



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

A young naturalist from Garner, 4th-grader Tony Tavares (on right), shows his 5-year-old brother, William, the skeleton of a dragonfly nymph discovered in the Rachel Carson pool near the entrance to the NC Museum of Natural Sciences on Jones Street in Raleigh.

FLORA
FROM PAGE 1

The foliage of the common milkweed, *Asclepias syriaca*, provides sustenance for monarch butterfly larva. The foliage of wildflowers and grasses provides suitable sites for the ferocious-looking black-and-yellow garden spider, also called the writing spider because of the heavy silken zigzag script-like pat-

tern in the center of the web. Museum curators frequently visit the wild garden to selectively harvest plant materials to feed some of the critters displayed inside. An artificial pool near the museum entrance contains a permanent sculpture installation of Rachel Carson exploring a marsh with two young people. Native cattails, *Typha latifolia*, waterlilies, *Nymphaea odorata*, and

pickerelweed, *Pontederia cordata*, provide authenticity to the scene. On a recent Sunday while awaiting the opening of the museum, two young brothers from Garner joined Rachel Carson in exploring that little street-side pond. The discovery of tadpoles was immediate, but it took the keen "closer look" of the two boys to discover the skeleton case of a dragonfly

nymph left clinging to a pickerelweed stem by the recently emerged airborne adult dragonfly. They proudly shared their discovery with the appreciative adults. Were the boys to return now, they would likely discover that one of those tadpoles has emerged as a tiny grey tree frog living among the tall stems of the pickerelweed. On your next visit to the mu-



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Monarch caterpillar relishes common milkweed.

seum, linger awhile along the edge of the wild garden to search for more nature in action. Every week should be "Take a Child Outside Week." If you don't routinely do it, then begin it now. And don't forget to take your inner child out with you. Whether

in a local nature reserve or passing one of many hidden wild patches in and around town, keen eyes will lead you to beauty and drama. And don't be surprised if you become inclined to begin a small wild garden of your own.

PRESENTED BY CAT'S CRADLE



THE BLACK KEYS with ROYAL BANGS
SUN, OCT. 5
at DISCO RODEO (RALEIGH)
2820 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE 919.836.3535 ★ 9pm Show
\$22 adv/\$25 day of via usual Cradle ticket outlets



LUCINDA WILLIAMS
with BUICK 6
TUE, SEPT. 30
at MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
2 EAST SOUTH STREET (RALEIGH)
7pm show ★ Reserved seating tickets via Ticketmaster
and Progress Energy Box Office 919.831.6060

The Magnetic Fields
with PORTASTATIC
SAT, OCT. 18
at MEYMANDI CONCERT HALL
2 EAST SOUTH STREET (Raleigh)
8pm show ★ Reserved seating tickets
via Ticketmaster and Progress Energy
Box Office 919.831.6060

Amy Rigby + Wreckless Eric
FRI, SEPT. 19 9pm Show
Local 506 506 W. Franklin St.
Membership info @ local506.com
Tickets at usual Cradle outlets

Lloyd Cole
THU, OCT. 2 8pm Show
The ArtsCenter
300-G Main St, Carrboro
\$20adv / \$23 day of
via usual Cradle ticket outlets

Of Montreal
TUE, OCT. 7 8pm Show
CAROLINA THEATRE
309 W. MORGAN ST. DURHAM
\$20 Reserved via Box Office
919.560.3030 or carolinatheatre.org

Ray Lamontagne
THU, OCT. 16 w/Leona Naess
Meymandi Concert Hall (Raleigh)
8pm Show \$28-\$32 Reserved via
Ticketmaster and Progress Energy Box
Office: 919.831.6060

Minus the Bear
w / ANNUALS and SYLVIE
WED, OCT. 29
Lincoln Theatre
126 E. Cabarrus St, Raleigh 8pm show
\$16adv / \$18 day of
via usual Cradle ticket outlets

DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS **MON, NOV. 3**
THE HOLD STEADY
ROCKAWALL
Lincoln Theatre
126 E. Cabarrus St, Raleigh



CATSCRADLE.COM ★ 919.967.9053 ★ 300 E. MAIN STREET, CARRBORO
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL KIDS RECORDS IN RALEIGH,
CD ALLEY IN CHAPEL HILL, KATIE'S PRETZELS IN CARRBORO, BULL CITY RECORDS IN DURHAM AND ETIX.COM

CORRECTION:
Appreciation for Identification Correction

I am appreciative for an anonymous *Citizen* devotee who took a "closer look" to make me aware that the "unwary firefly" atop the goldenrod in last week's *Flora* photo is actually one of the closely related soldier beetles that commonly forage on goldenrods. Thanks from Ken Moore.

WATER WATCH
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

LAKE LEVELS
UNIVERSITY LAKE:
0' 0" below full
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 0' 9.5" below full

PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH
JONES FERRY TREATMENT PLANT: 8.93"
CANE CREEK RESERVOIR: 6.57"

CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND
Past 7 days (average):
9.311 million gallons
Past 30 days (average):
9.270 million gallons

ESTIMATED WATER SUPPLY REMAINING:
371 days worth (about 12 months), based on average demand in the last 30 days, and assuming no further rainfall.

SOURCE: OWASA

[tip]

If you drop ice cubes when filling your glass, don't throw them in the sink. Drop them in a house plant instead.