

Briefs

Holiday closings

Most municipal offices will operate on holiday schedules in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Schedule changes include:

- The Town of Carrboro offices will be closed Monday.
- Carrboro garbage scheduled for collection on Monday will be collected on Tuesday.
- Chapel Hill Transit will operate on a Saturday schedule on Monday, with no U or NU routes running.
- Orange County Solid Waste Convenience Centers will be closed on Monday.
- OWASA's offices will be closed Monday.
- The Town of Chapel Hill offices will be closed Monday.
- Chapel Hill residential garbage scheduled for collection on Monday will be collected on Wednesday.
- The Chapel Hill Public Library will be open on Monday from 1 to 5 p.m.
- Chatham County Public Libraries will be closed on Monday.
- Chatham County offices will be closed Monday.
- Chatham County Waste Collection & Recycling Center will be closed Monday.
- The Town of Hillsborough offices will be closed Monday.
- Hillsborough residential garbage scheduled for collection on Monday will be collected on Tuesday.

Kinnaird seeks reelection

Sen. Ellie Kinnaird has announced she will seek reelection in 2012.

Kinnaird, who began her career in politics in 1987 when she was elected mayor of Carrboro, represents Orange and Person counties as District 23 in the N.C. Senate. However, with district maps changing for 2012, the 23rd District will most likely be switched to Chatham and Orange counties.

Kinnaird is in her seventh term in the N.C. Senate and serves as the co-chair for both the Senate Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety and the Senate Mental Health and Youth Services committees. Kinnaird serves on multiple other committees including the Energy Policy Council, Environmental Review Commission and the Senate Agriculture Environment and Natural Resources committee.

Chapel Hill Transit adjusts schedule

On Jan. 9, Chapel Hill Transit implemented schedule adjustments to improve service and system-wide efficiency based on rider-ship trends and traffic patterns.

Changes are:

- The S Route has extended its 11:06 a.m. trip from UNC Hospitals to the N.C. 54 park-and-ride lot.
- The NS Route has adjusted its schedule between 2:30 p.m. to 10:39 p.m. to improve schedule adherence.
- The V Route has adjusted schedule times to match travel conditions between Southern Village and UNC Hospitals.
- EZ Rider has begun a weekday shuttle for seniors, serving Carolina Springs, Manley Estates and The Stratford and the Seymour Center between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The EZ Rider will provide connections hourly to Carrboro Plaza and University Mall.

For more information visit chtransit.org or call 969-4900, ext. 1.

Carolina North progress update

UNC will hold a public meeting on Jan. 19 at 5:30 p.m. to provide a progress update about Carolina North.

Officials will discuss ductbank construction, the use of a methane gas pipeline, the modification of conservation areas and the Research Building, which is the first building scheduled for construction. Carolina North is a mixed-use academic campus for UNC being built near or on the Horace Williams Airport site.

The meeting will be held in the Magnolia Conference Room of the Giles F. Horney Building at 103 Airport Drive.

Domestic disturbance suspect arrested

Chapel Hill Police arrested Ming Cheng of River Birch Lane on Jan. 6 after responding to a domestic disturbance call.

When police arrived on the scene, the victim told police Cheng may have barricaded himself inside the house. Police were able to determine that he was not barricaded inside, arrested him and took him to the Orange County Jail where he is being held without bond.

Cheng has been charged with one felony count of assault inflicting physical injury by strangulation, one misdemeanor count of false imprisonment and one misdemeanor count of assault on a female.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY: FOREVER FORWARD

This Monday will mark the 25th anniversary of the celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as a federal holiday. In fact, though, Chapel Hill began honoring the occasion two years prior as a town holiday, and has continued to recognize the day with appropriate tribute.

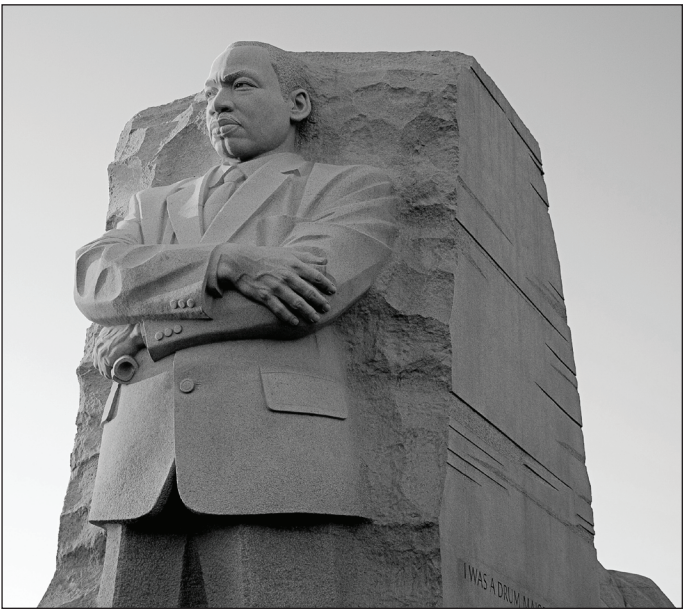
Highlighting the day will be the Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP's annual commemoration, this year themed "Forever Forward." Events will begin with a march and rally at Peace and Justice Plaza in Chapel Hill at 9 a.m., marshaled by Robert Campbell, Eugene Farrar and David Caldwell Jr.

A worship service will then be held at First Baptist Church, beginning at 11 a.m., with Rep.

Larry D. Hall as keynote speaker.

At 2 p.m., Book Harvest will host an event at Flyleaf Books featuring a reading of the children's book Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., followed by brief remarks from Campbell and Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton. Book Harvest is also inviting community members to commemorate the day by organizing book drives and then dropping the books off at Flyleaf on Monday between 1 and 4 p.m.

And the Town of Chapel Hill will be airing a documentary about the naming and dedication of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on Chapel Hill TV 18 at noon and 7 p.m. Leading up to the holiday, the video will air at 2 p.m. this Friday and 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.



The new Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Washington, D.C.
PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

Elementary 11 plans outlined

BY ROSE LAUDICINA
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools district is breaking ground on a new elementary school that it hopes will help alleviate its overcrowding issue.

With spot redistricting likely for next year, board members and school officials are looking toward elementary school 11, with a capacity of 585 students, to provide the much-needed classroom space their elementary schools currently lack.

Planned for the Northside neighborhood in Chapel Hill, the school was previously scheduled to open in fall 2014, but due to a funding push by the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education and the Orange County Board of Commissioners, the school is scheduled to open its doors to students in fall 2013.

Todd LoFrese, assistant superintendent for support services for

CHCCS, said he was "especially pleased that the board of commissioners and the board of education created a plan to expedite elementary school 11 and to get it to a point of funding a year ahead."

"This just shows the commitment that both the commissioners and board of education have to public education," he added.

Since the school will be built in the midst of a residential neighborhood, Steve Triggiano of Moseley Architects said that his firm designed the building to reflect the character of homes in the Northside neighborhood.

"We didn't want the building to look foreign because of its large size," Triggiano said.

Because the lot is only 5 acres, which Triggiano says is a compact space to build a school, the school is designed to be three stories. But since the lot is sloped, the third story will be built in a valley, so the building won't appear as tall.

The building will also feature a variety of environmental features that officials hope will earn the school a LEED gold standard. Green features include porous pavement to reduce stormwater runoff, a 60,000-gallon cistern to collect rainwater from the roof to be used for toilets and natural light where possible to reduce energy consumption.

The environmental features of the building also extend into the construction and deconstruction process, with 75 percent of waste being diverted from the landfill.

Triggiano said that Habitat for Humanity has already been out to the site, which is presently home to three buildings and a trailer, and removed doors, windows and some light fixtures for reuse in their projects.

While steel, stone and wood from the current buildings will be recycled and given new life, the actual school site is being restored to

its original purpose.

Stephanie Knott, the assistant superintendent for community relations, said the Orange County Training School was located on the site, opening its doors as an agricultural and vocational school for black children in 1924.

In 1948 the school was renamed Lincoln High School, which moved to Merritt Mill Road in 1951, at which point the school at the Northside site was named Northside Elementary.

However, while the buildings that occupy the site are not part of the original construction, making historic preservation a non-issue, Knott said there are rumors that a cornerstone from the original training school is still somewhere in Orange County.

"We would love to have that returned to us, so that it might become part of the new school and displayed as a part of its very rich history," she said.

Past Forward
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Rhine Research Center
MEDITATION AND HEALING: A 3-PART EVENING COURSE WITH TEACHER TOM SPECTOR, PHD
1. HOW TO CULTIVATE HEALING Friday, Jan 13 7:30-9:30 pm
2. INNER PEACE: A PRACTICAL APPROACH Monday, Jan 16 7:30-9:00 pm
3. VISITING SERIOUSLY ILL PEOPLE Thursday, Jan 19 7:30-9:00 pm
EACH program: Rhine members \$15 • non-members \$20 • students \$10
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The Orange County Human Relations Commission invites you to Human Relations Month Forum 2012
Sunday, January 29, 2012
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
THEME:
"Defining Marriage in North Carolina by Constitutional Amendment: What are the Implications?"
PANELISTS:
ROBERT L. CAMPBELL Chairman, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chapter NAACP
MAXINE EICHNER Professor, UNC-CH School of Law
BRETT WEBB-MITCHELL Visiting Associate Professor, N.C. Central University
MODERATOR:
MILAN PHAM Attorney, Nicholson-Pham Attorneys at Law
PLACE:
Carrboro Century Center
100 North Greensboro Street
Carrboro, NC 27510
Refreshments served. Live Music by The Moaners at 2:30 PM. The public is invited. For more information, call (919) 245-2487.

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