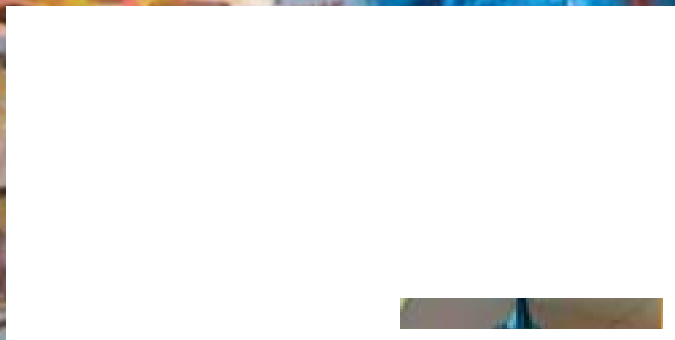


Carolina country



Our Hispanic Neighbors



ALSO INSIDE:

Princeville Rises Again

Taking a look six years after the flood

The Adventures of Roe and Amos Lanier

Bath Turns 300

Celebrating North Carolina's oldest town

Is that really Dale Earnhardt Jr.? See page 22 for celebrity look-alikes.



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(800) 662-8835
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Editor
Michael E.C. Gery, (800/662-8835 ext. 3062)

Senior Associate Editor
Renee C. Gannon, CCC (800/662-8835 ext. 3209)

Contributing Editor
Karen Olson House, (800/662-8835 ext. 3036)

Editorial Intern
Michelle Eggleston

Creative Director
Tara Verna, (800/662-8835 ext. 3134)

Senior Graphic Designer
Warren Kessler, (800/662-8835 ext. 3090)

Contributing Graphic Designer
Dan Kurtz

Business Coordinator
Jenny Lloyd, (800/662-8835 ext. 3091)

Advertising Manager
Jennifer Boedart Hoey, (800/662-8835 ext. 3077)

Executive Vice President & CEO
Chuck Terrill

Senior Vice President, Corporate Relations
Nelle Hotchkiss

North Carolina's electric cooperatives provide reliable, safe and affordable electric service to 850,000 homes, farms and businesses in North Carolina. The 27 electric cooperatives are each member-owned, not-for-profit and overseen by a board of directors elected by the membership.

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Hispanic residents are a growing part of our economy and our electric cooperatives. Irais Martinez Viveros and her sons Russell and Ruben visit "El Mercado" Tienda Mexicana in Randolph County. (Villa Photography/Asheboro)



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By Ray Rogers

His people remembered and hung his portrait

When you entered a lot of homes in the rural South in the 1930s and 1940s, you might very well see on the wall a picture of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It was there for a reason. He had affected families greatly by taking drastic moves to rescue the nation from the Great Depression, as well as being our wartime president in World War II. But it was more than that. President Franklin D. Roosevelt had created the REA (Rural Electrification Administration) and turned on the lights for farmers all over our country.

What was it like to have no light switches, no refrigeration, no radios, no television and no air conditioning? There were a few battery-operated radios, and neighbors would gather around these rare radio sets to hear FDR's famous fireside chats. It would be an occasion. They were about as popular as the heavyweight boxing matches of Joe Louis and "The Amos 'n' Andy Show."

I was fortunate to have experienced life without electric lights when I went to visit my grandparents, John and Elizabeth Rogers, during the summers when they needed help on the farm in the Crabtree community of Haywood County. After we came in from the fields and fed and watered the horses and put them in the barn, we sat down for supper. Supper usually consisted of leftovers from dinner. Dinner was the noon meal and was the big meal of the day. Actually, perhaps this was the way God intended it to be, a big meal at noon and a light meal before you went to bed. You worked off the calories in the fields in the afternoon, and nobody worried about eating too much at the evening meal.

After supper we sat on the front porch as the sun went down and relaxed and talked, and I listened to the stories—family stories, community stories. After darkness set in, we soon lit the kerosene lamps and went upstairs to bed. There was no watching the evening news on TV, because we had no TV. We had no radio. We had no electricity. But we did have good conversation, and some say that this is a lost experience.

Grandfather Rogers frequently cautioned us about the lamps. One fall with a lamp, one mishap, and a kerosene-flamed fire could burn the house to the ground. Fire departments were in town and too far away to help. There were no phones to call them anyway.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the REA-enabling legislation on May 11, 1935.

We didn't even have iceboxes like some people in town used to refrigerate their food. So Uncle John and Uncle Jack Rogers devised a way to keep the milk and other food cool. They piped cool mountain spring water into a concrete trace (or large pan) in the basement. We placed the milk, butter and leftover food into crocks and set them in the trace-way. Cool water running around the crocks kept the food cool. Not as convenient as a refrigerator in the kitchen and not as efficient,


but better than what most people had. Most people had a springhouse nearby to serve this purpose, while some people put their food into a large bucket and lowered it down to the cool water in the bottom of the well. I remember that our Uncle Mason Medford had an especially fancy springhouse.

It was a big event when electricity came to the Crabtree community via the REA and FDR. Grandmother got her first refrigerator! The General Electric model with the round motor on top was

placed in the dining room. No place had been anticipated for a refrigerator in the kitchen and there was no room there. It stood on curved legs about six-to-eight inches off the floor in an apparent attempt to make it look like a piece of furniture.

The best thing about the refrigerator was that grandmother could make me ice cream in the ice trays. She bought packages of ice-cream mix that she stirred into cream and froze in the trays. For a 10-year-old boy, this was nothing short of fantastic! Prior to this we might get ice cream at the drugstore when we got to go to town only a few times each year.

Electric lights usually meant a bare bulb hanging from the ceiling, but this alone was really great! No more dangerous, smelly kerosene lamps. Just flip a switch or, more likely, pull a chain, and the room lit up. You could even read at night in comfort instead of squinting to read by a flickering lamp or candlelight. Thank you, Mr. Roosevelt!

Now the farmers and the country people could enjoy conveniences long enjoyed by the city and town folk. Yep, I reckon it's not surprising that FDR served more terms than any other president. His people remembered and they hung his picture on the wall where all could see how they felt. 

Ray Rogers lives in Georgia. His uncle John Rogers served on the Haywood EMC board of directors from Aug. 21, 1985 through June 19, 1991.

Thanks to Lumbee River EMC

One day I asked my grandfather when was the first time he could remember being on Lumbee River Electric and he said it was around 1940. He lived in a one-room shack built on the back of his landlord's barn. He said he tended the farm on "thirds." Some people might not know what this means, but my grandfather got a third of the profits and the landlord got two-thirds. He said it was one of the richest crops he had in his farming years.

He said before there was electricity in this area he worked for the company that cut rights of way for power lines.

My grandparents now own 18 acres of the land they farmed back then. There are five generations now living on this land and serviced by Lumbee River EMC.

My grandparents are 91 years old. My grandma still walks to the road to get the paper, and my grandfather drives to the doctor once a month. Thanks for giving all of these five generations great service.

*Lorraine Oxendine
Lumberton*

Remember picking potatoes?

Remember dark brown sandy dirt, hot to touch? Your feet almost disappearing as you tried to run between the rows of potatoes? The big baskets stacked up ready to gather? Following behind the plow, picking up the potatoes as fast as you could as though it was a game to fill your basket, wondering if you were ever going to get the last basket filled? Hands feeling like you were wearing gloves of dirt? Hot sun setting in the distance as you started the next row? Watching brother as he filled his basket twice as fast? Feeling the reward as Maw and Paw told us we were good workers? And the cold water from the ladle outside the well?

*Sandra Mosteller
Lincolnton, Rutherford EMC*

Watching sparrows fledge

Here are three phases of our baby sparrows as we watched them grow and leave the nest.

My daughter Caitlyn was out in the front yard practicing her gymnastics routine with her little brother, Christopher, when she noticed our cat stalking something in a bush close to the house. She chased the cat away and found a nest with newly hatched baby birds. From that moment on we became attached to the little helpless birds. We would look in on them several times a day, even while the mother sparrow was sitting on the nest. I was able, without bothering the nest, to peak in and take a picture.

I felt so honored that she would let us observe the babies.

Every morning the kids and I would check on them first thing with a sigh of relief knowing nothing bothered them during the night.

Their short stay was from late May until the day they left the nest in mid-June. It seems like such a short time before they are able to leave the nest, but all animals must be able to fend for themselves soon after they are born.

We may never see this again since we are constantly being surrounded by subdivisions, even though we live out in the country.

*Christine Hawkins
Youngsville, Wake Electric*



Photo Credit

The photograph on the cover of the July Carolina Country showing the Sanctuary Vineyards of Currituck County was by photographer Brooke Mayo, who is based on the Outer Banks. Visit www.brookemayo.com

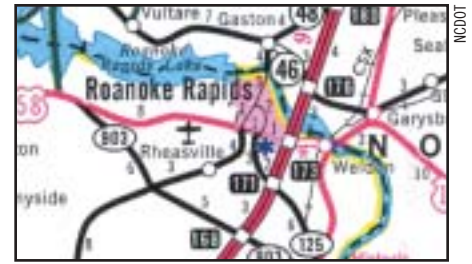
Contact us

Web site: www.carolinacountry.com
E-mail: Carolina.country@ncemcs.com
Phone: (919) 875-3062
Fax: (919) 878-3970
Mail: 3400 Sumner Blvd.
 Raleigh, NC 27616

Electric safety during storms

Seguridad eléctrica durante las tormentas

- ▶ Make sure flashlight and radio batteries are fresh.
- ▶ Make sure you have a supply of medicine, first-aid supplies and baby items.
- ▶ Homeowners with wells should draw an emergency water supply in case power to their electric water pumps is interrupted.
- ▶ Keep a supply of bottled water, non-perishable food items, batteries and firewood on hand.
- ▶ If you evacuate, shut off your electricity at the fuse box and/or breaker box. When you return, check for electrical damage, such as frayed wires, downed power lines, sparks or the smell of hot or burned insulation. An electrician must repair damage inside your house. Your electric cooperative can only hook up power to your house. Co-op personnel cannot repair your fuse or breaker box or make repairs on or inside your house.
- ▶ Turn off your heating and air conditioning systems, as well as your electric range. Unplug sensitive electronic appliances such as TVs, VCRs, microwave ovens and computers. This will protect your appliances against power fluctuations that can occur when power is restored. Be sure to wait five to ten minutes before turning on appliances and heating systems after power is restored. This may prevent possible damage if you're away when the power is restored.
- ▶ If power lines and poles are down in your yard or in the street, always treat them as if they were energized and dangerous. Never touch them! Stay away. Call your electric cooperative to report the location so repairs can be made as soon as possible.
- ▶ If your power is out following a storm and you must cook food with Sterno or charcoal, remember to do so outside in a well-ventilated area. Cooking indoors with Sterno or charcoal will produce deadly carbon-monoxide fumes.
- ▶ Asegúrese de que las baterías de las lámparas de mano y de los radios estén cargadas.
- ▶ Tenga una provisión adecuada de medicamentos, suministros de primeros auxilios y artículos para bebés.
- ▶ Los dueños de casa que tengan pozo de agua potable deben sacar una reserva de agua de emergencia en caso de que el suministro eléctrico a las bombas de agua se interrumpa.
- ▶ Tenga a mano una provisión de agua embotellada, alimentos no perecederos, baterías y leña.
- ▶ Si evacua su casa, corte el suministro de energía eléctrica en la caja de fusibles o de interruptores automáticos. Cuando vuelva, vea si hay daños eléctricos, tales como cables desgastados, cables de alta tensión caídos, chispas u olor a aislamiento recalentado o quemado. El daño dentro de su casa debe ser reparado por un electricista. La cooperativa de electricidad sólo puede conectar el suministro eléctrico a su casa. El personal de la cooperativa de electricidad no puede reparar la caja de fusibles o de interruptores automáticos ni hacer reparaciones dentro de su casa.
- ▶ Apague la calefacción y el aire acondicionado y también la estufa eléctrica. Desenchufe los aparatos electrónicos sensibles, tales como el televisor, la videocasetera, el horno de microondas y la computadora. Esto protege los aparatos contra las variaciones de voltaje que se pueden producir cuando se reanuda el suministro eléctrico. Cerciórese de esperar de cinco a diez minutos antes de volver a enchufar los aparatos y el sistema de calefacción después de que se reanude el suministro eléctrico. Esto puede evitar daños si usted no está presente cuando se reanude el suministro eléctrico.
- ▶ Si hay cables de alta tensión y postes caídos en su jardín o en la calle, tráelos siempre como si estuvieran electrificados y fueran peligrosos. No los toque nunca! Aléjese. Llame a la cooperativa de electricidad para dar a conocer la ubicación de los cables de alta tensión caídos a fin de que la cooperativa de electricidad pueda hacer las reparaciones lo más pronto posible.
- ▶ Si no tiene electricidad después de una tormenta y debe cocinar alimentos con combustible Sterno® o carbón, recuerde hacerlo fuera en un área bien ventilada. El cocinar dentro de la casa con Sterno® o carbón puede producir vapores mortales de monóxido de carbono.



The new music theater and entertainment district will be located along Interstate 95 in the vicinity of Exit 171 in Roanoke Rapids.

Entertainment complex planned for Roanoke Rapids

Country music artist Randy Parton inked a deal with private developers and the city of Roanoke Rapids to develop a music theater and entertainment district to be located along Interstate 95 in the vicinity of Exit 171 in Roanoke Rapids.

Roanoke Electric Cooperative, based in Rich Square, will serve the electric power requirements of the complex.

The development represents a music and entertainment venue that developers say will become a nationally recognized travel destination, similar to Branson, Mo.

The anchor of the entertainment district will be The Randy Parton Theater. The proposed 35,000-square-foot, 1,500-seat theater will host the legends of The Grand Ole Opry, as well as other concerts and shows. The project planners say it will be a \$129 million investment and create more than 2,595 new jobs.

During the past year, North Carolina's Northeast Partnership worked with Randy Parton, brother of megastar Dolly Parton, to determine the viability for development of music and entertainment venues in North Carolina's northeast region. They found the 700-acre site to be an attractive location.

Spurred by the announcement of the Roanoke Rapids Entertainment District, a group of marine life experts announced plans to open a \$14 million ocean-themed theater in Roanoke Rapids. The theater will feature several aquariums, a variety of hands-on educational exhibits, as well as various ocean-themed movies.

The opening of the ocean-themed theater and the Randy Parton complex is scheduled for the spring of 2007.

Visit www.ncnortheast.com and www.visitncne.com to learn more.

WHERE IN CAROLINA COUNTRY IS THIS? ↗



August/Agosto

The Winner:

The August magazine's scene showed the Nethaway pasture and the hay and storage sheds near the farm's barn on Cane Creek Mountain Road in Union Mills, just off US 64 in Rutherford County and served by Rutherford EMC. Douglas and Carol Nethaway bought the farm in 1998 after the previous owner, Ralph Boone, passed away. They raise about 30 to 35 cross-bred beef cows, their calves and replacement heifers. Correct answers were numbered and the \$25 winner chosen at random was Barbara Miller of Bostic, Rutherford EMC.

El ganador:

En el paisaje de la edición de agosto de la revista se mostró el campo de pastoreo de Nethaway y los cobertizos para heno y almacenaje cercanos al granero de la finca en Cane Creek Mountain Road, ubicado en Union Mills, cerca a una salida de la carretera interestatal US 64 en el condado de Rutherford, el cual recibe servicios de Rutherford EMC, la compañía de servicios eléctricos de Rutherford. Douglas y Carol Nethaway compraron la finca en 1998 luego de que falleciera Ralph Boone, el propietario anterior. Ellos crían entre 30 y 35 cabezas de ganado vacuno de engorda, sus becerros y las vaquillonas de reemplazo. Se contaron las respuestas correctas y el ganador de \$25 escogido al azar fue Barbara Miller of Bostic, Rutherford EMC.

This is a Carolina Country scene in Touchstone Energy territory. If you know where it is, send your answer by September 7 with your name, address, phone number and the name of your electric cooperative.

By e-mail: Carolina.country@ncemcs.com

Or by mail: Where in Carolina Country?
P.O. Box 27306
Raleigh, NC 27611.

The winner, chosen at random and announced in our October issue, will receive \$25.

¿En dónde se ubica este lugar?

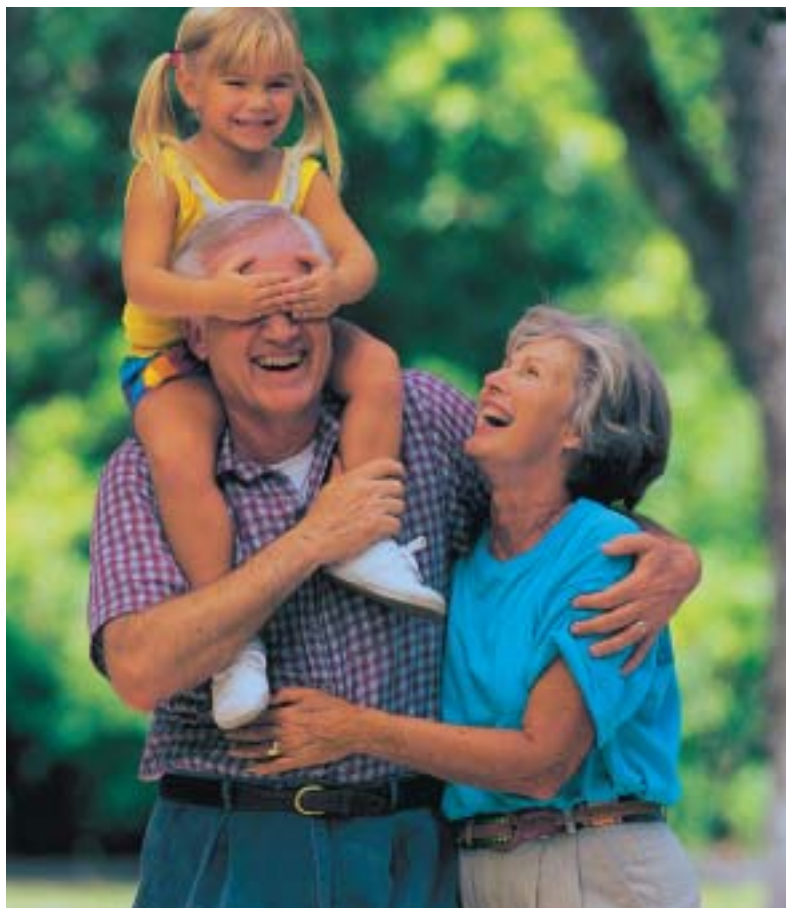
La fotografía muestra una vista rural del estado de Carolina que se encuentra en el territorio de servicio de la compañía Touchstone Energy. Si usted sabe en dónde se ubica el lugar que aparece en la foto, envíe su respuesta antes del 7° de septiembre anotando su nombre, dirección, número telefónico y el nombre de su cooperativa de electricidad. También la puede enviar por correo electrónico a: Carolina.country@ncemcs.com; o bien, por correo ordinario a: Where in Carolina Country? P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611

El ganador, que será seleccionado al azar y anunciado en nuestra publicación de octubre, recibirá \$25.

Over 65?

Expect a Flurry of Mail about Medicare Part D

By Ann Smith



Medicare, the federal government's health insurance program primarily for people age 65 or over, is launching its new prescription drug benefit effective Jan. 1, 2006.

If eligible for Medicare, you will be receiving mail from the private health plans and insurance companies in your area, and from any former employers who offered retiree benefits.

Key features of Medicare Part D

The standard or basic Part D plan will look like this:


- ▶ A monthly premium, averaging around \$35 per month.
- ▶ An annual deductible of \$250.
- ▶ You pay 25 percent between \$250 and \$2,250 in drug costs during the year.
- ▶ You pay 100 percent between \$2,250–\$5,100 in drug costs during the year. This is the “coverage gap.”
- ▶ You pay 5 percent of the cost after you exceed \$5,100 in drug costs during the year. This is the catastrophic coverage level.

Since the plans are being offered by private entities, some plans may provide options with better benefits. However, Medicare requires that you pay \$3,600 in out-of-pocket expenses during the year, not counting the monthly premium, before you are eligible for catastrophic coverage.

You may be covered by only one Part D plan at a time. You may change from one plan to another during open enrollment each year. During this first year, open enrollment will be held from Nov. 15, 2005 through May 15, 2006.

You do not have to enroll in any plan—it's your choice. While you are still working, you may be covered by your employer's health plan that provides a prescription drug benefit. Or, you may be covered by a spouse's plan.

Be careful, however. If you are not covered for prescription drugs by another plan—such as your employer's plan or your spouse's plan—you will pay a penalty if you enroll for Part D after May 16, 2006. This penalty is required by Medicare and is one percent per month for each month that you are eligible for Medicare and do not have prescription drug coverage. The penalty will not start until after the initial enrollment period expires on May 15, 2006.

For more information, visit the Medicare Web site at www.medicare.gov, or call Medicare at (800) 633-4227. 

Ann Smith writes about insurance and financial services topics for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Know Your Medicare ABCs and now Part D

Medicare consists of various parts. You are automatically enrolled in some, others you have to take an action to enroll or drop that benefit. You share the cost in the form of premiums, coinsurance and deductibles.

Medicare Part A is the hospital benefit. You are automatically enrolled if you are receiving Social Security benefits. Otherwise you should enroll in this benefit during the seven-month period starting three months before your 65th birthday. There is no premium but you do have some out-of-pocket expenses.

Medicare Part B covers physician visits, outpatient services and durable medical equipment. You are automatically enrolled in this benefit when you enroll in Part A. There is a monthly premium and you pay certain out-of-pocket expenses. You have to drop out if you do not want the coverage.

Together Part A and Part B form what is known as “original Medicare” or “traditional Medicare.”

Medicare Part C (now known as Medicare MA for Medicare Advantage) is a substitute for Parts A & B. If enrolled in this plan, you get all your services and benefits through one source, such as an HMO. A premium is required and you have to choose to enroll in this coverage.

Medicare Part D is the new prescription drug coverage that goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2006. The plans are provided by private health plans or insurance companies. A premium is required and you have to enroll in a plan to be covered.

HISPANIC NEIGHBORS

ARE A GROWING PART OF OUR RURAL COMMUNITIES

As Latinos blend into the North Carolina economy and culture, Touchstone Energy cooperatives reach out to Hispanic members

Text by Rick Martinez | Photos by Villa photography of Asheboro

The signs of North Carolina's changing face are everywhere. Sometimes they're subtle, such as running across a Spanish-language station when scanning the radio dial. Other times they're as literal as the signs over the hundreds of tiendas and mercados that dot the rural landscape.

"I used to say North Carolina was an emerging Latino state," said Andrea Bazan Manson, founding executive director of El Pueblo Inc., the state's largest Hispanic advocacy group. "But I don't say that anymore. Hispanics have arrived and we're an important part of the state."

The numbers prove her point. State census data says that in 1990 the state was home to 76,726 Hispanics. By 2000, that number exploded to 378,963—a jump of 393 percent. No other state had a higher growth rate during the 1990s. The latest U.S. census estimate (2003) pegs the state's Hispanic population at 456,334, but conventional wisdom among advocates and public officials is today's number probably tops 500,000.

It's no secret that many Hispanic immigrants in North Carolina and elsewhere are here illegally. Why they remain undocumented is a complex question. U.S. immigration policy makes it relatively difficult for most low-skilled Latin Americans to legally migrate here. Businesses that hire illegal immigrants (which is against the law) typically do so unknowingly because they cannot determine the authenticity of documents and employment information provided by applicants.

Hispanics have flocked to North Carolina for the same reason most folks have come to the state: jobs. Manual-labor



Carlos Delgado (above), a customer service specialist at Piedmont Electric, is a trusted friend and advisor for the co-op's Spanish-speaking members.

Photo at right: Inside a Randolph County market (mercado), Veronica Martinez Albarra and her children Yulissa and Donald.

jobs in the construction, agriculture, textile, manufacturing, maintenance, services and hospitality sectors have fueled North Carolina's explosive Hispanic population growth, according to Dr. Nolo Martinez, of the Center for New North Carolinians at UNC-Greensboro.

A look at the state's Hispanic population distribution confirms Martinez's observation. Counties with the highest percentage of Hispanics—Duplin, Lee, Sampson, Montgomery and Chatham—remain rural, with strong manufacturing and agricultural economic sectors. The wealth of jobs in construction, landscaping, maintenance, food service and hospitality industries in Mecklenburg,



Wake, Cumberland, Forsyth and Durham has attracted many Latinos to those urban areas.

COOPERATIVES RESPOND

The dramatic rise in North Carolina's Latino population—particularly the



A Selig Center study reports that North Carolina's Hispanic community represented \$8.8 billion in buying power in 2004, and that is expected to double in four years.

Left and above: Young Russell Viveros is with cashier Robert Avilla inside "El Mercado" Tienda Mexicana in Randolph County. Russell leaves the stores with his mother, Irais Martinez Viveros, and brother Ruben.

influx of undocumented immigrants—has impacted the state's member-owned Touchstone Energy cooperatives. According to the Pew Hispanic Center in Washington, D.C., the undocumented population is estimated at 300,000. Only about 43 percent of these immigrants are fluent in English, according to a report on Hispanics in the South released this summer by the Pew Hispanic Center. To serve this growing community, a number of electric cooperatives have hired Spanish-speaking customer service representatives like Carlos Delgado, a native of El Salvador who immigrated to this country as a child and later served in the U.S. Navy.

Delgado is Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation's point man for Spanish-speaking members. Initially, he helps them set up accounts. However, he's also become a trusted friend since approximately 95 percent of the cooperatives'

Latino members come to Piedmont's Orange County home office to pay their light bill. They invariably ask for Carlos and because of this one-to-one contact, Delgado has developed into a defacto energy advisor and community information source. "Even those who know English like to do business in Spanish," Delgado explained of the personal interaction favored by Latinos. "And there are times when I'll use Spanish to better communicate a procedure or concept that may be new to them. People generally understand better in their native language."

Cooperatives are also finding that Spanish speakers are a beneficial resource in Hispanic neighborhoods. Union Power Cooperative, based in Monroe, learned that fact when it hired ABC Professional Tree Services for its right-of-way maintenance program. ABC crew chief Will Ortiz is a native Puerto Rican and bilingual. Union Power General Manager

Hispanics in Randolph County

A Snapshot

Population growth 1990–2000:

up 925% to 8,646

Percent of county population:

6%

Employment growth 1990–2000:

up 1,470%

Percent who work in textiles and furniture:

67%

Sources: U.S. Census 2000; Pew Hispanic Study, July 2005

Tony Herrin said Ortiz's language skills have proved invaluable in a variety of operational situations.

"There are times when we have Spanish-speaking members who don't understand why our trucks are outside their home and our crews aren't able to communicate what they need to in English," Herrin said. "Will has been



very good at dropping what he's doing to come over and help us with the (language) problem. There are some definite advantages in having bilingual people on your work force."

The cooperatives' bilingual efforts have gone beyond the spoken word. Fifteen electric cooperatives pooled resources to produce and distribute a convenient and comprehensive English/Spanish brochure that focuses on electric safety, emergency preparedness and child safety. Initially, the publication was in Spanish only, but Spanish-speaking members later requested a bilingual format to help them learn English. The bilingual edition has been so helpful, it's being used as a model by other electric cooperatives across the nation and additional bilingual projects are under development here at home.

LEARNING ENGLISH IS A PRIORITY

Community leaders and advocates have told cooperative officials that learning English is among the top priorities of Spanish-speaking immigrants. To help the Latin community become proficient, the electric cooperatives and their state association have helped stage "Dia de Los Ninos (children)/Dia de Los Libros (books)" celebrations at libraries, schools and community centers across the state.

The celebrations commemorate Dia de Los Ninos or Children's Day, which is celebrated in Latin America much like Mother's Day and Father's Day are observed in the United States. Dia celebrations are open to all and feature international music and art, ethnic foods and story-telling. Each child is

given free bilingual books and adults are introduced to resources that will help them bridge the language gap.

"Dia is another demonstration of the cooperative's commitment to the communities we serve," said Nelle Hotchkiss, a senior vice president with the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives. "Most importantly, it introduces to Hispanic members the importance electric cooperatives place on literacy and education."

Extensive research by the Pew Hispanic Center and the Kaiser Family Foundation has determined English fluency is a prime factor in Latino assimilation into U.S. culture. In a nutshell, their studies show the more English a Hispanic person knows, the more likely it is their values reflect the American mainstream. However, learning English is a considerable obstacle for many undocumented immigrants, perhaps because few received much formal education in their home countries. In contrast, English proficiency is not a problem for U.S.-born Latinos. Pew-Kaiser found virtually all second-generation Hispanics in the U.S. are English-fluent and half are bilingual. English becomes the dominant language by the third generation. In fact Latinos who don't speak Spanish are among the fastest-growing groups in the American Hispanic community.

Welcoming new people, and now new cultures, has always been part of the co-op tradition. It also makes good business sense. Hispanics are becoming a major economic force both nationally and in North Carolina. In 2004, the buying power of Hispanics was \$686 billion, according to the University of Georgia's Selig Center for Economic Growth. In North Carolina, the survey pegged Latino buying power at \$8.8 billion, and it is predicted to nearly double to \$17.3 billion in only four years. Ultimately, the Selig Center predicts Hispanics will wield the largest economic stick among America's minorities, perhaps as early as 2005.

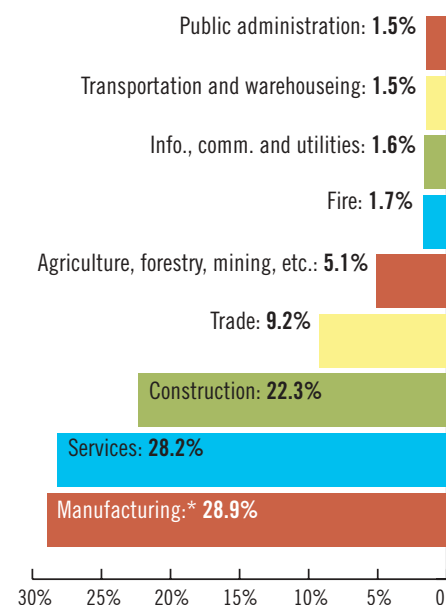
While census and economic numbers are telling, values that have long been part of the electric cooperative tradition are revealing a far more important story about North Carolina's future. El Pueblo's Bazan Manson said that primarily because of one-to-one contact, rural North

Carolinians and Hispanics have developed a mutual respect and appreciation.

"Farmers have come up to me and said if it were not for Latinos, they wouldn't have a business," she said. "And I have been at Latino birthday parties where the "patron" (farm owner) and his children are there not because he is the patron, (pronounced pah-throne) but because he has become part of the extended family."

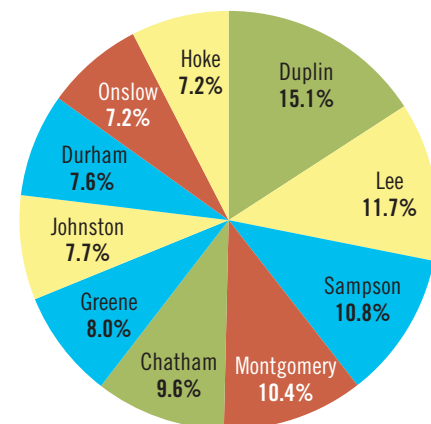
Rick Martinez is a freelance writer and member of Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation. He lives in Hillsborough and can be reached at rickjmartinez2@verizon.net.

North Carolina Distribution of Hispanic Workers by Industry



*Poultry processing is considered manufacturing
Source: Pew Hispanic Center, July 2005

N.C. Counties With the Highest Percentage of Hispanic Population



Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Princeville Rises Again

Six years after the flood of Hurricane Floyd destroyed most of Princeville's buildings and much of its will, the town is once again rebuilding itself step by step.

By Ryan Whirty

Many residents were frustrated and even cynical, but most remained dedicated to the welfare of the town.

Surrounded by a foreboding chain-link fence and unruly weeds and scrub grass, Calvin and I stood in front of the decaying building, Princeville's old town hall, once the home of a vibrant and sometimes troubled municipal democracy. Now it's just an empty husk, hollowed out by the devastating flood of Hurricane Floyd in 1999 and subsequent years of indifference.

In the mid-1990s I had cut my teeth as both a journalist and a grown-up at the old Princeville town hall. It was at that structure where I learned the nuances of reporting and the enduring nature of the human spirit. It was, as Calvin told, "our old stomping grounds," but it was also a lot more. It was the place where he and I forged an unbreakable bond, and the place where I learned how humanity can sink to very low depths and still rise again.

I covered the town of Princeville for The Daily Southerner newspaper for a year and a half. My first week on the job I learned that Princeville was the first town in the country founded by African Americans. Immediately after the Civil War in 1865 freed slaves formed the Freedom Hill community here and in 1885 they incorporated the town of Princeville, named for resident Turner Prince. My first week on the job I learned how important this history is to Princeville. And I soon learned how much the town had overcome since the late 1800s—repeated floods, governmental corruption, financial ruin, unyielding scorn and covert racism.

My first week on the job I also learned that Calvin Adkins, a Princeville native and fellow staffer at the Southerner, was one of the finest people I would ever meet. To me, he personified all the promise of greatness that Princeville held.

"That's what's great about this town," Calvin told me. "It keeps getting knocked down, but it always gets back up."

The stages of recovery

Samuel Knight spent a long career in the Army before he steeled himself for battle again. He is now Princeville's planning and zoning officer, and its interim town manager. Today he can work from the community's shiny new, sky-blue town hall—a structure that ironically was made possible by the 1999 flood and the federal government's rebuilding aid that flowed to the town after the waters receded. Knight says that Princeville is about 70 to 80 percent recovered from the deluge. The town has advanced through the first three stages of its five-stage recovery plan: to guarantee air, water and soil quality; secure the community's infrastructure; and help residents return to their homes. The last two stages are to cultivate the business community and to provide what Knight says are "things most small towns need," like a health center, parks, a pool, a senior citizens building and other morale-boosting amenities that have already been launched. Carolina Family Health Services Inc. plans to construct a new medical building in the town this summer, while Riverside Heritage Park is well underway.

Since the flood, the neighboring Touchstone Energy cooperative, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, has stood alongside Princeville to help in its recovery. The cooperative's office is located just down the road outside the town limits, and it, too, was underwater after Floyd. Even during its transition to restoring the destruction to its electric distribution system and its headquarters, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC joined in building new houses for Princeville's people and new energy to keep the town operating. The co-op continues in that work of the final two stages that Samuel Knight refers to.

Knight says Princeville is working on strengthening development ties with the neighboring town of Tarboro, too. Princeville is also looking at bids for a town museum that may start to preserve the town's history and maybe even bring in some tourist dollars. "There's a lot of pride here," he says. "When you ride through this town, people are proud of how we have recovered."

Knight says the complete destruction wrought by the 1999 flood gave some residents pause when it came time to decide whether it was worth starting all over again. Some people simply thought of moving away. But in the end, town officials and most of Princeville's citizens couldn't keep away. The town held their home, their heritage and their hearts. "This is their land," Knight says.

And it's not just the town's local populace that feels the pull back to the tight-knit community on the banks of the Tar River. In his book "Braving Home," Jake Halpern tells of Thad Knight, a Princeville resident who hunkered down for the entire flood ordeal and painstaking cleanup. Thad Knight goes to the town's ragged but historic cemetery—which itself suffered almost unreal damage during the flood, with dozens of graves being upturned and coffins floating down Main Street—where his three brothers are buried. All three of them wanted to be laid to rest nowhere else.

"This one lived in New Jersey, this one lived in Jamaica, New York, and this one was in Greensboro," Knight says. "They all wanted to be brought home."



Michael Gery

Above: Municipal officials now work from a shiny new town hall—a structure that ironically was made possible by the 1999 flood and the federal government's rebuilding aid.

Right: Calvin (left) and I stood in front of Princeville's old town hall. Our time together as fact-digging journalists and as friends bonded across cultures.

The power of determination

It was that sense of personal, cultural and civic pride that I immediately detected in Calvin Adkins when I met him at the Southerner. Calvin knows that his Princeville roots are humble roots. He also knows how much those roots mean to the community, the state and even the entire country. And he is still covering the region as a photographer with The Daily Southerner.

As a reporter for the Southerner, I learned Calvin wasn't alone. For a year and a half I attended town board meetings in the old town hall, which had no air conditioning and little in the way of seating accommodations. But month after month, the people filled that board room and snaked into the hallway and down the entrance steps to the front lawn. During my time in Edgecombe County, the town struggled with finances so bleak that the state stepped in and took control for a period. The town manager was arrested, and the town's sewage pumping stations routinely went on the fritz.

But the citizens' involvement never waned, and their belief in Princeville's ultimate success never wavered. To be sure, many residents were frustrated and even cynical, but most remained dedicated to the welfare of the town.

The citizens of Princeville still believe they are sitting on a sleeping giant of historic proportions that can turn the town's fortunes around and help them create a place that reflects the pride of African-American culture and heritage. In the past, they were always just this close to making it happen.

So as Calvin and I stood in front of old town hall on a hot day this past June, memories of our time together as fact-digging journalists and as friends bonded across cultures. Calvin broke into one of his trademark broad grins, and I couldn't help but laugh. We had been through a lot at this building, and so had the citizens of Princeville. For Calvin, it was his home. And for me, in a strange but comforting way, I consider Princeville my spiritual home as well. 📍

Ryan Whirly is a journalist who works in Rochester, N.Y., but returns regularly to North Carolina.



David Hammer

Bath

NORTH CAROLINA'S FIRST TOWN TURNS 300

Celebrating Bath

Historic Bath and the town's citizens have been celebrating the tercentenary all year, beginning in March when the kickoff ceremonies included a special meeting of the North Carolina General Assembly, which last met in Bath in 1752.

Activities are planned this fall, including Maritime Heritage Days Sept. 23–25, which include a picnic, concert, boat exhibit, street dance and blessing of the fleet. Military re-enactments are scheduled for November.

For more information about the 300th anniversary celebration, call (252) 923-3971 or e-mail bath@ncmail.net. On the Web: www.historicbathnc.com

For information about the Historic Bath State Historic Site: P.O. Box 148, Bath, NC 27808. Phone: (252) 923-3971. Web: www.bath.nchistoricsites.org

When the English began establishing settlements in colonial America, they understandably tried to impose a governance system similar to the organized form of government in Britain.

In the 1660s, English settlers from the Virginia colony made their way into what was known as "Carolina." King Charles II gave the area to eight Englishmen known as the Lords Proprietors who had helped him politically. While the Lords Proprietors in some fashion supervised the settlements from across the Atlantic, the settlers themselves tended to resist most forms of organized government, concentrating on their own business interests here on the frontier. But by 1665, the Proprietors had imposed a governance system and designated the Albemarle Sound region as Albemarle County, and in 1676 they urged their settlers to form official towns: "Wee must assure you that it is your and our Concerne very much to have some very good Towns in your Plantations for other wise you will not longe continue civillized or ever bee considerable or secure."* Even so, no one began establishing a town.

Settlers moved further south, many of them French Protestants, during the 1690s. By 1696 the Proprietors declared the area below Albemarle, surrounding the Pamlico and Neuse rivers, as Bath County, in honor of one of the Proprietors, John Granville, Earl of Bath. Among the early landowners and settlers there were John Lawson, surveyor general of the Carolina colony, and Christopher Gale, first chief justice of the colony, who along with a few other men organized the Bath Town community at the junction of two creeks just north of the Pamlico River. And in March 1705, the colonial General Assembly incorporated Bath Town, North Carolina's first official town.

Bath began growing into a safe and convenient port and shipyard. But it soon fell victim to regional religious and political squabbles, sickness and drought, and a war with Tuscarora Indians. The notorious pirate Edward "Blackbeard" Teach is believed to have found safe haven in Bath in 1718 until he was killed later that year near Ocracoke.

Even before its incorporation, an English missionary society shipped a library of books to "St. Thomas Parish" on the Pamlico River. They were delivered in 1701 by Rev. Daniel Brett and were probably housed with one of the principal settlers, perhaps Christopher Gale. When the Rev. John Garzia arrived in Bath in 1734, the town was ready to build a church. St. Thomas Episcopal Church is today the oldest church in North Carolina. Garzia led the parish for 11 years, even though he reported the community rife with sin and "all kinds of profaneness." A prominent evangelist, Rev. George Whitefield, visited Bath soon after and considered it the "ungospelized wilds." Legend has it that Whitefield's curse on the town led to a series of frustrations as the town strove to become a major shipping and trading center.

Although Washington, formed in 1776 some 15 miles upriver, eventually superseded Bath's prominence, the town maintained itself through thick and thin. Respectable port-related industries grew in the 19th century, and the Civil War did not bring havoc to it.

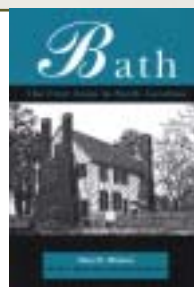
While some of the stately structures built in the early decades, including St. Thomas church, fell into disrepair in the later 1800s, a revival began with Bath's centennial in 1905 and really took off around the time of its 250th anniversary in 1955. Historic preservation efforts resulted in the restoration of 18th century houses built by prominent businessmen, including the 1751 Palmer-Marsh house, the 1790 Van Der Veer House and the 1830 Bonner House.

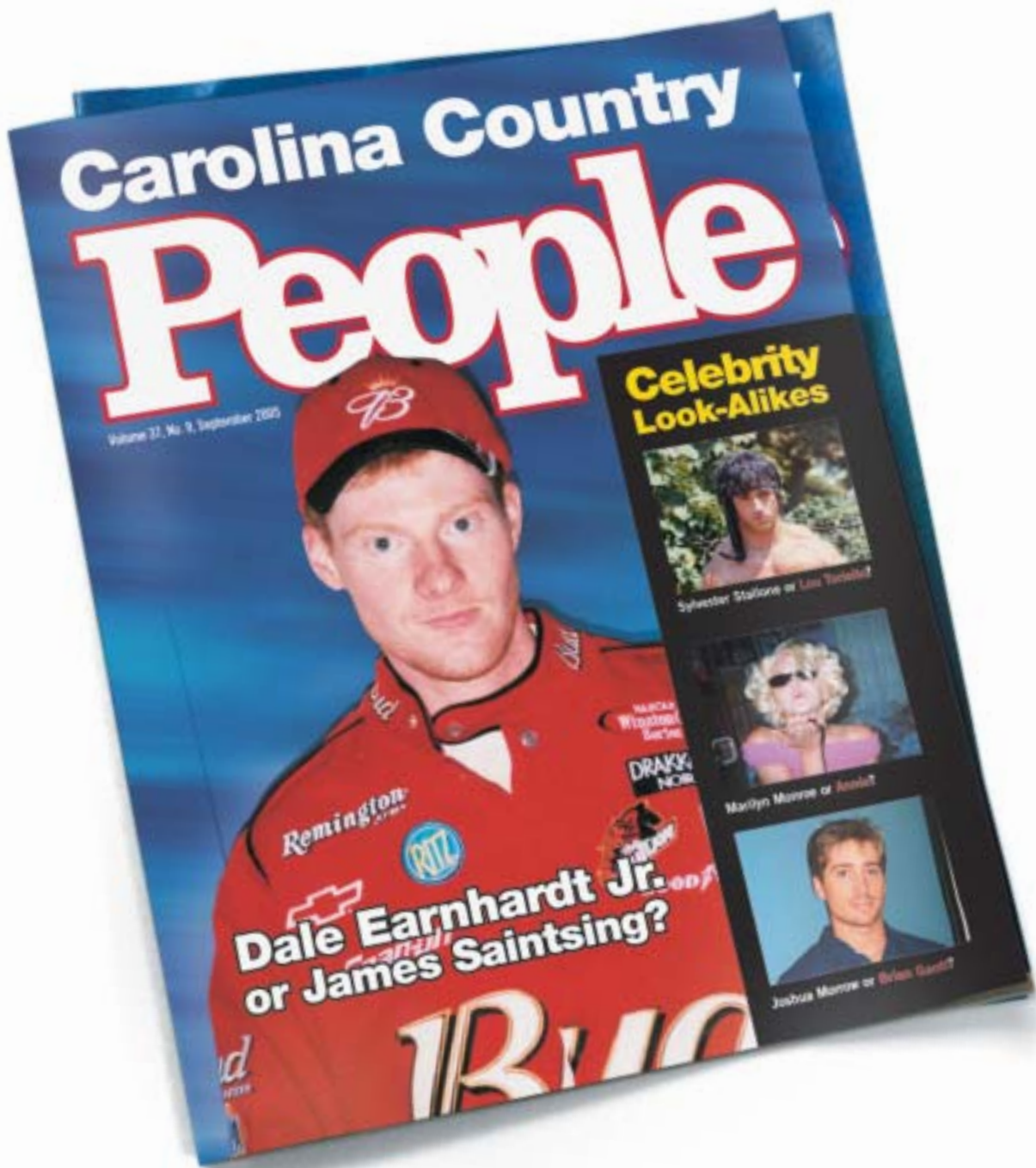
Today, the original town boundaries of Bath form a National Register historic district, and Historic Bath is a North Carolina State Historic Site, open April through October, with organized

public programs and tours. The area surrounding Bath is served by Tideland Electric, the Touchstone Energy cooperative with headquarters in Pantego, Beaufort County. 📍

— Michael E.C. Gery

**From "Bath: The First Town in North Carolina," by Alan D. Watson. Published by North Carolina Division of Archives and History in Raleigh. Softcover, 153 pages, \$18. Call (919) 733-7442 or visit <http://store.yahoo.com/nc-historical-publications>*





Dead Ringers

They get stopped on the street by people who recognize them as celebrities



Thanks to everyone who sent in pictures. You can see more on our Web site. Next month we'll publish a gallery of your favorite photos. (Deadline was Aug. 15). See the themes and rules of our "Nothing Could Be Finer" series on page 24.

Princess Diana or **Holly Wilson?**



*Submitted by: Tyler Lee, Holly's niece
Hillsborough, Piedmont EMC*

Andy Griffith or **Louis William Dail Sr.?**



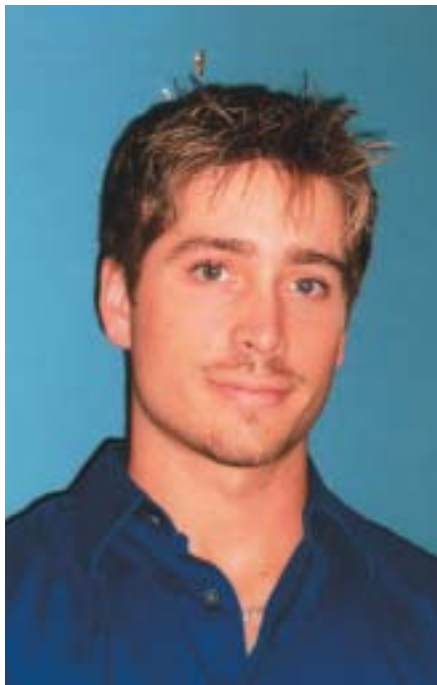
*Submitted by: Nolah Dail
Snow Hill, Pitt & Greene EMC*

Dale Earnhardt Sr. or **James Thurman?**



*Submitted by: Ann Clayborn, James' friend
Kinston, Jones-Onslow EMC*

Joshua Morrow*
or **Brian Gantt?**



** He plays Nick on "The Young & The Restless."
Submitted by: Dorothy Gantt, Brian's mother
Kings Mountain, Rutherford EMC*

Rita Wilson*
or **Christine Spencer?**



**She's an actress married to Tom Hanks.
Submitted by: Christine Spencer
South Mills, Albemarle EMC*

Marilyn Monroe
or **Annie M.?**



*Submitted by: Annie M.
Newport, Carteret-Craven Electric*

Which is **Ira Thomas** and which is Richard Petty?



Submitted by: *Ira Thomas*
Burnsville, French Broad EMC

Garth Brooks or **James Potter**?



Submitted by: *Erica Potter, James' wife Kelly*, Four County EMC

Sylvester Stallone or **Lou Toriello**?



Submitted by: *Jackie Kwasny, Lou's aunt*
Little River, S.C., Brunswick EMC

Dale Earnhardt Jr. or **James Saintsing**?



Submitted by: *Mintie Saintsing, James' mother*, Sparta, Blue Ridge Electric

Alan Jackson or **Bill Chapman**?



Submitted by: *Lorraine Chapman, Bill's wife*
Morganton, Rutherford EMC

Send us your best Earn \$50

Here are the themes in our "Nothing Could Be Finer" series. Send us your stories and pictures about these themes. If yours is chosen for publication, we'll send you \$50. You don't have to be the best writer. Just tell it from your heart.

November 2005 It's the Thought That Counts

The dumbest gift you ever received.

Deadline: Sept. 15

December 2005 Holiday Mishaps

Those holiday plans that just didn't work out as you hoped they would.

Deadline: Oct. 15

January 2006 How I Improved My Health

One thing you did that made you a lot healthier.

Deadline: Nov. 15

February 2006 We Made History

Who in your family made a mark in North Carolina history? Send a photo, if you have one.

Deadline: Dec. 15

March 2006 Why I'm a Gardener

The real reason you tend a garden.

Deadline: Jan. 15

The Rules

1. Approximately 200 words or less.
2. One entry per household per month.
3. Photos are welcome. Digital photos must be 300 dpi and actual size.
4. E-mailed or typed, if possible. Otherwise, make it legible.
5. Include your name, electric co-op, mailing address and phone number.
6. If you want your entry returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (We will not return others.)
7. We pay \$50 for each submission published. We retain reprint rights.
8. We will post on our Web site more entries than we publish, but can't pay for those submissions. (Let us know if you don't agree to this.)
9. Send to: Nothing Finer, Carolina Country, 3400 Sumner Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27616

Or by e-mail: carolina.country@ncemcs.com

Or through the Web: www.carolinacountry.com

Questions & answers

Q When did North Carolina become a British colony?

a In 1729, when seven of the men known as Lords Proprietors sold back to Britain estates in the northeastern part of the state that King Charles II gave them in 1663.

Q Where was North Carolina's permanent capital before it was moved to Raleigh?

a New Bern was the capital of colonial North Carolina. After statehood, legislators met in various places, including Bath, New Bern, Halifax and Hillsborough, until Raleigh was established as the permanent capital in 1792.

Q What is the state motto?

a In 1893 the General Assembly of 1893 adopted the words "Esse Quam Videri" as the state's motto, and directed that these words and the date "20 May 1775," be placed with our coat of arms upon the Great Seal of the state. "Esse Quam Videri" means "to be rather than to seem." North Carolina was one of the original thirteen states without a motto until the act of 1893.

Q What is the official state song?

a "The Old North State" was adopted as the official song of the state of North Carolina by the General Assembly of 1927. William Joseph Gaston, of New Bern, composed the song. He was a highly respected lawyer, legislator, congressman and jurist and wrote the words in 1840 while in Raleigh for a session of the supreme court. The song was performed publicly for the first time that year at the Whig state convention.

Q What is the state tree?

a The General Assembly of 1963 declared the pine as the state tree. The pine is the most common tree found in North Carolina, as well as the most important one in the history of our state. The pine has continued to supply North Carolina with many important wood products, particularly in the building industry.

Q What is the state mammal?

a The gray squirrel was designated as the official state mammal by the General Assembly of 1969. The gray squirrel is the most abundant of North Carolina's four squirrel species. They are largely found in hardwood forests where trees provide both nuts for food and cavities for protection against enemies and bad weather; they also flourish in urban and suburban woodlots.

Q What is the state precious stone?

a The emerald was designated the official state precious stone by the General Assembly of 1973. This assortment of minerals includes some of the most valuable and unique emeralds in the world. The "Carolina Emerald," found at Hiddenite in 1970, is one of the most famous and is now owned by Tiffany & Company of New York.


Q What is the state dog?

a The Plott hound was adopted as our state dog on August 12, 1989. The Plott hound breed originated in the mountains of North Carolina around 1750 and is the only breed known to have originated in this state. The breed is named for German immigrant Johannes George Plott who developed the breed as a wild boar hound. The Plott hound is a legendary hunting dog known as a courageous fighter and tenacious tracker.

Q What are the official Watermelon Festivals?

a In 1993, the North Carolina General Assembly adopted two official watermelon festivals. The Hertford County Watermelon Festival is the official northeastern North Carolina watermelon festival and is observed annually during the last four days of the first week in August. The Fair Bluff Watermelon Festival is the official southeastern North Carolina watermelon festival and is observed annually in mid-July.

Q Where is the governor's official western residence?

a It is located about three miles from Asheville and overlooks Beaver Lake. Built as a vacation home in the mid-1940's, it is a three-bedroom, 6,000-square-foot house that the city of Asheville donated to the state in the early 1960s for the governor to use as a retreat and for official functions. 

Source:

See the newly revised version of "The Old North State Fact Book," published by the North Carolina Office of Archives and History. The 5th edition includes more color pictures than its predecessor and the text has been updated and expanded. "The Old North State Fact Book" is a 90-page paperback that can be purchased for \$15.70, which includes tax and shipping. Order from Historical Publications Section (N), Office of Archives and History, 4622 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4622. For credit card orders call (919) 733-7442 or visit <http://store.yahoo.com/nc-historical-publications>.

Touchstone Energy® homes offer energy-efficient alternative to traditional housing

Two new houses built in Orange County recently came with a guarantee on the size of their monthly heating and cooling bills. One will use no more than \$84 of electricity per month for heating and cooling for three years; the other no more than \$67 per month. The local Touchstone Energy cooperative, Piedmont Electric, teamed up with the Advanced Energy Corporation and two builders to make the guarantees.

And these are nice places: 2,800 square feet of living space, plenty of glass, a garage.

Piedmont EMC worked with the Raleigh-based Advanced Energy Corporation's Environments for Living® program to set efficiency guidelines for what Piedmont Electric calls the Touchstone Energy houses. The guidelines called for tight construction, pressure balancing, interior moisture management, high-end thermal systems, fresh air ventilation and "right-sized" HVAC equipment.

The tight construction design restricts air infiltration. Even the crawl spaces are sealed so that the interior contains less contaminants, dust and odors than houses not so tightly constructed.

This 2,800-foot-home was built with low-emission glass that keeps the sun's heat inside the room. Other features help give the place a guaranteed monthly heating and cooling bill of less than \$84.



John Mills

One of the houses, located in the New Hope Springs subdivision off of Davis Drive in Orange County, is a 2,800-square-foot home that uses an electric heat pump that has a SEER (seasonal energy efficiency rating) of 13. The insulation values are R-38 in the ceiling, R-19 in the floors and R-13 in the walls. The home uses low-emission, clear "low-e" glass which has a microscopically-thin coating of metal oxide. This allows the sun's heat and light to pass through the glass into the building while blocking heat from leaving the room, reducing heat loss considerably. All exterior doors are insulated. Piedmont Electric worked with local contractor Sherman Perry to build the house.

The other house is located in the Edwards Pond subdivision off of Neville Road in Chapel Hill. It features an active solar energy system with battery back-up for power outages. Its guaranteed monthly heating and cooling bill is \$67 or less for three years. It comes with a 1,920-watt photovoltaic solar electric power system, allowing the homeowner to participate in the NC GreenPower program and claim a renewable energy tax credit. Piedmont Electric has sub-metered the home for determining times when the co-op can "buy back" electricity that the photovoltaic system generates in excess of what the house needs. The 2,800-square-foot home also uses a high-



John Mills

This Orange County house has a solar photovoltaic system on its roof that generates electric power. With other efficiency systems, its monthly heating and cooling bill is guaranteed at less than \$67.

efficiency dual-fuel heat pump and a solar hot water system. The insulation values are R-38 in the ceiling, R-19 in the floors and R-13 in the walls. The "low-e" glass windows have higher R-values than conventional glass, and all exterior doors are insulated. It has three bedrooms, 2½ bathrooms, a family room, a separate office/library and a two-car garage. Piedmont Electric worked with Landmark Renovations & Building Company to build the home.

Both of these houses are in the high-\$300,000 price range, but Advanced Energy Corporation and Piedmont Electric are also planning similarly efficient Touchstone Energy homes in a more modest price range. 📍

Advanced Energy is a nonprofit organization located in Raleigh that works to create economic and environmental benefits through innovative approaches to energy. North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives are members of Advanced Energy. In addition to the Environments for Living program, Advanced Energy researches and develops ways to address sustainable design. Visit www.advancedenergy.org to learn more.

For more information about the Touchstone Energy homes, contact John Hines or Chuck Lee at Piedmont Electric at (919) 732-2123.

Wash Day



Wash Day at Brush Creek in Alleghany County. Patsy Gillespie of Ennice contributed this photograph of her grandmother. "I can remember going to that creek with her, too," wrote Patsy. The picture is one that will appear in the forthcoming book, "Carolina Country Reflections," which contains photographs of life in rural North Carolina before 1970. To reserve a copy, see page 31.

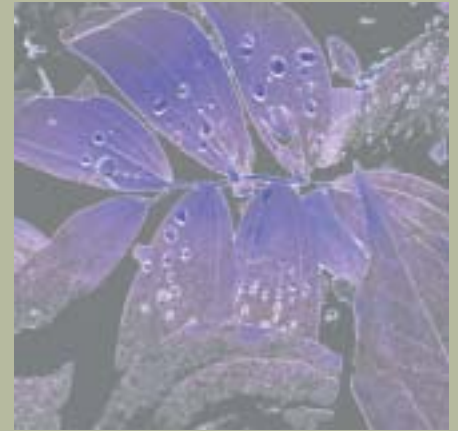
Years ago when my mother was a bride, my grandmother gave her a "receet" for washing clothes on Wash Day. This treasured bit of writing now hangs above my gleaming automatic washer.

- ~Bild fire in back yard to het kettle of rainwater.
- ~Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
- ~Shave one hole cake lie sope in bilin water.
- ~Sort things. Make three piles. One pile white. One cullord. One pile work britches and rags.
- ~Stur flour in cold water to smooth then thin down with bilin water.
- ~Rub dirty spots on washboard. Scrub hard. Then bile.
- ~Take white things out of kettle with broomstick handle. Then rench, blew and starch.
- ~Spread tee towels on grass.
- ~Hang old rags on fence.
- ~Pore rench water in flowerbed.
- ~Scrub porch with hot sopy water.
- ~Turn tubs upside down, go put on cleen dress, smooth hair with side combs, brew cup of tee—set and rest and rock a spell and count blessings.

Interpreted:

- ~Build fire in back yard to heat kettle (washpot) of rainwater. Fill two large tubs of water (by bucketfuls).
- ~Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is "pert" (strong).
- ~Shave one whole cake of lye soap in boiling water.
- ~Sort things. Make three piles. One pile white. One colored. One pile work britches (breeches-pants) and rags.
- ~Stir flour in cold water to smooth, then thin down in boiling water.
- ~Rub dirty spots on washboard. Scrub hard. Then boil.
- ~Take white things out of kettle with broomstick handle. Then rinse, blue and starch. ("Bluing" makes clothes whiter).
- ~Spread tea towels (dish towels) on grass.
- ~Hang old rags on fence.
- ~Pour rinse water in flowerbed.
- ~Scrub porch with hot soapy water (that clothes were washed in).
- ~Turn tubs upside down, go put on clean dress, smooth hair with side combs, brew cup of tea—sit and rest and rock a spell (awhile) and count blessings. 🍀

*Joanne Lasseter
Wallace, Four County EMC*



Quiet Walk

Art by Bob Grytten




These photographs by Waynesville artist and nature photographer Bob Grytten intend to capture an experience on the Quiet Walk nature trail at Collins Creek in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. Grytten modified the image of a small twig of leaves sparkling in dew to bring out the full feeling of the moment.

“In a two-dimensional print,” he says, “it’s difficult to convey the coolness of the morning air, or the sound of the water rushing over rocks from the nearby creek. You don’t hear the chirping of the birds or rustling of the wind amongst the leaves.”

He made three images. The first shows the original dew drops on leaves. The second projects the subdued, misty feel of the changing light. And the final image is an inverted representation that turns to magenta with highlights from the dew drops, “a hidden hue and a surprise element that just seems to complete the statement.”

“Quiet Walk” is available in a limited edition, conservation mounted and matted to a 14-by-30-inch piece. Each piece will be signed by the artist and limited to 250 in this edition. They cost \$125 each on a first-come basis. Add \$8.75 tax and \$13 shipping and handling.

You also can get the piece framed and ready for hanging for an additional \$85 plus an additional \$25.95 for additional tax and shipping. The package price includes a black metal frame, optical Plexiglas and hanging wire.

Grytten’s photographic images are represented by Burr Gallery on Main Street, Waynesville. 

Bob Grytten Images
PO Box 1153
Waynesville, NC 28786

Phone: (828) 627-0245
E-mail: BobGRY@aol.com

The Adventures

OF ROE AND AMOS LANIER

By Mabel Brown Lanier



Amos Harrison Lanier the bobcatter (left) and his daddy Kilby Roe Lanier, the strongest man in Duplin County, with hunting gear and hounds in 1946.

Man hunts bears
at age 70!

“Bobcatter” catches
75 wildcats!

Farmer lifts 200 lbs.
with his teeth!

Roe Lanier and his son Amos were near legendary characters in Duplin County. I know about them because I married Warren Lanier, who is Roe’s grandson and Amos’ son.

Kilby Roe Lanier was born Aug. 15, 1889. After his wife Rose died, he married Idola Sholar, who helped him rear his three children, Annie, Amos and Dave. Roe’s grandchildren called him “Pappy” and remember him as a large, strong man, with unusually strong teeth.

My daddy told me that one day Roe went to G.B.D. Parker’s General Store to buy fertilizer for his crops. Roe was in his 20s. A group of men, knowing Roe’s strength, were shooting the breeze and bragging to a shoe salesman about how

much weight Roe could pick up. The salesman bet him a new pair of shoes that he could not lift three of the 200-pound bags of fertilizer.

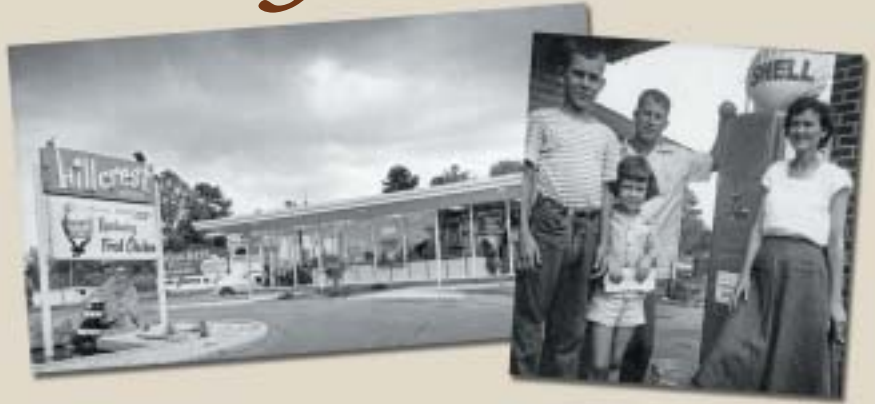
His brother, Counce, who was pretty strong himself, put one bag of fertilizer under each of Roe’s arms and one on his back. This was a total of 600 pounds. To make sure he won the bet, Roe bent over and picked up a 200-pound bag of fertilizer with his teeth and walked across the room with a total of 800 pounds.

Roe was a farmer who loved hunting. When he died at the age of 68 from complications due to an accident, he had lost only one of his permanent teeth.

About his daddy Amos Harrison Lanier, my husband says “Hunting was daddy’s occupation and farming was his

CAROLINA COUNTRY

Reflections



“Carolina Country Reflections,” a book of nearly 200 reader photographs showing life in rural North Carolina before 1970, will be available in October. The pictures show scenes of families, farms, working, gatherings, fun times and everyday life, along with the stories behind the pictures.

This is a limited edition printing of a high-quality, hardcover “coffee table book.” Reserve your copy now. We will ship reserved copies in October.

\$46 includes shipping and tax. The price will increase after January 1, 2006.

Note to the Contributors: Contributors whose photographs are published in the book will receive a free copy. You will be notified in August if your photographs will be in the book. If you choose to reserve one before then, we can either refund your full payment or send you two books.

Send a check or money order with your mailing address. Make checks payable to Carolina Country.


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hobby.” He began quail hunting at age 12, then as a teenager he became interested in fox hounds, then he began deer hunting. Eventually he became a BBB, or “brush-beating bobcatter.”

In his first year of hunting bobcats, Amos Lanier and his pack of dogs caught 75 wildcats. He would go out following a rain, find a track in the sand or mud, tell his lead dogs to trace the bobcat, then release the pack. In 1962, a newspaper account of his hunting noted that Amos had 21 Walker hounds, six pointers and a brindle hound. He knew the name of each dog and could identify each by its voice.

To supplement his income for this sport, Amos and his various helpers trapped raccoons (“coons”) about three years in the late 1950s. The coons were trapped live and sold for \$5 each to the Wildlife Commission for restocking in western North Carolina.

In the 1960s, they had a big deer hunt at the Camp Butner preserve. Forty-four bucks were killed, and the hunt was reported to be the best managed and arranged shoot since the area was opened to controlled hunting. Everything went smoothly and no accidents were reported. The dogs were furnished by a local hunting club and headed by Amos Lanier.

In his later years, Amos was known as the “Bear Hunter.” He killed over 40 black bears before his stroke at age 70. He was in the woods hunting when he knew that something was wrong, so he got his dogs and headed for home. He never fully recovered from the stroke and could no longer hunt. His hunting buddies continued to visit and through them he could re-live his hunting experiences.

A lifetime resident of Duplin County, Amos Harrison Lanier was born on Jan. 22, 1912. He married Bertha Lee Williams on Nov. 7, 1931, and from that marriage of 66 years they had four children: Warren, Kilby Chesley, Harrison and Ramona. They were blessed with eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Bertha was his farming partner and cooked for 20 or more persons many days during farming season. She loved to garden and quilt. 

Mabel Brown Lanier and her husband, Warren live on the Lanier family farm in Duplin County. They have three sons and three grandchildren. She is the daughter of Kail and Ollie Newton Brown who were living in Georgia when she was born but moved back to Mr. Brown’s native Chinquapin in 1953.



Cycle North Carolina will take bicyclists through the countryside from Asheville to Wilmington

Cyclists are preparing for the upcoming Cycle North Carolina where they will set out on a weeklong bike ride from Asheville to Wilmington. An estimated 1,200 cyclists will join the bike ride of 433 miles across the state on Oct. 1–8.

Cycle North Carolina will limit registration to 1,200 riders. Children under age 16 are allowed on the ride with adult supervision. This annual event is designed to promote physical fitness and health, provide economic impact and publicity to rural communities across the state, while showcasing the state's beauty, scenic attractions and cultural diversity.

The eight-day ride starts in Asheville on Oct. 1, and cyclists will ride roughly 60 miles each day. The bikers will travel to Forest City, Hickory, Concord, Albemarle, Laurinburg, Whiteville and finish in Wilmington on Oct. 8. The biking conditions in North Carolina can range from one extreme to another depending on which part of the state you are riding in. Hilly conditions exist the first few days, and then the ride flattens out near the coast.


Host towns provide campsites where the bikers can sleep as well as various evening entertainment activities each night. There are indoor and outdoor camping areas with amenities, including restrooms and showers. There is also a shower truck with unlimited hot water along for the ride. Riders can purchase an optional meal plan that will include dinner and breakfast. They can leave the host campsite at their leisure and travel at their own pace. Alternate routes and maps are available for friends or relatives following by car.

If you are interested in joining the tour, you are allowed two bags for transportation to the host campsites containing all necessary items, including proper clothing, medication, sleeping bags, pillow, rain gear and money. If you choose to stay in hotels, for an additional fee you can have your bags trans-

ported from hotel to hotel. Transportation to hotels is not provided. You must bike yourself there.

Along the ride there will be rest stops every 15–18 miles stocked with fruit, snacks and beverages. In case of mechanical or physical breakdowns there will be a number of SAG wagons patrolling the route to pick up riders. Free mechanical support is provided.

You do not have to bike the entire week if you choose daily biking options or the weekend option. A registration fee is required and depends on the length of time you want to ride. Fees also vary for children. The fee for an adult who wants to ride for the entire week is \$185, with the daily option at \$35 per day. There is also a bus transportation option offered for a fee that takes riders to Asheville for the tour.

The annual event is hosted by North Carolina Amateur Sports (NCAS) and is a fully supported recreational bike tour that started in 1999. The presenting sponsor of CNC is the North Carolina News Network, a division of Capitol Broadcasting Company. The founding partners of Cycle North Carolina include the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development. 

—Michelle Eggleston

How to Register

For those interested in participating in the Cycle North Carolina there are three ways to register: download a registration form off the CNC website at www.cyclenorthcarolina.org, register with a credit card through www.active.com, or e-mail CNC your mailing address so they can send you a registration brochure. Registration deadline is mid-September. Call 1-800-277-8763 to learn more about Cycle North Carolina.



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Saving the Last Great Places
nature.org



“Home Sweet Home” and more

Pamela C. Renfroe’s latest artwork is entitled “Home Sweet Home.” The painting portrays country living and the important role the rural electric cooperatives have played in the development of rural life in America. The painting measures 16 by 24 inches. Paper print, unframed is \$80, framed \$210. Giclee on stretched canvas, unframed is \$250, framed is \$380. You can also personalize the painting by getting your company’s name or an individual’s name printed on the door of the truck for a charge of \$25. Other products Renfroe has developed featuring her artwork include trivets, change trays, clocks and thermometers. These prices range from \$3 to \$18.

(706) 376-5707
www.pamelarenfroe.com



Made of bark

Highland Craftsmen of Blowing Rock produces attractive polar bark siding for use on residential homes and commercial buildings. The family-owned business also creates complementary natural bark accent pieces such as custom-made furniture, cabinet facing, posts, railings and fencing. Owners Marty and Chris McCurry, who are members of Western North Carolina Green Building Council, say they emphasize quality construction and “green” methods of producing a durable, attractive product.

(828) 295-0796
www.highlandcraftsmen.com

Have performers, will travel

Organizers and officials who seek performers for special events can use the 2005–2007 North Carolina Touring Artist Directory. There’s an online guide or you can obtain a printed desktop version. The reference guide lists North Carolina dancers, writers, musicians, actors, storytellers and visual artists. New in this edition is the “Teaching Artist” category, which identifies professional-level artists with substantial experience working at schools. The resource features nearly 200 artists and groups available to tour throughout the state. The printed version gives a good overview of the artists’ work but the online guide contains more specific descriptions and up-to-date contact information. To receive a copy of the free directory, call Viola Bullock.

(919) 733-7897
www.ncarts.org/arts_tour.cfm



Blue Ridge Parkway CD

Sony Classical’s new Drive Time series features four new musical programs inspired by the experience of driving Germany’s fabled Autobahn and three great highways in the U.S.—the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Pacific Coast Highway and Route 66. The Blue Ridge Parkway CD is packed with American classics like Copland’s “Simple Gifts,” O’Connor’s “Appalachia Waltz,” Gershwin’s “Lullaby” and Leroy Anderson’s “Bugler’s Holiday.” A set of all four CD’s sells for \$29.98 and single CDs individually sell for \$11.98.

(800) 338-7834
www.sonyclassical.com



Guide to N.C. wineries

North Carolina is home to 38 wineries and three vineyard-located tasting rooms. The 2005 Guide & Map to North Carolina Wineries lists all wineries and tasting rooms, along with addresses and directions to each, hours of operation and contact numbers. There is also a list of the varieties of wine each operation specializes in. For your free guide, call the North Carolina Grape Council.

(919) 733-7136
www.ncwine.org



ON THE BOOKSHELF



Outer Banks images

Natural and human forces have shaped the Outer Banks in a way that has left a legacy of beauty. “Outer Banks Edge” offers an unstructured photographic journey from Corolla to Ocracoke, concentrating on the shapes, textures and colors that make the Outer Banks

special. More than 100 color images include photos of hang gliding at Jockey’s Ridge, the Bodie Island Lighthouse and the Wright Brothers National Memorial at Kill Devil Hills. Photo captions are spare, with an afterword explaining the history behind locales presented. Author Steve Alterman is a nature photographer who specializes in pictures of the Outer Banks, the American Southwest and the Hawaiian Islands. Hardcover, 127 pages, \$39.95.

(252) 261-0612

www.outerbankspress.com

Iconographic Collection, North Carolina Office of Archives and History



Civil War series reprinted

Out of print for decades and timed to coincide with the 140th anniversary of the end of the Civil War, the acclaimed book series “North Carolina Troops, 1861– 1865: A Roster” is available again. With 15 hardcover volumes to date, the reprinted series contains the history of every North Carolina unit that fought in the Civil War, along with service records of each of

the approximately 130,000 North Carolina soldiers, both Confederate and Federal. The histories are based on officers’ reports, orders and official correspondence, as well as letters, memoirs and newspapers accounts. The soldiers’ service records are based on company muster rolls, hospital records, prisoner-of-war records, casualty and parole lists, pension applications, cemetery records, censuses, family histories, and other sources. Each soldier’s service record includes information such as his county of birth and residence, age and occupation at enlistment, and whether he was wounded, captured, killed, promoted, transferred, or whether he suffered disease, deserted, or survived the war. The later volumes are enriched with maps and photographs of some soldiers. Pricing of individual volumes ranges from \$40 to \$65 each.

(919) 733-7442

www.ncpublications.com



Cooking with Herbs

“Basil to Thyme: Culinary Endeavors from the Garden to the Kitchen” combines both cooking and gardening to create a collection of herb recipes. Blue Ridge EMC members and authors Tim Haas and Jan Beane, both of Hickory, explain herbal usage from how to plant and cultivate your own fresh herbs to highlighting the history and health bene-

fits of a featured herb. Extra pages are left in each chapter to allow chefs to add, modify or create their own recipes. A planting calendar concludes the book, giving a quick and easy planting guide for a successful herb garden. Published by Champion Press, Ltd. Softcover, 322 pages, \$22.95.

(877) 250-3354

www.championpress.com



“Birding North Carolina”

This comprehensive guide takes you to 44 premier birding locations across the state, as chosen by the members of the Carolina Bird Club. Organized by region, “Birding North Carolina” provides descriptions of each site, key species and directions to get there. Co-editors and North Carolinians Marshall Brooks and Mark Johns also included information about the seasonal

distributions of 122 North Carolina bird specialties such as where they occur and the best times to see them. Softcover, 212 pages, \$12.95. Published by Globe Pequot Press in Guilford, Conn.

(800) 962-0973

www.GlobePequot.com



Confederates’ last words

Wealthy plantation owners and hard-scrabble farmers, legendary generals and buck privates—at the onset of the Civil War, their backgrounds were as divided as the nation but by war’s end they all shared a common destiny. Author Daniel Barefoot of Lincolnton examines the lives of 52 Confederates, concentrating on their last words, in his new book, “Let

Us Die Like Brave Men.” Photographs of the soldiers, their graves or places they fell illustrate the text, with each bitter-sweet account chosen to highlight a different aspect of the war. Published by John F. Publisher of Winston Salem. Hardcover, 281 pages, \$19.95.

(800) 222-9796

www.blairpub.com

YOU KNOW YOU'RE FROM

Carolina country if...

...you *fly a June bug* by
tying a string around one of his legs.

Louise McMiarmid, Raeford



From Paula Brigman

- ... At bedtime after the Lord's prayer, your great grandma would say "Now get under the kilver, hon."
- ... You had to go to the bathroom real bad about 30 minutes after early morning cucumber-picking began and never returned, praying no one would notice.
- ... You had to shake the bedsheet about three times before you could get to sleep because every time another cousin crawled in the bed they brought sand with them.
- ... During outdoor play you pretended the smokehouse was the place the boogie man kept the bodies of his victims.
- ... On warm days at Grandma's you took your bath in the foot tub outside.
- ... You put too many clothes in the ringer of the washing machine and jammed it up.
- ... You chased your sister with the hog shocker.

From Mary Kearns, Raeford

- ... In January you would go in the field and cut down straw and make a broom to sweep the floor.
- ... You would cut hedge bushes to sweep your yard.
- ... You would get chalk from a hole and paint your fireplace.
- ... You put fire in a bucket of rags to keep the mosquitoes away.

From Travis Black, Franklinville

- ... You have an ACC, rebel flag and "I am a farmer" stickers on your truck.
- ... All your shoes are boots except for one pair of church shoes.
- ... You have traveled out of state at least once to try the lottery.
- ... Your literature is Carolina Country and tractor magazines.
- ... You wear a John Deere hat but you do not own a John Deere tractor.
- ... You have nightmares about your truck being a low-rider.

From Ruth Hopkins, Oakboro

- ... You hung Birdseye diapers on the clothesline.
- ... You love the smell of freshly cut wild onions in the spring.
- ... You bought 1-cent cookies from a big Lance jar.
- ... You love the smell of chicken feed and gasoline.
- ... You burned your feet while running barefoot to the barn in 100-degree heat on Sunday afternoon to get the cow's head out of the "bobwire" fence.
- ... You walked behind your daddy's side harrow uncovering corn sprouts.
- ... You know Big Lick is where the deer used to lick a large rock.
- ... You know Oakboro is where they used to tie burros to the oak trees.
- ... You know a preacher's cuss word is "dadblame."

From Paul Stinson, Matthews

- ... You have carved your initials in the top of a sycamore tree down by the creek.
- ... You set a dozen rabbit boxes.
- ... You know the difference between a citron and a watermelon.
- ... You have busted mussels looking for pearls.
- ... You know why corn cobs come in red or white.

From Roy White, Granite Falls

- ... The adults got the choice pieces of chicken at Sunday dinner.
- ... Dad stored potatoes in a cave and watermelons in the wheat bin.
- ... Dad took corn and wheat to the "roller mill" for bread.
- ... You could buy three BB Bat suckers for a penny.
- ... You learned to walk on "Tommy Walkers" stilts.
- ... Mama gave you "peach tree tea" when you disobeyed.
- ... The boys played "camel walking" in the front yard.
- ... You know what a "Flying Jenny" is.
- ... You used an Indian tommyhawk for a door stop.
- ... You used a fishing pole with a hook to catch the rooster for Sunday dinner.
- ... You threshed black-eye peas on a sheet with a hoe handle.


From Patsy Hayes, Walnut Cove

- ... You had to tie out the cow in the morning, take her for water at lunch time and move her to a different place, then in the evening go bring her in to be milked.
- ... You took your gallon jars or tin buckets of milk down to the spring and placed them in the plank box Dad built so the water would run through the holes in the box to cool the milk.
- ... The man who laid out your road was known as "Snake" Mulligan because the road had so many curves in it.
- ... You ate roasin' ears baked in the shucks on the stone flue in the tobacco barn.
- ... You ran from a blue racer snake then doubled back on him to get away.
- ... You treated a king snake like a farm animal because he helped control rodents and other snakes.
- ... Your country grandma had a wood-burning cookstove and your town grandma had an oil-burning cookstove.
- ... Daddy sat in the rocking chair and snored while he "wasn't asleep, just resting his eyes."
- ... Cough medicine was made at home with a pint of Rock 'n' Rye and a pound of horehound candy mixed in a quart jar. (Dose = 1 teaspoon.)

From Carroll & Peggy Herman, Zirconia

... You thought she was plum pretty.

From Louise McMiarmid, Raeford

- ... You fly a June bug by tying a string around one of his legs.
- ... You have eaten clay from the side of a hill.
- ... You have eaten hickory roots from seedlings.
- ... You chewed ripe wheat heads 'til it turned to chewing gum.
- ... You rode a mule bare-backed to pull a tobacco drag.
- ... You made your own sausage and stuffed it into casings.
- ... You bought beef from the back of a car or truck.
- ... You played marbles 'til dark in the summertime.
- ... You chewed tar from the tar pit.
- ... You helped your granddad stack peanuts out in the field.
- ... You cooled your watermelon in the creek tied inside a toe-sack.
- ... You weighed yourself on a cotton scale.
- ... You helped fold your hometown newspaper.
- ... You learned to dive from an old Cyprus tree into a creek.
- ... You killed bumblebees with tobacco sticks.
- ... You spent all afternoon pulling taffy at your grandma's place.
- ... You had a Brunswick stew meal when you finished up tobacco season.
- ... You helped can fresh soup for the next year's school lunchroom.
- ... You chewed a twig from a black-gum tree to make a snuff dipping.
- ... You used lard can lids for dinner plates.
- ... You pulled fodder from drying cornstalks.
- ... You rolled in a car tire to see how long you could hold on.
- ... You knew Fort Bragg as "Camp Bragg." 

If you know any that we haven't published, send them to:

E-mail: Carolina.country@ncemcs.com
Mail: P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611
Web: www.carolinacountry.com

 See more on our Web site.



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Oh, Kay!



UNSCRAMBLIT

And Zen I read...

Wherever you go, there you are—

$\bar{t} \ \bar{n} \ \bar{h} \ \bar{l} \quad \bar{a} \ \bar{h} \ \bar{w} \ \bar{w} \ \bar{p} \ \bar{w} \ \bar{o} \quad \bar{r} \ \bar{i}$

$\bar{p} \ \bar{d} \ \bar{n} \ \bar{g} \ \bar{e} \ \bar{o} \ \bar{l} \quad \bar{i} \ \bar{g} \ \bar{n} \ \bar{l} \ \bar{t}$

Use the capital letters in the code clue below to spell out the rest of the story.

“AEGHI LON RSTUY” means
power and light

Answer on page 41.

Domi-no.S

U	N	I	O	N
			8	

X	O
	8

M	O	N	R	O	E
	8			8	

Each letter stands for a digit in this multiplication puzzle. Given $O=8$, can you replace the missing digits? Monroe is the seat of North Carolina's Union County.

We will publish the answer here next month.

TERSE VERSE

Chelonians all

Tortoises are terrestrial,
turtles are marine;
terrapins, amphibious,
on land and sea are seen.

A tortoise killed Aeschylus
by dropping from the sky.
(An eagle dropped the tortoise on
Aeschylus, passing by.)

A balding pate brought on the fate
of this Athenian pair.

Else I'd be able
to call this fable,

“The Tortoise and the Hair.”

-cgj

JOYNER'S CORNER ANSWERS:
UNSCRAMBLE IT
YOUR LUGGAGE IS
ANOTHER STORY

September Events



Livestock, food, the midway, concessions, races, musical entertainment—it's all at the North Carolina Mountain State Fair Sept. 9–18 at the Western N.C. Agricultural Center fairgrounds in Fletcher. Entertainment includes Jimmy Wayne (Sept. 14), Billy Currington (Sept. 15), 4Him (Sept. 16) and Mountain Heart (Sept. 18). Call (828) 687-1414, Ext. 222, or visit www.ncagr.com/markets/fairs/mtnfair

MOUNTAINS

"Fools"

Through Sept. 11, Flat Rock
(828) 693-0731
www.flatrockplayhouse.org

Country, Bluegrass & Gospel

Saturdays, Sundays, Little
Switzerland, (888) 765-9531
www.altapassorchard.com

Greasy Beans Bluegrass

Sept. 2, Marion, (828) 652-8610
www.mcdowellarts.org

Heritage Walk and Festival

Sept. 3, Murphy
(828) 837-2242
www.heritagepartners.org

NC Apple Festival

Sept. 2–5, Hendersonville
(828) 697-4557
www.ncapplefestival.org

Labor Day Covered Dish Dinner

Sept. 5, Little Switzerland
(888) 765-9531
www.altapassorchard.com

Fall Arts Competition

Sept. 8–25, Hickory
(828) 632-0106
www.fullcirclearts.org

Gallery Crawl

Sept. 9, Jefferson
(336) 846-ARTS

Mountain State Fair

Sept. 9–18, Fletcher
(828) 687-1414, Ext. 222
www.ncagr.com/markets/fairs/mtnfair

Quilt Fair

Sept. 16, Jefferson
(828) 263-8648

Craft Show and Sale

Sept. 16–17, Brevard
(828) 891-6300

Doc Watson and David Holt

Sept. 17, Marion
(828) 652-8610
www.mcdowellarts.org

Sunset Hike

Sept. 17, Marion, (828) 652-5047

Homecoming of Atlanta Ballet

Sept. 17–18, Clyde
(828) 452-0593
www.haywoodarts.org

"The Foreigner"

Sept. 22–25, Jefferson
(336) 846-ARTS

Western NC BBQ Festival

Sept. 23–24, Maggie Valley
(828) 926-1686

Police Car Show

Sept. 24, Murphy
(828) 837-1335

October Fest

Sept. 30–Oct. 1, Old Fort
(828) 668-7223

PIEDMONT

Aw Shucks! Corn Maze

Sept. 3–Oct. 31, Marshville
(704) 517-5622
www.awshuckscomnmaze.com

Bluegrass, Magic & Comedy

Sept. 3, Oakboro
(704) 485-3649
www.oakboromusichall.com

Kitchen...and Moore Tour

Sept. 8, Pinehurst
(910) 947-3188

Center Fair and BBQ

Sept. 9–10, Mocksville
(336) 492-7554

Tractor and Truck Pull

Sept. 9–11, Oaksboro
(704) 485-4906
www.hinsonauction.com

Autumn Arts Festival

Sept. 10, Wake Forest
(919) 441-9551
www.wakeforestdowntown.com

Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show

Sept. 10, Lexington
(336) 357-7126

Denton Autumn Festival

Sept. 10, Denton
(336) 859-5922
www.dentonnorthcarolin.com

Farm Fest

Sept. 10, Liberty
(336) 622-1795
www.risingmeadow.com

Pickin' on the Creek

Sept. 10, Mount Airy
(336) 786-5039

Pottery Fest

Sept. 10, Wake Forest
(919) 556-7864

Gourd Arts and Crafts Festival

Sept. 10–11, Raleigh
(919) 781-7069
www.twincreek.com/gourds

NC Turkey Festival

Sept. 15–17, Raeford
(910) 904-2424
www.hoke-raeford.com/nctf.htm

Memories of Elvis

Sept. 17, Oakboro
(704) 485-3649
www.oakboromusichall.com

Equestrian Fair

Sept. 17, Dallas
(704) 823-0900
www.hoofnholler.com

2Can Concert

Sept. 18, Asheboro
(336) 626-1240

Agricultural Fair

Sept. 19–25, Lexington
(336) 243-2528

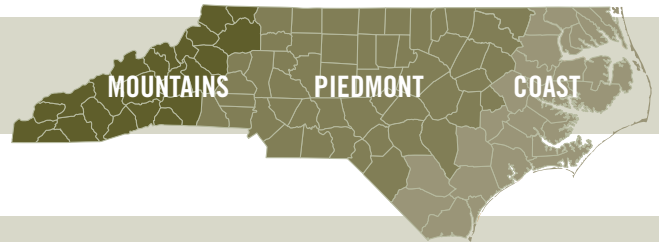
Fall Festival

Sept. 24, Youngsville
(919) 556-4026
www.youngsvillefallfestival.com

Country, Bluegrass & Gospel

Sept. 24, Rocky Mount
(252) 972-3331

September Events *continued*



Flora Macdonald Highland Games are set for Sept. 30–Oct. 2 in Red Springs. Call (910) 843-5000 or visit www.capefearscots.com

Preserving the Harvest
Sept. 24, High Point
(336) 885-1859
www.highpointmuseum.org

International Folk Festival
Sept. 25, Fayetteville
(910) 323-1776
www.TheArtsCouncil.com

Flora Macdonald Highland Games
Sept. 30–Oct. 2, Red Springs
(910) 843-5000
www.capefearscots.com

COAST

Indian Summer Festival
Sept. 10, Hertford
(252) 426-1425
www.visitperquimans.com

Roper Peanut Festival
Sept. 10, Roper
(252) 793-5156

Hearth and Harvest Festival
Sept. 10, Hertford
(252) 426-7567
www.newboldwhitehouse.com

“O’ Happy Day” Gospel Celebration
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Rocky Hock Playhouse
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Sept. 17, Manteo
(252) 473-2355

Grand National Championship Races
Sept. 17–18, Plymouth
(252) 793-4804

“Rosie Ledet and the Zydeco Playboys”
Sept. 18, Oriental
(252) 249-3362

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www.eastcoasthorses.com

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Smith-McDowell House
(828) 253-9231
www.wnchistory.org

PIEDMONT

Invention At Play
Through Sept. 5, Durham
(919) 220-5429 x323
www.ncmis.org

Forces of Nature
Through Sept. 6, Charlotte
Discovery Place
(704) 372-6261
omnimaxinfo@discoveryplace.org

CSI: Crime Scene Insects
Through Sept. 18, Raleigh
N.C. Museum of Natural
Sciences, (919) 733-7350
www.naturalsciences.org

“Diane Arbus: Family Albums”
Sept. 15–Dec. 4, Winston-
Salem, Reynolda House
Museum, (336) 888-6641
www.reynoldahouse.org

Sculpture in Garden
Sept. 17–Nov. 18, Chapel Hill
NC Botanical Garden
(919) 962-0522
www.ncbg.unc.edu

“Renaissance to Rococo”
Sept. 24–Jan. 15, Charlotte
Mint Museum of Art
(704) 337-2000
www.mintmuseum.org

“These Little Piggies Stayed Home”
Through October 20,
Lexington
Uptown Lexington
(336) 249-0383
www.uptownlexington.com

“Within Our Walls”
Through Nov. 1, Charlotte
Lassiter Gallery
(704) 373-1464
www.lassitergallery.com/art/art_04.htm

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Wellington B. Gray Gallery
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www.ecu.edu/art

Listing Information

Deadlines: For November: September 25
For December: October 25

Submit Listings Online: Visit www.carolinacountry.com and click “See NC” to add your event to the magazine and/or our Web site.

Or Submit Listings by Mail, Fax or E-Mail: Include title, date(s), location, phone number and/or Web site url. Photos (300 dpi or hard copies) are welcome.

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Gardeners, Get Ready! Blue ribbons for green thumbs

Are this year's dahlias or roses the most beautiful you've ever raised? Do you have a watermelon that just won't quit growing? If you're bursting with pride and can't contain it any longer, you might want to consider showing off your green thumb to the rest of North Carolina. The North Carolina State Fair is right around the corner, and so is some good old-fashioned competition. The 2005 fair happens Oct. 14–23 in Raleigh, and there are almost 1,000 contests in which gardeners can square off. Cut flowers and foliage, floral arrangements, dish gardens and outdoor display gardens are major categories in the fair's Flower and Garden Show, while fruits, nuts and vegetables take center stage in the Horticulture Division.

Any resident of North Carolina can participate, including children of all ages, and there's no entry fee. The fun of exhibiting or winning a ribbon is enough to satisfy many people, but there's also prize money—a half-million dollars for all the fair competitions combined. Premiums for horticulture total \$13,517. Flower and garden exhibitors compete for \$29,679 in cash awards.

The display garden category is among the most coveted plant contests, with a top prize of \$750. The competitors usually begin planting and tending their plots in early spring. It is the only garden contest with an early application deadline (March 1). The flower and horticulture shows are open until the day before the fair. It is the only fair competition with three separately judged shows, two of which take place during the fair (the first flower show is judged before the fair opens, as are all other contests). This means that people from other parts of the state can bring flower entries with them on a day they plan to attend the fair anyway. Several categories exist for cut flowers likely to survive a long-distance journey, such as marigolds, celosias, dahlias, chrysanthemums, and buddleias.

Premiums for cut specimens—including stems of flowers, foliage, herbs and grasses—are \$5 for first place, \$3 for second and \$2 for third. Cut rose premiums are \$9, \$6 and \$3. Floral arrangement winners garner \$15, \$10 or \$5. Dish gardens and container plants, \$12, \$8 and \$3. Gourds, dried wreaths and hanging baskets are some of the other categories.

"Most of the competitions are fairly 'low rent' style, but there are some people who take it very seriously," says John Buettner, a Garner hobby gardener who has won awards for his cut flowers and display gardens, including one with a Harry Potter theme, complete with castle. He says the dahlia and rose contestants are the most competitive. "They have all sorts of tricks and gizmos for keeping the petals exactly where they need them for judging." For example, rose exhibitors often insert cotton swabs between the petals to keep them separated until show time.

N.C. Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services



At the N.C. State Fair, the most competitive of the many flower contests are those for dahlias (on left) and roses.

Hurricane Lilies

They're bizarre-looking and called by many nicknames—spider lilies, naked ladies, surprise lilies and hurricane lilies. The red flower clusters of *Lycoris radiata* sit atop stick-straight leafless stems, and seem to pop up in lawns and gardens out of nowhere in September and October. The flower clusters produce long stamens that give the appearance of an upside-down spider.

Narrow, straplike leaves, similar to liriopse, appear after the blooms are spent and persist until spring, which is the best time to divide the bulbs. To ensure next fall's blooms, do not cut the foliage back until it withers; it helps the bulbs store food for flowering. Mark the location so you can find the plants in spring. Divide and replant bulbs shallowly in full sun to part shade. Hurricane lilies reach 12–18 inches in height.

“The naked scapes of the red lilies spring up from bare ground and flower almost overnight. They are most beautiful planted to themselves, and there cannot be too many of them.”

Elizabeth Lawrence,
A Southern Garden, 1942

Sensational Salvia

Pineapple sage is one of the last perennials to bloom in the fall. Its vivid crimson-red flowers, usually a dozen or so per stalk, provide a show until frost, summoning the last of the hummingbirds. Until then, you can admire the bright yellow-green foliage, which forms attractive clumps, and rub the leaves to release a delightful pineapple aroma. Propagate by stem cuttings or root divisions. Plant in well-drained soil in full sun; grows 2–4 feet. 🌱

Carla Burgess can be reached at ncgardenshare@mindspring.com



For more September gardening advice, go to the “Carolina Gardens” section of www.carolinacountry.com

Toasters and toaster ovens

There are many reasons why it is better to use a toaster oven or other small countertop appliance for toasting bread and preparing small dishes than to use the large oven/broiler in your range. The large oven in a range is designed for baking, roasting or broiling large food items or casseroles. Generally, from efficiency and time-saving standpoints, use a microwave oven whenever possible followed by a countertop appliance such as a toaster or toaster oven and then the large range oven as the final option.

To go one step further, using a pop-up standard toaster to toast slices of bread, bagels and waffles is even better, more efficient and faster than using a toaster oven. Some of the new toasters even have automatic defrost and toast cycles in one operation.

The electric heating elements in your range oven can use more than 3,500 watts of electricity. The heating elements in a typical toaster use only about 900 watts, and the ones in a toaster oven use from 1,350 to 1,500 watts. Also, it takes much less time to preheat a small toaster oven if you are going to bake or roast something, so the elements are on for a shorter period of time.

Each kilowatt-hour of electricity an oven uses becomes 3,416 Btu of heat inside your home. During the summer, your air conditioner has to run longer to remove all this extra heat created by the oven broiler. During the winter, this helps heat your home, but it is a much less efficient heat source than a heat pump or furnace.

Purchase both a toaster and a toaster oven for the best overall efficiency and time savings. You should be able to find some simple toasters that cost as little as \$15 at discount stores. A regular toaster will toast bread or bagels faster than a toaster oven and is the best choice when toasting just one or two slices. To toast four or six slices, using a toaster oven makes more sense.


If your budget is not limited, consider purchasing a toaster with digital controls instead of knobs. These types of controls provide more accuracy and consistency in the darkness of the toast. If you like bagels, you can select a model with a “bagel” setting. On this setting, it toasts the bagel on only one side as opposed to bread on both sides. If the thickness of the slices of bread varies, such as with homemade bread, look for a model with self-centering slots.



Toasters and toaster ovens are more efficient than a large oven and can save you money.

West Bend has a convenient, fast model that works differently than a standard pop-up toaster. The slice of bread or bagel automatically moves through the toaster past the heating elements for more even toasting. You put the slice of bread in the top of the toaster and it slowly moves downward and slides out the bottom onto an exit tray when it is done. The exit tray closes flat against the side of the toaster to save space when it is not in use.

Again, if budget is not limited, consider a toaster oven with digital controls. As with toasters, these provide more precise heating and temperature control. The electronic control read-outs are also easier to see. Before making a purchase, measure the size of a slice of bread you typically toast. This will help you determine if the toaster oven will accommodate four or six slices at a time. The number of slices indicated on the packaging is not necessarily accurate for all loaf sizes.

A good-quality toaster oven can be used for most of your smaller baking and roasting needs. A model that includes a convection fan feature will circulate the heated air throughout the oven to cook items faster. These models cost more, so if saving time is not a major issue you may prefer a standard model. Toaster ovens labeled as “infrared heating” will toast bread faster. If you broil hamburgers or other fatty meats often, look for an easy-to-clean nonstick or porcelain interior surface. 

The following companies offer toasters and toaster ovens:

Braun (800) 272-8622
www.braun.com

Cuisinart (800) 726-0190
www.cuisinart.com

Rival (800) 557-4825
www.rivalproducts.com

Sunbeam (800) 458-8407
www.sunbeam.com

West Bend (262) 334-6949
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You may send inquiries to James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com

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Deadline: 25th of the month,
5 weeks before issue date.



Chicken Chili Lasagna

- 2 packages (3 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 8 green onions, chopped
- 2 cups (8 ounces) shredded Mexican-cheese blend, divided
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- ¼ teaspoon ground cumin, divided
- ½ teaspoon minced fresh cilantro
- 3 cups cubed cooked chicken
- ¼ cup butter
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- 1½ cups chicken broth
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 1 cup (8 ounces) sour cream
- 1 can (4 ounces) chopped green chilies, drained
- ½ teaspoon dried thyme
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 12 flour tortillas (6 inches), halved

In a mixing bowl, combine cream cheese, onions, 1½ cups Mexican-cheese blend, garlic, ¼ teaspoon cumin and cilantro. Stir in chicken; set aside.

In a saucepan, melt butter. Stir in flour until smooth; gradually add broth. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Remove from the heat. Stir in Monterey Jack cheese, sour cream, chilies, thyme, salt, pepper and remaining cumin.

Spread ½ cup of the cheese sauce in a greased 13-by-9-by-2 inch baking dish. Top with six tortilla halves, a third of the chicken mixture and a fourth of the cheese sauce. Repeat tortilla, chicken and cheese sauce layers twice. Top with remaining tortillas, cheese sauce and Mexican cheese.

Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Uncover; bake 10 minutes longer or until heated through. Let stand 5 minutes before cutting.

Yield: 12 servings.



Banana Pound Cake

- 3 teaspoons plus 3 cups sugar, divided
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 6 eggs
- 1 cup mashed ripe bananas (about 2 medium)
- 1½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon lemon extract
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup (8 ounces) sour cream

Glaze

- 1½ cups confectioners' sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3-4 teaspoons milk

Grease a 10-inch fluted tube pan. Sprinkle with 3 teaspoons sugar; set aside. In a large mixing bowl, cream butter and remaining sugar until light and fluffy, about 5 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in bananas and extracts. Combine flour and baking soda; add to the creamed mixture alternately with sour cream, beating just until combined.

Pour into prepared pan (pan will be full). Bake at 325 degrees for 75-85 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack to cool completely.

In a small bowl, whisk glaze ingredients until smooth; drizzle over cake. Store in refrigerator. May freeze for up to 1 month.

Yield: 12-15 servings.



Creamy Chicken Salad

- 2 cups cooked chicken breast
- 1 cup cooked small ring pasta
- 1 cup halved seedless red grapes
- 1 can (11 ounces) mandarin oranges, drained
- 3 celery ribs, chopped
- ½ cup sliced almonds
- 1 tablespoon grated onion
- 1 cup reduced-fat mayonnaise
- 1 cup reduced fat whipped topping
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- Lettuce leaves, optional

In a bowl, combine chicken, pasta, grapes, oranges, celery, almonds and onion.

In another bowl, combine the mayonnaise, whipped topping and salt. Add to chicken mixture; stir to coat. Serve in a lettuce-lined bowl if desired.

Yield: 6 servings.

Recipes are by Taste of Home magazine. For a sample copy, send \$2 to Taste of Home, Suite 4321, PO Box 990, Greendale WI 53129-0990. Visit the Web page at www.tasteofhome.com.

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