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Weston Guckin leads the way over the creek with his parents,
Jacob and Ashley, during a walk at Granite Lake Park.

— Photos by Jon C. Lakey

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So long, and remember preservation is about understanding all people, places

The hipbone's connected to — walking

By the time you read this, I should have a new right hip. I'm not exactly sure why the old one gave out when it did — maybe all those baseball games as a catcher during my youth caught up with me — but I trust I won't be dragging my right leg around any longer and will soon be up for something I really have missed.

And that would be walking — going distances farther than the breakroom for coffee or into my kitchen at home for a sweet bologna sandwich. I've always been an avid walker, and I'm one of those people who like to make it a destination, a reason for getting in the car, going somewhere and forcing myself to do something I know will be good for my soul, if not my body.

I usually take music with me, and before I converted to a wrist iPod, I probably hung onto my Sony Walkman with its accompanying headphones a bit too long for current fashion. I don't know about you, but I go through spells of where I prefer to walk. Through the years those places have included the Chestnut Hill Cemetery, the indoor track at the Y, Catawba College's track at Shuford Stadium, the college's ecological preserve, the Salisbury Greenway near Overton Elementary and Salisbury Community Park.

How I've missed it. In this issue of *Salisbury the Magazine*, writer Katie Scarvey and photographer Jon Lakey do a splendid job of describing 10 places to, excuse the expression, take a hike in Rowan County. I've tried out most, and each one is worth a visit when you have your walking shoes on and your hips, knees and feet are up to it.

This fourth magazine issue comes to you at the beginning of winter, so Deirdre Parker Smith will warm up your cold nights with hearty soup and chili recipes. On chilly Friday evenings, it's also fun to gather around the pot-bellied stove in Gold Hill's E.H. Montgomery General Store to listen to bluegrass jam sessions. Check out the story about Montgomery Store and some of the talented musicians who play there.

A new feature debuts in this issue called "Rowan Originals," which will highlight a person in the community and give a few more insights into their personalities. The well-known and versatile Wilson Cherry has the honors of being our first Rowan Original.



Elizabeth Cook and Lakey give us a peek inside the President's House at Catawba College, along with memories of presidential families of the past. Rebecca Rider has an informative piece on the focus and importance of Bread Riot. In "Bookish," Smith offers up three more reading recommendations for the months ahead.

Local store and office owners also tell us why their pets are good for business. You get to meet the amazing Sasha, Layla, Emma, Cadie and Arnie.

Brian Davis, who has been an important magazine contributor, writes a farewell column as executive director of Historic Salisbury Foundation. He has headed off for a new job with the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation. We wish him all the best, though he will be missed.

The next issue of *Salisbury the Magazine* will be headed your way in late February 2016. By then, I expect to be "hip" and walking with a purpose again, maybe listening to bluegrass as I go.

Mark Wineka,
Editor, SALISBURY the Magazine



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LETTERS@

Feedback from readers on the first two issues of Salisbury the Magazine:

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations upon your creation of Salisbury the Magazine. You, your creative director and staff are to be complimented upon its format, content, creative writing and magnificent photography. It truly lives up to its motto, “The best of Salisbury, Rowan and the Piedmont,” and I know how proud your advertisers must be. Best wishes for continued success.

— **John L. Holshouser Jr.**
Salisbury

I love it so far! I usually skim over articles, but I read the one about the Blackmer House, and the one about the porches (with Maggie Blackwell) in their entirety. Beautiful photography. Keep it up!

— **Joan Leslie Palmer**
Salisbury

Beautifully photographed with great local stories that have come to life with superb writing! Thank you for allowing distribution at our office. I am proud to report that they disappear! Great job — I know your advertisers are thrilled!

— **Carole Brooke**
China Grove

I just went to the Facebook page. I really liked the story on the Blackmer House. I also enjoyed reading the article on the breakfast group at College Barbecue. I worked there back in the 1980s while at



The story on the newly renovated Blackmer House in our inaugural issue has proven popular with readers.

North Rowan High School. I need to get a copy or subscription to this magazine. It looks like a great publication.

— **Brian Coughenour**
Edenton

Good job, interesting stories and great pictures. Everyone at the shop enjoys it. Thanks!

— **Davey Overcash**
Salisbury

I have enjoyed both issues, and look forward to the next. I love the well-written articles of everything local, and the photography is outstanding. I like the size of the magazine as well, It's definitely a good read! Keep it up!

— **Kellie Hallman Martin**
Salisbury

Very well done. Classy.

— **Melissa Eller**
Salisbury

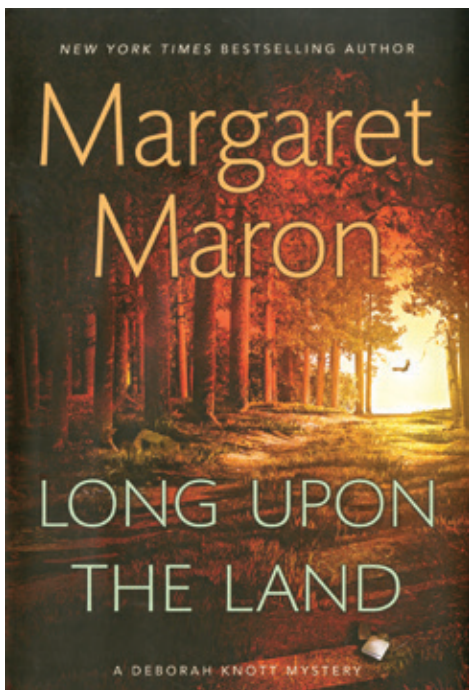
Salisbury the Magazine welcomes your comments. Email Editor Mark Wineka at mark.wineka@salisburythemagazine.com, or write to Salisbury the Magazine, P.O. Box 4639, Salisbury, NC 28145. Letters chosen for publication may be edited for length and clarity. Comments on Salisbury the Magazine's Facebook page also are welcome.

THROUGH THE LENS

BY JON C. LAKEY



The lights of the heavens come into view in the skies eastward of the Gold Hill Village in this 30-second exposure.



Great writing, an old friend and the story of flight

What to read in the deepest dark of winter? I suggest something comfortable and familiar, to start. Next, excellent writing and last, fascinating nonfiction.

North Carolina mystery writer Margaret Maron has written the final book in her Deborah Knott series. From “Bootlegger’s Daughter” in 1992 to “Long Upon the Land,” just released, readers have been following the judge’s adventures in and around the fictional Colleton County.

Deborah has been through a lot, person-

ally and professionally, and has a complicated family of 11 brothers and a bootlegging daddy, Kezzie. Her marriage to sheriff Dwight Bryant brought all the complications you can imagine.

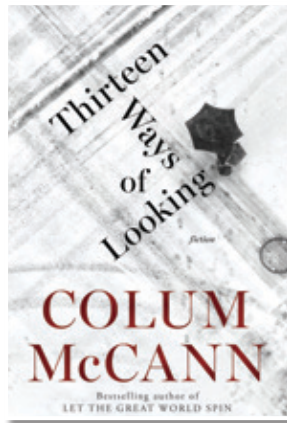
In this 20th and last Knott mystery, Maron reveals more of Deborah’s history and explains how her late mother, a society girl, ends up married to a farmer who bootlegs on the side. Saying goodbye to Deborah is like having an old friend move away.

Maron has said she is going to pick up her Sigrid Harald series, which she stopped writing to concentrate on Deborah.

Maron is a smart, funny, friendly woman who loves to meet readers. It’s sad to say goodbye to the Knotts, but exciting to see Sigrid back in her New York haunts.

For excellent writing, pick up Colum McCann’s newest work, “Thirteen Ways of Looking,” a novella and several short stories.

McCann visited Salisbury in 2011 for the Brady Author’s Symposium at Catawba College. He is a charming man and



remarkable writer. Anything by McCann is ideal if you want to be absorbed by a book.

The author was knocked unconscious in a 2014 attack by a man who had also assaulted his own wife. McCann suffered a fractured cheekbone, broken teeth and a gash in his face.

He had already written some of the stories for “Thirteen Ways,” but others were influenced by the aftereffects of that attack.

McCann masterfully uses the English language to create characters who will consume you and stories, melancholy though they may be, that are powerful and affecting.

McCann said in a New York Times story, “Sometimes it seems to me that we are writing our lives in advance, but at other times we can only ever look back.”

For non-fiction fans, we come back to North Carolina for David McCullough’s “The Wright Brothers.”

McCullough’s detail-filled work includes lots of photographs of the brothers, their

machines and their family, as well as photos of other, less successful attempts at flying.

You’ll come to admire the hard-working, positive brothers. Wilbur never made it to college, but he had a facile mind and studied deeply, observing birds for hours to learn about flight, figuring out complex construction details and patiently trying again and again when he failed.

Another surprising revelation: America didn’t care too much about what the Wright brothers were doing in what was thought of as the middle of nowhere. Mostly, flight was considered an impossible dream, if not a total fallacy. Europe, however, was interested, particularly France, which planned to buy and produce Wright machines.

It’s a captivating story of ingenuity, determination and good, old-fashioned common sense that will make you proud all over again of what the brothers accomplished on our coast. **S**



Wilson Cherry, director of community affairs at Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc. RVO's purpose is to provide a setting for clients that will be conducive toward developing job and life skills that will lead to employment within the community. Photos by Jon C. Lakey.

Active duty

Wilson Cherry always holds a desire to make life better for others

If you've lived in Salisbury and Rowan County for any length of time, it's likely you've seen — or heard — Wilson Cherry.

It could have been as a motivational speaker for the Rowan County United Way. It could have been at a poetry reading.

For the past 30 years, it has been Cherry's voice as the public address announcer for Livingstone College football

and basketball games. That also was Cherry's radio voice providing the color analysis during high school football games while Howard Platt provided the play-by-play.

You can list all the things Cherry does or has done before you even get to his important day job as director of community affairs for Rowan Vocational Opportunities Inc.

As a United Way volunteer, Cherry serves as coordinator for cultural diversity and multi-culturalism. He's on the First in Families Steering Committee. He co-chairs the Salisbury-Rowan Sports Hall of Fame Committee and is vice president for the board of directors of The ARC of Rowan.

A Salisbury native, Cherry graduated from Salisbury High School and Catawba College, but he made his mark early at Livingstone College, where he was director of public relations and sports information. He founded a children's book festival through the college, was host and producer of a weekly radio show and editor of the campus newspaper.

Before his job at Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Cherry worked 12 years as a N.C. vocational rehabilitation counselor. He has received many work-related and community honors through the years, including the 2008 ARC of Rowan Professional of the Year Award, the 2013 Salisbury-Rowan Humanitarian Service Award and a 2014 Rowan County Martin Luther King Jr. Brotherhood Award.

Through his life and career, Cherry has been instrumental in improving local race relations while also fighting for the underdogs. Salisbury the Magazine recently caught up with this Rowan Original.

Q What's one of your best or favorite childhood memories?

My mother's cooking and prayers, and my father's stories and clichés.

Q Who do you consider among your greatest mentors or influences and why?

Nelson Mandela (influence) and John Henry Miller, my cousin and mentor. These are two men of character, integrity and faith.

Q What do you consider your greatest accomplishment?

First, being strategically involved in the peaceful, successful consolidation of Price and Boyden high schools (during integration). Second, receiving the 2014 "Jackie Award" for service to the Rowan County United Way. Third, writing the initial grant for the Livingstone College Children's Book Festival.

Q What's your pet peeve?

People who say, 'You know what I



Staff and clients pose at the front sign of Rowan Vocational Opportunities, Inc. From left, Diana Kee, Kristen Durham, Gaynell Redwine, Betty Cuthbertson, Marcelene Watson, Gary Yelton, Wilson Cherry, Harold Malinda and Anthony Gillespie.

mean?" or "No problem."

Q What's one of the last books you've read, and what did you think about it?

"Voices of Hope." It's a collection of timeless expressions of faith from African Americans. It is inspirational and motivational. I've read and studied it numerous times. It lifts my spirit.

Q What is a TV show or movie you would recommend to someone, and why?

"The Sound of Music." This is a story about faith, family and freedom — all of the things that I have learned to value over the years."

Q What's one thing people probably don't know about you?

I dreamed of being a knight, a jester or a minister, always desiring to make life better for others.

Q What do you do for fun?

Play golf, cook, write poetry, dance.

Q Name two foods that are always in your refrigerator or pantry.

Chicken and fresh fruit.

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

Always be on your best behavior. You never know who's watching or listening or how they can bless you. S

If you know somebody you think should be featured as a Rowan Original, contact Editor Mark Wineka at 704-797-4263, or mark.wineka@salisburythemagazine.com.



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Above: Connie Corriher, Elmer Edwards and Lawrence Goodwin take the lead on a song. **Opposite:** Howard Herman takes a peek at his circa 1910 Gibson guitar that Bob Shue refinished. The E.H. Montgomery Store in the historic village of Gold Hill is the place to be every Friday night for live local bluegrass music.

BLUEGRASS

state of mind

Friday nights at
Montgomery
Store are reserved
for 'authentic
American music'

by MARK WINEKA photos by JON C. LAKEY



It's a banjo-heavy Friday night at the E.H. Montgomery General Store in Gold Hill, and the caliber of the pickers is high.

When the group of 11 musicians gathered for this bluegrass jam session finish the song banjo player Gretchen Tracy had called out — she's so skillful her friends often call her "Girl Scruggs" — guitarist Ronnie Long lodges a complaint.

"That's not fair," he protests. "I can't follow that."

But the others know Long will soon offer up a song, shout out the key and ask Elmer Edwards to help him get started. If you come to Montgomery Store on Friday nights, you can expect to hear about two hours of bluegrass, with a little old-time and gospel music mixed in.

Some standing and some sitting, the guitarists, banjo pickers, fiddlers, mandolin players and singers form a semi-circle. They seem to skate in and out of the center to take their turns at different parts of a song, looking to each other for cues for when to take over. The bass players usually camp in a back corner, and on this night they include Beverly Whitten and Montgomery Store matriarch Vivian Hopkins.

Going on 12 years now, Friday nights at the Montgomery Store have been reserved for bluegrass music. Members of the audience who squeeze into the narrow 1840 building sit shoulder-to-shoulder. Those standing fill up the doorway or, at times, listen from the front sidewalk.

In tune
Above left: James Shoe steps up for a fiddle solo. **Above right:** Ray Adams chords his guitar as he listens to a story being told. **Right:** Vivian Hopkins sings during a number.



There's a lot of toe-tapping, head-nodding and thigh-slapping through the night as folks eat ice cream from foam cups, swig down bottles of pop or sip on hot chocolate and coffee.

"That was my goal — to make Gold Hill known for bluegrass," says Hopkins, who grew up in the bluegrass family of her late father Ralph Pennington. Bluegrass music in Gold Hill has spread some nights to the restaurant next door, the Texaco station just down the street and to the Morgan Ridge vineyard, which Hopkins considers part of greater Gold Hill.

"Let's rock this joint," the 80-year-old Edwards says in launching into the music on this particular night. The well-known banjo luthier from Lexington has been coming to Montgomery Store for about 10 years. The fellowship and his love for old-time music and bluegrass are what draws him.



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In the groove

Above: Lawrence Goodwin steps into a song. **Right:** Beverly Whitten (on stand-up bass) and Pat Wingo on his banjo.

“It’s authentic American music,” Edwards says. “I was right there in the beginning of everything. I played with a lot of greats, but I was never any good.”

You hear a lot of false modesty among these bluegrass musicians who have the courage to jump in on every song called out. They never really know who’s going to be showing up, or with what kind of talents they’ll be playing. The performers could range from kids in their teens to guys in their 80s.

“There’s nothing written down,” guitarist Lawrence Goodwin says. “There’s no practicing. ... Sometimes it’s good.”

Goodwin has been coming to Montgomery Store to sing and play for about four years. The store and its music gave him a place of refuge after his wife died, and it was the first time he regularly played in

front of other people.

“I sat around the house and played for 50 years,” Goodwin says. “I came in here, and they encouraged me to play.”

Montgomery Store, one of the many shops in this recreated mining village, just looks like a place for bluegrass music. All manner of light fixtures hang from the painted plank ceiling, and the walls are adorned with things such as old farm implements, feed bags, steer horns and long-ago bluegrass concert posters.

The microphones sit on worn throw rugs. There’s a new elbow for the working pot-bellied stove, which is central to the



room. When the Friday night jams are in session, the only way in and out is a narrow aisle down the middle of the store.

The musicians themselves have a place of escape behind them, a spot Vivian calls the store's "Back Room Saloon," but there's no liquor on hand. It's decorated as a place where people can have vintage photos taken on regular shop days.

No admission is charged for the Friday night music, but a glass jar is passed around for donations to help keep the lights on.

The musicians sport all kinds of fashion, though dress plaid seems to be a favorite. They might wear ball caps or, like Ray Adams, make a cowboy hat, vest and suspenders part of their attire.

Many of these men and women play jam sessions elsewhere when the mood hits them. Adams plans, for example, to hit Richard's Coffee Shop in Mooresville on Saturday morning and play at a church

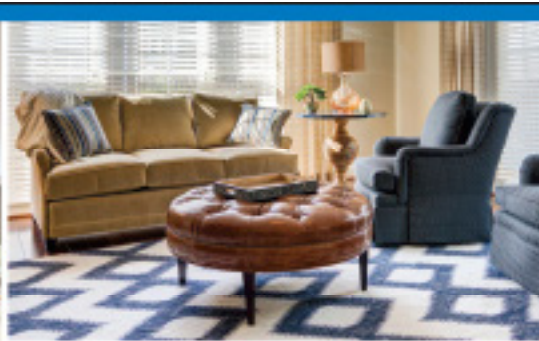


event that afternoon.

"We float here and there," Adams says.

The musicians on this night include Ad-

ams, Edwards, Tracy, Goodwin, Hopkins, Whitten, Long, Pat Wingo, Michael Ransdell, Bob Shue, James Shoe and Connie



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Corriher. Shoe, a retired welder, is a well-known fiddler.

The Shue of a different spelling, who lives in Concord, made his reputation playing banjo with Southern Junction and the Carolina Mountain Boys.

"We're indeed happy to have Bob Shue with us here tonight," Hopkins says during a break. "He's had some health problems, but he's one of the great banjo pickers of all time."

Hopkins tells the crowd how Shue was close to death about a year earlier, and his family was faced with the decision as to whether they should remove him from life support.

"I'm kind of glad they didn't," Shue says, before leading the group in a song.

"I don't believe he was sick at all," Edwards says after hearing Shue play.

Edwards is revered in his own right, as

both musician and banjo maker. Tracy plays an Edwards banjo that has a beautiful and intricate design of inlaid wood. But it was the sound that impressed her.

"I would have bought this one blindfolded," she says.

Edwards is teaching Corriher, who sings on several of the night's songs, how to play one of his banjos. "He's my banjo teacher, he's my banjo mentor," Corriher says.

Tracy has been playing the banjo for about 10 years and sitting in on these kinds of jam sessions for eight years. She is classically trained on the piano and cello and is an experienced symphony musician.

"She knows more about music than all of us together," Goodwin says.

But you get the feeling she would rather be playing the banjo and worshipping at the altar of Earl Scruggs whenever possible.

"I've met so many people I would not

have met," she says of her recent years playing bluegrass.

Though much newer to the bluegrass genre, Whitten brings the same kind of passion for the music to Montgomery Store. She started learning how to play the upright bass about a year-and-a-half ago.

When she shouts out her song choice, "Home Sweet Home" in the key of C, Whitten confesses it hasn't been home sweet home at her house these past six weeks while she was trying to learn the tune.

"I live Friday to Friday," Whitten says of her love for Montgomery Store and learning the music. "I'm going to be a bass player some day, not a bass holder."

When there's a break toward the middle of the night, Hopkins will make some announcements about upcoming events in Gold Hill and also ask whether anyone in



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Above: Ronnie Long steps up to the microphone with his blue guitar. Below: Gretchen Tracy steps up for a banjo solo.

the crowd is celebrating birthdays or anniversaries.

Toward the end of the evening, the songs tend to become more soulful. The crowd hears “I’ll Fly Away,” “Wayfaring Stranger,” “There Is a Time,” “He Touched Me” and “Red Clay Halo,” to name a few.

Edwards lightens things up with what he describes as a happy tune taught to him by his grandmother when he was a young boy — “I Got a Mule to Ride.”

The evening of music wraps up when all the players and many in the crowd join in and sing “Will the Circle Be Unbroken?”

At Montgomery Store, the Friday night circle keeps going round and round. 



FOOD



Above: Heather Teeter makes Rustic Sausage and Kale soup at Sweet Meadow Cafe. Ingredients, left, for potato soup with bacon, opposite.



a case of the
Winter
STEWES

Warm up from the inside out with
soup and chili

by DEIRDRE PARKER SMITH

photos by JON C. LAKEY



Warm spices, hearty ingredients and stick-to-your ribs goodness make up wintertime soups and chili. With slow cookers so popular, a chili can be started early in the day, fill your house with rich aromas and greet you when you get home.

Matt Trexler of Creative Gourmet Catering won the Waterworks Chili Cook-off competition in the fall with a well-balanced, flavorful chili, accompanied by three fresh salsas that used a variety of hot peppers from his garden.

Busy day at work? You can pull together rustic sausage and kale soup, courtesy of Heather Teeter at Sweet Meadow Cafe, in less than an hour.

And if you need something comfortable and creamy, potato soup will warm your insides and fill you up.

Put a pot on the stove and start cooking.

Rustic Sausage and Kale Soup

- 1 pound mild Italian sausage, bulk or links
- 5 potatoes, scrubbed well, not peeled
- 3 bunches fresh kale (a mix of green and purple is nice), torn in pieces
- 1 large red onion, chopped
- 2 quarts chicken stock, homemade or purchased (low sodium)
- 2 cups dry white wine
- Pinch of red pepper flakes (optional)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Grated romano cheese, for topping

Cut potatoes into bite-size pieces and cover with cold water to prevent discoloration. Start by removing casings from links, if desired, then cook sausage in a large stock pot until it begins to brown, using some vegetable oil. When the sausage begins to lose its pink color, add the chopped onion. Cook until the onions become translucent and there's a little caramelization in the pan.



Hearty meal

Heather Teeter's Rustic Sausage and Kale soup at Sweet Meadow Cafe in downtown Salisbury.

Deglaze with the 2 cups of dry white wine. Drain water from potatoes and save. Add potatoes and let the mixture cook a bit to meld flavors. Add the kale, which will look like too much. Slowly add chicken stock, then the red pepper flakes.

Bring to a boil and cover, if you're in a hurry, to speed cooking. If soup needs more liquid, add some of the reserved potato water. Reduce to a simmer, stirring occasionally, and cook for 20-30 minutes, testing potatoes for doneness.

Serve in a bowl and sprinkle romano

cheese on top.

Matt Trexler won the Waterworks Chili Cook-off this year with a balanced, rich chili, accompanied by cheddar cheese, sour cream and three different heats of pepper relish.

Trexler, a caterer, is used to cooking for big crowds, so it took him a bit to figure out how to reduce his proportions from 20 gallons down to about 2.

He says it's all about how you cook the chili, not what's in it. Low and slow, stirring often, is the key to a full-bodied pot of blended flavors.

Here is an approximation of his recipe:

Matt Trexler's Award-Winning Chili

- 4 large cans pinto beans
- 2 large cans kidney beans
- 1 large can cannellini beans. Drain and rinse the beans and set aside.
- 2-3 pounds mix of ground chuck and ground beef, 2 to 1 chuck to beef
- 2 large (28 ounce) cans whole tomatoes
- 2 large or 3 medium onions
- 2 large or 3 medium green bell peppers
- Half a bulb of garlic
- ¼ cup chili powder
- 1 Tbsp. cumin
- ¼ tsp. cayenne
- 1 Tbsp. granulated onion
- 1½ Tbsp. granulated garlic
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Open tomatoes, remove core and “smush” them up slightly with your hands. Set aside.



Creative Gourmet Catering entry with Matt Trexler, left, and Will Meng at the Waterworks Big Chili Cook Off. Trexler won first place with his recipe. Photo by Wayne Hinshaw.

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Peel and chop onions. Remove seeds and ribs from bell pepper and dice into small pieces. Remove skin from garlic and crush some, then mince the rest. Measure out remaining spices so all ingredients are ready to use.

Preheat oven as high as it will go — 475-500 degrees. Put the meat on a sheet tray and season with the same spices that go in the chili, and crumble the meat slightly so it will brown. Keep an eye on it — it will happen fairly quickly. Do not burn!

While the meat is browning, cover the bottom of a 2-gallon pot with olive oil and a bit of butter. Add onions and bell pepper. The butter will help caramelize the onions. Cook until onions are softened and a light golden brown. Add garlic. Then add beans, browned meat and the tomatoes to the pot. Add spices and stir, keeping it on a low heat.

Let cook a good two or three hours so flavors blend and some of the ingredients



break down. Serve with sour cream, grated cheddar and your favorite pepper sauce or salsa.

Matt's tips:

- If the chili seems greasy, skim some of the fat off the top of the pot, but it needs the fat for flavor.
- All ingredients are adjustable to your personal taste. Use more or less meat, up the chili powder or red pepper, add more or less garlic, etc.

- Granulated garlic and onion are preferable to garlic or onion powder, which is too fine and can lead to over-seasoning.

This soup is the combination of a couple of recipes, and will be thick and rich.

Creamy, Cheesy Potato Soup

- 5 medium Yukon gold potatoes, scrubbed, not peeled
- 1/2 large, sweet onion, chopped
- 2 ribs celery, chopped
- 5 Tbsp. butter
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 quart chicken stock
- 1 pint half and half
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 1/2 tsp. dried thyme
- Pinch of cayenne pepper
- Pinch of nutmeg

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- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- For garnish: ¼ cup of the cheese, crumbled, cooked bacon and sliced green onion.

Saute the onion and celery in the butter until translucent. Add the flour and cook 2-3 minutes to form roux. Slowly add chicken stock, stirring constantly to prevent lumps, until mixture is smooth. Add potatoes and thyme, cayenne pepper, salt and black pepper and cook 20 minutes or so until potatoes are tender. Add half and half and nutmeg and stir, checking for seasoning. Stir in ½ cup grated cheese and continue stirring until cheese is melted.

If soup seems too thick, add additional chicken stock or hot water until it reaches desired consistency.

Serve in bowls and top with remaining ¼ cup cheese, crumbled bacon and sliced green onions.

If you have leftovers, add additional chicken stock while heating. Soup thickens when refrigerated. S



Heather Teeter makes Rustic Sausage and Kale soup at Sweet Meadow Cafe.

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The Catawba College President's House, located on the west side of campus, is a stately home where the 23rd president, Brien Lewis, wife Laura, daughter Anna Louise, and family cockapoo Lucy live.



School HOUSE

Families turn Catawba
President's House into home

by ELIZABETH COOK

photos by JON C. LAKEY



Like many before them, Laura and Brien Lewis have fallen in love with the President's House at Catawba College.

They have lived in the house since Brien became the college's president three years ago, but it still feels new.

"I can't believe we get to live here," Laura says.

Like many before them, the "we" is pivotal.

While the president gets naming honors at the house, it's the president's family that turns this stately structure into a home. The spouse adds personal touches. Children fill the house with noise and action. Pets liven the mix.

Living in the President's House is an honor, as the Lewises will tell you. So will Jean Würster, whose three children grew up in the house, and Fred Corriher Jr., who revered the house as a student and decades later had the thrill of living there.

They are just a few of the families who have lived in the Tudor-style brick house at 104 North Park Drive, situated at the

northern edge of the Catawba campus.

Trustees had the house built in 1930 on a scale to match their esteem for higher education and leadership. Under its slate roof, more than 4,500 square feet of space spreads over three floors and a basement. Some of its six bedrooms have at times housed students when dormitory space was tight; their initials are carved inside a closet.

And the elegant foyer, dining room and living room can comfortably hold upwards of 40 to 48 people — trustees, students, alumni, community groups, friends and more.

"It should be everyone's house," Laura says.

Officially, it is the Jacob C. Clapp House, named for the college's president from 1861 to 1900.

The Lewises took up residence in the summer of 2012 after Brien, a vice president at Winthrop College in Rock Hill, S.C., accepted Catawba's top job. With them came their teenagers, Josh and Anna Louise, and dog Lucy, a friendly cockapoodle. Josh now is a fresh-



Beautiful interior

Opposite left: A wall hanging Josh Lewis brought home after summer in China. **Above:** The living room projects an elegant yet comfortable atmosphere. **Right:** The dining room. The Old English court cupboard to the right has been in the house since the 1930s. Its carving depicts the Crusades.





man at The College of William & Mary in Virginia; Anna Louise is a student at Grey Stone Academy in Misenheimer.

Her first reaction when they came into the house? “Big,” says Anna Louise.

It was Anna Louise who came up with the idea of serving a candy buffet during receptions for freshmen. Brien hopes those gatherings will be the first of many visits to the President’s House for the students.

“It is a part of the campus, and we don’t want it to be that strange Boo Radley house on a hill,” Brien says.

A lover of antiques, Laura has made it her mission to enhance the house’s furnishings with more fine pieces, including a 200-year-old corner cupboard she acquired in Nashville, Tenn. She has also made some finds in local shops.

Some furnishings have been in the house almost from the beginning, like the old

Family style

Left: The 200-year-old corner cupboard in the dining room is among the antiques Laura has added to the house’s furnishings. Her mother added pieces to the chandelier. **Right:** Brien Lewis, his wife, Laura, daughter Anna Louise and family cockapoo Lucy. **Opposite:** The sunroom is a cozy place to relax. Laura’s father made the walnut coffee table.

English cupboard whose carvings depict the Crusades. Others were added through the years — a silver service Mrs. Adrian Shuford Sr. donated between 1940 and 1950; a Japanese vase, circa 1868, which Genevieve Faust gave the college in 1979.

Like the silver, the house has the patina of being well-used and well cared for.

The Lewises spend most of their time in the kitchen, breakfast room and den at one end of the house. A sun parlor on the opposite end is Brien’s favorite, but he does not get to spend much time relaxing.

His office is just a two-minute walk away, convenient but always beckoning.

Brien and Laura have found the support

for Catawba from non-alumni and the degree to which Salisbury embraces the college extraordinary.

“It’s hard to draw the line where Catawba ends and the community begins,” Laura says.



Jean Wurster remembers husband Stephen sharing first impressions in 1981 after he accepted the job of Catawba president while working at Ball State in Indiana.

“Oh, man, you should see this house; it’s a mansion,” Jean recalls.

On the downside, the Wursters left a neighborhood that had eight children for



their three to play with. On the upside, they had a steady supply of babysitters for Elizabeth, 2; Mark, 5; and Gregory, 7.

Most years a student lived with the family, helping with the children in exchange for free room and board. Campus and community events kept Stephen and Jean on a busy schedule. “In December we would be out every night,” Jean says.

The children loved to play in the forest of bamboo between the President’s House and Dr. Raymond Jenkins’ house next door — and Jean loved the boxes of camellia blossoms he brought her.

With children comes mischief — and forgetfulness. One day when the Wursters were entertaining, water came pouring through the ceiling onto a pool table Ralph Ketner had given them. Little Elizabeth had put her swimsuit in the sink to rinse it out and left the water running.



Most occasions went more smoothly.

“It was a wonderful house to entertain in,” Jean says. Guests could come in the front door and circulate through the rooms.

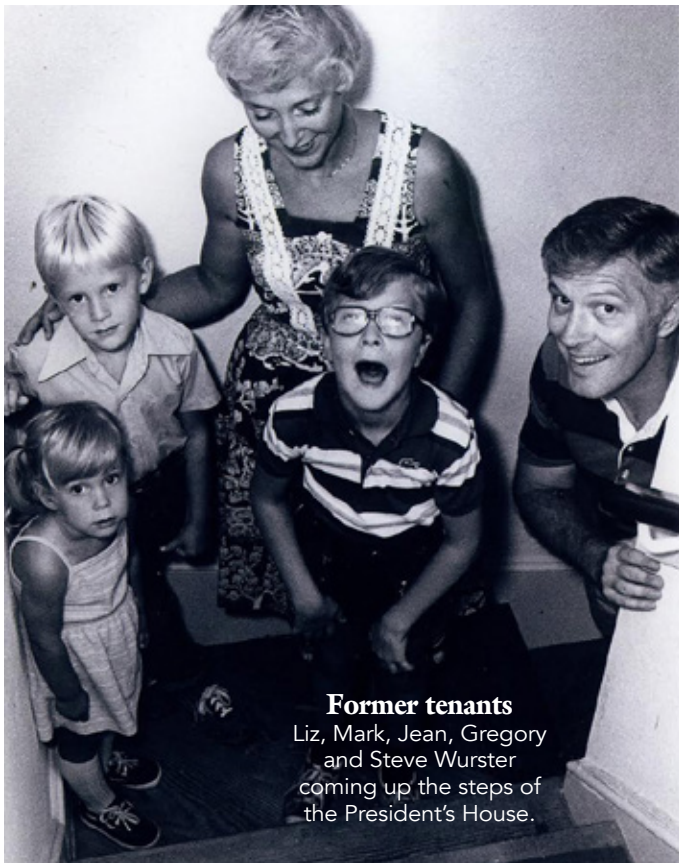
“People love to come to the President’s House ... and I enjoyed it.”

The house has a spacious feel — most of the time. One year the Wursters invited the football team over. “The house shrunk instantly when they walked in the door.”

Pets had some calamities. Hamster Fred was stunned after he fell from the second floor to the first. And dog Ginger got stuffed down the laundry chute. But they rebounded.

As the children grew, their play changed. Mark and his friends formed a band, Shady Villas, that played in the Wursters’ basement on weekends. Especially after football games, Mark’s friends would flock to the basement, with doors to the upstairs locked and Stephen sitting on a stool at the outdoor entrance, keeping an eye on the crowd.

The family moved out after Stephen



Former tenants
Liz, Mark, Jean, Gregory
and Steve Wurster
coming up the steps of
the President's House.

died during heart surgery in 1992. Jean cherishes the memories of their happy years in the President's House.

"It was such fun to have a big house to bang around in," she says.

The children are now ages 37, 40 and 42, and Catawba still looms large in the family's life. Mark is night supervisor at the library, and Jean works there, too, taking care of interlibrary loans.




Corriher family Christmas card picture from 1994. Former Catawba president Fred Corriher and his wife Bonnie on the front row with Bonnie holding John Lotan. Frederick III and Mary Maxwell on back row.



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Fred Corriher and his family moved into the President's House in 1993, but his connection goes back to the freshman reception he attended as a student in 1956. College President A.R. Keppel and other administrators were decked out in white dinner jackets and black ties.

Fred was impressed. But an even more memorable visit took place in the spring of 1959.

"As vice-president of the Student Government Association during the preced-

Quite a view

The campus is right across the street from North Park Drive.

ing year, I was largely responsible for a new campus rule which forbade students from sitting in parked cars on the roads which ran through the campus," Fred says. "Many townspeople who visited the campus for concerts or ball games complained to the President's Office about seeing car windows fogged up or activities which indicated an amorous encounter taking

place within the car."

Students bearing signs and an effigy of Keppel marched through campus in protest, headed toward the President's House. Keppel called on the leaders of the S.G.A. to join him to talk about the developing events.

"I recall clearly being escorted into the large living room of the President's House, which featured a beautiful Oriental rug ...," Fred says. Protesters and SGA leaders sat on the rug to talk about solutions to the

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Lucy hangs out by the stairs.

“I can’t believe we get
to live here. ... It should be
everyone’s house.”

Laura says.

issues. “I don’t recall the way in which the situation was de-
fused or resolved, but sitting on that carpet is an indelible
memory.”

Corriher served on the Board of Trustees from 1976 to
1992, visiting the President’s House countless times. “But re-
alizing that my family and I would be moving into the house
was a life-changing experience,” he says.

The trustees tapped Corriher to be Stephen Wurster’s suc-
cessor, and he and Bonnie moved into the President’s House.

“Our eight years in residence were some of the happiest
years of our lives,” Corriher says. “At one point, three of our
five children were living with us which for them was like liv-
ing in a fish bowl, as the house was constantly filled with
visitors. Needless to say, they survived, and look back fondly

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at those memories.”

Corriher volunteers the story of one not-so-happy moment. Just as Mark Wurster had found the basement a good place to gather with friends, Corriher’s son Frederick, then a Catawba student, planned a party there with his parents’ permission while they were abroad. But a gathering planned for people 21 and over attracted freshmen and went out of control. Police got involved, Fred and Bonnie’s vacation was cut short, and the incident showed up in the Chronicle of Higher Education, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post.

“In summary, this house is filled with memories for my family and me, only one of which I would rather forget,” Corriher says. “Despite it all, I can still say that one of the happiest moments of my life was the day I walked from my office across campus, up the sidewalk to this historic house, opened the front door and said, ‘Bonnie, I’m home.’” 



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At work

Above: Cut Up & Dye owner Leila Ann Faries' shop cat Arnie has free run of the Fulton Street hair salon. **Opposite:** Fine Frame Gallery owner Bruce Wilson's dog, Emma, strikes a picture perfect pose.

Fur-ensic *science*

Dogs, cats often can be good for business

by MARK WINEKA | photos by JON C. LAKEY



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Customers of Harwood Signs in Granite Quarry are amazed by Drew Harwood's dog, Layla. Harwood runs her through a series of activities, which is not a problem for this high-energy breed.

Knowing she's center stage, Layla keeps her steely eyes focused on Drew Harwood for his next command. If Harwood says "stool," she goes to the stool in front of the Harwood Signs shop in Granite Quarry. If he says "chair," she trots quickly and jumps up on her chair in the back. If Harwood asks, Layla will rise off her hind legs and lean against a wall, as if she is ready to be frisked by a policeman.

Harwood can verbalize, spell out words or just rely on hand signals to instruct Layla to speak, roll over, back up or drop whatever is in her mouth. She has a thing for tennis balls and Frisbees.

Layla, an 8-year-old border collie, seems to understand an extensive vocabulary. Harwood's favorite thing is to say "Tar Heels" and watch Layla roll over and play dead. "She's a Duke fan like me,"



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Harwood says.

Layla is one of those pets who become so closely identified with local businesses or offices, you can't imagine their operations without them. More often than not, these pets are dogs and cats, and they all seem to have one thing in common — they're good for business.

Some have their own Facebook pages. Others are used in store advertisements and as vehicles to raise money for charities. One was the lead character in a book. Cadie, the golden retriever at Alan Burke's accounting office, has her own title — CMO, chief morale officer.

Cool cat

Sasha the shop cat that lives at Pam Hylton Coffield's *Stitchin' Post Gifts* on South Main Street is widely known. Sometimes she likes to watch from behind the counter.

Harwood has customers who meet Layla for the first time, and they keep returning later with other people, just so they can see Layla do more tricks. "She always likes to show off," Harwood says.

Downtown Salisbury is filled with places where shop cats and dogs are the norm. Just within a two-block area, *Stitchin' Post Gifts*, *Fine Frame Gallery*. O.K. Wig, *Maii's*

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Fine Frame Gallery owner Bruce Wilson gives his dog Emma a little rub on the head. Emma usually lounges on the floor near the front door.

Drew Harwood's favorite thing is to say "Tar Heels" and watch Layla roll over and play dead. "She's a Duke fan like me," Harwood says.

Fashions, Critters, The Thread Shed and Bella Jayde are businesses where customers walk in and know to look for the store pets or even call out to them by name.

Among the more famous shop pets in the downtown is Sasha, a cat, whose owner Pam Hylton Coffield says is a mix of Himalayan, Burmese, and blue lynx mitted Ragdoll.

You can't talk about Sasha without first mentioning Knitwit, Stitchin Post Gifts' former shop cat of 16-plus years. "When he passed away," Coffield says, "you would not believe the cards I got and the cakes. I have a huge scrapbook of all that. I had no idea he had impacted lives like that, and I imagine it's going to be the same way with Sasha."

Sasha is queen of Stitchin' Post Gifts. She has full run of the store and is often seen lounging in the front display window on a little sofa that seems made for her. Coffield sees people taking pictures of Sasha all the time.

In the store itself, the cat often saunters up to customers and meows a protest, as though she is asking, "Why aren't you petting me?"

"She has a personality," Coffield says.

Coffield is not shy about using Sasha to the store's advantage in television commercials. She also has staged Sasha birthday parties since 2008 as a way to raise money and supplies for animal organizations such as Faithful Friends.

Sasha was the star of a book written by Julie Apone and illustrat-

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Day at the office

Above: Stitchin' Post Gifts on South Main Street is widely known. The small cat-size couch in the front window of the Stitchin' Post is one of the several places Sasha likes to lounge. **Right:** Certified Public Accountant Alan Burke's golden retriever, Cadie, enjoys coming to his Jake Alexander Boulevard office so much that he sometimes brings her to the office on his day off. Cadie and Wendy Stutts greet any customers that come into the office.

ed by Jean Barlow that sells for \$15 and raises money for the Humane Society and Faithful Friends. It features Sasha going from store to store in the downtown buying gifts, so it's also a good way to promote the central business district.

Sasha came to the shop after Coffield answered a classified advertisement in the newspaper in 2005. A woman in Cleveland was looking for a good home for an





Day at the office

Above: Drew Harwood places an almond on Layla's nose, who waits for the word to eat it. **Left:** Arnie, draped on the appointment book, keeps an eye on things at Cut Up & Dye.

adult Himalayan cat, and Coffield thought maybe Knitwit, in his advanced years, would like a companion.

"She was so sweet and seemed totally at home," Coffield says of Sasha's adaptation period. "She just blossomed into this beauty."

Across the street at Fine Frame Gallery, Emma rules. The 11-year-old dog is like the shop's official greeter, and owners Bruce and Jackie Wilson say she has this habit of rolling onto her back and exposing herself to anyone who will rub her tummy.

Emma was a stray dog the Wilsons found downtown when she was about three months old. Bruce was against adopting her because of the tough emotions tied to having just lost the family's 15-year-old



A group of 18 to 20 people from Cornelius came into Fine Frame Gallery one day and formed a circle into which Emma walked, flipped onto her back and demanded a belly rub from everyone.

dog. But the couple's daughter, Carla, was persuasive, named her Emma, and "she wormed her way into our hearts," Bruce Wilson says.

Emma loves treats, adores kids and has been the unabashed star of tour groups that have popped into the shop. A group of 18 to 20 people from Cornelius came in one day and formed a circle into which Emma walked, flipped onto her back and demanded a belly rub from everyone.

Bruce Wilson says people who know Emma often stop outside the store to say hello through the window, or they bring her something to eat. He thinks she is a Queensland herder with a little terrier mixed in.

Emma loves to ride in the car, and she can't wait to reach the store in the morning. "If she could drive, she would be here before us," Wilson says.

The same could be said for Cadie, the chief morale officer at Burke's accounting office. She insists on going to the office, even on days when Burke has other plans.

"She runs the place," Burke says of his golden retriever.

When clients walk through the front door, Cadie is usually there to greet them from behind the front counter, along with

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Lucky spends time at Maia's Fashions in downtown Salisbury.

Wendy Stutts.

Stutts, Jenny Harrington and Pam Hill dote on Cadie. When Burke arrives at the office with Cadie each morning, she usually bolts to Hill's desk for a treat. In the afternoon, she always expects a brushing from Stutts.

Burke says Cadie, who has her own Facebook page and often is called "Baby Girl" around the office, is an important asset for his business.

Some of the numbers he has to discuss with clients can be stressful, but Cadie helps to ease the tension, and Burke often relies on her to lead clients back to his conference room. She'll stay there, graciously accepting their attention until Burke says, "Thank you, Sweetheart, good job."

People often drop by the office and ask for Cadie, not Burke, and his employees sometimes take her home with them so she can have play dates with their pets.

Arnie the cat is a famous resident at Leila Ann Faries' Cut Up & Dye Salon on South Fulton Street.

It's not unusual to find Arnie rolling around on his back, imitating a rug that the stylists and customers often have to step over. Or he might be sitting in a basket where people make their next appointments, or catching sun in the front window.

"He's pretty uptight, as you can tell," Faries says.

Not many cats would allow their foreheads to be colored, but Arnie doesn't mind. In the mornings after a night in the shop by himself, Arnie is usually his most affectionate.

"He chair-hops in the morning, loving everybody," Faries says. It's also not unusual for Arnie to hang around the sinks when someone's getting a shampoo.

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At Stitchin' Post Gifts, editor Mark Wineka gives Sasha some attention as photographer Jon C. Lakey, left, captures the moment.


When things are hectic at the shop, it's a ritual among the stylists to find Arnie, give him a kiss and go back to work. He has that kind of calming effect.

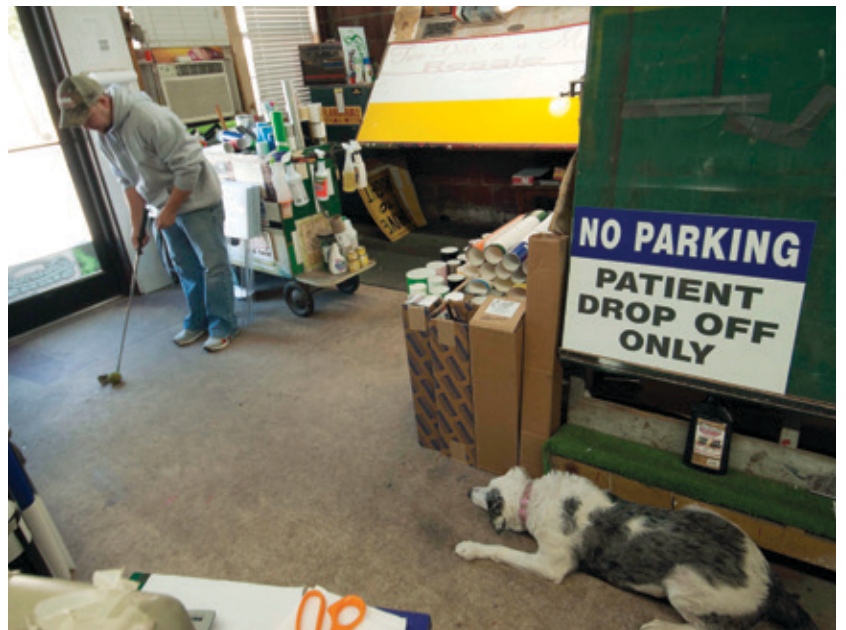
"I hear 50 times a day, 'That's the most beautiful cat I've seen,' and it's like he knows it," Faries says.

Faries has had Arnie about nine years, ever since he was a kitten.

"Everybody loves him," she says. "He's a character. He's the best."

Back at Harwood Signs, Drew Harwood displays another trick for which Layla is famous. He picks up a 7-iron, tells Layla to back up a few paces, and he takes a swing at a tennis ball on the floor. Without blinking, Layla catches the line drive on the fly and brings the ball back to Harwood for another swing.

Harwood says Layla is nuts about golf and will watch the Golf Channel on television for hours — that is, until someone says "Tar Heels" out loud. 



Drew Harwood and Layla play a bit of golf.





TRAIL MIX

Here are 10 great spots in Rowan County to walk for exercise, commune with nature or catch up with friends

by KATIE SCARVEY | photos by JON C. LAKEY



Walking for fitness or pleasure in Rowan County is often as easy as opening your front door and putting one foot in front of

another. In Salisbury, for example, there are plenty of pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods in which to perambulate, including Fulton Heights, Eagle Heights, Country Club Hills and downtown. Out in the county, there are plenty more.

Sometimes, however, it's nice to get off the sidewalks and away from the car ex-

haust. Fortunately, there are many places within easy driving distance where serious walkers can go to not only light up their pedometers but find some solace in nature as well. Here are 10 of the best:

Hurley Park

If it's beauty you're seeking, it's hard to beat a walk in Elizabeth Holmes Hurley Park, 302 W. Franklin St., Salisbury. Located near the hospital and City Park, Hurley Park offers gorgeous scenery, particularly in the spring, when it's the destination for high school students looking to preen for the camera in their prom

Rustic setting

Above: Walking the trails at Eagle Point offers Lake views of undeveloped areas of High Rock Lake and typical wooded Piedmont terrain. **Opposite:** Rick Reynolds takes to the walking trail near the lake at Salisbury Community Park.

finery. The scenery is less dramatic in the winter, but in cold weather you can enjoy the park's collection of redberry holly. This well-loved park of 15 acres gets plenty of use, from health-care workers taking a break from a stressful hospital shift to no-nonsense walkers who drive to the park to get their miles in.





Granite Quarry resident Roger Love comes to Granite Lake Park to walk six days a week, many times twice in one day.

Granite Lake Park

As walking spots go, Granite Lake Park, 500 N. Salisbury Ave., Granite Quarry, is a bit of an anomaly. Although it's next to busy U.S. 52, it's a surprisingly tranquil place to walk. Formerly a bustling swim spot called Granite Lake Pool, the space was transformed in 2007 into the family-friendly park it is today. Fenced for safety, the lake is home to ducks and turtles, plus carp and catfish of gargantuan proportions, thanks to frequent feedings from enthusiastic visitors.

Centennial Park

The paved path around Granite Lake is a pleasant place to stroll, but there's more here than meets the eye. At the east end of the park, walkers can veer off the asphalt and continue onto a dirt path into Centennial Park (301 E. Bank St., Granite Quarry), which is a heavily wooded area and probably as wild as it gets in the middle of Granite Quarry.

Roger Love exercises regularly at Granite Lake Park and Centennial Park. Love visits twice daily to walk, for a total of four or five

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Walking the trails at Eagle Point Nature Preserve offers lake views of undeveloped areas of High Rock Lake.

miles. He's often joined in the mornings by Larry Samples, and the two buddies chat as they log their miles. Young parents Ashley and Jacob Guckin visit several times a week with their son, Weston, who is almost 3. Like Love, they start at Granite Lake Park but make their way into Centennial Park, since Weston is "big on nature," Ashley says.

Saleeby-Fisher YMCA

If you continue east on US 52 from Granite Lake Park and take a right on Crescent Road, you'll discover more walking paths at the Saleeby-Fisher YMCA, 790 Crescent Rd. Start at the parking area and follow the path past the athletic fields, which will eventually take you into the woods – which are lovely and redolent of pine. A walk or run here would be the perfect way to end a Y workout.

Salisbury Community Park

For those who live in the western part of the county, Salisbury Community Park, 935 Hurley School Road, is a popular walking spot. Many people know the park for its athletic fields – soccer, softball and baseball – but this 300-acre complex

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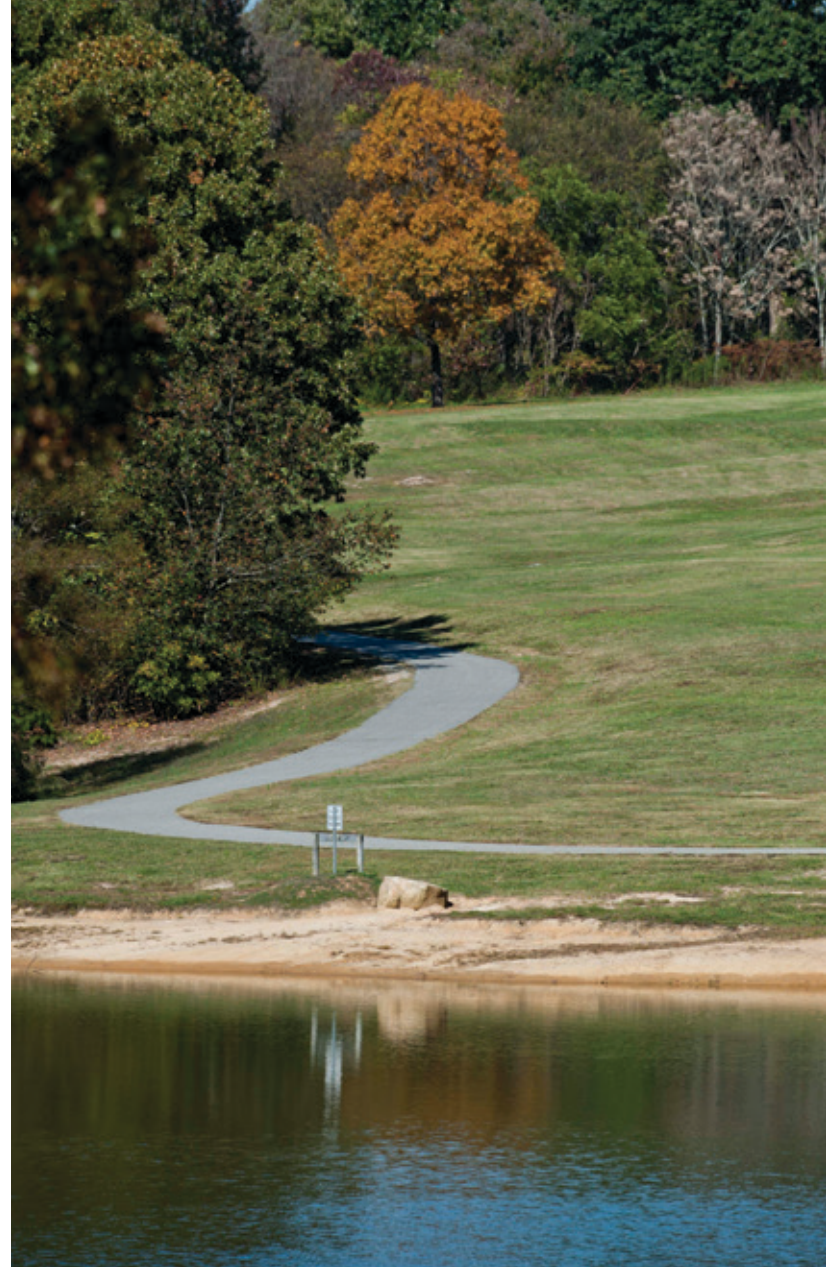
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The asphalt trail around the lake and through the woods at Salisbury Community Park offers a stable and uniform surface to walk with nice rural views.

is also a destination for walkers, runners and mountain bikers. College student Sarah Stuckey lives nearby and often drives to the park to walk or run; she particularly enjoys the lake, which covers 8 acres.

If you enjoy walking without headphones, the better to enjoy the sounds of nature, the trails here might not be your best choice; the frequent sound of gunfire coming from the nearby Rowan County Wildlife and Gun Club can be unsettling if you're not used to it.

Sloan Park

Sloan Park, 550 Sloan Road in Mt. Ulla, offers 100 acres of



The sun peeks through the trees at Eagle Point Nature Preserve.

green space that includes three miles of trails. Home to a grist mill that dates to 1823, walkers can enjoy the nicely paved Historic Tree Trail, Sloan Nature Trail, which has enough hills and tree roots to keep you on your toes, and the Crawdad Trail, which runs past Fred's Pond and a small stream. It's not uncommon to see kids biking here while their parents walk. It's a beautiful spot and worth the drive.

Salisbury Greenway

The Salisbury Greenway is an obvious choice for the serious walker or runner. Established in 1996, the greenway became an official arm of the city 15 years ago. There are six stretches: Brenner Avenue, Prescott/Overton, Grants Creek, Memorial Park, Forest Hills, Kelsey Scott, and Crescent. Frequent trail markers help walkers keep track of how much ground they've covered.

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Trish Dunn is not alone in her love of the greenway; she especially likes the stretch near Overton Elementary and the area between Grove Street and Mahaley Avenue. "When I walk there, it feels like I am far away from the day to day," she says.

Catawba College Ecological Preserve

A stone's throw from the greenway is Catawba College's Fred Stanback Jr. Ecological Preserve, one of the most delightfully peaceful places to walk in Salisbury. For trail access, walk down the steps behind the Center for the Environment, 2300 W. Innes St., which will put you on the Bill Stanback Birding Loop that circles Baranski Lake. You'll frequently see great blue herons and egrets here as well as plenty of other wildlife, from deer to turtles.

Eagle Point Nature Preserve

Another nature preserve with lovely walking trails is Eagle Point Nature Preserve, 665 Black Road, off Bringle Ferry Road near High Rock Lake. Opened in 2001 thanks to the Land Trust for Central North Carolina, the preserve features about three miles of trails, including a self-interpretive tree and plant identification loop.

"In the spring it's really pretty with the periwinkle covering the ground," says Karen Puckett, who sometimes walks the trails at Eagle





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Granite Lake Park offers a short and comfortable walking experience which is very popular. An asphalt loop around a lake with access to spur trails through a wooded lot with a shallow rocky stream.

Point with her husband, Steve. They've seen herons there, she says, but no eagles so far.

Dan Nicholas Park

Walking might not be the first thing you think of when someone mentions Dan Nicholas Park, 6800 Bringle Ferry Road. Eight miles southeast of Salisbury and not too far from Eagle Point, this hugely popular park offers camping, fishing, paddleboarding, miniature golf, carousel rides, a miniature train and a carousel. But it also happens to have lots of great trails; just ask a cross country runner.

So what are you waiting for? Lace up your walking shoes and explore the trails of Rowan County! 

Katie Scarvey is a freelance writer living in Salisbury and a communications specialist for Lutheran Services Carolinas.



Trail markers lead the way at Eagle Point Nature Preserve.

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Chef Jason Nain prepares the grits for the shrimp and grits dish during last year's Riot in the Pasture at Morgan Ridge Vineyards.

For the folks at Bread Riot, Salisbury is fertile ground. It's a small Southern community off of I-85 surrounded by farms and full of good people who love good food. There's a lot of potential here, Bread Riot Executive Director Eric Bowen says.

What started as a small group of volunteers excited about a co-op has grown into something more. It's still run by volunteers — Bowen is the only paid employee — but Bread Riot has shifted focus to serve the farmer. Now, the nonprofit directs efforts toward food advocacy, education about proper farming practices and connecting communities to farms and fresh foods.

Bread Riot began in 2006 when a local

Farm to table

It might not be flashy, but Bread Riot serves as strong advocate for local farmers, fresh food

by REBECCA RIDER photos by WAYNE HINSHAW

group of families decided the city should have better access to fresh, local foods. At the time, it was just a ragtag group of volunteers, boxing produce on someone's porch.

"It was really just a grassroots effort," says former president Christine Wilson.

They called themselves Bread Riot after

the historic bread riots of the Civil War, when women petitioned for the proper rations to feed their families. It was sentiment that resonated with the founding group, and Wilson says they also wanted to make a connection to the history of the area.

"That's part of our identity," Wilson



says.

In 2008, they started up Winter Harvest, a farm-to-table operation where locals can register to receive a box of local produce on a bi-weekly basis all winter. That was Bread Riot's first big break, and it grew from there.

"It started getting more legs," Wilson says.

So far, a lot of Bread Riot's work has stayed in the background. They run events like Winter Harvest and Riot in the Pasture, and host panel discussions and movie screenings at Catawba College. It's not a flashy organization.

"Education is a big part of what we do," Bowen says.

Bread Riot also acts as a support for local farmers. It provides farm schools for people wanting to switch career tracks, and teaches sustainable farming techniques. They also act as a middleman to ensure that farmers have places to sell their

Preparation

Left: During last year's Riot in the Pasture, Seth Morton adds the cheese to the margarita pizza as he prepares it for the oven with Calico Farms mozzarella cheese and Bread Basket breads. **Right:** Jeff McClure steams the vegetables and shrimp while people wait in line to eat.

produce locally.

This is the first year that Bread Riot has partnered with the Salisbury-Rowan County Farmers market in support of local farmers. Bowen, who also works as the manager of the Farmers Market, says the market is invaluable.

"That's probably the thing that helps farmers out more than anything," he said.

Bowen says Bread Riot also exists to connect the community and ensure that community members have access to fresh food.

"Food is a way for all sorts of different people to connect," Bowen says, and he thinks community farms and gardens can

help ease strained relationships.

But it's a work in progress. If there's one bit of criticism for Bread Riot, it's that its services aren't available to everyone. Events are often pricey, and the Salisbury-Rowan Farmers Market doesn't accept forms of payment like SNAP or EBT.

But both groups are working on changing that, Bowen says. First, they need to make sure the farmers stay in business and are making a profit. You can't connect people to food that doesn't exist.

One of Bowen's pet projects is to encourage the growth of community gardens. They're a common startup, Bowen says, but the initial enthusiasm falls off.

"The energy just seems to dissipate," he said.

He'd like to be able to set up a volunteer corps to help out on local farms or to keep community farms green and growing, but it's still in the works.

Wilson says that part of Bowen's job as

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Server Reanna Weiss serves Louis Bodak during last year's Riot in the Pasture.

Bread Riot's first paid employee is make sure the organization moves forward and breaks new ground. And Bowen has a lot of dreams.

One of his biggest goals for Salisbury is to start a food hub where small farms can contribute their produce to a collection that will be distributed to larger institutions. A small farm can't provide enough food for a restaurant or a corporation by itself, but with a food hub, it can.

Riot in the Pasture's celebration of local foods is a big yearly punch and push forward, Bowen says, but it's not always enough.

"We need to back that up with farm-to-table at local restaurants," he says.

He explains if a food-sharing program like a food hub took off and a majority of local restaurants used local food, it could become a draw for food tourists.

"It's something that could really build a brand for Salisbury," he said.

Bowen also wants to start a food recovery program, particularly for the Farmers Market.



Vendor David Correll from Correll Farms in Woodleaf with piles of green vegetables for sale from his farm.

“At the end of the Farmers Market, there’s a lot of product left over,” he says.

In a food recovery program, leftover produce would be purchased at a reduced price and then distributed to other local organizations such as Meals on Wheels or Rowan Helping Ministries.

“There’s a need for fresh food at these locations,” he says.

Yes, Bowen has a lot of dreams for Bread Riot, and Wilson and the other folks involved can’t wait to see where the organization will go next.

“It’s evolving,” Wilson says. S



A salad of strawberries, radishes, cheese and lettuce was on the menu last year.

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In historic preservation, not everything can be saved. Here, an excavator takes a bite out of Salisbury's old freight depot. *Submitted photo.*

Moving on

So long, and remember preservation is about understanding all people, places

Looking back over the past three-and-a-half-years in Salisbury and my tenure as executive director of Historic Salisbury Foundation, I am proud of the many accomplishments we made as an organization.

Just weeks after starting in April 2012, we began negotiations for purchasing the Blackmer House and closed on the trans-

action July 3. A few days later, a group of volunteers gathered to begin removing years of overgrowth and discovering many clues to the history of this important house which many in the community had given up on.

For me, one rewarding part of historic preservation is identifying the potential still left in a building and then seeing it rehabilitated and used again. After nearly



Photo by David Lamanno of Photography 1851.

by BRIAN DAVIS



Here is a before and after look of the Myers-Morris House at 1428 N. Main St. which was purchased by Historic Salisbury Foundation's revolving fund, stabilized and given a fresh coat of paint before being placed back on the market. *Submitted photos.*

30 years of vacancy, the Blackmer House has lights on at night and a family living amongst its 195-year-old walls.

Opening the house as a rehabilitation-in-progress during the 2013 October-Tour gave the public a chance to see the progress and understand what goes into the early stages of a project. Those same people were able to witness the amazing work of talented craftsmen and preservation on this most recent OctoberTour.

There were many other accomplishments during my time in Salisbury. We began an architectural salvage program to keep reusable building materials out of the landfill while providing a resource to homeowners and contractors. We reached out into the county to provide technical assistance to owners of historic properties and also began the Sacred Places Tour to highlight the history of churches and cemeteries, to name a few.

The past few years were not without significant losses of people and places. There were long-time supporters of the foundation and our efforts, such as Jimmy Hurley and Charlie Peacock, who passed away.

Norfolk Southern Railroad demolished the freight depot in the wye at North Lee Street, citing the need for a new building for a client. Salisbury is still waiting to see this new building over three years later. Meanwhile, its 10,500 cubic feet of reusable building material was pulverized and sits in our landfill.

Those in Salisbury at the time will never forget the night Grimes Mill burned. Many of us stood in the cold, drizzling rain, feeling hopeless as the roller mill went up in a five-alarm fire.

I often remind people that preservation is a team effort. The more people participate in the movement, the better the results will be for the community. It is no longer about just preserving the houses of the dead, rich, white guy, as many communities have done since the 1970s. Although perhaps important, they did not live their lives or attain their notoriety in a vacuum.

Historic preservation is about understanding all people, places and things of our past so we can realize who we are and where we are going. Everyone has a past and a voice, and they should all be heard

and respected equally.

My hope for Historic Salisbury Foundation is that the organization will continue the momentum and track record of the past few years. The community could benefit from classes about refinishing wood floors and windows, as well as other skills. I hope that the organization will be practical, flexible and fair on negotiations and welcome compromise, change and differing opinions.

Venture out into neighborhoods and historic sites throughout Rowan County that need the most help. Find that visionary, pioneer spirit that this national movement was founded on. Lastly, I hope that the trustees will hire a strong, hands-on executive director and empower that director to use his or her knowledge and experience to lead the organization to do great things for this community.

At the end of October, Brian Davis left his position as executive director of Historic Salisbury Foundation to establish a revolving fund program for the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation. [S]

Calendar of Events

Upcoming dates in Salisbury-Rowan and the region

■ **Dec. 3-7**

The Living Christmas Tree

• *First Baptist Church, Salisbury* •

In its 24th year, The Living Christmas Tree is presented in seven worship services and includes singers from high school age and up. Admission is free, but tickets are required, and the donation of at least one canned item per ticket is requested. The church is located at 223 N. Fulton St.

■ **Dec. 3-20**

A Charlie Brown Christmas

• *Concord* •

Old Courthouse Theatre, Concord. 40th season. More information: 704-788-2405, or www.oldcourthouse theatre.org.

■ **Dec. 4**

Downtown Salisbury Sings in the Season

• *Salisbury* •

A First Friday event, downtown Salisbury. See www.downtownsalisbury.com for information.

■ **Dec. 5**

China Grove Christmas Tour of Homes

• *China Grove* •

Buses leave from China Grove Roller Mill, 308 N. Main St., at 4 and 6 p.m. This year's tour includes four homes, and 30 minutes prior to each tour, ticket holders will be able to walk through the China Grove Roller Mill. Sponsored by the Historical Society of South Rowan. For more information, contact Judy Haire at 704-425-5323. Tickets are \$30 and include the tour, meal and transportation.



The interior of the large rustic log home built in 1981 by Garland and Kay Faw on Meadow Lane. The home was one of the houses on last year's China Grove Christmas Home tour. This year's event will be Dec. 5. Photo by Jon C. Lakey.

■ **Dec. 8**

Cabaret Master Dance Class

• *Norvell Theater* •

Learn the style, technique and inspiration behind one of the most popular musicals of all time. Instructor: Tod A. Kubo.

Only 25 spots available. To sign up, call 704-633-5471.

■ **Dec. 10-13, Dec. 17-19**

It's A Wonderful Life: a live radio play

• *Lee Street theatre* •

A holiday classic. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10-12 and 17-19; and 2:30 p.m. Dec. 13. Contact 704-310-5507, or leestreet.org.

■ **Dec. 11-13**

Christmas in the Village

• *Gold Hill* •

Sponsored by Gold Hill Merchants Association. For more information: www.goldhill.com.

■ **Dec. 11-12, Dec. 18-19**

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

• *Norvell Theater* •

In this hilarious Christmas classic from Piedmont Players Theatre, a couple struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant are faced with casting the Herdman kids, probably the most inventively awful children in history. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11-12 and 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18-19. Box office at 135 E. Fisher St. is



Guests enjoy the Living Christmas Tree in 2011. This year's performance will be Dec. 3-7 at First Baptist Church in Salisbury. Photo by Wayne Hinshaw.



Runners take part in last year's Novant Health Winter Flight 8K. The event this year is Jan. 31. Photo by Wayne Hinshaw.

open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday, or call 704-633-5471 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

■ **Dec. 12**
Santa and the Grinch
antique fire truck rides

• *Downtown Salisbury* •
 10 a.m.-1 p.m. See downtownsalisburync.com for more information.

■ **Dec. 13**
St. John's Men's Chorus
Christmas Concert

• *St. John's Lutheran Church* •
 The concert time is 4 p.m. in the church

sanctuary, and it will benefit Rowan Helping Ministries. The 50-member chorus is directed by Rosemary Kinard and accompanied by Janie Rollins. The Inner Voices, an auditioned ensemble of 20 voices, also will perform. The church is located at 200 W. Innes St.

■ **Dec. 14-15**
Christmas Traditions:
The Stories and Music
of Christmas

• *Meroney Theater* •
 A mix of story-telling and music, presented by Dr. Karl Hales, Leslie Dunkin, Neal Wilkinson and Susan Trivette.

7 each night. Admission is at least one canned item for Rowan Helping Ministries.

■ **Dec. 19**
Christmas Benefit Concert

• *Grace Bible Church, Rockwell* •
 7:30 p.m. An evening of acoustic Christmas classics with four-time Grammy winner Kevin Max of Christian Groups DC Talk and Audio Adrenaline. Net proceeds benefit Rowan Helping Ministries and The Hands & Feet Project. The church is located at 6725 N.C. 152, Rockwell. Tickets are available online. For information, contact Mark Rockwell at mrocks7@windstream.net.

■ **Dec. 19-20**
The Nutcracker

• *Keppel Auditorium, Catawba College* •
 The Salisbury Symphony Orchestra and Piedmont Dance Theatre combine again for the production. Show times are 6:30 p.m. Dec. 19 and 2:30 p.m. Dec. 20. Tickets may be purchased online through Piedmont Dance Theatre in Kannapolis. Call 704-637-4314, or visit salisbury-symphony.org for more information.

■ **Jan. 2-3**
Old Stone House Christmas

• *Old Stone House, Granite Quarry* •
 This German Christmas celebration is always held on the weekend after Christmas. Tours of the decorated 1766 house, built by Michael Braun, include guides in period costumes, and guests see skills, customs and crafts of the day, such as musket-firing, woodworking, weaving, candle-making, open-fire cooking and many samples of music and children's games. Times are from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 2 and noon-4 p.m. Jan. 3. For more information, contact the Rowan Museum at 704-633-5946, or email rowanmuseum@fibrant.com

Jan. 4-5
Youth auditions for Taming of the Shrew

• *Norvell Theater* •
 Auditions for this Piedmont Players youth production are at 4 and 5 p.m. each day and are by appointment only. To sign up, call 704-633-5471. "Taming of the Shrew" is a hysterical Shakespearean comedy telling the story of the courtship of Petruchio and Katherina, the headstrong, stubborn shrew. Norvell Theater is located at 135 E. Fisher St.

Jan. 9
Big Band Bash: A Salute to Sinatra

• *Catawba College* •
 The Salisbury Symphony celebrates the 100th birthday of Frank Sinatra with dinner and dancing, 6:30 p.m., Crystal Lounge. For information: 704-637-4314, or ljones@catawba.edu, or www.Salisburysymphony.org.

Jan. 21-24 and 26-28
Broadway Lullabies

• *Lee Street theatre* •
 This musical review will feature the songs of Rodgers and Hart, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin and George and Ira Gershwin. Check www.leestreet.org for information on times and tickets.

Jan. 23
Waterworks Oyster Roast

• *Trolley Barn* •
 This is a major fund-raising event for Waterworks.

Jan. 28
Rowan Chamber's 90th Annual Meeting

• *Salisbury Station* •
 This annual meeting and celebration for the Chamber will be held at 6 p.m.



Left to right: Mike Alexander, Greg Moore and Fred Burchett shuck oysters at the WaterWorks Oyster Roast last year. This year's Oyster Roast is Jan. 23. Photo by Wayne Hinshaw.

Jan. 28-Feb. 6
Piedmont Players presents: Welcome to Mitford

• *Meroney Theater* •
 Father Tim's life is absorbed in his town and the pastoring of his lively congregation. Things change radically when Father Tim falls in love with his next-door neighbor, Cynthia Coppersmith. Adults, \$15; students and seniors, \$12. For tickets and times of shows, call 704-633-5471, or visit www.PiedmontPlayers.com.

Jan. 31
33rd Annual Winter Flight 8K Run, 5K Health Walk and 1/2-Mile Fun Run

• *Salisbury* •
 2 pm Catawba College. One of the oldest and most prestigious running events in the Southeast. www.salisburyrowanrunners.org, 704-310-6741

Feb. 19-27
Taming of the Shrew

• *Norvell Theater* •

Piedmont Players Youth Theatre presents this Shakespearean comedy. Adults, \$10; students and seniors, \$8. For tickets, call 704-633-5471, or purchase online at www.PiedmontPlayers.com

Feb. 25-27 & March 3-5
The Parchman Hour

• *Lee Street theatre* •
 The story of the 1961 Freedom Riders. The show combines music, dance and art and is written by Catawba College graduate Mike Wiley. For tickets and times of shows, visit www.leestreet.org.

Feb. 29
Youth auditions for Junie B. Jones: The Musical

• *Norvell Theater* •
 Auditions for this Piedmont Players Youth production are at 4 and 5 p.m. and are by appointment only. To sign up, call 704-633-5471. "Junie B. Jones" is a delightful adaptation of four of Barbara Park's best-selling books brought to life in a genuinely comical, and not-strictly-for-kids musical.



Honor CARD

Rowan Helping Ministries unveiled its 2015 Christmas Honor Card and introduced the winning artist, Carole Simmons, during a reception at the Rail Walk Studios and Gallery in Salisbury.

— Photos by Mark Wineka

Dick Huffman, James Davis, Jim Mitchell, Beverly Mitchell and Lynn Hales.



Left: Sara Cook and Gene Wolfe. **Middle:** Pam Spencer and Nancy Graham. **Right:** Esther Marioneaux, left, and Christmas Honor Card artist Carole Simmons.



Eric Marsh, Mike Lippard and Steve Henman.



Galen Smith, Ed Snow and Norma Gragg.



Above: Jada Gonzalez, Nala Hughes, Layla Jackson, Madison Canda, Cece Tapley and Alexis Phillips. **Right:** Harper Miller poses in the pumpkin patch.

FunFair

at Milford Hills UMC

Milford Hills United Methodist Church, in conjunction with its annual Pumpkin Patch, held its first Fun Fair Oct. 17. The day included a bouncy house, children's games, baked and canned goods, crafts, morning coffee and doughnuts and a hot dog lunch.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Eleanor, Mamie, Trey and Addie Laurie Reamer.



Above: Chad, Eli and Lindsay Brown. **Below:** K.C. Beecham, Andrea Mohammad and Sissy Anthony.



Right: Judy Yeater and Susan Dean. **Far right:** Corinne Mault, Elaine Hewitt and Carol Williams-Gilbert, pastor of Milford Hills UMC.





The Gaining Ground Band in the Granite Quarry Civitan Fiddlers' Convention. They are, left to right, Robert Ellis, Lynn Powell, John Powell and Ted Nixon.

Pickin', stringin' & singin'

The 49th annual Granite Quarry Civitan Fiddlers Convention held its usual wide-ranging competition among bluegrass musicians at East Rowan High School.

— Photos by Wayne Hinshaw



Above right: Noah Watson plays the banjo in the category of "Most Promising 11 and Under" age group.



Right: Ayla Turney playing the banjo in the category of "Most Promising 11 and Under" age group.



Left: Eva Casstevens plays the mandolin and sings.



Above: Ethan Tarlton placed third in the category of "Most Promising 11 and Under" age group. **Left:** The Guinn Sisters, Elizabeth on the fiddle and Suzanna singing, placed second runner up in the category of "Most Promising Talent 12-16" age group.



Top: Jake Goforth playing the guitar and singing was second in the category of "Most Promising 11 and Under" age group. **Above:** Gabe Webster played the fiddle and sang in the category of "Most Promising 11 and Under" age group.



Above: The Movin' On Bluegrass Band from Concord was the second runner up for best band this year. They are Jimmy Burris, Rick Blackwelder (who was 1st runner up playing the bass), Howard Honeycutt and Charles Honeycutt. **Left:** Sara Pierce played the fiddle in the category of "Most Promising 11 and Under" age group.



Mayor Paul Woodson, right, presents Setzer with a key to the city.

David Setzer

.....

R E C E P T I O N

A reception was held at Waterworks Visual Arts Center in honor of David Setzer, who will be retiring at the end of this year as executive director of the Blanche & Julian Robertson Family Foundation. Special guests included Salisbury native and well-known investment manager Julian Robertson Jr. of New York.

— Photos by Susan Shinn



Left: Jeanie Moore and Joe Morris. **Middle:** Dave Setzer and Nancy Stanback. **Right:** Dana Setzer Curry and Barbara Setzer.



Above: Alex Robertson and Bret Busby. **Left:** Julian Robertson and his sister, Wyndham Robertson. **Below:** Patsy Rendleman, Nancy Clement and Gerry Hurley.



Left: Matt Freeze and Beth Moore of Prevent Child Abuse Rowan; and Amy Brown and Laura Villegas of Smart Start Rowan. **Right:** Julian Robertson, known for his Tiger investment funds, was delighted to see his favorite animal featured in one of the galleries at Waterworks.



BlockWork participants Ariel Peoples, Jacob Blankenship, Maria Delgado, Janssen Keiger, Erin Christner and Fabrizio Lyles pose for a photo.

around the **BLOCK**

The Salisbury Community Appearance Commission and Housing Advocacy Commission organized the annual BlockWork, in which some 200 volunteers spent an entire Saturday cleaning, improving and making repairs to 20 different properties in the 800 and 900 blocks of South Jackson Street in Salisbury's Chestnut Hill neighborhood.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



David Weir, Lloyd Crawford, Zak Russell and Olivia Nelms.



Left: Dylan Dingess and James Quirk. **Middle:** Kaylee Matthews and Nancy Gokey. **Right:** Marilyn Santamaria and Leila Ann Faries.



Brianna Vaughn, Darryl Williams, Katelyn Garrison, Tommy Lee and Jamie Woods.



Left: Tierra Graham, Radha Patel and TaCora Crump.

Below: Elysia Demers, Mary Jones, George Jones and Diane Labovitz.

Above: Tarik Woods, Theresa Pierce, Jessica Moscardini and Janet Gapen.

Right: Delaney Miller, Chalane Morrison and Josie Lent.





Above: Jock and Wendy Beeker. **Left:** Laurel Reisen, Suzanne Burgess, Tory Curran and Trevor Eppheimer. **Below:** Cora and Bill Greene.

Big Chili

Waterworks Visual Arts Center held its seventh annual Big Chili Cook-off at the Trolley Barn. This year's event boasted the most recipes and cooks the event has ever had — 15 different kinds of chili, fixings, drinks and desserts.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Above: Kelly Efird, Mike Johnson and Ashley Efird. **Left:** Lee Cunningham, Brad Durham and Taylor Sexton.



Left: Karma Armes, Lily Wetzel and Rachel Griffith. **Above right:** Mary Allen Conforti and Amy Foote. **Right:** Beth and Roy Bentley.



Left: Creth Holman, Steve Raker and Diane Hundley. **Right:** James Garver, Tara Metcalf, Adriane Morris and Mike Morris.



Far left: Ralph Wear and Don Clement.

Left: Aime Honeycutt, Sheila Igo and Megan Casper.

House party

The annual October Tour Patrons Party, held prior to Historic Salisbury Foundation's annual two-day tour of homes and other historic properties, was held at Salisbury Station.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Sherrill Hiott, Kim Etters, Steve Etters and Tom Wolpert.



Top: Bruce Lovvorn, Dave Collins and Jeff Matthews. **Middle:** Johanna Lavvorn, Jonathan Pease and Lori Burke. **Above:** Kevin Watson, Ryan Rich and Joel Briner.



Above: Alice Rich, Carrie Bardinas and Linda Trexler.



Left: Julie Upp, Glen Upp, Sheryl Johnson and Allen Terry.

FINE ART

A reception, "For the Love of Landscapes," was held for artists Keyth Kahrs and William Renzulli at Rail Walk Studios & Gallery.

— Submitted photos



Keyth Kahrs, Elaine Spalding, Patience Renzulli and William Renzulli.



Bob Setzer, Clyde Padgett and Lewellen Padgett.



Artist William Renzulli has a conversation with Deanna Burris.



Patience Renzulli, Gail Yatawara and Chanaka Yatawara.



Patricia Howell and Sherry Hargrave.

Neat little package

A gym rat returned to town full of opportunities

NaNaNaNaaa, NaNaNaNaaaa, Hey Hey Hey, Goodbye. The sounds of this song blast through the speakers of my car as I drive north on I-85 listening to “The Ride.” In my mind, I am in the gym at Salisbury (Boyden) High School. It’s about 1970, I’m a gym rat, helping Dad run the concession stand for the basketball games. The students are singing this song as Coach Pharr’s Hornets win another game while Bob Rathbun calls the game on WSTP.

I know everyone there, it’s home. And what fun to get to go out on a cold winter’s night, eat free popcorn and get beat up by the Key Club guys. I am Coach Stout’s little boy, racing around the gym with my brother and my friends from Meadowbrook, while Mom keeps an eye on us from the stands.

Fast-forward to 2014, I am the architect for St. John’s Lutheran Church, designing only the third new building on this venerable campus. I’m working with people who were probably at that game back in 1970. Oscho Ruffy asks me, “How is your Dad doing?” In between, he gives reminders about how much storage he will need in the new building.

I introduce myself to Bill Saffrit, who is happy to learn that I’m not just Gray Stout, the architect, but I played football with his son Danny back in ’75 (and drank way too much beer at the parties at The Burge’s home, or was that at the Posts?) I walk into the

old Youth Activities Center — this space was new in 1964. I was a Cub Scout here racing Pinewood Derby cars, Wow, I thought that was a cool space, I still do. Great architecture existed all over Salisbury. I was particularly influenced by the

modern work of John Ramsay.

I moved back in 1992, this time with Heather, my wife, and two boys in tow (and hoping for a third). We saw the potential. Charlotte was tearing down and Salisbury was preserving. Both being architects, we dedicated ourselves to the cause and raised our family in the town that I was raised in. Salisbury is that kind of special place, where you could be a part of it if you wanted to. People who care

work together to make it the


best it can be. Heather loved it from our first visit to OctoberTour 1991, It was everything you find in a larger city, in a neat little package.

In the late 1990s to mid 2000s, we were renovating buildings all over town.

N.C. Main Street awards were abundant, thanks to the leadership of Randy Hemann, Joe Morris, an awesome City Council and Mayor Kluttz, Paul Fisher, Mike Fuller and countless others. I loved being part of this energy.

Roots and wings. So many people who have grown up here go on to do great things in other places, and then come home and do it here. The opportunities I was afforded are unmatched. I talk with people in my new firm in Charlotte, and they are amazed that in 25 years of practice I designed a football stadium and press box, a Catholic church and a Lutheran Church, a veterinary clinic, pediatric clinic, winery, multiple downtown new buildings/renovations and restaurants, and too many homes in town to count them all.

I am truly blessed at the opportunities that I have received in this wonderful city, and I am proud of the work I have done. Salisbury is the place for opportunity. Thank you.

Gray Stout is an architect, now working in Charlotte. 



by
**GRAY
STOUT**



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