

News Briefs

Immigration discussion

A panel discussion on the ethical dimensions of the current debates over access to public services by undocumented immigrants in the U.S. will take place next Thursday, Sept. 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the FedEx Global Education Center, Nelson Mandela Auditorium (Room 1015) on the UNC campus. This event is coordinated in conjunction with UNC's first-year student summer reading book selection, *A Home on the Field*, by Paul Cuadros, an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and is co-sponsored by the Parr Center for Ethics and the Center for Global Initiatives. This event is free and open to the public. For a full list of speakers, go to parrcenter.unc.edu/events/seminars/fall2009/immigration.html

Insko reappointed

Rep. Verla Insko has been reappointed by House Speaker Joe Hackney as co-chair of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services. The committee is responsible for examining the system-wide issues affecting the development, financing, administration and delivery of these services, including issues related to governance, accountability and quality of services.

Insko is also chair of both the House Committee on Health and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services.

Town closed for Labor Day

The Town of Carrboro will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7 for Labor Day. There will be no garbage collection; Monday's garbage will be collected on Tuesday. There will be no change in the curbside recycling schedule.

Grant awarded for Fairview Park

The North Carolina Parks and Recreation Authority has awarded \$500,000 from the N.C. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) for continued development of Fairview Park in Hillsborough. Fairview Park will feature active and low-impact recreational facilities, including basketball courts, baseball field, volleyball court, horseshoes, picnic shelter, walking track, playground and hiking trails. The park will be located with the Hillsborough police substation, which already is used for community meetings. The estimated cost for completing Phase I construction is \$1,213,500. The PARTF grant will be matched with county bond funds budgeted specifically for Fairview Park development.

Funds provided for Riverwalk

The Town of Hillsborough was awarded \$392,000 last week for Phase 2 development of Riverwalk, which will connect Gold Park to downtown. The matching grant from the N.C. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, awarded Friday, will fund the purchase of about 19 acres on Faribault Lane, some of which the town already has acquired. Construction of Gold Park, which opened in April, was Riverwalk's first phase. When complete, the greenway will connect the Oconeechee Mountain State Natural Area to downtown and will be part of North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail.

CAMPAIGN NOTES

Election forums scheduled

With early voting for this year's municipal and school board election due to start in just about a month, candidates are seeing a steady flow of invites to election forums.

The Sierra Club of Orange and Chatham counties already started its round of discussions with the candidates with a Carrboro forum at Town Hall Wednesday night.

Next up is a Sierra Club-sponsored forum for Chapel Hill candidates on Wednesday, Sept. 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Chapel Hill Town Hall. Candidates for mayor and town council will answer questions prepared by the group along with questions submitted by the audience. The event will be carried live on local cable channel 18.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, EmPOWERment Inc. and the *Daily Tar Heel* are also preparing for two days of discussions on Oct. 7 and 8.

The Chapel Hill candidate forum will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7 at the Hargraves Community Center and the Carrboro candidate forum will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8 at Carrboro Town Hall. 1360 WCHL will broadcast the forums live.

Rich reaches threshold

Penny Rich's campaign announced that she's reached the required threshold for public financing. Rich is the first council candidate — and the only one this cycle — to apply for public funding under the new voter-owned elections program. In the race for mayor, Mark Kleinschmidt is the only candidate to opt in to the new system.

Cho adopts road

Chapel Hill Mayor candidate and town Transportation Board chair Augustus Cho got a little additional signage along a short stretch of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Technically, Cho's business, Augustus Cho Tae Kwon Do, adopted the section of the road near Estes Drive, and the candidate recently told the *News & Observer* it wasn't political. Still, that's some mighty nice high-traffic signage.

Foy for Senate

Kevin Foy wouldn't be the first Capel Hill mayor to consider a bid for U.S. Senate. The thought, we're told, has from time to time crossed the mind of state school board chair Howard Lee. Foy is making a little more noise about it, and is considering joining a field that will likely include Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, former state Sen. Cal Cunningham and Durham attorney Ken Lewis. To all of the candidates' chagrin, including Foy, headlines continue to read something along the line of "Dems still searching for top-tier candidate."

Ceaseless amazement

This newspaper has for the most part eschewed playing up the all-too-typical "Carrboro is a strange place" story. We pretty much just have to report things straight up to do that anyway. Yet the recent goat debate at Town Hall in which the mayor and one of his challengers and a candidate for the board of aldermen engaged in a spirited discussion of the merits and disadvantages of in-town goats is a reminder that this town retains a unique and unpredictable, um, charm.

(You can read goat proponent Marianne Prince's letter on the debate, "Wrong for Goats, wrong for Carrboro," on page 4.)

Endorsement letters

The Carrboro Citizen welcomes endorsement letters for the upcoming municipal and school board elections. We ask that you keep letters in support of individual candidates to 325 words and multiple candidates to 375 words.

As with our general letters policy, all letters must be accompanied by the author's name, address and contact information. Typed letters are preferred and email even more so. Lengthy letters written in longhand will become mysteriously lost.

Email letters to: editor@carrborocitizen.com
or mail them to: The Carrboro Citizen
Letters to the Editor, Box 248
Carrboro, North Carolina 27510

COUNCIL
FROM PAGE 1

Kleinschmidt said without evidence to the contrary, he would take the mayor at his word that the meeting to talk about the land purchase was necessary and not an attempt to jumpstart the selection process.

"It basically has zero to no effect on the process," he said, adding that the nominations will still take place before the election and the nominations and selection after the meeting.

Some town council candidates also said they were concerned with the timing and indicated they would not put in an application for the seat.

John DeHart said he would continue "to try winning a seat by the electoral process."

DeHart said the mayor's decision to call a special meeting and Strom's decision to resign after the filing period were strikingly similar.

"I think it's more than coincidental the way they timed it," he said.

Penny Rich said she disagreed with Strom's timing as well.

"I do not know what motivated Bill Strom's decision to vacate his town council position or what influenced his timing. In a democracy, there is nothing more fundamental than the right to vote and thus choose your representation," Rich wrote in an email to *The Citizen*. "I believe his replacement should be decided by the citizens, and that is why I will not be submitting my name for appointment

to his position."

Matt Pohlman said he'd like to see the council appoint a temporary replacement soon.

"The current Town Council should appoint someone immediately to fill the vacancy — stating explicitly that this position is to be interim until the new council is elected on November 3rd," Pohlman wrote in an email response. "Once the new council is seated, they will select the council member to fill Strom's empty seat for the duration of his term."

THE CARRBORO
CITIZEN

HOW TO REACH US
The Carrboro Citizen 942-2100
P.O. Box 248 942-2195 (FAX)
Carrboro, NC 27510

EDITORIAL editor@carrborocitizen.com

ADVERTISING marty@carrborocitizen.com 942-2100 ext. 2

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Jolie Holland/MON 9/21
Great Big Gone/THU 9/24 FREE Outdoor show!
Kickin Grass Band/FRI 9/25

Great Lake Swimmers/FRI 10/2
Grainne Hambly & William Jackson/FRI 10/2 (UMall)
The Iguanas/SAT 10/3
Colin Hay/SUN 10/4
Cowboy Junkies/THU 10/8 and FRI 10/9 2nd night added!
Red Molly/THU 10/15
Maleom Holcombe/FRI 10/23
Red Clay Ramblers/FRI 10/23 (Chatham Mills)
Red Clay Ramblers/SAT 10/24
NCSC Songwriting Contest/SUN 10/25
Mike Doughty/TUE 10/27 Question Jar show!

South Wing Band/SUN 11/1
April Verch Band/SAT 11/7
Steve Kimock Crazy Engine/WED 11/11
Vector Brass Quintet/SUN 11/15
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September 13

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ATTENTION CURBSIDE RECYCLING CUSTOMERS
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YOUR RECYCLING DAY MAY BE CHANGING!

Effective September 14th, a major urban recycling re-route will be implemented to improve collection efficiency.

- Look for postcards in the mail with your NEW recycling day details
- Look for signs in your neighborhood with your NEW recycling day
- Look for the full page route map in next week's newspaper
- Contact us with any questions, and THANKS for recycling!

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