

Election 2007 Results

	Votes	%
Carrboro Mayor		
Mark Chilton (i)	1,709	74
Chuck Morton	158	6.8
Brian D. Voyce	426	18.5

Carrboro Board of Aldermen

Frank Abernethy	256	4
Joal Hall-Broun (i)	1,457	22.4
Dan Coleman (i)	1,305	20.1
Sharon Cook	861	13.2
Lydia Lavelle	1,656	26
Katrina Ryan	927	14.3

Chapel Hill Mayor

Kevin Foy (i)	4,295	70.1
Kevin Wolff	1,791	29.2

Chapel Hill Town Council

Matt Czajkowski	2,913	13.7
Sally Greene (i)	3,883	18.35
Cam Hill (i)	2,848	13.4
Will Raymond	1,395	6.5
Penny Rich	2,422	11.4
Bill Strom (i)	3,704	17.5
Jim Ward (i)	3,896	18.4

Board of Education

Jamezetta Bedford (i)	4,935	19.8
Mia Burroughs	5,404	21.7
Mike Kelley (i)	4,751	19
Annetta Streater (i)	5,260	21.1
Gary Wallach	4,414	17.7

Hillsborough Commissioners

Eric Hallman (i)	377	25.3
Evelyn Lloyd (i)	411	27.6
Brian Lowen (i)	361	24.2
Bryant Warren, Jr.	333	22.3



Lydia Lavelle (left) shares a laugh with her partner, Alicia Stemper. Lavelle was elected to the Carrboro Board of Aldermen, receiving the most votes of any candidate.

Lavelle wins a seat; Broun, Coleman, Chilton returned to board

By **KIRK ROSS**
Staff Writer

Lydia Lavelle, a first-time officeholder and resident of the newly annexed northern portion of Carrboro, gathered the most votes in the election for the Carrboro Board of Aldermen.

Lavelle took 1,656 votes, or roughly 25 percent of the vote, to top the list of alderman candidates. She was followed by two-term incumbent Joal Hall Broun and Alderman Dan Coleman, who was appointed to the board in 2006 and was running for election for the first time. Broun received 1,457 votes, or

22 percent, and Coleman won 1,305 votes — 20 percent.

The winners were followed by Katrina Ryan, running for the second time, with 927 votes, for 14 percent of the vote, and planning board member Sharon Cook, who received 861 votes, or 13 percent.

Frank Abernethy received 256 votes, or 4 percent.

In the mayor's race, 74 percent opted to return incumbent Mark Chilton, who won a total of 1,709 votes. Challenger Brian Voyce received 426 votes, or 18 percent, and Chuck Morton received 158 votes, for 7 percent.

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 7

Burroughs, incumbents win school board race

By **SUSAN DICKSON**
Staff Writer

Newcomer Mia Burroughs and three incumbents were elected to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education on Tuesday.

Board Chair Jamezetta Bedford, Mike Kelley and Annetta Streater kept their seats on the board.

Burroughs garnered the highest number of votes — about 21.7 percent. Candidate Gary Wallach came in fifth place, trailing Kelley by just over 1 percent with 17.3 percent of the vote.

Longtime board member Liz Carter did not run for re-election.

Burroughs said she was extremely grateful to her supporters and felt “totally ex-

hilarated and a little numb.”

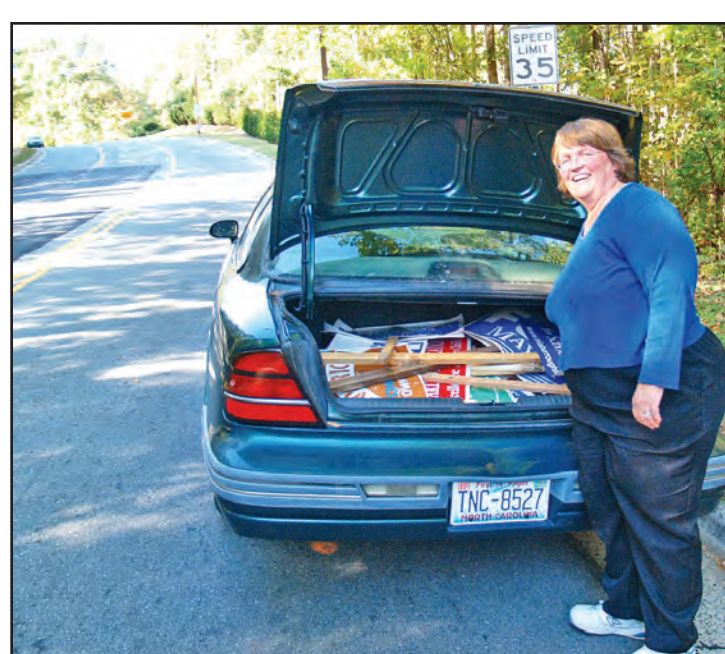
“At this point, I have to change gears,” she said. “I need to spend some time learning how to be a good board member.”

Bedford said she looked forward to continuing the board's work on Professional Learning Communities and improving district math scores.

Throughout the campaign, candidates echoed the importance of Professional Learning Communities — groups of teachers within schools who meet regularly to discuss the successes and failures of different teaching methods.

Bedford added that she thought Burroughs would get acclimated to the board fairly quickly.

SEE SCHOOL BOARD, PAGE 7



Jamezetta Bedford tosses another campaign sign in the trunk. She has served on the school board since 2003 and will retain her seat.

The grassroots of environmental justice

Editor's note: This story is the first in a series that will examine issues related to environmental justice and to the fight of the Rogers and Eubanks roads community to be relieved of what they allege to be an undue burden — 35 years of a landfill and now the threat of a waste transfer station.

By **TAYLOR SISK**
Staff Writer

Robert Bullard is the Ware Distinguished Professor of Sociology and director of the Environmental Justice Resource Center at Clark Atlanta University and is often called “the father of the environmental justice movement.” His book *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class and Environmental Quality*, published in 1990, is considered by many observers of environmental justice to be a seminal work.

In October, Bullard attended the North Carolina Environmental Justice Summit, hosted by the North Carolina Environmental Justice Network, in Franklin County, where he met Rev. Robert Campbell, a member of the Rogers-Eubanks Coalition to End Environmental Racism and a longtime leader in the Rogers Road community.

Bullard says that in talking with Rev. Campbell and in listening to him speak at the summit, what he heard was a story that's all too familiar — another chapter in an extended narrative of the treatment of underserved and inadequately represented communities.

In 1972, the town of Chapel Hill purchased land just north of town on Eubanks Road in order to place on it a solid-waste landfill. The residents — mostly black and with family histories of having worked and lived upon the land in this community for many generations — were told this would be the only landfill

placed in their neighborhood, that it would be temporary, that in 10 years it would be covered and become a park. Over the course of the next 35 years, the landfill has been expanded. Then, this past spring, the Orange County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to place a solid-waste transfer station on the same property, a decision that has since been reconsidered. On Nov. 5, the board announced that it would reopen its search for an appropriate transfer station site.

Based on what Bullard has learned of the situation in Orange County, he says: “To me it typifies what happens too often when it comes to an African-American or other communities of color and decisions that are often made by non-African-Americans and non-people of color. These landfills generally get placed in locations that are away from the people who are making the decisions. That is not unique, that is not an isolated incident; it's basically the pattern.”

What Bullard suggests is what has come to be known over the past 25 years as environmental racism or, more generally, environmental injustice, around which has grown a rapidly proliferating, grassroots-generated environmental justice movement. It's a movement that began here in North Carolina.

“I think it's really important that a state like North Carolina has a statewide environmental justice network,” Bullard says, “because of the significance of the state in really birthing the environmental justice movement.”

Learning from a legacy

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's definition of “environmental justice” is as follows:

“Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementa-



A truck headed to the landfill passes the intersection of Eubanks and Rogers roads. Community residents have been demanding the closure of the county landfill on Eubanks.

tion, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across the Nation.”

Obviously, environmental injustice wasn't born 25 years ago, nor was the impulse to address it. The roots of a struggle to improve peoples' exposure to the byproducts of an industrial society are intertwined with those of the civil rights and social-justice movements. Environmental justice scholars point out that when Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. traveled to Memphis on

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Writing program helps students in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools

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Tea with Lee draws happy crowd

RECENTLY...
 By Valarie Schwartz

Although Wednesday had been Halloween, eeriness hung in the air Thursday afternoon as I walked into the Estes Street Post Office to find nobody in line and two clerks waiting to serve me — in a place where there is usually a wait.

With a little time to kill before going to the Women's Center's annual Tea with Lee (Smith) event at Foster's Market, I popped into University Mall where employees out-numbered customers wher-

ever I went. The paintings of Jane Filer hanging in Tyndall Galleries pulled me in — her freedom with shapes in predominating primary colors provide such happy paintings it was comforting to be offered assistance just to be able to share by joy.

En route to Foster's it seemed that even the streets had been vacated — where was everyone at 4:30 p.m.?

The answer was at Foster's — which was packed and abuzz.

Like many Women's Center fundraisers, the room was filled with women (plus four men) and the hum that erupts with their gatherings; happy

Like many Women's Center fundraisers, the room was filled with women (plus four men) and the hum that erupts with their gatherings; happy woman sounds balancing the happy paintings I'd just seen, ingredients for a terrific afternoon.

woman sounds balancing the happy paintings I'd just seen, ingredients for a terrific afternoon.

With finger sandwiches, crumpets, scones and cookies served with a “tea” that was actually wine, the party was on: women greeting friends and acquaintances not recently enjoyed; settling into seating, ready to hush when Ann Gerhardt, executive director

of the center, climbed up on a table (one with a microphone and podium standing on it) and brought the gathering to order.

Gerhardt leads the staff of eight (some part-timers) in their challenge to serve the women of the community during the snags that life so unpredictably provides — ca-

SEE RECENTLY, PAGE 5

News Briefs

Rabid rat found

A bat found in Hillsborough tested positive for rabies last week at the State Laboratory of Public Health.

The bat was found in a home near Walker Road and NC Highway 57. The resident had four cats and two dogs, all of which were currently vaccinated against rabies. Because potential exposure could not be ruled out, the pets received rabies booster shots, which are required within 72 hours.

In addition, because bat bites are small and often go unnoticed, an Orange County communicable disease nurse will work with the residents to determine if medical treatment is needed.

So far this year, Orange County Animal Services has received 19 positive rabies tests. If any possible exposure to a bat, raccoon or fox is suspected, contact Animal Control at 245-2075 or call 911.

Holiday donors needed

The Orange County Department of Social Services is currently recruiting sponsors and donors for its annual holiday programs. The programs, sponsored by the Orange County Department of Social Services in partnership with Toys for Tots and Balloons and Tunes, provide new toys and clothing for low-income, at-risk Orange County children during the holidays.

In the Share Your Holiday program, in partnership with Balloons and Tunes, families submit wish-lists that often include clothing and toys. Donors may choose to sponsor a family or give money that will be used to purchase items for families that do not get sponsored.

In partnership with Toys for Tots, The Toy Chest is a holiday store in which eligible parents can select 2-3 new toys per child to supplement their holiday. The Toy Chest is designed to serve families at 200% of poverty that are not being served by another DSS holiday program.

Anyone interested in donating new children's toys to the Toy Chest or sponsoring a family through the Share Your Holiday program, is encouraged to contact Serena McPherson or Beachy Sanders at 245-2800. Corporate sponsors can contact Sharon Hinton at 245-2840.

Latino dialog

Community Dialog Across Borders will be held November 9 and 10. Moderated by UNC professor Maria Deguzmán, with Pulitzer prize-winning special guests Hector Tobar and Jose Galvez, the presentation will combine literary and visual art to generate dialog about Latino immigration.

On Friday it will be held from 6:30-9 p.m. at Central Carolina Community College Pittsboro campus in Building 2. 764 West St, Pittsboro. On Saturday it will be held from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Fearington Barn at Fearington Village in Pittsboro. Friday's presentation will be simultaneously interpreted in Spanish. Both events are free and open to the public.

Conservation concert

The North Carolina Botanical Garden is hosting a benefit concert for the Stillhouse Bottom Nature Preserve on November 17, 2007 from 6-9 p.m.. The Stillhouse Bottom Band will perform. RSVP by November 13 at 962-0522. A \$20 donation is suggested.

Limited on-site child care is available for an Owls of Stillhouse Bottom program hosted by Cynthia Fox of the Wild Bird Center.

The Stillhouse Bottom Nature Preserve is owned by the Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc., the non-profit membership support organization of the NCBG, and is a dedicated, permanently protected North Carolina Nature Preserve.

Commissioners reopen waste site search

By TAYLOR SISK & SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writers

The Orange County Board of Commissioners has decided to reopen the search for a solid-waste transfer station after having voted unanimously last March to build the station on the site of a county landfill on Eubanks Road. Residents of the community – led by the Rogers-Eubanks Coalition to End Environmental Racism – have alleged environmental racism, saying 35 years of a landfill is enough of a burden for one community to bear, and had demanded the search be reopened.

Though it wasn't on the board's Monday night agenda, Chair Moses Carey

opened the meeting by saying that he'd had "a change of heart," and that while he felt the decision had been made to site the transfer station on Eubanks Road for "some very good reason, and I still believe those were good reasons at the time," he now felt otherwise.

"I've had a change of mind about the location of the transfer station on the Eubanks Road site," Carey said.

"I'm going to support restarting the search process," he continued, "recognizing that it will be well into next year before we resolve this matter again and select another site, if we select another one."

Carey added that he wasn't suggesting that the Eubanks Road site should

be eliminated from consideration, "but we do need to decide whether we want to eliminate it for social justice or other reasons."

Commissioner Valerie Foushee said she too was in favor of reopening the search. "I do think that the public is owed a response to the request that was made to us earlier," she said. Commissioners Mike Nelson and Alice Gordon also agreed. Board member Barry Jacobs was not in attendance.

"I would support putting this on our next agenda so we can start to dig in and work on this and move ahead as quickly as possible," said Nelson.

It was agreed to put the issue on the next meeting's agenda.

'Free men' reunion recalls civil rights protests



PHOTO COURTESY JIM WALLACE

Harold Foster (center) is shown here pointing out the segregated Colonial Drug Co. on West Franklin Street.

UNC NEWS SERVICES

Participants in and witnesses to desegregation protests that rocked Chapel Hill in the 1960s will speak in a free public program at 5:45 p.m. Nov. 8 in UNC's Wilson Library.

They will recall their experiences and celebrate republication of John Ehle's *The Free Men*, a landmark book about the era that was first released in 1965. Winston-Salem publisher Press 53 reissued the book in February. Ehle will participate in the UNC program with:

* Karen Parker, an activist in the 1963-64 sit-ins and the first black female to graduate from UNC, now an editor with the *Winston-Salem Journal*;

* Wayne King, a Pulitzer-Prize-winning journalist with the *Detroit Free Press* and *New York Times*, who covered the protests as an editor at the *Daily Tar Heel*. King wrote a new afterword for the new edition of Ehle's book;

* Jim Wallace, a UNC alumnus and retired curator of photography for the Smithsonian,

whose photographs appear in the book; and

* Josh and Matt Dunne, sons of the late John B. Dunne, a UNC undergraduate jailed for his protests.

Attendees will be able to examine archival selections from the manuscripts department in Wilson Library, home to the papers of Ehle, Parker and Dunne. On view will be photographs of events depicted in *The Free Men*, the journal in which Parker reflected on her experiences as a student and demonstrator in 1963-64 ("On Saturday the 14th, I decided to go to jail. It was no fun at all.") and a 1964 letter Dunne wrote on a paper towel to his parents from the Orange County Jail, describing sentences imposed on him and conditions in the jail.

The Bull's Head Bookshop will offer copies of *The Free Men* for sale at the program, co-sponsored by the library and Press 53. For program information, contact Friends of the Library at (919) 962-4207 or liza_terll@unc.edu.

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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 and/or call 929-9601 to get involved behind-the-scenes with all-volunteer radio, and visit us at www.communityradio.coop

WE LOOK FORWARD TO TALKING WITH YOU!

Water Report - November 7, 2007	
LAKE LEVELS	
University Lake	6 ft., 11 in. below full
Cane Creek	11 ft. 0.75 in below full
Total Availability Supply	48.5% of capacity
PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH	
Jones Ferry Rd. Treatment Plant	0.00"
Cane Creek Reservoir	0.00"
Normal rainfall for Nov.	3.69"
CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND	
7-Day Average	8.063 million gallons/day
30-Day Average	8.380 million gallons/day

Source: OWASA

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Orange County Artists Guild

2007 Open Studio Tour

November 3-4 ~ November 10-11

Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm ~ Sundays 12 to 5 pm

The Orange County Artist Guild presents their 13th annual juried Studio Tour. Explore beautiful Orange County, NC where over 60 artists, working in a wide array of media, open their studios to the public. Experience the excitement of viewing and purchasing artwork where it is made and developing relationships with the artists.

Opening Reception – Friday October 26, 5 to 7 pm at the ArtsCenter, 300G East Main Street, Carrboro. Meet the artists on the Tour and see examples of their work.

www.orangecountyartistsguild.com • (919) 932-3438

**JUSTICE
FROM PAGE 1**

April 3, 1968, the day before he was assassinated, it was to advocate for black sanitation workers, demanding, among other things, better protection for those workers from the conditions to which they were subjected.

But the coining of the term “environmental racism” and the articulation of the environmental justice movement are traced back here to North Carolina, to Warren County, 1982, and to the struggle of a largely black community to keep a toxic waste dump out of its front yard. [see sidebar]

“It did come from Warren County,” says Bob Hall. “That’s where it was coined.” Hall is the director of Durham-based Democracy North Carolina and editor of the book *Environmental Politics: Lessons from the Grassroots*, which includes a chapter on Warren County.

“Steve Edelstein, an attorney, was putting together a challenge and he incorporated ... the term ‘environmental racism.’” (Edelstein is a partner with Edelstein & Payne in Raleigh.)

Hall says the term very quickly began to resonate:

“It was a period where there was a wave across North Carolina and across the South, and really across the nation, of all these hazardous-waste issues and new sitings of plants ... and people were getting more aware of the connection between land-use policies and racism.”

What Hall most particularly remembers about the struggle in Warren County is the use of community-instigated civil disobedience.

Rev. Leon White, field director for the United Church of Christ’s Commission for Racial Justice, was an effective spokesperson for the cause and he got the United Church very closely involved. The struggle soon gained national attention.

“It had this political dimension as well,” Hall says, “because of [Gov.] Jim Hunt’s decision to site [the dump] there despite the protests.

“But actually I think the most distinctive part of it was the extent to which there was this organized civil disobedience.... It really did fit into the model of bringing a civil rights kind of protest into the 1980s and into an issue involving an environmental hazard.”

“These landfills generally get placed in locations that are away from the people who are making the decisions. That is not unique, that is not an isolated incident; it’s basically the pattern.”

— Robert Bullard, director of the Environmental Justice Center at Clark Atlanta University

The role of civil disobedience, the value of establishing a foundation within the church, not waiting for the world to remedy the community’s ills — these were the lessons carried forth from the civil rights movement.

But equally important to the definition of the environmental justice movement was a redefinition of the word “environment,” now understood to be that place where a community lives, learns, works, plays and prays as a social entity — a synonym, in sum, for the word “community” itself. Also understood was that the power of that community’s commitment to justice would be felt by the broader community, and would require that that community acknowledge injustice.

After the protests began in Warren County, a front-page story in the *Washington Post* suggested that an ember of the civil rights struggle had been reignited in the rural South: “But this time the black ministers are not the only ones preaching protest. Now even elderly white women are talking it up in the grocery stores, going to jail with men, women and children of both races, clasping hands at nightly rallies and singing ‘We Shall Overcome.’”

“It was a multi-faceted campaign that had very strong roots in the community itself,” Hall recalls; “there was strong opposition within the community. And then it rippled out to get support for that opposition from a lot of other communities.” He mentions considerable support from the Triangle area in general and from Duke students in particular.

It took many years for justice to be brought to Warren County. But vitally important lessons were learned, and a movement was very much afoot. In a summer 2007 special issue of *The Crisis* (a bi-monthly magazine published by the NAACP) dedicated to environmental justice, Robert Bullard writes that this grassroots, community-based protest in rural, systemically impoverished North Carolina located but 35 miles from the center of Research Triangle Park (home to one of the EPA’s largest facilities — in fact, according to its website, “the largest facility ever designed and built by the Agency”) was

“the shot heard around the world and put environmental racism on the map, and it was the catalyst for mass mobilization against environmental injustice.”

Informed discretion

John Cooper cites a Thomas Jefferson quote, which goes: “I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them but to inform their discretion.”

Cooper is a program director at Chapel Hill-based MDC, a nonprofit organization that works to promote community initiatives. He is currently assisting the Duke Endowment-funded Program for the Rural Carolinas and directing the FEMA Emergency Preparedness Demonstration Program, a joint initiative with the Center for Urban and Regional Studies at UNC.

Cooper emphasizes that information is the fuel of grassroots activism. He cites the argument often made that members of a community sometimes welcome less-than-desirable enterprises into their neighborhoods in the belief, or hope, that they may somehow serve a productive purpose.

The argument goes, says Cooper, “Well, these disadvantaged folks, these poor black folks, they welcomed these toxic facilities because it means jobs — they wanted them to come there because it means economic development. But then we find out that the jobs weren’t going to the community but the pollution and the toxicity were.”

Clearly, there’s often a fine line between misinformation and a lack of information. But more immediately, any argument that suggests a community would welcome a waste

dump calls to Cooper’s mind the theory of rational man, which says that any person, when given two options, will choose the option they believe is in their best interests.

“So it made no sense to me how someone could argue that an informed person, a person with all the information, would willingly invite a noxious facility into their community,” Cooper continues. “I mean, a person with common sense just wouldn’t do it. And that just drove home to me the fact that what people need is unbiased information.”

There was no promise of jobs made to the Rogers-Eubanks community. A park; perhaps some sidewalks — that was the upside.

Ten years of a noxious facility seemed enough. Twenty, then 35, as the facility expanded, was, to an increasingly informed, and organized, community, clearly neither fair nor just.

That community alleged environmental racism. A core of community activists demanded that their neighborhood be eliminated from consideration for the siting of a solid-waste transfer station, that all solid-waste activities in the community be discontinued by November 2009 and that quality-of-life issues be immediately addressed.

Their message was now being heard.

**Next week:
Significant strides.**

The birth of a movement in rural NC

In 1978, a trucking company intentionally sprayed more than 30,000 gallons of PCB-laced oil along 210 miles of roadways in 14 North Carolina counties — the largest dumping of PCB that had yet been documented in the U.S.

It was four years before the EPA and the state of North Carolina began the clean-up, and in 1982 Gov. Jim Hunt selected the community of Afton in Warren County as the site for a landfill for the contaminated soil. Afton was more than 84 percent black and Warren County as a whole had the highest percentage of blacks in the state — 64 percent as compared with 24 percent for the state — and had the 97th lowest per capita income of North Carolina’s 100 counties.

Research indicated that the site was not the most suitable for a toxic landfill: The water table was ten feet or less below the surface and the community received all its drinking water from wells.

A group called the Warren County Citizens Concerned about PCBs was formed, community meetings were convened, protests were held and more than 500 people were arrested. Nonetheless, in September 1982, the state began hauling more than 6,000 truckloads of PCB-contaminated soil to the Warren County landfill.

In June 2001, detoxification work began and was completed in 2003. The actions of the people of Warren County prompted the U.S. General Accounting Office to investigate hazardous landfill sitings and inspired the writing of the groundbreaking *Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States* report.

For more on the Warren County story, an article by Robert Bullard titled “25th Anniversary of the Warren County PCB Landfill Protests” can be found at www.ejrc.cau.edu/featurearticles.htm#envjust

Farmers’ Markets

Carrboro Farmers’ Market 301 W. Main Street Carrboro, NC 27510 Through Dec 22. 8 - Noon.	Continues through Nov. 29.
Pittsboro Farmers’ Market Chatham County Fairgrounds, Pittsboro.	Ferrington Village Farmers’ Market (8 miles south of Chapel Hill on US 15-501) Ferrington Village. 542-4000. Tuesdays, 4 p.m. Continues through Nov. 20.
	Thursdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

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Saturdays, November 10 - Dec. 22, 8 a.m. - Noon

November 10
Arugula, bok choy, broccoli raab, broccoli, cauliflower, celeriac, fennel, garlic, greens: chards, collards, frisee, Italian dandelion, kale, mustard, mizuna, pea shoots, and turnip; herb bunches - basil, cilantro, dill, and parsley; kohlrabi, leeks, lettuces: baby mix, green and red leaf, frisee, and hydroponic lettuce - bibb, red oak, and lolita rosa; mushrooms - oyster and shiitake; onions - yellow, green, and red; peppers - hot and sweet varieties; potatoes and sweet potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, winter squash, green tomatoes, turnips, bedding and landscape plants, cut flowers, succulent houseplants; pastured-based meats - beef, buffalo, chicken (limited quantities) goat, lamb, pork; charcuterie: bacon, bratwurst, breakfast sausage, chorizo, country ham, hot dogs, hot and sweet italian sausage; eggs, fresh and aged cow’s milk and goat’s milk cheeses, pecans, pickles, jams, jellies, honey, wine, prepared foods, and crafts.

recipe of the week
Twice Baked Sweet Potatoes from Sheri Castle of Creative Cooking with Sheri Castle

Ingredients

- 4 medium sweet potatoes* (of equal size)
- 4 slices bacon*, chopped
- 1 sweet onion*, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic*, minced
- 3 cups stemmed and shredded collard greens or other sturdy greens*
- 2/3 cup chicken stock
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme*
- 1 stick butter, at room temperature
- 1/3 cup cream
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup shredded Hickory Grove* or Gruyere cheese

**Available at market*

Procedure

1. Preheat the oven to 350°. 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. When cool enough to handle, cut each potato in half lengthwise and use a spoon to scoop out the flesh, leaving a 1/4-inch shell, or enough to be sturdy. Set the shells aside. Place the flesh in a medium bowl. Mash until smooth with a hand-held potato masher or run through a food mill.
2. Stir the butter and cream into the warm sweet potato purée and set aside.
3. Cook the bacon in skillet over medium heat until crispy. Transfer with a slotted spoon to paper towels to drain; set aside.
4. Pour off all but 1 tablespoon of the drippings and add the onions to the skillet; cook, stirring often, until the onions are completely soft, about 8 minutes.
5. Add the garlic, collards and stock. Cover the pan and cook, stirring occasionally, until the collards are tender, about 20 minutes. Uncover and cook until any remaining liquid evaporates.
6. Stir the collard mixture, thyme and Parmesan into the sweet potato purée.
7. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
8. Stir in the reserved bacon.
9. Divide the sweet potato purée mixture evenly among the 8 shells.
10. Place on a baking sheet and top each with Hickory Grove.
11. Bake until the cheese is melted and the potatoes are heated through, about 30 minutes. Serve warm. Makes 8 servings

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A SMALL BAND OF ELEPHANTS MAKE THEIR HOME NEAR THE SAND DUNES OF THE SAHARA DESERT, AND TO SURVIVE THEY MIGRATE ALMOST 500 MILES IN A YEAR, ALL IN THE PURSUIT OF WATER
AND THEY CAN HEAR WITH THEIR FEET...
THEIR RUMBLES CREATE SEISMIC WAVES IN THE GROUND THAT OTHER ANIMALS CAN DETECT OVER 100 FEET AWAY
ELEPHANTS COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER WITH BELLOWS, WELL BELOW THE RANGE OF HUMAN HEARING, WHICH CAN BE HEARD FOR UP TO SIX MILES
NOMADIC ANIMALS ARE HARD TO PROTECT, AND CONSERVATIONISTS ARE HOPING THESE ELEPHANTS WILL BE CLASSIFIED AS A MOBILE NATIONAL PARK

**RECENTLY...
FROM PAGE 1**

career changes, divorce, financial hardship, relationships gone sour — so they can continue forward.

“We helped 4,500 people in our programs last year, giving them all the tools they need to be self-sustaining,” Gerhardt happily stated.

The Tea with Lee tradition provides Smith an opportunity to introduce a local woman author to the women who support the center, and this year Smith brought them Haven Kimmel, who charmed her way into their hearts even before reading from her latest book, *The Used World*.

Smith had already shared the story of her first meeting with Kimmel, who some years back had followed Smith, her future mentor, into the restaurant at Barnes & Noble after Smith had arrived to give a reading.

“I thought she was a stalker,” Smith said.

After Kimmel climbed on the table with a witty remark about the last time she'd stood on a table in a public place, she explained that her purpose in following Smith had been to



PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ
Authors Lee Smith and Haven Kimmel sign books at the Women's Center 'Tea with Lee' event last week.

deliver her a message. Before leaving her native Indiana, her mentor there had given her several of Smith's books and told Kimmel that if she ever met Smith she should let her know how important her books had been to Kimmel's Hoosier writer friend.

Kimmel already had the hardest thing about meeting an admired person worked out — what to say — providing her the courage to make the approach. She had no way of knowing that Smith would invite her to attend her writer's workshop.

“I followed her into the bathroom . . . and ended up with a polished book,” Kimmel said of her memoir, *A Girl Named Zippy*, published in 2002.

There has been no dimming of the luster or courage through publication of her next five books, and her wit and energy won new fans as the women of the Chapel Hill area gathered together, leaving behind checks of gratitude and encouragement for all the Women's Center does — including bringing them together for the happy times.

Community Briefs

Economic lecture

The Chatham County Courthouse in Pittsboro will host “Developing a Creative Place-Based Economy,” a seminar and discussion led by Becky Anderson, a founder of Handmade in America, a non-profit organization dedicated to economic strategies in small towns, particularly in North Carolina. The lecture will be Saturday, November 10 from 2 to 5 p.m., followed by dinner and discussion at 7 p.m. at Celebrity Dairy in Silk Hope.

Advance tickets for the courthouse seminar are \$10 for the general public, \$8 for ChathamArts members. Tickets at the door will be \$15 for

the general public, \$12 for CA members. Celebrity Dairy dinner tickets are \$50 for the general public and \$45 for ChathamArts members; advance reservations required. Tickets are available at Bluebirds and Hollyhocks in Fearington Village and at ChathamArts Gallery in downtown Pittsboro. The event is sponsored by ChathamArts and the Chatham Economic Development Corporation.

For more information, call 542-0394 or visit www.chathamarts.org.

Bluegrass show

The Bluegrass Experience will reunite for their 36th anniversary performance and Tommy Edwards & Friends will release their new recording, “The Christmas Album.” The concert takes place at 7 p.m. on Friday, November 16 at the Fearington Barn. Advance tickets are \$13, door tickets are \$15. Advance tickets are recommended, as the show sold out last year.

Tickets are available at Bluebirds and Hollyhocks in Fearington Village; Beggars and Choosers, ChathamArts Gallery, Red Gate Music and Art and Antiques in Pittsboro; and the N.C. Arts Incubator in Siler City.

The Bluegrass Experience is a celebrated regional and international act. The show is sponsored by ChathamArts. For more information, call 542-0394.

Community Calendar

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

email us at: 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

The Heart of Carolina Jazz Orchestra — 18-piece ensemble performing big band jazz. Presented by Central Carolina Community College. Sun, Nov 11, 2-4pm at The Barn at Fearington Village. For more info, contact Carl at 542-6495, ext 224.

RSVVP — Help feed local families. Tuesday, Nov 13: Go out to eat at participating restaurants, and 10% of your meal will be donated to fighting hunger in the Triangle. For more info, visit www.rsvvp.org.

Bluegrass Experience 36th Anniversary Show — Double feature with Tommy Edwards & Friends Christmas CD release party. Fri, Nov 16, 7pm at The Barn at Fearington Village. For ticket info, visit www.chathamarts.org or call 542-0394.

Gingerbread House Competition — Fri, Nov 30 at 7pm. Entry forms must be submitted to the Hillsborough/Orange County Chamber of Commerce at 102 N Churton St, Hillsborough by Nov 19. Fax: 732-4566, www.candlelighttour.com. Free!

Kids

Junior Open Mic - Teens share poems with other teens & gain writing tips from award-winning poet Shirlette Ammons. Registration required. Wed, Nov 14, 6-7:30pm. Free. Carrboro Century Center, 100 N Greensboro St, Carrboro. 918-7385.

Toddler Time — At the Carrboro Branch Library. Every Thursday at 4pm. Nov 8: Harvest stories help us get ready for Thanksgiving; Nov 15: Miz Moon leads us in sharing what we are thankful for. All toddlers are invited to this free program. For more info, call 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. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1-5pm. \$4 ages 2+; memberships available.

Sunflower Garden Classes — For parents & children, birth to age 3. Creative play, healthy snacks, songs, simple crafts, child development & parenting discussions and more. Tuesdays through Nov 20 or Fridays through Nov 16. \$100-\$140, sliding scale fee available. Contact Lauren at 968-7721 or mills.lauren@gmail.com.

Volunteers

Goat House Cat Refuge — Seeks volunteers to help with rescued cats & kittens. For more info, call Bonny at 545-2825 or email her at rooze@ipass.net.

Ronald McDonald House - Seeks volunteers for tasks around the house, cooking dinners for families & community service projects. 101 Old Mason Farm Rd, Chapel Hill. 913-2040, www.chapelhillrmh.net.

Classes & Lectures

Lectures at Wilson Library — Nov 8: The Free Men: A Discussion of John Ehle's Newly Reprinted Book. 5:45pm in the Pleasants Family Assembly Room of Wilson Library, UNC campus. www.lib.unc.edu.

Salamanders of the Vernal Pond — A family workshop at the NC Botanical Garden.

Learn about marbled salamanders and how they prepare for winter. Slide presentation plus terrariums with live salamanders. \$12/person or \$22/family. To register, call 962-0522.

Aging 101 — An 8-part series for boomers and beyond. Upcoming sessions: Nov 12, Getting Care Outside the Home. 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.

Contact Improv Workshops — Learn the basics of contact improv. Sundays, 12:30-2pm at the Balanced Movement Studio; \$12. Call Erika at 384-6092 to register. Remaining dates are Dec 2 and 9. All classes will focus on the fundamentals but each class will be different.

Writers' Workshops — Chatham Arts Council's 2nd Annual Writers' Series. 6 inspiring workshops for writers of all skill levels. In the Conference Room, Bldg 2, at Central Carolina Community College, Pittsboro. \$25. For dates and times and to register, call 542-0394 or email matlock@chathamarts.org.

Developing a Creative Place-Based Economy — Seminar on strengthening small towns through sustainable arts, crafts, and tourism. Presented by ChathamArts. Sat, Nov 10, 2-5pm at the County Courthouse in Pittsboro. Followed by dinner at Celebrity Dairy in Silk Hope. For ticket info, call 542-0394 or visit www.chathamarts.org.

The Future of Cuba's Environment — What will happen to the Caribbean's ecological crown jewel? Daniel Whittle of the Raleigh Office of Environmental Defense discusses Sun, Nov 11, at 5pm. CHICLE, 101 E Weaver St, 3rd floor, Carrboro, 933-0398.

Health

“Helping Your Baby Stay Safe, Healthy and Happy” — Presented by Kohl's department stores and North Carolina Children's Hospital. Tue, Nov 13, noon-1:30pm at the UNC Wellness Center at Meadowmont. Admission is free but space is limited. To register, please call 966-6500. For more info, visit www.ncchildrenspromise.org.

Diabetes Awareness — The UNC Wellness Center at Meadowmont will hold a series of lectures throughout the month of November to observe American Diabetes Month. Free and open to the public. For more info, call 966-5500 or visit www.uncwellness.com.

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. Tickets \$5.25; \$4.25 seniors, students & children. For more info, visit www.moreheadplanetarium.org.

Theater

A Lesson From Aloes - Three longtime friends, split apart by the apartheid regime, meet for dinner amid suspicion that one of them is a traitor to their revolutionary cause. Through Nov 10. Deep Dish Theater, University Mall, 201 S Estes Dr, Chapel Hill. 968-1515, www.deepdishtheater.org.

Tupelo: To Elvis & the Town He

Left Behind - Up-from-the-trailer-park entrepreneurs risk all in a scheme to reinvent the humble Presley birthplace. Nov 8-18. \$15; students \$7. The ArtsCenter, 300-G E Main St, Carrboro. 929-2787, www.artscenterlive.org.

Dance

Clogging — Free classes! Mondays, 7:30-8:30pm through Nov 19 at the Chapel Hill Teen Center, 179 E Franklin St. Dance to real live old time music, no partner or experience needed. For more info, call Elizabeth at 306-0951 or visit www.applechillcloggers.org.

Square Dance — Old time music with fiddler & caller, no partner or experience needed. Lesson 7:30pm, dance 8-11pm. \$7, students \$5. Sat, Nov 10, Pleasant Green Community Center, Hillsborough. For more info, call 732-8259 or visit www.ncsquares.com.

Comedy

Best Show Ever - All-star showcase featuring a rotating lineup of DSI's finest improv teams. Saturdays, 9:30pm. \$12, students \$10. DSI Comedy Theater, 200 N Greensboro St, Ste B-11, Carr Mill Mall, Carrboro. 338-8150, www.dsicomedytheater.com.

Student Showcase - Shows by DSI students & local high school teams. Sundays at 7:30pm, \$5. DSI Comedy Theater, 200 N Greensboro St, Ste B-11, Carr Mill Mall, Carrboro. 338-8150, www.dsicomedytheater.com.

Film

The Business of Being Born — Documentary screening that questions how most American women have babies. Tue, Nov 13 at the William B. Aycock Family Medicine Bldg at Manning Dr & Hwy 15-501. Open house reception at 6:30pm, movie starts at 7, panel discussion to follow. \$5 donation requested. For more info, visit www.thebusinessofbeingborn.com or www.trianglebirthnetwork.org/BboB.html.

Literary/Open Mic

Poetry Workshop - Explore the work of published poets for inspiration and receive friendly group feedback on poems in progress. Wednesdays, 6-8pm, through Nov 14. Market Street Books, Southern Village, 610 Market St, Chapel Hill. 933-5111, www.marketstreetbooks.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.

A Being More Intense: British Romantic Writers in the Rare Book Collection — Through Dec 31. UNC Campus: Wilson Library, 201 South Rd, Chapel Hill.

Poets Open Mic - Listen to local poets or read from your works. 1st Tuesday of every month. Info: 918-7364. Open Eye Cafe, 101 S Greensboro St, Carrboro. 968-9410, www.openeyecafe.com.

Poetry Workshop - Explore the work of published poets for inspiration and receive friendly group feedback on poems in progress. Wednesdays, 6-8pm. Through Nov 14. Market Street Books, Southern Village, 610 Market St, Chapel Hill. 933-5111, www.marketstreetbooks.com.

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929.2787. ext. 201. www.artscenterlive.org

pets of the week



ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Meet Winston!!! This big boy is around 4 years old and is as well behaved as he is handsome! He walks well on a leash, loves people and other dogs, and already knows sit, shake and down! Don't miss out on this sweet boy. He will make a loyal and loving companion to some very lucky family!!! Come see him at Orange County's Animal Shelter, 1081 MLK Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill or call 967-7383. You can also see him online at www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp.



APS OF ORANGE COUNTY — Meet Wave, a 6-month-old spayed female. This lady is the perfect package. She is super playful with other cats, yet is always ready for some lap time. She is quite interested in dogs and seems to have zero fear of them. This kitty has one of the best purring motors ever created. Come visit her or any of her friends, go to www.animalprotectionsociety.org or call 304-2300. APS, 6311 Nicks Rd., Mebane.

puzzle solutions

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

For the Record

The lost art of civility

It would be a lie to say that civility is the answer to all the ills of modern politics — local, state, national and global. But damn folks, now that this election is over, let's give it a whirl.

I've covered a lot of governmental boards, commissions, councils and what-have-ya's and have witnessed decent behavior most of the time. And while there have been disagreements and arguments, they seldom break down into full-fledged feuds.

From my experience, when things do get ugly and stay ugly it usually starts during an election, when emotions and stakes are high. People running for office lay awake at night and do a lot of wondering "what if." And sometimes, especially in more partisan contests in more polarized places, that means that two people who are miffed at each other have to share a very public space at regular intervals.

I once was assigned to cover a school board (in another state) where one board member sat with his back to the others. And though the individual was outnumbered on the board, he had his supporters in the audience who coughed and jeered and stared down the other members.

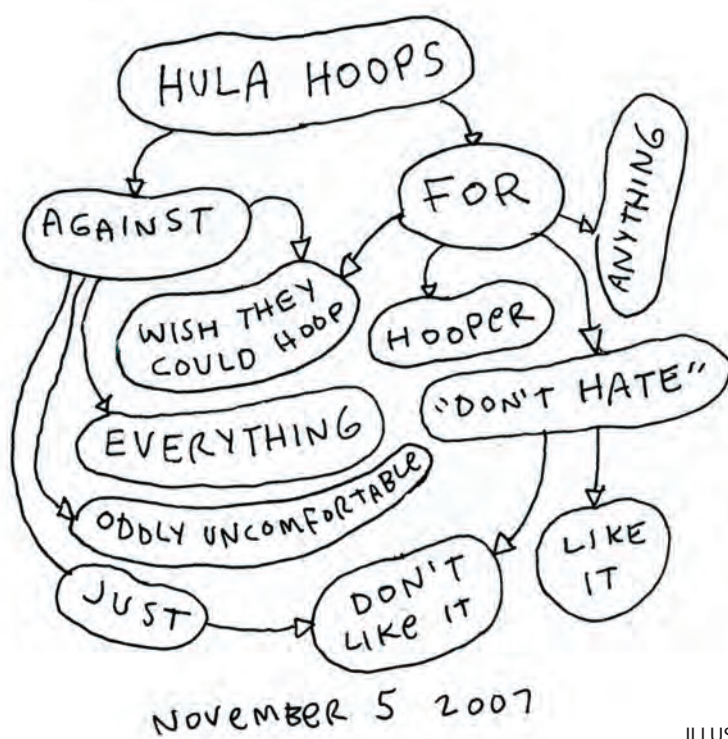
It was a lesson in civics from hell, and while I was initially repulsed — along with being initially baffled since I hadn't covered the election that led to it — I came to believe that every kid in the district ought to have had a chance to witness what happens when adults go feral.

Most of the time, lines are crossed in elections not by a candidate but by a zealous supporter, and the wrong is that those actions aren't repudiated, or not with enough force, to satisfy the offended party. Add to such insult the enormously complex and pressure-filled task of running — even on a local level — and our species-inherent tendency to assign a reason or a rationale for everything, and you have the genesis of conspiracy theories, the discovery of cabals and machines or the all-to-prevalent notion that powerful people are out to "get" the folks they don't agree with.

And while there certainly are political people who are intent on crushing their enemies and boosting their friends at the local level, here it's hardly done with the finesse and maliciousness you see in the movies or the anger witnessed every night on Fox or CNN.

Nope, around here some people in politics simply don't like other people in politics. That may be a reason not to be chummy or plan family outings together, but it's no reason to support one or another policy. Sadly, the second victim in such squabbles — the first being truth, of course — is the best interests of the people they represent. I've seen good ideas delayed or shot down not on their merits but as a result of who was carrying the water.

That's the kind of attitude that exists all too often in the workplace or the schoolyard, but when it comes to making decisions for all of us, there's no call for it.



Averting climate catastrophe

JIM WARREN



"Business-as-usual, if it continues for even another decade, will be disastrous ..."

James Hansen, the nation's foremost climate expert, is issuing this call for public action — before climate disruption becomes irreversible. On November 17 in Chapel Hill, Dr. Hansen will focus on the need for dramatic reductions in greenhouse gases. His top priorities include a moratorium

on new coal-fired power plants such as the 800-megawatt unit Duke Energy wants to build near Charlotte; a turn toward energy efficiency; and the removal of corporate influence from what should be public decisions.

As director of NASA's Goddard Institute, Hansen has courageously withstood White House efforts to muzzle him. He appeared on 60 Minutes because of his conviction that the public must hear from scientists about the gravity of climate change. There, he emphasized that, "The speed of the natural changes is now dwarfed by the changes humans are making to the atmosphere and the surface."

To be clear: Global warming is already causing extensive damage at an accelerating rate.

New evidence adds to the imperative that North Carolina must take all possible actions to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. In September, researchers reported that Arctic sea ice shrank to a new low this summer — far worse than the previous 2005 record. This has enormous implications for weather patterns — which are already changing rapidly — long before the ice entirely disappears. The lead author wrote:

"[T]he rate of loss is faster than any of [previous] projections ... And some people have termed it that we're on a death spiral at this point. ... [W]e could lose that summer sea ice cover as early as the year 2030."

Hansen goes further regarding business as usual, warning of a planet "with worldwide, repeated coastal tragedies associated with storms and a continuously rising sea level. ... Heavy rains and floods will increase. ... Early stages of increased drought and fires are already beginning in the American West [and elsewhere, as seen this year]."

The potential for social and economic devastation is real — and not just a problem for our children.

Trying to build big power plants, coal or nuclear, is squandering the time and resources needed to slow global warming. North Carolina must cut greenhouse gas emissions rapidly, which is entirely feasible — despite projected population growth — via energy ef-

iciency and proven, economical technologies for cogeneration and clean electricity generation.

The primary barriers to making this transition are the utility CEOs who apparently hope climate change will subside so they can continue business-as-usual — building large, lucrative power plants.

In contrast to Hansen's commitment to advocating real solutions to this emergency, Duke Energy CEO Jim Rogers is a would-be champion with a prodigious PR machine. He's repeatedly been lauded on the national stage for touting climate protection and energy efficiency, even while trying to build the Cliffside plant — with no means to capture CO2 emissions. Moreover, Rogers insists Cliffside should be exempt from the very carbon regulations he's gaining kudos for nationally.

Despite energy companies' persistent campaign to muddy the issue, Americans are belatedly awakening to the severity of global warming. Increasingly, families and institutions are cutting emissions by becoming energy efficient in homes, buildings and transportation. But if Cliffside becomes a reality, its six million tons of annual CO2 emissions would negate much, if not all, of the carbon reduction efforts statewide.

So North Carolina is at a crucial decision point. A statewide alliance of public interest groups stopped one of Duke Energy's new Cliffside plants and our campaign is working furiously to block the second before construction could begin late this year. We've exposed gigantic cost overruns (latest estimate, \$2.4 billion) and are urging CEO Rogers to avoid continuing legal fights over mercury and other air pollution, rate impacts and the millions of gallons of water Cliffside uses each day.

The public-interest community supports profitability for the utilities in efficiency and renewables. But it appears that both Duke and Progress Energy want to exploit those technologies to make exorbitant profits off limited programs, polish their corporate images and gain cover to build huge power plants.

As Hansen says, special interests have wounded our democracy, but we can make the needed changes if we assert public decision-making at this crucial time. In particular, we must counter the corporate control over politicians, the media and institutions that receive their targeted philanthropy.

We urge North Carolinians to contact CEO Rogers directly (see www.ncwarn.org). Call on him to cancel Cliffside and become the leader he purports to be — the one we desperately need.

Hear Hansen's plan for cutting global warming pollution: November 17, 3 p.m. at the Friday Center. Admission is free but early reservation of seats is recommended. Call 416-5077 or visit www.ncwarn.org

Jim Warren is executive director of NC WARN, a nonprofit power company watchdog based in Durham.

LETTERS

Chaos theory

In chaos theory, the movement of the butterfly's wings has consequences for the path of the coming storm. I thought I would pass on the consequences of the local media not publishing my guest editorial regarding the supporters of Mr. Coleman for political office.

I received a call at the end of last week from a professional colleague I've known for over two decades. The call was about placing a biotech business in southern Orange County, a small business planned for about two dozen employees averaging over \$50,000 per annum.

In the course of the conversation, they asked me how things were going. I told them about the Coleman incident, reading them my guest editorial. Not only were they horrified by Mr. Coleman's acts, they were decisively hardened by the response of the community leaders and the media to Mr. Coleman's acts. The failure to print my editorial told them all they needed to know about placing a business in Carrboro. Not happening.

Before you jump to the wrong conclusion, the story has a Carrboro kicker. The person was neither a Republican nor a conservative. They were a life-long, liberal (not progressive, but unabashedly liberal) Democrat, well connected, who talks to a lot of influential people.

Now there's a story worth printing! All from the gentle swish of editorial wings.

**Brian D. Voyce
Carrboro**

Road rage

We are writing as parents of Carrboro High School cross-country team members. We wish to share our perspective on the incident in which Dan Coleman ran his car into a volunteer who was stationed at a crosswalk to protect our children in our first home meet at Anderson Park in Carrboro. For those of us who witnessed the attack by Dan Coleman, it was a frightening encounter and we feared for the volunteer and runners.

For the rest of us, who heard stories from our children about the incident, it was alarming. Politics aside, we feel the press has for the most part understated the seriousness of Dan Coleman's behavior. Worse yet, his lack of admission or remorse was disturbing to us parents and citizens. His confession and apology came late, only after mediation, and just before the election and the date he would have faced assault charges.

Sue Coppola, Mary Hamilton, Peggy Bush and Coach Jay Crooker, representing 30 other parents of the Carrboro High School Cross Country Team

Send Letters to:
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Exile on Jones Street

A Survey of Governance & Policy

Primary coloring book: U.S. Congress Part One

KIRK ROSS

Now that traditional low voter turnout has determined the make up of most of the boards and bodies that comprise the government closest to the people, let's take a look at what's up with that distant entity on a hill to which we dispatch 15 stout-hearted North Carolinians as our representatives in the national cacophony.

Not everyone of those serving will face a May challenger (Sen. Burr, of course, isn't up until 2010), but many will and, if rumblings are to be believed, the primary season could be a little more active than usual.

U.S. Senate

Sen. Elizabeth Dole almost had a challenger and it's still a little confusing how this went down, but at a recent Haywood County GOP event a fellow named Victor Burgess reportedly got up and said he was running in the primary because Dole was out of touch. A few days later, apparently someone was in touch with Burgess because he decided not to run after all. So, no, it doesn't look like Dole needs to worry about this spring.

On the Democratic side, state Sen. Kay Hagan of Greensboro is officially in and it

probably doesn't matter whether she was out before she was in. That's the fuss right now, but once the race starts up, that'll be history.

Hagan, the five-term state senator, who, as the daughter of a Lakeland, Florida mayor and niece of the Sunshine State dreadnought known as Lawton Chiles, grew up around politics. She knows how to campaign and makes the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate a natural point of focus here and around the nation. Like her opponent, Jim Neal, Hagan says she wants to keep the race fixed on defeating Elizabeth Dole.

A third declared Democratic challenger, graphic artist John Ross Hendrix of Cary, is among a growing list of folks who "left the Republican Party in disgust" and decided to run as a Democrat.

U.S. Congress

• Districts 1 and 2, occupied by G.K. Butterfield and Bob Etheridge respectively, don't appear to be heading toward a primary; but beyond, there is a string of contested races.

• Third District Congressman Walter Jones Jr. of Farmville drew his primary challenger, Onslow County Commissioner and former 82nd Airborne platoon leader Joe McLaughlin, in May. McLaughlin, who resides in Jacksonville, says he is opposed to Jones' opposi-

tion to the war in Iraq. The upside to this race is that it will put a focus on veterans' issues early on. The other upside is that Jones has already referred to fans of Rush Limbaugh as "Kool-Aid drinkers."

Jones or McLaughlin will face Marshall Adame, also of J-ville, in the general.

• Fourth District Congressman David Price has yet to see a challenger pop up, but the longtime incumbent has faced several — all from the Left — in the heavily Democratic and always-bristly Fourth. This year should be no different.

• Fifth District Rep. Virginia Foxx already has a challenge from the Dems via Roy Carter who lives near West Jefferson, but nothing brewing in her party even though the 12-county Fifth is a huge chunk of territory.

• Sixth District Rep. Howard Coble, now serving his 12th term, already has opposition in the general election (and may have more), but no word on a challenger from his own party. The Dem side of the Fifth includes David Crawford, who was defeated this week in his bid for Greensboro city council. He'll face Johnny J. Carter of Summerfield who filed to run in September.

Next week: More on the congressional races, a look at the Gov. money and random speculation about whatever else comes up.

Precincts	School Board				
	Jamezetta Bedford	Mia Burroughs	Mike Kelley	Annetta Streater	Gary Wallach
Battle Park	84	74	74	85	70
Booker Creek	138	164	147	158	126
Carrboro	14	159	113	171	131
Cedar Falls	202	193	263	132	144
Coker Hills	182	178	156	174	158
Colonial Heights	204	238	184	211	200
Country Club	19	23	25	25	16
Damascus	117	125	116	147	148
Dogwood Acres	176	178	262	165	189
East Franklin	57	60	49	61	53
Eastside	180	169	149	166	99
Estes Hills	226	270	261	287	221
Glenwood	197	205	187	205	202
Greenwood	103	127	117	117	82
Hogan Farms	250	302	313	248	199
Kings Mill	170	162	152	160	117
Lincoln	55	50	36	71	48
Lions Club	148	138	115	164	149
Mason Farm	54	50	46	58	36
North Carrboro	283	342	262	279	255
Northside	53	56	43	77	38
OWASA	91	101	63	111	78
Patterson	185	195	184	162	138
Ridgefield	268	243	215	250	190
St John 120	128	116	148	121	2
Town Hall	158	151	91	166	142
Weaver Dairy	248	297	225	235	232
Weaver Dairy Sat	216	223	169	232	165
Westwood	74	88	70	91	113
Absentee By Mail	21	20	27	30	19
One Stop Carrboro	322	368	250	346	286
One Stop Chapel Hill	306	313	259	314	240
One Stop Hillsborough 14	14	12	14	9	
Total	4935	5404	4751	5260	4414

*All results as of 2:32 p.m. Wednesday.

SCHOOL BOARD FROM PAGE 1

“Mia is very knowledgeable, having served on [School Governance committees],” she said. Streater said she was extremely pleased with the support of her constituents, but she was happy that the campaign is over. “It’s been a busy and full few months,” she said. “I want to get a good night’s rest.” Streater was appointed to the board in 2006 when Ed Sechrest left the board. Kelley said he felt pretty good about the support he received in the election.

“People were able to evaluate my performance based on their own independent observations,” he said. Kelley was the only candidate who did not receive any organized endorsements. Wallach said that while he was disappointed not to be elected to the board, he enjoyed the campaign and planned to stay involved with the school district. “It’s been pretty exciting and I’ve met a lot of great people,” he said. “It’s been a pretty positive experience.” Burroughs will be sworn in at the board’s meeting on December 6. Board members will also elect a new chair and vice-chair at that meeting.

Chatham, state reject land transfer tax

Voters across the state rejected the proposed land transfer tax, shooting down the referendum in 16 counties. Chatham County voted 8,265 against and 3,715 for. Total voter turnout in Chatham County was about 32 percent. This year the state gave coun-

ties a choice between a 0.4 percent land transfer tax or a sales tax increase of a quarter-cent. Chatham County commissioners had pledged to give land transfer tax proceeds, a projected \$3.5 million in 2009, to schools.

Carrboro Municipal Elections 2007

Precincts	Mark Chilton	Chuck Morton	Brian Voyce	Frank Abernethy	Joal Hall Broun	Dan Coleman	Sharon Cook	Lydia Lavelle	Katrina Ryan	Turnout:
Carrboro	195	21	41	26	186	164	72	196	90	18.26%
Damascus	78	11	15	20	49	63	38	65	47	7.62%
Hogan Farms	208	13	158	32	162	132	273	232	259	18.77%
Lions Club	195	28	22	49	155	172	64	185	70	10.12%
North Carrboro	392	27	65	45	325	263	188	351	204	22.20%
OWASA	121	16	8	23	99	96	34	110	42	5.89%
St John	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	7.96%
Town Hall	230	13	11	13	208	184	40	233	53	15.58%
Absentee By Mail	3	0	12	2	9	3	13	1	12	
One Stop Carrboro	242	24	76	33	227	195	112	236	119	
One Stop Chapel Hill	39	4	12	12	31	30	19	40	22	
One Stop Hillsborough	5	0	6	1	5	2	7	5	9	
Total	1709	158	426	256	1457	1305	861	1656	927	

Precincts	Mark Chilton	Chuck Morton	Brian Voyce	Frank Abernethy	Joal Hall Broun	Dan Coleman	Sharon Cook	Lydia Lavelle	Katrina Ryan	Turnout:
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ELECTIONS FROM PAGE 1

Turnout was slightly lower than two years ago when Chilton and Alex Zaffron, both members of the board of aldermen, battled for the mayor’s post. Chilton said he was surprised to have won by such a wide margin. “I expected the alderman race to be closer and my own race to be closer,” he said in an interview Wednesday. The results, particularly Lavelle’s election, he said, made it clear that while there are residents still upset about the annexation of northern neighborhoods, the issue didn’t drive the election. “The voters are speaking loud and clear,” he said, “and I think they are saying two things. The first is that most are ready to move past annexation. Lydia coming in first place really says that to me.” The second point, the mayor said, was that attempts to capitalize on a “north-south split” didn’t resonate with voters. “The reality is that the north-south split is perceived and not real.” Morton said he “felt like I got my butt kicked by the voters Tuesday night,” but added that he enjoyed the race and was happy that Chilton was re-elected. Voyce, who had been critical of Coleman throughout the election, said he was disappointed he had been elected. In an email to The Citizen he added: “I’ve done my duty. I’ve laid out the ingrained misconduct of Carrboro government in perpetrating injustices large and small among those not the pals of politicians, misconduct that I expect to continue. I’ve foretold in straight terms the coming degradation in the quality of life for the average Carrburban.” Lavelle said she understands that as a representative from the annexed areas she’ll bring a different perspective to the board, but that it will be a duty among a host of others. “I certainly will represent all of Carrboro, but you know I wake up every day out here in the annexed area. I drive to town through streets that the other aldermen don’t drive through every single day — so I bring that perspective just as well as I bring other perspectives of my life to the board.” While for some the anger over annexation is bound to linger, the election, she said, is an indication that it is not a majority view. “I held my own up here in our own precinct,” she said. Lavelle said that, like her neighbors, she and her partner “weren’t crazy



PHOTO BY SAM GRIFFIN
Newly re-elected Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton and his son Samuel watch results come in at an election night gathering at Milltown.

about being annexed.” “No one wants to pay more taxes. But a lot of us recognize that it’s a done deal. We are a part of Carrboro. We want to work with Carrboro now. We want to move forward.” At their core, the issues faced by residents inside and outside of downtown are very similar, she said. “When I campaigned, I walked through all of the precincts — not just out here, which is important, but all of downtown Carrboro. Obviously everyone is concerned about their immediate neighborhood and what’s going to affect them personally. I saw that time and time again. Rising taxes, easing the tax burden, getting commercial development and still preserving the character of the town were on the minds of voters throughout the town, she said. “It was a common theme and it’s going to be a challenge our board is facing over the next couple of years.” After the totals came in, Coleman, who faced unrelenting criticism — including sharp and sometimes vulgar personal attacks — over a road-rage incident early in the campaign, said he was glad it was over and was ready to get back to work. “I’m excited,” Coleman told supporters at a victory celebration at Milltown Tuesday night. “I love working with this board of aldermen. We’re going to have a great board the next few years and we’re going to accomplish a lot.” Broun said Wednesday she was “honored that the voters have confidence in me” and was also looking forward to getting back to work. She said she wants to continue pushing for a more comprehensive countywide economic development plan — an important element in keeping rising property

taxes in check. Carrboro, she said, has an enormous challenge ahead. “It’s critical for us to fashion some sort of overall policy that makes Carrboro accessible to all income levels, and that means retirees, young families, single people and more-seasoned families,” Broun said. Cook, who campaigned for a board seat in tandem with Ryan, said she was disappointed in the low voter turnout and with the amount of influence in the campaign that came from outside of town, including endorsements from Chapel Hill politicians: “I was disappointed with the amount of outside influence. Carrboro is a town that prides itself on being special and unique.” She said it also was a shame to see the issues in the race eclipsed by personal attacks. Cook said she’d like to see people get more involved in understanding the positions of candidates rather than relying on endorsement “cheat sheets” from publications like the *Independent Weekly*. “This is a university town,” she said. “We need to do our homework.” Cook said she did not agree that furor over annexation has subsided and said she’s worried that the town has not taken adequate steps to get its finances in order. Ryan said she was surprised that she won more votes than her neighbor and friend Cook. “I ran because I thought Sharon Cook would be a great addition to the board of aldermen and Sharon wanted a running mate,” Ryan said Wednesday. As for her, Ryan said she has enjoyed her two runs at the board because of the people she’s met and friends made during the race. “My life is richer for having run and no less richer for having lost,” she said.

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CARRBORO CITIZENS NEEDED TO SERVE

The Town of Carrboro is receiving applications for upcoming vacancies on its advisory boards. There will be terms expiring on the Board of Adjustment, Planning Board, Appearance Commission, Transportation Advisory Board, Recreation and Parks Commission, Human Services Commission, Economic Sustainability Commission, Environmental Advisory Board, Northern Transition Area Advisory Committee and Arts Committee in February 2008.

Interested persons should contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 918-7309 or at swilliamson@townofcarrboro.org for application forms. Application deadline: November 30, 2007.

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Nov. 9-15
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Elementary

Friday – Teacher Work Day
Monday – No School (Veterans Day)
Tuesday – Sloppy Joe on a Bun; Cheese Quesadilla w/Salsa; Spanish Rice; Broccoli Cuts; Chilled Apricots
Wednesday – Chicken & Noodles w/Wheat Roll; Cheeseburger on a Bun w/Lettuce & Tomato; Oven Baked French Fries; Cole Slaw; Fresh Orange Wedges
Thursday – Sliced Roast Turkey w/Cornbread Dressing; Cranberry Sauce; Orange Glazed Sweet Potatoes; Green Beans; Pumpkin Pie

Middle & High

Friday – Teacher Work Day
Monday – No School (Veterans Day)
Tuesday – Fried Chicken w/Wheat Roll; Grilled Cheese Sandwich; Mixed Vegetables; Chilled Peas
Wednesday – Meatloaf w/Gravy and Wheat Roll; Chicken Patty Sandwich w/Cheese; Sweet Yellow Corn; Tossed Salad w/Dressing; Chilled Apricots
Thursday – Sliced Roast Turkey with Cornbread; Dressing; Cranberry Sauce; Orange Glazed Sweet Potatoes; Green Beans; Pumpkin Pie

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Writing program helps students in Chapel Hill-Carrboro city schools

By CAITLIN MEANEY
Carrboro Commons Writer

Mary Andrews never intended to develop a writing program for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School (CHCCS) system. But after attending a writing workshop six years ago, she was inspired to create Coach Write, a program that uses trained volunteers to help supplement writing instruction in the classroom.

"Children need an audience for their work," said Andrews, a reading resource teacher at Mary Scroggs Elementary School. "Children really want to read their writing, and with Coach Write they're given immediate feedback from a good, interested audience."

Coach Write aims to help students become better writers by encouraging them to write for a specific purpose and audience using these six traits: idea development, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency and conventions. Coach Write volunteers receive at least three hours of training and learn the language and strategies used in the classroom.

The program is used in elementary schools throughout the CHCCS system and works primarily with fourth- and fifth-grade students.

Stuart Phillips, program facilitator of CHCCS volunteer programs, said the program is important because of the expanded support it provides young writers and their teachers.

"Because it's so difficult for teachers to hold conferences with all of their students on a regular basis, having coaches in the classroom gives far more children the experience of talking to adults one-on-one about their

writing," Phillips said.

Teachers may select a handful of students to receive ongoing coaching or choose to have almost all of their students work with coaches at some point during the school year. Coaching sessions are held while other students work independently. Teachers are discouraged from using coaches with children who need the most instructional support from certified teachers.

"For children who are easily discouraged by writing assignments, the interaction with a coach can build their confidence and enthusiasm for the process," Phillips said. "It helps young writers to hear what they're already doing well, in addition to being challenged to consider how they can strengthen and clarify a piece of writing."

At each coaching session, students bring a piece of writing they are working on in class. Sessions are usually dedicated to focusing on one aspect of the student's writing, such as idea development, organization or details. Students are asked to talk about the process of writing and the choices they made when writing, and the volunteer gives the student positive feedback and encouragement. At the end of the session, students are encouraged to come up with one recommendation on how to improve their piece.

"When young writers talk to coaches, they are reminded that writing is communication, and they have the immediate experience of audience response," Phillips said.

Renee Powell, a mother of two children at Mary Scroggs, has been volunteering in the CHCCS system since 1999. She heard about the Coach Write program in 2003 when her

"They are reminded that writing is communication, and they have the immediate experience of audience response."

-Stuart Philips, program facilitator

daughter was in fourth grade and has been working with the program for three years.

"I was simply hooked when I realized how valuable this program was to the children and their success," Powell said. "It enables children to become more accomplished writers with plenty of room to prosper in becoming that person they're destined to be."

Andrews and Phillips piloted the Coach Write program at Frank Porter Graham Elementary School in 2001 and were thrilled with the positive response from teachers and students. Volunteers were placed in fourth-grade classrooms to help prepare students for North Carolina's fourth-grade writing test, which is taken by all N.C. students enrolled in public schools on the first Tuesday of March.

"Teachers were really willing to work with us," Andrews said. "It seemed to work."

Writing conferences were taped and are still shown during training sessions to help volunteers understand the coaching process. Volunteers go into schools well equipped to be really positive, Andrews said.

More than a thousand UNC students, senior citizens, community members and parents volunteer in the CHCCS system. Most Coach Write volunteers are parents of children in the fourth and fifth grade. Recruiting volunteers for Coach Write is much

more difficult than it is for other volunteer programs in the schools, Andrews said.

"The quality of volunteers is higher," she said. "We're more particular about the writing skills of these volunteers."

Of CHCCS' 2006-07 budget of \$6,430,765, CHCCS' Volunteer Office was allocated a budget of \$198,224. Much of the budget goes to pay salaries, and expenses such as volunteer screening, instructional supplies and staff development make up the rest.

Andrews said that while it is difficult to determine the effectiveness of Coach Write, teachers continue to respond positively to the program and report that their students' writing has improved tremendously. For Andrews, that alone is the best indicator of success.

"Volunteers have an opportunity classroom teachers wish they had: one-on-one, 20-minute conferences with their students," Andrews said. "With these conferences, you can really focus on one child's writing and celebrate the child's efforts."

Caitlin Meaney is a UNC student writing for the Carrboro Commons, the bi-weekly online lab newspaper for Carrboro produced by Jock Lanterer's Community Journalism class at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

School Briefs

Cultural nights

Smith Middle School will hold a Cultural Performance Night on Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. and a Cultural Exhibit Night next Thursday, also from 7 to 9, as part of the school's annual Global Connections celebration week.

On Tuesday, Smith students will present skits, poetry recitations, dances and musical performances. For Thursday's event, student projects that highlight this year's theme — One People + One World = One Future — will be on display throughout the school.

The community is invited to both events and guests are

asked to wear cultural attire.

CHHS students in honors orchestra

Five Chapel Hill High School students will perform in the North Carolina Honors Orchestra in Winston Salem, November 9-11.

The students selected include: Caitlin Burke, bass; Caitlin Collins, viola; Anna Gage, viola; Haesu Jin, viola; and Will Myers, violin.

The honors orchestra is comprised of 80 North Carolina high school musicians selected by audition.

Myers also won a scholarship in the American String Teacher's National Composition Contest for his string

piece, "Serenade in E." Jin was also selected to the National High School Honors Orchestra and will perform in New Mexico in February.

Teacher given grant

Smith Middle School science teacher Melinda Fitzgerald was recently awarded a \$2,000 Bright Ideas grant from the Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation.

Fitzgerald applied for the grant in order to support the school's Hydrogen Fuel Cell Project — a project that Fitzgerald's students have been working on for several years.

Piedmont Electric has awarded more than \$5.3 million in Bright Ideas Grants since 1994.

Book grant

Reading is Fundamental, a national children's and family literacy organization, announced on Monday the re-

ceipt of a \$2,754 grant from Macy's to provide books to Carrboro Elementary students.

RIF gives two to three books to each Carrboro Elementary student every year. The children can choose their own books to take home and keep.

RIF programs across the country provide children in schools, daycare programs, recreation and community centers and libraries with free books and reading-motivation programs.

Info for special needs parents

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will sponsor "The ABC's of Exceptional Children's Education Programs" on November 26 from 6:45-8:30 p.m. at the Carolina Center for Education Excellence at Smith Middle School.

The program is an informational evening for parents

of special-needs students that has been designed to improve communication between parents and school administrators.

The program will include an overview of exceptional children's programs and classes and a presentation by the Special Needs Advisory Council.

Childcare will be available for children ages 5-11. Parents must register for childcare by November 16 by calling 967-8211, ext. 234.

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Chapel Hill voters send Hill packing Hillsborough returns its board

Jim Ward, Sally Greene and Bill Strom along with Mayor Kevin Foy will return to the Chapel Hill Town Council, but Matt Czajkowski rather than Cam Hill will take the fourth seat after he edged out the one-term incumbent in Tuesday's voting.

Foy beat challenger Kevin Wolff for the second time. Foy received 4,295 votes, or 70.12 percent, and Wolff received 1,791 votes, or 29.24 percent.

Ward was the top vote-getter on the council with 3,896 votes, or 18.41 percent, followed by Greene with 3,883 votes, or 18.35 percent, and Strom with 3,704 votes, or 18.41 percent.

Czajkowski's 2,913 votes, or 13.77 percent, bested Hill who won 2,848 votes, or 13.46 percent.

They were followed by Penny Rich, who received 2,422 votes for 11.45 percent and Will Raymond who won

1,395 votes, or 6.59 percent. There were 101 write-in votes as well.

Czajkowski, who emphasized his concern for the health of downtown and called for a new direction in planning for redevelopment there, ran strong in Southern Village and Cedar Falls precincts.

In Hillsborough, Mayor Tom Stevens, the lone name on the ballot, took 96 percent of the vote, with only 19 write-in votes opposed. Town Board of Commissioner incumbents Eric Hallman, Evelyn P. Lloyd and Brian J. Lowen won re-election. Lloyd was the top vote-getter with 411 votes, or 28 percent, followed by Hallman with 377 votes, or 25 percent, and Lowen, who won 361 votes, or 24 percent. Bryant Kelly Warren Jr. fell short with 333 votes, or 22 percent of the total. —*Staff Reports*

A plant that's on the move

FLORA
By Ken Moore

"What's that white-flowered shrub I see everywhere along the roadsides?"

If you dare stop your car to take a closer look, you will observe that those shrubs are not in flower at all. That brilliant white effect is created by the fluffy seed heads of Sea-myrtle, *Baccharis halimifolia*. Dense clusters of tiny seed with parachute-like threads or hairs are characteristic of many of the plants in the composite or aster family. The Sea-myrtle is one of the very few woody plants in the aster family that occur in North Carolina.

Along roadsides, long stretches of the white form of this shrub are interrupted by patches of less-noticeable male plants. This native shrub is "dioecious." You can impress your non-botanical friends with this term, which describes plants that bear male and female flowers on separate plants. Like the red-berried hollies, only the female plants become noticeable by bearing fruit.

This shrub of the outer coastal dunes and salt marsh shrub thickets was not locally so evident years ago. The "bible" of plant identification for the past several decades, *Manual of the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas* by Radford, Ahles

and Bell, described this shrub thusly: "Believed to have been restricted at one time to the outer coastal plain, but now widely spread inland." The newest guide, *Flora of the Carolinas, Virginia, and Georgia* by Alan Weakley, still in preparation, updates the shrub's habitat as "... plants of the outer Coastal Plain and also spread extensively inland as a weed ..." As a botany student back in the mid-1960s, I don't recall ever seeing it locally.

Recently, I voiced concern to a plant ecologist about the very rapid westward movement of Sea-myrtle. Was it likely to become a terrible invasive like Chinese Privet, *Ligustrum sinense* and Spring Silverberry, *Eleagnus umbellata*? I was advised that Sea-myrtle would only take hold on disturbed sites.

The Interstate 40 corridor is such a site. And since it opened, Sea-myrtle has taken advantage of it as a fast lane from the coast to the mountains. In our areas, it is so thick along roadsides and edges of abandoned fields that it is literally pushing out wildflowers and other natives like dogwoods, *Cornus florida*, and redbuds, *Cercis canadensis*. Within the last decade I have watched it move west along the interstate to the very entrance of Asheville. Air-borne seeds have only to land on disturbed ground for opportunities to grow. And these days our



Showy seed heads of female Sea-myrtle

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

landscape is becoming more and more disturbed. A good reason to support our local Triangle Land Conservancy and similar land conservation groups is that an undisturbed habitat is the best protection against invasion of "outsider" plants.

However you choose to view this invasion, reduce your pace during the next week to take a closer look at Sea-

myrtle, invisible most of the year and so brilliantly evident right now. If you really are too busy for a "time out," then just wait a few years. You will most likely have Sea-myrtle show up on your roadside or in your garden. I have one; it showed up three years ago and now it's taller than the tool shed. But it's a lone male and not spectacular like all those females.

Elections & Politics

news, documents & items of interest

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