

OWASA to hold public forum

The OWASA Board of Directors will sponsor a public forum entitled "What is the state of our local water supply?" at the Chapel Hill Town Hall on Thursday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. All OWASA customers are invited to attend and participate in the forum, intended to provide information to and receive feedback from customers.

Topics of the forum include water supply and demand forecasts, drought financial implications and management strategies, options for the "worst case" sce-

nario and proposed changes in conservation strategies.

Also discussed at the forum will be possible near-term changes to restrictions in Stage Two and Stage Three water shortages. that might include further restrictions in use of OWASA water for irrigation. Stage Two restrictions are currently in effect.

The forum will be televised on local cable channel 18.

For information contact OWASA at 968-4421 or web-master@owasa.org.



Swelling flower buds of Winged Elm silhouetted against the sky
PHOTO BY KEN MOORE

FLORA
FROM PAGE I

corky growth that the effect is quite dramatic in the winter landscape. Be aware that not all of either tree species have corky branches. Many have normal-appearing branches, so to tell them apart you will want to observe the finer, lacy branch structure of the Elm contrasted with the coarse, thicker branches of sweetgum. A really beautiful aspect of the Winged Elm is the silhouette against the sky of the elm's swelling flower buds, becoming very evident now in

the dead of winter. Most likely the elms will be in full flower by the middle of next month, a sure sign that spring is on the way.

This coming Saturday afternoon, January 19, rain, snow or shine, I'm going to enjoy the winter woods of the Adams Tract. Though this is not an officially sponsored walk, you are welcome to join me at 1 p.m. beginning at the trail head kiosk in the lower part of Carrboro's Wilson Park. Don't forget your binoculars. And above all else, if you didn't get out for a New Year's Day walk, it's not too late to treat yourself to a weekly walk in the woods.

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IN SEASON

FAREWELL BRUNCH
TOPICS - LEARNING TO COOK FROM GRANDPARENTS, SALT AND GARLIC PASTE, RUINING EGG DROP SOUP, IMPROVISATION IN CAJUN MUSIC

ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL BLANK

Plot to become county park

In December, Orange County purchased 145 acres of land in the northeastern part of the county for a future county park.

The site is located near the rural crossroads community of Schley, five miles northeast of Hillsborough. The land was purchased for \$1,455,300 from Hillsborough resident F.M. Kirby as part of the county's Lands Legacy Program.

According to county officials, the future park will likely feature a combination of active and low-impact recreation, including playing fields, nature trails and picnic areas. In addition, the county is considering using a small portion of the site for a sol-

id-waste convenience center for residents in the northeast part of the county. The center would replace the former solid-waste convenience center on N.C. 57 that closed in 2007. Funds have not yet been identified for park development or operation at the site.

The Lands Legacy Program has now acquired more than 2,200 acres of critical natural and cultural resource lands and future park sites in the county. The Lands Legacy Program, founded in April 2000, is a voluntary program that seeks to conserve the county's most critical natural and cultural resource lands for future generations.

Recipe of the week

Crunchy Pac Choi Ginger Salad by Cindy Murrey

Pac Choi is a great vegetable that came to the United States from China in the early 19th from Chinese Immigrants. It's a great cool weather crop that is in the cabbage (Brassica) family. K Pac choi is high in vitamins A, B, and C and also provides a good source of fiber and calcium. It's a great step-sister to celery since it has a crunchy texture and is not nearly as stringy. Try it raw in this great pac choi salad recipe and see for yourself.

- ★ 1 Medium Bunch Pac Choi
- ★ 1 Cup Shredded Radish (Daikon recommended)
- ★ 1 Tbsp Salt
- ★ 1 Cup Slivered Sweet Orange, Red or Yellow Peppers
- ★ 1 Cup Finely-chopped Green Onions
- ★ 1-Inch Knob of Ginger Root- Grated
- ★ 2 Tbsp Chopped Mint
- ★ 2 Tbsp Chopped Cilantro
- ★ 3 Tbsp Rice Vinegar
- ★ 2 tsp Honey
- ★ Pepper- to Taste

Procedure:

Thin-slice the Pac Choi leaves. Thinly slice the stalks along a diagonal line (no need to keep separate this time). Toss all Pac Choi, along with the shredded radish, with salt in a colander. Let stand to wilt vegetables- about 1 hour. Rinse, drain, and squeeze out excess liquid from the mixture. Place in paper towel and squeeze again (a clean cotton towel can be substituted for a paper one!) Toss the mixture with all remaining ingredients. Chill well before serving. Makes 6 Servings.

* Available at Market

PETS OF THE WEEK

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

— Hey! My name is Larry, and I am a 4 month old Shepherd/Corgi mix. am very social with people and other dogs. I am playful, curious, and loving. People say I am super cute when I am playing with my toys. When someone adopts me, they get to take me to obedience classes for free! How fun! I will be about 45 pounds full grown. Please come visit me and my friends at the APS adoption center at 6311 Nicks Road Mebane.304-2300 ext. 221.



APS OF ORANGE COUNTY

— Meet Quella! This 3-year-old Border Collie/ Cattle Dog mix is a sensitive girl with a huge heart! She is shy at first, but warms up to new people quickly. And once she opens up to you, she is full of all kinds of secrets — like the fact that she loves belly rubs and already knows the sit and shake commands! Don't miss out on this love bug! She'll be one to cuddle with for years! Stop by Orange County's Animal Shelter, 1081 MLK Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill, or call 919-967-7383. You can also see her online at www.co.orange.nc.us/animalservices/adoption.asp.



PLEASE, RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.

MARK TRAIL

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS PLANTS HAVE BEEN USED TO MAKE BENEFICIAL MEDICINES, LIKE ASPIRIN FROM WILLOW TREES, DIGITALIS FROM FOXGLOVE, AND QUININE FROM THE SOUTH AMERICAN CINCHONA TREE!

AMERICAN INDIANS WERE USING THIS PLANT WHEN THE COLONISTS ARRIVED. LATER, DANIEL BOONE MADE MUCH OF HIS MONEY FROM EXPORTING GINSENG

the beehive

TUESDAY-FRIDAY 10-8 • SATURDAY 10-6
102 EAST WEAVER STREET
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932-HIVE • WALK-INS WELCOME!

Creative Cuts & Color

IN ANCIENT TIMES PLANTS WERE THE MAIN SOURCE OF MEDICINE. BY TRIAL AND ERROR, IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT PARTICULAR SPECIES COULD CURE CERTAIN DISEASES!

TODAY WE ARE CONTINUALLY SEARCHING FOR PLANTS THAT MAY SAVE LIVES—ESPECIALLY IN OUR DECREASING TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS!

AND SOME PLANTS CAN BE BOTH BENEFICIAL AND DEADLY, LIKE THE OPIUM POPPY AND THE LEAVES OF THE COCA PLANT, WHICH CONTAIN THE DRUG COCAINE!

A TEA MADE FROM GINSENG ROOTS IS BELIEVED TO HAVE HEALING POWERS THAT WILL INCREASE MENTAL ABILITY, SLOW DOWN AGING AND PROLONG LIFE, AMONG OTHER BENEFITS!

TODAY IT IS RAISED COMMERCIALY IN SOME AREAS, AND MOST OF IT IS SOLD IN ASIA!

BECAUSE IT IS CERTIFIED AS A HERB AND NOT A MEDICINE, IN AMERICA IT IS SOLD MOSTLY IN HEALTH STORES!

puzzle solutions

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