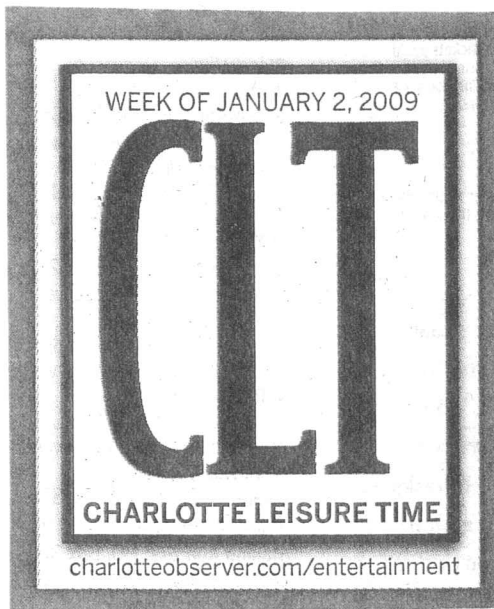


The Charlotte Observer



AROUND
TOWN
**ESTHER
ROBARDS-
FORBES**

*There's plenty
of cool stuff
happening
away from
center city.
You just have
to know where
to look for it.*

Ballantyne

Traditional Afternoon Tea

1-5 p.m. today and Saturday. 10000 Ballantyne Commons Parkway. \$26.50. Reservations required: 704-248-4055.

Catch up with friends after the holidays during "Traditional Afternoon Tea" served in front of the fireplace in the grand lobby of Ballantyne Resort. Raising your pinky finger is optional while sipping your choice of loose leaf teas, and enjoying treats including mini muffins and tea sandwiches. While you're there, peruse a selection of fine art from Shain Gallery on the lobby's second floor. This month's featured artist is Amy Dobbs, who studied art at Meredith College in Raleigh. Her paintings have been on display in the U.S. and Europe, where she lives in the south of France.