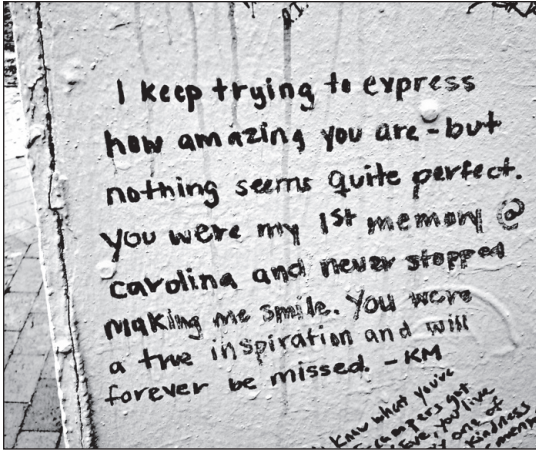




Demario James Atwater (l) and Lawrence Alvin Lovett Jr. (r) have been charged with first degree murder in the case. Atwater was arrested Wednesday. Lovett is still being sought.



Flowers and notes at the makeshift memorial to Carson behind the Campus Y



One of the many messages left on campus last week.

CARSON
FROM PAGE 1

He is described as a black male, 5 foot 7 inches tall and weighing 150 pounds. Anyone with information concerning his whereabouts is urged to call 911 or Crime Stoppers at (919) 942-7515. Lovett is considered armed and dangerous.

A RARE SILENCE

News of Carson's death filtered out slowly at first, with initially only a handful of officials informed that the shooting victim found that Wednesday morning was Carson.

But news spread quickly on Thursday, and a rare silence fell across the campus as thousands of students, faculty, staff and members of the

community gathered in Polk Place to honor Carson's memory.

"Eve Carson personified the Carolina spirit," Chancellor James Moeser said when he addressed those gathered in the quad.

"She did it perhaps more profoundly than anyone I've ever known in my whole time here," he said.

Following Moeser's address, people laid thousands of flowers at a makeshift memorial behind the Campus Y and wrote memories of Carson and the impact she had on the community on painted cubes nearby.

Carson, 22, was elected student body president in February of last year. In addition to her involvement with Student Government, she was a member of the Board of Trustees, had held a number of leadership positions in other campus organizations and volunteered extensively throughout the Triangle and overseas.

She was buried in her hometown Sunday in a service attended by hundreds, including fellow students and school officials and Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy.

According to those who knew her, Carson had a profound impact on everyone she met.

"She was such a genuine person, and she put her heart into everything she did," said senior Chris Kearns, a Roberson Scholar from Morris Plains, N.J.

"Every time you talked to her, it just brightened your day."

Kearns met Carson during the first week of his freshman year, and the two had been close since then.

Kearns and about 20 other UNC students who were close to Carson spent last Thursday evening comforting one another at a makeshift wake they held at one student's home.

"She would have never wanted her friends to be grieving for too long," said Kearns, adding that he and his friends even laughed together as they remembered their friend.

"This town, this community, this university has suffered an enormous loss," he said. "It's going to heal, but it's going to be different."

"If you want to remember her and honor her, do things you care about, put your heart into them, and appreciate the people around you as much as you can."

With the school still on break, the Carolina campus is a quiet place. Quiet enough to hear the flag at Polk Place — now at half-mast — tossed by wind.

School returns to session on Monday. A memorial service to honor Carson will be held Tuesday at 4 p.m. at the Smith Center.

CHATHAM
FROM PAGE 1

Likewise, one of the newer developments, The Hamptons, has sold 11 lots priced in the \$220,000 to \$300,000 range. Steve Young of Windjam Development reports that six lots have been bought by builders and five by individuals. The first home, priced at \$1.25 million, is under construction.

Briar Chapel, which sells lots only to builders, has delayed its opening by about six months, according to Mitch Barron, Newland Communities' vice-president of operations. Builders are showing caution about buying a large number of lots; Barron is currently signing up the four he wants to have on-board before home building commences.

Other developers/builders — such as R. B. Fitch (Farrington Village), Randy Voller (Chatham Forest), Holland Gaines (The Legacy), Jason McCoy (Parks at Meadowview, Crescent Communities) and Lynn Thomas, realtor for Orleans Builders (Legend Oaks) — say that sales are suffering because potential buyers cannot sell their current homes. They are waiting for the day those buyers take the rubber bands off of their checkbooks.

The building moratorium in Pittsboro, necessitated by a lack of wastewater-treatment capacity, is keeping many developers

idle. There is talk of various combines of developers fronting the cost for new wastewater-treatment facilities, but so far nothing concrete has been submitted to the town. The biggest player, by far, is Preston Development, controlled by Jim Goodnight, owner of SAS. Preston now owns more than 7,200 acres, including the River Oaks project (which was abandoned by Toll Brothers), according to planning director David Monroe. This property, which stretches from the Haw River on the northeast side of Pittsboro around the eastern side of town to the Moncure Road, is about five times the size of Pittsboro at present. Preston has been silent as to its plans for what is, by several fold, the largest development ever assembled in the county.

Pittsboro subdivisions with allocated sewer capacity — Powell Place, Potterstone Village and Chatham Forest — continue to sell to builders but at a reduced pace. Bryson Powell of Powell Place (East West Partners) says that homes selling for \$150,000 to \$250,000 are moving most rapidly. Powell has also recently signed a contract for construction of a 180-unit apartment complex.

An abandoned project is Belmeade, on the western edge of Pittsboro, which had been projected by Crescent Communities to be a gated community of about 200 homes sell-

ing for more than \$1.0 million each. Crescent is keeping alive its permit for The Sanctuary on the Haw, next to Bynum, by installing infrastructure at a minimum pace.

There are few signs of life for commercial development along US 15-501 and US Bus. 64. Where out-parcels have been sold, the buyers have not started to build. Existing properties such as Cole Park Plaza, Chatham Crossing and Chatham Downs all have "space available" signs prominently displayed at the roadside. There are no takers as yet for Briar Chapel's retail/commercial tracts on 15-501; Jesse Farrington's Pittsboro Place, opposite Farrington Village; and Williams Corner, north of Lystra Church Road. American Asset Corporation is seeking approval for a planned retail/commercial development opposite Northwood High School. Every project says it will have a drugstore, a sit-down restaurant, a bank and a gas station/convenience store on its outparcels. That seems like more than available customers can support.

Robert N. Eby is a Chatham resident who closely monitors the development scene and writes about it for Chatham County Line.

This story appears courtesy of Chatham County Line.

HOUSING
FROM PAGE 1

not as deep."

Once recently passed federal legislation raising the cap on jumbo loans from \$450,000 to \$750,000 takes effect, that may ease somewhat, Tennyson said, but for now it's a buyer's market and buyers are in a mood to negotiate.

"The other big negative," Tennyson said, "is people who have decided they want to live here, but have got a piece of property they've got to sell somewhere else."

Tennyson said there is some hope on the horizon with predictions that nationwide the market will finally bottom in the third quarter of this year.

Michael Chandler, a local custom builder who works on only a few homes a year, said local builders are seeing a lot of clients adjusting their timetables.

"Many are not motivated to get started," he said. "There's a loss of urgency in buyers." The media has fueled the sense, he said, that it's an "ultimate buyer's market."

Builders around here have gotten a bit unaccustomed to having clients balk at prices, Chandler said. "It used to be

you'd say, 'Here's what it's going to cost.' Now we're being pressured on price."

Still, he said, the Triangle market is among only a few nationwide that are holding their value, and locally the market continues to appreciate.

But the downturn is likely to force some changes for local homebuilders. Spec builders are hurting and people with investment property better be in for the long haul, Chandler said.

Phillips said the spec builders are feeling the squeeze.

"There's way too much inventory," he said. Small artisan builders continue to do well, but those who need to stay on a pace of 10 to 20 houses a year, he said, are having to make tough choices as they absorb monthly payments on homes that haven't sold.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro market is slower but still fairly healthy, Phillips said, but Chatham is a different story.

"Cash has become king in a way we haven't seen in a long time," Phillips said.

In his own business, Chandler has taken on some remodeling jobs, a move many builders may have to consider, even though the profit margins on smaller remodeling jobs are nothing like that for a house.

Locally, the market shift, concerns about the size of one's carbon footprint and the soaring cost of energy may accelerate the market into more green remodeling and green building.

"There's a great opportunity to move into green remodeling," Chandler said. "Enough with McMansions. How about some more energy-efficient remodels."



Haunted Halloween Cruise
Oct. 26 – Nov. 2
Take a cruise with us to San Juan and the Southern Caribbean on the Royal Caribbean's Adventure of the Seas.
Price Reduced!
Price includes airfare and much more. For more information, contact Cliff Larsen at 919-929-9436.

TRUE CRAFTSMEN
A Full-service Exterior business
Decks Restored
Washed, Sanded, Sealed
Houses
Power Washed, Gutters Cleaned
True Craftsmen
Installation, All Types Siding
Roofing, Windows, Decks
Repair Work As Well
Planting & Flower Beds
Installed & Maintained
Contact John Barrett
919-619-8315/919-420-5013


**Keep up with
the Warp &
Woof of
Carrboro at**
carrborocitizen.com/mill

Three Treasures Acupuncture


A safe, effective alternative for health

www.threetreasuresacupuncture.com
304 W. Weaver St, Carrboro 919 . 259 . 9320

We're Moving!



Doctors for Kids AND Adults

Carrboro Pediatrics & Internal Medicine, PA
will start seeing patients in our NEW location effective Monday March 17, 2008
127 Fidelity Street • Carrboro NC 27510
See our website or call our office for directions
(919)933-8381 • carrboropediatrics.com

DINNER MON-SAT 5:30 - 10PM
LATE NIGHT DINNER FRI & SAT UNTIL MIDNIGHT

One of America's Top 50 Restaurants
Gourmet Magazine
"Lantern demonstrates chef Andrea Reusing's ambitious marriage of North Carolina ingredients with Asian flavors, and pulls it off beautifully"
Saveur
One of America's 50 Most Amazing Wine Experiences
Food & Wine



Lantern
RESTAURANT AND BAR 969-8846
423 W FRANKLIN ST CHAPEL HILL NC
www.lanternrestaurant.com

LAND AUCTION
4-10 ACRE TRACTS
Buy 1 or Combination
April 3rd @ 4 pm


Great Investment Location

NC 54 West Chapel Hill
919-545-0412
NCFL7360
United Country®
Rogers Auctioneers
www.RogersAuction.com