



FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
99/72



SATURDAY
40% chance of rain
97/70



SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
92/68

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



2009 Grads

See pages 7-9



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Lizard's-tail flowers seem left over from prehistoric landscapes.

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Step softly among the water-dragons

Though I've never heard it used locally, the common name, water-dragon, appeals to me more than the commoner name, lizard's-tail. Every time I see this plant of swamps, pond edges and boggy stream sides, my imagination propels me back to a long-ago world of giant ferns and dinosaurs. If you find yourself poised on the edge of a lizard's-tail environs, step softly, and even then you will most likely become mired in the plant's preferred muddy ooze.

Saururus (saw-REW-us) cernuus (SER-new-us) is a truly descriptive botanical name. The genus name is derived from the Greek *sauros*, lizard, and *oura*, tail, and the descriptive second part of the binomial, the species epithet, is derived from *cernuus*, drooping or nodding, which perfectly characterizes the appearance of a mature flowering spike.

Common throughout eastern America and across to Texas in the South, lizard's-tail has a significant heritage as a medicinal plant. Root poultices were used to treat sores and wounds. Teas brewed from the leaves were thought to be helpful in reducing chest and back pains. There are recent accounts that some researchers are pursuing components of the plant as a potentially powerful tranquilizer. Perhaps more about this research will come to light in the next year or so.

For me, the plant needs no justification other than simply being. I'm always stopped in my tracks whenever seeing it in the wild, where it provides habitat for many wetland invertebrates. It's an easily cultivated plant for the home wetland or bog garden, whether in pots in a small pool or in normally wet spots on the ground. Gardeners will be pleased to know that deer don't like it, probably because it's aromatic. Lizard's-tail is described as being strongly scented of orange peel.

SEE FLORA PAGE 10

County votes 4-3 to consider Millhouse site

BY TAYLOR SISK
Staff Writer

The Orange County Board of Commissioners voted Tuesday night to keep a Chapel Hill-owned site on Millhouse Road on the table as a potential location for a county solid waste transfer station. The vote came before a packed Southern Human Services Center assembly of citizens, many of whom had just stood to voice their opposition to the site.

The 4-3 vote moves forward a pro-

posal to ask the Town of Chapel Hill to formally offer the property, which is north of the town's new operations center. Pending that offer, county staff will conduct a feedback session over the summer and is due to report the findings in August, when the commission returns from summer recess.

Voting for the proposal were Pam Hemminger, Barry Jacobs, Bernadette Pelissier and Steve Yuhasz. Dissenting were board chair Valerie Foushee and commissioners Alice Gordon and Mike Nelson.

"The public should not perceive that the vote last night was an indication that a decision has been made," Pelissier said on Wednesday. "It's about keeping the doors open."

Judging from those gathered Tuesday night though, the move is not popular. The introduction of Millhouse Road as a potential transfer station arrived as yet another twist in what was already a protracted site-search process.

In April, after a year-long process, the county identified a 147-acre

tract off N.C. 54 in the White Cross community as the best location for the transfer station. Then, in May, came Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy's suggestion that the county consider the Millhouse Road site. Foy stressed at the time that it wasn't an offer — a proposal to sell or lease the land to the county hadn't yet been put before the Chapel Hill Town Council — rather, that he first wanted to gauge the county's interest.

SEE MILLHOUSE PAGE 5



First Class

The first senior class of Carrboro High School joins Chapel Hill and East Chapel Hill graduates.

PHOTO BETH MECHUM

BY BETH MECHUM
Staff Writer

In a weekend full of proud families, excited graduates and tearful teachers, no graduation stood out more than Carrboro High School's.

As friends and families poured into the Dean E. Smith Center, escaping a scorching-hot Saturday evening, audio clips of students expressing their gratitude to everyone from parents to teachers to prom dates played over the speakers.

From the outset, it was obvious CHS's graduation had a more personal feel than those of East Chapel Hill and Chapel Hill High, held earlier in the day, though both were especially meaningful in their own rights. There was just a sense that this was something special, the first-ever graduating class of Carrboro,

and the gravity of the event wasn't lost on the students.

"Everyone has to begin as a student. Every ballerina, astronaut and president began at a desk with a number-two pencil," said co-valedictorian Emily Hamilton. "But we're not just any students; we are the first graduates to walk across the stage for Carrboro High."

It wasn't always easy for the first graduating class of Carrboro High. Many dealt with a tough transition to a new school, and not all stayed. But class speaker Alex Borowski said that that experience was what made their relationships stand out.

"By the end of our long trek to where we are right now, there existed a unique bond amongst us," he said.

Graduation guests were told to hold their applause and cheering until the end, but of course none listened.

The outbursts were short and sweet though, and were awarded to all 143 graduates.

Looking back on the first graduating class, Carrboro principal Kelly Batten said he couldn't think of a better group of kids to make history.

"They really embody the spirit of the school, what we want a senior class to look like, what we want them to be like, the type of leaders we want them to be," he said.

East Chapel Hill also had a memorable graduation, because it wasn't just the seniors who were leaving.

Beloved principal Dave Thaden, now retired, presided over his last graduation and received several standing ovations from students, parents, faculty and anyone in the vicinity.

Thaden spoke, as did the 10 valedictorians who received straight A's their entire school careers.

Chapel Hill High School students had to say their own goodbyes to two classmates who passed away during the school year, and Atlas Fraley and Rodney Torain weighed heavily on everyone's mind during the graduation proceedings. The parents of the best friends were given certificates and a short ceremony was held to commemorate the well-liked student-athletes, and graduating senior Amanda Reams spoke to a building full of teary eyes.

"We have two empty chairs and a missing place in our hearts and souls because we miss them so much," Reams said.

Though memories of Fraley and Torain hung over them, CHHS graduates made sure to celebrate the good memories as well, as the five valedictorians recalled the fun moments that stood out over the past four years.

Slade to run for alderman; Czajkowski, Cho sign on to Chapel Hill mayor's race

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

With local elected boards readying for summer recesses, candidates are making known their intentions for the fall elections.

The terms of 18 incumbents are up in Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Pittsboro and Hillsborough and on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro school board.

This week, Sammy Slade became the latest to announce his intention to run for the Carrboro Board of Aldermen. Slade has been active in community-garden projects, the Carrboro Greenspace and the town's Local Living Economy Task Force.

"Carrboro is entering a period of opportunity both in terms of strengthening the local economy and in preparing ourselves to achieve a sustainable way of life for the 21st century. I believe I have the energy, the background, and the collaborative skill set to help the Board of Aldermen lead the way on these and other issues," Slade said in announcing his entry into the race.

His announcement all but coincided with the announcement by Board of Aldermen member John Herrera that he will not seek re-election.

In addition to Slade, incumbents Jacquie Gist and Randee Haven-O'Donnell have indicated they are likely to run again, as has Mayor Mark Chilton, who is expected to seek a third term.

In Chapel Hill, Town Council member Matt Czajkowski announced his intention to replace Mayor Kevin Foy, who said last month that he would not run for another term. Czajkowski was elected to the council in 2007.

"In the last year, some of the major issues facing Chapel Hill today have become much more acute," Czajkowski said in announcing his decision. "Among these are the despair of many taxpayers over their property tax burden in the face of the worldwide economic downturn and how

SEE ELECTION PAGE 5

Board holds farm talk

BY BETH MECHUM
Staff Writer

It started with a dispute about an apartment, and it led to a heated exchange Tuesday night between farmers and town government officials at the Carrboro Board of Aldermen meeting.

Opinions were plenty at Town Hall, and though no resolutions were passed, many are hopeful it's the start of improved communication and relationships between the farmers and town government.

It won't be an easy road.

In the past couple of months, local farmers have met with members of the Carrboro town planning board to discuss their concerns about Carrboro regulations and the planning board has also been discussing farming. Farmers and those with farming-related concerns were asked to share their thoughts with the board.

Much of this came from a case involving Marilyn Kille, who was accused of having an illegal apartment on her farm in 2006. Many

farmers in the area have expressed the need for a caretaker apartment to keep their farms running, which can violate the land-use ordinance. That turned out to be just the tipping point of concerns many farmers had with Carrboro regulations, citing rules that were too old and the inability to vote in elections for leaders that ultimately make decisions about their properties.

The term "farm code" kept coming up. Some farmers said it could be a good thing to work on some sort of code with the town in order to provide input. Mayor Mark Chilton said he didn't think the term farm code was a legally viable one, and what most farmers expressed was the need for less regulation, not more.

"If you have an interest in local food, food-security issues ... you have to look at this issue from how do we support farming," Ann Leonard of Hogan Farms stood up to say, emphasizing it should not be about control.

SEE MILLHOUSE PAGE 5

INSIDE

Recently, by Valarie Schwartz

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MUSIC CALENDAR



CAMERA OBSCURA
Cat's Cradle
Saturday June 20

THURSDAY JUNE 18

Blue Bayou: Jafaar. 9pm
Captain John's Dockside: Chris Reynolds Swing "n" Jazz Trio
The Cave: EARLY: Both LATE: Eric Sommer
General Store Cafe: Tony Galiani Band. 7-9pm
Local 506: Telekinesis, An Horse. 9:30pm. \$8/10
Nightlight: Impossible Arms, Quasar Abode, Insepector 22. 9:30pm
Wallace Plaza: Will McFarlane, Big Mama E and The Cool. 7-9:30pm. Free

FRIDAY JUNE 19

Arts Center: The Radiators. 8:30pm. \$24
Blue Bayou: Marla Vickers Band. 9:30pm
Caffe Driade: Calahoney. 8pm
Cat's Cradle: The Connells, Mayflies. 9pm. \$15

The Cave: LATE: Keep Off the Grass, Town Mountain
City Tap: EARLY: Jafaar LATE: Andi Morgan
General Store Cafe: Sunny Marie and Her Blues Train. 8:30-11pm
Harry's Market: Raymond Ward. 7-9pm
Local 506: House of Fools, Lonnie Walker, Motel Motel. 10pm. \$8
SATURDAY JUNE 20
Arts Center: Rory Block.. 8:30pm.
Blue Bayou: Spoonful of Soul. 9:30pm
Caffe Driade: Lee and Susan. 8pm
Cat's Cradle: Camera Obscura, Anni Rossi. 9:15pm. \$15
The Cave: EARLY: The K-Macks. \$5 LATE: Mystery Road, Birds and Arrows.
City Tap: Landmark. 8-10
General Store Cafe: Nu-Blu. 8:30-11pm

VIOLET VECTOR AND THE LOVELY LOVELIES
Local 506
Thursday June 25



THE MOANERS
The Cave
Sunday June 21

Local 506: Tripp, Josh Roberts and the Hinges, The Pneurtotics. 9:30pm. \$7
Open Eye Cafe: The Whiskey Smugglers
SUNDAY JUNE 21
The Cave: The Moaners, Twilghter, Taz Halloween's Kittybox and the Johnnys

City Tap: Roy Schneider. 3pm
Local 506: The Paperchase. 9:30pm. \$10
Milltown: LUD. 6-8pm. Free
MONDAY JUNE 22
The Cave: LATE: Americans in France, Whatever Brains, Francis Harold and The Halograms. \$5
Local 506: Lexicon, Oh See, Tango. 9pm. Free

TUESDAY JUNE 23
The Cave: LATE: Jo Gore and The Alternatives
Local 506: Boyce Avenue, Hana Pestle. 9:30pm. \$10/12
Nightlight: Death Domain, Femme Covert, Masses Masses. 9:30pm
WEDNESDAY JUNE 24
Caffe Driade: Tribella. 8pm

The Cave: EARLY: Moonfisher. \$5 LATE: Robobilly, The Have Nots, Reckless Hearts
Local 506: Telepathe, Lemonade. 9pm. \$8
Reservoir: Battle Rockets, Gifts From Enola, Goodbye Titan
THURSDAY JUNE 25
Arts Center: Summer Concert Series with Steve Jack Band. 4:30pm
Blue Bayou: Andy Coats. 9pm
The Cave: EARLY: Davis Stillson. LATE: Salt To Bitters, Twilghter
General Store Cafe: Marie Vanderbeck Trio. 7pm
Local 506: Black Hollies, Violet Vector and The Lovely Lovelies, The Huguenots. 9pm. \$6

FRIDAY JUNE 26
Arts Center: Johnny Winter with Cyril Lance. 8:30pm. \$36
Blue Bayou: Chalwa. 9:30pm
Caffe Driade: Drowning Lovers. 8pm
Cat's Cradle: Patrick Wolf, Living Things, Plastiscines, Jaguar Love. 8pm. \$15
The Cave: EARLY AND LATE: Joe Romeo and The Orange County Volunteers. \$5
City Tap: LATE: Stratocruiser
General Store Cafe: Tommy Edwards and Friends. 8:30pm. \$5
Harry's Market: Lynn Blakey and Ecki Heins. 7pm
Local 506: Sunfold, Hammer No More The Fingers, On Photon, Thoughtspak. 9pm. \$8

Open Eye Cafe: Leif Sunde. 8pm
SATURDAY JUNE 27
Blue Bayou: Willie Painter Band. 9:30pm
Caffe Driade: Sawyer-Goldberg Ensemble. 8pm
Cat's Cradle: Holsapple and Stamey, American Aquarium, Luego. 8pm. \$10/12
The Cave: EARLY: Rev. Brandon Hayes LATE: Mark Holland's Rhythm Force, The Houstons
City Tap: Sleepless Nights. 8-10pm
General Store Cafe: Rough Cut. 8:30pm
Local 506: Fake Problems, Kiss Kiss. 9:30pm. \$10

CAT'S CRADLE

SA 6/20 **CAMERA OBSCURA**

ON SALE 6/19
TU 6/28 **ATMOSPHERE**

ON SALE 6/19
TU 10/27 **PINBACK**

TH 11/5 **THE JESUS LIZARD**

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| FR 6/19 THE CONNELLS W/MAYFLIES USA**(\$15) SA 6/20**(\$15) CAMERA OBSCURA W/ANNI ROSSI FR 6/26**(\$15) NYLON SUMMER MUSIC TOUR FEATURING PATRICK WOLF, LIVING THINGS, PLASTICINES, JAGUAR LOVE SA 6/27 PETER HOLSAPPLE & CHRIS STAMEY W/AMERICAN AQUARIUM AND LUEGO ALBUM RELEASE PARTY FR 7/3 THE ORB HAS CANCELLED FR 7/10 BOMBADIL HAS CANCELLED SA 7/11 CLUB IS OPEN FESTIVAL: FILTHYBIRD, NATHAN OLIVER, THE FUTURE KINGS OF NOWHERE AND AMERICAN AQUARIUM FR 7/17**(\$18/\$20) NICE-N-SMOOTH 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT AND AFTERPARTY SA 7/18 GIRLS ROCK SHOWCASE SU 7/19 LOST IN THE TREES **(\$8) WE 7/22 - SA 7/25 XX MERGE SOLD OUT | SU 7/26 DREGG, RX BANDITS W/ ZECHS MARQUIS** TU 7/28 ATMOSPHERE ON SALE 6/19**(\$22/\$25) SA 8/1 COSMOPOLITANS W/MITCH EASTER, DON DIXON** SA 8/8 DE LA SOUL 20 YEARS HIGH AND RISING TOUR**(\$25/\$28) WE 8/12 AKRON/FAMILY **(\$10/\$12) SA 8/15 AMY RAY W/VON IVA AND BELLAFEA**(\$12/\$15) SU 8/16 THE SCRIPT W/PARACHUTE**(\$12/\$15) WE 8/26 WEISS FAMILY (OF MEWITHOUTYOU) W/DAMIEN JURADO AND PSALTERS**(\$13/\$15) TU 9/1 HOT TUNA ELECTRIC **(\$25/\$28) W/OLD SCHOOL FREIGHT TRAIN FR 9/11 OWL CITY **(\$12/\$14) WE 9/15 JOHN "JOJO" HERMANN OF WIDESPREAD PANIC W/SHERMAN EWING**(\$18/\$22) FR 9/18 WHO'S BAD? TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL JACKSON** | SA 9/19 ARROGANCE @40 BIRTHDAY BASH MANY SPECIAL GUESTS! WE 9/30 RA RA RIOT W/MAPS & ATLASES AND PRINCETON ON SALE 6/19**(\$12/\$14) MO 10/26 KMFDM TU 10/27 PINBACK ON SALE 6/19**(\$14/\$16) TH 11/5 THE JESUS LIZARD ON SALE 6/19**(\$20) ALSO PRESENTING NIGHTLIGHT (CHAPEL HILL) SU 6/28 WOODEN BIRDS W/OTHER LIVES LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL) MO 7/13 HANDSOME FURS TH 7/16 REEVES GABRELS W/BENJOMATIC TH 8/13 LOW ANTHEM MO 8/17 THE WARLOCKS MO 9/28 SCHOOL OF SEVEN BELLS MEMORIAL HALL (UNC - CHAPEL HILL) SU 7/26 SHE & HIM AMERICAN MUSIC CLUB, WYE OAK - XX MERGE THE ARTSCENTER (CAR) SA 8/22 BOWERBIRDS W/MEGAFAUN |
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News Briefs

Clifton named interim county manager

Frank W. Clifton Jr. will be the interim county manager for Orange County, starting June 15.

As interim manager, Clifton will lead the day-to-day operations of Orange County government, interacting with the board of county commissioners, county departments and the general public. He will report directly to the board of commissioners.

Clifton's past jobs have included county manager of Onslow County, city manager of Casselberry, Fla., county manager of Cabarrus County and city manager of Bristol, Tenn.

His educational background includes a bachelor's degree in management and finance from the University of South Florida and a master's degree in city management from East Tennessee State University.

Clifton is replacing Laura Blackmon, whose last day as county manager is June 30.

Changes in OWASA requirements

Revised water-conservation standards are now in effect for OWASA customers based on recent actions by the towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro and Orange County.

Spray irrigation of non-turf vegetation such as trees, shrubs and gardens is not subject to limits on days of the week, hours and amount of irrigation per week under normal conditions.

Drip irrigation, underground hose emitters, soaker hose, hand watering and other non-spray irrigation are allowed at any time, duration and frequency except in a water-supply emergency.

Spray irrigation of turf (grass) is now permitted in normal water-supply conditions before 10:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. on the designated days: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for odd-numbered addresses and Wednesday, Friday and Sunday for even addresses. The spray-irrigation limit of one inch per week in normal water-supply conditions continues to apply to turf.

There is greater flexibility for irrigation of "public-purpose athletic and recreational fields" and "public-purpose botanical sites" for which OWASA approves a water-conservation plan. Public facilities were previously subject to the same irrigation restrictions as private properties.

Swimming pools can be filled, refilled or topped off at any time except in a water-supply emergency.

OWASA staff developed the proposed changes based on experiences in the 2007-08 drought and comments from customers about the water-use restrictions, which were adopted in 2003.



Nerys Levy coolly checks her notes before presenting at the Ackland Art Museum. PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Chill is in the air at Antarctic exhibit

RECENTLY . . .

By Valarie Schwartz

It could have been the refrigerated air pulsing into the upstairs room at the Ackland Art Museum. Or the effect of Nerys Levy's paintings of the Antarctic. Either way, the chill was appropriate during Levy's discussion "The Process of Time and the Problem of Cold."

The first in this summer's series of "Out of the Studio" salons was presented during the Ackland's free Art After Dark program held monthly in conjunction with the 2ndFriday Art Walk.

Parking in the corner lot at Rosemary and Columbia streets around 5:30 was surprisingly easy. Before going upstairs, it was relaxing to take in a few minutes of musical performance by Mark Gabriel Little while guests sat comfortably enjoying free refreshments or a (purchased) beer.

Though it was the week when Levy and the rest of us learned that her exhaustive efforts to save the Carrboro Branch Library had proven successful, she presented herself only as the "plein air" artist she has been much of her life. The economist who studied the New Delhi slums, taught race relations in South Africa and politics with Desmond Tutu, earned a doctorate in South Asian history, was the dedicated mate to the late Robert Levy and taught concurrently in the departments of anthropology

at UNC and Duke blended into the background, obscured by the confident passion she brought as an artist. Surrounded by some of her paintings, she described her artistic pursuits in late 2006 and 2007, to China and Antarctica, respectively. I swear, people were pulling on wraps and rubbing their bare arms as the delightfully cool room seemingly dipped while Levy described what equipment had been necessary each time she had left the heated exploration vessel to enter a Zodiac dingy that delivered her just close enough to wade ashore, wearing or carrying "three layers of insulated clothing, life vest, balaclava, light backpack, double-layered gloves, sun glasses, hand and toe warmers, spiral notebooks, water-soluble felt pens, field watercolor box, ski pole and camera." She made eight such landings on the seventh continent.

At the top of her talk, Levy shared that artists are frequently asked how long a painting took to complete.

"They may answer 10 minutes, two days, three weeks. But they should always add to these times the years they have been actively engaged in the process of making art. In my case," Levy continued, "this adds up to over 30 years of constant practice and readjustments generated by teachers, criticism, teaching, looking and learning — plus all those other years since birth when I was preparing for the profession."

Her painting life began as a child growing up in Wales, ex-

posed daily to her painter grandfather, who lived with her family. Contemplating the land- and seascapes became second nature to her as she lived in Switzerland, India, Africa, California and, finally, since 1991, Carrboro, where she participates monthly with N.C. Paint and the Alamance County Arts Council plein air groups, which take excursions to local farms, gardens and countrysides for several hours of painting.

As she spoke of her journey to China, which included a boat trip down the Li Jiang River, she whipped out a seemingly small sketch pad with each sheet connected to another, creating a stream of paper on which she had captured her surroundings.

"Each frame represents an encounter which left an indelible mark on the page and on my artistic memory," Levy said. "And

so when in my studio I embarked on expanding this sketch into a painting, I was able to recapture much of that artistic and emotional experience through the sketch."

She took photos after sketching, but, "For me, the sketch is always the trigger for the painting."

Next month Levy will sketch the Norwegian Archipelago in the High Arctic, where she will encounter the plight of walrus and polar bears. The resulting art may help her appeal for assistance in saving their melting homes — and the informed will dress warmly when they go see it! Check out her work at neryslevy.com

Next month will feature ceramicist Carmen Elliott at 6 p.m. on July 10.

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

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Community Briefs

Blood drive June 24

The American Red Cross, Anna Maria's and OWASA will co-sponsor a blood drive on Wednesday, June 24, from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the community room at the OWASA Administration Building on Jones Ferry Road.

Anna Maria's and OWASA will provide food and blood donors will also be eligible to win a cruise for two.

Though all blood types are needed, types O and B are in especially high need. To participate in a blood drive, donors must be at least 17 years old or 16 with parental consent, weigh at least 110 pounds, be in general good health and have positive identification.

For more information, contact Lisa Wilson at 537-4237 or orlwilson@owasa.org. Walk-ins are welcome after noon.

H1N1 cases expected to rise

Orange County has 15 confirmed cases of the H1N1 virus, also known as swine flu, and case counts are expected to rise over the summer. Chatham County has seven confirmed cases.

Symptoms of the H1N1 virus include a high fever (though fever may be absent), a runny or stuffy nose, coughing, a sore throat and body aches.

Swine flu spreads in the same way as regular seasonal influenza viruses, which is from person to person in respiratory droplets of coughs and sneezes. To find out more about cases in your area, visit the Orange County website at co.orange.nc.us/health/index.asp or Chatham County at chathamnc.org/Index.aspx?page=124

Democratic Women meeting

The Orange County Democratic Women will hold its monthly general meeting Thursday, June 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the OWASA community room. Chris Fitzsimon, director of NC Policy Watch, will speak on health care reform. Contact Linda Foxworth at 942-0045 or l_foxworth_2000@yahoo.com with any questions.

Community Calendar

Friday, June 19

Contra Dance — The Carolina Song and Dance Association will present a contra dance at the Carrboro Century Center. Live music by the Donnybrook Lads. Bring clean, smooth-soled shoes. Workshop at 7:30pm, dance at 8. \$8 donation requested. 967-9948

Saturday, June 20

Park Ranger Book Talk — Retired National Park Service Ranger and freelance writer Tim Pegram will read from his book *The Blue Ridge Parkway By Foot: A Park Ranger's Memoir*. The book recounts his 469-mile trek through the Parkway and anecdotal history and accounts from some of the Parkway's earliest rangers. 11am at McIntyre's Fine Books in Fearington Village, 542-3030 for more.

Sunday, June 21

Bolivar Book Talk — Miguel Chirinos, author of *Simon Bolivar in the United States of America*, will discuss the Latin American revolutionary at CHICLE, 101 E Weaver St. Suite G-1, 3rd floor over Weaver Street Market. 5-6:30pm, chi-cle.com or 933-0398 for more information.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

Quilt Show — The public is invited to the opening reception for "Piecing It Together, Peacing It Together." Work by quilt fabricator Katherine Nelson and metal sculptor Renee Levery Oliverio. The show will run through July 25 in the Hillsborough Gallery of Arts, at 121 N. Churton St., Hillsborough. 732-5001, or hillsboroughgallery.com.

Rogers Road Program — Wil-

son Library presents a panel discussion on the history of the Rogers Road neighborhood in Chapel Hill. Guests will include Emily Eidener, author of "Rogers Road" and Minister Robert Campbell, president of the Rogers-Eubanks Neighborhood Association. Reception at 5pm, program at 5:45, 962-4207 or library.unc.edu/spotlight/2009/rogers_road.html.

Ongoing

Cancer Support — Support groups for cancer patients and their families. cornucopiiahouse.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, chapelhillctf.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 McDougle 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.



Don't miss out on summer camp!



The Arts Center's summer camps are still open! With one-week and two-week programs, half-day and full-day options, as well as an early arrival and late departure service, our camps provide you with many options.

Also check out the Youth Performing Arts Conservatory summer theatre camps for middle school and high school students.

For more information, go to www.artscenterlive.org.

SUPER CROSSWORD NO CONTEST

ACROSS

- 1 Spasm
- 4 Honshu metropolis
- 9 Pinza or Chialapin
- 13 Alko's restaurant?
- 18 Aroma
- 20 Jeopardy
- 21 Vivacity
- 22 Writer Rogers St. Johns
- 23 Start of a remark by 134 Across
- 25 Parisian pronoun
- 26 Raj address
- 27 "Gladiator" extra
- 28 Stick
- 30 "Glad All..." (64 hit)
- 32 Lowe or Morrow
- 33 Valuable
- 35 Part 2 of remark
- 39 Barren area
- 43 Under the Yum Yum... (63 film)
- 44 Mail event
- 45 Kimono cummerbund
- 46 Plunder
- 47 They may be personal
- 49 Donizetti ditties
- 53 Male kangaroo
- 55 More minute
- 59 With decorum
- 62 Abound (with)
- 64 Actor Ryan
- 65 Mongrel
- 66 Roger Rabbit, for one
- 67 "Foot" singer, Chris
- 69 Salled through
- 71 "Lucky Jim" author
- 73 Compass pt.
- 74 Go-getter
- 77 Part 3 of remark
- 79 "The French Connection" name
- 81 Comic Charlotie
- 82 Kuvasz and komonoz
- 84 Protected
- 85 Veto
- 86 Fruit-tree spray
- 88 "pro nobis"
- 89 Adult tadpoles
- 92 Canvas cover
- 95 Forsaken
- 97 Mobile homes?
- 99 Dissolve
- 101 — Grigio
- 102 Maestro de Waart
- 104 Secular
- 106 Dion's "Run-around" girl
- 107 Plug
- 110 Rohmer or Roberts
- 113 Shameless
- 115 End of remark
- 119 Goblet part
- 120 Mohammed
- 121 Jinnah
- 122 Harry Chapin hit
- 122 Buckwheat dish
- 126 Defer
- 129 Shinbone
- 132 Temporary calm
- 134 Speaker of remark
- 136 Happening figure
- 137 Unmarried Mre.
- 138 Macabre
- 139 Man the bar
- 140 Brawl
- 141 Actress Anna
- 142 Man of Malmö
- 143 John — Passos
- DOWN
- 1 Some turkeys
- 2 Pastoral poem
- 3 Cold feet
- 4 Unlock, in poesy
- 5 Circus Barker?
- 6 "New Yorker" cartoonist
- 7 Last name in piracy
- 8 Dismount
- 9 Hum bug?
- 10 Let
- 11 Fusillade
- 12 Looks like Hook?
- 13 Lehar's "Land des Lachelins"
- 14 Neighbor of Mont.
- 15 Jawaharial's jacket
- 16 "There's — Out Tonight!" author
- 17 Synagogue figure
- 19 Competitor
- 24 Untamed
- 29 Cereal spike
- 31 Nutritional abbr.
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- 36 Beloved
- 37 Blow for a bounder
- 38 Tours topper
- 39 Reggae's Marley
- 40 Border on
- 41 Major —
- 42 Kenton or Getz
- 48 Adoption agcy.
- 50 Incongruous
- 51 Isolated
- 52 Last word of year?
- 54 "Show Boat" composer
- 56 Rely (on) state
- 57 Shoestrings
- 58 Promote
- 60 Type of roast
- 61 Heavenly hunter
- 63 Knight's quaff
- 68 "There's — Out Tonight!" ('61 hit)
- 70 "Moll Flanders" author
- 72 Rotisserie part
- 74 — Lama
- 75 Wish and
- 76 Fairy-tale fiend
- 78 Swing a sickle
- 80 Student's ordeal
- 81 Airport feature
- 83 Mean Marquis
- 87 Perch
- 90 Submarine base?
- 91 Line of clothing?
- 93 Looked like
- 94 Asset
- 95 Palindromic name
- 97 Amos or Spelling
- 98 Jazzman
- 100 Asian holiday
- 103 Epic name in epics
- 105 Terra —
- 108 Absent
- 109 Old Testament book
- 111 It may be invisible
- 112 Breaks off
- 114 Worked in Vegas
- 115 Postem and portucills
- 116 Martini garnish
- 117 Yak's turf
- 118 Jump for joy
- 123 Prepare prunes
- 124 Present
- 125 Enthusiastic
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- 135 Shoe width

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

"The Truth Can Hurt"

H Q W H X E K J E A Q W X K S X E
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Q B J V X A A X E G B O K Y H J R K J
K V V K H W .
Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.

PETS OF THE WEEK



PAWS4EVER — Meet Romeo! This handsome rottie/shepherd mix fella is a year old, and is a gentle giant (those legs are so long!) who is always happy. He loves car rides, other dogs, long walks and cuddlin' with his human friends. Romeo is even already housetrained, and for a big dog he is pretty good about not pulling on the leash. He is so ready to find his forever family, look at that face! 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 Yang!

This 4-month-old orange tabby kitten is cute as a button! He's at the shelter with his siblings and having a great time playing and entertaining visitors! Don't wait! This gorgeous boy is being featured in our beautiful new facility's featured pet room, so he's sure to get lots of attention! Visit Orange County's Animal Services Center, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill or call 942-PETS (7387). You can also see him online at co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp.



Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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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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FARMERS' MARKET

Sat: 7am-Noon • Wed: Now open 3:30-6:30pm
Thurs at Southern Village starts May 7 @ 3:30-6:30pm

What's at Market?

BLACKBERRIES, raspberries, peaches, fennel, eggplant, blueberries, strawberries, snow peas, kohlrabi, green peppers, fava beans, sugar snaps, zucchini, cucumbers, summer squash, new potatoes, tomatoes, leeks, cauliflower, lettuce, chard, spring onions, pac choy, flour, onions, garlic, arugula, beets, broccoli, watercrest, cabbage, radishes, winter squashes, collards, fresh herbs, kale, leeks, mustard greens, salad greens, spinach, sweet potatoes, turnips, turnip greens, winter squashes, pecans, herb and vegetable starters, flowers such as anemones, sweet Williams, ranunculus, tulips, poppies, bachelor buttons, snap dragons, agrostema, freesia, pussy willows, ranunculus chicken-sausage, maple sausage, smoked ham, smoked ham hocks, liverwurst, lamb, bacon, chicken, eggs, cow's milk cheeses, breads, doughnuts, tortes, pies, cakes, jams, and relishes



County budget approved

The Orange County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a \$177,589,039 budget for fiscal year 2010 Tuesday night. The board, at its meeting at the Southern Human Services Center in Chapel Hill, set the county property tax rate at 85.8 cents per \$100 valuation, a decrease from last year's level of 99.8 cents. The new fiscal year starts on July 1. The decrease partially offsets increases from property revaluations and provides the county with revenues at the same level as last fiscal year. Despite being "revenue neutral," most county residents will see an increase in their property tax bills, in part to make up for a recession-driven drop in vehicle taxes. The budget includes the costs of opening new county facilities and uses reserve funds to help staff a new main branch library in Hillsborough. Staffing the library allowed the county to keep open the Carrboro Branch Library and the Cedar Grove Branch Library. A previous budget proposal, which called for closing the branches and moving their employees to the new library, was rejected by commissioners last week. To hold down costs this year and pay for opening the new facilities, the county has saved money through a hiring freeze and by delaying pay increases for county workers.

BOA FROM PAGE 1

The inability to participate in electing town officials for the extraterritorial jurisdiction was a rallying point for the 15 or so farming families in the room. But that's North Carolina state law, Chilton said, one the board can't do anything about. Though many issues have been brought up, the discussion ultimately turns back to the caretaker apartments. Farmers want the ability to build an apartment for farmhands to live in without a rezoning of their land or violating the land-use ordinance. Planning Board member Sharon Cook addressed this issue, presenting a proposed text amendment to the town that was dismissed as being too broad. The issue of rent has been raised by board members-Dan Coleman and Jacquie Gist, and they said that for an

amendment to be passed, there will need to be stricter rules on what a caretaker or farmhand actually is or does, and whether the apartment is paid for by rent or is part of the caretaker's compensation. Leonard's husband, Robert Hogan, said he doesn't understand why rent is the issue, saying some aldermen are anti-farm and anti-business. Chilton said the lawsuit between Kille and the town raised the issue, and the town wanted a hearing on the issues in order to clear the air. Chilton said now that the issue of caretaker housing has been discussed, the town and farmers could start working to get it resolved. In other action Tuesday night, the board approved and adopted the \$19.1 million fiscal 2010 operating budget. 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. 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. Also Tuesday, Alderman John Herrera announced he will not run for re-election, saying that he wanted to spend more time with his family. The Board of Aldermen is on a six-week hiatus and will resume weekly meetings in August.

MILLHOUSE FROM PAGE 1

Tuesday night's discussion of the Millhouse site began with Bob Sallach of Olver Inc. reporting on his company's analysis of the site, as requested by commissioners at their May 19 meeting. 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 Millhouse site had been considered in the original site search, but Sallach said it had scored low due to several factors, including poor access and inadequate buffering. The Town of Chapel Hill has offered to allow transfer station traffic to use an access road through its operations center, which Sallach said improved the site's ranking. Considerations in the site's favor, Sallach said, include its

proximity to the areas of heaviest waste generation and to existing collection routes and the fact that governmental facilities are already there. A majority of those in attendance Tuesday night were unconvinced. When, during the public comments session, Millhouse Road resident Robert Long asked those who oppose consideration of the site to stand, about two-thirds of the 100-plus gathered did so. Most who spoke were puzzled that the site had withstood the scrutiny of the county's community-specific criteria, which includes environmental-justice concerns as well as consideration of the number of residents affected and proximity to schools, churches and recreational sites. Millhouse Road runs off Eubanks Road to the north, and the intersection of Millhouse and Eubanks is a half-mile from the entrances to the landfill. Millhouse

and Rogers-Eubanks residents have stressed that they have long considered themselves to be of one community and have argued that putting a transfer station so close to the landfill would mean that community would further bear the burden of waste disposal after 37 years of proximity to the landfill. The site is also adjacent to the Emerson Waldorf School, and several parents and board members and a student at the school expressed their concerns Tuesday night. After hearing from the public, Commissioner Mike Nelson voiced his dissatisfaction with the turn of events. "Where this got off track," he said, "was with this last-minute, 11th-hour offer, which might not even be an offer." Nelson said that Rogers-Eubanks residents had been promised that if they were against the Millhouse Road site, it would

be removed from consideration. Foushee was at the meeting with residents and Chapel Hill representatives in which the promise was made. Nelson's comments, Foushee said, "are not only his opinion, but fact." She said that she indicated at the time that if the residents were against the idea, she was not interested in entertaining it, and added, "I'm still not interested in entertaining it." On Wednesday, Nelson said reopening the process after first selecting Eubanks Road as the site of the transfer station was not only about siting a facility but, equally, about "rebuilding trust with a part of the community that feels, rightly or wrongly, that they've been lied to by local government." "We were on the verge of rebuilding bridges and rebuilding trust," Nelson said. That, he believes, has been squandered.

ELECTION FROM PAGE 1

the worldwide economic downturn and how we manage growth as we begin to see the first tangible examples of 'high density' development. There is the continuing frustration with our failure to make meaningful visible progress towards a safer and more dynamic downtown and a number of other vexing challenges." Czajkowski joins fellow council member Mark Kleinschmidt, who announced he would seek the mayor's post last month, and Augustus Cho, who announced earlier this month. Cho is the former head of the Orange County Republican Party and chair of the Chapel Hill Transportation Board. "We face a number of challenges of managing necessary growth in times of economic difficulty that require clear direction and not excuses or passing the

blame," Cho said in announcing his run. "The small/independent businessmen/women will have a friend at the mayor's office, for growth, commerce and leadership will be the hallmark of the Cho administration." So far in the race for seats on the Chapel Hill Town Council, Penny Rich, who ran unsuccessfully two years ago, has said she intends to run, and council members Ed Harrison and Jim Merritt must decide whether to seek another term. In Hillsborough, Mayor Tom Stevens said last week that he would seek another term. Incumbents Frances Dancy and Michael Gering have yet to announce whether they will run again. Filing for the Nov. 3 election begins July 6 at 8 a.m. and ends at noon on July 17. The Orange County Board of Elections website will keep track of candidates as they file at co.orange.nc.us/elect/2009CandidateFilings.asp

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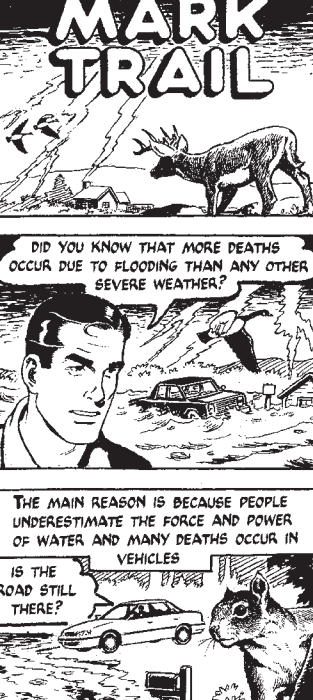
MARK TRAIL

NO AREAS IN THE UNITED STATES ARE SAFE FROM FLOODS...INTENSE RAIN CAN CAUSE FLOODS OR FLASH FLOODS

DID YOU KNOW THAT MORE DEATHS OCCUR DUE TO FLOODING THAN ANY OTHER SEVERE WEATHER?

THE MAIN REASON IS BECAUSE PEOPLE UNDERESTIMATE THE FORCE AND POWER OF WATER AND MANY DEATHS OCCUR IN VEHICLES

IS THE ROAD STILL THERE?



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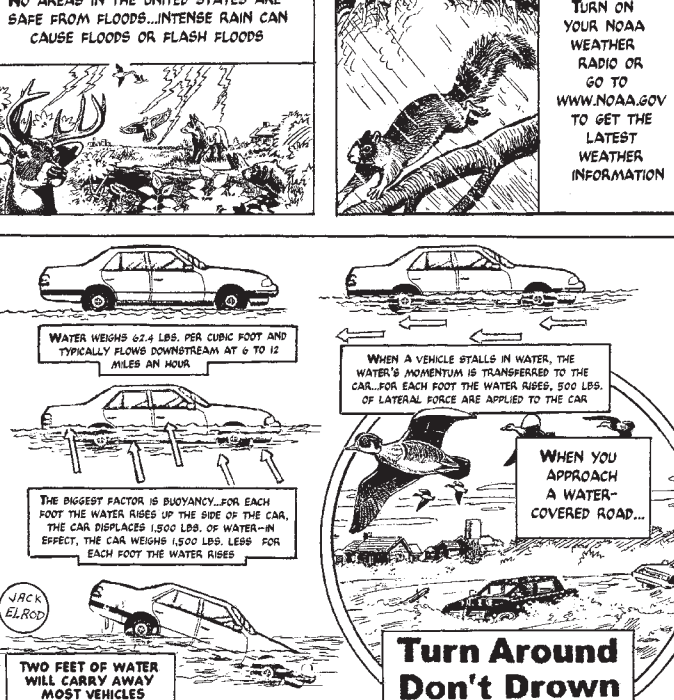
WHEN A VEHICLE STALLS IN WATER, THE WATER'S MOMENTUM IS TRANSFERRED TO THE CAR...FOR EACH FOOT THE WATER RISES, 500 LBS. OF LATERAL FORCE ARE APPLIED TO THE CAR

WHEN YOU APPROACH A WATER-COVERED ROAD...

THE INSURE FACTOR IS BUOYANCY...FOR EACH FOOT THE WATER RISES UP THE SIDE OF THE CAR, THE CAR DISPLACES 1,300 LBS. OF WATER-IN EFFECT, THE CAR WEIGHS 1,300 LBS. LESS...FOR EACH FOOT THE WATER RISES

TWO FEET OF WATER WILL CARRY AWAY MOST VEHICLES

Turn Around Don't Drown



puzzle solutions

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CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER:
I cried and screamed. I went to the bathroom and threw up — Elizabeth Edwards, on her reaction when her husband, John Edwards, confessed to having an affair.

FOR THE RECORD

Lessons unlearned

Ten more years (well, maybe 20) — that's all the people's representatives of Orange County and Chapel Hill ask of the historically black neighborhood saddled with a landfill some 37 years ago.

Ten years was all they were asked back then, after all. But by golly, through recycling and composting and making that landfill bigger and better we were able to go four times that.

The people who live in and around the Rogers-Eubanks roads neighborhood — the families who worked the land and helped craft that beautiful university — are incredulous. It is not an unfamiliar state.

They are stunned as we are at the disconnect between history and reality and the decision to pursue yet another major waste facility around their homes.

For the new members of this commission and town leadership, and to those new to the area, the decision to do so might make some sense. But history and reality will file it, we believe, along with other regrettable acts of expediency.

Somehow this got out of control again and what was at least a fairly public process about where to site a new waste transfer station became murky. And, again very quickly, the easiest thing to do — dump this burden on the same people near the same place — seems to be the favored position.

There is no doubt that the N.C. 54 site is flawed, mainly due to location. But with the timeline stretched a bit and new options opening in Chatham County and elsewhere for partnerships, there is no reason to fast-track another site, especially one that compounds a historic error.

It is not too late for the county and its municipal partners to work together to find a more suitable site or strategy. Initiating a search for a smaller site seems to be a reasonable step to take.

The worry is that with the county vote on Tuesday, we appear to be heading down the same path that ultimately led to the rejection of an alternative temporary site on Eubanks Road, less than a mile away from the site proposed on Millhouse Road.

History aside, this site for a proposed transfer station doesn't make sense. It is in the rural buffer and not served by utilities. It is next to a school with 250 K-12 students and they cross the road often to get to playfields and gardens adjacent to the proposed transfer station. And to get to the site, trucks, including tractor-trailers, would have to travel along Eubanks and Millhouse roads.

While the technical reasons tell us the Millhouse Road site doesn't seem right, the historical record tells us to reject it out-of-hand. It is time to heal Rogers Road, not continue to wound it.

As one resident reminded commissioners Tuesday night, the landfill, the annexation that split the neighborhood and the extension of the landfill to almost indefinite status has all but destroyed what was once a close-knit thriving community with a rich history that rivals any neighborhood farther up the hill.

If our newly composed county commission and the leadership of the Town of Chapel Hill decide to pursue this path, they should do so knowing that they'll likely finish the job.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Paper should report the facts

Shame on The Carrboro Citizen! Shame on you! Shame on Mark Chilton!

Any doubt about whether Carrboro's recent loan to The Carrboro Citizen would bias it by enabling pandering to the town's leadership was surely set to rest by your decision to disregard, as its editor, objectivity and professionalism when you decided to publish Mr. Chilton's June 11 "Opinion" piece. Great timing, too!

About two months ago, you committed to researching the facts — to finding the truth — to being objective — before reporting further on this matter. You've now lost my respect and that of a host of local readers.

But the questions from the beginning remain:

What happened to the final inspection documents?

Why do daily inspection logs remain for 1998 and other years but not for 1997?

Why is there not only one permit (as with other contractors) but two for Hillsborough Plumbing? And why is there no record of a final inspection of Hillsborough Plumbing having occurred at

all, let alone as it did on/about Dec. 15, 1997? And well after the town's alleged final inspection date!

Messrs. Chilton, Canova and Brough continue to claim that the final inspection occurred on Dec. 1, 1997, conducted by former inspector Don Knight with Carlin Electric. The true final inspection occurred thereafter on/about Dec. 15, conducted by incumbent inspector Donnie Williams with Hillsborough Plumbing.

Either way, the apartment bathroom lines were indisputably embedded in concrete by no later than Oct. 31, 1997

on Nov. 28 and Dec. 3, 1997, respectively.

As regards farming, Carrboro has had 21 years in which to implement a Farm Code and has failed to do so. WHY?

And why at that time did Carrboro NOT grant "voting rights" to ETJ land owners when the state gave its leadership this option in conjunction with transferring development jurisdiction to municipalities?

When you again practice professional journalism, you'll likely learn the truth! Let's hope you and TCC have the courage to report it at that time!

p.s. Re: Chilton's claim that he initiated partnering with cooperative extension, I was the one to invite

Karen McAdams into recent discussions of the fertilizer restrictions amendment and farm code — and NOT Mr. Chilton or any other town official.

Re: The Carrboro Farmers' Market, no ETJ/watershed legal farm owner sells produce reportedly at this venue. Walk around any Saturday. Mebane, Chatham County. Hillsborough. Elsewhere. Great venue but NOT for Carrboro's farms.

MARILYN KILLE
Peppermint Spring Farm

*"Shame on The Carrboro Citizen!
Shame on you! Shame on Mark Chilton!"*

and, therefore, should have been inspected during the town's alleged final inspection on Dec. 1, 1997.

Unless both inspectors were blind on Dec. 1, 1997, there should be no reason "why?" Carrboro is insisting on applying the 2009 Residential Code.

The Department of Insurance has taken the position that, in the absence of final inspection and CO docs, the activation of public utilities (PSNC, PEMC) should document the completion date and applicable code year. As

The battle for clean elections continues

CHRIS FITZSIMON

Supporters of clean and fair elections are coming to Raleigh Wednesday to urge state lawmakers to expand public financing to more Council of State and local government races.

You would think providing campaign funds for candidates who'd rather not owe special interests anything after they are elected wouldn't be that controversial.

But that's why they call them special interests. They don't want to change a system in which their money dominates. A lobbyist for the N.C. Home Builders Association told legislators earlier this session that "people believe in the current PAC election system," so there's no need to change it.

The donors to the Home Builders PAC sure believe in it. The PAC gave \$444,000 to legislative candidates in the 2008 election. That's a lot of money and a lot of strings. The home builders and realtors also pour money into local races, so they don't want local public financing either.

Candidates for three Council of State offices can now elect to participate in the clean-election system and must collect a set number of small contributions to receive public funds. Both Democratic and Republican candidates have elected to take part, freeing them from raising money from the people they regulate.

Legislation to expand public financing to all Council of State races except governor and lieutenant governor is pending in the Senate.

The Town of Chapel Hill is the only local government that gives candidates the option of clean money. Legislation that would allow any city with a population of more than 50,000 to establish a public financing system has passed the House and is before the Senate.

Those are the bills the clean-election supporters are coming to Raleigh Wednesday to talk about with their legislators.

The opposition isn't just the special interests who benefit from the current system. The anti-government think-tankers are against it too because they are against almost everything government does.

They claim that it is wrong to ask taxpayers to financially support candidates with whom they disagree. But their rabid opposition runs deeper than that. Bob Phillips with Common Cause North Carolina has it about right when he says, "Their simplistic message is the same: Public financing is another threat to free markets, lower taxes and limited government."

They robotically recite the talking points and embellish anecdotes from one of the states that had the sense to expand public financing to legislative races.

They don't often mention Connecticut, where 75 percent of the candidates for the General Assembly in 2008 ran publicly financed campaigns. Eighty-one percent of the current members of the 2009 Legislature there did not have to rely on private special-interest money to get elected.

Pro-democracy forces in Connecticut also fought off Republican attempts this year to raid the public-financing fund to address the state's budget shortfall.

Imagine a North Carolina General Assembly where members of the House and Senate were not bound by a system that almost requires them to provide special access for donors and fundraisers, the people they need to get re-elected. It's possible.

A handful of wealthy special interests controlling campaigns isn't a

problem for the big-money Right. They'd rather turn it all over to the market and let public offices go to the highest private bidders.

That's no way to run a democracy. It's not democracy at all, really.

Lawmakers need to continue North Carolina's progress toward public financing so the only people public officials are beholden to after the election are the people they represent.

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

VERBATIM

Editor's Note: Following is a proclamation recently adopted by the Carrboro Board of Aldermen recognizing the graduation of the first class of Carrboro High School.

WHEREAS, Carrboro High School opened in August 2007 as the first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certified High School in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, June 13, 2009 will mark a milestone in the budding history of Carrboro High School; and

WHEREAS, the Class of 2009 will be the first graduating class of 138 students; and

WHEREAS, the graduates devoted approximately 15,000 hours of service to the community, the nation, and abroad; and

WHEREAS, they were awarded over \$2.4 million in scholarships; and

WHEREAS, this exceptional group have firmly established a solid foundation of high expectations, raising the bar for future Carrboro High graduates to follow; and

WHEREAS, the architecture and culture of Carrboro High School embody the essence and unique character of Carrboro; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro congratulates Carrboro High School's Class of 2009 for a momentous achievement to be celebrated by family, teachers, coaches, staff, and community; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Aldermen and the entire Town of Carrboro are proud of the academic, service and athletic achievements of the Class of 2009 and encourage them to continue learning, aim high and follow their dreams.

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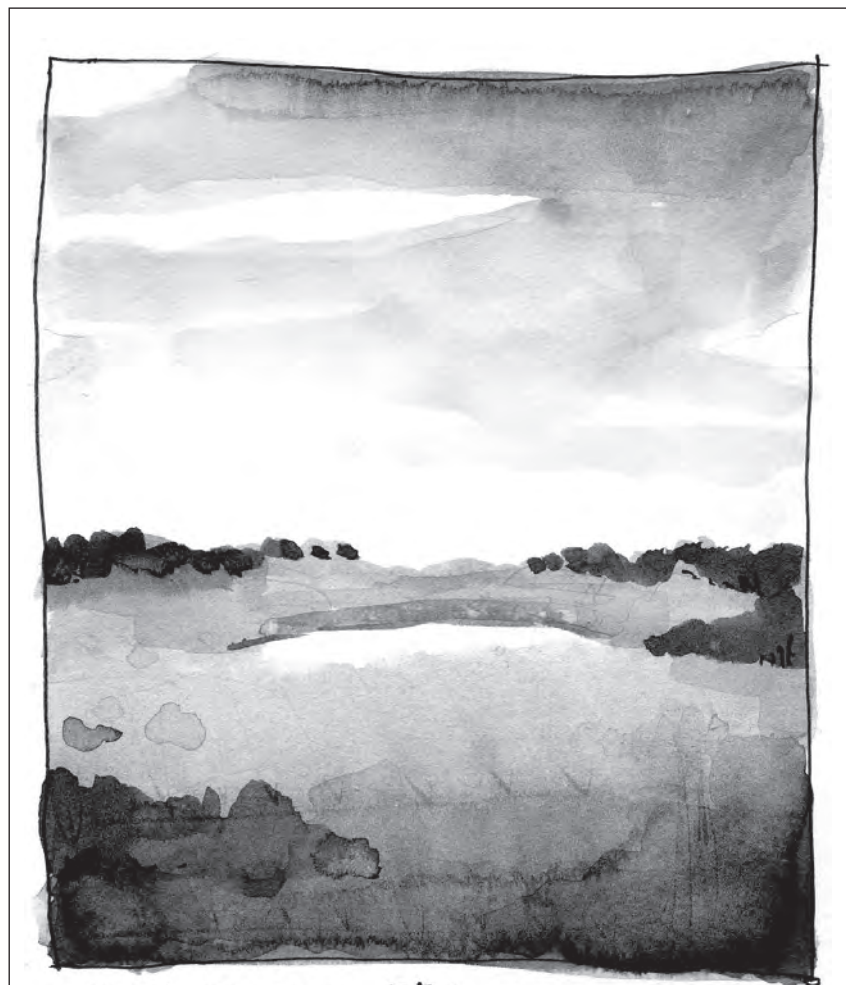
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ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

EAST CHAPEL HILL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2009



Dave Thaden

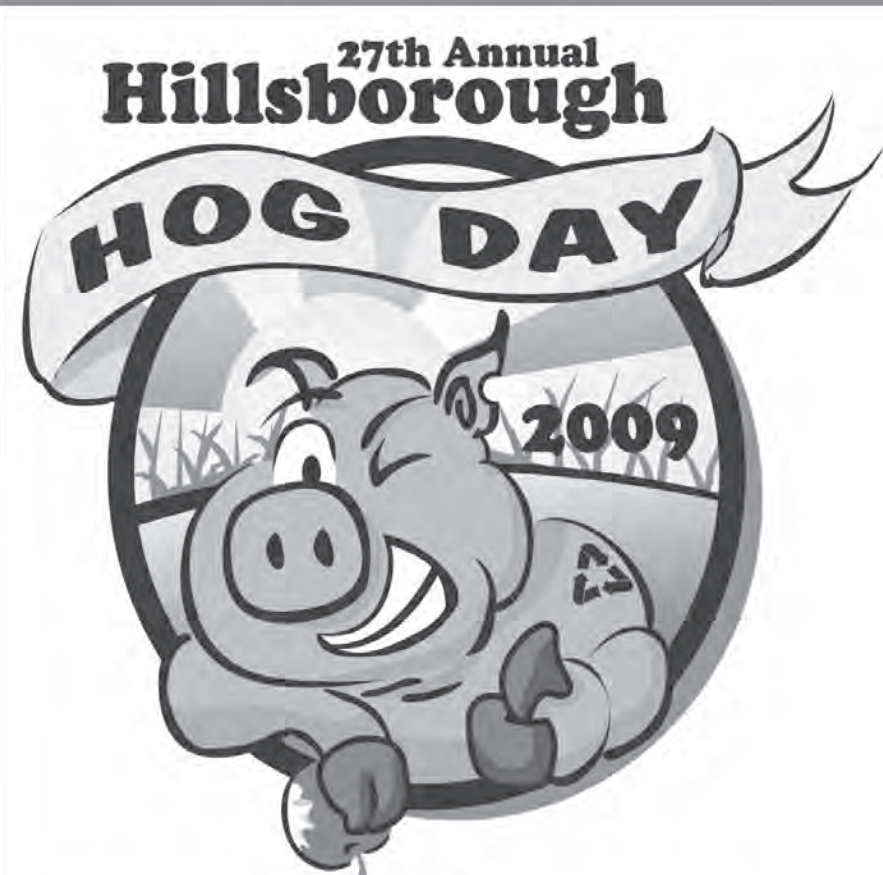
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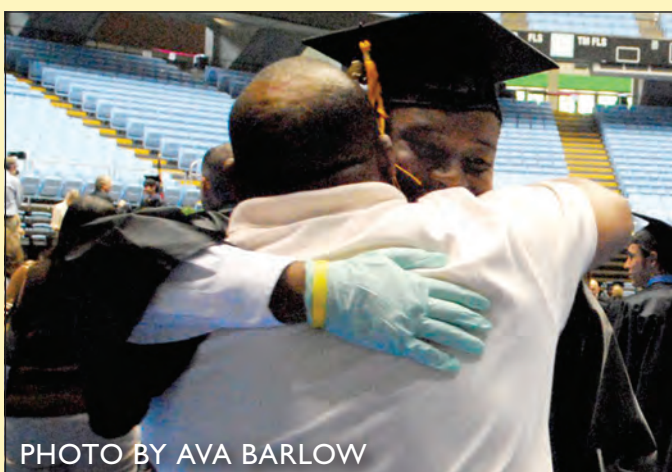


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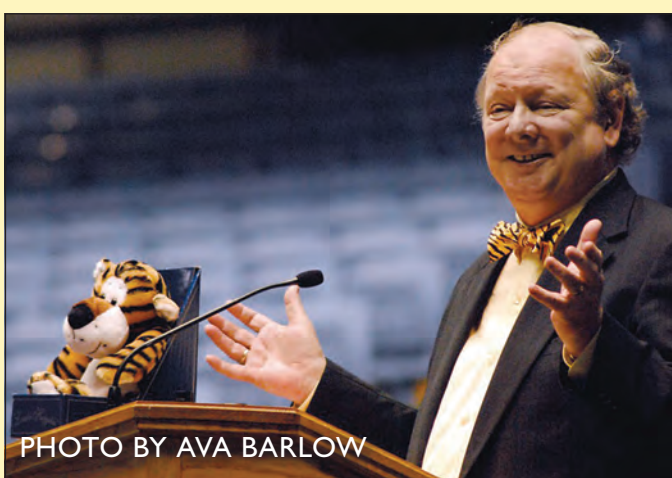


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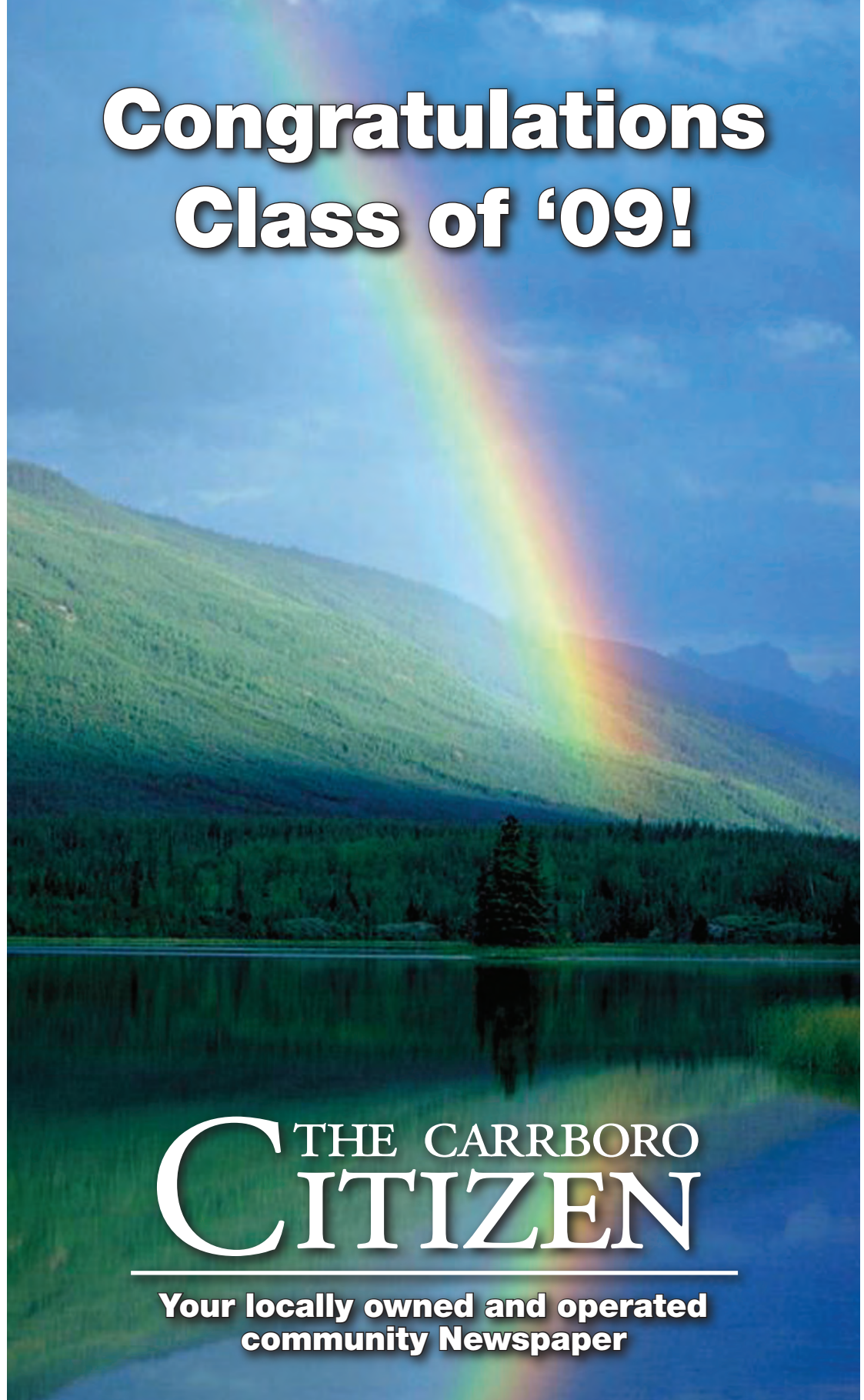
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PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Pete Schubert's bog garden in Durham brings affords "a closer look" at lizard's-tail from the kitchen window.

FLORA

FROM PAGE 1

I have to work hard to grasp a hint of orange peel when crushing the flowers and leaves of a plant, though it does have a distinctively pungent aroma to my senses. When not in flower, the long heart-shaped leaves on zig-zag stems are an attractive bit of green architecture in the garden.

My favorite outside-of-nature place to enjoy lizard's-tail is in the wild garden of Pete Schubert

in southeast Durham. Every time I visit, I must contain my envy that I'm not as successful at duplicating nature all around my house as is Pete. Right now, his bog garden just outside the kitchen is a lizard's-tail spectacle. In full flower for the past two weeks, Pete's plants are far ahead of the several populations just now coming into flower along the loop trail around Big Oak Woods in the Mason Farm Biological Reserve. You'll also find some lizard's-tail along the Bolin Creek trails

in the vicinity of Chapel Hill High School.

The several plantings in and around the Botanical Garden's Totten Center are perhaps the most accessible site for seeing this engaging plant. Another easy viewing vantage point is by canoe and kayak; if you're planning such an outdoors excursion in the next week or so, keep your eyes alert for the drooping flower stems along pond and river edges and that "closer look" is only a few paddles away!



Varsity Theatre fire, 1966

With the Varsity Theatre being in the news lately, I couldn't help but recall another time of crisis for the Franklin Street landmark. In the wee hours of Nov. 16, 1966, the sight of an angry red sky out my Henderson Street apartment window jolted me awake. Grabbing my Rolleicord and Braun strobe unit, I ran out into the 29-degree night to find the Varsity Theatre fully engulfed in flames. My best shot was of the Varsity's owner, the late Andy Gutierrez, emerging wet and shivering from the front of his theater around 4 a.m. while firefighters still doused the flames inside. This photo ran in the *Chapel Hill Weekly* beside reporter Joel Bulkley's account describing the narrow escape of UNC grad student Randall Doshier, who lived upstairs over the Varsity. Wearing only the clothes on his back, Doshier grabbed his most precious possession as went he out the door — his dissertation paper. Readers of "a certain age," all-too familiar with typewritten revisions in the pre-computer era, will appreciate how miraculous was Doshier's save. In my mind's eye, I can see him clutching that document to his chest. Now that would have been the picture!



A THOUSAND WORDS

BY JOCK LAUTERER

Do you have an important old photo that you value? Send your 300 dpi scan to jock@email.unc.edu and include the story behind the picture. Because every picture tells a story. And its worth? A thousand words.

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