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APRIL 14, 2011 LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED VOLUME V NO. V



It takes "a closer look" to enjoy the miniature wild geranium or crane's-bill flower. PHOTO BY KEN MOORE



Recognize this 'weed'?

his cool and moist spring allows my flowering yard to go on and on!

My Welsh gardening friend, Sue Morgan, was impressed while carefully stepping through my un-mown sweep of flowering weeds. She was particularly keen on geraniumlike leaves extending above the henbits and speedwells.

Normally the leaves of the inconspicuous little wild geranium, more commonly called Carolina crane's-bill, *Geranium carolinianum*, are no larger than a half-dollar at best. This spring my usual crop of annual wild geranium displays leaves as large as any prized perennial garden-type geranium.

Carrboro OKs rezoning of library site

BY KIRK ROSS Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — After hearing again from advocates for and opponents of the county's chosen site for a new library in a residential neighborhood near Carrboro Elementary School, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen approved a rezoning request for the property on Tuesday.

The 6-1 vote came after a lengthy

debate over the site and the impact of the town's response on future library discussions.

Board member Jacquie Gist cast the lone vote against the rezoning, but stressed her support for a library.

"This isn't about who does and who does not want a library," she said, adding that the site is not in an area of transition, as the county's request indicated. "If you know Carrboro," she said,

"no, it's not."

Dinner time



Reyna and Antonio Deharro enjoy a meal with their family during the 14th annual Community Dinner, held Sunday at the McDougle School Cafetorium. The event, designed to bring people from all walks of life together for an afternoon of great food and entertainment, included performances by local groups and food donated by local restaurants. For more pictures of the event, see page 4.

PHOTO BY ALLISON RUSSELL

accommodate what's proposed.

Mayor Mark Chilton urged the

board to support the proposal, say-

ing it would be a show of good faith

that Carrboro is ready to collaborate

SEE LIBRARY PAGE 7

on the library.

School board approves budget

Ng All board members in favor of the site cast their votes with some reluctance, expressing reservations about whether the 2.79-acre parcel could

BY SUSAN DICKSON Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education will announce the district's next superintendent today (Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. in the Smith Middle School auditorium.

FREE

The candidate was selected from a pool of 27 applicants, of which 10 were interviewed in March. The board launched the search for a new superintendent in October following Superintendent Neil Pedersen's July announcement that he would retire at the end of the 2010-11 school year.

Over the past few months, the district has held two public forums, collected written statements from local organizations and individuals and solicited public opinion via a survey, with the guidance of the N.C. School Boards Association.

The search process was uncharted territory for school board members, as Pedersen has served as superintendent since 1992 and is the longest-serving superintendent in district history. Prior to his role as superintendent, Pedersen served for five years as an assistant superintendent with the district.

The new superintendent is expected to offer remarks at the meeting, which district officials announced on Tuesday. A brief reception will follow.

Development concerns residents

BY KIRK ROSS Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — Plans for a development on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard just south of I-40 drew a flurry of criticism from the Chapel Hill Town

SEE FLORA PAGE 12



Palmately dissected geranium leaves are easy to spot among peedwells and henbits.

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Concern about state funding remains

BY SUSAN DICKSON but Staff Writer Box

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education voted 6-1 to approve their budget request last week, with a warning that the picture painted by the budget is unlikely to mirror the financial situation the schools will actually face in the coming year.

Bracing for cuts that state legislators have indicated are likely, Superintendent Neil Pedersen has also identified \$3.7 million in possible reductions – including the elimination of 62 positions – that are not part of the board's budget request to the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

"All of [the possible cuts] are difficult. None of them are really recommended or desired. They're not things we think we can just do without," Pedersen said. "These are huge reductions, unprecedented in recent decades, and they're going to be felt throughout the school system by all types of students."

Pedersen's budget projects \$59.2 million in local revenue, and assumes that county funding will remain at the same level – about \$36.6 million – as in 2010-11. The budget also assumes no change in the spe-

cial-district tax rate of 18.84 cents per \$100 of valuation, and projects a 1 percent increase in the assessed value of the district tax base.

However, as part of its budget request, the board asked for a 1 cent increase in the special-district tax, to enable it to address possible state cuts that have not yet been identified. Under state statute, the county cannot increase the special-district tax more than the school board's request, so board members said they wanted to keep that option open for the county.

SEE BUDGET PAGE 7

County delves into Unified Development Ordinance

BY SUSAN DICKSON *Staff Writer*

The Orange County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday took its first look at Phase II of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), which could change development standards and land use in the county.

The UDO combines and streamlines all county regulations related to land development into one 800-page document. Last week, the board approved Phase I of the UDO after more than a year and a half of collecting feedback and making revisions.

While Phase I of the UDO focused on the framework of the zoning technique used by the county, Phase II will address land-use location, zoning and design standards and approval processes.

County Planning Director Craig Benedict encouraged the board to focus on economic development and urban transition zones, which represent 3.3 percent of the county.

"That's some very valuable land,"

he said, adding that water and sewer infrastructure is needed in some of those areas before development and growth can take place there.

About 18 years ago, the county established three economic-development districts: the Hillsborough Area Economic Development District, the Eno Economic Development District and the Buckhorn Economic Development District.

SEE ORDINANCE PAGE 7

INSIDE

Housing market returns See page 10 See page 10

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Census shows change for Carrboro

BY WILL BRYANT *Staff Writer*

While there is still plenty of information spilling out from the results of the 2010 census, the bits and pieces that have come in show that Carrboro has undergone significant demographic change in the past 10 years.

According to data recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau, the town's population surged 16.2 percent in the past decade, rising from 16,782 to 19,582 people. This statistic mirrors the state of North Carolina's growth in the first decade of the new millennium, as the Tar Heel State has undergone an 18.5 percent increase in its total population.

Asians

Of all the town's demographics, none has experienced more growth than the Asian population.

According to the latest census data, the Asian population in Carrboro has gone from 864 to 1,596 in the past 10 years. This 84.7 percent increase is primarily due to the recent influx of Karen refugees. Many of these refugees have come to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area because of the wide variety of work available at the university.

According to local Habitat for Humanity officials, some Karen refugees, many of whom have been brought here by local Lutheran churches, have found housing through Habitat. Through these church organizations, the refugees are able to find employment and reasonably-priced housing.

SEE CENSUS PAGE 7

Council at a public hearing at Town Hall Monday night.

Several council members joined with residents who live near the proposed site to criticize plans for the Charterwood mixed-use development that they say would spell the end of a significant stand of old oaks and other trees around the Altemueller farmhouse.

Residents of the nearby Northwoods neighborhood also lined up to question the effectiveness of buffering and access for a residential portion of the site.

The developer, WCA Properties LLC, is asking for a zoning atlas amendment and a special-use permit to build 87 dwelling units, 30,000 square feet of office space, 25,000 square feet of retail space and a 100-room hotel on a 14.3-acre site that includes the farmhouse and surrounding grounds.

During a preliminary review of the project, council members said the preservation of the farmhouse and the stand of large trees around it should be a priority.

Several residents of Tremont Circle lined up in opposition to the plan.

Jennifer and Serge Zwikker said their home would be next to a driveway for the project. The couple said the clearing planned went way too far. Jennifer Zwikker said the loss of the trees in the area would be "unconscionable."

"Our resources are finite," she said, "but the damage we can do is not so."

Planning Board member Del Snow told the council that she voted against the plan because a northern-area study group listed the property as important to keep at a lower density.

Council member Jim Ward said while there appears to be some area set aside near the farmhouse for tree preservation, the area mapped out is much smaller than the council envisioned and the trees that were preserved would not survive long.

"It's like clear cutting McCorkle Place," he said.

Council members Matt Czajkowski and Laurin Easthom suggested dropping a row of housing units planned for the back of the property.

SEE **DEVELOPMENT** PAGE 7

SPOTLIGHT: Record Store Day

Founded in 2007 as a celebration of the unique culture

surrounding more than 700 independently owned record

celebrated this Saturday, April 16, at several area locations

In recognition of the day, the dB's will release a 7-inch vinyl

teaser of their new album due out next year. And Super-

CD Alley in Chapel Hill and All Day Records in Carrboro

are participating. Stop into both and see what else new is

chunk will be re-releasing a remastered version of their

1996 album Here's Where the Strings Come In.

stores in the U.S. and abroad, Record Store Day will be

with vinyl and CD releases, promotional products and

MUSIC CALENDAR

THURSDAY APRIL 14

Cat's Cradle: Citizen Cope. 9pm. \$25/28

The Cave: EARLY: Anne McCue LATE: Creeping Weeds, Revolution Mill

City Tap: Tracy Wiebeck. 7pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Kelly and The Ruths, Something Candid. 8pm, Free

Local 506: The Builders and The Butchers, Damion Suomi and The Minor Prophets, 9:30pm, \$8

Memorial Hall: Jennifer Koh. **The Station at Southern** Rail: Some Army. 10pm

FRIDAY APRIL 15

Cat's Cradle: Mount Moriah, The Moaners, Filthybird. 9pm. Free

The Cave: EARLY: Latecomers, Stormfront LATE: The Fervor, Gentle Robot, The Drowning Loverss

City Tap: Gasoline Stove, Daniel Sean

General Store Cafe: Climb lacob's Ladder, 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: HWYL, Mark Williams, Mary Sevidge. 8pm. Free

Local 506: Toro Y Moi, Adventure, Braids. 9:30pm. \$9/11

SATURDAY APRIL 16

ArtsCenter: Scott Miller, 8:30pm Cat's Cradle: The Raveonettes, Tamaryn. 9pm. \$15/17

The Cave: EARLY: Rodie Ray LATE: Honeychile, Penny Prophets

City Tap: Dave Quick and the Slow Hugs, Jack Maverick and his

Wild Rebels, Sarah Shook and The Devil Flying Furrito: See No Weevil,

Joe Bell. 8pm. No cover

General Store Cafe: String Machine, 8pm, \$5

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Multiples, Alcazar Hotel, Spiralfire. 8pm, Free



MONDAY APRIL 18

tary. 8:30pm. \$12/14

fire, Blorr, 9pm, \$7

10pm, \$5

Cat's Cradle: British Sea Power,

A Classic Education, North Elemen-

Resevoir: Shannon O'Connor,

TUESDAY APRIL 19

Memorial Hall: Tony Allen's

Afrobeat Orchestra. 7:30pm

Garcia, TJ Yugen. 9:30pm. \$5

WEDNESDAY

Jazon Zavala. 9:30pm

9;30pm, \$13/15

Galiani. 7pm

APRIL 20

Orgavin, \$5

Nightlight: Neill Prewitt, R.

The Cave: LATE: Mecankill,

Shadowbunny, Bicameral Mind,

Nightlight: Lucinda Black Bear,

THURSDAY APRIL 21

Cat's Cradle: Big K.R.I.T and

The Cave: LATE: Tisch Center

Freddie Gibbs, Smoke DZA.

Benefit: Front Porch Sofa

City Tap: Chris Filan. 7pm

General Store Cafe: Tony

Bamaby Bright, Dead Sea Sparrow.

Local 506: The Beauvilles, Spiral-

Katy's Music Bar: The Throwbacks Band, 8pm

Local 506: Acid Mothers Temple and The Melting Paraiso Ufo, Shilpa Ray and Her Happy Hookers, Clang Quartet. 9:30pm. \$10/12

Nightlight: Ascetic Parade, Think Big, Bibis Ellison, Tiger Saw, Golden Ghost. 9:30pm. \$5

Nightlight: Bibis Ellison, Tiger Saw, Golden Ghost. 9:30pm. \$5

Open Eye: Loose Mood. 8pm The Station at Southern Rail: Bad Dog Blues Band. 6pm

SUNDAY APRIL 17

Ackland Art Museum: UNC-Chapel Hill Composers' Concert. lpm

ArtsCenter: Aimee Mann. 7pm Cat's Cradle: Mike Posner, Kelley James, Ella Riot, K.O. Kid. 8pm. \$16/18

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Steph Stewart. 8pm. Free

Local 506: Camron McGill and What Army, Adam Arcuragi. 9:30pm. \$8

Nightlight: International Grapevine, White Fang

Open Eye: Tad Dreis. 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Swang Brothers, Tod Eric Verts. 8pm. Free

Local 506: Grails, James Blackshaw. 9:30pm. \$10/12

Memorial Hall: Branford Marsalis with the North Carolina Jazz Repertory Orchestra, 7:30pm

Nightlight: Pink Flag, Let Me Crazy, 9:30pm

Rail: Aminal 10pm

FRIDAY APRIL 22

City Tap: Brenda Linton, Greg Hawks and Bluemont Road, Chris Chappell

General Store Cafe: Applesauce. 8pm

Devon Elizabeth, Animal Alphabet. 8pm. Free

ing It, Antibubbles, Prisms. 9:30pm. \$4/7

Nightlight: Senryu, Wesley Wolfe

SATURDAY APRIL 23

Cat's Cradle: Yacht, Jeffrey Jerusalem, Robes. 9pm. \$12/15

Band. \$5 LATE: Rootsie, Henbrain City Tap: See No Weevil, Shawn Deena

MOVIES We suggest you call for exact show times

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on the shelves.

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Full Frame Documentary Film Festival, Thursday-Sunday; Making the Boys, Monday-Thursday at 7 & 9 p.m.; The Last Lions, Monday-Thursday at 7:10 p.m.; Even the Rain, Monday-Thursday at 9:10 p.m.

CHELSEA THEATER

THE LUMINA Southern Village, 932-9000

Open Eye: Gray Byrd. 8pm

The Station at Southern

Rail: Doug Largent Trio. 6pmMusic

Hop; Hanna; Rio; Scream 4; Your Highness

REGAL TIMBERLYNE 6 120 Banks Drive, 933-8600

Arthur; Rio 3D; Scream 4; Soul Surfer; Source Code; Your Highness

THE VARSITY

123 E. Franklin St., 967-8865 Black Swan; Just Go With It; Gnomeo & Juliet; Unknown





43882 TU 6/14**(\$15) JONNY (NORMAN BLAKE FROM TEENAGE FANCLUB

AND EUROS CHILDS OF **GORKY'S ZYGOTIC MYNCI)**

TH 6/16**(\$17/\$20) DAVE ALVIN AND THE GUILTY ONES AND LOS

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OLLEE *(\$15/\$17)

ER BAND

, DENNIS WN, VAN MAY AND

LIC FURS

NTING EL HILL)

**(\$18/\$21)

GUCHI **O MAGIC**

MIRAH YFIELD LAHAN

ARRBORO)

DUMMIES DIAS / OMI ADLEY LAN /ILCOX (RALEIGH) THE WHALE ALEIGH) OW HAS BEEN

ESENTED

The Station at Southern

The Cave: EARLY: Nikki Meets the Hibachi, Matthew Brookshire. \$5 LATE: Last Years Men, Spider Bags

Jessee's Coffee and Bar:

Local 506: | Was Totally Destroy-

Open Eye: Dogwood Deddy. 8pm

ArtsCenter: Too Much Fun Anniversary Concert. 8:30pm

The Cave: EARLY: Bad Dog Blues

General Store Cafe: Mathew Brookshire, Nikki Meets the Hibachi.

OF DURHAM 309 W. Morgan St., 560-3030

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Jeff

Local 506: Embarrassing Fruits,

The Big Picture, Towers. 9:30pm.

Hart, Red Mojo. 8pm. Free

WE'VE GOT IT!

Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, 968-3005 Jane Eyre; Win Win; The Conspirator

NEED MULCH?

	SA 6/11	STRAITJACKETS
	THE DECEMBERISTS	SA 6/18 FREE SHOW
SA 4/30	RALEIGH	SPLILT 7: RELEASE PAR JENNYANYKIND / TH
YOUNG DRO	AMPHITHEATRE	MOANERS W/SPECIA
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TH 4/14 AN INTIMATE SOLO(FR 6/24 BEN SOLLE
TH 4/14 AN INTIMATE SOLO ACOUSTIC EVENIN OUT	SA 5/7 THE TWILIGHT SINGERS W/MARGOT	W/THOUSANDS**(\$15/\$1
CITIZEN COPE SOLD UUT	& THE NUCLEAR SO	SA 6/25 BURN CENTER BENEFIT SOUTHWING
FR 4/15	& SO'S**(\$15/\$18)	REBECCA & THE HI TON
ALBUM RELEASE PARTY	TU 5/10**(\$13/\$15)	AND WILLIE PAINTER BA
MOUNT MORIAH W/THE MOANERS AND	UH HUH HER	SA 6/25 MUSIC FROM THE FILIM WINTER'S BON
FILTHYBIRD FREE SHOW!	W/DIAMONDS UNDER FIRE	PERFORMED LIVE FEATUR
SA 4/16**(\$15/\$17)	TH 5/12 THURSDAY	MERIDETH SISCO, DENN CRIDER, BO BROWN, VA
THE RAVEONETTES	W/PYGMY LUSH AND	COLBERT, TEDI MAY AN
W/TAMARYN	I WAS TOTALLY DESTROYING IT**(\$15)	LINDA STOFFEL
SU 4/17 MIKE POSNER	FR 5/13**(\$12) LOST IN THE	SA 7/9**(\$25/\$30) AN EVENING WITH
SOLD W/KELLY JAMES, ELLA RIOT	TREES W/THE TODDLERS	THE PSYCHEDLIC FU
OUT ELLA RIOT AND K.O. KID	SA 5/14 WOODS CHARTER	MO 7/25 EELS**(\$18/\$21
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ALL TICKETS WILL BE HONORED	W/TRES CHICAS, GREAT	LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)
MO 4/18**(\$12/\$14) BRITISH SEA POWER	BIG GONE AND LYNN	SU 5/1 ANAMANAGUCHI
W/A CLASSIC EDUCATION	TU 5/17 JUNIP (ELIAS	TU 5/17 HERE WE GO MAG
AND NORTH ELEMENTARY	ARAYA, JOSE GONZALEZ, TOBIAS WINTERKORN)	W/CAVEMAN SA 6/11 THAO & MIRAH
TH 4/21 BIG KRIT and	W/THE ACRYLICS**(\$15)	W/LED TO SEA
FREDDIE GIBBS W/SMOKE DZA**(\$13/\$15)	WE 5/18 DAWES**(\$10/\$12)	WE 6/15 DAVID MAYFIELD
SA 4/23 YACHT	W/LUEGO AND WYLIE	PARADE WE 7/15 BILL CALLAHAN
W/JEFFREY JERUSALEM	HUNTER & THE	W/ED ASKEW
AND ROBES**(\$12/\$15)	CAZADORES	KINGS (RALEIGH)
MO 4/25 DEVIN THE DUDE	FR 5/20 MAC MILLER**(\$15) W/RAPSODY	SU 4/17 HANDSOME FURS
AND CUNNINLYNGUISTS	SA 5/21 THE OLD	W/GRIMES SA 5/7 WINTERSLEEP
W/HOMEBOY SANDMAN AND COUGHEE	CEREMONY W/DEXTER	
BROTHAZ**(\$14/\$16)	ROMWEBER AND THE NEW	THE ARTSCENTER (CARRBOR FR 4/22 KINA GRANNIS
TU 4/26 YELLE W/FRENCH	ROMANS **(\$10/\$12)	W/IMAGINARY FRIEND
HORN REBELLION **(\$18/\$20)	TH 5/26 CORROSION	TU 5/17 CRASH TEST DUMM
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W/THE NARRATIVE AND CHRISTIE DUPREE	SCREAM**(\$16/\$18)	
TH 4/28 MAN MAN**(\$14)	WE 6/1**(\$16/\$18) OKKERVIL RIVER	SU 6/5 SAM BRADLEY W/HOLLY CONLAN
W/GRANDCHILDREN	W/TITUS ANDRONICUS	M0 7/11 DAVID WILCOX
FR 4/29 PETER, BJORN	AND FUTURE ISLANDS	LINCOLN THEATRE (RALEIGH
& JOHN**(\$15/\$18)	TH 6/2 MATT AND KIM	TU 6/16 NOAH AND THE WH
W/BACHELORETTE	W/THE HOOD	DISCO RODEO (RALEIGH)
SA 4/30**(\$14/\$16) YOUNG DRO, KILLER	INTERNET**(\$25)	4/17 MIKE POSNER SHOW HAS B MOVED TO CAT'S CRADLE
MIKE, PAC DIV, DEE 1	FR 6/3 NASHVILLE PUSSY	WE 5/4 INTERPOL
MO 5/2 PINBACK	W/KOFFIN KATS**(\$15/\$18)	WE 5/4 IN TERPOL W/SCHOOL OF SEVEN BEL
W/JUDGEMENT	SA 6/4 PAUL THORN**(\$15)	
DAY **(\$14/\$16)	W/DARK WATER RISING	RALEIGH AMPHITHEATRE
TU 5/3**(\$15/\$17) BROOKE ERASER	TH 5/9**(\$15) SONDRE LERCHE	SA 6/11 THE DECEMBEDISTS
BROOKE FRASER W/CARY BROTHERS	SU 6/12 JOE PURDY	DECEMBERISTS W/BEST COAST TIX VI/
WE 5/4**(\$15)	W/THE MILK CARTON KIDS	TICKETMASTER CO-PRESENTI
BOMBA ESTERO	**(\$15/\$17) SEATED SHOW	WITH LIVE NATION

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email your name & number to contest@carrborocitizen.com (don't worry, we promise not to spam you) we'll draw for a pair of 4-day passes on Tuesday, April 19. festival schedule & info at shakorihills.org





MONTHLY ARTS, MUSIC, LITERATURE AND DINING CARRBOROCITIZEN.COM/MILL



Briefs

False hate crime report

UNC freshman Quinn Matney's reports to police that he had been assaulted outside a UNC residence hall last week were determined to be false by police on Tuesday.

Police had previously determined that the crime was fueled by Matney's sexual orientation and were investigating the case as a hate crime. In a report to police, Matney claimed that two men had confronted him, one of whom grabbed him and branded him with a scalding metal object. Matney sustained severe damage to his left hand. His accusations were later proven to be false by the UNC Department of Public Safety, and now Matney could face charges of his own.

Chancellor Holden Thorpe sent out a message to all students on Tuesday condemning Matney's actions, but also said that UNC will always take accusations of hate crimes very seriously.

"It is important to recognize that incidents of harassment do occur," said Thorp. "When they do, we take them seriously. We strive to foster a welcoming, inclusive and safe environment at Carolina."

OWASA to get Durham water

OWASA will receive drinking water from the City of Durham's water system today (Thursday) due to work that will take the Jones Ferry Road Water Treatment Plant out of operation for six to eight hours.

Officials do not expect any change in water quality or reliability of service due to the work, which will involve replacing a meter that measures process water flow within the treatment plant.

OWASA estimates that it may receive about 2 million gallons from Durham on Thursday. Through mutual aid agreements, Durham and OWASA provide water to each other when necessary.

Good Friday bus schedule

Chapel Hill Transit will operate on the Saturday service schedule on April 22 in observance of Good Friday.

The following Saturday routes will operate: CM, CW, D, FG, JN and the T.

The Saturday U and NU routes will not operate.

On April 24, the U route will begin operation at 1:50 p.m. at the Carolina Coffee Shop and the NU route will begin at 1:45 p.m. at the PR lot.

CHT will return to regular service on April 25.

Committee seeks members

Chapel Hill is accepting applications for the Community Policing Advisory Committee.

The committee's focus is on enhancing the public's awareness of police department services and providing a forum for citizen input regarding those services.

Members serve staggered, three-year terms and meetings will be held at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month. For more information, contact the town clerk at 968-2757.

HE CARRBORO ZE

HOW TO REACH US The Carrboro Citizen 942-2100 P.O. Box 248 942-2195 (FAX) 309 Weaver St., Suite 300 Carrboro, NC 27510

Weaver Street repairs continue

CARRBORO – The east block Weaver Street remains of closed to all vehicular traffic and will remain closed for approximately four to eight more weeks as work continues on the yearlong project to replace the street's collapsing roadbed and the 80-year-old sewer line beneath it.

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

Last week, contractors began installing a storm-sewer system along the south side of the street, milling off asphalt surface and excavating the existing road base. Similar work will continue for several more weeks.

Pedestrian access remains open along Weaver Street, though pedestrians may be directed to one side of the street or the other, depending on the proximity of construction activities.

Water main installation work will soon begin in the west block of Weaver Street near the intersection with North Greensboro Street.



The bus stops at Weaver Street Market and the Carrboro Century Center are temporarily closed. Passengers may board the CW bus at the alternate bus stops on Main Street at Jade Palace (westbound) and on Main Street at Weaver

Street Realty (eastbound).

The bus stops on Weaver Street at Lindsay Street also are temporarily closed. Passengers may board the bus at the alternate bus stops on Main Street at Carrboro Town Hall.

Town officials have said

PHOTO BY ALEX MANESS

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

State investigating contamination on Elm Street

BY TAYLOR SISK Staff Writer

CARRBORO - The state Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is investigating effects on homes and businesses near the intersection of Main and Weaver streets of a chemical apparently dumped by a now-defunct drycleaning business.

The chemical, perchloroethylene, or PERC, a colorless, nonflammable liquid commonly used in the dry-cleaning business, is a potential cancer-causing agent.

According to a statement released by the Town of Carrboro, the contaminant is easily vaporized and can migrate into buildings. One home on nearby Elm Street was found to have unac-

ceptable vapor levels of the substance, and DENR officials say the department is taking steps to counteract any health risks that might result from those levels.

DENR public information officer Cathy Akroyd said on Tuesday that the department has received results from indoor air sampling conducted last week at two other Elm Street residences, an adjacent restaurant and the site of the former dry-cleaning business at 408 W. Weaver St.

"All are considered safe and had either no contaminants or were well within acceptable limits from a human health standpoint," said Akroyd.

"Our contractor is developing a work plan for the next scope of investigative work, which involves the collection of soil gas and groundwater data," Akroyd said. The investigation will include indoor air sampling at the DENR's Division of Waste affected Elm Street residence and a vacant house next door, but at no other locations.

The building at 408 W. Weaver St. was the location of MEM One-Hour Martinizing in the early 1970s, and is now the site of Summerwinds Pools & Spas. DENR discovered evidence of PERC at the CITGO station at the corner of Main and Weaver streets in 2009 and traced it back to the former dry-cleaning location. At the time the business was in operation, such chemicals were commonly disposed of with little or no knowledge of the health risks they posed.

According to the town's statement, its staff has been in communication with DENR's Dry Cleaning Solvent Clean-up Act team and staff from the Orange County Health Department. Management is coordinating the investigation and cleanup. DENR has been conducting statewide testing for PERC and similar contaminants.

Akroyd said on Tuesday that no further indoor air testing is planned at this point because "we do not have any data which suggests that there is a vapor intrusion risk at any other structures in the area."

DENR will, however, be collecting soil data from the immediate vicinity.

"At this time, there is no indication of any threats related to this or of any precautions that need to be taken," Akroyd said.

The time and location of a public-information session on the investigation and cleanup will shortly be announced by the Division of Waste Management.



Community

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

Community Dinner

PHOTOS BY ALLISON RUSSELL



Bruce Ballentine, Orange County Manager Frank Clifton, Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Randee Haven-O'Donnell and Cheryl Solow volunteer to serve food.



Laura Christensen of Durham, Penny Bailey of Durham, Sylvia Gelblum of Chapel Hill and James and Susan Moeser of Chapel Hill serve as volunteers at the Community Dinner.



Liseth Gomez, 6, and Hayden Smith, 5, members of the Durham-based KidZNotes, perform at the Community Dinner.



Clem Self, a member of the Orange County Jammers Senior Cheerleaders, helps to prepare and serve desserts.

Briefs

Romeo and Juliet

The N.C. Shakespeare Festival will present *Romeo* and Juliet on Friday at 4 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Orange County Main Library.

The production is intended for an audience of middle and high school students. It will last an hour and will feature six actors.

For more information, call 245-2537 or visit www.co.orange.nc.us/LibraryEvents/index.aspx

Earth Day event

There will be an Earth Day event Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at River Park in Hillsborough. Orange County staff will share information about rain gardens, rain barrels, land conservation, plans for future county parks and more.

Also participating in the event are the Eno River Association, the Orange County Beekeepers Association and the Friends of the N.C. Mountains-to-Sea Trail. Boy Scouts will sell rain barrels.

For more information, contact Rich Shaw at 245-2514 or rshaw@co.orange.nc.us

Healthy Kids Day

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA will host its annual Healthy Kids Day on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will get kids moving with a live DJ, games, raffles, inflatable games and a bounce house, and information will be provided on keeping kids healthy and active. For more information, contact Carrie Gorn at 215-483-5482 or cgornpr@comcast.net personalize their new plants with plant labels provided by Kidzu Children's Museum. For more information, visit carrborofarmersmarket.com

Special-needs egg hunt

There will be an egg hunt for children with special needs and their siblings Saturday in the Learning Garden at the Chapel Hill Community Center.

The event costs \$2 per child and is open to children 2 to 8 years old. There are three time slots: 10:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m. or noon. Participants should bring their own baskets and pre-registration is required at townofchapelhill.org/register

For more information, contact Marian Kaslovsky at 968-2813 or mkaslovsky@townofchapelhill.org

Volunteer appreciation week

This week, Orange County's Animal Services Department is celebrating volunteer appreciation week to recognize the many volunteers who help the department run smoothly on a daily basis. Staff members have been doing special things for volunteers this week, including writing thank-you notes and bringing candy.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer can fill out an application online at www.co.orange. nc.us/animalservices/volunteers.asp or contact Sarah Fallin at 942-7387, ext. 224.

Egg hunt

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 geriatrics and regional pain syndrome.

Dear HOUSE Calls, My mother is 81 years old and has seen her primary-care doctor for seven years. I think she should now see a doctor who specializes in geriatrics. When is this a good idea?

That's a great question. It's important to consider her needs and circumstances as she ages. The doctor who has a 7-year relationship with your mother is, presumably, a specialist in meeting her needs, and perhaps is the best person to provide medical care as she ages. Without knowing your mom's medical needs, it's really impossible to give you specific advice. Sometimes, when our loved ones age, we look for that doctor that can reverse the aging process. This may or may not be what your mother is looking for and may not be in her long-term interest. But certainly switching to a geriatrician will not make this more likely to happen. This is more about the physician's style as well as his or her relationship with your mother and ability to meet

her needs. There are widespread efforts to improve the quality of practice and in-training for family physicians and internists in the care of geriatric patients. There are far fewer geriatricians in the U.S. than are needed to care for older adults. Most geriatricians work in nursing homes and/ or at teaching hospitals, dedicating large portions of their time to teaching and research. So for now, and for the foreseeable future, most people over 80 will be cared for by family physicians and internists. In some cases, geriatricians provide



advised me to use capsaicin and gabapentin for the pain. These helped a great deal. I am off the oxycodone. I had never heard of regional pain syndrome before. How common is it?

Regional pain syndrome is not common. It often occurs after trauma - for example, after falling and breaking a wrist or ankle – but also can occur after surgery. The mechanism is not well understood and leads patients and doctors to a lot of confusion. If capsaicin and gabapentin are helping, it sounds like you and your doctor are on the right track. These drugs both work well for nerve pain. We're glad you were able to get off oxycodone, which is a very potent and addictive narcotic that can have serious short- and longterm side effects. We're glad you're feeling better.

Community celebration and picnic

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County will host a community celebration and picnic Saturday at Phoenix Place, Orange County's newest green-built neighborhood.

The event will celebrate the completion of Phoenix Place, a part of the Rogers Road community, as families move in. There will be lunch and activities for children beginning at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call 932-7077 or visit orangehabitat.org. For directions, visit orangehabitat. org/directions/index.php?PhoenixPlace

Kids' seedling event

The Carrboro Farmers' Market will give away farmer-grown tomato seedlings to kids Saturday beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The types of tomatoes will vary, from beefsteaks to heirlooms and everything in between. Fifth Season Gardening Company will provide organic potting soil as well as growing tips and other useful information for new gardeners. Kids will be able to Chapel Hill's Annual Community Egg Hunt will be Saturday at Homestead Community Park. Entertainment will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the egg hunt will start 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, live entertainment by Katharine Whalen and William Dawson, prizes and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Egg hunts will be divided by age.

In case of rain, the hunt will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. For more information, visit townofchapelhill. org/communityevents or call Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation at 968-2784.

Summer Glee

Community Chorus Project, a new Chapel Hill arts company, will partner with UNC's Department of Music this summer to create Summer Glee, a new performing-arts opportunity for young people.

The program will select up to 70 of the region's most talented young singers, dancers and actors aged 11 to 18 for auditions. The two-week workshop (July 11-22) will lead to a public performance on the UNC campus. Auditions will be held on April 30, with callbacks on May 1.

For more information, visit communitychorus-project.org

consultations, sometimes as part of a multidisciplinary team, that can help your mom and her family doctor develop a long-term plan for maximizing independence and quality of life. These decisions are complicated. Good luck.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I recently had surgery on my leg and afterwards I developed severe pain in my foot and experienced some swelling. It got so bad that I started taking oxycodone. My family doctor diagnosed me with a regional pain syndrome and

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.

Sell your Stuff. carrborocitizen.com/classifieds



THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

Community

Calendar

THURSDAY APRIL 14 Orange County Beekeep-

ers — Monthly meeting with guest speaker Dr. Mike Simone-Finstrom. Orange County Agricultural Extension Öffice in Hillsborough, 7pm Free theocba.org

Bye Bye Birdie — Opening performance by Carrboro High School Theatre, continuing on April 15 and 16. Carrboro High School Auditorium, 7:30pm \$8 adults/\$5 students chsreservations@gmail.com

Mark Nicholls — To lecture on Sir Walter Raleigh: In Life and Legend. Wilson Special Collections Library, 5:45pm Free lib.unc.edu

FRIDAY APRIL 15

Contra Dance — With music by The Carolina Cutups. Carrboro Century Center, workshop at 7:30pm, dance at 8pm \$8 csdadance.org

Bicycle Coalition Fundraiser — Proceeds go to planning and holding cycling events in Carrboro-Chapel Hill. Johnny's, 5-10pm \$5 bikecarrboro.com

Computer Classes — 4-week class begins with the Chapel Hill SeniorNet. Seymour Senior Center, www.chapel-hill-seniornet.org

Hunger Fundraiser — For youth aged 11-18, continuing on April 16. Participants will sleep overnight in cardboard boxes in the HillSong Church parking lot. hillsong. org

SATURDAY APRIL 16 **Egg Hunt** — For children aged 2-10 years old. Homestead Park, 9:30am-noon Free

ClydeFEST — Celebrates folk artist Clyde Jones with art, games, music and food. Bynum Ballpark in Clydeville, 11am-4pm \$7/adults, \$3/ children chathamarts.org

Book Swap — Trade gently used books for "new" ones in honor of Earth Week. Chapel Hill Public Library, 11am-4pm 968-2780

Japan Fundraiser — 7th Annual Spring Wine Show with a portion of sales to benefit earthquake and tsunami recovery in Japan. Weaver Street Market, 228 S. Churton St., Hillsborough, I-5pm \$5 weaverstreetmarket.coop

Arts and Crafts Show — With more than 30 artists and live music. Hillsborough-Orange County Visitors Center, 150 E. King St., 10am-5pm 942-6410

Seedling Event — The Carrboro Farmers' Market will give away farmer-grown tomato seedlings to kids. Carrboro Farmers' Market, 8:30am

Food Truck Rodeo — Captain Ponchos Tacos, Will and Pops, Indian Food on Wheels and Blue Sky Dining, in conjunction with Kinetix Health Club. 403 W. Main St., 4-7pm

End-of-Life Workshop —

Choices to Make Before It's Too Late, will explore the important issues and decisions to be made. Carolina Meadows, 10am-2pm \$10 fcat-nc.org

Sunday April 17

SPOTLIGHT: Piedmont Farm Tour

Touch a Truck — Joint fundraiser for UNC Children's Hospital's Promise Grant and Boy Scout Troop 39. University Mall parking lot, 12-4pm \$5 person/\$20 max per family

Ernest Dollar — Discusses The Rankest Rebel Town: Chapel Hill and the End of the Civil War. Chapel Hill Public Library, 2pm chapelhillpubliclibrary.org

CHICLE Event — Film presentation and talk about a trip to Oaxaca in conjunction with Witness for Peace. CHICLE Language Institute, 5pm Free chi-cle.com

MONDAY APRIL 18 Ciclovida: Lifecycle — Hosted by Carrboro Greenspace, the film follows a group of farmers from northeast Brazil who traverse the entire South American continent by bike in search of natural seeds. Across from Weaver Street Market lawn, 7pm carrborogreens-

pace.org Audition Scheduled — For Orange Community Players presentation of Once Upon A Mattress, ages 8 and up. Hillsborough Exchange Club, 6-8pm ocpnc.com

Container Gardening — Seymour Center, 10-11:30am Donations accepted Pre-register at 968-2056

Recreation Programs - Online registration begins for summer programs sponsored by Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation. townofchapelhill.org/register

TUESDAY APRIL 19 Tar Heel Shorties — With Cucalorus Film Festival Director Dan Brawley, will be shown as part of the ChathamArts Sustainable Cinema. Fearrington Barn, 7pm

WEDNESDAY APRIL 20 NoveList Workshop — Introduction, overview and searching tips for NoveList: the online readers' resource that helps you uncover your next read. Chapel Hill Public Library, 5-6pm Free Registration required 968-2780

THURSDAY APRIL 21

D. G. Martin — To speak on "Thirteen is My Lucky Number: Upcoming Interviews With Fascinating People." Seymour Center, 2:30pm Free

Autism Awareness Lecture — Presented by The OPC Area Program, will feature a lecture by Jim Bodfish. Extraordinary Ventures, 200 S. Elliott Road, I-3pm Free 913-4055

Sacrificial Poets — Grand Slam Finals. The ArtsCenter, 7pm artscenterlive.org

Fair Trade Event — Sample cardamom brownies and locally roasted coffee, with part of the proceeds to fund the Fair Trade Town initiative. Vimala's Curryblossom Cafe, 5-9pm humanrightscities.org

FRIDAY APRIL 22

Khenpo Karthar Rinpoche — To speak on ''What is Wisdom in Tibetan Buddhism?" Unity Center of Peace, 7:30pm Suggested donation \$10 Registration required piedmontktc.org

SATURDAY APRIL 23 Easter Egg Hunt — Sponsored by The Preservation Society of Chapel Hill, for children 8 and under. On the lawn of Horace Williams House, 10am chapelhillpreservation.com

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.

Send your Community Calendar submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com







At Earth Action Day at Southern Community Park on Saturday, champion Open Eye Café barista Michael Harwood fields questions as he demonstrates a human-powered coffee roaster.

KIMCHI PORK TOFU SOUP #21 BIBIM BOP (VEG WHAT PEOPLE FROM ASHEVILLE MISS ABOUT THE A ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK



For those seeking the most of what spring has to offer in the Triangle, check out the 16th annual Piedmont Farm Tour.

The tour is April 16-17 from 1 to 5 p.m. For the cost of a ticket (\$25 in advance and \$30 the day of), visitors can see as many of the tour's 40 farms as possible in the two-day span. Keep in mind, though, that because of the distance between each farm, you'll probably be able to visit only three or four per day.

Not only is the farm tour a great way to get out and enjoy the weather, it's a great opportunity for people in the community to see where their food comes from. Farmers will give tips on gardening and land-preservation techniques. And be sure to bring a cooler – you'll be able to buy produce, eggs, cheese and meat at many of the farms you'll visit.

And the tour isn't just for adults, as 22 of the 40 farms have attractions just for children. At many of the farms, kids can pet goats, cows and rabbits; feed chickens; and go on hayrides.

At the site of the newly completed stream-restoration project

at Baldwin Park on Saturday, Chapel Hill Town Council member Donna Bell, Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt and Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Randee Haven-O'Donnell look on as residents Gracie Webb and Howard "Buddy" Baldwin plant an PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER ironwood tree.



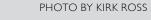
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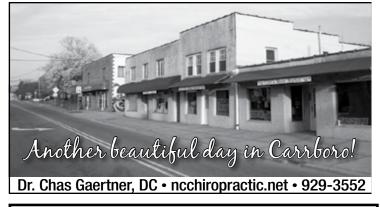
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Compost Bins for Sale

Orange County Solid Waste Management Administrative Office

1207 Eubanks Rd. Chapel Hill, 27516

Monday - Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

\$50 each tax included

Cash or checks only!

You do not have to be an Orange County resident to purchase bins, and there is no purchase limit.

Questions? (919)968-2788 recycling@co.orange.nc.us www.co.orange.nc.us/recycling/news.asp



Crook's Corner **Casual Fine Southern Dining** Serving Dinner & Sunday Brunch

"Country Cookin' Gone Cool ... Then: bait shop and juke joint. Now: crazed folk-art animals on the roof, post-graduates in the kitchen. Waiters deconstruct the War Between the States as they serve your jalapeno-cheese hush puppies and oyster-and-filet mignon scalawags. Get in line for Crook's signature dish: Shrimp and Grits with bacon, scallions, and mushrooms. —Travel & Leisure

"Sacred ground for Southern foodies ... Part neighborhood diner, part upscale restaurant, Crook's Corner is a nightly celebration" -The New York Times

"The Best Place to Eat in Chapel Hill, in North Carolina, and possibly on Earth' —Delta Sky Magazine

Open for dinner Tues-Sun at 5:30 pm Sun Brunch 10:30 am-2:00 pm Reservations accepted, Walk-ins welcome 610 West Franklin St, Chapel Hill, NC www.crookscorner.com • 919-929-7643



COMING APRIL 28TH ...



The Carrboro Citizen will commemorate the Town's 100th anniversary with a 48-page "keepsake" section featuring articles by our staff writers and contributors, photographs from past and present, a timeline of Carrboro's history, facts & info, and remarks from local movers and shakers.

LOOK FOR THE CARRBORO CENTENNIAL MAGAZINE **INSIDE YOUR APRIL 28TH CITIZEN!**







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FROM THE EDITOR

A library of questions

A lot remains unanswered about the new library in downtown Carrboro. For starters, there's still some uncertainty about where. The board of aldermen may have changed the zoning, but the location is not a done deal.

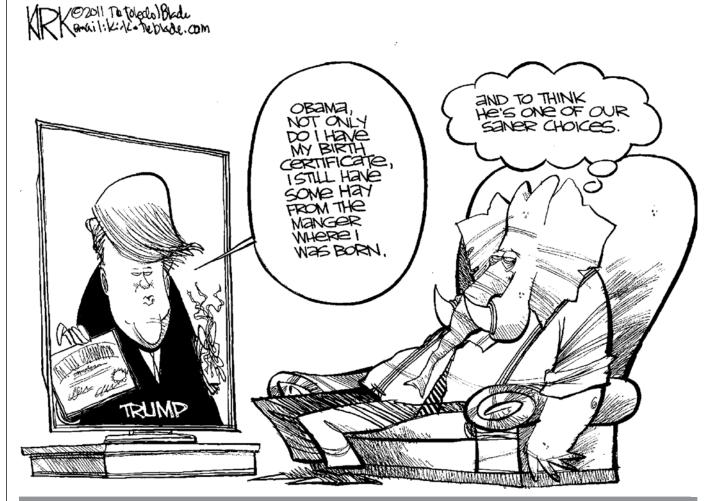
The county is now in the final phase of deciding whether the 210 Hillsborough Road site is right for its purposes. There are all the details of a land closing and other potential for hurdles still to come.

And there's the mayor's pledge, written into a resolution passed just after Tuesday's zoning vote, to go over potential alternative locations with the county commissioners.

Assuming the Hillsborough Road location does get the nod - place your bets, ladies and gentlemen - there are a whole slew of questions to follow. With no site plan to review and no way of knowing except in vague terms how the county plans to handle ingress and egress, driveway and buffers, programming, hours and the like, there is a considerable unease about how a library can fit in that space and not dramatically change its surroundings. Those surroundings include a large elementary school, a church and a relatively quiet residential neighborhood.

Tuesday night's vote came with reservations, but it answered at least one of the key questions about the library and the future relationship between Orange County and Carrboro. By approving the zoning, the town has indicated strongly that it is willing to play ball. By following that up with specific questions about the site plan as well as a call for a charrette on the library design, the board of aldermen also sent a signal that the path to a permit will need to be much more transparent and inclusive than proceedings have been thus far.

The ball now is in the county's court, both in performing due diligence on the Hillsborough Road site and in hearing out the town's call for a look at the alternatives. While that's going on, a very public process should begin on what this library will become - how it will serve the 37,000 people in its region as well as how it will fit in its new neighborhood. So far, county officials have offered a lot of boilerplate on what the new library would look like and feel like, citing the official definition of a full-service library and so on.



Superintendent's 2011-12 **Operating Budget Message**

NEIL PEDERSEN

Editor's Note: The following is the message presented by Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Superintendent Neil Pedersen with the school board's 2011-12 budget request to the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

For the past two years, those who work under government budgets have been referring to 2011-12 as the year when our respective agencies will hit a funding "cliff." For the past several years we have faced funding challenges, resulting in a decrease in per-pupil spending from three years ago. Over the last five years we have cut \$5 million in expenses from our operating budget in order to fund mandated fixed cost increases or priorities to meet new needs. Our budget challenges, however, were cushioned for the last two years by additional federal ARRA [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act] revenues that provided stimulus money through Title I and IDEA [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act] and stabilization funds that plugged holes in North Carolina's budget. These ARRA funds run out at the end of the 2010-11 federal fiscal year. This loss impacts local school districts directly through the loss of Title I and IDEA stimulus dollars, and indirectly due to the loss of stabilization funds that were received by the state and passed on to LEAs [Local Education Authorities]. For the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, this translates into a loss of \$4.6 million in federal dollars as compared to 2010-11. At this time, we must anticipate that new federal monies will not be forthcoming. Combining this with a shortfall in the state's budget that has been estimated to be \$2.4 billion to \$4 billion, the cliff that we have long anticipated is staring us in the face. Fortunately, the district administration has foreseen this situation and has taken actions that will provide considerable relief. For the past several years we have been underspending our local budget, thereby building up reserves in

our unappropriated fund balance. Although we need a fund balance of 5.5 percent of our local budget in order to meet cash flow needs associated with our payroll and the timing of tax receipts, the remainder becomes what some refer to as a "rainy day" fund. The fund balance also grew this year due to the receipt of \$2.3 million in EduJobs funds from the federal government that was intended to stave off massive layoffs of public employees. Because these funds were not approved until last July after we had already made plans for living within our budget constraints, we did not use the EduJobs funds to avoid position reductions this year. Instead, we used the EduJobs funds to pay for local positions already in our operating budget, thereby saving local funds. This strategy has added approximately \$2 million to our unappropriated fund balance. Consequently, we estimate that by the end of the 2010-11 fiscal year, the district will have \$6 million available for appropriation, some portion of which can be considered for use to address our district's funding shortfall.

Because there are so many uncertainties this year about the magnitude of state reductions made to LEAs' budget allocations, it is extremely difficult to develop a local budget request that takes the impact of the state budget into consideration. Consequently, the local budget request that we will submit to the county commissioners will reflect federal reductions that we already know about, the increased costs to maintain current service levels, reductions that we recommend making in our local budget at this time and a modest expansion budget for essential services. In this budget message, we will describe the possible funding reductions we anticipate from the state, and will present a prioritized list of the reductions we would recommend making if it becomes necessary to do so.

children lived in households earning less than \$25,000 a year,

taken their toll. The child-care subsidy waiting list is now at

an all-time high of 45,507 children eligible for - but not re-

ceiving – quality child-care subsidies.

Regrettably, funding cuts and the Great Recession have

As state policymakers consider further drastic budget cuts

The child-care subsidy program is one critical part of the

in health and human services funding, they should carefully

consider the impact of such cuts on our education system,

state's nationally recognized early-childhood education sys-

tem, which includes Smart Start and More at Four. Lo-

cally, these programs aren't operated in isolation from one

another. Children receiving child-care subsidy may receive

"wrap-around" health services at a local Smart Start agency

and then qualify as a 4-year-old for More at Four. Moreover,

their funding is blended, with 30 percent of Smart Start

jobs and North Carolina's future economic prospects.

and a child-care subsidy makes work pay for their families.

LETTERS

Autism lecture

The OPC Area Program is pleased to present our third annual Autism Awareness Lecture on Thursday, April 21. Dr. Jim Bodfish, the Thomas E. Castelloe Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at UNC, will present "Autism: advances, current challenges, and fu-ture directions." Dr. Bodfish's presentation, which is free and open to the public, will be held at Extraordinary Ventures at 200 S. Elliott Road in Chapel Hill. No pre-registration is required.

Dr. Geri Dawson, a past OPC presenter, has noted that North Carolina has been in the forefront in research and services. Dr. Bodfish will describe his work and that of colleagues at the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities. CIDD offers a range of services, including an autism assessment clinic for preschoolers, support for adolescents and adults and a clinic for treatment of medical issues related to autism.

The clinical studies and applied practices by Dr. Bodfish and his colleagues are exciting developments for those individuals and families affected by autism. OPC invites all interested persons to attend. Please call 913-4055 for further information.

> PETER KRAMER Community Planner/ OPC Area Program

Thanks

We want to thank our community for its enthusiastic support of the Dispute Settlement Center's Fifth Annual Wine Tasting held at Top of the Hill's new Great Room last week.

More than 200 people attended and enjoyed sampling wines provided by 3Cups. More than 50 local businesses donated goods and services for our

It's time to move on from that and truly engage Carrboro and citizens throughout southwest Orange County about the shape and direction of a new public amenity.

A charrette is a good start and, as was noted Tuesday night, it should be a true public forum and not an information session about what the county intends to do.

A successful, collaborative effort on the library could help end a long era of wary combativeness between county and town. Such an outcome would be most welcome. This is a cooperative community in spirit, and its governments should reflect that.

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silent auction. Sponsors representing the legal, real estate, banking and business communities donated generously.

We raised over \$15,000 for our Youth Programs. The Dispute Settlement Center helps young people in schools, public-housing neighborhoods and community centers make good choices when faced with conflicts. We also work intensively with youth referred from Juvenile Court, providing them and their families with skills-based trainings.

In a time when creative approaches to violence prevention - and even our court services - are being threatened by reduced funding, this community support means a lot.

The Dispute Settlement Center has served this community since 1978 and appreciates its supporters.

> MARGIE BROUN ANNIE CAULKINS Event Chairs

of the next generation – our children.

Child care is critical to economic growth

Furthermore, investments like child-care subsidies and other early-childhood programs are essential to the vitality of local economies across the state. The child-care industry as a whole employs almost 50,000 North Carolinians, allowing 380,000 parents to work. In total, these families earn almost \$12.5 billion annually, which is spent locally and drives local economic growth.

But perhaps most importantly, investments in programs like child-care subsidies are an investment in North Carolina's future. High-quality early-childhood education has been proven over and over again to be the most critical intervention one can make to drive high student achievement and a productive workforce.

And it's cost-effective. Investments in early-childhood education can yield as much as \$17 on every \$1 invested, creating future state savings.

North Carolina's future nurses, firefighters and elected officials are being trained now. If we invest in their parents and teachers today, we will all reap the benefits - now and in the long run.

Louisa Warren is a policy advocate with the N.C. Justice Center.

funds required to go to child-care subsidies. A large cut to child-care subsidies will impact the integrity of Smart Start and More at Four, and vice versa.

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, North Carolina 27510

EMAIL: editor@ carrborocitizen.com FAX: 919-942-2195

MEMBER, NC PRESS ASSOCIATION

tingent on ensuring that North Carolina's workers hold on to the jobs they have and obtain the support they need to seize new employment opportunities.

LOUISA WARREN

"I work for an airline company and was doing well

enough to buy my own home. However, due to cuts in the

industry, I was forced to take a lower-paying job in order to

maintain my employment. Because I had not been able to

access a child-care subsidy in my county due to a waiting

list, I recently lost my home, and my 4-year-old and I have

spent nights in my car. Now I stay with friends or family

members for a few days at a time. I need help with child care

Mecklenburg County. Her story isn't an anomaly - finding

affordable, quality child care is one of the biggest barriers to

That is the voice of a real North Carolinian who lives in

The future of North Carolina depends on our ability

to foster the healthy development of the next generation

- our children. And our state's economic recovery is con-

so I can keep my job and not be homeless!'

holding onto and obtaining a job.

Unfortunately, quality child care is the single most

expensive item in a family's budget, averaging between \$600 and \$1,200 per month, per child. For a family of four with two minimum-wage earners, child care can easily eat up a third of their annual earnings. Many families are forced to choose between work; leaving their children in inadequate and potentially unsafe care arrangements; or paying for housing, food and other basic living necessities.

Fortunately, our state has an excellent, if underfunded, child-care subsidy program to help reduce this barrier to employment and economic hardship. The vast majority of child-care subsidy recipients are required to work (93 percent of current recipients are working), with a small portion receiving time-limited subsidies while they pursue education and training or are searching for a new job. Nearly all working parents receiving child-care subsidies are required to contribute 8-10 percent of their income to child-care costs, with the subsidy making up the difference.

In 2010, more than 151,000 children benefited from North Carolina's child-care subsidy program and 85 percent of those children were enrolled in high-quality child-care programs (at least three stars, according to the state's rating system) across the state. Approximately 84 percent of these

The future of North Carolina depends on our ability to foster the healthy development

LIBRARY FROM PAGE I

Randee Haven-O'Donnell, who served on the most recent library task force - the third in more than two decades of exploring a possible Carrboro branch library - said she supported the rezoning but continued to be saddened by the split the site has caused in the community.

She voted in favor after stressing that other sites exist and that the county and the town should continue discussions on those possibilities, even as county officials conduct due diligence ahead of a purchase of the property.

The site was identified last fall after the Orange County Board of Commissioners entered into a contract for the parcel, which has a \$610,000 asking price.

Chilton said he would personally discuss possible alternatives with county commissioners.

A resolution by the board of aldermen passed just after the rezoning included a request to the county that they look at alternative sites in town, conduct a charrette with residents on library design and adopt an extensive visual and sound buffering plan for the project's driveway on Hillsborough Road.

Public comments prior to the vote illustrated the different views on the project.

Residents near the project ex-

pressed concern about how traffic would affect the safety of the neighborhood and students at the nearby elementary school, and the impact of a large public building next to Hillsborough Road residences.

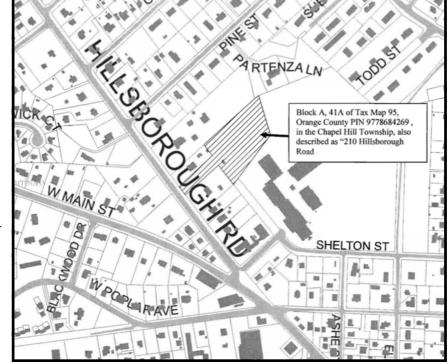
Kathy Gunn, the closest neighbor to the project, asked the board not to rezone the property out of a concern that the library might not happen.

I hope that the rezoning is not made out of fear that this is the last chance for a library for Carrboro and southwest Orange County," she said.

Her neighbor, Jeff Rubish, reiterated his belief that the library will have a big impact on his neighborhood. "It's going to be devastating," he said.

But several residents said they looked forward to having a library close by.

In a note to the board read by a neighbor, Melva Okun said she and many of her High Street neighbors are excited about having a library within walking or biking distance. She said her experience as a longtime library



advocate makes her skeptical that an alternative will arise.

"For those of you who think there are other sites, you haven't been looking for 20 years," she

Nerys Levy, speaking on behalf of the Carrboro Branch Library's Friends of the Library, said the organization has worked too hard to get a library, and turning down the county's offer risks losing an important chance.

"Citizens of Carrboro, 210 Hillsborough Road is it," she said. Gerry Christmas, another

the black population in Car-

rboro has seen its numbers fall

from 2,273 to 1,969 in the past

CENSUS

FROM PAGE I

Latinos

From 1990 to 2000, the Latino population skyrocketed from 199 to 2,062 – a 936 percent increase in the town's Latino population. According to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau data, the demographic is still growing.

In the last decade the Latino population has grown from 2,062 to 2,706; an increase that has put the Latino population of Carrboro at 13.8 percent of the town's total population.

Sharon Sullivan Mujica, outreach director at CHICLE Language Institute, says Latinos are coming to Carrboro because the town is a great place to find a job

"They find it a place where they can put down roots," she said. She adds that the population is also growing because the Latino youth have experienced strong acceptance in the local public school system.

Blacks

While the Latino and Asian populations have both increased dramatically in the past 10 years,

decade, a 3 percent drop in the population. Census data indicate that more and more blacks are coming back to the South; however,

Michelle Laws, president of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP, says the opposite is true for Carrboro because of the high unemployment rate in the area.

"Chapel Hill and Carrboro are places that aren't too friendly to people who don't possess certain skills or have a higher education," she said.

needs.

Gordon added that staff

In other business, the board

BUDGET

FROM PAGE I

Greg Board member McElveen voted against the budget request, saying he could not support a special-district tax increase at this point.

"I just hear so much about people feeling burdened by real estate taxes," he said.

Republican leadership in the legislature has proposed a 9 percent cut to public education – which would mean a \$5.5 million loss for Chapel Hill-Carrboro - and Pedersen has identified reductions that could be made if those cuts are enacted. The district may also face \$500,000 in increased workers compensation plan costs, as well as a \$500,000 loss in Smart Start and More at Four funding.

The superintendent has proposed covering any remaining gaps with available fund balance, and the board has indicated its willingness to go along with that.

"My concern is with these numbers, unfortunately even this list [of possible reductions] may not be long enough," board Chair Jamezetta Bedford said.

Possible cuts include reducing elementary school media assistants to half-time, eliminating one elective position at every middle school, reducing the teacher allocation at the high school level, eliminating six el-

ementary world language positions in first and second grade, reducing athletics allocations for middle and high schools, eliminating two elementary teacher assistants per school, eliminating one of the two literacy coaches at each elementary school and others.

Board members also asked staff to look at potential cost savings that could be realized from a pay-to-play program for school athletics, that would include scholarships for students who could not afford to pay.

"Of course, this is never what we want to do," board member Mia Burroughs said, asking staff to look at "how could it help, as we're balancing this against losing faculty in the classroom."

The board's budget request to the county also includes reductions, which total about \$1.2 million, and include deleting an appropriation for evaluation and support of the literacy program, reducing one full-time and one part-time custodial services position, suspending signing bonuses for hard-to-fill teaching assignments and, due to the effectiveness of conservation measures, reducing the budget for utilities. Since the district has been under-spending budgeted salary by at least two percent in recent years, due to turnover and vacancies, the budget request also reduces funding for budgeted salaries by two percent.

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON CARRBORO TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES FOR THE

NCDOT 2014-2020 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM Transportation Advisory Board meeting

DATE: THURS., APRIL 21, 2011 TIME: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. WHERE: CARRBORO TOWN HALL 301 W. Main St. Room 109



ORDINANCE FROM PAGE I

Board Vice Chair Steve Yuhasz said he would like to prioritize economic development when considering Phase II of the UDO.

and raise a family.

"I'm not sure that we've done enough of that in the last 30 years," he continued, adding that the county looks a lot like it did three decades ago, which is good in some respects but not in others.

Board members also said that, considering the time it took to complete Phase I, they would like heard from the county library to see Phase II move along at a reasonable pace. "I'm afraid that if we don't set deadlines to achieve certain goals that we're not going to be able to move forward," board member Earl McKee said. Board member Alice Gordon urged planning staff to get a complete draft of Phase II ready for the public as quickly as possible.

"That's the lesson I take away from what we did last time," she said. "I just found it very difficult when there kept being changes."

should be prepared for a significant amount of feedback.

50 percent in the year 2041.

would best serve each county's

After the board votes at a later meeting to dissolve the library system, library staff will develop a multi-year plan for the transition.

"We would become our own

cent in 2010. The drop reflects what is happening in larger cities like Charlotte and Atlanta, where whites are becoming a minority population. According to studies done

by the U.S. Census Bureau, the white population percentage in the U.S. is projected to fall under

longtime library supporter, said

he understood the neighbors con-

cerns, relating his worries about

having a post office located near

his James Street home and how

while there was an increase in traf-

fic, it was not the nightmare he

on," he said. "I can't see being

ficials said they intend to extend

the contract to purchase the prop-

erty and finalize the due diligence

"Life changes and things move

With the rezoning, county of-

Although the number of

white Americans living in Car-

rboro has increased, the overall

percentage of the white popula-

tion in town has dropped from

72.7 percent in 2000 to 70.9 per-

envisioned.

process.

Whites

against a library."

to three independent systems

library with our own library

"With proposing the quartercent sales tax, we are making a commitment to the public that we are going to have effective economic-development efforts, and the easier it is to get good economic development, the quicker we will see a return on this economic-development investment we are making," Yuhasz said.

director Lucinda Munger regarding the proposed dissolution of the Hyconeechee Regional Library System, which provides library services in Orange, Person and Caswell counties. Because of changes to state law regulating regional library systems, the directors of each county's libraries have agreed that the transition from a regional library system

board and policies, but which would allow us to do some of the things that we're a little bit ... hand-tied in," Munger said. "We could just focus on the residents of Orange County." During 2012-13, the first

year of transition, the cost to the county of the change is expected to be around \$28,500.

DEVELOPMENT

FROM PAGE I

The council voted to continue the public hearing to May 23.

In other action Monday night, the council continued to debate a new sign ordinance that would allow 11 commercial centers to greatly increase the size and amount of information for its signs.

The proposed change was spurred by a request from University Mall to increase its visibility.

Peter de Leon, general manager of the mall, told the council that recent discussions with a major retailer underlined the importance of upgrading the mall's signage.

'They told us, flat out, they will not come to our center if there is no opportunity for good signage," he said.

Council members continued to debate the composition of the signs and whether individual store logos, colors and fonts could be included.

The next iteration of the ordinance – incorporating suggestions from the meeting for how individual stores can be listed along with ways to keep the signs uniform – is scheduled to be reviewed by the council and likely put to a vote at its April 25 meeting.

Also on Monday night the council:

• reviewed plans for an expanded book drop that will be installed as part of the library expansion;

• approved the use of \$50,000 to improve parking on a townleased lot off South Roberson

Street near The Courtyard; • scheduled a public forum for May 9 on the Draft 2014-20 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program; and

• reviewed and took public comment on a neighborhood conservation-district plan for the Highland Woods neighborhood. The council recessed the hearing until May 23.

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> FUNDRAISING: UNCOMMON GARDEN TOUR • SAT 4/30

ARTSCENTER STAGE:

SACRIFICIAL POETS: GRAND SLAM FINALS • THU 4/21 TRANSACTORS IMPROV: FIASCO • SAT 4/30 THE MONTI SEASON FINALE • SAT 5/7

CHILDREN & FAMILY: JUSTIN ROBERTS & THE NOT READY FOR NAPTIME PLAYERS • SAT 5/21 AFTER SCHOOL ARTS IMMERSION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

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Tar Heels headed in the right direction

BY EDDY LANDRETH Staff Writer

A year ago, more than 30,000 people filled one side of Kenan Stadium as ESPN broadcast the annual spring football game.

Saturday, maybe 8,000 came, which is better than some years and about the same as most.

What this year's crowd witnessed was a quick exhibition that was far more a practice than a scrimmage. In fact, it all began with the team just running through the motions, with all four quarterbacks getting a chance to throw against a defense that was barely defending and not tackling.

kickoffs in which no one was tackled. There were a few field-goal kicks as well.

When the official scrimmage did start, the difficulty was trying to discern strengths from weaknesses in an event that didn't even have all the athletes on the team and would

parts participating. So here is what this long-time observer feels comfortable predicting.

Houston is going to make an enormous impact on the running game, obviously, but he is also going to make life so much better for sophomore quarterback Bryn Renner. Teams will have no choice but to honor play-action or the Tar Heels can simply pound them with Houston.

"That's a thing I've noticed this spring," starting left tackle James Hurst said. "When we practice, play-action is a huge part of our game. We have a great defense, and sometimes we can still hit big play-action passes on our defense, which is huge."

Hurst and his teammates along the offensive line are going throw – and when he broke free

to be as good as any of us thought, barring some unforeseen occurrences. These kids are huge, athletic and they play together. The roster at that position is deep as well. "If there were high-

lights from the spring, clearly one of them has to be the improve-

fensive line," coach Butch Davis said. "It has taken several recruiting classes to build that kind of talented players and depth all at the same time.

"I think it is going to be a really good unit."

One of the biggest questions Then there was some punt- is who will be the No. 2 quartering without hitting and some back. A.J. Blue is one of the finest ers got excellent separation and

> This year could be much, much better than many people around the country realize.

make an excellent running back, with his tremendous athleticism and ability to make tacklers miss. But he played quarterback in A slimmer, quicker Ryan high school and in prep school, and he is good at it.

Then there is left-hander Braden Hanson. Opinions differ greatly on Hanson. Personally, I think he is unorthodox at times, but he could be very productive because he finds ways to get rid of the ball with accuracy. He still throws too many interceptions, but more repetitions will help him work out those kinks.

Then there is Marquise Williams, a freshman high school All-American who enrolled this January to get a head start. He may well be the second-best quarterback on the team in time, behind Renner. The kid can



for a 42-yard touchdown run, he made it clear he can move the ball that way as well. But one has to believe the coaches would like to redshirt him and put some more distance between him and Renner.

Defensively, the

ment and development in the of- line is the strength of the team. It will be dominant again. Junior college tackle Sylvester Williams was outstanding. He is going to be a hard, hard man to block. Ends Quinton Coples and Donte Paige-Moss are as dominant as advertised.

> The secondary has a long ways to go. The Tar Heels' wide receivmade catches on this

group all day.

Of course, when the defensive line is allowed to rush allout and hit opposing quarterbacks as hard as they want, it will be a little easier to cover.

But there is no doubt experience is a need in the secondary. The same goes for depth at linebacker. So many of the seniors who left played at linebacker and in the secondary and started for three and four years.

Offensive coordinator John Shoop and Davis may want to run the ball more than usual early in the season while the defense finds its legs.

The most exciting part of what came out of Saturday's scrimmage was that this program, in spite of the losses and troubles with agent payments last season, is clearly headed in the right direction on the field.

The coaching staff has recruited well. There is talent on this team. This year could be much, much better than many people around the country realize.

SPOTLIGHT: BYE BYE BIRDIE



Carrboro High School will present Bye Bye Birdie, the ultimate feel-good musical, in the new CHS auditorium today (Thursday) through Saturday. All performances will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The musical revolves around rock 'n' roll superstar Conrad Birdie, a character loosely based on Elvis Presley who is about to be drafted into the army. Comic complications ensue when, as part of one last publicity stunt, he promises to give a goodbye kiss to one lucky girl on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

"We chose this show because it's a classic American musical which the students could connect with and have fun," said Brett Stegall, director of the CHS drama department.

Bye Bye Birdie stars Ben Rose as Conrad Birdie, Teon Dolby as Rose and Khalid Williams as Albert. The cast also includes seniors Natalie Carpenter (Gloria Rasputin), Bridget Gallager (mayor's wife), Moss Madigan (Mrs. Macafee), Tosin Olufolabi (Sad Girl), AJ Poole (Mr. Johnson), Jon Shelton (mayor), Louis Vaught (Mr. Macafee) and Joel Wilhelm (Maude).

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$8 for adults. Reservations can be made by emailing chsreservations@gmail.com

School Briefs

Middle school bands honored

Phillips and Culbreth middle school bands and Smith and McDougle middle school students won excellent and superior ratings at the Middle School Solo and Small Ensemble Music Performance Adjudication last month.

The Phillips Middle School Symphonic Band and the Culbreth Middle School eighth-grade band received superior ratings, the highest a band could receive at the event.

Students from Smith Middle include Abby Thomas, superior; Lauren Alston, excellent; Lucy Edy, superior; Clio Clay, superior; Claire Hoke, superior; and a quartet of Cassidy Fortney, Lily Herrin, Leigh Sharpless and Amy Smith, superior.

Students from McDougle Middle include Emily Aleman, superior; Sadie Frank, superior; Sarah Gleiter, superior; Victoria Smith, excellent; Jhaayme Greene, superior; and a duet of Alyssa Marcinowski and Abby Kameny, superior.

Students named teaching fellows

illustration workshop and a chance to win free children's books.

CHHS to perform The Drowsy Chaperone

Chapel Hill High School will present The Drowsy Chaperone April 28-30 in Hanes Theatre at CHHS.

The show celebrates jazz-age musicals and the fans who were obsessed with them. The performance runs without an intermission and is rated PG.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. All Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools faculty and staff will be admitted free of charge with their district ID. To reserve seats, visit tinyurl. com/drowsytix

Carrboro Elementary principal honored

Carrboro Elementary School Principal Emily Bivins has received the Southern Conference on Language Training's (SCOLT) Friend of World Language Award.

Bivins will receive a plaque at the May 5 board of education meeting and will be featured in an upcoming SCOLT newsletter. Bivins was selected for her advocacy of the dual-language program and her focus on honoring diversity within the school.





Carrboro High School lacrosse player Cole Crisco maneuvers around defenders in a game against Northwood High School on Monday. The Jaguars defeated Northwood, 11-2. Scoring Jaguars include: Crisco (2), Zack Pruitt (2), William Clarke (2), Knapp (1), Keenan Van Name (1), Burke Beatty (1), Ed Lytle (1) and Thomas Richardson (1). Carrboro will take on East Chapel Hill High School at home on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

PHOTOS BY TED SPAULDING

Kira Virginia Frescoln and Adam Douglas Glasser of Carrboro High School, Madeleine Joelle Abrams of Chapel Hill High School and Jonathan James Howes of East Chapel Hill High School are among the 2011 recipients of the

North Carolina Teaching Fellows scholarships. This year, 1,894 high school seniors competed for 500 scholarships. Each teaching fellow receives a \$26,000 scholarship loan from the state, and the full loan is forgiven after the fellow has completed four years of teaching in North Carolina public schools or U.S. government schools.

BRMA to host literacy fair

The Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate program will partner with six national and local organizations to present the Orange County Literacy Fair on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fair is free-of-charge and will be held at the Street Scene Teen Center at 179 E. Franklin St., below the post office.

BRMA will partner with the Student Coalition for Action in Literacy Education, Youth Service America and AmeriCorps to host the event. The fair will offer free food, face painting, crafts, storytelling, bookmark-making, an

Students qualify for Duke TIP

Twenty-one Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools seventh-graders qualified for Grand Recognition in the Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP) this year. The program is a nonprofit organization that identifies academically talented students and provides innovative programs to support their educational development.

Qualifying students from Phillips Middle School are Eleanor Kincaid, Caroline Mueller, Natalie Sherman-Jollis and Thomas Wang.

TIP students from Smith Middle School are Vikram Aikat, Sydney Chen, Rachel Danner, Lily Elnaccash, Daniel Finkelstein, Veronica Kim, Phuong Le, Kunal Lodaya, Tejal Patwardhan, Varun Prasad, Simone Speizer, John Weber, Sarah Wu, Katherine Yang, Kelly Zhang and Jennifer Zou.

Sophie Struckmeyer of Culbreth Middle School also qualified for the program.

THE CARRBORO

ongratulations to Amanda enter she won 2 tickets to Aimee Mann at The ArtsCenter on Sunday, April 17. **Read The Citizen, Mill** and follow us on Twitter you might win something! THE CARRBORD MLL twitter

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10 THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2011

Housing market returns slowly, changed

BY KIRK ROSS Staff Writer

Among the many rites of spring, nesting is among the most common. Humans are little different than their winged counterparts in that respect except in the past few recessionrattled years, when the season's traditional boost in home-buying has been lackluster.

This year, there are indications that some of the drags on the market here are easing, and, with that, an increase in activity is apparent.

The Durham-Chapel Hill metro area was recently listed by Builder magazine as the thirdhealthiest real estate market in the country, behind Austin and Raleigh-Cary. The article notes last year's 3 percent growth in home values - while the Triangle as a whole took a dip – and cites a prediction by Moody's for a 70 percent increase in building permits for new homes in 2011. The sense among many is

that there's a pickup in activity. But in looking at what's moving and why, there's also little doubt that the Great Recession has reshaped the marketplace.

"People are getting extremely realistic and practical," Pat Neagle, president of the Greater Chapel Hill Association of Realtors, said in a recent interview. Buyers, she said, are less inclined to want as much house as possible.

"They're more interested in living within their means or even a little below their means," Neagle said. "It's a smart approach. People are stepping back and realizing what's important in life."

For Weaver Street Realty's Gary Phillips, a healthy measure of realism is helping the market recover. This spring the increase

but overall it still looks like a recessionary market.

"That means the very best continues to attract interest," Phillips said, but not the large, multi-bedroom homes that used to drive the market. "The Mc-Mansion is dead," he said, adding that new construction and spec housing for large homes is still way down and likely to stay there as builders work through their inventory.

"The only things being built are small, tight and green," he said.

The new market also has made sellers much more willing to negotiate.

"People need to know that the asking price is no longer the end-all-be-all."

Both Neagle and Phillips said the credit market is dictating buyer behavior.

"If you're going to buy, you

in interest is noticeable, he said, need a good down payment and a good credit score," Phillips said. "It's still a very constrained environment. We've had to 'rassel about every bank to closing."

Neagle said getting your ducks in a row ahead of time is key.

'Given what's going on in today's economy, it's more important than ever for a buyer to get pre-qualified.

If you're thinking about selling your home, the new lay of the land has brought some changes there as well.

"Realtors are drilling in the idea that there is so much competition," Neagle said. That means properties have to be in good shape, not just clean and presentable.

"You want your property to stand out, so do the work ahead of time and prepare it. People are looking for homes that are move-in ready."

Due Diligence change

One of the biggest changes to the real estate market isn't driven by the economy, but by the state's new Offer to Purchase form.

As of Jan. 1, the new form includes a Due Diligence Period, a negotiated length of time during which the buyer conducts inspections, title searches and other reviews of the property, along with nailing down financing and other preparations for purchase of the property. Under the rules, the buyer and seller agree on a timeframe and an amount. During the Due Diligence Period, the buyer can back out of the deal risking the amount agreed on for that period but not the earnest money.

"This is a huge shift in the way we negotiate and the process of contract to closing," said Pat Neagle, president of the Greater Chapel Hill Association of Realtors.

The upside is that it gives buyers a greater sense of confidence about what they're getting into. During the negotiated period, a buyer can walk away for any reason.

Gary Phillips of Weaver Street Realty said the new system in a way mirrors the option-to-purchase approach used in commercial real estate and agrees it should simplify the process. So far, he said, the price settled on for the agreements vary. Philips said he's had some for as little as \$100 and as much as \$3,000. - Kirk Ross

Briefs

Happy Birthday, Neal's!

Neal's Deli will celebrate its third anniversary on Tuesday. As part of the celebration, the deli will donate a portion of the

day's sales to TABLE, a nonprofit helping to feed hungry children. The event will also feature a raffle for catering and lunch gift

certificates, as well as one-day-only menu specials, including buy one, get one free made-from-scratch biscuits until 10:30 a.m. and a lunch special.

Chamber adds 285 members

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce added 285 new members to its roster between April 5-7, breaking a state record for chamber membership events and making it the fastestgrowing chamber in North Carolina.

The three-day event raised a total of \$101,000 in new membership dues. The new members bring total membership to more than 1,100 enterprises.

Free paper shredding

115

125

126

32

27 128

Chatham County's Waste Management Department will sponsor a post-tax season paper-shredding event on April 30 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event is intended for residents to safely destroy and recycle their private documents. The service will be provided by Shred-it North Carolina and is part of the "Let's Talk Trash!" event at Central Carolina Community College. A representative from the State Attorney General's Office will be available to answer questions.

The service is only offered to county residents, not businesses. Staples and paperclips do not need to be removed from documents, but plastic materials should be. The limit is 100 pounds per vehicle.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Teresa Chapman at 542-5516 or teresa.chapman@chathamnc.org. Visit chathamnc. org/talktrash for event details.

Chamber open house

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce will host an open house and benefits expo on April 21 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the chamber office at 104 S. Estes Drive.

Members are invited to visit the chamber office, network with staff and fellow chamber members and learn about how to save money through membership and member benefits, including the chamber's partnerships with Office Depot, Green Plus, Piedmont Health Services, Triangle Office Equipment, Our Local Deal, First Benefits Insurance, NCS Plus and others.

The event is free for chamber members and no registration is required. For more information, contact Laura Morrison at 357-9989 or lmorrison@carolinachamber.org

Women's Executive Series

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce April Women's Executive Series will be held April 27 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Chapel Hill.

The event will feature a panel of successful leaders from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro business community, including Ellen Shannon of Chapel Hill Magazine, Delores Bailey of EmPOW-ERment Inc., Barbara Jessie-Black of the PTA Thrift Shop, Paige Zinn of Jennings and Kristen Judd of 3 Birds Marketing. Panel members will discuss how they define success and choices they've made to propel their personal and professional success.

The event includes a seated breakfast. Tickets are \$15 for chamber members and \$25 for nonmembers, and \$250 for preferred seating for eight. To register, visit carolinachamber.org/ events, or contact Laura Morrison at 357-9989 or lmorrison@ carolinachamber.org

THE INDEPENDENT'S

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ACROSS	60 — -Magnon	104 Mortgage.	golf	handout	state
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rabbit	63 Composer	106 Gentle	relative	Amin	additive
5 Iragi port	Rorem	lamb	5 Showy	40 Baseball's	94 Mohammed
10 Wing it	64 Ordered	107 '68	scarf	Steve	— Jinnah
15 Iowa hrs.	65 Herriman	Temptations	6 French	41 Caution	95 Pantyhose
18 PDQ.	feline	song	sculptor	42 "Raid on"	problem
politely	66 Wont	110 Bearse or	7 Disparage	('77 film)	96 Mellow
19 Synthétic	69 Archery	Blake	8 Emulated	48 Activist	98 Tree trim
fiber	item	112 World-wearv	the	Hoffman	100 "For Me and
20 Artemis, in	71 Fathers a	114 Zeno's	Valkyries	49 TV's "	My —"
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21 Costa —	72 Get by, with	115 Horror-film	home	51 Actor	102 Actor
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38 "Hee Haw"	84 Got off	state bird	17 "Soap"	68 Actress	Kazan
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43 "Cara —"	87 Organ of	pop	21 Fix	70 Witty one	120 Inventive
('65 song)	equilibrium	136 Steen	23 Creche	71 Doubter	sort?
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: * * *

 \star Moderate $\star \star$ Challenging $\star \star \star$ HOO BOY!

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PET OF THE WEEK

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Meet Scrappy! This adorable Jack Russell Terrier is around a year old and looking for a fun new place to call home. He does well with other dogs and likes people of all ages. Like any Jack Russell, Scrappy has a lot of

energy and will do wonderfully as a part of an active family that will allow him plenty of play time each day. Scrappy was raised around other dogs and would also do very well as a second dog. Visit him today at Orange County's Animal Services Center, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill or call 942-PETS. You can also see him and other adoptable animals online at www.co.orange.nc.us/ animalservices/adoption.asp



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CLASSIFIED RATES \$5.00/issue for up to 15 words. Words over 15: \$0.35/word/issue. Place your classified ad online until **MIDNIGHT** Tuesday before publication!

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT

WHY PAY MORE? 2BR or 3BR homes available in quiet park minutes from town. From \$500/ month. 929-2864

HOUSE FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT - northern Chatham, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, almost new carpet, new stove, carport with storage room, small patio in back. \$850/month. 919-542-2803



CHAPEL HILL HOUSE 2+BR with 1+1/2BA Available May. Updated w/ fresh paint, refinished HW floors+new vinyl. Oversize BRs allow for sitting/ office areas. Former BR extended to living room could be 3rd BR or office. CHCCSchools W/D/DW Attic/Basement/Shed storage Owners mow Ig yard Garden space AC/Oil heat 5mi/ UNC Consider pets No Smoking inside Dep/Ref \$1150/mo 967-2530

HOMES FOR SALE



2 HOMES FOR 1 PRICE! Downtown Carrboro, just around the corner from all the shops, restaurants & culture. Main house w/ separate cottage/ in-law suite. Buy as positive cash flow investment, live in one/ rent the other or move the family into both. MAIN HOUSE - 4 BR/2.5 Bath. COTTAGE - 2 BR/1 Bath. ALL Apps Convey. Expected Rent - \$2K/ mo for main, \$1K/ mo for cottage. \$430,000. Chad Lloyd, Fonville Morisey Realty (919)-606-8511



303 BROAD STREET Downtown Carrborol 3 bedroom, 2 bath bungalow. NEW renovation including: HVAC, roof, kitchen, baths, windows, tile and hardwood, etc. Call Curt Nickles, Broker, 919-414-3715 414-3715



BEL ARBOR! Bright, stylish & well maintained 3BR/2.5BA 2,259 Sq. Ft. 2 story LR w/ FP. ALL HARDWD FLRS in living areas. Kitchen offers plenty of cab/ counter space, smooth top range. Formal DR. 1st flr MBR w/ WIC. Master Bath w/ dbl vanity, jetted tub/ sep shower. Good size 2nd/3rd BR's. HUGE BONUS RM (4th BR) w/ walk-in attic storage. Cov frt porch, private deck & level rear yard. Cul-De-Sac. Walk to Downtown Carrboro! \$375,000. Call Chad Lloyd, Fonville Morisey Realty (919)-606-8511 606-8511



DOWNTOWN CARRBORO Enjoy ALL of the conveniences & culture! Walk to the Farmer's Market, gym, Weaver St & more. Well-maintained end-unit, 2BR/1BA. ALL NEW KEN-MORE APPLIANCES in 2011: Refr/ Range/Hood/Dish. Open kitchen w/ brkfast bar & a LR/DR combo. Good size BR's & closet space. W/D included. Priv. rear patio/deck. Cov frt porch. Lg. storage rm. ALL NEW ENERGY STAR WINDOWS/WTR HTER 2009. \$142,500 Call Chad Lloyd, Fonville Morisey Realty (919)-606-8511



FLEXIBLE FLOORPLAN offers living options in this Carrboro home. Main level, 2BR, 2bath home with loft area, new hardwood floors in public rooms, eat-in kit w/ bay window. On lower IvI, theres another BR and 2nd kitchen & sep entry. Use as rental, guest room or den \$233,000 Weaver Street Realty 929-5658





N. CHATHAM CONTEMP on 5 acres. Tile & wood floors, clerestory windows, cooks kitchen w/granite & high end appliances. Lovely screened porch, decks and landscaped grounds. Peaceful setting close to Perry Harrison school. 929-5658



NATURE LOVER'S DREAM on 1.25 acres w/ Chapel Hill Schools & County taxes. Hardwood firs throughout ALL living areas. Cook's kitchen w/ center island & bar overlooks sunken LR w/ wood-burning FP. Huge Master Suite w/ adjacent office overlooks downstairs living area. Dueling decks off the Kit/ LR. Tons of closets & storage. 1 Yr Home Warranty. INCREDIBLE PRICE! \$229,000 w/ \$3,000 in SELLER PAID CC! Call Chad Lloyd, Fonville Morisey Realty (919)-606-8511

PACIFICA COHOUSING passive solar, radiant heat, low utilities, organic gardens, great neighbors. 1460sqft, 3-4 bedrooms. MLS#1776963. www. ViburnumWay.com



PERFECT STARTER HOME located in Chapel Hill's Vineyard Sq. 2-story, 2BR, 2.5BA townhome with spacious floor plan and private patio with attached storage. Lots of huge windows flood home with natural light. Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools: Seawell Elementary, Smith Middle School, and Chapel Hill High School. Affordably priced at \$110,000 with additional assistance for specially qualified buyers. Offered by Community Home Trust. Visit our website to learn more about qualifications and how to apply: www. communityhometrust.org



OPEN HOUSES



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4 (4/17) Updated Canterbury Townhome. NO QUEST PIPES! Tile floor in kit & full baths, corner fireplace, warm paint colors. Attic storage (rare in Canterbury), updated faucets & ceiling fans. Private patio. \$117,950 Weaver Street Realty 929-5658

AUTOS FOR SALE



2008 NISSAN MAXIMA SL Navy Blue with taupe interior. Excellent condition. 52,000 miles. Automatic. Practically new tires. Leather, great stereo, heated seats and steering wheel, all the bells & whistles. (Does not have GPS or XM.) Maintenance records available. \$17,500. Call 919.360.3317 for a test drive!

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FARMERS' MARKET SPRING MARKET HOURS Saturdays 7am-Noon



What's at Market? New Item this Week: Arugula, asparagus

(Limited supply), green garlic, green onions, leeks, chicories, mini-romaine, baby red bibb, whole head lettuce, radishes, turnips, spinach, beet greens, ranunculus, anemones, greenhouse strawberries, greenhouse sungold tomatoes (limited), greenhouse tomatoes, veggie and herb starter plants, golden turnips, parsley, chard, carrots, herbs, kale mix, broccoli rabe, beets, bok choy, sweet potatoes, eggs, sun-dried tomatoes, homemade raviolis with local fillings, fettuccine, tomato basil sauce, cornmeal, wheat flour, pecans, beef, pork, lamb, chicken, buffalo, 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

Soba Noodle Salad with Spring Vegetables Recipe provided by Marilyn Markel and adapted from Chef John Ash

"Chef John Ash's book From the Earth to the Table introduced me to eating locally and inspired me in 1994."

Ingredients

- ¹/₄ cup Dashi or defatted chicken stock
- 2-1/2 tablespoons white (Shiro) Miso
- 2 tablespoons seasoned rice wine vinegar
- 2 teaspoons toasted sesame oil
- I tablespoon soy sauce, preferably low sodium
- □ cup or so canola or other neutral vegetable oil I tablespoon chopped sweet pickled ginger

Instructions

Add the stock, miso, vinegar and sesame oil to a mini processor or blender and with motor running slowly add oil to form a creamy dressing.

- Add ginger and pulse a couple of times to very finely chop and incorporate.
- Store covered and refrigerated for up to 3 days. Pulse in a blender if sauce separates to bring it back together before serving.

Salad Ingredients

- 4 ounces dried soba noodles
- I cup green onions, whites and green tops slice on bias
- I cup baby turnips, thinly sliced
- I cup carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
- l cup radishes, thinly sliced
- I tablespoon sesame seeds, toasted
- I cup daikon radish or sunflower sprouts, gently packed
- Japanese seven-spice powder (Togorashi),
- to taste (optional)
- 4 cups spring greens

Instructions

Bring 2 quarts of lightly salted water to a boil in a large pot over high heat. Separate the noodles and drop them into the boiling water, stirring once or twice. When the water begins to boil, add I cup of cold water. Repeat this procedure twice cooking until the noodles are just tender, about 4 to 5 minutes. Drain in a colander. Rinse with cold water until completely cooled, tossing gently to remove surface starch and drain well. Toss the noodles with the dressing and vegetables. Top with the sprouts, sesame seeds, and a pinch of seven-spice powder. Serve on spring lettuces and greens.

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RANCH W/FULL BASEMENT Efficient & tidy ranch with a full heated/ cooled basement -awesome for pool table, workshop, band room, etc. Main level has 3 BR, wood floors, really nice kit w/granite & stainless appliances. Giant wrap-around deck to hang out, grill out out or chill out. \$198,000 Weaver Street Realty 929-5658

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home fits well with the other stately homes on Hillsborough Rd. Modern details such as granite, stainless appliances, subway tile and pendant lighting are juxtaposed with old world trim and design to create a home that will stand the test of time. \$695,000 Weaver Street Realty 929-5658



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CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Why Didn't You?

The country would have been better off if I had. - Donald Rumsfeld, former U.S. Defense Secretary, saying he should have resigned from the post, after the release of photos showing abuse at Abu Ghraib prison.



There is subtle beauty in the aging geranium leaf. PHOTO BY KEN MOORE



When fully mature, each of the five geranium seeds will be catapulted from the base of the red sepals. PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA FROM PAGE I

The characteristic round, palmately dissected geranium leaf easily contrasts with the still-flowering purple henbit, *Lamium purpureum*, and bird's-eye speedwell, Ve*ronica persica*. I receive numerous inquiries from folks describing the details of some little plant – like this little wild geranium – that is worrisome because it grows rampantly across lawns and flowerbeds. Take a good look at this geranium leaf. It's likely that you have it slinking about somewhere in your lawn and garden.

I enjoy letting these early spring "weeds" run cheerfully over my landscape. Unlike the colorful henbits and speedwells, the tiny pink geranium flower is so small that it goes unnoticed, except to the keen eye of friend Sue, who was downright charmed by the "perfect miniature geranium flower."

For me, the real beauty of this little native annual is not the flower. Taking a "closer look," the real beauty for me is found in the red tinges of the aging leaves and the brilliant red color of the persistent sepals surrounding the five dark seeds at the base of the beak-like center.

Though Sue does not allow such flowering weeds similar freedom in her well-manicured garden, she's happy to view them in my yard.

Words are not as effective as visual images in illustrating the subtle beauties. Before you pull it, take a closer look; you too may find some beauty there.

Email Ken Moore at flora@carrborocitizen.com.

WATER WATCH OUR RESERVOIRS ARE 92.30% FULL

PRECIP THIS MONTH: 1.92" PAST 12 MONTHS: 37.67"

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ESTIMATED SUPPLY: 508 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.







Lennie and Pete on WCOM

wo of my childhood heroes, UNC basketball legends Lennie Rosenbluth and Pete Brennan, were in town last week, but I wasn't able to break away from work to get this photograph. Happily, Allison Russell, *Citizen* intern and Carrboro Commons co-editor, got the shot. Here's what she wrote about the photo: "Lennie Rosenbluth,

left, laughs as Pete Brennan tells a story to WCOM host Bill Hendrickson about his car that became a good-luck charm for the 1957 national championship men's basketball team." When I asked Allison for the back-story on the photo, she added, "I didn't really know where to find the WCOM station, but as I was walking through the Cat's Cradle parking lot I saw two tall, older men get out of a car. I recognized them as Lennie Rosenbluth and Pete Brennan, and I turned around to follow them through the door. I was greeted by Rocco and then introduced to Pete and Lennie, who were very polite. Once we settled into the little orange studio, Pete and Lennie started talking to Bill, the host, and Rocco about their days at UNC. I learned that basketball players used to play in Woollen Gym, that they used to get only one pair of shoes for the entire season and that Coach McGuire's office used to be located in the ticket box office. Also, that on the night of their championship win in March 1957, they were given only a few dollars for after-dinner spending money as they walked through Kansas City still in their uniforms. I got to wear two pieces of UNC history when they let me try on their championship rings - they were so heavy that I had to make a fist to keep them from falling off my fingers! Throughout the show, they kept stressing the point that they were so good simply because they had the fundamentals down: passing and shooting. I enjoyed listening to their New York City accents during the one-hour show; their pronunciations of 'water' and 'north' reminded me happily of my grandfather. When the show ended, I asked them for their autographs and Pete Brennan signed his 'With warmest regards.' I then proceeded to tell anyone who would listen that I just met and hung out with two of UNC's legendary basketball players for an hour." (Notice that Allison cleverly put herself in the photo; there she is in the studio window reflection.)

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