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FEATURES



ON THE COVER: For Cathy Goodrich, her backyard Japanese garden is a dream come true. Photo by Ray Sepesy

The Bright Stuff

Tour Time!

Musical showcases Ballantyne dancer and other area youth talent.

34



Peaceful Paradise

Passion for koi transforms backyards into tranquil water gardens.

44



BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE







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DEPARTMENTS

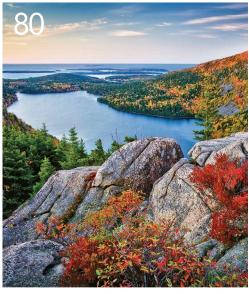




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STYLE POINTS

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SOCIAL SEEN
GOING HOME
TEE IT UP
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BALLANTYNE

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Fall 2014 Vol. 14 No. 3

BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE **FALL 2014**



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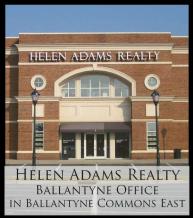
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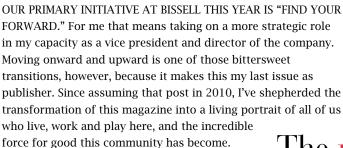


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Our Living Portrait It's Been a Great Five Years as Publisher



Over the past five years, the response from everyone to the vision I hoped to achieve has transcended my expectations, and for that I wish to express immense gratitude. Starting with the next issue, Ballantyne Magazine will be published by Bissell Media LLC under the talented team

leadership of Regina Robertson, who steps up to editor-in-chief, and Diana Blocker, who will continue to lead sales and become associate publisher.

Fittingly, autumn also brings a definitive change as we focus on the seasonal beauty here at home. In our cover story, "Peaceful Paradise," we showcase the tranquil water gardens of several Ballantyne-area residents who have turned their backyards into a personal oasis. These serene settings with cascading waterfalls and ponds harbor colorful koi and reflect a growing desire to create a peaceful getaway in our own landscapes.

As schools reopen for the year, we like to highlight local education, so "The Bright Stuff" explores the efforts of four local high schools to meet America's demand for more STEM grads. You'll meet top-notch teachers at Charlotte Latin, Providence and Ardrey Kell who are inspiring students to design and build robotic arms, 3D games, quadcopters and yes, even drones. These young people with engineering minds give us hope for a promising future of innovation to better humankind.



For other youngsters, the arts are a big draw. In "Brothers of the Knight" we glimpse at the budding show-biz career of 12-year-old Chloe Allen, who lives with her family in Ballantyne. The seventh grader was chosen as a dancer and principal cast member by award-winning dancer Debbie Allen for a traveling musical company that performed in cities around the country this summer.

The response from everyone to the vision I hoped to achieve has transcended my expectations.

Football is another type of performance, so as we enjoy the gridiron season this fall, Expert Direct provides an inventive, light-hearted take on tailgating at Carolina Panthers games. In Fab Fare, we visit the Terrace Café to see what the brunchtime/anytime crowd is raving about, while "Going Home" journeys Down East to Maine where leaf peepers revel in brilliant foliage, dive into a real lobster and rub elbows with the rich and famous in Bar Harbor.

I urge you visit www.ballantynemagazine.com to complete a short reader survey. As I pass the leadership baton to Regina and Diana, I know their focus is the same one I've had: to provide the most relevant content and information you need. Thank you for help in that endeavor. I bid you a fond farewell.

JJ Bissell

Publisher, Ballantyne Magazine

10 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE FALL 2014



LEVINE CANCER INSTITUTE

World-class cancer care close to home.

See Pam's full story at CarolinasHealthCare.org/CancerStory



CHALLENGED TO CREATE. CREATED TO CHALLENGE.

Beyond Craft and Panama Canal Opening this Fall at Mint Museum Uptown.

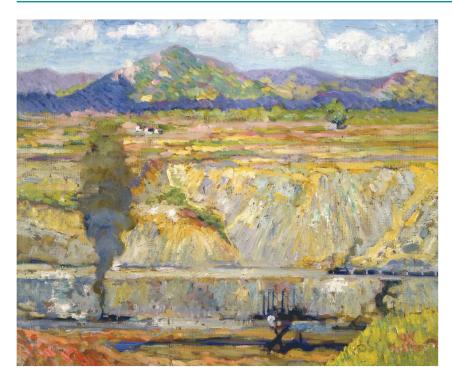


Beyond Craft: Decorative Arts from the Leatrice S. and Melvin B. Eagle Collection

6 SEPTEMBER 2014 – 22 FEBRUARY 2015

Exhibition is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

© Olga de Amaral. Olga de Amaral (Colombian, 1932-). *Tierra y Oro #2*, 1986, fiber with gold leaf. The Leatrice S. and Melvin B. Eagle Collection, gift of Leatrice and Melvin Eagle. 2012.520. Image © Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, Texas.



Connecting the World: The Panama Canal at 100

1 NOVEMBER 2014 -1 FEBRUARY 2015

Wells Fargo is the lead sponsor; major support has also been provided by The Mr. and Mrs. Raymond J. Horowitz Foundation for the Arts. The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has provided generous support for the commission of SEA to SEE by Mel Chin. Exhibition organized by The Mint Museum.

Alson Skinner Clark. (American, 1876-1949). *The Gaillard Cut*, 1913, oil on canvas. Private collection.

Mint Museum UPTOWN at Levine Center for the Arts | 500 South Tryon Street | mintmuseum.org | 704.337.2000







What's happening in and **around Ballantyne**



Flyover Bridge Opens

The N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has opened the new flyover bridge connecting Johnston Road to the inner loop of I-485. The long anticipated road improvement provides direct access for motorists traveling north on Johnston Road to the inner loop without having to

wait at a traffic signal to turn left, enhancing traffic flow.

The flyover is part of the \$83.3 million I-485 widening project to add one lane in each direction between I-77 and Rea Road. NCDOT officials caution that motorists should remain alert in the area because work on the widening project is still in progress. Scheduled completion date on the widening is December 2014.

FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE 1

NEWS CUES



Expanded Festival Oct. 11

The fourth annual Ballantyne Festival/Autumn in the Park is Saturday, Oct. 11 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., rain or shine, in Ballantyne District Park behind the Morrison Family YMCA. New this year are an oyster roast, hayride, kids' corner, games and crafts. There will also be live music, beer and wine.

Activities kick off with the Candidates Meet & Greet Chili Cook-Off from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Political candidates for national, state and local offices will be on hand, with local organizations offering their take on chili. Judges from Johnson & Wales will select three winners.

The Ballantyne Festival is now a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports two charities: Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina and the Morrison Family YMCA Annual Campaign. All festivalgoers are asked to bring one food item for Second Harvest. For details, go to www.ballantynefestival.org or email festival chair Allen Starrett at info@ballantynefestival.org.

Delight in Autumn at The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge

From wine and cocktail tastings to Oktoberfest and Thanksgiving Brunch, The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge serves up an array of fall happenings.

Reservations are required for events by calling 704-248-4100. For the Veterans Golf Special, call 704-248-4383.



Cooking Competition

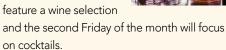
Even before the onset of fall, Gallery Restaurant grabbed attention when it entered the Got to Be NC Competition Dining Series, a single-elimination tournament pitting 16 top local chefs in 15 Fire in the

City dinners at Bonterra Dining & Wine Room in South End. The series runs through Sept. 29.

For the Iron-Chef style competition, members of the community buy tickets and serve as judges for a blind-tasting, multi-course meal. Gallery Restaurant chef David Moore is a participant in this year's competition.

Tastings

Gallery Restaurant offers wine and cocktail tastings on Fridays beginning at 6 p.m. with complementing light bites. The first and third Friday of each month will feature a wine selection



The Scotch Society of Ballantyne holds monthly events on Fridays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Gallery Restaurant. The tastings feature a sampling of Scotch with small plates: Sept. 26: Bourbon, Oct. 31: Islay and the Scotch Islands, Nov. 21: Johnnie Walker.

Teas

Afternoon Tea is served Tuesday through Saturday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. year-round. In addition, the following special teas are:



Astrological Teas (based on birthdays) and Scottish Tea, Wednesday, Sept. 24 through Saturday, Sept. 27, during which attendees are encouraged to wear their clans' tartan or favorite plaid.

Boot Camp

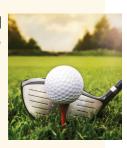
The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge presents a Boot Camp led by personal trainers Nick Bucci and Beth Storlie from Sept. 30 through Nov. 22. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. For information, call 704-248-4348.

Oktoberfest

Celebrate Oktoberfest at Gallery Restaurant with a selection of German beer and bratwurst sandwich lunch specials during October.

Veterans Golf Special

The Golf Club at Ballantyne honors veterans and active military on Sunday, Nov. 9. Both groups can play for half the regular rate with valid ID in honor of Veterans Day on Nov. 11.



Thanksgiving Brunch

Join The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge for an elaborate buffet on Thursday, Nov. 27 from noon to 4 p.m. Cost: \$75 per person, \$35 for children ages 5-13 and complimentary for children 4 and under (does not include alcoholic beverages, tax or 23 percent service charge). Private dining rooms are available for larger groups.

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C2 participants compete in the 2013 obstacle trail run.

Y Sponsors Race, Plays, Inspire!

The Morrison Y's C2 Survival Race at Steele Creek YMCA is set for Saturday, Sept. 13. The event features a threemile obstacle trail run with separate competitions for adults and children. Proceeds fund scholarships for Y enrichment programs for local children. Details/registration:

Performances of "Into the Woods Jr.." the Y's first Youth Theatre Production of the season, is Oct. 25-26 at the Ballantyne Community Theater in Ballantyne Corners. In addition, the Y's Ballantyne Performance Company will present "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" Nov. 14-Dec. 6.

The 7th Annual Inspire! Ballantyne Gala, held in partnership with Levine Cancer Institute, is Saturday, Dec. 6 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., at Ballantyne Country Club. The evening features a silent auction, food and music. Proceeds benefit the Y's Carolinas Cancer Wellness Program. For info on Inspire! and other Y events, go to www.ymcacharlotte.org/morrison.



Gotta love a good combo

Wil Brooks, Agent 12610 N. Community House Rd. Charlotte, NC 28277 Bus: 704-542-0825 wil.brooks.gjcl@statefarm.com Hablamos Español

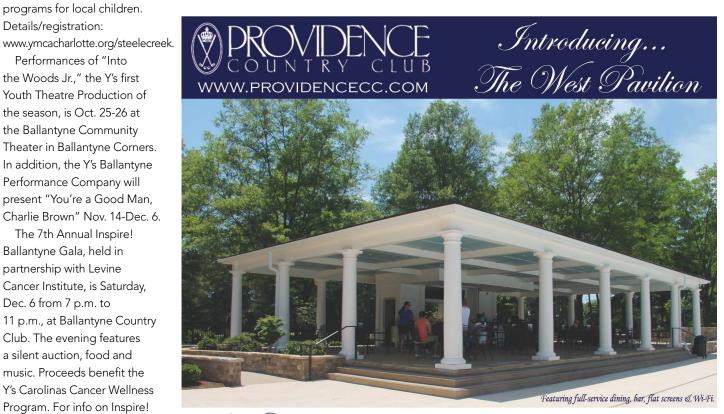
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South Charlotte's new neighborhood hot spot is open through the fall.

PLEASE CONTACT LAURA BOHLING FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION. MEMBERSHIP@PROVIDENCECC.COM OR 704.846.8475

Membership is subject to approval by the Board of Governors.

FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE

BIZ BUZZ

'Women2Women' Kicks Off



Sarah Chamberlain

Main Street Advocacy, a nonprofit organization devoted to educating citizens about government and promoting initiatives to get Washington working again, will hold a "Women2Women" meeting at The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge on Thursday evening, Sept. 25. The reception is at 6:30 and the meeting starts at 7.

The panel includes Main Street chief operating officer Sarah

Chamberlain and other guests. The town hall-style forum, hosted in conjunction with female members of the U.S. Congress, is the first of many to be held across the country to engage working women from all political affiliations.



Networking Group Meets Oct. 28

Ballantyne Briefings, a networking group, meets Tuesday, Oct. 28 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Aloft Charlotte Ballantyne. The speaker is writer and creative sales consultant Stephanie

Melish. Info: Allen Starrett at ars@starrettlawfirm.com or www.fb.me/ballantynebriefings.

Ballantyne Chamber Sets Meetings

The Ballantyne Chapter of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce holds Thursday luncheon meetings this fall on Sept. 4 and Oct. 2. The group's holiday mixer is Dec. 4 at Vine American Kitchen from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The fee per event is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door subject to space availability. Registration: www.charlottechamber.com/events.

Diminich Named Executive Chef

Sam Diminich, a Culinary Institute of America graduate, is the new executive chef at Vine American Kitchen. He brings a passion for flavor and attention to detail and creates seasonal daily features for both lunch and dinner.

Vine American Kitchen is known for its hand-cut steaks, crab cakes and signature dishes such as New Orleans barbecue shrimp. More info: www.vinekitchen.com.



Todd Mortimer

Fifth Third Names Mortimer

Fifth Third Bank has appointed veteran banker Todd Mortimer as vice president and wealth management advisor in the Charlotte market. Mortimer has over 20 years of financial services experience, including 10 years advising high networth clients. Mortimer lives in the Ballantyne area. Contact: 704-808-5009.

Starwood Honors Hotel

The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge was named to the Starwood Preferred Guest Members' Favorite Hotels & Resorts list for 2014 in two categories: Top USA Resorts and Best Golf Getaways. The



Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge was one of 67 selected "Best of the Best" among 1,200 Starwood hotels and resorts from around the world.

Golf Instructors Make News

Marc Lapointe, director of instruction at Dana Rader Golf School, was re-elected by his peers as Area VI director of the Carolinas PGA Section of the PGA. Andrew Kiger, certified instructor at the school, is now a certified FlightScope professional.



Claire Bowles



Raleigh Godsey Jr.



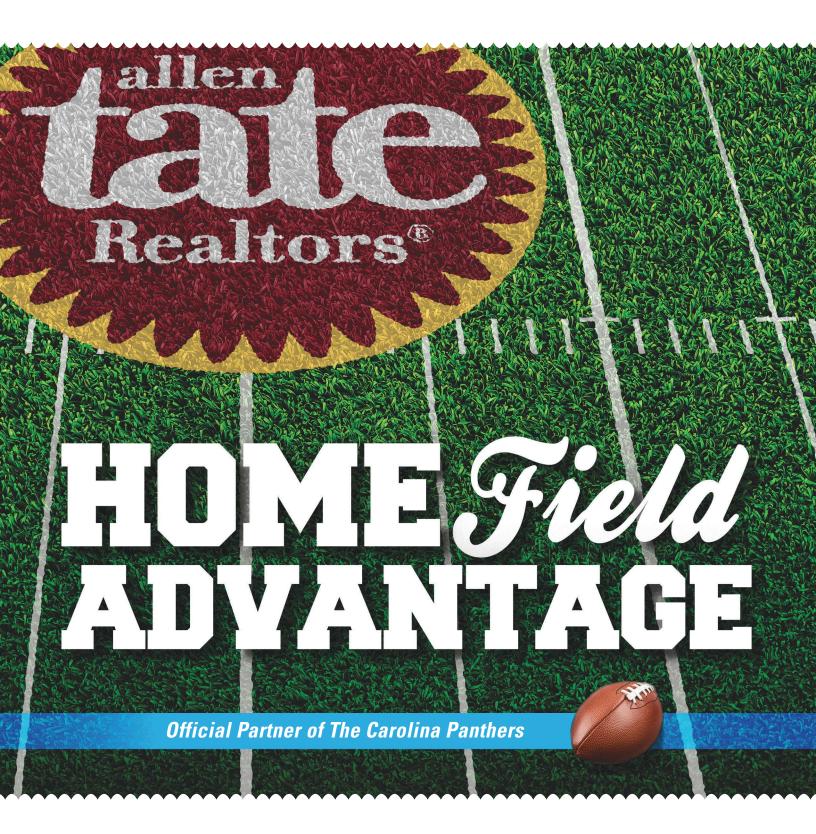
Victor Harouny

Three Physicians Named 'Best'

Drs. Claire S. Bowles, Raleigh K. Godsey Jr. and Victor R. Harouny, all of Novant Health Bradford Clinic, were named to the Charlotte Business Journal's "Best Doctors" special report in the category of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Founded in 1989 by Harvard Medical School physicians, Best Doctors is the largest ongoing, peer-reviewed survey in the medical industry. With offices in Charlotte, Ballantyne and Matthews, the clinic specializes in high-risk pregnancies and da Vinci surgery. More info: www.bradfordclinic.com.

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Ned Curran, president and CEO; Clifton Coble, president, Bissell Development; Smoky Bissell, chairman; and Margaret Gragg Bissell

Bissell Celebrates 50th Anniversary

On Aug. 4, The Bissell Cos.' employees presented chairman Smoky Bissell with a sequoia to celebrate the organization's 50th anniversary. The world's largest tree, the sequoia reflects Smoky Bissell's inspirational leadership while representing that this is only just the beginning. The sequoia can grow to a height of up to 300 feet and up to 56 feet in diameter and live up to 3,500 years. The tree also serves as a testament to Bissell's continuous efforts toward sustainability. The Bissell organization began as H.C. Bissell & Associates on Aug. 3, 1964.

Stager Joins Firm, Agent Earns Rating

Sheila DeWulf, a certified home stager, has joined Helen Adams Realty in the Ballantyne office.





Holly Chapman

Reach her at 704-807-7670 or www.dewulfhomes.com.

Agent Holly Chapman, based in the same office, has earned a Five Star Rating as a quality service certified professional. Contact her at 704-264-6829 or www.hollychapmanrealtor.com.



Eatery Makes Top 100

Fast Casual.com recently named JJ's Red Hots to its 2014 Top 100 Movers and Shakers List. The Charlotte-

based hot dog eatery, which has a location in Ballantyne Commons East, was the smallest and youngest brand on the Fast Casual list and the only hot dog/sausage concept to make the cut. Details: www.jjsredhots.com.



Katrina Richards



Carol Hampton





Kim Douglas



Nia Harmon



Todd McPherson

Tate Co. Names Managers, Agents

Allen Tate Co. has named Katrina Richards as area manager of the company's South Charlotte/South Carolina region, which includes the Ballantyne office and six others.

She is responsible for branch operations, agent recruiting and retention, branch growth and market share as branch leader of the Ballantyne office. Richards has worked with the company for 16 years.

The firm has also named a new sales manager of the Ballan-



Mario Mitchell



Sheri Quinn



Kelly Ann Wilson

tyne office, Carol Hampton. She will help manage and train more than 100 Allen Tate agents and staff.

Agents who have recently joined the office are Bill Cormier, Kim Douglas, Nia Harmon, Todd McPherson, Mario Mitchell, Sheri Quinn and Kelly Ann Wilson. They may be contacted at 704-541-6200.



Novant Health Express is now open in Ballantyne

When you have minor medical needs, Novant Health Express offers convenient walk-in care seven days a week with extended hours. Now you'll have quick access to Novant Health's expertise when you need it. We treat most common illnesses for those ages 2 and older, including colds, flu, strep throat and minor burns and cuts. No appointments are needed, and most insurance and cash/credit payments are accepted.

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Cardamom Crunch Bark won a host of TasteTV awards.

Secret Chocolatier Wins Awards

The Secret Chocolatier has won six TasteTV awards, capturing a gold, silver and bronze in the "Best White Chocolate" category for its Cardamom Crunch Bark and three bronze awards in the "Top Artisan Toffee" category for its sea salt butter and white chocolate honey toffees. The Secret Chocolatier is located in Ballantyne Corners and on Providence Road. Details: www.thesecretchocolatier.com.



Ray Eschert

Eschert Named to Posts

Ray Eschert, president of the Ballantyne Breakfast Club, was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Ballantyne Chapter of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce. He also was reappointed to a three-year term on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission, where he currently serves as second chair of the

Planning Committee. Reach him at reschert@aol.com.

BrandMortgage Opens Local Office

Atlanta-based lender BrandMortgage has expanded in the Carolinas with a branch at 3440 Toringdon Way, Suite 205. BrandMortgage offers loan products to homeowners and homebuyers.

Leading the Charlotte team is 13-year mortgage lending expert Rebecca Madej, vice president and North Carolina state production manager, along with Erin Zelch, loan officer assistant, and Teasha Williams, mortgage processor. Info: 704-749-2262.



Kyle Bilafer



Brendan Beach



Kathy Lindsey



Emily Brandewie



Tim Toohey



J. Kelly Morrow

Bissell Cos. Promotes, Hires Staff

The Bissell Cos. has hired Kyle Bilafer as property manager and Brendan Beach as PC support technician. Kathy Lindsey has been



Cameron Brobst



Alli Ha

promoted to human resources manager.

Emily Brandewie has joined The Ballantyne Hotel & Lodge as catering sales manager, while Tim Toohey has been appointed to director of food and beverage and J. Kelly Morrow to executive chef.

Also at the hotel, Cameron Brobst has been promoted to director of outlets and Alli Hall to director meetings and events.

We Would Love Your Feedback!

COMPLETE OUR READER RESPONSE SURVEY





Visit www.BallantyneMagazine.com

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FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE

OPENINGS



Catering Firm Serves Area

Next Door Gourmet recently launched its services in Ballantyne. The company provides catering and planning services for small events and corporate luncheons, as well as in-home personal chef services

and family-style meals. Details: www.nextdoorgourmet.com.

New Vet in Ballantyne

West Ballantyne Animal Hospital, a full-service veterinary hospital, is now open at 11926 Providence Road West. Dr. Tom Linfante Animal Hospital and his staff provide healthy checkups, vaccines, sick visits, bathing services, surgery, digital X-rays, blood analyzers and pharmacy, all on site. Details: 980-938-8136 or www.westballantyneanimalhospital.com.



Sandwich Shop Opens

Which Wich Superior Sandwiches has opened a second Ballantyne location in Blakeney Crossing. The shop features

customizable sandwiches and provides free Wi-Fi, online ordering and a community wall with sandwich-bag artwork created by customers. Details: www.whichwich.com.

Shooting Range Opens

The Range at Ballantyne has opened at 9883 Harrisburg Road in Indian Land. Featuring technologically advanced



equipment, The Range is open to the public every day and offers a safe environment for all skill levels.

The retail space boasts the largest inventory of firearms and accessories in upstate South Carolina, the company says. The Range also provides coffee and soft drinks, Wi-Fi and a 60-inch high definition television. Limited equity memberships that include exclusive benefits and other membership levels are available. For more info: 704-909-6471 or www.therangeatballantyne.com.

Zippy Shell Offers Storage

Shell USA LLC has opened a new Zippy Shell location in Fort Mill. Zippy Shell delivers a self-storage container to the customer's door, picks up the filled container and stores it in a secured, climate-controlled facility. The Zippy Shell mobile unit is street licensed so it can be parked on public streets without permits or fines. Details: 704-323-4056 or jferris@zippyshell.com.

SWEET CHARITIES



Stacy Lewis (left), Julie Cole

Cole Golf Classic Raises \$165,000

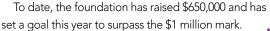
The 25th annual Julie Cole Charity Golf Classic was recently held in Findlay, Ohio with LPGA professional Stacy Lewis, the first athlete to win a major sports championship with a fused spine, as the guest professional. To date, Cole's tournaments have raised

over \$2.2 million for local charities, including \$165,000 from this year's event to benefit Bridge Hospice, Julie A. Cole Rehab and Sports

Medicine and the Julie Cole Golf Fund for Junior Golfers. Cole, who hails from Findlay, is managing partner of Dana Rader Golf School.

Foundation Hosts Road Races

The Isabella Santos Foundation's 7th Annual 5K Race for Kids Cancer is Saturday, Sept. 20 in Ballantyne Corporate Park at 8 a.m. This year's event includes a 10K run as well.



The organization honors Isabella Santos, the daughter of Ballantyne residents Erin and Stuart Santos, who died of neuroblastoma. Registration/details: www.isabellasantosfoundation.com.



Swim Team Sets Record

The Ballantyne Country Club Barracudas swim team's annual fundraiser for BCC Rally netted a record \$2,700. The swim team involves children ages 5 to 18 and competes in the Greater Charlotte Swim League. Swimmers and volunteers sold an assortment of items during a June meet against the Providence Plantation Piranhas at the Ballantyne Country Club pool.

Ballantyne Corporate Park Hosts Successful Marker Drive

Ballantyne Corporate Park achieved impressive results with its seventh annual Color the Park Marker Drive, collecting 16,266



packs of markers for Classroom Central. The drive ran from July 28 through Aug. 1. Classroom Central is a free store for teachers and supports over 100,000 children in the area that need school supplies. For info: www.classroomcentral.org.

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Firebirds Partners with ALSF

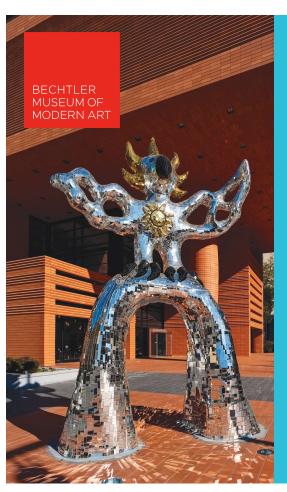
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National Lemonade Days
June 6-8. All 31 Firebirds locations,
including the one in StoneCrest,
hosted lemonade stands. The
event raised more than \$30,000
for ALSF, which supports the fight
against childhood cancer.
Info: www.alexslemonade.org.



Big South 5K Returns

The 5th Annual Big South 5K road race is Saturday, Oct.18 at 8 a.m. at the Blakeney Shopping Center. Last year 1,300 registrants

took part in the fundraiser to support middle school athletics in Charlotte. For info or to register, visit www.BigSouth5K. com. Interested sponsors should contact Matt VanSandt at mattv@bigsouth.org.



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Remi's Brent Howison (left) and Tommy Beecher (right) pose with former NFL player André Davis, co-founder of the 2 Live Beyond Celebrity Golf Tournament.

Remi Supports Sanders Foundation

Remi, a Ballantyne-based company, was a platinum sponsor at the 2 Live Beyond Celebrity Golf Tournament in Myrtle Beach, hosted by retired Major League Baseball player Reggie Sanders and former NFL player André Davis. The event benefited the Reggie Sanders Foundation's Dream Within You Campaign and Africa New Life Ministries.

Endowment Receives Grant

The Answer Scholarship Endowment, founded by Ballantyne resident Susan Andersen, has received a \$10,000 challenge grant from the Leon Levine Foundation. The grant will be used to provide college scholarships to mothers earning their first four-year college degree or an associate degree in nursing. This summer six mothers benefiting from scholarships graduated from college.

Andersen recently received the Heart of Grace Award from Pfeiffer University, given annually to a Charlotte woman whose life and work embody a spirit of community service.

Line up for Stiletto Sprint

The 4th Annual Stiletto Sprint, presented by The Bissell Cos., will take place on Saturday, Sept. 20 at SouthPark Mall. The Stiletto Sprint is a 70-yard dash in which participants, both women and men, compete in high heels. There is also an auction with hundreds of items.

Since its inception, the event has raised over \$250,000 for the Carolinas Ovarian Cancer Fund at Levine Cancer Institute. Info and registration: www.tealheels.org.

BCC Rally Celebrates 11th Year

The BCC Rally, an all-volunteer nonprofit that raises funds and awareness to fight breast cancer, host its 11th annual weeklong series of fundraising events Sept. 21-27 at Ballantyne Country Club.

The festivities will culminate in "Denims and Diamonds," a new evening event that replaces the Pink Bow Gala, on Sept. 27. Other events include the Walk and Wag



Pink-a-thon, a family and canine 3K walk that includes entertainment and food donated by Elwood's Barbecue and Burger Bar; the Ladies' Golf and Luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 23, sponsored by Aetna; Men's Golf on Thursday, Sept. 25, sponsored by KPMG; and Ladies' Tennis and Luncheon on Sept. 26.

Through its Pink Bow Campaign, the BCC Rally sells custom-designed bows in three sizes and encourages businesses, neighborhoods, schools, churches, community groups and nonprofits to hold their own "pinkout" fundraising events featuring the bows.

All proceeds support Susan G. Komen for the Cure, and BCC Rally events are open to the public. Registration: www.bccrally.org.



Staybridge Suite's Nicole Clyburn and Peggy Lane (behind, from left) enjoy the luncheon with Lindsey Meyer and her mother, Heather Meyer.

Staybridge Aids Kids, Families

Staybridge Suites
Charlotte Ballantyne
hosted its fifth annual
Give Kids The World
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lunch raised \$2,700 for
the nonprofit organization
that treats children with
life-threatening illnesses
and their families to
fantasy vacations at
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Village, a 70-acre
"storybook" resort.

Relay For Life Exceeds Goal

The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Ballantyne surpassed its goal by 10 percent, raising \$110,000. In 2013, the event brought in \$90,000, and the goal for this year's relay was \$100,000. The Morrison Family YMCA hosted the June event, which attracted more than 30 teams. To learn more or donate, call 704-553-5386 or visit www.relayforlife.org/ballantynenc.

FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE 2



FASCINATING RHYTHMS

Meet Three Lively Personalities

Photos by Ray Sepesy



CATCH THE BEAT OF OUR THREE "FACES" and you'll be toe-tapping to everything from Merle Haggard to Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell.

Yes, they are distinctive personalities who all live, work or simply spend a lot of time in Ballantyne. Their favorite restaurants range from Anna's Deli on the Green to Vine American Kitchen and Ilios Noche. Terrace Café, which Fab Fare happens to feature this issue, is a crossover hit: two out of three mentioned it.

Away from mealtime, you'll find widely divergent careers, guilty pleasures and what they wouldn't be caught dead wearing.

You'll also see who appeared on "Live! With Regis and Kelly," who confesses to "probably" too much television and whose top news source is a 4 ½-year-old.

OK — so who are these intriguing folks? Meet Nikki Curran, Nichelle Nicholes Levy and Tommy Soffera.

NIKKI CURRAN

Birthplace: Charlotte, N.C.

Job: Senior hair stylist and director of makeup, Dolce Lusso Salon and Spa; lead makeup artist, TopCats cheerleaders.

What do you like most about your job?

Every day I get to take my passion for makeup and beauty and use it to educate women and help them feel beautiful about themselves.

What's your guilty pleasure?

Whole grain Goldfish (crackers) and red wine.

Do you live in Ballantyne?

I live in the Huntersville area.

What is your favorite Ballantyne-area restaurant?

Ilios Noche.

What is your favorite outdoor activity?

Taking my dogs Kylie and Georgie for a hike.

Describe your dream vacation.

I would love to travel to Fiji and stay in a villa on the water.

What would your theme song be for walking into a room?

"Ain't No Mountain High Enough" by Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell.

What is your favorite news source? CNN.

I would be rather caught dead than wear ____

What charitable organizations are you involved with?

Cystic Fibrosis. I like donating my time and talent in support of a meaningful cause.

What is your biggest pet peeve?

People chewing with their mouth open.

What is a hidden gem in Ballantyne? Cru Wine Shop.

Share something that someone would never guess about you.

I have placed in a figure competition, and I have been on the "Live! With Regis and Kelly" show as a Kelly Ripa look-alike.





NICHELLE NICHOLES LEVY

Birthplace: Knoxville, Tenn.

Job: Attorney, NASCAR Digital Media.

What do you like most about your job?

I like that no day is exactly the same as the one before. Every day brings interesting challenges that allow me to think and grow.

What's your guilty pleasure?

Television. Probably watch too much of it, but I enjoy serialized TV dramas ("Scandal," "Elementary," "Person of Interest," "House of Cards," "24" — I could go on).

Do you live in Ballantyne?

No. I live in Providence Plantation, but my life revolves around Ballantyne. My husband works there, my kids attend Rainbow Station for summer camp and the mothers' group I'm part of meets at Ballantyne Country Club.

What is your favorite Ballantyne-area restaurant?

At the moment, Vine, but I also really like Blackthorne and Terrace Café.

What is your favorite outdoor activity?

Walking long distances — allows me to think more clearly.

Describe your dream vacation.

Beachside villa well stocked with food and libations and all of my dear friends.

What would your theme song be for walking into a

"Turn Down for What!" by DJ Snake and Lil Jon.

What is your favorite news source?

Huffington Post.

I would be rather caught dead than wear _____. Stockings.

What charitable organizations are you involved with?

I am president of the South Charlotte Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, a board member of Women Executives for Community Service and the Women's Inter-Cultural Exchange, and a member of the Women's Impact Fund.

What is your biggest pet peeve?

Passive aggressiveness. I prefer for people to say what is on their minds.

Share something that someone would never guess about you.

Growing up, I played the trumpet, flute and bassoon. The bassoon is really cool, and I wish more kids could be exposed to double-reed instruments — they are beautiful and have a unique sound quality.

TOMMY SOFFERA

Birthplace: Charleston, S.C.

Job: National account manager, ConAgra Foods Inc.

What do you like most about your job?

I love to learn from the ConAgra teams that I work around, especially the young folks, since I'm no longer one of them.

What's your guilty pleasure?

A spoonful, or several, of Peter Pan honey roasted peanut butter topped with a spicy-hot homemade jam.

What is your favorite Ballantyne-area restaurant? For breakfast, Anna's Deli On the Green (egg whites and turkey on an English muffin). Lunch, Terrace Café.

Describe your dream vacation.

Two weeks on a small island accessible only by boat and with good waves, no Internet or cellphones, my four sons and their spouses and spouses-to-be, the three grandkids, a playground, porpoises, nonstop music and a thatched-roof hut with a full line of adult beverages, good burgers and seafood.

What would your theme song be for walking into a room?

"Mamma Tried" by Merle Haggard.

What is your favorite news source?

Thomas, my 4 ½-year-old grandson.

I would be rather caught dead than wear _____.
Sandals.

What charitable organizations are you involved with?

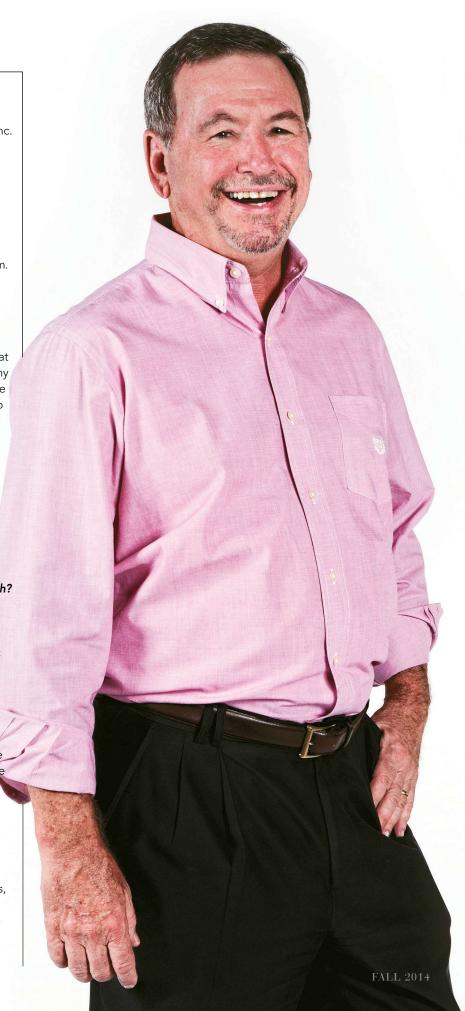
The AIM at Melanoma Foundation. My bride of 37 years became my angel bride two years ago due to melanoma. I also support the Virginia Institute of Autism. A brother and good friend have autistic children.

What is a hidden gem in Ballantyne?

This is not so much a place but an experience. I work in Ballantyne and find that Mr. (Smoky) Bissell is a rare treat. I ride up the elevator with him occasionally, and he is the kindest, most polite gentleman that I've been around in many years. He is forever holding doors, tipping hats and offering best wishes for a good day. He reminds me of another day and time, a different era that may be slipping away.

Share something that someone would never guess about you.

I make pretty cool beanbag-toss boards for friends, and I may be the only male in Charlotte over 16 who has read all of the Harry Potter books and the Twilight series.



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THE RECENT PRODUCTION OF "BROTHERS OF THE KNIGHT" at Ovens Auditorium in Charlotte is a wonderful illustration of the community's many talented young performers. The traveling musical, directed and choreographed by awardwinning dancer Debbie Allen, featured more than 20 Charlotte-area young people in the ensemble cast, along with several local dancers who were chosen as principal cast members.

One of those principal cast members was

Musical Showcases Ballantyne Dancer, Other Local Youth Talent

By Sam Boykin

Ballantyne resident Chloe Allen and other dancers rehearse before the Charlotte performance of "Brothers of the Knight." 12-year-old Chloe Allen, daughter of Ballantyne residents Hugh and Natalie Allen. "It was a big moment in my life," says the seventh grader at Holy Trinity Middle School. "It was a lot of hard work, but it was a great experience."

Chloe's mother, Natalie, says her daughter started dancing at 3, when the family still lived in Cary, N.C. Chloe's desire to pursue some form of creative expression runs in the family. Natalie explains that her mother was a music teacher and had a passion for the arts, particularly painting and drawing.

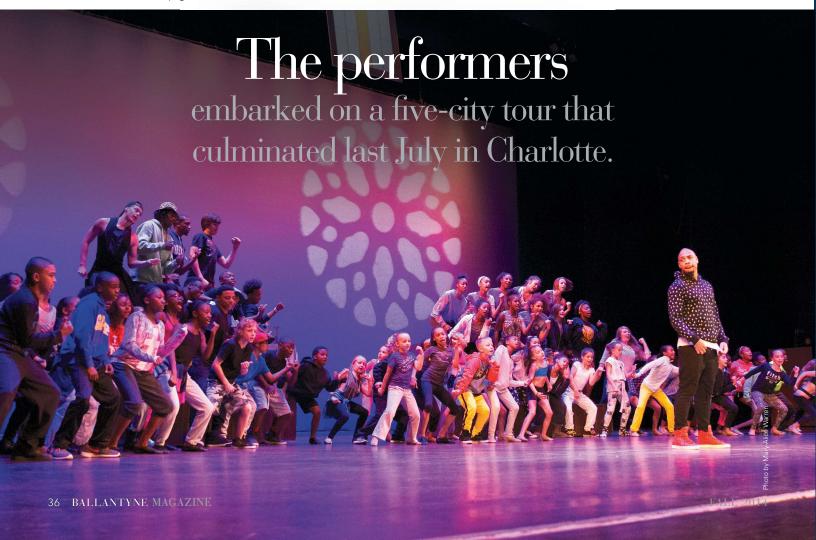
Chloe's interest in dance intensified when the family

continued on page 39



Above: Energy and color fill the stage in this scene from the musical.

Below: At the dress rehearsal in Charlotte, the principal cast joined the local cast for a big number.





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moved to Ballantyne in 2007. She started taking dance lessons at the Harris YMCA and later at Charlotte Performing Arts Academy. For the past year, she has trained at Charlotte Ballet Academy, which has received national recognition for its innovative instructional programs and entertaining shows.

"I like that dance is something that's hard, so if you don't get it right the first time, you have to keep practicing and working to get better," Chloe says.

'Nutcracker' Role

That determination has helped her land roles in noted local productions, including Charlotte Ballet's "Nutcracker" in 2013. "Brothers of the Knight" was her first professional tour musical. In putting the show together, Debbie Allen wanted to feature dancers from each of the cities in which the musical would be performed. So she began an exhaustive five-city audition process, which, in addition to Charlotte, included Boston, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

In May, Chloe landed the role of one of the "sisters" in the musical, which is a rejuvenated adaption of a classic Brothers Grimm tale, complete with colorful costumes and hip music. What followed was a

As a principal cast member, Chloe Allen danced in Charlotte and four other cities. Pictured is a scene from a performance.

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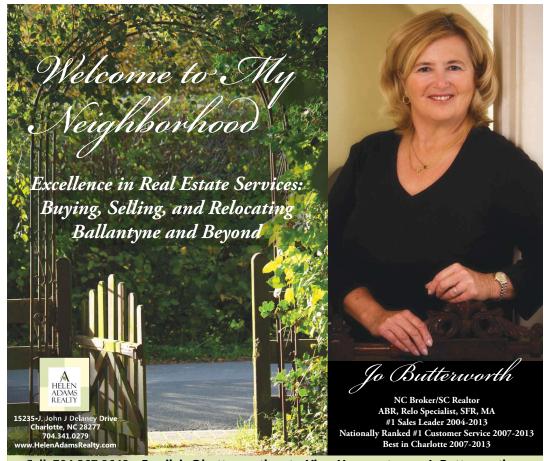


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whirlwind of activity as Chloe and the other principal cast members traveled to Los Angeles May 31 for weeks of intensive training and preparation at the Debbie Allen Dance Academy.

They then embarked on the multi-city tour, which culminated this July in Charlotte. It was a heady experience for Chloe and the other dancers, not to mention the parents.

"She embraced it," says Natalie. "And she was not one bit homesick, much to her mother and father's chagrin."

Art Education

Debbie Allen, who has won a Tony, a Golden Globe and an Oscar, stressed that "Brothers of the Knight" helped her

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CHARLOTTE-AREA YOUTH EARN MAJOR ROLES

In addition to Chloe Allen of Ballantyne, the following principal cast members in "Brothers of the Knight" are from the Charlotte area.

Kyle Sloan, 11

Kyle is a Charlotte sixth grader who loves to sing, dance, listen to music and play keyboards and drums. He has earned double platinum awards in many dance competitions and performed at Carolina Panthers, Charlotte Bobcats and college games.

Lauren Pearson, 18

Lauren began ballet lessons at age 2 at North Carolina Dance Theatre (now Charlotte Ballet) and has continued to pursue her love of dance. She graduated from the Northwest School of Arts in 2013 as a ballet major and hopes one day to be an on-stage performer.

Bailey Greemon, 11

Bailey, a sixth grader from Fort Mill, has been dancing since she was 4. In addition to taking weekly dance classes, Bailey loves to swim, play kickball, watch American Idol and travel with her family. She says her dream is to be in the entertainment business.

Phillip Johnson, 17

Phillip graduated from the Northwest School of the Arts and is on his way to the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music for musical theatre this fall.

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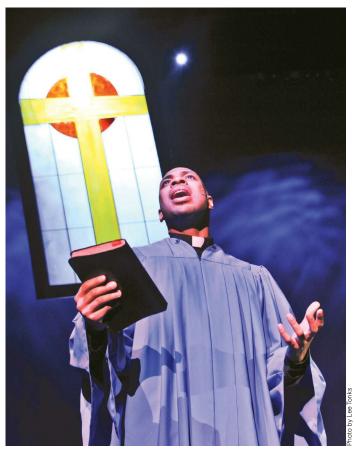
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Matthew Johnson played the title role of Reverend Knight.

■ continued from page 40

convey the importance of arts education for kids and young adults. Chloe certainly seems to have gotten the message; the experience has inspired her to continue to pursue dance and take it as far as she can.

While Chloe is still years away from making big life decisions, Natalie says the whole family is grateful for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. "It's given Chloe an idea of what a dancer's life is like and what kind of commitment it requires. She's not only been able to pursue her dream, but in the process she's building her confidence and gaining valuable insight — which will help her in life regardless of the path she chooses."

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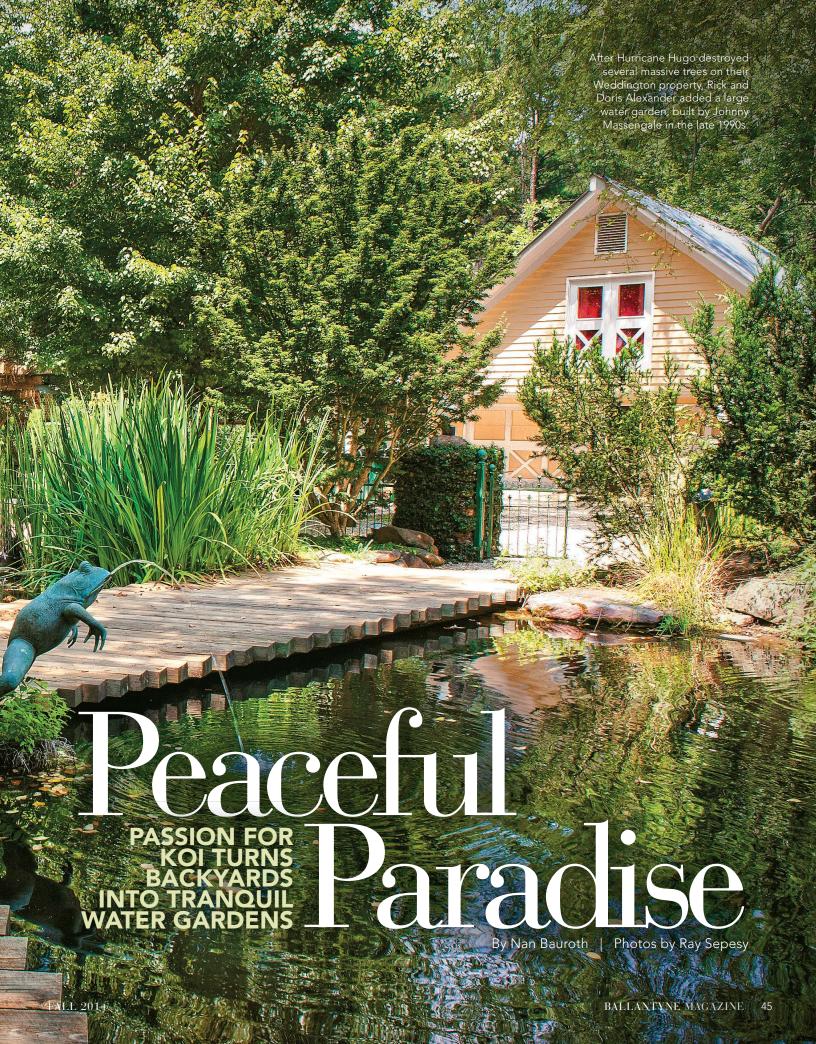
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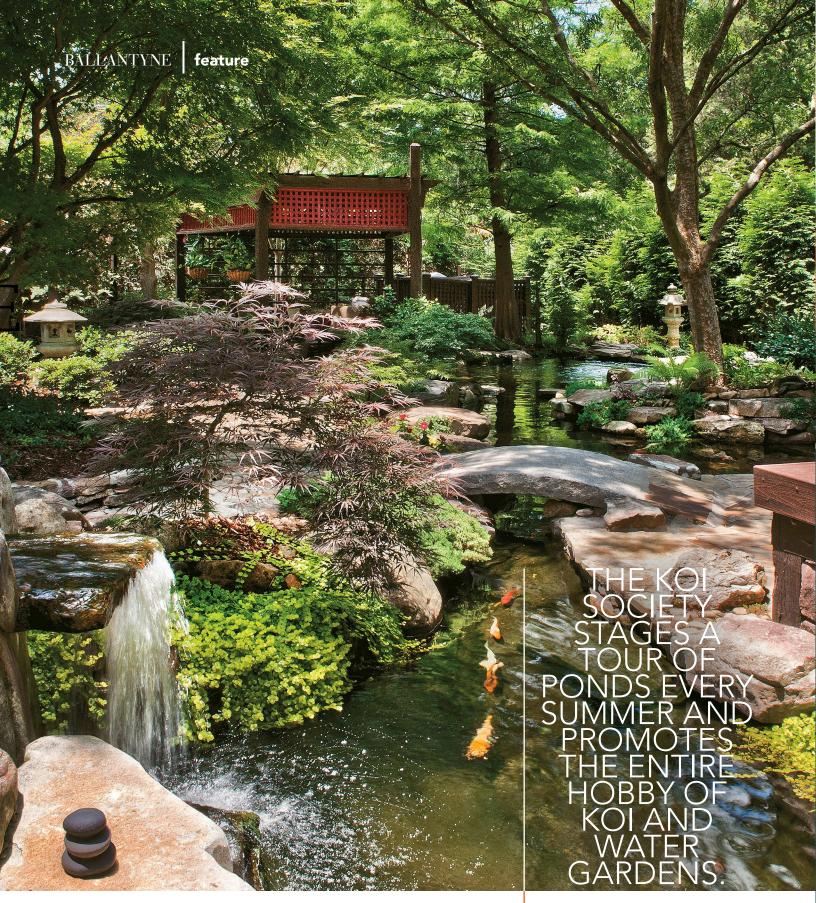


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many hardships and struggles she was about to realize her fantasy. One year later, Goodrich still can't believe it. "This garden is my paradise," she says.

That same allure of a serene koi pond

with flowing waterfalls mesmerized Myles and Mary Martha Weiner when they moved to the Ballantyne area from

continued on page 48

Behind Cathy Goodrich's suburban home is the Japanese water feature she fell in love with when she first saw the property.

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When Myles and Mary Martha Weiner moved to Charlotte, they selected their new home largely because of the koi pond.

 \blacksquare continued from page 46

Cleveland two years ago. The couple was determined to downsize so long as there was an ample kitchen, but the instant Myles caught a glimpse of the backyard, it was a done deal. "I knew we had bought the house," he says.

Koi Group

In both cases the new homeowners knew nothing about koi or koi ponds, so they joined the Piedmont Koi and Watergarden Society, which has provided them with a wealth of information as





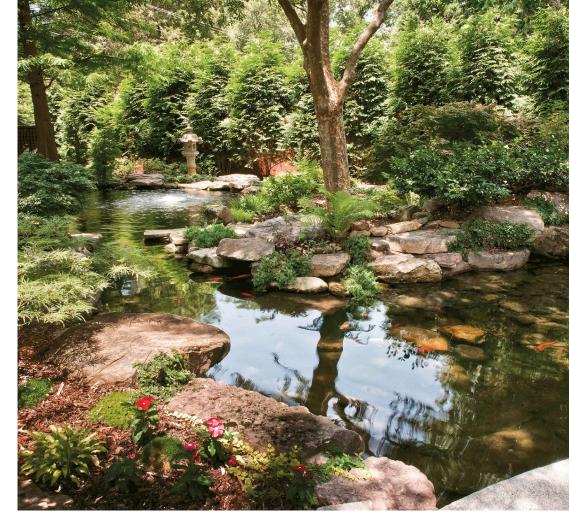
The roots of water plants provide nutrition for koi. Lily pads, pictured here, also produce lovely blooms.

The peacefulness of her backyard is Cathy Goodrich's personal paradise.

well as newfound friends. "Our membership has doubled in the last two years with people either buying a house with a pond already installed or who enjoy fish and want a pond built," says Brannon Raines, society president.

The society, which stages a tour of koi ponds every summer, promotes the entire hobby of koi and water gardens. "We run the whole gamut, from those just interested in water garden plants to members who collect, breed and show koi," Raines says. He and others in the group have also formed an offshoot club, the Koinetters, whose mission is to rescue koi and find them homes.

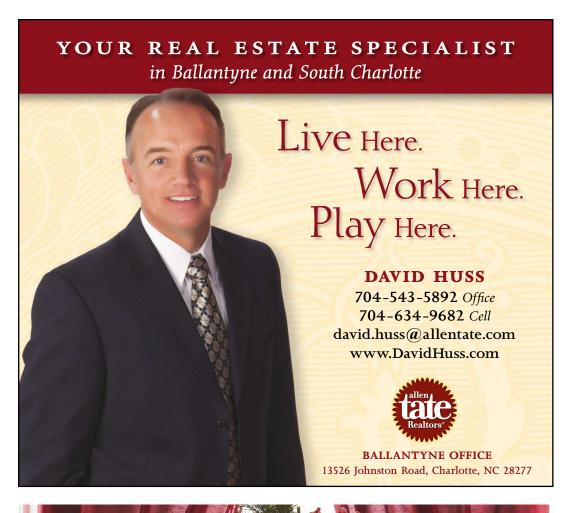
Johnny Massengale, owner of Ponders in Harrisburg, N.C., is considered the mastermind of pond construction in this region. Over the past 25 years he has designed and built approximately 1,000 koi





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BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE





ponds and water gardens.
"He is one of those designers who instinctively knows where the right rock needs to go within a waterfall or water feature to make it look 'wow,'" Raines says.

According to Massengale, people spend anywhere from \$3,000 to \$100,000 on a koi pond. The largest he ever constructed is 120,000 gallons, but most run 2,500 to 3,000 gallons. "The more you spend on filtration, the less maintenance you have," he says, noting that every fish requires 300 gallons of water.

Since koi devour plant roots, Massengale constructs hybrid ponds with a header pool featuring vegetation and a decorative water feature that leads into the aquatic area for the koi. "We create bog gardens around the edges so you can still get the plants but fish cannot access them." he notes.

Weddings on the Pond

Sixteen years ago
Massengale built a
30,000-gallon, 10-foot deep
pond for Rick and Doris
Alexander. It features seven
waterfalls that appear
to flow from the deck of
their 1883 farmhouse in
Weddington. Giant Dixie
Deb Louisiana irises provide
a focal point behind a
Japanese bubbling stone that
aerates water for the koi on
the far side of the pond.

"We built the pond after Hurricane Hugo destroyed several massive old trees on our property," Doris says. The wedding party for the couple's son was staged on the pond's 35-foot-long cypress walkway, and a neighbor's daughter also

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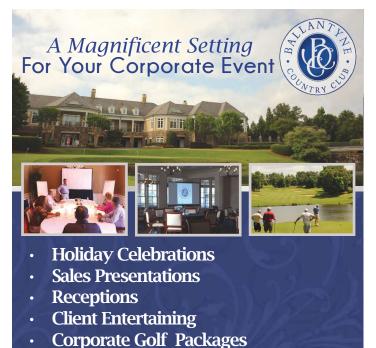
chose their koi pond for her wedding.

Raines advises homeowners to do some research before they dig. "There's tons of information online, but I recommend you come to our meetings because you will learn everything others have done," he

says. The Weiners concur. "People in the club are so generous," says Mary Martha. "They've given us lily pads, irises and other plants we have rooted in our pond."

continued on page 53

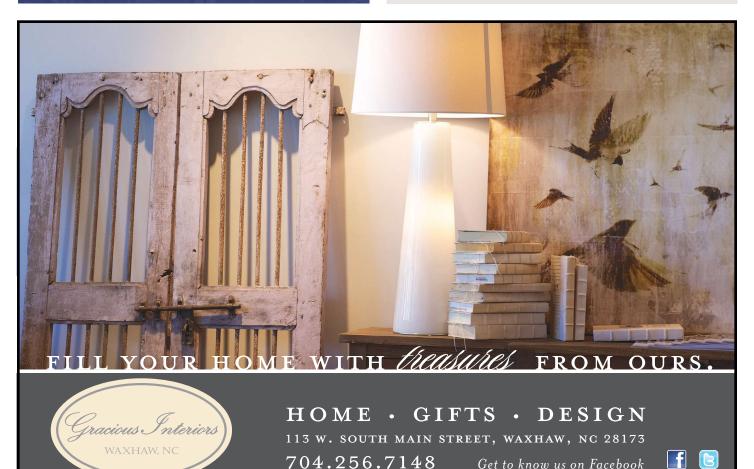
The Alexanders have seven waterfalls as part of their 35,000-gallon water garden at their historic farmhouse.



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The cypress walkway over the Alexanders' large koi pond is not just a place for relaxing. It has been the site of a party after a wedding and a wedding itself.

■ continued from page 51

Discouraging Herons

To deter herons, some owners position a row of fishing line eight inches high around the edge, while others swear by mirrored gazing balls bobbing on the surface whose lights bother the birds. The Weiners float a Mylar-covered pyramid and also have had success with a plastic life-size heron. "Herons are territorial, so if they spot another at a pond they move on," Myles explains.

The more people get involved with koi, the greater their passion grows. It's not unusual for owners to swim with their fish. "The man who built my ponds loved to snorkel in the deep pool with his koi," Goodrich says. Many owners name their fish, getting to know them so well that the koi will feed from their hands. Scales can range from the brilliant red and whites of show koi to shimmering hues of black, blue, orange, platinum and even gold, while newer species called butterflies sport angel-like, flamboyant fins.

For many owners such as Goodrich, though, the real benefit of a koi pond and water garden in her backyard is that it instills a sense of living on a higher plane, as if it were her personal Shangri-La. "This place is my idea of peace," she says.

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FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE 5



In-Your-Face Fun

Your Panthers Tailgate Can Take a Bite Out of the Opponent

By Dina Berg Blazek Tailgate photos by Ray Sepesy

WHETHER IT IS THE CAROLINA PANTHERS or Providence High Panthers you're cheering for this season, nothing screams fall more than the perfect tailgate party.

Mint Street, the location of our event office, has been a tailgating mecca for years and has created traditions for many people who love our pro team. It's fun to watch the parking, the setting up and the execution of this game-day ritual on Sunday after Sunday. What makes the perfect tailgate? Some say Aunt Jayne's trail mix or Grandpa's moonshine, but let's get creative about this year's pre-kickoff fun!

How to spice it up? Take a bite out of the opponent before game time.

This year's home schedule features some food-favorite cities, so along with your family's must-have's, incorporate traditional fare from the opposing team's locale.

Oct. 5: Da Bears, Chicago

For my hometown, think Vienna Beef hot dogs. The only items you need for authenticity are poppy seed buns, celery salt, relish, yellow mustard, chopped onions, sliced tomatoes, sport peppers and a pickle spear. Sport peppers, by the way, are medium hot, crunchy and come in a jar.

Oct. 30: The Saints, **New Orleans**

Gosh, where to start? This is the one we had fun with for the accompanying photo. We elevate the art of trash talking with "Send the Po' Boys Home" in honor of the famous New Orleans sandwich. We also play off traditional jambalaya with "Fumble-Aya." Panthers Punch, Keep Pounding Cake, chips and buckets of New Orleans beer finish off our spread. We topped a six-foot table with a wheatgrass "field," adding opposing helmets and Panthers paraphernalia to tie it all together.

Left: Check out this imaginative spread "in honor of" the New Orleans Saints when they come to town in late October.



For the New Orleans game, spice up the jambalaya a little more by calling it "Fumble-Aya."

Dec. 21: The Browns, Cleveland

Ballantyne resident Glenn Lyman, a grill master and friend, says there are only two words to remember: "Beer Brats." The midwestern fave of bratwurst is perfect for this early winter game.

The Panthers also host the Detroit Lions, Pittsburgh Steelers, Seattle Seahawks, Atlanta Falcons and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, so the food options are endless. Start thinking now about "in your face" culinary choices.

Let's face it — tailgating is synonymous

You never can go wrong with beer. It is complex, local and well-loved. So think outside the bottle and feature some amazing local brews in your beverage mix. BYOK — everyone has them stuffed

in a drawer or at the back of a cabinet. A monogram from someone's wedding or a logo from your favorite hangout, memberguest outing or beach spot adorns them. So, have your guests bring their own koozie and make a game out of explaining where it came from, spurring lively stories about "that night."

Beyond creating storytelling opportunities, remember to put together a tailgate playlist. Include local favorites for the hometown team, fight songs for that favorite college or university and Top 40 tunes to get everybody jammin'!

Happy tailgating and Go Panthers! Let's give our opponents a little food for thought!



Blazek is the owner of Dina Berg Blazek Event Planning & Design.



TOM DUBICK'S ENGINEERING **CLASSROOM** at Charlotte Latin School is abuzz at 7:15 a.m. with electrical engineering students putting finishing touches on their senior projects. Alex Ormerod is testing a camera stashed in the nose of his scratch-made drone. Frank Marshall is tweaking elements of a circuit board the size of a forefinger. "You can put it into a glove and go where no human index finger has gone before," he quips. Next to him, Hank Ellison concentrates on his concept, a robotic hand.

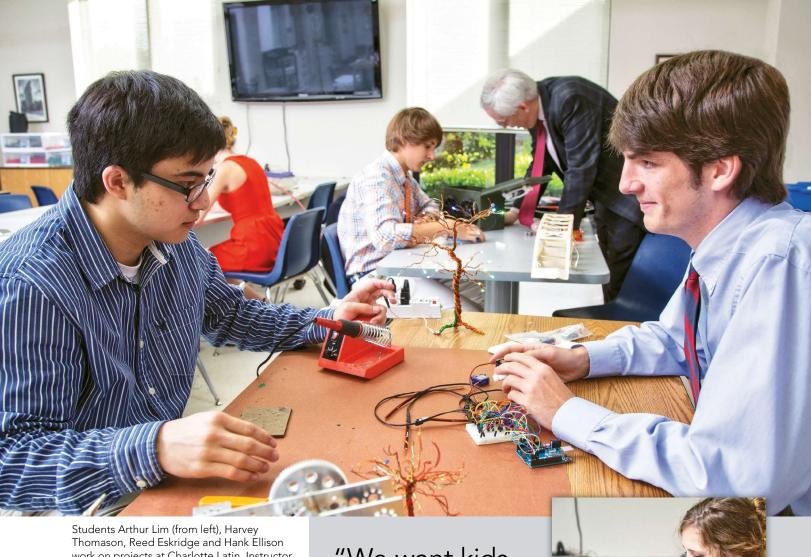
Dubick, a former programmer and chemist, flits from student to student, challenging his charges to push their intellectual envelope. "We want kids who create technology, not just consume it," he says. America needs to recognize that understanding technology means fostering creators who make things, not just use them."

To encourage this mentality, Dubick's engineering courses are part shop class, where students build quadcopters, electric trees and even a mechanical arm. STEM teachers at Ballantyne-area public high schools also take this project-based approach.

STUFF

AREA HIGH SCHOOLS
RAMP UP STEM CLASSES
TO PRODUCE NEXT-GEN
INNOVATORS By Nan Bauroth | Photos by Shane Baskin





work on projects at Charlotte Latin. Instructor Tom Dubick (back, right) offers guidance.

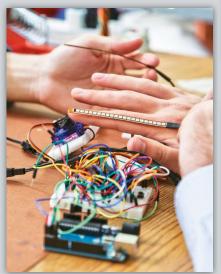
Engineering students at Providence High School collaborate to design elevators with sensors, assemble miniature robotic cars with alternative fuel cells and create objects on a 3D printer. At Ardrey Kell High School, Jason Sheffield's Introduction to Engineering class tests math principles by constructing model trusses and catapults, while students in Rick Lacek's Game Art and Design program learn how to produce 2D and 3D games.

Raspberry Pi

Short for science, technology, engineering and math, STEM is a big buzzword in education because so many of today's jobs involve technology. Charlotte Latin has long offered an all-girls middle school engineering class, while all sixth graders there spend two weeks in programming getting acquainted with a "Raspberry Pi," a single board computer the size of a credit card that teaches youngsters computer science basics.

"We want kids who create technology, not just consume it."

— TOM DUBICK, **CHARLOTTE LATIN SCHOOL**



Charlotte Latin students display a circuit board the size of a forefinger.

Building her project keeps Harvey Thomason busy.



Reed Eskridge shows readings on a smartphone.

Pressure for STEM education has become so keen that Sheffield, a mechanical engineer who also teaches Principles of Engineering, Civil Engineering and Architecture, says top students often take his courses. "I've had the last three valedictorians in my class," he says.

Kinesthetic Learning

Matthew Vincent, a teacher at Providence High, was hired in 2012 to spearhead the school's engineering program. "Project Lead the Way, a national curriculum, includes courses in engineering and biomedical science, and this fall we added Engineering Design and Development," he says. Although Principles of Engineering is a double honors course similar to the coursework of an AP course such as physics, student demand keeps growing.

"Principles of Engineering is a hands-on, project-oriented class with lots of opportunity for kinesthetic learning," says Adam Kane, a junior. "I also like the flipped structure where you learn the principles on your PC the night before and come to class ready to apply them in real-life problems."

Robert Kowach, also a junior, says the class helped determine his career path. "This is a fun class for students interested in the broad field of engineering," he says. "Since it taps into each main field of engineering, you can find out what you want to pursue in college."

Thinking Visually

At Ardrey Kell High, Lacek's classes are popular because they match student interests and learning styles.

continued on page 61

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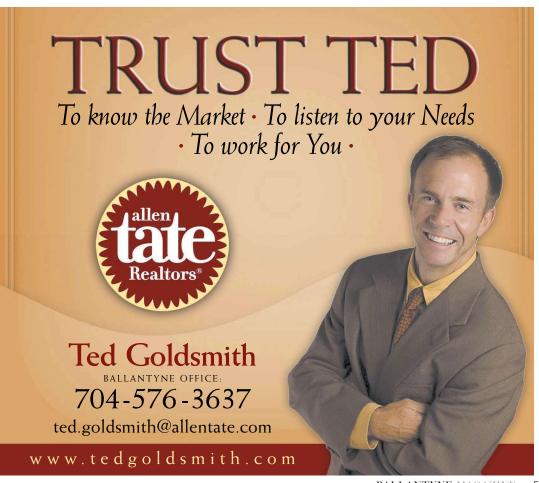
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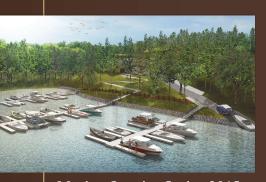
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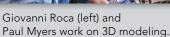
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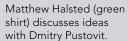


"I'm constantly blown away by what the students do on their own."

JASON SHEFFIELD,
 ARDREY KELL HIGH









Sean Dubinsky enjoys tinkering with his robot.

Dmitry Pustovit, a student at Ardrey Kell High, focuses on his project.

■ continued from page 59

"Science and Technical Visualization courses challenge them to think visually and use 2D and 3D software programs to solve conceptual and data-driven problems," he notes. "Game Art and Design integrates game theory and mathematical models."

Sheffield emphasizes a handson approach in his courses, but admits Principles of Engineering is tough. "We cover statics, dynamics, thermodynamics, circuits foundational coursework they will have in their first year at college before they branch into a specific field."



Daniel Li contemplates the next step with his assignment.

Providence High teacher Matthew Vincent (center) assists Robert Kowach. In the background, Jada Walters (left) and Kara Spangler confer.

"I like the flipped structure where you learn the principles on your PC the night before and come to class ready to apply them in real-life problems."

- PROVIDENCE HIGH JUNIOR ADAM KANE

(left) and Moni Brians assemble projects based on specs on the computer.

Andre Gouws, who entered N.C. State University this fall, spent his senior year at Ardrey Kell building a 3D interstellar spacecraft. "Since I was little I was always drawing and building with Legos," he explains. "STEM and 3D modeling are a logical progression to further that interest."

Infatuation with Legos also inspired Matthew Halsted, a junior, to take several courses, including Principles of Engineering, where he constructed a miniature balsa bridge capable of bearing a 100-pound load. "Since I was a child, I was fascinated by tech, so I gravitated to math," Halsted says. "All these STEM courses are perfect for me, and I've learned so much."

Paul Myers, a senior, elected to take Science Visualization, followed by Introduction to Engineering Design. "I want to study engineering in college. My parents tried to get me into the arts, but I've always loved building things and computers."

Mission Driven

The engineering teachers at all these Ballantyne-area high schools exhibit a

BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE **FALL 2014**



Students Daniel Li (left) and Milo Pan team up on a project at Providence High.

passion for their educational mission. "Engineering teaches young people how to think," Charlotte Latin's Dubick says. "Programming is taking a big, complex problem, breaking it down into pieces and solving it."

Lacek sees it the same way at Ardrey Kell. "I like to help students become better problem solvers. We need more of that in our society. Students in our classes are jewels, and when they learn to work cooperatively, we see some great projects." Sheffield is equally impressed. "I'm constantly blown away by what the students do on their own."



Freshmen at South Meck completed the first phase of a greenhouse renovation with the support of JE Dunn Construction.

SOUTH MECK: TURNING STEM TO STEAM

South Mecklenburg High is integrating art into STEM through a cross-curricular program for freshmen called The IDEA Academy. "We are breaking down the traditional barriers of education by tearing down the silo effect of learning," says Ashley Graham, director of The IDEA Academy.

As their first project, students completed Phase I of a greenhouse renovation with the support of JE Dunn Construction in Charlotte, which supplied a grant and construction workers. "Students learned about drafting, measuring and geometry," says Anne Goodson, education manager for JE Dunn. "We did it together, but we fact-checked their work, explaining things such as the need for a fire rating for a hydroponic garden in the greenhouse."

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FALL 2014

BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE



Warm and Welcoming

Terrace Café Offers All-Day Dining Monday through Saturday

By Amy Rogers Photos by Ray Sepesy

THINK OF A TERRACE, AND A COMFORTABLE GATHERING PLACE may come to mind. Some are modern spaces in cities, others are rustic spots farther off the beaten path. But the best of these offer a sense of both, enhanced by hospitality. And that's what Terrace Café does so successfully, while offering creative interpretations of traditional American and Southern cuisine.

The cafe is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner, but fans of the weekend brunch continue to make it the most popular meal. Diners can choose their favorite combinations from dozens of main dishes and side items, and seasonal specials are as varied as oysters benedict and duck frittata. Lemon poppy seed French toast was introduced not long ago. With its lemon-curd drizzle and fresh berries, this tasty new take on a perennial

Mixologists
have a full
bar at their
disposal
to create a
variety of
specialty
cocktails and
"mocktails."

Right: The restaurant's bar offers daily drink specials and a variety of lattes and other coffee choices.





Left: The turkey sandwich features tender meat, caramelized onions, mushrooms, bacon and Swiss cheese.

Seasonal specials are as varied as oysters benedict and duck frittata.

breakfast favorite is rapidly becoming a choice among regulars.

Specialty Drinks

Mixologists have a full bar at their disposal to create a variety of specialty cocktails and "mocktails." For a morning eye-opener, the Sunshine Cocktail is a dressed-up version of a classic mimosa. It's a sparkling combination of champagne, liqueurs and fruit juices, and it's always in demand. For coffee

lovers, the London Latte has toffee, vanilla and macadamia flavors. The Biscotti Latte, with hints of hazelnut and amaretto, can be made with or without alcohol for a nice change from everyday coffee. There are drink specials each day, too.

The restaurant serves continuously throughout the day, which pleases guests who want a late lunch or early dinner on their way to the adjacent theater or shopping in Ballantyne Village.



Brick Chicken is served on a bed of herbed Parmesan risotto.

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(There's a brief break Sundays from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.)

Many of the cafe's salads, sandwiches and entrees are available during both lunch and dinner. A standout is the slow-roasted turkey, "pulled" in the same manner as the iconic Carolina pulled pork, then topped with caramelized onions, mushrooms, bacon and Swiss cheese for a delectable sandwich that's juicy and mellow. It's just one of the reasons the cafe wins awards and accolades.

Healthy Options

Mindful of health-conscious diners and the dietary changes some are making, Terrace Café provides a variety of options without compromising taste.

Two of the most popular menu items are gluten-free. The Brick Chicken dish is marinated, seared and cooked under a weight that assures the bird stays juicy and browns evenly. Chefs add wild mushrooms and leeks to the dish and present

Two of the cafe's most popular dishes are gluten-free.



The Terrace Fruit Salad is gluten-free and has been approved by a YMCA nutritionist.



it with an herbed Parmesan risotto. Also, the Terrace Fruit Salad is a composition of colorful berries, apples, walnuts, bright baby greens and sliced breast of chicken. It's one of the dishes marked on the menu with the letter "Y" to indicate a YMCA nutritionist has approved it. A portion of the proceeds from these designated items is donated to the local Y Community Support Program.

The Ballantyne eatery is the second that Terrace Café owner Stewart Penick has opened, just two years after launching a SouthPark location in 2009. In Ballantyne, the main dining room seats about 110, and the patio with abundant shade can seat up to 70. A private dining room can accommodate up to 13 guests for meals or meetings. Strategically placed TVs are unobtrusive and assure that sports fans won't have to miss important games.

Family-friendly and convivial, Terrace Café in just a short time has become a dining destination. At the start of the day, during a midday break, for an evening respite or even a little something tasty in between, it's always warm and welcoming.

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FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE 6.

of a Blazer



fall plaids, button-down shirts, a pair of ripped denim (or slacks for the office) and fun slip-on oxfords. Reading glasses and your favorite book, encouraged.



FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE 69



Fall weather can be unpredictable. Don't part with your favorite summer maxi just yet. Layer it with a graphic tee for a little more interest, while adding sneakers to keep it casual. Top it off with your jacket a warm layer and yet another reason to go play out on the town.

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A white T-shirt might not look like much on its own, but when paired with a leather jacket and quality denim, it becomes a forever classic. Ground your ensemble by keeping accessories to a minimum — let your simple look speak for itself!



FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE 71



Community Vibe Old Log Cabin Helps Preserve Local History, Hosts Fall Festival

Photos by Mary-Alice Warren

THE ROOTS OF BALLANTYNE'S STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY RUN DEEP. Despite the area's image as one of recent development, local women whose families settled here as far back as the 1780s remain determined to preserving the heritage of "Lower Providence," the original name for this part of the county. The center of their efforts is Lower Providence Community House, or "the Old Log Cabin," as it is endearingly known to those who grew up here.

Situated in a stand of towering oaks on the west side of Community House Road across from Community House Middle School, the Lower Providence Community House stands as living testimony to the commitment women made here during the depth of the Depression to nurture the community's close-knit bond.

In 1934, the women formed the Providence Home Demonstration Club and began meeting in members' homes. Shortly thereafter, they entered the Mecklenburg County Fair with a booth for themselves and another for their community, both of which took top honors. With the prize money, the women established a building fund to create a place for their meetings and the community to enjoy.



This bronze plaque signifies that the Lower Providence Community House is a historic landmark in Mecklenburg County.

Cabin Built in 1938

Four years later, their dream became reality. The Ross, Kerr and Earnheart families donated the land, and construction began on the 29-by-39-foot building with its seven-foot-high door. Husbands of members and other men in the community felled enormous pines for the cabin and hauled in stones from their farms for the massive fireplace. Despite lean times, the can-do spirit of the group was successful and the venture was completed debt free. Over the years, bake sales, raffles for homemade quilts and

other projects have brought in money to maintain the structure.

In 1981, the women renamed their group the Lower Providence Women's Club, and in 1995, the building was designated a historic landmark by the Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. The club became part of Historic Charlotte's Leaky Roof Fund in 2004, making the Old Log Cabin eligible for grants and donations.

In 2008, the club began a serious fundraising program for major renovations, and since that time has spent \$59,000 on needed restorations without incurring a penny of debt. In 2012, the club's impressive efforts won it the Historic Preservation Recognition Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution.



The Lower Providence Women's Club welcomes new members and meets on the third Monday of every month.

Fall Festival, Etc.

Today the Lower Providence Women's Club welcomes new members to attend meetings and help with fundraising projects, which include a Summer Lecture Series, Fall Festival and Ladies Tea.

This year the Fall Festival is Saturday, Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event features more than two dozen vendors selling jewelry, candles, plants, pottery, children's toys, purses and more. There is also a barbecue plate lunch, petting zoo, ice cream truck and mobile mammography unit from Presbyterian Breast Center. All proceeds benefit continued restoration efforts.

The club meets at 10 a.m. on the third Monday of every month. The Old Log Cabin is also available to rent for social activities. For more details, call 704-905-8334 or go to www.lowerprovidencelogcabin.org.

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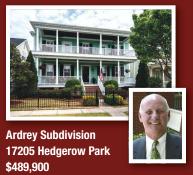
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GALLERY, SHAIN HOST EVENT

Gallery Restaurant hosted a special reception with Shain Gallery, one of Charlotte's finest contemporary art providers, on June 25. Attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and an exhibit featuring local artists.

Participating artists included Andy Braitman, Kelley Brugh, Carol Bodiford, Eric Olsen, Darren Young, Connie Winters, Donald Peeler, Veronica Clark, Josh Brown and Jane Schmidt. In 2013, Gallery Restaurant partnered with Shain Gallery to feature an exclusive, for-purchase artwork collection at the restaurant.

Photos by Hayley Watson

- 1. Kathy Smith, Heidi Jacobson, Donald Peeler
- 2. Ken and Janice Wingham, Sally and Len Holmgren
- 3. Gaby Shain, Sybil Godwin
- 4. Alex Brace, Kelley Brugh
- 5. Toni Zelickson, Donald Peeler, Eric Olsen
- 6. Dianne Chase, Beverly Holland, Lyn Simons
- 7. Aly Glavin, Carol Bodiford
- 8. Roger Leeson, Cindy Burrell
- 9. Lise Lavallee, Stacey Van Alstyne
- 10. Bruce and Julia Lawing

FALL 2014 BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE 75

BASH DRAWS OVER 500

More than 500 people gathered at Ballantyne Corporate Park on June 5 for the 2014 Ballantyne Business Bash. The event featured networking, food, giveaways from sponsors and Wells Fargo stagecoach rides.

Presenting sponsors were MetLife and Morrison Family YMCA. Participating restaurants included Hickory Tavern, City Tavern, Costco, Which Wich Superior Sandwiches, Cabo's Mexican Cuisine, Edible Arrangements Ballantyne, JJ's Red Hots, Mellow Mushroom, Newk's Eatery, TCBY Ballantyne, Terrace Café, Vine American Kitchen, Another Broken Egg Cafe, Pepper Dining, Chili's Grill & Bar, Sam's Club and Zoe's.

Photos by Mary-Alice Warren

- 1. Jenn Yoger, Alice Woods, Kelsey Young
- 2. Carrie Fairman, Ashleigh Clark
- 3. Gina Larosa, Tracey Majesky
- 4. Steve Eanes, Douglas Grant, Michael Orzech
- 5. Kent Ravaioli, Robert Wardell, Todd Hillard
- 6. Anneleise Pennington, Melanie Bethancourt, Lisa Hall
- 7. Rebecca Rickman, Theresa Hopkins, Misty Moyers, Pamela Tosh
- 8. Arifah Robinson, Lisa Johnson
- 9. Lindsay Fisher, Amelia Beamer, Carly Gardner
- 10. Jennie Forsythe, Akil Boston
- 11. Ashley Outlaw, Deshaun Brown
- 12. Colleen Sullivan, Denise and Danielle Anello















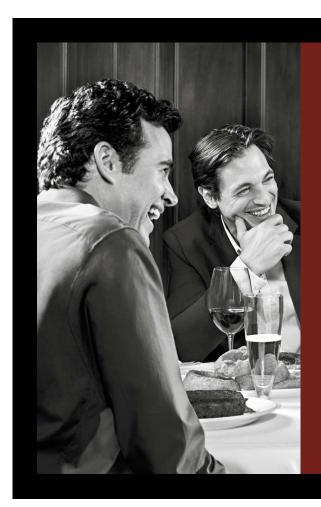












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GUYS NIGHT OUT OVER

STEAK

AND A FEW BEERS.



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INAUGURAL EVENT TOPS \$75,000

The Charlotte Chapter of Speedway Children's Charities hosted the NRA Teach Freedom Foundation "One of the Kids" golf tournament at The Golf Club at Ballantyne.

Presented by AutoTrader.com, the inaugural event drew 130 players on June 16 and raised more than \$75,000 to help area children in need.

Proceeds support area nonprofit organizations as well as children of wounded or fallen military members as part of the Navy SEAL Foundation.

Photos by Hayley Watson

- 1. Taylor Fitz, Ashley Christman
- 2. Tyler and Max Schropp
- 3. Ken Gaber, Dan Rubner
- 4. Mike Congden, Katie Kennedy, Karla Bridges, Richard Dixon
- 5. Megan Harman, Drew Gehringer
- 6. Dean and Kristi Cummings, Steve Cupcha
- 7. Michael Bare, Jim Nash
- 8. Julie and Wayne Bumgarner
- 9. Chris Ziglar, Aaron Osborne
- 10. Ryan Baxter, Jeff Gajewski, Chad Willis
- 11. John Sanders, Rusty Benfield
- 12. Mark Dillard, Dale Beatty, Garrett Garland
- 13. Tyler Franklin, Greg Feltes
- 14. Dan Black, Dale Suddeth
- 15. Ryan Baxter, Terry Hodges

























































CONCERT ATTRACTS CROWD

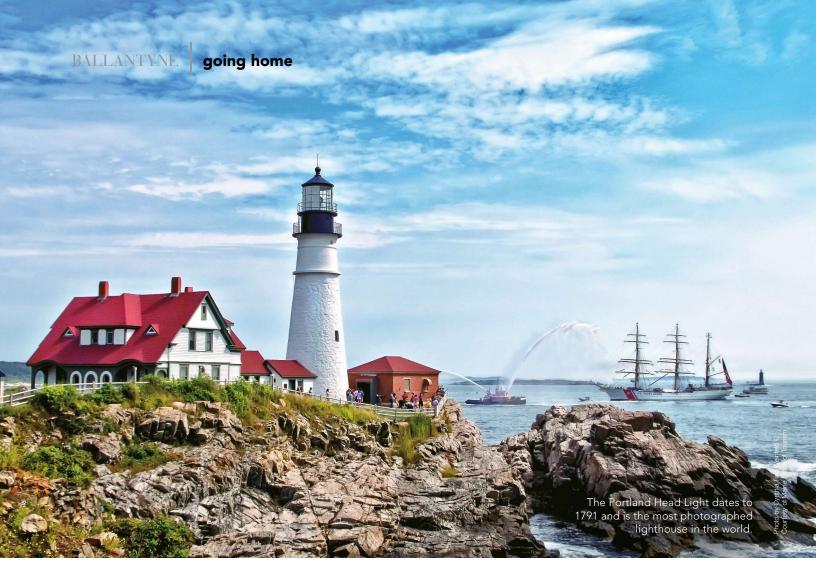
Blakeney's 2014 Concert Series runs through September on Friday and Saturday nights and has been attracting crowds since it began in April.

The Loafers entertained patrons July 11. The variety band is known for strong vocals and its flair for engaging the audience.

Photos by Hayley Watson

- 1. Dylan Briese, Leeza Ingram
- 2. Karlie Winchell, Brenna Kester
- 3. Terri Anthony, Bridget Graham, Caroline Brown, Cara Schaefer, Sue Additon, Cynthia Mitchell, April Butcher, Regina Henson, Margaret Swicegood, Heather Feldman, Heather McAllister, Michelle Roncace, Joy Mast
- 4. Jenn Pugliese, Chris Raeker
- 5. Dan and Mary Lynn McCaffrey
- 6. Kim Horn, Monika Drayton
- 7. Piper Jones, Clara Tucker, Savannah DeCarlo
- 8. Kyle, Paxton, Ryker and Shannon Jones
- 9. Kathryn and Byron Jones
- 10. Mark, Bri and Kristin Harman
- 11. Lynn DuPont, Ben, Ian and Diane Demus
- 12. Suzette and Kendell Mauzon
- 13. Ryan Fesnak, Jamison and Adrienne Ellis, Jennifer McClarney, Madison Ellis, Jason and Nathan Fesnak
- 14. Laurie and Ross Summerland, Elise and Jim Wentink





summer vacations they spend at the home her parents own on Frye Island near Portland, Maine.

L.L. Bean Country

Although many people visit Maine during summer, Tariyal says fall is an ideal season to tour the coastal villages of Portland, Camden and Bar Harbor. She suggests flying into Portland and spending several days exploring the "Old Port" on foot.

Sampling the vibrant food scene should also be a priority. Wine Enthusiast just named Portland one of



"I love Maine because nothing changes. When I go back, I always feel I am going home."

— Ballantyne resident Angela Tariyal





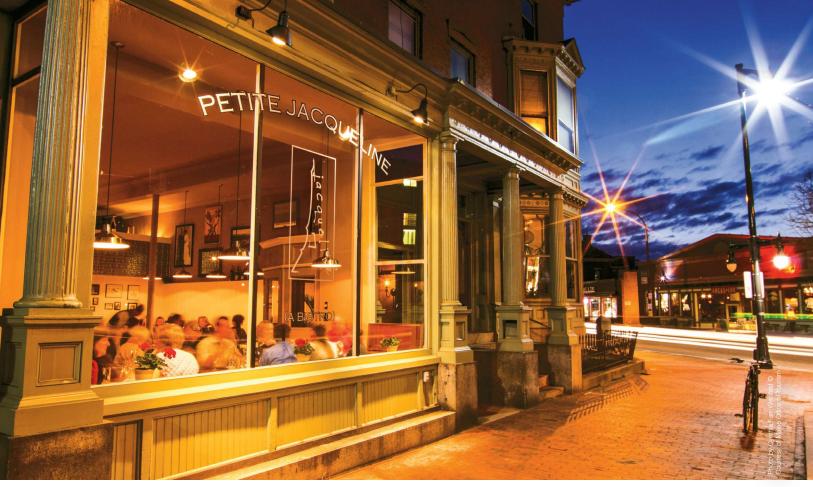
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Above: Portland's Petite Jacqueline, nominated for a James Beard Award, is indicative of the city's great culinary scene. **Below:** Tooling around Portland by bike or foot is a popular pastime.



Fall brings
Harvest on
the Harbor, an
annual threeday culinary
extravaganza
in Portland.

■ continued from page 82

"America's 5 New Foodie Cities" thanks to hotspots such as Vinland, Eventide Oyster Co. and David's Opus Ten. At Vinland, chef-owner David Levi takes New England staples like cod, clams and corn and reinvents them locavore style. For traditional fare, Tariyal suggests DiMillo's, located in an old boat on the water.

While in Portland, drive 20 minutes north to Freeport, home of L.L. Bean's flagship store, known in Mainespeak as "Bean's." You can spend an afternoon enjoying the store's outdoor gear and home merchandise, cafe, trout tank and fly-fishing demos.





Maine lobsters are prized for their large, meaty claws.



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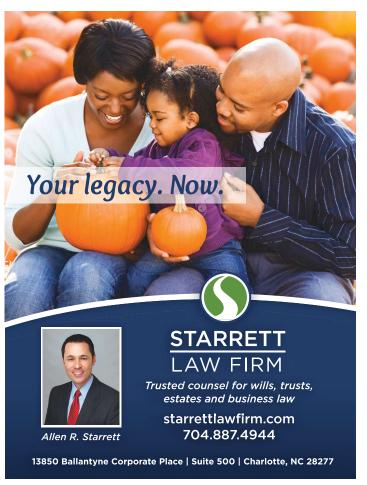
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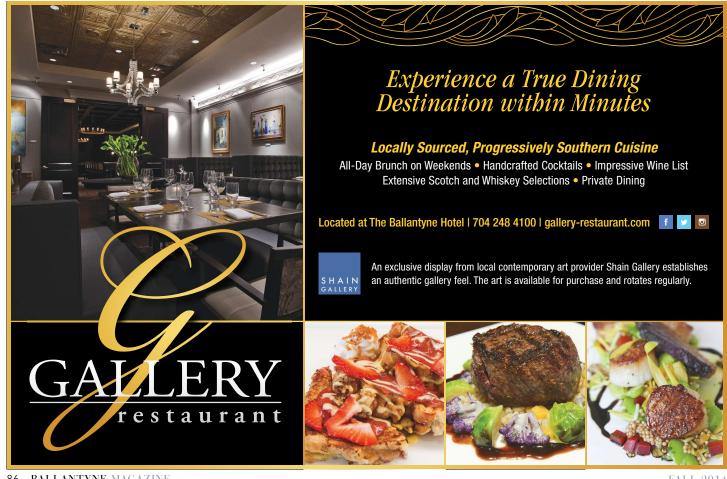
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BALLANTYNE MAGAZINE **FALL 2014**





The historic clock in Bar Harbor is located at the Village Green.

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Seacoast Charm

From Portland, head to Camden, a quintessential Maine coastal town that harbors 10 historic schooners, some of which you can board to get a feel for life during the maritime heyday. You can also put bikes on the ferry to an island or stroll cobblestone streets filled with art galleries. Top restaurants include The Waterfront, and Fresh, where Mediterranean-inspired cuisine and an intimate bar draw local nightlife.

An hour and a half north lies Bar Harbor. Long home to old-money families like the Rockefellers, Morgans and Astors, Bar Harbor and its ambience make for a coveted getaway for the rich



Above: The boats and traps of Portland's harbor point to a significant local industry: lobster fishing. Below: The architectural blend on the city's Free Street makes for an interesting streetscape.



Bar Harbor has a distinctly **Down East** character and striking seaside panoramas that make it a must-stay.



gateway to Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor has a distinctly Down East character (locals

has a distinctly Down East character (locals pronounce it "Bah-Hah-Bah") and striking seaside panoramas that make it a must-stay.

Start with a dawn walk along Shore Path for a glimpse of the Porcupine Islands, a glorious sight at daybreak. Next stop is the Village Green with its historic town clock and bandstand, surrounded by gift shops, bookstores, pubs and high-end boutiques. For inventive cuisine, go to Mache Bistro for dishes like pumpkin seed-dusted Atlantic scallops over creamy polenta, topped with fennel onion confit, or check out the Neuvo Latino cooking at Havana. At Geddy's, a popular watering hole, try a quaff of the craft beer, Sea Dog Blueberry Wheat Ale.



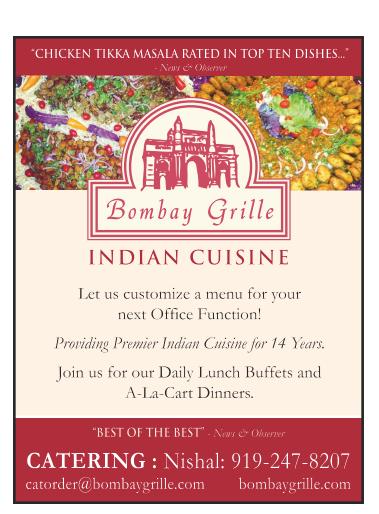
Like other New England areas, the state is home to iconic red barns.

continued on page 91



The kaleidoscope of autumnal hues is best captured on the Schoodic National Scenic Byway.

FALL 2014







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Ambling along Camden Harbor at dusk offers up memorable scenes.

■ continued from page 88

Leaf Peeping

As warmer days give way to crisp evenings, leaves reach their zenith with splashes of bright orange and yellow on sugar maples, deep purple on white ash and a dramatic show of crimson on mountain maples. This kaleidoscope of autumnal hues is best captured on the Schoodic National Scenic Byway, which explores a lesser-developed part of the rugged Maine coast, a little up the coast from Bar Harbor.

For another spectacular afternoon, drive the Acadian Byway (also known as the All-American Road), which traverses 27 miles in a scenic loop around Mt. Desert Island, offering vistas of steep granite crags, boreal forests and crashing waves along the rocky coastline.

Lobster Mania

Maine proudly lays claim to being the only place in this country you can get true lobster — Homerus americanus. These crustaceans that thrive in the cold, briny waters off Maine have five sets of legs and a pair of large, succulent, meat-filled claws, differentiating them from rock lobsters or spiny lobsters.



MAINE IS HOME FOR ANGELA TARIYAL

Angela Tariyal, a resident of Ardrey Commons, was born in Windham, Maine, a small town 45 minutes outside of Portland and not far from Sebago Lake. After a few years, and until her teens, she lived primarily on the lake.

Tariyal earned her associate degree in travel tourism and her bachelor's degree in hospitality management from Johnson & Wales University in Providence, R.I. She and husband, Aditya, compliance manager at Wells Fargo, and their three children now love Maine as much as she does.

Tariyal's parents, Maine natives, recently moved to Sun City in Indian Land but in summer return to their home on Frye Island, which is within Sebago Lake. "I love Maine because nothing changes," Tariyal says. "When I go back, I always feel I am going home."

Getting There

US Airways direct to Portland or Jet Blue connecting through New York City.

Hotels

Luxury: The Westin Portland Harbor View; Lord Camden Inn, Camden; Bar Harbor Inn and Spa.

Family-priced: Hampton Inn Portland Waterfront; Camden Inn, Camden; Holiday Inn Resort Bar Harbor.

Must See

Portland Head Light, dating to 1791, the most photographed lighthouse in the world.

Cravings

The Italian sandwich with sour pickles at Amato's, which has several sites in Portland and in other Maine locations as well.

Mementoes

Anything blueberry, L.L. Bean gear.

Local Tip

People in Maine are pretty laid back. Don't expect anyone to be in a rush to go anywhere.

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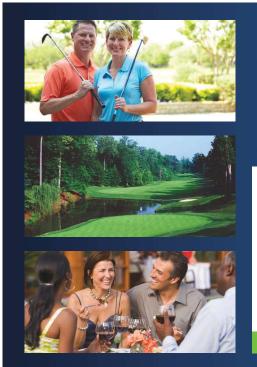
Each year the hardy men and women who ply their traps along Maine's coast harvest 126 million pounds of lobster. You can venture out on their boats to experience a big catch or don a tank for lobster diving. Tariyal says one of the best lobster eateries is The Lobster Shack in Cape Elizabeth. Her favorite Maine dish, however, is creamy fish chowder made with haddock.

Harvest on the Harbor

Fall brings Harvest on the Harbor, an annual three-day culinary extravaganza in Portland that showcases the most creative dishes of Maine's top chefs. Events feature a harvest dinner, grand tasting, lobster chef competition and wine and beer experiences. Last year chef Chris Long of Natalie's at the Camden Harbour Inn won Lobster Chef of the Year for his poached Maine lobster ragout in thyme butter.

For Tariyal, returning for a visit always brings new memories to cherish. "There is so much to see and do in Maine; it's hard to choose," she says. "It's the best vacation you can get."

This view from Storm Ocean Drive in Acadia National Park is typical of Maine's craggy coast.



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Pitch Perfect

Turn Through Impact, Extend Toward the Target

By Marc Lapointe, Director of Instruction, Dana Rader Golf School

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU BEEN TOLD to keep your head down? Has it ever made a long-term improvement to your golf game? Probably not, and this is why maintaining good posture through impact is a major obstacle for most golfers. The



Marc LaPointe

"head" is always to blame for bad shots. After reading this article, I hope you will understand the right technique to stay down for great pitch shots.

What actually happens when a golfer is not making good contact with the ball is almost never because of the head turning too soon, but usually due to the change in posture at impact. As you can see in the pictures, trying to keep your head down at impact will likely cause you to stop your swing abruptly. This abbreviated follow-through will result in poor arm extension at impact, often causing you to stand up and top the ball.

Instead, try focusing on turning through impact and extending your arms toward the target. As you can see, staying down while pitching will improve your contact with the ball. The key is to maintain good upper body posture all the way through impact, instead of trying to keep your head down after contacting the ball.

You will look like a pro if you can turn your hips, chest and head toward the target after impact. When your club ends up pointing toward the flag — so will your shot. Remember, you must turn your body to stay down, head included.

Play well!





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Hail the Monarch!

And take a great photo of it, too. That's what Tonja Pierce did while strolling around Kid Pond, located behind the Betsill and Sherrill buildings in Ballantyne Corporate Park. We're glad she's quick with a camera; now we all get to enjoy this winged wonder.

Want Your Photo Here?

Go for it! Eye Level captures the sights, scenes and joys of Ballantyne. Follow simple guidelines and your photo could be next. We love images of pets, friends, family, nature, events, activities — anything with a compelling local flair. Email your high-resolution image (300 dots per inch or higher) to editor@ballantynemagazine.com and include your name and contact information. We look forward to hearing from you.

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