

**FRIDAY**  
20% chance of storm  
94/68

**SATURDAY**  
clear  
94/70

**SUNDAY**  
20% chance of storm  
95/74

# C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

Inside —  
Our monthly  
arts and music  
publication,  
**MILL.**



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE  
Face to face with the common dayflower

## FLORA By Ken Moore

A flower that makes you smile

Every time I walk by one of these little flowers, I feel a smile inside and my instinct is to pause long enough to say: "Hi, how you doin'?"

Early this week, I took one of these little flowers to Padgett Station, one of my Carrboro coffee spots, and set it in front of Jami and Logan, who were working behind the counter.

"What is your response to this little flower?" I asked without any preliminaries.

Jami studied it intently for just a few seconds before a smile lit up her face and she responded, "It looks like a little old man with a beret!"

Logan's instant response: "It looks like Stitch from *Lilo and Stitch!*" He then had to explain to me that Stitch is a character in a Disney film. So I'm not alone in having animated responses to the common or Asiatic dayflower, *Commelina communis*. I frequently think of a blue-eared Minnie Mouse when I see it.

There are several species of dayflowers. The common name is appropriate since each flower blooms for only one day. The one we are most likely to encounter, the Asiatic dayflower, is an annual from China. It is likely quickly snatched from well-tended gardens before it is ever allowed to express its cheerful flowers, but in my yard it's allowed to wander about from year to year. Frequenters of Weaver Street Market in Carrboro may spot it reaching over the brick wall above the patio where it freely moves about among the perennials. Nearby there is a vigorous population, looking like a deliberately planted groundcover, on the edge of the market's paved delivery area.

SEE **FLORA** PAGE 10

## Abbey Court ownership says towing policy eased

by Susan Dickson  
Staff Writer

The homeowners' association for Abbey Court Apartments announced on Tuesday that they had relaxed the complex's towing policy and asked residents who had been denied parking permits due to vehicle appearance to reapply.

"We would ask that anyone who has been denied a parking permit due to a vehicle appearance issue revisit the office at Abbey Court," said Ken Lucas, president and CEO of the Tar Heel Companies and owner of the majority of Abbey Court's units, in a press release. "We will be reassessing any vehicle that has been previously denied due to an appearance issue. The policy regarding the need for vehicles to be properly registered to residents remains unchanged."

According to the press release from the homeowners' association, dated July 29, the association decided to relax the rules regarding the appearance of vehicles more than a week ago.

Earlier this month, Abbey Court began towing vehicles that were parked in the apartment complex's lot without permits. However, many

residents were denied parking permits because their cars have dents, need paint or have a cracked windshield. Residents are also required to present documentation that they are a leaseholder or authorized occupant as well as vehicle registration information.

According to Brad Chandler of Chandler's Towing, the company contracted to tow vehicles illegally parked in the lot, the company has towed 29 cars from Abbey Court's parking lot since July 17.

### Accusations of discrimination

Residents of Abbey Court have said management unfairly discriminates against Latino residents, many of whom are working class and cannot afford to fix their cars.

Ricardo Lazaro, a resident for 12 years, said he had never had a problem with management at Abbey Court until now.

"We cannot buy new cars," he said

in Spanish. "We are working people."

Last week, Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton asked Lucas to stop towing residents' cars, but Lucas refused. According to Chilton, Lucas said he was concerned that some people were

parking there illegally to catch the bus to downtown Carrboro. In addition, according to Chilton, Lucas said he

SEE **ABBEY COURT** PAGE 5



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

Abbey Court residents voice their opinions at Town Hall on Sunday.

## UNC surgeon leads West Bank initiative

by Rich Fowler  
Staff Writer

Thabet Thabet hospital sits atop a large hill in the West Bank town of Tulkarem, and on a clear day from the rooftop you can see the Mediterranean Sea only 30 miles away. But the hospital has to function without computers, microscopes, saws, drills and a lot of other equipment you would ordinarily find in hospitals in the U.S.

That hospital is where John van Aalst's mother was born.

For about 10 days every May and December, van Aalst brings a small team of medical professionals from the U.S. to Tulkarem to operate on children with cleft palates and to teach Palestinian doctors how to treat them. Van Aalst, a plastic surgeon at UNC Hospitals, has treated over 250 Palestinian children since he first came to the region in 2005. His wife, Cindy, a registered nurse who also works at UNC Hospitals, comes and assists him on his trips to the West Bank.

This May, Bilal Saib, a Chapel Hill dentist; Lindsay Butler, a dental hygienist; and Austin Rose, an ear, nose and throat surgeon at UNC Hospitals also came with van Aalst to Tulkarem. They will all take part in a presentation about their most recent trip to the West Bank at Grace Church on Sage Road in Chapel Hill this Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

"We're operating on kids who've got no money," van Aalst said.

"They have nothing," Saib said of the people who live in the refugee



PHOTO BY LINDSAY BUTLER

Doctor Austin Rose with a young patient.

camps. "Even by Palestinian standards, they're considered second-class citizens."

Van Aalst and Saib took donated equipment to the hospital in order to perform the surgeries. Van Aalst brought thousands of dollars of medical equipment donated by medical equipment manufacturers and Saib raised several more thousand to buy dental equipment to take over.

"I literally built a small operating room and dental facility there," Saib said.

Rose said he and his colleagues performed about five to seven surgeries a day for about six days, from eight in the morning until as late as eight at night, followed by a big dinner.

"Everybody was extremely nice to us, and incredibly hospitable. It was amazing. Every night we were hosted at someone's house for dinner, and you

really got to know people," he said.

"There are plenty of kids that really do need surgery that we can't operate on in a given trip, and the only thing we can tell them is, 'Next time,'" van Aalst said. "It's a difficult decision. But it's a little easier knowing that we are going back."

Rose said he learned a lot from the local doctors. He worked with one doctor who had converted the driver's seat of an old Subaru into an examination chair. "People actually get pretty ingenious when they don't have everything that we have," he said.

Van Aalst is emphatic about involving local doctors and wants to put himself out of a job in the West Bank.

"The goal really is that we don't

SEE **WEST BANK** PAGE 3

## UNC studies Carrboro rail siding

by Kirk Ross  
Staff Writer

After recently closing the deal for an 8 1/2-acre parcel off Merritt Mill Road on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro border, university officials OK'ed plans to start studying the site for a new rail siding.

At its meeting last week, the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees approved a recommendation to enlist Raleigh design firm Moffatt & Nichol to study the site, most of which is in Carrboro.

Bruce Runberg, vice chancellor of Facilities Planning and Construction, said Wednesday that the firm will be asked to do a site analysis on the parcel, which is located at 130 Merritt Mill Rd. and situated behind Hunt Electric at the corner of Cameron Avenue and Merritt Mill Road and south of the Ready Mixed Concrete plant.

Runberg said he expects the preliminary study of how to use the property to take about six months. One key goal, he said, is to develop a rail spur that will allow greater ease in shifting coal and limestone rail cars for the university's nearby co-generation plant. Runberg said given the size of the parcel, there could be additional uses.

"Eight and a half acres is a fair amount of property," he said, adding that the process of developing a plan

SEE **RAILROAD** PAGE 3

## Standing still does not move this Carrboroite

### RECENTLY . . .

By Valerie Schwartz

With wide-open mind, heart, arms and face, Joy Williams has returned this week to Mali, the West African nation she first visited in 2002, where she learned the dances of her ancestors. During this trip, she will participate in The Bloodline Project, striving to fight Mali's number-one killer of children — malaria — killing one child every 30 seconds. The problem is compounded by the 70 percent illiteracy rate in this country we Americans may best know as the land of Timbuktu.

A native of western Orange County, Williams, 27, is the fourth of seven children born to Mahlon and Veronica Williams. Mahlon is retired from the Carrboro Police Department.

"My parents met at N.C. Central, then married and moved to Carrboro," she said. She credits both of them for the love of the arts that she and her siblings all share. "They both reinforced it," with her father insisting that all of them learn to play an instrument. With a roll of her expressive eyes, she says she learned to play the bass clarinet, "just to fulfill the obligation."

She needs no instrument — music speaks through her body. While talking on the Weaver Street Market lawn, her hands subconsciously started "dancing" in time to the loud music in someone's passing car as she used them to punctuate her words.

SEE **RECENTLY** PAGE 8



PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Joy Williams of Carrboro left Wednesday for a six-week trip to Mali.

### INSIDE

Town approaches bicycle plan

See page 2

### INDEX

Land & Table .....	2
News .....	3
Community .....	4, 5
Opinion .....	6
Real Estate .....	7
Classifieds .....	7
Water Watch .....	8

## WEST END REVIVAL

PHOTO BY JORDAN TIMPY

The building at 214 W. Franklin Street, formerly Wicked Burrito, is undergoing construction as it is transformed into a Noodles & Company, a restaurant offering an assortment of Asian, Mediterranean and American pasta dishes. The building was chosen by the company because of its age, character and image, which they intend to preserve, according to Jon Brockway, superintendent on the job with U.S. General Construction out of Georgia.



PHOTO BY JORDAN TIMPY

Also coming soon on the West End is Mint, an Indian restaurant. It will occupy the spot next to Local 506, which was the former home of Shorty's and Obama campaign headquarters. A few doors down new bar The Crunkleton will occupy space formerly used by the Cat's Cradle.

## New town bike plan rolls forward

by Jack Carley  
Staff Writer

The Town of Carrboro held a meeting July 23 to hear public comments on the initial stages of a new bike plan for the town. Consultants from Greenways, Inc. presented a preliminary plan for improving the town's bicycle facilities and about 50 people dropped by to see the plans and offer their opinions, said town Transportation Planner Adena Messenger.

Messenger says that public comments are being considered in the planning process and that a newer draft plan should be ready by Friday to see at the town hall or online at the town's website (ci.carrboro.nc.us). The newer draft will be up for review for about two months, Messenger said, and will likely be available for comment at another public hearing.

New bicycle facilities in Carrboro may include more bike lanes, offroad paths, wider shoulders and something called a "sharrow," short for "share the road" arrow.

Messenger said the meeting went "alright" but may have been dampened by the weather. Still she said some bicyclists braved the ominous clouds and had helmets in hand at the meeting.

## Carrboro FARMERS' MARKET

locally grown nationally known

WEDNESDAY MARKET: 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
SATURDAY MARKET: 7 a.m. - Noon

### What's at Market?

Check out what's at the Year-Round Farmers' Market...  
**WEDNESDAY MARKET NOW OPEN!!!!!!**

**BLUEBERRIES,** tomatoes, corn, cantaloupe, watermelons, peaches, blackberries, zucchini, yellow squash, peppers, cucumbers, basil, onions, garlic, pole beans, beets, potatoes, chard, vegetable and flower starters, sunflowers, lizianthus, snap dragons, sunflowers, zinnias, lilies, campanula, and many more flowers, baked goods (including vegan and gluten free options), breads, jams, wines, grass fed beef, pastured pork, pastured chicken, grass fed lamb, buffalo, sausage, chorizo, ground bison, raw milk cheeses, smoked cheeses, goat cheese, jams, jellies, pottery, hats, rugs, and more!

### Recipe of the week

#### LIGHT SUMMER PIZZA

Recipe Provided by: Market Customer, Sacha Knowles

I tried this one at home with an easy white flour tortilla crust. You could of course make your own dough, but the tortilla works great. I get the great big tortillas. Have fun with the toppings. I've used cooked corn, fried okra, fried eggplant, peppers, and other toppings when I want to make bigger pizzas. This is a simple and light summer version. Enjoy!

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 large head of Garlic (minced)
- 2 large onions or 4 small onions (chopped)
- 1 Tablespoon of honey
- 6-7 tomatoes (Chopped) \*I used a collection of heirloom tomatoes because I had them, but paste tomatoes work great
- 4 cups of grated mozzarella cheese
- Olive oil
- Small bag of fresh basil (chopped or whole)
- 3 large flour tortillas (the bags usually contain 12 tortillas)
- Salt and pepper to taste

Over medium heat, sauté the garlic and onions in olive oil and be careful not to burn them. Add about a tablespoon of honey and cook until onions are clear. Add the tomatoes and reduce the heat to a simmer for about an hour. Salt and pepper to taste.

Coat both sides of the tortillas in fine olive oil. Broil each side in the oven until the tortilla is lightly toasted (about a minute or less on each side). The tortilla will balloon

out and rise. Take out of the oven and pop the air bubbles to regain a flat surface. Spoon the sauce overtop the tortillas and cover with cheese.

Stick back in the oven on broil just long enough to melt the cheese. Top with fresh whole or chopped basil. Take out of the oven and drizzle the surface of the pizza with a little olive oil and salt. Serve hot.

\* Ingredients Available at Market



## Land & Table Briefs

### Potluck correction

The next date for the ChathamArts Potluck in a Pasture was incorrectly reported in last week's paper. The next Potluck in a Pasture will be held September 14 at Castle Rock Gardens from 5-7 p.m. Details to follow, for information call 219-9840.

### NCBG events

The N.C. Botanical Garden will host several events for the public in August.

On Aug. 2, it will hold a workshop, "Local Flora: Summer," from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. An instructor will give classroom lectures and lead explorations to teach about a variety of local habitats and the summer's woody and herbaceous plants.

On Aug. 9, the garden will host "Knowing and Growing Carnivorous Plants" from 1 to 3 p.m. Staff will teach about the conditions that support Southeastern pitcher plants and how to grow them. Participants will create and take home a portable bog garden. There is a fee of \$60, or \$55 for Garden members to pay for the take-home garden.

On Aug. 16, trained tour guides will offer a tour of Coker Arboretum from 11 a.m. to noon and speak on the history of the arboretum.

### Free Fridays

OWASA will waive the fee for boat users on University Lake on Fridays until August 15. There is still a fee for renting an electric trolling motor. For a waiver, bring in a recent bill to prove you are an OWASA customer. If you have OWASA service but not a bill, bring identification that can confirm your address. University Lake is open Friday through Monday from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call OWASA at 942-5790 for more information.

### Farming workshops

The Center for Environmental Farming Systems in Goldsboro will host a workshop on August 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. entitled Organic Certification to teach farmers how to get a farm certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Organic Program.

On August 25, a workshop entitled De-

veloping Community Based Food Systems will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop will look at the framework of local food systems, including conducting food assessments, developing new markets, policies that affect food systems and more.

For more information or to register, see [www.cefs.ncsu.edu/calendar2008.htm](http://www.cefs.ncsu.edu/calendar2008.htm).

### Saxapahaw String Band

The regional favorite Southern String Band will play the Saxapahaw Rivermill Market & Music Series this Saturday. The music-combination-farmers' market is every Saturday from 5-8 p.m. until the end of August, with a special Oktoberfest celebration on Oct. 18. To come and enjoy the show, bring a blanket and chairs. Vendors sell prepared food and farmers offer produce; arts and crafts are also available along with activities for kids. Drivers are encouraged to park at the Saxapahaw General Store or the Collins Community Center. Dogs are not allowed at the event. For more information visit [www.rivermill-village.com](http://www.rivermill-village.com) or call 336 675 7704.

**Peck and Artisans**  
green builders  
9338485

**Peck Residence**

**RAINWATER CATCHMENT SYSTEMS INSTALLED**

250-2500 GALLON TANKS, NEW AND RECYCLED  
HANDY ELECTRIC PUMPS AVAILABLE.

**PIEDMONT ENVIRONMENTAL LANDSCAPING AND DESIGN**

LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION • DEER FENCE INSTALLATION  
• Invasive exotic pest plant control •

Matthew phone: 960-6856 email: [arnsberger@mindspring.com](mailto:arnsberger@mindspring.com)

Broker, CSP, SRES, REALTOR®

**Pat Neagle**  
919-368-4068

Your source for Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Triangle area homes

Thinking of buying or selling?  
Let's talk!!

visit my website:  
[www.patneagle.com](http://www.patneagle.com)

1526 E. Franklin St., Suite 101  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
(919) 869-8346

**Edward Jones**

- ❖ Investments
- ❖ Retirement Planning
- ❖ College Savings Plans
- ❖ Financial Assessments
- ❖ Free Portfolio Reviews

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**Dan Ryon**  
Financial Advisor  
205 West Main Street, Suite 101  
Carrboro, NC 27510  
Bus. 919-933-3191

## MARK TRAIL

THERE ARE MANY TYPES AND SIZES OF CRABS... SOME SPECIES HAVE BECOME LAND DWELLERS, BUT ALL ARE BORN IN THE SEA

THE GHOST CRAB IS ALMOST, BUT NOT QUITE, A DRY-LAND DWELLER.

IF YOU VISIT THE BEACH YOU'LL PROBABLY SEE A GHOST CRAB AS IT DARTS ACROSS THE SAND

WHEN THE SUN IS OUT, IT KEEPS TO ITS BURROW AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, FOR ITS SHADOW WOULD GIVE IT AWAY...

BUT WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN AND SHADOWS DISAPPEAR, IT HAS LESS TO FEAR FROM MARAUDING BIRDS

WHILE IT REMAINS MOTIONLESS ON THE OPEN BEACH, THE SHARPEST EYES USUALLY OVERLOOK IT...

ALTHOUGH IT BREATHES AIR, THIS LITTLE BEACHCOMBER MUST CONTINUALLY SCURRY TO THE WATER'S EDGE TO WET ITS GILLS

AND EVEN IF AN ENEMY SHOULD SPOT IT, THE SPEEDY CRAB SELDOM GETS CAUGHT...

FOR THE GHOST'S SUDDEN REVERSING AND SIDESTEPPING AS IT RUNS FOR HOME WOULD PUT A GOOD QUARTERBACK TO SHAME

## puzzle solutions

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

**CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER:**  
THREE THINGS IN HUMAN LIFE ARE IMPORTANT: THE FIRST IS TO BE KIND, THE SECOND IS TO BE KIND, AND THE THIRD IS TO BE KIND.  
— HENRY JAMES, WRITER



# Recycle.

## News Briefs

### Campus robbery

In response to a robbery on the pathway between Hill Hall and the Smith building on the UNC campus just after midnight Saturday, UNC warns students to be on high alert.

A 24-year-old man walking with his sister was grabbed from behind and shoved to the ground before a UNC public safety officer on foot patrol nearby came onto the scene and the suspect fled.

The suspect was described by police as a black male in his early to mid-20s, 5 feet 8 inches tall, with a medium build and wearing dark jeans and a dark T-shirt, possibly navy-blue in color. No additional descriptions were given and police said that no weapons were used in the robbery.

The university advises community members not to walk alone at night, to walk in well-lit areas and to call 911 to report any suspicious activity.

### Rape suspect charged

An Estes Park Apartments resident was charged with rape and assault on a female after the Carrboro Police Department received reports of an incident at the apartment complex Sunday night.

Jesus Salvador Molina Romero, 39, of 306 Estes Dr. Ext., apt. N2, was charged with second-degree rape, kidnapping, assault on a female and communicating a threat, according to a police report.

According to Captain J.G. Booker, the victim went to Romero's apartment because she had spoken with him about a job opportunity. Police received reports that Romero raped the victim in his apartment and held her there against her will.

"She was looking for some type of employment, and through some mutual acquaintance [Romero] had her number, or vice-versa, and there was a contact made," Booker said. "We would certainly always warn any female about going to a location like that regarding employment."

Romero is being held at the Orange County Jail under \$200,000 secured bond.

### Carrboro High energy efficiency

Carrboro High School recently earned a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver rating for sensible energy use, environmental protection and community stewardship.

Carrboro High is the second K-12 school in North Carolina to earn LEED certification. The school has a number of sustainable features, including three 35,000-gallon cisterns to collect filtered rainwater, rooms with large windows to harvest daylight, efficient fluorescent lights and occupancy sensors to turn lights on and off. In addition, building materials were obtained from regional manufacturers whenever possible and more than 95 percent of the construction waste was recycled.

The school, which was completed last summer, was designed by Moseley Architects.

### BoE reduces service learning hours

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education last week voted to reduce the service learning requirement under graduation requirements from 50 to 25 hours.

District officials had recommended reducing the requirement so that students have more time to complete the North Carolina Graduation Requirement.

The reduction in required hours will go into effect for the 2008-09 school year.

In other board business, board members voted 5-1 to approve the 2008-09 operating budget. The board had requested a \$6.8 million increase from the county, but received an increase of about \$5.2 million.

Board members found savings through state-mandated teacher pay raises and benefit increases, which were less than expected, as well as through a reduction in opening costs for Morris Grove Elementary School and other budget items.

### Sculptor dies in fall

Sculptor and metalworker Ruffin Hobbs died after falling three stories in his home and studio, a converted grist mill near Saxapahaw in Alamance County. Police believe the fall was an accident.

Hobbs' body was found Monday morning by a neighbor. He was living alone while his wife was visiting family overseas.

His work includes a mobile that hangs at UNC Hospitals and three-and-a-half-ton tiger sculptures at an entrance to the Princeton football stadium, along with many commissioned works for area galleries and organizations.

### UMall hits Facebook

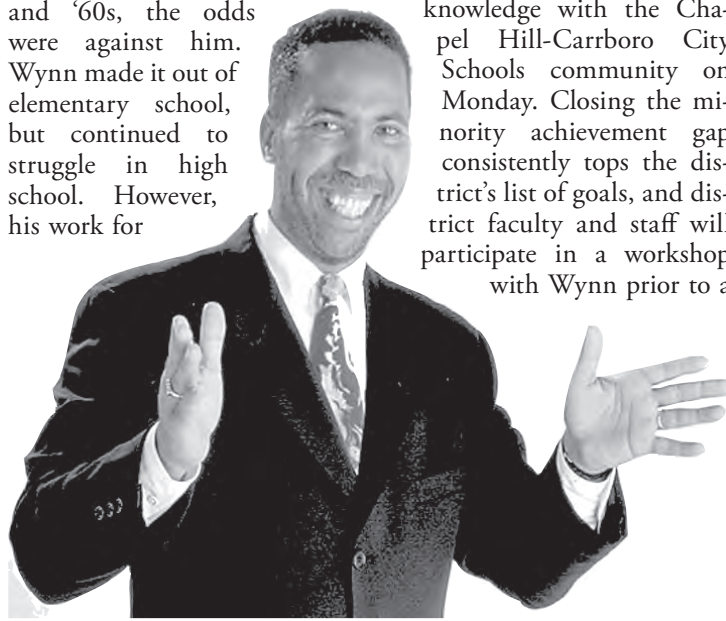
University Mall in Chapel Hill has its own Facebook page now as part of an effort by its owners to find out what area residents want. Washington, D.C.-based Madison Marquette owns the 366,000-square-foot mall and shopping center and plans to redevelop it over the next few years. The mall was built in 1973 and was last renovated in 2003. To visit the mall's Facebook page, go to [www.universitymallnc.com](http://www.universitymallnc.com).

## Speaker shares school achievement strategies

by Susan Dickson  
Staff Writer

When Mychal Wynn was in second grade, he failed math, science, social studies, language and vocabulary. His teacher doubted that he would ever make it out of elementary school, despite his early goal of going to college.

As a young black student in rural Alabama in the 1950s and '60s, the odds were against him. Wynn made it out of elementary school, but continued to struggle in high school. However, his work for



his high school yearbook landed him in front of a black representative from Northeastern University, who put an application in his hands and sent him on his way. Wynn was accepted to Northeastern, and went to Boston the next year, where he turned himself around.

Wynn has drawn on his experiences to develop widely accepted strategies on black male achievement and will share his knowledge with the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools community on Monday. Closing the minority achievement gap consistently tops the district's list of goals, and district faculty and staff will participate in a workshop with Wynn prior to a

community presentation.

"The [minority achievement gap] problem is not unique to North Carolina," Wynn said. "It's a common problem in many different areas."

Wynn believes that educators and families need to work together to develop strategies particular to the needs of young black males.

"You have to identify strategies as early as possible," he said, adding that black male students usually don't even think about college until 11th or 12th grade because many live in households without college graduates.

To encourage more black males to go to college, Wynn recommends that educators help young students understand the transition from each level to the next, starting in the primary grades.

Educators must also consider stereotypes when developing strategies, he added.

"Black males are dealing with societal images at every step along the way, which just adds another layer of stress and frustration," he said. "All of

these things are part of the dynamic of conceptualizing strategies."

In addition, Wynn said, parents, teachers and other educators need to stop pointing fingers at one another and start working together to strategically solve problems.

In school districts like Chapel Hill-Carrboro, where there are relatively larger numbers of high-performing students, educators should identify those students early and use them as role models for lower-performing students.

"You try to identify high-performing student cohorts during the primary grades," he said. "What you do is you keep them together to provide an example and influence for other black males who might not be performing as well."

"Coaches use the best athletes to inspire the weaker athletes. The same thing can happen academically."

Wynn's presentation will be held on Monday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Smith Middle School Auditorium.

### WEST BANK FROM PAGE 1

do any surgeries there without someone from the West Bank or Gaza being there or working with us," he said. "Because [otherwise], that's very short-sighted. What that does is it takes care of only one patient at a time. But if we train people with each of the patients that we're operating on, then suddenly there are two, four, six, 10, 20 surgeons that can do this work, and they are the ones who'll carry it on."

### An 'awesome' group

Fixing a cleft palate can take as many as 15 to 20 surgeries carefully timed over a number of years, so it's not just a simple

case of looking in on a few surgeries to figure out how it's done. To augment training, van Aalst sets up conferences on the first Saturday of every December and specialists from around the world come to give presentations to the Palestinian Cleft Association.

Some of the training is presently taking place in Chapel Hill. Over the next few weeks, Itaf Arafat, a Palestinian speech therapist, will be learning how to treat children with cleft palates at UNC Hospitals. When she's done, she will go back to the West Bank to teach what she has learned to her speech therapy students at Ramallah Women's Training Center, a community college funded by the United Nations.

"I can set up my private clinic and work," Arafat said, "but I don't want to do that because what I'm doing now is much bigger."

Van Aalst wants to include doctors in Gaza, but the situation there makes it difficult. "It's an order of magnitude of difficulty greater than being involved in the West Bank," he said, "and actually that's part of what makes it necessary to think of Gaza and to try to include them in any plans." He plans to set up teleconferences with doctors in Gaza so that they too can benefit from the conferences.

"This group is awesome," Saib said. "If [John] had said China, I would've gone to China with him. I'm doing it because I like what John does."

Those interested in donating can give to the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund at [www.perf.net](http://www.perf.net), the Smile Train at [www.smiletrain.org](http://www.smiletrain.org) or to the UNC Pediatric Plastic Surgery Research Fund.

## \$1.25 million grant to boost Ackland's academic role

UNC News Services

The Ackland Art Museum has received \$1.25 million from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to deepen and expand the museum's role in the education of university students.

The museum will use the funds to engage UNC scholars and students in research, publication, interpretation and creation of exhibitions from the Ackland collection; give students opportunities to learn about the substance and methodology of museum work; and introduce graduate teaching assistants and faculty to ways of using artworks to support teaching and learning strategies that apply across academic departments and disciplines.

The New York foundation's gift comes in the form of a \$1 million challenge grant to establish an endowment to strengthen the curricular role of the museum's collections and programs and \$250,000 in spendable funds for use over three years to support this endeavor while matching funds are raised.

"Carolina's relationship with the Mellon Foundation fuels many of our most adventurous and creative explorations in the humanities and fine arts," Chancellor Holden Thorp said. "This latest grant challenges the Ackland and the University community to make the work of the museum inseparable from the work of the faculty. We couldn't ask for an opportunity that bet-

ter suits where we want to go in the integration of our public and academic programs."

In the past academic year, 6,858 undergraduate and graduate students from 78 different courses in 24 disciplines participated in curricular experiences at the Ackland. In recent years, activities have included specifically designed gallery classes, museum-related seminars and teaching exhibitions that have involved faculty and students working together to enrich the experiences of all museum visitors. Participants have included faculty and students in the arts, sciences and humanities.

Bernadette Gray-Little, executive vice chancellor and provost, said, "This work is already having an impact on the academic agenda of the University through collaborative exhibitions, teaching and research. We are grateful that this generous support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation will enable the Ackland to dramatically expand opportunities for collaboration with faculty and create new interpretive strategies and new courses that focus on and engage the Ackland collection."

### RAILROAD FROM PAGE 1

will also include discussions with the town of Carrboro and residents of adjacent neighborhoods.

UNC system officials approved the purchase of the property in March for \$3.5 million. Approximately one acre of the parcel is in Chapel Hill and the remaining 7.5 acres are in Carrboro.

In other action last week, the board of trustees also ap-

proved plans for an extensive addition to Kenan Stadium and rejected a preliminary design for the Innovations Center planned as the first building on the school's Carolina North property.

Several trustees said they were unimpressed with the design of the building, which is slated to be located at a key entrance to the Carolina North project on the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and the former Municipal Drive.

THEY SHOULD HAVE CALLED  
**WALKER BROWN.**



**ROOFING AND  
ARCHITECTURAL  
SHEET METAL**

**WALKER BROWN CO.**  
ROOFS THAT STAND THE TESTS OF TIME



**N.C. GENERAL CONTRACTING  
LICENSE #5623**

**WALKERBROWNSHEETMETAL@HOTMAIL.COM**  
**PO BOX 187 • CARRBORO NC 27510**  
**PHONE 942-0776 • FAX 942-0729**

**Think  
Green  
RECYCLE**

**CARRBURRITOS**  
Burritos, Tacos, Nachos and Margaritas!

Mon thru Sat 11am-10pm Closed Sunday - 933.8226  
711 W Rosemary St. Carrboro [www.carrburritos.com](http://www.carrburritos.com)

**Earn extra  
income.\***  
**Call your  
people.**

Take the **H&R Block Income Tax Course** and earn extra income preparing taxes.\* Bilingual students encouraged to enroll!

For class times and locations, visit [hrblock.com/taxcourses](http://hrblock.com/taxcourses) or call 1-866-816-3028

**Classes starting now:**  
**Chapel Hill  
Carrboro  
Durham**  
**1-866-816-3028**  
**Enroll now!**

**H&R BLOCK**  
You got people!

\*Enrollment restrictions may apply. Enrollment in, or completion of, the H&R Block Income Tax Course is neither an offer nor a guarantee of employment. ©2008 H&R Block Tax Services, Inc. 9DdisplayAd\_E2NO

*Hillsborough Yarn Shop*

**ANNE R. DERBY**  
PROPRIETOR  
[ANNE@HILLSBOROUGHYARN.COM](mailto:ANNE@HILLSBOROUGHYARN.COM)

114 S. CHURTON STREET  
HILLSBOROUGH, NC 27278  
919.732.2128  
[www.HILLSBOROUGHYARN.COM](http://www.HILLSBOROUGHYARN.COM)

**The UPS Store**

**Wednesday  
Copy Special!**  
Color: 35¢  
BW: 5¢  
Email it:  
[store3651@theupsstore.com](mailto:store3651@theupsstore.com)  
**We'll print it out!**

- UPS & Freight Shipping
- Custom Packaging
- Mailbox & Postal Services
- Color & BW Printing
- eBay Power Seller
- Moving Supplies
- Passport Photos
- Notary Services
- Business Cards

**Carrboro Plaza Shopping Center**  
MON-FRI 8-6:30 • SAT 10-5  
**919-918-7161**  
©2008 United Parcel Service, Inc.

**Recycle.**



# Handmade books on display

by **Betsy McClelland**  
Staff Writer

There are many intriguing and unique books in the exhibit "Hecho a Mano: Book Arts of Latin America." There are handmade books from Mexico about Mayan culture, books made with recycled cardboard covers from Argentina and books from Cuba that have covers made out of bagasse, a material from the sugarcane plant. The curator of the exhibit, Teresa Chapa, bibliographer of Latin American and Iberian Resources at UNC, has been collecting books for the university since 2001. Some bookmakers have access to fine press materials but many do not.

"Something about what they do [without these materials] is just so clever," said Chapa.

Most of the books are made by *talleres*, or workshops. One of Chapa's favorite books is *La*

*Jicara* (1998), or "the gourd," made by Taller Leñateros to celebrate peace in Guatemala. Taller Leñateros is in Chiapas, Mexico, and one of its goals is to preserve Mayan cultures. The taller makes its own paper and dyes, using traditional methods for its projects. The founder of Leñateros, Ámbar Past, will be at UNC on Aug. 27 to speak about the taller. Past was born in Durham.

Along with Leñateros, other talleres well represented in the collection are Ediciones Vigía of Matanzas, Cuba and Eloisa Cartonera of Buenos Aires. The primary objective of Ediciones Vigía is to create a cultural center in Matanzas. Upon its founding, the primary goal of Eloisa Cartonera was to provide inexpensive literature in the wake of the Argentinian economic crisis of a few years ago. According to Chapa, Eloisa Cartonera was named for

the unrequited love of one of its members — a woman named Eloisa. He even wrote her notes in the margins of the early works the taller produced, but she never responded.

It is stories like this that make the exhibit compelling. Chapas hopes that the exhibition encourages academic research and appreciation for the books and their makers. There are more books in the collection that are not on display. These books are housed in the Sloane Art Library and the Rare Books Room of Wilson Library.

The exhibit runs through Oct. 12 in the Melba Remig Saltarelli Room of UNC's Wilson Library. Ámbar Past, founder of Taller Leñateros, will be in the Pleasants Family Assembly Room of Wilson Library on Aug. 27 at 5:45p.m. For details, visit [www.lib.unc.edu](http://www.lib.unc.edu) or call 962-4207 or 962-3948.

## ABBEY COURT FROM PAGE 1

was concerned that there are people living in some of the apartments who aren't on the lease and that he was trying to use the parking permits as a method to determine where people are living.

Chilton called an Abbey Court residents' meeting on Sunday, where he explained that the town did not have authority over the complex's parking lot, but encouraged residents who have problems with their apartments to file complaints with the town and request inspections.

The town has inspected six Abbey Court apartments and has found violations in each unit, all of which lacked smoke detectors. A representative from the Pittsboro office of Legal Aid of North Carolina was also at the residents' meeting and several residents are meeting with the office to determine if any action needs to be taken.

The county's Office of Human Rights and Relations is also investigating the situation to determine if there have been violations of the Federal Fair Housing Act.

Violations of the fair housing act include actions that discriminate against a protected class, said Shoshanna Smith, director of the office.

"We're looking to make sure that people from those classes aren't being discriminated against," Smith said.

Protected classes include race, religion, national origin, English-speaking ability and more.

Smith said her office never asks those who come to them for citizenship documentation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

"We're proud of the fact that we can help everyone," she said.

The office has not launched a formal investigation yet, she said, because once they do so they have only 100 days to complete it.

Some residents, many of whom are illegal immigrants, have said management has started rumors about calling immigration officials.

"[Lucas] takes advantage of us because we are Latinos," said resident Iris Maribel Arias.

In the press release, Lucas said many residents had already received parking permits.

"Many that have been denied stickers are not leaseholders nor authorized occupants," Lucas said. "We must remember that more than 212 residents have been issued permits and feedback from those residents has been very positive."

ple and news accounts suggest in this case."

### A new towing ordinance?

Aldermen Dan Coleman and Jacquie Gist called a special meeting of the board of aldermen for 7:30 tonight (Thursday) to discuss and possibly enact a proposed ordinance regulating the towing of automobiles from private lots within town limits.

The ordinance would be similar to one enacted in Chapel Hill, which limits towing fees to \$100, vehicle storage fees to \$20 a day and unhooking fees to \$50.

Chandler's Towing charges \$150 for vehicles parked illegally or abandoned vehicles, \$30 a day for storage and \$100 for unhooking.

The storage fee is applied as soon as the vehicle is brought to

*"I can assure you, I nor anyone in my company has any 'hidden agenda,' and simply wish to provide for our residents. We are proud of Abbey Court and feel that it is a better place to live as a result of our management."*

— Ken Lucas, majority owner, Abbey Court

In an email to town officials, Lucas denied the allegations that management was discriminating against Latino residents.

"I can assure you, I nor anyone in my company has any 'hidden agenda,' and simply wish to provide for our residents. We are proud of Abbey Court and feel that it is a better place to live as a result of our management," he said. "This is our 33rd year in business and our company's history speaks for itself. We have never and would never discriminate against anyone as some peo-

ple and news accounts suggest in this case."

Chandler's lot, so owners must pay at least \$180 to get their cars back. The new ordinance would prevent companies from charging storage fees for the first 24 hours.

Coleman proposed an ordinance for Carrboro after Chapel Hill passed its towing ordinance earlier this year and called the special meeting to revisit the issue in light of the recent towing at Abbey Court.

The board will discuss a possible ordinance tonight at the Carrboro Town Hall.

## Community Briefs

### Back to School Bash

This year's Back to School Bash wants to fill the book bags of over 100 less-fortunate kindergarten through 12th grade students with school supplies — and they're going to need help.

The bash is planned for Aug. 9 from 12:30p.m. to 6:30p.m. at the Chapel Hill Faith Tabernacle at 800 Rogers Road.

"There will be the fun and games, but also a chance for people to support the youth in the community," Reverend Robert Campbell said.

The Orange County Sheriff Department will speak to discourage gangs and drugs and will give out informational pamphlets about the implications of both, he said.

"We're all growing together in this community," Campbell said. "We need to let the young folks know that we are going to stand with them, and we are going to guide them."

### UNC keeps music history

As a result of a grant given to UNC, Southern musicians like Ralph Stanley and Doc Watson will now be officially immortalized in UNC's Wilson library by free access

to the artists' recorded interviews and performances.

Funded by grants of \$138,275 from the National Endowment for the Humanities and \$6,000 from the National Film Preservation Foundation, the library staff also will begin preserving amateur films of life from 1920s Florence, S.C. The films are expected to be available to the public in August 2009.

The library's Southern Folklife Collection will also use the grant to care for and make available 2,350 hours of exclusive and endangered musical recordings by July 2009.

The plans include live recordings made between 1970 and 2000 at The Ole Time Fiddler's & Bluegrass Festival at Fiddler's Grove in Union Grove and WPAQ radio broadcasts from the collection of the late Ralph D.Epperson, who founded the Mt. Airy, N.C. station in 1948.

### Philosophy at 506

On Tuesday, Aug. 5, UNC philosophy professor Josh Knobe and other members of the philosophy department will give an introduction to experimental philosophy, an original approach to answer-

ing philosophical questions. Experimental philosophy refers to the practice of performing studies and experiments to learn about moral values and judgments and how to resolve moral conflicts. Knobe and others will give a brief introduction to experimental philosophy, present new study results and provide live music.

### Chatham Habitat

Chatham Habitat for Humanity, in partnership with a private builder as yet unfound, will build 15 affordable homes on land donated by Chatham County. Chatham Habitat was awarded just over \$1 million by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to fund low-interest mortgages for seven of the 15 homes.

Eight of the 15 will be built by Chatham Habitat in partnership with families earning 25 to 50 percent of local median income. The other seven will be built by a professional builder and sold for \$210,000 or less. Chatham Habitat has completed 82 houses since it was started in 1989. Partner families contribute 350 hours of sweat equity and buy the homes with no interest mortgages. For more information, go to [www.chathamhabitat.org](http://www.chathamhabitat.org).

## Recycled beauty in Pittsboro

by **Catherine Rierison**  
Staff Writer

Although the idiom "one person's trash is another's treasure" is probably more worn out than the rusty scrap metal Rita Spina and Tamera Mulanix collect for project ideas, it's at the core of the two artists' work.

Spina and Mulanix transform used metal they recover from scrapyards, woods and sides of rural roads into fine art, and the creative duo will present their exhibit of "Reborn Beauty" at Pittsboro's Carolina Brewery in August and September. The Brewery will host a free brew-and-bar-snacks reception on Sunday,

Sept. 14 from 4p.m. to 6p.m.

Descending from a line of welders, Mulanix studied welding and blacksmithing at Carolina Central Community College, while Spina found her inspiration a bit later in her former career as a psychologist.

Spina works with a combination of organic and man-made materials, a blend to symbolically reflect the changing times in often abstract mediums. She has been a member of the Cha-

tham Open Studio Tour since its inception 16 years ago.

The Chatham Artists Guild is a nonprofit organization of regionally and nationally recognized visual artists. As part of its annual Chatham Open Studio Tour, guild members open their studios to visitors traveling with the tour throughout Chatham County for a meet-and-greet and an exchange of ideas on creativity and art.

**the beehive**  
TUESDAY-FRIDAY 10-8 • SATURDAY 10-6  
102 EAST WEAVER STREET  
DOWNTOWN CARRBORO  
932-HIVE • WALK-INS WELCOME!

*Creative Cuts & Color*

**Please Recycle!**

**Epting & Hackney**  
"Community Lawyers"  
ROBERT EPTING  
JOE HACKNEY  
KAREN DAVIDSON  
STEVE LACKEY  
CAROLYN KARPINOS  
ELLEN SCOUTEN

General Practice  
Family Law & Divorce  
Including Collaborative Law  
Real Estate Law  
Residential & Commercial Closings  
Real Property Law  
Civil & Criminal Litigation  
Traffic Offenses  
DWI  
Juvenile  
Wills & Estate Planning  
Environmental Law  
Personal Injury

410 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
**919-929-0323**

**Submit your films!**

**Carrboro Film Festival**

[carrborofilmfestival.com](http://carrborofilmfestival.com)

Deadline for early submissions is August 29  
Deadline for late submissions is September 22

**CFV**  
CARRBORO FAMILY VISION  
full spectrum eye care services  
**(919)968-6300**  
200 W. Weaver St., Carrboro, NC  
[www.CarrboroFamilyVision.net](http://www.CarrboroFamilyVision.net)

**TRUE CRAFTSMEN**  
A Full-service Exterior business  
**Decks Restored**  
Washed, Sanded, Sealed  
**Houses**  
Power Washed, Gutters Cleaned  
**True Craftsmen**  
Installation, All Types Siding  
Roofing, Windows, Decks  
Repair Work As Well  
**Planting & Flower Beds**  
Installed & Maintained  
**Contact John Barrett**  
919-619-8315/919-420-5013

**Come Home to Carrboro!**

**Community Realty**  
Real Estate with a Real Purpose  
201 N. Greensboro Street, Carrboro  
919.932.1990

**Free Workshops:**  
**Saturday, August 2 at 10 am:**  
100% Financing- Buying with little or no money down  
**Thursday, August 7 at 8 pm:**  
Fundamentals of Investing  
**Call 932-1990 to register**

[CommunityRealtync.com](http://CommunityRealtync.com)

**Cliff's Meat Market**  
**SUPER SUMMER SAVINGS!**

Cut to Order <b>Ribeye</b> \$6.99/lb	<b>Maple View Farms Milk!</b> \$3.95/gallon	<b>ALL NATURAL Ground Chuck</b> \$2.99/lb
<b>Chorizo Sausage</b> \$2.99/lb	<b>ALL NATURAL Chuck Roast</b> \$2.99/lb	<b>Rib Eyes</b> \$6.99/lb
<b>Organic Eggs</b> Brown-\$2.99/doz White-\$1.99/doz	<b>ALL NATURAL Chicken</b> Cut to Order \$1.29/lb	<b>Baby Back Ribs</b> \$3.99/lb

Prices good thru 8/7/08 **CORONA EXTRA, NEGRA MODELO, PACIFICO, BUDWEISER!**

**100 WEST MAIN ST., CARRBORO**  
**919-942-2196** ★ MON-SAT 9am-6pm

**LISTEN TO COMMUNITY RADIO**

**WCOM 103.5 FM**

## FOR THE RECORD

**A necessary intervention**

Tonight (Thursday), the Orange County Board of Commissioners are to examine the question of whether the county should intervene in the permitting and licensing process for expansion at the Shearon Harris nuclear plant in New Hill.

This would not be the first time the county has gotten involved with issues at the plant and, should the commissioners decide to do it, likely not the last.

Driving the decision-making process in Hillsborough is a confluence of facts on the ground in both New Hill and Capitol Hill.

*Dubious safety and financing and concerns about waste storage and the efficacy of new technologies should give the commissioners plenty of reason to raise serious objections not just to an expansion at New Hill but to the whole idea that nuclear energy is the answer to our energy problems and reliance on fossil fuels.*

In New Hill, these facts include findings that fire-safety materials at the existing plant are not sufficient and that federal safety regulators have known about the deficiency and allowed it to slide for 15 years. Also in New Hill are years of spent fuel rods stored long term through a method designed only for short term use in a facility that is not the kind of protection against natural and man-made disasters the public has long demanded of the nuclear industry.

On Capitol Hill, the powerful lobbying machines of the power and nuclear industries have won a handsome incentive to construct a so-called new generation of nukes. With that comes a Byzantine permitting and licensing process that has proven very beneficial for fast-tracking projects and shutting out public input. There has been insufficient time allotted to plow through the tens of thousands of pages in each application and offer an independent review.

Now comes word from the industry-friendly Nuclear Regulatory Commission that the new generation of nukes have not been as thoroughly reviewed as touted and may be much further away from full certification than we were led to believe.

A further sign of the lack of confidence in the nuke resurgence is that Wall Street won't touch the projects without substantial guarantees.

Unfortunately, North and South Carolina have already given the power companies authorization to charge ratepayers \$230 million for construction costs in advance of the nuclear expansion plans.

Dubious safety and financing and concerns about waste storage and the efficacy of new technologies should give the commissioners plenty of reason to raise serious objections not just to an expansion at New Hill but to the whole idea that nuclear energy is the answer to our energy problems and reliance on fossil fuels.

Conservation and alternative energy are the real answers to the fix we're in. Let's not delay efforts in those areas by pouring money and time into another nuclear boondoggle.

## THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

## EDITORIAL

**Robert Dickson, Publisher**  
robert@carrborocitizen.com

**Kirk Ross, Editor**  
editor@carrborocitizen.com

**Susan Dickson, Staff Writer**  
susan@carrborocitizen.com

**Taylor Sisk, Contributing Editor**  
tsisk@mindspring.com

**Liz Holm, Art Director**  
zard39@gmail.com

**Jack Carley, Assistant Editor**  
jackcarley@gmail.com

**Rich Fowler, Contributing Writer**  
rich@carrborocitizen.com

**Michelle Langston, Web Designer**  
michellelangston@gmail.com

**Lucy Butcher, Editorial Intern**

**Betsy McClelland, Editorial Intern**

**Catherine Rierison, Editorial Intern**

**Jordan Timpy, Editorial Intern**

## ADVERTISING

**Marty Cassady, Advertising Director**  
marty@carrborocitizen.com

## OPERATIONS

**Anne Billings, Office Coordinator**  
anne@carrborocitizen.com

**Jacob Mader, Distribution**  
**Chuck Morton, Distribution**

Published Thursdays by Carrboro Citizen, LLC.



## Not a Session for Social Justice

SARAH PRESTON

The 2008 session of the North Carolina General Assembly has come to a close and it's time for us to assess the performance of state lawmakers. Unfortunately, even a brief look reveals that this was not a session that did much to advance the cause of social justice. Most notable among the session's many shortcomings in this department were the last-minute failures in the state Senate of two very important bills, House Bill 1366, "The School Violence Prevention Act" and House Bill 1291, the "N.C. Racial Justice Act." Both measures were simple and small steps that North Carolina could have taken to ensure equality for all people in this state.

Commonly referred to as the "bullying bill," a more accurate name for the School Violence Prevention Act would be the "anti-bullying bill." The bill set out a common definition of bullying and harassing acts that every local education administrative unit would have had to adopt if the bill had passed. There was also a minimum procedure that each school would have been required to follow in order to deal with bullying by students and teachers. The bill was intended to make sure that what is "bullying" in one school is "bullying" in every school in North Carolina and to set certain minimum guidelines for schools so that all children are protected.

Somehow, this small fact was ignored by the bill's opponents, because as part of the definition section of the bill, HB 1366 listed groups of students with identifying characteristics. The listed categories were "race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, gender identity or expression, physical appearance, sexual orienta-

tion, or mental, physical, or sensory disability." These categories were spelled out because research has demonstrated these groups of students may be most at risk of being bullied because of these differentiating characteristics and because these students are most vulnerable to the effects of bullying. These categories are listed so that school administrators are aware of the risk to these students. The bill does not create any special rights or raise any group of students above any other group of students.

*Both measures were simple and small steps that North Carolina could have taken to ensure equality for all people in this state.*

And make no mistake, the need for reform exists. Surveys show that 43 percent of North Carolina's students agree that bullying is a problem in their schools and 7 percent of students have missed one day out of 30 because they felt they would be unsafe in school. Moreover, a statewide poll during the session's waning days showed that 72 percent of North Carolinians support legislation "to protect children from bullying based on their sexual orientation."

Unfortunately, it seems that opponents would rather not give schools all of the information and tools necessary to protect all children. Hence their claim that the inclusion of the terms "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" were a part of some hidden plot to promote a "homosexual agenda" in the schools. Even though this claim was demonstra-

bly absurd, lawmakers in the state Senate failed to muster the courage to pass the bill.

HB 1291, the NC Racial Justice Act, enjoyed bi-partisan support in the House. The bill would have allowed a criminal defendant to challenge his or her sentence of death (but not the underlying conviction itself) if he or she could prove that race played a role in the sentence. Under the bill, a defendant could use any relevant evidence, including statistics, to prove race was a significant factor in decisions to seek the sentence of death or impose it.

The fact that race plays a role in the criminal justice system is undeniable, but we should demand that the ultimate penalty be applied in as color-blind a way as possible. While this bill also became embroiled in controversy, the issue it sought to address was really quite simple: Race should not play a role in who is sentenced to death, but studies show that it does. Unfortunately, as with the anti-bullying bill, the state Senate failed to take the measure up.

As the dust settles and everyone returns to campaigning or other work, it is worthwhile to remember what these two bills were really about. One bill would have protected children and the other would have protected the integrity of our criminal justice system (and may very well have prevented an innocent person from being executed). To pass these measures would have been to take a stand for social justice — something we should all be in favor of. Let's hope this was not our best chance to enact these important bills into law.

*Sarah Preston is legislative counsel for the ACLU of North Carolina.*

## Teaching first

MARGOT CARMICHAEL LESTER &amp; STEVE PEHA

Something big happened in the world of reading recently: A major study found that kids who participated in the multi-billion-dollar Reading First program fared no better at reading than kids who didn't participate. To most people, whether they've been directly involved in Reading First or not, this comes as quite a shock.

Reading First is a big deal. It concentrates more money and more research-based practice in a single curriculum area than any other educational program in our nation's history. But it doesn't appear to have generated much in the way of positive results.

As the home page of the Reading First website states: "This program focuses on putting proven methods of early reading instruction in classrooms. Through Reading First, states and districts receive support to apply scientifically based reading research — and the proven instructional and assessment tools consistent with this research — to ensure that all children learn to read well by the end of third grade."

Proven methods. Scientifically based reading research. Instructional and assessment tools consistent with research. Who wouldn't want a program like this? And yet the kids who got it don't read any better than the kids who didn't. For six years, we've been pouring extraordinary amounts of money into a program that allegedly applies proven techniques and we don't seem to have gotten much for the effort. Why?

Is the scientific research base in reading seriously flawed? That's an obvious

place to look. Reading First advocates reading programs that rely on systematic phonics and scripted instruction. This means teachers are told very strictly what they can do and how they can do it. Often they rely — literally — on a script to teach their lessons. This is sometimes referred to as a "teacher-proof" curriculum because it discourages teachers from introducing individual differences in teaching style and lesson delivery that might take their instruction off the prescribed program.

Another area to look into is how schools implement publisher programs. Just because a school adopts something doesn't mean they actually use it in the way it was intended. Getting everyone in a school to follow an adopted program can be difficult. For one thing, there just aren't enough supervisory personnel to assist teachers who may be struggling.

While the study didn't take this issue on in great detail, it did note that teachers in Reading First schools showed measurable differences in the amount of time they devoted to systematic phonics instruction. From this and other factors, the study concluded that teacher behavior in Reading First schools was changed in ways that matched the goals of the program.

Whether the research base is wrong or the way schools implement programs is wrong, something is very wrong about Reading First, not just as another failed educational program but as a metaphor for our entire approach to education reform.

The problem as we see it is that Reading First, like most other reform-minded initiatives, ignores a simple truth about education: Good teaching comes from good teachers. Maybe individual teach-

ers make the difference, not scripted publisher programs. Maybe some teachers are just a lot better than others at helping little kids learn to read. Maybe if we spent a little time and money finding out who those teachers are and what those teachers do, we could define a new research base in reading — one based on proven classroom practice rather than on publisher or government self-interest.

As education reform marches on, we continue to ignore our marching orders. Multi-year, multi-billion-dollar programs that produce no results are unconscionable. And yet we persist in ignoring a fundamental truth: Teachers make the difference in how kids learn. Until we commit to investing directly in the capacity of our national teaching corps, we can expect little in the way of progress, and more in the way of disappointments like Reading First. Reform efforts that focus on programs, curriculum, alternative school structures, even incentive pay systems, will never be as effective as actually training teachers to be better at what they do.

Until we put teaching first, programs like Reading First will continue to produce disappointing results. And so will our efforts with testing, charter schools, alternative certification, voucher programs and so many other popular approaches to education reform. The secret to improving student learning is improving teacher teaching. And we can only accomplish this if improving teaching is our top priority.

*Steve Peha and Margot Carmichael Lester own Teaching That Makes Sense Inc., an education reform, advocacy and consulting company based in Carrboro.*

### Library cuts went deep

As branch manager of the Carrboro Library for the last 12 years, I feel compelled to correct erroneous statements made about our library by former Carrboro Cybrary manager Margot Malachowski ("Letters to the Editor," July 17).

1. The cuts in Carrboro Library hours were indeed unique to our library and necessitated by our particular situation. Sixty-five percent of our circulation desk staff time is filled by contract workers, the portion of our budget that was cut by 62 percent by Orange County. Our permanent staff is mostly involved in the "behind the scenes" operations of a full-service library. These are operations like evaluation of book reviews; ordering books (our collection is currently 20,000); cataloging and labeling books, DVDs and audio books; acquiring interlibrary loans; weeding the collection; and maintaining a full schedule of adult and children's programming. Neither of the other Orange County library branches are full-service libraries; neither has a book circulation even one tenth that of the Carrboro Library. Those libraries were able to simply spread their staff more thinly; the Carrboro branch could not do that without seriously compromising the many services it provides.

2. It is indeed true that Carrboro Library's Spanish-speaking outreach position was cut last fiscal year. It was cut because our temporary-personnel budget was cut LAST fiscal year as well, from \$16,500 to \$13,500.

It is true that this position was originally funded by a grant from Triangle Community Foundation and was later funded with temporary funds provided by Orange County. Since that position was the last one funded with county funds, it was the first one to go when county funds were cut. Our staff person in that position began immediately looking for another job when I informed her that her position was to be eliminated at the beginning of fiscal year 2007-2008. She did not leave us because she found a new position elsewhere.

3. We at the Carrboro Library are happy to refer to the library in Hillsborough as the "main library." That statement in the "Library Criticisms Inaccurate" [letter] is one of the only accurate ones.

JAKE LEHRER  
Branch Manager,  
Carrboro Library

### LETTERS POLICY

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

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**  
Box 248  
Carrboro, North Carolina 27510  
EMAIL: editor@carrborocitizen.com  
FAX: 919-942-2195

## REAL ESTATE

Place YOUR ad at [www.carrborocitizen.com/classifieds](http://www.carrborocitizen.com/classifieds) 24/7!!

### HOMES FOR SALE



**2 HOMES ON 2 ACRES** 4 BR/2 BA house plus 2 BR/1 BA bungalow on nice lot with big shade trees. 5 miles from Carrboro Plaza. \$289,000 WeaverStreetRealty.com 929-5658

**ARTS & CRAFTS-STYLE** home by Michael Chandler Design. Custom, hand-crafted features throughout. Numerous windows and glass doors. 10 minute drive from Chapel Hill. \$485,000 WeaverStreetRealty.com 929-5658

**BOLIN FOREST TOWN-HOME** Well-kept unit in quiet Carrboro neighborhood. Fireplace in living room. Large upstairs bath. French doors to private deck overlooking woods. \$191,500 WeaverStreetRealty.com 929-5658

**CARRBORO COTTAGE** 113 Dillard St. 2 BR/1B, fenced yard, shed, brick patio, quiet no-thru street. Buyers agents OK. \$229,900. 919-360-4346



**GREAT PRICE** for a rambling house in the woods on over an acre. 4 BRs, wood floors, FP, large deck. Chapel Hill schools. \$254,000 WeaverStreetRealty.com 929-5658 929-5658

**LOTS OF MULTI-USE SPACE** in this sprawling home within walking distance to three area schools. Hardwood floors, sunporch, crafts room, office, garage, shop/studio. \$455,000 WeaverStreetRealty.com 929-5658



**PEACEFUL 10 ACRE SETTING** of mature hardwoods bordered by headwaters of Cane Creek. Soaring cathedral ceilings with two-story wall-of-windows bring the outdoors in. \$297,000 WeaverStreetRealty.com 929-5658



**QUIET STREET IN CARRBORO** 3 bedroom 3 bath home. A short walk to Johnny's, a big yard, and 2 kitchens! Make one a home studio or a separate living area. \$269,000. Call Bronwyn Merritt at Community Realty for more info 919-923-1058



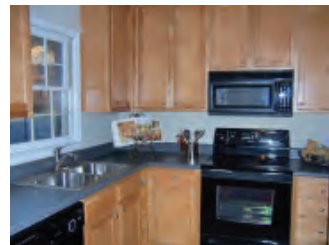
**WALK TO EVERYTHING!** Mill Village Cottage. 2 bedrooms, hardwood floors, quiet location. \$214,900. Call Realtor Bronwyn Merritt with Community Realty at 919-923-1058.

### CONDOS FOR SALE

**CARRBORO CONDOS** Our renovations are done, the rest is up to you. Open every Thursday 4-7 and by appointment. [www.theflatscondominiums.com](http://www.theflatscondominiums.com) - Jeff Rupkalvis/Franklin Street Realty 260-3333



**CHARMING TOWN-HOME.** 107 Sully Ct. Mature landscaping, brand new interiors, completely renovated! Wood laminate flooring downstairs, new paint throughout, new carpet upstairs. Light and bright inside. On the busline, minutes to UNC. Contact Kara Hart, 929.2005



**PARENT/INVESTORS** Looking for a townhome for your UNC student in Chapel Hill? In an established neighborhood, Under \$172,000? Renovated? On the busline? Ready now! Check out [www.111GunstonCt.com](http://www.111GunstonCt.com) Terra Nova 919 929.2005

**SYLVIA SQUARE CONDOS** Minutes walk to center of town. Only 8 left !!! Completely renovated, hardwood floors, maple cabinets, and stainless appliances - all with a 24' X 10' private deck. Call Chuck @ 740-0813

### LAND FOR SALE

#### TEXAS LAND SALE!!

20-acre ranches, near Booming El Paso. Good Road Access. Only \$14,900. \$200/down \$145/mo. Money Back Guarantee. No Credit Checks. 1-800-755-8953 [www.sunsetranches.com](http://www.sunsetranches.com)

**WWW.108THEHOLLOW.COM** 2 acres. Chapel Hill Schools. Beautifully wooded, backs up to McDougle. Bike to Weaver St and Downtown. Water & sewer. Buy 1 homesite or 3! 2 acres for \$350,000. Don't need 2 acres? 108 A: \$125,000, 108 B & C: \$117,000 each. Contact Kara Hart, 929.2005

### OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE/SALE

**Offices 4 mi. w. of Carrboro** 2 @ \$325, 1 @ \$425, includes utilities, full bath, kitchenette, conference room, 11' ceilings, quiet, safe, country setting. Call 730-2756

**OPEN OFFICE COOP SPACE** available in downtown Carrboro. Peck and Artisans Building, 204 W. Main St. Great light, hardwood floors. Easy walk from anywhere in old Carrboro. Artists, writers, designers and small businesses are your office mates. \$ 270.00/month 9338485



**WWW.605WESTMAIN.COM** FOR SALE or LEASE: Office suite 204 in 605 W. Main Building. Great downtown Carrboro location. Large windows = lots of light. \$155,500 for sale, \$1150/ month lease. Won't last! Contact Kara Hart, 929.2005.

**STEEL BUILDINGS DISCOUNTED**  
Custom Commercial Design  
Big or Small, No Middleman  
Factory Direct to Site  
Can Erect, Cheap Freight  
[www.scg-grp.com](http://www.scg-grp.com) Source# 14L  
704-791-5315

**CITIZEN CLASSIFIEDS WORK FOR YOU!**



## Agents, Brokers,

### Get Results.

Advertise your properties on the Carrboro Citizen Real Estate page. Get more value for your advertising dollar.

**THE CARRBORO CITIZEN** Carrboro's Community Newspaper.

Call 919-942-2100 to place an ad.



## Pick us up!

 Now at over 100 locations

- Carrboro**  
Weaver Street Market  
The ArtsCenter  
Milltown  
Southern Rail  
Carrburritos  
Amanté Pizza  
VisArt Video  
Padgett Station  
Midway Barber Shop  
Carolina Fitness  
The Red Hen  
Orange County Social Club  
Speakeasy outside box  
Weaver Street Realty  
Carrboro Family Vision  
Wellness Alliance  
Century Center  
Community Realty  
Carrboro Business Coop  
Great Clips  
Phydeaux  
Cybrary  
Capelli's  
Elmo's Diner  
Spotted Dog  
Piedmont Health Services  
Nice Price Books  
Carrboro Town Hall  
Carrboro Town Commons  
Carrboro Plaza Park & Ride  
Nationwide Insurance  
Cliff's Meat Market  
PTA Thriftshop  
Johnny's Sporting Goods  
Calvander Food Mart  
Carrboro Mini Mart  
Short Stop  
Carrboro Branch Library  
The Beehive  
Dirty South Improv
- Auto Logic Reservoir  
**Carrboro Plaza**  
North American Video  
Tar Heel Tobacco  
Super Suds  
Curves  
UPS Store  
**Willow Creek Center**  
Carolina Clean. Laundromat  
**Chapel Hill**  
Visitors Center  
Jiffy Lube  
Internationalist Books  
Ham's Restaurant  
Time Out  
Carol Woods  
Job Development Center  
3 Cups/Courtyard  
The Cave  
West Franklin town racks (near Chapel Hill Cleaners)  
East Franklin town racks (near Subway)  
Courthouse Alley  
North Columbia St. town racks (at bus stop)  
Breadmans  
Chapel Hill Senior Center  
Chamber of Commerce  
Chapel Hill Public Library  
UNC Student Union  
Bullshead Bookshop  
N.C. Botanical Garden  
Eubanks Rd Park & Ride  
Hunan Chinese Restaurant  
Chapel Hill Mini Mart  
Cup a Joe  
That Coffee Place  
Covenant House
- M&R Shop Quik  
Carolina Meadows Café  
**Governor's Village**  
Bean & Barrel  
Mailboxes, Etc  
Vincenzo's Ristorante  
**Meadowmont**  
LaRussa's Deli  
The Cedars  
Brixix Pizza  
Café Carolina  
**Southern Village**  
Market Street Books  
La Vita Dolce  
Park & Ride bus stop  
Market Square  
**Fearrington**  
McIntyre's Books  
**Chatham Crossing**  
Torrero's  
Chatham Crossing  
Medical Center  
**Chatham Downs**  
Starbucks  
**Hillsborough**  
Weaver Street Market  
Visitors Center  
Durham Tech  
Chamber of Commerce  
Government Center  
Orange Cty Senior Center  
Valour's Patisserie  
Cup of Joe  
Sportsplex  
**Pittsboro**  
Pittsboro General Store  
Chatham Marketplace  
Pittsboro Public Library

## CLASSIFIEDS

Place YOUR ad at [www.carrborocitizen.com/classifieds](http://www.carrborocitizen.com/classifieds) 24/7!!

### HELP WANTED

**PART TIME** construction / plumbing office assistant needed. Quickbooks experience important. Bilingual helpful. Peck and Artisans 9338485

**OFFICE CLEANERS CARRBORO/CHAPEL HILL, M-F, APPROX. 2-3 HRS/ NIGHT, \$8/ HR PLUS GAS ALLOTMENT. GREAT FOR SOMEONE WHO LIVES IN CARRBORO & WORKS IN CHAPEL HILL. 212-1725 EXT.109.**

**SPORTS INTERNS WANTED** College or upper level high school student wanted for long-term internship focusing on sports reporting and multimedia. Inquiries in writing only to [editor@carrborocitizen.com](mailto:editor@carrborocitizen.com)

**SPORTSWRITER** The Carrboro Citizen is seeking a sports-writer to compose and compile reports from local schools and recreation leagues. Terms and hours for this lightly compensated yet greatly rewarding position are negotiable. Inquiries in writing only to [editor@carrborocitizen.com](mailto:editor@carrborocitizen.com)

**STUDENT REPORTERS WANTED** Students at all local schools are invited to apply for reporting and multimedia internships for the fall 2008 semester. If you are interested in a career in writing and media, this is an excellent opportunity to get some experience and have some fun reporting about your school. Inquiries in writing only to [editor@carrborocitizen.com](mailto:editor@carrborocitizen.com)

**PIANO TEACHERS NEEDED** Music Studio in Chapel Hill seeking piano teachers ASAP. Competitive pay. Contact immediately. 923-2130

## CLASSIFIED RATES

\$5.00/issue for up to 15 words.

Words over 15: \$0.35/word/issue

Place your classified ad online until MIDNIGHT Tuesday before publication!

**CITIZEN CLASSIFIEDS WORK FOR YOU!**



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

A congregation of dayflowers "holding court" behind Weaver Street Market

## FLORA FROM PAGE 1

Upon a closer look, you will spot a smaller white petal below the two larger blue ones. If you ever see a third blue petal, you've most likely come upon *Commelina virginica*, the native Virginia dayflower, which is a perennial of moist woodlands of the Piedmont and coastal plain regions. I don't recall ever having seen the native dayflower. During all of my more than three decades of woods walking, I must have seen it. I just didn't know what

I was seeing. Now a bit wiser, I'm keeping my eyes open for a new discovery.

Looking closely into the flower, you will be curious about what appear to be three or four miniature four-petaled yellow flowers. Those are sterile stamens; their curious colorful shapes must serve some practical function in attracting pollinators. For me, those yellow, flower-shaped sterile stamens give the dayflower an animated personality.

Paul Green expresses a wonderful sentiment in *The Paul Green Plant*

Book: "Not long ago my wife and I discovered two of these plants growing along the edge of the little stream that flows from our spring back of the house. Nearly every day in walking along our path we would turn off to see these little flowers."

Whenever you come upon this common dayflower, take a few moments to let your imagination reign. Don't be surprised if you are inclined to have a conversation with it. Go ahead, no one is looking; you're free to talk to a flower.



PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Joy Williams concluded expressing herself with words by delivering some physical expression.

## RECENTLY FROM PAGE 1

But dual activity seems to be part of her way. During her freshman year at Wheaton College, she started a dance team called TRYBE, now 10 years in existence. Throughout college, she traveled — to Spain, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mali and Guatemala, where she explored the African diaspora and learned native dances. After college, while still living in Boston, she studied ballet and worked in a soup kitchen before receiving a Fulbright grant for a dance exchange in Columbia in 2006 (see a video at youtube.com/dancechapelhill). She participated in the 2007 and 2008 American Dance Festivals while running a dance school in Carrboro.

In Mali, Williams will be part of a cultural immersion program at the Yeredon School in Bamako that will include learning dance, history and language before visiting villages.

"We will travel to learn dances and to provide a social component to protect children from malaria. We'll be educating whole families," Williams said. They will also distribute insecticide-treated netting.

Wherever she has traveled, she has learned the same thing.

"Blacks are always at the bottom," Williams said. "I wanted to explore why that was a truth, and the relationship between color and an interest in dance."

Following her project work in Mali, she will further explore social themes there. "Hip-hop and pop dance culture from the West is being introduced and I wonder how much it is affecting historical culture there . . . and how much dance is relied upon as a part of life."

Whatever she learns she will bring back with her to the dance school she started at Church of the Harvest on Hillview in Carrboro. She calls it Chapel Hill Dance and offers classes where she teaches people at all levels of ability how to express themselves through movement.

Her ultimate goal is to create global community by teaching cultural dances wherever she goes.

"I want to bring the desire for people to learn more, with more people taking trips to West Africa or taking courses at local colleges in hopes of furthering their understanding," she said.

She's planting seeds. "The point is to come to a place where we can begin to experience a world that's not always about thinking that we have to be one up on another to get ahead."

She's undaunted by the magnitude of her desire.

"It's a big project but I don't feel like I'm carrying a burden," she said brightly. "There are many people using their talents, carrying the same hope."

Finished with talk, she got up and moved to a sunny place on the lawn and danced!

Learn more about Joy Williams, including how to make a contribution to help finance her trip at [dancechapelhill.webs.com](http://dancechapelhill.webs.com).

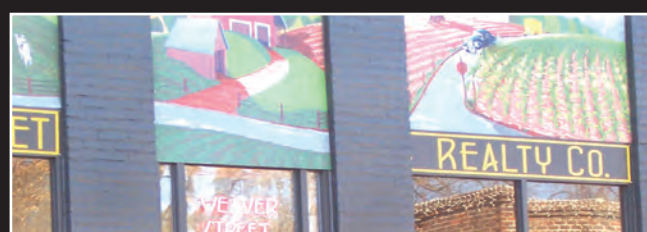
Contact Valarie Schwartz at 923-3746 or [valariekays@mac.com](mailto:valariekays@mac.com)



## BLUNDEN STUDIO

The Colors of Green

Architects in Carrboro  
[www.blundenstudio.com](http://www.blundenstudio.com)



We Lean Towards Green



[WeaverStreetRealty.com](http://WeaverStreetRealty.com)

## WATER WATCH \* WEDNESDAY, JULY 30



### LAKE LEVELS

UNIVERSITY LAKE: 2' 7.75" below full  
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 4' 7.5" below full

### PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH

JONES FERRY WATER TREATMENT PLANT: 7.32"  
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 3.73"

### CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND

Past 7 days (average): 8.158 million gallons  
Past 30 days (average): 8.519 million gallons

### ESTIMATED WATER SUPPLY REMAINING:

322 days worth (about 10 months), based on average demand in the last 30 days, and assuming no further rainfall.

## [ tip ]:

Install an instant water heater on your kitchen sink so you don't have to let the water run while it heats up. This will also reduce heating costs for your household.

Support your West End advertiser



# \$0 MOVES YOU IN \$1000 plus save

### Royal Park

Great living, 1.5 miles from UNC!  
From \$550. 501 Highway 54 · Bypass  
888-329-1794

### University Lake

No roommates required! A special one-bedroom-only community starting at only \$525.200 Barnes Street  
888-329-1794

### Franklin Woods

Nothing beats our great Franklin Street location! Starting at \$685.  
1521 East Franklin St. · 888-329-1782

### Kingswood

King-sized kitchens, 1 mile to UNC, from \$575. 1105 Hwy. 54 Bypass  
888-329-1784

### Carolina Apartments

Size does matter! Spacious floor plans beginning at only \$615.  
401 Hwy. 54 Bypass - 888-329-1760

### Ridgewood

Your own Space! A 1-bedroom community from only \$499. Bike to UNC or Weaver Street Market.  
404 Jones Ferry Road - 888-338-1477

### Estes Park

Close to downtown Carrboro, with a free bus at your door! From \$459.  
306 North Estes Drive - 800-533-8694

### PineGate

Our location is right on Target! Just off 15-501 near I-40. Starting at \$499.  
100 Pinegate Circle - 800-884-7345

### Booker Creek

Large townhouses in a prestigious neighborhood at the Booker Creek Trail, from \$733. 2525 Booker Creek Rd. - 888-329-1690



- 1, 2, 3 Bedroom garden/townhouse floor plans
- Newly renovated interiors
- Swimming pools, fitness centers, much more

Call our FREE LOCATOR SERVICE  
1-888-GSC-APTS  
1-888-472-2787  
Email: [nclocator@gscapts.com](mailto:nclocator@gscapts.com)

Visit us 24/7 at [WWW.GSCAPTS.com](http://WWW.GSCAPTS.com)

Hurry, This Special won't last long!



EHO  
© GSC 04/08  
Terms subject to change  
Offer good for a limited time  
Residents Are People First  
GSC  
The Apartment People