## **Briefs**

### **Human Services seeks applications**

The Human Services Advisory Board of Orange County is accepting applications for funding for the 2011-12 fiscal year from nonprofit human service agencies serving Chapel Hill residents.

Applications should be delivered to Jackie Thompson at the Chapel Hill Police Department at 828 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. Feb. 14.

Application materials and information can be found at the town website at townofchapelhill.org

## **Chapel Hill council retreat**

The Chapel Hill Town Council will meet Feb. 4 and 5 to discuss the council's goals for the coming year.

The purpose of the retreat is to establish the council's goals for the 2011-12 year, which will be developed into a work plan and budget by Town Manager Roger Stancil for subsequent council consideration.

'We aim to conduct early planning work that will contribute toward the development of a budget that continues the town's success in achieving its goals, improves our efficiency, clarifies our expectations and develops measurements of success," Stancil said.

For more information about the Town Planning Retreat, contact Stancil at 968-2743

### Chief Blue to speak

Newly appointed Chapel Hill police Chief Chris Blue will be the guest speaker for the first Friends of Downtown meeting of the new year on Jan. 27.

All residents are invited to meet and greet the new police chief, who will share his thoughts and receive questions on his vision for downtown Chapel Hill.

The meeting will be held on the second floor of the Franklin Hotel. Socializing and networking begins at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting begins at 10.

### FBC to develop transit plan

Friends of Bolin Creek has voted to develop its own transportation plan to protect the Bolin Creek watershed as part of the Bolin Creek Conservation Study currently underway. The study, now to include a nonmotorized transportation plan for community connectivity, will be completed by fall 2011.

While the study is conducted, FOBC will engage the community in projects, such as its recent demonstration rain garden at McDougle Middle School. This past October, eighth-grade science students learned how a rain garden can simulate the natural conditions of a forest, planted the garden and installed a cistern, all with the help of an EPA grant administered by the Town of Carrboro.

### Rabid raccoon found in Chapel Hill

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

The raccoon was submitted after a resident in the vicinity of Meachum and Damascus Church roads saw a neighbor's two dogs fighting with it in the woods. The resident contacted the dogs' owner and Animal Control, who removed the raccoon for testing.

The dogs were currently vaccinated against rabies and will receive booster shots within 120 hours of exposure, which is required under North Carolina law. Animals exposed to rabies that have not been vaccinated must either be destroyed or quarantined for six months.

This is the first positive rabies test that Orange County has received this year. If any possible exposure to a bat, raccoon or fox is suspected, call Animal Control at 245-2075 or call 911.

## Brush truck breakdown

The Town of Hillsborough's brush truck is out of service for maintenance.

The town's Public Works staff will collect brush and Christmas trees by hand when possible and the normal schedule of the truck will resume once repairs are made.

For more information, contact Public Works supervisor Ken Hines at 732-1270, ext. 78.

# Magistrate offices closed

**BY WILL BRYANT** 

Staff Writer

On Jan. 1, Chief District Court Judge Joe Buckner closed satellite magistrate offices in Chapel Hill and Siler City except for on-call service for warrant-seeking law-enforcement officers at specific late-night hours.

The closing of the magistrate offices comes in an effort by the Administrative Office of the Courts to reduce the state's anticipated 2011-12 budget by nearly \$40 million.

The changes will cause Chapel Hill, Carrboro and UNC police officers to commute to Hillsborough in order to obtain warrants and process suspects.

Newly appointed Chapel Hill police Chief Chris Blue said that while it's too early to fully see the effects of the closings, he believes the cutbacks could cause some major issues.

"Our biggest concerns focus on staff time spent going to Hillsborough," Blue said. "There will be some issues with officers working overtime."

Atack said local police will try to cut transportation costs by carpooling suspects to and from the magistrate office in Hillsborough.

"There is a lot being taken into consideration in terms of gas use and wear and tear on vehicles. It's going to be difficult," said Atack. "We're trying to double up if possible ... but sometimes it will work out and sometimes it won't."

To help reduce the number of officers making the commute, Atack says the police plan to use

Carrboro police Sgt. Chris video conferencing technology between departments and the magistrate offices.

The system would be a lot like Skype," Atack said. "It would obviously reduce the amount of transportation." Atack said the change will cause officers in Chapel Hill and Carrboro to make fewer arrests and write more citations.

"I think we will see officers using more discretion in making arrests," Atack said, "especially in the case where the public isn't in immediate danger."

# Distrust leads to delays in receiving health care

UNC News Services

Whether they see themselves as tough or just self-reliant, men are less likely than women to seek routine, preventive medical care, like blood pressure and cholesterol screenings.

However, a new study from UNC suggests that black men delay going to the doctor because they do not trust the health care system, rather than because they feel the need to display their masculinity.

"Men's concepts of what it means to be a 'real' man are generally shaped by traditional masculine role norms, which encourage men to be extremely self-reliant and these norms often affect their health behavior," said Wizdom Powell Hammond, assistant professor of health behavior and health education at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health and a member of UNC's Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. "We've seen in other studies that men with strong commitment to traditional masculine role norms delay health care because they don't want to seem weak.

"But this study shows that the opposite may be true for African-American men," Hammond said. "Their delays in getting routine check-ups are attributable more to medical mistrust. Their beliefs about masculinity may not always have a negative impact on their use of health care."

Hammond's study, "Masculinity, Medical Mistrust and Preventive Health Services Delays Among Community-Dwelling African-American Men," appears in the December 2010 issue of the Journal of General Internal Medicine.

The study was based on surveys of 610 black men, aged 20 and older, recruited primarily in barbershops in the North, South, Midwest and West regions of the U.S. The authors adjusted for possible differences in age, education, income, health insurance, health status and access to a regular physician.

Men with a stronger commitment to traditional masculine role norms were 23 percent less likely to delay blood pressure screening and 38 percent fore seeking care. This underuse African-American men."

less likely to delay getting their cholesterol checked than men with a weaker commitment to such norms, the research found. On the other hand, men who reported being highly mistrustful of the medical system were more than twice as likely to delay routine checkups and cholesterol screenings and three times more likely to delay having their blood pressure checked by a physician or health-care professional than men who were less mistrustful.

"What we found is that mistrust of the medical system accounts for delays in using health care, especially among older African-American men," Hammond said. "The survey results indicated that African-American men consider preventive medical services, like getting their blood pressure and cholesterol levels checked, as a demonstration of masculinity, rather than a denial of it."

Previous studies have shown that, among adults, men are less likely than women to use prelonger after symptom onset beof preventive services coincides with shorter life spans and more preventable deaths among men than women.

Compared to non-Hispanic white men, Hammond said, black men go less often for preventive health visits, are less likely to know their cholesterol levels, have poorer blood pressure control and face greater illness and premature death from conditions that usually respond well to treatments if caught in early stages.

"To improve the health of African-American men, we should consider addressing why they lack trust in the health care system and its providers," Hammond said. "Health care providers and public health professionals also might consider leveraging traditional masculine self-reliance in interventions and clinical encounters as a way to empower African-American men to 'seize control' of their health. This gendered, patient-centered approach could shift power balventive health services and wait ances, perhaps inspiring greater health-care system trust among

# Town to host Glen Lennox workshop

visioning workshops for the Glen Lennox Area Neighborhood will hall of the Church of the Holy sity and affordability. Family, 200 Haves Road.

The workshop is sponsored by the Glen Lennox Area Neighborhood Conservation District Development Committee in cooperation with the town. Residents are asked to

provide input about the future vision for the Glen Lennox area. The discussion will include be held from 6 to 8 tonight ideas on desired development (Thursday) and from 3 to 4 types, transportation, open p.m. Saturday in the parish space and ways to ensure diver-

> As a result of the develop-Chapel Hill Town Council last June set up the development committee under the town's rules for the creation of neighborhood conservation districts.

charged with developing land- Hayes Road. use regulations that preserve the ment pressures it's facing, the character of the neighborhood.

For information about the activity of the Glen Lennox committee, visit townofchapelhill. org/index.aspx?page=1432

The official Glen Lennox Area

The conservation districts Neighborhood includes the Glen add an additional framework Lennox apartment and comto guide development in the mercial complex as well as the area. Fourteen residents and residential neighborhoods located two planning board members along Oakwood Drive, Rogerserve on the committee and are son Drive, Flemington Road and

> For more information on the committee or the workshops, contact Rae Buckley, Town of Chapel Hill housing and neighborhood services senior planner, at 969-5079 or ncd@townofchapelhill.org - Staff Reports

# THE CARRBORO ITIZEN

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## **Human Relations Month Kickoff**

Sunday, January 30, 2011 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Carrboro Century Center

A Community Conversation on Immigration: "What are the Implications for Orange County and its Residents?"

## PANELISTS:

**Keenon James** 

Director of Special Projects, North Carolina Sheriffs' Association

> **Cristina Marcela** Rivera El Salvador Native

**Marty Rosenbluth Immigration Attorney** 

Zaragosa Vargas UNC-Chapel Hill Kenan Distinguished Professor of History

Sponsored by:

**ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION** 919 245-2487



(919)968-6300 200 W. Weaver St., Carrboro, NC

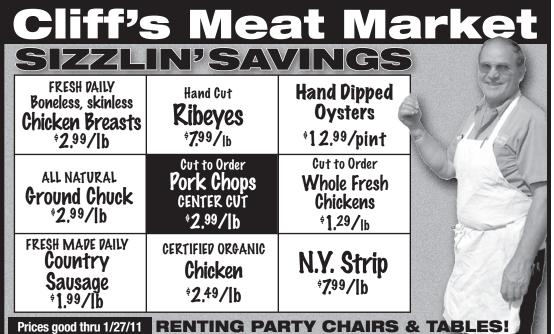
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