

May 2016

SALISBURY

the magazine

JOHN HART

Catching up with the author,
who's back with another thriller

Globe-trotting

Haas Formula 1 team
in Kannapolis makes
successful worldwide debut

LOMBARDY

Inside Salisbury's oldest house

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PUBLISHER - Greg Anderson
greg.anderson@salisburythemagazine.com

EDITOR - Mark Wineka
mark.wineka@salisburythemagazine.com

CREATIVE DIRECTOR - Andy Mooney
andy.mooney@salisburythemagazine.com

EDITORIAL

Josh Bergeron
josh.bergeron@salisburythemagazine.com

Elizabeth Cook
elizabeth.cook@salisburythemagazine.com

Scott Jenkins
scott.jenkins@salisburythemagazine.com

Deirdre Parker Smith
deirdre.smith@salisburythemagazine.com

Amanda Raymond
amanda.raymond@salisburythemagazine.com

Rebecca Rider
rebecca.rider@salisburythemagazine.com

Shavonne Walker
shavonne.walker@salisburythemagazine.com

Photography Director - Jon C. Lakey
jon.lakey@salisburythemagazine.com

ADVERTISING

Joel Honeycutt
joel.honeycutt@salisburythemagazine.com

Karen Hurst
karen.hurst@salisburythemagazine.com

Malynda Peeler
malynda.peeler@salisburythemagazine.com

Shanna Pruett
shanna.pruett@salisburythemagazine.com

Jason Slusser
jason.slusser@salisburythemagazine.com

PRODUCTION

Director - Sharon Jackson
sharon.jackson@salisburythemagazine.com

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Susan Baker
susan.baker@salisburythemagazine.com

Lisa Jean Humphrey
lisa.humphrey@salisburythemagazine.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Susan Shinn, Allison Lee Isley
and Dave Goren

Project Manager - Len Clark
len.clark@salisburythemagazine.com

On the web:
www.salisburythemagazine.com

On Facebook:
www.facebook.com/salisburythemagazine

To subscribe, contact
sales@salisburythemagazine.com

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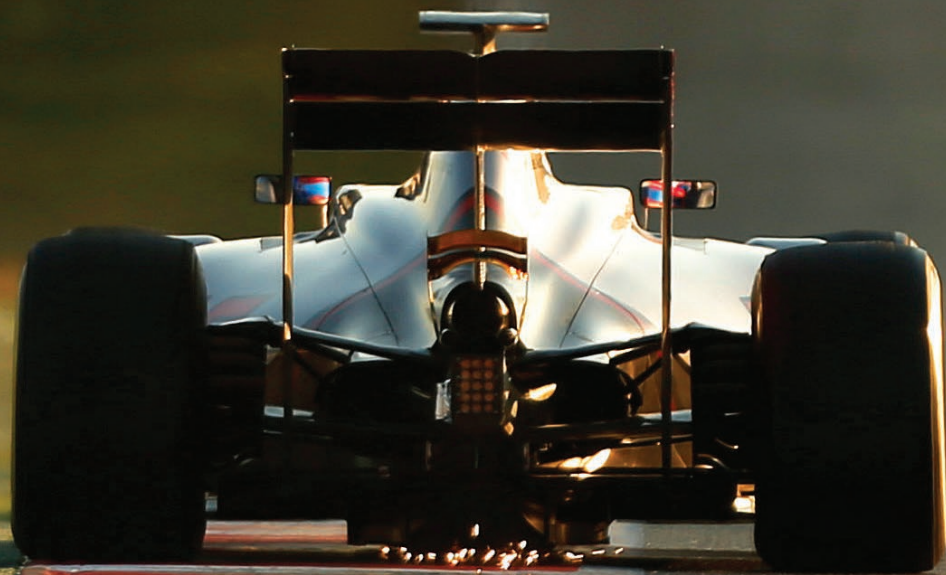
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FEATURES

..... May 2016

34 Southern writer
Author John Hart at home with his characters and his land.
by **DEIRDRE PARKER SMITH**

42 Globe-trotting
A Formula 1 racing team in Kannapolis? Haas tackles one of the world's most popular sports.
by **LEN CLARK**



On this page

Haas F1's first test day at the Barcelona Catalunya circuit.

— *True Speed PR photo*

On the cover

In Charlottesville, Va., author John Hart pauses for a moment in the tractor shed, where his writing office is also located.

— *Photo by Jon C. Lakey*

■ DEPARTMENTS

IN EVERY ISSUE

Editor's Letter p.7

Bookish p.9

Through the Lens p.10

Rowan Originals p.12

Events Calendar p.68

The Scene p.70

Salisbury's the Place p.82



■ THE ARTS

14 In the key of art

Middle school students paint downtown pianos

■ FOOD

18 Cocktail time

The art of the mint julep

■ AT HOME

22 Lombardy

Salisbury's oldest house is still 'the most decent chateau in the neighborhood'



■ WELLNESS

54 Quite a stretch

Many people find their answers in yoga

■ REMINISCE

64 The white caps

Recalling the starched uniforms, polished shoes, long shifts at Rowan Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

Powles Staton..... 2
 Salisbury Motor Company 3
 Dan Nicholas Park 4
 Bare Furniture..... 8
 F&M Bank..... 17
 Transit Damage Freight 20
 City of Salisbury 21
 Shea Homes at Castlebrook..... 25
 Salisbury Motor 28
 Walmart 29
 Premier Federal Credit..... 30
 Mykonos Grill..... 31
 Pinocchio's of Spencer 31
 Salisbury Wine Shop..... 31
 Trinity Oaks..... 32
 Godley's Garden Center 33
 On the Job Lawn & Landscape 33
 Select Timber Inc..... 33
 Southern Images Lawn Service 33
 Hearing Solutions..... 39
 Beltone..... 45
 Embellish Boutique 45
 DC ChemDry 48
 Caniche..... 48
 Angela's 49
 Ralph Baker's Shoes..... 49
 Viva Wellness Boutique 49
 The Laurels of Salisbury 50
 Wife for Hire..... 50
 Walser Technology..... 51
 Stout Heating and Air 51
 Cathy Griffin/Century21 52
 Tilley Harley-Davidson 52
 The Medicine Shoppe 53
 Salisbury Pediatric 53
 Century21 Towne & Country 56
 Cornerstone Church..... 56
 Anne/Roland Furniture..... 57
 CAC Plumbing 57
 Kitchen Store 57
 Distinctive NatureScapes 57
 Forest Glen..... 57
 Carolina Golf Mart 58
 Melanie Marshall, DDS..... 58
 K-Dee's Jewelers 58
 Harrison's Florist..... 58
 Carolina Lily 59
 Landis Plumbing..... 59
 Courtyard at Marriott..... 59
 Salon C Mobile Salon..... 59
 Body & Health Solutions 60
 North Hills Christian School..... 60
 Windsor Gallery 60
 Rowan Animal Clinic..... 60
 Rufty's Garden Center 61
 Old Stone Winery..... 61
 N.C. Transportation Museum..... 61
 Renew Skincare 61
 Salisbury Orthopaedic 84

Fun times down at the morgue

Not too long ago, I spent a wonderful afternoon with retired nurses Peggy Rouzer, Joyce Brown and Elizabeth Smith.

They are graduates of the Class of 1962 at Rowan Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing, which has been closed for more than 40 years.

And that seems a shame, because I think these women and many others in the nursing school's 28-year-run received fantastic educations and training — and plenty of stories to tell for the rest of their lives. Hospitals were different then. Picture four-bed wards, doctors who went down the halls smoking cigars and one EKG machine for the whole facility.

The women shared a couple of anecdotes with me, probably thinking they would never reach print, so I hope they don't read what follows.

Smith, who was student nurse Elizabeth Withers then, was in the delivery room one day with Dr. Trent Busby. A mother was having her 10th child, but things weren't going well. The mom was tiring and Withers was doing her best to help push the baby out, though she and Busby had great concerns about rupturing the uterus.

The baby's heartbeat was dropping, and Busby kept giving Withers instructions on what to do next, until a successful delivery finally was accomplished and mother and child were fine.

"Thank you, Jesus," the mother said when things had calmed down.

"Well," Busby said, "aren't you going to thank Miss Withers, too?"

The nurses remembered another story involving Busby. As a favor one weekend, Busby agreed to cover for patients of Dr. Harvey Robertson, who guaranteed Busby things should be real slow. But "a whole bunch" of Robertson's patients came into the hospital, and Busby ended up working nonstop.

As payback one day, Busby instructed the student nurses to send Robertson over to the morgue to sign off on a "stiff." In the morgue, Busby lay out on a stretcher with a sheet over him. When Robertson



walked over and stood beside the stretcher, Busby sat straight up and scared the dickens out of his fellow doctor. "Those were fun times, I have to admit," Smith said.

My thanks to Rouzer, Brown and Smith for the afternoon of memories, Cheerwine and cookies. Thanks also must go this month to Southern author John Hart, who graciously allowed Deirdre Parker Smith and photographer Jon Lakey to visit with him on his Charlottesville, Va., farm, where Hart does most of his writing.


Among other things, you'll discover Hart, who was raised in Salisbury, is a man of the land who writes in a "hope and grope" fashion.

In his story on the Gene Haas Formula 1 team in Kannapolis, Len Clark tells us the incredible expense and effort behind its creation and why this U.S. team's entry into the popular world of Formula 1 racing is such a big deal.

Amanda Raymond gets some of her own stretching in and writes about another monstrously popular pastime — yoga. Rebecca Rider reports on the return to Salisbury's downtown (and Spencer's) of the student-driven, public-art pianos that were so popular last summer.

Susan Shinn and Lakey offer an inside look at Lombardy, the 1799 home of John Steele — and how preservationist Ed Clement saved Salisbury's oldest house. In this issue, we also welcome to our pages photographer Allison Lee Isley, a talented intern from Randolph Community College.

I leave you with one bit of shameless promotion. Thanks to the hard work of everyone involved, Salisbury the Magazine recently received a first-place award from the N.C. Press Association for best niche publication among entrants in its category.

We're proud. But maybe we just scared the dickens out of the judges. 

Mark Wineka,
Editor, Salisbury the Magazine

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Time to discover new writers, old friends

The Rowan Reading Rendezvous brings in authors from the Carolinas for a fundraiser for the Friends of Rowan Public Library.

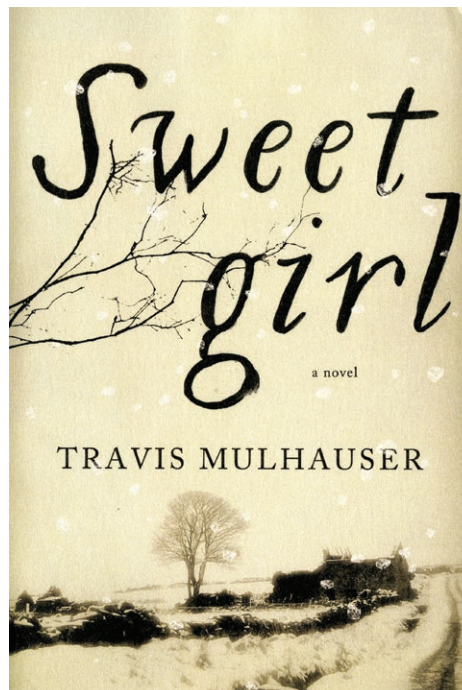
This year delivered four debut authors and a number of experienced writers, all with books you might enjoy.

James McTeer II, author of “Minnow,” used his family’s history — his grandfather was sheriff and a witch doctor — for his story set in the pluff mud of South Carolina.

Greg Shemkovitz, originally from Buffalo, N.Y., wrote “Lot Boy,” about a 27-year-old desperate to get out of frozen Buffalo and NOT inherit his father’s car lot.

Travis Mulhauser’s “Sweetgirl” is a story of a young teen finding an abandoned baby, then setting off to find her own mother. It takes place around Petosky, Mich., another place with brutal winters. Both authors were glad to come south, though they wrote about what they knew.

Here’s some encouragement for people



who have always wanted to write a book: Ross Howell Jr. is 65 and has just published his first novel, “Forsaken,” about a African-American Virginia teen who was executed for a murder she may not have committed, based on a true story.

If you are looking for Southern women’s fiction, you can try Kim Boykin, Erika Marks or Kim Wright (Wiley), along with Salisbury’s own Kristy Woodson Harvey.

Wright’s newest, “Last Ride to

Graceland,” out this month, tells the story of a young woman and her mother, who had been a backup singer for Elvis. They have a car that was his and decide to take one last road trip to give it to the estate. Wright drove the route from Beaufort to Memphis to add authenticity to the story about a daughter’s getting to know her mother all over again.

Marks has a new book publishing in August, “The Last Treasure,” about friends searching for the boat carrying Aaron Burr’s daughter that sank off the Carolina coast in 1812.

Boykin’s 2015 book, “A Peach of a Pair,” deals with a broken-hearted young woman taking care of elderly sisters. They set out on a cross-country trip to find a faith healer while young Nettie learns how to forgive.

If you missed it when the book first came out, I strongly suggest “Mr. Owita’s Guide to Gardening,” which has little to do with gardening and everything to do with living, although it was written by a woman who eventually died of cancer. It’s the story of her great friendship with a Kenyan man, Mr. Owita, who becomes Carol Wall’s gardener and best friend. He, too, is dying, but their message is one of love and life. [S](#)





The use of special filters to make interesting photos has been around for almost as long as photography itself. During the days of black-and-white film, photographers used different-colored filters to make clouds seem brighter, by darkening the blue sky around them. With computer technology, applying a "filter" to an image is reduced to a simple keystroke or two. One such filter included in Photoshop is the "watercolor filter," which can save an uninteresting image by turning it into something it wasn't. But a photographer can use refraction to produce similar watercolor results without the aid of filters or computers, and it still represents true photography. Here, a bonfire during the Polar Plunge event in February at High Rock Lake sent up waves of hot air that mixed with cooler air, creating a wall of refracted light, much like you see rising from the asphalt on a hot summer day.

All that *jazz*

Festival stalwart Eleanor Qadirah keeps things hopping



Eleanor Qadirah, photographed at Price High School in Salisbury.

She qualifies as Rowan County's belle of blues and jazz. Back in 1999, Eleanor Patterson Qadirah created a singular event in Salisbury, the Rowan Blues and Jazz Festival, and since then she has succeeded in bringing talented musicians here from up and down the East Coast.

This year's festival will be held May 14 at the corner of Lee and Kerr streets.

Most people today know Qadirah as a vibrant retiree, heavily involved in the J.C. Price High School Alumni Association, for which she is outgoing national president. She also has been active with Rowan Arts Council, Prevent Child Abuse Rowan, Leadership Rowan, N.C. Central University's Golden Eagle Society, Monroe Street School, Jazz Interaction in NYC, Rufty-Holmes Senior Center Computer Club

and Black Achievers First at the Hurley Family YMCA.

An East Spencer native and N.C. Central University graduate, Qadirah has lived in Baltimore, New York City, Buffalo and Taylorsville. She has worked as a therapeutic dietitian, educator, mentor and social worker.

Salisbury the Magazine recently had a conversation with this Rowan Original:

Q. You've become identified, of course, with the Blues and Jazz Festival. Who are some of your favorite musicians when it comes to blues and jazz?

Thelonious Monk, Billy Taylor, Miles Davis, Cephas and Wiggins, Wes Montgomery, George Benson, Muddy Waters and the NCCU Big Band.

Q. Which festival through the years sticks out in your mind as the best one you put on and why?

I believe the festival in 2010, because we introduced the Triad Youth Jazz Society of Greensboro. The young band members looked so happy to see a diverse audience that showed its appreciation of their performance.

Q. Why is the festival important to Salisbury?

It allows residents who are unable to drive to the larger cities to experience major performers live and get to buy an autographed CD.

Q. Why does being active in the Price High Alumni Association mean so much to you?

It is the only one (high school) that I graduated from, and it is still an important building, providing several much-needed family services such as Head Start, weatherization funds and support services. In fact, it is important to five counties.



Q. What's something people probably don't know about you?

They don't know that I am a 27-year cancer survivor of a very serious form that children generally suffer from. I have spent many hours with cancer patients, advising them about what I learned during the healing process that is constant. When my doctor announced that I had a tumor and that some are the good ones and others are the bad ones, I said to her, "Well, I know I have the good kind." She answered, "No. Eleanor, you have one of the bad ones."

Q. Who do you consider one of your greatest mentors or influences and why?

Mrs. Doreatha Williamson, a devoted alum of "The Livingstone." I became known as the little redhead riding in her custom-painted, pink-and-green Buick. Even now I get annoyed when someone

does not pronounce the name Livingstone as my fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Williamson taught me during my time at Dunbar Elementary School.

Q. Where's your favorite place to eat out in Rowan County?

The most recent one to open. The Classy Red Hatters and I are known for sharing our opinion of the new restaurants. We mostly rate them on the noise levels and where their handicap parking spaces are located.

Q. What's your personal pet peeve?

Younger people assuming that I may not use a computer or have an email address. I would not have coordinated and planned our outstanding festival without my computer, the Internet and great volunteers and supporters.

Q. A book you would recommend to everybody?

"Think and Grow Rich."

Q. If you could write a motto for Salisbury, what would it be?

"Lost time is never found" That was my quote in my yearbook.

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

Some need to slow down their pace and enjoy life with less stress. Others need to get up and exercise more. **S**



North Rowan Middle Art Teacher Leigh Ann Alexander has her students working on a piano for public art. Students, left to right, are Robert Coleman, Travis Berry, Emily Gaskey and Domonek Wilder, and not pictured is Ashleigh Krecht. The students have created an environmental aquatic theme that includes black light techniques.

— Jon C. Lakey photo

In the KEY *of* ART

Middle school students paint downtown pianos

Written by REBECCA RIDER

It's a Friday morning at China Grove Middle, and teacher Connie Christman's art club is hard at work.

They dip brushes in paint palettes and draw the colors over the old wood of an upright piano. The graded brown and yellow down the long side of the upright is supposed to evoke the long fall of Alice down the rabbit hole in "Alice in Wonderland."

As she smears a blob of yellow onto the wood, Raven Waynick chats with other students about how colorful Wonderland is.

"I want to live there," she says.

The group is decorating the piano for the second year of "Come Tickle Our Ivories," a downtown art installation that struck a chord with the



Salisbury community last summer.

From May to September 2015, colorful pianos decorated the streets of Salisbury, bringing art and music to the heart of downtown. Project organizer Mary Miller James calls the pianos a "peace offering."

"The idea of pianos is it's interactive," Miller James says, "People can sit down, play, do something with these public art pieces."

Public music has been a trending

idea since 2008, when London artist Luke Jerram dreamed of public art pieces that would encourage interaction with passersby. That project was called "Come play me, I'm yours." Since then, the idea has hopped continents, rooting in unexpected places. Miller James says similar projects have taken off in Australia, New York, Denver, Seattle and San Francisco. Miller James got the idea from her sister, who brought street

■ THE ARTS

pianos to Lynchburg, Va.

“I just love this idea of pianos for public art,” she says.

Miller James partnered with the Salisbury Symphony, and had pianos donated and delivered to local public high schools. Students got to rework the instruments into colorful blends of music and art before the pianos were strategically placed for their downtown debut.

It was a hit. Miller James says she had such positive feedback that she tuned up the project for another year. And last fall, 11 donated pianos were delivered to public and private middle schools around Rowan County.

Each piano is unique, and designed by students.

At North Rowan Middle, students in art teacher Leigh Ann Alexander’s class survey their work.

“It looks great, better than it did,” Travis Berry says.

The second-hand upright piano has been given a new life with shifting shades of blue and vibrant splashes of coral. Sea creatures creep out of rock or wind through the reef.

The students chose the underwater theme, and Alexander says it matched up well with the student’s curriculum. As they were learning about ecosystems and pollution, the group began work on the piano.

Just down the hall, the students filled a project room with jellyfish, lobsters and coral made from plastic, Styrofoam and bubble wrap – all things that clog up the oceans. Alexander says the neon-bright animals will deck the top of the piano once the painting is complete.

“It was a long work in progress,” student Emily Gaskey says.

At China Grove Middle, the art club picked an “Alice in Wonderland” theme.

“We were talking a lot about fairytale themes and everyone seemed to like the ‘Alice in Wonderland’ theme so we stuck with it,” student Julia Rockwell says.

Rockwell remembers seeing the pianos downtown last summer. At the time, she thought it would be a fun project to work on. Art teacher Connie Christman remembers them, too.

“I thought they were beautiful,” she says.

And then she saw people playing them.

“I loved that,” she says.

The instruments are in different stages of completion. China Grove’s still has chalked-in designs on the dark wood, North Rowan’s is almost ready to break out, and Corriher-Lipe’s was painted and primed, waiting for a splash of black keys and color for its music-themed makeover.

The pianos were never quiet for long last summer: passersby sat

From right: Salem Fleming, Julia Rockwell and Raven Waynick, students at China Grove Middle School, paint their Alice in Wonderland-themed piano.



— Allison Lee Isley photo

and plunked out a tune, and Miller James arranged events and outdoor concerts, filling the streets with song.

Last year, Miller James collected almost \$9,000 in donations by sending out letters and emails – even calling her dentist.

“I was shameless,” she says.


The money raised went to support school art teachers and Salisbury Symphony youth programs. This year, Miller James hopes to do the same. She says art teachers are always digging into their own pockets to provide money for supplies. She also talked Walmart into donating \$100 per school for supplies, and received tarps from Lowe’s.

And last year’s pianos are still making noise. At the end of the season, most were taken back by the schools. Now they key in chorus groups or start up a band.

“It’s wonderful, they have a second life,” Miller James says.

Two of the 2016 pianos will make their summer home in Spencer, while the other nine settle onto familiar stoops in Salisbury. The students who have been painting, decorating and dreaming can’t wait to showcase their talent and hard work.

“I want to see it out,” Berry says.

After tunings, the pianos’ big debut will be May 6. Miller James says it’s been a “fun and worthy project,” and while she doesn’t know if she’ll continue it for a third year, she can’t wait to hear them sing. 

North Rowan Middle students Travis Berry, Emily Gaskey, Ashleigh Krecht, Domonek Wilder and Robert Coleman with some of the recycled material that will be incorporated into the piano.



— Jon C. Lakey photo



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Cocktail TIME

The art of the mint julep

Written by DEIRDRE PARKER SMITH

Photography by JON C. LAKEY

What to sip on your porch in the fine weather? Consider the merry month of May, and look no further than the mint julep.

The simplest concoction is bourbon, mint syrup and ice. If you have a silver julep cup, the experience will be enhanced by the cool metal, delicate beads of moisture forming on its sides as you sip your refreshing drink.

Of course, the mint julep has variations, and history, but one thing is sure — it will be served on Derby Day, the first Saturday in May.

According to Colonel Joe Nickell, who did an exhaustive search for julep history, collected in a tiny book called “The Kentucky Mint Julep,” the word julep has

Persian origins. “Gulab” meant, roughly, rosewater. The Arabic word is “julab;” in Spanish and Portuguese, “julepe.” “Julep” is French.

The word originally was used to describe medicine, or a syrup used to mix with medicine. The julep drink was considered a cordial, stimulating and invigorating. Perhaps at some point, the medicinal use served another purpose, mellowing rough whiskey.

Nickell says you must use spearmint for authentic flavor. The debate became whether to crush the mint leaves or simply bruise them.

Mint, once planted, tends to take over, particularly in North Carolina. More than one expert has advised planting mint in a container. One could dedicate a special planting just for the juleps.

Now, for the whiskey. It started out being made from barley or rye. Using corn makes it distinctly American. At the Kentucky Derby’s home, Churchill Downs,

■ FOOD

the clubhouse began serving mint juleps in 1875, perhaps because mint grew at the back of the building.

When serving mint juleps, you must:

- Serve the drink in a frosted silver or pewter cup, which frosts better than a glass.
- Thoroughly chill the cup before mixing by placing crushed or shaved ice in the cup and swirling around to chill.
- Use good Kentucky bourbon
- Use superfine sugar, which will dissolve faster and more thoroughly.

You may either muddle the mint with sugar and ice in a silver cup (do not touch the sides) and add 2 ounces of bourbon, or make a simple syrup of water, sugar and mint and pour over ice with 2 ounces of bourbon and a generous sprig of mint for garnish. The latter recipe suggests using a short straw so the aroma of the mint fills the nostrils.

This is a simple recipe from “The Bartender’s Bible.”

MINT JULEP

- 6 sprigs fresh mint
- 1 tsp. superfine sugar
- crushed ice
- 3 oz. bourbon

In the bottom of a glass or julep cup, muddle 4 sprigs of mint with a little water. Then smear the mint around to coat the inside of the glass with the syrup and discard the sprig. Fill the glass nearly full with crushed ice and pour the bourbon over it. Add a short straw and the 2 remaining mint sprigs.

KENTUCKY DERBY MINT JULEP

- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups water
- sprigs of fresh mint
- crushed ice
- Kentucky bourbon
- silver julep cups

Make a simple syrup by boiling sugar and water together for five or six minutes. Cool and place in a covered container with six or eight sprigs of fresh mint, then refrigerate overnight. Make one julep at a time by filling a julep cup with crushed ice, adding one tablespoon mint syrup and 2 ounces of Kentucky bourbon. Stir rapidly with a spoon to frost the outside of the cup. Garnish with a sprig of fresh mint.

PUNCHBOWL JULEP

- 4 dozen mint sprigs
- 4 oz. powdered sugar
- 1 cup cold water
- 2 bottles bourbon

Fill a large punchbowl with ice and fit a smaller bowl into a well in the ice. In the smaller bowl, muddle 3 dozen mint sprigs, sugar and water, then fill with crushed ice and pour bourbon over it. Garnish with remaining, broken mint. To serve, ladle up the mixture, catching some of the mint up and serve in a tall glass.

CHAMPAGNE JULEP

- 6 mint leaves
- 1 tsp. superfine sugar
- 2 oz. bourbon
- 4 oz. champagne

In a cocktail mixer, place four mint leaves, sugar and several drops of water. Muddle thoroughly and add bourbon, stirring well. Strain the mixture into a Collins glass, adding ice cubes and champagne. Garnish with remaining mint leaves. S

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Salisbury Civic Center

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Saturday, July 16, begins 8 a.m.

Knox Middle School

All proceeds benefit the Salisbury Greenway.

Movies in the Park

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June 10: Aladdin

June 24: Home

July 8: Penguins of Madagascar

July 22: The Good Dinosaur

August 5: Minions

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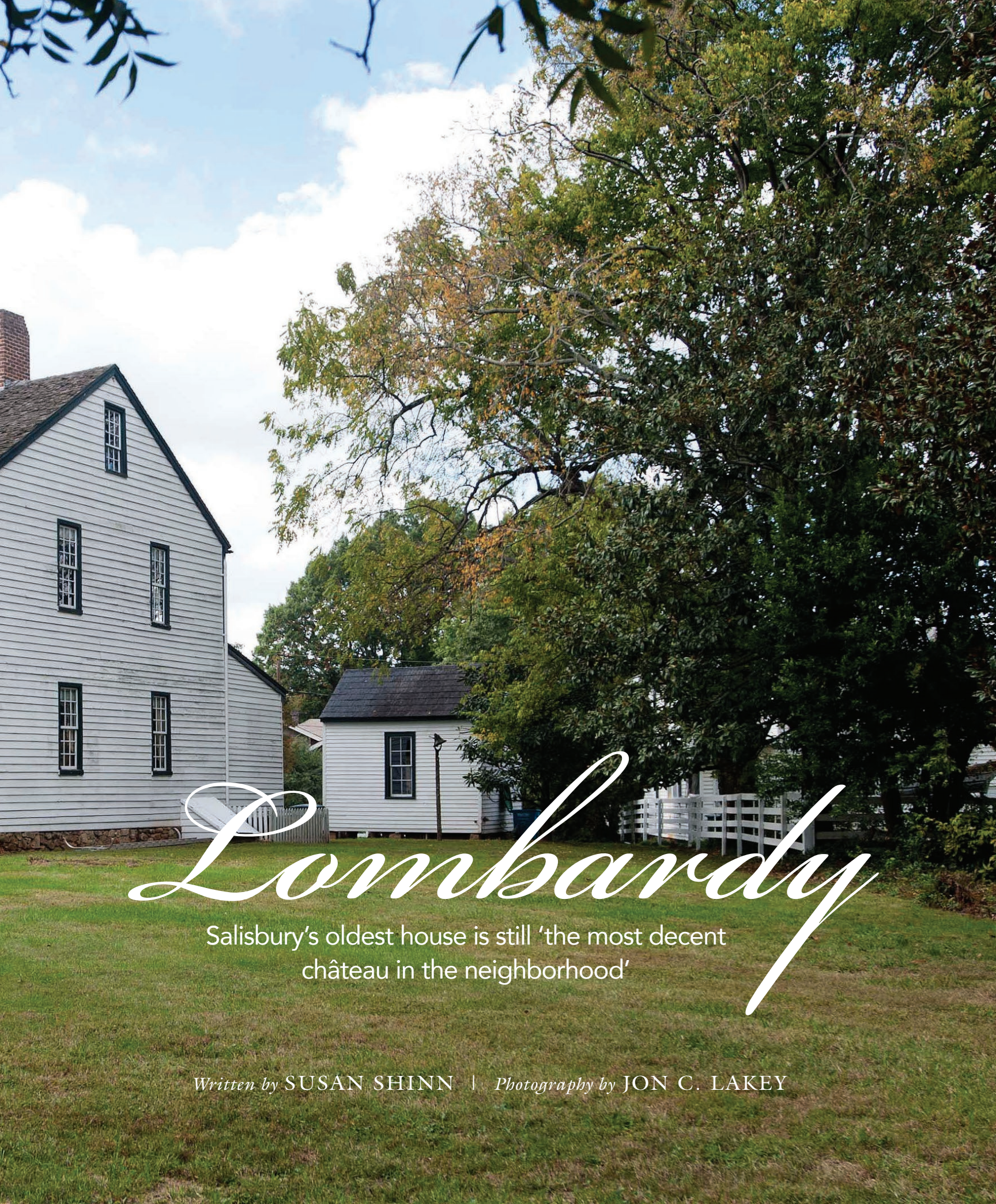
W. Fisher St. (at the mural)

FREE outdoor concert.

Bring a lawn chair.







Lombardy

Salisbury's oldest house is still 'the most decent
château in the neighborhood'

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



It's a beautiful spring morning at Lombardy. The sun is shining brightly on the gleaming white front porch, the birds are singing madly and the green grass is growing with gusto across the wide front lawn.

Lombardy was the home of John Steele, who was appointed by George Washington as comptroller of the U.S. Treasury Department, a position he also held under President John Adams and President Thomas Jefferson.

Lombardy, once situated on an 800-acre plantation, is Salisbury's oldest home, built in 1799 in the Federalist style of architecture, and occupying what was once the highest point on the property. Steele and other men who built

the young country envisioned it as a New Republic, fashioning their Federalist-style houses in the classical architecture of Greece and Rome. Steele's friend and neighbor, Maxwell Chambers, supervised the home's construction while Steele was busy serving in Philadelphia.

Lombardy is built in the side-hall plan and literally, you enter the home via its expansive side hall. Two large rooms occupy the first floor, the front parlor, and the back parlor, which

Previous: The John Steele House, also known as Lombardy, is a historic plantation home located in Salisbury. It was built between 1799 and 1801, and is a two-story, three bay, side-hall plan, Federal style frame dwelling. It has a side gable roof, one-story shed roof porch, and is sheathed with beaded weatherboards. The house was restored between 1977 and 1983. It was the home of North Carolina politician John Steele (1764-1815). It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994.

Above: The dining room of the John Steele House.

served as the dining room. Upstairs, there are three bedrooms or sleeping chambers, as they were called. A small room off Steele's bedroom may have been a study or library.

You might wonder how a house built in 1799 remains standing in 2016. That's thanks to Ed Clement, a lifelong Salisburian and well-known preservationist who for nearly 40 years has served as restorer and now caretaker of Lombardy. He's been involved with the property nearly half his life.

A wide smile breaks across his face when that fact is pointed out to him.

I hadn't thought about that," says Clement, now 83.



Lombardy was in sad shape the first time Clement visited. The year was 1977, the His-

toric Salisbury Foundation was in its infancy, and it was just coming into vogue to rehabilitate properties versus demolishing them.

James Brawley, a local historian, suspected that the home on Richard Street had at one time been Steele's home. So Brawley and Clement went out to do a little investigating.

Lombardy was unrecognizable. The wooden siding had been covered with stucco, and several additions had been added. Moreover, the stately home had been converted into four apartments, with 22 rooms in all.

"It had sorta hit rock bottom," Clement remembers.

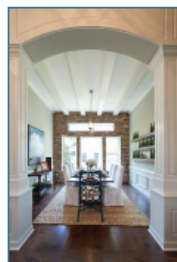
Clement and Brawley crawled up through a hatch into the attic space, and there they could

The chandelier in the hallway, illuminated by candlelight.



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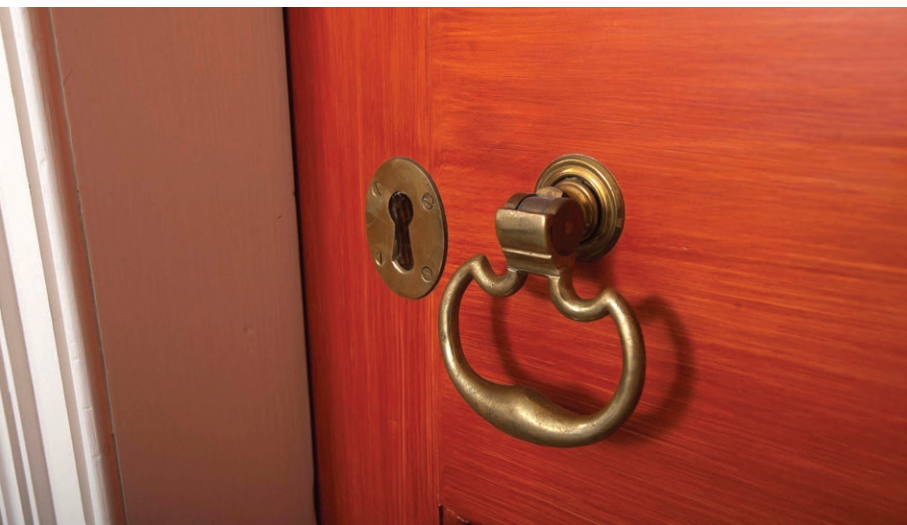
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Above: The front parlor. Top right: An American flag with 13 stars flies on the front porch. Above right: The staircase leading to the upper levels of Lombardy.



Opposite page: Clockwise from top: The master bedroom; the attic of Lombardy; old-style door pull and lock; two volumes holding the papers of John Steele.





make out the original footprint.

“We knew the original John Steele house was here, and we did want to preserve it,” Clement says.

Historic Salisbury Foundation had its hands full. Clement realized it was up to him.



Thus began a restoration that dominated Clement’s life for the next six years.

“The idea was to take it back to the John Steele house,” he says, “to do a period restoration, being as authentic as possible.”

Lombardy caretaker Edward Clement poses in the front parlor near the fireplace.

He had a lot of help.

“John Steele was a packrat,” Clement says. “He kept all his papers. He kept receipts for nails, for siding, for glass — for everything in this house.”

Steele’s papers had been sent to the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina. Some of the papers were lost, but most were saved. There was a wealth of

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information for Clement's purposes. So he went there to do research.

He also hired Charles Phillips, a well-known historic preservation architect who's worked in Charleston and Savannah, to come and "read the house."

Not only did he have help from Steele and Phillips, he had assistance from Frances Benjamin Johnston, an early photographer who documented Southern architecture during the 1930s. She had taken pictures at Lombardy before the apartments were installed.

Clement's sleuthing was starting to pay off.



Clement doesn't begrudge the transformation of Lombardy into apartment homes.

"All these veterans who were coming back from World War II had nowhere to live," he explains. "Large houses were turned into apartments. That happened in Salisbury right much."

The apartments were nice at first — but fell into decline over the years. And that's how Clement found Lombardy.

The fireplace in the master bedroom.



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■ AT HOME



Standing on the front porch, Clement gazes off into the distance, and points out the fact that the house isn't square with Richard Street. That's because the street wasn't here when the house was built. It once faced the old Wagon Road, which came down from Philadelphia, where Steele went about conducting the business of a brand-new government.

"There was a fence exactly like this," Clement says, gesturing to the handsome white fence that borders the street. "Steele wrote a letter in 1801 describing the fence, and I built it exactly as he described it."

The front yard once took up 2 acres. The entire property probably is not that amount today. Steele's property stood adjacent to

Chambers' property, a plantation called Spring Hill. That's why he felt comfortable asking Chambers to look after things while he was away.



While the bulk of the restoration was complete years ago, Clement points out that you never truly save a house — because there's always something to be done.

"We're at the point now where some of the wood is deteriorating, but the wood that was here in 1799 is not," he says. "It shows you the quality of the original trees, which were old-growth trees."

During the renovation process, the late Matt Flint spent two-and-a-half years completing the interior renovation. Flint liked

to think he was channeling John Langdon, the carpenter Steele brought down from Philadelphia to complete the interior work.

Spencer Thomason, a carpenter, and Sam Thomason, a painter, also made key contributions to the restoration, Clement adds.

He had paint analysis done to determine the original colors on the wall, which today are adorned in soft greens, pinks and grays — colors that wouldn't be out of place in modern homes.

On a visit in 1801, William Davie called Lombardy "the most decent chateau in the neighborhood."

Clement had a small kitchen built off the back of the house — kitchens in those days were completely detached because of the threat of fire — and he also added modern

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■ AT HOME

plumbing along with heat and air conditioning. So it would be possible, he says, to live in the house today.

But he also left touches to ensure that the house could be used as a museum. There are places that reveal the home's brickwork and wood. A set of pegs on the steps can be pulled away to show the old-growth wood that was used to make them.

The house was framed in March 1799, much like a barn raising. The receipt for dinner for 15 men was \$4. They also received two gallons of whiskey valued at \$1.80.

"We've got the receipts for that," Clement notes.

Of course he does.



Interestingly, Clement has never lived in the house. He and his wife, Nancy, who helps him give tours of Lombardy, live at his home place on Ellis Street. The house has been on tour several times over the years, and was a part of the 40th annual OctoberTour in 2015.

Clement isn't as much of a packrat as Steele, he says. He has never added up how much he has spent on the house.


"I'm afraid to total it up," he says. "I could go into a deep depression."

But then Clement smiles again.

"You don't value history in dollars," he says. "Maybe successive generations will ap-

preciate it. That's what gives me hope. It will be an asset to Salisbury in the future."

He's already planned for that future, to that moment he will no longer be standing on the front porch.

"It will be highly protected with preservation covenants," he says of Lombardy, "with a back-up plan that will monitor and defend those protective covenants, which will be very extensive. You've got to save a house, and you've got to protect it. That's what preservation does." 

Freelance writer Susan Shinn lives in Salisbury.



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SOUTHERN WRITER

Author John Hart at home with his characters and his land

Written by DEIRDRE PARKER SMITH | *Photography by* JON C. LAKEY



John Hart writes thrillers. His latest, “Redemption Road,” which comes out in May, includes intense scenes of frightening danger. People are tortured, people die. Children are hurt.

John loves the land. In Charlottesville, Va., he has a 31-acre farm of rolling hills, massive trees and history. Herds of deer run through his woods. Birds call from tree to tree.

Stop at a certain point on his driveway, and on a clear day you can see Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello. Look out his writing room window and you can see the 18th century home of President James Monroe.

John sits at a desk that looks a lot like a dining room table. The shelves in the room hold copies of his previous books, “King of Lies,” “Down River,” “The Last Child,” “Iron House.” Several shelves hold some of the foreign language editions of his books — in Russian, Japanese, Arabic, French.

An old leather couch gives him a good place to nap. His desk chair faces the couch, so his back is to the two large windows that show a vista of hills and trees.

“Facing the window would be too distracting,” he says. “So I write for a while, then I give myself a break. I turn around, put my feet up on the windowsill and look

people.



out.” He’s thinking of what happens next, he says, plotting. On this day, with his two Edgar Allan Poe busts from back-to-back Edgar Awards above the window, he looks happy and relaxed.

Dressed in cowboy boots, jeans with a tear at the knee and a white Oxford shirt and blue tie, topped by a soft leather jacket, John looks like a country squire. Sit him in his huge black pickup with Tom, his 11-year-old lab, and he becomes a character himself.

With the new book tour about to start, he’s happy to spend a day showing his world to folks from back home, Salisbury, where he grew up, a place that was the setting for his first two books.

The only structures on the farm now, besides a lot of dark wooden fencing, are a small barn for a horse, which oldest daughter Saylor rides and jumps with during the summer, and a low shed holding a big John Deere tractor and a Gator. This is where he expanded a storage room into his office.

“I was so wrapped up in the last book and the one I’m working on now, we had to put the house plans on hold.” The Harts live in a two-story brick home in the other end of a gated development, for now. He and wife, Katie, and daughters Saylor and Sophie have plans for a house about midway up the long drive to the top of the hill. Maybe when he finishes the next book, they can devote time to getting it built.

John was able to get his farm because Neal Sansovich, who once lived in Salis-



Author John Hart gets some attention from Tom, his 11-year-old Labrador retriever. Right: Hart poses with his daughter Saylor during a portrait setting at his farm near Charlottesville. Below right: A framed and matted dust cover of one of his novels hangs on the wall of his office.



bury, bought into a deal after the most recent downturn. He knew John wanted property near Charlottesville. Around his farm are other farms. No further development will take place.

“I believe there are two kinds of people — those who appreciate the land and those who don’t,” Hart says.

Running through his property is an old roadbed that was used to transport slate to build Monticello. “Monroe and Jefferson were right here! It’s hard to imagine a place with so much history.”

It doesn’t seem a stretch to call this the “Hartland.”

He’s taking time off today from working on his next



people.



novel, a sequel to “The Last Child,” a book that resonated deeply with many of his readers. It features Johnny Merrimon, a boy hurt by depression, neglect and grief, obsessed with the loss of his twin sister. Desperate to find an identity, he studies Indian lore and drives himself to find out what really happened to his sister. He has lost all faith in those who should love him.

“I’m so excited about the new book. It’s unlike anything I’ve done before,” John says.

“Redemption Road” was a long time coming, five years of frustration. He calls his writing method “hope and grope,” having an idea and hoping it will work out. The first draft of his fifth book was a dud, and he knew it, although he’d spent a lot of time on it. A friend read it and told him the truth — try again.





Hart can look out the window of his office and see the home of President James Monroe near Charlottesville.

So he did, and he changed his protagonist from Adrian, a cop convicted of murder, to Liz, a police detective who's lived through her own horrors. Liz is determined to show that Adrian is innocent, but obstacles thwart all her efforts. That's what fills the book — shocking confrontations, well-intentioned lies, near-blind determination and a strong sense of duty and love. Children who have been damaged and need unconditional love are key to the story.

“Redemption Road” contains terrifying scenes and instances of torture, as did “Iron House.”

John laughs about using torture in back-to-back books, but defends it. “If a story calls for something, I write it. I start writing and things happen.” Adrian has to have some deep motivation for what makes him who he is. “He can't just be a straight guy. Something has to make a person desperate” to act the way a thriller character needs to. “I can't be reticent about that in a crime novel.”

John sets hard tasks for himself. His main character in “King of Lies” starts out as a “weak, broken person.” He earns redemption by the novel's end.

In “Down River,” his protagonist is tried for murder and found not guilty, but he must fight his way back to his family and home.

“The Last Child” is “an adult thriller with a child as the engine that drives the book. ... That was a big risk.”

In “Iron House,” a hired killer is the hero. “I had to make him sympathetic.”

“Doing a female character seemed like a natural progression.”

All of John's heroes have suffered deeply through events beyond their control. Things are done to them, and it's what the character makes of his or her life after that that drives the stories. John has a strong sympathetic core. His books put people in deadly danger, but he gives them



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John Hart and his daughter Saylor take a ride around the farm in a utility vehicle.

“Facing the window would be too distracting. So I write for a while, then I give myself a break. I turn around, put my feet up on the windowsill and look out.”

the skills and strengths to get themselves out and above or beyond what hurt them.

He glows at compliments given by other writers. That means a lot. He likes to have “Southern writer” as an adjective to his name, “because the South means something. It stands for a lot.” He says the label joins him with a “long, glorious tradition.” His early books were called *Southern Gothic*, another label he likes.

He calls “Redemption Road” character Adrian, “a sort of Count of Monte Cristo meets Jack Reacher, a good man in a bad situation.”

With his new, high-powered agent who also represents the likes of Patricia Cornwell and Steve Martin, “Redemption Road” is his publisher’s top title for the season. And if someone wants movie rights to “The Last Child” sequel, John will insist on being a producer to give him more flexibility with characters he wants to hold on to.

When daughter Saylor, 15, shows up at the farm, he’s Dad. He says things like, “you’d better ask Mom about that.” His serenity shows off in his easy smile and comfort at being in nature, his mind full of possibilities. **S**



Haas driver Esteban Gutierrez of Mexico steers his car in pit lane during the third practice session at the Australian Formula One Grand Prix at Albert Park in Melbourne, Australia, on Saturday, March 19.

— Associated Press photo

A background image of a Formula 1 race track. In the foreground, the rear section of a white and red Formula 1 car is visible, including the rear wing and a black tire with yellow accents. A person in a white shirt and blue tie is partially visible in the background, standing near a metal barrier. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

GLOBE- TROTTING

A Formula 1 racing team in Kannapolis?
Haas tackles one of the world's
most popular sports

Written by LEN CLARK



A Almost three decades ago, Gene Haas was not thinking global marketing; in 1978 he'd just opened a tiny machine shop and hired two employees. Today, the still privately owned company boasts well over \$1 billion in revenues and is one of the top machine tool specialists in the world.

A few years along his successful path, Haas decided a little NASCAR exposure could help promote his company's products so he sponsored Hendrick Motorsports. That worked well, so Gene took a major step and in 2002 formed his own "Haas CNC" racing team.

Thirty Sprint Cup Series victories later, the now-named Stewart-Haas Racing (NASCAR star Tony Stewart took a substantial interest in 2009) is one of the most successful

NASCAR teams, and Haas Automation Inc. is known to every single person in the United States whoever showed the slightest interest in a precision machine tool.

NASCAR however, despite its immense popularity at home, is not a worldwide sport. To reach potential customers in all corners of the world, who understand and may need sophisticated, computerized, numerically controlled (CNC) machine tools, Haas figured Formula 1 racing was the place to be.

The most complicated, high precision, computerized sport in the world, F1 is one of the world's most popular sports. Each race is watched by over 400 million TV viewers in 200 countries. That's not a bad reach for an advertiser.

Assembling a Formula 1 team is not for the faint of heart. Bernie Ecclestone, chief executive of the Formula 1 governing body and patriarch of all things F1, estimates a new F1 team can burn through a billion dollars in its first four years.

Out of dozens of interested groups, only four new teams have actually made it to the circuit in recent years and three of those are already out of business. Needless to say, Ecclestone's response to another team enquiry was lukewarm at best.

Gene Haas was undoubtedly under-



Above: Team owner Gene Haas. Opposite: Haas F1 Team's new Kannapolis headquarters.

— True Speed PR photo

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Haas F1 drivers Romain Grosjean, left, and Esteban Gutierrez.

Haas driver Romain Grosjean of France steers his car during the Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix at Albert Park in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, March 20, 2016. He went on to finish in sixth position.

— Associated Press photo



estimated by Ecclestone. Never one to do something by small measures, Gene created “Haas F1 Team,” first hiring Guenther Steiner (who had built NASCAR Team Red Bull from zero) as team principal.

Next to their Stewart-Haas headquarters in Kannapolis, they built the F1 HQ to house administration, marketing, research and a machine shop. Haas forged a partnership with Ferrari, hired some of the most experienced people in F1 and purchased a 40,000-square-foot facility in Banbury, England.





Haas opted not to compete in the 2015 F1 season and was still up against the clock to produce a Grand Prix-ready car by the start of the 2016 season’s official practice.

The Haas team uses nine 45-foot trucks hauling 30 tons of equipment to prepare for every Grand Prix.

This February saw the various divisions of the organization from Kannapolis and Banbury converge on Varano De’ Melegari, Italy, at the Dallara Chassis Construction plant; many of Haas’ 100-plus employees meeting for the first time.

The team worked around the clock to

build the first Haas F1 car. To put this in perspective, less than a month before preseason testing in Barcelona and six weeks before the Australian Grand Prix, all Haas’ various component blueprints were thrown in a figurative pile, designs were finalized, parts were manufactured, virtual testing performed, a car was built, livery painted

 	Races	Teams	Drivers	Top speed	Engine	Horsepower
	36	19	42	210	5.86L V8	850
 	21	11	22	225	1.6L turbo V6	600 (760 with energy recovery system)



and an engine cranked for the first time.

It is indeed a testament to the organizational skills of the Haas F1 team — no doubt with 15 years of NASCAR experience behind the owner — that the team not only delivered a car to the Barcelona Catalunya circuit, but recorded mid-table times.

The first American Formula 1 team in 30 years, after two years of preparation leading to a final month of inspired, inconceivable frenzy, raced its first Grand Prix in Melbourne, Australia, on March 20, 2016. Haas driver Esteban Gutierrez was unlucky to be nudged by Fernando Alonso's McLaren car on lap 17. Gutierrez and his car,

although forced out of the race, were both unscathed. Alonso miraculously crawled out of a pile of vehicular rubble with nothing more than a limp.

To compare durability, F1 to NASCAR, if Alonso had hit Gutierrez while they were driving a couple of Sprint Cup stock cars, Esteban would have figured he'd just been

Max RPM	Pit stop time	Car weight	Max G-force	Circuits	Top attend. per weekend*	Average TV viewership*	Revenue per season*	Haas 2016 team budget
9,000	11 sec.	3,300 lbs	2g	Oval 0.526 to 2.66 miles, counter-clockwise only	200,000 Daytona	6 million	\$3 billion	\$100 million
15,000	3 sec.	1,548 lbs	5g	Road course Multiple left and right turns, 2.1 to 4.3 miles	300,000 Australia	400 million	\$1.8 billion	\$100 million

* Based on available estimates



An employee works on a Haas CNC milling machine at the new Kannapolis headquarters.

— True Speed PR photo

The Haas car is named the VF-16 in honor of the first CNC machine manufactured by Haas Automation in 1988, the VF-1. ‘V’ for vertical, an industry standard for a vertical mill. Gene added ‘F1’ to informally nickname it the company’s “Very First One.” How prophetic 28 years later.

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slugged by an errant no-see-um. In F1, rarely can two cars bump and grind more than once.

Romain Grosjean, the other Haas driver, experienced a different afternoon. He finished the 57-lap race in sixth place and earned eight points. Not too exciting you may say, but it is almost unheard of for a new team to earn points during their first season, let alone their first race, especially bearing in mind the car was non-existent a mere six weeks prior.

As the race started, Gene Haas told a reporter he would be happy just to finish. Social media lit up after the checkered flag with hundreds of compliments, including many from NA-SCAR drivers who obviously appreciated the magnitude of the accomplishment.

Grosjean on his post-race lap to the pits — his voice cracking with emotion — shouted over the radio, “This is a win for us! A win for us! Unbelievable!” He was so happy he did not even know for sure in what position he had finished.

Can F1 ever compete with NASCAR for U.S. fan support? Does it fall in a similar category to soccer — a sport loved by

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Haas F1 drivers Romain Grosjean and Esteban Gutierrez pose with car for media at the Barcelona Catalunya circuit.

— True Speed PR photo



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the entire world but a distant fourth place to the big three ball games in the USA?

The new Haas team follows in the tire tracks of the country's first purpose-built Formula 1 venue: Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas. The three year-old, 20-turn, 3.4-mile road course hosts the United States Grand Prix, the 18th event of the 21-race (21 countries, five continents) 2016 F1 schedule. Perhaps a successful Haas first season will establish the sport as a NASCAR contender.

Be it ball games or brmm brmm games, a sport's appeal may simply depend on personal experience, what you grow up watching. I was fortunate enough to fly in to the 1976 British Grand Prix in a helicopter, landing in center field and bypassing the thousands of fans jamming the narrow country roads around the Brands Hatch circuit. The 2013 movie "Rush" was based on the extraordinary F1 events of that year.

I watched Mario Andretti win the championship in 1978 at Watkins Glen in New York State, shortly before the track was excluded from the Grands Prix roster — not least because Hells Angels blew up cars in the parking lot during the race and the

Of the eleven international F1 teams, eight have European headquarters within a few miles of the Silverstone Grand Prix race-track in England. The area lays claim to over 3,000 motorsports companies and close to 40,000 workers, all because of World War II. Silverstone was a WWII airfield and aircraft manufacturing site. Post-war aerospace engineers, with no planes to build and seeing few vehicles still in one piece, built cars to race on the many adjacent airfields, which subsequently became race tracks. Eighty percent of the world's high-performance engineers now live in the area.

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crowd cheered every explosion, not knowing if it was their own car from one blast to the next.

There are probably equally bizarre tales in NASCAR.

Moonshine chases or WWII airfields, there is a rich history in motorsports — and nothing like the smell of burning rubber and the roar of the crowd. Formula 1 in Kannapolis? It's a big deal. **S**

Len Clark is project manager for Salisbury the Magazine.

Left and opposite: Haas F1's first test day at the Barcelona Catalunya circuit.

— True Speed PR photos

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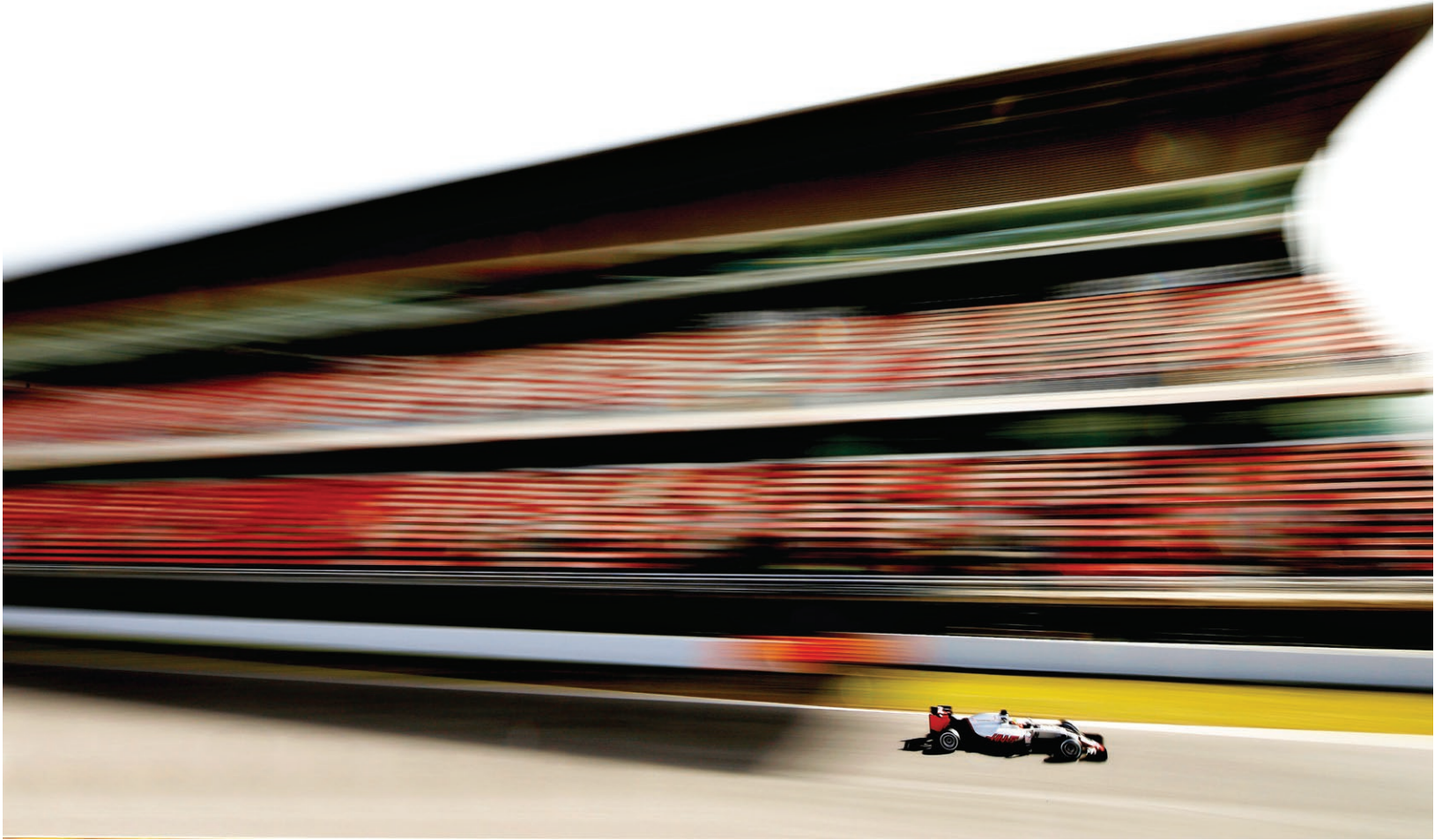
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A group of women are participating in a yoga class. They are all in a similar pose, with their arms raised high above their heads. The woman in the foreground is wearing a black halter-neck top and black leggings. She has a focused expression. Other women in the background are wearing various colored tops (black, pink, purple) and are also in the same pose. The setting appears to be a fitness center with a drop ceiling and a large fan visible in the background.

Emily Ford teaches a
"Slow Flow Yoga" class
at The Forum fitness
center in Salisbury on
Monday evenings from
6:30-7:30.

Quite a Stretch

Many people find their answers in yoga

Written by AMANDA RAYMOND | Photography by ALLISON LEE ISLEY

I am in a dim room with purple neon lights lining the ceiling of the room.

My hands are at the top of my purple mat, my toes are at the bottom and my bottom is in the air. I was the last one to get to Emily Ford's yoga class at The Forum fitness center, so I have my mat a little too close to the woman in front of me.

I feel awkward.

My arms are shaking, and I have to let my knees touch the ground every couple seconds to give them a break. I had done yoga once or twice before, but this was my first time doing it in a class setting.

Compared to some of the expert-looking members of this class, I am not doing well.



Candice Colbert felt kind of like I did when she and her roommate tried yoga for the first time in college.

Colbert, now a registered nurse with a son, said she and her friend spent the whole time falling over.



Candice Colbert practices yoga in Salisbury's Hurley Park.

■ WELLNESS



Gail Poulton and her students take advantage of a warm sunny day and have their yoga class outside at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College.



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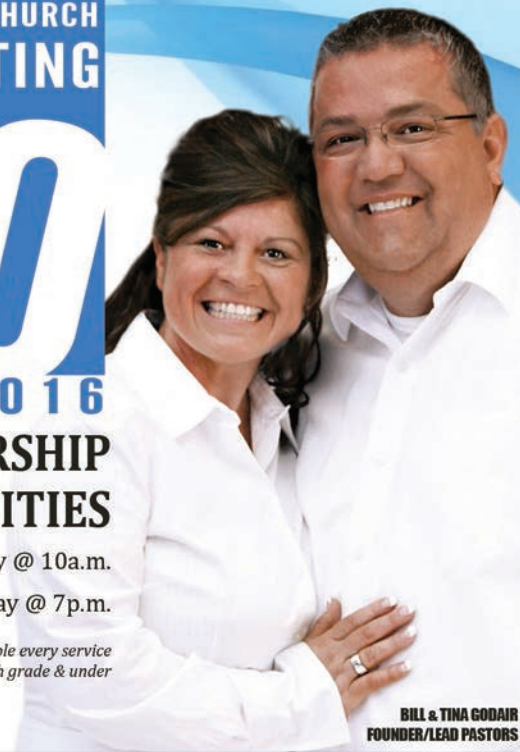
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“We were like, ‘What in the world? Our arms are going to break,’” she said.

Colbert said the stretching and flow of the yoga went with her dancing background, so she kept at it. She found videos online and practiced on her own at home.

And then about 10 years ago, she started going to classes again.

“I have to go twice a week,” she said. “If not, I’m cranky.”

According to a study done by the Yoga Journal and Yoga Alliance, there are 36.7

million yoga practitioners like Colbert in the U.S., which was an 80 percent increase since 2012. Eighty million Americans will probably try yoga this year.

Needless to say, yoga has gotten pretty popular.



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■ WELLNESS



According to a Yoga Journal article from 2014, an Indian named Patanjali is believed to have organized the practice of yoga into

Bea Hall and others participate in an hour-long "Stretch and Tone" yoga class taught by Gail Poulton on Thursday mornings at the J. F. Hurley YMCA.

the "Yoga Sutra" about 2,000 years ago. The Sutra is a collection of 195 statements that most today use as a philosophical guidebook for the practice.

There are eight limbs, or steps, of yoga; people who just practice the postures of yoga are in the third stage, asana.

The different yoga poses span from downward facing dog, to laughing baby to mountain. Each comes with its own stretching,

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twisting or balancing. And yogis are told to breathe deeply the whole time.

Yoga is not a religion, but it is not just contorting the body into pretzel-like shapes, either.

Emily Ford, who is a registered yoga teacher and leads classes at The Forum and the J.F. Hurley YMCA, said yoga is about accepting yourself, learning to be compassionate, being nonjudgmental and letting go of an impossible standard of perfection.

“To me, it really is about letting go of this unattainable standard of perfection that we hold ourselves to and just be willing to embrace yourself as you are,” she said.

Ford said she was in back pain from an injury for 10 years before she finally tried

yoga. She was hooked after one class.

“By the end of the class I just had this feeling of bliss,” she said. “I describe it as, almost like an ... invigorated relaxation.”

Science has proven yoga's health benefits. The American Osteopathic Association says yogis can experience less chronic pain, lower blood pressure, increased flexibility, increased muscle strength and tone, weight reduction, improved respiration and the list goes on.

The meditation and breathing techniques that come along with yoga have mental health benefits, too. The Mayo Clinic said yoga can help with stress management, relaxation and anxiety.

For Candice Colbert, yoga not only

helped with her back pain, but it also gave her inner peace.

“You have that time for yourself so you can meditate on things that you need to do for yourself. It's just you and your Creator,” she said.



I did not feel that peace at the beginning of my first yoga class. The effects only really started to sink in when I looked at some of the people behind me.

Those people were modifying – not lifting their legs as high, not twisting as far, not bending as low. And that was OK. Ford kept telling the class to do what felt right for us. If we had to touch the wall to keep

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■ WELLNESS

our balance, that was OK. If we had to step out of a pose for a few seconds, that was all right, too. Just keep breathing in and keep breathing out.

I allowed myself to start focusing on the experience I was having with my body. I found that there were some poses I was good at, and others I was not. Either way, it was OK.



Yoga demands concentration on getting the body into the positions and focus on breathing. Those are skills that can be used outside of the yoga studio.

Gail Poulton is another yoga teacher

in the area. She teaches classes at the Y, Ruffy-Holmes Senior Center and at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College.

“Yoga is a mindfulness practice. It’s a mindfulness exercise,” she said. “While you’re doing it ... you are consciously connecting your brain and your body.”

Poulton said different people can find yoga useful for different reasons.

Leilani Annand, a stay-at-home mom with two children, also started doing yoga in college. She said yoga helped her deal with her anxiety problems.

“It’s really about your breath and working through difficult situations, either physically or emotionally and finding your

edge, the point where you’re no longer comfortable, and really breathing through that moment with strength and some amount of grace,” she said.

Pat Murtaugh has been practicing yoga on and off for the last 50 years. Along with other exercises, she said yoga has helped her with balance and physical strength, but it has also helped her through her husband’s and son’s deployments to Iraq.

“Yoga has helped me with some crises in my life, physical and mental crises,” she said.

People are not just getting into yoga when they are young; Poulton’s chair yoga class is full of people in their 70s who



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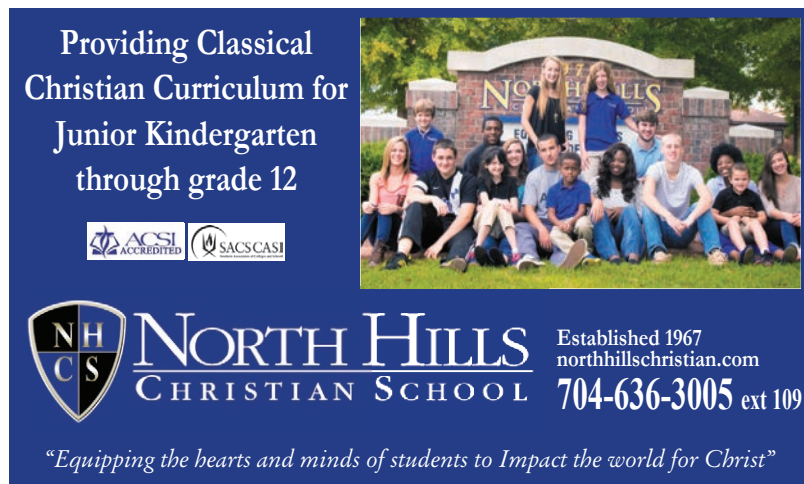
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started their yoga journey as they grew older.

Bea Hall started doing yoga at 70. Yoga, along with other exercises, saved her life after she fell down an escalator during a trip to Rome.

“I went airborne from one side of the escalator all the way to the bottom,” she recalled.

She sustained “massive injuries” and if it was not for the great physical shape she was in, it would have been worse.

“I would have been a mess of broken bones,” she said.

There is also a social aspect to yoga.

“I do it for the camaraderie, to meet

people and get out and be social,” said Patty Yost, another one of Poulton’s students.

Many yogis in the area practiced under Anne Waters at the Blue Eew yoga studio in Spencer, but that studio is closed. Classes are offered at The Forum, the Y, RCCC and some even travel to the Lotus Living Arts Studio in Concord.



For the last five minutes of the class, Ford tells us to lie down on our backs with our palms up. She told us to let our feet fall outward and close our eyes. She shut off the lights in the room and turned up the music. She called it the corpse pose, which I found

weird but was way too absorbed in the class by then to care.

Ford said all of the poses in the class are preparation for the corpse pose. Those last five minutes of lying perfectly still are difficult for some people. Some fidget and open their eyes. Some even leave.

As I was lying there, I realized I was not thinking about work or what I was going to cook for dinner when I got home. I was not stressing about the next day or counting the mistakes I made the previous day. I was lying on a mat, in that room. At some point, it seemed like I was the only one in the room.

I felt at peace.

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Less than one month into her adventure with a new job and as a single girl in New York City Kristina Williams met Michael Byars and her big plans for life in the big city were rearranged. Going out on five dates in the first seven days of their meeting the couple quickly realized they were on a life journey together.

When Michael's job with the National Football League meant a transfer to Arizona Kristina happily went along. After being suitted into their new life for about a month Michael mentioned that the couple should take advantage of the beautiful North Carolina weather to explore the beauty of their colorful new natural surrounds. The couple set out on a hike and found the perfect spot to enjoy a picnic they prepared together. It was there that Michael knelt and presented Kristina with a ring he had commissioned from a New York-based jeweler and for which he had selected the center stone himself. "I have no idea what she said and she doesn't either because we were so nervous," Call says. "Of course I said 'yes' and we were on cloud nine." Following their hike, another surprise awaited. Michael had arranged to have each of the couple's parents fly into North Carolina where everyone celebrated the occasion with a more lavish picnic of champagne and caviar. From there, the couple began making plans for a wedding filled with exquisite beauty abiding love, and lots of fun surprises.

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One-Page Announcement

one vertical photo
two horizontal photos
450-500 words

\$499*

*also includes a FREE 2x6 ad in the Salisbury Post on our Sunday Celebrations page and 3 complimentary issues of SALISBURY the magazine!

Two-Page Announcement

two vertical photos
four horizontal photos
950-1,000 words

\$949*

*also includes a FREE 3x8 ad in the Salisbury Post on our Sunday Celebrations page and 6 complimentary issues of SALISBURY the magazine!

For more information, call 704-797-4220

TIPS: We can use images from CD, DVD, USB drive or by email: celebrations@salisburypost.com. Files should be a minimum of 300 dpi. Do not scan; please get digital files from your photographer. Write-ups that are too long will be edited at our discretion, so it's best to stay within the word count. Double-check all name spellings. Remember, our format requires the exact number and orientation of photos as shown above.



Smith & Moller

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH • SALISBURY • DREA' PHOTO ARTISTRY

Nancy Thompson Smith and Hans Stig Moller were united in marriage on October 24, 2015, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Salisbury. The Reverends Carl Ronald Sachtleben and Donald Rhodes Woolly officiated the four o'clock p.m. ceremony. The bride's parents hosted a reception immediately following the ceremony at Boxwood Estate.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Durwood Coltrain and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Eugene Smith, all of Salisbury. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cohen Wallace of Salisbury, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Eugene Smith, of Millbridge. Nancy is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Vanderbilt University with a Master of Business degree. She is a Vice President in the Business Consulting Group at Wells Fargo Securities.

The groom is the son of Mrs. Rita Stig Moller and the late Mr. Bent Stig Moller of San Diego, Calif. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jens Hollaender and the late Mr. and Mrs. Stig Moller, all of Copenhagen, Denmark. Hans is a graduate of the University of Southern California with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. He is President at XPO Logistics, Inc.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Mrs. Dana Freda Upchurch of Charlotte, served as matron of honor. The brother of the groom, Mr. Jens Stig Moller of Chicago, Ill., was best man. Miss Catherine Holt Upchurch and Master Malone Parham Bratton, godchildren of the bride, served as flower girl and ring bearer.

Mr. Thomas Hartin Boyd, Jr. of The Hague, Netherlands and Dr. Charles Thompson Upchurch of Charlotte, were readers.

Miss Isabella Inger Moller of Little Rock, Ark. and Mr. Christian Stig Moller of Bloomington, Ind., niece and nephew of the groom, served as greeters.

Mr. Kim Amby Andersen of San Diego, Calif., Mr. Jorn Simonsen of Greenwich, Conn., Mr. Wallace Thurston Upchurch of Atlanta, Ga., and Dr. Charles Thompson Upchurch were ushers.

Music was provided by Mr. Robert Durocher, Minister of Music, Mrs. Rosemary Kinard, Soloist and Pianist, Mr. Kevin Agner, Cellist, Mr. Christopher Fensom, Trumpeter, and Mr. Greg Pannell, Violinist.

Following a honeymoon to New Zealand and the French Polynesian Islands, the couple will reside in Charlotte.



The white caps

Recalling the starched uniforms, polished shoes, long shifts
at Rowan Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing

Written by MARK WINEKA | Photography by ALLISON LEE ISLEY

Peggy Parker Rouzer tries to get some of her friends from the Class of 1962 together every three months or so. She laughs, confessing they usually meet at O'Charley's on those days the restaurant offers free pie.

But on this particular day, Rouzer, Joyce Brown and Elizabeth Withers Smith are gathering at Peggy's house in Salisbury, and on her dining room table, they have spread out yearbooks, newspaper stories, photographs and a few "artifacts" from their days as nursing students at the Rowan Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

A pin. A half stripe. A teapot. A navy blue nurse's cape. A white cap. They all hold such meaning and memories.

The women wouldn't trade those three



Above: A photograph of Rowan Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing. **Opposite:** Joyce Brown places Peggy Rouzer's nursing cap on her head. Rouzer is also wearing her nurse's cape.

years in the School of Nursing for anything, but Brown says they were filled with a lot of blood, sweat and tears. "It was demanding, there wasn't any slack," Smith adds.

The School of Nursing at Rowan Memorial Hospital graduated its last class in 1972.

In Salisbury, the roots of a hospital-based nursing school went back to the Whitehead-Stokes Hospital, where a three-year diploma program opened in 1903. The first class graduated in 1907, and until 1928, Ella Price Smith served as director.

Mabel K. Graham followed Smith from 1929 to 1935, when the school closed. The School of Nursing was reborn at Rowan Memorial Hospital on Dec. 28, 1944, beginning an almost 28-year run.

The Class of 1962 started with 13

■ REMINISCE

women and ended up graduating nine. Rouzer, Brown and Smith say the choices for women and professional careers at the time seemed mostly limited to secretaries, teachers or nurses.

Rouzer grew up in Winston-Salem; Brown and Smith were from Spencer and friends since the first grade.

The young women, just out of high school, entered a tough, regimented world as nursing students. They couldn't be married, and they had to live in the dormitory, which stood at the corner of Confederate Avenue and Henderson Street. Classes were held in the basement.

The rules said they had to be in their rooms or in the library by 8 p.m. on weekdays, 11 p.m. on weekends. A house mother, Stella Cochran, made nightly bed checks.

The first six weeks of school, the nursing students couldn't go home, "even though I lived three or four miles down the road," Brown says. The students were allowed two off-campus, overnight stays a month once they were settled in. Signing in and signing out had to be witnessed by the house mother.

If the women had any male visitors, the couples were required to meet in the parlor. The students ate their meals at the hospital cafeteria, and their rooms were subject to inspections by the hospital's head of house-keeping.

"You just prayed she didn't open the closet door," Brown says.

At the hospital, the students were expected to be in caps and uniforms at all times. The uniforms were so starched, Smith says, her neck would bleed. "All I see is pain when I look at those uniforms," she adds, paging through a yearbook.

The women polished their white shoes every night and wore full-length white hose.



"Now they wear what looks like pajamas," one of the women complains.

The students attended the school year-round. Their tuition was \$385, and the hospital provided their room and board. The nursing disciplines covered over three years included obstetrics, pediatrics, emergency room, medical service, surgical service, operating room, recovery room, X-ray and psychiatry. To get their required hours in pediatrics, the students spent three months at Asheville Mission Hospital; for psychiatric training, Torrance State Hospital in Pennsylvania.

By the time they were juniors and seniors, the women were working full night shifts, from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. "It was a lot of responsibility but, you know, we were good," Smith says.

Early into their education, the uniformed students would head over to the hospital in the morning, take vital signs, give baths, then go back to the dormitory for classes, usually taught by Catawba College professors. Brown credits the quality of

the instructors for giving the women "an unusually good education."

Beyond the classroom, the students started right in with basic nursing care: bathing patients, cleaning out bed pans, taking temperatures, checking blood pressures and giving shots.

"I can still hear my syringe rattling on my tray," Rouzer says, remembering the nervousness in administering her first shot. Her patient was a 15-year-old boy who needed a shot of penicillin in his buttocks. "It went all right, I guess," Rouzer says. "He didn't

die, and he didn't kick me."

In those days, the hospital had four-bed wards and even a seven-bed ward. Smith recalls seven women in the ward one day, and six of them were dipping snuff. "I thought that was going to be the undoing of me," Smith says. "There are some things you just don't forget."

Back then, you could smoke in the hospital, too, and plenty of doctors did. The women can still picture Dr. Harvey Robertson smoking a cigar as he walked down the

Joyce Brown, Peggy Rouzer and Elizabeth Smith look through pictures of Rowan Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing, where they were members of the Class of 1962.



halls, or bringing his hunting dogs into the emergency room for treatment.

Almira Ockerman served as director of nursing services and nursing education when Rouzer, Brown and Smith were in school. She was no-nonsense, ramrod straight, but fair. “I learned to appreciate that, especially when she was giving me down the whatever,” Smith says.

Rachel Suggs, who was director by the time the school closed, was the assistant director of nursing then, and one of the women’s chief instructors was Relina Humphrey. “She was a human being,” Smith says. “She was in your corner.”

The doctors the student nurses worked with were fantastic, Rouzer says. When they tick off some of the physicians’ names, it sounds like a *Who’s Who* in local medical history: Drs. Frank Marsh, Roy Agner, Kyle Black, Trent and George Busby, Norris Erb, Hilda Bailey, Elizabeth Lombard, Joe Oliver, J.T. Dameron, Jay Smith and Lynch Murphy.

You knew how far along the nursing students were in their training by looking at their white caps. They started with plain caps, received half stripes, then as seniors,

full stripes. “I think the most satisfying thing to me was when we got our caps with the total stripe,” Rouzer says.

The Class of 1962 had its graduation ceremony at First United Church of Christ. Class mascots were Brenda Grubb, little sister of student Barbara Grubb, and Darrell Brown, Joyce’s 4-year-old brother. The graduates, in addition to Rouzer, Brown and Smith, were Linda Whitt (deceased), Violet Smith, Mary Ann Hall, Sara Moose (deceased), Barbara Grubb and Carolyn Mason (deceased).

On graduation day, Rouzer recalls as an act of rebellion how all the women agreed to wear red slips. “You could see them through the student uniform,” Rouzer says. “Miss Ockerman did not think it was funny. Neither did Miss Suggs.”

The women took their state board examinations in Raleigh in August, the same month they graduated. The examination, divided into eight sections, took two long days to complete. Smith tallied 790 out of a possible 800 points on the exam — the best score in North Carolina.

Rouzer, Brown and Smith went on to forge long careers in nursing and the medi-

cal field in general.

Rouzer first worked as an operating room nurse at City Hospital in Winston-Salem, a position Brown took when Peggy returned to Salisbury. They remember the biweekly pay was \$285 at Rowan Memorial Hospital, compared to \$320 in Winston-Salem.

Rouzer would become a doctor’s office nurse, raise five children, and at age 49, she went back to school, earning her bachelor’s degree from Wingate University. She then became the employee health nurse for Rowan Memorial Hospital until her retirement.

Brown later worked for a year on a hospital ship, then for several years on a Navajo reservation in Arizona. She eventually returned to Winston-Salem, where she worked at the Medical Park Hospital for 35 years, retiring in 2009.

Smith didn’t want to stick around in Salisbury or at Rowan Memorial Hospital after graduation. “I was so bullheaded,” she says. “I wanted to go someplace.”

Someplace turned out to be a year’s stint at Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. She returned to Rowan Memorial about a year later, and became a head nurse. She also would work at the VA hospital in Salisbury, as a public health nurse, supervisor for the N.C. Division of Services for the Blind, consultant for the N.C. Department of Public Instruction and a staff nurse for the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Md.

The women agree they saw a lot of return for their three-year investment at Rowan Memorial’s School of Nursing.

They eventually close their “White Cap” yearbooks and start packing for home. Before they leave, Rouzer remarks how fun it was to reminisce, and she pleads for Brown and Smith to take some cookies with them.

When you can’t have free pie, cookies will do. S

May 2016

Upcoming events in Salisbury-Rowan

MAY 1

Buck Hurley Triathlon

• *Hurley Family YMCA, Salisbury*

7:30 a.m. Visit salisburyrowanrunners.org for details.

MAY 5-14

'A Time To Kill'

• *Meroney Theater*

Piedmont Players production. Meroney Theater is located at 213 S. Main St., Salisbury. For tickets, times and/or more information, call 704-633-5471, or visit piedmontplayers.com.

MAY 5

Rowan Chamber Trade Show

• *West End Plaza*

2-7 p.m., includes Business After Hours. Located in the former J.C. Penney store of what used to be the Salisbury Mall, 1935 Jake Alexander Blvd. Contact cdeese@rowanchamber.com, or call 704-633-4221.

MAY 6-7

Rowan Public Library Annual Book Sale

• *201 W. Fisher St., Salisbury*

9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the library. Items priced \$2 or less.

MAY 6

TWAM 5K Run

• *First Presbyterian Church*

Night run. 8 p.m., Teens With a Mission. Visit salisburyrowanrunners.org for more information.



Joe Robinson plays with the Joe Robinson Jazz Band during last year's Blues and Jazz Festival. This year's event is May 13-14.

— Photo by Wayne Hinshaw

MAY 7

Itchin' for a Kitchen Gala

• *F&M Trolley Barn, Salisbury*

Fundraiser for Meals on Wheels of Rowan Inc. Visit mowrowan@charlotte.twcbc.com for more information.

MAY 7

Gold Rush Days

• *Historic Gold Hill*

Annual Gold Rush Days event. Visit gold-hillnc.com for more information.

MAY 7

Relay for Life

• *Rowan County Fairgrounds*

noon-10 p.m. Walk the track for Relay for Life to support American Cancer Society. Fairgrounds are located at 1560 Julian Road. Contact 704-640-3463, or rowankidswalk@hotmail.com for more information.

MAY 7

Fur Fun 5K Run/Walk for the PAWs

• *Salisbury Civic Center*

11 a.m., \$20. Proceeds benefit construction of city's first dog park. Contact 704-216-2708, or visit salisburync.gov for more information.

MAY 7

'High School Musicals'

• *Keppel Auditorium, Catawba College*

7:30 p.m. Student performers join the Salisbury Symphony in a pops concert. Sponsored by Rowan-Salisbury Schools. Visit salburysymphony.org for more information.

MAY 10

History Club

• *Rowan Museum*

7 p.m. Topic: Special forces in Vietnam. Museum is located at 202 N. Main St.

MAY 13-14

Rowan Blues & Jazz Festival

• *Kerr and Lee streets*

Sponsored by the Rowan Blues and Jazz Society. Festival is held in the Railwalk Arts District. Saturday times, 2-11 p.m. Contact rbjs@carolina.rr.com, or 704-636-3277 for more details.

MAY 14

Salisbury Academy 5K

• *Salisbury Academy*

Visit salisburyrowanrunners.org for more information.

MAY 14

UDC Patriotic program

- *Stanback Auditorium, Rowan Public Library*

1 p.m., Patriotic Program and Military Awards Bestowal Service. Robert F. Hoke Chapter No. 78, United Daughters of the Confederacy. For more information, contact Sue Curtis at 704-637-6411, or southpaws@fibrant.com.

MAY 14

10th annual Middle School Prom

- *Salisbury Civic Center*

6-9 p.m. \$10. Ticket sales began April 11 and must be purchased in advance. Contact 704-216-2708, or visit salisburync.gov.

MAY 15

Spring Benefit Concert

- *St. John's Lutheran Church*

4 p.m. St. John's Men's Chorus in the church sanctuary, 200 W. Innes St., Salisbury.

MAY 19-21 and 26-28 'Shipwrecked'

- *Lee Street theatre*

7:30 p.m. each performance. Theater is located at 329 N. Lee St. For more information, visit leestreet.org, or call 704-310-5507.

MAY 19

Power in Partnership

- *Trinity Oaks*

7:30 a.m. Rowan Chamber of Commerce holds Leadership Rowan's graduation. Contact cdeese@rowanchamber.com, or

call 704-633-4221 for more information.

MAY 20-21

'A Night On The Stage' fundraiser

- *Meroney Theater*

World-class entertainment and dinner by Chef Santos. Meroney Theater is located at 213 S. Main St., Salisbury. For more information, call 704-633-5471, or visit piedmontplayers.com.

MAY 21

Let's Get Connected Day

- *Spencer Library Park*

11 a.m.-1 p.m. The 10th Peace Pole in Rowan County will be dedicated at the park at noon. Paid forward by East Spencer. Contact Betty Jo Hardy at 704-636-6119 for more details.

MAY 21

George Washington visit and celebration

- *Downtown Salisbury*

All day. Rowan Museum celebrates the 225th anniversary of George Washington's 1791 Southern Tour, which included a stop in Salisbury. Enjoy the living history festival with craftsmen, artisans, militia, a public tea party, children's games, livestock and more. Free to the public.

MAY 21

George Washington Ball

- *Rowan Museum*

Colonial actors come together for a Grand Colonial Gala Fundraiser. Rowan Museum sets the stage for reenactment of the 1791 dinner with 15 actual toasts given at the ball for Washington. The ball is a ticketed event (\$100 each) in the Messenger Room of Rowan Museum. Period dress is encouraged. Multiple-course dinner. Live music.

Contact rowanmuseum@fibrant.com, or call 704-633-5946.

MAY 26

HSF Preservation Awards

- *Salisbury Station, 215 Depot St.*

6 p.m. Ticketed, annual event of Historic Salisbury Foundation. Includes drinks and dinner. Contact 704-636-0103, or visit historicsalisbury.org.

MAY 28

Bare Bones 5K

- *Knox Middle School*

8:30 a.m., Visit salisburyrowanrunners.org for information.

MAY 28

Gold Hill Bike Ride

- *Historic Gold Hill*

Visit goldhillnc.com for information.

MAY 31-JUNE 1

'Wizard of Oz' auditions


- *The Norvell*

4 and 5 p.m., youth auditions by appointment only for "The Wizard of Oz" at The Norvell Theater, 135 E. Fisher St. Contact 704-633-5471, or visit piedmontplayers.com.

MAY 31-JUNE 1

'Hands on a Hardbody' auditions

- *Meroney Theater*

7 p.m. Auditions for Piedmont Players' "Hands on a Hardbody." The Meroney Theater is located at 213 S. Main St., Salisbury. Contact 704-633-5471, or visit piedmontplayers.com for more information. 



Richard Miller, Don Vick and Jerry Lawson

FLAPJACK FEVER

The Kiwanis Club of Salisbury held its 2016 Pancake Festival at the J.F. Hurley Family YMCA. The pancake fundraiser for Kiwanis Charities has been a Salisbury tradition since 1957.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Left: Timothy Robinson, Indiah Witherspoon and Kayla Lopriore. Right: Glenn Taylor, Linda Hildebran and Ann Eidson.





Above: Marco Gonzalez and Suzie Mendez. Right: Abby, Hannah, Katie and Pete Bogle. Below: Jackie Pearce and Esther Garcia.



Above: Terry Allen, Janet Purrington and James Parks. Left: The Ray Cooper Memorial Batter Crew: Todd Hildebrand II (front), Bob Setzer, Stan Jordan, Scott Robinson and Tim Norris.

Staton Carter, Rikki Spencer, Summie Carter, Becky Spencer and Debbie and Carter





Heath Hager, Greg Jones and David Shelby



Justin Steger, Mark Shuping, Bob Himes and Dennis Sims



Bob Kennerly and Romas Shuping.

Brunswick STEW

Andrew Jackson Masonic Lodge No. 576 held its 58th Annual Brunswick Stew at the lodge.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Archie Jarrell, Robert Jackson and John Wagoner.



Above: Dewey Preslar Jr., Dewey Preslar Sr., Mitchell Goodman and Bruce Mason. Left: Mary Williams, John Smith, Kay Starnes and Lib Morgan



Above: Donovan Hamm and Merenda Overcash. Right: Jeff Whitley, who has been restoring the 1941 American LaFrance fire truck, stands with Rodney Misenheimer and Ester Marsh.



The St. Patrick's Day 5K Run, organized by Salisbury-Rowan Runners, attracted 82 participants and raised money for the Salisbury Fire Department's restoration of a 1941 American LaFrance, the department's first ladder truck. The J.F. Hurley Family YMCA served as the start and finish to the race.

— Photos by Mark Wineka

St. Patrick's Day 5K



Rebecca Little, Julie Taylor and Richard Taylor



GoBo Run Club members Audey K. Fraley, Jennifer Cranford, Lexsa Turchin, Rachael Mitchell, Sharon Earnhardt, Elizabeth Bidy Plumley and Hollis Theard.



Left: Josh Keith, Zach Livengood, Susan Livengood and Steve Staley.



Right: Shenoa Wilson, Tommy Wilson and Forrest Anderson.



Above: Mark Ritchie and Gary Thornburg. Right: Irish step dancers put on a show. Below: Andy and Lynn Porter, Sharon Earnhardt, Bob Paolino.



Irish night

Center For Faith & The Arts celebrated its 20th year with a “Leap Of Faith” fund-raising gala at Lee Street theatre with a green Celtic frivolity theme of Irish fayre, step dancers and music.

— Photos by Len Clark



Left: Dr. Nancy Faller, Dr. Joe Martin, Claudia Galup.

Right: Greg and Missie Alcorn, Lyn and Al Wilson.





Above: Jennifer Hubbard, Karen Campbell, Shakeisha Gray. Above right: Dr. Gary and Janice Applewhite. Right: Jim Epperson, Mary Ann McCubbin, Lucina Epperson.



Above: Cindi Graham, Brian Romans, Jessica Buckwalter.

Below: Marie Leonard-Hampton, Eddie Hampton, Celia Jarrett.



Katie Springer and Carrie Webster entertain.



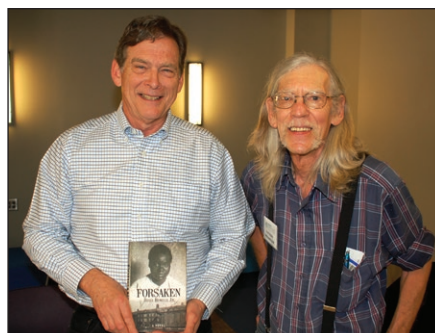
Above: Authors Greg Shemkovitz and James McTeer II. Right: Former Salisbury Mayor Paul Woodson, Beth Woodson, Ola Rutledge, author Kristy Woodson Harvey and Will Harvey.



Friends of Rowan Public Library sponsored the Rowan Reading Rendezvous at St. John's Lutheran Church in Salisbury. Those attending were able to shop for books, hear panel discussions of visiting authors and meet those authors in person and have them sign their books.

— Photos by Mark Wineka

READING RENDEZVOUS



Above left: Suzy Carter, Bob Wingate, Marie Norway and Philip Herman. Above: Shearin Teague, Melissa Oleen, Dale Basinger and Gavin Pitner. Left: Author Ross Howell Jr. and Deal Safrit. Far left: Alice Thompson, Claudette Jones and author Susan Boyer.

Meals on Wheels of Rowan Inc. held its 8th annual barbecue fundraiser at First Presbyterian Church in Salisbury. This United Way agency delivers 220 meals a day over 27 Rowan County routes. It added up to about 55,000 meals delivered in 2015.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Livingstone College volunteers Khadijah Allen, Joshua Hill, Brittany Fuller, Larrian Kirkpatrick, Javiraz Crosby and Kiara Avery



Collin Choate Grubb, Henry Brown and Missy Brown

Meals on wheels BBQ



Eleanor Andrews, Scott Rhodes and Lorna Reasor



Left: Meals on Wheels Executive Director Rita Sims, board members Jerry Harviel, Connie Basinger, Jeff Schall, Pat Murtaugh and Amy Ritchie and MOW program coordinator Sandy Combs. Right: Liz Slate, the Rev. Carol Williams-Gilbert, Rose Jones and Rick Lewis.





Joy Penk, Kenny Martin, Debbie Martin, Kayla Blaisure, Debbie C. Martin and Larry Thies



Zoe-Grace, Lorin and Alex Stubblefield

POLAR PLUNGE

More than 60 people raced into the 46-degree waters of High Rock Lake in late February during the Polar Plunge to raise money for Special Olympics.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Left: Mary Jane Hartley, Jennifer Jernigan and Emma Ryerson. Right: Brandi, Juwan and Jessica Bledsoe.





Left: Isabella and Jamie Phelps, Right: Dan Lazina, Jacob Pace, Hannah Rowland, Courtney Link, Susan Pace and Lloyd Pace.



Left: Crystal Ryerson, Rachel Moore, Gaye McConnell and Tricia Staggers.



Right: Susie Hudson and Joey Taylor.



Above: Hannah Rowland, Denise Rowland and Karen South Jones. Right: John Krzysik, Alicia Ketchie, Bryce Warden and Connie Julian.



NEWCOMERS CLUB

Members of the Salisbury-Rowan Newcomers Club played an afternoon of card games at the Salisbury Civic Center to raise money for Food for Thought, which provides weekend backpacks of food for needy Salisbury-Rowan students.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



M.T. Sidoli, Betsy Rhoads, Kim Hoyt, Donna Carr and Carolyn Peka



Above: In back: Sandy Basinger and Faye Kesler; front, Grace Morgan and Cheryl Kluttz. Right: Sandy Hamilton, Nancy Andrews, Joan Hamilton and Dee Anderson.



Above: Kerry Morgan, Joy Hamilton, Peggy Bollinger and Glenda Christie. Left: Nancy Schoch, Frances Miller, Karen Bowyer and Barbara Langford.



A ribbon-cutting celebrated the opening of the Wallace Educational Forum at 500 N. Main St., Salisbury. The building serves as the new central administrative office for Rowan-Salisbury Schools. The Rowan County Chamber of Commerce held a special Business After Hours mixer following the ribbon-cutting.

— Photos by Mark Wineka

Surrounded by Rowan-Salisbury students, Board Chairman Josh Wagner, holding the scissors, and Superintendent Lynn Moody, right, react after the official ribbon-cutting to mark the opening of the Wallace Educational Forum.

WALLACE EDUCATIONAL FORUM *ribbon-cutting*



Above: Mona Lisa Wallace, Salisbury Mayor Karen Alexander and Rowan County Commissioners Chairman Greg Edds at the ribbon-cutting for the Wallace Educational Forum. Below: David Post, Jason Walser, Glenn Ketner Jr. and Judy Klusman



Top: Salisbury architect Bill Burgin, far right, stands with Barnhill representatives, from left, Shep Reynolds, Chad Webb, Jake Carter and Ken Cass. Barnhill was general contractor in the construction of the Wallace Educational Forum. Above left: Kelly Alexander and Nanette Dillon. Above right: Garry Mallett and East Spencer Mayor Barbara Mallett.



Host with the most

Little Salisbury treats best sportscasters and sportswriters like royalty — and that's OK by them

“Why is it in Salisbury?” It's often the first question people ask when they hear that the National Sports Media Association (formerly the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association) & Hall of Fame is located here.

The organization had its beginnings with Pete DiMizio, a New Jersey transplant who owned an Italian restaurant by day and promoted boxing matches by night. To get sportswriters to cover his boxing cards, he invited them to eat at his restaurant — on the house, of course.

What DiMizio started as the North Carolina Sports Writers and Broadcasters Annual Dinner, became the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association a year after his death. Salisbury hosted the first NSSA Awards Banquet on April 12, 1960. The 57th Annual Awards Weekend will be held June 18-20.

For a city of 30,000, give or take, Salisbury has sure seen its share of celebrities. And most of them have come because of the NSMA. Not only famous sportscasters

and sportswriters, such as Bob Costas, Dick Vitale, Keith Jackson, Red Smith and John Feinstein, but celebrities from outside the media world, too, such as Bob Hope, Jesse Owens, Bob Knight and Gen. William Westmoreland.

Each year, the NSMA honors sports media for excellence. NSMA members elect Hall of Famers, a National Sportscaster and Sportswriter of the Year and a Sportscaster and Sportswriter of the Year from each state (plus, the District of Columbia).

The results are announced in early January, and then in the spring, most of the winners descend on Salisbury. Local folks get to participate as hosts for the winners. When the host program started in the 1960s, winners stayed in local homes. Though that hasn't happened for the last 40 years, the locals still spend time with their winner matches to make sure the out-of-town guests feel right home.

And it's hard not to feel right at home when we roll out the red carpet. Winners are treated to three days of events and fun while they're here, culminating in the annual awards banquet.

This June, Legacy Night (June 18), features three Hall of Famers from The Boston Globe, the winner of this year's Roone Arledge Award. One of those Hall of Famers, Bob Ryan, doubles as the

NSMA Board's national chairman.

On Sunday, June 19, after the National Athletic Trainers' Association awards brunch and seminars at Lee Street theatre, Ryan and a few other authors will sign their works at the NSMA Sports Book Festival at Literary Bookpost, in downtown Salisbury. That will be followed by the annual NSMA BBQ at Salisbury Station.

Monday, June 20, dawns with the annual NSMA golf tournament at the Country Club of Salisbury. A tennis tournament is also held at the Country Club. For those who just want to relax, the NSMA has shuttles that transport our guests downtown for a little shopping and sightseeing before lunch.

Then it's time to rest up for the Awards Banquet at Catawba College's Goodman Gym.

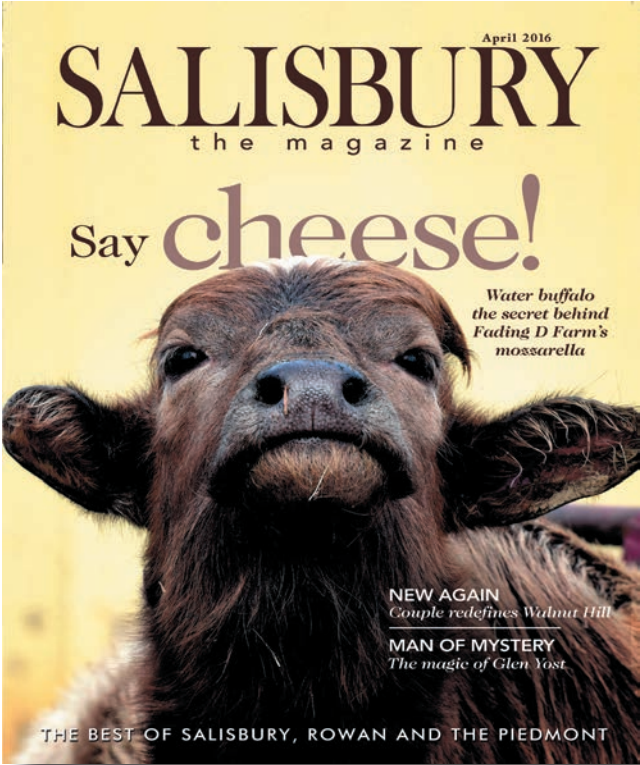
And just like that, it's Tuesday morning. We bid our guests goodbye, confident that Salisbury has shown them a good time, while honoring the best in American sports media. **S**

Dave Goren is the executive director of the National Sports Media Association & Hall of Fame. For more information, or to be a host for the 57th NSMA Awards Weekend, call 704-633-4275, or email dgoren@national-sportsmedia.org.



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