

Around Town

By Bob Ruggiero



If you have driven along Salter Path Road between Mimosa and Arborvitae Drive, you must have noticed an eight foot blow-up of a Carolina Tar Heel Ram guarding the driveway to the Mike and Donna Lowry residence. After the tremendous victory of North Carolina's basketball team over the awesome #1 Illinois team, and victories at the sweet sixteen and the final four, North Carolina became the NCAA national champions.

Mike Lowry completed his undergraduate schooling at North Carolina in 1992 and medical school at North Carolina in 1996. Dr Mike is a familiar face if you have ever needed emergency room medical care at Carteret General Hospital.



Molly Donovan, a fourth grader at Underwood Elementary in Raleigh, shows off her medal and books she received from the Young Authors of the N. C. Reading Assoc. for her poem "How Do I..." She was one of about twenty fourth graders statewide to receive this recognition. Molly is the granddaughter of Mary Ellen and Jim Bobbitt and Diane Donovan.

***Congratulations
Molly Donovan
for your achievement!***



Richard and Judy Kelly, Beacons Reach residents, recently returned from a month long visit to Mazatlan, Mexico. Rich was first introduced to Mazatlan while a Marine stationed at 29 Palms, California. He and a buddy traveled to Mexico and both fell in love with the area and the people. Far from the madding crowds in Acapulco and Cozumel, Mazatlan offered a quiet, peaceful location that had all the charm of restful views of the Pacific Ocean and also friendly local residents. Years later Rich returned and now owns a time-share condo on the beach. Frequented by Americans from Washington, Minnesota and Wisconsin, and tourists from Canada, the location still retains its original charm. Rich tells me that the money exchange rate is 10 pesos to one dollar and the fishing is still terrific. Included in this article is a picture of Rich with a Permit fish that he caught and had for dinner that night.



Paul and Mary Heim, Mike and Loretta Poremba and Loretta's sister Carol cruised to the Eastern Caribbean from Norfolk aboard a Holland America liner in January. The ship traveled to and stopped at the American Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, St. Johns, St. Martens and Antigua, returning to Norfolk ten days later. The trip was organized to benefit the Fort Macon Sail and Power Squadron and while on board members attended classes on the GPS system (Global Positioning System) with instruction from the cruise ship's navigator. While on the cruise they encountered rough seas, but all of the passengers were accounted for on the return to Norfolk.

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Dick and Linda Cumberland just returned from a seven-day trip to China. Their itinerary included a flight from Raleigh to Chicago and thence to Beijing. They stayed at the Jinlin Hotel in Beijing, within walking distance of Tiananmen Square. Visits included the Forbidden City, the treasure-filled Imperial Palace and, of course, a walk atop the Great Wall. Linda advises that if you plan a trip to China and wish to walk to the top of the Great Wall, be sure to pack comfortable walking shoes. My feet hurt just thinking about walking to the heights of the Great Wall. Details of this trip are included in an adjacent article.