



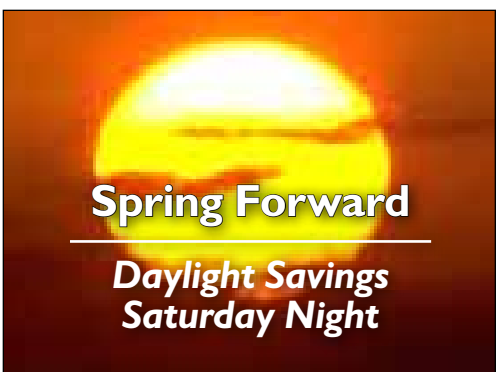
FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
56/31



SATURDAY
Clear
67/38



SUNDAY
Clear
67/36



Spring Forward
Daylight Savings
Saturday Night



The view is dramatic from Battle Park's Piney Prospect Overlook. PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Not an ordinary walk

I have mentioned Battle Park a number of times in past Flora stories, but I've never participated in a guided walk there. Two Saturdays past, I did, and what a walk it was! Don't miss an opportunity to sign up for one of N.C. Botanical Garden curator Stephen Keith's occasional interpretive walks through Battle Park's 93 acres of nature and history. Though the fine interpretive trail guides available at trailheads are helpful, they can't compare to Stephen's personally guided walk, a delightful energetic ramble from historic point to historic point. At the beginning, he set the stage, appropriately, next to UNC's legendary Forest Theatre. Many of the trails, he explained, were personally laid out and cleared by university President Kemp Plummer Battle during his reign from 1876 to 1891. Battle, for whom the forest park is named, sought peace and rejuvenation from the rigors of university responsibilities by blazing trails and experiencing the natural semi-wilderness so close to the heart of the university and the town.

Of note was a passage from Battle's papers asserting that university students of his era spent far too much time indoors with their studies, when a fuller education and healthier mind and body were to be gained by more time spent in the nearby out-of-doors. Our community is fortunate that Battle's solitary refuge continues to remain available to us for the spiritual and emotional rejuvenation that a mature forest can provide.

SEE FLORA PAGE 10

INSIDE

Northside News

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From Chapel Hill, a not so pleasant view of the session

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The air went out of the room about five minutes in. Last Friday, shortly after gathering around a conference table in the basement of Chapel Hill Town Hall for a legislative briefing, a delegation of three state representatives and two senators quickly moved to reel in any members of the Chapel Hill Town Council with high hopes for this year's General Assembly session.

When Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt made references to this year's "challenge," he was politely chided by Rep. Joe Hackney, the former House speaker, who now describes himself as a "junior backbencher." "Worse than 'challenge,'" Hackney said. Then in turn, Sens. Ellie Kinnaird and Bob Atwater and Reps. Larry Hall, Verla Insko and Hackney — all Democrats — proceeded to describe

in their own words life in the minority in a legislature that is fully in Republican hands for the first time since 1898. Kinnaird, hands down one of the most liberal North Carolina senators in recent memory and in the home stretch of her last term, was particularly candid in providing guidance on requests from the locals.

2011
General
Assembly

SEE LEGISLATURE PAGE 7

Ringling in 100 years

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer



Sue Morgan and Frances Shetley were among the dozens of citizens who lined up to ring the bell one hundred times at the Century Center during Carrboro's Charter Day celebration. PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

CARRBORO — In true Carrboro fashion, the ringing of the Carrboro Century Center bell commemorating the town's 100th birthday last Thursday evening was barely audible over the celebratory noise of the townspeople inside. "Nobody can make noise like Carrboro," said Jacquie Gist, a member of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen, wishing the town a happy birthday.

Following the town's annual reception recognizing advisory board and recreation volunteers, town staff, former board members, elected officials and residents young and old lined up to ring the bell 100 times. Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Randee Haven-O'Donnell told the audience how when she came to Carrboro 33 years ago, "I fell in love with it.

"There's no place like home," she said. U.S. Rep. David Price, who represents Orange County, presented a letter to the town from President Barack Obama recognizing the town's birthday, as well as a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in honor of Carrboro at Price's request.

SEE CENTENNIAL PAGE 7

Town manager upholds firing of public workers

Defense fund established
BY TAYLOR SISK
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — "When they realize you're not going away," local lawyer Al McSurely told some 50 people gathered last Thursday night at the First Baptist Church on North Roberson Street in Chapel Hill, "that's the part I like the most." Those assembled had come out in support of fired Chapel Hill Public Works Department employees Kerry Bigelow and Clyde Clark, whom McSurely represents. McSurely had learned the previous week that a Personnel Appeals Committee, comprised of Chapel Hill residents selected by the town council, had recommended against rehiring Bigelow

and Clark after hearing the men's appeals. The committee's nonbinding recommendations were sent to Town Manager Roger Stancil. On Monday, four days after the rally, Stancil upheld those recommendations. The two men were fired in October for alleged insubordination and intimidating behavior toward supervisors and residents along their waste-collection route. Bigelow and Clark countered that they were dismissed in retaliation for grievances they filed with management that alleged unsafe working conditions and racial bias in job placements and promotions.

SEE WORKERS PAGE 3



Clyde Clark (left) and Kerry Bigelow and their attorney, Al McSurely at a rally last Thursday night at First Baptist Church.

PHOTO BY WILL BRYANT

Tar Heels reclaim spot among nation's elite

BY EDDY LANDRETH
Staff Writer

The Tar Heels probably shocked some people with how easily they disposed of Duke in Chapel Hill to finish first in the final ACC regular-season standings. The victory vaulted Carolina to sixth in the Associated Press poll and seventh in the coaches' poll, up from 13th in both before the game. Now the challenge is to stay focused on improving each day and repeating the positive traits they've developed. "I think we've come a long way since Puerto Rico [last November], and I still think we have a long way we can go," said freshman Kendall Marshall, who with his performance

against Duke provided the nation with a glimpse of just how good the Tar Heels' newest point guard is. He went 5-of-8 from the field, scored 15 points, handed out 11 assists and made just two turnovers. UNC finished the regular season 24-6, 14-2 in the league, while Duke went 27-4, 13-3. The Tar Heels start fresh on Friday at noon at the Greensboro Coliseum in the ACC Tournament, playing the winner of Thursday's game between Virginia and Miami. The keys for this team to keep winning are to stay healthy and fight off



satisfaction. Satisfaction is one of the biggest hurdles to achieving greatness. "You want to peak at a time when it really matters, and that is what we're doing," sophomore John Henson said. "You know we can't get satisfied. We've got to keep it up." For a team that lost 17 games last season, failed to make the NCAA Tournament and began this year 4-3, winning the ACC regular season and the ACC Tournament would be a magnificent accomplishment. What this team has already done is a testament to coach Roy Williams, his staff and his ability to judge talent and recruit it, and a credit to the players' willingness to be coached,

stick together and develop a toughness that has enabled Carolina to find a way to win no matter what the circumstances. "I had a theory that if we just kept working, everything would fall into place, and it happened [on Saturday against Duke]," freshman forward Harrison Barnes said. "We won the ACC." But as any Carolina or Duke fan knows, the most important time of the year is the final weeks of the season. Ultimately, the measure of which team, Carolina or Duke, had the best year will be which team went further in the NCAA Tournament.

SEE LANDRETH PAGE 10

MUSIC CALENDAR



THURSDAY MAR 10

The Cave: Beware The Dangers Of A Ghost Scorpion, Mumu Tutu, Tickle Swith. 9pm.\$5

City Tap: Rebecca Newton. 8pm
Small Black Sun Airwa y. 9pm.
\$10/12

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Izzy and The Kesstronics, Little Gold, Little Heaven's Jail Band. 8pm

Nightlight: Des Ark, Pygmy Lush, Bellafea. 9:30pm. \$7

The Station at Southern Rail: The Fooligans, Grit Randy Witt. 10pm

FRIDAY MAR 11

Cats Cradle: John Mark McMillan, All The Bright Lights, Songs of Water. 8pm. \$10

The Cave: EARLY: Loose Screws LATE: Sh*t Horse, Pussy Mountain, The Toddlers

City Tap: Marc Brown. 8pm

Local 506: Wild Flag, Yellowfever. 9:30pm. \$10/12

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Doug Largent Trio. 9pm

The Station at Southern Rail: Alex Bowers Trio. 6pm

SATURDAY MAR 12

Cats Cradle: Rocky Votolato, Matt Pond. 9pm. \$10/12

The Cave: EARLY: Turntable Graveyard LATE:; The Cartridge Family, New Town Drunks

City Tap: David Quick. 8pm

General Store Cafe: Drowning

Lovers, Curtis Eller. 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Something Candid, Don De Leumont. 8pm Free

Local 506: Wye Oak, Lwer Dens. 9:30pm. \$8/10

Nightlight: Transportation, Township, Minor Stars. 10pm \$5

Open Eye Cafe: Luz. 8pm

The Station at Southern Rail: Not Dead Yet. 6pm

SUNDAY MAR 13

The Cave: EARLY: Joel Streeter, Greg Smith LATE: Pneurotics, VJ and the Sweet Sacrifice

Local 506: The Love Language, Telekinesis. 9:30pm

MONDAY MAR 14

The Cave: LATE: Drencht Earth Tour. \$5

Local 506: The Rural Alberta Advantage, Pepper Rabbit. 9:30pm. \$9/11

Nightlight: MI AMI, Stinkworx. 11pm. \$5

Reservoir: Anubis Unbound, This-Time It's War. 10pm. \$4

TUESDAY MAR 15

Cats Cradle: Fuse Band, Katharine Whalen and her Fascinators, Mixed Greenz, Mr. Coffee and the Creamers, Cole Park. 7:30pm. Donations

The Cave: LATE: Slingshot Cash, Jeremy Blair

Nightlight: No Eyes

WEDNESDAY MAR 16

The Cave: LATE: Radar's Clowns of Sedation, Sarah Shook and The Devil

Nightlight: Modern Day Pinocchio, Jamez

Piola: Chris Reynolds

University United Methodist: Hamilton College Choir. 7:30pm. Free

THURSDAY MAR 17

ArtsCenter: The Allen Boys,Todd Snider, 5pm

The Cave: EARLY: Mason's Apron. \$5 LATE: Shamrockers. \$5

City Tap: Sarah Shook and The Devil. 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Neil Cribbs, Shawn Deena. 8pm. Free

Local 506: Murs, Tabi Bonney, Ab-Soul, DJ Foundation. 9pm. \$13

Reservoir: The Static Minds, Heron, The Royal Nites. 10pm. \$4

The Station at Southern Rail: The magnolia Collective. 9:15pm

FRIDAY MAR 18

ArtsCenter: Robert Stone, The Lee Boys. 8:30pm

Cats Cradle: Carbon Leaf, Kennebec. 8:30pm. \$15/17

The Cave: Studio Gansters, Titanium Rex, Randy Whitt, Burke

City Tap: Jo Gore and The Alternative. 8pm

General Store Cafe: New Horizons Swing BAnd. 7pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Dead Sea Sparrow, Plum Giant, Eureka California. 8pm. Free

Local 506: Michael Showalter. 9pm \$12/14

Nightlight: Systems, Kolyma. 10pm. \$5

SATURDAY MAR 19

ArtsCenter: Aubrey Ghent Band

Cats Cradle: Holy Ghost Tent Revival, The Big Picture, House of Fools. 8:30pm. \$8/10

The Cave: Puritan Rodeo, Blood Red River, Turntable Graveyard

City Tap: Greg Humphreys, Scott Dameron, Jay Ladd V. 8pm

General Store Cafe: Leroy Savage Group. 8pm. \$5

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Dry River Trio, Sarah Howell and Gary Mitchell, Tristan. 8pm. Free

MOVIES

We suggest you call for exact show times

CAROLINA THEATRE OF DURHAM

309 W. Morgan St., 560-3030
Cedar Rapids, nightly at 7 & 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 & 4 p.m.; Somewhere, nightly at 7:15 & 9:15 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2:15 & 4:15 p.m.

CHELSEA THEATER

Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, 968-3005
Barney's Version; Cedar Rapids; Somewhere; The King's Speech

THE LUMINA

Southern Village, 932-9000
Battle: Los Angeles; Mars Needs Moms; Range; Red Riding Hood; The Adjustment Bureau

REGAL TIMBERLYNE 6

120 Banks Drive, 933-8600
Battle: Los Angeles; Gnomeo & Juliet; Mars Needs Moms; Range; Red Riding Hood; Take Me Home Tonight; The Adjustment Bureau

THE VARSITY

123 E. Franklin St., 967-8865

Black Swan; Tangled; Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part I



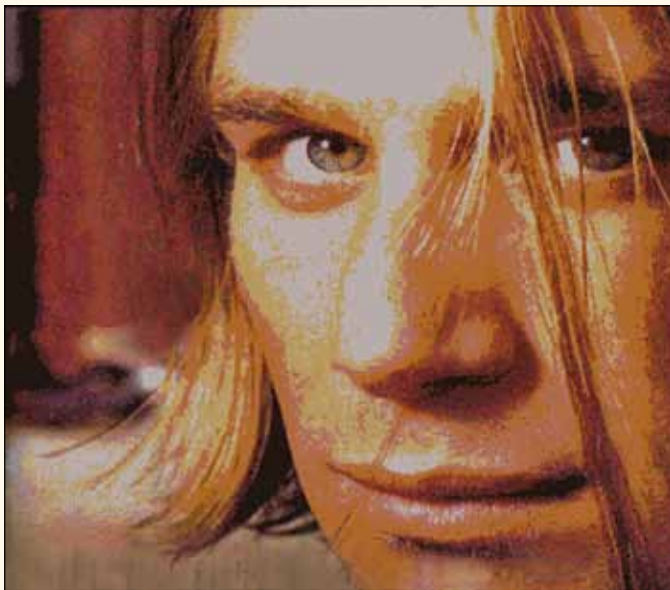
Woods Charter School will present a concert featuring Cole Park, Mixed Greenz, Katherine Whalen and her Fascinators and Fuse Band on **Tuesday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Cat's Cradle.**

The event will benefit Lara Tucker Cotrell, a mother of two who is very ill.

Cole Park is a band made up of high school students from Woods Charter, while Fuse Band is the group of Woods Charter music teacher Matt Vooris. Mixed Greenz has ties to Pace Academy, where Cotrell and her husband teach, and Whalen is a friend of the family.

The suggested donation is \$10 and all proceeds will go toward Cotrell's medical expenses. Those who would like to donate but cannot attend can do so online by clicking on the link to the show at catscradle.com. Doors open at 7 p.m.

SPOTLIGHT: TODD SNIDER



Todd Snider will perform at The ArtsCenter on Thursday, March 17 at 8 p.m.

With music that represents an intersection of folk, country blues and rock, Snider calls his new album, The Excitement Plan, "sorta JJ Cale meets Jerry Jeff Walker sounding with words that would hopefully impress Shel Silverstein, Bobby Bare, Chuck Berry, Kris Kristofferson or Randy Newman." The vociferous musician plays guitar, piano and harmonica, often performing barefoot.



FR 3/11 JOHN MARK McMILLAN
W/ALL THE BRIGHT LIGHTS, SONGS OF WATER**(\$10)

SA 3/12 ROCKY VOTOLATO/ MATT POND**(\$10/\$12)

TU 3/15 KATHERINE WHALEN AND HER FASCINATORS
W/FUSE BAND, MIXED GREENZ AND COLE PARK 7:30 PM SHOW

FR 3/18 CARBON LEAF
W/KENNEBEC**(\$15/\$17)

SA 3/19 HOLY GHOST TENT REVIVAL
W/BIG PICTURE AND HOUSE OF FOOLS**(\$8/\$10)

FR 3/25 ABBEY ROAD LIVE! PRESENTS
"SGT. PEPPER'S MYSTERY TOUR"
BEATLES TRIBUTE WITH LIVE HORNS AND STRINGS ORCHESTRATION**(\$15)

SA 3/26 RAUL MALO (OF MAVERICKS)**(\$22/\$25)

SU 3/27 SEBADOH
W/RICHARD BUCKNER**(\$15)

FR 4/1 WXYC 80S DANCE

SA 4/2 THE PAINS OF BEING PURE AT HEART
W/TWIN SHADOW**

SU 4/3 EASY STAR ALL-STAR
W/THE GREEN AND CAS HALEY**(\$15/\$17)

WE 4/6 BLACK LIPS
W/VIVIAN GIRLS AND GRINGO STAR**(\$12/\$14)

TH 4/7 DESTROYER
W/THE WAR ON DRUGS AND SHITHORSE**(\$13/\$15)

FR 4/8 THE MOUNTAIN GOATS
W/MEGAFAUN SOLD OUT

SA 4/9 DR. DOG
**(\$16/\$18) ON SALE 3/11

SU 4/10 J MASCIS
W/KURT VILE AND THE VIOLATORS**(\$16/\$18)



ALSO PRESENTING
LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)
FR 3/18 THE MR FUNNY PANTS TOUR WITH
MICHAEL SHOWALTER
FR 3/25 TIM BARRY
W/JENNY OWEN YOUNGS AND JASON KUTCHMA
TU 4/5 CIVIL TWILIGHT
W/ATOMIC TOM AND MOTHER/FATHER
SA 4/9 THE CHAPIN SISTERS

KINGS (RALEIGH)
TU 3/29 THE DAMNWELLS
W/HARPER BLYNN AND HOWARD JENNINGS
SU 4/17 HANDSOME FURS

THE ARTSCENTER (CARRBORO)
TH 3/17 TODD SNIDER, THE STORYTELLER
W/GUEST DJANGO HASKINS
FR 4/22 KINA GRANNIS
W/IMAGINARY FRIEND
TU 5/17 CRASH TEST DUMMIES

LINCOLN THEATRE (RALEIGH)
SA 3/26 SHARON JONES & THE DAP-KINGS
W/COUNTDOWN QUARTET

DISCO RODEO (RALEIGH)
SU 4/17 MIKE POSNER

WE 5/4 INTERPOL
W/SCHOOL OF SEVEN BELLS

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SA 6/11 THE DECEMBERISTS
W/BEST COAST ON SALE
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Briefs

Police seek suspect

The Carrboro Police Department seeks information on the whereabouts of Maria Estela Chavez-Guizar, who is charged with one count of intentional child abuse inflicting serious bodily injury.



Police hold an arrest warrant for Chavez-Guizar, of 501 Jones Ferry Road, for charges related to a Jan. 27 incident in which the victim was an infant in her care.

Anyone with information on her whereabouts is asked to call Sgt. Chris Atack at 918-7407 or Crime Stoppers at 942-7515.

Weaver Street bus stop closed

Chapel Hill Transit’s bus stops at Weaver Street Market and the Carrboro Century Center will be closed until further notice.

The stops were closed Monday because of construction on Weaver Street and will affect both the F and CW routes. Passengers may board the detoured buses at bus stops on Main Street at Jade Palace (westbound) and on Main Street at Weaver Street Realty (eastbound). Passengers may also board the F bus at stops on Greensboro Street at Harris Teeter (westbound) and Fitch Lumber (eastbound).

The stop at East Main and Lloyd streets will be relocated east of Lloyd Street in front of Gourmet Kingdom.

Rabid raccoon found

A raccoon found in Chapel Hill tested positive for rabies last week at the State Laboratory of Public Health.

The raccoon was submitted after a resident in the vicinity of Southbridge Drive and Culbreth Road saw her dog barking at it under her deck. The resident retrieved the dog and contacted Animal Control, who removed the raccoon for testing.

The dog’s rabies vaccination had lapsed, so it must be either quarantined for six months or destroyed, in accordance with North Carolina law. By contrast, animals exposed to rabies that are current on their vaccinations must receive booster shots within 120 hours of exposure.

This is the third positive rabies test that Orange County has received this year. If any possible exposure to a bat, raccoon or fox is suspected, call Animal Control at 245-2075 or call 911.

Sales-tax hearing

The Orange County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Tuesday to gather public comment on a potential Nov. 8 referendum on a quarter-cent sales tax.

In it’s 2007 budget, the legislature gave counties the option of a quarter-cent sales-tax increase of a 0.4 percent land-transfer tax to help compensate for money taken away from counties when the responsibility for paying for Medicaid was turned over to the state. A sales-tax referendum was narrowly defeated in the November 2010 election and commissioners have said they would like to revisit the measure. The sales tax is expected to generate \$2.5 million annually.

The hearing will be held during the board’s regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. at the Southern Human Services Center on Homestead Road.

Smith Level bus stop moved

Chapel Hill Transit will permanently relocate the bus stop on Smith Level Road at BPW Club Road beginning Monday.

The stop, which is opposite University Commons Apartments, will be moved beyond the intersection of BPW Club Road due to safety concerns.

Ag Summit

The 13th annual Orange County Agricultural Summit will be held March 21 at the Ruritan Club in Cedar Grove.

The summit will feature tours of Thompson’s Prawn Farm, Tiny Farm and the Piedmont Food and Agricultural Processing Center. Joe Thompson, owner of Thompson’s Prawn Farm, will be honored as the 2010 N.C. Small Farmer of the Year.

The summit fee is \$10 and registration will take place from 8 to 8:30 a.m. A lunch made with locally grown products will be served. To reserve a spot, contact the Orange County Cooperative Extension office at 245-2050. For more information, including the agenda and driving directions, visit orange.ces.ncsu.edu

Former mayor dies

Former Hillsborough Mayor Paul Williams died Monday at the age of 72.

The Hillsborough native and lifelong resident served on the Hillsborough Town Board before he was elected mayor. He also served on the Orange County ABC Board, the Economic Development Commission and the Orange County Historic Museum Board.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Walker’s Funeral Home in Hillsborough.

Weaver Street reminder

CARRBORO — Work started Monday on the yearlong project to replace Weaver Street’s collapsing roadbed and the 80-year-old sewer line beneath it.

The first phase of the \$1 million project started at the eastern end of the road and will work west toward the intersection of Main and Weaver streets, across from Town Hall. Work on the replacement of the water main

has already brought Weaver Street down to one lane in the east block in front of Weaver Street Market. On-street parking along Weaver Street near the Spotted Dog was taken out of service to allow for excavation equipment and trucks.

Eventually, the roadbed reconstruction will force the closure of both lanes. However, the road will be worked on in several sec-

tions, from east to west, to avoid closing any section for a long period of time and thereby reduce the impact on local businesses.

Town officials have said drivers should expect congestion downtown, and suggest using Estes Drive Extension and N.C. 54 bypass for through traffic and Jones Ferry Road as an alternate route into downtown.

— Staff Reports

WORKERS
FROM PAGE 1

They also alleged that the town took action against them in response to their efforts to organize town employees with the N.C. Public Service Workers Union-UE Local 150.

Denial of Bigelow’s appeal was recommended by a 3-2 vote, Clark’s by a 5-1 vote.

In his statement upholding the recommendations, Stancil wrote:

“The Town of Chapel Hill does not tolerate discrimination, harassment and other forms of mistreatment within its workforce or in its relationships with residents and visitors. ...

“The Town of Chapel Hill does not interfere with the right of our employees to organize. We recognize that right and support it with such efforts as dues deduction from paychecks for those who choose that option and provision of space for employee organization news postings in Town facilities. We have an on-going expectation and practice of involving employees in decisions that affect them.”

Though Stancil had not yet released his decision, it seemed a foregone conclusion to those who gathered at First Baptist Church. Bigelow and Clark, now called the Sanitation Two, and their support team have stressed that, while disappointed, they’re undeterred.

The strategy now is to ap-

peal to the public at large and to decide whether to file a suit against the town. The men also have filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

“We’ve just begun,” McSurely told the crowd, composed of young and old, black and white, labor representatives from outside the area and longtime local social-justice activists. “We’re in this for the long haul.”

McSurely has spoken of a “deeper theme” to the men’s firings, rooted in what he describes as an ongoing history of discrimination against blacks by both the town and the university.

The rally began with a singing of the protest song “We Shall Not Be Moved.” McSurely then described the appeals-committee hearings. He said he believed it was an “embarrassment to all those associated with the town of Chapel Hill to call them hearings,” citing town legal adviser Tiffany Sneed’s use of anonymous witnesses to make statements against the men.

“Those of us who occasionally have glimpsed the town’s plantation practices toward its black workers were not surprised when it presented two anonymous female voices at the hearings as its main evidence against two black workers,” McSurely said this week.

“And we were not surprised when the town attorney, who announced he was advising the volunteer citizens on the hearing board, found nothing wrong

with this violation of the concept of due process and fair hearings that has been recognized since the Magna Carta.”

“I ask everybody here to stick with us as we dig in for a fight,” McSurely said Thursday night.

Curtis Gatewood, second vice president of the North Carolina NAACP, brought the assembled to their feet with a call to speak out on behalf of the men, saying, “It ain’t over till God says it’s over.”

Bigelow and Clark delivered brief remarks. “Don’t talk about it,” Bigelow said, “be about it.”

“It’s a lot bigger than Clyde and Kerry,” said Michelle Laws, president of the local chapter of the NAACP, “we’re fighting for social justice for all public workers.”

Laws said the men and their supporters are deliberating over next steps and that a legal defense team has been established. A collection was taken at the close of the evening, and Laws asked that people write letters to editors and express their views to town council members. She said that she’ll make an appeal for Stancil’s firing at the March 14 council meeting.

Laws also called for the repeal of N.C. General Statute 95-98, which prohibits collective bargaining for public workers.

“While there is no collective bargaining,” said activist and local NAACP officer Robert Campbell, “let us speak with a collective voice.”

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

HOW TO REACH US

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Briefs

Food truck round-up

Parlez Vous Crepe, Will and Pop's, Only Burger, Blue Sky Dining and Captain Ponchos Tacos are the featured vendors at the next gathering of food trucks at Al's Garage. The event, which runs 4 to 7p.m. on March 19, also includes music by Teru'ah and Brainbow. For information on the gathering, contact Isabel at 636-2767.

Training offered

Parents of special-needs students in middle and high school are invited to attend a daylong training to prepare students for life after graduation on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Orange United Methodist Church on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

"Building a Life: Transition to Adulthood," will be facilitated by national transitions expert George Tilson, vice president of TransCen Inc.

The training is free and is co-sponsored by the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center, Josh's Hope and the Family Advocacy Network, a program of Mental Health America of the Triangle. All training materials, snacks and lunch are included. To register online, follow the link at fan-mhaor-angeco.org/newsandevents or call (800) 962-6817, ext. 310 or 317.

Mala for Susie's Miracle Fund

Franklin Street Yoga will sponsor a yoga event in support of Susie's Miracle Fund, which works to support animal-abuse victims and to increase state laws and penalties for animal cruelty, at 1:30 p.m. on March 20.

Lori Burgwyn, owner of Franklin Street Yoga Center and a supporter of animal-rescue organizations, said she was inspired by Susie's story. Now a grown dog, Susie was beaten, set on fire and left to die at a park in Guilford County. She survived and was on hand last year for the signing ceremony for a new law named in her honor, increasing penalties for animal cruelty.

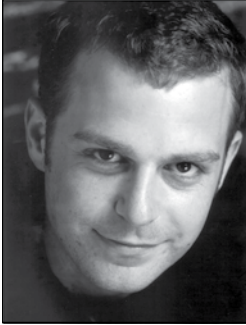
Susie plans to attend the yoga event to lend a helping paw.

New guy at PlayMakers

PlayMakers Repertory Company has selected Jeffrey Meanza, the theater company's education and outreach director, to work on expanding PlayMakers' artistic programming and community outreach.

Meanza is an actor and teacher with experience in New York, Minneapolis and the San Francisco Bay area. He has appeared in PlayMakers productions of *Angels in America*, *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby* and *Amadeus*.

He is administrative leader of the Summer Youth Conservatory, created in partnership with The ArtsCenter, and created The Vision Series, which fosters dialogue with guest and resident directors, and offers a behind-the-scenes look at PlayMakers' work in progress.



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 ear infections and niacin.

Dear HOUSE Calls, My daughter had tubes put in her ears six months ago. I've noticed that every time she gets a cold, her left ear drains, sometimes with foul-smelling thick material. How do I know when it's infected and she needs an antibiotic?

First off, tubes are literally little pipes that go through the eardrum to prevent pus from backing up behind the eardrum and causing pain. When people who are prone to ear infections get a cold, fluid backs up behind the eardrum, gets infected and then causes pressure and pain. These tubes allow the fluid to drain freely, and this fluid can leak out of the ear. The discharge coming from your daughter's tubes means that they are probably doing what they are supposed to be doing. We encourage you to follow up with the doctor who put the tubes in to make sure that the tubes are still in place and that they are functioning properly. We

would also encourage you to bring your daughter to her family doctor next time she is having pus drain out of that left ear to make sure the tube is functioning well when she is sick. When kids with tubes have a fever and ear pain, it can be a sign that the tubes are not functioning or have fallen out.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I thought niacin was a cholesterol-lowering supplement and a B vitamin, so I thought I would try it. When I took it, my whole body turned beet red. I was so worried, I went to my doctor, who quickly linked it with niacin. I thought vitamins were safe and natural ways to improve health. Is this unusual?

This is actually pretty common with niacin, especially immediate-release preparations. It is perfectly safe, so no worries, no harm done. If you want to take niacin for cholesterol and you have this side effect, it can be fully prevented in most people by taking 325 mg of aspirin 30 minutes before the niacin. Another option

is to take sustained-release niacin, but that can actually cause liver inflammation in a small percentage of people, again depending on the preparation. Because of these issues, many people just don't want to bother with niacin. However, it is an effective way to lower triglycerides, and it is cheap. The immediate-release kind is also very safe, but causes this side effect. You raise an important point: Just because it is a vitamin, it does not mean it is safe. Remember that vitamin preparations can vary greatly, and you can get too much of a good thing. We've recently seen some new information about the side effects of high doses of vitamin D, for example. So, because it is over-the-counter, be cautious, and consider discussing new supplements with your family doctor.

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.

OBITUARIES



Murray Furman

Murray Furman, 89, died peacefully at his home in Chapel Hill, N.C., on March 1, 2011. He is survived by sons David (wife, Marianne) of Wayne, Pa., Paul (wife, Sharon) of Scottsdale, Ariz., Steve of Carrboro, N.C., and Gerald (wife, Sue) of Mebane, N.C. He is also survived by his grandchildren Nicholas (wife, Laura Faith), Laura Jeanne, Sarah, Elizabeth, Allison Jeanne, Joshua, Mad-

elyn Jeanne and Melissa. He was predeceased by his wife, Jeanne Jeannette (Jones), who passed away in 1983. He is also survived by his brother-in-law, Thomas Jones (wife, Julie) of Pinehurst, N.C., and sister-in-law, Louise Schermerhorn (husband, Richard) of Allentown, Pa., as well as numerous nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind many very loyal and close friends at the Occaneechee Golf Course in Hillsborough, where he was a lifetime member.

Mr. Furman was born July 9, 1921, in the Bronx, N.Y., to parents Hyman and Esther Furman. After graduating high school at 16, he entered the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of major. After 24 years of service, serving in both World War II and the Korean War, and on numerous bases around the world, he retired to Chapel Hill, where he became an administrator for the

University of North Carolina and raised his family. He retired from UNC in 1982.

Memorial donations may be made to Club Nova Community, Inc., P.O. Box 1346, Carrboro, NC 27510.

Charles Hodson

Charles Bernard Hodson, longtime Chapel Hill, N.C., attorney, died Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2011, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Durham, N.C. He was 86.

Born March 7, 1925, in San Antonio, Texas, Charlie came to Chapel Hill as an undergraduate at UNC. There he met his future wife, Virginia, who was working in her sister's flower shop. Plans to attend law school were postponed by service in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he proudly served in the Pacific Theater of World War II. Upon discharge, Charlie returned to North Carolina to finish his

education, eventually starting a private practice in Chapel Hill, where he made his home.

Service-oriented and with a strong sense of social justice, Charlie strove to help his clients in any way he could, often working for trade or pro bono. His practice often took him away from home and family. He was an unmistakable figure in cowboy boots and hat, well known throughout the state.

Charlie was an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the American Legion, where he served

as state commander in 1972. Loyal to his fellow vets, he was also loyal to his alma mater. A true-blue Carolina Tar Heels fan, Charlie attended as many games as he could.

Probably happiest presiding over a table filled with family for a birthday or holiday celebration, this is where he will be most missed. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; his son, Charles Bernard II; daughter, Vickie Hoff, and her husband, Don; and three grandchildren, April and Jonathan Hoff and Cinnamon Fischer, all of Chapel Hill.



SUPER CROSSWORD

ANIMAL ANATOMY

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

CitizenCryptoquote By Martin Brody

Word search puzzle titled "Not in My House" with a grid of letters and a list of words to find.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers pre-filled.

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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The ArtsCenter logo and contact information for tickets and registration.

8th ANNUAL AMERICAN ROOTS SERIES: SOUTHERN SACRED STEEL CONFERENCE. Listing of featured artists and concert dates.

facebook TICKETS ON SALE NOW! YouTube

PET OF THE WEEK

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES —Say hello to Coco. Description of the cat and adoption information.



Calendar

THURSDAY MARCH 10
Movie Night — The Chicago Conspiracy airs. Internationalist Books, 7pm free 942-1740

FRIDAY MARCH 11
March Artwalk — At University Mall, 6-8pm

SATURDAY MARCH 12
Shamrock Run — The Pittsboro Relay for Life hosts the certified 5K/10K run to benefit the American Cancer Society. Courthouse Circle in Pittsboro, 8am relayforlife.org/pittsboro

Triangle Swing Dance — Swing dance to live music with New King Rippers and The Carolina Fascinators. Carrboro Century Center; beginner lesson 7-8 pm, dance 8-11pm triangleswingdance.org

Swing Dance/Auction — Featuring the Chapel Hill High School swing band. CHHS gym, 7:30pm \$5/7 students, \$10/15 adults 942-0896 chapelhillband.org

Parent Workshop — For parents of special-needs students in middle and high school in preparation for life after graduation. Orange United Methodist Church, 9am-3pm Free

SUNDAY MARCH 13
Of March and Madness — An evening of short plays written by local playwrights. ArtsCenter, 7:30pm \$5 artscenterlive.org

Spring Walk — On Pittsboro's Town Lake Park Trail, 1-3pm Pre-gister: 542-6495

Mountain Nature — Jennifer Rick-Ruppert speaks about wildflowers in the N.C. Appalachians. N.C. Botanical Gardens, 3pm Free ncbg.unc.edu 962-0522

MONDAY MARCH 14
Time Out — With guest Bob Whyte discussing and playing music from Tin Pan Alley. WCOM-FM 103.5 5pm

TUESDAY MARCH 15
Pete MacDowell — To speak on the Duke Energy/Progress Energy proposed merger. Chapel Hill Public Library, 7pm

WEDNESDAY MARCH 16
Hamilton College Choir — To perform at University United Methodist Church, 7:30pm Free

Letter Writing Night — Send birthday cards to political prisoners. Internationalist Books, 7pm

THURSDAY MARCH 17
Dr. Emil Kang — To speak on "The Performing Arts: Alive and Well in Memorial Hall." Seymour Center, 2:30pm Free 968-2070

Cancer Support Benefit — For every Charity Beer sold, \$1 will be donated to Cornucopia. Top of the Hill Restaurant, cancersupport4u.org

FRIDAY MARCH 18
Contra Dance — Music by The Donnybrook Lads with caller Shawn Brenneman. The Century Center, newcomers' workshop at 7:30pm, dance at 8pm \$8 csda-dance.org

Choral Program — CHHS concert with a selection of music ranging from the renaissance through contemporary musical theater. 7:30pm \$6 adults/\$3 students 929-2106

SATURDAY MARCH 19
Kidney Kare 5K — Run and walk, with a 1/2 mile Kids Kare Run, is scheduled to raise funds for the Kidney Education Outreach Program and Kidney Patient Emergent Need Fund. McDougle Middle School, 8:30am Race info: unckidneycenter.org

BBQ and Brunswick Stew — All you can eat. Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 4-7:30pm \$9 adults/\$5 children

Purim Costume Ball — Presented by Kol Haskalah, a Jewish Humanistic Congregation. All ages are invited to come in costume. Bring a potluck dish to serve 8-12 and a noisemaker. Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4:30pm kolhaskalah.org

Magic Show — The Deep Magic of Joshua Lozoff, with music by Reverend B and the WannaBs. United Church of Chapel Hill, 7-9pm \$10 unitedchurch.org

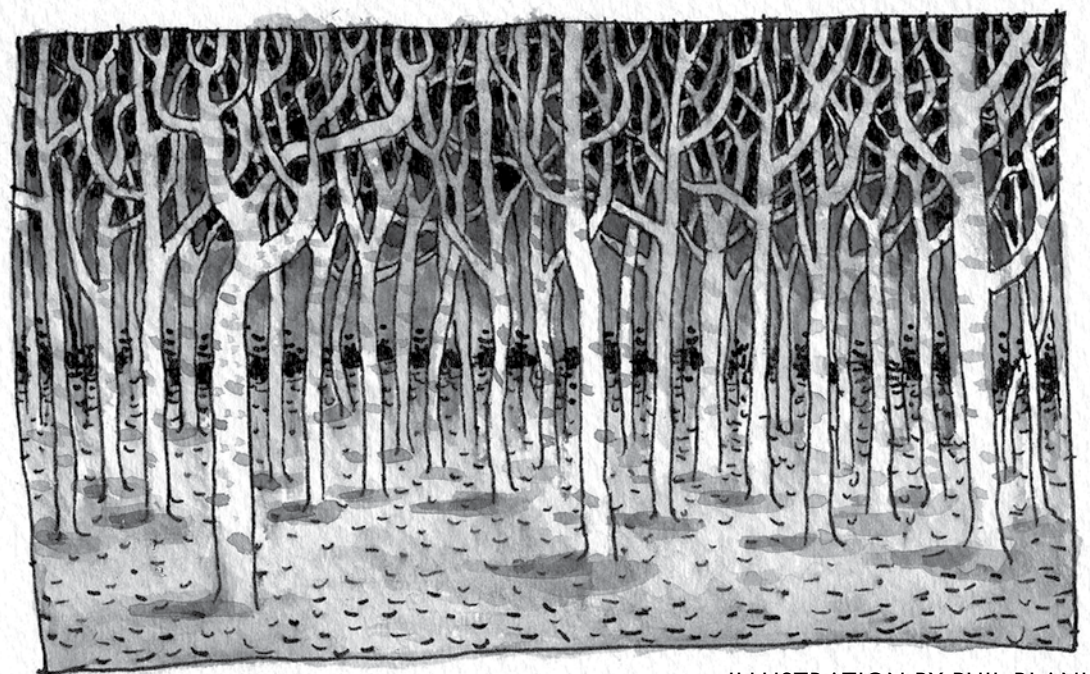


ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

Ongoing Cancer Support — Support groups at Cornucopia House for cancer patients and their families. cornucopiahouse.org

Cancer Support — Support groups and wellness programs sponsored by N.C. Cancer Hospital. undineberger.org/patient/support/supportgroup.asp

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

Tax Assistance — Free for clients of any age whose household income is low to moderate. All VITA services are available at no charge including

electronic filing of your tax return (e-file). El Centro Hispano, Carrboro Plaza Shopping and Seymour Center, orangecountync.gov

Don Faires — Mask maker and storyteller to perform. The Community Church of Chapel Hill, 106 Purefoy Road, March 6-May 1

Send your Community Calendar submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

Upstart Northside News connects community

BY LOUIE HORVATH
Courtesy of the Carrboro Commons

CHAPEL HILL — While it may seem small now, the *Northside News* has big dreams.

What began in September as a double-sided single sheet of paper hopes to expand into a heftier newspaper comprised of content created by Northside residents.

Northside, an historically black neighborhood, has recently seen an influx of college students. The *Northside News* celebrates that heritage, while still trying to include the newest additions to the neighborhood, according to de facto editor in chief Alexander Stephens.

"The idea is to create a publication that will keep people connected and keep people informed on things that are going on in the community," Stephens said.

"Also to offer people a forum for expressing their ideas. The idea is that most of the content will eventually be produced by people who live in Northside."

"The goal is to connect residents, organizations and com-

munity centers," said Hudson Vaughan, artist and scholar in residence at the Marian Cheek Jackson Center. "As we've distributed it and talked to people, people seem pretty interested in it."

The *Northside News* is run by the Jackson Center, which operates out of St. Joseph Christian Methodist Church. Stephens also serves as the associate director for documentary initiatives at the Jackson Center.

The newspaper fits into the Jackson Center's goal of creating a stronger, healthier community.

"It is about [using the past] to shape a vision for the future of these communities," Stephens said. "Our philosophy is you can't really move forward toward the best community that we can have unless we understand where we come from."

Presently, the *Northside News* publishes sporadically, released when Stephens and the Jackson Center staff have the time to work on it. However, they are working toward publishing issues regularly.

"The idea initially was to have it every couple of months," Stephens said. "We are a small staff



Alexander Stephens of the brand-new Northside News, which has released two editions since September, adjusts the photos outside the Jackson Center.

PHOTO BY LOUIE HORVATH

and we've got a lot of other projects. We have a lot that we need to include in the next one, and it will come out maybe in mid-March."

Stephens, who interned at a small newspaper in southeastern Missouri while at UNC, graduated last year and went straight to

the Jackson Center.

The *Northside News* had been something that the Jackson Center talked about creating for a long time, but only recently did the time seem right to go forward with those plans.

"It was a pretty collaborative

effort of the staff. Alexander's had a background in working with newspapers and we had been wanting to find a way to have a print link throughout the Northside," Vaughan said. "Our thinking was, between the Jackson Scholars program and Alexander

coming on the staff, and wanting to have some way to really connect people with Jackson Center, the idea just drove."

One of the first Northside residents to accept the challenge of contributing to the paper was UNC senior Jonathan Tarleton.

His note about living in Northside as a student can be seen in the newspaper's second edition, released in mid-February.

"I'm very big on getting to know the community I'm in, especially Northside," Tarleton said. "This community has a strong history, and people on the Northside have a strong relation with the history and the community."

"So far, everybody's raved about it," Vaughan said. "I have a lot of people come up to me and say, 'Who does this? This is great.' A lot of organizations have taken interest in it."

Louie Horvath 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.

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Funds raised through the CROP Hunger Walk will help the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service and Church World Service fight hunger, both locally and throughout the world. More families than ever are relying on our local food pantries due to the current economic crisis. Join in the walk for a fun day that will raise urgently needed money!
Walkers raising more than \$100 will be included in a drawing for a special limited-edition signed reproduction of a Bob Timberlake painting.
Registration @ 1:30 p.m.
Walk begins @ 2:30 p.m.
Town Commons 301 W. Main St Carrboro
• For more information: ifcweb.org/cropwalk.html, 919-929-6380 ext. 20 or cropwalk@ifcmailbox.org.
• To donate or sign up to walk: www.cropwalkonline.org/chapelhillnc
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FROM THE EDITOR

A death in Rougemont

For most of his life, Mel Levine enjoyed success and acclaim. His career as a pediatrician and the breakthroughs in education embodied in the nonprofit he founded, All Kinds of Minds, were widely acclaimed. He would speak to packed houses of his belief that all children can learn. He had fame, financial success and the respect of his peers. He also had a past that over the last few years resurfaced in dark and ugly bits and pieces, as more and more allegations that he had behaved improperly with his young patients arose.

Though there was no court judgment against him, Levine did settle with some of his former patients. He voluntarily suspended his medical license in 2008 and agreed in a 2009 consent order to stop practicing medicine in any jurisdiction after several North Carolina patients took their case to the state medical board. He resigned from All Kinds of Minds as well, and today it's website has almost no reference to him.

Two weeks ago, another set of allegations arose – this time in the form of a class action suit from 40 of his former patients in Boston. A day after it was announced, Levine left a suicide note for his wife, then walked into the woods on his farm near Rougemont and ended his life.

His thoughts through his final days as recorded in his diary show that he had contemplated ending his own life for a while. He also proclaimed his innocence, yet saw no way out other than the script he chose.

The long journey of determining guilt and innocence and sorting out the good Levine has done over the years from the crimes some of his former patients in Massachusetts and North Carolina allege is far from over.

The attorney representing the former patients says she will seek damages from Children's Hospital in Boston as well as Levine's estate. North Carolina patients will likely be involved as well, which could draw UNC into the matter.

The shocking death in Rougemont ended the torment in this tale for only one man and sealed off forever the full story for the rest of us. The truth may eventually rise to the surface, but it will be incomplete, and some questions will forever be left unanswered.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be no more than 425 words in length and must be accompanied by the author's name, address and contact information. We will publish one letter per author per month. Lengthy letters written in longhand will mysteriously become lost. Emailed letters are preferred. That said, send your letters to:

Letters to the editor
Box 248 Carrboro, NC 27510
editor@carrborocitizen.com
FAX: 919-942-2195

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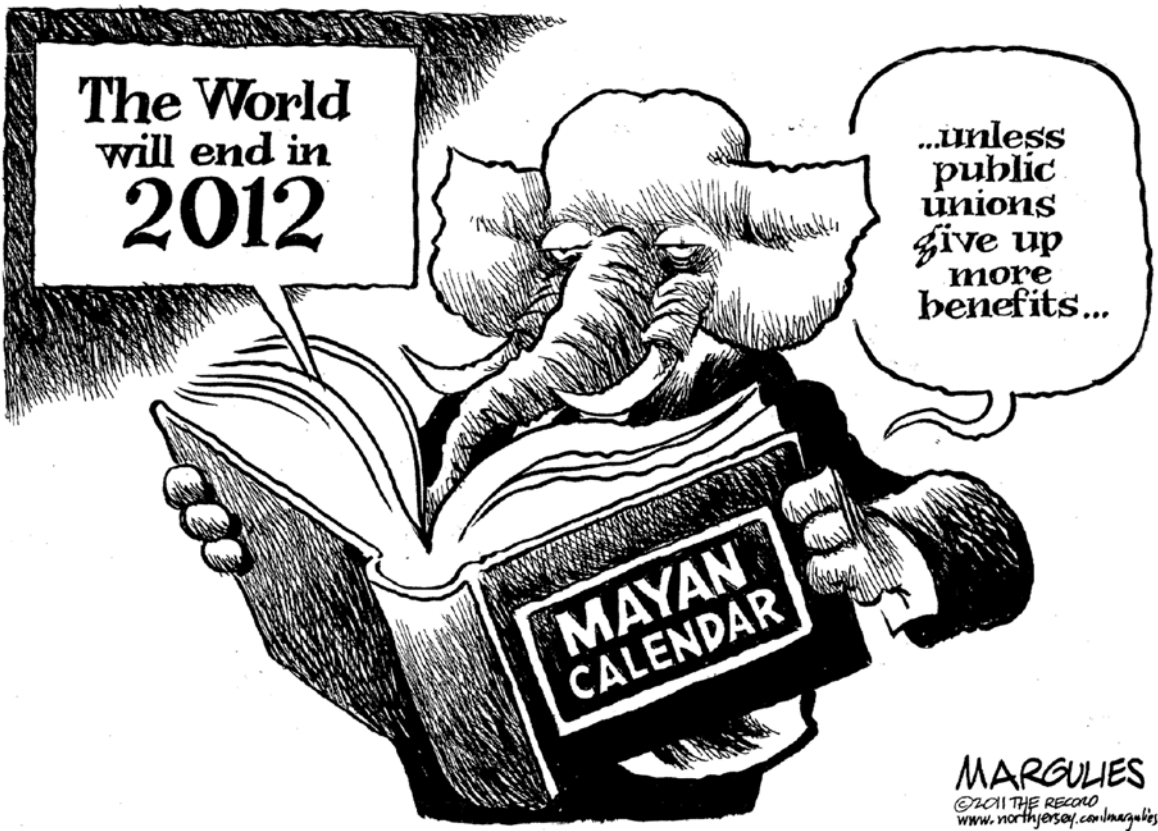
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The GOP shakedown

ROBERT REICH

You can't fight something with nothing. But as long as Democrats refuse to talk about the almost unprecedented buildup of income, wealth and power at the top – and the refusal of the super-rich to pay their fair share of the nation's bills – Republicans will convince people it's all about government and unions.

Republicans claim to have a mandate from voters for the showdowns and shutdowns they're launching. Governors say they're not against unions, but voters have told them to cut costs, and unions are in the way. House Republicans say they're not seeking a government shutdown but standing on principle. "Republicans' goal is to cut spending and reduce the size of government," says House Majority Leader John Boehner, "not to shut it down." But if a shutdown is necessary to achieve the goal, so be it.

The Republican message is that bloated government is responsible for the lousy economy that most people continue to experience. Cut the bloat and jobs and wages will return.

Nothing could be further from the truth, but for some reason Obama and the Democrats aren't responding with the truth. Their response is: We agree, but you're going too far. Government employees should give up some more wages and benefits, but don't take away their bargaining rights. Private-sector unionized workers should make more concessions, but don't bust the unions. Non-defense discretionary spending should be cut, but don't cut so much.

In the face of showdowns and shutdowns, the "you're right but you're going too far" response doesn't hack it. If Republicans are correct on principle, they're more likely to be seen as taking a strong principled stand than as going "too far." If they're basically correct that the problem is too much government spending, why not go as far as possible to cut the bloat?

The truth that Obama and Democrats must tell is that government spending has absolutely nothing to do with high unemployment, declining wages, falling home prices and all the other horrors that continue to haunt most Americans.

Indeed, too little spending will prolong the horrors for years to come because there's not enough demand in the economy without it.

The truth is that while the proximate cause of America's economic plunge was Wall Street's excesses leading up to the crash of 2008, its underlying cause – and the reason the economy continues to be lousy for most Americans – is so much income and wealth have been going to the very top that the vast majority

The truth is, if the super-rich paid their fair share of taxes, government wouldn't be broke.

no longer has the purchasing power to lift the economy out of its doldrums. American's aren't buying cars (they bought 17 million new cars in 2005, just 12 million last year). They're not buying homes (7.5 million in 2005, 4.6 million last year). They're not going to the malls (high-end retailers are booming but Walmart's sales are down).

Only the richest 5 percent of Americans are back in the stores, because their stock portfolios have soared. The Dow Jones Industrial Average has doubled from its crisis low. Wall Street pay is up to record levels. Total compensation and benefits at the 25 major Wall Street firms had been \$130 billion in 2007, before the crash; now it's close to \$140 billion.

But a strong recovery can't be built on the purchases of the richest 5 percent.

The truth is, if the super-rich paid their fair share of taxes, government wouldn't be broke. If Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker hadn't handed out tax breaks to corporations and the well-off, his state wouldn't be in a budget crisis. If Washington hadn't extended the Bush tax cuts for the rich, eviscerated the estate tax and created loopholes for private-equity and hedge-fund managers, the federal budget wouldn't look nearly as bad.

And if America had higher marginal tax rates and more tax brackets at the top – for those raking in \$1 million, \$5 million, \$15 million a year – the budget would look even better. We wouldn't be firing teachers or slashing Medicaid or hurting the most vulnerable members of our society. We wouldn't be in a tizzy over Social Security. We'd slow the rise in health care costs but we wouldn't cut Medicare. We'd cut defense spending and lop off subsidies to giant agribusinesses but we wouldn't view the government as our national nemesis.

The final truth is, as income and wealth have risen to the top, so has political power. The reason all of this is proving so difficult to get across is that the super-rich, such as the Koch brothers, have been using their billions to corrupt politics, hoodwink the public and enlarge and entrench their outsized fortunes. They're bankrolling Republicans who are mounting show-downs and threatening shutdowns and who want the public to believe government spending is the problem.

They are behind the Republican shakedown. These are the truths that Democrats must start telling, and soon. Otherwise, the Republican shakedown may well succeed.

Robert Reich was the nation's 22nd secretary of labor and is a professor at the University of California at Berkeley.

LETTERS

A big night

I have just celebrated the Carrboro Centennial at the Century Center. As a volunteer with the Carrboro Garden Club I expected only a thank you and a chance to see our flower arrangements on show. How mistaken I was. It was a night to remember, from the first bars of live music on stage to the last lick of the farewell cupcake.

Brief (how wise!) hellos and Happy Birthday! from the mayor and aldermen, a delightful account of the complex character of Julian Shakespeare Carr from Mark Chilton. And from Congressman Price, a U.S. flag that had flown above the capitol and a signed address from Barack Obama. This was beginning to feel like the big league.

History club members from CHS highlighted how tiny the town was in 1911, while our own poet laureate extolled its idiosyncrasies. Then without warning, from all around the room, came the haunting sound of scattered male voices in harmony, "Let the light of the lighthouse shine on me." I was moved to tears. The room erupted to its feet.

I am a foreigner who has lived here nine years. I feel honored to have shared in this evening of a town "with attitude" that fights well above its weight. It was a thank you to all of us who volunteer, but I would like to send my thanks to Kim Andrews, who I understand was the woman behind the resounding success of Carrboro's 100th birthday party.

Sue Morgan
Carrboro

Distinctive destination

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has named Chapel Hill as one of its 2011 Dozen Distinc-

tive Destinations. The trust recognizes communities across America that offer cultural and recreational experiences different from those found at the typical vacation destination.

Chapel Hill prizes its legacy, whether that's basketball or the hard-to-describe feeling you get from strolling down its tree-lined streets, past the Horace Williams House, the Morehead Planetarium, past campus and up Columbia to the Carolina Inn. And yet it couldn't be more contemporary. Because of that, it's hard to believe that Chapel Hill, in one incarnation or another, has been here through four different centuries.

Historic preservation is about much more than buildings. It's about protecting traditions. As they say, you have to know where you've been to know where you're going. That Chapel Hill has been recognized by the National Trust as a town that authentically represents the stories and people of the past is a great honor.

This is only half the trick, though. We're not a town encased in amber, on display somewhere for the historically curious. We're that rare place, able to wed economic development and growth without damaging the precious and fragile footprints of our forefathers – and foremothers.

Chapel Hill as the winner of the 2011 Dozen Distinctive Destinations qualifies to win the 2011 "Fan Favorite" award. This will be chosen by the public via an online vote that ends on March 15. Please join me in voting Chapel Hill # 1 as the 2011 Fan of the Dozen Distinctive Destination program. You must log on to preservationnation.org

Laurie Paolicelli
Executive Director
Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau

The desperate search for a problem to solve

CHRIS FITZSIMON

Any day now, Republicans in the General Assembly will introduce legislation to require voters to present a photo ID at the polls before they are allowed to cast their ballots. The proposal is part of the GOP's 100-day agenda for the session, and the 100 days are winding down.

Despite claims otherwise, the voter ID legislation has nothing to do with improving the elections process. It's just the opposite, a cynical proposal to make it more difficult for some people to vote because most of the people affected by the additional barriers at the polls are not likely to support the folks currently in power in the General Assembly.

There are constitutional, moral, financial and logistical reasons why a restrictive voter ID law is horrible public policy, and Republicans have been having a fit privately trying to address some of the objections before they unveil their proposal.

One of the most vexing problems for the vote suppressors is that no matter how hard they try, they can't come up with any real reason to require a photo ID, nothing close to proof that voter fraud is a problem in North Carolina.

They keep trying though. Their latest effort focuses on two reports: news from the State Board of Elections that 637 legal residents who have driver's licenses but are not citizens may be registered to vote and reports that four deceased people are on the voter rolls in Washington County.

The stories were reported by a handful of mainstream media outlets, sending the right-wing blogosphere into a tweeting tizzy. Voter fraud, dead people voting, stolen elections! A voter ID law now!

But if you take a closer look at both stories, like Bob Hall with Democracy North Carolina methodically did, the breathless claims of voter fraud and corruption simply don't make sense.

The State Board of Elections sent a letter to the 637 registered voters who obtained driver's licenses as legal residents but not citizens. Hall believes that most of those voters are now legal citizens who didn't apply for a new license when their legal status changed because their "legal presence" driver's licenses hadn't expired.

The responses to the letters from the state board seem to indicate that Hall is right. Out of 106 responses, 105 are now citizens and the last person did not vote.

Hall also reports that the state board has found that only a third of the 637 registered voters in question actually cast a ballot in the election and most, if not all of them, are likely now legal citizens.

There are constitutional, moral, financial and logistical reasons why a restrictive voter ID law is horrible public policy.

As to the dead voters in Washington County, Hall reports that none of them voted and no one voted in their names. The confusion came when their name labels were peeled off the registration list after a relative told an elections official they had died.

But somehow the labels were considered when officials reviewed the ballots cast, creating a mismatch between labels and ballots. Election officials finally realized that the four ballots were not cast and that the labels were peeled off to look into the voters' status. They were found to be deceased.

That's it, that's what all the wild accusations amounted to – two more stories of voter fraud that weren't fraud at all and had no effect on recent elections.

This won't end the claims of voter problems by any means. The suppressors will keep trying, flailing away for any justification for their all-too-transparent efforts to make it more difficult for people who don't agree with them to exercise their constitutional rights.

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

Board of aldermen member and partner register as domestic partners in celebration of Carrboro’s 100th anniversary

Following is a statement from Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Lydia Lavelle and her partner, Alicia Stemper:

Today is the 100th anniversary of Carrboro. On this day, our town celebrates our accomplishments over this past century, and our evolution from a small, working mill town into the progressive-thinking, equality-for-all Carrboro of 2011.

In 1994, Carrboro demonstrated its forward-thinking nature by becoming the first municipality in North Carolina to offer domestic partner registration, only a decade behind the earliest on record in the United States (Berkeley, Calif., in 1984).

As a couple, we said our vows in front of family and friends in a commitment ceremony several years ago. The ceremony was conducted by one of the ministers of our church. At that time, we could not register as domestic partners because our neighborhood had not yet been annexed by Carrboro. Once we

were annexed, we did not register for two reasons. First, neither of us needed this as a condition for health insurance, the most common reason for these types of municipal registrations. Second, domestic-partner registration can also serve as a symbolic declaration of relationship. However, we decided that the declarations we made at our private commitment ceremony were enough.

But times change. Domestic partnership, civil union or same-sex marriage recognition is now available in most major countries around the world and in 16 of our states. This number continues to grow on a yearly basis. According to a recent survey conducted by Elon University, more than half of North Carolina residents support legal recognition of same-sex couples. However, in North Carolina, there are no statewide domestic partnership or civil-union benefits and marriage is already denied same-sex couples by state law. But this is



Lavelle, left, and Stemper read their statement.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALICIA STEMPE

not enough for our North Carolina Senate. Just last week, a bill was introduced in the Senate to amend the North Carolina Constitution to not only define

marriage as between a man and a woman, but to make it the only domestic legal union to be valid or recognized in our state. In other words, not only will gay

and lesbian couples continue to be denied the right to marry, they will also lose the ability to have those relationships recognized in any public way – even a symbolic one – and they will continue to be denied the legal responsibilities and benefits of marriage.

Those introducing the bill call it “Defense of Marriage,” but that is a misnomer. They are not looking to defend marriage, which would imply that marriage was being threatened. Instead, they are looking to exclude gay and lesbian citizens from having the same protections, the same responsibilities, the same recognition and the same benefits that heterosexual couples enjoy. They are also aiming to keep same-sex couples from even having the ability to be symbolically recognized by their own communities as a valid couple. We feel that this anti-gay bill is wrong.

Carrboro as a town has long stood against bigotry like this. It struck us that we are so grate-

ful for this town, so proud of its leadership and so humbled by its courage, that we wanted to make a symbolic gesture of our own. Therefore, we chose to register as domestic partners on this date, tying our personal history to the history of this town as a way to say, “Thank you, Carrboro!” We did this as a commemoration of the spirit of our town on its 100th anniversary. We did this as a statement of gratitude to Carrboro. And we did this as a statement of outrage to our legislators. The state of North Carolina should not be in the business of passing laws that exclude many of its citizens from the rights and the privileges that other citizens enjoy.

Congratulations, Carrboro. Thank you for taking leadership on matters of equality and fairness. Thank you for supporting and valuing your lesbian and gay citizens. We are proud to live here and proud to be registered as domestic partners. Happy Anniversary!

LEGISLATURE FROM PAGE 1

“Unless it’s something really bland and really ordinary, it’s not going anywhere,” she said.

Hackney said the new majority is not likely to be a friend of local governments.

Action this week underlined that view, with plans to take away local revenue options offered by previous legislatures and a moratorium on annexation moving quickly.

The former speaker, who used his power in the past to steer the House away from divisive social issues, told council members that the GOP has shown a willingness to get into the “culture wars.”

Kinnaid agreed and warned the council to brace itself.

“What everyone thinks can’t possibly happen,” she said, “is going to roar through like a freight train.”

All members of the delegation expressed feeling somewhat in the dark about the actual budget. Hall said he is hearing that budget targets the various committees have been given are far lower than even the Republicans want to go. He urged Kleinschmidt and council members to keep up the pressure and encourage their colleagues throughout the state to do the same.

The delegation also cautioned getting hopes up that Gov. Beverly Perdue’s veto will always come to the rescue or that the House Democrats’ four-vote margin against overrides will always hold.

“She’s going to have to choose her battles,” Atwater said.

Question marks

In times in which the governorship and one or more chambers of the legislature are controlled by one party, it has been much easier to predict the general direction of the state budget.

But when Perdue’s budget emerged in mid-February, it was not even given the status of

starting point. Perdue’s projections included close to \$1 billion in revenue not being counted by Republicans.

Orange County Manager Frank Clifton said he’s keeping an eye on Raleigh, but is waiting for budget writers in the House to come out with their plan. “That’s when the real negotiation begins,” he said.

Clifton said with so much of the county budget in education, what the state does in that category will have the biggest impact. “We’re looking primarily at what the state does to education and how much damage is there,” he said.

Shifting lottery funds, which are targeted at school construction, could have a significant impact for the county in future years.

Clifton also said how the state handles social services money and deals with Medicaid policy could have a big impact. If the state decided not to cover dental expenses to save money, the county, which has a dental program, would have to consider picking up the cost. Certain mental health services may be affected in a similar way, he said.

UNC prepares

UNC is one of the most practiced institutions in the state in dealing with fluctuations in the state budget.

But even with belt-tightening already part of the routine, the oldest state university in the country is preparing to take a hit.

Bob Lowman, the university’s director of research, said in meetings with department heads there is an understanding that this year will be different.

“Everyone knows we’ve got to take our share of the cuts and our share of the pain,” Lowman said.

With the university determined to protect its core mission of instruction, that means that research and support are likely to see a larger share of the cuts.

To stay ahead of the curve, Lowman said researchers have

been increasing their efforts to win grants and outside support. That’s beginning to pay off, he said.

“We’re seeing an uptick in grant activity,” he said, adding that Carolina, which took in about \$803 million in research dollars last year, is slightly ahead of that total despite the drop off of \$100 million in stimulus funds.

“So far we’re running just a little ahead,” he said, “which is amazing to me and a credit to the creativity of the faculty.”

But there is some concern that the state may be eyeing at least some of that grant money to balance its books. University officials have expressed concern that the state may try to tap funds set aside in grants for facilities and administration, a practice the General Assembly phased out in the late 1980s. This year, more than in years past, legislators have shown a willingness to tap into funds such as the Tobacco Trust Fund and the Clean Water Trust Fund.

Lowman said he has not seen a specific plan to do so, but the concern is there, in part because the so-called “F&A” funds can appear to have large unspent balances.

He said newly hired researchers are often given time to spend their F&A funds in setting up new facilities and that departments might build up funds toward the purchase of new equipment.

“It may look like unspent or un-obligated money, but it’s not,” Lowman said.

The university spent \$141 million in F&A funds last year, with the bulk of it split between paying for facilities and personnel.

“Taking even a portion of that would be a huge gap in our budget,” Lowman said, adding that he’s confident that once legislators are briefed on the funds and what they’re used for, they won’t be on the table.

OWASA FROM PAGE 1

“It’s a slippery slope. Right now we have local control over about 95 percent of our water supply,” Marcoplos said in a recent interview. “Slowly and surely, we could lose control of our water future. We could lose control of rates, we could lose control over water quality.”

Marcoplos said he’s concerned that OWASA is reversing a long-term strategy without seeking extensive public input.

“We need an independent and resilient water supply,” he said.

County Manager Frank Clifton said he sees the logic in asking for the allocation, especially if by not doing so it could be taken away.

“We have an interest in Jordan Lake, long term,” he said. Having an allocation, he said, means the county can provide input on issues around the lake, including

water quality. “If we don’t have an allocation, we could lose our seat at the table.”

Clifton said the county is mainly interested in the additional water as a possible source for economic development along the I-40 and I-85 corridors. Since the county doesn’t operate its own water utility, it would likely transfer its share of the allocation to water systems in Mebane and Hillsborough, he said.

Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Dan Coleman said he’s concerned that the community’s historical tilt toward conservation and tight control over water supply and the watershed is threatened by the influx of Jordan Lake water. He said in the event of an extreme emergency, water can still be drawn from Cary’s intake through Durham, but that otherwise “we don’t need to drink that water.”

Coleman said the social compact that created a lo-

cally controlled water supply shouldn’t be undone. With the recent strides in conservation and OWASA slated to assume additional capacity once the American Stone Quarry shuts down in 2030, Coleman said he believes the locally controlled strategy should be sufficient.

“Given the quality and extent of the water resources we’ve created here in southern Orange County,” Coleman said, “I think we can and should live within our means.”

He said there are strong feelings on the board about keeping a local, sustainable system.

Holland said since the water and sewer boundary agreement requires agreement from all local governments, he’s not yet sure how Carrboro’s decision not to authorize OWASA’s requested change will affect immediate plans.

“Clearly, that’s something that has to be worked out,” he said.

CENTENNIAL FROM PAGE 1

“I couldn’t be more proud to represent this town,” Price said. “I do think Carrboro reflects what’s best about our country and exemplifies the kind of values that not only I want to reflect as your representation, but the kind of values, the kind of community life that I would aspire to for all our countrymen and -women.”

Chilton recounted the history of Julian Shakespeare Carr, the mill owner for whom

Carrboro was named, but who never lived in the town. Attendees also got a lesson in town history from members of the Carrboro High School history club, who described the development of Carrboro over the past 100 years.

A surprise flash mob-style performance of “I Wonder if the Lighthouse Will Shine on Me” by the Triangle Gay Men’s Chorus was certainly the highlight of the evening, taking nearly everyone in attendance by surprise and bringing a tear to more than one set of eyes.

Jay Bryan, Carrboro’s poet

laureate, read several poems about Carrboro, including one appropriately titled *We’ve Got Attitude*, and another, *Song de Carrboro*.

The event kicked off the town’s celebration of its 100th birthday, which will continue on an extra-special Carrboro Day, which falls on May 1 this year. The centennial celebration will include a circus-style celebration at Town Commons and events at other locations throughout town, and will feature live music and other performance acts, as well as other commemorative activities yet to be revealed.

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Thanks for reading the Citizen!

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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Calling All Long-time

CARRBORO BUSINESSES

We’re making a list of long-time Carrboro enterprises for our special Centennial Supplement and need your help. If you’ve been in business in Carrboro for 25 years or more, we’d like to know about it.

Here’s what we need:

- Business Name & Address
- Current Owner’s Name
- Founder’s Name
- Original Address (if since moved)
- Years in operation

We’d also like to hear from folks who owned businesses in Carrboro’s early days (1911-1986) that operated for 25 years or more.

Please send your information to margot@carrborocitizen.com by March 17.

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

READ. WRITE. THINK.

School Briefs

CHHS chorus concert

The Chapel Hill High School Choral Program will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. on March 18 in Hanes Auditorium.

The concert will feature an eclectic selection of music, ranging from the renaissance up through contemporary musical theater. Students will sing well-known works by De Pres, Bartok, Holst, Part and Wolf.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for students and will be available at the door. For more information, contact chorus director Jeremy Nabors at 929-2106 or jnabors@chccs.k12.nc.us

Summer Youth Enrichment

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Community School Department will offer nearly 30 different sessions during the 2011 Summer Youth Enrichment program.

Courses are offered in a broad range of categories, including arts, culture, science, reading, writing, sports and fitness. Individual course fees range from \$60 to \$155.

SYE courses generally last for half a day and run for one to two weeks. Courses are available from June 20-July 29.

For more information, call 967-8211, ext. 28266. View the registration brochure at tinyurl.com/6gay92o

Teacher to receive award

Mary Andrews of Estes Hills Elementary School will receive the James B. Hunt Jr. Celebrate Literacy Award for her project "READ-2ME: Tailgate Stories."

The program has been funded with a grant from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public School Foundation. The program's purpose is to reach out to low-income neighborhoods during the summer months with literacy activities. Last summer nearly 500 children, 100 parents and 100 volunteer readers took part in the program.

The award ceremony will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center on Tuesday.

Pedersen's retirement

Three events have been scheduled to honor Superintendent Neil Pedersen's retirement.

The first event is a gala to benefit the Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate Program and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public School Foundation. The gala will be held at the Carolina Club on April 16 from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$75 and are available through the Public School Foundation or online at app.etapestry.com/hosted/Chapel-Hill-CarrboroPublicSc/OnlineGiving.html

In addition, a school and community reception will be held May 1 at Carrboro High School. The reception is free and open to the public.

The third event will be a roast by members of the district's leadership team to pay tribute to Pedersen at a private event in June.

Students named scholarship finalists

Thirty-seven Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools students have been selected as 2011 National Merit Scholarship Finalists.

Finalists from Carrboro High School are Genevieve Ambrose, Abigail Dennison, Neel Patel, Melina Smith, Louis Vaught, Isaac Warshauer and Lilly Yuan.

Finalists from Chapel Hill High School are Kayley Abell-Hart, Pravin Barton, Galen Burns-Fulkerson, Jane Chen, Kaela Cogswell, Morgan Grobin, Rachel Harrison, Paul Noah, Xinbai Pi, Xinxí Qi, Zachary Rubin, Elysia Su and Gray Symon.

East Chapel Hill High School finalists are Susan Cavender, Supriya Davis, Katherine Fisher, Zoe Gan, Claire Gildard, Nina Henage, Young-Eun Hyun, Matthew Lee, Abigail Lin, Christine Rheem, Alison Smith, Lauren Starnes, Rachel Thomas, Yvonne Tran, Kristina Vrouwenvelder, Zachary Wiener and Christopher Wolfe.

Student receives award

Carly Collette of East Chapel Hill High School has received the President's Volunteer Service Award. President Barack Obama presents the awards to Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of time to serve their communities.

Collette will receive a lapel pin, certificate and letter from the president during an upcoming awards ceremony.

Students jump rope for heart

Morris Grove Elementary School students raised more than \$5,200 for the American Heart Association through the school's third annual Jump Rope for Heart event last month.

Every student at the school participated in the event by being physically active for at least 45 minutes on Feb. 14. Students visited the gym to demonstrate their jump rope skills, listen to their hearts with stethoscopes, practice hula hooping and participate in other high-energy activities.

Students also collected \$5,204.84 in donations for the American Heart Association.

FPG campaign honored

Frank Porter Graham Elementary School has been recognized for its employee fundraising campaign to benefit Triangle United Way.

FPG was recognized for its per capita increase in Give United funds and for increasing the percentage of Give United funds raised.

Schools receive garden funds

Seven schools in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools have received funding to support school-based gardens.

The district's new child-nutrition contractor, Chartwells, will provide \$10,000 to assist the schools with garden projects.

Schools that will receive funding include Estes Hills Elementary School, Carrboro Elementary School, Scrogg's Elementary School, McDougle Middle School, Chapel Hill High School and East Chapel Hill High School.

Low dropout rate

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools was recognized for its low dropout and short-term suspension rates in the Consolidated Report for 2009-10, presented to the State Board of Education last week.

The report is published annually and combines data in the areas of short-term suspensions, long-term suspensions and expulsions, crime rates for reportable offenses and dropout rates. CHCCS was among the top 10 districts in two of the three categories for which there are rankings.

The district's dropout rate was 0.95 percent, or 35 dropouts, down from 52 dropouts in 2008-09. North Carolina also posted a record-low dropout rate. The district's short-term suspension rate was 5.3 per 100 students. Statewide, short-term suspensions decreased 8.2 percent.

The CHCCS crime rate decreased for 2009-10 with about 32 reportable offenses, compared with 60 for 2008-09. Statewide, the crime rate increased to 15.89 per 1,000 students from 15.7 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Unity dinner brings Carrboro High School together

BY MEGAN WALKER
Courtesy of the Carrboro Commons

CARRBORO – Carrboro High School students gathered Feb. 24 in the cafeteria and gym to conclude the school's Black History Month celebration with its third annual Unity Dinner.

"We all have friends of different races. We have black friends, white friends, Hispanic friends sitting all at one table, and we are together as one," said Dolce Gonzalez, a student and event volunteer.

"The Unity Dinner is a dinner that brings us together as one big school and family," Gonzalez added.

Principal Kelly Batten opened the evening's performances.

"You have a lot to be thankful for and a lot to celebrate, because as you look back in Google searches about Carrboro High School, you've come a long way, baby," Batten said. The introduction was met with loud applause across the gymnasium.

Batten's comments hinted at the school's past racial tension.

Three years ago, a fight broke out at Carrboro High School after a white student made racially charged comments to a black student.

The following year, amid the ensuing dialogue about race relations, the Unity Dinner was born.

English teacher Al Donaldson, one of the leaders of the event, said, "The dinner is an idea we actually borrowed from the tradition at East Chapel Hill High School. Our school Equity Team decided to start it in the 2008-09 school year. The goal of the Unity Dinner and the performances that follow it is to celebrate community and Black



Carrboro High School students (top, left to right) Fatima Castillo, Brittney Green, (bottom, left to right) Antonio Brewington, Sheterra Jones and Jamika Belk sign the unity banner at the Unity Dinner on Feb. 24.

PHOTO BY MEGAN WALKER

History Month."

Latin teacher Sara Clay said, "It's a wonderful opportunity for families and school denizens to gather together to enjoy a good dinner catered by our cafeteria and hear our students in performance."

"Carrboro is a young school and is eager to build and support a community."

Families sat together to share a free meal provided by the school as the school's jazz band serenaded them from the corner. Students performed throughout the night.

"The best part of the Unity Dinner is how it provides our diverse school a moment to celebrate developing traditions together. To build community, it takes unity as the foundation," Batten said.

Students helped not only with performances but also with decorating and even sweeping the cafeteria floor before the event.

"The students are organizing most of the event," said student

Candice White. "We usually come up with the ideas and what we want to do. The teachers just try to help us out and help us improve. They let us be really creative."

The night's events also included a performance by the school's step team, students performing songs and poetry presentations. Original poems inspired by an assignment in Donaldson's English class were performed by White, Jasmine Farmer and Caroline Yarnell.

"I think it has opened people's eyes. No matter what race you are, we are all in the same world, and we're all trying to come together and bring everyone together," White said.

Megan Walker 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.

The Boys of Spring



Carrboro High's Drew Hunter lays down a bunt during the Jags game Tuesday afternoon against undefeated Cedar Ridge. A big second inning carried Cedar Ridge to a 11-3 victory.

PHOTO BY TED SPAULDING

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CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Not In My House

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WALK TO MCDUGGLE SCHOOLS from this updated 3BR home. New carpet, new windows, fresh paint. Screened porch, fenced backyard. Move-in ready! \$220,000 Weaver Street Realty 929-5658

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FARMERS' MARKET

WINTER MARKET HOURS
Saturdays 9am-Noon

What's at Market?
New Item this Week: MIBUNA, lots of spinach, ranunculus, tulips, anemones, greenhouse straw-berries, greenhouse sungold tomatoes, spring onions, golden turnips, arugula, parsley, radishes, chard, paperwhites (limited), carrots, beet greens, lettuces, savoy cabbage, herbs, kale mix, broccoli rabe, cauliflower, broccoli, beets, swiss chard, kale, spinach, acorn squash, cheese squash, bok choy, hot and sweet peppers, potatoes, beans, onions, garlic, sweet potatoes, potted herbs, eggs, sun-dried tomatoes, cornmeal, wheat flour, salad mixes (spicy and non), fresh herbs, pecans, goat, beef, pork, lamb, chicken, and various specialty meats like liverwurst, bologna, hotdogs, etc, cow's and goat's milk cheeses, breads, doughnuts, tortes, pies, cakes, jams, relishes, local wine, and more...

Recipe of the Week
Baby Beets and Beet Greens
Recipe Provided by farmer Elise Margoles

Baby beets	Greens from these beets
2 Tablespoon shallots	2 Tablespoon butter
2 Tablespoon olive oil	Salt and pepper to taste

Cut stems and leaves 1 inch above beet crowns and put leaves aside. Wash beets, steam for about 15 minutes and set aside. Wash beet leaves. Cut the leaves and small stalks diagonally into 1/2-inch slices. Chop shallots and add to butter and oil in frying pan. Cook for 2 minutes. Add beet greens and sauté for 2-3 minutes, stirring until they wilt and become tender. Season with salt and pepper.

Carrboro Hits 100



Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton and Rep. David Price display a letter from President Obama congratulating Carrboro on its 100th birthday. PHOTOS BY ALICIA STEMPER



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Standing tall, Stephen Keith describes an abandoned neighborhood sewage depot, one of several Battle Park historic relics.
PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

At stops high and low along the land contours, Stephen engaged us in stories of the place, including one of the final skirmishes of the Civil War fought near the high vantage point, now named Piney Prospect Overlook, just below picturesque Gimghoul Castle.

At one spot, Lovers'

Stone Seat, participants took turns assessing the comfort of a boulder's reclining configuration.

Of particular interest is the site of the tiered open-pit sewage system that serviced nearby faculty homes in the early years of the past century. The Orange Water and Sewer Authority was not even a vision back then. Little by little, the site will be cleared of the exotic invasive vegetation and

this relic of one of the community's first sewage systems will be more visible.

The day of our walk coincided with Stephen's monthly scheduled university-student volunteer-work day. Some 25 students were busy pulling and rolling English ivy from tree trunks and the forest floor. During the course of our walk, we viewed several areas where invasive plants had

been removed and the forest was returning to its former nature. As the years-long eradication effort continues, I believe an "exotics-free" Battle Park is an achievable goal.

Wildflowers are emerging now in the park, as they are along woodland trails throughout the Triangle. A variety of choices of guided walks and hikes are offered by area recreation departments, Duke Gardens, N.C. Botanical Garden, Triangle Land Conservancy, Eno River Association and others. New to me is the Chatham Conservation Partnership's guided-trip schedule, including wildflowers, fire ecology and geology (chathamconservation.wikispaces.com/Announcements).

Opportunities abound. So whether with a guide or on your own, don't let this season of nature's grand reawakening slip by without being in it!.

Email Ken Moore at flora@carrborocitizen.com.



Lillie Pratt turning 83

Each spring, with the daffodils comes a Lillie. Lillie Mozelle Pratt, that is. It just wouldn't be spring on Franklin Street without "the last of the flower ladies," as Lillie calls herself. I began buying February daffodils from "Miz Pratt" back in 1966, so her claim rings true. She is celebrated now with a new greeting card painted by Brenda Behr of Behr Rabbit Studio, on sale for \$5 at Charles House's University Florist on Franklin Street, right across from Lillie's post in front of the Bank of America. The proceeds from the sales of the cards go to help support Lillie, who will be turning 83 this spring.



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PRECIP THIS MONTH:	1.34"
PAST 12 MONTHS:	35.68"
CUSTOMER DEMAND	MON: 6.736 million gallons / Monthly avg: 6.84 million gallons
ESTIMATED SUPPLY:	378 days worth



A THOUSAND WORDS
BY JOCK LAUTERER

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

LANDRETH
FROM PAGE 1

Given that each has won two national titles just since 2001, there is always a shot that one of the two could turn out to have a better year than any team in the nation.

The beauty of this team is that while it has struggled to score at times, its defense became the foundation on which it built the rest of its game.

Night in and night out, the Tar Heels' defense pushes opponents' offenses away from the basket and forces them to rely heavily on jump shots. Henson and Tyler Zeller are the main reason for this.

Henson has also become one of the two best rebounders in the league, along with Maryland's Jordan Williams. Defensively, Henson has no equal in the ACC, and maybe in the country.

"They are so big inside," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "Those two kids are the best tandem of big guys in the country. It's very difficult to score against them inside, and they can score inside."

"As a result of that, it loosens things up for other people. They are very balanced. They're talented and good."

The question UNC will answer in the coming weeks is whether this team can become great, not just good.

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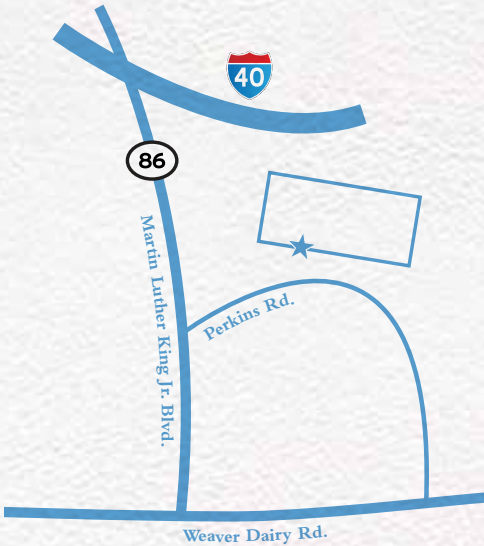
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