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Subject: Showcasing: Business and Jobs, Asheville, Fort Mill, Aiken, Columbia, Brevard, Great Golf Communities, Blowing Rock

April 27, 2017

Below: And the beat goes on; She was a bad girl; Beautiful things come in small packages; Jobs are plentiful here; Power rangers and choo-choos; Salute the strawberry; Square root delicious; Resident for a day; Wine festival.

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Carolina Adventure

Drumming Circle Asheville, NC

Heartbeat of the City

For those who happen to walk by the rounded outdoor amphitheater of downtown's Pritchard Park on a Friday evening, the assault on the senses can be incredible. For almost 20 years, during spring, summer and fall, Friday nights in downtown Asheville have pulsed to the beat of hundreds of people pounding on their drums and dancing to the powerful rhythms.

Everyone's not a participant, of course. Some prefer to stand or sit on the sidelines and indulge in world-class people watching. It's quite the showcase of individuality and diversity. Children of all ages dance and play, and everyone co-mingles. Yes, alcohol is involved, at least for some. And Asheville's finest have a strong presence around the perimeter of the party. But those are merely precautions. It's always a happy crowd that is celebrating

Asheville's wonderful, quirky, eclectic community (and the fact that once again, it's Friday night).

The Drum Circle is a free event and it's all about creating harmony, both in the music being created and the people mingling together.

In 2001, there were 10 drummers who met outside and began to play their instruments. The rest is history – today's event is tenfold larger and stronger than ever.

WOW Factor: This is an adventure for folks who want to be where the action is. People who love to smile at strangers and meet like-minded souls adore this ritual. Originally a warm weather event, the Drum Circle now has an indoor home in the winter. The New Mountain AVL keeps the beat alive when it's cold outside.

Hint: The drumming begins between 5 and 6pm on Fridays, and continues until about 10pm, including a few short breaks. If you want to play but doubt your percussive ability, build your confidence by taking a course at Skinny Beats Drum Shop in the downtown area. (No drum ownership required.) Teacher Billy Zanski is amazing. Local rhythm leader, River Guerguerian, hosts "World Percussion Classes" every week. And he's also founded the Asheville Percussion Festival, which takes place each June/July. As one *Trip Advisor* reviewer shared: It's the most fun you can have with your clothes on – Asheville's ultimate local vibe.

[ExploreAsheville.com/music](https://www.exploreasheville.com/music)

More [Adventures](#).
Read about [Asheville](#).

Carolina Famous Faces

Marie Boozer ***Bad Scarlett*** **(1846-1908)**

Marie Boozer was a beautiful, brilliant, and notorious strawberry-blonde who established a remarkable life. She lived in Columbia, was noted as "beautiful" by General Sherman in his memoirs, and was mentioned by famous South Carolina diarist Mary Chestnut as "a beauty that none can deny."

Bad Scarlett: The Extraordinary Life of the Notorious Southern

Beauty Marie Boozer reveals the true, redemptive story of a young belle from South Carolina who left Columbia with the union troops, transformed herself into a scandalous divorcée in New York and London, became a Paris courtesan defying police authority, and ultimately found herself a countess and world citizen – while her half-sisters raised families in pioneer Florida. In this book, myths about Marie Boozer are demolished, and Civil War military heroes are acknowledged.

Author, historian, and professor emeritus at Emory University, Bell Irvin Wiley deemed Marie Boozer "one of the four most famous southern women of the Civil War," and popular historian Manly Wade Welman wrote that she was the basis for the character of Scarlett O'Hara. Finally, Marie's entire story is told.

Praise for *Bad Scarlett*:

Alexander Moore, historian of South Carolina: "The real-life Marie Boozer had a character that was braver, more independent, and far grander than any of the legends about her."

Rosalie Foster, historian and president, North Brevard Heritage Foundation: "Marie Boozer was a liberated woman for her time and lived an interesting and exciting life with many trials and tribulations. In a well-written biography, Deborah Pollack's extensive research to right the wrong about Marie Boozer's life is extraordinary..."

Author contact: [Deborah C. Pollack](#)
Other [Carolina Famous Faces](#)
More about [Columbia](#).

Make mine strawberry shortcake.

SC Strawberry Festival

The South Carolina Strawberry Festival is Fort Mill's welcome to spring, where you'll spend the week enjoying the sweet taste of their homegrown, sun-kissed strawberries.

Join them in beautiful historic Fort Mill, SC from April 29th to May 6th for an exciting week celebrating (and eating) the sweetest strawberries in the south! Admission is FREE.

[SC Strawberry Festival](#)

Sand-seeking golfers

Spring Green

Hello Tony,

Join us in the Carolina love fest. Have you tasted this year's fresh-from-the-garden, tender asparagus tips? We've got them in all the local markets. What about sweet and luscious strawberries from the fields? Recipes and festivals abound. Azaleas are in full bloom and we're hearing the putt-putt of tillers turning the soil for heirloom tomato plantings. We'll have to wait a bit for those, but they are so worth the wait!

Read on ... lots to enjoy today, including good times, bad girls, artists, chefs, insider tips on golf communities and much more.

Plenty of jobs, low taxes and real

Find Your Home On and Off Course in Carolinas

*By Larry Gavrich, Founder & Editor,
Home On The Course, LLC*

estate bonanzas sweeten lifestyle incentives to live here.

The new Spring/Summer GUIDE is here. [Sign up](#) for yours today. Can't wait? Click to [latest feature](#) on [CarolinaLiving.com](#) and discover new "walkable" trends in neighborhood life – just in time for your own search.

Meanwhile, plan a visit (52 Adventures profiled will help). It's the path that led us here 34 years ago – vacations, exploring, then putting down our own roots – best decision ever!

[Leyla & Patrick Mason](#)

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Hot for Business! Skilled People Needed!

Whether you want to relocate a business, start a business or find a new job, the Carolinas offer a wealth of opportunities. And entrepreneurs and corporate executives planning to either start or grow a business are turning increasingly to cities in the Carolinas that are known as the hottest options for business.

Venerable business journal *Forbes* ranked North Carolina as No. 2 on its list of the Best States for Business in 2016. South Carolina came in at No. 21. *Forbes* measures businesses costs, labor supply, regulatory environment, economic climate, growth prospects and quality

Most folks, even those living on one coast or the other, do not live within 10 minutes of a beach. But golf lovers searching for a retirement or vacation home in the Carolinas have plenty of sand to enjoy both on and off the course. The golf communities in the following examples are all within a 10-minute ride to the beach; in some cases, the ride is even shorter and, in two notable instances, the community actually comprises its own beach club, a mere cart or bicycle ride from home.

Discover more about [11 golf communities.](#)

Image by Larry Gavrich:

Grande Dunes Resort Course 14th, Myrtle Beach, SC

Carolina Creative

Maggie Erb Sacks | Cabinet-Maker

Maggie Erb Sacks has broken South Carolina fine cabinet-making traditions – a little at the time. But in doing so, she has also made sure other traditions are perpetuated.

Simply being a female distinguishes her in the state's long history of local cabinetmaking. Ms. Sacks has become noted, among her myriad achievements, for miniature furniture. In fact, one of her small pieces is currently on view at Columbia's McKissick Museum, part of A Compass to Guide: South Carolina Cabinetmakers Today, an exhibition that continues on the University of South Carolina historic Horseshoe through July 17, 2017.

"In the 19th century, it was the practice of those apprenticing to fine cabinetmakers to craft miniatures to demonstrate their mastery of the skills necessary to make fine furniture," said Dr. Tom Mack, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, University of South Carolina – Aiken.

Sacks is well aware these little pieces of furniture, 1/8 scale, slightly larger than doll house furniture, are highly collectible. The artisan crafted her miniature dry sink from walnut and lined its basin with copper. The piece, replicating a very utilitarian workhorse of the 19th century, has two shelves below, a lid for the sink, and two enclosed drawers.

Like apprentices whose traditions she carries on, Ms. Sacks apprenticed in Virginia before coming to Aiken from Pennsylvania in 1973.

Although small is beautiful, the artist sometimes goes big. When she does it is for traditional-sized furniture, in both period and contemporary styles.

of life.

No matter who is doing the ranking, North and South Carolina always appear at the top of the lists of best places to do business. [The Full Story.](#)

Photo: Darby Communications, Asheville, NC

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Go outside and play!

OK, we've been outside for most of the past two months, but now, it's time to crank up the *al fresco!*

Dust off the tennis racket, or learn how to play pickleball or disc golf.

Share your favorite outdoor fun on [Facebook](#).

Heading your way

Among other small achievements, Ms. Sacks replicated – in gingerbread – Aiken's Visitors' Center and Train Museum as part of the historic town's holidays festivities a few years ago.

Working in wood has been one of her personal traditions. "I have been engaged in woodworking since I was a teen," Sacks explains.

Maggie Erb Sacks, 1790 Highland Park Drive, Aiken, SC 29801
More about [Aiken](#).

Photo of artist with highboy: Courtesy of Maggie Erb Sacks

Take the Little Ones to Tweetsie

**Leonardo, Raphael,
Donatello and
Michelangelo.**

Everyone's favorite mutant ninja turtles, are coming to Tweetsie Railroad!

Nickelodeon and Tweetsie Railroad invite children to meet the costumed characters when they visit the

theme park July 7-9, 2017. The characters will be making scheduled appearances in the Hacienda to take pictures and interact with fans throughout the weekend. Fans can spend time with the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and enjoy a day of Wild West adventure at North Carolina's first theme park.

Tweetsie Railroad, near Blowing Rock, NC, is now open for its 60th Anniversary season.

Daytime admission is \$45 for adults, \$30 for children (ages 3 to 12) and free for children 2 and under. Hours and dates vary; before planning your visit, check [Tweetsie.com](#).

Carolina Cuisine

**Eggs, Bacon, Shrimp
& Okra too!**

Pretty enough for company, easy enough for the deck, and oh-so-Southern. We asked Chef Adam Wilson for a recipe from his spectacular restaurant, The Square Root, located in [Brevard, NC](#), one of our favorite mountain towns.

From our perspective, this checks all of our boxes – pretty, tasty, with shrimp, deviled eggs and bacon (Southern favorites, all).

That fact that it's portable just makes this tasty treat all the more valuable. Try [Southern Bacon Deviled Eggs with Old Bay](#)

[Shrimp](#). And don't forget the pickled okra – the proverbial cherry on top!

- **Let's Take a Road Trip**
- **Carolina Famous Faces**
- **Insider Info**
- **Adventures**

Fine Art Auction

Murrells Inlet, South Carolina

The works of internationally recognized sculptor, Glenna Goodacre will be the centerpiece of a Fine Art Auction, hosted by The Friends of Brookgreen Gardens, on May 5th, 2017. Brookgreen was thrilled to be selected to receive 15 of Goodacre's works, including figures from her largest piece Irish Memorial, created in 2002 for Penn's Landing in Philadelphia. In October of 2016, Goodacre announced her complete retirement from sculpting and casting bronzes. She began destroying her foundry molds, so there will be no new castings of her work.

Three etchings and one lithograph by Alfred Hutton, considered one of the leading artists of the Charleston Renaissance, will also be part of this auction; as well as works from noted artists such as Linda St. Clair, Stephen

Scott Young, Jonathan Green, Bobby Bagley, and many more.

Morris & Whiteside Auctions will provide several options for bidding. An online catalogue is available at their [website](#).

Brookgreen Gardens, a National Historic Landmark and non-profit organization, is located on U.S. 17 between Murrells Inlet and Pawleys Island, South Carolina, and is open to the public daily. For more information, visit www.brookgreen.org or call 843.235.6000.

16th Annual Yadkin Valley Wine Festival

Saturday, May 20th | 11am-5pm
Elkin Municipal Park, Elkin NC

Try the fruits of so many vines and discover why this area has exploded with vineyards, wineries and now awards. Festival-goers have the opportunity to sample from 30 wineries that are either located in the Yadkin Valley or use grapes harvested from Yadkin vineyards

Food and craft vendors next to wine tasting. Fun for the kids, too. [Details](#).

*Become a Resident for a Day at
Briar Chapel or Wendell Falls!*

What an awesome way to explore the amenities available at Briar Chapel, in Chapel Hill, NC or Wendell Falls in Wendell. Pools, mountain bikes, parks and trails exploration kit and much more. With 100s of acres of preserved open space, there's much to explore – and great folks to meet.

briarchapelnc.com and wendellfalls.com

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