

# Around Town

By Bob Ruggiero

The lead story of this edition of "Around Town" has to be the wonderful news that six young couples have recently celebrated the birth of new additions to their families. We feel that it is a cause for celebrating the fact that young couples have chosen to start their families in our town. May I introduce to our readers the latest additions to Pine Knoll Shores:

- Dan Henry born May 5 to Sloan and Chris Freeman
- Ava Geraldine born in February to Ann and J.R.Sweet
- Hendrix MacRyan born May 15 to Jalayne and Beau Torres
- Macy Lane born June 1 to Katrina and Tom O'Conor
- John Lincoln born May 28 to Melissa and Wes Klor
- Xander born May 20 to Katie and Patrick McAnaw



Macy Lane O'Conor



John Lincoln Klor



Dan Henry Freeman



Ava Geraldine Sweet



Xander McAnaw

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Hendrix MacRyan Torres

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Kay Howe provided the following details about her recent whale encounter:

What a pleasant surprise on May 22, 2008. It was a beautiful very calm day and just perfect for being on a boat. I was on a collecting training trip aboard the Duke University Research Vessel, the "Susan Hudson," with the Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium special projects staff, three other volunteers, and four tourists. Several miles beyond Beaufort Inlet we came upon a beautiful, unusual sight - a Northern Right Whale with her calf. She did not seem intimidated at all. Of course the captain kept

the legal distance from her, but to get that close to her was so unusual since according to our leader, Wayne Justice, there are only about 311 Right Whales in existence. We delayed the collecting trip for about 1/2 hour and just observed, not believing what we were seeing. It was absolutely awesome. I felt very fortunate to have been a part of this trip.

The whale was heading to the far north for the summer. In the winter she will head south again to winter around islands off Georgia. What wonderful experiences one gets volunteering at the Aquarium.



Ensign Elizabeth Kramer

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The Hudaks at the Air Force Academy (L to R) Cathrine, Mary, Bob and Mary Ann Almasian

Colorado in Spanish means colored red and Bob and Mary Hudak viewed many magnificent red rock formations on their May trip to Colorado Springs to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Accompanying their parents were daughters, Mary Ann Almasian and Catherine Hudak. Bob was in the Army Air Corps during World War II and has talked about the majestic chapel built in 1959 at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Their children applied

Pine Knoll Shores Town Manager Brian Kramer's daughter Elizabeth recently graduated, with honors, with a degree in Physical Anatomy and Biology from Duke University. Elizabeth was on a scholarship program with the Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC). Upon graduation she was commissioned as an Ensign and is assigned to the U.S. Navy destroyer USS Higgins out of San Diego, California. Brian's son Joseph Alexander, Jak, graduated from Lejeune High School, Jacksonville, and was the salutatorian for the class. He is presently enrolled at Tulane University in New Orleans, majoring in Bio Medical Engineering.

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for a private tour of the chapel. After the 2 1/2 hour tour they were presented with three booklets about the Academy. Later they visited the Catholic Chapel where the altar was a gift from the late Francis Cardinal Spellman. The Stations of the Cross are carved from four-inch thick slabs of Carrera marble from the same quarries where Michelangelo drew his stone. Later the group attended Sunday mass at the chapel. Afterwards they walked through the "Garden of the Gods" which had huge formations of stone that were created 75 million years ago. They visited Manitau Cliff Dwellings near Pikes Peak that were built by ancestral Puebloans more than 700 years ago. These dwellings are the remnants of an American Indian culture that roamed the area from 1200 BC to 1300 AD. This area of Pikes Peak inspired Katherine Bates to write "America the Beautiful." Bob, Mary and daughters felt that God's grace had been shed on them as they experienced the beautiful spacious skies, snow capped mountains and majestic sights in beautiful America.

## Unique Family Experience - Boatbuilding

By Jacquie Pipkin

Wooden boatbuilding is a cherished pastime and plays an important role in North Carolina's history. Avid carpenters and families looking for a unique that the boatbuilding classes offered at the North Carolina Maritime Museum's Watercraft Center a great choice. A variety of classes for all skill levels, adults and children age eight and older, are scheduled throughout the summer. The museum is located at 315 Front Street in Beaufort. It is a part of the

Division of State History Museums in the NC Department of Cultural Resources, a state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina's arts, history, and culture. For additional information and the summer schedule of boatbuilding classes, call Michelle McConnell at 252-728-7317, or visit the museum's website at [ncmaritimemuseum.org](http://ncmaritimemuseum.org).