

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Zig-zag stem and arrow-shape leaves distinguish snakeroot. Note the tiny flower and flower bud at the base of the plant.

FLORA By Ken Moore

Snakeroot: Worth a walk in the woods

It's just beginning to flower, so you have a week or two to go walking with "a closer look" to find it along wood's edge, a stream bank, in piney woods or deciduous forests — it doesn't seem to matter. What does matter is that you keep a keen eye along the path edges for this little plant that I've never observed standing more than eight inches above the ground — the snakeroot.

The smallish plant's zig-zag stem, usually leaning to one side, has four to eight narrow, arrow-shaped leaves. The leaves are a little over an inch to three and a half inches long with a distinctive tapering point and a broad heart-shape base. It is distinctive; once you spot it, you'll most likely not forget it.

To find the flower, you'll have to drop down on hands and knees, another "belly botany" opportunity. Just ignore other folks on the trail, at least until you find the flower to share with them. A small hand magnifier will be really useful. Look closely at the very base of the stem. The little flower may be hidden under the leaf litter.

If you don't spot the flower, be very careful in pulling back the litter. The flower is on a fragile thread-like peduncle. The flower, if open, looks a bit like Sherlock Holmes' distinctive pipe. You are more likely familiar with the common Dutchman's Pipe, Aristolochia macrophylla, flowers hanging on those big heart-shaped leafy vines of the mountain forests.

SEE FLORA PAGE 12

County looks at 9-cent increase in tax rate

by Susan Dickson Staff Writer

Orange County Manager Laura Blackmon recommended an 8.8-cent increase on the ad valorem tax rate at the board of county commissioners meeting on Tuesday.

The increase would raise the ad valorem tax rate to \$1.038 per \$100 of property valuation, representing a 9 percent increase over the current 95-cent rate. The recommended \$188.3 million budget is an 8.4 percent increase over last year's approved budget.

Under the proposed budget, for a \$200,000 home the ad valorem tax would increase \$176, to \$2,076.

According to Blackmon, one cent

on the ad valorem tax rate would yield about \$1.27 million in revenue, a minimal increase over last year's \$1.25 million.

This year's budget is particularly challenging, Blackmon said, because the county is attempting to balance increased service demands with sluggish revenue growth.

Blackmon also recommended increasing the Chapel Hill-Carrboro special district tax by 2.65 cents, to 23 cents per \$100 of property valuation. For a \$200,000 home, the proposed increase would cost about \$53.

One cent on the special district tax rate would yield about \$809,000.

According to Blackmon, debt-service payments account for more than

13 percent of the proposed budget. Since 1998, the county has authorized \$325 million in debt financing, and this year debt-service payments will reach more than \$26 million.

Blackmon said that because of unfunded needed facilities in the county, she does not expect debt-service payments to decrease in coming years. The county is projected to open 11 facilities during the next year.

In addition, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will open Morris Grove Elementary School and add a senior class to Carrboro High School next year. Blackmon recommended a \$6.8 million increase to funding for both school districts.

Under the proposed budget, nearly half of the general fund budget would fund the Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Orange County school districts.

Several commissioners expressed concern that the proposed tax increase was too high.

"People are really hurting right now," Commissioner Mike Nelson said. "An almost 9 cent tax increase in a recession is just something that's not acceptable."

Board Chair Barry Jacobs recommended that the county use some of its fund balance to supplement this year's budget.

SEE TAX RATE PAGE 9

CARRBORO STORIES

Laughing along with Ruby

by Susan Dickson Staff Writer

Ruby Merritt got 16 telephone calls on Saturday.

With 39 family members already in town to celebrate her 100th birthday, that's quite a few, she said.

Merritt is the matriarch of a large family, with four children, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. On Sunday, her family threw her 100th birthday party at Captain John's Dockside Restaurant, and family members came from as far away as California, Pennsylvania and Germany to celebrate.

Thirty of them came to church with her at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church on Sunday.

"If they don't love me, they're hypocrites," she said. "They sure act like they love me."

They held the party at Captain John's because Merritt celebrated her 95th birthday there, and the owner of the restaurant promised if she lived to be 100 he'd bake her a cake, which he did.

Born in Chatham County, Merritt has lived in Carrboro for more than 25 years. She lived in Chapel Hill before that, helping her husband, Eben Merritt, with Merritt's Store, which he ran for nearly 50 years.

Merritt met her husband in Chapel Hill through his sister, who attended Chapel Hill High School with her. After graduating from Chapel Hill High in 1925, Merritt went to UNC for one year.

"I went to UNC one year and got my "Mrs." degree," Merritt said, laughing.

SEE RUBY PAGE 7



Ruby Merritt

Pedestrian deaths have many concerned

by Susan Dickson Staff Writer

Last week, a young woman died after she was hit by a bus while jogging on the UNC campus. Then on Saturday, another woman died after a car hit her while she was crossing Weaver Dairy Road.

And in April, a man died after he was struck by a Town of Chapel Hill vehicle near the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Hillsborough Street.

Lisa Carolyn Moran, 20, of Scotland, was hit by a Chapel Hill Transit bus on Manning Drive near South Columbia Street on May 15. She was an exchange student at UNC.

According to the Chapel Hill Police Department, Moran "was found to have contributed to the collision by failing to yield to traffic." Police investigations concluded that she lost her footing and slid under the bus.

Moran was listening to an iPod at the time of the accident and there was

no designated crosswalk at the point of impact, according to police. She was brought to UNC Hospitals, where she later died.

Barbara Boone Sims, 38, was hit by a car on Weaver Dairy Road at the intersection of Perkins Drive around 8:45 p.m. on Saturday. According to police, Sims was homeless. She was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident.

Police believe that when Sims was hit, she was trying to cross Weaver Dairy Road in an area that is not a designated crosswalk.

The Chapel Hill Police Department is investigating the accident and asks anyone who witnessed the collision to contact Lt. Chuck Quinlan at 968-2760 or cquinlan@townofchapelhill.org.

On April 27, Clifton Walker Steed, 63, of Chapel Hill, was hit by a Chapel Hill Transit vehicle near the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Hillsborough Street around 8:40 p.m. Steed later died at UNC Hospitals.

According to Chapel Hill Police, Steed stepped into the roadway while

the driver had a green light and, because it was dark and rainy, the driver did not have an opportunity to see him in time to stop.

Pedestrian accident trends

According to the Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC) at UNC, there were 164 pedestrian-motor vehicle accidents in Chapel Hill and Carrboro from 2001 to 2005. Of these accidents, two were fatal.

The majority of these accidents occurred in Chapel Hill, with less than 30 in Carrboro.

"We see some differences in Chapel Hill because of the student population," said Libby Thomas, a research associate with HSRC.

According to Thomas, a variety of factors contribute to the rate of fatality in pedestrian accidents.

"There's a lot of randomness to pedestrian crashes, in particular fatalities," she said.

SEE PEDESTRIAN PAGE 7

Transfer station site rules set

by Taylor Sisk Staff Writer

At a work session held before Tuesday night's Orange County Board of Commissioners meeting at the Southern Human Services Center, the board approved exclusionary criteria to guide it in its search for a site for a solid-waste transfer station.

The board heard from Ed Shuffler and Bob Sallach of Olver Inc. as it nailed down the final wording of the exclusionary criteria. Olver is the consulting firm hired by the county to establish criteria, conduct the search and advise the commissioners on the selection of a site.

The exclusionary criteria approved by the board require the transfer station to be within three miles of one of the county's major roads and within 12 miles of the projected waste-generation "centroid," the area determined to be the geographical center of the county's waste generation.

SEE TRANSFER PAGE 9

Remembering the fallen on Memorial Day

RECENTLY . . .

By Valerie Schwartz

When we remember that "kicked in the stomach" feeling of Sept. 11, 2001, we need to also remember something we didn't personally experience — the reason we have a holiday coming up on Monday.

Memorial Day was started as our country strained to find measures for reconciliation following the "War Between the States," which had torn us apart. The 3,000 lives lost on 9/11 pale in comparison to what we did to ourselves over four horrible years, ending in 1865.

Somewhere between 618,000 and 700,000 Americans died during the Civil War. No state lost more than North Carolina, with an estimated 20,602.

The idea behind Memorial Day, officially begun in 1868, was to place flowers on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers buried at Ar-

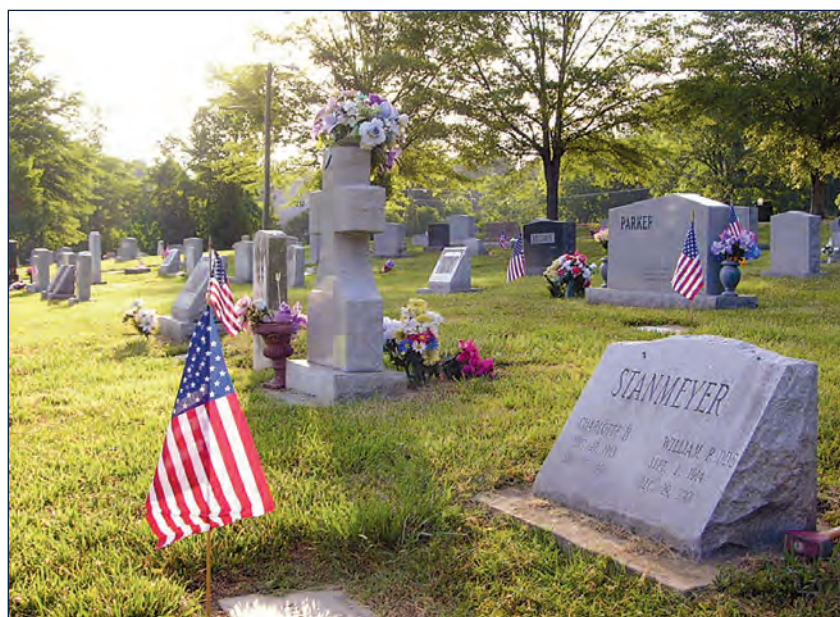


PHOTO BY LEE HEAVLIN

Graves at Chapel Hill Memorial Cemetery will be decorated with American flags on Friday in honor of Memorial Day.

lington National Cemetery. Of course the South, still stinging from its defeat, chose other days and ways to honor its

dead until after World War I, when it joined the rest of the nation to honor Americans killed in any war.

SEE RECENTLY PAGE 4

INSIDE

Aldermen set hearings on budget, taco trucks

See page 9

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MUSIC CALENDAR



Lucy Langlas will be at the Open Eye Café this Friday night.

THURSDAY MAY 22

Blue Horn Lounge: Tennessee Jed 9pm
The Cave: Chop Chop, Reid Johnson, Filthy Bird, Soft Company 9pm \$5
General Store Café: Bo Lankenau & Friends 8pm

Local 506: Northern State, American Princess 9pm \$8
Nightlight: Veronica Blood, Dead to Society 9:30pm \$3
Weaver Street Market: After Hours 6pm
FRIDAY MAY 23
Blue Horn Lounge: Troy Smith & Jeremy Blackford 10pm
The Cave: Late: Mayhem String Band, Lucky
General Store Café: Nine Day's Wonder 8:30pm
Local 506: Efterklang, Slaraffenland, Lost in the Trees 10pm \$8
Nightlight: Bibis Ellison, Lake Inferior, Lacrymosa, Lonnie Walker 10pm

Open Eye Café: Lucy Langlas 8pm
SATURDAY MAY 24
ArtsCenter: Lise Uyanik & The Mobile City Band, The South W'ing Band 8:30pm \$15
Blue Horn Lounge: Lucy Sumner & The Second Third 10pm
The Cave: Early: DTL Trio, Late: Le Weekend, Audubon Park
General Store Café: Armand & Bluesology 8:30pm
Local 506: Sea Wolf, Jealous Girl-friends, The Young Sons 9pm \$10
Nightlight: Fin Fang Foom, Ker-bloki, Monsonia 10pm
Open Eye Café: Jule Brown 8pm

SUNDAY MAY 25
The Cave: Will West, Jule Brown
Local 506: The Sammies, The Houstons, The Huguenots 9pm \$6
Weaver Street Market: Jazz brunch 11am
MONDAY MAY 26
Blue Horn Lounge: Open mic
The Cave: Early: Robert Griffin and Stu Cole
Local 506: The Bill Ely Band, Iron-werx 9:30pm

TUESDAY MAY 27
Blue Horn Lounge: Tain Collins 8pm
The Cave: Late: Virgo 9, The Karl-offs, The 3 Christs
Local 506: The Blue Moon Revue 9:30pm
Nightlight: The Hufton Brothers, The Woods, The Atlantic Notion 9:30pm

WEDNESDAY MAY 28
Blue Horn Lounge: Rosie and the Riveters 8pm
The Cave: Early: Doombunny, Polebarn Poets Late: Blain Ziglar
Local 506: Seepeoples 9pm \$8

THURSDAY MAY 29
Blue Horn Lounge: Steve Jack Band 9pm
The Cave: Early: Pete Waggonor Late: Carolina Clearwater
General Store Café: The Rosado Trio 8:30pm

Local 506: The Helio Sequence, Republic Tigers 9:30pm \$7
Nightlight: Hotel Hotel, Remora Sons of Roswell 9:30pm \$5
Weaver Street Market: After Hours 6pm
FRIDAY MAY 30
ArtsCenter: The Biscuit Burners 8:30pm \$15
Blue Horn Lounge: David Russell & Cedar Blue 10pm
The Cave: Early: Gravy Boys
General Store Café: Southpaw 9pm
Local 506: Dead Betties, Making Friendz, Un Deux Trois 9:30pm \$7
Nightlight: Hammer No More The Fingers, Caverns, Squaaks
Open Eye Café: Birds & Arrows 8pm

SATURDAY MAY 31

Blue Horn Lounge: Marla Vickers Band 10pm
The Cave: Early: Zach & Craig Late: Joe Romeo & The Orange County Volunteers
General Store Café: Trilogy 9pm
Open Eye Café: Anode Glow 8pm

Will West will be at The Cave this Sunday night.



Sea Wolf will be at Local 506 this Saturday night.

Got Gigs?
 Send your calendar events to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

MUSIC VENUES

CARRBORO THE ARTSCENTER 300-G E. Main St. 929-2787 artscenterlive.org CAT'S CRADLE 300 E. Main St. 967-9053 catscradle.com OPEN EYE CAFÉ 101 S. Greensboro St. 968-9410 openeyecafe.com RESERVOIR 100-A Brewer Ln. 933-3204 reservoirbar.net THE STATION 201 E. Main St 967-1967	CHAPEL HILL BLUE HORN LOUNGE 125 E. Franklin St. 929-1511 bluehornloungechapelhill.com CAROLINA PERFORMING ARTS 843-3333 carolinaperformingarts.org THE CAVE 4521/2 W. Franklin St., 968-9308 cavertavern.com HELL 157 E. Rosemary St., 929-9666 chapelhell.com LOCAL 506 506 W. Franklin St. 942-5506 local506.com	MANSION 462 462 W. Franklin St. 967-7913 mansion462.com NIGHTLIGHT 4051/2 W. Rosemary St. 933-5550 nightlightclub.com HILLSBOROUGH BLUE BAYOU CLUB 106 S. Churton St. 732-2555 bluebayouclub.com PITTSBORO GENERAL STORE CAFÉ 39 West St. 542-2432 thegeneralstorecafe.com
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CAT'S CRADLE

TH 6/5
JEREMY ENIGK
 LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)

TH 6/5
JEREMY ENIGK
 LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)

FR 5/30
BEN FOLDS
 KOKA BOOTH AMPTRH (CARY)

ALSO PRESENTING

KOKA BOOTH AMPITHEATRE (CARY): TICKETS FOR THESE SHOWS SOLD THRU KOKA BOOTH BOX OFFICE AND TICKETMASTER, AS WELL AS THE REGULAR CAT'S CRADLE OUTLETS
 FR 5/30 - (\$25/\$37.50) **BEN FOLDS**
 SA 7/26 - (\$22.50/\$37.50) **AVETT BROTHERS**
 FR 8/8 - (\$22.50/\$37.50) **WILCO** W/BON IVER

THE ARTSCENTER (CARRBORO):
 SU 6/1 - (\$16/\$18) **OVER THE RHINE / MARY GAUTHIER**
 SA 6/21 - (\$10/\$12) **ANNUALS** W/LONNIE WALKER

LOCAL 506 (CH):
 TU 6/3 **OAKLEY HALL**
 TH 6/5 **JEREMY ENIGK** W/DAMIEN JURADO
 FR 6/6 **NEW FRONTIERS** W/DENISON WITMER
 TU 6/10 **HAYDEN** W/HALEY BONAR
 FR 8/22 **ONEIDA** W/DIRTY FACES

DISCO RODEO (RALEIGH):
 TU 7/29 - (\$18) **WOLF PARADE**
LINCOLN THEATRE (RALEIGH):
 TH 11/6 **REVEREND HORTON HEAT** W/NASHVILLE PUSSY, RECKLESS KELLY

SU 5/25 **GORILLA PRODUCTIONS 10-BAND SHOWCASE:** HOODCROFT, JUDGEMENT IN MALICE, THE GROVES + MORE
 MO 5/26 **CLINIC** W/BBQ**(\$13/\$15)
 TU 5/27**(\$2/\$23) **X W/DETROIT COBRAS**
 WE 5/28 **NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL-STARS** W/AMY LAVERE**(\$16/\$18)
 TU 6/3 **IVAN NEVILLE'S DUMPSTAPHUNK**
 WE 6/4 **J-LIVE****(\$8/\$10)
 TH 6/5**(\$18/\$20) **ADRIAN BELEW**
 FR 6/6**(\$15/\$17) **SWERVEDRIVER** W/TERRA DIABLO, THE NEIN
 TU 6/10 **MUDHONEY** W/BIRDS OF AVALON**
 FR 6/13 **PAUL THORN** W/JULE BROWN**(\$15/\$20)
 MO 6/16 **MARIA TAYLOR/JOHNATHAN RICE** W/NIK FREITAS**
 WE 6/18 **INGRID MICHAELSON** W/GREG LASWELL**(\$15/\$17)
 FR 6/20 **BOXBOMB, MAX INDIAN, OSO OPTIMO, WILLIE BREEDING**
 SA 6/21 **ROONEY** W/LOCKSLEY, THE BRIDGES**(\$13/\$15)
 WE 6/25 **DEMON HUNTER** W/LIVING SACRIFICE + MORE**(\$15/\$17)
 SA 6/28**(\$28/\$30) **IRIS DEMENT**

TU 7/1 **HARRY AND THE POTTERS** **\$10/\$12 6:30 SHOW
 SA 7/5 **DIRTY SOUTH FEST: LOWER CLASS BRATS, MURPHYS LAW** + MORE**(\$18/\$22)
 SU 7/6 **BORIS** W/TORCHE and CLOUDS**
 SA 7/12 **CLUB IS OPEN LOCAL MUSIC FESTIVAL:** RED COLLAR, LUD, AMERICAN AQUARIUM, FUTURE KINGS OF NOWHERE**\$7
 SU 7/13 **CLUB IS OPEN LOCAL MUSIC FESTIVAL:** I WAS TOTALLY DESTROYING IT, SHAKERMAKER, SALVO HUNTER**\$7
 WE 7/23**(\$14) **GUTTER TWINS** W/ED HARCOURT
 TH 7/24 **HIEROGLYPHICS (SOULS OF MISCHIEF, PEP LOVE & CASUAL)** W/BLUE SCHOLARS, KNOWBODY, MUSAB, PRINCE ALI**(\$15)
 FR 7/25 **TILLY AND THE WALL****
 MO 7/28 **SHE & HIM** FEATURING ZOOEY DESCHANEL & M. WARD**(\$16/\$18)
 TU 7/29 **IMMORTAL TECHNIQUE****
 FR 8/8**(\$10/\$12)
 SARA LEE GUTHRIE AND JOHNNY IRON
 TU 8/12**(\$15/\$17) **THE HOLD STEADY** W/LOVED ONES
 FR 8/15**(\$20/\$22) **THE FAINT**
 MO 9/29 **STEREOLAB****(\$17)

TH 6/5 **ADRIAN BELEW**

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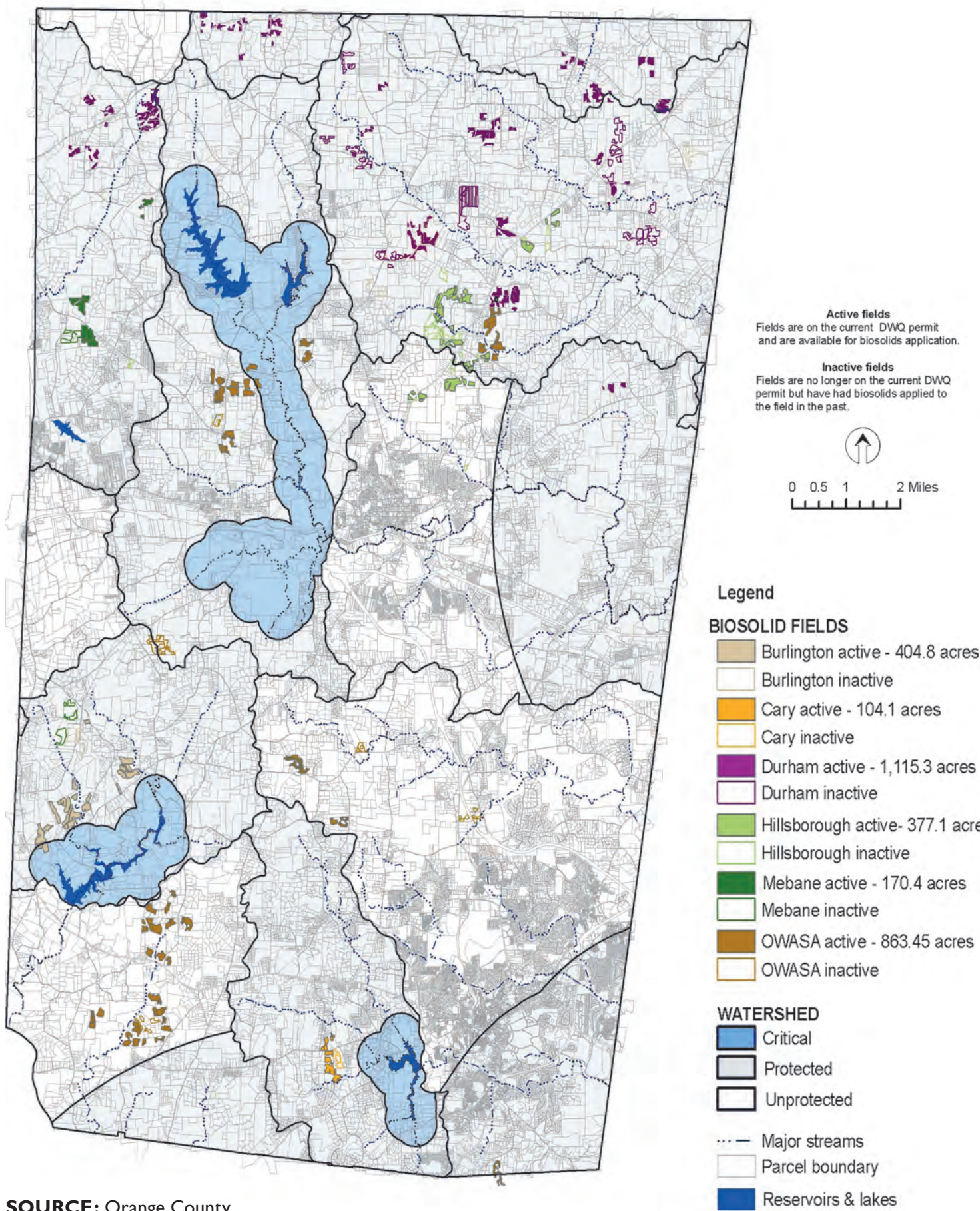
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2008 Orange County Biosolid Application Sites



SOURCE: Orange County Environment & Resources Conservation Department
M Jones 3/12/08

Residents, officials question biosolid plans, regulations

by Kirk Ross
Staff Writer

A request by the City of Burlington to renew its expired biosolid applications permit has environmentalists and officials from Orange and Chatham counties asking for better studies and tighter oversight of the program.

Orange County has more than 3,000 acres of farmland that are regularly sprayed with biosolids — a watery sludge of human and other waste from municipal treatment plants. Though the practice is common in most counties, Orange County has an unusually large amount of acreage being used for biosolid application. Biosolids from Burlington, Cary, Durham, Hillsborough, Mebane and the Orange Water and Sewer Authority are applied to fields in the county. Burlington sprayed roughly 3.2 million gallons in the county in 2006. Several of the biosolid application sites are within critical watershed areas of the county.

The county, however, does not have regulatory control over the application. Oversight of the program is up to the state — specifically, the North Carolina Department of Health and Natural Resource's Division of Water Quality.

Concerned about new research questioning the safety of long-term application and lack of oversight, a coalition of rural residents and environmental groups led by the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League pressured state regulators to hold a hearing on Burlington's permit.

The hearing, held last week in Graham, drew close to 100 people, including state Sen. Ellie Kinniard, who has called for more studies and better regulation of the programs.

Nancy Holt, who lives on Bradshaw Quarry Road in northwestern Orange County, said she is worried that oversight of the program is non-existent.

In 2006, Holt said Burlington's contractor sprayed nearby fields for 53 days straight, from July 10 to September 9. When she went to look up the records the city is required to keep, it listed only 11 days of spraying.

"Where did the rest of that stuff come from?" she asked.

Holt said she'd like to see the state give counties greater regulatory authority over the spraying. The state's set-back limit of 400 feet from residences seems far too close, she said, especially since the biosolids are not incorporated into the soil, and once dry can be kicked up by the wind.

While she acknowledges that many farmers rely on the spraying to keep fertilizer costs down, Holt said there are too many questions remaining about the health risks. Though human health studies were promised when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency okayed spraying in 1993, they've yet to be conducted.

"We just don't know what's in this stuff," Holt said.

In a recent letter to the Orange County Board of Commissioners, Susan Dayton, a Blue Ridge organizer, noted a growing concern that the sludge being applied to fields contains toxic compounds, including personal-care products, pharmaceuticals, fire retardants, PCBs, pathogens and dioxins.

With comprehensive research on the health effects of the compounds yet to be completed and so much acreage in use in Orange County, the commissioners sent a letter to the Division of Water Quality requesting that another public hearing on the Burlington permit be scheduled in Orange County.

The county also noted that its zoning ordinance prohibits the spraying of biosolids in critical watershed areas, although it acknowledges that the state can override that regulation.

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☆☆☆☆ MEMORIAL DAY ☆☆☆☆
Carrboro Monday's trash route will be picked up Tuesday.
Chapel Hill Monday's residential trash routes will be picked up on Wednesday. Commercial routes will be collected on Tuesday and Wednesday.
Chapel Hill Transit will not operate Monday.
Parking meters, town-owned lots and the Wallace deck are free Monday.
Recycling, Landfill — Recycling will be collected on Monday as regularly scheduled. The Landfill will be closed on Monday and will resume normal hours of operation on Tuesday. Solid Waste Convenience Centers will be closed on Monday and will re-open Tuesday
TTA Triangle Transit will not operate bus and shuttle service on Monday May 26 in observance of Memorial Day. Regular service resumes Tuesday.

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The ArtsCenter
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Sat., May 24
8:30 p.m.
Lise Uyanik & The Mobile City Band with The South Wing Band
A double-header of two great triangle bands!

Fri., May 30
8 p.m., Sat. May 31, 8 & 10 p.m.
Commedia dell'Arte
\$12, \$10, Members \$7 Students

Friday, May 30
8:30 p.m.
The Biscuit Burners
Their fiery mountain music returns to Carrboro! \$15, \$13

Sat., May 31
8:30 p.m.
David Dyer & The Crooked Smile
Rockin' Raleigh-based Americana.
\$13, \$11 Members

RECENTLY FROM PAGE 1

An Open House will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday at the American Legion Post, with another ceremony beginning at 11 a.m., where Capt. Ted Triebel, U.S. Navy (Retired) will speak. Capt. Triebel flew F4 Phantom jets over North Vietnam before he was shot down and captured, spending the remainder of the war in a prisoner of war camp.

Throughout the day, historical displays that include World War II, Korea- and Vietnam-era vehicles and a helicopter will be available as well as uniform items from the Women Veterans Historical Collection at UNC-Greensboro. Additionally, veterans and

civic groups will be on hand to offer information about their organizations and the part they played in our history.

The veterans hope that the displays will provide a bridge between our history and the soldiers, sailors and airmen serving overseas today.

"There are a lot of local families who have family serving now or who have served recently," said Lee Heavlin, VFW post commander. "This is for them. We recognize and appreciate their service. We have gathered veterans groups, the North Carolina Veterans Affairs and local volunteer groups to help us say 'thank you.'"

Admission is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided. American Legion Post 6 is located at 1700 Legion Post Rd. Call 942-2252.

Community Briefs

Healthy party

The Orange County Partnership for Young Children will hold "The Healthy Kids Campaign Celebration" on Saturday, June 7 at Carrboro Elementary from 3 to 5 p.m. Refreshments will be served and events include a review of the campaign projects, a cooking demonstration and a community garden tour. To attend, RSVP by Friday May 23 to Donna Laws at 967-9091 or officemanager@orangesmart-start.org.

Fall softball

The Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department will sponsor a 2008 Fall Co-Rec Softball League. The adult co-ed league will play on Tuesdays and Thursdays from late July through October. Each team will play one or two games per week, followed by a double-elimination tournament. A team fee of \$608 is required, with at least \$150 due at registration. Registration will begin June 2 at the Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department at 100 N. Greensboro St. For more information, contact 919-918-7364.

Cougar football

Those interested in becoming a member of the Carrboro High School football team will need to attend a family meeting on Wednesday, May 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Carrboro High Media Center. Items to be discussed will include summer camps, summer conditioning and next season's varsity and junior varsity schedules. For information, contact Jason Tudryn, head coach, at jtudryn@chccs.k12.nc.us or at 918-2200 Ext. 25049.

Low-cost rabies vaccination

The Orange County Animal Services Department organized four low-cost rabies vaccination clinics. They are scheduled for:

Wednesday, June 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Orange County Animal Shelter at 1081 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd; Wednesday, June 18 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at Fairview Community Park, Hillsborough; Wednesday, June 18 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Orange County Government Services Annex on South Cameron Street in Hillsborough; and Saturday, June 21 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Orange County Animal Shelter.

The vaccination fee for each clinic is \$5 and must be paid in cash. For information, call 245-2075 or see www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/rabies.asp.

ARTS CALENDAR



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARBAGE PAGE

Artist Susan Harbage Page explored the U.S.-Mexican border photographing possessions left behind by people attempting to cross into Texas from Mexico. An exhibition of her photographs, "Longing: Personal Effects from the Border," is on view through May 28 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Love House and Hutchins Forum at 410 E. Franklin St.

CARRBORO

THE ARTSCENTER Center Gallery—community photography contest

EAST END GALLERY ELEMENTS—the fifth annual Community Art Project through May 28

THE BEEHIVE SALON Sincerely Yours—works depicting life in Chapel Hill by Washington Capps

CAFFE DRIADE Bridget Walsh—acrylic paintings

CENTURY CENTER ELEMENTS—the fifth annual Community Art Project through May 28

TOWN HALL

ELEMENTS—the fifth annual Community Art Project through May 28

CARRBORO BRANCH LIBRARY Faces—a photographic exhibition curated by John Rosenthal through June 10

CLAY CENTRE GALLERY New works by the gallery's resident potter

DEWITT LAW Call for details

FLEET FEET GALLERY Seascape Poetics—paintings exploring the interactions between light, sky, water and land by Carolyn B. Levy

NC CRAFTS GALLERY Art Nouveau—ceramic tiles by Raleigh artist Marina Bosetti. Reception during Artwalk

NESTED

Kerri Lockwood—Condition, Circumstance, Order

OPEN EYE CAFÉ ELEMENTS—the fifth annual Community Art Project through May 28

PANZANELLA Local Farms/Local Art—an art exhibit celebrating the 13th Annual Piedmont Farm Tour Through June 1

SCOOTERS INCORPORATED Photographs by Caryl Feldacker Through May

WEAVER STREET REALTY Call for details

WOOTINI Leftfield Project presents the kickoff for the "Right to Left." Through June 9

CHAPEL HILL ACKLAND ART MUSEUM

New Currents in Contemporary Arts: UNC-Chapel Hill Master of Fine Arts Thesis through May 11

Contemporary Drawings from the Ackland Collection Through Aug 17
The Art of Love May 9-Sep 7

ANIMATION AND FINE ART OP-TiCaL aRt—lithographs and serigraphs by Victor Vasarely & Yaacov Agam May 9 - June 12

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CHAPEL HILL The Face of the Earth—watercolor mixed media by Nerys Levy May 4 - June 29

FEDEX GLOBAL EDUCATION CENTER Judith Earnst—expressions of life, love and faith through paintings and pottery through May 30

TURNING POINT GALLERY Mixed media on canvas and bronze sculptures by Maeve Harris and Wayne Salge

SOUTHERN VILLAGE

BAGWELL, HOLT, SMITH, TILLMAN & JONES, PA The Color in No Color—paintings by Amy White through May

BLOOM Flowers and abstracts by Marcia DiMartino through May

HILLSBOROUGH HILLSBOROUGH GALLERY OF ARTS A Walk in the Woods—new work by Pat Lloyd and Jude Lobe through May 24

PITTSBORO CHATHAMARTS GALLERY New artwork from Chatham County high school students through May 31

FUSION ART AND FINE CRAFT GALLERY Recycled Art—works by Michele Bonds through May

Do you have anything for one of our calendars?
Send your submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

SUPER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Hard word
4 Gator's cousin
8 Forest father
12 Chicken — king
15 Shake-spearan snake
18 Dadalism founder
19 Neighbor of Kentucky
20 Sign of sanctity
21 Postman's Creed word
22 '64 Ronny & the Daytonas hit
23 Mouth piece?
24 HARRISON
28 Beer ingredient
30 Reveal
31 Bargain
32 Former African nation
33 Apiece
35 Pancakes-to-be
39 Shade of green
40 HOOVER
44 Artist
45 Out of place
46 In addition
47 Rampur royalty
51 Tender

DOWN

2 PC key
3 Tiberius? threads?
5 '60s chic
55 Symbol of industry
56 Went white
57 Time for chores?
58 Sit on a sunfish
59 "Fatha" Hines
60 Teapot part
62 Ersatz
63 ADAMS
70 Cisco, to Pancho
71 Sudden attacks
72 Something to skip?
73 Campbell of "Party of Five"
74 Doll up
76 "The Jungle Book" character
78 — Na Na
81 Justice Fortas
82 "Death in Venice" author
83 Aromatic plant
85 Court-martial candidate
86 "Corn-huskers" poet
89 Like lava

90 Stage stuff
91 Take a breather
92 JACKSON dolly
94 Wrap
96 Singer
97 Like kids at Christmas
98 Bobbin
99 Sargasso Sea swimmer
100 Humorist
103 Violin part
106 KENNEDY
112 Comic Charlotte
113 Fido's morsel
114 "Ab —" (from the start)
115 Portent
116 Half-baked?
117 Flub
118 Director Craven
119 Faux
120 Trick stick
121 Looked at
122 — es Salaam

8 Mother or grandmother
9 Make a dolly
10 Herriot title start
11 Peanut
12 Kim or Kaufman
13 — Alamos, NM
14 "Raising —" ('87 film)
15 Certain marb's
16 Unyielding
17 Study in closely
25 Made a passage
26 Capek play
27 Michael of "Dynasty"
29 Stocking shade
34 Director's cry
36 Without — (daringly)
37 Communi-cations word form
38 — Aviv
39 "Frederica" composer
40 Jet-setter's need
41 Shortly mouse
42 Spanish specially
43 Land in the sea
44 Sheldon's — of Angels

47 State words?
48 Pennsylv-ania sect
49 Nick of "Q&A"
50 Gentleman of leisure?
52 Jeanne —
56 El —, TX
57 "Gigi" author
58 Stare
59 Brink
60 Ty's — City
61 Third degree?
62 "Oh My —" ('53 song)
63 Turner and Wood
64 Basic organism
65 David of The Bishop's Wife
66 Pitchfork part
67 Bring home the bacon
68 Salad staple
69 Bagel or bialy
74 Cause a chuckle
75 Move like a mouse
76 Aphid apparatus
77 Place for a patch
78 Walked like a buccaneer
79 Nest or burrow
80 Tree spray
83 Baptism site
84 Nevada city
85 Neon
87 Salivate
88 Hotel employee
89 "Nowhere —" ('66 hit)
90 Appreciated, in the '50s
92 Cowardly
93 City in Pakistan
94 Fern feature
95 Reggae's — and the Maytals
96 You can retire on it
98 Old tub
99 Baseballer Slaughter
101 4,840 square yards
102 Command to Fido
104 Williams of "Pete and Gladys"
105 Gourmet Graham
107 Clark's "Mogambo" co-star
108 Thurman of "Jennifer 8"
109 He's a doll
110 Gridiron position
111 Florid

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118						119									121			122

CitizenCryptoquote By Martin Brody

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

"Character"

BTZSZBXOS NF DGX EGNNDNDK ND JTOD

LGV'SO GD XTO WMZLKSVDI ZDI ZMM

LGVS HSNODIF ZSO WNBRNDK GD XTO

HZX RNI. BGVSZKO NF JZMRNDK GCOS

XG FTGGX TGGWF JNXT XTO HZX RNI.

- PNRO RZXY, HSNODI GH ZVXTGS

IGVK TZMM

This week's answer appears on page 8.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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2						1											3
				3			6			8							
8	1							2									6

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

PETS OF THE WEEK



APS OF ORANGE COUNTY — I'm Scarlette, a 2-year-old female shepherd mix. If you want a joyous dog full of spirit, personality and humor, that's ME! I am so happy and sweet, and I really know how to play. If humans start acting silly around me, I start planting my front feet on the ground in an over-exaggerated play-bow meets a double paw-shake — it's hard to explain but you'll know it when you see it. It will make you laugh and giggle, the same way I am doing in my own doggie way. I also like affection. If I were a superlative, I would be "Best All-Around." You can't go wrong with me! I get along great with cats, dogs and kids! I am also housebroken! Come see me at Animal Protection Society of Orange County, 6311 Nicks Road, Mebane, or call 304-2300. You can also go online at www.animalprotectionsociety.org

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Feng Shui is a 2-year-old Siamese cat that is laid back and loves to lounge! But don't be fooled—she has a playful side too! She'll do best in an adult home that understands and appreciates both her beauty and personality! Add an element of balance to your home and life with Feng Shui! Stop by Orange County's Animal Shelter, 1081 MLK Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill, or call 967-7383. You can also see her online at www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp



NOTICIAS EN BREVE

Celebración de colores

Este jueves es "La celebración de colores" de El Centro Latino. "La celebración de colores" es un evento anual que muestra como El Centro usa los fondos que recibe, y que ayuda en financiar los programas de El Centro. El Centro Latino es una organización sin fines de lucro que tiene el fin de integrar a la población de habla española con la comunidad por medio de diferentes programas. Los programas de El Centro incluyen el grupo de mujeres, el programa de Afterschool, el programa de Acceso y Apoyo, ayuda en buscar trabajo, ayuda con problemas legales, clases de computación y clases de inglés. Y quieren abrir un grupo para adolescentes. "La celebración de colores" es por invitación, pero si usted quiere saber más de los programas o quiere dar dinero a El Centro llame al 932-4652

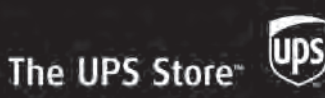
Temporada de música

Hay muchas opciones para escuchar música en vivo al aire libre esta semana. Hoy empieza After Hours en Weaver Street Market con la banda Hushpuppies, 6-8pm. After Hours es todos los jueves. Este domingo es Jazz Brunch, 11am-1pm en WSM con el Jeff Brown Quartet. También, los domingos 7-9pm, hay música en Southern Village, esta semana con la banda Magnolia Klezmer. Y los viernes 5-7pm hay música bluegrass en las afueras del Carolina Inn. Toda la música es gratis.

Más clases

El Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department tiene campamentos de verano para niños (solamente quedan unos espacios) y también tiene clases de tenis y de montar a caballo. Tienen otras actividades para niños, adolescentes y adultos incluso ligas de deportes. Para más información y para inscribirse visite a la oficina en 200 Plant Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. Tienen formularios en español para la reducción del costo de las clases. 968-2784

Comentarios, sugerencias y preguntas al betsy@carrborocitizen.com



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Community Calendar

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fourth Friday Studio Stroll — downtown Pittsboro artists open studio doors from 6-8pm, May 23. Demonstration at Side Street Gallery, 6:30pm. pittsboroshops.com

The Orange County Democratic Women Annual Meeting — election of 2008-2009 officers and reception. Thursday, May 22, 7:30pm. The Chapel Hill Museum. 644-0869

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Niche Gardens guided garden walks — Saturdays through June, 10am. Spring planting, garden maintenance, design & gardening for wildlife with bird and butterfly gardens. Free. Niche Gardens, 1111 Dawson Rd, Chapel Hill. 967-0078 or www.nichegardens.com

Memorial Day Commemoration — Orange County Peace Coalition presents speakers Joe Cole, Professor of Ethics and Philosophy, Wally Myers, organizer, Triangle Area Chapter Veterans for Peace; singer Mary Moffit; the Raging Grannies; readings. Monday, May 26, 2-3:30pm, Carrboro Town Commons. 929-3316

Guided Tours — of the N.C. Botanical Garden's Plant Collections, every Saturday at 10am. Led by trained volunteer tour guides and Botanical Garden curators. Free.

Digital Camera Workshop — lecture and photo sessions at the N.C. Botanical Gardens. Free, Fridays from 12:30-4pm.

Birdwatching Kayak Trip — for teens and adults. Visit a blue heron nesting area and see beaver lodges, herons, osprey and more. Jordan Lake. Saturday, May 24, 2-5pm, \$30. Instruction, equipment and guide included. 929-3805 kayakadventuresnc.com

KIDS

Toddler Time — at the Carrboro Branch Library. Every Thursday at 4pm. 969-3006

Preschool Story Time — at the Carrboro Branch Library. Every Saturday at 10:30am.

Express Yourself! — art program for ages 3-8 & their caregivers. Weekly art projects for children &

adults to explore their own creative paths. Saturdays, 10:45-11:15 & 11:30am-noon. \$2. Kidzu Children's Museum, 105 E Franklin St, 933-1455. www.kidzuchildrensmuseum.org

Nature Tales: Storytime in the Garden — N.C. Botanical Garden. Thursdays, 10-11am. Children 3-5 years old are invited to attend a storytime in the garden. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \$5/family.

VOLUNTEERS

RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program — seeks volunteers to match other volunteers with opportunities for public service. 968-2056

Meals on Wheels — seeks volunteers to deliver meals and/or bake simple desserts for recipients in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area. 942-2948

English as a Second Language Conversation Club — seeks volunteers to talk with groups of international students Fridays from 11:30am-1:30pm. University Methodist Church on Franklin St. 967-1448, harwellja@bellsouth.net

HEALTH & WELLNESS "Child's Play: Early Childhood Development and Behavior" — free class presented by Kohl's and N.C. Children's Hospital. Thursday, May 22, 12-1:30pm. UNC Wellness Center at Meadowmont. 966-5500, ncchildrenspromise.org

Living with Advanced/Metastatic Cancer — a bi-weekly support group. Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 3:30-5pm. Drop-in, no charge. Cornucopia House Cancer Support Center. 401-9333, cornucopiahouse.org

The Compassionate Friends: Self-help support after the death of a child — free and open to all adults grieving the loss of a child or sibling. Third Mondays, 7-8:30pm. Evergreen United Methodist Church. 967-3221. chapelhilltcf.org

Peer Connections — will have its next meeting at the Carrboro Town Hall on Thursday, May 29th from 5:30-7pm. The topic will be dental health. Contact Ellen Perry at 942-5602 or peerconnections@gmail.com

MUSEUMS

Planetarium & Digital Theater Shows — science LIVE Demos. Ongoing. Morehead Planetarium, 250 E Franklin St, Chapel Hill. Info hotline 549-6863, office 962-1236, tickets 843-7997. Thu-Sat 10am-5pm, 6:30-9:15pm. moreheadplanetarium.org

DANCE

Havana Nights — Cuban Salsa. 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10pm. Mansion 462, 462 W Franklin St, 967-7913, www.mansion462.net

Salsa/Mambo — 3rd Saturdays, lesson 8pm, dance 8:30-11pm. \$7, 358-4201, salsa_4u2@yahoo.com. Fred Astaire Dance Studio, 4702 Garrett Rd, Durham.

Ballroom — 4th & 5th Thursdays, 7-9:30pm, \$2. 933-8982. Seymour Senior Center, 2551 Homestead Rd, Chapel Hill, 968-2070

Carrboro DanceJam — free-style dance to an eclectic mix of music. First Fridays. Balanced Movement Studio. 304 W Weaver St, upstairs. Smoke & alcohol free. Call 968-8776 for more info.

LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS & OPEN MICS

Open Mic — Poetry, music & short fiction. Tuesdays, 7pm, Market Street Books & Maps, Southern Village. 933-5111, www.marketstreetbooks.com

"How Are Immigrant Rights Addressed in North Carolina?" — Dani Martinez-Moore, Immigration Network Coordinator, NC Justice Center, will discuss her work with various organizations providing assistance to immigrants in their struggles against unjust treatment. 7 p. m., May 22, Chapel Hill Public Library, 942-2535.

LITERARY

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time — discussion of the book by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Carrboreaders Non-Fiction Book Club. 7pm May 22, Carrboro Cybrary.

Then She Found Me — May 28 at 7pm. Movie/Book Club meets to discuss *Then She Found Me* and the

IN SEASON



ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

book by Elinor Lipman on which it was based. See the movie, read the book or both and you are invited. Carrboro Cybrary, 918-7387

Not a Drop to Drink: America's Water Crisis (And What You Can Do) — by Ken Midkiff. Join a discussion with panelists from the Sierra Club, OWASA, and UNC. Mon., June 2, 7pm. Century Center.

The Alchemist — by Paulo Coelho. On Friday, May 30 at 7pm, the Contemporary Fiction Book Club. Carrboro Cybrary,

Then She Found Me — Thursday, June 5 at 7pm, the Movie/Book Club meets to discuss the film and book by Elinor Lipman on which it was based. Carrboro Cybrary.

FILM De Florida a Coahuila — a film telling the story of the Mascgo people. Directed by Rafael Rebol-lar. Sunday, June 1 at 5pm. Free and open to the public. CHICLE, 101 E Weaver St, 3rd floor. 933-0398, chi-cle.com

Do you have anything for one of our calendars?

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Orange County Solid Waste Management
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Requiem for reality

No one has a monopoly on the truth, and most certainly no one political party or persuasion has a monopoly on the desire to make this country a better place and a more positive force in the world.

But to read without getting angry what is passing these days for discourse on which candidate is more patriotic and who loves America more is becoming harder and harder. First, it is insulting that the discussion of lapel pins or true blue patriotism has eclipsed discussion of an actual war with actual casualties. Second, it is becoming increasingly clear that there are those who are quite willing to make the case that the heritage of Sen. McCain makes him more of an American than Sen. Obama.

Right-wing movie critic Michael Medved recently delved into pop genetics using a radical new theory of evolution (which he of course does not believe in) to explain that white Americans are more American than African-Americans. It might be easy to dismiss such an outwardly racist opinion as an isolated raving were it not echoed in the op-ed pages of the *Washington Post* by author Kathleen Parker, who devoted several hundred words the other day to making the case that white Americans prefer Sen. McCain because, unlike Sen. Obama, he is a "full-blooded American."

Those aren't even coded racist comments. And unfortunately, they're examples of the full-frontal assault we're in for all the way through November.

It doesn't have to be that way. It's high time this country saw a news consumer movement and a backlash against the shoddy, hype-driven journalism that's promulgated across the airwaves.

Every day, we are experiencing the detrimental effects of a faulty product foisted upon us by an increasingly monopolistic industry. The First Amendment, beautiful as it is, only guarantees the rights of the press, not its quality.

Ending this war — which has made this Memorial Day a painful reminder for the families of 4,079 young men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the name of their country — should be the focus of this election.

Debate over what to do about an economy straining under inflation, job losses and a credit crisis should drown out jingoism and racism rather than the other way around.

The fact that nearly 50 million Americans are without health insurance ought to stand out in a little higher relief than Obama's middle name.

And certainly, ending poverty should be much higher up on the list of what's important than ending inheritance taxes for multimillionaires.

Yes, we should be angry at those using language just short of fighting words to distract us, but we should be far angrier at those who presume we'd rather not hear substance and are only looking for entertainment when we pick up a paper or turn on the tube. They're the ones handing the bomb-throwers the megaphones.

Vigilance on the streets

With the coming of warmer weather, most of us are spending a good deal more time out of doors. Please note that means more pedestrians and bikers on the streets and requires greater diligence on the part of everyone to be more cautious.

Our community has already experienced several sad reminders this year of the consequences of even a moment's lapse.

Please remember that especially in the downtowns and other areas heavily traversed on foot, vigilance is sometimes a matter of life and death.

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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Behind the budget headlines

CHRIS FITZSIMON

The General Assembly session is less than a week old but the budget process is steaming ahead, as lawmakers continue not only to analyze the \$21.5 billion plan proposed by Gov. Mike Easley, but also to narrow down their own spending recommendations.

The House will pass the budget first this summer and House leaders have set June 2 as the deadline for sending a bill to the Senate. House budget subcommittees met again in public Monday and reportedly House leaders spent much of the weekend working on the budget, which some legislative observers expect to see this week.

Most of the attention surrounding Easley's budget has focused on his plan to give teachers a seven percent raise and state employees a 1.5 percent increase with a one-time bonus of \$1,000, and to raise taxes on cigarettes and alcohol to pay for it.

Legislative leaders have said publicly the tax increases won't pass and no one expects the pay raise for teachers and state employees to be as unequal as Easley proposes. But there are hundreds of other important decisions to be made in the House in the next two weeks on items left out of Easley's budget and others that he chose to reduce from requests made by agencies, including the State Board of Education.

Easley billed his budget as one that "builds on education progress" and it does increase overall education spending by almost \$500 million. But more than \$300 million of the increase pays for the seven percent teacher pay raise, a laudable goal, but leaving very little for other education spending.

Easley ignores several priorities of the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction, including \$86 million for the Disadvantaged School Supplemental Fund, \$40 million for educating children with disabilities, \$20 million to improve school lunches and almost \$4 million for principals at struggling schools.

Rep. Rick Glazier has introduced legislation to come up with \$17 million for children with disabilities in public schools and he is in a position to get it in the budget as co-chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education.

Easley's budget also includes no money to reduce the waiting list for Community Alternatives Programs for people with a developmental disability. That makes no sense morally or economically, as the services help keep people at home and out of institutions where care is even more expensive. The CAP waiting list is now 4,000 people long.

That program is under consideration by the Health and Human Services subcommittee, which Monday had more discussion about the

state's troubled mental health system, focusing mainly on the state's community support program which a *News & Observer* series concluded has wasted \$400 million. The community support program has become a flashpoint for the problems in the mental health system and the \$400 million figure is now part of many campaigns against legislative incumbents.

We don't just need a budget that meets a deadline, we need one that makes a difference in the lives of people in our communities who need help.

Health and Human Services Secretary Dempsey Benton reports that billings for the services are down 30 percent from last year and efforts to recover money improperly paid are underway, while controls of the program have been tightened.

The danger is that community support may be tougher to access for people who need it and, more importantly, that lawmakers may be reluctant to invest more money in mental health services as political opponents continue to rail against the problems with community support.

There are plenty of other budget issues that have been largely left out of public discussions: the \$11 million shortfall in lottery revenues to reduce class size in early grades, no new funding for Smart Start and no new investment in the North Carolina Housing Trust Fund.

Despite the omissions, Easley's proposal frames the budget discussion, though many of his positive investments are from a foregone conclusion. House budget writers have decided on lower targets than Easley is proposing — \$10 million less in health and human services — and want to put more money in the state's saving accounts, leaving less for important programs.

Add that to the decision to reject Easley's tax hikes, and it is easy to understand why advocates for the poor and working-class families are anxious in the legislative halls.

Let's hope there's still time to convince House leaders to make Easley's budget better by helping children and adults with disabilities, families who can't find affordable housing and principals dedicated to turning around struggling schools.

We don't just need a budget that meets a deadline; we need one that makes a difference in the lives of people in our communities who need help.

Chris Fitzsimon is the director of NC Policy Watch.

Carrboro and mental health: Dancing to an alternate beat

PETER KRAMER

May is Mental Health Month and this year's theme is "Get Connected." The importance of social connectedness to good mental health has led some of us to consider Carrboro's role as a leader in innovative programs that promote mental health wellness.

Carrboro is home to, among other organizations, the Mental Health Association of Orange County, the Caramore Community and Club Nova. For example, for two decades, the latter "clubhouse" program has supported the members' efforts to improve the quality of their lives. At the homey house on West Main Street, Club Nova members drop by daily to socialize, develop personal skills, improve their employment outlook and more.

I recently asked some people about the relationship of the town to these programs. Karen Dunn, the long-time executive director of Club Nova, wrote me that "being welcomed before we ever moved in to 103 West Main Street almost twenty-one years ago set the tone. And the tone hasn't changed since then. The leadership and citizens of Carrboro are open, progressive and inclusive. For lack of a better word, Carrboro is a funky town, a community that as a whole dances to an alternate tune/beat."

Carrboro is "an artistic community with a capacity for loving all kinds of people."

Club Nova board president Esphur Foster told me that Carrboro is "an artistic community with a capacity for loving all kinds of people, a town that embraces humanness."

Orange County commissioner Moses Carey, who also serves on the OPC Area Board, said, "There's something about Orange County, and Carrboro in particular, that embraces people who may first appear to be 'different.' We integrate persons with disabilities into the everyday life of the community. All of us want to feel as if we can make a contribution."

David Chapman, the executive director of the Caramore Community on Smith Level Road, said, "People in Carrboro see 'people with disabilities' as 'people' first — there's less tendency to judge differences."

Others cited examples of Carrboro's rich capacity for acceptance and understanding, traits that enhance the possibilities of connecting to each other.

Peter Kramer works for the OPC Area Program in Chapel Hill.

Health in the short session

ADAM SEARING

As the NC General Assembly gets underway this week — even in a so-called short session year, it's a little like watching an aircraft carrier try to do a three-point turn in Beaufort channel — a reasonable citizen might wonder what steps legislators will be taking to make health care more affordable and accessible. The answer is likely to be a disappointing "not much."



It's not that North Carolinians aren't having any problems affording decent health coverage. Premiums are skyrocketing, small businesses are struggling even to offer any employee coverage and people on the individual market who have a pre-existing health condition often can't buy any plan at all.

No, the problem, as always, is political will. Although North Carolina is much better off financially than most other states in this economic downturn, we still have far less money to meet growing state needs than in previous years. Combine tighter finances with an upcoming election, and all indications point to a General Assembly where bold initiatives to address major state problems will be in short supply.

The high-water mark this session is likely the governor's recently released budget. The governor proposes spending \$68 million on the deteriorating mental health system; about \$10 million keeping our affordable health insurance program for kids in working families, Health Choice, open to more children; and spending a few million more on quality-of-care improvements. Bold it's not, but at least it's a solid performance.

One problem for the governor's proposals is that much of this sort of expansion — including some of the cost of raises for teachers and state employees — is funded by a proposed 20 cent increase in the cigarette tax and a few cents increase in the alcohol tax. Tax hikes — even on cigarettes — have already been firmly pronounced dead on arrival by General Assembly leaders.

Where does that leave us? Just keeping the health coverage we have for families is likely to be a fight. Therefore, don't look for funding for the new sliding-scale premium health insurance program for working families passed last year to go into effect. Pres. Bush (aided by North Carolina senators Dole and Burr) effectively nixed federal help for child health expansions like this last year, so North Carolina would have to come up with the money all on its own.

Of course, we could guarantee health coverage for all children in the state for about \$20 million in state dollars and thumb our noses at the federal government. That's only a couple million more a year than the \$15 million the governor proposes in his budget to renovate the Mattamuskeet Lodge in Hyde County combined with \$3 million spent on upgrading the state zoo's polar bear exhibit and setting up a state trade office in Shanghai.

In the end, I'd expect some nod toward mental health; no help beyond current public programs for children, parents or small businesses struggling to afford health coverage; and no rise at all in the cigarette tax, regardless of the huge health benefits that result from a substantial — say \$1 — increase.

North Carolinians really shouldn't stand for this. Regardless of what happens in Washington next year, we should move our state toward providing a choice of affordable and quality health plans for everyone. A place to start would be a \$1 increase in the cigarette tax coupled with affordable child health plans. This simple step would guarantee that no child in our state — healthy or sick, disabled or not, poor or middle class — would ever go without quality health insurance again. But then again, it's an election year.

Adam Searing is the project director at the NC Justice Center's Health Access Coalition.

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. Typed letters are preferred and email even more so. That said, send your letters to:

Letters to the editor
Box 248 Carrboro,
North Carolina 27510

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editor@carrborocitizen.com

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RUBY
FROM PAGE 1

The two were married in June of 1926 at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, where she has been a member for more than 80 years.

Merritt recalls downtown Chapel Hill differently from how it stands today, though she says she doesn't go downtown much anymore.

"At least we didn't have any bars," she said. "Sutton's [Drug Store] was a gathering place."

Carrboro, she added, is "so different" from how she remembers it from when she was growing up.

"I remember that it was a mill town," she said. "I didn't come enough to even remember."

Her husband died of a heart attack in 1981. The two had been married for 55 years.

"I wish it had been longer," she said.

When Merritt's husband died, she moved to Carrboro.

"I moved here in order to be close to my daughters, and to aggravate them," she said with a smile. "That's why the Lord has let me live so long."

"I moved here in order to be close to my daughters, and to aggravate them, that's why the Lord has let me live so long."



Ruby Merritt

At Mt. Carmel, Merritt taught Sunday school for more than 50 years and played the piano for more than 70.

"I had to stop a few months for four babies," she said, adding that she would bring her babies with her to church and lay them on pillows on the bench.

Life's challenges

When asked what the most difficult challenge in life is, Merritt doesn't miss a beat.

"Rearing children properly," she said. "I think that's the biggest problem that people have today."

"Teachers cannot do it all," she continued, adding that three of her four children were teachers.

"We're just one big faculty meeting when we get together," said Page, who was a teacher at Carrboro Elementary School.

Merritt's mother was also a teacher and her father built a one-room schoolhouse that still stands in Chatham County, so education has played a large part in her life.

In particular, Merritt has always loved music, which led her to become the first woman to drive in Chatham County.

When she was 12, she took music lessons. Her father ran a sawmill, and driving her the five miles to her lessons would have meant shutting it down to leave. So, much to the chagrin of her mother, her father taught her to drive on the old country roads near their home.

"My mother had a fit," she said. But Merritt drove herself to her lessons, and because there were only two other cars in the county at that time, everyone knew who she was when they saw her coming. When people approached her on horses or in buggies, they would slow down to give 12-year-old Ruby a wide berth on the narrow dirt roads.

Merritt continued to drive until she was 93.

Family time

Family is clearly very important to Merritt; she has photos

of her many family members throughout her home.

"I'm proud of all my family," she said.

For nearly 50 years, Merritt's family has traveled to Cherry Grove for a family week at the beach, and Merritt looks forward to another trip this summer.

"We have such a good time," she said. "It's just so much pleasure."

Merritt said that while her family isn't perfect, they always manage to get along.

"I don't mean we agree on everything, but we just laugh about it and let it go."

After 100 years, Merritt said she thinks her family is part of what's kept her going.

"To me, the most important thing on this earth is a functional family," she said. "Maybe that's why I've lived so long, because it's a loving family."

At her birthday party on Sunday, Merritt quoted Minnie Pearl: "I'm just so proud to be here."

PEDESTRIAN
FROM PAGE 1

Fatalities occur disproportionately in nighttime crashes, accidents involving alcohol and accidents involving older victims, Thomas said.

HSRC recommends that pedestrians wear reflective clothing or materials at night.

"Just wearing white or bright colors may not be enough to help you be seen," Thomas said.

According to HSRC, more than 40 percent of pedestrian accidents in Chapel Hill and Carrboro between 2001 and 2005 occurred at intersections.

Avoiding Accidents

According to the North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, pedestrians have the right of way at all intersections, driveways and crosswalks, but must act responsibly and use pedestrian signals where available.

If pedestrians walk against the signal, they are in violation, according to Captain J.G. Booker with the Carrboro Police Department. However, once a pedestrian is in the roadway, the driver must yield under all circumstances, Booker said.

Under North Carolina law, drivers must yield the right of way to pedestrians crossing roadways within any marked crosswalk or within any unmarked crosswalk at or near an intersection.

In addition, pedestrians have the right of way when approaching an alley, building entrance, private road or driveway from any sidewalk or walkway.

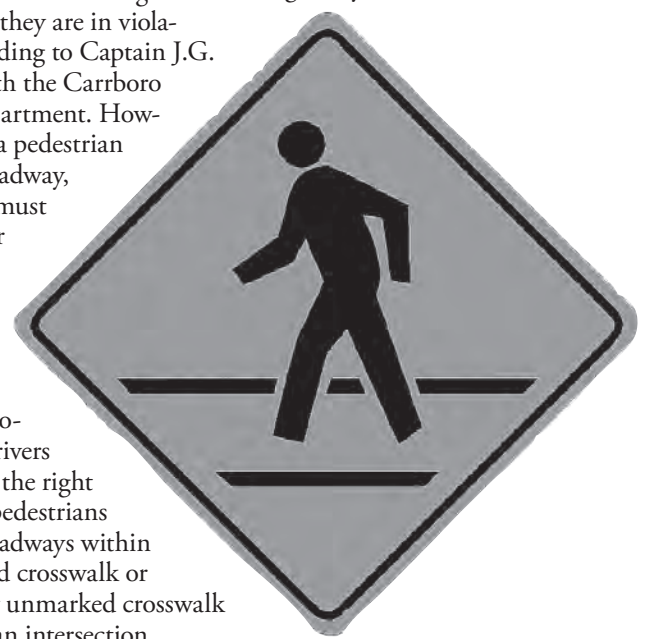
The Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Information Center provides safety tips for both pedestrians and drivers. The center recommends that pedestrians:

- carry a flashlight when walking at night;
- cross in well-lit areas;
- always walk on sidewalks or facing traffic if there is no sidewalk;
- avoid walking while impaired;
- don't assume vehicles will stop; and
- obey traffic signals.

Booker recommends that walkers and joggers avoid talking on cell phones or listening to headphones.

"From a personal safety standpoint, it's just not a good practice," he said.

For more pedestrian and driver safety tips, visit www.walkinginfo.org/why/tips_walking-safely.cfm.



Community Book Forum Event

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Lunch Menus

MAY 23-29

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ELEMENTARY

Friday — Corn Dog; Salisbury Steak w/Gravy & Wheat Roll; Mashed Potatoes; Collard Greens; Chilled Pineapple

Tuesday — Cheese Pizza; Pepperoni Pizza; Pork Rib-B-Q on a Bun; Baked Beans; Chilled Peaches

Wednesday — Beef Lasagna w/Garlic Bread; Turkey & Cheese Sub; Tossed Salad w/Dressing; Mixed Vegetables; Apple Halves

Thursday — Macaroni & Cheese w/Wheat Roll; Beef & Bean Burrito w/Salsa; "Fun on the Fun"; Pinto Beans; Fruited Gelatin

MIDDLE & HIGH

Friday — Pork Chopette w/Gravy; Turkey & Noodles w/Wheat Roll; Green Beans; Chilled Peaches

Tuesday — Beef & Macaroni w/Wheat Roll; Hot Dog on a Bun; Potato Wedges; Garden Peas; Fresh Apple

Wednesday — Oven Baked Chicken w/Wheat Roll; Sloppy Joe on a Bun; Coleslaw; Broccoli Cuts; Fresh Banana

Thursday — Beef Lasagna w/Garlic Bread; Grilled Cheese Sandwich; Steamed Carrots; Chilled Fruit Cocktail; Cherry Cobbler

School Briefs

Lawmaker school

Carrboro High School sophomore Lindsay Scott Barton has been selected to attend the Legislators' School for Youth Leadership at Western Carolina University.

The one-week residential program for selected rising eighth-through 11th-grade students utilizes the resources of Western Carolina University and the setting adjacent to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Students will participate in leadership-skills training, outdoor recreation, educational sessions and community-service work.

School concerts

Several high school theater and music groups will perform concerts over the next week:

• Carrboro High School will hold its spring theater showcase tonight (Thursday). The showcase will start at 7 p.m. in the Carrboro High Café Commons.

• The East Chapel Hill High School chorus will present its spring concert tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 in the Main Stage Auditorium. The concert will feature performances by the concert and show choirs, treble and east ensembles, East Men, Alley Cats and Chiefs of Staff. Admission is \$5.

• The East Chapel Hill High Band Concert will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Stage Auditorium. More than 150 students will perform music from the movies, swing tunes and band classics. Tickets are \$5.

• The East Chapel Hill High orchestra will perform a concert on May 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Stage Auditorium. The performance will feature the premiere of a trumpet concerto written by Chapel Hill composer Roger Petich for Paul Neebe, who will perform with the string orchestra, as well as a composition by senior Maya Coleman. Admission is \$5.

Safe schools talk

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will host a Safe Schools Roundtable on June 3 at 7 p.m. in the Smith Middle School Auditorium.



PHOTO BY LUCY BUTCHER

From left to right: Zach Dauer, Philip Jurov and Lilli Manis attend Chapel Hill High's Vegas-themed prom at the Sheraton Hotel Saturday.

The event will provide an opportunity for district administrators to share information about school-safety initiatives and to hear from parents about their school-safety concerns.

High school talk

The Carrboro High School Parent Teacher Student Association will hold a meeting on June 3 for rising ninth-grade parents to learn about the organization and various volunteer opportunities.

Open volunteer positions include vice president, grocery certificate leader, hospitality leader/helper, membership leader, printed newsletter helper, parent representatives, school directory helper, Special Needs Advisory Committee representative and volunteer coordinator.

The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Carrboro High media center. For more information, contact Mitch Strobin at mpstrobin@aol.com.

CHS concert

The Carrboro High School chorus and orchestra will perform a concert on May 29 at 7 p.m.

The performance will include music from *The Phantom of the Opera* as well Telemann's *Don Quixote Suite* and Russian folk music.

Donations of \$5 per adult are welcomed. The concert will be held at Culbreth Middle School.

Young leader

Cedar Ridge High School sophomore Noah Decker will attend the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C. this summer.

Students are selected to attend the conference based on their scholastic merit and demonstrated leadership abilities. The conference is aimed at providing talented high school students with the opportunity to witness history in the making and meet the leaders who fundamentally affect the workings of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the federal government.

Decker is interested in domestic policy, in particular the economy and the environment, and hopes the conference will

give him some guidance for his future career path.

New principals

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education has named two new principals.

The board appointed Minnie Goins as principal of Glenwood Elementary School. She has served as Glenwood's interim principal since November, when former principal Amy Rickard was named principal at Morris Grove Elementary School. From 2004 to 2007, Goins served as Glenwood's assistant principal. She is a graduate of the North Carolina Principal Fellows Program and holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from North Carolina Central University and a master's degree in school administration from UNC.

The board also appointed Amanda Crisp as the principal of McDougle Elementary School. Crisp has served as the assistant principal of Carrboro Elementary School for the past two years. Previously, she worked as the technology director for Cherokee

County Schools and the technology facilitator for the Burlington-Alamance County Schools. She holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from UNC and a master's degree in administration and supervision and curriculum and instruction from Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee.

LoFrese appointed

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education has appointed C. Todd LoFrese as the assistant superintendent for support services.

LoFrese will replace Steve Scroggs, who will retire May 30. LoFrese has served as assistant superintendent of schools in Watertown, Conn. since 2003. Previously, he worked as a business manager for the Connecticut Trade Company and as general manager of Metalguard, Inc.

He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Cornell University, a master's of business administration from Baker College and a certificate of administration from Sacred Heart University.

Calendar

May 26

Memorial Day Holiday

June 4-10

High School Exams

June 10

Last day of classes/exams for all students

June 14

East Chapel Hill High School Graduation 9 a.m.
Chapel Hill High School Graduation 2 p.m.
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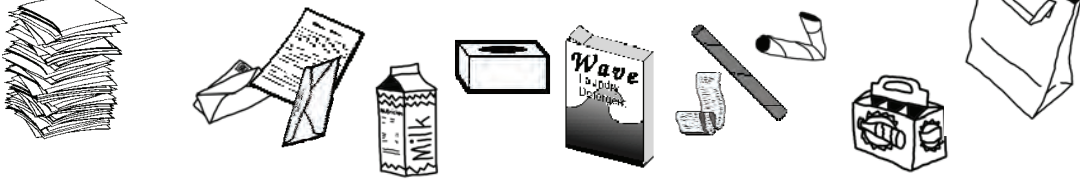


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6	9	8	3	5	4	7	2	1
2	6	7	1	9	8	4	3	5
9	4	3	7	6	5	8	1	2
8	1	5	4	3	2	9	7	6

CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER:
Character is not joining in when you're on the playground and all your friends are picking on the fat kid. Courage is walking over to that hoodlum with the fat kid. Mike Katz, author Doug Hsu

RECYCLING IS FUN

News Briefs

Tethering amendment draws crowd

Both supporters and opponents of a dog-tethering law amendment packed the house at a public hearing before the Orange County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday.

The commissioners postponed a decision regarding the amendment, saying they needed more time to consider the feedback provided during the public hearing.

Under the amendment, dogs could be tethered for a total of no more than three hours during a 24-hour period using a tethering device at least 10 feet in length and attached to prevent strangulation or other injury to the dog. In addition, the tethering device could not exceed 10 percent of the dog's body weight and dogs must have access to food, water and shelter while tethered.

The proposed amendment also includes a minimum requirement for kennel size, depending on the size of the dog. Certain organized animal functions, such as hunting events, would be exempt from the proposed restrictions.

Opponents of the restrictions argue that tethering should be considered on a case-by-case basis and that animal neglect can occur under any circumstance. Supporters maintain that dogs should never be tethered.

The board will review the amendment again at a meeting on June 3.

County plan

The Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing regarding the county's proposed Comprehensive Plan on Monday.

County residents are invited to provide feedback regarding the proposed plan to the Orange County Planning Board through mid-June.

The plan is available online at www.co.orange.nc.us/planning/DRAFTCOMPLAN050608.asp.

Rabid animals

Two rabid raccoons and one rabid bat were found in Orange County. One raccoon was found Friday, May 16 near NC 54 and Dodson's Crossroads in Chapel Hill. The bat was found Saturday, May 17 on NC 86 north of I-40. The second raccoon was found Sunday, May 18 near Burton Road and NC 86.

North Carolina law requires that an unvaccinated dog or cat reasonably suspected of being exposed to the rabies virus be either quarantined for six months or destroyed. If a vaccinated animal is exposed to rabies, it must receive a booster shot within 72 hours of exposure. In the first of these cases, the dog did not receive a booster shot within 72 hours and so must either be euthanized or quarantined. In the third, the dog was not vaccinated and was euthanized. Animal Services director Bob Marotto reminds pet owners, "Ensuring that cats as well as dogs are current on their rabies vaccinations is one of the most important responsibilities of a pet owner."

These are the seventh, eighth and ninth positive rabies tests for Orange County in 2008 and the fourth, fifth and sixth positives for the month of May. The county will offer four low-cost vaccination clinics in June. See page four for clinic dates.

Pet fees

Orange County Animal Control is raising the prices on several fees this July. Fees for mistreatment, failure to license a pet and failure to vaccinate against rabies have been increased to \$200. Fees for public-nuisance violations have been doubled. The Animal Control Division says the fees only affect pet owners who violate county animal ordinances and do not comply once notified, and that the fee increase is the first in over a decade. They say the fee increase will encourage people to meet the demands of the law and improve public safety.

Hearing set for taco truck rules

by Kirk Ross
Staff Writer

At its meeting Tuesday night at Town Hall, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen set a public hearing for June 24 on a proposed amendment to the town's land-use plan as a result of the controversy raised earlier this year over taco trucks downtown.

After an anonymous complaint in January, the town sent landowners warnings that the trucks using their properties violate zoning rules. But citing concerns about the rules as drafted, town officials decided not to follow up with the next steps in zoning violation cases.

The board of aldermen, many of whom said they

support having the vendors, asked for a review of the zoning rules for the trucks. The current rules were drafted in the early 1980s in response to the creation of the Carrboro Farmers' Market.

The new rules would create an official definition for "mobile food vendors" and define the permitted size, signage, hours and use of the operations. Vendors also would be required to get a zoning permit.

In other action Tuesday, the board agreed to a traffic-calming plan for Simpson Street that includes the installation of two speed tables at a cost of between \$4,500 and \$5,000.

The board also appointed Tom Mullen and Lynn

Weller to the Environmental Advisory Board; reappointed Linda Bowerman to be Carrboro's representative on the Orange County Solid Waste Advisory Board; reappointed Chuck Morton, Wendy Wenk and Tom Wiltberger to the Appearance Commission/Neighborhood Preservation District Commission; and established the membership of the town's new Local Living Economy Task Force. The members of the task force are Robert Dickson, Victor Jimenez, Gary Kramling, Margot Lester, Peter Lee, Jennifer McMillan, Sammy Slade and Chuck Willingham. Aldermen Dan Coleman and Rande Haven O'Donnell will represent the board of aldermen on the task force.

Public hearing on the budget Tuesday night

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen has scheduled a public hearing for Tuesday on the town's 2008-2009 budget.

The hearing begins at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall. The agenda is available on the town's website.

A copy of Town Manager Steve Stewart's proposed \$18,476,375 budget is also available on the site at the town government link.

With property-tax revenues growing more slowly and lower sales-tax revenues projected, Stewart is recommending that the town raise property taxes 3.23 cents, putting the total tax rate at 68.60 cents per \$100 of assessed value. For the owner of a \$200,000 home, the increase would be about \$65.

Mayor Mark Chilton said the budget is very bare bones this year. Stewart is proposing only a few items in his expansion budget — a \$260,000 installment for the Weaver Street reconstruction project, \$13,230 for tennis court resurfacing at Wilson Park and \$10,500 for dog park fence renovations at Anderson Park.

Given a slowing economy and lower revenues, Chilton said the town is trying to squeeze the budget just to stay on track.

"We're really trying to keep it to just the status quo," he said, adding that feedback this year has been somewhat quiet.

"I haven't heard any backlash," he said. "I have heard concerns, but they are more about the total tax picture."

Orange County officials are eyeing an almost nine-cent increase in property taxes and more than two cents in the school district tax (see story page one).

— Kirk Ross

TRANSFER FROM PAGE 1

Protected sites of historical, archeological or cultural significance will be excluded from the search. Also excluded are sites with protected watersheds, wetlands and flood plains or endangered and protected flora and fauna; those with steep topographies; and sites with county-owned lands or easements designated for preservation.

Once a list of potential sites is assembled, technical criteria will be established and weighed. Technical criteria typically include such considerations as traffic compatibility, room to expand and access to utilities.

The potential sites on that list will then be ranked and the number narrowed to a final list. At that point, community-specific criteria — which include environmental justice concerns — will be taken into consideration.

Those remaining sites will then be ranked, further public input solicited and a

final ranking established. The board of commissioners is scheduled to make its decision in November.

Last spring, the board voted to site the transfer station on Eubanks Road, then in November announced it was reopening the search, though Eubanks remains under consideration.

Members of the citizen's group Coalition to End Environmental Racism (CEER) have argued that Eubanks Road should be taken out of consideration as a potential transfer station site under federally established principles of environmental justice. Eubanks has been the site of the Orange County Landfill for more than 35 years.

During Tuesday night's work session, Rev. Robert Campbell of CEER again asked that the Eubanks site be removed from consideration.

(A Carrboro Citizen series on the Rogers-Eubanks community and environmental justice is at www.carrborocitizen.com/main/rogers-road.)

TAX RATE FROM PAGE 1

"We really need to do something to stimulate our economic growth," Blackmon said, adding that homeowners pay about 70 percent of the county's general fund revenue.

Blackmon said she is looking at programs and services to cut in order to minimize the tax increase.

"I think that [cutting services] is one thing that the board is going to have to consider," she said.

The Board of County Commissioners will hold public hearings regarding the budget on May 27 at the F. Gordon Battle Courtroom in Hillsborough and on May 29 at the Southern Human Services Center in Chapel Hill. Both public hearings will start at 7:30 p.m.

The board will consider the proposed budget at several work sessions in June and will adopt the county budget on June 24.

OBITUARY

Walter Royall Davis

Walter Royall Davis died Monday, May 20, 2008. He was 88 years old and had been in declining health for a number of years.

He was a major benefactor the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Davis library is named for him for his great influence in its funding.

Davis is survived by his wife, JoAnn; children Melba Davis Whatley, George Davis, Mary Ann Davis Eubanks, Eva Emelio and Mitch Davis; 9 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Institute, UNC, CB#7295, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 or the Walter Davis Library at UNC-CH.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, May 23, 2008 at Chapel of The Cross Episcopal Church in Chapel Hill, NC with a reception following the service at the church.

Solid Waste Services Memorial Day Schedule

NO CHANGE in Recycling Services.



Curbside recycling will be collected Monday, May 26 as regularly scheduled.

Please have your bins out by 7:00am!

The Orange County Landfill will be CLOSED on Monday, May 26.

All other landfill services including hazardous waste collection and mulch sales will be closed.

The landfill and all other services will reopen Tuesday May 27.

Orange County Solid Waste Convenience Centers will be CLOSED May 26.

Normal operating hours will resume Tuesday May 27.

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L&T Briefs

BURRITO BASH

The Pittsboro General Store Café will host a Burrito Bash from 6 to 9 p.m. on Monday, June 9 to benefit ChathamArts and the Chatham Artists Guild. The Shelbys provide live music for dancing. A live auction will include works by local artists. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$12 if bought early from the ChathamArts Gallery or at Bluebirds and Hollyhocks in Ferrington Village. For more information, call 542-0394.

PASTURE POTLUCK

Ayrshire Farm will be the site of a party and potluck on Sunday, June 29. "Potluck in a Pasture," organized by ChathamArts, will bring visitors and their favorite dishes, made with all local ingredients, to the oldest certified organic farm in the state for dining, music and community. Featured performers and speakers are bluegrass musician Susan Ketchin, singer Sarah Shook, mural artist Erick Davis, woodworker Diane Swan and publishers Dave Korzon and Elizabeth Oliver. Farm owner Bill Dow will lead a tour of the farm.

Visitors should bring a potluck dish for eight including at least one locally grown ingredient, along with their recipe, beverages, lawn chairs and blankets. ChathamArts will accept donations. Ayrshire Farm is located on Friendly Pooch Lane off the Jay Shambley Road, south of U.S. 64. Call 219.9840 for details about directions or the farm.

Another Potluck in a Pasture event is planned for Sunday, September 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Jordan Lake Farm near Martha's Chapel.

BOLIN CREEK MEET

Learn what's happening to repair and protect Bolin Creek tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 p.m. at the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center on Homestead Road. Stream ecologist Trish D'Arconte of the Town of Chapel Hill Stormwater Management Division will discuss plans regarding the creek. The event is sponsored by the Friends of Bolin Creek.

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SATURDAY MARKET: 7 a.m. - Noon

What's at Market?

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STRAWBERRIES, asparagus, greenhouse tomatoes, greenhouse cucumbers, collards, green onions, green garlic, radishes, carrots, kohlrabe, pac choy, cauliflower, turnips, beets, sweet potatoes, chard, kale, spinach, lettuce, arugula, mustard greens, vegetable and flower starters, irises, poppies, bachelor buttons, larkspur, lilies, and many more flowers, baked goods (including vegan and gluten free options), breads, jams, wines, grass fed beef, pastured pork, pastured chicken, grass fed lamb, buffalo, sausage, chorizo, ground bison, raw milk cheeses, smoked cheeses, goat cheese, jams, jellies, pottery, hats, rugs, and more!

Recipe of the week

SIMPLE SAUTÉED KOHLRABI Serves 2 - 3

Recipe Provided by: Kelly Clark

Kohlrabi is a member of the cabbage family. Look for bulbs that are 3 inches in diameter or less, as a larger bulb can be woody. One pound of raw kohlrabi, leaves and all, yields 2 to 3 servings.

- 1 pound kohlrabi, leaves included
- 2 Tablespoons butter
- 3 Tablespoons olive oil
- 1/8 Cup water
- 1 Tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

Trim leaves from the bulbs, remove the stems, then pile the leaves on top of each other and roll them like a cigar. Shred the leaves in 1/4 inch slices across the roll. Set aside.

Peel and cut the root end off the bulbs using a sharp paring knife. Then cut the bulbs into 1/8 inch slices, stack the slices and cut into 1/8 inch matchsticks (julienne strips).

Put 1 Tablespoon each of the oil and butter in a frying pan over medium high heat. Add the leaves and toss to coat with the butter and oil. Add the water and sauté until the leaves are tender, but not mushy. Add the lemon juice, toss to incorporate, and then remove leaves to a serving dish and cover.

Return the pan to the heat, set at medium low and add the remaining butter and olive oil. When the butter has melted, add the kohlrabi sticks and stir and sauté until the kohlrabi is tender, and not too crunchy. Add salt and pepper to taste, pile on top of the leaves and serve immediately. Ingredients Available at Market



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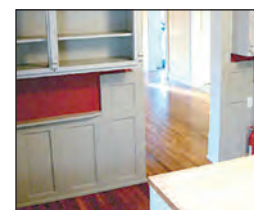
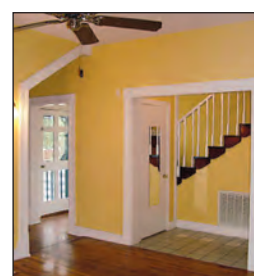
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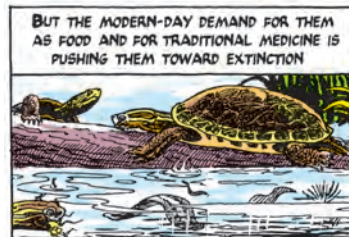
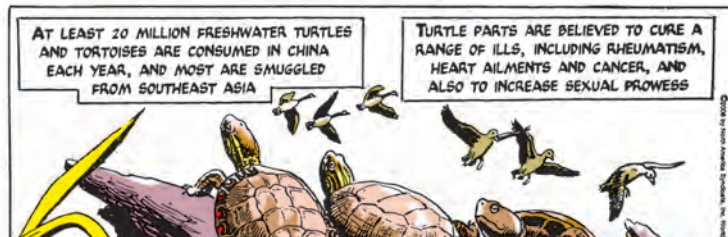
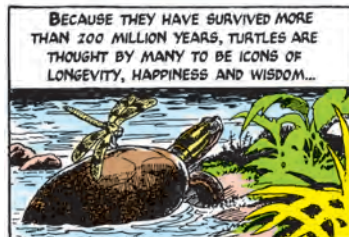
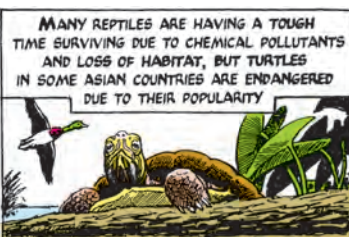
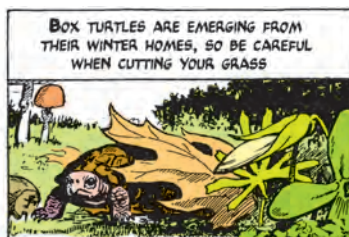
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FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

The name of this hugging-the-ground little pipe version is *Aristolochia serpentaria*, which goes by lots of common names. There are snakeroot, Virginia Snakeroot, Sampson's Snake-root, Diamondback Rattlesnake Root, Turpentine-root, Birthwort and Pelican Flower, among others from which you can choose.

Numerous herbal plant references describe various preparations of plant parts to treat snakebite wounds and fevers. There are countless other formulas for just about every imaginable injury and ailment.

There's a humorous account of Snakeroot in *Paul Green's Plant Book*:

"There's a common belief that the Virginia variety, which also grows in the Valley, is especially good for increasing man's sexual powers. I know of one case where the man and his wife were married several years and snakeroot was recommended by an old neighbor. The man ate great quantities of it. In fact, he said, 'I've et so much of that stuff I plumb foam at the mouth.' Anyway, his wife had twins born to her, and so they never tired of recommending this to their friends."

Paul Green adapted this tale into his play *The Founders*.

It is noteworthy that all of the descriptions of these herbal remedies



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE
The little flower and flower bud of snakeroot resemble Sherlock Holmes' pipe.

warn that because of the plant's poisonous qualities, great caution must accompany use. So don't even think of trying any of these remedies! But do enjoy going out in search for this unusual plant. Just to see it!

Include young people on your walk. Show them the picture of the leaves. They are more likely than adults to discover the plant. Don't forget a magnifier for that close-up view.

OWASA plans rate hike

by Kirk Ross
Staff Writer

The good news coming from the Orange Water and Sewer Authority is not only that the reservoirs are nearing capacity but that conservation practices among the utility's customers continue even though the more stringent rules have been lifted.

The bad news, though, is that less water use has opened up a hole in the OWASA budget that likely will require a hefty rate increase.

OWASA's board of directors is scheduled to review a plan tonight (Thursday) that would raise rates by an average of 24 percent. A typical residential bill for a customer using 5,000 gallons would rise from \$58.18 to \$72.69, a jump of almost 25 percent.

OWASA executive director Ed Kerwin told the Carrboro Board of Aldermen Tuesday night that he is expecting a deficit of close to \$1.5 million for next year.

All things considered, Kerwin said, "I'd rather run out of money than run out of water."

Because of the shortfall, Kerwin said the utility has enacted a series of budget cuts that include a hiring freeze on open positions.

While an estimated drop in water use of around 13 percent is a major factor in the revenue

drop, a 60 percent reduction in hookup fees due to a slowdown in new-home construction is also contributing to a reduction in revenue.

To cut costs, the utility has delayed some of its plans for meter and infrastructure upgrades. OWASA will, however, move forward with a project delayed last year to reduce odors from its Mason Farm treatment plant.

OWASA plans to hold a public hearing on the budget and the proposed rate increase on June 12.

Also on Thursday night, with reservoirs officially at 85 percent of capacity and May rainfall expected to be higher than average, the OWASA board is scheduled to consider lifting its Stage One Water restrictions.



WATER WATCH
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

LAKE LEVELS
UNIVERSITY LAKE: Full
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR:
3' 7" below full

PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH
JONES FERRY WATER
TREATMENT PLANT: 3.81"
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 3.24"

CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND
Past 7 days (average): 6.511 million gallons
Past 30 days (average): 6.710 million gallons

ESTIMATED WATER SUPPLY REMAINING: 450 days (about 15 months), based on average demand in the last 30 days and assuming no further rainfall.

[tip]:

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PRE-OWNED MEGA-CENTER

<p>2002 Ford Escape XLT 4x4\$8500 Stk #W2604A, V6, auto, 6 Disc cd, leather, step bars, excellent condition, 128K mi.</p> <p>2002 Saturn LW300 Wagon\$8950 Stk #P15780A, auto, leather, chrome whls, and more! 68K mi.</p> <p>2003 Mercury Sable LS Premium Wagon\$9900 Stk #P15713, 24V/V6, auto, cass, cd changer, leather hnd seats, 3rd rear facing seat, power/ABS, traction control, side impact air bags, 68K mi.</p> <p>2002 Ford F-150 Super Cab XLT\$10,900 Stk #W2105A, 4.8L V8, auto, cd, hnd seats, bed liner, local trade in, excellent condition, 95K mi.</p>	<p>2006 Ford Taurus SEL\$12,900 Stk #P1877, equipped with leather seats, cd, moon roof, power/ABS, and more! 22K mi.</p> <p>2006 Nissan Sentra\$12,900 Stk #P18309, 4 cyl., auto, a/c, front airbags, cd, 23K mi.</p> <p>2004 Jeep LibertySOLD Stk #Z775A, V6, auto, 6 Disc cd, leather, power windows, 17" wheels, 60K mi.</p> <p>2004 Mazda 3 4-Door Hatchback\$14,900 Stk #P15777, 4 cyl., auto, leather, 6 Disc cd changer, moon roof, and 17" Wheels, 33K mi.</p> <p>2006 Dodge Grand Caravan SE\$14,900 Stk #P18320, V6, auto, a/c, 3rd row seats, cruise, tilt, p/winds seat, p/winds/lks, cd changer, DVD, 39K mi.</p>	<p>2008 Dodge Avenger\$15,500 Stk #P18124, 4 cyl., auto, moon roof, side impact airbags, 22K mi.</p> <p>2007 Ford Freestar SEL\$15,900 Stk #P18183, 4.2L V6, auto, cd, power driver seat, rear a/c, cruise control, and more! 48K mi.</p> <p>2005 Nissan Altima\$16,900 Stk #P16341, 4 cyl., auto, a/c, p/winds/lks, sunroof, keyless entry, Bose 6-disc cd changer, 37K mi.</p> <p>2006 Ford Five Hundred SEL\$16,900 Stk #P15638, well equipped with power driver/passenger leather seats, moon roof, 6 Disc CD, and more! 19K mi.</p> <p>2007 Mitsubishi Eclipse\$17,900 Stk #P18300, 4 cyl., 2.4, auto, a/c, sunroof, tinted glass, remote trunk, 28K mi.</p>	<p>2007 Chrysler 300 Touring\$21,900 Stk #P18091, V6, power driver/passenger hnd leather seats, power/ABS, cd, and more! 15K mi.</p> <p>2003 Ford ThunderbirdSOLD Stk #P15779A, V6, leather, 6 Disc cd, leather, power windows, and more! 44K mi.</p> <p>2005 Toyota Solara SLE Convertible\$22,900 Stk #P15848, V6, auto, 6 Disc cd, leather, and more! 33K mi.</p> <p>2005 Nissan Pathfinder LE\$24,900 Stk #P16343, 6 cyl., auto, a/c, leather, Bose 6 cd changer, 45K mi.</p>	<p>2006 Ford F-150 Super Cab Lariat 4x4\$24,900 Stk #W2157A, one owner, 5.4L V8, auto, leather, 6 Disc cd, moon roof, chrome step bars, remote start, and more! 23K mi.</p> <p>2007 Ford Edge SEL\$26,900 Stk #P15781, V6, auto, power driver/passenger hnd leather seats, panoramic moon roof, and more! 17K mi.</p> <p>2007 Nissan Maxima SL\$27,900 Stk #P16338, V6, auto, a/c, p/winds/lks, cruise, tilt, p/winds/pass seat, leather, moonroof, Bose cd changer, p/winds/lks, 12K mi.</p> <p>2006 Ford F-350 Lariat Crew Cab Dually 4x4\$37,900 Stk #P15883, 6.0L diesel, auto, one owner, power driver/passenger leather hnd seats, camper shell, and slide out leader! 34K mi.</p>
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UNIVERSITY Ford CHAPEL HILL

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General Manager Joe Wiedholz

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