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To: Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov
Date: 3/23/2017 9:55:23 AM
Subject: Showcasing: Lake Lure, Columbia, Charleston, Spruce Pine, Tryon, Hilton Head Island, Beer Month

March 23, 2017

Below: Not dirty at all; Fore; Glass blown beauties; Homes and Gardens; Artists' Palettes; Best horse of them all; Pommes de Terre; Bountiful brewskies; Vintage lifestyle; By the sea.

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Carolina Adventure – Lake Lure, NC

Lake Lure Adventure Company

Spend a Glorious Day on the Water

More than 80 years ago, Lake Lure was my parents' honeymoon destination. It's been a family treasure ever since. Today, although much of the natural environment looks the same, the adventures and recreation options have grown tremendously. It's a great family-friendly destination, starting with Lake Lure Adventure Company.

How many ways can you have fun on the lake? This family-owned business has you covered, from gentle to extreme. Renting a luxurious pontoon boat is a good beginning. Perfect for a comfortable paddle around the lake, with dogs or children, buddies or spouses. It's not a wild ride, but you'll enjoy the freedom and room to spread out.

Lots of folks choose kayaks or canoes for a smooth ride that lets you feel connected to the water and all of the magnificent scenery that surrounds it. Kayak with your buddies, or rent a canoe and take a passenger or two – perfect for families. Others love stand-up paddle boarding. Balance comes quickly, and the views are just a bit better. These are the most popular ways to enjoy your time here.

For more heart-pumping excitement, go waterskiing, or wakeboarding. Use their equipment and up your game, or get a jumpstart on learning new tricks. Wonderful.

Wow Factor: For starters, you won't find a more beautiful area in which to play. Those ancient Blue Ridge Mountains look down on this pristine water and when the day is done, there's plenty to do.

Consider a lovely meal at La Strada Italian Restaurant, or Larkin's on the Lake. The food at both locations is fabulous and the sunsets divine. Go ahead and indulge in dessert. You burned these calories off hours ago!

Hint: Plan to try a bit of everything because it's all here. Take waterski lessons from their USA Waterski certified staff, or rent specialized equipment that brings out your inner hotshot. (Barefoot skiing, anyone?) Lake Lure may be the perfect location where the children can learn to ski and the grown-ups can sit back and watch the experts teach them how. Please, save some time for exploring off the water. Great shops, restaurants, trails and Chimney Rock will keep you happy and occupied, guarded by the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains at every turn.

lakelureadventurecompany.com | visitNCsmalltowns.com
Check out 50+ [Adventures](#).

*Images: Top, Lake Lure, Erik Olsen Photography;
Bottom, Lake Lure Adventure Company*

Carolina Famous Faces

Dustin Hunter Johnson

Born June 22, 1984

He's #1

Dustin Johnson is currently ranked #1 professional golfer in the world, following a win at the 2017 Genesis Open. It's the latest in a series of remarkable victories, including a win at the 2016 U.S. Open at Oakmont Country Club (with a 4-under-par score). He's been ranked inside the top five for several years and is noted as one of the longest drivers on the PGA Tour.

The golfer was born in Columbia, SC and played golf for Coastal Carolina University, near Myrtle Beach. He turned pro in late 2007 after graduation and won his first PGA tour event in 2008. He finished the 2016 season as the leading money winner on the PGA Tour (winning the Arnold Palmer Award), had the lowest scoring average, and won both the PGA Player of the Year and PGA Tour Player of the Year awards.

The Dustin Johnson Golf School at TPC Myrtle Beach is led by Allen Terrell (the player's golf coach at Coastal Carolina). Allen is a world leader in junior golf, college, adult, and tour player development. Terrell has coached and developed over 200 college golfers in his career. He has coached All-Americans, PGA and European Tour players.

Dustin Johnson is engaged to singer and model Pauline Gretzky, daughter of ice hockey great, Wayne Gretzky. The couple has one son, and is expecting another.

dustinjohnsongolfschool.com | dustinjohnson.com

Read: [Carolina Famous Faces](#)

Image: © David Leindecker | Dreamstime.com

Carolina Creative

Let the Blooms Continue!

Hello Tony,

Welcome Spring. Bicycles out. Azaleas turning every yard into a botanical garden. It's good, here. Snow? We had

a dusting. Gone by noon. Now, make plans for vacation – early bird reservations get the best view units!

Happy times abound! All across the Carolinas you'll find jobs, low taxes and great home prices. Click to: [Entrepreneurial Resources](#).

Use our 400+ pages at CarolinaLiving.com as your resource for Carolina facts 'n fun ... stories 'n memories!

Leyla & Patrick Mason

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Tony, your perfect Carolina vacation destination had what? (A spa, outdoor track, yoga coach, kayak, or shuttle to shopping?) Do share with our editor, [Kathy Pettit](#). We'll pass along your experiences and questions.

Watch Them Work

701 Center for Contemporary Art presents the 7th annual Columbia Open Studios event, a free, self-guided tour of artists' studios in the City of Columbia, S.C., and Richland and Lexington Counties. This weekend-long driving tour allows the public to meet and interact with artists in a variety of studio environments. Artists keep 100% of sales.
Sat. 10am-6pm and Sun. 12-6pm

Visit columbiaopenstudios.org to plan your free #ColaOpenStudios tour.
[Facebook event.](#)

Colin O'Reilly – Terrane Glass Designs

By Rachel Haymie

Recognition that he was *Garden & Gun Magazine's* 2016 overall winner in the Seventh Annual Made in the South awards convinced Terrane Glass Designs owner and glassblower Colin O'Reilly he was doing some very right things.

Inspiration for choosing Spruce Pine, NC, as setting for blowing very clear glass came, in part, from the town's unique geological formations, including the presence of high quality quartz, and also suggested the artisan's business name: Terrane.

"To honor this purity, we produce very clear glass, initially for home bars, with perhaps only the subtlety of a thumb print as decoration," said O'Reilly, who moved his family from the Seattle, WA area to found Terrane. "We are thriving in this small town environment where quartz is mined for microchips. A little bit of Spruce Pine is in technology, all over the world."

With the prestigious award as encouragement, Mr. O'Reilly plans to keep it clear as he forges ahead. "Within coming months we plan to open a studio in downtown Spruce Pine, which is near the Blue Ridge Parkway."

colinoreillyglass.com

Other [Carolina Creatives](#).

Beautiful Blooms

Ask for the Guide

Updated town information, six fun new Carolina Adventures, and one heck of a good-looking feature showcasing gardens. Order yours today.

[Click here](#) for the official hold-in-your-hand Guide to Carolina lifestyle fun and adventure trips, plus real estate tips, tax & cost-of-living advantages, retirement opportunities and town profiles. Just share your dream goals and we'll help lead you to smart Carolina life and times.

Facebook

It's all about the pub – and the grub.
We're not talking about the old stand-bys you used to sneak out of Dad's refrigerator. Nope, the beer being brewed in the Carolinas is the stuff awards are made of – and given for. Let's pause and salute our hard-working brewmasters. Salute!

When you wanna try something different – dare we say a bit edgy – try one of the microbrews being crafted and consumed in the Carolinas. Always in moderation, of course. What's your favorite craft beer? Plz share with us on [Facebook](#).

Looking for a great pub to sip your suds? Craftbeer.com suggests [Boondocks Brewing Tap Room and Restaurant](#) in West Jefferson, NC & [Edmund's Oast](#) in Charleston, SC [www.Craftbeer.com](#)

Heading your way

See how these gardens grow

April is National Garden Month and Charleston, SC provides the perfect destination for nature lovers to stroll through some of the oldest gardens in the country.

70th Annual Festival of Houses and Gardens -- Go inside the private houses and gardens of some of America's most beautiful historic residences in Charleston, South Carolina. Set amid the ambience of the city's Old & Historic District, the Festival of Houses and Gardens features award-winning tours and educational events showcasing Charleston's distinctive architecture, history, gardens and culture.

Details

March 16–April 22

Please [click here](#) for a detailed calendar.

Proceeds benefit Historic Charleston Foundation's historic preservation initiatives and educational programs.

Note: When you visit, make time for [Middleton Place](#), home to America's oldest landscaped gardens, with something blooming throughout the year.

Image: Historic Charleston Foundation

Who Should be in this Hall of Fame?

The Tryon Riding and Hunt Club has announced the creation of the Carolinas Show Hunter Hall of Fame to recognize and promote great Show Hunters and Horsemen from both North and South Carolina.

While both states have rich histories in the development of classic horses and riders, the Tryon area has had an integral role in the success of many of these horses, owners and riders.

Andrew Brannon, President of the Tryon Riding & Hunt Club commented, "Supporting equestrian sport in the Tryon area has always been a mission of the Tryon Riding and Hunt Club. Since 1925, the Carolinas' community and equestrians have looked to Tryon Riding and Hunt Club for great events, leadership and innovation.

We are thrilled to introduce the founding of the Carolinas Show Hunter Hall of Fame. This endeavor will recognize North and South Carolina's exceptional show hunters and horsemen throughout the region's rich equestrian heritage."

Please go online now to [carolinasshowhunterhalloffame.com](#) and participate in the nomination of the horses and horsemen of your choice. Be a part of the inaugural induction ceremony and a part of the Tryon/Carolinas equine history in the making.

Image from [www.carolinasshowhunterhalloffame.com](#)

- Let's Take a **Road Trip!**
- Carolina Famous Faces
- Insider Attractions
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Carolina Cuisine

This Side is a Star

Hashbrowns? Not just for breakfast any more. If you're looking for a warm and bubbly dish to finish off a special Southern brunch, or even a cozy evening meal, we found it. **The Baird House Hashbrown Casserole** does what all great casseroles do – it mixes starch, cheese, and adds crunch on the top to make heaven in a dish.

We're thinking a springtime celebration with ham or lamb, or perhaps a hearty breakfast dish (throw in a bit of chopped, cooked ham for a complete meal), before heading out for a special Easter egg hunt.

If you want to go to the source, consider a visit to the Baird House – oldest house in Watauga County and the only mountain B&B near Boone, on the river. Their breakfasts are called legendary, and they've been awarded *Trip Advisor's* Certificate of Excellence. Try this recipe soon. Delish!

Mount Vintage Tournaments and Events

From intimate retreats to corporate outings or large scale charity fund raisers, Mount Vintage Golf Club's facilities and staff work to ensure your success.

Through a full range of tournament and event services, from intimate retreats to corporate outings, Mount Vintage Golf Club's staff of golf professionals creates unique and memorable golf experiences. Mount Vintage Golf Club offers charm, history, ambiance and excellent service for social, business and dining needs, while also providing dramatic views of the golf course.

MVGC's professional staff can help with all your tournament planning and preparation, making sure all the details are perfect – even if it's your first tournament. For more information about golf outings, club membership, or daily greens fees please contact Jeff Marks PGA Head Professional at 803.279.5422 ext.103 or email jeffmarks@mountvintagegolf.com.

Contact them at info@mountvintage.com for information on available real estate at Mount Vintage.

*RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing
Stay at Sea Pines Resort*

The Sea Pines Resort on Hilton Head Island announces up to 15% off select accommodations for stays during the PGA TOUR's RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing held on its famed Harbour Town Golf Links, April 10-16.

Valid from April 8 (Sat.) to April 17 (Mon.), the offer features discounted rates for five- to nine-nights' lodging in select one-, two- and three-bedroom villa accommodations within easy walking distance of the action on famed Harbour Town Golf Links. One complimentary badge for access to the Harbour Town Clubhouse during the tournament is included for one-week rentals.

Free daily trolley service throughout Sea Pines is additionally available as well as stress-free parking at the homes or villas. Guests enjoy access to world-class amenities including the Sea Pines Beach Club, Plantation Golf Club with its acclaimed Live Oak restaurant, and reduced rates at the resort's Heron Point by Pete Dye and new Atlantic Dunes by Davis Love III golf courses.

When [booking online](#), enter the promotion code HERITAGE.
For more information: www.seapines.com.

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