



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE  
 Brilliant red berries of deciduous holly brighten the winter landscape.

## Plant a deciduous holly

**FLORA**  
 By Ken Moore

Last week I received a call: "Ken, where can I find a deciduous holly for my wife for Christmas?" This small native tree is not commonly found in nurseries, but this time I had a happy answer.

Having recently dropped by the Carrboro Southern States to pick up the bow of 25 yards of red ribbon being donated for the town's giant holiday wreath, I was stopped in my footsteps by a group of deciduous hollies in full berry there in the garden center.

Though holly fruit are correctly termed drupes, most of us call them berries, and these berries absolutely sparkled. Some of the tags on the various little trees were labeled "Sparkleberry," one of several cultivars of deciduous hollies. The true deciduous holly, *Ilex decidua*, a single- to multi-trunk small tree, is commonly called Possum Haw. Now, who is going to get really excited about that name? I would like to know the story behind that one. Common in woods throughout the Piedmont and coastal plain, this little tree is thoughtlessly destroyed when forests are cleared for new residential development. Unlike the more familiar evergreen spiny-leaved American Holly, *Ilex opaca*, deciduous hollies are not readily noticed where they are so plentiful in our local woods.

The other deciduous holly sometimes found in local nurseries is *Ilex verticillata*, Winterberry Holly. This one, growing throughout the state in wet habitats, will mature as a multi-stem large shrub and the berries, though often larger and brighter than the berries of the tree form,

SEE FLORA, PAGE 5

## Garbage collection, recycling adjusted for tinsel time

The Town of Carrboro and Orange County Recycling have adjusted their schedules for the holiday season.

Town offices will be closed in observance of the Christmas holiday on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 24-26. There will be no garbage collection on these days. Garbage collection for businesses and households scheduled for Monday and Tuesday will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 26. Those scheduled for Wednesday will see their

garbage collected one day late, on Thursday, Dec. 27.

There will be no recycling services on Tuesday, Dec. 25. Tuesday's recycling will be collected on Saturday, Dec. 29. Orange County Recycling will resume normal pick-up schedule on Wednesday, Dec. 26.

The Town of Carrboro will be collecting Christmas Trees as a part of its yard-waste collection schedule. The trees should be placed along the curbside and all ornaments and stands should be removed from the

trees. For those with regular trash pick-up on Monday or Tuesday, yard waste is collected on the first and third Wednesday each month. For those with regular trash schedule on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, yard waste is collected on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

The town also issued a reminder that luminaries won't be allowed this year due to dry conditions and a statewide ban on open burning.

## BUBBLING WITH ENTHUSIASM



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS  
 Smith Middle School students went all out for water conservation at last weekend's holiday parade. Dressed in bathrobes and shower caps and blowing bubbles and carrying banners reminding the community to conserve, the students provided a good-natured reminder that the drought is far from over. See more photos from the parade and other holiday festivities on page 10 and on our website at [www.carrborocitizen.com](http://www.carrborocitizen.com)

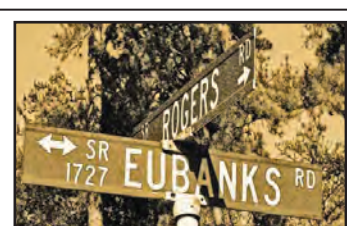
## Transfer station questions linger

By TAYLOR SISK  
 Staff Writer

Did Mike Nelson feel rotten when he voted in favor of placing a solid-waste transfer station on Eubanks Road?

"Oh, god, yes," says Nelson, a member of the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

"I think it was difficult for almost everyone involved," he says of the unanimous decision made by the board last March, a decision that has since been overturned after the community, led by the Rogers-Eubanks Coalition to End Environmental Racism, intensified its efforts at bringing attention to what they believe to be an environmental injustice. After 35 years of having lived with the Orange County Landfill and all its at-



*Editor's note: This story is the fourth in a series that examines 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. To read the stories in this series and for other resources, go to [www.carrborocitizen.com/main/rogers-road](http://www.carrborocitizen.com/main/rogers-road)*

tendant consequences, the Rogers-Eubanks community was unwilling to quietly accept this additional burden.

"I think that just about any elected official will tell you

there are times when they vote on something and they know that there are people who are going to leave the room hurt," Nelson said in an interview with *The Citizen* shortly after the decision, reflecting on that vote. "And for me, that was one of those nights. I was really torn up about it."

Nelson wasn't alone in his discomfort: Others among his fellow commissioners felt likewise.

"I think that I can fairly say that more than one commissioner had trouble with that decision," says board member Valerie Foushee. "We agonized over it."

And while Moses Carey, who was then board chair, said that he felt the decision was made for "good reasons at the time," at the Nov. 5 commission meeting at which it was announced the search for a

transfer station location would be reopened he said, "I've had a change of mind about the location of the transfer station on the Eubanks Road site, and ... I'm going to support restarting the search process, recognizing that it will be well into next year before we resolve this matter again and select another site, if we select another one."

"I'm not saying that we should eliminate the Eubanks Road site from further consideration as we go through the search process again," Carey continued, "but we do need to decide [if] we want to eliminate it for social justice or other reasons."

### Establishing criteria for waste transfer

The federal Environment-  
 SEE JUSTICE, PAGE 7

## UNC wants gas

By SUSAN DICKSON  
 Staff Writer

The Board of County Commissioners agreed on Tuesday to consider a proposal by UNC to use county landfill gas to power the university's Carolina North development.

Commissioners and county officials have said they would like to launch a possible gas-recovery project at the landfill as a way of reducing greenhouse gases. County staff last week had recommended that the commissioners request proposals from private firms as well as the university, but university officials said they would not bid against private firms.

Commissioners postponed a decision regarding the proposal process so that university and county officials could meet to discuss UNC's possible proposal.

"We want to make Carolina North carbon-neutral, period," said Carolyn Elfland, UNC associate vice chancellor for campus services. "The landfill gas alone would make the energy carbon-neutral in the first phase, so that's why we're really interested in it."

Elfland said the university plans to break ground on the first phase of Carolina North in January 2009, adding that officials hope to use the gas to simultaneously create both thermal and electric energy.

"It's much more efficient to do it that way," she said.

Commissioners had last week questioned whether the university would need to flare the gas, rather than use it for energy, for a period of time before the first phase of the Carolina North development is complete.

"If for a short period of time we needed to flare the gas because we wanted to address the odor issue, that might be acceptable among us, but clearly the end product has to be energy or some other beneficial usage," Elfland said. "Flaring it forever is not an acceptable solution, and that's not really what we want to use it for either."

Commissioner Mike Nelson  
 SEE BOCC, PAGE 10

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**INSIDE**

**Study encourages shared food-processing facility**

See page 5

## Youth teaching the true prize of sustainability

**RECENTLY**  
 By Valerie Schwartz

*"What improvements would you like to see in your community with respect to environmental stewardship, social equity and economic prosperity?"*

The above question started a contagion of thought that, like the falling leaves, continues to rain upon our community. The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber Foundation for a Sustainable Community posed the question as an essay contest for students of our three high schools. Three prizewinners — all students at Chapel

Hill High School — were selected from the 50 entries.

The first- and second-place winners, Pete Singer and Julia Ganzi, respectively, both 15, are students of Thomas Greene, a native of Hickory, who's in his first year of teaching civics/economics and world history. He saw the contest as an opportunity for his students to connect what they were learning in class with the nearby outside world and offered extra credit for students who entered.

"It's good to connect with the community," Greene said. Reading the essays (10 of his students participated), provided him a closer look at his new community.

Proof that Greene's on the right track with his teaching comes through in his words and actions: "If your life is not improved or your understanding of life is not improved, I'm not doing my job right," he said of what he teaches about government policy, his passion. "I don't lie to my kids." He lets them figure things out. "The youth of your community is what is going to make it sustainable, along with the quality of their education."

"He's really an inspiration to his students," said Debbie Singer, mother of Pete, herself an inspiration and sustainer, having found room in her family of six children for two more children whose mothers'

troubles left them without the attention they deserved.

Pete won \$500 for himself and \$150 for Greene as teacher of the first-place winner.

But Pete didn't keep the money. He went with Plan B, which was to give the money to a neighbor whose home was lost in March to a fire. Plan A had been to start the nonprofit he mentions in his essay.

"HOPS, or Helping One Person Succeed, is my idea of a program funded through private and public means, through the community, that would mentor and assist the single African-American mom," he wrote. "A program to be set

SEE RECENTLY, PAGE 4

**HOW TO REACH US**

**Contact Us**  
 The Carrboro Citizen  
 P.O. Box 248  
 Carrboro, NC 27510  
 919-942-2100 (phone)  
[editor@carrborocitizen.com](mailto:editor@carrborocitizen.com)

**Advertising**  
[ads@carrborocitizen.com](mailto:ads@carrborocitizen.com)  
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This Week - December 14 — 20, 2007

Friday
Free show at Cradle:
Boxbomb releases
their CD with
Barbarella, Josh
Moore and Yearling.
8pm
The Second Friday
Artwalk is today!



Saturday
Free show at Local
506: SNMNMNM
celebrates their 10-
year anniversary with
guest performers.
10pm
Or see a Festival of
Carols at Memorial
Hall at 8.

Sunday
The NC Society
for Ethical Culture
presents A
Winter Solstice
Celebration.
Starts at 11 a.m.
at The ArtsCenter.

Monday
Free show at Reservoir:
Dirty Money,
Dr. Powerful
and Blag'ard
perform
around 10 p.m.

Tuesday
Woody Durham
discusses UNC
basketball over
food at the Lords
A' Leaping
Luncheon at
the Carolina Inn.
Lunch is at 11:30,
costs \$25.

Wednesday
Trekky Records
presents
Christmas at
the Cradle. Tons
of bands, only
ten bucks. Doors
at 7:30

Thursday
Catch Jim
Watson's
22nd Annual
Christmas Show
at The Cave. 8:30
p.m., admission
is \$5.

Arts Calendar

Carrboro

Chatham Artists Guild Open Studio Tour - Center Gallery at The ArtsCenter, through Dec 18. All 52 artists on the tour are represented in this exhibit. 300-G E Main St, Carrboro. 929-2787, www.artscenlive.org

Paintings by Stephanie Smith - Family rendering acrylic paintings. Through Dec 23, East End Gallery at The ArtsCenter. Artist's reception: Fri, Dec 14, 6-9pm. 300-G E Main St, Carrboro. 929-2787, www.artscenlive.org

Paintings by Peg Bacheneimer and Catherine Carter - Through December at Provence Restaurant, 203 W Weaver St, Carrboro. www.pegbacheneimer.com

Chinese Red Glazed Pottery by Ben Owen III - Through Dec 31. NC Crafts Gallery, 212 W Main St, Carrboro. 942-4048, www.nccraftsgallery.com, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 1-4pm.

Super Awesome Holiday Family Show - Bright, stary, and really special! Dec 14-Jan 7 at Wootini, 200 N Greensboro St, Carr Mill Mall, Carrboro. Opening reception: Fri, Dec 14, 7-11pm.

Works on Paper by John Ensslin - Through Jan 12 at Acme Food & Beverage Co, 110 E Main St, Carrboro. 929-ACME, www.acmecarrboro.com

Water: Our Most Precious Resource - Numerous works on display by a variety of artists, all with the theme of the beauty of water. Through Jan 15 at the Carrboro Branch Library, 900 Old Fayetteville Rd, Chapel Hill (McDougle Schools Media Center). Mon-Thu 3:30-8pm, Sat 10am-2pm, Sun 1-5pm.

Works by Sondra Dorn - Dec 14-Jan 30. Nested, 118-B E Main St, Carrboro, 338-8023, www.nestedhome.com, Tue & Wed 10am-6pm, Thu-Sat 10am-8pm, Sun noon-6pm. Artist's reception: Fri, Dec 14, 6-9pm.

The Conversation - New paintings by Steven Silverleaf. Through Feb 4, 2008 at Panzanella. Public reception: Mon, Jan 21, 5:30-7:30pm. Corner of Greensboro & Weaver Streets, Carrboro. 929-6626, www.panzanella.coop

sic, food, and art-related fun. For a listing of venues and times, visit www.2ndfridayartwalk.com. 2nd Fridays, 6-9pm, free!

Making the Grass Greener - Works by Jenifer Padilla. Fri, Dec 14, 6-10pm. Archer Graphics, 206 E Main St, Chapel Hill. 929-7522, www.archergraphics.net

Form & Function with Wood - Woodworking by Doug Trimble. Dec 13-16. Bean & Barrel, 50100 Governors Dr, Chapel Hill, 967-9990.

Palate & Palette - Oil paintings by Mary Stone Lamb. Through Dec 23. Horace Williams House, 610 E Rosemary St, Chapel Hill, 942-7818, www.chapelhillpreservation.com, Tue-Fri 10am-4pm, Sun 1-4pm.

Paintings by Judy Bauman - Through Dec 31. Market Street Books, Southern Village, 610 Market St, Chapel Hill, 933-5111, www.marketstreetbooks.com, Mon-Sat 10am-8pm, Sun 1-7pm.

Shrines - Works by Charron Andrews. Through Dec 31. Women's Health Information Center, NC Women's Hospital, 101 Manning Dr, Chapel Hill, 843-1759, www.nchealthywoman.org, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm & by appt.

Landscapes of the Mind - Paintings by Lynne Clarke. Through Dec 31. Jennings & Company, 104-A N Elliot Rd, Chapel Hill.

The Art of Looking - Selections from the collection of Charles Millard. Through Dec 30. Ackland Art Museum, 101 S Columbia St, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill, Office 966-5736, recorded info 843-1611, www.ackland.org, Wed-Sat 10am-5pm (2nd Fridays 9pm), Sun 1-5pm. Free.



The Art of Looking: Former director of Ackland Charles Millard returns to share his private collection. Pictured: Two Lovers Embrace. From India, circa 1800.

Holiday Animation Art: Cels & Drawings from Classic Holiday Animation Features - Dec 14-31. Animation and Fine Art Galleries, University Mall, 201 S Estes Dr, Chapel Hill, 968-8008, www.animationandfineart.com, Tue-Sat 10am-6pm. Reception: Fri, Dec 14, 6-9pm.

A Closer Look - Portraits of nature's details by Maryann Roper and Jean LeCluyse. On display through Dec in the Totten Center, NC Botanical Garden. http://ncbg.unc.edu, 962-0522

Holiday Exhibition - 100s of works by the Gallery's artists, including handmade ornaments, plus gold & precious stone jewelry by Barbara Heinrich. Through Jan 5, 2008. Somerhill Gallery, 1800 E Franklin

St, 3 Eastgate, Chapel Hill, 968-8868, www.somerhill.com, Mon-Sat 10am-5:30pm, evenings by appt.

Works by Jaquelin Perry, Sam Shelby & Lizzie Newton - Ongoing. Bloom Where You Are Planted, 708 Market St, Southern Village, Chapel Hill. 942-9880, www.BloomNC.com

Hillsborough

The Festive Season - New work in a variety of media by the Hillsborough Gallery of Arts' member artists. On display through Jan 20. 121-D N Churton St, Hillsborough. 732-5001, www.hillsboroughgallery.com

Cooperative gallery created & owned by local artists - Featuring original painting, photography, clay, sculpture, fabric, wood, glass, jewelry & other traditional & contemporary fine arts & crafts. Ongoing. Hillsborough Gallery of Arts, 121-D N Churton St, Hillsborough. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. 732-5001, www.HillsboroughGallery.com

Oil Paintings & Jewelry by David Sovero - Simplistic geometric forms with layers of rich color. Handmade jewelry. Ongoing. Sovero Art Gallery & Studio, 121 N Churton St, Hillsborough. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm. 732-3056, www.soveroart.com

Pittsboro

Calligraphy: The Art of Writing - Through Dec 31. Pittsboro Memorial Library, 158 West St, Pittsboro, 542-3524, www.pittsborolibrary-friends.org, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm (Tue 8pm), Sat 9am-5pm.

Winter Wonderland - Works by various artists including Leslie Fesperman. Through Dec 31. Fusions Art & Fine Craft Gallery, 53 Hillsboro St, Pittsboro, 260-9725, www.pittsboroshops.com/fusions.htm, Wed-Fri 10:30am-5:30pm, Sat 10am-4pm, 1st Sundays 1-4pm.

Cake - A photographic retrospective of 10 years of wedding cakes. Through Dec 31. Missy McLamb Gallery, 2000 Fearington Village Center, Pittsboro, 755-1117, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm.

Nature Reflected in the Artist's Eye - Six visions of our local environment by Chatham Artists members. At Carolina Brewery in Pittsboro on 15/501 through Jan 31.

Music Calendar



The Old Ceremony play the Cradle with Roman Candle on Saturday.

THURSDAY DEC 13
Blue Horn Lounge: Bo Lanke-nau & Lucy Sumner. 9pm
The Cave: Early: Alias Smith and Jones. Late: TBA.
General Store Cafe: Club Boheme. 8pm
Local 506: Maple Stave, Wemb-ley, Noncanon. 9:30pm
Nightlight: Engines, Soundpaint-ing Orchestra. 9:30pm. \$5

FRIDAY DEC 14
Cat's Cradle: Boxbomb CD Release, Barbarella, Josh Moore, Yearling. 8pm.
The Cave: Early: Jon Shain, Mark Simonsen. Late: Fontana, Dom Casual.
General Store Cafe: See No Weevil. 8:30pm
Open Eye Cafe: Johnsons Crossroads. 8pm

SATURDAY DEC 15
Blue Horn Lounge: Blue Diablo. 10pm
Cat's Cradle: The Old Ceremony, Roman Candle. 8:30pm. \$10
The Cave: Early: Grimball & Long. Late: Pistolero, TBA.
General Store Cafe: Trilogy's Annual Christmas Show. 8:30pm
Local 506: SNMNMNM Ten-year Anniversary. 10pm
Nightlight: Sequoya, Scott Waite Debaclé. 9:30pm
Open Eye Cafe: shore. 8pm

MONDAY DEC 17
Reservoir: Dirty Money, Dr. Powerful, Blag'ard. 10pm

TUESDAY DEC 18
Blue Horn Lounge: Steve Jack. 9pm

WEDNESDAY DEC 19
Blue Horn Lounge: The Solid Citizens. 9pm
Cat's Cradle: Trekky Records presents Christmas at the Cradle. 7:30pm \$10
The Cave: Late: Western Civ, The Longships.

THURSDAY DEC 20
Blue Horn Lounge: Tain Collins. 9pm
Cat's Cradle: Slick Rick, Connie Price & The Keystone, Percee P, DJ Haul. 9:30pm. RSVP only.
The Cave: Jim Watson's Christmas Show. 8:30pm. \$5
General Store Cafe: Tony Galiani Band. 8pm
Nightlight: Calico Haunts, Brandon Hemdon, Gambling the Muse. 9:30pm. \$5

UPCOMING:
Local 506 Christmas Jam 2007. Friday, December 21. 10pm. Free!



Chinese Red Glazed Pottery by Ben Owen III.



WE 12/12 SEATED SHOW MOYA BRENNAN (FROM CLANNAD)\*\*(\$16/\$18)
FR 12/14 - FREE SHOW! BOXBOMB CD RELEASE
SA 12/15 THE OLD CEREMONY AND ROMAN CANDLE\*\*(\$10)
WE 12/19 TREKKY RECORDS HOLIDAY PARTY:
TH 12/20 - SCION PRESENTS: SLICK RICK
SA 12/22 LOCAL HIP HOP BLOWOUT! MC JEWBRON, ADDICTIVE NATURE, KAZE\*\*(\$8/\$10)
SU 12/23 - FREE SHOW! BIG FAT GAP, JEFF CRAWFORD
FR 12/28 WINTER REGGAE FEST DUB ADDIS, JAMROCK AND DJ RAS J\*\*(\$6/\$8)
SA 12/29 - BENEFIT SHOW FOR CONRAD ZABOROWSKI SHIPS, WILL DONEGAN, I WAS TOTALLY DESTROYING IT\*\*(\$6/\$8)
MO 12/31 NEW YEARS PARTY: HOBEX AND KERBLOKI\*\*(\$10)
SA 1/5/08 DIAMONDS ARE FOR NEVER BENEFIT DJ FORGE\*\*(\$8)
FR 1/11/08 COSMIC CHARLIE (2 SETS, GRATEFUL DEAD)
SA 1/12/08 MARK KOZELEK (FROM SUN KIL MOON AND RED HOUSE PAINTERS)\*\*(\$15)
WE 1/16/08\*\*(\$10/\$12) THE ROSEBUDS
SA 1/19/08 - BENEFIT SHOW ROCK FOR ROE\*\*
WE 1/23/08 LOTUS\*\*(\$15)
TH 1/24/08 VIRGINIA COALITION\*\*
SA 1/26/08 (MOVED FROM 1/18) PERPETUAL GROOVE\*\*(\$15)

TU 1/29/08 SUPER FURRY ANIMALS
WE 1/30/08 COREY SMITH\*\*
WE 2/6/08 HIGH ON FIRE
TU 2/12/08\*\*(\$20) CITIZEN COPE
MO 2/18/08 JOE LALLY (FROM FUGAZI) W/EDIE SEDGWICK\*\*(\$8/\$10)
TU 2/26/08 SEATED SHOW DEAN & BRITTA / KEREN ANN\*\*
FR 2/29/08 JUNIOR BROWN
TH 3/6/08 MATT COSTA
FR 3/7/08 CHATHAM COUNTY LINE
SU 3/16/08\*\*(\$15) ON SALE 12/15 BOB MOULD
ALSO PRESENTING LOCAL 506 (CHAPEL HILL):
WED. JAN. 23, 2008 - \*\*(\$8/\$10) SIX ORGANS OF ADMITTANCE
WED. FEB. 6, 2008 - \*\*(\$10) MARAH, GASOLINE HEART, ADAM & DAVE'S BLOODLINE
SUN. MAR. 16, 2008 BLACK LIPS, QUINTRON
MON. MAR. 17, 2008 - \*\*(\$12) TILLY AND THE WALL, CAPGUN COUP
CAROLINA THEATRE (DURHAM) RESERVED TICKETS VIA CAROLINATHEATRE.ORG
SAT. JAN. 12, 2008 - (\$21-\$24) DRESDEN DOLLS
W/TWO TON BOA
FRI. JAN. 25, 2008 WEEN - (\$30)
DISCO RODEO (RALEIGH):
THU. JAN. 17 - (\$23/\$26)
CO-PRESENTED W/AC ENTERTAINMENT KILLSWITCH ENGAGE
W/EVERY TIME I DIE, DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN, AND PARKWAY DRIVE
THE ARTSCENTER (CARRBORO):
THU. JAN. 10, 2008 - \*\*(\$25) THE FREEWHEELING YO LA TENGO
W/KURT WAGNER
SUN. MAR. 16, 2008 - \*\*(\$20/\$23) DAVID WILCOX
SAT. MAR. 22, 2008 - \*\*(\$28/\$30) GREG BROWN

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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.

Portastatic headline Christmas at the Cradle on the 19th.

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## News Briefs

### Iredale receives \$500K judgement

Danielle Iredale, who lost her Seeing Eye dog Inka in an early morning hit and run at a bus stop on BPW Club Road in October, 2006, was awarded \$500,000 in civil damages by a jury in Hillsborough Friday.

Iredale, who was injured in the hit and run and suffered depression and post-traumatic stress afterward, sued Stephen White Coffee, who plead guilty to felony hit-and-run and driving while impaired in the case.

### Man charged with murder

Kenneth Earl White Sr. is being held without bail in Hillsborough. He is charged with the murder of Ebony Robinson who was found dead Friday on Wrenn Road, a gravel drive off University Station Road just north of I-85 in Hillsborough. Robinson, eight months pregnant, had been shot several times.

White, a neighbor who had a relationship with Robinson, was said to have threatened her the day before the shooting.

### Thompson cancer-free

Chatham County Commissioner Carl E. Thompson reports that his doctors have pronounced him cancer-free and that he will resume his commissioner duties at the upcoming Dec. 17th meeting.

"I am most grateful that the prostate cancer was found in the early stages and that the surgery to remove it completely was successful. My urologist, Dr. Cary Robertson from Duke University Hospital, reports that I am now cancer-free," Thompson said.

Thompson says he has little chance of relapse. He thanked the people of Chatham County who have sent him cards and kind wishes. "Most of all, I am thankful for their prayers, which meant a great deal to me and my family."

He added that he looks forward to resuming work as commissioner. "I know that there are critical issues to be addressed and I am ready to take on those challenges."

### Clark charged with another murder

Barbara Clark, the Pittsboro housekeeper accused of fatally beating her former employers, was charged with a second count of murder on Monday after another woman died over the weekend.

Clark, 41, was charged with the first count of murder last week after Mary Corcoran, 82, died Wednesday from injuries sustained during the beating. Margaret Murta, 92, died Saturday.

Clark is accused of attacking three women — former employers Corcoran and Murta, as well as Rebecca Fisher, 77 — in a Galloway Ridge apartment on December 5, after the women confronted her about stolen checks. Fisher was reported to be in stable condition at UNC Hospitals on Monday.

### Burning ban

Orange County Fire Marshal Mike Tapp reminds county residents that the current burning ban prohibits the use of open flames.

In addition, Orange County Forest Ranger Jacob Pressley said county 911 has received multiple calls daily for open burning violations — many related to residents burning leaves.

The State of North Carolina's Division of Forest Resources banned open burning on October 15 because of the drought. For more information, contact the fire marshal at 968-2050.

## Site work starts on parcel at Smith Level/15-501

By Kirk Ross  
Staff Writer

Lee-Moore Oil Company, owners of a 63.3-acre parcel off U.S. 15-501 and Smith Level Road have started clearing and grading work on part of the property, but aren't saying what they intend to do with it for now.

Chatham County Planning Director Keith Megginson said according to an erosion-control plan filed with the county, the company will clear roughly 20 acres along the section of the property nearest U.S. 15-501. But Megginson said he has yet to see a proposal for what might be constructed on the site.

The county has received a copy of a letter sent to Lee-Moore by state Department of Transportation engineers on requirements for a driveway at the Starpoint intersection across from the existing intersection of U.S. 15-501 and Smith Level Road.

According to a schematic in the DOT letter, the company requested particulars to convert the three-way intersection to a four-way intersection with an entrance to the Lee-Moore property on the western side.

The company has not responded to phone and email inquiries about what it intends to do with the property, which is located mostly in Chatham County but would have an entrance in Orange County.

The schematic used notes from the previous design for the site, which included a Lowes Home Improvement store in the interior of the property and three outparcels along U.S. 15-501. That proposal was successfully challenged in court by a group of neighbors in the area led by Robert Murdock, a ruling that was recently reaffirmed.

Murdock sued Chatham County over the way it handled the 2005 rezoning of the property. Earlier this year, Chatham's board of county

commissioners opted not to pursue the case further, but Lee-Moore stepped into the case and filed a motion to overturn the ruling.

After a hearing in Wake County On Dec. 3, District Court Judge Kenneth Titus upheld the ruling. James Exum Jr., Lee-Moore's counsel in the case, said the company intends to continue its fight.

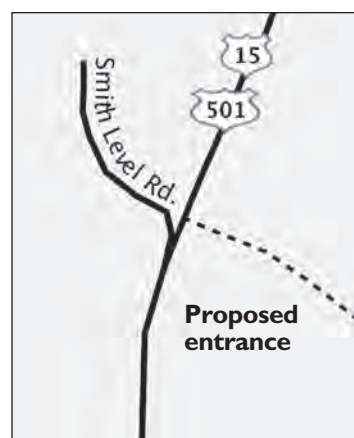
"We were, naturally, disappointed in the ruling. Lee Moore Oil does plan to appeal," Exum wrote in an email response to The Citizen regarding the judge's ruling.

Murdock said he's pleased with having the decision reaffirmed.

When he bought his property, the plans for the parcel included 20 acres for businesses along the highway and four 10-acre residential lots.

"We thought we knew what we were buying into," he said.

Though he won his case, it came at quite a price when the judge opted to not award Mur-



dock the \$80,000 in legal fees he and his neighbors incurred pursuing the challenge.

Unlike some states which have automatic recovery of legal fees, under North Carolina law judges have the option to grant or not grant legal fees.

Meanwhile, as another appeal looks possible, Murdock says he and his neighbors remain keenly interested in the activity at the site and what the owners have planned for it.

"We'll just sit and wait," he said.

## Shoppes developer takes town to court

By Kirk Ross  
Staff Writer

The developer who lost out on a bid to build a shopping center with a new Harris Teeter on Jones Ferry Road is challenging a decision by the town to limit access to the development off Barnes Street.

NorthWest Properties Group, which had a contract on a 7.7-acre parcel owned by Calvin Mellott and used as a construction material

yard, appealed the town's actions in refusing a connection for patrons to the proposed Shoppes at Jones Ferry from Barnes Street.

The project was to include a 52,250-square-foot Harris Teeter, a 17,550-square-foot building that could house 11 shops and a 7,900-square-foot building that could house five shops. The plan also included roughly 350 parking spaces.

During public hearings on the matter, Barnes Street neighbors queued up to ask

the town not to allow the entrance because the intersection was already dangerous because of traffic. The Board of Aldermen eventually approved the shopping center, but required that the Barnes Street access be limited to emergency vehicles only. In a letter to the town and the developer, Harris Teeter officials said the lack of a Barnes Street entrance would be a deal breaker. Harris Teeter made good on its promise and without the anchor tenant, NorthWest did not purchase

the property.

Town attorney Michael Brough said last week that the town is compiling materials and records on the project to send to superior court. Brough said a judge will then review the case on the record with no additional testimony.

"What is at issue is whether the applicant gets to keep the permit without the condition that limits access to the project from Barnes Street," Brough said.

## More NC youths paying attention to anti-smoking ads

UNC News Services

A statewide anti-smoking campaign reached significantly more youths across North Carolina between 2006 and 2007, and most kids are paying attention to the message, according to an evaluation by researchers in the UNC School of Medicine.

The evaluation found that awareness of the campaign — called "Tobacco. Reality. Unfiltered." or "TRU" — increased from 54 percent of North Carolina youths in 2006 to 71 percent in 2007. The rise in awareness followed an increase in funding, provided by the North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund, from \$1.1 million to \$4.5 million annually, which began in fall 2006.

The evaluation also found that North Carolina youths responded well to the ads. More than 95 percent who had seen the ads run in 2007 reported that they were convincing, attention-grabbing and gave good reasons not to use tobacco. More than 25 percent said they talked to their friends about the ads, indicating high

"chat value." Anti-tobacco and pro-health attitudes among North Carolina youth remained stable and strong, the evaluation found.

"North Carolina's TRU campaign is now reaching nearly three-quarters of young people statewide between the ages of 11 and 17 with true and effective messages from real people in our state who have suffered from tobacco addiction and disease," said Dr. Adam O. Goldstein, a professor in the UNC School of Medicine's Department of Family Medicine and director of UNC's Tobacco Prevention and Evaluation Program, which conducted the evaluation.

"We believe that North Carolina's TRU campaign is the largest sustained tobacco prevention media campaign in any tobacco-producing state," Goldstein said. "Our evaluation shows that the increase in funding is producing real and significant benefits."

The TRU campaign was launched in April 2004 with three ads featuring North Carolina youths telling personal stories of their own or loved ones' serious health conse-

quences from tobacco use. The ads, developed with information from a report on best practices in youth tobacco prevention ads, ran until October 2004. A fourth ad aired that fall, and a second series of ads aired in late 2005.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the TRU campaign, the survey research unit at UNC conducted several waves of telephone surveys. A baseline survey in March and April 2004 reached 634 youths between the ages of 11 and 17. Follow-up surveys took place

immediately after the fall 2004 ad campaign and immediately after the 2005 fall and winter ad campaign. The latest survey, for 2007, began four months after the funding increase went into effect.

The 2007 evaluation report also found that one-third of North Carolina youth remain susceptible to smoking, and that the current ads may have already reached their maximum impact in terms of receptivity among North Carolina youth. The report recommends airing new ads in the upcoming year.

### Water Report - December 12, 2007

LAKE LEVELS	
University Lake	7 ft., 7.5 in. below full
Cane Creek	13 ft, 3.75 in. below full
Total Availability Supply	44.3% of capacity
PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH	
Jones Ferry Rd. Treatment Plant	0.05"
Cane Creek Reservoir	0.02"
Normal rainfall for Dec.	3.14"
CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND	
7-Day Average	7.464 million gallons/day
30-Day Average	7.467 million gallons/day

Source: OWASA

TUESDAY-FRIDAY 10-8 • SATURDAY 10-6  
102 EAST WEAVER STREET  
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### Creative Cuts & Color

### 'Go Green' at the Red Hen

#### Buy Local this Holiday Season

DAILY DECEMBER SPECIALS

**THURS 12/13** - Buy Local! 15% OFF on local items  
**FRI 12/14** - 15% OFF all multiple piece sets  
**SAT 12/15** - FREE GIFT when you spend \$50 or more  
**SUN 12/16** - 15% OFF winter coats & jackets  
**MON 12/17** - Buy Local! 15% OFF on local items  
**TUES 12/18** - \$5 OFF purchases of \$25 or more  
**WED 12/19** - Save 20% "New with Tags" (P.O.)

Check the complete calendar at [www.theredhen.com](http://www.theredhen.com).

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IN SEASON



LIBBA COTTEN PATH - DEC 3 '07  
 "WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL, MY MOTHER AND FATHER USED TO BURY THEIR MEAT - THE WHITE PEOPLE WOULD TAKE IT AWAY FROM US." - E. COTTEN

ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

## Study encourages shared food-processing facility

Commissioners to consider facility for use by individuals, businesses

By Susan Dickson  
 Staff Writer

A recently completed feasibility study indicated a strong justification for a shared-use food-processing facility in Orange County, according to a report presented to the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday.

The three-month study included surveys of potential users, a site evaluation and proposed governance of the center. The center would allow individuals and businesses to produce value-added goods — such as jellies, pickles or tamales — in a licensed facility, and would be used by Orange, Alamance, Chatham and Durham counties.

According to Noah Ranells, county agricultural economic development coordinator, the study's survey results were stronger in this area than in any other counties that have

been surveyed in North Carolina.

"This is a very, very solid effort," he said.

Commissioner Moses Carney said the facility could attract investments from outside of the county, in addition to creating more locally produced foods.

"To have it located in Orange County would be an opportunity for us to practice what we've been preaching for all these years about how far you have to haul the things we eat and trying to minimize that distance," he said. "This is an opportunity to do it."

Commissioner Alice Gordon said she would prefer to consider the facility as part of the county's capital improvement plan.

"We don't have very much ... capital money, and we have a lot of needs," she said.

The board agreed to further consider the facility at a later work session.



Multi-trunk deciduous holly stands as a sentinel of the former forest that now contains the Botanical Garden's Herb Garden.

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

## FLORA FROM PAGE 1

don't seem to last as long. I believe the birds relish the flavor of the shrub berries more than the tree berries. Unless a flock of cedar waxwings or robins "de-berry" a deciduous holly tree in midwinter, your tree will bear red fruit right into spring.

My personal favorite will remain the tree form. I admire the irregular shape these trees attain with age. Several fine specimens are in the Botanical Garden's herb garden in front of the Totten Center. Those trees were there in the woods before the herb garden. They stand there as Tolkien-like sentinels of a former time.

For the first time in several years, those holly trees are not so heavily fruited. The ones in my wild yard are not fruiting this winter. All the green berries

set in the spring dropped, I believe, as a water-saving strategy. The trees themselves are still vigorous. There is wisdom in nature. Next summer, I know where my buckets of re-use water will be applied. With or without fruit, the deciduous holly is a year-round joy.

Now is a good time to plant deciduous hollies in your landscape. Make certain you get a male to accompany your females. If you live adjacent to woods, you may have males nearby. However, you most likely will not have a male Winterberry growing in your nearby woods, so a male is certainly a must. I have a magnificent Winterberry that fruits heavily every spring only to drop all the berries because there is no male friend growing near by.

I'm planting a male this winter! And I know one lady who is going to be very happy on Christmas morning.

## Holiday Dining Events

**Panzanella**  
**New Year's Eve Dinner**  
 Monday, December 31  
 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm

This is a special menu with a fixed price of \$40 per person. Enjoy a complimentary glass of champagne with dinner! Entire menu at panzanella.coop.

**Elaine's on Franklin**  
**New Year's Eve Dinner**

This year's gala will feature a four course dinner paired with a glass of champagne for \$65 per person.

**La Residence**  
**New Year's Eve Dinner**

Five Course Dinner, \$75 per person with a complimentary glass of Champagne.

Three course dinner, \$55 per person with a complimentary glass of Champagne.

Available 9 p.m. or later, \$35 per couple dessert and Champagne (patio only).



## Fearrington House Christmas Luncheon

A gourmet four course Christmas luncheon will be served from 12 p.m. - 3 p.m., featuring traditional favorites with an innovative twist. \$65 per person (excluding tax, gratuity and beverages). Call (919) 542-2121 for reservations.

## New Year's Eve Dinner

Celebrate the New Year at The Fearrington House Restaurant with an exquisite tasting dinner menu prepared by Chef Graham Fox. \$95 per person (excluding tax, gratuity and beverages). Call (919) 542-2121 for reservations.

## Livestock help

Two programs have been announced for drought-stricken livestock producers and horse owners in the state.

The Equine Partners Hay Relief Program will help horse owners with the cost of moving hay purchased outside North Carolina.

For information, call the department's Hay Alert toll-free hotline at 1-866-506-6222.

Gov. Mike Easley presented a plan to provide up to \$3.5 million to get hay for drought-stricken farmers who are running out of feed for their cattle and horses. Contact Karen McAdams at the Cooperative Extension Office at 245-2050 for information.

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**INSIDE COMMUNITY RADIO**  
 by DJ Doctor Tofu

WCOM LP FM 103.5 is a 100 watt FM station serving the Chapel Hill - Carrboro Community. Each week we present a brief view of the goings-on in the "100 watt wonder".

**"Radio Palante"** Fridays from 5-6pm  
**Format:** Youth produced Spanish language public affairs and music. Interviews, chats, and lively music all rolled together.  
**DJ:** Twelve bilingual high school students put on the Pa'lante ("let's roll!") show continuously for the past several years.

David Bellin (DJ Doctor Tofu) is the host of Carrboro Live! each Thursday 7-8pm. He can be reached by email at WCOM@David-Bellin.com or via the station website: www.CommunityRadio.coop.

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**Carrboro FARMERS' MARKET**  
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Saturdays, December 15 - Dec. 22, 8 a.m. - Noon

**what's at the market**

**December 15**  
 Arugula, beets, bok choy, broccoli raab, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, cabbage, fennel, garlic, greens: chards, collards, frisee, Italian dandelion, kale, mustard, mizuna, and turnip; herb bunches - cilantro, dill, and parsley; lettuces: baby mix, green and red leaf, red and green bibb, frisee, and hydroponic lettuce - bibb, red oak, and lolita rosa; mushrooms - oyster and shitake; persimmons - asian varieties, potatoes and sweet potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, spinach, winter squash, green

tomatoes, tot soi, turnips, 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.

\*Produce availability dependent on weather conditions

**recipe of the week**  
**Baby Turnips in Maple Cream Sauce from Sheri Castle of Creative Cooking with Sheri Castle**

**Ingredients**

- 2 pounds small, young white turnips\*
- 3 tablespoons chicken broth
- 3 tablespoons real maple syrup, preferably Grade B
- 1 tablespoon grainy Dijon mustard
- 3 tablespoons crème fraîche or Maple View Farm heavy cream
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

\*Available at market

12 to 14 minutes. Transfer the turnips with a slotted spoon to a bowl of ice water. When the turnips cool enough to handle, rub off the peeling and set the turnips aside.

3. Whisk together the chicken broth, syrup and mustard in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat.
4. Add the turnips and let them reheat gently, stirring so that the sauce coats and glazes the turnips.
5. Remove the saucepan from the heat and stir in the crème fraîche.
6. Season the turnips with salt and pepper.

Serve immediately.  
 Makes 4 to 6 servings

**MARK TRAIL**

ALTHOUGH THE RED POINSETTIA IS BEST KNOWN, THIS POPULAR PLANT ALSO COMES IN WHITE AND PINK VARIETIES

THE COLORFUL POINSETTIA IS A NATIVE OF THE MEXICAN JUNGLE REGIONS, WHERE IT IS KNOWN AS "FLAME LEAVES"

BECAUSE IT USUALLY BLOOMS IN DECEMBER, DISPLAYING THE TRADITIONAL RED AND GREEN, THE POINSETTIA IS ONE OF OUR MOST POPULAR CHRISTMAS PLANTS

ON CHRISTMAS EVE IT WAS THE CUSTOM OF THE VILLAGE FOLK TO DECORATE IT WITH FLOWERS. ONE CHRISTMAS A SMALL CHILD GRIEVED AND CRIED BECAUSE SHE HAD NO FLOWERS TO PLACE ON THE MANGER...

BUT AS SHE GRIEVED, AN ANGEL APPEARED AND SAID, "LOVELY CHILD, WEEP NO MORE GO PLUCK A WEED FROM THE ROADSIDE, BRING IT TO THE ALTAR AND WAIT"

EARLY INHABITANTS OF MEXICO TELL THAT IN GUERNAVACA, MEXICO IT WAS THE CUSTOM OF EVERY CHURCH AND CHAPEL TO HAVE A MANGER, IN WHICH LAY AN IMAGE OF THE INFANT SAVIOR

WHEN THE LITTLE GIRL DID THIS, THE WEED ON THE ALTAR IMMEDIATELY BECAME A VIVID SCARLET WHORL

THIS IS THE REASON THE BEAUTIFUL POINSETTIA IS THE MOST PRIZED OF ALL MEXICAN FLOWERS AT CHRISTMAS

## For the Record

### Truth and numbers

The annual high school rankings have been rolled out by the good people at *U.S. News and World Report* and much to the chagrin of our fellow citizens who are fond of national rankings, less than three dozen schools on the list of 1,591 were from North Carolina. That was a good bit different from rankings by *Newsweek* magazine released earlier this year.

The main difference between the two magazines' methods is telling.

Around here, the *Newsweek* rankings are typically received with glee because they have traditionally used SAT scores and percentage of students taking Advance Placement tests as their top (as in, just about only) criteria. We do pretty well by that standard.

But *U.S. News and World Report* added a couple of other categories, namely the achievement of low-income and minority students. The magazine's editor rightly explained that in order to judge a school properly you have to include the performance of all students, not just those already top of their class.

Anyone paying attention to the struggles of our school system over the past couple of decades knows that we're far from where we should be when judged by that standard. This is a reminder that rankings are a double-edged sword.

The criteria with which we judge our schools should be of, by and for the community

### Truth and fear

There is no direct connection among the recent murders in Orange and Chatham counties. The victims were of different race, circumstances and socio-economic status. The crimes against them ranged from a brutal bludgeoning to an alleged domestic homicide to a break-in that may be linked to drugs. Possible motives differ as well — greed, drugs and rage.

Still, two elderly women are dead as are a longtime Cedar Grove resident and a woman who was in the eighth month of her pregnancy.

Unfortunately, we are not unaccustomed to such events around here. But coming on the heels of each other as they have, these killings have got many worried about their safety.

One common reaction was that posed by a neighbor of one of the victims who lamented that she used to be able to leave her doors unlocked at night.

Therein lies a hint at the disconnect between the way crime is portrayed in the media and our popular culture and the reality of how most capital cases really go down.

Like everywhere else in this country, we have seen awful crimes committed by people unknown to their victims. But also like everywhere else, most murders here involved people who knew each other. According to the FBI's most recent study on homicide, last year there were close to 15,000 murders in the United States. Of 8,240 cases where the perpetrator was identified, 6,335 murders were committed by a family member or an acquaintance of the victim.

The real world is far less filled with the kind of random violence depicted every night on the tube. And the number of crimes really solved by brilliant scientist/cops in sharp clothes is dwarfed by the number solved each week on our most popular crime dramas. Fear sells. But it should not be allowed to get the better of us.



## Saving dollars and lives

CHRIS FITZSIMON

State policymakers received some guidance Thursday on how they can reduce crime, save taxpayers' money and make it more likely that troubled teenagers have a chance to turn their lives around.

Reports from Action from North Carolina and the Center for Disease Control call on the state to stop automatically sending 16 and 17 year olds accused of a crime to the adult criminal justice system and instead treat them in the juvenile system.

North Carolina is one of only three states that treat offenders under 18 as adults, and there's a reason why most states have ended the practice. The CDC study finds that 16 and 17 year olds punished in the adult system are far more likely to commit crimes when they are released than teens sent to the juvenile system.

Rep. Alice Bordsen introduced legislation in the General Assembly last session that would treat 16- and 17-year-old offenders as juveniles, but give judges the discretion to transfer individual cases to adult court after a hearing. Bordsen's bill came out of a recommendation from the North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission.

The proposal received a lot of attention last summer but not much legislative action due to strong opposition from prosecutors and the Sheriffs Association, opposition which scared some lawmakers wary of being labeled soft on crime.

That political fear stalled Borden's bill, despite earlier studies that also found that treating 16 and 17 year olds in the juvenile system make it less likely that they will commit more crimes.

The Action for Children report cites research showing that adolescence is a critical time for the development of the brain, particularly in the frontal lobes. The evidence was one of the factors that convinced the U.S. Supreme Court to ban the execution for people younger than 18, reasoning that logically should be applied to how the state treats all juvenile offenders.

One of the authors of the CDC report appeared at a Crucial Conversation luncheon in Ra-

leigh Thursday to discuss the report. State Secretary of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention George Sweat was in the audience and agreed that it makes sense to join most other states and stop sending 16 and 17 year olds into adult courts.

Sweat also said that the General Assembly continues to underfund his department, making it difficult to provide the services that kids currently in the system need and deserve.

Ironically, the same lawmakers listening to the district attorney's irrational arguments against raising the age for access to the juvenile system and then talking tough on crime are doing the opposite, making it more likely that youth will commit more crimes.

Refusing to adequately fund juvenile justice programs has the same effect, robbing the department of the opportunity to help many of the kids it houses. The spokesman for the Sheriffs Association recently said that no one has talked about where the new funding would come from to expand the capacity of the juvenile justice system.

But worry about the cost is disingenuous at best. Prosecutors and much of the law enforcement community pushed last session for an ill-advised bill to crack down on gangs by toughening laws and lengthening sentences for gang-related crime.

The gang bill would cost the state \$60 million and the fact that nobody talked about how to pay for it didn't give any of the bill's supporters pause. Neither did evidence that the gang proposals won't work, according to national research and prosecutors in states that have tried it.

In the case of Bordsen's proposal, the costs are not so clear. The juvenile justice system does need more funding, but the state would save money in the long run by treating 16 and 17 year olds as juveniles instead of locking them up in the adult system and then paying to incarcerate them again when they commit more crimes.

Tough on crime in this case may be a catchy short-term campaign slogan, but it is disastrous public policy in the long run, costing far more in dollars and lives.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Joint open house

As reported in *The Carrboro Citizen*, our non-profit agencies recently held a joint open house for the community at our offices in downtown Carrboro. The scores of guests who attended enjoyed food donated by the following local restaurants:

Acme Food & Beverage Co., Boleros, Breadman's, Café Carolina and Bakery, Chipotle, Hardee's, Jason's Deli, La Hacienda, Le Bleu Water, Mama Dip's Country Cooking Restaurant, Margaret's Cantina, Monterrey Restaurant, Open Eye Café, 35 Chinese, Top of the Hill and the Weather Vane.

We are deeply grateful for the generous support of these community-minded businesses.

**Ben Balderas**, executive director, El Centro Latino; **Stephen Dear**, executive director, People of Faith Against the Death Penalty; **Chris Moran**, executive director, Interfaith Council for Social Service; **Luke Smith**, executive director, El Futuro

#### Misperception of dog tethering issue

I am deeply disappointed that most of the local media has been complicit in reinforcing a common misperception of the county's dog tethering issue, namely that it is a debate between "animal rights activists" and "hunting groups." Such polarization only serves to obscure the real complexities of this issue and hinders substantive discussion.

Tethering is a common practice amongst ordinary people who, for a variety of reasons, find it necessary to tie their animals up outside. It is not an inherently abusive or neglectful practice. Naturally there are going to be exceptions, but Animal Control ought to report, investigate and prosecute such situations on a case-by-case basis, rather than a broad sweeping ordinance.

The two public hearings on the subject were minimally publicized and poorly attended. Without further effort the Tethering Committee will have failed to dutifully execute its charge of "obtaining general public comment or input about tethering from a cross-section of the community." As such, their recommendation to amend the current ordinance is premature. Such an action by the BOCC would set a dangerous precedent of limiting the liberties of the whole to curb the transgressions of a few.

And yes, I do have a dog in this one. My 11-

year-old husky, who has broken out of every fence created, and now spends his days napping on the porch or in the shade of a mulberry tree. In fact, Animal Control came by recently on an anonymous call. Finding his bed and chew toy nearby, his food and water full, they called him "not only sweet, but a little spoiled."

**Dan Stern**  
Senior - Biology Dept.  
UNC-CH

#### Children of immigrants deserve an education, too

I am disappointed at the reaction to the announcement by the Community College system that they should admit students who are the children of undocumented persons. These are children who, through no fault of their own, were brought to this country. They worked hard in school and only wish to further their education. Some of the children were even valedictorians of their graduating classes, and yet there are those who would seek to deny them, and us, the fruits of their labors.

I am dismayed by those who ignore the facts about these children: they pay out of state tuition, which is \$2000 more than the actual cost of a community college student's education. In addition, there are only 340 of these students out of a total of 271,000 students in the community college system. This is hardly denying a place to any North Carolina student.

Those who would pile on ignore the line of Supreme Court decisions saying that schools cannot discriminate by denying services to aliens. This is no less than demagoguery by using these children for political motives, instead of helping them to succeed and become contributing members of our society.

Finally, I am appalled at the venom and hatred directed toward innocent children. Thanks for the common sense of our governor, President Lancaster and the two presidential candidates Democrat Bill Richardson and Republican Mike Huckabee who see the true picture. Huckabee put it beautifully, "In all due respect, we're a better country than to punish children for what their parents did. We're a better country than that."

**Ellie Kinnaird**

## Exile on Jones Street

Survey of Governance & Policy

KIRK ROSS

### Blue Yodel No. 171

Randy Parton said it best the night he was told to leave his namesake theater. Speaking to a couple of reporters upon exit, Parton — brother o' Dolly — noted that he'd fulfilled his obligations to the City Of Roanoke Rapids and then neatly summed up in a pissed-off-country-singer kind of way the state of what was once touted as Branson East.

"You see anything else out here?" he snarled.

Indeed, sport.

Parton was, save a Tuesday Christmas show with Charlie Daniels, the only thing on the schedule in the only building in a complex meant to rescue another beleaguered mill town from economic gloom.

Now, thanks finally to the release of expense records, the taxpayers are learning a little more about what Mr. Parton did with his free time and the folks that cut the deal with him are shocked, shocked, that there was high living and tomfoolery afoot.

So they canned him and called him names. There will be lawsuits flying before long and my hunch is that "Take This Job and Shove It" got added to Parton's set.

And while the city fathers will try to pass off some surprise at what was happening, this relationship was headed for a heartache from the beginning.

A look at Exit 171 on prestigious Interstate 95 where sits the Randy Parton Theater reveals exactly the kind of not much that the singer referred to. This may be an interstate exit ready to hit the big time, but not this year and not anytime soon. No, it is not yet, as one press release put it, a "music and entertainment venue that will become a nationally-recognized travel destination for our state." No, for now this is another boondoggle you can pin at least in part on some star-struck local leaders, but mainly on this state's provincial patchwork of economic development "partnerships" — a system that rewards the politically connected and well-heeled, but rarely dreams big for the rest of us. (One may recall that the Tall Ships fiasco in 2005 was championed by a similar regional partnership.)

There may be folks involved who really, truly believed that the first phase of the "quality, family entertainment venue" on Exit 171 would directly create 2,595 new jobs and millions in new revenue rolling into Halifax County, but it was clear that those folks, along with the people charged with its oversight and analysis, were not tethered to this earth.

In announcing the deal a couple of years ago, the state's Northeast Regional Partnership noted that the project was supported by findings from a consultant and a study by UNC-Chapel Hill's Carolina Center for Competitive Economies, which according to the partnership estimated the music theme park would have an overall economic impact to the state of more than \$500 million and would lead to 12,250 jobs.

But when you're filling the roles of both booster and oversight, it's easy to make the numbers dance the way you want them. Until the state, which created these partnerships, steps in and reforms the structure, this won't be the only blue yodel for the taxpayers.

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

### EDITORIAL STAFF

**Robert Dickson, Publisher**  
robert@carrborocitizen.com

**Kirk Ross, Editor**  
editor@carrborocitizen.com

**Susan Dickson, Staff Writer**  
susan@carrborocitizen.com

**Taylor Sisk, Contributing Editor**  
tsisk@mindspring.com

**Michelle Langston, Designer**  
michelllangston@gmail.com

**Jack Carley, Assistant Editor**  
jackfcarley@gmail.com

**Marilyn Fontenot, Advertising Coordinator**  
marilyn@carrborocitizen.com

**Kathryn Ann Daly, Advertising Assistant**  
kathryn@carrborocitizen.com

**Jasmine Girard, Editorial Intern**  
jasmine.gir@gmail.com

**Lucy Butcher, Editorial Intern**

**Anna Maxwell, Editorial Intern**

**JUSTICE  
FROM PAGE 1**

Environmental Protection Agency has been putting some consideration into environmental justice concerns the past two decades, and has issued some guidelines on how communities might go about planning for facilities such as a solid-waste transfer station.

In 1993, the EPA created the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) to "provide independent advice, consultation, and recommendations to EPA on matters related to environmental justice."

In a document published by the NEJAC titled "Waste Transfer Stations: A Manual for Decision-Making," transfer stations are defined as facilities that all serve "the same basic purpose — consolidating waste from multiple collection vehicles into larger, high-volume transfer vehicles for more economical shipment to distant disposal sites." That waste is then "loaded into larger vehicles (usually transfer trailers, but intermodal containers, railcars, and barges are also used) for long-haul shipment to a final disposal site — typically a landfill, waste-to-energy plant, or a composting facility."

**"I am very concerned about the burden Rogers Road has had to carry for our community over the years. We need to take care of our waste in a way that does not harm the quality of life for minority and under-represented communities."**

— Bill Strom,

Chapel Hill Town Council Member

"Decision-makers have the opportunity," the document reads, "to select the most cost-effective and/or environmentally protective disposal sites, even if they are more distant." A site selection process, it continues, should ensure that siting decisions don't impose "a disproportionate burden upon low-income or minority communities. Overburdening a community with negative impact facilities can create health, environmental, and quality of living concerns. It can also have a negative economic impact by lowering property values and hindering community revitalization plans." These are among the environmental justice considerations the NEJAC urged should be addressed in a site-selection process.

Moreover, according to the report, a "siting process that includes continuous public participation is integral to developing a transfer station. The public must be a legitimate partner in the facility siting process to integrate community needs and concerns and to influence the decision-making process. Addressing public concerns is also essential to building integrity and instituting good communications with the community. Establishing credibility and trust with the public is as important as addressing environmental, social, and economic concerns about the solid waste facility."

As the "Manual for Decision-Making" affirms, in consolidating waste into larger vehicles, transfer stations create traffic concerns — congestion, air emissions, noise and wear and tear on the roads — in the immediate vicinity of the stations. As such, it's urged that priority be given to sites with access to major roadways and that travel routes and traffic impacts be given significant attention. Among design and operating considerations that should be taken into account are "haul routes to and from the transfer station that avoid congested areas, residential areas, business districts, schools,

hospitals and other sensitive areas."

Given these criteria, many people here now question the transfer station siting process in Orange County.

Rev. Robert Campbell, a longtime resident of the Rogers Road community and a spokesperson for the Rogers-Eubanks Coalition to End Environmental Racism, is among those who don't believe the county did a very thorough job in its transfer station search. As he said in an April interview with *The Citizen*, his sense at the time, and that of many of his neighbors, was one of inevitability, a belief that in regards to the broader community's solid-waste solutions, "All roads lead back to Eubanks."

"To me, and listening to my neighbors," he said then, "it was [believed] that we just didn't have the power to stop them. We didn't have the financial, we didn't have political support, we didn't have the consensus of the towns around us."

But things changed.

The Rogers-Eubanks Coalition to End Environmental Racism reached out to the community as a whole, said Campbell in a recent phone interview, and to the NAACP in particular, pointing to haz-

The Eubanks option, says spokesperson Nelo Jones, must be "taken off the table ... if for no other reason than that [this neighborhood] has already been on the table for 35 years, and that was longer than we were promised it had to be."

"The Commissioners have not yet decided on our criteria for siting the transfer station," Mike Nelson said in an email this week to *The Citizen*. "I, for one, support taking the Eubanks Road site off the list. I do not know if a majority of my colleagues will support doing so."

**A different conclusion**

"If you find that the decision you made was not the best decision and you have the opportunity to change it, why wouldn't you?" asks Orange County Commissioner Valerie Foushee.

What role did outcry and education from by the community play in the decision to reopen the transfer station search?

"Just going through this process of talking about how we might mitigate the impacts of the transfer station brought to light some things that I had already felt," Foushee says. "And as we worked through the process, we were given more, or different, information."

"There wasn't one, single 'defining moment' that led me to re-evaluate my position," says Nelson. "During the spring and summer, I heard from a very broad cross-section of Orange County citizens. I listened to what they had to say and balanced that against the seriousness of the County's need to make a final decision about how we dispose of our trash. Orange County runs a very real risk of running out of landfill space before a transfer station is sited, so reopening this process was not an easy decision."

"When you talk about the commissioners reconsidering siting the transfer station," says Foushee, "you have to put everything into perspective. The initial decision was based on a set of circumstances as they were presented to us. And I think for me, working on the [Historic Rogers Road Community Enhancement Plan Development and Monitoring Task Force] and then finding out that we had another year left at the landfill, [I thought], 'Okay, if I take this piece of information and this information, what I conclude is different from what I concluded from the first set of information.'"

"When the people say 'you need to take a look at this' or 'you need to look at this in this way, in addition to how you've viewed it previously,'" Foushee says, "or 'you need to consider this along with other considerations you've had,' for me, I feel like I'm obliged to do that."

"Now, if I do that and my thinking changes, then I need to say my thinking changed."

Was an environmental injustice committed in selecting the Rogers-Eubanks community as the site of a solid-waste transfer station?

Many elected officials think so. In a questionnaire submitted by the Coalition to End Environmental Racism, officials were asked, "Does continuing solid waste activities, including building a solid waste transfer station in the Rogers-Eubanks communities, constitute environmental injustice by your definition?"

Chapel Hill Town Councilmember Bill Strom, who also serves as co-chair of the Town of Chapel Hill's Rogers Road Small Area Plan Task Force,



PHOTO BY NORMAN BARBEE SR.

A photo of the Orange County Landfill taken from the edge of Nelo Jones's backyard on Purefoy Drive. Jones said that the landfill was "unusually noisy and smelly this past week."

responded by citing a statement he had previously submitted to the local chapter of the NAACP, in which he said, in part:

"Although I can't give a 'binding' yes or no answer to whether I would vote to permit the proposed transfer station because a special use permit application has been submitted and I am legally required to hear all the evidence before making a decision, I am very concerned about the burden Rogers Road has had to carry for our community over the years. We need to take care of our waste in a way that does not harm the quality of life for minority and under-represented communities."

Carrboro Alderman Dan Coleman wrote: "The transfer station may, in itself, not be the sort of burden the landfill has been but its placement on Eubanks Road nonetheless further burdens the Rogers Road

neighbors. It is impossible to separate this placement from the long history of abuses suffered by this neighborhood and by the larger African-American community."

In a 2000 document titled "A Regulatory Strategy for Siting and Operating Waste Transfer Stations," the NEJAC writes: "The clustering and disproportionate siting of noxious facilities in low-income communities and communities of color led to the creation of the environmental justice movement. The siting and operation of waste transfer stations is such an example."

Further: "The realization of safe siting and operation of waste transfer stations and livable communities requires good-faith collaboration for its implementation."

And in its manual on decision-making, the NEJAC states: "A siting process that includes

continuous public participation is integral to developing a transfer station. The public must be a legitimate partner in the facility siting process to integrate community needs and concerns and to influence the decision-making process."

The search in Orange County now continues.

**In next week's Citizen: Should we be dumping our garbage on someone else?**

*[correction: The editors have somewhat belatedly noticed two unfortunate errors in the first paragraph of the Nov. 15 installment of this series. The Orange County Commissioners did not, of course, vote to place a transfer station on Rogers Road. They voted to place it on Eubanks Road. And that vote took place in late March, not in April. Our apologies for these errors.]*

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**OBITUARIES**

**Roger Woodrow Ray**

Roger Woodrow Ray, 59, died on Saturday, December 1, 2007 at his home. He is the son of Robert Ray, who predeceased him, and Nelmer Bunn of Haw River. Leaving behind him are people who loved him very much: a daughter, Tonya St. Clair Parsons of Cary NC;

fiancé, Beverly A Jinnette of Hillsborough NC; his beloved dog, "Tippy"; his step father, Vernonn Bunn; step sisters Linda Warren, Karen Johnson, and Sharon Butner. Roger was a recognized Vietnam Vet, a longtime member of the Haw River Methodist Church and to his closest friends he was known as "Mr. Rogey". He will be dearly missed.

Arrangements by the Cremation Society of the Carolinas. Online condolences to [www.cremnc.com](http://www.cremnc.com).

**Mary Corcoran**

Mary Corcoran, 82, of Pittsboro died Saturday, December 8, 2007 at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Arrangements are by the Cremation Society of the Carolinas.

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## Lunch Menus

**Dec. 14 - 20**  
Every meal is served with a choice of milk. Breakfast is served daily.

### Elementary

**Friday** - Pork Egg Roll w/Rice Turkey & Cheese Wrap; Tossed Salad w/Dressing; Chilled Apricots; Chocolate Pudding

**Monday** - Chicken Nuggets w/BBQ Sauce & Wheat Roll; Beef Taco w/Salsa; Steamed Carrots; Apple Halves

**Tuesday** - Vegetarian Lasagna w/Garlic Bread; Hot Dog on a Bun; Mixed Vegetables; Chilled Pears

**Wednesday** - Cheese Pizza; Pepperoni Pizza; Pork Rib-B-Q on a Bun; Broccoli Cuts; Chilled Apricots

**Thursday** - Glazed Baked Ham; Sweet Potato Casserole; Green Beans; Apple Cobbler

### Middle & High

**Friday** - Chicken Nuggets w/BBQ Sauce and Wheat Roll; Double Cheeseburger w/Lett & Tom.; Garden Peas; Baked Beans; Fresh Apple

**Monday** - Macaroni & Cheese w/Wheat Roll; Steak & Cheese Sandwich; Green Beans; Tossed Salad w/Dressing; Fresh Orange

**Tuesday** - Fishwich; Beef Taco w/Salsa; Sweet Yellow Corn; Chilled Fruit Cocktail

**Wednesday** - Chicken Nuggets w/BBQ Sauce and Wheat Roll; Hot Dog on a Bun; Broccoli Cuts; Chilled Pears

**Thursday** - Glazed Baked Ham; Sweet Potato Casserole; Green Beans; Apple Cobbler

**Info:** 967-8211 ext. 270

## New board sworn in

By **SUSAN DICKSON**  
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education last week elected board member Pam Hemminger as board chair. Hemminger replaces Jamezeta Bedford.

The board also elected Lisa Stuckey as vice chair. She replaces Hemminger.

In addition, new board member Mia Burroughs and returning board members Bedford, Mike Kelley and An-

netta Streater were sworn in by Judge Joe Buckner.

Burroughs, 45, replaces longtime board member Elizabeth Carter, who decided not to seek re-election. Burroughs is a freelance grant writer and has two daughters who attend Phillips Middle School and East Chapel Hill High School.

In other school business, the board considered possible names for the district's new elementary school, which is under construction on the corner of Dromoland and Eubanks

roads and is expected to open in the fall of 2008.

The school naming committee presented Morris Grove Elementary and Eubanks Elementary as possible names for the school. Morris Grove was the name of a black school started by Morris Hogan, a freed slave, on a site adjacent to the site of the new elementary school. The school's original structure still stands.

Stuckey, Bedford and Burroughs said they supported naming the school Morris



**MIA BURROUGHS**

Grove Elementary, while other board members did not indicate support for a particular name.

## Board recognizes sports teams

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education recognized several school sports teams last week.

- The board recognized the Chapel Hill High School football team, which made it to the Elite Eight in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's AAAA Championship.

- The East Chapel Hill High School women's tennis team was recognized for their second-place finish in the state tournament. Team members include: Haley Booterbaugh, Tess Darling, Sydney Davis, Tegan Flynn, Danielle Fradin, Tamara Hill, Jennifer Huang, Megan Huang, Tessa Johnson, Britney Rider, Emma Shaw and Toni Wei. They are coached by Lindsey Linker.

- The board recognized members of the Chapel Hill High School field hockey team for their state championship. Team members are: Jessie Allen, Lucy Bell, Kira Borman, Kelsey Buckley, Meghan Campbell, Colleen Falvey, Alexis Hebert, Savannah Kennedy, Grace Krafte, Abby MacNeal, Hannah Martin, Barbara Parks, Hunter Newton, Liz Passanante, Hanna Root, Alyssa Stefandis, Stephanie Straubel, Taylor Wahrenbrok, Faith Westdrop, Caroline Williams and Bonnie Wilson. The team is coached by Diego Cabellero, Marie Bounds and Xan Funk.

- The Chapel Hill High School women's cross country team was recognized for their third state title. Team members include: Anna Adams, Emily Adams, Lindsay Savelli, Molly Spencer, Madison Stark, Ahna Weeks and Christine Whitley. The team is coached by Ron Olsen.

## School Briefs

### CHS winter concerts

The Carrboro High School chorus, orchestra and band will perform winter concerts this week.

The chorus and orchestra will perform a concert tonight (Thursday) at 7:30. The concert will be held at Christ United Methodist Church in Southern Village.

The groups will perform selections from Vivaldi's *Gloria*, highlights from Harry Potter and a little holiday music.

Congratulation bouquets will be on sale before the concert for \$5. Proceeds benefit the orchestra and choral music

programs at Carrboro High.

The Carrboro High Band will perform its Winter Concert on December 16 at 3 p.m. in the Carrboro High Café Commons.

### Glenwood choir

The Glenwood Elementary School Gator Show Choir will perform winter concerts on Friday.

The show choir has won first-place superior and overall winner for the past 11 years at the Carowinds Choral Festival.

The show choir will perform concerts at 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. at Glenwood Elementary. The concerts are open to the

public.

### Book donations

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools have received 60 boxes of books from Communities in Schools of North Carolina and First Book.

The books will be distributed by the Volunteers and Partners in Education Office and given to students who have worked with community volunteers through the School Reading Partners and English as a Second Language programs.

First Book is a nonprofit organization aimed at giving children without access to reading materials the opportunity to read and own their first new books.

## SPORTS



PHOTO BY GEORGE T. GORDON

Brook Morgan (32) of the varsity Carrboro Jaguars has his eye on the gold as he begins his move for a layup during the Tuesday, Dec. 11 game against Orange High School. Orange won, 65-56.

## Coaches' Reports

### Culbreth Middle Boys' Basketball

(via coach Mike Harris)

The Culbreth boys varsity basketball team opened play against Phillips Wednesday, November 27th. The two teams exchanged leads all game, until Phillips pulled away in the end by six points, 38-32 thanks to powerful inside play by A. Esry, B. Meyer and C. Smith. Michael Thornton and Denzel Ingram played strong games for Culbreth. Ingram netted a game high 21 points in the loss.

Culbreth's second game of the season against last year's JV champion, McDougale, had all the nail-biting intensity of a post-season tournament game. McDougale was a bit rattled by Culbreth's full-court pressure, but prevailed in the end, 43-36 on three consecutive break-away layups. McDougale had a balanced scoring attack led by C. Carson's 16, C. Pigsbee's 10 and C. Fisher's 7. Despite being chased all night by a box-and-one trick defense, Denzel Ingram was unstoppable for Culbreth, hitting 5 three pointers and pouring in a total of

28 points (of which 20 came in the final 6 minutes of the game).

Culbreth (1-2) defeated a scrappy Stanback (2-1) team on Thursday night for their first win of the season, 49-41. Jacob Junker was the heart of the Cougar attack, scoring 7 points along with numerous rebounds, steals and defensive stops. Keenan van Name contributed a steady 12 points along with a handful of steals. Despite battling a flu-like illness, Culbreth's Ingram led all scorers with 17 hard-earned points. Ingram is averaging 22 points per game so far this season. A. Buchanan scored 10 and K. Thomas and B. Gregory added 8 apiece for Stanback.

### Carrboro High Varsity Basketball

(via Georg T. Gordon)

**Tuesday, Dec. 11: Boys**  
Orange: 9 11 21 24 = 65  
Carrboro: 19 16 12 9 = 56

David Brooks topped the scoring for Carrboro with 26 points. Brooks Morgan added 10 points to the Jaguar total, including two 3-point buckets.

**Tuesday, Dec. 11: Girls**  
Orange: 20 18 25 10 = 73  
Carrboro: 9 0 8 2 = 19

Layne Mishoe was the leading scorer for Carrboro with six points. Haley Hegedus added five points for the Jags.

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## Doctors ready for move

By SUSAN DICKSON  
Staff Writer

Over the past year, the doctors from Carrboro Pediatrics and Internal Medicine have patiently waited to move into their new building as state contractors cleaned up potentially harmful chemicals.

But the cleanup is now complete, and the doctors – who have practiced at several locations throughout Carrboro over the past 15 years – will move into their new offices in March or April of next year.

The building at 127 Fidelity Street was home to dry-cleaning businesses – most recently Hangers Cleaners – for a number of years before Carrboro Pediatrics and Internal Medicine bought the building last fall. Because chemicals used in the dry-cleaning process are linked to some cancers, the doctors had the site tested before refurbishing the building and found contamination from perchloroethylene, a dry-cleaning solvent.

“We worried about the seriousness of it,” said Nick Sartor, one of the doctors with the practice. “We’re going to live in this building.”

“We were going to suffer from it if we didn’t have it taken care of,” added Cory Annis, another doctor with the practice.

In August, contractors from the state’s Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act Program removed 240 tons of soil from the Fidelity Street site. Although the testing revealed contamination in only one small



PHOTO BY ROBERT DICKSON

Practitioners of Carrboro Pediatrics and Internal Medicine (l to r): Nick Sartor (on indefinite family leave), Cory Annis, Manager Cindy Szuch, Karen Behling, Deanna Branscom, Keri Lawrence, and Jonathan Sheline (joining the practice in January).

area, workers removed soil from a wide radius around the contamination.

“It’s sort of like removing cancer,” Annis said.

Contractors also tested the area’s groundwater and determined that the contamination hadn’t spread off site. Once Carrboro Pediatrics and Internal Medicine moves in, they’ll monitor their wells to ensure the water isn’t contaminated.

Because the environmental clean-up process took nearly a year, the practice only just began construction on the building a few weeks ago.

The doctors had been looking for a new space for their offices for a while before deciding on the Fidelity Street building.

“It needed to be in Carrboro,” Sartor said, adding that they wanted their offices to be within walking distance of Weaver Street. The doctors also needed more space and more parking.

In addition, the doctors’ Lloyd Street offices don’t have central heating or air conditioning, so they use window units and space heaters, which can make patients uncomfortable when it’s cold and they have to undress for medical exams.

At the Fidelity Street building, Carrboro Pediatrics and Internal Medicine has added a number of green, sustainable features to the building, including recirculation pumps, solar panels, energy-efficient windows and more.

“It’s going to look like a new building when we’re done,” Annis said.

## Briefs

### Greenbridge sponsors gift wrapping

Greenbridge Developments will make it a little easier for holiday gifters to be a little greener with the opening of a

free gift wrap and recycle drop shop at its offices at 405 West Rosemary Street.

The shop offers complimentary gift wrapping using post-consumer and post-industrial materials such as newspaper, old posters, print over-stock and found materials as ribbon. Those stopping

by the shop are encouraged to bring along those hard-to-recycle items cluttering up your closets including mercury laden fluorescent light bulbs, used toner cartridges, old cell phones, batteries, plastic bags, and Styrofoam packaging waste.

The shop is open Wednes-

days-Fridays Dec. 12, 13, 14 from 3 to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 15 from 2 to 6 p.m.

### Chamber present After Hours

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce monthly networking event, Business After Hours, will be hosted by UNC Executive Development at the Paul J. Rizzo Conference Center at Meadowmont on Thursday, December 13th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Business After Hours is sponsored by UNC Executive Development. The Rizzo Center is located at 130 DuBose Home Lane in Meadowmont. From NC-54/Raleigh Road, turn into Meadowmont on Meadowmont Lane. Travel about half a mile, passing the Cedars. After passing Green Cedar Lane on your right, turn right on DuBose Home Lane. Parking is available in the Rizzo Center’s main parking lot. Business After Hours will take place in Loudermilk Hall.

### Ferrington earns five diamonds

The Ferrington House Country Inn and Restaurant has earned the AAA Five Diamond Award for 2008 for both lodging and dining. This is the 14th consecutive year that the Ferrington House has received AAA Five Diamonds and the only property in North Carolina to receive Five Diamonds for both lodging and dining.

“We are extremely pleased to be honored for both the Inn and the Restaurant once again,” said Theresa Chietini, general manager. “It is a testament to our devoted staff who are committed to providing

## The Corner Store

LOCALLY-OWNED BUSINESS BEAT

By Emily Buehler



### Ali Cat

Carr Mill Mall  
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Open Mon - Sat 10AM - 6PM

What’s for sale...  
children’s toys and games (see list below!)

For several years I’ve shopped for my cousins’ holiday presents at Ali Cat in Carr Mill Mall. The toy store packs an impressive amount of variety into its small space: board games, puzzles, puppets and stuffed animals, science kits and rocks, musical toys, beads, stickers, craft kits, tea sets, books from baby-sized to Harry Potter, model horses, baby items, and select toys including Playmobil, Bionicles, and Thomas the tank engine are just a few of the items for sale. There are scores of fun “stocking stuffers” like bouncy balls and light-up rings. And there’s wrapping paper and cards, to boot.

What draws me to Ali Cat, though, isn’t the variety of gifts, or even the fact that it’s a locally-owned business. I’m consistently impressed by the wholesome quality of the toys, and by their reasonable prices. Both are intentional, says owner Syd Clarke.

As a preschool teacher in the 70’s and 80’s, Syd didn’t have many stores to shop at for games and toys. Buying from catalogues often had disappointing results. On leave from work in 1984, she decided to open her own toy store in Massachusetts. The store moved to Durham in 1988 and opened in its present location in 1991.

When choosing what to stock, Syd looks at quality, wholesomeness, and price, but mostly she just goes with her intuitive reaction to each toy. As a parent, she tries to stock affordable toys. One product she does not carry, for example, is dress-up clothes, which are always expensive and can easily be found at a thrift store. She doesn’t stock TV tie-ins, and she doesn’t sell online, encouraging shoppers to see toys before buying them.

I’m afraid I’m guilty of trying to find presents for my cousins at Ali Cat even as they reach their pre-teens. I personally would still love to receive a Make-Your-Own-Plate kit, but my cousins are eager to move on. Most of the toys in Ali Cat are aimed at children 12 and under, although the family games and science kits have an older audience, and the rest of the store is worth looking over with an older child in mind.

If you are in Carr Mill in December, look for Ali Cat’s 10% discount for toys purchased as donations to the “Bear Tree” located just outside the door. For several years now, my grandma has received a Bear Tree ornament for the holidays, along with a Polaroid of the gift she donated to a needy child, which she proudly hangs on her fridge to show all her friends.

our guests with a unique and memorable experience.”

### Forney joins OWASA

Damon Forney, who has over 25 years of experience in the water resources and environmental protection fields, has begun work as OWASA’s new Wastewater Treatment and Biosolids Recycling Manager.

Forney will manage operations and a staff of 14 employees at OWASA’s Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) on Old Mason Farm Road in southeast Chapel Hill.

The WWTP can treat about eight million gallons a day of wastewater from the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community. OWASA also recycles about 16 million gallons of biosolids (treated solids separated from wastewater) annually.

Before joining OWASA, Forney was the Environmental, Health and Safety Manager for the ArrMaz Custom Chemicals Co. of Lobeck, SC.

Forney received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology

from Greensboro College in 1981 and he has professional certifications in Wastewater Management, Advanced Hazardous Waste Management and General Industry Safety.

### No UMail P&R lot for game

To avoid parking hassles around the holiday shopping season at University Mall, the Town of Chapel Hill and UNC have selected alternate sites for the park & ride shuttle bus service for the December 22 UC-Santa Barbara basketball game and for the January 12 game against NC State.

Those interested in using the game shuttle are asked to use the park & ride lots at UNC’s Friday Center and Jones Ferry Road in Carrboro or board the game bus departing from the Carolina Coffee Shop on Franklin Street in downtown Chapel Hill. There will also be a temporary park & ride location at the Highway 54 lot also at the Friday Center.

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### puzzle solutions



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

# CITIZEN CLASSIFIEDS

Place YOUR ad at [www.carrborocitizen.com/classifieds](http://www.carrborocitizen.com/classifieds) 24/7!!  
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES  
\$5.00/issue for up to 15 words. Words over 15: \$0.35/word/issue  
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LOVELY VEHICLE FOR SALE! White '92 Pontiac Grand Prix 115K \$550 (513) 708-8187 (513) 708-8187

### HELP WANTED

COORDINATOR for Chapel Hill/Carrboro MEALS ON WHEELS Program. Half-time salaried position, M-F mid-days. Admin, Human Services and computer experience preferred. Send resume to P. O. Box 2102, CH, 27514 or e-mail MAECKMAN2@gmail.com.

### OFFICE ADMIN

Training company seeks experienced individual to help run small office. Bookkeeping, filling orders, office admin including IT, keep owners happy & everything else organized. QuickBooks, MS Office. Reply with resume to newhire@income-outcome.com.

### SERVICES

AFFORDABLE WEBSITES Having a website is as important as having a phone number. Let Good-Kindling-Web-Design help you increase business. Web hosting-Design & Management Go to GoodKindlingWebDesign.com for more info. or call 619-0323

Astrology: Gift yourself and/ or someone else you love with an astrological reading. It is a great and meaningful way to start the year. Rates affordable and flexible. Bruno Sorrentino - Full Moon Astrology. 932-7240 -bruki@peoplepc.com

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# REAL ESTATE

### ROOM FOR RENT

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### HOMES FOR SALE

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## Holiday Donation Guide

A series of ways to support your community this holiday season

### Holiday Meals Program

McPherson or Beachy Sanders at 245-2800.

**Sponsor:** Inter-Faith Council for Social Service

### Share Your Holiday Program

**Sponsor:** The Orange County Department of Social Services

Donate \$10 to help IFC offer a holiday meal to an entire family — a turkey or ham, stuffing, vegetables, bread and dessert. Visit [www.ifcweb.org/holidaymeals.html](http://www.ifcweb.org/holidaymeals.html) to print out a coupon to mail to IFC with a check or call 929-6380, ext. 14 or 12 to pay with a credit card.

The Share Your Holiday program needs donors to sponsor needy families or give money to purchase items for families that do not get sponsored. Through the program, low-income at-risk families submit wish-lists that often include clothing and toys. To sponsor a family or donate to the program, contact Serena McPherson or Beachy Sanders at 245-2800. Corporate sponsors should contact Sharon Hinton at 245-2840.

### Toy Chest

**Sponsor:** The Orange County Department of Social Services

The Toy Chest needs new children's toys. The Toy Chest is a holiday store in which eligible parents can select 2-3 new toys per child to supplement their holiday. To donate toys to the Toy Chest, contact Serena

— From Staff Reports



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

### Holiday happenings

**Above:** Carrboro Community Garden Club members (l to r) Matthew Arnsberger, Sue Morgan, Simi Fallahi and Kathy Buck make final adjustments before the hoisting of the Carrboro Town Hall holiday wreath.

**Right:** McDougle Middle School's marching Mustangs took to the streets in elf gear for the holiday parade.

**Top:** The Carrboro High School Jaguars marching band also joined the parade, providing the music just ahead of Santa's float. The school's music department will be busy this week, with the chorus and orchestra performing tonight (Thursday) at Christ United Methodist Church in Southern Village and the band performing its winter concert for the school Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. at the CHS Commons Café.

### BOCC FROM PAGE 1

significantly developed if we could just pipe the gas," Elf-land said.

She added that the Carolina North structures that already exist could use all of the electric energy produced by the landfill gas.

County staff will draft an agreement with the university, which commissioners will consider on January 15.

pointed out that the landfill gas will peak, adding that it should be captured sooner rather than later, and questioned whether the first phase of Carolina North would begin by 2009.

"We don't really need the new Carolina North to be



## Shop Local!

## The Carrboro Citizen Holiday Gift Guide

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Carr Mill Mall  
919.929.9133  
M-S 10-6

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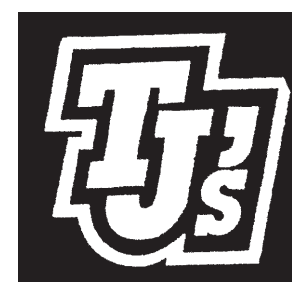
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