



An Avatar view of a local swamp forest.

PHOTO BY TIM STAMBAUGH

**FLORA**  
FROM PAGE 1

Tim was animated in describing the changing seasonal wonders of the woods path where he discovered the locked-in-ice sweet gum ball. I asked to see more images of his woods path. Tim's close-to-the-ground perspective of the forest floor in summer is now implanted in my head. The awesomeness of that view makes me realize that I don't need to travel to a tropical rain forest to have Avatar-like experiences. As Yoon suggests, we

merely need "to tap into our inner taxonomist to really see." I challenge us all to explore our local woods with new energy, taking time to really see. Take an Avatar walk. Carrboro's Adams Tract is so close to town that one would not expect to have an Avatar experience. But you can. Stand quietly in that stately pine forest and contemplate how the trees are all connected and related to other living components. Further along the trail, stop and consider those giant oaks and hickories and

maples; ponder how the skyward mingling limbs are descriptive of interactions. Settle yourself on the ground for a few minutes at the edge of one of those patches of evergreen ferns. What is their role on the forest floor and how many other different plants can you find with them? Down along Bolin Creek, sit with lichen and moss-covered boulders with wildflowers and tree seedlings clinging to crevices. All around, look up and down and "take in the heart-stopping wonder of really seeing the living world."



Surprise Party at 99

PHOTO BY AVA BARLOW

Anne Edwin got a pleasant surprise on the morning of Jan. 28, when a couple of family members, friends and neighbors at Chapel Hill's Adelaide Walters Apartments gathered to celebrate her 99th birthday. Carrboro Citizen photo-journalist Ava Barlow also dropped by to snap the festivities and catch Roy Carlton wishing her a happy birthday. Mrs. Edwin moved to Chapel Hill in 2002 from Largo, Fla. to live near a niece, and has made many friends here. They describe her as a "fashion plate" who loves shopping and wearing beautiful clothing. As 84-year-old party organizer Claudia Cannady put it, "Her appearance doesn't indicate her age, and neither does her involvement with her neighbors." Another well-wisher at the party said, "Anne, you give us all something to live up to."



**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.

**CLIMATE**  
FROM PAGE 1

The university released a Climate Action Plan in September of last year. It's near-term strategy called for replacing 20 percent of coal with torrefied wood or another coal substitute.

And while the plan, and the fact that the school had developed a strategy, drew praise, environmentalists raised concerns that it did not go far enough.

Hansen said the focus on coal makes sense because of how dirty a fuel it is and the degradation that's been caused by mining practices — especially mountaintop removal in Appalachia — and because much cleaner alternatives are available.

"Global climate change," he said, "is an issue of intergenerational injustice."

The United States, he said, must be a leader among developed countries in ending coal use.

"We really need to take the lead in phasing out coal, and our universities should be taking the lead in that," Hansen said.



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

José Rial from UNC's Department of Geosciences talks about the effect of climate change on the arctic glaciers he's studying.

Hansen was on campus as part of a speaking tour on climate change.

Prior to his visit, UNC Chancellor Holden Thorp announced a new 35-member energy task force headed up by Tim Toben, who is developing the Greenbridge project and is chair of the state's Energy Policy Council.

The task force has been

charged with evaluating UNC's carbon-reduction plans and learning what other universities are doing.

Hansen said he was encouraged by the new task force.

"I am heartened that the university is responding in a positive way," he said.

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**From Bean to Cup**

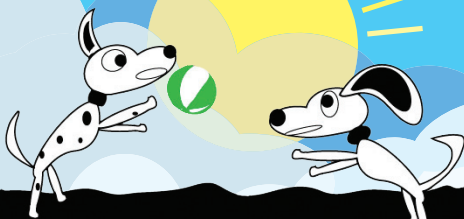
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