

# briefs & announcements

## dispatches

### A special movie event in Chatham

Forget Hollywood. Some of the best filmmaking is happening in North Carolina. On March 21 and 22 four films will be shown in

Pittsboro for a ChathamArts 100 Mile Sustainable Cinema Series special event, "Race in NC: Looking Back-Moving Forward." This

documentary feast includes a forum with a panel discussion with the filmmakers and African-American community leaders, post-screening Q&A's with producers and directors, a gospel performance, and local art. The four films are "Changes Comes Knocking: The Story of the NC Fund," by Rebecca Cerese and Dr. Steven Channing, "FBI-KKK" by Michael Frierson, "We Shall Not Be Moved-The Story of the Tillery Resettlement Community," by Gary Grant, Christ Potter and Charles Thompson and "Family Name," by Macky Alston. A weekend pass is \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Individual film tickets are \$5. Proceeds benefit the development of an at-risk youth documentary arts program and ChathamArts. Details can be found at [www.chathamarts.org](http://www.chathamarts.org) or call 542.0394 or email [info@chathamarts.org](mailto:info@chathamarts.org). Former Durham resident Macky Alston, who now lives in New York City, cannot attend the event but participated in an email interview sharing thoughts about his film, "Family Name," which was partially filmed in Chatham County.

Read the Q&A online at [www.chathamcountyline.org](http://www.chathamcountyline.org)

— Deborah R. Meyer



MACKY ALSTON

### Chatham's Health 2008 Report Card

Curious about how Chatham is doing health-wise? You can find out in the 2008 Health of Chatham report. The nine health priorities detailed in the report are: alcohol and drug use, lack of affordable health insurance, obesity, water quality, unsafe sex/unintended pregnancy, family violence, affordable health care, recreation, and diabetes. The 2008 report also includes an update on environmental health, social, and economic issues.

The report shows an increase from 2007 in the number of uninsured in the county, percentage of overweight children, and in the number of teen pregnancies. On a positive note, water quality, affordable health care and recreation resources continue to improve. The report can be found at [www.chathamnc.org/publichealth](http://www.chathamnc.org/publichealth).

— Marissa Jelks

## briefs

### Carolina Meadows supports Chatham

Carolina Meadows has a Community Grant Program that it launched in 2007 to help support local not-for-profit agencies that serve Chatham. The program was set up, in part, as an innovative way for Carolina Meadows to share with the community some of the tax benefits it receives from the county.

In December 2008, the Community Grant Program awarded \$115,975 to nine charities: Central Carolina Community College, \$10,975 for teaching English to immigrants and looking after children during parent's classes; Chatham Cares Community Pharmacy, \$12,500 to provides free prescriptions and medical advice to the needy; Chatham County Council on Aging, \$9,000 to replace a faulty oven used to prepare 750 meals per week for mature citizens; CORA, \$18,200

to supply groceries to the poor; Family Violence/Rape Crisis Services, \$17,620 to maintain its mission of safety and healing; "Fuel Up" Program at Perry Harrison School, \$10,000 for weekend meals for 25 students entitled to receive free or reduced-cost lunches during the week; JOCCA, \$5,500 to help improve heating and air conditioning systems through better insulation and prevent leaks; St. Julia's Catholic Church, \$12,200 to augment the 100 families receiving food supplies; West Chatham Food Pantry, \$20,000 to send needy children home on Fridays with a backpack of food for the weekend.

### 19th Haw River Clean-Up-A-Thon

It's time for spring cleaning along the Haw River & Jordan Lake. On Saturday, March 14, volunteers will gather along the shoreline of Jordan Lake prepared to remove trash that threatens wildlife and water quality.

Last year's clean-up collected over 580 bags of trash and nearly 200 tires with the help of several hundred volunteers and stretched 60 miles from Burlington to Bynum. The 19th annual Haw River Clean-Up-A-Thon offers an opportunity to help make our waterways healthier and safer for people, fish and wildlife. For more info, contact the Haw River Assembly at 919.542.5790 or email us at [info@hawriver.org](mailto:info@hawriver.org)

### Pittsboro Library to hold book sale

The Friends of the Pittsboro Memorial Library's Spring Book Sale is coming up March 26-28 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Kiwanis Building at 309 Credle Street in Pittsboro. Proceeds will go toward the new Chatham Community Library.

### Food drives bring 36,655 lbs to CORA

Food drives throughout Chatham produced a remarkable 36,655 pounds of groceries for the CORA

Food Pantry in Pittsboro over the year-end holidays. Almost a third of that total came from food drives staged by students and teachers at 14 county schools.

This outpouring of support gave a significant boost to CORA's ability to meet a growing demand for emergency food. CORA currently is placing up to 5,000 pounds of food each week into the hands of hungry families. Marci Whittaker, executive director, said demand today is about 70 percent greater than a year ago.

The largest single food drive of the year-end was sponsored by Lowes Foods at Cole Park Plaza on U.S. 15-501. Shoppers purchased 9,329 pounds of bagged canned goods in November and December to donation to CORA.

### Northwood presents Sondheim musical

Did you ever wonder what happens after the happily ever after? To find out, join Cinderella, Rapunzel and others as they cross paths with unexpected results when Northwood presents their 2009 production of *Into The Woods*. The 1986 Stephen Sondheim musical is one of the most ambitious works the Northwood Arts Education Department has undertaken.

Performances are March 26-28 at Northwood's Auditorium. Curtain

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CHATHAM  
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"where all voices are heard"

ESTABLISHED IN 1999

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Chatham County Line is a community newspaper serving all of Chatham County as well as the southern part of Orange. Our mission is to inform our community by providing a forum "where all voices are heard." We seek all views and ideas about our community, and we report on important matters — including our cultural life — comprehensively and in depth. Our commitment is to create the best-written, best-edited and most stylish community newspaper anywhere. Chatham County Line is published ten times a year.

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