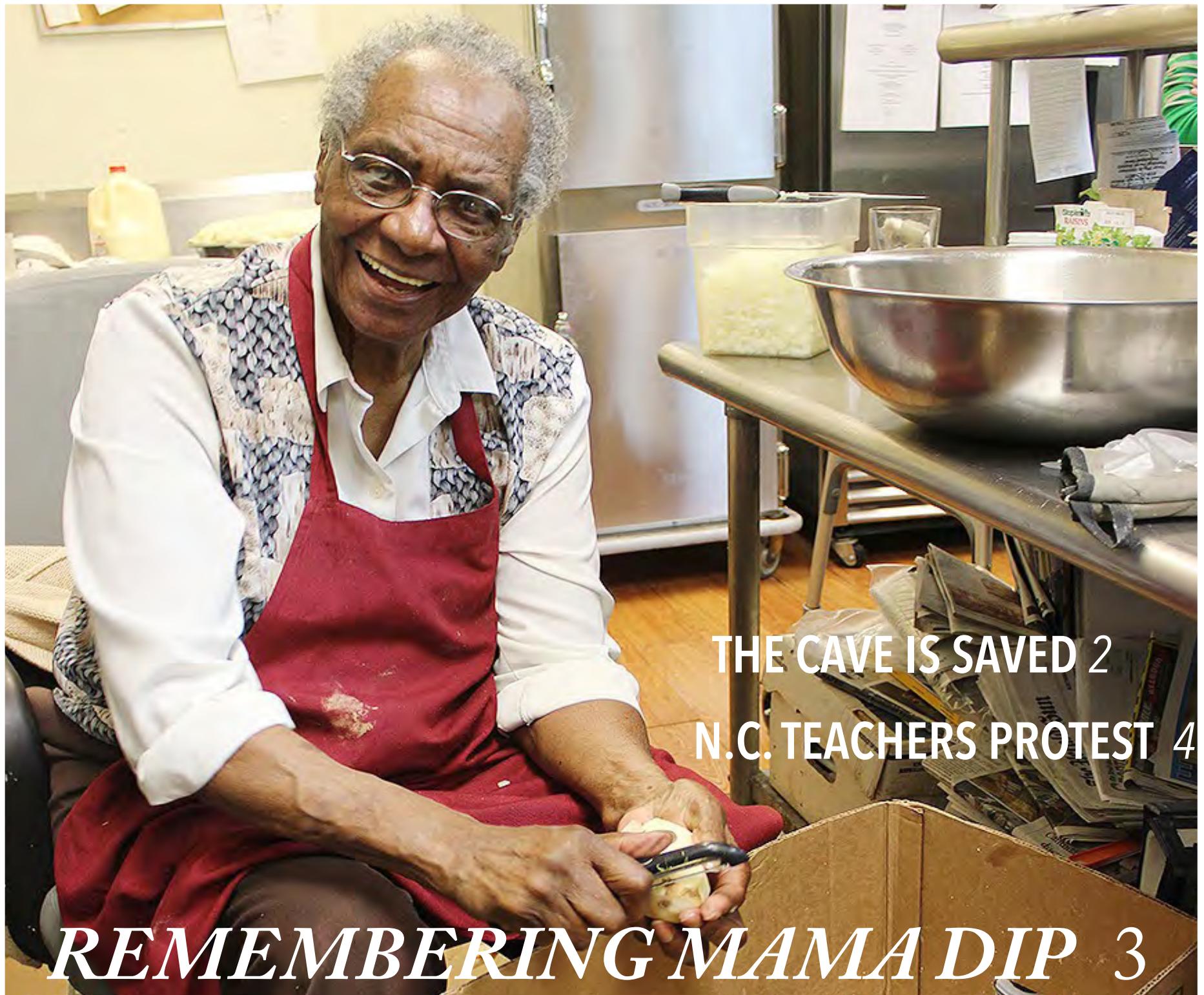


June 2018
Volume 17 Issue 4

southern NEIGHBOR

Chapel Hill • Carrboro • Pittsboro • Hillsborough



302
PERMIT NO.
DURHAM, NC
PAID
US POSTAGE
PRST STD
Postal Patron

151 E. Rosemary St.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Our Editors

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Maddy Arrowood
editor@southernneighbor.com

PHOTO EDITOR

Chichi Zhu

CALENDAR EDITOR

Molly Looman

About Us

Southern Neighbor is a student produced magazine, founded by Bonnie Schaefer and published under the DTH Media Corp.

To place an advertisement, contact: (919) 962-4214 or ads@southernneighbor.com.

4 TEACHER RALLY



3 MAMA DIP

Read about the life and journey of Mildred Council, founder of Mama Dip's Kitchen, who passed away in May.

JUNE 6 CALENDAR



Photo credit: Rebecca Lawson

By Marin Wolf

Good news for dive-bar lovers and aspiring musicians: The Cave, a Chapel Hill bar and music venue, announced it will reopen in June after coming under new ownership.

New owners Melissa Swingle and Autumn Spencer said they decided to purchase the bar after learning it was going to close in April after 50 years.

For them, saving The Cave was a personal decision.

"The Cave was one of the first places I played as a musician," Swingle said. "It's just been that little dive where everybody starts out."

Swingle said the bar will be ready for a soft opening within the next two weeks, and she is planning a party to celebrate the bar on June 29.

While the line-up for the party is not yet set, Swingle said her old band Trailer Bride may have a reunion.

Bar patrons are excited about the Chapel Hill staple's reopening. Dale White, who owned a bar in the 1970s near The Cave called The Endangered Species Tavern, recalled fond memories of the venue.

"Any time I wasn't working, I was at

The Cave," he said. "It's quite a hangout."

Stephanie Rouquette, an employee for Orange County ABC, went to her first concert at The Cave in 2002 and has been going back ever since. She said the bar is where she met some of her closest friends – including her husband.

"It was such a different kind of space, and it had a really nice home-away-from-home kind of feel," Rouquette said.

As the bar transitions owners, Swingle said the culture of the bar will stay the same. The new owners do, however, want to make the bar cleaner and friendlier to female musicians and attendees.

"No matter what we do, it's still going to be a dive, we're still going to have rock 'n' roll," Swingle said. "We're trying to make it more of a woman cave now, as opposed to the man cave it's been for decades."

Above all else, Swingle said she is most excited to offer a place for the Chapel Hill community to come together.

"The support we've gotten from the whole Chapel Hill community has been overwhelming," Swingle said. "I really think that, even though Autumn and I are the new owners, I feel like The Cave now is owned by the community."



Yes! I am a Fiduciary.

- Your interests come first
- Fee-only
- Holistic financial life planning
- Investment advising and management
- No commissions or product sales

TODDWASHBURN SOLUTIONS
Life Planning for Visionary People

The "Dog Days" are coming!

- Tame your financial concerns
- Create a Financial Life Plan
- Prepare for a "lifetime" vacation

Let me help!

Enjoy my articles? Sign up for my newsletter at:

www.toddwashburn.com

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™
CFP®
The certification marks above are awarded by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. and are awarded to individuals who successfully complete CFP Board's initial and ongoing certification requirements.

Our stories

4 TEACHER RALLY



3 MAMA DIP

Read about the life and journey of Mildred Council, founder of Mama Dip's Kitchen, who passed away in May.



Photo Credit: Logan Savage, DTH file

Left: Mildred Council, nicknamed Mama Dip, makes sweet potato biscuits for her iconic restaurant on Rosemary Street.



Photo Credit: Bre Welles

A Chapel Hill legend remembered

Mildred Council, fondly known as Mama Dip, died on May 20.

By Veronica Correa

Mildred "Mama Dip" Council is remembered by her loved ones for being not just a successful businesswoman, but someone who looked out for everyone.

Council, a Chapel Hill resident and the founder of Mama Dip's Kitchen on 408 W. Rosemary Street, passed away Sunday at age 89 after a period of illness.

Council was born in 1929

and lived on a farm in Chatham County, North Carolina. She was the youngest of seven and was nicknamed "Dip" by her family members due to her tall stature and her ability to "dip" into the rain barrels to get water. She worked at a number of places, including the Carolina Inn and different UNC fraternities before she was able to start her own restaurant in 1976 with just \$64.



Stay connected all month long

Sign up for The Daily Tar Heel email newsletter and follow us on Facebook & Twitter

southern NEIGHBOR
Chapel Hill • Carrboro • Durham • Pittsboro • Hillsborough • Mebane

Find alternatives to driving with Transportation Specialist, Lisa Berley

- Bus riding classes
- Day trips on public buses
- Application assistance for door to door public transportation
- Volunteer Driver Program

Call the Transportation Help Line:

919.717.1853

Programs and Services offered to Orange County residents 55 years of age and older.





Educators from across the state took to Raleigh to rally and march through the Bicentennial Plaza on May 16.

N.C. Educators are Calling for a Change

By Maddy Arrowood

The sea of red-clad protesters in downtown Raleigh braved the early summer heat and rain showers to convene on the doorstep of the North Carolina General Assembly. They had come on behalf of students and educators across the state — a constituency they felt had gone far underserved by the legislature for far too long.

Many attendees at the March For Students and Rally for Respect were themselves teachers. Their presence at the protest meant dozens of school districts across the state closed on May 16 in their wake. About 68 percent of North Carolina's public school students were out of class for the day as educators assembled to voice their grievances and their pleas for adequate funding. Though they all had their own unique stories and experiences in the classroom, they shared the same feelings of frustration, and the same sentiment that enough was enough.

Rachel* is a teacher in Guilford County.

"I just feel so bad for students. They're the reason I'm here," she said. "I'm obviously not in this job for the money. This isn't about a higher salary, although that would be nice."

In tandem with this sentiment, Rachel held a sign that read "not here for a raise" as she stood in line to enter the State Legislative Building. She said she has been a teacher for 10 years now, but before this she worked in a non-school environment. The shift to a public education setting was jarring.

If you worked in an office, you'd never deal with the kinds of awful conditions we deal with in our classrooms — the roaches, the rats, the lizards," she said. "But the public doesn't see it, and the kids just take it as granted."

She said she has taught in two different school districts in N.C. which received vastly different funding. She said she thinks the resources made available to schools should be equal, especially because schools in poorer districts are put at an even further disadvantage because they get so much less.

"The kids are losing all around," Rachel said. "Even teachers have a breaking point."

Further back in line, Jennifer, a Seawell Elementary School teacher, held a poster displaying photos of her classroom in various states of disrepair. She said the recurring sewage floods and the holes in the walls documented in the pictures are almost common incidents in her school.

She recalled wading through sewage in her rain boots, carrying children out of the classroom so they wouldn't come in contact with the waste. But there are so many facilities in need of repair at the school that it can take a year to get a work order filled, Jennifer said, and it seems plumbing issues are always last on the list. Other issues, like the holes in the classroom walls, she and other teachers have learned will only be repaired if they do it themselves.

Another photo on the poster showed a dead snake at the bottom of a bright blue bin. Jennifer said at least two other snakes have been

found in other classrooms, but they were luckily already dead as well.

"My student came up to me and said, 'Miss, there's a little critter in my book box,'" Jennifer said. "I thought it was going to be a bug or something, I did not expect a snake."

Barbara and Danaya* traveled from Cumberland and Guilford Counties to participate in the march. They all teach at Title I schools — institutions that receive federal assistance because of the high percentage of students receiving free or reduced meals.

Despite the additional funding, problems abound in both of their school systems. They said their schools often struggle to finance just the essentials, from paper and pencils to lunches for students below the poverty line, let alone supplementary materials to help students excel.

"These students are poor, and therefore can't access the technology that others can," Barbara said. "But after we provide so many meals, we can't afford all the MacBooks that

the kids at the school down the street have."

Teachers often have to foot the bill for classroom supplies, they said, but with North Carolina consistently ranking near the lowest teacher salaries in the country, simply supporting themselves can be a challenge. Though pay has increased in dollar amount in N.C. over the years, after adjusting for inflation teachers today actually bring home around 12 percent less than they did during the 1999-2000 school year.

"There are teachers working two or three jobs, who qualify for public assistance," Danaya said. "We're expected to do so much for students when we can't even do for our own."

Still, this group of teachers said they notice staff salaries are usually one of the first expenses to get cut. Barbara said her school downsized from three fifth-grade teachers to two this year, so there are now 32 students per class. But funding fluctuates so often that schools cannot be certain of what resources they will be able to afford from year to year.

"We have to share our nurse and our psychologist with the other schools in the district, so they're each only here maybe one or two days a week," she said. "Us teachers are just expected to do it all."

Nicole is a counselor at one of the lowest-ranked middle schools in the state, Philo Hill Magnet Academy. She touched on an abundance of faults within the school's curriculum: students have a deficit of transferable skills, they have poor concept knowledge, the school employs so many substitute teachers that "it operates like a babysitting service."

Yet the issue of mental health which is integral to student success is rarely, if ever discussed, Nicole said. She said that she has noticed more and more suicidal ideation in students, but the school doesn't have the funding to give these students the help they need.

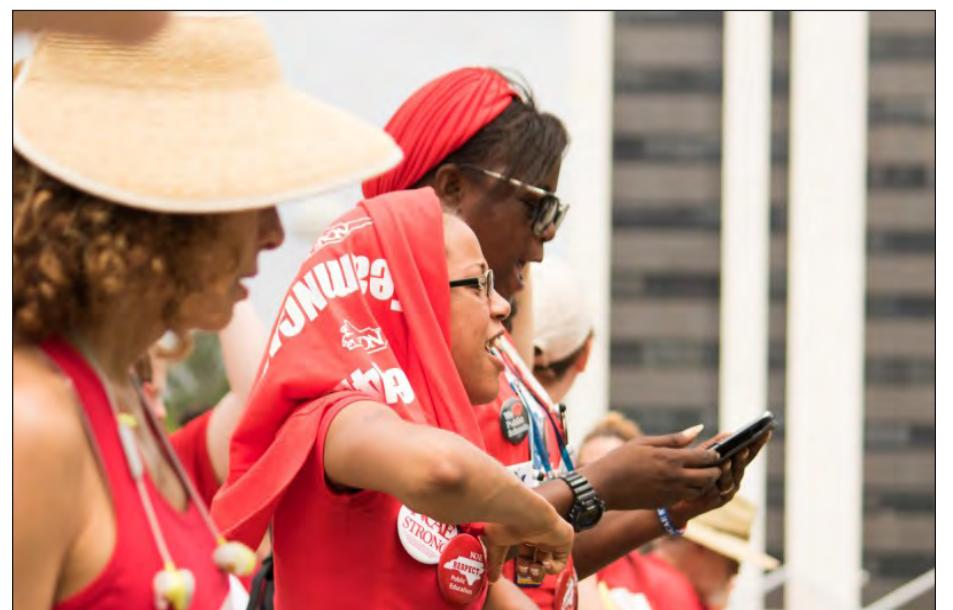
"Counselors are expected to do these complex psychoanalyses they're not trained for," she said. "Counselors aren't prepared to handle the things they're having to handle."

St. Stephens High School media coordinator Tammy Cordeiro said she feels school libraries often go overlooked, ignored and under-supported by the state.

"I'm lucky that I get allotted \$5 per



Educators, parents, students and supporters brave the summer rainshowers to call for more resources for North Carolina public schools.



Protesters rally around the North Carolina General Assembly building as legislators meet inside on May 19.



Photo Credit: Chichi Zhu

*Some educators are identified by first names alone to respect their request for privacy.

June Calendar

Check out the online calendar as well!
SouthernNeighbor.com/upcoming-events/

1 Friday

Calypso

Fearrington Village, 6:30 p.m.

Come see David Sedaris live as he talks about his book, Calypso. Tickets are \$30 and include the book.

7 Thursday

Pints & Poses

Mystery Brewing, 6 p.m.

Enjoy a night of adult relaxation with a yoga class followed by a pint of beer. Tickets are \$15.

15 Friday

Durham Bulls Game

Bulls Stadium, 7:05 p.m.

Remember the 30th anniversary of the film classic 'Bull Durham' with a Durham Bulls game, food trucks and Friday Night Fireworks.

23 Saturday

Rock the Park Movie Showing

Durham Central Park, 8:30 p.m.

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy watching Marmaduke in the nighttime summer air. Admission is free.

2 Saturday

Coffee Tasting Around the World

Carrboro Coffee Roasters, 11 a.m.

Take a trip around the world through this workshop about coffee origins. Tickets are \$30.

9 Saturday

Beehive Tour

NC Botanical Garden, 3 p.m.

Get a unique tour of homes with this Honeybee Hive Tour from a local beekeeper. Admission is free.

16 Saturday

Drawing With Sound

SECU Education Lobby, 1:00 p.m.

Listen with salt. This sound-based art piece creates images with this household condiment.

25 Monday

Laugh in Peace Tour

Levin JCC, 7 p.m.

Let loose with some laughs while you learn a bit more about your neighbor at this comedy show. Tickets are \$18.

3 Sunday

PORCHfest

Weaver Street Market, 5 p.m.

Help benefit PORCH with a night of live music, food and drink. Free admission.

11 Monday

Secrets of the Southern Table

Flyleaf Books, 12 p.m.

Learn the inner workings of Southern cuisine with award-winning chef Virginia Willis and her cookbook, Secrets of the Southern Table.

17 Sunday

Father's Day Brunch

Southern Season Restaurant, 9:00 a.m.

Say "thanks" to dad over a full brunch. Reservations are recommended.

26 Tuesday

Duke Gardens Cooking Class

Doris Duke Center, 6:30 p.m.

Learn to make tasty vegetarian appetizers and snacks with fresh ingredients, edible flowers and herbal pestos. Fees are \$28 for Gardens members and \$35 to the general public.

30 Saturday

Elijah Bland

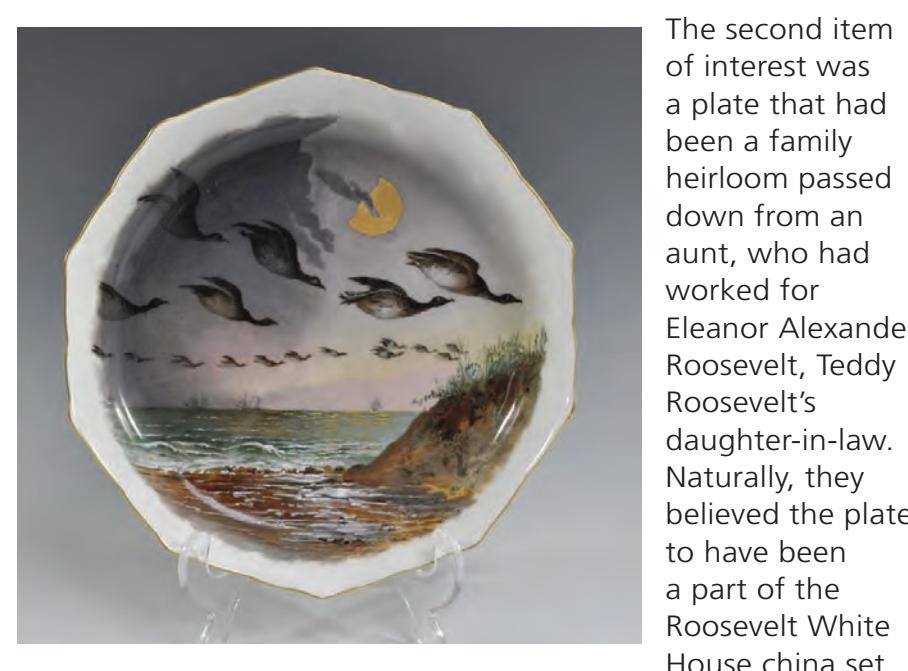
Beyu Caffe, 7 p.m.

Actor, singer, songwriter, producer musician and entrepreneur Elijah Bland will be performing at the Beyu Caffe Jazz Club. Tickets are \$15.

Good Times and Favorite Finds – Part II

by Chris DiGiovanna

Two of my more memorable finds came from the same consignor several years ago. The first was a set of antique woodcarving chisels. The owner explained that his grandfather had been a well-known master carpenter, and that among his clientele was George Washington Vanderbilt II, whom had hired him to work at his Biltmore Estate in Asheville. The set sold for \$526 and shipped to Abakan, Russia.

The second item of interest was a plate that had been a family heirloom passed down from an aunt, who had worked for Eleanor Alexander Roosevelt, Teddy Roosevelt's daughter-in-law. Naturally, they believed the plate to have been a part of the Roosevelt White House china set.

However, with some research, I found that it had been part of a set commissioned by Lucy Hayes as First Lady during the Rutherford B. Hayes administration.

The set was produced by Haviland & Co., an American-owned porcelain firm that manufactured fine china in Limoges, France. The set was apparently so ornate and expensive to create that Haviland lost money producing the set for the White House and had to make additional pieces to sell on the secondary market to in order to recoup production costs. The piece owned by my client was a hand painted soup bowl with a portrait of migrating ducks. It ended-up selling for \$3,148, which is much more than I can usually get for an entire set of china!

Not every memorable sale is high dollar. I once sold a small gold ring with an opal to a gentleman in Florida. After paying for the ring, he asked me if I could put a piece of dark chocolate in the box along with a note asking his girlfriend if she would marry him. I wasn't sure if the request was real, but decided to honor it anyway, so I purchased some dark chocolate Hershey kisses and included a notecard with the marriage proposal.

A few days later, I received a follow-up e-mail from the buyer - he was ecstatic that she had said yes! It's nice to see forgotten heirlooms bringing joy and happiness to new owners, which is one of the best parts of my job.



Neighbor to Neighbor

Chris DiGiovanna



is the President of **Trader Chris Consignments**, which specializes in selling valuable collectibles, jewelry, watches, and estate silver on eBay. Chris can be reached at chris@traderchris.biz .

1893, a student-powered brand studio from The Daily Tar Heel.

Hire us to tell your story.

Writing | Reporting | Design | Photography | Videography
eighteenninetythree.com

EIGHTEEN NINETY-THREE



BRAND STUDIO