



FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
88/65



SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
92/67



SUNDAY
30% chance of rain
85/67

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE
Evening primrose flowers open for a single night.

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Plan now for an evening primrose party

Evening primrose has been flowering in some spots along Carrboro's main streets for several weeks. I've been trying to capture a photograph because the plants in my yard don't yet have flower buds, but I've not been up early enough in the mornings or out on the streets late enough in the evenings to have succeeded.

Finally, one evening this past week, I boldly knocked on the door of Bill Derey, one of Carrboro's premier gardeners. Bill's garden, on the west side of North Greensboro Street near Southern States, has been lit up at night by several evening primroses. I learned from Bill that these flowers don't fully open until well after sunset. He knows because he invited a friend over to view the evening primrose flower opening and they had to wait and watch until 8:30 p.m. When those brilliant, butter-yellow flowers finally do open to the pleasure of night-flying pollinators, the plants literally glow in the dark. For a photograph, Bill advised that I should return in the early morning.

So there I was the next morning at 6:30, to discover that most of the flowers had already begun closing. This is truly a flower of the nighttime and well worth going outdoors to view. Having several near one's porch, as Bill has, makes night viewing really convenient.

Don't be confused if you hear someone showing off with the Latin name, *Oenothera biennis*, saying either [ee-noth-EE-ra by-ENN-is] or [ee-NOTH-er-a by-ENN-is], because both pronunciations seem to be acceptable. The first part of the name, the genus, from Greek, means "wine booty." Eating the root was thought to increase one's capacity for wine. I don't recommend this, though a number of Native-American tribes used root teas and poultices for medicinal purposes.

SEE FLORA PAGE 6

Filing season for election opens Monday

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

While some candidates have already announced their intentions to run, their efforts won't become official until they make the trip to the county board of elections office in Hillsborough to sign on the dotted line and pay their filing fees.

That all starts Monday at 8 a.m. Candidates have from then until noon on Friday, July 17 to sign-up to run for town offices and school board races.

This week saw another announcement ahead of the opening

of the filing period, with incumbent Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Randee Haven-O'Donnell telling supporters gathered at Carrboro Town Commons for a solar power workshop that she intends to seek another term. She said her choice of venue wasn't a coincidence and cited her interest in seeing the town become a center for green jobs.

"As a science teacher and environmental educator, this appealed to my interest in new, green technologies to reduce our collective carbon footprint. As an environmental advocate, it was a clear way to begin to encourage clean power production

and promote sustainability through local power generation," she told supporters.

Haven-O'Donnell's is the second official entry in the race for three seats on the board of aldermen that are up this year. She joins Sammy Slade who announced last week. Alderman Jacquie Gist has also said she is going to run for another term. Alderman John Herrera announced last week that he would not seek re-election.

Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton is also expected to seek another term, but has not announced he is doing so.

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

Also on the ballot this fall are three seats on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education. Those seats are held by Jean Hamilton, Gregory McElveen and Lisa Stuckey. Stuckey, the current chair of the school board, and Hamilton have said they are going to seek re-election.

SEE ELECTION PAGE 3



Solar power

The Town of Carrboro invited members of Communities in Schools to "go green" on Monday, June 29, at the Town Commons, on West Main Street. The "Green Awakening" math and science summer campers installed solar panels at the commons to power the lights at the commons sign.

Angelo Archambo, (above) a rising freshman at Orange High School, cuts a pipe to be used as an electrical wiring conduit while Baxter Fricks and Malik Carrington, freshmen at Chapel Hill High School, lend support. Supervising is Nelson Ross, right.

Ed Witkin, (right) of Solar Tech South, helps Malik Carrington assemble an electrical wiring conduit to connect the lights to the solar panel.

PHOTOS BY AVA BARLOW



Town board sends letter to Hagan on health care

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CARRBORO — Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Dan Coleman sent a letter to U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan on behalf of the board and Mayor Mark Chilton asking her to support including a public option in health care reform legislation.

The letter reads: "I am writing on behalf of the Mayor and Alderman of the Town of Carrboro Board to urge you to give your full backing to the public option for health insurance sought by President Obama.

"Municipal governments in North Carolina are struggling with double-digit annual increases in health insurance costs while county social services

are hard-pressed to meet the needs of the uninsured and under-insured. We desperately need your help to achieve needed reform.

"It is our belief that the health care crisis in the United States will ultimately only be solved by a single-payer national system. We encourage you, for the sake of the citizens of North Carolina and the nation, to do all you can to achieve such a system."

Hagan is a member of the Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pen-

sions committee and is one of two Democrats on the committee who has not yet endorsed a public option as part the reform legislation. Groups pushing for the public option say they

against having a lower cost, public plan as part of the options available to consumers under the new legislation.

Responding to an editorial last week in this newspaper, Hagan's communications director Stephanie Allen said the senator could support a public option, but was unwilling to do so without first seeing the specifics of the plan. A Hagan aide familiar with the discussions in the HELP committee said there are several ideas being worked on but that details of a proposed public option have not been settled.

"It is our belief that the health care crisis in the United States will ultimately only be solved by a single-payer national system. We encourage you, for the sake of the citizens of North Carolina and the nation, to do all you can to achieve such a system."

INSIDE

State budget battle continues
Opinion page 4

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Community Briefs

Local poet honored

Carrboro poet Celisa Steele recently was honored by the North Carolina Poetry Society during a celebration held at Weymouth Center for the Arts and Humanities in Southern Pines

She was a finalist for the Poet Laureate Award and won the first-place Joanna Scott Award and an honorable-mention Thomas H. McDill Award.

East cheerleaders win national contest

The East Chapel Hill High School cheerleaders won a national contest sponsored by Black Entertainment Television (BET). They competed on June 10 against other cheerleading groups from across the country, performing a routine to promote the TV program “106 and Park Wild Out Wednesday.” The show was broadcast live from New York City. The East cheerleaders received 61 percent of the online vote of viewers.

Team members are Allison Blalock, Kaetetai Farrington, Erica Geer, Katherine Holcomb, Abriana Johnson, Alice Keith, Carlissa Purefoy, Della Purefoy, Essence Smith, Jasmine Thompson, Ayanna Wade, Tiaunna Weaver and Patrice Womble. The team is coached by Vanessa Diggs and Tahvyea Rains.

Positive rabies test

On July 28, a resident in the vicinity of NC N.C. 86 North and Sawmill Road came home and saw his dog fighting with a raccoon. He shot the raccoon and then called 911.

Orange County Animal Services received a positive rabies result for that raccoon from the North Carolina Rabies Laboratory. This is the ninth confirmed rabies case in Orange County for 2009.

Raccoons are a host species to rabies in the Orange County area and the region. The other species that are most susceptible to getting rabies from raccoons are dogs and cats, groundhogs, skunks and foxes.

The other host species of rabies of concern in this region and others is bats.

Community Calendar

FRIDAY, JULY 3

Said and Done Reading
— James Morrison will read from his volume of short stories *Said and Done* at McIntyre's Fine Books in Fearrington Village. 542-3030, 2pm.

Floodmarkers Release Party
— Chapel Hill writer Nic Brown will read from his novel *Floodmarkers* at The Cave's first-ever book release party. Music by Snuzz, Andy Ware and Sam Frazier. Snuzz and friends will perform in between Brown's readings, with occasional accompaniment by the author on drums.



SATURDAY, JULY 4
— See page 3.

FRIDAY, JULY 10

Hasselle Art Reception
— Award-winning South Carolina artist Robert (Bob) Hasselle has been making pottery and sculpture for over 40 years. Come meet the artist and browse his latest works. Artist Reception from 6-9 pm Showing through Aug 3 at Turning Point Gallery in University Mall. harmonyfineart.com

Carolina Sports Book Talk
— Ed Southern, author of *Sports in the Carolinas: From Death Valley to Tobacco Road*, comes to McIntyre's Fine Books in Fearrington Village. Southern will discuss famous athletes from the Carolinas, from the historical to the contemporary. 2pm

Cybrary Art Walk
— Connect with creative Cybrary patrons at the 2ndFriday Artwalk at the Carrboro Cybrary. Discover the creative talents of Cybrary patrons while enjoying light refreshments and music. Contact the Cybrary if you

are interested in displaying your art or handicraft. Carrboro Cybrary, 100 N. Greensboro St., 918-7387, cybrary@co.orange.nc.us, www.co.orange.nc.us/library/cybrary. 6-9pm.

SATURDAY, JULY 11
Writing Workshop — Prompt Writing with Nancy Peacock, author of *A Broom of One's Own*. No need to sign up, just bring paper and pen. 10am-noon in the Chapel Hill Library Conference Room. Visit nancypeacockbooks.com, email hes-tia7@bellsouth.net or call 259-3517 for more.



Ride for the Land — Triangle Land Conservancy will host its fourth annual bike tour, Ride for the Land 2009. The tour will bring attention to Triangle Land Conservancy's work to protect the farms and forests of Chatham County. Online registration is \$30 till July 9. Registration day of the event is \$35, if available. Start/finish at CCCC Pittsboro Campus triangleland.org/rfl to register.

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 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 3-5 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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ACROSS

1 Summer slinger
5 Say "Hey!"
9 It rhymes with doom!
14 Jamaican cultist
19 — podrida
20 Garfield's pal
21 Slowly, to Sibelius
22 Field marshal
23 Exclude
24 FARMER WANTED!
27 Passe
29 Roman statesman
30 Mare's morsel
31 Florida county
32 Darling dog
34 It's a long story
38 Gum gob
40 Musical syllables
41 GAS STATION ATTENDANT WANTED!
47 Actress Hagen
48 "Got Tonight" ('83 tune)
49 Air bear?

50 Buck's "The Good —"
55 Most spirited
58 Descend upon
60 Stick
61 Tiller
62 Agitated state
63 Oklahoma city
65 Bristol brews
66 Novelist
68 TV's "Happy —"
71 Burn remedy
73 — and outs
74 MAIL CARRIER WANTED!
79 Outlaw
80 Barbara of "Perry Mason"
81 — St. Vincent Millay
82 Dweeb
83 Move like molasses
85 Attempt
87 Stare sala-GAS
89 97 Across ingredients
92 Weaken, in a way
94 Daydream
97 Brunch offering
99 Tantrum
100 Sedaka or Simon

101 Out-of-this-world org.
103 "Hi, Horabel"
104 CHANDELIER
110 SINGER WANTED!
113 Paid player
114 Actor
115 Reunion attendee
116 "Zip- —"
118 Wildebeest
120 Earl
123 Get teed off?
127 MILLINER WANTED!
133 Privy to
134 Rod
135 Stewart's ex
136 — i-friendlly
137 Short on looks
138 Get side-tracked
139 Ski center
140 Pedestal part
141 — Hari
DOWN
1 Lumber
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3 Skirt feature
4 Crystal-clear
5 Kippur
6 Train
7 Bonet or Whelchel
8 Riga resident
9 Day- —
10 Clerical abbr.
11 Indefinite pronoun
12 Henry the Fowler's son
13 New York river
14 Ump's kin
15 Parched
16 Vow
17 Diacritical mark
18 Llama turf
25 Word with face or heart
26 And others
28 Patriotic org.
33 Salamander
35 Blue hue
36 Spiritual guide
37 Usher's sister
39 Stained
41 Toby, for one
42 Neighbor of Idaho
43 Identical
44 A Karamazov brother
45 Dwell

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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.

"Not an easy task"

NUNTNEQVKM, S QASEW EPQ
... SQ'J V INKM GSYYSRBUQ
QVJW. - VUNC QKNHNW, PE ENFJ
QAVQ SHT SJ DKPZKVTTSEZ
V JBDNKRPTDBQNK EVTNG
FVQJPE, QP RPTDNQN VZVSEJQ
ABTVEJ PE "XNPDVKGM!".
Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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
— **Meet Tonto!**
This handsome little beagle mix terrier is so super sweet! He is tan and 2-3 yrs old and great with dogs & respectful of cats - a true Southern Gentleman! He walks nicely on a leash, is housebroken, is playful and affectionate. Tonto is one special little guy! 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 Say hello to Peaches! This gorgeous Tortie cat is around 2 and a half years old and very sweet. She's a bit shy at first, but quickly warms up to a gentle touch. She loves to lounge in her soft kitty bed and is extremely easy to get along with. She's usually content just watching as visitors pass by, never demanding their attention, but, rather, observing quietly. She's a mild-tempered girl with a lot of love to give to a very lucky family. Visit Peaches today at Orange County's Animal Services Center, 1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill or call 942-PETS (7387). You can also see her online at co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp.

News Briefs

Vote for the Farmers’ Market

According to market manager Sarah Blacklin, the Carrboro Farmers’ Market is only 59 votes away from being number one in the nationwide Love Your Farmers Market Contest sponsored by Local Harvest, a national local-food database that connects farms, food-related businesses and resources throughout the country.

As of Tuesday, the market was number three in the country with 1,009 votes. Durham ranks number one with 1,068 votes.

The winner of the Love Your Farmers Market contest gets a reward of \$5,000. Blacklin says the money could help the market with new projects or possibly be used to help purchase an EBT (food stamp) machine.

Last week, farmers handed out bright-neon slips asking customers to “Vote for Carrboro!” as they exchanged money and produce.

To vote, go to the Carrboro Farmers’ Market website at carrborofarmersmarket.com and fill out the voting form on the homepage.

Market hours shortened for 4th

The Carrboro Farmers’ Market will shorten operating hours Saturday and move to the front of Town Hall on West Main Street in order to allow for preparations for the town’s Fourth of July celebration at the Town Commons.

The markets’ hours will run from 7-10 a.m.

Courtesy tickets

To encourage folks worried about parking to venture downtown, Chapel Hill has implemented a Courtesy Ticket program. Under the program, once per calendar year, if you receive a citation for a parking meter violation your citation will be dismissed.

The town’s Parking Services Division began issuing Courtesy Tickets on July 1.

Town launches new site

The Town of Chapel Hill announced this week the launch of its new website at townofchapelhill.org .

The website allows citizens access to calendars, council agendas and videos, email directories, news releases, job postings and service information.

There are also links to services and departments, links to recreation programs and activities, listings of upcoming meetings and special events, email news subscription services, content that conforms to ADA accessibility guidelines, forms for requesting services and access to town social networking services such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube

The town will continue to offer online payment options, including bills for recreation programs.

The website was revamped with help from Vision Internet, a California-based company that specializes in municipal websites. Staff from the town’s Communications and Public Affairs Department organized community meetings to receive input from local residents on how the town could best change the site for improvement.

Web visitors are urged to contact the town to offer feedback or report technical errors. Visit townofchapelhill.org or contact the Communications and Public Affairs Department at 968-2743 or publicaffairs@townofchapelhill.org



Chapel Hill received a first-place 2009 City Livability Award and the Climate Protection Award, which were presented at a ceremony held at Chapel Hill Transit in recognition of the bus system’s major role in the city earning the awards. Pictured are Augustus Cho, left, chairman of the Chapel Hill Transportation Board, along with Director of Transit Steve Spade and Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy.

DOWNTOWN LIFE IN CHAPEL HILL AND CARRBORO



Lights dim, curtain draws closed

After a couple of weeks holding us in suspense, Franklin Street institution the Varsity Theater finally closed its doors. Owner Bruce Stone said the theater has struggled financially.

“This is a business decision, a

bottom-line decision. The numbers currently don’t support the continuation of both theaters as viable enterprises,” said Stone, who also owns the Chelsea Theater in Timberlyne. “The Varsity especially has been struggling for over two years, with no prospect of an upturn any time soon.”

Stone said that many of the Varsity’s struggles are tied to traffic and parking concerns in the Franklin Street area.

“We have been in the Varsity for nine challenging but enjoyable years,” he said. “Our landlord has been understanding and supportive throughout our tenure. We of course regret this development but recognize that this change is entirely necessary.”

Stone plans to continue operating the Chelsea.

More patio please

If you’ve strayed near the corner of Rosemary Street and Pritchard Avenue of late on a weekend night, you may have noticed that the patio at La Residence is considerably more lively than it was when the place was known more for its fine-dining experience inside.

La Rez owners are clearly enjoying the success and have set about making improvements.

Sculpture watch

Not sure just when the “temporary” wood sculpture next to Spanky’s will hit the woodpile, but since we wrote about it a couple of weeks ago, more reviews have poured in. We imagine the town is hearing the same things we are, which boil down to (and we’re putting this politely) “nice try.”

Bloggy stuff

A reminder that Big City is also one of The Citizen’s newest blogs. Visit www.carrborocitizen.com/BigCity if you’re interested or bored or something like that. There’s a lovely post up with a short video of a Norfolk Southern engine lumbering through town. Kids seem to dig it.

ELECTION FROM PAGE 1

In Chapel Hill, Kevin Foy’s decision not to seek another term has touched off at least a three-way race for mayor between transportation board chair Augustus Cho and town council members Matt Czajkowski and Mark Kleinschmidt.

In the race for three seats on the Chapel Hill Town Council, Penny Rich has announced and council member Ed Harrison has indicated he is likely to do so, as well. Council member Jim Merritt, who was named to replace the late Bill Thorpe, has yet to announce his intention.

In Hillsborough, Mayor Tom Stevens has announced he will seek reelection. Seats up this year on the town board are held by Frances Dancy and Michael Gering.

In Pittsboro, the terms of Mayor Randy Voller and town commissioners Pamela Baldwin and Christopher Walker expire this year.

The Orange County Board of Elections website will keep track of candidates as they file at co.orange.nc.us/elect/2009CandidateFilings.asp



John Gualtieri hammers together a frame for lattice to be installed along the edges of the patio at La Residence restaurant on Rosemary Street in Chapel Hill. Restaurant employees were spending a hot Monday afternoon on the improvement project. In the background, handling the lattice, is Paul Dailey.

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

HOW TO REACH US
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The crux of the debate

CHRIS FITZSIMON

It is no secret that the debate over taxes is holding up the passage of a state budget and threatens to prolong the legislative session well into July and maybe beyond.

There are really two tax debates raging in the legislative halls, or the Republicans would like there to be, as they continue to struggle to remain relevant in their absurd calls for no new taxes in the face of a budget crisis that threatens public schools and services for the most vulnerable people in the state.

A group of House Republicans appeared at a news conference Tuesday with small posters hanging from their necks, each with information about a different tax proposal that House Minority Leader Paul Stam said was part of the dirty dozen tax increases under consideration by legislative Democrats.

At another recent news conference, Stam and the House Republicans used construction paper bricks to illustrate how the budget should be put together. The weekly arts-and-crafts shows are well attended by reporters and sound-bites from Stam or Senate Minority Leader Phil Berger occasionally end up in stories about the budget, but the real tax debate is between House and Senate Democrats.

And they are not fighting about whether to raise taxes. They have already wisely decided that they should raise at least \$900 million to prevent some of the most draconian cuts to education and human services. The question is how they will raise it.

Both chambers' tax plans are complicated, but the dispute appears to have boiled down to a major philosophical difference. Should lawmakers use this dire need for revenue as an opportunity to take significant steps towards the long-delayed reform of the state's tax code? Senate leaders think so and their plan is based on broadening the base of the sales and income taxes and lowering the rates.

Or is it better to pass a more traditional tax package, built on the current revenue system, by raising the sales tax rate, increasing income taxes on the wealthy and closing some major corporate tax loopholes? That's what House leaders want to do.

Reportedly, the two sides have almost finished working out the differences in spending, but there has been little progress on the major disagreement about taxes. House Speaker Joe Hackney is open to considering a progressive reform of the antiquated tax code, but doesn't think this is the time to tackle it.

Senate leaders point to several tax study commissions in the last decade that have all come to the same conclusion: that reform of the state's revenue system is overdue and that it should start by broadening the sales tax base to include services not currently taxed.

Rob Schofield's latest Weekly Briefing at N.C. Policy Watch has the details of both proposals and some suggestions for a way lawmakers can take the best of both plans. It is sound advice, but it looks like it may be a while before both sides are willing to erase the lines they have drawn in the sand.

The problem is that schools, local governments and people who rely on state services can't wait for long. Let's get on with it.

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

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Who's Minding the School?

STEVE PEHA

Do you ever wonder who really runs a given school or district? I do. And I'm in them all the time. For all the sound and fury of testing and standards, what we have achieved is an ineffective accountability system that is at best a pale form of collective wrist slapping, where entire schools must fail for many years before any action is taken — and even then, this action rarely addresses the root causes of failure.

When most people think of accountability in the workplace, I believe they think of personal accountability: How well do I do my job? What does my boss think? What are my responsibilities and how effectively do I deal with them?

But this is not the way it is in the culture of most public school systems.

At the top of the food chain, we often find a superintendent who makes few public statements, rarely takes specific positions on important issues, sets few if any goals and generally leaves the administrative workings of the district to others in the district office.

For their part, assistant superintendents, some of whom have direct management responsibility for principals, also engage in a fair amount of reverse buck passing. Other than "get those test scores up," meaningful oversight of principals is often minimal.

In many schools where I have worked, principals are typically on their own to do more or less what they want. As long as suspensions are low and teacher grievances even lower, principals often are given wide latitude as to how they run their buildings. Sadly, most fail to take advantage of that to their students' advantage.

With direct oversight of teachers, principals are the critical fulcrum point in the system. Principals with the skill and the will to make substantive changes can quickly turn around failing schools. But without meaningful personal ac-

countability to their superiors, few principals feel it is worth the risk of upsetting a teacher (or a powerful parent) to do what needs to be done.

For example, most of the principals with whom I've met privately express significant reluctance to observe teachers in their classrooms. Even something as harmless as walking down the hallway and peering into rooms for two or three minutes often feels uncomfortable to them. Some don't know what to look for; others simply don't want to face the challenges of moving poor teachers toward success — or out of their buildings.

This means that teachers are pretty much on their own, too. Yes, they have to undergo contractually specified evaluations. But as a recent report indicated, many districts show rates of "satisfactory" performance in excess of 99 percent. The teacher evaluation is one of many sham constructs in a deeply flawed collective-bargaining system.

While some teachers are indirectly accountable for student achievement, only those who teach reading and math may feel any real pressure to improve, and since this pressure is collective and weak, given how long schools are allowed to fail, after awhile it becomes relatively easy to ignore.

During my first years of consulting, I would often work in a school for a few days and have the strangest feeling that no one in particular was in charge of what went on there. In the years to come, I discovered that no one is really in charge of many of our schools because there is no long-established culture of personal accountability in education. And while many teachers undoubtedly feel personally accountable to their students, this sense of accountability often pertains more to the quality of their relationships than to students' academic success.

Strong personal accountability is essential for the success of any organiza-

tion, team or family. And it is precisely this type of accountability that lies at the root of most problems in education. In many places where I have worked, there really isn't anyone minding the schools. Day after day, kids show up, teachers teach, principals and other administrators stay in their offices filling out paperwork. Rarely, if ever, do we see well-coordinated and closely monitored efforts at school- or district-wide change.

Not only is no one on the hook for results in our schools, most educators I speak to — from the classroom to the boardroom — feel undirected, unsupported and unappreciated by their high-ups. This state of affairs must change if we are to see real progress.

All of this simply means moving away from the current collective accountability characterized most notably by No Child Left Behind and state testing and toward personal accountability at the building and district office levels. Curiously, no one seems to talk about the role school board members might play in this all-important change.

Board members may not have much experience in education, but they do have a lot of power — especially the power to ask who's in charge. They have the power to change collective-bargaining agreements with teachers. They have the power to hire and fire superintendents. They also have the power to assess situations in their districts that no district employee may be empowered to investigate. Most important of all, most board members understand the value of personal accountability; many run successful businesses and families based on this very value. With time and effort, they may even be able to bring it to our schools.

Steve Peha is president of Teaching That Makes Sense Inc., a K-12 education consultancy based in Carrboro.

What would John Hope Franklin say about the legislature's decision to honor Jesse Helms?

BY CHRIS KROMM

At the recent memorial for John Hope Franklin at Duke University, playwright Emily Mann — daughter of historian Arthur Mann, a close friend of Franklin's — related one of many illuminating personal stories about the pioneering historian and scholar. In a conversation about the North Carolina political landscape, someone asked Franklin, "Where did Jesse Helms come from?" Franklin quickly replied, "From hell" — "not missing a beat," Mann said.

It was a sentiment shared by many African-Americans, civil rights allies and others in North Carolina. Helms rose to prominence in the 1960s for his vitriolic rants against integration on Raleigh-area television. His Old South views never really changed: Into the 1990s, he was still giggling at the "N" word and calling gay people "weak, morally sick wretches."

Helms put his prejudices into practice, too: In 1996, the Department of Justice famously admonished Helms for sending 125,000 letters to voters in African-American precincts warning they may be arrested if they tried to vote. As columnist David Broder, the paragon of middle-of-the-road Washington journalism, wrote at the time of Helms' death, the senator was "the last prominent unabashed white racist politician in this country."

One wonders what Franklin would have thought about the North Carolina General Assembly's decision this week to pass a resolution honoring Helms by overwhelming margins.

The text of the resolution — which passed 41-1 in the Senate and 98-0 in the House — skips past Helms' media bromides for segregation, describing his TV career as one "devoted ... to the highest standards of journalism."

Helms is also praised in the bill for his "unyielding commitment to integrity and the principles of faith, freedom, and the power of free enterprise" and called "a leading historical figure of our times."

Seventeen lawmakers abstained, including a half-dozen members of the House black caucus who waited outside the chambers rather than participate in the vote. Only one North Carolina legislator — Sen. Julie Boseman, a white Democrat from Wilmington — voted against the Helms resolution.

It's notable that the Helms resolution passed in record time: According to the N.C. General Assembly website, the measure was introduced on Monday, June 8, and was quickly passed just two days later.

What about Franklin, who lived in North Carolina the last 26 years of his life, longer than anywhere else? Franklin was awarded the Presidential Medal

of Freedom while a professor at Duke University in 1995 and three academic units at Duke are named after him.

On April 1, N.C. Sen. Floyd McKissick introduced a resolution honoring Franklin's contributions to the state. The General Assembly website lists the resolution as still in committee. A House counterpart was introduced on April 9 and was referred to the Committee on Rules, Calendar and Operations of the House, where it still sits.

I contacted McKissick — one of the lawmakers who abstained from the Helms vote — who told me they are waiting so they can coordinate having the Franklin family present when the bill comes to the floor.

"It is so much nicer when the family is there to hear what is said about this person and their impact," McKissick said.

Until that happens, North Carolina — a state where the majority voted for the first African-American president in history — is on record honoring a symbol of the state's checkered Old South past, but not the scholar who hundreds remembered today as a voice for North Carolina's hard-fought present and future.

Chris Kromm is the executive director of the Institute for Southern Studies.

Spray paint Inappropriate, Unattractive

I generally enjoy my walk to and from work in Chapel Hill, particularly this time of year. However, over the last month or so I've noticed an increasing amount of public and private property marred by large blotches of brown or black spray paint. Upon closer inspection, I found that each of these ugly paint clouds are only covering up fliers that denounce the new Greenbridge condominium development. Plenty of other fliers publicizing everything from concerts to bars remain in all sorts of places all over Carrboro and Chapel Hill; opposition to Greenbridge seems to be singled out for such treatment.

I wondered who could be doing this, until one day on my walk I saw an older, bald gentleman in a nice button-down shirt walking in front of me, brazenly spraypainting a town street sign in broad daylight. Who is this guy? Is the Town of Chapel Hill hiring someone to selectively cover up fliers they find politically inconvenient? Or is Greenbridge privately paying this man to protect their image by vandalizing public property? Why are they using spray paint instead of tearing them down?

I understand that these condominiums have a lot of money invested in them, that they have been and continue to be an extremely controversial project. But it is unacceptable to debase our town and cover up the free expression of others just to protect your image.

CHARLES RAMSEY
Carrboro

Tobacco tax works

With all of the recent discussions of smoking bans, FDA regulations and "sin" taxes, it is important to examine the effects of tobacco on the youth of North Carolina and the benefits of a higher cigarette tax. Studies show that an increase in cigarette prices would discourage more young people from starting smoking and encourage those who do smoke to quit. Orange County youth involved in the Tobacco Reality. Unfiltered. (TRU) program have been educating their peers about the dangers of tobacco use and how teens can spend their money on other things for the past six years.

When almost 4,000 young people start smoking every day in the U.S., every step in the direction of youth tobacco prevention is a tiny victory in the minds of the TRU Crew. As it is important for youth to keep the limited amount of cash they have in their pockets, a higher cigarette tax would make youth less likely to purchase tobacco products. The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids estimates that if the tax increases by \$1 per pack, 17 percent fewer teens would smoke.

Aside from the fiscal benefits of the proposal, the lives of many youth and adult smokers will be saved due to an increase of the taxes on tobacco products. This increase could save the lives of over 43,300 smokers in NC from premature smoking-related deaths. Not to mention, the decrease in smoking will lead to healthier people and saving millions of dollars on medical costs.

The Orange County TRU group devotes their time to educating youth on the effects of tobacco. Through presentations, commercials and many other outlets, TRU has seen much progress in the ways of tobacco advocacy. By increasing the tax by \$1, even fewer young people would buy tobacco products, or start at all.

SHANNEN JACOBS
(Jacobs is a graduate of the Orange County TRU Program)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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4TH OF JULY
FROM PAGE 1

Plenty of fun is to be had Saturday with no worries of crowded beaches and sand in all the wrong places, though there will be some inconveniences to watch out for:

In Carrboro:

Main Street will be closed at Weaver Street (westbound Main Street traffic can turn left onto Laurel Avenue and right onto Weaver) from 5:30 to 11 a.m. on the Fourth. Ashe Street also will be closed at Main and Laurel, and Laurel Avenue will be closed at the Weaver Street/Town Hall Drive intersection. Any Driveways that exit onto Main Street between Fidelity Street and Weaver Street will be temporarily blocked during the People's Parade.

The town will be closed on Monday, July 6, in observance of Independence Day. There will be no garbage collection that day. Monday garbage will be collected on Tuesday. Friday garbage will be collected as normal. There will be no change to the curbside recycling schedule.

In Chapel Hill:

Most municipal offices will be closed Friday, July 3, and there will be no garbage collection. Chapel Hill Transit will operate on a reduced Saturday Service schedule (U and NU routes will not operate) on Friday and will not operate Saturday. The Wallace Deck and Lot 2 will operate normal hours on Friday. Parking will be free on the Fourth. Meters and lots 3 and 5 will be free July 3 and 4.

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MARK TRAIL

IF YOU'VE BEEN TO THE BEACH, YOU'VE PROBABLY BEEN TINY FIDLER CRABS SCURRYING AROUND...THEY CAN QUICKLY APPEAR AND DISAPPEAR...

FOR THE LITTLE CRUSTACEANS MUST REMODEL THEIR BURROW HOMES WITH EACH EBBING TIDE

MARK, WHY DO SOME OF THOSE FIDLER CRABS HAVE ONE SMALL AND ONE LARGE CLAW? THEY ARE THE MALES!

WHEN THE WATER RECESSES, THE SMOOTH, SANDY BEACH COMES TO LIFE AS THOUSANDS OF FIDLER CRABS BEGIN CLEANING OUT THEIR HOUSES

BUT BEFORE THEY CAN RELAX AND ENJOY THE RESULTS OF THEIR LABORS...

OBITUARIES

Margaret Alice Middleton

Margaret Alice Middleton was born in Washington, DC on July 10, 1944, and died June 18, 2009. Since 1981 she resided in Carrboro, N.C. where she was a violist and played many concerts with various groups in the Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill. Most notably she was a member of the orchestra for the annual Duke University Messiah performances.

Margaret graduated from the Eastman School of Music and the Juilliard School. She also studied at the New York Restaurant School and the New York School of Interior Design. She was known as Migret to all

of her musician colleagues and enjoyed a long career based in New York City as a freelance violist. From 1970-1972 she lived in Salzburg, Austria, as a member of the Mozarteum Orchestra and principal violist with the Camerata Academica Chamber Orchestra.

In 1986 she and her partner Jane began selling muffins at the Carrboro Farmers' Market where she became famous as the Maggie of Maggie's Muffins. Soon there was a muffin shop followed by Maggie's Café & Espresso Bar, which opened in 1990 and ran successfully until 1997 when Maggie and Jane retired from the food business.

She is survived by her part-

ner of 32 years, Jane Ham-borsky, and their Wheaten Terrier, Murphy; Jason and Megan Hinton of Chicago and children Eve Margaret and Logan; nephew John Middleton and his wife, Megan, and children Ellen and Jack; niece Laura Adams and her husband, Brad, and children Caroline, Emily and Sarah; her countless friends and doctors who loved her spirit for life.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the LIVESTRONG Lance Armstrong Foundation at livestrong.org. Maggie loved Lance and his great success as a champion cyclist.

A celebration of life service and funeral will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, July 10, 2009 at Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill, NC.

Ann Marie Doxey Turner

Ann Marie Doxey Turner, 69, of 1406 Wildwood Drive, Chapel Hill, passed away Sunday, June 28, at Duke Hospice in Durham. Ann was a native of Durham, daughter of Gretha Oakley Doxey and J. Elwood Doxey. She attended E.K. Powe School and Durham High School, where she was a member of the band, a varsity cheerleader, a majorette, co-editor of the yearbook and member of the National Honor Society. Ann attended UNC and graduated from the UNC School of Nursing in 1962.

Ann was a sustaining member of the Chapel Hill Service League and had been a volunteer at UNC Hospitals. She was a member of the Durham High School 50th Reunion Committee. Ann enjoyed many activities including book club, bridge clubs and travel. She frequently lunched with friends from her Durham school days and with longtime Chapel Hill friends.

Throughout her life, Ann was an avid reader.

Ann was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Frances Doxey Warner. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Harry Sutton (Sonny) Turner, and by three sons, Harry Sutton Turner Jr. of Santiago, Chile and Lance Worth Turner and Jon Richard Turner, both of Chapel Hill, and several nieces.

Patricia A. Kiefer

Patricia A. Kiefer departed this life June 19th at home, with her family present, after a heroic four-year battle with an incurable cancer. She was the daughter of Herbert J. Lyons and Ethel Anna Hartman of Milwaukee, Wis.

An excellent homemaker and mother, she began to home school her first child in 1986 and went on to co-found the Chapel Hill Homeschoolers. Before she finished, she had seen three children graduate from the Kiefer Academy Home School and go on to university or graduate school, and one to finish the 11th grade.

She was an active member of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Durham, N.C. and was involved in a variety of service and discipleship ministries over the years.

She is survived by her husband, David F. Kiefer, of Chapel Hill; a son and daughter-in-law, Aaron Kiefer and Casey Kiefer, of Cary, N.C.; as well as son Matthew Kiefer and daughters Lydia Kiefer and Hannah Kiefer, all of Chapel Hill. She is also survived by a brother, Herbert J. Lyons Jr., of Hartland, Wis.

A private graveside ceremony was held Monday, June 22 at the Chapel Hill Memorial Cemetery. There will be a public memorial service/celebration on Saturday June 27 at 3:00 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Durham, with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to Pat's beloved Camp Forest Springs, N8890 Forest Lane, Westboro, Wis. 54490.

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MARK TRAIL

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FOR THE LITTLE CRUSTACEANS MUST REMODEL THEIR BURROW HOMES WITH EACH EBBING TIDE

MARK, WHY DO SOME OF THOSE FIDLER CRABS HAVE ONE SMALL AND ONE LARGE CLAW? THEY ARE THE MALES!

WHEN THE WATER RECESSES, THE SMOOTH, SANDY BEACH COMES TO LIFE AS THOUSANDS OF FIDLER CRABS BEGIN CLEANING OUT THEIR HOUSES

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FOR THE LITTLE CRUSTACEANS MUST REMODEL THEIR BURROW HOMES WITH EACH EBBING TIDE

MARK, WHY DO SOME OF THOSE FIDLER CRABS HAVE ONE SMALL AND ONE LARGE CLAW? THEY ARE THE MALES!

THE MALE USES ITS LARGE CLAW MOSTLY TO ATTRACT FEMALES...THEY ALSO USE IT TO BATTLE OTHER MALES, SORT OF LIKE ARM-WRESTLING!

WHEN THE WATER RECESSES, THE SMOOTH, SANDY BEACH COMES TO LIFE AS THOUSANDS OF FIDLER CRABS BEGIN CLEANING OUT THEIR HOUSES

IN AND OUT THEY GO, CARRYING PELLETS OF SAND FROM THEIR TUNNELS, PAUSING NOW AND THEN TO PICK UP PARTICLES OF FOOD...

BUT BEFORE THEY CAN RELAX AND ENJOY THE RESULTS OF THEIR LABORS...

THE INCOMING TIDE SENDS THEM INDOORS, AND ONCE AGAIN THE FLOWING SAND SMOOTHS OUT THE BEACH, LEAVING NO TRACE OF THE BUSY COLONY

Jack Elrod

puzzle solutions

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

CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER:
...a 2'z'v s rery fluffitl'ast - aTepd'ak, no nwa
tstl' MBI i' a grimmorogorog s aqumortet' bems'W, nozst' co' o'edep
s'gnis' "l'eqsoy" no' nismur' t'enisg



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Evening primrose is the centerpiece of Bill Deroy's curbside garden at night.

FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

The second part of the name, the species epithet, describes the plant as a biennial. It grows as a leafy rosette the first year; the second year, it grows up to 4 or more feet, flowers, sets seed and dies. If you are not a real tidy gardener, new plants will always be present somewhere. In Bill's case, he makes certain that he has a few plants coming along each year. He obtained seeds of this wild plant years ago when he

lived and gardened a little ways out of town. At his Greensboro Street location, he scattered seed in his back garden, where they thrived until the town's deer ate them. Fortunately, the plants moved themselves out to the front-street side, where the deer have let them be. Bill and I share a long-time appreciation for this native American plant and we have no difficulty recognizing it in its first-year, leafy rosette stage. I generally look for a cream colored mid-vein on each leaf,

but Bill simply recognizes the leaf as, "That's just the way it looks." I remember years ago my botany mentor responding similarly when I asked how to recognize a certain oak tree. He replied, "That's just the way it looks!" Once you've identified it for yourself, you will most likely remember it that way too. Evening primroses flower throughout the summer. I'm looking forward to having my own evening primrose viewing party in a few weeks.



The cleanest news in town

For the last nine summers, I've roamed the state leading free, onsite community journalism workshops, visiting 135 smaller newspapers so far. But last week in Maxton, I found the most unique paper ever — and I may have stumbled on the way to save newspapers. Operate them out of Laundromats! Think about it. People HAVE to wash their clothes — and while they're washing, drying and folding, why not chat with the editor/publisher or buy an ad? That's what's happening in Maxton, a little railroad town on U.S. 74 just east of Laurinburg and west of Lumberton — plunked down in Robeson County too far from either daily-newspaper town to merit much coverage. And this rankled Maxton natives and business partners James McDougald and Joyce McRae. "We sit in the crack between these two towns and don't get a lot of representation," James explained. "We need a voice!" chimed in Joyce. So last September, they launched the free monthly *Times* out of James' Express Laundry, named for the trains that rumble through Maxton several times a day, just across the street. "We just love doing this newspaper," Joyce said. "It's just Maxton, but we're having a ball." Sounds like a business plan to me.



A THOUSAND WORDS
BY JOCK LAUTERER

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Calvander Food Mart
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Bruegger's Bagels/Eastgate
Peak Fitness/Elliott Rd
Chapel Hill Public Library
Food Lion/Ram's Plaza
Chamber Of Commerce

NORTH

Hunan Chinese Restaurant
Chapel Hill Senior Center
Southern Human Services
Carol Woods
Bagels on the Hill
Eubanks Rd. Park & Ride
That Coffee Place

Cup a Joe
Margaret's Cantina
Aquatic Center
Chapel Hill Mini Mart

SOUTH

N.C. Botanical Garden
Covenant House
15-501 South Park & Ride

GOVERNOR'S CLUB

Bean & Barrel/ Governor's Village
Carolina Meadows/Café Tarantini

MEADOWMONT

UNC Wellness Center
Brixx Pizza
Cafe Carolina
The Cedars
Young Simpson Underwood
Friday Center
Park & Ride
Courtyard Marriott
Amanté Pizza - Falconbridge
Peak Fitness - Falconbridge

SOUTHERN VILLAGE

La Vita Dolce
Park & Ride bus stop
Market Square

FEARRINGTON AREA

McIntyre's Books
Fearrington House Inn
Old Granary
Galloway Ridge

HILLSBOROUGH

Weaver Street Market
Andy's
Maple View Farms
Visitors Center
Chamber of Commerce
Orange County Senior Center
Orange County Public Library
Cup a Joe / outside box
Valour's Patisserie
Daniel Boone Shopping Center
Sportsplex
Durham Tech/student lounge

PITTSBORO

Pittsboro General Store
Suntrust Bank (outside)
Chatham Marketplace
Pittsboro Public Library
Carolina Brewery
Pittsboro Family Medicine

CHATHAM CROSSING

Torrero's Restaurant
Chatham Crossing Medical Center
Lowes Foods / outside box

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