

News Briefs

UNC law school to relocate

The UNC School of Law plans to relocate to Carolina North by fall 2012, Jack Boger, dean of the law school, announced Friday.

The decision to leave main campus came after architectural reports by the SmithGroup concluded that construction of a new building to facilitate growth within the law school would be more practical than expanding and renovating the building that currently houses the school.

Preliminary reports showed that construction of a new building would cost about \$93 million, and the school could add to a new building over the next several decades if necessary. Expansion and renovation of the school's current home would cost about \$91 billion and leave no room for expansion in the future. Additionally, a new building could be ready to occupy by 2012, but renovations could take more than a decade to complete.

If the school does relocate to Carolina North, it will be the first school or department to do so.

Youth poetry contest

The Town of Carrboro is accepting submissions for the Carrboro Youth Poetry Contest.

Participants must be 18 or younger, a resident of Carrboro and a poet. The contest will be divided into elementary, middle and high school levels, and each level will have one first-place winner and one honorable mention.

Winners will read their poems in a ceremony at Carrboro Day on May 4, and first-place poems will be published in *The Citizen*.

To submit a poem, mail it to: Carrboro Youth Poetry Context, Attn: Kim Andrews, 100 North Greensboro St., Carrboro, NC, 27510. Submissions should include the poet's name, address, phone number, email address and date of birth, as well as the name of the poet's school and a little about the poet. Submissions must be received by April 4.

Burning ban

The Orange County Fire Marshal has issued a countywide open-burning ban.

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources issued an open-burning ban for all 100 counties in the state last week. The state ban prohibits all open burning 100 feet or more from an occupied dwelling. Orange County expanded the ban to all open burning, regardless of the distance from a structure.

Open burning includes leaves, branches and other plant material. It is illegal to burn trash, lumber, tires, plastics or other non-vegetative materials.

The ban was prompted by the recent rash of wildfires across the state and the diminished water supply due to the drought.

For more information, contact the Orange County Fire Marshal at 968-2050 or the Orange County Forest Ranger at 732-8152.

Rabies in Efland

A raccoon found in Efland tested positive for rabies on Monday at the State Laboratory of Public Health.

Residents in the vicinity of Carrington Lane and Chestnut Ridge Church Road on Monday found their three dogs attacking the raccoon.

All three dogs were currently vaccinated against rabies but will receive rabies booster shots, which are required within 72 hours of exposure. In addition, because of the residents' possible secondary exposure, an Orange County communicable disease nurse will work with them to determine if medical treatment is needed.

So far this year, Orange County Animal Services has received two positive rabies tests. 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.

Rabies vaccines

A low-cost rabies vaccination clinic will be held Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Orange County Animal Shelter on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

The vaccination fee is \$5, which must be paid in cash. Pets can receive one- or three-year vaccinations. For 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 may be nervous or unsettled should be kept in a vehicle for their vaccination.

For more information, call 245-2075.

Transfer station siting criteria examined

By Taylor Sisk
Staff Writer

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed site selection criteria for a solid-waste transfer station this week, settling on a process that starts by eliminating environmentally sensitive areas and that looks for sites close to major roads and heavy trash generation.

At a Tuesday night work session, the commissioners heard from Ed Shuffler of Olver Inc. regarding progress made in establishing a search process for the siting of the transfer site in Orange County. Olver is the consulting firm hired by the county to establish criteria, conduct the search and advise the commissioners on the selection of a site.

The majority of Tuesday night's meeting – held prior to the commissioner's regular session – was concerned with a discussion of preliminary exclusionary criteria, which is scheduled to be nailed down on March 18. The list of this criteria includes wetlands and floodplains; endangered and protected habitats; protected sites of historical, archeological or cultural significance; and park preserves. This proposed criteria further indicates that the site should be at least 25 acres, that it be located in Orange County and that it be within three miles of the county's major arteries – though the commissioners and Shuffler discussed reducing this distance to one mile.

Proposed technical siting criteria were also discussed. These include stipulations that the transfer station be placed in a location within a given radius of the center of trash generation (as calculated by Olver); Shuffler suggested a 10-mile radius. Other proposed technical criteria include truck and traffic compatibility; access to major transportation routes; buffer space; and space for recycling, composting and public education.

An "Orange County Transfer Station Siting Process Resolution Commitment to Public Participation" was read and unanimously adopted at the close of the meeting.

During a public comments session, Nelo Jones of the Coalition to End Environmental Racism (CEER) expressed her concern that some potential sites would be eliminated from consideration by exclusionary criteria before community-specific criteria are established. It is with community-specific criteria that environmental justice concerns are addressed.

Members of CEER have argued that Eubanks Road should be taken out of consideration as a potential transfer station site under federally established principles of environmental justice. Eubanks Road has been the site of the Orange County Landfill for more than 35 years. (To learn more about environmental justice and the Rogers-Eubanks roads community, visit www.carrborocitizen.com/main/rogers-road.)

Last spring, the board of commissioners

voted to site the transfer station on Eubanks Road, then in November announced they were reopening the search, though Eubanks remains under consideration.

"You must first develop the criteria – all of it," Jones said in a Wednesday interview. "This process is not in keeping with what the EPA recommends."

According to the county's proposed transfer station flow chart, potential sites are scheduled to be identified prior to either the technical or community-specific criteria and their weighting factors being established.

Environmental Protection Agency policy recommends that: "To maintain objectivity in the facility siting process, the community-specific criteria should be prioritized before potential sites are known."

At the close of Tuesday night's work session, board Chairman Barry Jacobs pointed out that social justice language in the public-participation resolution was added at the commissioners' initiative and that comments from the public regarding environmental justice concerns had been well heard.

He reiterated though that the commissioners are presently limited in what they could say in this regard due to an administrative complaint filed against the board, among other local and state administrative bodies, by members of the Rogers-Eubanks roads community with the EPA's Office of Civil Rights, alleging environmental injustice.

OBITUARIES

Hanson Douglas Sessoms

Hanson Douglas Sessoms Ph.D., 76, of Chapel Hill, died Tuesday Feb. 12, 2008, at home after an extended battle with melanoma.

Mr. Sessoms was the son of the late Hanson and Sadie Edens Sessoms. He was a very caring individual who was loved by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He had a deep care and passion for his students, profession, community and family. He was an active volunteer for the Meals on Wheels foundation in Chapel Hill.

Born in New Hanover on July 18, 1931, he received a diploma from New Hanover High, Associates in Arts degree from Wilmington Junior College (UNC-Wilmington), a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina, a master's degree from the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. from New York

University.

During his retirement, he polished his photography skills with particular interest in wildlife and landscape photography. He had a very strong passion for Native American culture and art. He and Anne thoroughly enjoyed traveling the world throughout their retirement.

He was a retired UNC professor, after 41 years of dedicated service from 1954 to 1995. He received the Distinguished Professional and National Recreation and Park Association awards in 1989 along with many others honors and awards over the years.

He was a well known professor in his field of Leisure Studies and Recreation. Along with serving as curriculum chairman from 1963 to 1990 at UNC he also served as a visiting professor at 11 Universities throughout the United States and Canada and did eight accreditation visitations. He gave lectures in the Netherlands and authored or edited ten texts and over 150

articles and chapters on matters pertaining to his field of Recreation and Leisure. Dr. Sessoms was passionate about his work and studies and became well known world wide from his devout interest and knowledge.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Anne Lassiter Sessoms of the home, sons Benjamin Payne and wife Margaret of Greensboro; Robert Payne and wife Ellen of Graham; grandsons Douglas Payne of Raleigh; Ricky Payne of Greensboro; Josiah

Payne of Graham; granddaughters Katie Payne of Greensboro; and Abigail Payne of Graham; aunt Jane Edens Cherry of Wilmington; and many other extended family members.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date to honor Dr. Sessoms.

The family requests that memorials be sent in his honor to the Sessoms Melanoma Education Fund at UNC Lineberger Cancer Center, CB# 7295, Chapel Hill, NC, 27599.



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collector's fair!

Carrboro Recreation and Parks is hosting the
1st Annual Collector's Fair
Saturday, February 23rd
9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Carrboro Century Center.

A wide range of collectible items will be on hand such as coins, trading cards, comic books, dolls, toys, music memorabilia and much more.

A great way to introduce children to the magic of collecting!

VENDOR BOOTHS are still available.

more info:

CARRBORO
Recreation and Parks Department

For more information or vendor inquiries, please contact
Brendan Moore, 919-918-7392. bmoore@townofcarrboro.org
Mailing Address: 100 N. Greensboro St., Carrboro, NC 27510




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