

**Weekend**  
**Friday**  
 Scattered T-Storms  
 86/62

**Saturday**  
 Partly Cloudy  
 86/59

**Sunday**  
 Sunny  
 88/59

# THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



**Inside**  
 MILL, our new monthly arts, literature and music publication

carrborocitizen.com

OCTOBER 4, 2007 ♦ CARRBORO'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ♦ VOLUME I NO. XXIX

FREE

## Picking up the pieces

**RECENTLY...**  
 By Valarie Schwartz

One of the great fears of life erupted into reality for residents of the G building of Colonial Village at Highland Hills apartments early Sunday morning as a deadly fire spread through their building.

It had to be terrifying to awaken to the sounds of chaos and rooms filled with smoke, grabbing consciousness along with reachable personal effects while dashing madly to safety, or, as in the case of the two young women whose door was engulfed in flames, with the only choice for life being escape from their second-story balcony; their landings not gently received.

There's no good age for losing everything one possesses.

Tim Bothe, director of emergency services for the Red Cross of Orange County, said that of the 20 people who lost their home and belongings, most were college-student age.

"They were young professionals and students, with a few families," he said.

Because they are young, one might assume they had less to lose.

That makes it no easier. Young people generally struggle to make it on their own in feverish pursuit of independence. They face obstacles of any measure without the knowledge gained by experience and maturity, making emotional recovery more difficult, of course, making them formidably strong once they do. But where does one even start?

Five Red Cross volunteers were on the scene soon after notification at 2:35 a.m. Sunday. They provided those who were left with little more than their lives the financial assistance required for clothing and shoes and a safe place to stay. They also provided brochures: "Disaster Recovery: A Guide to Financial Issues"; and "Picking up the Pieces After a Fire: Important Steps for Your Safe and Speedy Recovery."

Bothe, who has been with the Red Cross for over two years and witnessed a number of fire scenes, has never seen another fire like this one:

"This fire was very unique; the building burned very quickly." He said that he'd never before seen an entire building go down. That has been attributed to the fact that the wooden building was built on steel supports rather than a foundation.

The best news to report from the scene comes in the form of what didn't happen. The fire didn't spread into the woods behind the building because firefighters fought the fire from that side, protecting the dry timber from exploding into a greater disaster.

Here lies another reminder that we have had precious little rain in many scorching, drying days. Local firefighters say that even if you don't know where it's coming from, if you

SEE RECENTLY, PAGE 2

## School board contest picks up steam

By SUSAN DICKSON  
 Staff Writer



With the election about a month away, candidates for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education are stepping up their campaigns.

Incumbents Jamezetta Bedford, Mike Kelley and Annetta Streater are seeking re-election, while newcomers Mia Burroughs and Gary Wallach also have joined the race. Former candidate Mehar Safvi has withdrawn.

Four seats on the board are available. Longtime board member Liz Carter is not running for reelection.

Campaign signs are popping up in yards and along sidewalks throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro. School board candidates have been busy fine-tuning their platforms and getting the word out.

"The campaign is gearing up," Kelley said, noting that he's been doing "most of the usual school board campaign activities, such as putting up signs, emailing constituents and

posting a website.

Kelley has been on the board since 2003. He has said that one of his main focuses if reelected would be to improve the efficiency of the budget process, which has been strained in recent years.

Wallach said one of his primary focuses would be the importance of maintaining educational equity across the district.

"I think that a child who goes to FPG should have the same educational opportunities as a child who goes to Rashkis," he said, noting that different schools' parent-teacher-student associations raise varying

amounts of money.

Bedford, who serves as the board chair and has been a board member since 2003, said she's been running "low-key campaign," but will be campaigning more over the next several weeks.

Bedford has emphasized the need to better plan for growth within the district, which is a "critical budget driver."

Burroughs said she's been trying to meet and talk to as many people as possible to get her message out.

"I really continue to believe that

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PHOTOS BY MACIEK KRZYSZTOFORSKI

## Fire sweeps through apartments

One woman dies, many lose everything in fast-burning blaze at Highland Hills

By KIRK ROSS  
 Staff Writer

Authorities have still not identified the victim in last weekend's fire at the Highland Hills apartment complex, a blaze that took the life of one woman, injured two others and left more than 20 people homeless.

Carrboro firefighters were on the scene again Wednesday picking their way through debris in search of photo albums and other belongings that might be salvageable.

"We're just looking for a few things that the residents have told us about," said Carrboro Fire Marshal Stan Foushee.

The origins of the fire are still an unknown, he said, because of the intense damage to Building G. Foushee said the investigation so far hasn't ruled anything out as a cause. What is known is that the fire started on the east end of the building, near where the victim died, and raced westward.

Many residents were asleep at the time and were caught by surprise.

Sunday's fire forced two residents of

SEE FIRE, PAGE 8



Carrboro fireman Daneil Speight, part of the crew of firefighters sifting through the remains of Highland Hills Building G, hands Stephene Gagnon what's left of one of her books.

At right, Gagnon, who was among about 20 people who lost everything when fire swept through the complex, checks out what's left of her charred laptop.

## Developer drops Shoppes

By KIRK ROSS  
 Staff Writer

The Board of Aldermen might have approved, but apparently Harris Teeter did not.

Less than 48 hours after the board approved the Shoppes at Jones Ferry, a proposed 7.7-acre development with rows of stores and a 52,000-square-foot Harris Teeter as the anchor tenant, NorthWest Property Group of Skyland, N.C., who was to develop the project, notified the town that the project would not move forward. At present, the site, located across from the OWASA water treatment plant, serves as a construction yard for builder Calvin Mellott, who retains ownership of the land after NorthWest opted not to close on the property.

At issue was an entrance on Barnes Street that had become a focal point for residents of the adjacent Lincoln Park neighborhood. Neighbors said Barnes Street already has too much traffic on it and adding a grocery would exacerbate an already bad situation.

"This project was willing to agree to all of the conditions the Mayor and Board of Aldermen had asked for, but unfortunately cannot agree to this condition," NorthWest's Gregory A. Edney wrote in a letter to Carrboro Town Manager Steve Stewart.

The company had previously indicated its concern that not having two entrances — one off of Jones Ferry and one off of Barnes Street — would scratch the project.

In a letter to the board dated Sept. 12,

SEE SHOPPES, PAGE 8

## Chapel Hill man to run for Senate against Dole

By KIRK ROSS  
 Staff Writer

Jim Neal, a key Democratic Party fundraiser, is on the verge of announcing a run for U.S. Senate, sources close to Neal say.

Neal, a native of Greensboro who now lives in Chapel Hill, will head to Asheville this weekend for the Vance-Aycock Dinner, a traditional gathering of Democratic Party movers and shakers and a place where potential

candidates often test the waters. He is expected to file official paperwork as early as this week.

Neal was a major fundraiser for the John Kerry and John Edwards ticket in 2004 and a major supporter of Gen. Wesley Clark's bid for the Democratic nomination that year.

He is a former investment banker and is currently a financial advisor.

Dole, a one-term in-

SEE NEAL, PAGE 8

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### HOW TO REACH US

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## Some mighty big trees in Carrboro's Adams Tract



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE  
 Impressive Red Maple, labeled, along trail in the Adams Tract.

**FLORA**  
 By Ken Moore

Many locals already enjoy it, and I have a sense they would like to keep it a secret. The 27-acre Adam's Tract, which runs along Bolin Creek, is an in-town preserve of big trees, some which take two or more people to hug.

The main entrance is at the lower end of Wilson Park on Williams Street.

A few big trees along the playground edge have nice identification labels. Thanks to the Friends of Bolin Creek and the Town of Carrboro being successful in a jointly submitted grant application to the NC Department of Parks and Recreation's Adopt a Trail program, there are interpretive signs at the trailhead and big trees are labeled throughout the Adam's Tract nature preserve.

Carrboro resident Randy Dodd coordinated this effort with assistance from too many others to mention, although residents Dave Otto,

Deborah Rigdon and Matt Longnecker deserve accolades for their help with describing the history. Paul Hellwig, Carrboro Public Works Landscape and Grounds supervisor, and his crew contributed many hours in signage installation. I enjoyed assisting with locating and identifying specific trees. If any of you tree experts question any identification, hold me responsible and don't hesitate to let me know so that appropriate corrections can be made. I remain a student of nature and learn from new observations with every walk in the Adam's Tract. I'm still trying to locate that Shagbark Hickory, *Carya ovata*, so obvious during the winter and now lost within the dense forest canopy. One of you will find it for certain!

We are fortunate that in 1950, Dr. J. Edison Adams, beloved UNC professor of botany, purchased and improved an old homestead as a residence for his family. Signage at the Wilson Park trailhead provides interesting details of

SEE FLORA, PAGE 8

**RECENTLY...**  
FROM PAGE 1

smell smoke while in your yard or driving around, call 911. Give them the chance to assess it. We are all a careless light away from similar disaster during these dry times.

The victims have been provided housing in available apartments within the complex. Donations of clothes, food and items that make a vacant apartment a home will be accepted at the apartment management office.

These young people and families need to feel the support of this community. Call 967-0934 for more information.



PHOTO BY MACIEK KRZYSZTOFORSKI  
UNC students Stephene Gagnon and her friend Kate Connor lost their apartment and most of their belongings Sunday night.

## Community Briefs

### Immigration forum

The League of Women Voters of Orange-Durham-Chatham presents A Forum on Immigration: The Economic Impact of the Hispanic Population in North Carolina. The event is Wednesday, October 10 from 10 to 11 a.m. and free and open to the public.

It will be held at the Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise in the Kenan Center (Room 406) at UNC.

The League of Women Voters has been studying the subject of immigration in order to adopt a position. To help educate its membership and the public, they will present Dr. James H. Johnson,

Director of Urban Investment Strategies Center for the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise. He will speak on his research regarding Hispanic demographic and economic impacts on North Carolina. Information on the topic can be found at [www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/ki/reports/2006\\_HispanicStudy/](http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/ki/reports/2006_HispanicStudy/). More information is available at [www.lwvdoc.org](http://www.lwvdoc.org).

### Democratic forum

The Orange County Democratic Party is sponsoring a forum for Carrboro candidates on Thursday, October 11 at 7:30 p.m. at Lake Hogan Farms Clubhouse in Chapel Hill. The forum is available to

all candidates. Kirk Ross, editor of the Carrboro Citizen will moderate. Jack Sanders, chair of the OCPD, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Candidates will have four minutes apiece for introductory statements and will be asked to answer up to five questions. The questions are selected beforehand by a committee of Carrboro Democratic Party precinct officers who have solicited suggestions from the Carrboro constituency.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and light refreshments will be served. The Lake Hogan Farms Clubhouse is at 101 Commons Way; from Homestead Rd., turn north onto Lake Hogan Farms Rd. and take the second right. Contact Susan Romaine, [romaines@nc.rr.com](mailto:romaines@nc.rr.com), 968-9570.

## Community Calendar

### Got an event you'd like to see in our calendars?

email us at: [calendar@carrborocitizen.com](mailto:calendar@carrborocitizen.com) or drop us a line: P.O. Box 248, Carrboro NC 27510. Please send calendar items no later than one week prior to publication.

### Special Events

**Annual Fish Fry Event** - St. Paul A.M.E. Church will hold its annual Fish Fry on Oct 6, 11am-4pm, at 101 N Merritt Mill Rd, Chapel Hill. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased by calling 967-3961.

**Octoberfest** - Health booths, carnival games, music and more. Sat, Oct 6, 11am-4pm. Join United Voices of Efland Cheeks for a day of food, family fun and fellowship. Efland Cheeks Community School Park, just off Hwy 70 in Efland. For more info, call 245-2409.

**Benefit for Safe Passage with Saludos Compay** - Sat, Oct 6 at 8pm. \$20. The ArtsCenter, 300-G E Main St, Carrboro. 929-2787, [www.artscenterlive.org](http://www.artscenterlive.org).

**35th Annual Festifall** - Chapel Hill's annual arts & crafts street fair returns to West Franklin St, Sunday, Oct 7, 1-6pm. Pottery, jewelry, live music, food vendors, kids' activities and more. For more info, call the Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation Dept at 968-2784.



**Oliver Rajamani Ensemble** - Legendary Austin, TX act performs at the Bynum General Store, 950 Bynum Rd, Pittsboro. Fri, Oct 12, 7-9pm. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Enjoy crepes, coffee tasting, culture and history. All ages welcome! For more info, call 542-0394 or email [molly.matlock@chathamarts.org](mailto:molly.matlock@chathamarts.org).

**CHICLE Cultural Program** - A Home on the Field: How One Championship Team Inspires Hope for the Revival of Small Town America. Moving story of Siler City high school soccer team presented by Paul Cuadros. Free. Sunday, Oct 14 at 5pm. Chicle, 101 E Weaver St, 3rd floor, Carrboro. 933-0398, [www.chi-cle.com](http://www.chi-cle.com).

### Groups

**PFLAG's Monthly** - Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays meets in Chapel Hill for confidential support, education & advocacy. First Thursday of every month, 7:30pm. [www.pflagtriangle.org](http://www.pflagtriangle.org).  
**United Church of Chapel Hill**, 1321 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Chapel Hill, 942-3540, [www.unitedchurch.org](http://www.unitedchurch.org).

### Volunteers

**Family Violence Prevention Center** - Seeks people hotline advocates, childcare providers, court advocates & community educators. Thursdays through Oct 6. Info: [fvpvolunteer@yahoo.com](mailto:fvpvolunteer@yahoo.com), 929-3872, [www.fvpcoc.org](http://www.fvpcoc.org).

**Barbers Needed** - Barbers, hair stylists & massage therapists needed for a one-day service blitz on Oct 25, 9am-3pm. Join social workers, dentists & doctors for Project Homeless Connect at the Hargraves Community Center, 216 N Roberson St, Chapel Hill. Sponsored by the Partnership to End Homelessness in Orange County. For more info, contact Jamie Rohe at 969-5059.

### Classes and Lectures

**Aging 101** - An 8-part series for boomers and beyond. Upcoming sessions: Oct 8, Maximizing Independence at Home. Oct 15, Stumbling Blocks to Intergenerational Conversations. 7-8:30pm at

the Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Rd, Chapel Hill. All sessions are free. For more info or to register, call 968-2080.

**Carolina Center for Jewish Studies Lecture Series** - "Just Jewish Enough: Thinking Jewish in the Self-Portraits of Rafael Goldchain." Thu, Oct 11 at 7:30pm. Free. [ccsj.unc.edu](http://ccsj.unc.edu). UNC Campus: Sonja Haynes Stone Center, 150 South Rd, Chapel Hill. 962-9001, [www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter](http://www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter).

**Introduction to Buddhism** - 7:30-9pm, every Wednesday through Oct 17 at the Piedmont KTC Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Center. 35 Perkins Dr, off Weaver Dairy Rd, Chapel Hill (across from Timberlyne Shopping Center). Everyone is welcome. For more info, call 933-2138 or visit [www.piedmontktc.org](http://www.piedmontktc.org).

### Museums

**Planetarium & Digital Theater Shows** - Science LIVE Demos. Ongoing. Morehead Planetarium, 250 E Franklin St, Chapel Hill. Info hotline 549-6863, office 962-1236, tickets 843-7997. Thu-Sat 10am-5pm, 6:30-9:15pm. \$5.25; \$4.25 seniors, students & children. [www.moreheadplanetarium.org](http://www.moreheadplanetarium.org).

**Open Drawing Session** - Community members are invited to draw in the galleries. Opens with a brief consideration of a single work of art followed by time to draw in a pre-selected gallery. Free. Participants provide dry media (pencil, crayon, charcoal & paper). Stools & drop cloths available. 2nd Sat of every month at 10am. Ackland Art Museum, 101 S Columbia St, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill. [www.ackland.org](http://www.ackland.org).

### Theater

**Romeo & Juliet** - Shakespeare; PlayMakers Repertory Co. Through Oct 14. 962-PLAY, [www.playmakersrep.org](http://www.playmakersrep.org).  
**UNC Campus: Paul Green Theatre**, Center for Dramatic Art, 120 Country Club Rd, Chapel Hill.

**Hedwig & the Angry Inch** - A postpunk glamrock musical; performance by Hidden Voices. A discussion with members of the LGBTQ community, academic scholars & performers follows each show. Oct 12-14. \$15, students \$7. The ArtsCenter, 300-G E Main St, Carrboro. 929-2787, [www.artscenterlive.org](http://www.artscenterlive.org).



### Dance

**Contra** - Bring clean, soft-soled shoes; no partner needed, lesson 7:30. First Saturday of every month, 8-11pm. \$8. 932-6050, [www.TCDancers.org](http://www.TCDancers.org). Carrboro Century Center, 100 N Greensboro St, Carrboro, 918-7385.

**Western Square Dance** - Lesson & dancing; beginners welcome. Fri, Oct 12 at 8pm. Free. 542-3708. Binkley Memorial Baptist Church, 1712 Willow Dr, Chapel Hill. 942-4964, [www.binkleychurch.org](http://www.binkleychurch.org).

### Comedy

**Stand-Up Comedy** - Featuring DSI Company Members & special guests. 1st Thursdays, 8pm. \$5, college students Free. To reserve a spot:

[standup@dsicomedytheater.com](mailto:standup@dsicomedytheater.com). DSI Comedy Theater, 200 N Greensboro St, Ste B-11, Carr Mill Mall, Carrboro. 338-8150, [www.dsicomedytheater.com](http://www.dsicomedytheater.com).

### Literary Discussion/ Open Mic

**Embodied Sexuality Discussion**. Thu, Oct 4 at 6:30pm. Internationalist Books, 405 W Franklin St, Chapel Hill. 942-1740, [www.internationalistbooks.org](http://www.internationalistbooks.org).

**Banned Books!** - Displays, reading lists & a used book sale of banned literature. Through Oct 6. Carrboro Cybrary, Carrboro Century Center, 100 N Greensboro St, Carrboro. 918-7387, [www.co.orange.nc.us/library/cybrary](http://www.co.orange.nc.us/library/cybrary).

**Alex Grant & Contributors - Kakalak 2007: An Anthology of Carolina Poets**. Sat, Oct 6 at 11am. McIntyre's Fine Books, 2000 Fearington Village Center, Pittsboro. 542-3030, [www.fearingtonvillage.com/mcintyres.asp](http://www.fearingtonvillage.com/mcintyres.asp).



**Peggy Levitt - God Needs No Passport**. Sun, Oct 7 at 2pm. McIntyre's Fine Books, 2000 Fearington Village Center, Pittsboro. 542-3030, [www.fearingtonvillage.com/mcintyres.asp](http://www.fearingtonvillage.com/mcintyres.asp).

**Poets Open Mic** - Listen to local poets or read from your works. First Tues of every month. Info: 918-7364. Open Eye Cafe, 101 S Greensboro St, Carrboro. 968-9410, [www.openeyecafe.com](http://www.openeyecafe.com).

**Open Mic** - For poetry, music & short fiction. Tuesdays at 7pm, Market Street Books & Maps, Southern Village, 610 Market St, Chapel Hill. 933-5111, [www.marketstreetbooks.com](http://www.marketstreetbooks.com)

### Kids

**Toddler Time** - Leaves are falling! This week's Toddler Time will feature stories all about leaves. Thu, Oct 11, 4pm, at the Carrboro Branch Library. All toddlers are invited to this free program. For more info, call 969-3006.

**Story Time** - presenting: "The Paper Bag Princess." Saturday, October 6th, 10:30 a.m. at the Carrboro Branch Library. 900 Old Fayetteville Rd. at the McDougle Schools Media Center. Information at 969-3006.



**The Amazing Castle** - Hands-on exhibit welcomes children to step back in time & experience life in a medieval castle. Kidzu Children's Museum, 105 E Franklin St, Chapel Hill. 933-1455, [www.kidzuchildrensmuseum.org](http://www.kidzuchildrensmuseum.org). Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1-5pm. \$4 ages 2+; memberships available.

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## pets of the week



**ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES** - Meet Baez! This gorgeous calico kitty is around a year and a half old and loves to pose! She is always rolling onto her back and twisting around, making her a perfect little model! Baez is a bit anxious when it comes to being picked up and prefers to go at her own pace in new environments. She is most likely going to be a cat that would rather sit beside you than directly on your lap. Because of this, she may do best in a home without small children. Once she feels safe and grounded in a home, she may even decide to venture onto a lap or two on her own!! Come check her out at Orange County's Animal Shelter, 1081 MLK Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill, or call 967-7383. You can also see her online at [www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp](http://www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp).



**APS OF ORANGE COUNTY** - Hi, my name is Harley and I'm a 2-year-old Hound Mix. I am a housebroken hound who is both mellow & playful. I have a silly smile and my outside antics will make you laugh! You may notice I have gone gray early but I am a young guy and will probably be young-at-heart for along time to come. I love other dogs, so having a canine brother or sister would make me a happy hound! To visit me or any of my friends, go to [www.animalprotectionsociety.org](http://www.animalprotectionsociety.org) or call 304-2300. APS, 6311 Nicks Rd., Mebane.

**puzzle solutions**

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

## News Briefs

### Aldermen want tougher water rules

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen applauded the move to tighten water restriction, but said the recently announced stage one water restrictions don't go far enough.

Under the restrictions, residents are still allowed to use up to 1,000 gallons a day.

At their meeting Tuesday night at Town Hall, several board members said that doesn't go far enough and supported a resolution to reduce the amount to 500 gallon.

Alderman Jacquie Gist said 1,000 gallons a day means that some households could use 31,000 gallons a month — more than five times the monthly average for OWASA customers.

In other action Tuesday, the board constituted the newly formed Carrboro Greenways Commission.

The appointees are Sharon Cook, Eric Allman, Jennifer Everett, Tom High, Johnny Randall, Dave Otto, Livy Ludington, Gary Junker, George Daniel, Philip Duchastel, Robert Kirschner, Amber Wagner, Salli Benedict, Jacquelyn Gist, Rande Haven-O'Donnell, Michael Fynn, Monica Nees, Ioana Sherman, Nick Parker, Bill Webster, Marabeth Carr and Ray Magyar.

### Chatham Transfer Tax

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously this week to restrict 85 percent of revenues from a proposed land transfer tax for schools. The restriction is effective until at least the end of 2010, when a majority of the board will be up for reelection. Voters will consider approval of the local-option transfer tax in the November election.

### Voting machine test demonstration

The Orange County Board of Elections will demonstrate the testing of voting machines on October 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The board tests voting machines to ensure that the machines are accurately tabulating the voter's choices. The demonstration is open to the public and will be held at the Board of Elections office at 110 E. King St. in Hillsborough.

For more information, contact the elections office at 245-2350.

## Nightclub shooting wounds six

By SUSAN DICKSON  
Staff Writer

Six people were treated for non-life-threatening gunshot wounds after a shooting at Visions Night Club at 136 E. Rosemary St. in Chapel Hill around 1 a.m. Monday.

According to the Chapel Hill Police Department, the suspect is an unidentified black male who remains at large. He reportedly fired multiple shots from a handgun and was able to exit the club with the rest of the crowd.

Those wounded in the shooting include: Rowland Garret, 21, of Durham; Maurio Mitchell, 25, of Durham; Roy Parker, 21, of Raleigh; Marcus Dorty, 27,

of Durham; Kenneth Lunsford, 20, of Durham; and a 16-year-old whose name was not released.

The club will be closed this weekend but will reopen for business next week, according to Kevin Gunter, public information officer with the Chapel Hill Police.

According to police, some of those wounded have known gang affiliations. Two of the wounded were Visions security employees.

The club that was previously located at 136 E. Rosemary Street lost its liquor license last fall after shootings outside the club. In addition, Avalon — a club that was located on West Rosemary Street — was closed after a man was shot and killed outside the club last year.

Gunter said investigators are working with Durham officials to run down gang-related leads, Gunter said.

"The gangs from Durham were involved in this," he said.

Club patrons had shown up for "Rio's Libra Birthday Bash," and Visions allowed anyone over 18 with a college ID or anyone over 21 to enter.

Police have asked that anyone who has information about the shooting call either the Chapel Hill Police Department at 968-2760 or Crime Stoppers at 942-7515. Calls to Crime Stoppers are confidential and anonymous, and Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward up to \$1,200 for information that leads to an arrest.

## OBITUARY

### Florence Gray Soltys

Florence Gray Soltys, 72, of Chapel Hill died Thursday, September 27, 2007. She was born in Cocke County, Tennessee, the daughter of the late O.G. and Addie Gray. She is survived by her husband, Dr. John J. Soltys, two daughters, Rebecca Soltys Jones and Addie Gray. She also is survived by her brother, Glenn Gray, and her sisters, Druann Gregg and Carolyn Gray Spence, and her nieces and nephews.

Ms. Soltys graduated from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee in 1958. She met John, her husband of 48 years, while attending a Master's program in Dietetics at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. In 1975, the Soltys family moved to Chapel Hill, where Florence became an active volunteer in the community and founded Chapel Hill-Carrboro Meals-on-Wheels. In 1982, she returned to school, receiving a Master of Social Work from UNC-Chapel Hill and joining the faculty there in 1985. Upon graduation she began an energetic and pioneering career as an advocate for the elderly at local, state and national levels. Her clinical work in hospice,



SOLTYS

the interdisciplinary assessment of elders, telemedicine in rural areas and reminiscence as a therapeutic tool with older adults informed her political advocacy and activism on behalf of the elderly. She worked tirelessly at local, country and state levels to promote and form public policy plans for the aging. She cherished her role as a teacher and mentor to students in the field of aging. She retired from her position as Associate Clinical Professor at the UNC School of Social Work, with joint appointments at the Schools of Medicine and Nursing, in June 2007. She received numerous professional and civic awards during her career, beginning as early as 1975 with the Outstand-

ing Citizen Award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to more recent accolades including the Pauli Murray Human Relations Award, Trustee of the Year for the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, Sharon B. Wilder NC Advocacy Award for Long Term Care, The Distinguished Teaching Award for Post Baccalaureate Instruction for the University of North Carolina, Social Worker of the year in NC, Ned Brooks Award for Community Service, Hospice Service Award and others. She was well-known as host for the television show "In Praise of Age" and as a guest and consultant to a variety of N.C. Public Radio, *News and Observer*, and *Chapel Hill News* se-

ries on issues of age. Author of many professional articles, she recently co-authored her first book, *Transformational Reminiscence: Life Story Work*. She was the current president of the International Institute for Reminiscence and Life Review Society.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Florence Soltys Scholarship, a scholarship for graduate students concentrating in aging at the UNC School of Social Work. Contributors should contact Kristen J. Huffman at the School of Social Work.

A memorial service is being planned; details to be announced.

## Water Report - October 3, 2007

LAKE LEVELS	
University Lake	-89.75" below full
Cane Creek	-102.25" below full
Total Availability Supply	55.9% of capacity
PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH	
Jones Ferry Rd. Treatment Plant	0.00"
Cane Creek Reservoir	0.00"
Normal rainfall for Oct.	4.00"
CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND	
7-Day Average	10.645 million gallons/day
30-Day Average	10.844 million gallons/day

Source: OWASA

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NOTICE OF A CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR THE PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS TO SMITH LEVEL ROAD (SR 1919) FROM SOUTH OF ROCK HAVEN ROAD TO BRIDGE NO. 88 OVER MORGAN CREEK

TIP Project No. U-2803 Orange County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) together with the Town of Carrboro will hold the above Citizens Informational Workshop on November 5, 2007, between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Carrboro High School Café Commons, 201 Rock Haven Road, Carrboro, 27510. Interested individuals may attend this informal workshop at their convenience during the above stated hours. Please note there will be no formal presentation.

The purpose of this workshop is for NCDOT representatives to provide information, answer questions, and accept written comments regarding this project.

NCDOT proposes the following improvements to Smith Level Road:

- ◆ widen the northern section (between Morgan Creek and Bpw's Club Road) to a four-lane divided roadway
- ◆ widen the central section (between Bpw's Club Road and Culbreth Road) to where four lanes would transition to three lanes
- ◆ widen the southern section (between Culbreth Road and Rock Haven Road) to a three-lane roadway with a central turning lane
- ◆ install a roundabout at the intersection of Rock Haven Road
- ◆ install sidewalks and bicycle accommodations throughout the length of the project

The purpose of the project is to increase capacity, improve bicycle and pedestrian access and to improve vehicle and pedestrian safety.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Mr. Steve L. Brown, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch at 1548 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1548, phone (919) 733-3141, fax (919) 733-9794 or email: [sbrown@dot.state.nc.us](mailto:sbrown@dot.state.nc.us).

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Brown as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

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## For the Record

### A true hero

Florence Soltys was the kind of person that gave you some hope for this world. You'd walk away after a conversation with her with the feeling that some of what we all fear as we grow older might someday get fixed.

She was one of those people you knew got up every day with a mind to change what was not right. There was a distinct grit in her voice, and when the phone rang and you heard that voice on the other end of the line you knew two things: (1) it was Florence calling and (2) it was important.

As we went to press, the time and date for a memorial service was not set, but no doubt there will be more than one. She served the university as a professor in social work, medicine and the School of Public Health and, perhaps even more importantly, as its conscience in fighting for fair treatment of all patients and a tireless advocate for those of advancing years. She mentored hundreds of health care and social work professionals and inspired thousands more.

With the memorials will come the accolades and remembrances. It is right and fitting to honor our heroes with words. But those who are truly inspired know that the best way to honor her is to carry on in her stead.

### Water restrictions

Even with year-round conservation efforts, there is growing concern that, just as in 2002, a dry winter could draw down University Lake and Cane Creek Reservoir to dangerously low levels. To that end, OWASA and local governments have declared a stage one water shortage. That means get serious about conserving water even if you think you already are.

Here's the list from OWASA of what the restrictions mean and what you can do to better conserve:

In accordance with a stage one water shortage, the following restrictions are in effect:

- Water use by individually metered residential customer accounts and by individually metered irrigation-only accounts is limited to no more than an average of 1,000 gallons per day during any monthly billing cycle during a water shortage;
  - Spray irrigation using OWASA-supplied potable water should not occur more than one day per week, with a maximum of one-half inch of water applied to plant material in any given week. Even-numbered properties are allowed to spray irrigate only on Tuesdays and odd-numbered properties are allowed to spray irrigate only on Thursdays. Spray irrigation is only allowed between the hours of 8 p.m. and 9 a.m. The restrictions do not apply to watering plants in containers and commercial plant stock in trade;
  - Irrigation by underground, drip irrigation, micro spray, low-precipitation bubblers, soaker hose systems with automatic shutoffs or by handheld hoses or watering cans may occur at any time or frequency, but is limited to a maximum of one-half inch of water applied to plant material in any given week;
  - OWASA-supplied potable water may not be used to refill ornamental fountains, ponds or like devices; and
  - OWASA-supplied potable water may not be used for the routine cleaning or washing of paved areas, such as sidewalks, decks, driveways, roadways or parking lots, not including pressure cleaning of exterior building surfaces.
- Violation of water-shortage restrictions carries a \$25 penalty for the first offense, \$50 for the second offense within a 30-day period and \$100 for any additional offense within a 30-day period.

## THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

VISIT US ON THE WEB - carrborocitizen.com/main

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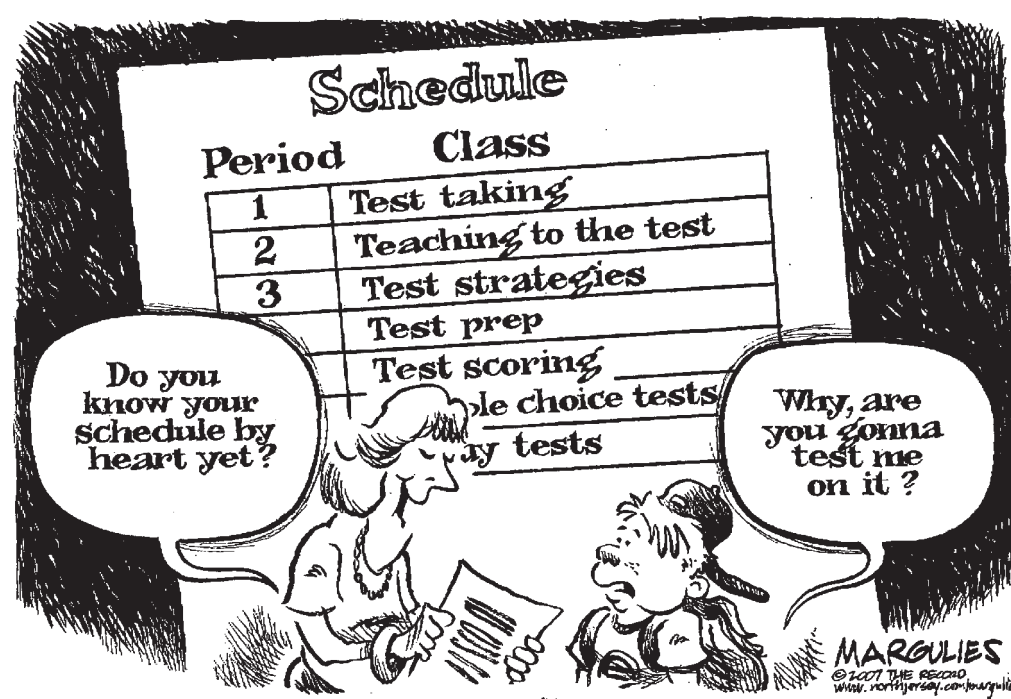
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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Thanks to Red Cross

On Friday evening, the Red Cross had a booth at Last Friday in Hillsborough. They smiled and offered disaster readiness information as they chatted with folks enjoying the cool fall weather and free entertainment. About 30 hours later, I watched as some of the same faces were assisting victims of the Highland Hills Apartment fire in Carrboro. In the destruction, individuals considered themselves lucky to have escaped with nothing more than the clothes on their backs.

Pray that you never need the Red Cross and thank those who volunteer when you do.

**David Hunt**  
New Hope firefighter

#### Dangerous precedent

As a long time resident of the Piedmont, Carrboro has always been the community in the area that exemplified just that, community. When I made the decision to move into Carrboro three months ago, it was that sense of community that motivated me. The Farmer's Market. Weaver Street Market. The Really Really Free Market. The abundance of locally owned and sustained enterprise. The bustle of Saturday mornings as friends went off to meet each other at Padgett Station, Panzanella, Elmo's or Open Eye Cafe.

However, the Board of Aldermen made it clear last Tuesday that it is not community that is of importance to them. Rather than making an effort to foster a sense of community, they provisionally approved the application for the Shoppes at Jones Ferry. These steps not only threatened an historic Carrboro neighborhood (whose many residents were essentially disregarded by the Board as it deliberated), but the entire Carrboro community as well. As we continue to allow large retailers to hoard commercially zoned property around Carrboro, we threaten the very things that make Carrboro truly unique. To even consider allowing Harris Teeter to operate two stores in such a close proximity is absurd.

Even if this project does not move forward, I believe that the Board will regret this decision, as it has set a dangerous precedent for future developments. As the public spoke, there was certainly a sense of doubt about the project. The fact that the Board tried so hard to put together a piecemeal approval is only further evidence that the intentions of the Board are not primarily motivated by the residents of Carrboro whose interests they were elected to represent.

**Adam Swain**  
Carrboro

#### Supporting Burroughs

I am writing in support of Mia Burroughs for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Board. Mia has been a strong advocate for children during her years of service to the public schools through the SGC, classroom volunteer work, the YMCA and other nonprofit organizations serving youth in our community. Mia is compassionate, well informed, a great listener and consensus builder. She has two children in the school system and is committed to children of all abilities. She is not a one-issue candidate and is looking for an opportunity to improve service delivery to all children. Please consider giving Mia your vote!

**Janice Ryan**  
Chapel Hill

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the candidacy of Mia Burroughs for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School Board. Mia's personal experience as a volunteer at the classroom, school and district level, combined with her professional experience in nonprofit youth programs, makes her a uniquely qualified addition to the school board. Mia's knowledge of policymaking at both the county and state levels and her emphasis on good and open communication with other policymakers and all interested constituents will make her an effective advocate for the school district

and its needs, including during the school budgeting process.

Mia is committed to the achievement of every student, at every level, and to preventing any student from slipping through the cracks regardless of where they fall on the academic continuum.

The school district has already benefited from Mia's passion for education and our children in her roles as a parent and volunteer. I urge all voters to allow her to continue to make a difference in the district as a member of the school board.

**Catharine Cumber**  
Chapel Hill

I am writing to encourage others in the CHCCS district to support Mia Burroughs in her bid for the school board. I met Mia during the recent budget discussions and was impressed by her knowledge and fair assessment of the budget situation. Her enthusiasm for finding a solution was contagious and inspired me to get involved in the process myself. That's the kind of leader I want to see on our school board. I plan on voting for Mia Burroughs and hope other folks in search of solutions will do the same.

**Allison Wiener**  
Chapel Hill

#### Supporting Bill Strom

The [Chapel Hill] Town Council is going to be dealing with many issues in the near future and paramount among them is negotiating with the university for the best resolution of Carolina North's impact on the community. The mayor and many others have shown that they have a handle on the basic problems, and Bill Strom has proven to be an outstanding negotiator. Strom is strong in his position with the appropriate balance and fairness needed to protect the town as it comes to terms with the inevitable growing pains that Carolina North will bring to us.

Let's continue with Bill Strom on the town council for mutually beneficial resolution of Carolina North's impact on our town.

**Ray and Pat Carpenter**

I am writing to endorse Bill Strom and Sally Greene for reelection to [Chapel Hill] Town Council. They have both shown themselves to be responsive elected officials.

When there was an issue with an unnecessary road extension in my neighborhood, Bill and Sally were both responsive in listening to the concerns of me and my neighbors. The final outcome was a decision that emphasized biking and walking over putting more cars on the road. This is exactly the kind of thing we value in Chapel Hill.

Bill and Sally have been strong neighborhood advocates. Please join me in voting to give them another four years on the council.

**Jon DeHart**  
Chapel Hill

### LETTERS POLICY

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

**Letters to the editor**  
Box 248  
Carrboro, North Carolina 27510

Email: editor@carrborocitizen.com  
Fax: 942-2195

## Questions for aspiring governors

CHRIS FITZSIMON

The North Carolina Association of Educators made its endorsement of Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue for governor official this weekend, just before Perdue's Monday official campaign kickoff in New Bern.

That prompted a swift reaction from Jay Reiff, the campaign manager for State Treasurer Richard Moore, Perdue's opponent in the Democrat primary. Reiff told the Winston-Salem Journal that not only was the endorsement process rigged by Raleigh insiders, it didn't make sense because Perdue didn't deliver on her promise to raise teacher salaries to the national average.

The NCAE points out that teacher salaries increased significantly while Perdue was chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, but Reiff is right that they are not at the national average.

And while it's true that Perdue is a Raleigh insider, Moore is no stranger to well-connected Democratic circles himself, serving in the General Assembly, running for Congress and heading the Department of Crime and Public Safety under Gov. Jim Hunt before being elected state treasurer.

This exchange is the latest example of what political pundits are predicting will define the race between Perdue and Moore: a battle over nuances in positions, assaults on the candidates' characters and fundraising practices and a focus on any hint of scandal or impropriety.

The campaign recently made headlines with charges and countercharges about campaign workers making freedom of information requests from state computers on state time.

There's nothing new about that, that's the nature of high-stakes political campaigns these days, but it doesn't have to be this way. The campaign could be about things that actually affect the lives of the almost nine million people who live in North Carolina.

The conventional wisdom in Raleigh is that the Moore-Perdue race almost has to be decided by a discussion of things other than issues, because the candidates' positions seem so similar, especially on issues the consultants and pundits believe are important in a Democratic primary.

There's another way for them to run this campaign: by telling us how they would solve some of North Carolina's biggest problems. Both candidates are trying on health care. Moore has released a plan to provide health coverage for children and Perdue has a proposal to expand coverage for some parents of poor kids.

That's a good start. But what about mental health reform? It is no secret that the state's mental health system is a mess, with people unable to find community services as two hospitals prepare to close.

Do Perdue and Moore believe Dorothea Dix should close as scheduled or remain open until families can be certain their loved ones can find care? What would they do as governor to fix the broken mental health system?

What about the state's growing prison population? Do the candidates support changes in sentencing laws that the state's district attorneys didn't oppose that would save 2,500 prison beds and hundreds of millions of dollars?

Do they feel comfortable with the state resuming executions in light of all the recent stories about innocent people in prison and the documented problems with the administration of capital punishment?

Maybe most importantly, how would they try to help the thousands of families in the state struggling to make ends meet and the thousands more who have lost that struggle? One in five children lives in poverty in North Carolina and the numbers are much higher for people of color.

And the answer can't simply be to spend more on education. Poverty is a primary predictor of how well kids will do in school, so improving education means addressing poverty too.

There are dozens more issues: campaign finance reform, standing up to racism against immigrants, affordable housing, child care, juvenile justice, transportation, renewable energy, protecting open space, etc.

The three major Republican candidates ought to answer all these questions too of course. (More about that primary in future columns, though so far we know the candidates are against the gas tax, incentives and gay marriage.)

The May primary is seven months away. Now that Perdue is making her candidacy official, let's use the occasion to demand that the candidates talk about things that actually matter to North Carolina's future, not who's more of an insider or who received what endorsement.



## L&T Calendar

**18th Annual Haw River Learning Celebration** — A volunteer-run nature science event for area 4th graders. Through Oct. 12 at 3 sites on the Haw River. We need people to come for a day, camp for a week (camping crew has the most fun!), provide a meal for the crew and more. No experience necessary. All you need is to enjoy nature & kids and have a good disposition. For more info, contact Aakara Weigand at 542-5790, info@hawriver.org, or visit <http://hawriver.org>.

**Sunflower Garden Classes** — For parents & children, birth to age 3. Creative play, healthy snacks, songs, simple crafts, child development, parenting discussions and more. Tuesdays, Oct. 16-Nov. 20 or Fridays, Oct. 19-Nov. 16. \$100-\$140, sliding-scale fee available. Contact

Lauren at 968-7721 or mills.lauren@gmail.com.

**Ferrington Village Farmers' Market** — Tuesdays, 4 p.m. Continues through Nov. 20. Ferrington Village Farmers' Market, 8 miles south of Chapel Hill on US 15-501, Ferrington Village (Chapel Hill), 542-4000, [chatham.ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms/ferrington.html](http://chatham.ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms/ferrington.html).

**Carrboro Farmers' Market** Wednesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. 17. Saturdays, 7 a.m.-12 p.m. Continues through Dec. 22. Carrboro Farmers' Market, 301 W Main St, Carrboro, 280-3326, [www.carrborofarmersmarket.com](http://www.carrborofarmersmarket.com).

**Pittsboro Farmers' Market** — Thursdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Continues through Nov. 29. Pittsboro Farmers' Market, Chatham County Fairgrounds, Pittsboro. [ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms/pittsboro.html](http://ces.ncsu.edu/growingsmallfarms/pittsboro.html).

## In Brief

### River watch

The Haw River Watch Project will host a stream ecology and monitoring event on the Haw River at the Haw River State Park in Browns Summit on Sunday.

River Watch Project coordinator Cynthia Crossen will teach participants how to measure a stream's water quality by identifying the number and type of water bugs and doing simple chemical tests.

The event is free and open to the public. Participants should bring waterproof boots or water shoes and be prepared to be in and around the river. To participate, contact Torry Nergard, Haw River State Park ranger, at (336) 342-6163 or [Torry.Nergard@ncmail.net](mailto:Torry.Nergard@ncmail.net).

Participants will meet at the Summit Environmental Education Center and the event will run from 2 to 4 p.m., weather permitting. For directions, visit [www.ils.unc.edu/parkproject/TheSummit](http://www.ils.unc.edu/parkproject/TheSummit). For more information, contact Crossen at 967-2500 or [riverwatch@hawriver.org](mailto:riverwatch@hawriver.org).

### Solar tour

The Chatham and Orange County Solar and Green Homes Tour is Saturday, October 6. The tour features nine sites, including Pacifica, a sustainable neighborhood. Technologies include energy efficiency, passive and active solar, co-housing, high-efficiency HVAC and water heating systems, Energy Star and System Vision certifications and more.

The kickoff event for this tour will be hosted by the Triangle US Green Building Council at Pacifica Common House, 130 Hanna Street in Carrboro from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

A full listing of sites, including maps and directions, can be picked up at this location. The cost of the tour is \$15 per carload, \$10 per individual or \$5.00 for all North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association members.

The community organizer is Students United for a Responsible Global Environment (SURGE). All event questions can be emailed to [alison@surgenetwork.org](mailto:alison@surgenetwork.org)

### Gardeners needed

The Orange County Partnership for Young Children is recruiting families to help nurture community gardens in town. The first garden is located at Martin Luther King Jr. Park. The second will start at Carrboro Elementary in spring of 2008. Applications are available on the website, [www.orangesmartstart.org](http://www.orangesmartstart.org).

The Carrboro Growing Healthy Kids project aims to help kids eat healthy and exercise to combat childhood obesity.

## Renewable energy: the power of the sun

By Jack Carley  
Staff Writer

Environmentally conscious Carrboro took one more step toward sustainability when Carrboro Solar Works installed a photovoltaic solar array at the Pacifica Cohousing development.

The array, resting atop the development's shared Common House, generates about 5,000 watts of electricity monthly while batteries store power in the event of a blackout.

A grant from the North Carolina State Energy Office arranged by Pacifica architect Giles Blunden's Carrboro Collaborative Development Association paid for the panels.

The panels generate electricity that is measured by a second utility meter and then, through an arrangement with Duke Power and NC GreenPower, sold back to the grid for about \$25 per month per kilowatt. The electricity generated by the panels charges batteries, then flows through the grid to where it's needed.

### Solar is 'elegant'

Ed Witkin owns Carrboro Solar Works and has been in town since 2003.

He teaches solar energy workshops and built a solar-powered water pump for the community garden at Martin Luther King Jr. Park. "It's the community projects I find most interesting," he said.

Witkin started working with solar technology in 1989 in Atlanta. "I got into solar by playing music, creating solar-powered PA systems.

"I was inspired by solar because it's very reliable and elegant — there are no moving parts and the sun is the fuel."

He says people are often unaware of where their electricity originates. "I don't think most people realize most of our electricity in this state comes from coal. And most of that coal comes from mountains that are being destroyed

in West Virginia."

Witkin says that while renewable energy is important, he believes efficiency is even more so. "Solar is like the icing on the cake," he said. "We all have to learn to be more efficient."

Witkin explains that buying a \$15,000 solar array saves less than one-hundredth the electricity that could be saved by swapping \$15,000 worth of compact fluorescent bulbs for normal bulbs.

David DelVecchio has been working with Witkin for about a year. "People are [installing solar] for environmental reasons," he says. "They want to do something, so they ask us, 'What can I do?' And our answer, typically, is 'Get more efficient.' Efficiency is something we can do right now."

DelVecchio says that before solar energy can catch on, the state needs to help. "We need to hound the state Legislature for better taxes. They're not serious about it."

### Intentional community

Pacifica is an intentional community, designed and built in the spirit of sustainability and cooperation. To this end, residents share management of the community and resources like the Common House.

The cohousing community uses solar energy in more ways than one. Another set of panels is used to heat water, others operate to power pathway lights and the homes are designed with passive solar principles to harness sunlight



PHOTO BY JACK CARLEY  
Ed Witkin stands in front of the Pacifica Common House. On the roof, the 5,000 watt solar array he installed converts sunlight to electricity.

efficiently.

The community is relatively new. Most of the houses now have residents and within about three months everyone should be moved in.

Mark Kolman, leader of the homeowners' association, was pleased with the new array. "As a community, we are delighted to have this system," he said.

On a cool evening, Pacifica residents have assembled outside the Common House. Witkin gives a tour and explanation of the new equipment. Residents of the brightly colored houses listen closely and ask questions about the hefty panels on the rooftop.

As they inspect the batteries, talk turns to eco-collapse documentary *What A Way to Go: Life At The End of The*

*Empire* by Chatham County filmmakers Tim Bennett and Sally Erickson. Other environmental films are suggested for community movie night. From there, they touch on the possibility of grid failure.

They ask how well the array and batteries could power the cluster of homes if the grid weren't working. Witkin suggests they try turning off access to the grid and testing the system, but doubts the batteries could power the separate homes for very long.

But with the addition of the photovoltaic panels Pacifica is one step closer to being self-sufficient. Just in case.

See "Solar tour" this page for details on the Chatham and Orange County Solar and Green Homes Tour this Saturday.

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**what's at the market**  
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**recipe of the week**  
Sweet Potato Salad from Natalie Olson, Market Shopper and Regular Visitor from Nebraska

**Ingredients**

- 2 cups cubed cooked sweet potatoes\* (2 to 3, depending on their size)
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper\*
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 3 green onions\*, sliced thin
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

**Dressing**

- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup plain yogurt
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon (about 3 tablespoons)
- 1/4 teaspoon salt cups cubed cooked sweet potatoes\*

**Procedure**  
Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Pierce the potatoes in several places with a fork. Place them in a single layer in the oven (it's a good idea to put a sheet of foil on the rack below them, to catch any drips) and roast until tender, about 1 hour. Remove from the oven and when cool enough to handle, cut each potato into cubes.

Place cubed, cooked sweet potatoes, green peppers, celery, green onions and walnuts in a small salad bowl. Stir together mayonnaise, yogurt, lemon zest and juice and salt. Combine with the sweet potato mixture and adjust the salt and lemon juice to taste.

Makes 3 cups, serves 4

\*Produce availability dependent on weather conditions

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**CARRBORO october 6 1-5 PM**  
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[www.weaverstreetmarket.coop](http://www.weaverstreetmarket.coop) for a complete list

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In November, the only whale sharks in captivity in the United States can be seen at the new Georgia Aquarium

## Lunch Menus

**October 5-11**  
Every meal is served with a choice of milk. Breakfast is served daily.

### Elementary

**Friday** – Salisbury Steak w/ Gravy & Wheat Roll; Mashed Potatoes; Collard Greens; Chilled Pineapple

**Monday** – Cheese Ravioli w/Garlic Bread; Chicken Patty Sandwich w/Cheese; Broccoli Cuts; Fresh Orange; Cherry Crisp

**Tuesday** – Cheese Pizza; Sausage Pizza; Pork Rib-B-Q on a Bun; Baked Beans; Chilled Peaches

**Wednesday** – Beef Lasagna w/Garlic Bread; Turkey & Cheese Sub; Tossed Salad w/Dressing; Mixed Vegetables; Chilled Pineapple; Apple Halves

**Thursday** – Macaroni & Cheese w/Wheat Roll; Beef & Bean Burrito w/Salsa; Pinto Beans; Fruited Gelatin

### Middle & High

**Friday** – BBQ Beef on a Bun; Turkey & Noodles with Wheat Roll; Green Beans; Chilled Peaches

**Monday** – Ham & Cheese Melt; Chicken Nuggets with Sauce and Wheat Roll; Steamed Carrots; Chilled Peas

**Tuesday** – Beef & Macaroni with Wheat Roll; Hot Dog on a Bun; Garden Peas; Baked Beans; Fresh Apple

**Wednesday** – Oven Baked Chicken w/Wheat Roll; Sloppy Joe on a Bun; Cole-slaw; Broccoli Cuts; Fresh Banana

**Thursday** – Beef Lasagna with Garlic Bread; Grilled Cheese Sandwich; Steamed Carrots; Chilled Fruit Cocktail; Cherry Cobbler

Info: 967-8211 ext. 270

## Blue Ribbon mentors teach by example

By SUSAN DICKSON  
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill-Carrboro's Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate program could use a few good men.

The program, which matches fourth-graders with mentors, needs male volunteers. BRMA fall training begins October 11, and thus far only women have signed up to become mentors.

"We really need some male mentors," said program coordinator Graig Meyer. "We always do."

"We have a very difficult time recruiting men."

The program was founded by the school district in 1995 as an effort to help close the minority achievement gap. BRMA initially focused on black students, but has included Latino students in recent years as well.

"We're one of the main ways that the district tries to impact what happens outside of the classroom," Meyer said.

Mentors and mentees spend at least two hours each week together, going to museums, school open houses, watching movies or just hanging out.

"The need for male mentors is even greater than that for females," Meyer said. "There are so many more males in the community who need mentoring because they don't have a male role model in their lives."

The program requires mentors to make a two-year commitment in order to form a substantial relationship with their mentees.

Will Dudenhausen has mentored with BRMA for four years, and said his mentee has kept him young.

"I stay into things," he said. "It's nice to go out to a football game and have somebody out there [playing]."

"It's also nice to care about somebody and want to go out and watch their game and hang out with them."

Dudenhausen and his mentee go to soccer games, to the beach or to talk to his teachers.

"I try to do things that embrace his cultural heritage and at the same time

*"There are so many more males in the community who need mentoring because they don't have a male role model in their lives."*

— Graig Meyer

offer new things that might be outside what he normally sees," he said.

Although his mentee has less time as he gets older, Dudenhausen said he always is able to find times for them to get together.

Many of the program's mentors have very busy lives as well, said Meyer, but are still able to find the time to spend with their mentees.

For instance, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Superintendent Neil Pedersen mentored for eight years, until 2003, when his mentee graduated from high school.

BRMA only requires that mentors stay in the program for two years, but most volunteers continue to mentor

long after that. In fact, most 12th grade mentees are still with the same mentors with whom they started the program in fourth grade.

Over the years, said Meyer, mentors develop relationships with not only their mentees but their families as well.

"One of the beautiful things about our program is that the mentors get to know our students and get to know their families."

"People from different parts of the community start to know each other."

Dudenhausen acknowledged that one of the best parts about being a mentor has been getting to know his mentee's family.

"I love his family," he said, adding that he recently attended his mentee's sister's quinceañera, a traditional coming-of-age celebration for girls in Latino families.

Volunteers can apply to become a mentor any time before training starts on October 11. For more information, contact Meyer at 918-2170 or gmeyer@chccs.k12.nc.us.

## School Briefs

### CHS ensemble

The Carrboro High School women's ensemble, chamber choir and string orchestra will perform at the Carrboro High Arts Department's inaugural concert on October 14.

The groups will perform a wide variety of music, from gentle lullabies from the British countryside to high-speed ragas from India and Brazilian dance music. The concert will be held at 3 p.m. at the Culbreth Middle School Auditorium.

The group has requested a donation of \$5 for adults and \$3 for students to cover concert costs.

### ECCHS debate

The East Chapel Hill High School Speech and Debate Team finished fifth out of more than 130 teams at the Wake Forest University Speech and Debate Tournament, September 14-16.

Several students won individual awards in different categories of the competi-

tion. Amit Rao finished third in congress; Ted Lee finished seventh in original oratory and humorous interpretation; William Terry finished tenth in impromptu speaking; Laura West finished tenth in humorous interpretation; and Mohit Sahoo finished eighth in Lincoln-Douglas debate.

Both Rao and Sahoo qualified to compete in the Tournament of Champions at the University of Kentucky later this year.

### Vocal artists

Several singers from McDougale Middle School, East Chapel Hill High School and United Church of Chapel Hill participated in the inaugural Male Vocal Arts Symposium recently in Greensboro.

Ninety-five singers from middle schools, high schools, colleges, universities, churches and community choirs across the state formed a choir to perform at the symposium.

East Chapel Hill High participants included principal David Thaden and students Patrick Collins, Kevin Dorman, Jay Mathews, Cory Mayo,

Walsh Moore, Dylan Reed and Dylan Smythe. They were sponsored by Desiree Davis-Omburo.

Tim Fay represented McDougale Middle School, and Doug Bruce, Jason Ching, Bob Lawton, Raleigh Mann, Tom Terry and Dan Uyesato represented United Church. They were sponsored by Jenny Anderson.

The program was created by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association and took place at UNC-Greensboro as part of the chapter's annual conference.

### CHS nominated

Carrboro High School has been nominated for the Gold Medal Building of America Award in the Carolinas and will be featured in the 2008 Real Estate and Construction Review.

The magazine presents the award to honor the region's most innovative, unique and challenging projects.

In addition, the school is one of only two in North Carolina to earn Leadership

in Energy and Environmental Design certification.

Magazine staff will visit the school in November and the publication is expected to be completed by February.

### Education race

The annual Walk and Race for Education will take place on October 20th. Thousands of students, parents and staff are expected to participate. Students will collect pledges to raise money for their schools, and individual teams or clubs will work to generate funds for their specific groups or projects. Schools typically raise \$2,000 to \$12,000 each from the event.

The 5K Race for Education begins at 9 a.m. at McCorkle Place. Maps and registration are available from www.chccs.k12.nc.us/psf. The Walk begins at 3 p.m. near Morehead Planetarium. Shuttles will run from Phillips and Culbreth middle schools beginning at 1:30 p.m. to transport walkers downtown. Participants will walk along Franklin Street, turn down Merritt Mill Road and end at the Lincoln Center

to celebrate.

The carnival will include music, booths, food, activities, a giant slide, rock climbing and more. Groups can sign up for a booth or table activity at the festival and keep all proceeds of their sales.

Last year, the Walk for Education raised a record \$108,000 for the Public School Foundation.

For more information, call 968-8819 or email psf@chccs.k12.nc.us.

### Name this school

The naming committee for Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools' 10th elementary school is accepting suggestions for the name of the school.

Residents can submit nominations for names at www.chccs.k12.nc.us under the "Name this School" section until October 31.

The school is under construction at the Twin Creeks Education Park near the intersection of Dromoland Road and Eubanks Road.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:** to the qualified voters of Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Hillsborough, the Municipal, and Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Board Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 to vote for Local Offices.

The polls for said election will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Residents who are not registered to vote must register by October 12, 2007 to be eligible to vote in this election. Registered voters who moved within Orange County should notify the Board of Elections, in writing, of their address change by the same date.

Any qualified voter may vote prior to Election Day, at one of the One-Stop voting locations listed below:

#### LOCATIONS AND TIMES FOR ONE-STOP ABSENTEE VOTING

Hillsborough	Orange County Public Library Conference Room 300 W. Tryon St, Hillsborough
<b>Location:</b>	
<b>Dates and Times:</b>	Thursday & Friday, October 18 <sup>th</sup> - October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00 am– 4:30 pm Monday – Friday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup> - October 26 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00 am– 4:30 pm Saturday, October 27 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 am–1:00 pm Monday – Friday, October 29 <sup>th</sup> - November 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9:00 am–4:30 pm Saturday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 9:00 am–1:00 pm
Carrboro	Carrboro Town Hall, 301 W. Main St, Carrboro
<b>Location:</b>	
<b>Dates and Times:</b>	Monday – Friday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup> - October 26 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00 am– 4:30 pm Monday – Friday, October 29 <sup>th</sup> - November 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9:00 am–4:30 pm Saturday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 9:00 am–1:00 pm
Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill Post Office, 179 E. Franklin St, Chapel Hill
<b>Location:</b>	
<b>Dates and Times:</b>	Monday – Friday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup> - October 26 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00 am– 4:30 pm Monday – Friday, October 29 <sup>th</sup> - November 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9:00 am–4:30 pm Saturday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 9:00 am–1:00 pm

Voters may request their ballots be mailed to them. This request must be submitted in writing to the Orange County Board of Elections, PO Box 220, Hillsborough, NC 27278, and received at the board office by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday October 30, 2007.

Citizens with questions concerning registration, absentee ballots, location of polling sites or other related matters, should call the board office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or inquire at our website at [www.co.orange.nc.us](http://www.co.orange.nc.us).

The Orange County Board of Elections will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2007 in the board office at 110 East King Street, Hillsborough, North Carolina to canvass the votes cast on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> in the Municipal Election and Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Board Elections.

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PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS  
Carrboro Fire Marshall Stan Foushee confers with Demetria Brook, a Building G resident who barely escaped the blaze.

**FLORA**  
FROM PAGE 1

the history of the homestead and expresses appreciation to the Adam's family for their wisdom and efforts to have the land preserved.

The southern portion of the existing forest was in cultivation well into the 20th century. Former fields are now a mature pine forest with numerous giant specimens of Loblolly Pine, *Pinus taeda*. Trails through the northern portion reveal a contrasting older deciduous forest of oaks, hickories and beech on steep slopes leading down to Bolin Creek. At least three species of hickories, *Carya* spp., six species of oaks, *Quercus* spp., and numerous American Beech, *Fagus grandifolia* (see if you can find all the labeled trees) characterize the mature forest, which contains a great diversity of other tree species, shrubs and numerous wildflowers, the latter mostly evident in the spring.

The Carrboro Public Works Landscape and Grounds Division has taken on the added responsibility of developing and maintaining the Adam's Tract as a nature preserve with energy and enthusiasm. The

original trails were cleared of fallen trees and overhanging brush; rail fencing was installed to close badly eroded trails; new trails have been cleared, including a connector path to the Pacifica Community; erosion control bars were installed on the new downhill trail as a cooperative Eagle Scout project; trail-marking posts have been installed; and a trail map and directional signage are in the works.

On Earth Day this past April, volunteers of the Friends of Bolin Creek and the EPA Human Studies Division initiated an exotic invasive plant eradication program for portions of the southern area. If you are willing to lend your energy to this worthwhile environmental effort, contact Dave Otto at [davidaotto@earthlink.net](mailto:davidaotto@earthlink.net) or Paul Hellwig at Carrboro Public Works to be apprised of future volunteer workdays.

Most importantly, get yourself out there to enjoy the trails of the Adam's Tract. Whether bird watching, exercise walking, jogging or simply walking your dog (thanks for keeping them leashed), pause to be appreciative that dedicated town staff and citizen volunteers are continuing the Adam's family stewardship so that we all

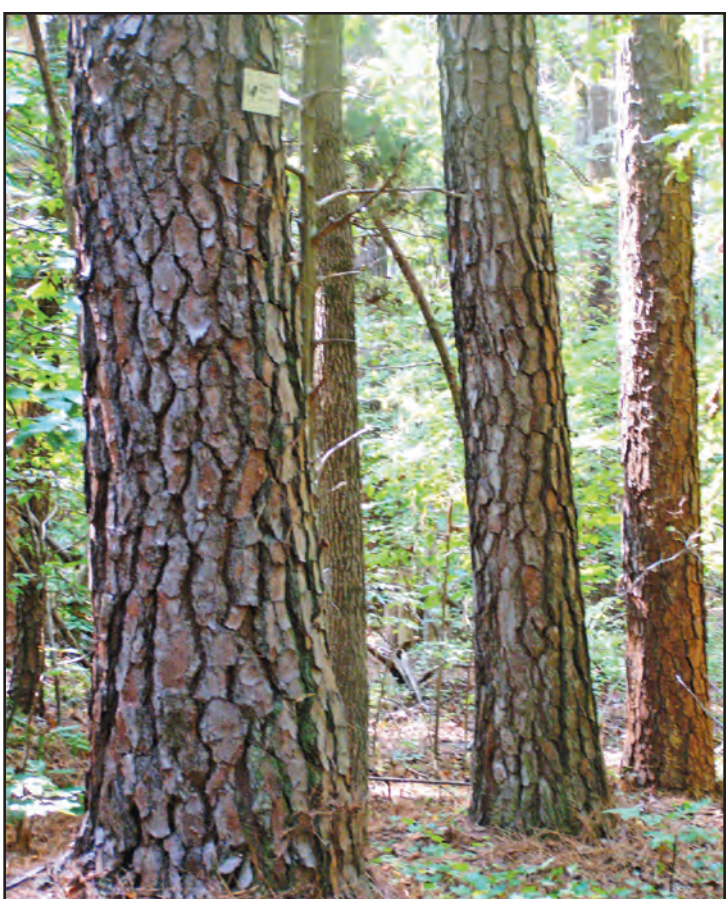


PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS  
Stately Loblolly Pines in the former fields of the Adam's Tract.

can benefit from this big tree preserve in our midst. While there, hug a tree. But remember, some of those trees are mighty big, so you may need a friend or two.

Appreciation to Randy Dodd, Dave Otto, Deborah Rigdon and Paul Hellwig for assistance with this week's Flora.

**FIRE**  
FROM PAGE 1

the apartment building to jump from a second-story balcony to flee the flames. As of Wednesday afternoon, university student Kristin Pietrowicz is in good condition at UNC Hospitals. A secretary at Chapel Hill High School said math teacher Susan Thorne is "doing all right." A call to Chapel Hill High principal Jacqueline Ellis was not returned as of Wednesday evening.

Demetria Brook and her boyfriend, Ian Wallace, and their two boys were asleep in their second-floor apartment when the fire broke out. Brook said they woke up with barely enough time to escape.

"The first section had already burned down and the flames were right there at the dining room window," she said. The four scrambled to safety and looked on as the building and all their belongings were consumed in flames.

Like others who lived in the building, the days since the fire have been filled with trying to cope with the loss and trying to get paperwork together. The couple's cars are among the line of vehicles

nearly with melted headlamps, blistered paint and fogged, bubbled windshields. Near the cars are a live trap and cat food cans set up in hopes that cats lost the night of the fire might return.

"I'm okay," Brook said quietly. The boys, 7 and 8, have been okay too, she said, as long as they have something to do. "A lot of my friends have been talking with them and giving them things. One's back in school; the other's not ready yet."

Wednesday was the first time she'd been back, and she took in the scene from behind a chain-link fence erected around the site.

The apartments she called home have been reduced to a heap of charred beams, trim and wooden framing mixed with the debris of lives changed in an instant. Scattered around are soot-covered reminders of those lives — a laundry basket, a CD-R labeled "XMS 2005," bedsprings, a torn coverlet, bits of railing, a dog bed and a pair of slippers. And underneath, much more, occasionally unearthed by the fire crews and piled on the now-cracked sidewalk under the scorched birch trees that once lined the way to Building G.

**ELECTION**  
FROM PAGE 1

the district must commit itself to every student. Every student matters," she said, adding that the district needs to continue to focus on closing the minority achievement gap.

Streater also emphasized the importance of closing the achievement gap. The district needs to continue to "monitor programs to ensure that we are providing services for those who do struggle academically," she said.

Streater said she has attended various community events to get out to meet constituents.

Carol Woods will hold a forum for school board candidates on October 21 at 3 p.m. In addition, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro PTA Council is organizing a candidates forum, but has not yet announced a date.

The Peoples Channel has interviewed both Kelley and Bedford and will interview other candidates over the next couple of weeks. Interviews are posted online at [www.thepeopleschannel.org](http://www.thepeopleschannel.org).

**NEAL**  
FROM PAGE 1

cumbent who has already announced for re-election, has been raising money in preparation for the race. A recent Elon Poll found that 53 percent of respondents indicated they are satisfied or very satisfied with the senator's representation of North Carolina and 24 percent

disapproved or strongly disapproved.

But both Democratic and Republican election handicappers say Dole is vulnerable because of her support of President Bush's Iraq policies. The same poll shows that only 32 percent of North Carolinians polled approved of her job performance on Iraq and 78 percent — the highest percentage — said the war will influence their vote in 2008.

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turning it down. Eventually, the board voted 6 to 1 to approve the project with the condition that the entrance on Barnes Street be closed except to emergency vehicles.

Ben Davis, a Barnes Street resident who helped to rally his neighbors, said he still expects the site to someday be developed. Davis said the Shoppes as planned would have fit in better in Cary or Raleigh than Carrboro and that he'd like to see a project proposed that would support more homegrown businesses.

**WRITERS/PR PEOPLE WANTED**  
WCOM is looking for people to write for our newsletter and to help spread the word about Carrboro's community radio station. E-mail [volunteer@communityradio.coop](mailto:volunteer@communityradio.coop) and/or call 929-9601 to get involved behind-the-scenes with all-volunteer radio, and visit us at [www.communityradio.coop](http://www.communityradio.coop)  
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