

Summer 2016

# SALISBURY

the magazine

## LIFE

at the

## LAKE

Couple rebound from fire to build  
tropically toned oasis

## True brew

Salisbury  
enters the  
craft-beer age

**ROWAN ORIGINAL**

*A visit with WBTV's David Whisenant*

**A FATHER'S SONG**

*Wise words from Avett Brothers' dad*

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the magazine

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**Salisbury the Magazine**

P.O. Box 4639  
Salisbury, NC 28145-4639

**Value \$3.99**

Published 9 times / year

2016: Feb. 24, Mar. 23, Apr. 27,  
May. 25, Jul. 27, Aug. 24,  
Sep. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23

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Brewing Co. — *Photo by Jon C. Lakey*

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The back of Ken and Wanda Hutchens' home on  
High Rock Lake looks like a scene from a tropical  
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The Class J 611 locomotive rolls ahead

# An old foggy tours the town

**T**his spring on a beautiful Saturday, my wife and I welcomed some out-of-town visitors to Salisbury and around 5 that evening, someone suggested we walk a few blocks to New Sarum Brewing Co., which was celebrating its grand opening.

When we rounded the corner from East Innes onto North Lee Street, we were shocked at the elbow-to-elbow crowd of people outside lining up for New Sarum's craft beers, listening to the music of on-stage performers or going on self-guided tours of the brewery and tasting room. Later, as we sat on a wall, taking it all in, I couldn't help but tell our visitors how unusual this scene was.

I saw plenty of folks I knew — we're all old fogies now — but we were struck by how otherwise young the crowd was and how beautifully unfamiliar the faces seemed to be. This was a new, different set of people who had come here to taste some exciting new beers, enjoy music and maybe check out Salisbury for the first time.

In fact, I overheard a young man on his cellphone, yelling to an unbelieving person on the other end, that yes, he was in Salisbury having a good time at a new brewery. Still on foot, our party decided it was time to eat. Our first stop was The Salty Caper, where we were told it would be at least an hour before we could get a pizza because of all the people who had ordered ahead of us.

We stopped next at Mambo Grill, which was only serving people with reservations because of the crowds. We ended up eating at Go Burrito!, which had a line going out the door, but it proved to move pretty fast. Later in the week, someone told me Go Burrito! had enjoyed its biggest business day ever on that particular Saturday, thanks to all that was happening downtown. (The day also included the city's Touch-A-Truck event.)

If New Sarum's grand opening proved anything, it might be that Salisbury is a destination spot given the right ingredients. This time it happened to be the lure of flavorful hops. Other times, it could be



the symphony performing for Pops at the Post, or folks coming to see homes on OctoberTour. I think it shows that people want to join others and be part of something, and when that happens, it's also good for business.


Deirdre Parker Smith and Jon Lakey use this edition to describe how craft brews have arrived in Salisbury, with New Sarum and the Morgan Ridge Brewhouse leading the way.

In honor of Father's Day, Sarah Hall takes us to the Cabarrus County farm of Jim Avett and helps us understand

the musically inclined welder's influence on his sons — the highly popular Avett Brothers.

Elizabeth Cook and Lakey pay a visit to Ken and Wanda Hutchens' tropical-styled home on High Rock Lake, which will have you drooling for summer, as will Josh Bergeron's ode to Rowan County hot dogs. We also get a close-up look at the Class J 611 steam locomotive, the "Queen of Steam," and we meet members of Salisbury Pride, whose goal of "equality for all" has been important in making us a more inclusive community.

Shavonne Walker takes us to Woodleaf Lanes and shows us how bowling is a great recreation for all people of all abilities, and you will especially want to learn more about WBTV's David Whisenant, who is this issue's Rowan Original.

Special to this edition, our "Salisbury's the Place" column brings you a difficult brain teaser fashioned by Salisbury the Magazine Project Manager Len Clark. Clark's country search will demonstrate that "Salisbury's not the only place." It will keep you occupied most of the summer until our August issue, so cheers! 

**Mark Wineka,**  
Editor, *Salisbury the Magazine*

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# Join the Summer Reading Challenge

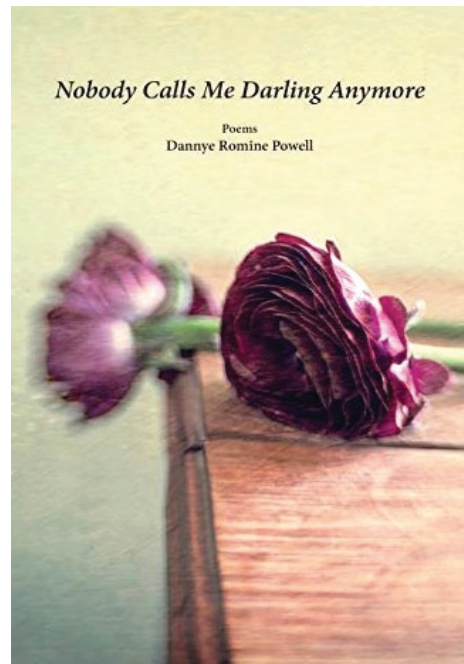
What to read for summer? Join the annual Summer Reading Challenge, where you can read poetry, a Southern classic and the true story of the founders of flight.

Author Jennifer Hubbard coordinates the annual challenge. All events are free and will be at the Hurley Room of Rowan Public Library. All are on Tuesdays at 7 p.m., and last for about an hour.

Dannye Romine Powell is a journalist and poet whose collection, “Nobody Calls Me Darling Anymore,” was published by Press 53 in October 2015. Hubbard will interview her for the June 14 program.

Powell is the author of three previous collections, two of which won the Brockman-Campbell Award for the best book of poetry published by a North Carolinian in the prior year.

She’s won fellowships in poetry from the NEA and the North Carolina Arts Council and has won a residency to the writer’s colony Yaddo, where she slept one icy winter in the bedroom once occupied by Sylvia Plath. She has worked for many years at the Charlotte Observer, where she



is again writing about books and authors. Powell is also the author of a non-fiction book, “Parting the Curtains: Interviews with Southern Writers.” She lives in Charlotte with her husband, Lew Powell, also a longtime journalist.

The poems, one reviewer wrote, “document the tender mercies of a woman ruminating on the cusp of endtime,” a poetic way of saying aging and the changes it brings.

On July 12, Tara Gilstrap, visiting professor of English at Catawba College, will talk about Lee Smith’s 1988 classic, “Fair and Tender Ladies.”

In it, Ivy Rowe, Virginia mountain girl, then wife, mother and, finally, “Maw-

maw,” never strays far from her home, but the letters she writes take her across the country and over the ocean. Her stories are rich with Appalachian life and language.


Ivy has become an iconic character of the South, so much so that a performer named Barbara Bates Smith has toured with a one-woman show based on Ivy Rowe’s stories. “Fair and Tender Ladies” has been called Smith’s best, most artistically successful book and will resonate with those who feel nostalgia for days gone by.

If you have not read Lee Smith before, this is a good place to start.

Hubbard’s husband, Steve Cobb, will discuss “The Wright Brothers,” by David McCullough on Aug. 16.

McCullough’s book gives us details about Orville and Wilbur that you probably did not learn in school. He paints a picture of the whole family and what motivates them. The brothers are quite different, but united in their goal. Their talents complement each other, and their humility and tenacity are what led to their success.

McCullough is a wonderful storyteller and brings facts to life with deep research — and many researchers — that really tell the stories of America and Americans.

Last year’s program was very popular, so make sure you don’t miss out on the fun. The books should be available at the library and at Literary Bookpost in downtown Salisbury. 



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"Color temperature" can be a confusing photographic term meaning little to most people who pick up a camera. Each source of light emits a particular color. A candle produces, for example, a reddish-colored light, while sunlight reaching the ground on a cloudy day is far bluer. The image on this page demonstrates the different colors of light. The morning sunlight skimming across this section of white picket fence contrasts against the much "cooler" bluish light reflecting off the surface of the pickets nearby that are in shadow. Understanding the subtle characteristics of light can go a long way to acquiring the results photographers desire. The gate is open, go explore the light.

# On the scene

David Whisenant is homegrown — and proud of it



Reporter David Whisenant works as a bureau chief for WBTV. Along with helping out in the community as an emcee for groups and church activities, he also enjoys reading, running and spending time with his family. *Photo by Jon C. Lakey.*

It's not often that a television news reporter sticks around long enough to be identified with a community, but Salisbury native David Whisenant is an exception.

The Salisbury High and Appalachian State graduate started with WBTV in 1992, and he continues to serve as the station's Salisbury bureau chief and, when needed, as an anchor back in Charlotte.

Whisenant's face, voice and reporting have become part of the fabric of WBTV's newscasts, and though Salisbury likes to claim him as its exclusive television reporter, WBTV will sometimes send him elsewhere as assignments require.

But what sets Whisenant apart beyond longevity is his involvement in the community and his pride in being part of it.

Whisenant started working for WSTP/WRDX radio stations in Salisbury when he was only 16. At Appalachian State, he majored in political science and English. He and wife Jtan have a son Kyle, daughter-in-law Anna and two granddaughters, Ava and Maisie.

Whisenant teaches Sunday School at First Baptist Church. He likes to run and has a keen interest in English history. Salisbury the Magazine recently caught up with this Rowan Original:

**Q. What was the first story you ever did for WBTV, and how did it go? Were you nervous or cool as a cucumber?**

The first story was about some financial



David Whisenant introduces his granddaughter Ava to part of his record collection. Photo by Jon C. Lakey.

troubles at Barber-Scotia College in Concord. That story was all on tape, so I didn't get nervous because if I messed it up, I could do it over. My first live appearance on TV was a few days later, and yes, I was very nervous. When the anchors tossed to me I felt my throat close up like two invisible hands were choking me. I just had to push through it anyway.

**Q. What's the toughest predicament you've faced as a television reporter — where circumstances just seemed to be stacked against you — and was there a good end result?**

Covering Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi. I went alone and was not prepared. I ended up giving away the water and food that I had, then found myself stranded in Pascagoula with no gas. During the

Wednesday night prayer meeting, my church family prayed for me and for all of those affected by the storm.

An official with the state of Mississippi who was in charge of the emergency fuel reserves took pity on me and gave me enough gas to get back to Biloxi. Later that day a resident threatened my life because I allowed a woman and her family to pull their car in front of mine while in a long line at the gas pumps.

In the end it did turn out well, because my experience led to a partnership between Salisbury/Rowan and Pascagoula that resulted in much-needed aid for local families, schools, the hospital and emergency services.

**Q. From an emotional standpoint, what has been the most difficult story you've had to cover and why?**



Whisenant at the WBTV Salisbury Bureau office. Photo by Jon C. Lakey.

The deaths of Justin Monroe and Vic Isler in the Salisbury Millwork fire. It was just so unexpected. At first it seemed like a fairly routine fire, but then I just got the sense that something had happened. My father had been a Salisbury firefighter before my time, and from being in the media I worked pretty closely with firefighters just about every week.

I just had a tough time accepting that something so terrible could have happened, and it unfolded right in front of me. I knew I had a responsibility to report on it, so that's what I had to do. That was the first time I ever cried on air, but I couldn't help it. I actually had to spend some time talking with a counselor in the following months.

**Q. What have been one or two of your favorite stories over the years?**

Covering the funeral of President Reagan in Washington, D.C., and doing a story when the Monkees appeared at a store in Concord. I realize that's quite a pair, but I always admired President Reagan, and being able to witness the pageantry and tradition of the funeral, talk to people in the long line of mourners and see some of the most famous political figures in the world was really wonderful.

And the Monkees? Come on, Micky, Davy, and Peter? They were so nice and funny. The PR person who works with them was traveling separately and arrived about 20 minutes ahead of them. She came over and said that they were usually pretty friendly, but that at times "the Monkees can be kind of testy." That statement just cracked me up, and I started laughing. She told me she was serious. Thankfully, they were in a very good mood, and since "I'm A Believer," it was a fun day.

**Q. I think you're a big fan of NASCAR Hall of Fame driver Richard Petty. How did that happen?**

The King! My earliest memories include my dad listening to NASCAR races on the radio on Sunday afternoons. At the time, Richard Petty was winning everything and seemed to be a genuinely nice person. I became a fan and started a Salisbury-based Richard Petty fan club in 1971. Three members was our high water mark, but it was fun.

I still have a Petty blue door with the big white "43" from a mid-'60s Plymouth that Petty raced. My brother got it while visiting the Petty complex in Level Cross. Over the years I've interviewed Petty several times, and I get excited every single time. A few years ago the station arranged for Petty to surprise me while I was on live TV at Char-

lotte Motor Speedway. I was just talking about something, and he walked right up in the shot and said hello. I nearly lost it. It was great fun.

**Q. What's another thing people probably don't know about you?**

For a story, I let an officer with the Statesville Police Department shoot me with a Taser. He offered to dial it back a little and only give me two seconds worth, instead of the full five-second lightning ride. Boldly, I said give me the full charge. It was unlike anything I've ever experienced, and I sincerely hope to never have that experience again.

Also, I won a beauty contest for the United Way in 2001. I was voted "prettiest," and raised the most money. It was the legs.

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

I really hate to narrow that down to one person. As far as broadcasting, I'd say it was Doug Rice. He was on the air when I first showed up for my part-time job at WSTP/WRDX. I was 16 and in high school. Doug was patient in showing me how to run the board and do all the things that were necessary. He also influenced my decision to attend Appalachian State, and that has led to many wonderful things in my life, including meeting my wife, Jtan.

WSTP/WRDX owner Tom Harrell would also have to be included. His influence was to teach me to pay attention to details and to always strive for excellence.

**Q. What's your personal pet peeve as a television report-**



David Whisenant emcees the start of the Rowan County Special Olympics. Photo by Jon C. Lakey.

**er or just in general?**

How much time do you have? I'd say it's when people blindly share news and information that is not accurately verified. We're in a very different world now when it comes to news gathering and presentation. In many cases sources are not vetted, information not confirmed, but reported anyway in a way that is not objective.

Long before the advent of social media Walter Cronkite said that when it came to reporting news, it was important to be first, but more important to be accurate. My pet peeve is that accuracy doesn't seem as important now as it once did.

**Q. What are some of your favorite TV shows?**

Current shows that I watch include "Survivor," "Elementary" and "NCIS." All-time favorites include "The Andy Griffith Show," "Seinfeld," "Keeping Up Appearances," "Sledge Hammer" and "Prime Minister's Questions."

**Q. Five words you would use to describe Salisbury:**

Home. Comfortable. Familiar. Historic. Quirky.

**Q. What's it like to be a grandfather?**

It may be my favorite role! I have two granddaughters, and I spend much of my mental energy trying to figure out how to spend time with them without driving my son and daughter-in-law crazy.

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

Oh sure, I could say kale and tofu, but actually it's Swiss cheese and Doritos.

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

The best? Over everything else I would be wrong if I didn't say that in my opinion the best advice I could give anyone, young or old, would be to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Treat people with kindness, even if you don't like them. Do good, not so that you'll get something out of it, but just because it's good. S







Jim Avett plays the guitar at a Tuesday night jam session at Don's Music Room near Avett's rural Cabarrus County home. Avett, father of Scott and Seth Avett of Avett Brothers fame, has ramped up his musical career over the years and is playing shows in the area. The retired welder lives on his 60-acre farm in Cabarrus County.

# *A father's* SONG

Avett Brothers' dad says whole point of being creative is to affect people's lives

*Written by* SARAH HALL

*Photography by* JON C. LAKEY

“**M**y daddy used to say, ‘It’s easier to pull a chain down a road than to push one.’”

Jim Avett quoted his father, a Methodist minister, frequently on a recent Saturday afternoon as he and his wife, Susie, sat on the Avett farmhouse porch, drinking coffee and discussing family, art, and places where those two topics intersect.

“If you want children to be something, get out in front and show how it’s done. Set an example.”

That’s great advice for all parents, but theirs isn’t an ordinary family. Jim and Susie are the parents of Scott and Seth Avett of the immensely popular folk-rock Americana band The Avett Brothers and their sister, the less-well-known but equally talented Bonnie Avett Rini. She teaches dance and yoga in her studio not far from her parents’ Cabarrus County farm.

Jim continued, “You want to raise children who will, like my daddy said, leave the world better than they found it. If you can’t leave it better than you found it, then get out of the way and let the next person take a whack at it. I think our children will leave it better than they found it. If they never made a lick of music, I’d still be proud of them. They’re good kids.”



**Above:** Avett backs his 1971 Ford pickup out of the shed on his way to get a piece of farm equipment. **Left:** A Jim Avett original painting hangs on the wall next to his pile of winter hats.

“The good thing about our children is that they have a stump to preach from, not only the boys, but the girl does, too. Any time you can get up and teach or be an influence, that’s the whole point in being a creative person, to affect other people’s lives.”

Jim Avett was raised in the North Carolina foothills. At age 13 he got his first guitar and his brother taught him three chords. He went on to write songs and join bands, but eventually music was put on the back burner as education and family responsibilities took over.

He served in the Navy during the Vietnam War. He met Susie on a blind date, and they married in 1969. After earning a master’s degree in psychology, Jim spent a couple of years as a social worker. Then he worked as a welder, a profession that took him and Susie across the country, and as far as Alaska, moving frequently, staying a while in Wyoming before returning to North Carolina with their youngsters Bonnie and Scott. They settled in a fixer-upper house on a farm near Concord, where Jim

grew his welding business. Seth came along shortly afterwards.

We were sitting on the porch of that same house, more than three decades later, listening to Jim expound on parenthood. He thinks young parents take things too seriously, and worry too much.

“Our society is built around fear, being scared of what might happen. I ain’t scared of what might happen; there are already enough things happening now to deal with. I don’t have time to cross bridges way out in front of me, I’m going to focus on crossing the one right in front of me. If I don’t cross it the same way everyone else does, that’s OK. And that’s one of the things we instilled in our kids. If you don’t cross that bridge, cross another one. But whatever you’re gonna be, be the best you can be. I don’t care if you’re gonna be a garbage man or an artisan.”

Jim says his children are all great parents, and he isn’t worried about the world his seven grandchildren are inheriting. Bonnie has three children, Scott has a daughter and two sons (“just like our family,” Susie points

out), and Seth is father to a baby boy.

Since retiring, Jim has returned to performing and has recorded a couple of albums of original songs. He continues to do some touring and has appeared at Merlefest with his family, and as a solo act.



“At Merlefest last year, I told a guy, ‘You know, I’m probably the sorriest guitar player here.’ He looked at me, cocked his head and said, ‘That’s saying something ’cause there ain’t no bad guitar players here.’ I said, ‘I’ll take that.’

“I’m pretty sure that nobody in our family has that much talent. I think we’ve done a pretty good job of developing the potential we had.”

Our conversation paused as we watched a car come slowly up the road, turn at the Avett mailbox, then hurry away.

“We get that every once in a while,” Jim said, as he watched the car retreat. “We had two earlier this morning.”

The Avett fans who come in search of the homestead, as well as thousands of other fans, would probably disagree with Jim’s comment about none of the family having much talent. Jim still likes to hone his own skills some nights with friends who gather at an old gas station called Don’s Music Room.

We returned to talking about the state of music and families. Jim and Susie reminisced about singing in the car and the importance of piano lessons for the kids. Inside the house, an old upright piano signifies those long-ago lessons that provided a gateway for learning other instruments, and careers that followed.

Rather than major in music in college, Scott and Seth both earned degrees in visual art. Jim claims credit for starting them on that path as well.

“The way the art started, we would go to church, and the kids were too young to listen to the sermon, but we didn’t want to take them outside. So



Jim Avett and his wife, Susie, at the farm.

■ THE ARTS



One of the few family portraits of the Avetts is a pencil drawing Seth gave to his mother.

to entertain them, I would draw caricatures of parishioners. I would draw, and the kids would laugh. They would draw, and I would laugh.”

“And I would collect everything before anyone saw them,” added Susie.

None of these early drawings survived. But Susie did show me a pencil portrait of the Avett family drawn by Seth when he was in junior high. In the corner he had written “I love you Mom. Here’s a picture of the best family in the whole wide world.”

There aren’t many old family photographs around in the Avett house; they’ve been borrowed for use in publicity and album art and are floating around someplace. The walls are now adorned with photos of, and artwork by, the grandchildren.

One of the photos shows Scott’s youngest and Seth’s baby boy as infants. They were born just a couple months apart. Susie points out how the photo shows that the boys have personalities like their dads. Scott’s



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boy has his hands balled in tiny fists and he looks like he's ready to spring out of the photo. Seth's progeny looks calm and relaxed.

"Seth was the most laid-back baby ever," Susie said.

"This picture will be good 20 years from now when those two are singing together," I offered.

"Yes — 'The Avett Cousins,'" Susie said, laughing.

Since she has retired from teaching school, Susie can spend more time with grandchildren. The families seldom go along on the concert tours.

"That's really hard work," she says.

We walked to the back of the house, past the chicken coop where an old radio was tuned to an NPR station. Jim explained that coyotes had taken out their whole flock once, but now predators hear the voices from the radio and think there are people in the chicken house, and they haven't



The Avett children, from left, Scott, Bonnie and Seth, sing with their father, Jim, at Merlefest in 2013. Photo by Jim Gavenus.



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Jim Avett plays one of the guitars in his collection.

had any more trouble.

The welding shop is behind the house. A while back, Jim said he thought how he “owned the air up above the shop, too,” and decided to add a second floor apartment, thinking one of his kids might need it.

“This is what daddies do,” he added.

Scott ended up living in that apartment over six years, even after getting married and starting a family. But now he has his own house, built within hollering distance of his old apartment. Seth’s home is nearby, too. The Avett Brothers have traveled the

world with their music, but decided there’s no place like home.

In a 2011 interview, Scott said, “The chains that I thought were holding me back were actually arms that brought me back when I wanted them to.”

Our visit was over because Jim needed to leave and pick up a used riding mower he bought earlier that day.

“We’re getting too old to be pushing that other mower,” he said.

Susie made sure I had a dozen eggs to take with me, and I left with The Avett Brothers’ “Salvation Song” playing in my

head:

“We came for salvation. We came for family.

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We came to leave behind the world a better way.” S

*Sarah Hall, former writer for the Salisbury Post, now lives in Cashiers, N.C., where she teaches music to students in kindergarten through 12th grade.*



**Above:** Jim Avett and his wife, Susie, pose for a picture inside the barn. **Below:** The Avett welding workshop with an apartment above that Scott used to live in.



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# HOT *diggity* DOG

If you want a taste of the summer classic,  
Rowan County has plenty of choices

*Written by* JOSH BERGERON | *Photography by* ALLISON LEE ISLEY

**W**hen the calendar turns to summer, the world takes to the outdoors, satisfied the frigid days of winter and dreary spring rain showers are long gone.

For children, summer is free of tedious school work. It means camps, pools and family vacations. For adults, summer often brings back the nostalgia of being a kid

— delirious daylong adventures with friends; a juicy slice of watermelon on a hot day; skiing on the lake; and the Fourth of July.

And summer is the best time for hot dogs, especially in Rowan County.

For Jason Smith, who owns the Granite Quarry Hot Dog Shack, summers always included the tasty treat he has built his business on. Sure, he sells other foods — burgers and fries are other popular choices — but Smith says the hot dog is a distinctly summertime food and the one that keeps customers coming back.

Like other spots in North Carolina, Smith serves pinks or red hot dogs. Smith says he surveyed a number of people

**Opposite page, clockwise from top left:** Donnie Rodgers, 5, enjoys a hot dog at the Hot Dog Shack in Granite Quarry; Larry Poteat, of Mount Ulla, enjoys a footlong with his wife at College Barbecue; Carolyn Poteat pours ketchup for her fries next to her footlong at College Barbecue; A hot dog sign at Brian's Grill in China Grove; A prepared chili cheese dog held by Brian Culp at Brian's Grill.

## ■ FOOD



Above: Jay Owen, owner and cook, prepares footlong hot dogs at College Barbecue in Salisbury. Below: Steven Barkwell and owner Jason Smith, left, prepare hot dogs for customers at the Hot Dog Shack in Granite Quarry.

before making the choice, while also remembering his own joyous summers.

“It’s definitely a childhood favorite of mine,” Smith says.

Smith’s restaurant is one of the dozen or more spots in Rowan County to chow down on a tasty hot dog. Depending on whom you ask, you’re sure to get a different answer on where to get the best dog.

Mount Ulla residents Larry and Carolyn Poteat say the footlongs at College Barbecue in Salisbury are their top choice. The couple tell a story about their daughter eating three footlongs from College Barbecue after returning from a foreign country. Jean Pinkston, sitting just a few feet away, also touts the quality of a footlong from College Barbecue.

“It’s delicious, and for me the chili is the best part,” she says. Pinkston regularly enjoys splitting a hot dog or two with her children.

Trying to come up with a definitive list of the best Rowan County hot dogs is, of



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course, fool's play. In downtown Salisbury, Hap's Grill routinely draws lines for hours, and the most popular requests are the hot dogs. When Rowan County natives come home from college, one of their first stops often is Hap's.

**Brian Culp, owner, manager and cook, grills hot dogs at Brian's Grill in China Grove.**

In China Grove, Brian Culp — the brother of Hap's owner Greg Culp — has developed a similar recipe for success. The kitchen of Brian's Grill looks similar to its Salisbury relative. The cooking process is identical, too. The dogs are cooked on a flat grill, and while still sizzling in a bun, the "all-the-way" hot dogs receive a hot coat of chili on top.

Brian Culp says he also serves breakfast and French fries — two things Hap's doesn't offer. For Bobby and Memory Utley, hot dogs from Brian's Grill in China Grove are better than Hap's.

"It was love at first bite," Bobby Utley says as he downs another one. "I think it's mainly the chili that makes it so good."

Bobby Utley says Brian's "makes the best hot dogs anywhere", and he is an example of deep-seated hot dog favoritism in Rowan County.



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Nick Rodgers says the Granite Quarry Hot Dog Shack wins for him. Nostalgia is part of the reason Rodgers says he picks the Hot Dog Shack as his top choice.

“It just brings back memories of being a child,” he says. “It brings me back to growing up and having hot dogs during the summer.”

It’s not just anecdotal evidence suggesting hot dogs are a top sandwich choice in the summer. Smith confirms the Granite Quarry Hot Dog Shack sells more hot dogs during this season than any other. The same is true at Brian’s Grill, while College Barbecue owner Jay Owen says spring and sum-

mer both bode well for hot dog sales.

Where else can you find a great hot dog in Rowan County?

The list of recommendations include, but are not confined to Yosties in Faith, Gary’s Barbecue, Marlow’s in Salisbury, Gas and Go in Granite Quarry, the Faith Soda Shop, Wahoos in Granite Quarry, Richard’s Barbecue in Salisbury and Wink’s Barbecue, also in Salisbury.

Summer means baseball, too, and many people will claim no Rowan County American Legion baseball games at Newman Park can be watched without a “Pinky dog” in hand.

Named for James P. “Pinky” Trexler, these hot dogs hit a home run every season. S



Joel Rodgers, 2, eats a sliced hot dog from a special tray at the Hot Dog Shack in Granite Quarry.

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■ AT HOME

# A CROWN OF BEAUTY

After fire destroyed their old house made of brick and stone, the Hutchenses replaced it with a stucco and tile Mediterranean-style home.



From the ashes of a devastating fire, Wanda and Ken Hutchens built a haven on High Rock Lake

*Written by* ELIZABETH COOK | *Photography by* JON C. LAKEY

Bar chairs line up at the outdoor kitchen near the pool, a perfect spot for entertaining.





“To all who mourn in Israel, He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair.”

— *Isaiah 61:3 NLT*

Wanda Hutchens knew something was wrong when Coby, one of her English Springer Spaniels, started barking at the garage door.

She was in the kitchen, and she smelled something burning as she went to see what was wrong. Not thinking, she opened the garage door — and was met by an inferno.

“It was so hot, it blistered both of my arms,” Wanda says. “I had enough time to get myself and my dogs out.”

And that’s all.

Gas tanks exploded, flames spread and soon the Anchor Downs home Wanda and Ken Hutchens had lived in for 11 years burned down. With it went their clothes, furnishings, cars — including Ken’s restored 1952 MG — and Christmas presents for their eight grandchildren.



**Above:** The living room, like the rest of the house, has a tropical theme. The fireplace surround and mantel are precast limestone. **Below:** The table is set for a meal on the deck that overlooks the pool.





Ken was in Raleigh when neighbor Charles Steinman called with the news that the house was on fire. “By the time I got here, it was gone,” Ken says.

“We were heartbroken,” Wanda says, “our place of refuge and comfort was gone.”

It’s hard to associate the fiery tragedy of Dec. 18, 2013, with the tropical haven the Hutchenses live in now. From the palm trees and stucco exterior to the airy, open spaces inside, they have a retreat that would fit in the British West Indies.

Standing beside their pool, you might think you’re on an island in the Caribbean instead of a cove on High Rock Lake.

Wanda says many blessings have come their way.

After a forensic investigator ruled the fire’s cause accidental but undetermined, she and Ken

*Story continues on page 37.*





**Opposite page top:** Ken and Wanda Hutchens relax in the dock area behind their Jibsail Road home. Outdoors people, they say they seldom eat inside. **Opposite page bottom:** Every room on the first floor opens to the screened-in porch, a favorite spot in the house. A goose-neck wrought-iron rail decorates the porch on the outside.

**Top:** Pillows accent a porch swing near the pool.

**Top right:** The expansive basement includes a pool table and pieces that survived the fire, such as the vintage juke box and an old Coca-Cola machine.

**Above:** The Hutchenses have two English springer spaniels. Coby, seen here swimming in the pool, was the one that alerted Wanda to the December 2013 fire in time to escape. **Right:** The tropical feel extends to the bedrooms.





The kitchen was expanded to make room for a large island and a dining room area big enough for extended family. The soft cream cabinets have a hand-painted glaze. The porcelain tile floor won't fade and cannot be scratched.

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*Story continued from page 34.*



The master bathroom is a cool retreat.

realized they could have lost more than their belongings if the blaze had started at night while they were asleep.

There was only one way to deal with the loss, Wanda says — stand on faith.

“Our family, friends, neighbors and church family at Trading Ford Baptist Church embraced us with love and compassion,” she says. “We were overwhelmed with all of the kindness.”

She and Ken were nomads for a while, staying first with a friend’s mother, then at another friend’s lake cottage. They spent three months in an extended-stay inn in Apex, then rented a Salisbury house near the hospital.

Wanda spent a lot of her time on the internet, finding features and furnishings to fit her vision. She had always liked Mediterranean-style homes, and it wasn’t long before she and Ken knew what they wanted to do.

They decided to rebuild right on the same spot on Jibsail Road.

Wanda, an interior designer, had worked on a house several years earlier with builder Jonathan Laws of Paragon Construction and Electrical in Lexington. That had been a good experience, and she knew Laws was the person to build their new home.



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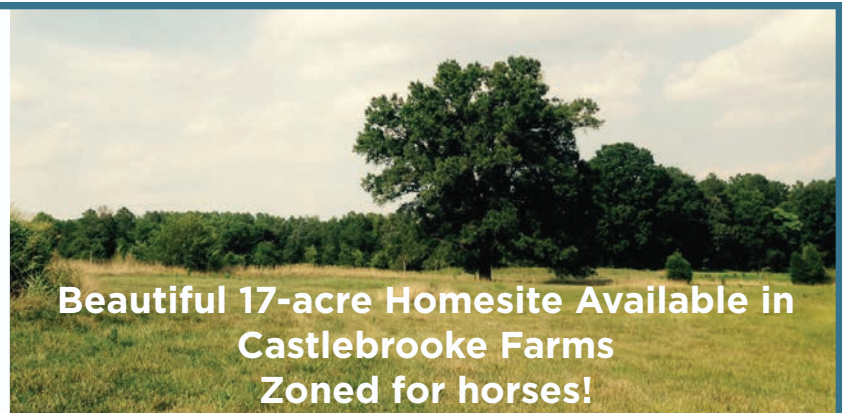


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■ AT HOME

“He was so kind and gentle,” she says. “It was such a fragile time.”

Working with the old foundation, they enlarged the kitchen and master bedroom by closing in two decks. Every room on the main floor now opens to the remaining screen porch, where Ken and Wanda relax each evening.

That’s a favorite spot for Ken, recently retired as a civil engineer. “It’s outside,” he explains.

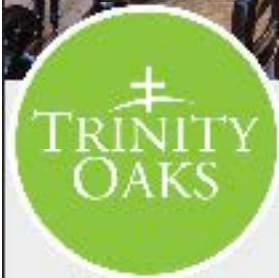
His next favorite spot might be in a bass boat on the lake.

Throughout the house, they raised the ceilings and put in porcelain tile flooring that looks like bleached wood — dog proof and grandchild proof, Wanda says.

Wrought iron pieces reflect Wanda’s creativity as well as the British West Indies



In the master bedroom, Wanda relaxes with English springer spaniels Gracie and Coby.



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“You just have to realize God is in control, and he’ll bring you through it,”

*Wanda says.*

style. She designed the pattern in custom metal doors that lead from the basement to the pool area. The goose neck rail on the screen porch was custom-made in Thomsville.

Wanda worked with Gail Spain-Marsh and Billy Heilig of Quality Woodshop in Albemarle on cabinetry, which went well beyond the kitchen. Heilig also crafted a few custom pieces of furniture to replace pieces Wanda had found through the years — night stands, a chest of drawers and a large TV cabinet.

In the basement are a few items that survived the fire — an antique jukebox, an old Coke machine and a secretary that once belonged to Ken’s grandmother.

Inside and outside, there are products from Tommy Bahama, the sportswear and furnishings manufacturer. There’s a story behind that.

One of the items destroyed in the fire was a Tommy Bahama beach chair that Ken had given Wanda for Christmas. They contacted customer service to see if the company might still honor the gift card that had been used to get the chair. The company did that and more. After learning about the fire, the Tommy Bahama staff also sent clothes for Ken, toys for the dogs, beach towels and several gift cards.

The house was finished in February 2015, but it takes more than a couple of years to



**Above:** Builder John Laws of Paragon Construction chats with Ken in the living room. Wanda, an interior designer for 30 years, had worked with Laws on an earlier project.

**Right:** Wanda designed the wrought-iron panel with leaves.

replace 11 years’ worth of living. For example, draperies are on order.

Also coming up soon will be the annual Nana’s Camp. Wanda and Ken have a blended family, with her three sons and his daughter, all adults now with children ranging in age from 2 to 11. For a week this summer, the seven oldest grandchildren will be with Wanda for arts and crafts, swimming, kayaking, dinners on the lake and more. “Thank goodness another grandmother will be here to help us,” Wanda says.


As life hurdles forward and the blessings keep coming, Ken and Wanda have reminders of what came before. A piece of their old, wrought-iron entry gate, badly burned, has been restored and hung on the wall near the front door.

On the framework above the front door is a passage of scripture that begins, “To all



who mourn in Israel, He will give a crown of beauty for ashes ...”

From the ashes, Ken and Wanda Hutchens have built a new home — and reinforced their faith.

“You just have to realize God is in control,” Wanda says, “and he’ll bring you through it.” 

people.

Salisbury Pride board members include on the top row, Tara Van Geons, Rodney Lippard, Cathy Puharic, Leslie Cataldo and Vonda Jenkins-Kimrey; middle row: Athena Moore, Jamie Wilkerson, Tony Land, Maryja Mee and Tamara Sheffield; bottom row: Tim Coffey, Heather DePalma-Spivey and Beth Meadows.



Tim Coffey Photography

## A voice for Acceptance

Salisbury Pride works toward a more tolerant, inclusive community

Written by MARK WINEKA

The discussion at a recent Salisbury Pride board meeting sounds like what you would hear at any grassroots organization. Before getting down to business, the board members do their share of laughing and kidding each other.

“Sometimes, it’s like herding cats — myself included,” President Tamara Sheffield says.

The room includes — and this isn’t everyone — an accountant, photographer, health care worker, food broker, senior account manager for a local factory, bookstore manager and a library director for a community college. Sheffield leads the meeting and goes down a checklist of items, preparing for the fifth annual Salisbury Pride Festival June 25.

The board members talk about the musicians scheduled, the need for signs and swag bags, the frustration in finding a sign interpreter, lining up delivery of portable toilets, nailing down sponsors, deciding what Salisbury



Pride gear to sell and the merits of a survey.

Last year's survey showed that people from at least 57 different ZIP codes attended the festival, held in the 100 block of East Fisher Street and around the corner on South Lee Street.

In a short amount of time, Salisbury Pride has become the organizer behind the city's biggest annual festival. In 2015, some 4,000 people attended, and it had more than 90 sponsors and vendors. According to estimates, festival-goers spent some \$300,000 in the downtown and surrounding area during the eight-hour event.

"Salisbury is a great city, and an accepting city," Sheffield says.

Since the first festival in 2011, the event has helped others in getting to know the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning (LGBTQ) community as individuals, not caricatures or stereotypes, Sheffield says. There was a definite need with the first festival in 2011 — and it remains so for the fifth festival this year — for the LGBTQ community to have a place to gather and feel safe, while celebrating their sexual orientation and gender identities.



The Martin-Mendia family, including Jose, Zee, Samantha, Joshua, Lilly, Sebastian and Luke, sport their rainbow shirts at the 2015 Salisbury Pride Festival. — Tim Coffey Photography

The early organizers also learned, "If you provide that space, people will come and support you," board member and media coordinator Beth Meadows says.

Tara Van Geons, who is straight and has become a Salisbury Pride board member herself, attended that first event. She

immediately embraced its significance and the Salisbury Pride message of "equality for all."

"It meant the world to see this was happening," Van Geons says.

But Salisbury Pride board members stress their organization goes far beyond an

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annual festival of fun, music and food.

“It’s so much more than just the day of hooplas and rainbows,” board member Vonda Jenkins-Kimrey says, prompting some ribbing from others in the room who enjoy her word “hooplas.”

Salisbury Pride provides a \$1,000 scholarship to Rowan-Salisbury Schools through its partnership with PFLAG. The scholarship is named for Scotty Ray Gilbert, a Salisbury Pride board member who died in 2012.

Salisbury Pride has done presentations and panel discussions at Catawba College and Pfeiffer University. It has helped in providing free legal clinics and partnered with Stop the Hate, an anti-bullying campaign. Salisbury Pride also participates in the Arc Festival of Trees at Christmas.

Several years ago, Salisbury Pride

established a local bowling league, and it partners throughout the year with organizations such as the Faithful Friends animal sanctuary; Chickweed, a musical event which supports the Rowan Family Crisis Center; Paws in the Park; Toss for Tots, which supports the Terri Hess House; Lee Street theatre; Piedmont Players; and the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade.

“We pride ourselves in working with other organizations,” Jenkins-Kimrey says.

Each year at Christmas, Salisbury Pride supplies a local family in need with gifts for everyone in the family and enough groceries for a holiday meal and the rest of the week.

“The love keeps pushing out away from this event,” Sheffield says.

Salisbury Pride was started by a small group of like-minded gays and straights. A

mission statement put together five years ago has hardly changed. The group seeks to accomplish the following:

- Create opportunities for integrating and promoting visibility for the LGBTQ community.
- Provide safe opportunities and venues for people to celebrate their sexual orientation and identities.
- Foster the support and development of community groups.
- Promote human and civil rights.
- Work against prejudice and discrimination.
- Promote harmony within the community at large.

The goal in 2011 was to have a small street festival, maybe something that would attract 500 people at best. The festival’s organizers were shocked when



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2,500 people showed up, and they loved the diversity of gay, straight, young, old, families, local business people and visitors from elsewhere.

“There was obviously a need that we met,” Meadows says.

Not only did the Salisbury Pride Festival have five times as many visitors that day, but it also attracted over 30 vendors and sponsors “who put themselves out there for the group as well,” organizers say. Those names included PepsiCo, Food Lion, Novant Health, Barefoot Wines, in addition to local businesses.

“We have been recognized for what we’re doing,” Meadows says.

In 2014, the organization earned Human Rights Council North Carolina’s Trailblazer Award, which said, “Since its inception in 2011, Salisbury Pride has

made great strides in promoting visibility, increasing public support and increasing education of the LGBTQ community.”

The Human Rights Council went on to say that although Salisbury is a small town in the buckle of the “Bible Belt,” the efforts of Salisbury Pride have made it “one of the most tolerant and inclusive communities in the Piedmont.”


The Rowan County Arts Council has awarded Salisbury Pride a grant for its 2016 festival.

“We are part of the community,” board member Cathy Puharic says. “It’s not us against them.”

The annual festival is tied to hundreds, if not thousands, of “Pride” events held each year all over the world. Salisbury Pride is a non-profit, 501(3)(c) organization with a 13-member board.

Rodney Lippard, a board member, says attitudes have changed over the years toward the LGBTQ community, and he thinks Salisbury Pride has had something to do with that. He also stresses that “we are not just a gay organization.”

Board members say they simply are trying to help make Salisbury as inclusive as possible. In the past, the festival has attracted some protesters, and last year then Mayor Paul Woodson stopped short of proclaiming an LGBT Pride Day in Salisbury, describing it as a matter of controversy and something the whole council should be voting on. City officials otherwise have welcomed the festival itself.

“We are proud of who we are and what we have accomplished,” Meadows says. “We’ve brought very positive things to Salisbury.” 

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# TRUE BREW



New Sarum's Jim Whelen, Gian Moscardini and brewmaster Andy Maben sit at the bar with a flight of their products. New Sarum Salisbury Brewing Company is operating at its new location on North Lee Street.

## New Sarum, Morgan Ridge bring Salisbury into craft-beer age

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

Bartender Cat Maben busily works the taps during the grand opening at New Sarum.



  
**NEW SARUM**  
SALISBURY BREWING CO



**M**ore than 2,000 people proved Salisbury has arrived as a craft beer destination. That's how many people showed up for New Sarum Salisbury Brewing Co.'s grand opening April 16.

At least one couple traveled from Pennsylvania to taste the five brews, all with Salisbury and Rowan County names — 142 Grits Ale, Hurley Park Blood Orange Wheat, Old Stone House IPA, Roundhouse Robust Porter and High Rock Red Ale.

And there's another craft brewery open-

ing this summer, Morgan Ridge Brewhouse. Sound familiar? It's an expansion of Morgan Ridge Brewhouse and Vineyard in Gold Hill.

Tommy and Amie Baudoin found many of their guests, especially the guys, preferred beer to wine. Tommy started brewing his

own beers on site, like Panther Point Ale, Buffalo Head IPA and Flat Creek Swamp Water.

"The only thing better than one craft brewery is two," Tommy says.

Gian Moscardini, one of New Sarum's owners, agrees. "We're super excited about Morgan Ridge," he says. "We've discussed it a lot."

Both breweries want to make their products as local as possible, using local grain and good old Yadkin River water, straight out of Salisbury's water system.

New Sarum also resurrected some of Salisbury's past. When you walk into the



**Top:** The taproom had a constant flow of beer and buyers of beer during New Sarum's grand opening. **Above:** One of the brews offered at New Sarum. **Right:** New Sarum brewmaster Andy Maben takes a sample of the special brew made with Apple Ugly pastries.

taproom, you'll see wood salvaged from Grimes Mill, which was destroyed by fire in 2013, including a gleaming 16-foot table.

Take a peak through the glass doors into the brewery, and you'll see rows of new, shiny stainless steel tanks, miles of pipes and hose and busy brewers.

New Sarum started brewing in carboys (large glass jars) in what was an office space next to Salty Caper on Lee Street. Brewmaster Andy Maben, who is also one of the owners, knew the old Salisbury Tractor building behind the Gateway would be-

come their bigger, better brewhouse.

It was a brick shell with a dirt floor that needed everything. Morgan Ridge, beginning construction in an old grocery warehouse on Rail Walk, also on Lee Street, is starting with the same empty shell.

Local is the key, Maben says. The grits in the 142 Blonde Ale are from MikNik Farms. The Riverbend Malt comes from Buddy Hoffner's farm. They're working with Catawba College interns to develop a Rowan County yeast. Aaron Goss has started a malt company, and Maben hopes

to use him to source some grains that are gluten-free, such as sorghum. Fading D Farms' water buffalo get to eat the spent grain, as do the animals at Two Pigs Farms.

"I like to complete the cycle," Maben says.

Other owners include Gianni and Edward Moscardini. Edward says New Sarum





uses twice as much product as other, larger brewers to make their beer. “It costs more, but it’s better,” he says.

This brewery, like the one Morgan Ridge plans, required extensive plumbing, piping and electricity. New Sarum also has a large drain system necessary for cleaning the tanks. “Brewing is 95 percent cleaning,”

Maben says.

The group spent their money on brewing equipment and a state-of-the-art lab to ensure the beer is consistent and enjoyable.

John Whelen, one of the marketing directors, says New Sarum has “killer employees — they really take care of things, they do lots of quality control.” Edward

says the number one reason the beer is good is Andy, who shakes his head and looks in the other direction.

Brewing beer is the focus. All the rest is “icing on the cake,” such as the taproom and going to festivals. At the recent Beer Me festival in Charlotte, the Hurley Park Blood Orange Wheat won first prize.

# Spotlight

For the grand opening, Maben made Apple Ugly Belgian Strong Golden Ale, which is light, with a hint of cinnamon and apple. They added some wheat to counteract the oil used to fry the pastries, but be assured, those treats went into the tank. The only problem was getting the bits of apple out.

Outside, in their courtyard/beer garden, are two 80,000-pound grain silos. One is just for the Riverbend Malt. Clear pipes will allow visitors to watch the grain moving into the building for processing. A wall separating the silos from an area of picnic tables was built by Gian with bits of wood and tin off his

Dennis Faber rolls out a handtruck for the first delivery. Gian Moscardini, middle, and Johnny Maben, right, make sure the right product gets on the truck for the trip to Winston-Salem.



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Tommy Baudo stands in the former warehouse on North Lee Street where work continues to construct Morgan Ridge's new brewery and restaurant.



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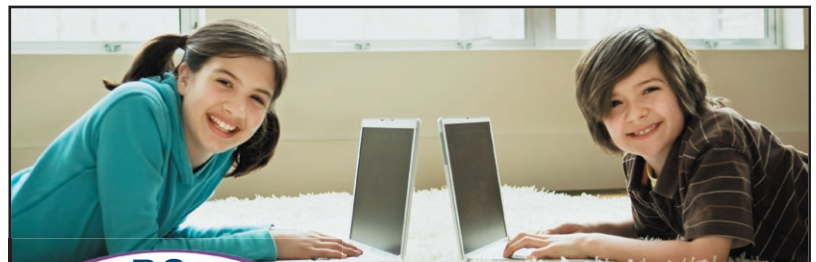
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# Spotlight

farm property.

The large grain room smells like a bakery, with hints of biscuit and chocolate. In there is a grain mill where they can cut and blend grains specifically to their needs.

In the brewery are six 60-barrel tanks, two 90-barrel tanks and four 30-barrel tanks, along with a cereal cooker, mash tun, a hot liquor and a cold liquor tank, and a chiller, which allows them to cool the beer quickly.

In the taproom, the stainless steel wall of taps looks serious, with red and black pipes and a Willy Wonka-esque drain system of three bright red half-pipes that empty into a drain on the floor. “Industrial/farm” is how Gian describes the stools around the room, looking sort of like those old metal chairs that used to sit on porches all over

the South.

The only other drinks you can get in the taproom are water and Cheerwine. “Like I said, we want to keep it local,” Andy says. He’s working on an idea to make a beer using Cheerwine, too.

They bought their own truck for distribution, which is extending to Charlotte and the Triad first. “We’ll see how that goes,” Andy says, “and then we can expand.”

Instead of a canning line, they fill and distribute kegs. When it’s time to can, Land of Sky brings in its equipment, does the job and leaves. A cold room, kept between 35 and 38 degrees, was built by Imperial Brown to hold the canned beer and filled kegs.

Andy points out that the six-pack holders are 95 percent recycled and won’t harm

animals, as standard holders can.

New Sarum’s brews cover a wide range of tastes. Andy says the porter “has crazy amounts of different malts. . . . It has earthiness and hoppiness.” The Red Ale is based on an extra special bitter English ale. Chocolate malt and rye give it its distinctive color. The blood orange wheat has been especially popular with its citrusy notes and light body.

In the taproom, a flight consists of the five beers, presented in a tray shaped like North Carolina. If you like the look of it, they’ll be available for sale, too. Or you can get a 32-ounce or 64-ounce growler. A glass of beer is a pint, 16 ounces.

Seasonal brews are on the way, Gian says. Andy has perfected the recipes for 17 beers.

They’ve also bought a food truck. The

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This alley will be closed off so that a grain silo can be placed next to the building to feed into Morgan Ridge’s new brewhouse.



The view of New Sarum Salisbury Brewing Co. from Depot Street.

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# Spotlight

Wednesday evening Salisbury/Rowan Farmers' Market will be in the parking lot from 4-7, and Gian says they will try to use those products on the truck.

New Sarum is open Wednesday and Thursday, 4-9 p.m., and Friday-Sunday from noon to 9 p.m.

Morgan Ridge is making progress. The venue will have its main entrance at the back of the warehouse, with patio space, a deck and a restaurant and the brewery inside.

Tommy Baudoin and Vanita Edwards have been brewing in a small system at the winery. Demand has grown and Tommy felt it was time to expand. He felt they would get more traffic in Salisbury, especially with New Sarum nearby.

"That's good for both of us. People can

come to town and try out two breweries, just like they visit several wineries in a day in the same area," Tommy says.

"Over the last two years we've been brewing, we've developed some recipes people really enjoy. We're going to start with larger scale brews of those. We'll do seasonal and specialty brews" and keep the four-barrel system at the winery to experiment with new recipes.

Nicole Koontz, the former head brewer at Carolina Blond, will be the brewmaster.

The plans are to be open Wednesday-Sunday for lunch and dinner, from noon-10 p.m., or a little later on Saturdays.

The restaurant will be full service, casual dining. Chef Jason Nain, who plans all menus and cooks at the vineyard, will create a menu with as many local ingre-

dients as possible. They will use beef that has been fed the leftover mash from the beer making. Morgan Ridge wines will also be available. Tommy estimates there will be 100-120 seats inside, with eight to 10 tables outside.

One advantage to doing this in the city is the water supply. "Beer takes a lot of water, a lot of cleaning tanks," Tommy says. "We couldn't do large scale on our septic system in Gold Hill."

They plan to offer flights of beer, pints and growlers. They will not be bottling yet. "It depends on the reception," Tommy says. "If we do wholesale, I like to use cans, because they are recyclable."

They want to draw people from out of town into downtown. "It's not just good for us, but for everyone else in the area." S



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Buck Keziah a practice game before meeting his league, VIB, at Woodleaf Lanes in Salisbury. Keziah will be participating in his fourth year of the 36th Annual National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Salt Lake City, Utah, from June 27-July 2. People call Keziah 'Bright Side Buck' for his optimistic disposition. 'I'm not here to prove to anyone else that I can do it, I do it for myself... I try to be positive about it.'



# ROLLING, ROLLING, ROLLING

At Woodleaf Lanes, bowling proves to be ‘the greatest thing ever invented’

*Written by* SHAVONNE WALKER | *Photography by* ALLISON LEE ISLEY

**I**n 1978, B.J. Wall did something no one had ever done at Woodleaf Lanes: He bowled a perfect game. Rolling a 300, the highest game score possible, was an impressive feat for a man who had never touched a bowling ball until he was a high school sophomore.

Wall, who lives in Lexington, walked away from bowling not long after that history-making game for Salisbury’s lone bowling venue. It would take him 15 years to return to the sport, but when he did, it became his passion for good.

“I think it’s the greatest thing ever invented,” he says.

Wall and Buck Keziah, who you’ll meet later, are representative of how bowling can be a lifetime recreation for people of all ages and abilities — or disabilities.

The Paolino family bought Woodleaf Lanes in Salisbury in 1977, and Jan. 7, 2017, will mark their 40th year of ownership. Bob Paolino moved from Houston to run Woodleaf Lanes back then, but the bowling venue actually dates to 1960. At

the grand opening in 1960, the Salisbury Post said the “plush center” cost \$250,000.

Back in 1977, Bob’s father, who worked for the Brunswick Corp., a bowling equipment company, had heard in his travels about a bowling alley in North Carolina that was up for sale. It happened to be Woodleaf Lanes.

Over the years, the business of bowling has changed, Bob Paolino says, from wooden floors to synthetic, from paper score-keeping to electronic, and to bowlers of all age groups and across all economic levels.



**Bob Paolino**



B.J. Wall bowls a game at Woodleaf Lanes in Salisbury. Wall was the first bowler to ever bowl a 300 at Woodleaf Lanes. 'The thrill of shooting one never goes away,' he says.



"You can come out with a bunch of friends or use it as recreation or friendly competition," Paolino says. "You can have something to eat and drink, or if you're really serious, participate in it as a sport. What I like is people like Buck who come out here and enjoy the sport. ... As a businessman in (Salisbury), it's just been a great way to get involved in the community as a whole."

Here's a closer look at the love for bowling two players, Wall and Keziah, have developed:

Wall, a "country boy" whose father was a sharecropper in Wadesboro, was invited to a Harlem Globetrotters game in 1957 by his school principal. But when the game sold out, the principal told Wall they would go

to a Charlotte bowling alley instead.

“I didn’t know anything about the game,” Wall says, his black-and-lime-green double-roller bag sitting at his feet.

Wall bowled a highly respectable 150 in that first game, and the sights and sounds from the bowling alley sparked something inside of the teenager. It proved to be the starting point for his love of the game for the next 56 years.

“I tried my damndest to get out of it, but I stayed with it,” Wall says.

The next time Wall would pick up a bowling ball would be in the 1960s, while he was serving as a paratrooper during the Vietnam War. He spent time in Japan and

bowled there, although the Japanese rules were much different than in the United States.

After the Army, Wall had nowhere to bowl in Lexington, so he started traveling south on Interstate 85 to Salisbury’s Woodleaf Lanes. Before diving in, he decided to watch the other players first, but it wasn’t long before he was bowling again.

“I had a thirst for recreation,” he says.

Wall retired in 2000, and bowling became his pastime. He now bowls every day except for Monday, his “rest day.” He’s a member of bowling leagues at Woodleaf Lanes and in High Point. Over the years, he has won titles and rings in bowling compe-

titions.

“There’s a rhythm to bowling,” Wall says. “Every game and every bowler has the same opportunity. I put a lot of time and effort into bowling. It’s been worth it.”

Buck Keziah had always bowled for fun, but never found a true appreciation for the sport until he underwent a leg amputation. Keziah, a diabetic, acknowledges he didn’t take care of himself and had no other choice but amputation. He’s wheelchair-bound, and his eyesight is poor, again, because of the diabetes.

On one of his regular visits to the Hefner VA Medical Center, Keziah was invited to participate in a sports clinic at the facility.



North Davie Middle School students bowl during a field trip to Woodleaf Lanes.

■ WELLNESS

“It blossomed from there,” he says of becoming a bowler.

The Air Force veteran would bowl at a six-lane bowling alley on the campus of the VA Medical Center as “exercise,” Keziah says.

“I said, ‘I can do this, I’m still useful.’”

Instead of sitting on the couch and letting it consume him, Keziah says, he became active and fed into his nature of looking on the bright side of everything. Keziah eventually began practicing at Woodleaf Lanes, and soon he joined a couple of leagues.

“It’s fun, especially if you’re in a league,” Keziah says.

Bowling gets Keziah out of the house and he enjoys it. “It opened up a whole new world and it helps me talk to others,” he says. Often while Keziah practices, onlookers will tell him how inspirational he is to them. It gives him an opportunity to tell them about bowling with a disability.

Keziah is now a member of the Veterans Wheelchair Team and competed for the first time in 2014 at the Veterans Wheelchair Games. This year’s competition is this summer in Salt Lake City, Utah.

His coach, Ken Reynolds Sr., worked with Keziah to change his style

of bowling to accommodate his wheelchair and eyesight. Because Keziah can only see shapes, he lines his ball up from near the ball return.

“This has been big for me,” Keziah says of the adjustment.



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“We look at what he’s already doing to get a more accurate release and bring it to where he is more consistent,” Reynolds explains.

Reynolds, also a veteran, coaches players from 4 years old to adults. “If you are not having fun doing it, why are you doing it?” he says. “Buck is an inspiration to every kid and adult who comes

out here.”

Keziah not only competes in bowling, but shot put. He also hand cycles for recreation.

“Just because I got this disability, I don’t have to stop,” Keziah says. “If anything, I sped up, Woodleaf Lanes has been good to me.” 



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*Queen of*  
**STEAM**

The Class J 611 locomotive powers on

*Written by* MARK WINEKA



*Allison Lee Isley photo*



*Jon C. Lakey photo*

**S**PENCER — Cheri George is a fireman on the Class J 611 locomotive, sometimes reverently referred to as the “Queen of Steam.”

Through experience, George knows how much pressure, water and fire the 1950 locomotive needs for the hills, the valleys, the weight it’s pulling and the speeds it must attain.

“It takes time to learn the balancing act,” says George, who when she’s not following her passions for the 611 is a software consultant from Richmond.

Plenty of manuals still exist from the 1930s and 1940s on how to fire a locomotive. George says you read about the principles, but nothing substitutes for the hands-on experience of doing it over and over.

“Some people get it, some people don’t,” George says. “Apparently, I got it.”

**Above:** The Norfolk & Western Class J 611 steam passenger locomotive, known as the Queen of Steam, gets ready for her excursion from Spencer Shops to Lynchburg, Va., and back.

**Left:** The fire box containing the burning coal is held open.



*Jon C. Lakey photo*

You would think her duties in the cab would be George's favorite part about being associated with the 611. But it's something much simpler than that.

"I like washing it," she says.

As George bathes the black, bullet-nosed locomotive with the distinctive Tuscan red stripe, she gets a chance to examine its features up close and marvel at all the moving parts, more than 200 of them.

She appreciates the roller bearings on the driver and tender axles, the 70-inch wheels, their 4-8-4 configuration and the gleaming silver rods. The 611 weighs 494,000 pounds. It can generate 5,000 horsepower and attain speeds up to 110 mph pulling 15 cars. The tank holds 25,000 gallons of water, and an auger from the coal car in back feeds fuel to the firebox faster than any man could shovel.

"Of course, firing it is fun, too," George says while the 611 sits, breathing, at the N.C.



*Allison Lee Isley photo*

**Top:** Fireman Tom Mayer steps out of the back of the Roundhouse to where the J611 is sitting on the tracks. **Above:** All of the coal is stored on board to keep the train rolling.



Transportation Museum in Spencer. It's getting ready for the first passenger train excursions of a new season — trips that fill up quickly with patrons nostalgic for rail days of the past.

"There's no bigger attention-getter than this," George adds of the 611.

At its shops in Roanoke, Norfolk & Western Railway built 14 of these Class J steam locomotives between 1941 and 1950, and the 611 is the only survivor. The locomotive, restored at the N.C. Transportation Museum in 2014-2015, is like a rock star among rail enthusiasts.

The "Queen" has a Facebook page, a magazine, a book, ballcaps, coffee mugs, bumper stickers and posters. The Forward 611 Committee looks after its operation and upkeep and is helping to raise funds for a preservation and education center at the Virginia Museum of Transportation in Roanoke. The new facility will house the 611 and two other important N&W steamers, the Class A 1218, used to pull freight trains, and the Class Y6a 2156, once the reliable workhorse in mountain terrain.

The Class J locomotives pulled famous passenger trains such as the Powhatan Arrow, Cavalier and Pocahontas between Norfolk, Va., and Cincinnati, Ohio. The Class Js also headed the Tennessean, Pelican



Allison Lee Isley photo

and Birmingham Special between Monroe, Va., and Bristol, Tenn.

Rolled into service on May 29, 1950, the 611 cost \$251,344. Many of the Class Js operated close to 15,000 miles a month, and N&W historians say several of the locomotives logged more than three million miles by the time they were retired and completely gave way to diesel locomotives in 1959.

The 611 is like a cat with many lives.

Allan Rearick takes a break in the cab of the Class J No. 611 steam engine.

While pulling the Pocahontas on Jan. 23, 1956, the 611 took a curve too fast, sending it and five cars off the track. The locomotive nearly slid into the Tug River, and it took a year before the 611 was back in service.

The rest of its history is filled with indignities and other dramatic comebacks. Once, it was relegated to serving as a reserve steam generator at N&W's East End Shops, then it became a static display at the Roanoke



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## ■ REMINISCE



Jon C. Lakey photo

Transportation Museum (today's Virginia Museum of Transportation).

In 1981, Norfolk Southern President Robert Claytor sent the 611 to the Norris Steam Shop in Birmingham, Ala., for a complete restoration, and the 611 was reborn as the locomotive pulling the company's steam excursions throughout the Eastern Seaboard until the program ended in 1994 and the locomotive became an exhibit again at the Roanoke museum.

In 2013, the Virginia Museum of Transportation started its "Fire Up 611" program to return the 611 to excursion service with Norfolk Southern's "21st Century Steam" program. More than 3,000 donations from all 50 states and 19 countries came in. The locomotive was restored in Spencer, returned to Roanoke, and it now serves as the

**The Class J 611 locomotive crosses the bridge over the Yadkin River at 7:25 a.m. on a Saturday, taking passengers on an excursion trip to Lynchburg, Va.**

"roving ambassador" for the Virginia museum and, thanks to a unique partnership, the N.C. Transportation Museum, too.

The 611 headed two spring excursions originating from Spencer in April, and it will be a guest here on several occasions throughout the summer. It represented the high-speed rail service of its day.

"It's the last of its type — and it's beautiful," says Walker Nelms, marketing and public relations coordinator for the Virginia Transportation Museum. "It's just so pretty. To me, it's the quintessential steam locomotive. We're just so proud to have it and share

it with the N.C. Transportation Museum."

People from New Zealand, Australia and England have scheduled vacations around coming to see the 611. "It's known all over the world," Nelms says. The 611 represented state-of-the-art steam locomotive technology in 1950 and is still an engineering marvel.

"Can you imagine starting with a blank piece of paper and coming up with this?" Nelms asks.

The trio of Scott Lindsay, Preston Claytor and George spearheaded the Fire Up 611 effort which returned the 611 as the rightful queen of steam excursions.

Lindsay, chief mechanical officer for the Forward 611 Committee and a 39-year veteran of steam locomotives, first worked on the 611 during its restoration in Birming-

# Getting married?

SALISBURY the magazine is proud to announce a new

## WEDDINGS section!

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**Williams & Byars**  
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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 like journey together. When Michael's job with the National Football League meant a transfer to Arizona, Kristina happily went along. After being settled into their new city 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 surroundings. 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 clue what he said, and he doesn't either because we were so nervous," Gail 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 cake. From there, the couple began making plans for a wedding filled with exquisite beauty, abiding love, and lots of fun surprises. Up next: Faccus apererat soloreptat acia dem qui cupisai magnam rector simpedi offic tem ut ut perreatur ant, non essentiam, sunt et aut reum volupsa sarem, Fenati oerion por sedis quis ea corecab ipid mil il maximamet dolupatens

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## ■ REMINISCE

ham, Ala., in 1982.

To Lindsay, the 611 is a symbol of how great this country can be — that a locomotive built 66 years ago can still power its way down the tracks. It was designed to be rebuilt again and again, and there’s a good chance it will still be running 100 years from now, he predicts.

The 611 usually impresses those seeing it for the first time with the size of the wheels, the whistle, the power, the steam billowing from the top and the fact you can feel the ground shake as it rolls by. People today aren’t used to purely mechanical things, built and operated without the aid of computers, Lindsay says.

He once had two people on the same day climb into the cab, and their first question was, “Where’s the monitor?”

Besides the Queen of Steam, the 611 also has been labeled “The Spirit of Roanoke,” a name painted below the window of its cab. Lindsay lodges a protest: “All the froufrou stuff,” he says, shaking his head in mock disgust. “... I’ll get political on you.”

On loan from the Museum of Transportation in St. Louis, Allan

**The J611 locomotive returns to Spencer after a 15-hour excursion to Lynchburg, Va.**



Jon C. Lakey photo

Rearick is part of the end-of-the-day support crew for the excursions. He also was a member of the team, along with George, that rebuilt the locomotive in 2014-2015. He has 45 years of experience with steam and boilers.

“One thing led to another, and here I am today,” Rearick says, checking the water gauge in the 611’s cab. The boiler pressure for the 611 is a constant 300 pounds per square inch.

George says the 611 was designed to be extremely efficient, cleaner than a jet airplane. On the excursions, it requires a five-person crew to move it and a core group for mechanical support.


George says lots of washing, lubricating and servicing happens before the 611 rolls

out of the barn. The crew consists of an engineer and fireman, and Norfolk Southern provides three more: a pilot, conductor and brakeman.

“We know the locomotive,” George says. “They know everything else.”

One of the 611 engineers is Sandy Alexander of Salisbury. He says the first conversation he ever had with his wife, Kelly, occurred in the cab of the 611 going up Old Fort Mountain.

That’s the Queen, always making an impression.

“It’s not your typical choo-choo train,” George says. 

**Eddie Mooneyham cleans off the light on the front of the restored steam engine.**



Allison Lee Isley photo



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Conductor David Hagy leads the music at the 2015 Salisbury Symphony's Pops at the Post. This year's event is June 4. — Photo by Wayne Hinshaw.

# Summer 2016

Upcoming events in Salisbury-Rowan and elsewhere

## JUNE 4

### **Pops at the Post**

• *Salisbury Post*

Free outdoor concert, 8 p.m., at the Post loading dock. 12th annual event with the Salisbury Symphony and Friends. Check [salburysymphony.org](http://salburysymphony.org) for more information.

## JUNE 10

### **Main Street Challenge 5K**

• *China Grove Fire Department*

9 p.m. For more information, go to [salburyrowanrunners.org](http://salburyrowanrunners.org).

## JUNE 11

### **Cleveland Lions Breakfast**

• *Lions' Den, Cleveland*

7-10 a.m., Cemetery Street. Supports visually- and hearing-impaired research and services. For more information, contact 704-278-0661, or [hewclem@bellsouth.net](mailto:hewclem@bellsouth.net).

## JUNE 12

### **Civil rights exhibit**

• *Rowan Museum*

1 p.m. opening of the new exhibit, "Mama, Why Does the Water Have a Color?" Rowan Museum is located at 202 N. Main St., Salisbury.

## JUNE 16-18

### **"Diversified"**

• *Lee Street theatre*

7:30 p.m. each show. Lee Street theatre's annual 10-minute-play festival. Theater is located at 329 N. Lee St. For more information: leestreet.org, or 704-310-5507.

## JUNE 16

### Union Street Live

• *Downtown Concord*

Summer concert series. Main Stage: Jim Quick & Coastline. North Stage: Pluto for Planet. Check [www.concorddowntown.com](http://www.concorddowntown.com).

## JUNE 20-24

### History Camp 1

• *Rowan Museum*

History Camp for elementary school students. Museum is located at 202 N. Main St.

## JUNE 25

### Salisbury Pride Festival

• *Downtown Salisbury*

Fifth annual event has become one of Salisbury's biggest festivals with many vendors and sponsors providing food, music, entertainment and education, while also promoting visibility for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning community. Go to [salisburypride.com](http://salisburypride.com) for more information.

## JULY 4

### Faith Fourth of July

• *Faith*

Annual parade, fireworks, music, amusements and food on Main Street and at Legion Park.

## JULY 11

### Business After Hours

• *Courtyard by Marriott*

5-7 p.m. Sponsored by Rowan County

Chamber of Commerce, Contact [cdeese@rowanchamber.com](mailto:cdeese@rowanchamber.com), or 704-633-4221.

## JULY 11-15

### History Camp 2

• *Rowan Museum*

History Camp for middle school students. An overnight stay on July 14. The museum is located at 202 N. Main St.

## JULY 14-23

### "The Wizard of Oz"

• *The Norvell Theater*

A production of the Piedmont Players' youth theatre. The Norvell is located at 135 E. Fisher St. Contact 704-633-5471, or [piedmontplayers.com](http://piedmontplayers.com) for tickets and information.

## JULY 16

### 5K Run/Walk for the Salisbury Greenway

• *Knox Middle School*

Proceeds benefit the Salisbury Greenway, 8 a.m., \$20 pre-registration, \$25 day-of registration, \$10 fun run: For more information: [salisburync.gov/play](http://salisburync.gov/play), 704-216-2708, or [salisburyrowanrunners.org](http://salisburyrowanrunners.org).

## JULY 16

### China Grove Farmers' Day

• *Downtown China Grove*

9 a.m.-11 p.m. A street festival with something for all ages. 200 booths, produce, two stages, antique farm equipment and impressive cars. Rides, games, shows for children. 7 p.m. street dance. Fireworks end the night. Visit [www.chinagrovecnc.gov](http://www.chinagrovecnc.gov) for details.

## JULY 21-24, 28-30

### "August: Osage County"

• *Lee Street theatre*

Production of the St. Thomas Players. The-

ater is located at 329 N. Lee St. For more information: [leestreet.org](http://leestreet.org) or 704-310-5507.

## JULY 21

### Union Street Live

• *Downtown Concord*

Summer concert series. Main Stage: Fantastic Shakers. North Stage: Jay Mathey Band. Check [www.concorddowntown.com](http://www.concorddowntown.com) for more information.

## JULY 25-29

### Civil War Camp

• *Rowan Museum*

Civil War history for middle-schoolers. The museum is located at 202 N. Main St., Salisbury.

## JULY 28-AUG. 6

### "Hands on a Hardbody"

• *Meroney Theater*

A Piedmont Players Theatre production. Meroney Theater is located at 213 S. Main St., Salisbury. For information on times and tickets: 704-633-5471, or [piedmontplayers.com](http://piedmontplayers.com).

## JULY 30

### Dragon Boat Festival

• *High Rock Lake*

9 a.m.-5 p.m. on the Shrine Club property at the end of Long Ferry Road. Sponsored by the Rowan County Chamber of Commerce. For more information: [cdeese@rowanchamber.com](mailto:cdeese@rowanchamber.com), or 704-633-4221.

## JULY 30

### Village Ghost Walk

• *Gold Hill*

Historic Gold Hill village. Check [goldhill-nc.com](http://goldhill-nc.com) for details. 



Above: Bright sunny skies and a continuous flow of classic automobiles greeted admirers along Main Street in China Grove during the first downtown Cruisin' in the Grove. Below: Howell Kesler, from Granite Quarry, studies the engineering of a Corvette engine swap in a Jeep Wrangler. The Jeep is owned by Benny Cullen of China Grove.



# *Cruisin'* IN THE GROVE

Classic cars, food, music and various vendors were part of the town of China Grove's "Cruisin' in the Grove" street festival.

— Photos by Jon C. Lakey



Left: Jim Long, from Kannapolis, brought his 1958 Chevy Impala to the cruise in. Right: Chris Thomas, left, from Faith, and Vic Stirewalt, from Kannapolis, talk about Thomas' restored two-toned green 1930 Ford Model A. Far right: Jeff Snider with his 29-year-old macaw named Dot.



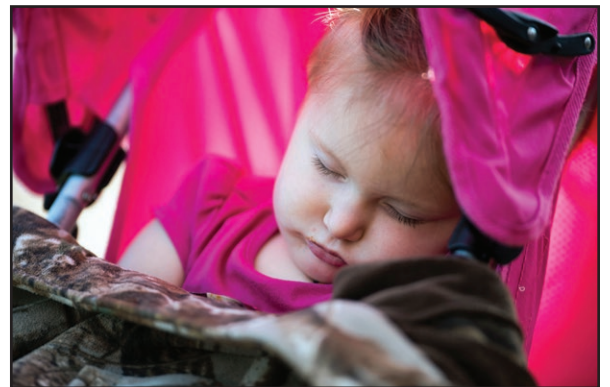




**Left:** Buck Connell, from Mocksville, relaxes on the tailgate of his late model Honda after spending time looking over all the cars on display. **Right:** Randy Daugherty cruises down Main Street in his 1974 Ford Bronco.



**Right:** Rob and Jackie Wisocky, from Spencer, sit next to their 1968 AMC AMX as they talk with people who come by. **Far right:** 19-month-old Emery McKnight sleeps soundly in her stroller while the classic cars cruise by.



**Above:** Tim Klaus, left, talks with Rowan County Weather's Steve Monday, who was the DJ for the event. **Right:** Plenty of horsepower was on display during the event downtown.





Above: Marian Walters and Starling Johnson  
Below: Patricia Fields and Lindsay McManus



Leighanne Dorton; Robert Van Geons, executive director of RowanWorks; and Andy Maben, brewmaster at New Sarum Brewing Co.

# Young Professionals

The Rowan County Chamber of Commerce's Young Professionals (under 40) group enjoyed a sneak-peek tour of New Sarum Brewing Co. in Salisbury, only days prior to the brewery's grand opening.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Above: Melanie Denton, Mollie Ruf, J.R. Kessler and Jessica Ijames. Above left: Scott Miller, Kristen Trexler and Nick Adkins. Left: Mark Doby and Chris Fowler

The Civitan Club of Salisbury held its annual Spaghetti Feast at the Salisbury Civic Center. The club received valuable assistance during the lunch and dinner meals from Junior Civitans. Proceeds benefited Civitan projects and scholarships.

— Photos by Mark Wineka

Andy Storey, Mark Curran (in back) and Brad Walser stir sauce at the Salisbury Civitan Club's Spaghetti Feast.



# Spaghetti Feast



**Left:** Diana Nieto, Deedee Woazeah and Jenifer Diaz.

**Right:** Kathy Allen, Treva Hinson, Kim Jones, Angela Poole and Wendy Wagoner



**Left:** John Graham, Eric Faust and Will Sandridge

**Right:** Kellie Browne, Judy Grissom and Caroline Parrott





Mary Beth Corbett and Karen Webb

April was Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month, and Rowan County's longstanding support group for people with the neurological disorder and their caregivers held a special meeting at the Hurley Family YMCA in Salisbury.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Leonard Beaver, the Rev. Sandy Kern and Deirdre Blabon.

# Parkinson's awareness



**Above:** Jeff Gobble, Judy Goodnight and Dave Kern.



**Right:** Dorothy Culbertson, Debbie Stegall and Wilson Stegall



**Top:** Jo Ann Strobl, Irene Moeller and Heather Evenden.  
**Above:** Renee Gray, Phyllis Beaver and Robin Gobble



Left to right: Corky Waugh, Gary Rhodes, Bill Hall, Robert Bobinski, Jim Graczyk, Laura Millspaugh, Carl Haynes, Michael Becker, Jamin Shanti, Bob Zirt and Robert Keeney, part of the Salisbury Swing Band, pose for a photo on the bridge at the Hurley Park Spring Celebration.

# Hurley Park celebration

Art, music, magic, carriage rides and bubbles were part of the annual spring celebration at Hurley Park. This was the 28th year for the celebration, going back to the park's opening in 1988.

— Photos by Allison Lee Isley



Left to right: Shenoah Drakeford, Eliakim Drakeford, 3, Ashwoa Drakeford, 15, and Shaneaia Drakeford, 13, enjoy the Hurley Park Spring Celebration.



Above: Left to right: Molly the horse, Phil Maness, Sara McCubbins, and Cody Hancock, with Horse & Carriage LTD. Right: Monica Alfonsi and Jean Randinelli. Far right: Left to right: Father Lucas Rossi, Kara Becker, and Kristy Michaels at the Hurley Park Spring Celebration.





The Spring Frolic offered, among other things, Colonial-era dance lessons.



Front: Justin Smith and Lee Karriker. Middle: Taylor Darby and Emma Owens. Back: Jason Smith, Riley Owens and Jolee Smith.

# Spring FROLIC

Rowan Museum held its annual Colonial Spring Frolic at the Old Stone House in Granite Quarry. The “frolic,” full of Colonial-era dancing, crafts and demonstrations, also marked the reopening of the 1766 Old Stone House for the season.

— Photos by Mark Wineka



Tia Oakley, Elizabeth Reynolds, Jon Wallace and Gary Jones



**Above:** Kaye Brown Hirst and Betty Mickle. **Right:** Logan Davis, Scott Lowry and Boni Lowry.



**Left:** Linda White and Joann Lovings. **Middle:** Nicole Lambert, Carlene Bean and Leigh Southard. **Right:** Aleiah Martin and Aaron Kepley.



**Above:** Carolina Colonial Dancers Todd Southard and Nancy Stewart with Betsy Cunningham. **Right:** Cole, Shaylee and Tricia Creel.





# BOOK SIGNING

Salisbury native Kristy Woodson Harvey, who now lives in Kinston, had a book signing at the Literary Bookpost for her new novel, “Lies and Other Acts of Love.”

— Photos by Deirdre Parker Smith



**Above left:** Salisbury Mayor Pro Tem Maggie Blackwell and Barbara Perry. **Above:** Alex Sprinkle, author Kristy Woodson Harvey, Hailie and Amber Sprinkle.



**Above:** Authors’ mothers, from left, Beth Woodson, mother of Kristy Woodson Harvey, at right, and Nancy Stanback, mother of author John Hart. **Below:** Paul Woodson, father of Kristy Woodson Harvey, left, Lee Johnson and Don Vick.



**Above:** Gene Wolfe, Laura Thompson, Heath van Wagenberg and Kristy Woodson Harvey.

**Left:** Salisbury Mayor Karen Alexander, Judy and Sandy Goodman.







Above: Doug Black, Morgan Ferretti and Max Sigler



Top: Melissa Eller and Wayne Davenport. Above: Terry Wilber, Alan Rutherford and Leah Campion.



James Faust, Margaret Faust, Rex Otey and Diane Dillon Hooper

# HSF *meets*

Historic Salisbury Foundation held its 43rd annual meeting at Salisbury Station. — Photos by Mark Wineka



Above: Dianne Hall, Sue Hartgrove, Dane Hartgrove and Carol Rathbun.

Right: Joe Wilson, Owen Norvell and Elizabeth Norvell.



Tim Demers, Elysia Demers, Morgan Demers, Sue McHugh and Greg Rapp

# The world beyond Salisbury

In this story, can you find names of more than 75 countries?

**Editor's note:** *Salisbury the Magazine* will take a short hiatus until our August issue, which comes out the last week of July. To pass the time until then and honoring July Fourth in the United States and World Population Day July 11, try our "Countries of the World" quiz. Warning: It's tough, but read to the bottom to see what your reward could be.

**Find the names of more than 75 countries and territories hidden in this 450-word story written by Project Manager Len Clark:**

One Christmas I slandered my pyromaniac apartment janitor; on the window mid-way he'd applied a sign five inches in diameter saying: 'Do not touch — In an emergency exit flat via fire landing.' I called it a lying sign — there was no fire escape. The front door was the only way to go in or way to go out. Weather was yuk, rained so much I left before long.

You could not start on gardens until May; summer was minimal, it was never green; land often froze, in the forecast hail and sleet were always major dangers. You could slip on ice, landing on your back or easily putting yourself in hospital where you catch almost any germ. Any bug going awaits you in hospital. I got a bug and a case of swollen glands when I was there, they prescribed me a vaporiser.

Biased — maybe I am, but I think you're worse off inland; it's healthier on the coast at a fitness club. Run either morning or night at the one I randomly chose, no matter your age or giant ego; just agree certain rules. They provided wakeup calls, sweat pants, jersey, specific ongoing



support, a superb hut and although not a panacea, us triathletes thought it was super, unlike anything we'd seen. Can a daily dose of facial scrubber, mud and eye packs and using a pores cleansing incubator make you beautiful? It didn't eradicate hidden marks but off ran cellulite and pounds.

Ha, it is always a girl and a guy - a naïve guy too. I had a nightmare union with an outspoken yarn teller, boy could she gab on. Her name's Tonia Lundgren, a dazzler, but some girls wed entirely for the wrong reasons, she was a moaner and a witch. Add the fact all the woman did was eye men all the time; I wanted rid of her and her wand, and I saw a less painful path as my safety net. Her 'landsakes!' response to everything had no merit really either. Unlike her grandpa-laugh-a-minute club president, I bet he must be ninety at least, Tim or Timmy he was called, a dear gent in a little Mada gas car which we shared on days off.

But the potions! I yearned for a Belgium waffle, so though there was not one palat-

able dish and a wholesale ban on junk food, I longed for the sight of sausages in a frying pan. A mangy turkey soup I recall with a paprika rub all stirred in a vat. I can also remember a malt and avocado cream on a cold toasted bun and/or rancid grape leaves. Okay if you're a vegan, go Lasagna I say! **S**

*From all correct (or close to correct) entries, two names will be chosen at random to receive a year's free home delivery of Salisbury the Magazine (nine issues), plus the fame and fortune of your name in the September issue of Salisbury the Magazine. Mail your entry to Salisbury the Magazine, COUNTRIES, P.O. Box 4639, Salisbury NC 28145, or drop it off at 131 W. Innes St.. No electronic submissions, please. You may send a list of the countries, or a copy of this page with the countries circled. Please include your name, address, telephone and the total number you found. Entries must be received no later than July 15, 2016.*

**75+ countries in 450 words © strict copyright Len Clark 2016 len@lenclark.com**

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