carrborocitizen.com

FEBRUARY 2, 2012 ◆ LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED ◆ VOLUME V NO. XLVII



A carpet of roadside mulleins

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

BY KEN MOORE

Roadside carpet of mullein

Flora's focus this week is wooly mullein, Verbascum thapsus, also called velvet-leaf, flannel-leaf, Jacob's staff and Quaker rouge. It's in abandoned fields, on roadsides and even in pavement openings, single or clustered in patches.

Last week a Citizen reader urged me to describe the extensive carpet of mullein on that sloping, south-facing roadside adjacent to the on-ramp from Columbia Street to the N.C. 54 Bypass going west toward Carrboro. I've been enjoying that growing roadside population of mullein for years, and this year hundreds of mullein rosettes are effectively carpeting the hillside. It's also notable that interspersed within that shaggy carpet of mullein are numerous fire-ant hills, definitely to be avoided.

Generally described as a biennial, mullein grows one year, then flowers, produces seed and dies the second year. Studies have determined that some plants will germinate, grow, flower, produce seed and die in one year, and other plants may continue this short lifecycle into a third year or more. That's quite a survival strategy.

What may seem limiting is it requires open ground to survive, so you won't find it in forests or competing with vigorous perennials. However, its seed remains viable for up to 100 years, so it is ready to take advantage of disturbance on any site – another good survival strategy.

We have the Quakers to thank for one of the humorous common names. Not allowed to use makeup, these settlers rubbed wooly mullein leaves on the face for a long-lasting ruby blush. Quaker rouge was an effective makeup without breaking Quaker rules.

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INSIDE

Leaders talk trash

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Council says no independent Yates investigator

BY SUSAN DICKSON

Staff Writer

Opting not to pursue an independent investigation of the Nov. 13 raid of the former Yates Motor Co. building, the Chapel Hill Town Council on Monday voted 7-1 to have town staff collect information from those with first-hand knowledge of the events via an input website, to be referred to the town's Community Policing Advisory

On Jan. 9, the council referred Town Manager Roger Stancil's internal review to the CPAC, having voted not to consider a measure proposing an independent review of the events.

But last week, the CPAC submitted a

petition to the town council requesting should publicly answer questions posed the assistance of an independent investigator. CPAC members said they felt they needed the assistance of an outside investigator to adequately review the incident, noting the extensive time involved in interviewing involved parties.

The committee's request did not include a cost estimate of hiring an investigator, and council members had said they wanted more information before making a decision. But town staff did not provide the council with an estimate, instead outlining remaining concerns regarding the Yates incident and related action plans, including the input

The approved strategy, which also stipulates that the police department by the CPAC, was recommended by Stancil. The plans will be reviewed by

We certainly would not want to proceed with this critically important work without the confidence of the committee," Stancil said, suggesting that the committee use the information gathered to determine what police department policies need review.

Stancil identified policing in situations with many bystanders as one particular area in need of improvement.

"We are exploring additional approaches for bystander safety," he said.

Stancil also noted the trust that was lost in the community following the event and the need for the town to find

ways for the police department to engage with residents.

'Rebuilding trust after such a traumatic event requires us to know each other," he said.

Concerns have been raised about the police's response to the occupation of the building, which began the night of Nov. 12 – led, reportedly, by attendees of the Carrboro Anarchist Bookfair - and resulted in a dramatic encounter with police the afternoon of Nov. 13, with eight arrests.

Residents have questioned the police's failure to communicate with those inside the building prior to the raid, in which a police Special Emergency

SEE YATES PAGE 4



The cast sings and kicks their way through the grand finale of Amendment One: The Musical!. They performed the play at the conclusion of the Orange County Human Relations Month Forum at the Carrboro Century Center on Sunday.

Fighting for rights with song and dance

BY ROSE LAUDICINA

Staff Writer

When Rachel Kaplan found out that a group of North Carolina citizens could have their rights taken away due to a constitutional amendment on the May ballot, she decided to do something about it.

She chose to put pen to paper, enlist some help from friends and a founding father and sing about it.

'This is pretty much the civil rights movement of our generation, and I want to be somebody who takes part in that and not a bystander," said Kaplan, a sophomore at UNC.

Kaplan wrote the play N.C.

Amendment One: The Musical!, inspired by the celebrity-made video "Prop 8: The Musical!," in which Jack Black as Jesus reminds California lawmakers that America was built on the separation of church and state, prompting them to realize they'd made a mistake in placing the matter on the ballot.

In Kaplan's musical, which she also directed, produced and acted in, she replaces Jesus with George Washington, who returns from the past to scold lawmakers and wave

a giant rainbow around the stage. "To decree who you can love is

SEE AMENDMENT I PAGE 5



Rachel Kaplan, author of Amendment One: The Musical!, thanks the audience for its rousing support and invites attendees to request a performance of the play for their church or civic groups.

PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

Chapel Hill OKs food trucks

BY SUSAN DICKSON

Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL – Clearing the way for food trucks in Chapel Hill, the Town Council voted unanimously on Monday to approve a fee schedule for an ordinance that will allow the trucks within town limits.

The discussion stems from a 2011 petition by Lex Alexander, owner of 3Cups café on Elliott Road, that the town change regulations to allow food trucks. The council held a series of public hearings late last year, hearing little opposition to allowing food trucks in town.

Council members had previously expressed concern about funding the regulation of the trucks. On Monday, town planner Kendal Brown presented a fee schedule for the trucks, which would require a \$118 zoning permit for both owners of property where food trucks park and the food-truck owners, as well as a \$600 annual fee to truck owners to offset inspections and regulatory costs.

Under the regulations, the vendors will also be required to pay sales tax on sales made in Orange County.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce had previously expressed concerns about the trucks' effects on downtown restaurants, but chamber CEO Aaron Nelson said he felt the concerns were addressed in the planning process.

"We look forward to welcoming food trucks to Chapel Hill, but will continue to monitor their impact on existing local businesses," he said.

The ordinance will allow food trucks or trailers on private, commercially zoned lots, subject to approval

SEE FOOD TRUCKS PAGE 2

Assessing the needs of the homeless

BY TAYLOR SISK

Staff Writer

"Morning," Crister Brady calls out. "Anybody home?"

It's 4:30 a.m., and a pack of eight visitors, led by Brady, a UNC graduate and soon-to-be medical student, and Emily Clark, a social worker, has arrived at a campsite unannounced.

They're volunteers with the United Way's national 100,000 Homes Campaign, organized to place 100,000 homeless people in housing by July 2013. In Orange County, the campaign was co-sponsored by the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness. Volunteers were also out in Wake County.

In the early-morning hours of Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, five teams of volunteers visited camps, cars and alleyways throughout the county, asking the occupants a series of questions to determine their needs - attempting, essentially, to learn the

names and faces, and a few words of the stories, of those who remain on the streets through the night.

The group led by Brady and Clark had been assigned Carrboro, and Mayor Mark Chilton was along. Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt and Hillsborough Mayor Tom Stevens were out with teams in their own

In some cases, the visitors' arrival had been prearranged. Advance work was done in the previous days to inform as many folks as possible that a team of surveyors would be stopping by armed with homemade muffins, hot coffee and McDonald's coupons.

In other cases, it was a matter of following up on tips. A Carrboro police officer and an emergency medical technician accompanied the team as

In all cases, Brady and Clark made certain not to surprise, calling out

SEE HOMELESS PAGE 2

Council rejects Charterwood

BY SUSAN DICKSON

Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL – After more than four years of consideration and six meetings regarding the proposed Charterwood development, the Chapel Hill Town Council rejected the project on

The six-building, 278,000-squarefoot project was proposed to include up to 154 residential units - nine townhomes and 145 apartments - and up to 73,000 square feet of office and retail space on 9.3 acres of a 15.7-acre property at 1641 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., just south of Weaver Dairy

The council voted 5-3 to approve the project, but because neighbors had submitted a valid protest petition, supermajority approval was required. Council member Donna Bell was absent due to illness, so six of eight votes were needed for approval instead of seven of nine. Council members Laurin Easthom, Ed Harrison and Lee Storrow voted against the project.

The applicant, Bill Christian of WCA Associates, had made a number of changes to the project over the years, reducing its overall size, moving buildings to preserve additional trees and increase buffers and removing plans for a 100-room hotel.

Easthom said she was concerned about the affordability of the residential units in the project. The applicant proposed renting two-bedroom townhomes for \$1,200 to \$1,600 a month and one-bedroom apartments starting at \$850 a month.

Harrison noted the perspective of the neighbors who would view the project looking up a hill, making the buildings appear much larger.

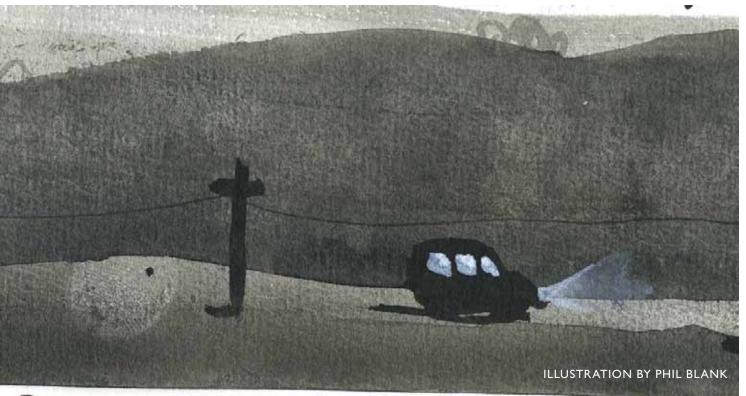
Other council members said they would support the project.

Council member Gene Pease said the project was in line with the goals of the town's Northern Area Plan Task Force, citing its placement of residential and commercial development on the bus line, "which we need in this town."

A number of residents of Northwood V, which neighbors the property, expressed opposition to the project, citing concerns about buffers, building

SEE CHARTERWOOD

PAGE 2



DRIVING THROUGH NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, SAID I'LL THINK I WANT TO VOMIT. " TOUGH TIN FOR POETRY.

CHARTERWOOD

FROM PAGE I

heights and flooding.

Joey Ware-Furlow, who lives adjacent to the site, said she was especially concerned about the tall buildings in the project.

"Residents will be facing buildings up to four stories tall sited on higher elevations," she said. "This gateway property is too important for you not to demand that Chapel Hill's highest standards be met."

Judy Weinstock, a realtor who lives in Northwood V, said she felt the project would diminish the values of her neighborhood's homes.

"Given a choice of two equivalent homes in two different neighborhoods, one neighborhood being contiguous with commercial buildings, with very little tree buffer surrounding them," and the other surrounded by trees, "buyers will certainly choose the home in the neighborhood with homogenous trees."

Town staff and the town's planning board had recommended approval of the project, stating that it was in accordance with the land-use ordinance.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce CEO Aaron Nelson released a statement on Tuesday saying the chamber is "disappointed" with the council's denial of the application.

"Charterwood is a \$50 million transit-oriented development that was recommended for approval by all Town Committees including the Planning Board, is consistent with the Chapel Hill Northern Area Plan, and accommodated all neighbor, committee and Council feedback," Nelson stated. "It's denial following years of faithful and responsive engagement with the Town is evidence that our development review process is broken and the Special Use Permit process, in particular, takes too long, is too expensive and its outcomes are unpredictable, arbitrary and capricious."

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE I

greetings as the team approached. The purpose of the visits, Clark said, was to learn who on the streets is in most immediate need of housing and services, assess resources available for particular demographics – those specifically for veterans or for women, for example – and for anyone, and then try to match those needs with the resources.

Survey results were due to be announced Wednesday evening. Once the information is compiled, it will be entered into a database of all surveys done in the area. Those considered to be the most vulnerable - whose health is most at risk from living on the streets - will be given the highest priority for services and housing.

Organizations participating with the Orange County campaign include the OPC Area Program; the Orange County Department of Housing, Human Rights and Community Development; and the Veterans Administration.

According to Orange County homeless program coordinator Jamie Rohe, discussions are also underway with the Triangle

FOOD TRUCKS

FROM PAGE I

100 feet from the customer en-

trance of a restaurant during its

hours of operation, unless ap-

proved to be closer by a restau-

rant, and could not provide seat-

In the downtown area, trucks

would only be allowed to oper-

ate in lots with at least five park-

ing spaces and an existing busi-

ness in a permanent building.

One truck would be allowed per

1,500 square feet of parking lot.

trucks would be limited to one

vendor per acre or per 30 park-

ing spaces.

Outside the downtown area,

Apartment Association.

"What we're trying to do with this program, to the degree possible, is find private resources, because there's so little subsidized housing available right now," Rohe said.

Housing first

For some on the streets, the term "homeless" is an inexact fit. Just beyond everyday view

beyond residential streets and bike paths; aside graveyards; across ravines; down alleyways; and in parking lots and abandoned houses - you'll find: bedrolls, sleeping bags and tarps; kit homes, expertly crafted from whatever's available (discarded doors, woven branches, a patio umbrella); a campsite-cumhomestead, clothes on a line, an ornamental plate adorning a tree, a suitcase tucked away; or, right downtown, a garden, planted by the resident of an adjacent parked car, redolent, when in season, with basil.

These comprise homes for the homeless - in some instances such for more than a few years - and they're right here in our neighborhood.

"I was surprised not by the number of surveys we completed," Brady said, "but by how close

we all live to those who are living on the streets."

Some choose this life; but for most, it's a relentless struggle. The logistics of the street are complex - coping with the elements, hauling propane tanks into wooded encampments, receiving checks and securing valuables.

The 100,000 Homes Campaign is adhering to a "housingfirst" model, meaning that those most in need, regardless of other circumstances, are given top priority. This approach, Brady said, "flips the traditional model on its head."

His experience working with medically vulnerable homeless people has taught him that when housing is tied to other requirements - financial stability or sobriety, for example - it excludes those most at risk of dying on the

It's estimated that there are some 2,000 people living on the streets in the Triangle. According to the United Way, at least 40 people died homeless last year.

"Outreach work always reminds us how close we all are to experiencing homelessness ourselves," Brady said, "whether because of a missed paycheck, medical issues, or any number of things."

Community Calendar

THURSDAY FEB 2

Janet Place — To perform at Carrboro Century Center. 12-Ipm Free **Project Literacy** — 23rd annual National African-American Read-In, featuring public readings of works authored or spoken by African-Americans. Campus, 6-8pm 636-4457

NAMI Class — First of a 12-week class structured to help family members understand and support loved one with mental illness. Seymour Center's Dogwood Room, 6:30pm Free 967-5403

Orrin Pilkey — To speak on "Global Climate Change: A Primer" at the Carolina Science Cafe. Back Bar at Top of the Hill, 6pm Free

Tavern Talks — First of a series of town meetings geared toward the Generation X and Y members of the population to encourage participation in planning for Chapel Hill 2020. 'Transportation: Getting from Point A to Point B" takes place at Kildare's, 206 W. Franklin St. "Show Me The Money: A prosperous and financially stable community that has a place for all" takes place at West End Wine Bar, 450 W. Franklin St. 7-8:30pm

FRIDAY FEB 3

Nia Jam — Nia is a fitness technique combining dance, yoga and martial arts. Carrboro Century Center, 7-8:30pm \$3 918-764

SATURDAY FEB 4

Film Showing — The Environmental Film Series presents Mobilizing to Save Civilization, based on the book World On the Edge by Lester Brown. Carrboro Century Center, 4pm Free with donations accepted

Writing Class — With local author James Maxey. OC Main Library, Hillsborough, 10am 245-2537

 $\textbf{Country Breakfast} \, -\! \, \mathsf{Mount}$ Carmel Baptist Church, 7:30am-11:30am Adults \$10/Children \$5 933-8565

SUNDAY FEB 5

Skipsations — The talented jump rope team to perform and offer a workshop. Carrboro Century Center, 2:30pm \$3 918-7364

Water Forum — Dan Vermeer to speak on "The Global Water Challenge." United Church of Chapel Hill, 1321 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, 10am 942-3540

TUESDAY FEB 7

Infant and Child CPR — Legacy Academy will provide an overview of Infant and Child CPR. 515 East Winmore St., 5:30-6:30pm Free

Health Workshop — Balancing Hormones Naturally. Living Wellness, 1717 Legion Road, Suite 201, 6pm

Free 904-7050

WEDNESDAY FEB 8 Author Panel — A panel of six

Orrin Pilkey —

To speak on "Global Climate Change: A Primer" at the Carolina Science Cafe. Back Bar at Top of the Hill, 6pm Free

THURSDAY FEB 2

local authors to address the question 'Where do you get your ideas?'' OC Main Library, Hillsborough, 6pm 245-2537

Benefit Film — Battle for Brooklyn, a film following the seven-year long fight between a small neighborhood in Brooklyn and one of the largest real estate developers in the country. Fedex Global Education Center, 6:30pm

THURSDAY FEB 9

Lunchbox Series — Presents The Loose Mood Experiment. Carrboro Century Center, 12pm Free

Lynn Linnemeier — Exhibition to open at Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum, Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History, 7pm 962-9001

SATURDAY FEB 11

30th Birthday — Haw River Assembly's 30th Birthday Bash, with music by Hindugrass and Rootzie. Haw River Ballroom, 7:30pm \$10 hawriver.org

Valentine's Dance — With music by The Ambassadors Jazz Band. United Church of Chapel Hill, 7:30pm \$10

ONGOING

Cancer Support — Support groups at Cornucopia Cancer Support Center for cancer patients and their families. Cancersupport4u.org 401-9333

Cancer Support — Support groups and wellness programs sponsored by N.C. Cancer Hospital. unclineberger.org/patient/support/ supportgroup.asp **Free Tax Preparation** — For

low-to-moderate incomes, prepared by IRS-Trained and Certified. For appointments at The Seymour Center or Central Orange Senior Center in Hillsborough call 968-2086; appointments at the Women's Center in Chapel Hill call 968-4610; appointments at Pittsboro Senior Center call 542-4512

Send your Community Calendar submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

MOVIE LISTINGS

We suggest you call for exact show times. All listings start Friday.

CAROLINA THEATRE

OF DURHAM by the property owner. Food 309 W. Morgan St., 560-3030 trucks would have to be at least

Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy; The Artist; Shame; The Wolfman (Friday only); Dracula (Friday only)

CHELSEA THEATER Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy

Road, 968-3005

The Artist; The Iron Lady; Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy

THE LUMINA

Southern Village, 932-9000 Chronicle (2012/ I); The Descen-

dants; Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close; The Grey; One for the Money

REGAL TIMBERLYNE 6 120 Banks Drive, 933-8600

Chronicle (2012/ I); The Grey; Man

on a Ledge; One for the Money; Red Tails; The Woman in Black

THE VARSITY 123 E. Franklin St., 967-8665

Happy Feet Two; The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part I; J. Edgar; Drive



RETRO CLASSICS Fri Feb 3 only DRACULA & THE WOLFMAN starting at 7:00 Fri 4:45, 7:15 & 9:20 | Sat-Thu 7:15 & 9:20 Sat/Sun Mats 2:15 & 4:20

Fri 4:50 & 9:30 | Sat-Thu 7:10 & 9:15 Sat/Sun Mats 2:10 & 4:15 TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY Fri 7:00 | Sat-Wed 7:00 & 9:30 Sat/Sun Mats 2:00 & 4:30

carolinatheatre.org



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Briefs

CVS neighborhood meeting

Neighbors of 201 N. Greensboro St. are invited to a meeting on Feb. 8 from 7-9 p.m. at Carrboro Town Hall to discuss the proposed CVS development project.

This will be the last neighborhood meeting before a public hearing. Attendees will be updated by developers on plans for the second floor and will hear answers to questions and concerns addressed at the previous meeting in December.

To ensure all questions will be answered at the meeting, email any questions you might have to Chris Bostic at chris. bostic@kimley-horn.com.

Faison running for governor

Rep. Bill Faison has announced his bid as a candidate seeking the Democratic nomination for governor of North Caro-

Gov. Bev Perdue shocked lawmakers around the state when she announced on Jan. 26 that she would not be seeking reelection and instead would be focusing her remaining time in office fighting for education in North Carolina.

Faison, who represents Northern Orange and Caswell counties, was first elected to the Legislature in 2005 and has served on a variety of committees, including acting as chair of the House Study Committee on Rural Highspeed Internet Access and chair of the House Democrats' Business Caucus.

Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton has also announced his bid for governor, meaning there will be a Democratic gubernatorial primary in May. Former Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory has announced that he will seek the Republican nomination.

Chamber adds dental care

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce and Piedmont Health Services have announced a pilot program to expand the chamber's health-care program to include dental

The expanded program will first provide care to 25 patients from three chamber members including Balloons & Tunes and Southern Rail, with the third member business yet to be identi-

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce was the first in North Carolina to offer its members access to affordable health care. The program, called the Chamber's Business Health Services program, was started in 2008 and has 150 participants.

Tax listing deadline extended

Due to a delay in mailing notifications, the deadline for property tax listing in Orange County has been extended.

Typically the tax listings are due on the last day of January, but the Orange County Board of Commissioners voted to extend the deadline until Feb. 29.

Weaver Street bus routes resume

The Chapel Hill Transit CW bus has resumed its regular route on Weaver Street due to the completion of major construction on the street.

Leaders confirm 2013 landfill closure

BY ROSE LAUDICINA

Staff Writer

As members of the Orange County Board of Commissioners have made clear their intent to close the county's landfill in 2013, questions linger over what the county and its municipalities are going to do with their trash.

After an Assembly of Governments meeting last week, where board and council members from each municipality gave input on possible solutions they are investigating, two things were made clear: They believe the landfill should close in 2013, and they want to work on trying to find a solution together.

"Based on what I hear from several members of the county commission and the Chapel Hill Town Council, it seems like there are a lot of elected officials who feel very strongly that we should close the landfill in 2013," Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton said at the meeting.

"I think that is a decision I could live with if in the meantime we have selected a site for some other facility for the long

Chilton had recently proposed keeping the landfill open until 2015 to allow the county time to site a solid-waste transfer station and avoid trucking garbage to Durham County's transfer station.

The three towns and the county have about 17 months to come up with a solution for where to deposit solid waste.

The county commissioners have said trucking solid waste to the Durham facility is a temporary solution.

Since the Durham option would add only 12 miles to the town of Hillsborough's collection and drop-off routes, Town Manager Eric Peterson said Hillsborough is amenable to the idea and ready to go ahead with it.

However, both Chapel Hill



The Orange County Landfill has been open on Eubanks Road since 1972. Orange County and town officials confirmed their intent to close the landfill in 2013 at a meeting last week. PHOTO BY DUNCAN HOGE

and Carrboro voiced concern over the high cost of taking their trash to Durham, as it would cost the towns a combined estimated \$750,000 a year, as well as the discontent of having no control over where their trash goes from Durham.

"To close the landfill on Rogers Road just to send [garbage] somewhere else and create another Rogers Road just shows that we didn't learn our lesson," Chapel Hill Town Council member Penny Rich said.

Trash taken to Durham's solid-waste transfer station is shipped to an out-of-county landfill.

Instead of committing to the commissioners' suggestion, Chapel Hill is looking at hiring a consultant to evaluate the town's entire waste operation and identify the most practical solution, while also considering technologies that would convert waste to

Matt Efird, interim town manager for Carrboro, presented his town's alternative to the Durham option at the meeting, including Chilton's proposal that

the county look at the feasibility of a site at the northwest corner of I-40 and N.C. 86.

Both Carrboro and Chapel Hill officials expressed their frustration with the lack of longterm solutions suggested by the "Clearly, we would like to

close the site," Chapel Hill Town Council member Gene Pease said, "but to pick a date without any plan made makes absolutely no sense to me. It is putting an incredible burden on us."

Commissioners reminded the jurisdictions that they have repeatedly asked them for input on finding alternatives, but have been unsuccessful in getting re-

Commissioner Valerie Foushee responded to complaints from elected officials about the financial burden closing the landfill will cause, noting the burden the landfill places on the Rogers Road community.

"None of us, I believe, are as frustrated as the people living in the Rogers Road community," she said.

While officials of each ju-

risdiction agreed to look into Chilton's proposal to site a waste transfer station in Orange County, Commissioner Earl McKee said he didn't feel it was feasible and expects to hear a lot of resistance from the public.

McKee reminded the elected officials of the commissioners' previous attempts at siting a transfer station in Orange County, which were met with a lot of public backlash.

"Why would we not expect full-throated opposition again?" McKee asked Chilton.

"I am not willing to go through a process only to be beaten back again," he contin-

Also agreed upon at the meeting was the creation of a task force to determine the cost of extending sewer lines and building a community center for the Rogers Road community.

The task force will be made up of two representatives from each of the boards and two representatives from the Rogers Road Eubanks Neighborhood Association (RENA).

THE CARRBORO

HOW TO REACH US

The Carrboro Citizen P.O. Box 248

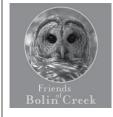
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FRIENDS OF **BOLIN CREEK** and the UNC INSTITUTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT present

"CAN WE HEAL OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS?"

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 NC Botanical Garden, 9 am - 1 pm

9 am - 11:30 am

SYMPOSIUM:

Learn about current water quality problems and actions needed to restore our urban streams.

9 am - 11:30 am

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: Environmental educators provide a program for

children of symposium participants.

11:30 am - noon

ANIMAL LIFE ALONG BOLIN CREEK: Well-known local photographer and naturalist Mary Sonis takes us on a photo journey.

noon - 1 pm

COMMUNITY EXCHANGE:

Connect with organizations making a difference for water quality and the environment.

REGISTER AT www.bolincreek.org/blog

Thanks to the NC BOTANICAL GARDEN -Our host and co-sponsor of our event.



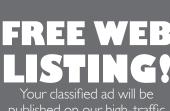
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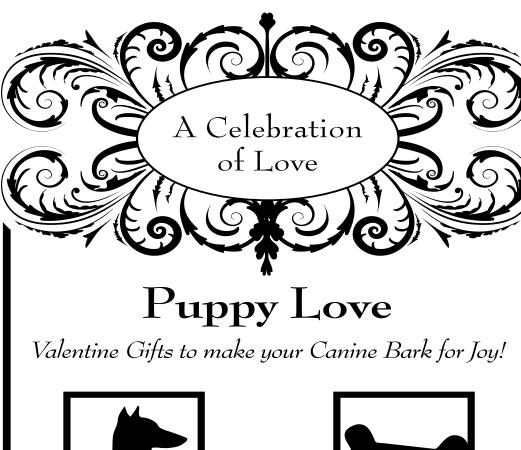




website just as it appears

in our printed version.

carrborocitizen.com/classifieds





Dog Silhouette Art Saturday, February 4, 10am – 2pm

Stop in with your canine companion or a picture of your dog in profile, and have silhouette artist Zachary Murray create a beautiful and treasured piece of art. Event will take place inside University Mall near the A Southern Season Mall Entrance.*



Personalized Dog Treats Saturday, February 4, 10am – 2pm

Fresh from our Canine Bakery! Michael, our baker, will personalize a treat for your four-legged friend. Also, check out our gourmet Dog Biscuits; Puppernutters, Scratchin' Sunflower Munchies, and Mozzarella and Olive Oil Treats.

Come experience larger-than-life Valentine's silhouettes and specially-designed, delicious and delightful gifts—be amazed!

A Southern Season

201 S. Estes Drive, Chapel Hill • University Mall • 919-929-7133 Open: Sun-Thurs 10-7, Fri & Sat 10-9 • southernseason.com

*Dogs will not be allowed into A Southern Season.

Practicing family physicians from the UNC Department of Family Medicine have teamed up with The Carrboro Citizen to bring you a weekly feature responding to your questions about health and medicine. Send your questions or comments to yourhealth@unc.edu

This week we respond to questions about prostate enlargement and stretching.

Dear HOUSE Calls, How can you treat an enlarged prostate without drugs?

Many patients want to avoid "medicines." Yet symptoms of an enlarged prostate (waking at night to urinate, weak stream, dribbling) can be a real nuisance. Just because a product is a natural herb that is available without a prescription does not mean that it is completely safe or effective. There are two natural products that we know of that people use for enlarged prostate – saw palmetto and pygeum. There has been plenty of controversy about the effectiveness of saw palmetto, but the bulk of evidence shows no treatment effect. We therefore don't routinely recommend this to our patients. There is even less compelling data to support the use of pygeum. There are also behavior options, including decreased evening fluids, decreased caffeine and alcohol and so-called "double-voiding," which means going to the bathroom twice to try to empty

your bladder more fully. There are also surgeries to reduce the size of your prostate, but most people would proceed to that only if medicine were not

Dear HOUSE Calls, I'm a tennis player and I've been getting injured a lot. What is the best time to stretch—before or after?

The latest research says that it really does not matter. A recent systematic review of five studies found that stretching did not reduce soreness or injuries. Another systematic review showed that warming up did not reduce injuries. We are not sure we believe this. There may be a couple of things going on here. With behaviors like warming up, cooling off and stretching, bodies just do what they do, and randomizing people can only minimize or maximize behaviors but not eliminate them. We think that in most sports, people warm up whether or not they identify the warm-up. The first few minutes of a run or a tennis match is always a little slower. The other thing is that not all stretching is alike. The latest we hear from

coaches and personal trainers, as well as some physical therapists, is that stretching a "cold" muscle with a fixed or static stretch means you need to hold a position for 45 to 60 seconds. Dynamic stretches (stretching while moving) can be done more efficiently on cold muscles. Lastly, not all sports are alike. Jogging allows a slow warm-up period, while tennis is full-on impact with every move. So the study of joggers may not be suited to tennis players. We don't know if any of this matters or when stretching is best. We like to stretch briefly before activity, warm up for a few minutes and stretch when done.

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.

Community Briefs

Carrboro resident wins photo **honors**

Carrboro resident Bill Swindaman has won awards for two of his images submitted in the 2011 Audubon South Carolina Nature Photography Contest, co-sponsored by the Carolinas' Nature Photographers Association.

Swindaman's "Beach Trees at Botany Bay" won second place in the plant/landscape category, while his "Cottonmouth Out for a Swim" won third place in the wildlife category.

Festifall artist applications

The Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting applications for artist booths at Chapel Hill's 40th Annual Festifall.

Applications are due by May 1 and space is limited to 120 qualifiers. Festifall will take place on Oct. 7 from noon to 6 p.m. on West Franklin

Selected artists will celebrate cultural arts in downtown Chapel Hill. More information can be found at townofchapelhill.org/festifall.

Free income-tax preparation

The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistant program, sponsored by the Chatham County Council on Aging and Chatham/Orange RSVP, will provide free income-tax return assistance to lower- and middle-income taxpayers of all ages in Chatham County.

Qualified taxpayers speaking English and Spanish can qualify for help from IRS-certified volunteers.

The service is offered by appointment only at the Eastern Chatham Senior Center, N.C. 87 North, Wednesdays and Saturdays from Feb. 1 to April 14; and the Western Chatham Senior Center, Siler Business Park, Wednesdays and Saturdays from Feb. 8 to April 7.

Call 542-4512 to make an appointment or check your eligibility. Spanish-speaking residents should call 742-1448 to make an appointment.

Ask-A-Lawyer Day

The North Carolina Bar Association will host Ask-A-Lawyer Day in Chapel Hill at the Hargraves Community Center, 216 N. Roberson St., from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Those with questions about specific legal issues or the legal system in general should take advantage of this service program. Lawyers will be available throughout the day.

Spanish-speaking attorneys and/or translators will be present.

Free photo workshop

Carrboro Citizen columnist Jock Lauterer will lead a free photojournalism workshop on Feb. 12 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at the Carrboro Branch Library at McDougle School.

The workshop, sponsored by the Friends of the Carrboro Branch Library and the Orange County Arts Commission, is open to the public and will concentrate on how to make a photograph tell a story. Lauterer is the director of the Carolina Community Media Project at UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Register with the Carrboro Branch Library at 969-3006. Registration is limited to 50 people.

Artists' salon

The next Orange County Artists' Salon will be held on Friday from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the West End Theater at The ArtsCenter.

Salons are free for artists of all kinds to come together and share ideas, concerns and information in a casual setting. The topic for this February will be "shoebox accounting," with a presentation by Alex Lehmann, tax manager at McMillan, Pate & Company.

The Orange County Arts Commission works not only to bring the artistic community together but to facilitate closer ties between artists and the general community.

RSVP at 968-2011 or email arts@co.orange.

MEMORIAL

Jelena Stojakovic

In November 2011, we lost a dear friend, teacher and colleague when our friend and UNC graduate student and instructor Jelena Stojakovic passed away after a year-long battle with leukemia.

A celebration of Jelena's life will be held on Friday, Feb. 3, and a warm invitation is extended to those in the broader community who knew Jelena and would like to come celebrate her legacy.

Join friends and colleagues to celebrate the life and spirit of Jelena Stojakovic on Friday, Feb. 3 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Graduate

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Student Center at 211 West Cameron Ave. in Chapel Hill. Come and share food and drink and stories of Jelena's impact on the lives of those who knew her and the community as a whole. The program will begin with several speakers sharing their thoughts and memories of Jelena, followed by an "open mic" time in which all are welcome to speak. The memorial will conclude with a short reception.

Following the reception, join in a toast to Jelena at The Crunkleton, 320 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill.

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YATES

FROM PAGE I

Response Team brandished longrange rifles and detained those on the sidewalk outside the entrance of the building, including two journalists, before rushing inside.

Council member Laurin Easthom, who has supported an independent investigation and cast the lone dissenting vote against Stancil's plan, said she was disappointed that town staff didn't provide the council with an estimate of the cost of hiring an independent investigator. Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt said that because the CPAC had said the town shouldn't do the hiring of

such an investigator, it was difficult for staff to investigate costs, though CPAC members had said they thought the town was better equipped to prepare an estimate than they were.

"I would still like ... to see something that feels a bit more independent [than the presented plan], because everything that has happened feels like it has been happening within town staff," Easthom said.

"The interests are getting the stories out, making sure it gets public, making sure the police department responds in a way that's guided by citizens," Kleinschmidt said. "If these are things we want to happen, it seems to me that [Stancil's] plan tonight advances

those interests."

David Maliken, one of those arrested in the raid, said he felt the plan was too vague, and encouraged the council to hire an independent investigator. One of the questions he wants answered, he said, is why he and other protesters weren't asked to leave the building prior to the Nov. 13 raid. According to the internal review, police approached protesters on the evening of Nov. 12, but were met with hostile chants and left.

"I would think that there would be more concrete things [in the plan] if the town is interested in actually taking action," he said.

Aaron Nelson, CEO of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, encouraged the town to move forward without an independent investigation. "I just think it will go badly

when we have an independent investigation," he said, noting that Stancil has other important things to focus on. "These are extraordinarily dif-

ficult times for our town. We need to be writing a budget," he said.

Sentences

On Monday, seven of eight of

those arrested during the Yates raid appeared in court. Ellen Crawford, 23, of Richmond, Va., Monica Ganguly, 29, of Chapel Hill, Eva Jones, 22, of Chapel Hill and Maliken, 24, of Carrboro were charged with misdemeanor breaking and entering. They admitted guilt and received deferred prosecution.

Daniel Regenscheit, 27, of Chapel Hill was also charged with breaking and entering, but already had deferred prosecution from another charge and received a prayer for judgment and 48 hours of community service.

Jack Jarrell, 24, of Carrboro, pleaded not guilty, but Judge Charles Anderson found him guilty and gave him a prayer for judgment.

Sonia Katchian, 64, of Chapel Hill had been charged with misdemeanor delaying and obstructing a police officer. Katchian pleaded not guilty, but was found guilty and given a prayer for judgment.

Kassandra Ofray, 21, of Pittsboro had also been charged with breaking and entering, but did not appear in court, and Anderson issued a warrant for her arrest.

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Citizen **Cryptoquote** By Martin Brody RTH. One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the ophes, punctuation, the length and formation of the words are all hints Let's Fix It

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Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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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!**

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LEO KOTTKE • TUE MAR 27 DARRELL SCOTT • SAT MAR 31

ARTSCENTER STAGE:

TRANSACTORS IMPROV: FOR FAMILIES! • SAT FEB 4 AT 6 PM EDDIE BRILL (COMEDY PERFORMANCE) • SAT FEB 4 AT 7:30 & 9:30 PM

TRANSACTORS IMPROV: THE LOVE SHOW • SAT FEB 11

SUPERFUN FAMILY SHOWS:

THE MONTI'S 4TH ANNUAL HIPPO AWARDS • THU FEB 9

PUSS IN BOOTS • SAT FEB 25 AT 11AM

facebook TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

PHILLIPS GIRLS B-BALL GOES UNDEFEATED



The Phillips Middle School girls varsity basketball team finished the regular season with a perfect 11-0 record, defeating crosstown rivals Smith and Culbreth last week. The Falcons' wins were by an average margin of 19 points. The CHCCS Middle School Tournament is being held this week at Phillips. From left: Pamela Lowry, Lee Kaniel, Eva Killenburg, Kat Boulton, Krissy Richardson, Ali Cyr-Scully, Lena PHOTO BY PATTI DONNELLY Johnson, Brynn Donnelly, Denise Lowry and BreAnna Lee

KARATE CHAMPS

Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA Carolina Karate Club members (from left) Camille Witt and Jessica Lambert, both sixth-graders at Phillips Middle School; Hailey Lambert, a third-grader at Estes Hills Elementary School; and UNC professor Valerie Lambert participated in the War Angel Challenge in South Carolina on Jan. 21. Camille finished first in forms and second in sparring; Jessica finished second in sparring and third in forms; Hailey finished first in the combined boys' and girls' sparring and second in girls' sparring; and Valerie finished first in sparring and second in forms. The tournament team will next participate in tournaments in Wilson, N.C., and Petersburg, Va.



PHOTO BY TED SPAULDING

School Lunch Menus

FRIDAY 2/3

Elementary School: Chicken Tenders, PB&J, Hamburger, Crunchy Veggie Sticks w/Dip, Ranch Potato Wedges, Pineapple Cup, Rosy **Applesauce**

Middle and High School: Veggie or Meat Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Steamed Broccoli, Baked Turkey Corn Dog w/Baked Beans

MONDAY 2/6

Elementary School: Chicken Parmesan w/Pasta, BBQ Pork Riblet Sandwich, Spinach Salad, Seasoned Corn. Local Steamed Broccoli. Chilled Peaches, Raisins

Middle and High School: Cheesy Nachos w/Beef, Seasoned Corn, Southwest Black Beans, Spanish Rice, Broccoli & Cheese Stuffed Baked Potato w/Caesar Side Salad

TUESDAY 2/7

Elementary School: Roasted Chicken w/Brown Rice, Turkey Corn Dog, Cheese MAXX sticks w/Sauce, Baked Sweet Potato, Spinach Salad, Baked Apple Slices,

Middle and High School: Enchilada Pie, Brown Rice, Seasoned Pinto Beans, Buffalo Chicken Poppers w/ Tater Tots

WEDNESDAY 2/8

Elementary School: Chicken Fajitas, Fish Sticks w/Wheat Roll, Bagel w/ Yogurt & Peanut Butter, Southwest Black Beans, Carrot-Raisin Salad, Fruited Jell-o, Orange Smiles

Middle and High School: Roast Turkey w/Gravy, Wheat Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Apple Crumble, Bacon Cheeseburger w/ Oven Fries

THURSDAY 2/9

Elementary School: Roast Turkey w/Gravy & Roll, Cheesy Nachos w/ Beans or Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Seasoned Turnip Greens, Blueberry-Peach Cup, Fresh Apple

Middle and High School: Sweet & Sour Chicken, Oriental Brown Rice, Seasoned Green Peas, Toasted Ham & Cheese w/Homemade Tomato Soup

the job of the state," sings a group of suit-wearing govern-

AMENDMENT I

FROM PAGE I

ment officials. "What you're doing is not democracy - you cannot vote on the rights of a minority," George Washington retorts.

The lawmakers eventually see the error of their ways.

Kaplan created the play to educate and encourage people to vote on Amendment One, which will appear on the May 8 North Carolina primary ballot.

"My target audience is people who would vote against it, people who haven't heard about it or people who wouldn't have the motivation to go vote," Kaplan said.

Amendment One would define marriage between a man and woman as the only domestic union recognized by the

Additionally, the amendment would invalidate domes-



Stacie Hagwood, an outreach instructor from the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, shows FPG students a young American alligator at the school's Read-a-thon Night. Pictured from left are Avery McKay, Owen McKay and Leonel Hernandez Gonzalez. PHOTO BY TIKI GWYNNE

Read-a-thon

Families flocked to Frank Porter Graham Elementary School last Wednesday for the school's 14th annual Read-a-thon. The event featured guest readers such as Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton, Eric Montross and authors Irma Tejada and Kelly Alexander. There were also live animals from the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, a jungle-themed art project and a bake sale. Visit tinyurl.com/79j4r55 to see pictures from the event.

All-State Chorus

Three students from Carrboro High were named to North Carolina's All-State Chorus. They are Marshall Lynn, sophomore bass; Melaina Dyck, junior alto; and Susannah Stewart, freshman soprano. Their director is Kay Johnson.

Regional orchestra

tic-partner benefits that em-

ployees of some municipalities

like Carrboro, Chapel Hill

and Orange County - now re-

the law say it could have an im-

pact beyond the LGBTQ com-

broader than preventing same-

sex marriage," Maxine Eichner,

a UNC law professor, said at the

Orange County Human Rela-

tions Month Forum on Sun-

day, which focused on the im-

plications of the constitutional

at the forum alongside Alex

Miller, the interim executive

director of Equality NC, Rob-

ert Campbell, president of the

Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP,

and Brett Webb-Mitchell, an

openly gay Presbyterian pastor.

ment could prevent domestic-

violence protection for unmar-

ried partners regardless of their

sexual orientation.

Eichner said the amend-

Eichner spoke on a panel

However, those who oppose

"This amendment is much

Thirty CHCCS students have been selected as members of the N.C. Eastern Regional Orchestra. They were selected during an audition in Wilmington on Jan. 14 and will perform Feb. 24-26 with two nationally known conductors at the N.C. School of Science and Math in Durham.

Selected students include one from Carrboro High, eight from Chapel Hill High and 21 from East Chapel Hill High. For a list of selected students, visit tinyurl.com/6wsbouh.

Science talent search

East Chapel Hill High senior Edgar Ferrer-Lorenzo has been named a semifinalist in the 2012 Intel Science Talent Search. He is one of 300 semifinalists out of more than 1,800 candidates. He will receive a \$1,000 award, as will his school.

Ferrer-Lorenzo will also receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., March 8-13 to compete for more than \$630,000 in awards. The winners will be announced at a black-tie gala at the National Building Museum on March 13.

District jazz honors

Two Culbreth Middle students recently participated in the Central District Jazz audition. Avery Logan, drum set, and Mia Morrell, alto saxophone, were selected for the 18-member jazz group. They will participate in the regional jazz clinic at the Durham School of the Arts on Friday and Saturday and are eligible to audition for the North Carolina Middle School Jazz Band.

Students against tobacco

Twelve students from Orange County joined a group of more than 200 high school students from across the state who attended the Tobacco. Reality. Unfiltered. (TRU) Youth Advocacy Day in Raleigh on Jan. 21. Students learned how to be advocates in their communities, organized a cigarette butt-pickup and assembled 1,000 Quit Kits for tobacco-addicted soldiers based in the state. Laurel McMullen, a senior at Cedar Ridge High, received the TRU Star Award for Orange County.

Race to Nowhere

The McDougle Middle School PTA will host public screening of the documentary Race to Nowhere on Feb. 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium at Carrboro High School. There will be a panel discussion, in which interested parents and students are encouraged to participate, following the screening.

The film investigates the increasing demands placed on students in the name of preparing them for college and subsequent careers. Tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased at rtnmcdouglecarrboro.eventbrite.com, or at the door for \$15.

"I think this is a human rights issue. ... I think it is really ridiculous that our country is still discriminating against this large minority." — Rachel Kaplan

Kaplan, who along with her the play at various events, and troupe of singing activists performed at the forum, said she wanted to make it clear in her play that the amendment could impact the rights of heterosexual couples who are living to-

gether but are not married. Making people aware of that, she said, "could bring out a whole new demographic of people to vote against it."

Kaplan hopes to continue staging live performances of

closer to May 8 the cast will be performing the play in between class changes at UNC.

Until then, a video of the musical is available online at youtube.com/ watch?v=RXgjqOLMZ7U

"I think this is a human rights issue," Kaplan said. "I think it is really ridiculous that our country is still discriminating against this large minority."



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McCrory's well-rehearsed mantra

CHRIS FITZSIMON

Former Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory was making the rounds at television stations across the state in the last few days leading up to his formal announcement for governor on Tuesday.

McCrory's "one-on-one" interviews with news anchors not only provided a preview of his campaign kickoff but also a sense of the themes he plans to use in his second bid for governor.

The only surprise was how simplistic everything seems in McCrory's world. The answers to all of our problems can be found in a few carefully crafted focus-group talking points.

State government and the state's economy are both broken, and he plans to fix them. Public schools aren't working either, and we shouldn't spend any more money until we fix those too. Economic-development policy – you guessed it, it's broken.

It's a wonder the state hasn't simply fall-

McCrory didn't offer any specifics about all the fixing he plans to do in Raleigh, but he's a reformer. Just ask him.

And if you are wondering how his campaign strategy changed with the news last week that Gov. Beverly Perdue is not running for reelection, it hasn't. He is running against her anyway, repeatedly promising to change the Perdue/Easley culture in Raleigh, whatever that is.

He is also against Perdue's proposal to raise the state sales tax to restore some of the Republican General Assembly's deep cuts to education.

Schools, like the rest of state government, need to do more with less, to quote another McCrory cliché. That will come as a surprise to many teachers and principals who are already doing all they can with far less than they need.

It also might be tough for those at-risk 4-year-olds locked out of early-childhood programs by McCrory's pals in the legislative leadership, but those kids need to do more with less too. Same for folks with mental illness or a disability - toughen up, less is more.

That's the way the private sector does it, as McCrory reminded his interviewers again and again.

You can't blame this week's entire cliché-fest on McCrory. The anchors were his willing accomplices in saying virtually nothing, asking broad questions and never following up. And those were the good

One anchor asked McCrory, "Why is it that some Democrats and even some Republicans have a tough time pulling away from the public trough?"

Quite a probing question from the liberal media that House Speaker Thom Tillis keeps complaining about.

McCrory says he wants to turn the state around, but it's already careening wildly to the right, thanks to Tillis, Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger and the rest of the folks running the General Assembly that McCrory likes to praise.

Does that mean he agrees with their extremist agenda?

Does he think 13-year-old rape victims who become pregnant should be forced to look at an ultrasound before accessing abortion services?

Does he believe that victims of crime should have fewer services available to them? That no more scholarships should be provided for bright high school students who want to be teachers?

Does he think that the state constitution should ban local governments from providing benefits to same-sex partners of their employees? How about allowing people to carry concealed handguns in parks?

Would he join with Tillis and the House majority and allow consumer finance companies to jack up the interest rates on emergency loans even though the commander of every military base in North Carolina is

trying to stop it? Those are a few of the questions McCrory needs to answer. There are plenty more,

and none of them has to do with a trough. As for the culture in Raleigh, Gov. Perdue is not running and Mike Easley left of-

The Tillis/Berger extremist crowd is now in charge. Voters need to know if Mc-Crory is with them.

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

NEWS ITEM: PRESIDENT SINGS AL GREEN AT APOLLO THEATER ...



LETTERS

External alarms

"Man has too long forgotten that the earth was given to him for usufruct alone, not for consumption, still less for profligate waste." So begins the censure of man's destructiveness by George P. Marsh dating back to the earliest part of the 20th century. Two hundred species are extinguished each susan@carrborocitizen.com day. Think for just a minute about your

physical composition. Are you somehow disconnected from the myriad probiotic, semi-autonomous system-of-systems that is steadily engaged in your organismal upkeep? I would argue that this exsanguinous conquest is providing ample evidence for why it is essential to alter our modern mode of existence, immediately.

Do you realize that your brain is comprised of billions of nervous cells, a series of electrically excitable, physically interconnected and interdependent modules of operation? Enjoyment, motion, endurance, cooperation, sadness, apathy, discourse and intercourse - all preceded by an unprecedented cascade of brain activity that "time stamps" each and every moment as unique, fragile - both memorial and ever-fading. One could make the argument that some of these brain states, just like a more physical consciousness (e.g., pain, fatigue) are an indication of our spiritual tolerance for an environment. So we have a culture that medicates our lack of spiritual tolerance. Depressed? Take this pill – or maybe anxious? Try this one. Rather than treating these conditions as a hypersensitivity to the toxicity of the environment we treat these conditions as isolated events, disconnected from the world at large. It is a statement that speaks volumes of our inability to "strike at the root [of evil]," as Thoreau would say.

So our culture is rapidly unbalancing a fine chemical equilibrium that nature has worked eons to establish. We are internalizing numerous alarms that are screaming for us to act. What are these external alarms? Maybe it is poverty? Maybe it is the devastation of formerly vast lands and the climate problem? Maybe it is the erosion of soil quality and agribusinesses' role in short-term solvency? Maybe it is the fact that air and water quality is a seriously debated campaign platform? All of these, I think, are indications of our present inability to call Earth our home, a recognizable community. As we continue to ignore the external consequences of blatant irresponsibility, new and potentially more violent alarms will evolve. When will we learn that our health is tied to the health of this land? When we put our faith in private property and escape to our insular vignettes it is unsurprising that we experience a private despair, a longing to find purpose in our destructive selfishness.

> JAMES H. MYERS Chapel Hill

Independent investigation needed

The latest incarnation of the Chapel Hill town government's fumbling quest to cover up the Yates incident is a joke, and may be the most politically revealing. Town Manager Roger Stancil, and presumably the mayor and police chief, have come out with their newest attempt to prevent the truths of this incident from receiving credibility.

Tasked by the council last week with providing a potential budget for an independent investigation, requested in an 11-page report by the town's Community Policing Advisory Committee, Stancil instead presented a counter-proposal in four documents, which he sent to the council at 4:42 p.m. this Monday, barely more than two hours before the meeting would start.

Despite this 11th hour release, the council was ready to vote on Stancil's proposal not two minutes after discussion began. For such a charged issue that has divided the community and brought national scrutiny upon the town, this seems like a rather hasty decision - unless, of course, they'd already made up their minds, say, on Nov. 13?

Instead of an investigator, trained to ask the right questions to the right subjects and equally skilled at piecing together hundreds of stories into a factual timeline, Stancil proposes a website where anyone can post information about the incident, with the CPAC left to pick up the pieces.

The government has yet again sidestepped actually voting on this independent investigation, which Jim Neal petitioned

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be no more than 425 words in length and emailed letters are preferred.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Box 248 Carrboro, NC 27510

on Nov. 21 and again on Jan. 9, and which the CPAC petitioned on Jan. 23. According to the mayor, with whom I spoke after he adjourned the meeting, the investigation is now "in the ether," and the council won't consider it unless yet another petition is brought to them.

ALEX KOTCH Durham

Remember the victims of Paterno's disregard

Jock Lauterer's toss-away comment as he memorialized Joe Paterno, " ... and now tainted legacy of the late JoePa" gives little respect or honor to the victims of Paterno's blatant disregard for the law and his absence of human decency. He was a "force of nature" all right, and along with Sandusky, leaves in his wake broken bodies, broken dreams, broken lives. Football is meaningless in the face of this tragedy. I certainly respect and enjoy Jock's work, but was deeply disturbed and disappointed with this week's Thousand Words.

> PATRICIA BRADSHAW Hillsborough

Wealth and greed related, not synonymous

Relevant definitions of wealth:

1. rich or valuable contents or produce: the wealth of the soil 2. the state of being rich; prosperity; affluence: persons of wealth and standing

greed/greedy:

1. excessively or inordinately desirous of wealth, profit, etc.; avaricious: the greedy owners of the company

The democratic principle for balance of power dictates the construct of capitalism must generously replenish the soil from which wealth comes from.

Our existing vulnerable environment is the result of: Wall Street and banks who apply deceit and support self

- a Supreme Court that can alter an election;
- the manipulation and influence of politicians resulting in
- their failure to represent the people; and • the manipulation of a sustainable tax code to benefit the 2

An economy is only durable if it is protected from abuse. Powerful investors and financial institutions sidestepped loosened regulations to manipulate control in their favor, to the detriment of the national and global economy. This is why we

should establish enforceable regulation, which higher taxes on the wealthy would pay for. Self-monitoring will always be fal-Obama admits Congress is broken. He and others have

been trying to fix it. There is little to no cooperation by a Congress influenced by Robber Barons. These people are not patriots, they are traitors (intentional or not). The 98 percent are in this together, both conservative and liberals. These ideologies should complement one another, not polarize. Polarization's symptoms are a lack of compassion, empathy, fairness and creativity of conservatives and liberals.

The disease of greed must be aggressively treated, especially in the 2 percent who control the economy, society and the environment. It is destroying it and themselves.

We need a lynch mob with a rope of votes. The people have the capacity to change this situation, but there needs to be an extreme response from the public, sufficient to change the rule of law to prevent inappropriate, unethical lobbying, filibustering and the politicizing of the Supreme Court. Conservatives and liberals must unite with a goal to protect wealth from greed. Our abundance is threatened by the hoarding of wealth. Caring for our potential wealth is no different than with a garden – it must replenish itself if it is to provide a reoccurring yield.

The needs of the 98 percent are intended to be protected in the Constitution. Oligarchies must durably fertilize and reseed the soils which gave them wealth or be plowed back into the fields from which they came ...

May it be so.

TOM O'DWYER Chapel Hill

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Scenes from a poverty tour - Part 2

The is the second in a series of columns on poverty, inspired by a recent North Carolina NAACP-sponsored tour of high-poverty regions of our state.

The bus rolled out of Raleigh about dawn heading east to Washington, or, if you'd rather, Little Washington. Some of us - students, community leaders and



organizers; a few lawyers; some press; and several reverends - were still shaking off an early-morning

Bishop Gene Hatley was at the wheel as BY KIRK ROSS we paralleled the Tar

River through Wilson and Greenville into sound country. Along the way, each town got a little smaller and the spaces between

We got to Washington, our first stop, around 10 a.m. and rode to the heart of town to a gathering at the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, a church founded in the waning days of the Civil War and now located in a brick-and-wood jewel built by former slaves and their children in 1902. The church's official history includes this de-

"Metropolitan was not left untouched by the Depression, however. Terrorist groups pitted poor Whites against poor Blacks. But the members of Metropolitan continued caring for one another. Landowners who owned small businesses and farmed would share their food with poorer families. Church members worked to continue the academic, spiritual, and material growth of the children. This self-reliance and hard work were the keys to getting Metropolitan through the Depression."

Today in Beaufort County, almost 10,000 of its 50,000 residents live below the poverty line. During the recent recession, the number of people on food assistance has skyrocketed from 6,185 in September 2007 to 17,172 as of September

With the community hit hard by the recession, the church, led by Rev. David Moore, is a refuge once more for a growing number of neighbors. Volunteers prepare daily meals for the hungry and have set up an emergency shelter.

It had gotten down below freezing the night before we arrived and around 20 people who had nowhere to go in a town whose motto is "Pride in the past, faith in the future" spent the night in the Metropolitan's basement.

Upstairs that morning, in a sanctuary lit by the January sun streaming through ancient panels of stained glass, we heard the first round of stories that for the next two days would be eerily similar - stories of lifelong struggles against the odds and what little was built or saved lost because of a storm or a battle with an illness or an employer shutting down.

Those who stood up to tell their stories were not the caricatures drawn of the poor, but the real poor, the invisible poor.

Charlette Blackwell Clark, who cleans houses for a living and lives in a stormdamaged trailer she cannot afford to fix, said she is "tired of struggling, tired of being beaten down."

Like so many, she is being turned away or put on long waiting lists to get some assistance to pay for the repairs. She might, as she puts it, "talk country," but she understands the consequences of budget cuts in housing-assistance programs in a way no policy analysts can feel. This is her home, and she doesn't want to leave.

"Let me get on my feet right here in Washington," she said. "I'll strive to do whatever I have to do."

There were people like Charlette, real fighters, at each gathering. And there was almost always someone – often a veteran - who retuned home, saw things through new eyes and pondered the chasm between this nation's words and our deeds.

Waylon Whitley, from the small Beaufort County community of Pantego, was one of them. He stood at the lectern at the Metropolitan and told us of returning home and beginning a 21-year fight to get sewer service and decent drinking water for his community.

Pantego is one of those places where the lack of infrastructure is a legacy of racial inequality, where black neighborhoods with no services are surrounded by white neighborhoods that have long had them.

Whitley said that when he started the fight for services in 1985, his community was living in third-world conditions. Changing that wasn't just a question of finding money for the infrastructure, but battling an entrenched political system and an attitude among too many that nothing could be done to change things.

It's a message he continues to preach. We owe it to ourselves to insert ourselves in the situation and make it better."

Defense wins the basketball race

BY EDDY LANDRETH

Staff Writer

The college basketball season



is a marathon, but as with any close race, it will become a sprint near the end. Atlan-

tic Coast Conference

Eddy Landreth teams have not yet reached that point, but they are approaching it.

"We have to play with a lot of fire in our guts," sophomore guard Reggie Bullock said after replacing the injured Dexter Strickland in the starting lineup.

UNC edged back to No. 5 in the Associated Press national poll this week after dropping to 8 following an embarrassing 90-57 loss at Florida State on Jan. 14.

The Tar Heels have played far better and with much more intensity since that day in Tallahassee, Fla. As the season nears the sprint, Carolina is utilizing its motivation in the right places, like defense.

Carolina began playing with a rejuvenated effort on defense in the second half of its 82-68 victory at Virginia Tech. UNC held the Hokies to 33-percent shooting in the second half.

Now a pattern has developed. This is not a new pattern necessarily, but it has been more consistent and coherent than earlier

in the season. John Henson and Tyler Zeller effectively cut off the lane to opponents, while UNC's guards stick to their men and allow mostly poor shots from the perimeter.

N.C. State shot 25 percent in the first half of the Tar Heels' 74-55 victory. Last Sunday, Carolina held Georgia Tech to 37-percent shooting and 32 points in the first half of UNC's eventual 93-81 win.

Strickland had been recognized as the best perimeter defender on the team before he hurt his knee, but Bullock implemented a different kind of strategy. At 6 foot 7 inches and possessing a lengthy reach, Bullock makes it tough for opposing shooting guards to get off shots.

"I've said all year that Reg-

gie's gotten better and better defensively," coach Roy Williams said. "I think he has the length. He doesn't have the quickness or speed that Dexter does, but he has the length. In the [N.C.] State game, he was the defensive player of the game."

Carolina traveled to Winston-Salem for a 9 p.m. game against Wake Forest on Tuesday. Saturday's game at Maryland will conclude the first half of UNC's conference schedule.

From here on out, the sprint will be on. If Duke or Carolina finishes first in the final regular-season standings, that team will have an excellent chance to be a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

If the Tar Heels do it, their defense will most likely be the defensively, it can demoralize opponents. This also fuels the Tar Heels' running game.

"They're playing at a high level," Georgia Tech coach Brian Gregory said. "The pace they play at, it's hard to simulate that in practice. And when you get a guy [like Kendall Marshall] with the ball that's making a good decision, a quality decision on every play, it makes it tough.

"They've got a lot of different weapons, and they are getting better defensively," Gregory said. "So they're obviously a team that will challenge for this league championship and are a team that can move on to the Final Four."

The Tar Heels' description of their defensive approach echoes I think it does present problems."

reason. When Carolina excels former coach Dean Smith, who focused practice and preparation solely on his teams. He did not show film of the opposition, but rather taught his teams to stick with their principles in the belief this would produce more consistent and greater results.

"If they can't swing the ball to the people they want, you can take any team out of their offense," Bullock said.

This approach filters down to other parts of the game, such as offensive rebounding; call it trickle-down basketball.

"It's an easy way to score," Zeller said. "Sometimes it's a little demoralizing on the defense. They play great defense and then you get a little tip-in layup.

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Recipe of the Week Simple Sautéed Kohlrabi (Serves 2-3)

Recipe provided by Kelly Clark

Ingredients

I pound kohlrabi, leaves included

2 tablespoons butter 3 tablespoons olive oil

1/8 cup water I tablespoon fresh lemon juice

salt and pepper

Method

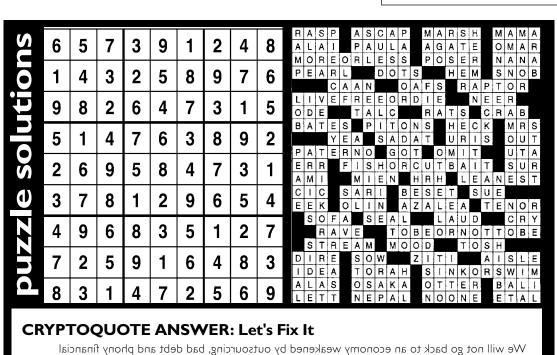
Trim leaves from the bulbs and remove the stems, then pile the leaves on top of each other and roll like a cigar. Shred the leaves in quarter-inch slices across the roll. Set aside.

Peel and cut the root end off the bulbs using a sharp paring knife. Then cut the bulbs into 1/8-inch slices, stack the slices and cut into 1/8-inch matchsticks.

Put I tablespoon each of the oil and butter in a frying pan over medium high heat. Add the leaves and toss to coat with the butter and oil. Add the water and sauté until the leaves are tender but not mushy. Add the lemon juice, toss to incorporate and then remove leaves to a serving dish and cover.

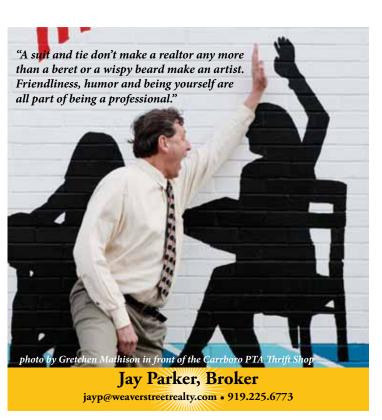
Return the pan to the heat, set at medium low and add the remaining butter and olive oil. When the butter has melted, add the kohlrabi sticks and stir and sauté until the kohlrabi is tender and not too crunchy. Add salt and pepper to taste, pile on top of the leaves and serve immediately.





profits. - President Obama, in his State of the Union address.





THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012 THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

FLORA FROM PAGE I

Native Americans quickly learned about the utility of this plant immigrant. Medicinal and utilitarian descriptions are endless. The Lumbee stuffed the flannel-like leaves in their moccasins for warmth in cold months. Tall dried flower stems (Jacob's staff) served as torches. The hardness of the dried stems made it a preferred stem for fire-making hand drills.

Fresh and dried mullein leaves and the yellow flowers have been used effectively as inhalants, teas, infusions, poultices and salves for countless injuries and ailments.

Engaging descriptions of traditional uses of Mullein are offered by Tom Brown Jr., the guru of outdoor survival training, in Tom Brown's Field Guide: Wild Edible and Medicinal Plants. I love his description of yellow-flowering stems standing tall in green summer fields "that looked like people standing erect, worshiping the Creator."

In moderation, mullein is an engaging garden plant. I vividly remember a visit to that grand garden at Chatsworth, home of the Duchess of Devonshire in central England. To my inquiry about the mulleins growing haphazardly along



Mullein stems, like people, standing in a field

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

pathways, the gardener responded: "Oh, that's mullein, a favorite of the Duchess and we're instructed not to weed a one of them!"

In my yard I take care to nurture a few wooly mullein rosettes to enjoy throughout cold months, anticipating their tall yellow-flowered stems in mid-summer.

Email Ken Moore at flora@ carrborocitizen.com. Find previous Ken Moore Citizen columns at The Annotated Flora (carrborocitizen.com/flora).



Helpers on the Met

ne of the very best photographers in Chapel Hill back in the '60s was a quiet, intense young fellow named Tom Rogers who shot for the UNC yearbook, the Yackety Yack. Just the other day I was admiring his work in an old "Yack" when this lovely photo arrived in my email inbox, along with Tom's description: "I hustled over to an isolated, out-of-the-way station on the old Baltimore and Ohio Metropolitan Subdivision to shoot some snow scenes for a 'Rail-Fan Video' I was producing. The helper set approaching are a couple of CSX SD40-2 engines that have just completed their assignment by shoving a 160-car coal 'drag' up Barnesville Hill in Maryland. The engines are approaching Tuscarora Station near Point of Rocks, Md. They are heading back to Brunswick Yards where they will no doubt get behind another coal train to shove up Barnesville Hill again." With a little prodding, Tom described his career trajectory: "On leaving Carolina, I went to work for WBTV in Charlotte in the News Department. Stayed there four years, then found my way to an educational film company in Northern Virginia. Worked there for a couple of years, then ... moved to The Xerox Training Center in Leesburg, Va., where I produced instructional TV for 25 years. Ive been producing rail-fan videos for the last 10 years or so since retiring from Xerox in '96. Just wanted to keep my hand in the video business since then and didnxt want to work for anyone else." For all you photo-wonks, Tom says he shot this winter scene with a Nikon D200, using ISO 800 and a shutter speed of 1/320th of a second and an aperture of f/5.6. Rail buffs can check out his work at youtube. com/watch?v=_0X-nl0LAhU and youtube.com/watch?v=R2gf0A-Qg8c



A THOUSAND WORDS

BY JOCK LAUTERER

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 Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton, Director of Public Works George Seitz, Director of Economic Development Annette Stone

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