



The Queen of the Bay Rules Once Again

By Mark Shaffer

If Frank and Amy Lesesne had to choose a theme song for their inn, Willie Nelson's "I'd Have to be Crazy" seems appropriate. Friends and family wondered if they'd gone insane (rhymes with Lesesne) when they decided to flee successful careers in Atlanta and start a new life on the Carolina coast. But when they set their sights on transforming this storied 18th century tabby behemoth into a luxury inn, well...

"At that point people thought we were *nuts*," says Frank. The Lesesnes knew better. There was a method to their madness, and in it, a means to an end – if it all worked out.

"We chose Beaufort first," says Amy. "We knew this was where we wanted to be."

There was just one problem with starting over in Beaufort and that was how to go

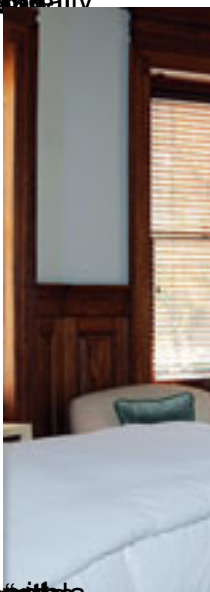
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