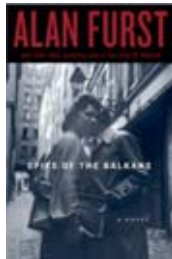


MR. ROSENBLUM DREAMS IN ENGLISH by Natasha Solomons. With its bittersweet humor and WW II nostalgia, Solomon's debut novel is the charming story of a German exile and his unlikely postwar quest to build a golf course in the Dorset countryside.



THE SISTERS OF HARD-SCRABBLE BAY by Beverly Jensen. In a series of interconnected stories beginning in 1916 and covering 70 years, Jensen relates the good times and bad of two sisters growing up in New Brunswick, Canada, and moving to America.

SO COLD THE RIVER by Michael Koryta. A woman hires a filmmaker to make a documentary about her father-in-law—a 95-year-old billionaire whose past is wrapped in mystery.



SPIES OF THE BALKANS by Alan Furst. A police detective aids refugees seeking to escape Germany in Furst's latest spy thriller set in Salonika, Greece, during the months in 1940-41 when German troops occupied Athens.

FICTION – PAPERBACK

THE DEAD OF WINTER by Rennie Airth. The murder of a young Polish girl in wartime London puts Scotland Yard Inspector John Madden on the trail of a ruthless hired killer.

AN ECHO IN THE BONE by Diana Gabaldon. In the latest installment of Gabaldon's epic time-traveling *Outlander* series, the Revolutionary War adventures of Jamie Fraser, an 18th c. Highlander, and his wife, Claire Randall Fraser, a surgeon from the 20th c., unfold through their letters to their daughter.



THE FIXER UPPER by Mary Kay Andrews. Andrews returns with a hilarious novel about one woman's quest to redo an old house . . . and her life.

THE GERMAN WOMAN by Paul Griner. From the bloody aftermath of WW I to the somber streets of London under Nazi attack in WW II, Griner's intelligent epic fuses romance, disaster, historical analysis and poetic observation.

LAST LIGHT OVER CAROLINA by Mary Alice Monroe. The SC author explores a vanishing feature of the Southern coastline, the mysterious yet time-honored shrimping culture, in a tale of a strong woman struggling to prove that love is a light that never dies.

MARRIAGE BUREAU FOR RICH PEOPLE by Farahad Zama. Zama offers her insights into the lingering dictates of religion and class in modern India in her debut novel of a retired civil servant who opens a

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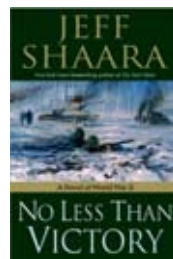
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NO LESS THAN VICTORY by Jeff Shaara. In the conclusion of his WWII trilogy, Shaara tells the story of the European war's last act — from the Battle of the Bulge to Germany's unconditional surrender — through the viewpoints of the men at the top, including Eisenhower, Patton, Churchill and Hitler.

NON-FICTION – HARDCOVER

BLACK OPS: The Rise of Special Forces in the CIA, the SAS, and Mossad by Tony Geraghty. Geraghty offers a hard-hitting history of special-forces operations in the U.S., U.K. and Israel over the past 50 years.

BONOBO HANDSHAKE by Vanessa Woods. Woods, a journalist, documentary filmmaker and Duke research scientist, shares her memoir of her work studying endangered Bonobo apes in war-torn Congo and the truth they taught her about love and belonging. Vanessa Woods will be at The Country Bookshop on Wednesday, June 30, at 5:30 p.m.

COLOSSUS: Hoover Dam and the Making of the American Century by Michael Hiltzik. The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist details the creation of one of the largest public works projects in American history, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of its completion in 2011.

NON-FICTION – PAPERBACK

GAME SIX: The Triumph of America's Pastime by Mark Frost. The author of *The Match* recreates what many consider to be the most exciting baseball game ever played — the match-up between the Boston Red Sox and the Cincinnati Reds in the 1975 World Series.

HOME GAME: An Accidental Guide to Fatherhood by Michael Lewis. Lewis shares his journal of what actually happened immediately after the birth of each of his three children—a funny, unsparring account of ordinary daily household life from the point of view of the man inside.



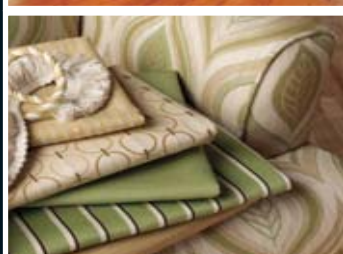
JENKINS AT THE MAJORS by Dan Jenkins. The legendary sports writer offers the funniest and most riveting stories, thrilling finishes, historic moments and heartbreaking collapses from his 60-year career working for *Sports Illustrated* and *Golf Digest*.

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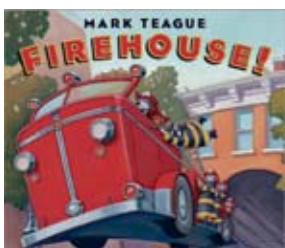


BOOKSHELF

MAGNIFICENT DESOLATION: The Long Journey Home from the Moon by Buzz Aldrin. In his memoir, Aldrin shares a harrowing first-person account of the lunar landing while also providing a candid glimpse into his more personal trials — and triumphs — back on Earth.

CHILDREN’S SUMMER READING

FIREHOUSE! by Mark Teague. Cousin Edward, the hilarious Boston terrier first introduced in *Funny Farm*, spends an afternoon learning to be a firefighter. After finding the perfect shiny red hat, Edward jumps into action after the bell rings.



Hurrying down the fire pole, jumping on the back of the truck, opening the hydrant and working to help put out the fire, Edward learns that being a firefighter is a

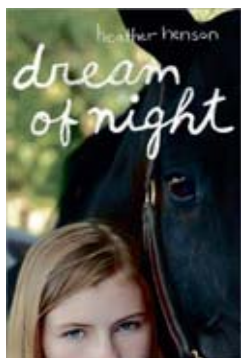
lot of fun, but also hard work. Ages 3-8.

THE BOOKS OF ELSEWHERE Vol 1: SHADOWS by Jacqueline West. What if you moved into a new house and found that it was filled to the brim with the belongings of the previous owners? What if you discovered an odd pair of spectacles in a drawer, moving objects in the paintings on the wall, and cats in the attic and the basement who warned you of someone from the past who wished you gone from the house?



Adventure-loving young readers will devour this first in new series that answers all these questions and more! Ages 9-12.

DREAM OF NIGHT by Heather Hanson. A troubled girl. A foster mother for hurting children and horses. An angry, once lightning-fast, broken-down racehorse. When the three find themselves together on a small farm, they must find a way to live,



not only together, but with the demons of their collective pasts. A fabulous story of healing through quiet patience, and the perfect summer reading for horse lovers or reluctant readers. Ages 9-14. PS

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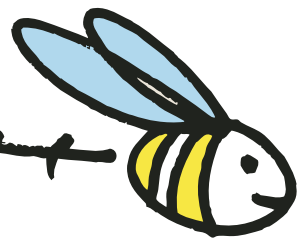
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By JACK DODSON

Ten Great Songs for Your Summer Groove

This year has been a good one in music so far, and it's only June. There have been several new releases from some great bands — She & Him, Dr. Dog, The National, Vampire Weekend, to name a few. But other recent releases fell somewhat under the radar without much notice, and they deserve to be heard. Take The Tallest Man on Earth's album *The Wild Hunt*, for example, which is possibly one of the best new alternative albums in the past few years.

Summer's the perfect time to acquaint yourself with the music you've either missed or simply put off listening to. And here are ten cuts by established and emerging indie bands well worth getting to know as summer dawns.

Moves by The New Pornographers (Together)



These Canadian musicians are veterans to the indie music scene, with five albums under their belt. They're an eight-piece band with a multi-layered sound that rarely disappoints. "Moves" is powerful but fun, energetic and easy to like.

One Way Road by John Butler Trio (April Uprising)

John Butler Trio's newest single is a good one for that summer road trip with your buddies, a good driving song you can sing along with even though, as the lyrics point out, you may be headed the "wrong way going down a one way road."



In the Sun by She & Him (Volume 2)

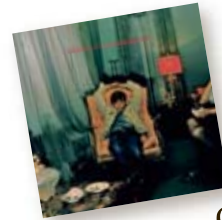
It's fairly rare that an actress or actor puts out memorable music. But Zooey Deschanel's already done that and she's doing it again with the awesome acoustic

power of M. Ward to back her up. This song is the single from her latest offering, and it's catchy — a good hook carries it through.



Who Makes Your Money by Spoon (Transference)

Spoon has a knack for writing songs that just make you feel good, and this song certainly does that. It's perfect for hanging out on a lazy afternoon, a steady bassline drives the song and a slight groove makes the rhythm very memorable.



Giving Up the Gun by Vampire Weekend (Contra)

While this album may not be as genuinely enjoyable as the band's 2008 self-titled debut, *The Washington Post's* review of *Contra* had it right — Vampire Weekend is "tough to dislike." Throughout the new album there's no track more appealing than this one.



What You Know by Two Door Cinema Club (Tourist History)

The electronic-pop beat of this song gives it a high energy that makes you want to sing along. Play this one in the car, blast it, and enjoy.



No Surprises by Regina Spektor

Covers of other bands are often a challenge. But Regina Spektor's hauntingly beautiful take on Radiohead's "No Surprises" will likely go down as one of the more successful tracks of 2010 — it's all over the Internet and iTunes, and it shows no signs of fading out.



My Time by Minus the Bear (Omni)

This is another one of the more electronic/synth-based songs on this list. It's the kind of song that you have to give a

chance, because the more you listen the more you'll like it.

Kids on the Run by The Tallest Man on

Earth (The Wild Hunt)
This is Kristian Matsson: quiet, humble, powerful. If there's one album worth getting this year, it's The Wild Hunt. Matsson, a one-man-band from Sweden, has been compared to



Bob Dylan, and it's obvious why when you hear him sing. This album makes a great listen on a lazy Sunday summer morning.

Burden of Tomorrow by The Tallest Man on Earth (The Wild Hunt)

I'm going to put one more upbeat cut from the summer's best album on the must-hear list. Depending on your mood, either one of these songs will take you to a much happier place.



Evolutionary Strokes
The National's "High Violet"

At first impression, it can be a little difficult to accept when an established indie band tinkers with its familiar sound. "We're just changing our sound a little bit," the standard explanation goes, "trying new things and evolving so our music doesn't become too familiar and stale."

In more instances than not, something almost always gets lost in the translation.

Luckily, that's not at all the case with The National's latest release, "High Violet." Frankly, they give the notion of evolution a good name. "High Violet" is the best thing the band has done to date.

The band — self-described on their website as being transplanted Cincinnati natives now living in Brooklyn, New York, two pairs of brothers and a fifth player who admit that bickering among themselves is the key to their creative energy — employs a kind of off-alternative sound, somewhere between acoustic rock and indie ballad, with a balance that constantly shifts between the two, producing a sound that is often as raw as it is beautiful. The lead



singer's voice is deep and raspy, for example, but typically evokes a calming effect, a peaceful layer over the music.

The band of brothers' previous releases, "Cherry Tree" and "Alligator," established them as one of the indie bands to watch, while the follow-up "Boxer" brought all the elements together to produce an album many regard as a new classic, an indie masterpiece. A recent *New York Times* profile of the band suggests The National accomplishes what all the great mid-twentieth century rock bands did — they "transcended the sum of their singles to offer something larger."

In this instance, that "something larger" is most apparent on "High Violet," a sound that is slightly more mature, and songs that are beginning to show the signs of age in the nicest sort of way — the age associated with wisdom. As a body of work, they're slightly rougher around the edges now, with discordant strokes and more emphasis on pure guitar work, exploring themes of love and personal struggle that reflect the challenges of getting older — or should we say, finally evolving.

- Favorite Tracks:
"Little Faith"
"Lemonworld"
"Runaway" PS



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Daddy's Chair

BY DALE NIXON

It was Daddy's chair.

It was a red overstuffed rocker. The arm rests were worn, and the fabric was frayed, but it was the most comfortable piece of furniture in our house when I was growing up.

I can hear Mother now, saying, "Don't sit in the red chair. It's your father's favorite."

Or, "When your daddy gets home from work, you'll have to get out of his chair."

Or, "The preacher is coming to visit tonight. Don't let him sit in your daddy's chair."

It was Daddy's seat of honor, his command post and, I guess, one of his best friends.

If the chair were around today, I couldn't bring myself to sit in it.

Daddy rocked three children in that chair. He cradled each one of us in his arms and rocked back and forth until the day our feet touched the floor. The rocking lulled us to sleep, took away the hurt and assured us of his love.

As we graduated from the rocking age, the chair became even more significant in our lives.

I can't count the times I was summoned to confer with Daddy as he sat in his favorite chair.

Mother would say, "Dale, your father wants to talk to you. He's in the den."

I'd walk into the den, and Daddy would be sitting in the red chair, motioning me over to sit beside him.

"You were supposed to be in last night at 11 o'clock, and you came in at midnight. Why did you disobey us?"

"I didn't mean to disobey you. I was having fun and nobody else had to be in until later and, well, well...."

"Honey, your mother and I don't care about anybody else's curfew. We care about yours."

Then, without raising his voice or showing any anger, he would go on and on about respect, obedience, rules and his disappointment in me. The chair would sway back and forth as he talked.

The conversation always would end with the chair lurching forward and Daddy's final comments. "You have hurt me. Now go to your room and think about my pain."

I would have taken a beating any day instead of thinking about his pain.

I could tell the kind of day Daddy had by watching him in the chair. If he was tired, the chair never moved. If he was upset, the chair would rock precisely back and forth. If he was happy, the



chair would bob each time he laughed.

He was sitting in the chair when I placed my infant daughter in his arms for the first time. He glanced down at her, then at me, and said, "She looks just like you." And he rocked away.

Mother said the day the phone call came that I had been in a serious car accident, he jumped up from his chair so violently that it crashed back into the window.

He always sat in the chair to shell peas or string green beans for our supper.

He spread newspapers on the floor and tilted forward in his chair to polish our shoes on Saturday night for us to wear to Sunday school the next morning.

He checked our math homework, examined our report cards and figured his bills from the chair.

And some of my fondest memories are of watching Daddy pull Mother into the chair and onto his lap.

The red overstuffed chair with the worn arms and frayed fabric is long gone now. It's been replaced with a more modern piece.

I hated to see it go.

I had to keep telling myself, though, that it wasn't the chair that was so special. It was the man who sat in it. **PS**



Columnist Dale Nixon resides in Concord but enjoys a slice of heaven (disguised as a condominium) in the village of Pinehurst. You may contact her by e-mail at dalenixon@carolina.rr.com.

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All Bubbly Inside

Even without the Champagne designation, French sparkling wines are a real showstopper — and a bargain

BY ROBYN JAMES

I hate to bring it up, but we all know about the nearly unavoidable trauma that 90 percent of all twenty and thirtysomethings experience that could require years of recovery therapy: DRINKING THE SPARKLING WINE ALL NIGHT THAT IS USED FOR THE TOAST FOR YOUR FRIEND'S WEDDING.

In my defense, I didn't have a choice. When my best friend and roommate from college got married, I innocently arrived at the reception to find out that you could drink the California sparkling swill, or nothing! Nothing was not my choice.

I may not have total recollection of the evening, but I shall never forget the morning that followed.

I awoke like Jackie Joyner-Kersey, hurtling over the couch to the refrigerator in my friend's apartment and actually breaking a plastic tray of ice I was trying to hold on my throbbing head.

Although I had just entered the fascinating business world of wine, it was a while before bubbles passed these lips again. And, even then, I was convinced that the higher price tag resulted in the smaller headache. Now I know better.

For decades, producers of inexpensive California sparkling wines have totally confused and misled consumers by labeling their products "Champagne." Champagne is not a grape or a style; it's a place, a physical address! A place where they diligently create the best sparkling wines in the world. It's just like if you live in Southern Pines and you tell everyone you really live in Rome. It's confusing and a big, fat lie.

I don't want to name names, but these California brothers of Italian descent are not focused on being polite to the French people; they want to move some boxes of "Champagne" and make a lot of money doing it.

Some of the more sensitive producers of premium California wines (especially the ones owned by French families) immediately adopted the "sparkling wine" epithet and added the phrase "Methode Champenoise," meaning, "Made in the same method as wines of the French designation of Champagne."

This move did nothing to pacify the good folks with the proper Champagne address. Although unsuccessful in the United States,

they were able to make it illegal in the entire European Union to use any reference to Champagne on a label from outside of their area.

Hence, the birth of the designation "Cremant," a term that legally applies to French sparkling wines from outside the region of Champagne, but produced in the same method. The grapes are harvested by hand, with low yields, and must be aged for a minimum of one year.

Aside from Champagne, there are three regions producing large quantities of sparkling wines, Cremant De Loire, Cremant De Limoux and Blanquette de Limoux.

Blanquette de Limoux is considered to be the first sparkling white wine produced in France, around 1531, created long before the Champagne region became world renowned. Saint Hilaire is the main village and its namesake sparkler, St. Hilaire, won a Best Buy from Wine Enthusiast and is described as:

"A pretty and remarkably drinkable sparkler with soft green apple, tangerine oil and faint yellow floral notes accented with hints of lavender. There's medium carbonation and weight in the mouth, and pear and apple flavors abound with suggestions of honeydew in the finish." It sells for the remarkable price of around \$15.

The sparkling wines from these areas are some of the best kept secret values coming out of France. Generally, they sell for the unimaginable price of \$10-\$15 and there isn't a thing coming out of California at twice or three times the price that can touch these.

The primary grapes are Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay and a locally coveted grape, Mauzac, known for its apple and fresh cut grass flavors. The Rosé sparklers generally contain Pinot Noir, Pinot

Meunier, Cabernet Franc and Chardonnay.

A server from a French restaurant in New York City who was getting married in Pinehurst asked me to locate Marquis De Latour Brut for her wedding. When I found it, I couldn't resist trying a bottle of the white and the rosé for myself, and found them to be dry, lively, full of flavor and delicacy and a great bargain.

Other favorites of mine are Charles Lafitte Rosé, Louis Pedrier Brut and Charles De Fere Blanc de Blanc Brut.

Do not miss these delicious bargains this summer, on the porch, pool or hot tub; they will turn you into a sparkling Francophile for sure! **PS**



Robyn James is proprietor of The Wine Cellar and Tasting Room in Southern Pines. Contact her at winecellar@pinehurst.net.

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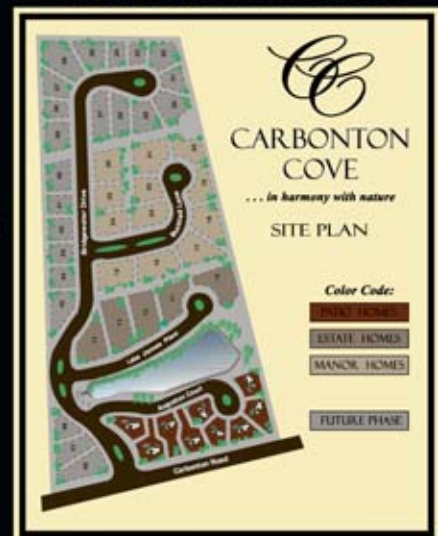


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Oh, Sweet Corn, that is



BY JAN LEITSCHUH

This is hard to admit in the face of such fierce local devotion, but I've never liked sweet corn — until I grew my own, that is.

My mother diligently bought summer ears from the grocery store — that's what you do summers in Wisconsin, eat corn to celebrate the lack of snow — but the yellow cobs were tough, chewy and not that sweet. They were, however, a great excuse for butter and salt and celebration, so I always tucked into that summer family ritual. I just never sought them out outside the context of my mother's house.

All that ended when I sowed a free pack of Silver Queen seeds one summer in some spare ground.

First of all, the corn was white — not the golden yellow ears I had been used to gnawing. White corn? Oh well, the seeds were free and I had space. In they went.

The stalks grew feverishly in the rich Midwestern soil, and before long, I had ears. I marveled at the long, green silks — I'd thought silks were always brown, like on the kind we bought at the store.

An article in the local paper said that real sweet corn connoisseurs would get their water a-boiling before they went out to the garden to pick, as corn's sugary sweetness rapidly turns to starch. That seems a bit over the top to me, but corn lovers had clearly put some thought into this, so I did boil the corn shortly after picking, buttered up the results and bit in. The flavor was incredible, and immediately won over yet another previously indifferent heart.

I've since learned that newer varieties are sweet whether yellow or white, but Silver Queen remains a local favorite. Around the Sandhills, look for sweet corn in the markets in June, about the time the early peaches show up. This is one instance where, unlike my mother, you really do want to "buy local" for the freshest, sweetest corn.

Around these parts "Silver Queen" rules in the Sandhills food consciousness, although most farmers actually now plant improved "Silver Queen" look-alikes such as the poetically-named "Spring

Snow," "Celestial" and "Frosty" varieties, said local farmer Billy Carter of Eagle Springs. Carter plants about 25 acres of the sweet stuff because "everybody's rabid for sweet corn about mid-June."

In a perfect world, you would want to buy your corn when the first ears start showing up in the markets in mid-June, then cook it the same day for optimum sweetness — though refrigeration does slow down the conversion to starch. Buy full, plump ears with fat, filled kernels. Though there will likely be brown on the silks, there should be some pale green "hair" near the tip of the cob. Look for the corn worm at the tip — it's all part of the seasonal experience. Simply cut off that small area on the tip.


If you're planning to boil it, shuck off the green husks. Remove all the thin silk "hairs" running down the cob, though they won't hurt anything. Remove all the thin silk "hairs" running down the cob, though they won't hurt anything. Get a big pot of water boiling (don't add salt here) and add the cleaned cobs. Boil about five minutes — don't overcook! — add butter, salt and pepper.

For grilling, get the grill good and hot. Strip the husk but leave it attached; remove the silks. Season with butter or olive oil, salt and pepper. Cover the cob back up with the husks, tying with a piece of kitchen twine if necessary. Grill, turning to char evenly. That smoky taste will permeate the cob.

If you have leftovers, cut the kernels from the cob lengthwise (tip to stalk end) About four or five passes will strip the cob. Don't get too close to the cob itself, or you will scrape off some tough bits of cob. The kernels freeze beautifully, and will be a welcome addition to winter soups, puddings and corn breads.

Kernel corn is an eminently useful substance. It can easily become a corn chowder — and the ingredients are fluid: a cup or two of kernels, a dash of soy sauce, perhaps a pinch of fresh thyme, a cup of milk (or cream, if you're feeling decadent — cut it with chicken stock if you're not), perhaps some mixed veggies (red bell pepper, celery) or a medium-sized potato, diced. Sautéed onions are always a good idea, as is a teaspoon of sugar to bring out the sweetness, and a dash of salt to take it back. And, of course, pepper. With sweet corn chowder, there must be pepper.

With a little bit of smoky bacon crumbled atop, simple corn



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THE KITCHEN GARDEN

soup becomes the stuff of legend.

Extra kernels can also be added to corn cakes (mix a cup of kernels into any cornbread or even pancake batter). Interestingly, it also blends well with seasonal fruits. At our house, we used this as a summer side dish for several weeks last June/July. We have a Southern Pines Farmers Market taste test and chef Rhett Morris of Rhett's Inc. to thank:

Peach/Sweet Corn Salsa

Combine:

- 4 ears of roasted corn, kernels cut off the cob after cooking
- 4 Sandhills early peaches, chopped
- 1 jalapeño, diced small
- A pinch of cumin
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 8 to 10 sweet yellow cherry tomatoes, cut in quarters

Mix and store in the fridge in a lidded bowl. Good on chips, chicken, fish. **PS**



Jan Leitschuh is a local gardener, avid eater of fresh produce and co-founder of the new Sandhills Farm to Table Cooperative. Visit at

<http://www.SandhillsFarm2Table.com>



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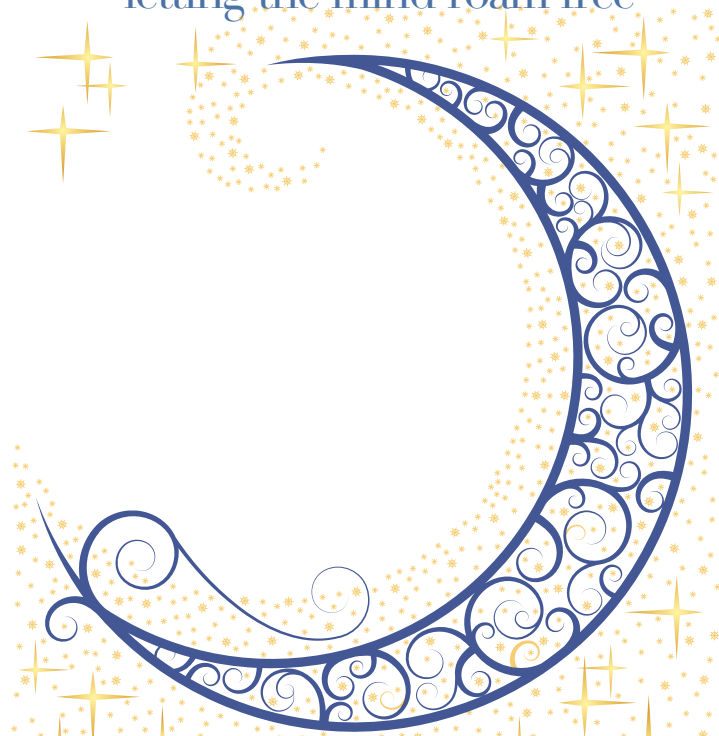
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Day for Night

The art of good sleep sometimes means letting the mind roam free



BY SHERRY NEMMERS

The instant I lie down in bed every night, I can't believe how lucky I am to have a bed, to have this bed, to have these sheets, to have this comfort, to have this whole night in front of me...to have all of that. It's so exciting to me, I can't sleep. I think to myself, I shouldn't get this excited about sleeping; that's no way to approach it.

But secretly, it is. As a child, I was never a good sleeper. I'm still not. So the question became, what was I to do with all that time? At first, I talked, until my older sister fell asleep. That took about five minutes.

One night at my grandfather's house, when I was 10, I wrote a poem in bed, in my head. It was published in *American Girl*.

After that, I realized this sleepless time was mine, all mine. No one could get in there with me. No one could interrupt me, talk, argue, tell me what to do. I could spend hours thinking, imagining, writing stories in my head (maybe scratch on a pad in the dark), musing. Hours of time to myself...with no apologies.

So, every night I lie down and next thing I know, it's time to travel. My own

personal, private world, no trespassing. Dreams, thoughts, problem-solving, joys, soul-searching, idle wanderings and indignations. My mind hops from the summer I was five and almost drowned, to how our dog King saved my life. I feel how much I love animals, remember a dog I helped whose collar made his neck bleed. Feel angry and hope that people who hurt animals will rot in hell, believe and pray there are more who are helping every day.

Leap ahead some years to kissing my first boyfriend, and thinking that my first horse, Chubby, smelled better. Wonder now if I'll re-learn to ride after many years and a bad fall, thinking what an Angelpuss horse I'm learning on now, and how she smells as sweet as Chubby...to thinking how deep and rich Southern Pines smells in spring, thinking of that deep, dark, decadent chocolate cake I want for breakfast with some fresh hot coffee, skip the cereal. (Oh boy, I'm already looking forward to breakfast. There goes the night.)

Between the sheets, between waking and sleeping, between the hours of midnight and 7 a.m. My day for night. PS

Sherry Nemmers is an award-winning writer and advertising consultant who divides her time between New York and the Sandhills.




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it,
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Michelle Bolton Photography

Pine Needle Basketry

From the forest floor to art



Photograph by Hannah Sharpe

BY CLAUDIA WATSON

Nature provided the materials. Grandmother Nina provided the inspiration.

A fifth generation pine needle basket maker, Judy Mallow learned her craft while capping the longleaf pine needles that her grandmother used to create baskets meant to gather eggs or cradle a warm loaf of bread.

Mallow never planned to become a basket maker, but other occupations — beautician and nurse — weren't nearly as satisfying. In despair, she looked to the heavens and called upon her long-departed grandmother for advice.

"I asked her for a sign, something to tell me what I should do. The next thing I know this huge star goes whoosh across the sky," she says. "It was the sign that gave me direction."

A sign so powerful that Mallow resigned her job as a nurse the next morning to pursue her artistic passion.

Today, Mallow, a highly acclaimed master craftsman, is devoted to the preservation of this art form. In addition to teaching pine needle basketry at the John C. Campbell Folk School, she also runs a thriving mail order business out of her Carthage-

based studio tucked in the woods.

Her business, Prim Pines, supports the burgeoning demand of craft enthusiasts and fiber artists throughout the U.S. and Canada.

She supplies basket makers with bundles of longleaf pine needles; agate slices and fossils set in resin; and sliced black walnuts, all commonly used as the decorative centers for baskets and trays.

Shelves are crammed with her work and with colorful waxed linen, nylon sinew, specialty needles and gauges as well as her popular historical and do-it-yourself publications.

Basket motifs are endless. Some are still utilitarian, but many are art forms. Adornments run the gamut from decorative stitching and fascinating coiled rings implanted with found objects to highly-stylized baskets, some painted and even Rit-dyed.

Mallow encourages wannabe basket makers. It's as easy as gathering longleaf pine needles, forming a center and learning to coil the needle clusters around the center, then stitching the coils together.

It's Zen-like work. Your mind is free to wander, she advises, to find its direction and to satisfy your creative urge. **PS**

Contact www.primpines.com for more information.

Claudia Watson is a regular contributor to both The Pilot and PineStraw. She may be reached at cwatson87@nc.rr.com.

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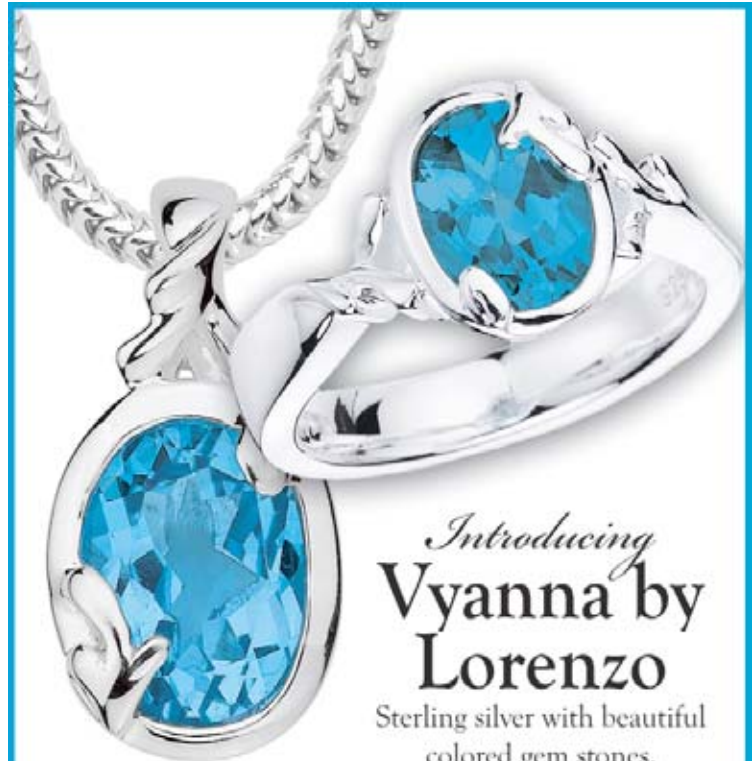
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Nightjars

The vanishing sound of evening

BY SUSAN CAMPBELL

Early summer in the Sandhills is certainly the peak season for bird song: The days are lengthening and over one hundred species can be identified by call or song during the breeding season. Although the vocalizations of our most familiar birds are heard during the day, we have a few nocturnal songsters as well. Mockingbirds, cardinals and robins often can be heard singing before dawn, but there are truly night-active species that advertise their territories as well.

Indeed we have owls throughout the region, but they are widely dispersed and more likely to be heard earlier in the year. The loudest nighttime songsters, without a doubt, are the nightjars. Their raucous nocturnal calls, which begin as soon as they return from wintering in the tropics, are indeed jarring. The two species found here, Chuck-will's-widow and the Whip-poor-will, repeat their names most frequently at dawn and dusk. "Chucks" and "Whips," as birders refer to them, inhabit slightly different woodland habitats. Chucks are associated with dry pine stands or mixed woods whereas Whips are associated with wetter areas such as wooded ponds, bottomlands or seeps.

Both species eat only insects, which they envelop with their huge mouths. They have so perfected flying into their prey that their ability to swallow has been lost. Chucks and Whips rapidly twist and turn as they fly through the trees feeding on abundant large insects such as beetles and moths. Unfortunately they often forage along roads as well, where they are hit by passing cars.

These birds are unlikely to be seen not only due to their noc-



turnal habits but because of their cryptic coloration. Their plumage is a mottled mix of gray, brown and black such that they blend in perfectly with the leaves and low branches where they roost during the day. Nests are a mere scrape on the ground and unless a female is approached within inches, she

will remain motionless and go undetected. The best defense for the eggs and the chicks is camouflage since the parents do not have sharp beaks or talons to ward off predators with.

In addition to the nightjars, we also have nighthawks throughout the area. The Common Nighthawk can actually be seen foraging during daylight hours, especially just before dusk. These birds share a number of characteristics with Chucks and Whips: They are also migrants, obligatory insectivores and cryptically colored. The males combine a buzzing call with shorter wing flaps to produce a booming territorial signal. Otherwise they produce a short nasal "peent" to advertise their presence. Their long, pointed wings with bold white stripes as well as a high bounding flight pattern makes them fairly easy to identify.

Unfortunately, as more wooded areas are developed in the Southeast, fewer nightjars are found each spring. Not only the disappearance of nesting habitat but also the associated increase in ground predators have resulted in dramatic declines of all three of these species. The prevalence of insecticide use is likely having an effect as well. So should you hear a "chuck-wills-widow" or "whip-poor-will" from your front porch as the sun goes down or spot a nighthawk soaring over the tree tops, consider yourself very fortunate. **PS**

Susan would love to receive your wildlife sightings and photos. She can be contacted by e-mail at susan@ncaves.com, by phone at (910) 949-3207 or by mail at 144 Pine Ridge Drive, Whispering Pines, NC 28327.



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Big Fish

At the new Kingfisher Society, it's easy to get hooked on bass fishing



The lodge at the Kingfisher Society

BY TOM BRYANT

Early in my fishing career, like around the ripe old age of 15 or so, I had an experience fishing for bass that has colored all of my fishing since, good or bad. Maybe that's the problem when you come to bat for the first time and hit a grand slam.

I was in Florida spending a few summer weeks with my uncle, Bubba. Now he really wasn't named Bubba. His given name was Homer; but with a moniker like that, I would want to be called Bubba, too. Uncle Bubba owned a restaurant/nightclub right close to the St. Johns River which, in those days, had a world-class reputation for producing giant large-mouth bass. We had fished several times during my visit, catching bass weighing around two to three pounds. My uncle suggested that we catch and release any less than five pounds to let them grow to be "keepers." Now up to that visit, I had hardly ever caught a bass, much less one weighing five pounds or more, so when I brought a two-pounder into the boat, I hated to toss him back. "Don't worry, Tom," my uncle said. "Before you head home, we'll hook you up to some really big ones. I'll see Swede this afternoon. He's been checking out Lake George for me."

Swede was a commercial fisherman, or as my grandmother put it, a river rat. Right on the cusp of the law, Swede didn't always follow

the rules, but he knew the river like the back of his hand; and if he told you where the big ones were, you had better listen.

Swede stopped by the restaurant one evening on his way home from a day on the river. He was in the bar nursing a tall Budweiser and eating a couple of pickled eggs. "Bubba, the bass are schooling at the southern end of Lake George. I've only seen 'em school like this maybe two or three times. They look like a bunch of salt-water blue fish. If I were you, I'd be there at sunup in the morning, then you can show this boy how to fish. There's some big 'uns in the school I saw right before dark. See ya. Good luck." He finished up his beer and headed out the door.

"All right, Tommy. Tomorrow's the day," my uncle said. "We need to be on the river by four in the morning. It's a long run up to Lake George."

Morning was a soft grey with a summer sun poised to light the black river as we motored into the mouth of Lake George. Bubba cut the kicker and we drifted quietly, watching the water for any sign of schooling bass.

"There they are, Tom! See?"

The dark water was churning right off the starboard bow. "Cast right into the center of the school. Hurry! They won't be there long!"

And that's how I hit the "grand slam" of bass fishing. We caught them from five pounds up to seven. Bubba even landed a 10 pounder he later had mounted to hang over the bar of his restaur-



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THE SPORTING LIFE

rant. But you know the problem with catching bass that big and that many at the age of 15? It's hard to come back home and throw a lure into Pinebluff Lake.

From that long-ago trip to Florida until a couple weeks ago, all my bass hunting has been kind of lackadaisical. Ironically, Linda and I had just returned from a Florida trip where I did wet a hook or two, but not for bass. Soon after, I ran into Pat Taylor at the post office. Pat is the advertising director of *The Pilot*; and while we were standing in line, he told me about the Kingfisher Society, located close to Laurel Hill not far from Laurinburg. "It would be a great column," he said.

I told him that I had heard about the lake



earlier and what a fishing paradise it was, and since he had checked it out we should go see for ourselves.

So one beautiful spring afternoon, David Woronoff, the publisher of *PineStraw* magazine and *The Pilot*, Pat Taylor and yours truly made the short trip down to Laurel Hill and Richmond Hill Lake, where we met Jim Morgan, Jr., the fifth generation of his family to own the property.

Jim gave us a brief history of his ancestors and how the Kingfisher Society came into being. Jim's great-great-grandfather, Murdock Morrison, used the lake during the War Between the States as a power source to manufacture rifles for the Confederate Army. Several thousand rifles were built for the Confederacy during the war years. In early 1865, Morrison learned that the infamous General Sherman and his army had crossed the South Carolina border, burning everything in their path. When he heard this, he dismantled his factory, threw all the remaining rifles in the lake; and he and several neighbors retreated to an island in the middle to wait out Sherman. Furious at not finding Morrison, Sherman burned the factory to the ground; and afterward, he found Morrison's home



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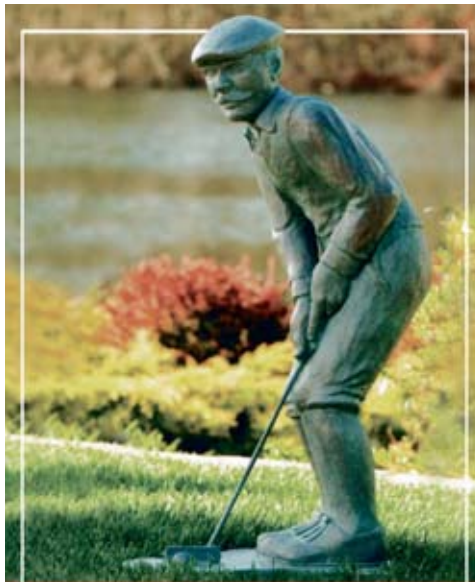
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with his wife and his three small children hiding inside. When the gallant Southern lady refused to cooperate with the Yankee officers and reveal the hiding place of her husband and neighbors, they burned the home, but not before making the lady and her children catch and cook the few remaining chickens on the farm. This story alone endeared me to the Kingfisher Society, as Sherman had ravaged my own family's home place in South Carolina, also torching it and killing all the livestock.

After the war, Morgan's family persevered, got into the textile business and became very successful. Richmond Hill



Lake again became an important part of the family operation.

As in most businesses, there is a time to make it work and a time to bail. Jim Morgan's family did just that and sold their textile enterprise while it was still riding high and before it all went south, pun intended. They kept the plantation, though, and made several wise real estate investments in and around Charlotte. Jim also decided to make Richmond Hill Lake part of the family conglomerate by rebuilding the lake's spillway and dam, remodeling the family lodge and, in general, turning the enterprise into a bass fisherman's heaven.

"We wanted to elevate bass fishing to the status of trout and salmon, and I discovered early in this operation that there are a lot of sportsmen who would rather catch fish than just fish; and if they're catching fish, big fish makes it even better.

"So using that hypothesis, we did the research and hired the right people. Our fish biologist told us the chemistry of the 150-acre lake would be hard put to raise keeper bass, so we decided to do the next best thing and that was to stock the lake with bass from two to five pounds and then feed them like royalty. We have forty feeders, solar powered, scheduled to feed at two in the afternoon and again at nine in the evening. Not only are the bass growing like crazy, but the bluegill are

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also huge. We have guests who come just for the bluegill fishing. But today you're after bass, and when you get out there, you'll see that our efforts have paid off."

Our lunch was served in the lodge with a soft background of jazz played on a grand piano accompanied with a bass fiddle strummed by David Buhler, the general manager of the Kingfisher Society. Our food was catered by Rhett's restaurant from Southern Pines.

"We try to make the experience complete," Jim said, "from the ambience of our surroundings, to the very best food prepared by the finest chefs, customized not to interfere with you and your guests. We also have in the fall quail hunting on our 2000-acre nature preserve; and to sharpen your gunning eye, we have a five-stand sporting clays course. But that's in the fall. This is the spring and I know you guys are itching to go fishing."

Guiding us for the afternoon was none other than Robbie Everett, the son part of that father and son operation in Moore County, the Aberdeen Bait and Tackle Shop. Robbie is an expert bass fisherman with the reputation of catching more 10-pounders than anyone I've ever run across, and he was as taken with the lake as we were. I took notes while David and Pat fished, and soon they were hauling in bass weighing from four to seven-and-a-half pounds. In about four hours, they had caught and released over 20, missing about as many more. As we motored back to the lodge, enjoying a beautiful Sandhills sunset, they both were in agreement that they would be back.

We pulled up to the dock and went into the lodge for a beer and cigar for those discerning tobacconists. David and Pat were talking to Jim and David Buhler, the bass player and manager, about our great afternoon. I remembered a quote framed in the hallway next to the grand piano, and while they were conversing, I took the opportunity to record it. It could be the mission statement of the Kingfisher Society.

"A master in the art of living draws no sharp line of distinction between his work and his play; he simply pursues his vision of excellence through whatever he is doing and leaves others to determine whether he is working or playing. To himself he always appears to be doing both."

— Francois August Rene de Chateaubriand

PS



Tom Bryant is a lifelong outdoorsman and PineStraw's Sporting Life columnist.



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Practice, Practice

The grass is always greener on Maniac Hill



Photo From The Tufts Archives, Pinehurst, NC

BY LEE PACE

The ground is beaten, bludgeoned, sliced and diced. Divots morph into craters. Blades of grass pray for their lives, only to be thwacked with a 6-iron at daybreak. Water and sun and fertilizer only go so far. This is Pinehurst, and the math doesn't work — high demand by golfers and limited acreage for hitting balls. Talk about deficits.

"Millions. It's got to be well into the millions."

Paul Jett is standing on the back of the Pinehurst practice tee, the vast expanse named "Maniac Hill" back in the old North and South Open days because of the fervor with which golfers beat balls on the nation's first and finest dedicated practice area. Jett, the superintendent in charge of Pinehurst No. 2 as well as the practice areas, is wondering how many balls are hit here each year.

"Figure we do 150 to 160 thousand rounds a year out of five courses at the main clubhouse, and each golfer hits 30 balls," he says. "That doesn't count people practicing or the golf schools."

Those calculations put the number at well over half a million.

Chad Campbell, Pinehurst's director of golf, has some figures of his own. The maintenance building, tucked amid a covey of trees below and to the left of the main hitting area, houses eight 44-gal-

lon barrels filled with balls.

"And the barrels are industrial strength," Campbell notes. "If they're not, the handles will break."

Each barrel holds eight cases of Titleist Pinnacle balls. A case comprises 24 dozen. Campbell works the numbers on his hand-held PDA.

"Eighteen thousand, four hundred and thirty-two golf balls at any given time," he says. "We have two pickers running all day during high season just to keep up. We have a specially made loading platform so that the guys don't have to lift the barrels of balls off the carts. The balls are pre-soaked, washed and the machine spits them out. They're ready to go back out."

Surely Donald Ross never dreamed his modest 1913 experiment would evolve into such a production. Pinehurst had three golf courses open by 1910 but no dedicated practice facility. Early lessons were conducted in the Scottish style of the teacher accompanying the student onto the golf course. But in the spring and summer of 1913, Ross allocated the ground covered by the first, second and 18th holes of Pinehurst No. 1 exclusively for practice and built new holes farther southward from the clubhouse.

The concept of practice was slow to evolve, as Richard Tufts, grandson of the resort founder, once observed: "I always thought it very strange that Walter Travis persisted in practicing chip shots, putting and even full shots when a vacant fairway was available. Why should he, of all golfers, need to waste time practicing?"

But consider the incubator that Pinehurst provided golfers — both pros and amateurs — in the early 20th century. The North and South Open was one of the premier competitions in pro golf at the time, and players the ilk of Tommy Armour, Walter Hagen, Horton Smith, Paul

Runyan and Henry Picard relished having this ample laboratory to practice, share swing tips and ideas and experiment with the several dozen clubs allowed in their bags before the 14-club limit took effect. Armour said that Maniac Hill was to golf “what Kitty Hawk was to flying.” The pros also had hundreds of “pigeons” fluttering about — club members or resort guests anxious to take lessons and improve their own ability.

“The lessons had to be good,” historian and author Herb Graffis once noted. “If they didn’t pay off for the amateur during the daily competitions at Pinehurst, there was a quick switch of teachers.”

Ross’ early course designs never accounted for practice grounds, but Graffis said Ross

How many stories have you heard about Walter Hagen and Jimmy Demaret showing up on the first tee after partying all night? The pros back then went from the golf course to the bar.

told him years later that after the success of the Pinehurst practice tee, he first started accounting for practice areas in all of his courses beginning in 1914. Still, they were largely afterthoughts—practice tees were never considered destinations in and of themselves.

Tom Fazio entered the golf design and construction business under the tutelage of his uncle, tour pro George Fazio, in the early 1960s and remembers the landscape for golf practice.

“Every good player had a shag bag in the trunk of his car and his caddie would stand in the distance with the bag,” Fazio says. “The caddie opened the bag up and caught the ball on one bounce. You only needed a very small area. Back in the day, only the good players practiced, and some of them didn’t practice much. If they did practice, it was on the golf course. How many stories have you heard about Walter Hagen and Jimmy Demaret showing up on the first tee after partying all night? The pros back then went from the golf course to the bar.



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“Today professional golf has evolved so that there is so much money and so much good competition, a work ethic has taken over. Today they sign their scorecards and go to the fitness trailer or back to the practice tee.”

The importance of the practice environment today is underlined in the fact that over the last decade, Pinehurst has re-sculpted the hitting area with target greens, lengthened the depth of the range by 50 yards, built a state-of-the-art teaching facility and eliminated the practice of distributing balls via tokens or bags in favor of leaving them free for the taking by members and resort guests at each hitting station. The club installed all-weather mats at the top the hitting area several years ago that are used during the winter and to take wear and tear off the hitting turf at other times of the year.

“The all-weather stations give us 30 percent more life with the turf,” says Bob Farren, Pinehurst’s director of grounds and golf course maintenance.

“Some people say the mats are a less-than-ideal experience, but I’d say hitting off thin rye grass and dirt is a less-than-ideal experience as well,” Jett adds.

The thin rye and dirt are the reasons that Jett on this April afternoon is supervising major surgery on the west-side hitting area that runs some 90 yards across. When the weather turns cool in October, golfers are still pounding the turf, but it’s too chilly to generate new Bermuda. Then it turns cold in December and there’s never enough time to develop a reasonable thatch of winter rye — which isn’t even a good practice turf to begin with. After the miserable winter of 2010, March dawned with hardly a healthy blade of grass on the practice ground. So Pinehurst officials summoned Sandhill Turf Inc. — the first of six truckloads of sod arriving at 7:30 that morning. Workers would lay some 55,000 square feet of Patriot Bermuda covering 1.5 acres by the end of the day.

“A football field gets beat up in the fall just like we do,” Farren says. “But then they have until August to grow back. We have to be ready in the spring. The practice facility is the first impression for many people. It’s important for guests to have a good experience when they hit balls.”

Indeed, the resort has 18,432 reasons to have a nice stand of grass on Maniac Hill.

PS



Lee Pace, author of “Pinehurst Stories,” is an award-winning sportswriter and a longtime resident of Chapel Hill.

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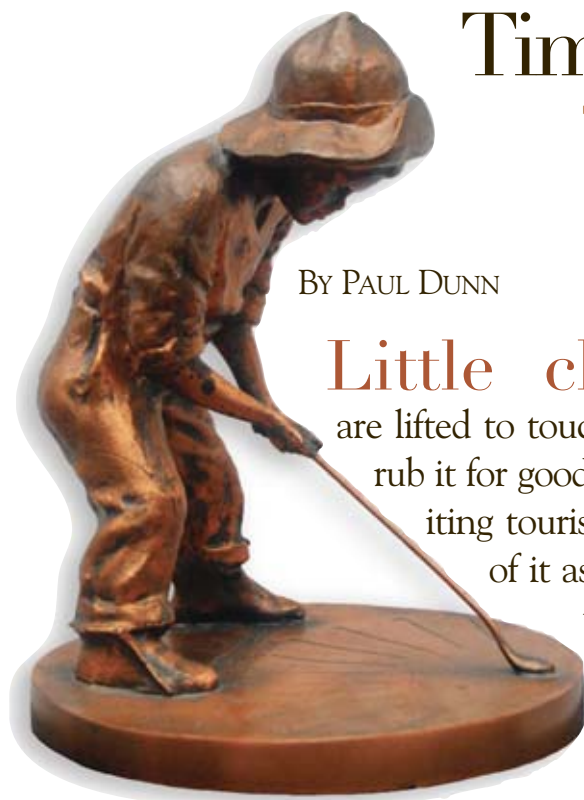
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Timeless As The Sandhills Sun

The story behind the beloved bronze Putter Boy



BY PAUL DUNN

Little children

are lifted to touch it, members rub it for good luck, and visiting tourists take photos of it as a keepsake of their time in Pinehurst. It is the “Putter Boy” sundial statue, located by

the practice green at the club. Originally it was known as the “Sundial Boy” or the “Sundial Golf Lad.” In Gorham Company catalogs the piece was sometimes referred to as a bronze “Caddy” sundial.

The artist, Mrs. Lucy P. Currier Richards, created the statue on commission from Leonard Tufts, whose wife was a friend of the artist. The arrangements for the creation of the statue may have been completed when Lucy Richards visited the Tufts at their “quaint log cabin” in 1911, as reported by *The Outlook* newspaper.

Lucy P. Currier was born on April 21, 1870, to John Merrill and Sarah E.W. Cole Currier of Lawrence, Massachusetts. She enrolled at the Boston Museum School in September of 1892, and married Herbert W. Richards in North Andover, Massachusetts on June 7, 1895. She also studied with Kops in Dresden, Enstritz in Berlin and the Académie Julian of Paris in the era when Thomas Hart Benton, Henri Matisse, Diego Rivera and Edward Steichen also attended.

She was a member of the Copley Society of Boston, The Guild of Boston Artists, National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors, and the MacDowell Club of New York City. Four of her works were shown at the 1912 Chicago Art Institute Exhibition. She also exhibited at the 1915 Panama – Pacific Exhibition in San Francisco.

Lucy died August 31, 1919. She was buried at Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts, a national landmark. On July 30, 1947, her remains were moved to the Main Street Cemetery in Belfast, Maine, where she is buried next to her second husband, Frank Wilson.

In the 1920s the Tufts of Pinehurst were often contacted by people interested in having copies made of the piece for their private collections or for their golf clubs. All were referred to the Gorham Company of Fifth Avenue, New York City. In these

letters the statue was called “The Golf Boy.” A 1925 letter from Leonard Tufts to A.C. Scott of Omaha, Nebraska, reads: “Lucy Richards died a few years ago. Mr. Frank P. Wilson married Mrs. Richards not long before she died and in a letter from the Gorham Company fairly recently in connection with a bird bath of Mrs. Richards, designing which I was endeavoring to get, they tell me that Mr. Wilson says he would only be interested in having further reproductions of the Golf Boy and a couple of other pieces.”

The Gorham Company no longer exists and its artistic properties are owned by the Lenox Company. Its catalog of 1928 describes the statue as “Pinehurst Sundial by Lucy Richards, PC. This piece takes its name from the original placed at Pinehurst in 1912. Gnomons [the extended piece of a sundial that reveals the time by the position of its shadow] have been made in many forms, but the golf club in the hands of the caddy seems a new and ingenious way to assist the sun in telling time. Athletically speaking, the youngster’s stance is all it should be, and Mrs. Richards’ sundial forms a notable addition to the growing collection of pieces intended especially for garden adornment. The statue is 17 ½ inches high and is finished in brown patina.”

The genesis for the design came directly from the famed “Pinehurst’s Golf Calendar Lad,” who appeared on calendars sent annually to hotel guests. It was also used in newspaper and magazine advertisements, and on hotel menus. Tufts’ advertising man, Frank Presbrey of Garden City, New York, commissioned an artist to illustrate the boy, who soon became the well-known symbol for the Pinehurst Resort. Presbrey was America’s foremost promoter of the travel industry. He developed *Boy’s Life* magazine and was awarded the Boy Scout’s highest award, the Silver Buffalo.

According to *Pilot* writer, the late Evelyn de Nissoff, “Donald Ross was asked to show Lucy Richards how to grip a club and the proper stance to be taken when addressing the ball. The sun on the shaft created the shadow to indicate the time of day. To obtain the correct vertical angle Mrs. Richards was compelled to make the shaft improperly long — a matter of considerable concern to golf purist Donald Ross.” De Nissoff asked, “How can golfers use the “Putter Boy” title when it is plain to see that the Pinehurst Golf Lad is holding a driver?”

Her question remains beguilingly unanswered, yet the Pinehurst Putter Boy has gone on to worldwide fame. The club sells pewter and porcelain Putter Boy replicas, and awards a silver version to winners of various club events. Winners and runners-up in the North & South Amateur Championship are awarded a copper version. Collectors will pay upwards of \$300 for one in excellent condition.[PS](#)

Pinehurst resident Paul Dunn is co-author of “Great Donald Courses You Can Play.”



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June 2010

Fragility

There were too many eggs to eat, and
already too many chickens to keep them
and let them hatch. I was eleven, maybe ten.

We followed her through the creaky gate
swinging tin pails back and
forth, the way that
children do.

Cautious of snakes, we meekly reached
into hay-lined holes, as warm
as a mother's breath, and
collected all that they contained.

"Even chickens like chicken," she said
as we threw the fragile ovals
and watched their yellow goo splatter
in the dirt
in the pasture.

I thought it cruel to watch
as they pecked and gobbled
up their own — but I still threw
until one thumped to reveal
the gray and blue lump
it once concealed.

"Don't throw anymore," she said
as we rushed over
to see it, to see through its
translucent skin —
to see what we had done.

And I could hear the goats and sheep
bleat, but all I could see
was a fast-beating heart, fading
like an evening
like a whisper
like a firefly trapped
in a jar.

-Ashley Wahl

Chuck Lunney Visual Art

NOT ONLY DOES PINESTRAW MAGAZINE CHERISH THE EVER-RICH COMMUNITY OF ARTISTS IN THE SANDHILLS, IT DEPENDS ON IT. THIS YEAR'S THIRD ANNUAL PINEY AWARDS RECOGNIZE A PROLIFICALLY TALENTED TRIO: A VISUAL ARTIST WHOSE VISION CAME TO BE, AN ANIMATING ACTING TEACHER WHO CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF HER ART, AND A MAN WHOSE MUSICAL ABILITIES HAVE LED HIM TO NEW AUDIENCES.

IN A LEAGUE OF HIS OWN MAKING

Many folks know Chuck Lunney as the guy who flew his B-29 under the Golden Gate Bridge on a dare 60-some odd years ago after his valiant service as a pilot in the 20th Army Air Corps. He's also the guy who, with the help of his buddy Mike, founded the Artists League of the Sandhills (ALS).

An artist all of his life, not to mention a businessman and advertising expert, Chuck and his bride Tish settled down in the Pines to retire in 1982. Itching to find a place where he could challenge himself artistically in the company of other artists, Chuck decided that the Sandhills area needed something that did not yet exist — some kind of artist's Mecca. Being the persistent fellow that he is, word soon spread of his idea.

Shortly thereafter, during an art show at the Campbell House Galleries, a man by the name of Mike D'Andrea approached Chuck, curious to know more about the art school he envisioned for the community.

"I want it to be more than art school," Chuck said to Mike, who — an artist himself — instantly offered to help in any way possible.

Chuck said he'd ring him when he found a building.

In 1994, after six years of searching for a place to call "Artists League," Chuck came to Aberdeen to speak with the town manager about an old, abandoned warehouse that had

been given to the town.

"I didn't think it was going to work," he says of the place that needed — and this is a euphemism — some major cleaning up. But when the town manager asked if a dollar a year rent would be too much, Chuck's perception of the broken windows, blackened walls and wobbly barn doors quickly changed.

"It's beautiful! Perfect! Just what I was looking for," he remembers saying, realizing that this was perhaps his only chance to fulfill his dream. Chuck phoned Mike, asking him to bring mops and paintbrushes, and the duo rolled up their sleeves and got to work.

When the building was suitable, the co-founders began looking for fellow artists, and were able to open the Artists League in October with only 18 members. A year later, membership was up to 50.

Today ALS has more than 200 members, offering 35 private studios and various classes and workshops taught by highly qualified instructors throughout the year, in addition to monthly shows open to the public. It's safe to say that Chuck Lunney's dream has come to be.

When Chuck sits in his studio, the easel holding a work still wet with paint, it's hard to imagine his beautiful reality — surrounded by watercolor landscapes, sketches and portraits, and a building-full of other creative muses happy at work — being anything but.



CHUCK

Artists League

of the Sandhills



Judy
Osborne
Performance Art

STAGING GREATNESS

To see one of Union Pines High School's theatrical performances, you'd think director Judy Osborne had a secret. Judy begs to differ. "There's no magic involved," she claims. "The kids have just got to be seen and heard and understood. Anybody can do that. My only secret is that we work really hard."

When Judy and her husband moved to the area two decades ago, Union Pines High School's drama department was nonexistent. In fact, as Judy now jokes, the school couldn't even pay people to come to their shows for the first few years. But with a lot of hard work (and with the cooperation of her passionate students), Judy has created an award-winning program that she — and the community — can be proud of.

"It's my baby," she confesses, admitting that she's spent so much time in the school's theater facility over the years that her two children, who are now pursuing college degrees of their own, often referred to it as the "living room." Her oldest, Nate, is studying music at Appalachian State, while Meghan, a talented actress and dancer, has just completed her freshman year at Judy's alma mater, East Carolina University.

Judy was introduced to the theater by her parents as a youngster, but it was the classes she took in high school that really got her hooked on drama. So much so, in fact, that she even spent her summers working in a local summer stock theater company in Wilmington. When it came time to talk tuition with her parents, Judy and her dad shook on a deal — she could major in theater under the condition that she receive an education degree. Boy, was that fine with her.

"I kind of always knew I wanted to be a teacher," says the East Carolina graduate dubbed "Teacher of the Year" two times by fellow colleagues throughout her career at Union Pines. In 2009, Judy was also honored with North Carolina State University's "Inspirational Teacher Award." But it's not necessary to look at Judy's resume to know what a talent she is. The theater's interpretation of "The Wizard of Oz" this past March (and the beaming faces of the young actors and actresses during a standing ovation) told all.

UP Stage, as the program has been cleverly punned, has attended the North Carolina High School Play Festival every year, placing first in 2005 and again making it to the state finals in 2009. This year, for the third consecutive time, one of Judy's students was selected to attend the English Speaking Union's National Shakespeare Competition at Lincoln Center in New York. While in the Big Apple for the 2010 event, Judy had the pleasure of visiting two former students, one of whom is now working as a producer.

When this school year ends, thanks to the Constance Welsh Scholarship from NCTC for graduate studies in theater education she was recently awarded, Judy will be busy with her third summer of graduate studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Judy believes she speaks for all teachers of the arts when she says, "We go into it first because we love being with the kids, and second because we love our art. I get as much from teaching as the kids do, if not more."

Paul Murphy

Musical Art

THE HIGHER POWER OF MUSIC

Some people are born with incredible gifts — we believe Paul Murphy is one of them.

S At the age of three or four, while his father gave piano lessons inside their Georgia home, little Paul sat quietly by, absorbing every note.

“When they’d leave,” he says, interrupting his mellifluous voice with a soft chuckle, “I’m told I’d actually get up and play what they played.”

Paul picked up the clarinet at 10 when his family made Moore County home. He began mastering virtually all things woodwind, brass, percussion and string — and how to brilliantly arrange them into compositions — ever since.

After receiving his B.A. in music theory and composition from UNC-Chapel Hill and serving three years in the Army, Paul entered a piano and clarinet rhapsody he arranged into a South East Composer’s League contest. When the piece placed first, Paul was given the opportunity to return to school to pursue an advanced degree in music composition. In the midst of his graduate studies at Duke, however, something he never quite saw coming altered his plans.

“I was in the middle of composing,” says Paul, an air of wonder in his voice, “when I was called into the ministry.”

For Paul, there was no other answer for why he was “compelled to place ‘this’ note in ‘that’ place, at ‘this’ dynamic level and for ‘that’ length.” A higher power was at work.

When he was accepted into Duke’s Divinity School shortly thereafter, Paul made the move from East campus to West campus, devoting his career to using his musical experiences as an instrument of faith.

Paul is currently vice principal at Sandhills Renaissance School (STARS) in Vass and Pastor of Franklin Chapel AME Zion Church in Laurinburg.

When his schedule permits, Paul treasures time spent playing his clarinet or tenor sax with his dad at the Pinehurst Resort, namely for their conversations between sets. Ditto for creating and recording music with his singing bride, Sharon.

Paul’s played piano alongside Tony Bennett, had casual conversation with George Winston and, while playing clarinet in the 82nd Airborne Division Band, opened for legendary performers Lou Rawls and Carl Anderson — indeed musical moments that a less humble man might boast about. This past March, during the inaugural Palustris Festival of Arts, he was able to perform on the stage of STARS with one of his favorite composers — his 10-year-old son, Greene. Together, the duo performed a Greene original, a talent Paul just recently learned that the youngster possessed after a phone call from his and Sharon’s three older children while Greene was visiting their in-home studio during the holidays.

Kent, Drake and Anna have their own production company, “Dark Matter,” in Georgia and work primarily out of Atlanta. When their kid brother used their equipment to record his first composition, the trio was blown away and immediately phoned home. The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.

Paul became vice principal of STARS two years ago. There, not only is Paul able to see the faces of Sharon (teacher) and Greene (student) daily, but he also gets to use his gift of music to help the children grasp concepts in the classroom, whether arithmetic or literature.

“I have the most incredible experiences with Principal Sue Kemple,” Paul says of the Renaissance School, which infuses arts integration into the curriculum. “We discuss our visions of the school’s philosophy, and each day we have a wonderful look at the big picture.” **PS**

The 2010 Piney Awards Luncheon

PineStraw Magazine will honor recipients of the 2010 Annual Piney Awards at a special Awards Luncheon to be held at the Mid Pines Hotel Ballroom at 12 noon on Wednesday, June 23. We hope you’ll consider joining us to recognize the achievements of these special individuals and show your support for the growing arts life of the Sandhills. Your \$25 (per person) includes an outstanding lunch with sparkling entertainment and a chance to meet our recipients. A portion of your tax-deductible fee directly benefits the Arts Council of Moore County. Seating limited. Please call Megan Shore for reservations at 693-2496.

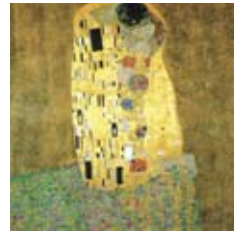


Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

The students in Denise Baker's 3-D design class at Sandhills Community College were asked to help several of the world's greatest visual artists find their place (setting) in the world. Can't wait to see the main course...

PHOTOGRAPHY BY FRANK PIERCE

Gustav Klimt by Cole Warren



Gustav Klimt (July 14, 1862 – February 6, 1918) was an Austrian Symbolist painter and one of the most prominent members of the Vienna Secession movement. His major works include paintings, murals

sketches, and other art objects. Klimt's primary subject was the female body, and his works are marked by a frank eroticism—nowhere is this more apparent than in his numerous drawings in pencil.

Christo by Ines Ritter



Christo (born Christo Vladimirov Javacheff, June 13, 1935) and Jeanne-Claude (born Jeanne-Claude Denat de Guillebon, June 13, 1935 – November 18, 2009) were a married couple who created environmental works of art. Their works include the wrapping of the Reichstag in Berlin and the Pont-Neuf bridge in Paris, the 24-mile-long artwork called Running Fence in Sonoma and Marin counties in California, and The Gates in New York City's Central Park.



Grandma Moses by James Loftin



Anna Mary Robertson Moses (September 7, 1860 – December 13, 1961), better known as "Grandma Moses," was a renowned American folk artist. She is most often

cited as an example of an individual successfully beginning a career in the arts at an advanced age. Moses had ten children, but five died at birth.



Alphonse Mucha by Jessica Braun



Alphonse Maria Mucha, first name from the Czech Alfons (July 24, 1860 – July 14, 1939), was a Czech Art Nouveau painter and decorative artist, best known for his distinct style and his images of women. He produced many paintings, illustrations, advertisements, and designs.

Dale Chihuly by Leslie McDowell



Dale Chihuly (born September 20, 1941 in Tacoma, Washington) is an American glass sculptor and entrepreneur.



John Singer Sargent by Stephanie Oldham



John Singer Sargent (January 12, 1856 – April 14, 1925) was an American painter, and a leading portrait painter of his era. During his career, he created roughly 900 oil paintings and more than 2,000 watercolors, as well as countless sketches and charcoal drawings. His work documents worldwide travel, from Venice to the Tyrol, Corfu, the Middle East, Montana, Maine, and Florida.



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner



Andy Warhol by Samantha Bolton



Andrew Warhola (August 6, 1928 – February 22, 1987), known as Andy Warhol, was an American painter, printmaker, and filmmaker who was a leading figure in the visual art movement known as pop art.

Edgar Degas by Melissa Musser



Edgar Degas (July 19, 1834 – September 27, 1917), born Hilaire-Germain-Edgar De Gas, was a French artist famous for his work in painting, sculpture, printmaking and drawing. He is regarded as one of the founders of Impressionism, although he rejected the term and preferred to be called a realist.



Wassily Kandinsky by Lea Montasanti



Wassily Wassilyevich Kandinsky (December 4, 1866 – December 13, 1944) was a Russian painter and art theorist. He is credited with painting the first modern abstract works.



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner



Max Ernst
by Jessica Tiben



Max Ernst (April 2, 1891 - April 1, 1976) was a German painter, sculptor, graphic artist, and poet. A prolific artist, Ernst is considered to be one of the primary pioneers of the Dada movement and Surrealism.

MC Escher
by Sue Southard



Maurits Cornelis Escher (June 17, 1898 - March 27, 1972), usually referred to as M.C. Escher, was a Dutch graphic artist. He is known for his often mathematically

inspired woodcuts, lithographs, and mezzotints. These feature impossible constructions, explorations of infinity, architecture, and tessellations.



Salvador Dali
by Beth Harpster



Salvador Domingo Felipe Jacinto Dalí i Domènech, 1st Marquis of Púbol (May 11, 1904 - January 23, 1989) was a prominent Spanish Catalan Surrealist painter born in Figueres.

Dalí was a skilled draftsman, best known for the striking and bizarre images in his Surrealist work. His painterly skills are often attributed to the influence of Renaissance masters.





Rooms with a Viewpoint

An artist's sweet little truffle on Ashe Street

BY DEBORAH SALOMON

PHOTOGRAPHS BY GLENN DICKERSON

Sherry Samkus doesn't mind calling her décor style "matchy-matchy" since every color, every fabric, every ornament and stick of furniture weaves a perfect whole. Not one square inch of the beyond-charming cottage and walled garden in Southern Pines village is wasted — or dull. She even drapes fanciful — and wearable — jeans, her trademark, over the stair rail.

"I'm a Martha Stewart freak," Sherry admits, "with a passion for organization."

The marvel is how Sherry herself matches the surroundings: diminutive, fashionable, impish, quirky, well-preserved and full of surprises.

Maybe because she's a multi-media artist specializing in pet portraits. Maybe because she's survived adversity. Maybe because she's clever — and oozes attitude.

"Sherry can do anything she wants," says friend and fellow Southern Pines artist Meridith Martens. "She stages a house well. Her specialty is pulling elements together — every corner



has a little piece of art.”

In plain language, this gal is a piece of work.

The work commenced in Illinois a half-century ago when a shy, quiet child from a creative family holed up in her room with her pets to invent stories and draw pretty pictures.

That home was the comfortable cottage desired by every family in the 1950s, with the exception of custom features installed by Sherry’s woodworking father, Al Dunham.

Dunham can build, fix or remodel anything. Without Dad, McDreamy Sherry’s house might have languished.

Sherry married young, during the Vietnam era. Her husband was a military man with similar skills. The first nest they feathered together was a GI bungalow.

For 30 years the couple and their children lived in many houses in six states. The last, before her divorce, was a three-story Southern mansion in Atlanta where life buzzed with tennis, social events and decorating orgies.

“I thought I was in Tara,” Sherry smirks.

But, like Scarlett, Sherry fell on hard times. With her children almost grown the now-single mom moved to a log cabin in the North Georgia mountains which, of course, she made adorable.

“I loved it there — life embraced me. My animals thrived.”

To stay afloat financially the Jill-of-many-talents worked at Home Depot in the paint and decorating department. Rather than considering her job a demotion, the former tennis mom took advantage of the learning experience.

Then, one Christmas, Sherry visited her parents, who had retired in Pinehurst.

“On the way home I said, ‘I think I’d like to live in Southern





Above: A clean and coordinated living room. Below: Sherry's kitschy kitchen.





What's old is new: Nothing ever goes to waste in the artist's world, as her kitchen sitting room proves.

Pines.' It was pretty and arty..."

Her father enjoined the project.

Sherry looked at real estate ads; her parents followed leads. Nothing suited. Then, on the way to the airport she saw a picture of the storybook cottage built in the 1920s on Ashe Street.

"I kept staring...I couldn't get it out of my mind," Sherry recalls.

After she left, Al and Polly Dunham reconnoitered.

"They told me 'It's a doll house.'"

Now, Al admits, "Some things were a disaster."

But it had a basement, beautiful strip hardwood floors, a remodeled kitchen, ample lot and, most important, character.

Sherry returned in February. "My mind went click, click. So did my dad's. The house felt warm, cozy, not too big but big enough for my German shepherd and three cats. And, my furniture would fit."

While she was deciding, a snowstorm blanketed Moore County — a good omen, Sherry believed.

She moved up from Georgia in April 2000.

"I hit the ground running — but as a working artist I had to earn a living immediately."

With Home Depot on her résumé she found employment at Pinehurst Hardware. Spare time went to making the house hers.

With Al Dunham as her craftsman, this piece of work was a piece of cake. Always close, father and daughter reconnected over the project.





An artsy attic: Sherry's upstairs studio



“We did it one room at a time,” Dunham recalls. Sherry planned, he executed.

“I’d tell my dad we needed a bench or something to fit in a corner and he’d make it.” She points to the living room entertainment center, her work table, cabinets, beadboard wainscoting, crown moldings, flooring, railings and banisters. He wallpapered the blue-and-white, faintly nautical kitchen with a ticking pattern, installed lighting, screened windows, constructed a dining deck facing the garden — and marveled at patterned tin ceilings original to the house.

Neither words nor pictures capture a residence that is the sum of myriad details. This space begs a catalog to explain her husband’s tattered jean jacket hanging from a clothesline in the breakfast room, which mimics the painting hanging behind it. Sherry got the idea in the middle of the night, while working on a portrait. Or the 3-D bird feet curling over the frame of a crow painting in the dining room, where the ivy wallpaper matches the ivy-patterned bone china. Beyond faux, beyond trompe l’oeil are giraffe spots applied to her clawfoot tub, toilet seat and ceiling fan in an upstairs bathroom.

The entire second floor has an intimate attic atmosphere suited to Sherry’s bedroom, a Laura-Ashley-slept-here boudoir and bath for guests and her granddaughter plus a studio that, although smallish, encompasses a built-in daybed and clever storage space.

Each room expresses a different theme — yet they relate. The woody den with snowshoe lamps could be lifted from a

hunting lodge. The screened front porch is sassy in red, white and black painted wicker.

This lady loves taupe, the sophisticated hue used for living room walls and upholstery, which set off black-framed black-and-white photos of Clark Gable driving a convertible, family snapshots, post-art deco artifacts like a Brownie box camera, Remington typewriter, retro radio and Bakelite rotary phone.

As for the old-timey interior screen doors, their purpose is to separate pets without excluding them.

Smart.

Sherry's garden is a whimsical wonderland. She trains and snips ivy brought from Georgia into shapes and patterns. Parsley grows under a birdcage. Twigs are bent to form an auto tire-sized nest holding dinosaur eggs. Birds flit from feeder to feeder. A tiny house by the back door belongs to the yard cat who wants cheese on his kibble.

And in the center stands indomitable, effervescent Sherry Samkus in skinny jeans and 4-inch platform heels, chattering happily about the high-school crush she reconnected with recently, their relationship — and her matchy-matchy house.

"Living downtown was a little horrifying coming from my nest in Georgia," Sherry says. "Now I can hear the train again."

She has bonded with horse people and made friends in the arts community. Her home showcases her taste and talents, which gallop in many directions.

"This house took care of me so I take care of it. Now I'm pretty much done," she says.



*Above: An African themed bath.
Below: Pure early American cabin.*





Geranium (pink) • Torenia (blue & yellow) • Pineapple Coleus (bright green)



Cilantro (top) • Marigolds (center) • Tricolor Sedum (bottom)



Heliotrope (purple) • Straw Flowers (yellow) • Henna Coleus (maroon & green) • Creeping Jenny (bright green trailing)



Calibrachoa (pink & yellow) • Geranium (red) • Vinca Illumination (green vine)



Verbena (red & purple) • Licorice Plant (green) • Fountain Grass (red) • Penta (red)



Euphorbia (white) • Angelonia (purple) • Verbena (red) • Nicotiana (red)



BY NOAH SALT • PHOTOGRAPHS BY HANNAH SHARPE

The Plant Diva

On a recent warmly flaring afternoon, we discover the Plant Diva on her knees inside the walled terrace of a lovely house just off the Pinehurst No. 6 golf course. She is planting dragon wing begonias in a large stone pot, surrounded by various other pots containing beautiful blends and exotic combinations of ornamental flowers and shrubs.

“I love to start out with a general idea of what I’m trying to create,” explains Linda Hamwi, “but I always remain open to the idea of trying something new, a different combination of things that can often produce a spectacular effect. Container gardening lets you try all sorts of things in the most interesting sorts of ways. It’s really only as limited as your imagination.”

As she says this, Linda energetically pops up and crosses the terrace to a large earthen pot where Henna coleus is interwoven with decorative pepper plant, Upright Verbena, and Creeping Jenny to spectacular effect.

“You see?” she says. “It’s quite dramatic, don’t you think? It has what I call great fillers, spillers and thrillers — meaning some grow upright and are showy, others fill out and fill in with

their blooms, and still others spill their beauty outside the pot. You’re always looking for plants that will complement each other. Come summer, this one will just explode with blooms.”

Linda knows a thing or two about exploding blooms — not to mention making a business from the art of gardening in pots.

The Wisconsin native, 57, and her husband, John, came to Pinehurst nine years ago from Aspen, Colorado, after he closed their family restaurant and announced that he hoped to spend the rest of his days playing golf. Linda loved golf, too. “In fact,” she relates with an impish smile, “we were married between nines on a golf course in Denver. We had the minister waiting at the turn, the flowers and champagne ready to go. We said our vows, made a toast, and played the back nine together.”

For a long time golf remained central to their new retired life at Quail Hill condos off West McKenzie in Pinehurst. But Linda’s love of growing beautiful container plants — a legacy of her teenage years living on her family’s small farm outside Milwaukee — eventually exerted itself big time and prompted her to cover her deck and patio with potted flora of every variety and type.

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Three years ago, she completed Taylor Williams' demanding but popular Master Gardener Program at the Moore County Agricultural Extension office and soon found herself working on the agency's plant hotline two days a week, answering questions and running down solutions to area gardening problems.

"You think you know a lot about plants once you've earned your Master Gardener certification," she allows with the same impish grin. "But work that hotline for a week and you realize how little you actually know — and how much there always is to learn about plants. You can never get to the end of it, there's always something new to learn, and that's the basic charm of any kind of gardening."

Linda's particular passion and expertise, not surprisingly, was container gardening — a "garden without a garden," as she playfully describes it. She soon found herself giving instructional talks on the subject in various parts of the county, in response to garden clubs and groups eager to learn more about a garden specialty that horticultural trend-watchers says is rapidly on the increase. This is due to a variety of influences ranging from more environmentally-friendly practices that preserve water and soil to the allure and efficiency of maintaining a smaller garden that has the versatility of changing every four to six months.

In more ways than one, Linda's timing couldn't have been better. At a time when many early retirees suddenly felt the pinch of the economic slump and opted to get back into the working world, Paul and Linda pursued income streams in the direction of their favorite outdoor passions. Paul began working part time at Robert's Golf and Linda decided to hang her own shingle, so to speak, as the Plant Diva — specializing in custom container plantings. She began by simply printing a flier and posting it around town as several popular gathering spots.

"The response was lovely and surprising," she admits, "confirming my impression from my talks that people are really hungry for knowledge about container gardening. My phone began almost instantly ringing with people who'd either heard about the service I was offering or simply wanted my advice."

As her thriving business developed — the Plant Diva is booked several weeks in advance but always eager and able to work in new clients — Linda began by offering prospective clients a one-hour free consultation, assessing their particular needs and tastes in flowers, not to mention gauging their ability and interest level in maintaining a container garden.

"I always like to go to the client's site and look over everything in close detail," she explains. "Every space is different. It's vital to know how the sun reaches a terrace or patio and what kind of growing conditions are available. Some clients love to get their hands dirty while others have no interest in even dead-heading plants. These are crucial things to know. All gardens require some level of maintenance, and it's important to find plants with colors and flowers that not only please the client but suit their lifestyle."

At this particular home on Pinehurst No. 6, for instance, she explained, the homeowner was a busy woman who desired lots of floral color without a lot of maintenance time. Therefore, several large pots were showcases of intriguing combinations of exotic,

low-maintenance plantings such as Shrimp plant, Heliotrope, Trailing Dichondra, different kinds of sedums and hybrid snapdragons, wispy Talinum and leafy Duranto plant. Rising from a large decorative pot in the middle of the beautiful terrace was a stunning decorative olive tree that only needed "a pound of lime" to regain its effulgence.



For the Plant Diva, the hunt for unique, exciting, and versatile plants is half the fun. "I start with a detailed drawn plan and work from that, taking all of the various factors into consideration. I love shopping for plants," she explains, noting how she always begins her sorties with local nurseries but sometimes wanders farther afield to more specialized nursery sources in Raleigh and other places. "I often do all my shopping in one day, filling my van from front to back with amazing plants — buying for several clients at once. It's pure heaven for me, driving home with a van full

of beautiful plants. I always discover something new and amazing."

Because she's able to buy plants wholesale, she simply charges clients the basic retail cost of plants in addition to her \$30-per-hour labor rate.

Given the Plant Diva's apparently inexhaustible talent for making the patios and terraces of her clients showplaces of color and bloom — she recently began work, for instance, on a series of 21

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terrace pots and three large window boxes for a large outdoor formal wedding later this month — we casually wondered what her patio at Quail Hills must look like these days.

“Actually,” she comes back with a quick laugh, “it’s a bit of a beautiful mess right now. There are plants in pots all over the place but I’ve been so busy working for my clients I haven’t really had a chance to put things in their proper place for the summer yet. My EarthBoxes have been planted, however, and are going to be something special.”

Before we let the busy Plant Diva get back to work on a stunning potted succulent garden teeming with exotic ice plant, aloe, watchchain plant and miniature cacti, headed soon for a terrace at National Golf Club, we asked this former nurse and restaurant waitress if there are a few basic guidelines for successful container gardening. Since almost anything can be grown in a pot, according to Linda, given the proper conditions and attention, we thought a small Plant Diva Primer might be in order — and necessary, given our own limited grasp of the patio art form.

Here’s what she told us:

- Remember you can grow just about anything in a pot, including vegetables — with the exception of sweet corn. Don’t hesitate to experiment and try new combinations.
- Container gardens are often an excellent option for physically challenged folks who are unable to get down into a conventional

garden. They are also a splendid option for those on a budget or constrained by time.

- Good potting soil and drainage are the keys to success. Make sure the pots you use have excellent drainage holes, and select a potting mixture designed for container gardening. Regular garden soil compacts severely, often crowding roots. The Plant Diva uses a soil mixture of one scoop of mushroom compost with three scoops of commercial potting mix.

- Always water thoroughly until water comes out of the bottom of the pot. In summer water twice, first to refresh the plant’s root systems and a second time to provide deeper cell absorption. It’s best to water in the morning, avoiding leaves and blooms in favor of the soil if possible.

- Change happens. The average container garden lasts anywhere from four to six months in this climate. Start thinking about your fall and winter containers now — mums, pumpkins and sedums for fall, kale and cabbage and certain hardy perennials for winter.

“I find the greatest pleasure with container gardening comes when you’re working with the plants, planting and creating new combinations that will delight you as they grow,” adds the Plant Diva.

“And, best of all, with a little guidance and creativity, it’s something almost anyone can do — with beautiful results.”

The Plant Diva can be reached at (910) 690-2694. **PS**

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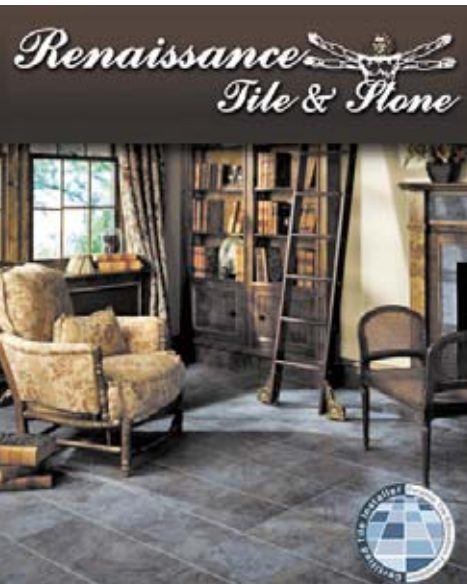
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Friday

Saturday

		<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUMMER READING REGISTRATION The Southern Pines Public Library (910) 692-8235 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MEET THE AUTHOR (910) 692-3211 SENIOR EVENT (910) 692-7376 BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR (910) 295-6022 WINE TASTING (910) 673-2949 ART PREVIEW (910) 692-2787 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ART EXHIBIT & OPENING RECEPTION 6 - 8 p.m. (910) 692-2787 FIRST FRIDAY 5 - 8 p.m. www.firstfridaysouthempines.com ART ANONYMOUS OPENING 6 - 8 p.m. (910) 692-2787 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RUN FOR THE LEGEND 8:30 a.m. www.active.com MANNA! IN MOTION 8:30 a.m. (910) 315-1150 HISTORIC NO. 2. 6 p.m. (910) 295-6022 BLUE JEAN BALL (910) 695-7500
<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUMMER ON THE PORCH MUSIC SERIES (910) 944-7502 or theroosterswife.org ABSOLUTELY ART: Exhibit & Opening Reception 5 - 7 p.m. (910) 944-3979 or www.artistleague.org 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUMMER CAMP: Celebrate Your Creative Self (910) 528-7283 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MEET THE AUTHOR 4 p.m. (910) 692-3211 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SENIOR EVENT: Back in Time 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (910) 692-7376 PRESCHOOL STORYTIME 3:30 - 4 p.m. (910) 692-8235 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OLDIES AND GOODIES FILM SERIES PRESENTS 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. (910) 692-8235 MEET THE AUTHOR 4 p.m. (910) 692-3211 WINE TASTING 5 - 8 p.m. (910) 673-2949 PIVOT POINTE 7:30 p.m. (910) 695-1004 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PIVOT POINTE 7:30 p.m. (910) 695-1004 PINEHURST RESORT'S HISTORIC WALKING TOUR AND TEA 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. (910) 235-8415 JAZZY FRIDAYS 7 - 10 p.m. information, (910) 369-0411 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PIVOT POINTE 7:30 p.m. 2nd SATURDAY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL 1:30 - 8 p.m. WEYMOUTH GARDEN TOUR 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. MUSIC FESTIVAL 2 - 5:30 p.m.
<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCDCTA DOWN EAST DRESSAGE Carolina Horse Park (910) 875-2074 SUMMER ON THE PORCH MUSIC SERIES (910) 944-7502 COMMUNITY YOGA CLASS. 2 - 3:15 p.m. (910) 692-3988 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LUNCHEON, FASHION SHOW & AUCTION 12 p.m. SCC JAZZ BAND 6:30 p.m. SANDHILLS PHOTO CLUB 7 - 9 p.m. SANDHILLS HARMONY CHORUS: Open House 7 - 9 p.m. (910) 944-1458 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SENIOR EVENT: Chocolate Chip Cookie Day Begins at 11:30 a.m. (910) 692-7376 MEET THE AUTHOR 4 p.m. (910) 692-3211 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAMILY FUN NIGHT 5:30 p.m. (910) 692-8235 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOOK BUNCH 11 a.m. (910) 692-8235 MEET THE AUTHOR 4 p.m. (910) 692-3211 WINE TASTING 5 - 8 p.m. (910) 673-2949 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. ART ANONYMOUS 2 - 4 p.m. BLUEBERRY SALE SUMMERFEST SUMMER CLASSIC: NCHJA (919) 637-2958
<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUMMER ON THE PORCH MUSIC SERIES (910) 944-7502 or theroosterswife.org 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SANDHILLS HARMONY CHORUS: Open House and Free Voice Lessons 7 - 9 p.m. (910) 944-1458 YOUR TIME IS NOW: Center for Creative Retirement Summer Academy (910) 246-4943 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SENIOR EVENT: Summer Begins 11:30 a.m. (910) 692-7376 HOSPITALITY TEA 2:30 p.m. (910) 255-0100 CRAB POTS 7 p.m. (910) 692-2167 	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAND OF BOOKIES 11 a.m. (910) 692-8235 WINE TASTING 5 - 8 p.m. (910) 673-2949 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JAZZY FRIDAYS 7 - 10 p.m. (910) 369-0411 JR. INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT (910) 692-9362 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JR. INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT (910) 692-9362 WOOF WOOF OPEN Shotgun Starts at 8:30 a.m. (910) 947-2631
<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JR. INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT (910) 692-9362 WOOF WOOF OPEN Shotgun Starts at 8:30 a.m. (910) 947-2631 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MEET THE AUTHOR 2 p.m. (910) 692-3211 NORTH AND SOUTH AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP (910) 235-8140 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NORTH AND SOUTH AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP (910) 235-8140 REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT 8:30 a.m. www.mcrm.org 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NORTH AND SOUTH AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP (910) 235-8140 MEET THE AUTHOR 5:30 p.m. (910) 692-3211 			

June Calendar

June 1

■ **SUMMER READING REGISTRATION.** Kids in grades K – 4 are invited to “Make a Splash – READ!” and middle school students are encouraged to “Make Waves @ Your Library!” The Southern Pines Public Library, 170 W. Connecticut Ave. For more information, please call (910) 692-8235.

June 3

■ **MEET THE AUTHOR.** 11 a.m. Emily Herring Wilson presents “Becoming Elizabeth Lawrence: Discovered Letters of a Southern Gardener.” Correspondence between Lawrence and playwright Anne Preston Bridgers provides a glimpse into the lives of upper class women in a Southern town in the 1930s and ‘40s. The Country Bookshop, 140 NW Broad St., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-3211.

■ **SENIOR EVENT: Banana Split Day.** A banana split bonanza for seniors at Douglass Community Center, 1185 W. Pennsylvania Avenue. For more details, call the Southern Pines Recreations and Parks Department at (910) 692-7376.

■ **BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR.** 3:30 p.m. Rachel Yates will discuss her journey of breast cancer recovery and Dr. Jayapalan will talk about the latest treatments for breast cancer and what tests women should be having on a regular basis. Free. Given Memorial Library, 150 Cherokee Road, Pinehurst. For more information, please call (910) 295-6022.

■ **WINE TASTING.** 5 – 8 p.m. Wine Tasting with hors d’oeuvres at Sandhills Winery, 145 West Plaza Dr., Seven Lakes. For more information, please call (910) 673-2949.

■ **ART ANONYMOUS PREVIEW.** 6 – 8 p.m. Arts Council of Moore County presents a special preview of its fundraiser at Campbell House Galleries, 482 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. Reservations are required. For more information, please call (910) 692-2787 or visit www.mooreart.org.

June 4

■ **ART EXHIBIT & OPENING RECEPTION.** 6 – 8 p.m. Art Anonymous II. Exhibit is on display through July 16 at Campbell House Galleries, 482 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-2787 or visit www.mooreart.org.

■ **FIRST FRIDAY.** 5 – 8 p.m. A family friendly community event with live music from Laura Reed. Held at the grassy knoll adjacent to the Sunrise Theater, Broad Street, Southern Pines. Free. For more information, visit www.firstfridaysouthernpines.com.

■ **ART ANONYMOUS OPENING.** 6 - 8 p.m. Arts Council of Moore County presents an opening of its special fundraiser at Campbell House Galleries, 482 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. Gallery open through June 30. For more information, please call (910) 692-2787 or visit www.mooreart.org.

June 4-18

■ **UNCORKED: Wine Tastings.** On Fridays. \$20. For more information please call (910) 295-3663. Elliot’s on Linden, 905 Linden Road, Pinehurst.

June 5

■ **RUN FOR THE LEGEND.** 8:30 a.m. The Airborne & Special Operations Museum

Foundation’s third annual 5K/10K Run for the Legend. For more information and online registration, please visit www.active.com.

■ **MANNA! IN MOTION.** One-mile Fun Run starts at 8:30 a.m. 10k and 5k Trail Races start at 9 a.m. Proceeds benefit MANNA! in its mission to feed those in need in Moore County. Family event includes face painting and entertainment. For more information, please call (910) 315-1150 or register online at www.active.com.

■ **HISTORIC NO. 2.** 6 p.m. An evening reception in a home situated on the famous course, followed by dinner, libations and a discussion of the history of the course. \$100/person. For more information, please call Given Memorial Library at (910) 295-6022.

■ **BLUE JEAN BALL.** 6:30 – 11 p.m. Enjoy live country bands, down home barbecue buffet and refreshments. Pinehurst Fair Barn, Pinehurst Harness Track, Route 5, Village of Pinehurst. For reservations to this FirstHealth Cancer CARE fundraiser, please call (910) 695-7500.

June 5-6

■ **PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW.** 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Three rings of competition: dressage, pleasure classes, and obstacles. A parade through the village of Pinehurst is scheduled to begin Sunday at 9 a.m. Spectators welcome, free admission. Pinehurst Harness Track, Route 5, Pinehurst. For further information, call Linda Long at (910) 692-0943.

■ **LUMBER RIVER HORSE TRIALS.** Three-phase competition including dressage, cross-country, and show jumping. Free for spectators. Carolina Horse Park, 2814 Montrose Rd., Raeford. For more information, please call (910) 875-2074 or visit www.carolinahorsepark.com.

June 5-19

■ **KITCHEN ESSENCE: Free Demonstration.** On Saturdays. For more information please call (910) 295-3663. Elliot’s on Linden, 905 Linden Road, Pinehurst.

June 6

■ **SUMMER ON THE PORCH MUSIC SERIES.** Postmaster’s House, 204 E. South Street, Aberdeen. For more information please call (910) 944-7502 or visit www.theroosterswife.org.

■ **ABSOLUTELY ART: Exhibit & Opening Reception.** 5 – 7 p.m. Exhibit features the best of Artists League members’ artwork, running through June 30. Artists League of the Sandhills, 129 Exchange Street, Aberdeen. For more information, please call (910) 944-3979 or visit www.artistleague.org.

June 7 – August 2

■ **SUMMER CAMP: Celebrate Your Creative Self.** Sketching from Life, Paint like the Masters, Cartooning Expressions and Little Picassos. Classes for all ages. Joy of Art Studio, 139 B. East Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. For registration and more information, please call (910) 528-7283.

June 8

■ **MEET THE AUTHOR.** 4 p.m. Mystery writers Donna Andrews, Meredith Cole, Rosemary Harris and Elaine Viets join forces for their “Unarmed but Dangerous” tour. The Country Bookshop, 140 NW Broad St., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-3211.





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CHLOE
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Liam Neeson,
Amanda Seyfried*
June 3-7



REMEMBER ME
June 10-14



THE SECRET IN THEIR EYES
June 17 - 21

Key: ■ Art ■ Literature ■ Children ■ Dance ■ Film ■ Fun ■ Health ■ History ■ Music ■ Nature
■ Speaker ■ Sports ■ Theater ■ Tour ■ Tasteful

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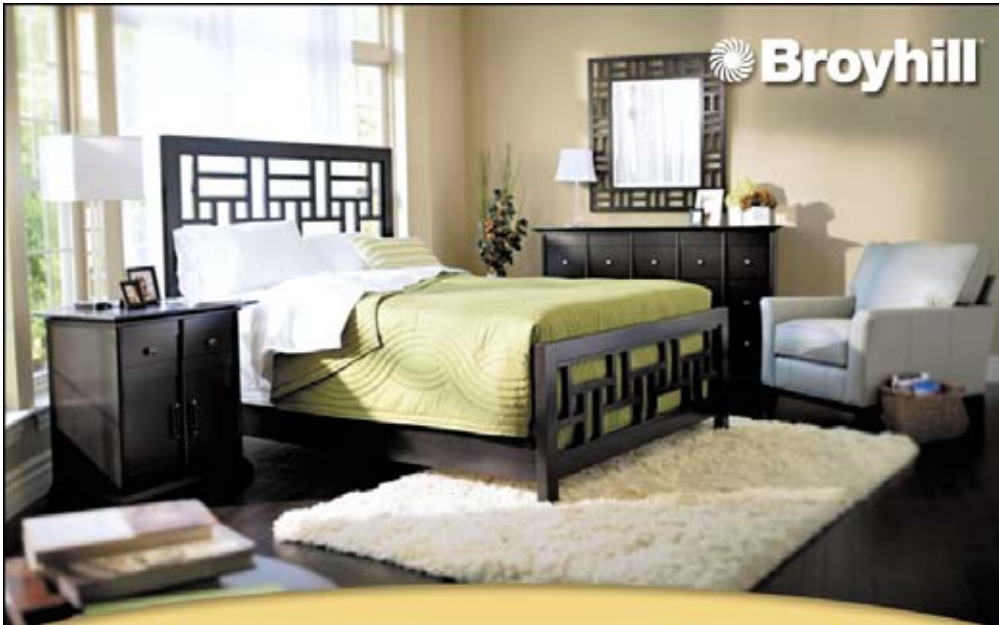


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June 9

■ SENIOR EVENT: Back in Time. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Take a trip to Robbins to see remnants of an old farm, visit local pottery stores and enjoy lunch at Westmoore Family Restaurant. For more details, call the Southern Pines Recreations and Parks Department at (910) 692-7376.

■ PRESCHOOL STORYTIME. 3:30 – 4 p.m. Southern Pines Library for storytime. The Southern Pines Public Library, 170 W. Connecticut Ave. For more information, please call (910) 692-8235.

June 10

■ OLDIES AND GOODIES FILM SERIES PRESENTS. 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Captains Courageous starring Spencer Tracy and Freddy Bartholomew. The Southern Pines Public Library, 170 W. Connecticut Ave. For more information, please call (910) 692-8235.

■ MEET THE AUTHOR. 4 p.m. Scott Huler returns with his new book, "On the Grid: A Plot of Land, an Average Neighborhood, and the Systems That Make Our World Work," a fascinating examination of the infrastructure of our civilization and the systems we all depend on. The Country Bookshop, 140 NW Broad St., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-3211.

■ WINE TASTING. 5 – 8 p.m. Wine Tasting with hors d'oeuvres at Sandhills Winery, 145 West Plaza Dr., Seven Lakes. For more information, please call (910) 673-2949.

June 10 – 12

■ PIVOT POINTE. 7:30 p.m. Sandhills Theatre Arts and Renaissance School students present a Broadway-style show featuring music, dialogue, costumes and props crafted and composed by the youngsters themselves. Tickets: \$10. Robert E. Lee Auditorium, 100 Pinecrest School Road, Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 695-1004.

June 10 – 13

■ NC CROQUET OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP Free for spectators. Pinehurst Lawn & Tennis Club, 2 Carolina Vista Drive, Pinehurst. For more information, please call (800)ITS-GOLF.

June 11

■ PINEHURST RESORT'S HISTORIC WALKING TOUR AND TEA. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Discover the stories of Pinehurst's history and enjoy the traditions of classic high tea at one of America's Historic Landmarks. \$25/person. Space is limited, For reservations and further information, please call (910) 235-8415.

■ JAZZY FRIDAYS. 7 – 10 p.m. Live jazz music, hors d'oeuvres. Event held rain or shine. \$8/person. Cypress Bend Vineyards & Winery, Riverton Road in Wagram. For more information, please call (910) 369-0411.

June 12

■ 2nd SATURDAY. Combine arts and heritage with food and fun at this family-friendly event. House in the Horseshoe, 288 Alston House Rd., Sanford. For more information, please call (919) 947-2051.

■ BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL. 1:30 – 8 p.m. Malcolm Blue Farm, Bethesda Road, Aberdeen. For more information, please call (910) 944-7558.

Key: ■ Art ■ Literature ■ Children ■ Dance
■ Film ■ Fun ■ Health ■ History ■ Music
■ Nature ■ Speaker ■ Sports ■ Theater ■ Tour
■ Tasteful

CALENDAR

■ **WEYMOUTH GARDEN TOUR.** 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Weymouth Center, 155 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-6261.

■ **MUSIC FESTIVAL:** Benefit for the Boys and Girls Club of the Sandhills. Kids bands will perform from 2 – 5:30 p.m. Suggested donations: \$5. At 6:30 p.m. an evening of entertainment features “Cowboys,” “Baxter Clement,” “Members Only,” “Randy Hughes Band” and “Sandband.” Location: Corner of Bennett Street and E. Indiana, Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 315-1909.

June 12-13

■ **NCDCTA DOWN EAST DRESSAGE.** Carolina Horse Park, 2814 Montrose Rd., Raeford. For more information, please call (910) 875-2074 or visit www.carolinahorsepark.com.

June 13

■ **SUMMER ON THE PORCH MUSIC SERIES.** Postmaster’s House, 204 E. South Street, Aberdeen. For more information, please call (910) 944-7502 or visit www.theroosterswife.org.

■ **COMMUNITY YOGA CLASS.** 2 – 3:15 p.m. Beginners welcome to this free event. Space is limited. Meet at Anjali Yoga Studio, 271 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. For registration and more information, please call (910) 692-3988.

June 14

■ **LUNCHEON, FASHION SHOW & AUCTION.** 12 p.m. The Boys and Girls Homes of N.C. Advisory Committee presents a luncheon, fashion show and silent auction. For reservations and more information, please call (910) 295-4139.

■ **SCC JAZZ BAND OUTDOOR CONCERT.** 6:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair and picnic to this free event. Concert will move to Owens Auditorium in the event of rain. Sandhills Community College, Airport Road, Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-7966.

■ **SANDHILLS PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB.** 7 – 9 p.m. Digital competition, any subject. It is the initial captured image “as shot” that counts. Digital manipulations are limited to cropping and resizing. Christ Fellowship Church, Midland and Pee Dee Roads, Southern Pines. For more information, visit www.sandhillsphotoclub.org.

■ **SANDHILLS HARMONY CHORUS:** Open House and Free Voice Lessons. 7 - 9 p.m. All ladies are invited to learn the art of barbershop singing. 330 S. May Street, Southern Pines. For more information, please call Carole at (910) 944-1458.

June 14-17

■ **NORTH AND SOUTH JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.** 32nd annual event played on Pinehurst Nos. 2, 5 and 8. For more information, please call the Pinehurst Tournament Office at (910) 235-8140.

June 14 – 26

■ **SUMMER THEATRE CAMP:** A how-to musical guide to the most daring, dangerous, exciting time...like...ever! Featuring the musical, A KID’S LIFE. Ages 6 and up. For registration and more information, please call director Shanon Venable at (910) 692-2787 or visit www.mooreart.org.

June 14 – 28

■ **ARTSMART.** Mondays at 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. A series of visual art classes for ages 8 – 9 presented by

Key: ■ Art ■ Literature ■ Children ■ Dance
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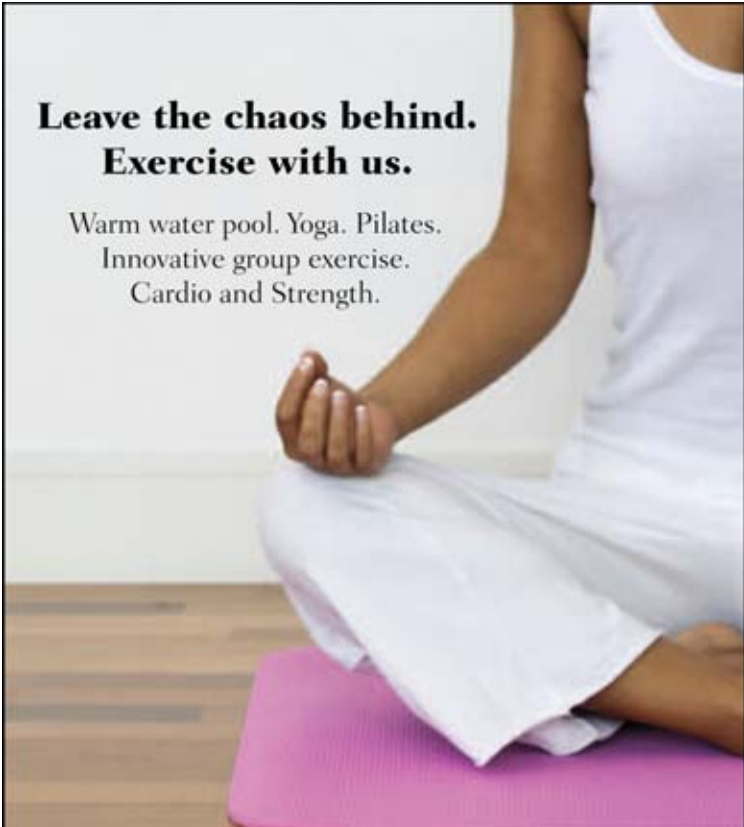
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CALENDAR

the Arts Council of Moore County. \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers. Limited space. 130 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. For information and registration, please call (910) 684-0257 or visit www.mooreart.org.

June 15

■ **SENIOR EVENT:** Chocolate Chip Cookie Day. Make chocolate chip cookies and enjoy chocolate soda during this brown bag lunch day filled with game at Douglass Community Center, 1185 W. Pennsylvania Avenue. For more details, please call the Southern Pines Recreations and Parks Department (910) 692-7376.

■ **MEET THE AUTHOR.** 4 p.m. Jim Corbett, "Mr. Golf Etiquette," explains the do's and don'ts when playing the great game of golf in his book, "The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Golf Rules and Etiquette." The Country Bookshop, 140 NW Broad St., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-3211.

June 15 – 29

■ **ARTSMART.** Tuesdays at 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. A series of visual art classes for ages 8 – 9 presented by the Arts Council. \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers. Limited space. 130 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. For information and registration, please call (910) 684-0257 or visit www.mooreart.org.

June 16

■ **FAMILY FUN NIGHT.** 5:30 p.m. An evening of juggling and mystifying magic. Free. The Southern Pines Public Library, 170 W. Connecticut Ave. For more information, please call (910) 692-8235.

June 16 – 30

■ **ARTSMART.** Wednesdays at 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. A series of visual art classes for ages 11 – 13 presented by the Arts Council. \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers. Limited space. 130 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. For information and registration, please call (910) 684-0257 or visit www.mooreart.org.

June 17

■ **BOOK BUNCH.** 11 a.m. Kids in grades K – 5 are invited to attend the Summer Reading Club. Space is limited. The Southern Pines Public Library, 170 W. Connecticut Ave. For more information, please call (910) 692-8235.

■ **MEET THE AUTHOR.** 4 p.m. Malinda Maynor Lawery presents "Lumbee Indians in the Jim Crow South: Race, Identity and the Making of a Nation," the story of how the Lumbee Indians maintained their identity in an era defined by racial segregation in the South and paternalistic policies for Indians throughout the nation. The Country Bookshop, 140 NW Broad St., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-3211.

■ **WINE TASTING.** 5 – 8 p.m. Wine Tasting with hors d'oeuvres at Sandhills Winery, 145 West Plaza Dr., Seven Lakes. For more information, please call (910) 673-2949.

June 17 – July 1

■ **ARTSMART.** Thursdays at 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. A series of visual art classes for ages 14 – 18 presented by the Arts Council. \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers. Limited space. 130 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines. For information and registration, please call (910) 684-0257 or visit www.mooreart.org.

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June 19

■ **FLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP.** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. An opening session presenting the basics of flower photography will be followed by photographing in the Sandhills gardens. Members of the Sandhills Photography Club will assist with techniques. Horticultural Society members free, non-members \$5. G. Victor and Margaret Ball Visitors Center at Sandhills Community College. For reservations and more information, please call Tricia Mabe at (910) 695-3882.

■ **ART ANONYMOUS.** 2 - 4 p.m. Campbell House Galleries, 482 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-2787 or visit www.mooreart.org.

■ **BLUEBERRY SALE.** The Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills will host its first annual Blueberry Sale at Aberdeen Lake Park. A variety of great recipes will be available. Please call Gary Southard at (910) 295-7500 or Don Yoder at (910) 949.4519 to place your order and for more information.

June 19 – 20

■ **SUMMERFEST.** NC Museum of Traditional Pottery features potters in Seagrove area. For more information, please visit www.seagrovepotteryheritage.com.

■ **SUMMER CLASSIC: NCHJA "C"** Hunter/Jumper. Carolina Horse Park, 2814 Montrose Road, Raeford. For more information, please call (919) 637-2958 or visit www.carolinahorsepark.com.

June 20

■ **SUMMER ON THE PORCH MUSIC SERIES.** Postmaster's House, 204 E. South Street, Aberdeen.

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June 21

■ **SANDHILLS HARMONY CHORUS:** Open House and Free Voice Lessons. 7 - 9 p.m. Ladies invited to learn the art of barbershop singing. 330 S. May Street, Southern Pines. For more information, please call Carole at (910) 944-1458.

June 21 – 24

■ **YOUR TIME IS NOW:** Center for Creative Retirement Summer Academy. Programs and resources that enhance the intellectual, physical and personal well being of retirees. Sandhills Community College, 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst. For further details, contact Lori Williams at (910) 246-4943 visit www.sandhills.edu.

June 22

■ **SENIOR EVENT:** Summer Begins. Enjoy the new season with a brown bag lunch and a day of games outside on the picnic tables at Douglass Community Center, 1185 W. Pennsylvania Avenue. For more details, please call the Southern Pines Recreations and Parks Department (910) 692-7376.

■ **HOSPITAL-TEA.** 2:30 p.m. Bring friends to afternoon tea and hear Raleigh-based writer and speaker Susan Ely share about "Hospitality, It's More than Setting a Nice Table" at Lady Bedford's Tea Parlour, 25 Chinquapin Road, Pinehurst. For more reservations and more information, please call (910) 255-0100.

■ **CRAB POTS.** 7 p.m. Join the Sandhills Natural History Society at Weymouth Woods to learn about a topic responsible for killing thousands of animals on our coast. 1024 Ft. Bragg Road, Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-2167.

June 24

■ **BAND OF BOOKIES.** 11 a.m. Kids in grades 5 – 8 p.m. are invited to attend Summer Reading Club. Space is limited. The Southern Pines Public Library, 170 W. Connecticut Ave. For more information, please call (910) 692-8235.

■ **WINE TASTING.** 5 – 8 p.m. Wine Tasting with hors d'oeuvres at Sandhills Winery, 145 West Plaza Dr., Seven Lakes. For more information, please call (910) 673-2949.

June 25

■ **JAZZY FRIDAYS.** 7 – 10 p.m. Live jazz music, hors d'oeuvres. Event held rain or shine. \$8/person. Cypress Bend Vineyards & Winery, Riverton Road in Wagram. For more information, please call (910) 369-0411.

June 25-27

■ **JR. INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT.** 27th annual event held at Mid Pines Inn and Golf Club, 1010 Midland Road, Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-9362.

June 26-27

■ **WOOF WOOF OPEN.** Shotgun Starts at 8:30 a.m. 2nd annual golf tournament held at The Pit to benefit Pooch Park in the Pines. Best two balls of four. Men, women and mixed teams. \$75 per round, \$125 for both days. For more information, please call (910) 947-2631.

June 27

■ **SUMMER ON THE PORCH MUSIC SERIES.** Postmaster's House, 204 E. South Street, Aberdeen.

For more information, please call (910) 944-7502 or visit www.theroosterswife.org.

June 28

■ **MEET THE AUTHOR.** 2 p.m. Dorothea Benton Frank shares her new novel, "Lowcountry Summer," the long-awaited sequel to "Plantation." Penick Village, Southern Pines. Seating limited. For reservations and more information, please call The Country Bookshop at (910) 692-3211.

June 28 - July 3

■ **NORTH AND SOUTH AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP:** 110th annual event played on Pinehurst No. 2. For more information, please call (910) 235-8140.

June 29

■ **REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT.** 8:30 a.m. Country Club of Whispering Pines (East Course). Everyone is welcome. Team prizes will be awarded. \$79 per player includes green and cart fees, continental breakfast and buffet lunch. Sponsor a Soldier or Airman for \$79. Visit www.mcrn.org for a registration form.

June 30

■ **MEET THE AUTHOR.** 5:30 p.m. Vanessa Woods discusses her book, "Bonobo Handshake," a memoir of her work in war-torn Congo studying endangered Bonobo apes who taught her a new truth about love and belonging. The Country Bookshop, 140 NW Broad St., Southern Pines. For more information, please call (910) 692-3211.

Art Galleries

The Old Silk Route, 113 West Main St., Aberdeen specializes in Asian original art, including silk paintings, tapestries, Buddhist Thangkas and Indian paper miniatures. Open Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11 am until 4 pm. (910) 295-2055.

Art Gallery at the Market Place Restaurant Building at 2160 Midland Road, Pinehurst, features original art by local artists Joan Williams, Deane Billings, Jeanette Sheehan, Mike D'Andrea, Janet Burdick, Nancy Yanchus, and Cele Bryant. Meet one of the artists Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. (910) 215-5963.

Artist Alley features juried art and fine crafts from local and regional artists, 167 E. New Hampshire Ave., Southern Pines. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday. (910) 692-6077.

Artists League of the Sandhills, located at 129 Exchange St. in historic Aberdeen. Exhibit hours are noon-3 p.m., Monday-Saturday. (910) 944-3979.

Broadhurst Gallery, 2212 Midland Rd., Pinehurst, showcases works by nationally recognized artists such as Louis St. Lewis, Lula Smith, Shawn Morin, Rachel Clearfield, Judy Cox and Jason Craighead. Meet-the-artist opportunities are available. Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday, 1-4 p.m. (910) 295-4817, www.broadhurstgallery.com.

The Campbell House Galleries, 482 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines, is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, and every third weekend of the month from 2-4 p.m. (910) 692-4356, www.mooreart.org.

The Downtown Gallery (inside Flynn's Coffee Bar) is located at 115 NE Broad St. in downtown Southern Pines. Ever-changing array of local and regional art, pottery and other handmade items. (910) 693-1999.

Hastings Gallery is located in the Katharine L. Boyd Library at Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst.

Key: ■ Art ■ Literature ■ Children ■ Dance ■ Film ■ Fun ■ Health ■ History ■ Music ■ Nature ■ Speaker ■ Sports ■ Theater ■ Tour ■ Tasteful

CALENDAR

Gallery hours are 7:45 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 7:45 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday; and 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

Hollyhocks Art Gallery, 905 Linden Road, Pinehurst, features original artwork by local artists Diane Kraudelt, Irene McFarland, Karen Meredith, Susan Edquist and artist/owner Jane Casnellie. Daily 10:30am to 9:30pm and Sunday evenings 6pm-9:30pm. (910) 255-0665, www.hollyhocksartgallery.com.

Lady Bedford's Tea Parlour, located at 25 Chinquapin Road in Pinehurst, is featuring local artist Nancy Campbell. Original oil and watercolor paintings are on display. Open Tuesday - Saturday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (910) 255-0100, www.ladybedfords.com

The Gallery at Seven Lakes, a gallery dedicated to local artists. The Gallery is open on Wednesday and Thursday each week from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, The St. Mary Magdalen building. Just 9 miles from the Pinehurst Traffic Circle up 211.

Seagrove Candle Company, 116 N.W. Broad St., Southern Pines, showcases the arts and crafts of the Sandhills and Seagrove area. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday, Wednesday-Saturday, (910) 695-0029.

SKY Art Gallery, 602 Magnolia Dr., Aberdeen, is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. (910) 944-9440, www.skyartgallery.com.

White Hill Gallery, 407 U.S. 15-501, Carthage, offers a variety of pottery. (910) 947-6100.

Nature Centers

Sandhills Horticultural Gardens (32 acres of gardens). The Sandhills Horticultural Gardens are handicapped-accessible. Daylight hours year-round. (910)695-3882.

Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve (898 acres). 1024 Ft. Bragg Road, Southern Pines. (910) 692-2167.

Historical Sites

Bethesda Church and Cemetery. Guided tours for groups by appointment. 1020 Bethesda Road, Aberdeen. (910) 944-1319.

Bryant House and McLendon Cabin. Tours by appointment. (910) 692-2051 or (910) 673-0908.

Carthage Historical Museum. Sundays, 2-5 p.m. or by appointment. Located at Rockingham and Saunders streets, Carthage. (910) 947-2331.

House in the Horseshoe. Open year-round. Hours vary. 288 Alston House Road (10 miles north of Carthage), Sanford. (910) 947-2051.

Malcolm Blue Farm and Museum. 1-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. Group tours can be arranged by appointment. (910) 944-7558 or (910) 603-2739.

North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday, at the Weymouth Center for Arts and Humanities, 555 E. Connecticut Ave., Southern Pines. (910) 692-6261.

Shaw House Property. Open 1-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. (910) 692-2051.

Tufts Archives. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday. (910) 295-3642.

Union Station. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Located in downtown Aberdeen. (910) 944-5902.

To add an event, send us an e-mail at pines-traw@thepilot.com by June 1, 2010.

Key: Art Literature Children Dance Film Fun Health History Music Nature Speaker Sports Theater Tour Tasteful

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PINENEEDLER ANSWERS

Puzzle answers from page 99

1	9	5	8	4	7	3	2	6
8	7	6	2	9	3	5	4	1
4	3	2	1	5	6	9	8	7
3	2	1	9	7	8	6	5	4
9	6	4	3	1	5	2	7	8
7	5	8	4	6	2	1	3	9
2	1	9	5	8	4	7	6	3
6	8	3	7	2	1	4	9	5
5	4	7	6	3	9	8	1	2

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	B	L	U	E		B	L	O	T	S								
A	M	A	S			M	A	T	T	H	E	W						
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W	H	I	T	E		T	O	U	T	E	D							
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D	E	C	I	B	E	L					W	O	R	R	Y			
					T	O	N	A	L		T	H	I	R	T	E	E	N
C	O	R	D	S			C	H	I	N	O		T	E	C			
I	N	P	U	T			R	A	Y	O	N		E	N	E			
A	S	S	E	S			T	W	A	N	G		R	E	D			



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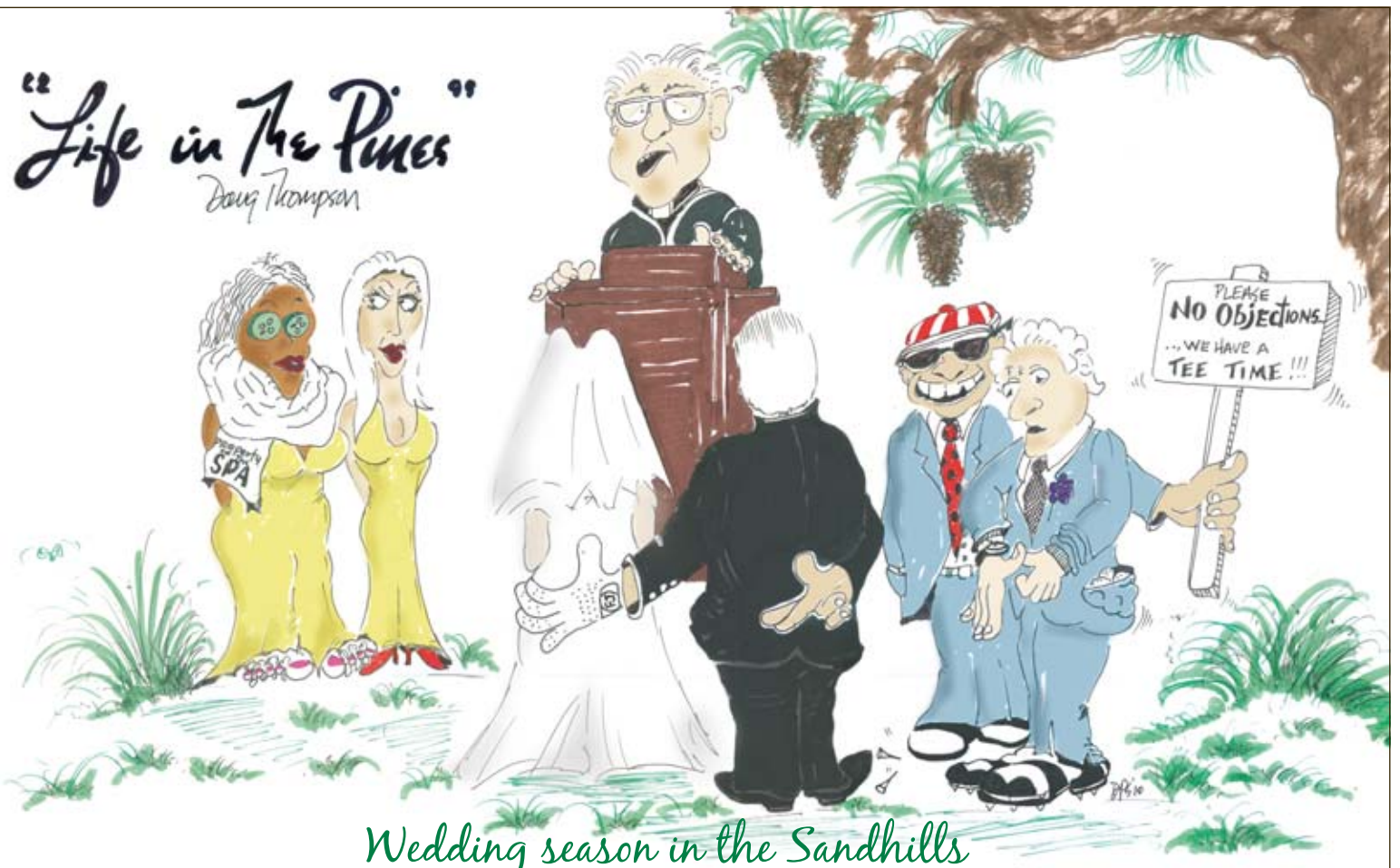


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Summer Hound Walking
Moore County Hounds
Photographs by Jeanne Paine



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Carolina Horse Park
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Silent Auction Luncheon
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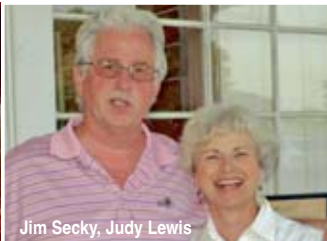
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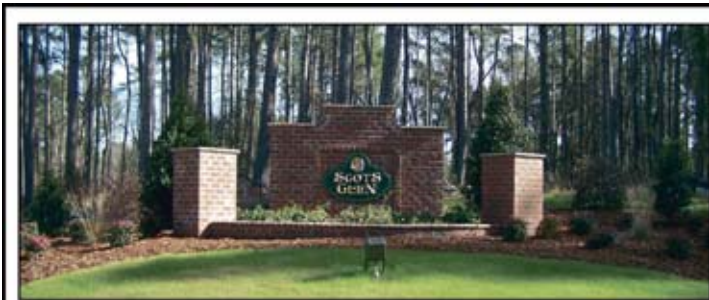
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The Accidental Astrologer

BY ASTRID STELLANOVA



Gemini

(5.22 – 6.21)

Well can my yams, Sweet

Cheeks, you're sitting on the edge of something bigger than a baker's backside! With Mercury streaming into your sign on June 10, not only are your aspirations for the future as impressive as a prize-winning pig, they're easier to reach than the itch in your sneezer. Though you're typically as quick to jump as a fly-bitten horse, the New Moon on June 12 encourages you to slow down and put that growth on your neck to good use. Remember, Sugar Muffin, a hard head makes for a soft behind. If you're foolish enough to screw this up, you'll be as teed off as a bucket of balls at a driving range.



Cancer (June 22 – July 22)

That rumbling in your stomach isn't from the beer-battered okra, Sweetheart. Those are nerves — and you'd be wise to listen to them. Although your insides may feel like they're twisting around like a Cirque du Soleil act, especially on June 13, acting brashly is about as useful as buttons on a dishrag. As Momma used to say, you'll catch more flies with honey than with vinegar. When the Sun enters your sign on June 21, you'll suddenly find the solution you've been searching for concerning a certain relationship. A guilty dog barks the loudest, Sugar.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 23)

Put your tray table up, Dollface, 'cause things are about to plum take off for you this month! (I suggest a hair spray that can hold through a hurricane, too.) Although your thoughts may be as distracting as spotting an ex in the middle of Sunday service, try and stay levelheaded until the 8th when Mercury and Saturn harmonize like a back porch bullfrog symphony. After that, the berries are ripe for the picking — and you'd be wise not to let them go to waste.

Virgo (Aug. 24 – Sept. 23)

When Jupiter joins Uranus on June 8, be ready for a wake-up call that would scare the starch out of a biscuit-eater. Like Auntie Pearl always said, if ifs and buts were candy and nuts, every day would be Christmas. Although you're as hesitant to make a move as a chess player at a middle school dance, don't be afraid to belly flop into an opportunity once in a while, Cupcake. There's no need to keep pruning your big toe testing out the water! Clarity will come at the end of the month. Until then, you're best bet's to keep swimming, Hun.

Libra (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23)

Hate to break it to you, Dumpling, but you're liable to find yourself in a situation stickier than Granddaddy's favorite handkerchief on June 7. Sleep on it. One thing that doesn't get worse overnight is your judgment...unless of course you spend it in a bar. It's not all creamed corn and cotton candy after the 8th, but when Venus fills your head with ideas more whimsical than fairy flatulence, you'll be able to use your charm to get what you want. You're just about as cute as a button-nose on a rag doll — if you got it, flaunt it, Sweetie.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22)

Ay caramba! With the New Moon entering the picture on the 12th, your love life is bound to become hotter than two rabbits in a tube sock. You'd better snap out of it, Porkchop! All that romance will blur your vision like a whack in the head after 5 o'clock Happy Hour. When Mercury opposes Pluto toward the end of the month, get ready for a week that's rougher than an oak toilet and a fiberless diet. Treat yourself to an ice cream on the 26th to mull things over. You'll figure out what cures your ham soon enough.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21)

If you plant a tater, you're not going to get mashed potatoes right away, Sweet Pea. With the Moon and Jupiter blasting into your 5th House in the beginning of the month, ideas are buzzing around in your brain like a swarm of flies on a \$5.99 road-kill special. Wait just a belly-scratching moment, Scatter Brain! Every callus was a blister first, you know. Venus will give you a love bite that'll send you into near convulsions on the 14th. There's no need to make a commitment yet — savor the flavor like chewing gum stuck to the lip of a cup.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20)

Dull moments in June will be as scarce as hen's teeth for you, Baby Cakes. You'll feel like you've taken a baker's dozen shots of espresso on the 6th when Jupiter's influence kick-starts a month packed with more action than a Quentin Tarantino flick. But the jitters aren't always a bad thing, Pancake. Channel that extra hunk of energy into a new workout routine to boost your confidence and ease your nerves. Whether it's a yoga class or a Tae Bo tape, your new regimen will have you feeling finer than a frog hair split four ways.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19)

If you think you can make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, then Honey, you're greener than a fried pickle in the tall grass. While those dreams of yours may brighten you up like a jar-full of lightening bugs, be mindful that even the simplest flower needs time to bloom, Tater Tot. When the Summer Solstice causes insecurities to surface on the 21st, you'll try to brush it off like dandruff from a black shirt. Well, Sweetie, you're loonier than my Auntie Pearl without her meds if you think that's going to fix the problem. It's time to wake up and smell the dang coffee beans.

Pisces (Feb. 20 – March 20)

If the pool ain't full, Honey, for Pete's sake don't jump in! Naturally, you're itchy as a flea-bitten pup to get your bananas all sorted out at once. Well, Ham Bone, when you're faced with a situation that's hairier than Chewbacca's back in the wintertime, sometimes it's best to boogie-woogie around the issue for a while to avoid future conflict. You'll be as pleased as a prize-winning pickle on June 15 once you finally let go of something that's been nipping at you like you like a sour crab. And when life gives you lemons on the 23rd, heck, you may as well invite the neighbors over for sweet tea. They're beginning to search for the crater you fell in.

Aries (March 21 – April 20)

That imagination of yours is as wild as purple ragweed when Mars opposes mystic Neptune on June 4th. Even though your dreams are more bizarre than Lady Gaga's pleather britches, it wouldn't be too much pumpkin for your nickel to settle for anything less, Cakeface! When an argument sillier than a face-painted foot tinkles on your spirit on the 11th, rest assured that the New Moon on the 12th will be aloe to your sun-blistered soul. Make sure you're honest when you meet someone new on the 14th. Otherwise you may find yourself knee-deep in something that doesn't exactly smell like roses, Sweetie.

Taurus (April 21 – May 21)

For the love of petunias, Sweetheart, you're clinging to the past like it's your doggone bottom dollar. You'd be wise to loosen the reigns from your old thoughts and open up that mulish mind of yours, especially on the 8th when Jupiter beckons you to try something new (whether with that dag-blasted hair style of yours or otherwise)! A close friend will encourage you to wriggle your toes around in the deep end after the 21st — it's ok to leave the kiddie pool once in a berry-picking while, cupcake. You'll feel like a speckled pup in a red wagon with a little spice in your life, Sugar Muffin. Trust me.



Astrid Stellanova, 55, owned and operated Curl Up and Dye Beauty Salon in Windblow, NC, for many years until arthritic fingers and her popular astrological readings opened up a new career path. Feel free to contact Astrid for insights on your personal stars or hair advice for any occasion at astridstellanova@rocketmail.com.



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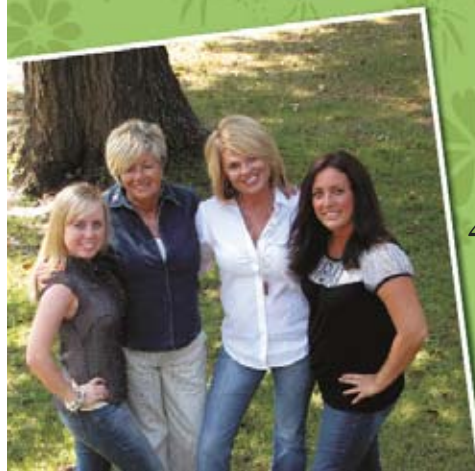
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June PineNeedler

BY MART DICKERSON

Flag Day June 14

ACROSS

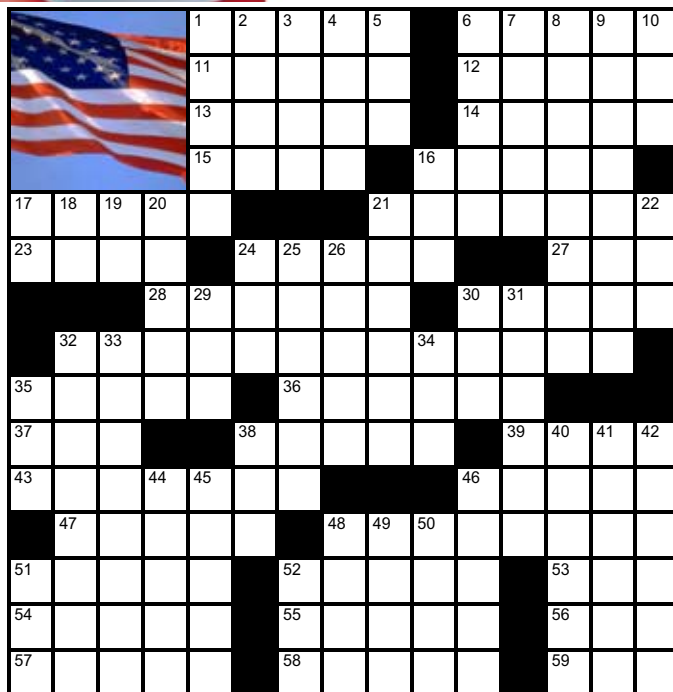
1. Celebrated on June 14th-FLAG DAY
6. Number of STARS
11. Mrs. Bush
12. Burning
13. Dilettantish, In vogue
14. Dark
15. "Vigilance and Justice" FLAG COLOR
16. Dries tears
17. Accumulate
21. ____, Mark, Luke an John
23. Frankly my dear. I don't give a ____
24. Vinyl collectible
27. "Rocks"
28. Greasier
30. French stop
32. City token takers
35. "Purity and Innocence" FLAG COLOR
36. Boasted, bragged
37. Ring bearer,

- maybe
38. Aquarium fish
 39. Wraps arms around
 43. Unit of sound
 46. Fret
 47. Having good pitch
 48. Number of STRIPES
 51. Electric wirings
 52. Durable fabric
 53. P.I., i.e.
 54. Opinion
 55. Synthetic silky fabric
 56. Charlotte to Raleigh dir.
 57. Beasts of burden
 58. Southern drawl
 59. "Hardiness and Courage" FLAG COLOR

DOWN

1. Fatty folds of skin
2. "Duke of ____"
3. Ballerina skirt
4. Gaelic
5. Calendar square
6. Tennis mistake
7. "Otherwise..."

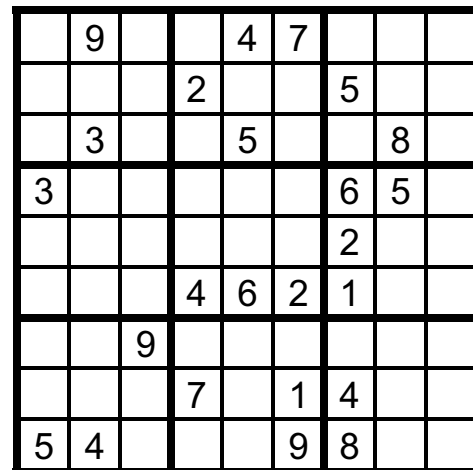
8. Dirtier
9. Divides into thirds
10. "Are we there ____?"
16. "Kapow!"
17. TV spot
18. Pa's mate
19. Morning hour abbr.
20. Piggish laughter
21. Softly mumble
22. Tiny
24. Cassius Clay nickname
25. Door frame header
26. Brought forth
29. Mamie's man
30. Absorbed, as a cost
31. Sizzling (2 words)
32. Touring cars
33. Former USAF (2 words)
34. In-flight info, for short
35. Tie the knot
38. __ Aviv
40. Kidney-to-bladder duct



41. Lorne of Bonanza fame
42. Kept in time, as in karaoke
44. ____ time (soon)
45. Wood fibers for making ropes
46. Incorrect
48. Unfreeze
49. "Hey," "Hi," "How are you?" slang
50. Knowing, as a secret
51. Cloak-and-dagger org.
52. Computer monitor, for short

Puzzle answers on page 83

Sudoku Fill in the grid so every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9.



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A Pocket Full of Kisses

In faraway Oriental, family reunions and Uncle Dan's chocolate made everything special

BY FLORENCE GILKESON

Oriental was a sparsely settled village when I was growing up in eastern North Carolina.

Today the Pamlico County village is still small, but it has become a tourist and retirement Mecca replete with bed and breakfast places, cozy restaurants and family parks. In 2008, *The News & Observer* of Raleigh designated Oriental as one of its "Road Trip Getaways" in the newspaper's Vacation Guide advertising supplement. The article said a visitor could drive 15 miles without encountering a stoplight.

In my childhood you could drive much farther without stopping at a red light or even slowing for amber.

A cousin living in neighboring Carteret County recently took me back to Oriental. I was amazed at the changes in a place referred to as North Carolina's "sailing capital," an inviting star of our "Inner Banks." The house where a great-uncle once lived was still standing, but I did not recognize it.

Visits to Oriental were frequent in the late 1930s and early 1940s and would have been even more frequent had it not been for the restrictions first of the Great Depression and later of World War II. Then Uncle Dan died, and the trips came to an end.

The house that was Uncle Dan's was a child's delight with a porch wrapping almost around three sides and a stile-type gate toward the rear. My grandmother, who was Uncle Dan's second wife, died shortly after my birth so I have no recollection of her. But I dearly loved Uncle Dan, who really was my great-uncle, inasmuch as he had married his widowed sister-in-law, my grandmother, after the death of his first wife. My grandmother probably reasoned that she would have to help him care for his six children as well as her own two, so they might as well marry. Uncle Dan was my only grandparent figure.

Family reunions were big occasions, and Lily, the housekeeper, always prepared a feast that was set out on the long dining table in a room lined with windows overlooking side yards. The children were relegated to the kitchen table, where Lily presided and made sure we behaved, ate our vegetables and minded our manners.

Shortly after their arrival, my aunts would hustle around the corner to the old artesian well, the water from which they insisted was good for your health. I tried it once and it tasted foul, strong of medicine tinged with sulphur. My mother would go along with her cousins/sisters but I

never felt she shared their enthusiasm for that artesian water.

Uncle Dan operated what was probably the only grocery, or general merchandise, store in Oriental. He sold everything from fresh vegetables and canned goods to fresh meat, clothing and hardware. The store always smelled faintly of ripening bananas.

What I liked best of all was the assortment of candy. Uncle Dan soon learned of my passion for Hershey's chocolate kisses and always had a supply available when I visited. He would ask if I had a pocket, which I almost always did, and he would fill the pocket with kisses.

It didn't take long for me to catch on. In those days most of my dresses were designed and made by an unmarried aunt who lived in the Williams homeplace a few counties away. So, I insisted that she make dresses with pockets. She willingly complied, and certainly no child ever had more dresses, blouses, skirts, jackets or jumpers with big pockets than I had. To this day, I like a pocket in all garments, but the use is not as pleasant — I need them for such necessities as keys and tissues.

The living room was a dark, musty place with wicker furniture. The house had a long staircase running between the store and the living quarters. I have no idea what kind of heat was provided, but I remember that heat floated up through vents in the floors of upstairs bedrooms. We would stand over the vents to warm up before going to bed.

We children always called him Uncle Dan, but I noticed that friends in Oriental called him Captain Dan. For years I thought it was just a title of respect; then I learned that in earlier years Uncle Dan had captained fishing and pleasure boats for visitors to the village. Uncle Dan really was a captain.

Today Oriental is just as peaceful as it was more than half a century ago. It's still a fishing and sailing paradise. It may have changed since my childhood, but at least the ambience is the same. It just lacks Uncle Dan and chocolate kisses. PS

Florence Gilkeson is a senior writer at *The Pilot*.

