


**FRIDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
47/22



**SATURDAY**  
Clear  
41/27

**SUNDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
52/32



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE  
Winter leaves of cranefly orchid are sometimes shades of burgundy.

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Winter green, but not evergreen

Winter in the woods is the best time to appreciate land contours, the striking differences of tree bark, the stature of individual specimens and the leaves of evergreen wildflowers.

It's also the best opportunity to locate two obscure native orchids. Of the two, cranefly orchid, *Tipularia discolor*, is the more common. Most often you'll spy a single leaf or two here and there, sometimes an informal line of them and infrequently a loose mat of them. The one-and-a-half-to-three-plus-inch-long ovate, or egg-shaped, leaves are evident now. The leaf is green on the upper surface and burgundy below, sometimes almost purple on both surfaces.

The leaves of these orchids are busy now absorbing the winter sun and actively growing, manufacturing and storing essential nutrients and resources necessary for annual flowering and seed production. Though green now, these plants are not evergreen. They disappear in spring as the tree canopy shades the forest floor. They seem to be going into dormancy in reverse of most plants, but they remain very active underground, sending up a flowering stem in late summer, unnoticed by most woods walkers. I described the flowers in Flora last summer (Volume II No. XXII, Aug. 14, 2008).

If you want to see this beautiful little orchid in flower, you will have to make note of their locations so you'll know precisely where to look when you return in the summer to catch them.

SEE FLORA PAGE 8

INSIDE

Recycling costs rising  
page 3

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Aldermen to reconsider road connectivity policy

BY SUSAN DICKSON  
Staff Writer

CARRBORO — After hearing from concerned residents about a proposed connector road between a proposed addition to the Claremont development and the Wexford neighborhood, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen voted on Tuesday to revisit the town's connector road policy.

The board heard from residents in a public hearing regarding Phases IV and V of Claremont, across from the development's first three

phases on Homestead Road.

"We really need to go back and examine our connector road policy and see if it's meeting our needs," board member Jackie Gist said. "I think that the things we thought were wrong with it are coming up again."

The board of aldermen approved the Connector Roads Policy in 1986, as development in the northern areas of town was beginning. The policy seeks "to ensure that old and new developments and businesses in town connect to each other, both to

disperse newly generated traffic and to give a sense of connectivity and unity to the town as it grew," according to the policy.

However, residents have argued that the connector policy requires connector roads that cause increases in traffic in neighborhoods in which the roads aren't designed to handle it. In Claremont Phases IV and V, the development would connect to Wexford via Colfax Drive, essentially providing a cut-through from Homestead Road to Hillsborough Road.

The proposed development includes 27 townhomes and 69 single-family homes. According to the developer, the development is expected to generate 58 vehicle trips per day through the Colfax Drive connection.

Ronni Gardner, a resident of Colfax Drive, said that because the neighborhoods the connector road would adjoin are within the walk zone for McDougle Elementary and Middle schools, adding the road would be especially unsafe for children.

SEE ALDERMAN PAGE 3



PHOTO BY AVA BARLOW  
Lieutenant Rodney Taylor Sr., of the Carrboro Police Department, reads *Lily Brown's Playthings* by Angela Johnson to first graders in Suzanne Hamrick's class at McDougle Elementary School. McDougle recently hosted an African-American Read In, which focused on literacy and black literary culture. See page 2 for Black History Month events.

Council OK's Innovation Center

BY KIRK ROSS  
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously approved a special-use permit for the three-story, 80,745-square-foot Innovations Center, the university's first project at Carolina North.

The vote came after several months of negotiations between the town, UNC and Alexandria Real Estate Equities Inc., the university's partner in the project who will build, own and operate the center.

University officials said they were eager to get on with the project, especially since they have a partner willing to move forward even in light of the slowing economy. Since it will not be owned by the university, the center will be added to the town's tax rolls.

The approval of the center comes while the town and university officials continue to work on an overall development plan for the first two phases of the Carolina North project, which are estimated to include three million square feet of building space.

Before granting approval of the permit, town council members said they wanted to make sure they had a clear understanding of how a development agreement on Carolina North would affect the project.

Council member Laurin Easthom said she was concerned about what would happen to the stipulations the town put into the Innovations Center permit once agreement on the overall development plan is reached.

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 3

County considers long-term waste alternatives

BY SUSAN DICKSON  
Staff Writer

ORANGE COUNTY — The Orange County Board of Commissioners voted last week to explore long-term alternatives for solid-waste disposal as a parallel tract to siting a solid-waste transfer station.

The board also voted to create a community advisory group composed of residents living in the vicinity of the transfer station that would directly connect the impacted community with the county and Solid Waste Management.

Commissioner Barry Jacobs said he would like to investigate possible alternatives for solid-waste

disposal — such as a collaboration with Chatham County, outsourcing solid-waste management to vendors or using solid waste to help power UNC's cogeneration facility — while continuing to proceed with siting the transfer station.

SEE COUNTY PAGE 2

A man in motion now at rest

BY KIRK ROSS AND MARGOT C. LESTER  
Staff Writers

CHAPEL HILL — Author, newspaper editor and self-proclaimed "notorious hometown ne'er do well" Roland Giduz was remembered fondly by friends and family on one of those clear, sunny Chapel Hill afternoons he cherished so much.

Giduz died Saturday after a long illness. He was 83.

What started as a gray Monday turned into a glorious, warm afternoon — the kind of day that typically would lure Giduz and his wife, Helen, out of the house for a stroll down Franklin Street.

During the service, attended by about 400 people, many references were made to Giduz's signature greeting, "Ain't you glad!," his love of singing and his fondness for the ukulele, which was given a place of honor at the altar for the service.

His son, Bill, gave a eulogy in the style of his father. In fact, the elder Giduz himself had helped edit the piece a few weeks ago. It was packed with funny anecdotes and fond remembrances, punctuated with Bill's impressions of his father's presentation style and personality. Much was made of Roland's love of statistics — right down to his counting the number of meetings he attended as a Chapel Hill Town Council member (400 attended, 7 missed) and timing church sermons. Bill's tribute lasted nine minutes and 48 seconds. We know this because brother Tom pointed it out upon taking his turn at the altar.

Tom's eulogy consisted of lessons he learned from his father, such as, "When there's an easy way to do something or an exciting way, choose the exciting way." In closing, Tom suggested that the best way to honor his father was to "practice his lessons."

Among those attending the service was Laurie Norman of Carrboro, who first met Giduz in the 1980s when she



PHOTO BY DAVID HUNT  
Roland Giduz at the 2006 Carolina Tarwheels BikeFest in Hillsborough

was a student involved with the General Alumni Association, where Giduz was director and alumni editor.

"He always greeted me with, 'Ain't you glad!,'" she recalled. "Being a little intimidated by him anyway, I never knew quite how to respond. I do recall he was pretty excited to find out I was from Wilkes County and that I might could score him some quality 'shine.'"

During Norman's term as president of the Chapel Hill Preservation Society, the organization presented Giduz with the inaugural Horace Williams Award for his leadership in preserving the town's history. He was given a pen made from a walnut tree on the grounds of the Horace Williams House.

"I understand from Helen that he carried it in his pocket every day," she added.

Also in attendance was former Chapel Hill Mayor Jonathan House. After the service, he recalled Giduz's interest in local politics.

"When I became mayor of Chapel Hill, an office he sought but was denied, he was always forthcoming with his advice," Howes said. "He was the perennial sponsor of the idea of an admissions tax, or ticket tax, to be imposed by the town on large spectator events. He felt that the tax would be a source of revenue for the town that would be paid largely by visitors and provide a little relief to the ever-increasing property tax, paid

by property owners. Maybe it's time to enact it and name it for Roland."

Giduz served on the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen and lost to Howard Lee by roughly 400 votes in Lee's successful bid to become the first black mayor of a major Southern town. Giduz said one of his regrets in public life was failing to support a public-accommodations ordinance that would have effectively integrated restaurants in town.

Rollie Tillman, founding director of UNC's Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise and former UNC vice chancellor for university relations, said he appreciated Giduz's joie de vivre, faith and positive outlook.

SEE ROLAND GIDUZ PAGE 7



Community Briefs

Pool dedication

The Homestead Aquatic Center will hold a Grand Opening on Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. to noon. The celebration will feature an official dedication ceremony with a ribbon cutting, dedication plaque and a grand cake. Free swim passes will be offered. The center is in the northwest corner of the 40-acre Homestead Park at 300 Northern Park Drive off Homestead Road in Chapel Hill.

Pruning demo

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service will sponsor a fruit tree pruning demonstration on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at Orchard Creek Farm on Timberwood Trail in Effland. Dr. Carl Matyac and Dr. Mike Parker will demonstrate pruning apple trees, and participants will learn techniques to control disease and insects. To register or for additional information, contact the Orange County office of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at 245-2050.

COUNTY FROM PAGE 1

Alternatives could also provide an option for transitional solid-waste disposal, should the landfill reach capacity before the transfer station is completed, board members said.

The board voted in December to narrow the search for a solid-waste transfer station site to two sites on N.C. 54 West near Orange Grove Road: a 147-acre parcel located 0.7 miles west of Orange Grove Road and a 43-acre parcel located 0.3 miles west of Orange Grove Road.

The board is under a tight timeline to site the transfer station, as the Orange County Landfill is expected to reach capacity in spring 2011. The decision to narrow the search came more than a year after the board of commissioners opted not to follow through on a prior decision to build the station at the Eubanks Road landfill.

County Manager Laura Blackmon and the county solid-waste department staff have recommended that commissioners choose the 147-acre site. The site is located next to Piedmont Feed and Seed across from the intersection of N.C. 54 and Morrow Mill Road.

Residents of the area have come out against the transfer station, saying it unfairly burdens a small rural community with the trash of more populated areas of the county. The proposed sites

are far from both the center of trash generation in the county and the Interstate highways transfers trucks would need to access, residents have said.

In addition, community members have argued that the roads surrounding the proposed sites are inadequate to handle the traffic the transfer station would generate and that transfer trucks would make roads unsafe for tractors and cyclists.

Bonnie Hauser, a member of Orange County Voice, said the group had investigated alternatives to the transfer station and provided a report of its findings to the county.

"The report suggests that the county can save literally millions of dollars if we use vendors rather than build and operate our own waste transfer station," she said.

According to the report, waste transfer stations could handle Orange County's waste for \$40 to \$50 per ton, about \$10 to \$20 less than it would cost Orange County to build and operate its own facility, Hauser said, providing annual savings of about \$750,000 to \$1 million.

"That would pay, we think, for many things, including the long-promised services and amenities for the Rogers Road community," she added. "We all agree that resources are tight, money's limited and there's a lot to do. We can't afford to be side-tracked in building an expensive interim waste transfer station that we don't need. We have better options."

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, JAN 29

**Concert** — Southern Routes is the featured band for the Lunchbox Concert Series at the Carrboro Century Center; noon, free.

**Art Opening** — Exhibit Opening Reception "FREE," by Maya Freelon Asante, The Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum, 7pm

SATURDAY, JAN 31

**Temple Dedication** — The Chapel Hill Zen Center will dedicate its new temple addition at 6 p.m. with a dedication ceremony followed by a reception with live music, an art show and silent auction featuring works by Theresa Arico, Rachel Bowman, Charles Dillingham, Virginia Gibbons, Ed Larson, Karl Linger, Scott Myers, and Alice Jinxiu Zhao. 5322 Highway 86, 967-0861, intrex.net/chzg.

**Songs of Zion** — Winter concert by Women's Voices Chorus with music inspired by Jewish texts and composers as well as a wide variety of Yiddish and Hebrew folksongs. The show features the world premiere of a new composition by Duke graduate Caroline Mallonée. 7:30pm, Duke Chapel, \$15 adults, \$5 students, 684-3855, womensvoiceschorus.org.

**Winter Walk** — Ken Moore leads a "Winter Walk in the Footsteps of William Lanier Hunt," a tour of campus landscapes and plants. Sponsored by the N.C. Botanical Garden, 2pm, 962-0522, ncbg.unc.edu

**Computer class** — Carrboro Branch Library is offering a class on web basics from 9 to 10am. To register, or for more information, please call 969-3006, or visit the Community Workshop Series web site at www.lib.unc.edu/cws

TUESDAY, FEB 3

**NaMI Family-to-Family Education Program** — First of 12 weekly classes for close relatives of individuals suffering from a mental illness. 6:30-9pm, Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Road, free, 967-5403, gbelder@bellsouth.net

WEDNESDAY, FEB 4

**The View and Realization of the Foundational Path** — Wednesday nights in February, 7:30 to 9pm, Piedmont KTC Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Center, 109 Jones Creek Place (near Homestead Road and Old 86 in Carrboro). 968-9426, piedmontktc.org

FRIDAY, FEB 5

**Opening reception** for "Winter Light," a themed show by 17 artists. 6-9pm, Hillsborough Gallery of Arts, 121 N. Churton St., Hillsborough. 732-5001, hillsboroughgallery.com

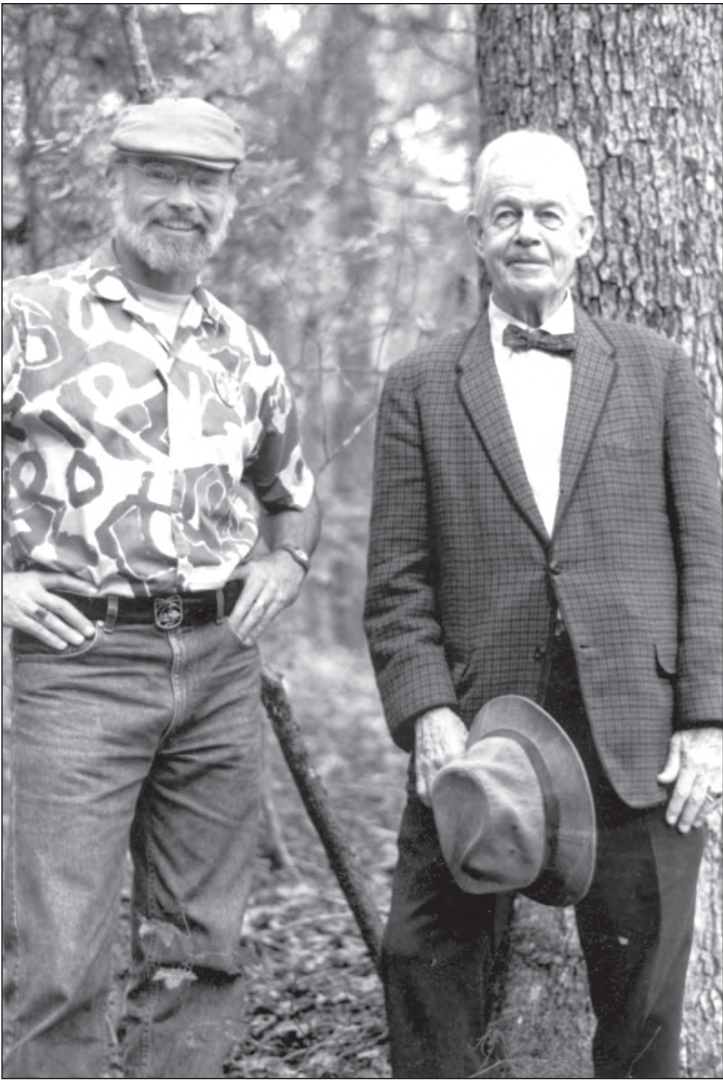


PHOTO COURTESY OF N.C. BOTANICAL GARDEN  
Ken Moore and William Hunt back in the day.

SATURDAY, FEB 7

**Computer class** — Carrboro Branch Library is offering a introductory class on email from 9-10am. To register, or for more information, please call 969-3006, or visit the Community Workshop Series web site at www.lib.unc.edu/cws.

**Urban Owl** — Dr. Rob Bier-ragaard presents "Sex (Owls, and Mice) and the City: The Ecology of Suburban Barred Owls," a presentation on his study of a thriving population of barred owls in suburban Charlotte. 1:30pm, N.C. Botanical Garden, free

**Cuba Discussion** — Environmental lawyer Dam Whittle leads a panel discussion on "Cuba in the Age of Obama." Whittle and others will talk about their experiences living and working in Cuba and discuss what people in Cuba are saying about the Obama presidency and what the future may hold for US-Cuba relations. CHICLE, 5pm, free

**Soil talk** — Bob Rubin presents "Soil--It's Not a Dirty Business." N.C. Botanical Garden, 2:30pm, free

Ongoing

**Advent Lutheran** — 10:25am worship service

**Buddhist Teachings and Meditation** — Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm. The Kosala Mahayana Buddhist center teaches traditional Kadampa Buddhist practice. 711 W. Rosemary St. 619-5736, meditationinchapelhill.org

**Cancer Support** — Weekly support free of charge for cancer patients and family at Cornucopia House. cornucopiahouse.org

**The Compassionate Friends** — Third Mondays, 7-8:30pm. Self-help support after the death of a child. Free and open to all adults grieving the loss of a child or sibling. Evergreen United Methodist Church. 967-3221, chapelhilltcf.org

**DivorceCare** — Mondays, 7pm. A support group for those separated or divorced. Orange United Methodist Church. 942-2825, connect2orange.org

Kids

**Toddler Time** — Thursdays, 4pm. Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

**Preschool Story Time** — Saturdays, 10:30am. Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

**Express Yourself!** — Saturdays, 10:45-11:15am, 11:30am-noon. Art program for ages 3-8 & their caregivers. Kidzu Children's Museum, 105 E. Franklin St. \$2, 933-1455, kidzchildrensmuseum.org

Literary

**Books Sandwiched** — First Wednesday of most months, 11am. Conference room of the Chapel Hill Public Library. 968-2780

Volunteers

**RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program** — Seeks volunteers at least 55 years of age and over who would like assistance in finding an opportunity that matches their interests. RSVP places volunteers with more than 100 nonprofit agencies in Orange County. 968-2056, co.orange.nc.us/aging/RSVPindex.asp

**Meals on Wheels** — Seeks volunteers to deliver meals and/or bake simple desserts for recipients in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area. 942-2948

**English as a Second Language Conversation Club** — Seeks volunteers to talk with groups of international students Fridays from noon-2pm. University Methodist Church on Franklin Street. 967-1448, harwellja@bellsouth.net

**VITA Tax Service** — Free tax service by trained and certified volunteers. Monday through Saturday, Feb. 2-April 15 at several sites in Orange and Chatham counties. co.orange.nc.us/vita.asp

**Black History Month The N.C. Roots of African American Literature** — A talk by UNC Professor William Andrews. Feb. 20, 6:30pm, Carrboro Cybrary

**African-American Gardens & Gardening Traditions** — A talk by Richard Westmacott, author of *African American Gardens & Yards in the Rural South*. Feb. 22, 2:30pm, N.C. Botanical Garden

**John Dee & Billy: Living Blues from the Carolina Piedmont** — A musical performance with cultural commentary. Orange County Public Libray, Hillsborough, Feb. 9, 6pm

SUPER CROSSWORD

SHARPEN YOUR WITS

ACROSS

1 Mineral suffix  
4 Awaited  
9 Two, in  
12 Tijuana  
12 Out of line  
17 Worthless  
19 Pad  
20 Journalist  
21 Tarbell  
21 Hapsburg  
22 Capital  
22 Like a spy  
25 Actress  
26 Jennifer  
26 Former  
26 Pentagon  
26 head  
27 Big name in  
27 locks  
28 Dweeb's  
28 cousin?  
30 Competitor  
31 Germ type  
34 Made likely  
37 Pumper's  
37 pride  
38 Harrison  
38 Ford movie  
41 With 68  
41 down  
41 "CHiPs"  
41 star  
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46 Writer Hunter  
47 Turf  
48 Field marshal  
48 Rommel  
50 Chemistry  
50 info  
51 Gets slushy  
53 Seoul soldier

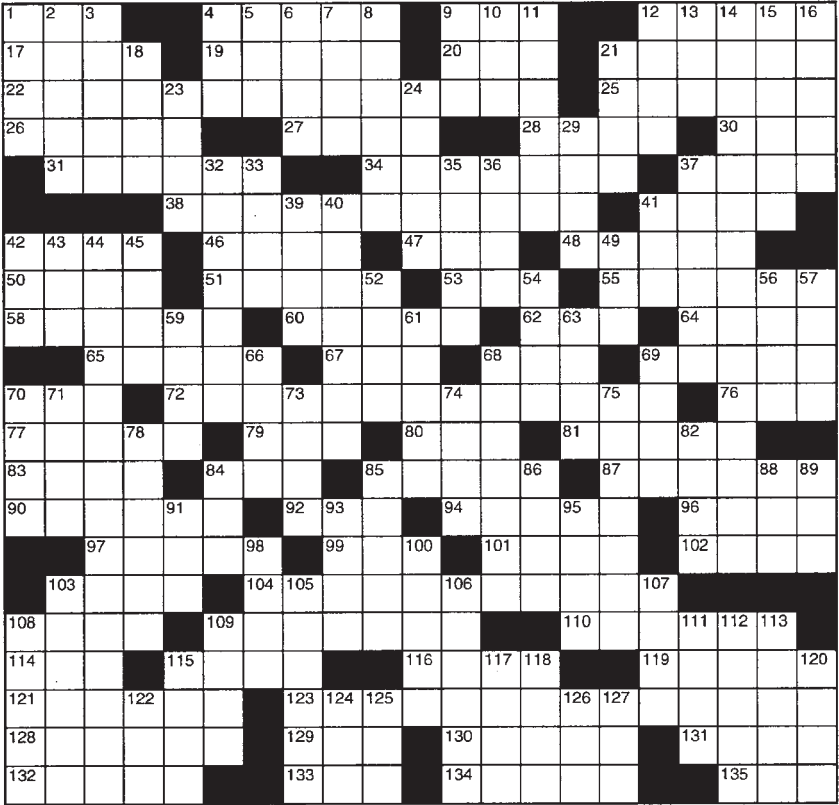
55 Non-threat-  
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58 Ms.  
60 Goldberg  
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62 Elna  
62 Fine stuff?  
64 Actor  
64 Everett  
65 Bring up  
67 Conger  
68 Look over  
68 Capital  
68 "Superman"  
68 star  
70 Pitch in  
72 Somerset  
72 Maugham  
72 work  
76 Pale  
76 ingredient  
79 Prison  
79 pariah  
80 Rum sum  
81 Mead's  
81 milieu  
83 Eatery  
84 Snyder or  
84 Hanks  
85 Houston  
85 ballplayer  
87 Detest  
87 "Calendar  
87 Girl"  
87 crooner  
92 Fox's  
92 foot  
94 Desert  
94 schlepper  
96 Circus  
96 barker?  
97 Right site  
99 Crank's  
99 comment

101 Take risks  
102 Auto adorn-  
102 ment  
103 Very, very  
103 satisfied  
104 Michael  
104 Ansara  
104 series  
108 Egg plant?  
109 Fondue  
109 ingredient  
110 Rifleman  
114 Business  
114 abbr.  
115 James of  
115 "Misery"  
116 Pearl  
116 Harbor's  
116 locale  
119 Hold back  
121 Flautist  
121 James  
123 The  
123 Searchers hit  
128 Private's  
128 posture  
129 Lodge  
129 member  
130 Carry on  
131 Joy Adam-  
131 son's joy  
132 Hirsute  
132 Jamaican  
133 Occupy a  
133 cot  
134 Chutzpah  
134 edge  
135 Chariot  
135 bumper?

DOWN

1 Peruvian of  
1 old  
2 Oklahoma  
2 city

3 Hitch in  
3 haste  
4 Quote from  
4 41 down  
5 Said  
6 Comic  
6 Goodman  
7 Snorri's  
7 stories  
8 He moves  
8 cars  
9 Excalibur  
9 ditch  
10 Laudatory  
10 lyrics  
11 French  
11 philosopher  
12 Isn't  
12 completely  
12 wrong?  
13 Diocese  
14 Roman  
14 Polanski  
14 film  
15 Put behind  
15 bars  
16 Cardiff's  
16 country  
18 Where lions  
18 laze  
21 Nothing but  
21 space  
23 Handle  
23 Class  
24 Used to be  
24 Cadets  
32 Imperfection  
32 Roof edge  
35 Breathe like  
35 a bull  
36 Reverse  
37 Eventual  
37 monarch  
39 Chip's  
39 chum  
40 Beseech



CitizenCryptoquote 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.,. Apostrophes, punctuation, the length and formation of the words are all hints.

"Beliefs and Actions"

Q X V C V D E O F V O B  
X E Z Z H O V G G , H I Q X V  
Q X H O W G S V F V U H V L V H O  
E C V P H I I V C V O Q I C B T Q X V  
Q X H O W G S V P B . - I C V M E  
G Q E C J , S X B G V D E C V V C  
D B O G H G Q V P B I V Y B Q H D  
Q C E L V U E O P V G Z H B O E W V

Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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|   |   | 8 |   | 7 |   | 5 | 1 |
| 9 |   |   | 8 | 5 | 4 |   |   |
| 7 |   | 9 |   | 6 |   | 1 |   |
|   | 2 |   |   | 3 |   |   | 4 |
|   | 1 |   | 2 |   | 8 | 9 |   |
|   |   | 1 |   | 7 | 6 |   | 2 |
|   |   | 6 | 5 | 1 |   |   | 7 |
| 3 | 4 |   | 2 |   |   | 5 |   |

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!

© 9 ing estures ynd., nc.

PETS OF THE WEEK

**PAWS4EVER** — The first thing you will notice **Onyx** is that she just wants to cuddle. The second thing you will notice is that when she plays with toys, her whole personality comes to life. But she's a good girl who gives up toys quickly and easily. Onyx also loves riding in the car, enjoys going on hikes, and is a very active girl. She loves playing tug, gives unlimited kisses, and even finds herself enamoured with small dogs. She would do best with an opposite sex pairing or a dog smaller than her as she plays rough with dogs her size or larger! Onyx has a sweet little deer hop that she uses to bounce from place to place that will make you laugh out loud. She has gone through some obedience classes and learned her basics, so she is well-beyond ready for a forever family to call her own. Come see me at Paws4Ever, 6311 Nicks Road, Mebane, or call 304-2300. You can also go online at www.paws4ever.org



**ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES** — Meet **Murphy!** He's a big, laid back fellow who is waiting patiently to find a new place to call home. Murphy's last family had to move and couldn't take him along, but he hasn't let that get the best of him! Location doesn't seem to affect this easy to please guy — as long as he has someone to pet him and can curl up for a nice quality nap after cuddle time, he's content!! You won't find another kitty quite so agreeable for a while. Visit Murphy today at Orange County's Animal Shelter, 1081 MLK Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill or call 919-967-7383. You can also see him online at www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp

 **RECYCLING IS GOOD FOR YOU!**



News Briefs

**Fire insurance ratings improve**

Both the Town of Carrboro and the South Orange Fire District received new insurance ratings effective Jan. 1.

The new ratings – 3 for the Town of Carrboro and 5 for the South Orange Fire District – are an improvement over the previous 4 for the town and 9S for South Orange. The North Carolina Response Rating System ranges from 1 (best) to 10 (not recognized as a certified fire department). The ratings are based on inspections of proper staffing levels, sufficient apparatus, proper maintenance of equipment, communications capabilities and availability of water sources.

Better ratings can significantly lower property insurance rates and Carrboro Fire Chief Travis Crabtree recommends that property owners served by Carrboro contact their insurance providers and advise them of the improved ratings.

**Ag summit set**

The 11th Annual Orange County Agricultural Summit will be held Feb. 9 from 8:30 a.m. until lunchtime at the former Orange Enterprise site on Valley Forge Rd. in Hillsborough.

The featured speaker is North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler. Topics of discussion will include youth in agriculture, farm diversification, energy conservation and how to enhance farm income with hunting leases.

A lunch of locally grown agricultural products will be served. Registration is \$5. To register or for additional information, contact the Orange County office of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at 245-2050 by Feb. 5.

**Hackney wins new term as speaker**

Rep. Joe Hackney, who represents Chatham County and part of southern Orange County, won a second term as speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives Wednesday. Upon his election, Hackney, who has served 28 years in the House, encouraged legislators to rise to the challenge and work to reinvigorate the state's economy and continue to improve education.

**911 center moves**

The Orange County 9-1-1 Call Center moved to the new Orange County Emergency Services Building on Meadowland Drive in Hillsborough on Tuesday.

The new facility has new equipment and more space that will allow for improved service and future growth.

Those calling 911 should see no change in service. However, if callers with an emergency have any problems connecting to 911, they should call 732-5063.

COUNCIL  
FROM PAGE 1

University architect Anna Wu said the building would then become part of the larger Carolina North project.

The special-use permit approved includes language that would require the stipulations to be carried over to the project.

Although the permit was approved, there were several points of contention, including a discussion about energy efficiency that led to a brief, sharp exchange between council member Jim Ward and Bruce Runberg, associate

vice chancellor of facilities and planning.

Ward pressed the university to commit to a higher energy-savings standard than proposed. When Runberg offered an alternative, Ward said he did not want to get into "horse trading" when it came to measures on global warming and climate change.

"If we are concerned about global warming and climate change, then doggone it, let's make this innovative," he said.

Runberg said the university has a solid record on energy efficiency and would likely surpass the goals set for the building.

Another point yet to work out is

Recycling market crash hits county budget

BY RICH FOWLER  
Staff Writer

Thanks in part to its recycling programs, Orange County residents lead the state in waste reduction. They now throw away half of what they threw away in 1991, and things were going so well until recently that the county was making money by selling the materials it collected.

But when the recycling markets crashed last October amid the declining global economy, what was once a growing source of income for the county suddenly became a new expense.

In the last three years, Orange County has been steadily making more and more money from selling the materials it collects through its community recycling programs. In 2005-06, the county got \$326,830 and by 2007-08 it was getting \$518,895 for the recyclables it collects from rural residents, drop-off centers and businesses.

Now, instead of getting paid for the materials it collects, the county has to pay to have them hauled off to be recycled. After it's processed, it's usually sold

on the market at a loss. For the last six months, the county has made \$217,752, but a large part of that came from the three months when the market was at its peak.

Orange County Solid Waste planner Blair Pollock said the sudden change in the market has hit many places hard.

"We're paying to recycle. Some communities have stopped recycling because they don't want to bear the costs," he said.

In a tight budget year, the focus is going to be on preserving services.

"We will essentially hit the wall like everyone else this year on our ability to provide services," Pollock said. "Certainly no new services can come out of the current budget."

Residents of Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Hillsboro aren't affected by the changes in the recycling markets as much as rural residents because the county has a five-year contract with Waste Industries Inc. to handle curbside recycling in those towns.

Waste Industries charges the county a fixed fee per house, then sells the materials it collects. In

2007-08, the program cost the county \$720,788. The county's contract with Waste Industries runs through March 2011.

One more planned addition to the volume of recycling will come in March. Corrugated cardboard has already been banned from commercial trash, and on March 1, 2009 it will be banned from residential trash too.

So what can residents do?

"We really want people to focus on genuinely using less stuff," Pollock said. "That's the biggest paradigm shift for right now."

Reducing the amount of stuff residents throw away or recycle can be as simple as:

- Composting organic waste.
- Choosing reusable products over disposable ones. Use a water bottle instead of buying bottled water and use rechargeable batteries instead of disposable ones.
- Using cloth instead of paper for things like napkins, dish cloths and grocery bags.
- Considering packaging when buying products, and buying products from companies or stores that take back their old

containers, like egg cartons or milk bottles.

Another thing residents can do to save the county money is not bundle recycled materials in plastic bags when they dispose of them.

"Anything in a plastic bag is really nothing but costly and processing painful for us. Our guys try to open the bags, because we get penalized for lower quality of material," Pollock said.

When will the markets for recycled materials get better? At a recent gathering of recycling industry members in Chapel Hill, nobody had any idea when prices would improve.

A recent report from the state Division of Waste Management said that the recycling markets should improve when the global economy recovers, but said that 2009 will be a tough year for selling recycled materials.

For more tips on reducing and reusing waste, check out the Environmental Protection Agency website at [www.epa.gov/epa-waste/conserv/rrr](http://www.epa.gov/epa-waste/conserv/rrr) and for more information about community recycling, go to [www.co.orange.nc.us/recycling](http://www.co.orange.nc.us/recycling)

ALDERMAN  
FROM PAGE 1

"Our children are accustomed to walking to school with very little vehicle traffic," she said. "It's a major safety concern for all of us, but particularly our children."

Gardner said she would support a connecting sidewalk or bike path in place of a road.

"I have never made a connection with a neighbor while driving in my car," she said.


"We should be connecting our neighborhoods with walkways and bike paths."

Residents also expressed concerns regarding the safety of the development's proposed path under the Homestead Road bridge over Bolin Creek. Residents of the proposed phases of Claremont would use the path to cross Homestead Road to get to amenities in the areas of the first three phases of the development.

The proposed path is a concrete structure over the creek, which some residents said

would flood with a heavy rain and create unsafe conditions for cyclists and pedestrians.

In other town business, the board postponed a public hearing on the proposed Colleton Crossing development until Feb. 24 so the developer can explore other options and potentially revise proposals previously made to the board. Those who would like to comment on the development but are unable to attend the meeting should email comments to [townmanager@townofcarrboro.org](mailto:townmanager@townofcarrboro.org)



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| <b>Fresh Ground Pork</b><br>\$1.99/lb                        | ALL NATURAL<br><b>Ground Chuck</b><br>\$2.99/lb         | FRESH DAILY<br><b>Boneless, skinless Chicken Breasts</b><br>\$2.69/lb |
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# Where can I find my Citizen?



### CARRBORO

Weaver Street Market  
The ArtsCenter  
Amante's Gourmet Pizza  
Milltown  
Carrburritos  
Piedmont Health Services  
Midway Barber Shop  
VisArt Video  
Carolina Fitness  
Carrboro Business Coop  
The Red Hen  
Orange County Social Club  
Speakeasy - Greensboro & Main  
Weaver Street Realty  
Carrboro Family Vision  
Wellness Alliance  
Century Center  
Community Realty  
Great Clips  
Cybrary  
Elmo's Diner  
Spotted Dog  
Nice Price Books  
Carrboro Town Hall  
Carrboro Town Commons  
Cliff's Meat Market  
PTA Thriftshop  
Calvander Food Mart  
Carrboro Mini Mart  
Padgett Station  
Southern Rail

Open Eye Cafe  
Carrboro Branch Library  
The Beehive  
Auto Logic  
Reservoir  
Johnny's Sporting Goods  
Carolina Cleaners Laundromat (Willow Creek)  
Crescent Green Assisted Living  
Jones Ferry Rd Park & Ride

### CARRBORO PLAZA

Carrboro Plaza Park & Ride  
North American Video  
Tar Heel Tobacco  
Super Suds  
UPS Store  
Curves  
Wingman

### WHITE CROSS

Harry's Market  
Fiesta Grill  
White Cross BP  
Express Lane

### CHAPEL HILL

#### DOWNTOWN

Caribou Coffee/downtown  
Visitors Center  
Jiffy Lube  
Job Development Center  
Sandwich/The Courtyard

West Franklin town racks (near Chapel Hill Cleaners)  
Internationalist Books  
Ham's Restaurant  
Time Out  
East Franklin town racks (near Subway)  
Courthouse Alley town racks  
North Columbia St. town racks (at bus stop)

### UNC CAMPUS

UNC Student Union  
Bullshead Bookshop  
Davis Library / UNC  
UNC Family Medicine

### EAST

Chapel Hill Post Office/Estes Drive  
Caribou Coffee/ Franklin at Estes  
Whole Foods  
Harris Teeter / University Mall  
University Mall / Kerr Drugs entrance  
VisArt Video/Elliott Rd.  
Phydeaux  
Owen's 501 Diner  
Bruegger's Bagels/Eastgate  
Peak Fitness/Elliott Rd  
Chapel Hill Public Library  
Food Lion/Ram's Plaza  
Chamber Of Commerce

### NORTH

Hunan Chinese Restaurant  
Chapel Hill Senior Center  
Carol Woods  
Bagels on the Hill  
Eubanks Rd. Park & Ride  
That Coffee Place  
Cup a Joe  
Margaret's Cantina  
Chapel Hill Mini Mart

### SOUTH

N.C. Botanical Garden  
Covenant House  
15-501 South Park & Ride

### GOVERNOR'S CLUB

Bean & Barrel/ Governor's Village  
Vincenzo's Ristorante/  
Governor's Village  
Carolina Meadows/Cafe

### MEADOWMONT

UNC Wellness Center  
Brixx Pizza  
Cafe Carolina  
LaRussa's Deli  
The Cedars  
Young Simpson Underwood  
Friday Center Park & Ride  
Courtyard Marriott

### SOUTHERN VILLAGE

La Vita Dolce  
Park & Ride bus stop  
Market Square

### FEARRINGTON

McIntyre's Books  
Fearrington House Inn  
Old Granary  
Galloway Ridge

### HILLSBOROUGH

Weaver Street Market  
Wal-Mart  
Maple View Farms  
Visitors Center  
Chamber of Commerce  
Orange County Senior Center  
Cup a Joe / outside box  
Sportsplex  
Durham Tech/student lounge

### PITTSBORO

Pittsboro General Store  
Chatham Marketplace  
Pittsboro Public Library  
Carolina Brewery  
Pittsboro Family Medicine

### CHATHAM CROSSING

Torrero's Restaurant  
Chatham Crossing Medical Center  
Lowe's Foods / outside box





PHOTO BY MARY PARRY

Estes Hills Elementary School hosted fiber artist Victoria Sowers of Sandy Creek Weavers to help create a “Fabric Time Capsule” in honor of the school’s 50th anniversary during the week of Jan. 12-16. Students used a 200-year-old floor loom to weave their personal mementos into the 10-foot tapestry. The finished tapestry will be displayed at the school to give future generations a glimpse into life at Estes Hills during its 50th year.

Chapel Hill - Carrboro School Lunch Menus  
JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 6

ELEMENTARY

**FRIDAY** — Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce & Garlic Bread; Hot Dog w/Chili; Cole Slaw; Garden Salad; Vanilla Pudding

**MONDAY** — Cheeseburger on a Bun; Fishwich; Seasoned Potato Wedges; Peas & Carrots; Lettuce & Tomato

**TUESDAY** — Cheese Ravioli w/Garlic Bread; Chicken Tacos w/ Salsa, Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato; Fun on the Run; Seasoned Pinto Beans; Mexicali Corn; Fresh Orange Wedges

**WEDNESDAY** — Chicken Patty Sandwich; Beef & Macaroni; w/Wheat Roll; Green Beans; Steamed Carrots; Chilled Fruit Cocktail

**THURSDAY** — Baked Chicken w/Wheat Roll; Ham & Cheese Melt; Fun on the Run; Mashed Potatoes; Turnip Greens; Mandarin Oranges

MIDDLE + HIGH

**FRIDAY** — Herb Baked Chicken w/Wheat Roll; Cheese Quesadilla w/Salsa; Mashed Potatoes; Turnip Greens; Mandarin Oranges

**MONDAY-THURSDAY** — No menu available



School Briefs

Ellis resigns

Chapel Hill High School principal Jacqueline Boyd Ellis announced her resignation on Friday. Ellis resigned in order to serve as the assistant superintendent for human resource services in Durham Public Schools. She was principal at Chapel Hill High for the past two years and will continue as principal until March 20.

An interim principal will be appointed to finish the school year while the district searches for a replacement to begin the 2009-10 school year.

Smith students win FBLA awards

Two Smith Middle School students placed in the Future Business Leaders of America Middle Grades Chapter Triad Regional Competition on Jan. 17 at Southern High School in Durham.

Eighth-grader Ranjitha Anathan won first place in public speaking, while seventh-grader Rob Byerly won third place in business math. They will both advance to the state competition in April.

More than 100 students representing 18 schools took part in the competition.

CHHS Jazz Dance

The 13th Annual Chapel Hill High School Jazz Dance, “Speakeasy,” will be held in the main gym on Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

The event will feature swing dance instruction, a silent auction and music by the Tiger Jazz Ensemble. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults in advance or \$7 for students and \$15 for adults at the door.

Proceeds will benefit the Chapel Hill High Band program and student scholarships for the spring trip.

Blackwell receives state award

Margaret Blackwell, executive director of exceptional children for Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, is the 2009 recipient of the North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children’s Felix Barker Award.

The award is presented to an individual who has shown outstanding leadership in

the field of special education. Dr. Barker, the award’s namesake, was the first president of the North Carolina Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children, now known as NC CEC.

CHHS presents The House of Blue Leaves

Chapel Hill High School Drama will present the comedy *The House of Blue Leaves* in the Hanes Theater at Chapel Hill High, Feb. 19-21 at 7:30 p.m. each night.

The play stars award-winning actor Zach Meicher-Buzzi as a washed-up piano player desperate for stardom, even at the cost of committing his wife to a mental institution.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and can be reserved by calling 969-2461.

Kindergarten registration

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will begin accepting registrations for kindergarten for fall 2009 on Feb. 2.

Kindergartners must turn 5 years old on or before Aug. 31. All students entering kindergarten must have a physical exam anytime during the year prior to the first day of school. To register, the following is required: proof of district residency (current Orange County property tax bill; settlement statement; lease or rental agreement; unpaid Duke Power bill, OWASA or Public Service Gas bill); an original or certified birth certificate for the child; photo ID of parent or guardian; immunization record; the child’s Social Security number (if applicable); name and complete mailing address of previous school; most recent report card and/or official withdrawal form; and any custody arrangement documentation (if applicable).

Registration forms are available at the Lincoln Center or online at [www2.chccs.k12.nc.us/registration](http://www2.chccs.k12.nc.us/registration). In addition, parents or legal guardians may receive a registration packet by mail by calling the registrar, Marlen Orio, at 967-8211, ext. 268. Registration forms should be returned in person to the registrar at the Lincoln Center, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Teen drinking forum

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools PTSA’s will host the fifth annual parent forum, “Should We Drink with Our Teens?” on Feb. 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the East Chapel Hill High School Auditorium.


The event will feature an hour of expert panelist presentations followed by an hour of Q&A. Panelists will discuss the latest research and data on teenage drinking, brain development, lowering the drinking age, the “European Myth,” family counseling, the law and crisis counseling.

The event is co-sponsored by the PTSA organizations of Carrboro, East Chapel Hill and Chapel Hill high schools and is free and open to the public.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE KNOTT

Morris Grove teacher Amanda Larkins hosted a Scottish celebration for third-grade students at the school last week in honor of the country’s customary Burns Night, an annual celebration of lauded poet Robert Burns. For the event, students wore traditional Scottish hats and sashes, danced, sang Scotland’s unofficial national anthem and learned about the traditional meals Scots prepare for Burns night. Larkins is a teacher in the Visiting International Faculty program.



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UNC NOTES FRANK HEATH



Every college basketball season is an adventure, and this one is certainly no exception. Following its sobering 0-2 conference start, the UNC men's basketball team picked up consecutive wins against Virginia, Miami and Clemson entering Wednesday's important test at Florida State. The Tar Heels will learn a lot about themselves over the next two weeks of the schedule, with road games against FSU and N. C. State, followed by home match-ups with Maryland and Virginia.

Without a ranked opponent in the lot, this is not a stretch built to inspire fear — at least not on paper. (In contrast, Duke still plays games against Wake Forest and Clemson before its Feb. 11 appointment with the Tar Heels.)

But when Carolina doesn't play up to its capabilities — maintaining its focus and patience on both ends of the court, rebounding well and getting the ball quickly into the hands of Ty Lawson in transition — the Tar Heels can become a much more ordinary team, looking slow and tentative on offense and uninspired, or downright porous, on the defensive end. Luckily, the Heels' early league losses — combined with unexpectedly strong starts by rivals Wake and Duke — seem to have grabbed some of their attention. Carolina's complete performance against No. 9 Clemson and in the final 25 minutes of the Miami game reminded fans — and, more than likely, the players themselves — of what this team is capable of doing.

Guard Wayne Ellington shot as well as he ever has, and he also won the team's defensive award against Clemson. Ellington's play can be a huge inspiration for his teammates. UNC's defensive effort in those games disrupted most of what both of these opponents wanted to do, and Carolina was especially effective containing penetration, resulting in both opponents being forced into frustrating shooting nights. Carolina, meanwhile, returned to its trademark of 50-plus-percent shooting and multiple double-figures scorers. Attacking with quick, crisp passes and Ty Lawson's aggressive dribbling against Clemson's pressure, the Heels were able to get a lot of good shots in transition, and the Tigers wore themselves out by the middle of the second half. Carolina has never had great luck coming off a week layoff, so this Wednesday's game against surprising Florida State looks scary. FSU already has two ACC road wins, and the Seminoles played both Pittsburgh and Duke tough in eight-point losses this year. One hopes the Heels are able to knock off the rust and produce a good rebounding effort, which is key to the team's transition game. Either way, win or lose against FSU, the Heels will need to come back strong against N.C. State this weekend in Raleigh. Although 2-4 in league play, the Pack has been an improved team with gathering confidence over the past two weeks, and the Wolfpack Nation's unique hatred of Carolina Blue will no doubt be at its boiling point come Saturday at the RBC Center.

After the tussle with State, home games against early conference stragglers Maryland and Virginia will likely test Carolina's ability to maintain focus. Given the troubling losses earlier this season, the Tar Heels should be playing their hardest from here on out — so any slippage during the four games prior to UNC's Feb. 11 match-up with Duke will not be a good sign.



Sylvia Hatchell, shown here celebrating her 800th win earlier this month, has been named as one of this year's inductees into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame. Hatchell's Lady Tar Heels have won eight ACC titles. The Gastonia native was named national coach of the year in 1994 and inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2004.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNC SPORTS INFORMATION

Since that 0-2 league start, the Tar Heels have done what they needed to do: They didn't panic and they've dedicated themselves to playing the type of fundamental basketball that coach Roy Williams wants from them. With two games yet to be played against current No. 1 Duke, and the ACC and NCAA tournaments after that, it remains within UNC's reach to fulfill a lot of its aspirations for this season. The Tar Heels are still in the mix

for the ACC regular season championship — although they currently sit behind three teams in the standings. It is yet a long season, and both of the other main threats to win the regular season — Wake Forest and Duke — will have to prove their mettle to earn that title. The Deacons still have three regular season games remaining against opponents currently ranked in the Top 10 and the Devils face a whopping five more Top Ten tilts — not to mention road trips to Vir-

ginia Tech, Boston College and Maryland. UNC plays just two more games against Top Ten opposition before the post-season, both versus the Blue Devils. So Carolina is close to controlling its own destiny. But of course, any lofty talk of championships and seeds is nothing but speculative dribble if the Tar Heels don't maintain their focus on the task at hand. A pair of wins this week against Florida State and the Pack will indicate that Carolina is moving along the right track.

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THOUGHTLESS BOATERS THROWING TRASH OVERBOARD OFTEN DISCARD PLASTIC BAGS...

MAY ATTEMPT TO SWALLOW THEM, WITH DISASTROUS RESULTS

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| 3 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 9 |

**CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER:**  
There can be no happiness if the thing we believe in are different from the things we have started, whose career consisted of exotic travel and espionage



FOR THE RECORD

Your newspaper

To paraphrase Samuel Clemmons, reports of the death of newspapers have been greatly exaggerated.

In our opinion, there has been all too much gnashing of teeth and lamenting over the fix that some papers find themselves in. The word “some” in the last sentence being all-important. Most papers are much more like the one you have in your hands — a small weekly with local or regional ownership. And although the economy has not been kind to them, most are in decent shape and many are downright profitable.

What is dying – or, more accurately, unraveling – is the business model that drove media consolidation. The movement, which rolled many privately owned small and mid-sized metro dailies into ever-growing newspaper chains, may have made sense on the upside, but there has been hell to pay on the downside.

The public-owned companies that were built by consolidation are by nature beholden to their shareholders and, as they unravel, the idea that papers are an integral part of the communities they serve is, well, a nice thought but not much of a revenue generator. As the debt burden that many of these chains are under continues to sap resources, the emphasis has not been on the poor decision making that led to the chains’ unhealthy buying sprees. No, what we hear about is how the industry is struggling to keep readers as ad sales continue to shrink. (That assessment usually precedes another round of “necessary” staff cuts.)

As a testament to the power of papers, this is becoming a self-fulfilling prophecy. Oh, and a vicious cycle too. We wish they’d stop poor mouthing. It’s making it hard on the rest of us.

Thank you for reading  
our newspaper and  
making it your own.

Reporters and ad reps of papers all over — even those that are doing well — are having the woes and bleak futures of newspapers played back to them by sources and clients. And there are some people who are relishing the imminent demise of the printed product. It may be a while before that happens though.

Those who know the story of the founding of this newspaper may recall that one of the things that spurred us on was a survey by a group of Carolina students that found that even here — in one of the most wired and net-friendly towns in the Southeast — the desire for a printed newspaper was strong.

Our experience over the past two years has underlined that finding and added an exclamation point. Few things are more satisfying than watching someone stop at a newsbox and say to the person they’re with “I need to get *my Citizen*.”

Our recently announced expansion in circulation and coverage is a result of that kind of community ownership and interest. We grew not because of marketing or by upping mass, random distribution, but because each week more and more people chose to pick up a paper to read what we put together. In that regard, we are just another case for the idea that as a medium newspapers are still quite popular. Technology and business models may change, but the secret to success has not altered all that much in the industry’s 500-or-so-year history: A sense of place, a clear voice and a good read with news of the day that matters to people.

Thank you for reading our newspaper and making it your own.



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Liz Holm, Art Director  
Susan Dickson, Staff Writer  
Margot Carmichael Lester,  
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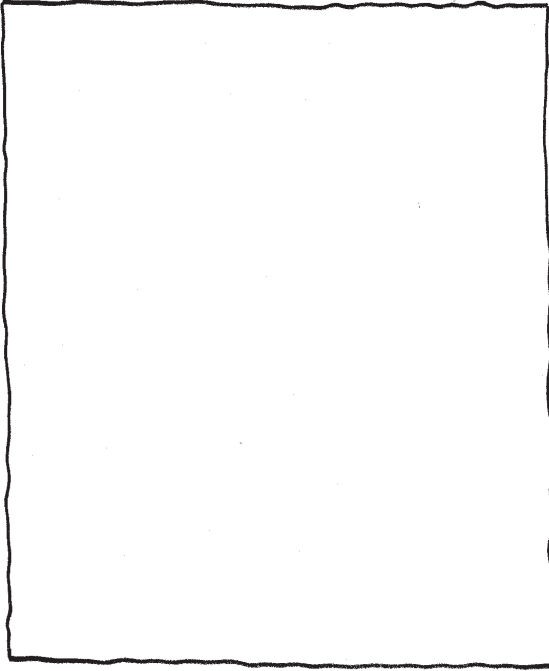
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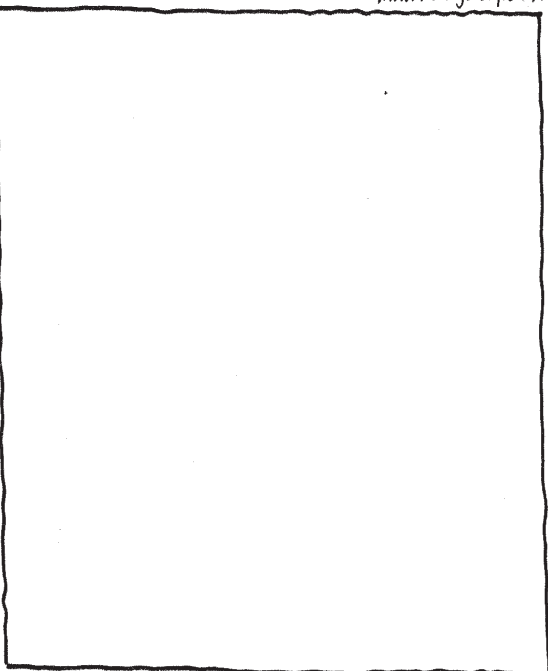
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For real mental health reform,  
listen to the consumers

VICKI SMITH

One media exposé after another has highlighted the flawed implementation of North Carolina’s much ballyhooed 2001 effort at mental health reform. These exposés have given many state officials heartburn as they picked up their morning papers or watched the evening news.

The media’s descriptions of the mental health/developmental disabilities/substance abuse (MH/DD/SA) service delivery system grabbed the attention of the general public and politicians alike. The plight of individuals with disabilities has become part of discussions in living rooms across the state. The media coverage has helped elevate the failures of the reform effort to such a degree that politicians were challenged to address it in their campaigns – and promises were made.

Now it is time to deliver on those promises. But to really fix mental health reform, it will take more than promises. It will take commitment. It will take political will. It will take listening to the voices of consumers.

Every one of the players – Gov. Perdue, Health and Human Services Secretary Cansler, the state Legislature, local management entities (LMEs), provider agencies and workers – must agree to put their special interests aside. They must agree to focus on the special but often ignored needs of the consumers of those services - people with mental illness, developmental disabilities including brain injury and/or addictive disorders.

At every step along the service continuum - from state-operated facilities to community services and from the state to the LMEs to providers – there have been significant failures.

The lack of appropriate governance has resulted in little or no accountability with serious consequences. One of the motivations for reform was to clarify which government body would ultimately be responsible for the welfare of the MH/DD/SA populations. Unfortunately, there is more confusion today than before. There must be greater oversight by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services and it must be given the authority to act before systems fail. Expectations must be clearly articulated down the line. The state cannot abdicate its responsibility for the welfare of this specific group of its citizens.

The lack of adequate funding - especially within communities - is another major failure. And there is a direct relationship between funding and a third critical failure: the lack of a qualified workforce. Poor staffing results in poor services.

But perhaps the biggest malfunction of reform has been the failure of those in charge to listen to the individuals they are intended to serve. The reform has given lip service to the role of consumers in directing their services both at the individual level and across the system. This may sound like an accusation, but it is something our office has consistently heard - consumers do not feel listened to or included.

The Consumer and Family Advisory Councils (CFAC) were created to advise the LMEs but were given no meaningful role in shaping the services to be provided or in holding the LMEs accountable. There is no mechanism for individual CFACs to truly evaluate their LME and report concerns to the division or the Legislature.

The Legislative Oversight Committee has brought in one LME after another to report on its progress. But where was the presentation from those CFACs? Where was the consumer voice at the then Gov.-Elect Perdue’s Mental Health Transition meeting? LME directors were there, as were provider groups, psychiatrists, social workers, some family groups and others, such as Disability Rights North Carolina. But where was the deliberate involvement of the very people needing the services? Where were the consumers on the Department of Health and Human Services Involuntary Commitment Workgroup?

Why not talk to individuals and see how best to serve their needs? How have we gotten to the point that people with mental illness, people with developmental disabilities and those with addictive disorders are frequently missing at the table when we discuss the way out of this crisis?

The media has put a face on mental health reform. Now we must give it a voice – and the loudest voice must be the people to be served. That is the real change Gov. Perdue should commit to.

Vicki Smith is the executive director of Disability Rights North Carolina

A hospital visit amid troubling news

CHRIS FITZSIMON

Gov. Beverly Perdue has generally received good reviews for her first two weeks in office and deserves them, particularly for her executive orders on transportation and transparency, staying on top of the state’s budget woes and making a number of public appearances that reinforce her commitment to be an available, hands-on governor.

Perdue also dropped in on troubled Cherry Hospital in Goldsboro Friday, part of her campaign pledge to make unannounced visits to state institutions as one way to increase accountability in the state mental health system.

But other news from the mental health front was a troubling reminder of the extent of the problems Perdue faces and how much credibility state officials have lost with the communities they’re supposed to serve.

The *News & Observer* reported Saturday that Cherry Hospital officials did not submit a report about the death of a patient in October to a medical examiner, as the state law required them to do. The law also mandates that the body cannot be moved without permission from a pathologist.

The patient, Kenneth Gore, was buried by the time the report finally made it to the state medical examiner’s office in Chapel Hill earlier this month, making an investigation of his death much harder to conduct.

Legislators and advocates were outraged by the latest problem at the hospital. Federal funding is still suspended because of patient care and unsafe conditions. The *News & Observer* has reported that hospital employees have falsified medical records to hide their culpability in patient deaths.

New Secretary of Health and Human Services Lanier Cansler promises to address the problems at the hospital, but those promises have been made before. And a decision last week by mental health officials in the department Cansler now runs about the mental health mess in northeastern North Carolina doesn’t help his credibility any.

The Albemarle local management entity (LME) is supposed to oversee services in 10 counties in the region, but was plagued by mismanagement and budget problems that led to the dismissal of director Charles Franklin. Eighty employees of the LME are being laid off, providers in the area haven’t been paid since September and many patients can’t access the services they need.

State officials finally stepped in and mental health director Leza Wainwright announced that Tom McDevitt, the

former head of the Smoky Mountain Center LME in western North Carolina, would assume the leadership of the troubled Albemarle agency.

McDevitt resigned from the center in September after the *Smoky Mountain News* reported that McDevitt was paying himself two salaries totaling more than \$200,000 a year, employing his daughter and conducting real estate deals with his wife’s company, along with other questionable conduct.

That seemed to make him an odd choice to take over the Albemarle agency that was sputtering because of problems with its director, but Wainwright persisted, telling local officials that the problems with McDevitt at Smoky Mountain were exaggerated and he simply was “not a good fit” for that LME.

That understandably made folks in northeastern North Carolina wonder then why he’d be a good fit to help run their agency. Wainwright announced Friday that she had changed her mind, that McDevitt would not run the Albemarle LME after all.

She told the Elizabeth City *Daily Advance* that it would be difficult for McDevitt with the “shadow that had been cast” by what happened at Smoky Mountain. That would be the same shadow that existed before she announced McDevitt’s appointment.

Folks in northeastern North Carolina must be wondering what’s going on in Raleigh. It seems like the last thing you would do to a community that was suffering because of mismanagement is to hire someone who resigned from his last job under an ethical cloud for poor judgment as a manager of a similar agency.

At least Wainwright finally figured it out, but the whole episode doesn’t help public confidence in the mental health system that the public hasn’t had much confidence in for a while.

If case that wasn’t enough, Hyde County Sheriff David Mason told the *Daily Advance* on Friday that from his perspective the state mental health system is “a total failure ... and terrible is not even a word to describe it.”

There is no reason to doubt Gov. Perdue’s sincerity about her commitment to finally address the problems with the troubled system that is supposed to care for people with a mental illness, developmental disability or addiction.

But the last few days are a powerful reminder that she has her work cut out for her.

Chris Fitzsimon is the director of NC Policy Watch.

LETTERS

Cost a concern

Despite extensive coverage about the county’s “budget concerns,” I saw nothing about the elephant in the room – the county’s planned waste transfer station. This industrial facility will be sited in a rural area – off the grid – with no water, sewer or highway access. So even in this early planning stage, the project is saddled with inflated construction costs, over-engineered features and excessive operating costs. As our population grows north toward Effland, these already inflated costs are certain to rise.

Then there are the traffic and safety issues, and the pure impracticality of siting the facility far away from where the trash will ever be generated. Siting in southwest Orange County is certain to cause irreparable harm to the local farms and businesses, homes, wildlife and groundwater.

This industrial  
facility will be  
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and excessive  
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Leading local vendors, who can save us millions of dollars, are lining up to offer services on a short- or long-term basis. They already handle half of the county’s waste collection - and have a track record of quality service, using state-of-the-art equipment at competitive prices. They have fully functioning transfer stations and landfills with plenty of capacity. They are ready and waiting to compete for our business. It’s a win-win-win! So in the light of unprecedented economic pressure and concerns about the budget, we have an immediate opportunity to save millions of taxpayer dollars.

We can avoid the distraction of an unnecessary “interim” waste transfer station project and focus our attention on sustainable solutions for the long term - such as waste to energy.

The commissioners won’t convince us that they are serious about budgets until they address the elephant in the room. Halt the plan to site an overpriced waste transfer station in the rural county and pursue vendor solutions along with other sustainable and fiscally responsible alternatives - for the short and long term.

BONNIE HAUSER  
Hillsborough

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be no more than 425 words in length and must be accompanied by the author’s name, address and contact information.

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# The real state health plan crisis

ADAM SEARING

North Carolina's health plan for state workers is in trouble. Estimates differ, but shortfalls may be in the tens of millions and health plan administrator Jack Walker recently called for a \$300-million taxpayer bailout in addition to sharply higher premiums, co-pays and deductibles for state employees.

In the current economic climate, North Carolinians who aren't state workers are losing jobs by the tens of thousands, along with their health insurance. Should we then be worried about the millions it looks like we may have to spend on the state health plan along with yet another erosion of benefits for state workers?

The answer is "yes," but for two reasons that are receiving no attention at all in the current debate.

First, the idea that a suddenly appearing deficit in the state employee health plan inevitably requires state workers to now pay higher premiums, co-pays and deductibles is outrageous. Tough times perhaps require workers to share a higher bur-

den of costs, but this is a serious conversation for our entire state. The state health plan already compares unfavorably with many health options available in private industry, even accounting for current problems in the cost of employer-provided health insurance. And the cost of covering one's family under the state plan – already around \$500 a month – is prohibitively high compared to other states and private industry.

that are being proposed must be a part of the conversation on the state health plan. It's easy to glibly talk about the necessity for "everyone" to sacrifice, but almost everyone in North Carolina knows personally or has contact with someone on the 660,000-member plan. Most North Carolinians want the best teachers, doctors and public health professionals educating our children, keeping us safe and making our state run

the state health plan doesn't kick people off after they retire – a substantial number of folks on the plan served years with the state and are now retirees who, like all of us, need more care as they get older. In addition, huge premiums for families have encouraged younger spouses and children of state workers to leave the plan for private insurance, which is often much cheaper, especially for children.

this be? After all, the same private nonprofit is running both the state and private individual insurance market.

The answer isn't so hard – it's known as "cherry picking" in the health industry. The state health plan must accept all state workers and charge them the same premium. It also charges the same premium to older retired workers – regardless of health status.

In contrast, Blue Cross pric-

So the two largest groups of insured folks in the state – Blue Cross's individual pool and the pool of state workers — have a drastically different makeup. Look closely, and it's a sure bet that Blue has much younger and healthier North Carolinians in its individual plans as compared to the state employee pool. Of course, insuring younger, healthier workers costs much less.

This means that state employees and state taxpayers (think about that \$300 million bailout) are, at least in part, financing the huge profits that continue to be made at North Carolina Blue Cross during this economic downturn. Any solution to help the state health plan needs to address these structural inequities in North Carolina's insurance market and require N.C. Blue Cross to be an active participant in addressing N.C.'s state health plan problems. Otherwise, we are just continuing to feed profits at a private entity when the state needs every dollar it can get.

*Adam Searing is the director of the N.C. Health Access Coalition.*

*For a state worker's spouse in her early 30s with two young children, Blue Cross' premiums are low. For a state worker's spouse who is older, near retirement, and has high blood pressure, Blue's premiums suddenly become unaffordable.*

Making the state health plan even more expensive than it already is means a still harder time recruiting quality teachers, road engineers, insurance regulators, school nurses and state highway patrol officers – just to name a few of the critical jobs our state employees do every day.

The effect on the quality of life for all of us – and not just state workers – of the changes

the way we think it should. Skyrocketing costs and decreasing coverage in our health plan make that goal much harder.

Second, the state health plan crisis really highlights the fact that this is a problem for all health insurance in our state and not just state workers. Why is it that the state health plan is suddenly in trouble? This is no mystery. The fact is,

And this uncomfortable fact brings us to the biggest elephant in the room around the state plan crisis: North Carolina Blue Cross – which administers the state health plan for North Carolina – is making tens of millions in profits this year in its similar private insurance business while the state plan it oversees is losing millions. How can

es its individual health coverage differently depending on the age and health status of whoever happens to be applying. For a state worker's spouse in her early 30s with two young children, Blue Cross' premiums are low. For a state worker's spouse who is older, near retirement, and has high blood pressure, Blue's premiums suddenly become unaffordable.

## Obituaries

### George Charles Tomasic Jr.

George Charles Tomasic Jr., 72, died Saturday in UNC Hospital following a brief illness. Born in Pittsburgh, Pa. to George C. and Elizabeth H. Tomasic, he was raised in the North Braddock section of Pittsburgh. He spent four years in the Air Force prior to moving to Durham in 1957. George joined Tar Heel Barbershop in 1958, becoming its owner in 1972. He was a parishioner of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, a faithful usher for many years and member of the Knights of Columbus.

George Tomasic was a bright-eyed, happy and colorful fellow who enjoyed life to the fullest. He was a Chapel Hill fixture - a veritable part of the heart and soul of the Franklin Street business district. He knew virtually all of Chapel Hill's notable people, cut the hair of many celebrities and accrued countless customer friends over several generations. George's favorite daily ritual was gathering with his breakfast cronies at Sutton's Drug Store to "hold court" and solve the world's problems.

Surviving are his sons, Chris Tomasic and wife, Marilyn, of Durham; and Albert Kim Jensen and wife, Melissa Jewett, of Durham; grandsons, Tyler, Robbie and Patrick Tomasic; and six brothers, Larry, Bobby, Jimmy, Bernard, Billy and Francis Tomasic. He was predeceased by his wife Fran Tomasic in 1996.

Donations in George's memory may be made to UNC Lineberger Cancer Center.

### Edgar Wesley Calloway

Edgar Wesley Calloway, 82, of Clemmons, died unexpectedly following a stroke on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009 at Forsyth Medical Center. He was born on March 4, 1926 in Winston-Salem to Pansy and Marvin Calloway, Sr. A veteran of World War II, he retired from the United States Postal Service after a 38-year career. He

was a longtime member of Burkhead United Methodist Church, Winston-Salem, where he was treasurer for several years, lay leader, lay delegate to the annual conference and held many leadership positions in the church.

He was a current member of the Clemmons Kiwanis Club, having been a past president and treasurer.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and one brother. Surviving are his wife of 54½ years, Norma Cox Calloway; son Christopher Bryan Calloway of Carrboro; son Kevin Wesley Calloway, his wife, Denise, and granddaughter, Brittany Nicole Calloway of Nashville, N.C. Also surviving are two brothers and three sisters, plus several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on Friday, Jan. 23, at Burkhead United Methodist Church, conducted by the Rev. Kathie Sherrill.

### Roland Giduz

Roland Giduz, who was recognized recently as "a Chapel Hill Treasure," died on Jan. 23, 2009, at his home in the loving company of family members.

His memorial service was held Monday, Jan. 26, 2009, in University Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill.

Born on July 24, 1925, he acted for 83 years with vigor and in good faith for the betterment of Chapel Hill. He straddled town and gown as a scholar, reporter, photographer, politician and publisher. He enrolled in UNC in 1940 and enlisted in the Army in 1942. He served with the newly formed 100th Division in basic training, practice maneuvers and insertion into the Allied offensive in the Vosges Mountains of France in November 1944. He was wounded and evacuated back to America. In 1946, he organized a reunion of division veterans that established a formal alumni association in which he was an active leader for more than 50 years. He re-enrolled at UNC and worked on the staff of the *Daily Tar Heel* until graduation in 1948. He studied at Co-

lumbia University in New York to earn a master's degree in journalism in 1949, and also came away with Helen Jeter Giduz, whom he married on Christmas night in 1949. They were loving partners until his death. He returned to Chapel Hill for a career in journalism and public service. Voters elected him for 12 years service on the Board of Aldermen from 1957-1969, including a term as mayor pro tem. He was a founding partner of the *Chapel Hill News Leader* and worked variously for the Durham *Herald-Sun*, *Chapel Hill Weekly*, and *News of Orange County*. He created and published for 16 years *The Triangle Pointer* weekly visitors guide magazine and was also associate director and alumni editor for the UNC General Alumni Association. He then worked for 15 years as director of public affairs for the media-oriented Village Companies, and finally retired in 1996. However, he continued to host a weekly local interview program for Time Warner Cable, write a column for the Chapel Hill *Herald* and publish his observations online as "The Codger Blogger." He also compiled many of his "Newsmen's Notepad" columns into two books, *Who's Going to Cover? Em Up?* and *Conversations on the Wall*. He was proud of his father's graduation, magna cum laude, from Harvard, and was honored himself to study there in 1958-59 as a Mass Media Fellow through the Nieman Fellows program. He reactivated the Triangle area Harvard Alumni Association and served as it president in 1993. He was proud to represent this first American university by marching at the front of the procession for installation of several North Carolina college presidents. He was honored by many organizations for his commitment to educating, informing and documenting the history, stories and culture of Chapel Hill and Orange County. He won two North Carolina Press Association Awards, was named Chapel Hill's Young Man of the Year in 1960, Citizen of the Year in 1976, won the Sertoma Service to Mankind Award in 1979 and

recently received the Preservation Society's first Horace Williams Award. He was active in scouting throughout his life, and was honored in 1976 with the Silver Beaver Award and last year with the Occoneechee Council's Lifetime Citizenship Award. Other civic endeavors included membership and leadership in the University Presbyterian Church, Jaycees, Rotary Club, Toastmasters, Friends of the Public Library, Chapel Hill Historical and Preservation Societies, N.C. Department of Transportation Train Host Association, and Masonic Lodge. He tended a planter on Franklin Street, donated his plasma and platelets to the Red Cross and loved singing, travel, UNC sports, vacations at Myrtle Beach and his family.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by one brother, Charles Graham, of New York City, and one nephew, Jon Graham, also of New York. He and Helen bore three sons, Bill, of Davidson, Bob, of Lenoir, and Tom, of Chapel Hill. All three are married and have seven children between them.

The family has suggested that tributes be in the form of gifts to the donor's favorite charity.

### Millie Grace Smith

Millie Grace Smith, of Farrington Village, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, Jan. 25, 2009, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born in Flint, Mich., to Mildred and William MacMillan.

Millie is survived by her four children, Gene Grace Jr. and his wife, Elizabeth, of St. Cloud, Fla.; Kathleen Grace Pulliam and her husband, Ed, of Wake Forest; Lydia Grace Brooks and her husband, Phil, of Pittsboro; Amy Grace Kurtz and her husband, Jay, of Columbus, Ga.; her loving husband of 19 years, Allen Smith, of Chapel Hill, and his two children, Bill Smith and his wife, Heather, of Roanoke, Va.; and Anne Grace and her husband, Bob, of Hickory. Millie was the proud grandmother of 16 grandchildren. Also surviving are

her sisters, Margaret, of Davison, Mich., and Barbara, of Matfield Green, Kan.; brother, Jim, of Hale, Mich.; and many nieces and nephews.

Millie remained radiant and beautiful throughout her fight and her courage was an inspiration to us all. Her kind and loving soul will be missed by all who knew her.

The family would like to express sincere appreciation for the love and support they received from so many friends, the dear nurses with Hospice and the Oncology Dept. at UNC Hospital.

A service celebrating Millie's life will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009, at Binkley Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, N.C.

The family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Oncology Dept., Women's Hospital, 101 Manning Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514; Hospice of UNC, P.O. Box 1077, Pittsboro, NC 27312; or Binkley Baptist Church, 1712 Willow Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

### Clarence "Dinky" Barnes

Clarence "Dinky" Barnes, 58, of Chapel Hill, passed away at UNC Hospitals on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2009.

He was the owner of Barnes Grading Company.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2009, at 11 a.m. at Lystra Baptist Church, with pastor Virginia Taylor officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Linda Barnes, of the home; his mother, Margie Barnes of Chapel Hill; his sisters, Louise Jordan of Chapel Hill and Diane Eubanks of Durham; his brothers, Henry, Jaffey and Larry Barnes, all of Chapel Hill, and Troy Barnes and his wife, Rose, of Carrboro.

The family will receive friends at Lystra Baptist Church on Friday, Jan. 30, 2009, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Walker's Funeral Home is serving the Barnes family and online condolences may be sent to [walkersfuneralservice.com](http://walkersfuneralservice.com)

## ROLAND GIDUZ

FROM PAGE 1

"I don't have much to say that wouldn't be adding wood to the woodpile," Tillman said. "But I sure loved his endless optimism."

Even in his final months, Giduz would entertain guests and take phone calls, never too ill to share a story with and comfort a visiting friend. Till the end, he recorded each interaction on a legal pad always at hand.

"Roland was a character, to say the least," Norman said. "I thought the world of him and I learned much from him and his love for Carolina, the town of Chapel Hill and his determination to do the right thing. The likes of Roland Giduz and Rebecca Clark are no more, but I sure am glad I knew them."

Though Giduz has departed the Southern Part of Heaven, his influence and impact are still palpable. And if we squint just right, we might still see him out there, as Howes will.

"My indelibly imprinted images of Roland are seeing him heading for the Farmers' Market on Saturday morning on his trusty recumbent bike," Howes shared. "And, more recently, when he couldn't ride the bike anymore, seeing him, with Helen at his side and his tall walking sticks in hand, on his two-mile walks along Franklin Street, surveying his beloved Chapel Hill."

*In addition to his many other activities, Roland Giduz produced community programming for The Peoples Channel focusing on Chapel Hill history and culture. In 2008, Giduz donated his entire archive of that programming to the station, and its producers created a weekly show of highlights called Keep on Rollin', which still airs.*

*The Peoples Channel will air a nearly all-day block of that programming on Wednesday, Feb. 4, and community members are encouraged to visit the station on Friday, Jan. 30, from 2 to 9 p.m., to share stories to be included in the day's programming. Call-in reminiscences will also be received during those hours at 960-0088.*

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PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE

Smaller leaf of crane fly orchid (left) is sometimes burgundy-colored compared to the larger, silver-striped, pleated leaf of puttyroot orchid (right).

**FLORA**  
FROM PAGE 1

Mark several separate plants or populations, because, typical of native terrestrial orchids, they may flower several years in succession or they may sit out a year or two. Each summer's discovery is a special treat. But every summer, some of them are flowering somewhere.

Crane fly has a close cousin, *Aplectrum hymale*, sometimes called Adam-and-Eve orchid, because it has a tuberous root of a pair of swollen segments, and sometimes called

putty root, because the crushed corms produce a mucilaginous fluid that was used by pioneers as a mending agent for cracked pottery.

This orchid has a life cycle similar to the crane fly orchid. You will have to keep a really keen eye focused to find the single leaf of puttyroot, because it occurs much less frequently, preferring a less acidic soil than is typical of most of our forests.

Locally, I've seen puttyroots scattered in the alluvial (flood plain) forest of the Triangle Land Conservancy's Johnson Mill natural area between

Turkey Farm and Mt. Sinai roads north of Chapel Hill. The leaf is about three times larger than that of crane fly and is distinguished by silvery stripes along the veins of an accordion-like pleated leaf. As with the crane fly orchid, you'll have to make careful notes of where you find this leaf in the winter if you want to return to see it in flower in the early summer. It flowers a month or two earlier than its cousin.

So go walking now and plan your strategy for seeing these seldom-noticed forest beauties during the summer months.



**Roland Giduz in his prime, fall 2007**

Chapel Hill photographer Catherine Carter called him a "town treasure." The village of Chapel Hill that he helped grow into a unique little city gave him about every honor it could think of. To me, Roland Giduz was one of my Chapel Hill daddies — one of a precious handful of older newspapermen who made sure that my internal journalist's moral compass was locked in on true north — men who gave me their indelible stamp of modeling and the generosity of time. I am not alone. An SRO congregation at his memorial service Monday testified to what VilCom President Jim Heavner wrote back in a November email, alerting Roland's friends of his final days.

Heavner might have been speaking for all of us when he said his friendship with Roland was "born of my deep respect for his work as a journalist. Even though Roland is 14-15 years older than I am, he and I bonded long ago in our mutual involvement in local news and community projects ... his view of a requirement for relentless objectivity in the way he covered stories was an inspiration to me, and I aspire to his standard." So farewell to the 83-year-old self-professed "notorious hometown ne'er-do-well" who we shall always remember for his energy, charm and humility — a man who *Daily Tar Heel* general manager Kevin Schwartz calls "Mr. Chapel Hill." Amen and amen.



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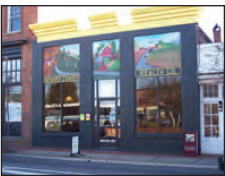
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**How to enter:** Using the space below, express your undying affection for someone or something. Use words, pictures or both. Creativity is encouraged. Be sure your entry is appropriate for publication in a family newspaper, and mail or bring it to 309 Weaver Street, Suite 300, Carrboro NC 27510 no later than Friday, February 6. Entries will be judged by a panel of experts chaired by Margot C. Lester, Citizen business editor and noted Internet romance and advice columnist. The winning entry will be reproduced in the February 12 issue of the Carrboro Citizen.