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**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
**Date:** 1/14/2016 10:24:04 AM  
**Subject:** Showcasing: Charleston, New River, Aiken, Wilmington, & Manning

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December 17, 2015 *Below: Wild, scenic and very, very old, Amelia Bedelia, stick built, that marvelous mile, get your insta on, save the fish, preserved to perfection.*

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## Carolina Adventures

### **New River State Park** **Jefferson, NC | Wild and Scenic**

On land or by water, make sure this family-friendly park and river are on your radar for a visit. Believed to be one of the oldest rivers in North America, the New River travels north toward its ultimate destination – the Gulf of Mexico, via the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. It's been that way for thousands of years, and because 26.5 miles of this water is protected as a Wild and Scenic, and the New River State Park accompanies the water with land as old as the hills, you've got a beautiful opportunity to enjoy the whole package.

The park offers camping and special events, including ecology hikes, guided tours, a traditional New Year's Day hike, and lots of nature excursions, both on and off the water. Ten marked trails within the park (some wheelchair accessible) allow families to follow markers and spend an hour or so enjoying nature at its finest (most are a mile or less, with round-trip and one-way options).

Trees include oaks, hickories, maples, pines and, in higher elevations, hemlocks. You'll see dogwood, sourwood and sassafras, as well as gum, yellow poplar, birch and black locust. Wildflowers are rampant. Look for huckleberries, mountain laurel and

hydrangeas. (Ask the ranger about the 14+ species of rare, threatened, or endangered plants in the valley. )

Be prepared to see red-tailed hawks, wild turkeys and dozens of birds. White-tailed deer are often visible but you probably won't spot a black bear. River otters, mink and muskrat may be encountered.

Canoes and kayaks can be rented from local outfitters, and when it's warm enough, the river sites come alive with happy tales of tubing with family and friends.

*WOW Factor:* Archeologists suggest humans have been here at least 10,000 years. Daniel Boone settled near here. The New River was named by Peter Jefferson, the father of Thomas Jefferson.

Native Americans hunted in the area and used the river for navigation. It's beautiful and relaxing and the flora and fauna are nothing short of spectacular.

*Hint:* From personal experience, wear long sleeves to tube. Your arms will thank you later. Take extra dry clothes and shoes. State parks are alcohol-free.

[www.ncparks.gov/new-river-state-park](http://www.ncparks.gov/new-river-state-park)

## Carolina Famous Faces

### Peggy Parish

Manning, South Carolina native Peggy Parish graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in English and taught for many years in Oklahoma, Kentucky and New York City. She began to write stories for children, as well as review children's books and lead training workshops for teachers. She had an instinctive gift and as her books were published, she began to receive letters of appreciation from children and their parents.

Her philosophy was that children will not read books in which they have no interest, and a love of reading must be in place by the time a child has finished third grade. She wrote a variety of children's books, but by far the most beloved was the series of Amelia Bedelia books, which included *Amelia Bedelia Helps Out*, and *Amelia Bedelia, The Surprise Shower*, among many others.

For those who never spent time with her quirky character, Amelia Bedelia worked as a housekeeper, where her literal take on instructions caused havoc in the home. (She dusts the furniture with dusting powder, for example, and sketches the drapes when asked to "draw" them.) In *Play Ball, Amelia*

*Bedelia*, the opportunities to confuse baseball terminology are many. (Think about running home, or stealing a base – taken literally.) What inevitably saved the day were the housekeeper’s amazing baking skills. Despite the mix-ups and confusion, her desserts were so delicious that employers simply could not let her go. Hundreds of thousands of children are glad she stayed on.

Peggy Parish eventually left New York and returned home to the small town of Manning, where she died in 1988, after suffering an aneurism. Her nephew, Herman Parish, has continued the *Amelia Bedelia* series, to the delight of children everywhere.

*Amelia Bedelia* is frequently cited as one of the reasons Wikipedia should be carefully checked before quoting. According to a number of sources, several college students ended an evening of recreational drug use by adding made-up “facts” to listings in Wikipedia. They focused on obscure authors, and among their antics, advised readers that *Amelia Bedelia* was based upon Ms. Parish’s encounters with a maid during time spent living in Cameroon, Africa. There was no time spent in Africa, and no maid. However, Internet browsers can still find this curious note in a variety of Internet listings, picked up as “fact.”

Discover more about [Manning](#).

*Photo: Peggy Parish (left) inspired Manning Primary School students every spring when she read to them from her books. Photo from "Shadows of the Past: An Illustrated History of Clarendon County, SC" by Sylvia H. Clark, PhD.*

## Carolina Creatives

*Stickwork.net image: Ready or Not, North Carolina Zoo, Asheboro, NC  
Photo by Juan Villa*

### Patrick Dougherty | Stick By Stick

He wasn’t born in the Carolinas, but he was raised in the Tar Heel State, in Southern Pines. After earning a B.A. in English from the University of North Carolina in 1967, returning to study art history and sculpture, and purchasing ten acres in Orange County (near Chapel Hill), he is definitely one of our own. *(There was that M.A. in Hospital and Health Administration from the*

*University of Iowa, but clearly, his life’s calling went in another direction.)*

There were the early, small pieces that fit neatly on a pedestal, but soon, his “monumental scale environmental works” appeared, requiring truckloads of saplings, and volunteers to help the visions become reality. The world took notice.

## Holiday Happenings

Hello Tony,

With the holiday celebrations upon us ... no matter where you live, the Carolina life and adventures await folks like you from Columbia.

We say, forget the frigid tundra. Photo ops, golf, spas, beach, tennis and trail conditions here are warm and inviting. So expect to pay less and get more as you tour (with Lassie, if you like), the land of "smiling faces" and "beautiful places."

Watch for an abundance of new discoveries on [CarolinaLiving.com](http://CarolinaLiving.com), including 93 town profiles and current tax advantages, all guaranteed to make the Kester life happier (and easier on the pocketbook).

Our 2016 wish for you in Columbia:  
Good health and abundant prosperity.  
Happy travels around the Carolinas!  
Finding what feeds your soul.

**Leyla & Patrick Mason**

Co-Founders

Center For Carolina

Living *Showcasing Carolina Life  
& Adventures*

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PS: Launching in 2016 – our expanded website with superlative new content – the best of the Carolinas in every way!

## NC Wildlife

It takes about three weeks to create one of his installations, and although he has the vision and the sketches, quite often the creation emerges and evolves during the process. His work is temporary, of course.

During the past 30 years, Patrick Dougherty has built more than 250 amazing sculptures that have been displayed in various settings around the globe. His awards include the 2011 Factor Prize for Southern Art, North Carolina Artist Fellowship Award, Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, Henry Moore Foundation Fellowship, Japan-US Creative Arts Fellowship, and National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. Princeton Architectural Press published a major book about Patrick and his work in 2009. This monograph, *Stickwork*, has received excellent reviews and is available at [www.stickwork.net](http://www.stickwork.net).

To visit one of his installations in 2016, you'll need to travel:

01/2016 McKee Botanical Garden, Vero Beach, FL

02/2016 Appleton Museum of Art, Ocala, FL

03/2016 Atlanta Botanical Garden, Gainesville, GA

04/2016 Astrid Lindgren Näs, Vimmerby, Sweden

06/2016 Green Box Arts, Green Mt Falls, CO

08/2016 Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA

09/2016 College of Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

10/2016 Hermitage Museum & Gardens, Norfolk, VA

Learn more about Patrick Dougherty at [www.stickwork.net](http://www.stickwork.net)  
[Read](#) a fascinating article about him in *Carolina Alumni Review*.

*Above: Patrick Dougherty photo by Jonathan Mathis.*

## History in the Holy City

### Museum Mile Month in Charleston

During the month of January 2016, with the Museum Mile Month pass, you can learn about Charleston's rich history and culture while visiting sites in the order that best fits your schedule. With adult tickets at \$25 and children's (ages 12 and under) at \$10 for 11 different sites, it's a deal we had to share! Purchases can be made in advance – a great holiday gift.

Online sales will be available until December 31. Any tickets purchases during the month of January must be made in person at either the Mount Pleasant, North Charleston, or Downtown Visitor Center.

PARTICIPATING MUSEUM MILE SITES INCLUDE:

Aiken-Rhett House Museum

The Charleston Museum



Children's Museum

of the Lowcountry *Must be with a child (10 and under) to be admitted*

Joseph Manigault House

Confederate Museum

The Powder Magazine

Old Slave Mart Museum

Heyward-Washington House

Nathaniel Russell House Museum

The Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon

Edmondston-Alston House

[www.charlestonmuseummile.org](http://www.charlestonmuseummile.org)

843.722.2996 ext. 235

Take a [Road Trip](#) to Charleston.

Learn more about [Charleston](#).

*Image: Children's Museum of the Lowcountry*

## The Mystery Fish Robust Redhorse (*Moxostoma robustum*)

*Note: Our ongoing feature shares information about Carolinas endangered animals. Some are cuddly, others – not so much. All are important and the Wildlife Federations of both Carolinas are working hard to raise awareness of these important creature assets. Enjoy!*

Since its discovery in 1869, much about the Robust Redhorse has remained a mystery. It wasn't until 1991, when many individual fish were captured in a Georgia river by biologists, that this freshwater fish began its recovery and has since been successfully restocked in rivers of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

The Robust Redhorse provides an important ecological benefit for the rivers they inhabit; they feed on a very invasive species of bivalves called Asiatic clams. These clams reproduce rapidly and largely compete for food with the native species. Adult robust redhorse fish can reach up to 30 inches long and weigh as much as 17 pounds, though the average is 25 inches and 9 pounds.

Since these fish inhabit rivers with a heavy history of pollution and ruin, the robust redhorse continues to be threatened by human activity. They are also easily overlooked due to misidentification to other common, closely-related fish during fishing activities.

[Donate now.](#)

**The New Guide is here!**

## Bring your Insta Game

### Wrightsville Beach

In a culture virtually obsessed with all things social media, the mantra for many has become "If you don't post about it online, it didn't really happen." Documenting vacations is no exception.

Bring your "Insta" game to the next level while visiting North Carolina's most Wrightsville Beach.

We promise you'll hit that max number of likes!

### Dock and Dine

Because the area is surrounded by water on all sides, everything – even eating – caters to the boating culture. Check out the many waterfront restaurants offering this unique convenience including Bluewater Grill, Dockside and many more, and start clicking [#coastalcuisine](#) and eating away! Check out this dinner with a view for inspiration taken by [@wilmingtonfoodpics](#).

### Sandy Strolls

A picture with your [#furryfriend](#) is hard to beat, and what better backdrop than the beach? For many, a beach vacation wouldn't be complete without their pet by their side. Make plans during the off-season at pet-friendly accommodations to avoid boarding costs. Dogs are allowed on Wrightsville Beach while on leash through April 1, and there are several water fountains, just for Fido, located right on the island. So enjoy a seaside stroll with your best friend and take a photo or two! Here's a great photo of a pup enjoying his day out on the beach by [@awatsondesigns](#).

Learn more about [Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach](#).

## Oldies and Goodies

[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.

### ***We hear it over and over.***

Folks visit (and move) to the Carolinas for the four-season climate and the ability to be outdoors most of the year.

How do you get your thrills? Biking? Birdwatching? Hang gliding or Parasailing? What about zip lines? No thanks – no problem.

Get your jollies from a slow day fishing beside a mountain stream, or waiting for the perfect outdoor nature image to come into view.

See how we do it, at [carolinalive.com/outdoor-thrills](http://carolinalive.com/outdoor-thrills)

## **Facebook**

### **Go ahead and make that New Year's resolution.**

We dare you. For 2016, why not get a bit more creative and promise yourself more days along the beach, biking in the mountains, or perhaps learning what the newest fitness challenge – BollyX – is all about.

[Share](#) .

## **Heading your way**

- Let's Take a Road Trip!
- Carolina Famous Faces
- Insider Attractions
- [eNewsletter Archives](#).

### **Antiques in the Heart of Aiken February 4-7, 2016**

Antiques in the Heart of Aiken is an annual event put on by the Aiken Center for the Arts. Each year 20+ antique dealers from around the country display and sell their museum quality merchandise for four days. In addition, two lectures are presented to help educate and raise awareness of decorative arts.

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

Learn more about [Aiken](#).

## **Carolina Cuisine**

### **Carolina on your Plate**

How does this sound?

[Shrimp and creamy pumpkin grits](#) with braised pork and sweet potato chips? We thought so.

Sounds pretty good to us, too, and oh-so-locally sourced. The recipe is provided courtesy of the Ruddy Duck Tavern, in

Moorhead City, NC, and was a former winning recipe for the North Carolina Seafood Festival: NC People's Choice Competition. Sweet potato chips are always divine; I never met a shrimp I didn't like; and pumpkin grits sound like an intriguing combination of flavors.

Ruddy Duck Tavern is located in the original Sanitary Fish Market building on the beautiful Morehead City Waterfront. Plan your personal visit soon. The ambiance is surpassed only by the food!

Try the recipe and remember: Carolina wild shrimp are (it's not bragging if it's true) the best in the world.

**[www.carolinaliving.com](http://www.carolinaliving.com)    phone 803.782.7466**  
**4201 Blossom Street Columbia, SC 29205-2850**

*Compiled by Katherine O. Pettit • Designed by Ann Dolin*

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