

COUNCIL
FROM PAGE 1

A regional system is necessary, he said, because relying on highways is an end game.

“I-40 cannot continue to be our major transportation artery. It’s getting clogged and it is ultimately going to fail.”

Fourth District Congressman David Price said Wednesday that Foy was on the right track.

“As Mayor Foy said, robust state and local funding is an essential piece of the puzzle in bringing transit to the Triangle and attracting federal support,” Price said. “I’m continuing to work on another important piece - the overly restrictive Federal Transit Admin-

istration funding parameters that favor inner cities and are excluding worthy projects in the Triangle.”

Also in his address, the mayor noted several new programs started in the past year, including collaboration with the university in managing Halloween and the relocation of the homeless shelter.

Looking ahead, he said there is concern about how the budget crisis at the state level will affect the town. In the past months, the town has moved to cut budgets and accumulate reserves in anticipation of flagging revenues and potential cuts in state assistance.

“We know from history that we will be affected,” he said. Library services and transit and roadway maintenance funding are among the areas that could see cuts.

Council sticks to library plan

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The Chapel Hill Town Council voted 8-1 to reject a proposal to consider a branch library downtown or in other locations in lieu of adding to the current building.

Following discussions at a business meeting Monday night at Town Hall, the measure only drew support from council member Matt Czajkowski, who said it could bolster efforts downtown.

Jim Ward, the council liaison to the library’s board of trustees, advised his fellow council members to remain committed to the expansion plan. On a per capita basis, the library is the state’s busiest.

The effort to review alternatives followed a decision earlier this year to put off financing for a \$16 million expansion because of uncertainty in the bond markets. The move saved the town about \$300,000 in debt service for the current year and a projected \$1 million next year, according to Town Manager Roger Stancil, who suggested two weeks ago that the decision to delay financing would allow the council to review its decision to expand as opposed to adding branches.

In other action Monday night, the council:

- Recessed a public hearing on the proposed Ayden Court development near N.C. 54 and the Dowing Creek Parkway to look at zoning options and study the impact of the development on the nearby Upper Little Creek Waterfowl Impoundment Area.
 - Reviewed the progress on a number of traffic-calming and pedestrian safety measures planned by the university around key intersections in and around campus.
- The projects, already approved by the town, are located at Columbia Street, South Road and McCauley Street; South Road and Country Club Road; Cameron Avenue and Raleigh Street; Country Club Road, Battle Lane and Boundary Street; Country Club Road, Gimghoul Road and Paul Green Theater Drive; Manning Drive and Skipper Bowles Drive; South Columbia Street between Manning Drive and Fordham Boulevard; Manning Drive and Old Mason Farm Road; Mason Farm Road and East Drive; Mason Farm Road and West Drive; along Ridge Road; and Manning Drive and Ridge Road.
- The agenda, audio and video of the council meeting is available on the town’s website at chapel-hill.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=3

OBITUARIES



Ruth Alfva Richard

Ruth Alfva Richard of Carrboro, N.C., died at UNC Hospitals on Feb. 2, 2009, with her two daughters by her side. “Richie” was born in Newport, R.I. to Oscar and Alberta Peterson Eklund, natives of Sweden. After her father’s death, Richie grew up in Miami, Fla., adopted by her mother’s second husband, Blaine Richard. Richie belonged to the volleyball, baseball, and basketball teams, and gymnastics and tennis clubs, enthusiasms she enjoyed in old age as a spectator. She graduated from Miami High School in 1929, and in 1933 received her R.N. degree from Long Island College Hospital School of Nursing in Brooklyn N.Y. An avid horsewoman, she hoped to join the Frontier Nursing Service but was too young. She undertook postgraduate training in psychiatric nursing at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Washington, D.C., and worked in hospitals in New York. She enjoyed the more challenging types of nursing, and joined American Airlines as a nurse/flight attendant.

Her first marriage to the late Joseph McCarthy left her a young widow. During the war years, she married a Marine aviator, Harry W. Taylor of Columbia, S.C., and they had two daughters. As a military wife, Richie pursued her love of the outdoors and creativity in voluntary activities such as the Girl Scouts. Divorced in the 1950s, she returned to her nursing career in Long Island and New Jersey. Retiring from nursing in the 1970s, she moved to Carrboro and embarked on a second career selling antiques at the Raleigh Fairgrounds.

As a new Tar Heel, she became an avid Carolina fan, especially of the women’s basketball team. Fiercely independent, generous of heart and imbued with strength, she was a

free spirit who touched many lives. She cared for her last companion, Jack Kearins, until his dying day. She lived to see the birth of three grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. After a major stroke in 2004, she was determined to proceed with rehabilitation, and continued to enjoy life.

Richie is survived by her loving family: daughters Sherry T. Jones and her husband, Rodney, and Patricia T. Thompson and her husband, Charles; granddaughters Gudrun E. Thompson and her husband, Jeff Sumpter (all of Chapel Hill); Katherine T. Jones of Charlotte; grandson Fletcher Thompson and his wife, Gretchen of Boston MA; great granddaughters Julia E. Sumpter and Azalea L. Thompson, and former husband Col. Harry W. Taylor USMC (RET) of Sun City Center, Fla., who joins the family in mourning her.

In her last days, she received superb, caring treatment from the physicians and staff of UNC Hospitals. The family also thanks the staffs of Brookshire Nursing Center in Hillsborough and Stratford House in Carrboro. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Friends of the Health Sciences Library, UNC-Chapel Hill 27599-7585 or the UNC Educational Foundation, designated for the Women’s Basketball Endowment, PO Box 2446, Chapel Hill, NC 27515. Arrangements are by Cremation Society of the Carolinas. A celebration of Richie’s life will be held Sunday, March 1 at 2 p.m. at the home of Sherry and Rodney Jones.



Dr. John Brister Turner

Dr. John Brister Turner, 86, Dean Emeritus of the School of Social Work at UNC-Chapel Hill, died Friday, Jan. 30, 2009, at the Dubose Health Center on the campus of the Cedars Retirement Community after a long illness.

Dr. Turner was born on Feb. 28, 1922 in Fort Valley, Ga., to Virginia Brown Turner, an English and art teacher and to Brister William Turner, a professor of English.

He graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta in 1946 with a B.A. degree in math on his way to a career in engineering. During World War II, Dr. Turner served as a Tuskegee Airman, serving in the 477th Bombardment Group. After WW II, he continued his education, receiving a masters degree in 1948 in social administration and a doctorate in social work in 1959, both from the School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, later becoming its dean (1968-1973).


In 1974, he received a Kenan Professor-

ship at the UNC School of Social Work, becoming dean of the school (1982-1992). Over the course of his long career, Dr. Turner also served as a visiting professor at Atlanta University and the University of Georgia in Athens, Ga. He has served as a visiting faculty member and consultant at many other institutions in the United States and abroad.

In 1965, he received a Fulbright Scholarship to Egypt and served the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare as director of the Egyptian Social Welfare Manpower Training Project in Cairo, Egypt (1979-1981), and also as visiting professor and consultant at the University of Minya in Minya, Egypt. Among many organizational duties, Dr. Turner was president of the National Conference on Social Welfare (1977-1979) and chair of the nominating committee of the National Association of Deans and Directors of the Schools of Social Work.

Among his many contributions to the School of Social Work, Dr. Turner realized the great need for the school to have its own building, which culminated in the 1995 dedication of the Tate-Turner Kuralt Building on the UNC campus. He shares this accomplishment with Jack Tate and Charles Kuralt.

Dr. Turner is survived by his wife, Marian Wilson Turner; daughter, Marian Turner Hopkins; son, Charles Brister Turner; grandson, Ian Turner Hopkins; sister, Virginia Turner Dowell; son-in law, Jonathan J. Hopkins; and many cousins, grand-nephews and -nieces, and great-grand-nephews and -nieces.



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—Travel & Leisure

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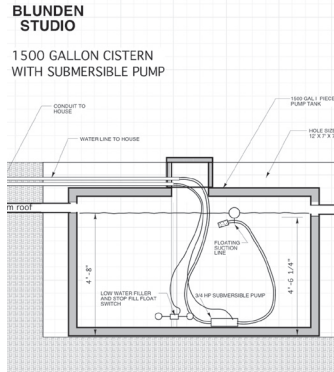


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The Community Dinner is a community building event, crossing economic, racial, religious and ethnic barriers and presenting a wealth of wonderful, culturally diverse food and entertainment. A large number of the tickets for the dinner are distributed to people who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend. You can feed a family of four with a \$22 donation!

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For more information visit www.communitydinner.org