



RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER

MID-MAY 2007

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FREE



Furniture Finds



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CAPITAL CITY GROCERY

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RALEIGH DOWNTOWNER
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Furniture Shopping in Raleigh

With all the new residents moving into Raleigh, we thought it would be helpful to put together a list of diverse "Furniture Finds" in and around downtown Raleigh. What we discovered were a wide range of shops where you'll find plenty of antiques, modern design, 60s/70s mod/funk, custom studio furniture, and plenty in between. There are many, many more furniture stores that we weren't able to fit into this article, and we chose these below based on some of our reader's recommendations. We've also included a feature on taking a unique day-trip "Antiquing" to Warrenton, NC, where you'll find not only a lot of antiques, but also a rural slice of Americana that is slowly disappearing from across the country. We think you'll enjoy experiencing the good old-fashioned hospitality and friendliness.

Be sure to visit our website at www.RaleighDowntowner.com for even more furniture photos. Click on the Photo Gallery image at the bottom of the home page.

By Downtowner Staff

(Our Furniture Finds are listed alphabetically)

Anthony Ulinski / Dovetail Woodworks

Anthony Ulinski
24 Commerce Place
Raleigh, NC
919.832.1446
www.anthoniulinski.com

In the heart of the Warehouse/Depot District is Commerce Place, a quiet, tree-lined street connecting Martin and Davie. In the middle of the block is Dovetail Woodworks, home for nearly 30 years to the studio and gallery of Anthony Ulinski, a painter and studio furniture maker. Ulinski's work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian Craft Fair, the Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show, the John Elder Gallery in New York, Funeria in San Francisco, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, and other museums and galleries across the country. He is represented locally by Tyndall Galleries in Chapel Hill.

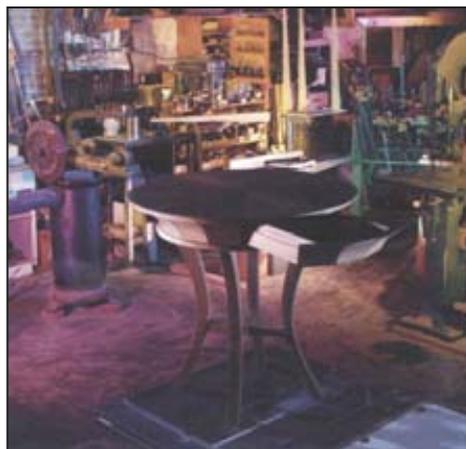


Table designed by Ulinski in his workshop downtown

His work can also be found at Artspace Raleigh and at the Tyndall Galleries.

The gallery on Commerce Place is open every Friday night until 8:30pm. Dovetail Woodworks is generally open weekday afternoons until 7pm and at other times by appointment, 832-1446.



The leather J.J. chair by B&B Italia designed by Antonio Citterio - \$4218 to \$4390

Cherry Modern Design

Louis Cherry and Ann Marie Baum
2010 Clark Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27605
919.754.8595
Monday - Saturday 10am-7pm
Sunday 1pm-7pm
www.cherrymodern.com

Cherry Modern Design recently relocated from the Glenwood South area to a space in Cameron Village left vacant by Bed, Bath and Beyond. Cherry is a full service home furnishings and accessories store that specializes in modern Italian furniture, but has a

Charles Sectional and Eileen nesting tables designed by Antonio Citterio and manufactured by B&B Italia - Couch: \$9083 to \$17,875, Tables: \$2195 to \$2369



large array of accents to give your home a modern makeover as well.

Louis Cherry realized while practicing architecture that there was a need locally for access to high quality modern furnishings. Louis' wife, Ann Marie Baum, directs the day-to-day operation of the store. With her background in interior design and retail management, she is perfectly suited to help all their clients find the perfect look for their homes. Together they have brought all the best in modern design to one showroom.

They felt that nationally there is a much greater appreciation of classic modern design, both the iconic mid-century pieces and newer pieces by the rising stars of today. Ann Marie has noticed this appreciation is also happening in the Triangle as many people are looking to simplify their environments, going towards a refined style that is more calm and peaceful with less clutter; a sense of paring down their environments rather than layering. The best modern pieces of furniture have a timeless elegance and are extremely comfortable.

Furniture by B&B Italia, Cassina, Knoll Studio, Cappellini and Montis are but a few of their featured lines.

The entire staff at Cherry has been involved since inception and all are equipped to give the best in customer service whether a hand-blown glass vase is being chosen as a wedding gift or an entire house layout is being designed. Come visit, explore and discover.

Arthur H. Danielson Art & Antiques Ltd.

Arthur H. Danielson
1101 Wake Forest Road
Raleigh, NC 27604
919.828.7739
Monday - Saturday Noon-6pm
Sunday 1pm-6pm

Located on the southern section of Wake Forest Road (at the end of Glascock Street), you'll find a beautiful neoclassical style home with a two-story colonnaded portico owned by a most pleasant gentleman by the name of Arthur Danielson. Inside are fine antique treasures from around the world such as a painted

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Dutch wine decanter set with solid mahogany box from Arthur H. Danielson Art & Antiques - \$3200

Continued from Page 2

leather 17th century Venetian chair and a solid mahogany collerette box with six painted decanters.

Mr. Danielson has been in the antique business for almost 50 years and in his current location for more



The beautiful colonnaded porch that houses Arthur H. Danielson Art & Antiques

than 30. He has traveled the world collecting antiques and has many on hand from France, Italy and Western Europe.

Stop in to visit Mr. Danielson and listen to a wonderful story about one of his pieces or about his many travels. And if you don't mind, his friendly Boston terrier will be more than happy to keep you company as you shop.

Fairgrounds Flea Market

1025 Blue Ridge Rd.
Raleigh, NC
919.829.3533
Open weekends
9am-5pm
(Closed Sept. 23rd
through Nov. 3rd for the annual State Fair)
www.ncstatefair.org/fleamarket.htm

According to their website, the NC State Fairgrounds Marketplace, "Raleigh's Upscale Flea Market," offers the largest selection of furniture in one location, and was recognized by Country Living Magazine as one of the top markets in the South for home décor.

For the past 45 years, the Flea Market has attracted dedicated groups of "antiquers," collectors and decorators with its quality and reasonable prices. Shoppers love to browse the countless items for sale by local dealers and those who might come from as far away as Florida, Maine or any point in between.

Furniture is one of the leading sales and the market offers a variety to suite your taste. Eighteenth and nineteenth century mahogany, walnut and oak furniture of European origin, American country, primitive, rustic, metropolitan home style, French country, mission, oriental, contemporary, traditional, neoclassic, modern, vintage, retro Victorian, architectural, wrought iron and once loved, gently used pieces with a history. Also, quality workmanship in custom beds, entertainment centers, wardrobes and bookcases made to your size and specifications. Refinishing and



Solid wood bar from the Fairgrounds Flea Market. There are both high-end new furniture pieces such as this at the Flea Market as well as bargains available from some of the outside vendors

upholstery to give your furniture a new look is also offered.

For shoppers looking for new furniture, the market has a large assortment of leather and upholstered chairs, recliners, and sofas. You'll also find the latest in porch, deck and yard furniture, swings, and hammocks.

The Flea Market is located on the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, at the intersection of Hillsborough Street and Blue Ridge Road. Be sure to head outside for the real bargains. Haggling is part of the game, so take your game face and plenty of cash; some vendors take major credit cards, but many do not.

Father & Son Antiques

Brian and Kiyomi Ownby
107 W. Hargett Street
Raleigh, NC
919.832.3030
Monday-Saturday Noon - 6pm
Sunday 1-5pm
www.swankarama.com

At Father & Son Antiques, the name alludes to two ideas, one you won't find and one you will. There's actually no father and son, just husband and wife owners Brian and Kiyomi Ownby. Meeting Kiyomi was a delight, and she is the reason you won't find a

Continued on Page 4

Come in and see for yourself how affordable fine eyewear can be.

Catch The Vision

800 St. Mary's Street
Across from Broughton
834-6409
rickhall-eyewear.com

rick hall
Fine Eyewear Since 1985



There's plenty of 60s and 70s funkydelic furniture and accessories at Father & Son Antiques in downtown

more friendly and casual shopping atmosphere. The other part of the name, antiques, you will find, but it's probably not what you're thinking. Spread across 5500 square feet of showroom floor, is a huge mix of mid-century, 60s and 70s modern furniture and accessories. Ranging from pop, kitschy and funk, their stash includes vintage Danish modern, plastic mod, and even industrial machine age.



Kiyomi, co-owner of Father & Son, and Debi from Second Floor Vintage clothing upstairs

Inventory changes on a daily basis, so you never know what you might find. If you don't see something you're looking for, always ask, as it might be in their additional 5000 square feet of warehouse space in the back, or they'll keep an eye out for that space chair you've been dreaming about. Be sure to check out the vintage clothing store upstairs while you're there to buy a pair of velvet bell-bottoms to go with the shag-a-delic couch you just bought.

Glenwood South Antiques

Sam Tarlton
124 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27603
919.828.2559
Tuesday-Friday 10am - 4:30pm
Saturday 10am - 4pm
www.glenwoodsouthantiques.com

Sophisticated American Empire dresser or server, Boston, ca. 1820. Mahogany with matched flame-grain mahogany front - Glenwood South Antiques, \$4,500



Glenwood South Antiques specializes in 18th and early 19th century American antiques, including Southern regional. The store has been in the same location for over 30 years, including its previous life as C&T Antiques (Craig & Tarlton), and shares one of the same owners, Sam Tarlton. In 1985, Mr. Tarlton bought out his partner, sold the store contents through Christie's of London, purchased the building, and reopened as Glenwood South Antiques.

According to the manager John, antique beds have been the hot item the last few months, with shoppers wishing to provide something elegant such as a plantation bed for their guest rooms. Statement pieces that make an impression for entry halls have also been popular, as have dining room banquet tables.

A lot of their inventory is purchased back from previous customers who no longer need the items, as well as from auction houses and estate sales, both local and national.



Painted buffet table from Green Front Furniture - \$269

Green Front Furniture

Richard Crallé
2004 Yonkers Road
Raleigh, NC 27604
919.754.9754
Monday - Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday 1pm - 5pm
www.greenfront.com

You may have not had the good fortune to stumble across Green Front Furniture Company, but when you do, you'll find a seriously eclectic mix of furniture and accessories, all at very good prices. Green Front is the only store in our article that is not locally owned, but it still adheres to the high quality of customer service that we were looking for, and it's not a chain store. It is a one-of-a-kind operation that was started in the mid-1960s in Farmville, Virginia. In the beginning, only promotional items were sold. Owner Richard Crallé, Jr. — fresh out of college and put in charge of the new operation by his father — quickly realized that he needed to sell items of higher quality

and still find a way to offer his customers good deals. He didn't try to make a fortune quickly, and soon discovered a formula for success that worked well for him: accept a smaller profit margin rather than add 100% markups.

Some criticized his unusual approach, but Crallé knew he could grow the business slowly and still build a faithful customer base with competitive pricing and good products. He avoided debt and paid cash for everything when possible. He kept his overhead low, so he didn't have to pass the added expenses on to his customers. Most importantly, he consistently reinvested in the business and improved the inventory.

"We make furniture shopping different. You have to have the 'biggest show on earth' to attract people," says Crallé. That means having a selection of merchandise from all over the world that keeps people coming back. The product mix at Green Front, although dominated by middle- to high-end goods and traditional styling, includes many intriguing products from around the world.

Customers love Green Front's "flea-market" approach to merchandising - the ever-changing displays, relaxed atmosphere with no pressure to buy, open rooms with vast selections, unique mixtures of products, and loads of high-end furniture at sharply discounted prices.

There is an unusual and varied blend of goods that customers can't wait to explore. Furniture and accessories are crammed wall-to-wall and floor-to-ceiling.

Habitat for Humanity ReStore

(previously called the ReUse Center)
2400 Alwin Court
Raleigh, NC 27604
Store Line: 919.833.6768
Donation Line: 919.833.6768 X226
Tues-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 9am-5pm
www.habitatwake.org/restore



Two-drawer coffee table at Habitat for Humanity - \$69

The Habitat Wake ReStore supports Habitat for Humanity of Wake County by selling new and used furniture, lighting, flooring, cabinetry, plumbing accessories, windows, doors, and unique architectural elements to the public at discounted prices. All pro-

ceeds from the ReStore contribute to the construction of new Habitat homes. The ReStore participates in Habitat for Humanity International's overall environmental initiative by diverting usable materials away from the waste stream, while promoting responsible stewardship of natural resources.

The ReUse Center moniker is changing to the Habitat for Humanity of Wake County ReStore. The new name and logo will help distinguish the store in the marketplace and enhance their ability to generate revenue in support of Habitat Wake's home-building mission.

Volunteers and donors to Habitat Wake help hard-working local families who can't qualify for traditional home mortgages become homeowners. This breaks the cycle of poverty because the families build and purchase Habitat houses that are simple, decent and affordable. If you'd like to attend events and volunteer, please bookmark and visit their website: www.habitatwake.org

They're located approximately 1.5 miles north of downtown Raleigh, just south of the 440 Beltline, at 2400 Alwin Court.

They accept cash, checks, MasterCard and Visa.

April Oliva, Assistant Vice President-Cameron Village BB&T told us, "You never know what you may find at the ReUse Center. There can be diamonds in the rough, or perfectly good pieces of furniture. It's a great place to go for a treasurer hunter or HGTV enthusiast."

Pirate's Chest Fine Antiques and Interiors (formerly Carolina Antique Mall)

Jack Alexander
Cameron Village
2050 Clark Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27605
919.870.7408
Monday - Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday Noon - 6pm
(Scheduled to open in July)

The Pirate's Chest in Cameron Village will house



Pirate's Chest will open up in the old Carolina Antique Mall location in Cameron Village

one of the area's largest selections of new and used furniture, antiques & accessories, available from 30-50 dealers, both local and from around the state. The Pirate's Chest will be resurrecting the old Carolina Antique Mall location that had been an established shopping destination for antique collectors since 1975. Due to tax difficulties, the Carolina Antique Mall was forced to close last year. Pirate's Chest owner, Jack Alexander, always had an appreciation for antiques and even helped pay expenses during his college years by selling furniture at the Fairgrounds Flea Market. While recently looking for a new place to sell his antiques, he ran into a customer of the old Carolina Antique Mall who told him that Cameron Village was one of the best locations for antiques. He called about renting a dealer booth, and found out the Mall had closed but that the entire retail space was available. Instead of becoming one of many vendors, Mr. Alexander decided to lease the location and hopes to open the doors to dealers sometime in July. Be sure and call before stopping by to find out their opening date.



Leather ottoman from Shelton's - \$149

Shelton's Furniture Company
NEW & ANTIQUE ~ CLASSIC & ECLECTIC
607 W. Morgan St. • Raleigh NC 27603
Receive 10% off when you mention this ad!
FREE DELIVERY TO DOWNTOWN AREA*
833-5548
Mon-Sat 10-6

Shelton's Furniture

Mitch Shelton
607 Morgan Street
Raleigh, NC
919.833.5548
Monday - Friday
10am - 6pm
Saturday 9am - 5pm

Shelton's is conveniently located close to downtown on Morgan Street just between Glenwood Avenue and Boylan, and have been in business downtown since 1963. Here you'll find new and

vintage furniture in a very wide range of styles from contemporary, antique and eclectic. Vintage furniture styles vary and come from home and estate sales, auctions and customers. If you have furniture you've grown tired of, don't forget they buy furniture as well.

New furniture is available at discounted prices, along with bedding and mattresses. Financing is offered on-site and delivery is free in the downtown area.

And if you're a Hurricanes fan, be sure to strike up a conversation with owner Mitch Shelton. You won't find a bigger fan in Raleigh.

Ten Thousand Villages

435 Woodburn Road
Raleigh, NC 27605
Cameron Village
919.821.1100
Monday-Saturday 10am to 7pm
Sunday Noon to 5pm
www.villagesofraleigh.org

Add international flair to your home with a unique piece from Ten Thousand Villages, Raleigh's original Fair Trade store located in Cameron Village. Ten Thousand Villages offers a variety of smoked bamboo furniture from Vietnam and the Philippines with pieces ranging from small plant stands and low coffee tables to benches and room dividers. Made from sustainably harvested bamboo, the pieces are given their unique color by being passed through wood burning ovens that produce smoke. This offers a natural protection against invasion by insects and makes the pieces ideal for use in a porch or gazebo.

All of Ten Thousand Villages hand-crafted products are made by skilled artisans in developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Ten Thousand Villages ensures they are paid a fair price for their products, offers advance payment when orders are placed, and works with the same groups over prolonged periods in order to guarantee the artisans' income.



Bamboo side table (\$148), screen (\$165) and plant stand (\$48) from Ten Thousand Villages

Ten Thousand Villages Raleigh is a locally-operated non-profit retail store, governed by a volunteer board of directors and staffed by over 70 volunteers and a small part-time paid staff.

■RD

“Day-Antiquing” in Warrenton

By *Mirabelle Rich*

Warrenton is a small town in eastern North Carolina that’s basically between Roanoke Rapids and Henderson, although closer to Henderson. This charming community, about the size of Zebulon in a Raleigh perspective, has within the past two decades become a destination site for history buffs from all over the eastern seaboard, drawn as they are to Warrenton’s gracious colonial homes and a welcoming populace as friendly and hospitable as the fictional townspeople of Andy Griffith’s Mayberry. They take their history seriously so when you’re looking to add of age-old furnishings or object d’art, nine antique shops that flourish close to the heart of Warrenton can help.

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Warrenton is about an hour and twenty minutes from downtown Raleigh. Probably the best way to go is to take Capital Boulevard which becomes US # 1 to Henderson then just prior to the merge onto I-85, note a small sign marked US # 1 to Norlina. Warrenton is a stone’s throw from Norlina, following highways 158/401 which will take you directly to Warrenton’s Main Street where most of the “antique” action is. But before you leave Norlina, be sure to check out The Roost Crossroads Antique Mall—“mall” being rather a loose term for a shop of several rooms filled to the rafters with a hodge-podge of stuff. But since I’ve



City Hall in the charming community of Warrenton

already taken you a bit off the beaten path from Warrenton proper let me propose another side trip. If, as I do, you wish to make a weekend jaunt out of your Warrenton run I recommend the Lamplight Inn, a cozy, pet-friendly bed and breakfast on Fleming Road just off US # 1 between Henderson and Middleburg, about 10 miles from Norlina. Owned and operated by Shirley Payne the Lamplight Inn situated on a 150 year old tobacco farm, and once the comfy homestead of the Turner family. The house itself is filled with museum-quality antiques and bric-a-brac collected and put together by Shirley, the whole decor time-warped by the soft glow of the many chimney lamps used to light this restored farm. Relax on the wrap-around porch or stroll the grounds to take in an estate dotted with antiquated outbuildings and rehabbed tobacco barns, guest cabins, the stable, the gazebo, and the open air fitness center located in the barn. In the woody area beyond is a yoga platform for those who wish to rubber band themselves to relax. But me? My bourbon and branch water quaffed on the porch with perhaps a Monopoly game afoot is more to my taste.

The Main house is fully restored and offers central heat and A/C, private bath, and satellite TV in each room. Each of the 4 bedrooms offers the ultimate in casual comfort, surrounding you with carefully selected furniture, appointments and accessories. Every bedroom in the main house has a unique atmosphere from the racy Gone With The Wind room to my favorite room in the house, the luxurious Regal Suite with its king sized bed, elegant bed linens and whirlpool tub. But I guess my favorite place to stay here is in one of the guest cottages. I’ve stayed frequently in the Pirates Den, named less for the seafaring rogues and more for ECU/Greenville. This is a one-room cottage with full bathroom and small kitchen area. You can make reservations at this reasonably priced, pet-friendly (my two dogs get a real kick out of exploring the various outbuildings) establishment that’s about 30 minutes from Warrenton. For more information call 252-438-6311. Highly recommended!

Heading north to Norlina in the tiny pig path community of Ridgeway, in summer, you’ll be able to buy the nest cantaloupes the state has to offer. Ridgeway melons are famous.

Now, your car heaped with aromatic cantaloupes and maybe an antique or two, you’ll arrive in Warrenton on Main Street, turning right as 401 dead ends into Main. The first shop you’ll come to is Wyndham House Antiques, co-owned and operated by my cherished niece, Jane Rose, whose mother Grace Riggan was the sweetest woman on earth. Jane’s dear friend, Bill Pope, is her business partner, Wyndham House—and no, I’m not being biased—has a superb collection of primitives and the lamps here are funky and fantastic—the perfect bit of whimsy for even the most strident contemporary setting. But if adding a dash of humor is just beyond you, rest assured, you will find elegant period pieces, fine silver and accoutrement from a bygone age that, truth to tell, never should have went in the first place! Also there are two club chairs here, thick-cushioned and beautifully upholstered in an up-market fabric of beige, baby blue and pink. They’re marked, I think, at \$100 per chair. What a bargain! When I was last in the shop I expressed my disbelief that these chairs hadn’t sold. But disbelief ushered in relief when I sat my haunches down and settled into one of these chairs as I enjoyed a sherry and discussed my gossip du jour with darling Jane and Bill, who are kindness and tolerance personified. Jane even



Don’t forget to say hello to Mabel the mule. She lives behind Depot Antiques & Collectibles, which is housed in one of the oldest standing train depots in the state, built in 1863.



Early American solid wood desk and chair from Picket Antiques



Pristine Victorian medallion couch and carved coffee table, both from Wyndam House Antiques

presented me with the perfect silk shade for a lamp that had become a nuisance. When you're in Wyndham House please tell Jane and Bill that her Aunt Mirabelle sent you (bound to get you a gracious smile if not a discount!).

Walking up Main Street away from Wyndham and the Episcopal Church, you'll find many other shops waiting to greet you. All the owners are knowledgeable and friendly, I found. The Picket Fence Antiques and Pleasant Accompaniments is a store featuring country antiques priced below \$100 to more than a few thousand dollars. In addition, they offer hand made bees wax candles, oriental rugs, MA Hadley Pottery, lovely water colors and oil paintings, hand made fountain pens and other writing instruments and reproduction silhouettes (I have so many family silhouettes hanging about in shadow box frames that I've had for so long that now, frankly, I don't know who the hell they are!). Warrenton was having some sort of festival when I was last there, "Spring into Bloom" or something like that and the charming couple who own and operate Picket Fence refreshed their patrons of the day with a bowl of punch and the most delicious coconut cake.

Close by is Oakley Hall Antiques & Art which you won't be able to bypass since it's located in a most striking building: an antiquated, two-story brick, the second oldest brick store in Warrenton. Here you'll find an extensive collection of Americana: Early American pattern glass, furniture, fine art and—most collectible of all—American Folk Art.

Please say hello to the delightful Ann Harris when you check out her shop, Agape Antiques, which

offers a diverse collection of glassware, furniture, dolls, toys and jewelry.

The Scarlet Rooster serves up an enchanting array of tableware and linens for the dining room, French and Australian soaps for the powder room, Colonial candles for everywhere and delicious jewelry to doff the bosom. Also don't miss the handmade chocolates,



You'll find a hodge-podge of kitsch to collectibles at the Shabby Chic.

fine wines, champagnes and gourmet goodies.

The Shabby Chic rather defines my own life: a hodge-podge of kitsch to collectibles: everything you can imagine presented in ten different rooms—and the "everything" is ever flowing so this is a place you check weekly. Owner Janet Pegram, down-to-earth, brusque and hearty, is an utter delight. I recently purchased an outdoor bistro set, sturdy and heavy — not that flimsy plastic sold at discount stores. I got a good product at a good price. I'm very pleased. If you stop in please give Janet a hug for me.

Three miles north of Warrenton don't miss The Depot Antiques & Collectibles, housed in one of the oldest standing train depots in the state! It was built in 1863. My third husband, I think it was my third, Peter Armstrong, collected old fishing lures so he would have loved The Depot which offers lures, tools, primitives, furniture and glassware.

Here at Picot Hall I have so many antiques I cherish and each room has the patina of well-aged charm, but still, I like, from time to time, to freshen the place up with a new acquisition here and there just to capture interest, to "feed the eye" as the Italians would say. I'm old enough now to have at least a reservation on St. Peter's book, although I plan to show up at least twenty minutes late you know. Still and all, I can't resist "a pretty." So I adore tromping through Warrenton antique shops. It's far enough away from my clique in Raleigh for me to find a goodie no one has seen at any other shop locally. Sneaky, aren't I?

THE LAMPLIGHT INN

Fleming Road, Henderson, 252.438.6311

WYNDHAM HOUSE ANTIQUES

119 N Main Street, 252.257.5611

THE PICKET FENCE ANTIQUES AND PLEASANT ACCOMPANIMENTS

123 South Main Street, 252. 257.0630

OAKLEY HALL ANTIQUES & ART

102 South Main Street, 252.257.2411

AGAPE ANTIQUES

201 South Main Street, 252.257.1394

THE SCARLET ROOSTER

116 North Main Street, 252.257.1993

THE SHABBY CHIC

136 South Main Street, 252.257.9970

THE DEPOT ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

114 A.P. Rodwell Road, 252.257.4566

Ms. Rich is a native Raleighite, and has called Five Points home for over 50 years. She can also be termed a gentlefarmwoman, and is mistress to Picot Hall, a beautiful estate in Orange County, Virginia, where she raises thoroughbred horses, peacocks and Walker hounds. She is most notable for her advice column, "Ask Mirabelle," that has appeared in 72 newspapers nationwide. She can be reached for comment at mirabelle@raleighdowntowner.com.

MRD

■ Welcome to the Raleigh Downtowner Mid-May issue: Furniture Finds



UPCOMING ISSUES

June: Summer Fun

July: It's Not Easy Being Green

ON THE COVER:

Stylish and colorful furniture from Cherry Modern, located in Cameron Village. Arne sofa and Harry ottoman by B&B Italia, 'Hoop' rug by Paola Lenti, 'Cannot' side table by Cappellini, background lamps by Flos and Foscerini.

Send us your ideas for upcoming issues! We're looking for fun events and things to do outside this summer for June. For July, send us your ideas for energy and water conservation, recycling, and other ways of being environmentally friendly. You can email us your suggestions to ideas@raleighdowntowner.com.

Thank you for reading the Raleigh Downtowner!

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7511 Mourning Dove Road, Suite 104 • Raleigh, NC 27615

Phone: 919.380.9322 Fax: 919.469.8892
editor@raleighdowntowner.com www.raleighdowntowner.com

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FOUNDERS

Randall Gregg and Sig Hutchinson, Publisher

OWNERS

Crash Gregg and Sig Hutchinson

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Crash Gregg

CITY STYLE EDITOR

Fred Benton

FASHION

Alyssa Willard, Samantha Rode, Kelly Hubbard

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Crash Gregg, Mirabelle Rich, James M. Sutton, Jr., Randall Gregg

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Sign Up for Free Reader Rewards!

Thank you to all our loyal readers who have been signing up for reader rewards. The Downtowner is proud to continue our third month of Reader Rewards. Each month, we'll be giving away plenty of gifts and services to our lucky readers. This month, we have almost \$500 in Rewards!

To sign up for Reader Rewards, just visit our website at www.RaleighDowntowner.com and click on the SIGN UP NOW! button. You'll be eligible to win Reader Rewards each month as well as receiving the new online edition of our newspaper, which will begin later this summer. Our newsletter will help keep you informed about all the latest news and events happening in and around Downtown Raleigh.

THIS MONTH'S READER REWARDS

- Two tickets to **Broadway Series South's** production of *Sweet Charity*, starring Molly Ringwald.
www.broadwayseriessouth.com
- Four \$25 gift certificates to **Primp Salonbar** near Glenwood Avenue. Go ahead, cheat on your stylist!
www.primpsalonbar.com
- Three \$25 gift certificates to the **Blue Martini**, located in the Powerhouse District. Lots of daily specials, great music, and never a cover charge.
www.bluemartiniraleigh.com



- Two \$25 gift certificates to the **Amra's**, located in the heart of Glenwood South. Live music, spirits, stogies.
www.amrasraleigh.com

- Two \$25 gift certificates to the **The Underground Restaurant & Bar**, located on West Morgan Street, beside City Limits Saloon. Great food, drinks and music.
www.comeunderground.com

- Two \$10 tickets to the *Temples and Tombs* exhibit at the **North Carolina Museum of Art**.
www.ncartmuseum.org

Congratulations to last issue's readers who won all of these great Reader Rewards below.

- Two Dress Circle tickets to the opening night of Broadway Series South's production of *Legends*
- Four \$25 gift certificates to Primp Salonbar
- Three \$25 gift certificates to the Blue Martini
- Two \$25 gift certificates to the Amra's
- Two \$25 gift certificates to the Underground Restaurant
- Four \$10 tickets to the *Temples and Tombs* exhibit at the North Carolina Museum of Art

We want to thank all our readers and advertisers for making the Downtowner a huge success. Reader Rewards are our way of saying thanks. **Be sure and sign up now!**

www.RaleighDowntowner.com

Emily Procter Given Award In Raleigh



Actress Emily Procter of the class of 1986 was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award at an assembly at the Ravenscroft

From the Raleigh Chronicle Staff & Wire Reports

he saying that “you’re never a hero in your hometown” is definitely not true for at least one Raleigh native.

On Monday, April 23rd, actress Emily Procter of the class of 1986 was presented with the Distinguished Alumni

Award at an assembly at the Ravenscroft private school in Raleigh.

Since 2002, Emily has co-starred on “CSI: Miami” in the role of Detective Calleigh Duquesne. She also played attorney Ainsley Hayes for two seasons on the Emmy and Golden Globe-winning show “The West Wing.”

Following remarks by Head of School

Doreen Kelly and Alumni Council President Bryan Pennington, faculty member Ed Yohman shared remembrances of Emily as a Middle School math student and Varsity Soccer player. He also discussed her accomplishments as an actress and her involvement in various charities.

Emily then talked about her fond memories of Ravenscroft, and discussed how important it was in her own life that the teachers at the school knew her so well, recognized her individual potential, and knew how to challenge her. She encouraged the older students in attendance to develop their relationships and take advantage of their opportunities at Ravenscroft.

Following the presentation, Emily had the chance to catch up with old friends, classmates and teachers. She also signed autographs and posed for pictures with fans. Procter is well-known for being easily accessible to fans and unlike some actors, she seems to eagerly embrace any chance to meet those who enjoy her work.

Procter won over the crowd at the recent Mannequin Ball at the NC Museum of History in Raleigh, where

she was the guest of honor.

“Having had the honor to meet Emily in person outside the Mannequin Ball, I can honestly say what makes Emily so popular in my opinion is how in spite of her star status that she is still so down to earth, friendly and appreciative of her fans; and of course, how she always loves the chance to come back home to Raleigh,” says Mike Rumble, a fan in Raleigh. “The style, grace, and sophistication that she carries herself with...[represents] our city of Raleigh.”

Emily’s father, William I. Procter, who graduated in 1945, received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1994, making the Procters the first parent-child duo to receive this prestigious honor.

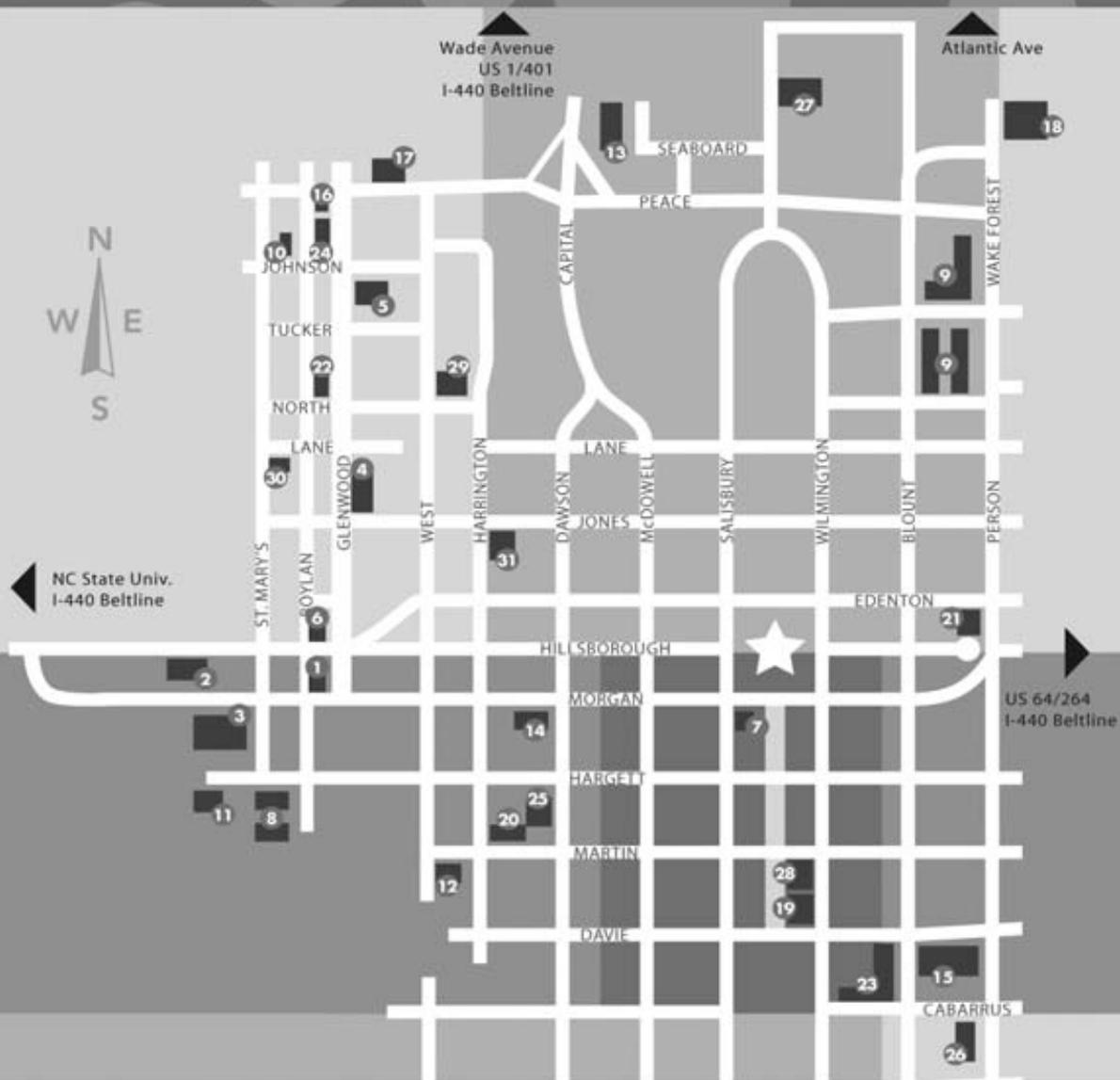
Established in 1989, the Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest award presented by the Ravenscroft School Alumni Association. This award is given annually to recognize distinguished service and loyalty to Ravenscroft School and/or outstanding professional, civic, and personal accomplishments.



Ed Yohman (Emily’s former 8th grade math teacher & varsity soccer coach), Emily, and Barbara Jean Warren (her 9th grade math teacher); looking at old yearbook pictures.

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Raleigh Fire Dept. Revisits The Past

By Randall Gregg
Courtesy of the Raleigh Chronicle
Photos by Crash Gregg

On May 19th the Raleigh Fire Department celebrated its past as it welcomed over 120 retired fire department veterans and their families at the Keeter Training Center off of Wilmington Street.

The day-long event allowed Raleigh's current fire crews to meet with retired firefighters and learn from their years of experience and maybe hear some harrowing tales of fighting fires in

Raleighs past.

At the same time, retired firefighters got to see the latest in high-tech gear including the Raleigh Fire Department's fire-fighting equipment such as ladder trucks, the hazardous materials tractor trailer, swift water rescue boats, urban rescue teams, decontamination tents, and more.

Of course, the department's older collection of vehicles was among the most popular exhibits including fire engines from the 1920's and 1950's.

It was evident from the smiles and

friendly greetings that many of the fire department retirees had not seen each other in years, so the opportunity to meet again with fire fighting brothers and sisters was a precious time for the fire department family.

In addition to lots of great outdoor exhibits, the department had a history room with newspaper clippings, photo displays and videos.

Firefighters and their families also enjoyed a great barbeque lunch with desserts provided by the families. The firefighter grill crew had started cooking at 3am that morning in anticipation

of the large Raleigh Fire Department family.

Whether they served in the past or whether they go in harm's way currently, the Raleigh firefighters and their families continue to have strong ties throughout their decades of service to the citizens of Raleigh.

Be sure to visit our website for more than 40 additional photos of the fire department event. Click on the Photo Gallery link at the bottom of the home page.



Walter J. Royal of Angus Barn

By Fred Benton, City Style Editor

Like so many of us who belong to that exclusive club known as “Old Raleigh,” the Angus Barn has for decades been that special occasion restaurant that marked our celebrations of life, be it a “deb” party, an anniversary, a birthday or closing that big deal. The planks and rugs of this matriarchal establishment have ushered the world to those signature crocks of cheese and fresh veggies as a prelude to a memorable steak.

The first man I knew as executive chef there was a man of regal-bearing, Myers Hill, who was the first food contact I had who explained what these then-new-fangled “baby back ribs” were. To my knowledge the AB was the first restaurant, at least in this area, to serve them. Myers Hill was the king of cooks, and he gave up his crown to others, such as the affable and talented Gino Russo, Gino went on to create restaurants of his own. But none, including Myers Hill, have reaped such national exposure and accolades, even reaping the Iron Chef America title, as the current executive chef, Walter Royal, who has been at the AB helm now for 11 years.

I regret to say that I don’t know Walter well except by reputation. However, I did make some recent tidbit discoveries such as: even this talented chef has mentors. He cites Edna Lewis (who was truly the queen of soul food!), the gracious and talented Jenny Fitch, Ben Barker, and he didn’t forget his mother and grandmother. He’s currently unmarried and has one son who, he said, “has no interest in becoming a chef, but is actually a very good cook.”



Royal brings home the trophy on the Food Network’s “Iron Chef America”

And when this man of food needs some comforting, chicken pot-pie or herb roasted chicken does the trick.

On its web site, the AB relates his bio best: “Walter J. Royal is the executive chef of The Angus Barn Ltd. in Raleigh North Carolina. Royal oversees the preparation of more than 5,000 pounds of beef every week. The 46 year-old chef flexes his creative muscles by developing special menus in the restaurant’s exclusive Wine Cellar Room.

Alabama-born Royal acquired his passion for Southern food from his grand-

mother and mother and at age 14 decide he wanted to cook professionally. He attended LaGrange College in Georgia and Auburn University at Montgomery, Alabama. He went on to Nathalie Dupree’s Cooking School in Atlanta.

In 1997, Royal’s talents won him recognition from the Restaurant Guild International who named him the Five Star Chef of the Year. He is the first black chef to have received this prestigious award. Other awards have included Best Chef in the Triangle, James Beard Rising Star, Top Black Chef in America and one of the Top Five Chefs in the Southeast. Royal is also a founding member of Cystic Fibrosis’ Master Chef Series, an annual event that has already raised over one

million dollars for research of the dreaded disease. For the past four years, Royal has been the spokesperson for B & B Black History tours, on the influence of African American Southern culture and its food.

Walter’s recent accomplishments included an Angus Barn Achievement award, and being featured in *Ebony* and *Savoy* magazines. His most recent trip was in November 2002 where he showed his culinary talents at the Bermuda Cooking Festival, which will be featured in *Gourmet Magazine*.”

Angus Barn
9401 Glenwood Avenue
Hwy 70 at Aviation Pkwy
Raleigh

Dinner: Monday-Friday 5:30-10:30pm,
 Saturday 5-10:30pm
 Reservations recommended
 919.781.2444

Visit our website for two fabulous recipes from Walter:
www.raleighdowntowner.com/recipes



Jennifer and Joe Bryan enjoy one of Walter’s decadent Angus Barn desserts at the Raleigh Downtowner anniversary dinner earlier this year

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Moore Square Farmer's Market

your local growers and artisans and enjoy chef series, music, and rotating wineries (wineries present on select dates). The market now also features a variety of delectable lunch items prepared by our main market sponsor Whole Foods Market.

The Farmer's Market brings the highest quality local growers and food artisans together for the Raleigh audience, and helps to support and preserve the family farms and the land-

scape that make North Carolina unique. The market is designed to support the farmers and food artisans whose livelihoods depend on farming and artisan food production.

LOCATION

The Moore Square Farmer's market is located in downtown Raleigh's charming Moore Square at the intersection of Blount and Martin streets. Parking is located within and behind City Market, around the park, and across

the street at the Moore Square parking deck.

HOURS

The Moore Square Farmers Market is open every Wednesday from 10:30am-2:00pm through October.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Market Manager Karen Sieber at the Downtown Raleigh Alliance, 919.832.1231

The downtown version of the Farmers Market is located under a canopy of age-old oak trees in Moore Square. Help support



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Was it Christina Aguilera? According to her band members giving a benefit performance at Amra's, the pop diva stopped in for a quick cameo to wish her band well.



Joyce Kohn of Kohn Associates and Beth Lane, at the Loaves and Fishes event



Andy Martin of Deep South and Lisa Stone



James Sutton, Tim Reed, Megan McDonald and Ken Bowers at the VIP Home Tour reception



Lisa McCoy of Film Ties and boyfriend Dean on her birthday at Gus Gusler's

AROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUND

The photos below were taken at the VIP Red Carpet Reception for the Downtown Raleigh Home Tour hosted by the Raleigh Urban Design Center and LNR Property Corp./The Blunt Street Project. The reception was held at the Raleigh City Museum on Fayetteville Street in May.



Event sponsors Peyton Steele and Mary McKinney of the Blount Street Commons



Craig Spitzer of Empire Properties and Empire Eats, which provided food for the event



Raleigh City Museum's Jim Sutton and Dianne Davidian, Executive Director



Glenwood Agency's Ann-Cabell and her staff



City Council members Russ Stephensen (left), and Jesse Taliaferro (3rd), Urban Design Center's Kris Larson (2nd), and designer Lee Tripi



Downtown residents Becky and Lonnette



Crash Gregg and Anne-Marie



Downtown Raleigh Alliance officers Tracey Lovejoy (right) and Ellen Fragola with her husband Luke



Gregg, Torie, Tracey and Isabelle Kunz taking the time for a quick photo in Kenya, Africa with a recent issue of the Downtowner a friend sent them while on their four-month world trip



Mayor Meeker, City Council members, and John Myers at a recent ribbon-cutting for Renaissance Park, the Wakefield Development Group's newest property



Downtowner co-owner Crash Gregg with Linda Evans backstage after the Broadway Series South show 'Legends'



Sig Hutchinson, Downtowner co-owner and wife Nancy, with Tonye Patano from the cast of Legends at the opening night cast party. Tonye stole the show with her energetic performance.



Samantha and her dog Smoky D'Bear at the SPCA Dog Walk. Click on the "Photo Gallery" link on our website for more SPCA pictures.

TOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWNAROUNDTOWN

The pictures below were taken at Derby Days, held at Prime Only in the Power District near Glenwood Avenue South



Rick French of French West Vaughn and Amanda Metcalf



Yarko, Lee, Evan and Dylan, sushi chefs extraordinaire at Prime Only



James Ladanza, manager at Prime, and managing partner Jimmy Soules



Michelle Clark from WTVD-11

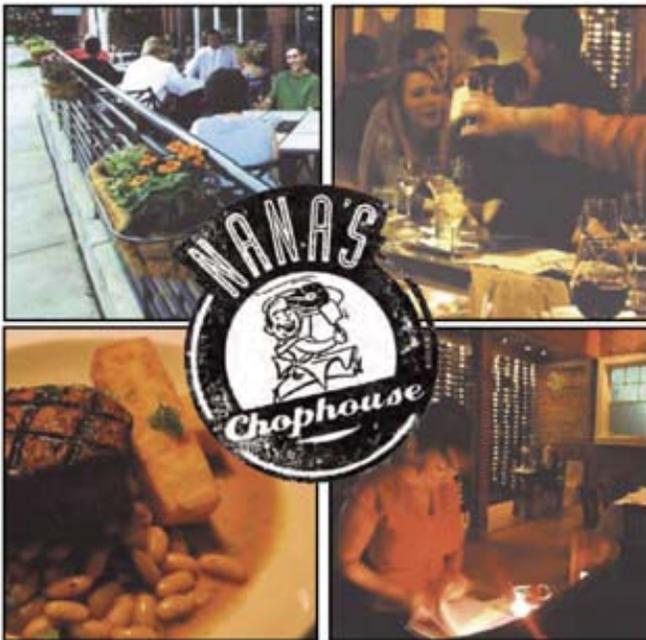
Sesha Gaston, Director of the American Diabetes Association and Cynthia, Clear Channel radio ad rep



Jim Budd of Metropolitan Development Group and Jo-Anne



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



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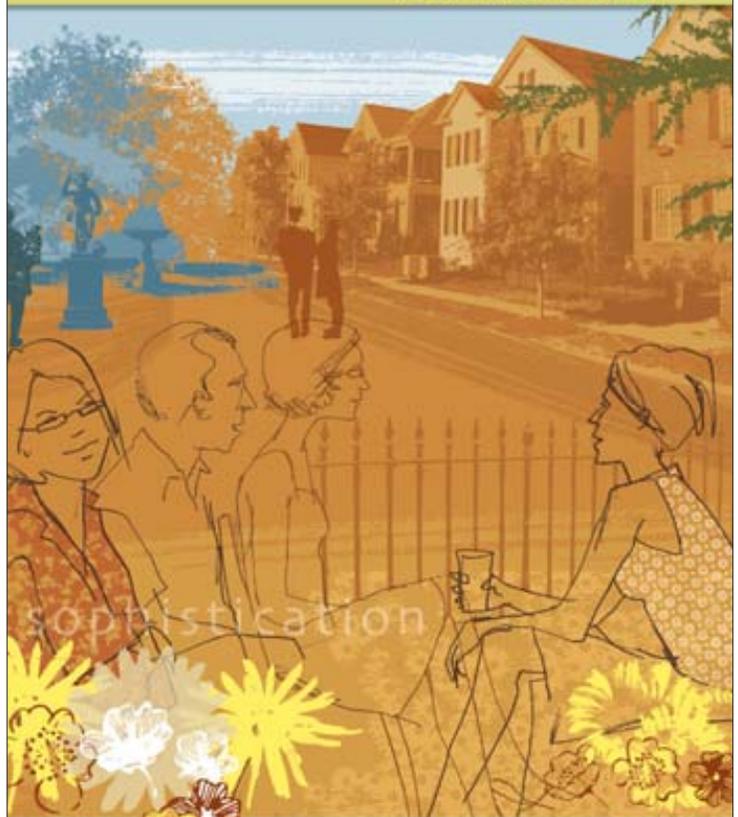
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Capital City Grocery to Re-Open



Many of our readers (and Raleighing.com bloggers) have been curious about what's been happening to Capital City Grocery in the downtown Raleigh Seaboard Station shopping center. One of the downtown area's only independently-owned grocery stores, Capital City Grocery opened last year and then closed this spring when the business went heavily into debt.

Despite a shaky start and temporary closing for renovations and reorganization, the future now looks bright, with a grand reopening scheduled sometime in June.

Originally charged with finding new investors, Ed Weems and son Mason of Venture Management, Inc., ended up becoming part owners along with other investors. They plan on a grand reopening sometime in June.

The original owners and management will no longer be involved with the new store.

To revise the store philosophy, Weems

Ed Weems (right) and son Mason of Venture Management, Inc.



is working with the Newton family—who owned and ran several downtown stores for 70 years—to devise a sort of mission statement for the grocery store, which begins with a promise of superior service to its customers. They also plan to pay homage to the Newtons by decorating the store walls with photographs of the Newton family, their stores, and customers.

In 1937, Ela Newton began selling snacks in downtown Raleigh in the same neighborhood as Capital City Grocery. While the offerings were limited she provided the residents of then-dirt Halifax Street with what they wanted. As her customer needs changed her selections expanded and her husband John William, a retired farmer, began helping her serve them. Over the years the store expanded into four Halifax street locations. Soon sons, grandsons and granddaughters were all working there while attending high school and college.

For 63 years Newton's provided basic grocery items, custom-cut meats and fresh vegetables. Grocery deliveries were made first on bicycles then scooters and finally in pick up trucks. Starting with rotisserie chicken, the Newton family responded to customer wants by serving meals in the store and providing take home food. Customers from all walks of life were each given the same friendly courteous service and became regulars for years. This tradition continued until the last location at Peace and Halifax streets was sold to Peace College in 2000.

At Capital City Grocery, they are returning to that original focus on the customers in the downtown Raleigh market area. Plans include expanding produce offerings with an emphasis on locally grown and especially organic

vegetables. Like Newton's, they will offer custom cut high-end meats and very fresh seafood as well as items already prepared for those in a hurry.

The new Capital City Grocery is reaching out to the community and once again asking the local residents of downtown Raleigh what they want their store to offer, look like, act like, and feel like. They are committed to returning to the Newton family grocery store philosophy of good old-fashioned customer service.

The Capital City grocery section is being redesigned to carry dry goods, bulk foods, the spices and flavorings even the best cooks strive for, and a "It Begins With Caring" healthy foods section for pets. To the wine offerings they're adding fresh flowers and gift baskets. Once again many products are local and organic just like the customers asked for in the past.

The "Capital City Kitchen", like Newton's, is offering sit down fare as well as full course meals to take home and enjoy with little effort. They're also adding a new important conven-

ience that is fully in tune with the downtown Raleigh market. Full catering for private parties and business events is being offered under the leadership of a highly experienced trained Chef.

Capital City Grocery is also offering the same 70-year old Newton tradition of call-in ordering. But rather than speaking slowly as a Newton family member wrote each item down, shoppers will be able to place orders over the internet or by faxing them in. Repeat customers will be also able to pull up their record of regular purchases on the store's upcoming website and indicate how many of each they want to reorder.

Seventy years ago the residents of Raleigh were downtown. Today they're returning in droves. Just like Newton's, the new Capital City Grocery promises a commitment to meeting their neighbors' needs.

Capital City Grocery
Seaboard Station
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www.capitalcitygrocery.com



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MUSIC CALENDAR

<u>Wednesday 4/25 (9pm-1am)</u> Big Rick & the Bombers	<u>Wednesday 5/9 (9pm-1am)</u> The Red Bus Band
<u>Thursday 4/26 (9pm-1am)</u> Soul Psychedelique	<u>Thursday 5/10 (9pm-1am)</u> Soul Psychedelique
<u>Friday 4/27 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> Adrian Duke Projek	<u>Friday 5/11 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> The Power Hitters
<u>Saturday 4/28 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> The Heaters	<u>Saturday 5/12 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> Mel Melton & the Wicked Mojo's
<u>Wednesday 5/2 (9pm-1am)</u> Big Rick & the Bombers	<u>Wednesday 5/16 (9pm-1am)</u> Big Rick & the Bombers
<u>Thursday 5/3 (9pm-1am)</u> Adrian Duke Projek	<u>Thursday 5/17 (9pm-1am)</u> Will McFarlane
<u>Friday 5/4 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> The Raleigh All Stars	<u>Friday 5/18 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> Adrian Duke Projek
<u>Saturday 5/5 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> The Terry Riley Band	<u>Saturday 5/19 (9:30pm-1:30am)</u> Live Music

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ON STAGE CALENDAR

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Tickets on sale now! Reserved seats available for NCT season ticket holders.

Wednesday, April 25: 8pm
Thursday, April 26: 10:30am, 8pm
Friday, April 27: 10:30am, 8pm
Saturday, April 28: 11:30am, 3pm, 8pm
Sunday, April 29: 2pm and 7pm
www.nctheatre.com

29 May - 3 June



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Sweet Charity is a quirky, romantic, urban musical comedy about a dance hall hostess with a heart of gold. It includes such songs like "Big Spender," "If My Friends Could See Me Now," "Where Am I Going?" and "There's Gotta Be Something Better Than This." The Neil Simon-Cy Coleman-Dorothy Fields show from 1966 was a triumph for creator-director-choreographer Bob Fosse and actress Gwen Verdon. The 1969 film starred Shirley MacLaine as the innocent Charity.
Tuesday-Saturday 8pm
Sunday 7pm

Saturday, Sunday 2pm

MULTIPLE DAY EVENTS

April - October



**Moore Square Farmer's Market
Downtown Raleigh**

Every Wednesday 10:30am-2pm
The market, which will take place every Wednesday from 10:30am until 2:00pm from April through October, is located in downtown Raleigh under the oak trees in Moore Square near Blount Street and the City Market plaza.

15 April - 8 July



**Temples and Tombs: Treasures of
Egyptian Art from The British
Museum - NC Art Museum**

Continued on Page 20



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BLUE MARTINI MUSIC CALENDAR

<p>Wed. Apr 25- Voodoo Flute Thu. Apr 26- Chop Shop Fri. Apr 27- Robbie Reid Sat. Apr 28- Fat Daddy Band Sun. Apr 29- Open Blues Jam Mon. Apr 30- Russ Thompson Tue. May 1- Open Mic Night Wed. May 2- Voodoo Flute Thu. May 3- Big Rick Fri. May 4- Skeeter Brandon Sat. May 5- Chop Shop Sun. May 6- Open Blues Jam Mon. May 7- Russ Thompson</p>	<p>Tue. May 8- Open Mic Night Wed. May 9- Voodoo Flute Thu. May 10- Electric Church Fri. May 11- Josh Preslar Band Sat. May 12- Big Rick Sun. May 13- Open Blues Jam Mon. May 14- Russ Thompson Tue. May 15- Open Mic Night Wed. May 16- Voodoo Flute Thu. May 17- Prime Rib Blues Band Fri. May 18- The Heaters Sat. May 19- Tad Walters Sun. May 20- Open Blues Jam</p>
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Continued from Page 20

SAS Soccer Park, Cary, NC at 7:30 PM. Individual tickets cost \$10-\$22; call Ticketmaster for more information.

www.carolinairailhawks.com

25 May ~ Friday Raleigh Downtown Criterium

Time: Women's Race-6:30 pm; Men's Race-8:15 pm

Downtown is Heating Up! Feel the fever rise as world-class cyclists battle it out under the lights in downtown Raleigh's newly revitalized Fayetteville Street district. Experience the thrill of lightning fast turns, high speeds sprints and a block party beat.

Street Closures:

Beginning at 5:45 pm on Friday, May 25 the streets associated with the following race course will be closed: Riders will assemble around the 200 block of Fayetteville Street. The first race will begin at 6:45 pm. The start/finish line will be on the 200 block of Fayetteville near Martin. The riders will proceed south on Fayetteville Street to Davie Street, east on Davie Street to Blount Street, north on Blount Street to Martin

Street, west on Martin Street to Wilmington Street, north on Wilmington Street to Hargett Street, west on Hargett Street to Fayetteville Street, south on Fayetteville Street and circle course numerous times.
www.raleighcrit.com

28 May ~ Monday Memorial Day Observance

Presented by NC State Capitol Historic Site

Time: 10 am-4 pm

A military encampment representing three centuries of military tradition will be set up on the Capitol grounds. A wreath-laying ceremony in honor of those North Carolinians who served during times of war will take place at the Veterans' Monument. 10 am- 4 pm.

Call 919-733-4994 for more information. Cost: Free
www.ncstatecapitol.org

JUNE

2 June ~ Saturday

 Bud Light Downtown Live presents Everclear

Location: Moore Square
Time for all shows: 2 pm-11 pm
The Triangle's premier free outdoor

concert series, located in Downtown Raleigh's Moore Square Park. All events are rain or shine.

www.BudLightDowntownLive.com

8 June ~ Friday

Carolina Railhawks

Playing the Rochester Raging Rhinos at SAS Soccer Park, Cary, NC at 7:30 PM. Individual tickets cost \$10-\$22; call Ticketmaster for more information.

www.carolinairailhawks.com

15 June ~ Friday

Carolina Railhawks

Playing the Seattle Sounders at SAS Soccer Park, Cary, NC at 8:00 PM. Individual tickets cost \$10-\$22; call Ticketmaster for more information.

16 June ~ Saturday

 Bud Light Downtown Live presents Unforgettable Fire – U2 Tribute

Band

Location: Moore Square
Time for all shows: 2 pm-11 pm
The Triangle's premier free outdoor concert series, located in Downtown Raleigh's Moore Square Park. All events are rain or shine.
www.BudLightDowntownLive.com

30 June ~ Saturday

 Bud Light Downtown Live presents Firehouse

Location: Moore Square
Time for all shows: 2 pm-11 pm
The Triangle's premier free outdoor concert series, located in Downtown Raleigh's Moore Square Park. All events are rain or shine.
www.BudLightDowntownLive.com

JULY

4 July

North Carolina State Capitol 4th of July

Enjoy a family-oriented Independence Day celebration with a patriotic concert and picnic. Wander over to the Capitol's Old Fashioned 4th area and see how people in North Carolina celebrated the 4th long ago. Musical performances, food and historic demonstrators round out this patriotic day of fun. Capitol grounds, 11 am-3 pm. Free.

919-733-4994
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Submit your calendar listings on our website, www.RaleighDowntown.com. Click on the Event/Music Calendar Form link.

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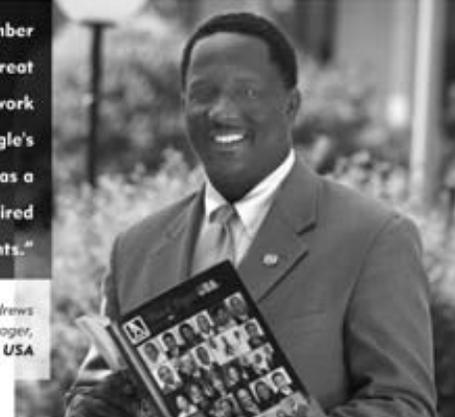
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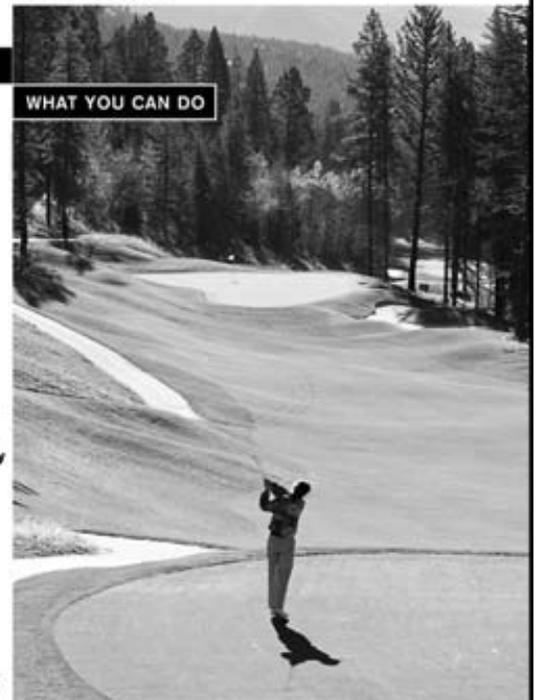


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Raleigh Artspllosure Draws Thousands

By Randall Gregg
Raleigh Chronicle

The Raleigh Artspllosure Event – a celebration of the arts, music, and creative expression – drew thousands of visitors to downtown Raleigh on the weekend of May 19th and 20th.

Crowds of visitors lined the streets near Moore Square, the City Market, and other areas downtown as they perused art displays, listened to local musicians on the sound stages, and tasted a wide variety of foods along the way.

The event featured booths where art

was being sold by their creators and everything from ceramics to paintings and jewelry was on sale from local artists.

The event enjoyed great weather on both Saturday and Sunday, with sunshine and mild temperatures helping to

draw the huge crowds to enjoy the downtown event.

The event is organized by the Raleigh Arts Festival group and is held each year. For more information, visit their website at www.artspllosure.org.



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RD Interview with Molly Ringwald

Starring in Broadway Series South's *Sweet Charity*



a three-time Tony award Nominee. See it live from May 29 - June 3, 2007 at the Memorial Auditorium.

Sure, we all remember "Pretty in Pink," but Ms. Ringwald has done much more. Other notable films of hers include "The Breakfast Club," "Sixteen Candles," "The Pick-Up Artist" starring Robert Downey, Jr. and "Betsy's Wedding." A diverse talent, Ms. Ringwald turned her sights to television and received critical acclaim for her portrayal of real life AIDS victim Allison Gertz in "Something To Live For: The Allison Gertz Story." She has returned to the stage in recent years and was seen in tick, tick boom, Enchanted April and received rave reviews as 'Sally Bowles' in another Bob Fosse masterpiece, Cabaret.

We sat down with Molly recently to get her take on a few questions of our own.

Getting Personal....
Favorite Classic Movie: "Singing In The Rain"

Guilty Pleasure (Food): *Fried Chicken*

Guilty Pleasure (Activity): *the internet!*
(like most of us)

Most meaningful Charity: *AIDs*

What 50s-60s Broadway musical would you have most wanted to be in the original cast: *Cabaret*

In giving interviews, what question annoys you the most: *Do you still hang out with the "Brat Pack?"* The answer (cause I had to ask): *no!*

Your favorite movie that you've been in: *The Tempest* — just out on dvd (movie made in 1982 with John Cassavetes and his wife, the phenomenal Gena Rowlands. I asked Molly if Gena was as ballsy and beautiful in person as she often is on screen. Molly said yes, that she was great.

The nicest male lead, a real great guy: *Raul Julia (1940-1994)*

Do you believe in life after death: *I believe there's something more, not sure what, but something*

What do you miss most about childhood: *Not having any responsibilities, to run barefoot. One summer I stayed barefooted and I think I stubbed every toe I had!*

See our Events Calendar in this issue for show dates and times.



By Fred Benton, City Style Editor

Molly Ringwald, the delicious carrot-topped "Pretty In Pink" girl has ties to Raleigh. Her sister, married to a physician for the Hurricanes, has lived here for two years.

Now she's in Raleigh to star in Broadway Series South's *Sweet Charity*,

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By Fred Benton, City Style Editor

Last month I featured 42nd Street Oyster Bar in this column citing that it was the anchor for the Glenwood South development. This restaurant was the first, but it was 518 West that added greatly to the popularity of this

trendy enclave of edible commerce, launched as it was by the success of 411 West in Chapel Hill. 411 always drew a Raleigh crowd and with the establishment of 518 in the Capital City, Raleighites could stay in town and enjoy 411's successful pasta dishes without trekking on I-40. Now this

happencence was the provenance of the restaurant savvy Chapel Hill Restaurant Group which, in addition to 518 West and 411 West in Chapel Hill, owns Spanky's and Squid's, both popular Chapel Hill eateries.

Raleigh Downtowner magazine publisher Crash Gregg and I along with Ellen Fragola, Marketing and Events Manager of Downtown Raleigh Alliance recently enjoyed a Monday lunch at 518 West. I was impressed that on a Monday lunch business was brisk, practically SRO, at least on the lower level. And the reason for this, I polled several diners, was because one can count on the food here.

We opted to begin our midday feast with two appetizers: Wild Mushroom Polenta (\$7.75) and Wood Grilled Shrimp (\$8.75). I found the polenta dish overall to be quite good and nicely scented with rosemary, however the polenta was a bit "cornbready." But still kudos for the presentation and also the shrimp, grilled, and wrapped in prosciutto.

My favorite entree on the menu is a very simple one, but so delectably good: the Tenderloin (of beef) Pizzette (\$9.95). Here beef tenderloin is presented with mushrooms, Roma tomatoes, scallions, mozzarella and herbs drizzled with horseradish sauce. The crust, fired on a wood-burning oven, is sensational. This 9-inch pie is plenty for one hearty eater and two light eaters (but I'll bet they order

another one!).

Another particularly tasty entree we tried was Lemon Linguine (\$12.95). The overall flavor of this dish was, I found, compelling. Lemon Linguine is an assemblage of tasty ingredients: shrimp, scallops, roasted tomatoes, white wine, lobster butter and grated romano. Wow, what a flavor burst for the palate!

Crash and I were both very impressed with our 518 Caesar Salads, (\$4.75 for small; \$7.75, large) slightly pungent and salty on crisp greens, just the right characteristics for a first-rate Caesar. Frankly, you can make a meal of the small salad and the bread served here; I really appreciated the Tuscan-peasant texture of the bread but with a most tender crumb: easy on the teeth and perfect to lavish on the olive oil presented in large bottles with pour spouts on each table.

I think I know the secret to 518 West, particularly when it comes to lunch: the atmosphere is impressive with its Tuscan-mode decor and expert wait-staff and the portions aren't skimpy yet you can order most anything on the menu and leave the table feeling light, not bogged down. It's the perfect business lunch!

Visit our website for more photos of 518 West. Click on the Photo Gallery image at the bottom of the home page.

■RD

BETTER LIVING

Fred Benton, Raleigh Downtowner City Style Editor and host of radio's "Better Living" is pleased to recommend the following as "better living" businesses of particularly high standards and quality.

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Our roots in the Triangle community run deep. To learn more about the residential real estate company voted "Best In The Triangle" visit www.yshomes.com

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

Bistro 607 - 607 Glenwood Avenue, 828-0840. Chef-owner Heath Holloman is, in my opinion, one of the most talented chefs in the area! Pay special attention here to foie gras preparations and farm-raised salmon dishes. Open for lunch and dinner. Reservations strongly recommended. Bistro607.com

42nd Street Oyster Bar - 508 West Jones Street, Raleigh, 831-2811. Best fried oysters ya ever smacked lips over! 42ndstoysterbar.com

EVOO - 2519 Fairview Road (at corner of Oberlin Road), 782-EVOO. This neighborhood-feel eatery serves up exceptional Mediterranean cuisine under the watchful eye of well-respected and loved chef Jean Paul Fontaine. Open for lunch and dinner. 782evoo.com

larrysbeans.com - Your web site for premium "fair trade" coffees: can't live without their El Salvador Dali coffee blend or this time of year, the holiday blend. Larry's Beans purveys to only the finest coffee houses. 828-1234

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

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

Nina's Ristorante - 8801 Leadmine Road,

Harvest Plaza, 845-1122. Owned and operated by "mom and pop" Chris and Nina Psarro. Nina, to me, is the Goddess of Italian cookery. Nina's Ristorante is critically acclaimed as the best Italian restaurant in the area!

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

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

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

Edible Art Bakery & Dessert Café - 3801 Hillsborough St., 856-0604. The artistry of all the celebratory cakes made here (wedding, birthday, bar mitzvah, bat mitzvah) is unparalleled in the Triangle. These cakes feed the eye as well as the palate. 25 years in business explains why. Very recommended.

Vacuum Cleaner Hospital - 300 S. Elliott Road, Chapel Hill, 919.968.0711 or 800.755.9057. I got my Dyson here! This establishment is about the only reason I visit Chapel Hill these days. Tom Proctor and his staff are truly service-oriented. Plus Vacuum Cleaner Hospital, in business now for 21 years, has everything I need to make my house clean after my dogs have made themselves at home. The Triangle's specialists for CENTRAL VAC systems! Free estimates! Visit vacuumhospital.com

Glenwood Grill - Glenwood Village Shopping Center, 782-3102. Upscale casual, very neighborhood with memorable food prepared by chef John Wright. Menu changes every 2 weeks. One of my favorite hang-outs. Glenwoodgrill.com

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

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Average Lunch Check: \$12-15

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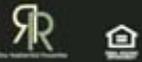
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