

## SEAGROVE

continued from page 1.

Keats has been living and creating jewelry in Seagrove for 10 years. "I turn mud into gemstones," she said. A New England native, she gave up a corporate career in Denver, Colorado to move to Seagrove and pursue her art, a decision she rejoices in.

Phil Morgan, a Seagrove potter since 1973, has participated in the Seagrove Pottery Festival – the original one – from the beginning.

"Our Festival has been held for 26 years," he said, "put on by the traditional Seagrove Pottery Museum. We try to treat all potters

equally. We have a museum, where you can see examples of every potter's work. The visitors who come to the area to visit the Seagrove pottery museum have the opportunity to pick up the map, stroll through the exhibit. They mark their map and can go see who they want to see. The museum does not tell them who to go to see. We are not a tour guide, we are an information center."

A major difference between the groups is defining what constitutes Seagrove. Those who support the Celebration prefer a narrower geographic definition.

"We are known internationally more than nationally, and nationally

## Why settle for less than happiness? Manage stress and enjoy life!



**Betty W. Phillips**  
PhD, Psychologist

*Counseling and  
Life Coaching*

Forest Garden Office, Chatham County  
(919) 967-1860

[www.BettyPhillipsPsychology.com](http://www.BettyPhillipsPsychology.com)

*expanded local  
hours!*

**SOME OF OUR MOST  
IMPORTANT CONNECTIONS  
TO THE COMMUNITY  
AREN'T FOUND ON  
UTILITY POLES.**



At Progress Energy, we're as connected to the people of our communities as we are to the homes and businesses we serve. That's why we constantly work to support and sustain our area through outreach projects, educational grants, environmental stewardship and economic development. In short, electricity is just the beginning of the energy we bring to the community. Learn more at [progress-energy.com](http://progress-energy.com).

**LOOKING AT POWER IN A NEW LIGHT.**



©2008 Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. and Progress Energy Florida, Inc.



## 27th Annual Seagrove Pottery Festival

Saturday, Nov. 22, 9am–6pm  
Sunday, Nov. 23, 9am–6pm

Seagrove Elementary School  
528 Old Plank Road, Seagrove, NC  
[www.seagrovepotteryheritage.com](http://www.seagrovepotteryheritage.com)

## Celebration of Seagrove Potters Gala

Friday, Nov. 21, 6:30pm–9pm  
Saturday, Nov. 22, 9am–6pm  
Sunday, Nov. 23, 10am–4pm

Historic Luck's Cannery  
798 Pottery Highway NC 705  
[www.celebrationofseagrovepotters.com](http://www.celebrationofseagrovepotters.com)



more than in North Carolina," said Keats, "People have been making pottery here for more than 200 years. That is why we want to maintain the authenticity."

Morgan disputes their geographic definition.

"It is a Seagrove area," he said. "The Seagrove area is defined by state statute as part of a five county area, Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Lee and Chatham counties. That word, "area" is what you have to center upon."

Morgan, who grew up in Ether, six miles from downtown Seagrove, inside the edge of Montgomery County, believes that family is as important a criterion as geography.

"Twenty-six years ago, I did the first festival," he said. "There were

only 13 potters in a 12-mile radius of Seagrove. To create this idea of a pottery festival, we had a gym at the elementary school that would hold 25 booths. How are we going to fill 25 booths with 13 potters? J.B. Cole's brother, Forrester, started a pottery shop in Sanford. He was family. Lulabelle Owen had a pottery shop just south of Blowing Rock. She was a family member. They are all family."

So when he hears a narrow geographic definition of Seagrove, it means that members of the Seagrove Potters family who have participated for decades would be excluded.

When Morgan started his studio in Seagrove in 1973, there were only six pottery studios. Seagrove grew and spawned potters throughout the area, particularly in Sanford and in Chatham County, more recently at the Arts Incubator in Siler City.

Because some who had showed at the Festival will now show only at the Celebration, it has opened the way for some Chatham County potters to show at the Festival. Keats said that 60 potters will show at the Celebration. Morgan said approximately 80 will show at the Festival. Twelve will show their work at both.

Keats said, "Over 70 percent of Seagrove potters are participating in our festival. Several of the potters said, 'What a wonderful thing.' So many people have gotten to know one another."

Morgan doesn't understand why they would want to have their show on the same weekend as the traditional Festival.

"The Festival has been named one of the Top 20 Events in the Southeast for the past two years. Why would you have your festival a mile away on the same day, in a town of 250? You're going to see one terrible traffic jam."

The Festival draws between 7,000 and 8,000 visitors.

Said Keats, "It's not about being competitive. It's about being united. We've seen such a coming together. It has really come together this year."

Said Morgan, "They tried a hostile takeover or mutiny and they failed. We have been holding our Festival the same way for 26 years, and we are going to be more successful than ever."

*Julian Sereno is editor and publisher of Chatham County Line.*

**Great Coffee!**  
**Great Food!**

**SATURDAY SPECIAL:**  
Pancakes & Sausage

**MINA BEANA**  
**COFFEE SHOP / CAFE**

222 E Raleigh St. Siler City  
919-663-3266  
M-F: 7-3:30, Sat: 9-1  
Open for dinner on Art Walk Friday

## NOW OPEN



## CHIROPRACTIC & HEALTH CENTER, PPLC

*Rooted in Your Health*

Come see how chiropractic can improve your life. We offer gentle chiropractic care for people of all ages.

**120 Lowes Drive**

(off Hwy. 64, between  
Farrington and Pittsboro)

**919.642.0555**

**Dr. Jacquelyn L. Nygren**

Chiropractic Physician

[www.newbranchchiro.com](http://www.newbranchchiro.com)