

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER™

JANUARY 2007

RALEIGH'S GUIDE TO WHAT'S DOWNTOWN

FREE



Wally Jones,
Executive
Director
of the North
Carolina
Theatre

World-Class Arts Abound in Downtown



AROUND TOWN

Where have you
been Downtown?
p. 14-15



CANES CASINO

Poker night against
the Canes for a
good cause. p. 7



IT'S 90° OUT!

Hit the Bahamas
for Downtown
Live! p. 12

Raleigh has entered a new era of Arts and entered the big leagues with world-class performing and visual arts. Theatre, ballet, museums; you'll find it all here in Raleigh.

UPCOMING ISSUES

- February: Valentine's
- March: A New You
- April: Home Makeover
- May: Furniture Finds

ON THE COVER:

William "Wally" Jones at the helm of the North Carolina Theatre

Finding World-Class Arts in the Capital City



By Fred Benton
Citystyle Editor

Late one night in the early 60s—I was just a kid then—my dad came into my darkened room and woke me up telling me I was going to meet a movie star. Gosh, I thought, was it Richard Chamberlain, Gregory Peck or JOHN WAYNE?! This wasn't so far-fetched. My dad was friends with Burl Ives who frequently visited our home while he was "confined" at Duke eating rice. So, with high expectations in mind I followed my dad up to the living room and met a man named Charlie Briggs. Charlie Briggs? Charlie Briggs indeed had been in some major motion pictures, but typically in minor roles. He was a character actor. He was visiting my parents to put forward his dream of establishing a professional theater in Raleigh. My parents, indeed, helped and the Tarheelian Playhouse was born. Performances at the Memorial Auditorium did bring in professional directors and actors, including Jason Evers, Eddie Albert and Julia Meade, performing in such productions as "Mary, Mary" and "Under the Yum Yum Tree."



The recent NC Museum of Art exhibit "Monet in Normandy" has put Raleigh visual arts in a world-wide manner. David Steele, NC Museum's Curator of European Art poses by one of his favorite Monet paintings, "Grainstack (Sunset)"

DeAnn Jones, entered into a contractual agreement with the City to become a permanent resident in Raleigh Memorial Auditorium producing a minimum of four major productions annually.

Under an agreement with the Actors' Equity Association, the union for national performers, NCT committed to hiring a significant number of "Equity" performers for its productions. This commitment to using the highest level of professional talent supported NCT's mission to maintaining a professional theatre company in North Carolina.

Their first musical production, Camelot, opened in May of 1984. NC School of the Arts graduate Terrence Mann whose Broadway credits now include Javert in *Les Miserables*, the Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*, Chauvelin in *Scarlet Pimpernel* and Rum Tum Tugger in *Cats*, played "King Arthur" and a UNC student, Sharon Lawrence, whose credits most recently include Sylvia Stipowitz on *NYPD Blue*,



NC School of the Arts graduate Terrence Mann performed in NCT's first musical production, *Camelot*, in 1984



"Phantom of the Opera" via Broadway Series South put Raleigh on the national performance map for professional theater.

But the Tarheelian Playhouse was ahead of its time. It flopped under the heady glare of footlights beaming from the Raleigh Little Theater which, in the early 60s, was the only source of live theater for adults in the Capitol City (I was much involved with the Raleigh Children's' Theater which performed on the stage at the then-Wiley Elementary School).

Wow, how times have changed! Raleigh is rich with the arts, both visual and performance. "Phantom of the Opera" via Broadway Series South put Raleigh on the map for professional theater. And currently being enjoyed at the NC Museum of Art until January 14, "Monet in Normandy" has done the same for visual arts in a world-wide manner.

Where Charlie Briggs failed, others with the aim of revitalizing downtown Raleigh have succeeded. In 1983, L. P. Zachary, Raleigh City Manager, stated his desire to bring entertainment to Raleigh's downtown. In response, the Carolina Regional Theatre, under the expert direction of

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER

Volume 3 ■ Issue 1

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The Raleigh Downtowner is a monthly publication dedicated to coverage of the downtown Raleigh community.

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Some of the North Carolina Theatre staff (back row L to R: Heather Patterson King (Conservatory Program Director/Acting Instructor); Luke Foster (Company Manager); Lane Smith (Communications Manager); Carolee Baxter (General Manager); William W. Jones (Executive Director/Producer); Jay Wright (Conservatory Assistant Musical Director). Front row L to R: Donna Mullins (Box Office Manager); Lisa Grele Barrie (Development Director); Tricia McCoy (Business Manager); Alice Beck (Office Manager). Not pictured: Emily Bruce (Annual Fund Manager); Ray Walker (Conservatory Artistic Director/Vocal Instructor); Ken Curzon (Director of Sales).

Velma Kelly in Chicago and many other roles on TV, stage and film; played "Guenivere". The successful formula of producing top quality musicals with top national performers and local talent was inaugurated. Opening with 825 season tickets sold and a total audience of 24,000, Camelot marked the beginning of the Regional Theatre's new direction and the name was changed to the North Carolina Theatre.



North Carolina Theatre has attracted big names such as NCT "King and I" star Lou Diamond Phillips, seen here with Downtowner partner/editor Crash Gregg

Today, under the direction of William "Wally" Jones, a Capitol City native, the NCT brings to the stage professional actors as well as local talent. But NCT's mission has also expanded to include its Kids on Broadway series offering classes for new performing artists ages 7 to 20. Regarding sched-

uled productions of 2007, I asked Jones what he considers a "must see!" of the season. He praised the "incredible cast" of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, set to play in February—and in July, an original musical, *Waiting for the Moon*.

I was curious as to whether NCT and Broadway Series South were interrelated. They are not. As Jones' explained, "Broadway Series South presents on the Memorial Auditorium stage and NCT produces. In other words, Broadway Series South hires already-formed road companies of smash Broadway musicals to perform here. NCT puts together a play from scenery to casting (casting calls usually take place in NYC as well as here in Raleigh). "That's no mean feat," Jones' stressed. "Musicals are very expensive to produce; we, instead, must select plays with a broad appeal so we can fill 2300 seats per performance."

Broadway Series South—as was Raleigh as a performance capitol—was put on the national map when *Phantom of the Opera* did so well here when it played on the Memorial Auditorium stage in spring of 2003. I regret I missed it but I was highly

impressed with *The Lion King* which catapulted my admiration of Broadway Series South and the stage at Raleigh Memorial into the stratosphere. And the man responsible for these advances is Jim Lavery, head of Broadway Series South and manager of Memorial Auditorium. One show I have my eye on for the 2007 Broadway Series South season is "Legends!" which will bring to the stage Joan Collins and Linda Evans, the star cat-

fighters of "Dynasty." Legends!", a comedy by Tony-award winning author, James Kirkwood (author of *A Chorus Line*), centers on two somewhat desperate and waning movie stars named Sylvia (played by Joan Collins) and Leatrice (played by Linda Evans). Both actresses are courted by an unscrupulous young producer to star together in a Broadway show,

Continued on Page 4



Broadway Series South's presentation of *The Lion King* helped raise the bar for shows at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium, as well as creating a great economic impact on the Triangle area

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despite the fact that they have hated each other for decades. He convinces both ladies to go along by misleading them into believing that they will be starring in the show with Paul Newman. This set-up provides the background for the full-blown comic confrontation between these two divas and the surprising and hilarious resolution. This delicious duel of the divas is presented May 1 through May 6.

Jim Lavery's pick for the 2007 season is "Light in the Piazza." It won 6 Tony Awards in 2005, including Best Score, has received praise around the world, and was written by a Chapel Hill native, Elizabeth Spencer. Lavery pointed out, "The show is playing Valentine's week and would make a great Valentine's date or present."

But the Raleigh theatre scene isn't defined by just the NCT and Broadway Series South. Here's an excellent list according to website Inside the belt-line.com:

Raleigh Little Theatre

Community theater since 1936
301 Pogue Street
P.O. Box 5637
Raleigh, NC 27650
Business Office (919) 821-4579
Box Office (919) 821-3111
Fax (919) 821-7961
www.raleighlittletheatre.org



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TTY: (919) 835-0624
www.realtheatre.org

North Carolina Theatre

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Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone (919) 831-6941
Box Office (919) 831-6950
www.nctheatre.com

Burning Coal Theatre Company

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Raleigh, NC 27675-0904

(919) 388-0066
www.burningcoal.org/

Theatre in the Park
City-sponsored theater
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(919) 831-6058
www.theatreinthepark.com



Ira David Wood from Theater in the Park's production of "Scrooge"

North Raleigh Arts & Creative Theatre

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Fax (919) 866-0260
www.nract.org

Meredith Performs Theatre

(Meredith College)
3800 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, NC 27607
Box Office (919) 760-2840
www.meredith.edu/dance/theatre

University Theatre and Center Stage at NC State University

Ticket Central (919) 515-1100
http://www7.acs.ncsu.edu/theatre

Actors Comedy Lab

specializes in comedy theater
828 Blalock Ct.
Raleigh, NC 27609
(919) 782-1331
fax (919) 728-6502
www.actorscomedylab.com

Off the Deep End Ensemble

400 S. Boylan Avenue
Raleigh, N. C. 27603
(919) 821-3723
www.interplaync.org/roff.asp

Peace College

15 East Peace Street
(919) 508-2000
www.peace.edu

St. Augustine's Community Theatre

St. Augustine's College
1315 Oakwood Ave.
Raleigh, NC 27610-2298
(919) 516-4364
www.st-aug.edu

The Shaw Players & Company Shaw University

118 East South Street
(919) 546-8420
www.shawu.edu

Flying Machine Theatre Company

Creates experiential theater
3120 McAdams Drive
Raleigh, NC 27604-3355
(919) 954-8847
www.theflyingmachine.net

The Center for Transgressive Behaviors

Tests audience's mind and personal space
626B Capital Blvd.
Raleigh NC 27603
(919) 834-8749
www.lisawhiteman.com/ctb/hfiles/about.html



Carolina Ballet director Robert Weiss

More citizen intervention brings credit to the arts of Raleigh, this time a citizens group headed by attorney and civic leader, Ward Purrington, interested in starting a ballet company. The group put an ad in a trade journal and Weiss, a performer with the New York City Ballet and a protégé of George Balanchine, to all our good fortunes, answered the ad. Carolina Ballet was launched in 1997, under the direction of artistic director Robert Weiss, to serve the ever-expanding Triangle community that includes Raleigh,



Durham, Chapel Hill, Cary, Research Triangle Park, Fuquay-Varina and beyond. The initial 2000 subscribers have more than doubled, with 70,000 seats sold each year. After only seven seasons, Carolina Ballet with a budget of \$4.3 million is being recognized, by the Wall Street Journal, as one of the top ten ballet companies in the United States. The company, which is now reviewed regularly in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal totals 31 dancers and has performed 62 times in Raleigh, Winston-Salem, Chapel Hill and Wilmington between September 2005 and May 2006—and has just returned from a successful seven-city tour of China. I was so pleased to have recently seen "Nutcracker" performed by the Ballet. It was phenomenal! Ballet as an expressionistic dance medium has never really interested me before but now I consider myself a fan, just proving the fact that if you haven't taken advantage of what our community offers on stage, you may be denying yourself a major enhancement to your life. And that is what the arts are all about: enhancing one's life in varying degrees. Regarding the upcoming season of Carolina Ballet, the ballet that strikes a special chord with me will be presented March 15-18. Carolina Ballet will revive Artistic Director Robert Weiss' Firebird, to one of Stravinsky's most popular scores, first presented to Raleigh audiences in 2002. Jochen Schmidt wrote in Balletanz (Europe's leading dance magazine) that (in Firebird) Weiss tells the story in a "touchingly charming manner."

The Ward Purringtons and L.P. Zacharys may have had a great impetus to bringing Performance Theater to the Raleigh stage but they have not the power to keep them on stage. You do! Every time you support the performance arts by buying a ticket.



Artspace - Inspiring Creative Energy!



First Friday visitors look at the artwork in Artspace Artist Keith Norval's studio

By Mary Poole, Artspace Executive Director

Artspace is where creativity happens! The minute you walk into the building, you can hear, smell, and breathe the creative energy. On any given day...meet 35 artists working under one roof, hear the sounds of young children creating their own masterpieces, or experience the opportunity to see an incredible exhibition by a nationally acclaimed artist. All of this in one space – *Artspace!*

Since 1986, Artspace has been Raleigh's visual art



Happy participant in the Mural Project at the Salvation Army

center providing the greater Triangle community with the unique opportunity to interact with working artists and participate in hands-on arts education. This year marks the 20th anniversary of bringing artists and the public together to experience the creative process in a very real and personal way.

Artspace offers three galleries for exhibitions of regional, national, and international artists, education and outreach programs for both children and adults



Participants in the Collaborative Story Quilt Project at Hope Elementary

to pursue their artistic talents, and open studios with 35 working artists readily available to the public. Artspace provides a unique, dynamic environment where artists can learn from each other and grow professionally, a place where the public can see how art is created, a space where children and adults can

learn to express their creativity in classes and workshops, and experience exhibitions by regional, national, and international artists.

The artists at Artspace offer a wide representation of the visual arts. This professional association includes artists working across all media in the visual arts. The next time you are at Artspace spend some time visiting the artist studios and immerse yourself in the creative process. A sample of each of the professional artists work can be found at www.artspacenc.org.

Artspace is the core of the local arts community offering more than 130,000 visitors annually over 30 challenging and award-winning exhibitions, interactive workshops to over 3,500 school-aged children each year, art programming for at-risk youth, classes and workshops to 3,000+ children and adults annually, and more 200 public events open to the community each year.

This year, Artspace will mount over 30 diverse exhibitions. Some of these exhibitions will include: A Sense of Place featuring the works of Thomas Kerrigan from Arizona and Mike Lavine from South Carolina; a sculptural exhibition by Raleigh-based artist Thomas Sayre; Summer Artist-in-Residence Ann Marie Kennedy, a papermaker and installation artist currently living in North Carolina; an experimental new media exhibition; the *Summer Arts Program* Youth Exhibition; and an exhibition by emerging photographer/painter Chris Scarborough from Tennessee.

Educating the public about art and artists is at the core of the Artspace mission. For this reason, Artspace is an important partner in the region's educational system. Artspace challenges students

Continued on Page 6



Ceramics artist Susan Farrar Parrish in her Artspace studio

Continued from Page 5

through award-winning and innovative programs such as the Artspace Summer Arts Program offering intensive, project-oriented art classes for 3rd-12th graders and adults; school programs linking the arts with the social studies curriculum and the lan-

guage arts curriculum; and the Artspace Outreach Program providing at-risk youth with positive after-school art programming that engages their creative energies.

In addition to our 35 tenant artists, Artspace hosts two residency programs – one for professional artists



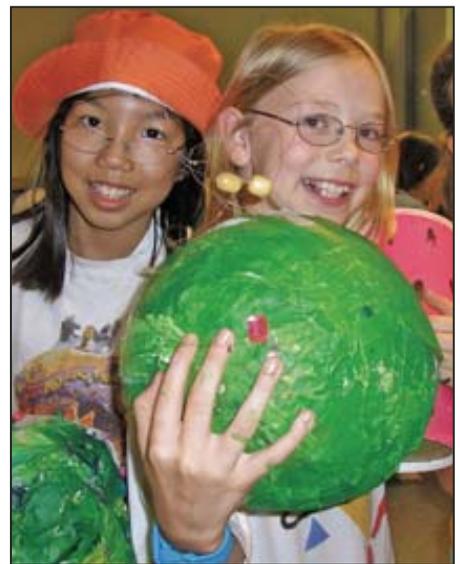
Mixed media artist Gerry Lynch

and one for emerging artists. The Summer Artist in Residence Program provides an established artist with a brief studio opportunity to work on a specific project. Each summer, an artist is invited to work in Gallery 1 in an open-studio setting for 4 weeks. During this time, the artist teaches one adult workshop and one youth class as part of the Artspace Summer Arts Program. The residency culminates in a 6 to 8 week exhibition of the artist's work. The intent of this residency is to provide fresh insight about mediums of art and processes of art making that are not common within the Artspace community.

Artspace supports emerging artists by providing studio space to young artists through the **Regional Emerging Artist Residency Program**. Established in January 2000, the Regional Emerging Artist Residency is a program that provides emerging visual artists with time and space to explore their work in a supportive, thriving, artistic environment. One artist in his or her early professional career is chosen from a regional pool of applicants. Artspace grants two 6-month residencies per year. The residency includes a private, rent-free studio with 24-hr access.

About Artspace

A non-profit visual art center, Artspace presents award-winning exhibitions, educational programs, and artist studios open to the public. Approximately 95 artists are professional members of



Music Making Class, 2005

the Artspace Artists Association with 35 artists maintaining studios at Artspace.

Artspace is open to the public Tues.-Sat., from 10 AM – 6 PM and on the first Friday of each month for the First Friday Gallery Walk until 10 PM. Studio hours vary. Admission is free; donations appreciated. Guided tours of exhibitions and artist studios are available for groups of 10 or more. Located in Historic City Market in Raleigh at the corner of Blount and Davie Streets.

Artspace is supported by the North Carolina Arts Council; by the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County; by the Raleigh Arts Commission; and by individuals, corporations; and private foundations.

For more information, visit the Artspace website at www.artspacenc.org or call 919-821-2787.

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'Canes to Host Charity 'Casino Night' Jan. 28

By Terrell Williams from *CarolinaHurricanes.com*

Tickets are \$200 for the event, which will benefit the Kids 'N Community Foundation

Chris Diamond, Community Relations Manager for the 2006 Stanley Cup champion Carolina Hurricanes, today announced that tickets are on sale now for the Second Annual Carolina Hurricanes Charity Casino Night, to be held on Jan. 28 at the RBC Center from 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. Tickets cost \$200, with all proceeds going to benefit the Kids 'N Community Foundation, which supports children's charities and educational programs throughout North Carolina.

The night features a wine tasting and casino tables with Hurricanes players and coaches serving as the dealers. Games available to play include Blackjack, Roulette, Craps and Texas Hold 'Em. Each participant will receive special gaming cash to use during the evening, and will have the option of purchasing extra cash with all additional proceeds going to the Foundation.

In addition to the casino games and wine tasting,



there will be a silent auction and a live auction featuring exclusive autographed merchandise and many other great items. Tickets are available at the RBC Center box office, at all Ticketmaster locations, or by calling 1-866-NHL-CANES.

The Kids 'N Community Foundation provides much needed funding to children's charities and education programs throughout North Carolina. With ongoing support from annual special events and the corporate community, the Foundation has funded scholarship programs, youth hockey, educational and literacy efforts, children's health programs, the arts and other children's related initiatives. Annually, the Foundation provides cash and in-kind contributions totaling nearly \$1 million to charitable and educational programs in North Carolina. Every member of the Hurricanes organization is actively involved in community activities. The Hurricanes take great pride in the ability to have a positive impact in our state.

Individual game tickets all Hurricanes home games are available at the RBC Center box office, all TicketMaster locations, by calling 919-834-4000 or via www.CarolinaHurricanes.com. For information on Hurricanes ticket packages, please call 1-866-NHL-CANES or visit www.CarolinaHurricanes.com.

A Tribute to Lloyd Skidmore

This issue of *The Raleigh Downtowner* which hones in on the vitality of the art scene of the Capitol City is dedicated to an inspiring man, truly a Renaissance figure, who passed away from us far too soon: Lloyd Skidmore. Raleigh has lost an endearing maverick, warm and generous, and a "mover and shaker" in the realm of visual arts.

Fred Benton, Citystyle Editor

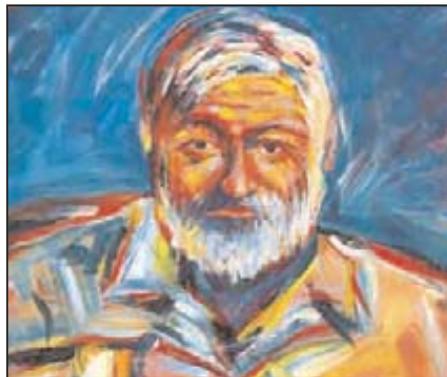
By Peter Eichenberger from Skidmore's website:

Lloyd Skidmore has the capacity to charm, intrigue, challenge and exasperate as much as most I've dealt with. There have been times when I wanted to hug his neck and in the next breath, run screaming, vowing to never speak to him again.

But somehow, like Lucy Van Pelt, he always manages to convince me to take another whack at that football.

I think I know why. Lloyd Skidmore is pure energy – and that is infectious. The man is always mixed up in some mad scheme, always doing something creative and unexpected. And that, brothers and sisters, is a trait more valuable than gold.

In these days when 99 percent of everything you read, see, and hear is controlled by a handful of corporations, Lloyd is a paint splattered oracle, a canary in the coal mine of conformity. He cuts his own trail. Where that quality came from is up for dispute, but I think it may be lingering trauma from a spectacular ass-whip-



One of Lloyd Skidmore's celebrated portraits of Ernest Hemingway

ping he received at a shabby motel in Atlantic Beach at the hands of some very territorial, testosterone maddened toughs from Kinston, administered for no other reason than that he was a Crown Esquire (an obsolete Broughton social club). I am quite certain sure that the Esquires were the last thing Lloyd ever joined.

You name it, Skidmore has done it. The man has more layers than an onion. He has played in rock and roll bands, been involved as a creative force in some wildly successful entertainment venues: designing the interior of the original Darryl's as well as many, many

other design/construction projects; exposed the Triangle to top-level entertainment like *Return to Forever* at the old Pier in the Cameron Village Subway, *Canned Heat* at the Goat's Head at Five Points, as well as John Hammond and Livingston Taylor at the Mad Hatter in Chapel Hill. He worked with James Cameron on *The Abyss* and *Aliens*, created murals for the Durham Bulls, has been the publisher of a number of radical publications (the newest, *MAW*, has just hit the stands): and has been the mastermind behind the Visual Art Exchange's annual gala as well as the Miss North Carolina Pageant.

Now, it's back to his primary love, painting. This new series is of Raleigh, Nostalgia and Island Palms. Some of these images are from life, many come from a terra incognita, that fathomless and complex place we call human unconsciousness. The *How and Why* of these seemingly incongruous subjects is a testimony to the fevered imagination and tireless energy of this endlessly complex and talented man.

Humanity needs human treasures like Lloyd Skidmore – charming, vexing – to remind up what we can do if we stretch the boundaries, to show us that we should never, ever be afraid to kick our way out of the corral – for no other reason than to see just what is out there.

Peter is currently writing for the Independent Weekly Publication

Mayor Meeker and the DRA Launch New Downtown Safety Team

Kris Larson
Raleigh Downtown Alliance

On Tuesday, December 19, 2006 at 11:00 am in front of City Hall, the Downtown Raleigh Alliance (DRA) will launch its new Downtown Safety Team program to enhance public safety needs in downtown and in the City parking decks and lots. DRA Vice-Chair Hilda Pinnix-Ragland and the new 13-member Downtown Safety Team will be joined by Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker and Police Chief Jane Perlov in the announcement.

The new Safety Team services, to provide security in the City parking areas, are sponsored by the City of Raleigh. Additionally, extra Safety Team hours patrolling the City streets have been funded by private contributions from Progress Energy, RBC Centura, BB&T and Wachovia. Working hand-in-hand with the Raleigh Police Downtown District, using two-way radios and patrolling on foot and bicycles, team members act as an extra set of "eyes and ears" for law enforcement and property owners, and can respond to service calls in a matter of minutes. All of the Team members are registered as unarmed guards with the state and will not take any enforcement action.



Mayor Charles Meeker
(Photo courtesy City of Raleigh)

Members of the Safety Team have attended a DRA one-week training session and have taken part in workshops with the Raleigh Police Department, Healing Place, the City's Crisis Intervention Team, Gang Unit and Crime Analysis Division. Safety Team

members have been on the streets of downtown since December 16. They patrol the downtown area at least 18 hours a day and the City parking decks eight hours a day, six days a week.

"The Downtown Safety Team adds an extra dimension to keeping Downtown Raleigh safe," said Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker. "This effort, combined with the Raleigh Police Department's initiatives, demonstrates our commitment to the public-private partnership we have to provide community-wide safety."

After spending six months researching and developing a program to address the needs and change the perception of safety in downtown Raleigh, the DRA with the support of the Raleigh Police Department proposed

the creation of the Downtown Safety Team. "The Downtown Raleigh Alliance is

proud to contribute to enhancing service in the city's core through the Downtown Safety Team," said John Boylan, chairman of the DRA. "We know this new initiative will have a lasting impact on combating the negative perception some employees, visitors and residents have about downtown Raleigh."

The team members will answer questions and provide assistance and information about events and destinations of interest in downtown. They will also work in partnership with law enforcement, downtown businesses, and social service agencies.

The specific primary duties of the Downtown Safety Team include:

- Monitoring and patrolling the City parking decks, parking lots and public streets in downtown.
- Providing an extra set of "eyes and ears" for law enforcement agencies.
- Maintaining an authoritative presence to deter crime and establish a positive perception of safety.
- Communicating with law enforcement agencies to address the public safety needs of downtown.
- Providing workers, residents, and visitors directions and information.
- Providing support during special events.
- Assisting in emergency situations.

Downtown Raleigh is actually much safer than many people think. Statistically downtown Raleigh has a relatively small amount of the city's overall crime. Since that is the case, the Downtown Safety Team will focus not just on crime prevention, but also on making sure the public has an accurate perception of downtown safety.

The very successful Clean Ambassador program, which focuses on the cleanliness needs in downtown Raleigh, will continue to be a positive presence in downtown. The existing Safety Ambassadors will become part of the new Downtown Safety Team. They will continue the hospitality effort, but will place an increased emphasis on perceived safety concerns. These two efforts will continue to be funded by the downtown Business Improvement District (BID).

About the Downtown Raleigh Alliance
The Downtown Raleigh Alliance (DRA) is a business improvement district created to offer enhanced maintenance, safety and communications/events in downtown Raleigh. DRA is a private not for profit corporation governed by twenty-six directors representing the City of Raleigh and property owners in the 110-block district. In June 2003, the Raleigh City Council approved a five-year renewal of the district, following overwhelming endorsement by stakeholders. The district's annual assessment is approximately \$540,000. For additional information about DRA, please visit <http://www.GoDowntownRaleigh.com>.

BETTER LIVING

This column is the printed companion to "CookBook Radio" which is produced and hosted by Fred Benton and is heard twice a week on WCKB-780AM. Fred Benton is pleased to recommend the following as "better living" businesses of particularly high standards and quality:

York, Simpson, Underwood Realtors - Offering homes of distinction throughout the Triangle. Visit ysuhomes.com

Angus Barn - Glenwood Avenue, close to RDU International Airport, 787-3505. The premier steak house in North Carolina: the legend of the fine cuisine here continues every evening. Award-winning wine cellar. Reservations recommended.

Capital City Grocery - 10 Franklin Street, Seaboard Station, 833-7096. Best meat counter in Raleigh! Certified Angus beef plus prepared meat entrees. New fashioned grocery shopping with old-fashioned service. My grocery store of choice. capitalcitygrocery.com

Nelsons - 521 Daniels Street, Cameron Village, 832-9815. Sunday brunch buffet here, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. is not to be missed; my favorites at dinner are the fried green tomatoes and the Oysters Rockefeller.

42nd Street Oyster Bar - 508 West Jones Street, Raleigh, 831-2811. Best fried oysters you ever smacked lips over! 42ndstoysterbar.com
larrysbeans.com - Your web site for premium "fair trade" coffees; can't live without their El Salvador Dali coffee blend or this time of year, the holiday blend. Larry's Beans purveys to only the finest coffee houses. 828-1234

The Point at Glenwood - 1626 Glenwood Avenue at Five Points, Raleigh, 755-1007. Neighborhood ambiance. Try Frank Winslow's popular lasagna, made a little differently than most

NoFo - 2014 Fairview Road, at Five Points, Raleigh. The cafe for breakfast, brunch, lunch & dinner. And the retail for provisioning the luxurious larder and cooking accoutrements to turn functional kitchens into art spaces. nofo.com. 821-1240

Seaboard Wine & Tasting Bar - Seaboard Station, Raleigh, 831-0850. Uptown ambiance with focus on exceptional European wines with knowledgeable staff. Complimentary wine tasting, Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m. Go to seaboard-wine.com

Seaboard Imports - Seaboard Station, Raleigh, 838-8244. My favorite store! Fun and funky to chic sophistication home and personal decorating. Fashion statement jewelry.

Catering By Design - Simply fresh, simply elegant, simply the best, simply call—and you have a party to remember! 481-2366

Sew Fine II Draperies and Interiors - Sutton Square Shopping Center, 5850 Fayetteville Road, Durham, 806-3638. Wildly creative to subdued refinement. Visit sewfine2.com

Horizon Cellars - 466 Vineyard Ridge, Siler City, 919-742-1404. All this winter's wines have reaped gold in competitions. Check out horizoncellars.com

The Black Mountain Inn - Best place to stay in western NC (about 15 miles east of Asheville). Former guests include Helen Keller and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Pet-friendly! 828-669-6528

Better Living wine recommendations for December:

Yalumba Shiraz-Viognier—great with the poultry, and Piper Heidsieck, Piper Brut—a wonderful Champagne to holiday festivities. Both available at most major grocery stores.

If you would like to propose your enterprise as a better living business to be included on this list please write betterlivingnc@yahoo.com or call 782-5276

GRMA Invites New Members for 2007



The Greater Raleigh Merchants Association (GRMA) is kicking off a membership drive for 2007, inviting local retailers, small business owners and corporations located in the Triangle to join. GRMA has been an advocate and resource for local businesses in the greater Raleigh area since 1940. The non-profit organization focuses its efforts in three areas: Local government, networking/referrals and member education.

"We have several important events planned for this year, including the 2007 Retail Review tentatively set for April 24," said Sue Ramsay of the GRMA board of directors and presi-

dent of Witty! and Associates, a retail planning firm. "This forum will feature a panel of local retailers, as well as national experts, who will talk about recent trends and offer an outlook on the retail economy. Raleigh area store owners and managers won't want to miss this event."

GRMA is currently forming a Sign Ordinance Task Force to review the Raleigh sign ordinance that effects companies of all types throughout the city. The task force will hold its first meeting on Jan. 25 to begin preparing recommendations to present to Raleigh City Council. For more information, contact the GRMA office at 420.0120.

Also planned for 2007 is the 63rd Annual Raleigh Christmas Parade and the 2nd Annual WinterFest to be held in November. GRMA members can take advantage of this high-profile, televised event to promote their businesses. "We're excited about the possibilities for the 2007 Christmas Parade



2007 GMRA officers: Vice-president Steve McLaurin (VP of McLaurin Parking), President Kevin Coggins (owner of The Spin Cycle) and treasurer Stephen Votino, partner in McNamara Properties

and WinterFest, coming on the heels of our most successful parade ever," said John Odom, GRMA's executive director.

GRMA is pleased to announce its newly elected officers for 2007. President is Kevin Coggins, owner of The Spin Cycle bicycle store in Cary; vice president is Steve McLaurin, vice president of McLaurin Parking; and

treasurer is Stephen Votino, partner in the real estate firm McNamara Properties.

Interested in membership? You can attend any number of upcoming GRMA events to meet members and find out more about the organization. Visit www.grma.org for more information and membership application.

■ RD

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Centennial Hall of Fame

By James M. Sutton, Jr., Raleigh City Museum Director of Education and Outreach

Raleigh has a history of being home to great people. Their memory is honored and they appear all over our landscape as street, park, school or hospital names. Most people know where to go if you say Pullen, Boylan, Dix, or Peace. But do we really remember these people? Do we really know who they are or what they did? Can we tell their stories or just use their names to give someone directions?

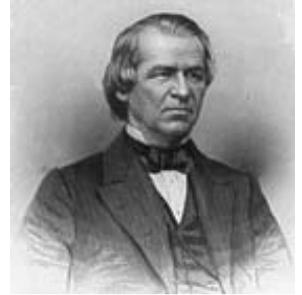
John Chavis risked his life on the battlefield so that we might have our freedom during the Revolutionary War. He spent hours studying at both Princeton and Washington and Leigh University so that he could be licensed to preach here in Raleigh. In addition to traveling from church to church through the area, he founded a school and ran it out of his house so that the children of this city might be educated. He was a black man who accomplished all of this in the face of pre-Civil War attitudes about members of his race.

In addition to his remarkable personal contribution his school graduated governors, ambassadors, and other great men who went on to make other contributions to society. And Chavis did all – faced all of this – for the people of Raleigh.

There have been many great people, like Chavis, who have contributed to the founding, development, and growth of this city. Twenty-five of them from our city's first one hundred years of history will be recognized and honored in our upcoming Centennial Hall of Fame exhibit. Included in the exhibit are the lives and stories of Joel Lane, John Haywood, John Rex, John Chavis, William Boylan, Joseph Gales, Duncan Cameron, William McPheeters, William Nichols, Hannah Casso Stewart, Samuel A.Ashe, Kemp Battle, A.G. Bauer, Dorothea Dix, Thomas Briggs, Andrew Johnson, Lunsford Lane, General John Logan, George Washington Mordecai, Berry O'Kelly, William Peace, Leonidas Polk, Richard Stanhope Pullen, Rev. Aldert Smedes, and Rufus S. Tucker.

The Centennial Hall of Fame exhibit is co sponsored by the Raleigh Hall of Fame and the Raleigh City Museum. The exhibit will open to the public on January 23rd in the A.E. Finley Gallery at the Raleigh City Museum located at 220 Fayetteville Street. The Raleigh City Museum is open Tuesdays-Fridays from 10am to 4pm and Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm. For more information, call 832-3775 or visit www.raleighcitymuseum.org

All images courtesy Raleigh City Museum



Andrew Johnson, the 17th President of the United States, was born in Raleigh.



Lunsford Lane bought his own freedom and became a voice for the abolition of slavery.

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DOWNTOWN RALEIGH RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS



- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 11 S. Boylan St. (coming) | 9 Blount Street (coming) | 17 Governor's Point | 25 Park Devereux |
| 2 1001 Hillsborough | 10 Boylan Flats (coming) | 18 Governor's Square | 26 Person Pointe |
| 3 150 St. Mary's | 11 Byrum Condos | 19 The Hudson | 27 Pilot Mill Homes |
| 4 222 Glenwood (coming) | 12 CAM (coming) | 20 Martin Place | 28 RBC Condos (coming) |
| 5 510 Glenwood | 13 The Cotton Mill | 21 New Bern Place | 29 West (pre-sales) |
| 6 610 Hillsborough | 14 Dawson on Morgan | 22 North Street (coming) | 30 West Lane |
| 7 The Atrium | 15 Founder's Row | 23 Palladium Plaza | 31 The Quorum |
| 8 Bloomsbury Estates (pre-sales) | 16 The Glen on Peace (coming) | 24 The Paramount | |

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Downtown Live Heads to the Bahamas

96 Rock and Deep South Entertainment are taking Downtown Live to the Bahamas January 18th-21st. Deep South has booked bands Rootz Underground, Adam Pitts, Matt Thomas, Brad Benson, and Brent Jordan, who will be performing exclusively for the Downtown Live crowd arriving from Raleigh. The local group will be staying in Cable Beach, Nassau, at the Breezes Bahamas, the only super-inclusive resort in the Bahamas. 96 Rock will be broadcasting live from the event. More information can be found at www.raleighrocksthebahamas.com.



Adam Pitts



Brent Jordan



Matt Thomas

Rootz Underground




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RALEIGH ROCKS THE BAHAMAS **JAN 18-21 2007**

96 Rock is throwing a party and YOU are invited!

Join us on Thursday, January 18th through Sunday, the 21st, 2007 at the Super All-Inclusive Breezes Bahamas Resort on Cable Beach, Bahamas with free concerts from Rootz Underground, Adam Pitts, Matt Thomas of Parmalee, Brad Benson, and Brent Jordan playing exclusively for YOU!

Room rates are just \$599 to \$799 for FOUR DAYS & THREE NIGHTS!!
Includes: Room, transfers to & from Nassau Airport (airfare not included), ALL beverages (even premium drinks), food, non-motorized water sports, private concerts, and activities. Prices are per person, based on double occupancy.
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Call Amanda at 888-788-8202
 to book your trip or visit
raleighrocksthebahamas.com
 for more details!



Concerts - Seminars - Incentives



Pick up the February Downtowner issue for trip photos!

“Haven” Alights in Glenwood South



Members can reserve VIP booth seating



One of the Haven partners Adam Ajaj, wife Kelli



Leather lounge area

Glenwood Avenue’s newest entertainment resident is Haven Lounge, located in the old Hill Printing Building just south of Peace Street.

Owned by realtors Joe Alercia and Billy Abdul, and entrepreneur Adam Ajaj, Haven seeks to aim at the sophisticated yet energetic crowd that wishes to be entertained by dynamic music, a comfortable atmosphere, and an attentive staff.

Lounge music will spin from opening until around 10 or 11, then transition over to more high energy dance music. The couch areas are cleared, making room for patrons who want to stay and dance the night away.

Haven will be open seven days a week and memberships start at \$10. Complete with two bar, one sporting a long stretch of marble, lit from beneath. Two oversized French sliding doors were salvaged from the previous print shop and adorn the wall behind the lounge area. Plans are in the works for a second level bar area downstairs, perhaps later this year. A VIP lounge awaits those important

enough to reserve it for the evening.

Their grand opening is scheduled for January 20th, however several private events have already introduced Haven to patrons “in the know.” Their recently relocated business neighbor across the street, FM, is also planning their Launch party on the 27th. Members can contact Ken for information on hosting events at Haven.

Haven Lounge
 606 Glenwood Avenue
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info@loungehaven.com
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Pat hamming it up at Amra's with Hurricane's past president Jim Cain (and now ambassador to Denmark)



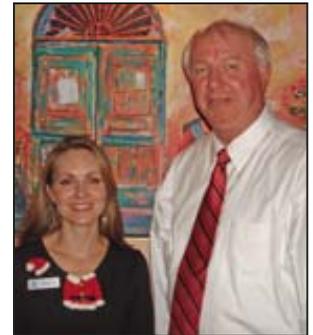
At Mosquito Lounge: DJ Mooney, Ray, Souheil (one of Mosquito's three owners), Casey, and Kyra



Erin enjoying some blues at Blue Martini



Heidi and Sesha collecting Toys for Tots



Greater Raleigh Merchant Association's Melissa Snell and John Odom

AROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUND



Downtown owner/editor Crash and Deep South's Andy



Local artist Kenbro and his Winterfest poster

Jessen & Michelle working at the Underground Restaurant & bar



Realtor Steve Votino and wife Tricia at April & George



Brian, Lauri and John downtown at Amra's



Taylor & Joe at Amra's



SPCA
"Santa Paws"
portrait of
Downtowner
partner Crash
Gregg's son
Colton with
his dog
Brisco, and
Citystyle
editor's niece
Madelin, with
his dog Pearl

Downtowner
partner Sig
Hutchinson
and wife
Nancy
at a
recent
Raleigh
Chamber
event



Priscilla, Nikko, Ken (GM of Haven), Kyra and
Hilde celebrating a birthday



Carriabella
and Song at
Mosquito



Brittany,
Stacey and
Jenn at
Haven
Lounge

TOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWN



Scott,
James
Goodnight,
Paige, and
John at Ess
Lounge

Louis Sirois,
owner of
the Sirois
House on
Hillsborough
Street



Julie out at Sullivan's



Melissa,
running the
door at
Haven
Lounge



Downtowner
employees
Lee and
Crash

Bartenders
Liz and Nick
from Ess
Lounge



Think your picture needs to be in the Downtowner? Send us your downtown photo to aroundtown@raleighdowntowner.com. Include your photo location and subject names. Take us with you! We'll also publish photos of readers holding an issue of the Downtowner on your next vacation.

Capital City Grocery at Seaboard



By Fred Benton, *Citystyle Editor*

Capital City Grocery which opened two months ago at 10 West Franklin Street in Seaboard Station, downtown Raleigh (near Peace College), brings back the small grocery store experience but at competitive pricing to the “big guys,” somewhat reminiscent of the old Piggly Wiggly at Five Points. Capital City Grocery is also the only retail venue in town where the consumer can purchase certified Angus beef as well as Boors Head lunch meats. But service is also what sets Capital City Grocery apart from the Food Lions and Krogers. Remember when grocers provided assistance getting your purchases to the car for you? Well, at Capital City Grocery, according to owner Ron Bold, it happens! And while you shop enjoy coffee at the coffee

bar provided by Larrys Beans. Food shopping is no longer a cattle call where courteous assistance is becoming as rare as bone-in chuck roasts. However, be warned, to date there are no wheelchairs or power scooters provided for handicapped shoppers.

However the best way to write about a new grocery store that may be different than others is to literally shop there. I did. What I found to be true is staffers who are helpful and eager to answer questions. I spoke with the meat counter gentlemen at length, telling them I was pleased at seeing prepared meat entrees such as chicken wrapped in puff pastry and chicken Kiev (at around \$6 each—not a bad price at all!). I also found the store to be clean, compact with food presented nicely and conveniently. I was much gratified to find dried spinach fettuccine which is

absent from most grocers’ shelves now. I bought two big bags, as well as fresh raspberries, sweet onions and portobello mushroom caps. In the rice selections I was interested to spot instant wild rice. Dairy was competitively priced with chain grocers. I paid for my purchases but no one offered to carry my bags out to the car for me nor did I see anyone else being served in that way. Still, I think Capital City Grocery takes the drudgery out of a major chore, at least it did for me.

Capital City Grocery
10 West Franklin Street, Raleigh
At Seaboard Station near Peace College
(919) 833-7096
Mon - Sat 7am - 8pm, Sun 10am - 7pm
www.capitalcitygrocery.com



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- Greg Cox, News & Observer



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J. Betski's Opens With European Style

Recently opening directly next door to the Capital City Market in the new Seaboard Station is J. Betski's, a European-style bar and restaurant. Owner John Korzekwinski designed his menu by accentuating his German and Polish heritage, offering a sampling of the cuisine and beverages of Central and Eastern Europe. Menu preparation emphasizes the use of quality ingredients, with many being from small and local farms. The warm glow and inviting design of the bar and dining areas provide an escape to the "Old World" here in the "New South."

A sample of their tempting entrée menu items:

- Natural Pork Schnitzel, Austrian Potato and Dill-Cucumber Salads, Lingonberries (\$17)
- Pan Seared Duck Breast, Orange Coriander Glazed Celery Root, Sweet and Sour Red Cabbage, Spaetzle, and Lingonberry Sauce (\$18)

Spend the afternoon at some of the other hidden gems in the shopping center such as Seaboard Imports, red pin, recently relocated Galatea (from Cameron Village), Seaboard Wine, and Logan's Trading, then treat yourself to a wonderfully prepared (and priced) dinner at J. Betski's.

10 West Franklin Street, Suite 120

Raleigh, NC 27604

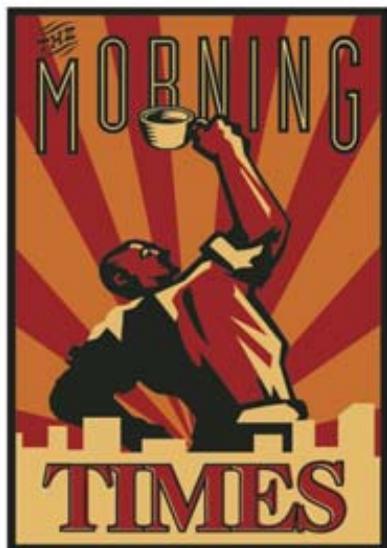
Dinner is available Mon-Thurs 5:30-10pm, and Fri and Sat 5:30-10:30pm. Closed Sundays.

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-  = History

MULTIPLE DAY

Saturdays and Sundays, Jan 13-Feb 25

N.C. Museum of History
African American Reading Room
Visit the reading room, stocked with books for all ages about North Carolina's African American community. Work on a simple craft and take a book list home.

Saturdays, Jan 13-Feb 24

N.C. Museum of History
African American History Tour
1:30 p.m.
Explore the lives and accomplishments of African Americans who have called North Carolina home. Tour the exhibit N.C. Sports Hall of Fame to learn about athletes, such as baseball star Walter "Buck" Leonard from Rocky Mount. In another exhibit, see furniture made by Thomas Day, a free African American who lived in Caswell County during the antebellum period. He operated the state's largest furniture workshop in 1850 and became one of the state's best-known cabinet-makers.

Now through February

Three in Giverny
ARTSPACE
Three Artspace artists display their oil interpretations of Monet's beloved gardens and village of Giverny from their travels and study of impressionism. Exhibition continues in Artspace Studios 211, 212 and 201, 201 East Davie Street, historic Raleigh City Market, through February 2007. Artspace is open Tuesday through Saturday 10 am till 6pm, and the first Friday of each month, 10 am till 10 pm, 919-821-2787.

DAILY EVENTS/MUSIC

5 January ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Skeeter Brandon Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Skeeter Brandon
No Cover \$

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

The Grape at Cameron Village
Blue T
7:30-10:30pm

6 January ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Big Rick and the Bombers Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Josh Preslar Band
No Cover \$

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

The Grape at Cameron Village
Dave Finucane Duo, saxophone and piano
7:30-10:30pm

7 January ~ Sunday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Blues Jam
No cover \$

8 January ~ Monday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Russ Thompson
No cover \$

9 January ~ Tuesday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Mic hosted by Matthew Kush
No cover \$, 9pm-12am

Lincoln Theatre
Virginia Coalition w/ Seepeoples / Brooks Wood Band

Continued on Page 20

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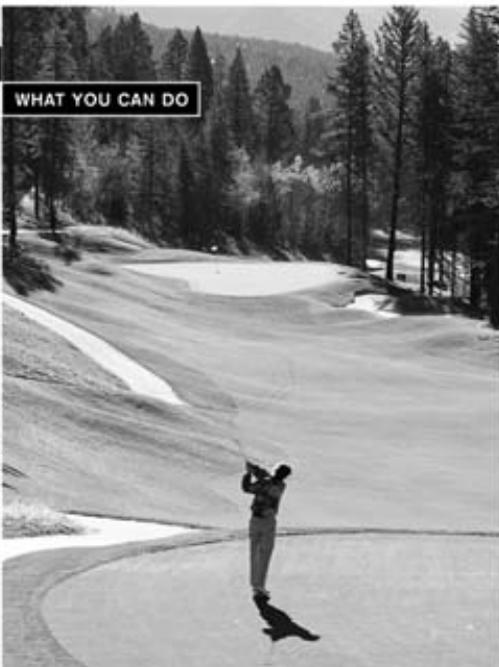


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10 January ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
The Red Bus Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Big Rick
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am

The Grape at Cameron Village
Choose from specially selected red & white wine flights and enjoy complimentary appetizers from the bar.
\$10, 5 to 7 pm

11 January ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Robbie Reed
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Electric Church
No cover \$

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Florida
7:00pm

12 January ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Countdown Quartet
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Big Rick
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

The Grape at Cameron Village
Maggie Pate Trio
7:30 to 10:30 pm

13 January ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Cafe' Mars
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Big Rick
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

The Grape at Cameron Village
Steve Hobbs Trio, jazz musician and composer on vibraphone
7:30 to 10:30 pm

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Atlanta
7:00pm

14 January ~ Sunday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Skeeter Brandon
No Cover \$, 9pm-12am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Blues Jam
No cover \$

15 January ~ Monday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Russ Thompson
No cover \$

16 January ~ Tuesday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Mic hosted by Matthew Kush
No cover \$

17 January ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Big Rick and the Bombers
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

The Grape at Cameron Village
Wednesday Grape Crush

\$10, 5 to 7 pm

18 January ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Tad Walers
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Prime Rib Blues Band
No Cover \$, 10pm-1am

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Washington
8:00pm

19 January ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Countdown Quartet
No Cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
The Heaters
No Cover \$, 10pm-1am

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

The Grape at Cameron Village
Blue T
7:30 to 10:30pm

Continued on Page 21

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20 January ~ Saturday

Amra's
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Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Voodoo Flute
No cover \$

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

The Grape at Cameron Village
Dave Finucane Duo, saxophone and piano
7:30 to 10:30pm

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Tampa Bay
8:30pm

21 January ~ Sunday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
BC3
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Blues Jam
No Cover \$, 10pm-1am

Extreme Makeovers – Home Edition
Riggins Family Episode (in Raleigh)
8pm EST, ABC11

22 January ~ Monday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Russ Thompson

No cover \$, 9pm-1am

23 January ~ Tuesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Jazz Squad
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
VOpen Mic hosted by Matthew Kush
No cover \$, 9pm-1am

24 January ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Big Rick & the Bombers
No Cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Tad Walters
No cover \$

The Grape at Cameron Village
Wednesday Grape Crush
Choose from specially selected red & white wine flights and enjoy complimentary appetizers from the bar.
\$10, 5 to 7 pm

25 January ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Mel Melton & the Wicked Mojo's
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Chop Shop
No cover \$

The Grape at Cameron Village
Dave Finucane Duo, saxophone and piano
7:30 to 10:30pm

26 January ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Skeeter Brandon
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Robbie Reid
No cover \$

The Grape at Cameron Village
Maggie Pate Trio
7:30 to 10:30pm

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Washington
7:00pm

27 January ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Café Mars
No Cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Fat Daddy Band
No cover \$

The Grape at Cameron Village
Steve Hobbs Trio, jazz musician and composer on vibraphone
7:30 to 10:30pm

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

Saint Augustine's College Celebrates 140th Anniversary

Annual Sapphire Gala at the Sheraton Imperial in RTP at 7pm
Gala honorees include actors Tim Reid and Daphne Maxwell Reid, who will receive the Saint Augustine's College Heritage Award; Dr. Leroy Walker, recipient of the Presidential Salutation; and Robert E. Bridges, who will be honored with the Theodore R. Gibson Legacy Award. Bob Johnson, Owner of the Charlotte Bobcats, and United States Congressman Brad Miller (North Carolina, District 13) will serve as honorary chairpersons. For ticket information, please contact Saint Augustine's College office of Institutional Advancement and

Development at (919) 516-4092 or sapphiregala@st-aug.edu

28 January ~ Sunday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
The Willie Painter Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Blues Band
No cover \$

29 January ~ Monday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Special Event Autism Fund Raiser Music Performance by Children of the Horn
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919-828-8488
6 to 10pm

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Russ Thompson
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The Grape at Cameron Village
Winter Wine Dinner
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30 January ~ Tuesday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Mic hosted by Matt Kush

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Toronto
7:00pm

31 January ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
The Red Bus Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Continued on Page 22

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1 February ~ Thursday

Amra's
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 No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Tampa Bay
 7:00pm

2 February ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
 No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
 No cover \$

Sullivan's Steak House
 Eddie Thigpen Duo
 No cover \$, 5pm

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Tampa Bay
 7:00pm

3 February ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
 The Red Bus Band
 No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
 No cover \$

Sullivan's Steak House
 Eddie Thigpen Duo
 No cover \$, 5pm

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Boston
 7:00pm

4 February ~ Sunday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
 The Red Bus Band
 No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Carolina Hurricanes vs. Tampa Bay
 7:00pm

EVENT WEBSITES

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GREAT DOWNTOWN RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES!

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The Glenwood Agency
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PENTHOUSE CONDO!

The Dawson- Dynamic PENTHOUSE 3 bedroom plus den condo at The Dawson on Morgan - Warehouse Location in Downtown Raleigh with beautiful views of the skyline. 3,000 square foot home with large balcony perfect for summer entertaining, gourmet kitchen complete with Monogram GE Stainless Steel appliances and custom cherry cabinetry, beautiful hardwood floors throughout, enormous walk-in closets perfect for storage, two secured parking spaces and secured building entry. Restaurant at base of building - walk to everything in the Downtown area. Offered at \$760,000 by Ann-Cabell Baum Andersen, TGA. 828-0077

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CAMERON VILLAGE AREA CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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Battaglia Returns Home Against The Canes

Story & Photos By Matt Clearey
 Edited by Crash Gregg

Ex-Hurricane star, Bates Battaglia, returned to the ice at RBC Center December 15th, but not as a Hurricane player as Raleigh is used to seeing. On this night, he was an opponent to the Canes with his new team, the Toronto Maple Leafs along with other familiar names, ex-Hurricanes Jeff O'Neil and Coach Paul Maurice.

The Leafs won the game by a score of 4-3 in front of a crowd that consisted of many Battaglia fans because of the six seasons he played for the Canes between 1997 and 2003 before being traded to Colorado and then Washington during the 2003-2004 season. Battaglia, a crowd favorite during his tenure with the Canes, still remains popular for many hockey fans here in the Raleigh area. For this night – it was a welcome home for the ex-Cane star and an exciting time for the Battaglia supporters that came out to the RBC Center to see him back on the ice.

In the seats and walking through the stadium it was evident by the sight of the many Battaglia jerseys in the crowd – it was going to be a crowd not completely one-sided to the 2006 Stanley Cup Champions. As the Leafs took the ice, cheers from the Maple Leaf and Battaglia fans could definitely be heard throughout the stadium. After 60 minutes of play, it was the Toronto Maple Leafs who prevailed and left one ex-Hurricane, Bates Battaglia, feeling good about a victory in front of his hometown crowd.

"This is very exciting for us" said Bates' mother, Sandy with her husband Joe, who traveled all the way from Chicago to see him play.



Real estate attorney Howard Kohn, Bates Battaglia, and Rich Battaglia (Bates' father) following the Canes/Maple Leafs game in December

Raleigh real estate attorney Howard Kohn shared his enthusiasm when talking about seeing Bates' on the ice by referring to the experience as "awesome".

Battaglia is a native of Chicago where he grew up playing youth hockey with his two brothers, Anthony, currently playing for the Toronto Maple Leafs affiliate in the East Coast Hockey League (ECHL), the Columbia Inferno, and his older brother Sam who remained in the Chicagoland area. Bates still calls Raleigh his home where he resides in the trendy downtown Glenwood Avenue district along with his younger brother Anthony in the off-season where he also owns one of downtown's popular nightspots in Raleigh with partner Mike Lombardo – Lucky B's, or as some refer to it, Around the Corner. In addition, he is considering plans to add an upscale Italian eatery downtown – and if you know Bates, you can be sure it's going to be the place to go.

In the off-season, Bates can be seen sharing conversation with friends and

fans on a weekly a basis along Glenwood Avenue, usually at Lucky B's, or at Carolina Beach where he also owns property and frequents during hockey downtime.

As a hockey player, Bates is happy to once again be on the NHL ice after landing in Toronto with Coach Maurice playing for the Maple Leaf's American Hockey League affiliate (AHL), the Toronto Marlies, wondering if he would have another shot at the NHL. Paul Maurice was named head coach of the Toronto Maple Leafs a year later and gave Bates' the shot he was looking for. He signed with the Leafs prior to the beginning of the season and is proving himself on the ice once again—having a great year playing in all 41 games this season, thus far with 4 goals, 11 assists, and lately averaging 17-20 minutes of time on the ice. But more than the hockey player, he is also a role model to many youths in the Raleigh area. He is heavily involved in the Jimmy V Foundation, serves on the board for the Jimmy V Junior Golf Classic, and participates in the festivities each year. He loves his fans and takes any oppor-

tunity he can to speak to them and take photos. Just ask Jessica and Alicia Moore as they were extremely happy as Bates took the time to stop for a quick snapshot and words after the game. Upon exiting the stadium, a crowd of about a 100 fans gathered outside the exit to get a glimpse, or even a quick photograph, of Bates before hopping on the bus to the airport for the flight back to Toronto.



Battaglia and fans Jessica and Alicia Moore

The evening before the Friday night game, Lucky B's held their annual Christmas Party where Bates and fellow teammates Brendan Bell, Hal Gil, Chad Kilger, along with captain Matt Sundin stopped in to have a cocktail after attending dinner at Sullivan's before retiring to their hotel rooms for the night. When asked how the fans take to Bates in Toronto, Bell responded: "he's a fan favorite." He's just that kind of guy – an all around athlete devoting time to not only the sport he loves, but to the fans and those in need.

"It's great to be home and see everyone," Bates told us.

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New Year's Fashion Resolutions

A new year has begun, bringing with it the promise of actually keeping the resolutions we made. We hit the streets to ask our fellow downtowners what fashion resolutions they made for 2007 (and, of course, included a few of our own).

Don't buy something just because it's on sale. Buy it because I want it.

~ Julia Z., Raleigh

My fashion resolution advice would be to dress for the job you want, not for the job you have.

~ Amy A., Raleigh

Buy more of the same. Classics are classics for a reason. And find more opportunities to wear ball gowns, evening dresses and big, sparkly jewelry!

~ Karen T., Raleigh



Whatever Britney Spears does, do the opposite.

~ Allison M., Raleigh



Let my girlfriend dress me more often.

~ Matt H., Raleigh

I want to be the most fashionable mom on the block. Does that count?

~ Tina C., Durham

I want to remember how much fun it is to get dressed up. At least once a month, I should be able to leave my apartment feeling fabulous, and if there is not an appropriate occasion, I'll be sure to "dress up" my social calendar too.

~ Ann M., Chapel Hill

I have several: resolutions to not dress like a mom of two young girls; get a new purse; find a pair of jeans that look great on me, not just on everyone else; find a stylish look for days at the park with my girls that does not involve my favorite gray yoga pants; and make my next major clothes purchase in a size smaller than what I buy now.

~ Alicia S., Morrisville

I would like to add more classic ele-

ments to my wardrobe—very Jackie O-esque things that make me stand out from other women my age. I would also like to avoid anything "bedazzled," no matter how "in" the salespeople—or my friend Matt—say it is.

~ Amber B., Charlotte

I would like to bring back Hypercolor tops and scrunchies to wear with my lace bottom leggings.

~ Jennifer P., Charlotte

I would like to find clothes that match all the shoes I buy, rather than have them sit in my closet because they aren't paired with outfits.

~ Chantel M., Concord

My resolutions include to not cut my own bangs, to throw my heels away once I've worn them down to the metal stubs (except for my baby pink, Steve Madden points) and to try wearing red lipstick every now and then.

~ Lauren C., Raleigh

Stay away from trendy pieces and collect more classic ones! I tend to be

drawn to "what's in" for the season (leggings, skinny pants, tunic shirts), and with my limited budget, I just can't afford to wear a piece one time, then have it hanging in my closet because it's out of style two months later. I want to start building my wardrobe by investing in timeless pieces.

~ Autumn M., Greenville

To keep my nails in better shape. Oh, and I want to wear more skirts to work. I always wear pants.

~ Keri P., Apex

I have many! 1) Get my shoes reheelled in a timely fashion. 2) Avoid thinly strapped tops lest my shoulders look like they belong to Goliath. 3) Never be the most underdressed person at an affair. 4) Treat myself to a really nice, fun-colored purse. 5) Wear bathing suits in colors that make me look more tan than I am. 6) Always carry a purse that can hold more than my cell phone, credit card and lipstick, but not one that can double as a carry-on bag. 7) Not give in to trendy styles and stay within the classic lines that I'm already confident look good on me. 8) Splurge on one pair of black shoes that are classic and will never go out of style.

~ Tiffany C., Chapel Hill

When shopping with friends and family, refrain from describing everything as "cute." Expand vocabulary to include descriptors like "sophisticated," "chic," "gorgeous" and the like.

~ Alyssa W., Raleigh

I resolve to never give in to the "scrunchie comeback," no matter how popular it may become.

~ Kelly H., Raleigh

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