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DECEMBER 24, 2008 LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED VOLUME II NO. XLI

FREE



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE A robust Christmas fern stands out on a forestfloor sea of Christmas ferns.



Christmas ferns

hristmas fern, Polystichum acrostichoides, is common in forests throughout the eastern United States and especially in our local piney and mixed deciduous woods. The dark evergreen-green fronds (leaves) of this fern stand out on the brown forest floor of the winter woods.

I've heard several creative no-

Giving above and beyond

RECENTLY . . .By Valarie Schwartz

A secret giver can be thanked for this story.

All eyes were on Bob and Pearl Seymour at the Seymour Center on Dec. 10 when a pastel painting was unveiled honoring the active couple whose name adorns the Orange County senior center on Homestead Road. Plenty of pleasure has filled the Seymour Center since its opening in 2007, but it was a particular thrill for those who helped make it happen to be there to celebrate again with the Seymours and to recognize an artist who will have her work displayed there for as long as the building stands.

Rebecca Margolese-Malin, an artist and art instructor who has lived in Chapel Hill for 32 years, admits that chutzpah started her on this journey about a year ago when she wanted to apply for a job at the Seymour Center. She said that about 26 years ago, she had worked on a project with Bob Seymour while she was president of the ACLU (with Ellie Kinnaird as vice president).

"I thought that a reference from him would help," so she called him. "He said, 'You know, we haven't worked together in a long time. Why don't we meet for coffee?' So we met, but I had already decided not to use him as a reference."

She started her part-time job as evening facility manager in March.

When Margolese-Malin told a good friend about the meeting, the friend, who highly regards the Seymours, suggested commissioning her to paint their portrait for the center.

SEE **RECENTLY** PAGE 3



PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ The Seymours have a lovely view of the center named for them.



Middle school day unlikely to lengthen

BY SUSAN DICKSON *Staff Writer*

CHAPEL HILL — While middle school students should be able to get credit for high school level courses taken in middle school, extending the school day is not the best way to allow that, school board members said in a work session last week.

Members of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education reviewed the changes as part of a set of recommendations from the Middle School Review Committee regarding improvements to the middle school program.

The recommendation to extend the middle school day stemmed from policies passed by the North Carolina State Board of Education in 2007 that allow middle school students to receive graduation credit for high school math, world language and science courses taken in middle school. In order for students to receive credit, the courses must meet the same standards as courses offered in high school.

tions behind the common name, but none relate to the religious heritage of this time of year. I have read that these evergreen fronds were used for indoor decoration during the Christmas season. I've never seen them used in this way, but I can imagine them spread across fireplace mantels in years gone by.

Looking intently at a single dark-green leaf of this fern during a rainy woods walk this past Saturday, 6-year-old Gabe immediately exclaimed that the leaf looked like a Christmas tree; and, indeed, it does.

There are creative Christmasseason descriptions of a single pinna (a leaf segment) of the fern leaf. To some imaginative minds, a single segment represents a Christmas stocking or Santa's boot. To picture this, take an individual leaf segment and hold it vertically with the long pointed side up and the short point of a boot or stocking projecting to one side at the bottom.

And just this week, someone described to me that in holding that leaf segment horizontally you can imagine Santa's pointed head sitting at the back of a really long sleigh.

SEE FLORA PAGE 8

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Safety tips for the holidays page 3

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Almanac

Kate Fix and Jason Summers are filmmakers who work out of New York City but several years ago chose to make their home in UCLA (upper Chatham, lower Alamance).

Over the years, Fix and Summers have become known for their high-production holiday cards, usually a restaging of a well-known tableau. A few years back, for instance, they sent season's greetings via a remake of the cover of Bob Dylan's *Bringing It All Back Home* album.

This year, with an Oz look in mind, they traveled to Bynum and Clyde Jones' house, which is probably the closest thing to the Emerald City around these parts.

Fix said Jones was very gracious about the shoot and even pulled up a lawn chair to watch the pros work the lights and get the set together.

The result, well, speaks for itself. As they say on this year's card:

Merry Christmas from the Lullaby League.

Happy New Year from the Lollipop Guild.

The State Department of Public Instruction requires 50-minute high school course periods, while middle school course periods range from 43 to 47 minutes.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro middle schools already offer high school level Algebra I and world language classes. Rodney Trice, director of curriculum and instruction for the school district, said staff has "been creative in how we can meet that seat time for our students for them to receive high school graduation credit," but have not yet found a long-term solution.

Trice said the committee has considered a number of models that would allow students to receive high school credit for those courses, including models that would extend the school day.

Louise Peters, a reading specialist at McDougle Middle School, said she and other teachers had reservations about making changes to the middle school schedule.

SEE **BOE** PAGE 3

Living well at 100 and counting

BY KIRK ROSS Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — Ann Prather spent last Thursday, Dec. 18, much in the way she's spent most of her days since moving here several years ago.

She took a walk and visited with neighbors at Carolina House. "It's something I do a lot. I like to see how they're doing."

Then Prather headed over to Charles House in Carrboro for a little get-together with friends, something's she done quite a bit in the past few years. That's when the day got a little atypical. Prather turned 100 years old Thursday, and Charles House was ready to celebrate her accomplishment in style. There were tunes on the piano, a cake to be cut and, naturally, a hearty chorus of Happy Birthday.

Among the cards from well-wishers to open was one with the return address of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. With her daughter, Dr. Donna Prather of Carrboro, at her side, she opened the White House congratulations with quite a bit of enthusiasm. She took in the rest of the celebration with equal glee. Donna Prather said her mother was the oldest of five girls. She grew up in a farming family in Nash County, near Rocky Mount. Her father was killed in a robbery when she was just 14 and she went to work in a department store to help support the family.

After she married James Boyd Prather, she moved to the Steelecreek neighborhood in Charlotte where she maintained a huge garden.

"She always stayed busy," Donna Prather said of her mother. "She made her own clothes and made most of my clothes. And we were always freezing or canning food from the garden."

Ann Prather said she's not quite sure how it is that she's lived so long.

"You have to take good care of yourself," she offered.

Her determination might also offer a clue. Whatever she sets her mind to, she said, she wants to do well.

"If I can't do something well, I don't do it at all," she said. "Been that way all my life." All 100 years of it.



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS Paul Klever of Charles House and Dr. Donna Prather look on as Ann Prather cuts the cake at her 100th birday party.



WEDNESDAY DEC 24 Happy Holidays

THURSDAY DEC 25 Merry Christmas

FRIDAY DEC 26 General Store Cafe: The Family Eversole, 8:30pm

Local 506: EARLY: Benji Hughes, Charles Latham. 9:30pm, \$8. LATE: Kid Kameleon, One Duran. 11:30pm, \$5

Reservoir: IYEZ, Autopassion. 10pm

SATURDAY DEC 27

Cat's Cradle: 2nd Annual Winter Raggae Jam. 9:30pm, \$8/\$10

The Cave: EARLY: Pegan Hellcats. LATE: A Tribute to Hoppie featuring Dexter Romweber, Stu Cole, Taz Halloween and a cast of all-stars

General Store Cafe: Rootzie. 8:30pm

Local 506: The Merch Holiday Party. 10pm, Free

Nightlight: Grapejuice Scott and Dutchmaster/MC Homeless and Liz Abey/The Ex-Monkeys/ Gut Lightening. 10pm, \$6

SUNDAY DEC 28

Cat's Cradle: L in Japanese Dance Party XII, Benefit for the families of Rodney and Atlas. No alcohol served. 9pm, \$8/\$10 Local 506: Ryan Gustafson, Jessica Lea Mayfield. Free

MONDAY DEC 29 Blue Bayou Club: Michael Burks. 9:30pm

TUESDAY DEC 30 Blue Bayou: Blue Jams. 8pm The Cave: EARLY; Open Mic w/Johnny Cook. LATE: TBA

WEDNESDAY DEC 31

Blue Bayou: New Year's Eve Party, Will Farlane Band w/Armand Lenchek. 7pm, 10pm

Cat's Cradle: New Year's Eve Party with Abbey Road Live, the Magictones. 9:30pm, \$17.50/advance, \$20 at show

The Cave: LATE: Twilighter w/Special Guest.

Local 506: Rockin Eve: Kerbloki., Red Collar, Hammer No More The Fingers. 10:30pm, \$5

THURSDAY JAN I The Cave: Songslingers' Showcase Local 506: Jason Webley, Billy Sugarfix. TBA, Free

CAT'S CRADLE

\$17.50/\$20

Abbey Road Live with

the Magictones, 8:30pm,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FRIDAY JAN 2 The Cave: LATE: Salt to Bitters

General Store Café: Donald Underwood Thompson Band. 8:30pm

SATURDAY JAN 3 The Cave: LATE: The Turds Local 506: |Rockin' Ammonia Karaoke. 9:30pm, Free

General Store Café: Catbird Seat. 8:30pm

Nightlight: FrequeNC Records Night

SUNDAY JAN 4 Blue Bayou Club: Blues World Order. 9:30pm The Cave: Perkasie Local 506: Pompeii, Polynya,

Inspector 22 Nightlight: Timbre, The Busy World, Owl-Eyed Allies. 9:30pm

THE CAVE

guests

Twilighter and special

MONDAY JAN 5 Blue Bayou Club: Joe Swank & The Zen Pirates,

Kenny Roby. 9:30pm The Cafe: Spider Bags, The Girls of the Gravitron

TUESDAY JAN 6 The Cave: EARLY: Anis Hoffman. Fever & The Fallin' Rain. LATE: Songwriters Open Mic

Local 506: Embarassing Fruits, Deleted Scenes, Butterflies. 9pm

Open Eye Café: Dreamscapes Project. 8pm

WEDNESDAY JAN 7 The Cave: LATE: Velvet, The Sour Notes. \$5

Local 506: Jucifer, Uzzard. Time TBA, \$8

LOCAL 506

\$5

Kerbloki, Red Collar

and Hammer No More

The Fingers, 10:30pm,

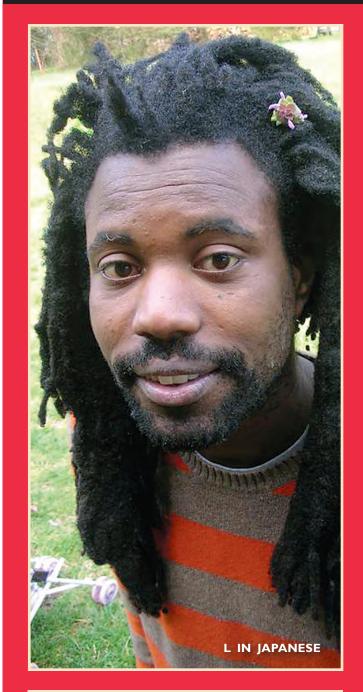
BLUE BAYOU

and special guest,

\$18/\$20

Will McFarlane Band

SPOTLIGHT



BENEFIT CONCERT

Cat's Cradle will host the L In Japanese Dance Party XII to benefit the families and celebrate the lives of Atlas Fraley and Rodney Torain, two Chapel Hill High Football players killed earlier this year. Fraley died Aug. 12 of unknown causes after a football scrimmage. Torain was killed early Nov. 16 in a hit-and-run car wreck. **No alcohol will be served** at the show, which starts at 9 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

ARTEVERITOS

TWILIGHTER





**ASTERISKSDENOTEADVANCETICKETS@SCHOOLKIDSRECORDSINRALEIGH, CD ALLEY IN CHAPEL HILL, BULL CITY RECORDS IN DURHAM, KATIE'S PRETZELS IN CARRBORO ★ ORDER TIX ONLINE AT ETIX.COM ★ WE SERVE CAROLINA BREWERY BEER ON TAP! ★ WE ARE A NON-SMOKING CLUB

News Briefs

Halliday apprehended in burglary

Chapel Hill Police apprehended Carlton Anthony Halliday over the weekend after he was positively identified as the suspect in an armed robbery at Colonial Village at Highland Hills Apartments.

On Dec. 17, a victim reported that at about 9 p.m. he saw the suspect, an old friend, and offered him a ride. The victim drove the suspect to the Colonial Village complex, where the suspect pointed a handgun at the victim, demanding his wallet and cell phone. The suspect then shot at the victim while he ran away to a friend's house nearby, where he called 911.

Carrboro Police have charged Halliday, 21, with attempted first-degree murder, robbery with a dangerous weapon, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury, larceny of a motor vehicle and assault with a deadly weapon.

He is being held in Orange County Jail on \$100,000 secured bond.

Robbery suspects charged

Chapel Hill Police have charged three suspects in connection with an armed robbery in the 300 block of West Rosemary Street on Dec. 18.

Marcus Nathanial Allen, 24, of 3835 Pin Oak Road in Raleigh, Roneesha Pleshette Jones, 25, of 107 Stowe Place in Garner and Tishia Lee Ann Johnson, 22, of 215 Lawrence St. in Fuquay Varina have each been charged with multiple counts in connection with the incident.

According to Chapel Hill Police, a male and female victim reported that a white Chevrolet Lumina pulled up beside them on Rosemary Street around midnight. The male suspect then got out of the car, approached them with a handgun and demanded money. The suspects then fled the scene, but were intercepted shortly thereafter by police in the area of Fordham Boulevard and Europa Drive.

Allen was charged with two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon, two counts of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, one count of assault of a female, one count of possession of stolen goods, one count of possession of a stolen firearm and possession of a weapon by a felon. Jones and Johnson, passengers in the vehicle, have each been charged with several counts, including robbery with a dangerous weapon.

According to police, they later discovered that the vehicle used in the robbery had been reported stolen in Raleigh.

Pot, hash seized in arrest

The Chapel Hill Police Narcotics Unit, with the assistance of the department's Special Emergency Response Team, seized 11.5 pounds of marijuana and 10.5 ounces of hashish from the residence of Ivan Flemming Moore on Friday.

Police had warrants to search the residence of Moore, 24, at 132 Ridge Trail, after receiving information from the U.S. Postal Inspector that a package addressed to the location contained marijuana.

Moore was charged with possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana, trafficking marijuana, trafficking hashish, maintaining a dwelling with intent to sell, possession with intent to sell and deliver hashish and possession of drug paraphernalia. Police also seized \$4,236 cash from the residence.

Police also charged another individual seen leaving the residence, Joel Layton Richardson, 25, of 8901 Half Moon Court in Raleigh, with felonious possession of marijuana.

Moore is being held in Orange County jail under \$100,000 secured bond.

RECENTLY

FROM PAGE I

Margolese-Malin checked with Janice Tyler, the Orange County Senior Centers' administrator, who checked with Jerry Passmore, director of the Department on Aging. Both liked the idea, so in February Margolese-Malin went to the Carol Woods apartment of Bob and Pearl, where she took photos.

"Bob came out in his favorite jacket and tie but said he should change the tie because it would be too hard to paint," she said. But Margolese-Malin liked the tie that is filled with rows of religious depictions - so appropriate for the long-time pastor (and pastor emeritus) of Binkley Baptist Church. The details of the tie drew comments from admirers of the painting at its unveiling.

"The tie is so intricate — and where the knot is, the reflection — it's unbelievable," said Elaine Jerome, a retired nurse and an artist. "Her portraitures are really just unbelievable."

Nerys Levy, another artist in attendance, said, "A study like this captures the soul and shows the intimate relationship between the artist and the Seymours."

"The Seymours are such wonderful people — so gentle and giving," Margolese-Malin said. "It's an honor to even know them, let alone paint them."

She truly caught the fire within Bob and the calm within Pearl that guided them in their years of service, which led the Orange County Board of Commissioners to name the new senior center after them.

As emcee, Dean Linke introduced former chair of the board of commissioners Barry Jacobs - a prolific author of books about ACC basketball) – calling Jacobs possibly the only person in attendance with more knowledge of Tar Heel basketball than Pearl, well known for her enthusiasm.

Jacobs thanked the Seymours for their service to the county, not only in efforts for seniors but for their decades of duty at Binkley Baptist (Pearl also played the organ), creation of the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service and involvement "in many important things affecting our community."

Former chair and, until recently, longtime Orange County Commissioner Moses Carey Jr. commented on the anomaly of naming a building after people who are still living.

"It's a special occasion having a building named after you while you're alive and can appreciate it. They're not through yet," Carey said, noting that he has observed

"The Seymours are such wonderful people — so gentle and giving. It's an honor to even know them, let alone paint them." — Rebecca

Margolese-Malin

Bob Seymour spending his retirement as "an energizer bunny," lamenting that such energy had as yet eluded him in his own recent retirement. "I'm a miserable failure at retirement, but I hope to be an energizer bunny soon."

Lee Pavao made it clear that he was not the portrait's anonymous donor (a certain "bunny" had already grilled him about it) before describing how he had been a member of a committee chaired by Bob some 20 years ago addressing the needs of seniors in the community, which included creating a senior center. After the meeting, the two men spoke privately for the first time and Bob gave Pavao the word by which Pavao came to identify him.

Pavao recalled asking Seymour if he really thought they could pull off creating a center.

Bob Seymour's answer: Absolutely!

"Bob had a vision, enthusiasm, dedication," said Pavao, "and boy is he persuasive!"

When the first space for a senior center was outgrown, Bob Seymour was a leader of the pack driving for a new one. Still humbled by the choice to name it after him and Pearl, he said, "I find it easier to call it the Senior Center."

In this season of angels and secret givers, more than painting commissions have been given. Several nonprofits have reported that anonymous givers have made contributions to their coffers, leading me to urge anyone with the wherewithal to consider the joy of giving to any of the agencies in our area that provide lifelines for many with needs. No matter how or how much we give, gifts to our nonprofits will help people stay employed and provide a place for meeting greater needs down the line.

What a good time to remember these words by Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Thinking and acting beyond ourselves makes for the happiest holiday — have yourself one!

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

Superintendent Neil Pedersen said he would like to see the district discuss the seat-time requirement with the state board.

"It wasn't really fair for children to take Algebra I in middle school, pass the [endof-course exam], then get no high school credit for it," Pedersen said.

In addition, the school district already has a tight transportation schedule with the elementary, middle and high schools, and extending the middle school day would create scheduling issues, he said.

Board member Jamezetta Bedford agreed that the board should appeal to the state board of education, adding that she did not think extending the middle school day or cutting out the middle school advisory periods were options.

Board vice chair Mike Kelley pointed out that students who took Algebra I in middle school but did not receive high school graduation credit would be forced to take calculus in high school in order to graduate.

'That may be extending them beyond where they would want to go ... or where they would be successful," he said.

Board members offered alternatives to extending the school day, such as adding online study or shortening elective courses while lengthening core courses to meet the seat-time requirement of high school courses.

"I think that extending [the school day] should be sort of a last option," board chair Lisa Stuckey said.

OBITUARIES

cause students to feel rushed.

Joan Patricia **Phillips-Trimmer**

Joan Patricia Phillips-Trimmer died suddenly Dec. 7, 2008 at her residence in Chapel Hill.

Joan graduated from Wallace O'Neal High School of Pinehurst. She attended Dickinson College two years and graduated from William and Mary College. She re-

He was predeceased by his daughter, Kathy McBroom, two brothers: Vance McBroom and Samuel McBroom; and his sister, Marie Shanklin.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests donations be made to Lawrence Road Baptist Church Debt Retirement Fund and/or Duke Hospice.

She is survived by her daughter, Megan Beall Rosengarten of Norwalk, Conn., and her mother, Mary Ann Renfro of Cocoa Beach, Fla. She is also survived by her loving pets – her dog Sheila and kitty Roux.

Mary touched everyone that she met with her caring nature and great sense of humor. She was looking forward to becoming a grandmother and helping daughter Megan and her husband, Adom, plan for their first baby – due any day now. Many thanks go out to the caring doctors and amazing nurses at UNC Hospital and to all of Mary's friends for their support.

BOE FROM PAGE I

"We worry that extending class time for

everyone in order to accommodate a lim-

ited number of students will compromise

the middle school concept of exploration and

undermine our work to narrow the achieve-

ment gap," she said. "We are concerned that

this plan, which focuses on an elite group, will

Peters said teachers were especially con-

cerned about the possibility of cutting time

between classes and the advisory time at the

beginning of the school day, which could

adversely affect our neediest students.'

Holiday recycling

There will be no recycling pick-up on Christmas Day. Those who recycle on Thursdays should put out their bins by 7 a.m. Saturday for them to be picked up.

The landfill will close at 2 p.m. today (Wednesday) and reopen Friday at 7 a.m.

Solid Waste Convenience Centers will be closed today (Wednesday) and Thursday and reopen Friday.

There will be no recycling pick-up on New Year's Day. Those who recycle on Thursdays should put out their bins by 7 a.m. on Jan. 3 for them to be picked up.

The landfill will close from 2 p.m. Dec. 31 until 7 a.m. Jan. 2.

Solid Waste Convenience Centers will be closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 and will reopen Jan. 2 at 7 a.m.

The Orange County Solid Waste Department advises county residents to recycle as much holiday paper, cans, bottles and jars as possible. They also want to remind recyclers that corrugated cardboard can only be recycled curbside in pieces three-feet wide by three-feet long with a maximum of 10 pieces.

Library director appointed

Lucinda Munger has been named the new library services director for Orange County.

Munger will be responsible for coordinating and directing the activities of the main Orange County Library in Hillsborough as well as the three branch libraries.

Munger has 12 years of library experience in both state and local government library systems, including the State of South Carolina and York County in Virginia. She holds a bachelor's degree from George Mason University and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of South Carolina.

She will begin as library director on Jan.12.



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ONLINE

carrborocitizen.com/main Stories are online every Thursday.

ceived a master's degree in health education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and served as health educator at West Point Academy and subsequently with the U.S. Coast Guard in New York City and Cape May, N.J. She subsequently returned to Chapel Hill, N.C. and worked in the Health Department of Chatham County. She was working on an advanced degree in social work when she died.

Joan used her musical talent in the church choir and many musical shows and performances. She was a great friend of many people and a lover of animals.

Joan is survived by her husband, Michael Trimmer; her father, Dr. Charles Phillips of Pinehurst and Greensboro; her mother, Carol Oettinger of Durham; and siblings, Janet Phillips Campbell, Charles C. Phillips, Nancy Phillips and Liz Brophy.

A private family service will be held this week, and a memorial service for her many friends will be held at the Community Church of Chapel Hill at 1 p.m., Jan. 17.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to Community Church of Chapel Hill, 104 Purefoy Rd., Chapel Hill, N.C., 27514; Chatham County Habitat for Humanity, Pittsboro, N.C.; or to CARE (Chatham Animal Rescue and Education), Pittsboro, N.C.

Thomas Calvin McBroom

Thomas Calvin McBroom, 85, of 1221 Schlev Road, Hurdle Mills, died peacefully in his some surrounded by his loving family Dec. 19, 2008. He was born in Orange County and attended Hillsborough schools.

He worked on the family farm before entering the US Navy during WWII. Upon concluding his service he returned to the family farm and with his brother, Vance, owned and operated McBroom Brothers Sawmill for many years. Later he was employed at Hines Liner Company. Mr. Mc-Broom was a member of Lawrence Road Baptist Church. He loved the Lord, his family, land and nature.

Surviving are his wife, Nola K. McBroom; his daughter, Nancy McBroom, Hurdle Mills; his son, Ralph McBroom (Casandra), Hillsborough; his sister, Frances Fox, Mebane; two brothers: Marvin McBroom and Robert McBroom (Lucy), both of Mebane; grandchildren: Beverly Clark (Jason), Kevin McBroom, and Franklin Moore (Emily); and great grandson, Griffin Clark.

Ruth Hodges Sluder

Mrs. Ruth Hodges Sluder, formerly of Chapel Hill, died Monday, Dec. 15, at Guardian Care of Elizabeth City, after a period of declining health.

Mrs. Sluder was born in Spartanburg, S.C. and raised in Asheville, N.C. She was the daughter of the late Raymond Frank Hodges, Sr. and Belle Anne Patton Hodges. Mrs. Sluder was previously employed with Blue Cross and Blue Shield for many years and loved her many co-workers there. Later in life she was a homemaker. Mrs. Sluder was a member of First Baptist Church of Chapel Hill where she taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School and was the organizer for many Wednesday night suppers. Mrs. Sluder was a member of the University Women's Club and the Dental Faculty Wives. She was involved in many fundraisers and also very active in political events. Her hobbies included playing bridge, making pottery, sewing and crochet.

Mrs. Sluder is survived by her husband, Dr. Troy B. Sluder, Jr., of Chapel Hill; one son, Dr. Troy B. Sluder III and wife Lyubov G. of Manteo, N.C.; a grandson Barron Troy Sluder; a brother Raymond Frank Hodges, Jr. and wife Evelyn Cox Hodges of Candler, N.C.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made for Alzheimers research in care of The Bryan ADRC, 2200 W. Main St. - Suite A-200, Durham, N.C., 27705.

Mary Alice Renfro Beall

Mary Alice Renfro Beall, age 62, of Chapel Hill, N.C., died on Dec. 12, 2008, following a brave battle with leukemia.

She was born on Oct. 31, 1946 in Alexandria, Va., was raised in Florida, and has lived in Chapel Hill for the past 15 years. She was predeceased by her father, Leon Renfro of Boca Raton, Fla. She was a graduate of Seacrest High School in Delray Beach, FL, and North Carolina Central University in Durham, N.C. After graduation, she worked for Operation Breakthrough, a nonprofit community action agency in Durham.

She was a librarian in Stovall, N.C., for many years and was active with the Granville Little Theatre group. Most recently, she was the branch manager for the Pittsboro Memorial Library until her recent retirement due to illness. Mary was an active member of the Triangle Area Mushroom Club.

Claire Butcher

Claire Butcher died on Dec. 10, 2008, at North Carolina Memorial Hospital.

She was born on Nov. 7, 1930, to Paul and Estella Tenney. On Aug. 26, 1950, she married James H. Butcher. They had two children - J. Jeffrey Butcher and Elaine Butcher Moorefield. She is survived by her husband, Jim, by her son Jeff and his wife Jan of Stephens City, Va., and her daughter Elaine and her husband Allen of Auburn, Ind. She is also survived by 5 grandchildren - Aaron Moorefield of Maplewood, N.J., Rebekah Moorefield of Fort Wayne, Ind., Ben Butcher of Reston, Va., Seth Moorefield of Auburn, Ind. and Laura Butcher of Stephens City, Va.

A graduate of Cuyahoga Falls High School in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, and of Actual Business College, Mrs. Butcher also took classes at the University of Akron. She worked as the Membership Secretary of First United Methodist Church in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, and as the legal secretary for her husband, Jim Butcher.

In 1987 Jim and Claire retired to Colington Harbor on the Outer Banks of North Carolina where they enjoyed boating and watching sunsets over the Albemarle Sound. In 1999 they moved to Carolina Meadows in Chapel Hill where they became part of a warm and loving community. Affirmed for her gifts and her desire to assist others, Claire helped to coordinate the activities of the Resident Business Center and was a Building 4 floor representative for the Safety Committee. She was a video assistant and appeared as her husband's assistant in his magic act. Claire always laughed at her husband's jokes. While her hobby was water aerobics her passion was the caring for cats and she spent many hours looking after the pets of the residents in assisted living often taking their pets to the veterinarian for them.

A private burial will be held at Chapel Hill Memorial Cemetery. A Memorial Service to celebrate her life was held at Carolina Meadows Retirement Community, conducted by her son, the Rev. J. Jeffrey Butcher.

In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to the Carolina Meadows Memorial Fund, 100 Carolina Meadows, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27517.

Community

Power of the People:

Environmental Justice in

Orange County — Jan. 25,

2:30-5pm, free. Carrboro Century

Center, 100 N. Greensboro St. Talk

by Omega Wilson of the West End

celebratory dance performance will

Chapel Hill High School. For more

"The Songs of Zion" — winter

information, call 960-3875.

concert by Women's Voices

and Hebrew folksongs. 684-

Chorus. Jan. 31, 7:30pm., Duke

Chapel. Music inspired by Jewish

texts and composers and Yiddish

3855, allan@duke.edu, or www.

womensvoiceschorus.org. Tickets \$15

be given by East Baile Latino from East

Revitalization Association, Inc. A

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

Community Briefs

County toy chest needs donations

The Orange County Department of Social Services is in serious need of donations for the Orange County Toy Chest.

More than 200 people gathered two hours before the toy chest was scheduled to open on the first day of service and demand is expected to be high throughout the eight-day run. Sponsors anticipate that the supply of toys might not be enough to serve all those in need.

To make a monetary donation, contact Donna Hall at DSS at 245-2800. Checks or toys can be dropped off at either location of DSS, the Southern Human Services Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill or Whitted Human Services on West Tryon Street in Hillsborough. Checks can also be mailed to the Orange County Department of Social Services, 300 W. Tryon St., P.O. Box 8181, Hillsborough, NC, 27278.

Galloway Ridge awards grants

The Galloway Ridge Charitable Fund has announced this year's grant recipients. The fund awarded grants to:

Chatham County Together! - an organization providing mentorship to children with a parent in jail;

The Chatham County Literacy Council, which trains volunteers to coach children and improve their reading skills;

The CORA Food Pantry, because industrial closings mean the pantry will likely be busier than ever; and

The Chatham Education Foundation, which funds continuing education for teachers.

In addition, some of the fund was set aside for scholarships for employees of Galloway Ridge.

Galloway Ridge is a retirement community in Chatham County, and its charitable contributions were made possible by its residents, friends and business partners.

Horton handmade Christmas

Horton Middle School presented five handmade quilts, the result of the collective efforts of 320 students, to Chatham County Habitat for Humanity on Friday.

While making the quilts, the students learned about poverty with extracurricular activities including singing and performing skits. Most of the fabric used to create the quilts was donated by the French Connection of Pittsboro.

Chatham Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit that helps low-income families build and finance safe and affordable homes. For more information or to volunteer, see www.chathamhabitat.org

Community Calendar

Special Events Phil Blank Exhibit — Dec. 12-Jan. 6, 7pm. Wootini.

Pittsboro First Sundays — 12-4pm. Food, arts and crafts and music on Hillsboro St. 260-9725, pittsboroshops.com

WCOM Christmas Day—Dec. 25, 7-8pm. 103.5 FM. Christmas Day edition of Carrboro Live with Dr. Dave Bellin. Calls From Home brings the voices of family members of prisoners to the airwaves

CCCC Registration — Jan. 6, 9am-7pm. Central Carolina Community College will hold open registration for spring semester classes at its campuses in Chatham, Harnett and Lee counties. cccc.edu

Dance

adults, \$5 students.

The Chocolate Factory — Jan. 17, 2 and 6pm. Studio A Dancers present an adaptation of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. East Chapel Hill High Auditorium. \$5, tickets available www.dancecentre.net/blog

Ballroom — Fourth and fifth Thursdays, 7-9:30pm. Seymour Senior Center, 2551 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill. \$2, 968-2070

Carrboro DanceJam — First Fridays. Free-style dance. Balanced Movement Studio, 304 W. Weaver St, upstairs. 968-8776

Havana Nights — First and third Thursdays, 10pm. Cuban Salsa. Mansion 462, 462 W. Franklin St. 967-7913, www.mansion462.net

Salsa/Mambo — Third Saturdays, lesson 8pm, dance 8:30-11pm. Fred Astaire Dance Studio, 4702 Garrett Road, Durham. \$7, salsa_4u2@ yahoo.com, 358-4201

Faith

Advent Lutheran — 10:25am worship service. Christmas Eve Worship, Dec 24, 7pm. Christmas Day

services 10:30am

The Advocate — Dec. 24, 5:30pm. Christmas Eve celebration of the Eucharist at the Chapel Hill Kehillah on Old Mason Farm Rd., and lessons and carols on Dec. 28 at 5pm, again at the Kehillah.

Buddhist Teachings and

Meditation — Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm. The Kosala Mahayana Buddhist center teaches traditional Kadampa Buddhist practice. 711 W. Rosemary St. 619-5736, meditationinchapelhill.org

Film

Chatham Arts Sustainable

Cinema — Fourth Tuesday, 7pm. The General Store Café, 39 West St., Pittsboro. 542-0394, www. chathamarts.org

Health & Wellness

Cancer Support — Weekly support free of charge for cancer patients and family. www. cornucopiahouse.org

The Compassionate Friends: Self-help support after the

death of a child — Third Mondays, 7-8:30pm. Free and open to all adults grieving the loss of a child or sibling. Evergreen United Methodist Church. 967-3221, chapelhilltcf.org

DivorceCare— Mondays starting Jan. 12, 7pm. A support group for those separated or divorced. Orange United Methodist Church. 942-2825, www.connect2orange.org



Toddler Time — Thursdays, 4pm. Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

Kids

Preschool Story Time — Saturdays, 10:30am. Carrboro Branch Library. 969-3006

Express Yourself! — Saturdays, 10:45-11:15am, 11:30am-noon. Art program for ages 3-8 & their caregivers. Kidzu Children's Museum, 105 E. Franklin St. \$2, 933-1455, kidzuchildrensmuseum.org

Literary

Books Sandwiched—First Wednesday of most months, 11am. Conference room of the Chapel Hill Public Library. 968-2780

Cybrary Movie/Book Club

- Jan 15., 7pm. To discuss Marley & Me: Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog. See the movie, read the book, or both. Carrboro Cybrary. 918-738, www.co.orange. nc.us/library/cybrary

Volunteers

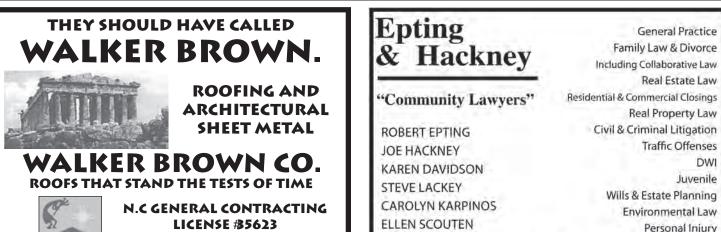
RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program - Seeks volunteers at least 55 years of age and over who would like assistance in finding an opportunity that matches their interests. RSVP places volunteers with more than 100 nonprofit agencies in Orange County. 968-2056, www.co.orange. nc.us/aging/RSVPindex.asp

Meals on Wheels — Seeks volunteers to deliver meals and/or bake simple desserts for recipients in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area. 942-2948

English as a Second Language Conversation Club — Seeks volunteers to talk with groups of international students Fridays from noon-2pm. University Methodist Church on Franklin St. 967-1448, harwellja@bellsouth.net

Hern Wardhouse of Chapel Hill **DRY CLEANING** ANY ONE GARMENT With Coupon • Limit one free garment per customer * Excludes Suede, Leather, Down, Household and Specialty Items. EVERYDAY DEALS: Any **SAME DAY SERVICE** Garment* No Minimum, No In by 8:30am Ready by 4pm Limit \$2.17 Prepaid +TAX MON-SAT Environmentally Conscious Dry Cleaning The Station at Homestead 2801 Homestead Rd

Do you have anything for one of our calendars? Send your submissions to calendar@carrborocitizen.com







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919-929-0323

SUPER CROSSWORD **BY ANY OTHER NAME**

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	Marie"		hero?		contraction	-	stein's		me"	90	Cousin's
5	Decorate	59	Nest egg	103	A real		partner		Tra- —		mom
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9	Tight		Curie	104	Nick of		Arnold or		nurse?		feature
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	navigator	65	Wrapped up		laconic	-	sequence		story?	97	Essence
21	Really big		Gymnast	111	Vietnam's —	10	"Ben- —"	52			Old French
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	Alley		ingredient		Mohawk	17	Serengeti		squirt		er's tool
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					Violinist	35	Rpm			125	Kensington
40	painter	91	Paul	100	Mischa	00	indicator		Say neigh		quaff
47		92	"It's Too Late"	137		36	South			127	Pound a
	Fountain				Groucho's		African		ter wheels)		portcullis
			Letters of		gaze		plant			128	Under-
51	Shoe meas-		credit?		3.	37	Composer	-	measure		garment
		99		DOV	WN		Bartok	83	Rhine	129	Writer
54	"Xanadu"		through	1	Timber wolf	39	"The Perfect		whine		Rand
	rockers		mud	2	Grad		Fool" comic	87	Angus' uh-uh	130	Deli loaf

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. "Wishing"								
PXV KJKSVMBK LXJK X FMBQKSTYN								
LMNUQXV IKXIMB MJKSTNMFUBA								
FUEL WMV XBQ LXZZUBKII. U								
LMZK ELXE IXBEX OSUBAI VMY								
KJKSVELUBA ELXE VMY XIDKQ TMS								
XBQ ELKB IMPK! PXV VMYS BKF								
VKXS OK TUNNKQ FUEL LKXNEL								
XBQ ZSMIZKSUEV PXSEUB, VMYS								
HSVZEM HSKXEMS Find the answer in the puzzle answer section.								

Citizen**Cryptoquote** By Martin Brody

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: *

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging $\star \star \star$ HOO BOY! © 2008 King Features Synd., Inc

PETS OF THE WEEK

PAWS4EVER — Yo, I'm **Bosco**! I am full of personality and spunk! I

often hear people ask around me, "Who is that cat?", and that's because I am always running through the halls or after a feather wand, making people shriek with delight. I can easily leap a person's height to catch toys and other objects of interest. I like other cats but have no problems



occupying myself with anything I can bat around. You will enjoy me as your new family member if you like entertainment from your felines, plus pizazz to spare. And would you mind sharing your dinner with me? I love the smell and the taste of delicious meal fresh from the microwave, or sharing a bag of potato chips. Come see me at Paws4Ever, 6311 Nicks Road, Mebane, or call 304-2300. You can also go online at www.paws4ever.org

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES — Introducing

Rudolph! This lovable boy is around 2 years old and has nuzzled his way into everyone's heart at the shelter. He's not nearly as outgoing as his namesake, but he's definitely just as adorable. Rudolph is extremely shy and needs a home with a lot of love and patience so that he can grow into the confident boy that he has the potential to be. Do you have room in your life to



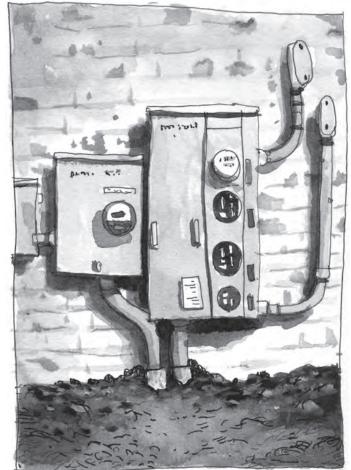
get him started? Stop by Orange County's Animal Shelter, 1081 MLK Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill or call 967-7383. You can also see him online at www. co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp.



12 85 92 112 20 121 122 19 123 24 125 126 132

Land & Table

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2008 5



Autochthonous Glands ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

FARMERS' MARKET

SATURDAY MARKET: 8 a.m. - Noon

Recipe of the Week

Sweet Potato and Collard Soup

Recipe provided by Sarah Blacklin

This soup is great in the winter time especially if you happen to be under the weather. The red pepper adds the right amount of heat to counter the sweetness of the sweet potato.

Ingredients

- 4 tbl. of olive oil
- I med. onion
- 3 cloves of garlic (pressed or minced)
- 3 good size sweet potatoes
- I qt. chicken stock/vegetable stock/ or bullion
- 4 tbl. of Apple Cidar Vinegar
- A handful of fresh sage, thyme, and oregano if available

• I bunch of collards (can be substituted for spinach, kale, or other available greens. *Cauliflower can be used but must be added at the end

- salt and pepper to taste
- I tbl. of crushed red pepper
- *Available at Market

Procedure

- I. Heat the olive oil on med. heat in a large stock pot
- 2. Add onions, sauté until soft
- 3. Add garlic and fresh herbs finely chopped to onions
- 4. Sauté briefly (don't burn the garlic)

DINING GUIDE (CALL AHEAD FOR HOLIDAY HOURS)



CARRBORO

ACME FOOD & BEVERAGE CO. 110 E. Main St., 929-2263 acmecarrboro.com

AKAI HANA 206 W Main St., 942-6848 akaihana.com

AMANTE 300 E. Main St., 929-3330 amantepizza.com

ARMADILLO GRILL 120 E Main St., 929-4669

CARRBURRITOS 711 W Rosemary St., 933-8226 carrburritos.com

ELMO'S DINER 200 N. Greensboro St., 929-2909 elmosdiner.com

GLASSHALFULL 106 S. Greensboro St., 794-4107 glasshalfullcarrboro.com

JADE PALACE 103 E Main St., 942-0006 jadepalacerestaurant.com

MILLTOWN 307 E. Main St., 968-2460

NEAL'S DELI 100 E. Main St. Ste. C, 967-2185 nealsdeli.com

OPEN EYE CAFÉ 101 S Greensboro St., 968-9410 openeyecafe.com

PADGETT STATION 401 E Main St., 929-0445 padgettstation.com

PANZANELLA 200 N. Greensboro St., 929-6626

PROVENCE 203 W. Weaver St., 967-5008

SOUTHERN RAIL 201 E Main St., (919) 967-1967

THE SPOTTED DOG 111 E. Main St., 933-1117 spotteddogrestaurant.com

TYLER'S 102 E. Main St., 929-6881

WEAVER STREET MARKET CAFÉ 101 E. Weaver St. Carr Mill Mall, 929-0010

CHAPEL HILL

CAROLINA BREWERY 460 W. Franklin St., 942-1800 carolinabrewery.com

CROOK'S CORNER 610 W. Franklin St., 929-7643 crookscorner.com

ELAINE'S ON FRANKLIN 454 W. Franklin St., 960-2770 elainesonfranklin.com

FOUR ELEVEN WEST 411 W. Franklin St., 967-2782 411west.com

FUSE 403 W Rosemary St., 942-9242 LA RESIDENCE

202 W. Rosemary St., 967-2506 laresidencedining.com

LANTERN RESTAURANT 423 W. Franklin St., 969-8846 lanternrestaurant.com

LIME & BASIL 200 W Franklin St., 967-5055

MAMA DIP'S KITCHEN, INC. 408 W. Rosemary St., 942-5837 mamadips.com

MEDITERRANEAN DELI 410 W Franklin St., 967-2666 mediterraneandeli.com

TALULLA'S 456 W. Franklin St., 933-1177 talullas.com

TRILUSSA LA TRATTORIA 456 W. Franklin St., 933-1177 talullas.com

VESPA RISTORANTE

306-D W Franklin St., 969-6600

WEST END WINE BAR 450 W Franklin St., 967-7599

WINDOWS AT THE FRANKLIN HOTEL 311 W. Franklin St., 442-4020

HILLSBOROUGH

FLYING FISH 111 N. Churton St., 245-0040

PANCIUTO 110 S. Churton St., 732-6261 panciuto.com

TUPELO'S 101 N. Churton St., 643-7722 tupelos.com

VALOUR PATISSERIE & BISTRO 126 W. King St., 245-1155

POINTS WEST

FIESTA GRILL 3307 Hwy 54 West, 928-9002 fiestagrill.us

THE BELTED GOAT 2000 Fearrington Village, 545-5717 Fearrington.com/village/beltedgoat.asp

CAROLINA BREWERY 120 Lowes Drive, Suite 100, 545-2330 carolinabrewery.com

CHATHAM MARKETPLACE 480 Hillsboro St., 542-2643 chathammarketplace.coop

FEARRINGTON HOUSE 2000 Fearrington Village, 542-2121 fearringtonhouse.com

THE GENERAL STORE CAFÉ 39 West St., 542-2432 thegeneralstorecafe.com

SOUTHERN VILLAGE

MERLION RESTAURANT & BAR 410 Market St., 933-1188 merlionfood.com

PAZZO! 700 Market St., Pizzeria 929-9991, Restaurant 929-9984

TOWN HALL GRILL 410 Market St., 960-TOWN thetownhallgrill.com

5. Add the stock

6. Bring the heat up to high

7. Add chopped sweet potatoes (skin adds nutritional value, but

can be removed for a smoother consistency)

8. Add vinegar and the remainder of the spices

9. Once the soup reaches a boil, cut the heat down to med-low

10. Cook potatoes at a low boil until they are soft

II. Using an electric hand mixer or with a nice stiff wooden spoon,

mash the potato chunks into a puree (there will be chunks)

- 12. Add the greens, washed and chopped
- 13. Keep soup at a simmer until greens are tender
- 14. Salt and Pepper to taste

What's at Market?

Lettuce, pac choy, flour, onions, garlic, arugula, beets, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, radishes, cauliflower, collards, fresh herbs, kale, leeks, mustard greens, salad greens,

spinach, sweet potatoes, turnips, turnip greens, winter squashes, pecans, maple sausage, smoked ham, smoked ham hocks, liverwurst, lamb, bacon, chicken, eggs, cow's milk cheeses, breads, doughnuts, tortes, pies, cakes, jams, and relishes.



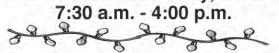
Christmas Holiday Schedule Orange County Solid Waste Management

Curbside Recycling There will be NO SERVICE on Thursday, December 25 The MAKE-UP recycling day will be Saturday, December 27 Please have your bins out by 7:00 am



Orange County Landfill and all associated programs such as the Hazardous Waste Collection, electronics recycling and mulch sales

will close early 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 24 **Closed Thursday, December 25** Regular hours resume Friday, December 26



Solid Waste Convenience Centers will be closed as usual Wednesday, December 24 Closed Thursday, December 25 Regular hours resume Friday, December 26 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

> Orange County Solid Waste Management 968-2788 recycling@co.orange.nc.us www.co.orange.nc.us/recycling/



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binion

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

FOR THE RECORD

What is local?

We're curious. We hear so much talk about buying local; supporting local; eating, breathing and existing local. And we get it, sort of. The benefits of doing much more closer to home are clear, especially from an environmental standpoint.

And this paper is among the many encouraging support of our local economy. In fact, there are several efforts to do so - all of them pretty much focused on their version of supporting local.

It's quite a panoply:

In the last several months in Carrboro alone, there have been several efforts started or floated, including the town-sponsored Local Living Economy Task Force, a group exploring the BALLE model (Business Alliance for Local Living Economies), and photographer Jesse Kalisher's "Walk Carrboro" campaign to promote Carrboro as an arts destination around the state and region. Add to that the many groups and organizations also seeking to promote our arts community, a new "Book Local" campaign by the Orange County Visitor's Bureau and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce's official "Buy Local" campaign.

All of these efforts hinge on shoring up something that is local. It would be interesting to see just how much these various efforts concur on what that word means.

There's no simple answer. The Farmers' Market model, typical of many markets throughout the country, uses a 50-mile rule, which is akin to the definition of local in some macrobiotic diets. Fifty miles makes sense for the production of food, but not so much for light bulbs, paper towels and paintings.

Let's start with geography. Does local mean the Piedmont or just Carrboro, or Carrboro and Chapel Hill and maybe Orange County? Where does that leave Pittsboro and Saxapahaw? How does Hillsborough fit in?

And how about commerce? Does the local economy include the grocery store chains that are among the county's top employers? Do we recruit businesses that will compete with homegrown enterprises? Is a shop still locally owned if the owner retires to the beach but keeps the place open?

And planning? How does the vision of making this town an arts destination jibe with concerns about lack of parking and traffic congestion? Do we want a tourist economy?

We don't question the motivation of all these buy/shop/support/eat local efforts. They're all genuine attempts to make this a better place to live and work.

What we do question is how well the various ideas fit together and whether there is some way for these efforts to support each





The REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS: PRICELESS

Leaking roofs tell the story

MIKE NELSON

Some things you have to see for yourself to believe.

I recently took a tour of about a half dozen schools, mainly older facilities, in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro school system. Because the county commissioners fund the school systems' budgets, it's important for me to see first-hand what the parents, teachers and administrators school are complaining about. I took a similar tour of facilities in the Orange County school system a

while back and wanted to assess the situation in the city schools.

Boy, am I glad I did.

Fortunately, it was a rainy day. The rain provided "opportunities" to see the challenges students and teachers face in many of our older schools. At two schools we visited, staff was using sandbags to keep water from flooding classrooms. I was told that they have to put out sandbags every time it rains, otherwise water will enter the rooms.

And several schools had significant problems with leaking roofs. Phillips Middle School had the most dramatic roof issues of the facilities I visited that day. The roof over the intercom system was leaking, causing staff to wrap the intercom server in plastic and plop a garbage can on top to catch the and students at Carrboro High School are, rightly, requesting rain. And as the principal pointed out, the expense of replacing a ruined intercom system would have been enormous. But more troubling than the leak over the intercom system was the leak in the main hallway as you entered the school. This is a high-traffic area and water was running onto the floor at a steady pace. In what amounts to a huge waste of staff resources, someone had to stand watch to make sure no one fell, to mop up water and to ensure as safe a travel zone as possible under the circumstances.

The rain provided "opportunities" to see the challenges students and teachers face in many of our older schools. At two schools we visited, staff was using sandbags to keep water from flooding classrooms. I was told that they have to put out sandbags every time it rains, otherwise water will enter the rooms.

And speaking of liability issues waiting to happen, the Phillips' principal reported that water had entered the area in which the fire-alarm system is housed, and she'd been afraid all day that the fire alarm would short out.

These are just a few examples of what I saw, and unfortunately conditions are similar in the Orange County school district. The challenge, of course, is where to find the money to make repairs at a time when the school district is faced with needing to build a new elementary school next year at a cost of \$35 million and a new middle school in a couple of years at an estimated cost of \$54 million. Additionally, the parents

VERBATIM

Following is an except from the winter commencement address of Valerie Ashby, a UNC alum and professor of chemistry. She encouraged graduates to be enthusiastic, prepared and genuine in their service to others,

. . . So, I'll begin today by saying to the graduates that you have received an awesome gift. When we reflect for a moment on just a few of the circumstances in which people find themselves all over this world, we stop and ask ourselves, how is it that we have the opportunity to spend our days and our nights struggling with concepts, ideas and theories and producing music and performances? How is it that we are able to create knowledge and explore new territories in thinking without the cost being too great to bear? Where is that place that is so privileged?

It is right here. As I told my students one morning, "you don't actually have to go to a remote corner in the world to see that we are indeed privileged." And yet, it's so easy to lose sight of this. But just walk to the edge of Franklin Street, and you'll see newly homeless families, or consider the children in our community and across this country who do not have access to an excellent education, and if they had the access, would not have the support to make a UNC experience a reality. And it becomes really clear that wearing this Carolina blue robe today – this is a gift.

What I appreciate and love about students at this university is that you get it. You get that when we receive a gift like this, as Chairman Perry said earlier, the response is service service to each other, service to our families, service to the community, the nation and the world. . .

In response to the recent



other.

Some kind of local local summit is in order — probably not to forge a consensus, but to get the ideas out in front of groups and individuals similarly inclined.

We'd like to hear from you about this issue. Please send us your definition of local and any thoughts you might have about improving our local economy.

You can email editor@carrborocitizen.com or send a note our way to Box 248, Carrboro, N.C., 27510.

Weather alert

Two years of drought have spoiled us in a strange way. Gloomy, cold rainy weather is traditional this time of year. So quit moaning, this isn't Arizona.

And please note that spring is just around the corner. Research conducted by The *Citizen* confirms that the planet is still tilting on its axis and, given the current movements, spring should be rolling around in a little less than 90 days.



EDITORIAL

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that the arts wing be constructed as promised.

This is going to be a difficult budget year, as you all can imagine from reading about the recession in the papers. However, these facility needs must be met somehow. It's just going to take some creative thinking to get there, given our current circumstances.

Mike Nelson is an at-large member of the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

LETTERS

Get me to the airport on time

Chancellor Thorp confuses the Orange County community again ("no decision has been made"). But this time, despite his self-proclaimed "analytical skills," it may have backfired. Talbert & Bright have planned 64 airports in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast region over 15 years. Their 2005 UNC study was based on the same criteria: no airport within a 30-minute drive of another airport, and that the doc's wanted it within a 20-minute ride. T&B selected Raleigh Durham International Airport. How did they get it wrong? They even showed sensitivity to the environment and went east before southwest.

Since there are no new major highways or development projects, and the topography is unchanged (hills becoming valleys, and vice versa, and rivers changing courses), what is the purpose of a second study? Thorp explains: The new study would include more current traffic and roadway data.

Does he not realize that a new airport would change this data? Is he basing his reasoning and planning on the present, or the future? Especially when he has already stated that the process will take several years to complete? Are T&B amateurs? The new study will be expensive, take time, and prolong indecision. And certainly embarrass T&B. Does Thorp take us all for fools?

Thorp has recently pledged cooperation on the airport. If he insists on a second study, we cooperate with our "analytical skills" and make a cost- and time-effective suggestion: clue the "second team" on the "right" answer. And at the same time, copy chair Valerie Foushee and the community.

In this manner, UNC (aka Airport Authority) will have the right answer in

a day or so, all stakeholders will be on the same page, and the process will be ready for takeoff!

> MICHAEL FERNANDES, MD Chapel Hill

Good start

Thank you for your 12/22 article on the green collar economy. Readers will also be interested to learn that the Carrboro Board of Aldermen made our top economic development priority for 2008 "to explore green collar business development."

In working toward that end, Economic Development director James Harris attended last April's "Green for All" Conference in Memphis, Tenn. There he heard from green jobs pioneers like Van Jones and Majora Carter. He also made connections and has continued to meet with green jobs activists from around the Triangle who are meeting to promote a regional and state agenda for green collar jobs.

In addition, James has met with the educators at Central Carolina Community College and at CHCCS to begin connecting educational programs with job opportunities. In September, as part of a national initiative, James organized a Green for All event during the Carrboro Farmers' Market where green product and service providers were able to meet with the public. The town is also working on adding green jobs criteria to the the town's Revolving Loan Fund.

All of the above are just first steps for Carrboro but represent good progress by our Economic Development Department.

> DAN COLEMAN Carrboro Board of Aldermen

Act misnamed

I am writing concerning my grave concerns about the woefully misnamed Employee Free Choice Act, also known as card check.

The Employee Free Choice Act is a bill aimed at shoring up failing labor unions. Instead of giving workers the freedom to vote by secret ballot, the Employee Free Choice Act would change the rules so that unions could organize a workplace simply by persuading a majority of workers to sign authorization cards.

Not only would the bill let unions muscle their way into a business, but if contract talks between the union and an employer stall, then federal bureaucrats could step in and dictate wages and other benefits - exactly the kind of thing we can't afford in the midst of the worst recession in memory.

Forced contracts and Washingtonstyle politics in the American workplace? I think the bill should be renamed the Employee FORCED Choice Act.

> GREGG THOMPSON, STATE DIRECTOR National Federation of Independent Business Raleigh

flap over Christmas decorations on campus, UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor Holden Thorp issued the following statement:

At Carolina, departments are free to put up a Christmas tree ... or not. And if you take a walk across campus, I think you'll see that. The façade of Memorial Hall, our major performing venue, is fully decorated for the holiday, and The Nutcracker is its major December attraction. Student Stores is like any retailer this time of year. They have a tree decorated with Carolina ornaments in the window and, in the store, there is a mantel decorated with Carolina stockings. The Student Activities Fund Office has a Christmas tree in its window. There's a big Christmas wreath with a Carolina-blue ribbon on it in the Student Union. Our own Carolina Inn is again featuring its Twelve Days of Christmas displays throughout the hotel. And just as we have for the last 59 years, our Morehead Planetarium and Science Center is featuring The Star of Bethlehem.

So Christmas is recognized on this campus.

Thanks for your interest in Carolina, and have a joyous Christmas season.

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.

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7 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2008

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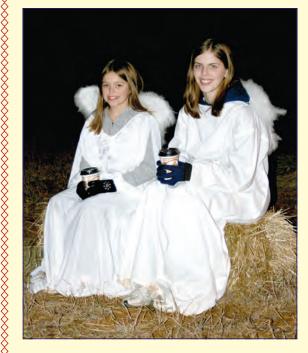
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Antioch Living Nativity





he spirit of the season was on display at the Antioch Baptist Church drive-through living Nativity in White Cross Sunday night. Stationed along the church's driveway were shepherds and an extremely pregnant goat alongside three angels who declared, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy."

Next up: King Herod (ensconsed in a nice, warm tent, natch) followed by the three wise men. And then, the big finish: the Nativity itself. And at each, a bit of scripture to convey the story of Christ's birth. On the way out, Victorian-era carolers regaled us with "Joy to the World" as other volunteers served up homemade cookies, hot chocolate and passed out the story of Christmas.

PHOTOS BY MARGOT C. LESTER







Almanac



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

In this "Night Before Christmas" scene, a Christmas fern leaf provides the tree to the left, a smaller leaf provides decoration on the mantle, single leaf segments make the stockings and another segment represents Santa in his sleigh flying down the chimney.

FLORA FROM PAGE I

As a woodland plant or a garden plant, the Christmas fern is handsome year-round except for a brief period in the late winter when the leaves may be flattened to the ground by the odd winter snow or two. The fuzzy fiddleheads of the new fronds begin uncurling upward in early spring. Be advised that these are not the tasty-to-some edible fiddleheads of the common ostrich

fern found much farther north.

Christmas ferns are easily cultivated, and once established will survive periods of drought, though I always like to add a little extra rain-barrel water to mine during really hot, dry periods. Single clumps with both horizontalinclined leaves and stiffly erect leaves, up to a foot and a half tall, make great accent plants in shady landscapes. One local gardening friend has created a forest floor-like ground cover with dozens of

these ferns rescued a few years ago from a local residential construction site.

When you come upon a clump or two of Christmas ferns in the forest, you may assume that in that spot there is a little more moisture in the soil. Whenever I discover an extensive carpet of these ferns on a forest floor, I have an urge to simply settle down in the middle and enjoy floating on a sea of dark green. You may consider trying it sometime when no one is observing.



CHAPEL HILL HIGH SCHOOL, 1962

he trouble with being an old local, says Chapel Hill native Elliott Warnock, is that we tend to see our hometown not as it is, but as it was.

So it is for me every time I walk past University Square, which morphs instantly into good old Chapel Hill High School.

Since I was one of the yearbook photographers that fall 1962, I may have taken this photo, which graced the inside cover of the *Hilllife*. Those are my classmates (left to right), beginning with Jane Dyer in the yellow dress, Susan Prince, Johnny Allcott, Susan Calhoun, either Judy Logan or Cindy Kouns, Carol Anne Chambers, the late George Thompson, Paula Sturdevant and Jane Russell. The photo was taken from where Aveda Institute is now located, at the corner of Franklin and Church streets.

The handsome Georgian building met the wrecking ball ahead of its time, a victim of desegregation in the mid-'60s, when white CHHS and black Lincoln High School joined forces at the new and larger Homestead Road facility *waaay* out of town in what was then the boonies.

And while today the black kids of that era still have their Lincoln High School to gaze at with remembrance, we white kids have no such visual evidence, no physical proof of a very special time in our lives. That's the problem with the teardown of a community institution.

All the more reason to treasure our old photographs.



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.



from all of us at The Carrboro Citizen! Bubba, Kirk, Susie, Anne, Liz, Marty, Taylor, Jack, Margot, Chuck, Dylan, Rich, Michelle, Ava, Betsy, Marley and Ouija. Hau'oli Lanui! Felices Fiestas! Trevlig Helg! Boas Festas! Mutlu Bayramlar! Arbatori Fericite! Jie Ri Yu Kuai Bones Festes! Tanoshii kuris! masu wo! Buone Feste! Holide eximnandi! Forhe Feiertage! Prettige feestdagen! Joyeuses Fêtes! Beanachtaí na Féile! Vesele Praznike!