

## Around Town

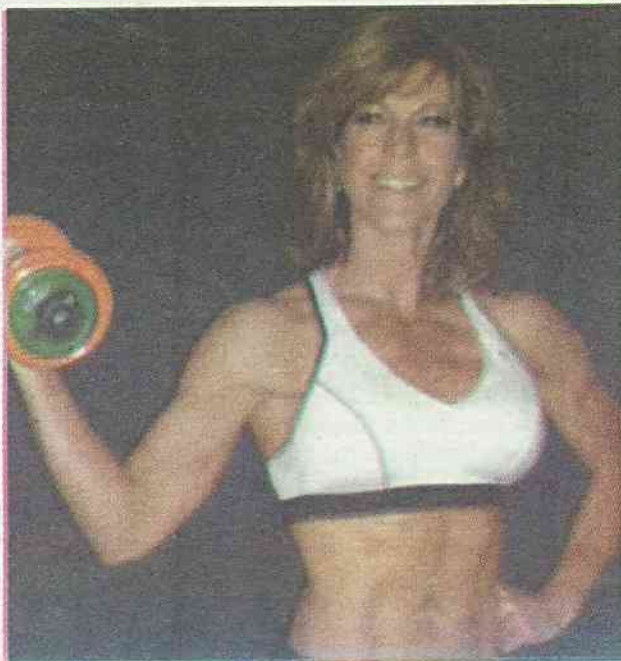
By Bob Ruggiero



Enjoying the sunshine at Veterans' Park are members of the Between the Bookends Book Club. Pictured clockwise beginning with Linda Seale in the blue chair are Mary Greene, Jean Casper, Floranne Passino, Eileen McBriarty and Helen Anderson.

On Monday, May 10, members of the Between the Bookends Book Club moved their discussion of *The 19<sup>th</sup> Wife* by David Ebershoff to Veterans' Park adjacent to town hall. Members brought their own lunches while hostess Jan Corsello provided liquid refreshments and other goodies.

Pine Knoll Shores' resident Erin Keller has, with the support of her husband, Dewey, and their 14-year old daughter Kate, decided to enter the Muscle Woman competition to be held this month in Goldsboro. Erin has always kept in excellent shape, but in preparation for the competition, she eats no fat at all and has whittled herself from her normal size 8 to a size 2 — all muscle! Meanwhile, Erin teaches fitness classes at the Crystal Coast Country Club in Pine Knoll Shores on Mondays and Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in addition to running the family Shutter business in Beaufort



**The Chain Bridge** across the Danube River in Hungary with Ronnie crossing from Buda to Pest.

John and Gail Halada and Bill and Ronnie Stanley were able to share experiences and photos of their recent Viking River cruises from Germany to Hungary. They took the same cruise, but at different times. The Haladas traveled in late March and the Stanleys in early April. They boarded the ship on the Danube River in Passau, Germany, where they discovered some pleasant history of how that area was non-violent during World War II. They also enjoyed hearing the world's largest church

On Saturday, April 24, the tenth anniversary of Pine Knoll Shores' designation as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation was celebrated at the Tree City Fair. This celebration, initiated by Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club and Community Appearance Commission (CAC), was held at town hall and more than 20 exhibitors participated.

As one of the originating sponsors of this community event, members of the CAC staffed a booth where some

organ in St. Stephen's gothic/baroque style cathedral. In Salzburg, Austria, they visited sites where the *Sound of Music* was filmed. They toured Vienna, Austria, with scenes of beautiful cathedrals and art centers and also enjoyed a Mozart-Strauss concert in the very area where these composers often performed. An Austrian Folklore Group yodeled in the ship lounge after dinner. A city tour of Bratislava, Slovakia, included palaces and stone houses beautifully restored after neglect under the old communist regime. The highlight of the trip was the nighttime sail into Budapest, Hungary. All buildings and the bridges joining the Buda and Pest sides of the city were lit, displaying the beauty of the city, old and new. Entertainment was appropriately provided by a Hungarian Gypsy band. Gourmet food throughout the cruise was related to the cuisine of the countries visited.

John and Gail embarked on the cruise as a getaway to areas like Slovakia where John's grandparents were born. They were impressed with the cobblestone streets and historic, colorful buildings with quaint shops. John especially enjoyed the opportunity to visit Bratislava and experience the culture of his ancestors.

Bill and Ronnie took the trip to celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The site was chosen because it included a visit to Hungary, where all four of Ronnie's grandparents were born. She was especially delighted to be stranded in Budapest for five extra days because airports were closed due to the Iceland volcano ash cloud.

400 live tree seedlings provided by the North Carolina Department of Forestry were distributed. In addition, a wide variety of information was dispensed regarding the benefits of trees and the value of being designated as a Tree City USA community. An engraved crystal award acknowledging the tenth consecutive year the town has been so designated was displayed at the CAC booth.

**The Red Hat Ladies of Pine Knoll Shores** had a tea at Maritime Place on Monday, April 26. Marsha Deane poured and we celebrated the birthday of Pauly Brown's houseguest, Mrs. Carolyn Erikson. The next field trip will be in June. Call Pauly Brown at 247-2959 if you're interested in joining the Red Hats. There were 893 M&Ms in the Tree City Fair Red Hat Ladies jar. Bill Hotham won with the count of 890.

