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FREE



Dandelion leaves have sharp, tooth-like margins. PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

# The flower that doesn't stop

"Fields of dandelion are like huge cloud rafts floating on a sea of green. Lying back on this flowery bed can become intoxicating, the mind swooning with the fragrance. Dandelions conjure up images of spring, their fresh scents so alluring, drawing one to run barefoot across their faces until the feet are green and yellow striped. It is also the lone flower of sunny winter places, defiantly blooming next to patches of mid-winter snow, always reminding us, even in the coldest times, that there is hope for spring."

Those words of Tom Brown, Jr. (Tom Brown's Field Guide: Edible and Medicinal Plants) describe the lowly dandelion far more



A group of protesters identifying themselves as "Carrboro Commune" occupied the building at 201 N. Greensboro St. on Saturday afternoon. The group left the building a few hours after the start of the demonstration, after police told them they would be arrested if they did not do so.

## **Proposed CVS site occupied**



Demonstration ends peacefully

### **BY SUSAN DICKSON** *Staff Writer*

Following the Saturday afternoon occupation of the building at 201 N. Greensboro St., members of a group identifying themselves as "Carrboro Commune" are planning another demonstration at the property, while elected officials, police and other community members reflect on the events, which ended relatively peacefully,



engagingly than can I.

While still pursuing "winter botany" I pause to note that early spring wildflowers – really winter annuals – like speedwells, henbits and chickweeds have been carpeting lawns and open spots all around town since the early days of January, way, way ahead of their normal appearances.

Most notably in flower is my friend the dandelion, *Taraxicum* officinale, the cause of grief for folks who prefer uniform green deserts of perfect lawns. It's regrettable that Ortho products has a commercial that describes the flowering dandelion as the cause of hay fever. That image terrorizes innocent viewers to eliminate those beasts in the lawn with easy-to-apply chemical herbicides.

In reality, dandelion flowers do not produce pollen light enough to waft its way into your nostrils to make you sniffle and sneeze. In fact, for centuries worldwide, the dandelion has been a source of useful herbal medications and

SEE **FLORA** PAGE 12

### INSIDE

### School board decides against redistricting

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Business	4 5 6

Masked protesters establish a presence outside of 201 N. Greensboro St. shortly after the building was taken as part of what demonstrators called a permanent occupation intended to establish a social center in the heart of Carrboro. PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER with no arrests.

Following a march down West Weaver Street, a group of masked protesters occupied the building around 3 p.m. Saturday, handing out fliers stating that the occupation was "not a temporary protest, but a permanent occupation intended to establish a social center in the heart of Carrboro, instead of the CVS that would have been here."

#### SEE OCCUPATION PAGE 10

Masked occupiers pound out a rhythm that went on for much of the afternoon. The noise sparked conversation from neighbors about the negative impacts the occupation would have on their community, in contrast to the protesters' claims that their activities were in response to neighbors' concerns about a CVS drugstore proposed for the site.

PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

## **Carrboro names new town manager**

**CARRBORO** – The Carrboro Board of Aldermen announced at their Tuesday night meeting that David Andrews has been appointed town manager. He replaces Matt Efird, who has served as interim town manager since the retirement of Steve Stewart in July. Efird will return to his previous role as assistant to the town manager.

Andrews has more than 20 years of local government experience, including serving as town manager, assistant town manager and finance director for two municipalities in Arizona. He

is presently assistant town manager/ finance director for the town of Paradise Valley, Ariz.

Andrews holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Stephen F. Austin State University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Arizona. He is an active member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and holds distinction as an ICMA Credentialed Manager.

He and his wife, Salette, are par-

ents of three adult children.

"Carrboro is a vibrant community with dedicated Board members, citizens, and employees," Andrews said in a statement released on Wednesday. "I would like to thank the Mayor and Board for their confidence in me. It is an honor to serve Carrboro as the new Town Manager."

The search for a new town manager was a "long process, and we carefully deliberated," board of aldermen member Randee Haven-O'Donnell said. Fifteen phone interviews were conducted, and three candidates were interviewed in person

"While there were many outstanding candidates for this job, many people who were qualified for this job, we believe unanimously that the best choice for the future of town government on the staff side will be Mr. David Andrews," Mayor Mark Chilton said.

Andrews will start work no later than March 15. – *Staff Reports* 

### DOT to revisit Smith Level planning

### **BY SUSAN DICKSON** Staff Writer

**CARRBORO** – Following several hours of discussion, representatives



Jacquie Gist ect that would prevent left turns out of the Berryhill neighborhood from Willow Oak Drive onto Smith Level Road.

NCDOT officials came before the Carrboro Board of Aldermen on Tuesday to present detailed plans regarding right-of-way and easement acquisitions that would be needed for the Smith Level Road improvement project, about which residents have expressed concern.

Berryhill residents reiterated their continuing frustration with plans to prevent a left turn out of their neighborhood, which NCDOT officials have said would not be safe.

SEE **SMITH LEVEL** PAGE II

### County prefers light rail to bus

### **BY ROSE LAUDICINA** *Staff Writer*

While two members of the Orange County Board of Commissioners are still not convinced light rail is the best option for Orange County, the commissioners voted 5-2 to recommend light rail as the locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the county.

Orange County is the last member of the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) to make a decision regarding the LPA, with all three other members supporting light rail.

Triangle Transit Authority senior transportation planner Patrick Mc-

Donough gave a presentation to the commissioners in which he reminded them that while in approving the LPA they were stating the type of technology, endpoints and alignment of service they preferred, there were still many ways to alter the ultimate plans.

"I am trying to communicate to you how much control you really do have within the plan and how it is funded," McDonough said.

Also included in their decision to pursue light rail that would start at UNC Hospitals and travel 17.4 miles to Alston Avenue, just

### SEE **TRANSIT** PAGE 9

### **MUSIC CALENDAR**



### **THURSDAY FEB 9**

Cat's Cradle: Marc Broussard, Sugar and The Hi-low's. 8pm. \$15/17

The Cave: EARLY: Quiet the Voices LATE: Pierce Edens and the Dirthy Work

**Century Center:** Gary Duncan. 12pm, Free

City Tap: Laura Thurston. 8:30pm Linda's Bar and Grill: Robert Griffin. 8:30pm

Local 506: Big Daddy Love, The Real Nastl.y 9:30pm. \$7

Nightlight: Ill Family, Yandrew, The Hill and The Wood, Nettles. 9:30pm, \$5

Southern Rail: Brad Maiani Trio. 7pm

### **FRIDAY FEB 10**

ArtsCenter: Wanda Jackson. 8:30pm

The Cave: EaRLY: Shannon O'Connor LATE: P-90's, The Raging Nipple

City Tap: Carey Murdock. 9pm The Depot: Big Ron Hunter. 8:30pm

Hill Hall: Carolina Women's Choral Showcase. 8pm. Free

Jack Sprat: Art of Cool Project Jazz Jam. Free, \$5 donation

FILM SCHEDULE FEB. 10-16

Nightly at 7 & 9:15 Sat & Sun Mats 2 & 4:15

**OSCAR SHORTS: Animation** 

OSCAR SHORTS: Live Action

Sat & Sun Mats 4:45

Nightly 7:15 Sat & Sun Mats 1:45 & 3:15

carolinatheatre.org

THE ARTIST

Nightly 9:00

OLINA DOWNTOWN

requested

Local 506: The Jealous Sound, Almost People. 9:30pm. \$8/10

Memorial Hall: Overtone Quartet with Dave Holland, Chris Potter, Jason Moran, and Eric Harland. 8pm

Nightlight: r.Mutt, Teenage Mysticism, Oh By Jingo. 9:30pm. \$5

Southern Rail: Alex Bowers and Friends. 7:30pm

### SATURDAY FEB II

Bean and Barrel: Be The Moon. 9pm, Free

Carolina Brewery: Brid and Arrow, 9:30pm, \$8

Cat's Cradle: Fountains of Wayne, The Stars Explode. 9pm. \$20/23 The Cave: EARLY: A Fragile Tomorrow LATE: Tonk, Mac

McMaughan **City Tap:** Jordan and the Sphinx.

9pm Hill Hall: Pianist Nadia Shpachanko. 3pm. Free

Local 506: Hidden Cat. 9:30pm. \$6

Southern Rail: Tarheel Son and Hollaband, 7pm

### **SUNDAY FEB 12**

**OF DURHAM** 

Road, 968-3005

Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy

ArtsCenter: Keith Knight, Don Alder. 7pm

**CAROLINA THEATRE** 

The Artist; Oscar Shorts: Anima-

tion; Oscar Shorts: Live Action

CHELSEA THEATER

Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy

A Dangerous Method; The Artist;

309 W. Morgan St., 560-3030

Cat's Cradle: Sharon Van Etten. 9pm. \$13/15 Hill Hall: Pianist Nadia

Shpachanko. 4pm. Free Local 506: Doomtree, Mr Invisible.

9:30pm. \$10/12 **Nightlight:** Tatsuya Nakatni's

Gong Orchestra. 9pm. \$6 Southern Rail: Mahalo Jazz. 5pm, Trheel Son, Hollaband. 7pm

MONDAY FEB 13

Local 506: The World/Inferno, Friendship Society. 9pm. \$12/14

### **TUESDAY FEB 14**

The Cave: LATE: Old North State, Jamie Purnell, Cole Roe Nightlight: Ghost Hand, Headcase. 9:30pm. Free

Southern Rail: Honeychile. 10pm

#### WEDNESDAY FEB 15

**The Cave:** LATE: Tim Stambaugh's **Timulus** Package Southern Rail: Gmish Klezmer Band. 7pm

#### **THURSDAY FEB 16**

Cat's Cradle: Emilie Autumn, 9pm. \$15/17 The Cave: EARLY and LATE: **J**phonol

Century Center: Gypsy Town.

12pm Free

City Tap: Tracy Wiebeck. 8:30pm Hill Hall: UNC Symphony Orchestra. 7:30pm. \$15

Linda's Bar and Grill: Robert Griffin. 8:30pm

Local 506: Simplified, Of Good Nature. 9pm. \$8

Memorial Hall: North Carolina Symphony: Dvorak and America. 8pm

Nightlight: Lilac Shadows, Airstrip, Heads on Sticks. 9:30pm. \$5

Southern Rail: Bibis Ellison and the Good Doc. 7:30pm

### **FRIDAY FEB 17**

The Cave: EARLY: Johnny Cook LATE: Honeychile, Junko, Fujiyama

City Tap: Saint Anyway. 9pm **Local 506:** Jack The Radio, Saints

Apollo, The Debonzo Brothers. 9pm. \$7

Memorial Hall: Pianist Leif Ove Andsnes. 8pm

Nightlight: Antibubbles and Trepak. 9:30pm. \$5

Southern Rail: Alex Bowers and Friends. 7:30pm

### **SATURDAY FEB 18**

Cat's Cradle: Delta Rae. 9pm. \$10/12

The Cave: EARLY: NC Sax Ensemble LATE: Killer Filler, The Small Ponds City Tap: Near Blind James and

Harmonica Bob. 9pm The Depot: Tea Cup Gin. Free **Local 506:** Fin Fang Foom, Pipe, Ben Davis and The Jetts. 10pm. \$6

Southern Rail: Lee Gildersleeve and Bad Dog Blues Band. 6pm

### SPOTLIGHT: **QUIET THE VOICES**



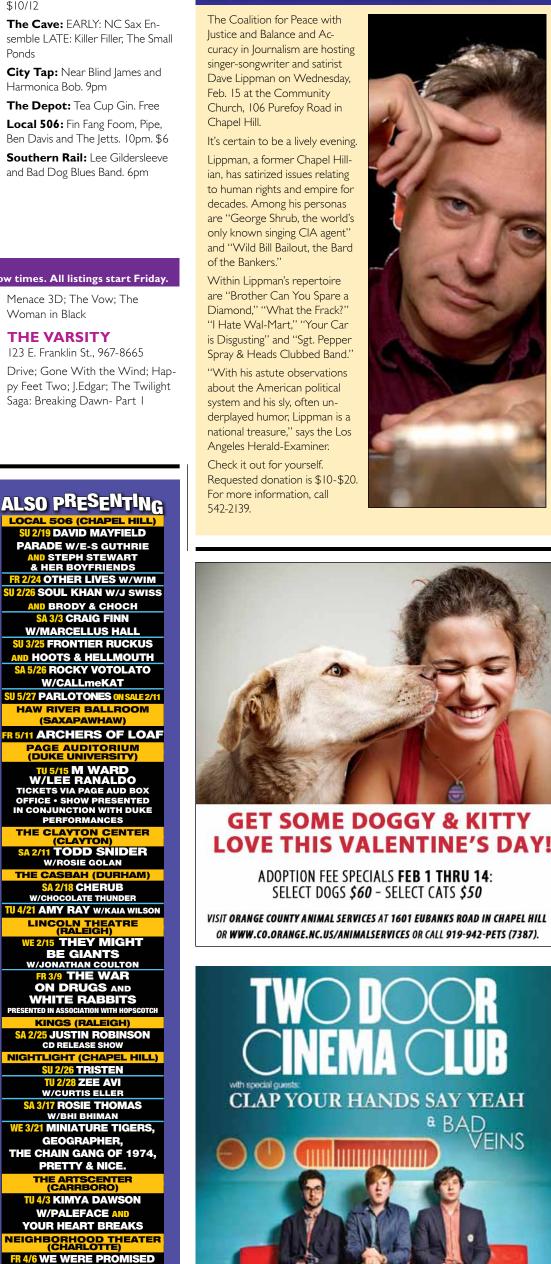
A quirky Americana duo from Durham will be opening a night full of soothing sounds at The Cave tonight (Thursday), Feb, 9.

Quiet the Voices plays with a soft yet unique rhythm that's balanced with soulful vocals. Their imaginative lyrics are illuminated by each other's stage presence. To top the evening off, Pierce Edens and the Dirty Work will amp up the tavern with their folk-rocking talent. Come join both bands for some of the best North Carolina-grown music around. Show starts at 7:30 p.m.

### **SPOTLIGHT: DAVE LIPPMAN**

The Coalition for Peace with lustice and Balance and Acsinger-songwriter and satirist Dave Lippman on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at the Community Church, 106 Purefoy Road in Chapel Hill.

Lippman, a former Chapel Hillian, has satirized issues relating decades. Among his personas only known singing CIA agent" of the Bankers.'



CAT'S CRADLE

### Southern Village, 932-9000

Chronicle; Journey 2: The Mysterious Island; Safe House; The Descendants: The Vow

#### **REGAL TIMBERLYNE 6** 120 Banks Drive, 933-8600

Chronicle; Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D; Safe House; Star Wars: Episode I- The Phantom

MOVIE LISTINGS We suggest you call for exact show times. All listings start Friday. Menace 3D; The Vow; The

THE VARSITY

123 E. Franklin St., 967-8665 Drive; Gone With the Wind; Happy Feet Two; J.Edgar; The Twilight

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KINGS (RALEIGH)

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**JETPACKS** 

SA 4/14 LAMBCHOP

SHABAZZ PALACES

MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

(RALEIGH)

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### **Briefs**

### Insko seeks reelection

Rep. Verla Insko has announced she will seek reelection as representative of North Carolina's 56th district, which encompasses Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

Insko is serving her eighth term in the N.C. House of Representatives where she serves on a variety of committees. including the house appropriations, health and human services and judiciary committees.

### Agricultural Summit on Monday

Orange County will hold its annual Agricultural Summit on Monday to address key issues that affect the local agricultural industry.

Rep. David Price, farmers and planning and economic-development staff from the county will speak at the event, which runs from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Big Barn Convention Center in Daniel Boone Village in Hillsborough.

Registration is \$10 and is available on site or by calling the Orange County Cooperative Extension office at 245-2050. For more information, visit orangecountyfarms.org

### Candidate for commissioner

Renee Price, president of the Orange County Democratic Women, has announced she will run for election to the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

Price will be running for the seat representing District 2, which includes Hillsborough, Efland and the rural area from White Cross to Cedar Grove. Steve Yuhasz currently represents District 2 on the board.

### Rabid raccoon in Chapel Hill

A dead raccoon discovered in a Chapel Hill resident's driveway on Jan. 30 has tested positive for rabies.

According to Orange County Animal Services, the raccoon was found near Bethel-Hickory Grove Church Road and Dairyland Road.

This is the first positive rabies test in Orange County for 2012.

## THE CARRBORO

#### **HOW TO REACH US**

The Carrboro Citizen P.O. Box 248 309 Weaver St., Suite 300 Carrboro, NC 27510

EDITORIAL news@carrborocitizen.com

ADVERTISING marty@carrborocitizen.com / 942-2100 ext. 2

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Symposium to look at waterway health

Friends of Bolin Creek and the UNC Institute for the Environment will host "Can We Heal Our Local Waterways?" a symposium and community exchange on the state and future of our local streams, on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the N.C. Botanical Garden.

The event, which will include a series of discussions led by experts as well as a children's program, is meant to launch a community discussion about how Triangle residents can bring our waterways back to health. The symposium will focus on current water-quality problems and the actions needed to restore local creeks and streams.

"Water quality is critical for life, both for the natural ecosystem and for the growth and sustainability of our towns," said Julie McClintock, president of Friends of Bolin Creek and organizer of the symposium.

A series of expert speakers from the State of North Carolina, Carrboro and Chapel Hill

will talk about our streams and what we can do to protect them. Following the discussions, attendees will talk about how to move forward to protect and restore our waterways.

Meanwhile, Jenni Heartway, a teacher/environmental educator with Learn Outside will lead a children's program exploring the world of streams in which children will visit the garden wetland, examine macroinvertebrates and create drawings and paintings.

In addition, Carrboro Citizen columnist Mary Parker Sonis will lead symposium attendees on a photo journey along Bolin Creek with images of the animals of the creek.

Following the programs, attendees will have the opportunity to connect with more than 15 local organizations making a difference for the environment, including OWASA, the Haw River Assembly and the Morgan Creek Valley Alliance.

The event is co-sponsored by



Bolin Creek is one of the waterways that will be discussed at the ''Can We Heal Our Local Waterways?" symposium on Saturday. PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

the N.C. Botanical Garden and tration information is available Chapel Hill 2020.

A detailed agenda and regis-

online at bolincreek.org. -Staff Reports

### Homeless survey results announced

Survey results of the national 100,000 Homes Campaign, conducted during the last week of January in Orange and Wake counties, have now been compiled.

Volunteers administered 57 surveys in Orange County. Of those interviewed, 29 were identified as medically vulnerable, meaning they've been on the streets for at least six months and have at least one serious health condition. Thirty-two reported substance abuse, 23 a mentalhealth condition, nine heart disease and six diabetes. As percentages of those surveyed, these numbers are in keeping with national findings.

Coordinated by United Way

of the Greater Triangle and in collaboration with the Wake and Orange County Partnerships to End Homelessness, the goal of the 100,000 Homes Campaign is to learn the names, faces and stories of our homeless population, and to thereby better understand their health and medical needs.

Here in Orange County, five teams of volunteers visited camps, cars and alleyways throughout the county in the early-morning hours of Jan. 24-25. Occupants were asked a series of questions about their health and general status. This information will be used to prioritize housing and services for those at risk of dying on the streets.

The campaign is adhering to a "housing-first" model, meaning that those most in need, regardless of other circumstances, are given top priority.

Jamie Rohe, coordinator of the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness, said that in a community with the resources available here, "we can do a better job of connecting those with serious medical conditions with housing and services."

In the coming months, the United Way of the Greater Triangle's partner agencies and the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness will be reviewing the list of those who were identified as vulnerable in an effort to connect those who

are in greatest need with community resources.

Organizations in Orange County that will be helping meet needs include the OPC Area Program; the Orange County Department of Housing, Human Rights and Community Development; and the Veterans Administration. Discussions are also underway with the Triangle Apartment Association.

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 in the Triangle last year, in many cases due to medical issues aggravated by homelessness. – *Staff Reports* 

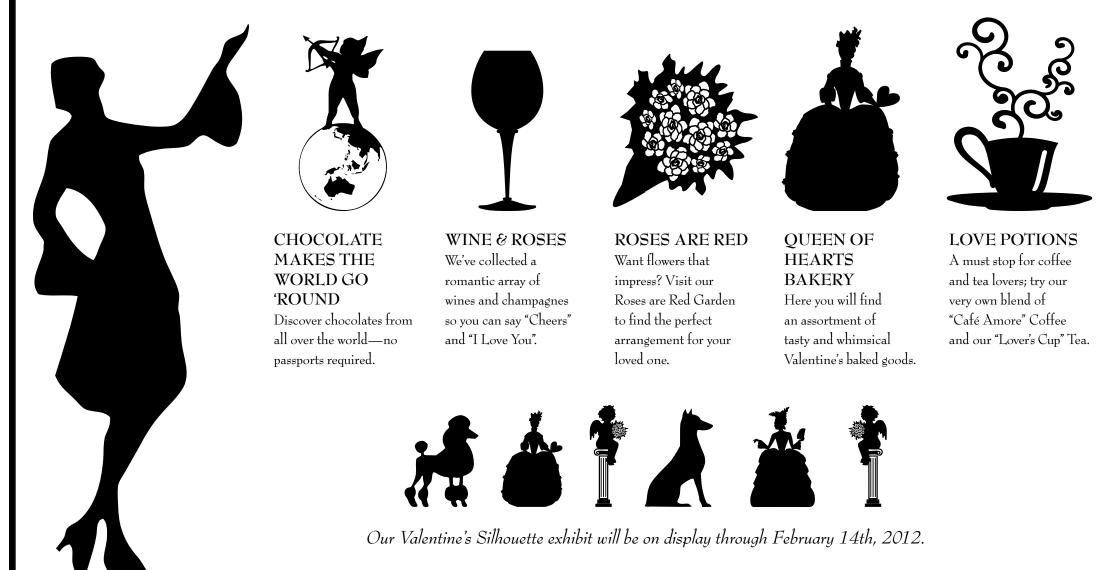


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# Business

### **Briefs**

#### Chamber elects new board officers, members

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce has elected new officers and six new members to its 35-member volunteer board of directors.

New members are Bruce Ballentine, Ballentine Associates president; Linda Cohne, vice president of publishing at AICPA; Margot Lester, owner of The Word Factory; Gerald Ramoin, executive vice president and general manager of Performance Automall; Shannon Reaves, senior vice president at Harrington Bank; and Shawn Slome, owner of Twig.

New board officers are Barry Leffler, chair, CEO and managing partner at 1360 WCHL; Paige Zinn, vice chair, chief operating officer at Jennings; Chris Barnes, treasurer, vice president at First Citizens Bank; Bob Saunders, general counsel, partner at Brooks Pierce; Aaron Nelson, secretary, president and CEO of the chamber; and Marc Pons, immediate past chair, president at Chapel Hill Tire.

The board also reelected Fred Black, Black Star Strategies; Millie Chalk, Duke Energy; Chris Derby, the UPS Stores of Meadowmont and Fordham Boulevard; Mariana Fiorentino, Terra Nova Global Properties; Joel Levy, Joel I. Levy CPA, PA; Torin Martinez, UNC Hospitals; Roger Perry, East West Partners; and Reagan Pruitt, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina.

### He's Not Here sold

He's Not Here, the iconic Franklin Street bar known for its 32-ounce Blue Cups, was put up for sale by owner David Kitzmiller in January for \$165,000 and has since been reportedly sold to a former UNC football player and a partner.

The bar earns an estimated total annual revenue of \$400,000, according to a listing on bizquest.com.

Kitzmiller has owned the bar for almost 40 years, but has said he wanted to sell the bar so he could retire.

#### **Green Plus scholarships**

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce has announced it will provide Green Plus scholarships to chamber members running small businesses.

Green Plus is a national small business sustainability education, networking and certification program that was created in 2006 by the chamber in partnership with UNC and other local business and university leaders.

For more information on the program visit gogreenplus.org and click on the scholarship button to apply. The deadline to apply is March 31.

#### **Communication Matters reinvents itself**

The Hillsborough-based marketing firm Communication Matters has not only reinvented its name, but also its services.

Now called Comma, the company has a new website detailing its services, which include providing marketing strategies for sustainable business growth.

To find out more visit cmatters.org

#### **UPS Store celebrates love month**

The UPS Store at Carrboro Plaza is celebrating the month of February with two specials.

To help spread the love to military personnel serving overseas for the eighth year in a row, the store is offering free first-class postage for valentines sent to deployed military personnel as a part of Operation Sealed With A Kiss. Valentines and letters must weigh 1 ounce or less and be addressed to a specific U.S. serviceman or woman.

The store will also be celebrating "For the Love of Carrboro" month by offering couples a two-for-one special on passport pho-

### Seventeen years of serving local suds

### **BY ROSE LAUDICINA** *Staff Writer*

Robert Poitras took a gamble on starting a craft-beer brewery in the Triangle at a time when craft beer was an idea that few had heard of.

When he started the Carolina Brewery with his business partner, Chris Rice, in 1995, consumers were starting to show interest in craft beer, yet it was still a risky business venture.

Now in 2012, interest in craft beer is stronger then ever and has helped propel the Carolina Brewery toward its 17th anniversary.

"The 21- to 30 year-old crowd is now choosing quality over quantity," Poitras said. "They want to drink local and they want to relate to their beer, and it is certainly good for our industry."

Just in time for the brewery's anniversary, being celebrated this week, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce named the Carolina Brewery as its Large Business of the Year.

"When you receive awards like this it helps validate you to people," Poitras said.

When Poitras, a third-generation Tar Heel, graduated from UNC and was struggling with the question of what to do with his life, he decided to chase a dream and start a brewery.

Poitras had studied abroad in Switzerland, where he first discovered a wide variety of beer. Then while taking summer-school classes in California he was introduced to the local brewing scene, where



Robert Poitras, co-founder of Carolina Brewery, is celebrating his business' 17th anniversary this week. PHOTO BY DUNCAN HOGE

the trend was toward craft beer, an idea not yet seen in the South.

So upon graduation Poitras and Rice set off on a beer-drinkers dream trip, visiting more than 100 breweries around the country, talking to owners and brewmasters to gather best-practices information.

"We didn't want to just be focused on students or tourism," Poitras said, "we wanted to create a Cheers-like environment. A local brewery focused on local people."

When Carolina Brewery opened on the west end of Franklin Street in 1995, the businesses solidified its place in beer history as the first craft brewery in Chapel Hill and the first brewery to distribute growlers in North Carolina.

"We had to build up the education about craft beer and the terminology and styles," Poitras said.

Poitras and Rice saw their business take off, thanks to local businesses like the Carolina Inn, Linda's Bar and Grill and Weaver Street Market taking a chance on the brewery by stocking its beer and the public embracing their idea.

Now they have been able to expand the brewery, adding more brewing tanks, another restaurant in Pittsboro and offering beer in cans.

"I feel like we have succeeded in becoming an institution in Chapel Hill," Poitras said.

"For me growing up, the institution was the Rathskeller. When I was in school, it was Spanky's. And now I feel like we have become a Chapel Hill institution."

Although Poitras could easily

sit back and enjoy his success, he is continuing to push the brewery into new ventures.

Last week the brewery finalized a deal to launch the distribution of two beers, Sky Blue and their Flagship IPA, in Hilton Head and Charleston, S.C. – the brewery's first out-of-state distribution.

"We are committed to growing, Poitras said. "We want to become more of a regional brewery."

While initially the brewery he and Rice started to spread the love for craft beers and good food might have been risky, he has faith in the younger generation to help keep it alive and allow it to continue to grow.

"I think this younger demographic can and will be craft connoisseurs for the rest of their lives," he said.

### **Hispanic-owned eateries overcome obstacles**

### **BY JEREMY GERLACH** *Courtesy of the Carrboro*

Commons

According to the 2010 census, there are no Hispanic-owned restaurants in Carrboro. There are chain Latin-themed establishments, yes, but none are owned by anyone in a Latino community that comprises more than 13 percent of Carrboro's population.

Yet on any given morning, you can walk past tienda after tienda – and by night, taco truck after taco that the census doesn't even count them."

"El Centro Hispano tries to help [businesses] network through our community outreach, but they also have had some innovative efforts of their own," Torres says. Carrboro's taco trucks, for example, have taken to Facebook, Twitter and other social-networking sites.

Despite these efforts, he still does not know how many Hispanic-owned businesses actually exist in Carrboro. Annette Stone, director of the Carrboro Chamber of Commerce's Office of Economic and Community Development, was also unsure.

ing in Carrboro today," he says. "It changes, because sometimes you are making money – or sometimes you have to pack up for a while."

While his taco truck is undergoing renovations, Guzman has opened up a permanent sister store, Tienda don Poncho.

"It's nice to have a grocery store too – but it's harder to advertise," he says. "With the taco trucks, you can just go right to the customers."

According to Guzman, the four Carrboro-based, Hispanicowned taco trucks are Comida be in Mexico," she says. "It's smaller and it might not show up in the ads, but we want people to know that businesses like ours are the real thing."

Torres says that in addition to the lack of exposure, entrepreneurs like the Guzmans face issues like loan availability.

"Most of these businesses only need very small loans to start up, and we try to educate them and refer those individuals to the right sources," says Torres. "But even micro-loans are still difficult to get."

tos.

### Hillsborough Brand Ambassadors training

On Feb. 28 the Alliance of Historic Hillsborough will hold its biannual Brand Ambassadors training program.

The program is targeted toward anyone in the area who works with visitors to the town, like business owners and their employees. Participants will receive a notebook filled with information about the town, including a list of businesses, historic site information and recreational site locations.

The training sessions will be held at the Orange County Historical Museum in Hillsborough from 12-1 p.m. Reservations are required and the deadline to register is Feb. 14. For more information and reservations contact Sarah DeGennaro at 732-7741 or sarah@historichillsborough.org truck. Why are the numbers – or lack thereof – hiding the Latino food industry from the Carrboro consumer?

José Torres is a community specialist at the Carrboro branch of El Centro Hispano, a Durhambased grassroots organization dedicated to strengthening the Triangle's Latino community. He says that Hispanic businesses, especially in the food industry, often fly under the radar.

"The Latino community in Carrboro is full of businesses that may be smaller or less advertised," says Torres. "Some are so small "We help businesses of all demographics find loans," she said. "We haven't worked specifically with the Latino community."

Alfonso Guzman, owner of Captain Poncho's Tacos, has been in the food industry for three years, since moving to Carrboro from Mexico. He ventured an educated guess.

"I would say there are about four to five taco trucks competMexicana, Costa Sur, Taquería de Jalisco and Captain Poncho's Tacos. Permanent grocery stores and restaurants include Tienda don Poncho, Don José Tienda Mexicana, Toledo's Taquería and Taquería Tres Amigos.

Isabel Lin Guzman, a local immigration attorney and Alfonso Guzman's wife, said that the biggest difference between Hispanicowned businesses and the larger chains is the authenticity of the venue.

"We take the time to make [Tienda don Poncho] a real Mexican grocery store, just like it would That said, he foresees a growth of Hispanic-owned businesses in the area.

"The community here is well connected, and the businesses are networking now too," he says. "Carrboro's Latino community is making some real innovations."

Jeremy Gerlach is a UNC student writing for the Carrboro Commons, a bi-weekly online lab newspaper for Jock Lauterer's Community Journalism class at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.



# Community



"Seeing you off on your way Home, MOONLIGHT FILLS The WaITING RIVER." YANG CHIUNG

### HOUSE Calls

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 computer use and lactose intolerance.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I spend a lot of time in front of the computer. Is it better to have the lights on or off?

We are all spending more and more time in front of the screen. Because of this there is more information than ever regarding eye strain and a number of ergonomic problems related to computer use. There is even a new syndrome called Computer Vision Syndrome, which gives people headaches, blurred vision and neck pain from being on the computer a lot. We do recommend that you keep the lights on while using the computer. The contrast between the bright screen and the dark room tends to place more of a strain on your eyes. Make sure you use a comfortable chair at the right height and a keyboard best designed for your needs. Elevating the screen off the desk will take tension off your neck. Take breaks for your eyes

### and your body.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I'd like to know more about lactose intolerance in adults, the best ways to get tested for it and the best products to help deal with it.

Lactose intolerance is when people get belly pain, bloating and sometimes gas or diarrhea that is related to dairy or lactose-containing foods because they are missing an enzyme that is needed to digest this lactose (called lactase). Lactose intolerance is something that is both relatively overdiagnosed and relatively common. It is especially common in people of African descent. The best treatment for lactose intolerance is reduction or avoidance of lactose-containing foods (dairy). That can be really difficult. Some people will use soy substitutes or lactose-free dairy products (such as those made by Lactaid). Many foods in restaurants will contain dairy, making it hard to avoid. There are lactase supplements (also known as Lactaid), which can be really helpful. Many

people are diagnosed with lactase deficiency based on the results of a self- or doctorimposed elimination diet. One example is to eliminate all dairy for three days to see if symptoms improve, followed by three days with a lot of dairy. There are three tests we know of for lactose intolerance. There is a blood test for glucose after ingesting a lactose load (if you can't digest lactose, your glucose should not rise) and there is a breath test after a lactose load that measures hydrogen. If you don't metabolize lactose, it ferments and makes hydrogen. The last test, used for infants, measures stool acidity, which increases in a person who can't digest lactose. Work with your primary-care provider to get more information and possibly testing before you restrict something from your diet.

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 Calendar**

**THURSDAY FEB 9** Lunchbox Series — Presents The Loose Mood Experiment. Carrboro Century Center, 12pm Free

Jeffery Beam — "A Carolina Valentine: A Poetry Reading by Jeffery Beam Celebrating 35 Years at UNC." Playmakers Theatre, 5:30pm Free with canned food donation 548-1203

### FRIDAY FEB 10

Jazz Jam — Sponsored by The Art of Cool Project to increase the visibility of the local jazz scene. Jack Spratt, 161 E. Franklin St., Free, suggested \$5 donation theartofcoolproject.com

### SATURDAY FEB II

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

### SUNDAY FEB 12

Jock Lauterer — To hold a photojournalism workshop, "Making A Photograph Tell A Story." Carrboro Branch Library, 2-4:30pm Free 969-3006

**Darwin Day** — A plant adaptations walk followed by a presentation by Dr. Janice Swab on "Darwin's Voyage: Then and Now." N.C. Botanical Gardens, 1-3pm Free 962-0522

Film Showing — Seed Spirits: the Otimi of Carolina del Norte, a documentary presenting both the indigenous diaspora of Otomi in Durham and Otomi lives in San Pablito. Mexico. Chicle Language Institue, 101

E. Weaver St., 5pm chi-cle.com Fracking Forum — Hope Taylor, executive director of the Durham and Asheville offices of Clean Water for North Carolina, will lead the adult forum. United Church of Chapel Hill, 10am unitedchurch.org

Alexander Glass — To speak on "Amazing Transformation: How Fish Learned to Walk and Took Over the World." Extraordinary Ventures, 200 S. Elliott Road, 1:30pm Free ncethicalsociety.org

### **MONDAY FEB 13**

Valentines for Seniors — Rachel Galper to lead area teens in making valentine cards for residents of the Central Orange Senior Center. Orange County Main Library, 6:15pm 245-2536

Pain Reduction Workshop -Work with a partner to learn to reduce neck, back, arm and leg pain using trigger point therapy. 6-7:15pm Free 241-5032

Time Out — With host Bill Hendrickson and guests Bob Ward and Tim Hucks discussing Tar Heel basketball. WCOM 103.5FM, 5pm

### **TUESDAY FEB 14**

Spouse Loss Support — First of an eight-week group, sponsored by UNC Hospice. UNC Home Health conference room. [10] Weaver Dairy Road, 10am 218-7995

WEDNESDAY FEB 15 Howard Craft — Teaches a work-

Send your Community Calendar submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

### **Community Briefs**

### Valentine's food truck rodeo

Food trucks from around the Triangle will host the First Annual Valentine's Day Food Rodeo and Fundraiser on Tuesday at the Carrboro Farmers' Market from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The trucks will donate a portion of the profits to and collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations for the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service. Participating trucks are Baguettaboutit, Cocoa Cinnamon, Chirba Chirba and Parlez-Vous Crepe.

### **Reduced animal adoption fees**

Orange County's Animal Service Center's adoption fees are reduced by half for the first annual Valentine's Adoption Event continuing through Tuesday.

Fees have been reduced to \$50 for select cats and \$60 for select dogs to ensure that these animals have the best chance to find new homes. Visit co.orange.nc.us/animalservices to find out more.

### Love the Haw River

The Haw River Assembly will host its Love the

shop in "Stories in the Air: Writing radio drama." Hitchcock Multipurpose Room, Sonya Haynes Stone Center, 6:30pm 962-9001

5

DJ Pappas — To lead a discussion of parenting based on the book NurtureShock: New Thinking About Children. Orange County Main Library, 6pm

Letter Writing — Write to political prisoners whose birthdays fall during the month of January. Internationalist Books, 7pm Free internantionalistbooks.org

### THURSDAY FEB 16

Lunchbox Series — Presents Gypsy Town. Carrboro Century Center, 12pm Free

Black History Month — Bright Star Touring Theatre to present "Heroes of the Underground Railroad." Orange County Main Library, 6pm Free 245-2532

### **Documentary Showing** — The

Coconut Revolution, the story of the successful uprising of the indigenous peoples of Bougainville Island against the Papua New Guinea army and the mining plans of the RTZ company to exploit their natural resources. Internationalist Books, 7pm Free internationalistbooks.org

Mary Ann Weston — To present a slide show, "Contribution Made to the U.S. by Persons of Caribbean Roots." Seymour Center, 2:30pm Free 968-2070

Haw River 30th Anniversary Benefit Concert at the Haw River Ballroom in Saxapahaw on Saturday from 7 p.m. to midnight.

The nonprofit citizens' group was founded in 1982 to restore and protect the Haw River and Jordan Lake.

Doors open at 7 p.m. At 7:30 dancing will begin with Hindugrass, an Indian fusion band. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door or at hawriver.org

### **Exhibit opens at Stone Center**

The work of artist Lynn Marshall-Linnemeier will be featured in the Sonja Haynes Stone Center at UNC today (Thursday) through April 30 in an exhibition titled: "Dry Run: Defining Determination, Testing Reconstruction."

The images were inspired by Marshall-Linnermeier's travels to Mound Bayou, Miss., the largest predominantly black town in U.S.

An opening reception for the exhibition featuring a talk by the artist will be held today at 7 p.m.

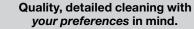
Citizen**Cryptoquote** By Martin Brody

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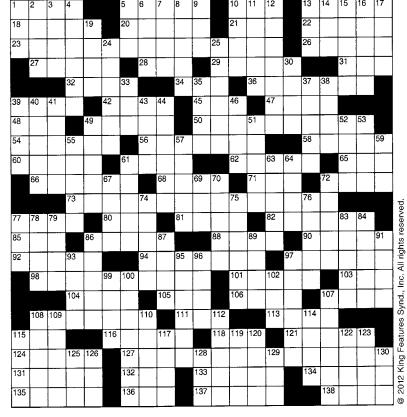
### PET OF THE WEEK



**ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES** — Meet **Silvie**! This cute girl is around 9 months old and is super sweet. Silvie is a bit shy at first but still very social and curious about the world. She appreciates being approached at a moderate speed, but once she knows you're there as a friend, she will let you pet her all day! This girl loves to cuddle and sit in your lap, and is petite enough to stay there without ever wearing out her welcome. Don't miss out on this cutie! Visit her today at Orange County Animal Services, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill. You can also see her and other adoptable animals online at www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp

### SUPER CROSSWORD FINISH LINE

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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: \*

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### The Republicans' education problem

### CHRIS FITZSIMON

Republican leaders in North Carolina have a problem. People are beginning to understand that dismantling public education is an important part of their agenda.

And that is not a popular position. People still believe in public schools, despite years of misleading but well-funded attacks on them by the think tanks on the right in Raleigh and Washington.

The General Assembly has provided ample evidence of the disdain for public education this session. The budget fired teachers and teacher assistants, slashed funding for textbooks and supplies and locked thousands of at-risk kids out of nationally recognized preschool programs.

Funding for mentoring and professional development for teachers was drastically cut.

The overall cuts dropped North Carolina to 49th in the nation in per-pupil spending. Funding for public schools as a percentage of the state's general fund is the lowest in more than 40 years.

Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger responded to criticism of the budget last summer by claiming that Republicans reformed education.

But disinvesting in education is not reform. It is a damaging blow to a system already struggling with a shortage of resources that makes it difficult for teachers to do their jobs.

And while it's tough for Republicans to dance around their disinvestment in schools, that's not their only problem in their appeal to voters. They just don't want to cut funding – they want to destroy traditional public education. And that's not hyperbole.

House Speaker Thom Tillis confirmed it at a recent town hall meeting in Asheboro. Here's how Tillis responded to a question about teachers and public schools. "I understand that Majority Leader Stam has said that his goal would be to ultimately eliminate public schools, and I categorically disagree with that for a variety of reasons. Right now with him being majority leader and me being speaker, I like my chances."





SUPER BONN

### DAN COLEMAN

SUPER BOW

The anarchists are their own worst enemies. This was my thought watching the aftermath of the occupation of the Norina/CVS building on Feb. 4. In cities around the country, such occupations have been met with indifference at best from mayors and with often-brutal crackdowns by police. In Carrboro, Mayor Mark Chilton spent two hours in the building with the occupiers and worked with the police to allow everyone the opportunity to leave the building without arrest.

In return, the mayor faced a level of foul-mouthed rudeness and disrespect not seen in downtown Carrboro other than from the occasional late-night drunk. The anarchists have their own analysis of why the mayor is their class enemy, but few in Carrboro are listening. Ironically, while it was police action that overshadowed the anarchists' objectives in the Yates incident, in this case it is their own behavior that will do so. And throughout, the political philosophy that informs their occupations is lost in the shuffle.

This is unfortunate, as we live in a time when we all need to think broadly and deeply about our economic and political problems. The anarchist belief that private property lies at the root of injustice is the radical and challenging assertion that lies at the heart of both the Yates and Norina/CVS occupations.

The concentration of ownership and the prerogatives of private property are also fundamental concerns posed by the Occupy movement as it examines the disparities between the 1 percent and the rest of us. When well-meaning Americans of all stripes are horrified that profit-hungry bankers can throw millions out of their homes, we are questioning not only the justice of our private-property system but its morality as well.

This question of whether there are more just and more humane ways to conceive of property relations is not really so foreign. In Carrboro, we have cooperative housing, cohousing and community gardens. All of these suggest there are ways of sharing and cooperating that can lead to a more wholesome and sustainable way of life. Community leaders called them an "eyesore" and "a blight on our downtown." Yet state law has constrained town leaders and concerned citizens alike from any recourse.

After years of such complaints, it was the anarchists who took action, occupying the building to present what they described as "one possible blueprint among many." They envisioned the building enlivened with a daycare, a clinic, a library/media center and meeting space.

A few months later, a similar action led to a similar plan being suggested for Norina/CVS. Many in Carrboro have a different vision for that site and might have been receptive to a message as to how the concentration of capital puts control of the property in distant hands. As one participant told the *Independent*, "It's my personal hope that the community reclaims our vision for this land and makes it clear that multinational corporations and their money are not more important than people."

Any such idealism was undermined when, on leaving the building, the anarchists laid out the possibility of a clinic or school one moment and angrily shouted down and cursed the mayor the next. I doubt any parents who heard the masked anarchist tell a Carrboro police officer he ought to commit suicide would entrust their health care, let alone their children, to this group

The anarchists lack what Saul Alinsky called "the most elementary grasp of the fundamental idea that one communicates within the experience of his audience." Their repertoire consists of a critique, an ideology and a confrontational style that in its urgency to reclaim private property and denigrate the state tends to leave the human beings around them out of the picture. They forget, or have never learned, that for people to hear you, they must be respected and treated decently. And, consequently, their good works like the Really Really Free Market or the Prison Books Collective (prisonbooks.info) tend to be overlooked. Those who know the anarchists only from these high-profile occupations will be surprised to learn that, within Occupy Chapel Hill, the anarchists have contributed positively to a sense of community, inclusiveness and consensus-building, constructive work undone by their autonomous actions. It's sad that like other Saturday night revelers, these folks, drunk on political self-righteousness, succeed in little more than offending the community around them.

### LETTERS

### Kudos to the Music Loft

On Feb. 1, my house was broken into. The thieves stole a guitar that I had owned since I was 15, and I was devastated. The next day I went to the Music Loft and gave them a picture of my guitar and told them to please keep an eye out for it. Today, the owner of the Music Loft, Jim Dennis, called to tell me that someone attempted to sell him my stolen guitar. Mr. Dennis' cool head and nerves of steel allowed him to quickly coordinate a sting with the Carrboro Police Department. My guitar has been recovered, and the thief was apprehended.

The Music Loft did not have to go out of their way to help me, and they certainly did not have to disrupt their business by having a ton of police inside and in the front of their store. I think it is a testament to the character of Carrboro that a business like the Music Loft and men like Jim Dennis and Hugh Swaso exist in the community.

> WILLIAM DAWSON *Efland*

### Keep marching mandatory for band

A request to drop the mandatory marching requirement for band at Carrboro and Chapel Hill high schools is under consideration. The concern is that the marching requirement discourages some students from taking band classes. Dropping the requirement is a greater concern to many more students.

Most families are wary at first of what will be required of them in terms of time commitment and money. They realize a vast return on that investment, but students will tell you that without the mandatory marching requirement, they probably wouldn't have given it the first try. There's no marching requirement at East. Marching band isn't offered there.

Why is marching band important to a school community? Social barriers that exist in hallways disappear when students spend time together in a different context, like band camp and competitions. Everybody looks geeky in a band uniform. When assembled on a field, in formation, in tune and in step suddenly everybody looks really cool. There already exists the opt-out of the marching requirement if a student participates in a fall sport. It's a given that a sports team is going to require mandatory practices and appearances at games. To be successful as a team, that is what it takes from each individual on the team. A strong marching program is no different. Marching band needs at least 70 students to make a strong presence on the field. At a time when our children are spending most of their free time in sedentary isolation in front of a screen, isn't it a good idea to promote a healthy alternative? Let's expand their repertoire. Let's encourage them to do more than sit in a class and learn a few pieces for the quarterly stage performance so they can check band off a list. Let's teach them what being part of a team requires. For those who prefer to hit a bass drum rather than take a tackle, marching band serves that purpose. Our youngest child's experience with the Marching Tiger Band and our eldest child's experience on CHHS sports teams were equal in terms of demands on time and in terms of expense. What they learned from their experiences was worth every minute on the field, every bus ride to a competition, every hour spent raising money working at the PTA Thrift Shop or a UNC ball game and every dime that came out of pocket. Marching band deserves administration's full endorsement. To thrive, it demands continued support of the marching requirement.

Bizarre as it is, that's Tillis actually confirming that the elected majority leader of the Republican House wants to eliminate public schools.

Stam introduced a voucher scheme last year that he promises to revisit next session.

And Tillis has more than Stam to explain. The Republican majorities in the House and Senate not only lifted the cap on charter schools, they voted to allow forprofit companies to set up virtual charters in North Carolina.

The Cabarrus County Board of Education recently voted to approve a virtual charter school run by K-12 Inc. An audit of K-12's virtual charter in Colorado found the state paid \$800,000 to the company for students who never enrolled or who lived out of state.

That's a funny way to show support for traditional public schools, to give taxpayer money to for-profit corporations to educate kids online with little or no accountability.

Republicans' only worry is that the public figures out what they are doing. That's why you can expect more disclaimers and flowery speeches from Tillis and his colleagues about how much they really do support public schools.

But nobody's buying it. Their record is disturbingly clear.

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

### **STAFF & CONTRIBUTORS**

#### EDITORIAL

Robert Dickson, Publisher Susan Dickson, Editor

Kirk Ross, Taylor Sisk Contributing Editors

Duncan Hoge, Art Director

Rose Laudicina, Staff Writer

Eddy Landreth, Margot Lester, Phil Blank, Jock Lauterer, Ken Moore, Vicky Dickson, Valarie Schwartz *Contributors* 

Brooke Parker, Kevin Collins, Alex McClelland, Lauren Edmonds Interns

Alicia Stemper, Ava Barlow, Alex Maness Photographers

#### ADVERTISING

Marty Cassady, Ad Director marty@carrborocitizen.com Issues of private property can stymie those seeking to improve the well-being of our communities. As far back as 2005, the *News & Observer* concluded that "Riddle's vacant properties [which include the Yates building] have become a primary source of frustration for those who want a more robust downtown."

Dan Coleman is a member of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen.

### Before we trash the rural buffer ...

The following is an op-ed submitted by the Justice United Environmental Team.

Thanks to our elected officials for recognizing that whatever we decide to do with our trash, dumping it on the Rogers Road community is no longer an option. The county landfill is closing in 2013. Our elected officials also agreed that a community center fulfills the promise made when the landfill was originally sited, although the details, including funding, remain up for discussion. Sewer may also be forthcoming, after a task force first determines the parameters for the community center.

It's progress – good progress – but clarity is needed around commitment, dates and responsibilities. As community leaders, we will remain involved until this important work is done.

There's still the question of what to do with our trash after the landfill closes. The towns have known for years that the landfill was at the end of its life and that the county was unable to find a suitable site for a transfer station. In early 2009, county leaders decided to truck their trash to a waste transfer station in Durham – a decision that they confirmed last year. It's not an ideal solution, but it's the only one that the county or its Solid Waste Advisory Board has been able to come up with.

At the last minute, Carrboro leaders began to lobby for a transfer station at the northwest corner of I-40 and N.C. 86. The site is not in the town's jurisdiction. It is in the rural buffer, which was established more than 20 years ago to contain sprawl and to keep projects like this one out of the rural community.

The proposed site is close to the trash and it's not in the Rogers Road community, but there are other challenges. It compromises the rural buffer with unwanted municipal development. There's no water or sewer infrastructure to capture the runoff from the trucks and chemicals used to clean the facility. It's adjacent to a residential area that relies on well water.

There are solutions to the issues with the site, but those solutions add cost and complexity to an otherwise straightforward project. The site may be worth a look, but there are better alternatives, and town officials appear to be poised to look at them.

Chapel Hill leaders plan to hire a consultant to look at options, a plan that we applaud given the issues involved in hauling their waste to Durham. They are not just looking at the next three to five years, but also at long-term options for converting waste to energy. They appear to have the ear of UNC, which has strong expertise in managing power plants and feedstocks. In the short term, Chapel Hill may want to build a small transfer station of its own. The town has several good locations with water and sewer that are not in anyone's backyard. These sites are adjacent to commercial and retail centers or part of upcoming development projects. If Chapel Hill works with UNC, the town can share the costs with the university and possibly use a utility site on the Carolina North campus. Carrboro has been invited to join them. Together, the two towns and the university produce nearly 70 percent of the county's trash.

Proven waste vendors like Republic and Waste Management are waiting in the wings to provide proposals for service. Such proposals are free and exploit the massive assets and experience of these companies.

Industry consensus is that a town transfer station would cost less than \$3 million to build. With a five- to 10-year contract, vendors are likely to quote a tipping fee that's lower than the current county landfill fees. There are many service models, including the option of using the transfer station to improve recycling and other waste services. Under-contract vendors can be required to provide living wages. They can even be rewarded for improving recycling rates.

The leading vendors manage large landfills and recycling centers as part of their service offering. By bundling services, they can offer deep discounts. The savings could be substantial and could even fund research into long-term solutions. That's in addition to streamlining and simplifying our current waste-management system, which is 20 years old and designed around a landfill that is closing.

The issues are complex, and there are good options for the next few years. Our leaders appear poised to start with alternatives that are more promising than dumping our trash in the rural buffer.

This column was submitted by Robert Campbell, David Caldwell, Stan Cheren, Tish Galu, Bonnie Hauser and Stephanie Perry. CINDY PARKS Chapel Hill

### 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

susan@carrborocitizen.com

### Scenes from a poverty tour -Part 3

The pov-

This is the third in a series of col- Hertford County, talked about umns on poverty, inspired by a recent North Carolina NAACPsponsored tour of high-poverty regions of our state.



erty line is just a measure, another number in an array of what Gene Nichol, director of the

UNC Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity, refers to as "bloodless statistics."

Once again for the record, congress set the 2011 poverty level at \$22,314 for a family of four. It's a flat rate across the country and doesn't take into account differences in the cost of living from place to place.

Last August, the North Carolina Justice Center released a study establishing a Living Income Standard – what it really costs to keep a household going, taking into account things the federal poverty level, which focuses on the basics, does not. The report breaks down costs in each county in the state for housing, food, child care, health care, transportation, payroll and income taxes and necessities like phone service, clothing and school supplies.

Here in Orange County, high child-care and housing costs push us into the top tier with a Living Income Standard of \$55,468 for a family with two adults and two kids. The statewide average for that same family was estimated at \$48,814.

But you can't do poverty by the numbers. Numbers don't tell what it takes to survive or what it means to grow up in areas wracked by generations of sustained poverty. You hear someone like Bunny Saunders, mayor about the awful blindness we of the little Washington County town of Roper, say that about a third of those in the area live below the poverty line, or listen to a county director of social services talk about managing less state support in a place where the number of food stamp recipients has all but doubled in three and half-truths, anger at injusyears, and you can't help but wonder how it is that so many thousands of people can get by on so little. Meanwhile, opportunities for work in a place where they have almost always been in short supply are dwindling, especially outside the larger towns.

the departure of manufacturing, how the small textile shops had disappeared and how agriculture turned to agribusiness and shut out the small family farmer. Now most of what jobs exist are an expensive commute away across the border in Virginia. These are the places where the challenges of poverty are the greatest, not because those in poverty here in Orange County are any less affected, but because the routes out of poverty there are far fewer and much more difficult to navigate.

We can preach education, but the young people in Roper and Winton know that even if they get into Carolina or some other fine college, they won't find sufficient work upon returning home. We've talked for years about distance education and rural broadband, but in the very places where they could have the greatest impact, too many homes and classrooms remain unconnected.

Of course, the biggest roadblock of all is indifference from the rest of us.

As you may have heard, the unemployment rate dropped last month. The bloodless numbers on the economy will probably continue to get rosier as we head toward November's election. That would be welcome news of course, but unless something changes, the recovery in this state will be felt least in the places that need it the most. My fear is that as things get more comfortable here in the Triangle, we'll forget about the small towns and crossroad communities to our east and repeat the mistake of again accepting levels of poverty there as unchangeable.

At each stop we made on the tour, NAACP president Rev. William Barber would talk have when it comes to poverty, that we're able to accept it, in part because we can't put a face to it.

He'd close each sermon with a certain Franciscan blessing, the one calling on God to bless us with discomfort at easy answers

### A town we can all live in

### **BY JACK HAGGERTY**

This is the final installment in a three-part series about Carrboro development.

There can only be a few people who don't approach the land-use approval process with trepidation. Sellers will tell you that potential buyers flee when told the town must approve the proposed use for the property; developers and professionals grow weak and anxious as they contemplate the process; and it is generally agreed, if not spoken, that children should never be exposed to it. I've been through the process quite a number of times. I've been elated, staggered, baffled and dismayed, sometimes all in the same meeting, by what has gone on in Room 101 at Carrboro Town Hall. Why is this so?

I'm all for development and the town being "open for business," as one of the alderman put it, and all of us have a job in this business. The board of aldermen should show constancy to the community vision, consistency in their findings and fairness in their dealings with applicants. The citizens have the duty of attention. The board approves or disapproves a project in the name of the citizens - the board members are not backroom oligarchs, cutting deals away from the public. The greatest attraction of local government is its immediacy; the citizens' voices should be heard, frequently, and not only at elections. The applicants must approach the process with openness and a willingness to engage the community.

board of aldermen are not experts in town planning or civil engineering, and that's why there's a town staff. They supply the competence the board lacks, and the staff's reports and recommendations to the board are a professional review of the project's compliance with the land-use ordinance. The staff's review also includes the policies and plans the community has adopted and how the project furthers these or not. The town staff does not represent a particular neighborhood or a particular constituency; their reports capture the interests of the whole town.

The applicant should make the argument for contested issues first to the staff. The board, in its judgments, should rely on the staff recommendations and should not dismiss a staff recommendation or report out of hand unless a member is able to show error or inaccuracy in the report. When a board member moves contrary to town staff recommendations, the public should pay attention. Too often we only learn of an alderman's contrary position after a vote, when it's too late. An alderman shouldn't take it upon himself or herself to represent some phantom, absent or silent constituency.

In the end, passive citizens only have themselves to look to if they don't like a built project. Parts of the approval process, though, can stand for improvement, and notification is one of them. The mailings and advertisements in the papers

Typically the members of the shouldn't be in zoning-ese and land-use speak. These notices shouldn't be alarmist, but they should be informative enough so that the average citizen can grasp what is being proposed in a development. The presentation of the concept plan should be heavily advertised and should include images of the project. A simple schematic map showing the location of the project is always helpful. Town meetings are public, and there are, too often, too few attendees. If a citizen group doesn't like what they're seeing, the group should resort to the protest petition, which forces the requirement of a super majority, not a simple majority of the board's votes.

It's a chore keeping up with all of the projects under review. The town could place the plans and images of the project on the walls at Town Hall or the Carrboro Century Center, including concept plans. That would make the material easily available. The material is often online, but the images and plans are in unwieldy pdfs, with the plans and images buried in many pages of technical material. The applicant would supply the images to be shown in the gallery and a brief narrative; the town would provide the wall space. The development gallery could show projects currently in the review process and those approved but not yet built. A couple of clipboards could collect we can all live with, and it will any comments, and the town could use the projects to market itself to potential applicants.

the applicant should be listen- lives in downtown Carrboro.

ing to the town staff and the citizens. By doing so the applicant gets a clear sense of what the board is likely to find in its review and how the neighbors will react to the project. All of this should happen before there is a lot of expense and commitment to a particular scheme on the part of the applicant. Applicants should be willing to explore options and not simply put forward a plan with a take-it-or leave-it attitude. Often applicants make assertions about alternatives that have no grounding, and the board gives them a pass. We've had our share of that. Aldermen should not prefer an applicant's unfounded assertion to a report made by town staff. There should be steady communication between staff, elected officials, advisory boards, citizens and the applicant. I don't think there should be surprises in the final meeting. The closer the project gets to the hearing, the closer it should be to fulfilling all of the parties' expectations. Everybody gives, everybody takes.

High-volume retail, multifamily housing and a downtown dense with retail and office space will all work in Carrboro. Being open for business means there is a general order and predictability in the process. These qualities comport with being open for business. It is a process result in a town we can all live in.

Early in the approval process Jack Haggerty is an architect who



Residents from Roper and Winton, way up in northern tice and oppression and tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection and starvation.

The last line goes like this: "May God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done."

Amen. ls your 3-8 year old pushing your buttons?

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The Town of Carrboro would like the thank the Downtown business community for your patience and understanding during the Weaver Street Reconstruction project. We invite everyone to come out and see our beautiful new street and support local businesses!

This message brought to you by The Town of Carrboro and The Carrboro Citizen



THE CARRBORO TIZEN



### **School Briefs**



### Chapel Hill English teacher honored

Thomas Stanfa, Honors English teacher at Chapel Hill High, was recently named the 2012 Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year, high school level, for North Carolina. He will represent the state in the upcoming national

Thomas Stanfa competition.

Stanfa's class explored The Bedford Boys, the story of Bedford, Va., and its high losses on D-Day. They traveled to Normandy to visit the famous landing site and interviewed some of the last living survivors of the invasion.

#### Japanese essay contest

Students from Carrboro and Chapel Hill high schools recently placed in the fourth annual North Carolina Japanese Language Essay Contest for High School Students.

First place in the Level 2 division was awarded to Catherine Bentulan of CHS. First place in the Level 3 division was awarded to Megan O'Donnell of CHHS, while Nell Ovitt of CHHS won second place. First place in the Level 4 division was awarded to Sophia Anopa of CHHS, while Katherine Boyd and Sainaga Paladugu of CHHS tied for second place.

#### The Estes Daily Eagle

The Estes Hills Elementary School community can now stay current through The Daily Eagle, a newsy broadcast posted every morning between 8:30 and 9. Pairs of fifth-grade students will write the scripts, prepare the birthday slides and research other segments of the show. Links to the broadcasts will be posted on the Estes Hills homepage under Likeable Links.

#### **Carrboro High poets**

Three Carrboro High students represented Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools in the district Poetry Out Loud contest on Jan. 24. They are Aron Rimanyi, Kalil Davis and Stephanie Bailey.

Rimanyi took first place with his powerful renditions of "I am the People the Mob" by Carl Sandburg and "Kubla Khan" by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. He will compete in the state finals on March 24 at the Greensboro Public Library. The event is free and open to the public.

#### All-District/All-Region Bands

Several students from Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools high schools were named to All-District and All-Region Bands. Chloe Deshusses, flute, of Carrboro High was named to the All-District Band. Ray Damron and Justin Morrell of CHS were named to the Central Region Jazz Ensemble. Chapel Hill High students named to the All-District Band are Adam Wang, clarinet; Lewis Holder, clarinet; Michael Huang, clarinet; Zack Farley, clarinet; Eric Jiang, trumpet; Anna Baynes, flute; and Abby Muller, oboe. Wang and Jiang were also named to the All-Region Orchestra.

East Chapel Hill High students named to the All-District Band are Tianyi Wang, clarinet; Tiffany Ho, clarinet; Grace Gelpi, alto saxophone; Koya Osada, flute; Vishwas Rao, flute; Anna Quercia-Thomas, clarinet; Yize Don, timpani; Blaise Whitesell, French horn, Corentin LeHir de Fallois, clarinet; Amos Pomp, trombone; and Alex Young, trombone.

#### Smith students adopt Marines

The Smith Middle School Student Council has "adopted" a company of Marines serving in Afghanistan. As part of their efforts, the students of Smith created hundreds of valentines to be sent to the Marines. In the second wave of their project, students will collect personal hygiene items, culinary treats and other miscellaneous goods to send to the servicemen.

#### **Class registration**

Guidance counselors will soon begin the process of distributing course books and registering students for classes for the 2012-13 academic year. District schools will hold special parent nights to provide information about this process.

Chapel Hill High will hold its registration and AP night on Feb. 23. East Chapel Hill High will hold a 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade parent night on Feb. 21, and a second parent night for rising freshmen on Feb. 27. Carrboro High will hold its registration night on March 5 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

### Garden grants

Nine Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools were awarded garden grants totaling \$10,000 in January. The grant applications were reviewed by members of the CHCCS Sustainability Committee. The proposals detailed creative ways to turn the gardens into learning opportunities and provide students with chances for hands-on participation.

The schools are Carrboro Elementary, Glenwood Elementary, McDougle Elementary, Morris Grove Elementary, Seawell Elementary, Culbreth Middle, Carrboro High, Chapel Hill High and Phoenix Academy High.

#### Jungalbook at Carrboro Elementary

Carrboro Elementary Players invites you to the performance of *Jungalbook* today and tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. in the Carrboro Elementary auditorium. The play, based off the popular Jungle Book, involves more than 100 students serving as actors, stage managers, production staff, house staff and publicity. Tickets are \$1 at the door.

### Schools won't redistrict this year

### **BY ROSE LAUDICINA**

Staff Writer

After postponing decisions regarding overcrowding at Glenwood Elementary School, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education has decided against spot redistricting.

Instead, board members have chosen to relocate the pre-kindergarten program from Glenwood and Seawell elementary schools to create more classroom space, helping to ease overcrowding. The pre-K classes from Glenwood and Seawell will move to Rashkis and Estes Hills elementary schools for the 2012-13 school year.

The board was first presented with plans in December 2011 to alleviate overcrowding in three of the seven schools in the district that are experiencing overcapacity issues.

"We are significantly overcrowded at the elementary school level," Todd LoFrese, assistant superintendent for support services, said at the December meeting. "We didn't anticipate the growth across the district, so that really threw us for a loop."

Along with Glenwood, Carrboro and Seawell elementary schools are also severely overcrowded and will be way above their Schools Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (SAPFO) capacity.

### **School Lunch Menus**

#### FRIDAY 2/10

Elementary School: Chicken Nuggets, Ham & Cheese Wrap, Garden Salad, Oven Fries, Seasoned Green Beans, Pineapple Cup, Fruit Cocktail

Middle and High School: Chicken Parmesan, Seasoned Pasta, Steamed Broccoli, Fish Sticks w/Wheat Roll & Tartar Sauce, Ranch Potato Wedges

#### **MONDAY 2/13**

Elementary School: Chicken Filet Sandwich, PB&J, Turkey Chef Salad, Lettuce & Tomato, Ranch Potato Wedges, Fresh Apple, Chilled Peaches

Middle and High School: Toasted Cheese Sandwich, Black Bean Chili, Cinnamon Baked Apples, Buffalo Chicken Sandwich w/Oven Fries

#### TUESDAY 2/14

Elementary School: Macaroni & Cheese, Sloppy Joe on Bun, Fruit & Cheese Plate w/ Carrboro Elementary has a SAPFO capacity of 533 students, but is projected to see enrollment grow to 608 in 2012-13. Seawell's SAPFO capacity is 466 students and is estimated to have 655 next year, while Glenwood's SAPFO capacity is 423, but is projected to have 522 students next year.

Originally staff had presented the board with options to wait for elementary school 11 to open in 2013 or to do spot redistricting to alleviate overcrowding at Glenwood and Carrboro.

Possible solutions for Seawell included waiting for elementary 11, relocating the school's LEAP program – a program for accelerated students – or moving a pre-K classroom to another location.

Initially the board was hesitant to remove the pre-K classrooms from Glenwood and Seawell, but after hearing from parents and School Improvement Team representatives opposing spot redistricting and supporting moving the pre-K classrooms, they changed their minds.

Rashkis is one of only three schools in the district that will be under capacity for next year, and Estes Hills does not have a pre-K program.

Yogurt, Seasoned Broccoli, Seasoned Cabbage, Blueberry-Peach Crumble, Fruited Jell-o Middle and High School: Chicken & Peanut Stew, Brown Rice, Seasoned Collard Greens, BBQ Pork Riblet Sandwich w/Tater Tots

#### WEDNESDAY 2/15

Elementary School: BBQ Chicken w/Wheat Roll, Toasted Cheese Sandwich, Taco Chef Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Homemade Tomato Soup, Orange Smiles, Baked Apple Slices

Middle and High School: BBQ Chicken, Wheat Roll, Baked Beans, Baked Potato, Meatball Sub w/Mashed Potatoes

#### THURSDAY 2/16

Elementary School: Chix & Peanut Stew w/ Brown Rice, Fish Sticks w/Wheat Roll, Garden Salad, Cole Slaw, Pineapple Cup, Applesauce, Seasoned Collard Greens

Middle and High School: Thai Peanut Chicken Noodles, Peach Crumble, Steamed Cabbage, Patty Melt w/Oven Fries



# OF CARRBORD

# FUK IHE

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**PROVENCE** 10% off for tables seated before 6:15 pm, Monday-Thursday all month (excluding Feb. 14.)

### TOWNSEND, BERTRAM & CO.

"Sweetheart Of A Deal" - specials throughout the store Feb 11-29.

**SOUTHERN RAIL** Hosting "The Dating Game" on Feb. 14 at The Station. Food & drink specials. Register early!

**ELMO'S DINER** Essay contest - tell us about your "Love Experience" at Elmo's: dates, proposals, special events. Win a gift certificate!

### GLASSHALFULL

1/2 off bottles from wine list every Monday in February.







Chamber of Con



### TABLE & NEAL'S DELI

Share & Care event Feb. 29th, catered by Neal's Deli. Volunteer to help package meals for hungry children!

**OPEN EYE CAFE** Wine special: 2009 Domaine Galevan "Words of a Woman" cotes du Rhone red, \$6/glass or \$21/bottle.

**SOUTHEASTERN CAMERA** Free custom 11x14 photo enlargement, now thru Feb 21 - just mention this ad!

**THE SPOTTED DOG** "Why I Love Carrboro" dinner for two giveaway. Visit restaurant for details!

### **CAROLINA CORE PILATES**

February special for couples available.

KPO PHOTO Family photo session \$75, through Feb 29. (All specials good in Feb. 2012 unless otherwise noted.)

This message brought to you by the Town of Carrboro, Chapel Hill/Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, RBC Bank, and The Carrboro Citizen.



### VAN NAME SCORES 1,000

Carrboro High School basketball player Keenan Van Name scored his 1,000th point in a hard-fought game against Durham School of the Arts on Jan. 20. Van Name was honored during a rematch against DSA on Tuesday, which the Jaguars won, 76-69. with a team-high 17 points scored by Van Name. Van Name is the first male basketball player at CHS to reach 1,000 points. The Jaguars will take on Cedar Ridge on Friday. PHOTOS BY TED SPAULDING





### **Gaining confidence** through positive action

### **BY EDDY LANDRETH** Staff Writer

The Carolina-Duke men's basketball game is the premier product in the Atlantic Coast Conference's television inventory.

The bi-annual regular-season game is recognized universally as one of the top rivalries in all



packed with eager fans and a media hoard.

is

These games draw some of the best television ratings across the country for a regular-season game.

On Wednesday night, the two renewed the contest that has become a brand unto itself. Both sides benefit from the spotlight in recruiting, memorabilia sales and attention from would-be students who want to be a part of such a collegiate atmosphere.

"I just know that it's North Carolina against Duke," UNC coach Roy Williams said before the game, "and we've got to play our best game of the year, regardless of where we're playing or what time the game is."

Yet having said all of this, the most important game the fifth-ranked Tar Heels may have played to date could well be last Saturday's 83-74 victory at Maryland.

The Terrapins always give Carolina fits at College Park. Maryland had won four of the previous six games between the two entering Saturday's contest. This one proved no different in terms of competition. The Terps led 40-37 at halftime.

What makes this game so important in the overall spectrum of the season, which includes the Tar Heels' hopes for a run at the national championship, is that UNC underwent genuine progress on the road. The crowd fits every description of fanatical at the Comcast Center, and the Terrapins always play with peak emotion there.

This year's Carolina team has not played particularly well on the road. To come from behind and play its best basketball in the second half, with Kendall Marshall and Tyler Zeller carrying four fouls, can only boost the team's spirits and fertilize its confidence.

"It's a great win for our team," Marshall said. "It was big for us to get a win on the road. That is what we have struggled with this year. When we have had road games, we haven't played 40 minutes. Tonight we didn't play 40 minutes; we played 20 minutes. But we still found a way to win it."

One of the critical developments for Carolina is the way Reggie Bullock continues to play since taking Dexter Strickland's starting spot after he suffered a

season-ending knee injury.

Bullock guards one of the top scorers from the opposition in each game, and so far he has done nothing but produce. He works hard to move his feet, and he utilizes a far more lengthy reach than Strickland had at his disposal.

Maryland guard Terrell Stoglin leads the ACC in scoring at more than 21 points per game. Stoglin scored 20 against UNC, but he went 8-of-21 from the floor to get those points. He only took four free throws as well, making three.

"You have to give Reggie a lot of credit for being able to hold Stoglin to 8-of-21," Marshall said.

This kind of win is an ideal memory to lodge and draw upon in future tight games. One thing Carolina and Duke have always done is execute with the game on the line, and each often finds a way to win when it appears it should not.

That is one of the qualities that make them Carolina and Duke.

The victory at Maryland could be the one that finally jump-starts Carolina to become just such a team.

"I think it will help us a lot," Zeller said. "Last year we had a lot of games like this, but it shows that we can be tough enough in the end to make the plays and get the stops we need.

"There are a few things we want to fix down the stretch, but it's nice to fix that now instead of in the NCAA Tournament when it's life or death."



### TRANSIT FROM PAGE I

east of Duke University, is the commissioners' preference for one of two proposed rail routes.

Durham, Chapel Hill and Carrboro have all endorsed looking into both the C1 and C2 routes; however, they have expressed their preference for C2, and the commissioners followed suit.

Commissioners Earl McKee and Steve Yuhasz cast the two dissenting votes against recommending light rail, expressing serious reservations about the plan. Yuhasz said in looking at the benefits for Orange County and all of its residents, he did not believe light rail was the best option. Instead, he said he preferred looking into increased regional bus transit. "Bus regional transit meets the same criteria for light-rail transit," Yuhasz said, in terms of ridership and transit time. "Looking at the locality I represent, I cannot prefer light-rail transit." McKee voiced his concerns not only about the preferred method of transit but also how it would be funded, specifically with a possible half-cent transit tax. "Our vote tonight will set us on a path for endorsing light rail without proper consideration," he said. "I am at an impasse." At a previous commissioner meeting on Jan. 24, the board asked McDonough and Wib Gulley, the general counsel for TTA, to look into the possibility of siting a light-rail route near U.S. 15-501. Gulley and McDonough said the idea of building a route along 15-501 is not out of the question for the future, and that a separate study could be done for that corridor, but that doing so now would push the whole process back. "I don't want to just throw out 15-501, but I want to study it separately," Commissioner Pam Hemminger said. In the approved motion, the commissioners stated that they would like their representative on the DCHC MPO board, Commissioner Alice Gordon, to express their desire to explore a route along 15-501. "Tonight we are just making a motion to ask Commissioner Gordon to vote on our behalf," Hemminger reminded the board. "This motion is not committing us to putting this on the ballot or spending millions of dollars at this point."

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### THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



Mayor Mark Chilton consults with Carrboro police Officer T. Kennedy (left) and Officer T. Coyle on how PHOTO BY DUNCAN HOGE to handle the situation.

### OCCUPATION FROM PAGE I

The building, which previously housed the WCOM radio station and Community Realty, was sold by Weaver Street Market to Revco, a subsidiary of CVS Caremark, in 2010. CVS has proposed a two-story development on the property, including a CVS on the ground floor, which will be considered by the Carrboro Board of Aldermen this spring.

#### What went down

During Saturday's demonstration, the doors to the empty building were standing open, but none among several of the occupiers questioned would or could say how entry to the building was gained. Inside the building, banners reading "Occupy Everything" and "Capitalism Values Suffering" had been hung, and the words "Carrboro Commune" and an anarchist symbol had been painted on the wall. About 20 people were inside the building.

Carrboro police and Mayor Mark Chilton were on the scene within an hour of the occupation. Chilton entered the building with police and asked the protesters to leave. They refused.

Meanwhile, police prevented a Domino's Pizza deliveryman from delivering a pizza that demonstrators had apparently ordered. Protesters responded with cries of "Free the pizza!" Police also confiscated a generator that

had been brought to power the building.

Several hours after his first request, Chilton again asked that the occupiers leave the building.

"As the mayor explained, you are breaking and entering right now," Carrboro police Capt. Walter Horton said. "We have given everybody an opportunity to walk out and leave without any charges being pressed, but if you remain in this building you are subject to arrest."

Chilton and Horton then left the building to a chorus of boos, while someone in the crowd yelled out to Horton, "Many cops have killed themselves. Why don't you?"

Soon after Chilton and Horton left, the group slowly began to vacate the building, carrying out extension cords, pamphlet holders, pieces of wood and pots and pans containing various food items.

Though the occupiers did heed the warnings of the police and leave, they did not go quietly. A verbal exchange erupted on the sidewalk in front of the contended building, as a member of the group who identified himself as Johnny Moran gave statements to the press while arguing with the mayor.

Moran said the group was taking back the building to turn it into a community center for the town that could potentially host a free school for children or provide free health care.

"Because I make barely above only thing between me and get-

ting evicted is two months rent, I am sick of living in a society like this," Moran said.

He added that the cops were acting as an army of greed and wealth, saying it was their fault some people are barely surviving.

"Every time a hungry family can't get what's in that grocery store over there, there is one army between them and the food they need," he yelled out to the crowd.

"You are trying to give my police department a bad name," Chilton told Moran. "You are full of crap."

Chilton asked Moran to explain to him his views, but Moran refused. "I am an anarchist," he said. "That means I don't have dialogue with the government or police."

As the argument came to an end, Moran assured Chilton that the group would be back soon.

"The worse things get, the more we will do," he said

Once everyone had vacated the building, police officers blocked the entrance to prevent re-entry.

The demonstrators chanted, "F\*\*\* the pigs, we don't need them, all we want is freedom, freedom," as the police surrounded the building and later chained the doors.

### Reactions

Though separate events, members of the community can't help but draw comparisons between the occupation and the minimum wage, because the incidents of Nov. 12-13 at the former Yates Motor Co. building on West Franklin Street in Chapel Hill, which concluded with a police Special Emergency Response Team raid in which officers brandished long rifles and detained those on the side-



Demonstrators march down West Weaver Street before the occupation.

walk outside the entrance of the a similar occupation were to ocbuilding before rushing inside.

Sharon Harmon was at the Carrboro Century Center when she came outside and saw the protestors and police across the corner.

"I think that they have two completely different views of reality," she said. "I think people on both sides have legitimate concerns."

"I admire the courage of the anarchist to actually demonstrate some concern, but I also should say that I have a great deal of admiration of the police for keeping calm in this situation," she continued.

As with the Yates incident, Occupy Chapel Hill/Carrboro released a statement on Monday saying that the occupation was not an agreed-upon action of its general assembly. Some of those who have identified themselves with Carrboro Commune have also identified with the Occupy movement.

Carrboro police Chief Carolyn Hutchison said she believes that some of the people involved in the occupation could have been involved in the Yates building occupation, though the two incidents "are two completely separate situations."

"It was a very volatile and difficult situation, and I don't think we could've had a better outcome," she said. Hutchison said there were no arrests made regarding the incident and that no charges related to the occupation will be brought because police told demonstrators that if they left they would not be charged.

"We gave our word," she said. "They took the property. We took it back to restore order."

"There was enforcement action out there. The enforcement involved the departure of the people that were breaking the

PHOTO BY ROBERT DICKSON

cur in the future.

"A lot of it depends on the behavior and the decisions of the peoples who are breaking the law," she said.

One thing that is never easy, Hutchison said, is hearing intensely negative comments from demonstrators.

"Even after 27 years in the business, it's not something that I don't have a response to. It takes a tremendous amount of discipline, common sense and restraint not to engage the negative behavior," she said.

"I think what the anarchists are doing is actively engaging in dehumanizing the police, making us faceless and nameless ... making us the army of the rich and powerful.

"I'm not rich. If I were motivated by money and power, this probably would not be the occupation I would choose. Officers are motivated by a desire to help people. If it seems that we're not motivated by that, we don't get in the door."

Hutchison consulted with Chilton and other town officials regarding the tactics employed on Saturday, but said that in most situations she doesn't collaborate with the town.

"Each situation is different, so we have to analyze the elements of each particular situation," she said, adding that she is open to input from a variety of people in various situations.

However, "I think if a civilian without police expertise makes an effort to limit police tactical response to a situation, then they're doing a disservice to the entire community and to the police," she said. "Our primary goal is to protect and serve this community, and no one should interfere with our ability to do that."

Carrboro Board of Alder-

the weapons that the police department has available.

"I want us to reassess what we have," he said, "for us to really put into question whether we need that."

Slade said he also would like to see the community have a discussion about private property.

"It's not written in any biologic sense that as humans we have to have any relationship with property or space," he said. "I think that's one of the valuable contributions that this group is making to the community as a discussion."

But, he added, "Given the law and how it is at the state level, we're required to enforce that law.'

"My suspicion is that ... we do live in a culture that doesn't question private property and that enforcement of it is what most people want, and so to be responsible in this position, I'd have to reflect that," Slade said. "If somehow the majority of people in town were questioning vacant spaces and recognizing that that was a form of violence too ... there may be discretion in the timing of when we enforce."

Carrboro Commune has announced that the group will conduct "guerrilla gardening" at the site on March 17, in which the property will be turned into a community garden.

At a meeting called by the group on Sunday, Maria Rowan said that years ago the community envisioned what it would like to see at the North Greensboro Street property, and that none of the ideas proposed included a CVS.

"I think the laws and politics that have allowed this piece of land to be taken out of community control and taken into corporate control" are the problem, she said.

Center Street resident Jeff Herrick, who is married to board of aldermen member Michelle Johnson and has opposed the proposed CVS development, said he was concerned that the actions of the occupiers may have negatively impacted the work of residents opposing the project.

"A lot of their information is not completely informed," he said, adding that he hasn't seen the demonstrators at the many town meetings regarding the project.

"It's very boring and it's not as exciting as taking over a building, but that's the way it



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law," Hutchison continued. "If the goal was to secure the property, we did that."

However, Hutchison said, it would be incorrect to assume that there would be no arrests if

men member Sammy Slade said he was glad that the occupation ended differently than the Yates incident. "We didn't have to use excessive force," he said, adding that he is still concerned about

in Carrboro."

Staff writer Rose Laudicina and publisher Robert Dickson contributed reporting for this article.

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### **CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Game Over**

Dad, you won. You can go home now. - Jay Paterno, speaking at the memorial service for his father, former Penn State football coach Joe Paterno

### SMITH LEVEL FROM PAGE I

"It's too close to all the activity down at the ramps," said Mike Mills, division engineer for NCDOT. "The spacing is not adequate for full-access movement."

However, Mills agreed to revisit the traffic pattern, which was included as part of the overall road-improvement plan that the board approved in September 2010.

Board member Jacquie Gist questioned whether NCDOT is paying for most of the project.

had done a study to determine how the traffic pattern would affect safety in the neighborhood, since cars would likely travel through the neighborhood to get to the traffic light at BPW Club Road if they weren't able to turn left out of Willow Oak Drive.

Mills said they had reviewed the impact, but hadn't done an in-depth study and would take another look at that.

The project has been in the works for more than 20 years, and has changed shape as board members and residents have negotiated with NCDOT, which

"[Willow Oak Drive] is too close to all the activity down at the ramps. The spacing is not adequate for full-access movement." — Mike Mills

The project, which NCDOT officials had previously proposed as a widening of the road to five lanes, now includes:

• installing a sidewalk on the Creek bridge to Carrboro High

east side of the road from Willow Oak Lane to Woodcrest Drive and a sidewalk along the west side of the road from the Morgan

to three lanes, including two travel lanes and a center turn lane, from BPW Club Road to Rock Haven Road;

• installing sidewalks on both sides of Culbreth Road from

• installing bike lanes along

• widening the road to two

lanes with curb and gutter, di-

vided by a grass median, from

the Morgan Creek bridge to BPW Club Road, including a

shielded median break allow-

ing left turns from Smith Level

• widening Smith Level Road

Road onto Willow Oak Lane;

both sides of the road;

School;

Smith Level Road to Rossburn Way; and

• constructing a roundabout near Carrboro High at the intersection of Smith Level and Rock Haven roads.

Last fall, NCDOT officials began ironing out plans for the right-of-ways and easements needed for the project and began contacting impacted residents. They hope to complete acquisition of right-of-ways and easements by September and put the project out to bid in December, with construction to begin in February 2013.

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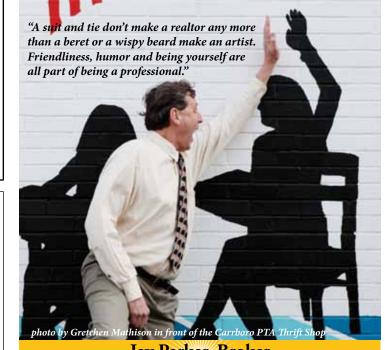


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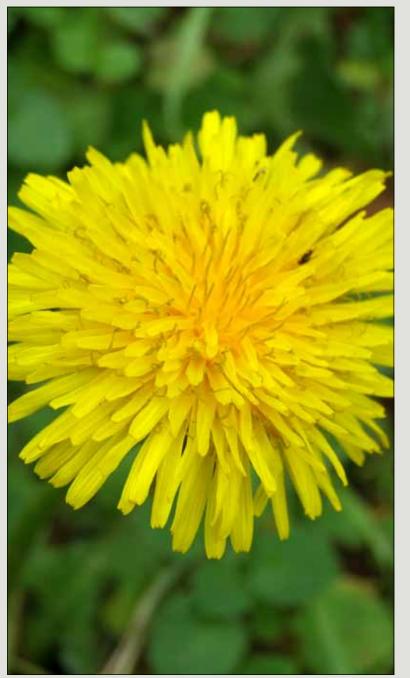
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Dandelion flower head holds 100-plus ray flowers.

**FLORA** 

FROM PAGE I

healthy food and drink. It's

culinary and medicinal uses

tender young leaves, fresh

not difficult to find countless

and recipes. Very popular are

or cooked. Brown's engaging

description of dandelion root

coffee encourages me to go

foraging across my yard this

Dandelion is described

occasional flowers observed

as a spring bloomer, with

weekend.

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

in every month, but very seldom during the months of January and February. But this year you will have noticed it

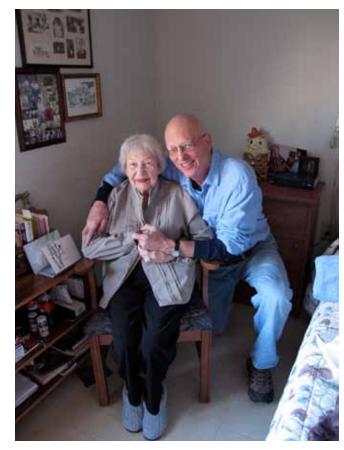
has not taken a winter rest. Though countless insect pollinators have been observed on the composite heads of 100-plus small ray flowers, the dandelion does not seem to be dependent upon pollinators to produce viable seed. As a child, you most likely played with dandelion seed heads, watching the parachute-adorned seeds soar skyward. Now as an adult you are likely to stoop down, pluck one, make certain no one is observing you, and with a strong puff or two, watch, in wonder, those seeds soar skyward.

Looking closely down on a dandelion flower, again I prefer Brown's description: "The close view of the flower itself creates an image of a fiery yellow explosion that originates from a common green heart. The myriad petals forming the rich goldenyellow crown seem to fire off in every direction, yet in perfect harmony, creating a balance of unity and common understanding."

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

How wonderful if human societies could "create a balance of unity and common understanding" like that of a dandelion flower.

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



Keep the gold

his may strike some readers as hopelessly outdated, but in much of this country the success of the local newspaper is largely dependent on the work of the society/women's editor. Though that section is typically called "Lifestyle" now, the detailed accounts of local weddings, anniversaries, engagements, births and deaths are no less important to the life of the community. With Valentine's Day approaching, I choose 98-year-old Virginia Rucker as my honorary Valentine. She lives in a rest home outside Forest City in the foothills of North Carolina, where I once coowned and operated a community newspaper. To the extent that our paper was such a resounding success is directly attributable to the work of this veteran journalist. During a recent visit with Virginia, the Grande Dame of Forest City regaled me with memories of our journalistic outings together in the '70s (she, the writer, and I, the photographer, always saying, "Yes, Ma'am, Mrs. Rucker," and doing precisely as directed). And for the record, though she no longer writes for the paper, Virginia is still listed in the masthead of the Daily Courier as Contributing Editor. What's that song my daughter used to sing in Girl Scouts? "Make new friends, but keep the old; one is silver and the other gold."

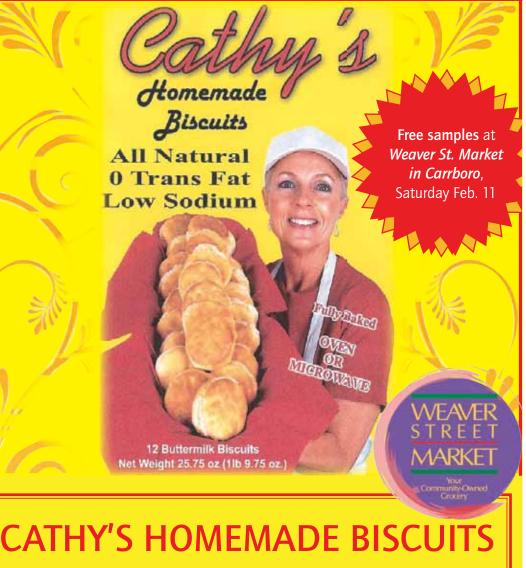


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