

FRIDAY
20% Chance of Precip
91/72 °F

SATURDAY
50% Chance of Precip
91/72 °F

SUNDAY
40% Chance of Precip
91/70 °F

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



Raindrops enhance night-flowering jimsonweed.
PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Go out after dark to see this one

I had all but given up on the reappearance of my very favorite annual wildflower, jimsonweed, which usually appears in the yard and garden by early June. Only in the last couple of weeks has it shown up, and I'm so elated that I'm falling back to repeat what I wrote about it this time last summer.

Jimsonweeds will volunteer wherever there is open ground. They generally don't show up until early in the summer, and this year, in spite of the heat and the drought, I'm observing seedlings emerging late in the season. I've learned to recognize baby jimsonweeds because I want to have at least a few scattered about the garden. Nothing else looks quite like juvenile jimsonweed's distinctive narrow triangular leaves with scalloped margins.

Poisonous, night-flowering jimsonweed, *Datura stramonium*, is a native annual, never seen in cultivated gardens. Close-relative garden varieties of *Datura*, also called thorn apple, and *Brugmansia*, angel trumpets, are frequently seen in gardens these days. They are all beautiful, and we need to be aware they are all poisonous. Flowers of cultivated thorn apple are upright trumpet-shaped flowers 6 or more inches long. The even larger cream and peach-colored flowers of angel trumpets hang down beneath the leaves.

The native jimsonweed has a smaller flower, only 3 to 4 inches long, angled upward in the axils of sturdy branches on a 3- to 6-foot-tall plant. It seems more a small shrub than a tall annual. Each ghostly white, trumpet-shaped flower bears an intriguing purple center. It opens in the early evening to be pollinated by night-flying insects searching for pale-colored glow-in-the-dark, heavily scented flowers. The flower's mysterious musty scent is alluring, and viewing them during evening explorations is a special experience.

Though poisonous, the plant

SEE **FLORA** PAGE 6

INSIDE

Heels have special leaders

See page 5

Questions linger over charter school

BY TAYLOR SISK
Staff Writer

The state board of education is scheduled to decide this week whether to accept the recommendation of its Public Charter School Advisory Council to approve the Howard and Lillian Lee Scholars Charter School as one of 25 new charters across the

state.

Meanwhile, some fundamental questions about the proposed school remain unanswered, including where the school will be located and what it will provide that will be different from what's already offered in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools.

Also of concern to some is the for-profit management company with

whom the school is partnering, Michigan-based National Heritage Academies (NHA), which operates more than 70 charter schools, including five in North Carolina, in nine states. The company has faced litigation in the past for presenting creationism as a scientifically based theory and promoting religious activities.

The school's original application

included a section on religious freedom and teaching religion, but it was removed from a later version.

Off the fast track

The Lee school had previously been given fast-track approval to open for the 2012-13 school year, one of nine

SEE **CHARTER** PAGE 3



Construction on 300 East Main is progressing on schedule following the March groundbreaking. The crane will likely remain on the site through September.

PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

300 East Main moving right along

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

CARRBORO – After a multi-year groundbreaking delay, 300 East Main is back on track and staying on schedule, with completion of the project's first phase slated for May.

Construction of the downtown development began in March, but the long-awaited groundbreaking was several years in the making, with the Carrboro Board of Aldermen giving their stamp of approval in 2008.

"It's progressing well," said Laura Van Sant of Main Street Properties, the project's developer. "I think we're pretty much on schedule still to open up in the spring."

The massive project includes the redevelopment of properties extending from the intersection of Main and Boyd streets near Nice Price Books to the municipal parking lot on the corner of Main and Roberson streets. Construction is underway on the first phase of the project, which includes a 142-room Hampton Inn and Suites – Carrboro's first hotel – and a 500-space, six-level parking deck, also the first of its kind in town.

The hotel building will include 18,100 square feet of retail/

restaurant space on the ground floor, room for six to nine tenants. Additional phases of the project will include a five-story retail and office space near the train tracks and redevelopment of the building that houses Car's Cradle, Fleet Feet and Amante Gourmet Pizza.

Van Sant said the crane will likely remain on the construction site through September, when work will begin on the hotel interior and construction of the parking deck will start.

"The deck is a lot quicker to build," she said, adding that completion of both the hotel and parking deck is estimated for early May.

Van Sant said they aren't yet ready to announce any potential tenants for the ground-floor space, but that they have "gotten a lot of strong interest from a lot of great businesses."

While the first phase remains under construction, the sidewalk on the south side of East Main Street between Padgett Lane and 406 E. Main St. is closed. Pedestrians can access the sidewalk on the north side of Main Street by following the signed detour route directing pedestrians to existing crosswalks at Lloyd and Rosemary streets. For more information, visit 300eastmain.com

Teachers plan second appeal

BY ROSE LAUDICINA
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education chose to uphold the involuntary transfers of AP biology teacher Bert Wartski and honors English teacher Anne Thompson last week, despite a large outpouring of support for the teachers from the Chapel Hill High School community.

Both teachers say they will again appeal the decision, this time to Orange County Superior Court.

The decision to serve the two teachers with involuntary transfers was initially made by Superintendent Tom Forcella in early June to help enact a culture change at the high school.

According to Forcella, he chose to transfer Wartski and Thompson based on a year of observing and talking with past and present staff, administrators, parents and students. Forcella said he implemented the staff changes to help create a collaborative culture at Chapel Hill High (CHHS).

However, Thompson and Wartski, who have served a combined 45 years at CHHS, chose to appeal Forcella's decision to the board of education.

Their chance to appeal came during a closed session on July 19, where the two veteran teachers were given five minutes each to plead their case to the board and prove why they should be allowed to stay at CHHS.

SEE **TRANSFERS** PAGE 5

BUY THIS NEWSPAPER

The Citizen is for sale

After almost five years and 281 consecutively weekly issues, the time has come for me to pass the baton. So consider this your own personal Request for Proposal to own and operate *The Carrboro Citizen*.

What has led me to this point you ask? While there are a number of reasons, the one that stands out is that my energy and enthusiasm for this newspaper have waned under the constant assault of all the worries associated with running a small business. And I've been actively operating small businesses since 1977. I guess I'm just tired.

This is a highly non-traditional method of seeking new ownership, but unlike any other publication with which I've been involved *The Citizen* belongs mostly to the readers, and it's the readers who should have first crack at continuing what we've begun.

I have no interest in seeing this newspaper acquired by someone who would change its focus from nuanced, community-focused journalism. Those folks can go start their own publication.

This newspaper has always been about the journalism, pure and simple. And you readers have emphatically told us again and again that you like what we're doing. For example, in 2012 we have distributed an average of 7,315 papers per week, with an average pickup of 90 percent. In the free newspaper business, that's a huge number.

Based on industry standards, and coupled with our web readers, this means that there are more than 15,000 of you consistently reading what we have to say. And why not? After all, it's all about you and your community.

Make no mistake about it – *The Citizen* has been a financial burden. That's definitely a part of the weariness I'm feeling. The contrast of our strong readership success with these financial issues, however, while highlighting the challenges facing our industry, presents a manageable conundrum.

Manageable, that is, by the right person or group who sees the value of what we've built here, and who has the energy and resources to take on this task.

Who will it be? Am I the only person who believes our community deserves quality locally owned and operated long-form journalism, and is willing to back up that belief with money and time? I sure hope not.

Here's the punch line: If a qualified successor isn't soon found, *The Citizen* will cease publication sometime in the fall. Not before, however, we bring you another awesome Carrboro Resource Guide (9/6) and Carrboro Music Festival special section (9/27).

So call me, send an email or stop by the office. Your newspaper needs you.

Robert Dickson, Publisher
publisher@carrborocitizen.com
(919) 942-2100

Tangoing at the Open Eye

BY CHLOE LADD
Staff Writer

On the third Friday of each month, Carrboro's Open Eye Café fills with loud tango music and a host of excited dancers. Café customers pause their conversations to look on while the group of tangueros turn their attentions to their instructor.

The instructor speaks for a short time before the dancers begin circling a makeshift dance floor on one side of the café, which will be occupied by novice and experienced dancers for the rest of the night.

Open Eye holds free tango classes open to the community once a month from 8 to 9 p.m., followed by milonga, or dancing, until 11:30.

Steven Keith, former president of Triangle Tango, instructed the lesson in July. He explained that there are different instructors each month, many of whom are recognized internationally. Professional tangueros from Tel Aviv, Montreal and Argentina have instructed classes in the past, and people travel great distances to participate in the milonga as well.

"Tango is part of a culture that's very foreign to most people in Carrboro, so it's a nice window into the Argentine way of life. We have a lot of Argentine people here," Keith said.

The July class attracted 12 tango students of varying ages and levels of experience. Atefe Northcutt, for example, has been tango dancing for five years, while other students who attended had never danced before. One attendee said that he came to Open Eye with no knowledge of the tango

SEE **TANGO** PAGE 3

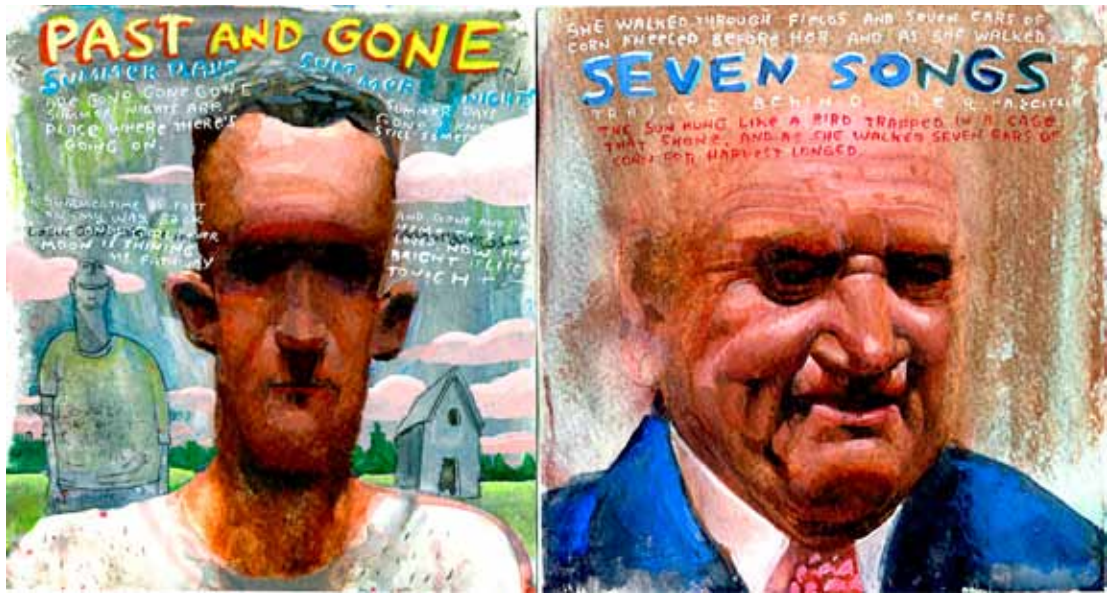


ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

Community Briefs

University UMC holds school-supply drive

For the ninth consecutive year, University Methodist Church will hold a school-supply drive to help local children in need begin the school year with backpacks and supplies.

The church is partnering with Operation New Life, Chapel Hill Training-Outreach Project, the Chapel Hill Police Department and the Department of Social Services for the drive. Shopping lists for each grade are available at chapelhillumc.org. School supplies will be collected at the church through Aug. 12.

Hiroshima Day commemoration

On Monday, the Orange County Peace Coalition will host an event to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing.

Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton and Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt will participate in the event, which is free and open to the public. Participants are invited to bring poems, art and thoughts to share with regard to the 1945 event.

The event will be held at the Peace and Justice Plaza on Franklin Street from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (919) 942-2535.

YMCA swim team wins regionals

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA swimming team recently won first place in the Upper Southeast Regional YMCA championship.

The team is composed of 42 swimmers ranging in age from 8 to 18. Twelve team members will travel to Atlanta this week for the YMCA national competition.

This spring, the team placed second in the short-course regional championship. In February, they finished in the top 10 in the YMCA's meet for swimmers under age 14. This is the first time the team will compete in the YMCA national competition.

For more information about the YMCA swimming and aquatics program, visit chymca.org/locations/chapel-hill/aquatics/

Mama Dip honored as outstanding employer

On July 19, the Regional Partnership Workforce Development Board honored employers and participants from several local counties at the ninth-annual awards banquet. Among those honored was Mildred Edna Cotton Council, locally known as Mama Dip. She was recognized as an outstanding employer for her work with the JobLink Center to employ and provide opportunities for JobLink customers.

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 high-protein diets and insomnia.

Dear HOUSE Calls, My boyfriend is on a high-protein diet to build muscle. How much protein is too much?

A high-protein and low-carbohydrate diet is increasingly common for those trying to lose weight or build muscle mass. There was some concern on the part of the medical community early on that these high-protein diets might increase blood levels of bad cholesterol or place a strain on the kidneys as they eliminate the byproducts of protein metabolism. The first concern has largely been unfounded with high-protein diets for weight loss, as we find that losing weight by almost any means improves cholesterol profiles. With regard to kidney strain, we tell people with healthy kidneys that this is not an important concern with a typical high-protein diet for weight loss. This may not be true for a high-protein diet directed

at muscle building, especially as microscopic injury and healing (primary goals of body building) leads to an increase in muscle turnover. A diet high in plant-based proteins or mixed sources might be a little better than one based solely on animal proteins. Some experts recommend a maximum of 0.5 to 0.8 grams of protein per pound of weight for endurance and strength-trained athletes. That is about 80 grams to 125 grams for a person who weighs 160 pounds, or about double the U.S. recommended daily allowance.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I'm having trouble sleeping at night and I don't want to use sleeping pills because of their side effects. What do you recommend?

We recommend looking at ways that you could change your lifestyle to increase the quality of your sleep. There are common-sense things like not drinking caffeine too late in the day as well as trying to keep a consistent

waking time and bedtime. We recommend keeping your bedroom dark and quiet, and the bedroom should be reserved for sex and sleep. Reading and watching TV are great ways to settle down, but should not be done in the bedroom if you are having trouble with sleep. Try to avoid being plugged in (no iPad, smart phone, etc.) too close to bedtime. Try cutting out alcohol for a while — a drink may help you fall asleep but is likely to interfere with sleep quality. Avoid exercise for about two hours before bedtime. Try relaxation exercises, such as meditation, to settle down before bedtime. If those things don't work, melatonin or an occasional diphenhydramine (Benadryl) are good options.

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.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY AUGUST 2 Locally Grown — Presents Back to the Future, rated PG. Wallace Plaza, 9pm. Free

Sheri Castle — Offers samples of seasonal recipes from her cookbook, The New Southern Garden Cookbook. Southern Village Farmers' Market. 3:30-6:30pm

Art Show — The Annual Town Employee Art Exhibition is open through the end of August. Chapel Hill Town Hall, 8:30am-5pm, Monday-Friday

FRIDAY AUGUST 3 Art Reception — Opening reception for Julia Kennedy's The Cape in Summer. The show continues through the end of August. The Joyful Jewel, 6-8pm

SATURDAY AUGUST 4 Meet The Heels — A Carolina Kids Zone with inflatable games and other activities for kids of all ages and players available for autographs. Kenan Stadium, 3-6pm goheels.com

Music Hall — With host Rocco featuring '60s pop and big-band hits. WCOM 103.5FM, 9am-noon

SUNDAY AUGUST 5 Forrest Greenslade — To read from Visitations: A Nature-Lover's Journal. The Joyful Jewel, 1-2pm

Food Font — An interactive project making alphabet letters out of food. Weaver Street Market, Carrboro, 11am-1pm

MONDAY AUGUST 6 Hiroshima Day — Participants are encouraged to bring poems, art, and thoughts in commemoration of the 67th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. Peace and Justice Plaza, 7:30pm

TUESDAY AUGUST 7 Movie Nite — Chapel Hill Public Library, University Mall, 6:30pm Free. Call (919) 968-2780 for movie title

National Night Out — Chapel Hill residents are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors. 6-8pm

Teen Game Day — Program for teens aged 11-18. Orange County Main Library, 3-5pm orangecountync.gov/library

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 8 Brewery Celebration — Carolina Brewery in Pittsboro marks its fifth anniversary with four days of special activities, with a portion of burger sales to be donated to the Abundance Foundation. Lowes Drive, Pittsboro

THURSDAY AUGUST 9 Outdoor Movie — Locally Grown presents Gnome and Juliet, rated G. Wallace Plaza, 9pm. Free

FRIDAY AUGUST 10 People's Channel Benefit — Food Truck Rodeo and Clothing Swap. Southern Rail, 5pm

SATURDAY AUGUST 11 Back-to-School Bash — Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department invites all local high school students to come out for an evening of music, dance contests and prize giveaways. Carrboro Century Center, 7-10pm \$5 (919) 918-7392

ONGOING Cancer Support — Support groups at Cornucopia Cancer Support Center for cancer patients and their families. Cancersupport4u.org (919) 401-9333

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

Tutoring — Live, online K-12, college, and adult services for any community member with a library card. Free chapelhillpubliclibrary.org

Send your Community Calendar submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

SAY NO TO FACTORY FARMS Weaver Street Realty 116 E Main St • Carrboro 919-929-5658

The ArtsCenter 300 East Main Street, Carrboro For more information or to order tickets call 919-929-2787 x201 or go to artscenterlive.org ArtSchool registration now open! UPCOMING CONCERTS & EVENTS LINDSEY BUCKINGHAM • THU AUG 2 BLUEGRASS & OLD-TIME SLOW JAM MON AUG 6 @ 5:45 PM FREE EVENT - BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT! EILEEN JEWELL • TUE AUG 14 A/V GEEKS PRESENT "THOSE TROUBLED TEENS" • AUGUST 18 THE AMAZING KRESKIN • FRI AUG 24 Y LA BAMBA WITH BIRDS & ARROWS • SUN AUG 26 COMING THIS FALL: ROBIN & LINDA WILLIAMS, LOS LONELY BOYS, STEVE FORBERT, GEORGE WINSTON ARTSCHOOL SUMMER YOUTH WORKSHOPS UNDER WAY! visit artscenterlive.org/education/youth to register TICKETS ON SALE NOW! FIND US ON YOUTUBE, FACEBOOK, AND @ARTSCENTERLIVE ON TWITTER

SUPER CROSSWORD DESTINY'S CHILD

- ACROSS 1 Scamp 7 Weiramer's warning 10 Corrida victim 14 Cheer-leader's maneuver 19 '58 Marty Robbins hit 20 Caviar 21 The Four 22 Stadium 23 Speaker of a remark at 45 Across 25 Dashboard feature 27 Corpulent 28 Docile 29 Laugh loudly 30 "Comin' — the FIVE" 31 Impressed immensely 33 "The Stepford Wives" author 36 "Carmen" composer 38 Jose of "Moulin Rouge" 41 Rock's Iron 90 Shook up 43 Jeroboam contents 44 Gentle as — 45 Start of remark 50 Fireplace fuel 51 "Rodeo," for one 54 — brakes 55 "— volente" 56 Willingly, once 58 Journalist Jacob 59 Plot 62 Link 64 Deities opera 66 "Spartacus" setting 67 Persian, presently 68 Make a necklace 70 Part 2 of remark 74 Glen 75 Cookbook author 76 Yemeni seaport 77 February forecast 79 Dismay 80 Composer Copland 82 Paint layer 83 Recedes 87 Sodom escapee 88 Cantata composer 90 Shook up 92 Palindromic preposition 93 Part 3 of remark 98 Sgt. Bilko 100 "An apple ... 101 Fancy 102 Jacket style 103 Lid 105 Masters' "— River Anthology" 106 Palliative 107 "Rule Britannia" composer 108 QE II section 110 Epps or Vizquel 112 Officeholders 115 "Samson and Delilah" composer 118 End of remark 121 Right a wrong 122 Social climber 123 Crowd 124 January 125 Correlational star 126 Sundance's sweetie 127 Use a crowbar 128 Kant subject DOWN 1 Scuba site 2 — mater 3 Primer pooch 4 Mushroom part 5 Hibachi residue 6 Hang around 7 Harsh 8 Something to skip? 9 Musical syllables 10 Make lace 11 Wind instrument 12 Scout's job 13 Dept. of Labor div. 14 Houston or Huff 15 Twisted 16 Mythical river 17 Like some-gases 18 Tropical tuber 24 Youngster 26 Runs circles around? 31 Prepare for combat 32 "Dragon" star 33 Navel store? 34 Maestro de Waart 35 Filly physician 37 Sedentary 38 Harpiece 39 "The Time Machine" people 40 Frenzy 41 Sphere 42 Singer/factor Ed 43 Keen 46 Regulatory agency 47 Unimprovable 48 Notre Dame's river 49 Basil or Braxton 52 Joan Van — 53 Branch 57 Banache 59 Bewitching bunch 60 Mass communication? 61 Golfer Hogan 63 Beside oneself 65 George Eliot novel 66 Change the decor 68 Subordinate to 69 Gladden 71 Paving material 72 Wagner heroine 73 Inspid 75 Spanish surrealist 78 Nice time of year 80 Sore 81 "So that's your game!" 82 Stallion's son 84 German auto engineer 85 Cheeseboard choice 86 Cassandra or Merlin 89 Tony, Oscar, and Edgard 90 Don — 91 Farmer's place 94 Italian 95 Quail feature 96 —Magnon lady 97 Lennon's 99 Computer acronym 102 He runs a clip joint 103 Pack peppers 104 Soubise ingredient 105 Perfume 106 City lament 107 PDD 109 Vacation suffix 110 Aroma 111 Melville title 112 Medical 113 Tempo or Rola 114 WWII gun 116 Aviv 117 Federal agency 118 Mischief-maker 119 Bonanza material 120 Truman

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-127 indicating starting positions for the words listed in the Super Crossword section.

CitizenCryptoquote By Martin Brody Buck Stopping Wisdom? D O O I Y L J Q L X W V L S I W X , W X D H O M Q W A W L V J Z E O W P Q L O D I W M S X C D S G Y M X J L S V X Y W X I W C L A O D I I L Q W S H , R W X X W S H , D S V R W P R W S H J L M J O L I M H L I I Y L C I M V M G Y D I I Y L U D Q L X Z J J M X L V I M V M D S U G D U . - Y D Q Q U I Q Z C D S Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle 5 6 8 5 2 7 9 1 3 6 7 6 4 9 5 8 2 4 7 3 4 3 2 5 3 4 2 1 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine. DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★ ★ Moderate ★ ★ Challenging ★ ★ ★ HOO BOY! © 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

Briefs

UNC nonprofit to study Northside

Chapel Hill Foundation Real Estate Holdings, a nonprofit founded by UNC, will develop a five-year plan with the Center for Community Self-Help to sustain Chapel Hill's Northside neighborhood.

The two organizations will partner with neighborhood residents, community members, the Marian Cheek Jackson Center for Saving and Making History and the Town of Chapel Hill to complete the study, which will be consistent with the Chapel Hill 2020 Plan.

Neighborhood residents and others have expressed concerns that the neighborhood is losing its history as developers come in and modify single-family homes for student housing.

CHT to study Eubanks park-and-ride

At its July meeting, the N.C. Board of Transportation approved \$87,717 in state funding for Chapel Hill Transit (CHT) to conduct a feasibility study for the expansion of the Eubanks Road Park-and-Ride lot.

The funding, administered through the Urban/Regional Bus and Facility Program, will serve as the required state match of the Federal Transit Administration Urbanized Area Formula Program Capital grant received by CHT. In total, CHT will receive \$877,182 in funding to study increasing the lot capacity by either purchasing nearby property or constructing a parking deck on the current lot.

New OWASA board chair

After serving as a board member for 12 years, Alan Rimer has been elected as the chair of the OWASA board of directors.

Rimer is a registered professional engineer and has more than 40 years of professional experience in planning, design, management and financial evaluation of projects in water resources, water reuse, wastewater, solid waste and other environmental studies. He holds a diplomate in environmental engineering from the American Academy of Environmental Engineering.

CHT to make schedule adjustments

Effective Aug. 13, Chapel Hill Transit (CHT) will implement bus schedule adjustments to improve transit-system efficiency.

CHT alters its schedules in January, May and August to accommodate for changes in traffic patterns, population growth and ridership trends. The adjusted schedules are available online at chtransit.org. Beginning next week, printed schedules will be available on buses.

Storm debris cleanup

In response to debris left by the July 24 storm, the public works departments of Carrboro and Chapel Hill will collect large vegetative storm debris and piles of debris placed at residents' curbs until Aug. 13.

The Town of Chapel Hill will not collect tree stumps, vegetative debris exceeding 6 feet in length or piles of debris exceeding 12 cubic yards. Carrboro Public Works will not collect tree stumps, and asks that limbs be cut into sections of 4 feet or less (2 feet or less for those greater than 4 inches in diameter), bundles weigh less than 50 pounds and small loose items be placed in yard waste roll-out containers or paper yard-waste bags.

Residents may bring any additional storm debris to the landfill at 1514 Eubanks Road.

For more information, visit townofcarrboro.org/pw or townofchapelhill.org/publicworks

Lane closures starting Aug. 4

Beginning Saturday at midnight, lanes will be closed at the intersection of West Rosemary and Church streets.

For the majority of the weekend, two-way one-lane traffic will be maintained. Police officers and flagmen will monitor traffic. Motorists and pedestrians should be cautious. For additional information, contact Robert Myers at (919) 969-5094 or rmyers@townofchapelhill.org

Man charged in connection with break-ins

The Chapel Hill Police Department has charged 19-year-old John Alfred Cradle II of Durham in connection with multiple residential break-ins.

The break-ins occurred in several Chapel Hill neighborhoods between June 21 and July 18. Cradle was charged with both felony and misdemeanor counts and has been released after posting a \$2,500 secured bond.

CHARTER FROM PAGE 1

schools initially approved after the General Assembly lifted the 100-school cap on charters in the state.

But the school's applicants ran into some snags, and its board notified the Department of Public Instruction in the spring that it had "encountered challenges regarding the school's facility" and would need to delay its opening.

It then had to resubmit an application for the 2013-14 school year.

A permanent site has since been proposed, but not yet approved. In June, the developers of Claremont South, a development planned for the south side of Homestead Road, proposed to the Town of Carrboro revising their plans to include the school.

Angela Lee, daughter of Howard and Lillian Lee and lead applicant for the proposed charter school, has said that the school will help fill the school district's achievement gap.

The school's application states that it will do so through implementation of a rigorous curriculum, the use of data, a professional-development program for teachers and creation of a school culture that provides a "safe and nurturing learning environment."

Howard Lee is a former mayor of Chapel Hill, state senator and chair of the N.C. Board of Education. His longtime role as a leader in the black community provided, for some local residents, cache to the charter school's application.

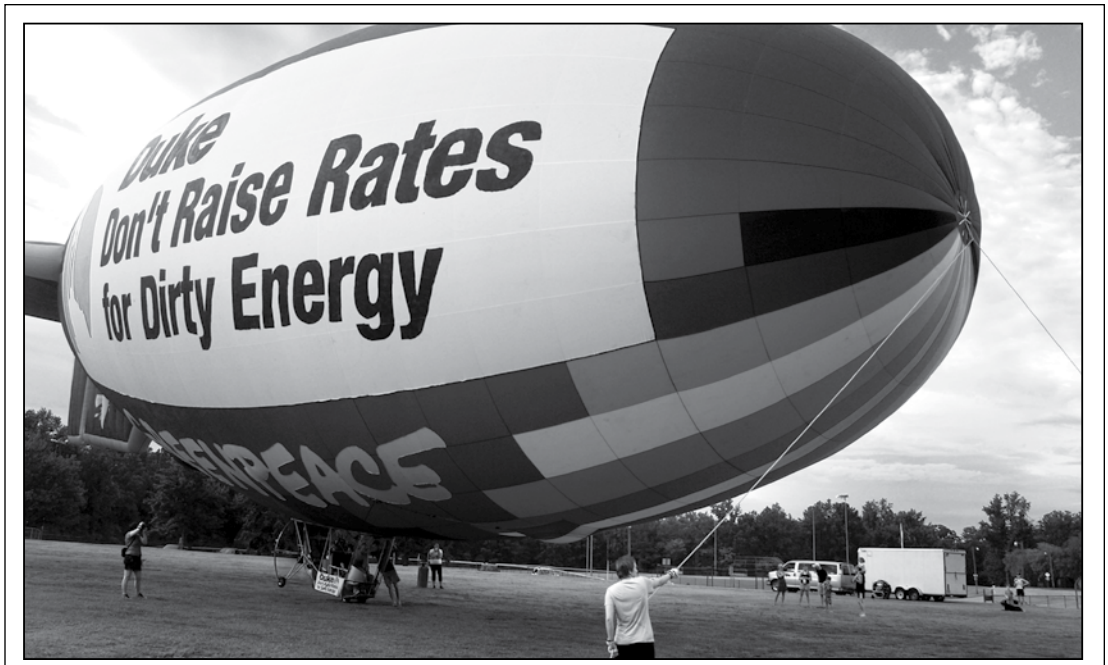
But the NAACP spoke out early against approval of the school. Calling for more initiatives within the district's traditional schools, Robert Campbell, president of the NAACP's local chapter, said, "We believe at this time that a charter school is not the answer for our educational gap. Let us try to come together to do the right thing for our schools."

For Mia Burroughs, chair of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education, the primary issue wasn't one of diverting funds from the school system, but of whether the proposed school would provide something the school system doesn't.

Burroughs said that some charter models provide "wrap-around social services" that she could have supported.

"This model doesn't strike me as really being different" from what the school system currently offers, she said.

Burroughs said she received calls when the school was first proposed from residents concerned that it would be a step



FLYING HIGH FOR CLEAN ENERGY – A Greenpeace airship launches from Hank Anderson Park last Saturday morning for a flight over Carrboro. The flight was part of a statewide tour by Greenpeace seeking to raise awareness about Duke Energy's upcoming rate hikes and to call for the utility to invest in renewable energy. PHOTO BY ROBERT DICKSON

toward re-segregation, and that it was the local NAACP's opposition that had really gotten her attention.

The proposed location also concerns Burroughs. Homestead Road doesn't strike her as a good location for attracting students who would benefit from efforts at closing the racial and economic achievement gap.

The school's application states that "we will not allow transportation to be a barrier to any child attending Lee Scholars. We expect that most parents will provide transportation for their children." A school liaison will coordinate carpooling opportunities.

Proactive on First Amendment

Angela Lee declined *The Citizen's* requests for answers to questions about the school, referring the questions to NHA spokespersons.

David Palumbo, the company's chief academic officer, wrote in response that NHA will partner with faculty, staff and school board to deliver a comprehensive K-8 instructional program that provides "a rigorous academic curriculum, aligned to the Common Core State Standards Initiative adopted by the state of North Carolina in 2012, and focuses on every student being at or above the college readiness threshold."

"NHA personalizes our learning program through small group differentiated instruction," he continued. "We aggressively develop our instructional teams by a structured program of academic deans, weekly observations, data reviews and coaching sessions."

According to Palumbo, NHA schools follow federal guidelines for providing free and reduced-price lunches. "If families meet the standards, students are provided the lunch if they elect to do

so." "Values are fundamental to a great education and will be an integral part of the curriculum at Lee Scholars," Palumbo wrote. "Our Moral Focus emphasis is one of the central parts of the school culture at all schools operated by NHA."

Regarding the verbiage on religious freedom that was in the original application under the heading "First Amendment Policy" but was removed from the re-application the school had to file when it missed its 2012 deadline, Burroughs noted that there was nothing incendiary about the language – that it read as boilerplate material.

The policy stated that religion is a "legitimate part of a complete education. There may be the study of religion and religions, but not the sponsorship or the practice of religion with its purpose and effect to educate about, rather than promote or denigrate, religion."

"Truthfully, their First Amendment policy doesn't look that far off from something [our school system] might have," Burroughs said.

Sam Chaltain, an education activist and former director of the Washington, D.C.-based Forum for Education and Democracy, agreed, and said that it was in the best interests of any school to be proactive on First Amendment policies.

"Almost any major litigious issue that unfolds in the school community is a First Amendment issue," Chaltain said. In 2000, an NHA-run school in Michigan took corrective action against religious practices after facing a lawsuit.

But the policy addressed only religious freedom; nothing on the other four First Amendment freedoms.

"I think it would definitely

be in a school's best interests to tackle all five First Amendment freedoms," Chaltain said. "Only having a First Amendment policy about religion is pretty myopic on the part of the school."

What, he asks, is the school's policy if, for example, a student comes to school wearing a T-shirt with a swastika on it?

Ongoing discussion

As for why the state Public Charter School Advisory Council advised the board of education to grant the Lee school fast-track approval when it hadn't yet secured a location, Joel Medley, director of the state Department of Public Instruction's Office of Charter Schools, said the decision came down to "governance, finance and educational plan."

The advisory council "really wants to see that the mission is reflected throughout the application and is the primary focus of the budget," Medley said, and believed the Lee school applicants "would be able to operate a strong charter school."

Whether the Howard and Lillian Lee Scholars Charter School will offer a special focus on religious studies remains unanswered.

Regardless, Chaltain said he believes a discussion around issues such as those raised by the Lee school's application create "a great opportunity to have a really meaningful local conversation about what kind of schools you want," and the role that the teaching of religion plays in those schools.

Of course, here in Orange County that conversation is a perpetual one.

Still, Burroughs said, "Between this issue and the dual-language issue, I've learned so much about the complexities of our community ... the depths and the nuances."

TANGO FROM PAGE 1

lesson, but decided to join simply because it looked like fun.

Keith explained to his students that although tango is an Argentinian dance, its roots lie in African styles of movement. He proceeded to demonstrate a basic step, and guided them as they practiced with their partners. He emphasized the importance of communication, and periodically told students to switch partners, encouraging

them to strike up conversations with strangers.

Some students said they came to the class to meet new people, while others said they enjoyed it because it enabled them to mingle with people of all ages.

"Tango is a very passionate dance, and very technical," Northcutt explained. "The [tango] society is made up of very close people. They get to know each other and become a kind of family."

"It's a great mix of people. A good group to hang out with," Keith added. "Tango introduced

me to my wife, and several people in the group met their wives and husbands dancing tango."

At 9 p.m., the lesson ended and many more experienced dancers joined the floor. The café became crowded with people who had come to drink, socialize and watch the milonga.

Keith said that he likes dancing at Open Eye because it has a uniquely social environment.

"There's room to sit and have a cup of coffee and a drink of wine and talk to people. It's much more of a mix of social and dancing than most of the places

I go to. Most places, there's just dancing, and there's not much room to be sitting and talking, so that's why I like this place."

"Come and join us!" Northcutt said, encouraging new dancers to come out. "It's a fun way to get exercise and meet other people from the area."


"It's very addictive, though," Keith warned. "Once you start, it's hard to stop!"

For more information about monthly tango nights, including who will be instructing the next lesson, visit triangleretango.com

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to talk about it

CHRIS FITZSIMON

It's been nearly two weeks since the horrific violence in Colorado, and things don't make any more sense today than they did on July 20, when James Holmes walked into a packed movie theater, threw down canisters of tear gas and started shooting, killing 12 people and injuring almost 60 others.

Holmes has now made his first court appearance and details continue to emerge about his life and the apartment that he rigged with explosives. Bewildered speculation continues about a possible motive for his random killing spree.

The politicians are weighing in too, but with only a few exceptions they are not saying much of substance, other than their expressions of sympathy for the victims and their families.

Many pundits and elected officials tell us this is not the time to talk about our gun laws that allowed Holmes to assemble – legally – an arsenal of full body armor, 6,000 rounds of ammunition and several weapons, including a semi-automatic assault rifle equipped with a drum magazine that holds 100 bullets for firing without the need to reload.

That's also what many of them told us in January of 2011 when Jared Loughner killed six people in Arizona and wounded 13 others, including Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. Loughner had a magazine of 33 bullets attached to his semi-automatic handgun.

Some people did ask after the Arizona shooting why any citizen would need to be able to fire a handgun 33 times before putting more bullets in it.

They were shouted down by the hard-line pro-gun groups, who have managed to so twist the debate about gun laws that even the suggestion of any restriction on weapons is considered a violation of the broadly misinterpreted Second Amendment, and politicians run the other way.

A few people are asking the same questions now. Why is it legal for anyone to buy magazines that enable someone to shoot 100 times without stopping to reload? Not to mention the body armor that Holmes bought for his deadly spree.

One Colorado gun club leader told the Associated Press, "We're different than other cultures. We do allow Americans to possess the accoutrements that our military generally has."

Author Craig Whitney points out in the *New York Times* that the websites that sell the 100-bullet drums like the one Holmes apparently used last Friday don't mince any words.

One of them, Woot!, touts the drum as, "Just the ticket, should things really heat up and the lead needs to fly." Accoutrements, indeed.

Both that drum and the 33-bullet magazine that Jared Loughner used in his deadly rampage were briefly illegal in the U.S. until Congress declined to renew the ban on semi-automatic assault weapons that expired in 2004.

That was back when at least there was a debate, when politicians were willing to argue publicly about the need to have sensible gun laws that protect both the public and an individual's constitutional rights.

That seems like a lot longer than eight years ago. The debate now is only about what gun laws to loosen. The General Assembly voted in the last session to allow concealed

weapons in parks and playgrounds. The House passed a bill to allow them in bars and restaurants.

Politicians routinely have fundraisers at gun ranges where contributors can fire the weapon of their choice and even take part in simulations much like video games where they can shoot shadowy strangers on a screen.

You'd never know it from most of the current rhetoric, but we have all agreed that the Second Amendment cannot be absolute or it would be legal for your neighbor to keep a small nuclear weapon in his garage or park a tank in his driveway.

The question is where we draw the line. That's the debate. It seems like an easy call to draw it to at least prevent anyone from buying military-style body armor and magazines that hold 100 bullets or 33. Those are not guns for hunting or self-defense. They are weapons of mass destruction.

And now is the time to talk about it.

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

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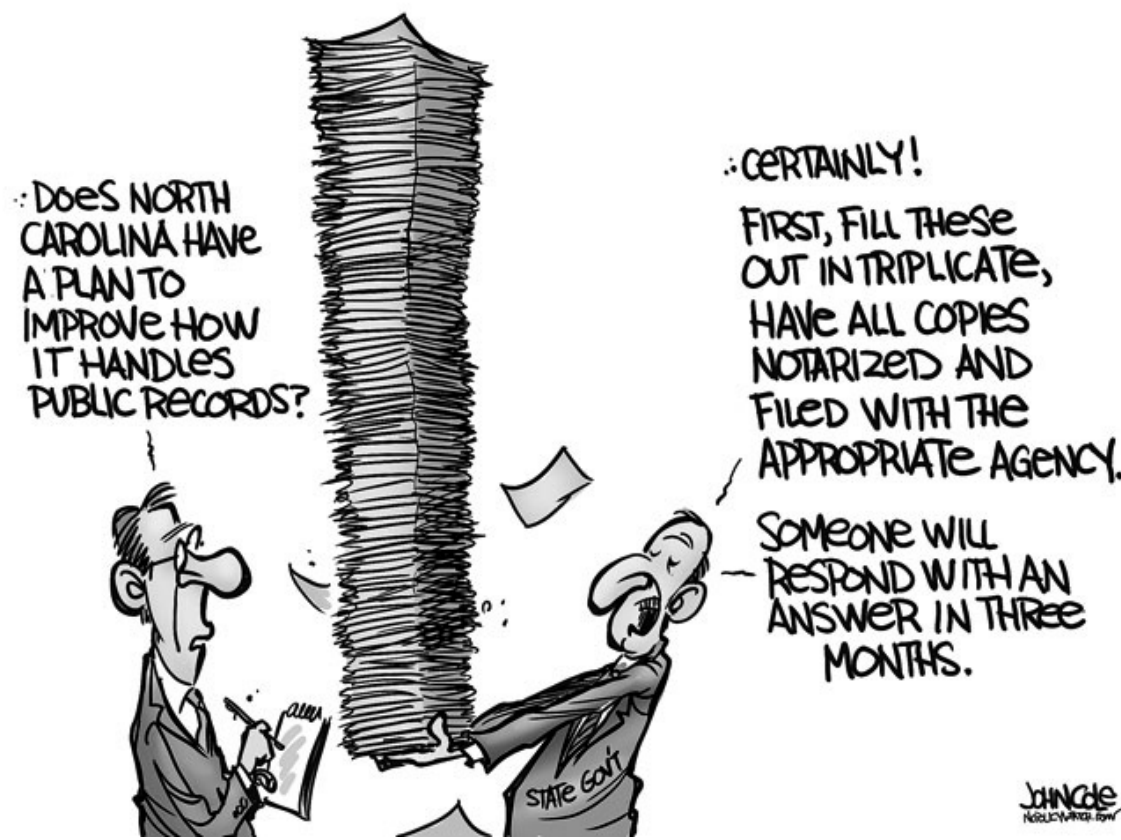
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by Carrboro Citizen, LLC.The shameful walls of exclusion
remain firmly in place

VICKI SMITH

"Let the shameful walls of exclusion finally come tumbling down."

That was the simple but powerful declaration made by President George H.W. Bush on July 26, 1990, when he signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). That statement was a long overdue message to millions of Americans with disabilities. It recognized that people with disabilities are entitled to equal opportunity and access to mainstream American life.

Today, regrettably, North Carolina has fallen short of that ideal once again. It didn't have to be this way.

Twenty years after the ADA became law, on July 26, 2010, the group I head, Disability Rights NC, sought to enforce that promise for people with mental illness in North Carolina by asking the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ) to investigate North Carolina's failure to comply with the ADA. Our complaint alleged that North Carolina's practice of warehousing people with mental illness in adult care homes violated the ADA's integration mandate.

On July 28, 2011, the USDOJ validated our complaint. Their letter of findings stated that North Carolina:

"fails to provide services to individuals with mental illness in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs in violation of the ADA. The State plans, structures and administers its mental health service system to deliver services to thousands of persons with mental illness in large segregated adult care homes and to allocate funding to service individuals in adult care homes rather than in integrated settings."

Sadly, on July 26, 2012 – the 22nd anniversary of the ADA – the State of North Carolina made clear that it would not enter into a settlement with USDOJ, but instead open itself up to a long bout of costly litigation.

The events leading up to this breakdown had been proceeding in a very promising fashion. Representatives from the governor's office, the Department of Health and Human Services and the state attorney general's office were at the table. Little information was shared about discussions, but it's clear there was some agreement about what the state must do to comply with federal law and what it might cost. The General Assembly even recognized the importance of resolving this violation of federal law and, despite the difficult budget situation, appropriated \$10.3 million to begin implementation of any settlement.

Unfortunately, it appears that the governor and attorney general did not have the will to turn funding and substantive agreement into a final settlement.

Why not? An educated guess is that enforcement of the settlement was the sticking point. State negotiators likely resisted any third-party oversight such as an independent "monitor" of the settlement. USDOJ would want clear enforcement provisions to ensure the terms of any settlement would become reality.

We agree with USDOJ that any agreement must have strong enforcement mechanisms. Anything less would leave North Carolina citizens with disabilities vulnerable to changing political agendas. Our state has a poor track record when it comes to keeping its promises to develop robust, community-based services for all its citizens with disabilities, including those with mental illness.

It's not that the people at the negotiation table weren't sincere. They were. But let's face it, many of them are lame ducks. They won't be here in six months. And since any settlement would likely take 10 years, most of the rest won't be around to see it through. A negotiated, enforceable agreement would guarantee a critical level of investment for years. Without it, the voice of people with mental illness can easily get lost in political debates. Good-faith promises are non-binding when the state budget is up for grabs every year.

Past promises have already been broken. That experience leaves many in the mental health community skeptical of any promise by the state. The Mental Health Trust Fund is forgotten. Institutional bias remains. We are still investing more in facility-based care than integrated community services and supports. Trust in the system has eroded and, once lost, trust is hard to recover. An enforceable agreement would have given people with mental illness hope that full integration would finally become a reality.

Sadly, North Carolina opted out of such an agreement, leaving the USDOJ with litigation as its only option to enforce federal law. Scarce state resources that could have been used to help people in need will now go toward the costs of drawn-out litigation – litigation that will surely result in what state officials hoped to avoid, a court-appointed special master.

The time for unenforceable promises has passed. People with mental illness and all other disabilities deserve a concrete and enforceable plan that protects their rights under the ADA.

It is long past time to bring down North Carolina's "shameful walls of exclusion." Unfortunately, it looks like we will have to wait a little bit longer.

Vicki Smith is the executive director of Disability Rights NC.

LETTERS

Is cheap government an option?

Congressional Republicans and Mitt Romney have espoused "cut-government-with-no-increase-in-taxes" as their debt-reduction and recession-relieving strategy. Question: Is our government bloated much beyond actual need?

I drew a graph that tracked federal government expenditures per person every year from 1974-2008 using government data. I was astonished to find a nearly smooth upward trend, a higher rate of increase under Republican presidents than under Clinton. Still, under every administration we spent more per person every single year. Recessions, boom times, wars and elections came and went. The upward trend showed few fluctuations. Why?

Could government oversight of an increasingly complex world explain this relentless rise in costs? Every year more non-natural foods, medicinal products and procedures, military hardware, financial products of bewildering complexity and sophisticated drugs hit the market. Fire, flood and foreign disasters increase; species disappear. You get the picture.

The accumulating Code of U.S. laws might be an indication of complexity. According to the "Political Calculation" blog, the Code in 1939 was 504 pages. After that it increased an average of 3.28 percent a year and by 2006 was over 200,000 pages long. Steady growth? Yup. Maybe cutting government is something that Republicans had better explain in more detail rather than

their vague "government is the problem" stance.

ROBERT MERRIAM
Chapel Hill

Beauty is truth

We are often stunned by the connection of the past with the present ... and our future. In a very short life – 1795 to 1821 – John Keats wrote a piece of verse that became a singular part of the English heritage: "Beauty is truth, truth beauty – that is all ye know ... and all ye need to know." This popped up as we were recently admonished by Mrs. Romney, namely, when she proclaimed that in the matter of personal finances, she and her husband (name slips my mind) have given "all you people need to know." In this case neither "beauty" nor "truth" were involved, merely the machinations of a rich and never-mind-the-law family that, in turn, wants to lead our country! But she missed Keats's admonition, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty." Because her statement had neither truth nor beauty, we admonish her to read Keats's carefully, and not to confuse "all ye need to know" with her crass reply! Keats, gone these many years, is still the wise instructor who, along with a Democratic victory in November, will put aside this uninformed "Call of the Wild," with the help of Keatsian validity – not to mention Jack London!

WILLIAM SOMMERS
Pittsboro

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More
music,
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The other day in a different publication, someone referred to the band I've played in for 20 years

as part of the Chapel Hill music scene. It was a nice piece and I don't want to sound picky; but really, there ain't no such beast as a Chapel Hill music scene.

These days, it's just as much a Carrboro, Durham, Saxapahaw, Chatham and Hillsborough scene as Chapel Hill. Also, for the record, I hate calling it a scene, although I do remember a few nights when it qualified as one. Mostly, it's just a loose collection of bands and radio stations and record stores and labels and clubs. If they have anything in common it's that policymakers have generally ignored what's needed to help them thrive while pointing to them with pride as part of our vaunted creative class.

When I think about what's missing in downtown Chapel Hill, one of the things whose absence is most glaring is the sound of music.

There are still a lot of fine clubs, mostly in the West End and most enduring legacies of an era when Chapel Hill cranked it up and made national press as fertile land for bands and labels. But starting with the Cat's Cradle's move to Carrboro almost 20 years ago, the music business in the heart of downtown has been hit and miss, and primarily the latter.

One indicator to me of the spirit and life of a community is how much music you see on the streets, and it's in this area where the flight of music from downtown has been most noticeable.

It wasn't long ago that a walk through downtown was nearly impossible without taking in some kind of performance. You might see Dexter Romweber singing the blues out in front of The Hardback Cafe or The Chicken Wire Gang harmonizing near the entrance to Pepper's Pizza. There'd be a guy playing sax in the alley and a couple of avant-garde fellow travelers making notes ring in the Rosemary Street Parking Deck. A lot more places had music outdoors as well, or would at least open up the windows and let the sound pour out into the street.

I bring this up not out of sentimentality, but because the sound of a human playing an instrument adds life to a place the way a bright new awning cannot. You didn't need a brochure or special signage or an ad campaign to tell you downtown was a happening spot. You could hear it every time you stepped out on the street.

This is not lost on every policymaker, and fortunately there's been some support over the years for outdoor events, particularly the successful Locally Grown concert series on the Wallace Deck, which features local groups. To make that series really work the town is going to have to make the deck a more people-friendly place. Before it was built, the Wallace Deck plaza was pitched as a place for buskers and street vendors. That hasn't really panned out, in part because the plaza is kind of isolated and its rough edges and concrete don't exactly make you want to gather around for a hootenanny.

You may be one of those old-timers who scoffs at Southern Village's manufactured downtown, but its outdoor venue is a lot more inviting, has more and better-attended shows and is a welcome boost to the businesses around it.

There are some bright spots in the downtown nightlife. My favorite is the new monthly outdoor music put on by Chapel Hill Underground and WXYC's local music show Backyard Barbecue. The Sunday evening shows feature local bands and free food and have a nice party feel.

I was at one of these shows the other evening. When the band kicked in and suddenly you could hear the sound bouncing around the streets downtown splashing an otherwise drab Sunday night with the color of music, I thought to myself, "I remember this place."



BY KIRK ROSS



Immature green jimsonweed seedpod is a curiosity.

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

has a rich medicinal heritage. Quoting Jim Duke (*Handbook of Northeastern Indian Medicinal Plants*): "In Virginia, Algonquin fed male pubic initiates tea made from *Datura*, enough to keep them drugged for two to three weeks. Such initiates were supposed to forget everything and learn again, as men, not boys." Apparently Capt. John Smith's followers at Jamestown tried this native custom, resulting in lengthy nonproductive stupors. It became known as loco weed and Jamestown weed. As often happens, names change as they are handed down through the years. "Jamestown weed" became "jimsonweed."

I am amused with Paul Green's recollection (Paul

Green's Plant Book): "We children used to have great fun in the dusk of warm summer evenings chasing after great tobacco moths that haunted the strong scented blooms of the jimson weed. I read in an old book once where it said that harem wives in Turkey were wont to chew this weed and swallow the juice to strengthen their powers of love. I wonder what the head of the harem, the old Turk himself, chewed."

Though it is a common plant throughout the state, most people miss the evening flowering and are intrigued when discovering it during winter walks when it is a curious-looking stem of bare branches with spiny egg-shaped pods. You may want to collect a few seeds and scatter them in a corner of your garden for some night flowers of your own.



Scallop-margined, triangular leaves of jimsonweed seedlings are distinctive.

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

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



Flying Moxy

Who says man can't fly? Well, maybe not man, but certainly man-child! His name is Moxy Quan Appelbaum, and according to his mom, Mai Nguyen, seen here serving as catcher and landing craft for her 2-and-a-half-year-old, "He has always been a flying monkey – walking at 8 months, balancing on his rocking horse on one foot at 12 months and then jumping at every opportunity thereafter – on beds, couches, restaurant chairs, rocks, etc. He was even a kicker in the womb!" When I asked jokingly in an email what happens when Moxy turns 14 and still wants fly to mama, Dad Greg Appelbaum, an assistant professor in psychiatry at Duke, responded: "Notice Mai didn't answer ... that's because we don't know ... maybe we can expect him to be a star high school athlete. On the other hand he may jump off the wrong rock or restaurant chair and spend 14 in a cast." My bet is that Moxy joins the circus and becomes a trapeze artist. (Photo back-story: I met Mai, an assistant professor in the UNC Department of City and Regional Planning, four years ago when we were in the inaugural class of Faculty Engaged Scholars at the UNC Center for Public Service. The photo came from a retirement party Mai and Greg threw for Greg's dad, Mark, at their home in Durham earlier this summer. Which just goes to prove once again: *Don't go anywhere without your camera!*)

Round three on the Hollyhock Lady: Mrs. Sallie Bush was NOT the mama of the late Chapel Hill Police Chief William D. Blake, according to the associate curator of the North Carolina Collection at UNC's Wilson Library, Eileen McGrath, who went back in the musty dusty files to find out that Blake's mother was the late Emma Mock Blake of Carrboro. Eileen writes, "Mrs. Bush appears to be the widow of Grover C. Bush, who lived at [139 E. Rosemary St.] since the early 1950s." Well done, Eileen!

A THOUSAND WORDS

BY JOCK LAUTERER



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