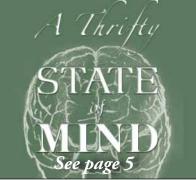


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JULY 21, 2011 LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED VOLUME V NO. XIX



FREE



Poke stems are brilliant in late summer and fall. PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Final filings round out local election fields

BY TAYLOR SISK Staff Writer

The deadline to file to run in the November election passed on Friday, with four additional candidates throwing their hats in the ring.

Kevin Wolff announced his decision to make a fourth bid at becoming mayor of Chapel Hill, Jim Ward opted to run for reelection to the Chapel Hill Town Council, Carl Schuler will make his first try for council and Mike Kelley will vie for a third term on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education.

The campaign season now begins.

Wolff, a patent lawyer, will be going up against incumbent Mayor Mike Kleinschmidt and challenger Tim Sookram. He has in the past stated that he would serve as a "moderate voice" on the council, which he has said is lacking. Wolff lost to incumbent Kevin Foy



in 2007, earning 29 percent of the vote, and again in 2005, with 21 percent. Then in 2009, he withdrew from the race but remained on the ballot, gathering just over 1 percent of the vote.

Ward and Schuler join a field of nine candidates for four open seats on the Chapel Hill Town Council. Incumbents Donna Bell and Matt Czajkowski also will seek reelection. Challengers Jason Baker, Augustus Cho, Laney Dale, Jon DeHart and Lee Storrow round out the field.

Ward is the associate director of horticulture at the N.C. Botanical Garden. He was first elected to the board in 1999 and is presently mayor pro tem, and has lived in Chapel Hill since 1975. He said he thoroughly enjoys the process of serving as a member of the council and hopes to continue to do so. Ward identifies the comprehensive plan, town-gown relations, the library, regional transit and the economy as major issues the council will face as it goes forward.

"There aren't cuts to be made [to the town budget] without having a significant impact on quality or level of service or personnel," Ward said.

Schuler is a nurse consultant at the UNC Center for Heart and Vascular Care. He's lived in Chapel Hill since 2004 and has been a member of the Vineyard Square homeowners association, which he said led him to take an interest in getting involved in issues affecting the entire town. He believes that among the most pressing issues facing the community are economic development, affordable housing and infrastructure to accommodate projected growth. As an unaffiliated candidate, he feels he will bring an open mind to the council.

Kelley joins a field of seven other candidates vying for five open seats on the board of education, including incumbents Jamezetta Bedford, Mia Burroughs and Annetta Streater and challengers James Barrett, Brian Bower, Raymond Conrad and Kris Castellano.

Kelley is a physician scientist at Duke and the Durham Veterans Affairs medical centers. He was first elected to the board in 2003; he served as chair of the board from 2009 to 2010 and as vice chair from 2008 to 2009.

"Our community is at a critical juncture," he said in announcing his candidacy. "With a new superintendent starting this month, there is an opportunity to review our district through new eyes while at the same time financial constraints will continue for at least the next several years."



Poke, my favorite plant

am amused by humorist Andy Borowitz's annual description of "pointless filler columns," submitted by columnists when they take out-of-town breaks. He describes the characteristics of such pieces as rehashing older columns, using lengthy quotes and repetition throughout the column.

I can't imagine serious writers would actually stoop to those tactics! I'm about to take an outor-town break, but before I do, I'm taking the time to describe my favorite plant, poke.

As described in Paul Green's Plant Book, "Pokeweed, pokeberry, poke, is found almost everywhere from Canada and the Dakotas down to Florida. The young shoots are often used for salad or a substitute for asparagus. One of the best folk remedy plants in the Cape Fear River Valley. ... An ointment made from the root was good for all kinds of skin diseases. ... Indian runners on long journeys used to chew the leaves to quench the thirst, so it was said. Pokeroot tea was especially good for hog cholera. The leaves and the berries (sometimes called pigeon berries) and the roots are purgative and narcotic. A tincture of the ripe berries has been used as a popular remedy for chronic rheumatism." Poke stories abound. Green includes a wild story about poke used as a poison ivy cure. I suspect you won't try the cure, but you will never forget the tale. While most folks frown on common pokeweed or poke salad, Phytolacca americana, sophisticated gardeners like my friend Sally Heiney admire and

Community ponders Johnny's future

BY BROOKE PARKER

Staff Writer

CARRBORO – "We want to see Johnny's exactly how it was – a great place for the community," said Carrboro resident Maureen Berner. Berner, along with more than 50 community members, attended a potluck held Monday at Johnny's to discuss ideas for an improved and reopened Johnny's.

The local coffee shop, music venue and community gathering place temporarily closed on June 23 and has yet to reopen. Owners Brian Plaster and Jan Halle parted ways in mid-June, and Halle, the majority owner of the property, is left to decide what happens to the local venue.

"I don't know how we can solve it, but I hope we can," she said.

Several potential business partners have made proposals to Halle. She hopes to reopen Johnny's "bigger than it was, with the same community flavor."

Carrboro Greenspace members hosted the Monday potluck for the community to come together to share food and propose ideas – but the overriding sentiment was that most just want to see Johnny's reopened.

"This place is about celebrating communities and creating centers," said Greenspace member Michal



Stakeholders look toward day-laborer center by susan dickson

Staff Writer

As one group of residents fights Carrboro's anti-lingering ordinance, another is looking toward a solution that could resolve the issues surrounding the law – a day-laborer center.

Though discussions are in the very early stages, local Latino leaders, law enforcement, elected officials, day laborers and other stakeholders are talking about just how this community might find a solution that could improve the situation for everyone.

In December, Orange County Justice United asked the mayors of Carrboro and Chapel Hill and others to convene a task force to examin and address the issues surrounding day laborers, and last month 30 to 40 residents and leaders came together to talk about those issues. "I think it's really important that we have a sanctioned place for workers so that they can be distinguished from folks who are not necessarily looking for work," Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Randee Haven-O'Donnell said. Day laborers, many of them Latino, often gather at the intersection of Davie and Jones Ferry roads in hopes that contractors will come by and offer them work. In November 2007, the board of aldermen approved an

SEE **FLORA** PAGE 8

INSIDE

Chatham HRC resigns

See page 3

INDEX

Music	2
News	3
Community	.4
Obituaries	5
Opinion	.6
Classifieds	
Water Watch	8

Osterweil, who helped organize the event.

Community members brought homemade sandwiches, salads, pastas and more, and additional food was provided by local restaurants.

Friends and family enjoyed their meals, laughed and caught up. But when Callie Warner, a Chapel Hill resident and dedicated Johnny's customer, took the stage to start collecting ideas, it was time to get serious. Community members stood around a chalkboard and one by one raised their hands to have their ideas noted. Even children participated, proposing, for example, a pool with a waterslide.

Others suggested improvements, including a foodtruck commissary, an herbal garden, free wireless Internet and a children's play area.

"The vision that Brian had for Johnny's was great, but we will rise again and open again soon," Halle said.

Halle expects to reopen a familiar but improved Johnny's by September.

Renzo Amoni-Daro, 2, eats watermelon at a potluck at Johnny's on Monday. Community members gathered at Johnny's to discuss ideas for the future of the space.

PHOTO BY BROOKE PARKER

SEE **DAY LABORERS** PAGE 3

Stewart closes out tenure as town manager

BY SUSAN DICKSON *Staff Writer*

One of the things that's immediately apparent about Steve Stewart is his modesty.

When asked about his accomplishments, the retiring town manager gives much credit to those he works with. For his knowledge and skills in municipal government, he thanks his mentors from his school days and early in his career.

Including his eight years in Carrboro, the soft-spoken Stewart has worked in local government for 37 years, beginning his career as an intern with the City of Burlington, his hometown

"It was fun," he said, but also "really scary." That first internship taught him much about local government.

"I knew that I had two ears and one mouth for a reason, so I did a lot of listening," he said.

Stewart went on to work for Mecklenburg County, where he stayed until 1978. He's served as a town, city or county manager ever since, including his tenure with the Town of Carrboro, which will come to an end on Aug. 1. According to those who've worked with him, he will be sorely missed.

"I've benefited immensely from

Steve's knowledge and understanding of the processes of government and the many issues facing the town," Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Dan Coleman said. "He helped me succeed as an alderman in every way possible and is 100 percent committed to the town and the people of the town and to the town staff."

"He's an elegant professional," board member Randee Haven-O'Donnell said. "He has a genuine respect and care for the folks that he works with in all facets of the work, and that comes through in everything he does. He is a people-first professional."

When Stewart came to Carrboro, he thought it would be a good opportunity to return to a community with which he was somewhat familiar. Plus, "I said when I came here that this was the community I wanted to retire in," he said.

But the Carrboro Stewart came to eight years ago was quite different from the one he'd visited while growing up in Burlington.

"Now people don't come through Carrboro – they come to Carrboro," he said.

Though the changes the town has seen in recent years have been less obvious than those prior, Stewart said, he's witnessed small but significant trans-



Retiring Carrboro Town Manager Steve Stewart

formations during his time here.

With the sidewalk bonds approved by voters in 2003, Carrboro has seen a vast expansion of sidewalks throughout town in recent years.

"We're an incredibly walkable and pedestrian- and bike-friendly community," Stewart said, adding, "I'm confident that there's not another town in North Carolina ... that puts the resources that we do into public transit."

PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

'Exciting possibilities'

During Stewart's tenure, he's also seen the town increase its commitment to grow and support local business. He's been in the manager's seat while Carrboro has considered a number of large developments – including the

SEE **STEWART** PAGE 3

MUSIC CALENDAR

THURSDAY JULY 21

The Cave: EARLY: Triple Fret LATE: The Trillions, The Awesome Few

City Tap: Jo Gore and The Alternative. 8pm

General Store Cafe: Tony Galiani. 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: TD Verts, Wayne Graham. 8pm Local 506: Heartless Bastards. 9pm. \$12/14

Nightlight: Monoslang, Honey Rider, Neurovine. 9;30pm. \$5

University Mall: Chairmen of the Board, 6pm

Weaver Street Market: Different Drum. 6pm

FRIDAY JULY 22 Bynum General Store: Swift

Creek. 7pm Caffe Driade: Nate Robertson Jazz Group. 8pm

Carolina Inn: Mick Mixon and the Franklin Street Band. 5pm

Cat's Cradle: Dex Romweber Duo, Birds of Avalon, Eric Sommer. 9pm. \$10

The Cave: EARLY: Zen Frisbee City Tap: Alia. 7pm

General Store Cafe: Big John Shearer 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Zoo. 8pm

Local 506: My Dad Is Dead. Doug Gillard, Bastages, JPhonol. 9:30pm. \$7

Nightlight: Eugene Chadbourne, Stephanie Rearick, Bood Jar Creepers. 9:30pm

Open Eye Cafe: New Hope Creek. 8pm

The Station at Southern Rail: Alex Bowers and Friends. 7:30pm

SATURDAY JULY 23 Bynum General Store: Front

CAROLINA THEATRE

Closed temporarily for renovations.

Will reopen in August for the N.C.

resume regular movie screenings in

Gay & Lesbian Film Festival and

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OF DURHAM

October.

MOVIE LISTINGS

Porch Pickin', 10am Caffe Driade: Mercuriel and Evenkeel. 8pm

Cat's Cradle: Girls Rock NC Showcase. 7:30pm. \$5

The Cave: EARLY: New Hope Creek. \$5 LATE: Dylan Gilbert, Bibis Ellison, Crystal Bright and The Silver Hands

Century Center: The Neuse River Flute Circle, Autumns Child. Carrboro Century Center, 7:30pm. \$15

City Tap: The Swang Brothers. 8pm

Century Hall: Mark Holland and Autumn's Child. 7pm. \$15

General Store Cafe: Samantha Casey and The Bluegrass Jam. 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Alberts Adams, Amy Allen, Lost Trail. 8pm

Local 506: Embarrassing Fruits, The Trillions, Blag'ard. 9:30pm. \$7

Open Eye Cafe: Tad Dreis. 8pm

The Station at Southern **Rail:** Maiani-Largent Trio. 6pm. Free

SUNDAY JULY 24

Cat's Cradle: The Devil Makes Three, Mandolin Orange. 9pm. \$12/14

The Cave: LATE: The Boom Bang

Local 506: Delicate Steve, Matt Northup. 9:30pm. \$9/10 Southern Village: Brenda Lin-

ton and The Kinglets. 7pm. Free

The Station at Southern Rail: Red Hot Poker Dots. 3pm. The Dave Spencer Band. 8pm

Weaver Street Market: Sawyer-Goldberg. 11am. Free

MONDAY JULY 25 Cat's Cradle: The Submarines, Matt Douglas. 9pm. Free

Local 506: The Protomen, The Wiley Fosters. 9pm. \$8 Nightlight: EAR PWR, Cloud

Becomes Your Hand. 11pm. \$5

TUESDAY JULY 26 Cat's Cradle: Chris Webby, SkyBlew, Ed Ruger. 9pm \$14/16 Local 506: Rio Bravo, Bandits and Beggars

The Station at Southern **Rail:** Ryan Cavanaugh and No Man's Land. 10pm

WEDNESDAY JULY 27 Caffe Driade: Wes Collins. 8pm

Cat's Cradle: Josh Ritter, Yellowbirds. 8pm. \$18/20

The Cave: LATE: Problems?, Megan Jean and the Klay Family Band

Local 506: Sanjaya, Brave Chandeliers, Chris Blair. 8pm. \$8

Nightlight: Steph Stewart and her Boyfriends, Anna Rose Beck, The record. 9:30pm. \$5

THURSDAY JULY 28

The Cave: LATE: Uglyography Chapel Hill Underground: Swordmasters of Ginaz, Tegucigalpans. 11pm

General Store Cafe: Justin Johnson. 7pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Chicken Brown. 8pm

Local 506: Fan Modine, Aminal, Wages. 9pm. \$7

Nightlight: Andrew Weathers, Bicameral Mind, Kristian Weeks. 9:30pm. \$5

The Station at Southern Rail: John Wesley Satterfield and His Damn Fine Band. 10pm. Free **University Mall:** Band of Oz.

6pm

Wallace Plaza : Holy Ghost Tent Revival, The Big Picture. 8pm

Weaver Street Market: Climb lacob's Ladder. 6pm

FRIDAY JULY 29 Bynum General Store: The

Bluegrass Experience. 7pm Caffe Driade: Strange Little

Folks, Enablers. 8pm Carolina Inn: The Gravy Boys.

Cat's Cradle: Slowhand: A Tribute To Eric Clapton. 9pm. \$12/15

5pm

The Cave: LATE: The Moaners, The All-Girl Boys Choir General Store Cafe: Nixon,

Blevins and Gage. 8pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Brett Harris, Problems? 8pm

Local 506: Auxes, Bats and Mice Nightlight: Onward Soldiers, Effingham, The Pneurotics. 10pm.

\$5 Open Eye Cafe: Brit Price. 8pm

The Station at Southern Rail: Alex Bowers and Friends. 7:30pm. Free

SATURDAY JULY 30 Caffe Driade: Drowning Lov-

ers. 8pm

The Cave: LATE: Uglyography Cat's Cradle: Cosmic Charie. 9:30pm. \$10/12

City Tap: Lizzy Ross. 8pm General Store Cafe: Acoustic Garage. 8pm

Internationalist Books: Amy Alley. 7pm

Jessee's Coffee and Bar: Doug Largent Trio, Starina. 8pm Local 506: Jolie Holland, David Dondero. 9pm. \$12/14

Nightlight: Spermcount The Station at Southern Rail: Cannonballz. 10pm. Free

SPOTLIGHT: DEX ROMWEBER DUO

Jack White has famously called him an inspiration and "one of the

best-kept secrets of the rock 'n' roll underground," but Dex is sure as heck no secret 'round here. For the past quarter-century or so, first on the streets and then in the clubs, as frontman of the Flat Duo Jets and now with sister Sara on drums, Romweber has been shaping his own definitions of rockabilly, garage, surf ... a style purely his own, and what a treasure to behold. He's got an album, Is That You in the Blue, due to pop July 26, and he'll be celebrating its release this Friday, July 22 at Cat's Cradle.

The show starts at 9 p.m., with Birds of Avalon and Eric Sommer opening. Cover is \$10. Say you were there and mean it.

SPOTLIGHT: RYAN CAVANAUGH AND REX MCGEE



Bluegrass artists Ryan Cavanaugh and Rex McGee will perform at the Music on the Porch event at the Center for the Study of the American South at UNC on Tuesday, July 26.

Cavanaugh has spent the last four years touring the international jazz scene with Bill Evan's Soulgrass. A champion of Merlefest, Rockygrass and Renofest banjo contests, he released his bluegrass album Songs for the New Frontier in 2007.

McGee has appeared at the Cape Breton Celtic Colours festival and the Johnny Keenan banjo festival in Longford, Ireland, as well as at Duke University with acclaimed Irish musicians Todd Denman, Brian O'Connor and Grainne Murphy. He performs very infrequently, so be sure not to miss this one

The performance will run from 5 to 7 p.m. at 410 E. Franklin St. and is free and open to the public. Come hang out on the porch for a fun summer concert.

We suggest you call for exact show times. All listings start Friday. **CHELSEA THEATER** Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, 968-3005

> Beginners; Midnight in Paris; The Trip

> > TU 9/20**(\$13/\$15) MEAT PUPPETS

WE 9/21**(\$15/\$17) WILD BEASTS

THE LUMINA Southern Village, 932-9000

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Captain America: The First Aveng-

er 3D; Friends With Benefits THE VARSITY 123 E. Franklin St., 967-8665 Grease; Rio; Water for Elephants

AL 506 (CHAPEL HILL)

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Drinkware Stainless Steel Water Bottles 50% off
Panda Licorice, 7-oz1/2 price
Viking Chef's Knife, 8" 40% off
Commanderie de Peyrassol Rosé\$14.99 ea
Signature Champagne Flutes 60% off
Italian Amaretti, 7-oz \$1.49 ea
Overstock Aprons
Hachez European Chocolate Bars 50% off
Petey's Bing Cherry Energy Drink, 12-oz 33% off
Cocktail Garnish and Stirrer, 9.7-oz \$4.49 ea
Tezza Red & White Wine, 1-L\$6.99 ea
II Grezzo Olive Oil, 25.5-oz \$11.97 ea
Yorkshire Gold Teabags, 40-ct 40% off
North Carolina Hoop Cheese \$3.49 lb
Decaf Moka Java, 1-lb\$6.99 ea
Cocoa-Dusted Almonds, 1-lb 50% off
Belle Glos Meiomi Pinot Noir\$16.99 ea
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NE 7/27 JOSH RITTER 32 VE 8/31 THE HOLD STEADY



TU 9/6 THE WEEPIES







NE 8/24 RICHARD **BUCKNER AND** DAVID KILGOUR THE ARTSCENTER

TH 9/22**(\$12) MEGAFAUN FR 9/23**(\$16/\$18) MELISSA FERRICK ти 9/27 С**UT СОРҮ** W/WASHED OUT AND MIDNIGHT MAGIC**(\$25) **(\$25) WE 9/28 THE JOY FORMIDABLE**(\$13/\$15) W/FA **ON SALE JULY 22** FR 9/30**(\$15) WHO'S BAD? SU 10/2**(\$17/\$20) THE LEMONHEADS IT'S A SHAME ABOUT RAY IN ITS ENTIRETY MO 10/3**(\$14/\$16) TAPES N TAPES W/HOWLER TU 10/4**(\$15/\$18) FRIENDLY FIRES W/THEOPHILUS LONDO WE 10/5**(\$12/\$14) tune-yards W/PAT JORDACH FR 10/7**(\$15) THE GOURDS SA 10/8**(\$18/\$20) BOYCE AVENUE TU 10/11**(\$18/\$21) THRICE AND SPECIAL GUESTS ON SALE AUG 1 TH 10/13**(\$12/\$14) IRATION W/TOMORE AND THR ON SALE JULY 22 FR 10/21**(\$15/\$17) WILD FLAG W/ELEANOR FRIEDB MO 10/24 **(\$12/\$14) ELECTRIC SIX W/KITTEN

TU 10/25**(\$16/\$18) MIKE DOUGHTY AND HIS BAND FANTASTIC

FR 10/28**(\$16/\$18) RA RA RIOT DELICATE STEVE AND W/DELIC YEI

ON SALE JULY 25 SA 10/29 REVEREND HORTON HEAT W/SUPERSUCKERS AND DAN SARTAIN**(\$15/\$17)

SU 10/30**(\$15) BORIS W/AS

TU 11/8 HAYES CARLL**(\$15) W/CAITLIN ROSE

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WE 7/27 **(\$18/\$20) JOSH RITTER FR 7/29 SLOWHAND PTON**(\$12/\$15) SA 7/30**(\$10/\$12) COSMIC CHARLIE

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FR 8/5**(\$6/\$8) BROTHER ESAU

SA 8/6**(\$14/\$17) CHATHAM COUNTY LINE N/JUSTIN ROBINSON THE MARY ANNETTE

TU 8/9**(\$12/\$15) KURT VILE AND THE VIOLATORS AND OLD BR

WE 8/10**(\$22/\$25) TOAD THE WET SPROCKET W/MARK KANO

FR 8/19 AND SA 8/20 ARCHERS OF LOAF TWO NIGHTS!

WE 8/31**(\$18/\$20) THE HOLD STEADY

TU 9/6**(\$18/\$20) AN ACOUSTIC EVENING WITH THE WEEPIES

FR 9/9**(\$20/\$23) GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY

SA 9/10 **(\$28/\$30) BRUCE COCKBURN SEATED SHOW

SU 9/11 **(\$12/\$14) STARFUCKER

FR 9/16**(\$14/\$16) ATARI TEENAGE RIOT SA 9/17 GIRLS**(\$14/\$16)

SU 9/18 MAT KEARNEY**(\$20/\$23) ON SALE JULY 22



Briefs

Chatham adopts map to redraw districts

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners voted on July 18 to redraw election districts based on 2010 census population figures. The new election district map will take effect in 2012, when two seats will be up for election.

Based on the census, the map options were drawn to provide 12,700 residents per district, plus or minus 3 percent. To view the map, visit chathamnc.org/Index.aspx?page=19

&recordid=2900&returnURL=%2findex.aspx

Fordham Boulevard resurfacing

Starting this week, traffic on Fordham Boulevard will be reduced to one lane in each direction from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. for resurfacing. Milling and paving will be done on a 4-mile stretch, from the Morgan Creek Road intersection to the merge of Franklin Street and U.S. 15-501.

The project is expected to be completed by Aug. 12.

For information, visit tims.ncdot.gov/tims/default.aspx

Duke Energy maintenance

To keep high-voltage transmission lines clear of trees and tall growing plants, Duke Energy will conduct vegetation management work in Chapel Hill and the surrounding area in August and September. A limited number of these large transmission-line easements cross a portion of Chapel Hill's jurisdiction. Work will include herbicide applications.

Transmission lines are located in 68-1 to 100-foot-wide cleared easements or rights-of-way that connect Duke Energy substations. The maintenance work is done on a cyclical schedule and was last undertaken in 2008.

For more information, visit duke-energy.com/safety/rightof-way-management.asp or contact Ervin Summers at (336) 634-4633 or Ervin.Summers@duke-energy.com

Low-cost rabies vaccination clinic

The Orange County Animal Services Department will hold a rabies vaccination clinic today (Thursday) from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Animal Services Center at 1601 Eubanks Road in Chapel Hill.

Dogs must be on leashes and cats must be in individual carriers. Animals that may be nervous or unsettled should be kept inside a vehicle.

The vaccination fee is \$10. For more information, call 968-2287.

CH steps up yard-parking enforcement

Do you park vehicles in your front yard? To avoid a \$100 per-day fine, move the vehicles around back or park them on a hard surface.

Beginning Aug. 1, the Town of Chapel Hill will implement a pilot program to increase the enforcement of the front-yard parking ordinance. The program will focus on identifying violations in the Northside and Pine Knolls neighborhoods, which have seen an increase in front-yard parking.

The town's land-use-management ordinance states that parking and drive areas must be limited to 40 percent of the front-yard area and that the parking area must be clearly desig-nated and covered with an all-weather surface or gravel.

Under the pilot program, if a violation is observed a complaint notice will be placed on site. The property owner will receive a first and final written notice of the violation through certified mail and will have 30 days to appeal. If the violations are not remedied, property owners may be subjected to penalties of \$100 a day.

For more information, contact the Chapel Hill Planning Department at 968-2728 or planning@townofchapelhill. org. If you have questions about residential parking permits, contact Parking Services at parking@townofchapelhill.org or 968-2758.

Chatham human relations board resigns

BY TAYLOR SISK Staff Writer

All members of Chatham County's voluntary human relations commission resigned in protest Monday night, with Chair Norman Clark telling the board of county commissioners, "We refuse to participate in an ineffectual commission and perpetuate the myth that the majority on this board cares about the welfare of minorities in our community."

The resignations came at the conclusion of a presentation Clark made to the board at its regular Monday night meeting and were precipitated by the commissioners' decision in January to eliminate the position of director of the Office of Human Relations, held by Esther Coleman. Coleman's was the only paid county human relations position.

mission is to provide direction and make recommendations, but that, "A volunteer commission does not possess the resources, the knowledge, the time or the authority to address residents' complaints or act on those complaints."

Clark described the shift in demographics that has occurred in Chatham County throughout the past 30 years or so with the arrival of a considerable number of immigrants, mostly from Latin American countries, and the county's efforts to address this shift.

In April 2000, the board of commissioners voted to establish the Chatham County Commission on Human Relations. Each member of the board made two appointments to the committee and two atlarge appointments were made by the full board. The volunteer In his presentation, Clark commission operated without

said the role of a volunteer com- staff from 2000 to 2008.

In May 2007, the commissioners approved the position of director of the Office of Human Relations, and Coleman was subsequently hired. Among her responsibilities were to assist in the investigation of discrimination claims and promote the employment of qualified individuals regardless of race, gender, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation or economic background.

Clark recounted several of the human relations commission's initiatives, undertaken in cooperation with county officials and the community, including addressing the educational achievement gap between whites and students of color; a lack of recreational facilities for young people; and the need for more minority representation in law enforcement, the schools and local government.

in the schools, with Coleman playing a leadership role in the Raising Achievement/Closing the Gap Task Force and in establishing the Student Achievement Awards for minority students.

"We are here today to express our strong disapproval and our disappointment that Chatham County, home to 45 percent minority children in our school system, and home to 30 percent people of color in its general population, does not see fit to invest one-tenth of 1 percent of its budget on a position that would [help] minorities overcome barriers and eliminate discriminatory practices in our community," Clark said.

He said that the director had been "well-poised to secure outside sources of funding" for the office, and urged the commission to reinstate the position.

Clark cited advances made

STEWART FROM PAGE I

planned 300 East Main project, which includes the redevelopment of properties extending from the intersection of Main and Boyd streets near Nice Price Books to the present municipal parking lot on the corner of Main and Roberson streets.

"That project has the potential ... to really change the face of downtown," he said. "I just think it has so many exciting possibilities."

Looking back on his work, Stewart is pleased with the town's fiscal status, given the current economic climate.

"I'm really proud of the financial condition that the town's in," he said, noting that the town has had no tax increase or reduction in service in three years, nor has it made layoffs or furloughs in that period.

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He's also proud to have seen the town's second fire station opened on Homestead Road.

"I think it fits really well," noting the project's environmental features and sensitivity to the surrounding area.

Stewart also launched the town's Better Together initiative, which got town employees working together across departments on a variety of project, formulating ideas and drawing leadership from all levels.

"Employees here have always worked well together," he said. More than anything, he says he's most proud of what the employees have accomplished together.

Stewart attributes much of his success as town manager to his employees, whom he approaches with high expectations.

well," he said. "If you have that expectation, I think people rise

"It takes all of us to deliver

services to the community," from police officers and custodians to firefighters and receptionists.

Stewart tries to know the names of all of the town's 155 to 160 employees, and makes sure to send each of them a birthday card every year.

"I think we all like to be recognized," he said.

'Built out'

As the town moves forward, Stewart said he would like to see more commercial developments come to fruition.

"I'm very concerned about the lack of commercial tax base here," he said, acknowledging the burden that places on property owners. Stewart said he believes population growth for Carrboro has likely leveled off.

We're close to being built out from a population standpoint," he said. "A lot of things would need to change for the town to see significant growth."

In addition, "I'd like for [home ownership in Carrboro] to be an option for more people," he said.

After Stewart finishes his last day as town manager, he's going to take the month of August "to sit back and take it easy." In September, he'll begin part-time work for the Town of Chapel Hill, working on special projects in the town manager's office.

He hopes to use his free time for volunteer work and other activities.

"I'll continue to be a part of the community," he said. "When I walk out of here, it'll be somebody else's responsibility."

But, he added, "I'll be around and interested."

Overall, Stewart has loved his experiences working in local government.

We really do get a chance to touch people's lives every day," he said. "There's just so many ways that we touch people."



"I think people want to do to that expectation.

THE CARRBORO ΕN

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

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Community

Progress delayed, not halted

BY EDDY LANDRETH Staff Writer

Leslie McDonald did not burst onto the scene with the instant stardom so many fans expect from highly recruited college basketball players these days.

The Tyler Hansbroughs and Harrison Barneses of the world are unique. McDonald's path has been of the more common variety. Talented young men like McDonald can become excellent

players as long as they don't get caught in the trap of thinking it has to happen overnight and understand



Eddy Landreth that some of the finest players to wear collegiate uniforms took some time to mature.

McDonald did just that, progressing nicely his first two seasons. There was every reason to believe he would take the next step forward this season.

Unfortunately, the steps he now will be taking will be taken gingerly. McDonald suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in his right knee during a summer-league game, delaying his growth for at least another year.

One thing I loved about Mc-Donald from the start was his honesty. He was willing to say he felt confused and frustrated as a freshman. Then last season, he discussed in detail what he did during the off-season to try to improve. Pouting or feeling sorry for himself was not among those activities.

As a sophomore, he began to reveal the talent coach Roy Williams saw when he recruited Mc-Donald out of Tennessee.

"I expect him to make it every time he shoots it," Williams often said last season.

McDonald is a superb athlete. His ability to run the court and explode off the floor has become more evident with time.

McDonald made 51, or 38.1 percent, of his 134 three-pointshot attempts as a sophomore, while shooting slightly better on two-point attempts (35-89, 40 percent).

His logical next step would have been to become an even better defender and a more consistent shooter in 2011-12. Mc-Donald's knowledge of angles on defense and good shots to take on offense has improved greatly.

As a freshman, he watched as opponents drove by him with ease for baskets. The lack of patience and knowledge to get his feet set hurt him on offense.

Before that initial season ended though, he did learn to play harder. In a game at Wake Forest, he became one of the few players on that team to dive on the floor for loose balls. When McDonald went skidding across the court at Lawrence Joel Coliseum, fans just knew that, before his career ended, he was going to become a player.

Now he is at least a year away from showing what two years of improvement can mean. An ACL tear is no longer a careerending injury, but it still requires a painful and lengthy rehabilitation. If the usual procedure is followed, McDonald's physician will wait until the swelling subsides before performing surgery.

One sad part of the story is that no matter how hard his coaches and teammates work to make him feel a part of the team, an injured player sidelined for a lengthy period is almost always

living in an athletic void. He is part of the team, but is isolated by the very nature of sitting on the bench in a suit at games and on the sideline at practice.

Nonetheless, there are longterm benefits in all of this for McDonald and the Tar Heels. When several of the team's key players leave for the NBA after the 2012 season, McDonald should be healed and will have two seasons to play and lead his younger teammates.

A successful rehabilitation will equate to even greater maturity.

Next season's team is destined to be one of the best in the nation. Being forced to sit and watch will be difficult for McDonald – but if he can make himself approach the season with a greater level of maturity, he can become a central figure in keeping the Tar Heels from slipping when they have to undergo another rebuilding year.

In the meantime, one person's misfortune is another's opportunity. In this case, freshman guard P.J. Hairston should be the benefactor of McDonald's injury.

Part of McDonald's role will be to mentor Hairston and help him overcome his transition from high school to college ball. McDonald could even help Hairston avoid some of the potholes that tripped McDonald that first season. This will be the best way for McDonald to stay engaged with his teammates. He can be a genuine asset if he is willing to avoid self-pity and use his experience to explain what he sees from the bench and at practice.

In the end, the results of our experiences are what we make of them.



"MIDWAY ON THE JOURNEY OF LIFE, I FOUND MYSELF IN THE MIDDLE OF A BURNING FIELD " DANTE'S INFERNO UPDATED

ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

HOUSE Calls

Practicing family physicians from the UNC Department of Family Medicine have teamed up with The Carrboro Citizen to bring you a weekly feature responding to your questions about health and medicine. Send your questions or comments to yourhealth@unc.edu

This week we respond to questions about aspirin for cancer prevention and pap smears after a hysterectomy.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I heard that if you take a baby aspirin a day with a glass of milk, you can prevent cancer. I have also heard that aspirin can cause serious side effects. What is the real answer?

There are some studies that show aspirin (usually at doses of 325 mg per day, not a baby-sized aspirin) can reduce the risk of colon cancers and pre-cancers, but you have to take it for many years and there is some risk of bleeding, such as ulcers or hemorrhagic strokes. So a blanket statement about aspirin and cancer prevention is hard to make at this point. We would say that for people at average risk for colon cancer, the risks of aspirin therapy outweigh its potential benefits. This

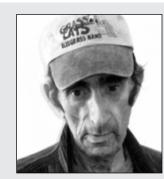
may be subject to change as we get more research on colon cancer prevention. It is worth noting that aspirin may be useful for heart attack prevention as well. Thanks for the question, and consider speaking about this with your family doctor, who might be able to give you a more individualized answer based on factors like family history of colon cancer and personal risk of heart disease.

Dear HOUSE Calls, After a hysterectomy, do I still need a yearly pap smears?

That is an excellent question. If you had a hysterectomy for a reason other than cancer (like bleeding, fibroids or endometriosis) and the doctor removed your cervix with the uterus, then you don't need pap smears ever again. Beware that some doctors leave in the cervix (usually called a supra-cervical

hysterectomy), and, if you aren't sure, this is usually easy to tell with an exam. We should add that some doctors will recommend the part of the pelvic exam that examines the ovaries (if you still have ovaries – these are sometimes removed with a hysterectomy). Also, even if you don't have any specific gynecological needs, you should see your doctor yearly for routine health maintenance or follow-up on regular health conditions – so don't be a stranger. If you still have a cervix, or if you had the hysterectomy for cancer or pre-cancer, you should still get pap smears.

HOUSE Calls is a weekly column by Dr. Adam Goldstein, Dr. Cristy Page and Dr. Adam Zolotor on behalf of Your Health and the **UNC** Department of Family Medicine.



Robert Harman memorial

A memorial for Robert Harman will be held Wednesday, July 27 at 7 p.m. at Open Eye Café.

Harman, 73, was riding his bike in the westbound bicycle lane of Main Street on July 9 when he swerved out of the bike lane and into traffic. He later died at UNC Hospitals from

The memorial, dubbed a "tribute to the acts of kindness from the Carrboro community that transformed the life of Robert Harman into a small-town miracle," will fea-ture speakers including Mayor Mark Chilton, Cliff Collins, Scott Conary,

members of Harman's family and Collins, Conary and friends of Har-

injuries sustained in the accident.

man organized the event.

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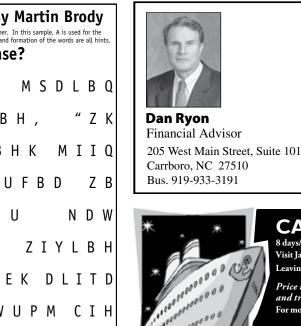
by Linda Thistle

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Community

Thrifting a great option for Carrboro shoppers

Your local thrift store's got something cool at prices that won't heat you up

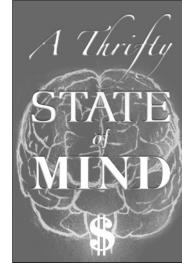
BY CAROLINE KILARU Staff Writer

Summer's here, so it's time for a hot deal. Where else to cool down with a unique, cheap and fruitful shopping adventure than at your local thrift store?

I've loved thrift shopping since I was a teenager, but I gave it up once I became a professional. Recently humbled by a pregnancy that caused me to gain and then slowly lose enormous amounts of weight, I found that the most sensible way to clothe my everchanging body was by buying second-hand.

While scoping out clothes in sizes I hoped I'd quickly bring back to donate, I discovered a wealth of unusual books, quality house wares, some furniture to die for and a few pieces of art and jewelry that I treasure - all for a fraction of the retail cost, and at stores conveniently located around town.

Indeed, the thrift shops are one of our town's best-kept secrets. The Triangle's rich research and academic environment, local food scene and diverse arts culture cause an array of smart, interesting and stylish people to racks, African masks, too-small



cycle through on a regular basis, bringing with them and leaving behind their interesting, quality goods.

You'd be surprised (or maybe not) how many people in Orange County have lived in New York City, Mexico City, Togo, Tonga and everywhere in between. Students, scientists, artists, nature lovers, academics and do-it-yourselfers move in and out of Carrboro like bees, pollinating our thrift-store flower patch.

Each time residents move, they must dispel of their dish dresses and piles and piles of books, making a visit to a local thrift store a hit anytime.

The shops are constantly restocked, and while thrift shopping won't answer all product needs, it can provide a great start. If shoppers spend 10 focused minutes looking for items three times a week, they will find much to be happy about and will have made the world a brighter place for it.

Shopping you can feel good about

Shopping for non-food items used to be such a guilty pleasure for me, and then not even a pleasure at all. I hated the windowless soullessness, endless sameness and piped-in music of the retail stores, while the thought that everything was being made in China by people who were treated horribly made me feel awful.

The revelation of thrift shopping liberated me from the mall for this lifetime. Thrift shopping brings back the pure glee of finding something delightful - and affordable - without the guilt of contributing to a massive global consumer culture.

By buying local second-hand products, shoppers do a lot of good. Thrift shopping slows accumulation in the landfill and

adds more consumer life to each product brought home. By shopping locally and buying items that cost only a few dollars each, thrift shoppers save energy in the form of gas and money. Locally, their cash can go to support a good cause, as most of our thrift stores benefit an associated charity, while staying invested in Orange County's tax base and in a local business.

Thrift shoppers are also able to pick up some steals they could never dream of finding anywhere else.

That's one of the thrills of thrift shopping: Each item is one-of-a-kind, and probably only in the store for a very short time. Thrift stores are like rivers - always the same but very different. By getting into the rhythm of regular thrift shopping, you might find yourself cleaning out your closet and home as regularly as you add to it, making room for the new by getting rid of your unused treasures.

Next week, this series will let you in on sure bets you can find at local thrift stores, and subsequent columns will highlight three of our local thrift shops, detailing their strengths, overall feel and pricing structure. Happy thrifting!

Community Calendar

THURSDAY JULY 21 Movie Showing - Megamindwill be shown as part of the Locally Grown Series. Wallace Plaza, 8pm Dulcimer Players — Carolina Mountain Dulcimer Players will meet,

with both beginners and experts welcome. Carol Woods Retirement Community, 7pm 929-5359

Documentary Showing — If a Tree Falls: A Story of the Earth Liberation Front, about the ELF and Daniel McGowan, Internationalist Books, 7pm Free

FRIDAY JULY 22

Fundraiser — For Internationalist Books and Community Center. Chapel of the Cross, 7pm internationalistbooks.org

SATURDAY JULY 23

Album Release Benefit --- New Town Drunks will release their fourth album, *Going*, with part of the proceeds to benefit the Inter-Faith Council. The Station, 8pm newtowndrunks.com

Water Quality Monitoring — A kid-friendly event to measure water quality by identifying the number and type of water bugs. Haw River in Saxapahaw, 4-6pm 542-3827

MONDAY JULY 25 Time Out — With host Bill

Hendrickson and guest Beth Donner, discussing Long Term Care Insurance.

WCOM 103.5FM, 5pm WEDNESDAY JULY 27

> **Book Sale** — Christmas in July more than mini-book sale and inventory clearance. Cash or checks only. Chapel Hill Public Library, 3-5pm

5

THURSDAY JULY 28

Movie Showing — *Dive*, a film about dumpster diving, focuses on the amount of food wasted every day. Internationalist Books, 7pm Free

Friends of the Downtown -Monthly meeting with speaker Jones Angell, the new "Voice of the Tar Heels." Franklin Hotel, 10am Free

FRIDAY JULY 29

Art Walk — Last Fridays Art Walk in Hillsborough. Historic downtown, 6-9pm lastfridaysartwalk.org

ONGOING

Cancer Support — Support groups at Cornucopia Cancer Support Center for cancer patients and their families. Cancersupport4u.org 401-9333

Cancer Support - Support

groups and wellness programs sponsored by N.C. Cancer Hospital. unclineberger.org/patient/support/ supportgroup.asp

Legal Workshops — Third Thursday of each month, running through October. The Women's Center, 6-7:30pm Free 968-4610s

Send your Community Calendar submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

Community Briefs

Orange County bike routes get signs

The N.C. Department of Transportation is installing signs for bicycle-friendly routes across Orange County.

The routes were introduced last year in the Bicycling Orange County map, which was funded through the NCDOT Transportation Improvement Program. The routes are designed to serve communities, provide connections to bicycle routes in adjacent counties and accommodate average bicyclists' abilities.

Maps are available at Orange County Government offices, the Hillsborough Planning Department, Carrboro Town Hall, the Chapel Hill Planning Department, area visitors' centers, Maple View Farms Ice Cream, the Clean Machine Bicycle Shop and Performance Cycle.

Emerging Artists Grants info session

The Durham Arts Council will hold an information session regarding the Ella Fountain Pratt Emerging Artists Grants on July 25 at 6 p.m. in the meeting room of the Chapel Hill Public Library.

The council is accepting applications for 2011-12 grants through Sept. 15.

The program, which awards grants up to \$1,500, is designed to enable artists to further their professional careers. Criteria include the overall excellence of and commitment to the applicant's work. Applicants must have lived in Durham, Chatham, Orange, Granville or Person counties since Sept. 15, 2010 and must be 18 years of age.

For more information, contact Orange County Arts Commission Director Martha Shannon at 968-2011.

Chatham student to attend Young Democrats Leadership Academy

Blaike Bibbs, president of the Chatham County and Chapel Hill Teen Democrats, is the first North Carolina student selected to attend the Young Democrats of America High School Leadership Academy. The academy will be held this week in Washington, D.C. It will focus on an inside view of elections, media, campaign finance, grassroots organizing and engaging youth in the voting process. Only 48 students are selected to represent 27 states.

Bibbs is the first vice president of the North Carolina Association of Teen Democrats.

Haw River Watch event Saturday

Haw River Watch Project Coordinator Cynthia Crossen will demonstrate Haw River watch monitoring on Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m.

The event is aimed at informing community members about creek life and water-quality monitoring.

Learn how to measure a stream's water quality by indentifying the number and type of water bugs, doing simple chemical tests and searching for small critters in the creek to identify the pollution levels. The event will take place on the island in the middle of the Haw River in downtown Saxapahaw.

Call 542-3827 for more information.

OBITUARIES

Leif-Wynn Martin Rego Leif Rego, 33, died at Duke Hospital on July 18, 2011, amidst an outpouring of love



memorial service at the Barn for D-Day. He did a bit of article about him in Life magat Valhalla, west of Chapel amateur theatricals and it was azine (June 26, 1944). la.com for directions.) There will be great music and sharing of memories. A potluck reception will follow the service.

Hill, Saturday, July 23, 2011 in a Red Cross production for at 11 a.m. (Visit barnatvalhal- the troops that he was spotted by Michael Powell, who realized that he would be perfect for the role of the American in their next film, A Canterbury Tale. After the film was made, John went with the troops to Europe to do his bit for freedom and democracy. When he was able to be spared from his work for the Army, he did a bit of promotional work for the film – there was even an

John and his wife, Barbara, were eventually persuaded to He tried out for a few other come and visit England again, films, but nobody else could and in October 2000 they did just that. John Sweet and Sheila Sim (Lady Attenborough) had their red carpet moment and were pleased to see that the cinema was full, even on a wet Monday in Canterbury. The next day, John went back to a lot of the locations where they had made that film all those years before.

and music from his family and friends.

To the lover of life, the friend, the brother, the son, the musical soul, the teacher and the guardian and transmitter of positive energy ... "Todo Chevere."

We loved him from Chapel Hill and Carrboro to the coast of California. We admired the brave athlete biking amongst the Monterrey cypress, the redwoods, the North Carolina mountains, surfing and praying with the strength of the ocean, singing straight from the heart through many instruments. We will forever be grateful for the experiences we shared with Leif.

His energy was effervescent, an outpouring of love. He was respected for his integrity and self-awareness, and his huge and generous heart invited beautiful connections and inspired friends and musicians to be their best and to love themselves. He truly cherished his friends and family; his gifts of love will con-



Leif-Wynn Martin Rego

tinue to nourish us.

Leif could feel the vibrations of those around him, and through music and spirit he ignited what was the most beautiful and positive, bringing it to song and to life.

His memory is cherished by his parents, Carol Verner and Philip Rego; his brother, Daniel Rego; and his many friends who were touched by the beautiful energy he offered to this world.

To hear Leif's music, please visit youtube.com/LeifWynn Leif will be honored at a

John Sweet

John Sweet died on Monday, July 5 at the age of 95.

John was serving in the U.S. Army in 1943 when he was posted to the UK. He worked on Eisenhower's staff helping with the preparations

see his charm, and he never got the jobs. After the war, he tried out for a few theater jobs, but they never quite panned out either. So he went back to his pre-war job of teaching and would have remained buried in obscurity if Paul Tritton hadn't tracked him down when he was researching his book A Canterbury Wartime Movie.

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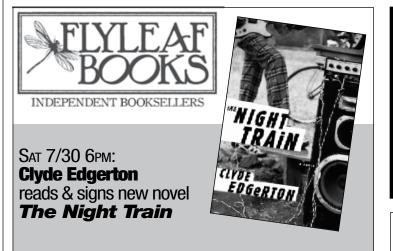
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PUBLIC NOTICE Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Special Education

Destruction of Records Notice - July 2011

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools is hereby giving notice that the Exceptional Children's Program will be destroying noncurrent records in accordance with federal and state policy. This message is for students whose birth year is 1983 or earlier that received Exceptional Children's Program (EC) services while attending Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools or parents or guardians of those students.

Records may contain information useful for social security benefits or other purposes. If a copy of the record is desired a written request should be submitted to the address below within 90 days of this publication. Please include the student's name, date of birth, current phone number, last school at which they received EC services and address to which the record should be mailed. The request must be signed by the former student (18 years or older) or legal guardian.

If you have further questions please call 919-967-8211 ext. 28278.

Send written request to: Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Exceptional Children's Program, 750 South Merritt Mill Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516



THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



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LETTERS

James Crow Jr. Esq.

With the extraordinary rise in income inequality in this country, it is no surprise that the worshippers of wealth would work to shrink the democratic franchise for poor people. Jim Crow may be gone on to his reward, but James Crow Jr. Esq. is now dominating the political marketplace.

George Bush Jr. mastermind Karl Rove called this strategy "caging voters," effectively denying voters in south Florida the right to vote if their name was similar to, or rhymed with, the name of a convicted felon.

Our new Republican-led legislature reconvened on July 13 and is working to overturn Gov. Beverly Perdue's veto of their earlier efforts to eliminate same-day registration, slice a week off early voting, end straight-ticket voting, eliminate public-financing programs and require a new voter ID.

Jim Crow would be proud of these efforts, and, sadly, they will be successful if too few of us are paying attention. Make your voice heard! No return to Jim Crow!

> JOHN HEUER *Chapel Hill*

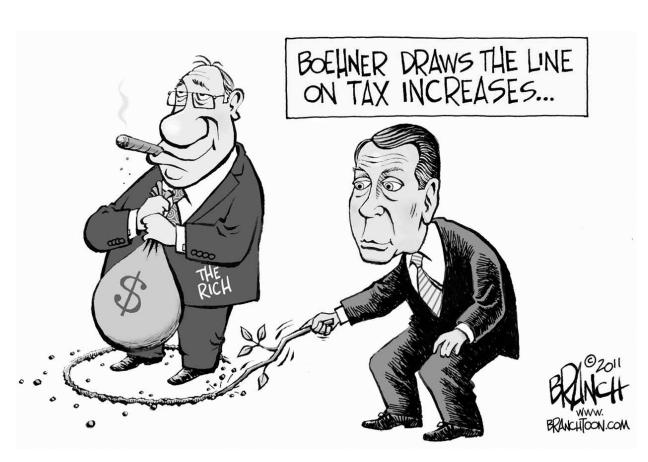
Does a library expansion make sense?

As a taxpayer in both Chapel Hill and Orange County, and as a lifelong supporter of library funding, I now find that I strongly oppose following through with current library expansion plans at the town and county levels.

If completed as planned, an addition to the Chapel Hill Public Library will add more than 35,000 square feet to its current 27,000 square feet, and a new Southwest Branch of the Orange County Library planned for Carrboro will add 20,000 square feet to the temporary space contributed now by McDougle School and the Cybrary in the Carrboro Century Center.

We are about to nearly triple our bricks-andmortar library capacity in Chapel Hill and Carrboro at a time when ebook library lending is in its infancy; usage of ebook readers such as Nooks, Kindles and iPads is exploding; and we have one old library building at 523 Franklin St. that sits virtually abandoned and deteriorating.

Does it make sense to move forward with these huge public-building plans when our local tax bases are struggling from prolonged recession and from the coming 18 percent cut in state support for our university? Does it make sense to ignore the emerging digital revolution in public reading habits in favor of expanding traditional library systems? I urge our elected officials and those seeking elected office to reconsider these plans before spending the \$23 million in capital costs and \$3 million a year in added operating costs called for by the plans. It is not too late to make sure that tax dollars are being spent wisely.



Mapping the future in local politics

BY KIRK ROSS

This is a family newspaper, so I'll just say, What The Hey?

The new redistricting plans for the North Carolina House and Senate were released last week, and it turns out that Democratic Reps. Joe Hackney and Verla Insko live in the same newly drawn House district. Fancy that.

Having listened to a lot of back and forth on the new redistricting plans, I can tell you that the explanation for why so many top Democrats ended up double-bunked with partisan allies is as thin as the ice on University Lake in July. I'm paraphrasing, but it goes something like this:

"In order to comply with the Voting Rights Act, we had to double-bunk a lot of top Democrats. Also, the Democrats did stuff like this."

So, there you have it. Perfectly reasonable.

By the time all the legal wrangling is over, the maps as drawn may change somewhat, but that's more

likely to happen in areas under tighter Voting Rights Act scrutiny than ours. The NAACP and others are challenging an overall strategy that packs some districts with Democratic voters, leaving surrounding districts more competitive for Republicans. The legality of this strategy could become the heart of the court case to come.

In a recent discussion with reporters, Hackney said he wasn't worried about his own situation, preferring instead to blast the whole scheme as pure partisan hardball.

He doesn't need to worry, because even though he lives on the edge of southwestern Orange County, Hackney, who has a working farm in Chatham County, has legitimate claim to residence there, as well as a long family lineage. The current House minority leader and former speaker went to Silk Hope High School back when there was such a thing. Kinda hard to get more Chatham than that. Pencil him in for the new District 54. I can tell you that the explanation for why so many top Democrats ended up double-bunked with partisan allies is as thin as the ice on University Lake in July.

56 that runs up N.C. 86, takes in most of Hillsborough and extends into the farmland a few miles north. Chunks of northern Durham are also shifted into District 50. In western Orange, the line cuts roughly north and south. Heading out of Carrboro on N.C. 54, you cross into District 50 just before the American Stone Quarry. North of that, Maple View Farms is in District 50, while their ice cream parlor is in District 56.

Assuming that Hackney makes the leap across the county line, none of the new maps should look partic-

ularly threatening to area House incumbents. That is not the case with the Senate maps, where apparently the GOP-led redistricting committee has determined that the Voting Rights Act mandates that Democratic Sens. Ellie Kinnaird and Bob At-

water be double-bunked. This has got to feel like déjà vu for Kinnaird, who faced a tough primary race as a result of court actions in the last redistricting. The courts, you may recall, agreed that counties should be kept whole as much as possible and eliminated districts with more than one senator. The upshot was an unpleasant Democrat vs. Democrat race

KidSCope meets mental health needs

BY LINDA FOXWORTH

As difficult as it is to imagine, children as young as 2 or 3 years old may have depression or anxiety. In fact, it is estimated that between 9 percent and 14 percent of children from birth to 5 years of age experience social and emotional problems that negatively affect their functioning and development. The numbers for developmental disabilities are equally staggering. The N.C. Autism Society estimates that one out of every 110 children born today has some form of autism spectrum disorder.

The good news is that if caught early, all of these conditions can become manageable, quality of life can be improved and worsening of symptoms may be averted. Often these challenging issues are first noticed by teachers or health care providers. Other times, parents approach these same professionals to express concern and to request guidance. To respond properly, early-childhood professionals must remain educated about new developments in the treatment of children with mental and developmental disabilities.

Research shows that families in need do better when they are served by a team of professionals comprised of the child's teacher and pediatrician; an early-intervention or mental health service provider; and occupational, physical or speech therapists who work together to develop and implement an intervention plan to address the child's needs.

That's where a program like KidSCope fits in. The Orange County-based program offers a range of services to improve the lives of children who have or may be at risk of having a mental or developmental disability. In addition to providing direct services, KidSCope teaches others on the front lines how to recognize mental health issues or developmental disabilities and how to work with children and their families who come to them for services. On average, KidSCope staff works with 600 children and service providers each year in both Orange and Chatham counties. To stay abreast of best-practice information, staff of the Kid-SCope program hosts and participates in ongoing professional development. One such experience so far in 2011 was a threepart training series focused on autism early intervention led by John Thomas, training consultant with the N.C. Autism Society. The event exposed attendees to the Early Start Denver Model of intervention, now widely considered one of the best researchbased models. Alyce Anderson, an itinerant preschool teacher with Chatham County Schools, attended the training sessions. She works in the homes or preschool settings of special-needs children who have individualized education plans. Trained to be an educator, not a mental health care worker, she has come to rely on the technical assistance KidSCope provides. "I took the training because I have several children who are either officially diagnosed as on the autistic spectrum or who will get the diagnosis in the future, and I sometimes struggle with how to serve them," Anderson says. "I need training and ideas on how to effectively serve these children." KidSCope also runs two inclusive five-star development day programs - the Children's Learning Center in Hillsborough and the Chatham Child Development Center in Siler City. The two programs are certified developmental day programs that serve children who are typically developing alongside children with identified social/emotional or developmental disabilities in a 50/50 model.



GARY BARNES *Chapel Hill*

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be no more than 425 words in length and must be accompanied by the author's name, address and contact information. We will publish one letter per author per month. Lengthy letters written in longhand will mysteriously become lost. Emailed letters are preferred. That said, send your letters to:

Letters to the editor Box 248 Carrboro, NC 27510 susan@carrborocitizen.com

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Inside Orange County, the redrawn district lines are much different than they are today, with District 50, now represented by Bill Faison, losing its Carrboro precincts as well as a skyscraper-looking section of District between Kinnaird and Howard Lee, which came down to a recount.

Potential intra-party conflict aside, the new Senate District 23 does re-link Orange and Chatham counties, which have much greater ties and more in common than Orange and its other neighbors.

The way the districts are drafted now may change, but even after an adjudicated adjustment, they portend a back-and-forth in legislative politics for the next decade, with high-turnout presidential election-year results pulling the General Assembly in the Democrats' direction and back toward the GOP in years with lower turnout.

Government and stewardship

BY DAN COLEMAN

It is not often that a North Carolina city finds itself featured on the front page of the *New York Times*. But, given the topic, the city leaders of Wilmington could not have been very happy to find a story on their town so prominently placed in the July 5 edition.

The story, if you missed it, concerned the city's failure to replace an aging fire truck that was due for retirement five years ago and that spent more than 800 hours in the repair shop in 2010. Predictably, the engine failed during a serious fire and tragedy was barely averted.

The *Times* article is worth reading for anyone interested in the challenges faced by local government. It delineates the problems the Wilmington mayor and council faced in trying to address declining employee morale, neglected infrastructure and the tax burden on property owners. It raises issues like the need to balance the economic realities of the present against the importance of preserving assets for the future and to balance citizens' need for government services with their ability to pay for them.

As well as providing a primer on managing municipalities, the *Times* story speaks to a major issue unfolding at every level of American government: How, and to what extent, is government best used as a vehicle for promoting human well-being, or what the Constitution calls "the general welfare"?

On July 6, a *Times* editorial laid the problem squarely at the feet of the reactionaries who have been so prominent politically this year. "Their anti-tax radicalism, maintained at any cost, is doing enormous damage at all levels. It is preventing Wilmington, N.C., from buying a new fire truck, preventing the most vulnerable in dozens of states from receiving subsistence benefits, and may soon engulf the economy if the standoff in Washington does not end." As with most matters, the burden falls hardest on the poor. The right defends tax breaks for jet owners while taking the budget ax to basic programs for health care, housing and nutrition.

Government has a responsibility for stewardship of fundamental factors of public well-being, factors that, if neglected, can put lives at risk and undermine the general welfare. Recent state and federal budget decisions Government has a responsibility for stewardship of fundamental factors of public well-being, factors that, if neglected, can put lives at risk and undermine the general welfare.

may yield short-term savings, but in the long term we will all have to pay the piper. For local government, as the Wilmington case indicates, the threat falls on those public services that most of us take for granted, services like police and fire protection, trash collection and road maintenance.

A key asset of North Carolina, one for which the government is constitutionally responsible, is the education of our citizens. The state legislature's budget cuts to all levels of education are astounding, particularly the 18 percent cut faced by UNC. What sort of future will we have if our young people are not properly educated?

We will become a society of declining skills and diminished innovation, with scant ability to solve evermore intractable social and ecological problems.

This year, the anti-tax, anti-government crowd has wrought havoc with its draconian budget cuts. In 2012, redistricting will make it harder for responsible candidates to be elected. It will be essential for citizens to be vigilant, not just on the presidential race but on state house races that impact our lives so directly.

Meanwhile, here in 2011, local governments in Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Orange County thanked their managers for avoiding tax increases. However, in a year or two we may be facing the same sort of dilemmas as Wilmington. Then, our ability to value government as a tool for the public good may be tested, as will our readiness to pay for the benefits it provides us.

Dan Coleman is a member of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen.

Linda Foxworth is the director of KidSCope.

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Recipe of the Week

Tomato and Watermelon Salad Serves 4-6

Recipe Provided by Bill Smith of Crook's Corner

Ingredients:

5 cups ripe, bite-sized watermelon chunks, seeded as best you can, but don't go crazy

- I 1/2 pounds very ripe tomatoes, finely chunked
- 3 teaspoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

I small red or sweet yellow onion, peeled, quartered and thinly sliced

- 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup good, strong-flavored extra-virgin olive oil

Procedure:

Toss the melon and tomatoes with the sugar and salt. Let sit for 15 minutes, then fold in the onions, vinegar and oil. Serve very cold.



tino community, said he felt it was do this. There is a way to decouple it derstand this," Castro said. "It's very and explore all options in the com- we have a center or whether we have more important to focus on a so- and that's by getting the workers a easy these days, with the anti-im- munity before making a decision. a corner that's better organized," he We want to do it right," Castro said. "Part of my job and responsibility is to make sure that, at the end, there is a resolution one way or the other.

For now, the team will continue to conduct research and educate the public, Castro said, adding that he hopes to have a more specific plan that won't involve fighting the ordinance - within the next six months.

FROM PAGE I

DAY LABORERS

anti-lingering ordinance for the intersection after residents of the surrounding neighborhood complained of public alcohol consumption, public urination and littering in the areas around the intersection. The ordinance prohibits lingering at the intersection between 11 a.m. and 5 a.m.

The board recently heard claims that the ordinance is unconstitutional and voted to take another look at it when it reconvenes in September.

Mauricio Castro, a member of Justice United's immigrant-family action team and a leader in the Lalution for day laborers than on the ordinance.

We don't see the ordinance at this point as a priority for the work that we're doing because we believe that the ordinance will fix itself if we have a suitable place where the workers can gather and find work," he said.

Haven-O'Donnell said she felt it was important to separate the issues of a possible center and the ordinance.

"If the focus is on the ordinance, then it's fueling the negative energy of the neighbors and the community and capturing the workers when [the two issues] need not be connected," she said. "There is a way to dignified not only work station but eventually a work center," which could provide services in addition to a gathering space.

Castro said he and others on the team are doing research on daylaborer centers and the experiences of other communities to determine how best to approach such a center. Castro said the center could be an organized setting that could provide protection for both workers and those who hire them. At the June stakeholder meeting, representatives from the National Day Laborer Organizing Network presented best-practices strategies and other information to those in attendance.

"We want people to really un-

migrant rhetoric that we have, that people can take this out of context."

Haven-O'Donnell said that one of the most important points that she took from the discussions was the need for the workers to be on board with whatever direction a possible solution takes.

"You can set up certain things, but if they're wary of being involved and they're not involved, they can't help move it forward," she said. "My key interest is making sure that their status is elevated as workers."

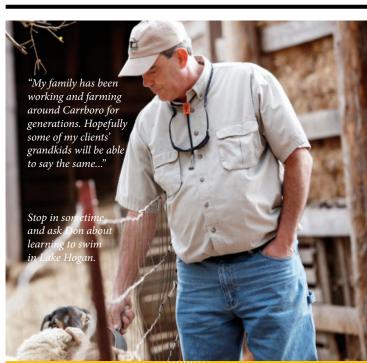
El Centro Hispano, which hosted the June meeting, has been suggested as a possible location for a day-laborer center, but Castro said he wants to think outside of the box

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"At some point, we are going to have to make the call about whether



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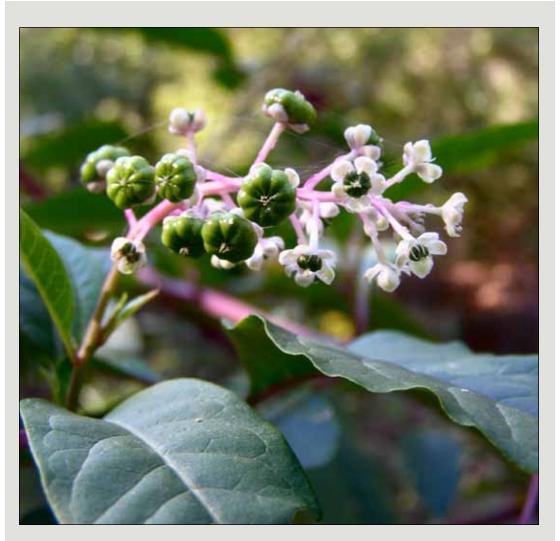
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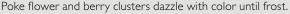
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CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Too Easy to Please?

The new bride gushed to her mother, "My husband is very good to me. He gives me everything l ask for." Her mother said, "That only shows you're not asking for enough." - Joey Adams







FLORA FROM PAGE I

grow this giant native perennial.

Every year, Sally and I engage in "my-poke's-bigger-than-your-poke" discussions that require regular garden visitations to determine who gets the annual bragging rights.

annual bragging rights. Poke is my favorite plant, striking in all seasons. My favorite aspect is probably the stem. Poke's brilliant red stems in late summer and early fall literally stop me in my tracks. There is no more spectacular effect in either the wild or a managed landscape.

I love everything about poke. Tiny pendulous flowers bloom throughout the growing season. A closer look reveals white petals surrounding emeraldgreen centers, contrasting with pink- to burgundy-colored stems. What color combos!

When those little emerald-green centers mature into shiny-black berries, resident mockingbirds and catbirds compete for them on a daily basis. Even in the dormant months, the tan-colored stems of poke remain an interesting architectural feature. I never cut stems down until the emergence of the lush green leaves at the base of the plant in the early spring. Then we refer to it as poke salad. Visit the farmers' market in early spring to get cooking strategies from some of the old-timers. Make certain you note the details, because poke is also poisonous, so you have to know what you are doing to safely enjoy this culinary treat. Poke is also medicinal. Wish I had the

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Poke is also medicinal. Wish I had the space to relate my annual conversation with a friend who collects pint jars of dried berries for her 90-year-old aunt, who concocts a special tea to relieve pain from arthritis and rheumatism. But don't you try it until you know what you're doing!

Email Ken Moore at flora@carrborocitizen.com. Find previous Ken Moore Citizen columns at The Annotated Flora (carrborocitizen.com/flora).



Farewell to the King of Carrboro, Part 2

t's not a particularly great photograph – but it captures a moment in time never to be seen again. Last September when I took the fledgling student staff of the Carrboro Commons for a walking tour, we got to visit with Carrboro town fixture, biker, guitar player, raconteur and char-actor Robert Harman, the self-proclaimed "King of Carrboro." My students will always remember how kind and downright sweet the man was when I, a rank stranger, walked up and began chatting with him. As you read in last week's Citizen, we lost Robert, and Carrboro is a little poorer for his absence. Perhaps a simple photo can help us through our grieving by celebrating what might otherwise be an ordinary moment on the Weaver Street Market lawn. What's that Jerry Herman line from La Cage aux Folles? "… Because the best of times is now …"



A THOUSAND WORDS BY JOCK LAUTERER

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