

Briefs

Insko seeks reelection

Rep. Verla Insko has announced she will seek reelection as representative of North Carolina's 56th district, which encompasses Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

Insko is serving her eighth term in the N.C. House of Representatives where she serves on a variety of committees, including the house appropriations, health and human services and judiciary committees.

Agricultural Summit on Monday

Orange County will hold its annual Agricultural Summit on Monday to address key issues that affect the local agricultural industry.

Rep. David Price, farmers and planning and economic-development staff from the county will speak at the event, which runs from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Big Barn Convention Center in Daniel Boone Village in Hillsborough.

Registration is \$10 and is available on site or by calling the Orange County Cooperative Extension office at 245-2050. For more information, visit orangecountyfarms.org

Candidate for commissioner

Renee Price, president of the Orange County Democratic Women, has announced she will run for election to the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

Price will be running for the seat representing District 2, which includes Hillsborough, Efland and the rural area from White Cross to Cedar Grove. Steve Yuhasz currently represents District 2 on the board.

Rabid raccoon in Chapel Hill

A dead raccoon discovered in a Chapel Hill resident's driveway on Jan. 30 has tested positive for rabies.

According to Orange County Animal Services, the raccoon was found near Bethel-Hickory Grove Church Road and Dairyland Road.

This is the first positive rabies test in Orange County for 2012.

Symposium to look at waterway health

Friends of Bolin Creek and the UNC Institute for the Environment will host "Can We Heal Our Local Waterways?" a symposium and community exchange on the state and future of our local streams, on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the N.C. Botanical Garden.

The event, which will include a series of discussions led by experts as well as a children's program, is meant to launch a community discussion about how Triangle residents can bring our waterways back to health. The symposium will focus on current water-quality problems and the actions needed to restore local creeks and streams.

"Water quality is critical for life, both for the natural ecosystem and for the growth and sustainability of our towns," said Julie McClintock, president of Friends of Bolin Creek and organizer of the symposium.

A series of expert speakers from the State of North Carolina, Carrboro and Chapel Hill

will talk about our streams and what we can do to protect them. Following the discussions, attendees will talk about how to move forward to protect and restore our waterways.

Meanwhile, Jenni Heartway, a teacher/environmental educator with Learn Outside will lead a children's program exploring the world of streams in which children will visit the garden wetland, examine macroinvertebrates and create drawings and paintings.

In addition, *Carrboro Citizen* columnist Mary Parker Sonis will lead symposium attendees on a photo journey along Bolin Creek with images of the animals of the creek.

Following the programs, attendees will have the opportunity to connect with more than 15 local organizations making a difference for the environment, including OWASA, the Haw River Assembly and the Morgan Creek Valley Alliance.

The event is co-sponsored by



Bolin Creek is one of the waterways that will be discussed at the "Can We Heal Our Local Waterways?" symposium on Saturday.

PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

the N.C. Botanical Garden and Chapel Hill 2020.

A detailed agenda and registration information is available online at bolincreek.org.

—Staff Reports

Homeless survey results announced

Survey results of the national 100,000 Homes Campaign, conducted during the last week of January in Orange and Wake counties, have now been compiled.

Volunteers administered 57 surveys in Orange County. Of those interviewed, 29 were identified as medically vulnerable, meaning they've been on the streets for at least six months and have at least one serious health condition. Thirty-two reported substance abuse, 23 a mental-health condition, nine heart disease and six diabetes. As percentages of those surveyed, these numbers are in keeping with national findings.

Coordinated by United Way

of the Greater Triangle and in collaboration with the Wake and Orange County Partnerships to End Homelessness, the goal of the 100,000 Homes Campaign is to learn the names, faces and stories of our homeless population, and to thereby better understand their health and medical needs.

Here in Orange County, five teams of volunteers visited camps, cars and alleyways throughout the county in the early-morning hours of Jan. 24-25. Occupants were asked a series of questions about their health and general status. This information will be used to prioritize housing and services for those at risk of dying on the streets.

The campaign is adhering to a "housing-first" model, meaning that those most in need, regardless of other circumstances, are given top priority.

Jamie Rohe, coordinator of the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness, said that in a community with the resources available here, "we can do a better job of connecting those with serious medical conditions with housing and services."

In the coming months, the United Way of the Greater Triangle's partner agencies and the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness will be reviewing the list of those who were identified as vulnerable in an effort to connect those who

are in greatest need with community resources.

Organizations in Orange County that will be helping meet needs include the OPC Area Program; the Orange County Department of Housing, Human Rights and Community Development; and the Veterans Administration. Discussions are also underway with the Triangle Apartment Association.

It's estimated that there are some 2,000 people living on the streets in the Triangle. According to the United Way, at least 40 people died homeless in the Triangle last year, in many cases due to medical issues aggravated by homelessness. — Staff Reports

THE CARRBORO CITIZEN

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A Southern Season



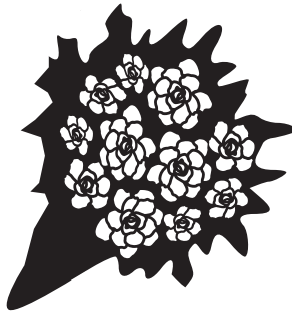
Come experience a collection of larger-than-life Valentine's silhouettes, specially-designed, delicious and delightful gifts, and many love-filled events all inspired by the charm and romance of the past.



CHOCOLATE MAKES THE WORLD GO 'ROUND
Discover chocolates from all over the world—no passports required.



WINE & ROSES
We've collected a romantic array of wines and champagnes so you can say "Cheers" and "I Love You".



ROSES ARE RED
Want flowers that impress? Visit our Roses are Red Garden to find the perfect arrangement for your loved one.



QUEEN OF HEARTS BAKERY
Here you will find an assortment of tasty and whimsical Valentine's baked goods.



LOVE POTIONS
A must stop for coffee and tea lovers; try our very own blend of "Café Amore" Coffee and our "Lover's Cup" Tea.



Our Valentine's Silhouette exhibit will be on display through February 14th, 2012.

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