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# Riders on the storm

everal years ago, in one of those once-in-a-lifetime trips, my wife, sons and I were vacationing in Paris (France, not Texas) over the Christmas holiday. We did the normal touristy stuff — Louvre, Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame — but one morning we decided to visit the gravesite of American rock icon Jim Morrison.

Taking a metro toward the cemetery where Morrison was buried, we acted as though we were on a scavenger hunt, sort of patting ourselves on the back for doing something normal tourists wouldn't do.

Morrison, who performed with The Doors in the late 1960s and early '70s, died in Paris from a heroin overdose. He had moved to Paris in March 1971 to concentrate on writing, and it's the city where he happened to make his last studio recording.

Morrison died at the age of 27 and is buried in the "Poet's Corner" of the Pere Lachaise Cemetery, a final resting place for many famous French leaders, artists, writers and war heroes. So it must irk the French people at least a little bit that Morrison's grave is the most heavily visited site in the cemetery.

I didn't learn until much later that Morrison's grave is the fourth most-visited tourist attraction in Paris. So much for those pats on our backs.

I should have recognized we weren't on the most secret of missions: While standing next to Morrison's grave, which always has flowers, music-related items and fan letters around it, a mother and her two daughters walked up next to us. They were from Minnesota, and we had talked to them in line at



the Louvre the day before.

This is all a weird way for me to tell you this issue of Salisbury the Magazine devotes several pages to the interesting images doors can provide. These are regular old doors, not The Doors for whom Jim Morrison was the front man.

Think about it. We go through countless doors every day, but seldom appreciate their design or all the things they represent. Photographer Jon Lakey brings us some doors or features of doors he found fascinating, and we've included several famous quotes about doors to go with them.

Please keep an "open" mind.

Our cover story this month takes us to the coastal town of Beaufort, where Salisbury native Kristy Woodson Harvey lives. Kristy, a flourishing fiction writer, recently inked a three-book deal with Simon & Schuster, and Deirdre Parker Smith and Lakey caught up with her in lovely Beaufort.

The magazine staff has to acknowledge a built-in prejudice toward Kristy, who was an intern with the Salisbury Post in her youth. Despite that obstacle, she somehow became a great writer.

It wasn't necessarily a product of good planning, but this May issue seems to focus on women. Jenny Hubbard, another local author of note, shows us the hard life of a woman trucker, who just happens to be her cousin. It's a wonderful read.

Shavonne Walker brings us the story of D'Andrea Lawson, the chef and businesswoman behind Divine Appetit. One of Rowan County's all-time great artists, Betty Sedberry, has teamed up again with Frank and Diane Goodnight of Diversified Graphics to create some must-have

notecards.

Andie Foley's debut story for us focuses on the Downton Abbey Club meeting every Thursday in Spencer. In the United States and based here in Salisbury, Sole Hope works miracles in getting the material for new shoes to African children in Uganda. Rowan County native Holly Teeter oversees the stateside operations for Sole Hope.

Gold Hill's Vivian Hopkins is this month's Rowan Original, and in the "Salisbury's the Place" column, Emily Perry provides great insights into her childhood years here.

In many of our stories, you will find women who knocked down their share of doors. Even Jim Morrison had something to say about the subject:

"Open all doors. You can walk through any one that suits you." S

Mark Wineka,
Editor, Salisbury the Magazine

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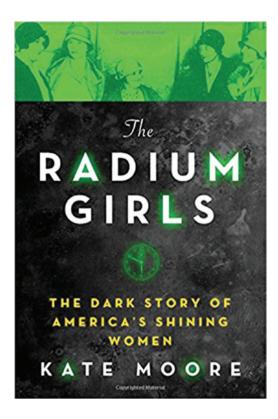
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# 'Radium Girls' holds a far-reaching afterglow

pring is another great season for new books.
Typically, it's when beach reads are released, like Kristy
Woodson Harvey's "Slightly
South of Simple." But, wait, there's more! as the old commercial promises.

It's going to be hard to choose which book to start first — two offerings from best-selling authors, or a great nonfiction story of the women who happily painted military gear with radium during World War I, only to become desperately ill later.

I vote for the true story.

"The Radium Girls," by Kate Moore, is another in a recent explosion of nonfiction that details women's contributions to a male-dominated world. This story, though, has an unhappy ending.

As World War I exploded across the globe, hundreds of young women toiled away at ra-

dium-dial factories, where they painted clock faces with a mysterious new substance called radium.

Promised that the luminous material was safe, the women themselves shone brightly in the dark, covered from head to toe with the glowing dust. These "shining girls" were considered lucky until they got sick. As the fatal poison from the radium took hold, they became embroiled in one of America's biggest scandals and a groundbreaking battle for workers' rights.

Moore's explores the strength of extraordinary women in the face of impossible circumstances and the astonishing legacy they left behind.

In 2005, Moore directed a critically acclaimed play about the Radium Girls called "These Shining Lives." She lives in the United Kingdom.

Paul Theroux's new book, "Mother Land," is a story many can identify with. It's called "a richly detailed, darkly hilarious novel of a family held together and torn apart by its narcissistic matriarch."

Set in Cape Cod, the book explores the character of Mother, "an exemplar of piety,

frugality and hard work. To her husband and seven children, she is the selfish, petty tyrant of Mother Land. She excels at playing her offspring against each other."

Mother claims her favorite child is Angela, who died in childbirth. The other characters include the "officious lawyer, Fred; the uproarious professor, Floyd; a pair of inseparable sisters whose devotion to Mother has consumed their lives; and JP, the narrator, a successful writer whose work she disparages."

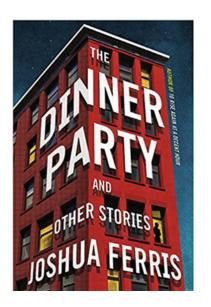
As Mother lives well past the age of 100, her brood struggles with and among them-

> selves to shed her viselike hold on them. "Mother Land" offers the shock and comfort of recognition, and presents an engrossing, heartbreaking and often funny saga of a vast family that bickers, colludes, connives and ultimately overcomes the painful ties that bind them.

For more emotional experiences, try Joshua Ferris' "The Dinner Party," called one of the most anticipated books of 2017.

"Full of the keenly observed, mordant wit that characterizes his beloved, award-winning novels, the stories in the book are about people searching for answers in the aftermath of life's emotional fissures — abrupt, sometimes violent, moments that change lives forever."

Ferris describes a disastrous gathering that exposes the cracks in a seemingly solid relationship, a retired widower looking for connection in all the wrong places, a man pathologically incapable of having a normal social interaction. The extended stories are hilarious and profound, showing off Ferris as a remarkably talented contemporary author. §





# Gold standard

Vivian Hopkins keeps bluegrass music, mining history alive.

**OLD HILL** - Vivian Pennington **Hopkins** could pass for the mayor of Gold Hill, if there were such a position. But she prefers the titles of bluegrass musician, promoter, author and artist. You also have to mention "Road Scholar" and president of the N.C. Bluegrass Association.

On most Friday nights for the past 15 years, she and husband Glenn have been hosts at their E.H. Montgomery Store for bluegrass jam sessions. That only brushes the surface of Vivian's lifetime involvement in bluegrass and old-time music.

She has been a bluegrass festival emcee and host, a booking agent for several bluegrass bands and a promoter of the Bluegrass Battle of the Bands for the Children's Miracle Network, the Granite Quarry Civitan Fiddlers Convention, the Union Grove Old Time Fiddlers Convention and RenoFest in Hartsville, S.C.

At one time, Vivian and Glenn owned Fifth String and Co., an acoustic speciality music store catering to bluegrass and old-time musicians. They became a top music vendor at many of the bluegrass festivals

in the Southeast. Vivian also had a bluegrass radio show, "Fifth String Favorites," on WDSL in Mocksville.

Vivian is a Wilkes County native and daughter of the late Ralph Pennington, an award-winning bluegrass musician and luthier. When Pennington moved his family to Rockwell in Rowan County in 1969, Vivian was in high school.

"Soon after our move to Rockwell, the Mining Office at Gold Hill burned," recalls Vivian, who had a strong interest in geology and earth science as a teen. She began researching Gold Hill.

"I was astounded at the history of the area and that nothing had been done to preserve or promote that history and culture," she said.

Pennington soon moved his family to Gold Hill. Twenty years later, Vivian played one of the lead roles in organizing the first Gold Hill Founders Day, then establishing a historic foundation.

"If this was to become my new hometown, I wanted to do my part to



Vivian Hopkins, bluegrass musician and North Carolina Humanities Council Road Scholar, poses with her standup bass at the Montgomery General Store in Gold Hill. — Photo by Jon C. Lakey.

make it a place that the county could be proud of," Hopkins says. Today, she is one of the N.C. Humanities Council's road scholars. As such, she often speaks on the history of mining and Gold Hill.

Salisbury the Magazine recently caught up with this Rowan Original:



What nugget or nuggets of history about Gold Hill do people usually find the most interesting?

Visitors to Gold Hill — and even those residents living in nearby towns and communities —are amazed to find that Gold Hill was once a viable and bustling, economically sound small town that spanned a mile with more than 25 merchants and specialty trade businesses.

At various times through a century of gold production, the town boasted a population of several thousand men, women and children, with the mining industry being the largest employer in the region. By the mid 19th century, the mayor of Charlotte said he had hopes that Charlotte would become as big and prosperous as Gold Hill.

# For an out-of-town tourist, what would you recommend as the best way to experience Gold Hill?

Come spend a weekend. Meet the people who live and work and play here. Visit the shops and watch artisans create one-of-a-kind speciality creations — from handmade jewelry, pottery, scenic paintings, etc. Experience life at a slower pace, shopping for unusual items and exquisite antiques from around the world. Prepare to hike the Gold Hill Rail Trail and experience history through interpretive signage throughout Gold Hill Mines Historic Park. And the music!

Why should someone spend a Friday night listening to bluegrass music at Montgomery Store?

Everyone should take the time to experience the bluegrass music and culture that surrounds

it. It's a great family atmosphere. It's not just entertainment. The music and camaraderie surrounding it exemplifies a way of life that has been passed down through generations.

The Montgomery General Store lends the perfect atmosphere to display some of the best music from musicians across North Carolina and the Southeast. Each week is a different experience.

# How long have you been playing the upright bass and why do you like the instrument? Do you play others?

I've been playing the upright bass for probably 40 years. Usually there are plenty of guitars, banjos, etc. in events where musicians gather. Sometimes there are not enough bass players. The bass is the timekeeper that can make or break the rhythm of a band or good jam session. As for other instruments, I started learning to play fiddle years ago but haven't kept up with it much until recently working with Grammy winner Mark O'Connor and his wife, Maggie, to coordinate and host O'Connor Method Teacher Training Seminars. So I've picked the fiddle up again to learn more and also started playing more on the mandolin.

# Why is it important to have a N.C. Bluegrass Association?

Bluegrass is the truest form of American music and is exhibited widespread across North Carolina. Our main goal in promoting the N.C. Bluegrass Association is to bring together those old timers and experienced bluegrass musicians to share the music heritage with the younger generation to ensure that the music continues. Another important goal is to ensure that bluegrass musicians and bands have an outlet to exhibit their talents and gain recognition for their contributions to the industry.

# Who are among your favorite bluegrass bands or musicians today?

Wow, It's hard to pinpoint favorites, but in that I had a huge love and respect for Charlie Waller and The Country Gentlemen, I would have to say The Country Gentlemen Tribute Band. The band was organized by the late former bass player and partner to Charlie, Bill Yates, in 2005.

Other top choices would be The O'Connor Band featuring Mark O'Connor, The Lonesome River Band, The Gibson Brothers, Russell Moore & III Tyme Out, Balsam Range, Seldom Scene, Ronnie Reno and Reno Tradition, The Grascals and, regionally, I can't leave out Clay-Bank of Boone. There are many more.

# What have you enjoyed most about being a Road Scholar?

I think it is being recognized for time put into research efforts and to be able to bring the state's (little known) gold history story to the people in venues across the state. (I like) the travel and meeting new people with similar interests and actually getting paid for doing what I love, talking about Gold Hill.

# What are five words you would use to describe the historic Gold Hill Village?

History, shopping, nostalgia, bluegrass, (destination) weddings.

#### What's your pet peeve?

People talking on their cell phone while at the checkout counter in a store.

# Do you have any all-time favorite books or movies?

"Bridges of Madison County" (book and movie), "Somewhere in Time" (book and movie) and "Guardians of the Galaxy."

# What two foods are always in your fridge or pantry?

Peanut butter, pickled beets.

# What's the best advice you could give a young person today?

Never give up on your dreams. Work hard to make a positive impact in all you do. S





raised beef, stone ground grits, grilled fresh asparagus, mushrooms, onions and peppers with a chimichurri sauce and balsamic reduction. No, this dish didn't appear on the Food Network, but don't be surprised if it doesn't one day, along with its creator, Chef D'Andrea Lawson.

Lawson, 31, is owner and sole proprietor of Divine Appétit, a food service management and specialized catering company located on the campus of Hood Theological Seminary.

The Johnson & Wales graduate has been in business since 2014, and since starting, is the food service provider for Meals on Wheels of Rowan County, Hood Theological Seminary and four Charlotte charter schools with five on

a waiting list.

She also provides weekend lunches for Ben Mynatt Nissan in Salisbury and still manages to cater weddings and other special events. Every other Friday, Lawson and one of her chefs prepare meals at a homeless shelter. Lawson also caters for the Queen City Battle of the Bands event, when she has to feed 2,000 people in three hours.

Lawson has plans to expand eventually, and to make that happen, she is currently building a headquarters in downtown Charlotte.

Lawson wasn't always interested in food. In fact, it wasn't until winning a high school competition that Lawson, a native of New Jersey, first tried cooking. Her aunt, who is a soul

Above: Chef Carl Brown slices baked lasagna to be loaded and sealed into meal trays for Meals on Wheels. Opposite: Chef D'Andrea Lawson is the owner of Divine Appétit.

food caterer, helped her create a dish of grilled chicken, rice and gravy and steamed broccoli. She won.

"I kept it simple," she says.

Simple is a mantra that she carried into her catering business and it has become her slogan — Simple. Artistic. Eats. Lawson prides herself on taking a dish most people are familiar with, such as braised beef, and putting her own twist on it with grilled vegetables, chimichurri and

## **FOOD**





balsamic vinegar reduction.

She initially wanted to name her business Divine Appetite, but after seeing Bon Appétit magazine she knew dropping the "e" would change everything.

Lawson had a few false starts before launching her business, but she went after her dreams and stayed the course.

"No one would give me a chance," she says. "I prayed, 'God, you gave me this vision."

Lawson worked for two years in Denali,

Above left: Lawson

scoops green peas as

she prepares meals.

Watkins loads up the

containers that are heading out for de-

livery. Right: Braised

ground grits and pan-

beef with stone

seared asparagus.

Above right: Sam

Alaska, as a restaurant manager, then for a couple of restaurants in North Carolina. She tried a catering company with a college friend and also had a hot dog cart.

"God was building me," she says.

Lawson heard a

lot of "no"s until she finally heard "yes." Her real break came with Floyd D. Young, chief executive officer and owner of FDY Inc., a food service management and catering company in

Charlotte. She worked for Young until he gave her two options — continue working for him or start her own business. She chose to start a business.

Lawson's mother, Sylvia, maintained her finances and her father, Daniel, did everything



from driving the delivery truck to washing dishes. He died in December, but told her to keep striving. In her first year she had virtually no business.

Lawson gave away more food than she had paid clients. She began with three employees and now has 26 to 30 as part of her team.

Lawson and her staff are all about time management, and they accomplish more before 11 a.m. than most people. The charter school meals the staff prepares must be out the door by 9:15 a.m., along with six to seven of her employees to deliver and help serve.

Divine Appétit's days begin at 5 a.m. with prepping for Meals on Wheels. The food is on the road to be at the pick-up sites by 9:30 a.m. Lawson and the Divine Appétit Co. staff prepare 1,800 meals a day Monday through Friday. Once they finish with Meals on Wheels, the staff begins prepping for the next day's Meals on Wheels dishes.

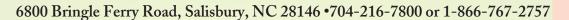
Her advice to anyone who wants to be an entrepreneur — start.

"You never know what will happen if you don't start," she says.

Divine Appétit Co. is located at 1810 Lutheran Synod Drive, Suite 600. S

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# Sentimental journey

Sedberry, Diversified Graphics keep their long partnership going. / By MARK WINEKA





ew local artists
have carved out
a niche like Betty Sedberry. Not
unlike a Bob Timberlake
painting, you can look at a
Sedberry print and know
it's her. The attention to
detail, the nostalgic feel
and the subject matter
betray her.

"What I do are memory pieces — they're sentimental," Sedberry says.

Over the past 40 years, Sedberry has documented some of Rowan County's most recognizable landmarks through her art. Now thanks to Frank and Diane Goodnight's Diversified Graphics, nine of Sedberry's most popular prints have been made into lush, oversized notecards.

They're suitable, well, for handwritten notes. They come with envelopes. But they're also big enough for framing. In an era when many houses are more windows than walls, it helps to have smaller prints, especially ones that spark reminiscing.

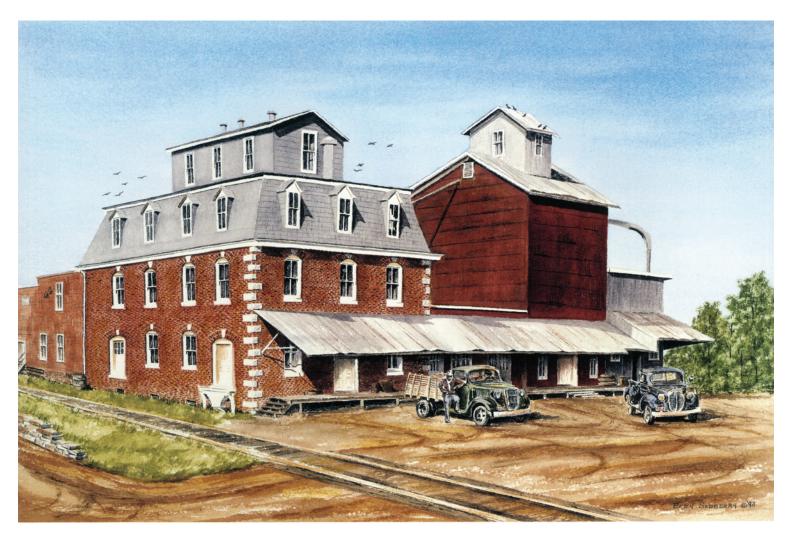
The Sedberry notecards include Barber Junction (1992), Grimes Mills (1993), the Michael Braun House (Old Stone House, 1994), The Presbyterian Bell Tower (1999), Al's Night Hawk (2003), Cruising Zesto (2006), The Salisbury Depot (2009), Gary's Barbecue (2008) and Dairy Queen (2010),

A package of nine sells for \$24, and they're available at the Salisbury Emporium (230 E. Kerr St.) and Diversified Graphics (700 N. Long St.).

Knowing the popularity of Sedberry's artwork, because he has reproduced it all over the past 40 years, Frank Goodnight said out loud one day, "This is ridiculous, we need to do something else with them."

Betty Sedberry's painting 'Dairy Queen' (2010) is one of the prints included in the notecard set.

## THE ARTS



He liked the idea of the oversized notecards, something that wouldn't infringe on the full-sized, limited-edition prints they had done earlier.

"She has sold out of everything she's ever done," Goodnight says. "For me, it was a labor of love. ... I'm glad we did it, and I will always be glad we did it."

One more thing: "They're selling like I thought they would," Frank says.

Diversified Graphics has printed 141 different pieces of Sedberry's artwork in the past four decades. "We've been going down memory lane," Betty says,

Above: Sedberry's painting of the old Grimes Mill. Right: The Old Stone House.

nodding to all her prints stacked next to Frank Goodnight's desk.

Looking at the early sketches, you can see how Sedberry, a onetime high school history teacher, quickly progressed as an artist. You also catch a hint of how she goes from sketch to the finished watercolor.

Sedberry points to things added and things taken away





in her original sketch of the Dairy Queen and the different vehicles out front. "I thought that was a good example of how she starts, then how she ends up," Diane Goodnight says.

Sedberry ended up leaving out a Thunderbird and changing the whole visual orientation. She made the pickup yellow so it showed up better. The old Dodge station wagon on the

left was her family's favorite mode of travel when Betty and her brothers were young. The Mustang belonged to Robert and Jenny Collins.

In the "Cruising Zesto" print, she included Tom Watson's Triumph, Jay

Hunsucker's hot rod and Jeff Gobble's pickup. On the Al's Night Hawk print, one of her most popular, Sedberry says the vehicles include Archie Jarrell's pickup, Harold Rinehardt's Chevy and her daughter's old Mustang, complete with her daughter behind the wheel.

You can also see Al Boulus himself behind the Night Hawk's counter.

Sedberry's 1990 rendition of the Roundhouse at Spencer Shops (today's N.C. Trans-

Above: Sedberry's painting of a scene at Gary's Bar-B-Cue. Right: The Bell Tower in downtown Salisbury.

portation Museum), was the first color print Diversified Graphics produced for her. She has drawn and painted four different views of the Salisbury Depot over the years. She laughs, saying that the only one left is a "helicopter view."

When she worked on her 1993 piece on Grimes Mills, lost to a fire in 2013, Sedberry parked her van in the back parking lot of Richard's Barbecue to achieve the orientation she wanted.

"The police were forever coming to see what I was doing," she says.

Historic preservationist Ed Clement, Frank Goodnight and Betty's late husband, Ralph, conspired in a way and pressed Sedberry into becoming an artist.

Betty considers her pen-and-ink drawing of the Alexander Long House north of Spencer as her first art piece. She did it for Ralph, because he used to hunt on those grounds as a kid. Her drawing of Kerr Mill was the first one Diversified Graphics printed in 1975, when the Goodnights' business was only a year old.

Her first series of prints done by the Goodnights came in 1976, when Sedberry drew the 10 sites on Historic Salisbury Foundation's OctoberTour. Clement talked her into doing that series after having seen her Alexander Long House drawing.

The HSF series of 10 prints sold for \$3. "I

## THE ARTS



thought I would have them forever," Betty says. When they sold out, she raised the price of the next set to \$5.

To reproduce Sedberry's work in the early days, Diversified Graphics relied on an 8-foot horizontal camera and film processing to capture the image. "I'd shoot myself before going back to that," says Frank Goodnight, who brought his business into the digital, direct-toplate age long ago.

Above: Barber Junction is depicted in one of Sedberry's paintings that is included in the notecards. Right: Some of Sedberry's pen and ink illustrations. — Photo by Jon C. Lakey.

<sup>66</sup> I would classify myself more

as an illustrator than an artist.

It has been fun, it truly has. "

Now everything is scanned, and the lasers used are incredibly accurate. It has made art so much easier to print, Frank Goodnight says. Once Diversified Graphics went digital, it also became easier to run more exact amounts of the prints the Goodnights and Sedberry wanted.

Both printer and artist are sticklers about getting things right. Back in the camera days, Goodnight recalls, he went through 40 to 50 pieces of film before reproducing the line variations Sedberry wanted on her drawing of a bridge in Cleveland.

"She was driving us crazy," Goodnight says. Sedberry and Goodnight have quite different personalities, but they always have the same

goal when it comes to the quality of the prints. Sedberry has never considered another printer.

"I think it's because we can argue and still be friends," Frank Goodnight says of their longtime partnership. "She and I can work out our differences."

He describes Sedberry as a rare breed, an exacting artist with a mild temperament. When Diane Goodnight says "Betty is very easy to work with," no truer words were ever spoken. In contrast to that, Frank can be brutally honest with his clients.



"Frank tells it like it is," Diane says.

"And I appreciate that," Sedberry quickly adds.

Through time, Sedberry's artwork has concentrated on many home places, historic sites in Rowan County, and by her own admission, not many portraits. Goodnight bets Sedberry has been commissioned privately "thousands" of times.

"I would classify myself more as an illustrator than an artist," Sedberry says. "It has been fun, it truly has."

There were periods when Sedberry worked constantly on her art and

traveled a lot to shows. "Sometimes it was up, sometimes it was down," she says of the business of art. Her work has appeared in publications such as American Artist, McCall's and Our State magazines.

In the recent past, Sedberry dropped out of the local art scene for several years while she was taking care of both of her parents, who have passed away. She finally feels as though

she is getting her artistic legs under her again, and she gives a lot of credit to the Goodnights.

"The notecards are really helping me get back into it," Sedberry says. "It has been a big help for me."

In typically modest fashion, Sedberry shrugs off any acclaim that has come her way..

"There are so many artists now in Rowan County who are so good,"

"And you're one of them," Frank Goodnight tells her. S

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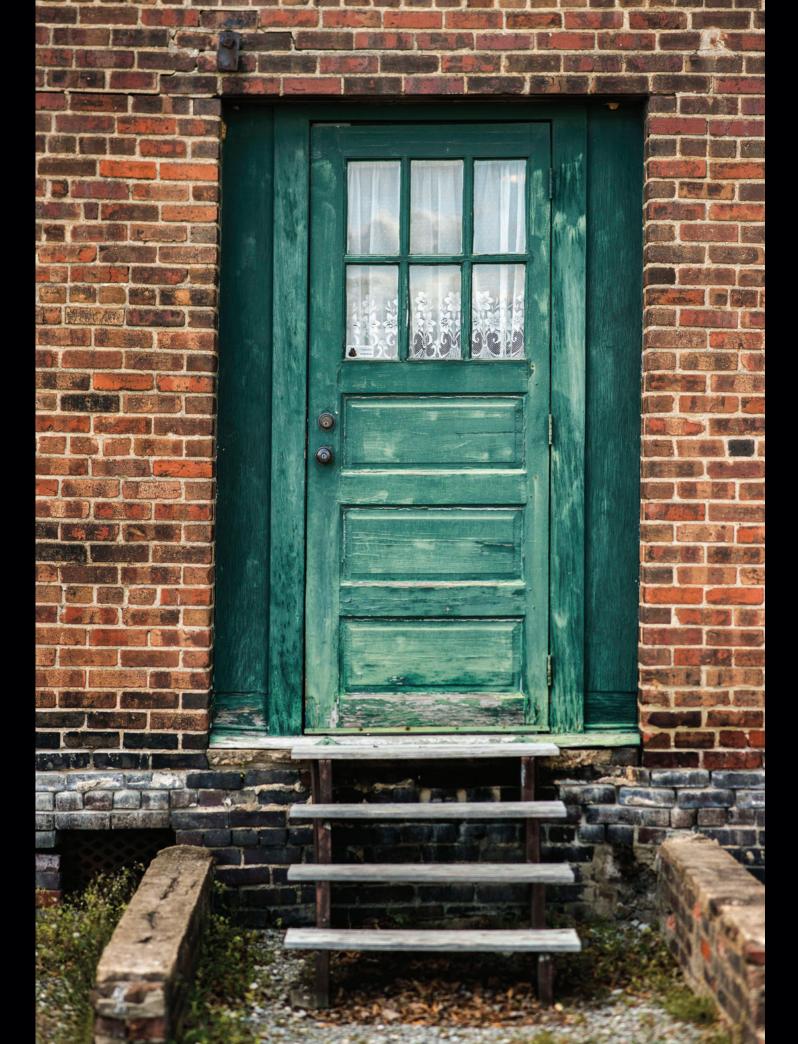




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# OPEN SHUT CASE

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hink of all the actions connected to doors.

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slam them at times.

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"What's behind Door No. 2?" game show host Monty Hall used to ask on "Let's Make a Deal."

There are barn doors, oven doors, dog doors, swinging doors, church doors, car doors, garage doors, cellar doors, screen doors and storm doors. Sometimes, if you're lucky, you win the door prize.

You might have sold magazines or Girl Scout cookies door-to-door. Or maybe you were once a doorman at a posh hotel or apartment building.



Left: An embossed screen door hinge on the File Store in Gold Hill Village. Opposite: A side door at the Salisbury Emporium.

Photography by JON C. LAKEY



Doormats often say "Welcome," and visitors announce their arrival by pushing the doorbell.

You can have secrets behind a door, slip things under a door and show someone the door, if you want to get rid of him.

Jim Morrison and The Doors wanted to "break on through to the other side." The other side of a door, no doubt.

Over the next few pages, Salisbury the Magazine brings you some doors of Rowan County and a few famous "door quotes" to go with them. Remember what comedian Milton Berle said once: "If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."

— Mark Wineka



Above: Dr. Marie Langhorne's 1905 historic home in Spencer, complete with a mechanical doorbell.

Left: A vacant restaurant in Gold Hill is framed out with tall shutters



<sup>44</sup> A very little key will open a very heavy door. <sup>99</sup>

— Charles Dickens





Clockwise from top left: The doorknob and keyhole of a door at Dr. Marie Langhorne's 1905 home in Spencer; A man enters the old Ice House on East Horah Street at the railroad tracks. The large green roll-up door has a door built in it that hinges and rolls up as well; The Historic Salisbury Foundation sells recovered doors and hardware as a way to raise funds to support its operations.

"When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife."

— Prince Philip

A man will be imprisoned in a room with a door that's unlocked and opens inwards; as long as it does not occur to him to pull rather than push. ??

— Ludwig Wittgenstein



"SO I SAY TO YOU.

ASK AND IT WILL

BE GIVEN TO YOU;

SEARCH AND YOU

WILL FIND; KNOCK,

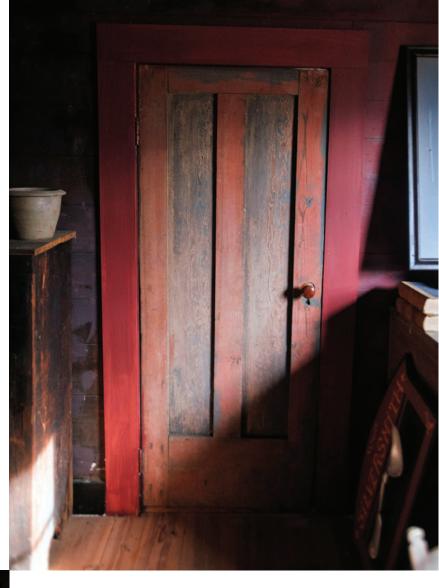
AND THE DOOR WILL

BE OPENED FOR YOU."

— JESUS CHRIST

Opposite: The front door to the only remaining structure of the Salisbury Confederate Prison. It's located on East Bank Street and is known as the Garrison House.

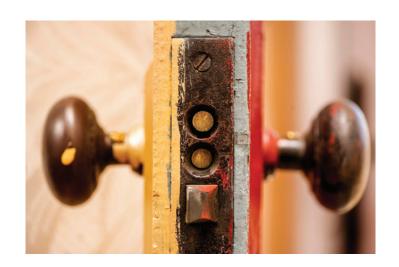
Clockwise from right: An interior door in a small building at Clyde's house; the doorknob at Dr. Marie Langhorne's home; Historic Salisbury Foundation sells salvaged doors to raise funds for preservation.



"He who opens a school door, closes a prison."

— Victor Hugo









people disrespect you. My mom says don't open the door to the devil. Surround yourself with positive

"Don't let

— Cuba Gooding Jr.

people."

😘 I was smart enough to go through any door that opened. ""

— Joan Rivers

Above: The doorway to Paul and Sue Fisher's home on South Fulton Street. Below: The screen door on the File Store in Gold Hill Village. Below left: A large roundtop door at the Salisbury Emporium.



"THERE ARE SO
MANY DOORS TO
BE OPENED, AND
I'M NOT AFRAID TO
LOOK BEHIND THEM."

- ELIZABETH TAYLOR



"Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn't know you left open."

— John Barrymore

We often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us. "?"

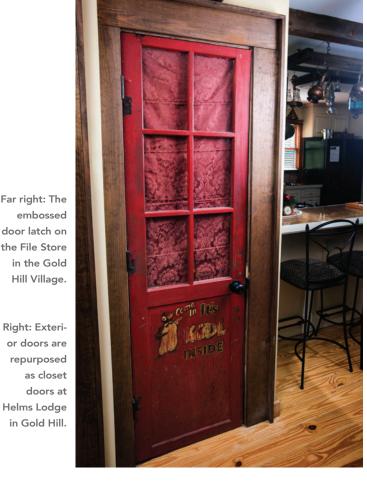
— Alexander Graham Bell



"My songs are the door to every dream I've ever had and every success I've ever achieved."

— Dolly Parton

the 9-foot-tall door at the front of the E.H. Montgomery Store in Gold Hill. Each pane of glass is 6.5 feet tall. Above left: The last five bays of the Julian Roundhouse at the N.C. Transportation Museum have single-pane glass on the large wooden doors.



"God enters by a private door into every individual."

> — Ralph Waldo Emerson



Knowledge of what is does not open the door directly to what should be. ??

— Albert Einstein



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Above: This largely overlooked structure at the N.C. Transportation Museum is the wheel balancing house behind the roundhouse. Right: The Historic Salisbury Foundation sells salvaged hardware.





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# RELENTLESS ROAD

For any trucker, the pressures of time keep you moving.

Written by JENNY HUBBARD

y cousin Elizabeth, who is 54, has been driving a truck for a year. When she was let go from her white-collar job in Charlotte, she was given a number of career-training options.

She chose truck-driving and loves it like no other job she's had, a fact that intrigues me. So here I sit in the passenger seat of her 18-wheeler for a glimpse of an America I've never seen.





I take notes because I'm working on a novel about a young female trucker that's still in the muddy stages. For fiction writers, there's a lot of not-knowing. This holds true for the trucking life, too: you aren't assigned your destination until an hour or two before. At 6:30 a.m., we've just gotten notice that we'll be headed first to Statesville to pick up 40,000 pounds of goat and pig feed, which we'll deliver to two

Tractor Supply stores in small towns in Tennessee. After that, we'll get a new assignment.

Elizabeth laughs when I tell her I'm hoping for something farther north, where there's snow. She tells me how she ended up getting holed up in Maine during a blizzard and how some other drivers had to dig her out. She lost a lot of time, and, in the world of trucking, as in a lot of other worlds, time is money.

Time can be your friend, but mostly it's your enemy. From the moment you crank up the engine in the morning, you have 14 hours until you are forced to shut it down. You are required to take at least a 30-minute break after eight hours of driving. There's a computer attached to the dashboard that keeps track.

"We're about ready to roll," she says. "There's one more thing, though. Ready?"



Elizabeth turns up the volume on a rap song I've never heard of and bounces around the cab like she's 19. She wears schoolboy glasses and a short skirt with tights and work boots. I ask her about the skirt, which seems impractical given the climbing in and out of the cab.

"It's kind of my thing," she says, "my signature." Her other signatures include a life-sized skeleton named Robert who rides in the passenger seat and a ball cap. The one she wears today features the image of a hammer and, underneath it, the word Hammered. In spite of the cap, Elizabeth doesn't drink and hasn't for decades. But I do. I tell her that my signature is a glass of red wine every evening, and I've been fretting about having to miss that. Elizabeth wants the trip to be as authentic as possible, and truck stops don't

My other signature is a cup of good coffee first thing in

Above: The space between trailers can be pretty tight at truck stops.

Above left: From a trucker's perspective, the landscape whizzes by.

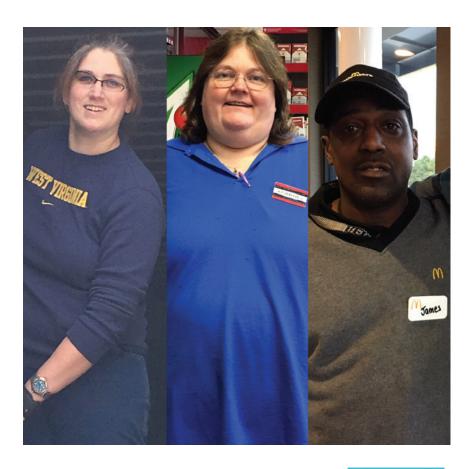








Clockwise from above: Farms still dot much of the country's landscape; an early-morning fog hangs on over a bridge; the back of a tanker truck makes its case for Flying J Travel Center's coffee, which Payton says is indeed the best; a roadside message offers free hugs.



the morning, and I'm worried about not getting that even more than I'm worried about the wine. "I can guarantee coffee," she says, "but I can't guarantee that it'll be good. Flying J has the best," she tells me.

I offer to pay for a hotel for one of the nights we're on the road. "I don't do hotels," says Elizabeth. "Bed bugs. I know this is going to sound crazy, but I'd rather sleep in my truck than anywhere else." At night, after the doors are locked and the blackout curtains pulled across the windshield, I'm lulled to sleep by a nearby reefer (truck-speak for "refrigerated trailer"), which must be kept running like

Some faces along the road: another woman trucker, left; Carol, in the middle, an employee at a Marathon gas station; and James, a McDonald's employee.

any refrigerator. A lot of drivers don't like to park next to a reefer because it's so loud, but to Elizabeth, it's white noise.

It's been a long time since I've slept in a bunk bed. I have the top, and maybe the most difficult task of the whole trip for me is getting in and out of it.

The first time, Elizabeth has to push me up by my bottom. Driving a truck is a lot about planning ahead, and that includes when to go to the bathroom, but once I'm in bed, I'm not getting out until it's time for my morning coffee.



take their first drink

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NC middle schoolers say if parents spoke more often to their children about underage the problem

Percentage of NC students who say underage drinking is a problem





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She's spotted Elizabeth, in her skirt, coming our way. "Oh," she says, dry as a bone. "It's a girl driver."

"A woman driver," I say.

For the three nights I'm on the road, I sleep better in my top bunk than I do at home. It should have been six nights, or seven. But in Rogersville, Tenn., things take a turn — literally— for the worse.

Drivers depend on a GPS to tell them which roads are truck friendly. You type in the destination, and the computer spits out the route. Long story short,

we make a right when we should have made a left, and when Elizabeth attempts to right the mistake by taking a narrow loop road, she mows down a row of mailboxes.

I don't see it happen because I've already hopped out of the cab to appease a scowling neighbor standing on her stoop wondering what we're doing on her road. I introduce myself (her name is Anna), and when I try to explain what's going on, she says, "But the Tractor Supply is back On this run, Elizabeth was hauling goat and pig feed from Statesville to Tractor Supply stores in Tennessee.



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that way!"

"Yes, ma'am," I say. "We realize that."

"Then why in the heck are you here? This is the third time in three months a big ol' truck has tried to come up this road and ruined those mailboxes, and this road isn't —"

Anna stops. She's spotted Elizabeth, in her skirt, coming our way. "Oh," she says, dry as a bone. "It's a girl driver."

"A woman driver," I say.

At a stop, Elizabeth Payton enjoys an ice cream cone.

Anna gives me a tight little smile. "Raymond is going to have a fit when he sees those mailboxes. He replaced them not even a month ago when that last truck came through here." Raymond is the neighbor across the street, who isn't home at the moment. He's 93. Anna is 82, we learn, and a veteran bowler who travels nationwide to compete. We offer her all the cash we have so she can give it to Raymond, but she won't take it.

"How much you get paid?" she asks Elizabeth.

"Forty cents a mile," she says.

"You girls are going to need that money," she says. "Besides, it's gonna cost a lot more than that to buy new mailboxes. I tell you, Raymond will not be happy about this."

Anna doesn't like talking to Raymond; he's a talker, as Elizabeth soon discovers. Twenty-eight minutes on the phone with him, and she knows what size shoe he wears and what each of his grandkids do for a living. He's kind and generous; he won't let her pay for the mailboxes, either. He decides that the trucking company







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should pay. This is bad news; my cousin was hoping to keep her employer out of it.

The good news: We deliver the goat feed. Later than night, when our 14-hour clock runs out, we find ourselves stuck at what is supposed to be a café called Daisy Duke's (and, yes, it's exactly what you're thinking) that allows truckers to park in the lot.

But Daisy's is closed for just this one night—a change of ownership, the sign on the door says. Across the street is a tiny Marathon gas station. On fumes, we slide our way over and park by the dumpster. It's close to 9:00, and we're hungry. Carol, the sole employee, tells us it's fine to park overnight and offers to fix us a frozen pizza, which we gratefully accept. I buy a Bud Light to go along with it.

I catch up with Elizabeth, who has stepped outside to take a picture with her cell phone of an oxidized lamppost. She's a road photographer, in search of small beauty within the larger ugliness, which I'm thinking might be the theme of my novel. Along the way, she has laid her trucker philosophy on me, which sounds as wise as Plato's.

Early the next morning, before we pull out of the Marathon station, Elizabeth finds out that we're being routed back to Charlotte; because of the mailbox incident, she's no longer allowed to have a passenger along for the ride. I'm disappointed, but more than that, I'm afraid Anna's words about the mailboxes costing more than \$100 may be true.

While Elizabeth is on the phone, first with Anna, who has called to check on her, and then with one of her sons, I make my second coffee run.



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The coffee is bad, and the woman at the checkout counter isn't as friendly as Carol, so I don't stick around. I take a few pictures of a lonely hay bale next to the parking lot and climb up, one-handed, into the cab.

Elizabeth's company routes us the long way home (Granite Quarry for her) so she can make a couple of deliveries between here and there. We spend our last night at a Flying J Travel Center in Virginia, where we both queue up for a free shower after refueling the truck. It's nicer than you think; you get your own locked stall that also comes with a sink, a toilet, and the towels I'm handed have

just come out of the dryer, an unexpected grace note.

Jenny Hubbard, left, shares a hug with her cousin trucker, Elizabeth Payton. The next morning, because I've got two coffees in my hand, an older trucker heading in for a shower opens the door for me. When I thank him, he says, "That'll be a quarter. I've got to make some kind of profit today."

It doesn't take a week to learn that in the life of a trucker, nothing is ever really clean. In the parking lots of America, cigarette butts, used condoms, dead songbirds, and, always, something gone to rust. Even so, it's not hard to understand why

Elizabeth doesn't mind staying out on the road for a monthlong stretch. The cab is a womb. S

Jenny Hubbard of Salisbury is a writer and part-time librarian. The working title of her latest novel is "Mother Trucker," which she borrowed from her cousin's Instagram account. You can follow Elizabeth, who now drives for a trucking company based in Colorado, at @mother\_truckr.







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## OF INVENTION

Kristy Woodson Harvey finds there are many parts to being an author.

 ${\it Written~by~DEIRDRE~PARKER~SMITH}$ 

Photography by JON C. LAKEY

ntering Kristy Woodson Harvey's world is stepping into a calm, organized space where her personality is the bright spot in a sunny world.

Harvey, now a seasoned author with three published books and a contract for two more,

has moved to Beaufort, N.C., from Kinston, where crime levels left her and her husband, dentist William S. Harvey, concerned about raising their son, young Will.

Her house on the waterfront is tastefully decorated — she writes a home design blog, "Design Chic," with her mother, Beth Woodson, every day — in white, tan and gold, with plenty of natural elements, including a chandelier made of shells in the entry way.

A gracious hostess, she has planned her day to accommodate Salisbury the Magazine. It's just before the whirlwind of her book tour begins.

She finds inspiration from the smooth waters outside her door, the island across the water, Carrot Island, where wild horses roam, and the air of a place built on history.

Her latest book, published April 25, is "Slightly South of Simple," the first of a trilogy featuring mother Ansley and her three daughters, Caroline, Emerson and Sloane.

It is set in Peachtree Bluff, Ga., a fictional place remarkably similar to Beaufort. It's a Kristy invention.

Kristy, an only child, enjoyed writing about three close sisters, each of whom is different and remarkable on her own, and she captures the 50-something mother well, too.

She sent the manuscript of the second book in the trilogy to her publishers in mid-March and is remarkably calm about the whole thing. Her book tour is mostly in the South, but she'll be on the road a lot and she has sandwiched in smaller, more personal events.

"I could not do this without the support of my family and my parents," she said. Her father is former Salisbury Mayor Paul Woodson, who loves having time to spend with his grandson.



Husband Will gladly supports her. "We are all so proud of her and what she's accomplished, how hard she works," he says. "... We can support her whether we're playing in the park with Will or sitting in a rental car in Florida."

"They make it so I can tour," Kristy adds. "... I don't want to be apart from my family for too long. I am really lucky in the time I get to spend with my family."

When Kristy moved to Kinston, she found herself looking for something to do. She told her husband, "I might try to write a book."

He told her to go ahead if that would make her happy. "She said, 'I love writing."

That first book, "Dear Carolina" was nominated for a few awards and optioned for a movie. That proved to her she was on the right path.

Husband Will and son Will are glad to be along for the ride. "Little Will likes to see her with a large au-

Story continues on page 50.



Above: Some of Kristy Woodson Harvey's previous books sit on a table in her home.

Left: Son Will opens the gate of the property, which is across the street from the water.







Opposite: Kristy and son Will enjoy a stroll through downtown Beaufort. Clockwise from top: A sailboat moves past the waterfront near Beaufort; the cover of Harvey's new book, 'Slightly South of Simple'; Harvey signs a book for a reader.





dience," his father says. The two enjoy visiting different places and always try to find something historic or educational to visit because young Will likes that.

Kristy writes "in spaces that fit," often standing on a balancing board, her laptop raised on a lucite cube, near windows that look out over the water.

Kristy Woodson Harvey signs a copy of her new book for Laurel Anderson.

They plan to build a dedicated office space where she can write and store her books. "I'm a vagabond," she says with a laugh, "I write in all different parts of the house," even the one room on the third floor, which she calls the play room.

She used to write 2,000 words every morning when young Will was small, but now that he's in school, she uses other times. She plans to write

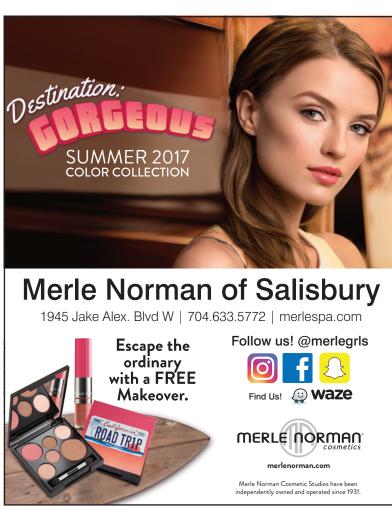
for the rest of her life, no matter what contracts come her way.

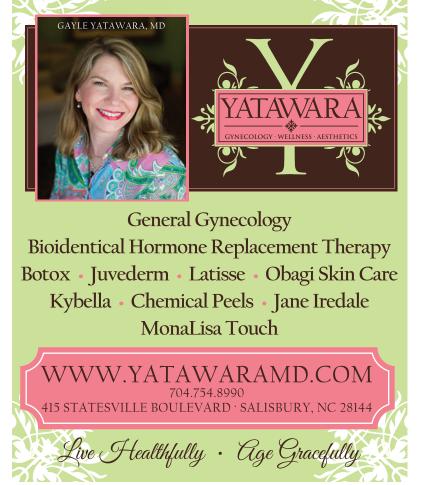
"As long as folks want to read" her books, husband Will says, she'll keep writing. "She has decades in front of her to do this."

Her day starts when she takes Will to a private school in Morehead City. She'll do a spin or barre class.

She comes home, eats, then "tries to attend to the emergency pieces first. ... There are so many parts to being an author."

She works until 2:30, when it's time to pick Will up, then takes him to the park and brings him along to run errands, something that makes him roll his eyes. They have a family dinner, she puts





Will to bed and then she works on her blogs and guest posts.

She writes a lot on weekends, but not all the time. Sometimes she'll indulge herself and write in bed on Saturday mornings.

In the summer they stay on the beach or on their boat all day, or Kristy and her husband paddle board, something she also loves.

She looks out towards Carrot Island, saying it's the place that inspired Starlight Island in "Slightly South of Simple," a place where the sisters played as children.

Sometimes, Kristy says, she pinches herself because her success as an author has been "crazy."

"This book has been so different. A lot of people are excited about it and ordering it.

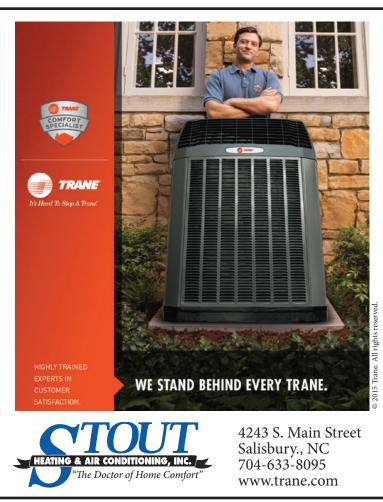
"It's exciting ... I'll be very fortunate to be able to do the same thing three books later."

The Peachtree Bluff series is an exciting opportunity for her. "My new publisher has been phenomenal. They've treated me so well." Someone at Simon & Schuster approached her with the idea of a series.



The upstairs of the Harvey's home has a picturesque view of the water. The pillow has the GPS coordinates of Beaufort, N.C.









"A series?" Kristy asked. "I had no idea about a series." The editor said, "I love the way you write about sisters."

"I said I'd always wanted to do a series about sisters. And it came to me in that moment.

Above: Kristy and Will Harvey pose for a photo on the dock. Left: Harvey does yoga on the upstairs balcony of her home. "My agent said 'Don't do it,' but they made a deal and it was amazing, and a joy to work with everyone from the editor to the publicity department."

For the first time, she shot a promotional video for the book. She and Mary Alice Monroe share an editor. "Mary Alice has been a real cheerleader for me," Kristy says, "like a big sister."

The one thing the new publisher told her, "Don't write about North Carolina. Mary Alice Monroe writes about South Carolina, and people think it's all the same place."

Kristy took offense, but they told her she could make up any place she wanted. She created Peachtree Bluff and pictures it somewhere in the St. Simon's Island area, but it's very much like Beaufort.





They told her people are enamored of the South, so keeping her book focused there was smart. And it's a natural beach read.

Above: Kristy and her son Will enjoy spending time in the library of the North Carolina Maritime Museum on Front Street in Beaufort. Left: A view of the waterfront from the Harvey's home.

Opposite: Supper time at Beaufort Grocery Co.

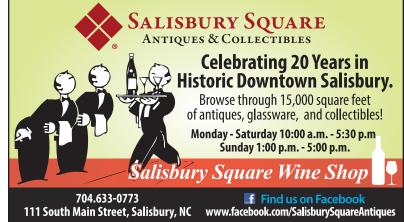
Like all authors, she had a hard time coming up with a title that everyone could agree on. She came up with another list, and first suggested "Starlight Sisters." They countered with "Slightly South of Simple" and Kristy was thrilled. It was one of her favorite

quotes in the book. "It's my favorite title ever."

Each of the sisters will have her own book. This one is Caroline's, but Ansley will be in all of the books. And this book leaves Sloane with a cliff-







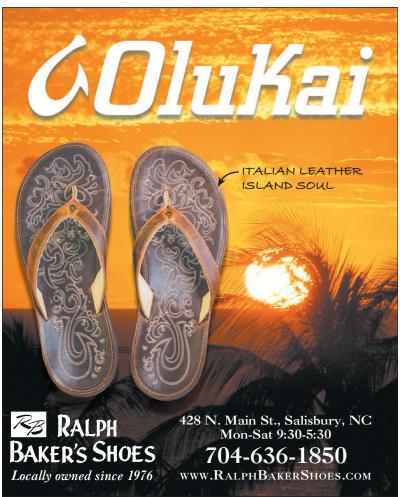


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Barnhardt Jewelers 704.633.0618 | 314 S Salisbury Ave. Historic Spencer Rowan's #1 Jewelry Store! hanger ending, the perfect segue to book two.

"I have so many ideas, I love it. It's so much fun. I love doing the writing."

She also understands how it can be tough for some people. "I made all this up in my head."

She gets so much done when she is writing and promoting and very busy that she works faster. Sloane's book is the one that recently went off to her editor. She's not quite sure what will happened with Emerson yet.

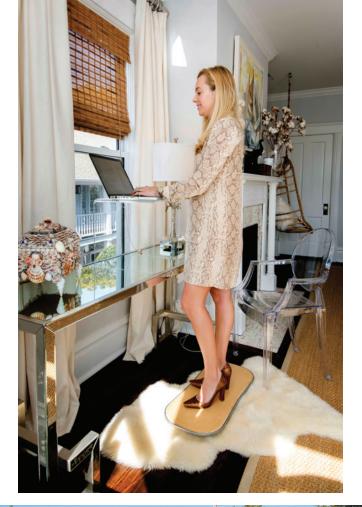
Opposite: Will practices the guitar. Right: Harvey works at her home on a balance board.

Book "proposals are usually different than what is written," so she's not worried. "It's been interesting to take a character from one book to the next." As she got to know Sloane by writing her story, she grew to like the character more and more. "She has a great love story. I love a good love story."

For Kristy, her characters write the story, "but it happens seamlessly. It's like I'm not even thinking, it's just happening. My subconscious is always working on it."

And she's always thinking about what's next. "You always think, will people buy this? Will they like it? Will they want more?

"I never thought I'd be doing anything like this. Now I wonder what I would be doing without it." S



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## Fancy footwork

With Salisbury as U.S. hub, Sole Hope shoes change lives for Ugandan children.

Written by MARK WINEKA | Photography by JON C. LAKEY





ack on a wall, opposite mountains of boxes ready for shipment, Holly Jones Teeter has hung the photographic portraits of 29 Ugandans. She has a name and title with each smiling face.

Franco is a security guard; Sarah, a tailor; Zeus, a shoemaker; Peter, a social worker; Kamagala, a lead shoemaker; Okello, director of shoemaking; Prossy, a nurse; and Joyce, a housekeeper.

"It was important to me for people to see their faces," Teeter says from her Salisbury location at 323 N. Lee St.

You might say these faces — and it's not

all of them —represent the soul of Sole Hope. In Jinja, Uganda, they are responsible for making the shoes and providing the education and medical clinics so thousands of Ugandan children can live their lives jigger-free.

Part of Sole Hope's amazing story revolves around Salisbury, which is the home office of the nonprofit organization's

operations outside of Uganda. Shoe-cutting parties for Sole Hope are now conducted internationally, and the materials and medical supplies from those parties are sent to Salisbury, where they are sorted out and repackaged for huge, twice-a-year

shipments to Uganda.

Portraits of Ugandans who make up the Sole Hope team in Jinja. On average, about 200 shoe-cutting parties are happening somewhere each month.

In Jinja, using the pieces of denim and plastic cut out in patterns at the parties and rubber available in Africa, tailors and shoemakers combine to produce shoes, which are distributed to children of remote villages.

Sole Hope gives out the shoes only after the children attend a clinic. Those clinics include a washing of feet, jigger removal if



necessary, treatment of the feet, instructions on how to prevent jiggers and then the new pair of shoes.

"We are changing their lives," says Teeter, Sole Hope's home office manager.

Monetary donations to Sole Hope help pay fair wages to the roughly 40 Ugandans who serve as tailors (sewing together the shoe uppers), shoemakers, nurses, security guards, social workers and housekeepers at the Sole Hope Outreach House.

Contributions also go toward the purchase of supplies (glue, tires, elastic, midsoles and thread to finish the shoes), shipping fees and the costs of weekly clinics where the feet of 150 to 200 children are washed and inspected.

Sole Hope's mission is not as complicated as it might seem, but some background is necessary. In 2010, Asher Collie of Asheville learned through a YouTube video how Ugandan chilAbove: Kristine Miller and her daughters Brooklynn, left, and Moira, right, at a shoe-cutting party. Right: Holly Teeter, home office manager for Sole Hope in Salisbury.

dren were being victimized by jiggers, which are small sand fleas, and she decided the best weapon against the parasites was a pair of shoes.

Jiggers burrow into the skin of humans, and the easiest entry point is usually through feet, which often are bare and unprotected. The fleas feed off human blood, and females lay eggs. As those egg sacs grow, walking becomes painful.

In the end, the jiggers can make it difficult or impossible to walk to water, collect food or go to work. "So many things because of this one parasite," Teeter says. "This one problem can change so much."



Removing the jiggers is fairly simple, yet getting over some of the cultural barriers — the Sole Hope clinicians are sometimes seen as conducting witchcraft — can be a challenge.

"It's really about education more than anything else," says Hannah Wilson, who is the one-person receiving department at Sole Hope in Salisbury.

Despite the obstacles, the Sole Hope organization that Asher and Dru Collie founded is now distributing 6,500 to 7,000 shoes annually to Ugandan children and some adults.

The Collies moved to Uganda. Teeter, a South Rowan High and Western Carolina University graduate, initially worked with the couple in Asheville, and she brought the home office with her to Salisbury about three years ago.

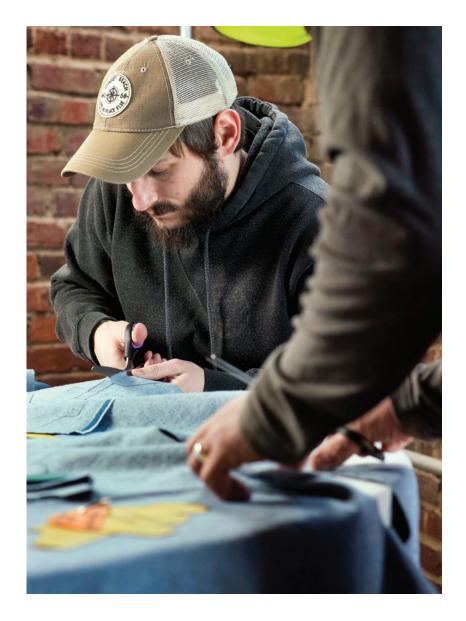
Matt Teeter and his brother Michael, right, cut material at a shoe-cutting party.

Ashley Redburn heads "stateside operations" in Missouri.

In Salisbury, Teeter leans on Wilson, who is in charge of receiving all the materials from shoe-cutting parties, and Terri Jones (Holly's mom), who heads distribution. The Sole Hope office has expanded into two buildings in the Railwalk district off North Lee Street.

At a shoe-cutting party — Texas, for some reason, has the most — participants supply their own denim fabric (old pairs of jeans, for example), thin plastic (milk jugs, laundry detergent bottles or 2-liter soda bottles), fabric scissors, large safety pins, Sharpies and gallon-sized plastic bags.

Sole Hope kits provide an instructional video and templates for tracing onto the denim and plastic. Each shoe requires four







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denim heels, four denim toes, two denim heel patches and two plastic heel supports.

Besides their importance for tracing, the markers are used to write the shoe size on the plastic heel support. All 12 elements of the shoe uppers are pinned together and placed in a plastic bag, and all the bags from the party (including medical items) are sent to Salisbury, where Wilson sorts them out and prepares Cardinal Healthcare-supplied boxes for shipping.

On this particular morning, Wilson says she received shoe-party shipments from Canada, Texas, California and North Carolina.

At the parties, each participant also is asked to donate \$10 per shoe he or she cuts. The symbolism is \$10 for 10 toes. In addition, Sole Hope is starting to promote care-kit parties,



in which participants fill a quart-sized freezer bag with important medical items for jigger removal and treatment.

The items in one kit include a tube of antibiotic cream, 10 Band-Aids, five safety pins, a snack-size plastic bag of cotton balls, a page of children's stickers, 10 alcohol wipes and an optional card or letter to the recipient in Uganda.

Sole Hope tries as much as possible to write personal thank-you notes to everyone who participates in shoe-cutting parties. Morgan Ridge Railwalk and Eatery recently offered one



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of its rooms for a shoe-cutting event and donated 10 percent of its wine and beer sales on that day to Sole Hope.

Teeter says private individuals also donate their time to Sole Hope, including Catawba and Livingstone College students and Crosby Scholars.

At the Salisbury office, Sole Hope has a gift shop of items such as water bottles, coffee cups, T-shirts, jewelry, aprons, totes and journals. Jones fills orders daily, and people are increasingly visiting the organization's website at www.solehope.org.

Scattered throughout the country, Sole Hope also has developed a team of "advocates," people who make speaking appearances on its behalf. Teeter said Sole Hope has about 10 employees from the United States, half in this country and half living and working in Uganda.

Next to her office, Teeter has devoted a room to Uganda and Sole Hope's mission there. It's like a museum. There are Ugandan maps, a vid-



Hannah Wilson, who is in charge of receiving, unpacks boxes of supplies.

eo presentation, information on jiggers, a Ugandan backdrop for social media pictures, a rack of the kinds of shoes made in Jinja and a table with Ugandan items such as a soccer ball of banana leaves, toys, baskets, a typical water container and a shoemaker's stool.

At the end of March, Teeter made her eighth, two-week trip to Uganda, and she car-

ried with her 30 boxes of items needed the most at the Sole Hope Outreach House, such as underwear, towels and socks. The Outreach House is an extended-care place where people with the most serious cases of jiggers are treated.

"It's kind of a trip to remind me of what we're doing," Teeter says. Otherwise, the pictures on the wall help with that. S









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## Putting the tea in TV

Thursday afternoon Downton Abbey Club provides relaxation, fellowship, conversation.

Written by ANDIE FOLEY | Photography by JON C. LAKEY

ucked away in the back room of Spencer's Doll and Toy Museum, a group of 15 women has gathered around a long and covered table. One, a country singer. Another, an antiques dealer. The gathering even contains a cluster of four teenagers and multiple published authors.

What do they have in common? A passion for "Downton Abbey." The group calls itself the Downton Abbey Club, and they meet at 2 p.m. each Thursday to watch and discuss one of the show's 50-minute episodes.

And that's not all.

Marie Clanton, Spencer Doll and Toy Museum event coordinator and aforementioned country singer, transforms their meeting space into a quaint tea party. Their shared table is covered with porcelain teapots, cups and saucers, as well as homemade cookies and cakes.

Each week, Clanton brings in a minimum of three new flavors of tea for the ladies to sample. One flavor is always "the tea of the day."

Downton Abbey Club and its included weekly tea parties developed out of Clanton's desire to provide women a time of relaxation and fellowship. The chance to act as hostess for this weekly pampering session is one of Clanton's favorite aspects of the club, she says.





"My family's all gone ... everybody's grown up and everybody's so busy," she explains. "It's rare when I can get my family to all come and sit at a table. This way I have a bunch of friends to come and we all watch a movie!"

These weekly meetings also serve as a means of increasing the Spencer Doll and Toy museum's exposure. Clanton and museum cofounder, Beth Nance, both note that awareness of the nonprofit has dramatically increased since they started the club.

"That's one of the things we want to do: bring more people into the

museum," Nance says. "When they get here they go, 'Oh, my gosh, I didn't know you were here.' We're trying to build the awareness."

Clanton adds, "I think that the museum is a great value, and my idea of being event coordinator is to get people here.



I'm thinking that Downton Abbey is getting some attention.

"The museum is like a hidden treasure; it's a nice wholesome place to go. Now I bump into people who say 'I see stuff all the time about the museum in the paper!' That's what we need. We need people to know there's something going on here and that it's of value."

Group facilitators do their best to incorporate educational elements into their afternoon sessions. Whether it's special presentations on the 'right' (read: English) way to prepare tea, lessons on etiquette, or the chance to look at and handle dolls with Downton-esque costuming, the Downton Abbey

Club is much more than just a passive gathering of souls.

For club members, though, the highlight comes in the communal viewing experience.

"Being around other people that are passionate about it is just so much fun," says Anna Grace Thrailkill, a 17-year-old Above: Clockwise around the table from the lower left, Beth Nance, Anna Grace Thrailkill, Tori Jones, Katie Jones, Elli Jones, Dicy McCullough, Linda Behrendt, Helen Thomas, Gayle Hansen, Susan Morris, Charlotte Turner, Mary Ann Kerr, Heather Kerr and Jan McCanless. Standing right is Marie Clanton.

Left: Marie Clanton baked a nut bread for the meeting.





homeschool student from Lexington who comes to Downton Abbey Club each week with her three friends. "You get to all fangirl together.

"But also whenever we go around and talk ... it's interesting to see what other insights people have regarding the characters and the different facets that they have."

Charlotte Turner is a club member who stumbled onto Downton Abbey in a bid to pass the time during one of her husband's fishing excursions. She immediately fell in love with the program and feels similar to Thrailkill.

"(Downton Abbey Club) is a nice break in the day and in the week," she says. "I enjoy discussing it with people that have seen it and enjoy it, the camaraderie with people who are interested in the same thing as you are."

Above left: Club members watch an episode of Downton Abbey during the tea party. Above right: Paper doll cutouts of Downton Abbey characters.

From opportunities to fangirl to platforms for insightful discussion, most Downton Abbey episodes have it all. As the women watch each episode, the viewing room is filled with collective gasps, laughter and "awws."

Clanton facilitates group discussion by placing placards with character names at each of the table's place settings. Club members know to pay special attention to their given "characters of the day," as they will take time to reflect on Downton's dramatis personae at the close of each gathering.

During one such discussion, Jan McCanless, an author of 15 books and contributor to many well-known publications, introduces herself as "Salisbury's resident author and weird person."

"Today I'm Violet Crawley, Dowager Countess of Grantham, and I think



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#### REMINISCE

that's only appropriate," McCanless announces with a laugh. When it's time to discuss her character, she in-

forms the group teasingly, "I can so relate to her, and this business of everybody bowing to her I think is great. I want to put you all on notice – I expect that."

Charlotte Turner won a prize during a recent meeting.

The rest of the club contributes to this lighthearted banter. However, remarks may also hold more depth and perception.

"I had Lady Sybil," says Thrailkill.

"I admire how she threw out everything that she's ever known and went for what she wanted. She knew she wanted to help and she knew she wanted to make a bigger impact than what she was making. I admire the fact



that she got so far out of her comfort zone. I couldn't imagine living the life that she lived and then completely throwing it out and starting fresh and new."

As much as attendees love the cast and costuming of Downton Abbey, their many weeks

together have provided opportunity to form strong and lasting bonds with fellow group members — people they may have never encountered otherwise.

Clanton, surrogate mother around whose table these ladies have gathered, now remarks on each attendee with adoration. From the member who is still out and about following a back surgery, to another who has gone back to school to study criminal justice, she brags on them all.

"These are interesting people, that's what I'm finding," Clanton says in closing. "They are getting out and doing something with their lives. They're good people, and this is a good wholesome place to work. I love it."

Andie Foley, a Catawba College senior, is an intern at the Salisbury Post.

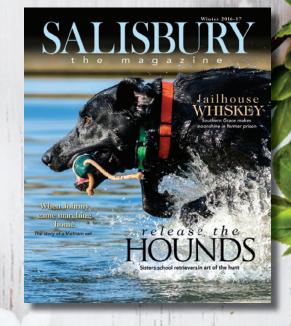








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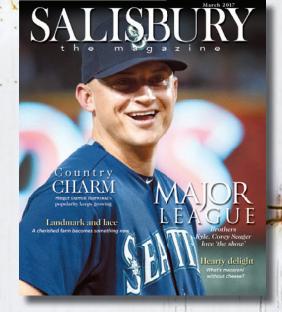
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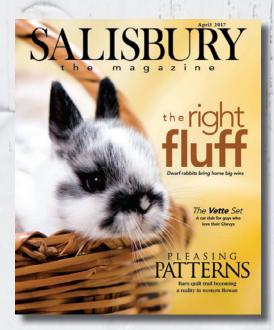
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## SALISBURY the magazine



The purple-shirt cancer survivors gather together for the walk around the fairgrounds during last year's Relay for Life event. This year's event is May 6 at the Rowan County Fairgrounds. — Photo by Jon C. Lakey

#### MAY 4-7, 10-13

#### 'Tom Jones'

• Meroney Theater

All shows, 7:30 p.m., except 2:30 p.m. May 7. "Tom Jones" is a bawdy, rollicking comedy in this production by Piedmont Players Theatre. Tickets, \$17 for adults; \$14, students and seniors. Box office open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday or by telephone at 704-633-5471 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information: PiedmontPlayers.com. Meroney Theater is located at 213 S. Main St.

#### MAY 5-6 Jiggy with the Piggy

Downtown Kannapolis

Celebrate summer and all things barbecue at the Jiggy with the Piggy BBQ Festival in downtown Kannapolis. Explore more than 100 arts & crafts vendors, enjoy live music, ride carnival rides and celebrate with fireworks. Don't miss the first-ever children's Zucchini 600 race on

## May 2017

Upcoming events in the Salisbury-Rowan area

Saturday. Make sure to come hungry because there will be plenty of wings and barbecue to go around all weekend. May 5, 5-10 p.m.; May 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information go to kannapolisnc.gov/jiggywiththepiggy.

#### MAY 6 Relay for Life

• Rowan County Fairgrounds

4 p.m. official start, but it's an all-day event. The signature fundraiser in Rowan County for the American Cancer Society. Grass-roots teams have a goal this year of raising \$210,000.

#### MAY 6

#### **Community Barn Dance**

• Bear Poplar/Mount Ulla

6 p.m. Elsie and Brian Bennett, owners of West Rowan Farm, Home & Garden, are inviting the community to their first annual barn dance, which will be held in the store warehouse. Bluegrass music. Richard Luther will call the square dancing. Old-fashioned community pot luck dinner. Call the store at 704-278-2800 for more details. The store is located at 11575 Highway 801.

#### **MAY 12**

#### Kidsbloom

• Salisbury Academy

5-9 p.m. A family-focused event featuring inflatables, food, games and an auction.

#### MAY 12-13

#### **Train Show**

• N.C. Transportation Museum

This show features model trains, vendors, kids' activities, modeling clinics, celebrities of railroading and more. The show is full of items for you to peruse and purchase. For exhibitor registration and information, call Marcus Neubacher at 704-636-2889, ext. 251.

#### MAY 13

#### **Gold Rush Days**

• Historic Gold Hill

10 a.m.-5 p.m., arts and crafts booths, gold panning, live bluegrass music and food. Historic Gold Hill Village is located along St. Stephens Church Road. For more information, go to www.goldhillnc.com.

#### **MAY 13**

#### Middle School Prom

• Salisbury Civic Center

6-9 p.m. 11th annual city of Salisbury Recreation Department event. \$10 per ticket in advance.

#### **MAY 13**

#### **Gershwin Pops Concert**

• Livingstone College

Salisbury Symphony event, 7:30 p.m., Varick Auditorium on the Livingstone campus. For more information: 704-637-4314 or Salisburysymphony.org.

#### **MAY 13**

#### **Antique Truck Show**

• N.C. Transportation Museum

Hosted by the Piedmont Chapter of the Antique Truck Historical Society, this show features trucks of all makes and models at least 25 years old. Come and find your favorite old truck.

#### **MAY 18**

#### Wake Up with Waterworks



A model train exhibitor puts a building in place on his layout at the model show during the 2014 Train Show at the N.C. Transportation Museum. This year's event is May 12-13. — File photo

• F&M Trolley Barn

8-9 a.m. A visionary breakfast and fundraiser for Waterworks Visual Arts Center. For more information: waterworks.org

#### MAY 18-20, 25-27 'Boeing Boeing'

• Lee Street theatre

7:30 p.m. shows. "Boeing Boeing" is a classic farce that inspired the 1965 movie starring Jerry Lewis and Tony Curtis. Bernard Lawrence has devised an ingenious system for juggling three different girlfriends, all of whom are stewardesses on international aircrafts. Watch as Bernard gets himself into a sticky situation when his three girlfriends are all in the same place and a fellow journalist is trying to steal his life. For information: Leestreet.org or 704-310-5507.

#### MAY 19-20

#### A Night on the Stage

• Meroney Theater

A fundraiser for Piedmont Players. For more information: 704-633-5471 or PiedmontPlayers.com.

#### **MAY 20**

#### Cheerwine's Centennial Celebration

• Downtown Salisbury

Noon to 8 p.m. along North Main Street,

celebrating the Salisbury soft drink's 100th anniversary. The day includes live music, an N.C. barbecue competition, biergarten, food, free Cheerwine, limited-edition Cheerwine merchandise, Kids Zone and Our State Welcome Center.

#### **MAY 20**

#### Let's Get Connected Day

• MLK Jr. Dream Park

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Dedication of a new Peace Pole will take place at noon. The proposed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dream Park is located at 910 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Salisbury.

#### **MAY 20**

#### **Great Berry Ride**

• Patterson Farm

8 a.m. Third annual "cycling for a cause" event to benefit Rowan Helping Ministries offers 20-, 40- and 60-mile rides for \$35 each; \$40 after May 17. Patterson Farm is located at 10468 Caldwell Road.

#### MAY 23-24

#### **Youth Musical Auditions**

• The Norvell Theater

Auditions for Piedmont Players Theatre's "Bring It On." Norvell Theater is located at 135 E. Fisher St. For information: 704-633-5471 or www.PiedmontPlayers.com.

#### **MAY 27**

#### **Bare Bones 5K**

• Knox Middle School

16th annual event. 5K starts at 8:30 a.m.; fun run, 9:15 a.m. Go to salisburyrowanrunners. org for information.

#### MAY 27

#### Gold Hill Bike Ride

• Gold Hill village

Check out www.goldhillnc.com for details.

#### MAY 30-31

#### 'Tom, Dick & Harry' auditions

• Meroney Theater

Auditions for Piedmont Players Theatre's "Tom, Dick and Harry," Meroney Theater, 213 S. Main St. For information: 704-633-5471 or PiedmontPlayers.com. [5]



Above: Linda Hildebran mans the takeout table. Right: Carson High Key Club members Taylor Sever, Molly Bourque, Katie Lane and Olivia Cunningham.





Tommy Strange and Tom Seay

# KIWANIS

The Salisbury Kiwanis Club held its annual Kiwanis Pancake Festival, a Salisbury tradition since 1957, at the J.F. Hurley YMCA over a Friday evening and Saturday morning. The event raises money for Kiwanis Charities.

- Photos by Mark Wineka





Above: Kyle Yoder and Glenn Taylor. Left: Kelly Alexander, Marcus Neubacher, Cindy Patterson and John Patterson.



Above: Members of the East Rowan Key Club: Grace Howell, Caroline Ervin and Addison Goble. Right: Tabatha Black, Mary Black, Brigitte Woodson and JoAnn Clark (sitting).











From left: Georgia Kirchin and her dad, Ernie; Carson Key Club members Paige Eagle and Elizabeth Haff; Carson High Key Club members Abi Smith and Isaac Bell; Salisbury High Key Club members Callie Kirchin and Emilee Hibshman.





Above: Kiwanians Tim Norris, Bob Setzer, Tyler Weant and Scott Robinson. Right: Bottom row: James Fisher, Margaret Massey and April Kuhn. Top row: George Fisher and Lizzie Fisher. Left: Karen and Dennis Rogers.





Above: Linda Roueche Right: Camille Robinette, Bryan Robinette, Abby Robinette and Doug Shellhorn





Deacon Jim Mazur and Father Lucas Rossi



# denim

Sacred Heart Catholic School held its Denim & Diamonds Benefit Auction and Casino Night at the school in late February. The eighth annual event included dancing, casino games, cocktails, dinner and both silent and live auctions.

— Photos by Jacqui Smith Watson



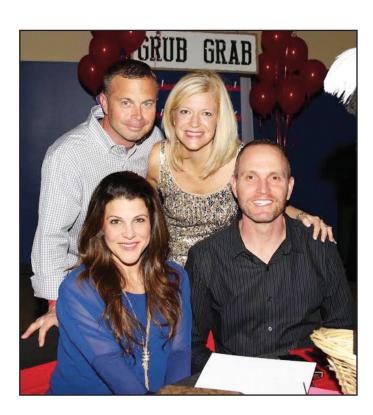
Left: Penny Link, Robin Fisher and Amy Shellhorn. Above: Tom and Clarissa Robinson smooch it up. Right: LaSheka and Curtis Walker.





Left: Joan Hamilton, Delores Bell and Jodie Marley.

Right: Sitting, Aimee and Les Merrell; standing, Chris and Paula Mead.





Above: Renee Pierson and Mark Sells. Right: Steve Fisher and Father John Eckert. Far right: Darlene Peterson and Joe Shaffer.









Above: Linda Roueche, Cathy Griffin, Jayne Battle Helms and Abigail White. Left: Cris Brincefield and Teresa Casmus.



# BLOOM INDUSTRIAL

Delaine Fowler, LeeAnna Hoskins, Penny Greer Link and Sheila Igo



Ron Lilly and Aleashia Brandon dance the night away.

It was a dazzling trip back in time to Spencer's past and a festive showing of community support for education and other local needs at Salisbury Academy's eighth annual Bloom gala. Held at the newly refurbished Back Shop at the N.C. Transportation Museum, "Bloom Industrial" brought 350 community members together for an evening which included food and drink, a live auction, and dancing to music from the Salisbury Swing Band and The Band Punch.

— Photos by Jenny Tenney Photography



Above: Brad Brady, Steve Colwell, Gavin Misner and Ryan Rich. Right: Beverly Fowler, Brooks Busby, Alice Rich, Julie Hlavacek and Nichole Towns.





Above: Tina and Reid Acree. Right:
The Back Shop at the N.C. Transportation Museum provided plenty of room for the big crowd attending the Bloom Industrial gala for Salisbury Academy. Photo courtesy of N.C.
Transportation Museum





Above: George Simons, Georgia Simons and Blaine Smith. Below: Brien Lewis, Laura Lewis, Meredith Overcash and Mary Willis Page.







Above: The Salisbury Swing Band provided some of the entertainment at the Bloom Industrial gala.

Left: Val Paluck, Laurel Hardy, Meg Dees and Christy Lockhart.

# How the

The N.C. Transportation Museum held a reception to unveil its new yearlong exhibit: "How the West Was Won: Trains and the Transformation of Western North Carolina." The exhibit tells the story of the coming of the railroad to western North Carolina and its impact on lives, the economy, culture, folklore, music and landscape of the N.C. mountains. The traveling exhibit is on loan from the Rural Heritage Museum of Mars Hill Univer-

- Photos by Mark Wineka



Museum exhibit designer James Hart, Rural Heritage Museum Director Les Reker, exhibit curator Ray Rapp and his wife, Dorothy.



Mary Jo and Scott Maphis



From left: Dan Gurley, a member of the North Carolina Ports board; Kelly Alexander, executive director of the N.C. Transportation Museum; and Kevin Cherry, deputy secretary of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.



Charlie Davis, Dal Cook and Leah Cook





Above: Max Sigler, Morgan Sigler and Scott Lindsay. Left: Nicholas Parker, playing the role of Alexander B. Andrews, president of the Western North Carolina Railroad, and Tyler Trahan, dressed as a brakeman, stand in front of the 1925 Shay steam locomotive.



The team filling to-go orders outside included, from left, Annie Bates, Jan Herr, Odile Ducatez and Johanna Lovvorn.



Judy Moore and Daisy Beaver



Darlene Ball and J.C. Ritchie

### meals on wheels

#### bbq fundraiser

Meals on Wheels of Rowan, which delivers roughly 210 meals a day, Monday-Friday, held its ninth annual BBQ Fundraiser at First Presbyterian Church in Salisbury. Board members, staff and volunteers ran the large-scale operation, and the food was prepared by College Barbecue.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Henry Brown and Beth Mills



Above: Chuck Hughes, John Leatherman and Elaine Hewitt.

Right: Tom LaBonte, Kelly Goodman and John Stafford.





Above: Connie
Basinger, president of the local
Meals on Wheels
board, prepares
a dinner with the
help of Executive
Director Cindy
Fink. Right: Mary
Jones and Elia
Gegorek.





Michelle Allen, Samantha Booth (a fifth-grade winner from Faith Elementary) and Amanda Naves.

## student RXP

Carolina Artists was host for its annual student art expo at the Salisbury Civic Center. Rowan County and Salisbury students from kindergarten through 12th grade submitted artwork through their schools. Their works were displayed and judged at the civic center, and the awards were announced during a reception for the student artists, their parents and teachers.

— Photos by Mark Wineka





Above: Mazy and Lucia Martinez.

Left: Ja'Kaleia McDonald, William Givens Jr., Malik Givens and Autumn Torrence (in front).





Above left: Carolina Artists JoAnn Smith, Genevieve Martin, Cindy Calvert, Connie Peninger and Mary Roakes (standing). Above right: In front: Jacy Yerena and Jazmyn Hall; in back, Echo Yerena and Ebbie Lescoe.



Art teachers Wendy Bringle of North Rowan High and Cindy Morgan of West Rowan High.



In front, Mallory and Matthew Ramsay; in back, Jilda and Rob Ramsay. Mallory, a West Rowan Middle School student, captured a second-place award.



Shane Manier and Daniel Gurley of Guerilla Poets



Daniel Gurley, the Mad Hatter



A SEPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF T

Members of Catawba Danceworks float through a number.



Above: Steve and Karen Campbell relax before the gala begins. Karen is chairperson of the Center for Faith & the Arts board. Left: Evelyn Medina



Lisa Stroup as Alice

### Through the Looking Glass

The Center for Faith & the Arts in Salisbury was host for "Through the Looking Glass," the theme for CFA's annual fund-raising gala at Lee Street theatre. The venue was turned into a "Wonderland" with Alice and other characters wandering through the crowd. Entertainment was provided by the Rowan Youth Orchestra, Catawba Danceworks, Steppin Out Dance Ensemble and Hannibal the Magician. The night included food from Buttercup Cafe, an open bar and dancing. Presenting sponsors included Greg and Missie Alcorn, Fisher Realty/Construction, Cheerwine, Trinity Oaks and F&M Bank.

— Photos by Andria Cantrell

### 'I owe everything I am to my neighborhood family'

grew up in the 1950s on the east side of Salisbury in an area known at that time as "Hollytown." In those days people always thought that anyone who lived on the other side of the railroad tracks lived in Dixonville.

I was born in a small house at 814 East Bank St., the oldest of five children to a 16-year-old mother and raised by my strict grandparents. My neighborhood was a peaceful, loving, supportive and fun area. After work, school and on weekends people ate, braided hair and played checkers and cards in my front yard.

Adults and kids also played baseball in a huge field across the street from my house. We were always responsible for assisting the men with cleaning off the field in late winter, and we often swam in the nearby pool that once belonged to white people. In the Salisbury that I grew up in, the adults were very protective of us as children, and we did not listen to or engage in adult conversa-

As a child I was encouraged by adults and caring teachers at Lincoln School to excel in all areas of my life, to assist others and to participate in community events. Those events often included services at Mount Zion Baptist Church, which at that time was located on Church Street.

There were only two people in my neighborhood with a car, so we walked everywhere we needed to go. After church service on Sundays, we walked home with others parishioners who attended different churches on Church Street, such as Trinity Presbyterian and Soldiers Memorial. We often had afternoon meetings at church including BTU, missionary's, young ushers or programs. All of these activities ensured we remained busy every day of the week and my grandparents always knew where we were.

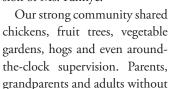
As strange as it may appear, I didn't learn I was poor until I attended Boyden High School. It was there I began to realize and understand that not all children were treated fairly and equally. Several Boyden teachers and administrators were disrespectful, but the students were like any other teenagers. The halls of Boyden remain in my spirit uncomfortable and unsettling. The negative attitude and pressure pushed me to become vigilant and radical in my thinking.

Edward Tracy and John Coleman formed the Eastside Community Club in the mid 1960s. The members of this club became a part of my family. I later became president of the young people's group and fortunately also was the recipient of financial aid from the club, assisting me in becoming the first person in my family to attend and graduate from college. Being involved with the club taught me leadership skills, rules, regulations and how to be my neighbor's keeper.

I owe everything I am to my "neighborhood family." I had an awesome grandmother, Jennie Hawthorne; grandfather Jimmy Hawthorne, a hardworking man who pushed and supported me; and wonderful people in my neighborhood who loved and cared for me and my siblings. They encouraged and guided me to reach for higher limits, set goals and assist others. I was taught that I could be anything I wanted to be by my grandmother, Liza Coleman, along with Susie Chambers, Lib Wilson, Fannye Holmes, Ms. Howie, the Gilmores, Pete Wilson, Harry Chambers and Adam Carson.

I had a nourishing environment instilled by neighbors, family, teachers, church and sister-brother friends. Today, Salisbury, are all our children living in a nourishing, sup-

> portive environment? While I was in high school, Ms. Fannye provided me employment. Each Saturday in my house I cleaned the refrigerator, swept, mopped the kitchen floor and headed off to City Hatters where I worked as a cashier under the supervision of Ms. Fannye.



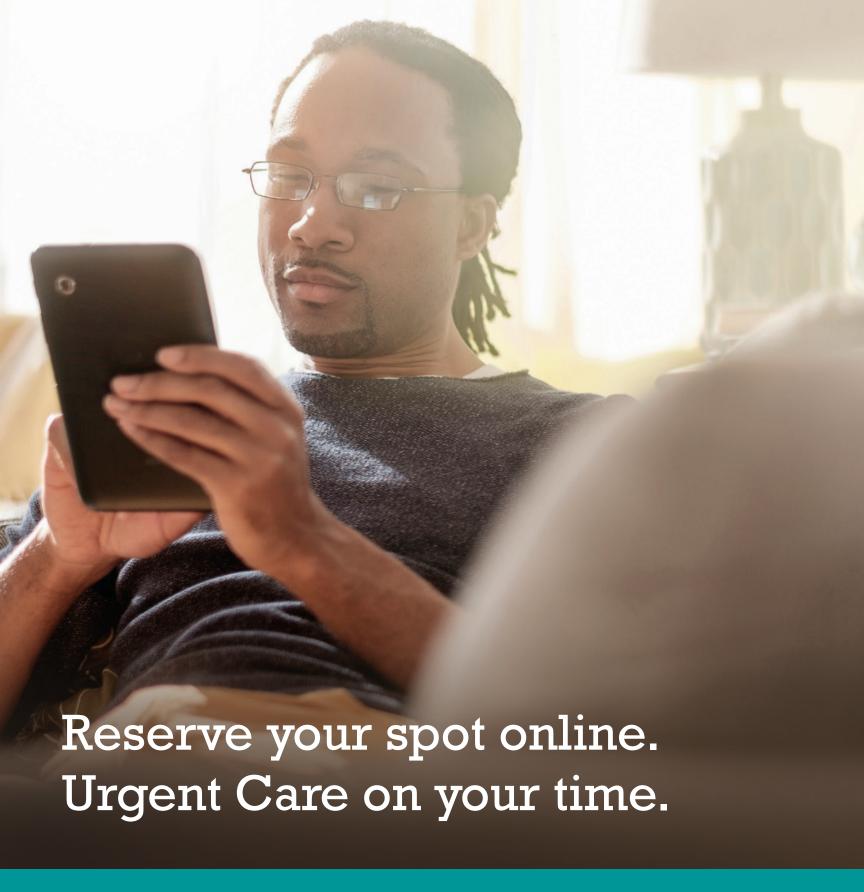
children attended PTA meetings. While the adults met, we played, completed our homework and socialized. Prior to the actual meetings, we children performed with poetry, art or music. My neighborhood made certain I was never idle, nor bored.

The Salisbury I knew and loved provided fond memories. It was about "all of us," not me or mine but "us." The adults wanted and expected all of us to excel, and I am truly thankful. S



bv**EMILY** PERRY

Emily Perry lives in Salisbury and remains active in the community.



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