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Saturday, February 11th
Tuesday, February 14th

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Decadent Chocolate
Dessert for 2
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Letter to the Editor

In Praise of a Small Town and Tommy Taylor at Parsons Drugs

Dear Editor,

You hear people talking about small towns and their disadvantages - like everyone knows your business, there are not many job opportunities, there is not much for young people to do, etc. What we need to focus on are the great things about a small community.

Yes, maybe everyone does know your business, but when you need help, who are the ones who come? Your local churches, businesses, and neighbors are usually right there with a helping hand, food, clothes, money and anything else they can do. Sometimes we just overlook the everyday people who are "right there" all the time.

I want to take this time to thank all the wonderful people of our "small towns" who are right there when you need them. Day or night. One of those people is Tommy Taylor at Parsons Drug Store. The company that makes my heart of medicine stopped making it for awhile. Tommy went out of his way for several days to find me some until we could figure what I could take as an alternative. We tried a medicine as close to mine as possible, but within three days I was already having problems. Tommy never stopped looking until he found me a month's supply. And, he continued to talk with the company that makes my medicine to find out what they were going to do. For now they are making it again, and Tommy took the time to call me and let me know that he would be getting more in so I wouldn't worry so much.

In the past, because of our insurance, I had to purchase my medicine through a big mail order company. I had problems the whole time with them not caring about my health - all they cared about was the "almighty dollar." I'll take small town over big cities and their problems in any day. Do you think you could get better care than this in a big city? I don't want to find out. I'm happy here where most people know you by name, pray for you, and help you when you think there is not way you can survive.

Thank you Lord for my small town and the people who call it home.
Teresa Pope

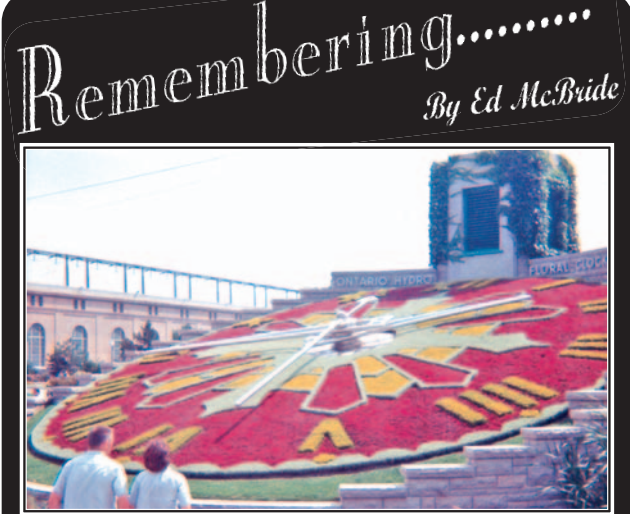
Uncommon Beauty to be Shown at Artists' Reception February 12

In a release from the Arts Council: Sylvia Coppola handcrafts pottery at Duck Work in Indian Trail in Union County. All of the pottery is either thrown on the wheel, hand built or a combination of the two. Sylvia states that, "My objectives for Duck Creek Pottery are to make high quality pots that are beautiful to look at and use around the home. My work is glazed in warm colors of blues, greens, tans, pinks and browns.

Melody Dupre, of Wadesboro, has delighted locals with her beautiful watercolors. The cottage garden at her home has become a "tourist attraction" as well as inspiration for much of her art work. Melody has won several ribbons at art shows and will soon be teaching a class on painting the lovely sunflowers that she has made so popular.

Kenneth Forte produces functional artwork - dreamlike and completely unique creations made from wood which he has collected from across the globe. Seen in museums such as the Smithsonian and the Guggenheim, he also has pieces in the White House. Mr. Forte, who lives in Ellerbe, says he is often inspired by the movements of his graceful, ballerina wife. He rattles off facts about hardwoods as though he was reading from an encyclopedia. Don't miss the opportunity to come see what he sees...the beautiful shiny insides...of wood, that is!

Please join the Anson County Arts Council at the Sunday afternoon reception. Everyone will enjoy wine, cheese, other refreshments, a chance to socialize, and a unique opportunity to visit with these artists. Drop in anytime between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. at the Olde Mill Gallery at the Lockhart-Taylor Center. 514 North Washington Street in Wadesboro. The event is free.



Floral Clock at Niagara Falls - Canada

Well, the sun has come out for a day or so - almost warm enough for "no heat!" However, this picture is a beauty to make you think of the summertime. (Allen says it is time for him to get out and play, since all that he has seen are my articles...full of old clocks, Christmas toys, planes, and all kinds of old, very old toys!)

Now this picture of the Floral Clock at Niagara Falls, Canada is a "long way from home" to us here in Anson County. It is a pretty sight and is decorated annually - always different in design. They have a special pipe frame support across the dial in order to mark off/plant and maintain the floral dial. While in Canada we talked with a retired teacher who gave us ideas and things to see - and information concerning the Floral Clock as well as many other sights to see, including the ship locks.

After we returned home we sent a note of thanks and appreciation to that teacher. She sent notes from time to time until her death.

Thanks - Ed
* Oh yes, remember your Valentine 2/14 or you might wind up in the "Dog House!!"

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Four from SPCC Chosen for State Art Show

Four representatives from South Piedmont Community College have been selected to have their art displayed in the NC Community Colleges Art Exhibition for the next year. Winners were selected by a panel of judges from the college. The annual competition is open to all students and faculty. A committee of faculty members with backgrounds in art selected the winners from more than 50 entries. The judges did not know whose works they were judging.

The four whose art will be sent to Raleigh are:

- Phyllis Lepore, Monroe, student. Her winning entry was a piece of digital art called "The Purple Moon." A first-year Advertising and Graphic Design student, she created it in Adobe Illustrator. "I recently learned about layers on this software and what a treat!" she wrote on her entry form. "I love creating and began playing with the layers tool and went with it. Through my journey of discovery, I designed this piece of art. I love experimenting with the shapes and colors."
- Chance Meachum, Peachland, Anson County Early College student. His photography entry, "Journey and Frog," was a close-up of his sister bending over to look at a small frog on a picnic table at eye level. He shot it at a family reunion at Norwood Public Park. He was sitting and talking with relatives when his younger sister, Journey, came running up to him with her hands clasped together. "I leaned forward intently to see what she had and to my surprise it was a frog!" he wrote for his entry. "I nearly leapt out of my skin. However, she was very proud of what she had found, thus I wanted to capture this special moment."



Pictured are, from left, Chance Meachum, Phyllis Lepore, Jim Muldrow and Linda Ward.

• Jim Muldrow, Monroe, Marketing and Communications coordinator. His photography entry "Morning Dew" was a close-up of a spider web. "At the beginning of an early-morning hike on the Cades Cove loop road in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, I noticed this spider web on a barbed wire fence, with dew drops hanging from the web," he wrote. "I thought to myself, 'That's neat,' bent over, shot the photo and kept walking. It wasn't until later that I realized what a cool photo I had."

• Linda Ward, Monroe, Advertising and Graphic Design instructor. Her entry, "Aberdeen Carolina & Western," was a digital photo painting of a train engine in front of a water tower. She and her husband were visiting the large train yard in Star in Montgomery County. The train engines and cars had just been painted with the colors of the Aberdeen Carolina & Western Railroad. "I took the photo of this engine as it waited beneath the water tower," she wrote. "When I opened the photo on the computer, it looked very dull. But as I bumped up the saturation, I found so many vivid colors within the photo. So, I decided to use several pieces of software to create an artistic piece from this photo."

The works of the winners from all 58 community colleges in North Carolina will be on display for a year in the Caswell Building, home of the N.C. Community College System offices, at 200 W. Jones St. in Raleigh.

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1227P
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