

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER **MAGAZINE**

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 9

ENTERTAINMENT, DINING, ARTS & CULTURE, BUSINESS, EVENTS, MUSIC, AND MORE

FREE

Tired of the Same Old Drive?

As Raleigh grows, her citizens will need more alternative, greener forms of transportation and more options for mass transit.



DOWNTOWN DINING

Meet Jake Wolf from Capital Club 16, Tasty Thai from Sawasdee



LOCAL MUSIC

An interview with local bluegrass favorites, The Old Habits

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Tired of the Same Old Drive?

BY PETER EICHENBERGER, CHRIS MOUTOS, SUSAN RAMSAY, MELISSA SANTOS, AND CRASH GREGG

Monoculture, the exclusive cultivation and reliance on a single crop, has advantages in terms of supply and practical details of production, collecting and dispersion. It's also true that reliance on monoculture can prove to be disastrous in the event of unseen exigencies like weather and pests. In many ways the pattern of everyday travel in the U.S. can be likened to a monoculture. The coast-to-coast transportation system of roads and gasoline-powered automobiles for trips great and small work well enough (I suppose) at its inception, but as the population has increased, the advantages have become fewer and more costly.



During the twentieth century's ascendancy of the holy automobile, competing, effective conveyances, rail, bicycles, even walking, withered and helped bring us collectively to a state of near panic when, as during the OPEC oil embargo of 1973 and Wall Street's commodity craze of 2008, fuel became hard to find or spiked in price far above customary levels. Suddenly the freedom claimed as integral to the spirit of the car became somewhat elusive; we can thank the situation in 2008 for a re-awakening of options that had suffered. Suddenly talk of alternatives became more than talk. People wanted choices.

Raleigh is a framed example of the blithely overlooked losses. The automobile created modern Raleigh in terms of patterns of development and movement of people. Cars gave people an immediate mobility formerly reserved for the very wealthy. Our city (along with almost every other in the nation) rejected public transportation as well as any recognition and aid to anything

besides roads, roads, roads. But like the inevitable movement of a pendulum, trends and external events are spurring a move back to a more balanced view of what transportation means to a twenty-first century American city, what society can and ought to provide her citizens.

As you will read in the pages to follow, Raleigh's growing position of a city to watch has brought a host of talented, imaginative people to the area bent on breaking out of the cocoon the area seemed pinned in for decades. It wasn't that long ago in Raleigh that riding a bus was an act of desperation; riding a bicycle, something close to a suicidal urge. Right now there are a number of cutting edge movements that promise to shift our city toward an interconnected system of cooperative transportation choices that hold the promise to change this town as much as when it was carved out of the native forest following the revolution.

Rent a Ride

Whether you work, live or just frequent downtown, WeCar is a convenient way for people looking to reduce the cost and hassles associated with traditional transportation to get around town. WeCar is a membership-based car-sharing program by Enterprise Rent-A-Car. All you have to do to get started is register online at www.wecar.com. The annual membership is \$50 with an application fee of \$20. Then, at any time of the day or night, you can hop online to reserve a vehicle. The affordable hourly rate of \$10 per hour includes gas and basic liability insurance coverage.



PHOTO: MALORY BENEDICT

To drive the car, you use a special swipe card to activate the car via a computer built into the vehicle. The keys are stored in the glove box, as is a green envelope with a gas card in it. After you're done running your errands, eating lunch, going to appointments, or attending an evening event, simply return the car to the same location you picked it up. The current WeCar vehicles, two Honda Civics, are parked at the Enterprise Rent-A-Car branch at 431 S. McDowell St. and at 413 N. Harrington Street near the Glenwood South area. Based on the growth of the program and usage patterns of the cars, Enterprise anticipates that more vehicles will be added at convenient locations throughout downtown.

WeCar operates customized car-sharing programs throughout the U.S. and is currently providing programs for corporate campuses, universities and municipal governments in 17 states. Raleigh is the third WeCar program to offer open-membership with similar programs already in place in St. Louis and Nashville, Tenn.

Green Pedal Power

Founded in April 2007 by area businessman Donald Mertrud, Raleigh Rickshaw has become an integral part of downtown culture. Inspired by the pedal cabs in his hometown of Charleston, South Carolina, and the recent trend of environmentally green vehicles, Mertrud saw an opportunity to launch a similar service in Raleigh. >>>

He recognized that many local destinations were too close to drive, but too far to walk, and rickshaws would be a convenient, sensible way to travel the few blocks separating the various downtown districts as well as Seaboard Station and other locations. The pedestrian-friendly service is in tune with Raleigh's increasingly urban city center.



"I saw a need for point to point transportation that would connect the five growing downtown districts as well as downtown historic neighborhoods," says Mertrud. Based on the public's response and the company's growth, his timing was perfect. To keep up with passenger demand, Raleigh Rickshaw has expanded twice since opening for business. Their stable includes 16 rickshaws and one backlit billboard bike, making the fleet one of the largest in the eastern U.S.

In addition to moving passengers between restaurants and bars, Raleigh Rickshaw is present at all the major events downtown—Artsposure, Raleigh Wide Open, Downtown Live, parades, and concerts. During popular events when parking becomes a problem, rickshaws are there to shuttle passengers to and from their cars.

After more than three years in business, Raleigh Rickshaw has done its share to reduce emissions downtown and promote local businesses, not to mention adding some character to the city center.

To dispatch a rickshaw pickup, visit their website www.raleighrickshaw.com or call 919.623.5555. Hours of operation (outside of special events) are Tue-Wed 6pm-11pm, Thu-Fri 5pm-3am, Sat 10am-3am, and Sun 10am-11pm.

City of Spokes

Raleigh Rickshaw's Donald Mertrud's next downtown initiative, a sustainable alternative transportation bike-rental program called "City of Spokes," was recently voted on and passed by City Council. Privately funded by Mertrud and corporate sponsorships, no taxpayer funds will be needed to support the program.

Current plans include four kiosks downtown, one at the convention center and the rest along Fayetteville Street. Visitors and residents will be able to rent a bike for a small fee to travel around town or along Raleigh's vast greenway system. The completion date for the kiosks has not been set.

In March, NC State University launched a similar bike-rental program, called WolfWheels, and has proved to be very popular on campus. The program has 35 single-speed bicycles—along with helmets, locks and lights—available to college students, staff and faculty for rent by the day, week, weekend or a full semester.

Get on the Bus

There's plenty of parking in downtown Raleigh, but if you want to avoid dealing with traffic, finding a

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parking space or just want to let someone else do the driving for you, you can—for less than \$2 (including a trip to the RDU airport). Capital Area Transit (CAT) provides service throughout the city of Raleigh between 5am and midnight to make your commute an easy one. With a click on www.gotriangle.org or www.triangletransit.org, you can find your way just about anywhere in the Raleigh metro area. Just fill in the blanks with where and when you want to go and the Trip Planner gives you very simple directions. The city of Raleigh is doing a great job in updating the bus stops and protecting riders in inclement weather. With the help of www.raleighrides.org, an interactive map gives you automated vehicle locations (AVL) and projected real-time arrivals for CAT buses (created by downtown company Transloc, featured in this issue's Business Profile on page 29). For more information, call 919.485.RIDE (7433).

Circulate

Whether you utilize CAT or drive into downtown, make sure you take advantage of the R-Line once you're here. This free service is provided thanks to a joint effort between the Raleigh Transit Authority, Downtown Raleigh Alliance and the

Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau. Also known as the "Circulator," the R-Line is a gas/electric hybrid that shuttles people throughout the downtown districts. The advantage to the R-Line is that you can start at one point in downtown and then use the bus to take you around all day and into the evening. So, without having to drive or park, you can have dinner in Glenwood South, see a show at Meymandi, have dessert in the Fayetteville Street district, and then head to the Warehouse district or back to Glenwood South for dancing. Buses circulate every 12-15 minutes or so, and like with CAT, you can get projected real-time arrivals on the online interactive map at www.yourhere.com/rline. To access the mobile site, visit www.yourhere.com/mobile from your mobile browser and click on "R-LINE" from the top navigation. Hours of operation for the Circulator are Monday through Wednesday from 7am to 11pm, Thursday through Saturday from 7am to 2:15am and Sunday from 1pm to 8pm. Continued ridership is important to justify the cost and with enough people using this service, there may one day be reverse and expanded routes into other areas.



Programmer Turned Transportation Activist

The military have a term "mission creep"—the slide from one objective to another—that in some ways describes the career transformation of Steven Waters, chair of the Raleigh Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Commission. Waters, 34, a computer programmer, came to Raleigh in 1996 for the computers. It didn't take long for more practical aspects >>>

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to begin to intrude. Waters never planned to be a planner; he just sort of slid into a new role.

“When I first moved to Raleigh 14 years ago, I felt like I was living in my car watching life happen on the other side of metal and glass.” Waters decided he needed to do something to ameliorate the situation, so he did something many would find difficult or impossible: A year ago he went pro-active, resolving to travel primarily by bike and foot after a wreck that totaled his car. In light of his background in computer systems, a jump to transportation systems had a certain resonance. I caught up with Waters on the heels of a “huge victory”—City Council’s vote to study the “hybrid” high speed rail proposal he’s championed that has the potential to figuratively and literally unite the two sides of a boisterous quandary involving the South East High Speed Rail initiative: the lines on either side of Capital Boulevard and the affected neighborhoods.

Routing information and routing people possess similarities, so it wasn’t that much of a jump for Waters to begin to apply techniques and ideas from one to the other. He became involved with Raleigh Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Commission, the main focus of which is finding what could enhance and improve conditions for travelers. “Cars, while they’re supposed to connect people, end up having the opposite effect if you build your entire environment around them. In many ways they isolate people from their neighbors, from each other.”

Like the bits of information flying around inside a computer, much of the job of enhancements Waters initially focused on consisted of coordinating different transportation systems: bike routes, sidewalks, greenways, and transit. The rail transit aspect focused on maintaining “connectivity” to mitigate pedestrians finding themselves blocked in by what was designed and supposed to enhance movement. That was when he found himself amid the back and forth on which of the two proposed routes for the South East High Speed Rail would best suit the majority’s needs. Road closure was not part of his vision. “This high speed rail



Steve Waters

is going to lock in a facility that’s going to forever shape the growth of our downtown,” Waters says. That’s partially how he became involved in the vigorous dialog of which route the new South East High Speed Rail line would ultimately use and why he expanded his vision beyond bike and feet, becoming in the process a vocal supporter of an option that emerged from Raleigh City Councilor, Russ Stevenson, a route that would “thread the needle” between the eastern side CSX line and the Norfolk Southern western line by means of an elevated line crossing Capital Boulevard.

Waters expresses his primary reason as to why the Stephenson plan is a good one: “It accomplishes the grade separation that gets rid of all the at-grade crossings DOT wanted to make, mainly to benefit freight. It also keeps open the streets that the city wanted to keep open, West and Harrington Streets. It’s the same effect on Jones Street but gets rid of the need for a 1,300 foot viaduct that would have spanned across all those streets. So you keep the local connectivity, you keep all those streets open and you also have no more at-grade crossings. By coming in on the rail alignments at the last minute, the proposal allows for a center platform at the future Union Station rather than two side platforms, which has incredible operational benefits. From a speed, efficiency and safety standpoint, you’re not sharing space between road and rail usage.

Waters initial objective was to maintain “pedestrian connectivity” but now with the positive reactions the hybrid plan is getting, he is expanding his personal interests out into the larger realm of mass transit with an eye toward those who seek a quieter, less environmentally intrusive means.

To view Steven’s page on the NC4 rail alignment, go to www.livingstreets.com/nc4/. For more information on the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor, visit www.sehsr.org.



Mr. Greenjeans, Cycling and the Greeways

Bicycle tourists frequently return from Europe with glowing stories about bicycle-only infrastructure. I can attest via the time I lived in Sweden that unlike most U.S. locales, because of safety concerns, most European cities began constructing separate systems for the large percentage who bicycle. It may come as a surprise to find Raleigh is nearly finished with a nationally-significant, multi-use system that has great promise for bicyclists—the Greenway System.

The Raleigh Greenway story begins in 1976 at the NCSU College of Design with the work of grad student Bill Flourney. Raleigh’s explosive growth began to be a concern. Some thought that not enough was being done to preserve her gracious, tree-canopied surroundings which figured into the draw for new residents. Council instituted rules that land developers be required to grant easements along the



High Speed Rail car in Shanghai, China.

PHOTO: SIG HUTCHINSON

many creeks—land that was not fit to build on because of frequent flooding. The Greenways surprisingly received a big boost from local mountain bikers’ need for a place to ride in the area.

Sig Hutchinson, 56, originally from Lubbock, TX, had been an avid biker for years. His arrival in Raleigh is when the story really starts. “I rode in from Columbia, SC for a job interview with a software company in Raleigh and as soon as I hit the city limits, I said, ‘Man, this is where I want to live,’” he recalls. He hit the ground running and since then, has captured many awards and recognition and been involved in a dizzying spectrum of volunteer efforts as well as being one of the original founders of the Raleigh Downtowner Magazine. His lasting legacy will undoubtedly be what he did for Raleigh’s Greenways earning him the nickname “Mr. Greenjeans.”

“In early 2000, my wife, son and I were looking for a place to ride; the south shore of Falls seemed perfect, you know, ‘rake and ride,’ but when we

got there: ‘NO BIKES ALLOWED.’ It became Sig’s “personal mission,” to rectify the situation, not an uncommon action for this man when confronted with obstacles. When he carried his crusade to any agency that had a stake in the fight—NC Parks and Recreation and NC Wildlife resources—“They were shaking their heads. They weren’t getting me,” he says. That was when he put his communications and organizational skills to work, and by 2003, the North Raleigh Mountain Biking Association had 30 miles of single track from the agencies. “The funny thing is,” he laughs, “I was the only member.” Then he started an advocacy group and people finally started to get interested.

The Triangle Greenway Council created the “circle the Triangle concept” using Florney’s ideas, who Hutchinson freely cites as “Father of the Greenway.” Florney’s concept was a 275-mile system that would be added on to whenever land developers were forced to grant easements. Sig began attending meetings and making himself so well known to the right people with such efficacy that he earned the name “President Magic,” largely from his uncanny ability in convincing folks to help raise \$140 million dollars for the effort from several referendums.

Whenever he had a conversation about Greenways,



although talk of money transcended politics, politicking was obviously a large part of the quotient. Sig convinced City Councilman John Odom by explaining why we need greenways, to which Odom said, “What do you want?” Odom got the group the \$6 million that financed the Shelly Lake to Crabtree Mall corridor. Further lobbying succeeded in getting Wake County to revise the land use policies for

one that had never been considered. “It was a virus from the beginning,” says Hutchinson, “I began to evolve into an environmentalist, from a mountain biker into an advocate for greenways, open space and preservation.

With 60 miles of Greenway complete and another 40 under construction, the dream is real. There is an emerging car-free roadway system that when complete will interconnect Falls Dam, Umstead Park, Cary, the American Tobacco complex in Durham, Wake Forest, Knightdale, Morrisville, and Garner, preserving in the process 4,000 acres—6.5 square miles of sensitive aquatic habitat—forever.

Hutchinson is reflective about his mission, what his and others’ efforts have done for natural preservation in a city undergoing intense, explosive growth, and that he and his colleagues have been able to create such an incredible Greenway System out of thin air. More than that, he recognizes the changes have been reciprocal, and that he himself has been as much a beneficiary from the exchange as has Raleigh’s environment. 📍

You can see the Raleigh Greenway System map here: <http://mappery.com/map/Raleigh-greenway-map> and here: <http://bit.ly/RaleighGreenways>

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Capital Club 16 BY BRIAN ADORNETTO, Food Editor



Located in the historic Capital Club Building built in the 1930s, Capital Club 16's decor combines the art deco elements of the building with recycled finds and sentimental art pieces from the owners' families. Jake and Shannon Wolf, the husband and wife team who run the business, strived to create a comfortable environment that's an extension of their home—a place where all are welcome and that all can enjoy.

Capital Club 16's L-shaped bar, as well as its back bar, are made from salvaged mahogany and oak from New York's historic Luchow's restaurant, which closed in 1982 after its 100th anniversary. Jake frequented the restaurant as a child, so when he happened upon the wood, he knew he had to use it. The bar top and

tables are built from century-old reclaimed wood from North Carolina mills and Neuse River docks. The chairs, also antiques from New York, come from Times Square's Horn & Hardart, one of Manhattan's last automat restaurants.

The space itself is bright with plenty of natural light, retro wall paper and vintage photos adorning the walls. The tables all feature fresh cut flowers lovingly placed in mason jars while table water is served from recycled wine bottles. But don't be fooled by the straight-out-of-Southern-Living setup; Capital Club 16's high energy level and bustling crowds make it a definite destination spot.

Chef and Co-owner Jake Wolf trained at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY. After graduation, he cooked his way from Atlanta to





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Germany, gaining valuable skills under James Beard-winning Chef Barbara Lynch in Boston and at Zum Schneider in New York City along the way. The European influences he obtained permeate the menu at Capital Club 16.

Wolf's Sweet Onion and Fennel Soup (\$3.50 cup, \$5 bowl) was a much more flavorful kin to the ubiquitous French onion

soup, but the pretzel "crostini" that topped the soup stole the show. Loaded with strips of tender fennel and caramelized onions, the soup was a bit difficult to eat without making a mess, but that didn't stop us from devouring it. Chunks of tuna, sautéed potatoes, pickled onions, green beans, hard boiled eggs, tomatoes, strawberries, tangerines, white anchovies, and Nicoise olives were arranged on top of a bed of mixed greens to comprise Capital Club 16's Salad Nicoise (\$8). It was certainly enough to share.

The light and creamy Chicken Salad Sandwich (\$7.25) featured a few welcome twists, as it was seasoned with tarragon and avocado. It was delicious. The hearty Schnitzel Sandwich (\$7.25) was constructed with two large, tender, breaded pork cutlets and topped with pickles, onions and a wonderful lemon caper aioli.

Wolf's take on the Croque Monsieur (a battered-and-fried French sandwich generally consisting of ham, turkey or chicken and cheese, also called a Monte Cristo in certain places) is dubbed the Toasted



Ham and Cheese Cristo (\$7.50) at Capital Club 16. He uses smoked ham and Jarlsberg cheese, batters it in a French-toast-like mixture and fries it perfectly on a griddle. In case that isn't indulgent enough for you, it comes with a side of maple syrup for dipping. While the Cristo was the clear-cut favorite at our table, the Garden Sandwich (\$6.50),

suggested by our server, was the most pleasant surprise. It's loaded with roasted beets, avocado, spinach, white cheddar, butter lettuce, tomato and onions, all in between two slices of bread smeared with a smoky paprika aioli; you'll want to eat this even if you're not a vegetarian.

To finish the meal, we treated ourselves to Dotchie's Pound Cake (\$5), whose recipe comes from the kitchen of Shannon's grandmother, Dotchie. The cake was wedged, toasted and topped with warm fudge sauce and served with French vanilla ice cream. It was the perfect end to a long, leisurely lunch.

Capital Club 16 fills Downtown Raleigh's need for a true American bistro, providing an inviting atmosphere and high quality, made-from-scratch cuisine at affordable prices. 🍴



Brian is a culinary instructor, food writer and personal chef. His business, Love at First Bite, specializes in private cooking classes and intimate dinners. For more information, please visit Brian at www.loveatfirstbite.net. Brian can be reached at brian@raleighdowntowner.com.

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Saturday 6pm–11pm
Sunday Brunch 11am–5pm

Meals: Lunch, Dinner and Sunday Brunch
Dining Style: Casual
Cuisine: American with German influences
Atmosphere: American bistro
Service: Laid back
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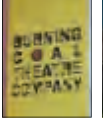





Merrimon-Wynne House ca.1875

Intricate exterior woodwork depicting gears, bolts and rivets, and a handsome three story staircase distinguish this Italianate style house that once was the home of the Peace College President. It is available for restoration using NC and possibly Federal rehab tax credits.

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RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER MAGAZINE

It's Time to Start the Bidding at the 9TH ANNUAL COLLECTORS GALA!

Artspace, North Carolina's premier open studio setting for visual art, will host its 9th annual Collectors Gala on Saturday, November 20, 2010. This is the only major fundraiser held each year to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our areas beacon for artistic expression.

The celebration will take place at Artspace (201 E. Davie Street) located in downtown Raleigh's City Market. All proceeds benefit Artspace exhibitions, educational programs, community outreach programs for at-risk children and adults, and overall building maintenance.

The evening will begin at 6pm with cocktails and include the unique opportunity to join individual artists for dinner, immersed in their creative studio environment, as well as participate in live and silent auctions filled with amazing artwork donated by many talented local and national artists.

Event Sponsor Poyner Spruill LLP encourages everyone to participate in one of Raleigh's most exciting cultural events. To sit along side this year's



PHOTO CREDIT: JAMEKA AUTRY

co-chairs Katherine McIntosh Meyer and Virginia Yopp in celebrating the creative process, please call Artspace at 919.821.2787 to secure your table sponsorship. Table sponsorships are available at \$1,500, \$2,500, and \$5,000 levels. Individual tickets (\$125 each) will go on sale starting October 6th. The Downtowner Magazine is proud to be a co-sponsor for the Collectors Gala again this year.

About Artspace

Artspace inspires individual creativity by engaging the community in the process of the visual arts. A non-profit visual art center, Artspace is dedicated to providing inspiring and engaging arts education and community outreach programs, creating a dynamic open studio environment of more than 30 professional artists, and presenting nationally acclaimed exhibitions. Artspace is open to the public Tues.-Sat., from 10am-6pm and on the first Friday of each month for the First Friday Gallery Walk until 10pm. Admission is free; donations are appreciated. Guided tours are available. Artspace is located in Historic City Market in Raleigh at the corner of Blount and Davie Streets.

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

For more information on this event, please visit www.artspacenc.org.

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Beanie + Cecil BY KELLY BLAIR WATHEY

Although roughly 480 miles from New York City, the U.S.'s irrefutable fashion capitol, Raleigh boasts a burgeoning selection of fashion-forward boutiques. Beanie + Cecil, a chic women's clothier located in the cozy confines of Cameron Village, is a perfect example.

Having been inspired by Raleigh's need for a mixture of new and established contemporary designers, Alexandra Henriquez Long and Karen Lichtin took ownership of Beanie + Cecil (Alexandra five years ago, Karen two years ago), which was originally opened in 1992. Upon doing so, Long and Lichtin embarked on a quest to fill their store with beautiful unique

pieces that would withstand fashion's ultimate obstacle—time.

Walking into the elegantly-minimal store is like stepping into a whimsical world of designer decadence. The polished wood floors gleam against softly lit white walls and a crystal chandelier slingshots a brilliant assortment of tiny prisms. Beautiful gilded mirrors stand stoically across from one another, while a high back ivory chair welcomes the weary shopper. Unlike most stores of its kind, Beanie + Cecil does not overwhelm the senses. Rather, it arouses them.

Luxurious yet practical Paige denim hangs amongst colorful



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creations from Diane Von Furstenberg, Catherine Malandrino and Rebecca Taylor. Elegant utilitarian Smythe jackets beg for cool weather to come, and for the style sophisticate, Kate Spade Apparel boasts an uncommon union between demure and delightful.

“Beanie + Cecil is the place where you can find the pieces you are lacking in your wardrobe, from

everyday to formal wear.” Owners Lichtin and Long describe their clientele as smart shoppers: “They’re looking for key pieces they’ll wear all season long, whether it’s running errands, going out to dinner or attending a cocktail party.”

After browsing the racks laden with some of the most beautiful garments I’ve ever seen, I would have to agree; Beanie + Cecil has it all. A smattering

of soft James Perse and Velvet t-shirts serve as the perfect staples for any wardrobe. Gorgeous Augden sweaters, constructed from the softest yarn derived from Andean llamas and alpacas, are an ideal addition to any ensemble. And, for an evening out, sexy feminine creations from Thread Social make light work of cocktail dressing.

Beanie + Cecil also offers stylish, simple alternatives to the usual yoga attire, glamorous sunglasses by Tom Ford, a variety of elegant accent jewelry from assorted designers, and casually luxurious handbags by il Bisonte and Tila March.

From the calming cascade of the dressing room drapes, to the stylized organization of beautiful garments, Beanie + Cecil is much more than a store. Along with its owners, Alexandra Henriquez Long and Karen Lichtin, Beanie + Cecil is the answer to all your high fashion needs. 📍

Kelly can be reached for fashionable comment at kelly@raleighdowntowner.com.



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Sawasdee Thai Restaurant BY BRIAN ADORNETTO, Food Editor

I admit I was a little apprehensive as we were pulling into the strip mall off Highway 70/Glenwood Avenue for our dinner review, especially when I realized that Marshall's, Ross Dress for Less and Office Max were surrounding us. But I reminded myself of the multiple Best Thai and Best Vegetarian Restaurant Awards bestowed upon Sawasdee by The Independent, Metro and City Search. I took a deep breath, closed my eyes and walked through their darkened glass doors.

As soon as I did I was greeted with a warm, gracious smile and exposed to light, earthy tones. There are elegant chair rails and a handmade bamboo bar, tables and banquettes. A closer look revealed beautiful Thai art and plush banana leaf woven chairs. Despite its location, Sawasdee's décor is classy and exotic.

Sawasdee (pronounced suh-wah'-dee as the second "s" is silent) is Thai for hello, a fitting name given the disparity

between the environment outside and the atmosphere within. Almost a year ago, owners Deanne Sriphet and Dan Truong wanted to open a sister establishment to their popular Capital Boulevard version of Sawasdee. They chose this location and turned it into a tropical oasis highlighting traditional Thai family recipes that Deanne grew up enjoying.

We began our meal with Tom Kha with shrimp (\$5.25) and Som Tum salad (\$7.99). The Tom Kha, a popular Thai coconut soup, was rich, sweet and slightly spicy. Loaded with shrimp, straw mushrooms and tomatoes, it had an ethereal lemongrass and lime flavor. Shredded green papaya, carrots, cabbage, and tomatoes made up the Som Tum. This crunchy and refreshing salad was tossed with roasted peanuts and spicy lime dressing for added texture and a touch of heat.

To enhance your meal, Sawasdee boasts a global wine list, featuring selections from South Africa, Chile, Australia, Japan, and



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Germany to name a few. It also offers an expansive cocktail menu, including a variety of fun tropical drinks, house specialties and standby classics.

Our soup and salad were followed by the Mixed Vegetable Tofu (\$10.99) and Pad Kee Maw, a.k.a. Drunken Noodles (\$12.99). The colorful medley of stir-fried vegetables tossed with fried tofu was expertly prepared. The Drunken Noodles earned their name from being a favorite of late night Thai revelers, serving as cure to soak up their hangovers. Either way, the dish is a winner: thick rice noodles, chicken and egg stir-fried with a fabulous spicy Thai basil sauce that is both simple and sublime. Both were served with a side of jasmine rice which was molded into whimsical shapes (ours took the forms of a fish and bear).

For the main event, we feasted on Panang Curry with beef (\$13.99), Kra Paw Catfish (\$14.99) and Pattaya Soft Shell Crabs (\$17.99). Regardless of your choice of protein, the red curry, coconut milk, galangal (a flavorful root that is related to ginger and turmeric), and chili pepper paste that makes up the Panang Curry sauce is the heart and soul of this dish. This was a tantalizing version of a quintessential Thai entree. The catfish is not for the faint of heart. The fish was filleted and the meat, as well as the remainder of the whole fish, was lightly battered and fried to perfection. The



fillets were then served inside the fried body. It was a stunning presentation—if you can get past your dinner looking back at you. We definitely didn't mind as the fillets were light, crisp and moist. A Thai chili and basil sauce that was sweet, fiery and absolutely delicious finished the plate. It was an unforgettable treat.

After all the spicy food, we were ready for something refreshing and cool. We opted for Kanom Tuay and Sticky Rice with Thai Custard (\$4 each). The Kanom Tuay's (coconut pudding) silky steamed layers of pureed rice and coconut milk were just sweet enough. The Sticky Rice with Thai Custard was two desserts in one. Molded sticky rice sweetened with coconut syrup and butter was our favorite component but the Thai flavored custard gave a flan-like mouth feel.

An ideal date night spot, Sawasdee is romantic and exotic. It serves fun cocktails and all natural food (Deanne refuses to use any MSG). Best of all, it's all reasonably-priced for such a great Thai dinner. 🍴

Brian is a culinary instructor, food writer and personal chef. His business, Love at First Bite, specializes in private cooking classes and intimate dinners. For more information, please visit Brian at www.loveatfirstbite.net. Brian can be reached by e-mail at brian@raleighdowntower.com.

Sawasdee Thai Restaurant

6204 Glenwood Ave, Suite 120
919.781.7599 | www.sawasdeerestaurant.com

Monday through Thursday 11:30am-2:30pm and 5pm-9:30pm
Friday 11:30-2:30 and 5pm-10:30pm
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Sunday 12pm-9:30pm

Cuisine: Thai
Meals: Lunch and dinner
Ambiance: Exotic and romantic
Service: Graceful and unassuming
Dress: Neat
Noise Level: Low to moderate
Features: Extensive vegetarian, low-carb and gluten-free options, two private party rooms, bar dining, credit cards accepted
Alcohol: Full bar
Wine List: Global and reasonable
Recommended Dishes: Drunken Noodles, Panang Curry, Kra Paw Catfish
Wi-Fi Enabled: N/A
Parking: Large parking lot
Reservations: Accepted
Downtowners Tips: Any dish can be prepared mild, spicy, extra spicy, or "make you cry." Try the Thai Iced Tea.



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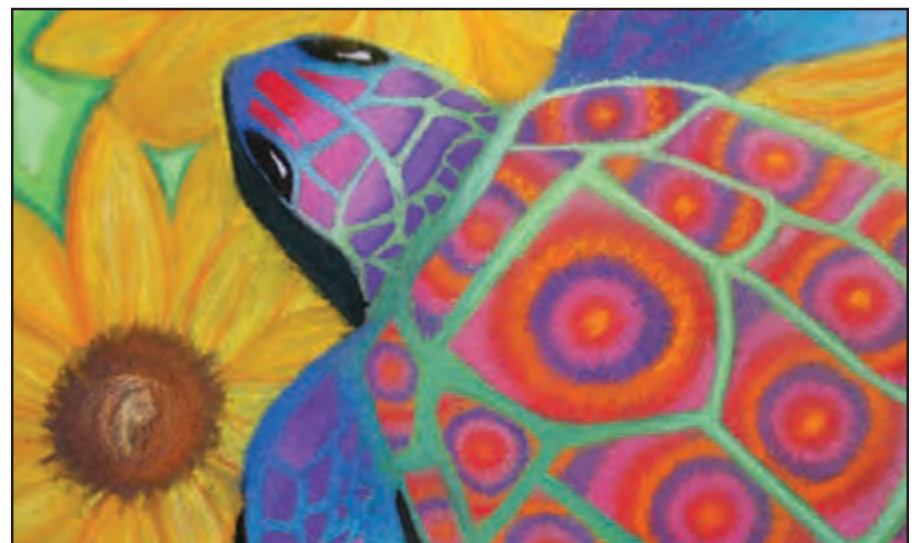
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Photos below were taken at Bugfest! at the Museum of Natural Sciences downtown





AROUNDTOWN **AROUND** TOWN AROUNDTOWN



Southland Ballroom Twenty Years in the Making

BY CRASH GREGG

Walking into the warehouse-soon-to-be-music venue, you can hear the anticipation and proud canter in Scotty Brownell's voice. It's no wonder, since Southland Ballroom has been a dream of Scotty's for the past twenty years. And now, that dream is finally becoming reality.

The History Flash back twenty years and you'll find Scotty Brownell playing in a small band with a few friends. The band eventually breaks up, but since Scotty owned all the production equipment, he began getting requests to do the sound for fraternity parties and a few local bars. Eventually he meets Jim Shires,



who owned Dreams on Western Boulevard and later Lake Boone Country Club. Scotty is tasked with running all the sound work for both venues, expanding his knowledge and expertise even further. After Lake Boone closed (about 12 years ago), Scotty and a

couple of friends began to look for a location to open up their own live music club. They looked at several locations around Raleigh, but none of them would work. Eventually his friends Pat Dickenson and Mark Thompson circled back later to one space that became available and moved forward on their own with the live music venue concept. It's still open today as the Lincoln Theatre.

The Dream Scotty kept his own dream alive throughout the years and was always on the lookout for a good location. While his search continued, he began to stockpile high end sound and light equipment, finding pieces here and there, knowing he'd need it all soon enough. In a few years, he partnered with the owner of the Berkeley Café (Jim Shires), continuing his love for live music and production. But it wasn't until he came back around to 614 N. West Street in Glenwood South, a location he had scouted 12 years earlier, that he knew he had found what



he was looking for: a large, open space near a busy nightlife scene with plenty of parking nearby. He began construction, working from an empty shell of the old warehouse/office space.

The Design Scotty's plan of course included a large elevated production booth to ensure the best show possible, a wide and open stage, and extended side bar for plenty of customer access, and ample-sized bathrooms. The tractor trailer of collected light and sound equipment will soon be installed after the acoustic treatment is sprayed on the entire vaulted open ceiling. Ornate chandeliers go up next, the sign installed out front and Southland Ballroom will open its doors to the public. According to Scotty, "With the quality of sound and lights we're going to have in here, concert-goers will think they're in the Gold Circle section of Walnut Creek. That's how good this place is going to sound. We're not here to blast anybody out of their seats; just clean, good sound and a great light show."

There will be four VIP booths, two on a riser directly in front of the stage by the sound booth that will be the best seats in the house. The other two will be on stage left and right, with all four having waitress service. Reserving the booths will require a bar tab minimum, but not much more than what six or seven people would spend on drinks in a night out.

The Music "I truly like all styles of music and we'll book whatever our customers want to hear," Scotty tells us. Jam bands are big right now as is anything with Americana roots. We'll have plenty of rock, indie and anything else that works. A high percentage of the bands will perform original music, but I'm sure we'll have some tribute and cover bands, especially

considering our proximity to Glenwood South. You take a great, fun band like The Dickens or Crush and put them on our stage with real production and incredible sound, and we can help take them to a whole other level."

The Venue When asked about private parties and booking the space, Scotty informs us, "Live music is only part of what we're doing here. The event venue part will be important as well. People need a nice yet affordable space for wedding receptions and other special events where there's plenty of room, convenient parking and good service. People can rent our space and we'll help cater it or they can bring their own." The finished space will hold about 100 seated for receptions or 80 with a dance area.

"We don't plan on having any rock posters or neon signs, so the décor will be very neutral; a blank canvas for planners and designers to decorate any way they'd like for their events."

There's plenty of parking in the rear of the building and Scotty plans to hold three or four parking lot music parties throughout the year.

Future expansion The rear third of the building will initially be used for catering prep and a band green room but Scott already has plans to cut through the middle wall and push the stage further back, allowing for another 300 people. There'll be a 1000-square foot deck built on the back as well, with a small lounge area where customers can relax away from the music and the crowd.

The grand opening is scheduled for around the end of October. We're looking forward to a great live music spot in the Glenwood side of town and are confident that Scotty will make sure that Southland will be as good as he's always dreamed it will be.

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Local Gallery News

BY MAX HALPEREN, Art Editor

I'm about to do what I have always warned my students against: discuss paintings with nothing but prints and slides available. But the word that—at a time when galleries and an entire museum are shutting their doors—a new, if specialized, venue, the North Carolina Japan Center (705 Barbour Dr. on the old Dorothea Dix campus), has just installed a gallery can't be ignored. With the collaboration of Gallery C, it will have its first show, Keiko Genka: Invitation to Sushi Country, by the time this issue goes to press.

Simplifying, distorting, brightening, Genka transforms her images of Japanese shopping centers, store fronts, coke dispensers, and collections of candy bars, food and toys, into sparkling brilliantly colored fantasies. Indeed, she speaks of attempting to recreate a sense of her childhood fantasies born of “colorfully illustrated books of foreign cities.” Some of her images are, in a sense, fantasies to begin with: witness “Chocobaby,” a jumble of goodies that Genka found in a familiar machine with suspended claws. In “jumbles” of massed Japanese signage, Genka emerges with bright near abstractions—“Neon Buffet,” “Orion Beer,” “Karaoke Night” are all street scenes. The show will be up through Oct. 18 and is definitely worth finding your way to Japan House.

The Visual Art Exchange has opened an annex in a space donated by City Market behind Artspace. Unfortunately, it's only open on Saturdays, First Fridays and, of course, by appointment at the VAE (919.828.7834). Currently it is sporting *Sundry*, an intriguing series of installations by Joe Bigley, who teaches at Appalachian State. Bigley ambitiously intends to attack racism, the excesses of technology and capitalism, and a massacre in China. Unfortunately, without wall notes or further explanation his symbols are much too broad. A sardonic video of a man in a stream chopping away at



Neon Buffet by Keiko Genka, acrylic on canvas, 36" x 36"

his own raft in a suicidal manner can be aimed at any number of targets. The same may be said of a striking and mysterious stairway that has iron rails but is without steps and ends in a blank wall. I give it an A for imagination and C for impact. It will be up until the next First Friday.

At the Flanders Gallery, Kenn Kotara's *The Bucket, the water and the well* fills—and I do mean fills—the

huge gallery, crowding the walls with paintings and drawings and the center with 13 hangings and suspensions. The hangings demand our immediate, and lasting, attention. Each contains a number of tight layered fiberglass screens, light creating a myriad of rippling patterns as the screens slowly move in the air currents. Kotara is at his subtlest here; in some of the black constructions and all of a large group of smaller hangings he has cut out patterns that change slightly as we move through the layered screens. To peer through them frontally is to see a world that is never the same from instant to instant. Here and in the wall paintings space becomes an enigma.

One of the best on the walls is the 11-foot tall “In the Beginning Shall Be Our Discussion,” four canvases piled atop each other, narrowing as they move to the top. Curvaceous, interweaving lines in green, yellow and blue dance up from a web at the bottom (or rain from the top). Seeming to lie below them, thin lines of paint drip from the top; there are hints, but only hints, of a grid.

At the City Bank Center on Fayetteville Street the Adam Cave Gallery has mounted a show it labels Southern Surreal, containing the work of John Gall, Matt Lively, and Ralph Steeds. Southern Surreal is not particularly Southern and much of it can't be termed surreal, but the show as a whole is a delight. John Gall's prints and other work on paper sarcastically mocks man's quest for knowledge and his assumptions about himself as a rational being. In most his prints,

oversize letters of the alphabet and mathematical symbols tumble about each other in utter disarray as men try to make sense of them.

Matt Lively is, perhaps, closest to our assumptions about the nature of surrealism and the incongruities it employs. He is best, I think, when he seems to be examining Rene Magritte, as in the small painting “White Striped.” Within a comfortable room a cloudy sky suddenly appears in a rectangle behind a bright red and white striped chair. A tiny house sits on a table while a straight backed chair fades into the wall.



Beware of Dog by Rachel Herrick, mixed media on panel, 24" x 24"

Ralph Steeds' pieces are crowded with incongruities. In the relatively simple bluish “Dreams of the Sea,” a woman lies at the bottom; a vague image of another body seems to stream across the center of the panel; a ladder runs up one side. As in other pieces, Steeds suggests the vision of children in a drawing of a beast standing behind the woman and in the simplified outlines of three houses that float across and up. There is savagery here as well as hope. The trio will be at the City Bank until October 29.

Max Halperen is a familiar figure in the local art scene and has reviewed art for local, regional and national journals. A professor emeritus, he taught contemporary art history and contemporary literature at NCSU and maintains a studio at Artspace. Max can be reached at max@raleighdowntowner.com.



In the Beginning Shall Be Our Discussion by Kenn Kotara, acrylic on canvas, 2.5'x8'

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BENEFIT FOR HOSPICE OF WAKE COUNTY

BY EMILY CANADY, MEDIA PARTNERS INC (MPI)

Even after a long illness, few people are completely prepared for the tidal wave of feelings experienced after the death of a loved one. Grief affects each person differently, and there is no time limit on getting past these torrents of emotion. For 25 years, Hospice of Wake County has helped members of the community understand and deal with their grief through bereavement counseling offered in a supportive and compassionate environment.



Whether the loss happened yesterday or three years ago, Hospice of Wake County's Horizons Grief Center offers individual counseling, support groups, workshops, memorial services and educational programs to adults, teens and children who have experienced the loss of a family member or friend. These services are open to the entire community free of charge, regardless if the loved one was a Hospice patient or not.

"Grief is a natural and healthy reaction to death, but it does take some longer than others to accept what they feel," said Mari Pitcher, Hospice of Wake County Director. "We hear so many conversations start with 'What is wrong with me?' The greatest gift we can give is to let individuals know that there is absolutely nothing wrong with them and provide a safe environment where they can express their grief."

To better support the community's growing and urgent demand for a wide-range of services, Hospice of Wake County opened the region's first freestanding Hospice facility off Trinity Road in the fall of 2009. Included in the new campus is the Kit Boney Grief Center. The building houses the Horizons Grief Center's counseling offices, support group meeting rooms, a children's play therapy room, an art therapy room and libraries for children and adults.

Each year, the experienced, master's level bereavement counselors at Hospice average 1,000 children and adults in individual and small group settings. Horizon's Grief Center also holds professional workshops and conferences

throughout the year for corporations, schools, mental health practitioners and health care professionals.

The Big Bad Ball, an annual black tie gala presented by The Capital City Club's Young Executives, raises money each year to help Hospice of Wake County fund their community programs. This year's event, Rhythm and Romance, will be held Oct. 2 from 7pm to 1am at the Capital City Club. Tickets for the Big Bad Ball are \$125 each. All guests can enjoy two bands: The Moonlighters Orchestra and tHE.DESIGN; five open bars; scrumptious food selections including hors d'oeuvres, pasta and carving stations, desserts and a late night breakfast. Attendees also get a chance to participate in a silent auction, a Fink's Jewelers door prize and a raffle for a \$10,000 cash prize. The Raleigh Downtowner Magazine is a proud third year co-sponsor of the event. Proceeds from the Big Bad Ball support the Hospice of Wake County Indigent Patient Fund and the Horizons Grief Center.

To purchase tickets or learn more about the Big Bad Ball, please visit www.bigbadball.com or call Hospice of Wake County at 919.828.0890.

About Hospice of Wake County

Your community hospice since 1979, Hospice of Wake County provides physical, emotional and spiritual care to those living with advanced illness, their caregivers and those who have lost a loved one regardless of age, race, religion or financial circumstances. Service areas include



Wake, Johnston, Franklin, Durham and Harnett counties. Guided by community-based boards of directors and trustees and supported by a dedicated professional staff, the goal of Hospice of Wake County is to provide compassionate hospice care that allows patients to enjoy every moment of their lives to the fullest. For more information call 919.828.0890 or visit www.hospiceofwake.org.

With nine events spread across five days (from August 30 through September 3), beer lovers had plenty to cheer about during the first ever Raleigh Beer Week. “Hop Heads” from the Triangle and beyond flocked downtown to sample rare brews, indulge in beer dinners and attend the “First Annual Brewers Forum.” In addition to fans, national and local brewing stars also came by to celebrate. Even Mayor Charles Meeker joined the jubilation, officially kicking off the week by tapping Aviator Brewing Company’s cask of Dark Horizon Black IPA infused with jalapeno at The Borough.

The highlight of Raleigh Beer Week was the Brooklyn Brewery Beer Dinner at the Flying Saucer, a six-course feast showcasing a different selection from Brooklyn’s impressive lineup. Additionally, attendees were treated to descriptions, stories and anecdotes from Brooklyn Brewery’s co founder Steve Hindy and All About Beer magazine’s publisher Daniel Bradford. While the food, beers or speakers would have been wonderful on their own, this one of a kind experience brought them all together making the sum much greater than the individual parts.

The amuse bouche (small bites offered before the meal begins) was toasted baguette slices smeared with chevre (a French goat cheese) and sautéed mushrooms. It was paired with the lemony Sorachi Ace, a saison style beer made with a rare Japanese hop. The creamy, tangy beer matched that of the cheese while its earthiness played nicely with



the mushrooms. The appetizer saw Salmon Ceviche (raw fish marinated in lemon and/or lime juice and highly seasoned) paired with Brooklyn Local One. The citrusy ceviche with its avocado, cilantro, red onions, and cucumber was the ideal companion for the strong (9% abv), crisp, slightly bitter Belgian-inspired golden ale.

Next was the Saucer’s wildly popular Beer Cheese Soup. Balancing it was the smooth, full-flavored, roasted malt Brooklyn Brown Ale. The American brown not only mirrored the soup’s richness but also cooled down its spicy heat. The smokiness of the soup’s bacon garnish highlighted the pleasant coffee notes in the ale as well.

The salad course was mixed greens, walnuts and shredded cheese tossed with Plumbcot (a natural cross hybrid between a plum and apricot) and Raisin Vinaigrette. The Brooklyn Local Two (also 9% abv), a caramel, fruity Belgian-inspired dark ale, went surprisingly well with it. This pairing proved to be extremely popular with the sold-out crowd.

The entrée was Veal Bratwurst over braised sauerkraut with caraway and bacon. Complementing the

brats was Oktoberfest, featuring malt made from heirloom barley grown in Germany especially for Brooklyn Brewery (www.brooklynbrewery.com). The match of the bready, full-bodied, lightly hoppy marzen with bratwurst, sauerkraut and spicy mustard was made in Bavarian heaven. The finale, a Post Road Pumpkin Ale Float, was a less successful combination. The vanilla ice cream erased the subtle pie spices of Brooklyn’s autumn favorite and dramatically reduced its usually warm aroma. However, never one to end on a low note, Steve Hindy treated everyone to a preview of his Monster Ale (10.3% abv). The aged barleywine-style copper ale was lively and complex with vaguely fruity notes. It screamed for a La Gloria Cubano cigar.



The beer-centric kitchen at the Flying Saucer managed the pairings exceptionally well and adeptly prepared the meal.

Steve and Daniel were amazing hosts and the beers were phenomenal.

With packed venues every night, ecstatic throngs of visitors and entertaining events, Raleigh Beer Week was a smashing success for all involved. I know I’m not the only one who hopes this becomes an annual tradition. 🍺

Brian is a culinary instructor, food writer, personal chef, and beer lover. His business, Love at First Bite, specializes in private cooking classes and intimate dinners. For more information, please visit www.loveatfirstbite.net. Brian can be reached at brian@raleighdowntown.com.

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The Memorial Bell Tower: Honoring Time at NC State

BY CHARIS GUERIN, RALEIGH CITY MUSEUM

One of the most recognizable symbols for North Carolina State University is the Memorial Bell Tower. Situated next to Hillsborough Street and across from Pullen Park, the Memorial Bell Tower stands as a constant reminder of time, and also of a period in NCSU's past when money was scarce and campus additions were luxuries. History tells us that the Great Depression hit the college hard, just as it did many local businesses and families. State funding decreased, class sizes were reduced and teachers' salaries shrunk. Despite these obstacles, the college, its alumni and its teachers persevered in their support for the tower's construction, a campus feature that upon completion would not satisfy a single academic endeavor nor generate revenue.

With the help of the Works Progress Administration, the tower is finally complete, 1940.



The idea for a memorial originally came from Vance Sykes, a 1907 alumnus serving as a soldier stationed in France during WWI. In a 1918 letter to the editor of the Alumni News, Sykes suggested "that State College should build something to recognize alumni who lost their lives in World War I." Motivated by this suggestion, the Alumni Association expanded on Sykes's idea and decided to create a memorial to commemorate all

State men who had served in the war (approximately 1,400 men).

Initially, the cost and design of the proposed memorial ranged from \$10,000 to \$100,000 and depended on the memorial's final form. Suggestions included "flag poles, buildings, bronze markers, towers, marble monuments, stone arches, and scholarships." The Committee decided on a memorial clock tower, and in 1920, after alumni raised enough money, construction of the memorial's 700-ton concrete base began. Subsequent 10-foot sections were added in 1924, 1925 and 1926 as funds became available. However, with the onset of the Great Depression, progress on the memorial came to a halt and did not resume until 1937, when NC State petitioned the Works Progress Administration for funds to help with the completion of the tower's final phase. Having obtained a little over \$56,000 from the WPA, the tower's stonework was completed.

However, funding was still needed for additional features. To address this issue, a 1938 fundraising letter was sent out. The letter contained the following quote from philosopher John Ruskin, illustrating what the tower's full completion symbolized to students, alumni and faculty: "therefore when we build, let us think that we build forever. Let it not be for present delight, nor for present use alone, let it be such work as our descendents will thank us." Successful fundraising efforts resulted in the tower's clock installation in



The first phase of the Memorial Bell Tower, its base, is complete, 1924.



The tower as it appeared for much of the Great Depression, 1930.

1938 and its floodlights in 1939. After WWII, other graduating classes provided funding for the tower's memorial plaque, chimes and shrine room.

Today the effort to complete enhancements for the tower is underway yet again. A student-initiated movement known as "Finish the [Bell] Tower" (<http://bells.ncsu.edu>) has dedicated itself to raising funds so that the 54-bell carillon originally proposed in the 1920 design can be installed. The movement is a self-described "call-to-action" and aims to raise not only funds, but community, student, faculty, and alumni unity and involvement as well. The effort and its desired results are a reminder of what State College Treasurer A.F. Bowen envisioned the tower would

be so many years ago: "a monument to State College, a monument to its loyal Alumni, faculty, and friends...the finest in thought and purpose, the finest in sacrifice and accomplishment. You and I do not want it to remain incomplete." 📖

Images Courtesy of Special Collections Research Center, North Carolina State University Libraries.

*The Raleigh City Museum is located at 220 Fayetteville Street in downtown Raleigh and is open from 10am-4pm Tuesday through Friday, and 1pm-4pm on Saturdays. Check out our newest exhibit, **Portraits of Raleigh II: Images of a City and Her People**, which opened August 6, 2010. If you have any questions, please call 919.832.3775 or check out our website at www.raleighcitymuseum.org.*

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Project Ricochet: Confronting Youth Violence

BY GEORGE CHUNN

Project Ricochet Inc. of North Carolina is a non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of youth violence, anti-social and gang-related behavior within minority communities. Founded in May 2009 by Executive Director Abeni El-Amin, the organization has sought to create a wide coalition



Project Ricochet
Executive Director
Abeni El-Amin

of youth service providers, faith based organizations and community leaders to provide effective alternatives for at-risk youth of Southeast Raleigh.

Using a community based, bottom-up approach, Project Ricochet Inc. of North Carolina is employing several programs designed to help facilitate practical solutions in reducing and coping with youth violence in minority communities. One of its strongest programs is the family initiative, *Still Lives Within*. This program incorporates families into the planning and organizing of community meetings,

rallies and grievance support. Monthly meetings are held every second Sunday of the month from 4pm until 6pm at Barksdale Drive in Raleigh and issues discussed include: Providing the Net of Protection, Dealing with Post Traumatic Experiences of Losing a Youth, Providing Leadership and Guidance in the Home, and others.

Historically, Southeast Raleigh has had the highest rate of crime and youth violence in the city. Project Ricochet of North Carolina seeks to change the dynamics of this area by creating an atmosphere that gives minority youth an opportunity to discover positive and productive lifestyle alternatives. According to El-Amin, "The name says it all: Ricochet is the rebounding action of something that hits a surface and bounces off into a different direction. Our programs are designed to get these youths directed into a more positive path and away from gang related behavior and violence." El-Amin's vision is slowly taking hold in the community, but she acknowledges that there is still plenty of work left to be done.



The needs of Project Ricochet Inc. of North Carolina are great. The organization is currently in need of financial resources, office furniture / equipment, and job or re-entry opportunities for youth participants. If you would like to help in assisting shaping the lives of minority youth, please contact abeni-el-amin@projectricochet.org or call 919.827.3118. Donations can be mailed to Project Ricochet Inc. of North Carolina, P.O. Box 40242 Raleigh NC 27604-3118 or online at www.projectricochet.org.

George can be reached at george@raleighdowntowner.com.

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SIG HUTCHINSON

to be Presented A.E. Finley Distinguished Service Award

BY ALICE SMITH, RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sig Hutchinson, a man who has been on the front lines of making communities healthy and livable for more than a decade, was recently presented the A.E. Finley Distinguished Service Award by the Greater Raleigh Chamber.

The A.E. Finley Distinguished Service Award has been given annually since 1970 in recognition of a person who has contributed time, talent and service to the benefit of the community. It will be awarded during the Chamber's 122nd Annual Meeting at Meymandi Concert Hall.

Hutchinson's leadership resulted in the passage of four bond referendums totaling \$140 million toward open space preservation, parks, and greenways in Wake County and the city of Raleigh.

"Sig Hutchinson's dedication and passion for the environment has led to the transformation of our region," said Chamber Chair Sepi Asefnia. "I am pleased to present him with this award in honor of his years of service to our community."

Around Wake County he's known as "Mr. Greenjeans," and as the past president



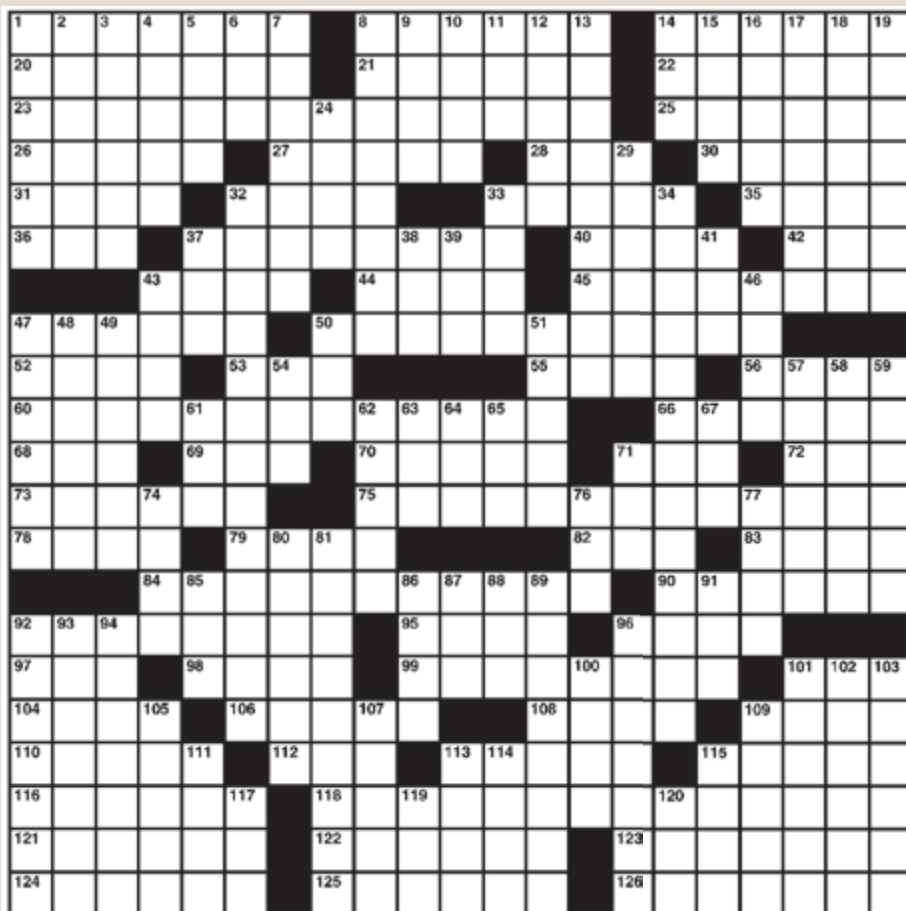
of the Triangle Greenways Council, he was the driving force behind the creation of more than 100 miles of interconnected greenways within the Triangle. His list of honors is lengthy—he was named "Tarheel of the Week" by the News & Observer Publishing Co., "Volunteer of the Year" by Wake County, and "Green Advocate of the Year" by the Triangle Business Journal. Most recently, he received a Goodmon Award from Leadership Triangle.

Professionally, Hutchinson continues his professional speaking and consulting career as president of Sig Hutchinson Communications, LLC, and he consults nationally with communities about how to sell the value of transit in preparation for voter referendums. He is one of the original co-founders of The Raleigh Downtowner Magazine, supporting a vibrant and growing downtown

Raleigh, and remains an active contributor to the publication. 📖

Alice can be reached for comment at the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce at asmith@raleighchamber.org.

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER MONTHLY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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Puzzle answers on page 2

By Damien Peterson from the Los Angeles Times
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- "Mal de mer"**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Railroad foundation
 - 8 Short chat?
 - 14 Destroys
 - 20 Philosopher's term
 - 21 Portugal's second-largest city
 - 22 ___ reason
 - 23 Response to "What's a six-letter answer for 'Silent performer'?"
 - 25 Superficiality
 - 26 Memo opener
 - 27 Spots for seaside strolls
 - 28 Professor's end?
 - 30 Spot for seaside strolls
 - 31 Agnus ___: Mass prayers
 - 32 Poolroom array
 - 33 Loud bird
 - 35 The whole shebang
 - 36 Bermuda hrs
 - 37 Five-time NBA championship-winning coach
 - 40 Shah's land, once
 - 42 Manhattan cooler?
 - 43 Siskel or Shalit
 - 44 Sleeveless garment
 - 45 Dinghy pair
 - 47 Mountainous region in Genesis
 - 50 Seaside vacation disappointment?
 - 52 Sub in a tub
 - 53 Actress Lupino
 - 55 Being, to Augustus
 - 56 Corn remnants
 - 60 Prison performer?
 - 66 Full of team spirit
 - 68 Different
 - 69 Picture cards?
 - 70 Capital of Nord,
- DOWN**
- 71 Super Bowl honoree
 - 72 Palindromic "before"
 - 73 Agitated state
 - 75 Team in an agricultural all-star game?
 - 78 Roller on a Rolls
 - 79 Rhein tributary
 - 82 Worked (up)
 - 83 Pair at the altar
 - 84 Station that exclusively plays rapper MC's hits?
 - 90 Sci-fi psychic
 - 92 Declared
 - 95 Powerful energy-market gp.
 - 96 Abbey titles
 - 97 Mex. Title
 - 98 Bench-presser's pride
 - 99 "Risky Business" co-star
 - 101 Flightless bird, nowadays?
 - 104 Id___ source
 - 106 French wine region
 - 108 Heads or tails, e.g.
 - 109 Repentant one
 - 110 Wrap-up
 - 112 Program file suffix
 - 113 Relief agcy. founded in the U.K. in 1942
 - 115 NFL ref. in slang
 - 116 Sacred birds
 - 118 Like steak cooked by an enchanting chef?
 - 121 Bistro, informally
 - 122 Comes up
 - 123 Unisex
 - 124 Yellowstone attraction
 - 125 "Candid Camera" bits
 - 126 Name of earth-shaking importance
- DOWN**
- 1 Inn crowd option
 - 2 Musical works
 - 3 It's exposed many times during the singing of "YMCA"
 - 4 40% of quarters?
 - 5 Transvaal settler
 - 6 Make a misstep
 - 7 Argument
 - 8 Like good arguments
 - 9 Phone abbr.
 - 10 "___ the time!"
 - 11 Not to
 - 12 Hotel courts
 - 13 Amazing, in dialect
 - 14 Hulk Hogan's '80s-'90s org.
 - 15 River inlets
 - 16 ___ Sketch
 - 17 Hardly orderly
 - 18 "All Summer Long" singer, 2008
 - 19 Cold signs
 - 24 Theater section
 - 29 '40s-'70s Coliseum team
 - 32 Sugary complaint?
 - 33 It's not true
 - 34 More cordial old-timer?
 - 37 Stew veggie
 - 38 Cow country
 - 39 Part of many a mtge. Payment
 - 41 Marlins' div.
 - 43 Trig. Prerequisite
 - 46 Mus. Ensemble
 - 47 Become lenient, as on crime
 - 48 Offer to a dishwasher
 - 49 Boss
 - 50 Counterfeit
 - 51 Kentucky college or its city
 - 54 Operations mgrs.
 - 57 Food company named for two states
- 58 1956 star of Vadim's "And God Created Woman"
 - 59 "Yikes!"
 - 61 "Les ___"
 - 62 Modify
 - 63 Bethesda-based research org.
 - 64 Largest OH airport
 - 65 Santa staffer
 - 67 Car loan abbr.
 - 71 M.'s partner
 - 74 Grape soda brand
 - 76 P-like letter
 - 77 Makes a drink last
 - 80 "Cocoon" Oscar winner
 - 81 Fenway souvenir
 - 85 Dada co-founder
 - 86 Used taxis
 - 87 Big klutz
 - 88 JFK, but not LAX
 - 89 Case-breaking words
 - 91 When moms are honored
 - 92 Guitar's second-lowest
 - 93 Hotel soap, say
 - 94 Easy Street's metropolis?
 - 96 Stop in photography?
 - 100 Engine sound
 - 101 Lease prohibition
 - 102 Unruffled
 - 103 Wall Street worker
 - 105 Facilitates
 - 107 India's prime minister before Shastri
 - 109 Wealthy, in Weimar
 - 111 File's father
 - 113 Roughly
 - 114 Marvel Comics heroes
 - 115 Suffix with Paleo-
 - 117 Half of the UAR
 - 119 Thames islet
 - 120 Sch. in Troy, NY



LOCALMUSIC

Old Habits BY DAN STROBEL, Music Editor

If there's a type of music that North Carolina has a stronghold on, it's bluegrass. Musicians from the Appalachian and Blue Ridge areas of our beautiful state have been pickin' and hol-lerin' for decades and their careful refining and performance of the genre has led to the global and deserved recognition that North Carolina is a hotspot for bluegrass bands.

Even so, Raleigh's Old Habits has had no problem carving out a niche for itself among the many other, top-shelf bluegrass bands in the area. Perhaps it's their unabashed honesty that sets them apart. Bassist and founding member Craig Thompson readily admits that the bluegrass and gospel-soaked Coen Brothers flick, *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* was their primary inspiration for starting Old Habits and playing the music they do.

"You remember seven or eight years ago when there was that sort of bluegrass revival after the release of that movie?" he asks, with a hint of a smile. "That's pretty much what got us into bluegrass music and created Old Habits."

Started in 2003 with his brother Bennett Thompson on mandolin and Brian Engrish on fiddle, Old Habits started playing their first gigs at Café Helios on Glenwood Avenue. Existing as a three-piece for their first five years, Bennett and Brian eventually left to pursue other ventures, and Craig recruited the help of Chad Johnson on guitar and Lin Peterson on banjo.

The new trio picked and fiddled for some time before they decided that something else was needed to make them stand out.

"Things were getting kind of stale and we all agreed that something needed to change," said Thompson.



"So after some discussion we decided to buck the normal trend of bluegrass bands and get a drummer."

The addition of percussion changed their sound and dynamic—for the better according to Thompson—and afforded them the possibility of playing a lot of different avenues with their band and music.

"We became more of an Americana and country band after we added Will on the drums," said Thompson.

Old Habit's bluegrass roots still run deep, however, as shown on their debut album that came out in 2009. Recorded when they were just a three-piece, the self-titled effort is

available to buy on the band's website, www.oldhabits.com. Eleven tracks of solid, twanging bluegrass goodness, the band even nods to its roots nicely with a cover of Bob Dylan's "Subterranean Homesick Blues" to finish the record.

Listeners who want to hear the full band's line-up will have to catch them live, an easy and recommended task. Regular performers at the Music on the Porch series at Seaboard Station, the boys in Old Habits are also available to perform private functions, events and even weddings. Interested readers can contact the band via their website and those wishing to catch Old Habits live can find their performance schedule on their website. 📍



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The Deep South

Local Music Review



Each month we look at three local bands within a wide range of music types, from rock to reggae, country to classic. You won't find any negative or bad reviews here, just bands worth hearing in your favorite local music hangout. Enjoy the reviews, check out the bands when they're in town and be sure to mention you read about them in the *Downtowner Magazine* Deep South Local Music Review.



The Deep South Local Music Review is written by Dave Rose. Dave is the co-founder and co-owner of Deep South Entertainment. Formed in 1995, Deep South Entertainment is a record label, artist management company and concert event production company with offices in Raleigh, North Carolina and Nashville, Tennessee. Deep South is best known locally as producer of the Bud Light Downtown Live summer concert series, featuring national recording artists. Their latest addition to downtown Raleigh is Deep South—The Bar.



Mike Garrigan

Album: *Voyage of the Malamander*
Genre: Rock/Acoustic/Indie
www.mikegarrigan.com

Mike Garrigan is the kind of musician every music industry person dreams of working with; he's inspiring musically and personally. To say Mike Garrigan is talented wouldn't do the singer/songwriter justice. Garrigan, who was born in Greensboro, began writing and recording music when he was 16, and during his undergraduate career at UNC-Chapel Hill, managed to not only nail down two degrees, but also record two solo acoustic albums. After college, Garrigan formed the modern rock band Collapsis who signed to Universal Records and was actually one of Deep South's first management clients.

Garrigan's musical undertakings are extensive, tying him into various musical groups throughout the years after the 2001 disbanding of Collapsis. He went on to join and tour the country with Atlantic Records band Athenaeum and later created the Mike Garrigan Four (MG4).

A solo act once more, Garrigan continues to wow the crowds with his ever-captivating acoustic melodies as witnessed on *Voyage of the Malamander*. If you're a single-song kind of person, I'd recommend starting with track four, "Jenny". Keep an eye out for his local shows at his website, www.mikegarrigan.com.



The Love Language

Album: *Libraries*
Genre: Pop
www.thelovelanguage.com

"Woah! Where did these guys (and girl) come from?" That's the reaction I had a year or so ago when I first came across (probably a little later than most) Merge recording artists, The Love Language. Since then, it's as if they've gone from virtual obscurity to one of the most talked about acts in the area, seemingly overnight. But that's not really the case, as it rarely is. This pop band with a flair for the eccentric was created when Stuart McLamb found a silver-lining in the middle of a disastrous point in his life. After a particularly bad breakup, McLamb found himself spiraling downwards until he turned to music to heal and began recording in a rented storage space. A direct result of calamity, McLamb formed The Love Language, which was once a solo act.

A turning point came when he was offered the chance to open for the Rosebuds in their Like Life Tour. McLamb turned to six of his closest friends and the band was formed.

Though the number of band members has dwindled, leaving only five, their popularity has done the opposite, gaining exponentially. Their anything-but-ordinary sound creates a collage of heart-break, rejection and redemption, making their songs hard to overlook.

Keep up with this Raleigh-based band and learn about tour dates at www.thelovelanguage.com.



Now You See Them

Album: *Things Change in a Day*
Genre: Indie/Folk/Pop
www.nowyouseethem.net

What could Australia, Asheville and downtown Raleigh possibly have in common? One thing: Now You See Them. This talented trio will be heading to the capital city on October 9 when they perform at Deep South the Bar.

Pennsylvania natives Shane Conerty, Dulci Ellengberger and Jason Mencer hadn't known each other long when they decided to leave home and travel the world together. The group spent four months working odd jobs in Hawaii while trying to make enough money to make it to their next stop, Australia. Upon reaching their destination, they continued to work here and there to save travel money until it occurred to them to make use of their individual musical talents. The end result: Now You See Them.

The band got their start playing in bars and clubs throughout Sydney until their Australia stint was cut short when they were caught by immigration and deported back to the US. Once back in the United States, Now You See Them took to the playing in the streets of Asheville, NC, where their upbeat and original sound made them a local favorite.

Mark your calendars and get a first-hand experience of the contagiously cheerful, folk/pop twist of Now You See Them on Saturday, October 9, at Deep South the Bar in Raleigh.

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DOWNTOWN  **SNAPSHOT**
From the Downtown Raleigh Alliance



DAVID DIAZ
President and CEO
Downtown Raleigh Alliance
www.YouRHere.com

Dear Reader,
In this issue of the Downtowner Magazine you'll learn more about modes of transportation and navigating in Raleigh. Last year the city's population grew 3 percent, surpassing 405,000 people, which put Raleigh ahead of cities such as Minneapolis, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh. Every day downtown Raleigh serves as an important crossroad for thousands of residents, employees and visitors who rely on a variety of transportation methods to get to and from their destinations.

Intra- and inter-city bus services transit through central hubs in downtown, including the Moore Square Transit Station and the Raleigh Greyhound Station, and regional and national train services are provided at the Raleigh Amtrak Station. Major plans are in preliminary stages for the South East High Speed Rail project, Raleigh's Union Station (multi-modal transit) and longer-term regional express bus shuttles and light rail systems in the region.

In 2009, the city launched a very successful downtown hybrid electric circulator bus, the R-LINE, which has helped connect over 200,000 riders throughout the downtown districts. Best of all, the service is free for users! One unique way to get around downtown is the Raleigh Rickshaw Company which operates pedal cab services with the drivers working for tips. You'll also find a variety of other private sector transportation and tour operators at the Get Around tab at www.YouRHere.com.

The Downtown Raleigh Alliance supports the city's continued efforts to effectively plan and implement sustainable transportation infrastructure programs in order to accommodate current and future needs of our growing city.

Learn more about downtown events, parking, maps, and the free R-LINE circulator bus at www.YouRHere.com.

Please enjoy this issue of the Downtowner Magazine.



Translōc—Think, See and Ride in Real Time

BUSINESS PROFILE BY CRASH GREGG

Translōc’s roots can be traced to 2004, when a group of recently-graduated NC State computer scientists, including Josh Whiton and Dominique Bischof, were programming for larger companies, but not really enjoying their work. They wanted to start their own company but weren’t sure what they wanted to do. So they asked themselves, “What kind of needs does the world have where we can apply all our combined talents?”

While trying to answer this question, they thought about many of their tech-savvy colleagues who were dying to work in the video gaming industry—where most positions aren’t that much fun—or for Google “because it’s not like working at all.” As Josh says, “Nobody was saying, ‘Hey, let’s go work in mass transit and make the transit system better!’ It wasn’t a sexy problem to work on, but the more we looked at it, the more obvious it became that mass transit was in the stone ages as far as the computer revolution. There was a LOT of work to be done and much of it was very low-hanging fruit.

In college, we had plenty of experience waiting for the bus. We’d go straight from being super-connected playing video games on the internet, knowing where we were online and what we were doing—giving us a sense of ultraconnectivity—to standing at a bus stop, unsure of when the bus was coming, or if it was coming at all. There was a strong feeling of disconnect between the two. We thought to ourselves, gee, if we can keep track of 30 game players in real time, surely we can see where these buses are,” he explains.

So they did the research and realized that the real-time information of tracking mass transit vehicles had a huge application for getting people to ride the bus, making it less esoteric and easier to visualize. The process of creating this application totally played to their strengths as computer science engineers. The GPS and wireless data technology was extremely expensive at that time, but they could see it was becoming more widespread every day, and therefore more affordable. They made the leap and Translōc was formed.

As they began to develop their product, they realized they also had to often wear the hat of evangelist as well as developer for the technology itself. Some transit administrators



“got it” right away, understanding that such a system would be great for riders. But others thought that bringing this level of transparency to transit data was terrifying. “We had to convince them that providing this information to the public would have a positive effect on their ridership and on their level of customer service,” said Josh.

These riders can be divided up into two basic categories: those that *have* to ride and “choice” riders—those who have cars or other forms of transportation available but *choose* to take mass transit. If the only people riding the buses are those people who have to, only a certain level of quality will be achieved. For the system to be viable, and thereby successful, another entire segment of choice riders must want to utilize the transit system rather than just clinging to the convenience of their car.

With their new transit mapping system completed, Josh and Dominique’s alma mater NCSU became Translōc’s first client. The response was tremendous and students were excited to be able to see the location of each bus as well as the estimated time of arrival. More schools and transit systems followed, until they were providing 16 companies with their new innovative software.

Translōc’s software works best on the desktop, showing real-time movement of all buses in the system and predicts the time at each subsequent stop based on bus speed, location, previous history, and other calculations. However, any cell phone with internet connectivity can also check bus status, location and stop predictions. Currently there’s an iPhone app that delivers the optimum experience in viewing real-time data, and an Android app is scheduled for release in January 2010.

They recently moved from NCSU’s Centennial Campus to a two-story house beside Moore Square, just a block away from the downtown Raleigh bus

terminal. Josh hopes this will encourage their employees to take advantage of the close proximity of mass transit, which he thinks will help them create better software by actually using their own product and better understand their target market.

The Triangle Transit Authority is their newest client and for the first time perhaps anywhere in the country, they will be bringing together live transit maps of five completely different systems onto one page: the Raleigh bus system (Capital Area Transit or CAT, which also includes the downtown circulator, the R-Line), Durham Area Transit (DATA), Chapel Hill Transit (CHT), Triangle Transit, and the NCSU bus system (Wolfline). The new system should be completed and online early next year.

Josh is excited about the five systems working together and says, “The old maps don’t show where all these different systems meet. And where they intersect and overlap is a very



interesting place. Riders will now be able to plan their entire trip from one page, completing their trip by hopping from one system to another with ease. That’s how the mass transit system is supposed to work and that’s what Translōc is all about.”

Links to many of the systems that Translōc has created are available on the left side of their homepage, www.transloc.com. Visit the current Capital Area Transit real-time bus status page: www.raleighrides.org then check out Translōc’s NCSU Wolfline real-time status page here: <http://ncsu.transloc.com>. See any difference?



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PERFORMING ARTS
& EVENTS CALENDAR



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Sept 16–Oct 3

The Carolina Ballet presents **Firebird** at the Fletcher Opera Theater. Set to music by Igor Stravinsky Firebird is Artistic Director Robert Weiss's touching and charming version of the beloved Russian folktale. Program also features a new ballet from Company Principal Timour Bourtasenkov, whose transcendent version of *Vivaldi's Gloria* premiered during the 2005-2006 season. For more information, visit www.carolinaballet.com or call the BalletLine at 919.719.0900.

Sept 17–19, 21, 24 - 26

The NC Theatre presents **Little Shop of Horrors** in Raleigh Memorial Auditorium at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts. Seymour loves two things: a beautiful, way-out-of-his-league girl named Audrey and interesting, unusual plants. As a down and out skid row floral assistant, he never dreamed that discovering an exotic plant with a mysterious craving for fresh blood would turn him into an overnight sensation! An affectionate rock-n-roll spoof of 1950s sci-fi movies that will have you laughing and dancing in your seats. For ticket information call 919.831.6950 or 919.831.6941 and visit www.nctheatre.com.

Sept 17–19, 23–26

Theatre in the Park presents **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)**. Thirty-seven plays in ninety-seven minutes! An irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard's plays, blazing hilarity that aims to out-Python Monty, out-Simpson Homer, and out-Stooge Curly and Moe. Warning! -This show is a high-speed roller-coaster type condensation of all of Shakespeare's plays, and is not recommended for people with heart ailments, bladder problems, inner-ear disorders and/or people inclined to motion sickness. For more information, call 919.831.6936 or visit www.theatreinthepark.com.

Sept 24–25 (Fri-Sat)

Capital City Bike Fest spans across Friday and Saturday with a bike parade from Ray Price Harley Davidson to Fayetteville Street on Friday, three BMX bike shows on Saturday. Schedule of events: <http://capitalcitybikefest.com/events.htm>

Sept 24 (Fri)

Come out for an evening of fun at **Music On The Porch**, a free music concert event located next to Peace China Restaurant at Seaboard Station that also features a large family kid zone and dog friendly atmosphere. Music and events go on rain or shine thanks to the Porch area and you are welcome to bring your lawn chairs. 6 pm (Event Opens); 7pm (Bands Start Playing). For more information, visit www.musicontheporch.com.

Sept 24–25 (Fri-Sat)

The NC Symphony presents **Beethoven's Triple Concerto**. Three are wild at the Symphony's season opening romp. Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony and a movement from Mahler's Tenth face off with Beethoven's extraordinary "Triple" Concerto, performed by a trio of world-class guest artists. Don't miss this bold start to a remarkable new season. Meymandi Concert Hall. For tickets or more information, visit www.ncsymphony.org or call 919.733.2750.

Sept 25th (Sat)

Come and **celebrate the new and improved Hillsborough Street**. Street fair, ribbon cutting ceremony with dignitaries, three stages of live music, NCSU cheerleaders, kids zone with rock climbing wall, and fun. The festivities will start on Hillsborough Street from 1-10pm in front

of the NCSU Belltower along Hillsborough Street to the NCSU Library. More details at hillsboroughstreet.org.

Sept 25 (Sat)

Come join the **Five Points Farmers Market** located in the parking lot of NOFO from 8am-Noon. For more information, visit www.fivepointsfarmersmarket.com.

Sept 28 (Tues)

The Raleigh Hall of Fame at the Raleigh Convention Center. Visit <http://raleighhalloffame.org> for more information.

Sept 28–Oct 3 (Tues –Sun)

Broadway Series South presents **Pandemonium The Lost and Found Orchestra**. After the global success of their unique take on rhythm and physical theatre, the creators of Stomp have taken their concept to a new level: where Stomp creates rhythm with everyday objects, the Lost and Found Orchestra's Pandemonium transforms everyday objects into orchestral instruments, representing every section of a symphony orchestra. Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. For more information or tickets, call 919.831.6060 or visit www.broadwayseriesouth.com.

Sept 30 (Thur)

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner? sponsored by the United Arts Council. United Arts is raising funds to send professional artists into Wake County schools this year and in a really fun way! Join the Council for THE art party of the year exploding with creativity and originality. Latin dancers, acrobats, musicians, visual artists, jugglers and many more will excite and entertain! Please join us to pack the house.

Sept 29 (Wed)

Raleigh Downtown Farmers Market at City Plaza from 10 am–2 pm. Find a bounty of fresh, sustainably-grown produce and artisan food each week.

Oct 1 (Fri)

First Friday Gallery Walk. Enjoy a free self-guided tour of local art galleries, art studios, museums, retail, restaurants and alternative art venues on the first Friday of every month.

Oct 1–3 (Fri-Sun)

The NC Symphony presents **Cirque de la Symphonie**. The world's top circus performers demonstrating unbelievable acrobatic feats indoors along with your Symphony performing some of the best classical music ever written. Cirque de la Symphonie is back with a fun and exciting musical spectacle perfect for the whole family. Meymandi Concert Hall. For tickets or more information, visit www.ncsymphony.org or call 919.733.2750.

Oct 1–3 (Fri-Sun)

The International Festival of Raleigh is celebrating its 25th anniversary. A key Raleigh celebration, the Festival offers 3 days of international performances, food, games and cultural exhibits. Over 50 different groups from around the world participate to showcase their cuisine, traditional dance and music; to share traditions and to celebrate their unique differences. Enjoy an entertaining, informative, and delicious event and Discover the World in Raleigh! Raleigh Convention Center. Visit www.internationalfestival.org for more information.

Oct 1 (Fri)

Music On The Porch (see the Sept 24 listing for details)

Oct 2 (Sat)


Come join the **Five Points Farmers Market** located in the parking lot of NOFO from 8am-Noon. For more information, visit www.fivepointsfarmersmarket.com.

Oct 2 (Sat)

9th annual **Big Bad Ball**, a gala event to benefit Hospice of Wake County presented by the Young Executive Members of the Capital City Club. Food from hor d'oeuvres to pasta and carving stations to a late night breakfast, desserts and two bands to dance through the night. Hospice of Wake County has been providing compassionate care for families in our community for more than 30 years, and we have a variety of ways for you to demonstrate your support for this wonderful organization. Come dance the night away. www.bigbadball.com.

Oct. 3 (Sun)

Mark your calendars for the **15th Annual SPCA Fur Ball**, the most important night of the year for homeless pets in Wake County. Fur Ball tickets are available at a cost of \$125



Vision for The Valley
Crabtree Valley Transportation Study

CITY OF RALEIGH IS SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON CRABTREE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY

The deadline for public comment is October 7.

The Raleigh City Council is seeking public comment on the Crabtree Valley Transportation Study.

The study presents a long-range transportation and land-use planning study for the Crabtree Valley area. The study provides an in-depth analysis of existing and future travel demand in the area and offers an evaluation of transportation needs.

To review the report visit:
www.crabtree-valley-transportation-study.com

Please send public comments to valleystudy@gmail.com or via regular mail to:

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per person (\$80 of the \$125 price is tax-deductible). A fabulous live and silent auction, heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine, live music, and the most unstuffiest black tie event of the season await you. Visit www.spcwake.org for more details and to order tickets.

Oct 6 (Wed)

Raleigh Downtown Farmers Market at City Plaza from 10 am–2 pm. Find a bounty of fresh, sustainably-grown produce and artisan food each week.

Oct 8–9 (Fri-Sat)

The NC Symphony presents **Elegant and Elemental**. Contemporaries in life. Complementary in style. Rarely grouped together. Explore the fascinating emotional interplay between two of the 20th century's premier musical minds, Sibelius and Rachmaninoff, with three unqualified masterworks. Meymandi Concert Hall. For tickets or more information, visit www.ncsymphony.org or call 919.733.2750.

Oct 8 (Fri)

Music On The Porch (see the Sept 24 listing for details)

Oct 9 (Sat)

Come join the **Five Points Farmers Market** located in the parking lot of NOFO from 8am-Noon. For more information, visit www.fivepointfarmersmarket.com.

Oct 13 (Wed)

Raleigh Downtown Farmers Market at City Plaza from 10 am–2 pm. Find a bounty of fresh, sustainably-grown produce and artisan food each week.

Oct 15, Fri

The NC Symphony presents **Art in Music** at noon in the Meymandi Concert Hall. Stella Sung's new classic Rockwell Reflections, set to Rockwell's iconic paintings and performed in conjunction with the North Carolina Museum of Art exhibit, headlines this provocative examination of visual art and its influence. Maestro William Henry Curry guides you through other favorites by Copland and Butterworth, before a dazzling finale in Debussy's La Mer. For tickets or more information, visit www.ncsymphony.org or call 919.733.2750.

Oct 21 (Thur)

Broadway Series South presents **The Merchants of Bollywood**. An international dance spectacular already seen by over 2 million people worldwide. This original production comes from Mumbai, India, with 50 performers, 500 lavish costumes, and 3,000 pieces of glittering jewelry. During its recent sold-out-run in London, The Times wrote: "Their energy is electrifying...it's high-octane pleasure!" The London Metro wrote that "Merchants of Bollywood has dazzle, shimmer and sparkle...it's slick and sexy." Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. For more information or tickets, call 919.831.6060 or visit www.broadwayseriesouth.com.

Nov 17 (Sat)

Artspace presents its **6th annual Collectors Gala** and a special after party celebration, Artspace After Dark. This year's Collectors Gala is a celebration of Artspace's contribution to Raleigh's creative class. The evening will begin with cocktails at Artspace (201 E. Davie Street) at 6:00pm and will include the unique opportunity to sit for dinner in the artists' studios, as well as participate in live and silent auctions. The evening will continue with Artspace After Dark starting at 10:00pm where desserts, live music, and dancing can be enjoyed. All proceeds benefit Artspace exhibitions, educational programs, and community outreach programs for at-risk children and adults. Visit www.artspacenc.org for more information. The Raleigh Downtowner Magazine is proud to be a co-sponsor again for this year's event.

Dec 9 (Thur)

17th Annual Jingle Ball presented by the Capital City Clauses at the Marbles Kid Museum. Letting you know early! Make your plans now and save the date. Each attendee is asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy for a child (ages 2-12) valued at \$20 or more. For those not bringing a gift, admission will be \$30 by cash or check. Come eat, drink, dance and be merry for a good cause. Dress for this event is cocktail attire. Ladies, wear your cute holiday dress you have been dying to wear. Men, dress with slacks, sweaters or even your most festive holiday tie. No jeans. Visit www.jingleball.org for more information.

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