



carrborocitizen.com

DECEMBER 2. 2010 LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED VOLUME III NO. XXXVIII

FREE



## **Residents oppose OWASA logging plan**

#### **BY SUSAN DICKSON** Staff Writer

HILLSBOROUGH — At a heated public forum attended by about 150 people at the Maple View Agricultural Center Tuesday evening, county residents told Orange Water and Sewer Authority administrators they strongly oppose the utility's forest-management plan for 1,900 acres in Orange and Chatham counties.

Throughout the meeting, attendees held signs that read "No more OWASA logging," shouted questions at OWASA administrators and repeatedly asked OWASA to revise the plan.

David Halley, owner of True North Forest Management Services, the company hired by OWASA to develop and implement the plan, said

the plan breaks up the 1,900 acres into 17 properties with different types of forests, including areas around Cane Creek, Mt. Mitchell, Thunder Mountain and other parts of Orange and Chatham counties. Halley said the plan includes protection for riparian buffers and involves hardwood and pine thinnings, cutting of low-quality trees, small group opening harvests, controlled burnings of understory and reforesting. It also includes clear cuts in some areas and herbicide control of hardwood sprouts and weed species.

Residents expressed strong opposition to the plan, citing concerns about the use of herbicides, the effects of clear cuts on wildlife, the disruption caused by forestry operations and the effects of the plan on drinking water. "I think that OWASA has lost its compass," Michael Hughes said. "I think the plan is misguided."

Several residents also expressed concern that they had not been informed about the plan or the meeting and called for more time to provide feedback. The public-comment period for the plan was scheduled to close today (Thursday), but OWASA board members indicated they would likely vote to extend the period at their Dec. 9 meeting.

"There are multiple objectives, competing objectives, and we're trying to balance that in a way that makes sense," said Patrick Davis, OWASA sustainability manager.

OWASA's primary objective for the plan, according to authority officials, is to protect water quality. Other objectives include establishing and maintaining riparian buffers, enhancing forest conditions, minimizing the impact of forestry-management activities on adjacent properties, restoring and enhancing the overall quality of OWASA-owned woodlands and generating revenue through sustainable timber harvests.

According to Halley, about 500 acres of the plan area are protected as riparian buffers.

#### Concerns

Residents said they were skeptical of OWASA's motives, given that no financial analysis was included with the plan. Davis said the authority had not yet run the numbers, but that that information would be made available to residents.

SEE **OWASA** PAGE 4

Eyed elater click beetle joins the group. PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA by KEN MOORE

### Exploring with like-minded folk

hanksgiving Day included a walk in the woods. Lingering fall color and the beautiful beginnings of the winter forest landscape were worthy of giving thanks.

We left the neighborhood behind at the end of the street as we entered Carolina North woods to walk the Nature Observation Trail, a trail for walkers only, where we like-minded folk enjoyed the nature of the place without interruption from dogs, bikes and joggers. We were alone on that deer path-like trail beneath giant trees beginning to show off winter forms and textures. Along the way, we became absorbed in the diversity of fallen leaves on the forest floor and the complexity of hidden activity beneath.



Franklin ("like the streeet") Kennedy ("like the president") dresses as Rudolph ("like the reindeer") while waiting in University Baptist Church's memorial garden for the annual Chapel Hill tree lighting last Sunday.

#### PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

### Harrington hit with cease and desist order

**BY KIRK ROSS** Staff Writer

When news broke in August 2009 that Harrington Bank had been put on notice by the federal Office of Thrift Supervision, the bank's officials were quick to point out that they had signed a Supervisory Agreement to improve its bottom line and Harrington was not under the more serious threat of a cease and desist order.

As of last week, that changed. The bank is now under a cease and desist order, and with it, CEO Larry Loeser said Wednesday, Harrington faces a significant challenge to reassure its customers that the conditions that led to the order have passed and the bank is healthy.

The Nov. 23 order from the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) Southeastern Regional director said results

Our emergence back onto the street was a bit unsettling after the journey over the leafy forest carpet.

Curbs were piled with leaves removed from manicured landscapes upon which they had fallen. We surveyed that scene and reflected on how far we humans have diverged from living in harmony with nature. We wondered how town resources could be redirected if all those leaves were allowed to remain, to be recycled as nature intended, on the ground where they fall.

We further reflected on how thankful we are to have numerous public trails nearby to offer solace from the trappings of manicured neighborhoods.

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### **Residents call for new superintendent** to close achievement gap

#### **BY SUSAN DICKSON** Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — At a public forum on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools superintendent search on Tuesday, local community leaders and students told school board members they'd like to see at the helm of the district an accessible superintendent who will work to close the minority achievement gap.

The board officially launched the search in October when board members voted to hire the N.C. School Board Association as the district's superintendent search agency. The move followed Superintendent Neil Pedersen's July announcement that he would retire next June.

Michelle Laws, president of the

Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP, said that the first priority of the new superintendent should be to work toward closing the minority achievement gap.

"I would suggest that we look for someone who genuinely has demonstrated that they care," she said, adding that the candidate should be committed to "face those challenging issues that he or she will no doubt face from day one."

Ted Parrish, a former school board member, said he wants to hear from the new superintendent what he or she will do to deal with the issue of the achievement gap.

'Why is it that we are in a city with all the resources ... and this chronic problem of the gap is still here?" he asked. "I'm simply saying we're not doing all we can. We have

to do that. We have to be a model for the rest of the state and the nation. So what is going to be done by this new superintendent to arrive at where we should've been a long time ago?"

A number of high school students spoke at the forum, urging board members to consider candidates who will be accessible to students and teachers.

Young-Eun Hyun, a senior at East Chapel Hill High School and president of the Chapel Hill Youth Council, said that at the council's youth summit earlier this year students discussed the need for more input on school policy and budget decisions.

#### SEE **SUP'T** PAGE 3

of an annual audit on June 1 found the bank had failed to meet a Dec. 31, 2009 deadline to improve its risk-based capital ratio, one of several measures of a bank's health and one that regulators insisted Harrington fix.

Loeser said the order comes long after facts on the ground have changed for Harrington, which took a big hit in 2008 on securities it held in two failed financial firms, Lehman Brothers and Washington Mutual.

To raise the capital to meet the regulator's target of a 12 percent ratio, Harrington, which is majority owned by Duke University business professor and Chapel Hill investment manager Doug Breeden, opted to sell a sister bank in Los Angeles. Loeser said the intention was to close the deal before the OTS's Dec. 31 deadline, but the sale was delayed several times and wasn't closed until Sept. 30 of this year.

#### SEE HARRINGTON PAGE 3

### Friday holiday traditions

### **RECENTLY ...** BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Bill Friday started a Christmas tradition in 1986 after retiring from 30 years as president of peanuts. They must be fresh, raw the UNC system. A decade or so - not blanched or roasted - and later, local publica-

tions started writing about his December avocation - making peanut brittle. Thus begins an

annual story about an annual gift that Bill Friday provides our community.

As has long been the Friday tradition,

holiday gift-making is a family affair - everyone present has a job.

All ingredients and materials are on hand before he begins, laid out on appropriate sides of the range. The three-basin sink stands ready with one basin filled with warm soapy water and the tap dripping water at the correct

temperature; the marble slab has been well-buttered, and two 12inch cast iron skillets - key instruments – are on the stove.

This brittle is really about the

"I always assumed that giving a homemade gift at Christmas time was a Southern tradition."

shelled with husks still on. The Fridays prefer those from

the A&B Milling Company of Enfield, N.C., which come in a cloth bag. They use two-and-a-half cups in each batch.

"Unlike most, theirs is more peanuts than brittle,"

wrote Jean Anderson of Chapel Hill in her 2007 A Love Affair with Southern Cooking, in which she included the recipe, courtesy of Ida Friday's South Carolina family.

SEE **RECENTLY** PAGE 7



Bill Friday scrapes out the last bit of his fifth batch of peanut brittle of the day. Friday makes peanut brittle all December long to gift loved ones and local nonprofits. PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

### **Community Calendar**



#### **THURSDAY DEC 2** HearNC — Music Video Award Ceremony and Festival. Cats Cradle, 8pm \$10/12 catscradle.com

Silent Auction — Benefits The Sea Turtles Mural located at the corner of Columbia and Rosemary streets. Horace Williams House, 7pm 942-7818

YIKES — Yikes (Youth Involved in Keeping Earth Sustainable!) announces the winners of its "upcycling" contest along with a silent auction, healthy food and speaker. University Room of Hyde Hall, 176 E. Franklin St., 6pm Entrance free, dinner \$5/3 with the donation of an old pair of sneakers and \$1 for shipping 358-6341

**Basquiat** — A preceding discussion takes place at The Ackland Art Museum at 6pm. Basquiat, the story of Jean-Michel Basquiat screening at the Varsity Theatre 7pm Free

Empire — Jonan Medas' cinematography of Andy Warhol's portrait of the Empire State Building. The Varsity Theatre, 2-10pm

**FRIDAY DEC 3 Tree Lighting** — Downtown Hillsborough, 7pm

**Computer Class** — Online Job Search and Resume Writing. Chapel Hill Public Library, 8:15am Free Registration required: 968-2780

**One Noble Journey** — One Noble Journey: A Box Marked Freedom, a one-man show portrays the true stories of three slaves who overcome seemingly insurmountable odds to gain their freedom. The ArtsCenter, 10 a.m. (grades 3-5) 11:30 a.m. (grades 6-12)

Cookbook Event — Southern Foodways Alliance — sponsors a Community Cookbook Event on the garden terrace at Fearrington. Dinner will be served with discussion of the organization's work. Sfaatmcintyres. eventbrite.com

#### Saturday Dec 4

**FeST** — The Festival of the Society Tree offers crafts, baked goods and vintage treasures benefiting local programs. St Matthew's Episcopal Church, Hillsborough, 10am

Christmas Holiday Shoppe - Annual crafts fair with raffle, music, bake sale and food. St Thomas More School, 9am-5pm Free 493-4157

Holiday Parade — Downtown Hillsborough, Churton St., 10am hillsboroughchamber.com

Lunch Money — Indie-pop kids group with whimsical songs for all ages. The ArtsCenter, 11am \$7/8 Youth, \$9/\$10 Adult

Holiday Faire — Emerson Waldorf School, 10am-4pm Free Admission emersonwaldorf.org

**Nutcracker** — Opening performance at Memorial Hall. 2pm Carolinaperformingarts.org

#### **SUNDAY DEC 5**

Benefit Tea — CH High School Philharmonic Foundation Benefit Tea. Carrboro Century Center, 3-5pm \$8 Adults/\$5 Students

Film at Chicle — Gringo Next Door, by Javier Pabon, followed by discussion. Chicle Language Institute, 5pm chicle@chi-cle.com

WILPF Gala — 75th anniversary celebration with an international buffet, premiere video and the Raging Grannies. Community Church, 506 Purefoy Road, 5:30pm 968-1888

**Candlelight Tour** — Features private homes and public or historic buildings in Hillsborough. Noon-6pm candlelighttour.com

**First Sunday** — In Pittsboro, features craft and food vendors with a Christmas parade at 3pm. Downtown Pittsboro, noon pittsboroshops.com

#### MONDAY DEC 6

Writing Classes — Registration begins for Spring Creative Writing Classes at CCCC. 542-6495 cccc.edu/creativewriting

#### **TUESDAY DEC 7**

Movie Nite — The Prestige will be shown at The Chapel Hill Public Library Meeting Room. 6:30pm Free 968-2780

VITA Volunteers — Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program will hold an orientation for new volunteers. Seymour Center, 10-11:30am Pre-registration preferred 968-2054

#### Making Sweet Memories

— Cooking with your children strategies and recipes with Sharon Kebschull Barrett. Chapel Hill Public Library, 7pm chapelhillmothersclub.org

#### THURSDAY DEC 9 Mittens and a Warm Heart

 Stories for children of all ages. Wilson Special Collections Library, 4pm Free 962-4207

#### Ongoing Cancer Support — Support groups for cancer patients and their families. cornucopiahouse.org

Send your submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com

### In search of neighbors

The following sidebar was inadvertently left off a story in last week's *Citizen* about artist Edie Cohn's exhibit at the Seymour Center, which includes portraits she drew in the 1980s of members of the Meet Your Neighbor Club.

Cohn would like to give the portraits to the people in them or their families. She has found some of the portrait subjects, as well as some of their families, but not many. Do you recognize a name? If so, contact Cohn at edie.cohn@gmail.com or 451-1122. The exhibit will be on display through Friday.

Clora Atwater Lillie Bailey Clifton Boyd Dela Bynum Iola Bynum Mr. Bynum **Gladys Buel** Bill Campbell Pearl Carter Esther Chambers

- Hyden Clark Broughton Copelan Odessa Cotton Alice Corson Mrs. Duke Nora Farrington Lemma Faulkner Pauline Haire Tassie Iwanoczko Bill Iwanoczko
- Lillie Jones Kate Lane Aggie McCrea John Mitchell Gracie Moore Erma Pearson Catherine Pilson Larry Roy Walter Saunders James Spinks

Mrs. Starbuck Miss Stinson Ruth Stroud Pauline Suitt Evelyn Thompson Mamie Thompson Luia Walker Mamie Watkins

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127 HOURS Nightly at 7 & 9:15pm;

Sat & Sun Matinee at 1, 3 & 5pm

FAIR GAME Nightly at 7:20 & 9:25pm;

Sat & Sun Matinee at 1:30 & 4pm

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and the Deathly Hallows-Part 1;

The Next Three Days; Unstop-

Cancer Support — Support groups and wellness programs. unclineberger.org/ccsp

**Compassionate Friends** – Free self-help support for all adults grieving the loss of a child or sibling. Evergreen United Methodist Church, third Mondays 7-8:30pm 967-3221 chapelhilltcf.org

Hand In Hand Exhibit — A multimedia exhibition featuring the work of eight local artists who are lending their support to three local social action groups: the (UNC) Student Health Action Coalition (SHAC), also known as the Carrboro Free Clinic; TABLE, the children's weekend backpack feeding program; and the Orange County Literacy Council. Carrboro Branch Library, through Nov. 30 969-3006

VITA Volunteers — Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program seeks volunteers to provide free IRS tax preparation for eligible clients. Orientation Dec 8, Seymour Center 10-11:30am Pre-registration preferred 968-2054

Food Drive — Farmer Foodshare and the IFC join to provide fresh food for local families. Contributions may be made at the South Estes Farmers' Market, Carrboro Farmers' Market or theabundancefoundation.org/ farmerfoodshare

Holiday Music — University Mall, Nov 26-Dec 24 universitymallnc.com

#### MOVIES We suggest you call for exact show times

#### **CAROLINA THEATRE OF DURHAM**

309 W. Morgan St., 560-3030 Retrofantasma Classics, Friday Masque of the Red Death, 9:30 9:15 p.m., Saturday and Sunday p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 1:30 & 4 p.m.; Waiting for Superman, Sunday-Thursday only at 9:30 p.m., Sunday matinee at 4:15 p.m.; Inside Job, Sunday-Thursday only at 7:15 p.m., Sunday matinee at 1:45 p.m.

#### CHELSEA THEATER

Timberlyne, 1129 Weaver Dairy Road, 968-3005 127 Hours; Fair Game; Last Train Home

#### THE LUMINA

Southern Village, 932-9000 Burlesque; Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows-Part I; Love and Other Drugs; Megamind; Tangled; The Next Three Days



### The ArtsCenter

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only, Theater of Blood, 7 p.m., p.m.; 127 hours, nightly at 7 & matinees at 1, 3 & 5 p.m.; Fair Game, nightly at 7:20 & 9:25



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### **Briefs**

#### **Carrboro approves rule changes**

At its meeting last week at Town Hall, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen approved changes to the town's stormwater rules for commercial development, moving full review of stormwater design to later in the permitting process.

Also at the meeting, the board continued a public hearing on revisions to its flag lot rules. Several residents objected to the changes and asked the board to provide more exemptions.

#### Town want input on old library

"What Do You See for 523?" a public input meeting on future uses of the town-owned building at 523 E. Franklin St., will be held at the building on Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. with an open house from 1 to 5 p.m. the same day.

Cookies and cider will be served during the open house and participants are invited to write comments on a wall dedicated to gathering ideas on the topic.

The effort is being led by representatives of Chapel Hill's Recreation and Parks Department working with the Orange County Visitors Center, Public Arts Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission.

#### Police seek help



Chapel Hill Police are seeking help in identifying a man suspected of counterfeit check fraud. The suspect cashed a fraudulent check at the BB&T on East Rosemary Street on Nov. 2 at approximately 1:30 p.m. and is believed by authorities to be responsible for similar counterfeit check crimes in the area.

If anyone has information about the identity of this suspect, please call either the Chapel Hill Police Department at 968-2760 or Crime Stoppers at 942-7515. Callers may be eligible for a cash reward up to \$2,000 for information that leads to arrest.

#### **Ephesus-Fordham meeting**

A public meeting to present development scenarios for the Ephesus Church-Fordham initiative will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

The Town of Chapel Hill planning initiative will guide the development and investment in the Ephesus Church-Fordham area that binds Franklin Street, Elliot Road, Legion Road, Ephesus Church Road and Fordham Boulevard. The plan will determine solutions for the existing transportation network and define future land uses for the area.

For more information, contact economic development officer Dwight Bassett at 969-5010.

#### THE CARRBORO ITIZEN

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Carrboro Citizen is free to pick up at our many locations Council approves Courtyard plan

cil approved a special-use permit mercial real estate firm, to purthat will allow the new owners of The Courtyard on West Franklin Street to convert much of the shopping, office and dining center's upstairs space to apartments and construct a three-story parking deck off Roberson Street.

Approval by the council prior to the end of the year was sought by Franklin West LLC, which was set up by The Dilweg Com-

The Chapel Hill Town Coun- panies, a Durham-based comchase and improve the property. The company had asked for the change, saying that solving The Courtyard's long-running parking problems was a key requirement in its financing agreement. A dispute over parking be-

tween former owner Spencer Young and P.H. Craig, who owns three adjacent parking lots, led to the unraveling of the finances of dus of businesses. At one point, the center had a vacancy rate of 90 percent. In 2008, Wachovia Bank foreclosed on the property.

The first phase of the project includes the construction of a three-story parking deck with 88 parking spaces and conversion of the second and third floors of the center to 13 apartments. A second phase of the project could add up to 7,132 square feet

the center and triggered an exo- of floor area and one floor to the parking deck.

3

In other action last Monday, the council authorized the use of \$45,500 for traffic-calming projects for Sedgefield Drive, Highgrove Road, Gardner Circle, Hillspring Lane, Gimghoul Road and Perry Creek Drive.

The council also adopted a formal code of ethics in compliance with new state ethics guidelines. — Staff Reports

### Gallop & Gorge race draws 1,300

More than 1,300 runners showed up Thanksgiving morning to run in the Cardinal Track Club's annual Gallop & Gorge 8K race.

The race, the third leg of the club's Le Tour de Carrboro, start-

ed on Roberson Street and wound through downtown Carrboro, up to James Street and back down West Main Street. Jack Bolas, 23, shaved 40 seconds off the previous course record with a time of nates its proceeds to local non- ter. - Staff Reports

24:09. Bridget Duffy, 26, was the overall female winner. Due to a malfunction, most runners' times were unavailable.

The Cardinal Track Club do-

profit organizations, including Arc of Orange County, Table, Orange Cardiovascular Foundation, Optimist Club of Chapel Hill and the Orange County Rape Crisis Cen-

### Four honored with Davie awards

#### UNC News Services

The UNC Board of Trustees has honored four recipients with the William Richardson Davie Award, the board's highest honor.

Chancellor Holden Thorp and the trustees last week named state Sen. Linda Garrou of Winston-Salem, Quintiles Transnational Corp. founder Dennis Gillings of the Triangle, Chancellor Emeritus James Moeser of Chapel Hill and state Sen. Richard Stevens of Cary as the Davie recipients.

Established by the board of trustees in 1984, the Davie Award is named for the Revolutionary War hero who is considered the father of the university. It recognizes extraordinary service to the university or society.

Garrou is serving her sixth term representing North Carolina's 32nd district in the state Senate. The senate's senior budget writer for eight of her 11 years in office, she was instrumental in supporting a successful \$3.1 billion bond referendum for state universities and community colleges.

In 2007, Dennis and Joan Gillings made the largest single commitment from an individual in university history: \$50 million to the School of Public Health, renamed the Gillings School of Global Public Health.

Moeser came to Chapel Hill in 2000 as Carolina's ninth chancellor, serving until 2008. During his tenure, the Carolina First Campaign raised a record-setting \$2.38 billion. He helped launch the Carolina Covenant and over-

saw steady growth in faculty research funding.

Stevens is a triple graduate of Carolina: a Rotary scholar who earned his bachelor's degree in political science, his law degree and his master's degree in public administration. He served as Wake County manager and, in 2002, was elected to the state Senate, where he has served as co-chair of the appropriations on education/ higher education and education/ higher-education committees.

#### SUP'T

FROM PAGE I

"We think that it'd be a really great opportunity if the next superintendent would be willing to communicate a lot ... with the students and be more readily accessible and available for students' comments and concerns," she said.

Andrew Dowdy, a senior at East Chapel Hill High and correspondence secretary for the Chapel Hill Youth Council, said he would like to have a superintendent who

HARRINGTON FROM PAGE I

understands the importance of the high school academies, which are curriculums dedicated to arts, international studies, social justice and technology.

"I've seen [the academy] break the achievement gap in certain students. It gives students the opportunity to rise up," he said. "I think it's time that we have a superintendent that isn't afraid to break the lines that divide the student body.

Oskar Marzalek, a student at Chapel Hill High School, said he feels lucky to have had op-

nity First Financial Corporation, and that as of Sept. 30 its risk capital ratio stood at 12.78 percent. Loeser said he and other com-

portunities in school to take advanced courses and receive "the best of what Chapel Hill has to offer," but that all students should have similar access.

"I'm very grateful that I have had them, but I think that they can be used very effectively, given the staff that we have and the resources that we do have," he said. "A superintendent should be able to harness what we already have and do more with that."

Board members have said they would like to appoint a new superintendent by April.

this fall settled a deadlock over moving from Bank of America to either BB&T or Harrington lifted. Further complicating the by agreeing to pick Harrington only if it settled the regulators' concerns by the end of the year. Loeser said even before getting the cease and desist notice, Harrington had decided last month it was not likely it could meet the town deadline and withdrew its offer. Under rules passed by the board of aldermen, the town's bank contract will automatically be awarded to BB&T.

**GOT NEWS?** do you know something we don't? send it to us at: news@carrborocitizen.com

Däniel'Boor

32nd Annual

Christmas Craft Show

Sunday December 5th 9am-5pm

Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus from 9-11 am

Live Nativity Scene

The board will hold another public forum on the superintendent search on Dec. 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. at East Chapel Hill High School.

The public may also submit input regarding the search through a community survey, available online at surveymonkey.com/s/Y9MTLJZ. Paper copies of the survey are available in all school offices and public libraries and at various community centers. For more information, visit the superintendent search website under the Quick Links section at chccs.k12.nc.us

Loeser said he is not sure when the cease and desist order will be issue is that under last summer's financial reform legislation, the OTS will be closed next June and its functions assumed by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. We're at the mercy of regulators to take the order off," Loeser said. "That's now more complicated in that [the OTS] is being merged out of existence next summer."

HOW TO REACH US The Carrboro Citizen 942-2100 P.O. Box 248 942-2195 (FAX) 309 Weaver St., Suite 300 Carrboro, NC 27510

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He said he doesn't understand why the OTS would issue a cease and desist order now, given that regulators know the bank to be above the 12 percent threshold. The bank, he said, was rebuilding its ratio even without the sale.

In a release circulated by the bank this week, Harrington announced a \$3.7-million infusion from its parent company Commu-

pany officials were "shocked and disappointed" after getting notice of the cease and desist order.

"It doesn't restrict our operation in any way," Loeser said. "We were well above 12 percent when we got the order. What it does do to us is it gives us a PR problem."

The bank's record with OTS also worried members of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen, who





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# Community

#### THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

### **Briefs**

#### The bears

The Chapel Hill Service League's Christmas House wish trees will arrive this Friday at Carr Mill and University malls.

A 50-year tradition, the trees are decorated with paper bears. Each bear contains the gender and age of a child in need of a holiday gift. Shoppers can take a bear from the tree, purchase a toy for that child and return the gift to a collection box next to the tree.

Last year, 841 children received warm coats, books and toys. For additional information about Christmas House or how to contribute, call 933-1141.

#### WILPF gala

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Triangle branch celebrates its 75th anniversary with a gala on Sunday at the Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist, 506 Purefoy Road, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The event will feature a reception, international buffet and keynote address by Nancy Munger and Laura Roskos, co-presidents of the WILPF US Section.

Other highlights will include the premiere of a Triangle WILPF anniversary video and singing by the Raging Grannies. The celebration will also include the announcement of a fund to provide scholarships for young local activists to obtain leadership training at social justice conferences and training programs. A donation of \$15 to \$75 is suggested for the event.

#### Tree lighting

The ArtsCenter Singers and students from McDougle, Carrboro and Frank Porter Graham elementary schools will provide the musical accompaniment to this year's holiday tree lighting on the lawn at Carrboro Town Hall.

The ceremony starts at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 10.

#### Hoops for tots

The UNC Women's Basketball team is looking for your help in collecting toys for Orange County children with Toys for Tots.

Fans are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy for children aged 1 to 12 to the game tonight (Thursday), when the 14thranked Heels take on the Iowa Hawkeyes in Carmichael Auditorium at 7.

Donations to Toys for Tots help support the Orange County Toy Chest, a holiday program for low-income children.

#### Fire department sells Christmas trees for fundraiser

New Hope Volunteer Fire Department has Fraser firs and wreaths for sale this holiday season.

Firefighters will staff the tree lot at Station #1 on Whitfield Road just north of Chapel Hill from 3 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday until the trees run out.

Kids of all ages can also learn more about fire safety, tour the station and see fire trucks up close. Contact New Hope Fire Department on Whitfield Road at 493-1001 for more information.

#### Monument to be dedicated

The Town of Hillsborough will unveil a monument preserving grave markers at Margaret Lane Cemetery, a black cemetery that dates back to before the Civil War. Hillsborough Mayor Tom Stevens and the Rev. Derric Gregory Sr. of Mt. Bright Baptist Church will preside at the ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The brick monument, designed and built by Sam Dunevant, preserves three headstones from unknown grave sites at the cemetery, which also is called the Old Slave Cemetery. Margaret Lane Cemetery is located on the south side of West Margaret Lane between South Occoneechee Street and South Hillsborough Avenue.

### **HOUSE** Calls

Practicing family physicians from the UNC Department of Family Medicine have teamed up with The Carrboro Citizen to bring you a weekly feature responding to your questions about health and medicine. Send your questions or comments to yourhealth@unc.edu

This week we respond to questions about pedometers and consultations.

#### Dear HOUSE Calls, My

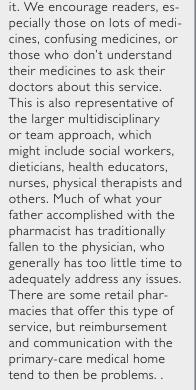
doctor recommended that I get a pedometer to increase my physical activity. I got one and it counts the number of steps I take each day. What is the right number for someone like me? I am a healthy though overweight 60-year-old woman.

Congratulations on getting a pedometer and on doing something to get healthier. Once you start wearing a pedometer, you can't help but pay attention to it and set daily and weekly goals. It's like having a contest with yourself. The general goal of pedometer campaigns is 10,000 steps per day or 70,000 per week. Less than 5,000 steps is considered sedentary. The real answer though is Ato figure out your normal number of steps and do a little more. If you walk 2,000 steps per day, going up to 4,000 would be a big improvement. If you are active but a little overweight, going from 10,000 to 12,000 could help with weight and

fitness. You may want to wear the pedometer for a week and get a daily average before setting a new goal. Some activities can really rack on the steps. Twenty minutes of tennis will get you 4,000 steps and 20 minutes of running at a moderate pace will get you 7,000. Thank you for asking about these devices.

Dear HOUSE Calls, I go with my 76-year-old dad to his doctor visits. At each visit, his doctor asks him if he is taking his medicines and inquires about problems. At my dad's last visit, the doctor felt like things were just not adding up and he asked my dad to see a pharmacist. This was so informative. We found out that my dad was missing one pill completely and taking another pill once daily instead of twice. Is this kind of consultation available to most patients? It seems like a great idea.

This is one element of what a comprehensive primarycare medical home should be able to offer patients. We're so glad your dad had this available to him and that



HOUSE Calls is a weekly column by Dr. Adam Goldstein, Dr. Cristy Page and Dr. Adam Zolotor on behalf of Your Health and the UNC Department of Family Medicine.

#### SUPER CROSSWORD WHEREABOUT

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## CitizenCryptoquote By Martin Brody For example, YAPHCYAPLM is WORDSWORTH. One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the two 0's, Y for the two w's, etc.. Apostrophes, punctuation, the length and formation of the words are all hints.

"Deadly"

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U'IA WAGXR, GTR UO
DGT SUCC G YAXNQT UT
MQZX WQZXN. NQ, QM
DQZXNA, FAGXAGCCQT
ARKA LAGT BUDWAC
BGPUBUCUAT, G DGBY
CAGRAX UT YQXO-GZ-
YXUTDA, WGUOU, QT OWA
NYXAGR QM DWQCAXG.

#### **OWASA** FROM PAGE I

Mac Clarke, chair of the OWASA board's finance committee, said the plan strives to be cost-neutral.

"We don't want to make money, we don't want to lose money," he said. "It's almost impossible to set up any project just to break even .... The thing we want to avoid are losses."

Jim Warren said he felt that allowing True North to conpresented a conflict of interest. rules were good enough."

"I don't have any problem

ority," he said. "I saw the word 'overmature.'... That's purely an economic term. That has no basis in science or ecology at all."

Robin Mulkey said she was concerned that the plan applied some of the Jordan Lake Rules to its riparian buffers, some of which are listed at 50 feet.

"I find it very ironic we're using rules for Jordan Lake. The reason we have Cane Creek Reservoir is because OWASA said Jordan's water wasn't good enough for duct both the assessment and them," she said. "The quality implementation of the plan wasn't good enough, but the

Alex Hessler, one of the few

your dad's physician had the

instinct to take advantage of

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### Weekly SUDOKU

#### by Linda Thistle

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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: \*\*

 $\star$  Moderate  $\star \star$  Challenging  $\star \star \star$  HOO BOY!

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with True North making a living. You guys have got to do it, but frankly this was a bad mistake hiring a company to do the assessment that you then would hire to do the work," Warren said.

Derb Carter, who works with the Southern Environmental Law Center, said the plan focused too much on economics and not enough on science. "What we have here is a plan that's driven by the lowest pri-

speakers from the audience who wasn't completely opposed to the plan, drew boos from some audience members.

"I'm not opposed to logging and I'm not necessarily for all logging," he said. "I just want to urge you to recognize that timber harvest is an important thing. It's a vital thing."

The OWASA board meets Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at the OWA-SA Administrative Building at 400 Jones Ferry Road.



#### Pick up a copy of **The Citizen** at one of these fine locations. Also available at many real estate offices in Carrboro & Chapel Hill.

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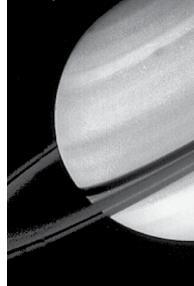
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CARRBORO Weaver Street Market Carr Mill Mall Harris Teeter The ArtsCenter Amanté Gourmet Pizza Carrburritos Piedmont Health Services Midway Barber Shop VisArt Video BaDa Wings Looking Glass Café Carrboro Business Coop Modern Fossil Drange County Social Club Speakeasy corner/G'boro & Main Weaver Street Realty Carrboro Family Vision Century Center Great Clips Cybrary Capelli's Imo's Diner Spotted Dog lessee's Coffee lice Price Books Carrboro Town Hall Carrboro Town Commons Cliff's Meat Market

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> Carolina Cleaners Laundromat Crescent Green Assisted Living Jones Ferry Rd Park & Ride CARRBORO PLAZA Carrboro Plaza Park & Ride North American Video Tar Heel Tobacco Carrboro Family Clinic

#### UPS Store Curves Wingman WHITE CROSS AREA

Harry's Market Fiesta Grill White Cross BP White Cross Shell Express Lane Maple View Farms

#### CHAPEL HILL

DOWNTOWN Caribou Coffee/downtown Visitors Center Hargraves Center Jiffy Lube Job Development Center West Franklin town racks Internationalist Books Franklin Hotel Time Out East Franklin town racks Courthouse Alley town racks North Columbia St. town racks

UNC CAMPUS UNC Student Union Bullshead Bookshop House Library UNC Family Medicine NC Memorial Hospital Ambulatory Care Center Carrington Hall Bus Stop Carolina Inn

#### EAST Chapel Hill Post Office/Estes Dr. Caribou Coffee Siena Hotel Whole Foods

Village Plaza Borders Books Harris Teeter / University Mall University Mall / Kerr Drugs A Southern Season Phydeaux Jersey Mike's Owen's 501 Diner Bruegger's Bagels/Eastgate Carmine's Restaurant Chapel Hill Public Library Food Lion/Ram's Plaza Chamber Of Commerce Days Inn Hampton Inn Sheraton Hotel

#### NORTH

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Flyleaf Books Foster's Market Hunan Chinese Restaurant **Chapel Hill Senior Center** Southern Human Services Carol Woods Bagels on the Hill Eubanks Rd. Park & Ride That Coffee Place Cup a Joe Margaret's Cantina Aquatic Center

Chapel Hill Mini Mart

#### McIntyre's Books Fearrington House Inn Galloway Ridge

#### HILLSBOROUGH

FEARRINGTON AREA

Weaver Street Market Andy's Burgers Maple View Farms Orange County Senior Center Orange County Public Library Cup a Joe / outside box MEADOWMONT AREA Daniel Boone Shopping Center

Sportsplex urham Tech/student lounge UNC Family Medicine

#### PITTSBORO

Pittsboro General Store Suntrust Bank (outside) Chatham Marketplace Pittsboro Public Library Carolina Brewery Pittsboro Family Medicine

CHATHAM CROSSING forrero's Restaurant Chatham Crossing Medical Center Lowes Foods / outside box

GOVERNOR'S CLUB Bean & Barrel/ Governor's Village Carolina Meadows/Café

SOUTH N.C. Botanical Garden Covenant House 15-501 South Park & Ride

UNC Wellness Center

Courtyard Marriott

La Vita Dolce Park & Ride bus stop

Market Square

Young Simpson Underwood Friday Center Park & Ride

Amanté Pizza – Falconbridge Nantucket Grill

SOUTHERN VILLAGE

Brixx Pizza Cafe Carolina

The Cedars

Tarantini

## . Southern Human Services

### **School Briefs**

#### **Board** meeting tonight

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education meets today (Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. at Chapel Hill Town Hall. Items on the agenda include:

- the election of a new board chair and vice chair;
- spot redistricting;
- the secondary dual-language program
- new and revised courses for 2011-12; and
- a proposed partnership with the Royal Beijing School.

For the complete agenda, visit chccs.k12.nc.us and click on "Board of Education."

#### Culbreth featured in New York Times

Culbreth Middle School was one of eight schools profiled in a recent New York Times article on how technology has changed teaching.

Sixth-grade social studies teacher Megan Taber was featured in the article highlighting the digital warm-ups she conducts in her classroom daily. The warm-ups employ the iPod Touch and a Google form that collects student feedback and a formative assessment of learning.

The article is available online at nytimes.com/2010/11/21/ technology/21brain.html?\_r=1

#### McDougle Middle to receive robot kits

EMC2, a data technology firm in the Triangle, will donate two complete VEX robot kits to McDougle Middle School.

The donation, valued at \$2,500, will allow the school's Technology Student Association to enter two teams of students in the TSA VEX Robotics Competition. Four students will join TSA sponsor Redmond Griff at the EMC headquarters in Durham for a day of training with company engineers.

McDougle was one of three Triangle schools to receive the donation. McDougle's TSA chapter has won a number of state and national honors in recent years. This will be the chapter's first entry in the robotics challenge.

#### Estes Hills holds science fair

Estes Hills Elementary School held a science fair Nov. 19 that featured 78 science projects by 119 students.

Students, including third-, fourth- and fifth-graders, went through the entire scientific process, from developing a hypothesis, conducting an experiment, recording observations and drawing conclusions. Students' projects involved determining the age and size of fish by examining rings in fish scales, what happens to cake if you leave out key ingredients, which dog toy or dog treat is the favorite with dogs, what happens to plants when grown in the dark and more.

#### Glenwood holds Multicultural Gala

Glenwood Elementary School held its annual Multicultural Gala on Nov. 18.

Students and their families had the opportunity to share information about their respective cultures. The event was coordinated by Glenwood staff members Anna Ouchchy and Andrea Bittle.

To view a multimedia presentation of the event, visit http:// tinyurl.com/25p2qqd

#### **Ephesus holds Turkey Trot**

Ephesus Elementary School faculty held the school's first Turkey Trot at 6:30 a.m. on Nov. 23.

Staff members gathered in the bus parking lot for a 30-minute walk around the neighborhood that surrounds the school. Principal Tori Creamer raffled off gift cards to reward staff for their participation.

The school also celebrated Thanksgiving with a Tree of Thanks in the school's atrium.

#### **CHHS** to hold benefit tea

Chapel Hill High School will hold its sixth annual Orchestra Benefit Iea on Dec. 5 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Carrboro Century Center. Raffle tickets are \$2 each. Prizes for this year's raffle include a Lenovo ThinkPad laptop, an Apple iPod Touch, UNC basketball tickets, symphony tickets, N.C. ballet tickets and dinners at local restaurants.

### A team that 'answered the bell'

#### **BY EDDY LANDRETH** Staff Writer

A Carolina football team held together by spit and tape managed to go 7-5 in the regular season.

Many may not comprehend how big an accomplishment this is.

"This football team, in my 37 years of coaching, is going to be one of my proudest group of guys that I have ever been around, for the way that they have answered the bell every single week, good times, bad times, tough times," UNC coach Butch Davis said.

"These are some great kids, kids who refused to surrender, refused to use any excuses."

The team has been torn from multiple directions, was humiliated by scandal and watched its roster ground to rice paper. The players never stopped compet-

"It feels great," senior safety Deunta Williams said after

UNC secured a winning season with a 24-19 victory at Duke in the regular-season finale. "At the end of everything, you kind of think of the beginning. It feels great to go out on a win." The beginning oc-

curred just around the time summer camp

convened and allegations of impropriety by several key players filtered through the media. By the time UNC went to Atlanta to start the season against LSU at the Georgia Dome, the Tar Heels were missing 13 contributors who had to sit out while they were investigated.

as a preview of how these players and coaches would respond. UNC came within two dropped passes in the end zone of defeating LSU.

injuries, this team had to fight,

rboro was finally able to hit the

locker rooms for the half, reeling.

had been dominated in a way quite unfamiliar to a team of

its caliber. Running backs An-

tonio Murchison and the Mc-

Coy brothers, Xavier and A.J.,

were responsible for four of East

Bladen's touchdowns, while Eagle

quarterback Daron Burney lofted

two through the air. The quarter

ended for Carrboro with a heart-

wrenching dropped pass in the

end zone, which punctuated what

awoke, however, as their team

began to display the tenacity and

A grumbling Jaguar fan base

had been a disastrous first half.

Down 42-14, the Jaguars

In the end, the opener served

With the suspensions and

scratch and claw for all it received.

'We doggone feel like we earned it," Williams said. "When you're in it, you don't really realize all the things that are going on. You just kind of think, 'Well, I can't focus on that

right now.'

You have to just keep pushing, keep pushing. That has been the mindset of the team. That's been helpful for us every game, coming out and competing."

In many ways, the victory against Duke reflected the season. The Tar Heels rode a roller coaster of emotions, mistakes and successes.

"I told the players in preparation for this ballgame that to win this game it was going to take a total team effort," Davis said. "It a remarkable accomplishment, took all three phases to win the given all that has happened. game."

Despite mounting a valiant comeback, the Jags came up just short in their

and sprinted to the end zone ond half defense, East Bladen

regional playoff game against East Bladen last Friday night.

on Carrboro's first posses-

sion of the second half. Two

touchdowns apiece from De-

Andre White and Farrar would

keep fans from leaving early, but

their efforts were ultimately not

enough to salvage the victory.

Despite Carrboro's staunch sec-

The Tar Heels went 4-1 on the road this year, broke a losing streak at Virginia that stretched to 1981 and even defeated Florida State in a miraculous victory in Tallahassee.

Every time a player was pulled from the field for a suspension or an injury, someone else stepped forward to take his place.

Anthony Elzy is the epitome of this resilience. Johnny White broke his collarbone in the midst of the best season for a Carolina running back since Jon Linton ran for more than 1,000 yards in 1997.

Against Duke, Elzy ran 23 times for a career-high 116 yards.

"Anthony ran with unbelievable determination," Davis said. "He ran hard. He is a tough, physical kid."

So now it is on to a bowl game and a chance to finish with eight victories, which would be

### While Jaguars exit playoffs, season a resounding success

#### **BY HENRY GARGAN**

Staff Writer

Just as all good things do, Carrboro High School's football season came to an end last Friday night after a hard-fought loss to East Bladen, 56-48.

An explosive start had the Carrboro student section (especially large, considering it was the day after Thanksgiving) on its feet. Hardly five minutes into the first quarter, Carrboro was on top 14-0, thanks to a Torell Farrar TD run and a blocked punt return.

But East Bladen managed to subdue the acolytes of C-Town quickly thereafter. After six count 'em - touchdowns from the Eagles of East Bladen, Car-

### **OBITUARIES**

#### Nancy Sitterson



poise that had carried them to this point. Nassar Omar caught a 53-yard Derek Bryant pass

nine grandchildren and four they lived on Hillcrest Circle; reception there. Donations may great-grandchildren - every one soon after his death in 1995, she be sent to any one of the followof whom she knew and loved, moved to Carol Woods. She was ing, the nature and number of and they her. Her last words, to a member of the first public li- which bear witness to Nancy's a group of her grandchildren vis- brary board, organizer for Meals generous spirit: Planned Parentiting her on Thanksgiving, were, on Wheels, active member of hood-Chapel Hill, Child Care Chapel of the Cross Episcopal Church and co-founder of the Carol Woods rose garden. Services will be at 3 p.m. Friday, December 3 at the Chapel of the Cross on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill, followed by a

Network-Pittsboro, Thompson Children's Home-Charlotte, Episcopal Relief & Development NetsforLife-Chapel of the Cross, Meals on Wheels-Chapel Hill or People of Faith Against the Death Penalty–North Carolina.

managed two more touchdowns

in the second half, just enough to

son with a 10-4 record and the

distinction of being the best

football team to ever represent

Carrboro High.

The Jaguars finish the sea-

stave off the Jaguar comeback.

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2010 5



Admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

soned Corn

### School Lunch

Dain E. Vines, M.D.

Family Medicine

Unique Home Decor

New & Vintage Jewelry

Bedding

Furniture

Clothing

#### Friday 12/3

Monday 12/6

Toasted Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Tomato Soup, Baked Beans

Chicken Stir-Fry with

Brown Rice, Steamed

Local Cabbage, Sea-

#### Green Beans Tuesday 12/7 Thursday 12/9 TUE Spaghetti w/ Italian Meatsauce, Chicken Parmesan/ Honey Wheat Bread-WW Pasta, Green stick, California Blend Peas, Herbed Broccoli & Cauliflower Vegetables

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Heather Fayhee, F.N.P.

Family Nurse Practitioner

Wednesday | 2/8 Cheese Quesa-

919-245-3247 for Appointments

1814 Becketts Ridge Drive, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Conveniently located at the end of Old Mill Business Park between I-40 and I-85

Nancy

"I love you all" – which can serve as her leave-taking from all her family and friends over the years.

In many of those years, Nancy was one of the talented and hardworking women at times unnoticed next to their equally talented and hardworking husbands who shaped the University of North Carolina in much of



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# CITIZEN CARRBORO

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#### FROM THE EDITOR

#### **Hometown heroes**

Chalk it up to Rep. Verla Insko for a rather prescient comment during her remarks at the opening ceremony of Carrboro High School in 2007.

Insko said she had attended a brand new school and could relate to what the students at CHS were about to go through. She noted that in its first season, her school's football team didn't win a game; but by the time she graduated, they'd won a championship.

Last week, the Jags' remarkable run ended with a loss in the Eastern regional semifinal playoffs to East Bladen, 56-48.

They didn't win a state championship, but they are still champions. And after a season that saw Carrboro defeat all but one of their bigger in-county rivals (and that Cedar Ridge game could have gone either way), the smack talking about the team from the little school south of town has pretty much dried up.

Of course, there's more to the school's athletic program than just football, and all the athletes at the school deserve a big show of support, as do the coaches, parents and grandparents who stuck by the school's teams in their building years. In addition to gridiron accomplishments, there will no doubt be a few more statewide honors added to the CHS trophy case this year.

But the football team that grew up together, and its coaching staff led by a very determined Jason Tudryn, deserve a special thanks. They taught the school and this community some important lessons in teamwork, persistence and battling adversity. Hats off to them. We look forward to next year.

#### Localizing

Since we're what the media pundits like to call a "hyperlocal" newspaper supported almost exclusively by local advertisers, we're not sure if The Citizen actually needs to remind our readers to remember to shop local this holiday season. But we will. Recent studies of the local economy continue to show that some of you are still sneaking over the border to make a few purchases. (OK, a lot of purchases.) We doubt we can stem that tide with a few choice words, but please remember that the money you spend here tends to stay here and the money you spend *thar* is scattered to the four winds. With just a tiny bit of extra effort, you can find about anything you want right here within the confines of Orange County and, in most cases, you can do so at a place owned and operated by one of your neighbors and a comfortable distance from the madding crowds.



## What small businesses need

#### VICKY DICKSON

I feel like I've been co-opted. My husband and I own a small business, this newspaper, and for all our adult lives have depended on income from another small, family-held business in Raeford. So we're apparently the people that George Bush and Sarah Palin are referring to when they use the jobs created by small-business owners as justification for the extension of tax cuts for the wealthy.

But the truth is, we've never had the kind of small-business income that would come close to the \$250,000 threshold for the tax. Since we know a number of small-business owners who seem to be in the same boat we are, we've been wondering exactly which small-business owners Palin and the Tea Partiers and Republicans are talking about.

A small minority, according to the Tax Policy Center. Their study of tax returns determined that only about 2 percent of small businesses would even be subject to the tax. And many of those are proprietorships owned by doctors and lawyers.

So we need to preserve a tax break for the rich in order to ensure that doctors and lawyers continue to create jobs? Hmmm ... Looks to me like the health care industry is pretty well set, job-wise, with the aging of the baby boomers. And the lawyers I know who make the kind of money that would subject them to the tax are – guess what? – trial lawyers. Bigger hmmm.

Small business clearly needs help, given that half of all start-ups don't last five years. But the help we really need isn't in tax relief; it's with the cost of health insurance.

We'd like to provide health insurance benefits for our employees in Carrboro, but we can't afford to. My husband's Raeford business had its longstanding Blue Cross Blue Shield plan canceled due to lack of enrollment. (Like all small group plans, it was expensive, and a majority of his employees either chose to go with a spouse's more favorable plan or go without insurance entirely.) But one employee who really needed the group plan was a woman who'd had a heart attack. When the company plan was canceled and she looked into an individual policy, she was quoted \$3,200 a month. So the lack of affordable health insurance forced a loyal employee, one who'd worked for my husband's company for over 30 years, to quit her job and go on Medicaid in order to be able to pay her medical bills.

It's ironic then that Republicans and Tea Partiers are calling for the repeal of Obama's health care plan. Has Sarah Palin or George Bush ever had to buy an individual health care policy? Our Blue Cross individual policy, though it costs close to \$400 a month, has a \$10,000 deductible – which means that when my doctor recommends a yearly breast MRI, at a cost of \$ 1,000 to \$3,000, I really have to think about it. And maybe put it off until we're done paying for the \$10,000-plus shoulder surgery my husband had in 2009.

We look at Obama's health care plan as a lifeline for small businesses like ours. Competing with big business is hard enough without contending with their ability to offer health care benefits we couldn't dream of providing to our employees.

So if they really do value small business, we'd like Republicans and Tea Partiers to reconsider their commitment to repealing health care reform. And also think about how much of the plan could be funded by taxing hedge-fund billionaires and corporate CEOs at a higher rate.

I know that Sarah Palin's unlikely to reverse her position on tax cuts, given the amount of money she'll save if the cuts are extended. One weekly episode of her new reality show reportedly pays Palin enough to put her at the \$250,000 threshold, so I guess it's not surprising that she would want to keep as much of her earnings as she can. But I wish she'd just say that, and quit using small-business owners like me and my husband as cover for her real motivation.

And I wish her supporters, and all those who voted for the Republicans who promised to do

#### LETTERS

### Help keep your neighbors warm

To Orange County Residents:

When the start of Blanket Orange County was announced this year, we were thrilled about the number of organizations that came forward and said, "We want to help. Can we be a drop-off location too?"

A total of 400 new or gently used blankets are needed for The Community House, Project Home Start, The Maggie Alvis Halfway House and The Neighbor House of Hillsborough.

Will you help by cleaning out your closets in search of gently used blankets you no longer need or by purchasing new ones the next time you are out shopping; and dropping them off at one of the above locations before Dec.10?

Blankets for single or twin-size beds are preferred, but we will find a good use for other sizes as well.

If you do not have any blankets to contribute and don't have time to shop, we will be glad to purchase blankets on your behalf.

Write a check payable to Blanket Orange County and mail to: Blanket Orange County, c/o Business Class Inc., PO Box 2037, Chapel Hill, NC 27515.

One hundred percent of your donation will be used to purchase blankets. And they will be purchased locally.

Thanks to all of the organizations that have helped us Blanket Orange County. We hope you will be able to help as well.

JAN BOLICK AND ROSEMARY WALDORF Blanket Orange County Organizers BlanketOrangeCounty.com

#### **Residents heard**

Jacqueline Muehlbauer recently wrote that Mayor Chilton trampled over the concerns of residents in regards to the Smith Level Road project by speaking for 30 minutes and that the government "completely disregarded the concerns of those that live on the road." This just is not true. I sat through countless hours of meetings, listening to the concerns of residents. Members of the public are often limited to three minutes each during board meetings, but many spoke for much longer about the project, dragging the meetings into the late hours. During one particularly long board meeting, we sat patiently listening as residents spoke, and the mayor spoke at the end. Does Ms. Muehlbauer really expect the Carrboro mayor to speak for only three minutes when responding to the concerns of the public?!

Clearly, Ms. Muehlbauer is not happy with the outcome of the process, and I sympathize with her. We have rejected proposal after proposal for nearly three decades, and Carrboro had to compromise with NC-DOT when approving the latest proposal for Smith Level Road. It will bring sidewalks, bike lanes and a roundabout, all supporting alternative transportation, but it also will make driving less convenient in some cases. It was a tough decision, but I know the aldermen listened closely to the concerns of the people who spoke during the many meetings and assiduously conveyed their concerns to the DOT.

Think about that next time you're gassing up the sleigh for a trip down I-40.

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**MEMBER, NCPA** 

away with health care reform and permanently extend tax cuts for the wealthy, would think about what those policies are likely to lead to. Even if they aren't disturbed by the prospect of an ever-widening gap between rich and poor in this country, do they really want to continue to tilt the playing field to the big businesses that export jobs and against the small businesses that create them?

Vicky Dickson is co-owner of The Carrboro Citizen.

CHARLIE HILEMAN Chair, Transportation Advisory Board

#### **Ratify START**

Please call, now, to our N.C. senators, Richard Burr and Kay Hagan, to request their support for immediate ratification of New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) during this Nov./Dec. 2010 lameduck session of Congress.

This New START ensures inspections, improves verification and reduces the number of strategic nuclear weapons in U.S. and Russian arsenals. It is crucial for the safety and security of the American people and a most crucial step toward elimination of ALL nuclear weapons worldwide. The original START agreement, negotiated and ratified in the Reagan/G.H.W. Bush presidencies, expired on Dec. 5, 2009. With expiration, verification procedures also expired, making an immediate new treaty critical. New START has strong bipartisan support in the present Congress and the support of former secretaries of state Kissinger and Shultz and many other American leaders of both parties.

Our President Obama and the Russian President Medvedev signed New START on April 8 in Prague. It has since awaited action by Congress. If the Senate doesn't act before January, the ratification process must begin all over again in 2011.

> PAM SCHWINGL *Durham*

#### 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. Emailed letters are preferred. That said, send your letters to:

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

EMAIL: editor@carrborocitizen.com FAX: 919-942-2195

### Backing up from the corner

#### **CHRIS FITZSIMON**

There was a time not too long ago when North Carolina's troubled mental health system appeared to be turning the corner after years of woeful funding, ill-advised polices and questionable leadership. That time is gone.

Consider the events of the last few months. The state is preparing to close Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh to save money, according to State Health and Human Services Secretary Lanier Cansler.

The federal government announced recently that it is investigating North Carolina's mental health system in response to charges from the group Disability Rights that the state was illegally placing more than 6,000 people with mental illness in adult-care homes.

Staff members in the homes have no experience dealing with people with a mental illness, potentially putting everybody in the home at risk – the patients, the staff members and the other residents of the facility.

Late this summer, the Wake County Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness released a report showing that people with a mental illness faced longer waits in emergency rooms and state facilities than other patients. People waiting for care in a state psychiatric hospital during the first six months of 2010 waited an average of almost three days.

It sounds like the state could use more hospital beds for the mentally ill.

Last week, HHS officials released a list of potential budget cuts of 5-15 percent to comply with a request from Gov. Beverly Perdue as she puts a spending plan together for next year to address the state's \$3.5 billion budget shortfall.

The proposed cuts include major reductions to mental health programs and services that are already falling well short of meeting the needs of many communities.

Leaders of the new Republican majorities in the state House and Senate continue to insist they will balance next year's budget with cuts alone and refuse to consider raising new revenue. That means many of the cuts identified by mental health officials will be made, further crippling a system that's already sputtering.

Cansler, who is now in an almost impossible situation, says the state is closing Dix to save money. And it is true that the disastrous 2001 mental health reform scheme called for fewer hospital beds and greater investments in community services so patients could be treated closer to home.

But the services have never been adequately funded and they are certain to be slashed next year. It seems likely the state will be left with the worst of both worlds: too few hospital beds for the people who need them and inadequate community services for the families who rely on them.

It was easy during the Easley Administration to blame the governor and his HHS officials for the mental health disaster – and for the most part, they deserved it. At the very least, they were guilty of benign neglect, and people suffered as a result.

Now there's not just an individual or two who are directly responsible, though the buck does stop with the governor. Instead, the problem now is the political climate and the people who refuse to confront it.

The state doesn't have to close Dorothea Dix and displace patients and their families, not to mention the workers who have faithfully kept the place running year after uncertain year.

The state doesn't have to slash community services either. There's no law that says the only way to respond to a crisis is to balance the budget on the backs of people least able to defend themselves in the halls of the General Assembly.

But unless somebody in Raleigh finds the political courage to confront the conventional budget wisdom, forget about the mental health system turning any corner. It's heading backwards quickly and running over families and people with a mental illness in the process.

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

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### **Recipe of the Week**

### **Eggplant Casserole**

from Mary Hendrick, Market Shopper

#### Ingredients

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eggplant\*, sliced I lb ground turkey

- I container sungold or (other cherry) tomatoes\* I pint mushrooms\*
- I onion\*, sliced
- 3 sweet peppers\*, sliced
- I bag fresh spinach\*
- I jar Tomato Sauce (or homemade tomato sauce)
- Fresh basil\* 3/4 cup Mozzarella cheese\*, shredded
- 3/4 cup Parmesan Cheese, shredded
- 1/2 Tablespoon olive oil
- Oregano (about 1/2 tablespoon or to taste)

#### **Procedure**

Layer the sliced eggplant on a sheet pan and broil for 3 minutes or until lightly toasted. Brown the turkey, remove from pan and set aside. In the same pan, sauté the tomatoes, mushrooms, onion, and peppers with olive oil. Season well, with oregano. In a casserole dish, spread a layer of tomato sauce on the bottom. Layer half of the veggie mixture, half of the ground turkey, a layer of fresh spinach, and a layer of eggplant. Cover the casserole with tomato sauce and some fresh basil and layer again. Top with a little more tomato sauce to cover all the eggplant and spinach. Bake at 350 degrees for 40-50 minutes. Top with cheeses and bake an additional 15 minutes until cheese is fully melted and slightly toasted. Serve plain, on pasta, or on crusted bread.

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### VOLUNTEERS

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN SEEKS individuals interested in volunteering with the newspaper and its web operations. Experience with newspaper writing, proofing, photography and web applications is preferred. An interest in schools, sports and community events would be helpful as well. Contact editor@ carrborocitizen.com

#### FARM/GARDEN

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**



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CAMERON AVENUE BUNGALOW with a stately center staircase, plaster walls, rocking chair front porch and many original details. Corner lot with mature oaks trees for shade. Walking distance to campus, Franklin St. and downtown Carrboro. \$315,000 Weaver Street Realty 929-5658

SOLTERRA CO-HOUSING COM-MUNITY 3BR/2BA. Gorgeous 134 Solterra Way, SW Durham. \$249,900. Organic garden, fenced dog run, common house, play equip. Pat Neagle, RE/ MAX Winning Edge 919.368.4068

#### RECENTLY FROM PAGE I

LaVerne Candelori, who works with the family, has been part of the production line since 1997. Others required to finish the job know their responsibilities: Daughter Mary Leadbetter, in town from Singapore, monitors the brittle and when it's ready, wipes off the butter, cracks it into pieces and places it in plastic bags; daughter Fran Mullen wraps and decorates the packages; wife, Ida, reads The Carrboro Citizen when not needed as taster.

When Bill was president, Ida and their three daughters (their youngest, Betsy, who adored the holiday season, died in 2002)

made two other family recipes every year: fruitcake and pulled mints (taffy). The girls grew up in the president's mansion, where the holidays were filled with baking and candy-making - when they weren't helping decorate the house, as Mary and Fran were this day when not needed in the kitchen.

"I always assumed that giving a homemade gift at Christmas time was a Southern tradition," Mary said.

Now it's Bill's time to run the homemade gift-giving, which includes providing batches to local nonprofits with requests for an auction item.

LaVerne starts each batch by cooking the sugar, corn syrup and water until the sugar dis-

solves, then adding the peanuts just before moving the skillet over to Bill, who completes the cooking process while LaVerne prepares to start the next batch.

Two hours from start to finish, Bill placed the skillet from the final batch into the suds and began wiping down the stove top. "If it hardens on the stove it's a real mess," Friday says as he erases every dribble.

Only those who have attempted to make peanut brittle know the art form required to accomplish it successfully every time. Bill waits for the colors of each stage and prompts neophytes to "use your eyes. Can you see how the peanuts have softened? Watch that color," he says as the peanuts change from white to golden un-

der his constant stirring. Then, as he adds the baking soda at the end and it bubbles up blonde and frothy, he knows it's ready to be poured onto the marble.

He also knows his limit: five batches a day, which he plans to repeat 20 more times this year.

Two of the batches made on the day after Thanksgiving will be available at the Orange County Rape Crisis Center Annual Auction on Sunday beginning at 5 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Sheraton, hosted by Patti Thorp with Chancellor Holden Thorp on the keyboards with the jazz and blues band Equinox. See OCRCC.org for tickets.

Contact Valarie Schwartz at 923-3746 or valariekays@ mac.com

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> Here's to Paperhand Puppets and their winter show (tickets available now!). And here's to the occasional warm day amid the winter chill.

Here's to our town, our friends, and everyone who makes our community what it is.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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## PETS OF THE WEEK

#### PAWS4EVER — Etta is a

2-year-old black terrier mix. She is a very smart and energetic girl who loves learning new tricks and does excellent in obedience classes. She loves being with her person and getting attention, but not rough lovings like children sometimes give with out meaning to. She is housetrained and crate trained and loves sleeping in her crate at night. She can tolerate another submissive dog or a cat, but would prefer to be the only spoiled princess in the house.

Contact Paws4Ever, 6311 Nicks Road, Mebane or call 304-2300. You can also go online at paws4ever. org

geous red merle Australian shepherd is around a year old and looking for a new place to call home. He's a little shy at first, but warms up quickly and adores people. He's even used to being around small children and loves

**ORANGE COUNTY** 

Meet O'Mally! This gor-

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them! He likes other dogs, but may be a little weary of new canine friends until he gets to know them. Visit him today at Orange County Animal Services, 1601 Eubanks Road in Chapel

Hill. You can also see him and other adoptable animals online at co.orange. nc.us/ animalservices adoption.asp



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#### **CRYPTOQUOTE ANSWER: Deadly**

It travels with the speed of lightning, I've heard, and it can kill a person in four hours. So, of course, we are all on edge.

Jean Michel Maximilien, a camp leader in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on the spread of cholera.

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ups The UPS Store<sup>®</sup>



Jesse Perry makes a point with lifelong hikers at Howell Woods.

#### FLORA FROM PAGE I

However, sometimes it's exhilarating to go farther afield to explore new places.

One such place l've wanted to explore is Howell Woods in nearby Johnston County. Several weeks ago, I joined like-minded folk in the able hands of N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences naturalists Jerry Reynolds and Jesse Perry on a day-long exploration of the 2.800-acre "outdoor classroom" associated with Johnston Community College's Rudolph Howell and Son Environmental Learning Center.

You are welcome to visit Howell Woods (howellwoods.org) on your own. There are attractions to engage the entire family. Twentyfive miles of trails, 24 separate loop trails, introduce you to a diversity of habitats including bottomland hardwood forests, seasonal wetlands with boardwalks, sandhill pine and scrub oak and longleaf pine forest restorations.

If you visit on a weekend, look for Stephen Ashby, a staff member who cares for the wildflower and other gardens next to the learning center. He's full of helpful information about the history and nature of the place.

Jerry and Jesse quickly identified discoveries made by the members of our group, who were scrambling in all directions like preschoolers. Highlights spotted were marble salamanders, latefall grasses and wildflowers and the brilliant color of turkey oaks, which hold their leaves perpendicular to the ground to PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

conserve moisture. I was most excited to see the eyed elater click beetle found beneath fallen leaves inside a rotting log. When asked, "Does it bite?" Jesse obliged in demonstrating that it does, and it tagged along on Jesse's finger for quite a ways. (Jesse was goodnatured about it!)

Jerry Reynolds schedules monthly Museum day trips (naturalsciences.org) to natural areas not far from Raleigh. The next one is Dec. 8 to Raven Rock State Park below Sanford. There may still be spaces left.

Whatever you do, get out into nature, leave your worries behind and let those leaves remain beneath the trees where they fall.

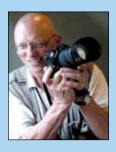
Email Ken Moore at flora@carrborocitizen. com.

eep in the bowels of old Phillips Hall on the UNC campus, two rows of black-and-white photos from the '70s line the walls. They hang there commemorating a long-expired photo class, Physics 45, (the physics of optics) taught by the redoubtable Prof. Ross Scroggs. As a '60s survivor of the toughest photo class I ever took, I strolled that hall recently examining each photo with intense interest – until this simple headand-shoulders portrait stopped me dead in my tracks. There beneath the photo it read: "Jill McCorkle." Could this be one and the same as our own world-class author |ill McCorkle of Hillsborough (Going



The Mystery Woman of Phillips Hall

Away Shoes, Ferris Beach, The Cheer Leader, etc)? So I hatched a plan: Let's see what McCorkle herself has to say about the photo. But when I cornered her at a literary event recently at Fearrington Village, she claimed she did NOT take the class, much less make the photo – nor did she know why her name was posted beneath the photo! Thus we are left with a mystery. WHO is the anonymous woman pictured above? And WHY is Jill McCorkle's name displayed beneath as the student-photographer? The old photo-detective is soundly stumped. Any thoughts, clues or insights are welcome.



### A THOUSAND WORDS

BY JOCK LAUTERER

Do you have an important old photo that you value? Send your 300 dpi scan to jock@email.unc.edu and include the story behind the picture. Because every picture tells a story. And its worth? A thousand words.

### WATER WATCH Source: owasa.org Tuesday, November 30

WATER SUPPLY: OUR RESERVOIRS ARE 67.80% FULL

PRECIPITATION IN CARRBORO: THIS MONTH: 1.36" PAST 12 MONTHS: 36.23"

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