

# MILL

A MONTHLY MUSIC, ARTS AND LITERATURE PUBLICATION  
OF THE CARRBORO CITIZEN VOL. 3 + NO. 3 + DECEMBER 2009



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# Triangle Youth Ballet

fifteenth anniversary season

## The Nutcracker

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Dec 12 & 13  
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Carolina Theatre  
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With the  
Tchaikovsky  
Virtuosi  
Orchestra

[triangleyouthballet.org](http://triangleyouthballet.org)

The Triangle Youth Ballet is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit and a member of Regional Dance America and Southeastern Regional Ballet Association.  
Photography by Catharine Carter.

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS 2009



## 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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# TRADITIONS

**F**amily time. That's the tradition this time of year. Some look forward to it, some dread it. Along with the feasts and gifts and songs, apprehension is woven through the season.

Many of us will hit the road at some point between now and the end of the year, and along the journey experience again the flood of emotions involved in returning home, of seeing the familiar haunts, how they've changed and how they remain unaltered.

For those of you leaning toward dread, I'll offer advice passed on to me many years ago and road tested.

A friend of mine and I were sitting on his farm one Thanksgiving talking about family and his recent efforts to reconnect with a much older family member. I mentioned I was considering the same. He leveled his gaze at me and said: "Better hurry."

And for those new couples trying to decide how to fulfill familial obligations that suddenly have multiplied exponentially: You know you can't do it all well, so go for quality over quantity and, most importantly, remember to start your own traditions and rituals. Claim



**MILL**

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a little of the season in honor of young love. This issue of MILL is full of traditions and rituals. Some are relatively new, like the ELF Fair of local arts and the wonderful Trecky Records Holiday show. Some are long-running local institutions, like the tree lightings, the Christmas parade and the annual performances of the Nutcracker by the Triangle Youth Ballet.

My fascination goes back even further — to the very ancientness of human behavior during this time of year in the northern hemisphere. The harvest is in and the hunting grounds are growing cold. We lay in supplies for the winter, share our bounty with others, tell tales around the fire and bring light to the long nights.

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# SHOPPERS' PARADISE



APRIL MCGREGOR

**Christmas.** There, we said it. Now that we've inoculated ourselves against any charges that this paper is another lefty participant in the war upon the above mentioned non-secular holiday, we present a brief survey of pleasing, locally produced art, jewelry, food and books.

We do this in order that you might better enjoy the custom of exchanging presents during Winter Holiday and in doing so provide benefit to the collective.

Comrades, if for some reason at the end of the month you might find yourself in, say, a traditional gift exchange, we recommend you consider buoying your peers who are laboring heroically in the fields of commerce, music, cooking and the arts.

In vigilance — THE EDITORS

## TEN GIFTS TO SHAKE YOUR WORLD

**WHAT:** Wild Things

**WHO:** Clay Carmichael

**WHERE:** Flyleaf Books, Chapel Hill;  
The Ink Spot, Carrboro

**HOW MUCH:** \$18.95

This local author won accolades for her picture books and is earning equal honors for her first young adult novel. *Publisher's Weekly's* Elizabeth Bird said, "This is a book that sucks you in with the storytelling, and doesn't loosen its grip until the very last page. Entirely enjoyable for kids and adults alike." See story on page 12.



THE BEAD STORE

**WHAT:** "Family Tree" Menorah

**WHO:** sculpture/mural artist Karen Rossi

**WHERE:** Gerrie & Co., University Mall

**HOW MUCH:** \$60

Commemorate the Hanukkah miracle with this colorful and whimsical menorah that features apples and happy Jewish relatives flying around to pick them for applesauce and latkes.

**WHAT:** Artful Dreidels

**WHO:** The Gary Rosenthal Company

**WHERE:** Gerrie & Co., University Mall

**HOW MUCH:** \$30 - \$60

These bright and sparkly tops feature gleaming dichroic glass (containing multiple tiny layers of metal oxides) in every color that will mesmerize as you spin to see who wins all!

**WHAT:** Jams, Preserves and Chutneys

**WHO:** April McGregor of The Farmer's Daughter

**WHERE:** Available at The Carrboro Farmer's Market

**HOW MUCH:** \$7-10

The names of these inventive products say it all — Sweet Potato-Blood Orange Butter, Blackberry-Rose Geranium Jam, Low-Country Pumpkin Chip Preserves, Strawberry Preserves, Strawberry Preserves with Black Pepper & Mint, Blueberry-Lemon Verbena Jam and many more.

**WHAT:** Trail Guides

**WHO:** Sustain Foundation

**WHERE:** Townsend, Bertram and Co., Carr Mill Mall

**HOW MUCH:** \$2-5

Take a hike. These maps of local trails and natural areas help support conservation organizations like Friends of Bolin Creek and the Haw River Assembly. A packet of all 12 guides goes for \$25

**WHAT:** Beads

**WHO:** The Bead Store, Carr Mill Mall

**HOW MUCH:** Various

The easiest way to customize your gift. You can put together a strand yourself or browse through the many works by the store staff. Newly relocated to Carr Mill Mall in the former Original Ornament space.



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Sat. by Appt.





ROSE ROSELY

**WHAT:** Give My Poor Heart Ease: Voices of the Mississippi Blues

**WHO:** William Ferris

**WHERE:** McIntyre's Fine Books, Bullshead Book Shop

**HOW MUCH:** \$35

A book, music CD and DVD of short films from Ferris' early years in the Delta documenting his native land. A rich look into the lives of the people who live the blues.

**WHAT:** Pita Bread

**WHERE:** Mediterranean Deli

**HOW MUCH:** \$1.99

The deli recently invested in its own pita oven and is churning out fresh breads using organic, kosher wheat, ground at Lindley Mills in Graham.

**WHAT:** Southern Fried Half-Baked Folk Art

**WHO:** Rose Rosely

**WHERE:** Seen at Gugulholf Bakery, 501 Diner

**HOW MUCH:** Various

Outsider art from just outside Carrboro. You can check in with Rose at [roserosely.com](http://roserosely.com) to make arrangements to visit the farm.

**WHAT:** Rapunzel

**WHO:** Mike Roig

**WHERE:** 100 Hillsborough St., Carrboro

**HOW MUCH:** \$900

If you ascribe to the "go big or go home" school of gift-giving, consider a kinetic sculpture made from welded recycled steel and finished in storybook colors. 37h x 32w x 16d.

## CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS AT UNIVERSITY MALL



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*Pet Photos with Santa*

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Center Court



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## THE EATER'S RANDOM GUIDE TO THANKSGIVING AND ITS AFTERMATH

Since this issue of MILL comes out just a day shy of The Eater's favorite food holiday (National Caper Day being a close second), there's little to be said about preparing the main course. By now, you've either got a bird in the hand or not.

If you're under any delusion that you can find a nice turkey on T-day, abandon hope. An expensive goose, maybe; but a decent, thawed roaster, doubtful.

Alternatives? Chicken never feels like the right replacement — kinda says "close, but no cigar." Get a nice big fish or ham or shape up some tofurkey. Whatever you decide, be sure to announce with confidence that you've decided to do something different this year.

### OYSTER DRESSING

As mentioned in the rather sappy introduction to this month's issue of MILL, there's a reason this is feasting season. It's not all the doing of Tisquantum & Co. or that A. Lincoln set aside a weekend in late November for prayer and thanksgiving.

It is the time, as the Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley reminded us, "When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock/ And you hear the kyouck and gobble of the struttin' turkey-cock."

So, yeah, just about anywhere along these latitudes you'll find folks preparing a big bird this time of year.

Here in our little corner of North America, we also have the benefit of coastal food traditions. The ocean currents have brought abundance

and the estuaries are teaming with oysters.

Other than raw and right out of the shell, which seems less and less popular these days, one of The Eater's favorite ways to prepare oysters is Flora columnist Ken Moore's technique. Ken prepares a fire in his fire pit. Once it's good and hot and has lots of coals, he lays a layer of ice down on a two-inch deep baking pan, spreads a batch of bivalves over it and plops a wet burlap sack on top.

The ice seems to help keep the oysters in moist smoke rather than stewing in too much water.

### PUNKIN' PIE AND CRANBERRY SAUCE

The Eater is split on these two food traditions, favoring the modern method for pie and the traditional for the sauce.

Apologies to those chefs willing to deal with the mess and time involved in using a fresh pumpkin, but the canned stuff is far more consistent in taste and texture.

Sauce from actual cranberries, however, doesn't take nearly as much effort. Boil them (nekkid or with some spices) until they pop. Strain them through a colander and add as much sugar as you like right along with any nuts, candied orange peel or whatevs.

### ANSWERING ODD INQUIRIES SINCE 1981

What Thanksgiving Day would be complete without someone in the family dialing the Butterball Hotline (1-800-BUTTERBALL) to settle an argument or deal with

an emergency turkey question. You can also visit them online at [nbutterball.com/contact-us](http://nbutterball.com/contact-us)

Reynolds Wrap also has an all-about-turkey site with lots of how-to videos, at [reynoldskitchens.com/](http://reynoldskitchens.com/)

And, if you're totally obsessed, you can visit the National Turkey Federation at [eatturkey.com](http://eatturkey.com)

There's also a few hundred what-to-do with leftovers suggestions between 'em.

### SAFETY FIRST

If you are going the big-bird route, please keep in mind that you are heating an object made of fat, protein and various assorted other parts to a few hundred degrees.

We've gotten more than one invite this season using a cheesecake (not the food, the genre) pose of the famous and glamorous Rachel Ray taking a turkey out of the oven. You may have seen it too. It illustrates perfectly what experts stress not to do when dealing with very warm poultry swimming in a pan full of hot liquids.

So, RR wannabe's be forewarned: First, when removing the bird from the oven you probably want to ditch the strappy high heels and the well-above-the-knee skirt for something with a little more coverage. And whether it is cousin Sam or some international playboy photographer snapping the shot, it's really a good idea to keep your eyes on the pan and the pan level.

Margot Lester has penned an article for UNC Health Care with Thanksgiving Day safety tips, including some tips for mitigating the effects of post-holiday shopping. You can read it at [unchealthcare.org/site/newsroom/news/2009/November/thanksgiving/](http://unchealthcare.org/site/newsroom/news/2009/November/thanksgiving/)

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## DANCE SPOTLIGHT



### NUTCRACKER

The Triangle Youth Ballet presents its 15th season performing Tchaikovsky's classic children's ballet, *The Nutcracker*. The Chapel Hill performances are Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. at Chapel Hill High School.

There also will be live music this year. Under the direction of UNC adjunct music professor Andrew McAfee, the Youth Ballet will have its own orchestra drawn from area professional musicians. The N.C. Boys Choir also will be part of the performance. The core cast of dancers is comprised of high school students, many of whom aspire to careers in dance, selected through open auditions in August. The rest of the cast are children, selected through open auditions in September, and parents, who round out the party scene.

For a schedule of all performances and directions on how to buy tickets, visit [triangleyouthballet.org](http://triangleyouthballet.org)

*Lantern*

**DINNER MON - SAT**  
**5:30 - 10PM**  
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Food & Wine

## FILM SPOTLIGHT

### PERSEPOLIS



The Carrboro Century Center will present *Persepolis* this Saturday at 7 p.m. in Century Hall. *Persepolis* is an animated feature from Iran based on Marjane Satrapi's autobiographical graphic novel of the same name. The film was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Animated Feature in 2007. *Persepolis* is the tale of a spirited young woman who spends her life trying to deal with the consequences of her nation's history. Satrapi co-wrote the screenplay and co-directed the film with animator Vincent Paronnaud. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. \$4 per person, and free popcorn and soda are provided.

## ON TAP AT THE BREWERY

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*Lantern*



11/27

### POST TURKEY DAY JAM

Cat's Cradle

Featuring Katherine Whalen's Lucky, Old Habits, Jon Shain, Will McFarlane, Danny Gotham and Armand Lenchek. 8pm \$10

### JOHN HOWIE JR & THE ROSEWOOD BLUFF

The Cave

With The Darnell Woodies. 10pm

11/29

### THE QUEERS POP TOUR

Local 506

Featuring, naturally, The Queens with The Leftovers and Malamondos. 9pm \$10

11/30

### DAVE RAWLINGS MACHINE

Cat's Cradle

With Gillian Welch. 9pm \$20

12/01

### BURRITO BASH

General Store Cafe

Fundraiser to support El Vinculo Hispano & Chatham County Together with live music, dancing, food, auctions and more. 6pm \$12/\$15

### JAY REATARD

Local 506

Bad boy is here. Americans in France and Western Civ open. 9pm \$10/\$12.

31



DAVE RAWLINGS MACHINE 11/30 Cat's Cradle

12/02

### VIVA CHRISTMAS

Cat's Cradle

Featuring Los Straitjackets with El Vez and Killer Filler. 9:30pm \$14-\$16

### TRIANGLE JAZZ ORCHESTRA NIGHT

The ArtsCenter

A free holiday concert from this 17 piece big band. 7:45pm

12/04-12/05

### ANNIVERSARY SHOW

Reservoir

FRIDAY: Death Came Down the Mountain, Curtains of Night, Minor Stars and Orphan

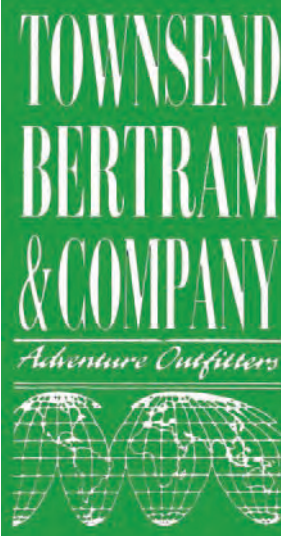
SATURDAY: Transportation, Fin Fang Foom, Caltrop and Monsonia

12/05

### SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS

Cat's Cradle

Mary, Dave and Rick celebrate a southern fried holiday. With Mad Tea Party and Pinche Gringo 9:30pm \$12/14



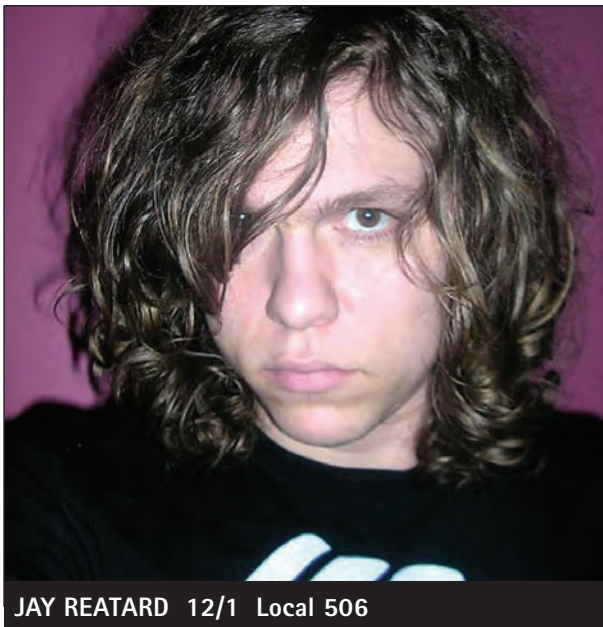
## Lighting of the Royal Post Oak Tree

This year's lighting of the Royal Post Oak Tree outside Townsend Bertram and Company is dedicated to the continued health of the tree.



We are dedicated to saving this historic landmark and ask you to help by keeping the Royal Post Oak Tree in your thoughts this **holiday season**





JAY REATARD 12/1 Local 506

### TRIANGLE JEWISH CHORALE

Hillel House  
Rishie Barroff Memorial Concert, featuring works by Brazilian Jewish composers.

12/05-06

### NUTCRACKER CAROLINA BALLET

Memorial Hall  
Three performances of this holiday classic. 2pm and 8 pm Saturday and 2 pm Sunday. carolinaperformingarts.org.

12/06

### RAEKWON

Cat's Cradle  
Of the Wu Tang Clan. Come find out what's cookin'. Capone-N-Noreaga and Queen Yonasda open. 9:30pm \$17/\$20

12/11

### HOLIDAY SHOW

Local 506  
Big festive show with The Love Language, Max

Indian, Ryan Gustafson, Mount Moriah, The Light Pines, Jeff Crawford, Josh Moore, The Tomahawks and Twelve Thousand Armies. 9pm \$8-\$10

12/11

### A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES

The ArtsCenter  
The Youth Performing Arts Conservatory and ArtsCenter Stage team up to present Dylan Thomas' classic tale. Visit ArtsCenterlive.org for times \$10

12/12

### HOLIDAY PARADE

Bands, floats and you-know-who make the annual trip from Morehead Planetarium to Carrboro Town Hall 10am-12 noon

### CHRISTMAS SHOW

General Store Cafe  
Tommy Edwards and friends gather round for their annual holiday festival. 8:30pm \$5



VIOLET VECTOR & THE LOVELY LOVELIES  
NEW YEAR'S EVE Cat's Cradle

### REDBIRD ROUND

The ArtsCenter  
Alice Gerrard, Laurelyn Dossett and Diana Jones sing their songs and tell their stories. 7:30pm \$15

### ELF ARTS AND CRAFTS HOLIDAY FAIR

The ArtsCenter  
The third annual Arts and Crafts fair at the ArtsCenter. 1-6pm

12/12-12/13

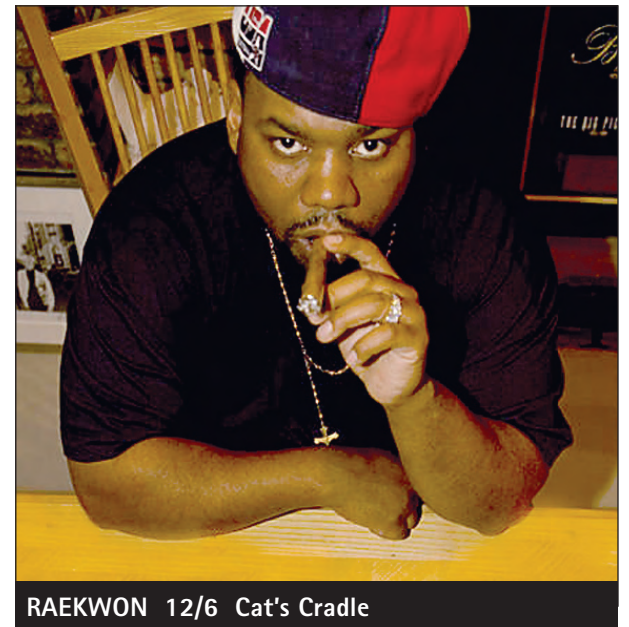
### HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

Seven historic homes decked out for the season. Visit chapelhillpreservation.com for times and tickets.

12/15

### CHRISTMAS AT THE CRADLE

Trekky Records 4th annual holiday bash. Christmas carols Carrboro style. Featuring the Trekky Yuletide Orchestra, Dex Romweber and much more. 7:30pm \$8-\$10



RAEKWON 12/6 Cat's Cradle

12/18-19

### CHAPEL HILL COMMUNITY CHORUS

Hill Hall  
This year's show is "Deck the Halls, the Old World & the New." 8pm \$15, \$6 students

12/19

### HOLIDAY HONKY TONK & BURLESQUE SHOW

Local 506  
With The Whiskey Smugglers, The Pneurotics, Gambling The Muse. 10pm \$6

12/26

### THE MERCH HOLIDAY PARTY

Local 506  
You never know who's behind the mask when Chip and Patrick throw a party. 10pm \$10



12/31

### BILLY PRICE AND THE KEYSTONE RHYTHM BANDS

Cat's Cradle  
9:30pm \$TBA

### THE LOVE LANGUAGE VIOLET VECTOR & THE LOVELY LOVELIES DIRTY LITTLE HEATERS

Local 506  
New Year's Eve Party with house DJ Craig Powell 9:30pm \$8



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## Artistic Advertising\* Opportunities Abound.

Deadline for January issue is December 22nd.

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# TOURING THE ARTS IN CHATHAM



LARA O'KEEFE

BY S.E. POHLIG

The Chatham County Artists Guild is hosting its 17th annual studio tour Dec. 5-6 and 12-13. The tour will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Saturdays and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the Sundays. It is organized and funded by the artists themselves. A preview of works by Chatham Artists Guild tour members will be on display at The ArtsCenter in Carrboro from Nov. 18 to Dec. 14.

While the open studio tour has become a holiday tradition, this year's tour isn't just a repeat of last year's. "Seven new artists will be participating," says Guild president Forrest Greenslade, "including nationally renowned illustrator Emma Skurnick, wood furniture maker David Botts, stoneware potter Lara O'Keefe, iron and steel forger Peter Ross, oil and acrylics painter Deborah Sanks, wood turner Michael Thompson and jeweler Mariah Wheeler."

Skurnick, in particular, is an exciting addition to the tour. She has contributed nature illustrations for American Scientist Magazine, the Brooklyn Botanical Garden, the North Carolina Aquariums and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. She teaches illustration and design courses at Central Carolina Community College, The ArtsCenter and the N.C. Botanical Garden.

Skurnick writes: "My hope is to have the viewers of my paintings share a bit of this joy and pleasure. By making modest animals large – by painting a toad or songbird three feet tall – perhaps I can startle people into appreciating the world we tend to pass by. By isolating the fox or the lily against a simple white background, perhaps I can allow us to see some of what we miss as we speed along. And by granting these creatures a bit of personality and humor, maybe I can convince a viewer to slow down and consider the beings with whom we share our space."

## MILL CALENDAR

### LITERARY

#### CARRBORO BRANCH LIBRARY

**Ongoing Events** — Storytime, Saturdays at 10:30am; Toddler Time, Thursdays, 4pm; Entertainment Adventures with family fun programs featuring dancing, song, animals, and sometimes magic, third Sunday of every month at 3pm.

#### CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Ongoing Events** — 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; Teen Book Club, for teens in grades 6 and up; Bookworms Club, for grades 3-6, each month children in this program read and discuss different novels from a list of titles nominated for the NC Children's Book Award. Dates and times vary.

**Signsations** — A selection of contemporary and holiday songs performed in sign language by kids ages 8-13. Dec. 5, 3-4pm in the Meeting Room. Pre-registration required.

**Rags to Riches: Puss in Boots** — A high-energy theatrical production for children and their families. Pre-register at the Children's Desk or by calling 968-2778. Dec. 13, 3-3:45pm.

**Meet-the-Author Tea: Erica Eisdorfer** — Author of *The Wet Nurse's Tale*. Dec. 18, 3:30-5pm in the Meeting Room.

**Story/Craft Program** — A craft program for kids in grades K-5 held one Sunday afternoon a month. Call 968-2778 to sign up, Dec. 20, 3-3:45pm.

**Friends Book Sale: Bag Sale** — Nov. 14, 9am-4pm; Nov. 15 1-4pm.

**Evening Book Discussion Group** — *White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga, Nov. 16, 7pm in the Conference Room.

**Pajama Story Time** — Children are invited to put on their pajamas, grab a favorite stuffed friend, and come hear stories about going to bed, Dec. 30, 7-7:30pm. chapelhillpubliclibrary.org

#### CYBRARY

**Movie/Book Club** — The group will discuss *New Moon* by Stephenie Meyer. This book is part two of the *Twilight Saga*. The movie came out in theaters Nov. 20. Dec. 3, 7pm.

100 N. Greensboro St., 918-7387, cybrary@co.orange.nc.us, co.orange.nc.us/library/cybrary

#### MCINTYRE'S

**Author Events** — Judith Koll Healey reads from *The Rebel Princess*, Dec. 6, 2pm; Nancy Gotter Gates reads from *Sand Castles*, Dec. 12, 11am; Moreton Neal, Chapel Hill resident and food editor of Raleigh's *Metro Magazine* discusses the area's first *Food Lover's Guide to Chapel Hill and Orange County* Dec. 18, 2pm.

**Literary Open Mic Night** — All are welcome. Listeners are always needed, even critics. Call Pete for details or to sign up at 542-3030.

**Holiday Storytelling with Donald Davis** — Davis has been visiting Fearrington to spin his tales for over 18 years and is one of the foremost storytellers in the country. Instead of admission, guests are asked to donate cans of food which will be given to Chatham County's Outreach Alliance 2000 Village Center, Pittsboro. 542-3030

### DANCE

#### PARTICIPATORY

**Ballroom** — Fourth and fifth Thursdays, 7-9:30pm. Seymour Senior Center, 2551 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill. \$2, 968-2070

**Carrboro DanceJam** — Free-style dance. First Fridays, 8pm, Balanced Movement Studio, 304 W Weaver St., upstairs. 968-8776

**Contra Dance** — First Saturday dance sponsored by FootLoose/Contrazz. Dec. 5, 8pm, Carrboro Century Center, \$9. TCDancers.org

**Contra Dance** — Caller is Bree Kalb and Elftone will perform, Dec. 11, Carrboro Century Center.

**Contra Dance** — Third Friday dance sponsored by Carolina Dance Association with Buz Lloyd, Dec. 18, 7:30pm, \$8

**Square Dance** — NC Squares old time square dance with live music by fiddler Alice Gerrard, and caller Fred Park. Dec. 19, 7:30m Carrboro Century Center, ncsquares.com

**Contra Dance** — Carolina Song and Dance Association presents a community contra dance with live music by Linda Cooper and the Donnybrook Lads with special guest piper John McHugh, Dec. 18, 8pm (7:30pm lesson), Carrboro Century Center. \$8. csda-dance.org

**Ballroom Dance** — second Saturday of every month, recorded music Triangle Stardusters, 8-11pm, \$7 Stardusters members and students, \$12 others. Couples and singles are welcome, Fred Astaire Dance Studio, 4702 Garrett Road, Durham. 942-7232

#### LESSONS

**Salsa/Mambo** — Third Saturdays, lesson 8pm, dance

8:30-11pm. Fred Astaire Dance Studio, 4702 Garrett Road, Durham. \$7, salsa\_4u2@yahoo.com, 358-4201

### THEATER

#### THE ARTSCENTER

**Transactors Improv: Holiday Extravaganza** — Every year Transactors marks the holidays with a musical show containing lots of surprises and 100% certified organic improvisational theatre. Dec. 5, 8pm, \$14, \$12 friends, \$7 students.

**A Child's Christmas in Wales** — The Youth Performing Arts Conservatory and ArtsCenter Stage team up to present Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales* beginning Dec. 12, 7pm, \$10, \$8 friends and students. For additional dates, check artscenterlive.org

#### DEEP DISH THEATER

**A Christmas Carol** — For one night only, Dr. Marc Napolitano presents an intimate, dramatic reading of the seasonal classic, *A Christmas Carol*, Friday, Dec. 11 at 8pm at University Mall. deepdishtheater.org for more info.

#### PLAYMAKERS REPERTORY COMPANY

**Nicholas Nickleby** — From the novel by Charles Dickens, David Edgar's adapts for the stage. Showing until Dec. 20, check [playmakersrep.org/](http://playmakersrep.org/) for dates and times.

#### DSI COMEDY

[dsicomedytheater.com](http://dsicomedytheater.com), 200 N. Greensboro St. 225-6330

#### FILM





Another new and exciting aspect of this season's tour is the opening reception at the Pittsboro campus of Central Carolina Community College on Friday Dec. 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. Daniel Gottlieb, the North Carolina Museum of Art's director of planning and design, who is currently masterminding the move of the museum's entire collection to new facilities, will be judging artworks from more than 50 Chatham County artists. Chef Gretchen Niver, also a guild glass artist, will be providing elegant refreshments. The event is free to the public.

The Chatham County Studio Tour is an opportunity to personally experience the creative process with regionally and nationally recognized artists. It offers an experience that doesn't compare to merely viewing a body of work in a gallery. The studio tour is a holiday treat for all tastes.

Visit [chathamstudiotour.com/home.html](http://chathamstudiotour.com/home.html) for a studio tour brochure and map.




## The ArtsCenter

*Always Inspiring*

For more information  
or to order tickets  
call 929.2787 x201 or  
go to [artscenterlive.org](http://artscenterlive.org)

300 G East Main Street  
Carrboro, NC 27510

 Look for us on Facebook.

### DECEMBER CONCERTS

#### Triangle Jazz Orchestra.

Wed, Dec. 2, 7:45 p.m.

17-piece band composed of enthusiastic musicians from across the Triangle. They love and play the legendary music Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Count Basie, and Duke Ellington, as well as more recent jazz and blues tunes. FREE.

#### Girlyman.

Fri., Dec. 4, 8:30 p.m.

Girlyman's east coast CD release tour for the new album 'Everything's Easy' hits The ArtsCenter: Girlyman's fourth studio album, is the band's most intimate and sophisticated effort. Much of Girlyman's rare appeal is a willingness to see the shadow side of its own idealism. Visit Girlyman's YouTube channel: [youtube.com/girlymanvideos](http://youtube.com/girlymanvideos)

#### Redbird Round: Alice Gerrard, Laurelyn Dossett & Diana Jones

Sat., Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. at University Mall.

Inspired by the "In the Round" sessions at the Bluebird Cafe in Nashville, these award-winning writers will perform together and take turns singing songs and telling the stories behind them. \$15, \$13 ArtsCenter Members

#### 7th Annual American Roots Series.

Tickets go on sale Fri, Nov. 27 at 10 a.m.

Popular concert series returns, featuring an eclectic mix of the best in American Music, such as Karla Bonoff. Visit on line at [www.artscenterlive.org](http://www.artscenterlive.org).

### DECEMBER THEATER

#### SuperFun Show: Rainbow Bridge presented by Hobey Ford's Golden Rod Puppets.

Sat., Dec. 5, 11 a.m.

Known for his skillful storytelling and innovative puppetry, Ford brings to life three folktales through his unique style, combining stunning puppetry, storytelling and educational themes. The show ends with a special performance of his Peepers Puppet, which brings the bare hand to life with a myriad of creatures and his famous life-like animal puppets called "foamies." Suggested for K-6th Grade. \$7 (children 2 and under free)

#### Transactors Improv: Holiday Extravaganza.

Sat., Dec. 5, 8 p.m.

Every year Transactors marks the holidays with a musical show containing lots of surprises – from multiple simultaneous miraculous births on stage to a surfing Santa to bringing home a gift refrigerator on the subway. Celebrate the ups and downs of the holidays with Transactors' 100% certified organic improvisational theatre. \$14, \$12 Members, \$7 Students

#### Dylan Thomas' A Child's Christmas in Wales.

Dec. 11-13, 18-20 Fri-Sat. 7 pm, Sun. 3 pm.

This Christmas will be unlike any other. Join us in the ice-cream hills for all the tall tales, balloons, dessertspoons, tinsled windows, fire brigades and tons and tons of useless presents. We'll leave a footprint so big, "people will think there's been hippos"! \$10 Adults, \$8 Members and Students

### DECEMBER EVENTS

#### Pack the Pantry. Continues.

Through Sun., Dec. 20.

Bring your canned food donations and enter to win a drawing for free tickets to The ArtsCenter events. All food donated to the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC.

#### Festival of Trees.

December 3-6.

The ArtsCenter at University Mall. Join The Arc of Orange County with a special celebration of the holiday season with a room filled with over 30 trees and 15 wreaths, and so much more. And, of course, The ArtsCenter will have our own tree.

#### ELF Craft Fair.

Sat., Dec. 12, 1-6 p.m.

Support local artisans as you do your holiday shopping in an inspiring way! Complete with plenty of music, crafts and lots of Holiday Cheer! (And Santa of course.) For details, call our Box Office at 929.2787 Ext 201.

#### After School Arts Immersion.

#### Celebrate the Season: African Dance with Kamu Mimy.

Nov. 30-Dec. 11.

#### Holiday-themed Coloring Books with Shelley Hehenberger

Dec. 14-18.

For After School Kids only, but it is never too late to sign up. Call 929.2787 ext 201 and ask.



# GROWING UP WILD

BY VICKY DICKSON

Years ago, when my children were young, the "Young Adult" section of the library was a frustrating place, since it seemed to be predominantly filled with books (about horses, say, or middle-school intrigues) that just didn't seem worth checking out.

So I'm thrilled to have discovered *Wild Things*, a recently published first novel by Chapel Hill native and Carrboro resident Clay Carmichael. Since the book has an 11-year-old protagonist (and doesn't contain any expletives that would, according to Carmichael's editor, "keep [it] out of some libraries in Texas"), it's been slotted into the young-adult category. But it's really a book all ages can enjoy. And they will.

*Wild Things* is told from two points of view: that of a young girl who's raised herself, having never been able to trust the adults in her life, and that of a feral cat. In the



wrong hands, those elements could be a set-up for a syrupy mess of a novel, but Carmichael's skillful writing is devoid of sentimental clichés, and her fast-moving plot is compelling. Her characters are three-dimensional people you want to get to know.

One of those characters won't be unfamiliar to Carrboro residents who've enjoyed viewing the sculptures that sprout in the yard Carmichael shares with her artist husband Mike Roig. Carmichael's use of Roig as an inspiration for her orphan-protagonist's newly discovered uncle lends authenticity to her descriptions of that character's work. And in a

most beguiling case of life imitating art (or art imitating art?), Roig actually made a sculpture modeled on one that appears in the book.

Carmichael's talents aren't limited to novels; she's written and illustrated three award-winning picture books for younger children (*Bear at the Beach*, *Used-Up Bear* and *Lonesome Bear*.) These books are also works that adults can enjoy, perhaps due in part to Carmichael's talents as a poet, which she studied at UNC, earning highest honors. Though poems and picture books might seem miles apart, Carmichael points out that they demand a similar precision in word choice, as well as a visual orientation.

One of the nicest compliments Carmichael's ever received came when a parent told her, referring to *Bear at the Beach*, "I like that your stories aren't predictable." The same could be said of *Wild Things*, maybe because Carmichael generally begins writing without a fixed idea of what will happen to her characters.

"For me," she says, "writing is a daily adventure.... I like to wake up and come to the story and see what happens."

Readers, young and old, who embark on that adventure with her will

be richly rewarded.

Since December's a busy month, put the sixth annual "Tea with Lee" on your calendars now. Scheduled for Dec. 3 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Foster's Market in Chapel Hill, the event features Lee Smith and her guest Frances Mayes (of *Under the Tuscan Sun* fame). It's a fundraiser for the Chapel Hill Women's Center and tickets (\$50) can be purchased online at [womenspace.org/indindex.html](http://womenspace.org/indindex.html) or by calling 968-4610.

Foodies will want to check out the new *Food Lover's Guide to Chapel Hill and Orange County*, which was written by Moreton Neal and illustrated by Laura Frankstone, and published by the Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau. Neal and Frankstone (who are both Chapel Hill residents) will be at McIntyre's in Farrington Village at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18, to discuss their book. For information on the Food Lovers Guide, contact the visitors bureau at 968-2060.

It's hard to believe it's already time to think about holiday shopping. For those (like me) for whom such shopping is more chore than pleasure, here are some suggestions to make it easier, while supporting the local literary scene:

\*Readers who are short-story fans might appreciate the compendium *Long Story Short*, a great overview of North Carolina writers. There's also Nic Brown's *Floodmarkers*, an intriguing series of interconnected stories that take place in a single day, and Wells Tower's brilliant portrayal of people down on their luck, *Everything Ravaged, Everything Burned*.

\*Clay Carmichael's *Wild Things* (see above), should appeal to readers aged 9 and up, while her picture books would make great gifts for the younger set.

\*For lovers of historical novels, there's Erica Eisdorfer's fast-paced and engaging *The Wet Nurse's Tale*.

\*For music lovers, check out Bill Ferris's fascinating *Give My Poor Heart Ease: Voices of the Mississippi Blues*.

\*And finally, the obvious choice for sports fans, Roy Williams' *Hard Work: A Life On and Off the Court*  
Happy Holidays!

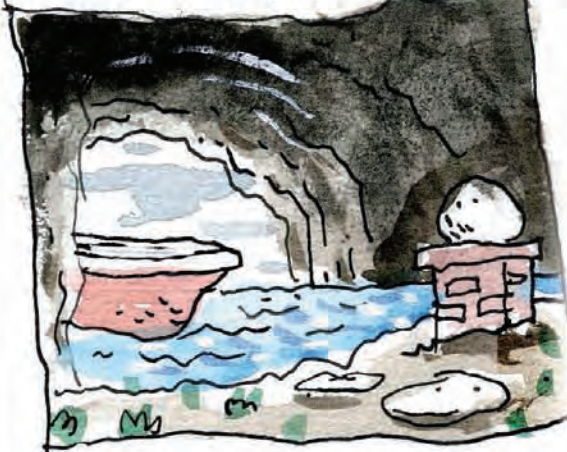


# A DREAM, RAIN AND MUSIC

ABOUT ONCE A MONTH, I DREAM ABOUT CARRBORO....

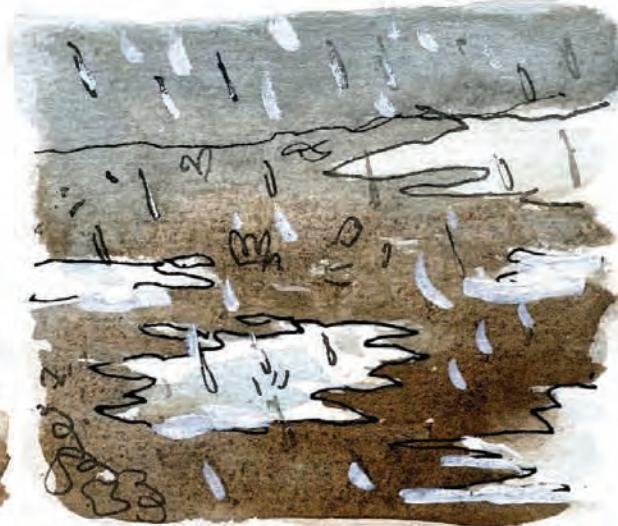


THIS CARRBORO HAS A SECRET PORT...



IT ALWAYS ENDS THE SAME...

WHY HAVEN'T I DRAWN THIS BEFORE!?



MY WIFE'S ANCESTORS CAME THROUGH ORANGE COUNTY LONG AGO...



HER GREAT GREAT GRAND-FATHER TAUGHT SINGING...



ON SOME LEVEL, ALL MUSIC IS ABOUT REMEMBERING.



ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK



**orange county social club**



**carrboro daily 4-2 933-0669**

## MUSIC CALENDAR

### THE ARTSCENTER

Triangle Jazz Orchestra (12/2) Girlyman (12/4) Redbird Round: Alice Gerrard, Laurelyn Dossertt, Diana Jones (12/12)

### BLUE BAYOU CLUB

Will Baker Et Sticky Wickets (11/25) Chatham County Slim Et Papa Mike (11/28) Bleu Matics (12/2) John Saylor (12/3) Adrian Duke (12/4) Willie Painter Band (12/5) Didact (12/9) Souless Dogs (12/10) Tinsley Ellis (12/11) Fat Bastard Blues Band (12/12)

### CAT'S CRADLE

Katharine Whalen's Lucky, Old Habits, Jon Shain, Will McFarlane, Danny Gotham and Armand

Lenchek (11/27) L In Japanese (11/28) Emilie Autumn (11/29) Dave Rawlings Machine (11/30) Los Straitjackets, El Vez, Killer Filler (12/2) Mike Posner, Big Sean (12/3) Raekwon, Capone-N-Noreaga, Queen Yonasda (12/6) Brendan Benson, Cory Chisel (12/10) The Movement, Shawn Fisher (12/11) Family Dollar Band (12/12) Swaso, Stranger Spirits, Robert Sledge and the Flashlight Assembly (12/13) Street Dogs, Roger Miret and the Disasters, Stigma (12/14) Trekky Yuletide Orchestra, Dexter Romweber, Stuart McLamb, Des Ark, Whatever Brains, Organos, Veelee, Birds and Arrows, Mount Weather (12/15) Winter Reggae Jam (12/26)

### THE CAVE

The Pneurotics, Simeon (11/25) Danny Mason, Fuse Band (11/27) Davis Stillson, John Howie Jr. and The Rosewood Bluff, The Darnell Woodies (11/28) Drama Queens (11/29) Lizzy Ross, Jason Waller (12/2) Puritan Rodeo, Robobilly, Pink Flag, Studio Gangster, Future Islands (12/4) Sid Blake (12/9) Mahoney (12/10) Ashley Adkins Band, Mandolin Orange, Big Fat Gap (12/11) Star FK Radium, Embarrassing Fruits, Bambara, Reed Benjamin (12/12) Bobby's Fever (12/16) Pagan Hellcats, Evil Weiner (12/19) The Astronomers, Where The Buffalo Roamed, Doombunny (12/21) Jam Watson's 22nd Annual X-Mas Show (12/22)

## LOCAL 506

- 11/27 FRI** Rockin' Ammonia Karaoke
- 11/28 SAT** FAKE PROBLEMS / BOBBY'S FEVER
- 11/29 SUN** The Queers Pop Tour: THE QUEERS THE LEFTOVERS / THE MALAMONDOS
- 12/1 TUE** JAY REATARD / AMERICANS IN FRANCE WESTERN CIV
- 12/2 WED** REAL ESTATE / IT IS RAIN IN MY FACE
- 12/3 THU** Project Dinah Benefit Concert with RADIO SILENT AUCTION / JOHN DOE & THE RUNNERS / MARY JOHNSON ROCKERS
- 12/4 FRI** DTH Diversions Showcase: LONNIE WALKER I WAS TOTALLY DESTROYING IT / AMINAL
- 12/5 SAT** LAND OF TALK / OLD BRICKS
- 12/6 SUN** LOST IN THE TREES / THE TODDLERS
- 12/9 WED** BILL CALLAHAN / LIGHTS / NEIL MORGAN
- 12/10 THU** THE NEW FAMILIARS / CORDUROY ROAD CORNMEAL
- 12/11 FRI** Drug Horse Cartel Holiday Show THE SUNDOWNERS / MAX INDIAN RYAN GUSTAFSON / MT. MORIAH / THE LOVE LANGUAGE / THE LIGHT PINES / JEFF CRAWFORD / JOSH MOORE / TWELVE THOUSAND ARMIES / THE TOMAHAWKS
- 12/12 SAT** BENJI HUGHES
- 12/14 MON** THE WHIGS / THE FEATURES / MEAN CREEK
- 12/15 TUE** CAGE
- 12/17 THU** JONAS SEES IN COLOR GOSSIP GROWS ON TREES
- 12/18 FRI** WXYC Tower Party
- 12/19 SAT** Holiday Honky Tonk & Burlesque Show with THE WHISKEY SMUGGLERS / THE PNEUROTICS GAMBLING THE MUSE plus Miss Mary Wanna
- 12/26 SAT** The Merch Holiday Party
- 12/31 THU** THE LOVE LANGUAGE VIOLET VECTOR & THE LOVELY LOVELIES DIRTY LITTLE HEATERS
- 1/9 SAT** TRANSPORTATION / NORTH ELEMENTARY THE LIBRARY / ADAM PRICE & MATT McMICHAELS
- 1/13 WED** JEMINA PEARL
- 1/16 SAT** MOVITS
- 1/23 SAT** MATT HIRES / JASON CASTRO
- 1/28 THU** MOLINA & JOHSON / CHRIS BROKAW
- 4/11 SUN** ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE OVER-GAIN OPTIMAL DEATH

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## MUSIC SPOTLIGHT

### TREKKY RECORDS PRESENTS CHRISTMAS AT THE CRADLE 2009

What started as a spontaneous holiday collaboration in 2006 has grown into a cherished local tradition. The fourth annual local-music-holiday-variety-charity-celebration will be held at Cat's Cradle on Dec. 15, and will benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, as it has since its inception.

The Trekky Yuletide Orchestra, a 25-plus-member holiday super-group comprised of members of the Trekky Records Collective, will open up the event as usual and will be joined by The Love Language, Des Ark, Whatever Brains, Organos, Veelee, Birds and Arrows and Mount Weather. The show will be hosted by Billy Sugarfix.

In addition to the music, there will be free snacks and drinks, a charity raffle with prizes from wonderful local businesses, classic holiday films and a visit from Santa Claus.

Doors open at 7. Show starts at 7:30 p.m. \$8 in advance. \$10 day of.



TREKKY YULETIDE ORCHESTRA 12/15 Cat's Cradle



#### GENERAL STORE CAFÉ

Pratie Heads (11/27) Lonesome Heart Band (11/28) Jazz-beau (12/3) Jonathan Byrd, Greg Humphries (12/4) Triolgy (12/5) Funkuponya (12/10) Shamrockers (12/11) Tommy Edwards (12/12) Tony Gailani Band (12/17) Left on Franklin (12/18) Hindugrass (12/19) Marie Vanderbeck Quartet (

#### HARRY'S MAR/KET

Tad Dreis (12/18)

#### LOCAL 506

Little Dragon, Motor Skills, Lands of Wonder (11/25) Fake Problems, Bobby's Fever (11/28) The Queers, The Left-overs, The Malamondos (11/29) Jay Reatard, Americans in France, Western Civ (12/1) Real Estate, It Is Rain in My Face (12/2) Radio Silent Auction, John Doe and The Runners, Mary Johnson Rockers (12/3) Lonnie Walker, I Was Totally Destroying It, Aminimal (12/4) Land of Talk, old Bricks (12/5) Lost In The Trees, The Toddlers (12/6) Bill Callahan, Lights, Neil Morgan (12/9) The New Familiars (12/10)

The Sundowners, The Love Language, Max Indian, Ryan Gustafson, Mount Moriah, The Light Pines, Jeff Crawford, Josh Moore, The Tomahawks, Twelve Thousand Armies (12/11) Benji Hughes (12/12) The Whigs, The Features, Mean Creek (12/14) Cage (12/15) The Whiskey Smugglers, The Pneurotics, Gambling The Muse (12/19) The Love Language, Violet Vector and The Lovely Lovelies, Dirty Little Heaters (12/31)

#### NIGHTLIGHT

Butterflies, Ah Holly Family, Ohioan (11/25) Mark Holland's Rhythm Force (11/28) Tiny Concept, Secret Boyfriend, Big Nuss, Ca\$h \$lave Clinque (11/30) Graveyard Fields, Peter Squires, Lady Fingers (12/2) Cursillistas, Ghost Hand, Layne Garrett (12/05) Physics of Meaning (12/11) Juan Huevos, Wet Mango, Ex-Monkeys, Andy the Doormouse (12/12) Monsonia, 97-Shiki (12/16) Tickle Feather, Veelee, My Empty Phantom, Mike Dillon (12/17) Ghost to Falco, Inspector 22 (12/19)



TINSLEY ELLIS 12/11 Blue Bayou

## MUSIC

### SPOTLIGHT



## S.C.O.T.S. TO ROCK THE CRADLE FOR IFC



SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS 12/5 Cat's Cradle

Southern Culture on the Skids will be playing Dec. 5 at Cat's Cradle with Mad Tea Party and Pinche Gringo. Proceeds will benefit the IFC Food Pantry. If a food donation is made the night of the show, \$1 of your ticket price will be donated to the Food Pantry.

As most familiar with the local music scene know, S.C.O.T.S. brings a hybrid of Americana, surf, R&B, rockabilly and swamp pop. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. and the show starts at 9:30. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$14 the day of the show.

#### OPEN EYE CAFÉ

Patrick Dyer Wolf (11/27) Chris Hendricks (11/28) John Chasteen (12/5) Luckys Starlight Lounge (12/11) Lisa Furukawa (12/12) Sawyer-Goldberg Ensemble (12/19) Shaktown (12/26)

#### RESERVOIR

Death Came Down the Mountain, Curtains of Night, Minor Stars, Orphan (12/4) Transportation, Fin Fang Foom, Caltrop, Monsonia (12/5)

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Carol Woods - Magnolia Klezmer Band (12/2) St. Paul AME - Christmas Cantata (12/13) United Church of Chapel Hill - Christmas Concert (12/6)



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**FR 11/27 POST TURKEY DAY JAM:**  
**KATHERINE WHALEN'S LUCKY, OLD HABITS, JON SHAIN, WILL MCFARLANE, DANNY GOTHAM AND ARMAND LENCHECK**  
**PROCEEDS BENEFIT INTER FAITH COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICES**

**SA 11/28**  
**L IN JAPANESE DANCE PARTY**

**SU 11/29 AN EVENING WITH EMILIE AUTUMN\*\*(\$15)**

**MO 11/30 DAVE RAWLINGS MACHINE\*\*(\$20)**

**TU 12/1 NEW FOUND GLORY HAS CANCELLED**

**WE 12/2 EL VEZ / LOS STRAITJACKETS**  
**CHRISTMAS SHOW**  
**W/SPECIAL GUEST KILLER FILLER\*\*(\$14/\$16)**

**TH 12/3 MIKE POSNER**  
**W/BIG SEAN\*\*(\$15)**

**FR 12/4 WXYC 80S DANCE\*\***  
**SA 12/5**

**SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS W/MAD TEA PARTY AND PINCHE GRINGO\*\*(\$12/\$14)**

**SU 12/6\*\*(\$17/\$20)**  
**RAEKWON**  
**W/CAPONE, NOREAGA AND QUEEN YONASDA**

**TH 12/10**  
**BRENDAN BENSON**  
**W/COREY CHISEL\*\*(\$15)**

**FR 12/11\*\*(\$10/\$12)**  
**THE MOVEMENT**  
**W/SHAWN FISHER**

**SA 12/12**  
**SALUTE TO PETE ROCK, & DJ PREMIER**  
**FEATURING SKYZOO, TYLER WOODS, BIG REMO, KAZE & MANY MORE**  
**AFTER PARTY FEATURING 9TH WONDER**

**SU 12/13 SWASO, STRANGER SPIRITS, ROBERT SLEDGE AND FLASHLIGHT ASSEMBLY\*\***

**MO 12/14 STREET DOGS W/ROGER MIRET AND THE DISASTERS, STIGMA\*\*(\$12)**

**SA 12/15 TREKKY**

**RECORDS PRESENTS: CHRISTMAS AT THE CRADLE 2009**  
**W/TREKKY YULETIDE ORCHESTRA & MUCH MORE\*\*(\$8/\$10)**

**SA 12/26 WINTER REGGAE JAM\*\*(\$8/\$10)**  
**DUB ADDIS & CRUCIAL**

**SU 1/10/2010\*\*(\$15/\$17)**  
**RJD2**

**FR 1/15/2010**  
**THE OLD CEREMONY\*\*(\$10)**

**SA 1/16/2010**  
**WHO'S BAD?\***

**SU 1/17/2010**  
**DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND\*\*(\$15)**

**TU 2/2 AND WE 2/3/2010\*\***  
**CITIZEN COPE**  
**TWO SHOWS**

**TU 2/9/2010**  
**JONATHAN RICHMAN\*\*(\$10/\$12)**

**TH 2/11/2010\*\*(\$25)**  
**BRANDI CARLILE**

**SU 2/28/2010**  
**NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL-STARS\*\*(\$16/\$18)**

**CATSCRADLE.COM ★ 919.967.9053 ★ 300 E. MAIN STREET**

**\*\*ASTERISKS DENOTE ADVANCE TICKETS @ SCHOOL KIDS RECORDS IN RALEIGH, CD ALLEY IN CHAPEL HILL, KATIE'S PRETZELS IN CARRBORO ★ ORDER TIX ONLINE AT ETIX.COM ★ WE SERVE CAROLINA BREWERY BEER ON TAP! ★ WE ARE A NON-SMOKING CLUB**

Happy  
Holidays



THE CARRBORO  
CITIZEN

Your locally owned and operated  
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