

MILL

A MONTHLY ARTS, MUSIC AND LITERATURE PUBLICATION
OF THE CARRBORO CITIZEN VOL. 2 + NO. 3 + DECEMBER 2008





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THE HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Those who've been residents of this portion of Earth for more than a couple of circumnavigations of the sun will recognize the additional bunting, abundant use of candles and sparkly stuff, emphasis on feasting and the distinctive red-and-green color scheme as indications that the holiday season is upon us.

We do a lot of sifting this year because in addition to all the bright lights and various enticements and obligations, there's just so much going on.

The holiday season for most of us has very little down time built in anymore, save that carb-, tryptophan- and Detroit Lions-induced nap on Thanksgiving Day. Here's hoping you get a chance to experience some of the special events this time of year has to offer.

In this issue of MILL, we've done some sorting through ahead of time for you, breaking out the holiday shows and various eclectic traditions of the towns in our area. Over the years, there's emerged some pretty spectacular offerings — from the splendor of the Carolina Ballet's *Nutcracker* to Jim Watson's rowdy and heartwarming caroling at The Cave to the reading of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* in both English and Latin. Newer events like the Trekkie Records Yuletide Orchestra show at Cats Cradle are traditions in the making.

Fold in the special shows, the annual tree lightings, holiday parades and craft fairs spreading out from H'boro to P'boro and it's easy to get overbooked.

As for the feasting and gifting, we pointed out on the opinion page of last week's *Citizen* — and reiterate here — that this would be a very good year to enjoy the fare of local farms and restaurants and to conduct some commerce with locally owned and operated shops.

One last note: Safe travels to those of us who will spend at least some of this season reacquainting ourselves with the joys of an interstate highway system clogged with holiday vagabonds.

Considering who's waiting, though, it's not such a bad drive. And I doubt anyone's got to draw you a map. After all, you've done this route before — cross the river, proceed through the woods.

Please give our best to "G."



MILL

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ON THE COVER AND LEFT



PHOTO BY AVA BARLOW

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HOPE

FOR THE

HOLIDAYS

2008

GIVE HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS GIFT ITEMS AND SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

Part of the purchase price of each gift marked with a special **HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS** sign, will be collected in the **HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS FUND**. This season's **HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS FUND** supports the following organizations:

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UNIVERSITY MALL INVITES YOU TO DISCOVER HOLIDAY SHOPPING THAT IS MORE CIVILIZED.

This holiday season, discover a more civilized way to enjoy the season of giving. Here are few ways you can make your season so much brighter with a visit to University Mall.

SANTA IS HERE! Now through December 24. Monday – Friday, 3-7 p.m. Saturday, 11-7 p.m. Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Instant color photos available. Special group rates for schools.

YOUR VISIT WITH SANTA IS A GIVING EXPERIENCE AS WELL. For each photo taken with Santa, University Mall will donate \$1 to the UNC Children's Hospital. (Special thanks to our friends at WCHL.)

PAWS WITH CLAUS. Pet Day with Santa! Sunday, December 14. 1-5 p.m. Bring your properly restrained pets for your photo opportunity.

SANTA AND RAMESES. December 15. 3-7 p.m. Of course, Santa is a Tar Heel! Come have your pictures taken with Santa and Ramses, the official UNC mascot. Santa will be donning his Carolina Blue suit just for this special photo opportunity!

"AN EVENING WITH" Music and Cultural Arts Series. Ends December 20. 5-7 p.m.

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON. Hear local musical groups of all types perform your holiday favorites at the stage near A Southern Season. See Customer Service for details.

GIFT WRAP BY HADASSAH. Now through December 24. Visit our friends from Hadassah at their gift wrap location near Chick-fil-A.

WISH TREE SPONSORED BY THE SERVICE LEAGUE OF CHAPEL HILL. Now through December 24. Give to those less fortunate. Visit the Wish Tree near Customer Service for details.



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ART CALENDAR

CARRBORO

THE ARTSCENTER

Center Gallery: Orange County Artists' Guild Studio Tour preview

THE BEEHIVE SALON

"Images & Reflections" — a series of portraits and more by Perception Crisis Photography.

CARRBORO BRANCH LIBRARY

"Moving the Line: The Art of Drawing"

CENTURY CENTER

Oil works by David Sovero

DEWITT LAW

"4Winds Studios: A Hot Glass Workspace" — Holiday ornaments and blown glass art

FLEET FEET GALLERY

Works by Jamie Nervo

JESSE KALISHER GALLERY

Wildlife photography

MAIN STREET GALLERY

Art by family members Letty DeLoatch, Don Rose & Jordan Rose. Through Dec. 31

NESTED

"Washington to Carrboro"—photographs by Robert Walton

NC CRAFTS GALLERY

Drawings and prints by Maryanna Williams, wood-fired ceramics by Susan Wells.

OPEN EYE CAFÉ

Paintings on wood by Shannon O'Connor

PANZANELLA

"Making the Grass Greener"—paintings by Jennifer Padilla through Nov. 30.

TABLE

UNC student art show

TOWN HALL

Oil paintings by Kimberly Alvis

WEAVER STREET REALTY

"This and That" — works by Anjanete van Horn

WOOTINI

"This Won't Hurt a Bit"—a tattoo art show.

CHAPEL HILL

ACKLAND ART MUSEUM

"Circa 1958: Breaking Ground in American Art"—through Jan. 4.

ANIMATION & FINE ART GALLERIES

"Master Minimalist"—works by Ellsworth Kelly
"Sinjerli Variations"—works by Frank Stella through Dec. 11.

CAFFÉ DRIADE

Paintings by Valerie Tan

CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Photography by Tova Boem & Natasha Johnson

CUP A JOE

"International Travels"—photography by Caryl Feldcracker

HILL COUNTRY WOODWORKS

Painters Lori White and Joan Poole Holbrook, sculptor Howard Schroeder, ceramicist Heather Delisle and potter Natalie Boorman

HORACE WILLIAMS HOUSE

"Eno River Tapestries"—works by Silvia Hayden

NC BOTANICAL GARDEN

Botanical paper sculpture by Marilyn Bass

STEVENS WELLNESS

Works by Renata Campbell

STUDIO 91 FINE ART GALLERY

"Pear Series"—Works by Lee Wollman

TOWN & CAMPUS REALTY

Works by Steve Wright

TOWN HALL

Works by Amy Gelber and Annemarie Gugelmann

TURNING POINT GALLERY

Works by Ned Moulton, Simon Bull and Michael Mertes

TYNDALL GALLERIES

18th Annual Holiday Exhibition

WHOLE FOODS

"Propose/Repose"—by Amanda Shaffer.

WOMANCRAFT FINE HANDCRAFTED GIFTS

Christmas Ornaments by Various Artists

SOUTHERN VILLAGE

BAGWELL, HOLT, SMITH, TILLMAN & JONES PA

Pastel and oil works by Jim Tignor

BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

Works by Jaquelin Perry, Sam Shelby, Lizzie Newton

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HOLIDAY CALENDAR

11/30

CHAPEL HILL TREE LIGHTING

Downtown Chapel Hill
The annual community tree lighting at University Baptist Church. 6pm

12/3

GRINCH READING

Bull's Head Bookshop
The Bull's Head presents a reading of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* in English and Latin.

Professor Tom Stumpf will read booming in English while the store's own George Morgan will read soothingly in Latin. Free cookies, cider and hot chocolate. 4pm

12/5

CARRBORO TREE LIGHTING

Carrboro Town Hall
Music and merriment is on hand for the annual tree lighting. 6pm 12/5

TRANSACTIONS' SURF CHRISTMAS

The ArtsCenter
Another Holiday Extravaganza, this one's set at the beach. Beach tunes by the fellows from Killer Filler and a show that promises zany surprises. 8pm \$14

12/6

HOLIDAY FAIRE
Emerson Waldorf School
The faire features crafts,

puppet shows, games, food and music. Events include a traditional folk tale told by "Father Frost" and a holiday pageant featuring King Winter and other giant-size puppets. 10-4pm

CRAFT SHOW

Big Barn
Local and regional arts and crafts abound from 9am-5pm at Hillsborough's Big Barn Convention Center.

BLUEGRASS CHRISTMAS

General Store Cafe
Tommy Edwards and friends host their annual holiday bluegrass show. 8:30pm

12/7

HOLIDAY MARKET

Ferrington
Local arts and crafts and live music. 12-4pm

12/13

MAKE WE MERRY

Binkley Baptist Church
The Chapel Hill Community Chorus Cantari holiday concert with conductor Sue T. Klausmeyer. Sacred and secular music sung in Hebrew, Chinese, Latin, Italian and English. 7:30pm \$10/ \$5/students.

12/13

ELFAIR

The ArtsCenter
A Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair with music, refreshments and

a special visit from a favorite holiday merrimaker. 3-7pm

There's also a special performance of Dylan Thomas' 'A Child's Christmas in Wales' at 7:30pm, presented by the Youth Drama Conservatory.

HOLIDAY PARADE

Downtown
The streets of downtown Chapel Hill and Carrboro will be full of floats, bands and marchers from 10 until noon as the big event hits the streets. Presented by the Chapel Hill Jaycees.

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

Historic District
The annual tour and fundraiser presented by the Preservation Society of Chapel Hill. Tours are from 1-5pm Dec. 13-14. Tickets are \$20 in advance. Admission to the Horace Williams House stop on the tour is free.

12/20

HOLIDAY STORYTELLING

Ferrington
Donald Davis will be on hand to spin some holiday yarns. Bring a canned-food donation. 11am

12/27

HOLIDAY PARTY

Local 506
The folks at The Merch host this lovely evening of fun and music. Nice t-shirts too.

CHATHAM STUDIO TOUR



Master potter Mark Hewitt, of Pittsboro, one of the founding artists of the tour.

The Chatham Studio Tour takes place Dec. 6, 7, 13 and 14. The Studio Tour is an opportunity to visit artists in their workspaces to learn more about the artists, their processes and inspiration — and, of course, to buy local art. A reception also featuring student art will be held at the Central Carolina Community College gallery on the Pittsboro campus on Dec. 5 from 7 to 9 pm. A full listing of artists and mediums as well as a map of the studios is available online at chathamstudiotour.com. A shuttle called the Pittsboro Trek Express is available to help visitors save gas, with information online at pittsborortrekexpress.com. View art, talk to artists and buy holiday gifts while celebrating and supporting the creativity of the Piedmont!

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A NO-CALAMITY THANKSGIVING

BY MARGOT CARMICHAEL LESTER

It may seem natural for a chef to adore Thanksgiving, but for Bill Smith, chef/owner of Crook's Corner, his love for the holiday isn't really about the food. "Thanksgiving's my favorite holiday because it's based around a dinner party and you don't have to worry about gifts," he laughs. "The pressure of gift shopping is an enormous hassle that spoils Christmas, if you ask me."

Thanksgiving for Smith, author of *Seasoned in the South: Recipes from Crook's Corner and from Home*, is spent down on the coast in New Bern with 45 or 50 family members convening at his parent's home.

And, surprisingly enough, Smith is not in charge of the victuals. Instead, his people divvy up the duties, which keeps any one person from getting stressed out and lessens the opportunity for those pesky chain-reaction culinary catastrophes.

"My father's a great cook. He does a ham or turkey and he likes to make the collards," Smith says. "If I don't make the mashed potatoes, they'll make instant, so I took that over a few years ago. And I'm the only one who's not scared to make gravy. Oh, and I bring a case of beer. That's about it."

His mother gets the premises ready to receive the guests, and brothers and sisters and aunts and uncles bring sides. "Everyone has their thing they bring every year, which is what you want at Thanksgiving," he adds.

And here's the real genius behind a Smith family Thanksgiving: People trickle in all afternoon. "It's not a formal thing where people sit down at a particular time and say grace," Smith says. "So it works out good." He thinks on that for a minute and adds, "Maybe that's why we've never had any real calamities."



Crook's Corner's Bill Smith

PHOTO BY AVA BARLOW

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COOKING AS CONVERSATION

BY KIRK ROSS

Already, the aromas swirling around in April McGreger's kitchen were pretty overwhelming to a first-time visitor.

Slices of chunked pumpkin were in the middle of a long simmer in copper pots on the stove, the scent mixing with lemon juicing in progress. Then the sweet potato yeast rolls came out of the oven.

McGreger knows from sweet potatoes. Her brother and father grow hundreds of acres of them back home in Vardaman, Mississippi. She really is what the label on her desserts and jars of preserves, chutneys and slaws states: a farmer's daughter.

It's a label with growing popularity in part because her unique approach of using seasonal, locally grown food has struck a chord with frequenters of the farmers' markets. The main reason, however, is that she's just that good.

Right now, she's trying to figure out how to grow her business.

"There's the problem of larger distribution when you're doing small-scale seasonal stuff," she said. "I don't want to just do thousands of jars of pumpkin-chip preserves. The fun of it for me is to be able to see what's out there — what's in season — and to get inspiration from the actual product."

McGreger's bond with her grandmother, cooking with her and learning the food cycles of a family farm with large family gardens, was her entry into the arts of cooking and putting up food.

Graduate school at UNC brought her to this area and although she enjoyed her master's work researching the volcanic activity on the Italian island of Stromboli in the Aeolian Sea, her passion for cooking began to eclipse a career in geology.

Eventually, she took a job at Lantern just as that now top-rated kitchen was getting rolling and was staffed by the self-dubbed *mujeres en fuego* — women on fire. One of her preferred tools remains a wok spatula she got used to working with there.

Though she had no formal training as a chef, she's taken what she learned growing up and pursued it further with a researcher's eye. She's studied Appalachian and Native-American dishes — her sour corn is a direct result — and taken short courses in sustainable agriculture at Central Carolina Community College and bread baking at the San Francisco Baking Institute.

Last year, McGreger decided it was time to take a break from restaurants, make the leap, and start Farmer's Daughter. She took course work at N.C. State to become certified in pickling and set up a kitchen in her Carrboro home.



Carrboro resident April McGreger makes sauerkraut in her kitchen by fermenting shredded cabbage with sea salt and juniper berries. McGreger sells her homemade jams, chutneys, pies and other items at the Carrboro Farmers' market under the name Farmer's Daughter. PHOTO BY AVA BARLOW



Sweet potato yeast rolls and pear preserves. PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

There, she and assistant Jessica Sandford keep McGreger's booth at the Carrboro Farmers' Market and her small network of retailers stocked.

She's developed a wide-ranging repertoire. The pie list in preparation for this year's pre-Thanksgiving Farmers' Market includes pecan, fig cake, chocolate pecan, persimmon, pumpkin and maple pumpkin.

McGreger is especially proud of her work to develop a good chestnut paste. The use of chestnuts in this area disappeared in the last century along with the trees, and her effort to revive the ingredient is an example of her fascination with recapturing traditions. Her technique was adapted from an old French recipe and last week she turned 25 pounds into a rich, creamy paste, most of which will go into tea cakes.

"I have a huge interest in history in general," she said, "and that's why I really wanted to bring out these old recipes and reintroduce them to people."

Her research into local foods led to a regular column in *Grist* magazine, and her active participation as a member of the Southern Foodways Alliance has gotten notice.

McGreger's Muscadine Meringue Tartlette — her variation on a low-country grape-hull pie — was recently named by *Garden & Gun* magazine as one of the South's 100 must-try foods.

As much as she is a student of traditions, McGreger does not claim to be a purist and makes an educated effort to put her twist on recipes. She credits Bill Neal, Joe Dabney and other Southern chefs and researchers for pointing the way. Her sweet potato rolls are a variation on a well-known Neal yeast roll recipe.

She is a purist about one thing — kimchi: "It's not my culture to mess with. I don't feel like I have license, so I try to stick close."

When it comes to working within her own food traditions, she feels a lot more freedom. Her spiced muscatine — the cranberry sauce of the South — includes a little ginger, and vanilla-bean shavings are stirred into the pumpkin chip preserves.

"I'm in conversation with my own traditions," McGreger said. "I try to make small changes to make things mine. I don't want my changes to be arbitrary but I also don't want them to be stodgy."

You can find some of April McGreger's thoughts on cooking and food traditions online via Grist magazine, where she writes a monthly column. This month, she's posted her sweet potato rolls recipe. Visit grist.org/advice/daughter/2008/11/20/

RESERVOIR 4TH
ANNIVERSARY
PARTY 12/5



SOUTHERN CULTURE
ON THE SKIDS 12/13
CAT'S CRADLE



NUTCRACKER BALLET 12/6-7 MEMORIAL HALL

11/26-12/14

THE LITTLE PRINCE

Paul Green Theatre

This encore presentation of last season's hit by Play-Makers Repertory Company runs through Dec. 14.

11/26

PRE TURKEY DAY JAM

Cat's Cradle

Jon Shain and friends Django Haskins, Mark Simonsen, Greg Humphreys, Valentino and the Piedmont Shieks and others team up for the annual benefit for the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service.

11/29

THE RAMBLERS

The Cave

That's The Ramblers, as in Hicks, Craver and Watson. 8pm

12/1

SPOTTED DOG ROCK BENEFIT

Cats Cradle

The 10-year anniversary party for Spotted Dog Restaurant with Velvet, Roxcetera & SNMNMNM. Proceeds benefit Paws4Ever & Girl's Rock 7pm \$7-\$10



12/2

BURRITO BASH

General Store Cafe

This monthly bash for a cause is in support of the Hispanic Liaison with Dance. 6pm

12/3

MEGAFUN

Local 506

With O'death and Prayers & Tears 9:30pm \$10

BUILD-A-HOME FUNDRAISER

Carolina Inn

This benefit for Empowerment Inc. features music from Chancellor Holden Thorp. 5:30-8:30pm \$25

SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS

The ArtsCenter

A holiday bash (black tie optional) with a "holiday concert extravaganza of sights and sounds" and a photo show and book signing. Reception with band 6:30-8pm show at 8:30pm

12/5

JEFF HART BAND

The Cave

With Future Kings of Nowhere 10pm

ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Reservoir

The watering hole's fourth year is celebrated by Transportation, Fin Fang Foom, Caltrop and Monsonia.

12/6

ROCK FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

The ArtsCenter

A fundraiser for IPAS with The Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band and Caitlin Cary. 8pm \$14-16

12/6-7

NUTCRACKER BALLET

Memorial Hall

The Carolina Ballet presents its annual production at 8pm Saturday and 2pm Sunday.

12/7

FIRST SUNDAY

Pittsboro

The annual Christmas Parade is the star of December's First Sunday celebration from noon to 4pm. Parade at 3pm

12/12

HOLIDAY HONKY TONK TOUR

The Cave

Gambling the Muse, John Howie Jr. and The Rosewood Bluff 10pm

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HOLIDAY PARADE 12/13 CHAPEL HILL - CARRBORO



RED COLLAR 12/31 NEW YEAR'S EVE LOCAL 506

12/13

HOLIDAY PARADE

The annual parade from Chapel Hill to Carrboro features bands, cars, horses, sirens, candy, your neighbors and, occasionally, a well-trained rooster. 10am

SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS

Cat's Cradle

The good kind of holiday funk. The Hall Monitors open. 10pm \$12-14



12/15

TREKKY YULETIDE ORCHESTRA

Cat's Cradle

Trekky Records annual Christmas at the Cradle 2008 show with the Orchestra and special guests. 7:30pm \$8-10

12/19

CYRIL LANCE

Blue Bayou Club

Lance is joined by the Outskirts of Infinity. 9:30pm

12/20

EVIL WIENER X-MAS SHOW

The Cave

Always fun. Perhaps a film strip; definitely a singing elf. 10pm

12/22

JIM WATSON CHRISTMAS SHOW

The Cave

Heartwarming, rollicking and you get to keep your lyric sheet. One fine way to sing the season.

12/31

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Local 506

One of many rocking shows for the end of '08. This one features Kerbloki, Red Collar and Hammer No More the Fingers 10:30pm \$5



JOHN HOWIE
12/12 THE CAVE



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THEATER

CALENDAR



THE ARTSCENTER

Tales of Light, a puppetry performance by Hobey Ford. Tales based in Native-American stories to teach about nature and community. Dec. 5. 10am (grades K-3), 11:30am (grades 4-6). Dec. 6, 11am (grades K-6).

DEEP DISH THEATER

The Christmas Letters, a one-woman play based on Lee Smith's novella *On Agate Hill*, performed by Barbara Bates Smith. Dec 4-16. Tickets at www.deepdishtheater.org

DSI COMEDY THEATER

Standup Comedy, Fridays at 11pm, \$5
Mister Diplomat, Fridays at 9:30pm, free
ComedySportz, Saturdays at 7:30pm, \$12
And many more shows
Dsicomedytheater.com

PLAYMAKERS

The Little Prince, a special holiday event for the whole family. Nov. 26 — Dec. 14. Tue- Sat 7:30pm, Sat & Sun, 2pm. playmakersrep.org

CAROLINA BALLET

Carolina Ballet comes to Memorial Hall for its annual performance of *The Nutcracker*. Shows are at 8pm Dec. 6 and 2pm Dec. 7, Music by the North Carolina Symphony and choreographed and directed by the ballet's artistic director Robert Weiss.

TRIANGLE YOUTH BALLET

Young stars shine at the annual youth performance of *The Nutcracker*. Shows are at 7pm Dec. 6 and 2pm Dec. 7 at the Robert C. Hanes Theater at Chapel Hill High School.



Hobey Ford

Cummins and Scoullar's
The Little Prince
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LITERARY

CALENDAR



CARRBORO BRANCH LIBRARY

Storytime, Saturdays at 10:30am.
Toddler Time, Thursday at 4pm.

CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Story Time, for ages 3-6.
Junior Book Club, for readers grades 1-3.
Time for Toddlers, for stories songs and activities.
Baby Time, for children between 6 and 18 months.
Dates and times vary. chapel-hillpubliclibrary.org

CYBRARY

Twilight — Dec. 11, 7pm. The Movie/Book Club discusses the film and the Stephanie Meyer novel. Carrboro Cybrary. 918-7387, www.co.orange.nc.us/library/cybrary

MARKET STREET BOOKS

Poetry Open Mic, 7pm.

MCINTYRE'S

Visitors this month include author Joseph M. Flora (12/13) and storyteller Donald Davis (12/20).

DOWNTOWN DINING GUIDE

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403 W Rosemary St., 942-9242
f-use.com

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202 W. Rosemary St., 967-2506
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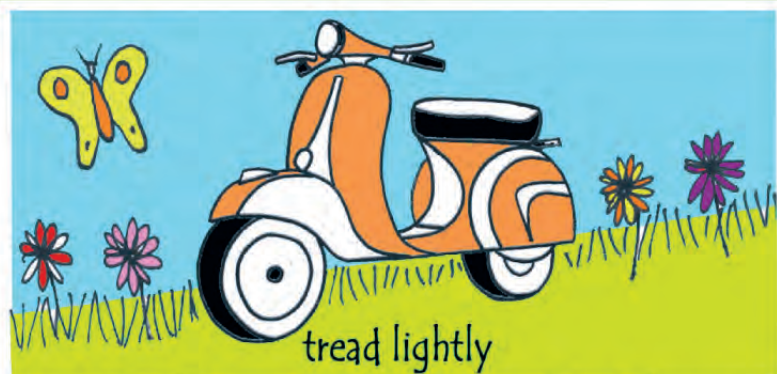
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Photo by Catharine Carter

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ERICA'S BREAKTHROUGH

BY VICKY DICKSON



Carrboro resident Erica Eisdorfer is the author of *The Wet Nurse's Tale*, due to be published in August 2009.

PHOTOS BY AVA BARLOW

It must be the rare bookseller indeed who sees her own novel favorably reviewed by her store's top-selling author. But that's what happened to Bull's Head Bookshop manager and Carrboro Citizen book reviewer Erica Eisdorfer after she entered the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Contest last November. From a gradually winnowed field of more than 5,000 submissions, Erica's book, *The Wet Nurse's Tale*, was selected as one of the top 10 entries. And if you log onto Amazon.com today and search for *The Wet Nurse's Tale*, you can read a glowing review by Elizabeth Gilbert, the author of *Eat, Pray, Love*.

Erica and I belong to the same writing group, so I had the distinct pleasure of watching the evolution of the story of wet nurse Susan Rose, a tale set in Britain in 1847. Our group shared Erica's frustration as she searched for an agent for her novel, and heard her describe the online contest she'd discovered, and *might* have entered. ("Though I probably actually didn't," she says. "I think I misread the instructions about submitting.") We heard about the letters and emails that agents began to send her after she made the contest's top 100. And saw the rash ("But it's a good rash!") that developed on Erica's arms as she waited for that 100 to be cut to 10.

After Erica hired one of the emailing agents to represent her, she began to suspect the agent of not rooting for *The Wet*



Eisdorfer works on her second book at home on her couch.

Nurse's Tale to actually win the contest. This was puzzling, until we realized that the winner would receive a non-negotiable book contract with Penguin. Erica's agent apparently thought she could negotiate a far more favorable contract; and though we were disappointed to learn that Erica wouldn't be going to New York City as one of the three winners, we were elated when the agent turned out to be right. Thanks to Erica's agent's negotiating skills, *The Wet Nurse's Tale* will be published by Putnam and will arrive in stores next August.

You can preorder the book on Amazon's website while also discovering tidbits

about Erica herself. Her graduation from a certain university in Durham notwithstanding, Erica's one of us. She has a long history in our community, including eight years spent reviewing books on WUNC, 20 years managing the Bull's Head Bookshop at UNC and many, many years of residence in Carrboro.

Fellow writing group members Edith, Rebecca, Gina, Betsy and I are eagerly anticipating the debut of Erica's novel. So should you, if you're a fan of well-researched, tightly written historical novels and quirky heroines with ironic senses of humor. I can't wait.



ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK



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MUSIC SPOTLIGHTS



TREKKYYULETIDE

The Trekkyy Yuletide Orchestra, a "holiday supergroup" composed of members from Trekkyy bands (and friends), celebrates Christmas with style and holiday tunes with a unique indie twist. They perform at Christmas at the Cradle on Dec. 15 at 7 p.m., tickets \$10 or \$8 in advance. Listen online and find more information about the members and the show at myspace.com/trekkyrecordschristmas. Their album, *A New Old Fashioned Christmas*, is available from trekkyrecords.com with proceeds benefiting the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.



SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS

The ArtsCenter will host a black tie-optional concert and exhibition celebrating the Squirrel Nut Zippers on Dec. 3, starting at 6:30 p.m. The event also features photography by Joshua Weinfeld of the Squirrel Nut Zippers on tour from his book *Unzipped: Two Years of Touring Presented in Photographs by Joshua Weinfeld*. Dancing, drinking and merriment are available. Reception from 6:30 to 8, with the concert beginning at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Information available online at www.myspace.com/snzippers.



FUTURE KINGS OF NOWHERE 12/5 THE CAVE



THE RAMBLERS 11/29 THE CAVE

THE ARTSCENTER

The Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band, Caitlin Cary (12/6) 2nd Friday Open Jazz Jam (12/12)

BLUE BAYOU CLUB

Open Blues Jamm (12/2) AC Bushnell & Happy-Joy Band (12/5) The Fusticks (12/5) Contagious Blues Band (12/6) Open Mic Night (12/9) Too Much Fun (12/13) Open Blues Jam (12/16) Fever & The Falling Raid (12/18) Cyril Lance & Outskirts of Infinity (12/19) Matt Hill & the Buzzkills (12/20) Open Mic Night (12/23) Open Blues Jam (12/30) Armand & Bluesology w/ Will McFarlane (12/31)

CAT'S CRADLE

Velvet, Roxcetera, SNMNMNM, Jeghetto (12/1) The High & Mighties, Tim Smith Band (12/2) Jay Clifford (12/3) Steep Canyon Rangers, Shannon Whitworth (12/5) Yo Mama's Big Fat Booty Band (12/6) Matt & Kim, The Cool Kids (12/8) ohGr (12/9) Tab Benoit (12/12) Southern Culture on the Skids, The Hall Monitors (12/13) Trekky Yuletide Orchestra (12/15) Winter Reggae Jam (12/27) Abbey Road Live, The Magictones (12/31)

THE CAVE

Green Level Entertainers (11/28), The Ramblers (11/29), Hey Penny (12/3) Chemical Green (12/4) Highway 54, Jeff Hart Band, Future Kings of Nowhere (12/5) Stereofidelics, Big Daddy Love (12/6) Hooray for Earth (12/8) Spider Bags, Terrible Twos (12/9) Adam Klein, Alcazar Hotel (12/10) Inspector 22, Impossible Arms (12/11) New River Rock Skippers, Calico Haunts, Gambling the Muse, John Howie Jr & The Rosewood Bluff (12/12) Nikki Meets the Hibachi, Dirty Little Heaters, The Loners. (12/13) Last Watch, Cool Ethan (12/18) Straight 8's (12/19) Tony Low, Evil Weiner (12/20) Jim Watson (12/22)

GENERAL STORE CAFÉ

Swang Brothers (12/5) Tommy Edwards Christmas Extravaganza (12/6) Laine & Avis Duo (12/10) Kevin Brock (12/12) Triolgy's Christmas Extravaganza (12/13) Tony Galiani Band (12/18) After Thought (12/19) Kelley & The Cowboys (12/20) The Family Eversole (12/26) Rootzie (12/27)

HARRY'S MARKET



CHAMBERGRASS 12/16 HARRY'S MARKET



HAYES CARLL 12/2 LOCAL 506

Jon Durham (12/6) Chambergrass (12/16)

LOCAL 506

Hayes Carll, John Evans Band (12/2) O'Death, Megafaun, Prayers & Tears (12/3) Radar Brothers (12/6) Angela Desveaux & the Mighty Ship, Erie Choir (12/8) Max Indian, The Old Ceremony, The Love Language (12/13) Dub Trio (12/16) Pinche Gringo, Dirty Little Heaters (12/20) Benji Hughes (12/26) Kerbloki, Red Collar, Hammer No More the Fingers (12/31)

RESERVOIR

The Travesties, Teh Vodak, The Fad (12/4) Transportation, Fin Fang Foom, Caltrop, Monsonia (12/6) IRATA, Battle Rockets, Goodbye Titan (12/18)

NIGHTLIGHT

Le Weekend, Crash, Actual Persons (12/4) Black Congo, Twin Tigers, Fertile Crescent, Remora (12/5) FrequeNC Records Night (12/6) Orphan, Whatever Brains Invisible Hand (12/11) Cantwell Gomez and Jordan, The Curtains of Night, Saint Peter Pocket Veto, Space Mammal (12/13) Jack Rose, Horseback (12/18) Blag'ard, Tin Star, Grey Young (12/19) Aquila, Count Von Count, APE!, Virgo 9 (12/20)

OPEN EYE CAFÉ

Saludos Company (12/12) Eric Scholz (12/13) Sawyer-Goldberg Ensemble (12/20)

LOCAL 506

- 11/28 FRI** BLANKFACE (reunion show) I WAS TOTALLY DESTROYING IT JOSH MOORE
- 11/29 SAT** MY RADIO / THE SUNDOWNERS
- 12/2 TUE** Cat's Cradle Presents HAYES CARLL JOHN EVANS BAND
- 12/3 WED** Zig-Zag Live Presents O'DEATH MEGAFUN / PRAYERS & TEARS (Perry solo)
- 12/4 THU** JUNIOR REVOLUTION / CLOTHING AND SHOES / GEOFF REGISTER (of Sleepsound)
- 12/5 FRI** BLACK SKIES / SEXY PRIME + DJ Steph Russ
- 12/6 SAT** Cat's Cradle Presents RADAR BROTHERS
- 12/7 SUN** 506 Music Trivia Night
- 12/8 MON** ANGELA DESVEAUX & THE MIGHTY SHIP / ERIE CHOIR
- 12/10 WED** Cat's Cradle Presents MATT STILLWELL
- 12/13 SAT** MAX INDIAN CD Release Show w/ THE OLD CEREMONY / THE LOVE LANGUAGE
- 12/16 TUE** DUB TRIO / AMERICAN BANG
- 12/18 THU** O'BROTHER
- 12/19 FRI** Indie Rock Karaoke
- 12/20 SAT** PINCHE GRINGO CHROME-PLATED APOSTLES
- 12/26 FRI** Early: BENJI HUGHES / CHARLES LATHAM
- 12/26 FRI** Late: Final Fridays Dance Party featuring KID KAMELEON / ONE DURAN
- 12/27 SAT** The Merch Holiday Party
- 12/31 WED** Local 506 Rockin' Eve with KERBLOKI RED COLLAR HAMMER NO MORE THE FINGERS
- 1/1/09 THU** JASON WEBLEY
- 1/4/09 SUN** POMPEII
- 1/6/09 TUE** DELETED SCENES / BUTTERFLIES
- 1/8/09 THU** CHRISTABEL & THE JONS
- 1/9/09 FRI** HELLRAZOR / THUNDERLIP ARMORED UPRISE
- 1/15/09 THU** Cat's Cradle Presents GOD'S POTTERY
- 1/16/09 FRI** THE EXPLORERS CLUB
- 1/17/09 SAT** LONGWAVE
- 1/20/09 TUE** HAMELL ON TRIAL
- 1/21/09 WED** Cat's Cradle Presents VIC CHESNUTT ELF POWER
- 1/25/09 SUN** COLOURMUSIC
- 1/30/09 FRI** Vinyl Records Showcase
- 1/31/09 SAT** FAN TAN
- 2/12/09 THU** MR. LIF
- 4/21/09 TUE** ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE SONIC SUICIDE SQUAD

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FR 11/28
MANCHESTER ORCHESTRA



WE 12/3
JAY CLIFFORD



FR 12/5
STEEP CANYON RANGERS



SA 12/6
RADAR BROS.
LOCAL 506



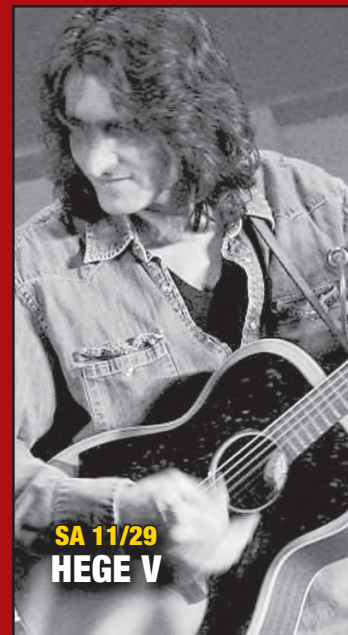
SU 11/30
FASTBALL

WE 11/26 PRE TURKEY DAY JAM: JON SHAIN, MARK SIMONSEN, DJANGO HASKINS, GREG HUMPHREYS (SONGWRITER SET); PIEDMONT SHEIKS; YOUNG NEIL AND THE DAMAGE DONE
FR 11/28 **(\$10/\$12)
MANCHESTER ORCHESTRA
W/DEAD CONFEDERATE, KEVIN DEVINE, ALL GET OUT
SA 11/29 THE BACKBEAT & HEGE V(\$9)**
SU 11/30 FASTBALL
W/JULE BROWN**(\$12/\$15)
MO 12/1 APS BENEFIT/SPOTTED DOG ANNIVERSARY(\$7/\$10):** VELVET, ROXCETERA, SNMNMNM, JEGHETTO
TU 12/2 HIGH & MIGHTIES
W/TIM SMITH BAND**(\$7/\$10)
PROCEEDS BENEFIT NC CHILDREN'S PROMISE

WE 12/3(\$10/\$13)**
JAY CLIFFORD
W/CROWFIELD AND OWEN BEVERLY
FR 12/5 STEEP CANYON RANGERS(\$10/\$12)**
W/SHANNON WHITWORTH
SA 12/6 YO MAMA'S BIG FAT BOOTY BAND(\$10)**
MO 12/8 GREEN LABEL SOUND & WKNC 88.1 PRESENTS MAT AND KIM: THE COOL KIDS(\$5)**
TU 12/9 OHGR(\$17/\$20)**
FROM SKINNY PUPPY
FR 12/12 BLUE BAYOU PRESENTS TAB BENOIT(\$18/\$20)**
SA 12/13 SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS
W/THE HALL MONITORS**(\$12/\$14)

SU 12/14 GORILLA SHOWCASE BATTLE OF THE BANDS FINAL
MO 12/15 TREKKY RECORDS PRESENTS CHRISTMAS AT THE CRADLE!
TREKKY YULETIDE ORCHESTRA AND MORE
SA 12/20 HOLIDAY GATHERING DEXTER AND THE NEW ROMANS, BIG FAT GAP, THE RAFTERS FREE SHOW!
SA 12/27 WINTER REGGAE JAM DUB ADDIS
W/ CRUCIAL FIYAH, JUNIOR P, CAYENNE THE LION KING**(\$8/\$10)
WE 12/31 HAPPY NEW YEAR! ABBEY ROAD LIVE!*(\$17.50/\$20)**
RING IN NEW YEARS WITH JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE & RINGO...

FR 1/9/09 FREE SHOW! CD RELEASE NORTH ELEMENTARY
W/KINGSBURY MANX, ERIE CHOIR, POPULAR KIDS
SA 1/10/09 COSMIC CHARLIE**
2 SETS OF GRATEFUL DEAD!
TH 1/15/09 VIRGINIA COALITION(\$10/\$12)**
FR 1/16/09 LOS CAMPESINOS
W/TITUS ANDRONICUS**(\$12/\$14)
SA 1/17/09 WHO'S BAD? (MICHAEL JACKSON TRIBUTE)**
FR 1/23/09(\$10/\$12) THE GOURDS**
SA 1/31/09 ANNUALS
W/JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD & WHAT LAURA SAYS**(\$10/\$12)
TU 3/24/09 CUT COPY
W/MATT & KIM**(\$16/\$18)



SA 11/29
HEGE V



SA 12/13
SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS



SA 11/29
THE BACKBEAT

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LOCAL 506 (CH)
TU 12/2 HAYES CARLL
W/JOHN EVANS BAND
SA 12/6 RADAR BROS.
WE 12/10 MATT STILLWELL
TU 12/16 DUB TRIO, AMERICAN BANG
TH 1/15/09 GOD'S POTTERY
WE 1/21/09 VIC CHESNUTT W/ELF POWER

THE ARTSCENTER (CAR)

WE 12/3 SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS
HOLIDAY BASH!
WE 3/11/09 KATHLEEN EDWARDS

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