



RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER™

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

RALEIGH ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS & CULTURE, DINING, EVENTS, AND MORE

FREE



Raleigh's Big Break?

Amidst the busy construction of their new Raleigh Convention Center, Laurie Okun, director of marketing, and Doug Grissom, assistant director



BENTON'S 2c

If great lunch was money, The Mint would be bank



EICHENBERGER

High gas prices? Ride a bike why dontcha?!

RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER
READER REWARDS

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Raleigh Gets Its Big Break Downtown



By Billy Warden

The woman was so dignified and put together that when she said what she did, I nearly choked on my chocolate cake.

you'll realize I'm right.

Our city's big moment will be the September opening of the Raleigh Convention Center. It can and should change the game for us.

And here's the thing that makes this moment especially exciting: we're all part of it. This is not a spectator sport. Just how much butt this moment kicks depends on you and me. This moment isn't just about a building. It's about your life and times.

WALT WHITMAN, MEET WALT RALEIGH "Deadville." That's what Forbes called downtown Raleigh a couple of years ago. And though Raleigh regularly rates on national lists of best places to live, work and play, the magazine had a point. Come 5 p.m., the bankers and lawyers cleared out. The core city slept. It may have been snoozing into oblivion – until leaders woke it up with a \$2.5 billion infusion of public and private investment. Hello, revived Fayetteville Street. Hello, RBC tower. Hello, new convention center.

The investment of resources kick-



Artist's rendering of the completed Convention Center

started other ambitions — the kind that make a destination city complete. So what exactly *is* a "destination city"?

"It's a place that's so tangibly different and cool in specific ways, people make a point of wanting to go there," says Laurie Okun, the convention center's marketing director.

Delivering a "destination" is not a done deal in Raleigh. Not by a long shot. But there's a spirit of possibility you can feel downtown and beyond that has everything to do with the new convention center. For example...

- A new online literary magazine that

"Oh yes, Mary Ellen, Raleigh's right on the verge of totally kicking butt." she informed an equally buttoned-up friend as they passed by me at a party celebrating another downtown milestone. After I got my esophagus in order, I got philosophical.

Butt-kicking moments change everything: our culture, our hometowns, our individual lives. For one generation, such a moment is the Stones laying down "Satisfaction." For another, it's Radiohead's "OK Computer." It's that red-haired billionaire firing up Facebook. It's you falling for your special squeeze.

Raleigh's butt-kicking moment is coming. I'll tell you what it is, and I know you may snicker. Don't worry, I get that. But if you read this whole piece

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Doug Grissom surveys the progress of one of the main halls in the soon-to-be open Convention Center.

Quote of the month: Asked when construction would be complete on the Convention Center, Manager Mickey Barbour responded, "The Mayor says grand opening is September 5th; we'll be done by September 5th."

UPCOMING ISSUES

Volume 4, Issue 4 - Build, Live, Work
Downtown residential and commercial development

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has its roots not in Chapel Hill or Durham (both great cities for the arts), but in downtown Raleigh.

- Great print magazines centered solely on downtown (such as the Raleigh Downtowner).
- Music lovers are talking about bringing an alternative pop festival to the city center.
- New galleries, theater spaces and, soon, the Contemporary Art Museum vie for your ears and eyes.
- Sparkcon, a festival for free-thinkers near and far, is gearing up for its third big year.
- New restaurants offering everything from French 75s to barbecue that make you want to sit down and eat up.
- Developers are dreaming up big projects and, in rapid succession, putting them up.

Walt Whitman could turn all this into galvanizing free verse. For the rest of us, it's an opportunity to expand our horizons and play a pivotal role in deciding what we want our city to be.

Want fine dining downtown? Then make a reservation tonight and go support the eateries offering just that. Really, please do. Because the thousands coming to the new convention center will want and need a diverse menu of thriving restaurants. Want to learn more about what's going on downtown? Check out the local downtown publications, websites and organizations. Email them ideas and suggestions, ask questions, and get involved.

In the same vein, support Sparkcon, because the coming throngs expect our city to be a knowledge-



How the Convention Center will look to visitors on the way into town from I-40

able and creative capital. We don't have a beach, a mountain or a casino, but with our universities and research hubs, we have smarts and ideas.

It's like this: the convention center feeds our sense of what's possible, and we the people, in turn, feed the experience of those coming to the convention center.

Will all these ventures succeed? It's absolutely as

likely as Clinton, McCain and Obama all becoming president at the same time and your every investment turning into a Google-like windfall. We'll see successes. We'll see failures. The only thing we can't afford to see is surrender in the face of disappointment. Let's drag patriotism into this — faith and persistence made America great, and they will do the same for Raleigh.

Continued on page 5


STRAIGHT from **BROADWAY!**

BROADWAY

S E R I E S S O U T H


an evening with
Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood

Annie




Art Garfunkel

STOMP



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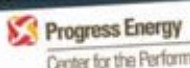


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RALEIGH
CONVENTION CENTER

you shine here

*Come hither
September.*



**Above: Rendering of the west half of the main exhibit hall
Below: Construction of the same area nearly complete in early April**



Continued from page 3

All of this is well worth celebrating, which is why the convention center's grand opening party is spread over two days (Friday and Saturday, September 5th and 6th). Bands of all kinds will fill the streets with tunes. Every organization in the area is invited to display what makes it great. Combined with the third annual Raleigh Wide Open shindig, the grand opening may well be the biggest downtown party ever. But what exactly will you see in that new building?

A ROOM AT THE TOP

Cramped and out-dated was how many described the old civic center toward the end of its mostly honorable life. Neither quality applies to what's coming.

At the new, state-of-the-art convention center, you'll find more than 500,000 square feet of space, 19 individual meeting rooms, an exhibit hall with 150,000 square feet of space and a sharply appointed 32,000-square-foot ballroom. Heck, I'd become a debutante for the chance to dance in that ballroom. But don't just believe me, check it out at: www.raleighconvention.com/tour.

The connected Marriott City Center and Sheraton Raleigh hotels offer still more meeting space. Just a few steps away, the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts serves year-round cultural events. To convention-goers, having all this at your feet is fantastic.

As impressive as the building and its surroundings will be, the people at the convention center are even

better. For one thing, they carry on a much more vibrant conversation than the ballroom's fine wood paneling. For another, they're filling the building at a pace well ahead of the business plan. Here they come now...

Roger Krupa, executive director of the Raleigh Convention Center, staff ringleader and and RCC's chief supporter. The aforementioned Laurie Okun, director of marketing: bring up the center and

Laurie's likely to gush, "I've never been so passionate about anything in my life!" But you don't believe it because — given her gleeful expression — it sounds like an understatement. To be played in a major motion picture by Holly Hunter on a triple espresso. Doug Grissom, assistant director: Doug is the force of nature who blows through walls and other obstacles to keep downtown hopping with live events. To be played by Godzilla.

There are more fabulous folks on the team, working 'round the clock to get ready. Please take a bow, Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau, Downtown Raleigh Alliance, The Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and everyone in the destination attraction and hospitality worlds. There are the construction crews who've done a remarkable job keeping the brick, mortar and steel on schedule. There are the city and county leaders who took and still take heat, in order to give us a shot at being something bigger and better.

But let's take this back to the top. YOU count as much as anyone I've mentioned. You are Raleigh. When you serve iced tea. When you pick up a rickshaw fare. When someone asks you for directions or you brush elbows with a stranger on your way downtown. You are the big moment. Are you ready to kick butt?

Billy Warden has lived or spent lots of time in Los Angeles, Chicago, Cairo, Kashmir, Kenya, Nepal and Bangkok. But there's something about Raleigh that keeps bringing him back — the sense that you can make a difference here.

As a vice-president at Capstrat, a Raleigh-based strategic communications firm (capstrat.com), Billy helps market the new convention center. In 2007, the convention center and its partners won the Raleigh Public Relations Society's Best in Show prize for the marketing of Raleigh Wide Open. The center was also named for having one of the top five business-to-business campaigns in the country by the 2008 PR Week Awards. When not dashing around downtown, Billy writes fiction, produces TV programs and wrestles alligators (also known as his kids). ■RD

As seen through a meeting room window, the RCC will front onto Salisbury Street and a grand public plaza.



1QUESTIONS: Jim Goodman

In our inaugural **1QUESTIONS**, we sat down with Jim Goodman over a cup of iced coffee in the gardens behind WRAL. Jim is President and CEO of Capitol Broadcasting Company (CBC), which owns WRAL-TV5, 101.5FM, and other NC TV and radio stations. CBC is also the parent company of the Durham Bulls ball club, American Tobacco Project, (downtown Durham's entertainment district), and CBC New Media Group.

Known as a trailblazer and a pioneer, Goodman explores new technology with fervor, seeking to bring the latest and best to his viewing public. He and his wife Barbara are known for their leadership and involvement in many Triangle charitable and civic organizations.

1 What accomplishment are you most proud of with respect to Capital Broadcasting?

GOODMON: I think there are two. First, I am proud that for 50 years it's remained a family business. My grandfather arranged for me to start working here when I was twelve. That was 43 years ago, and I'm still here. My son Jimmy works here, and Michael works over at American Tobacco. I'm really glad that the kids live here. I have friends with children who live far out of town in Baltimore, Denver, San Antonio. Elizabeth lives in Oriental, NC, but I consider that close too. The notion of being able to work with the boys is just great and I'm really proud of them. I like to watch them develop and I can't imagine anything being more fun.

Second, I am also very proud of CBC's community service record. Staying involved in social, charitable, and cultural endeavors is important.

2 What's your favorite movie?

GOODMON: This is really bad. I love *The Sound of Music* and went to see it fifteen times. That makes me old as the hills. I've got to do better than that... How about *Bull Durham*? It really is Julie Andrews and *The Sound of Music*, but it's so boring that I shouldn't say that.

RD: How about we put them both?
GOODMON: Okay!

3 What's spectator sport do you enjoy watching most?

GOODMON: Baseball. It might really be soccer, but I think I might need to say baseball.

4 What do you like to do to relax?

GOODMON: Read. Current events and I read mostly on the web. Barbara argues that you can really relax when you're reading a book, but not when you're surfing the web. Still, I'd rather lie down and read with my laptop than a book. I prefer catching up on the latest political speeches or the New York Times editorial page, or if there's something in the news, I might try searching on it. I'm just really interested in what's going on.

RD: Kind of goes along with your business, I guess?

GOODMON: Yeah, that's right. So that's what I do, web surfing. There's another terrible answer, what a geek. And I read Shakespeare! I told you I'm boring as hell; I'm very predictable.

RD: I think I'd have to argue you on that.

5 What's one thing other than smoking in schools that aggravates you?

GOODMON: City government.

6 What do you think TV and media will be like for the average consumer in ten years?

GOODMON: Well, I think we're seeing more of a trend toward on-demand. Believe it or not, there will be more choices and more video on the internet and on mobile devices. And, you will still get your local news from good ol' WRAL. In technology, it's the revolution and enhancement of digital high definition.

7 What advantages have you had for being at the forefront of the HD revolution before anyone else? I believe WRAL was the first in the country to broadcast HD?

GOODMON: Yes, we were the first digital station in the United States. Conceptually, I've always believed that being first to market is important, and we've tried to establish that niche. The other thing that has been fun is that HD is so much better. A standard definition picture has maybe 300,000 pixels. A HD picture has 2,000,000 pixels. We didn't just go from 300 to 310, we increased quality by almost seven times! So it's been an unbelievable product improvement. I tell people any time you can improve your product, you do it. It just happened that this one was an enormous improvement. You know, I can watch Daytona on Fox in HD and I feel like I'm right there in the car.

8 What is, or was, your favorite TV show?

GOODMON: Well, this is kind of a promotion for us, but we have a new network on 50.2, the digital channel called RTN, the Retro Television Network. It's got all the old



shows, including "Perry Mason." It's in close competition with "Bonanza" for my favorite. See, I told you I was boring. Oh, and "Iron Sides" is a favorite too.

9 Where do you do your best brainstorming for new ideas?

GOODMON: I'm like Alan Greenspan and his bathtub, but my place is the back porch.

RD: Why is that?

GOODMON: It's just quiet outdoors and it's relaxing. I can sit and think without interruption. I enjoy it.

10 What is your favorite feel good food?

GOODMON: I really love steamed oysters with saltine crackers.

Meeker Declares April "Raleigh History Month"



By Raleigh City Museum Staff

On April 5, 1792, Joel Lane deeded 1,000 acres of his land to the State of North Carolina. Soon afterwards, the city of Raleigh was born and its long storied history began – a history that includes more than 200 years of challenge, disaster, triumph and success. With encouragement

from the Raleigh Heritage Trail, Mayor Charles Meeker has officially proclaimed April 2008 "Raleigh History Month" in honor of the original deed. The proclamation calls upon the city's citizens to join their neighbors and the Raleigh Heritage Trail in participating and learning about the city's amazing history.

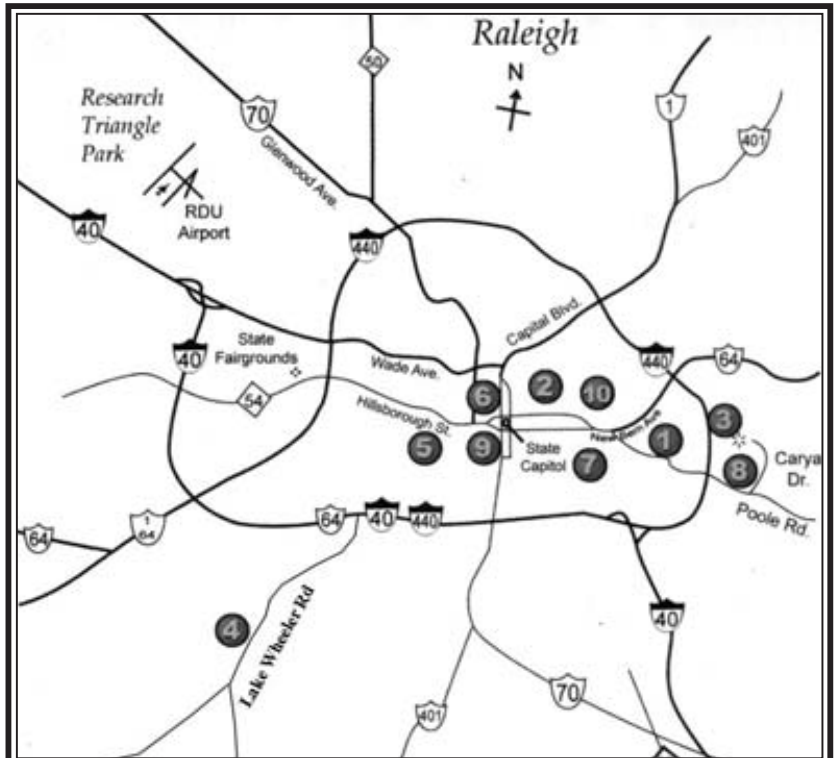
For years, the city's history and stories were told verbally and preserved by locals in what was once a relatively small town. However, since the 1950s, the city of Raleigh has experienced wave after wave of population growth and newcomers now vastly outnumber natives. Although willing to learn, many of the newcomers are unfamiliar with the history of this area. As a result, our city's memory of its history is becoming increasingly endangered.

Luckily, our city is fortunate enough to have several parks, museums, and libraries that strive to preserve our city's story and heritage. Although often overlooked, these historical attractions offer much to Raleigh citizens as well as its visitors. In addition to their individual efforts, these sites joined together in December 2000 to help promote the overall heritage of our great city. They call themselves the Raleigh Heritage Trail.

The Raleigh Heritage Trail is made up of representatives from ten sites, including the (1) African-American Cultural Complex, (2) Haywood Hall House and Gardens, (3) Historic Oak View County Park, (4) Historic Yates Mill County Park, (5) Joel Lane Museum House, (6) Mordecai Historic Park, (7) NC State Capitol at Union Square, (8) Olivia Raney Local History Library, (9) Raleigh City Museum, and (10) the Richard B. Harrison Library.

In honor of the founding of Raleigh, please take some time in April to check out one or more of these Raleigh Heritage Trail sites and learn more about your local history. This month, each of these sites will be featuring special events to celebrate "Raleigh History Month." You can find out more information about their April programs by visiting www.raleighheritagetrail.com or by calling 919-832-3775 and asking to speak with James Sutton. You can also pick up one of their flyers or brochures from any of the Heritage Trail sites.

The Raleigh City Museum is committed to preserving Raleigh's past for the future. You can find our greatest sports achievements remembered in our current exhibit, "The Thrill of Victory: Sports and Recreation in Raleigh." The museum is located at 220 Fayetteville Street in downtown Raleigh and is open from 10am to 4pm Tuesday thru Friday, and 1 to 4pm on Saturdays. If you have any questions, you can call us at 919-832-3775 or check out our website at www.raleighcitymuseum.org.



The Raleigh Heritage Trail

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. African-American Cultural Complex
119 Sunnybrook Road, Raleigh, NC 27610
ph. 919.250.9336 www.aaccmuseum.org</p> <p>2. Haywood Hall House and Gardens
211 New Bern Place, Raleigh, NC 27601
Ph. 919.832.8357 www.haywoodhall.org</p> <p>3. Historic Oak View County Park
4028 Carya Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603
Ph. 919.250.1013 www.wakegov.com/parks</p> <p>4. Historic Yates Mill County Park
4620 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh, NC 27603
Ph. 919.856.6675 www.wakegov.com/yatesmill</p> <p>5. Joel Lane Museum House
728 W. Hargett St., Mailing: PO Box 10884, Raleigh, NC 27605
Ph. 919.833.3431 www.joellane.org</p> | <p>6. Mordecai Historic Park
1 Mimosa Street, Raleigh, NC 27604
Ph. 919.857.4364 www.raleighnc.gov/Mordecai</p> <p>7. North Carolina State Capitol at Union Square
4624 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4624
Ph. 919.733.4994 www.ncstatecapitol.org</p> <p>8. Olivia Raney Local History Library
4016 Carya Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610
Ph.919.250.1196 www.wakegov.com/libraries</p> <p>9. Raleigh City Museum
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www.broadwayseriessouth.com
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Big Boss Brewing Company
Cary Chamber of Commerce
Vespa Restaurant
Suntrust Bank (Creedmoor)

From the Lab of Dr. Bike-enberger

By Peter Eichenberger

I have this fixation on old crapped-out bicycles, the Raleigh brand especially (what else), stretching back to nineteen-nada. Friends and I would pillage the racks at State for y'all's abandoned, brutalized orphans (I called them *rescues*).

After a twenty-year motorcycle fling, I resumed, via Burning Man ("better bring a bike," said she), 1304 – my Common Ground flood-bike project in New Orleans – and my current ditch-bike project. I collect, rehabilitate and release 'em to the ride-less. I like the work and the small potatoes from the occasional sale help pay for more parts. It's a positive task, a mission, almost, saving bicycles from landfills or rotting, unused.

So my interest was piqued when I recently came across a reference to bikesfortheworld.org, a non-profit that collects and delivers disused bicycles to transportation deprived folks overseas. No news here. Back from Oregon four years ago, aided by the generosity of legendary realtor David Smoot, I spun fifty junkers toward what became 1304, a Bike Co-op in a town where transportation alternatives are as scarce as, well, streetcars.

During my tenure as a treehouse technician, I spotted in Raleigh garages, amid



Just a few of the rescues in Peter's cycle lab, including a 1970s "Raleigh"

the typical Detritus Americana: disused lawn mowers, hideous molded plastic children's toys, casks of tool, and scores of unused bicycles. There, brothers and sisters, lies an answer to some obvious current day "problems" — bicycles for transportation, a concept as alien to the capital city as pickled fish, according to the recent CAMPO survey. No surprises there, that a majority of bicycle trips here are "recreational," nor that the riding environment is, shall we say, lacking, except on Raleigh's excellent greenway system (nod to Sig Hutchinson for his determination here). How soon we forget, to wit, the coast-to-coast paved roads initiative, birthed by the old "League of American Wheelmen" back in the late nineteenth century. Bicycles "paved" the way for your smooove ride, when automobiles existed only in experimental versions.

Compared to some 'burgs I've tarried, such as Portland and Gainesville, where a seventy-five dollar ticket awaits the motorist who strays into a bike lane, shoot, even New York City, Raleigh's accommodations range from barely tolerable to abysmal. One day, as I pedaled beside the curb down Boylan, I was obliged to brake – hard – to avoid colliding with a cop who cut a sudden right turn, forbearing the nuisance of a signal. The bike gestalt is just not here. I won't even tear into G105's Bob Dumbass, oops, Dumas [*who infuriated bikers across the Triangle for mentioning on air that he hated to see bicycle riders on the road. He also laughed at stories about running cyclists down and talked up the idea of throwing bottles at bikers*].

At last, some forced evolution. Being an observant little feller, I can't help notice people walking and riding in a direct proportion to the increasingly blurred digits on the one-armed bandits for the new millennium. To the citified auto-addicts bemoaning four dollars a gallon, waaah, waaah, waaah. I paid four bucks a gallon when I lived in Sweden, back in the ABBA years – twenty-five dollars in today-money, a fair price considering the damage cars do to people and the earth. It's no coincidence that European urban centers sport herds, even heaps of bicycles

so numerous and similar to the ones I prefer: dumpy, heavy and old, many don't even bother locking them. Sometimes a "calamity" is just what it takes to shake folks out of their insouciance.

Don't wait for the "good old days" of cheap gas to ever return. What with China turning into a creepy version of the US – a totalitarian consumerist society – fuel prices are destined to become a one-way elevator. With the rest of the world breaking their legs to emulate our Thickerburger lifestyle, let us utilize the gorgeous balance of reciprocity; see how the other half lives. In most of the world bicycles are necessities rather than costly baubles with which to adorn your SUVs. Get ahead of the curve. Break it out, dust it off, and get used to the new world order: realistic, market-driven fuel prices. Eventually, if enough folks begin to rely on the bicycle, the sleepwalkers downtown will have to respond.

Carbon costs and Raleigh's schizophrenic "ideas" (and that is all they are) about mass transit aside, once you've made the jump, you may do better than "get used to it." With the fun and the regular exercise becoming as much a part of your day as lunch, you might begin feeling so fit you could shed some of those costly visits to the gym. Think of all the extra time and money you could squander on something you actually enjoy.

Do it today. Take *Christmas 1998* out of solitary. Rub, clean, oil and use last year's dream machine for that which it was originally conceived and built to be. But if you give it a good, solid try, find the freedom too bracing and want to return to the costly claustrophobia of the automobile, email me. I'll be happy to relieve you of your old bike, rehabilitate it, and find someone who needs a two-wheeled wonder.

Looking for hard-to-find-parts to an old bike? Peter gives big ups to Ed at Cycle-Logic on Hillsborough Street. If you have a bike you'd like to donate, feel free to drop them by the Downtowner office at 617 West Jones Street. We'll make sure they find a good home.

Eichenberger on Eichenberger: "I've had more careers than I can remember, including industrial designer, mechanic, corporate AV guru, museum staffer, yada yada yada, but when I began writing, I knew I was home." A long-time journalist for the Independent, Peter now calls the Downtowner home for his insightful and defiant pen. He can be reached at peter@raleighdowntowner.com. ■RD



You Don't Have to Be a Python Fan to Enjoy Spamalot



By Rachel Gragg

It's finally here, the biggest show of the season, *Monty Python's Spamalot*. Lovingly "ripped-off" from the internationally famous comedy team's most popular motion picture, "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," Monty Python's Spamalot is the winner of three 2005 Tony Awards.

Admittedly I grew up a Monty Python fan, mainly because of a Python show-fixated older brother and my personal obsession to be just like him. But I honestly believe you don't have to be a Monty Python enthusiast to enjoy the 2005 Tony Award-winning musical. The show is filled with silly English humor that will keep you laughing from the moment the curtain goes up. Considering the show starts on tax day, a night at this show might not be a bad idea...

The well-known saga Monty Python's Spamalot is a quest for the Holy Grail and features a chorus line of dancing divas and knights, flatulent Frenchmen, killer rabbits and a legless knight. The leading role of King Arthur is played by North Carolina School of the Arts graduate, Gary Beach.

Check it out for yourself and you'll discover out why Spamalot won all of the major Best Musical awards for 2005 and why Ben Brantley of The New York Times called it "The best new musical to open on Broadway this season!" UPN's Pat Collins proclaimed, "Spamalot is a divinely silly knight to remember!" You'll be overwhelmed by incredible sets, lavish costumes, and plenty of original songs.



Monty Python's Spamalot is presented by Broadway Series South and will be at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium April 15th to 20th for eight performances. Tickets range from \$27 to \$68 and can be purchased at the Progress Energy Center box office, at BroadwaySeriesSouth.com, any Ticketmaster outlets, or at 919-834-4000. The next Broadway Series South show, *Riverdance*, runs April 29th through May 4th, and *Avenue Q*, May 6th through May 11th.



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Swimmingly Suited



By Kelly Hubbard

Just as daffodils and tulips are showing us early signs of spring, swimsuits

have started popping up in stores in preparation for the summer weather.

“Swimsuits are kind of like jeans; they might not be fun to try on but when you find the right one it makes it all worth it,” said Jaime Goodson, manager of Uniquities in Cameron Village.

When looking for a bathing suit this season you will probably notice a few



Bandeau tops are popular this season. Also available in a “James Bond girl” white.



Lovin’ summer: Trina Turk bamboo swimsuit, with a Charlotte Tarantola cardigan

major trends. Following the trend of the winter months, color extremes are popular. You will find bold colors and patterns on one clothing rack and solid neutral-colored suits on another — all with details that make each one special, of course. Metallic embellishments are also wildly popular, whether they serve as decoration or part of a clasp. Bamboo is another reoccurring theme that appears in some way on many suits this season.

Uniquities carries an emerald green, halter bikini by Lenny that sums up the new styles. The bottom has a full seat with a thick banded waist and a gold ring that connects the material at the hip. The Trina Turk Swim and Spa Collection offers several looks to suit your need. Uniquities carries a Trina Turk bikini that reflects two of the hot trends for the summer. It has a brown bamboo pattern on a white bikini with a square, gold embellishment in the front of the tie-neck halter.

One-piece suits can be twice as nice; they provide more coverage than a teeny bikini and are often very comfortable. One-pieces are making a comeback in a big way, but they are not your conventional styles.

Uniquities carries a leopard print one-piece by Lenny that has an open back, low-cut front and a long, tie-neck halter that offers different style options. Tie the halter around your neck in a bow one day and let it drape down your back the next. “One-piece swimsuits are sexy,” said Goodson. “The styles are still revealing and they’re comfortable.”

If you are looking for a bathing suit

that is in-between, more revealing than a bikini but less coverage than a one-piece, tankinis are another option. This hybrid suit has a bikini bottom with a tank top, often with a built in bra for support. Also on the shelves at Uniquities, Trina Turk makes a feminine tankini with pastel swirls and silver bamboo clasps on the straps.



Orange and brown patterned bikini by Syla; the bottoms have adjustable straps

While other options are available, most customers are seeking out the two-piece bikini at Beanie+Cecil, also in Cameron Village. “We are noticing many of the suits have a ‘60s feel that’s reflected in the style or the material,” said Jennifer Colchin, manager at

Continued on page 13

“The old-style tradition of barbecue comes alive with legendary pitmaster Ed Mitchell.”

- Gourmet magazine

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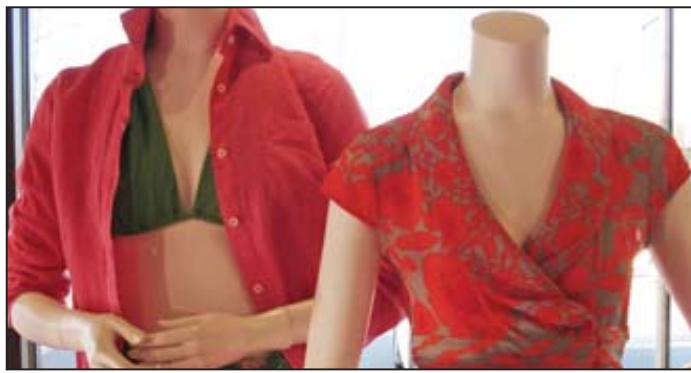
Beanie+Cecil. "The bandeau is a very popular style this season and I have noticed that suits are being made out of atypical fabrics like linen."

For a "Bond girl" look, as Colchin described, try a completely white suit by Haverhill at Beanie+Cecil. Its bandeau top is all the rage and it still offers support with a string tie around the neck and a full coverage bikini bottom. If you would like to try this style but are not ready for a white swimsuit, Haverhill makes a purple stripe-patterned suit in the same style.

Also at Beanie+Cecil, a Lisa Curran ensemble can help you make a statement by the seashore with a bold and beautiful fuchsia bandeau. This suit has the ever-popular gold ring embell-



Lenny makes a one-piece, leopard print suit with an open back, low-cut front and a long, tie-neck halter



This season, fashion and function come together with tons of options for cover-ups

ishments in the middle of the bikini top, as well as two on either side of the bottom. The top ties behind the back and a string is connected to the ring and ties around the neck as well. For another mod look, try an orange and brown patterned suit by Sylla. The bikini bottoms actually have adjustable "bra" straps at the hip to create a more comfortable, customizable fit.

Amidst the excitement of selecting a new swimsuit, don't forget about all of the new accessories of the season. Wraps and cover-ups are uniting fashion and function this summer.

Cardigans are a staple item for the fall

and winter to layer and cover your shoulders, so why not use them for the same reason in the warmer months? A perfect example is at Uniquities. A cardigan by Charlotte Tarantola has a beautiful, bold pattern of brown and white overlaid squares with a teal backdrop; small, translucent, brown square beads add just enough detail to complete the look without overpowering the pattern. Look for a cardigan like this with three-quarter length sleeves and light-weight fabric; layering can actually help you beat the heat.

Beanie+Cecil also has several cotton sundresses and tops that are perfect to make the transition from a day at

the beach to a quick bite to eat. Susana Monaco makes an extra-long, A-line halter with pockets. And what could be better? It is the color of the season: yellow. "Splendid also makes a ton of comfy, cotton dresses that you can easily slip on over anything," Colchin said.

Another accessory that is important to have is a good beach bag. At Uniquities, Herve Chapelier totes are perfect for playing in the sand. They have strong, sturdy straps, are machine washable and have side pockets inside to carry suntan lotion, sunglasses, mobile phones and lip balm – all of the beach necessities. Take your pick with a selection of bright, solid colors.

In the fall and winter seasons, oversized stones and beads were featured along the neckline or as buttons on sweaters and blouses. Now ladies will be able to take their jewels to the beach; studded sandals and flip flops are a great way to sparkle under the sun. At Uniquities there are several thong sandals with varying colors and stones to choose from by Mystique. Also, Twelfth Street by Cynthia Vincent offers a leather sandal with lustrous, oversized black gemstones along the strap.

MRD

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The Deep South crew in their new offices downtown -
Top: Andy Martin and Dave Rose (co-owners), Erik, Joseph
Bottom: Amy, Jonathan, and Lisa



Lisa, Heather (Catch 22), Jen and Stephanie (Salon 21) and Andrea
upstairs at Riviera Lounge downtown. Happy Birthday to Lisa on April 19th!



Hans Huang
(center) and
friends at a
private party
at his new 101
Lounge near
City Market

Brenna and
Maria at
Lounge 101



Doro Taylor of Doro Taylor Realty and
Tracey Kunz of Archwood Building Company

AROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUND

Mollie test driving a Segway at the new Triangle Segway in City Market. Visit their website for more information on their one-of-a-kind Segway historic tour of downtown Raleigh. www.trianglegsegway.com



Sarah Powers, executive director of Visual Art Space

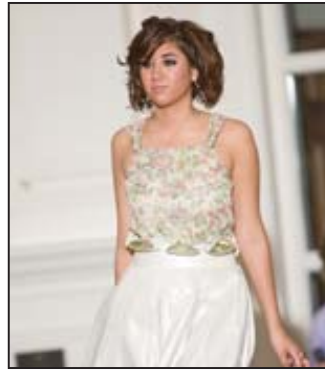
Sport Center's Stuart Scott, Brian Amra, and Stephen at Amra's



Angie enjoying live music at Blue Martini

Long-time Artspace artist and sculptor Paris Alexander with his most recent work, *Memento Mori*. sWatch for an upcoming article on Paris.





* Photos above: Models at *Couture Cure*, the NCSU College of Textiles fashion show to benefit Diabetes research. Photos by Jbaz.net *



Toni and Bud enjoying the downtown vibe.
Happy Birthday to Toni April 23rd!

Darrian Ford in action as Sam Cooke in
Prime Only's Rat Pack Club



Performer Darrian Ford and NCT's Wally Jones
before the evening's performance

TOWN AROUND TOWN AROUND TOWN AROUND TOWN



Smedes York discussing events with RBC CEO Gordon Nixon



Event photos by Tim Pflaum



Greg Hatem of Empire Properties
accepts an Imprint Award for
the Heilig-Levine building

* This section of photos were shot at the DRA Annual Meeting. Gordon Nixon, President and CEO of RBC was the guest speaker. *



David Reynolds receives an award
for the Quorum Center developed by
the Reynolds Companies



Jack Glasure and Rick French of French | West | Vaughn



Kevin Harris accepts an award for
Carlton Place developed by DHIC, Inc.

Dan Douglas of the Urban Design
Center receiving a well-deserved
Downtown Advocate Award





Finding Your Way Downtown

Part 2 of 5, Moore Square District

The Moore Square District, named for one of the two surviving four-acre parks in Raleigh's original plan, is located in the southeast quadrant of downtown, bound by Hargett, Blount, Cabarrus and Chavis Streets. Within this district, people with varied interests can come together, as there is truly something for everyone. The area is centered around Artspace, the Marbles Kids Museum and the outdoor beauty of Moore Square Park – a constellation of arts and attractions nestled among an urban escape of stoic oak trees and a statue of a giant copper acorn symbolizing the “City of Oaks.”

There's a certain charm associated with this small city square, where folks exploring art galleries mingle with families just back from dinner. On the first Friday of every month, Moore Square thrives on a burst of activity as galleries and restaurants cater to the after-hours crowd. The Moore Square District inspires Raleigh to show its colors in a more diverse way, from the romance of old-fashioned lampposts and cobblestone streets to the late night excitement spilling from live music venues and local pubs. During the summer, this area also hosts one of the city's most popular concert series.

History buffs can see Dr. M.T. Pope's house on Wilmington, right up the street from Shaw University, the first historically black college in the south. The Visual Art Exchange and The Collector's Gallery are located on historic Blake Street, and inside City Market, Artspace has a gallery, along with open-door studios where you can stop in and watch as the artists are creating their works.

If you are in a shopping mood, seek out the large colorful mural at the parking lot at Davie and Person Streets to find City Market, where shops and restaurants abound. The area adjacent to Moore Square Park comes alive on the first Friday of each month with music and more. Beginning on April 16th, the Farmer's Market will bring its freshest produce from local farms right to Moore Square every Wednesday from 10:30am to 2pm, along with chef series offerings, music and rotating wineries. For parking, the Moore Square Parking Deck is just across the street.

After working up a thirst at the park, there are many solutions right at hand. Fancy a visit across the pond? Grab a pint at Tir Na Nog or The Landmark. If New Orleans is more your style, live music and food can be found at Zydeco, or catch a great band at The Pour House. Movies at the park are shown every other Saturday evening in the summers. Bring popcorn and a blanket and enjoy a fun evening under the stars.



Moore Square District

- Symbols**
- Parking
 - Parking Entryway
 - Flow of Traffic
 - Information
 - Civic/Government
 - Attractions
 - Hotels



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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 the bands who are 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 Raleigh Downtowner Deep South Local Music Review.



Tres Chicas "Bloom, Red and The Ordinary Girl" www.treschicas.org

I like being from a city that can claim to be the hometown of artists like Tres Chicas. These ladies are absolutely unbelievable musicians, singers, and songwriters. And they're from Raleigh! If you're from North Carolina, this album should be required listening in order to affirm your residency.

The trio of Lynn Blakey, Caitlin Cary and Tonya Lamm debuted in 2004 with the album "Sweetwater," hailed by the LA Daily News as "some of the sweetest country rock ever." Tres Chicas' second CD, a mix of contemporary folk and Americana called "Bloom, Red and The Ordinary Girl," referring to three songs on the album, was recorded in London and released in early 2006.

Since the group started as a side project, all of the band members have notable careers that continue alongside Tres Chicas. Blakey is a former member of Let's Active and fronts the band Glory Fountain. Cary was an original member of alt-country band Whiskeytown, and now enjoys a career as an acclaimed solo artist. Lamm was a founding member of the band Hazeldine, a popular indie act that won the hearts of European fans and critics.

The Austin Chronicle noted, "the North Carolina-based trio uses the traditional country harmony style, but imbue it with a folksy charm and rootsy tenderness that's both compelling and romantic." Whatever you do this week, take a moment to listen to Tres Chicas. You'll be even more proud of North Carolina than you likely already are.

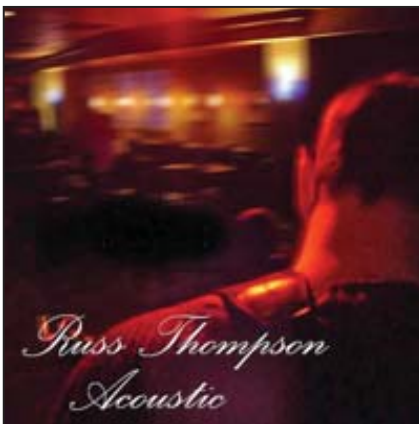
The Monika Jaymes Band "There You Are" www.monikajaymes.com

The legendary Bev Paul, former general manager of Durham's Sugar Hill Records, likes her. That's good enough for me! Jaymes "has a big, warm voice that moves easily from bluesy rock to soulful country without missing a lick," says Paul. She's right.

Monika Jaymes is a singer/songwriter based out of Fuquay-Varina, NC. "There You Are" shows influences of Fleetwood Mac, which is no surprise; in 2000 Monika and local guitarist Mark Duncan formed a Fleetwood Mac tribute band called "The Chain."

She has been writing songs and playing in bands since the age of 13. In 1998, she was chosen to perform at the World Special Olympics. Most recently, she contributed to the motion picture "Snow Angels." This poetic pop artist is sure to continue along this path of success. The songs are well written, warm, and welcoming. So it should come as no surprise that Jaymes was a semi-finalist in the very competitive ISC (International Songwriters Competition).

The Monika Jaymes Band will play an acoustic show on June 8th at Deep South-The Bar. Stay tuned to their website for upcoming tour dates.



Russ Thompson "Acoustic" www.myspace.com/russthompsonacoustic

Born in Mississippi, Russ Thompson has been a "southern boy" most of his life. And for 18 of his 27 years, he has called Raleigh home.

I like this album. Funny thing is, I don't really like Dave Matthews (send hate mail to Dave Rose at Deep South), and I can certainly hear the Matthews influence here. Acoustic albums, while easier to record, have a more difficult time conveying a sense of complete gratification to the listener because of the simple musical style. But with this record, I almost find it difficult to imagine these songs performed any other way than with Thompson's full rich voice and an acoustic guitar that has absolutely amazing tonality in these recordings. Acoustic guitar players take note: THIS is the way an acoustic guitar should sound.

"Stormy Boy" is the standout track on the record. Ben Harper fans take notice, you'll like Russ Thompson, and specifically this track.

Thompson is currently booked weekly at several bars and clubs in Raleigh. He performs at Overtime Sports Pub every Sunday night, at the Blue Martini every Monday night, and at Mura at North Hills every Thursday night. He also has upcoming shows at the Pour House and Oliver Twist.

The Deep South Local Music Review is written by Dave Rose, who 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 producers of the Bud Light Downtown Live summer concert series, featuring national recording artists. Their latest addition to downtown Raleigh is Deep South-The Bar.



EVENTS CALENDAR

ON STAGE CALENDAR

Brought to you by 42nd Street Oyster Bar and their commitment to the performing arts and artists in Raleigh. 919.831.2811
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April 16-19, 23-26

North Carolina Theatre and Prime Only Steakhouse present
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Broadway performer Darrian Ford will portray the legendary Sam Cooke in this series

and take you back to the 1960s in Prime Only's hip Rat Pack Lounge. Dinner with a Legend will be performed Wed. through Sat. nights for the month of April with a dinner show at 8 pm and a cocktail show at 10 pm. For reservations, please call Prime Only Downtown at 919.835.2649. More info: www.ratpacklounge.org

April 10-27

Burning Coal Theatre Company presents *Crowns*



Based on the "coffee table" book by Michael Cunningham and Craig Marberry,

Regina Taylor's gospel musical *Crowns* deals with a young African American woman from Brooklyn, NY who, following a personal trauma, is sent to live with relatives in North Carolina. She must learn to accept their customs and come to terms with her own past. For more information, visit www.burningcoal.org

April 11-27

Theatre in the Park presents *Angels In America*



This two part production can be seen either individually or as an extraordinary two-part

whole. In a New York turned upside down by the chaotic energy of the 1980s and destructive terror of AIDS, this Pulitzer Prize-winning play follows the story of two disintegrating relationships, one gay, the other straight. Morality is overturned, fantasies are made flesh and a man becomes a prophet in this powerfully emotional epic. Theatre in the Park 107 Pullen Road

Call 919.831.6936 for more information or visit their website at www.theatreinthepark.com

April 15-20

Broadway Series South presents *Monty Python's Spamalot*



Winner of the 2005 Tony Award for Best Musical, Monty Python's Spamalot is the

outrageous new musical comedy lovingly ripped off from the film classic "Monty Python and The Holy Grail." Spamalot tells the tale of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table as they embark on their quest for the Holy Grail.

For more information, call 919.831.6060 or visit their website at www.broadwayseriesouth.com

April 20 - Sunday

2nd Annual Ride for the Cure 8:30-10:30am Registration

11am - Race starts
Motorcycle ride to benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure
Info at www.rideforthecure.us

April 26 - Saturday

Salute the Troops Parade 10 am-12 noon

Come downtown to support the NC troops at the largest military parade in NC. Visit their website for event times and details www.saluteourNCTroops.org

May 1-3

Capital Crush at Moore Square 10 am-4pm

Event highlights include Winemaker Dinners, Gallery Sip & Shops, a BBQ Beach Party, a Wine Tasting and a Swingin' Shag Contest. Event proceeds go to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Frankie Lemmon Foundation. www.twenc.org

May 15-28

Carolina Ballet presents *Sleeping Beauty*



Just one kiss. This classic fairytale comes to life, re-imagined by artistic director Robert

Weiss after the original choreography by Marius Petipa, and set to one of Tchaikovsky's greatest scores. For more information, call 919.719.0900 or visit their website at www.carolinaballet.com

May 17 - Saturday

Hen-side the Bellline Tour d'Coop 10am-4pm

Bring the family out for the Third Annual tour of Raleigh's urban chickens and their coops. Food or cash donations can be made to the Urban Ministries. www.kalmialandscapedesign.com/tourcoop.htm

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By Fred Benton
City Style Editor

I think I'm the only person in Raleigh who had not dined at the Oakwood Café until I was there recently with our publisher, Crash Gregg, along with Rachel Gragg of Broadway Series South. The Oakwood Café, located at the corner of Person and East Edenton Streets, is remarkable for being a family-owned and operated business. Its deeply flavored Cuban and Argentinean cuisine is served up in a colorful kitsch-drenched atmosphere that becomes endearing, matched only by the friendliness of owners Norberto and Amalia Meccia.

The folks of Argentina love their meats, which they celebrate often and generously at an *asado*, or cookout. They often substitute fried plantains as a side dish instead of a typical baked potato. Foods such as these at the Oakwood Café whisk you at once from

the typical to the exotic. And apparently this is a sensory trip a lot of Raleighites are making. A young man and woman walked up with their two dogs in tow. He walked into the restaurant to order, and the couple returned 20 minutes later to pick up their take-out. I thought this scene was very cosmopolitan. Raleigh has come a long way when twenty-somethings have the palate to appreciate dining diversity and support it. To prove this, The Oakwood Café, which

Owners Norberto and Amalia Meccia



opened in 1999, will be celebrating its 10th anniversary next year.

My adoration for the food here was established mainly by the spinach-filled Empanada appetizer (\$2.50, choice of fillings). Empanadas are savory fried pies, which, to me — if they're good— are addictive. I also sampled Fried Yuca (\$2.50), another name for cassava, a root indigenous to South America, but an African food staple as well.

Since Amalia is Italian by birth and culinary training, there are many pasta dishes at Oakwood that are Italian, rather than Cuban or Argentinean. Argentineans, as a culture, have a sweet tooth so I surmise the cheesecake that sent me into orbit was more Italian given its rather clabbered texture and reliance on lemons and oranges rather than sugar for taste. I told Norberto that every restaurant on earth has a cheesecake of some description on their dessert menu. And most are so oversweet that I ignore them. My first tentative bite of



Amalia's cheesecake quickly became greedy stabs at it with my fork, and is testament to its superlative quality. From me, the Oakwood Café comes highly recommended!

The Oakwood Café

300 East Edenton Street
Lunch: Mon-Fri 11:30 am to 2:30 pm
Dinner: Fri and Sat 6-10 pm
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oakwoodcaferaleigh.com
Reservations are accepted and recommended, particularly for Friday evenings.

■RD

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Blue Martini

BLUE MARTINI MUSIC CALENDAR

Thu. Apr 10 > Andy Coats & the Bankwalkers	Wed. Apr 23 > Voodoo Flute (ladies nite!)
Fri. Apr 11 > Big Rick	Thu. Apr 24 > Chop Shop
Sat. Apr 12 > West Street Band	Fri. Apr 25 > Zydecopious
Sun. Apr 13 > Steve Wilson	Sat. Apr 26 > The Heaters
Mon. Apr 14 > Russ Thompson	Sun. Apr 27 > Andy Coats
Tue. Apr 15 > Open Mic w/ Jason Adamo	Mon. Apr 28 > Russ Thompson
Wed. Apr 16 > Voodoo Flute (ladies nite!)	Tue. Apr 29 > Open Mic w/ Jason Adamo
Thu. Apr 17 > Prime Rib Blues Band	Wed. Apr 30 > Voodoo Flute (ladies nite!)
Fri. Apr 18 > Tad Walters	Thu. May 1 > TBA, Champagne Thursdays
Sat. Apr 19 > The Soul Shakers	Fri. May 2 > TBA, \$5.00 bombs
Sun. Apr 20 > \$5.00 fruit martinis	Sat. May 3 > TBA, \$5.00 drink specials
Mon. Apr 21 > Russ Thompson	Sun. May 4 > TBA, \$5.00 fruit martinis
Tue. Apr 22 > Open Mic w/ Jason Adamo	Mon. May 5 > Russ Thompson

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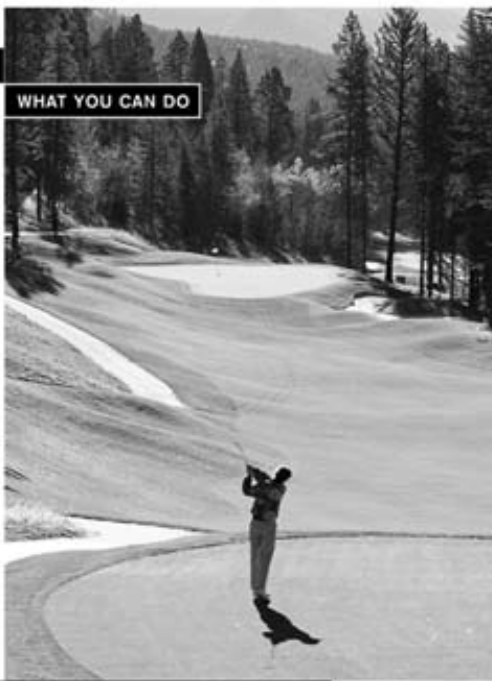
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directions.

Continued on page 23



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EOE

Continued from page 22



SCALES TOWNES CONDO

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YARBOROUGH PARK, townhomes in Mordecai from \$250K, Laura Bromtal, 919-601-1616

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By Fred Benton
Food Editor

Okay, I've read all the media hype on The Mint. And all this attention has given this new restaurant located on Fayetteville Street, across from the Raleigh City Museum in the Brigg's Hardware Building, a celebrity complex: adulation followed by harping criticism. I've read terms like "crown jewel" and "work of art" and later in the same publication, they duntrod The Mint for no real reason. Was this stuff written by the same hacks who think you can actually order breakfast at Tiffany's?

First of all, it's a restaurant, not the second coming. So let's examine The Mint under a clearer microscope: it's a grand, upscale restaurant located in a upfit bank building owned by the City. The entrance retains the bank's six-ton vault door and has a private dining room that once held the bank's money. There's the schtick; the drama that's supposed to set Raleigh on its ear.

And no, I don't think The Mint is overpriced. The pricing is fair based on the overhead and the quality of the ingredients, which after speaking with executive chef, Jeremy Clayman, are even more impressive than at first glance.

Now, as far as the food. My personal favorite on the lunch menu? Truffled Mac and Cheese that features ziti pasta, cheddar cheese, broccoli, bacon

and lots of minced black truffle (\$9). This was absolutely buttery and superb and yes, I would go back in a slap for this preparation. Another laudable dish here is Butternut Squash Soup (\$8) with the addition of apples, spiced rum and maple syrup. The presentation truly makes the dish — poured at the table from a white china teapot into a deep white bowl. Silky smooth texture and definitive taste marked by unusual service: a definite winner! My lunch companions, RD publisher Crash Gregg, David Diaz from the Downtown Raleigh Alliance, and Kenji Tamashiro, of the upcoming Waraji downtown, also commented on the impeccable service and enjoyed their lunch selections.

Almost all of the lunch dishes were around or under \$10, which is surprising considering the preconceived expectations from all the fluff about prices. The only more expensive lunch item was the 8 oz. filet mignon for \$22, but opt for the 6 oz. and it's only \$15 for a very nicely prepared filet and sides.

The day we had lunch, a good crowd mix was there, ranging from suits having a power lunch meeting to young couples enjoying a casual meal together.

I liked The Mint. Raleigh, relax and enjoy The Mint for what it is: a great place to dine downtown if you want to be pampered! ■RD



QUICK BYTES: THE MINT

**821 Fayetteville Street
Downtown Raleigh
919.821-0011**

Lunch hours: Monday - Friday 11:30am to 3:30pm
Dinner hours: Tuesday - Saturday 6:00pm to 10pm

Reservations: Yes, recommended
Average Lunch Check: \$12
Take Out: Yes
Off-Premise Catering Available: No
Noise Level: Low
Private Dining / Meeting Space: Yes (up to 14)
Wireless Internet: Yes
Low Carb Menu Choices: Yes
Vegetarian Choices: Yes
Smoking Area: Yes, outside on large terrace
Full Bar: Yes
Outdoor Dining: Yes
Web Site: www.themintrestaurant.com
Parking: Lunch: Street or Moore Square Parking Deck, Dinner: complimentary valet service

BETTER LIVING

BEST OF THE BEST!! Fred Benton knows the Triangle! Benton, long-time lifestyle journalist covering the Triangle for over 20 years, has definite ideas about businesses that he feels are particularly consumer-friendly and offer superlative product and service. This list is based entirely on the recommendations of Fred and betterlivingnc productions, and is a companion information guide that Benton presents on WCKB radio, and heard throughout southeastern NC.

Angus Barn - Glenwood Avenue, close to RDU International Airport, 787-3505. *The BEST steaks!*

42nd Street Oyster Bar - 508 West Jones Street, Raleigh, 831-2811. 42ndstoysterbar.com *BEST Seafood Salad!*

larrybeans.com - 828-1234. *Your web site for BEST coffees.*

The Point at Glenwood - 1626 Glenwood Avenue at Five Points, Raleigh, 755-1007. *BEST Reuben Sandwich!*

Lilly's Pizza - Five Points, Raleigh, 833-0226. *lillyspizza.com BEST pizza! BEST house side salad! BEST beer selection!*

Abbey Road Grill - Located corner W. Chatham and Old Apex roads, 2 miles from downtown Cary. 481-4434; *abbeyroadgrill.com BEST burger, BEST onion rings!*

Dakota Grill - 9549 Chapel Hill Road (Hwy. 54), intersection with Cary Parkway, 463-9526. *BEST exotic burger (double bison burger), and BEST chili for pepperheads*

Apex Chiropractic - Apex, 362-9066. *I could hardly walk. Acupuncture saved my life!*

Trish the Dish Catering - Raleigh, 852-0369. *Fabulous fun food for the budget-minded!*

Waraji Japanese Restaurant - Durableigh Road, corner of Durableigh and Pleasant Valley roads, 783-1883. *"If you knew sushi like I know sushi." BEST sushi! warajirestaurant.com*

Cafe Tiramisu - North Ridge Shpg Ctr, near Ace Hardware, Falls of Neuse Road, 981-0305. *BEST stuffed pork chop! BEST fried cheese soufflé!*

Simpson's Beef & Seafood - at Creedmoor and Millbrook roads, 783-8818. *BEST prime rib! BEST coconut shrimp!*

NoFo - 2014 Fairview Road, at Five Points, Raleigh, 821-1240. *BEST retail for feeding the eye and palate. nofo.com*

The Duck & Dumpling - 222 S. Blount Street, 838-0085. *theduckanddumpling.com The BEST Peking Duck!*

Glenwood Grill - Glenwood Village Shopping Center, 782-3102. *Glenwoodgrill.com BEST rendition of Shrimp & Grits!*

Nina's Ristorante - 801 Leadmine Road, Harvest Plaza, 845-1122. *BEST NY-style Italian!*

The Black Mountain Inn - 828-669-6528. *Best in Black Mountain! Pet-friendly!*

The Lamplight Inn - Henderson, 252-438-6311. *www.lamplightbandb.com - Relaxing!*

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

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- Jay, the beer whisperer

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THE RALEIGH TIMES



TO-DAY'S NEWS TO-DAY



LIVE MUSIC ♦ SPIRITS ♦ STOGIES

MUSIC
♦ CALENDAR ♦

Friday 4/11 (9:30pm-1:30am)

AL WILLIAMS BAND

Saturday 4/12 (9:30pm-1:30am)

RICH EMILY BAND

Sunday 4/13 (9:30pm-1:30am)

TOM RHODES

Monday 4/14 (10:00pm-1:00am)

CHRIS SUITER

Wednesday 4/16 (9pm-1am)

JOHN ORLANDO AND FRIENDS

Thursday 4/17 (9pm-1am)

ADRIAN DUKE

Friday 4/18 (9:30pm-1:30am)

E.G. PETERS

Saturday 4/19 (9:30pm-1:30am)

STONEAGE ROMEOS

Sunday 4/20 (9:30pm-1:30am)

STRETCH

Monday 4/21 (10:00pm-1:00am)

CHRIS SUITER

Wednesday 4/23 (9pm-1am)

BIG RICK & THE BOMBERS

Thursday 4/24 (9pm-1am)

PETER LAMB & THE WOLVES

Friday 4/25 (9:30pm-1:30am)

SOUL PSYCHEDELIQUE

Saturday 4/26 (9:30pm-1:30am)

BOOMERAGE

Sunday 4/27 (9:30pm-1:30am)

TOM RHODES

Wednesday 4/30 (9pm-1am)

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RENAISSANCE PARK

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Tour
Thursdays
10:00pm

Thursdays 3:27.08
Mondays 4:10.08
Wednesdays 4:24.08
Initials Callout 5:8.08
Ext Lounge 5:22.08
Thursdays 6:5.08

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Mondays 4:10.08
Wednesdays 4:24.08
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