



**FRIDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
88/65



**SATURDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
92/67



**SUNDAY**  
30% chance of rain  
85/67

# C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE  
Evening primrose flowers open for a single night.

## FLORA BY KEN MOORE

### Plan now for an evening primrose party

Evening primrose has been flowering in some spots along Carrboro's main streets for several weeks. I've been trying to capture a photograph because the plants in my yard don't yet have flower buds, but I've not been up early enough in the mornings or out on the streets late enough in the evenings to have succeeded.

Finally, one evening this past week, I boldly knocked on the door of Bill Derey, one of Carrboro's premier gardeners. Bill's garden, on the west side of North Greensboro Street near Southern States, has been lit up at night by several evening primroses. I learned from Bill that these flowers don't fully open until well after sunset. He knows because he invited a friend over to view the evening primrose flower opening and they had to wait and watch until 8:30 p.m. When those brilliant, butter-yellow flowers finally do open to the pleasure of night-flying pollinators, the plants literally glow in the dark. For a photograph, Bill advised that I should return in the early morning.

So there I was the next morning at 6:30, to discover that most of the flowers had already begun closing. This is truly a flower of the nighttime and well worth going outdoors to view. Having several near one's porch, as Bill has, makes night viewing really convenient.

Don't be confused if you hear someone showing off with the Latin name, *Oenothera biennis*, saying either [ee-noth-EE-ra by-ENN-is] or [ee-NOTH-er-a by-ENN-is], because both pronunciations seem to be acceptable. The first part of the name, the genus, from Greek, means "wine booty." Eating the root was thought to increase one's capacity for wine. I don't recommend this, though a number of Native-American tribes used root teas and poultices for medicinal purposes.

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## Filing season for election opens Monday

BY KIRK ROSS  
Staff Writer

While some candidates have already announced their intentions to run, their efforts won't become official until they make the trip to the county board of elections office in Hillsborough to sign on the dotted line and pay their filing fees.

That all starts Monday at 8 a.m. Candidates have from then until noon on Friday, July 17 to sign-up to run for town offices and school board races.

This week saw another announcement ahead of the opening

of the filing period, with incumbent Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Randeey Haven-O'Donnell telling supporters gathered at Carrboro Town Commons for a solar power workshop that she intends to seek another term. She said her choice of venue wasn't a coincidence and cited her interest in seeing the town become a center for green jobs.

"As a science teacher and environmental educator, this appealed to my interest in new, green technologies to reduce our collective carbon footprint. As an environmental advocate, it was a clear way to begin to encourage clean power production

and promote sustainability through local power generation," she told supporters.

Haven-O'Donnell's is the second official entry in the race for three seats on the board of aldermen that are up this year. She joins Sammy Slade who announced last week. Alderman Jacquie Gist has also said she is going to run for another term. Alderman John Herrera announced last week that he would not seek re-election.

Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton is also expected to seek another term, but has not announced he is doing so.

In all, the terms of 18 incumbents are up in Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Pittsboro and Hillsborough and on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro school board.

Also on the ballot this fall are three seats on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education. Those seats are held by Jean Hamilton, Gregory McElveen and Lisa Stuckey. Stuckey, the current chair of the school board, and Hamilton have said they are going to seek re-election.

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## Solar power

The Town of Carrboro invited members of Communities in Schools to "go green" on Monday, June 29, at the Town Commons, on West Main Street. The "Green Awakening" math and science summer campers installed solar panels at the commons to power the lights at the commons sign.

Angelo Archambo, (above) a rising freshman at Orange High School, cuts a pipe to be used as an electrical wiring conduit while Baxter Fricks and Malik Carrington, freshmen at Chapel Hill High School, lend support. Supervising is Nelson Ross, right.

Ed Witkin, (right) of Solar Tech South, helps Malik Carrington assemble an electrical wiring conduit to connect the lights to the solar panel.

PHOTOS BY AVA BARLOW



## Town board sends letter to Hagan on health care

BY KIRK ROSS  
Staff Writer

**CARRBORO** — Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Dan Coleman sent a letter to U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan on behalf of the board and Mayor Mark Chilton asking her to support including a public option in health care reform legislation.

The letter reads: "I am writing on behalf of the Mayor and Alderman of the Town of Carrboro Board to urge you to give your full backing to the public option for health insurance sought by President Obama.

"Municipal governments in North Carolina are struggling with double-digit annual increases in health insurance costs while county social services

are hard-pressed to meet the needs of the uninsured and under-insured. We desperately need your help to achieve needed reform.

"It is our belief that the health care crisis in the United States will ultimately only be solved by a single-payer national system. We encourage you, for the sake of the citizens of North Carolina and the nation, to do all you can to achieve such a system."

Hagan is a member of the Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pen-

sions committee and is one of two Democrats on the committee who has not yet endorsed a public option as part of the reform legislation. Groups pushing for the public option say they

are worried that Hagan's stance could strengthen the position of health insurance companies who are lobbying

against having a lower cost, public plan as part of the options available to consumers under the new legislation.

Responding to an editorial last week in this newspaper, Hagan's communications director Stephanie Allen said the senator could support a public option, but was unwilling to do so without first seeing the specifics of the plan. A Hagan aide familiar with the discussions in the HELP committee said there are several ideas being worked on but that details of a proposed public option have not been settled.

*"It is our belief that the health care crisis in the United States will ultimately only be solved by a single-payer national system. We encourage you, for the sake of the citizens of North Carolina and the nation, to do all you can to achieve such a system."*

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