



FRIDAY
40% Chance
of T-storms
85/61



SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
85/61



SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
85/63

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Single flower of Himalaya-berry is worth a search in your wild garden and along roadsides.

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Himalaya-berry, as pretty as any rose

You may remember the description in this column three weeks ago of the common wild blackberry, *Rubus argutus*, in full flower during our traditional blackberry winter. Coming into full flower this week is another one of those wild blackberries. This one, *Rubus discolor*, Himalaya-berry, bears a flowering branch of quarter-to-half-dollar-size, single-petaled, pale-pink flowers, as pretty as any rose, and it's running loose in and around Carrboro. It is an "alien blackberry" because it was introduced from Europe long ago.

I know some of you are already thinking, "Oh, no; here comes another tirade about exotic invasives!" Surprise; I'm not concerned about this one. It can't come close to competing with the aggressive true native blackberries. This one is uncommon and worth a search in your wild garden and along roadsides and field edges in your neighborhood.

Keep your eyes alert for arching, thorny blackberry stems. The Himalaya-berry is not as densely flowering as the common ones. The white-to-pink flowers are borne on more loosely branching flowering stems. The undersides of the leaves are white and pubescent (fuzzy to the touch) in contrast to leaves of the common blackberries, which are green on both surfaces. While you're looking, notice that the leaves of the flowering branches, floricanes, have three leaflets and the leaves of the non-flowering stems, primocanes, have five leaflets, characteristic of all blackberries. Blackberry flowers and fruit are produced on the second-year stems (canes).

SEE **FLORA** PAGE 10

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Life in a glass house page 6

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Carrboro High supporters in full force at budget hearings

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

At last week's county budget hearing in Hillsborough and again Tuesday night at the Southern Human Services Center in Chapel Hill, the color purple and the plans for a new arts wing at Carrboro High School were on display.

Wearing Jaguar purple T-shirts with "Build It Now" emblazoned on the front and architectural plans for the new wing on the back, speaker after speaker, many of them students, filed up to the microphone to voice support of the project.

Students described how the school's bands and theater department had to make do. The band often practices in the school's weight room because the classroom it's

based in is too small. Theater performances are off-site at Culbreth Middle School.

Sophomore Elliot Darrow said the status quo was frustrating to students, parents and teachers alike.

"I urge you to build it now, build it now, build it now," he said to the cheers of his classmates.

Several parents noted the facilities at Chapel Hill High and East Chapel Hill High and said that without an arts wing the high school is an incomplete facility. To save money on the initial construction cost, the school was built without an arts wing. The entryway to the proposed wing is on the right of the school's main entrance.



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

In case you're wondering what the plans for the proposed arts wing look like . . .

SEE **COUNTY** PAGE 4

Epic from an inkwell

RECENTLY . . .

By Valerie Schwartz

Chapel Hill became a mainstay for Kevin Dixon long before he moved to the area in 1983 at age 18, though he was not born here. His mother, artist Beverly Dixon, was raised in Chapel Hill. She met Kent Dixon at UNC and they married then moved to Baltimore, where he studied medicine at Johns Hopkins (until discovering that he couldn't stand the sight of blood) and Kevin was born. They moved to Iowa City, Iowa, where Kent began teaching creative writing, and two years after Kevin, his brother, Laird, was born.

Kevin and Laird grew up in a home where imagination and creativity were put to constant use.

"I was always drawing," Kevin said. He thinks he was about 8 years old the first time he saw a 1930s vintage "Adventures of Tintin" comic book at the Little Professor Bookshop in University Square, and he became forever hooked on comics. The (politically incorrect) Belgian-created books featured a pint-sized reporter who explored the world, providing a mystery that would be humorously solved.

"I had my own version that was named 'Zinc,'" Dixon said recently in his Chatham County home.

When he wasn't inking "Zinc," he and Laird would make up their own dramas.

"Laird and I had huge battle scenes with armies fighting. We'd draw and make up stories, providing sound effects." Those sputtering, whistling, fighting sounds that only boys can make. "You knew you were really into one when it was covered in spit from all our noises."

After years of living with his father in California and Ohio following his parent's divorce, Kevin moved to Chapel Hill to be close to his mom and also attend UNC. He additionally did other Chapel Hill things, like odd jobs (working in copy shops), playing in bands and "doing my art." He played guitar in the much-loved Zen Frisbee, with Dex Romwebber in the New Romans (a band that was started to pay for a friend's dental bills) and, most recently, Bringerer. He also plays keyboards and bass.

Among the contrived wars, spit and rock and roll, a little love must come. In 2000, Kevin met Brenda Wichmann on a soccer field.



PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Kevin Dixon, who has been cartooning since childhood, will debut a fourth edition of *Gilgamesh* in New York City on June 6.

"I had been in a longstanding pick-up soccer game at Frank Porter Graham every Sunday for at least 10 years. We called ourselves the Hangover League," Dixon said.

One Sunday, Wichmann was there and Dixon thought, she's cute and she knows how to play. Then, "I had the ball. She executed a legal shoulder charge at me . . . and I was smitten." They were married at Topsail Beach in 2005 during the same weekend as Hurricane Katrina.

All the while, Dixon has put his wit, ink and creativity to use originating comic books, including "Mkele Mbembe," "Originals," "And Then There Was Rock," "Mickey Death" (a series in collaboration with Eric Knisley) and the "Gilgamesh" series, which will debut its fourth volume at the MoCCA (Museum of Cartoons and Comics Art) Festival in New York City on June 6 and 7.

Kevin said his father regularly suggests topics for their possible collaboration, none of which interested him until mention of the oldest story known

to man — which Kent used to read to Kevin when he was a boy. The first edition, which is based on a translation from the first tablet, creatively twisted by Kent and Kevin and illustrated by Kevin, was published in 2006.

Apparently, the hardest part of the process for Kevin is finding ways to keep the costs down — after all, these are comic books.

"I paid a dime or so — less than a quarter as a kid," he said. He has to sell them via Facebook or the back of his car to keep them available for \$8 each. Most stores demand 50 percent of sale price, which leaves his profit near what he paid for his "Popeye," "Crazy Cat" and "Pogo" comics back in the day.

He still works the odd jobs (house painting, yard work) to make ends meet, and sells oil paintings and sculpture molds.

"Each year, I'm making a little more, almost justifying the time spent doing it," he said.

Contact Valerie Schwartz at 923-3746 or valariekays@mac.com

High school principals chosen

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education appointed principals for Chapel Hill and East Chapel Hill high schools last week.

Board members named Eileen Tully, principal of Phillips Middle School, as principal of East Chapel Hill High School and Jesse Dingle, a staff member at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, as principal of Chapel Hill High School.

Tully has been principal at Phillips since 2004 and previously was assistant principal at two middle schools in Roanoke, Va.

"I'm looking forward to joining such a fabulous school community," she said.

Tully added that because the vast majority of Phillips students move on to East Chapel Hill High, she will already know many of her students.

"I'm familiar with about half the student body and the parents already, so that is marvelous," she said. "I'm really excited to be able to continue my relationship with the Phillips community."

However, she added, she will miss her work at Phillips.

"I'm very excited about the personal and professional growth I will have by moving to high school, but certainly there's something very exciting and energizing about middle schoolers, and I'll miss that," she said.

Tully holds a bachelor's degree in education from Virginia Tech and a master's degree in school administration from the University of Virginia.

She replaces Dave Thaden, who will retire at the end of the school year after serving as the sole principal at East Chapel Hill High since it opened in 1996.

SEE **PRINCIPALS** PAGE 7

UNC officials monitoring H1N1 case, possible exposures

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — A health-care worker with what was described as a mild case of H1N1 — the so-called "swine flu" — has fully recovered after being voluntarily quarantined in her Orange County home.

Meanwhile, UNC Health Care officials are closely monitoring 17 patients who may have been exposed to the disease at the Durham pediatrics clinic run by UNC where she worked.

Late on Friday, UNC confirmed that an employee at its Highgate Family Medical Center had a confirmed case of H1N1. The clinic is near the intersection of Fayetteville Road and N.C. 54.

Orange County Health Director Rosemary Summers confirmed that the worker was in voluntary quarantine. The county and UNC have both declined to release the employee's name citing pa-

tient confidentiality rules.

Dr. David Weber, medical director of hospital epidemiology, said that since Friday's announcement one of the children who had been treated at the clinic had become ill but had tested negative for H1N1. Test results on two other children who became ill are pending.

In all, 17 children and eight clinic employees were in close enough contact with the employee to be considered at-risk. Eight of the children fit that description — four of the children were less than 5 years old and four less than a year old.

The eight clinic employees were all offered anti-viral medicine. According to Centers for Disease Control guidelines, children under 5 at risk of exposure should receive anti-viral medicine. Weber said the children were receiving prophylaxis. Parents and others in the waiting room also were informed about the possible exposure and asked to report symptoms.

None of the clinic workers shows any symptoms of the flu, and they are all past the flu's incubation period, Weber said.

Based on conversations with the clinic worker, UNC Health Care now believes she contracted the disease in New York City, Weber said.

Although no contact between the health care worker and someone known to have H1N1 has been confirmed, Weber said, the clinic worker recently had returned from a visit to the city, which has closed dozens of schools after reporting more than 330 confirmed cases.

In all, there have been 13 confirmed H1N1 cases in North Carolina. The clinic worker is the only confirmed case in Orange County.

The Citizen will continue to update this story on its website at carrborocitizen.com/main

Community Briefs

Community garden ribbon cutting

The Orange County Partnership for Young Children will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its James Street community garden on Saturday at 10 a.m.

The James Street garden, located on a Duke Energy easement, will serve approximately 25 families, mostly affiliated with local churches. They will receive assistance in growing and harvesting fruits and vegetables and information on healthy food preparation.

The garden is the third community garden started through the Growing Healthy Kids Program, which is part of the Partnership's Healthy Kids Campaign.

Volunteers needed for July 4

The Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department seeks volunteers to assist with its July 4 celebration.

Volunteers are needed to help with tasks that include children's activities, T-shirt and raffle ticket sales, providing information to festival goers, loading and unloading equipment at the stage, litter pick-up and recycling and hospitality.

The event will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, contact Carrboro Recreation and Parks at 918-7364.

Burrito Bash

This month's Burrito Bash fundraiser on Tuesday at the General Store in Pittsboro promises to be a drag.

The event, hosted by the Chatham County Artists Guild and the Abundance Foundation, is calling on all local drag queens and kings to come out to support the Abundance Foundation's efforts to increase awareness of sustainable energy and local food.

The event will be from 6 to 9 p.m. and features music by guitarist Joey Howell, a drag queen show and both a silent auction and live auction.

Community Calendar

FRIDAY, MAY 29

Book Sale — The Friends of the Chapel Hill Public Library will sponsor a quarterly book sale. 4-7pm Friday, Friends members only (can join at the door), open to the public 9am-4pm Saturday and 1-4pm Sunday, Chapel Hill Public Library

Alumni Basketball Game — The Central Community Band Booster Club will present a fundraising alumni basketball game between Chapel Hill alumni and Hillsborough alumni. 7pm, Hillsborough Elementary School, 402 N. Nash St., Hillsborough. \$5

SATURDAY, MAY 30

Fundraising Auction — Bynum Front Porch, a nonprofit community organization, will hold a fundraising auction with live bluegrass music to help support programming and fund two scholarships for Chatham County high school seniors. 5pm, Bynum General Store

SUNDAY, MAY 31

Australian Landscapes — Denise Lawungkurr Goodfellow, natural history guide and biological consultant, will give a lecture, "Transformation in Australian Wetland Landscapes: A Story of Exotic Invasive Species." 3pm, N.C. Botanical Garden's Totten Center. Free and open to the public. 962-0522 to reserve a seat

Youth Triathlon — The Swim for Smiles Foundation will hold the third annual Youth Triathlon to benefit the N.C. Children's Hospital with two courses designed to accommodate kids ages 6-18. 8am, Chapel Hill Country Club. swimforsmiles.org

Congo Talk — Heather Davis, a member of the UNC Department of Epidemiology, will discuss the health and political situation in the Congo. 5pm, CHICLE, 101 E. Weaver St., Suite G-1. 933-0398, chi-cle.com

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

Home Ownership Info — Empowerment, Orange Community Housing and Land Trust and Orange County Habitat for Humanity will offer home ownership information sessions. Noon, Chapel Hill Transit, 6900 Millhouse Road and 5:30pm, Hargraves Center, 216 N. Roberson St. RSVP 210-7516 or julielahwhorn@hotmail.com

Food Preservation — Putting Food By, the first in a two-part class on food preservation, will be offered 10am and 6pm, Agriculture Building, Chatham County Cooperative Extension Service, Pittsboro. \$20.

For registration information, contact Phyllis Smith at 542-8202

Burrito Bash — The Chaham County Artists Guild and the Abundance Foundation will host a Burrito Bash and live drag queen show to benefit the local arts community and sustainability movement. 6-9pm, General Store Cafe, downtown Pittsboro. \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door: 533-5181, theabundancefoundation.org/drag-burrito-bash

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

Sewage Sludge Talk — The Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League and the Center for Health and Environment and Justice will host a public meeting about the risks associated with spreading sewage sludge from wastewater treatment plants on farmlands. 7-9pm, Cane Creek Baptist Church Activity Center, 6901 Orange Grove Road, Hillsborough. (336) 525-2003, sdayton@swcp.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Writing Workshop — Nancy Peacock, author of *A Broom of One's Own*, will lead a workshop, Prompt Writing. Participants should bring a pen and paper. 10am-12:30pm, Chapel Hill Public Library Conference Room. hestia7@bellsouth.net

Youth Fishing Rodeo — Orange County and Carrboro Recreation and Parks and Orange County Cooperative Extension 4-H will offer a free Youth Fishing Rodeo for kids ages 3-15. 9am-noon, Bob Strayhorn's Pond off New Hope Church Road. 245-2660

Walk Hillsborough — The eighth annual Walkable Hillsborough Day will feature an informational walk along the trails at Gold Park and a bike ride led by the Carolina Tarwheels. 9am walk, 8:30am bike ride, Gold Park, 415 Dimmocks Mill Road, Hillsborough

Garden Magic — The seventh annual Discovering Magic in the Garden event will feature nature-based, fun activities for families dressed in their most magical costumes. 10am-noon, N.C. Botanical Garden. \$10/family, \$5 garden members, preregistration required. 962-0522, ncbg.unc.edu

Car Show — Cruise-Ins with a Twist will feature cars from all eras of all makes and models. 1-4pm, The Shops at Daniel Boone, South Churton Street, Hillsborough. 245-3330, theshopsatdanielboone.com

Haw River Fundraiser — The Haw River Learning Celebration Hootenanny will feature Mickey Le Pew the Clown, storytelling and

music to benefit the Haw River Assembly Learning Celebration for schools. 5:30-9pm, Bynum General Store. \$5-15. 542-5790, jenna.schreiber@gmail.com

Ongoing



Cancer Support — Support groups for cancer patients and their families. cornucopiahouse.org

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

DivorceCare — Support group for those separated or divorced. Mondays, 7pm, Orange United Methodist Church. 942-2825, connect2orange.org

Garden Tour — Free tour of the N.C. Botanical Garden's display gardens. Saturdays, 10am, in front of the Totten Center at the garden. 962-0522, ncbg.unc.edu

Garden Walk — Niche Gardens hosts guided garden walks with discussions on spring planting, garden maintenance, design and gardening for wildlife. Saturdays, 10am, 1111 Dawson Road, Chapel Hill. Free. 967-0078, nichegardens.com

Job Search Meeting — A networking and support group for job hunters. Wednesdays, 9:30-11am, Binkley Baptist Church, 1712 Willow Drive. 942-4964

Open-Mike Poetry — Tuesdays except first Tuesday, 7-9pm, Looking Glass Cafe & Boutique, 601 W. Main St. 636-5809

Computer Classes — Free computer classes: Computer and Web Basics, Intro to Email, MS Word, Powerpoint, Excel, and an Open Project Workshop. Wednesdays through June 24, 7pm, Carrboro Cybrary, 100 N. Greensboro St. Registration required. 918-7387, cybrary@co.orange.nc.us, co.orange.nc.us/library/cybrary

Computer Classes — A free series of introductory computer classes with topics including Introduction to Microsoft Word, Introduction to Microsoft PowerPoint and Buying and Selling on Craig's List. Saturdays June 6-July 25, 9-10am, Carrboro Branch Library at McDougale School. Advance registration required. 969-3006, lib.unc.edu/cws

Kids

Toddler Time — Thursdays, 4pm, Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

Preschool Story Time — Saturdays, 10:30am, Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

Express Yourself! — Art program for ages 3-8 and their caregivers. Saturdays, 10:45-11:15am, 11:30am-noon, Kidzu Children's Museum, 105 E. Franklin St. \$2. 933-1455, kidzuchildrensmuseum.org

Garden Story Time — Children ages 3 to 5 and their caregivers are invited to come read theme-based nature tales and participate in activities in the garden. Thursdays through Aug. 27, 10-11am, N.C. Botanical Garden. \$5 per family. Preregister 962-0522, ncbg.unc.edu

Volunteers

RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program — Seeks volunteers at least 55 years of age and older who would like assistance in finding an opportunity that matches their interests. 968-2056, co.orange.nc.us/aging/RSVPIndex.asp

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

Orange County Literacy — Seeks volunteers to help with adult literacy, basic math and English language tutoring, creative writing workshops at local homeless shelters and family literacy workshops. New tutor training workshops every month. Skills Development Center, 503 W. Franklin St. 933-2151

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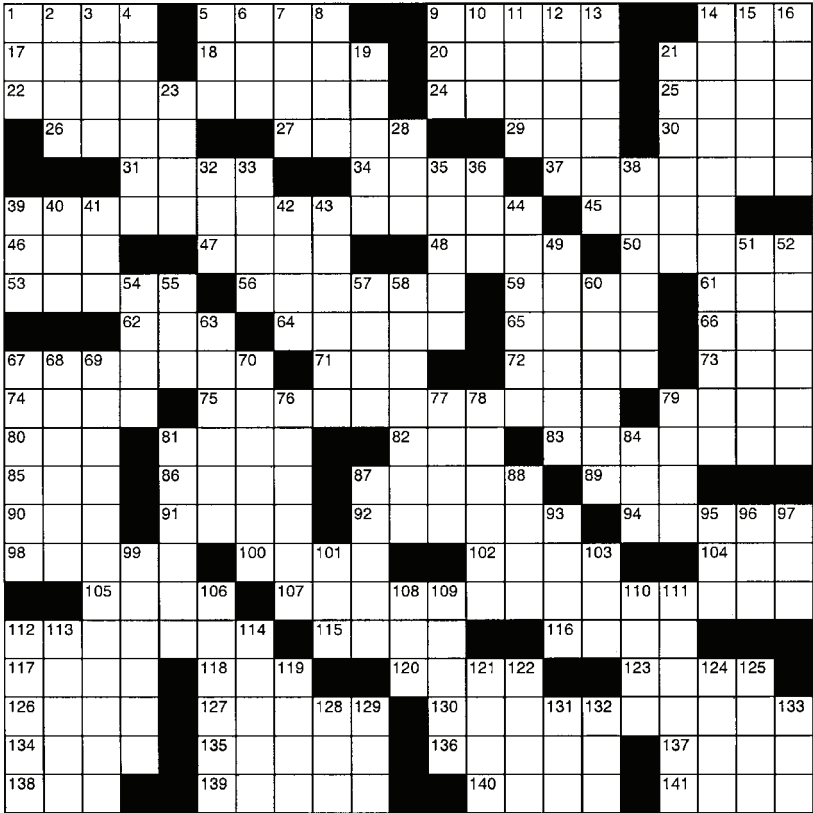
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- ACROSS 1 Ruth's husband 5 Approximately 9 Analyze a sentence 14 Postal abbr. 17 Tennis pro Nastase 18 Sri — 20 Humpback's home 21 Geometric figure 22 President who was a male model 24 Electrical inventor 25 Shortly 26 European capital 27 Part of Indonesia 29 Flat hat 30 It's good in a pinch 31 Adequate 34 "Picnic" playwright 37 '68 Tom Jones hit 39 President whose first language wasn't English 45 Alight 46 Out — limb 47 Debut recording 48 Shake — (hurry) 50 Trunk
- DOWN 1 Giant 2 Bread spread 3 Pretension 4 Fanatic 5 Word with hat or hand 6 Brit. fliers 7 Social climber 8 Creole veggie 9 Ample abdomen 10 "Stroker" — ('83 film) 11 Take five 12 Tuna con-coction 13 Pottery protection 14 President who worked as a life-guard 15 "— Gay" 16 Fractional amount 19 Improvise 21 Vegas place 23 Valhalla villain 28 Shiba — (Japanese dog) 32 Link 33 Monsieur Montand 35 Prepare the Parmesan 36 Sushi candidate 38 Foam
- 95 Spoiled 96 Quiche ingredient 97 Poe's "Annabel —" 99 Recognition 101 Zipper part 103 Jack of "Barney Miller" 106 Act like a duck 108 Kilmer or Bisogno 109 Persona 110 Serenade accompaniment 111 Actress Sanford 112 The Rolling Stones' Charlie 113 Japanese porcelain 114 Blender setting 119 Grumpy 120 "It's on the house" 121 Obligation 122 "Stage —" ('37 film) 124 Impolite 125 Kuwait's continent 128 "— live and breathe!" 129 Singer Joey 131 Genetic letters 132 Room for improvement? 133 Female fowl



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.

"Hard to Figure?"

H X U J T W S L X W R C K X
P U Y X N X U Y X U M X P U
E C H X U , F O S S L X W
Y C U ' S E T J S X T J X M C U Y
Y X H C R P J L P U A P S ,
F Z P M Q F W F Z P M Q . -
M T U Y T M X F X Z A X U ,
V R P M Q M L P M Q

Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★ ★ ★

★ Moderate ★ ★ Challenging
★ ★ ★ HOO BOY!

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PETS OF THE WEEK

PAWS4EVER

— **My name is Chloe!** I am an 11 year old Calitabby, and I am part of the office staff here at the APS adoption center, and if you've been here before, you've probably petted me a time or two. How about taking me home then, and stop toying with my emotions? Don't let my age be a distraction. My previous owner had to go overseas and thought the travel would not be good for me. I would love to find a home where I can sit on your lap and take a long nap. I love when people talk or sing to me. It makes me purr and give head butts. I really hate dogs I don't know, and am not afraid to show it. However, I have made peace with a few canine regulars around here, so I might be able to cope if necessary. As long as those darn dogs understand that I'm the real boss, and leave my calico tail (and the rest of me!) alone. Please come by the shelter and take a look, at Paws4Ever, 6311 Nicks Road, Mebane, or call 304-2300. You can also go online at paws4ever.org

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Meet Gracie! This gorgeous brown tabby girl is around 2 years old and super sweet! She loves to cuddle and will gladly sit in your lap all day if you let her! Gracie has been at the shelter waiting to find her forever home for several weeks, but that hasn't gotten her down! She's super easygoing and is just enjoying every cuddle session she gets while she waits patiently! If you are looking for a laid-back girl who knows how to relax and enjoy the simple things in life, Gracie might just be the girl for you! Visit Orange County's Animal Services Center, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill or call 942-PETS . You can also see her online at co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp

Please visit us soon in our **NEW ANIMAL SERVICES CENTER**, opening June 1, 2009! 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill. For more information, visit co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/newfacility.asp



News Briefs

NCCU football players sought in robbery

The Chapel Hill Police Department seeks three men, including two N.C. Central University football players, in connection with a strong-armed robbery in the parking lot of Borders Books on Fordham Boulevard on May 8 around 5 p.m.

Police have charged four men with one count each of common-law robbery. One suspect, Dennis Morris Jenkins, 19, was arrested Tuesday. Police are looking for Ricky Michael Edwards, 18, and Litbarski S. Blackwood, 19, the NCCU football players, as well as Robert Christopher Williams, 19.

According to a police department press release, a man grabbed the victim's purse and pushed her. Then a second man ran up beside him before they jumped into the back of a 1999 white Lexus with gold trim and a Maryland license plate. Two other men were in the car.

Police ask anyone with information relating to the incident to contact the Chapel Hill Police Department at 968-2760 or Crime Stoppers at 942-7515. Calls to Crime Stoppers are confidential and anonymous. Callers may be eligible for a reward of up to \$2,000 for information leading to arrest.

New animal services facility hours

The new Orange County Animal Services Center will open at noon on June 1.

The new facility will be open to the public Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from noon to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 7:30 p.m.; and Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m. The center will be closed on Sunday. The state-of-the-art facility at 1601 Eubanks Road will house the animal shelter, animal control and administrative staff under one roof. For more information, visit co.orange.nc.us/animalservices

Former police chief heads to Spring Lake

Gregg Jarvies, former police chief of the Chapel Hill Police Department, has been hired as interim police chief of the Spring Lake Police Department to help restore the department's credibility following recent criminal charges against two of its officers.

The Cumberland County Sheriff's Office recently took control of the police department after two of its senior officers were indicted. One officer allegedly participated in a home invasion, while another allegedly stole money from the department's evidence room. The department's chief resigned on May 5.

Jarvies retired in 2007 after seven years as chief of the Chapel Hill Police. He will assist Spring Lake in assessing all of its employees, finding a permanent chief and restoring public confidence in the department.

NAACP banquet to fund scholarships

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will sponsor its annual Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Carrboro Century Center.

Proceeds from the event will help fund scholarships for local students who plan to continue their education after high school. Radio personality Busta Brown will host the event, Rev. Brian Wright will speak at the event and the Kings of Harmony of Hillsborough will provide the entertainment.

Tickets are \$35. For more information, contact Eugene Farar at 933-2198 or visit chapelhill-carrboro-naacp.org

Board hears little feedback on budget

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

CARRBORO — The Carrboro Board of Aldermen heard very little public comment at a public hearing regarding Town Manager Steve Stewart's proposed \$19.1 million fiscal 2010 operating budget on Tuesday.

Only one person — Orange County Housing and Land Trust director Robert Dowling — spoke to the board regarding the budget, and he offered praise for the staff's support of the land trust.

The budget includes a revenue-neutral property tax rate of 58.94 cents per \$100 of valuation. The

recommended rate was adjusted down from the fiscal 2009 rate of 68.63 cents to account for the recent property revaluation. This year's revaluation produced a tax base of nearly \$1.9 billion, compared with about \$1.6 billion in fiscal 2009.

While the tax rate provides no increase in revenue for the town, taxpayers could see an increase in their tax bills, depending on how the recent revaluation affected their property values.

Board members said they have heard from residents who said they were pleased with the proposed budget.

"I've heard a lot of very positive

feedback about our not only maintaining but increasing our donations to our support of nonprofits during a time when everybody else is yanking the money out from under them," board member Jacquie Gist said.

The budget includes \$19,075,434 in recommended general-fund expenditures and revenues, with property and sales tax accounting for 73 percent of revenues. The budget year begins July 1.

Town officials expect sales tax revenues to decrease by more than 9 percent in the coming fiscal year in addition to a significant reduction in grant funds from the state,

equaling about 2 cents on the property tax rate.

Stewart said while the tax base is larger than last year's, the adjusted property tax rate would level out town revenues.

Board member Dan Coleman said he was concerned about those property owners whose properties increased in value by more than the 20 percent average and would thus see a tax increase, despite the proposed revenue-neutral tax rate.

"What I'm concerned about is when people start seeing the effects of the revaluations," board member Coleman said. "The effects of the revaluations are not going to be equal across the county."

DOWNTOWN LIFE IN CHAPEL HILL AND CARRBORO



If you're looking for fresh information about what's going to happen to The Varsity, don't expect to find much soon. Recent details have been a bit confusing. After the initial round of rumors that the last picture show would be today (Thursday), the new buzz is that the place is on the market and may be sold. And it may or may not close in one to three. Owner Bruce Stone could not be reached

for comment. Obviously.

Wonder what Walker Percy thinks about it. *The Moviegoer* author is seen in the photo at right standing in line in front of The Varsity while he was in school here. He's the one in the white trousers with his leg extended.

The Scourge of a Civilized Society

Hat tip to Mitch Virchick for putting into words on his Facebook page what drives a lot of us crazy, especially those of us negotiating the traffic in downtown Carrboro. You guess it — left hand turns.

(Insert lame joke about lefties and Carrboro here)

If you're allergic to these, stay off North Greensboro Street almost any time of day. It doesn't even matter which way you're heading. Try going south when someone is waiting for that perfect parking spot in front



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COLLECTION
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

of Open Eye or heading north when the Wendy's drive-through is hopping and you'll spend some time in traffic.

The worst place to attempt a left is from Greensboro Street heading west on Weaver Street. Those waiting for southbound

traffic might be convinced they're in the clear once the light goes to yellow. Wrong. The light for those southbound stays green longer. The safer option is to head left on Main, where you have an actual turn signal, then right on Main and right on Weaver.

Chapel Hill council ready to vote on budget

BY RICH FOWLER
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill officials are preparing the final round of touches on the town's budget with a lean fiscal year ahead to match the one that ends on June 30.

Town council members reviewed the budget at a work session last week. Town Manager Roger Stancil has proposed a budget that would cut the property tax rate by almost 15 percent to 49.4 cents, down from last year's 58.1 cents, to reflect the changes in property tax valuations.

"We don't have any money, and so there's not that much to talk about," Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy said at sparsely attended hearing.

Council members agreed to cancel the budget work session planned for June 3, and are expected to vote on the budget on June 8.

Spending from the general fund, which covers basic government functions including police,

fire, public works, parks and recreation and libraries, will only grow 0.3 percent over last year's budget, from \$49.6 million to \$49.7 million. General fund revenues are expected to fall by about \$400,000 over last year to \$46.6 million, leaving a deficit of about \$3.1 million.

Part of the deficit will be covered by \$2 million the town saved last year by cutting back and saving money for this year's budget. And, the town will dip into its savings for about \$1.1 million.

Capital improvement projects will be limited to just under \$750,000, compared to last year's \$2.6 million. Projects include \$300,000 for a new fiber optic network, \$75,000 for playground replacement, \$50,000 for greenways and \$20,000 for cemetery beautification.

Other budget highlights include \$1 million in operating costs for the new aquatic center, \$836,500 in contributions to social agency and \$400,000 for retiree health care.

Weaver Street Market to change rewards plan

Starting June 28, Weaver Street Market will change its co-op rewards from discounts to dividends. Instead of receiving a 5 percent discount on some products at the cash register, consumer-owners will receive a patronage dividend at the end of the year. The senior citizen discounts on Tuesdays and Wednesdays also will be eliminated.

The Weaver Street board of directors will hold two meetings at which the co-op's 10,000 consumer owners can discuss the changes. One meeting will be at the Century Center in Carrboro Monday at 7 p.m. and the other at the Big Barn in Hillsborough on June 3 at 7 p.m.

The co-op is losing \$65,000 per month because sales are down 12 percent compared to last year in its Carrboro and Southern Village locations due to the economy and increased competition. Dave Rizzo, chair of the Weaver Street board of directors, said the change to dividends will save Weaver Street

Market \$60,000 a month.

Over the course of the year, total purchases of each owner are recorded. At the end of the year, a dividend is paid based on how much each owner spent and how well Weaver Street Market performed financially.

In addition to the yearly dividend, Weaver Street Market also will introduce new weekly specials and coupons for co-op members.

Rizzo said the changes should put Weaver Street Market back in the black, and when it does, the co-op members again will see the benefits of their ownership.

"Consumer owners have been insulated from our financial difficulty, not because they asked to be, but because the way our owner reward system is set up," Rizzo said. "Changing to a patronage dividend allows our consumer owners to help the co-op out of our short-term difficulties and to resume receiving a return once the economy turns around."

— Staff Reports.

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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OBITUARIES

Margaret Umstead Cobb

Margaret “Peggy” Umstead Cobb, 63, of Chapel Hill, passed away at her home on May 11. She was born on November 1, 1945 in Platteville, WI to the late Margaret “Peggy” Burris Umstead and Frank Graham Umstead, both of whom resided in Chapel Hill most of their lives. Peggy was the eldest of the Umsteads’ three children. Following graduation from Chapel Hill High School in 1963, Peggy attended Peace College in Raleigh. While there, she met and married James Heys Cobb, III, and later moved to Columbus, OH, Selma, AL, and other cities near Air Force bases where Jim was stationed as a pilot. They settled in Griffin, GA, and lived there for several years, during which time Peggy gave birth to their daughter, Susannah. In 1978, Peggy returned to Chapel Hill with Susannah, where Peggy managed the Chapel Hill Tennis Club and was an avid tennis player. She eventually opened a travel agency, Travel Associates of Chapel Hill, which she ran until retiring from the business in 1998. In recent years, she dedicated time to preparing and delivering meals

for families staying at The Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill. Peggy was passionate about cooking, politics, and the histories of her family and the state of North Carolina. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and friend. Peggy is survived by her daughter, Susannah Cobb Parker and husband, Chris, of Atlanta; brother, John Wesley Umstead, IV, and wife, Toni, of Raleigh; sister, Helen Reade Umstead, of Chapel Hill; two grandchildren, James Heys Parker and Elizabeth Umstead Parker, of Atlanta; two neices, Devon Umstead Brewer and husband, Clate, of Raleigh; and Chloe Graham Umstead, of Raleigh; and nephew John Wesley Umstead, V, of Chapel Hill. A graveside service was held May 15 at the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery, with the Reverend Carl King of the University United Methodist Church of Chapel Hill officiating. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in memory of Margaret “Peggy” Umstead Cobb to The Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill, 101 Old Mason Farm Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27517, (919-913-2040) or The Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America, 386 Park Avenue South,

17th Floor, New York, NY 10016 (800-932-2423). Arrangements by Walker’s Funeral Home of Chapel Hill, 120 W. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516 (919) 942-3861 William Guthrie Kilpatrick, Jr. William Guthrie Kilpatrick, Jr. (Bill) of 120 Dixie Garden Drive, Chapel Hill, passed away early Tuesday morning, May 19th at his home. He was preceded in death by his parents, William Guthrie Kilpatrick, Sr., and Ruth Wood Kilpatrick; and grandson, John Christopher Kilpatrick (Chris). Bill is survived by his wife of 40 years, Carol Smith Kilpatrick, of the home; 2 sons, William Guthrie Kilpatrick, III, and wife Charlotte, of Moncure; Shayne Kilpatrick, and wife Mellisa, of Graham; 2 daughters, Tracy Kilpatrick of Wilmington; Kim Ellis, and husband Scott, of Durham; and 4 grandchildren that he loved dearly, Taylor and Clay Ellis, Hayden and Erin Kilpatrick. A memorial service will be held at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Pittsboro on Sunday, June 7 at 4p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, 1785 Mt. Gilead Church Rd, Pittsboro, NC 27312; or The American Cancer Society. Arrangements by Walker’s Funeral Home of Chapel Hill, 120 W. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516 (919) 942-3861 Jose Maria Espino Mr. Jose Maria Espino, 52, 108 King Charles Road, died Monday May 18, 2009, in his home. He was employed by D.H. Griffin. Surviving are his mother, Hilaria G. Chaves; his wife, Maralyn Vestal Espino; two step-daughters, Rosa Stamatis (Teddy), Pine Tops, and Denise Willett, Creedmoor; four brothers and three sisters, Mexico; six step-grandchildren; nieces and nephews. The funeral service will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Walker’s Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will follow the service in the funeral home. Burial will be in Mexico. Memorials may be made to Duke Hospice, 4321 Medical Park Dr, #101, Durham, NC 27704. Arrangements by Walker’s Funeral Home of Hillsborough, 204 N. Churton Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278 (919) 732-2121

COUNTY FROM PAGE 1

Building the wing became much more likely a prospect at last week’s school board meeting after the board OK’d a capital plan to delay construction on a new elementary school planned for the Northside neighborhoods and move the wing ahead of it in priority. The shift in the capital plans is due in part to slower-than-projected enrollment growth in the elementary schools and to a longstanding county policy to keep the debt burden under 15 percent of the annual budget. The Northside Elementary project would likely put the county over that cap. Also at Tuesday’s meeting, students and parents asked commissioners to increase school funding to help prevent deeper personnel cuts. The district has laid off teaching assistants and cut the pay of locally funded teachers. Other speakers before the commissioners included backers of the Carrboro Branch Library at McDougle School. Heidi Perry, a member of Friends of the Library, said the

county needs more library services, not fewer. Closing the Cedar Grove branch and the Carrboro branch, she said, “should not even be on the table.” Allen Spalt called the decision to close the library a “false saving” because the Carrboro Branch is leveraged by the many volunteers who help it work. Closing the library after years of their efforts would be a slap in the face, he said. Not everyone at the budget hearings were there to ask for additional funding. Former commissioner Ben Lloyd told the board to cut deeper than the \$5.4 million already trimmed. High property taxes, he said, are forcing lifelong residents to move out of the county. “People in Orange County are hurting, folks,” he said. Also asking for support from the commissioners were residents of Efland who are facing a steep jump in sewer rates, and representatives of Community School for People Under Six, which is on Caldwell Street Extension in the Northside neighborhood. Parents and members of the school staff are seeking help to renovate the facility in order to keep it open.

County to study other budget cuts

The Orange County Board of Commissioners will review a series of possible budget cuts including furloughs for county workers at a budget work session today (Thursday) at 7 p.m. at the Southern Human Services Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill. Commissioners are looking for additional savings as a way to lower the proposed tax rate or to offset lost savings should they restore some of the cuts in county manager Laura Blackmon’s proposed budget. For more information visit co.orange.nc.us



PHOTO BY AVA BARLOW Kelly Casey of the Carrboro High School girls’ soccer team struggles for possession of the ball against a Cardinal Gibbons player in their game Saturday at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh. The Lady Jaguars lost the regional semifinals game, 1-0.

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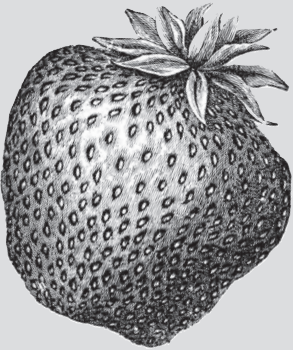
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THREE PEAS WITH ALMONDS (Serves 4-6) From Kelly Clark, Market Volunteer

This mix is good as a side dish, tossed with rice, or mixed with salad greens. It tastes good hot or cold. You get the picture....easy and versatile. Pea-fect! Ingredients: 1 pint shelled fresh peas* (frozen may be substituted) 1 pint sugar snap peas* 1 pint snow peas* 1/4 cup finely chopped green onion* 1/4 cup chopped parsley* 3 Tbls butter, divided 1/3 cup sliced almonds Procedure: Blanch the fresh peas in boiling, salted water for 3 minutes. Rinse in cool water to stop the cooking, drain and set aside. Remove the top and string from the sugar snap peas and snow peas and slice diagonally into 3/8 inch slices. Melt 1 ½ tablespoons of butter in a medium pan and add the sliced almonds. Cook over a low flame, until almonds are browned. Stir frequently, watch carefully, nuts can burn quickly! Set aside. Melt 1 ½ tablespoons of butter in large sauté pan and add the peas. Slowly cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until the peas are crisp-tender. If using frozen peas, do not add them until the snaps and snows are almost done. Add the chopped green onion and parsley, toss to mix. Add the sliced almonds and all of the browned butter, toss to mix.

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School Briefs

CHHS art students join Memory Project

Chapel Hill High School art students recently joined the Memory Project, a nationwide initiative in which art students create original portraits for children living in orphanages around the world.

The school's art club members receive pictures of children waiting for portraits and complete the pieces in their free time and at club meetings.

The project seeks to provide children with a special memory of their youth while honoring their heritage and helping them to build a positive self-image.

Honors orchestra students

Chapel Hill-Carrboro students recently participated in the Eastern Regional Junior Honors Orchestra in Swansboro.

Students were selected for the honors orchestra based on auditions in March and performed a concert on May 2. Honors orchestra students include Jonathan Dolan and Loreanne Oh, Culbreth Middle; Laura Finnerly, Carrboro High; Kelly Jiang, Sophie To, Ashley Mizuno, Eric Chiou, Evan Philpot, Diana Philpot and Jacob Reed, Phillips Middle; and Paul Lee, Oskar Marszulek, Daniel Lee and Leon Copeland, Smith Middle.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA HARTNESS

The S.T.A.R.S. (Sisters Together Achieving Remarkable Success) group of McDougle Elementary School recently spent a Saturday afternoon at Mama Dip's restaurant celebrating their final group session of the year. The students have worked on different service projects and enrichment topics throughout the year. Students are pictured with group leader Pam McAllister, Principal Amanda Hartness and Assistant Principal Patrenia Powell.

Board appoints exceptional education director

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education appointed Lorraine Detrude as executive director of exceptional education and student services.

Detrude has served as director of exceptional education children services for Chatham County Schools since 2006 and previously held a similar position in several school districts in New Hampshire. She holds a bachelor's degree in speech from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree in special education from Boston College.

Detrude replaces Margaret Blackwell, who will retire at the end of the school year.

Project Graduation fundraiser

Project Graduation, the parent-funded celebration for all Chapel Hill-Carrboro graduating seniors, will be featured at A Southern Season on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Stop by to learn more about the annual event that celebrates the graduating classes of Carrboro High, Chapel Hill High and East Chapel Hill High. Donations will be accepted.

Donations can also be made by visiting projectgraduation-chccs.org/contributions.htm or mailing a check payable to



PHOTO BY JACK WATSON

Chapel Hill High School Art Club president Monica Heiser displays a portrait she created for the Memory Project, a nationwide initiative in which students create portraits for children living in orphanages.

Project Graduation to: Project Graduation, P.O. Box 17043, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27516.

Exhibit to showcase newcomer art

Students in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Newcomer Center will exhibit their

artwork at University Mall, June 2 to 14.

The exhibit, "Journeys to a Different Landscape," will showcase visual expression through art therapy by students from Burma.

An opening reception will be held on June 7 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the mall.

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MONDAY — Cheeseburger on a Bun; Fishwich; Seasoned Potato Wedges; Peas & Carrots; Chilled Peaches	MONDAY — Chicken Nuggets w/BBQ Sauce and Wheat Roll; Beef Tacos w/Salsa, Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato; Spanish Rice; Sweet Yellow Corn; Fresh Apples
TUESDAY Beef Lasagna w/Garlic Bread; Chicken Tacos w/Salsa, Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato; "Fun on the Run"; Seasoned Pinto Beans; Mexicali Corn; Fresh Orange Wedges	TUESDAY Chicken Stir-Fry; Mozzarella Cheese Sticks w/Marinara Dipping Sce; Brown Rice Pilaf; Asian Mixed Vegetables; Chilled Apricots
WEDNESDAY —Chicken Patty Sandwich; Beef & Macaroni w/ Wheat Roll; Green Beans; Steamed Carrots; Chilled Fruit Cocktail	WEDNESDAY —Steak & Cheese Sandwich; Chicken Salad w/Crackers, Lettuce and Tomato; Carrot & Celery Sticks; Steamed Broccoli; Fresh Banana
THURSDAY — Herb Baked Chicken w/Wheat Roll; Toasted Ham & Cheese Sandwich; "Fun on the Run"; Mashed Potatoes; Turnip Greens; Mandarin Oranges	THURSDAY — Sliced Baked Ham; Turkey & Cheese Wrap; Whipped Sweet Potato; Seasoned Lima Beans; Chilled Pears





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Scenes from the budget hearings

The year of hunkering down

Not a lot of fireworks at any of the budget hearings this year, but most of what did take place was over items dear to Carrboro in the county budget. The town and its residents continue to press their case for not closing the Carrboro Branch Library while those with students at Carrboro High joined with Chapel Hillians from the school to advocate for their arts wing.

Budget hearings for the towns, which usually see a few advocates for various items, were practically ghost towns this year sans the tumbleweeds.

We're not sure if this is a signal of resignation, frustration, or both. Our best guess is that the citizenry knows that the economic forces playing havoc with government budgets are going to be hard to overcome no matter how persuasive the comments offered. They also know that how things play out at the state level and how much federal stimulus money ultimately becomes available are the big factors, and for the most part the outcome is not in the hands of local officials.

In this climate, officialdom and the citizens appear to have reached the same conclusion: Hunker down and wait for the storm to pass.

Jaguar pride on display

Kudos to the inventive boosters of Carrboro High's arts wing, and not just for those snappy purple T-shirts. They managed to convince the school board to back a plan to move forward on the wing. And they made their case with the participation and attendance of a good number of students.

At Tuesday's meeting, the CHS students received a particularly good seminar in democracy. Not only did they have the opportunity to make their points, but they also stuck around and observed that theirs was not the only case being pressed Tuesday night. They heard from supporters of pre-school programs, public libraries, social services and residents hurting from the recession while facing a 100 percent jump in sewer fees.

A few Jaguars melted away as the night wore on, but most stayed and took it in. We hope they gained a little deeper understanding of the phrase "all politics is local" and take to heart that, especially in years when money is tight, their interests compete with the interests of others.

Someone's got to say it

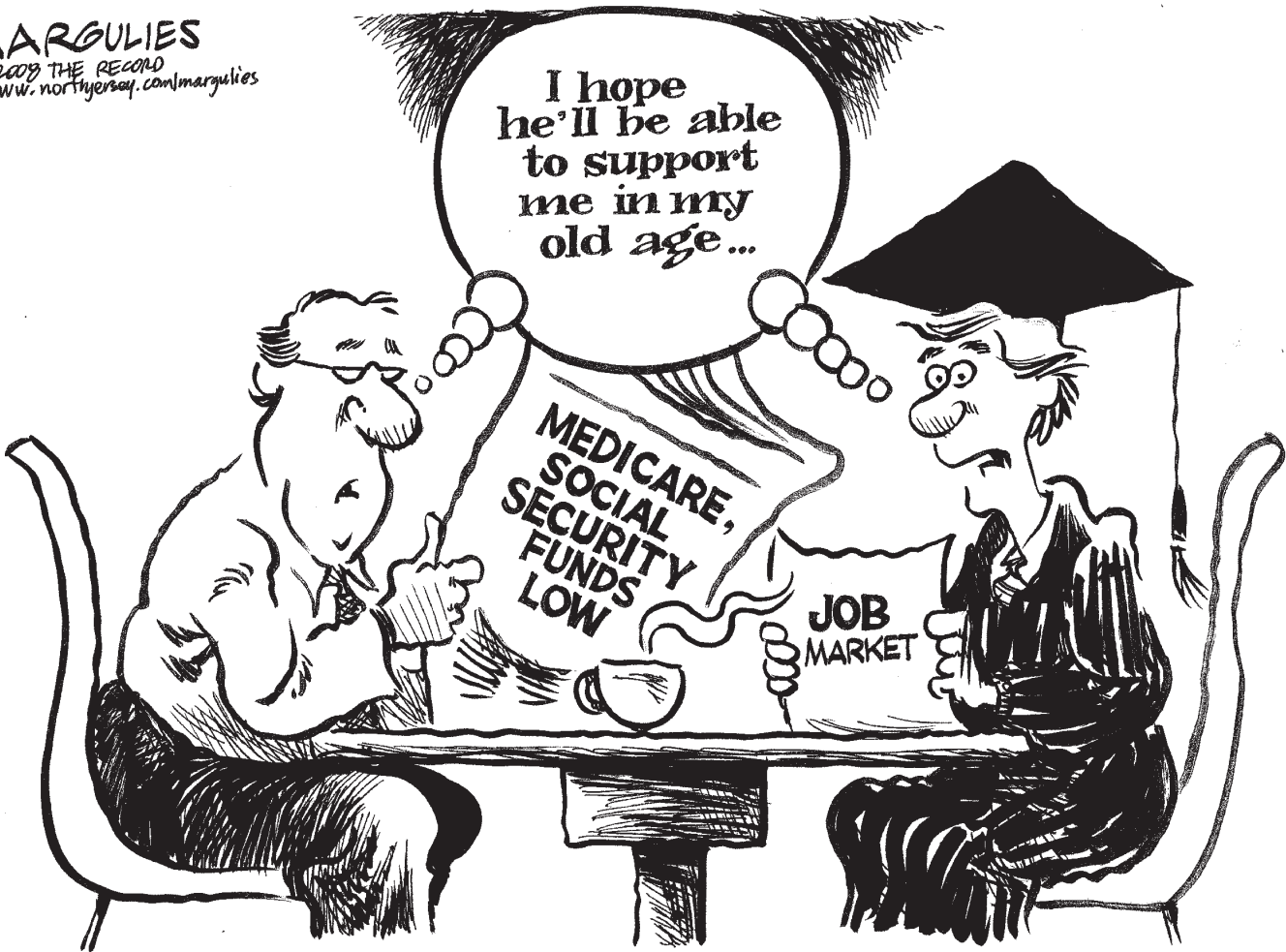
Ben Lloyd has been and remains a one-man tax revolt. Since his days as a commissioner, and pretty much at every budget public hearing since, Lloyd, who has about 700 acres west of Hillsborough, rises to preach for living within one's means and against taxing life-long residents off their land.

When Mr. Lloyd should leave us, hopefully no time soon, the county would do well to hire someone to deliver a similar message at every budget hearing hence.

Year after year, Orange County has been one of those unique places where those queuing up at budget hearings are doing so to ask the county to spend a little more money. Mr. Lloyd has long been among the minority advocating the opposite, and some years, it seems, he's that argument's sole representative.

This year, he had a couple more comrades. But given the enormous organizing and turnout capabilities of the nascent Orange County Tax Revolt, you'd have thought there would be a few more people there. It was, after all, a very teachable moment, considering the number of young people in the audience Tuesday night.

MARGULIES
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Life in the glass house

ROBERT AND VICKY DICKSON

Given the frenzied media response to the Town of Carrboro's approval of *The Carrboro Citizen's* application for The Loan last week, we thought it would be good for us, the people who signed the documents, to set the record straight.

There have been misquotes and accusations of bad intent, and our integrity has been seriously questioned. The mainstream media has done reasonably well, most calling the paper to get our version of the story. Several of the blog posts, however, have gone beyond the pale in their lack of factual content.

There's one especially egregious posting by, of all people, a UNC School of Journalism professor. It's scary how many facts this fellow gets wrong about a very simple transaction. He didn't bother to contact us. And he's charged with teaching future journalists.

We've also heard positive comments from many of you. "Congratulations" is the word we've heard most. We're not sure that's the right word to use for a loan, but the sentiment behind it is really appreciated.

So here's the deal, straight from the folks who made it.

The Citizen has been granted a \$50,000 loan from the Carrboro Revolving Loan Fund. The money will be paid out in three installments; We'll receive the first \$30,000 this year, and \$10,000 in both 2010 and 2011. The interest rate is 2 percent.

The loan is secured by a lien on a condo we own at 605 West Main Street. We're not sure what that unit is worth in this weak market, but we believe the town's \$50k is plenty safe.

The loan application was received and processed by the Small Business & Technology Development Center. It was reviewed and approved by a citizen advisory board, the Economic Sustainability Commission. The loan was approved unanimously by the Carrboro Board of Aldermen on May 19.

The Carrboro Revolving Loan Fund was created by the town in 1986 "for projects that result in the creation or retention of jobs targeted specifically to low- and moderate-income persons." The

list of past loan recipients includes such businesses as Weaver Street Market, the Music Loft, the Ink Spot, Cat's Cradle and the Orange County Social Club.

The loan fund is sustained by principal and interest payments by the recipients, and start-up funding came from a federal Community Development Block Grant. (Thus, none of the money is from property taxes.)

We think we all ought to be proud to live in a community where our municipal government values small businesses enough to maintain a revolving loan fund to help them grow. Lip service is what small business owners usually get, but this is the real deal.

But will this loan make *The Citizen* beholden to the town of Carrboro, or

every stakeholder in a newspaper from the subscription base to the advertisers to the people whose stories are covered has an interest in influencing that paper's coverage. When you've been in the newspaper business as long as we have, you know that.

We've had advertisers threaten to cancel their ads because they didn't like our coverage, subscribers cancel subscriptions, government officials (not Carrboro's) try to limit our access to public records, friends urge us not to publish stories about their children's brushes with the law, and we've carried on just trying to print the news as accurately as we can, because we know that a newspaper that compromises its integrity has lost its reason for being.

Are the big corporate dailies also walking this tightrope? Sure. Can McClatchy (owner of the *News & Observer* and *The Chapel Hill News*) report fairly on a banking industry that holds its very life in its hands? Can NPR report fairly on a government that partially funds it? We believe the answer in these cases is yes.

We make decisions on a daily basis to keep the firewall between business and editorial strong, even in our 627 square foot office. Does the loan constitute a breach of this firewall? We wouldn't have applied for it if we thought that was a possibility. Those of you who know us, and Kirk, also know that our core values and our backgrounds prevent us from operating *The Citizen* any other way.

And we wouldn't have invested two-and-a-half years of our lives and more than \$200k of our savings to build anything less than an ethically strong community newspaper.

What we've heard for the first 114 issues of *The Citizen* is a resounding affirmation of our efforts. Will this loan somehow make us less than before? We believe it will make us better. Readers, though, are the final judges of this newspaper. We know we can count on you to let us know how we're doing.

Robert and Vicky Dickson are co-owners of The Carrboro Citizen.

We make decisions on a daily basis to keep the firewall between business and editorial strong, even in our 627 square foot office.

change the way we cover town government? In a word, no.

The terms of the loan don't allow for cancellation by the town for any reason other than nonpayment. If we make our monthly payments, Town Hall holds absolutely no power over us.

Even if that weren't the case and we operated under a business model based on the continuance of government grants (as has been true of NPR, PBS and the UNC School of Journalism) we would never allow the source of our funding to compromise our reporting. To do so would be a cynical slap in the face to our readers, our advertisers, the people we cover and, most of all, to the loyal, talented and under-compensated writers, editors and photographers who've enabled *The Citizen* to show up on the newsstand each week for more than two years.

No profession (OK, other than politics) is more fraught with the potential for conflict of interest than journalism. Ev-

A modest plan for paying college costs

ROBERT REICH

I'm just about to head off to a commencement here at U Cal, Berkeley. The news that keeps banging around in my head is that the state has just announced a whopping 9 percent increase in fees for next academic year, the third fee increase in three years.

The average young person now graduating from college anywhere in America has to repay almost \$22,000 of student loans. That's a record, partly because college costs have continued to rise even during the downturn, because states are cutting their support for public universities, and because other sources of college funding have taken big hits — like home equity loans and 529 plans that allowed families to sock money away for college.

But how can young people repay this much money when the job market is so bad? The law doesn't allow college loans to be discharged in personal bankruptcy.

Even when they do find jobs, college grads have no choice but to take the job that pays the most. They can't afford to do what they might really want to do — become, say, a social worker or writer or legal-services attorney.

This problem won't go away when the

The average young person now graduating from college anywhere in America has to repay almost \$22,000 of student loans.

economy recovers. College debt burdens have been rising for years, and the career choices of many newly minted graduates are narrowing to those that help repay college loans. We need a new system. So here's my proposal: Any college student can get full funding from the government, with only one string attached. Once they've graduated and are in the work force, they pay 10 percent of their incomes for the first 10 years of

full-time work into the same government fund they drew on to finance their college education.

Now, maybe that formula will need to be adjusted up or down to cover all the costs. And surely some people will game the system as they do every other one. But the essential idea is that linking the costs of college to subsequent wages makes college affordable to everyone. And linking repayment to a fixed percent of subsequent wages for a limited number of years enables all graduates to follow their dreams into whatever work they want, without worrying about earning enough to repay a loan. Those who end up in relatively high-paying jobs subsidize those who end up in relatively low-paying ones. It's fair, it's simple, and good for society as well as the individual.

For those who are getting their degrees: Happy graduation.

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

The question of health insurance

GILES BLUNDEN

The basic question boils down to this: Should Americans of all means be entitled to a quality level of health care as a standard everyday practice? I think most Americans would answer yes.

Right now, this does not exist. There is not a level playing field and certainly not a consistent level of service for everyone. Sen. Burr has no problem affording commercial health insurance and is naive to propose that commercial companies left to their own devices are going to solve the problem of providing a good standard of health care to all Americans. That standard is simply not possible using only commercial insurers and recent history confirms it, or we would not be in this dilemma.

Corporate insurance companies cannot solve the problem of providing universal care. Under the current competitive model, those who can pay for insurance have it and those who can't go without. Under that same system, those who are less well paid more and are less able to do so. If you get sick, your insurance goes up when you can least afford it. As you age, your insurance goes up but your income declines. These are fine business practices if your goal is to maximize shareholder dividends and consequently raise your own salary as a CEO.

There needs to be a flat rate for quality insurance for every class of American: the old, the sick, the young and the healthy. That basic level of health-care coverage needs to be available to everyone, no exceptions. It would be nice to think that the large health insurance corporation could do this, but they can't. It is simply not a competitive business.

Just like public roads and highways, there needs to be universal access. Those who want a higher level of service can take the toll roads.

I just signed on at considerable cost to bail out a bunch of greedy banks and insurance companies because they are "necessary." They were playing a highly competitive unregulated game with other people's money and we pay when they lose. That's small government for you. I would far prefer larger government, and spend my tax dollars on universal health insurance for all, than pay some big corporation to look after my interests at the expense of their shareholders' interests. The government may not be perfect, but at least I have a voice.

My family has lived with cancer for 25 years, and I feel that I am in a position to understand this issue. Yes, it's great to be a survivor; but to constantly struggle with how to maintain insurance when you are not well is not acceptable. To have to choose work solely by what insurance is offered is not acceptable. We are lucky because we have the earning power of two college degrees and have marketable skills. What about the millions out there who are not as lucky or have lost their jobs due to the hands-off approach of "small government"?

Giles Blunden is an architect who lives in Carrboro.

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

EMAIL:
editor@carrborocitizen.com

FAX: 919-942-2195

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CITIZEN

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Eileen Tully



Jesse Dingle

PRINCIPALS
FROM PAGE 1

Dingle is the director of Talent Management and Development at the state Department of Public Instruction and has previously served as principal, assistant principal and teacher in Wake County Schools. He said he looked forward to maintaining the strong tradition at Chapel Hill High.

“Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools have such a strong tradition academically, in athletics, in fine arts,” he said. “I’ve heard over the years all the good things that happen in Chapel Hill-Carrboro.... You don’t get an opportunity to be a principal in Chapel Hill-Carrboro very often.”

He added that he hopes to have a smooth transition into the school and cited goals of eliminating the achievement gap and preparing students for 21st-century learning.

Dingle holds a bachelor’s degree in education from Appalachian State University, a master’s degree in school administration from UNC and a doctoral degree in education administration from N.C. State University.

He replaces Jacqueline Ellis, who left the district in March to serve as assistant superintendent for human resources in Durham Public Schools. Ellis served as principal at Chapel Hill High since 2007.

Both Tully and Dingle will start work on July 1.

“I’ve heard over the years all the good things that happen in Chapel Hill-Carrboro... You don’t get an opportunity to be a principal in Chapel Hill-Carrboro very often.”

— JESSE DINGLE

Exhibit, program to share history of local black community



Irving and Frances Nunn with their children in 1927

North Carolina Collection

UNC NEWS SERVICES

For 37 years, the Rogers Road community in Chapel Hill has been at the center of a public debate about the impact of the Orange County Landfill, which borders the neighborhood.

An exhibit opening June 12 at the university will tell a deeper story, uncovering more than two centuries of the community’s history.

The exhibit, “We’re all Family Here: Preserving Community Heritage in the Rogers Road Neighborhood of Chapel Hill,” will be open until Aug. 31 in the North Carolina Collection Gallery of Wilson Library.

In a free public program at 5:45 p.m. June 25 in the library, residents will discuss their history. Panelists for the program, “Documenting Neighborhood History in the Rogers Road Community of Chapel Hill,” will include the Rev. Robert Campbell, other members of the community and researcher Emily Eidenier. The program will follow a reception and exhibit viewing at 5 p.m.

Campbell, a member of Faith Tabernacle Church on Rogers Road, co-chairs the Rogers-Eu-

banks Coalition to End Environmental Racism and is president of the Rogers-Eubanks Neighborhood Association.

Eidenier, a Hillsborough native and UNC graduate student in the Gillings School of Global Public Health, wrote *Rogers Road*, a book illustrating the community’s growth over nearly 20 decades.

Carolina Collection Gallery assistant keeper. Some of the deep-rooted community families bear names familiar in Chapel Hill, including Hogan, Nunn, Rogers, Caldwell and Purefoy.

Early 20th-century photos show the daily life of community members. Maps from 1891 and 1944 display the evolution of community landmarks such

the residents together to pursue a number of goals.”

Those goals include fighting placement of a proposed solid waste transfer station in the neighborhood and advocating for installation of municipal water and sewage services.

A slide show of 50 photos donated from community members will also be on display, as well as information on researching ancestry in North Carolina using resources in the North Carolina Collection of Wilson Library.

“I was surprised by how much the history of community members on Rogers Road reflected stories I had heard told in my own family,” Eidenier said. “I hope this research will bring to the public an expanded view of county history – one that includes the histories of African-American citizens and African-American agriculture.”

Rogers Road is available online at www.lulu.com, a self-publication resource. Eidenier recently received a grant from the Chapel Hill Historical Society to publish copies of the book and distribute them to public libraries and high schools in the county, and to Morris Grove Elementary.

EXHIBIT

We’re all Family Here:
Preserving Community Heritage
in the Rogers Road Neighborhood of Chapel Hill

JUNE 12 - AUGUST 31

Eidenier received a Robert E. Bryan Fellowship from the Carolina Center for Public Service at UNC for work toward the book, which includes photographs, personal histories and public documents about the community’s history.

The 75-item exhibit will focus on the development of the area between Eubanks and Homestead roads from an 18th-century white neighborhood into an African-American neighborhood, said Linda Jacobson, North

as Hickory Grove Church, the Orange County Training School and Morris Grove Elementary School.

“It’s about African Americans bringing life to a farm-viable community in North Carolina after emancipation, and a celebration of a long-standing tradition of supporting one another through conflict and hardship,” Jacobson said. “We’ll focus on the recent conflicts, too, because that’s why this neighborhood is in the news. That helped bring

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1	2	3	6	8	9	4	5	7
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TROT	LEASE	EBONY	EDIE
SIN	EERIE	TRAM	LEAN

CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER:

Men say they love independence in women, but they don't waste a second becoming independent. - Candace Bergen, 'flick chick' by prick - prick by flick

MARK TRAIL

VULTURES ARE CONSIDERED THE MOST IMPORTANT AVIAN SCAVENGERS IN THE WORLD, AND IN SOME PARTS OF THE HOT MEDITERRANEAN NO ATTEMPT IS MADE TO BURY OR REMOVE DEAD LIVESTOCK...

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THERE ARE 7 SPECIES OF NEW WORLD VULTURES, AND 15 SPECIES OF OLD WORLD VULTURES

CIRCLING ON HIGH, EACH BIRD STATIONS ITSELF SOME DISTANCE FROM OTHERS OF ITS KIND

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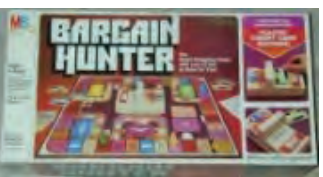
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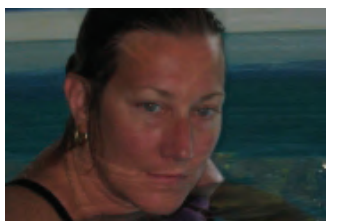
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PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE
Closed flowers (upper right insert) open on sunny days to reveal beautiful rose-like flowers on a stem of Himalaya-berry.

FLORA
FROM PAGE I

I have a few of these Himalaya-berries along the edge of my driveway. A few days ago, I was happy to see them begin flowering. I've been taking "closer looks" several times each day since. This year, I'm particularly taken by the beauty of each individual flower. Each one appears to be a delicately pink-shaded rose, and that's logical, since blackberries are in the rose family.

Very early one recent, misty morning, I went out to enjoy my stems of "miniature roses" and discovered they

were all tightly closed. I know that some flowers regularly close up during the night, but I have never noticed this habit in blackberries. Now I know these flowers open and close regularly in response to the sunlight of day. What a natural way this may be to protect mature pollen from being washed away by night-time dew and sunless daytime rains. Now I'm more curious about the flow-ers of plants that don't have the opening-closing habit, like the flowers of hollies. I remember an old friend explaining that long rainy periods during the spring may result in a sparse crop of holly

berries in the fall. That makes sense: no pollen, no pollination. In addition, you don't see many pollinators flying about in the rain. No pollinators, no pollination. I'm looking forward to the Himalaya-berry bearing fruit a few weeks after the traditional Fourth of July blackberry-picking time. I remember tasting the superior sweetness of this foreign berry some years ago. It's well worth cultivating in the garden, where it can be well tended and trained along a trellis. Good luck with your search, and along the way I suspect your keen eyes will make a few other discoveries.

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Time: 4-5:15pm; Fee: \$58
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Date: May 26-June 23; May 27-June 24; Ages 6-11; Call for times; Fee: \$42
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