

News Briefs

Artwalk this Friday

Galleries and businesses throughout Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Southern Village will open their doors for those in search of art. Event times and openings vary from place to place, but 6 to 8 p.m. is the standard time for most places.

Among the shows featured this month is “Because We’re Still Here and Moving: Mapping a World of Black History in Our Own Backyard” — a photo exhibit and interactive installation at the ArtsCenter. The show features current photos and scrapbook memories from residents of the historic black neighborhoods and a newly produced walking map of the community. The reception is from 6 to 8 p.m.

A complete listing of galleries and exhibits can be found on *MILL, The Carrboro Citizen’s* arts and entertainment blog at www.carrborocitizen.com/mill

Rabies vaccination clinics

The Orange County Animal Services Department will offer four low-cost rabies vaccination clinics during February.

The vaccination fee is \$5 and must be paid in cash. To receive a three-year vaccination, bring your pet’s most recent vaccination certificate. Dogs must be on leashes and cats must be in carriers. Animals that might be nervous or unsettled should be kept in a vehicle for their vaccinations.

- Clinic times and locations include:
- February 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Orange County Animal Shelter on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in Chapel Hill;
 - February 16, 1-2 p.m., at New Hope Fire Station #2, on N.C. 86 in Chapel Hill;
 - February 20, 8:30-10 a.m., at Orange County Animal Control on Revere Road in Hillsborough; and
 - February 23, 1-3 p.m., at the Orange County Animal Shelter.
- One-year vaccinations will be offered at all clinics, while three-year vaccinations will be offered at the February 16 and February 23 clinics only.

For more information, contact animal services at 245-2075.

New home repair program launched

Homeowners who live in the Northside and Pine Knolls neighborhoods can receive no-interest, forgivable loans to repair their houses through the Town of Chapel Hill’s Comprehensive Housing Rehabilitation Program. EmPOWERment, Inc. will host an information session on the program on Wednesday, February 13th from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Pine Knolls Community Center, 107 Johnson St. Continental breakfast will be provided. Jamie Rohe, community development planner with the town, will give a presentation and answer questions about the program.

The program covers repairs for owner-occupied homes of low- and moderate-income residents in the two neighborhoods. Homeowners receive no-interest, forgivable loans to cover the cost of the repairs. The town hires a contractor to perform the repairs. If the homeowners continue to live in their homes after the work is done, they will not need to repay the loans.

Rabid raccoon found

A raccoon found in Chapel Hill tested positive for rabies last week at the State Laboratory of Public Health.

The raccoon was found dead in the yard of a home in the vicinity of Albert and Dairyland roads. The resident found the raccoon after discovering blood on one of her three dogs.

All three dogs were currently vaccinated against rabies and received rabies booster shots, which are required within 72 hours of exposure. Unvaccinated cats and dogs that are reasonably suspected of being exposed to rabies must either be destroyed or quarantined for six months.

In addition, because of the resident’s possible secondary exposure, an Orange County communicable disease nurse will work with the resident to determine if medical treatment is needed.

This is the first positive rabies test received by Orange County Animal Services in 2008. Last year, there were 19 positive rabies tests for the county. If any possible exposure to a bat, raccoon or fox is suspected, contact Animal Control at 245-2075 or call 911.

Feline surplus

The Orange County Animal Services Department has taken in 10 cats from a Hendersonville adoption facility that was recently shut down.

A district court ordered the All Creatures Great and Small facility to close and make immediate improvements and to release 350 animals to other animal rescue and shelter organizations.

Most of the cats taken in by Orange County are on public display and are ready for adoption.

Water Report - February 6, 2008

LAKE LEVELS	
University Lake	5 feet, 6.5 in. below full
Cane Creek	16 ft., 1.75 in. below full
Total Availability Supply	39.4% of capacity
PRECIPITATION THIS MONTH	
Jones Ferry Rd. Treatment Plant	0.97 in.
Cane Creek Reservoir	0.52 in.
Normal rainfall for Jan.	3.84”
CUSTOMER WATER DEMAND	
7-Day Average	7.499 million gallons
30-Day Average	7.514 million gallons
Estimated days of water remaining	assuming no further rainfall.)
186 (based on average demand,	

Source: OWASA

School board to affirm undocumented students’ rights

By Susan Dickinson
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education tonight (Thursday) is expected to approve a recommendation to support the recent ruling that requires North Carolina Community Colleges to admit undocumented individuals who meet admission requirements.

The North Carolina Community College System in November directed all community colleges to begin admitting un-

documented individuals, who must pay out-of-state tuition. According to school officials, the board is considering supporting the ruling because Chapel Hill-Carrboro students are affected by the decision and could be negatively impacted if the General Assembly were to consider legislation overriding the decision.

The school board in January considered whether or not to take a position on the issue, and directed administration to bring back a recommendation for the board to support the ruling.

Martin Lancaster, president of the North Carolina Community College System, said in a statement, “The vast majority of students who might pursue an educational opportunity at a community college came to this country as young children having no choice in the matter. They were brought here by their parents, often as babes in arms. How can these children be considered ‘lawbreakers’ intent on taking advantage of our community college programs illegally?... “If North Carolina wants to continue its dramatic economic

progress, it must embrace education as the primary strategy for its future. No potential worker of tomorrow must ever be consigned to the desperation that comes from ignorance and inability to obtain rewarding employment.”

According to Lancaster, 37 of the state’s 57 community colleges had already begun formally admitting undocumented individuals prior to the ruling, and 340 undocumented students of more than 271,000 curriculum students had enrolled.

Residents ask commissioners to drop Eubanks Road site

With supporters, some carrying signs, lining the back wall of the room, members of the Rogers-Eubanks roads community urged the Board of County Commissioners at Tuesday night’s commission meeting to remove Eubanks Road from consideration as the site of a proposed solid-waste transfer station.

But the commissioners said that because of an administrative complaint filed by members of the community with the federal Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Civil Rights they would take no action on the request at this time. The complaint was filed against the board of commissioners and a number of other local and state administrative bodies.

“This is not a commissioners’ slow-me-down tactic,” said Commissioner Barry Jacobs. “There is a civil rights complaint that has been filed and as long as it’s there, we’re not going to discuss, in public, our position.”

Jacobs said that county attorney Geoff Gledhill had advised the board not to discuss the matter. “[O]n the advice of our attorney, until such time as there’s

either a remedy or a change or a difference in his recommendations to us, we’re just going to listen and continue with our discussions,” he said.

Eubanks Road has been the site of the Orange County Landfill for more than 35 years and the community-based Coalition to End Environmental Racism (CEER) has argued that the neighborhood has carried an undue burden on behalf of the greater community and that Eubanks Road should be taken out of consideration as a potential transfer station site under federally established principles of environmental justice. The administrative complaint filed with the federal government expresses those concerns.

Rev. Robert Campbell, a longtime community leader, told the commissioners that the complaint seeks remedies under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

At Tuesday’s commission meeting, CEER presented to the commissioners a petition with 450 signatures requesting that Eubanks Road be removed from consideration.

—Staff Reports

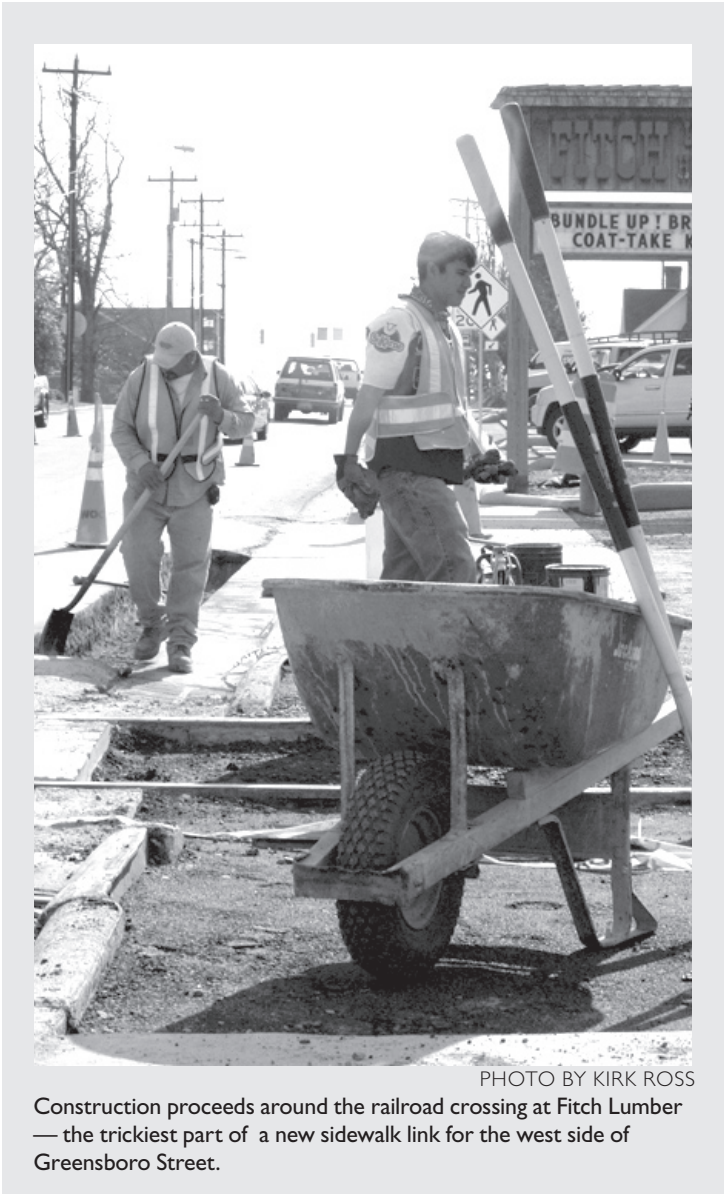



PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

Construction proceeds around the railroad crossing at Fitch Lumber — the trickiest part of a new sidewalk link for the west side of Greensboro Street.

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The Eleventh Annual

Community Dinner

Sunday, March 2 ♦ 1 PM

McDougle School Cafetorium ♦ 900 Old Fayetteville Rd. in Carrboro

Celebrating Orange County’s Diverse Community
Sit down with a stranger, leave with a friend

Lots of great entertainment and plenty of scrumptious food!
(Food donated from several (lots!) of local restaurants)

OUR 2008 PERFORMERS (so far):

- ♦ Ron Stutts / WCHL, Emcee ♦
- ♦ Skeedaddle ♦
- ♦ Orange County Jammers ♦
- ♦ Senior Cheer Leading Group ♦
- ♦ The TROSA Band ♦
- ♦ The Suzuki Academy of North Carolina ♦
- ♦ The Peruvian-American Association ♦
- ♦ of North Carolina Dance Group ♦

TICKETS \$8 FOR ADULTS AND \$3 FOR KIDS

Tickets available at the Carrboro Branch Library at McDougle School, The Ink Spot in Carrboro, The Chapel Hill Museum Shop, The Chapel Hill News, Mama Dip’s Kitchen, The Preservation Society of Chapel Hill, Market Street Books at Southern Village, Townsend, Bertram and Company at Carr Mill in Carrboro, Bon’s Homecookin’ & The Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce at 102 N.Churton Street

A large number of the tickets for the dinner are distributed to people who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend. You can feed a family of four with a \$22 donation!

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY - Because there is limited seating for this event, tickets are only available in advance, so be sure to get your tickets before we sell out.

The Community Dinner is not a fundraising event, but rather an awareness raising event, designed to bring people from all walks of life together for an afternoon of great food and entertainment.

For more information visit www.communitydinner.org