



FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
83/61



SATURDAY
40% Chance of Rain
77/61



SUNDAY
30% Chance of Rain
79/61

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



Council opens talks on major development south of town

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The Chapel Hill Town Council and developer Roger Perry of East West Partners opened discussions Monday night on how best to approach plans for a major retail, office and residential development on U.S. 15-501 directly across from Southern Village.

Perry, developer of Meadowmont and, most recently, East 54, is working with Capkov Ventures on a proposal for about 120 acres at the southern entrance to Chapel Hill.

The Obey Creek project would put high-rise office and condo buildings and about 300,000 square feet in commercial space on roughly 40 acres along the highway. Much of the land is on steep terrain, which has scuttled projects in the past, including a proposal to build a high school on the property. Preliminary plans for the project include an offer to dedicate 80 acres along Wilson Creek for a town park or natural area.

Perry told council members that given the size and scope of the project, a development agreement, rather than a rezoning and special-use permit process, might be the best approach. The council recently finished a development agreement with the university on Carolina North.

Perry said he wanted to get the ideas before the council to start a discussion on how big the town should grow and in what manner. He reminded the council that the

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 2

Board balks at Efland area plan

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CARRBORO — The Carrboro Board of Aldermen moved part of their public policy agenda several miles north Tuesday night, taking up a proposed change in the water and sewer boundaries in the unincorporated community of Efland.

In an unusual move, the board objected to a proposal in a small-area plan for Efland that would allow water and sewer service to an area along Bowman Road. Such changes require altering a longstanding countywide services boundary agreement and need to be OK'd by all local governments in Orange County. Carrboro approved a

portion of proposed changes relating to Hillsborough last month but held up a changed proposed for Efland, pending further review.

The Efland proposal is intended to spur greater development, including housing and commercial flex space in the area.

Mayor Mark Chilton said he would not be in favor of approving a plan to allow for mixed-use development in the area because of its historical significance.

Chilton, who has researched and written histories on the area, noted that Bowman Road is part of the Indian Trading Path. He quoted 18th-century explorer John Lawson's description of the area and read the

board a historical synopsis of the original white settlers on the land and court struggles between them and the Scottish businessman who claimed title to it.

Chilton said without reassurances about protections for historical sites, he could not support the proposal. He said he felt he was "being asked to sign off on the obliteration" of some of the county's key historical sites.

Board members Dan Coleman and Randee Haven-O'Donnell also expressed their concern about the proposal and the county's emphasis on economic development north of Carrboro and Chapel Hill.

SEE **EFLAND** PAGE 3

County manager recommends cuts, no tax increase

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

The Orange County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday took its first look at County Manager Frank Clifton's \$174.9 million proposed budget, which includes no increase in the property-tax rate and across-the-board cuts to allocations to county departments and services, nonprofit agencies and both school districts.

The proposed budget represents a 1.5 percent decrease from the \$177.6 million 2009-10 budget and an \$8.9 million decrease from the 2009-10 amended budget. The budget maintains the current ad valorem tax rate of 85.8 cents per \$100 of valuation. The proposal also recommends no increase on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools special district-tax rate.

"I think the county commissioners recognized beginning last fiscal year the hurdles we face going forward in Orange County, mostly as a result of exterior economic factors, but also as a culmination of many issues coming together at the same time," Clifton said. "Obviously, in a budget process of this nature, we've had to reach out and touch everybody, and in doing so I'm sure some will feel that others should've been treated differently or they should've been treated differently in the process."

Under the proposed budget, only two county departments would not have fewer employees in fiscal year 2010-11 than in 2009-10, he added. The only added county positions are to EMS, which is severely understaffed, according to recent reports.

Recommended funding for both school districts totals about \$84.1 million, or 48.1 percent of the general fund budget, and represents a \$1.3 million decrease from 2009-10 funding. However, the funding maintains the per-pupil allocation of \$3,096, with most of the cuts to long-range and pay-as-you-go capital. Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools had requested a \$62 per-pupil increase, while Orange County Schools requested no increase to the per-pupil rate.

Other proposed savings include:

- closing the Cedar Grove Library, for savings of \$31,871;
- reducing the hours at the Carrboro Branch Library and the Cybrary, saving \$17,873 and \$50,771, respectively;
- providing \$848,600 for 36 of 56 nonprofit agencies who applied for funding, about \$200,000 less than last year; and

SEE **COUNTY** PAGE 2

Happy Birthday, Ruby!



PHOTO BY SUSAN DICKSON

Ruby Merritt turned 102 on Monday, celebrating her birthday with family and friends. The longtime Carrboro resident was as happy as she could be as she hosted visitors, opened countless birthday cards and answered phone call after phone call. She started her birthday celebration a week prior, spending Mother's Day with 24 family members spanning four generations. And Ruby's choice for her birthday meal? An all-the-way hot dog from Hardees.

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HOUSE Calls

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FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Endangered Species Day

This Friday is Endangered Species Day, when America celebrates our nation's commitment to protecting wildlife on the brink of extinction (EndangeredSpeciesDay.org).

The N.C. Botanical Garden has scheduled three hour-long Endangered Species Day tours — 11 a.m., noon and 1p.m. — this Friday, beginning at the Gathering Circle in front of the Totten Center. No fee or registration is required. Just show up. Johnny Randall, assistant director for conservation and natural areas; Mike Kunz, conservation ecologist, and Andy Walker, conservation botanist will be available to show you endangered and rare species and they will describe the ways the Botanical Garden is involved with rare-plant research and protection and natural-areas management.

For example, staff and volunteers are propagating plants of endangered harperella, *Ptilimnium nodosum*, and planting them (reintroduction) back on their historical location on the Deep River in Chatham County.

Similarly, staff and volunteers are augmenting small populations of sandhills lily, *Lilium pyrophilum*, a recently discovered rarity of the sandhills.

Endangered species smooth coneflower, *Echinacea laevigata*, is being reintroduced to appropriate habitats within its historic range.

All of the above plant species are being propagated from plants of the original habitats to help insure the continuation of the natural diversity of the sites.

In cooperation with the N.C. Department of Transportation, a population of endangered roughleaf loosestrife, *Lysimachia*



PHOTO BY MIKE KUNZ

Endangered sandhills lily requires frequent fires to maintain its natural habitat.

asperulifolia, was translocated from highway construction to a DOT conservation area.

Botanical Garden staff also manages approximately 900 acres of natural areas, many of which contain rare species, where eradication of invasive species and use of prescribed fires are some of the management tools used to protect natural-plant and animal communities.



PHOTO BY JOHNNY RANDALL

Conservation ecologist Mike Kunz uses fire as a management tool for the health of some natural area.

In 1970, the Botanical Garden initiated the nationally honored "Conservation through Propagation" program to provide an alternative to wild-collecting. In 1979, it played a strategic role in establishing the N.C. Plant Conservation Program in the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. In 1984, it was a founding member of the national Center for Plant

Conservation. Other important organizations and agencies in collaboration with the Garden include The Nature Conservancy, NatureServe, N.C. Natural Heritage Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service and Botanical Gardens Conservation International.

SEE **FLORA** PAGE 8

MUSIC CALENDAR

THURSDAY MAY 20

Blue Bayou: Soulless Doggs. 9:30pm

Cats Cradle: Thee Silver Mt. Zion Memorial Orchestra. 9pm. \$13/15

The Cave: EARLY: Tisch Brain Tumor Center Benefit featuring Front Porch Sofa. \$5 LATE: North Columbia

City Tap: Jack Maverick and His Wild Rebels. 7-9p

East 54: Joe Romeo. 5:40pm. Free

General Store Cafe: Tony Galiani Band. 7-9pm

Local 506: Black Shkies, Music Hates You, Make. 9:30pm. \$5

Nightlight: Andrew Marino, Andrew Weathers. 9:30pm. \$5

The Reservoir: Beloved Binge, Actual Persons Living or Dead, Ponchos From Peru

FRIDAY MAY 21

Blue Bayou: Will McFarlane Band. 9:30pm

Bynum Front Porch: The Magnolia Klezmer Band. 7-9pm

Cafe Driade: Chris Wimberley. 8pm

Cats Cradle: Superchunk. 9pm. \$14

The Cave: EARLY: Have Gun Will Travel LATE: Blotter Benefit with Puritan Rodeo, Gasoline Stove

City Tap: Shawn Deena. 5-7pm. The Breaks 7-10pm

General Store Cafe: Decatur Street Beat Dixieland. 8-10:30pm

Harry's Market: West Trinity. 7pm

Local 506: Charlie Mars, Matt Mackelcan. 9:30pm. \$12

Nightlight: Mr. Coffee and the Creamers. 9:30pm. \$5

SPOTLIGHT: WYATT EASTERLING

Wyatt Easterling will perform at Cat's Cradle at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25.

In 2006, Chapel Hill native Easterling launched Terra Nova Music with hit writer Sonny LeMaire and Curb recording artist Buffy Lawson. Easterling's songs have been recorded by Dierks Bentley, Tim McGraw and Keith Urban. He now serves as CEO of the newly formed High Horse Records.

Applesauce will open the show.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12.



SATURDAY MAY 22

Blue Bayou: Fat Bstard Blues Band. 9:30pm. \$8/10

Cafe Driade: Daniel Sean, Nic Croucher. 8pm

City Tap: The Kinksmen, Mannish Boys. 8-10pm

The Cave: EARLY: Tripp, Stella LATE: Money

General Store Cafe: Hot Tub of Grits. 8-10:30pm. \$5

Harry's Market: Durham Ukelele Orchestra. 7-9pm

Local 506: Matt Pond Pa, Bobby Long. 9pm. \$10/12

Nightlight: Anti-Bubbles, Boylion, Overfora. 9:30pm

SUNDAY MAY 23

Cats Cradle: Murs, Sick Jacken, NOCANDO. 9pm. \$13/15

The Cave: LATE: Nerd Parade, Jungol. \$5

Milltown: Joe Romeo. 7-9pm

Southern Village: The Galen Kipar Project. 7pm

MONDAY MAY 24

Cats Cradle: Devin the Dude, Coughie Brothaz. 9:30pm. \$12/14

The Cave: LATE: Brown Bird, Bwedge, Swimming

TUESDAY MAY 25

Cats Cradle: Wyatt Easterling, Applesauce. 8pm. \$12

The Cave: LATE: River Wheel, Black Swamp Bootleggers. \$5

La Residence: Southern Routes. 5:30pm

Local 506: Fang Island, Hollerado, Zlam Dunk. 9pm. \$8/10

WEDNESDAY MAY 26

Cafe Driade: Nightsound Studios Artist Showcase. 8pm

The Cave: LATE: Robobilly, Mega-fauna. \$5

Local 506: Tim Fite, The Wailing Wall. 9:30pm. \$8

Nightlight: My Majesty in Oxygen, Back Pockets. 9:30pm

THURSDAY MAY 27

Blue Bayou: Steve Jack. 9pm

Cats Cradle: Zane Lamprey, Steve McKenna, Marc Ryan. 8pm. \$18/20

The Cave: EARLY: Round Robin Solo with John Harrison, Chip Smoak, Jason Kutchna

City Tap: The Swang Brothers. 7-9pm

General Store Cafe: Marie Vanderbeck Quartet. 7-9pm

Local 506: The Rescues, Garrison Starr. 8:45pm. \$10/12

Nightlight: Fractal Farm, Soft Spot, Haunted Ghost. 9:30pm

FRIDAY MAY 28

Blue Bayou: Too Much Fun.

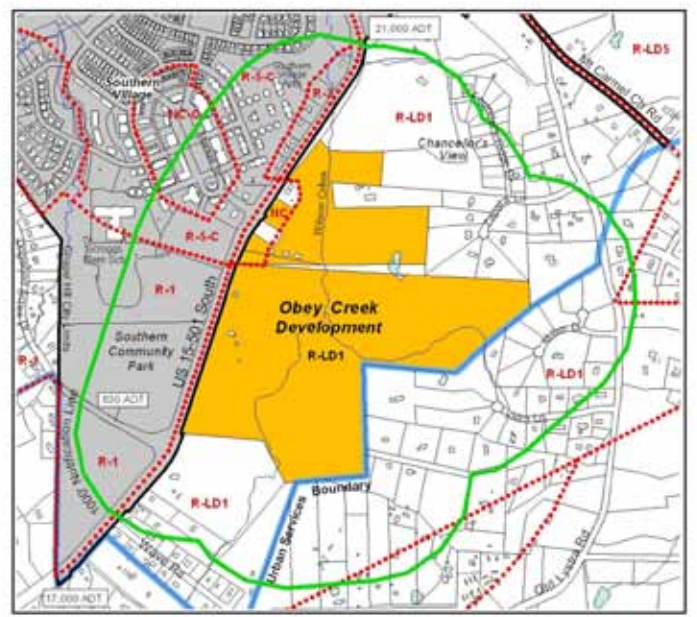
Bynum Front Porch: The Boys From Carolina. 7-9pm

Cafe Driade: Dean Tuck, Bob Siegel. 8pm

Cats Cradle: Thank You, Friend: A Tribute to Alex Chilton with Tom Maxwell, Stu McLamb and Missy Thangs, Mitch Easter and the Able Hands, Jeff Hart, The Stars Explode, Holden Richards. 8pm. \$10 donation suggested



Area Map Obey Creek Development



Obey Creek Development
Chapel Hill City Limits
Urban Services Boundary
Chapel Hill Zoning
Average Daily Traffic Count (ADT)
2007 Data
Map prepared by
Team of Chapel Hill
Planning Department
April 19, 2010

COUNCIL FROM PAGE 1

Triangle is expected to add another million residents over the next decade and that Chapel Hill would share in that growth.

"The people are coming," he said. "Where do you put them?"

Several council members said they would prefer to use a development agreement, which establishes phasing and benchmarks over a long timeframe, because it allows the town and developer more flexibility to negotiate.

Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt and council member Ed Harrison said they would like to see the council consider the development-agreement approach to allow for a better back-and-forth on the project.

While council members were concerned about the idea of several multi-story buildings along the highway, the prospect of major commercial space on the town's main southern corridor was received positively.

Perry said the commercial space being contemplated is roughly equivalent to the square footage of University Mall and would require a major anchor tenant, such as Target or Belks, to work.

Kleinschmidt said that too many retail dollars and the sales-tax revenues that go with them are flowing across the border into Chatham County.

"This may be the opportunity to plug some of those retail leaks," he said.

Residents near the site — both adjacent to it and from across the street in Southern Village — said they were worried about how the massive proposal would affect the area.

"I thought Southern Village was the last big thing on this side of town," resident John James said.

In other action Monday night, the council got its first look at a concept plan for The Cottages of Chapel Hill on Homestead Road. The plan, designed by the Capstone Development Corporation, calls for 137 two- and three-story buildings with 330 dwelling units and 1,120 bedrooms on the 33-acre site.

Residents of the nearby Homestead Village development said while they knew the parcel would one day be developed, they were stunned by the size of the development and the fact that it was aimed mainly at students even though the site is three miles from campus.

"The thought of having 1,100 unsupervised students right next to my house does not strike me as a good idea," resident Robin Willis told the council.

Some council members said the plan doesn't seem like a good fit for the area, both in its design and because it is aimed mainly at undergraduates.

Council member Penny Rich said the concept "looks like a massive parking lot."

Council member Sally Greene said the project looked far too generic and did not seem to be justified by a dearth of undergraduate housing.

"It's not my sense that the university is growing that fast," she said, adding that the nearby Carolina North project is not aimed at undergraduates. She said she would have a hard time supporting the project.

COUNTY FROM PAGE 1

• providing no cost-of-living or salary increases for county employees.

Going forward

Clifton said finding a way to increase the county's commercial tax base "needs to be a priority" for the county as it looks toward the future.

"We rely on property taxes as the revenue source for Orange County," Clifton said. "That obviously puts a burden on those people who pay property taxes."

According to county Finance Director Clarence Grier, one cent on the ad valorem property-tax rate equals about \$1.5 million, about a 1.1 percent increase over the previous year. Property-tax revenues this year totaled about \$132 million — more than 75 percent of general-fund rev-

enues. By comparison, property-tax revenues equaled about 66 percent of revenues in 2006.

"Sales-tax revenues for this county are declining and that's probably going to continue to happen," Clifton said, adding that while Orange County ranks second in the state in per-capita income, it ranks 77th in sales-tax collections per capita.

"The clear indication is that people who live in Orange County shop elsewhere," he said. The board is scheduled to review the proposed budget at a number of work sessions over the next month, with final budget approval by June 15.

The board will hold two budget public hearings: today (Thursday) at 7 p.m. at the Department of Social Services building on Mayo Road in Hillsborough and Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Southern Human Services Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill.

MOVIES We suggest you call for exact show times

CAROLINA THEATRE OF DURHAM

309 W Morgan St., 560-3030
Friday, RetroFantasma Film Series, Texas Chainsaw Massacre Part 2, 7 p.m.; Squirm, 9:30 p.m.; Friday-Thursdays, Akira Kurosawa Film Retrospective — Ran, I Live in Fear, High & Low and Yojimbo; Saturday-Thursdays, Casino Jack and the United States of Money, nightly except Friday at 7:10 & 9:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2:10 & 4:30 p.m.

CHELSEA THEATER

Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, 968-3005
The Evening Sun; Babies; City Island

THE LUMINA

Southern Village, 932-9000
Robin Hood; Iron Man 2; Date Night; Letters to Juliet; Nightmare on Elm Street

REGAL TIMBERLYNE 6

120 Banks Drive, 933-8600
Robin Hood; Furry Vengeance; Date Night; Letters to Juliet; How to Train Your Dragon; Iron Man 2

THE VARSITY

123 East Franklin St., 967-8865
The Big Lebowski; Citizen Kane

The CAROLINA THEATRE
Durham's Historic Movie Palace
Friday, May 21 — RetroFantasma Film Series Texas Chainsaw Massacre Part 2 at 7pm Squirm at 9:30pm
Friday-Thursday, May 21-27 AKIRA KUROSAWA FILM RETROSPECTIVE Ran, I Live in Fear, High and Low & Yojimbo http://festivals.carolinatheatre.org/kurosawa/
Saturday-Thursday, May 22-27 Casino Jack and the United States of Money Sat-Thu (No Fri. Screenings) at 7:10 & 9:30pm Sat & Sun Matinees at 2:10 & 4:30pm
309 West Morgan St., Downtown Durham www.carolinatheatre.org | 919.560.3030

CAT'S CRADLE

TH 5/20 THEE SILVER MT. ZION MEMORIAL ORCHESTRA W/FREE ELECTRIC STATE(\$13/\$15)**

FR 5/21 SUPERCHUNK W/RYAN GUSTAFSON(\$14)**

SA 5/22 THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS W/KICKIN GRASS
RAILROAD EARTH HAS CANCELLED**(\$10)

SU 5/23 MURS(\$13/\$15)**
W/SICK JACKEN AND NOCANDO

MO 5/24(\$12/\$14)**
DEVIN THE DUDE
W/COUGHEE BROTHAZ

TU 5/25 WYATT EASTERLING
W/APPLESAUCE**(\$12)

TH 5/27 ZANE LAMPREY
W/STEVE MCKENNA AND MARK RYAN**(\$18/\$20)

FR 5/28 THANK YOU, FRIEND: A TRIBUTE TO ALEX CHILTON, WITH: JOHN HOWIE JR., GREG & ANN HUMPHREYS, TOM MAXWELL, LYNN BLAKEY, STU MCLAMB & MISSY THANGS, MITCH EASTER & THE ABLE HANDS, JEFF HART, JANE FRANCIS & JAY MANLEY, KURT HEASLEY & ALEX MAIOLO, MATT MCMICHAELS & ADAM PRICE, THE MAGIC BABIES (WITH JEN RICHELSON), THE STARS EXPLODE, JEFF CARROLL, HOLDEN RICHARDS FREE SHOW DONATIONS ENCOURAGED

SA 5/29 CONVERGE
W/GAZA, LEWD ACTS, BLACK BREATH**(\$15)
HARVEY MILK HAS CANCELLED

MO 6/7
DIANE BIRCH

TH 5/27
ZANE LAMPREY

SA 5/22
MATT POND PA
LOCAL 506

TH 5/20
THEE SILVER MT. ZION MEMORIAL ORCHESTRA W/FREE ELECTRIC STATE(\$13/\$15)**

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DEVIN THE DUDE
W/COUGHEE BROTHAZ

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SA 5/29 CONVERGE
W/GAZA, LEWD ACTS, BLACK BREATH**(\$15)
HARVEY MILK HAS CANCELLED

MO 6/7
DIANE BIRCH

SA 5/22
MATT POND PA
LOCAL 506

WE 6/23 DEAS VAIL / O'BROTHER(\$8/\$10)**

FR 6/25 DAR WILLIAMS W/SARA WATKINS (OF NICKEL CREEK)(\$25/\$27)**

SA 6/26 MC CHRIS W/MC LARS AND MATH THE BAND(\$13/\$15)**

TU 6/29 THRICE W/KEVIN DEVINE, BAD VEINS AND THE DIG(\$19/\$22)**

FR 7/2 ISLANDS W/STEEL PHANTOMS(\$10/\$12)**

SU 7/4 VICTOR WOOTEN(\$20/\$25)**

MO 7/5 DELTA SPIRIT(\$10/\$12)**

TU 7/6 SLEIGH BELLS W/ NERVE CITY AND PO PO(\$10)**

FR 7/9 HEARTLESS BASTARDS W/THE BUILDERS AND THE BUTCHERS AND PETER WOLF CRIER**

SA 7/10 CD RELEASE PARTY CHATHAM COUNTY LINE
W/BIRDS AND ARROWS**(\$12/\$15)

SU 7/11 UNREST / TEEN-BEAT 26TH ANNIVERSARY PERFORMANCES W/TRUE LOVE ALWAYS, BOSSANOVA AND MC: PATRICK BRYANT (SOMMERVILLE SPEAKUP)(\$15)**

TU 7/13 RASPUTINA(\$15/\$17)**

SA 5/19
THE HANDSOME FAMILY
THE ARTSCENTER

TU 5/25
WYATT EASTERLING

FR 7/16 EDWARD SHARPE & THE MAGNETIC ZEROS(\$15/\$17)**

TH 7/29(\$20)**
MATT KARNEY
SPECIAL ACOUSTIC SHOW

MO 8/2 BORIS(\$15)**
W/RUSSIAN CIRCLES
ON SALE 5/21

SA 8/7 HERE WE GO MAGIC(\$10)**
ON SALE 5/21

MO 8/2 CYNIC(\$13/\$15)**
W/INTRONAUT AND DYSRHYTHMIA
ON SALE 5/21

FR 8/13 MISSION OF BURMA(\$16/\$18)**

ALSO PRESENTING

LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)

WE 5/19 HOWE GELB
W/JEFF CRAWFORD

SA 5/22 MATT POND PA
W/BOBBY LONG

TH 5/27 THE RESCUES
W/GARRISON STARR

FR 6/4 WAKEY WAKEY / HARPER BLYNN

TU 6/8 NATIVE, THIS TOWN NEEDS GUNS, BRONZED CHORUS
SA 6/11 AMY COOK

FR 6/18 THAO AND MIRAH
WITH THE MOST OF ALL
W/THESE UNITED STATES

ARTSCENTER (CARRBORO)

SA 6/19 THE HANDSOME FAMILY
MEMORIAL HALL (UNC)

FR 6/25 THE NEW PORNOGRAPHERS
WITH THE DODOS AND THE DUTCHESS AND THE DUKE
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Briefs

Public hearing on budget

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen will hold a public hearing on the proposed town budget on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall boardroom. Residents are invited to make written or oral comments, and comments may also be emailed to swilliamson@townofcarrboro.org. The budget can be viewed at townofcarrboro.org

Kidnapping hero

Those interested in helping Joey Shelton cover his medical bills can drop off a contribution at local RBC branches. Shelton and his brother Freddie helped foil a daylight kidnapping attempt on East Rosemary Street last Wednesday.

The two intervened when they saw Theodore James Walker attempting to drag a young woman to his car behind the downtown Chapel Hill RBC branch.

Joey Shelton, who has no health insurance, suffered a fractured and compressed disc when Walker allegedly tried to run him down with his car while attempting to flee the scene.

Walker, 26, of 108 Timber Hollow Court in Chapel Hill, was charged with assault on a female, second-degree kidnapping and assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. A baseball bat and a shotgun were found in his car. He is being held in the Orange County jail under a \$5 million bond.

OWASA rate hike input

The Orange Water and Sewer Authority will hold a public hearing May 27 to receive comments from residents on proposed rate hikes for residences and businesses. The proposed 9.25 percent increase in monthly rates would add about \$7 to a typical residential bill for 5,000 gallons of water and sewer service.

Rates would also increase about 9.25 percent for businesses, master-metered multi-family developments and institutional customers, who pay "seasonal" water rates; and for irrigation-only customers. The one-time "service availability" or capacity fees for initial connections to the OWASA system would increase about 3.8 percent.

Chatham County budget hearing

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on June 1 to receive comments from residents on the county's proposed budget.

The hearing will begin at 6 p.m. in the multipurpose room at Central Carolina Community College.

Courthouse task force named

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners appointed 21 residents to a task force to study and make recommendations to the commissioners regarding the use of the Historic Courthouse when the time comes for rebuilding.

The task force will identify the potential uses of the courthouse and make recommendations to the commissioners on the most appropriate functions to be housed in the rebuilt facility.

The first community forum on the courthouse is slated for June 14 and the first meeting of the task force is scheduled for June 29.

Task force members appointed by the commissioners are Superior Court Judge Allen Baddour, District Court Judge Page Vernon and Clerk of Court Sam Cooper; Town of Siler City: Richard Szary; Town of Pittsboro: Michael Fiocco; Town of Goldston: to be designated by Goldston Mayor Tim Cunnup; historical associations: Barbara Pugh and Geraldine Degraffenreidt; Economic Development Corporation: Jeffrey Starkweather; arts: Lesley Landis; architecture: Taylor Hobbs; public safety and fire: Capt. Mike Roberson, sheriff's office; tourism: Pam Smith; Pittsboro merchants: Christine Miller; and commissioner nominees: Paul Messick, Rita Spina, Betty Wilson, Mimi Hanner, Joseph Thomas, Susan Little and Mike Harrelson.

BOA FROM PAGE 1

Coleman said he also would not support the proposal because of a long-held belief that the county skews its economic-development policy toward recruiting larger, outside businesses and not in shoring up the local economy.

Another sign of tension between the county and Carrboro came up at the end of Tuesday's meeting during a brief discussion about library services and the county budget.

Alderman Jacquie Gist noted that just like last year, there are cuts proposed for staff at the Carrboro Cybrary and the Carrboro Branch Library

at McDougle School.

Gist also wondered how a proposal to convert the county's Skill's Development Center on West Franklin Street into a downtown branch library would affect library services.

Chilton urged the board to not jump to conclusions about how the budget cuts would play out as county commissioners deliberate. He said County Manager Frank Clifton was asked to present a no tax-increase budget, but doubted that the county would be able to bridge its budget gap without a revenue hike.

In other action, the board approved a proposal to allocate \$144,296 for the town's human services budget.



Kids for kids

Seven-year-old Monica Cardoso of Cary kicks it into high gear during Sunday's Swim for Smiles Triathlon, held at the Chapel Hill Country Club and surrounding neighborhood. A total of 528 kids ranging in age from 4 to 17 took part to raise money for the N.C. Children's Hospital. The Chapel Hill-based Swim for Smiles Foundation's mission is "Kids Helping Kids."

Researchers study male contraception

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

UNC researchers James Tsuruta and Paul Dayton have received a \$100,000 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support their research on the use of therapeutic ultrasound for male contraception.

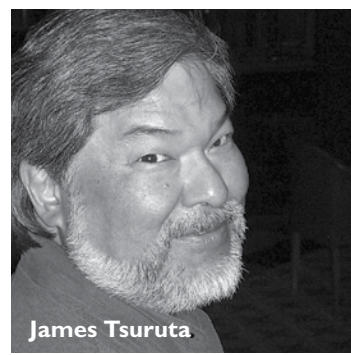
Tsuruta, an assistant professor in the Laboratories for Reproductive Biology in UNC's department of pediatrics, said he and Dayton based their research on studies from the 1970s that showed that one application of therapeutic ultrasound to the testis could result in up to six months of reversible infertility. Their preliminary re-

search, conducted over the past three years, was funded by the Parsemus Foundation.

"We've been able to show that we can apply ultrasound to the testis and that it depletes the developing sperm cells," Tsuruta said.

With the year-long grant, the researchers hope to determine the effects of the repeated use of ultrasound.

"Our primary concerns are safety, efficacy and reversibility, so we are going to determine what the minimum effective dose of ultrasound is," Tsuruta said. "We also hope to have an apparatus designed that would be appropriate for use in developing nations by the end of the grant period —



James Tsuruta

something that's simple to operate but very robust."

Tsuruta said the method is non-invasive and painless. If their work over the next year is successful, Tsuruta and Dayton hope to secure additional funding for future studies.

"I think it's important to provide men with more choices for contraception," Tsuruta said. "If we can actually provide a non-invasive, reversible, safe, long-acting contraceptive for men, then we can have a positive impact on global health."

"It is important to expand the choices available to men that have decided to share responsibility for family planning with their partner."

The grant is one of 78 awarded by the Gates Foundation's Grand Challenges Explorations program, an initiative to help scientists around the world explore bold and largely unproven ways to improve health in developing countries.

Sheriff's office investigating woman's death at jail

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

The Orange County Sheriff's Office has launched an internal investigation into the death of a woman at the Orange County Jail shortly after her arrest on May 7.

Margaret Dale Kersey, 58, died less than 15 minutes after arriving at the jail.

"What I'm investigating is what happened when [they] arrived at the jail," Capt. Archie Daniel said. "So far I haven't

found where we deviated from our policy."

Orange County deputies had responded to a 911 call from Kersey's sister, who said Kersey was intoxicated and causing a disturbance and that she had asked her to leave. The deputies told Kersey she would be arrested for trespassing if she did not leave, and Kersey refused to do so. After being arrested on trespassing charges, Kersey changed her clothes before walking to the patrol car.

Daniel said Kersey fell asleep

in the car and was groggy when the officers woke her upon arrival at the jail. They assisted her into the jail, where she was placed in a holding cell at 12:49 a.m. The arresting officer meanwhile obtained a magistrate's order. At 1:13 a.m., jail staff noticed that Kersey appeared unresponsive and called EMS, who were unable to revive her.

According to Daniel, under department policy, jail officials cannot admit someone who is severely intoxicated. He said he hasn't found any indication that

jail officials violated policy, adding, "We are looking at other things and making sure that everything lines up."

Daniel said he is waiting on the toxicology report from the medical examiner's office, which could take up to five weeks.

"We want to know what this lady had in her system, anything that would raise our attention, and until we have the total picture we really can't talk about it," he said.

Daniel said the officers involved in the incident have not been suspended from duty.

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For more information or to order tickets call 929-2787 x201 or go to artscenterlive.org
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Triangle Jazz Orchestra (free show) • WED 6/2
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Cyril Lance & the NC Roots Review Arkestra • FRI 6/11
Edmar & Pavelid Castaneda • FRI 6/11
The Handsome Family • SAT 6/19

The Mighty Gospel Inspirations w/ Donna Washington • SUN 6/20
One Leg Up • FRI 6/25
NC School of Traditional Music feat. Little Windows • SAT 6/26
Kevin Welch • SUN 6/27

5:40 Concert Series at East 54
Joe Romeo • THU 5/20
Jonathan Byrd • THU 6/3
Guillo Carlos Trio • THU 6/17

UPCOMING THEATRE:
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Calendar

THURSDAY, MAY 20 Carrboro Rec Talent Show Auditions — Ages 13-18. Whether you can rap, sing, dance or read a poem, come and show off your talent for your friends and family! Contestants must register for an audition which will be held in the Century Hall. 4:30-9pm

FRIDAY, MAY 21 Contra Dance — Lessons at 7:30pm. Dance at 8pm. George Segebade, Lu Gamble, Buz Lloyd, et al. \$8 www.csdadance.org/

Bike to Work Day — Enjoy an evening bike ride through Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Wallace Parking Deck, 5:30pm

SATURDAY, MAY 22 CHS Football Fundraiser — A triple threat fundraiser (car wash/tag sale silent auction) to be held. Donations are being accepted for the yard sale or you can purchase a space for \$10 and make some money for yourself! We will help you unload, set up and have unsold items taken to the PTA Thrift Store. Please contact Mae at promisemle@msn.com for more information

Chapel Hill Youth Summit — Rising eighth to 11th graders are invited to talk about the things that concern them at the Chapel Hill Youth Summit to be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 22, at Carrboro High School, 201 Rock Haven Road

Pittsboro Relay For Life — The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Fight Back Against Cancer. Entertainment through midnight will be provided by Big Time Party Band, Pizzwheel, Lane Snipes, Purple Passion and others. A Luminary Ceremony begins at dark to remember loved ones lost to cancer and honor those who continue the fight. Info: www.relayforlife.org/pittsboro

Endangered Species Day Celebration — Jordan Lake State Recreation Area Visitor Center. 10am-12noon

SUNDAY, MAY 23 Chatham County Arts Council Fundraiser — First full symphony orchestra concert in Chatham County with works from the "Phantom of the Opera Tour" and includes a one-time only special violin Tchaikovsky Concert. 7pm \$20/30/50. www.chathamarts.org

MONDAY, MAY 24 Chapel Hill Bird Club Meeting — Featuring a talk entitled "Birding and Art (and Food) in Provence" by Tom Krakauer. Binkley Baptist Church. 7:30pm. Free

Acting Class at ArtsCenter — For 4th-5th graders. 3:30-5:30pm. www.ArtsCenterLive.Org

TUESDAY, MAY 25 Acting Class at ArtsCenter — For 6th-8th graders. 4-6pm. www.ArtsCenterLive.Org

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26 Fundraiser for Pace Academy — At Farmers' Market. Quiche Recipe Contest and cook-off with C'est si Bon! Cooking school Food For Thought: First Annual Recipe Contest fundraiser for Pace Academy. Students will cook up the winners at market! To enter the contest: www.cestsibon.net/teen-chefs

Special Wednesday Contra Dance — Live music by Swallowtail, calling by George Marshall and Tim Van Egmond. Carrboro Century Center. 7:30-10:30pm. \$10

Acting Class at ArtsCenter — For 9th-12 graders. 4-6pm. www.ArtsCenterLive.Org

THURSDAY, MAY 27 Elaine O'Neal to speak at FRANK Gallery — The topic will be "A Color Embellishment with Stitches." 5-8pm. Free. www.frankart.com

Improvisation Class at ArtsCenter — For 6th-12th graders. www.ArtsCenterLive.Org

FRIDAY, MAY 28 Acting Class at ArtsCenter — For K-3rd graders. 4-5pm. www.ArtsCenterLive.Org

Hillsborough Gallery of Arts Opening Reception — "The Secret Life of Trees" turned wood by Pat Lloyd, paintings by Kim Wheaton and quilts by Katherine Nelson. Show runs through June 19th. Opening reception 6-9pm. www.hillsboroughgallery.com

SATURDAY, MAY 29 Walk With Purpose For Josh's Hope — The three-mile fundraising walk begins and ends at Orange United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill The three-mile fundraising walk begins and ends at Orange United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill. Josh's Hope Foundation was established in memory of Joshua McCabe Bailey, a 20-year-old Chapel Hill resident who was murdered July 29, 2008. Josh's Hope Foundation raises funds for programs that provide treatment services and supports for transitioning young adults, ages 18 to 24, who struggle with mental illness or dual diagnoses of mental illness with substance abuse issues. Info: www.joshshopefoundation.org. 8am

Dance - Participatory Shag Dancing — Every Monday. Beginner class at 7pm, dance at 9pm. Free lesson first Monday of the month, 6pm. General Store Cafe.

Tango — Learn and practice Tango with the Triangle Tango Society. Open Eye Cafe. 8pm

Ongoing Cancer Support — Support groups for cancer patients and their families. comucopiahouse.org

Compassionate Friends — Free self-help support for all adults grieving the loss of a child or sibling. Third Mondays, 7-8:30pm, Evergreen United Methodist Church. 967-3221, chapelhilltc.org

Wish Granting Volunteers Needed — Make-A-Wish Foundation of Eastern North Carolina needs Wish Granters to visit the family and help determine the wish of the child. Wish Granters see firsthand the impact a wish can make on a child with a life-threatening medical condition. For more information, contact Lisa at 919-821-7111 or lbrinkerhoff@eastncwish.org

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance Support Group — meets on tuesdays at Binkley Baptist Church. 7:30-9pm. Free. DBSACapelHill@ncrr.com

Send your submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

HOUSE Calls

Physicians from the UNC Department of Family Medicine's YOUR HEALTH™ media bring you weekly information in response to your questions about health and medicine. Send your questions or comments to YOURHEALTH@unc.edu



Dear HOUSE Calls, How soon should I start flossing my kids' teeth?

Dental care for kids is really important. The health of baby teeth is linked to the health of permanent teeth, and good oral health reflects good overall health. We recommend children start flossing as soon as the teeth start touching each other.

The more crowded the teeth, the harder to brush in between. The habit of flossing is one that we should encourage early to help children develop it into a lifelong habit. The American Academy of Pediatrics does recommend that you take your children to see the dentist even as early as age 1.

Dear HOUSE Calls, Why is it that pregnant women aren't supposed to eat deli meats?

There are a lot of groups that recommend that pregnant women avoid cold deli meats to avoid getting the bacteria Listeria. Listeria during pregnancy can make a woman very sick and lead to miscarriage. Other foods, such as uncooked sushi and unpasteurized milk and cheese,

can also be contaminated with Listeria. You can find online lists about nutritional strategies during pregnancy to prevent catching bacteria and avoiding mercury from food. General advice includes washing your hands, cooking foods and trying to avoid raw meats and raw dairy products. Talk with your doctor about ways to eat well during pregnancy without having to be so concerned with a list of things you can't eat.

Dear HOUSE Calls, How important is the shingles vaccine? I am 66 years old and I am skeptical.

That is an interesting question whose answer is "it depends." We wonder if you are skeptical that it will work or skeptical that it may be harmful? The vaccine does reduce the chance of getting shingles by 51 percent compared with not getting it and it does decrease the duration of pain for the people who got the vaccine but still get shingles anyway (an average of three days less pain). There is also the issue of post-herpetic neuralgia. This is a painful, sometimes debilitating and long-lasting

condition caused by nerve damage. The shingles vaccine reduces the risk of post herpetic neuralgia by 67 percent. These benefits are the good news. Most people do not get shingles and most people that do get shingles do not get post-herpetic neuralgia. Thus we need to vaccinate 175 people to prevent one case of shingles over the next three years and over 1,000 people to prevent one case of post-herpetic neuralgia. The vaccine seems to be very safe and has been approved for use since 2006. I saw a patient the other day who said that he had a rash on his shoulder and also wanted to get a shingles vaccine. The irony was that the rash on the shoulder was the shingles. He could still get the shingles vaccine to prevent future outbreaks, but it won't help him now.

HOUSE Calls is a weekly column by Dr. Adam Goldstein, Dr. Cristy Page and Dr. Adam Zolotor on behalf of YOUR HEALTH™ and the UNC Department of Family Medicine.

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CitizenCryptquote By Martin Brody. For example, YAPHCYAPLM is WORDSWORTH. One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the two O's, Y for the two W's, etc. "It's the thought that counts" ARS MWUT Q EQY OQHU XO LWP KPQYOU M ORQO Q KXPJ ARW LJXPOT AXOR RXE, AQYOT RXE OW HXTT RUP... ARUY, YXYU OXEUT WZO WL OUY, TRU WYJS AQYOT RXE OW AQYO OW HXTT RUP? - RUJUY PWAJQYM

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine. DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ HOO BOY! © 2010 King Features Synd., Inc.

PETS OF THE WEEK PAWS4EVER — Thelma is a 2-year-old red-and-white beagle mix. She came into the county shelter with Louise. They were on the run from a bad life in search of a new happier home. Thelma is still a little shy but is well on the road to being the happy silly beagle that is dying to come out. Even though life has been hard on this sweet lady, she still likes to be with people and get her belly rubbed. Leash walks are starting to become fun for her. When we first got her, she was horrified of the leash and would put all four brakes on. Now she's learning that a leash means an adventure and new things to smell, and what else could a beagle want! Contact Paws4Ever, 6311 Nicks Road, Mebane, or call 304-2300. You can also go online at paws4ever.org. ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — It's been said that you can't judge a book by its cover, and nobody illustrates such a saying better than Buddy! This 2-year-old white pit bull mix would have you believing he is big and tough when you first walk by. But as soon as the kennel door opens, you would see he is more in touch with his sensitive side than he wants you to know! This big baby is all wiggles and smiles when you stop to visit, and loves nothing more than to squirm over and plop in your lap for some quality cuddle time. After some snuggling, he would love to go outside and take a walk or play around with you, and would really love a home where he can have the best of both. If you want an all-around awesome boy, come see Buddy today. Visit him at Orange County's Animal Services Center, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill or call 942-PETS (7387). You can also see him and other adoptable animals online at co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp

BIZ BEAT:

Support your local producers and purveyors



Margot C. Lester

It's no secret that folks around these parts love their food — and the more local, the better. Happily, with summer bearing down on us, the region's rich bounty is already showing up at local markets (farmers' and otherwise). We're truly blessed with a bumper crop of great local providers and purveyors of incredible ingredients and delicious dishes.

There's good news this season for lovers of Locopops, tho' those tasty *paletas* made with lots of local ingredients: Owner Summer Bicknell has added distribution points in one of the stores (at 231 S. Elliott Road and 128 E. Franklin St.) or pick up a pop at Carrboro Beverage Co. (102 E. Main St.), Matthew's Chocolates (107 N. Church St., Hillsborough) or Harry's Market (3300 N.C. 54, White Cross).

In other local food business

news, Kevin Callaghan at Acme Food & Beverage Co. launched Sunday suppers last weekend. Limited to 16 people, the five-course, monthly meal is based on ingredients Callaghan purchases at the Saturday Carrboro Farmers' Market.

"People want the authenticity of an actual farm-to-table dinner — the sense that a real person grew the food and that a real person made it," Callaghan explains. "Sometimes economic downturns are deeply connected to the world around them. This helps that."

It's also a help to local food providers.

"The recession is very real to a lot of them," Callaghan says. "I want to be able to highlight the diversity of the growers and let people experience the season at the table."

The next Sunday supper is June 27. To find out more or to make reservations (which are required), call 929-2263.

Easier parking

Those of you've been complaining about the lack of free and easy parking in downtown Chapel Hill and Carrboro may have to find something else to kvetch about. The recent opening of a new municipal lot at South Greensboro and Robeson streets has eased the parking situation in the Paris of the Piedmont. And the very-popular free valet parking on Chapel Hill's West Franklin Street will be extended eastward beginning June

1, easing the parking burden for visitors to the Southern Part of Heaven. A new valet stand is located in front of Kizdu Children's Museum (105 E. Franklin St.) and operates from 5 to 11 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday. Depending on demand, the valets will work till 2 a.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. For more information, contact the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership at 967-9440 or visit downtownchapelhill.com.

Greener car care

While BP and its colleagues are still trying to cap the gusher in the Gulf, many concerned citizens are more actively seeking ways to reduce their dependency on oil. Chapel Hill Tire Car Care Center is doing its part by launching Environmentally Friendly Oil (EFO) changes featuring a synthetic blend made from re-refined base motor oil. The formulation conserves resources by requiring up to 85 percent less energy to produce than oil refined from crude. Make an appointment for an EFO change at chapelhilltire.com/contact.html

Agents certified

Kelsay Berland, Rachel Leber, Buffie Webber and Jeffrey Weinstock, licensed real estate brokers with Keller Williams Realty in Chapel Hill, received the Certified Negotiation Expert designation. The certification goes to agents who complete formal training in the art of negotiation from Negotiation Expertise LLC, a national

negotiation training and coaching company. These skills help real estate pros get better results for buyers and sellers.

State holds steady

For the second consecutive year, the Old North State ranked second on *Chief Executive* magazine's annual list of best states for business. The publication surveyed 651 CEOs on business conditions around the nation, including proximity to markets and resources, regulation, tax policies, workforce quality, education resources, quality of living and infrastructure. Texas retained the top spot for the first time in a row; California was last.

"It's a good thing for all of us in the Research Triangle region," says Brad Broadwell, Orange County's economic development chief. "The fact that the [area] has had great investment over the last two years — \$1.9 billion with over 10,000 jobs committed to that growth in 2009 alone — speaks volumes. But what holds Orange County back from completing deals is the necessary array of incentives, streamlined permitting and site-ready [with infrastructure] land."

Business Briefs

Get involved

The Town of Chapel Hill has several openings on business- and economic-related advisory boards and commissions: the Board of Community Design Commission (4), Planning Board (4), Public Housing Program Advisory Board (6) and Sustainability Committee (5). If you're interested in serving, apply at townofchapelhill.org/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=2623 or contact Amy Harvey at 969-5013 or aharvey@townofchapelhill.org

Call for nominations

Nominations are being accepted for the Green Plus North American Sustainable Enterprise Awards. Visit gogreenplus.org/2010/04/26/people-choice-awards/ by June 7 to cast your vote for the small enterprise you think is having the biggest impact. Winners will be honored at an awards ceremony on June 18 at the Research Triangle Park Foundation headquarters in RTP. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit gogreenplus.org

Golfing for good

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Golf Classic on Monday, June 28 at 9 a.m. at the Chambers Club. Proceeds from the tournament benefit the Chamber's Foundation for a Sustainable Community. Registration is \$135-\$150 for individuals and \$525-\$540 for foursomes. Non-members are invited to join in. Register online at carolinachamber.org/events or contact Laura Morrison at lmorrison@carolinachamber.org or 357-9989.

Program for entrepreneurs

The Council for Entrepreneurial Development (CED) presents the Leadership Series, a set of quarterly breakfast seminars for C-level executives in companies beyond the pure start-up stage. The program is designed to help executives grow their businesses and was created in conjunction with the Center for Creative Leadership (CCL) in Greensboro. The next session, "Preparing your Company for its Next Stage," will be held on June 4. Register online at my.cednc.org/cedext/vttssareg.custinfo?p_event_id=1998

School Briefs

All-State Orchestra

Four middle schools were named to the All-State Orchestra. They performed May 1 at Cummings High School in Burlington. Selected students are:

Culbreth: Andrew Liu, violin, and Alejandro Mojica, cello.

McDougle: Robert Fernald and Kevin Chen, violin. Phillips: KyuMin Kim, Alice Liu and Ashley Mizuno, violin; Jon Nuh, Diane Simon and Meagan Trubert, viola; and Jonah Krolik and William Snegoyink, cello.

Smith: Elliott Lee, Daniel Lee and Anastasia Freedman, violin; and Catherine Cho, cello.

Former principal, secretary honored

East Chapel Hill High School is scheduled to hold a celebration of the careers of former Principal David Thaden and former secretary Betsy Harvey today (Thursday).

Thaden retired at the end of last school year; Harvey succumbed to cancer on June 9, 2009.

Members of the Class of 2009 and parents raised more than \$16,000 to create an outdoor classroom

with a gazebo. The gazebo and a garden bench will be dedicated to the memory of Harvey.

The dedication is planned to take place after the school's annual recognition assembly. The Class of 2010's gift will be landscaping for the site.

Governor encourages students

Gov. Bev Perdue visited Frank Porter Elementary on Friday. After being welcomed by a group of student greeters, the governor met with the student body in the school's courtyard. She talked with students about completing their end-of-grade tests and about the importance of working hard and graduating from high school. She encouraged students to take part in the Governor's Reading Challenge by reading 15 books during the upcoming summer vacation.

The governor then met with fourth-graders in the media center. Since fourth-grade students study North Carolina history, she quizzed the students on their knowledge of the three branches of government and her role in this model. She asked students about laws that they thought were beneficial. She also shared personal stories about responsibility.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

FRI 5/21 — Cheese Pizza; Pepperoni Pizza; Sloppy Joe on a Whole Bun; Garden Salad; Seasoned Green Beans; Chilled Strawberry Applesauce

MON 5/24 — Chicken Nuggets w/Wheat Lett. & Beef Tacos w/Salsa, Cheese, Rott. & Tomato; Spanish Rice; Sweet Yellow Corn; Apple Halves

TUE 5/25 — Sweet & Sour Chicken; Turkey and Cheese Wrap; "Fun on the Run"; Brown Rice Pilaf; Asian Mixed Vegetables; Chilled Blueberries

WED 5/26 — Cheese Pizza; Pepperoni Pizza; Tuna Salad w/Lettuce, Tomato & Crackers; Carrot & Celery

Sticks; Steamed Broccoli; Fresh Banana

THU 5/27 — Sliced Roast Turkey w/Combread Dressing & Gravy; "Fun on the Run"; Sweet Potatoes w/Apples; Seasoned Beans; Chilled Pears

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PHOTO BY ALEX MANESS

of Music from Juilliard. Among her many accomplishments, she has soloed with the Simón Bolívar Orchestra in Venezuela, performed at the Festival de Música Contemporánea in Mexico and the Minica Nova in Finland and traveled on a musical exploration of all cultures, she's studied West African, Haitian and Afro-Cuban percussion and is an accomplished player.

and free fiddler from North Carolina.

"The Academy supports the notion that music can be medicine, music can be higher education and, at its best, it can be the most successful strategy for cultural diplomacy," Curtis said.

Curtis is the daughter of *Carrboro Citizen* art director Liz Holm. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Mills College, where she won the award for most outstanding music graduate, and a Master

She's also a composer.

The *New York Times* has called Curtis an "artist of keen intelligence and taste, well worth watching out for."

Curtis' ultimate goals include "achieving a high level of artistry as a violinist and a conductor through music. I hope to continue to explore and help preserve the musical traditions of Latin America and to be an advocate of music in its ability to ignite positive change."

FROM THE EDITOR

Wake's problems – and ours

In this community, we have our share of lingering and, as some have correctly argued, festering inequalities in our schools. No one could say we haven't tried to right this wrong, but the universal assessment is that we're not there yet.

Given our experiences with what works, or at least what mitigates the problems, it is disquieting to see the events unfolding in the Wake County school system.

Wake's woes are not happening in a vacuum. Our community, long willing to go the extra mile and provide the extra dollars for its school system, is likely to feel some repercussions from the Wake school board's experiment with the re-segregation of its schools and dismantling of a successful magnet program.

With three top-flight high schools and a reputation as a good place for high-achieving students, we have always had a strong attraction, especially for families with kids in their middle school years.

Right now, Wake County is undoubtedly full of worried parents looking at an uncertain future and contemplating a jump to a private school or another school system. In addition, for those considering a move to the Triangle, Chapel Hill-Carrboro just got a whole lot more attractive.

That dynamic, mixed with more than the usual amount of real estate inventory in our area, could boost high school attendance down the road, exacerbating overcrowding and accelerating the need for further expansion.

Another election cycle or two may alter a bit the dynamics in the Wake County system, but for now the board seems to be deeply divided and committed by thin majority to policies that might make one believe they've lost their moorings.

Unfortunately, their loss may be our gain.

Claiming the streets

The pedestrian vs. automobile battle continues here in Carrboro with a report from the police department on heavier enforcement against drivers who fail to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. The matter was brought up at a board of aldermen meeting earlier this year, where tales told of crosswalk danger spurred the recent crackdown. In all, police officers acting as decoys netted 46 offenders.

That so many were caught in the act is further evidence that belief in the divine right of autos remains ingrained in our culture. Thankfully, the board and the police are refusing to yield to it.

Kudos

One more word about walking – congratulations. The 2ndFriday Artwalk celebrated its 101st month in grand style last Friday. Having a monthly event to gin up interest in the arts has paid dividends for the town, gallery owners and artists alike.

Thanks to all the volunteers and participants, and here's to a successful 100 or so more.

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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An exclusionary principle

JAMES CARNAHAN

Charged to figure out how to transform our vulnerable suburban community into a genuinely resilient urban one, the Chapel Hill Community Sustainability Visioning Task Force suspended its important work in mid-April (“Sustainability panel is at a crossroads,” 4/15/10), primarily due to concerns about “carrying capacity.” But using carrying capacity to determine whether more or less development should take place in Chapel Hill, Carrboro or Orange County is to transform a cautionary principle into an exclusionary one.

Task force members said, in effect, that we should not make decisions about density along transit corridors until we have calculated how many people we can sustain in Chapel Hill and its surrounds in the future. For instance, will we have enough water to support more people, some members asked. Unfortunately, applying carrying capacity this way is loaded with unintended consequences for our society, economy and even the environment.

In fact, the way we manage growth already excludes the lesser among us. Promoting mixed uses and higher densities could generate more small businesses and smaller residences, supporting more transit, but our ordinances discourage this approach. The constraints on starting a business or building downtown, in combination with the costs of important public services (e.g., schools), drive up the price of admission – or, for those of us already here, escalate living costs beyond our means.

Carrying capacity can only be reliably determined if the system is closed to outside influence. Modeling the carrying capacity of a particular jurisdiction would be very complex and yield

ambiguous results. Any model would have to account for ongoing technological advances, the sources of goods and services, changes in behavior that would impact demand for natural resources and the ways waste and other residuals might be disposed of in the future. Past experience indicates such a model would be expensive and likely to have a short shelf life.

There might be some argument for determining carrying capacity at the larger geographic scale of a region or continent. But towns and counties straddle environmental designations such as watersheds, and their commerce is tightly interwoven with surrounding communities. The idea of “local carrying capacity” assumes these connections could be severed and that it is desirable to do so.

If the model tells you that you have exceeded or will exceed your arbitrarily defined area’s carrying capacity, there are moral and ethical implications to taking action. Would we prevent future growth or somehow reduce current population? How would we decide who gets to join us or remain here?

Meanwhile, our atmosphere’s ability to absorb carbon has already been surpassed, and the U.S. is by far the highest per-capita emitter of greenhouse gasses (GHG). Technological advances resulting in energy efficiency have been overtaken by increased emissions from more vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by our cars and trucks. In Orange County, where low-density suburban sprawl is as ubiquitous as anywhere else, transportation produces 49 percent of our GHG emissions.

Research shows that VMT is reduced where uses are mixed, density is higher and sidewalks, bike lanes and public transit are present. Communi-

ties that have the lowest per-capita CO₂ emissions are the densest. They mostly predate the automobile becoming the dominant form of personal transportation and have great, human-scaled environments. Much of what has been developed since World War II is phenomenally wasteful of all the ecosystem services on which human life depends, clean air included. That development is in many ways, hardly “livable.”

Although water is frequently cited as a limiting resource, the detached single-family homes still favored by our ordinances are far bigger water gluttons than other forms of residential development. Moreover, water treatment, conservation and re-use technologies are rapidly evolving and are most efficiently implemented in larger projects where users are close together.

It is a serious mistake to get bogged down in a debate over whether to permit more people inside our cozy borders and also has xenophobic implications. Carrying capacity’s best use is as a cautionary precept to guide us toward the most efficient civilization possible, not as an exclusionary device to further increase the hurdles of providing for one’s family in Orange County.

Let’s use what we already know to figure out how and where we want this great adaptation to unfold. Let’s redesign our communities so that they invigorate and nurture our citizenry, rather than isolating and excluding us. This reshaping of the built environment should be a top priority for the Chapel Hill Town Council and other leaders serving the people, and deciding the future, of Orange County.

James Carnahan is a founder of the Village Project and former chair of the Carrboro Planning Board.

LETTERS

Smith Level plan can work

Smith Level Road is a primary artery for Carrboro, but the lack of sidewalks or even wide shoulders makes it a menace for pedestrians and cyclists. The N.C. Department of Transportation has a new plan that would change the road considerably.

What’s in the new plan? Aside from a turning lane, the roadway would remain two lanes, but DOT would acquire land for four future lanes (which will not be built without the town’s approval). This would provide plenty of room for bike lanes and a sidewalk far removed from the busy roadway. Berryhill residents would no longer be able to take a left onto Smith Level Road (SLR), but could take a U-turn at BPW when traveling north. A roundabout would be built near Carrboro High School. Well-designed roundabouts are much safer than traditional stoplights, and the roundabout at Rock Haven would slow traffic down and provide a beautiful entrance into Carrboro.

Do the benefits of the new plan outweigh the liabilities for the town? As an advisory board member, I voted to reject two other SLR proposals in the past because I believed they were antithetical to Carrboro’s vision of “complete streets” that improve pedestrian, bicyclist and motorist safety. SLR would have gone from two to four lanes, increasing vehicle capacity but doing very little for alternative transportation. The aldermen sent the plan back to DOT, requesting something less expensive that fits our vision.

Perhaps unknown to most Carrborites, something changed recently at DOT. After we rejected the last proposal, Mayor Chilton caught the attention of the COO of DOT, Jim Trogon, and pressed DOT to come up with a plan that matched their Complete Street Pol-

icy. And after 20 years of banging heads over SLR, DOT pleasantly surprised us with a new plan, with two lanes, a roundabout, wide bike lanes and sidewalks removed from traffic.

We have a choice of working with DOT and trying to modify small parts of the plan or reject the plan again and live without sidewalks and bike lanes for many more years to come. It would be great to skip the land acquisition, but such a project would not be funded any time soon. I think that DOT has come a long way to support our vision. Although there are some minor elements to improve, I strongly support the new plan.

*CHARLIE HILEMAN
Chair, Transportation Advisory Board*

Wonderful event

“This place is amazing!” That’s the universal reaction from the 300 guests who enjoyed the Uncommon Garden Tour on Saturday, May 1. This rare opportunity to see the garden benefited The ArtsCenter in Carrboro. The half acre, which has to be seen to be believed, is a mysterious and Zen-like refuge filled with surprise after surprise. The amazing stonework, sculpture, garden beds and water features create a world unlike any other anywhere. The secret garden sanctuary gates have been flung open to the public only once a year in the last three years. This year was the biggest success yet, raising over \$10,500!

Thank you to our event sponsors Clear Water Construction Group, Jane Bultman, Nan Van Der Puy of UBS, Chapel Hill Magazine and Carrburritos. Framemakers donated our Raffle Prize – a beautiful custom framing of an Uncommon Garden original photo print by David Poulos. Scharding Design provided our elegant publicity package.

Especial thanks are due to all the knowledgeable volunteer docents, who so ably described the particulars of every twist, turn and artistic manifestation. A special shout-out to Lynn Pace, Emily Krebill, Michael Triplett and Jane Oliver who fed everyone.

Ray Tolan and Tiffany Bernard are not only responsible for some of the spectacular sculpture (including the steel tree featured in our raffle prize), but also for helping to transport and setup the tents, tables and greenery and making the entrance safe for the tour. The preparation and all-important cleanup of the garden was done by Fabio Consani.

The unique experience of touring the Uncommon Garden was enhanced by musicians Marilyn Wienand, Celtic harpist; Viswas Chitnis and Chris Johnson, sitar and tabla; and Gregory Blaine and Dolie Chandler, vocals, guitar, percussion and didgeridoo.

ArtsCenter painters/instructors on hand demonstrating their skills included Jane Filer, Elizabeth May, Emily Weinstein and Luna Lee Ray. Our uncommon event photographer, David Poulos, was there documenting this beautiful day. As the official garden photographer, his sharp eye and sure hand produced the classic photos sold as souvenirs.

The Uncommon Garden Committee would like to thank all our guests for their support for artists and The ArtsCenter. The garden would not be what it is without the imagination and talents of many ambitious and accomplished artists and, of course, the generosity and vision of our host – a true Patron of the Arts – Dan Krebill.

*THE UNCOMMON GARDEN COMMITTEE
Betsy James (chair), Susan Reda,
Gail Fairbanks and Nan Van Der Puy
uncommongardentour.com*

The budget of low expectations

CHRIS FITZSIMON

The Senate is still on track to pass a budget this week that overall seems to meet the low expectations for it, with more cuts to human services and education, as lawmakers rush to complete their work and get home to campaign in the most volatile political climate in years.

The Senate budget, unveiled less than a week after the session convened, spends roughly the same amount of money as the proposal from Gov. Beverly Perdue, though it does not provide the small raise for teachers and payback to state employees for last year’s furlough that Perdue proposed.

The Senate plan forgoes the salary increases and uses the money to avoid the \$135 million discretionary cut to public schools in Perdue’s plan, though local school systems will still have to find \$80 million in reductions that were already scheduled.

Most of the initial coverage of the Senate budget focused on the efforts to do more to protect education from deep cuts, which is a storyline that’s flawed by its reliance on the conventional wisdom that public education is a bloated bureaucracy that can be repeatedly slashed without any ramifications for students, teachers or schools.

The Senate budget cuts 26 jobs in the Information Technology office in the Department of Public Instruction and another 10 positions in the academic services and instructional support department. Schools around the state rely on DPI for technology help and other support. They will have a harder time finding it next year if the cuts remain.

There are cuts in assistant principals and school personnel like counselors, librarians and media specialists, all of whom work with students and teachers every day. There are reductions on top of that to administrative staff in local school systems, the finance officers and associate superintendents that keep the systems running efficiently.

Last year’s budget already reduced the number of positions in DPI and made cuts in support personnel in local schools. The new cuts proposed would only make things worse.

There are plenty of non-administrative reductions too, like eliminating 2,000 slots in More at Four, which helps at-risk kids. Smart Start is sharply reduced, mentoring programs are suspended for a year and dropout prevention grants are abolished. It’s not very good news for kids struggling in school or people who are worried about them.

And education is the place the Senate says it protected. Human services fared even worse, with staggering reductions of more than \$600 million beyond the cuts already scheduled for this year, despite the restoration of \$40 million cut last session from mental health services.

Though few and far between, there are a few bright spots, like \$14 million for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program that provides lifesaving medication for people living with HIV and the restoration of the Sentencing Services program that provides an alternative to prison, saving the state money and giving offenders a chance to turn their lives around while they continue to work and pay taxes.

The reaction to the Senate budget is as telling as the numbers in it. Many advocates are unhappy, but the sense of outrage seems to be missing, as if everyone’s agreed that it is the best they can do under the circumstances.

But is it? The Senate, for example, wouldn’t have to deny 2,000 at-risk kids the help that More at Four provides if it ended the ridiculous in-state tuition provision for out-of-state athletes at UNC schools that provides a \$10 million windfall for athletic booster clubs.

There are plenty of other choices made in the spending plan that reflect not only the much-publicized unwillingness to consider new revenue sources but also the refusal to take on sacred cows like the in-state tuition provision or allowing multi-state corporations to avoid paying the state taxes they should owe in North Carolina.

Lawmakers have a tough job this year, but they signed up for it. And this is not the best they can do.

Chris Fitzsimon is executive director of N.C. Policy Watch.



PHOTO BY JOHNNY RANDALL

Botanical Garden staff and volunteers reintroduce endangered harperella along the rocky shore of Deep River.



PHOTO BY JOHNNY RANDALL

Endangered smooth coneflower is being introduced onto local sites of former piedmont praries.

FLORA

FROM PAGE 1

The Endangered Species Day website describes 10 things to do at home to protect endangered species, including planting native plants and minimizing (best to eliminate) herbicides and pesticides.

I suggest we include another significant way to protect endangered species, and I include us humans in this category. If you did not participate in last Saturday's "Great Unleashing" at Carrboro's Century Center, you should become active with Transition Carrboro-Chapel Hill (transitionch.org). Sign up to become involved with this group, the local body of a worldwide action group, committed to changing the way we work and live to meet environmental and economic challenges in positive, Earth-friendly practices. Protecting endangered species begins with our own manner of living.

And celebrate the nature of our community by taking a walk at Mason Farm, where the Botanical Garden's fire ecology management has resulted in acres of tall white beardtongue, *Penstemon digitalis*, in flower now!

Email Ken Moore at flora@carrborocitizen.com.



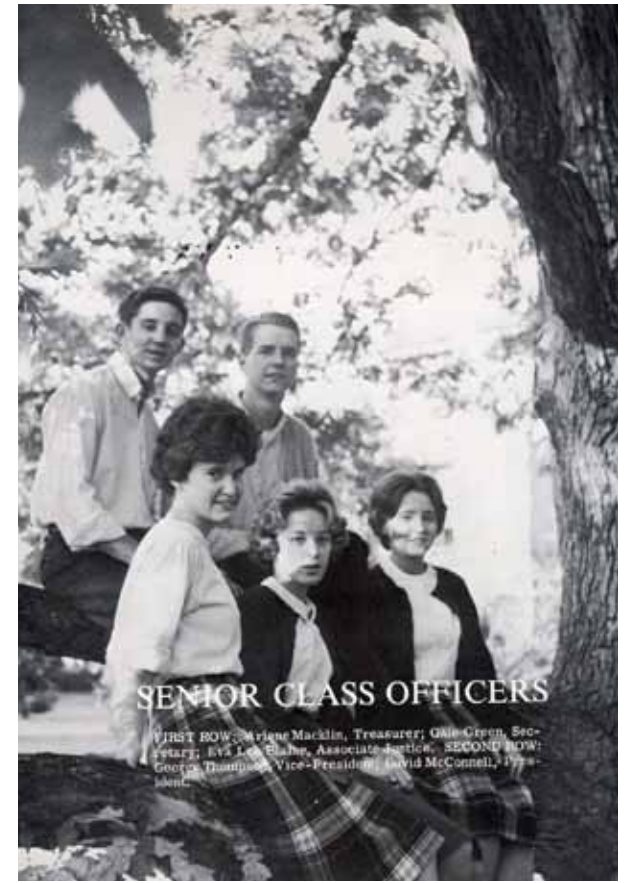
PHOTO BY MIKE KUNZ

Endangered Roughleaf loosestrife was successfully relocated from highway construction to a DOT conservation area.



PHOTO BY JOHNNY RANDALL

Even in full flower endangered harperella is easy to overlook along gravelly riversides.



SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS

FIRST ROW: Arlene Macklin, Treasurer; Gale Green, Secretary; Eva Lee Blaine, Associate Justice; SECOND ROW: George Thompson, Vice-President; Davis McConnell, President.

Children of the Noble Grove, 1963

A delightful new book from UNC Press, Noble Grove, and a Wilson Library exhibit by the same title celebrate UNC's legacy forest that marches up from McCorkle Place, shelters the Old Well, shades South Building and spreads south across Polk Place to the Bell Tower. Former Community Church pastor Charlie Kast once said if he could return for a second life, it would be as a tree. Like Charlie, I too have my own campus "faves," including the massive white oak that used to stand west of New West. Before its demise several years ago (old age, disease, insects), this "giving tree," with its one head-high horizontal branch, made a perfect outdoor studio perch for the senior class officers' portrait for the 1963 CHHS yearbook: front to back, left to right, Arlene Macklin, treasurer; Gale Greene, secretary; Eva Lee Blaine, associate justice; George Thompson, vice-president; and Dave McConnell, president.



A THOUSAND WORDS

BY JOCK LAUTERER

Do you have an important old photo that you value? Send your 300 dpi scan to jock@email.unc.edu and include the story behind the picture. Because every picture tells a story. And its worth? A thousand words.

WATER WATCH

LAKE LEVELS

UNIVERSITY LAKE: 0' 11" inches below full
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 0' .0" below full

PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH

JONES FERRY PLANT: 3.07"
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 3.05"

CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND

Past 7 days (average): 8.247 million gallons
Past 30 days (average): 8.188 million gallons

ESTIMATED SUPPLY REMAINING:

429 days worth (about 14 months), based on average demand in the last 30 days, and assuming no further rainfall.

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May 23rd - The Jeff Brown Quartet
May 30th - Club Boheme

Thursday Night After Hours

One of Carrboro's hottest events! Favorite local bands create an intimate musical show from 6:00 - 8:00 pm in the heart of the crowd. This year's event kicks off with the original Jamaican-style ska and reggae of the Tim Smith Band.

June 3rd - Tim Smith Band
June 10th - The Mystery Hillbillies

Thursday Night Open Mic

Join us every Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 pm as we showcase live, local music at our Hillsborough store in the Lilac Lounge.

May 20th - Black Swamp Bootleggers
May 27th - Judy Woodall
May 28th - Last Friday with Jon Shain

weaverstreetmarket.coop