

briefs & announcements

dispatches

New Northwest Park takes shape

Chatham invites the public to visit its Northwest District Park site near Silk Hope and suggest what the future park should include.

Acquiring the Camp Maranatha Springs site, a 118-acre property, was a "great investment for county residents," according to Tracy Burnett, parks and recreation director. The site has an existing dining hall and ball field that the county can renovate and use. Design consultants will use visitors' comments in drafting a design and updating the county's Strategic Master Plan for Parks and Recreation.

The address of the park is 2413 Woody Store Road, about halfway between where the road begins at Silk Hope Lindley Mill Road and where it ends at White Smith Road to the east. For info, call 545.8555. To donate money for Chatham Parks, call Don Lien, president of the Chatham Parks Foundation, at 542.4790.

104 new jobs coming to Chatham

Chatham welcomes Uniboard Canada Inc.— a new industry that will create 104 new jobs and preserve

146 existing jobs in the Moncure area, according to a news release issued by Gov. Mike Easley. Uniboard is an internationally known manufacturer of pressed wood products.

The company says it plans to invest \$142 million to recondition an existing factory and to spend \$120 million on a new facility. The 104 new jobs will be added over the next three years. The location of the plant in the county was made possible in part by a \$250,000 One North Carolina Fund grant.

Uniboard Canada is headquartered in Laval, Canada, and is a subsidiary of Pfleiderer AG in Germany. It manufactures decorative laminates, panels and related products.

Dianne Reid, president of the Chatham County Economic Development Corporation, noted that the average wage for the new plant is estimated at \$45,303, which is substantially higher than the county's current average wage of \$29,588.

briefs

New Branch Chiropractic opens

New Branch Chiropractic and Health Center PLLC held its grand opening on Aug. 26. The practice is located 120 Lowes Drive, near the Carolina Brewery. Dr. Jacquelyn L. Nygren believes in gentle treatment. For more information, call 919.642.0555, or click on www.newbranchchiro.com.

Habitat hosts 'Building on Faith'

A group of Mennonites from Willow Street, Pennsylvania, is traveling to Siler City on Sept. 6 to help build a house in the Westmont subdivision during "Building on Faith Week," a national program of Habitat for Humanity International. Chatham Habitat is seeking churches, businesses, and other groups willing to provide meals for the Mennonites during their stay. To participate, call Bett Essen at 919.542.0794, ext. 214 or e-mail her at bettessen@chathamhabitat.org.

Hoppin' John at Shakori Hills

The folks at Shakori Hills will be hosting the second annual Hoppin' John Old-Time & Bluegrass Fiddlers' Festival on Sept. 19-20. There will be individual and band contests, contra and square dances, clinics, and of course, a hoppin' john cook-off. For camping and participation info, go to www.shakorihills.org.



Danish design comes to Pittsboro

ConSet, a Danish producer of electric height adjustable desks has established operations in Pittsboro. ConSet America LLC will inventory and distribute goods from its office and warehouse facility. For more info, call 542.6145 or go to www.conset.us.

Abundance of learning

The Abundance Foundation is offering a Responsible Stream Stewardship Workshop in cooperation with the Haw River Assembly on Sept. 13. Catherine Deiningner and Karen Hall will teach the group how to protect our streams. The Foundation is also reprising its popular Vermiculture Workshop on Sept. 20. For registration info, go to www.theabundancefoundation.org.



Grant to fund Rocky River study

A Chatham partnership will receive a \$198,000 grant from NC Dep. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the federal EPA to restore and protect water resources in the Rocky River watershed. The partnership includes Chatham's Environmental Resources Division, the N.C. Cooperative Extension

Service, Chatham Soil & Water Conservation District, NCSU and the Rocky River Heritage Foundation. For information, contact Christy Perrin, christy_perrin@ncsu.edu or 515.4542; or Fred Royal, 545.8536 or fred.royal@chathamnc.org

Rock Rest hosts benefit

Rock Rest Amphitheater in northern Chatham will hold a benefit on Sept 13, 4 pm, to raise money for stage repairs and general operating funds. The amphitheater was founded in 1981 by

James Carnahan and members of the Rock Rest community. The event will feature Polecat Creek's Laurelyn Dossett, Great Big Gone and Lynn Blakey of Tres Chicas. Email rockrest@embarq-mail.com, call 542.5943 or go to www.musicalroots.net.



LYNN BLAKEY

Got briefs? Fax your news to 919.932.2602 or email us at chathamcoline@mindspring.com



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Some Realtors Encourage Thoughtful Growth

"I moved here over thirty years ago to raise my kids and build a home in the woods. Now I have a grandson growing up here. I hope as Chatham grows, we can take care of the precious resources this county has to offer -- farms, forests, water and fine people."

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CHATHAM COUNTY LINE

"where all voices are heard"

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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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