

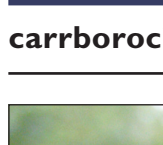


This Weekend

FRIDAY
Partly Cloudy
81/61

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
85/61

SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
85/63

C THE CARRBORO CITIZEN



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE
Individual flowers of pickerelweed bear some resemblance to tiny orchids.

FLORA

BY KEN MOORE

Pickerelweed in a pot

“An attractive perennial that grows in watery places in the swamps, usually reaching from one to four feet in height with showy spikes of blue flowers. A tea made from the root is supposed to be a good cathartic. The plant is becoming very popular for garden pools. My wife and I planted several of them near a spring below the house.”

That is Paul Green's description of pickerelweed, *Pontederia cordata*, from *Paul Green's Plant Book*. I am repeatedly drawn to the plant notes from his daily observations and conversations with the local folks of the Cape Fear River valley, from Chapel Hill down through Lillington, Fayetteville and beyond. Plants take on a special dimension when accompanied with past and present human associations.

All summer, I have been enjoying the blue flowers and glossy-green leaves of this emergent aquatic. I have it growing in competition with water-dragon, also called lizard's-tail (see *Flora*, 6/18/09), and cattail in a little pond that is slowly progressing to a cattail-dominated wetland. I also have the pickerelweed happily growing in pots submerged in plastic wading pools scattered around the yard.

None, however, bring me the up-close pleasure of having a water-filled pot of pickerelweed on the deck right outside the back door.

My deck plant is about to burst out of its pot, so this fall I will pull it out of its confinement and divide it into two or three additional water-filled containers. Few other plants, native or exotic, bring such continuous visual pleasure, and native pollinators love it.

SEE FLORA PAGE 8

Council to meet Friday on Strom replacement

BY KIRK ROSS

Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council will hold an early-morning meeting Friday to review a plan and timeline for naming a replacement for former council member Bill Strom.

Strom, whose term would have expired in 2011, resigned Aug. 1, after the end of the filing period for this fall's municipal election and during the council's summer recess.

The special meeting was called to allow the council to review a proposed land purchase on Weaver Dairy Road in closed session.

Foy also sent a memo to council members outlining a proposed process and timeline for filling the seat. In it, he recommends setting Oct. 2 as the deadline for applications to be filed. The council would review the applications at its Oct. 12 meeting and could submit names for nominations. Applicant presentations would be held on Nov. 9. In the memo, Foy points out that the presentations are optional, but are a traditional courtesy extended to the applicants.

Under town ordinances, the mayor is required to provide official notification of a vacancy on the board at the council's next regular or special meeting. That triggers at least a 30-day process required for the council to put out the call for a potential replacement, review qualifications and officially nominate candidates.

The council's first meeting back from its break was scheduled for Sept. 14. But Foy's call for a special meeting to go into closed session to review a land purchase on Weaver Dairy Road means that the notification will take place on Friday before or after the closed session.

Although Strom's timing prevented placing the seat alongside the other four council slots on the ballot this year, it did not stop electoral politics and the bid to fill the vacancy from being intertwined.

Shortly after word circulated of Friday's special meeting, council member Matt Czajkowski, who is running for mayor, said he strongly disagrees with the timing of the meeting. In a note to Foy, he cautioned that the short notice and early-morning hour "will generate even greater skepticism toward the process."

Fellow council member and mayoral candidate Mark Kleinschmidt said Czajkowski's note was unfortunate and that his opponent was trying to "stir the pot" by questioning the mayor's timing.

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 3

Yard sale with style



PHOTO BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ
Monkeys from Oakridge, Tenn., donated by a fourth-grade teacher who received them upon retirement, are among some of the items that Brandie Revoy (with daughter, Alessandra) has collected for the Yard Sale with Style benefitting the Family Violence Prevention Center on Sept. 12.

RECENTLY . . .

BY VALARIE SCHWARTZ

Looking for a barrel of monkeys or scraping the bottom of the barrel? Maybe you need to get rid of some clutter, or your creative side needs an inexpensive inspirational jolt. The answer to all of that (and more) awaits at the Yard Sale with Style, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 12 at University Mall.

The Family Violence Prevention Center of Orange County (FVPC) has seen both a decline in funding and an up-tick in client needs this year.

"Our client services requests are up by 23 percent," said Beverly Kennedy, executive director. "We generally serve 60 to 70 clients a month, but in May, June and July we served over 100 (with 148 in July), with August tracking the same way."

Blame it all on the economy. Domestic violence generally follows a cyclic pattern, but stressors like employment insecurity and excessive debt can trigger an abuser into feeling out of control, accelerating cycles and causing victims to feel even more trapped — affecting people living in all areas of our community.

"A lot don't know what to do," Kennedy said. FVPC has had to change its approach and accept a high percentage of clients who continue to stay with their abusers because there simply are no other resources available. "Our advocates teach them how to make it safe, how to recognize the signs, and how to be prepared to flee."

SEE RECENTLY PAGE 5

County sets timetable for transfer site pick

BY KIRK ROSS

AND TAYLOR SISK

Staff Writers

The Orange County board of commissioners voted 4-3 Tuesday night to draw its attempt to find a site for a waste transfer station to a close, setting a timetable of 60 to 90 days for reaching a decision.

The board approved a plan to continue to investigate four options, including three potential sites for a waste transfer station and a possible deal with Durham County to use its waste transfer facility. Commissioners also asked to see the costs and parameters of the interlocal waste agreement between the county and its municipalities.

The vote came on the heels of discussion of a new site on Millhouse Road on county-owned property. The new county-owned site is nearly across the street from the Town of Chapel Hill's public-works facility, where there is land that Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy has proposed as a possible site.

The inclusion of the new Millhouse parcel was met with opposition from nearby residents along Rogers and Eubanks road who have also objected to the town site on Millhouse on the grounds that their community has hosted the county's waste facility long enough.

Under the plan agreed to Tuesday night, county officials will contact Chapel Hill officials to seek details on the town-owned property. The Chapel Hill Town Council has not formally weighed in on Foy's offer to explore the site.

Residents of Bingham township continued to press their case Tuesday night that a site off N.C. 54 near Orange Grove Road would be costly, far away from the geographic center of waste generation and environmentally unsuitable.

Board chair Valarie Foushee and commissioners Alice Gordon and Mike Nelson voted against the plan to choose from among all four options, with commissioners Steve Yuhasz, Pam Hemminger, Bernadette Pelissier and Barry Jacobs voting to support the plan. In June, Foushee, Gordon and Nelson voted against a proposal to ask the Town of Chapel Hill to formally offer the property it owns on Millhouse Road in order for it to be considered as an option.

The commissioners also approved working with Durham County as an alternative to constructing a facility.

Nelson said he believes the process has failed.

"The board has made statement after statement, and no deadline has been adhered to."

"New sites are coming out of nowhere," he added. "I don't believe there is a process anymore. I think the board has lost credibility."

Aldermen set hearing on Deer St. project

BETH MECHUM

Staff Writer

Overgrown grass and woods filled with cinder blocks, broken bricks, orange tape and stumps at 100 Deer St. could become a 16-dwelling subdivision.

At its meeting Tuesday night, the Carrboro Board of Alderman approved the request to hold a public hearing on the subdivision at the Sept. 22 board meeting.

Phil Post and Associates has submitted an application to construct the sub-

division. If the conditional use permit is approved, it would allow for the creation of 16 lots, two of which would be occupied by duplexes and the rest by single-occupancy dwellings.

The project would not require new roadways and would rely on existing infrastructure.

The proposed subdivision, referred to as the Lloyd Square Architecturally Integrated Subdivision, is off the gravel road between Quail Roost Drive (which runs off of Hillsborough Road) and Lisa Drive, and would occupy 5.98 acres.



PREPS PREVIEW

Cross Country

The cross country season is off and running. Check out Beth Mechum's look at the season in the latest installment of Preps Previews on page 7.

At left, Alexa Phillips placed 4th for Carrboro High School in Tuesday's cross country meet at Wake Med Soccer Park in Cary.

Inside, Grace Morken, left, begins to pass Laura Hamon near the finish line.

PHOTOS BY AVA BARLOW

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Election notes

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