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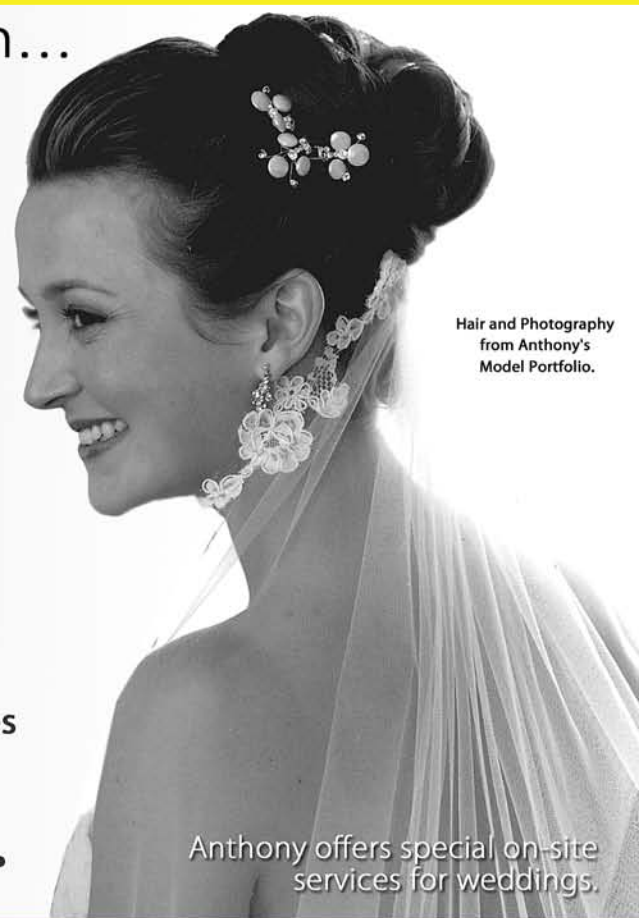
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Dollmakers of the Southern Highland Craft Guild
November 1- December 31, 2006



Doll created by Nancy Kubale Wicker

Allanstand Craft Shop at the Folk Art Center presents "Dollmakers of the Southern Highland Craft Guild," November 1- December 31. The Southern Highland Craft Guild (SHCG) is a membership organization comprised of nearly 1000 juried craftspeople from the mountain regions of the Southeast. Chartered in 1930, it has grown to become one of the strongest craft organizations in the country. Headquarters to SHCG and home to Allanstand Craft Shop, the Folk Art Center is always a preferred destination for collectors. This November and December it will be paradise to connoisseurs of the handmade doll.

Dollmakers of the Southern Highland Craft Guild promises to be one of the most exceptional doll shows ever. An invitational open only to SHCG members, many of the dolls are specially made for this event – all are hand made, one-of-a-kind, collector's items. Each participating artist uses a unique visual vocabulary that is a part of his or her distinctive graphic style and vision. Each creates from a source of his or her own personal passion.

Sandra Bishop draws from a deep love and appreciation for Appalachian heritage to create her dolls. "My dolls are inspired by people I've known... family members, friends or even strangers who have caught my eye. They are born of a simpler time... a time when life moved slower and we stayed in closer touch with one another." Her dolls are constructed with a wire armature covered in polyester stuffing and tightly woven muslin, and the faces are sculpted using an air-dried clay. The clothes are handmade from Sandra's original patterns. Each doll is signed and numbered.

"Making dolls has been a passion of mine for over 30 years," says Charlie Patricolo. She makes soft sculpture fiber dolls with wire armatures and watercolor details. Her current series is entitled *Legacy*. "It was inspired by what I hope to leave as my legacy. Instead of leaving piles of cash and real estate, I hope to leave these values and philosophies: Honor, Style, Peace, Love, Generosity, Adventure, Respect, Creativity, Compassion, Grace and Compassion. What will you leave?"

Rebecca Kempson's mother put a needle in her hand when she was three years old and the love of creating from fabric has never left her. All of her dolls have special needlework incorporated in their designs such as a cap knitted of handspun multicolored yarn, a quilted vest, or a garment edged in hand-crocheted silk. She also incorporates bits and pieces of antique or unusual fabrics, and antique buttons discovered during travels around the world. The layers of rich detail are a feast for the senses.

Sandra Bishop, Charlie Patricolo, and Rebecca Kempson are three fine examples of the caliber of dollmakers represented by the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Other makers whose work will be on view include Nancy Kubale-Wicker, Chandra Cerchione-Peltier, Lindy Evans, Gabe Cyr, Jennifer Hastings, Lesley Gail Keeble, and more. This list of makers represent a diversity of talent, style and technique. The showing of their collective works will share our comedy and tragedy, capture and captivate, and evoke our common empathy.

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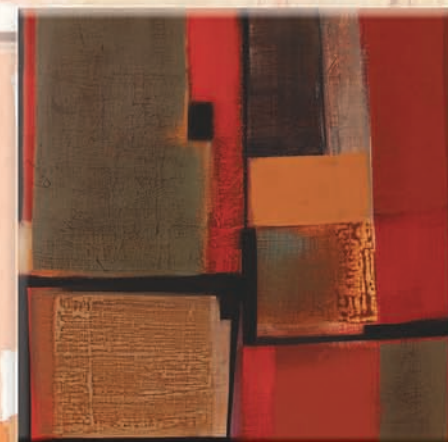
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Inside

5 Cover

Creativity with Classes 5

6 Fine Art

Silver Fox 6

Mountains of Art 7

Café on the Square 8

Art Notes 15

10 Music/Performing Arts/Theatre

Shawn Gallaway 10

Joseph Hill Tribute 11

Chris Smither 12

Lenora Thom 13

Spinning Discs 14

Flat Rock Playhouse 19

Performance Updates 35

16 Books

18 Poetry

20 More Fine Art

22 Dine

Wine Guide 22

Honest Food Reviews. 23

24 Family & Living

25 WNC Events

27 Health

28 What to Do Guide

Corqi Tales 31

32 Movie Reviews

35 Gallery Updates

36 The Greener Home

Bill Walz 38

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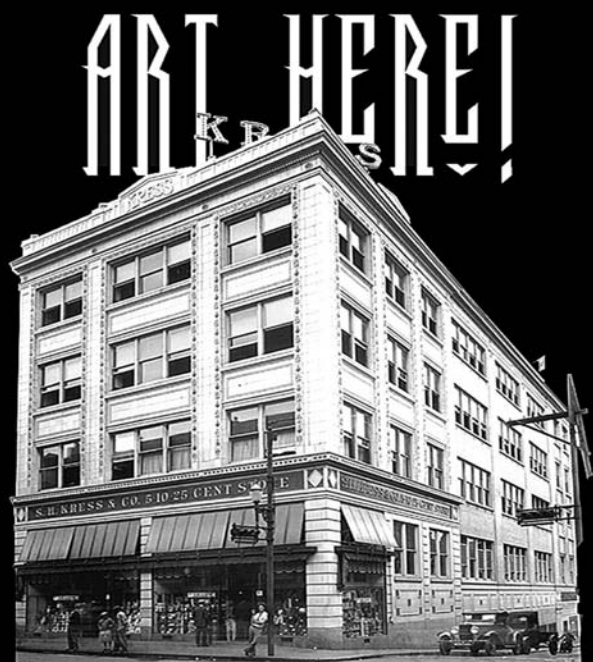
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COVER



Lorelle Bacon, *Viet Nam - Serenity* Medium: Oil, 18x24

15 ways to satisfy your creative side

BY BYRON BELZAK

"It's all about trying out new things to find out what you like and don't like," said Lorelle Bacon, long-time artist and art teacher who teaches at Woolworth Walk in downtown Asheville as well as at the Black Mountain Center for the Arts.

"By taking a variety of workshops and classes, you'll discover your passion."

Maybe your passion is painting or sculpture. Or you might prefer learning how to work with metal, clay, wood, fiber or glass. And that's just touching the surface of mastering visual arts and fine crafts.

WINNERS' CIRCLE

"You won't know what you truly enjoy until you try it," said Bacon, who recently held a juried art show and

awards program for dozens of her students at the Black Mountain Library, which was attended by well over a 100 friends and relatives of the students, who consisted of children, teens and adults.

"That's the fun of it all. Learning something new and different that satisfies your creative side."

Nationally known wildlife artist Bob Travers who was the principal judge at Lorelle Bacon's student art show said, "I look for originality and skill. It was difficult choosing the winners, because there were many excellent entries." After presenting the awards, Travers spoke individually with many of the contestants and discussed the strengths and weaknesses of their works. His professional observations were kind and encouraging.

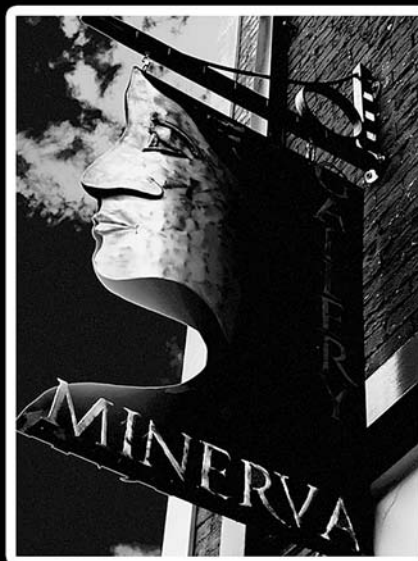
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'Classes' continued on pg. 26

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Allan Buitekant

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NEWART

Prestigious ASU art contest chooses Silver Fox Gallery artist, Icard

BY NEIL HARRIS

A painting by Silver Fox Gallery resident artist Carol Beth Icard was acquired by Appalachian State University in Boone, NC for its permanent collection at the newly built Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons.

Icard's oil on canvas, "History of the World," was one of 22 art works selected by the university's librarian and members of the Library Art Advisory Committee.

Icard's painting was selected in a juried art competition open to all artists residing in the Appalachian region and the Southeast US.

Icard resides in Landrum, SC and has won numerous awards in regional juried



History of the World, oil on canvas, Carol Beth Icard

art competitions. Her work reflects her emotional responses and introspective observations of Italy and its culture.

Primarily an oil painter, Icard also produces mixed media works incorporating Venetian plaster, transfers of her photographs, and other alternative materials and supports.

CERAMIST ALAN BUITEKANT

Allan Buitekant moved to Rutherfordton, NC from New York nearly a decade ago. Buitekant's work is made from stoneware and white stoneware he throws on the wheel, alters or constructs from slabs.

"The use of a piece completes its



Trio of Altered Vases, Allan Buitekant, white stoneware with matte glaze.

purpose," he says. "Clay possesses a quality that reveals spontaneity."

Included in Buitekant's work, titled "Form and Function," is a much-used lidded pot crafted by Buitekant 30 years ago for his beloved wife and life partner Jane; two new pots of similar style are displayed with the heirloom piece.

In addition to half a dozen functional

pieces, the gallery will show torsos Buitekant sculpts in his quest for minimal expression in claywork, and vases he creates more as sculpture than functional pieces.

"Jane's Chicken Collection" is exhibited in the wooden case in which Jane displayed the miniature 'chicken gods' that Buitekant made and placed in the kiln each time he fired. (Once when he did not make a 'chicken god' for the kiln, all shelves collapsed and the entire body of work was destroyed.)

If you go:

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MOUNTAINS OF ART

Embrace the emerging "Age of the Artist"

BY BYRON BELZAK

Never before has the applied creativity of the artist mind been needed more than now.

Old problems require new solutions in the United States and throughout the rest of the civilized world. And new challenges require independent thinkers and outside-the-box thinkers as well. The artist in each of us must step forward and be heard.

Artists with innovative solutions must be encouraged to find their voice. They must be supported by new leaders, better leaders, at all levels, in all areas, who value new ideas of creatively moving our community, our nation and our world forward. This is a job for each and every one of us – and none of us can do it alone.

Yet each of us must act individually, in our own way, honoring integrity, celebrating love, and courageously defying fear. Each of us must take a stand and contribute to this necessary collective endeavor, this creative movement, to create a tidal wave of change.

Corruption, lies and greed have seeped into so many levels of society and government – the real "trickle down" theory at work – that we artists may be the last great hope to reclaim basic integrity to make this country whole again. Each of us must push and pull, fight and struggle, for all that is good. Championing personal integrity and building upon what is good for the common and collective good as told through our respective arts is never out of style.

The serious artist is always in pursuit of truth. The truth will set each of us free, and that truth will set society free. Communicating truth – whatever the vehicle, be it through writing, painting, acting, dance, song or any of a myriad of art forms – can, and must, be accomplished one state, one county, one city, one neighborhood, one household, one citizen, one artist at a time.

Only by eating the proverbial elephant "one bite at a time," with all of us artists participating, can a new direction with creative solutions be accomplished – and done more quickly than seems imaginable. Let's start chewing with our mouths and our eyes wide open. It's a beginning.

"The Age of the Artist" is one that morphs competition into cooperation, suppresses rampant greed, and reveals corruption in the context of traditional values of honor and honesty. This enlightenment, this unveiling of truth, is the essence of the human spirit. And it is the artist who can best champion the human spirit.

Why? The artist deals with such things daily and in a most personal way. For this reason, it is the artist who must step forward and speak with force and confidence. There is no one else better equipped or more passionate. Just look at the power of the wide screen when a message resonates truth. People respond, even while seated

in the dark.

We must work cooperatively and creatively to solve the major problems of our day – be that in education, healthcare,

housing, environment, transportation, security, or the preservation of what we know as democracy. Embracing change and communicating new paradigms will carry us, if not propel us, into the Artist Age.

Two relatively recent best-selling books, entitled "The Rise of the Creative Class: And How It's Transforming Work, Leisure, Community and Everyday Life" by Richard Florida, and "The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference" by Malcolm Gladwell, have a common and hopeful thread: the unexpected creative solution accomplished at the right time will alter the very structure and future of our society and workplace.

The more that we accept and support the artist who provides creative solutions applied to major problems, the sooner we as a nation will not only encourage, but demand, more "thinking outside of the box" and instituting the best recommendations.

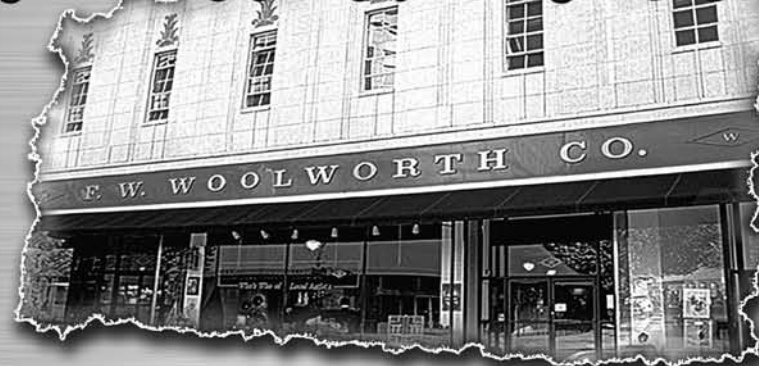
Yes, the Age of the Artist is unfolding. Perhaps because the creative community has felt stifled for so many years. The artist is now beginning to discover his/her voice. I see expression of truth and what is real emerging everywhere, as unstoppable as grass growing. With clarity the courageous artist offers America new solutions – solutions that foster hope, demand freedom and, above all, are practical and affordable.

Times are a'changin'. Will you be part of the solution?

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"Only by eating the proverbial elephant 'one bite at a time,' with all of us artists participating, can a new direction with creative solutions be accomplished.... Let's start chewing together with our mouths and our eyes wide open."

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DOWNTOWN ASHEVILLE

FINEART

Fostering creativity — Asheville style

BY MELISSA SMITH

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics nearly 4000 are people employed in Asheville's restaurant industry.

In most cases, this line of work is not a means to an end, but rather it provides a somewhat stable

income while offering flexibility to pursue other creative passions. Many of Asheville's talented artists, musicians, performers and writers are employed in our city's plethora of dining options.

While most owners busy themselves with the business of operating the establishment, few take a vested

interest in their employees' futures. Employment in the restaurant industry is, after all, transient and disposable.

On the contrary, Tracy Adler, owner of Café on the Square, goes above and beyond to support her employees' aspirations.

Anyone who knows Adler will agree she enjoys giving, but it is perhaps her employees who know this best. Whether she's contracting an employee to do carpentry work at the restaurant or providing the right job connection for someone else, she's always thinking of others.

"I may be pushing turnover," Adler says, "but it brings me a wealth of happiness to help others get excited about their



Melissa Smith, *Footprints #2*, acrylic on paper. Photo credit Jonathan Welch.

dreams." Her benevolent spirit extends beyond her own restaurant as she is a consistent donor to many organizations and charities in her community.

Adler's current project—this woman has many—is hosting an art exhibition at Café on the Square showcasing her talented visual artists who she employs. On Sunday, Dec. 3 from 6:30 to 9pm the restaurant will feature an evening of wine, gourmet appetizers, music and art. Music will be provided by other talented Café employees.

Members of *Speedsquare*, *East Coast Dirt* and *Telepath* will perform.

The exhibit will include drawings by Kelly Park, stained glass by Dennis Smith, footprint paintings by Melissa Smith, and paintings by Rob O'Sheeran.

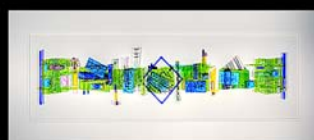
O'Sheeran, whose work can be found

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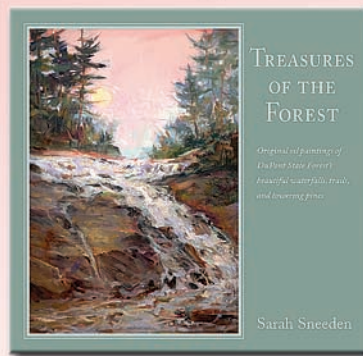
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FINEART

adorning the walls of several restaurants in town, was recently voted one of the "Best Local Visual Artists" by the *Mountain Xpress*' annual "Best Of" reader's poll.

Though he paints simplistic images often in repetition, what's most striking about his work is what he paints on — salvaged antique windows.

The natural rustic frame is often incorporated into the painting.

Melissa Smith's footprint paintings are in a realm where abstract expressionism meets performance art. Her background as a dancer prompted the shift to painting with her feet, thus creating the painting through dance. Layered with colorful footprints



Rob O'Sheeran, *Solo Jellyfish*, oil on glass. Photo credit Jonathan Welch.

and highlighted shapes, Smith's expression of movement and energy are exemplified on her canvases.

The animated drawings created by Kelly Park are expressive of his thoughts, feelings, friendships, agitations and subtle humor. His intricately designed and imaginative images reflect the natural and urban landscapes in which we live.

Dennis Smith, a recent transplant from the low country, has nearly nine years of experience using stained glass. Though he claims his pieces are more traditional, the work he plans to display in the exhibition will be a sampling of architectural stained glass. He often creates custom work on commission.

Tracy's philanthropic spirit is infectious. All the artists will price their work to sell and a percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the Buncombe County Arts Foundation for art scholarships.

**For more information contact
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Signe Grushovenko: Living Southern

November 3 - 26, 2006

Reception November 3, 6 - 8 pm



Signe Grushovenko. *My Way - Gee's Bend Homage V.*
Oil on canvas. 61 x 78 in. image.

This new suite of brightly colored, contemporary oil paintings by Signe Grushovenko deals specifically with the rural South, highlighting themes of family and community and the joy and struggle present in every living moment.

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MUSIC

Gallaway's songs shows love will overcome

BY JAMES CASSARA

Ask the Asheville based musician Shawn Gallaway to describe his life's mission and you'll get a direct answer, "To empower people to take caring, positive action in their lives and in the world right now."

Gallaway hopes to accomplish this purpose through his music and his art. As a multi-faceted guitarist, singer-songwriter, and visual artist he weaves music, song, and painting into an "experience that calls for enlightened activism."

It's not an unfamiliar story. As with many, his relationship with music began as a junior in high school when he was given a guitar for Christmas. After six months of lessons, he discovered his love of song writing. While completing his major in Business Management at Babson College, Gallaway continued to nurture his passion for music. He formed a band,



Shawn Gallaway

playing local clubs and parties, and eventually moved to New York hoping to learn the music business and become a

published songwriter.

Eventually, Nashville became his home base, from which he spent the next 20 years writing, recording and performing across the nation. He also became a successful composer with E.M.I. and Sony Tree publishing credits.

During his time in Nashville, Gallaway began painting. He took a course from a teacher who believed that "there is a master artist inside each of us."

Gallaway used painting for healing and self-expression that carried over into writing songs as well. He found each medium complimented and empowered the other.

As he explains, "I started painting and drawing while recovering from a bout with depression and eventually turned to visual art as the means to restore my sanity and to deepen into the exploration of my Spirit. As the process evolved, my work became more specific, revealing images I had previously been unable to vocalize or turn into songs. As I began to heal, words and music began to flow freely...at first a trickle, then a stream, then a waterfall of song."

In 2005, Shawn relocated to the mountains of Asheville to live the dream of creating his music and art as a vehicle to empower individuals to joyful, loving action. He continues to perform his music nationally, presenting *I Choose Love: The Experience* workshops.

Gallaway describes, *I Choose Love: The Experience* as a "multimedia production that follows the healing journey through pain, confusion and struggle to emerge into the freedom of self-awareness, purpose, compassion and joy. It includes songs, stories, dance, drama, photography, computer animation, film and a series of original paintings that brings together the love of eight individuals as they transform their fears into a beautiful mosaic of forgiveness, peace and healing." This theatrical piece is currently in pre-production.

In his latest release, *Love Will Overcome*, Gallaway moves from the individual healing focus of his previous release to address global healing and restoration. "It is about raising awareness and empowering people to take action" he adds. "These songs highlight healing in the peace movement, the environment, our political system, communities and relationships and are delivered with a passionate plea for loving action." The recording features theme songs written for organizations including the Peace Alliance, New Energy Movement, Go Gratitude, and the Satyana Institute.

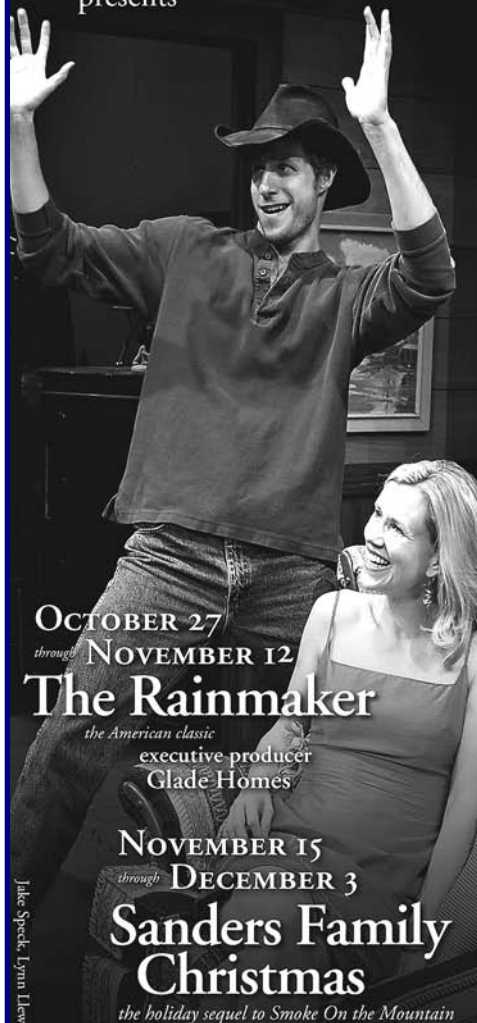
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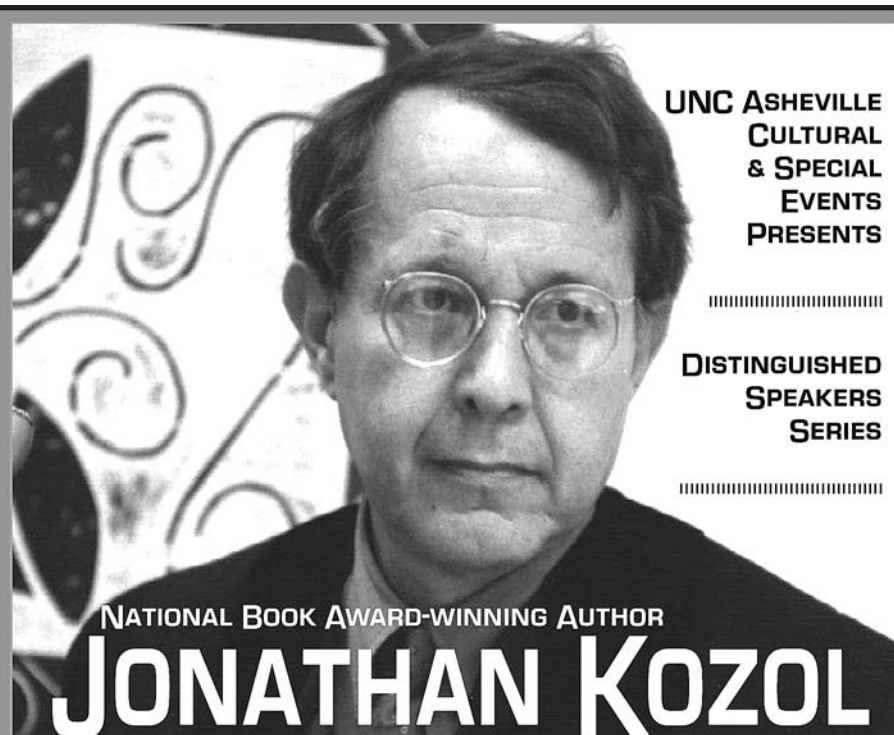
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LIVEMUSIC

Tribute to Reggae legend Hill with live performances at Stella Blue

BY JAMES CASSARA

One Vibe Reggae and Roots Artist Services present an event "Honoring Brother Joseph Hill" on Sunday, Nov. 12, at Stella Blue in Asheville.

This event will be headlined by Washington DC based Soldiers of Jah Army with supporting acts Chalwa (Asheville NC) and Black Market (Greenville SC). It was on April 25, 2006 that Joseph Hill and Culture made their final Asheville appearance; Soldiers of Jah Army (SOJA) venture back to the venue that Joseph Hill last played to celebrate the life, music, and energy of reggae legend, Brother Joseph Hill.

While the Washington, D.C. music scene has become best known for its hardcore (Minor Threat) and go-go (Trouble Funk) alumni it has, as evidenced by the such bands as Bad Brains and others, reggae has been represented as well. SOJA has risen to the forefront, picking up right where the Brains left off — creating their own blend of conscious roots music entwined with the traditional rhythms of reggae described in the Washington Post as "coming across with passion and depth." That said, SOJA is not so easily defined. Although they are rooted in reggae, they are not limited to it; their fan-base reflects this with a very diverse population. The music includes and embraces all walks of life — "it has no prejudice" they are known to say — "it is for everyone."

The band grew up listening to reggae, hip-hop and rock. In their sound, reggae became the predominate influence because it is dedicated to a real message and promotes revolution.

The group, which includes a pair of lead singers who also pull double duty — Jacob Hemphill (guitar) and Bob Jefferson (bass) — as well as Patrick O'Shea on keyboard, percussionist Ken Brownell, and drummer Ryan Berty, originally came together in 1997.

Since 2000, the quintet has issued three full length albums and one EP — their latest, *Get Wiser*, is their third for the group's own label, Innerloop.

Hemphill explains the meaning of the album's title. "The new album is called *Get Wiser* — that's the idea. We as a society tend to have blinders on. We are trying to uplift peoples' consciousness by breaking down what makes us blind. To do this, we got to bring back truth. People get wiser."



The late Joseph Hill was the lead singer of the remarkable world renowned Reggae group "Culture"

"Every song is different of course." Hemphill continues, "I found music to be a way to express myself — through my life I've never been able to express myself well in conversations, but I can do it through music. It's like my way to talk."

Ever the road warriors, averaging 150 gigs per year, the group will be supporting their latest release with a healthy amount of live dates this year on the "Get Wiser Tour." With such a list of accumulated live dates, a specific high point is hard to pin down, but O'Shea remembers a particular performance.

"One of the shows that remains in the front of my mind was playing at the Tito Puente Amphitheater in Puerto Rico

with Gomba Jahbari. It was amazing to see thousands of people, many that may not speak English, singing along to the songs."

With SOJA calling their own shots, *Get Wiser* proves that the band's message and music will only continue to grow stronger with each successive release. In support of their latest album, the group is embarking on a world wide tour. Fortunately for us we can experience the vibe right here in downtown Asheville.

If you go:

WHAT: Soldiers of Jah Army with many others.

WHERE: Stella Blue

WHEN: 8pm. Sunday, Nov. 12

INFO: Ages 21 and older. \$12.
31 Patton Ave. (828) 236-2424

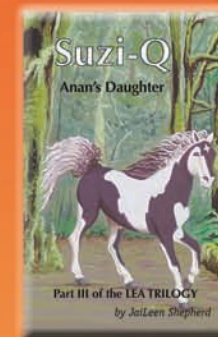
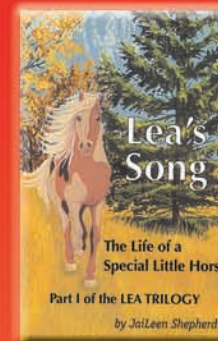
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Chris Smither at last finds his voice

BY JAMES CASSARA

S pending a few minutes reviewing Chris Smither's press kit it's impossible not to be awed by the immutable work ethic the man brings to the table.

If there's a major folk festival that hasn't been graced by his presence I've yet to find it. From 50-seat coffee shops to 1000-seat performance theatres, few venues have been overlooked; If its' on the map Smither has been there, likely more than once. This drive has always been part of who the man is. While some artists continually reinvent themselves, others identify their muse early on and spend their careers single-mindedly pursuing it, remaining true to themselves while ignoring the whims of public taste. Chris Smither clearly belongs to the latter group.

Leave the Light On, his 12th album and the first released on his own Mighty Albert label, stands as the quintessence of his life's work while throwing in some new wrinkles that reflect where he's been and what he's encountered since the last time around. But as he enters his sixth decade, Smither's central theme is clearer than ever.

"The last three or four records I've done are mostly talking about the big questions — life, death, love and where the whole thing's going," he says.

This new "fistful of tunes," as he calls it, finds Smither once again in a contemplative mood, examining his thought processes on some tunes while struggling to distinguish between self-deception and truth on others. It's not a party record nor does it wish to be. "Since I started



The always pleasing Chris Smither

recording again around 20 years ago I've been writing about the same sorts of things; it's just about my own ongoing perception of things, and how clear can I make them?" Smither explains. "I guess I'm making it clearer, because people don't often ask me what the songs are about anymore. It's a process of engagement. When you write a song, you've got three or four minutes to grab hold of

somebody, and if they can remember one phrase or line when they walk away from it, you've won. And I think I've accomplished that."

What is immediately recognizable to anyone who has encountered Smither on record or in live performance (or, as I've had the pleasure, in one on one interviews) during the course of the last four decades are his world weary voice and the wordlessly eloquent sounds of his finger picked acoustic guitar.

Familiar, too, are the writer/artists whose songs Smither has selected to intermingle with his own: From Mississippi John Hurt, whose "Blues in the Bottle" first inspired the New Orleans' Smither to begin performing in the 1960s to Bob Dylan, from whose vast oeuvre the artist this time has chosen (among others) "Visions of Johanna" Smither has never been reticent to profess his influences. Still the new elements introduced on *Leave the Light On* — the second album produced by Smither's cohort, David "Goody" Goodrich, provides the new recording with its particular flavor. On hand is young neo-gospel group Ollabelle, who deliver a comple-

mentary loveliness to Smither's "Seems So Real" and additional resonance to the traditional "John Hardy." The renowned roots musician Tim O'Brien plays mandolin and fiddle all over the record, as well as harmonizing with Smither, Sean Staples and Anita Suhanin on the lilting title track. The new tunes not only have a freshness of their own, but, as Smither points out, "they freshen up all the old material as well - casting a new light on it." In this sense, each album results in an act of restructuring his previous body of work. "It's an interesting process," he confirms.

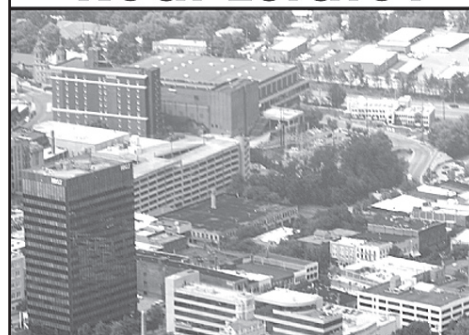
"Not for a minute do I believe the songs come from any place but inside of me, but at the same time there's an otherness to them that continually surprises me. Why does it take so long for them to become part of my conscious self? It's an interesting problem, but I've talked to enough writers to realize I'm far from unique in that respect."

Having now written and performed songs for more than 40 years, capturing a bevy of prestigious rewards and producing a catalog of songs few can match, Smither seems content in his life's path.

"It's a good life" he concludes. "I've had some rough spots, but overall I'm damn lucky to do what I do."

If you go:**WHO:** Chris Smither**WHEN:** Friday, Nov. 3.**WHERE:** The Grey Eagle
Music Hall, 185 Clingman Ave.
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WNCEVENTS

Lenora Thom has that something special

BY BYRON BELZAK

For over 20 years, Lenora Thom, conductor, pianist, organist, teacher and arranger has enjoyed a busy and varied musical career in and around New York City and now, for over five years, has done quite well in and around Asheville.

She is becoming increasingly well respected for her exceptional and original choral programs. She finds just the right mix, the correct variety of pieces blended together, all of which must work well side by side and in caravan as part of a complex progression that can — and does — move appreciative audiences through a true musical journey. Such expert work is for those few who possess the skill, focus and confidence to do it well. And Lenora Thom is one of the few who does it so well.

Life has been good for Thom. While living and working in the northeast, she was music director and conductor of the New Jersey Choral Society and

Orchestra, the Kean (NJ) Chamber Symphony, and the Riverdale (NY) Society.

Life remains good for her in the mountains, too. Since moving to Western North Carolina, Thom has worked with the Asheville Symphony, Flat Rock Playhouse and the Asheville Community Theatre.

And now she's doing what she especially knows and treasures — working with choral groups. She is the music director of the Asheville Choral Society (ACS), a choral group that is definitely on its way up. People are taking notice of the quality of the ACS singers and musicians, as well as Thom's mesmerizing programming. Word must be getting out, for the most recent ACS auditions attracted a record number of singers. Life is really good for Lenora.

She is a frequent guest conductor for choral, orchestral and theatre groups. She has conducted numerous theatre productions and won awards for her piano playing. Currently, Lenora Thom also is music director at the Unitarian

Universalist Church of Asheville. And somehow she finds the time to offer private lessons in piano and voice.

It's obvious to even the casual observer that this Maryland native has solid musical experience and a rich education to match. Thom studied at Juilliard, the Hartt School of Music, Peabody Conservatory, and Trinity College. She also attended the well-regarded Pierre Monteux School for Conductors.

CREATIVE IMMERSION

When working with the Asheville Choral Society (where she was appointed music director in 2000), she immerses herself into creating each program. It's an aspect of her work that she finds most satisfying.

"I do spend a great deal of time on it," said Thom. "I really do take great pride in it."

Her pride is not boastful. It is a quiet pride.

When asked to explain her creative process in programming, her description of the step-by-step process soon becomes too layered and too complex to explain in a few words. Perhaps there is a book within her, waiting to get out, to explore and explain the structure of how she, as an experienced conductor, assembles original programs that are both accessible and magnificent.

In the final analysis, it is the inexplicable heart and passion of the artist that Lenora Thom so gracefully and eloquently balances so lightly and magically on the very tip of her baton. Tick, tick, tick. Shhhh. Lenora and her chorus are just beginning to make you come alive.

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MUSIC NOTE:

KARMASONICS: 12th ANNUAL BIRTHDAY PARTY & KICK OFF THE HOLIDAYS GALA

On Saturday, Nov. 18, Karmasonics Music and Video will celebrate its 12th anniversary, as well as the upcoming Holidays, with their annual "Birthday Party Gala" event. Karmasonics is Asheville's oldest and most established retail music store.

Locally owned and independent it has a solid reputation for showcasing and supporting local talent with live in-store concerts. The store features a wide range of CDs, DVD's, vinyl, books, and tee shirts.

Musical entertainment will be provided by local favorites Jim Taylor & The Forest Hill Band along with a few special guests.

An extensive international buffet will be served at the party, including a wide range of desserts and beverages. Door prizes will be given away throughout the evening.

Karmasonics Birthday Bash and Holiday Kick Off: Saturday, November 18, at the store. Hours for the party are from 7:30 pm to 10:30. For more information call Karmasonics at (828) 259-9949.

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CD REVIEWS

Jay Bennet scores a 'Magnificent Defeat'

BY JAMES CASSARA

Be it given one star or five if it gets mentioned here you can bet it's worth at least a listen. Let me know you're out there: email me at JJCassara@aol.com with your comments and receive a disc or two absolutely free. I even pay the postage! This time around I focus on a pair of lavish boxed sets as well as some welcome new discs.

Various Artists 'WHY THE HELL NOT? THE SONGS OF KINKY FRIEDMAN' Sustain Records

From the get go, Kinky Friedman seemed destined to skewer a few sacred cows, annoy the hell out of the musical establishment and, in the process, have himself a ball. Backed by a band he dubbed The Texas Jewboys, Friedman, a former psychology student at the University of Texas' Austin campus, constructed a perversely fascinating career as a songwriter who cut to the chase while skirting the fringes of country and western music.

While he never amassed much beyond a cult following, he managed to parlay his limited success into the respect and admiration of his more well known contemporaries, many of whom are represented here. For the past two decades Friedman has focused primarily on writing equally strange mystery novels and making infrequent contributions to the music world, but it's his recent (and entirely serious) bid for Governor of Texas that has served as the inspiration for an updated rendition of the tribute set *Pearls in the Snow*.

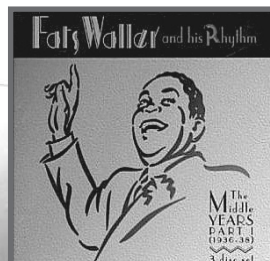
Renamed after Friedman's campaign slogan and suitably delivered by an array of country music renegades—including Charlie and Bruce Robison, Jason Boland, Delbert McClinton, and Dwight Yoakam — *Why the Hell Not* provides a crash course on his music and a keen insight into his psyche. It's unlikely that Friedman devotee Todd Snider could resist the twisted, incisive irreverence of "They Ain't Makin' Jews Like Jesus Anymore," while an inspired coupling of Reckless Kelly and "Asleep at the Wheel" does justice to the tongue-in-cheek love song "Homo Erectus."

Elsewhere, Kevin Fowler turns "Get Your Biscuits in the Oven and Your Buns in the Bed" into a playful country romp that pokes fun at redneck, male chauvinism; while Willie Nelson, who originally was slated to produce Friedman's sophomore effort, renders "Ride 'Em Jewboy," a poignant remembrance of the Holocaust, as if it was his own. Nevertheless, it's Lyle Lovett who provides the highlight of the hour by beautifully capturing the somber essence of "Sold American," Friedman's

tale of a former Grand Ole Opry star who has fallen upon hard times.

In wisely standing firm within a country-oriented framework, the artists contributing to *Why the Hell Not* dutifully kept the emphasis upon Friedman's cleverly crafted lyrics, and in some cases, the material actually fares better than did the originals.

Taken in conjunction with a series of recently discovered recordings and live performances this collection ought to revive interest in Friedman's songwriting, which means that, were his political and literary aspirations to fall short, he might just have another career to fall back upon. ★★★1/2



Thomas "Fats" Waller

FATS WALLER AND HIS RHYTHM: IF YOU GOTS TO ASK YOU AIN'T GOT IT! Bluebird/Legacy

During his two decade recording career, Thomas "Fats" Waller waxed so many hundreds of tracks that only a dedicated few have heard them all even once, let alone often enough to understand the true nature of his legacy.

While longtime collectors can attest to the awesome breadth and depth of Waller's massive discography, your average citizen needs and deserves a chance to investigate — on a more modest level — precisely why Waller is so revered. That's correctly what any great compilation should do and exactly why this set is such a welcome addition to the Waller outré. The majority of previous Waller anthologies have chosen to concentrate upon his renowned sense of humor and his vital importance in the development of swing music.

The best of them also highlight his prowess as a pianist and, if you're fortunate, his pioneering role as the first person to play jazz on the organ. Producer Orrin Keepnews has achieved what should be regarded as a major accomplishment in Waller studies both intensive and casual; an intelligently compiled three-CD set with superbly insightful liner notes, including a detailed biography, informative commentary on each of the 66 tracks, and more than 40 previously unpublished photographs from the Fats Waller archives.

The conceptual framework of this compilation will help experienced listeners and newcomers alike to understand and feel the essence of Waller's music more clearly than ever before. Disc one presents Waller's interpretations of songs he wrote himself. Disc two, packed with 10 piano solos and one on organ focuses on small ensemble and big band swing while disc three (playfully entitled *Fats Waller Sings and Plays Around with Tin Pan Alley*) touches upon the best-known aspects of this artist's public persona. Given the

sheer number of extant recordings that fit into that category, Keepnews made some extraordinarily fine choices.

As he readily admits, "I inevitably have not included all of your Waller favorites. As a matter of fact, I haven't even had room to include all of mine!" thus making it clear that both Waller biographer Ken Morgenstern and Keepnews drew upon their own sincere love and respect for this great artist. "If You Got to Ask, You Ain't Got It!" gets its title from Waller's famous response to the question "What is swing?" Repeated listens through these essential recordings and you'll never again have to ask that question. ★★★★★

Jay Bennet

'THE MAGNIFICENT DEFEAT' Ryodisk

Jay Bennett's 4th solo effort is as raucous and dazzling as anything he and his previous group Wilco ever assembled, without all the self-absorption that makes his former band mate, Jeff Tweedy, so utterly fascinating and equally bewildering.

For starters, Bennett's records in general — and this one in particular — do not sound like his record collection. They sound like he wrote a batch of songs, made a bunch of loud music, and had an absolute blast doing it.

With a bit of help from longtime collaborator Edward Burch, and co-producer and multi-instrumentalist David Vandervelde, *The Magnificent Defeat* is one strange, quirky and labyrinthine journey filled with the weirdness of growing up ("5th Grade"), broken love songs (the rollicking country-rock of "Wide Open"), and the gorgeously and perversely orchestrated tale of loss and studied rebuttal ("The Palace at 4 A.M."). This latter track has an obvious inspiration in the Elvis Costello of *King of America* but it's not just the tune or its arrangements; Bennett even reaches for those same notes with his own little voice. It's a tribute paid in full, adding immeasurably to the drama, warmth, and humor in this set.

"Replace You" is a rocker with plinking high keys from an upright piano, a pumped up organ and a guitar riff that the glam kings would have fought the biker bands for.

When "Out All Night," comes slinking out of the speakers at a volume of 10 with throbbing guitar squall, it becomes obvious that Bennett is lyrically obsessed with brokenness in his relationships, but he celebrates it with the grittiness and accessibility of the best rock-and-roll, rather than just swimming in the emotion.

Rarely have heartbreak and loneliness sounded like such a desirable party to attend. In "Overexcusers," a grand, detached, social and political cynicism is

'CD's' continued on next pg.

ARTNOTES

NOVEMBER POETRY NEWS By Jeff Davis

ONCE MORE IN THE MOUNTAINS:
BLACK MOUNTAIN POETS

Sometimes when I'm at Black Mountain's Camp Rockmont, now home to The Lake Eden Arts Festival, and the former site of Black Mountain College, I wonder what it would have been like have hung out in the dining hall a half-century ago, to overhear the great Black Mountain poets reading to one another and discussing their work.

When Donald Allen placed the Black Mountain College poets first in the *New American Poetry: 1945-1960*, the great anthology that introduced a generation of experimental poets to a national audience, he might have done so based not just on the quality of their intellectual and formal adventures, but on a solid hunch about the significance their work would assume for the rest of the twentieth century. While they didn't achieve the momentary mass audiences a few of the Beats found, it'd be difficult to find another contemporary group of poets who did as much to shape the subsequent course of American writing. The energy of their work has rippled through the imaginations of the several generations and many schools of poets who've come down the road since, and ripples still.

This month the Asheville Art Museum celebrates the legacy of these artists with a special evening of poetry that features local poets reading work of these groundbreaking Black Mountain College poets.

Language poet Ron Silliman says when he met Black Mountain poet Robert Creeley in the mid-'60s, Creeley was already the "dean" of American poetry. Silliman caught some flack for that; Creeley was only in his mid-30s, and his mentor, the visionary Charles Olson, was still living, though he had to that point little audience.

"Form is never more than the extension of content," Creeley famously noted. Later he came to acknowledge that

the statement was also true if the roles it assigned to content and form were reversed. Form embodies content, is the extension of the feeling that is the poem's initial premise. His insight into the nature of poetry, its relations to speech and mind, his consummate feel for rhythm, and his awareness of the fields of meaning within which the language of the poem must dance, make his work one of the enduring testaments of 20th century poetry.

Charles Olson, certainly one of the most influential poets of his generation, had once befriended Ezra Pound (until he lost patience with Pound's reflexive anti-Semitism), and so provided a bridge back to the great Modernist poets who offered him, and his generation, an initial stance. When he came to Black Mountain College, he'd published a handful of poems and a short critical work on Melville; by the time the College closed in 1957, he'd published the first two sections of his *Maximus Poems*, and completed the work that appeared as *The Distances* in 1960, displaying in both the gift for radical insight into history and consciousness that makes his work of such value.

It was Olson, with his vision of new possibilities for poetry, and for life, who decisively shaped the minds and imaginations of the writers who gathered at the college in its final years. He brought Creeley to the college to teach, and later recruited Robert Duncan. Edward Dorn and Jonathan Williams, to note just a couple of the other significant poets who came through the college's refining fires, had ventured there as students. Other writers, Denise Levertov and Paul Blackburn, for instance, never visited the college, but were published by Creeley in the *Black Mountain Review*. The *Review* presented Creeley's and Olson's vision of useful modes of writing to the world, introduced the poets of Black Mountain to a larger community of like-minded writers, and became a meeting place for some of the most creative spirits of the era.

Robert Duncan went on from Black Mountain to become a leading figure in the San Francisco Poetry Renaissance of the 1960s, producing a major body of work that included *The Opening of the Field*, *Roots and Branches*, and *Bending the Bow*, as well as the important late work published in the two collections of *Ground Work*, republished in one volume just last year. He also authored over a period of decades the amazing *HD Book*, not yet published in book form, but sometimes available on the web in an unofficial electronic format bearing the imprint of the elusive Frontier Press. It began as a study of the work of Imagist poet Hilda Doolittle (who published as HD), but became a major work on poetic imagination. It's similar, in many ways, I think, to Coleridge's rambling, monumental *Biographia Literaria*, still one of the indispensable texts of the English Romantic period.

Denise Levertov was English, born in Ilford, Essex, in 1927; she married an American, Mitch Goodman, after World War II, though, and moved to the States in 1948. Her *Here and Now*, published in 1956, and *With Eyes at the Back of Our Heads*, published three years later, established her as a major voice in experimental poetry.

Ed Dorn is perhaps one of the least well known of the Black Mountain poets, though there's hope that his *Collected Poems*, due out next year, will bring his work the larger attention it deserves. He was the most contrary of the contrarians who stood at the college, and ever afterwards, against the generalizing mass culture that seemed, seems, to strip individuals of their particularity, of the ability to stand grounded as creative, active participants in the polis of the world. His next-to-last collection, *High West Rendezvous*, contained sections from "Languedoc Variorum," a major late work that remains mostly in manuscript, which reveal it to be a poem of astonishing technical achievement that also challenges the pious orthodoxies of the history of heresy. It's an amazing, polyvocalic montage

that mocks, on one level, the structures of contemporary media news presentation. He had his chops till the end. Unfortunately, it'd probably be next to impossible to perform, so Thomas Rain Crowe, charged with presenting the work of Dorn, will read from another, earlier, masterpiece, his *Gunslinger*.

The reading, to be presented at the Museum from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on November 17th, will feature the works of these Black Mountain poets, and works as well by the poets gathered for the occasion: Sebastian Matthews, who organized the event, Thomas Rain Crowe, Jaye Bartell, Glenis Redmond, and yours truly, Jeff Davis. The reading is a part of the Museum's year-long celebration of Black Mountain College and its legacy in the arts.

Olson died in 1970, Duncan in 1988, Levertov in 1997, Dorn in 1999, Creeley just last year, but on the 17th of November, the voices of their poems will return to Western North Carolina once again, and ring out.

If you go:

What: Black Mountain Poetry

When: Friday, Nov. 17, 6-8pm

Where: Asheville Art Museum in Pack Place Sq.

Admission: Free with Museum admission.

Poet and computer consultant
Jeff Davis is a board member of the
Black Mountain College Museum
+ Arts Center. E-mail Davis at
jeffbdavis@gmail.com. For more info
visit naturespoetry.blogspot.com

'CD's' continued.

sparkled through with pop hooks, sprightly production, and quaking drums.

"Survey the Damage" is a ballad shot through with just enough bitterness to give the listener a degree of empathy rather than pity. The layered vocals, keyboards and stumbling drums make this a near baroque-pop song, though, full of texture, space and a killer screaming guitar solo worthy of Neil Young at his Crazy Horse best. The bottom line is, that with juxtapositions like this, the listener never has time to get bored or even be content

with what's here. The feeling after five or six listens is one of excitement and delight. Not to belabor the obvious but it becomes poignantly apparent what Bennett brought to Wilco and what they are missing in his absence. His taste, as reflected in his production, his various instrumental roles, and his sheer sonic and dynamic vocabulary are sadly lacking.

The Magnificent Defeat is a bit of a wonder, really. It's an album you'll be able to play in five or 10 years simply because there is so much in it. It's rowdy, sometimes raucous, tender, good-spirited and

full of surprises. It's a gutsy, manic pop thrill. ★★

**Madeline Peyroux
'HALF THE PERFECT WORLD'
Rounder Records**

In helping Madeleine Peyroux sculpt her 4th outing, Larry Klein did precisely what any good producer ought to do, he got out of the way, thereby allowing her positively mesmerizing voice to do all of the heavy lifting. Much like on her previous effort *Careless Love*, the arrangements

are delicate and light, used primarily to frame the warm, earthy glow of her melancholy musings. With her relaxed, easy-going manner, Peyroux frequently recalls Billie Holiday and Bessie Smith, and, not surprisingly, she fares best whenever the music that surrounds her is rooted deeply in the distant past. She magnifies the fragile danger that lurks with Leonard Cohen's "Blue Alert" she settles comfortably into the ethereal yearning of Johnny Mercer's "The Summer Wind."

★★★1/2



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NOVEMBER CALENDAR 2006

**FRI., 11/3, 7PM: BILL VALENTINE
READS 'A SEASON OF GRIEF'**

**SAT., 11/4, 7PM: JOSEPH BATHANTI
READS 'COVENTRY'**

**THURS., 11/9, 7PM: MICHAEL ATTIE
READS 'MANY WAYS, MIDDLE WAY,
NO WAY'**

**FRI., 11/10, 4PM: REIKI ENERGY
MEDICINE**

**FRI., 11/10, 7PM: ROGER ALAN
SKIPPER READS 'TEAR DOWN THE
MOUNTAIN'**

**SAT., 11/11, 3PM: MADELINE KAY
READS 'LIVING WITH OUTRAGEOUS
JOY'**

**SAT., 11/11, 7PM: NEAL THOMPSON
READS 'DRIVING WITH THE DEVIL'**

**SUN., 11/12, 2PM: ELIZABETH
KOSTOVA READS 'THE HISTORIAN'**

**THURS., 11/16, 7PM: KELLY LINK
READS 'MAGIC FOR BEGINNERS'**

**FRI., 11/17, 7PM: GEORGE &
ELIZABETH ELLISON READS 'BLUE
RIDGE NATURE JOURNAL'**

**THURS., 11/30, 7PM: BARBARA
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BOOKS & PAGES

Dogs take Central Park in fun-filled Christmas book

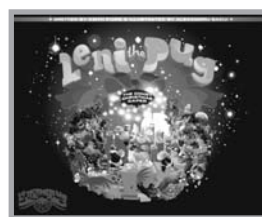
Book of the Month

*Leni the Pug: The Comet
Christmas Caper*

Written by Keith Fiore

Illustrated by Alex Sacui

Reviewed by Beth Gossett



Let me be the first to introduce you to *Leni the Pug: The Comet Christmas Caper*, which is sure to be a children's classic tale in no time.

Leni the Pug is the charming story of a wily and clever Pug, Leni, and all of her wonderful dog friends: Elliot, the Boston Terrier; Cassius, the Boxer; Guinness the Black Lab; Jefferson the Poodle, Hunter the Golden Retriever and a Sopranos-sounding Chihuahua named Spike (my personal favorite).

While gathered in New York's Central Park on a Christmas Eve walking excursion, Leni and her friends notice something strange sailing overhead in the moonlit night...it's SANTA! But, what's that...oh, no...something's wrong... Santa's sleigh is dipping and weaving crazily through the sky! Down, down, down

comes Santa, his reindeer and the sleigh. Worried, the fearless pooches race off into the night to find out what happened to Santa.

After searching for a few minutes, the dogs find Santa trying to clean up the mess of his sleigh. Santa tells them that

he and the sleigh were caught in some air turbulence and thrown off course...but worse still is that one of Santa's faithful reindeer, Comet, was lost during the crash and without him, the sleigh will never fly in time to deliver presents to all the good little boys and girls of the world in time for Christmas! Not willing to give up the ship easily, Leni consults with her chums and after devising a plan, they set off into the Big Apple to find Comet and get him back to Santa before midnight!

Wonderfully written in a poetic style that reminds me of another great Christmas tale, *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, Keith Fiore, a writer and entrepreneur living in New York City, has the ability to charm children and adults alike with his irresistible word stylings that lend themselves to a beat...not unlike that of reindeer hooves on the roofs of sleeping children waiting for Christmas Day! The

story itself is written in 11 mini-chapters and is 96 pages long, so it is perfect for parents who read children a book chapter a night or for children whose reading ability allows them to read a short book for themselves in one sitting.

The illustrations for *Leni the Pug: The Comet Christmas Caper* were created by Asheville resident and graphic artist Alex Sacui. Sacui's colorful and creative artistic renderings of Keith Fiore's words are absolutely brilliant. For children not able to read by themselves yet, the drawings are sure to keep their attention as mom or dad read the story to them. For adults, the amount of time spent on each drawing, approximately 80 hours per sketch, is enough to be impressive.

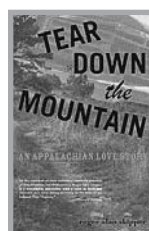
Leni the Pug: The Comet Christmas Caper is available exclusively through www.lenithepug.com in a limited first-edition of 5000 hard cover books printed on Japanese art paper with a red ribbon bookmark and comes gift wrapped in a first edition slipcover.

Love story holds readers close

*Tear Down the Mountain:
an Appalachian Love Story*

by Roger Alan Skipper

Reviewed by Beth Gossett



Sid Lore and Janet Hollar drift together because in their tiny, secluded Appalachian community, both are misfits: Sid because he wasn't born there, Janet because she cannot clear the bar set for inclusion in her Pentecostal church, speaking in tongues.

They soon discover that Appalachian life is one of attenuation: family and friends die or move away, steady jobs become impossible to maintain as Sid develops work-related injuries, Janet feels increasingly trapped by the land she comes from. As Sid's life spirals into a drain hole of odd jobs, bar brawls, and dogfights, Janet discovers new worth--and a hidden talent for destruction.

Just when they've taken their lives as far down as they can manage on their own, the world outside of Appalachia encroaches, and it becomes impossible to stay. Even Janet, who has vowed never to abandon the place of her birth, has had enough.

Fourteen years later, city life has destroyed their marriage and cast them back into the mountains. All has changed. Only as they begin to pick through the rubble of their misguided dreams do they rediscover love for each other, and for Appalachia. This is the story of contemporary Appalachia, from within.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Born in the Appalachian mountains of western Maryland, Roger Alan Skipper received a public-school vocational education, then served in the US Navy during the Vietnam era. A career in the construction supply industry progressed to a top-level management position in a multi-store retail outlet. In 1999, at the age of 47 Skipper resigned his position to pursue companion lifetime goals: his own college education and a career as a novelist.

BOOK SIGNING

Malaprops Bookstore/Café
55 Haywood St. Asheville
*Tear Down the Mountain: an
Appalachian Love Story* by
Roger Alan Skipper.

Nov. 10, 7pm. (828) 254-6734

Bootleggers to NASCAR, new book reveals secrets

Driving With the Devil
By Neal Thompson
Reviewed by Beth Gossett



NASCAR, a sport that prides itself on fast-paced, death-defying thrill rides, is quickly emerging as a symbol of America itself. The red, white and blue logo is splashed across everything from cereal boxes and magazines to clothing and even leather recliners. At a time when some pro-baseball teams play before paltry crowds of a few thousand, attendance at NASCAR races averages nearly 200,000 and is growing by 10% a year. The sport's stars are millionaire celebs appearing in music videos, dating supermodels and living in mansions.

In *Driving With the Devil*, Neal Thompson takes a trip down the weathered red-dirt roads below the Mason-Dixon line, uncovering the whiskey-soaked stories of the troubled men who, with the help of moonshine and fast cars, created a new sport for the South to call its own.

Throughout Thompson examines how moonshine whiskey came to America, and how it helped pay for the Revolutionary War and even led to the creation of the IRS.

'NASCAR' continued next pg

BOOKS & PAGES

Living behind bars, there is no middle ground

Coventry
by Joseph Bathanti
Reviewed by Beth Gossett



slip when unseen forces emerge. Soon Cal will discover he has a formidable enemy among the men he watches over. He will face the ultimate sacrifice to protect the life he is building for his new family.

"His sensibilities give rise to scenes that are profound, gritty – and hard to forget," praises Clyde Edgerton. Novelist Michael Parker proclaims *Coventry* "a terribly beautiful piece of truth-telling."

A Pittsburgh native, Joseph Bathanti came to North Carolina in 1976 as a VISTA Volunteer to teach in Huntersville Prison. Since then he has continued to teach and mentor prison inmates throughout North Carolina, and he drew upon his extensive first-hand experience to bring the story of *Coventry* to life. Bathanti is the author of four poetry collections and

the novel *East Liberty*. He is Professor of Creative Writing at Appalachian State University and lives with his family in Vilas, NC.

Coventry was chosen winner of the 2006 Novello Literary Award from nearly 80 submissions. The annual contest has become known as a springboard for Carolina writers whose work commands national attention.

BOOK SIGNING

Malaprops Bookstore/Café
55 Haywood St. Asheville
Coventry
by Joseph Bathanti
Nov. 4, 7pm. (828) 254-6734

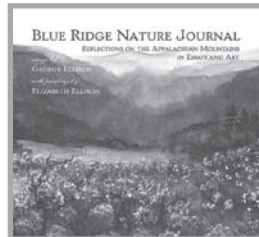
In his second novel, award-winning author Joseph Bathanti takes readers deep into the frightening world of a Southern prison.

It is the place Calvin Gaddy swore he would never go. But seemingly without choice, he finds himself lured into – and soon trapped by – Coventry Prison.

Calvin is a young father-to-be who guards a volatile group of inmates. He struggles to keep the tenuous balance between captor and captive from erupting into violence, but his command begins to

New book makes getting outside even better

Blue Ridge Nature Journal
Essays by George Ellison
Paintings by Elizabeth Ellison
Reviewed by Beth Gossett



fauna and related Cherokee lore. The artwork provides an eclectic journey through the natural heart of the region.

Ultimately, *Blue Ridge Nature Journal* is a tribute to the Blue Ridge Mountains. Readers can learn all about the flora in the area and perhaps even deign

new knowledge about plants growing in their proverbial backyard. The second half of the book provides all kinds of stories about the Mythic Hawk and Mythic Serpent of the Cherokees, along with the demise of the timber wolf and stories of the amusing spotted skunk. One thing I found particularly interesting was

how resourceful the Cherokees were when food was scarce. If you've ever wanted to find a great recipe for Yellow Jacket soup or Blood Pudding, this book is for you! If you're looking for a unique Christmas gift for that hard-to-buy for person on your Christmas list... *Blue Ridge Nature Journal* is a perfect solution.

BOOK SIGNING

Malaprops Bookstore/Café
55 Haywood St. Asheville
Blue Ridge Nature Journal
by George & Elizabeth Ellison
Nov. 17, 7pm. (828) 254-6734

Whether you're a native North Carolinian or someone who is simply inspired by this area, *Blue Ridge Nature Journal* is a wonderful collection of essays and paintings by George and Elizabeth Ellison. The essays offer insight into the region's geological origins, flora,

'NASCAR' continued

He describes how the Civil War contributed to the anti-authority psyche of the South, which led many southern men to a life of bootlegging (and, later, stock-car racing), as well as how Henry Ford and his cars played an important, accidental role in the bootleggers' success, and how Prohibition aided the skills of stock-car drivers. Beyond the historical portrait he paints of the South in the 1930's and '40's, Thompson also delves into the lives of NASCAR's founding fathers. Unlike baseball and football, which celebrate their pioneers, most of the dirt-poor southerners who founded stock-car racing have died or retired into obscurity.

Today's NASCAR is a churning money-maker and America's second most popular sport, with more than 80 million loyal fans—most of whom are college-educated, middle-aged, middle-class homeowners; nearly half of whom are women. Yet few, even NASCAR fans, know the real story of its crime-tainted origins. Thompson brings the excitement, passion,

crime and often the deadly feats of the wild, early days NASCAR has carefully hidden from public view.

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Are you ready for the truth?

NOVEMBER POETRY

'Words' of Thomas Rain Crow

EDITED BY JEFF DAVIS

A note from the editor: *From time to time we'll feature poets, some known, some not, who've provided a body of work that seems to merit more complete articulation than a single poem could provide. Our poet this month is Rose McLarney. Her craft is quick and razor sharp, and her voice already echoes with a wary, insightful maturity that would do anyone proud.*

Thomas Rain Crowe has been active as poet and editor since his days in San Francisco as a member of the Baby Beats, some thirty years ago. There's always been a Surrealist current in his work, and one of his finest translations is *10,000 Dawns*, written by French-German Surrealist poet Yvan Goll and his wife Claire, which Crowe translated with Nan Watkins. These new poems find him in full bardic mode, shaman-singing, image-spinning, calling up spirits in surreal chants.

He now lives in Cullowhee, but is active in the Asheville poetry world as well. His *Zoro's Field*, a memoir of his three years living off the grid in a small cabin near the Green River, won the Ragan Old North State Award for the best book of nonfiction in the state of North Carolina for 2005.

LEARNING LATIN

From the point of no
return I reach for
the moon in the movement of
morning after the radiogenesis
of sleep sleepwalking the
sommnambulist floor for hours and
all night when nothing but the
starry-eyed hoot of the owl outside sings
"won't quit you babe" to the beelzebub light
in the street so bright not even the blind
can sleep, can snore loud enough for
summer to know it's spring somewhere when not even
a crocus could care, could call a spade a spade
enamored of lies.

Here, the hic, haec, hoc, huius, huius, huius
of the verb to be can't even comb its own hair,
can't castrate a noun for the rape of hunger or the forethought
of a hundred bucks barking up the tree of greed going
out of sight into the ozone of oil and the mother of
all wars whenever there is nothing to do but be
homeless under the exegesis of stars and be free.

—Thomas Rain Crowe

MODERN

With eyes now the tongue of language,
the book is buried for all time in
a bed of grass being raised from the dead
in our dreams,
in an age of the dumb and numb of clocks
becoming the digital dogma of waking
in the arms of an electric lover or
a fallen woman without name or face.
With touch-tone tempest we
will cry computer age tears when
the sky falls and the words for help

are forgotten like memory banks buried
forever in history books now only ancient
ice-age ice cold and frozen solid from
liquid days wondering whether they are
maybe earthbound nights trying to sing in the
key of love longing for the rapture of
simple stillness in the sound of a single
stick against wood or
a splash of ink as
the forgotten longed-for promise of words.

—Thomas Rain Crowe

MIDDLE CLASS

May the love of money become a mask
for our times twiddling its thumbs in the dark
and dreary photosynthesis of sleep
snoring so loud that only a poem could
talk above the roaring silence of sex
making out with the hard-body of handguns
aimed at us all as if we were Indians
and they were a waging war. A war
so willy-nilly it turned infantries to ice
doing the right thing for the wrong reason
that went to the dogs
and the doggerel of mindless talk turning
into fistfights for peace as if the world was
the front row in church
counterfeiting the collection plate in the name of God
and calling it damn, dark, or duty-free rent
like landlords that want to be The King of May
for the price of a gizmo in a garage
that only the neighbor sees and wants
after a day of work becomes a fix beyond
the point of pain
like a bus stopped at the white in our eyes
like light was or would be if it went out and
in darkness all that nothing we learned in school suddenly
came down crashing
on our heads.

—Thomas Rain Crowe

THE CALLIGRAPHY OF FIRE

"We are neighbors of fire."

-Ann Carson

Where the warm-blooded fish is mad with
the moon in the man talking in tongues I
sit amidst dowsing darkness tired of rain.
Knee-deep in the mud of love like a man who
washes windows with the tears of a bell, near the
high-heeled trees, near commitment to the
knifeblade of a kiss, the searing heat of the word "sweetheart"
makes love to the tongue that brought an end to talk
wagging like the blasphemy of the color blue in
a lost weekend of dreams.

Voiceless, my pricked fingers bleeding ink
dance across what were once bridges
now only the white mud in the thunder of silence
playing bingo with balls, playing
preludes of a Mardi Gras ghost on the
wavelike pipeline of pain moving toward sand like
the chambered nautilus in a Chinese book.
Here where the wallow of fame flooded from the lack of light
makes moonshine make me look like a confessed criminal, like
the sun stealing the rings of Saturn from space, I
kneel to nothing not even the knees of the she-god king
stroking my sleep like brushstrokes over the flames of an
open fire and the sounds of midnight like morning
singing Hail-Marys in the rain....

—Thomas Rain Crowe

10th annual
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Good luck!

Send poems to:
Rapid River Poetry Contest
85 N. Main St.
Canton, NC 28716



Readers of *Rapid River Magazine* are quite familiar with the passionate work of Thomas Rain Crowe.

THEATRE

Holiday spirit shines at Flat Rock Playhouse with 'Sanders Family Christmas'

BY BETH GOSSETT

Time to deck the halls and pour the eggnog.

Christmas is coming.

Fall is almost over. Leaves have all turned and disappeared from the trees. Daylight has grown short. and a cold breeze rustles against your face when you step outside.

Winter, too, is coming. And all the joy of the season with it.

There is no better way to get ready for the special holiday than to spend it with the Sanders. If you enjoyed *A Christmas Story* you will love *Sanders Family Christmas*.

Take a trip back in time to 1941, before jet planes, Elvis or even Sinatra broke the hearts of millions.

This production, filled with down-home bluegrass, hymns, holiday carols and laughter, will have you reminiscing about the good old days, even if you're too young to have lived them.

The story is a simple one and nothing more special than what most folks do around this time of year. It's the time to be with family, to be with those we love and those who love having us around.

The Sanders return to Mount Pleasant, NC for a rousing evening of song and celebration with the ever-anxious Rev. Oglethorpe and his wacky congregation.

This hilarious sequel to *Smoke on the Mountain* captures all the charm and love of the Sanders family. It's a chance to experience a simpler time. A chance to get away for an evening to witness something quite close to magic...and live theatre is just that.



Hang out with the always fun Sanders family this Holiday Season.

If you go:

WHAT: *Sanders Family Christmas*

WHERE: Flat Rock Playhouse

WHEN: Nov. 15-Dec. 3

TICKETS: \$25 and \$23. Box Office (828)693-0731

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Presents . . .



Dan Helgemo



Paula Woods



Luke Allsbrook



Vadim Bora

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R A P I D R I V E R A R T S

MORE FINE ART

Animal attraction hits Hendersonville

By BETH GOSSETT

Beverly Kies is a regionally recognized pastel artist residing in Hendersonville.

"As I begin the painting of any animal," says Kies, "I try to discover their personalities and then pull that life into my work. I enjoy a certain playfulness in my renditions of these wonderful creatures, using vivid colors and expressive strokes. I like to believe that I paint the animals as they see themselves."

Kies has served as Chairman of the Hendersonville Art League evening association, and is a member of the Southeastern Pastel Society. Her interest in art began at the age of five, when her mother, a watercolor and oil painter, sent her to the Atlanta School of Art.

Although she has worked in both oil and acrylic, pastels are what she loves. The immediacy of pastels and the layering of colors works well for her. Some may associate pastels with muted colors, but in Kies's paintings the colors explode off the paper.

Kies' paintings have been in numerous juried shows and hang in private owner art collections and business and professional offices.

SARAH SNEEDEN — Book signing

She has lived in NC since 1967 and has won numerous Best of Show awards, with paintings in private and corporate collections nationally. She is also a well-known art workshop instructor. She was

awarded the Grumbacher Gold Medallion for excellence in the '99 Pen Women Show. In 2004, the project "Treasures of the Forest" opened a month-long Show at WICKWIRE and created a collection of original paintings of DuPont State Forest's beautiful waterfalls, trails, and towering pines.

"People always ask 'How long did it take to paint that?' I really want to reply 60 years! Painting is my life!" says Sneeden.

The book of original paintings exemplifies Sarah's favorite way of working, which is, *en plein air* — working out-of-doors on location. A portion of the proceeds from the sale

of each book is being donated to *Friends of the DuPont Forest*.



Beverly Kies, *Winter Eyes*, pastel (framed) 34.5" x 27.5"

If you go:

WHAT: "Animal Attraction" art work by Beverly Kies.

Friday, Nov. 3, 5:30 – 7:30pm

Book signing of *Treasures of the Forest* by Sarah Saturday, Nov. 4, 12-5pm

WHEN: Month long exhibit

WHERE: Wickwire Gallery, 330 and 329 N. Main in Historic Downtown Hendersonville

INFO/PRICE: (828)692-6222
www.wickwireartgallery.com

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Teapot by Kaaren Stoner

ARTREVIEWS

Robert Schefman's figurative show is a true pleasure

By MARK DEIM



Robert Schefman, *Chiaroscuro*, 40" x 48", oil on linen.

In the non-stop world of submissions, gallery owners are privileged to be able to review visuals from all corners of the US and even occasionally as far away as Beijing.

It seems every artist wants to show in Asheville. Out in the rest of the world, Asheville is known for its art scene nick name - the "Santa-Fe of the East Coast." In reviewing everything from emerging artists to those who are museum collected and all categories in between, from time to time, a collector will bring an artist to my attention that makes me stop in my tracks...for all of you transplanted Michigan types (and we know you are out

there, we see your blue license plates everywhere) and for those who are serious about their figurative work, the works of Robert Schefman will be debuting in Asheville at Gallery Minerva in November.

The Chair of the Foundation and a professor at the College of Creative Studies, formerly the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts, Robert Schefman's realist figurative work is based on contemporary interpretation of ancient mythology.

Gallery Minerva
12 Church St. Asheville,
(828)255-8850
www.galleryminerva.com

'Water music for the soul' fountain art in Waynesville

By BETH GOSSETT

For her feature one-woman show at Twigs & Leaves in downtown Waynesville, gallery co-owner Kaaren Stoner has created "water music for the soul" with a series of small table-top fountains.

These fountains echo the joyful tumble of sounds made by gentle mountain streams splashing over rocks and leaves. The show opens Friday, November 3 with a reception for the artist from 7-9pm as part of Waynesville's Art After Dark promotion.

Stoner has fashioned objects in clay for over 35 years. Her fascination with the beauty found in nature — leaves and twigs, grasses and flowers, rocks and landscapes — continues to be her source of inspiration. She has been especially drawn

to the pleasures of walking along mountain streams as she gathers the leaves that become the hallmarks of her unique pottery. For over two decades Kaaren has experimented with ways to recreate the soothing sounds of her beloved mountain streams with small and medium-sized fountains she both throws and hand builds from stoneware clay.

Her feature show is a collection of the smaller fountains designed for small rooms, meditation tables, desk tops or virtually anywhere a little water music will soothe one's soul. The show continues through the end of November and is the final feature show of the season at Twigs & Leaves.

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WINE & DINE

News of the wine — and old talk about wine

BY MICHAEL PARKER

NOUVEAU NIGHT 2006

Coming Thursday, Nov. 16: Nouveau Night, the annual wine and food event hosted by the Asheville Downtown Association. It will be in the Haywood Park Hotel ballroom from 7-9 pm. Tickets this year are \$45.

It is inspired by the traditional French holiday that marks the release of the year's first vintage wine, but Asheville's event is not a wine tasting as much as it is a wine drinking and big-deal social event. This annual party only grows in popularity and place-to-be-seen status, and therefore requires a pricey ticket for admission.

The event is certain to sell out quickly. Tickets are usually for sale at the Downtown Development office on Haywood Street across from the Frog Bar, and a few wine shops. Call 828-232-4500 for where to buy your tickets. Then make an effort to dress up since that's what most people do for this one.

SANTÉ SUPPORTS RIVERSCULPTURE

On the subject of dressy events, the first RiverSculpture Festival was celebrated with a closing party at Blue Spiral 1 on October 27, with splendid catering by Sante Wine Bar (Grove Arcade) and classy entertainment by local singer Katie Kasben. Asheville has a somewhat deserved reputation for being unfamiliar with the concept of dressing up for an important social occasion, but we should never hesitate to set a good example.



MODESTO'S VERY HOT WINE LIST

The mention of good wine in the Grove Arcade should include recognition of the wine list at a new gourmet Italian bistro called Modesto. First, the entire list is Italian, which scores high with me. I think Italy is the world's greatest wine producer, for variety, for so many unique wines, and for a quality that can only be described as oomph. It is a nature that complements the passion that is associated with the Italian people.

Modesto's list divides Italy into four sensible wine regions: Northwest, Northeast, Central, and South, and you can really learn from it. Bottle prices begin at \$18. The menu offers wood-fire pizzas and specialty pasta dishes. The Page Avenue side of the Grove Arcade is turning into restaurant row, From Carmel's in the old Anntony's space to the back corner with the wine bar.

A VERY OLD WINE LIST

Surfing the Internet led me into the *Autobiography of Theodore Roosevelt*, where his ancestor Isaac Roosevelt is credited for being one of the earliest auditors in the history of the Republic. He approved this bill soon after the signing of the Treaty of Paris.

"To a Dinner Given by His Excellency the Governor and Council to their Excellencies the Minister of France and General Washington & Co. 1783 December"

- 120 dinners
- 135 bottles Madeira
- 36 bottles Port
- 60 bottles English Beer
- 30 bowls Punch
- 8 dinners for music
- 10 dinners for servants
- 60 wine glasses broken
- 8 cut decanters broken
- coffee for 8 gentlemen
- Music fees, etc
- Fruits and nuts

"We a Committee of Council having examined the above account do certify it (amounting to one hundred and fifty-six Pounds ten Shillings) to be just."

Most amusing here is the phenomenal amount of breakage. Where there Greeks present? Where is the bill for the broken plates?

Being Father of our Country evidently has its privileges. At this dinner, entertaining the French also has its expectations, even if the wine was not from France. It came to just under a bottle and a half for each guest, before subtracting the obvious spillage. Who were the goody two-shoe guests drinking eight cups of coffee, the designated carriage drivers?

The beer being English is noteworthy — while Cornwallis's surrender under French and Colonial pressure was barely two years in the past, the new Americans were not going to let recent tensions get in the way of good ale.

Our 21st century leaders should have referred to this before intruding us to freedom fries, toast, and ticklers. Boycotting French wine was complete nonsense.

And that brings us back to...

Beaujolais Nouveau. This is the wine that so many people joke about all year but purchase top-dollar tickets to drink in November. Here's a refresher:

Not all Nouveau is ordinary or substandard. Plenty of labels, especially the estate-bottled (Chateau this, Domaine de that), are worth the money. Often, those labels are under the Georges DuBeouf logo. If it weren't for that, these little producers would not be known to us.

Read carefully and ask your local wine retailer to point out the special bottles from the regular DuBeouf plonk.

Remember, too, that Nouveau does not expire at Christmas with the egg nog, and is often better tasting at six months when it has had a little time.

Plus, not all Beaujolais is Nouveau. It is a well-established wine-producing region, and some of its age-worthy offerings are worth knowing.

TASTING EVENTS!

November Tastings

Red Zin Tasting, Thurs. 11/9, 7pm. Seated. \$20

Spanish Reds Tasting, Wed. 11/15, 7pm. Seated. \$20

Wine Guy North 7th Anniversary Celebration Sat. 11/18, 1-5pm Free

Seafood Wine Dinner at La Caterina, Wed. 11/29, 7pm. \$60 inclusive.

Burgundy Tasting at the Wine Guy South, Thurs. 11/30, 6-8pm. \$30

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FOODREVIEWS

Mama Mia! Have you tried Eddie Spaghetti yet?

BY SECRET REVIEWER

Eddie Spaghetti
1378 Hendersonville Road
Harris Teeter Shopping Center
(828) 277-9300
Hours: 11-9:30pm Mon.-Sat.

Eddie Spaghetti is a great casual Italian restaurant and pizzeria. They do little to no advertising so if you have not dined here yet you must try it, as it will soon become one of your regular favorites. The prices are very affordable and an excellent value for the money. Eddie Spaghetti is a restaurant for locals looking for a hearty home-style Italian meal.

Eddie Spaghetti does a great job catering large and small groups and is a great resource to keep in mind for the upcoming Holiday season. I have ordered the various pasta trays many times and they are always a big hit. The trays usually serve more than the estimate of 10 people.

THE DETAILS:

- **Ambiance:** The restaurant is small, about 14 tables with simple basic décor. The focus is on the food rather than the dining experience. There are no tablecloths, candles nor a romantic atmosphere. It is family friendly but not geared toward kids.
- **Cleanliness:** After a busy rush hour

Homemade garlic rolls are covered with garlic and oil, if you have a date make sure both of you eat the rolls or one of you will be sorry!

the dining room can look a bit worse for the wear and they might sweep up around your feet.

- **Sanitation Rating:** 97.5 with no critical violations.
- **Service:** The staff is professional, friendly and attentive.
- **Food:** The quality is always consistent and delicious and the food por-

tions are very satisfying.

- **Price range:** Pizza \$9-14.25, Lunch \$5.50-6.25, Dinner \$7.95-13.

MY FAVORITES:

- **Chicken parmigiana** dinner and the hot sub sandwich have tender, melt in your mouth, breaded chicken with cheese and tomato sauce. The sub sandwich does not come with a side so you may want to add a cup of soup or a salad.
- **Penne pasta** with meat sauce is the best I have ever had. It is rich and full bodied but not too heavy or acidic. I have a really hard time trying other things on the menu because this is so

good.

- **Penne alla vodka** is amazingly decadent pasta with heavy cream, and marinara.
- The soups are delicious and home-made.
- **Lasagna** is hearty with 3 cheeses and the marvelous meat sauce.
- **Cheese ravioli** is stuffed with ricotta and topped with tomato sauce and

more cheese but not too much.

- They have an incredible lunch special that offers ½ sub, a cup of soup or salad, and a slice of cheese pizza, which is a great way to try a few things at once.
- **Homemade garlic rolls** are covered with garlic and oil, if you have a date make sure both of you eat the rolls or one of you will be sorry! You can order the rolls plain and they are wonderful as well.
- The pepperoni pizza was very tasty and I will definitely order it and the other pizzas again if I can get past the pasta with meat sauce.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

- I am disappointed with the fettuccini alfredo because the alfredo sauce seemed more like a béchamel sauce rather than a rich fresh cream and parmigiana cheese sauce.
- The dessert cannoli and Italian cheesecake are ok but not spectacular.
- The wine list is minimal and needs help.

22 listed
wines
— 16 new

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FAMILY&LIVING

Mozart is alive and well thanks to ASC

BY BETH GOSSETT

Celebrating Mozart's 250th birthday the Symphony Chorus will be conducted by the Chorus' founder Dewitt Tipton, much loved and respected professor and Chairman of the

Music Theatre Degree program at Mars Hill College and Music Director of the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre.

Requiem K. 626, Andante in F major, K. 616 and Te Deum in C major, K. 141 will be performed on Saturday, Nov. 4, at 7:30pm at Arden Presbyterian Church.

Chorus members share their thoughts as they pound through the Latin and Mozart genius experience.

Charles Thompson, the Asheville Symphony Chorus' new Vice President and newly retired professor of Sacred Music at Moody Bible Institute of Chicago expresses "Singing the Mozart Requiem is like getting into the mind of a genius. What seems "frivolous" at first in terms of music becomes mind-boggling in its depth and creativity. Each contrast between statement and contrapuntal answer, while hidden to the unaware listener, reveals Mozart's great ability to en flesh music with drama. I am inspired every time I practice this music, and I am humbled to participate in performing it. One thing that Dewitt Tipton understands

about this music is its greatness, and he demands that we as a Chorus understand it too. Consequently, we sing it because we love it."

Guest soloists will be, Susan Hensley, soprano, Jane McCoy, mezzo-soprano, Alan Reed, tenor, and Jonathan Ross, bass.

Marla Woeckner says, "I have been singing in choirs since I was twelve. I teach piano classes for the College for Seniors on the UNCA campus. I have never sung Mozart's Requiem before, and am enjoying learning it under Dewitt Tipton's expert leadership. He is an outstanding musician who is also a great technician and knows the steps to take to enable a chorus to learn their music so that they will have it perfected by concert time."

"I first participated in Mozart's Requiem with the University of North Carolina-Asheville Community Chorus in the late 1980's, says Linda Smith, Publication Secretary of Starnes Cove Baptist Church. "Dewitt Tipton was our conductor at that time, taught me Latin

pronunciations and gave the Chorus the translations we needed to know so that we would understand what we were singing. The Requiem has special meaning to me this year because of illnesses and deaths in our family. It continues to provide comfort and peace to my soul."

Bill Boughton, an Investment Representative with Edward Jones, shares, "I am very excited to be performing such a major work as Mozart's Requiem with the Symphony Chorus and particularly under the direction of Dewitt Tipton. Dewitt has helped us to understand

the significance of the piece, both in terms of the period during which it was written and how Mozart applied his musical genius to match the powerful message of the text. I have no doubt this will lead to a spirited and expressive performance from the Chorus."

Steven Williams, accompanist and assistant conductor for the Chorus, music faculty at Warren Wilson College and Music Director/Organist at Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church will perform *Andante in F major, K. 616.*

Mozart's *Te Deum* written in 1769



Dewitt Tipton

is one of his last "boyhood" works, one which pays tribute to the musical traditions of Salzburg in its homophonic declamation of text, with all choristers singing the text as one, and the double fugue in the final movement, with choral sections in imitation of each other. Mozart imitates almost measure for measure one of the six settings of the *Te Deum* by Michael Haydn. It was common practice during this time for composers to copy the works of others verbatim as a learning tool. Mozart rendered his re-iteration of the *Te Deum* unique with subtle changes. That Mozart chose to imitate Michael Haydn is no surprise. Mozart had chosen him as an early model in Salzburg and had great respect for him.

If you go:

WHAT: Asheville Symphony Chorus

WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 4

WHERE: Arden Presbyterian Church 2215 Hendersonville Road, Asheville

INFO: (828) 254 7046, a Chorus member or at the Door the evening of the Concert.

What's new in local galleries?

BY BETH GOSSETT

16 PATTON

Asheville, Sculptor Malcolm Wolff has been invited to participate in the Sixth edition of the Biennale Internazionale Dell' Contemporanea in the historical Fortezza da Basso in Florence, Italy.

The exhibition takes place from Dec. 1 - 9, 2007. Wolff was juried into the exhibition by an international committee of art and museum professionals including a representative of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY.

Richard Anuszkiewicz (2005), Christo and Jeanne-Claude (2005), and David Hockney (2003) have been past recipients of the Florence Biennale's award for life-time career achievement.

In addition to an array of private collectors throughout the United States and abroad, Malcolm Wolff's work is held by local as well as national corporations. Wolff is represented by 16 Patton in Asheville. His work is included in the permanent collection of the Asheville Art Museum. Wolff and his wife divide their time between Asheville,



Malcolm Wolff. Grace, 2006. Bronze. 20 1/2 x 10 x 4 in. At 16 Patton

Florida, and Italy.

The catalogue Malcolm Wolff A Retrospective: The Art of Sensuous Abstraction is available at 16 Patton.

16 PATTON

(828) 236-2889.

16 Patton Avenue

www.16patton.com

BLACKBIRD FRAME & ART

BlackBird Frame & Art has been named one of the Top 100 Art & Framing. Retailers for 2006, announced in the October issue of Decor Magazine, the leading industry publication.

Specifically, BlackBird was recognized for Retail Aesthetics & Design of its gallery and framing workshop at 30 Bryson Street, just north of Biltmore Village in Asheville. Owners Pat & John Horrocks are honored to receive such a prestigious award and wish to express appreciation to the loyal clientele responsible for the business' success.

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THE RED CLOVER GALLERY OF LANDRUM, SC. NOVEMBER SHOW

The Red Clover Gallery is pleased to

announce its next show with Kelly Welch and Linda Cheek opening on Nov. 10 with a reception to meet the artists from 6-9pm. The show will run until Dec. 15. The Red Clover is dedicated to presenting the work of outstanding fine artists from the Upstate, the Blue Ridge and beyond. These artists are no exception to this rule.

Kelly Welch's approach to her art is a blend of Classical Realism and Impressionism working in both oils and pastels.

Linda Cheek is a plein-air painter working on locations in the Southern Highlands of the Appalachian Mountains, the Smokey Mountains National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The Red Clover Gallery
214 Rutherford St. downtown
Landrum, (864) 457-3311.
www.redclovergalleries.com

EVENTS

30 years of crafts at HCC celebrated

BY BETH GOSSETT

The Haywood Community College Retrospective exhibition will display artwork from the faculty, artists-in-residence, and students of Haywood Community College Professional Crafts Program Sept. 30-Jan. 7, 2007 in the Main Gallery at the Folk Art Center.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild (SHCG) is pleased to host this exhibition at such a significant milestone in the history of the Program. Founded in 1974 with the opening of the clay studio, Haywood went on to add jewelry, wood and fiber studios. By 1977, a comprehensive curriculum was in place structured to not only teach craft skills but also to transform those skills into a viable business. This exhibition was envisioned to celebrate 30 years of professional craft education.

Haywood became an official educational center of the Southern Highland Craft Guild under the leadership of Gary Clontz in 1980. This relationship created a bridge between the Haywood commu-



Jason Janow, Pigeon River Stone, 14k gold setting with a 5mm citrine, 14K gold accents, sterling silver, handmade clasp.

nity and the Guild, opening the way for a mutually beneficial future. Over the past 26 years these two craft-based entities have worked together to foster economic sustainability, to educate, to preserve regional culture, and elevate craft through professional practice. Haywood Community College participates as an organization at many of the Guild's educational events bringing students and faculty who demonstrate and often facilitate hands-on projects. Haywood has had a booth at the Guild Fair since 1982 where students are able to sell their work in an exclusive high-end retail environment. In addition, the

Main Gallery at the Folk Art Center hosted the Haywood Graduate Exhibition almost every year from 1981 until 2003. Many Haywood graduates and faculty have become individual members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, serving on various leadership committees as well as on the Board of Trustees.

The current Haywood instructors are Stephen Lloyd (clay), Robert Blanton (jewelry), Wayne Raab (wood), Catharine Ellis (fiber), and Bob Gibson

(craft design). These instructors as well as former instructors Gary Clontz (clay), and Arch Gregory (jewelry) have played significant roles in both the success of the Haywood Professional Craft Program and in the leadership of the Guild.

The HCC Retrospective exhibition will represent 111 craftspeople; 36 of the participants are individual Guild members. The works shown will be of the four studio concentrations: jewelry, woodworking, fiber, and clay.

The Jewelry Program begins with the basic techniques of fabrication, forming and embellishment. In the latter semesters, students begin to design jewelry using these foundation techniques.

Jason Janow graduated with an Associates Degree in jewelry making from Haywood in 2004. He describes the experience as being one of the toughest and most intense programs he's endured.

"The instructors are really challenging, but at the same time they work with students on an individual level and encourage students to develop their creative vision."

Diannah Beauregard enrolled in 1983 at Haywood Community College in the jewelry program. After graduating in 1986, she continued to challenge her skills by learning new techniques from specialized workshops and personal exploration. In 1993, she became a member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild.

The Woodworking Program focuses

on traditional methods of craftsmanship and creative design. There is an emphasis on handwork to create a foundation of technique before utilizing power tools for similar tasks.

Carol Brt graduated from the Professional Crafts – Wood program in 1993. "This program was a major turning point in my life. It showed me the way to create, design and build."

The Fiber Program at Haywood Community College immerses the student in the process of making cloth. The students learn how to analyze their process while making decisions about materials, techniques and design.

The Clay Program at Haywood Community College works to develop the student as both a potter and person. Emphasis is placed on the goals and needs of the individual.

Learning a craft is an enjoyable thing to spend time doing.

Find information about events sponsored by the Southern Highland Craft Guild at www.craftguild.org.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is authorized to provide services at the Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center under the authority of a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

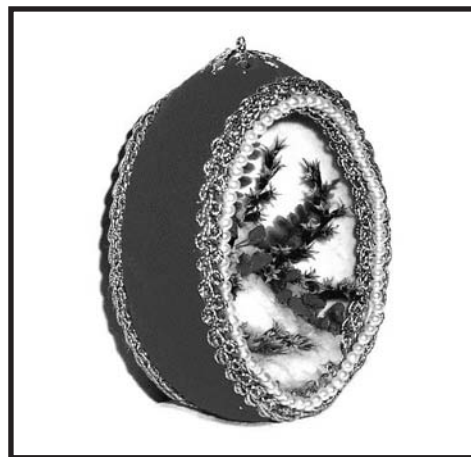
TAAS-Gallery and non-profits team up for tree ornament competition

BY BYRON BELZAK

Dru Heldman, co-owner of The Appalachian Artisan Society Gallery (TAAS-Gallery), located in downtown Old Fort, came up with a new holiday fundraiser project to help local non-profits.

His idea continues to gain momentum as more organizations join the new event, known as the TAAS-Gallery Christmas Ornament Competition and Fundraiser.

"My grandmother used to make beautiful handmade ornaments for our Christmas tree, and I started thinking how this might be a great way to help local groups come together and make a difference around Christmas," said Dru Heldman.



Heldman hopes it will become an annual event. This year's event runs from November 15 through December

16. The public is invited to visit downtown Old Fort's new TAAS-Gallery and pick their favorite handmade Christmas ornament with a one-dollar vote. The vote dollars will go to Hospice of McDowell County, which has pledged support of the ornament fundraiser.

"The key is for the public to come out and vote," said Heldman. "We expect that there will be hundreds of handmade ornaments on display during the contest period. Our company, TAAS-Gallery, is providing a grand prize of \$250 to the winner of this competition. The winner will be featured in our January 2007 ad in *Rapid River Magazine*." He said that the contest is open to anyone who wants to enter, and that

they have already received handmade ornaments from Texas and other distant places, as well as from the region. There is still time for artisans and artists to participate. The fundraiser will also collect new donated toys for Project Christmas, and put them under the tree of handmade ornaments. McDowell Arts Council Association (MACA) has also backed the new enterprise with its support.

A public awards ceremony during the week of December 18 will be co-sponsored by TAAS and the Old Fort Chamber of Commerce. There will be a final drive for donations for Hospice and Project Christmas. Christmas caroling and a storyteller will participate in the ceremony. For more information, call (828) 668-1070, or www.taasg.com.

WNC EVENTS

Get your creativity on

'Classes' continued from pg. 5

of music, dance, theatre, puppetry and dozens of other creative endeavors by which you can reinvent yourself. In the Asheville area and throughout Western North Carolina, opportunities to learn the arts abound. Most prefer to take group or individual lessons at institutions or art centers or directly from tutors. However, some prefer to simply teach themselves and learn as they go.

"There is no right or wrong way to learn," said Bacon. "The important thing is to enjoy the process and not get frustrated with yourself. It takes a long time to master an art or craft. But it's especially fun to learn new techniques or take up something new that you've always been meaning to try out."

CREATIVE SAMPLER

Here is a sampling to help get your creative juices flowing this fall and through the winter. It's recommended to inquire as early as possible since the most popular classes and workshops can fill up quickly. Many organizations and art centers offer gift certificates for those who want to surprise their friends and family with gifts of learning.

1. WOOLWORTH WALK

Woolworth Walk is primarily a gallery, but it also offers a wide range of workshops and ongoing art and craft classes offered by a host of experienced and enthusiastic instructors, who are also fine artists and artisans in their own right. "Registration for our metalworking workshops during the wintertime usually fill up by mid-December," said Bill Churlik, who has been pounding metal and teaching others how to do the same for decades. His sense of humor and enthusiasm for his craft of working with copper, silver and gold is infectious. The walls of his studio and workshop area, which is situated within Woolworth Walk, are peppered with photos of smiling students armed with their latest creations who are surrounded by signs of encouragement, such as "Don't just annoy the metal, HIT it." Do his students nick their fingers from time to time while learning how to form the metal? "Why of course," said Churlik with a twinkle in his eye. "How else are they going to learn?" For more details, call 828-254-9234, or visit the following websites: www.woolworthwalk.com and www.earthspeakarts.com.

2. MEDIA ARTS AT URTV

Asheville-Buncombe's first public access, URTV, which airs on Charter Cable's channel 20, has already attracted several hundred members. Many are packing the affordable media arts courses, which include affordable workshops for producers, as well as series of hands-on lessons to learn how to use digital editing and camera equipment. The URTV-20

formula is simple: produce, film and edit your own show, then let URTV air it. For more details about how to become a member and air your original, local TV shows to keep the dream of public access alive in Asheville, call (828) 255-8848, or visit www.URTV.org.

3. HAYWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROFESSIONAL CRAFTS PROGRAM

Without question, one of the premier craft schools in the state, if not the country, is located on the campus of Haywood Community College, located in Clyde, NC. Not only are the technical aspects of crafts taught with affection and professionalism, business courses on how to make a living as an artisan are an important aspect of the curriculum. For details about the Professional Crafts Program, call (828) 627-4500, or visit www.profcrafts.haywood.edu.

4. ASHEVILLE ARTS CENTER

This school appeals principally to children and focuses on music, dance and theatre. The school has grown quickly and now offers scores of classes and workshops. For details, call (828) 253-4000 or visit www.ashevilleartscenter.com.

5. ASHEVILLE MUSIC SCHOOL

Cleverly advertised as "the only school in Asheville where you get a SOUND education," Asheville Music School is celebrating its 10th anniversary. No matter what instrument or type of music you play (or want to play), this school offers excellent private instruction. For more about the school's instructors and instruments taught, call (828) 252-6244 or visit www.ashevillmusic.org.

6. MUSICIAN'S WORKSHOP

This long-time retail music store, located in north Asheville, offers numerous music lessons for amateurs and professionals. The store is also known for its instrument repair facilities. For details, call (828) 252-1249.

7. PENLAND SCHOOL OF CRAFT

Penland is one of the foremost craft schools in the nation. Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Spruce Pine, NC, about an hour north of Asheville, Penland offers a wide range of classes designed for beginners and advanced students. It is open to the public. For information, call (828) 765-2359.

8. UNCA

University of North Carolina at Asheville is considered to be one of the best values in higher education. For enrollment and class information about "North Carolina's Public Liberal Arts University," call (828) 251-6600, or visit: www.unca.edu.

9. FLETCHER SCHOOL OF DANCE

There are many schools throughout the Asheville area that offer a great variety of dance, depending on your interests; however, Fletcher School of Dance founded by Ann Dunn is one of the better-known, traditional dance schools. For details, call (828) 252-4761 or visit: www.ashevilleballet.org.

10. ASHEVILLE CHORAL SOCIETY

There are many opportunities to participate in local choral groups, such as the Asheville Choral Society, which continues to grow in popularity and quality in presenting traditional and contemporary works. Its recent auditions added a record number of choral singers to its organization. For more information, call (828) 299-9063.

11. TRUE BLUE ART SUPPLIES

True Blue offers free instruction most every week at its "Materials Monday" workshops that are open to the public at its downtown Asheville store. For more details about Materials Monday, call (828) 251-0028, or visit www.DowntownAsheville.com and enter in the Search box the words "True Blue." It's a great way for self-taught artists to increase their skills on a less formal basis.

12. ODYSSEY CENTER FOR CERAMIC CRAFTS

Located near downtown Asheville is the ever-popular Odyssey Center for Ceramic Arts. It offers a variety of classes and workshops for children to adults at all skill levels. Odyssey classes include lessons in sculptural mixed media, wheel throwing, hand building, tile work, mosaics, and mold making. For additional information and class schedules, call (828) 285-0210, or visit www.highwaterclays.com.

13. FINE ARTS LEAGUE OF ASHEVILLE

If learning how to draw and paint in classical realism, this is your place to get serious about fine art. The core program runs for 12 weeks of instruction and is

available three times a year. For more details, contact (828) 252-5050, or visit www.fineartsleague.org.

14. VADIM BORA

If you have raw artistic talent that needs some focus, you might be a good candidate for painting and sculpture classes under the expert tutelage of artist Vadim Bora, one of Asheville's most highly regarded painters and sculptors of fine art. His studio and gallery are located in the heart of downtown Asheville. For information about his classes, call (828) 254-7959: www.vadimboraastudio.com.

15. AREA ARTS COUNCILS

Contacting local arts councils are a great way to get in touch with noteworthy artists and instructors of the arts in WNC. For example, in Waynesville at Haywood County Arts Council is offering two November fine art workshops. One features figure drawing with Luke Allsbrook; the other is figure painting with Dan Helgemo. Space is limited, so sign up now at (828) 452-0593, or visit www.haywoodarts.org. Let the beauty of the figure light your flame of creativity. For information about the arts council closest to your home or work, visit North Carolina Arts Council's comprehensive local arts council directory online at www.ncarts.org.

WE ART THE PEOPLE

A brand spanking new and exciting online resource, known as We Art The People, is on an ambitious mission: "Connecting the Creative Community of Western NC." We Art The People just launched its website in late October 2006. It's the brainchild of Karen Lauher (assisted with the expert help of Asheville's Top Floor Studio website designers). While We Art The People has a long way to grow, it appears to be poised to become one of the major maypoles for the region's creative community. Kudos to Karen for making her vision a reality. It's her gift to Asheville. To find professional art instruction, visit www.WeArtThePeople.com.

GET READY. GET SET. GO!

So what are you waiting for, fellow residents and visitors of Asheville and Western North Carolina? Express yourself. Let your freak flag fly. Create something juicy. It will do your soul – and our collective soul – some good.

Editor's Note: for Area Art and Craft Teachers: For consideration in future Rapid River Magazine articles about regional and local art and craft instruction, artists and artisans are encouraged to email their current workshop and class information along with their professional credentials and detailed contact information to: info@rapidrivermagazine.com.



Working with clay isn't as hard as it is time consuming. Learning a few tricks of the trade will put the beginner off to a great, fast start.

HEALTH

Local patients and hospitals use Tai Chi

BY MICHAEL CLARK



Michael Clark

My greatest reward as an instructor of Tai Chi and Qigong is hearing that I have helped change someone's life for the better.

helped me to bring everything under control.

I imagined a wave washing over me and back out to sea. The relaxation/breathing helped me to overcome the scary aspects of my surgery. I lost an extreme amount of blood during the surgery and I am still somewhat weak but improving daily. With Tai Chi I was able to start my recovery. The most rewarding part of it all was when a nurse from the Philippines asked me what finally helped. When I told her Tai Chi, she said that I gave her goose bumps! In a very positive way. She knew all about Tai chi and how it helps individuals. I just wanted to thank you for showing me Tai Chi and how it has helped me. Keep up the good work, and if you need a testimony as to the benefits of Tai Chi, you are welcome to use my experience.

Thank you,
Kim S.

Kim's story is an inspiration to others. The principles of Tai Chi helped her deal with a crisis situation in a calm, mindful way. But you don't have to face a crisis to benefit from them; they can also make your everyday life more conscious and pleasant.

Relaxed breathing and mental imagery are used in both Tai Chi and Qigong. The breathing technique Kim used is Ocean Wave Breathing, part of the Five Treasures Qigong form developed by the National Qigong Association. I teach it in classes and workshops because it is one of the

simplest and most effective movement/breathing/meditation methods I have found. Ocean Wave Breathing can be learned in just three minutes.

Kim and her nurse are not the only ones who appreciate how well Tai Chi and Qigong aid surgical recovery and patient rehabilitation. Many of America's most prestigious hospitals including Duke, UCLA, Stanford, Scripps and Memorial Sloan-Kettering, have established centers for Integrative Medicine, uniting the best of Eastern mind-body practices like Tai Chi and Qigong with the scientific approach of Western medicine.

Recently, the Rehabilitation Services Department of Mission Hospitals in Asheville, NC, asked me to put on two workshops and an ongoing class to share the benefits of tai chi with hospital employees. The response has been positively overwhelming, with full rooms and long waiting lists.

What's more, a group of nurses at Mission have formed the Integrative Nursing Initiative, which aims to incorporate evidence-based integrative medicine practices into Mission Hospital's professional nursing model.

Find out more about Integrative Medicine at the National Institute of Health's National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at www.nccam.nih.gov.

You can get a video of the Five Treasures Qigong by calling Michael Clark at (828) 252-6851 or visiting the National Qigong Association website: www.nqa.com

VISIT MAGICAL ANCIENT MEXICO:

A Journey of Personal Transformation in the Modern World

Michael Clark and 5 international teachers lead you on an exciting travel adventure combined with a powerful inner journey. Practice Qigong and similar mind-body exercises from Toltec and Mayan traditions in the power spots of Mexico's ancient civilizations: pyramids, monuments, caves and beaches. Strengthen your connection to Nature and enhance your personal growth. Bilingual English/Spanish. No experience necessary. Complete Tour: 22 days, Feb.17 - March 10, 2007, \$3,240. Yucatan segment only: 11 days, Feb 28 - March 10, 2007, \$1,700. Contact: Michael Clark (828) 252-6851, Michael@HeavenAndEarthTaiChi.com. Full details at www.MexicoMagicoAntiguo.com.

Why is dietary fiber important?

BY DeWAYNE BUTCHER, MD

Fiber is the part of our food that goes through our bodies without being digested and ends up unchanged in the toilet.

HOW CAN THAT DO US ANY GOOD?

For years scientists thought it did no good but now we know that it can be very important.

Soluble fiber attaches itself to cholesterol and other by products of fat digestion, and carries them right out of the body. Without the action of the soluble fiber most of the leftover cholesterol would be absorbed, raising our blood cholesterol level. Soluble fiber is especially plentiful in fruit, beans and oats.

Insoluble fiber absorbs and holds water, up to six times it's own volume. It creates soft, spongy masses in the stomach and intestines. A sense of fullness occurs

much sooner than with low fiber foods and helps to protect us from overeating and aiding in weight control. The fiber masses

causes the stool to move much faster through the intestines and reduces the putrefaction that occurs in the bowel.

I often tell teenagers that I see with abdominal pain, that their bowels are like a tube of toothpaste. When the tube is full you don't have to squeeze very hard, but when there is only a little bit left in the tube you have to squeeze like mad to get it out.

The way to fill our tubes (bowels) is to eat fiber. It will decrease a lot of abdominal cramping pains and prevent hemorrhoids, as well as helping prevent some of the cancers of the bowel. Fiber

also slows down the rate at which nutrients enter the bloodstream. This helps smooth out the ups and downs of blood

sugar levels and provides a more consistent energy level throughout the day.

You get no fiber from any animal product! Fiber comes from fruits, grains, vegetables and legumes.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE FIBER IN MY DIET?

You get no fiber from any animal product! Fiber comes from fruits, grains, vegetables and legumes. Fiber is lost in the refining process. Since most westerners get 30% of the calories from animal products and much of the remaining calories are from refined foods it is no wonder that most Westerners get less than one third of the fiber they need each day.

A good example of losing fiber is fruit juices. Most of you have made orange

juice. How many oranges does it take to make a glass of OJ? It depends on the orange but usually two to three oranges. The fiber is what you leave behind when you make the juice. When you drink a glass of juice you do not feel full and may say, "That was good, I think I'll have another one." You get all of the calories of the fruit but do not feel full. On the other hand if you were to eat two or three oranges you would be much more satisfied. I think you get the idea. Not only is the fiber good for your health it helps you feel more satisfied.

In order for the fiber to have its benefits you need water in the gut. We recommend about 8 glasses of water a day.

We should be getting about 30 grams of fiber a day. Read the food labels and see how you are doing. I believe that if you did just this one thing it would improve your health and take care of a lot of other dietary changes we should be doing.

WHAT TO DO GUIDE™

EVENTS/CLASSIFIED — NOVEMBER

TO PLACE EVENT /
HAPPENING WITH
RAPID RIVER ART MAGAZINE

Any "free" event open to the public can be listed at no charge up to 30 words. For all other events there is a **\$9.95** charge up to 30 words and 10 cents for each additional word.

160 word limit per event.

Deadline is the 19th of each month. Payment must be made prior to printing. Email Beth Gossett at: ads@rapidrivermagazine.com or mail to: 85 N. Main St, Canton, NC 28716. Or Call: (828) 646-0071 to place ad over the phone.

DISCLAIMER:

Due to the overwhelming number of local event submissions we get for our "What to Do Guide" each month, we can no longer accept entries that do not specifically follow our publication's format. Non-paid event listings must be 30 words or less and both paid and non-paid listings must provide information in the following format: date, time, brief description of what your event is and any contact information. Any entries not following this format will not be considered for publication.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Asheville Fringe Arts Festival, a citywide performance art festival, is seeking artists and performers of all genres for its 5th annual event. This festival encourages artists to explore the edges/ boundaries/"fringe" of their work. The festival will be held January 26-29, 2007. No fee to apply. Apply on-line at www.ashevillefringe.org. The application deadline is Nov. 13.

Sound Garden Gallery, 4 Eagle St., downtown Asheville seeks artists interested in monthly shows. Call Linda @ (860) 338-1354.

Artists, Artisans & Craftspeople! Introducing "The Appalachian Artisan Society" TAAS-Gallery. Claim your space now. For application and information go online www.pinwilz.com click on TAAS-Gallery or call (828) 243-0428.

ART

Through Nov. 26—Jubilee Community Church at 46 Wall Street is featuring the work of Asheville artist Randy Siegel. Siegel's style is influenced by the outsider art he used to collect, and

his work can be best described as intuitive, figurative, and psychological. For more info: Randy Siegel, (828) 236-0045, www.RandySiegelArt.com

Nov. 1-30—Sisters in Art show by Toni Tarte of Old Fort and Marion Sheer of Bluffton, SC at McDowell Gallery, 50 S. Main St., Marion, NC. A reception will be held Nov. 6, 5-7pm. Art work will be soft pastel by Toni Tarte and watercolor by Marion Sheer. Call Deborah Lonon at (828) 652-8610 or visit www.svfal.org.

Nov. 2-Dec. 30—Four exhibitions open at Blue Spiral 1. Scott Upton & John Nickerson. Engaging abstract paintings from Scott Upton and glass objects and sculpture by John Nickerson. Style + Function: National Ceramics, Linda Arbuckle, Guest Curator Invitational. Brigid Burns: Intersection. Paige Hamilton Davis: Passages. 38 Biltmore Ave. in downtown Asheville. 10-6pm, Mon-Sat. Call (828) 251-0202 or visit www.bluespiral1.com.

com.

Nov. 3, 6-9pm—A reception for ceramic artist Allan Buitekant will be held at the Silver Fox Gallery as part of the Downtown Hendersonville first Friday art stroll. Silver Fox Gallery (828) 698-0601 silverfoxart@bellsouth.net.

Nov. 3-14—"Ground Line" an exhibition featuring 14 ceramic sculptures by UNC Asheville senior Glenn Roberts will be on view at UNC Asheville's Highsmith University Union Gallery. Opening reception 7pm, Nov. 3. For more information call (828) 232-5000.

Nov. 10-Dec. 15—Kelly Welch and Linda Cheek will show at The Red Clover Gallery with a reception Nov. 10, 6-9pm. The gallery is located in downtown Landrum, SC at 214 Rutherford St. (864) 457-3311. www.redclovergallery.com

Nov. 16-Dec. 12—Woolworth Walk exhibit "From Dirt to Flowers". A reception where the public may meet the artists and ask about their work will be held on Nov. 17, 2-4pm. Woolworth Walk, 25 Haywood St. (828)254-9234.

Dec. 2 — "Emerging: Terrestrial Art Show with Extraterrestrial Twist"



By Dan Helgemo, *Boy in Overalls*, pastel, showing at Gallery 86 of the Haywood County Arts Council, 86 North Main Street, Waynesville, (828)452-0593. Impressions of the Figure Show. Nov. 13-Dec. 2, Opening reception, Friday, Nov. 17, 6-9pm. Art After Dark reception, Dec. 1, 6-9 p.m.

by Yeva at the brand new Foothills Gallery, 76 South Main St., Marion, NC. Reception: Public is welcomed; 6 pm, Sat., Dec. 2, 2006. Plus, live performance by the artist, Yeva. A portion of art sale proceeds will be donated to a local women's shelter. For details www.yevasuniverse.com.

ART CLASSES

Woolworth Walk Art Classes held at 25 Haywood Street. Pre-registration encouraged. Come in or call (828) 254-9234.

Drawing & Painting with Lorelle Bacon: Weds. 1-3pm and 3:30-5:30pm Adults, Children, Teens Beginner through Advanced. Fee: \$50 (four 2 hour classes). On-going (828) 669-7215.

Intermediate Jewelry Workshop: Wed. 1:30-4:30pm. Fee: \$289.00 for 8 sessions.

Open Studio: 12 hours: \$54; 24 hours: \$108; 36 hours \$162.

ATTRACTIONS

Carl Sandburg Home—located three miles south of Hendersonville off the Greenville Highway/Rte. 225 (formerly known as US 25) on Little River Road in Flat Rock. Guided tours of Carl Sandburg Home are provided throughout the day at a cost of \$5 per person. Children are free. Park Service passports are accepted and sold. The grounds are

open to the public from 9-5pm.

Wolfe's Angel—Author Thomas Wolfe's first novel was *Look Homeward, Angel*. In the book there are constant references to an angel statue carved from Italian marble. This is the angel Wolfe placed in American literature. Thomas Wolfe's father, W.O. Wolfe, sold the statue to the Johnson family to mark the family plot in Oakdale Cemetery. The angel is holding a lily in her left hand and extending her right hand upward. Oakdale Cemetery is located on Hwy. 64 W., just a short distance from downtown. The statue is protected by a wrought iron fence, and there is a historical marker located on the highway.

Henderson County Farmers Curb Market—All items sold at the market must be either hand-made or locally grown. The sellers are 3rd and 4th generation vendors offering a variety of goods such as: crafts, baked goods, jellies, plants, flowers, toys and product. The market has been in operation since 1924. Hours are from 8am-2pm Tue., Thurs. and Sat. from April – December. The market is located on the corner of 2nd Ave. and Church St. For additional information call (828) 692-8012.

Western North Carolina Air Museum—is the first air museum in the state of North Carolina known as the "first in flight" state. The museum features award winning restored and replica antique

and vintage airplanes. The hours are (weather permitting) Mar.-Oct. Wed. and Sun, Noon-6pm and Sat. 10am-6pm. Nov.-Feb. Wed., Sat. and Sun, Noon-5pm. The museum is located at the Hendersonville Airport. For more information call (828) 698-2482 or go online at www.wncairmuseum.com.

Apple Wedge Packers—visit the facility in Hendersonville for production tours and to experience the local tradition of apple packing. View the most modern grading and packing equipment including an electronic sorter that photographs each apple four times to determine the best color quality. If time permits, load a 50-seat wagon for a guided trip into an apple orchard and sample the homemade apple cider. There is an admission charge for tours. For more information call (828) 685-8349.

Southern Appalachian Radio Museum—The Southern Appalachian Radio Museum is the only radio museum open to the public in North Carolina where you can see and hear radios of long ago plus an amateur radio station. Donations appreciated. Located at A-B Technical Community College in Asheville, Room 315 of the Elm Building. Hours 1-3pm on Fridays while school is in session, tours (828) 298-1847

BOOK SIGNINGS

Nov. 4, 12:30pm—Charles Frazier, best-selling author of *Cold Mountain*, will read and sign copies of his new novel, *Thirteen Moons*, at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian in Cherokee, N.C. *Thirteen Moons* is a fictionalized account inspired by the life of William Thomas and relating to the formation of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation in the 1800s. Highway 441 and Drama Rd. in Cherokee. (888) 665-7249. www.cherokeemuseum.org.

Nov. 30, 7pm—Barbara Milberg Fisher, author of *In Balanchine's Company: A Dancer's Memoir* will sign copies of her book at Malapropos Bookstore, 55 Haywood St. Asheville. Rich in anecdote, insight, and humor, it offers a unique perspective on one of the 20th century's cultural giants. (828) 254-6734 or visit www.malaprops.com.

COMMUNITY

Nov. 11, 8:45-2pm—UNC Asheville Admissions Open House, UNC Asheville's Highsmith

WHAT TO DO GUIDE™

University Union, free. Call (828) 251-6481 to register.

Haw Creek Open Air Market, open Saturdays through Oct. 8:30-1pm. Local produce, arts & crafts, and baked goods. Corner of Beverly & New Haw Creek Roads. (828) 280-4209 for more info.

Ongoing—Tuesday Night Self-Healing Support Group, based on the work of Dr. Michael Ryce www.whyagain.com Everyone Welcome! Love Offering, 6-8pm at Mystic Journeys Sacred Space, 333 Merrimon Avenue (828) 253-4272

Community Beware—Asheville Fire & Rescue has received reports of an individual who is posing as one of AFR's Fire Marshals. All of Asheville Fire & Rescue Fire Marshal's are uniformed, wear badges and can present identification at all times. If someone has a question of the validity of a Fire Marshal's identity, they can contact Asheville Fire & Rescue at (828) 259-5640 to verify. Anyone that has, or may have had, contact with a person of questionable profession should report this to our investigating officer Buddy Thompson at (828) 777-8931. For additional questions regarding this release, please contact Fire Marshal Wayne Hamilton at (828) 768-0129.

Ongoing—Professional Parenting, the largest community outreach program sponsored by Appalachian State University, is looking for a few good foster parents. Professional Parenting is a non-profit agency who will train and license families for children in the NC foster care system. If interested, please call (828) 236-2877 for further information.

Ongoing—Volunteer at the Smith-McDowell House. Asheville's past needs you now. All ages, backgrounds, talents needed to assist with Museum's public programs and preservation of Historic House and Garden. Information: Tammy Walsh (828) 253-9231 or smh@wnchistory.org.

CONVENTION

Nov. 11-12—Asheville's Best Science Fiction Convention is back. Nov. 11-12, at the Best Western in downtown Asheville, Revoluticon is holding its third annual science fiction and fantasy convention. There is a fiction contest with a cash prize, a costume contest, and a charity auction. All proceeds from the auction, plus a portion of the proceeds from the convention itself, are going to the Asheville Homeless Network. Tickets \$20 or \$25 at the door. Visit www.revoluticon.com. Call (828) 254-9989, or email revoluticon@gmail.com.

DANCE

Nov. 1, 8pm—UNC Asheville Hosts Contra Dance at Justice Center. No experience or dance partner is required. Admission is \$3 or free for UNC Asheville students with ID. The dance is sponsored by UNC Asheville's Presbyterian Campus Ministries. For more info and future dance dates contact the Rev. Bill Buchanan, UNC Asheville's Presbyterian campus minister, at (828) 254-3274.

Nov. 9, 7:30pm—UNC Asheville's Dance Program will hold its seventh annual benefit performance, "Everybody Can-Can", to Benefit Manna Food Bank, in UNC Asheville's Lipinsky Auditorium. Admission at the door is \$5 or five cans of food. All canned goods will be donated to Manna Food Bank and cash proceeds will benefit UNC Asheville's Dance Program. Suitable for all ages. (828) 232-5652.

FESTIVALS

Nov. 8-11—Those feisty filmmakers from Wilmington, NC announce their 12th Annual Cucalorus Film Festival, taking place in downtown Wilmington. www.cucalorus.org, (910) 343-5995

FILM

Nov. 11—Voices from the New American Schoolhouse — Documentary and Dinner at Rosetta's Kitchen. Dinner from 6-8pm. Film begins at 7pm. Rosetta's Kitchen, 111 Broadway, downtown Asheville. Tickets \$15. Proceeds benefit Katuah Sudbury School. Call (828) 891-1130.

Nov. 14, 7pm—LeAnne Howe's film Spiral of Fire will be screened in the Grandroom of Hinds University Center at WCU. The film takes Howe, daughter of a Choctaw mother and Cherokee father, to the North Carolina homeland of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to discover how the mix of tourism, community and cultural preservation is the key to the tribe's health in this century. The event is free of charge. (828) 227-7206.

FREE TREES

Nov. 4—Pisgah National Forest will celebrate the end of its season by giving away trees from its seedling nursery. Over 200 young green ash, chestnut oak, black gum, Virginia pine and eastern hemlock are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Cradle of Forestry staff will help you dig and package the trees. The site is open daily from 9-5pm through Nov. 5. Hwy. 276 in the Pisgah National Forest, six miles north of Looking Glass Falls and four miles south of the Blue Ridge Parkway. (828) 877-3130 or www.cradleofforestry.org.

FUN WITH LEARNING

Every Wed.—Free admission to the museum 3-5 pm.

Continuing Exhibits:

The Hall of Gems and Minerals—The Colburn is renowned for its permanent collection of gem and mineral samples from around the world. Kids can touch and marvel over the amazing differences between soft minerals like talc and hard ones like quartz while adults ooh and ahhhh over priceless cut and faceted gemstones.

The Grove Stone Earth Center—Explore our planet with hands on materials explaining plate tectonics, volcanos and the mysteries of the Earth's core.

A Richness of Resources: History of Mining in WNC—This fascinating interactive exhibit leads visitors of all ages through the rich history of WNC's unique mining industry. Set off the detonator and discover what a mine looks like inside, then take a look at the valuable minerals you might find in your own backyard.

Weather, Climate and You—See how you'd look on TV as a weatherperson, measure the wind's speed and learn more about the destructive power of hurricanes.

September Events:

New Junior Rockhounds Club! The coolest club for kids who love rocks, Junior Rockhounds meet after school every month to have fun and learn more about rocks and minerals. Each Rockhound receives a collection box at the first meeting and then gets a new mineral specimen each month to fill it as well as participating in a fun science activity. Call the Museum for more information or to register. Pre-registration required. \$35 Museum members; \$50 non members.

Downtown Geology Walks! Downtown will never look the same again. Walk around Asheville with an expert and see the city from a whole new perspective! Geology Walks are great for the whole family; discover fossils in a surprising location and marvel at the history of stone craftsmanship in Asheville. Saturdays, Sept. 2 and Sept. 16, 10:30-12pm; meet at the

Colburn Earth Science Museum in Pack Place. Pre-registration encouraged but not required. Free for Museum members; \$5 per person non members.

Rock and Mineral ID! Ever wonder just what that weird rock you found is? Think you have a meteorite, a diamond or possibly a fossilized dinosaur bone? Ask the expert! Phil Potter, the Colburn Museum's tame geologist, will examine and identify any rocks and minerals you bring in on Wednesdays between 3-4pm.



David D'agostino, *Age after Age*, 24" x 36," mixed media on canvas. Art Show: Local Favorites in conjunction with the WNCAP (Western North Carolina Aids Project) auction, Gallery Minerva is highlighting those artists who have donated paintings for the auction on Nov. 4, featuring new studio works of Marie Hudson, Phil Cheney and Kat Fullilove. For more information please contact the gallery (828) 255-8850

Best part; it's free with Museum admission.

School and Homeschool Programs are starting up! Call the Colburn today to make sure you're on the mailing list for the brochure or to schedule your field trip to one of WNC's most popular and educational facilities.

Seeking Volunteers! The Colburn is currently accepting volunteer applications. Join the fun at Asheville's hidden treasure; help museum visitors at the front desk and in the gift shop. Call the museum for more info!

All classes below are sponsored by The Health Adventure. For info please call (828) 254-6373, Ext. 329 to register and prepay or visit www.thehealthadventure.org

Ongoing—Home-School Happenings offers innovative educational programs to students learning at the kindergarten through eighth-grade level. Classes are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 1:30-2:30pm throughout the school year.

Fabulous Fridays provides youngsters age three to six with unique

programs that encourage and stimulate development while having fun. Motor skills, language, vision, social skills and creativity are all encouraged in these classes. Fabulous Fridays are \$5 per person for members; \$7 per person for nonmembers. Caregivers are admitted free of charge. Upcoming classes include:

Nov. 3—Puzzle & Painting Pizzazz—Macaroni butterflies and swish art will tickle your creative brain while our puzzles and mazes challenge the more logical side. All this playing and painting is such fun, who knew it could also help our brains grow? Make room on the refrigerator — here comes another masterpiece!

Dec. 1—Numbers & Hues. Counting and colors is what we are all about on this day. We may know the names of our colors, but what happens when we mix blue and green together? What surprises appear when we melt and mix crayons together? Our fingers help us figure out just how much fun learning can be with numbers and colors.

Jan. 5—Teddy Bear Picnic. Treat your bear to a picnic at our place for a fun day of play! Our little friends

WHAT TO DO GUIDE™

can lend a hand while we make "Beary cool" ornaments and crafts to take home. Should the little guy need a break, bring him over to our tea party table for a "spot of something nice" and everyone will go home happy!

Feb. 2—Little Builders. Little hands are always busy and there's no end to what we can build. Our new traveling exhibit "Little Builders" makes building a blast! We can glue and hammer our pieces of wood, make paper bowls out of gooey mash and even use paper towel tubes for some unconventional buildings. Join the fun!

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Nov. 18, 2pm—60th Annual Asheville Holiday Parade. Free. Downtown Asheville. A highly entertaining and fun parade that has kicked off Asheville's holiday season for 60 years with stilt walkers, balloons, marching bands, dance and theatre troupes. Also, Santa Claus himself! Don't miss this annual celebration of local mountain culture. Visit www.ashevillmerchants.com or call (828) 251-4147 for more info.

Dec. 2, noon-5pm—Historic Johnson Farm will hold its holiday open house, "Christmas at the Farm". Admission is \$4 for Adults and \$3 for children. Historic Johnson Farm is located at 3346 Haywood Rd., Hendersonville.

LECTURES

Nov. 7, 7:30pm—UNC Asheville's Great Quotes Lecture Series: "Heidegger on Being," Dr. Duane Davis, UNC Asheville's Kellogg Center, 11 Broyles Rd, Hendersonville, \$5. Call (828) 251-6272.

Nov. 8, 7:30pm—UNC Asheville welcomes acclaimed author and Civil Rights activist Jonathan Kozol to Lipinsky Auditorium, to discuss "The Shame of the Nation: The Restoration of Apartheid Schooling in America." A book signing and

reception will follow Kozol's talk. Free and open to the public. Info, call (828) 251-6227.

Nov. 10 & 14—UNC Asheville Celebrates American Indian Heritage Month with two special events. Nov. 10, 4pm—"Traditions of Life, Health, Wellness and Humor of the Eastern Band of Cherokee" will feature music, dance, food and a number of Cherokee speakers. Cherokee artists will display and sell their handmade crafts. Nov. 14, 3pm—Marijo Moore will discuss "The Healing Power of Words" in UNC Asheville's Laurel Forum, located on the first floor of Karpen Hall. (828) 232-5110.

Nov. 14, 7pm—Lecture by Georgia Bonesteel. The renowned quilter, author and teacher presents "Patchwork Potential in the Field of Art," a free lecture sponsored by The Arts Council of Henderson County located at 538 N. Main St., at the corner of 6th Ave. (828) 693-8504 for more information.

MUSEUM

Asheville Art Museum

Every first Wednesday of the month from 3–5pm, Museum is open and free to the public.

Ongoing—Exhibitions—Vantage Points: Perspectives on American Art 1960–1980. Art of the 1960s and 1970s is examined in four different galleries, including Photography, Women Artists, Sculpture and Pop Art and Geometric Imagery. Programs at the Asheville Art Museum:

Every First Wednesday of the Month, from 3–5pm, Museum Open Free to the Public.

Southern Appalachian Radio Museum, is the only radio museum open to the public in North Carolina. Enjoy exhibits of radios from long ago, plus an amateur radio station. Donations appreciated. Location: A-B Technical Community College in Asheville, room 315 of the Elm Building. Hours are 1-4pm each Wed. Tours:

(828) 298-1847. Website: www.sara-diomuseum.org.

MUSIC

Ongoing—Lucianne Evans-standards solo vocal/piano, Fridays 6:30-



On Nov. 12 at 2pm, Laura Boosinger will perform the Blue Ridge Naturalist Program Benefit Concert at UNC Asheville's Reuter Center.

9:30pm, Bistro 502, 502 N. Main St. Hendersonville (828) 697-5350.

Nov. 2, 7:30pm—UNC Asheville's student jazz combos will perform vocal and instrumental selections under the direction of David Wilken and the UNC Asheville Jazz Studies faculty.

Nov. 4, 8pm—Australian folk duo, the bluehouse – full of wit and charm, with gorgeously harmonious voices, inspired musicianship and truckloads of laughs. Mainstage Encore Series. Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place. Regular \$28; Senior \$26; Student \$23; Child: \$10; Student Rush day-of-the-show (with valid I.D.) \$10. Tickets/Info: (828) 257-4530 or online at www.dwtheatre.com

Nov. 5, 7pm—Legendary pianist, singer, and composer Mose Allison plays at Diana Wortham Theatre. Known as the "William Faulkner of Jazz," Allison has been recording for more than 35 years. Members: \$17. Non-members: \$25. Student w/ ID: \$10. Tickets/info: (828) 257-4530.

Nov. 5, 4pm—The UNC

Asheville Chamber Symphony will perform. The new student symphony is directed by UNC Asheville's Music Department Chair Wayne Kirby. The symphony will perform a 16th century work by William Byrd, the Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 by J.S. Bach and Mozart's 40th Symphony.

Nov. 5, 3pm—Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthias Episcopal Church off S. Charlotte St. in Asheville. Free. The church is located in Asheville just off South Charlotte Street at Max Street on the hill across from the Asheville Public Works Building (1 Dundee St.). Shuttle parking is available from the Public Works parking lot on South Charlotte St.

Nov. 7, 7:30pm—Brevard College's Division of Fine Arts presents the Brevard College Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo in concert in Brevard College's Porter Center for Performing Arts. Admission is free. This performance will feature compositions by Stan Kenton, Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, Charlie Parker, Benny Goodman, John Coltrane, among others and solo performances by many of the fine young artists at the college. For more information call (828) 884-8211.

Nov. 11, 7pm—The Haywood Community Band will present a patriotic tribute to our Armed Forces on Veterans Day. This free concert will be held at the Colonial Theater in downtown Canton. For information, call Bob Hill at 452-7530.

Nov. 12, 2pm—Laura Boosinger to perform Blue Ridge Naturalist Program Benefit Concert at UNC Asheville's Reuter Center. Tickets, \$12 and will benefit the Blue Ridge Naturalist scholarship fund. For more information call (828) 251-6198.

Nov. 19, 4pm—The UNC Asheville Concert Band, directed by John Entzi, will perform selections including "Second Suite for Military Band in F Major" by Gustav Holst, "Irish Tune from County Derry" by Percy Grainger and "The Impressario Overture" by Mozart.

Nov. 30, 7:30pm—UNCA's University Percussion Ensemble will feature a variety of original and classical music including "Percussion Quartet No. 1" by ensemble director Matthew Richmond, an original work by UNC Asheville Junior Nick Knapp, and traditional West African and Japanese music.

OPERA

The Asheville Lyric Opera presents its 2006-2007 calendar:

Feb 9-11, 2007—Franz Lehar's *Merry Widow*,

Apr. 13 & 14, 2007—Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata*

Brand new subscription prices range from \$90 to \$111. For a season bro-

chure, call Ticket Services at (828) 236-0670. Brand new single tickets prices for *L'Elisir d'Amore* (The Elixir of Love), *Merry Widow*, *La Traviata* go on sale to the public on Sept. 5, 2006 with prices ranging from \$35 to \$45. Single tickets will be sold exclusively through the Diana Wortham Theatre box office at (828) 257-4530, www.dwtheatre.com or in person at The Diana Wortham Theatre, 2 South Pack Square in Asheville.

PERFORMANCE ART

Nov. 12, 7pm—"When The Levee Breaks" by Cardboard Chaos (Uncle Sam's Little Global Circus). Features a provocative mix of circus stunts, puppetry, political satire and original music. UNC at Asheville's Alumni Hall. Sponsored by Traveling Bonfires, with UNCA's Students for Democratic Society. FREE (donations are appreciated). For info, raindance60@hotmail.com or (828) 505-0476 (c/o Marta), or (540) 434-4231 (c/o Eliza).

Nov. 18, 7pm—"Four Poets and a Singer-Songwriter," featuring poets Arielle Carlson, Matthew Mulder, Brian Needen, Pasckie Pascua, and singer-songwriter Paul DeCirce of Peace Jones. Malaprop's Bookstore/Cafe, 55 Haywood Street, downtown Asheville. FREE. Info: (828) 505-0476.

It's Time for Tellabration! when thousands of people around the world gather to celebrate storytelling. Co-sponsored by Southern Highlands Craft Guild and the Asheville Department of Parks and Recreation. Donation: \$5; proceeds enable area storytelling events. Advance tickets are available at Malaprop's Bookstore or on the day of the event. (828) 667-4227 or (828) 274-1123.

QUILTING

Through Dec. 16—"Seven Sisters: New Quilts from an Old Favorite 2005." Award winning and finalist's quilts from the Museum of the American Quilter's Society's international competition. Free and open to the public. Arts Council of Henderson County gallery, 538 N. Main St., at the corner of 6th Ave., 2nd floor. Open Tue.-Fri., 1-5 pm and Sat., 1pm – 4 pm. (828) 693-8504 for more information. This exhibition was organized by the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, Paducah, KY.

SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

Nov. 3, 7-9pm Jubilee!—The call to spiritual experience. An introductory lecture on Traditional Kundalini Science with Shivaripa, Ph.D. The time-tested system of T.K.S. offers spiritual people of all traditions a gentle way to progress spirituality and experience advanced inner awareness. Community, (828) 337-

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Asheville Arts Council Boardroom Gallery
Topic: Evaluating Galleries

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9009, KundaliniCare@gmail.com.

THEATRE

Nov. 2-4 and 9-11, 7:30pm—The Separation of Heaven and Earth. In his eclectic fashion, David Novak moves from personal anecdote into myth, poetry and current events as he explores the splitting of Heaven and Earth, land and sky, husband and wife, body and soul. The Separation of Heaven and Earth performs at NC Stage Company. Tickets \$15, (828)350-9090, or at Malaprops Bookstore, or online via www.ticketweb.com. Visit www.ncstage.org for more.

Nov. 8, 7pm—The Guerilla Girls will present Silence is Violence in the performance hall of the Fine and Performing Arts Center at WCU. The Guerilla Girls is a nationally acclaimed anonymous theatre collective that addresses the lack of opportunities for women in theatre and explores ways to combine performance and visual art. Free for Western students, \$3 for Western faculty/staff, \$5 for the public. (828) 227-7206.

Nov. 15-19—TheatreUNCA presents "An American Daughter, 8pm Wed.-Sat. and 2pm Sun. UNC Asheville's Carol Belk Theatre, \$10 general admission. Call (828) 232-2291 for tickets.

North Carolina Stage Company Presents 2006-2007 Performance Calendar:

Show times: All mainstage shows run Wed.-Sat. at 7:30pm, Sun. at 2pm. Family Passport is every Sat. 11am-12pm.

Ticket prices: Mainstage prices: first Wed. is Pay-What-You-Can Night, other Wed. \$15; Thurs. and Sun. \$20; Fri. and Sat. \$23. Family Passport tickets are \$5 for all ages.

Dec. 6-17, 2006—It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play

Feb. 21-Mar. 11, 2007—All in the Timing

Apr. 11-29, 2007—A Midsummer Night's Dream

May 9-20, 2007—Chesapeake

Sept. 7-17, 2006—A Telling Experience—In the Father's Hand

Nov. 2-12, 2006—A Telling Experience—The Separation of Heaven and Earth

Jan.10-21, 2007—Bill and Neela Muñoz—SHOW TO BE ANNOUNCED

Jan.24-Feb. 4, 2007—The Redundant Theatre Company

Theatre—Valentine's show 2007

Mar. 21-Apr. 1, 2007—immediate theatre project—TO BE ANNOUNCED

June 21-June 30, 2007—A Telling Experience—The Epic of Gilgamesh

Transylvania Arts Council announces its 2005-2006 Performing Arts Series: Sharing Stories, Near and Far. The series will include five eve-

year's schedule include:

The Rainmaker, Oct. 27-Nov. 12

Sanders Family Christmas, Nov. 15-Dec. 3

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Dec. 8-17

TOURS

Brewery Tour & Tasting—Fun,

Diversity (.2 miles) and if you want to walk the total trail (1.7 miles). For more information call (828) 258-0710.

Asheville Ghost Tour—a leisurely walking tour taking approximately 90 minutes and covering less than a mile. Stroll the shadowy streets of downtown Asheville listening to stories of the unexplained and strange. See pictures, taken by the owner of

(828) 258-0710 or email sharon@mtmicro.org

Ongoing—Figure drawing classes at Artemesia Gallery Thursdays from 6:30-9pm. Call (828) 259-3636 to sign up in advance. Limited to 10 students per class. Cost is \$10 per person.

Ongoing—Adult Theatre Workshops offered at Asheville Community Theatre. Beginning Acting, Improvisation and Writing & Performing Sketch Comedy Classes. Please contact Jenny Bunn at (828) 254-1320 x3 or jenny@ashevilletheatre.org for more info www.ashevilletheatre.org.

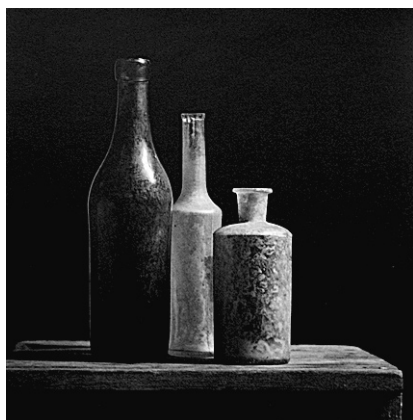
Ongoing—Offering study groups, meditation, and workshops on japanese gardens, Tai Chi, calligraphy, and more. Open to all. Go to www.greattreeemple.org for more information.

Ongoing—Drawing Instruction. Learn to draw from classically trained professional Asheville artist, James Daniel. Inexpensive and open to all. Call the studio at (828) 232-2232.

CORGI TALES



ning performances in the intimate surroundings of the Transylvania Community Arts Center Gallery, eleven school programs, and five community-based workshops presented by the visiting perform-



Here is a stunning black and white photograph of old bottles by Wallace Merritt, who will be featured at Bella Vista Art Gallery during November. 240 Clingman Ave. (828) 768-0246.

ing artists. Individual performance tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for students. Series tickets, including all five performances, are \$50 for adults and \$25 for students. Unless otherwise noted, workshop fees are \$5 per person. To purchase performance tickets or to register for an artist's workshop, call TransylvaniaArts Council at (828) 884-2787 or visit the Arts Center at 321 South Caldwell Street, in Brevard, NC. All performances begin at 7pm.

Tickets now available for the 2006 season at Flat Rock Playhouse. Tickets for 2006 range from \$5-\$32 (with discounts available). For tickets or info call (828) 693-0731 This

Informative and Great Beer! French Broad Brewing Co. offers an up-close tour experience starting in their intimate next-to-the-action Tasting Room and moving through the brewhouse. Each tour is complete with a tasting of several of their award winning brews. Saturdays 1pm & 2pm. The cost is \$5. French Broad Brewing Co. is located at 101-D Fairview Rd. in the Biltmore Village (behind the Polar Bar) area. For more information call (828) 277-0222 or visit us online at www.frenchbroadbrewery.com

Grove Arcade Tour—The Grove Arcade ARTS & Heritage Gallery is pleased to announce that a new historical and architectural tour of the Grove Arcade is now available for download from its website at www.grovearcade.com. Sponsored by the gallery, the tour was written and researched by local historian Rob Neufeld and designed by Susan Rhew.

Historic Johnson Farm—This is an intriguing, personalized viewing of the historic buildings and museum, and a visit with the horses. For costs, tour times and other info call (828) 891-6585 or go online www.historicjohnsonfarm.org.

Trolley Tours—take a trip around Asheville's finest treasures aboard a vintage touring trolley and enjoy the 70-minute tour covering Asheville's major points of interest. For more information on trolley schedules and ticket prices call (888) 667-3600 or go online to ashevilletrolleytours.com.

Asheville Urban Trail—trace the footsteps of Asheville's historic past. There are six different trails you can take: The Gilded Age (.6 miles), The Frontier Period (.2 miles), Times of Thomas Wolfe (.4 miles), Era of Civic Pride (.3 miles), The Age of

the tour, of ghost spirits and poltergeist orbs! Be sure to bring your own camera to catch images of energy orbs and possibly a ghost. Tours begin at 9pm nightly and depart from the Haywood Park Hotel. For more information and to make reservations call (828) 337-0645.

WINE EVENTS

Nov. 16, 7pm—Nouveau Night in Asheville at the Haywood Park Hotel featuring Beaujolais Nouveau, the fresh wine harvest from France. This is a fund raising event for the Asheville Downtown Association and a kick off to the holiday season at the end of the year. \$45. Call the Weinhaus at (828) 254-6453 for tickets.

Nov. 18, 2-4pm—Beaujolais Nouveau wines will be featured at a free wine tasting at the Weinhaus at 86 Patton Ave.

WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

Ongoing—mbody ~ mind-body fitness studio. Step into a free week of classes. 1200 Hendersonville Rd. (828) 277-7500. www.mbody.net for schedule.

Nov. 18, 9-4pm—Transylvania Community Arts Council (TC Arts) will present three, day-long classes in Brevard. Blacksmithing, Origami and guitar master class. Call TC Arts at (828) 884-2787. Located at 321 S. Caldwell St., Brevard.

Dec. 14, 6-9pm—Performance Workshop with Peggy Baldwin and John Loyd at the Asheville Area Arts Council, 11 Biltmore Ave. Looking for more direction on where your performing career may take you or just need some input on marketing your performance, then come to this seminar. For more info call AAAC

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NOVEMBER MOVIES

With MIKE STEWART

PICKS AND PANS

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Weekdays 6-9am
Mike Stewart

- ★★★★★-Fantastic
- ★★★★-Pretty darn good
- ★★★-Has some good points
- ★★-The previews lied
- ★-Only if you must
- ☹-Forget entirely

'The Departed'

Directed by Martin Scorsese
Starring: Jack Nicholson, Matt Damon, Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Wahlberg, Martin Sheen

★★★★★
The film *Goodfellas* was definitively Martin Scorsese's crime masterpiece.

Goodfellas hits a perfect bull's-eye. A fete considered a rare accomplishment of sorts. If a man can take aim and repeat that marksmanship twice, then *The Departed* is Scorsese's second bull's-eye.

Let's face it, certain directors do better at certain types of films than others. For instance, Hitchcock would be lousy at comedy and Ron Howard proved he's no good with the action flick when he made the *Da Vinci Code* debacle. When Scorsese steps away from the gritty streets and the grime of modern day gangsters, his films, while competently made, tend not to deliver the same impact!

Such was the case with Scorsese's period pieces, *Age of Innocence*, *Gangs of New York* and even the Howard Hughes bio, *The Aviator*. None of these films are the kind that leave you saying, "I've gotta own this for my DVD collection!" Not the case with his other pics: *Raging Bull*, *Goodfellas* and *Casino*. Make room on your DVD shelf for *The Departed*.

Scorsese has a knack to do on film what we still can't do on radio, television and, to some extent, cable: to actually portray real people. Real in their moves, hunches and, most especially, the way real people talk, both the hoods and the good guys.

You won't hear politically correct speeches in a Scorsese film or sanitized conversations for the sake of sensibilities. You drove into a rough neighborhood, if you can't handle it, better hit the pedal hard and drive by.

Nobody has more "tics" in charac-

ter than *The Departed*'s main character played by Jack Nicholson, here surrounded with equally strong portrayals by Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon, Mark Wahlberg and Martin Sheen. In fact, the subordinate "character actors" all fit! Scorsese is superb in finding that balance between believability and screen drama.

When the previews first premiered, people may have thought casting Nicholson, was an odd choice. In actuality, it was a great decision as a "...goes against the grain" approach, which keeps the audience a little unsure, and is exactly the type of tension you want from a gangster flick. As with real life, outward appearances don't always blend with our expectations of what a person is capable of doing or how they behave. That's the feel you get with Nicholson's character, in this sense, casting Nicholson was superb.

The Departed will not soon be departing from movie theaters. Audiences will stay riveted to this crime drama that delivers, not better than *Goodfellas*, but equally good.

Rated R for strong brutal violence, pervasive language, some strong sexual content and drug material.

—Reviewed by Mike Stewart

'Infamous'

Directed by Douglas McGrath
Starring: Toby Jones, Sigourney Weaver, Gwyneth Paltrow, Sandra Bullock, Isabella Rossellini, Daniel Craig

***Not reviewed**

At the risk of repeating myself...at the risk of repeating myself, I'm having that kind of moment, but it really isn't me, it's what's up on the screen—a movie called *Infamous*, and the subject: Truman Capote. Wait! Didn't we see this movie last year, with an Oscar winning performance by Phillip Seymour Hoffman in *Capote*?

Infamous is not only about the same guy, but about the same series of events



Leonardo DiCaprio and Martin Sheen give excellent performances in Martin Scorsese's latest gangster drama *The Departed*.

portrayed in *Capote*! Go figure! Back in the old movie-making days, the studios would at least give you a different take to draw you into the same character for your money like...*Edison* — *The Man and Edison* — *The Boy!* No such luck here...*Capote-1* is virtually the same as *Capote-2*. Maybe this is the beginning of a new trend, a *Rocky* series for those who punch typewriter keys.

However, the Truman Capote double take just turns out to be a major coincidence here. It happens. Neither director really had a leg up on the other's script. Remember Kevin Costner in *Wyatt Earp* (1994) vs. Kirk Russell in *Tombstone* (1993)? Both films had the same story line and both were made close together. *Tombstone* got the early jump in theaters and was the more successful picture, while Costner's flick faded to black at the box office. Oh, wait, since it's a western, I should say it faded into the sunset.

So...two films, two Capotes and two interpretations of Truman; it's almost like asking, "Who's the better Hamlet, Mel Gibson or Lawrence Olivier?" Truman Capote was a fascinating character, but not to the point where we need to see two films about him devising his masterwork, *In Cold Blood* (the film of his book released in 1967).

This reviewer, having already seen the first major theatrical release, had no interest in revisiting the subject. Fellow moviegoers, this is my way of saying *Infamous* is all yours. Knock yourself out contemplating which film, actor, screenplay etc., told the story better. Take some time and hang out with your pals in a cinema class, or better yet, a small, cramped, smoke-filled cocktail party, like they did in the 60s, and discuss the films attributes amongst yourselves. Capote would have liked that, both of them.

Rated R for language, violence and some sexuality.

—Mike Stewart

'Marie Antoinette'

directed by Sofia Coppola
Starring: Kirstin Dunst, Jason Schwartzman, Rip Torn, Judy Davis, Marianne Faithfull, Molly Shannon

★★★★★
While the screen version of Antonia Fraser's biography, *Marie Antoinette: The Journey* was beautifully shot in and around the palace at Versailles by Sofia Coppola and while the costumes and sets were impeccably gorgeous, I simply must agree with the swelling tide of critics who wholeheartedly agree that Coppola missed the mark with her third film, *Marie Antoinette*.

The movie depicts the life of the iconic French queen Marie Antoinette (Kirstin Dunst) from the time of her betrothal to Louis XVI (Jason Schwartzman) at age 14, where she is thrown into an opulent and decadent court of French busybodies and courtiers who despised her for being Austrian, through her coming to the throne at age 19 and being, as her King even says, "too young to reign," and up until the age of 30 when she and Louis XVI are forced, by revolutionaries, to flee their home at Versailles.

Within the boundaries of the film, you see how Marie Antoinette faces such issues as enticing her husband to "seal the deal" of their marriage by consummating the marriage (which ultimately comes from good advice about keys and locks, one of Louis XVI's hobbies, from Marie Antoinette's brother, the Emperor of Austria), how she handles herself amongst sniping courtiers, how she parties like there will be no tomorrow, how she handles raising her children, handles an affair with a gallant Swedish soldier, ignores the plight of her people and ultimately stands by her King.

FILM REVIEWS

By far, the most ridiculous component of the film was the soundtrack, which if you've read any other reviews on this movie has surely been mentioned. It's not that I didn't like the soundtrack, which consisted of 80's pop/synth tunes by the Cure and Erasure, among others, I did, but what in heaven's name does that type of music possibly bring to the elegance of a movie like *Marie Antoinette*? Not one thing, in my opinion. It just made it more obvious that the music didn't fit. For example: Louis and Marie Antionette complete their wedding ceremony and the moment they walk out of the church to greet well-wishers...cue a Cure song. Uh....no, but I digress.

There are other anachronistic moments that appear in the movie...but I'm going to let those of you who desire to see this film look hard and find them yourselves. You can always shoot me an email and let me know which ones you found. Consider this a "scavenger hunt" task of sorts.

Also, how many parties can we see Marie Antoinette attend or preside over before we get the fact that she was one of history's big party girls and that she could have really cared less that she was a queen responsible for the lives of a country full of people? How many times can we watch Marie Antoinette agonize about what shoes or dress to wear? I simply do not know the answer to these questions as I went brain dead seeing it happen so often on screen.

However, since I'm digressing anyway, if the costume designer, Milena Canonero, doesn't win an Academy Award for her gorgeous, candy-sumptuous, costumes, the Academy is blind and ridiculous.

Rating: PG-13 for sensuality and language

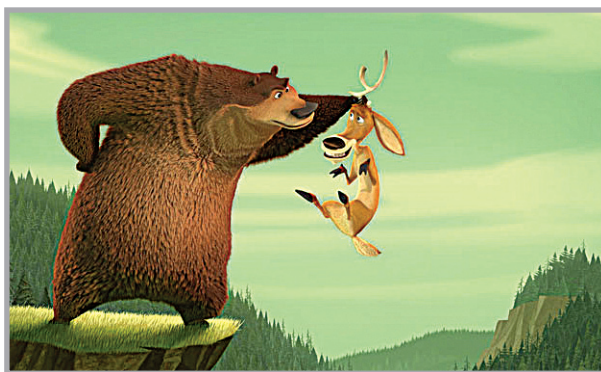
—Reviewed by Beth Gossett

'The Marine'

Directed by John Bonito

Starring: John Cena, Robert Patrick, Kelly Carlson

How do you like that? *The Marine* sneaks into the cinema right before our eyes and ears, with little fanfare and smack in between the North Korean nuclear test crisis and increasing insurgency in the Middle East. You'd think somehow with all of the real current events happening, the screenwriter and director could've conjured up enough of a plot for this flick even if they guessed at what they were doing! But, no, our action hero, John Triton (Cena), trounces through the southern swamps of the Carolinas tracking down jewel thieves who got in the way of



Unlikely friends, Boog and Elliot find that living in the woods isn't so bad after all in *Open Season*.

our corpsman's R & R.

That said, the film boils down to: blowing up stuff, blowing up bigger stuff and of course, answering the burning question, "Who's the baddest dude on the block?"

You got it, *The Marine*.

This film is produced by the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment)? It is part of a new extension of their base product marketing and stars WWE Wrestler John Cena. Well, at least he shines at something! It is said, "Summer is the time for mindless movies." Hey fellas, check your synchronized military issue watches, it is fall and this film has "fall"en so far into the abyss, you'd better call the Navy Seals to attempt a mission rescue!

If this production company ever tries for a sequel...I'll be happily AWOL!

Rating: PG-13 for intense sequences of violent action, sensuality and language

—Reviewed by Mike Stewart

'Open Season'

Starring the voice talent of: Martin Lawrence, Ashton Kutcher, Gary Sinise, Debra Messing, Billy Connolly

What happens when a domesticated grizzly bear named Boog (Lawrence) meets up with a not-so-woods-smart deer named Elliot (Kutcher)?

Hilarity and friendship ensue. Boog, after destroying a mini-mart during a sugar high with Elliot, is completely unprepared for being released back into the woods, but that's exactly where he finds himself, and he has only Elliot to help him find his way back to town. This is like the blind leading the blind and it's only days until "open season."

The duo find themselves wandering around in circles and meeting up with, and trying to get help from, woods-savvy (and very amusing) animals like the Braveheart-esque squirrel named McSquizzzy (Connolly) and his army, who are very intense when it comes to other creatures getting too near their beloved trees, a couple of pungent Latina skunks looking for a good man, a porcupine desperate for friends and some wayward ducks suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder which, consequently, was brought on by the previous "open season."

Meanwhile, crazed hunter, Shaw (Sinise), has made it a personal vendetta to hunt down the deer that got away...and the pesky bear who was responsible. He even goes so far as to chase the pair across an unfinished beaver dam, which gives way and washes Boog, Elliot, Shaw and the rest of the woodland creatures downstream.

All of the animals and Shaw escape unscathed, but now the animals are homeless and decide since Boog and Elliot are responsible, they all need to go back to town with the duo and live with Boog. As the group progresses toward town, they all develop a strong bond and become their own community...their own tribe if you will, and Boog and Elliot realize that maybe town isn't so great after all.

The climax of the movie comes with the first day of "open season." As the hunters invade the woods, the animals show them they're not going to take their attack lying down...and boy, howdy, do they show the hunters a thing or two. Even Shaw learns a lesson when good animals go bad.

If you've been waiting for a great movie to see with your family this is a good pick, but not as good as it could have been. There is humor for kids as well as adults and the story is something everyone

'Movies' continued next pg.

Catch the "Talk of the Town" film chatting with Mike Stewart and Beth Gossett each Wed. 7:30 am on 570AM WWNC for the latest in film and DVDs. Don't miss a minute.

NEXT MONTH:

In December we'll be reporting on:

New James Bond: *Casino Royale*
Happy Feet
Stranger Than Fiction
A Good Year
Babel

TEEN CORNER

Flicka



Both the girl and the horse are wild in this wrenching but touching story about a troubled teenager and the mustang she loves.

Flicka takes place in the vast plains of Wyoming where the horses are free to roam. Katy McLaughlin (*Alison Lohman*) is a restless 16 year-old-girl who lives on a ranch. While riding one day, her horse spooks and leaves her to face a mountain lion. Out of nowhere a black mustang (later known as Flicka) saves her by scaring off the lion. Katy eventually catches the horse and intends to train her, but her father (*Tim McGraw*) has other ideas.

Flicka is based on the classic chil-



Film fan and movie critic Sierra Bicking lives in Asheville

dren's book *My Friend Flicka* by Mary O'Hara. Too bad the movie couldn't match the magnificence of the book. Unlike the book, the movie had moments of losing the audience's attention, noticeable by their occasional yawns and sighs. But the bad balances out with the good.

The scenery of the vast mountains with wild horses running on the prairie will take your breath away. I felt like I was there, trying to train Flicka, and crying when she was taken away. One thing I found curious however, was that at the end of the film, it didn't say "No animals were harmed in the making of this movie." I later found out that two horses accidentally died during production and because of this many animal lovers are boycotting the film.

For those who still want to see it, *Flicka* is a heart-warming film that horse



Flicka, a timeless literary classic, doesn't live up to fan expectation in the updated film version.

lovers will enjoy.

Rated PG for some rude humor, mild action and brief language

—Reviewed by Sierra Bicking

MOVIES&MORE

'Movies' continued next pg.

in the family will enjoy. It's better than direct-video, but will not become a classic either.

Rated PG for some rude humor, mild action and brief language
—Reviewed by Beth Gossett

'The Prestige'

Directed by Christopher Nolan
Starring: Christian Bale, Hugh Jackman, Michael Caine, Scarlett Johansson, David Bowie



As I watched this movie, I kept asking myself, "What would Penn & Teller think?"

After all, it's got attitude, it unveils some of the tricks of illusionary deception, it definitely has showmanship and it's about not one but two magicians! Yes, Penn & Teller would dig *The Prestige*, which could've just as easily been titled, *The Competition*.



Christian Bale and Hugh Jackman strive to out do one another in *The Prestige*, one of the best movie offerings this year.

It's 19th century London. Theatres are lantern-lit places where escapism entertainment takes on wonder and awe as magic men step across the creaky wooden floorboards of an intimate theatre stage to unfold mysteries of the mind and body before the astonished eyes of a still gullible world. *The Prestige* is filled with that sort of razzle-dazzle mood lighting and visual style that transports you to 19th

"turn of the century" reality.

For Hollywood, this is a great place to visit; cinema magic meets contraption magic and the games begin. For audiences, it's a great, complicated, roller coaster ride! Revel in it! Audiences have always enjoyed a good magic act, look at a brief history of other movies with a "magical" theme: *Chandu the Magician* (1932), *Thief of Baghdad* (1940), *Houdini* (1953), *The Mad Magician* (1954), *The Raven* (1963), *Excalibur* (1981) and today; the *Harry Potter* series (2001-present).

The twist occurs between two boyhood friends (Christian Bale and Hugh Jackman), as they grow up in the magic profession and take their magic to the brink of madness to out do each other. Adding more color is Michael Caine, who, as he gets older, is turning into the Edward G. Robinson of his day by

becoming a great sideman-character actor in various film roles. He accomplishes this extremely well in *The Prestige*.

Of course, I'm side stepping some points in *The Prestige*, there are plot twists, flashbacks and mystery (a good magician always leaves his audience wanting more and never, ever reveals his true secrets).

Enjoy this movie, *The Prestige* is just the right mix of slight of hand prestidigitation!

Rating: PG-13 for violence and disturbing images

—Reviewed by Mike Stewart

Wondering if you should spend your money on a recent theatrical released movie that's now on DVD? Check out past movie reviews on the Rapid River website:
www.rapidrivermagazine.com.

'Unto These Hills' DVD and new CD features Cherokee music

BY BETH GOSSETT

A CD recording of the music from the show *Unto These Hills ... a retelling*, the story of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is now available.

The soundtrack features Eastern Band singers and musicians and is the first such CD release in the show's history.

For more than 50 years, *Unto These Hills* has run each summer at the Mountainside Theater in Cherokee. This past season, the Cherokee Historical Association, which produces the show, overhauled it with a new script, cast, costumes, choreography and music. Reaction to the new music was so enthusiastic that CHA decided to release a compact disk,

said James Bradley, the organization's executive director. "We received so many requests for the new music from people attending the show and tribal members," Bradley said. "They especially love the 'Horse Dance' song."

The soundtrack includes the show's original music, all rooted in traditional Cherokee song and instrumentation, as well as two additional selections. Dennis Yerry, the show's composer and musical director, produced the CD in association with CHA. The music was mixed and mastered in New York.

The new show's first season was a great success, with every performance earning a standing ovation. Attendance increased by 19% (due, in part, because of *Rapid River Magazine* coverage) from the previous season, and a survey of 1,200

attendees showed more than half were new audience members. More than half of attendees were from outside the state, and about half of attendees spent the night in paid lodging in Cherokee.

And for the first time, members of the Eastern Band were the majority of the show's cast. "We are very happy that we were able to accomplish so many of our goals in the first season of the new show," Bradley said. The Cherokee Preservation Foundation and the N.C. Arts Council fund the Cherokee Historical Association.

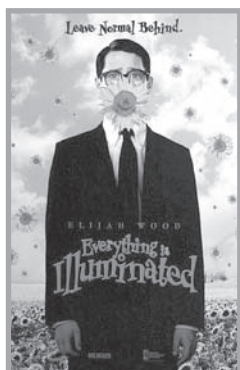
The soundtrack costs \$17.55, which includes tax, shipping and handling. It is available through the Cherokee Historical Association by toll-free phone at (866) 554-4557, ext. 202 or by mail. Cherokee Historical Association, PO Box 398, Cherokee, N.C. 28719. In addition, a

DVD of the former version of *Unto These Hills* is available for a donation of \$20 or more to the Cherokee Historical Association.

Along with *Unto These Hills ... a retelling*, *Cherokee, N.C. features other cultural attractions including: Oconaluftee Indian Village, a 1750 replica of a Cherokee village; The Museum of the Cherokee Indian, interpreting the tribe's history in the Smoky Mountains; and tribal art galleries such as Qualla Arts and Crafts Mutual. Cherokee was named 2006 Travel Attraction of the Year by the Southeast Tourism Society. For more information, visit www.cherokee-nc.com or call (800) 438-1601.*

HENDERSONVILLE FILM SOCIETY: NOVEMBER FILMS
BY CHIP KAUFMANN

NOV. 5: HENRY V – Laurence Olivier produced, directed and stars in this stylized but extravagant version of Shakespeare's most popular history play based on one of England's most celebrated kings. It inspired World War II audiences and was the first Shakespearean film to be a popular success on both sides of the Atlantic. It also provides an ideal look into Elizabethan performance practices as well as those of Olivier's time. Great Britain 1944 Color 137 minutes.



NOV. 12: TO SLEEP WITH ANGER – Danny Glover co-produced and stars in this unique and fascinating independent film that mixes African-American folklore with domestic drama. He plays a long lost visitor who exposes and exploits tensions within an ordinary Black middle class family. Best Film Award winner at the 1990 Sundance Film Festival. With Paul Butler and Mary Alice.

DIR: Charles Burnett.
USA 1990 Color 101 minutes.

NOV. 19: EVERYTHING IS

ILLUMINATED – A singular young man goes to the Ukraine to try and find the woman who saved his grandfather from a Jewish pogrom during World War II. Once there he enlists the services of an eccentric local family and they begin a wildly funny yet deeply moving journey into the past. With Elijah Wood and Boris Leskin. And Sammy Davis Jr. Jr. the dog. DIR: Liev Schreiber.
USA 2005 Color 106 minutes.

NOV. 26: APPOINTMENT WITH DEATH – Peter Ustinov, Lauren Bacall, Hayley Mills and John Gielgud head an all-star cast in this Agatha Christie thriller as Belgian sleuth Hercule Poirot attempts to solve a rather perplexing murder during a tour of the Holy Land. Of course you know he will but the fun lies in him

and us arriving at the solution as well as watching all that star power. DIR: Michael Winner.
Great Britain 1988 Color 103 min.

What: Hendersonville Film Society Screenings

When: Sundays at 2pm

Where: Smoky Mountain Theatre in the Lake Pointe Landing Community, 333 Thompson Street, behind the Epic Theatres in Hendersonville.

Call: Elaine Ciampi at 828-697-7310

Open to all. Donations requested.

GALLERYUPDATES

The Vanishing Landscape through Dec. 1

BY BETH GOSSETT

The Frame Shoppe and Gallery and the Western North Carolina Plein-Air Painters will present a special art opening and live auction on Friday, Nov. 3, 6:30-9pm to benefit the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition.

The Vanishing Landscape exhibit will feature collections by award winning plein-air painter Armand Cabrera, Sculptures by Bernie Segal, Rural Barn Scapes by Jerry Cram and the juried work from the Western North Carolina Plein-Air Group. Through the show, owner Todd Hilliard wishes to showcase and share interest for the magnificent local artists who use the beauty of our mountains as inspiration while benefiting a local conservation group



Autumn at Lake Lure by Peggy Taylor

that works to protect these special places.

Support and donations for this event has been strong. Local personality Taylor Barnhill has graciously donated his time and auctioneering skills to help the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition sell the more than one dozen paintings that have been donated for the event.

Appetizers from the Lobster Trap Restaurant, Star Bucks, and Harris Teeter have all been donated as well for our enjoyment. The design and printing of more than 1,500 invitations that were mailed out to local art collectors and conservation contributors were donated by West Asheville's Blue Barnhouse printers on tree free and recycled paper.

A Raffle will be held through the entire month of November at \$25 a ticket to have the chance to own a beautifully framed signed print by Pisgah Forest artist Ray Byram. The lucky winner will be contacted Dec. 1.

The Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition unites 22 local, state, regional, and national conservation organizations in the six-state region of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama.

Their mission is to protect and restore the wildlands, waters, native forests, and ecosystems of the Southern Appalachian landscape.



Summer Hay, 9 x 12, oil
Framed and retails for \$1,000.

If you go:

WHAT: The Vanishing Landscape

WHEN: Art opening Nov. 3, 6:30-9pm. (Exhibit will show through November)

WHERE: located in the Harris Teeter Shopping Plaza, Asheville, 1378 Hendersonville Rd.

INFO: (828) 274-3635

PERFORMANCEUPDATES

GET READY TO BE ENTERTAINED THIS NOVEMBER

ASHEVILLE PUPPETRY ALLIANCE
www.ashevillepuppetry.org

Presents Mountain Marionettes' In The Nutcracker Mood

Friday, Nov. 24, 11am at the Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place
Tickets are \$8 adults and \$5 children and seniors. Diana Wortham Box Office (828) 257-4530 or on the web at www.dwththeatre.com

Let Mountain Marionettes' kick off your holiday season. Join Susan VandeWeghe and her beautifully crafted trick marionettes in this fast moving, family friendly Holiday Show. This variety show includes many of your favorite holiday songs. Bunny, a typical 50s teenager, with a ponytail, poodle skirts and saddle shoes sings "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." A little girl, in her nightgown, has a secret to tell. Mountain Marionettes' production also includes a very special rendition of The Nutcracker by the incomparable Glenn Miller

Orchestra. And what would the holiday season be without Spike Jones' "All I want for Christmas is my Two Front Teeth" or Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer.

Mountain Marionettes productions bridges the gap between children and family entertainment.

Mountain Marionettes is a full time professional puppet company that specializes in the Art of the Marionette. Productions feature spectacular trick marionettes in a musical variety format, with the puppeteer in full view of the audience. Each handcrafted marionette is between 24" and 32" tall. "In the Nutcracker Mood" is designed to be wholesome family fun that will charm the young ones and the young at heart.

Mountain Marionettes is a North Carolina company. Susan VandeWeghe, puppeteer, established the company in 1999 when she moved to Cedar Mountain from Chicago where she had worked with AniMart Puppet Theater and The Dave Herzog Marionettes.

The Asheville Puppetry Alliance is a non-profit arts organization bringing quality puppet theatre to Western North Carolina. www.ashevillepuppetry.org.

WCU WILL RECEIVE A VISIT FROM GUERRILLA GIRLS ON TOUR NOV. 8

The Lectures, Concerts and Exhibitions Series at Western Carolina University will feature the Guerilla Girls On Tour at 7pm, Wednesday, Nov. 8, in the performance hall of the Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Guerilla Girls On Tour is an internationally acclaimed anonymous theatre collective that began in 1997. By creating original plays, street actions, visual art and residency programs, the group dramatizes women's history and advocates on behalf of women and artists of color in the performing arts.

Guerilla Girls On Tour will present "Silence is Violence," which will be free of charge for Western students, \$3 for Western faculty and staff, and \$5 for the general public.

The act balances entertainment and education, two- and three-dimensional art, and comedy and drama. It uses humor as a primary tool to fight sexism, racism and discrimination against women and people of color. "We don't want to lecture or hit our audiences over the head with dreadful stats that exist about the lack of parity for women and artists of

color," said a group member of Guerilla Girls On Tour.

Every group member has taken the name of a dead woman artist, and performs wearing a gorilla mask in an effort to focus attention on the message, not the performer.

Guerilla Girls On Tour has toured through 30 states and five countries and has been featured in media such as the *Village Voice*, *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, the *BBC* and The Tony Awards.

For more information about the event or the LCE Series, call (828) 227-7206.

AUSTRALIAN FOLK DUO, THE BLUEHOUSE

Full of wit and charm, with gorgeously harmonious voices, inspired musicianship and truckloads of laughs. Mainstage Encore Series. Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place. 8 p.m. Fri., Oct. 13. Regular \$28; Senior \$26; Student \$23; Child: \$10; Student Rush day-of-the-show (with valid ID) \$10. Tickets/Info: (828) 257-4530 or online at www.dwththeatre.com. Sponsor WNCW 88.7FM.

NOVEMBER 2006

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

NOVEMBER 3

Webcast on www.wilsoncenter.org
10am-11:30am

"Why Societies Rise and Fall" with
Thomas Homer-Dixon, author of
"The Upside of Down: Catastrophe,
Creativity and the Renewal of
Civilization"

NOVEMBER 3 & 4

Toe River Valley Legacy Workshop
"Empowering People to Maintain
A Healthy Rural Landscape"
Mayland Community College
Sam Center Auditorium & Field Trips
Spruce Pine, NC; (828) 230-2768
www.toerivervallewatch.org

NOVEMBER 4, 11, 18, 25

Earthaven EcoVillage Tour
Black Mountain, NC
Call first: (828) 669-3937
www.earthaven.org

NOVEMBER 13 - 17

Solar Thermal & Radiant Floor
Heating Weeklong Course
at NC Arboretum
(828) 665-2492
Maria_Ofarrell@ncsu.edu
continuingeducation.ncsu.edu

NOVEMBER 17

10am-5pm
Autoclaved Aerated Concrete
(AAC Block) Workshop
Ringgold, GA
(706) 965-4587
www.safecrete.com



Sustainable Living Resource for WNC

Councilwoman Robin Cape Champions a Greener Asheville Asheville City Council Seeks Greater Diversity for Newly Forming "Energy and Environment" Committee

BY BYRON BELZAK

If there's one thing that gets Asheville City Councilwoman Robin Cape up and going in the morning, it is the topic of how to improve the environment, save energy, and improve the quality of life in the Asheville area.

"To me it [living green] is a way of life," said Cape, who has unquestionably taken the lead on city council concerning greener and cleaner issues. "It's a way of life that encompasses the fact that without a healthy environment, we don't have quality of life. We then don't have a connection to the world in which we live in. [Without that] we aren't being responsible to our children ... and to our community."

Robin Cape believes that the City of Asheville and the community at large must engage in a more meaningful and cooperative relationship concerning the environment. She quickly adds that a number of city council members share her interest concerning this topic, particularly Brownie Newman, Bryan Freeborn, and "Holly [Jones] really trusts our interests." She said that there are times in which they disagree, but a sense of "mutual trust and respect" always remains.

ENVIRONMENTALISM IS NOT LEFTIST ... IT'S CONSERVATIVE

Cape continued: "I think ultimately [Councilman] Jan [Davis] and [Mayor] Terry [Bellamy] do [agree with a greener approach], but they have more of this sense that environmentalism is a leftist concern, and environ-

mentalism is not a leftist concern. It is a conservative concern, because it is about conservation. It's fiscally responsible, because when you look at energy savings, you are not only saving energy use in terms of climate impact; you're saving energy use, which means saving money. "I'm a businesswoman by trade. I always have been. I had to learn how to make a dollar stretch in order to be financially successful. I also had to learn to do work that I felt met my values. That's why I had an architectural salvage company with my husband."

"OFF THE GRID"

Robin Cape has firsthand experience and a deep understanding of what it means to truly live greener. "I lived off the grid from 1984 to 1988. It was great. I bought an old cabin. It was a hundred dollars down and a hundred dollars a month, and I got this piece of land. And on this piece of land under a bunch of kudzu was a 1800s log cabin. We pulled the vines off and thought, 'We could spend \$30,000 building a house or we could restore this.'

"As we started restoring the cabin and called an electrician out, the cost to wire the log cabin was going to be several thousand dollars. So we installed a complete solar system and got tax credits to the effect that it only cost us \$1,500. So we were off the grid, and we continued to add to that. We had solar hot water, solar deep well pumps, and used a gas stove and gas refrigerator.

"I had a blender, a television, a vacuum cleaner, everything I needed. There were some things that I didn't have, but I was a young woman so I wouldn't have had those things

anyway. Living off the grid was fun ... you have this sensitivity to the world."

DOING MORE TO BE ENERGY EFFICIENT

Cape recently organized an energy-efficiency initiative within the city that encourages the general public to replace old light bulbs with newer, more energy efficient ones. She has been vocal in spearheading the formation of a new Asheville City-sponsored energy and environmental advisory committee. She believes it will send a strong signal to the citizenry that the City of Asheville is serious about doing what is necessary to make Asheville a greener and healthier city. She clarified, however, that she has no intention of defining what the committee is going to do.

"A TOPIC WORTHY OF RATIONAL DISCUSSION"

"By creating this advisory committee, what we're saying is this is a topic worthy of rational discussion and reflection," said Robin Cape in an exclusive interview at City Hall on September 27, 2006, with The Greener Home publisher-editor Byron Belzak. Said Cape: "I'm trying to convene an opportunity for conversation for the community to decide what energy and environment values are. It's not my values that I'm asking people to share. I have my values, and those [guide] how I will act in my position.

"But the voice of this committee will be a community dialog or an opportunity to decide

'Greener' continued next pg.

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THE GREENER HOME

Green Opinion:

Learn about wind, not coal

BY BYRON BELZAK

A new national pro-coal interest group, the so-called "Americans for Balanced Energy Choices (ABEC)," is fighting for the minds of our children.

Conscientious parents, green patriots, and renewable energy advocates who want to stop global warming and reduce America's dependency on carbon fuels should take note.

Unquestionably, these coal guys are well funded and proficient in promoting their message in a most convincing and alluring manner. Here's what they are doing. They have been saturating television with ads that have intelligent-looking, handsome kids, who are obviously actors, casually explaining how wonderful coal has been for Americans.

These pro-coal ads don't stop here. They encourage kids to go online to www.learn-aboutcoal.org. It's clear that this cash-powered, coal-promoting publicity machine understands that if it can convince our children to embrace the concept of burning coal for electricity – or at least not stand in its way – ABEC will have less opposition in years to come.

It's obvious that ABEC realizes that paying children actors to get their message out is smart business: kids listen to kids. ABEC has recently added a well-orchestrated blog on its website in its growing PR arsenal to refute credible news sources, such as the Washington Post, which do their journalistic duty of pointing out the down side of coal.

At a certain level, one must admire ABEC's long-range planning. It's kind of like



Wind power is as clean as the air we breathe.

being drawn to the Dark Side and joining up with the Death Star crowd in a Star Wars' flick; the hypnotic flame of unchecked power and shadowy wealth does have its own allure and charisma.

Moreover, these slick, well-produced, pro-coal ads remind one of how cigarette companies once enlisted young, smart, good-looking actors to convince all of us, young and old, that smoking cancer sticks was groovy cool, if not downright sexy. It took decades of honest health

research and expensive re-education along with the determined help of grass-rooters and do-gooders armed with lawyers and lawsuits to finally turn the tide against cigarette manufacturers.

The day of public reckoning will come when industry leaders in coal and other less than desirable energy sources are forced to fess up to what they've privately known for eons about their products, just as cigarette company executives had to do not so long ago at U.S. Congressional hearings, all in the blare of public scrutiny and outcry. The coal guys no doubt know that they better have their house in order. This is no PR game; this is war.

FIGHT BACK IN A POSITIVE WAY WITH A "PICOTURBINE"

There is something that you can do today to keep The Force on our side: teach our children about renewable wind energy sources. Visit www.picoturbine.com, a website that sells cool, affordable, small, demonstration wind

turbines for educational purposes. They are designed for children to assemble. The goal: to understand close up and in real terms how wind turbines work. Perhaps most importantly, the underlying message of these little educational wind-makers is that greener energy is sustainable, cleaner and better than coal-produced energy.

But you've got to hand it to these coal guys: using a name almost right out of George Orwell's "1984" novel (Americans for Balanced Energy Choices) along with an easily pronounced, four-letter acronym (ABEC) is shrewd in a dastardly sort of way. And ABEC has astutely set itself up as a nonprofit (we all trust nonprofits, right?). ABEC has also obviously hired some of the best advertising minds in the world to build and maintain this formidable coal advocacy public relations machine. Although ABEC freely admits it is funded mostly by "America's coal-based electricity industry (producers, transporters, and electricity generators)," the organization lacks transparency; no Board of Directors' or company names are provided – another page torn right out of "1984" (i.e., you can't fight what you can't find). And they have tied themselves to powerful trade groups and even to a host of governmental agencies, including the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration, DOE and EPA. These coal guys are tough, and money talks.

On a final note, coal may be king in West Virginia, but folks this ain't West Virginy. We live in Western North Carolina, where independent thinking has not yet been completely bulldozed, blown up, or outlawed. With that in mind, accomplish one more good deed after you vote on November 7: order a PicoTurbine at www.picoturbine.com as a small Christmas gift for your favorite public school science teacher. Our children and grandchildren will breathe easier. May the Wind Force be with us.

— Copyright 2006 Mediabear

what our community's energy and environment vision plan is.

"My sense, and that is why I ran for this office [as city councilwoman], is to have representatives who truly reflected the values of this community."

She said that under the present situation, to get the city council's attention about green issues, "the public now has to come and make a deep emotional appeal all the time about the environment ... and that raises the level of emotional intensity" at city council meetings.

"If your government is not having open, rational dialog about the use of energy or about the role of energy and the environment in your community," said Cape, "then you as a citizen are reduced to bringing forward this heart-on-my-sleeve emotional appeal.

"This [energy and environment] committee will give us the opportunity to allow people to

go to this committee and say, 'These are my concerns.' And I think the public will come to these meetings."

Cape explained in the interview and more recently at a public city council meeting that an all-volunteer group of nine members is anticipated to organize as an advisory committee by late 2006 or early 2007. Structuring the group as a "committee" means that it will make non-binding recommendations to the city. A committee is a less formal group than a city-sponsored board, which oversees a "commission," which has a highly defined role with specific authority.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

Citizens who live within the city limits are encouraged to contact the City of Asheville and submit an application so that they will be formally considered to serve as a member of the

energy and environment committee.

At a recent city council meeting, the deadline was extended to allow more time to seek more citizens who reflect a greater diversity of the entire community. It appears committee applications will be accepted through at least November and maybe into December of this year.

One gets the sense after talking with City of Asheville Councilwoman Robin Cape that greener days are coming for this city, or at least more discussion of greener ways of living are on the near horizon. Only time will tell, however, as to the extent of how extensively the city accepts and implements the recommendations of the soon-to-be-selected energy and environment committee.

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THE GREENER HOME

The Gestalt of consciousness

BY BILL WALZ

"The contours of your neurosis are the same as the contours of your awareness"

—Gestalt Therapy maxim



Bill Walz

In the '60's and '70's, a charismatic and dynamic form of psychotherapy called Gestalt Therapy was central to what was known as the human potential movement. "Gestalt" is a German word that does not translate easily into English, but means roughly, the configuration or meaningful whole of an entity.

A more precise way of explaining the concept of Gestalt as relates to a person, is contained in the concept of the "figure-ground relationship". This is the relationship of the perceptions and actions of a person to their full potential. The "ground" is a person's full potential, while the "figure" emerges from the ground of full potential to be a person's experience of themselves and the world, which for most of us is only a small fraction of our full potential. Gestalt Therapy was conceived to explore and activate the potential that is

repressed or dormant, to expand the contours of awareness, thus dissolving neurosis.

The figurehead genius behind this therapy was German psychologist, Fritz Perls, who immigrated first to South Africa in 1933, escaping Nazism, then to America in 1951. In his own words: "from an obscure lower middle-class Jewish boy to mediocre psychoanalyst to the possible creator of a 'new' method of treatment and the exponent of a viable philosophy which could do something for mankind". Perls dissented with Freud, disagreeing that healing the human mind was accomplished through analyzing the historic personality (ego) formation. Rather, he believed that healing occurred when a person was able to witness the limited and limiting contours of their personality in the present moment, exposing the distortions and lapses between their potential (ground) and their conditioned personality (figure). In the distortions and lapses was the unfulfilled Gestalt of the person. Bringing these distortions and lapses into awareness for full experience completed the Gestalt, and realized the "meaningful whole" of a person.

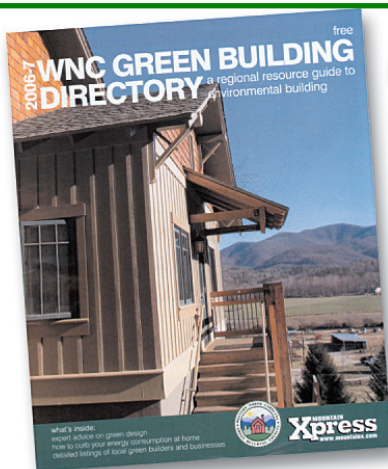
Perls realized that what was at issue in determining a person's sanity was the degree of consciousness that a person could bring into

their experience of life. What Perls brought to psychotherapy was a method of actualizing the expansion of consciousness into a more complete personal Gestalt. His method was, reminiscent of Eastern meditation and mindfulness, a process that cultivated the capacity of a person to step outside of being trapped within the limited figure of their conditioned personality, into the ground of their witnessing self. Perls brought to Western therapy a multidimensional model of mind much like that which Buddhist psychology is based in. Translating into the language of Buddhism, "figure" is the conditioned egoic "little mind", and "ground" is the full potential of the "original mind", "Buddha mind" or "big mind". Another way of expressing this, is that figure is the ideas we carry around about who we are, others are, and the world is, while ground is the reality of full potentiality. The difference between this idea and reality is our "neurosis".

Perls developed very powerful and dramatic methods and techniques for expanding the contours of awareness so that a person could make better contact with the full potential of life. Perls was, however, very Western, and a very powerful and dramatic ego, and true to his analytic training, his therapy focused on unshackling the ego from its neurotic constraints, creating an uninhibited, creative and assertive dynamism. While

his insight was instinctively trans-egoic, his methods, following the contours of his own personality and training, led principally to the expansion of the contours of the ego, and thus, it might be said, failed to accomplish the full Gestalt of his insight, an integrated psyche of ego and the ground of original mind. A large ego, inevitably results in conflict with other egos. Just ask anyone who ever encountered Fritz Perls, or many of his ultra-assertive disciples. The contours of awareness of a fully healthy and realized being contains and also transcends an ego not noted for its size, but its minimalist balance, fearlessness and compassion. Buddha realized this over 2500 years ago. We in the West, are just beginning to catch on, and if we do, it just might really "do something for mankind."

Bill Walz is a UNCA adjunct faculty member and a private-practice teacher of mindfulness, personal growth and consciousness. He holds a weekly meditation class, Mondays, 7pm at the Friends Meeting House, 227 Edgewood. Info on classes and personal Zen training consultations at (828)258-3241 or e-mail at bill.walz@worldnet.att.net

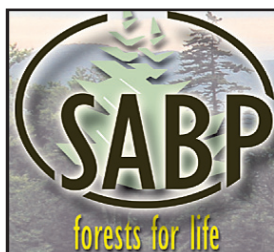


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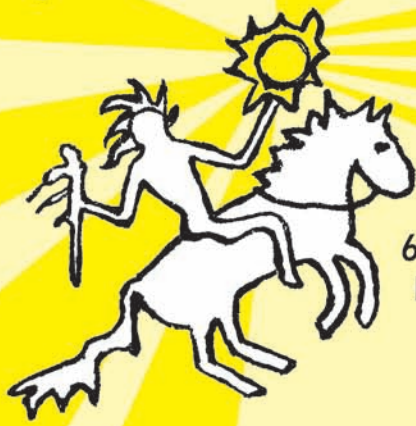
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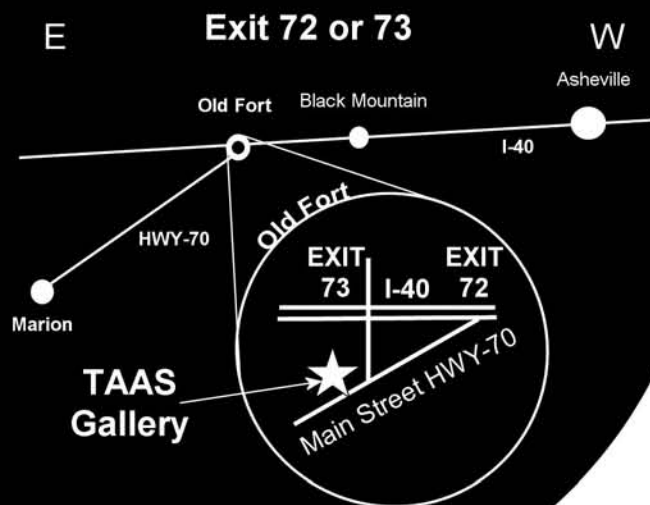


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