



FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
47/22

SATURDAY
Clear
41/27

SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
52/32



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

Winter leaves of cranefly orchid are sometimes shades of burgundy.

FLORA BY KEN MOORE

Winter green, but not evergreen

Winter in the woods is the best time to appreciate land contours, the striking differences of tree bark, the stature of individual specimens and the leaves of evergreen wildflowers.

It's also the best opportunity to locate two obscure native orchids. Of the two, cranefly orchid, *Tipularia discolor*, is the more common. Most often you'll spy a single leaf or two here and there, sometimes an informal line of them and infrequently a loose mat of them. The one-and-a-half-to-three-plus-inch-long ovate, or egg-shaped, leaves are evident now. The leaf is green on the upper surface and burgundy below, sometimes almost purple on both surfaces.

The leaves of these orchids are busy now absorbing the winter sun and actively growing, manufacturing and storing essential nutrients and resources necessary for annual flowering and seed production. Though green now, these plants are not evergreen. They disappear in spring as the tree canopy shades the forest floor. They seem to be going into dormancy in reverse of most plants, but they remain very active underground, sending up a flowering stem in late summer, unnoticed by most woods walkers. I described the flowers in *Flora* last summer (Volume II No. XXII, Aug. 14, 2008).

If you want to see this beautiful little orchid in flower, you will have to make note of their locations so you'll know precisely where to look when you return in the summer to catch them.

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Aldermen to reconsider road connectivity policy

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

CARRBORO — After hearing from concerned residents about a proposed connector road between a proposed connector road between a proposed addition to the Claremont development and the Wexford neighborhood, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen voted on Tuesday to revisit the town's connector road policy.

The board heard from residents in a public hearing regarding Phases IV and V of Claremont, across from the development's first three

phases on Homestead Road.

"We really need to go back and examine our connector road policy and see if it's meeting our needs," board member Jackie Gist said. "I think that the things we thought were wrong with it are coming up again."

The board of aldermen approved the Connector Roads Policy in 1986, as development in the northern areas of town was beginning. The policy seeks "to ensure that old and new developments and businesses in town connect to each other, both to

disperse newly generated traffic and to give a sense of connectivity and unity to the town as it grew," according to the policy.

However, residents have argued that the connector policy requires connector roads that cause increases in traffic in neighborhoods in which the roads aren't designed to handle it. In Claremont Phases IV and V, the development would connect to Wexford via Colfax Drive, essentially providing a cut-through from Homestead Road to Hillsborough Road.

The proposed development includes 27 townhomes and 69 single-family homes. According to the developer, the development is expected to generate 58 vehicle trips per day through the Colfax Drive connection.

Ronni Gardner, a resident of Colfax Drive, said that because the neighborhoods the connector road would adjoin are within the walk zone for McDougle Elementary and Middle schools, adding the road would be especially unsafe for children.

SEE ALDERMAN PAGE 3



PHOTO BY AVA BARLOW

Lieutenant Rodney Taylor Sr., of the Carrboro Police Department, reads *Lily Brown's Playthings* by Angela Johnson to first graders in Suzanne Hamrick's class at McDougle Elementary School. McDougle recently hosted an African-American Read In, which focused on literacy and black literary culture. See page 2 for Black History Month events.

County considers long-term waste alternatives

BY SUSAN DICKSON
Staff Writer

ORANGE COUNTY — The Orange County Board of Commissioners voted last week to explore long-term alternatives for solid-waste disposal as a parallel tract to siting a solid-waste transfer station.

The board also voted to create a community advisory group composed of residents living in the vicinity of the transfer station that would directly connect the impacted community with the county and Solid Waste Management.

Commissioner Barry Jacobs said he would like to investigate possible alternatives for solid-waste

disposal — such as a collaboration with Chatham County, outsourcing solid-waste management to vendors or using solid waste to help power UNC's cogeneration facility — while continuing to proceed with siting the transfer station.

SEE COUNTY PAGE 2

Council OK's Innovation Center

BY KIRK ROSS
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — The Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously approved a special-use permit for the three-story, 80,745-square-foot Innovations Center, the university's first project at Carolina North.

The vote came after several months of negotiations between the town, UNC and Alexandria Real Estate Equities Inc., the university's partner in the project who will build, own and operate the center.

University officials said they were eager to get on with the project, especially since they have a partner willing to move forward even in light of the slowing economy. Since it will not be owned by the university, the center will be added to the town's tax rolls.

The approval of the center comes while the town and university officials continue to work on an overall development plan for the first two phases of the Carolina North project, which are estimated to include three million square feet of building space.

Before granting approval of the permit, town council members said they wanted to make sure they had a clear understanding of how a development agreement on Carolina North would affect the project.

Council member Laurin Easthom said she was concerned about what would happen to the stipulations the town put into the Innovations Center permit once agreement on the overall development plan is reached.

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 3

A man in motion now at rest

BY KIRK ROSS AND MARGOT C. LESTER
Staff Writers

CHAPEL HILL — Author, newspaper editor and self-proclaimed "notorious hometown ne'er do well" Roland Giduz was remembered fondly by friends and family on one of those clear, sunny Chapel Hill afternoons he cherished so much.

Giduz died Saturday after a long illness. He was 83.

What started as a gray Monday turned into a glorious, warm afternoon — the kind of day that typically would lure Giduz and his wife, Helen, out of the house for a stroll down Franklin Street.

During the service, attended by about 400 people, many references were made to Giduz's signature greeting, "Ain't you glad!" his love of singing and his fondness for the ukulele, which was given a place of honor at the altar for the service.

His son, Bill, gave a eulogy in the style of his father. In fact, the elder Giduz himself had helped edit the piece a few weeks ago. It was packed with funny anecdotes and fond remembrances, punctuated with Bill's impressions of his father's presentation style and personality. Much was made of Roland's love of statistics — right down to his counting the number of meetings he attended as a Chapel Hill Town Council member (400 attended, 7 missed) and timing church sermons. Bill's tribute lasted nine minutes and 48 seconds. We know this because brother Tom pointed it out upon taking his turn at the altar.

Tom's eulogy consisted of lessons he learned from his father, such as, "When there's an easy way to do something or an exciting way, choose the exciting way." In closing, Tom suggested that the best way to honor his father was to "practice his lessons."

Among those attending the service was Laurie Norman of Carrboro, who first met Giduz in the 1980s when she



PHOTO BY DAVID HUNT

Roland Giduz at the 2006 Carolina Tarwheels BikeFest in Hillsborough

was a student involved with the General Alumni Association, where Giduz was director and alumni editor.

"He always greeted me with, 'Ain't you glad!,'" she recalled. "Being a little intimidated by him anyway, I never knew quite how to respond. I do recall he was pretty excited to find out I was from Wilkes County and that I might could score him some quality 'shine.'"

During Norman's term as president of the Chapel Hill Preservation Society, the organization presented Giduz with the inaugural Horace Williams Award for his leadership in preserving the town's history. He was given a pen made from a walnut tree on the grounds of the Horace Williams House.

"I understand from Helen that he carried it in his pocket every day," she added.

Also in attendance was former Chapel Hill Mayor Jonathan House. After the service, he recalled Giduz's interest in local politics.

"When I became mayor of Chapel Hill, an office he sought but was denied, he was always forthcoming with his advice," Howes said. "He was the perennial sponsor of the idea of an admissions tax, or ticket tax, to be imposed by the town on large spectator events. He felt that the tax would be a source of revenue for the town that would be paid largely by visitors and provide a little relief to the ever-increasing property tax, paid

by property owners. Maybe it's time to enact it and name it for Roland."

Giduz served on the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen and lost to Howard Lee by roughly 400 votes in Lee's successful bid to become the first black mayor of a major Southern town. Giduz said one of his regrets in public life was failing to support a public-accommodations ordinance that would have effectively integrated restaurants in town.

Rollie Tillman, founding director of UNC's Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise and former UNC vice chancellor for university relations, said he appreciated Giduz's joie de vivre, faith and positive outlook.

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