

October 2017

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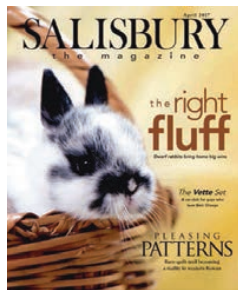
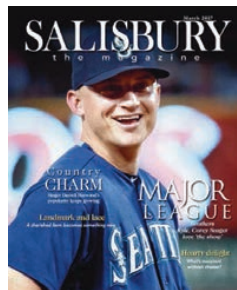
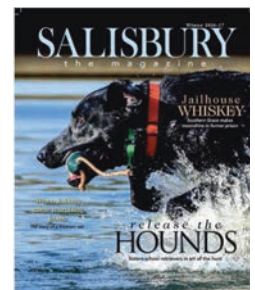
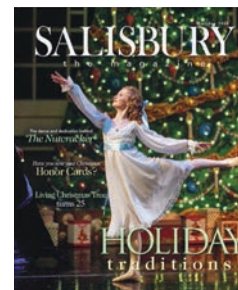
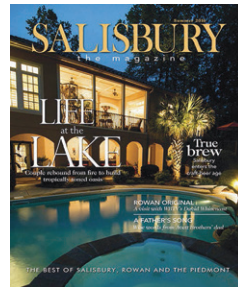
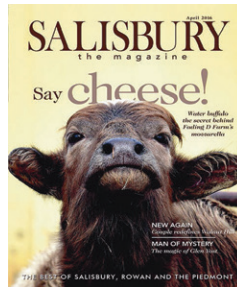
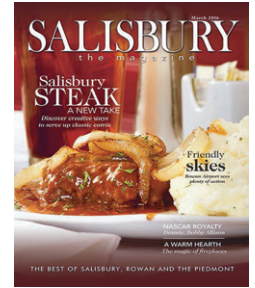
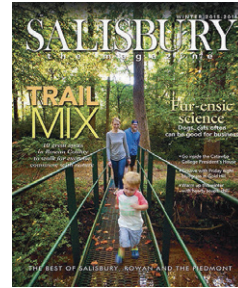
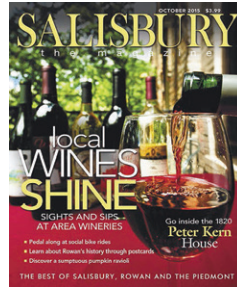
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Old radios find beautiful home with the Smiths

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Baggage claim

Antosek family will always be linked to luggage

by MARK WINEKA



On this page: A vintage Zenith radio at the home of Harrison and Martha Smith.

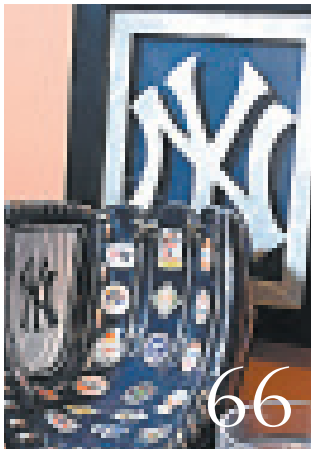
On the cover: A fountain in a small fish pond on the north side of the Hambley-Wallace House.

— Photos by Jon C. Lakey

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Making the (suit)case for family business

Every now and then you might see me with a camera around my neck. If you do, run, because my picture-taking abilities are suspect. Over time, however, I have approved myself for taking some of the “Scene” photos you see toward the back of each issue of *Salisbury the Magazine*.

As I explain to people before the camera flashes, these pictures are pretty harmless. They generally show people smiling and having a good time at some event in Rowan County. As long as the lighting is pretty good, I usually can pull off these assignments.

I was taking Scene pictures at a History on Tap event one night when I couldn't help but strike up conversations with members of the Antosek family. This particular History on Tap was being held on East Council Street at Grievous Gallery, located in part of the building that once housed the Antosek & Sons luggage plant.

With the help of Claire Brinkley and Michele Antosek, I made plans to have lunch at College Barbecue the next day with Michele, Pete, Ed and Margie Antosek, four of the 12 Antosek cousins representing the offspring of either Louis or Joseph Antosek Sr.

The Antoseks shared their stories about working in the luggage shop for Louis and Joseph — the kind of experience most kids don't have these days. I learned how Antosek luggage had its roots in Hungary before family members immigrated to Philadelphia, and how union strikes there eventually persuaded the Antosek brothers to relocate to the South.

In 1957, the two Antosek families settled in Salisbury and started making luggage here. They had a great run until liquidating



the business in 1973. The Antoseks were good sports to put up with my questions, supply me with additional information and even gather together pieces of Antosek luggage they still had in their closets.

You'll find a story about the Antoseks in this issue, and it seems only fitting that one of our stories about OctoberTour houses touches on the Hambley-Wallace mansion on South Fulton Street. The late Leo Wallace Jr. lived the longest period of time in this Salisbury version of Biltmore, and it was Wallace who also lured the Antoseks to town back in 1957.

As you'll see, photographer Jon Lakey has captured some beautiful exterior shots of the Hambley-Wallace estate. Just two doors down from there, Lakey and writer Elizabeth Cook introduce us to Harrison and Martha Smith, owners of the Dr. F.B. Spencer House. You'll be impressed with their 1924 residence and Harrison's penchant for collecting old radios, among other things.

When you think of October, you think of Halloween. Maybe to do things right for trick-or-treating, you head to Eastern Costume Co., owned by Piedmont Players.

Deirdre Parker Smith reveals that Eastern Costume Co. plays a much bigger role as a resource for theater companies and schools up and down the East Coast.

Frequent contributor Susan Shinn Turner offers up two widely contrasting stories. One takes us to China Grove, where Stag & Doe has been serving up delicious pizza, lasagna, steak and seafood since 1953. The restaurant has an incredibly loyal following and rightly so.

In her other piece, Turner describes the compassion and support Rowan Hospice offers to the terminally ill and their families when they most need it. November will be National Hospice and Palliative Care Month.

October means World Series time for Major League Baseball, and sportswriter David Shaw visits with diehard New York Yankees fan Jim Costantino, who has assembled an impressive collection of Yankees memorabilia.

Craig Kolkebeck, artistic director at Lee Street theatre, is this month's Rowan Original as Lee Street goes full bore into a new season. Mary James explains why Salisbury's the place for her, and look for a long list of great reading recommendations in *Bookish*.

This marks the 20th issue of *Salisbury the Magazine*. We might have a future, if you could just pack my camera away in an old suitcase — preferably one made by Antosek & Sons. **S**

Mark Wineka,
Editor, Salisbury the Magazine

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ON OUR STAGE

Saturday, October 7

11:30 - 12:00 Mailvis

12:00-2:00 Outshyne (Country & Top 40)

2:00-2:45 Mailvis

3:00-5:00 Too Much Sylvia (Beach & Top 40)

Sunday, October 8

10:30-11:30 Praise Grass Band

11:30-12:00 Mailvis

12:00-2:00 Common Ground (Top 40)

2:00-2:45 Mailvis

3:00-5:00 Darrell Harwood (Country)

KIDS ZONE

Magician • Pumpkin Painting • Face Painting • Interactive Theater of Jef
Knightly Order of the Fiat Lux • Rock Wall & Bungee Jump
Soap Bubble Circus • 3-Story Inflatable Slide • Moon Bounce • Sand Man

VENDORS

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and in the food area

Check out our Heritage Village located at the Gem Mine!



Readers, time to fatten up on a great buffet

How much do we love fall? Readers will over-indulge in this smorgasbord of new books.

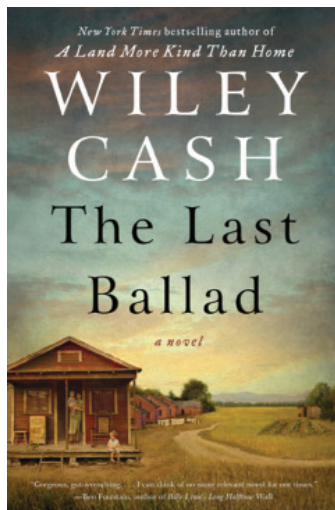
This is the one I'm most looking forward to: Wiley Cash's "The Last Ballad," about the 1929 labor union riots at the old Loray Mill in Gastonia, Cash's home town.

Cash uses millworker Ella May to tell the story to her daughter Lilly 75 years later, illuminating the now forgotten struggle of the labor movement in early 20th century America and paying homage to the men and women who risked their lives for basic rights.

Cash is the author of "A Land More Kind Than Home," a chilling tale of religious fervor gone horribly wrong, and "This Dark Road to Mercy," about children lost, found and then saved from desperate lives.

For non-fiction readers, Ron Chernow's "Grant" digs deep into Ulysses S. Grant's complex character and his battle with alcoholism. Chernow is the author of "Hamilton," which inspired the award-winning Broadway musical. Grant sought freedom and justice for black Americans, working to crush the Ku Klux Klan and earning the admiration of Frederick Douglass, who called him "the vigilant, firm, impartial, and wise protector of my race."

Ta-Nehisi Coates, who won the National Book Award for "Between the World and Me," examines politics, activism and the culture that



defined the Obama era in an essay collection, "We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy."

Jennifer Egan's long-awaited new novel, "Manhattan Beach," is a father-daughter love story told in rich historical detail, seven years after "A Visit From the Goon Squad."

From other notable names:

- T.C. Boyle's "The Relive Box and Other Stories." Here, Boyle focuses his unerring eye on humanity's relationship with nature, and the unintended consequences of our efforts to control it.

- "Fresh Complaint" by Jeffrey Eugenides, where well-off, well-intentioned people find their just-so lives upended, often in curious ways, in the author's first collection of short stories.

- Alice Hoffman presents "The Rules of Magic," a prequel to "Practical Magic."

- Are you a mystery maven? From Carolyn Hart comes "Ghost on the Case," while Dan Brown continues his Robert Langdon series with "Origin."

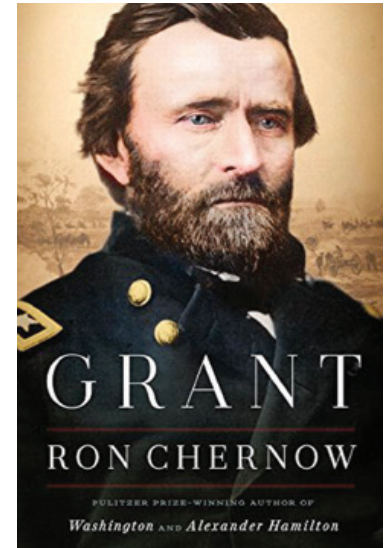
- Look for Mark Helprin's "Paris in the Present Tense," where 74-year-old Jules Lacour, veteran of the war in Algeria, and child of the Holocaust, must find a balance

between his strong obligations to the past and the attractions and beauties of life and love in the present. The prose has intoxicating beauty.

- New Yorker cartoonist Roz Chast has a new graphic novel, "Going into Town: A Love Letter to New York."

- Armistead Maupin will publish "Logical Family: A Memoir."

- Louise Erdrich is back with a dystopian tale, "Future of the Living God."



- Perennial favorite Ken Follett has written "A Column of Fire," continuing the hefty Kingsbridge saga historical novelist Follett began with "Pillars of the Earth" (1989) and "World Without End" (2007).

Meanwhile, Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill has a strong list of new books and accomplished authors.

Just out is "Savage Country: A Novel," by Robert Olmstead. It's the story of a widow bankrupted by her husband's folly who embarks on a buffalo hunt with her estranged brother-in-law. Every terror of the Wild West savages the group in this historically accurate account of the hunt. A must read for anyone who is a fan of Larry McMurtry and/or Philipp Meyer.

The folks at Algonquin are particularly excited about "The Floating World," by C. Morgan Babst, a story about a Creole family from the earliest days of New Orleans as they try to reassemble their lives after Hurricane Katrina. Babst is a New Orleans native who studied at Yale. Her family evacuated one day before Katrina hit. **S**

THROUGH THE LENS // by jon c. lakey

Small crescent shafts of light filter through the leaves onto a white building during the solar eclipse Aug. 21.



Cathy Griffin

I was born and raised in Salisbury and have been in the real estate business for over 26 years! I love what I do because I get to meet new people and make lifelong friends through Century 21 Towne & Country.

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Ashlee McNabb

As a Salisbury native, I graduated from Catawba College in May 2017 with an Integrated Marketing and Communications degree. While at Catawba I was an active member in the American Marketing Association, and Phi Beta Lambda Business Club. I completed my internship with Cathy and after graduation I jumped straight in to real estate courses to get my license. I'm excited to be on Cathy's team and look forward to serving you!

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Drama king

Kolkebeck looks to put Lee Street on the map nationally. / by MARK WINEKA

Craig Kolkebeck has made a living in the entertainment business for 32 years.

His latest roles as artistic director for Lee Street theatre and assistant professor of theater arts at Catawba College have allowed Kolkebeck to be close to the Salisbury families of father Ken and brother Bruce.

Craig, 60, grew up in the small Long Island, N.Y., town of Carle Place.

“Dad was a traveling salesman,” Kolkebeck says, “and in the summers he would pack us up in the car and take us across the U.S. and back (three times). He later built a house in pieces in our garage from plans from a Popular Mechanics magazine, trucked it up to the Catskills and set it on 6 acres of land.”

The Kolkebeck kids spent many a summer and winter day there, and Craig befriended a local boy who lived on a retired farm.

“We would invent all kinds of games and characters, and I think that’s where I got my imagination,” Kolkebeck says. “Dad would always manage to find summer employment for us three boys. My oldest brother went off one summer to work on a ranch, Bruce went off to work on a farm.

“By the time I was of age, the farmer quit that and started building houses so I learned carpentry at the age of 14. It was there that I learned the value of hard work.”

Kolkebeck ended up going to St. Lawrence University and the University of Texas, earning degrees in music and theater arts before becoming both a professional actor and director. His various productions have taken him to Europe, Japan, Russia and across the United States.

At Catawba College, Kolkebeck teaches beginning acting for non-majors and acting for the camera.

Salisbury the Magazine recently caught up with this Rowan Original, who came to Salisbury in 2006:



— Photo by Jon C. Lakey



Who or what led you into acting and directing?

Basically, I have been acting since I was 4 years old, however, leading a life in this business was not what I set out to do. I really wanted to work in radio and did for a long time. All along the way, I continued to act throughout school, etc. I even worked for a short time with the now defunct Triple O 97FM in Statesville. Once the station became automated, I was out of a job and so I headed back to New York. Unable to land radio work, I wound up working for a company that made four-color scanners. After about a year, a friend, professor and mentor from undergrad called me out of the blue and asked what I had been doing. When I told him, he said, “Well, that’s a waste of talent. Come out to Texas, look at our master’s program and if you like it, I’ll get you a teacher’s assistantship and you can get your M.A. in theatre arts. That’s what I did and I haven’t stopped since.

What do you consider your most memorable role as an actor and your biggest accomplishment as a director?

As an actor, playing “Teach” in David Mamet’s “American Buffalo” sticks out among all of them. I want to remount the production here, but I’m not sure Salisbury’s quite ready for this show. As a director, I have several that really resonate. Mike Wiley’s “The Parchman Hour” here at Lee Street, “Deadman’s Cellphone” at Catawba College and “The Crane Wife” at Children’s Theatre of Charlotte.

Who are a couple of the biggest talents you’ve directed over the years?

By biggest talents I guess you are meaning of Salisbury and surrounding area. Hands down, that would be Bob Paolino. Not only have I directed him, I’ve acted side-by-side with him and he’s a dream. He’s everything that you want in an actor — a hard worker, full of life, responds quickly to direction, argues back if he disagrees, is a strong ensemble player and is

just a lot of fun every day. The rest are women who emotionally move me every time I work with them. Gabby Stephenson, Karina Moran, Rona-Lyn Dizon, Tameka Brown — these are strong actors who continually blow me away with their performances.

Describe the procedure Lee Street theatre goes through in developing a season of productions. Is it a democratic process, and how much input do you have?

Ultimately, the final decision is mine, and I’m fortunate that the board of directors entrusts me with this responsibility. However, I rely on submissions as well as my own research to find plays that best fit the Lee Street mission and will entertain as well as enlighten our audiences.

With Lee Street’s 10th season, what productions are you especially looking forward to?

I’m really looking forward to directing “Running on Fire.” I have a former student and friend, Daniel Brown, who is currently working for the O’Neill Theatre Center in Connecticut. Many don’t know that this is THE theatre for workshopping and developing new work and to have a play selected for development by the O’Neill is quite an honor. I had called Daniel to see if it were possible to get some of the plays that the O’Neill had done to us for possible consideration for the upcoming season. “Running on Fire” was hands down the best of the best of those submissions.

Aurin Squire is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter and reporter currently writing for the NBC television show “This is Us.” My initial conversations with him regarding his play are inspiring, and he will be a part of the rehearsal process in the week before we open. This will be the first fully realized production of this play — meaning beyond script-in-hand readings of it, complete with all the elements of a finished production. If it gets published, Lee Street will be at the front of the publication as the first producer of the play.

It’s a really big deal. Beyond that, I think it’s a great work for Salisbury and has the potential to put Lee Street on the map nationally.

You can wax poetic here if you want, but what’s the beauty of a live show in the kind of theater space Lee Street provides?

Lee Street’s open floor plan allows for an ever-changing way in which a production can be done. Whether it be arena, proscenium, thrust, transverse styles, the audience is intimately close to the performance.

What are your favorite ways to spend your free time outside of teaching and the theater?

I deeply love my wife and dogs and working on our latest project — fixing and restoring our 117-year-old home — and my 93-year-old father and his wife. Any time I get to spend with them is quality time. Other than that — hopping on my motorcycle and heading out for a long drive over twisty roads with the wind in my face.

What’s your pet peeve?

Narrow-mindedness, dishonesty and hatred.

What are two foods usually in your fridge or pantry?

Seltzer water and lemonade (my cocktail of choice) and ice cream in the freezer (my vice).

If you could go back and talk to a young Craig Kolkebeck today, what piece of advice would you give him?

“Run — run as fast as you can!” No, seriously, I think I would have had some serious conversations about things I know now as an adult work-in-progress. I would have told myself to be more focused in my direction career-wise, spent some serious time in Manhattan and gone to some better schools for my education as an actor and director, stayed away from alcohol, and trusted myself. **S**



The Stag & Doe has been operating in the same location along U.S. 29 in China Grove since 1953.



Sandra Rogers and Olene Morton enjoyed a meal and the company. Olene and her husband opened the Stag & Doe in 1953.

Keeping it special

From lasagna to salmon, loyal customers find plenty to like at Stag & Doe.

Written by SUSAN SHINN TURNER | *Photography by* JON C. LAKEY

CHINA GROVE — The year was 1953. Dwight Eisenhower was inaugurated as the 34th president, and Queen Elizabeth ascended the throne in England.

The first polio vaccine was developed, and the first color television was sold. And in China Grove, Stag & Doe opened.

Back then — as incredible as it seems now — the restaurant,

located at 1770 U.S. 29, was the only place between Charlotte and Greensboro where you could buy pizza. Lasagna became an early menu favorite. But the menu has evolved over the years as customers' tastes have changed. Nowadays, you'll find owner Gary Morton making fish tacos on a Friday night.

The specials board is just that, he says. "We try to keep it special — something local, something fresh."

Gary and his brother, Dana, have run Stag & Doe for the past 32 years. They took over from their parents, Olene Morton and her late husband, Dan, who ran it for 32 years before that. Brother Mark lives out of town and had to chuckle recently when he vis-



Above: Donny and Priscilla Weaver join Kinsley, Lisa and Ken Deal for a meal in the bar area of the Stag & Doe. Below left: Nancy and Jimmy Linn come to the Stag & Doe once a week for a meal. The couple pose with a large salt water rod and reel in the corner of the restaurant as they wait for a table to open up. Center: Fish tacos. Below right: Local sports memorabilia hang on the wall.



ited — the patrons at the bar were the exact same ones who had been there the last time he visited, and they were sitting in the exact same spots.

Pizza is still on the menu, and the restaurant is also known for its steaks, which Gary cuts by hand. He says that seafood has really taken over the last decade.

“We fly our salmon in from Canada,” he notes. “It just produces a better fish.”

On a recent Saturday evening, the 10-ounce salmon arrives at the table, seared on both sides and cooked to perfection.

The menu also includes grilled shrimp, and Alaskan halibut is among the seafood specials, along with mahi mahi. All of the fish Stag & Doe serves comes from Stone Seafood, just up the hill. Gary owns the strip of land that contains the seafood market, and he has a great working relationship with its owner, Rock Stone (no kidding, that’s really his name).

“If you eat fish at a high-end restaurant in Charlotte,” Gary says, “it comes from Stone Seafood.”

Gary says the secret to the lasagna is in the sauce, which his dad developed after eating at an Italian restaurant when Gary was 3 or 4. The younger Morton ate about three plates of spaghetti.

“Dad thought that might be something to look into,” Gary says, grinning. “The sauce has a little spice, a little heat to it.”

The restaurant continues to serve certified Angus beef, he adds. “We’ve never cut down on the quality of our beef.”

Baby back ribs are sourced locally from Frank Corriher Beef and Sausage. Gary buys fresh produce, including plantains, mangoes, papaya and taco shells from Acapulco Grocery on North Cannon Boulevard in Kannapolis.

“People are missing out if they’re not exploring places like that,” Gary says.

The secret to a good menu, he explains, is that “it’s got to be fresh. You can’t let your corporate food distributors set your menu for you. We source as much locally as we can. We always have. It’s what your grandma and



Above: Sharon Kolbasowski, a 25-year employee, tends to her customers in the bar area of the restaurant.



Right: Tisha Kelly hands out grilled chicken to Gary Barnes through the popular call in window.

grandpa did — farm to table. It’s not a new concept.”

The customers clearly embrace it. The restaurant is open four nights a week, Wednesday-Saturday, 4-10 p.m., and Stag & Doe nearly always has a line when the doors open just before 4. If you’re not there by 5:30 on the weekends, you’ll have to wait. But the wait is pleasant enough, because so many of the customers know one another.

“Customers, that’s the only answer to it,” he says of the restaurant’s success. “For many

years, I tried to figure out why 90 percent of new restaurants closed within a year. Why is that statistic so hard and fast? The answer became simple: They didn’t have customers. When you have a chain restaurant, you have a built-in base. But if you’re an independent, you open without customers. It takes at least three years to build that base.”

After 64 years, Stag & Doe has that foundation. The restaurant’s customers, Gary says, are evenly split between locals and those who come from a 50-mile radius, including Wel-

come, Mount Pleasant, Mooresville and Albemarle.

Donny and Priscilla Weaver come from their nearby business, Landis Plumbing, four nights a week.

“We’re just working 2 miles down the road,” Priscilla says. “I get a salad and grilled chicken. We also like their pizza. My husband likes their salmon. We like everything they have.”

Priscilla started coming in 1964, and her husband grew up going with his dad, so he’s been going 60 years, she says.

“We’ve both been in family businesses our whole lives,” she says. “We like to support local businesses, plus it’s good food.”

Mackie and Merley Basinger, who live between China Grove and Salisbury, have been going to Stag & Doe for 25 years. Each Friday night, they go with their friends Lee and Kay Powell.

“We go early so we can beat the crowd,” Merley says. “We usually eat in the bar. We love the fellowship and seeing the China Grove people.”

Merley either orders spaghetti or lasagna, while Mackie favors the shrimp.

Mackie taught Gary in school, Merley says, “and he still calls him Mr. Basinger.”

Just as important to Gary are his co-workers.

“We don’t have high turnover,” he says. “We have co-workers who have been with us 30 and 40 years.”

Julie Deal and Tisha Kelly have long worked the drive-through together, although Julie now just fills in from time to time.

“We just love the people,” Julie says. She and Tisha are also longtime co-workers at King Eye Center in China Grove. “We just enjoy working together. We have a routine that flows well. The customer interaction is a lot of fun.”

About the name. Gary’s dad served in the Merchant Marines after entering World War II



Kay and Lee Powell, from China Grove, and Mackie and Merley Basinger of Salisbury chat in the parking lot after a meal.

at 17. He visited a pub in England called the Stag & Doe, and made up his mind that he’d someday have a restaurant in North Carolina by that same name.

“We’ve got people who come here four nights a week,” Gary says. “We’re in our third and fourth generation of customers.”

Gary’s mom, Olene, comes in every Thursday and Friday night. It’s hard for her to eat anywhere else, she says. Even though their boys took over the restaurant in the 1980s, she says, Dan still went to the restaurant every day he could until his death in 1990.

“We did spend a lot of time at the beach,”

Olene says, “but if he was in town, he was behind the counter.”

Looking ahead, Gary plans to expand the restaurant’s carry-out service, which already does a brisk business. At present, half and full pans of lasagna are on that menu, as well as a half-pan of chicken pasta. You can also order pans of salad with homemade dressing.

Growing up in the restaurant, Gary has learned an important fact: “The thing about owning a restaurant — you’re only as good as you were last week. You’ve got to be fresh and new every year. Otherwise, you’re gon-

na be that old restaurant where people used to go.”

Learn more at www.staganddoenc.com. **S**

Susan Shinn Turner is a freelance writer living in Raleigh.

“We’ve got people who come here four nights a week. We’re in our third and fourth generation of customers.”

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Dressed for the part

Eastern Costume Company
makes the show.

Written by DEIRDRE PARKER SMITH

Photography by JON C. LAKEY

Where can you find the Cowardly Lion, Pink Ladies and a Renaissance princess?

Where the cheerleaders from “Bring It On!” and powder blue tuxedos and pirates hang out — Eastern Costume

Company.

In a basement at 112 B S. Main St. are more than 40,000 costumes, everything from the hat and hands of Lumière from “Beauty and the Beast” to a Roman soldier.

Ashley Ward presides over rooms full of costumes and knows where everything is. Racks hang ceiling to floor with theatrical costumes, created over the last 30-plus years, along with mascots, military garb, Santa suits, more hats than you can count, wigs, Madrigal robes, judge’s robes, nun’s habits and enough capes to cover the shoulders of a hundred or more.

When Piedmont Players bought and moved Eastern from Greensboro in 2015, it was a massive undertaking, requiring a quick organizational plan that Ashley worked out as they set things up.



Siblings Penny and Jacob Ward try on some of the costumes at Eastern Costume Company on South Main Street.





Ashley Ward works on a alteration at the Eastern Costume Co.



This is not just the place to find a Halloween costume, or an outfit for a party, this is a resource for theater companies and schools up and down the East Coast.

It was founded in the 1970s by Juanita Dunlap in Greensboro, then was destroyed by a fire in 1986 — everything was gone except for the one show that was rented out at the time. Dunlap began rebuilding immediately, fulfilling requests without ever saying “No.” That’s when Ashley started. She had little experience, but she learned on the job, and fast.

When Dunlap wanted to retire, Piedmont Players director Reid Leonard saw an opportunity. Piedmont relied on Eastern Costume Co. for many of its costumes, because, like any theatrical company, they could rent an entire show’s worth.

Ward can alter the costumes before they go out. “We provide costumes to people we never even see,” she says. “So we rely on this measurement sheet,” she says, showing sheets that ask for every sort of measurement, not

THE ARTS

just small, medium or large — neck measurements, shoulder to elbow, underarm to waist, neck to waist back, waist to knee, around below the knee, inseam, outer seam, wrist, bicep and more.

“People can’t lie about measurements or the costume won’t fit. If the pants are too short, they didn’t give the right measurements or they didn’t put their correct height.”

While she’s showing us around, a woman came in with fabric. Eastern had been hired to make a pair of pants for a stiltwalker, and he wanted to add some details.

Another woman came in to talk about costumes for a school play. Yet another woman came in returning a costume — Dorothy from the “Wizard of Oz.” There are a number of Dorothys, by the way, from children sizes up to 16.

When church folk come looking for “old-timey” days, Ashley picks out outfits that have a theme like “Little House on the Prairie.”

The row of white shirts and frilly tuxedo shirts seems to go on forever. Women’s skirts take a lot of space, with lots of black, and every style through time.

There’s a section of boas of all colors, too, and in one room are a number of wedding dresses that have been rented for weddings and used in plays.

A lot of their military garb was donated — the uniforms, and especially the hats and helmets — are vintage.

Go down the hall past a slightly creepy stack of giant bunny heads into the seasonal room, where you’ll find boxes of Santa wigs, an entire rack of Santa suits, elf outfits, and in the back, Halloween items, round pumpkin costumes, tomatoes and a demon.

“We rent adult-size costumes, but not adult-themed costumes,” Ashley says. “And we will not carry those sorts of outfits. You have to go somewhere else for that.” She adds, “We do have some French maids,” but that’s about it.

Ashley says many people simply buy cheap



Halloween costumes that last for one wearing, basically. “But what we have here is higher quality. It holds together and it looks better.” That said, you can find a set of tiger ears and tail packaged for sale on one wall.

Speaking of accessories, their inventory is impressive.



Need a cravat? A jabot? How about a ruff?

Do you need to be a blonde, redhead, gray- or white-haired for a time? Wigs fill boxes and boxes.

Bowties and hair accessories, crinolines, bustles and more are available, too. Every drawer in a display case is crammed full of bits and bobs to make outfits complete.

But no shoes.

“We’d never have enough room for all different size shoes,” Ashley says.

Prized possessions include 40-year-old industrial sewing machines that are fast and dependable, along with fancy Brother machines that make different stitches.

When the rights to perform the musical “Hairspray” were released, they made a whole set of costumes. “Beauty and the Beast” got the same treatment. She expects “Wonder Woman” will be next, and points out they cannot replicate a costume, because like the movies and plays the costumes are for, they are copyrighted. A rental costume has to be at least 20 percent different from the original. That’s why Mr. Mouse and Miss Mouse are there, along with a large yellow bird.

THE ARTS



But the real focus of Eastern Costume Co. is not the odd character here or there. They make costumes for the theater, first and foremost.

And the costumes are rented out again and again as different theaters and schools do productions.

Piedmont Players added its 5,000 costumes, and since Eastern has been in Salisbury, they've probably built 500 or more new costumes, in addition to the 40,000 that moved.

People like to rent from Eastern because the company alters, cleans and repairs everything. Cleaning is a huge undertaking, but Eastern takes care of it, with laundry facilities on site.

Alterations are also key. Not just for the stage, but for individuals. Now that Maia's Fashions is closed, as well as Dee's Alterations, Eastern is one of the few places to get clothes altered.

When George Washington came to Salisbury recently, 85 costumes from the correct period were rented.

Where else could you find the dance outfits from "A Chorus Line" and the leather jackets from "Grease" right next to each other? In the

A bald eagle hat that was made at the Eastern Costume Co. A state naturalist will wear the hat while they teach educational programs for an N.C. state park in eastern North Carolina.



children's section, a number of mermaids are hanging around the racks. When you walk in, you'll notice a knight right away. He's wearable, and quite heavy.

Men's suits from every decade since the early 19th century are available, as well as women's dresses. Over there is "Brigadoon" and on this side, carolers from the era of Charles

Dickens.

A section of black and white dresses is for the derby scene in "My Fair Lady," and hangs next to outfits perfect for the Emerald City.

There's a fantasy of fantasies in this basement, with creativity always in play. The show must go on, and it can only do so with the right costumes. **S**



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Martha and Harrison Smith stand in their breakfast room amid some of their vintage radios — Crosley dashboards to the left and two Zenith tombstone radios of burl maple on the right, with a small racetrack radio between them.

TUNED IN TO HISTORY

Smiths' collection traces radio's golden years.

Written by ELIZABETH COOK

Photography by JON C. LAKEY



A prized Stratosphere has intricate inlaid wood patterns and the classic 'cat in the Strat' — a cat figurine in the speaker well. Above is a photo of Harrison as a Navy captain. Martha was an Army major.

The radio industry was just hitting its stride when the elegant brick home at 528 S. Fulton St. was built for Dr. F.B. Spencer and his wife, Olive Abernathy Spencer, in 1924.

Now the golden age of radio is represented in nearly every room of the house.

Harrison and Martha Smith moved into the Spencer House last year, bringing with them a collection of 130 antique radios that Harrison has been gathering since 1969.

The radios range from classic Stratospheres in exotic wood cabinets with intricate inlays to novelty models shaped like horses or Disney characters.

In between are a rainbow of Crosley dashboards, a bevy of Bakelites and a serious number of tombstones.

Those and many more antiques will be on display when the Smiths' house is on Historic Salisbury Foundation's annual OctoberTour on Oct. 14 and 15. The Smiths are the newest participants in a Salisbury tradition that began four decades ago.

Martha came to Salisbury in July 2015, when she became chief of nutrition care at the Hefner VA Medical Center and rented an apartment on Julian Road.

Harrison, a retired professor and Navy veteran, followed the next year.

When it was time to look for a house, they told the real estate agent helping them to think big. Their possessions would be delivered by a tractor-trailer, instead of the usual moving

van to Salisbury.

The need for lots of space, plus Martha's attraction to historic districts — and the agent's knowledge that the Spencer House was about to go on the market — landed them in the house at the corner of Fulton and Marsh streets.

Famed Charlotte architect Louis H. Asbury designed the house in an Italian Renaissance style. It's said to have influenced the design of a number of Salisbury houses, particularly in nearby Fulton Heights.

The Spencer House sits just two doors down from the Hambley-Wallace mansion that will also be on the tour. Among the Spencer House's distinctive features are its green ceramic tile roof, symmetric sun porches and beautiful beveled glass in every pane of the sun porches and its French doors.

Martha is especially fond of the sun porches, which remind her of her grandmother's house in the Detroit area where she grew up.

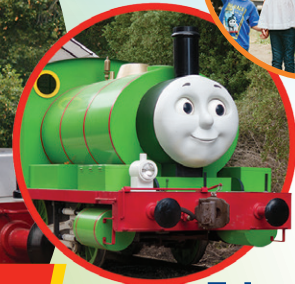
The Smiths sat on the southern sun porch one August afternoon for an interview, surrounded by rare lamps, art pottery and vintage radios. Someone has done a lot of collecting.



An ornate walnut cupboard fits perfectly in the dining room.



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"I'm the guilty person in that regard," Harrison says.

Harrison grew up in the small Louisiana town of Ringgold. He says his passion for the aesthetics springs from two one-hour courses — art appreciation and music appreciation — that he took at the Southern University of Baton Rouge.

The courses sparked an interest in the arts that still burns brightly.

Harrison was intrigued by a Depression-era cathedral radio he spotted in a store window on a Sunday afternoon in Chicago in 1969, and his interest in vintage radios took off.

Much of his radio collection is from the 1930s and 1940s, when radio was the only broadcast medium and families gathered around to listen to everything from the Amos'n'Andy to President Franklin Roosevelt's fireside chats.

Harrison is one of a handful of people who

have acquired all three models of Zenith's Stratosphere, the ultimate in radio luxury in the 1930s. His Z1000 model is one of only 29 in the world, Harrison says. It stands in the living room with the classic "cat in the Strat" — a cat figurine sitting in the speaker alcove.

Harrison and Martha met when they were both working at Eastern Michigan University. They married about 10 years later, in 2008, and Harrison's solo collecting passion became a team activity. The internet has been indispensable for finding rare items, and the Smiths regularly attend estate sales.

A zither and clowns holding musical instruments stand atop the music room bookcase, with a disc-playing music box called a polyphon nearby.



Story continues on page 36.

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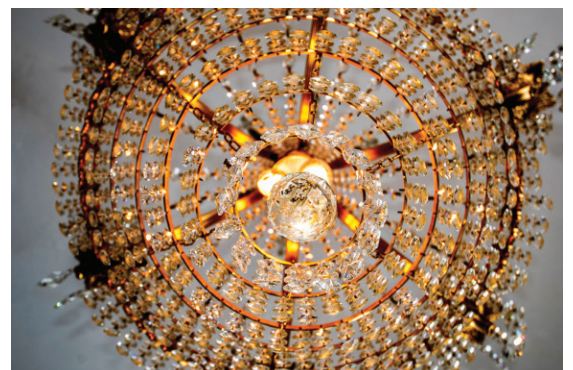


Above: The green tile roof and symmetrical sunrooms are distinctive features of the Spencer House on South Fulton Street, built in 1924 for Dr. and Mrs. F.B. Spencer and now owned by Harrison and Martha Smith. Below left: The oil painting over the sunroom mantel was done by Tatyana Shurtz. Below right: A bedroom has some of the Smith's antique furniture and other collectibles.





Clockwise from above: Dashboard radios came in a variety of colors. A beautiful chandelier hangs in the dining room. On the stairway landing, glass-paned doors hang on the wall. The Smiths also collect art glass and lamps, such as these in the sunroom.



"I'm more musically inclined," says Martha, who plays the French horn and the piano. Her interests are represented in the music room, which holds an 1865 upright piano made of Brazilian rosewood, a phonograph that looks like a piano, a zither harp and an 1880s disc-playing music box called a polyphon.

The Smiths' art pottery includes names like Teco, Fulper and Pierrefonds. The vase and lamp collection includes distinctive pieces by French art glass maker Emile Gallé.

In addition to the porches, the first floor of the house includes a living room, music room, dining room, kitchen and breakfast room, with evidence of the Smiths' eclectic collections throughout.

Not everything was shipped in from storage in Washington state, where they lived for several years. The massive hutch in the dining room and a Tiffany lamp came from Lloyd's

Antiques in Misenheimer, for example.

The breakfast room may contain the most radios of any spot in the house. Harrison's favorite tombstone radios — named for their shape — sit on one cabinet. Art Deco Bakelites are assembled in another area.

Colorful Crosley dashboards fill the shelves of one more case.

"We lost a box of them on the freeway once," Martha says. She and Harrison were on their way to a radio show when people in cars passing by started pointing to the back of their truck. The gate was open, and a box of the radios fell out.

"We were all over the freeway picking things up," she says. "The police were helping us."

That brings back memories of another accident — the time Harrison was rushing off to teach a class and he hit a blue mirror radio as he put on his jacket. The radio shattered.

"I stopped collecting because it broke my heart," he says. He recovered three or four years later when he found another of the rare radios and bought it.

The staircase leading to the second floor of the Smiths' house features a large landing where they have hung an arched, stained-glass door from Washington state — the only part of her house that a woman wanted when she and her husband divorced, a dealer told them. The door hangs between two other decorative glass doors that Harrison says were once in a Lloyd's of London building.

In several spots around the house hang small Persian silk rugs that Harrison framed with wood from Pakistani camel chairs — a project he took up during the five years he and Martha lived in South Korea, shortly before arriving in Salisbury.

Harrison claimed one of the five upstairs



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bedrooms for an office. Another bedroom has been colorfully decorated for their grandchildren. That's where you'll find two Snow White radios, a clown portrait painted by Red Skelton and a Raggedy Ann mosaic.

The other bedrooms contain many antiques, including a 1920s Art Deco suite of solid Brazilian rosewood.

A trip to the finished basement finds the area where the Smiths spend most of their time. In addition to a seating area, it holds a baby grand piano, a bar, wine cellar and dozens of clown figurines purchased at an estate sale in Greensboro.

The figurines complement oil-on-canvas paintings of clowns that the Smiths had already collected.

They have cowboy radios — that is, radios shaped like cowboys. Harrison says there's a cowgirl radio out there somewhere that he would like to acquire.

He would also like to find what may be the rarest of radios, the Crosley WLW Super Heterodyne — priced at around \$100,000, he says — and more marbelized Bakelites and blue mirrors.

The house sits on a near-acre lot that stretches the full depth of the block — a roomy setting for the neighborhood's annual Halloween party coming up soon.

Martha loves parties. "They're a lot of fun to go to, and they're fun to give," she says.

A feature for future parties sits outside the back door, a life-size bronze horse standing in a crate.

That's Preakness, they say, who is to be positioned on a brick design in the driveway — a suitable prop for a Derby party in May. **S**

On the wall in the music room hangs one of several silk rugs Harrison Smith framed with camel-chair wood.



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Harrison and Martha Smith, here getting playful in the breakfast room, collect items like the rare blue mirror radios and clock atop the cabinet.



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ROYAL RESIDENCE

Hambley-Wallace mansion offers wonderment around every corner.

Written by MARK WINEKA

Photography by JON C. LAKEY



The exterior of the Hambley-Wallace estate as seen from South Fulton Street in Salisbury.



Part of the intriguing
roofline of what has been
called Salisbury's Biltmore.

M

Many attempts have been made over the years to describe the Hambley-Wallace House, the stately mansion anchoring South Fulton Street in Salisbury since 1903.

It is often called Salisbury's Biltmore, a nod to the Vanderbilt estate in Asheville. Historians, who know these kinds of things, also say it represents one of the country's finest examples of the Chateausque architectural style.

Covering 10,000 square feet and 20 rooms, the house always has been a showstopper, and surely it will be again when it highlights the 2017 October-Tour Oct. 14-15. This is the first time the mansion has been on the house tour since 2012, when owners Lee and Mona Lisa Wallace had just finished a complete rehabilitation of the house and grounds.

Beyond its sheer grandness, the house is historic if merely for its two primary owners over the years — E.B.C. Hambley and Leo C. Wallace Jr.



One of the mansion's many bedrooms. — Photo courtesy of the Wallace family.



Above: The sidewalk leading to the front door.
Right: The classically styled staircase.



Above: A dormer with a door on a backyard building. Left: One of the ornate spires of the mansion.



Above: The granite entrance off South Fulton Street.
Left: The dining room.



The rose garden on the south side of the estate.

Egbert Barry Cornwall Hambley, a Cornish mining and civil engineer, originally came to Salisbury to rejuvenate gold mining in eastern Rowan County, but his dreams eventually turned to hydroelectric power and building the Whitney Dam. Hambley wanted a home to impress visiting investors in his projects, so he turned the lead design over to architect Charles Christian Hook of the Charlotte architectural firm of Hook and Sawyer.

What the architects gave Hambley was a two-and-a-half story masterpiece dominated by muscular local granite, pumpkin-colored brick, a (Vermont) slate roof, spires, pinnacles, turrets, gables, towers and chimneys.

The structure took from 1901-03 to build at a considerable cost for the day of \$50,000. The landscaping wasn't finished until 1904. The grounds include a carriage house, stables and servants quarters, also in the Chateausque style.

Inside, the home did not hold back on its use of maple, mahogany and oak, stained glass, mosaic marble tile, architectural mantels and fireplaces, elaborate chandeliers, brass fixtures and a classically detailed staircase.

The front parlor still features a white Rococo Revival-style plaster ceiling.



The house has a roof of Vermont slate.



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Wisteria vines reach up from the ground under the arbor.



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Hambley did not enjoy his showplace for long. He died of typhoid fever in 1906. Over its history, the house would be sold at auction twice — once for the remarkable price of \$38,000.

Hambley's widow sold the house to John Norwood in 1917. The property came into the Wallace family in 1927, when Leo C. Wallace Sr. and his wife, Ella Belle, made the purchase. It has stayed with the Wallace family ever since — an impressive run of 90 years.

Wallace Sr. was connected to the V. Wallace & Sons wholesale dry goods business. His son Leo Jr. and wife Virginia started living in the mansion in 1941, and they became the cou-

ple most associated with the home through the years.

Leo Jr., who died in 2010, made an indelible mark on Salisbury and Rowan County commerce through realty, property management and development, along with his family's longtime ownership of the Holiday Inn.

After Leo Jr.'s death and the purchase of the house by Lee and Mona Lisa Wallace, a two-year restoration guided by Janie and Spencer Lane brought the mansion back to life. At times, upwards of 50 craftsmen often would be on the site working.

Janie Lane led the rejuvenation of the grounds, which will be part of the October-Tour experience. Lane returned to health the rose garden, which had been cherished by both Ella Belle Wallace and her daughter-in-law Virginia.

Ancient wisteria vines still cover a back ar-

bor, which had to be rebuilt. Bamboo had to be cut back considerably and was fashioned into a boundary hedge on the south side. Bathrooms and a preparatory kitchen were installed into the servant quarters, which help when the mansion is home for charitable events.

The old stables were left pretty much as is. An original elevator cage from the Wallace Building (today's Plaza building on the Square) serves as a trellis in the back yard

The front lawn features a giant Japanese ginkgo tree, planted in 1917. It is considered one of the finest examples of the Japanese ginkgo in the state.

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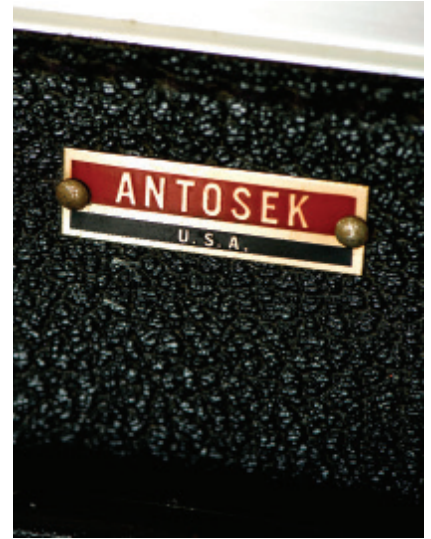


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MADE IN SALISBURY

The Antosek family had baggage — the good kind.

Written by MARK WINEKA | *Photography by* JON C. LAKEY

Once in a while in an airport, Ed Antosek will be standing next to the baggage carousel when he sees an Antosek suitcase going around.

He can't help but think of grandparents, parents, siblings and cousins who at one time were involved in producing Antosek luggage, first in Philadelphia, and then from 1957-73 in Salisbury.



Louis Antosek, left, and Joseph Antosek Sr. at the Salisbury shop in 1957. —Submitted photo



Margie, Pete, Ed and Michele Antosek at the former manufacturing shop for Antosek luggage at 315 E. Council St.

After the luggage manufacturing operation moved to Salisbury, the nameplate under “Antosek” read “USA” in black. Prior to that, the nameplate included “Phila., Pa.” under “Antosek.” So “USA” served as the clue a piece was made in Salisbury, not Philly.

“You wonder how many pieces are out there,” said Margie Antosek, a retired pharmacist and Ed’s cousin.

Brothers Louis and Joseph Antosek ran the Salisbury factory that produced Antosek & Sons luggage. These Antosek brothers married sisters, Eileen and Peggy Masterson, and that made all their children — 12 of them, to be exact — double first cousins.



A scorecard would help in keeping up with the Antoseks.

Joseph and Peggy Antosek had four children: Margie, Joseph Jr., Peter and Louis.

Louis and Eileen Antosek had eight kids: Edward, Joseph F., William, Mari, Michele, Rosemary, Richard and Sally.

Of the 12 cousins, 10 worked at one time or another at the luggage plant. It was simply family tradition — and an expectation — to

work in the factory and also a way for the Antoseks to keep track of their many children. The Antosek kids relied on hand tools and machinery that also had been used by their dads and grandfather Michael.

Not only did the Antosek cousins work and play together, they attended the same church and schools. Their homes were around the corner from each other in the Ridgewood subdivision of Salisbury.

The “shop,” as the Antoseks liked to call it, operated at 315 E. Council St., not far from the railroad tracks and across the street from the old Cheerwine plant and Saleeby Produce.

“You won’t see a place like that nowadays,” Margie said.

Still in their school uniforms, the Antosek kids routinely stopped in at the shop after classes and also worked there on Saturdays and during long, hot summers. Cross-trained, they got to know virtually every job in the plant, becoming familiar with all aspects of a piece of luggage — the vinyl or rubber molds, leather, stitching, lining, framing, rivets, elastic bands, hinges, nails, dividers, mirrors, pockets, handles and flip-up locks.

“It gave us all a work ethic,” Michele Antosek said. When they reported for work, the Antosek kids

Noted Salisbury actor Sidney Blackmer appeared in this advertisement for Antosek in the 1960s.



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Peggy (Margaret) and Joseph Antosek with their children Margie, Joe, Pete and Louis.

— Photo courtesy of Claire Brinkley

never knew what their assignment would be that particular day. Whatever it was, they were encouraged to be fast. They made their work into games, and the winners' names were written on the plant walls.

Ed Antosek recently reminded his cousin Pete about taping frames together. "Peter," he said, "you and I were the first to beat your father."

Pete also recalled how meticulous everyone in the plant had to be.

"No mistakes," he said. "You did not make a mistake. There was no room for error."

"How dare you allow a drop of sweat get into that lining," Ed said.

Louis Antosek was the shop's quality control person. Nothing left the shop without his final inspection. Today's Antoseks say because of the workmanship and attention to detail few of the pieces were "botched," meaning they had to be sold as seconds.

"We made it so well, it never wore out," Ed said. "... That's one of the reasons why we're out of business today."

Competitors included companies such as Samsonite, American Tourister and Amelia Earhart Luggage.




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In Pennsylvania, the large Antosek family operated both a farm and a luggage-making shop in Philadelphia. Ed said his father, aunts and uncles either worked on the farm, at the luggage plant, or both. They all started young, as was tradition.

Louis and Joseph were drafted into the Army during World War II. Their father, Michael, ran the luggage company and hoarded all kinds of materials while his sons were fighting in Europe. He stored away leather, wooden boxes for frames, locks, rivets and surplus parachutes used later for linings.

As the Antoseks predicted it would, the luggage business after World War II exploded, especially with all the GIs coming home, getting married and going on honeymoons.

“And what did they need?” Ed asked rhetorically. “Suitcases!”

The Antosek plant in Philadelphia was working two shifts into the early 1950s to keep up with the new demand. Eventually, an aging Michael Antosek wanted out. Son Matthew Antosek branched off into his own luggage business, leaving Louis, Joseph and Charlie Antosek in the original business, which they renamed from M. Antosek Luggage to Antosek & Sons, in honor of Michael.

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Ed worked on and off at the shop from the time he was 6 (and still in Philadelphia) until his second year of medical school.

Before the luggage company closed for good, Pete Antosek made himself a whole set of Antosek luggage. Ed possessed the skills to do the same before he left for college. The retired Naval Flight Surgeon, now a senior aviation medical examiner in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., still has the set at his home in North Carolina.



You can trace Antosek luggage’s roots back to Hungary. Michael Antosek — the father of Louis and Joseph — learned some of the business in Budapest before immigrating to Philadelphia in 1900. Michael’s father and grandfather had made trunks, luggage and school bags in Hungary.

As the story goes, Michael Antosek would make bags and trunks for six months of the year, then travel all over Eastern Europe selling his wares. He became fluent in six languages, including “classic Yiddish,” the language of many merchants at the time.

phia, Louis and Joseph Antosek decided to move to the South, a non-union region where many of their customers were located. The Antoseks looked closely at Birmingham, Ala., then one of their salesmen, Jim Fry, told them about Statesville.

But the brothers and their wives wanted to live in a town with a Catholic church and a Catholic school. The late Leo Wallace lured the Antoseks to Salisbury, home of Sacred Heart Church and School.

Wallace first found them a location for their plant at 222 E. Fisher St., then 315 E. Council St. He also built them new homes in Ridgewood.

“He was very instrumental with us succeeding in Salisbury,” Margie Antosek said of Wallace.

This 1946 photo was taken on Louis and Eileen Antosek’s wedding day. To the far left is Eileen’s sister, Peggy (Margaret) Masterson, and Louis’ brother Joseph is at far right. Peggy and Joseph would marry later that same year, meaning the Masterson sisters married the Antosek brothers.

— Photo courtesy of Claire Brinkley

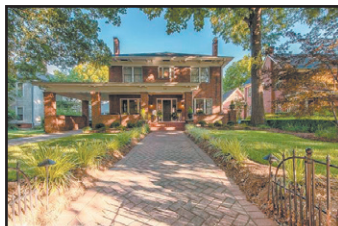


The family trip in 1957 from Philadelphia — one of the Antosek

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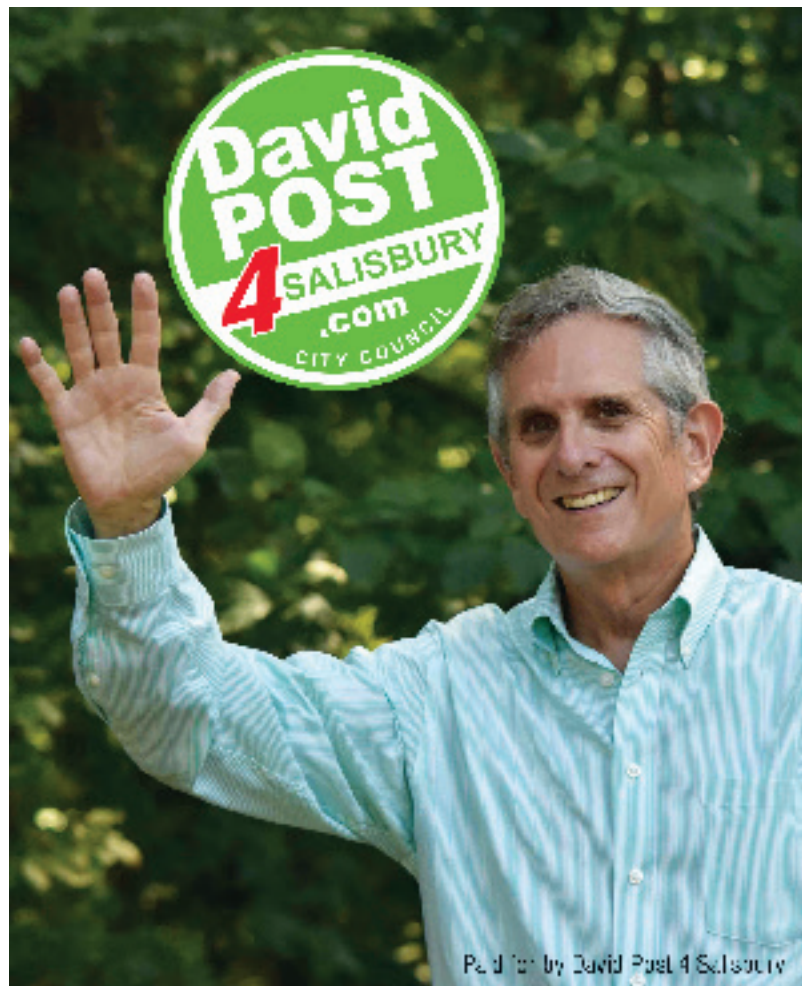


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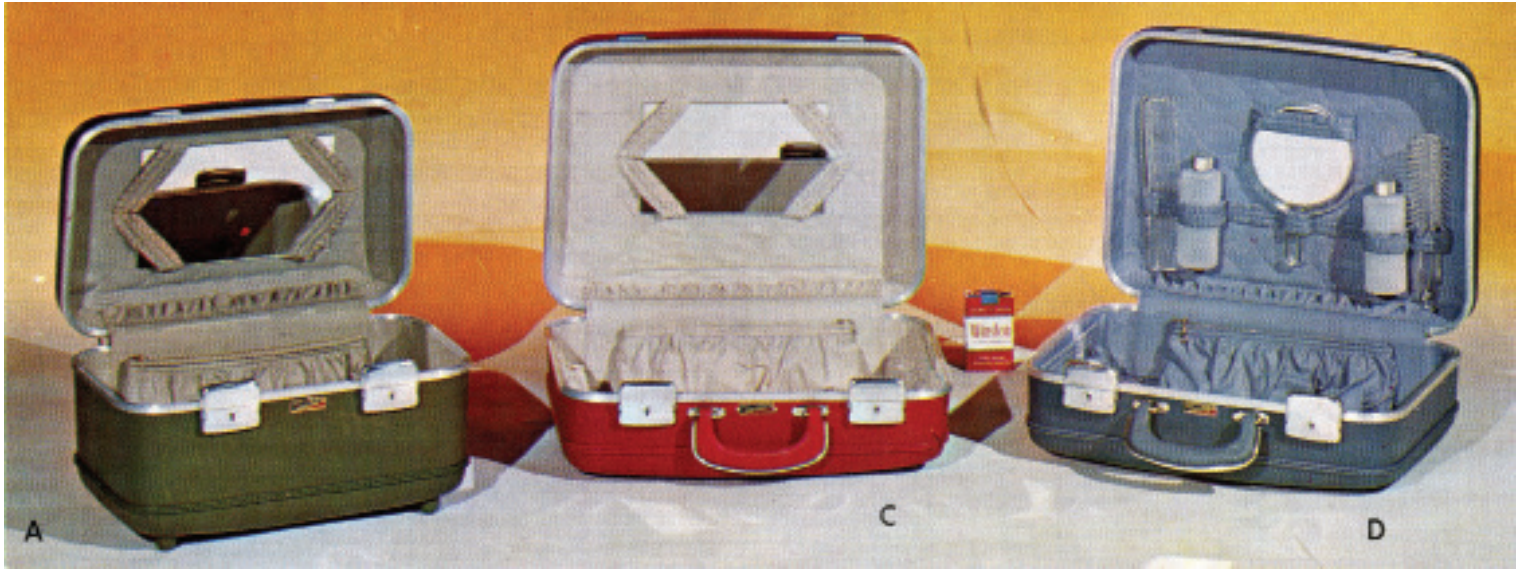


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These are pieces of Antosek luggage from the company's Sonic Flyte series. —Submitted photo

clans was in a nine-passenger station wagon — moved two whole households with 11 children total at the time, plus all the machinery and furnishings of a luggage plant.

The trucks moving everything were so heavy the Antoseks purposely stayed off roads with weigh stations so they could avoid fines.

The trip took a week to cover the 500 miles to Salisbury. Ed Antosek was 10 at the time, and cousin Pete was 7. Along with Michele and Margie, they said the Antosek kids viewed the move South as a big adventure.

By 1962 the Salisbury plant could make 500 to 600 pieces of luggage a week. Vacuum-molded Antosek shells were made by a rubber company in Winchester, Va., and shipped to Salisbury in lots of 500 and 1,000.

The Antosek luggage changed with the times. Wood, leather and brass gave way to vinyl and aluminum pieces that were lighter, stronger and more streamlined for air travel.

In the 1960s, the Antosek & Sons' basic travel set of "Sonic Flyte" luggage for women included a 14-inch train case, a 15-inch tote shoulder bag, the 16-inch Overnight, 16-inch Vanity, 21-inch Weekender, 24-inch Junior Pullman, 26-inch Senior Pullman and a 29-inch Family Pullman.

The men's Sonic Flyte set encompassed an



From left, Pete, Michele, Ed and Margie Antosek have lunch together at College Barbecue.

attache, a companion case, one-suiter, junior two-suiter, senior two-suiter and a 26-inch three-suiter.

Antosek guaranteed the luggage for eight years. In the 1960s, pieces came in colors such

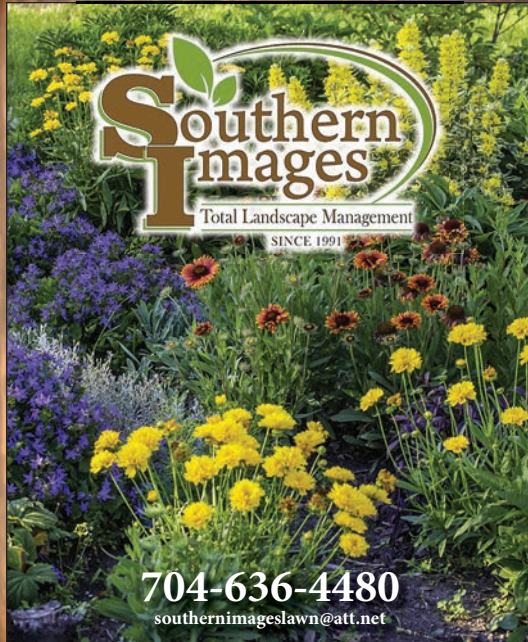
as avocado, blue, red, white and charcoal.

In Salisbury, Louis was president; Joseph Sr., vice president; Eileen, secretary; and Peggy, treasurer.

Antosek & Sons did not have a retail store associated with the plant, but the Antoseks quietly sold their luggage to special friends, such as Helen Black, Bob Martin and Jay Kirk.

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On occasion Eileen and Peggy would travel by train to Philadelphia to visit family. The train went from Salisbury to Washington to Philadelphia, and the women carried Antosek luggage every step of the way.

When they returned from one of the trips in the 1960s, “They said, “Please, figure out a way to put wheels on suitcases,” Michele Antosek recalled.

Their husbands balked at the idea, which was ahead of its time. They said it would take \$50,000 to retool the factory. “They still should have put a patent on it,” Michele said.

Peggy Antosek also had the idea to incorporate college logos on luggage, and the wives encouraged their husbands to place a billboard on Interstate 85, advertising a factory outlet at Antosek & Sons. Again, the Antosek men didn’t go for the suggestions.

The Antosek children have other stories of what could have been.

In 1963, Ed said, Louis Antosek took a call from Lee

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Iacocca, who wanted Antosek & Sons to make a piece of custom luggage for a new car he was developing, the Ford Mustang. The Antoseks actually made a prototype suitcase to fit in the trunk, but sales of the Mustang took off so dramatically after its introduction, Iacocca didn't worry about the enticement of luggage.

The Antosek kids — those double first cousins — stayed in college, Michele said, because the alternative was working in the shop back in Salisbury. Of Louis Antosek's eight children, seven have bachelor's degrees and five have advanced degrees.

Louis often advised his children against going into the luggage business. It was too labor intensive, luggage was a luxury good dependent on the economy and too many competitors were relying on foreign countries for cheaper labor.

Louis Antosek had a heart attack in 1971. The company was liquidated at auction in January 1973. After the sale, Joseph still kept a machine at his house to do repairs for friends who asked. "We repaired more of other people's luggage" than the Antosek brand, Pete said.


Joseph Antosek Sr. died in 1984; Louis, in 1986.

If you were wondering, yes, the Antosek children were paid for working at the shop. Ed remembered earning \$1 an hour when he turned 16. If he

made \$11 a week, his parents would deduct \$3 for room and board, he said, chuckling.

When they were younger, the Antosek kids might earn \$3 for working on Saturday. They would then hand that \$3 back to their father or uncle for safekeeping.

Pete Antosek, who became an electrical contractor with brothers Joe and Louis, said his father told him, "I'll give it back to you when you need it."

For a long time, Pete said, his father wore out those same three dollars. 

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Edwina Ritchie is the director of the Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House in Salisbury.

In their time of need

Rowan Hospice provides quality of life — at the end of life.

Written by SUSAN SHINN TURNER | *Photography by* JON C. LAKEY

As counterintuitive as it may seem, patients who enter hospice care actually experience an improvement in their quality of life, for whatever time they have left after being diagnosed with a life-limiting illness.

November is Hospice Month, but Edwina Ritchie, director of the Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House, loves any opportunity to share information about hospice.

“Hospice is able to offer a lot of support to patients and families, so that patients can have a better quality of life for the remainder of their lives,” she says. “Studies have shown that hospice patients live longer because their symptoms are managed. When your body is in a better state of comfort, you just feel better.”

And caregivers can then more fully embrace their role as family members, Ritchie says. “Hospice lifts an enormous burden from the caregiver.”

She adds, “Hospice cares for patients wherever they are, the

majority of which is home care. This mitigates the need to go back and forth to the hospital. We can manage symptoms so patients can be home, where they want to be.”

If a patient’s condition necessitates the need for in-patient care, the Kiser House is available. The hospice team includes home health aides, social workers and chaplains. It also includes doctors and nurses specially trained to manage end-of-life care, Ritchie notes. “We support family physicians in managing their symptoms. We help the families understand what’s going on. People have a lot of questions. We are there 24/7 to provide support for patients and families during this time.”

Kaye Brown Hirst found that to be the case. Her husband, Ed, fought cancer for a long time.

“This spring, he just wasn’t feeling the greatest,” Kaye says. In April, he thought he pulled a muscle, then in May, had surgery to fix a broken bone in his spine. A biopsy revealed stage 4 spine cancer, a secondary cancer. Ed took 10 radiation treatments to manage the pain in his spine, then decided to enter hospice care for pain management.

“We have always planned for the fact that he would leave before me,” says Kaye, citing their 20-year age difference. “It doesn’t make it any easier, but hospice staff is all wonderful. They want you to be comfortable in your home. It comes down to what is going to make him comfortable. You name the medical equipment, hospice brought it to me.”

Ed’s nurse from Rowan Hospice and Palliative Care, Angie Harrison, visited them several times a week before Ed was moved to the



Libby Gish spends her Tuesday mornings volunteering at the Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House on Statesville Boulevard.

Kiser House on Aug. 8. He died early the next morning, and Kaye was in the room with him.

“He was fine at 4, and I slept some and woke

Edwina came in and sat with her until the funeral home representatives arrived, and Kaye had calls from hospice the day after her husband died. She’ll likely take advantage of the grief support program when she’s ready, Kaye says.

When Harold Earnhardt’s brother was in hospice in Concord, the Rockwell resident says he was really impressed, and felt a hospice house would be an asset to Rowan County.

“I’ve been on a lot of boards,” says Earnhardt, who also has served on the hospital board. “I have never had a complaint about hospice. Edwina was chief nursing officer at the hospital, and not only is she a wonderful nurse, she gives a lot of TLC. She was the right person at the right time for that job. The staff just does an amazing job, day in and day out.

Hospice is one of the best organizations we have in Rowan County.”

Earnhardt recently began treatment for liver

“Hospice is able to offer a lot of support to patients and families, so that patients can have a better quality of life for the remainder of their lives. Studies have shown that hospice patients live longer because their symptoms are managed. When your body is in a better state of comfort, you just feel better.”

up,” Kaye says. “The room was too quiet. This was a very calm and peaceful end to his journey.”

WELLNESS



cancer. He is responding well to chemotherapy. He is optimistic, as are his doctors. Still, he says, “I would go to the hospice house in a minute if I needed to. I would recommend it to anybody.”

His wife, Helen, died five years ago. She had hospice care at home, which is what Earnhardt wanted.

“They are wonderful people who did a wonderful job,” he says. “They take care of so many things that you don’t have to worry about.”

Mary Ponds’ son, Alvis — she called him Sugar Man — died in 2011, the same day he was transferred to the hospice house in Harrisburg. Spinal meningitis at 6 weeks left him handicapped.

“I was saddened we did not have a hospice house in Salisbury,” Mary says, “but he transitioned with dignity. The staff explained things to us. They were attentive but gave us privacy. For it to be death, it was a beautiful experience. Honestly, it was. The hospice staff helped us understand the transition to death, so that we were not afraid or fearful. We could accept it.”

Not only does hospice have a dedicated staff, they have many faithful volunteers.

Libby Gish volunteers every Tuesday morning. Years ago, her parents, the late Lewis and Gena Elias, were in hospice care simultaneously.

“It was difficult,” says Libby, a retired nurse. “Even as a nurse, I needed to call hospice for their medical help.”

Libby’s mom went to the Kate B. Reynolds



Mary Ponds’ 31-year-old son Alvis O’Bryan ‘Sugar Man’ Ponds, right, passed away in 2011.

House in Winston-Salem twice, where she ultimately died. She even sent cards from the hospice house there, telling friends how lovely it was and how wonderful her care was.

“Even as she was dealing with her own illness, she still wanted to send cards to her friends when she heard they were ill or grieving,” Libby says. “I was amazed at that.”

Her father also spent time in hospice but

eventually “graduated,” living seven more years.

“I was able to observe how important hospice was,” Libby says. “They not only gave support to Mother and Daddy, but to our family.”


Libby, who served on the hospital foundation board, served on a task force that recommended a hospice house for Rowan County. She co-chaired that task force with Harold

Earnhardt and the late Tippiie Miller.

Libby volunteers at the welcome desk, and is often the first face visitors see when they come to the Kiser House. “We try to be a friendly face in a time of need. We have this wonderful facility right here in Rowan County, and we’re happy to give tours. We’re also part of the greater hospice organization that serves a 13-county area.”

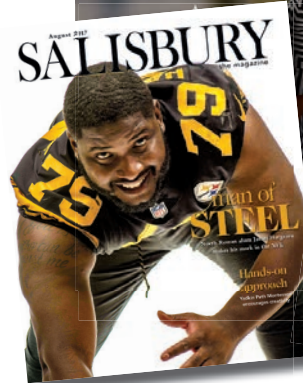
She adds, “We have these life stages. When you give birth, you seek professional care. At the end of life, it’s just as important to seek professional care to help you through that journey.”

Hospice could always use more volunteers, according to Ritchie, everything from office work, to record keeping and filing to answering the phone to patient visits.

For more information about Rowan Hospice and Palliative Care, visit www.hospicecarecenter.org. For a volunteer application packet, call the Kiser House at 704-639-3900. 

Susan Shinn Turner is a freelance writer living in Raleigh.

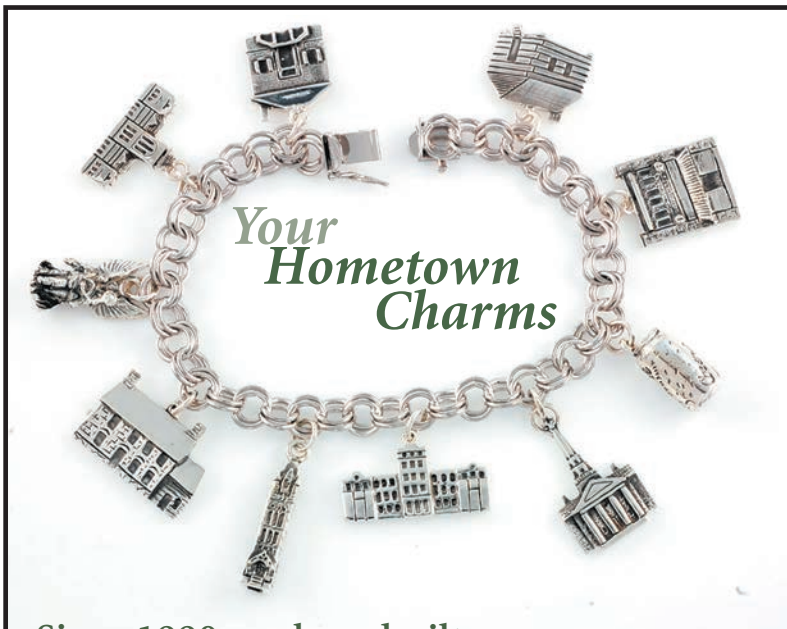
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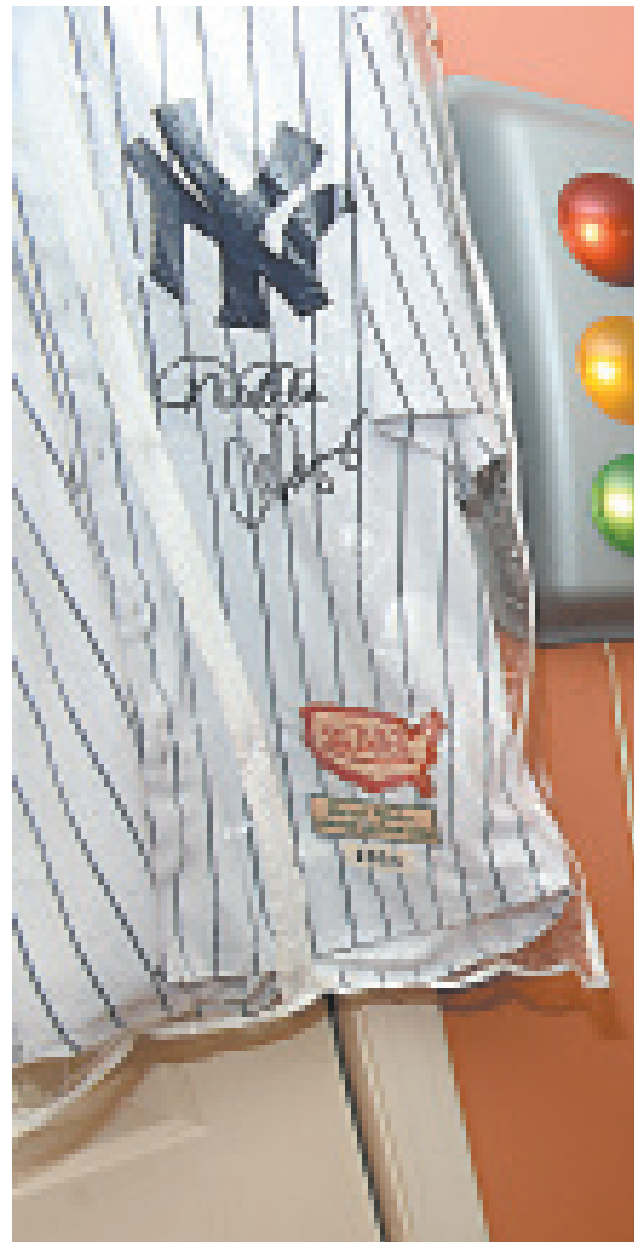
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the magazine



Pinstripe passion

Jim Costantino's love for the Yankees never stops.

Written by DAVID SHAW

Photography by WAYNE HINSHAW

There is only one way to talk about Jim Costantino — and that's by spinning a yarn.

This one begins 11 summers ago in downtown Chicago, where the affable Granite Quarry businessman was taking care of business just a few yards from where his beloved New York Yankees were boarding a bus for U.S. Cellular Field.

"We were on an Allstate trip," the 67-year old insurance exec recalls, "and staying at a hotel right next door to them. There were a lot of people there, a lot of commotion, because when the Yankees come to town everyone goes crazy."

Including Costantino, who spotted outfielder Johnny Damon working the crowd and requested a favor.

"I yelled out, 'Hey Johnny, I'll be at the game tonight. Hit

me a home run,'" he says, flaunting his sunny disposition. "I don't know if he even heard me, but sure enough he hit one that night and I've got the ball. We were sitting in right field when he hit it right at me. I had a choice — either catch it, or duck. I ducked."

Memories like those make fine souvenirs — and Costantino has a converted, upstairs bedroom full of them inside his Cape Cod home. Step inside his years-in-the-making, memorabilia man-cave and you can almost hear the sound of time passing, the rumble of destiny. You'll be greeted by a slice of Americana, flavored with New York seasoning.

"I call it my Crazy Room," he says. "Because it is. I've got a lot toys in here. It's almost like a museum. My kids tell me, 'One day Daddy's going to grow up.' It's funny because it



Above: Jim Costantino in his room of New York Yankee collectibles. Below left: Yankee championship caps line the top of an old Rock-Ola jukebox with six photos of the bronze plaques of Yankee baseball greats. Below right: An autographed baseball by Yogi Berra.



REMINISCE



Part of a wall of collectibles in Jim Costantino's room of New York Yankee souvenirs. Photos of the old Yankee Stadium, an autographed baseball, a 1923-2008 commemorative cap, Yankee glove and mug.

started as something fun to do and exploded into a passion.”

Four decades later, Costantino’s collection touches nearly every base and screams Norman Rockwell. It contains hundreds of pieces and extends beyond the ordinary, featuring Yankees artifacts that range from priceless — an encased, 1954 Bowman Mickey Mantle baseball card — to a barely sentimental, unopened bag of peanuts from Food Lion. The walls are adorned with framed portraits of yesteryear’s heroes, photos of hallowed Yankee Stadium, a varsity jacket highlighting 26 of New York’s 27 titles and a signature-embroidered Derek Jeter/Alex Rodriguez jersey, hanging on an adjacent closet hinge.

“A couple years ago I wore that jersey to an Atlanta Braves game against the Yankees,” he notes. “And boy, did I catch the devil that day.”

Snuggled into the room’s congested corners are miniature bats, a couple of 8 x 8 Yankees neon signs and various-sized stacked boxes filled with when-he-gets-to-them knickknacks. Carefully arranged bookshelves display a dozen signed baseballs, ornamental plates from the Hamilton collection, assorted Christmas ornaments, a 1961 Roger Maris Topps card and a prized duplicate of a 2009 World Series championship ring — all illuminated by a matching set of Bronx Bombers table lamps.

Nearby are autographs of former players Yogi Berra, Don Larsen, Goose Gossage, Clete Boyer and even Jeter. Each memento, it seems, has an accompanying story. Listen to this one:

“Mickey was my favorite Yankee. His card is the one I value the most,” Costantino says. “So I keep it locked up. This one doesn’t come out in public at all. I’m scared to find out what it’s worth because I might sell it. Just think, if I had his signature on it we wouldn’t be standing here right now. I’d be in the Bahamas.”

Mantle’s autograph does appear on a framed display commemorating his May 1, 1988, visit to Newman Park. He was used as a promotional lure to attract spectators to an exhibition game between the Catawba Indians and a travel team known as the Washington Senators.

“Mickey wasn’t playing anymore,” Costan-



Above: Jim and wife Brenda, a devoted Dodgers fan. Below left: A prized New York Yankee collectible of the 1961 World Champions with the likes of Whitey Ford, Mickey Mantle, Bobby Richardson, Elston Howard, Yogi Berra, Roger Maris and others. Below right: A limited edition of Mickey Mantle in coat and tie batting a snowball in 1956 after signing a contract for the 1957 season.



tino recalls. “But he signed for the fans. My daughter Dena actually got that for me. It was a hot day and a long line, but she waited and got it.”

Costantino’s partner-in-crime is Brenda, his bride of 46 years and a devoted Dodgers fan. She’s embraced his infatuation with everything Yankees, including a recent online purchase of an authenticated seat from renovated Yankee

Stadium. Price tag: \$500.

“I think it’ll be an awesome addition,” she says with a sparkle in her eyes. “This room is his pride and joy, and I’ve been a part of it from the start. We got married in June of 1971 and he took me to Cooperstown that September. Then he started collecting things and it’s been on ever since.”

The collection began, oddly enough, with a

REMINISCE

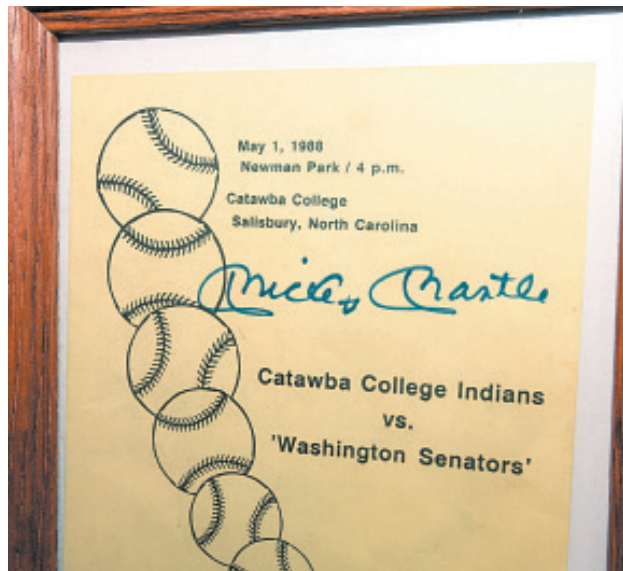


two-foot-tall Nutcracker statue decorated in Yankees garb.

“I bought it at the Hall of Fame gift shop in the early ’70s,” he says. “After that, everywhere I went I kept looking for memorabilia. People give you things, you buy things and you go looking for more things. The years started passing quickly, but that’s how it started, with a wooden nutcracker. People tell me that’s appropriate for me.”

Among the most difficult to acquire was a framed collage of the 1961 world championship team, purchased from a vendor in Charleston’s famed Straw Market.

“It’s such a rare piece,” Costantino says. “You can’t find pictures like that, with all those guys together. I saw it and asked about it, but the guy wasn’t gonna let it go. I had to beg him for it, kept bothering him. I told him



Top: New York Yankee Christmas tree ornaments and Mickey Mantle plates. Above left: A Mickey Mantle autograph when he visited Salisbury on May 1, 1988. Above right: An 8x10 of Mickey Mantle, a Yankee coffee mug and a Yankee Stadium lamp shade.



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about my room and said, 'You've got to sell me that piece.'"

Disappointed, Costantino walked away, only to return some 45 minutes later.

"I swung back around, just to see if he'd changed his mind," he continues. "Finally, he said, 'Give me two (hundred) for it and I said, 'Sold.' It was worth it because you can't find items like that one. I love it when I find something different. It means more to me. Any money I've spent on these things is awesome because I love doing it."

Regrets? Costantino's had a few, including a missed opportunity to meet Mantle a year before the slugger's death in 1995.

"I had a friend who owned the Apple Baking Company," he says, referencing Spencer native and former businessman Tommy Agner. "And Mickey was a part-owner, too. He was coming to town and Tommy needed someone

to pick him up at the airport. I said, 'I'm your guy,' and was all set to take his car and go, but that was the week Mickey got sick and couldn't come. We were all going to spend the weekend together at Tommy's lake house."

Such is the hand of fate. Costantino never did get introduced to Mantle, the boyhood hero he idolized since attending his first Yankees game with his father in June 1962.

"I still remember it vividly," he says. "A Friday night against Detroit. Mickey, Yogi and Roger Maris were all playing. It was the year after (Maris) set the home run record. That was the reason we went, and he hit one out that night."

Mark it off as another fond memory for the collection, one that planted the seed that's yielded a lifetime harvest for Costantino. There remains one elusive item on his bucket list, something he came *thisclose* to securing years

ago — a baseball signed by Mantle.

"It's the one thing I don't have that I really, really want," he says. "I've got to find one somewhere. They have them at Cooperstown, but they're very expensive. I'd like to find another collector willing to sell one, someone who doesn't want a fortune for it. When Mickey came to Catawba, I didn't think about bringing a baseball for him to sign. I didn't think we'd get to meet him."

With a head shake and sigh he pensively adds, "Mickey Mantle, wow!"

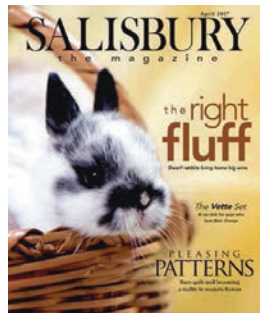
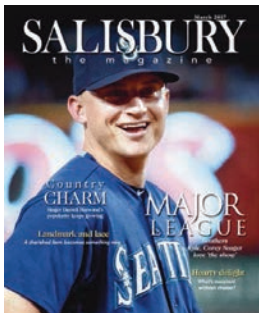
Another turn-back-the-clock moment for a story-teller extraordinaire. His work here, he insists, is far from finished.

"Why not?" he coos. "I love doing this. I'm going to keep adding things until I leave this world. If it becomes available, I'm buying." **S**

David Shaw covers sports for the Salisbury Post.

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1 Day Out with Thomas

Oct. 1, & 6-8: N.C. Transportation Museum — 8 a.m. Day Out with Thomas. Enjoy a train ride with Thomas, meet Sir Richard Topham Hatt, and much more. For more information go to <http://www.nctrans.org/Events/Day-Out-With-Thomas-2017.aspx> or call 704-636-2889.

5 'Mothers and Sons'

Oct. 5-7: Lee Street theatre — 7:30 p.m. A poignant drama about a mother who pays a surprise visit to the New York apartment of her late son's ex-partner, who is now married to another man and has a young son. See how the mother is challenged to deal with how society has changed around her. For more information, go to: <http://www.leestreet.org/>.

7 4th Annual Hero 5K

Oct. 7: VA Medical Center — 9 a.m. VA Medical Center, 1601 Brenner Ave. All proceeds go to supporting the Hefner VA Medical Center in Salisbury: Information: salisburyrowanrunners.org.

7 38th Annual Autumn Jubilee

Oct. 7-8: Dan Nicholas Park — 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Explore the beautiful 450-acre Dan Nicholas Park and enjoy over 180 craft vendors from all over the Southeast. Crafts will include framed prints, ceramics, folk art, quilts, bird houses and more. Music, food, miniature train, carousel and paddle boat rides, too. For more information, go to: dan-nicholas.net, or call 704-216-7803.

7 Pickin'-and-Dumpling Dinner

Oct. 7: China Grove Roller Mill — 5-9 p.m. Chicken-and-dumpling dinner. Live music. Tickets, \$10, adults; \$5, children. Proceeds benefit Rowan Museum. Call 704-633-5946 for information.

7 9th Annual Big Chili Cook-Off

Oct. 7: Waterworks Visual Arts Center — 6:30-11 p.m. 123 E. Liberty St. Come support Waterworks while enjoying a night of fabulous chili, bull riding and dancing. Tickets are available online. Must be 21 or older to attend. Information: admin@waterworks.org, 704-636-1882, waterworks.org



Docent Jayne Helms leads the visitors through the living room of the Elizabeth Hanford Dole home during the last year's OctoberTour. This year's tour is Oct. 14-15. — Photo by Wayne Hinshaw.

October 2017

Upcoming events in the Salisbury-Rowan area

12 'In God's Own Country'

Oct. 12-15, 18-21: Meroney Theater — 7:30 p.m., 213 S. Main St. 'In God's Own Country' celebrates this year's 500th anniversary of the Reformation. This special production is a collaboration between the German theatre company Landesbuhnen Sachsen and Piedmont Players. It follows the story of Henry Muhlenberg and his effort to bring the Lutheran Church to America, detailing the struggles of immigrants who fled to America to escape religious persecution. The show is primarily spoken in English with some parts in German. It will be performed several times in Germany before traveling to the states and arriving at the Meroney Theater. Call the Piedmont Players Theatre box office at 704-633-5471 or go to www.PiedmontPlayers.com for more information.

13 Fin, Feather and Fur Outdoor & Off Road Expo

Oct. 13-15: Rowan County Fairgrounds — Come out and enjoy music by Thompson Square, Mega Trucks, ATVs, fireworks, and a beer garden. For more information see www.finfeatherfurexpo.com or call 704-279-9383.

14 Bank Street Bistro and Brews

Oct. 14-15: 226 S. Jackson St. at Bank Street — 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Saturday; noon-5:30 p.m. Sunday. Free event with beer, wine and live music. Make sure to come to the Hall House lawn for story time, Colonial childrens' games and antique firetruck rides. Part of OctoberTour.

14 OctoberTour of Historic Homes

Oct 14-15: Historic Salisbury — Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon

- 5:30 p.m. Ticket for the event is good for both days. Enjoy exclusive tours through 11 private, historic homes dating from 1820 to 1929. Tours include the Hambley-Wallace House, J.C. Price House, and many more. Go to OctoberTour.com for more information, or call 704-636-0103.

14 51st Annual Fiddler's Convention
Oct. 14: East Rowan High School Auditorium — Starts at 4:30 p.m. 175 St. Luke's Church Rd. Sponsored as always by the Granite Quarry Civitan Club. This convention features a wide array of bluegrass bands and individual competitors.

17 Beer and Cheese Tour
Oct. 17: N.C. Agricultural Extension Office — 9 a.m. Tour local farms and businesses to enjoy local beers, cheeses and other foods. Price includes lunch, tour, and transportation. Beer not included. Must be 21 years or older to drink.

19 N.C. Music Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
Oct. 19: Kannapolis Performing Arts Center — 7-11 p.m. An induction ceremony commemorating the musical legacy of North Carolina's greatest music makers. 415 E. First St., Kannapolis. This red carpet event is ticketed and open to the public. VIP and general reserved tickets may be purchased at the N.C. Music Hall of Fame Museum or online at: 2017Induction.eventbrite.com.

21 Gold Rush 5K
Oct. 21: Gold Hill Rail Trail — 8 a.m.-noon. Proceeds will benefit the Historic Gold Hill and Mines Foundation, Inc. to provide funding for trail maintenance. 735 St. Stephens Church Road, Gold Hill. Information: vivian@historicgoldhill.com, 704-267-9439, historicgoldhill.com, salisburyrowanrunners.org

21 Rowan Blues and Jazz Festival
Oct. 21: 200 West Fisher Street — 3-11 p.m. 18th edition. This year's festival theme is Reunion Time. Join your reunion celebrations of friends, family, classmates, anniversaries and any other great memories. Information: rbjs1720@carolina.rr.com, 704-636-3277, or rowanbluesandjazz.org.

21 'The 3 Bs' 3s'
Oct. 21: Keppel Auditorium, Catawba College — 7:30 p.m. This opening concert for the Salisbury Symphony Season features J.S. Bach's "Brandenburg" No. 3, Brahms Symphony No. 3 and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, "Eroica" Concert. For more information contact: saliburysymphony.org, or director@saliburysymphony.org.

28 St. Matthews Church 5K
Oct. 28: St. Matthews Lutheran Church — 9 a.m., 9275 Bringle Ferry Rd. Proceeds to benefit local family battling illness. salisburyrowanrunners.org.

28 Brunswick Stew
Oct. 28: Cleveland Lions' Den — 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Cemetery Street, Cleveland. Eat in or take out. Benefits visually impaired and other humanitarian projects. For more information, contact: 704-278-2252 or clevelandlions@hughes.net, or e-clubhouse.org/sites/clevelandnc/.

28 Trick or Treat in the Village Shops
Oct. 28: Historic Gold Hill — 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Come in your best costume to trick or treat at the village shops. Saint Stephens Church Road, www.goldhillnc.com.

28 Kaleidoscope Art Festival
Oct. 28: Downtown Kannapolis — Noon -5 p.m. This festival in Downtown Kannapolis features more than 100 local artisans, such as painters, jewelry makers and wood carvers. There will also be activities the whole family can enjoy.

28 The Trick or Treat Trail Ride and Festival
Oct. 28: Saving Grace Farm — 1-5 p.m. All children ages 3 to 14 are invited to come ride one of the special therapeutic riding horses on a fun decorated Halloween trail. There will also be carnival games and activities, candy, concessions and plenty of fun. For more information: janna@savinggracefarm.com

28 Halloween Fun Fest
Oct. 28: Downtown Salisbury — 3-6 p.m. Put on your best costume to play unlimited games and activities. \$5. For more info go to downtownsalisburync.com/ or call 704-637-7814.

28 Gold Hill Park Ghost Walk
Oct. 28: Historic Gold Hill — 5:30 -8:30 p.m. Enjoy a fun night of ghost stories at one of the most haunted sites in Rowan County. Ghost stories and tours will begin at the Russell-Ruffy Shelter. Tickets may be purchased in the park at the Russell-Ruffy Shelter on the night of the tour only. Food will be available for purchase in the park and other refreshments at the E.H. Montgomery General Store before and during the tours. 735 St. Stephens Church Road, Gold Hill. For more information: vivian@historicgoldhill.com, 704-267-9439, or historicgoldhill.com

28 Night at the Museums III
Oct. 28: Rowan Museum and Spencer Doll and Toy Museum — 6-8 p.m. Come and experience a night of fun for adults and children. The museums plan to put on quite a show which will include a trolley ride, museum tours, buffet dinner and a variety of interactive characters. For more information go to <http://www.spencerdollandtoymuseum.com/> and <http://www.rowanmuseum.org/events.html>.

28 Prevent Child Abuse Rowan Fall Fundraiser
Oct. 28: F&M Trolley Barn — Time to be announced. 165 E. Liberty Street. For more information contact: beth@preventchildabus-erowan.org, 704-639-1700, or go to: preventchildabuserowan.org

29 Rotary Spooky Sprint
Oct. 29: Catawba College — 2 p.m. Rotary uses proceeds to support youth in need. salisburyrowanrunners.org.

29 Fall Festival, 'Come to the County Fair'
Oct. 29: First Ministry Center — 4-6 p.m. Fall Festival, "Come to the County Fair." First Ministry Center, 220 N. Fulton St. Come out for a fun night of inflatables, games, prizes, fire truck rides, chicken & dumplings and hot dogs. Call 704-633-0431, ext. 105, for further details.

31 Downtown China Grove Trick or Treating
Oct. 31: Downtown China Grove — 4-5 p.m. Bring a bag for candy and wear your best costume to trick or treat with the downtown merchants in China Grove on Halloween.



Above: In the background, Stephen and Donna Pocklington inspect the art of Laura Rasmussen, who was painting at CHICKWEED. Right: Landis friends April Bryant and Susan Corriher shared a tent from which they sold their art at CHICKWEED.



CHICKWEED

The sixth edition of CHICKWEED, held at the F&M Trolley Barn, featured 10 musical acts through the day and night in this women-helping-women event that celebrates women, their music and art. Proceeds from CHICKWEED go to the Family Crisis Council and its Battered Women's Shelter. New Sarum made a special chickweed-flavored beer for people to try, and many vendors, craftswomen and artists were on hand selling their wares.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Cindy Morgan and Cynthia Hill



Chelsea Rae Childers, right, sings with her daughter during their performance at CHICKWEED.



Myrtis Trexler with her daughter, Jodie Rich



Above: Laurie Chase. Below: Erin Basinger and Sissie Graham were preparing and serving food at the Shuckin' Shack tent.



Above: From left, Taylor Riley, Connie Christman and Nick Bishop stand by their wares at CHICKWEED. Right: Tina Ridenhour, Carmen Hopkins, Dustin Watson and Brittany Gordon manned an information booth and also helped with custom-made T-shirts by DMW Design.



Visual artist Laura Rasmussen paints during CHICKWEED.



Left: Angela Short brought her Trailer Trash Girl mobile truck shop to the event.



Right: Members of the CHICKWEED concert audience join in with the performance of April C. Turner (not pictured), as she told stories through dance.

The Trailblazers included Jonah Horton on the mandolin; Will Thraikill, bass; Daniel Thraikill, guitar; and Alex Edwards, banjo.



Left: Anna Mills Wagoner, Bob Steele, Bill Wagoner and Betty Mickle



Right: Stephanie and Bob Potter

Staking out a great place on the lawn were Lauren Whaley, Charles Whaley, Whitney Williams, Brannon Williams, Annie Williams, Margaret Whaley, Mark Doby and Allison Doby.



Blankets and Bluegrass

Historic Salisbury Foundation held its second Blankets and Bluegrass, a mid-summer evening of musical entertainment on the Hall House lawn at 226 S. Jackson St. People brought their blankets, chairs and picnics and listened to bluegrass music from The Trailblazers and TenderGrass. Red Barn Market/Correll Farms was the main sponsor.

— Photos by Anna Moorefield and Diane Dillon



Above: Becky Bradham and Erle Craven IV. Below: Docents Nancy Boyd, Terri Jones and Carol Rathbun were offering Hall House tours in conjunction with the concert.



The Hall House served as backdrop to the good-sized crowd attending Blankets and Bluegrass.



Maggie Behrooz and Cheryl Correll



Ashton Pryor, Daphne Safrit, Margot May Pryor and Amelie Pryor



Above: John Graham Corriher and Ruby Corriher sit on a blanket with their mom, Danielle.

Left: TenderGrass performed on the beautiful Sunday evening. Band members included Gabe Bemus, guitar; Grace Bemus, fiddle; John Lee, banjo; Elli Jones, guitar; and Katie Jones, bass.



Left: Chris Fowler, Katie Garrigues and Jonathan Garrigues. Right: David Correll makes change for Judy McDaniel. Red Barn Market/Correll Farms was the main sponsor for Historic Salisbury Foundation's Blankets and Bluegrass. Far right: Josie Correll.





Claire Antosek Brinkley attended History on Tap with her husband, Mark Brinkley. Claire's grandfather Joseph Antosek headed Antosek & Co. with his brother Louis.



Part of the History on Tap crowd waits along East Council St. for the next tour to start at the Grievous Gallery, located in part of the building that used to be Antosek & Sons Co.'s luggage plant.



Ashton Pryor and Daphne Safrit

History on Tap

Historic Salisbury Foundation's continuing summer series, History on Tap, paid a visit to Grievous Gallery at 315 E. Council St. The gallery is located in what used to be the warehouse for Antosek & Sons Inc., which had a luggage manufacturing plant here from 1957-1973. Several Antosek family members were on hand for the tour, which included samplings of New Sarum beer.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Mark and Elizabeth Derrick with Perry and Carolyn Hood



Angie Harris, Kathy Allen, Veda Dry and Donnie Smith



Megan Ferden, Taylor Sexton Durham and Brad Durham



Andy Maben and Justin Pierson were serving the New Sarum beers.



Robin Isenhour and Rhonda Smith



Eric Poplin, Terri Myers and Craig Myers



Above: Tina Miller was the drummer for the Trinity Oaks Dragon Slayers.



Right: Teams waiting their turn at the Dragon Boat races.



The Transportation Museum's Rail City Rowers team.

Dragon Boat Festival

The Rowan County Chamber of Commerce's fourth annual Dragon Boat Festival was held at High Rock Lake at the Rowan Shrine Club. The festival included 25 teams, many of them racing in dragon boats for the first time. Participants and spectators enjoyed the races, food and drink during the day.

— Photos by Wayne Hinshaw



The Daimler Diesel Dragons crew cheers leaving the beach at High Rock Lake.



The Dragon Boat at the Beach crew from Pawleys Island with their drummer wait to load into a boat. All of their members are cancer survivors with four of the members over 80 years old.



Trinity Oaks Dragon Slayers



Dennis and Jeanne Haldiman



Hayley Morgan, Michele Morgan, Kristi Halt and Starla Wells.

Marcus and Vanessa Chunn were not on the Summer Sip Crawl, but they enjoyed being in the downtown on a Friday evening.



Summer Sip Crawl

The Summer Sip Crawl involved 30 local businesses, and participants were able to sample beers at 20 of those stores and offices. Small mugs were handed out at the Visitors Center when “crawlers” picked up their tickets. The Friday night event served as a warmup for the Salisbury Sip Festival held five weeks later (Sept. 9).

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Julie Coe and Myra Miller



Carol Holub and Kim Riefstahl pose on the crawl with a friend. Behind them is Joshua Petzak.



Kristie Gingery, Tammy Wright and Mary Kay Zigmont weren't sampling beer, but they took advantage of baked goods being sold downtown.



Nevin Spohn, Chance Kluttz and Linda Kluttz



Lisa and David White with Crystal and Steven Merrington



Lynn and Bob Dunn with Wanda and Dale Gibson

Back home with David Freeze

The Salisbury Post held a reception at Rowan Public Library for cyclist/writer David Freeze after he returned from his most recent multi-state trip, one that took him from Anacortes, Wash., to Green Bay, Wisc. Freeze covered about 2,984 miles in 40 days as his cycling journey touched the states of Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Freeze gave a presentation to the reception audience as he went through photos from the trip.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Freeze spoke to an audience of 45 people at Rowan Public Library.



Tim Kennedy and Carole Hayden



Carole Hopkins and Phyllis Beck



William and Judy Deal speak with David Freeze, right.



Above: A daughter of Freeze's, Ashley Baker, left, stands with Terri and Sammy King. Right: The bicycle David Freeze used to log almost 3,000 miles on his most recent trip.



Glenn and Anne Orrell



Above: Ed and Eileen Hanson-Kelly.



Left: Harold Goodnight and Tim Hoffner

Leadership Rowan

In its 25th anniversary year, Leadership Rowan held a reception at the Gateway to welcome a new class, whose participants will spend nine months getting a big-picture overview of Rowan County. Sponsored by the Rowan County Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Rowan also serves as a community and leadership development program. This class will graduate in 2018.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



The 2017-2018 Leadership Rowan Class gathered for the first time recently at the Gateway. At the opening reception, participants went through introductions and learned the logistics for their SimSoc retreat at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory.



Left: Julie Freeze, Laura Emery and Amy Vestal.



Right: Nina Oliver, Candace Salmon-Hosey and Jeanie McDowell.



Jonathan Chamberlain and Mark Brown



Above: Tajuan Kyles and Melissa Shue.

Right: Crystal Reed and Dottie Gettinger.



Above: Shawn Edman, Rodney Harrison and Nan Buehrer

Left: Betsy Mowery and Kristin Trexler



Above: Shirley, Gary, Claris and Michael Oliver.
Right: Bobby and Joyce Peele stand with Gerald and Sylvia Donley. The couples were visiting the festival from Graham.



Thomas Perrell, Jennifer Perrell, Margaret Mason and Jennifer Russell



Above left: Nicole and Aiden Grissom.
Above right: Sue Moore with her grandchildren Laney, 9, and Lucy, 8. Below: Chloe McNeely, Sarah McNeely, Adriana Henckell and Franco Abad.



Above: Amanda Huss with Maelin Huss, 9, and Emery Huss, 6. Below: Halley Foster, Mallory Whitley and Ashley Perrell



Woodleaf Tomato Festival

The 11th annual Woodleaf Tomato Festival was held at Unity Presbyterian Church, and its theme this year was "110 Years of Tomato Farming." The day included a parade; live music; a tomato-eating contest; a tomato recipe cook-off contest; a tomato hole (corn hole) tournament; the Home Grown da'Matters dance team; and Little 'Mater Blossom, Little Miss Tomato Sprout and Little Tommy Toe contests.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



When you come to Salisbury, adapt and appreciate

My husband, Will, answered the phone, listened for about 30 seconds before shrugging, covering the mouthpiece, and whispering, “I think it’s someone from overseas but I can’t understand who it is or what she wants.”

We had recently returned to Washington, D.C., from a series of far-flung postings in unpronounceable places (heard of Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, anyone?), and were somewhat accustomed to various attempts at the English language. But this was a new one for my Midwestern-raised husband. Turns out it was the late Realtor Martha Hawkins telling us in the most perfect Southern drawl that our offer on a historic home in Salisbury had been accepted! This, after spending fewer than 48 hours in this town and suddenly trying to recall exactly how far we had strayed from D.C. And so began our adaption to life in Dixie.

Next up came a trip to Walmart to fetch a few cleaning supplies. I tried to use an out-of-state check since we had no local bank account yet. This prompted a conversation with the check-out girl about where we had just moved from. “Bangladesh,” I said. She cocked her head, gave me a pensive look, and asked, “Is that near Charlotte?” “Um... not so much,” I replied.

We arrived in June, so I was all geared

up for my first Faith Fourth celebration I’d heard so much about! I was actually pretty amazed I could breeze right down Main Street. But I couldn’t see a soul, and everything was shuttered, including the volunteer fire department on whose door I knocked. I finally flagged down a truck driver and asked where all the action was. He told me ever so politely, “Ma’am, it’s Sunday, so the festivities have been postponed till tomorrow.” Well, I thought, “Faith” is the perfect name for this town ... assuring myself I could still remain in a celebratory mood for another day.

So now it was time to host our first dinner party. I went to Harris Teeter in the early morning to load up so I could have the whole day to prepare. Upon checking out, I was told so sorry, you can’t buy the wine till noon. “Huh,” I asked, “how come?” “I don’t know,” was the reply, “it’s just always been that way.” “But if I promise not to get

drunk before noon,” I said, “can you make an exception? I hate to have to make a trip back just for a couple bottles of wine.” No luck with that.

All that said, we have cherished our 13 years here in Salisbury. We thought being first-time, small-town residents and located between Charlotte and Winston-Salem, surely we’d be frequenting those cities a lot. We never do. It’s all here: the symphony, theater, museums, artist studios, shops, restaurants, history, sports, open spaces, neighborhood camaraderie, and most especially, warm and accepting people to outsiders like us.

And we’ve tried to do our part to pay it back by serving on local boards, tutoring students and supporting myriad other programs. Meanwhile, we’ve learned a few things: how to speak southern from Martha Hawkins (bless her heart); July Fourth isn’t necessarily celebrated on the Fourth; and to plan ahead for Sunday dinner parties. I’ve also taught my sophisticated big city buddies that indeed “Salisbury’s the Place.” And I believe at least one

Walmart check-out girl now knows where Bangladesh is. **S**

Despite a life that’s taken her to 73 countries on six continents (maybe still Antarctica before it melts?), and yielded a successful career as a television journalist, Mary James says it’s all no match for the “home” she and her family have found in Salisbury.



by
**MARY
JAMES**



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