

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER™

NOVEMBER 2006

RALEIGH'S GUIDE TO WHAT'S DOWNTOWN

FREE

Gift Buying Guide (part 1)

GIFT GUIDE

Don't shop 'til you drop. See what we found downtown.

AROUND TOWN

Where have you been Downtown lately?

Downtown Santa Holiday Benefit Drive and Party

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

Sponsored by

The Raleigh Downtowner
and TriSports Social Club

Visit www.raleighdowntowner.com
for more information and party RSVP

Still trying to re-gift that espresso machine you got last Christmas? Use our Gift Guide in our next two issues to discover amazing gift ideas to please everyone on your list.

UPCOMING ISSUES

December: Gift Guide Part 2
 January: Arts in Downtown
 February: Valentine's Day
 March: A New You
 April: Home Makeover

DOWNTOWN SANTA HOLIDAY BENEFIT DRIVE AND PARTY, FRI. DEC. 1

Join the Downtowner and TriSports Social Club to help those less fortunate this holiday season. Visit www.raleighdowntowner.com for more information.

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER

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

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A Downtown Raleigh Shopping Sampler

Honestly, most of us don't start shopping for Christmas gifts in early November. Too busy, too much work to do, no time to think of gift ideas yet. But for those savvy enough to get a head start, we've compiled a quick list of a few interesting places you may have not yet visited, but should. You'll find unique gifts for everyone in your gift circle of family and friends: the accessory-collector, the jewelry-laden, the man's-man, and even the dog-lover. For those of us who like to wait until the last minute to start our holiday shopping, pick up our upcoming December issue for even more ideas .



**Lamp - \$210
Made in Hickory, NC**

Seaboard Imports

121 Seaboard Avenue
 Raleigh, NC
 919.838.8244
 Monday-Saturday
 10am-5:30pm

Originally from Raleigh, the owner Adelaide moved to Indonesia for two years and fell in love with their style, people, and products. After returning to Raleigh, she decided to bring that style back

with her and founded Seaboard Imports.

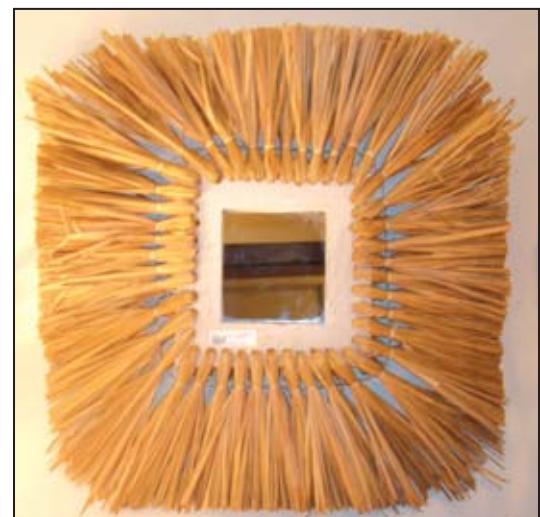


**Handcarved wooden pig - \$24
Made in Bali**



**"Hippy" plates - \$17
Available in different patterns, sets, colors**

For five years, Seaboard Imports has been known for their teak furniture and imports from Indonesia. Now you'll also find high fashion interior items including a line of eclectic line of lamps from Hickory, colorful dinner settings, and beautiful hard-to-find decorations for your modern, funky and eclectic downtown home.



Wicker straw mirror - \$45

Continued on Page 3

redpin

Seaboard Station
121 Seaboard Ave.
Raleigh, NC 27604
919.754.8006
www.redpingallery.com
Monday-Saturday
10am-5:30pm



Pressed bamboo vases - \$16
Made in the Phillipines

Different is good.

When redpin opened its doors nearly four years ago, its owner's, David and Emily Walser, wanted to create a store that offered one-of-a-kind items with stylish, furniture and unique accessories. Their mission has been to bring customers a shopping experience unlike any other. Judging by response from their clientele they have done just that.

Know it when you see it? You'll see it here. You might find an original vintage art posters, Japanese kimonos or artwork from local artist complimenting an Oriental chest or a faux ostrich skin club chair. Browse through books featuring dogs sitting atop an old church pulpit. David has created many of the store's lamps from figural liquor decanters, water coolers and abacuses (just to name a few). redpin is sure to have that piece that "makes" a room. Not only does redpin offer unique items for the home, its co-owner,



Cucumber stool - \$24
Made in Bali

Emily Walser, is an interior designer with over 12 years experience. Her design firm, From-Start-to-Finish Interiors, is located in the same space and offers an array of services.



Handcarved fabric pattern
printing blocks - \$30
From Thailand

Not only does redpin offer many one-of-a-kind items, there's also a unique selection of greeting cards, original vintage art posters, wine accessories, furniture, and many other gift items.

La Di Dogs

Cameron Village
419 B Daniels Street
919.832.9877
Monday-Saturday
11am-6pm

La-Di-Dogs was started after one of two sisters, Nancy Gonzales, relocated from California to North Carolina with her two pups, Roxy and Leo. After arriving, Nancy was unable to find a shop that offered the specialty items her pampered pets grew accustomed to in California. The sisters thought rather than sending these from California, why not offer them to all of the pampered pups of North Carolina.



Jewel-studded Ed Hardy Fashion
Dog T-shirt - \$64.99

At La-Di-Dogs, you'll find all the pre-requisite items that help make your pet the envy of their neighborhood-fashion T's, gourmet treats, warm cashmere sweaters, rhinestone collars, Ed Hardy shirts, bejeweled leashes, leopard print carrying bags, and



Suede and canvas dog boots - \$74.99
Made in different sizes and colors

comfortable beds in plenty of designs. La-Di-Dogs has recently incorporated a new part of the store that offers a wide variety of everyday items, which includes grooming supplies, all natural dog food, retractable leashes and much more! However, La-Di-Dogs did not want to leave the big dogs out, so they also offer durable "Tuffies" toys, as well as Kongs, boots for the hiking dog, large fleece blankets to keep them warm, and stylish collars and leads.

Does your pet have an upcoming birthday? La-Di-Dogs will host birthday parties, complete with hats, special animal-friendly cakes, snacks, party favors, and more.

You can find La-Di-Dogs in Cameron Village, located at 419-B Daniels Street (just a few stores down from The

Grape), Raleigh NC 27605, open 11 - 6 Monday thru Saturday, with holiday hours 11 - 7 Monday thru Saturday and Sunday 12 - 3.



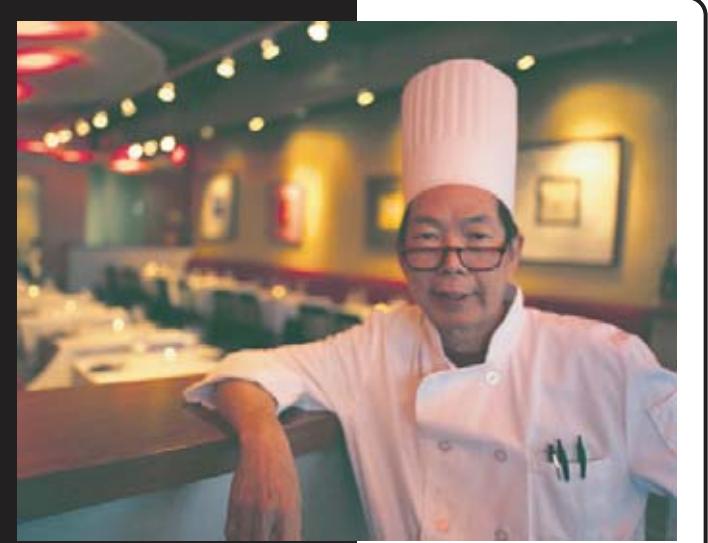
Painted leather dog carrier - \$137.50
Different sizes and designs

Stop in at La-Di-Dogs and let Nancy show you how to properly pamper your pet.

Great Outdoor Provision Co.

Cameron Village
2017 Cameron St
Raleigh, NC 27605
(919) 833-1741
www.greatoutdoorprovision.com
M-F 10am-9pm, Sat 9am-6pm,
Sun 1pm-6pm
Started in 1972 and locally owned by

Continued on Page 4



This November, David Mao and the Duck and Dumpling have reason to celebrate. Four great years of loyal patrons in downtown Raleigh.



the duck & dumpling®

222 S. Blount Street | Downtown Raleigh
www.theduckanddumpling.com

AN EMPIRE *Eats* ESTABLISHMENT



**Original Mountain Boy Wooden wagon by sledmaker Brice Hoskin - \$229.99
A contradiction to the cliche "they don't make 'em like they used to"...**

Tom Valone, Great Outdoor Provision Company currently has nine stores statewide. We visited the one in Cameron Village and found lots of gear, gadgets and equipment for the outdoors guy (or gal) on your

grams in stores along with instructional classes in the field and on the water. Choose from nearly 100 demos and classes that are offered throughout the year in seven locations across the state. Try that in a chain store...

They also pride themselves on giving back to the outdoor cornerstones that have marked our lives: Scout Troops, Habitat for Humanity, and local land trusts that help preserve land for adventure just to name a few.



**Hand-operated blender - \$69.95
Make your favorite Margarita while camping, tailgating, or about anywhere.**

Christmas list. What separates this store from the chains is that the employees (and owner) have actually already used the items you're looking for and can give you information from hands-on experience. They even provide "opportunities to paddle, cast, tread, feel and taste the products we sell." They offer camping rental pro-



**Completely waterproof I-pod case and earphones - \$69.95
For those who need to carry a tune underwater.**

In their vast lodge-style stores, you'll discover almost everything you'll need to camp, flyfish, paddle, climb, and wear outdoors, and plenty of friendly adventurers to help you find exactly what you're looking for.



**Suunto Watch - from \$150 to \$399
Features altimeter, altitude alarm, compass, barometer, temperature, and even tells the time.**

Kerry Catherine Jewelry

North Hills
4321 Lassiter
Raleigh, NC
(919)786-2772
KerryCatherine@nc.rr.com
M-F 10-6 Sat 11-5
Call Sunday for walk-in hours and appointments

Kerry Catherine Jewelry is a unique, contemporary jewelry design and manufacturing store that specializes in



The Electrum Collection is made with special alloyed 18 Kt. green gold and offers some of the world's finest silicate turquoise. The price range of these pieces are between \$800 to \$3000.

custom engagement rings, bridal jewelry, charming push presents, and one-of-a-kind pieces designed for special occasions. To compliment the original location in Five Points, a second larger and beautifully designed location recently opened in the North Hills eclectic boutique row this past April.



In their higher price category, the Three Stone Trellis setting in platinum, featuring a stunning three carat Emerald-cut GIA certified diamond, set in an exquisite bead-tipped mount with one-carat Trapezoid-cut side stones. - \$40,000

precious gemstones and the finest and rarest pearls in the Triangle. Known for being the only store in Raleigh where you can still set appointments with one of the nation's most promising new designers, Kerry Catherine Jewelry has featured jewelry on awards winners at the Golden Globes and the Grammys.



The KC engagement ring is shown in white gold and in a diamond encrusted pave setting. An incredible GIA certified 1.5 carat diamond is center-mounted in a 14 Kt. White-gold bezel. - \$15,500.

For those of you who were first to discover the style and cutting edge fashion offered in Kerry Catherine Jewelry's

Sterling Collection, these pieces offered in the \$78-200 range.

Kerry Catherine Jewelry features original designed collections made in gold, sterling and platinum. The jewelry is accented with exceptional diamonds,

Over the holiday season discover why professional women and men of the Triangle go to Kerry Catherine Jewelry for the finest in attractive and contemporary designed jewelry.

Downtown Santa Holiday Benefit Drive and Party! Dec. 1

While we're out shopping for gifts this season, please keep in mind those who will go without over the holidays.

The Downtowner along with TriSports Social Club is sponsoring a holiday benefit drive to collect children's toys, jackets, clothes, canned food, and pet food/toys for animal shelters. Visit our website www.raleighdowntowner.com for donation drop-off locations, party information/RSVP, and more.

Gifts for the Food Lover on Your List



By Fred Benton, Staff Writer

Intellectually, I'm opposed to the over-commercialization of Christmas where the religious meaning of this holiday for Christians is assaulted by gimmicks and frantic rushes to the mall. That being said, to be honest I used to deliberately wait until Christmas Eve to buy some of the gifts I needed to give only because I thought that the last-minute rush was so exciting. I don't anymore. Of course, I'm older. I do enjoy giving holiday gifts but fighting crowds, no. So I have made an annual study on how the procedure could be accomplished as easily as possible. I used to joke that having a fight with all your friends and family members just after Thanksgiving ensures you freedom from gift-giving. But then my friends caught on to my scheme and refused to fuss.

Gift-giving, I do—but over-taxing myself to do so, no way. I do prefer whenever possible to buy local. Whatever you can find in these myriad of catalogues that stuff our mailboxes this time each year, you can also find inside the beltline. Acquiring gifts for food and wine lovers can be really quite simple. **Gift certificates to upscale restaurants** are always a winner but take care that no expiration date is given; after all, the money you paid for the certificate doesn't expire. Also, there should be no exclusions (dates, events, etc.) beyond the eatery's normal business hours and days of operation. **Recently published cookbooks** are always appreciated. Several have come my way, hot off the press. I recommend: **Kitchen Sense: more than 600 recipes to make you a great home cook**, by Mitchell Davis (\$35); a favorite, **The Food Encyclopedia: Over 8000 Ingredients, Tools, Techniques and People** by Jacques Rolland and Carol Sherman (\$50) and another favorite, from the editors of Cook's Illustrated, **The Best 30-Minute Recipe: Want to serve your grandmother's chicken and roasted potatoes tonight but don't have a grandmother's schedule? We streamlined this dish and 300 more to be on your table in 30 minutes or less** (\$35).

At NC State Farmer's Market in the enclosed retail shed (third structure on the right as you enter) you will find a vendor who sells a variety of **homemade-style, old-fashioned pickles and preserves**. These make thoughtful and inexpensive stocking stuffers. The season doesn't really begin for me until I visit there for my annual two jars of watermelon rind pickles (made just like my grandmother did and a must for my Thanksgiving and Christmas tables). I may hate mall-walking but a stroll through all the retail markets at the NC State Farmer's Market can unearth

many gifts for foodies, and I love to browse and buy, for example, **pecan halves, baskets of apples and varieties of honey and molasses plus holiday-theme baked goods**. Welcome gifts, all!

Also, for the person on your list who has a refined and discriminating thirst, a visit to Seaboard Wine & Tasting Bar located at Seaboard Station across from Logan's Trading Company is in order. Owner Doug Diesing and his staff are passionate about wines and all staffers have restaurant experience so they're particularly adept at food/wine pairings — a valuable resource if you have to bring the wine to a dinner party. At Seaboard you can also purchase wine accouterment, such as **Riedel glassware** — or even better than Riedel, says Diesing, is a new line of glassware from Austria, **Glass & Co.** What makes these better than Riedel, I asked, believing that Riedel is the ultimate glass for the wine experience. Doug explained that Riedel is a glass made up of two parts, the stem is attached to the bowl, making it somewhat fragile. Glass & Co. offers one-piece glassware that both heighten the wine drinking experience and provides great durability, even dishwasher-safe, commercial grade glasses that are, unlike Riedel, chip-resistant. A set of these glasses would be a gift guaranteed to impress and be appreciated. Another sure-fire winner from Seaboard wine is the **Oenopull wine opener** made by a company in Chapel Hill called Oenophilia. This opener, much like those used at professional bars but won't take counter space, makes opening a bottle of wine as easy as popping a top. The wine enthusiast on your list will be ecstatic Shop and taste wine at the same time (the wine tasting is complimentary) every Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information call 831-0850.



The Oenopull wine opener from Oenophilia. Squeeze the neck, push the handle down, pull it back up and voila! A must-have wine accessory for \$24.95.

NoFo, located on Fairview Road, at Five Points has the makings of gourmet dreams, with food for the

chic as well as fare that evokes the most delectable childhood memories when treats were fatty, sugary and glorious. NoFo does not provision to the politically-correct palate; it just goes for the goodies—calories and fat content be damned. This is why I like shopping in a place where other shoppers, like myself, scrutinize labels, not for minimal fat grams, but to see if enough heaps of butter are used to live up to our holiday cravings. Take heart, at NoFo pigs are welcome and appreciated. Whether you're on the prowl for a stocking stuffer or major gifts, NoFo won't disappoint. Some of my favorite food gifts here for myself and others include an **Edwards Virginia Ham**, a boneless precooked ham that's a cross, taste-wise, between city and country hams. The taste is fantastic, just slice and serve—perfect for ham rolls, ham biscuits and sliced ham for the dinner table. An Edwards ham is every bit as easy to serve as a Honey Baked Ham but not as salty (although you do have to slice the Edwards, but it's all meat, bone-free.) Another must taste-treat is the **2-pound black rind Cheddar** that offers bold flavor without being stridently sharp; just a good cheese for snacking upon and the beginnings of a gourmet macaroni and cheese, rarebit or topping for apple pie. I particularly love this cheese with another NoFo product, an **Armenian apricot preserve** that's loaded with fruit and not-so-sweet, more like a conserve. **Ginny O's Cheese Straws** are made here in Raleigh, inside the beltline in fact, and are wildly popular cheese straws—good enough to be recommended, as the product was, on Oprah's "O" List.

NoFo also does simple to elaborate gift baskets. Every recipient of a **NoFo gift basket** showered me with compliments to the extent I felt a little guilty I hadn't put more sweat into the procedure. NoFo will customize a basket, as they did for me, or you can choose from a standardized selection. But if you haven't shopped NoFo before, you should drop by the store just to see the fascinating kitchen gadgetry that makes the functional kitchen an art space plus the array of foods and wines (one wine, gold-colored, contains flecks of real gold so when even lightly shaken the gold rains down—so eye-catching!). For directions and hours, call 821-1240 or go online at www.nofo.com. If you go by the store, make it a real holiday treat for yourself and hit the place at mealtime. The food in NoFo's café is superb (for lunch I have to have the chicken salad, the sweet potato fries and a ham biscuit and, on Wednesday nights the smothered boneless fried chicken, smothered with cream gravy (order an extra dose!) on real mashed potatoes, makes this the best chicken dinner in the city!



By Fred Benton, Staff Writer

Wow—and all I can write is wow—when it comes to the city of Raleigh. In the October issue I reported on The Lion King and how the city of Raleigh through Broadway Series South brought to Triangle area citizens shows with all the production values as they were staged on Broadway. And now a month later Raleigh has the Monet in Normandy exhibition, Raleigh being the only city on the eastern seaboard to get it. This art coup at the North Carolina Museum of Art is made possible, in part, by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation, Inc. In Raleigh, Monet in Normandy is presented by GlaxoSmithKline and Progress Energy. The exhibit contains 50 paintings borrowed from private collections all over the world and was organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art, the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, and the Cleveland Museum of Art. The exhibit Monet in Normandy, runs through January 14th. For more information, visit their website at www.ncartmuseum.org.

Why, you may ask, is this exhibit so important?

Claude Monet was a French painter, initiator, leader, and unswerving advocate of the Impressionist style. He's regarded as the archetypal Impressionist in that his devotion to the ideals of the movement was unwavering throughout his long career, and it is fitting that one of his pictures—Impression: Sunrise (Musée Marmottan, Paris; 1872)—gave the group its name. Monet began a series of outdoor paintings (*en plein air*) while living in Normandy. This was somewhat revolutionary. Theretofore, landscapes were flat and not realistic beyond the quick glance of the eye. Monet loved movement, whether it was the shimmering of water or the rise and fall of the sun. He saw light as movement. This is evident in his series of paintings of Rouen Cathedral, Haystacks and even when living in London, the Thames River. This is exhibit encapsulates one of the greatest artistic movements of all time—a revolutionary one—called Impressionism.

I collect and appreciate the visual arts—and this is one exhibit I won't miss (tickets are \$15). But at heart, I'm a foodie—so I'm especially pleased that the art of Monet is being celebrated citywide at some of our best—and in some cases our newest—restaurants. These culinary treats and feasts will be offered throughout the run of the exhibit, October 15, 2006 to January 14, 2007. Get your forks and palates revved up; here's the list:

Monet Eats!

DINING



Flavors of Normandy at Bloomsbury Bistro

John Toler's Bloomsbury Bistro is located in the heart of Raleigh at Five Points and only five minutes from the N.C. Museum of Art. Locally and nationally acclaimed and featured in Southern Living, Bon Appetit and USA Today, Bloomsbury Bistro was also voted best restaurant in Raleigh in Metro Magazine 2005. Everything you love about fine dining without the hype!

\$35 per person featuring 3 courses.



Chef's Table Series at Enoteca Vin - Regions of France

The former ice cream freezer in the old Pine State Creamery in Glenwood South has been transformed into a sophisticated urban setting for experiencing food and wine. Chef Ashley Christensen and

Continued on Page 7

U

UNDERGROUND
Restaurant & Bar
861 W. Morgan
664.8704

★★★★★
Daily changing menu
Driven by fresh local products

"Chef Taylor's Food is THAT GOOD"
— Greg Cox
Food Critic - N&O



"Brilliantly conceived and executed dishes"
— Moreton Neal, Metro Magazine

Ask about 1/2 price wine bottles on Wednesdays!

www.comeunderground.com

hudson

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OPEN SPACES.
And best of all, open for living.**

The homes are unique: clearly contemporary, while retaining the building's historic character. The neighborhood itself is equally distinctive, thanks to the spark of the new Fayetteville St. And the timing? If you're looking to make a move now, it simply couldn't be better. **Ready for immediate occupancy.**

Jewell Parker
919.582.1745 HUDSONRALEIGH.COM



319 Fayetteville Street — Onsite sales office open Tues.-Sun.
Entrance is on Wilmington Street, Downtown Raleigh

Sommelier Aubrey Zinaich explore the regions of France in the Chef's Table Series.
\$49 per person for four courses and wine.



Monet inspired Chef's Tasting Menu at Frazier's

Frazier's, awarded 3 1/2 stars by The News & Observer, marries excellent food with casual dining in a chic bistro setting. Its seasonal menu features local ingredients from nearby farms in classic European dishes at prices that reflect the restaurant's commitment to high quality and delicious food and wine for great value. \$45 per person featuring 4 courses: \$20 additional per person for wine pairings.



Champagne Brunch at Nelsons

Nelsons, Raleigh's hottest new restaurant in Cameron Village, has revived the best of classic French and American cuisine in a stylish setting featuring an oyster bar, a unique dining loggia, a reserve wine bar, an upstairs outdoor bar, and a private room.

\$26 per person; \$8 for children 12 and under; no charge for children 4 and under.

Second Empire

Chef's Table at Second Empire Restaurant and Tavern

Join chef Daniel Schurr for a 4-course meal of contemporary American cuisine with French technique. Second Empire is a two-year, and Raleigh's only recipient of, the AAA Four Diamond Award, the Distinguished Restaurants of North America Award and a seven-year recipient of the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence. Located in the elegantly restored Dodd-Hinsdale House (circa 1879), Second Empire combines history, atmosphere, and gourmet cuisine for an unforgettable dining experience. \$110 per person including four courses and wine available with proof of Monet exhibition ticket purchase.

WINE TASTINGS

Learn about the production and flavor profiles of fine French wines at specialty themed tastings and seminars



French Platter at april&george art bar + wine gallery

This Glenwood South feast for palates encourages visitors and residents to experience and enjoy every aspect of creativity. From the local painters, photogra-

phers, jewelers, and sculptors to food artists, wine gallery and music, art is celebrated at April & George in an upscale, metropolitan, romantic, gallery atmosphere in a smoke free environment.

\$30 for 1 wine flight & platter (platter serves 2); \$40 for 2 wine flights & platter (platter serves 2) 10% discount for groups of 10 people or more



The Wine Bar at The Wine Merchant

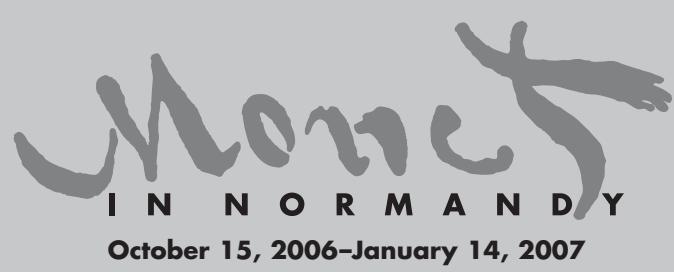
A convenient stop on the way to the N.C. Museum of Art, The Wine Merchant is a specialty wine store and a leader in the Triangle area for educational experiences through classes, seminars and wine tastings. One of the nation's leading retailers of world famous Riedel stemware. Wine \$7 per glass; Cheeses \$6 per serving.

The organization of Raleigh's French Experience was an awesome task. The Raleigh Downtowner salutes Shawn Braden, director of tourism and partnership marketing, who started this process in Spring 2005.

For even more Monet-inspired dining, wine and other events, visit www.visitraleigh.com/monet



Claude Monet, Water Lilies, 1914-17, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco



October 15, 2006-January 14, 2007

**Fifty paintings
by Claude Monet.
A once-in-a-lifetime exhibition.**

**Discounted tickets
during Monet Matinées
Tuesdays-Thursdays, 2-4 PM
Through November 16**

NORTH CAROLINA

Museum of Art

Presented by



Progress Energy

Additional Support from Capitol Broadcasting Company, Inc., *The News and Observer*, American Airlines,
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau

Monet in Normandy is organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art, the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, and the Cleveland Museum of Art. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

This exhibition is also made possible in part by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation, Inc.

2110 Blue Ridge Road
Raleigh

Box Office (919) 715-5923

www.ncartmuseum.org

A Great New Choice: Nelsons in Cameron Village



By Fred Benton, Staff Writer

A new restaurant, Nelsons, has opened in Raleigh's Cameron Village—a restaurant so highly touted by my friends that they have formed a Nelsons Club headed by local artist Lloyd Skidmore. They gather there on Thursday evenings. Our editor and I were pleased to be included at the inaugural gathering. The food was superb based on my one-time visit, which in my opinion offers up the best fried green tomatoes and the best Oysters Rockefeller preparation in the city.



The menu at Nelsons feeds the palate as the Tuscan-style interior feeds the eye. Nelsons offers up a panoply of natural stone, intricate inlaid steps of cork and stone, open vistas and closed spaces that give the

casual stroller the feeling of exploring the proverbial chambered Nautilus, each turn of the head giving feasts for the eye, including the restrooms that look as if they could have been Ari's and Jackie O's private sanctuaries. There's hardly anything like this multi-million-dollar package in the whole of the southeastern United States.

Nelsons is a Raleigh treasure that offers a menu heavy on fresh seafood choices. John Powers, the proud owner, is equally proud of the fact that the restaurant's own truck goes to the coast daily to pick up the freshest of the fresh local aquatic fare. "No one else in Raleigh does this," Powers cited. Referring to oysters, I'll quote from the menu, "After harvesting, all the above northern oysters (on the menu) are rushed to North Kingstown, RI. Each variety is matched with its proper saline balance & natural water temperature. The live oysters are lowered into titanium lined tanks where a purging process takes place. The process produces a pristine, high-quality oyster that tastes as if you pulled it from its native waters yourself." Heck, no wonder the Oysters Rockefeller here is so wonderful; the oysters, cooked so perfectly that their integrity is maintained, were sweet and still succulent. Oysters are also served raw on the half-shell with several choices of sauces including grated fresh horseradish and also deep-fried.

I inquired as to what the waiter would recommend. He quickly replied, Basil & Tomato Crusted Scampi

Grouper. And, to him, best value on menu: Crispy Calamari with tomato red bell pepper sauce & sweet balsamic reduction and Kobe Beef Sliders described as "two small Kobe burgers on fresh baked yeast rolls with choice of Canadian white Cheddar or Maytag bleu cheese, crisp lettuce, sliced tomato and paper-thin Vidalia onions." But the menu, lest you think otherwise, is more than seafood, with first-rate lamb, chicken and beef choices.



Treat yourself to a visit to Nelsons, open Tuesday-Saturday for dinner, 5:00 to 10:30 p.m. and for its acclaimed Sunday brunch buffet, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch service is scheduled to begin in mid-November. Reservations are strongly advised, 832-9815. ■RD

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

Second Empire Restaurant & Tavern
330 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, 829-3663
The Capital City's only AAA 4-Diamond-rated dining experience. www.second-empire.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 ya ever smacked lips over! 42ndstoyerbar.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 different than most

NoFo - 2014 Fairview Road, at Five Points, Raleigh. The café for breakfast, brunch, lunch & dinner. And the retail for provisioning the luxurious larder and cooking accouterments 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 seaboardwine.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

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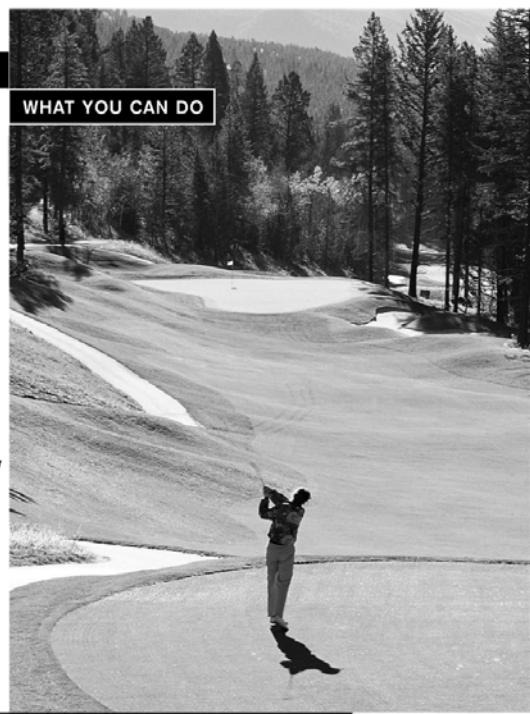
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'Big Easy' Opens Up Downtown

By R. Gregg, Raleigh Chronicle
www.raleighchronicle.com

The two-story New Orleans-style establishment Big Easy has finally opened up at downtown 222 Fayetteville Street between the old Capitol building and the Wake County Courthouse.

The wide-open spaces in the restaurant/bar are more than you would expect to see downtown and takes up the entire building from Fayetteville Street over to Salisbury Street. Patrons may be surprised to see that the building is so expansive.

"We've been working on it for two years," said Steve Hunt, one of the three owners including Dave Soprano and Andrew Seagle.

Big Easy has two floors, with the upstairs section overlooking the first floor where main dining area and lengthy wooden bar reside. The bar has a unique look to it, with Raleigh area slate laminated to form the top of the bar.



The two-story Big Easy is surprisingly spacious inside. Visitors will recognize the New Orleans style right away.

The equally large upstairs houses a leather couch lounge, more dining tables and a retro pool table area complete with a neon sign salvaged from the old Comet Lounge.

There's plenty of wood trim and the walls have a retro bare concrete look

with plenty of industrial lights and wrought iron rails — in other words, the Big Easy literally looks like it was plopped down in Raleigh straight from New Orleans. The decor oozes lots of the original "big easy" character.

Of course, with a New Orleans theme, the Big Easy has plenty to offer from its namesake. In addition to a tasty seafood gumbo, other menu items include crawfish tails, she-crab soup, grilled shrimp, Natchitoches Pie (seafood pie), jambalaya, oysters Bienville, catfish, crawfish etouffee, and more.

The food is reasonably priced with most of the sandwich items around \$7 or \$8 with the fancier entrees in the \$12 or \$14 range.

In addition to beers on tap such as New Orleans' Abita beer, there is also a wide selection of beers in bottles.

Of course, what would any New Orleans style bar be without mixed drinks and Big Easy has plenty. From the ubiquitous Hurricane to a Canal Street Daisy, there's a lot to choose from. Specialty drinks range from \$6 to \$7.25.

The bar atmosphere seemed to be friendly and we noticed there were a lot of professionals there after work.

The Big Easy is open seven days a week until 2am each night and is also open for lunch. Call them for directions or hours, 832-6082.

With the street re-opening, there is now plenty of free parking on Fayetteville Street right out front, especially at night.

In addition, bar goers will note that there are many other hotspots in the area including the Capitol Grill, the Times Bar, the Raleigh Music Hall, and several others. With the magnificent Big Easy now open, that block will definitely continue to grow into a new downtown destination for Raleigh patrons.

■RD

Downtown Santa Holiday Benefit Drive and Party!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

The Downtowner along with TriSports Social Club is sponsoring a holiday benefit drive and party to collect children's toys, jackets, clothes, canned food, and pet food/toys for animal shelters. Visit our website for drop-off locations, party information, and more.

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N.C. State Fair History

By Kenneth Peters, Museum Educator

No single annual event brings more North Carolinians to Raleigh than the North Carolina State Fair. Started as an agricultural exposition in 1853, the fair has grown in size and scope over its nearly 150 year history. While it still serves to showcase our state's agricultural products and industries, the fair has also become a major entertainment experience.

In the mid 19th century North Carolina was primarily a rural state. Dr. John F. Tompkins, editor of the Farmer's Journal, led a movement calling for the creation of a state agricultural society to promote improved farming and industrial growth. In October 1852 a State Agricultural Convention was held in Raleigh and two months later the North Carolina Agricultural Society was incorporated. Among its bylaws was a clause calling for a statewide fair to be held annually in Raleigh to help meet the society's goals.

Raleigh was a small town when the first State Fair opened in 1853 and the thousands of visitors who came to it overwhelmed the city. Local residents were forced to open up their homes to accommodate guests over the four-day period. In later years the city's hotels, taverns and bars would fill to capacity during State Fair Week and reap huge profits from the frolicking travelers.

Having celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2003, today's North Carolina State Fair is a curious mixture of old and new. Rooted in agriculture, the modern fair has expanded upon its original intent to become a major entertainment destination for North Carolinians from every corner of the state.

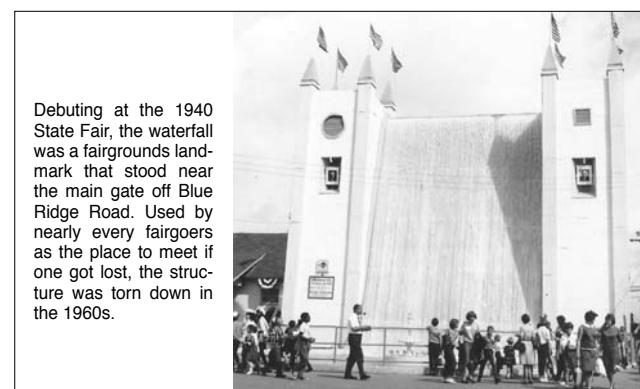
The Raleigh City Museum is open Tuesdays-Fridays from 10am to 4pm and Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm at 220 Fayetteville Street. For more info, call 832-3775 or www.raleighcitymuseum.org.

■ RD

All images courtesy Raleigh City Museum



While the State Fair's primary purpose is to promote NC agriculture and industry, it also provides visitors a premiere entertainment experience. Here, three young ladies enjoy the Scrambler amusement ride at the 1967 State Fair.



Debuting at the 1940 State Fair, the waterfall was a fairgrounds landmark that stood near the main gate off Blue Ridge Road. Used by nearly every fairgoers as the place to meet if one got lost, the structure was torn down in the 1960s.

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www.neuseriver.org/film_festival



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

Raleigh Christmas Parade & WinterFest

The time for the 62nd Raleigh Christmas Parade is fast approaching. The parade will be held from 9:30 am to noon on Saturday November 18. The official parade route starts on Hillsborough Street at St. Mary's Street, turns right on Salisbury Street, left on Morgan Street and right on Fayetteville Street, ending at Fayetteville and Davie streets. A downloadable map is on the facing page along with photos from last year. The map can also be viewed at www.RaleighChristmasParade.org.



The Parade will feature approximately 40 floats, 20 marching bands, three large Macy's-parade-style floating character balloons and a number of other entertaining acts. Live television coverage will be featured on WRAL-TV from 10am to noon. There are several new changes for this year's events: refreshment tents along the parade route, additional free parking and most of all, WinterFest, a downtown festival that starts immediately following the parade.

The refreshment tents will offer coffee, water, food items, free goodie bags and "Have a Holly Raleigh Christmas" CDs. The CDs are \$5.00 each, and the proceeds go to benefit high school marching bands. All songs on the CD were written and performed by local Raleigh bands. The songs are family friendly, and there is something for everyone. For more information about the CD, visit the website www.HollyRaleighChristmas.org.

WinterFest is new this year and will take place in Moore Square in downtown immediately following the parade (approx 11:30am - 3pm). Activities include:

- Live Music

- Train rides, wagon rides and pony rides
- Rock wall and obstacle course
- Speed pitch and sumo wrestling
- Food and beverages
- Pictures with Santa
- Wells Fargo Stage Coach
- Presentation by the Farmers Market

At Winterfest, performing live beginning at noon will be Schooner, Rob Watson, Nathan Asher and Milagro Saints. You can purchase a signed and numbered Collector's Edition WinterFest poster created by Raleigh-based artist, Kenbro.

Also new for the 2006 parade will be giant character balloons presented by First Charter and Goodberry's. The entry fees for all high school marching bands have been donated by the Raleigh Downtowner. In addition, EarthFare will donate coffee for purchase at stations along the parade route, with 100% of the proceeds benefiting local high school marching bands.

SPONSORS

WRAL-TV is the Title Sponsor and Official Media Partner for the second year in a row and will provide live televised coverage of the parade. Other key sponsors are KB Home (Gold), WakeMed (Silver) and YMCA (Bronze). The parade is presented each year by the Greater Raleigh Merchants Association.

"We're pleased to continue our sponsorship coverage of the parade," said John Harris, director of programming at WRAL-TV. "This event draws thousands of spectators from well beyond the Triangle. It's a positive reflection on our community and a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season."

The event will be produced and aired by WRAL-TV with simulcast on WRAL.com, FOX50 Digital and affiliated radio stations across the state. The station will also replay the parade broadcast three times, including a special holiday presentation on Christmas Day. The parade will be filmed live from the newly opened Fayetteville Street and from the Sky 5 helicopter.

"The Greater Raleigh Merchants Association continues to be impressed by Capitol Broadcasting and WRAL-TV, and we're thrilled to have them as our

media partner again this year," said John Odom, executive director of GRMA. "Their extensive coverage will allow viewers and listeners from across the state to experience this North Carolina tradition."

"A strong show of support from our overall sponsors is making it possible for us to do some exciting new things at this year's parade," Odom said. "In addition to a very entertaining roster of parade entries, one of the highlights this year will be WinterFest, a family-oriented festival in Moore Square immediately following the parade."

"We owe it to WRAL-TV, KB Home, WakeMed and YMCA for their generous support of this event," said GRMA's Odom. "Raleigh boasts the largest parade between Atlanta and Richmond, and thanks to our sponsors, it just keeps getting better."

The Raleigh Christmas Parade draws an estimated 50,000 spectators from across the state to downtown Raleigh and reaches more than 250,000 through television and radio coverage. It is the largest single-day event in Raleigh each year.

For more information on the parade and WinterFest, visit www.RaleighChristmasParade.org.



Winterfest poster by Raleigh-based artist Kenbro

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62nd Annual Raleigh Christmas Parade

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- Refreshment Tent
- WinterFest



www.RaleighChristmasParade.org



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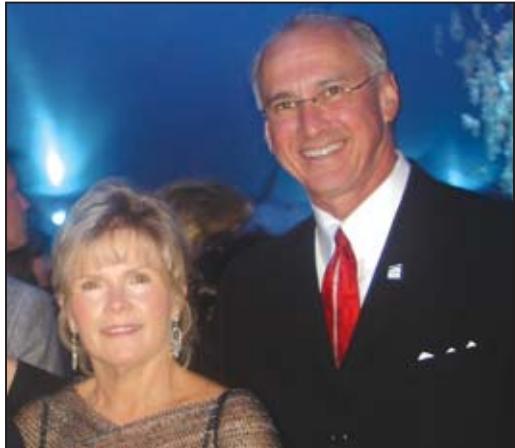
Tracy out on the town



Cornelia and Gail enjoying the raw bar at Nelsons



Downtowner publisher Sig Hutchinson and wife Nancy at the opening ceremony of the Museum of Art Monet exhibit



Marcus and Felton from Nelsons



Stan Williams with the NC Museum of Art, with Julie and Mack Paul



TOWNAROUND TOWNAROUND TOWNAROUND TOWNAROUND TOWN



Nikki and friends



Downtowner co-owner Crash Gregg at the Monet premier in front of Monet's *Water Lilies*



Chef Sander from the Borough

Jamie & Shane at the West at North event



Tishamingo band members enjoying a drink at the Duck & Dumpling before their show at the Pour House



Julie and Lucy



Think your picture needs to be in the Downtowner? Send us your downtown photo to aroundtown@raleighdowntown.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.



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Club Mosquito Opening in Nov.

The long-awaited Club Mosquito will open later this month. The Downtowner was recently invited to a private catered party at Mosquito to allow many of Raleigh's downtown influential to preview the beautiful interior design of the Club. Notable downtown mogul Greg Hatem and many others showed. Mosquito is a venture of the Brazeal family from the Brazeal Stone Company (brothers Souheil and Ghassan, and sister Rima). Rich red walls surround the thick stone bar while white leather studded couches and candles provided an intimate lounging area. The club was still under construction at the time of the party, but should be completed and ready for its grand opening sometime in November. We predict Mosquito will be an instant hot spot in the Downtown club circuit.



Located at 311 South Harrington Street near the intersection of West Martin, and the entrance is just beside the restaurant Humble Pie. Their website is also currently still under construction but should be updated soon with more information: www.clubmosquito.com

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- = Live Music
- = Classical Music
- = Arts
- = Performing Arts
- = Comedy/Live Events
- = Hockey
- = History

MULTIPLE DAY

Now - Dec 31

"It Started With One thousand Acres:
Raleigh & Its People"

This exhibit explores the history of Raleigh, how the city was founded and how the city has changed over the years. Raleigh City Museum
220 Fayetteville Street Mall, 832-3775
www.raleighcitymuseum.com

Now - Dec 31

Historic Trolley Tours

The Historic Raleigh Trolley Tour operates every Saturday March - December from 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. The narrated tour lasts one hour with stops throughout downtown. The Trolley departs from Mordecai Historic Park on the hour, but can be boarded at any stop along the tour. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$4.00 for youths (age 7-17). Children 6 and under are free. For more information contact Mordecai Historic Park at (919) 857-4364.

For information on renting a trolley from the Parks & Recreation department please call 831-6640.

1 - 25 November

Nature Art Gallery, NC Museum of Natural Sciences (733-7450)

Opening 1st Fri. Oct. 6, 6-9pm
Exhibition of new pottery by Bulldog Pottery's Bruce Gholson and Samantha Henneke Free! Gallery hours: Mon.-Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm

4 - 12 November

The Music Man North Carolina Theatre

M. Willson's The Music Man at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. The Music Man follows fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill, as he cons

the people of River City, Iowa, into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band he vows to organize - despite the fact he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef. His plans to skip town with the cash are foiled when he falls for Marian the librarian, who transforms him into a respectable citizen. \$23-\$68
831-6950 www.nctheatre.com

15-19 November

Annual Wake County Booksale

Wednesday - Sunday

It's the largest sale of its kind in the southeast and serves as a revenue source for Wake County Public Libraries each year when the budget for books is established. Over 500,000 books will be sold!

4121 New Bern Avenue in the former Super Kmart (east on US 64 Business between Corporation Parkway and New Hope Road).

Wednesday, Nov. 15 Noon-9pm

Thursday, Nov. 16 10am-8pm

Friday, Nov. 17, 10am-8pm

Saturday, Nov. 18, 8am-8pm

Sunday, Nov. 19, 10am-6pm

Hardbound books \$4/Paperbacks \$1 the first three days and prices lower Saturday and Sunday. 664-7980.

24-26 November

Nutcracker

Friday - Sunday

This year marks the sixth annual production of Carolina Ballet's spectacular Nutcracker, the timeless holiday tradition that delights the inner child in us all.

Raleigh Memorial Auditorium

Call (919) 831-6060 for information.

24-26 November

THE RAT PACK – Live at the Sands

Tuesday - Sunday

transports the audience to the early 1960's, when Frank and his pals were filming the original version of the casino robbery caper Ocean's Eleven in Las Vegas. The Sands Hotel was featured prominently in the film which included solo performances by Frank, Sammy, and Dean. The Rat Pack legend was born when Frank and Dean spontaneously joined Sammy on stage and, to the surprise and delight of the audience, playfully interrupted his act. Subsequent nights the three of them were on stage together. They crooned, they quipped and they rolled out the gags right along with their on-stage liquor cart.

Raleigh Memorial Auditorium
www.broadwayseriessouth.com.

November

The Collectors Gallery

323 Blake Street, Raleigh, NC
Nov. Featured Artist - Watercolors by

Continued on Page 19

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Beginning November 6 - Introducing Boone artist Noyes Capehart Long.

5-13 December

A Christmas Carol

Theatre In The Park's original musical comedy adaptation of A Christmas Carol, based on the book by Charles Dickens & adapted for the stage by Ira David Wood III, first premiered in 1974. It has been performed each year since, and has become the theatre's major fundraiser. Approximately 30,000 people attend the local production run in Raleigh, N.C. Tickets \$12-75, 831-6058

Memorial Auditorium
www.theatreinthepark.com

DAILY EVENTS/MUSIC

1 November ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com

Big Rick and the Bombers Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

West Street Band
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

2 November ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com

Laura Ridgeway Quartet
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Big Rick
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

Lincoln Theatre
Teddy Geiger w/ William Tell
\$13/15, 6:30pm doors

Lincoln Theatre
At Meymandi Concert Hall
Derek Trucks Band/Susan Tedeschi
\$24-49, 8:00pm

3 November ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com

Cafe' Mars
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Skeeter Brandon
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am

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

Lincoln Theatre
Bolweevil (Widespread Panic Tribute)

\$8/10, 9pm

4 November ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com

Cafe' Mars
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Josh Presler Band
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am

Duck & Dumpling Restaurant
www.theduckanddumpling.com

Who's Your Daddy Jazz Band
No cover \$, 7:00pm-10:00am

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

Lincoln Theatre
Skid Row w/ Kings X
\$19.50/24, 7:00pm

No cover \$, 10pm-1am

7 November ~ Tuesday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Open Mic every Tuesday
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

Lincoln Theatre
Kinky
\$8/10, 9:00pm

8 November ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com

The Nuggs with John Orlando
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Big Rick
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

Lincoln Theatre
Edwin McCain
\$20, 7pm

9 November ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com

Valentino & the Piedmont Sheiks Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Adrian Duke Project
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

Continued on Page 20

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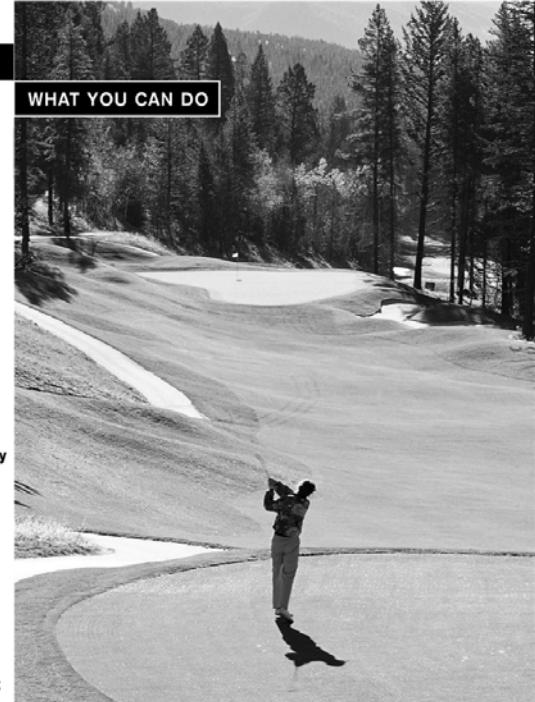
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Lincoln Theatre
Dj Williams Project
\$7.90pm

10 November ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
CountDown Quartet
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Chop Shop
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am
Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm

11 November ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Skeeter Brandon Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Mo Jones
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am
Duck & Dumpling Restaurant
www.theduckanddumpling.com
Who's Your Daddy Jazz Band
No cover \$, 7:00pm-10:00am
Veterans Day Parade
Fayetteville Street
The parade will begin at 9:15, and will be followed by a memorial ceremony

at the Capitol at 11:00. This year's parade and ceremonies include a new parade route, more participants, a military fly-over, historical military groups on the Capitol grounds, a formal ceremony at the Veterans' Monument, an Enloe High School band concert, and a 3/4 scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall on Halifax Mall.

9:15am - 1pm

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm
Lincoln Theatre
Badfish (SublimeTribute)
\$12/15, 9:00pm

12 November ~ Sunday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Live Music
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Blues Jam
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

13 November ~ Monday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Live Acoustic every Monday
No cover \$, 10pm-1am

14 November ~ Tuesday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Open Mic every Tuesday
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

Lincoln Theatre
State Radio w/ SOJA
\$10/12, 8:00pm

15 November ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Big Rick and the Bombers Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Grant Haze
No cover \$, 8pm-12am
Lincoln Theatre
G.Love & Special Sauce w/ Marc Broussard
\$22.50/25, 8:00pm

16 November ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Adrian Duke New Orleans Style Blues
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Prime Rib Blues Band
No cover \$, 8pm-12am
5 Thursdays Inspirational Concert Series at the Long View Center
Thursday, November 16, 2006
7:00 - 8:30pm
Long View Center, 118 South Person Street, Downtown Raleigh, NC
Adults: \$10. Children: \$3 (child care

available), 919-835-1868.

17 November ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
The Robbie Reid Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
The Heaters
No cover \$, 8pm-12am
Schubert's Farewell
Progress Energy Center
Meymandi Concert Hall
North Carolina Symphony
8:00 PM
2 E South St, Raleigh, NC 27601
www.progressenergycenter.com

Sullivan's Steak House

Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm
Lincoln Theatre
Ziggy Marley "Love Is My Religion Tour" w/ SKY
\$27/32, 9:00pm

18 November ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
CountDown Quartet
No Cover \$
9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com

Continued on Page 21

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www.rockandshopmarket.com

ROCK & SHOP Market

Bad Mojo
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am
Duck & Dumpling Restaurant
www.theduckanddumpling.com
Who's Your Daddy Jazz Band
No cover \$, 7:00pm-10:00am
ComedyWorx
www.comedyworx.com
Improv Comedy
4:45pm, 8:30pm, 10:30pm
Christmas Parade
250 Fayetteville St Raleigh, NC
www.RaleighChristmasParade.org
Celebrate Artspace's 20th Anniversary-2006 Collectors Gala
201 E Davis St, Raleigh, NC 27601
www.artspacenc.org
Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo
No cover \$, 5pm
Lincoln Theatre
RAQ
\$8/10, 9:00pm

19 November ~ Sunday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Live Music
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Blues Jam
No cover \$, 8pm-12am
Lincoln Theatre
Keller Williams
\$20/24, 7:00pm

20 November ~ Monday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Live Acoustic every Monday

No cover \$, 10pm-1am

21 November ~ Tuesday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Tad Walters
No cover \$, 8pm-12am
Sullivan's Steak House
Berlin-based 'Fancie'

22 November ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Big Rick and the Bombers Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Tad Walters
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

23 November ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Big Rick and the Bombers Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Chop Shop
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

24 November ~ Friday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
CountDown Quartet
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Robbie Reid
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am
ComedyWorx
www.comedyworx.com

Improv Comedy
8:30pm, 10:30pm

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo

No cover \$, 5pm
Lincoln Theatre
Pico vs. Island Trees w/ The Physic of Meaning / Roman Candle
\$8/10, 8:00pm

25 November ~ Saturday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Valentino & the Piedmont Sheiks Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Voodoo Flute
No cover \$, 9:30pm-1:30am

Duck & Dumpling Restaurant
www.theduckanddumpling.com

Who's Your Daddy Jazz Band

No cover \$, 7:00pm-10:00am

ComedyWorx
www.comedyworx.com

Improv Comedy
4:45pm, 8:30pm, 10:30pm

Sullivan's Steak House
Eddie Thigpen Duo

No cover \$, 5pm

Lincoln Theatre

PKM "Reunion Show" w/ Rob Watson
\$10/12, 8:00pm

26 November ~ Sunday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Live Music
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Blues Jam
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

27 November ~ Monday

Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Live Acoustic every Monday
No cover \$, 10pm-1am

28 November ~ Tuesday

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
has been a favorite of young readers the world over since 1972. Funny, memorable, and outrageous, it is the story of a family of incorrigible children who get involved in the annual Christmas pageant for the first time. 9:45am and 11:45am
Meymandi Concert Hall at Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts \$7.00, (919) 831-6011
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Open Mic every Tuesday
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

29 November ~ Wednesday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Big Rick and the Bombers Blues Band
No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Chris Miller
No cover \$, 8pm-12am

30 November ~ Thursday

Amra's
www.amrasraleigh.com
Jazz Squad, No Cover \$, 9pm-1am
Blue Martini
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com
Electric Church

Continued on Page 22



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1 December ~ Friday

Downtown Santa Benefit Party
Sponsored by the Raleigh
Downtowner and TriSports Social Club
www.raleighdowntowner.com
www.trssc.com

The Raleigh Downtowner and TriSports Social Club are co-sponsoring the Downtown Santa Holiday Benefit Drive. Throughout the months of November and December, we will be collecting toys, jackets, clothing, canned food, and pet food/toys. Drop off locations are listed on our websites. The Benefit Party will take place at TirNaNog in downtown Raleigh beginning at 8pm and last until 2am with music by the Lounge Lizards. \$5 cover will benefit the local shelters or bring items listed on our website in lieu of cover. For more information, drop-off locations, and party RSVP & info, visit www.raleighdowntowner.com. Contact us to be a designated drop-off point or to help sponsor our Benefit Drive and party. Downtown Santa needs your help.

First Friday at april & george

april & george presents photography by Cara Galati. Show runs Dec. 1, - Jan 4, 2007. Opening reception Dec. 1st at 8pm. 414 Glenwood Ave.

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State Capitol Tree Lighting Ceremony & Holiday Festival

5pm-7:30pm, 733-4994

Festivities begin with the lighting of luminaries and musical performances on the State Capitol grounds. The Governor and First Lady will light the official state Christmas tree on the west grounds. A holiday festival of music and entertainment will take place on the Capitol grounds and at area museums. 1 E. Edenton St.

2 December ~ Saturday

Glenwood-Brooklyn Holiday Tour of Historic Homes

This is a self-guided walking tour of seven to ten beautiful homes and businesses in this historic downtown neighborhood. Tickets can be purchased in advance online at www.glenwoodbrooklyn.com for \$8, or for \$10. www.glenwoodbrooklyn.com

Joel Lane Museum House Christmas Open House

The Joel Lane Museum, located at 728 West Hargett Street, will hold its annual Christmas Open House on Dec. 2 & 3 (Sat / Sun), from 1-4 pm. Admission to the weekend's family-oriented festivities is FREE. 5pm-7:30pm 833-3431

ComedyWorx

www.comedyworx.com
Improv Comedy
4:45pm, 8:30pm, 10:30pm

5 December ~ Tuesday

Time for Tots: Let it Snow!

10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

N.C. Museum of History. Find out about winter activities before there was electricity or central heating. Get ready for cold weather by making your own snowflake. Ages 3-5 with adult.

Call (919) 807-7992

State Capitol Tree Lighting Ceremony & Holiday Festival

5pm-7:30pm, 733-4994

Festivities begin with the lighting of luminaries and musical performances on the State Capitol grounds. The Governor and First Lady will light the official state Christmas tree on the west grounds. A holiday festival of music and entertainment will take place on the Capitol grounds and at area museums. 1 E. Edenton St.

7 December ~ Thursday

12th Annual Jingle Ball at Exploris

6:30 to 10:30pm

Exploris in Raleigh
201 East Hargett Street

Come eat, drink, dance and be merry for a good cause! Please join us and help bring brighter holidays to Wake County children. Each attendee is asked to bring an unwrapped holiday gift for a child valued at \$20 value or more per person. For those not bringing a gift, admission will be \$30 by cash or check at the door.

9 December ~ Saturday

Mordecai Holiday Open House

Get in the holiday spirit with a special tour at Mordecai! One Mimosa Street, Downtown Raleigh. \$5 Adults, \$3 Children ages 7-17. Questions? Call (919) 857-4364

10 December ~ Sunday

Historic Oakwood Candlelight Tour

There's a feeling of a small town community right in the middle of downtown Raleigh. Historic Oakwood is a community of homes most of which are dated from the mid 1800's to the early 1900's. Advance tickets are available until 6pm Friday, December 8th at various locations. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$17 the days of the tour. Call 832-9712 for info.

16 December ~ Saturday

The Raleigh Santa Hat Bar Crawl!

6 Bars. Free Drinks & Prizes. Come join us for Raleigh's Craziest Holiday Party! To register & see last year's pics: MEETandCOMPETE.com

EVENT WEBSITES

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www.raleighing.com

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Updates in 2004 include appliances, solid surface countertops in kitchen and vanities, and vinyl. Large master with sitting area and walk-in closet. Deep lot. \$569,900. 1008C, RE/MAX Capital Realty, Mary Edna Williams, 256-4201

CHARM OF YESTERYEAR

Renovated home. Kit open to fam. rm & formals. Wrap around porch and in-ground pool. 5BR, 5BA. In-law suite on lower level w/full ba, kit and living quarters. \$895,000. 2307L, RE/MAX Capital Realty. Mary Edna Williams, 256-4201

MORDECAI RENOVATION

Charming interior, hardwoods, formals. Huge eat in kitchen. Fenced yard. Convenient to Seaboard & Blount St revitalization. \$189,900. 1515C RE/MAX Capital Realty, Mary Edna Williams, 256-4201

PRIME COMMERCIAL

Triangular shaped 2.98 acre property w/road frontage on Capital Blvd. Just N of I540. Survey available. Zoned highway district 1, call for allowed uses. RE/MAX Capital Realty. Mary Edna Williams, 256-4201

UPSCALE DOWNTOWN LIVING

Much sought after 5th fl., 1 br plus den. Upgrades incl, bamboo flrs, SS appl, refrigerator & W/D convey. 2 parking spaces. Amens incl pool, fitness center, grill & comm. Ctr.\$289,900 618N, RE/MAX Capital Realty. Mary Edna Williams, 256-4201

HOME IN BUDLEIGH

Radiates charm and character on large .40 corner lot. Needs a little TLC Stone ext. and stone FP in LR, DR and Breakfast/family rooms, basement, detached garage and storage bldg. \$559,900. Mary Edna Williams RE/MAX Capital Realty 256-4201

FIVE POINTS



This Five Points home circa 1928 has it all. New kitchen, windows, half bath, roof. A classic porte-cochere and circular brick driveway. LR, DR plus a family room and south-facing sun room. Great expansion potential. A big, level 0.3A lot with double tiered deck. 1779 SF. 3BR 1BA. \$439,900. www.peterrumsey.com Peter at Prudential. 919-971-4118.

HISTORIC GLENWOOD-BROOKLYN



What a view! Fantastic restoration on a quiet dead end street with a view of the downtown skyline. Walk to Glenwood South. Private,

landscaped fenced yard with deck and fountain. Front porches and rear sunrooms up and down. 9.5 foot ceilings, two decorative fireplaces, walk up attic, partial basement/workshop, built-ins, updated kitchen and real master suite. 2823 SF. 4BR. 3BA. \$649,000. www.peterrumsey.com Peter at Prudential. 919-971-4118.

OFFICE CONDO FOR LEASE

1000 foot office space off Six Forks. Features 3 offices and full kitchen and full bath. Skylights, new carpeting, flooring. 1 year lease. \$895/month. 363-7380

CAMERON VILLAGE CONDO

Offered at \$150k, two bedroom corner condo in Cameron Village at 833 Bryan Street. Hardwood floors and lots of light make this cute condo perfect for you. Nicely renovated kitchen with a new fridge and heat and cool

system in 2005. Located at the corner of Wade Avenue, before you get to St. Mary's Street and Bryan Street that feeds over to Nichols St, you can commute everywhere. Please contact Lisa or Ann-Cabell at the Glenwood Agency to see this property. 828-0077. One dedicated parking space and lots of visitor options, what a way to get downtown or into your first place.

2820 BEDFORD - UNIVERSITY PARK



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and science magnet with NCSU, right across the street. Walk three blocks to NCSU. Convenient to Cameron village. Quick access to I-40 and I-440. Beautiful hrdwd flrs, firepl, gourmet eat-in kitchen w/open floor plan. Large master suite. Upstairs designed and constructed to function as add'l living space or sep. apartment. Over 2600 sf of total living space, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. \$485,000. Call Doro Taylor Realty at 868-6399 or 815-0406.

919 SAINT MARY'S STREET - TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE

One bedroom, One bathroom approximately 700 square foot condo. A real find in the Cameron Village - tucked back from the street and tree line. Entrance is through the rear of the building, but, the front door faces the courtyard. Upgraded kitchen, nice hardwood

Continued on Page 24

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watching the sun rise
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floors both up and down... master bathroom has a new ceramic tile floor. Lots of extras in this perfect location. Call for more information and to see this rare one bedroom opportunity so close to shopping and restaurants. Seller can close quickly if necessary. \$127,000 (919) 828-0077 Glenwood Agency Real Estate.

RENTAL AT COTTON MILL HISTORIC CONDOS

Cotton Mill - Beautiful two bedroom condo located in trendy the Cotton Mill - located in Downtown Raleigh. Hardwood Floors and 13 ft ceilings provide a large room perfect for entertaining, exposed wood beams and exposed columns with huge walk in closets perfect for storage, enormous shower, fantastic open bedroom with loft office to the side, huge windows allow fantastic natural light, walk to clubs and restaurants! Available at \$1800/month - top floor. Contact Lisa at The Glenwood Agency Real Estate Company for more information and applications. (919) 828-0077.

GREAT DOWNTOWN RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES!

Several rental properties are available in the Downtown area from \$750 to \$2,000 per month. Please email cabell@anncabell.com for more info at The Glenwood Agency. Governors Square - 1 bedroom @ \$750 per month. Byrum Condos - 1 bedroom @ \$900 per month. Park Devereux condo - 2 bedroom @ \$1,400 per month. Paramount off Glenwood - 2 bedroom @ \$1,650 per month. Dawson on Morgan - 3 bedroom @ \$2,000 per month. The Glenwood Agency 828-0077

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 www.thedawson.com

PARAMOUNT CONDOMINIUM



Never Lived in - Glenwood South Area. 618-610 North Boylan Avenue is just one block from Glenwood South. Call Ann-Cabell Baum Andersen to see this amazing, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo at the Glenwood Agency. (919) 828-0077 or email for pictures @ anncabell@glenwoodagency.com. This 1144 square foot condo overlooks the pool and the building also has a workout area and community room with pool table. Granite countertops and stainless steel appliances

are amazing. There are hardwood and a great balcony for entertaining! Open floor plan offered at \$349,000 through the Glenwood Agency. Call (919) 828-0077.

CAMERON VILLAGE AREA CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

833 Bryan St just off Wade Avenue at St. Mary's Street. Incredible 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome in Cameron Village area has beautiful hardwood floors and feels open and bright. Awesome back open area. Looks like its new and well kept - new refrigerator in 2005. Dining room opens to large living room. Tile master bathroom tub shower. HVAC was replaced with new unit in 2005. Shop in the

Village and just minutes to Downtown! Quick RTP commute as well. (919) 828-0077 The Glenwood Agency.

Hudson Condominiums-Downtown Raleigh \$5000 upgrade allowance available.

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2006 ArtSpace Collectors Gala



ArtSpace, a non-profit visual art center located in Moore Square, will celebrate its 20th anniversary from 6-10pm on Saturday, November 18, 2006 with a special Collectors Gala and its first after party celebration, A Toast to ArtSpace.

This year's Collectors Gala is a celebration of ArtSpace's major milestones and twenty-year legacy in the community. Since opening its doors in 1986, ArtSpace has inspired more than two million people to experience the creative process through a unique open

studio environment and has presented more than 600 award-winning exhibitions of local, regional, and international artists' work.

"This anniversary gala celebrates not only the vision behind creating an open studio environment in downtown Raleigh, but also the significant contributions over those twenty years to making art accessible to the public and providing a creative outlet for thousands of children in our schools," said Smedes York, former Raleigh Mayor and Honorary Co-Chair.

Representative Deborah Ross comments, "ArtSpace has been a catalyst for creativity during downtown Raleigh's rebirth. It was at the center of the first wave of revitalization and continues to serve as a haven for local artists and art lovers."

Art lovers are encouraged to join honorary chairs Rosemary and Smedes York, and event sponsors Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Kennedy Covington Lobdell & Hickman, LLP, and Cherokee Investment Partners for one of Raleigh's most exciting cultural events.

The evening will begin with cocktails at ArtSpace (201 E. Davie Street) at 6:00 p.m. and will include the unique opportunity to sit for dinner with the artists in their studios, as well as participate in live and silent auctions. The live auction will include 20 pieces of artwork from locally and nationally acclaimed artists. These pieces can be previewed online at www.artspacenc.org starting November 1 and will be on display at ArtSpace on November 16 and 17.

The evening will continue with A Toast to ArtSpace at Zydeco Downtown, a Moore Square jazz bar that exhibits the

work of ArtSpace artists, starting at 10:00 p.m. where desserts, live music, and dancing can be enjoyed.

Individual tickets are \$125 per person and table sponsorships are available at the \$5,000, \$2,500 and \$1,500 level. All Gala tickets include A Toast to ArtSpace at Zydeco. A Toast to ArtSpace tickets will be sold separately for \$35 per person in advance and at the door.

All proceeds benefit new and existing programming at ArtSpace including award-winning exhibitions, exceptional educational programs, and outreach programs for at-risk children and adults.

ArtSpace | www.artspacenc.org
201 E. Davie St. | Raleigh, NC 27601
T: 919.821.2787 F: 919.821.0383



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The Many Layers of Winter

By Samantha Rode

This winter, fashion is getting back to basics. To get a grasp on the trends of the season, we turned to Lu Harris, owner of the popular boutique, Certain Things. Here's what she had to say about staying warm this winter.



**White blouse by Difference
Belt by Karlie**

Winter White

The best way to make a statement this

season is with a classic white blouse. Wrap, tuxedo, pin-tucked—no matter how you wear it, white is right this winter. Throw a belt around it for added flair, or top it with a textured jacket.

The Skinny on Denim

Though the skinny leg may be in, there is no defined leg on pants for winter. Boot cut and flare are also in style; you should wear what looks best for your body type. Skinny jeans are worn bunched over heels, or tucked into equestrian boots. Boot cut and flared jeans look great with low-heeled clogs. David Kahn, Rosner and Pure Color (as seen on Oprah) are big sellers this season.

Natural Accents

Soft, natural colors are prevalent this winter. Brown is giving basic black a run for its money. Harris says mocha and other shades of chocolate make a versatile pants choice. Top them with a luxurious cream sweater for a nice contrast. Carry a red handbag for a splash of color.

It's a Cinch

Belts are a nice way to pull an outfit together. Put a belt on anything, Harris says. Belts this season are sitting at the waist. You can pair one with a bulky sweater to give you a feminine silhouette. Throw a belt around your suit jacket for a professional punch. Belts by Karlie are a big hit with Harris's customers.

Accessories get Personal

Necklaces and earrings can be found in a variety of styles, textures and colors this winter. Long necklaces are still in, and earrings span from a basic hoop to intricately carved stones. There are no set rules; pick the jewelry that best fits your outfit and personality.

Add Layers for Style (and Warmth)



**Vest by
Supply and Demand**

Keep dressing soft and clean with layers. Tunics, vests, jackets and sweaters are mixed and matched to create sophisticated style.

Don't be afraid to mix textures either—soften a tweed blazer with a silky blouse for an unexpected combination that works. Certain Things is known as the home of Michael Stars, a line known for its darling shirts that are perfect for layering.

The Jacket

Outerwear is the star this season. Jackets can take you from the office to cocktails in a flash. Throw on a suit jacket with jeans and heels for drinks



**Red Jacket
by Christopher Blue**

with the girls, or wear a dressier cropped jacket with a little black dress for a night out on the town. Casual or embellished, a jacket always makes you look pulled together.

The key to style this winter is dressing for your body and your personality. Fashion is relaxed and clean, with soft lines and comfortable fabrics. Wear what you like and what you look best in—and stay warm while you're at it!



Jacket by Bentley A

a toast to
artspace

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Marcus Mitchell • Mixed Waters • Chocolate Buttermilk

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919.821.2787 • www.artspacen.org

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The Borough is a Hit Downtown



Located at the bottom of the Dawson on Morgan condominium at the corner of Dawson and Morgan streets downtown, The Borough bar/restaurant is everything you would want a neighborhood bar to be. Great atmosphere, friendly and accommodating staff, good comfort food, reasonable prices, and just the right amount of quirkiness create an inviting and warm scene where you can come to relax and unwind.

A small but eclectic menu covers the board from large salads to filet mignon, matzo ball soup, great grilled cheese, hushpuppies (we hear these are incredible), a chicken sandwich, and perhaps Raleigh's best burger topped with thin fried onions and sautéed mushrooms. Vegetarian friendly, The Borough also offers daily specials including a soup du jour and half-priced appetizers from 4pm to 7pm Monday thru Friday. Open everyday at 4pm, you can order food and drink daily until 2am.

With an interest in domestic microbrews, The Borough has a large and varied beer selection with several local North Carolina beers and two of four regularly rotated seasonal taps. Scotch and bourbon drinkers can also have their pick of some great brands including Basil Haydens, Bookers, Woodford Reserve, Oban and Balvenie.

Owned and operated by Liz Masnik, The Borough is a home and family made up of staff of characters that care for and respect one another. That care and respect among the staff translate over to the customer. When you walk through those doors you can trust that you will be taken care of. And not only will you be taken care of, but also entertained. Monthly eating contests, poker every Wednesday, and varied seasonal events provide for sometimes unexpected but fantastic entertainment.

The Borough is truly a home away from home. A good drink, happy company, and comforting food allow you to let the day go and any stress melt out the door into the cool city night. You can contact them at 832-8433 or visit their website at www.theboroughraleigh.com.



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