

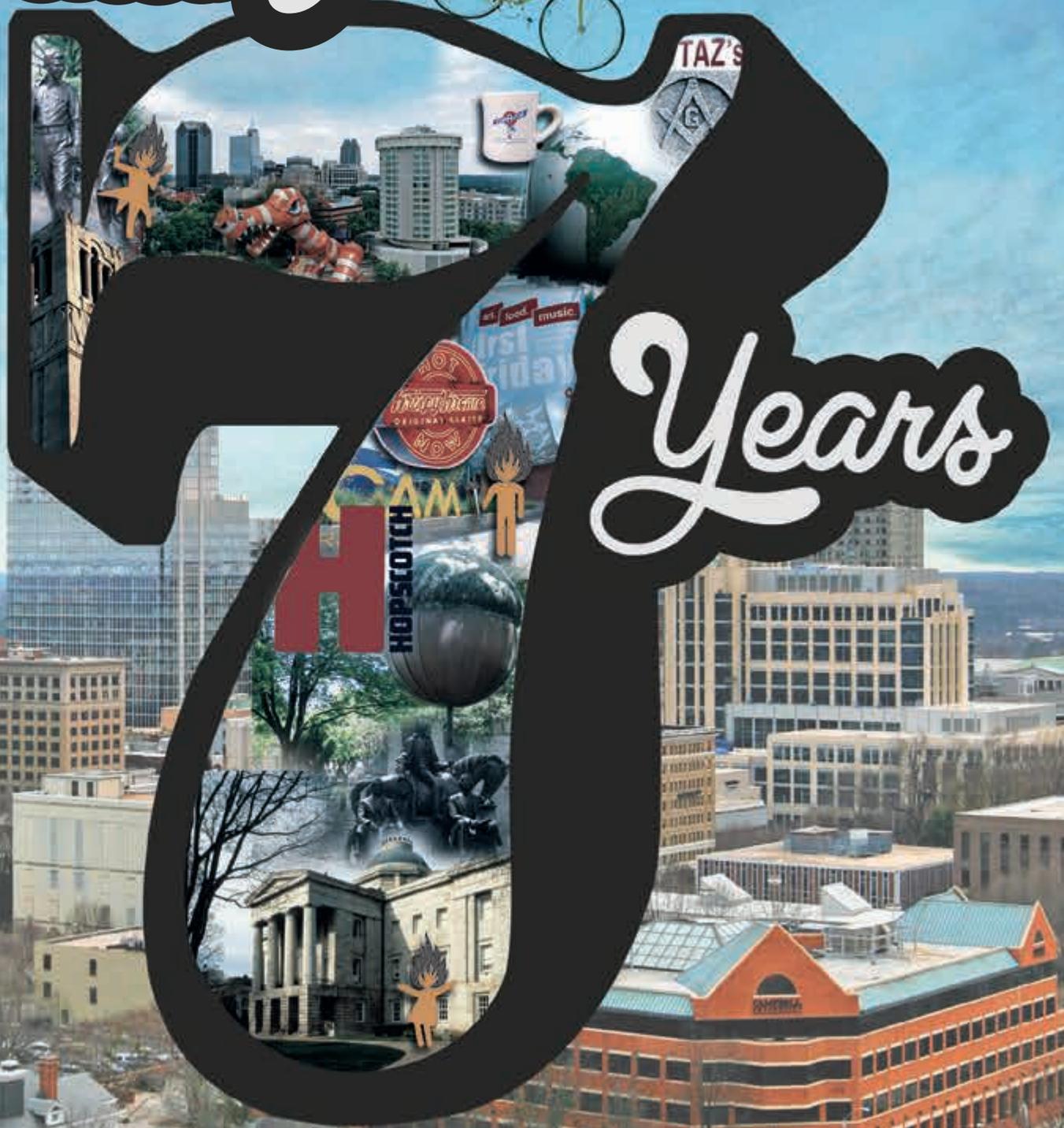
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VOLUME 8, ISSUE 11

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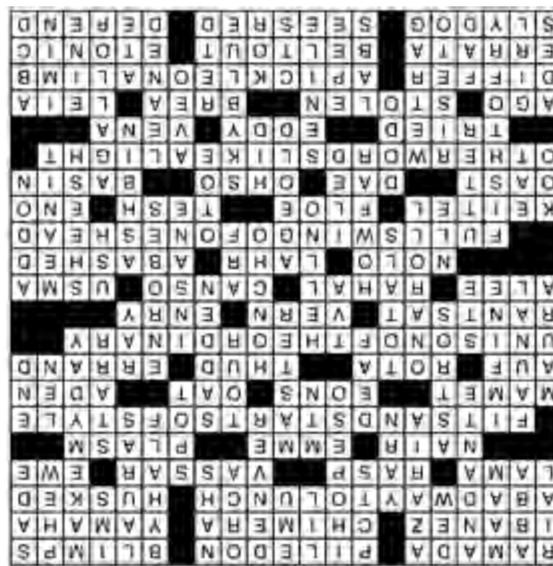
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4. Celebrating Seven Great Years in Downtown
8. 10 Questions with Ira David Wood
9. From the Publisher
10. Retail: DECO Raleigh
11. It's Time for Raleigh Winterfest
13. The BEST Initiative: Public Art
16. Triangle Dining: Maximillian's
18. "Shop Downtown" Encourages Holiday Shopping Downtown
19. Local Gallery News
20. Where's it @?
21. Uncorked: Choosing Your Holiday Wines
22. Local History: The Doctor's Bag
23. Business: 25 Most Hacked Passwords of 2012
24. Downtown Snapshot From the Downtown Raleigh Alliance
25. Designing Great Places: Building a Better Person (Street)



Puzzle answers from page 18

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Celebrating 7 Great Years in Downtown

BY CRASH GREGG, PUBLISHER

Downtown Raleigh, November 2005. Fayetteville Street was Fayetteville Mall, there were only a handful of restaurants and bars, and foot traffic on a weekend night was nearly non-existent. But my brother Randall Gregg, business partner Sig Hutchinson and I all felt something in the air downtown; times were changing and it was coming soon. Our first issue hit the streets with quiet fanfare that same month and all 10,000 issues were quickly snatched up before the Christmas issue came out. We've been lucky to have a nearly 100 percent pickup rate from the beginning, which shows just how much people love reading about downtown.

It's hard to believe we're already celebrating the 7th anniversary of the *Downtowner* this month. Within the last seven years, we've seen more than a hundred new businesses, restaurants and bars set up shop in downtown Raleigh, the re-opening of Fayetteville Street in 2006 with its event-centric City Plaza, the construction of PNC (formerly RBC) Plaza tower, and the re-birth and busy renaissance of Wilmington, Hargett, Martin, Davie, and Salisbury Streets, as well as Greenwood Avenue south. Retail is still on a slow upswing, but with the recent opening of DECO Raleigh and Kindred, it's finally moving in the right direction.

Downtown loves events. Raleigh Wide Open, First Night, Artsposure, SPARKcon, and dozens of other smaller events as well as conventions and meetings in the new Raleigh Convention Center have brought millions of residents and visitors into downtown since we began our publication. With even more diverse and varied events planned for next year, even more people will discover downtown.

So what sparked this interest in downtown Raleigh? It's actually a national phenomenon that's been occurring over the last few years, with people all over the

country moving closer to downtowns. So much so, that for the first time in a century, most of America's largest cities are growing at a faster rate than the surrounding suburbs. Urban dwellers—mainly younger renters, but homeowners as well—are flocking back to areas where a highly concentrated hub of activities is within a short distance. To a growing segment of society, the ownership of large-lot McMansions with two-car garages in a suburban maze far from

the urban landscape no longer represents the American dream. Young adults are delaying careers, marriage and children in preference of proximity to jobs, entertainment and social activities, short-term commitments on housing, and the public transportation and bike/pedestrian paths that shuffle them between both. A smaller demographic of empty-nest baby boomers who still lead an active lifestyle are also choosing to move closer to downtown, attracted by the same benefits as their younger counterparts. Studies show that urban dwellers tend to walk and bike more, allowing them to be more physically active and become my socially engaged. These residents tend to be healthier

and happier than their suburban counterparts.

The *Downtowner* itself has seen a lot of change these past seven years. We've moved four times, the last time after a devastating house/office fire in April of this year that destroyed all our computers, cameras, digital and paper files, and furniture. We're still recovering but like to think we're stronger and more determined than ever now to be the de facto magazine for downtown. We'll be adding new columns, more photos, an even bigger social media presence (we have almost 10,000 followers between our Facebook [www.facebook.com/RaleighDowntowner] and Twitter [www.twitter.com/WeLoveDowntown] accounts), more downtown-centric events, videos of our

interviews and event coverage, and much more. With all the new copies we'll be delivering in Durham, Wake Forest, Apex and Cary starting in January, we'll be doubling our 72,000-plus readership each month to a staggering 140,000-plus readers monthly. We can't wait to write about and promote all the different downtowns in the Triangle and bring a new cohesiveness to the entire area. More awareness helps create more business and a better economy for our entire community. It's a win-win situation for everyone.

We asked a few of downtown's leaders, advocates and innovators to share their opinion of the *Downtowner*. We couldn't be prouder of what they had to say and are humbled to be able to provide downtown with a singular voice.



For seven wonderful years, the *Downtowner* has been making us aware of the many things that make our city so very special!

IRA DAVID WOOD III

“Downtown Raleigh has transformed over the past several years and the success of the *Raleigh Downtowner* has contributed to the success of that transformation. The magazine offers a wealth of information about downtown events, restaurants and other entertainments and has helped to attract residents and visitors to experience all that downtown Raleigh has to offer. The fact that the magazine is free also means that all of our citizens and visitors have access to great information about downtown events and entertainment opportunities. I enjoy reading the magazine to get new ideas about things to do and I love seeing pictures of everyone enjoying themselves downtown!”



Nancy McFarlane

NANCY MCFARLANE, RALEIGH MAYOR (2011-PRESENT)



Charles Meeker

“The *Downtowner* has focused on the people that make our Center City such a thriving place. Whether it's fashion, food or just plain fun, the *Downtowner* shines its light on what we all want to read about!”

CHARLES MEEKER, FORMER RALEIGH MAYOR (2001-2011)



J. Russell Allen

J. RUSSELL ALLEN, RALEIGH CITY MANAGER

“Congratulations to the *Downtowner* for its seven years of success in covering downtown news, events, people, and opportunities. One of the most unique aspects of living and working in a downtown is the unique people and places we get to enjoy every day. The *Downtowner* has helped us to make those connections and make sure we don't miss anything.”



Mary-Ann Baldwin

people featured in every edition. It gives you a sense of who is out and about and all the fun things going on in downtown Raleigh.”

MARY-ANN BALDWIN,
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, AT LARGE

“Congratulations on the *Downtowner's* 7th anniversary! No other publication has its fingers on the pulse of Raleigh's urban core, its happenings and its continuing evolution

like the *Downtowner*. Even as connected to the city and downtown as I am as a Raleigh City Councilor, I am always amazed to learn something new when I pick up your paper. You and your staff keep up the extraordinary good work. I look forward to visiting your pages for many years to come!”

THOMAS CROWDER, RALEIGH CITY COUNCIL
MEMBER, DISTRICT D



Thomas Crowder



Eugene Weeks

“Your magazine has been very informative on business, entertainment and eating establishments in and around the City of Raleigh. Your approach to disseminate information to the citizens of Raleigh is above reproach.”

EUGENE WEEKS,
RALEIGH CITY COUNCIL,
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>>>



“Before the *Downtowner*, downtown had no cohesiveness, no acknowledged identity. It was morphing; lurching first here, then there. The *Downtowner* made us all aware that we are an entity. There is a symbiosis that makes us great and growing greater. We are mutually supportive, even of those who may be in the same business. We're not in competition; we are downtown Raleigh. There is more than enough to go around for everyone. Quite honestly, one of my very favorite features of the *Downtowner* is the candid photos section. It makes me happy to see people that I know—and those I wish I knew—reveling in our Center City. Keep up the great work. It's important to us.”

JAYNE KIRKPATRICK,
CITY OF RALEIGH PUBLIC RELATIONS

“The *Downtowner* is a go-to guide for people who want to know what new restaurants are open, what their downtown neighbors are doing, and what trends are happening. I like the pictures of

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“Congratulations! The *Downtowner Magazine* was a pioneer in supporting downtown’s revitalization by promoting the eclectic mix of amenities that can only be discovered in Raleigh’s downtown. We thank the *Downtowner* for keeping their readers abreast of the ongoing growth and success of downtown. Thank you!”

DAVID DIAZ, PRESIDENT & CEO,
DOWNTOWN RALEIGH ALLIANCE



David Diaz

“I cannot imagine that any city in the United States has undergone a more dramatic transformation than Raleigh in the last seven years. Who could have guessed that there would be visitors and conventioners crowding our streets and that a lively day and an active



Roger Krupa

night lifestyle would prevail in our City’s core? I think that the *Downtowner* “imagined it” and I think Crash “guessed it.” Or did they will it? Thank you for seven years of downtown advocacy. Let’s keep moving forward in making this City the most dynamic place we have yet to envision.”

ROGER KRUPA, DIRECTOR,
RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER

“There is a special vibrancy about downtown Raleigh. Now that Fayetteville Street is once more open to the public, Raleighites

are uncovering treasures they never dreamed existed within the city limits. For seven wonderful years, the *Downtowner* has been making us aware of the many things that make our city so very special! HAPPY ANNIVERSARY *Downtowner*! And here’s to many more years of entertaining discovery!”

IRA DAVID WOOD III, DIRECTOR,
THEATRE IN THE PARK / THE ULTIMATE
SCROOGE IN A CHRISTMAS CAROLE

“The *Downtowner* makes a great impact on the Raleigh community and especially the Glenwood South district by giving a voice to business owners and chefs. This magazine has been an important way that we express the passion and personality of our restaurants to the entire Raleigh area. Even if you are not a Raleigh local, you could pick up an issue and truly understand the depth of what Raleigh has to offer.”



Niall Hanley

NIALL HANLEY, OWNER, HIBERNIAN IRISH PUB/SOLAS



Gerald Owens

“A classy publication that has its finger on the pulse of the Capital City in terms of entertainment, food, style and business. If you want to know what to do, where to go and who to see, the *Downtowner* is where you want to be.”

GERALD OWENS, WRAL-TV 5 NEWS ANCHOR



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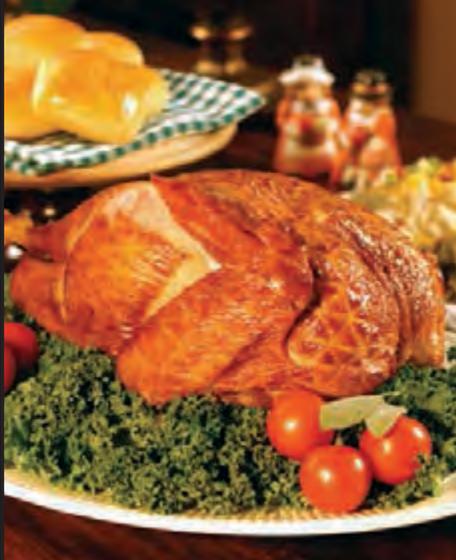
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Pam Saulsby

“The *Raleigh Downtowner Magazine*” is great. I am always stopped by the cover. The photography catches my glance every time. And heck, I’ve lived in the Triangle so long, I almost always personally know the people who are profiled! The reporting is excellent. The interesting and timely articles often keep me company when I’m rocking the boring stationary bike at the gym. Even the ads are cool! The magazine never piles up on my nightstand; I devour it! I love, love, love the 10 Questions section. As a performer, I find the rundown on what’s happening on the local music scene especially helpful. The *Raleigh Downtowner Magazine* is a gem I can count on to deliver the goods!”

PAM SAULSBY, WNCN-17 ANCHOR

There are big changes coming to the *Downtowner*. In January we’ll drastically increase our coverage area to include other downtowns in the Triangle, and the first issue of 2013 will grace our new name—*Triangle Downtowner Magazine*. Downtown Raleigh will still be our home base and main focus, but as other downtowns continue to grow, so will the frequency of their articles, ads and photos. Each downtown area has its own unique personality and particular strong points that help make the Triangle a livable, enjoyable and enviable area. No other region in the State can compete with the Triangle’s downtowns, and no other publication

can cover it like the *Downtowner*, the most-read magazine in the Triangle per issue.

We’d like to thank all the media trailblazers that came before us, making our job easier, respectable and enjoyable: Josephus Daniels and the Daniels family of *The News & Observer*; Steve Schewel, founder of the recently-sold *The Independent Weekly* and co-founder of the Hopscotch Music Fest; and Bernie Reeves of *Metro Magazine* and the former *Spectator Magazine*. Thanks for paving the way.

We’d also like to thank all our advertisers though the years, especially those who have been with us from the beginning who have made the *Downtowner* possible, our supporters, all the small business owners who keep our community employed, the City of Raleigh Mayor and City Council and all its employees for helping to make our city the best in the State and possibly the country, and all our writers, photographers, copyeditors, volunteers, and contributors. Most of all, we’d especially like to thank our readers. You’re the reason we’re here to begin with and why we’ll be around for another seven years. You’ve made the *Downtowner* the most popular magazine in Raleigh and soon-to-be the most popular in the Triangle. Keep those suggestions, kudos and photos coming in and thanks for supporting our advertisers with such loyalty. We appreciate all of you more than you know.

We look forward to the next seven years of providing our readers with all that is entertaining, fun, fashionable, artistic, tasty, and exciting. All that is... downtown. 🍷



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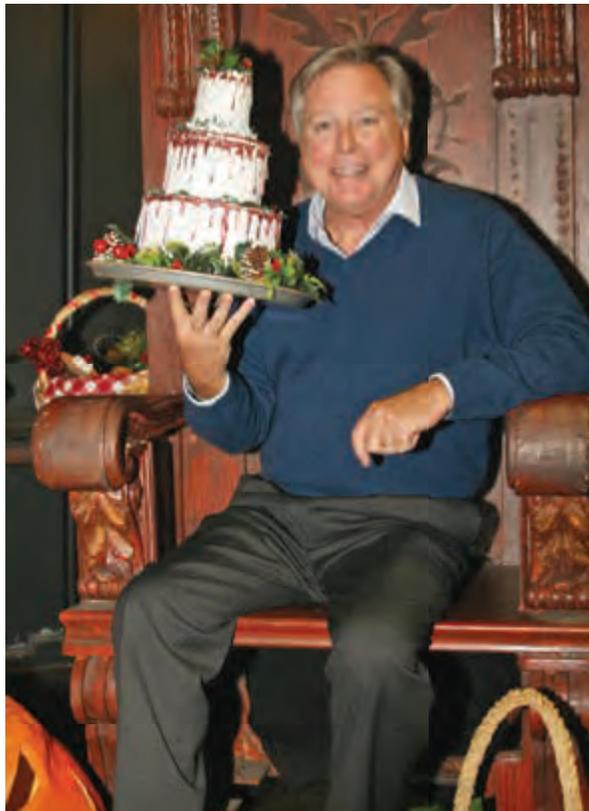
1 QUESTIONS

with Ira David Wood III

Celebrating his 38th year as Scrooge in Theatre in the Park's adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*

BY CRASH GREGG

A little about David, in his own words: I was born and raised in Halifax County and was the first Eagle Scout in my hometown. My guidance counselor came to me in school one day and said, "You belong in a place with other crazy people." So I auditioned for Governor's School. I made that, and then I auditioned for and was accepted into the first year of The School of the Arts when it opened in Winston-Salem in 1965. I spent my summers performing at the Lost Colony on the Outer Banks and after college, I came back and worked as the first theatre arts consultant for the department of Public Instruction for a year and then was asked to take over the Raleigh Children's Theatre. I changed the name to Theatre In The Park because we found a new home in the northern end of Pullen Park. It was going to be a short gig, two or three years, but it's been over 40 now. I have a daughter, Evan Rachel Wood, and son, Ira David, who are 25 and 28 respectively. Our newest addition was born in July, Thomas Miller Wood. I also have a new son-in-law, Jamie Bell, whom Evan just married.



1 When did you first realize you wanted to get into acting as a full-time career? It was at kindergarten follies and I had to sing the song, "Somebody Loves Me" to a little girl I absolutely hated, and people bought it. So I said, "You know, I may have a career here." That was the first time I thought it was pretty fun to be in front of people.

2 If you couldn't be an actor, what else might you have done? Definitely a writer, but I might have been a history teacher since I love history.

3 What's your favorite comfort food? Right now I'd say it's a cabbage I make. Everybody loves it and my in-laws worship it, so I think by popular opinion it would be my cabbage.

4 Do you have a favorite movie or television show? TV show would definitely be *Dexter*. Michael C. Hall is from Raleigh and has played Peter Cratchet in *A Christmas Carol*. It's a great show with lots of plot

twists. Favorite movie I think would be *To Kill A Mockingbird*. We're going to perform it this year, by the way.

5 What's your preference: phone, email or text? I like to hear the human voice so I'd say phone but I still text, too. I didn't think I could live with a cell phone. Now I can't live without it.

6 If you could play any acting role, what would it be? Phantom of the Opera. I fantasize sometimes that I can sing, and boy you have to in that role. I saw it in its last week in London before it moved to Broadway and I loved it. It was absolutely incredible. It's a daunting role, but it's one that I would love to play.

7 Your son stepped in for you when you took a "vacation" at Wake Med recently; how proud were you of his performance? Extremely proud; he amazed me. When they told me I had to go in for open-heart surgery, he was the first one I called. When he came to the house I said, "Hello Mr. Scrooge," right as he

walked in. He asked, "Are you serious?" and I replied with a grin, "I'm as serious as a heart attack."

He stepped right into the role. When I went to see it, I was amazed. It was like watching myself onstage. He grew up with the show all his life, so he knew the nuances; he knew everything. (Laughing) I'm very proud of him but I told him not to get used to it.

8 Do you have any fun or interesting hobbies? I love photography, and I travel a lot with a camera in the car. One thing that mesmerizes me, particularly in NC, are the tobacco barns. They're slowly going away and eventually we'll never see them again. Every time I see a tobacco barn, I always get out and photograph it. Old farm houses too. The South we knew is fading; it's a whole new place now.

9 Tell us something that people might not know about you. I'm an ordained minister and actually officiated at my daughter's recent wedding. Every Friday at my house around five, David Crabtree from WRAL-TV, Jack Radford (who's a former Methodist minister), and David Henderson of Theatre in the Park and I get together and have communion over a single malt and discuss life.

10 What's your favorite topical allusion that you've worked into *A Christmas Carol* that still makes you laugh today? Monica Lewinsky, without a doubt. The audience laughed for five minutes without stopping. I was sitting behind my desk, fussing at Bob Cratchet, and I return to my work and my line was, "Where was I?" This hand comes up from underneath the desk with a piece of parchment, I take the parchment, the hand goes down, and I look at the hand and I say, "Thank you Monica." The audience just dies. When the laughter tapers off I say, "Go ahead and laugh, but you're not going to have as much fun as I am." And the audience dies laughing again.

For a full video interview with David, visit <http://bitly.com/interviewIDW> or scan the QR code.





RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER MAGAZINE

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From the Publisher



It's hard to believe it's been seven years since the first *Downtowner* appeared in Raleigh. We've been proud to help downtown develop and have grown right along with it. According to sources, we're now the most-read monthly or weekly magazine in Raleigh, and once we begin distribution in Durham in January, we'll be most-read in the Triangle. We have our wonderful readers, our dedicated writers, our advertisers and our supporters to thank for that. As we continue to grow, we have plans for new columns, more features, online articles, and more events in the next few years. We're looking forward to working with the folks at the Durham Chamber, Downtown Durham Inc., the American Tobacco Campus as well as fans of downtown Durham to help us make their city's center prosper as we have in downtown Raleigh.

There are a lot of cool things happening in downtown Durham, and we think it's a natural fit even for those who

live, work and play in downtown Raleigh. We plan on encouraging people from both downtowns to visit each other, promote the local community by supporting local businesses and share the fun with our neighbors. We're all downtowners, and our mutual love and excitement about being here is our common bond. Here's to downtown, our community, the Triangle continuing to maintain its growth, the area's friendliness, our passion for food, arts, music, and being green, and enjoying every minute of it.

Cheers,

CRASH GREGG

Publisher, *Raleigh Downtowner Magazine*
publisher@raleighdowntowner.com

DECO RALEIGH

New gift shop brings more retail downtown

BY CRASH GREGG

During the first weeks of business at Deco Raleigh, owner Pam Blondin expected some attention, but she says, “The level of excitement and gratitude from our customers has been overwhelming.”

“People are starved for places to shop after work, during lunch hour or on a weekend afternoon,” she continues. “In the first week, people came alone to check us out, and by the second, they were bringing friends, family and co-workers.” The store opened for business Nov. 2 and celebrated with a grand opening Nov. 9 that drew more than 250 people. During the ribbon cutting ceremony, City Councilwoman Mary Ann Baldwin thanked Blondin for “being brave enough to take this risk to help evolve downtown Raleigh.”



Deco Raleigh is located at the corner of Hargett and Salisbury streets in the historic Odd Fellows building in the old Est Est Est Trattoria restaurant location (for those of you who’ve been in Raleigh for as long as this writer has). Blondin confesses some nervousness when, after more than a year of discussing options, Empire Properties president Andrew Stewart proposed the site. “So much activity is centered at Wilmington and Hargett, I wasn’t sure we could draw people to the other side of Fayetteville,” she recalls. “But once I saw the space from the inside, I knew it was the right decision.”

The corner spot features two walls of 18-foot windows, exposed infrastructure and simple track lighting. “It’s like a New York loft,” one customer observed, “It’s the kind of shop Raleigh needs!” Blondin is dedicated in her commitment to embracing and sharing the history of the 1924 building, especially apt for a store named for the artistic style favored during that decade, Art Deco. Before the end of the year, the storefront will feature a vintage-style neon sign at the doorway.

So, once you enter, what might you find in DECO Raleigh? Eclectic, colorful, humorous and unpredictable are the best adjectives for the collection of cards, gifts, books and out-of-the ordinary housewares. Price points range from a generous selection

of earrings made in-house and sold for \$10-\$15 to original works of art and one-of-a-kind jewelry priced between one and several hundred dollars. “At the outset, I want to offer a huge range of products and prices, to see where our customers gravitate,” says Blondin. She and a team of family and friends tagged more than 9,000 individual items in the days leading up to opening.

“Basically, I wanted to create the sort of store where I’d like to shop,” Blondin reflects. She and her husband John, Physics Department Head at NC State, live downtown and miss the vibrant street life they experienced living in places like Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, and State Street in Madison, Wisconsin. “I’ve been making mental notes for years, whenever I travel for work or pleasure, about what makes a shop feel welcoming—and frankly, about what makes me happy.”

Blondin started planning in earnest about two years ago and took the leap last January when she left a 30-year career in non-profits that culminated with a seven-year stint as Director of Susan G. Komen for the Cure’s NC Triangle Affiliate. While she had no experience in retail, she spent about six months studying, crunching numbers and learning from experts. “The more I learned, the more fun I had—and the more convinced I became that this could work for Raleigh.” She hired a store manager with considerable retail experience and the rest of her help comes from friends and family. “My family is really taking one for the team—not only are we



living on one income instead of two, they’re all incredibly helpful and supportive.”

Accessibility and flexibility have been the keys to success during the first month of business. While many downtown businesses close at 5pm, Deco Raleigh’s 7pm closing time has allowed downtown workers to shop after work and residents to shop after getting home. And based on feedback from customers, it took only two weeks for Blondin to decide that Sunday hours were worth a try: the first Sunday they were open, DECO Raleigh had more than 75 visitors between 11am and 5pm.

In terms of merchandise sales, customers have a lot to say about what will

be added and what will disappear. Blondin has already placed orders to expand some popular offerings, including several humorous product and greeting card lines. Earlier this week, one customer exclaimed, “Someone here has a fiendish sense of humor, and I love it!” It’s not at all unusual to hear laughter emanating from various corners of the shop. The culprits: cards with captions like “my face hurts from pretending to like you,” books with titles like *Stuff on My Cat*, and gifts including Luchador Bottle Openers and gnome-shaped cookie jars. But equally popular are unique and one-of-a-kind pieces like quirky mugs crafted by a Carrboro potter, handmade jewelry by regional artisans and fair-trade items from several continents. “I may have gone a bit overboard stocking the shelves,” confesses Blondin, “but so far, it seems like there are customers for just about everything we have.”

So, does Blondin see a long-term future for retail in Raleigh? “Honestly? The test will be to see if we’re here a year from now and if I can afford to start paying myself at least minimum wage. I’m putting every penny of profit back into the store because I truly want to see this concept succeed. But the bottom line is that our success or failure is in the hands of consumers. If Raleigh’s residents and workers are really ready for retail, they are the ones who will determine if we sink or swim.”



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It's Time for Raleigh Winterfest

Put on your overcoats and make your way to City Plaza on Saturday, Dec. 1, for the opening celebration of Raleigh Winterfest, a two-month long event featuring an outdoor skating rink with natural ice, a Ferris wheel, sledding ramps, and other fun activities. The opening ceremony will run from 3-9pm and the ice rink will be open from 2-11pm.

Mayor Nancy McFarlane will light the 35-foot, North Carolina-grown Norway spruce at 7pm then Nu Blue and Kickin' Grass bands will take the stage at 7:30pm getting Raleigh warmed up for the International Blue Grass Music Association's convention that will be livening up Raleigh next autumn.

The festival will offer a stage full of performers including a vast range of local choirs, bands and entertainers. The family fun event will also offer sledding ramps, carriage rides, bounce houses, a carousel, more than 40 vendors offering the fare of local restaurants, a crafts and artisans market, and of course, Santa Claus himself in his village with several of his helpers.

Also new for this Winterfest kickoff, a 42-foot outdoor movie screen will be showing "The Polar Express" at 5:30pm and 7:30pm.

The free kickoff extravaganza will be followed by two months of programming at the AT&T Raleigh Winterfest Rink including Sledding Sundays, Two for One Tuesdays, Work Out Wednesdays, Date 'n Skate Thursday, Rock around the Rink Fridays and All-Day Skate Saturdays. The ice rink will be open six days a week from Dec. 1 through Jan. 30. Admission is \$8 and includes skate rentals. For complete information on hours of operation, directions and schedule events, visit www.RaleighWinterfest.com.

If you can't make it down to the opening ceremony, be sure to catch the half-hour long special on WTVD ABC-11 Saturday, Dec. 8, 2012 at 7:30pm. The *Downtowner* is a proud supporter of Winterfest again this year.



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The BEST Initiative: Public Art in Raleigh

BY PATRICK SHANAHAN

The streets of Raleigh are usually filled with a canopy of green; however, when the leaves begin to fall, they transform into endless painted colors swirling in the wind. Sometimes we forget to stop and take in our surroundings, but when we pause to behold nature's bold and bright canvas, it is uplifting and inspiring. All it takes is a splash of color.

One group making a splash in downtown is Beautifying Emerging Spaces Together (BEST), a public arts group centered on community development and regeneration. It started with a mission: To bring out the inherent beauty of neglected or abandoned storefronts while welcoming new ideas and growth within the community.

Raleigh experienced a vast urban sprawl over the last several decades, with much of downtown forgotten, the streets deserted after dark. Fortunately, over the last few years there has been an amazing revitalization of downtown with an explosion of culture and opportunity. Downtown has become a 24-7 destination known for diverse restaurants, cocktail venues, eclectic museums, and performing arts. However, unlike downtown-centric Philadelphia, Austin, Chicago and New York, Raleigh lacks adequate exposure to public art.



Public art helps liven tourism, exposes the region to our national and foreign neighbors, creates family-friendly environments, and brightens streets and corridors of a community. It imposes on our visual senses just enough for an observer to take as much or as little from it as they wish. However, public art is usually considered as an afterthought within a community instead of an identified need. Through BEST, a group of local artists and residents are breaking the mold for how the city is exposed to public art. BEST founder Donna Belt took on the quest to bring art to the streets of downtown Raleigh. Where one artist may not have succeeded, Belt aligned herself with the Downtown Raleigh Alliance and the Downtown Living Advocates, which in tandem, created the means to help spread the BEST mission, while making sure all codes and regulations are met.



Under the guidance of Kalesia Kuenzel, the first BEST project featured the art of local school children in an empty window in The Hue Building on Hargett Street. This space has since been rented and the installation has been removed. The second BEST offering was the installation of five art panels on the exterior of the abandoned Old Raleigh Sandwich Shop on Wilmington Street. The artist, Patrick Shanahan, created a tribute to the people who shaped Raleigh and North Carolina in the past and those who are making a difference today. The building gained local interest and the new management is currently discussing renovating the space for possible tenants. For BEST's third initiative on the 300 block of Wilmington Street, local artist Sean Marlin jumped at the opportunity to illustrate the idea of what the building could be. What excited Marlin most was that his work was not in a gallery but on the streets of Raleigh—it was not pretentious and accessible to all passing by.

After three successes, the BEST team asked "What next"? Local artist and Raleigh Arts Commission member Jason Craighead suggested the Dillon Supply Building on S. West Street, a large brick structure commanding the streets in the Warehouse District. Faded painted letters on the side of the building offer a glimpse of its vitality in another time. The Warehouse District has become the epicenter for the arts in Downtown and is the host to Flanders Art Gallery, The Visual Art Exchange, the Contemporary Arts Museum, Designbox and 311 Gallery. Unfortunately, an unsuspecting passerby could walk through the Warehouse District

without taking the time to enter and experience each gallery. Therefore, a public art initiative fit right into the equation: art spilling out of the galleries and onto the walls of old forgotten buildings.

When the Dillon Building became a center point of discussion, Craighead, Shanahan and Bill Beatty developed a vision of a mural to highlight Raleigh's forward growth and new horizons regarding public transportation. BEST obtained permission from the Triangle Transportation Authority, the owner of the Dillon Building, to paint its next public canvas on the building. Through the City of Raleigh's support, donations from local businesses and public art enthusiasts, the project became a reality. Ira Goldstein of Jerry's Artarama was instrumental in donating the necessary paint and supplies for the project.

The Dillon Project is well underway and nearly two hundred students have placed their handprints on the panels, symbolizing our future and the hands that will build it. A group of 50+ dedicated volunteers also helped with the mural project. Art is a fundamental component of our culture, and through public art in Downtown Raleigh, we can bridge the gap between the citizen, the art lover and the business. As Beatty, one of the visionaries of the mural said, "BEST has built a strong model for public art that could be implemented in cities all over the country." It is clear that BEST's mission has begun to take flight in Raleigh, but looking forward. Yes, all that is needed is a splash of color. 🎨

Patrick Shanahan is a native Raleigh artist, filmmaker and storyteller. You can keep up with him at <http://artbypatrick.tumblr.com>.



Patrick Shanahan



Kalesia Kuenzel



Jason Craighead



AROUNDTOWN **AROUND** TOWN AROUNDTOWN

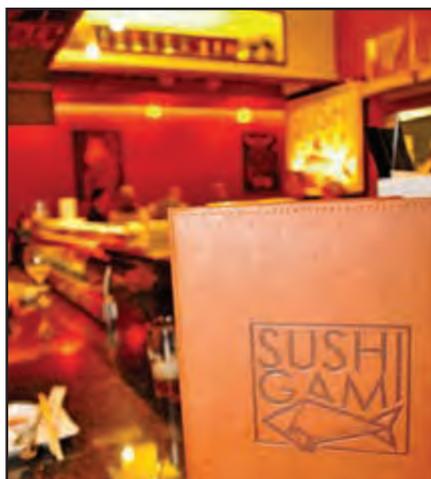


Over the past two decades, Betsy Bennett transformed the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences from a sleepy museum to a nationally-recognized science center and the state's most visited museum. Photos below are from her recent retirement party held at the museum. www.naturalsciences.org Photos by Doug Van De Zande



AROUNDTOWN **AROUND** TOWN AROUNDTOWN

Photos taken at the grand opening of Sushi Gami in Cameron Village. Good sushi plus burgers too! www.sushigamiNC.com Photos by Brandon Parnell





Maximillian's BY BRIAN ADORNETTO, FOOD EDITOR



A little over 20 years ago, Mike & Gayle Schiffer arrived in Cary with the idea of creating a quiet little neighborhood pizza joint. So, in 1991, the husband and wife team opened Maximillian's on Buck Jones Road and within months, they had earned several local awards. People began lining up and waiting for Mike's ever-changing menu of creative pastas and gourmet pizzas. All of a sudden, the Schiffer's modest 32-seat suburban eatery had become a big part of the Triangle's gastronomic landscape. As their notoriety and clientele grew, Mike and Gayle began supplementing their pizza and pastas by offering eclectic specials with exotic flavors. Even the 1998 fire that forced them to close couldn't stop Maximillian's mojo.

In 2001, the Schiffers reopened Maximillian's at its current Chapel Hill Road location (just nine miles

from downtown Raleigh). Not long ago, the culinary duo saw an opportunity to expand. They took on the adjacent space and split Max's into two distinct restaurants: a fine dining experimental fusion grill and an inventive casual pizza kitchen.

We recently had the chance to visit Maximillian's and were very impressed. Within minutes of entering the bustling Grille side of Max's, the dining room manager Margaret Hennessee greeted us warmly and showed us to our table, our waiter William told us the daily specials, and the barkeeper brought us our drinks. The staff's coordinated service was seamless, informative and unobtrusive the entire night.

The bright, herbaceous Thai Shrimp & Crab Cakes (\$9.95) had no filler and were accompanied by Asian Greens and a sweet and spicy ginger-palm sugar dipping sauce. The Hoisin Pork Ribs (\$9.95) were



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sticky, but not cloying. The peanut dusted pork was tender and succulent with hints of sesame, ginger and spice. The Crispy Chicken Hand Rolls (\$7.95) with coconut and kaffir lime were bright and nutty, a fresh take on chicken, which can sometimes be a boring appetizer. Next up was the El Kabong pizza (\$13.95). Topped with flank steak, poblano peppers, corn, oven dried tomatoes, fresh mozzarella, and fresh cilantro, this stone-baked masterpiece had it all. (I have seen my future and it includes a trip to Maximillian's Pizza Kitchen.)



One of Schiffer's signature dishes is his VooDoo Tuna (\$27.95). The pepper crusted tuna is expertly grilled and served over melt-in-your-mouth, fresh Mahogany Fire Noodles. The amazing noodles are tossed with a spicy, garlicky, sweet chili shellfish sauce. Another classic Maximillian's entrée is the Korean BBQ Steak (\$24.95). The fork-tender skirt steak comes with homemade kimchi, sticky rice, and Longevity Herb Salad (mint, cilantro, basil). The Korean BBQ sauce is spicy, meaty and nutty with a touch of gingery sweetness. The only time I needed my knife was to fend off a tablemate from stealing the last bite. One of my personal favorites is the Pork Tenderloin Mignons (\$23.95). Stuffed with apples, Gorgonzola and hazelnuts, these beauties are wrapped in

is then brought together and taken to even greater heights by the roasted mushroom-truffle sauce.

Gayle and Michael's desserts are equally impressive. The Key Lime Pie, with slivers of lime mixed right into it, is textbook. The Apple Walnut Deep Dish Pie is fabulous. This is what autumn tastes like. Their Carrot Cake is one of the best I've had in a long time. It is moist, nutty, fresh, and just sweet enough.

Maximillian's is a must. It's consistently named among the Top 25 Restaurants in the Triangle. Their service will please you and the adventurous menu will stretch your palate, excite your taste buds and challenge your quest for good food, as there's always something new waiting for your next visit. 🍴

Brian is a culinary instructor, food writer and chef. His Love at First Bite, LLC specializes in private cooking classes and intimate dinners. Please visit www.loveatfirstbite.net or reach him at brian@raleighdowntowner.com.

bacon, seared, then stone-roasted. They are served over rosemary-pancetta polenta and finished with a porcini mushroom, fig and red wine sauce. This dish is absolutely brilliant. My other entrée favorite is the sweet, buttery Sea Bass (\$27.95). The Smoked Gouda Ravioli that comes with the fish is sublime—creamy, earthy, salty, fabulous. The whole plate

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To create awareness about the diverse retailers located in the center city, the Downtown Raleigh Alliance (DRA) presents the third annual “Shop Downtown” campaign. The program consists of a Holiday Shopping Passport program with incentives and prizes, a detailed map and guide highlighting participating retailers, and a new, interactive Shop Downtown website (www.ShopDowntownRaleigh.com) that makes accessing information about shopping opportunities in downtown Raleigh quick and easy. The website features a

live twitter feed, an interactive map and a variety of interchangeable icons to feature new businesses, seasonal offers and events. The retail climate is on the upswing in downtown, and events are a great way for retailers to attract new shoppers. To help increase consumer traffic, the Shop Downtown website will feature retail events to highlight shopping opportunities in downtown.”

Participating retailers include businesses like DECO Raleigh, a newly-opened gift shop (see article on page 10 of this issue), nine local art galleries, men’s and women’s clothing, a wine shop, jewelry boutiques, an eye care center for glasses and sunglasses, museum shops, a garden shop, and many others.

To offer incentives to shoppers, the Downtown Raleigh Alliance is coordinating a Holiday Shopping Passport program. Shoppers may pick up Holiday Passports at participating stores and receive a sticker for every \$20 spent. Once a passport is filled with five stickers, shoppers may drop it off at a participating store (<http://bitly.com/shop-downtown-retailers>) to be entered to win one of over \$3,000 in great prizes. The Holiday Shopping Passport

program runs through Monday, Dec. 24. Winners will be selected on Thursday, Jan. 3 and notified via e-mail. Winners are responsible for picking up their prize at the Downtown Raleigh Alliance.

DRA’s Marketing Manager and program coordinator Ellen Fragola tells us, “We want people to be thinking about downtown as a shopping destination year round. The Holiday Passport is a great program to get holiday shoppers involved, and the website will enable us to promote the retailers on an ongoing basis. It will be downtown’s retail information hub.”

The website is intended to collectively promote retailers and showcase the diversity and quality of shops in the center city. Victor Lytvinenko, co-owner of Raleigh Denim, says, “By relocating downtown, we were able to expand our manufacturing business and add a retail space in the Warehouse District. Being a part of the community is important to our mission and having a shop allows us to engage directly with consumers.”

Downtowner Magazine is proud to help sponsor this local event again this year and encourage all our readers to always try to buy local first. 📍



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Local Gallery News BY MAX HALPEREN, ART EDITOR

There is of course nothing new in the use of found objects in modern art—witness Marcel Duchamp’s “Fountain,” a urinal displayed as sculpture and Bottle Rack, a bottle dryer found at a local bazaar, made famous back in 1914. What I find delightful in the three shows at NCSU’s Gregg Museum of Art and Design is their evolution from the single object, including “found” photographs, seen as somehow artful, to genuinely artful collections of detritus, both beautifully abstract and environmentally damning, and finally, to assemblages of primitivist altars and icons redolent of Santeria and yet hinting at contemporary racial and social problems.

“Art without Artists,” in Gregg’s largest gallery, has enormous range—from dress dummies to washboards, from street signs to insect collections, from heavy fire masks to a life mask of William Blake, from mug shots of criminals to a bulletin board.

Just as Duchamp did, the show raises questions about the name and nature of art as it is intended to. But however we define or undefine art, the act of taking objects completely out of context and placing them on walls and in vitrines forces us to examine them anew, and, often enough, turn them into something unfamiliar, even mysterious. There was something otherworldly in an old firefighter mask, something odd and ancient in an eyeless metal mask with a Roman haircut used by ophthalmology students when it was supplied with pig’s eyes.

At times I seemed to be in familiar territory. Given the impact of primitive art on painters and sculptors from the 19th century on, I could see a grinding mill post or a wall of bootjacks once used to pull off cowboy boots as part of a show of primitive art.

“Streaming: New Art From Old Bottles” fills the museum’s brightly lit entry room where environmental artist Bryant Holsenbeck has mounted a brilliant series of gleaming abstractions made from broken bottles, caps, straw, toys, and other castoffs. Holsenbeck and a number of volunteers scoured the NCSU campus one day,

finding great mounds of throwaways. Her installations are beautiful—in one, streams of green plastic fall from the ceiling into “rivers” of brass and blue bottle tops, corks and straw—but also call attention to the enormous damage these throwaways do to our oceans and landfills.

The third in the series is in the Gregg’s smallest gallery, but it is the most striking: “SPIRIT—FIRE—SHAKE!” has both carved and found materials in work by three African-American artists—Renee Stout, Kevin Sampson and Odinga Tyehimba. Dominating the room is Tyehimba’s fierce installation of eight figures and altars, several tied to branches or crosses or with hangman’s nooses draped over them. Much of it aimed at racial oppression, the installation “Rebel Shrine” has been over 11 years in the making by the Durham artist, whose work reflects Christian and African belief systems. Front and center is a black deathhead, its carved eyeless skull jauntily wearing a top hat, its skeletal arms covered with nooses. Near it, another black figure—this one tied to a cross—stands in a metal bin surrounded by white stakes suggesting ivory tusks. A knife he aims at his throat may hint that some of his problems are self-inflicted. A smaller black figure within the shrine is clearly and horribly crucified.

Renee Stout, who has received a number of important awards, created Fatima Mayfield, a fictitious herbalist, conjurer and fortuneteller as an alter ego and has a good deal of serious fun with her. In signage and bottles,

Fatima provides hope—herbs for protection, love, luck in gambling. More intriguing is her “House of Chance and Mischief,” built on an arcade game and supporting a bust of Legba, deity of chance and the West African guardian of the crossroads. The title of the assemblage is the name Stout assigned to Fatima’s



Tree with Verse by Richard Garrison, @ The Mahler

home. According to her notes, there is a knothole in the side of the arcade box where passersby can push wishful notes.

Kevin Sampson, a much-decorated former policeman and the son of a civil rights leader, has been creating objects, sardonic and otherwise, for years, employing very mixed media and materials. He began with a series of memorial altars after he suffered a number of deaths including

his wife, one son and others close to him. Later he branched out to broader themes. He attacks Wall Street as a murderer of the middle class. Tiny skulls litter the piece. Toy tracks are reminders, he says, of the robber barons that made huge fortunes in the 19th century. A large “altar” titled “The Treaty of Tordesillas,” Sampson notes, “is about the colonization of South America and the replacement of the indigenous gods with Christianity.” The treaty is a reminder of the hauteur with which Pope Alexander VI took it upon himself to divide newly discovered South America between Spain and Portugal—in 1493, one year after Columbus’s voyage. The piece, he says, deals not only with Western arrogance, but contains “a story of how the old gods are still watching over the people.”

Next year the Gregg moves to a much larger space on Hillsborough Street near the intersection of Oberlin Road, in the former home of the NCSU Chancellor.

The Mahler Gallery on Fayetteville Street has revealed an entirely new turn for that very accomplished artist Richard Garrison. Carefully avoiding the usual landscape clichés, 18 mixed media paintings of trees seek to turn leafless limbs into what Garrison describes as spiritual statements. Color is his instrument: The background of “Tree # 1” consists of very light orange and yellow squares against which Garrison places a near-blue, though dark, tree, that brightens near the top. With no sharp contrasts, the trunk and branches are distinct and yet part of the sky. 🌳

The Gregg Museum: www.ncsu.edu/gregg
Mahler Gallery: www.themahlerfinart.com



Detail from Rebel Shrine installation by Odinga Tyehimba, @ The Gregg Museum

Where's it @?



Do you know where this photo was taken? Visit www.raleighdowntowner.com/where to send in your answer and you could win a Downtowner T-shirt. We'll select a random winner from the correct answers. (Answers can be the spot where the photo was taken FROM or the SUBJECT of the photo. It's just for fun, so we're not picky).

Don't worry, we have new T-shirt designs coming soon you can order in case you don't win. They're just \$15, with \$7.50 of each shirt going to local charities. Cool shirts for a good cause. What could be better?



<<<

Congratulations to **Sabrina Talley** who was the first to identify last month's Where's It @ clue as part of the Briggs Hardware building located at 222 Fayetteville Street in downtown Raleigh. The city's first "skyscraper," the Briggs building was completed in 1874, and is the only 19th century commercial building downtown that remains essentially unchanged. The city's first YMCA was housed here, as well as a Catholic church congregation, the Raleigh Little Theater and offices of a number of companies. The City of Raleigh Museum is housed on the first floor and the Raleigh Urban Design Center recently moved into the building.

Our runner-up winners were Regina Atwater, B. Hedgerows, Amy Talbot, Irwin Margello, and Scott McCoy. Thanks for entering and be sure to try your guess with this month's photo.



"I look forward to each issue which I read from cover to cover. Great to have a news magazine dedicated to downtown living!"

JOEL ADAMS, RALEIGH 27601 | (PICKUP LOCATION: DOWNTOWN)

Reader emails. We love 'em! We get hundreds every month from our wonderful readers. Some ask for recommendations on places to eat, some are looking for venue ideas to host a party or a charity event, others asking about parking or offer story ideas. But we have to admit our favorites are the emails telling us why you read the Downtowner.

Our Reader Rewards program is designed to thank our readers for being part of the Downtowner family and making us the most per-issue read magazine in Raleigh (and that goes for weeklies too).

Head over to www.raleighdowntowner.com and click on the Sign Up Now button on the center right and join

our Reader Rewards giveaways to win lots of free stuff. Feel free to leave comments for us and we'll include them in this column. We work hard to make the Downtowner a worthy publication for our 70,000+ monthly readers and we love to hear suggestions, ideas and anything else you'd like to include. Don't forget to LIKE us on Facebook for more chances to win great prizes (www.facebook.com/RaleighDowntowner). We love our readers as much as they love the Downtowner.

"Love the personalization with photos and activities."

DEBORAH REZELI, RALEIGH 27603—(PICKUP LOCATION: DOWNTOWN RESTAURANTS)

"Just found this magazine and think it will be an excellent resource for my real estate clients."

HELEN CROGHAN, RALEIGH 27609—(PICKUP LOCATION: ONLINE)

"I always enjoy it."

NANCY BANKS, RALEIGH 27609—(PICKUP LOCATION: CAMERON VILLAGE LIBRARY)

"Keep us the good work!"

ANDREW DWEN, RALEIGH 27616 (PICKUP LOCATION: FAYETTEVILLE STREET)

"I wait for this publication every month. It's perfect! Love the Facebook photos from Randy Bryant as well."

JOANNE MALOUF, RALEIGH 27601 (PICKUP LOCATION: PALLADIUM PLAZA)

"I love your information! My wife and I just moved here and wanted to know everything about the city, so you guys just made it easier for us to go anywhere! :) Thank you."

ALAN JOSSEMAND, RALEIGH 27604 (PICKUP LOCATION: ONLINE)

"Love your rag—keeps me in the know about DTR and what's going on!"

JENNIFER GREEN, HOLLY SPRINGS 27540 (PICKUP LOCATION: ALL OVER DOWNTOWN RALEIGH)

"Just found it online!"

SHERRY WATSON, RALEIGH 27520 (PICKUP LOCATION: DOWNTOWN)



CHOOSING YOUR HOLIDAY WINES

BY PHILLIP ZUCCHINO

The holidays are upon us, which means friends and family will soon join in for parties, meals, gift swapping, and, best of all, plenty of wine! Between planning your holiday party or finding a nice bottle for your boss, stocking your wine cellar this time of year can be a time-consuming and even intimidating task. Below are some suggestions to simplify your holiday shopping and give you more time to relax and enjoy a glass of wine—or more.

Pairing wine with your holiday meal
When you're hosting a large holiday party or having an intimate family dinner, you want the wines to complement the food you're serving, as well as please your guests. Pairing wine with a holiday meal can be tricky, due to the plethora of dishes served on the holiday table. Look for lower alcohol, lighter wines with higher acidity to keep palates refreshed without overwhelming the meal.



What are we drinking with our holiday meals?

- **Riesling**—With lots of fruit, a little sweetness, high acidity, and mineral notes, Riesling is a great choice for accommodating the wide variety of flavors on the table. We love the Rieslings from Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt, including the “RK” (\$17) and the “Piesporter Goldtröpfchen” (\$24).
- **Pinot Gris**—The body and structure of Pinot Gris, as well as its stone fruit and spice notes, make it a fantastic pairing for the rich flavors of the holidays. We recommend the “Temperance Hill” Pinot Gris from Lumos (\$22).
- **Bordeaux Clairet**—These rosés have enough fruit to stand up to the sweeter dishes, and enough tannin to accommodate turkey or pork. Try the Château de Parenchère Clairet (\$14).
- **Pinot Noir**—Pinot Noir is a great choice that won't overwhelm the meal. The balance of fruit, acidity, and low to moderate tannins is perfect. One of our favorites is the St. Innocent “Momtazi Vineyard” Pinot Noir (\$34).
- **Mencia**—For a more adventurous option, Mencia makes a great choice, with an aromatic nose, balanced fruit, and mineral and herbal notes. We suggest the D. Ventura “Pena do Lobo” (\$21).

Selecting the right bubbly Sparkling wine is festive and celebratory, and a must-have for your holiday get-togethers! But how do you pick the right one? Do you have to break the bank on Champagne? While we love Champagne for its decadent and rich flavors and amazing versatility at the table, there are many fantastic alternatives

that will allow you to celebrate the season without spending a fortune such as Spanish Cava, Italian Prosecco or French Crémant. Just make sure you consult the experts, and it is sure to be a hit.

What are some of our favorite sparkling wine styles?

- **Crémant du Jura**—Made from Chardonnay and with a richness and flavor profile similar to Champagne, the Jean Bourdy (\$25) is a great alternative at about half the price!
- **Italian Frizzante**—For those who don't enjoy an aggressively bubbly wine, a semi-sparkling wine such as the Guelfo Verde from Garofoli (\$14) is a great choice.
- **Rosé**—A sparkling rosé is great for both toasting and pairing with food. We love the François Pinon from Touraine (\$19).

Picking out the perfect wine gift The best way to select a wine for holiday gift giving

is to consider your receiver. Even if you don't know what specific style of wine they enjoy, you can still make wine a great personal gift. Make sure to choose something specific to their tastes and experiences, as opposed to something based on price, and they will appreciate the sentimental value of the wine.

What are our favorite gifts to give and receive?

- **Travel**—We love to give gifts from places that are special to the recipient. If you know someone studied abroad in Spain or had their honeymoon in Tuscany, try to find a wine from one of those places.
- **Organic**—Many people have taken an interest in organic products. If you know they prefer organic food, consider finding an organic wine as a gift.
- **Adventurous Tastes**—If you know someone loves trying new things, consider buying them a monthly wine club that lets them learn and try new types of wine.

If you're still unsure about your holiday wine shopping, use your local wine experts as a first line of defense against buying bad wine. Here at The Wine Feed, we taste hundreds of wines a year to ensure that we pick the best wines available to suit every budget, style preference and occasion. Save yourself the stress and let us help you with all of your holiday wine needs! 🍷

Laura Collier and Philip Rubin of The Wine Feed contributed to this article. Phillip Zucchini has three years of wine production experience in France and is the co-owner of TheWineFeed.com, an online wine retailer with a focus on helping consumers identify their personal taste through interactive wine experiences. Feel free to contact Phillip at phillipzucchini@thewinefeed.com.

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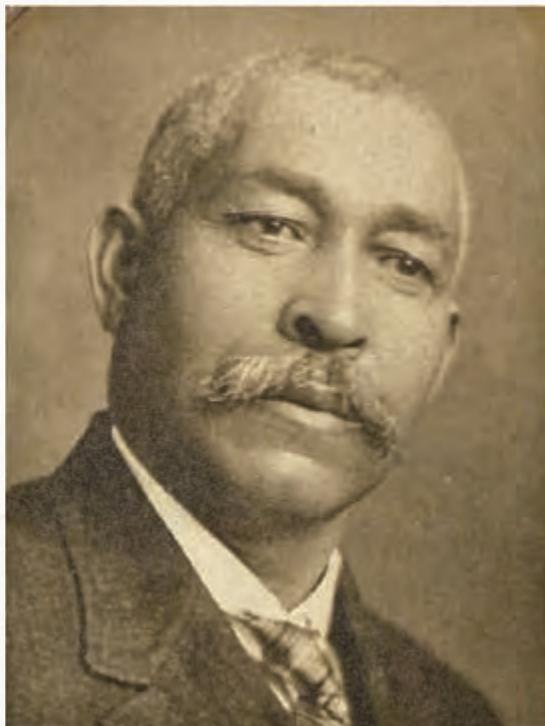
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The Doctor's Bag

BY THE CITY OF RALEIGH MUSEUM STAFF

This leather doctor's bag dates to late 19th—early 20th century North Carolina and it belonged to Dr. Manassa Thomas Pope, an African-American doctor of Raleigh. Judging by its size, the bag was probably what Dr. Pope carried with him to visit patients as a private practice doctor. Although most of his work would have been done at his



Dr. Manassa Thomas Pope

office, he would have needed to provide house calls as well. Although on many occasions these visits would probably be for minor illnesses or for checking on the elderly, the house visits could also bring the doctor into close contact with exceptionally deadly diseases. For doctors in this time period, several major epidemics—local and even pandemic (world-wide disease scare)—were prime concerns.

In 1918 one of the great disease scares of the modern era, the Spanish flu pandemic, swept the globe. Hitting the world before World War I had even finished, it brought death tolls across the globe to over 50 million.

The United States was hit particularly hard as over 500,000 people died. The disease was so traumatic that life expectancy dropped by over eight years in the course of a single year from 1917 to 1918. Doctors like Dr. Pope were on the front line risking their lives by traveling to the homes of those who had been quarantined in an attempt to save as many lives as possible. While this was certainly the worst case, several other epidemics occurred during this time period, and Dr. Pope and his



doctor's bag would have been a welcome sight for those who had to be locked away from society due to their illness.

As the 20th century progressed, hospitals grew in impact and number. There are few pandemics on the scale in the modern era, but they are still an issue. The SARS epidemic in 2002 killed 916 people worldwide while the swine flu in the U.S. infected 50 million, claiming the lives of 10,000 people. While these numbers are not on par with the earlier pandemics that occurred throughout the early 20th century and before, the battle against major diseases is constant. Modern doctors may no longer make house calls with his doctor's bag to check on the sick, but they still endanger their lives to help others today. 📖

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2740912

The new City of Raleigh Museum is still located at 220 Fayetteville Street and is open Tuesday–Saturday 9am–4pm and Sunday 1pm–4pm (closed Mondays). Visit the website: www.raleighcitymuseum.org for more information or to become a volunteer at the museum. Ernest can be reached at 919.996.2220 or raleighcitymuseum@raleighnc.gov.



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25 Most Hacked Passwords of 2012

(And three tips for better ones)

FROM TECHJOURNAL.ORG, A LOCALLY-OWNED TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PUBLICATION FOR THE SOUTHEAST

Online shopping is at an all-time high and Black Friday this year topped over a billion in internet sales. Yes, billion with a B. Most sites require—or at least request—that you create an account to complete your purchase and many offer to save credit card information for easier ordering. This leads to lots of opportunities for account hacking and information theft. If you're still using "password" as your password, or any number of the other most common ones below, you're asking for cyber trouble. See tips under the hacked passwords list.

A recent poll by David Henry Marketing based on millions of stolen passwords posted online by hackers shows a few slightly more original but still easy to hack passwords such as "monkey," and "dragon" on the list of the 25 most hacked of 2012. But many are the old standbys that literally invite cyber criminals into your devices.



Just for the record, use longer passwords with letters, numbers and symbols (@#\$%^, etc.). Even those can be hacked but they're more secure than this batch, the most hacked passwords of the year:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Password | 14. master |
| 2. 123456 | 15. sunshine |
| 3. 12345678 | 16. ashley |
| 4. Qwerty | 17. bailey |
| 5. abc123 | 18. passw0rd |
| 6. monkey | 19. shadow |
| 7. 1234567 | 20. 123123 |
| 8. letmein | 21. 654321 |
| 9. trustno1 | 22. superman |
| 10. dragon | 23. qazwsx |
| 11. baseball | 24. michael |
| 12. 111111 | 25. football |
| 13. iloveyou | |

Here are the top three tips by David Henry Marketing to help prevent fraud and deception:

1. Vary different types of characters in your passwords; include numbers, letters and special characters when possible.
2. Don't use the same password and username combination for multiple websites. Use an online password manager to keep track of your different accounts. We found a good list of the top five password managers on Lifehacker, <http://lifehacker.com/5529133/five-best-password-managers>.
3. Choose passwords of eight characters or more. Separate short words with underscores, or spaces if they're allowed in the site's passwords.

Free Wi-Fi can lead to identity theft, hijacked accounts More than three quarters—79%—of respondents to a survey, conducted by the Identity Theft Resource

Center (ITRC) in conjunction with PRIVATE Wi-Fi, believe that using a free Wi-Fi connection can lead to identity theft.

And nearly half—45%—of respondents said they were concerned about their security when using a public hotspot and 15% indicated that they were "very concerned." 44% of respondents weren't aware that there is a way to protect their sensitive information while using a public hotspot.



We polled 100 people in the downtown Raleigh area using the Downtown Raleigh Free Wi-Fi (available along the Fayetteville/Wilmington Street corridor between the Capitol and the Progress Energy Performing Arts Center, Moore Square, and the Raleigh Convention Center), more than 75% said they knew that public Wi-Fi networks are not entirely safe, but more than 60% of those said they didn't consider that information when accessing the internet. 45% stated that they've made online purchases in a public hotspot, and 74% admitted to accessing confidential work-related information while using a public hotspot.



"We live in a data-driven society where we want to have access to everything at

all times, from anywhere- no matter the cost," said Kent Lawson, founder and CEO of PRIVATE Wi-Fi.

"I think the most disconcerting thing we learned from our study is that there is a significant measure of concern when it comes to public Wi-Fi security, yet very few realize that there is a simple, yet effective solution in a personal VPN like PRIVATE Wi-Fi."

"Our study revealed that only 27% of respondents use a VPN to protect themselves. While there are various ways to secure your data and identity in a public Wi-Fi hotspot, the most reliable solution that we at the ITRC recommend is a personal VPN," said Rex Davis, director of operations at the ITRC. "There is no doubt that Wi-Fi hotspots are vulnerable, and VPN technology offers the greatest level of protection."

For more information about setting up your own VPN, visit <http://techpp.com/2011/09/06/how-to-setup-vpn>, <http://www.practicallynetworked.com/security/set-up-a-personal-windows-vpn.htm> and <http://www.macstories.net/tutorials/how-to-set-up-a-vpn-server-on-your-mac-and-access-everything-remotely-with-an-iphone>. Visit <http://bitly.com/passwords-vpn> or scan the QR code below for a link to these articles and links online.



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DOWNTOWN SNAPSHOT

From the Downtown Raleigh Alliance



Dear Reader,

The Downtown Raleigh Alliance is proud to bring back two popular downtown events for the upcoming holiday season: Shop Downtown and the AT&T Raleigh Winterfest. Plan to make downtown your shopping destination for a variety of unique gifts and specialty items. Starting on Saturday, Nov. 17, Shop Downtown will feature the Holiday Shopping Passport program which runs through Monday, Dec. 24. Check out www.ShopDowntown-Raleigh.com to view the 32 participating retailers, learn how to win one of many great prize packages and find out about holiday retail events in downtown.

Then, mark your calendars for the fourth annual AT&T Raleigh Winterfest, which kicks off on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 3 pm-9 pm at City Plaza on Fayetteville Street. Come enjoy new event features such as a ferris wheel, outdoor movie and blue grass performances as well as popular favorites including the natural ice rink and sledding ramps, Mayor's tree lighting, carriage rides, and so much more! This kickoff event will be followed by two months of additional programming on select dates at the AT&T Raleigh Winterfest Ice Rink. For more information, please visit www.RaleighWinterfest.com.

You will find a convenient calendar of downtown events scheduled during the upcoming months and information about parking, maps and the free R-LINE circulator bus at www.YouRHere.com.

Please enjoy this issue of *Downtowner Magazine*.

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Building a Better Person (Street)

BY PHILIP BERNARD

The Person Street Partnership (PSP) promotes positive changes in the business district along North Person Street, which includes Krispy Kreme Doughnuts and Person Street Pharmacy. Created in 2011, the PSP brings together business and property owners, Raleigh City Council and staff, the Urban Design Center, the DRA, the neighborhoods of Mordecai and Historic Oakwood, William Peace University, Blount Street Commons and other stakeholders who wish to see this area in the North end of downtown thrive and become a vibrant neighborhood center for shops, restaurants and neighborhood businesses.

The PSP conducts informative quarterly meetings where knowledgeable speakers and city staff discuss relevant topics that inform and promote positive growth on North Person Street. Issues involving transit, traffic calming, pedestrian and bicycle access, new business recruitment, marketing, and streetscape and facade improvements are routinely discussed at meetings as the PSP seeks to build momentum and promote an effective agenda for change in Person Street business district. The PSP was one of the groups that encouraged the City to initiate and fund the Person Blount Street Corridor study which kicked-off this October.

The past year has seen many positive changes on North Person Street: Rapid Fitness Downtown relocated to and renovated the former Super 10 building. Person Street Plaza is now under renovation and will house Market Restaurant, Yellow Dog Bakery and a future grocery store. The corner of Person and Peace Streets will become home to Peace Street Townes, a new townhome development featuring live/work spaces and a potential retail/restaurant tenant on the corner. Owners of Hibernian Pub will open a new

brasserie/pub concept in the old gas station formerly occupied by Rosie's Plate. Anvil Studio, Oak City Cycling, Slingshot Coffee Company, and the Raleigh City farm have all located to Person Street and join Pie Bird, Person Street Pharmacy, Nicole's Studio, and other existing businesses to create this vibrant Downtown destination.

On First Friday, Dec. 7, from 7-9pm the Person Street Partnership will host its Second Annual Holiday Open house at Anvil Gallery, located at 715 North Person Street. The open house will feature a visual presentation and display of façade and streetscape concepts for Person Street created by local architects and designers from the surrounding neighborhood. Then on Dec. 15 from noon to 6pm, the First Annual Person Street Holiday Art Market will usher in the holiday season as portions of Person, Franklin and Pace Streets welcome local artists, craftsmen and food trucks for an outdoor holiday shopping spree.

To view updates about the PSP's momentum and efforts in the Person Street business district go to: www.mordecaicac.org/partnerships, contact Philip Bernard at: jpbernard@earthlink.net or call 919.247.8794.

The Blount Street-Person Street Corridor Study (<http://bitly.com/PSP-study>), focused on identifying multi-modal transportation and streetscape design solutions, will move into the second phase with a multi-day design workshop the week of Dec. 10. To keep up-to-date on the project and be alerted to future project meetings, visit the project web page and sign up for the MyRaleigh subscriptions project mailing list. You can provide input on the corridor study through the MyRaleigh Ideas link. To report specific concerns, use the SeeClick-Fix project map. For more information, contact Elizabeth Alley at 919.996.4639 or elizabeth.alley@raleighnc.gov.



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Burning Coal Theatre presents **As You Like It**. A comedic romp by William Shakespeare Directed by Jason King Jones "The fool doth think he is wise, but the wise man knows himself to be a fool." \$20-Adults, \$15-Students & Seniors (65+), Thursdays-\$10. www.burningcoal.org

Dec 1 (Sat)

The two-month extravaganza **Raleigh Winterfest** kicks off Saturday, December 1 from 3-9 pm in City Plaza featuring an outdoor skating rink, local live entertainment, sledding ramps, Ferris wheel, carousel, carriage rides, an outdoor movie, vendors, and Santa's Village all leading to the lighting of the Mayor's holiday tree. Admission is \$8 including skate rental. www.raleighwinterfest.com

Dec 6 (Thurs)

Bring the family to see the **annual lighting of the Capitol tree** at 6:30pm. Listen to seasonal music and come to the NC Museum of History for hands-on fun. The Museum Shop is open until 7:30 for holiday shopping. www.nchistoricsites.org/capitol/default.htm

Dec 6 (Thurs)

Stop in for the opening of the **10th annual NAP exhibit at the Block Gallery** located inside the Raleigh Municipal Building. This event celebrates the creative talent of City of Raleigh and Wake County employees and their families. You will enjoy art, refreshments and live music by the Carpe Diem Saxophone Quartet at this free event. 5-7pm. www.facebook.com/events/306430346133953

Dec 7 (Fri)

First Friday is one of Raleigh's most popular evening escapes. Join us on the First Friday of every month for a fun-filled introduction to Raleigh's exciting art, music and dining scene. Enjoy a free self-guided tour of local art galleries, art studios, museums, retail, restaurants and alternative art venues on the first Friday of every month. Look for the First Friday Flags to easily locate participating venues. A detailed map/guide will be available at each location. Pick up your very own FREE copy for easy event navigation. Visit the galleries, listen to live music, and delight in a divine culinary experience and take advantage of the First Friday Specials offered by all participating restaurants. www.firstfridayraleigh.com

Dec 8 (Sat)

See how to make a traditional **North Carolina ornament** and use it to decorate your home this holiday season. This drop-in program is free at the NC Museum of History, 1-3pm.

Dec 8 & 9 (Sat & Sun)

1st Annual Historic Oakwood Candlelight Tour of Homes in Downtown Raleigh. Raleigh's oldest intact 19th century neighborhood rolls out the red carpet to visitors for its 41st Annual Candlelight Tour of Homes. This year's holiday tour features thirteen historic homes and significant structures, festively decorated for the season in Downtown Raleigh's Historic Oakwood

District. Tickets are available now online, and go on sale this weekend at select locations. Tour tickets are available in advance online at HistoricOakwood.org and at select retail locations for \$20 through Thursday, December 6. Tickets will be on sale days of the tour for \$30 at The Oakwood Inn Bed & Breakfast. The tour is held, rain or shine, 1 pm-7 pm. www.historicoakwood.com

Dec 13 (Thurs)

The Downtown Raleigh Alliance cordially invites you to **Meet Downtown**, a networking social for our valued members. Join us for an opportunity to visit downtown destinations and develop long-lasting business relationships. 5:30-7:30 for members of the DRA. RSVP by Tuesday, December 11 to Lacie Lindstaedt at lacielindstaedt@downtownraleigh.org or call 919.821.6982.

Dec 15 (Sat)

Christmas concerts with roots this deep are rare. **The Gathering** is as lively and eclectic as any good family gathering, from high-energy hoedowns to heartfelt remembrances of holidays at home. Gorgeous voices and crystalline harmonies backed by an all-star string band, 8-10pm. The Gathering breathes new life into traditional Christmas music and features fresh new songs of the season. Cost: \$22-29. Tickets for this show will be on sale at the PineCone Box Office 919.664.8302, www.ticketmaster.com or in person at The Progress Energy Box Office. www.pinecone.org

Dec 21 & 22 (Fri & Sat)

The NC Symphony presents **Pink Martini**, a jazz/samba/lounge/pop ensemble for their Holiday Pops series. Pink Martini returns to Raleigh to put its irresistible musical stamp on holiday favorites from around the world. Enjoy highlights from the band's acclaimed 2010 album *Joy to the World*, crisscrossing classical, Latin, samba, jazz and good, old-fashioned pop genres. \$54-79. For more information or tickets, call 919.733.2750 or visit www.ncsymphony.org.

Dec 31 (Mon)

First Night Raleigh is central North Carolina's largest New Year's Eve community celebration of the arts. This year's festival will feature nearly 100 performances showcasing various forms of dance, improvisational comedy, theatre, interactive art installations, and live music from performers representing a wide variety of genres including rock, blues, jazz, classical, gospel, opera, folk and more. The 22nd annual festival will take place on Monday, December 31, across a 24-block area of downtown Raleigh, encompassing three-dozen indoor and outdoor venues.

This year's celebration takes inspiration from the world of the circus, and many of the interactive installations, make-and-take crafts, and performances throughout the afternoon and evening will feature the circus arts. First Night festivities begin at 2pm with the Children's Celebration—performances and hands-on art activities geared specifically toward young revelers. Following The People's Procession—a participatory parade at 6pm—and an early countdown at 7pm, Raleigh comes alive with continuous performances throughout downtown.

You won't want to miss the 90-foot Ferris wheel and a chance to drop like the acorn on the Jumbo Drop, which will be erected on Fayetteville Street. The festival concludes at Midnight with the famous Raleigh Acorn drop and fireworks to ring in 2013.

Admission passes go on sale now for \$9 and provide access to ALL First Night Raleigh 2013 venues, performances and activities. For more information about First Night Raleigh 2013 and full performance schedules, visit www.firstnightraleigh.com.

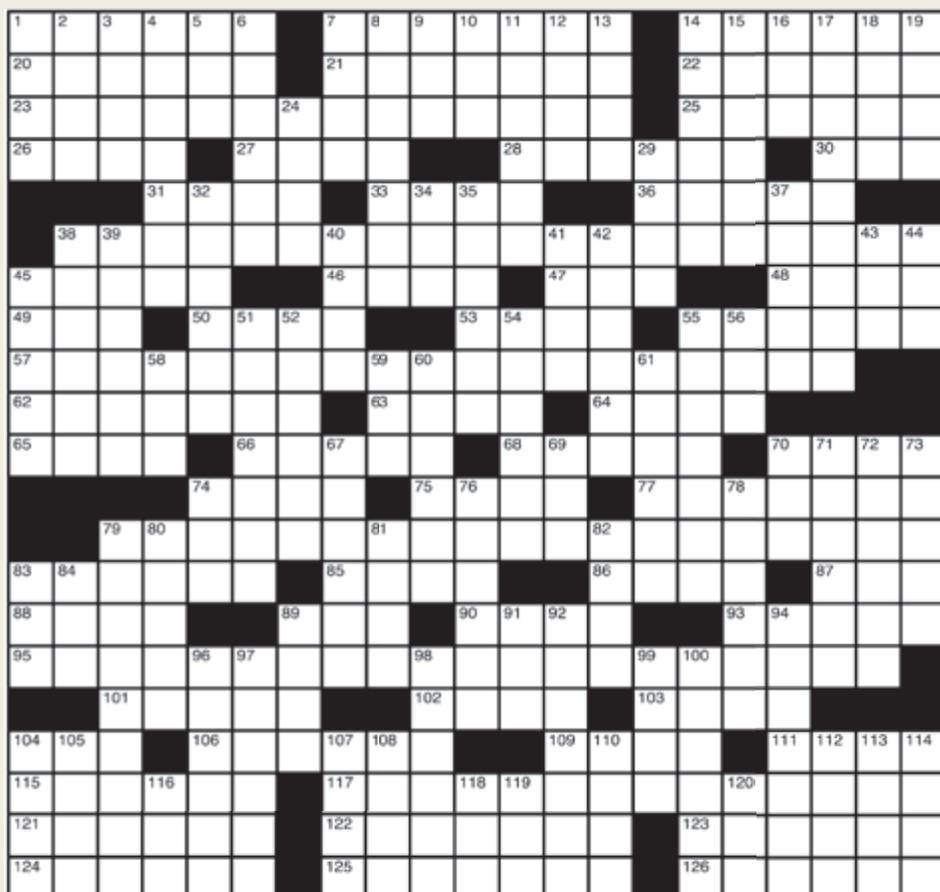
Every Month

The Dangling Loafer is a FREE comedy showcase featuring six of the Triangle's best standup comedians the third Friday of every month with a different lineup each time. Upstairs at the Morning Times, 8-9:30pm. Presented by Adam Cohen and Shane Smith. www.facebook.com/TheDanglingLoafer

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER

MAGAZINE

MONTHLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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By Tom Hellman from the Los Angeles Times
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"IN & OUT"

ACROSS

- 1 Inn option
- 7 Assigned in spades
- 14 Sources of some stadium images
- 20 Spanish novelist Blasco ___
- 21 Monster with both a lion's and a goat's head
- 22 Piano brand
- 23 Wolfing down burgers and fries while driving?
- 25 Like corn in the kettle
- 26 Tibetan priest
- 27 Rough talk
- 28 Meryl Streep's alma mater
- 30 Pasture parent
- 31 Depilatory cream
- 33 Plus-size supermodel
- 36 Suffix meaning "living substance"
- 38 Rocky road from fad to fashion?
- 45 "Speed-the-Plow" playwright
- 46 Many millennia
- 47 Kind of bran
- 48 Port of Yemen
- 49 "___ Wiedersehen"
- 50 Personnel list
- 53 Whom relative
- 55 To-do list item
- 57 Solidarity among commoners?
- 62 Vents frustration toward
- 63 Offscreen friend in "Ernest" films
- 64 Professor 'iggins
- 65 On the safer side
- 66 Former Indy champ Bobby
- 68 Kid's comeback
- 70 Jefferson Davis's sch.

- 74 Brief court plea
- 75 Actor whose voice is emulated by Snagglepuss the Lion
- 77 Put to shame
- 79 Reenactment of a memorable scene from "The Exorcist"?
- 83 "Reservoir Dogs" actor
- 85 Polar sheet
- 86 Radio host John
- 87 Ironically, he composed the "Microsound" on a Mac
- 88 Drying oven
- 89 Actor Daniel ___ Kim
- 90 Utterly
- 93 Washing station
- 95 "Dismount" or "settle"?
- 101 Sipped uncertainly
- 102 Contrary current
- 103 ___ cava
- 104 Gone by
- 106 Ripped off
- 109 City near Anaheim
- 111 Daughter of Darth
- 115 What opinions often do
- 117 Food-fight evidence at the picnic?
- 121 Proofer's finds
- 122 Sing unlike Bing
- 123 Golf shoe brand
- 124 Shifty sort
- 125 Blows up
- 126 Hinge (on)

DOWN

- 1 Iranian currency
- 2 "Dancing Queen" band
- 3 Respectful address
- 4 Not as slow as adagio
- 5 Lawn beads
- 6 Hank who voices some "Simpsons"

- 7 Chance-of-rain nos.
- 8 Optimistic reply
- 9 Small, aptly?
- 10 Leggy runner
- 11 John who loved Colorado
- 12 Ocean predator
- 13 Offhand turndowns
- 14 To a large degree
- 15 Actress Linney et al.
- 16 Online exchanges, briefly
- 17 Memorable Eastwood line
- 18 "Close call!"
- 19 "Marat/___": 1963 play
- 24 Tale
- 29 Tie concern
- 32 Team moving to the American League in 2013
- 34 McKinley, e.g.: Abbr.
- 35 Learn all aspects of
- 37 Packer with a strong arm
- 38 Relating to regional animal life
- 39 "Don't worry about me"
- 40 Unheeding
- 41 Performing trip
- 42 Get down?
- 43 Seinfeld's Uncle Leo portrayer ___ Lesser
- 44 Cut off
- 45 Tierney of "NewsRadio"
- 51 Winning like crazy
- 52 Smashes beyond repair
- 54 Top dog
- 55 Dresses
- 56 Sign of hope
- 58 Riesling giant Chateau ___ Michelle
- 59 FDR project
- 60 "___, we won't go!": '60s antiwar chant
- 61 Like some nuts
- 67 To what length
- 69 Woofer's sound
- 70 Work the aisles, in slang
- 71 "Oh, come on!"
- 72 Avoid waffling
- 73 Accompaniment
- 74 Marlins' div.
- 76 Ancient
- 78 Cinder receptacle
- 79 Issues requiring attention
- 80 Absolute
- 81 Quebec's ___Orleans
- 82 Chiwere speaker
- 83 "Rock and Roll, Hoochie ___": 1974 hit
- 84 Clean off plates?
- 89 Dimwit
- 91 Kept under wraps
- 92 Color in large Crayola packs
- 94 Running swiftly
- 96 Equal, as expectations
- 97 Cleaning basic
- 98 Declining in later years
- 99 Chevy subcompact
- 100 Tilted
- 104 Food truck drinks
- 105 Lass
- 107 Report generators
- 108 Foil relative
- 110 Pensioned: Abbr.
- 112 Berlin article
- 113 Participation declaration
- 114 Preschool song opener
- 116 Short-lived diet, perhaps
- 118 Sm. change
- 119 Land div. by the 38th parallel
- 120 Absorbed, as a cost

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