

Pendulous green flowers of Southern sugar maple are worth a 'closer look.' PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Following spring's flowering sequence

Driving along the bypass last week, I remarked that the beautiful, but deadly, Chinese wisteria is flowering early this year. You can't miss the walls of pale violet flower clusters hanging from trees being strangled by the notorious invasive.

My driving companion, Kathy, responded: "That's what you say every year." And she's correct. Every year I expound that the flowering of one or another plant is not in its normal flowering sequence.

This year's earlier-than-usual flowering of dogwoods assures me that I'm not off track. The trees are beginning to peak ahead of schedule.

For the past four decades I have firmly repeated the seasoned observation of Dr. Ritchie Bell, the N.C. Botanical Garden's first director: "For planning purposes, the peak flowering of dogwoods is the 10th of April."

For years weddings and other special occasions have been planned around that date. This year, however, you'll have to move your plans up 10 days if you want to catch the "peak."

We're in one of those special years when the white-flowered dogwoods come on early enough to overlap with the peak of the pink-flowered redbuds.

SEE FLORA PAGE 8

Supreme Court hears local case

BY TAYLOR SISK Staff Writer

"You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you..."

It's the Miranda warning, and we've most all heard it dozens of times on TV and in the movies. Miranda was instituted in 1966 to help protect criminal suspects against self-incrimination. It must be read before a suspect in custody is interrogated.

Last Wednesday, though, some interesting questions were raised before the Supreme Court regarding the application of Miranda to adolescents. At the center of it all was the question of whether age should be a factor in determining if it's necessary to read a suspect his or her Miranda rights.

The case is J.D.B. v. North Carolina, and the argument began its path to the Supreme Court on Sept. 29, 2005 at Smith Middle School in Chapel Hill.

On that day, a then seventh-grade special-education student, identified today only as J.D.B., was taken out of his social studies class and interrogated in a conference room by a Chapel Hill police investigator concerning some recent residential break-ins. Three

other adults, including the school resource officer and assistant principal, were present. The door was closed but not locked.

J.D.B. confessed to having entered a home, but did so without having been read his Miranda rights. The authorities argued that J.D.B. was never in custody - was free to leave at any moment - and that they thus weren't required to read him his rights.

J.D.B.'s attorney filed a motion to have the confession suppressed, arguing that the youth couldn't reasonably have been expected to think he could walk away from two uniformed police officers and two school officials. But the courts, up to the state Supreme Court, ruled that he had confessed voluntarily.

What's 'reasonable'?

According to the law, custodial interrogation is "questioning initiated by law enforcement officers after a person has been taken into custody or otherwise deprived of his freedom of action in any significant way."

If a "reasonable" person feels he is free to go, he's not in custody, and needn't be read his rights.

But last Wednesday before the Supreme Court, Assistant Appellate

Defender Barbara Blackman argued that there are cognitive differences between children and adults in both perception and understanding, and that in failing to consider age when deciding whether to read the Miranda warning "we are requiring these children to be someone that they never could be, and that is reasonable adults."

Several justices expressed concern that introducing subjectivity into the determination of when Miranda should be read would make law enforcement's job too difficult.

"The whole point of the Miranda rule, I thought, was to provide clear, objective guidelines about what the police are supposed to do," Chief Justice John Roberts told Blackman. "And it seems to me that one of the difficulties with your rule, however clear it may seem in this case ... is that that's off the table."

North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, who argued the state's case, said that introducing age as a factor would turn Miranda "upside down."

Justice Elena Kagan disagreed.

SEE MIRANDA PAGE 2

Council delays sign decision

BY KIRK ROSS Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The Chapel Hill Town Council on Monday agreed to hold off on a decision on major changes to the town's sign ordinance until April 11 to give residents more time to weigh in on the matter.

At its meeting at Town Hall, the council opted to delay a decision on allowing 12 major retail centers around town to increase the size of their signs. Current town law restricts the size of signs to 15 square feet and limits the number of tenants a center can list.

The new ordinance has been scaled back since last seen by the council at a public hearing in mid-February. It would allow developments like Meadowmont and Southern Village and retail centers like Eastgate and University Mall to increase the size of their signs up to 120 square feet along 35 mph roads and 144 square feet along 45 mph roads. Maximum height of signs would rise from 8 to 14 feet.

At the council meeting, resident Madeline Jefferson implored the council to give citizens more time to learn about what's being proposed.

"We're not Durham, we're not Raleigh, we're not a big commercial area," she said, adding that the town was small and most people know what stores are located in the centers. "We don't need huge signs to tell us."

Council member Penny Rich said the signs were important to help visitors find their way around. She and other council members said they were cautious about the idea and wanted to make sure there were safeguards in the ordinance to keep the signs tasteful.

"I just don't want it to look too tacky," Rich said.

Also on Monday night, the council received an update on the town's library-expansion project and the temporary move of the Chapel Hill Public Library to University Mall.

Assistant Town Manager Bruce Heffin said the library will occupy two spaces at the mall, with the main services located in the former Hungate's space near Dillard's and a technical services and administrative space near A Southern Season.

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 4

Duke Energy tree-cutting angers residents

BY SUSAN DICKSON Staff Writer

On Dec. 10, Kimberly Willardson moved her family from a Carrboro condominium to their new home on the corner of Seawell School and Homestead roads in Chapel Hill. Eighteen days later, she awoke to the sound of chainsaws and looked outside to find men cutting down trees in her yard.

Prior to the move, Willardson had researched the planned developments across the street and new stoplights down the road. She'd contacted the Chapel Hill Planning Department and spent months considering the property. But she hadn't anticipated the drastic changes that were about to occur on that property.

Duke Energy cut down trees, saplings and underbrush, including nearly everything shielding Willardson's home from Homestead Road, in order to maintain the right-of-way underneath their power lines.



Duke Energy recently clear cut the right-of-way on the Homestead Road side of Kimberly Willardson's property on the corner of Homestead and Seawell School roads. PHOTO BY SUSAN DICKSON

Willardson hadn't seen a brochure explaining the cutting that was delivered to her teenage son a week and a half earlier, so she was surprised to see the crew of men in her yard at 8 in the morning.

"Nobody's going to argue with the right-of-way," Willardson said.

"It's the way they did it."

That same day, Willardson filed a complaint with Duke Energy and was told someone would respond. She has not yet heard back.

SEE DUKE ENERGY PAGE 3

2011 became a season to cherish

BY EDDY LANDRETH Staff Writer

Right or wrong, the game of college basketball is woven so tightly within the culture of the state of North Carolina that no matter how much the team achieves, anything short of a national title requires a period of mourning.

Carolina's coaches, players and fans eat, sleep and dream this game.

But if there was ever a year to cast aside "would've," "could've" and "should've," this was it.

The team did. The Tar Heels went out and played.

They started virtually from scratch. The lineup at the end of the season consisted of two freshmen, two sophomores and a junior who, due to injuries, had never played a full season.

The Tar Heels opened 4-3 in No-



ember, and one could almost hear the fan base groan in fear of another NIT appearance.

Coach Roy Williams just kept telling us the team would improve as the season progressed - and did it ever. From the start of the ACC schedule until that final night at the Smith Center against Duke, no team in the league improved more than the Tar Heels.

As their run in the NCAA tournament showed, they were able to regain the mental focus that slipped at the ACC Tournament and continue their improvement.

Kentucky ended the season for the Tar Heels in the round of eight, one game shy of the Final Four. That is a million miles from the postseason NIT and the feeling of failure and humiliation some of the coaches and players surely felt a year ago.

When the season started at 4-3, I dare say there was not a Carolina fan anywhere on the globe that wouldn't have taken a first-place finish and a trip to the round of eight and 29 victories at the end.

SEE LANDRETH PAGE 3

Farm with a view

RECENTLY... BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Betty Sue and John Yow don't know how long the Orange County land they live on has been in her family.

"We know it's over 230 years," Betty Sue said of the acreage around Old Fayetteville Road that has been owned by the Neville family for 10-plus generations. Her siblings and many cousins still live off the land, but only one of their farms continues a dairy operation.

John Yow also grew up in a farming family. He was raised from 18 months on in the White Cross area on land now known as Eco Farm, owned by John Dennis and Cindy Econopouly, who sell at the Carrboro Farmers' Market.

As a child, John Yow's family sold

at an impromptu farmers' market in Chapel Hill.

"I went to the farmers' market as long as I can remember," John Yow said. "The first one I remember was on the corner of Henderson and Rosemary behind the post office on the opposite corner. It moved on up the street to Columbia and Rosemary where the savings and loan was."

Betty Sue and John, who grew up knowing each other, will celebrate 50 years of marriage on April 15. They and their three sons have taken the 100-plus acres of their Valley View Farm from a dairy to a beef farm.

"We shut down the dairy in '72," John Yow said. "We have always sold cattle on the open market. But we have never used growth hormones."

SEE RECENTLY PAGE 4



Betty Sue and John Yow out and about at Valley View Farm PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

INSIDE

Rare bird halts Carolina North See page 3

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Community Calendar

THURSDAY MARCH 31 Friends of the Downtown — Meeting with speaker Sarah Frier, editor-in-chief of The Daily Tar Heel. Franklin Hotel, 9:30am

SATURDAY APRIL 2 LGBT Elders Event — Starts with a screening of the 2010 documentary, "Gen Silent." William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education, 1pm Free and open to the public www.ssw.unc.edu/diversity/about/aging

Farmers' Market — South Estes Farmers' Market changes its name to Chapel Hill Farmers' Market and opens for the main season. The location has changed to the parking lot across from K&W Cafeteria. 8am-12pm thechapelhillfarmersmarket.com

Parc Center For Ethics — To hold a conference on the ethics of local environmental issues. Hyde Hall on UNC Campus, 8:30am-5:15pm Free Registration required parc-center.unc.edu

7th Annual Wine Show — At Weaver Street Market. All proceeds from the sale of glasses will go to the Cooperative Community Fund. Music by the Jeff Brown Quartet. Weaver Street Market in Carrboro, 1-5pm \$5

Carrboro Farmers' Market — Changes its hours to 7am-noon

MONDAY APRIL 4 Time Out — With special guests Lennie Rosenbluth and Pete Brennan, two stars from the Tar Heel basketball team that went 32-0 in 1956-57. 5pm WCOM-FM, 103.5

TUESDAY APRIL 5 Movie Nite — Showing Starting Out in the Evening, with Frank Langella, Lauren Ambrose, Lili Taylor and Adrian Lester. Chapel Hill Public Library, 6:30pm Free

Farmers' Market — Fearington Farmers' Market opens for its 20th season. 4pm

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6 Books Sandwiched In — To discuss Olive Kitteridge, by Elizabeth Strout, led by Lois Anderson. Chapel Hill Public Library, 11:30am friend-schpl.org

THURSDAY APRIL 7 Kevin Cherry — To speak on the origins and development of the Dialectic and Philanthropic literary and debating societies at UNC. An a cappella performance by the Loreles will precede the lecture. Wilson Special Collections Library, 5pm lib.unc.edu

FRIDAY APRIL 8 Kevin Cherry — Opens at Chatham Mills in Pittsboro. The show chronicles the everyday struggles and hopes of residents in a Depression-era N.C. mill town. \$13 brownpaper-tickets.com

Museum Fundraiser — For Kidzu Children's Museum consisting of dinner, music, auction and dancing. Top of Wallace Parking Deck, 9pm-12am

SATURDAY APRIL 9 Earth Action Day Festival — Celebrating sustainable living, presented by Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation. Southern Community Park, noon-5pm townofchapelhill.org

Healthcare Fundraiser — Local bands perform to benefit the Future of Music Coalition's Health Insurance Navigation Tool. Jesse's Coffee and Bar, 11am Donations requested

Passport Fair — Celebrate Passport Day in the USA 2011. Carrboro Post Office, 8am-2pm Passport applicants can download forms at usps.com/passport

Tree Planting — Help plant a rain garden that will help filter stormwater as part of the stream-restoration project. Baldwin Park, 9:30am-noon 969-7246

Parents Workshop — For parents of special needs children, entitled "Best Parenting Strategies: Steps to Confident Conscious Parenting." Orange United Methodist Church, 9:30-11:30am mhatriangle.org

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. unclineberger.org/patient/support/supportgroup.asp

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.

MIRANDA FROM PAGE 1

"There are all manner of circumstances which go into the determination of whether a person would feel free to leave — how many people are in the room, how long the interrogation is, where the interrogation is, the particular circumstances of the interrogation," Kagan said.

The Miranda rule is not a "bright-line test," she said. Consideration of age would be one more objective factor in an "already multifaceted inquiry."

Justice Stephen Breyer asked what if "Ukrainian is the only thing he speaks" or "there are very steep steps and he's in a wheelchair. Are you willing to take that into account?"

"The whole point of the Miranda rule, I thought, was to provide clear, objective guidelines about what the police are supposed to do," Chief Justice John Roberts told Blackman. "And it seems to me that one of the difficulties with your rule, however clear it may seem in this case ... is that that's off the table."

North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, who argued the state's case, said that introducing age as a factor would turn Miranda "upside down."

Justice Elena Kagan disagreed. "There are all manner of circumstances which go into the determination of whether a person would feel free to leave — how many people are in the room, how long the interrogation is, where the interrogation is, the particular circumstances of the interrogation," Kagan said.

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Cooper replied that he would, but asserted that the way age factors in is more elusive.

Cooper further allowed that Miranda has gray areas, but that "it's informed with 45 years of case law. And officers now have a pretty good idea as to what combination of factors constitutes custody for Miranda purposes."

Several justices suggested that requiring a police officer to consider age when deciding whether to read Miranda would require that officer to climb inside the head of an adolescent to determine whether he understood he was free to go.

Orange County District Attorney Jim Woodall said this week that both defense and prosecution teams will sometimes bring in psychologists who conduct many hours of interviews and tests and still disagree on a suspect's mental state.

"And you want officers to make that determination?" Woodall said. "They can't do it. We need an objective standard."

But Breyer suggested in the hearing that, "Nobody has to think like anybody. All they have to think is 'let's err somewhat on the safe side.'"

Law-enforcement officers "don't get inside adults' heads either," Blackman said this week. "They just need to make general assumptions."

Another concern raised by several justices was whether it was reasonable to expect an officer to be able to determine a young person's age.

"When the policeman sees him, he's dressed in baggy jeans, you know, down around his thighs, and when the judge sees him he's wearing a Buster Brown jumper suit," said Justice Antonin Scalia. "You don't really think that it's going to be equivalent?"

Limit consideration of age to when the age is known, or is readily apparent, said Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

If the officer "not only knows he's dealing with a seventh-grader but he decides the venue for the

questioning is going to be a room in the school," Ginsburg said, "it's not a mystery. It's not a guess. He knows he's dealing with a seventh-grader."

Which way Kennedy?

"The court seems completely divided on this," said Barbara Fedders, a clinical assistant professor in the UNC School of Law and co-author of a brief on behalf of J.D.B. "What's uncertain is what Justice Kennedy is thinking."

As is so often the case, Justice Anthony Kennedy is expected to be the swing vote. He's come down on the side of juveniles in two high-profile decisions, but it's unclear where he may stand on Miranda.

Fedders, who was present for the argument, said that at times Kennedy seemed sympathetic to J.D.B.

"I guess part of my problem is it's just in some respects hard to put the Miranda in the context of a 13-year-old alone," Kennedy said. "It may be that Miranda warnings, 'You have a right to remain silent, anything you say can be used against you,' might terrify the kid just to hear about it."

"I'm just wondering how the Miranda warning works here anyway. The school is in loco parentis [in place of the parent], it has certain obligations and privileges with respect to the student."

But at another point in the proceedings, Kennedy seemed to suggest he felt protection of youth was sufficiently provided under the rule of voluntariness, in which a judge decides whether a confession is in fact voluntary.

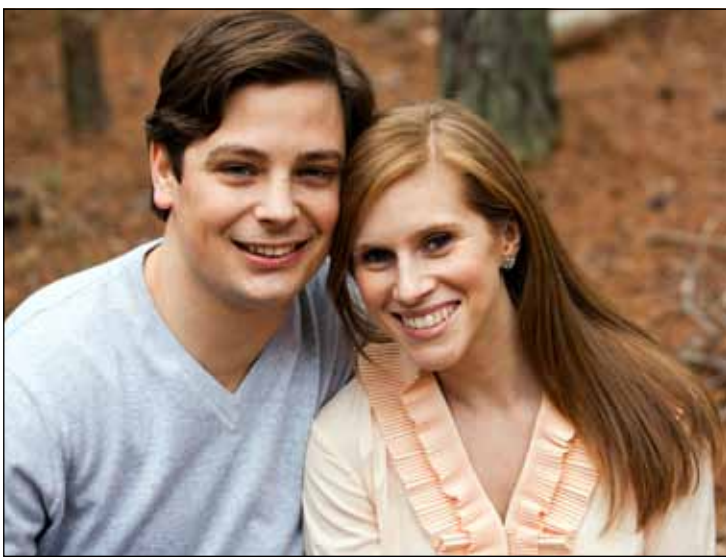
What was apparent, Fedders said, was that the justices were truly engaged by this case: "They seemed really invested in this."

Blackman agreed: "Clearly, they had been arguing [the issue] with each other before entering the room."

"It's a good thing that the Supreme Court is weighing in on this," Woodall said. "It's a unique question."

A decision will most likely come down in May or June.

Dean - Hagen



Mr. and Mrs. James W. Dean Jr. of Chapel Hill, N.C., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Noelle Marie Dean, to Mr. Colby Donald Hagen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hagen II of Romulus, N.Y.

Ms. Dean is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill and works at Edelman, a public relations agency in New York City. Mr. Hagen is a graduate of Ithaca College and works at Acupay, a foreign tax and financial services firm in New York City.

A May 14 wedding is planned in Chapel Hill.

PHOTO BY ROBIN LIN PHOTOGRAPHY

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Lions, nightly at 7:10 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2:10 p.m.; Even the Rain, nightly at 9:10 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 4:10 p.m.

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THE VARSITY
123 E. Franklin St., 967-8865

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PET OF THE WEEK

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Meet Leah! This adorable 4-month-old Lab mix is a sweet ball of fluff and fun! This cutie pie loves people and is always ready to play or just plop down in your lap for some full-face kisses! She will be a fun addition to almost any family and would likely do well as a single dog or an addition to the doggy family. Visit her today at Orange County's Animal Services Center, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill or call 942-PETS (7387). You can also see her and other adoptable animals online at www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp

Briefs

Weaver Street update

Beginning Sunday afternoon, the entire east block of Weaver Street will be closed for approximately six to 10 weeks to rebuild the road and install the storm-sewer system. Pedestrian access will remain open.

Water main installation is scheduled to begin soon in the west block of Weaver Street near the intersection with North Greensboro Street. Work will progress from east to west.

Stay updated on Weaver Street work at the town's web site townof-carrboro.org/WS

OWASA meeting

On April 7, members of the Chapel Hill Town Council and the OWASA board of directors will meet in the OWASA boardroom at 400 Jones Ferry Road to discuss items of mutual interest.

CHT detours

Chapel Hill Transit will implement a detour to many of its bus routes this weekend due to street closures on Manning and West drives.

The D, G and NS routes will be detoured from Pittsboro Street to South Columbia Street.

Passengers may board the detoured buses at alternate stops at the Health Sciences Library or on Pittsboro Street at University Drive.

The HU route will be detoured on its route from East Drive to Fordham Boulevard. Passengers may board the detoured bus at the alternate stop on Mason Farm Road or at the temporary bus stop on East Drive.

The FCX, NU, U and weekend U and NU routes will be detoured along East Drive to Mason Farm Road to Columbia Street. Passengers may board the detoured buses at the temporary stop on East Drive opposite Jackson Circle or at the alternate stop at the Health Sciences Library.

The V route to Southern Village will be detoured along South Columbia Street. Passengers may board the detoured bus at the alternate stops on South Columbia Street at Westwood Drive or on Pittsboro Street at University Drive.

The RU route will be detoured along South Columbia Street from Mason Farm Road to East Drive to Manning Drive.

Passengers may board the detoured bus at the alternate stop on East Drive at Jackson Circle.

Affordable Care Act anniversary

The Affordable Care Act celebrated its one-year anniversary last Wednesday with a gathering at Piedmont Health Services.

"This is an occasion worth marking," said Rep. David Price, who calls the act "the most significant reform in history to our nation's health care system."

Nearly 37,000 residents gained health insurance eligibility through the act. The provision allows parents to keep children up to age 26 without job-based coverage on their insurance plans. It is also estimated that 539,000 kids are protected by the provision, banning insurance companies from denying coverage to children because of a pre-existing condition.

Orange County public hearing on the quarter-cent sales tax

The Orange County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Department of Social Services Office in Hillsborough Commons for comment on the potential uses for the possible proceeds of the one-quarter cent sales tax referendum, which could be on the November ballot.

Rare bird halts Carolina North development

University officials and representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are scheduled to hold a press conference Friday (April 1) to discuss the impact of the discovery of a rare bird on the Carolina North property.

A significant population of *Eudypula carolinians*, commonly called the Carolina penguin, was discovered at Carolina North dur-

ing the annual Christmas bird count. The birds' nesting grounds are near one of the prime building sites on the 1,000-acre property.

The flightless bird, light-blue in color, is listed as endangered by the federal government, which led to an immediate halt to excavation work near the nesting grounds.

Mac Edemia, UNC's vice chancellor for construction, said

new plans that may shift development to the Carrboro portion of the property are under consideration and will be laid out in detail at the press conference.

Joining UNC officials at the announcement will be Fish & Wildlife Assistant Deputy Director Orrin Thalogyst, who will outline the penguin protection plans.

Scientists believe the birds may be the naturalized descendants of a flock that escaped decades ago from the collection of former UNC hygiene professor Horace Williams. Williams was known to keep several species of rare birds at the airport grill and lounge he operated after retiring from teaching. — *Staff Reports*

LANDRETH FROM PAGE 1

If you really watched the team, though, not just the basketball and whether it went into the bucket, you would have seen something truly special: a team that overcame personnel losses and errors of youth to draw together as tightly as any group since the 2006 group that had such an amazing season.

Harrison Barnes likes Kendall Marshall so much, every time he looks at him it seems Barnes can't help but smile. The whole team cared for one another and appeared to play for one another.

Dexter Strickland sometimes received unfair criticism, but this young man has a competitive spirit that will rival anyone on this team — or any other, for that matter.

"I couldn't be more proud of my team than I am," Williams said after the loss to Kentucky. "I wouldn't trade my kids for anybody. It's been an unbelievable ride, and they've been an unbelievable group of kids."

"They really made coaching fun. We've had some adversity, and they just kept together and kept coming back, just like they did today. And it was a wonderful, wonderful time for us."

Now for the multimillion-dollar question: Will anyone leave for the NBA paycheck?

Had the team won the national championship, or even just

gotten to the Final Four, there probably would have been several key losses.

Coming up just short may be the hidden benefit in all of this, because these kids can see just how good they will be with everyone but Justin Knox returning and two of the finest incoming freshmen in the country joining the team.

Every player will be better. Barnes would have an outstanding chance to be national player of the year and have his jersey parked on the front row next to No. 50.

John Henson and Tyler Zeller could make themselves a few more million dollars in their initial contracts, as could Barnes, by getting better before entering the draft and riding a wave of national publicity in next season's NCAA tournament.

The coming days will be tense ones as the big three decide what they are going to do. If they return, they will have the most dominant team in college basketball since, well, since the 2009 Carolina national championship team that destroyed the competition in the NCAA Tournament.

The coaches and fans have to hope that somewhere in their hearts, these kids want more than the paycheck they will eventually get. They have to want to leave a legacy in a program filled with great former players and teams. Their talent and experience will give them an edge against probably any team in the country.

DUKE ENERGY FROM PAGE 1

"In the meantime, the trees are down," she said. "I can't get any answers."

Betsy Conway, a spokeswoman for Duke Energy, said the company is required to maintain rights-of-way as a regulated public utility. The work along Homestead Road is part of the company's routine maintenance program.

"That helps ensure safe, reliable electric service to folks," she said. "We certainly welcome the opportunity to talk with our customers at any time should they have concerns, and we will go out and speak with people."

Conway said the company identifies trees that are interfering with power lines, as well as branches coming into the right-of-way. Saplings of fast-growing trees, like pine, maple and oak, are also cut, she said.

"We take a targeted approach," Conway said.

Once cutting and trimming is complete, workers leave trimmings and brush cuttings in non-landscaped areas. They do a general cleanup of landscaped areas, but leave behind cut wood from trees.

"The reason behind that ... is designed to ensure reliability by managing costs to our customers," Conway said. "The cost of managing the natural growth that occurs around the power lines, those costs are all part of the rates that are paid by our customers."

From Willardson's yard, the crews continued their work down Homestead Road and into surrounding neighborhoods. Cherie Kuzmiak, a Stateside Drive resident, found crews removing trees around her home last week.

"Duke Energy pretty much just clear cut part of my front yard that I share with a neighbor," Kuzmiak said.

Kuzmiak contacted a Duke Energy foreman, who told her he'd visit her property and no further cutting would be done until then. The next day, Kuzmiak returned home to find men again cutting trees in her yard. When she tried to get the crew to stop, they called the police.

"The bottom line is Duke just needs to be honest with people and not pass out some glossy brochure" that refers to a kinder, gentler cut, she said.

Kuzmiak plans to re-plant, though she expects it will cost thousands of dollars to remove the stumps and plant new trees.

"I would rather pay more from my monthly bill knowing that trees are going to be trimmed instead of hacked down," Kuzmiak said.

Willardson estimates her property value has dropped about \$20,000 due to the cutting. Since she knows Duke is unlikely to compensate her for that loss, she's organizing a class-action lawsuit against the power company.

Conway said the company does not provide compensation for cutting and trimming in rights-of-way. She encouraged customers to plant trees, like those on the company's website, duke-energy.com, that don't grow above 20 feet.

Cutting will continue in Chapel Hill for several weeks, Conway said, adding that all impacted residents will receive notification. Based on feedback it has gotten, Duke Energy is working to improve the notification letters it distributes to residents.

Community Dinner

Sit down with a stranger, leave with a friend

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2011 at 1PM

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Advance purchase of tickets is recommended at these locations:

Carrboro Branch Library at McDougle School
The Carrboro Cybrary at the Century Center
The Ink Spot, 501 W. Main St. in Carrboro
Mama Dip's Kitchen, 408 W. Rosemary St.
The Preservation Society of Chapel Hill
Townsend, Bertram and Company at Carr Mill
Signs Now Occasions, 1322 N. Fordham Blvd.
FRANK Gallery at 109 East Franklin Street
Orange County Library in Hillsborough

For more information call 969-3006 or online at communitydinner.org

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THE RANK CONTENDERS • SUN 4/10

SCOTT MILLER • SAT 4/16

AIMEE MANN • SUN 4/17

KIRA GRANNIS • FRI 4/22

TOO MUCH FUN • SAT 4/23

CRASH TEST DUMMIES • TUE 5/17

SHEMEDIA COPELAND • FRI 5/20

CELTIC CONCERT SERIES:

DE DANANN • THU 5/26 @ CHATHAM MILLS

ARTSCENTER STAGE:

PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE • 4/1 - 4/3

THE MONTI • THU 4/7 • **SOLD OUT**

TRANSACTORS IMPROV • SAT 4/30

CHILDREN & FAMILY:

AFTER SCHOOL ARTS IMMERSION

REGISTRATION OPEN 4/4

Briefs

Mama Dip to host class

Mama Dip will lead a free "Spring into Health" cooking class with Heather Miranda, Piedmont Health nutritionist, on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Joseph C.M.E. Church.

The class, hosted by St. Joseph C.M.E. Church, United with the Northside Community Now Health Committee and Piedmont Health Services, is an effort to help address the health needs of the Northside community. Mama Dip will teach participants how to make a main dish, side dish and dessert, while Miranda will highlight healthy alternatives to traditional ingredients and their nutritional values.

Child care will be provided. Registration is required. To register, call 537-7485 or email browng@piedmonthealth.org

Egg hunt

Chapel Hill's Annual Community Egg Hunt will be April 16 at Homestead Community Park. Entertainment will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the egg hunt will begin at 10:30 a.m.

The event is a free spring celebration for children 2 to 10 years of age. Activities will include the egg hunt itself, live entertainment by Katharine Whalen and William Dawson, prizes and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Egg hunts will be divided by age.

For more information, visit townofchapelhill.org/communityevents or call Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation at 968-2784

Chatham Habitat birthday

Chatham Habitat for Humanity will celebrate its 20th anniversary at its two home stores beginning Monday. The stores will feature daily sales, drawings for goody baskets and events featuring local craftsmen, artists and decorators leading up to the celebrations finale.

The finale will be April 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chatham Habitat office at 467 West St. in Pittsboro. There will be cake, balloons, face painting and more.

Visit chathamhabitat.org/homestores to learn more.

Family Science Day

Families will have the opportunity to learn about nutrition, practice new fitness activities and meet UNC scientists at the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center's Family Science Day on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Morehead staff members, the Carolina Fitness Professionals Club, the Nutrition Coalition, Healthy Heels and other health and wellness professionals will lead activities and educate visitors. There will also be a presentation by UNC researcher Tanya Vacharkulksemsuk, who is studying the ways that positive emotions, relationships and nonverbal communication may contribute to human health.

Family Science Day is free, requires no advance registration and will happen rain or shine. For more information, call 962-1236 or visit moreheadplanetarium.org

9/11 memorial

A piece of the World Trade Center made the rounds in Chatham County on Saturday and will now serve as part of a memorial to the 9/11 terror attacks.

The beam, part of the 9/11 Memorial Tribute Trail, was displayed in Pittsboro, Goldston and Siler City on a Goldston firefighter's trailer. It will now become the centerpiece of a Chatham County memorial to the emergency responders and others who lost their lives in the attacks.

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 diarrhea and ganglion cysts.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I had a bad case of diarrhea with fever and nausea. I got it from my dad, who is now better. The doctor asked me about blood in the stool, which I said I didn't have. But later on, I did notice the stool looked a little red to me. I wanted an antibiotic, but the doctor told me my illness was most likely a virus. What do you think?

We would agree that this is most likely a virus. In most such cases an antibiotic won't help, and might make the condition worse, since antibiotics often cause diarrhea as a side effect. There are several bacterial infections that cause diarrhea, but most are rare in the US. Even with salmonella, which has been in the news lately, antibiotics can actually prolong the infection.

So we usually recommend antibiotics only for people that are quite sick or hospitalized.

If diarrhea is prolonged or bloody, we might take a stool culture to help us judge whether antibiotic therapy would be appropriate. And if a patient has recently traveled internationally especially to low- and middle-income countries, we usually recommend antibiotics without a stool culture.

In most cases, though, the best advice is to stay hydrated, take small frequent sips of a watered-down sports drink and give it some time.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I am 72 years old and I noticed a pea-sized lump along the top of my second toe. It moves around when I push on it but it doesn't hurt. My doctor thinks it is a ganglion cyst. We decided just to watch it since it isn't bothering me, but I'd like to know what you recommend.

A ganglion cyst is a fluid-filled cyst that occurs along a tendon. If such a cyst is not bothersome we often recommend watching it. There are some

treatment options, if it bothers you. We used to call these Bible cysts, because people would take the biggest book in the house (usually the Bible) and smash them. Though that still works, we don't recommend it, because the cysts usually come back afterwards, and there's always a danger of smashing the toe or finger under the cyst.

Another, less painful option is to draw out the jelly-like fluid and inject the cyst with steroids. It's a little safer, but the cysts still come back fairly often. Surgery is the most effective option, but still carries risks as well as a chance of recurrence.

So that all said, if your cyst isn't bothering you, don't bother it.

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.

RECENTLY

FROM PAGE 1

They raise Angus and Hereford/Angus-cross cattle that are born on site and raised on beautiful pastures without growth hormones or antibiotics. At this point, only their middle son, Keith, who is an award-winning teacher of woodworking at Cedar Ridge High School in Hillsborough, helps in the day-to-day around the farm. The other two sons, Walter and Gerry, run John W. Yow Grading and Septic Services, but help around the farm with mowing and other periodic events requiring extra muscle. Additionally, they mow the fields of three pieces of property the family sold, where people have built homes but keep the fields agriculturally active with hay.

"To be a farmer, you've got to like it," John Yow said. "You're not gonna make any money unless you're lucky. My ability to farm is my

ability to make money somewhere else."

Keeping the taxes paid on this much land has proven burdensome. But each in the family does his or her bit to support the family farm. Betty Sue works in the office, keeping the schedules straight, refusing continual requests to sell their land and selling the meat, which is processed in Siler City.

One recent Saturday, as John took me on a golf cart ride around Valley View Farm, I saw in my mind's eye a video depicting the word "bucolic" begin to roll as we approached a herd of cattle who stopped their grazing or stood from their resting to come check us out.

"Curious, aren't ya?" John asked as they walked right up for their close-ups. "That's our future," he said of the cattle staring at us.

Then, while Yow called a high-pitched "Soo-KAY," the herd followed us to a new pasture where young grass sprouts awaited as their all-you-can-eat buffet. This will be their life for up to 24 months until they weigh 600 to 700

pounds – eating fresh grass or hay by day, bedding down in a clean barn each night, drinking fresh water from an electric water system.

Yow keeps the cattle away from all water associated with a branch or creek that flows to nearby University Lake. It costs him \$25 a month in electricity to pump the water from a well – his contribution to keeping the drinking water cleaner for people in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

Betty Sue goes out several times a week to sell meat. She's at the Seymour Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays and has started selling at Johnny's in Carrboro on Saturday mornings.

And anytime you'd like to take a short drive into the countryside and see "bucolic" for yourself, Betty Sue will help you support the local-food movement with some of the healthiest beef you can find. Call 942-4304 seven days a week.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

Town Manager Roger Stancil said he expects construction to start in August or September. Bids for the project will be let in June, he said.

The council in February nixed a deal with University Mall to permanently relocate the library to the mall, deciding to pursue the expansion of the current location. Voters approved bonds for the project in 2003.

In other action the council:

- established a new Community Policing Advisory Committee made up of nine citizens and agreed to start advertising for citizen volunteers to join the new committee; and
- rescheduled consideration of rezoning and special use permit applications for the Aydan Court project on the north side of N.C. Highway 54 at the request of developer Carol Ann Zinn. The council will consider the proposal, which includes 90 condominiums on 5.8 acres, at its April 25 meeting.

SUPER CROSSWORD IN LINE

ACROSS	1 School tool	6 Sahara vision	12 Crestfallen	15 Pigskin prop	18 "Carmen" and "The Consul"	20 Genesis peak	21 In-your-face item?	22 Director Ashby	23 SIDE LINE	27 Extremity	28 Nurse's helper	29 East ender?	30 Sly trick	31 Composer Thomas	32 Rocky's rival	36 Author Antonia	38 Mirgo's portrayer	41 Fiddling emperor	42 Turn of phrase	44 SKY LINE	52 Nonclerical	53 New Jersey athletes	54 Scuba site	55 TV's "Fly Away"	57 Mischief-maker	58 Rhone feeder	59 Has on	61 Singer	Khan Naldi or Tabot	65 Sty guy	66 Mardi —	67 Went white	68 HAIR LINE	74 Breakfast fruit	77 Jeroboam contents	78 Color	79 Criticize	83 Speak one's mind	84 Accent feature	86 Singer Vaughan	88 Mrs. McKinley	89 "Lorenzo's —" ('92 film)	90 Dividend	91 "41 Across" tutor	92 Be a pest	93 LIFE LINE	99 Took on board	100 "— No Sunshine"	101 Content completely	102 Aptitude	105 "— and Misdemeanors" ('89 film)	107 Act like a chicken	110 Belligerent deity	111 Reminder	112 Shade of	113 Year, in Yucatan	116 BLOOD LINE	124 Actor Chaney	125 Past	126 Expects the worst	127 Maris or Mantle	128 She's a sheep date	129 — down (destroy)	130 Petrarch product	131 Kingdom	DOWN	1 Dressing gown	2 "Once — a midnight dreary . . ."	3 Ballot material?	4 Be human	5 Tracking tool	6 Medieval weapon	7 Bother	8 Math abbr.	9 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"	10 Boyle's concern	11 Lucy's landlady	12 Made cotton candy	13 Broadcast	14 Thieves'	head-quarters?	15 Anatole France novel	16 Combs of baseball	17 Glue guy	19 Belt	24 Chemical suffix	25 Poultry purchase	26 Wise guy	31 — blond	32 Leg joint	33 Pride of the pumped-up	34 "— pro nobis"	35 Prune	36 Vassal's holding	37 Linear measure	38 "— a day's work"	39 Biscayne Bay city	40 "Aida" setting	43 Club cost	45 QB's stats	46 Bounded	47 Shun	48 Beatles' beater	49 Cocky	50 Medicine bottle	51 Actress Sommer	56 Youngster	59 Squeezed out the suds	60 Vacation sensation	61 Numbers man?	62 Kansas city	64 Soon	66 Show one's teeth	69 Vane letters	70 Serengeti	71 Cut of meat	72 Blender setting	73 Show one's feelings	74 Bovine below container	75 "The Ramayana," e.g.	76 Coloratura Pons	80 Neighbor of Nigger	81 Man or stallion	82 Patrick of "A Clockwork Orange"	84 Shake-spearean infinitive	85 Kind of print	86 Factions	87 Owns	90 Leonine	91 Reasonably balanced	94 See 109	95 China's —	96 Skater	97 Amis' "Lucky —"	98 Sound of disapproval	102 Under the — (secretly)	103 Cupid's missile	104 Sierra —	106 Philharmonic section	107 Bleak critique	108 Whirlpool	94 Down, fragrant	111 Cornfield critter	112 Only	113 "Puppy Love"	114 Gallagher of Oasis	115 Utah city	117 Actor's lunch?	118 Self-esteem	119 Theater sign	120 Word with take or hang	121 Solo of "Star Wars"	122 Coleridge composition	123 "Good Cop"	(91 film)
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CitizenCryptoquote By Martin Brody

For example, YAPHCYAPLM IS WORDSWORTH. One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the two O's, Y for the two W's, etc. Apostrophes, punctuation, the length and formation of the words are all hints.

Babe Magnet?

G C W T W K W T W B I L P G Z L P
 F D R L N W K C W T W L N W R G
 I H H R D L T T W Z L Z G L U R W
 G I K I F W P . L ' F P I G
 L P G C V G Z G V G W P I K .
 - E V A S P L A C I R Z I P ,
 V A G I T , Z W Y W P G D -
 G C T W W , W Q B T W Z Z L P O
 Z V H P W Z Z V U I X G C L Z
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 Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 CARRBORO CITIZEN

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School Briefs

Gov's School students selected

Twenty-one Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School students have been selected for the 2011 Governor's School of North Carolina.

The students and their subjects are: Caroline Hamilton (Spanish), Hadley Reid (natural science), Hannah Schwarz (natural science) and Alexa Yeames (theater) from Carrboro High School; Benjamin Babcock (natural science), Shuyu Cao (English), Annie Wang (French), Caroline Coyle (art), Eric Jiang (instrumental music), Yeonsoo Jin (instrumental music), Megan O'Donnell (art) and Alex Yang (instrumental music) from Chapel Hill High School; Erika Clary (English), Shuo Deng (mathematics), Christina Zhou (French), Paul Skiba (French), Maggie Bootebaugh (art), Ethan Chu (instrumental music), Kyle Jordan (instrumental music), Forrest Li (instrumental music) and Casey Smith (dance) from East Chapel Hill High School.

Art in exhibition

Two Chapel Hill High School students will have their ceramic sculptures exhibited in the 2011 National K-12 Ceramic Exhibition from March 30-April 2 in Tampa, Fla.

Peace Win's relief sculpture "Wise Man" and Sofie Kennedy's "Heron Giraffe" were selected for the exhibition. Only 150 pieces were selected for display from more than 1,100 pieces of art from across the country.

Culbreth wins spot in healthy recipe competition

Culbreth Middle School is one of the top five semifinalists in the Whole Grains category of the Recipes of Healthy Kids Competition.

Culbreth's stir-fried green rice, eggs and ham recipe has been posted on the competition's website for public voting, which will take place through May 15 and will determine the Popular Choice Award winner. To view the recipe and vote, visit recipesforkidschallenge.com/submissions

Competition judges will visit Culbreth to meet the Recipe Competition team and taste the recipe, which will be prepared as part of the school's lunch that day. The winning school will receive \$1,000.

Doughnut art on display

Amy Dong, a seventh-grader at Phillips Middle School, made doughnut pincushions that are now on display in a pastry box at Krispy Kreme on East Franklin Street in Chapel Hill.

The pincushions were made from pieces of felt with a sewing technique called stitching on a curve. Dong used felt and yarn to make the icing appliqué and sewed on decorative beads to imitate sprinkles.

Pedersen retirement gala

April 8 is the last day to purchase tickets for the Neil Pedersen Retirement Gala on April 16. The gala benefits the Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate Program and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public School Foundation. It will be held at the Carolina Club from 7 to 10 p.m.

Tickets are \$75 each and can be purchased in three ways: visiting the Public School Foundation Office and Lincoln Center during regular business hours; mailing a check to the Public School Foundation at P.O. Box 877, Carrboro, NC 27510; or visiting the Public School Foundation's website at app.etapestry.com/hosted/ChapelHill-Carrboro-PublicSc/OnlineGiving.html

Board to be streamed live

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools began producing video streams of Board of Education meetings on March 17. Live streams of board meetings will begin with the meeting scheduled for April 7.

As a result of the video streaming, "The Boardroom," an extensive summary of board meetings, will no longer be published.

Miss UNC hosts prom

Monica Doyle, Miss UNC, hosted a prom for students with special needs and disabilities on March 19. The prom's theme was "A Night to Shine."

Doyle received a grant from UNC upon winning her title in the fall and used the funds to sponsor the event, which was held at Extraordinary Ventures.

The event was free of charge and each attendee left with a professional picture taken with a friend, Miss UNC or the UNC mascot Rameses.

Nominate Teacher of the Year

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools is accepting nominations for its 2010-11 Teacher of the Year through April 7.

Individuals who wish to nominate a K-12 teacher from one of the district's 17 schools can download the nomination form from the district website, chccs.k12.nc.us. Nomination forms can also be acquired through the school's office or by contacting the district's human resource office.

Dolphin Nation Night

McDougle Elementary School will host its first Dolphin Nation Night on April 7 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The event will feature seven concurrent panels offered during two sessions. The panels will include information about the school's programs and practices, ideas about how parents can become involved, tips for supporting students at home, information about Positive Behavior Intervention and Support, details about Exceptional Children's services, a discussion of student-regulated learning and an overview of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools core curriculum.

Schools collect Box Tops

Students at Rashkis Elementary School and Seawell Elementary School participated in a "Battle 4 Box Tops" competition to collect the most Box Tops for Education during the third grading period.

The competition concluded with Seawell Elementary collecting 9,914 Box Tops and Rashkis Elementary collecting 7,565. The prize entailed Seawell Principal Mary Ruben giving Rashkis Principal Deshera Mack a t-shirt to wear to school on March 24.

Box Tops for Education is a General Mills-sponsored program. Each Box Top is valued at 10 cents.

CHHS students win travel award

Maya Handa and Christina Annas, juniors at Chapel Hill High School, won the 2011 Junior Travel Award for their achievement on the National Spanish Examination and excellence in Spanish.

The national award, valued at more than \$3,000, is given to 30 students each year. Handa and Annas will travel to Argentina and Uruguay with the other national winners in July.

Baldwin Park stream restoration project complete

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

In 2007, a study funded by the Clean Water Management Trust Fund found 30 sites in the Bolin Creek watershed that were prime spots for restoration projects – and just a few years later, one of those projects is complete.

The 30 identified locations were later narrowed to 10, including Carrboro's Baldwin Park. Following the study, the towns of Carrboro and Chapel Hill secured about \$850,000 in grants from the Environmental Protection Agency and the N.C. Division of Water Quality to fund stream-restoration projects, including \$370,000 for the Baldwin Park project.

According to Carrboro environmental planner Randy Dodd, the restoration project involved reconfiguring the stream channel to make it more stable, using careful engineering to rebuild the stream and stabilizing stream banks with vegetation. The project also entailed creating a natural buffer in

the area adjacent to the stream, and removing invasive plants and replacing them with native plants, including some that produce edible fruit, like paw paws, persimmons and blueberries.

Project engineers also diverted stormwater running through pipes under Broad Street into a rain garden filled with very permeable soil.

"A rain garden basically filters the pollution and the water," allowing it to more naturally infiltrate, Dodd said.

Carrboro and Chapel Hill officials worked on the project with N.C. State University's Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, as well as nearby landowners.

"The main thing is reducing the amount of sediment that's going into the creek," Dodd said. "[The projects] will be helping with the amount of nitrogen and phosphorous that goes into the creek, and they will be basically calming the high flows from storm events so that the rate of

runoff of the water itself... will be calmed so it won't be as hard on the creek banks themselves."

The grant that financed the Baldwin Park project will also fund restoration at Mill Race, an analysis of restoration alternatives for the tributary draining downtown Chapel Hill and the development of a watershed-restoration plan. A second grant is funding a demonstration project at McDougle Middle School, a restoration project on Dry Gulch and runoff monitoring in the Pacifica neighborhood.

Elected officials from Carrboro and Chapel Hill will dedicate the newly completed project on April 9 at 9:30 a.m. at Baldwin Park, 400 Broad St.

Watershed restoration and plan experts from NCSU will lead tours of the park showcasing the measures taken to repair the previously degraded streams. Backyard rain-garden instructions and information about plant species recommended for stream buffers will be available.

OBITUARIES

Robert Williams Peters

Dr. Robert William Peters was born Sept. 3, 1921, and died March 25, 2011. He was 89 years old. He was a resident of Chapel Hill, N.C., for 41 years. Dr. Peters was a World War II veteran, having served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. He graduated from Ohio State University and was a professor in Pensacola, Fla., and then in Hattiesburg, Miss.

In 1969, he founded the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences at UNC-Chapel Hill. The Robert W. Peters Award Fund was established to honor students with demonstrated interest in research and the potential to contribute to research. Dr. Peters chaired the academic program in speech and hearing until 1981.

Dr. Peters is survived by his wife of 53 years, Helen Peters; his

two children, Colin Peters and his wife, Erica Ernst, of Chicago, and Sheila Barnett and husband, James Barnett, and their children, Shannon and Jason of Walkerton, Va. He is also survived by a former daughter-in-law, Sarah Kelder, and Colin and Sarah's son, Thibaut, of Bowling Brook, Ill. Other survivors are his nieces, Janet Werner, and her husband, Lance, and their children, Jessica and Michael, and Judy Van Englehoven and her husband, Evert, and their children, Andrea, David and Daniel; and his nephew, Roger, and his wife, Kathy, and their daughter, Kristin. He is preceded in death by his parents, William Peters and Janet Peters (Morris), and his sister, Margaret Lundquist. Special friends include his co-workers Joe Hall of UNC, Brian Moore of Cambridge England and Kaitlyn Wilson.

Funeral services will be held Friday, April 1, 2011, at 11 a.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 632 Laurel Hill Road, Chapel Hill. Graveside services will be held Saturday, April 2, at noon at Shepherd's United Methodist Church, 163 Fleets Mill Road, St. Stephen's Church, Va. Visitation will be on Thursday from 6 till 8 p.m. at Walker's Funeral Home, 120 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill.

The family would like to thank Raquel Pena, Pastor and Alex Sibirian for their loving care of Robert and Helen Peters. He was also treated very kindly by the staff at UNC Hospitals. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Aldersgate United Methodist Church or to the Building Fund for Shepherd's United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 245, St. Stephen's Church, VA 23148.

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LETTERS

Right thing?

If, as president and CEO of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce Aaron Nelson states in his March 24 letter to the editor ("Support for Homestead facility"), "closing of the existing facility is the right thing to do for the health of our downtown," does it follow that the opening of a new facility is the "right thing to do" for the health of the neighborhoods of the Homestead site? I wonder.

PATRICIA THOMPSON
Chapel Hill

CVS meeting

All Carrboro citizens are invited to a community organizing meeting to discuss the potential CVS development in downtown Carrboro. The meeting will take place this Sunday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at Carrboro Town Hall. The proposed development of the corner of Greensboro and Weaver streets is of great importance to everyone in the community. We are not anti-development and are very interested in the smart development of this corner, located in the heart of Carrboro. There are several concerns about the proposed CVS project including:

- traffic volume and congestion;
- traffic increase into the surround neighborhoods;
- pedestrian safety;
- 24-hour parking and noise; and
- the demolition of historic buildings for a parking lot.

Overall, this does not appear to be a good fit for a high-volume, large CVS. If you are concerned about the future of this corner, please join us on Sunday. We will present the status of the CVS proposal, discuss drawings of their plans, brainstorm creative ideas about what we would like to see on that corner and end with action items and next steps.

To stay informed about this project and its impact on our community, please visit centerofcarrboro.blogspot.com

MICHELLE JOHNSON
Carrboro

Healthy cooking

The book of Genesis tells us that, "Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything." Here at St. Joseph's CME church, we are trying to figure out how to stay healthy and enjoy all the wonderful food God has given us.

This Saturday at noon, St. Joseph's CME church and Piedmont Health Services will be putting on a healthy cooking class for anyone in the community. Local celebrity chef Mama Dip and Piedmont nutritionist Heather Miranda will be demonstrating how to cook chicken-broccoli casserole and a full healthy meal. We are excited to have the chance to eat and have fellowship together over a healthy meal and learn something along the way.

The community is invited to share this meal and learning experience with us. Call 537-7485 or browng@piedmonthealth.org to reserve your spot with us. The class will be at St. Joseph's CME. We hope to see you there!

LAVISHA WILLIAMS
Pastor of St. Joseph's CME

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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:

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Totally Carrboro

ANNETTE STONE

The Town of Carrboro knows who it is. The town's elected officials emanate a cohesive message of a locally based, sustainable, creative and alive community. They are "Totally Carrboro!" as I heard Alderman Randee Haven-O'Donnell say. My immediate impression after watching the Carrboro Board of Aldermen retreat was that the word Carrboro is not only a noun, it's also an adjective. To be "Totally Carrboro" describes being confident in who you are and to not let anything stop you from being that. To be Carrboro is to be happy and to celebrate uniqueness and a non-mainstream approach to most everything.

My assignment as a candidate for the position of economic and community development director (ECDD) was to watch a video of the January 2011 BOA retreat and to give a summary and my reaction to the meeting. I was honored when I heard the number of applicants for the ECDD position and to learn what the town was looking for in the new hire. Carrboro is special, and I truly do get that.

In Carrboro, it's not just about profits, as Alderman Dan Coleman noted during the meeting. It is about improving the well-being of people, not only monetarily, but the overall sense of well-being, through access to the arts and public spaces, by encouraging creativity and caring for the planet, by providing safe decent housing and by celebrating diversity. I believe the economy will recover and stabilize, but in a smaller, more localized and sustainable model. Carrboro has it right!

I was very impressed with the hands-on approach and the working knowledge of the BOA. I am pleased that the arts are a key factor in the town's economic-development philosophy. The town's centennial is an excellent opportunity to use the arts to communicate Carrboro's heritage and unique (funky!) character. New Bern just completed a year-long celebration of its 300th anniversary. I was fortunate to serve as a member of the celebration planning committee. New Bern was very successful in creating events that were unique, meaningful and inclusive of all people. I expect Carrboro will do the same in the unique and cool Carrboro way.

Several items were discussed during the meeting that establish the next steps for the town and the new ECDD. One of the first tasks is to implement the "Think Local First" campaign. Coleman emphasized the importance of following through on recommendations to initiate a committee. It will be the job of the new ECDD to build leadership for the Think Local First committee. There is the immediate need for the new hire to get to know the people

of the community quickly. Relationship-building and collaboration will be critical to this position.

A second and simultaneous step is getting information out to the public, other local governments and community partners. A common theme during the BOA meeting was how to effectively communicate the Carrboro message. Alderman Lydia Lavelle mentioned several times the need to "let others know what we are doing." Alderman Sammy Slade suggested the use of mini-billboards. If designed well, in a creative fashion, the "info-boards" can be an attractive, effective, low-cost way to communicate the Carrboro message. Whether it is to the chamber of commerce, a new potential entrepreneur or a new resident, Carrboro needs to effectively communicate the plan for building a local living economy.

Other next steps include continuing with entrepreneurial training, particularly for those in the creative sectors. It was suggested that training workshops include successful creative individuals who can enlighten and inspire others to transform their talents into businesses with living wages. One idea to expand green and creative businesses is to have a competition and a "New Business Fair." The idea is that the competition will stimulate innovative thinking and inspire new green and creative businesses. This will help to motivate new entrepreneurs to create a business plan and work toward the BOA's goal of doubling the commercial tax base.

The BOA discussed other items related to economic development and climate-action planning. These items include working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to support local-business initiatives and to identify, encourage and create green jobs. A residential energy-conservation program that targets low/moderate income housing would support green jobs, facilitate carbon reductions and make housing more affordable by lowering utility costs.

Finally, I wanted to comment on the BOA's sensitivity toward day laborers, which illustrates the uniquely Carrboro approach to social responsibility. BOA members asked, "How can we collectively solve this problem?" and, "How can we provide other support systems?" Their concern was about the people and doing their best to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to work, contribute, be happy and be completely who they are. This brings me back to my original thoughts about the BOA retreat and how confident and self-assured this board is in its identity. It's "Totally Carrboro!"

Annette Stone is the new economic and community development director for the Town of Carrboro.

Reject the Hillsborough Road rezoning

JAMES CARNAHAN

The Carrboro Citizen March 24 editorial characterizing the opposition to the proposed Hillsborough Road site for a library as NIMBYism does a big disservice to the community. People living closest to proposed land-use changes are always the most attentive and often make the most cogent and objective arguments not to make changes — as was the case at the March 22 hearing.

I'm a near neighbor and I strongly oppose the site for a number of reasons that have nothing to do with neighborhood impacts. We're talking about spending \$6 million-plus of hard-earned taxpayer money for the land and facilities; we need to take whatever time it takes to get this right.

Nor is this just a narrow legislative issue about whether a lot zoned residential can support more intensive use. This is about where a library will be located in Carrboro. There are broad issues of public health and welfare the board of aldermen must consider, as their decision bears greatly on the evolution of key town infrastructure and how public facilities will serve us and future residents.

The concerns about traffic are not just convenient buttons for opponents to push. Most folks living in Carrboro's northern parts and in southwest Orange County will have to drive here. Access to the Hillsborough Road site is awkward and adds traffic in front of a public school and a day-care center. This traffic will have real impacts not only on immediate neighbors but on the narrow streets throughout the mill village, currently the most pleasurable walkable part of Carrboro.

It is not clear from looking at the numerous agenda packets, minutes and attachments what a "walkable site in or near the downtown" actually means. And nowhere in the paper trail of committee activity does there seem to have been a public-input process advertised specifically to elicit site-selection criteria that would have clearly defined "downtown" and addressed as well some of the many other issues that arose at the public hearing. The burden was on the most diligent stakeholder to keep apprised of issues on the commissioners' agenda to know when one could voice an opinion. But — with all due respect to the hard work of task force members — when was there an event dedicated to finding out what residents thought about this complex issue?

I agree wholeheartedly with speaker Bethany Chaney, who asked the aldermen to include social-justice criteria in deciding where to site a library. Many of Carrboro's less affluent residents live in the highest density areas in Carrboro along N.C. 54 bypass and Jones Ferry Road. Consider the Mellott property at the corner of Jones Ferry Road and Barnes Street; the owners are actively trying to redevelop it. It is on key pedestrian, transit and transportation corridors; the area is already in fairly intense mixed use and is very close to many who are greatly challenged to achieve their aspirations.

Similarly, the Parker Lane/North Greensboro Street site mentioned by speaker David Jesse is truly "downtown," very close to all three of Carrboro's bus lines and close to higher-density, lower-income neighborhoods. Jesse said at the hearing that the county declined the property he and his wife had offered at a competitive price. Why was Jesse's generous offer of a more suitable site declined?

There are creative ways to have a more central downtown library and one more accessible to our most underserved constituencies, but an obstacle here seems to be that the county does not have "public-private partnership" in its tool kit. Why not work with the Mellott owners or CVS or The ArtsCenter? What about the sadly underutilized parking lot Carrboro owns across the street from the Century Center?

There was talk of masking the library on the Hillsborough Rd site to minimize its visual impact. Historically, libraries have been highly visible, functioning as landmarks and sources of community pride, not hidden away. (Chas Gaertner mentioned the beautiful libraries built with Carnegie endowments.) Do we really want our library to be invisible?

I think we lack a clear idea of what and where we want this library to be, and I join other opponents in asking the aldermen to serve Carrboro's long-term health and welfare by rejecting the Hillsborough Road rezoning. I ask as well that they insist the county escrow the funds intended for this purchase and convene an inclusive participatory process that develops site-selection criteria that truly serve all of our stakeholders.

James Carnahan is a Carrboro resident with a longtime interest in planning issues.

The falling support for the new majority

CHRIS FITZSIMON

It appears the public is beginning to figure out that the people they elected to run the General Assembly may not be what they claimed to be in October: candidates committed to creating jobs and addressing the state budget crisis to get the state back on the right track.

The latest survey from Public Policy Polling finds that voters in North Carolina by a narrow margin now have an unfavorable opinion of Republicans in the legislature. That's a far cry from the sweeping Republican victories in General Assembly races just four months ago.

It's hard to know for sure what has changed voters' minds, but it is probably a safe bet that proposals to set up a separate state currency, allow concealed handguns in family restaurants and privatize public education haven't helped.

The new majorities have spent more time debating how to deny health care to people in North Carolina than how to create jobs and more time trying to deny low-interest loans to unemployed workers returning to community college than exploring ways to improve public schools.

It seems like every week there is another bill introduced calling for a constitutional amendment, which seems odd given the conservatives' often professed reverence for the constitution. The latest, sponsored by Rep. Kelly Hastings, who represents Cleveland and Gaston counties, would make English the official state language, as if English is in danger of extinction in North Carolina.

There are amendments to ban gay marriage even though it's already illegal, to limit legislative terms and to set arbitrary and restrictive spending limits that would threaten education and human-services programs.

House Speaker Thom Tillis, who represents Mecklenburg County, has repeatedly refused to take a position on the legislation introduced by Rep. Glen Bradley, of Franklin, Halifax and Nash counties, to create a separate state currency, so the public must wonder if Tillis too believes the state needs to design and print its own money.

Then there's the budget, the most important issue of all this session. The public is beginning to understand that there is no easy way to cut \$2.4 billion without damaging public education and denying services to children and families who need them.

The more people realize what is at stake, the more they understand that campaign promises to balance the budget without ripping new holes in the safety net or hurting schools were simply disingenuous.

People around the state are now rallying to save early-childhood programs, mental health services and public education. At a recent meeting in Charlotte, parents told a group of Republican legislators that they would be willing to pay higher taxes to save teachers' jobs and protect their children's schools.

Republican Rep. Bill Brawley, of Mecklenburg County, told them that was impossible because Republicans ran for office on a no-tax-increase pledge. They have also said that the pledge means they will not extend the temporary tax increases passed in 2009 to protect schools and services for the most vulnerable people in the state.

That's what's most likely behind much of the decline in Republican legislators' approval numbers — that voters perceive they are more interested in keeping an absurd political pledge than keeping teachers in classrooms and preschool programs helping at-risk kids. Add in the calls for a separate currency and the assault on the constitution, and it's a safe bet the buyer remorse will only grow.

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

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Yellow-green flowered Southern sugar maple (in front) contrasts with the red seeds of red maple (behind). PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

In addition to noticing differences in flowering sequences, every year I surprise myself by becoming aware of a seasonal re-awakening that, though so obvious, I've not appreciated before.

This year, for me, it's the yellow-green flowering Southern sugar maple, *Acer barbatum*, which is abundant in our region. The specimen in my yard is filled with hanging flower clusters; the lower branches offer in-your-face closer looks at beauty so often missed. I have a weakness for little green flowers and these pendulous maple flowers are well worth a

lingering appreciation. These trees add a lovely pastel yellow-green touch to our Carrboro street-side landscapes. In a few spots you'll notice the yellow-green flowers juxtaposed against the red colors of the winged samaras (seed) of the earlier flowering red maple, *Acer rubrum*. You may recall observing, several weeks ago, curious little red flowers on the bare branches of red maples; red maples are more noticeable now that the winged seeds are reaching maturity. In the next few weeks you'll see these red winged seeds spiraling down to blanket yards and pavements beneath our feet. In contrast, the Southern sugar maple will hold its pairs of

winged seeds until late summer and fall.

The yellow-green Southern sugar maples were very noticeable last week. Now they are being obscured by all the other forest canopy trees that are beginning to leaf out. This full awakening of the forest trees is also a bit early. I always think it won't be until after the second full week of April passes that the big canopy trees fully shade our yards and the forest floor. This year I predict that phenomenon will occur at least a week earlier.

Keep your eyes on the trees and on the calendar. You be the judge about this spring's sequence! .

Email Ken Moore at flora@carrborocitizen.com.



The Biggest "Pothole"

OK, so I got beat. Soundly too. When I ran a photo earlier this spring of a enormous pothole (dubbed "Jaws") out at Cole Park Plaza, I challenged *Citizen* readers to find a local pothole larger than my 4-by-2 beast – so large that it appeared able to swallow an Austin Mini in a single gulp. And respond you did! Intrepid pothole sleuth Ed Timberlake wins hands-down with this biggie: 1,280 feet in diameter and 320 feet deep. Oh, and the location? A U.S. Dept. of Energy testing site out in the Nevada desert. Along with his entry, Timberlake asked rhetorically, "How local is 'local?'" (The 1kW guy has been grappling with that Rubik's cube for his entire career.) Be that as it may, congrats, Ed, and Happy April Fools' Day!

A THOUSAND WORDS

BY JOCK LAUTERER



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Available in our Chapel Hill Store only. Not available by phone or online. Not valid on previous purchases. Cannot be combined with other promotional offers. While supplies last. Now thru April 12, 2011.

Stay tuned.
carrborocitizen.com

7th Annual Spring wine sale & shows
March 30 - April 26

over 30 wines up to 41% off!

Plus, enjoy a 5% discount on 6 or more bottles, and a 10% discount on 12 or more bottles!

Fantastic Deals:

- 41% OFF Terra d'Oro Old Vine Zinfandel Deaver Vineyard 2007 \$17.99 reg. \$30.99
- 35% OFF Fãmega Vinho Verde 2009 \$6.49 reg. \$9.99
- 26% OFF La Posta Malbec Pizzella Vineyard 2008 \$13.99 reg. \$18.99
- 26% OFF Lan Crianza Rioja 2006 \$10.99 reg. \$14.99
- 26% OFF Les Halos de Jupiter Côtes-du-Rhône Rouge 2009 \$13.99 reg. \$18.99

Taste The Wines:
Sample sale wines at our wine shows! Enjoy music, hors d'oeuvres and your favorite wines at great savings!

Carrboro April 2 1-5 pm
Southern Village April 9 1-5 pm
Hillsborough April 16 1-5 pm

tickets \$5 . . . available at all Weaver Street Market locations. Portion of proceeds will benefit Earthquake and Tsunami Recovery in Japan.

Open 7 days 3 locations: Carrboro Southern Village Hillsborough
weaverstreetmarket.coop facebook.com/weaverstreetbeer twitter.com/weaverstreet

highland brewing company

Join us for a one-of-a-kind BEER tasting!

HIGHLAND BREWERY
Asheville, NC
with the founder & owner: **Oscar Wong**

Come taste some of Highland's signature brews, a small-batch Scotch Ale, and meet Oscar Wong!

CARRBORO:
Friday, APRIL 1 • 4 - 6:30 pm
SOUTHERN VILLAGE:
Saturday, APRIL 2 • 11am - 1:30 pm
HILLSBOROUGH:
Saturday, APRIL 2 • 3 - 5:30 pm

carrborocitizen.com/classifieds