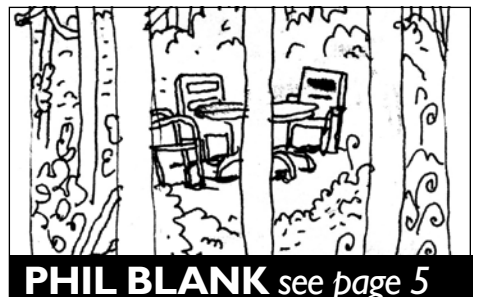


FRIDAY
0% Chance of Precip
54/28 °F

SATURDAY
20% Chance of Precip
57/32 °F

SUNDAY
0% Chance of Precip
46/28 °F

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



With help from birds, nandina will invade local forests.

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Being aware

National Invasive Species Awareness Week is Feb. 26-March 3! Events are scheduled throughout the week in our nation's capital (nisaw.org), and in North Carolina, the annual meeting of the North Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council, open to the public, is Feb. 23-24 at the North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville (nceppc.weebly.com).

Right here at home, "awareness" is scheduled at a special event, "Plant This, Not That: Alternatives to Invasives," at the N.C. Botanical Garden on Saturday, Feb. 25, at 1 p.m.

The program, reception and art exhibition is free, but reservations are required (962-0522).

It will surprise most folks that the ever-popular *Nandina domestica* is the poster child of this year's awareness activities statewide. T-shirts are available for those seriously aware.

I remember years ago planting this lovely exotic for my mother-in-law, and I'm still digging seedlings out of the local forest. Like some other exotic ornamental garden plants (and not all exotics are invasive), it has been around a long, long time and only now is beginning to be an aggressive "bully," displacing our native flora.

Recently, and irresponsibly, this dazzling, red-berried plant has been promoted in local gardening publications and newspaper columns. However, on a positive note, some nurseries do offer fruitless, non-invasive varieties of nandina.

Many gardeners simply don't want to understand how exotic plants may be invasive, resulting in biological damage to our environment and millions of dollars lost to local economies.

How well I remember a response from a local gardener when I was describing how

SEE **FLORA** PAGE 10

No more camping in Peace and Justice Plaza

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL – The Chapel Hill Town Council voted 8-1 on Monday to approve regulations that make it illegal to camp overnight at Peace and Justice Plaza and other public spaces.

The discussion stemmed from a January memo from Town Manager Roger Stancil stating that the Occupy movement brought to light the need for the town to review its enforcement of ordinances regulating the use of public spaces and facilities. Though

previous regulations also prohibited overnight camping, town officials decided not to enforce that and other rules while the Occupy Chapel Hill movement camped at the plaza.

"I was a little troubled during the Occupy experience because I personally had sympathies with the message, for one; but two, I also knew we had regulations," Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt said. "I didn't want those regulations enforced because I had sympathies with the message, and that's a problem. ... We have to have rules that ... apply to anyone who wants to

use that space."

Occupy Chapel Hill took down its encampment at Peace and Justice Plaza on Jan. 10, but tents occupied by homeless individuals remained on the plaza. As of last week, one tent remained, displaying a sign that indicated the occupation was a political protest. But by Wednesday, that tent had been taken down.

The approved ordinance, which applies to Peace and Justice Plaza

SEE **PEACE & JUSTICE** PAGE 7

Council tightens towing rules

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL – Responding to concerns about predatory towing practices, the Chapel Hill Town Council on Monday voted to approve changes to the town's towing ordinance that will tighten regulations, requiring towing companies to accept credit cards and limiting towing fees to \$125 town-wide.

Residents have argued that towing fees for cars towed from areas outside the central business district – where regulations limit such fees to \$100 – were too high, with some companies charging as much as \$200, and that the cash-only policies of most companies are unfair. In addition, residents have complained that storage locations in remote areas are unsafe and that "walk-off" towing, which occurs when a driver parks at one business and visits another while parked there, is a predatory practice.

Towing companies have said they have to recoup costs lost by the limited downtown towing fees by charging higher fees outside of the downtown area and that those who pay towing fees with a credit card could cancel the charges later.

The ordinance, which will go into effect on May 1, requires towing companies to accept multiple forms of payment, including credit and debit cards; requires that companies have storage lots located no farther than 15 miles from the point of tow; creates a system of graduated fines for companies that violate the ordinance; requires that one sign be posted at every third parking space and a sign be posted notifying drivers of video surveillance, in addition to signage previously required at the entrance to the lots; and requires companies to notify the police department before towing a vehicle. Previously, towing companies were required to notify police within 30 minutes of bringing a car to their lots.

The ordinance will also require that storage lots be secured and lighted appropriately, to be inspected annually by the police department.

The council voted unanimously to approve the ordinance changes and 6-3 to approve fee regulations, which

SEE **TOWING** PAGE 9



Last week, CVS Caremark installed fences around properties it owns at 201 N. Greensboro and 104 Center streets, which are part of proposed plans for a CVS development. Officials cited the recent occupation of the 201 North Greensboro building in its decision to secure the properties.

PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

LOCKDOWN

CVS fences in its properties

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

Reversing a previous decision, CVS Caremark officials last week boarded up and installed chain-link fences around properties it owns that are proposed for a future CVS development, citing the recent occupation of the former WCOM building at 201 N. Greensboro St. in the decision.

"We had initially decided not to put a chain-link fence around the property because it would make it even more of an eyesore in the community. But in light of this weekend's events, we will be securing the property as soon as possible," said Leigh Polzella,

development representative for CVS Caremark, at a neighborhood meeting about the project last week.

CVS Caremark has filed for a conditional-use permit and a rezoning to allow it to build a two-story 24,000-square-foot building with a 24-hour CVS on the ground floor, office space above it and a 64-space parking lot on land occupied by the former WCOM building, two homes on Center Street and the offices of dentist Debra Seaton.

In December, Polzella said officials were considering putting fences around and boarding up the building at 201 N. Greensboro St. and the house at 104

SEE **CVS** PAGE 9

County postpones transit tax decision

BY ROSE LAUDICINA
Staff Writer

Before the Orange County Board of Commissioners decides on adding a half-cent transit tax to the November ballot, they say they need more time to nail down details and receive public input.

The commissioners heard in-depth presentations at their work session on Tuesday about the next steps for constructing light rail, Chapel Hill's development plans as they correspond with a future light-rail line along the N.C. 54 corridor and reasons for pursuing both light rail and bus improvements instead of just an expansion of bus transit.

While the commissioners agreed they had a better understanding of the light-rail plan, they said they still needed to work out the details of agreements between the Triangle Transit Authority, the county's municipalities and Durham.

However, if the county wants to add the transit tax – which would help fund the light rail and bus improvements – to the November ballot, the commissioners are going to have to work quickly to determine specific language for the agreements, cost-sharing ideas between Durham and

Orange County and how to ensure that the transit program benefits the entire county.

"I think we are being highly optimistic to think that we can nail down three agreements in the time necessary to put this on the ballot," Commissioner Barry Jacobs said.

Commissioner Alice Gordon agreed with Jacobs, adding that it might be more practical simply to create the outlines of the agreement so the project can continue to move forward on schedule.

If the commissioners don't add the transit tax to the fall ballot, it could have serious repercussions for the New Starts grant application that could provide federal-government money to help fund the plan.

"If we do not put the sales tax on the ballot, that would be a negative for the New Starts application, because they want to see a commitment of local monies," Chair Bernadette Pelissier said.

In his presentation about Chapel Hill's development plans in relation to the construction of a light-rail system, Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt ensured the commissioners that the economic growth light rail

SEE **TRANSIT** PAGE 4

Farming community celebrates gains

BY ROSE LAUDICINA
Staff Writer

Despite the country's struggling economy, Orange County has seen tremendous growth in a major industry in the area in recent years. That industry is agriculture.

At the Orange County Agricultural Summit on Monday, a group of about 70 farmers gathered at the Big Barn Convention Center in Hillsborough to hear about changing agricultural policies, share ideas and learn about new services.

"This is one of the only districts in the country that has more farmers now than it did 10 years ago," Rep. David Price said.

In its 14th year, the summit draws farmers from all over the county who specialize in different types of agriculture.

The summit gives the county's growing community of farmers a place to come together alongside county and state officials not only to learn about the new trends in local agriculture but also to celebrate its place in Orange County.

"This summit is as relevant today as it was 14 years ago, when it was started," said Bernadette Pelissier, chair of the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

"It is something where all of us come to learn the trends of local agriculture."

One of the biggest trends discussed at the summit was the increasing demand for locally produced food.

"The community is driving the demand for locally grown food," Pelissier said, noting how people are realizing that buying local helps both the local economy and the environment.

Price also discussed the growing national trend of restaurants promoting the use of local ingredients and how farmers' markets are increasing in popularity and profitability.

"This is no longer just a Carrboro thing," Price said about interest in locally grown food.

Jack Tapp, founder of Busy Bee Apiaries, also spoke to the group about the demand for locally produced products while telling the story of his business.

"I am a living example of the American dream," Tapp said, explaining how he started beekeeping as a hobby, but it turned into a profitable business.

In addition to selling his line of Vintage Bee Creamed Honey both nationally and internationally, he sells and ships bees to help farms with

SEE **AG SUMMIT** PAGE 7

INSIDE

Filing season underway

See page 3

INDEX

Music Calendar	2
News	3
Community	5
Opinion	6
Schools	8
Classifieds	9

MUSIC CALENDAR

THURSDAY FEB 16

Cat's Cradle: Emilie Autumn, 9pm. \$15/17
The Cave: EARLY and LATE: Jphonol
Century Center: Gypsy Town. 12pm Free
City Tap: Tracy Wiebeck. 8:30pm
The Depot: Constellation. 8pm
Hill Hall: UNC Symphony Orchestra. 7:30pm. \$15
The Kraken: Tim Stambaugh and Friends. 8pm
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
The Depot: Critical Junktion. 8:30pm
The Kraken: Mark Holland, Katharine Whalen and Her Fascinators. 9pm
Local 506: Jack The Radio, Saints Apollo, The Debonzo Brothers. 9pm. \$7
Memorial Hall: Pianist Leif Ove Andsnæs. 8pm
Nightlight: Antibubbles and Tre-pak. 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. 8pm. Free
Local 506: Fin Fang Foom, Pipe, Ben Davis and The Jetts. 10pm. \$6
Nightlight: Gmish Klezmer Band. 9:30pm. \$5
Southern Rail: Lee Gildersleeve and Bad Dog Blues Band. 6pm
SUNDAY FEB 19
Ackland Art Museum: Julian Caldwell. 1pm
Binkley Baptist Church: A Winter Gift of Song: Betsy Buchanan, Lisa Chensvold, Sondra VanSant, D'AviD Wehle, Gretchen Hoag, PeiFen Liu. 3:30pm
The Cave: LATE: Old Lady Bowers, Ariel Rubin, Jeremy Blair
Chatham Market: Joe Woodson, 11am-1pm
Local 506: David Mayfield Parade, E-S Guthrie, Steph Stewart and the Boyfriends. 8:30pm. \$10/12
Nightlight: Completely Off Balance, The Shy Guys. 7pm. \$8
MONDAY FEB 20
Cat's Cradle: . K.O. Kid, Styles and Complete. 9pm. \$12/15
TUESDAY FEB 21
Cat's Cradle: Blind Pilot, Cotton Jones. 9pm. \$15/17
The Cave: LATE: Something For Now, The Gonzo Symphonic Presents
Local 506: Islands, Idiot Glee. 9pm. \$9/11
Nightlight: Turchi, Clock Work Kids, Supercolliders. 9:30pm. \$5
Southern Rail: Stripmall Ballads. 10pm

WEDNESDAY FEB 22

The Cave: EARLY: The Nere Do Wells LATE: Jurassic Heat, Radar's Clowns of Sedation
Local 506: Kevn Kinney Band, Lynn Blakey. 9pm. \$10/15
Memorial Hall: UNC Wind Ensemble, UNC Symphony Band. 7:30pm. \$15
THURSDAY FEB 23
Cat's Cradle: Corey Smith, The Piedmont Boys. 9pm. \$15/20
The Cave: EARLY: Jonny Gilmore LATE: Mangosteen, Mandy and The Bandits
Century Center: Joe Woodson, Paul Rosenberg. 12pm. Free
City Tap: Constellation. 8:30pm
The Depot: Shamu Garcon. 8pm
Linda's Bar and Grill: Robert Griffin. 8:30pm
Local 506: A Haunted Mantra, Polygons, Naomi Wise. 9pm. \$5
Nightlight: The Ends, Sunshine Riot. 9:30pm. \$5
Southern Rail: Brad Maiani Trio, Underhill Rose
UNC Student Union: Carolina Jazz Festival. 9am. Free
FRIDAY FEB 24
ArtsCenter: John McCutcheon. 8:30pm
Cat's Cradle: Saul Williams, CX Kidtronik. 8pm. \$15/17
The Cave: EARLY: Fairest Flower, Some Clowns LATE: LUD, Midway Charmers
City Tap: Tommy Edwards. 9pm
The Depot: Be The Moon. 8:30pm
Kenan Music Building: Carolina Jazz Festival. 4pm Free
The Kraken: Sentenza. 9pm
Local 506: Other Lives, Wim. 9pm. \$10/12

Nightlight: Synergy, T-Buck, Symbiotik, AudioRush, Shatta. 9:30pm. \$10
Memorial Hall: Christian McBride and Inside Straight. 8pm. \$15
Southern Rail: Alex Bowers and Friends. 7:30pm
SATURDAY FEB 25
Cat's Cradle: Martin Sexton, Rayland Baxter. 8pm. \$20/23
The Cave: EARLY: Too Much Fun LATE: Climb Jacobs Ladder
City Tap: Mysti Mayhem. 9pm
The Depot: Justin Johnson. 8:30pm
Hill Hall: Carolina Jazz Festival. 8pm. Free
Internationalist Books: Shambhala, Completely Off Balance, Massive Malfunction. 8pm
Kenan Music Building: Carolina Jazz Festival. 2pm. Free
The Kraken: Long Haired Kid. 9pm
Local 506: Big Pooh, King Mez, Drique London. 10pm. \$10
Nightlight: Bitter Resolve, Thorlock, Systems, Grohg. 9:30pm. \$5
Southern Rail: Mr. Billy. 7pm
United Church of Chapel Hill: Organ Concert with Alexander Anderson. 7:30pm. Donation requested

SPOTLIGHT: DAVID MAYFIELD PARADE



Singing in the kindest voice of love and heartbreak, David Mayfield brings Americana to the stage and blends it with the swing of alt-country and the harmonies of bluegrass. Originally a member of the band Cadillac Sky, Mayfield was encouraged to step out into a solo career by the Avett Brothers, who lend their harmonies to his debut solo album, *The David Mayfield Parade*. Mayfield will bring his live show to Local 506 on Sunday, Feb. 19, and his friendly demeanor is sure to draw you in as he pulls you by the heartstrings through moments of poetic melancholy and lighthearted good times. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 the day of the show. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the opening acts take the stage at 8:30.

SPOTLIGHT: FUJIYAMA ROLL

Local Japanese rock band Fujiyama Roll will take over The Cave on Friday, Feb. 17. With tunes ranging from Japanese covers from the '70s-'90s to original songs, these artists will show Chapel Hill and Carrboro the meaning of "Ro-Ken-Roll." The band's passionate vocalist Junko will also give a solo performance. In addition, Carrboro Music founder John Pardue will perform in his newest wild project, Honeychile. With sounds of funk and R&B, the band will guarantee a unique show. Come out early for an entertaining night of local music! Johnny Cook opens at 7:30 p.m.



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

CAROLINA THEATRE OF DURHAM
 309 W. Morgan St., 560-3030
 13th Nevermore Film Festival (Friday-Sunday only); The Artist (Monday-Thursday only); Oscar Shorts: Animation; Oscar Shorts: Live Action
CHELSEA THEATER
 Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, 968-3005

A Dangerous Method; The Artist; The Women on the 6th Floor
THE LUMINA
 Southern Village, 932-9000
 Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance; Journey 2: The Mysterious Island; Safe House; This Means War; The Vow
REGAL TIMBERLYNE 6
 120 Banks Drive, 933-8600

Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance; Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D; Safe House; Star Wars: Episode I—The Phantom Menace 3D; The Vow; This Means War
THE VARSITY
 123 E. Franklin St., 967-8665
 Contraband; Happy Feet Two; Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows

THE CAROLINA THEATRE DOWNTOWN DURHAM
 FILM SCHEDULE FEB 17-23
 Fri-Sun only!
13th Nevermore Film Festival
 OSCAR SHORTS: Animation Nightly 7:15
 OSCAR SHORTS: Live Action Nightly 9:00
THE ARTIST
 Mon-Thu only 7:00 & 9:15
 carolinatheatre.org

Learn to Square Dance!
 Fun Lessons!
Feb 24-April 27
 7-8:30pm +\$40/10
 Free Barn Dance Feb. 17, 8-10pm
 Binkley Memorial Baptist Church
 1712 Willow Drive, Chapel Hill
 Sponsored by The Square Heels Square Dance Club
 919-542-3708 + www.squareheels.org

GROUND FLOOR RETAIL SPACE FOR LEASE
 106 S. Greensboro St.
 between Fifth Season and Glasshalfull.
 650 square feet, ample parking, private bathroom.
 919-548-6408

PET OF THE WEEK
ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Meet **Clem!** This gorgeous walker hound is around 18 months old and looking for a new place to call home! This sweetie is a volunteer favorite and gets along with everyone. He loves being outside and adores being rubbed all over! He's just a good-natured gentleman all around and it's that good nature that prompted someone to sponsor his full adoption fee. That's right — you can adopt Clem at no cost! Visit him today at Orange County Animal Services, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill. You can also see him and other adoptable animals online at www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp

CAT'S CRADLE
TH 2/16 EMILIE AUTUMN
MO 2/20 THE DEAN'S LIST
TH 2/23 COREY SMITH
SU 2/26 TRISTEN NIGHTLIGHT (CHAPEL HILL)
TH 3/15 GOMEZ
FR 2/24 OTHER LIVES LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)
SA 3/17 BOWERBIRDS
SA 2/18 CHERUB THE CASBAH (DURHAM)
CD RELEASE PARTY!
SA 2/25 JUSTIN ROBINSON & THE MARY ANNETTES KINGS (RALEIGH)
WE 4/11 AND TH 4/12 TWO SHOWS! THE MAGNETIC FIELDS(\$25/\$28) W/DEVOTCHKA (ACOUSTIC) FRI 4/13 LIZZ WINSTEAD**(\$22/\$25) SA 4/14 CD RELEASE! MIPSO TRIO**(\$10; INCLUDES CD!) TU 4/17 MICKEY HART BAND**(\$29/\$32) WE 4/18 KINA GRANNIS**(\$15/\$17) TH 4/19 DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS**(\$25/\$28) FR 4/20 ALBUM RELEASE PARTY! LOST IN THE TREES**(\$15) SA 4/21 SAY ANYTHING, KEVIN DEVINE, & MORE**(\$17/\$20) SU 4/22 DREW HOLCOMB**(\$12/\$15) TU 4/24 TRAMPLED BY TURTLES W/WILLIAM ELLIOTT WHITMORE**(\$18/\$20) FR 5/4 BEATS ANTIQUE W/LAURA LOW (DJ LAURA)**(\$15/\$18) TU 5/8 ACTIVE CHILD/BALAM ACAB**(\$10/\$12) W/SUPERHUMANOIDS FR 5/11**(\$15) SA 5/12 SPIRITUALIZED**(\$18/\$21) WE 5/23 ST. VINCENT**(\$17/\$20) FR 5/25 YANN TIERSEN W/PIANO CHAT**(\$18/\$20) MO 6/11 TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB W/CLAP YOUR HANDS SAY YEAH AND BAD VEINS**(\$21.50/\$24)**

ALSO PRESENTING
LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)
 SU 2/19 DAVID MAYFIELD PARADE W/E-S GUTHRIE AND STEPH STEWART & HER BOYFRIENDS
 FR 2/24 OTHER LIVES W/WIM
 SU 2/26 SOUL KHAN W/J SWISS AND BRODY & CHOCH SA 3/3 CRAIG FINN W/MARCELLUS HALL
 SU 3/25 FRONTIER RUCKUS AND HOOTS & HELLMOUTH SA 5/26 ROCKY VOTOLATO W/CALLMEKAT
 SU 5/27 PARLOTONES
HAW RIVER BALLROOM (SAXAPAWHAW)
 FR 5/11 ARCHERS OF LOAF W/PIPE
PAGE AUDITORIUM (DUKE UNIVERSITY)
 TU 5/15 M WARD W/LEE RANALDO
 TICKETS VIA PAGE AUD BOX OFFICE • SHOW PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH DUKE PERFORMANCES
THE CASBAH (DURHAM)
 SA 2/18 CHERUB W/CHOCOLATE THUNDER
 TU 4/21 AMY RAY W/KAIA WILSON
LINCOLN THEATRE (RAL)
 WE 2/15 SOLD OUT! THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS W/JONATHAN COULTON
 FR 3/9 THE WAR ON DRUGS AND WHITE RABBITS
 PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH HOPSCOTCH
KINGS (RALEIGH)
 SA 2/25 JUSTIN ROBINSON CD RELEASE SHOW
NIGHTLIGHT (CHAPEL HILL)
 SU 2/26 TRISTEN
 TU 2/28 ZEE AVI W/CURTIS ELLER
 SA 3/17 ROSIE THOMAS W/BHI BHIMAN
WE 3/21 MINIATURE TIGERS, GEOGRAPHER, THE CHAIN GANG OF 1974, PRETTY & NICE.
THE ARTSCENTER (CARRBORO)
 TU 4/3 KIMYA DAWSON W/PALEFACE AND YOUR HEART BREAKS
NEIGHBORHOOD THEATER (CHARLOTTE)
 FR 4/6 WE WERE PROMISED JETPACKS W/BAD VEINS FOR TICKET INFO: NEIGHBORHOODTHEATRE.COM
MOTORCO (DURHAM)
 SA 4/7 WE WERE PROMISED JETPACKS
 SA 4/14 LAMBCHOP
 WE 4/18 !!! AND SHABAZZ PALACES
MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM (RALEIGH)
 TH 5/3 FEIST W/TIMBER TIMBRE TIX VIA TICKETMASTER & MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM BOX OFFICE

CATSCRADLE.COM * 919.967.9053 * 300 E. MAIN STREET * CARRBORO
 **ASTERISKS DENOTE ADVANCE TICKETS @ SCHOOLKIDS RECORDS IN RALEIGH, CD ALLEY IN CHAPEL HILL
 ORDER TIX ONLINE AT ETIX.COM * WE SERVE CAROLINA BREWERY BEER ON TAP! * WE ARE A NON-SMOKING CLUB

Briefs

Police seek information in rape case

The Chapel Hill Police Department is seeking information about a reported rape that occurred on Feb. 9 around 2:15 a.m. The victim said she was walking near the alley behind Cosmic Cantina when she was forced behind a dumpster and raped. The victim has requested police not pursue an investigation, but police are still asking anyone with information related to this incident to call the Chapel Hill Police Department at 968-2760 or Crime Stoppers at 942-7515.

Recycling bins installed in Chapel Hill

Thanks to a \$13,000 grant from the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Chapel Hill is installing 17 new recycling bins around town. Four bins will be in Southern Village's central business area, while 13 will be installed along Franklin Street. The bins are intended to collect bottles and cans.

Positive rabies test

On Feb. 8 Orange County Animal Services received its second positive rabies test of 2012. Animal Control responded to a call near Borland and Old Woods roads after a resident witnessed her dog killing a raccoon on her property. The dog was currently vaccinated against rabies and has received a booster shot as mandated by state law.

Bus detours

Beginning Friday, the HS and NU bus routes will be detoured due to a street closure on Airport Drive. Bus stops on Airport Drive will be temporarily closed and alternative stops will be on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard at Airport Drive and Barclay Street.

Buses to the Dean Dome

The Tar Heel Express will provide service on Saturday for the UNC men's basketball game against Clemson at 4 p.m. at the Dean Smith Center. Shuttle service will begin at 2:30 p.m. from the Friday Center, Southern Village, University Mall and Jones Ferry park-and-ride lots. Tickets are \$3 for one-way and \$5 round-trip. A shuttle will also run from Carolina Coffee Shop and will cost \$2 one-way or \$4 round-trip. The shuttles will run every 10 to 15 minutes prior to the start of the game and will operate for 45 minutes following the game.

Orange County services merge

The Women's Center and the Family Violence Prevention Center of Orange County have announced that they will merge into a comprehensive service organization. By merging and combining resources, both agencies believe they will be better equipped to provide services to the women and children of the area. Both organizations expect to finalize a merger agreement during the first quarter of 2012.

Filings pick up for May 8 primary

BY TAYLOR SISK
Staff Writer

Orange County Commissioner Valerie Foushee has announced she will run as a Democratic candidate for the N.C. House of Representatives District 50 seat in the May 8 primary. Under redistricting plans, District 50 will include portions of Orange and Durham counties. That seat is presently held by Bill Faison, who announced he will be vying for the Democratic nomination for governor.

Rod Chaney and W. Lewis Hannah Jr. have announced they are running for the seat in the Republican primary.

In a prepared statement, Foushee listed her priorities, if elected, as promoting economic recovery and development, restoring funding to all levels of education, strengthening health care and restoring transparency to government.

In District 54, Republican Cathy Wright and Democrats Deb McManus and Jeff Starkweather will seek election to the seat previously held by Joe Hackney, who announced he will not run for reelection.

The newly drawn District 54 includes all of Chatham County and a portion of Lee County.

Last week, Rep. Verla Insko announced she will seek reelection to the District 56 seat. District 56 includes Carrboro and Chapel Hill.

Democratic incumbent Sen. Ellie Kinnaird on Wednesday filed to run for her ninth term representing the 23rd district in the N.C. Senate.

Also announcing for reelection was Democratic Rep. David Price, who will be seeking his 13th term in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving the state's Fourth District.

Orange and Chatham

In Orange County, Bernadette Pelissier will run in the Democratic primary for a second term as an at-large member of the board of commissioners, and Mary Carter will run in the Republican primary for the same seat.

Pam Hemminger will seek reelection to a District 1 seat, and will be challenged in the Democratic primary by Chapel Hill Town Council member Penny Rich. With Foushee's departure, two seats are up for election in District 1.

Democrats Steve Yuhasz, an incumbent, and Renee Price will square off for one seat in District 2, and Chris Weaver will run in the District 2 GOP primary.

In a statement, Pelissier said that if reelected she will work to "promote economic resilience, secure the fiscal sustainability

and expand the non-residential tax base by creating new jobs for Orange County residents that support our community values of social equity, quality education, environmental health and economic vitality."

In Chatham County, Democrat Sally Kost announced last week she will seek a second term to the District 1 seat on the Chatham County Board of Commissioners. Democrat Mike Cross had previously filed to run for reelection to his District 2 seat.

And Karen Howard, a lawyer and mother of four, filed on Monday to run for the District 1 seat in the nonpartisan Chatham County Board of Education race.

Howard has served as vice president of two PTAs in the county schools.

The deadline for filing for all offices is noon on Feb. 29.

School board talks budget strategy

BY ROSE LAUDICINA
Staff Writer

Nearing the end of their annual retreat at the Friday Center on Tuesday, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education tackled one of the biggest items on their agenda: the 2012-13 budget.

Considering potential funding from both the state and the county, the preliminary outlook appears mixed.

The district is still waiting to receive the state's projected enrollment and budget figures, but according to Ruby Pittman, executive director of budget and finance, the district has projected

an enrollment of 12,048 students for the 2012-13 school year, an increase of 330 students from 2011-12.

With an increase in enrollment comes an increase in funding, since both the state and the Orange County Board of Commissioners fund the district on a per-pupil basis. However, with increased enrollment also comes the need to hire additional teachers to retain the district's current student-to-teacher ratio standards.

Taking all the various costs into account, Pittman told the board she estimates the district will have a net overall increase of about \$66,074 from the state for next year.

While, given the slight increase from the state, the outlook appeared to be good, board Chair Mia Burroughs shared news from a meeting with county commissioners that drew concern.

"Their first thought was to cut both of the school districts' budgets by a combined \$1.2 million," Burroughs said.

"This is in the opposite direction of what we need," she added.

Considering possible cuts from the county, the board discussed the specific types of budget items they wanted to request from the county, including the possibility of asking for an increase in the amount paid per pupil, but ultimately decided against that

request.

"I am interested in just asking for what we need and being sensitive for local taxpayers," board member Jamezetta Bedford said.

The board also discussed what budget expansion requests — extra money requested by the district to maintain or expand services — they would be making to the county.

One major expansion request the board identified was the need for \$340,593 for the elementary school 11 planning budget.

The board directed staff to return with recommendations for additional expansion requests along with recommendations for possible cuts that would allow for reallocation of money.

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Pain propels Tar Heels forward

BY EDDY LANDRETH
Staff Writer

*"I've never seen a night so long/
When time goes crawling by/
The moon just went behind the
clouds/ To hide its face and cry"* –
Hank Williams,

"I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry"
Lessons learned over the
course of a season can hurt nearly
as much physically as mentally.

Carolina's 85-84 last-second
loss to Duke at the Smith Center
on Feb. 8 fell squarely into that
category.

Austin Rivers' amazing last-
second shot will assure a spot for
this game among the great finish-
es in a rivalry filled with unbeliev-
able performances.

Unfortunately for Carolina,
all the glory in this one belongs to
the Blue Devils.

"[The loss to Duke] was about
as crushing for a regular-season
game as I've ever felt," coach Roy
Williams said. "Sometimes los-
ing is like someone grabbing your
heart, pulling it out and shaking
it in front of your face. There is
nothing you can do about it."

There was no way to gauge
who felt the most pain from the
loss to Duke, no matter how one
might have measured it. Never-
theless, senior Tyler Zeller must
rank near the top on the anguish
meter by any measure.

He stayed awake until 5 a.m.,
relying the misery.

"I stewed over it," Zeller said.
"I have a tendency to take losses
hard, especially when I missed
two free throws that could have
won the game."

The basketball season is a
lengthy series of lessons, some
horribly painful, some not so
much. The great importance is
that a team continues to grow
and mature, not repeat the same
mistakes.

The loss to Duke could end
up as the finest blessing in dis-
guise of the season for the Tar
Heels. UNC's failure to main-
tain its concentration and turn

a 10-point lead with two-and-
a-half minutes left into a 15- or
20-point victory is a poor trait
that has become habit as the sea-
son has progressed.

"That is one thing we haven't
done this year, is when we got



Eddy Landreth

teams down we haven't
stepped on their necks,"
point guard K e n d a l l
M a r s h a l l
said. "Long
Beach State,
we got a siz-
able lead,

but they hung around. Georgia
Tech, I think we got it up to 25,
but they got it down to 12.

"We have to learn to step on
teams' necks when we get them
down, not give them that hope
down the stretch that they can
win the game."

UNC turned an 11-point lead
into an 18-point victory against
Virginia in the game following
Duke. Such a turnaround could
carry Carolina to the lofty goals
and dreams it still has for this
season.

"We watched the last two
minutes and 28 seconds," Wil-
liams said. "That is the only part
of the tape we watched. ... I said,
'OK, let's learn from it so we don't
make those same kinds of mis-
takes again.'"

The players do not wish to
lose; none want their concentra-
tion to fade in the final minutes
of games or to commit silly turn-
overs and take bad shots. But just
like making great defense a habit-
ual process, as the Tar Heels have
done, the instinct to play smart
and together until the final horn
must also be cultivated.

"Losing the Duke game
helped us get refocused," Zeller
said after UNC's hard-fought
win against Virginia. "We all
came out with the right attitude."

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Rosa Parks, played by Sheila Neville, sits behind the fare box during *Why Should I Move?* David Deming plays the bus driver and Brian Litchfield portrays the white man who demanded Rosa's seat.

Chapel Hill Transit staff
performed *Why Should I Move?*, a
reenactment of the day in 1955 in
which Rosa Parks refused to give
up her seat on a Montgomery,
Ala., bus, at University Mall
on Feb. 4. The performance was
part of the town's celebration of
Black History Month.

PHOTOS BY ALICIA STEMPER



The bus driver, played by David Deming, encourages Rosa Parks, played by Sheila Neville, to relinquish her seat to a white man.

TRANSIT FROM PAGE 1

could create would help sales-tax
revenues, benefiting the entire
county.

Kleinschmidt referenced stud-

ies done by the town in the '90s
showing that light rail along U.S.
15-501, a corridor the commis-
sioners have indicated interest in
exploring, would not be benefi-
cial for the county, citing cost and
station location issues.

"We determined that 15-501

would not be appropriate for light
rail, but enhanced bus transit
would be important for it, and we
still believe that," he said.

However, Commissioner Earl
McKee again expressed his op-
position to the light-rail costs and
the possibility of a transit tax, say-

ing that he was "adamantly op-
posed" to asking county residents
to vote on the tax.

The board agreed to create a
timeline for public meetings that
would allow for citizen comments
on the transit tax.

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THE CARRBORO
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hole in the
budget

CHRIS FITZSIMON

Most of the controversy about the budget passed by the Republican-led General Assembly last summer has focused on the damage it is doing to education, human services and environmental protections.

That's understandable given that teachers and teacher assistants were fired, vital services to the most vulnerable people in the state were cut and enforcing environmental regulations is now far more difficult.

Legislative leaders deny it all, of course, by making false claims about the education cuts and the shortfall in Medicaid, distortions that are supported by misleading reports from Raleigh's right-wing think tanks.

The Republican primary talking point is that lawmakers addressed last year's shortfall with a balanced budget that cut taxes.

Half of that is right. They cut taxes by allowing the 2009 temporary tax increases to expire. That's why they had to make such draconian cuts, to make up for the \$1.3 billion in lost revenue.

But the claim about the balanced budget is a stretch.

For years Republicans blasted Democrats for passing budgets that used one-time money to pay for recurring state services, creating a hole the following year as the money disappeared and the programs remained.

But that's exactly what the Republicans did in 2011 – in a big way. The folks at the N.C. Budget Center calculate that the budget uses \$700 million in one-time money for recurring expenses. That figure includes fund transfers and diversions.

There's also another \$220 million in accounting maneuvers, moving expenses from off-budget to on-budget and counting on unrealistic savings to make the numbers work.

Medicaid is the best example of that last problem. The state Medicaid program currently faces a \$149 million shortfall because of savings built into the budget that haven't materialized. The Medicaid shortfall is projected to grow to \$243 million next year.

That's also when local school districts across the state stand to lose \$254 million in federal money that is keeping several thousand more teachers in the classroom. If lawmakers don't come up with the funding to replace the federal layoffs, more teachers will receive pink slips next summer.

A conservative total of all the one-time money, accounting tricks and reliance on disappearing federal funding is \$1.4 billion.

That's how much lawmakers must come up with in the May legislative session just to keep state programs and services at their current and woefully inadequate levels.

That does not take into account any new expenses, like additional children enrolling in public schools, universities or community colleges. And it also ignores a judge's order to restore last year's cuts to the state's preschool program that turned away several thousand at-risk kids.

Reports that state revenues are coming slightly ahead of projections will help, but not much. An end of year surplus of \$100-\$150 million will only patch a few holes, and that's one-time money too.

Even then lawmakers will find themselves more than a billion dollars short. Given the refusal even to consider a proposal by Gov. Beverly Perdue to raise the sales tax by three-quarters of a penny, that means even more cuts to education and human services.

Republicans did more last year than make damaging budget cuts. They passed an unbalanced budget that will make last year's devastating cuts only the beginning.

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

STAFF & CONTRIBUTORS

EDITORIAL

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Susan Dickson, Editor

Kirk Ross, Taylor Sisk

Contributing Editors

Duncan Hoge, Art Director

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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 Cassidy, Ad Director

marty@carrborocitizen.com

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Email: kirk@kirkross.com

Poverty in the land of plenty

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

It's not hard to understand why times are tough in places like Rocky Mount, Elizabeth City and the small towns and crossroads in between that have struggled for years. One look at long-term poverty rates, unemployment rates, food assistance or about any other measure, and the counties in the northeast corner of our state jump out at you.

But run your finger down the most recent list of North Carolina counties with the highest number of citizens living in poverty and it won't take long before you get to Orange County. That's what I don't understand.

We talk about it here more than people in most places do. We have resources here. We have a community with a long history of compassion and a wealth of dedicated volunteers. We have organizations – public, private and secular – dedicated to serving those in need.

And yet we sit in the top tier, with one out of every five citizens living below the poverty line. Only Roberson, Wilson, Wilkes, Rowan, Pitt, Gaston and Cleveland counties have higher poverty rates than Orange County. According to a recent study by the N.C. Budget and Tax Center, the number of people living in poverty in this county jumped 42 percent between 2007 and 2010.

When you start getting deeper into the numbers, breaking them down by age or race or family structure, they look even worse. They're shameful, in fact, especially when it comes to children.

The numbers match up with what you hear from teachers and social workers and people on the front lines of assistance: There are hundreds of hungry children in Orange County, maybe thousands.

One of the most powerful moments I witnessed during the tour of the high-poverty counties to our east was when a man who runs a boxing club for kids in Elizabeth City stood up at a forum



to talk about the hungry children he encounters and the impact of hunger over time to a young person's body and soul. He was followed by the head of the local Smart Start agency, who described the link between obesity driven by poor and inadequate diets to early onset puberty and a rise in teen pregnancy.

"The symptoms of poverty," he said, "are blowing us apart."

I'm not sure exactly how Orange County got to where it is.

Like I said above, we've got resources, and not just financial, but agricultural as well. Amid such abundance, it just doesn't make sense that kids should go hungry here. I'm not sure how to solve all the symptoms of poverty, but feeding children in need healthy meals ought to be something we can pull off.

The more I've looked at the impacts of poverty, the more convinced I've become of the danger in ignoring its recent rise in our community.

In the coming months, as the political season starts up, we're going to hear a lot of talk in the commissioner races about taxes and the need to tighten our belts. School will be a big topic, as will growth and environmental concerns. But we'll probably hear very little about this county's growing ranks of people in poverty.

Over the past few years, as the recession deepened, budgets tightened and we cut deep into a lot of programs that serve people in need and work to prevent those on the margins from sliding deeper into poverty. We need to question whether continuing to underfund those services makes any sense.

The cuts make services harder to get at a time when the demand for them is going up. That means more of our neighbors who need health care or food or refuge will be turned away at those crucial make-or-break moments. The cruel reality is that the farther you fall, the harder it becomes to battle your way back.

We have to face up to this challenge, and that starts with being honest with ourselves.

LETTERS

Creative project needed
for Greensboro/Weaver

As residents of Carrboro for 26 years on Oak Avenue, a downtown neighborhood that will be directly impacted by the proposed CVS development, we feel compelled to speak out so that the neighborhood perspective about this proposed development isn't lost in all the recent uproar around the "Occupy CVS" movement.

First and foremost, the neighborhood residents are not opposed to development in downtown Carrboro. We want there to be a vibrant downtown with the arts, restaurants, entertainment and business all cohabitating together and diversifying the tax base.

We are opposed to the proposed CVS development because it is a 24/7 business that will bring dense traffic and cars that will be shining their lights and creating relentless noise pollution into our homes around the clock, day-in and day-out. We are opposed because we know that this project will create significant traffic problems and threaten pedestrian and bike-rider safety – a value we have all repeatedly upheld. We are opposed because the developer has all but ignored that much of the surrounding property in this block is currently zoned residential and that a residential home with office space will continue to be located like an island in the midst of the proposed commercial development. CVS developers want the town officials and all of us who live in the surrounding neighborhoods to forget about the Downtown Neighborhood Protection Overlay District ordinance, which we fought hard for, that protects neighborhoods from commercial development.

For more than a year, neighborhood residents have been working with the town and CVS developers to find a middle way in which the quality and character of Carrboro can be preserved, where neighborhoods in which people now live, play and work are protected, AND where compatible, community-friendly development can occur. We urge all who are concerned about downtown development to join us at the first public hearing on March 27 in saying "No" as CVS requests rezoning of this property to allow only commercial development. But let's say "Yes" to being creative and unified in calling on our town leaders, developers and citizens to create a new partnership and unified vision that brings out the best in all of us for this vitally important block in the heart of downtown Carrboro.

MICHELE RIVEST AND JOHN ALDERSON
Carrboro

Bruce Thomas inspires joy

If I had to describe Bruce Thomas in one word, I would choose intensity.

He has dedicated his life to, well, the pursuit of life – true life. How many of us can say that? How many of us have removed ourselves from the rat race, even for a day, to simply enjoy living?

Bruce does it every day. His passion and joy are focused into his dancing. It is so clear that he does not dance for attention or even recognition.

He dances for the sake of dancing. He dances to share his joy of being alive. He dances to inspire joy in others.

If we don't allow someone to share joy with others, or to be him- or herself, or to simply express joy in a "different" way, then what makes us any better than Orwell's Big Brother? What makes us any better than Castro? What makes us any better than a drug lord?

Life. Joy. Expression. Who are we to judge?

JANA MURDOCK
Efland

No room for more traffic

Carrboro is the large ego of the Piedmont. There are a limited amount of roads in Carrboro. – but with the PTA project, townies are like "hip-hip hooray"; the building project by the Car's Cradle, townies are like "hip-hip hooray"; and the project across from Open Eye, townies are like "hip-hip hooray." Those three projects are going to cause an unbelievable amount of traffic on already overtaxed roads, but the CVS project gets a "BOO" from townies. The main corner was once owned by the darling of town, Weaver Street Market (they did nothing with it). The people in town have turned into a town of hypocrites.

All of the proposed projects suck – there is not any more room in Carrboro for vehicle traffic. That is why it is a small town (which could be a good thing, if the right plans were in place).

STEVEN SCHRENZEL
Snow Camp

Thanks from Meals on Wheels

Chapel Hill/Carrboro Meals on Wheels would like to thank the MLK University/Community Planning Corporation for honoring us with one of their Bridge Builders awards at the 27th annual Martin Luther King Jr. memorial banquet on Jan. 15. MOW has been serving the local community for 35 years delivering hot, nutritious meals to those individuals unable to prepare meals for themselves. Without our group of dedicated drivers, bakers and donors, this endeavor would not be possible. We appreciate the recognition given by the MLK Corporation to all these wonderful people who give their time and resources to help serve others. Our thanks again to Ms. Terri Houston and the Board of Directors of the MLK University/Community Planning Corporation and to Mrs. Lillian Lee and the Awards Committee for this honor. To learn more about Meals on Wheels visit our website, chcmow.org.

STACEY YUSKO
Director, Meals on Wheels
SUSAN WILLIAMS
Board Chair, Meals on Wheels

Community
rights vs.
property
rights

BARBARA TRENT

Whatever sympathies toward the protesters who occupied the abandoned Yates Motor Co. building or feelings about the heavy-handed response by the police one might have, the incident raises some serious issues as to whether property owners have a responsibility to see that their properties are used for the betterment of the local community. I am encouraged by the comments of Carrboro Board of Aldermen members Dan Coleman and Sammy Slade and Occupy supporter Geoff Gilson regarding these issues. We need to find civil solutions. In Central America, Nicaragua faced and resolved a similar issue 30 years ago.

David Kasper and I went to Nicaragua in 1983 to shoot our first documentary feature, *Destiny in Nicaragua*. What we found then reminds me of Chapel Hill's plight with the Yates building.

By the time dictator Anastasio Somoza was run out of Nicaragua in 1979, his family personally owned about one third of the land in the country. His rich friends pretty much owned the rest.

At that time the new government was dealing with situations not so different than the ever-empty Yates building. When Somoza fell in Nicaragua, he and his cronies looted everything they could, moved to Miami and left behind only what they couldn't move, namely the land and empty buildings. Their intention was to keep their properties vacant so that they could not be used to serve the community under a new government that they opposed.

Nicaragua countered this strategy by passing laws requiring farmland be farmed, houses be lived in and factories be in operation in order for the owner to retain ownership. If after several years those requirements were not fulfilled, the owners lost all rights to the property and it was used for the betterment of the population. Farmland was deeded to large cooperatives of people to farm, and buildings were turned into clinics, museums, schools, libraries and homes. Those properties served the people who lived in Nicaragua. This process does not seem so different from our eminent domain laws.

In the 1980s Nicaragua was experimenting with a mixed economy where private and public ownership of property and services was established with the aim of guaranteeing basic rights, services and opportunities for everyone while still promoting and rewarding private enterprise. Unfortunately, for 10 years the U.S. ran an illegal covert war against Nicaragua that sabotaged economic assets and terrorized innocent civilians, killing thousands, so we don't know how these economic experiments might have played out.

When I look at that empty Yates building in the heart of downtown and hear about all of the empty foreclosed homes across the country, I can't help but wonder if we too need to find new strategies so that no one is allowed to plunder and abandon our communities. At the very least, abandoned buildings should be taxed at a much higher rate than occupied and functioning buildings. Abandoned buildings require more police protection. They are fire hazards. They attract predator-related crime. But mostly, they are robbing this community of its potential. We must have policies that penalize the practice of leaving buildings abandoned, and encourage the appropriate uses that will benefit our communities.

Barbara Trent is an Oscar-winning filmmaker and seasoned activist.

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

A mental health model that works

BY TAYLOR SISK

To be diagnosed with a severe and persistent mental illness is, quite often, to be labeled an "other." It's an isolating experience. For many, simply having a place to go, where a sense of belonging is nurtured, can make all the difference in the world.

This premise is the foundation of a model of mental health care called clubhouse, introduced 64 years ago with the opening of Fountain House in New York City. There are now more than 300 clubhouses around the world, eight in North Carolina, which follow standards set by the International Center for Clubhouse Development.

These clubhouses are founded on the belief that "recovery from serious mental illness must involve the whole person in a vital and culturally sensitive community," with the individual as a partner in that recovery.

Essentially, clubhouses are community centers, offering hope and opportunity.

My first-hand experience with clubhouses is as a board member of Club Nova in Carrboro. Club Nova operates under a Community Bill of Rights comprising four guarantees: a place to come, meaningful work, meaningful relationships and a place to return.

Club members participate in the management and upkeep of Club Nova, and the club offers an employment program in collaboration with the local business community. Transitional employment helps bridge the gap between work within the clubhouse and independent employment. Members are often then placed in permanent jobs, with ongoing support.

"Before Club Nova," said Jim Huegerich, director of Crisis and Human Services for the Chapel Hill Police Department, "like clockwork, those with chronic and persistent mental illness would cycle in and out of state mental hospitals every six months, initially surfacing with

law enforcement in a crisis. For those who are members of Club Nova, this cycle has essentially been broken."

"Throughout my career as a police officer, I've met many people associated with Club Nova, and I've grown both professionally and personally through those contacts," Carrboro Police Chief Carolyn Hutchison said. "I value the collaborative relationship that exists between the Carrboro Police Department and Club Nova."

Why not more?

Clubhouses are "the most cost-effective treatment for the persistently mentally ill," said state Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, a longtime supporter.

Threshold Clubhouse in Durham compiled some statistics in 2010 that help define the cost-effectiveness of the model. Based on its Medicaid reimbursement rate, six months of care at Threshold costs \$10,412, less than the price of eight days of psychiatric care at Central Regional Hospital. (That reimbursement rate has since been reduced.)

Studies have shown the rehospitalization rate for people with severe and persistent mental illness to be as high as 40 percent after six months and 75 percent after five years. For 2011, Threshold had a rehospitalization rate of 7 percent after one year, a number consistent with past years and with other clubhouses in the state.

Places of employment for Club Nova members have included Staples, the YMCA, Carolina Fitness, the UNC School of Social Work, Open Eye Cafe and the Mental Health Association.

"Club Nova members gain real work experience and renewed self-confidence," state Rep. Verla Insko said, "and the business people gain insights into the strengths and abilities of people with mental illness, as well as some very good workers."

Clubhouse members aren't just good workers, they're good teachers.

"Club Nova has been a place

of learning for me and for my students that is penetrating and constantly renewing," said Sue Estroff, a professor in UNC's School of Social Medicine. Club members have been guest lecturers in her classroom for years, and she sometimes moves that classroom to the clubhouse.

"The visit is indelible for the students," she said.

Welcome

These are all compelling arguments for the funding of clubhouses. But the importance of that simple guarantee of a place to go shouldn't be downplayed. In a fundamental regard, the clubhouse structure itself is salvation.

Susan Coppola is a clinical associate professor in UNC's division of occupational science. We build ramps for wheelchairs and make other adaptations for conditions like vision or hearing loss, she points out.

But "invisible conditions, like mental illness, require more subtle environmental adaptations that are difficult to understand," she said. "Because of the complexity, and let's face it, the stigma of mental illness, we are reluctant to invest in environmental situations that reasonably accommodate and support these conditions."

"Individuals with mental illness and their families have had to work outside the system to create these environments, and do so at a very low cost."

Clubhouses, Coppola said, are such efforts in action.

Recent research into the phenomenon of resiliency finds that people recover from illness — both physical and psychological — better when they have social support.

"Clubhouse member" may just sound like pretty words, said Jacquie Gist, a member of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen. "But that's what it's about, and it really makes a difference. Not 'patient'; not 'client.' 'Clubhouse member.' It's a sense of belonging, and an indication of how members are valued."

Some years ago, Jonah Pierce,

a nurse now working with HIV/AIDS patients, was receiving treatment after two suicide attempts, and was progressing well. But, he said, "I desperately needed to be needed in some way."

The desire to belong is universal, Pierce said, but it's especially true for those with a stigmatizing illness. "Immediately upon coming to Club Nova, I felt this incredible sense of welcome."

"I've known some members for 30 years now," Gist said, "and I've seen how they've been given the resources to get by, the support tools they need to live and thrive."

And, she adds, "Most importantly, it's done with dignity."

The clubhouse experience can help people with mental health disabilities overcome not only their symptoms but the feelings of despair that can develop when their lives are turned upside down by mental illness.

"These are the things that can disable you," said Larry Fricks, a national advocate for peer support in mental health treatment, "your symptoms, the stigma and the way your self-image changes when you experience mental illness."

"I have no desire to go back to my former days before Club Nova," said member Charlene Lee. "I have a strong desire to move forward," and she has.

Insko said that among her priorities as a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services is protecting funding for clubhouses across the state.

As we continue to defund and dismantle mental health care services in North Carolina, please ask your representatives to advocate for this critical, cost-effective and proven model of care. You'll be serving your community well.

"Club Nova is something our community can be straight-up proud about," Gist said. "It's something we've done right as a community. ... It saves lives."

AG SUMMIT FROM PAGE 1

pollination.

Tapp said the key to the success of his business was finding a niche in the market, thinking creatively and focusing on marketing his product, which he feels is the weakest part of the agricultural industry.

"Thinking outside the box and staying local is the name of the game," he said.

Matthew Roybal, manager of the new Piedmont Food and Agricultural Processing Center in Hillsborough, believes his center

can help local farmers market their product and make connections.

"We hope to bridge the gap between growers and retail producers," he said.

Roybal said some companies, such as Amy's, which makes organic vegetarian frozen meals, have approached him to inquire about getting local produce.

Through the center, Roybal said he hopes he can help increase demand for farmers' products, thereby helping the local economy.

"We all win when agriculture thrives," Price said.

PEACE & JUSTICE FROM PAGE 1

in front of the post office and the entryway near Bank of America Plaza on Franklin Street, prohibits groups from using the space between 2 a.m. and 7 a.m. In addition, groups must apply for permits 48 hours in advance in order to use either space, though groups without permits may use the spaces for up to three hours if the spaces aren't already reserved by other groups.

The regulation also stipulates that permits won't be issued for more than seven consecutive days to the same group and that groups can't reserve both sides of Peace and Justice Plaza at the same time.

Those who violate the regulations could be fined up to \$500.

Council member Jim Ward said he would have preferred to allow groups to stay overnight at the plaza.

"I think the more freedoms we can give people, the better off we are. I think we are who we are because of that kind of attitude," he said.

However, others said they felt that camping overnight wasn't appropriate, given that the town has to make bathrooms available in order for that to be acceptable.

Council member Laurin Easthom cast the lone vote against the regulations, saying she felt the council needed to

have a discussion on civil disobedience before implementing such an ordinance.

Several members of the public spoke in opposition of the regulations, saying they hinder First Amendment rights.

"We must err on the side of openness and access to the public commons," said Will Raymond, adding that there are "vanishingly few public spaces left to assemble as citizens. If not Peace and Justice Plaza, where?"

"What concerns me is that the people who are down there peacefully and who are trying to work for a better change for our community and our state may end up, if the wrong ordinances are passed, with fewer rights than the bar patrons who organize outside bars," said Carol Edmonds.

Others argued that enforcement of the regulations was needed in order to respect the interests of all of the town's residents and visitors.

Brandy McDonald, who owns East End Oyster and Martini Bar, across Henderson Street from Peace and Justice Plaza, urged the board to enforce regulations.

"You've allowed numerous regulations to be broken without consequence," she said. "I think it is ... unconstitutional to pick and choose who has to adhere to town code and who does not."

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

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.

NEAL'S DELI
Mardi Gras celebration this Saturday thru Tuesday. Muffuletta sandwiches, gumbo, king cake, beads & prizes!

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.

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Family photo session \$75, through Feb 29.

FIFTH SEASON
Free home brewing demonstration Feb. 25th.

BLU ICON
30% off cuts and highlights in February.

MODERN FOSSIL
Coats & sweaters 45% off. Check out new spring arrivals!

(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.

LADY JAGS PREVAIL OVER S. GRANVILLE



Carrboro's Camille Gallagher drives to score.



Carrboro's Diamond Tyson drives through traffic for a layup. Tyson scored a game-high 24 points.

The Carrboro High School women's basketball team defeated the South Granville Vikings, 65-48, in the first-round playoff game of the Carolina 12 2A basketball conference championship. Carrboro took on Northwood on Wednesday after *The Citizen's* deadline.

PHOTOS BY TED SPAULDING



Jaguar Haley Davis drives to the basket. Davis had 15 points against the Vikings.

School Briefs



The Chapel Hill High women's ensemble performed Friday night, with Jenny Jin playing viola and William Hayes adding percussion. PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

Choral showcase

The UNC Women's Glee Club sponsored the fifth annual Carolina Women's Choral Showcase last Friday in Hill Hall, with the price of admission set at one canned good for the North Carolina Food Bank.

The concert featured women's choirs from all three CHCCS high schools, Orange High, Cedar Grove High, Durham School for the Arts and Riverside High. Each choir performed two selections alone, ending with a joint performance of "O Clap Your Hands" by Stephen Chatman.

National Merit Finalists

Thirty CHCCS seniors have been named 2012 National Merit Finalists. Finalists from Carrboro High School are: Laura Hamon, Jason Ilieve, Michael Jushchuk, Hadley Reid and Hannah Schwarz. Finalists from Chapel Hill High School are: Zaynah Alam, Eric Anderson, Olivia Dang, Anya Josephs,

Kristen Laubscher, Daphne Liu, Abby Muller, Esther Rolf, Melody Song, Katherine Stafford, Jacob Stern, Adam Wang and Jean Ye. Finalists from East Chapel Hill High School are: Shreya Das, Shuo Deng, Karishma Desai, Katherine Gunn, William Holub-Moorman, Ching-Ying Lin, Daniel Liu, Benjamin Marks, Sophie To, Hannah Weaver, Benjamin Zalutsky and Li Zhang.

Ethics Bowl champs

East Chapel Hill High School repeated as champions of the second Triangle High School Ethics Bowl on the UNC campus Saturday. Triangle Area Homeschool finished second, Raleigh Charter High took third and Chapel Hill High came in fourth. The scores in the semifinals and finals were extremely close, with East prevailing over Triangle Area Homeschool by a score of 150 to 148 in the deciding round. More than 100 students participated.

School Lunch Menus

FRIDAY 2/17

Elementary School: Cheese MAXX Sticks w/Sauce, Chicken Salad Sandwich, Spinach Salad, Tossed Salad, Seasoned Black-Eyed Peas, Orange Smiles, Fruit Cocktail

Middle and High School: Macaroni & Cheese, Homemade Blueberry Square, Seasoned Green Peas, Baked Turkey Corn Dog w/Baked Beans

MONDAY 2/20

Teacher Workday

TUESDAY 2/21

Elementary School: Chicken Fajita Burrito, Cheeseburger, Fruit & Cheese Platter w/Cookies, Corn Cobettes, Seasoned Pinto Beans, Rosy Applesauce, Chilled Peaches

Middle and High School: Fajita Chicken, Beef Taco Meat, Tortillas, Brown Rice, Black Beans, Buffalo Chicken Poppers w/Tater Tots

WEDNESDAY 2/22

Elementary School: Cheese Pizza, Breaded Chicken Caesar Wrap, Garden Salad, Cucumber Cup w/Dip, Mixed Vegetables, Banana,

Pineapple Cup

Middle and High School: Chicken Pot Pie, Blueberry Apple-Crumble, Baked Sweet Potato, Bacon Cheese Burger w/Fries

THURSDAY 2/23

Elementary School: Beef Lasagna w/Garlic Bread, PB&J, Taco Chef Salad, Caesar Side Salad, Glazed Carrots, Fruited Jello, Orange Smiles

Middle and High School: Oriental Chicken, Seasoned Cabbage, Lo Mein Noodles or Brown Rice, Vegetable Blend, Ham & Cheese Sandwich w/ Tomato Soup

Weaver Street is OPEN

to vehicle, bike & pedestrian traffic!



The Town of Carrboro would like to 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
CITIZEN



The Orange County Human Relations Commission invites you to the
PAULI MURRAY HUMAN RELATIONS AWARDS CEREMONY

Sunday, February 26, 2012
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

PLACE:

Central Orange Senior Center Ballroom
103 Meadowland Drive
Hillsborough, NC 27278

HONORING:

Student Essay Contest Winners
Pauli Murray Human Relations Award Recipients

ENTERTAINMENT:

Diali Cissokho
Sacrificial Poets

A reception will follow the program.
For additional information call: (919) 245-2487.

puzzle solutions

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CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Who Will Win?

The greatest competition of body and ignorance that has ever been fought in the U.S. Republicans presidential primaries

TOWING
FROM PAGE 1

set caps at \$125 for towing vehicles from private lots, \$50 to release vehicles to owners after hook-up but before towing and \$20 per day for storage after the first 24 hours.

Town staff had recommended a \$100 town-wide limit, but council members said they felt that should be increased, since the \$100 limit for downtown was set four years ago.

In 2011, 673 cars were towed from non-residential private property in downtown Chapel Hill, up from 550 in 2010, including 120 from Panera; 89 from Warehouse Apartments; 87 from McDonald's; 85 from the lot at 306 W. Franklin, between Vespa and Noodles & Co.; and 74 from the

lot at the corner of Henderson and Rosemary streets.

Tom Stark, an attorney representing George's Towing, which opposes the changes, said his client had installed video surveillance not as a predatory practice but to document walk-off towing at lots his drivers tow from, including the 306 W. Franklin lot.

"In every instance that you tow someone's car, you have an unhappy person there, and what they say about what happened is rarely accurate, which is part of the beauty of doing the videotaping," he said, adding that in most cases cars are towed 10 to 30 minutes after the driver walks off.

"[Tow truck drivers] try to be lenient in the policy, but the purpose of the policy is to keep people from tying up lots," Stark said.

CVS
FROM PAGE 1

Center St. because of vandalism.

On Feb. 4, a group of masked protesters identifying themselves as "Carrboro Commune" occupied the 201 North Greensboro building, 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."

The demonstration ended relatively peacefully after several hours, when police and Mayor Mark Chilton asked protesters to leave or face arrest and the group left the building. The group has promised to return and has announced plans to conduct "guer-

rilla gardening" at the site on March 17, in which the property will be turned into a community garden.

The building was sold by Weaver Street Market to Revco, a subsidiary of CVS Caremark, in 2010. CVS' plans to develop the property have drawn fire from nearby residents, who say the development wouldn't fit into the proposed space and would increase traffic on an already burdened area.

At last week's meeting, some residents expressed frustration at the occupation and the subsequent decision by CVS to put a fence around the property, as well as the direction of the debate, which has often focused on simply not having a CVS on the corner, rather than the design of the project.

"Go fight the zoning issue and come to a zoning public hearing and do it there," said Jackie Tanner, who said she also opposes CVS' proposal. "I am getting tired of sitting here and wasting my time and listening to people rail against corporate America."

Residents also debated whether the design of the project, which developers say they modeled after Carr Mill Mall, should be more modern.

"[The proposed design] blends in the mill town," said Celia Pierce.

"I like the idea and appreciate the fact that you all are trying to keep us looking the way that we have looked," she said.

James Carnahan disagreed, saying he would like to see a more creative design.

"This is a key intersection at

the very heart of town and what we find at these kinds of intersections in communities that have been here for a long time is really important architecture," he said. "I see you trying to copy Carr Mill, and I wouldn't want you to do that."

Polzella said CVS officials have not found a tenant for the second-floor space of the proposed project, but that they had been in discussions with the county about using that space for its southwest library branch. However, she said, county officials have said the space isn't compatible with the vision the county has for a library, which would need more square footage and first-floor space.

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing on the project on March 27.

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photo by Gretchen Mathison in front of the Carrboro PTA Thrift Shop

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Saturdays 7am-Noon

What's at Market

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VEGGIES: greenhouse tomatoes, rhubarb, cabbage, green garlic, parsley, plant starters, Brussels sprouts, arugula, cilantro, parsley, radishes, carrots, turnips, beets, fennel, potatoes, lettuces, kale, bok choy, Swiss chard, collard greens, kale, mustard greens, spinach, fresh herbs, white and purple sweet potatoes, dried tomatoes and more
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\$25 for advance buttons for all farms, \$30 day of farm tour.
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Weaver Street Market
Year of Community-Owned Carrboro

Interactive Google Map at www.weaverstreetmarket.coop
www.carolinafarmstewards.org



Julia E. Shields black-and-white nandina original appears on this year's exotic invasive T-shirt. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE N.C. BOTANICAL GARDEN



Native flora is displaced by invasive nandina in Piedmont forests." PHOTO BY JOHNNY RANDALL

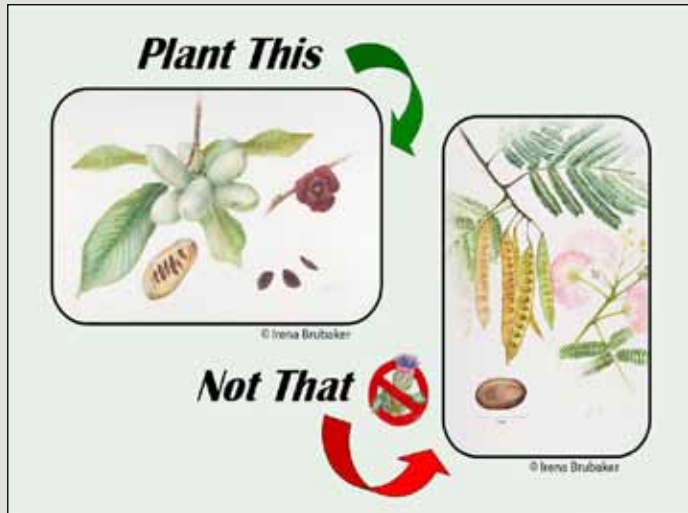
FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

Chinese wisteria creeps over and destroys mature trees: "Oh it's so beautiful, why would one get rid of it?"

In addition to sources of information on exotic invasives on the Garden's website (ncbg.unc.edu.com), an excellent resource for understanding the issues and discovering native alternatives to the "bully" exotics is the "Going Native: Urban Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants" website at N.C. State (ncsu.edu/going-native).

The site is engaging and worth exploring. For instance, it says that recent studies indicate that birds nesting in some exotic shrubs experience poor nesting success. And exotic fruits, while attractive to wildlife, may not provide the best nutrition for native wildlife.

You may recall Mary Sonis' beautiful image in *The Citizen's* current issue of



Plant native pawpaw (left) instead of invasive mimosa (right). ARTWORK BY IRENA BRUBAKER

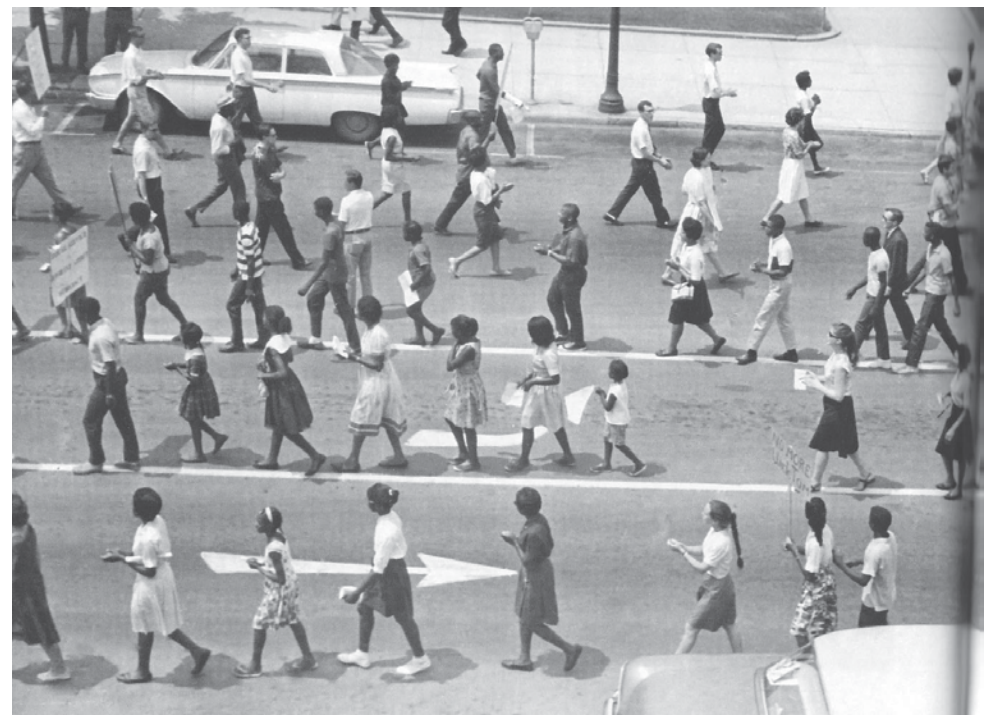
MILL of the cedar waxwing feasting on privet berries along Bolin Creek. Not only may that overabundance of privet berries be providing poor nutrition, those birds are spreading the seed from the digested berries everywhere, which accounts for the impenetrable privet thickets that, along with the thickets of *Eleagnus umbellata*, autumn olive, have so degraded that stream corridor.

My woods-walking buddies Brian and Tony are now referring to these invasive species as "bullies" in the native plant world, and you know what? During our

walks, we frequently stop and grub out these "bullies" when we come upon them. What a great feeling on a recent walk to free some native spicebush from invading eleagnus along a stream bank. We can say we did it for the spicebush swallowtail.

So become aware of which plants are good and which are not and then take action, one plant at a time.

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



Courage in the Moment

Had it not been for Jim Wallace, I might not have become a photojournalist. During the summer of 1963, Jim, the senior *Daily Tar Heel* photographer, picked me, a rank newbie, to serve as his understudy. The next school year, '63-'64, was a defining moment for the civil rights movement in Chapel Hill, when demonstrators (including the Ik Word guy) picketed and marched for equal public accommodations at local segregated cafes, restaurants and lunch counters. To make this photo, dated Feb. 8, 1964, Jim scampered up the stairs in old Battle-Vance-Pettigrew dorm to get a high oblique view of demonstrators marching up and down Franklin Street in front of the post office. While other shooters took photos of the demonstrations, we wannabes understood that Jim Wallace was THE pre-eminent photojournalist, and his pictorial coverage of the civil rights era in the *DTH* served as a running visual history book of those tumultuous times. So how fitting that all these years later Wallace has put those searing black-and-white images together in a hardcover book, *Courage in the Moment: the Civil Rights Struggle, 1961-1964*, just published by Dover and available at local bookstores. And how additionally satisfying that Jim is back in town this week for book-signings and lectures – including a presentation to a photojournalism class taught by his old mentee. Way to go, Chief!

A THOUSAND WORDS

BY JOCK LAUTERER



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