



PHOTO BY AVA BARLOV  
Dennis Smith, of Fort Worth, Texas, came across this unusual site for North Carolina: a frozen fountain in front of the Siena Hotel on East Franklin Street, Friday before last. Not all of the ice had melted from the snowstorm earlier that week. Smith was in town to attend the bar mitzvah of his grandson, Connor Madgison, also held at the Siena.

News Briefs

HUD rules no discrimination on Rogers Road complaint

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has ruled that Orange County and its municipalities have not discriminated against residents of the Rogers Road area. A group of those residents had filed a complaint of racial discrimination.

Rev. Robert Campbell, a leader in the Rogers Road community, filed the complaint in February 2008 on behalf of 14 residents of the predominantly black neighborhood. The complaint alleges that the county and its municipalities discriminated against the neighborhood by not providing sewer, water, sidewalks and city transportation, as provided to “the white areas of Chapel Hill.”

The neighborhood has been home to the Orange County Landfill for more than 35 years. Campbell and other residents say that proximity to the landfill has contaminated their well water,

an allegation the county disputes.

**Landfill gas project approved**

The Orange County Board of Commissioners tentatively approved an agreement with UNC for a gas-recovery project at the Orange County Landfill.

The board voted last year to explore the feasibility of a landfill gas-recovery project as a way to reduce greenhouse gases. According to the county, revenues from the project to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund could range from \$115,000 to \$140,000 annually, with the potential for an additional \$3,500 to \$40,000 annually from the sale of renewable energy credits. Under the agreement, UNC would make monthly payments to the county in exchange for the energy generated from the recovered methane gas.

The board plans to formally adopt the plan at its next meeting.

STATE  
FROM PAGE 1

The logic of cutting jobs, Cope said, runs counter to the Obama administration’s strategy of trying to put people to work.

One hope for the state, he said, is if a federal stimulus bill makes it into law. The current version of the bill would pump more than \$16 billion into the state, Cope said, with about \$3 billion available to help ease the state’s budget crisis.

Cope also said that making the state health care plan less affordable hits one of the best remaining benefits for state workers.

Brenda Denzler, vice chair of UNC-Chapel Hill’s Employee Forum, said the feedback she’s hearing from workers indicates a need for more information about how individual departments are planning for budget cuts.

Denzler said in a recent letter to employees, Chancellor Holden Thorp said that budget cuts could lead to staff losses ranging from 85 to 150 positions.

*“If we can spread the pain around, we may not have to cut positions.”*

Before that happens, Denzler said, employees want to be assured that administrators did a thorough job of cutting costs and studying options.

If it does come down to cuts, Denzler said, employees are

willing to “link arms and share the burden.” One idea, she said, would be for employees to agree to a small cut in hours instead of seeing job cuts.

“If we can spread the pain around, we may not have to cut positions,” she said.

Because of that, she added, the idea of furloughs has some appeal. But Denzler said before the Legislature grants the UNC system the authority to furlough workers, there need to be clear limits and guidelines.

“It needs to be time limited,” she said. “They should say ‘you have this authority for the next year’ and not make it indefinite.”

And the authority to furlough workers should also extend to other parts of state government, she said. “The option should not just be limited to the university. It ought to be an option for all state agencies. If it is a useful tool, then it’s useful for all state agencies.”

RECENTLY  
FROM PAGE 1

The governor’s office took notice of her work and called, asking her to interview for her next job with the Massachusetts Governor’s Commission Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, where she served for two years.

“The universe kept throwing me through a door,” Kennedy said, laughing. The next door gave her a chance to realize a life-long dream she had shared with her sister.

“We opened a tea room,” she said, and suddenly the fine English porcelain tea set on the mantle of the gas fireplace in her office made even more sense. Kennedy and her husband, David, a retired Boston police detective, moved to northern Connecticut and renovated an old schoolhouse into Simple Elegance, which seated 40 people.

“My sister is a chef and had owned a catering company

in Delaware, so she brought those skills,” Kennedy said.

After three years of tea parties, Kennedy became a consultant for the Connecticut Department of Children and Families, still floating the promise she had made to David of moving to North Carolina when she retired.

“In November, a colleague called and asked, ‘Aren’t you interested in moving to North Carolina? There’s a website listing . . .’ And here I am!”

Within a month, they closed up their house, moved into an apartment in The Villages in Carrboro, and she started her job on Dec. 12.

“It’s so nice! We don’t have to shovel snow or see the oil truck coming up the driveway,” Kennedy said. David has been removed from the (deep) cold and she’s still got her work.

From her first day, the FVPC agency staff and board have breathed sighs of relief, knowing that the silver lining to hold all the elements of its work together has at

last arrived.

“We’ve really found a leader,” said Caroline Wells Pence, chair of the FVPC board. “She’s a seasoned domestic violence advocate — she gets it. She’s a tremendous gift to the staff. She really goes to bat for them. First and foremost, their job is to work with the clients and meet their needs and then have the time to replenish. She’s not going to overcommit their time to anyone. And she’s so articulate, with the ability to talk with the many different stakeholders and constituent groups.

“It feels like we have this opportunity to grow this agency and for FVPC to really thrive,” Pence said.

“I’m really invigorated coming back into victim’s services,” Kennedy said. “I’m working 12-plus hours a day and I’m not even tired. I’m just so happy to be here!”

*Our donations help them stay solid. To contribute or volunteer, visit fvpc.org or call 929-3872.*

**Go Out And Play**  
Custom Outdoor Construction  
Tree Houses, Tree House Offices,  
Gazebos and Garden Structures

**go-out-and-play.com**  
20+ years experience  
**919-563-1223**

*Hillsborough Yarn Shop*

**ANNE R. DERBY**  
PROPRIETOR  
ANNE@HILLSBOROUGHYARN.COM

114 S. CHURTON STREET  
HILLSBOROUGH, NC 27278  
919.732.2128  
www.HILLSBOROUGHYARN.COM

**MILL**

NEXT ISSUE:  
Basketball  
Appreciation,  
Feb. 26

AD DEADLINE:  
Feb. 18

Contact: Marty Cassidy  
942.2100  
marty@carrborocitizen.com

**FISH DAY!**  
**NOW IS THE TIME FOR POND STOCKING!**  
Channel Catfish • Largemouth Bass • Redear • Bluegill (Bream)  
Minnows • Black Crappie (if available)  
**DELIVERY: Tuesday, February 17: 11:45 –12:45 pm**  
**AT SOUTHERN STATES CO-OP IN CARRBORO, NC**

To order call **1-800-247-2615 • www.farleysfishfarm.com**  
Farleys Arkansas Pondstockers, Inc.

CARRBORO FAMILY VISION  
full spectrum eye care services

**(919)968-6300**  
200 W. Weaver St., Carrboro, NC  
www.CarrboroFamilyVision.net

**Edward Jones®**

- ❖ Investments
- ❖ Retirement Planning
- ❖ College Savings Plans
- ❖ Financial Assessments
- ❖ Free Portfolio Reviews

**Dan Ryon**  
Financial Advisor  
205 West Main Street, Suite 101  
Carrboro, NC 27510  
Bus. 919-933-3191

**MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING**  
Member SIPC

**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

**CARRBURRITOS**  
Burritos, Tacos, Nachos and Margaritas!

711 W Rosemary St. Carrboro - carrburritos.com - 933.8226

**NOTICE OF A COMBINED PUBLIC HEARING  
FOR PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS TO SR 1919  
(SMITH LEVEL ROAD) FROM SOUTH OF ROCK HAVEN ROAD TO  
BRIDGE NO. 88 OVER MORGAN CREEK IN CARRBORO**

TIP Project No. U-2803 Orange County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Pre-Hearing Open House and Combined Public Hearing on March 9, 2009 at Carrboro Elementary School, located at 400 Shelton Street, Carrboro, 27510.

NCDOT representatives will be available at a pre-hearing open house in the auditorium lobby between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to answer questions and receive comments relative to the location and design of the proposed project. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours. Handouts and comment sheets will be distributed. The formal public hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. The hearing will be open to those present for statements, questions and comments. The presentation and comments will be recorded and a written transcript will be prepared.

NCDOT proposes transportation improvements to SR 1919 (Smith Level Road) which include: widening Smith Level Road to three lanes (between Rock Haven Road and Culbreth Road), transition between three to four lanes (between Culbreth Road and BPW Club Road), and widen to a four-lane, median divided roadway between BPW Club Road and Morgan Creek. A roundabout intersection is proposed at the intersection of Smith Level Road and Rock Haven Road. Sidewalks and bicycle accommodations are proposed throughout the project.

A map displaying the location and design of the project and a copy of the environmental document – State Environmental Assessment / Finding of No Significant Impact - are available for public review at the Town of Carrboro, 301 W. Main Street, Carrboro, 27510. The map is also available online at: [www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/highway/roadway/hearingmaps\\_by\\_county](http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/highway/roadway/hearingmaps_by_county).

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Ed Lewis, Human Environment Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, by phone (919) 431-6585, by fax (919) 431-2001 or by email at [elewis@ncdot.gov](mailto:elewis@ncdot.gov).

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Lewis as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Support your local advertiser.