

FRIDAY Partly Cloudy 88/61
SATURDAY 20% Chance of Rain 85/61
SUNDAY 20% Chance of Rain 92/70

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE Non-native Paulownia can grow anywhere!

FLORA By Ken Moore

A big-leaved threat

I'm always impressed by those large round leafy stems that seem to have grown six to 12 feet overnight along roadside banks and ditches. This fast-growing plant is promoted by the nursery industry as a miracle tree, the fastest growing one in America.

This tree is more noticeable in the urban landscape, where vigorous clumps thrive in sidewalk cracks, edges of building foundations, on rooftops and even on fire escapes. In spite of eradication efforts, several impressive clumps persist behind a popular West Franklin Street watering hole.

Make certain you don't confuse paulownia with the native catalpa, of which mature specimens and sidewalk seedlings occur in and around Carrboro (see Flora in the May 15, 2008 issue of The Carrboro Citizen). I always have to take a closer look at the similarly shaped leaves to distinguish these two trees.

You've most likely noticed paulownia's vertical clusters of pale purple flowers in the early spring. Looking like a tree foxglove, it is the only tree species in the Scrophulariaceae (foxglove or figwort family) to occur in North Carolina.

You will either cherish or SEE FLORA PAGE 10

New Carrboro High School principal chosen

by Susan Dickson Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education last week appointed Kelly Batten as principal of Carrboro High School.

Batten has served as assistant principal of Leesville Road High School in Wake County for the past six years. Before entering administration, he taught social studies at Sanderson High School, also in Wake County.

Batten holds master's degrees in secondary education and school administration from UNC and a bachelor's degree in secondary education from UNC. He was also a North Carolina Teacher Fellow and Principal Fellow.

Asked, via email, what motivated him to want to come to Carrboro High, Batten responded:

"It is evident from the available resources I have examined that teachers at Carrboro High School approach instruction with a high degree of professionalism. In this supportive environment, students at Carrboro High have quickly established a foundation for academic success and extracurricular achievements. When these elements are matched with the essential positive intensity provided from parents who care about the education of their children, then who would not want to become part of Carrboro High School?"

Batten replaces Jeff Thomas, who was reassigned to the district's central office in May. Thomas officially re-

signed on July 17.

"Carrboro High School had many successes in its inaugural year, and I expect the school to build upon these positive steps this year," Superintendent Neil Pedersen said in a press release. "I believe that Carrboro High School students, parents and staff will find Mr. Batten to be well-grounded in what it takes to run a high school as well as an enthusiastic cheerleader for the school. His friendly, personal style will promote unity and trust among all parties."

School staff and parents were notified of the naming of the new principal by telephone last week.

The board also appointed Priscilla Dennison as the interim math/science coordinator for the school district.

She replaces Darlene Ryan, who was appointed assistant principal at Glenwood Elementary School.

Dennison has served as peer assistance and review teacher for the district since 2003. She also taught science at Culbreth and McDougle middle schools.



Kelly Batten was named principal of Carrboro High School last week.

Park prep continues



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

This year, the only thing anyone can watch from these bleachers is the grass grow.

Chapel Hill is on the verge of opening up Southern Community Park. Well, part of it.

Crews at what will be the town's largest park have finished up or are closing in on completing picnic areas, a dog park, a connection with the Fan Branch Greenway, play areas, a roller hockey rink, basketball courts, outdoor art, restrooms and parking.

Town officials are hoping some parts of the park can be open by late September but have already started to get the

word out that it will be another year before teams can use the park's playing fields.

A recent letter to residents living near the park says the three new soccer fields, highly visible to those traveling U.S. 15-501, won't be useable until summer of 2009.

Last year's drought delayed sodding and the fields' hybrid Bermuda will need another year to get fully established. Work also remains on natural surface trails and a disc golf course. — Staff Reports

County opposes nuclear plant expansion

by Kirk Ross Staff Writer

The Orange County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously last week to pursue objections to the expansion of Progress Energy's Shearon Harris nuclear plant.

The county will seek an extension of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's comment period about the expansion and hold a public hearing, tentatively scheduled for Sept. 2., to gather input from citizens about the proposal.

"We have several concerns," Barry Jacobs, chair of the board of commis-

sioners, said this week, "but first we want to hear what the public thinks."

If the board decides to move forward with legal action, it would not be the first time Orange County has raised objections about the plant. It fought the relicensing of the plant challenging the use of storage pools for spent fuel rods.

The legal work preparing that case costs roughly \$325,000. Noting that Orange County paid about \$300,000 of the legal bill, Jacobs said county officials hope to learn whether they can count on other local governments to pitch in on a new effort. He estimates that it would cost about an-

other \$100,000 to update the work done in the last challenge and to file to formally intervene in the proposed expansion.

In addition to the use of storage pools for the fuel rods — which would increase under the expansion plan — commissioners are also concerned about the plant not being in compliance with fire-safety regulations, an additional draw of water from the Cape Fear River and questions about how security is handled at the plant.

"This is not the best run plant in the U.S. by a long shot," Jacobs said.

SEE NUKE PAGE 7

SEE TOWING PAGE 7

The fading of red on the head

RECENTLY . . .

By Valerie Schwartz

Fifteen years ago, on the date that I write this (Aug. 4), I sat in a restaurant in Jackson Hole, Wyoming with my eight-year-old son, looking at a newspaper after having ordered our breakfast. This remains a memory because it was the first time I had to adjust the length of my arm in order to read the newspaper. It was one day before I turned 40.

Most of our life, age sneaks up on us, but sometimes it smacks us in the face. That smacked!

Now, turning 55 comes with a bit of a sting as the gray that I quit covering in early spring emerges on my head.

When hair coloring started for me two decades ago, there was a little gray coming in, but mostly there was a desire to let the natural red highlights of my Irish-Scott heritage dominate. Besides, I lived in L.A., where nobody goes gray.

The red suited me then as it suits me now, but as age keeps creeping up, there's a greater impulse to just be me, as I am.

It's a process I've discussed with friends and acquaintances, and I've learned that deciding to go gray — or not — perplexes many. There has been encouragement in both directions, with gray-heads giving me the hoorah and one fellow dyer encouraging "dye 'til you die."

It's a funny thing, age. As "the baby" in my family, with a sister and brother 10 and eight years older, respectively, it seems that my childhood was spent wishing to be older, because I was forever left out of fun things that they could do but I couldn't because I was too young, or too little. Looking young for my age compounded the problem. As a child, whenever people registered my deflation after they guessed my age as several years younger, they would say how



PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Out with the red and in with the gray

SEE RECENTLY PAGE 5

INSIDE

Our new food column, The Eater

See page 8

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## News Briefs

### NC Warn challenges nukes

The North Carolina Waste Awareness and Reduction Network (NC WARN) filed a legal challenge against plans by Progress Energy to construct two new nuclear reactors in Wake County Monday. According to an NC WARN press release, the challenge cites design and safety problems, says cost estimates are inaccurate and could lead to higher energy prices and that new reactors would release too much greenhouse gas.

The challenge was filed with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which allows 60 days for intervention on new nuclear plans. NC WARN director Jim Warren said that his and other agencies expect to find more problems with more time. The legal motion and a summary are both available at [www.ncwarn.org](http://www.ncwarn.org).

### New stores at Eastgate

New shops and restaurants will be opening over the next few months at Eastgate Shopping Center in Chapel Hill. Massage Envy will offer professional massage therapy to its members and is scheduled to open in August, and Carmine's, a new locally owned Italian restaurant, will open in September. Performance Bicycle and Starbucks plan to open their new stores in the 155,000-square-foot shopping center in late 2008.

### Job fair seeks employers

University Career Services at UNC is hosting a Part-time Job Fair on campus the second day of classes, Aug. 20, and needs employers looking for one or more student positions.

The event will run from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in the Frank Porter Graham Student Union Great Hall. A fee of \$25 includes lunch for two, table space and parking. To participate, please contact Emily Strader, coordinator for Part-time Student Employment, at [estrader@email.unc.edu](mailto:estrader@email.unc.edu) or 843-0844.

### Volunteers needed to assist homeless

Volunteers are needed at Project Homeless Connect Orange County, a one-day, one-stop center to be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25 to provide people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness with services including housing, employment, health, dental and mental health care, social service benefits, disability and veterans' benefits, legal services, personal care and lunch. The event will be held at the Hargraves Community Center, 216 N. Roberson St. in Chapel Hill.

Volunteers are needed in a variety of positions. If you are interested in participating or would like to learn more about the event, please contact Meredith Costa at 923-2559 or [mcosta@hiddenvoices.org](mailto:mcosta@hiddenvoices.org).

### Deeds database reopens

After fixing a security flaw that led to a security breach through its website, the Orange County Register of Deeds office has reopened the county's online property database, county officials announced Tuesday.

The site was hacked July 30 and the Register of Deeds database was infected with "malicious code," according to a press release from the county last week. No members of the public were affected, the release said.

## South Elliott Road area sees business changes

by Rich Fowler  
Staff Writer

Changes are coming to the South Elliott Road area in Chapel Hill, as new stores move to the area, others expand and plans are in the works to add over 58,000 square feet of office and retail space to the area.

Phydeaux will open in its new space in the Galleria on Friday. The locally owned pet supply store has been on Weaver Street in downtown Carrboro since 2002. It will move into the space that the Chapel Hill Senior Center used to occupy in the Galleria.

"We're moving because we're growing," Andrew Schull, a manager at Phydeaux, said. "We just need a bigger space." Phydeaux plans to hold more adoption events, lectures and classes taught by local trainers.

The Village Plaza Shopping Center area around Whole Foods Market is adding new stores as well. Yarns, Etc. will be opening later this week in the shopping center on the site of the old Knit a Bit shop. Quiznos is now under new management and has reopened.

Whole Foods is in the midst of another store expansion. The store will add another 11,000 square feet of space, increasing its size to over 40,000 square feet, and will update its storefront. It will use the new space to expand its produce section, café, bakery, frozen foods section and coffee bar.

The shopping center parking lot is being repaved and reconfigured and will have new lighting and landscaping. More parking will be available closer to stores and a new entry-only curb cut on the East Franklin Street side of the center will improve traffic flow. Pedestrian lanes leading to Elliott Road and Franklin Street have been set aside. Chris Shaw, who manages the shopping center, said that the first phase of the work is on schedule and work on the parking lot should be completed in three months.

The Barbecue Joint will be moving into the space formerly occupied by Branch's Book Store in the southern half of the shopping center.

Owner Damon Lapas said that there's still a lot of work to be done before the store can move from its



Changes in store for South Elliott Road

present location on Weaver Dairy Road. Kitchen equipment, tables, chairs, a bar and a wood-fired grill that requires a separate fan all have to be installed.

"Optimally, if we're open before Thanksgiving, I'll be happy," said Lapas.

With the move, the restaurant will increase in size from 1,400 to 3,900 square feet.

3 Cups will be reopening in Village Plaza later this fall, between VisArt and the Great Harvest Bread Company. The store will be called 3 Cups Wine ... Coffee ... Tea to reflect its new

focus. 3 Cups left the Courtyard on West Franklin Street in June after a long fight over parking for its customers.

Eastern Federal Corporation and Mark Properties are in the early stages of developing a new office and shopping center on the site of the old Village Plaza Theater, which was torn down in 2003 to make way for a 10-screen movie theater that was never built. The proposed complex would add about 58,000 square feet of office and retail space to the area, mostly concentrated in two three-story buildings.

## Obituaries



### Fred Curtis

Carl Frederick Curtis died Sunday, Aug. 3 in hospice care in Lillington, NC. He is survived by his girlfriend, Susan Russell of Bynum; his parents, Thomas and Mimi Curtis of Chapel Hill; his sisters, Liz Holm and Theresa Curtis of Chapel Hill and Susan Jane Curtis of Raleigh; his nephews and nieces, Brown Biggers of Greensboro and Carmen Biggers of Chapel Hill, J.T. and Jamey Sauls of Raleigh and Jennifer Curtis of Boston; his aunt and uncle, Geronimo and Cathryn Davis of Denver; his cousins, Mary Jane Davis of Sedona, Arizona and Daniel Davis of Denver; and many friends who will dearly miss him.

Freddie was born on June 7, 1955 at UNC-Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill. He attended Chapel Hill High School where he was a member of the school's inaugural soccer team, in 1972, and the 1973 state championship

team. He went on to play soccer at Guilford College.

Freddie lived for several years in Atlanta, working in restaurants and music clubs. One of his favorite memories was of when B.B. King, one of Freddie's heroes, came to Atlanta to perform at the venue at which he was working. Freddie picked King up at the airport in his old grey Volvo, carried him to the club and cooked him dinner before the show.

Upon moving back to North Carolina, he lived in Beaufort in the family home, and spent a lot of time and energy renovating the house, which is over a hundred years old. He otherwise spent much of his time camping on Shackleford Island. He often entered the local sandcastle-building contest with his good friend Damian Hoffman. He truly loved the coast.

A skilled carpenter and repairman, Freddie returned to Chapel Hill and worked for Yarnell-Hofer Hardware. He then worked as a plumber and later started his own plumbing business, which he operated until he became sick last year. He had a master's hand with working parts — plumbing, electrical and more — and much of his handiwork remains.

Freddie was passionate about Tar Heel basketball, cooking, his dogs, old Volvos, golf, the beach and music. He gave much of his time volunteering at the Thrift Store in Cole Park. He enjoyed being outdoors and generally

helping anyone who needed help doing anything. He instilled in his sister Liz a deep love of music and taught his nephew Brown all about tools and how to fish. Freddie had a huge heart, and will be missed tremendously.

Upon his passing, a friend quoted Maya Angelou — "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." — and said of Freddie: "Freddie always made me (and my family) feel special. There is no greater gift in life."

A memorial service will be held this Saturday, Aug. 9 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Jordan Lake N.C. Forestry Division Environmental Education Center, 2832 Big Woods Rd. in Chapel Hill. The site is three miles from US Hwy. 64 to the north and three miles from Jack Bennett Road to the south. The service will be held in the sheltered picnic area.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Collier Rescue of the Carolinas: [collierrescue.net](http://collierrescue.net)

### Lee Meyer

Lee "Leebo" Meyer Jr., owner of Meyer Painting and Contracting, Inc. of Chapel Hill, died on July 31. He is survived by wife Terry, children Cassie, Carver and Christopher, parents Lee and Carol and siblings Tom, Steve, Julie Taylor, Joe, Carrie Little and Amy Lewis. Lee was an avid hunter and golfer who

loved country music and never met a stranger. A funeral mass was held Tuesday at St. Thomas More Church.

### Ruffin M. Hobbs

Ruffin Mendenhall Hobbs, 56, well known metal sculpture artist, died unexpectedly at his McBane Mill home in Graham, NC on July 28, 2008.

Ruffin was born February 15, 1952 in Wayne County, Indiana, the son of Grimsley T. Hobbs and Lois Ann Hunkele Hobbs. He was a 1975 graduate of Guilford College. His works span the country; some of his most prominent works are the Princeton Tigers, 3500 pound stainless steel tiger sculptures that stand outside the entrance to Princeton University's football stadium. For a more detailed bio of Ruffin, including a portfolio of his work, go to [www.ruffinhobbs.com](http://www.ruffinhobbs.com).

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; mother, Lois Hobbs; brothers, Grimsley T. Hobbs, Jr., Jace Hobbs, and Richard Junius Mendenhall Hobbs; and sisters, Louise Hobbs and Elise Hobbs.

A memorial gathering for friends will be held at 2:00 pm, Sunday, August 3, 2008 at McBane Mill, 4714A McBane Mill Lane, Graham, NC.

For suggested memorials in lieu of flowers, please consult directly with the family.

Arrangements are under the care of Griffin Funeral Service and Cremation, Pittsboro, NC.

## THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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## FOR THE RECORD

## The rising tide

With the university gearing up again and some major projects on the horizon, the relationship of town and gown (a phrase we've never really liked) is promising to be a focal point this year. This is driven in part by the change at the helm at Carolina, but more so because Carolina North, a new airport and how much and how fast the university grows will have a tremendous impact on the character of our community.

There is significant debate already about the Carolina North project and the future of the airport, but on fewer radar screens is the more abstract concept of enrollment growth.

With the state projecting a sizeable increase in the number of college students, the Chapel Hill campus will be asked to take on more. Under one scenario, enrollment would rise from last fall's 28,136 to 33,000 by 2017. The impact of almost 5,000 more students, the infrastructure to support them and the accompanying rise in support staff and instructors will be significant. One recent study shows it would take nearly 2.5 million square feet of new space to house, feed, educate and support the surge of new entrants.

The UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees has pushed back a bit on the numbers, concerned about how the jump would change the quality of a Carolina education and the reputation of the brand.

The change could also greatly change the quality of life in Chapel Hill, Carrboro and surrounding environs.

When faced with a similar scenario in the 1990s, Chancellor Michael Hooker promised a new bed for every head. The result is the massive, ongoing buildout on south campus. For the next expansion, it will be a lot more difficult to promise the same. Carolina North may help with some of the surplus and there may still be places to pack 'em in on campus, but undoubtedly the demand for off-campus housing will rise along with the enrollment.

It is in the interest of all the partners charged with managing this growth — the towns, both Orange and Chatham counties and OWASA among others — to engage in serious dialogue with the university and the community as a whole regarding the new students.

## Caution signs

As noted in somewhat celebratory fashion in last week's issue of *MILL*, thousands of individuals brand new to the area are filtering in. This week, a cautionary note: Heading into town are thousands of pedestrians, bikers and drivers unfamiliar with our roadways and our customs.

This is a deadly serious matter. A review of the patterns for traffic accidents, especially those involving pedestrians, shows a much higher rate in August and September. Whether you know the roads or not, everyone can participate in making travel a little safer.

## Something new to chew on

We had the damndest time figuring out what to call our new food column. Clever stuff like *EatBeat* and *Cuisine Scene* were already taken, and a little too fancy for us. We wanted something a little tongue in cheek but not too obscure or pretentious (foreign phrases were right out). Nothing came to mind. We finally settled on the simplest and least sexy title we could think of. So, debuting this week on Land and Table (page 8) is *The Eater*.

## THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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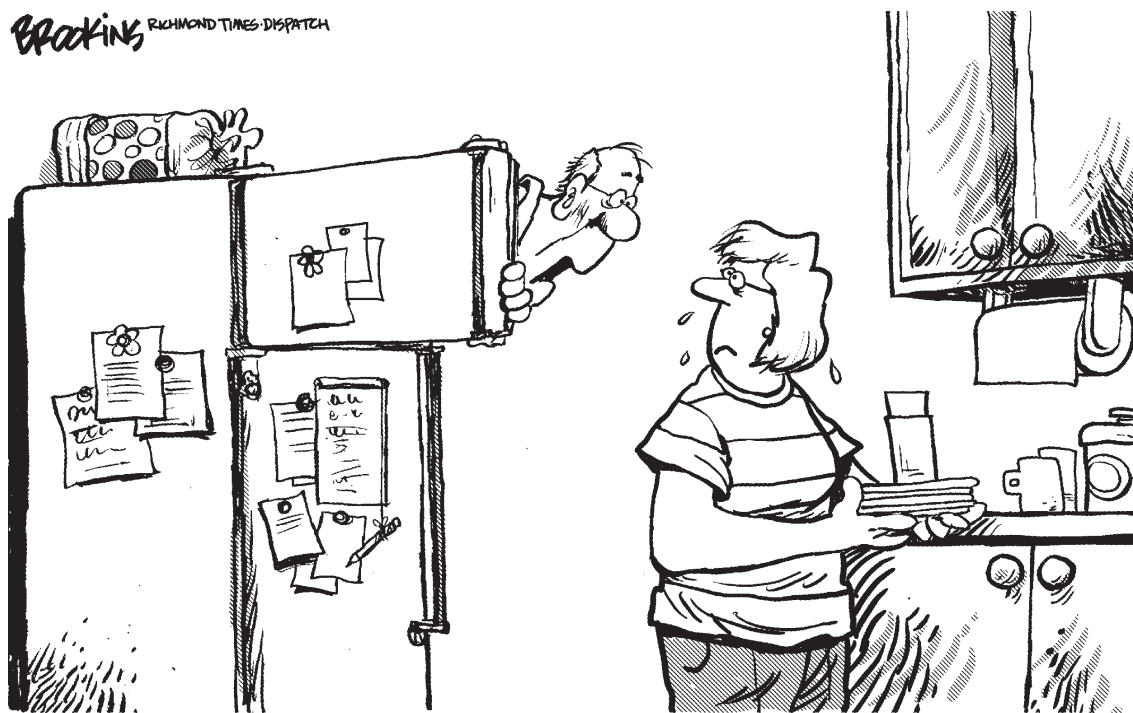
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BRACKINS RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH



"CALL ME WHEN AUGUST IS OVER."

## Gene Roberts never got too big for his britches

JOCK LAUTERER

Everyone needs a hero. Gene Roberts is mine.

Arguably the most decorated living Tar Heel journalist, the 75-year-old Roberts started small before becoming a national figure.

But even when he reached the top, he never turned into what my mama used to call "Mr. Big Britches" — never forgetting or denigrating his humble Eastern North Carolina journalism origins; and that's one of the many reasons why I honor him so.

To my great delight, I'm not the only one. The North Carolina Press Association named Roberts its 2008 "North Carolinian of the Year" at their annual summer convention in Asheville on Friday, July 18.

Introducing Roberts, NCPA president Tim Dearman, publisher of the *Statesville Record and Landmark*, saluted Roberts as "a native son of North Carolina who never forgot the lessons he learned here."

Roberts, a Pulitzer-Prize winning former managing editor of the *New York Times* and the *Philadelphia Inquirer* (17 Pulitzers from the latter) and co-author of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize-winning book *The Race Beat*, got his start at a small community daily paper, the *Goldsboro News-Argus* in Wayne County, where he was the farm reporter.

There, the UNC-CH grad made a name for himself with the well-read feature titled "Rambling Through Rural Wayne," which contained, in Roberts' own words, "family reunions, recipes for sage sausage, sweet potatoes who looked like Gen. Charles de Gaulle ... so the world could be exploding, but the Rambling in Rural Wayne had to come out."

Let me share two emblematic Roberts stories that he allowed me to print in the third edition of my textbook and field guide *Community Journalism: Relentlessly Local* (UNC Press, 2006.)

## WHAT REALLY MATTERS

In 1968, more than 10 years after leaving the *News-Argus*, Roberts was sent to Vietnam as a war correspondent for the *New York Times*. During the height of the Tet offensive, he found his way to the embattled city of Hue, the scene of the most intense, street-to-street fighting. One day, he went to interview beleaguered U.S. troops dug deep in an underground bunker. He introduced himself, "My name is Gene Roberts. I'm with the *New York Times*



Gene Roberts, left, accepts the North Carolinian of the Year award from NCPA President Tim Dearman of Statesville.

PHOTO BY JOCK LAUTERER

..."

But out of the gloom, Roberts heard a soldier's voice with a distinctive twang.

"Hey!" the soldier exclaimed, "Did you ever write the 'Rambling in Rural Wayne' in the *Goldsboro News-Argus*?"

Looking back on that experience, Roberts chuckles. He may have been a big-time war correspondent for the vaunted *New York Times*, but what impressed that soldier in the bunker in Hue was Roberts' farm column in an 8,000-circulation community newspaper in the rural South. No matter the size, it was the soldier's hometown paper, a thing of inestimable value.

"I learned valuable lessons from the *News-Argus* and my tobacco farmer readers," says Roberts. "Because I was linked closely to events that were important to farm families, I — and what I wrote — became important to readers in a way that I never was, before or since."

## SHOW, DON'T TELL

Roberts likes to tell how Henry Belk, his mentor and the former editor of the *News-Argus*, used to edit copy. Because Belk was blind, Roberts would have to read his stories out loud to the old editor.

Blind Henry Belk would sit there in his big oak armchair, head tilted back, the warm humid air blowing in off the city square, listening intently as Gene would read his pieces aloud. And if a story didn't work or didn't suit old Henry Belk, he'd cry out loud, "MAKE ME SEE IT, GENE. MAKE ME SEE IT."

## ZIG INSTEAD OF ZAG

Here at the UNC School of

Journalism and Mass Communication, Roberts created a prize to reward annually the student journalist who is also a good storyteller. You can hear Roberts' words sing in the following challenge, engraved upon the plaque in Carroll Hall:

*"The Eugene L. Roberts Prize is meant to encourage and is dedicated to the story of the untold event that oozes instead of breaks, to the story that reveals, not repeats, to the reporter who zigs instead of zags, to the truth, as opposed to the facts, to the forest, not just the trees, to the story they'll be talking about in the coffee shop on main street, to the story that answers not just who what where when and why but also, 'So what?'; to efforts at portraying real life itself; to journalism that 'wakes me up, and makes me see'; to the revival of the disappearing storyteller."*

## COMMUNITY JOURNALISM MATTERS MORE NOW THAN EVER

Roberts, who is now a journalism professor at the University of Maryland, also told me, "Nothing is more important to American journalism than the editor who sees the people he covers every day."

Imagine that.

And finally, in accepting the North Carolinian of the Year award, Roberts quipped with characteristic dry wit, "Thank you for naming me North Carolinian of the Year. Actually, I feel like a North Carolinian year-in and year-out."

Jack Lauterer is director of the Carolina Community Media Project.

sive towing of residents' cars, and in fact cars have continued to be towed in the last two days since he announced the relaxed permit requirements.

By refusing to issue parking permits to residents and then towing those residents' cars, the managers of Abbey Court have enraged many, many tenants. White, Latino, African-American, and Asian-American neighbors have come together in raising their voices and organizing themselves to denounce the managers.

Tenants have now created a website, [www.abbeycourt.info](http://www.abbeycourt.info), which is closely following the towing controversy. The site has

also posted pictures showing the poor conditions in some of apartments and the ongoing problems we have with crime, uncollected garbage, and bug infestation.

The Abbey Court community, which tends on the whole to have darker skin, to speak little English, and to be unaware of the laws, has been abused in many ways by the managers. The towing of cars was just the last straw. Promises of relaxing parking permit policies may be too little too late to ease the ill will that managers have inspired over the years.

HUGO OLAIZ  
Carrboro

## A familiar campaign, despite the facts

CHRIS FITZSIMON

The battle between Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue and Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory to be North Carolina's next governor is starting to seem very familiar. Perdue is part of the ruling Democratic Party establishment in Raleigh and will get credit and blame for what Democrats have done in the last eight years whether she deserves it or not.

Perdue can point to investments in public schools, higher education and economic development, as well as the expansion of children's health care and early childhood programs, a hike in the state minimum wage and a state-budget picture more stable than most.

But Democrats have also been plagued by scandal at the state level, the former Speaker of the House is in federal prison and a Democratic House member is behind bars after being expelled from the General Assembly earlier this year.

The state's mental health system has been a disaster. The cozy relationship between Senate Democrats and business lobbyists has stopped a lot of progressive legislation and poisons debates about tax fairness. The Senate, where Perdue rose to power, is still tightly controlled by a handful of leaders and the budget is still put together largely in secret. Free and open debate is rare.

None of that is necessarily Perdue's fault, just like she can't claim credit for all the good decisions made by the General Assembly and the Easley administration.

McCrory is trying to run like Republican challengers always run — as an outsider, attacking what he calls "the culture of corruption in Raleigh," and stoking fears about crime and immigration and complaining about waste in state government.

That's not a surprise. One of McCrory's key advisers is Jack Hawke, former head of the state Republican Party and more recently the director of the Pope Civitas Institute, a polling and propaganda arm of the right. One of Perdue's consultants is Mac McCorkle, who helped Easley handily win two gubernatorial elections.

The formula boils down to basics. The Democrats want the election to be about health care, education and economic development. The Republicans want to talk about taxes, government waste and whatever current hot-button issue energizes their base. This year it's immigration instead of gay marriage or abortion.

But as much as Hawke wants McCrory to play that traditional role, there's a problem in one area that is always central to the rhetoric of the right — the anti-tax fervor that may defy logic and common sense but plays well in some parts of the state, especially when it is not directly confronted.

McCrory has played his anti-tax role often in recent months, appearing at a rally at the legislative building in June sponsored by the right-wing organization Americans for Prosperity. The group touted McCrory's appearance by announcing that he had signed a pledge to support the misnamed Taxpayer Protection Act, a constitutional amendment that hamstring state government by putting arbitrary spending limits on the state budget based on a flawed growth formula.

According to Americans for Tax Reform, a group headed by anti-government zealot Grover Norquist, McCrory has also signed a no-new-taxes pledge. Both pledges are absurd, but standard fare for most Republican candidates these days.

But McCrory supported an increase in the local sales tax in Charlotte 10 years ago to pay for a light rail system and opposed efforts by the market fundamentalists last November to repeal the tax increase.

McCrory said in a recent interview that he would support giving the state's other urban areas the right to raise a local tax to pay for mass transit. Norquist and anti-tax crusaders in North Carolina like Americans for Prosperity have blasted Democrats who supported local-option tax hikes after signing the silly pledge for breaking their word.

Maybe Norquist and his North Carolina propaganda partners haven't noticed the inconsistency on McCrory's part or maybe they have and aren't inclined to mention it.

It would upset the campaign formula, after all.

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

## Reviving a failed health care proposal

**ADAM SEARING**

Pat McCrory, Republican candidate for governor, is proposing health reforms that he says would help implement his belief that all North Carolinians deserve "affordable, high quality health care." The goal is admirable, although it's hard to find a politician anywhere these days who thinks our health system is fine and people should keep paying more for coverage.

Examining exactly how a political candidate proposes to expand affordable health coverage is a worthwhile exercise. When the soaring rhetoric meets the hard facts of rising health costs and insurance company profits, the sudden crash can be revealing. Unfortunately, the first on the list of McCrory's reforms would actually move North Carolina further toward a system that favors wealthier and healthier residents while leaving many others behind.

McCrory resurrects the child health insurance tax credit — a failed idea that was aimed at increasing affordable health plans for children but ended up costing millions and doing little to expand coverage. The credit was implemented in 1998 when North Carolina started its award-winning affordable child health program for working parents, Health Choice. Parents whose income was too high to qualify for Health Choice could get a \$100 to \$300 per year credit to purchase child health coverage on the individual market.

After a couple of years, several major problems became apparent with the credit. Primary among these was the lack of fairness. The N.C. Department of Revenue,

looking at the ever-increasing numbers of parents claiming the credit who obviously had jobs at large companies, came to the conclusion that many families claiming the credit clearly weren't entitled to it. It wasn't that parents were intentionally violating the tax code. Rather, many people didn't understand the credit was only to help purchase coverage on the individual market and not to purchase coverage from health plans available through an employer — which were (and are) already tax subsidized.

The second problem was increasing cost. Suddenly the credit was costing N.C. taxpayers over \$18 million. This was an amount that rivaled a large fraction of the state cost for the Health Choice program serving 80,000 children with comprehensive health coverage. The NC Justice Center's Health Access Coalition estimated that the money saved by eliminating the credit could serve an additional 20,000 children immediately with comprehensive health insurance.

Finally, reality set in. The special bipartisan 2001 North Carolina Efficiency and Loophole Closing Commission — chaired by former Republican Gov. Jim Holshouser, former Democratic Gov. Bob Scott and conservative Democrat Harlan Boyles — made elimination of the child health tax credit their first recommendation. Bipartisan agreement in the General Assembly followed that year on a budget that eliminated the credit.

If it was a bad idea back in 2001, the child health credit is an even worse idea today. Even if admin-

istrative problems could be fixed, the idea that an end-of-year tax credit of \$100 to \$300 would have any major effect on encouraging parents of uninsured children to purchase coverage is a false hope. First, even for a healthy child a standard health plan in N.C.'s individual market for a single child can easily cost \$1,800 a year. Even for the wealthier families, who are the ones with enough tax liability to benefit from a credit, a couple hundred dollars at year end is little help with such an expensive year-round purchase.

More importantly, it's only the healthy child that can qualify for that \$1,800-a-year plan. Parents of children with even minor chronic health conditions quickly find out insurance companies can and do charge two, three, four, even five times as much for insuring a child who is generally healthy but has asthma, allergies or mild depression. Costs skyrocket even further for a child with major health problem or more serious diseases such as a heart condition or diabetes. Since the tax credit is the same amount regardless of how much insurance companies want to charge parents, it is terribly unfair to people without perfectly healthy children who face such higher costs.

McCrory's misguided tax-credit proposal is one that has already been tried in North Carolina and proven to be expensive and ineffective. Expanding health coverage to all North Carolinians is too important a goal to try to accomplish by repeating the mistakes of the past.

*Adam Searing is the director of the N.C. Health Access Coalition.*

## Business subsidies: Expansion with no new accountability

**ELAINE MEJIA**

During the mad rush that was the last few weeks of the recently adjourned legislative session, one bill was passed easily and quietly that should have drawn dissent and jeers. Lawmakers quietly and overwhelmingly continued their policy of aggressively pursuing large corporations by offering them tens of millions of dollars to expand in or relocate to North Carolina. More specifically, in the last few days of the legislative session lawmakers significantly expanded the Job Development Investment Grant Program, or JDIG.

JDIG was originally created in 2002 and it is the state's most generous program for luring (i.e., bribing) large corporations. The program authorizes state government to give cash grants to corporations who expand in or relocate to North Carolina. Gone are the days when simply reducing a corporation's tax bill would do (although North Carolina still does lots of that too). These days nothing short of cash-on-the-barrel-head will suffice, and that's what JDIG does.

Last fall, state lawmakers came under intense scrutiny when they passed a bill that gave Good-year Tire's Fayetteville plant and Bridgestone-Firestone in Wilson tens of millions of dollars — not to expand their North Carolina operations but to merely maintain the current workforce. Back then, state lawmakers made bold promises to study the issue further and look for ways to keep this type of spending

in check and hold the state's incentive programs accountable. In fact, there is currently a legislative study commission looking at the issue of business subsidies.

Instead of waiting for the recommendations from this committee due out later this year, legislators quickly went along with the Department of Commerce's request to increase the maximum annual cost of the new JDIG grants the state enters into from \$15 million to \$25 million per year. Keep in mind that many of these sweetheart deals offered to specific corporations can last for more than 10 years. So the corporations with whom the state makes deals this year will be getting checks drafted from the state's bank account for up to \$25 million per year for 10 years.

Here are a few key facts that you should know about the JDIG program. Cash grants are awarded for up to 25 new companies per year and the agreements can last up to 12 years. For those companies, the state can pay no more than \$25 million per year. The grants are awarded by the Economic Investment Committee, which is made up of the secretaries of Commerce and Revenue, the director of the State Budget Office and two citizens appointed by the General Assembly. The maximum award that can be given to any corporation is capped at 75 percent of the income tax withholdings of the new employees. Finally, there is no minimum-wage requirement for jobs in the most distressed one-third of the state's counties. Most of the

new jobs subsidized through this program pay less than \$40,000 per year. According to research by the Budget & Tax Center, a family of four needs to earn just over \$41,000 annually to meet a basic family budget.

There are a number of reasons to suspect that this program is not sufficiently accountable to taxpayers. For one, the methodology the state uses to determine how much it can offer to specific corporations and make sure the deal is not a financial net loss to the state is flawed, primarily because it relies on shaky long-term projections about a particular company's sales. This formula leaves the state vulnerable to "overbidding" for jobs. Another problem is that too many of the grants are awarded to companies locating in the urban, more prosperous regions of the state and too few are awarded to companies in distressed areas. Companies in Wake, Mecklenburg, Guilford and Durham counties have been awarded the most grants so far.

The legislative study committee looking into these two issues and many more has hired researchers from the university system to assist them. Too bad most state lawmakers didn't wait for these experts to finish their work before they committed the state to an additional \$120 million over 12 years. Let's hope that's not a sign of how the committee's ultimate recommendations will be received.

*Elaine Mejia is the director of the N.C. Budget and Tax Center.*

### TOWING FROM PAGE 1

The ordinance also states that towing companies must accept payment by credit or debit card in addition to cash. Tow truck operators must report vehicle removals to the Carrboro

Police Department within 30 minutes of storing a vehicle.

"I'm very hopeful that between the actions that this board has taken tonight ... and the actions that the Abbey Court homeowners' association is currently considering that this will put the parking issues at Abbey Court ... at rest for a time," Mayor Mark Chilton said.

"The fact is, we're a town that values everyone in our community."

Gist said she was proud of the work of the town in dealing with this issue and that she was also "very, very proud of the residents at Abbey Court. It takes a lot when you're kind of scared and you feel marginalized to stand up for yourself."

### NUKE FROM PAGE 1

Julia Milstead, a Progress Energy spokesperson at the Harris plant, said the company respects the county's right to express its opinions about the expansion. Progress and the Nuclear Regu-

latory Commission, she said, are "committed to transparent and open process."

Although it has filed for the expansion, Misdread emphasized that Progress has not yet reached a decision on whether to expand Harris.

She said it would be irresponsible of the company not to plan

for the future.

The proposed expansion would add two new reactors to the plant.

Also this week, the North Carolina Waste Awareness and Reduction Network (NCWARN) filed a motion with the NRC to stop the expansion, citing many of the same concerns as Orange County.

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## THE EATER

### Now serving

BUNS, the new specialty burger joint adds its wide-ranging menu to the quick, cheap-eats options in downtown Chapel Hill, filling the huge void left by the departure of Hector's. Beef, turkey, tuna and veggie burgers ranging from \$3.98 for a single to \$6.99 for a Tar Heel Triple. Fries, chili and Caesar salad sides, domestic and imported beer. BUNS is located in the old Jersey Mike's space (or the old Columbia Street Bakery space, old timers) at 107 North Columbia. 240-2746, bunsofchapelhill.com

### Specialty dinner

Panzanella is taking reservations for its Aug. 18 farm dinner featuring Alex and Betsy Hitt of Peregrine Farms. Specialty peppers and tomatoes are sure to be on the menu. The dinner is from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. Parties of six or more call 929-6626 to make a reservation.

### Beer and a glass

Next Tuesday is Avery Brewery Pint Night at Tyler's Taproom. Drink the beer, leave with the glass.

### On the menu

Lots of summertime dishes to recommend. You can almost smell the season coming through in this app now at Lantern: *Velvet Silver Queen corn soup with NC blue crab and scallops.*

Crook's Corner is saying summer with Cold Fried Chicken and a Picnic Plate, featuring potato salad, deviled eggs and watermelon.

### Home cooking

Cliff's has a pre-marinated al pastor (pork, pineapple, onions and a mild hot sauce) for \$3.25 a pound. Cooks up nice — let it simmer for a while.

### Just peachy

Peaches have hit the farmers' markets. Last year was dismal due to a late frost and a lingering drought. Reports are that this year's crop is splendid.

*The Eater tries to keep up on the local cuisinery. Let us know about something new, something special or nothing in particular at eats@carrborocitizen.com.*

## Land & Table Briefs

### NCBG events

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

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 Aug. 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 Aug. 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 Aug. 25, a workshop entitled "Developing 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).

### SEEDS donation matching

The Durham-based SEEDS, or South Eastern Efforts Developing Sustainable Spaces, Inc., a nonprofit community gardening organization, will set up a table at the upcoming Jack Johnson concert at the Walnut Creek Amphitheatre on Tuesday, Aug. 12. Hawaiian singer-songwriter Jack Johnson has pledged to match every dollar contributed to SEEDS by the end of August. Johnson is known for his environmentally friendly tours. SEEDS runs

community gardens and other programs for children, teens and others. For more information, see [www.seedsnc.org](http://www.seedsnc.org).

### Bike award

The Blue Urban Bikes project, a bicycle-sharing program born from a collaboration between The ReCYCLery and SURGE, was awarded the Go Chapel Hill Community Cycling Award at the annual "Kick Gas" celebration on June 26 at the Research Triangle Park Headquarters.

The Blue Urban Bikes program, or BUB, allows users to pick up and borrow bikes for 24 hours at a time for a \$10 annual membership fee. BUB hubs with bikes available are located around town and memberships can be bought at hub locations. For more information, see [recyclery.info/blue\\_urban\\_bikes](http://recyclery.info/blue_urban_bikes).



### Land trust green home

The Orange Community Housing & Land Trust has completed its first "green built" home in Carrboro at 104 Broad St. The house was built by Synergy Building Co. and designed by architect David Ripperton.

For more information on the land trust, see [www.ochlt.org](http://www.ochlt.org).

### Send us your events!

Do you know of an environmental or sustainable event happening in the Carrboro or county area? Share it with us! Email your information to:

[calendar@carrborocitizen.com](mailto:calendar@carrborocitizen.com)

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### Recipe of the week

#### CORN & PEPPER SIDE SALAD

Recipe Provided by: Market Customer Sacha Knowles

#### Ingredients:

- 4 ears of raw corn (yellow or white, kernels cut off cob)
- 2 med. tomatoes, chopped
- 2 ½ tbsp. cider vinegar
- 2 tbsp. oil
- ½ sweet onion (chopped)
- ½ c. chopped green and/or red pepper
- ½ tbsp. honey
- Salt and pepper to taste
- \*Optional ½ tsp. of paprika
- \*Optional — add red kidney beans

#### Procedure:

Mix corn, tomatoes, vinegar, oil, onions, honey and peppers. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Let marinate for 3 hours in refrigerator. This side dish goes great on top of fish and brown rice but can also be eaten alone.

\* Ingredients Available at Market



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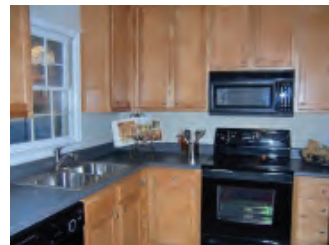
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**SPORTSWRITER** The Carrboro Citizen is seeking a sportswriter to compose and compile reports from local schools and recreation leagues. Terms and hours for this lightly compensated yet greatly rewarding position are negotiable. Inquiries in writing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

### SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ADVERTISERS!

**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

**NEWBORN CARE SPECIALIST** Agency seeking mature woman for position in Chapel Hill/Durham 30-40 hrs. per week. Experience with newborn care and breastfeeding. Overnight shifts. [www.trianglemothercare.com](http://www.trianglemothercare.com) 225-2493

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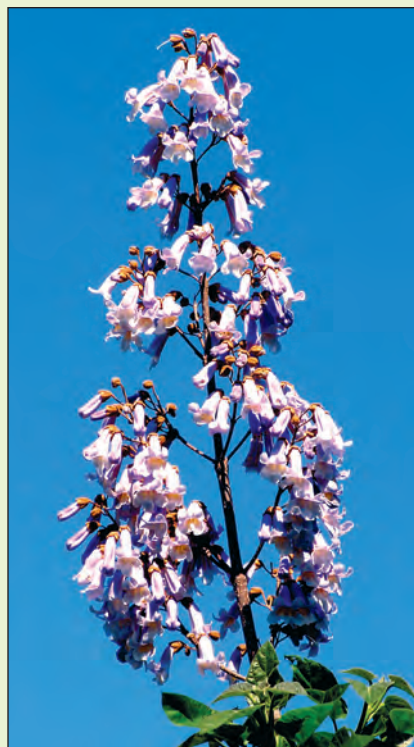


PHOTO BY KEN MOORE  
Don't succumb to the beauty of paulownia flowers in the spring.

## FLORA FROM PAGE 1

disdain the tree. It is listed as an unwanted exotic invasive by the N.C. Botanical Garden, The Nature Conservancy, USDA, US Forest Service and the National Park Service. It is a "Least Wanted Plant" of the Plant Conservation Alliance Alien Plant Working Group. Enough said!

Native to China, it was introduced to Europe by the Dutch East India Company in the 1830s. It is interesting to note that the genus name, *Paulownia*, honors Queen Anna Pavlovna of The Netherlands (1795-1865), daughter of Tsar Paul I of Russia, thus the common names royal empress and

princess. By 1840, it was already being grown in America as a desirable ornamental. Now, in addition to promotion by the nursery industry, there is an American Paulownia Association "dedicated to the advancement of paulownia." In China and Japan, the wood is utilized in the making of cabinets, flooring, musical instruments and even shoes. It is strong and 30 percent lighter than comparable American hardwoods and naturally rot resistant. Imagine thousands of

acres of paulownia forests in North Carolina as another profit-making venture.

Paulownia is on a deadly forward march similar to another exotic, the Tree of Heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*, introduced to America in the late 1700s (see *Flora* in the July 12, 2007 issue of *The Carrboro Citizen*). *Ailanthus* is so invasive that native species have been displaced along entire forest edges. So please don't succumb to paulownia promotions, and serve a good cause by eradicating any within your realm of control.

Our native trees are just as beautiful and far less harmful to our nature.

### Bonus shot!



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE  
Kudos to Biruta Nielsen, Chapel Hill reader of the *Citizen*, who led Ken Moore to his first time viewing of the truly native Virginia Dayflower, *Commelina virginica*. Note three blue petals contrasted with only two on the common Asiatic Dayflower

## Tuesday Cruise

On the first Tuesday of every month, area bicyclists gather in the evening to cruise together for Cruiser Tuesday. In the words of organizer and handlebar DJ Matt Lee, "We bike-splice advocacy, arts and a lost flair for the street party." The mass of mellow, "funky-formal" costumed riders takes off from Johnny's on West Main at about 7:30 and cruises the streets and campus as a reminder that riding bicycles is simply fun. Tuesday was the third anniversary of the event. To learn more, see the website at [cruisertuesday.blogspot.com](http://cruisertuesday.blogspot.com) or show up next month!



PHOTOS BY JACK CARLEY  
(left) Cruisers take the time for introductions and chatter outside Johnny's before the ride. (below) Mounted speakers crank tunes for the ride and help keep cruisers going in the right direction.



PHOTO BY GENE STOVICEK  
Organizer and DJ Matthew Lee turns off his handlebar-mounted music player as the ride concludes at Reservoir.



PHOTO BY JACK CARLEY  
ReCYCLery director Chris Richmond (left) hangs loose with fellow rider Adrian Hands.



PHOTO BY JACK CARLEY  
Riders (from left) Merrill Wolf, Scott Smith, Wendy Darby and Charlotte Smith dressed in black in solidarity with friends Tamara Fettes and Noreen Fagan who are moving from Carrboro to Canada to be wed.

## NEW CUSTOM-BUILT TOWNHOMES IN CARRBORO



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## WATER WATCH \* TUESDAY, AUGUST 5



**LAKE LEVELS**  
UNIVERSITY LAKE: 3' 0.25" below full  
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 4' 10" below full

**PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH**  
JONES FERRY WATER TREATMENT PLANT: 0.42"  
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 0.66"

**CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND**  
Past 7 days (average): 8.753 million gallons  
Past 30 days (average): 8.569 million gallons

**ESTIMATED WATER SUPPLY REMAINING:**  
315 days worth (about 10 months), based on average demand in the last 30 days, and assuming no further rainfall.

**[ tip ]:** When you have ice left in your cup from a take-out restaurant, don't throw it in the trash, dump it on a plant.

## Submit your films!



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

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

## PICK US UP!

NEW RACKS IN CHAPEL HILL:

Whole Foods  
Elliot Rd

The Loop  
Eastgate



## LISTEN TO COMMUNITY RADIO

