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Sculpture honoring Brody unveiled at heart institute

ECU News Services

A sculpture at the East Carolina Heart Institute at East Carolina University honors the legacy of one of the school’s founders while also symbolizing his and the school’s sense of service to eastern North Carolina.

Those were the thoughts expressed by Dr. W. Randolph Chitwood Jr., director of the East Carolina Heart Institute, during the unveiling ceremony June 10.

The sculpture is titled “Hands of Hope” and was created by artists Jodi Holnagel-Jubran and Hanna Juban, a professor at ECU School of Art and Design. It was commissioned by Myrtilla Brody in memory of her late husband, J.S. “Sammy” Brody. He was an early advocate and supporter of the medical school that now bears his family name.

“Many now will benefit from (Myrtilla Brody’s) wisdom in providing this lasting memorial to her husband and our friend, Mr. Sammy Brody,” Chitwood said. “This sculpture is a lasting reminder of his abiding hope for better health for all people of eastern North Carolina.”

Sustainable tourism master’s degree

Even though summer is in full gear, ECU faculty are hard at work on the institution’s newest degree offering.

The first in the nation, ECU’s interdisciplinary master’s degree in sustainable tourism reflects a growing concern among businesses, consumers and academics about balancing the ecological, economic and social impacts of tourism on vacation destinations around the world.

“There is a close link and relationship between good science and good business,” Dr. Patrick Long, director of the Center for Sustainable Tourism, said. “We need to train and educate our future leaders in this industry on how to best integrate those two major components.”

The UNC Board of Governor’s approved the degree on Jan. 8, and the full program already is in motion.

As the center defines it, sustainable tourism “contributes to a balanced and healthy economy by generating tourism-related jobs, revenues and taxes while protecting and enhancing the destination’s social, cultural, historical, natural and built resources for the enjoyment and well-being of both residents and visitors.”
ECU will be the first U.S. university to offer the master’s degree, but such studies aren’t uncommon in other parts of the world, including Europe, Australia and Asia. U.S. institutions are embracing sustainability as an academic discipline, however. Appalachian State University, for instance, offers a bachelor’s degree in sustainable development.

Dr. Deirdre Mageean, vice chancellor for research and graduate studies, felt strongly that the master’s degree should have an inter-disciplinary reach. Long said. The resulting program draws upon various departments in the College of Business, the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Human Ecology, and the College of Health and Human Performance so that students can develop a broad knowledge base.

“That’s why this partnership is so unique at ECU,” said Dr. David Edgell Sr., professor of tourism in the Department of Hospitality Management and a former Commissioner of Tourism for the U.S. Virgin Islands. “You’ve got four colleges involved in this academic program.”

Graduate students already are doing coursework in the program. One student is working on a study of renewable energy strategies in tourism. Another is studying legislative attitudes toward sustainability in tourism.

“Sustainability is a critical issue at the global level,” said Joseph Frigidgen, a professor in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies and director of the master’s program. “Increasingly, businesses are starting to demand knowledge about green practices, so why not educate students to be the future leaders of tomorrow in that field?”

ECU faculty member to lead ADA in 2011

ECU faculty member Sylvia Escott-Stump has been voted president-elect of the American Dietetic Association, the world’s largest organization of food and nutrition professionals.

Escott-Stump, who is dietetic program director for the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, will serve a one-year term as the ADA’s 86th president beginning June 1, 2011. She will chair the organization’s board of directors, which is responsible for strategic planning, policy development and fiscal management for the 71,000-member association.

“The dietetics profession affects every citizen,” Escott-Stump said. “Registered dietitians must provide the leadership, guidance and direction to impact health for all people of ages, all stages of well-being and all food decisions. We have an amazing window of opportunity right now that cannot be missed.”

Escott-Stump said her goal as both an educator and an ADA leader is “to inspire registered dietitians to dream big, to learn more and to motivate everyone within their sphere of influence.”

She added, “Nutritional health is so important. Just as individuals have their own doctor and dentist, everyone should have his or her own registered dietitian.”

Her areas of special expertise include cultural competency, elderly nutrition, functional foods and phytochemicals, nutritional assessment, and nutrition and genetics.

Escott-Stump has presented hundreds of lectures and workshops and has written articles in many peer-reviewed journals, editions of "Nutrition and Diagnosis-Related Care" and editions of Krause’s “Food and Nutrition Therapy,” a text used in many college-level nutrition programs.

She earned her undergraduate and master’s degrees from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, which recognized her with a Distinguished Alumni Award.

Professor, student receive award

An ECU history professor and a former graduate student have been honored by the Army Historical Foundation for outstanding achievements in writing on U.S. Army history. Lawrence E. Babits, maritime and military history professor, and Joshua B. Howard received the book award in the category of Operational/Battle History

See ECU, B7
Program for at-risk students honored

The ECU College of Education's Project HEART/WellnessCorps has been selected for inclusion in the America's Service Commissions and Innovations in Civic Participation publication, "Transforming Communities through Service: A Collection of the Most Innovative AmeriCorps State Programs in the United States."

Project HEART, along with its companion project, WellnessCorps, was nominated by the N.C. Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service to compete in a national search for the most innovative AmeriCorps programs for social change in the country. It is one of 52 programs featured in the publication, which will be launched during the ASC's annual meeting in New York.

The mission of Project HEART is to help the region's at-risk students succeed in school. Last year, ECU student volunteers provided nearly 70,000 hours of tutoring to middle, high school and college students.

WellnessCorps was added to Project HEART in 2009 and addresses health issues such as juvenile diabetes and childhood obesity. Project HEART/Wellness Corps volunteers spend about 20 hours per week working with students. In exchange, they receive a stipend to assist with college expenses.

Since its inception in 2000, Project HEART has placed approximately 700 tutors in schools and after-school centers in the region to serve more than 16,000 at-risk students. WellnessCorps members have served more than 1,200 students during the first year of operation.

For more information about Project HEART/WellnessCorps, contact Dr. Betty Beacham at 328-1849.
ECU alumni group names chairman

The East Carolina Alumni Association announced that Carl W. Davis will be its board chairman beginning Thursday.

Davis graduated from East Carolina University in 1973 with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences and serves as assistant general manager/director of engineering for UNC-TV.

He is responsible for the technical and financial operation of the 11-station public television network, which operates on a multimillion dollar budget and the largest television engineering staff in North Carolina. Davis has devoted more than 40 years to broadcasting in both radio and television during his career.

"I am deeply honored to be the chairman of the East Carolina Alumni Association and to represent the more than 130,000 alumni of our University," Davis said. "ECU is a world-class university with unlimited potential. My goal is to help the alumni association serve and involve our alumni. Service by our alumni will help East Carolina achieve its potential. A growing and strong alumni association is vital to our university. I'm excited to have the opportunity to work with our Board and staff to make our Association the best it can be."

Davis has been an elected member of the alumni association's board of directors since 2006, having served as treasurer and most recently as vice chairman. He also is chairman emeritus of ECU's Board of Visitors.

"Carl is among ECU's most capable, passionate, and dedicated volunteer leaders," Paul J. Clifford, alumni association president and CEO, said. "His vision for ECU and the Alumni Association is both ambitious and achievable. Our organization will flourish and achieve new heights under his leadership."

Three other board members were elected to executive committee positions for the 2010-11 fiscal year: Harry Stubbs (1974, 1977) a program manager for the FDOC from Washington, D.C., will serve as vice chairman; Joanie Tolley ('65), a retired educator from Elon, will serve as secretary, and Adrian Cullin ('04), an administration manager with Wells Fargo from Charlotte, will serve as treasurer.

Three newly elected board members also will serve during the 2010-11 fiscal year: Wesley Johnson ('85), president of Southern State Sales from Powder Springs, Ga; Angela Moss ('97, '98), associate director of investments for the UNC Management Co. from Raleigh, and Glenda Moultrie ('79), a recreation programs coordinator from Derwood, Md.

The East Carolina Alumni Association's mission is to inform, involve and serve members of the ECU family throughout their lifelong relationship with the university. As chairman, Davis will assist in running a program that reaches more than 130,000 alumni worldwide.
Greenville's downtown is safer, but questions remain
By Kathryn Kennedy
The Daily Reflector
Saturday, June 26, 2010

Two Greenville Police Department cars sit at the intersection of Cotanche and Fifth streets just before midnight on a sweltering Saturday. Three more flank barriers at Reade and Fifth streets. Uniformed officers hover nearby, chatting with one another and watching the patrons that begin to form lines outside downtown bars and clubs.

“It didn’t use to be like this,” a Rumors nightclub bouncer tells someone standing to his left. “Guy got thrown out of a club, came back and emptied his clip. That’s why the barriers are down here.”

An increased police presence in Greenville’s club district is one facet of changes city staff and elected officials put in place since June 30, 2009, when Andrew Kirby, a local restaurant manager, and East Carolina University student Landon Blackley were killed in a drive-by shooting. Segments of the public shouted for action to make the district safer after the shooting. Now people are asking if attention focused downtown comes at the expense of safety elsewhere and fair treatment of patrons.

“A city should always be proactive rather than reactive,” Councilwoman Rose Glover said Thursday, but the shooting forced the issue. “I feel like the (police) chief (William Anderson) really didn’t have a whole lot of choice. He was pressured by council members and other groups.”

Anderson augmented the department’s downtown policing plan, closing off streets and adding officers by utilizing an overtime fund to pay the estimated $600,000 annual price tag. The action was followed by a series of staff- and citizen-proposed ordinances intended to improve safety in an area where 16 clubs are condensed within four blocks.

The council passed a measure requiring bouncers submit to background checks and attend a police-led training course. So did a zoning ordinance requiring new clubs be situated 500 feet away from existing establishments across the city.

A Special Task Force on Public Safety was convened early this year to address long-term goals and concerns across the city. That stemmed from a suggestion by the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce.

Greenville Mayor Pro-Tem Bryant Kittrell said the actions were justified. “I had people saying, ‘It’s not safe,’ letters from ECU parents who were worried about their kids,” he said. “Bar owners wanted to deal with this problem, too. I think we had to react.”
Since the shooting, at least a dozen officers erect barricades and patrol a seven-block area downtown most Thursday through Saturday nights. Stats provided by the police department for January through May provide some evidence the effort is working: Assaults are down 44 percent, fights are down 48 percent, thefts are down 44 percent, and arrests are up 24 percent. Business people and visitors say the area seems safer.

“Perception is reality, and if you see more cops you are going to feel more safe,” Tremayne Smith, ECU’s Student Government Association president, said. “I don’t frequent downtown a lot, but I do think because of that incident there is heightened awareness and people have changed their behavior.”

Councilwoman Marion Blackburn said residents are more aware of potential dangers, and the presence of officers acts as a crime deterrent.

“That’s a good message to send to downtown, but it’s also a message we need everywhere in our city,” Blackburn said. “We are still looking, as a council, at the best way to do that.”

**Crime hot spots**

Crime outside the district concerns council members and residents alike. Officers typically respond to more than 600 incidents of violent crime in a year, according to state Uniform Crime Reports. Even though those numbers have dropped slightly the past three years, shootings, robberies, assaults and other violent crimes make headlines daily.

Convenience stores and fast-food places are targeted almost weekly, police department incident reports show. The reports show particularly hard hit are neighborhoods along West Fifth Street; on Frontgate and Kristin drives, formerly Tobacco Road; off South Pitt and Howell streets; and off Hooker Road.

Three people have been killed in Greenville since the June 30 shooting deaths — two in west Greenville and one near Howell and Evans streets. No one has been killed downtown, and such acts were unheard of there before June 30.

Councilman Max Joyner said what was a one-time event downtown is part of daily life in other parts of the city.

“Can I guarantee your safety in downtown Greenville?” he asked Monday. “No. But I can’t guarantee your safety in my neighborhood.”

He has stood vocally against ordinances he views as punishing bars for what he considers a random act of violence. He’s not alone in that view.

“The crime didn’t happen because the bars were too close together,” Smith said. “It happened because a man got a gun and shot two people because he didn’t know any other way to express his anger.”

Smith is spending June and July working with incoming freshmen during orientation. Similar sessions were taking place last year when the shooting occurred.

“There were lots of questions and concerns last year, but (parents and incoming students) recognized it was an isolated incident,” Smith said. “The majority of parents I spoke with realized it was an isolated incident but were concerned about procedures in place to lessen the possibility of crime.”

No one discounts the importance a safe downtown holds for Greenville’s image and commerce. But Joyner and others wonder if resources should be diverted elsewhere.

Joyner said police and city staff haven’t taken outside input seriously. Landlords on Kristin and Frontgate drives are willing to provide condos, free of charge, as police outposts, he said.

Downtown safety can be improved through technology, he said, adding cameras and better lighting like ECU’s student government suggested.

“I’d like to see us get out ahead of crime instead of reacting,” Joyner said.

Glover said that means putting more manpower and money for lighting and other technology into west and south Greenville, Kristin Drive and other crime hot spots.
“It could stop a lot of drug dealing, stop shootings before they happen, improve response times,”
Glover said. “How can you find a criminal or identify a criminal ... if they can fade into the
dark?”
Kittrell agrees, to some degree, though he points to long-term efforts to reduce crime in the city
through youth and re-entry programs. He was startled to see much higher calls for police service
this year in west Greenville compared to downtown. A document totaling that data was provided
to City Council members early this month. There were 434 calls from downtown and 1,775 from
west Greenville from January until June.
“We should divert some resources over there,” was his immediate reaction.

**Equal protection**

A close look at the numbers shows that the downtown calls all came from a seven-block area near
Fifth and Cotanche streets, and the west Greenville calls came from a large area of more than 100
blocks bordered by Memorial Drive to the west, Dickinson Avenue to the south, Pitt Street to the
east and the Tar River to the north.

Total calls in the downtown area dropped to 434 during the five-month period from 550 during
the same five months in 2009, before the bolstered enforcement detail. Total calls in the west
Greenville area dropped as well, from 2,017 in January to May 2009 to the 1,775 figure in 2010.
Anderson says a police substation and ongoing community policing effort in west Greenville
have made a significant impact there and that efforts downtown have not diminished enforcement
elsewhere.

City Manager Wayne Bowers said overtime funds used to pay for downtown patrols are not
restricted to that area, and the chief said he utilizes overtime in other situations. The council in its
2010-11 budget did not fund new patrol positions, and it has not directed the department to apply
extra manpower outside of downtown.

Councilman Calvin Mercer said the city isn’t applying enough resources in the district.
Downtown from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. still is more dangerous than other parts of town, he said.
He attributes that primarily to the sheer number and diversity of people visiting the district. And
most are consuming alcohol, he noted.
He supports a legislative effort that would train officers on Alcohol Beverage Control laws so
they could help enforce those inside the clubs. For now, he says the current level of manpower is
needed.

“If we didn’t staff up downtown to the level that we do, we would have more of a safety issue
than exists now,” he said. Glover disagrees, stating that constituents tell her it causes unnecessary
conflicts between police and young people of all origins.

Unfair treatment of patrons is an ongoing issue downtown that’s prompted protests and anger.
The June 6 arrest of Councilwoman Kandie Smith raised the issue again.

Smith said she was downtown checking on constituent concerns when an officer directed her to
leave a parking area where she had been standing. She was arrested for trespassing when she did
not comply. She declined to be interviewed for this story.

Instead of continuing the bolstered police presence, Glover would like to see bars provide the
bulk of their security. Mercer wants the taxpayer burden under control, too. He proposes
requiring bar owners to pay for some of the estimated $600,000 in annual downtown policing
costs and wants to continue touting the area as a safe, fun place during daytime and early-evening
hours.

As leader of a nonprofit promoting downtown revitalization, Denise Walsh said the area has
never been unsafe as people perceive it to be. She said as more people regularly visit downtown,
opportunities for criminal activity will decrease. It’s vacant areas that attract trouble.

Walsh said her group has no problem with the bars, though she does wish those clubs opening
late at night and serving only alcohol would invest in more attractive facades.
“Tavern on 4th made a positive change by putting windows in,” she said. “(Bars) are a part of the college community. It’s a business that some people will embrace and some won’t.”
A variance in opinion is likely to remain on Greenville’s City Council, too.
“I think we’re making some progress,” Kittrell said. “Some of it is slow. We’ve been accused of knee-jerk reactions, and there was some of that. A lot of it, a council and police chief cannot do alone.”
Cpl. Kip Gaskins, public information officer for the police department, said he would like to see the level of public investment following the deaths downtown applied across the board.
“If I had one wish, it would be that we get the same level of public involvement and support working on every case that we got during this one,” he said. “If we could do one thing as a community and learn one thing together from this case, it would be to do the same thing for every crime that happens.
“I know it’s not a perfect world, though.”
Michael Abramowitz, Bobby Burns and Ginger Livingston contributed to this article. Contact Kathryn Kennedy at kkennedy@reflector.com or (252) 329-9566.

Crime Numbers
Greenville Police statistics for downtown and west Greenville provide a glimpse of crime in the areas from January to May 2010, after the downtown shooting, and for the same time period in 2009, prior to the increased enforcement downtown.
Statistics were recorded from a seven-block area near Fifth and Contanche streets downtown and an area of more than 100 blocks in west Greenville, bordered by Memorial Drive to the west, Dickinson Avenue to the south, Pitt Street to the west and the Tar River to the north.

Downtown Calls
Total calls for service Jan.-May 2009: 550
Total calls for service Jan. May 2010: 434
Percent change: Down 21 percent

Total arrests Jan.-May 2009: 26
Total arrests Jan. May 2010: 41
Percent change: Up 36 percent

Select call types Jan.-May 2009 to Jan.-May 2010
Assaults: Down 44 percent, from 52 to 29
Fights: Down 48 percent, from 69 to 36
Larcenies: Down 44 percent from 43 to 24
Suspicious activity: Down 10 percent, from 55 to 49
Sex assaults: Down from 2 to 1
Robberies: Down from 4 to 2

West Greenville Calls
Total calls for service Jan.-May 2009: 2,017
Total calls for service Jan. May 2010: 1,775
Percent change: Down 12 percent

Total arrests Jan.-May 2009: 38
Total arrests Jan. May 2010: 19
Percent change: Down 50 percent

Select call types Jan.-May 2009 to Jan.-May 2010
Assaults: Down 8 percent from 61 to 56
Break-ins: Up 27 percent from 56 to 76
Fights: Down 17 percent from 55 to 46
Larcenies: Down 17 percent from 66 to 55
Sex assaults: Up from 1 to 2
Robberies: Down from 11 to 5
Shots fired: Up 28 percent from 29 to 40
Suspicious activity: Down 30 percent from 342 to 240

Patrons gather outside a club on Fifth Street on June 19 while Greenville police officers maintain a presence nearby. The police department bolstered its patrols of the downtown club district in the wake of a June 30, 2009, driveby shooting that killed two.
Scott Davis/The Daily Reflector

Confrontations like this one on June 19 between police and a downtown patron sometimes occur as officers try to keep order in the area. Some officials and community leaders are concerned the added police presence creates unnecessary tension; others say it's needed.
Scott Davis/The Daily Reflector
Leaders worry crime in black areas get less attention; Chief says police treat crime evenly
By Michael Abramowitz
The Daily Reflector
Saturday, June 26, 2010

Last summer’s shooting in the downtown club district prompted an appropriate response, many in Greenville’s black community have said.

While the city’s attention has been appropriate for the seriousness of the incident, they believe less attention is given to the equally serious and more frequent violence that occurs in black neighborhoods against black residents.

Councilwoman Rose Glover cited a recent shooting on Norcott Circle as an example. She heard from no other council members following that incident, she said, and no meetings were called.

She worries about the message such inaction sends, she said.

“What do (African-Americans) think when they see that happening?,” she asked. “The City Council sets the tone for how people view where they live.”

City Councilman Max Joyner Jr. has been a vocal supporter of reallocating resources devoted to downtown policing to other high-crime areas of the city.

“We’ve put so many resources into one tragic situation,” Joyner said. “Is a life in downtown Greenville worth more than in other places? We’re saying ‘yes’ to that.”

Many people have said that racism is the reason.

“You don’t hear the same outcry when a killing occurs in west Greenville, such as the latest one which claimed the life of Travon Little on May 23,” Rufus Huggins, Pitt County president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said.

The two other killings that occurred in the city since the June 30 downtown incident also claimed black lives in largely black neighborhoods.

Greenville police Chief William Anderson understood Huggins’ plea, but said the department responds to all crimes equally regardless of the specter they raise.

“The Travon Little case did not get the media attention that (the downtown) homicide did, but we still make adjustments in manpower and resources to investigate and solve crimes in west Greenville,” Anderson said. “For us, a homicide is a homicide, whether it happens downtown, in Brook Valley or in west Greenville.

“We didn’t treat (the downtown) case any differently than we do any other case. We put all our resources into investigating it, like we would any other case, and we caught the guy. There was no prejudice and no preconceived notion. It was a senseless act ... and we locked his butt up.”

Glover does not hold Anderson responsible for any unfair distribution of resources, whether real or perceived. He’s done the best that he can, but needs council support, she said.

“I want everybody in Greenville to feel safe,” she said, “in neighborhoods and uptown Greenville.”
Several public and private programs exist in city neighborhoods to provide safe havens for youngsters’ recreational outlets and adult mentoring to keep attention focused away from crime and gang activities.

Black and white community leaders and volunteers operate efforts such as the Police Athletic League on Nash Street, the Lucille Gorham Intergenerational Center on Ward Street, Certain Hope Ministries on Chestnut Street, the Boys & Girls Clubs in south and north Greenville and at Jarvis United Methodist Church, and Building Hope Ministries on Ninth Street downtown.

Many churches provide faith-based ministries to families and youth.

Huggins acknowledged the efforts, but said that once teens and young men get caught in the immediate crises of drugs, gangs and dropping out of school, they are given up as lost causes.

“Look at all the resources put into the downtown area for an immediate problem,” Huggins said. “I believe that isn’t done in west Greenville because they just don’t care about these young people; they just write them off. You have to call it what it is: racism.”

Pitt County NAACP President Calvin Henderson said there is a serious problem with race relations in the downtown district.

“Blacks are being stereotyped by the way they look and dress,” he said. “They get in trouble that leads to violence against them when they challenge being excluded from downtown clubs by bouncers who allow whites in.”

Henderson and Huggins believe that new leadership is needed to unite and move the black community toward shared efforts and responsibilities with the white community.

They both pointed to grassroots activist Christopher Taylor, leader of the anti-violence organization Enough is Enough, as an example of the youthful energy that is needed in Greenville.

“We have to say enough is enough, and the only way to do that is to build a better awareness in Greenville that we will not tolerate this behavior, whether it happens downtown, in west Greenville or any other part of the city, whether it happens to a white person or a black person,” Taylor said.

He is glad that the city used the incident as an opportunity to bring peace of mind to other parents of East Carolina University students that they are doing all they can to make sure their children are safe.

“It is a fitting way to remember those lives that were lost,” Taylor said.

Taylor wants the City Council and all community leaders to now extend the same efforts to other parts of the city where violence occurs.

“People tend to see the city in sections, like the downtown and the west Greenville sections, but I try to see the city as one community,” he said. “When deaths occur in west Greenville, we need to put the same energy and resources into that community, so they, too, can send their children out to play without fear of a violent death.”

Contact Michael Abramowitz at mabramowitz@reflector.com or (252) 329-9571.
In this 1969 photo, ECU’s track and stadium can be seen on the right side about midway. In the lower left corner is Pitt Plaza with Greenville Boulevard in front of it and Charles Boulevard on the right of it. Contributed photo

In this 1969 photo, Greenville Boulevard loops on the left side in front of Pitt Plaza. But there’s no K-mart shopping center, no Arlington Village, not even an Arlington Boulevard. Just trees and some cleared land. Contributed photo

Cherie Speller: **ECU's expansion adds to Greenville's changing landscape**
Sunday, June 27, 2010

East Carolina’s football program reported last week that it already has exceeded 20,000 in ticket sales for the upcoming season as it grows its stadium by 7,000 seats for a capacity of more than 50,000.

My family and I and others in our neighborhood have watched construction of the new seats progress with much anticipation about what they mean.

More fans, more notoriety and even more success for ECU football, the university and Greenville overall, we certainly hope.

But, we also know that in one year extra seats could bring more traffic and headaches for us, the stadium’s neighbors.

That’s a trade-off most area residents are willing to make five or six weekends out the year to live in our hideaway, tree-lined neighborhoods in the center of town.

Still, the new seats show what a difference a year can make. Imagine what a difference 40 years can make.

Our neighbor, Henry Peszko, showed us just that when he recently shared with us aerial photos of the university area and our neighborhood taken in September 1969.

Mr. Henry moved to Greenville in the Stratford neighborhood in March of 1967, having stayed at the old Proctor Hotel downtown several nights as he planned his move from the eastern shore of Virginia.

He recalls the busy Bissettes drug store downtown, the main post office across from the courthouse, two movie houses, Blount Harvey and Greenville High School on Fifth Street, across from a city-run pool.

Mr. Henry owned a plane, and the photos were taken by his father-in-law on a ride around the city.

“Charles Boulevard and Greenville Boulevard were two lanes,” Mr. Henry said. “The railroad bridge over Charles Boulevard covered two lanes before it was replaced.

“Minges was being built, and inside the pool building there was nothing but a big hole for the diving tank and lap lanes. ^aEUR! Pitt Plaza was in operation. Jerry’s Sweet Shop made donuts which you could watch through a window as they were being cut and fried.”
On the right side of one photo, about midway, you can see ECU’s track and stadium, looking much different than it does today.
In the lower left corner is Pitt Plaza with Greenville Boulevard in front of it and Charles Boulevard on the right of it.
In a second photo, Greenville Boulevard loops on the left side in front of Pitt Plaza. But there’s no K-mart shopping center, no Arlington Village, not even an Arlington Boulevard as we know it today. Just trees and some cleared land.
In the photo of our neighborhood, there’s a dirt road with empty lots where our house and those of our neighbors now sit.
Once ECU’s stadium is complete, we’ll need another aerial photo of it and the area surrounding it. We’ll want to see what kind of difference 40 more years will make.

Contact Cherie Speller at (252) 329-9512 or cspeller@reflector.com.
A poet’s work, deep and wide

Makuck collection surveys his career

BY MICHAEL CHITWOOD
CORRESPONDENT

The publication of a “new and selected” edition of a poet’s work is a high-water mark for the writer’s career.

It allows work from older collections that may have gone out of print to get back into circulation, and in one volume it gives a reader a sense of the writer’s themes and subject matter as it evolved over the years. It’s also a statement from the publisher that here is a writer whose work has passed the testing of time.

In the case of Peter Makuck’s “Long Lens: New & Selected Poems,” the poet has passed the test with flying colors. This volume collects poems from Makuck’s four previous books, the first published in 1982 and puts them alongside new work.

Makuck is adept at both the short lyric and longer narrative pieces. In his new poem “Running,” he captures in one stanza a lifetime’s history with the sport and, at the same time, a life story:

I jog through years of routes to the beach / at Fortunes Rocks around the university gym / to France and up the hill on the rue d’Eglise / to high school track behind my parents’ house.

Four lines and the retired East Carolina University professor jogging on the beach makes it all the way back to the high school kid running track.

At the other end of the literary spectrum, Makuck can stretch a poem without losing any of the form’s tightness and precision.

The title poem from the book, “Against Distance,” is a dramatic rendering of a man who sees a boy in an inner tube being pulled out to sea by a rip tide. He knows the boy will probably panic and try to swim against the tide, so he dives in and rides the tube out with the boy, keeping him calm and safe until the rip dissipates and they can safely swim in.

It’s a five-page poem well worth its salt as a sea yarn.

Though not a native North Carolinian, Makuck taught for 30 years at

SEE MAKUCK, PAGE 8D

MAKUCK
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1D

East Carolina University, where he founded the literary magazine Tar River Poetry, and makes his home on Bogue Banks. He writes beautifully of the sea and the landscape of the coast to the point that he should probably be known as “the laureate of the dunes.”

He knows the sea and shore for what they are — both grand and dangerous. He notices far out on the water the “blizzard of gulls at the stern” of a trawler and underfoot the crackle of shells, “bits of scallops and olives, whelks and razors, then black isosceles bigger than an arrowhead.”

Makuck’s marine poems juggle the picturesque and the realities of damage done by certain types of commercial fishing, and he does it without getting on a soapbox.

His poems travel the world — Spain, France, the Andes Mountains — but his obvious passion for the people and places of the Carolina coast make those poems, and there are many of them in this collection, his strongest work.

“Long Lens” shows that over nearly four decades Peter Makuck has ridden the water to a pretty high mark. Let’s hope he’s not through sailing yet.

Michael Chitwood’s new book of poetry, “Poor-Mouth Jubilee,” will be published this year. He teaches at UNC-Chapel Hill.

POETRY

Long Lens
Peter Makuck
Boa Editions, LTD,
182 pages

books by
peter makuck

Poetry
“Where We Live” (1982)
“Pilgrims” (1989)
“The Sunken Lightship” (1990)
“Shorelines” (1995)
“Against Distance” (1997)
“Into The Frame” (2004)
“Off-Season in the Promised Land” (2005)
“Back Roads” (2009)
Numerous poetry awards.

Short stories
“Breaking and Entering” (1981)
“Costly Habits” (2002)
Nominated for a Pen/Faulkner Award, five times honorable mention Best American Short Stories, included in Best Essays of 2000. He has also written essays, reviews, stories and poems in most of the leading literary magazines.
Dean Siguaw speaks at ECU Club dinner
The Daily Reflector
Monday, June 28, 2010

Cypress Glen Retirement Community hosted its quarterly ECU Club event on June 16. Donned in their purple and gold, nearly 90 resident alumni, supporters and guests gathered for a dinner and musical entertainment by Steve Creech and Carol Ann Tucker. Featured speaker was Judy Siguaw, dean of the East Carolina University College of Human Ecology, who has achieved national and international recognition. The departments now included in the College of Human Ecology (formerly Allied Health) are Child Development and Family Relations, Criminal Justice, Hospitality Management, Interior Design and Merchandising, Nutrition and Dietetics and Social Work.

Siguaw discussed scores of programs initiated under the College of Human Ecology, each one assisting the people and communities in Eastern North Carolina. Many of the programs focus on special populations and services are provided for ongoing at-risk elementary school children, repentant juvenile offenders, handicapped and seriously ill children and military families. The Family Therapy Clinic provides affordable mental health services to assist with issues from parenting and family therapy to counseling for post-traumatic stress disorder. The school’s design projects contribute to the rejuvenation and revitalization of neighborhoods and work to enhance the state’s tourism industry.

Siguaw continually referred to the College of Human Ecology as “my college” and expressed great pride in the efforts and accomplishments of its students and staff.

The Cypress Glen ECU Club is sponsored by the East Carolina University Alumni Association and is open to all residents and their guests who have an interest in ECU. Many Cypress Glen residents have close ties to the university. They are ECU graduates, family members of graduates and former employees of the university.

Cypress Glen, the region’s only continuing care retirement community, is related by faith to the United Methodist Church and managed by the United Methodist Retirement Homes, Inc., with support by Life Care Services LLC.
Paving paradise to park more cars
Sunday, June 27, 2010

It was with particular disgruntlement that I read the June 18 article about the impending partial clearing of the Elmhurst woods by those seeking better parking for home games at the football stadium, with the ironic reasoning that the already cleared parking areas are too muddy when it rains.

Having grown up in that neighborhood, I have many fond memories of the woods, including the endangered delicate fastidious “pink lady slipper” orchid (Cypripedium acaule) that grew wild there in the decaying underbrush.

Creative use of the ECU buses serving outlying lots would seem to be a progressive, more communal solution. Remember the lament of Joni Mitchell, “They paved paradise, and put up a parking lot.”

LAMONT WOOTEN
Greenville
State budget talks wrap up

BY GARY D. ROBERTSON
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — Democratic lawmakers tentatively agreed on a final budget deal Saturday that would eliminate a tuition subsidy for some out-of-state athletes and require a 1 percent cut if extra federal money isn’t delivered.

The agreement lays the groundwork for lawmakers to approve its first state budget bill on time since 2003. It also would direct state officials to take money from the rainy day reserve fund and reduce the state retirement system contribution to help close a potential $525 million gap if federal Medicaid funds never come.

Congress has backed off earlier legislation that would have given $24 billion to states by extending a more generous Medicaid formula for another six months.

“There were no good choices there,” House Speaker Joe Hackney, a Democrat from Chapel Hill, said in an interview. Hackney said House and Senate lawmakers didn’t include furloughing state workers in the contingency reduction plan. The most significant changes wouldn’t take place until Jan. 1 to give Congress more time to act.

The plan is expected to be voted upon by the House and Senate on Tuesday and Wednesday, then presented to Democratic Gov. Bev Perdue for her signature before the fiscal year begins Thursday.

Hackney said he’s hopeful Perdue will like initiatives in the roughly $19 billion plan designed to encourage job creation and protect public education from large cuts. Hackney said the final plan also would create a special transportation fund sought by Perdue for large projects.

“I think she’ll find it in accord with her priorities,” Hackney said.

Like both the competing House and Senate budget plans, the final proposal will contain no additional broad-based tax increase and provides no pay raises for teachers and state employees, as lawmakers closed what Democrats called an $800 million budget gap. That hole would be higher without the extra Medicaid money.

One of the final sticking points was resolved when the Senate agreed to a House position that would repeal a waiver that has treated out-of-state students on athletic scholarships like in-state students at University of North Carolina system schools. It reduced the costs athletic booster clubs paid for the scholarships but cost taxpayers more than $9 million.

The House had sought the elimination since the breaks for athletic and academic scholarship winners ended up in the 2005 budget. The final agreement eliminated the athletic portion but kept in place academic scholarships, such as the Morehead-Cain scholarships at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Opponents of tuition breaks for these full scholarships have tried to label the exemption a handout for wealthy athletic foundations at big UNC schools during tough fiscal times. Smaller campuses have benefited from the subsidy by attracting female student-athletes so the schools could fulfill federal Title IX requirements that women get an equal opportunity to participate in intercollegiate sports.

“It did serve very well for female sports, but in times like this I agreed that we should end that practice,” said Senate leader Marc Basnight, a Democrat from Manteo.

Hackney said the final plan directs the UNC system to find an additional $70 million in spending cuts — less than half the total sought in the House budget proposal.

The tentative final plan also sided with the House proposal that additional profits from the North Carolina Education Lottery be shifted to protect public school teacher positions, Rep. Mickey Michaux of Durham, a budget negotiator, said late Friday.
N.C. State picks Yow as its athletic director

RALEIGH -- Debbie Yow's vision for N.C. State includes nationally competitive athletic programs, sterling academic achievement and a unified fan base.

Yow set the bar high on Friday at her introductory press conference as N.C. State's new athletic director, but knows she'll face a challenge. "I'm not Mary Poppins," Yow said at Carter-Finley Stadium. "I'm not naive. I know what it takes and we will do that."

She called her new job a "special opportunity" to lead the Wolfpack athletic department, which has struggled in recent years.

Yow, 58, agreed to a five-year contract worth a base salary of $350,000 annually with another $100,000 worth of annual incentives. She starts July 15.

N.C. State's first female athletic director, and one of only six nationally, Yow brings a resume from the University of Maryland that includes 16 national titles in 16 years. N.C. State's last team national title came in 1983.

Yow has strong personal connections to the university. Her sister, Kay, a legendary coach who died after a long struggle with cancer in 2009, led the women's basketball team for 34 years. Her sister Susan was N.C. State's first All-American in women's basketball.

"I've always been affectionate towards N.C. State, how could I not?" said Yow, who is from Gibsonville.

N.C. State chancellor Randy Woodson hired an executive firm and formed a committee to find a replacement for Lee Fowler, who announced his resignation on May 4. Woodson said the search firm provided Yow's name but he made the final decision. He met with Yow in Washington on Tuesday, and from there only the contract details needed to be ironed out.

"We could not have hired a better person," Woodson said.

Woodson beamed when he talked about Yow's experience and heralded her academic record at Maryland. One of the reasons for parting with Fowler, Woodson said last month, was the need to improve N.C. State's academic standing.

Yet, according to the most recent Academic Progress Rate reports compiled by the NCAA, Maryland ranks 11th out of the 12 ACC schools in both football and basketball. State is 10th in football but second in the ACC in basketball.

The APRs track the academic progress of each athlete on scholarship, accounting for academic eligibility, retention and graduation while attempting to provide a measure of each team's performance in the classroom.

"That's an issue for her with those coaches," Woodson said. "Historically, if you look at the overall
context of her leadership, you'll see a lot of academic success."

Maryland fares better in another measure of academic performance. Seventy-six percent of Terrapins athletes graduated over a seven-year period highlighted last fall by the NCAA, compared to 69 percent of athletes at NCSU. Those data, called graduation success rates, or GSRs, use a different formula and examine a different timeline than the APRs.

Though it scored low in GSR, the men's basketball team at Maryland has improved in each of the past three years, both Yow and Woodson pointed out on Friday.

Not in it for popularity

Among the Maryland faculty, Yow was seen as a straight shooter, said Jim Gates, a physics professor who recently ended his term on the university's athletics council.

If graduation rates lagged or an athlete got arrested, Yow always updated the council, which advises the university president on athletics issues, Gates recalled.

"She would show the program, warts and all," Gates said. "She would never try to hide or shade the truth."

Wolfpack head basketball coach Sidney Lowe said he was impressed by Yow's presentation Friday.

"What you see is what you get," Lowe said. "I'm really looking forward to working with her."

Bobby Purcell, popular director of the Wolfpack Club fundraising organization, was also interviewed for the job, but said he'd do everything he could to help Yow succeed.

"I really appreciate all of the people who were behind me and always will. But they made a very good decision, and I know Debbie will do a great job," Purcell said.

Yow classified her management style as "direct" and "candid." Her popularity among a portion of the Maryland fan base took a hit after a 2-10 season by the football team in 2009 and also over her relationship with basketball coach Gary Williams.

Yow downplayed the public perception of a contentious relationship with Williams, who led the Terrapins to a national title in 2002. She said she respected Williams but was also quick to add that popularity is not among her goals.

"I do not have a great need to be popular," Yow said. "I'd rather win than be popular."

Winning, Yow said, will heal any fractures among the Wolfpack fan base, which had been divided by average results in the main revenue sports in the second half of Fowler's tenure.

Four consecutive losing seasons in football and a four-year absence from the NCAA tournament in men's basketball didn't quell any grumblings among the fan base and Wolfpack Club, which ranks among the country's most popular and well-funded.

The chance for a fresh start, Yow said Friday, would be a positive step toward pulling the fan base together, but it's a distant second to winning.

"Winning is fun and losing is not," Yow said. "... This is not my first rodeo."

Brooke Cain and Eric Ferreri contributed to this story
UNC cancer center scores Hatchell gift

A cancer scare a decade ago and a player's diagnosis of Hodgkin's Lymphoma are two of the reasons UNC's women's basketball head coach Sylvia Hatchell announced a $50,000 donation Friday to the N.C. Cancer Hospital Pediatric Oncology Endowment Fund.

Hatchell's recent gift tops her purchase 10 years ago of a 204-acre swath of land in eastern Buncombe County that includes a cabin and a patch of blueberry bushes, which are open to the public for picking at the request of a $5 mail-in donation per gallon to the UNC Linberger Comprehensive Cancer Center in Chapel Hill.

"It's a great honor to be a part of this, and I've been coming here for several years, and I've been to the children's hospital quite often and through the years I've been involved with the cancer center," said Hatchell, who felt compelled to help after discovering ovarian tumors in 2000 that turned out to be benign.

The donation will help provide educational materials for students at the N.C. Cancer Hospital Pediatric Oncology Classroom, including computer software and books, said Stuart Gold, chief of the division of pediatric oncology.

Hospital teacher Ellen Halody, who works in the oncology unit, said the hospital's schools are part of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro School District and help more than 500 students a year, with some coming in for just a few days and others staying for weeks at a time.

"The goal is to help students maintain progress and be at the same level as when they leave," Halody said.

Fifth-year senior Jessica Breland, UNC's leading scorer and rebounder for the 2008-2009 season, was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma in May of 2009 and was treated at the hospital. She is expected to return for the 2010-2011 season.

"Like coach said, I was dreading coming in to get chemo, but the nurses that were here were nice and friendly, and they lifted your spirits up and kept you laughing," Breland said. "The teachers here made it so that every week or two we could try new ways to learn and develop. Like I said, the staff here was great."

The forward's experience in the hospital further encouraged Hatchell to play a more significant role.

"We take so much for granted, not just our health and all, but the facilities we have here, and I was so fortunate this past year when Jessica was diagnosed that we were in a place like this where she could come in for treatment," Hatchell said.

"The folks here were so good to her, and she had her treatments here and everything, and I'm so grateful. This is just a way I can let people know how thankful I am for what they've done for Jessica and all the kids there, and I'm so glad to be able to be here and be in a situation where I can do this."

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Schools make no headway in fight against fat

Middle school students targeted with an intensive effort to reduce obesity did no better at losing weight than their peers in schools without special programs, researchers at UNC-Chapel Hill and elsewhere report.

The study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, involved a three-year campaign at 42 schools around the country, including six in North Carolina. It was aimed primarily at cutting the proportion of middle school children who are overweight or obese.

At half the schools, lunchrooms offered healthier choices, physical education teachers focused on movement instead of sports, classes taught good nutrition and lifestyle choices, and hallway posters and morning announcements included health messages.

Yet children at those schools lost no more weight than did students at the remaining schools, where youngsters were simply measured but no interventions were provided. In both groups of schools, the number of overweight children declined 4 percent during the study.

"Stunned is a good word," said Joanne Harrell, a nursing professor at UNC-CH and lead investigator for the North Carolina portion of the study. "We really have no answer" why the results were so similar between both groups of schools.

The study did produce some encouraging results. Diet and exercise changes in the intervention schools were successful in reducing some risks for diabetes. But the weight-loss findings underscore the difficulties health leaders face in making significant inroads against obesity.

Carrying extra weight and failing to exercise are key contributors to diabetes, heart disease, cancers and other major health problems. In North Carolina, two-thirds of adults and one-third of children are overweight or obese.

Despite years of dire warnings from health leaders, however, those rates have not improved. The so-called HEALTHY study demonstrates how intractable the problem is.

"Doing a broad intervention like changing a school, as opposed to working with a single overweight child, has essentially never been shown to work," said Dr. John Buse, one of the study's researchers and director of the UNC Diabetes Care Center.

Buse said interventions at schools have limitations. Teaching healthy habits is just one of a school's many missions, so even with the kinds of special efforts provided through the HEALTHY study, time is limited. Money is also at a premium. Healthier foods tend to be more expensive and often less popular, so changing the cafeteria offerings taps the budget.

At Dunn Middle School in Harnett County, where students participated in the interventions, Principal Stan Williams was especially enthusiastic about the changes to physical education instruction. A former PE teacher and coach, he said the effort to get children moving with hula hoops and other apparatus
made classes fun, even for students who weren't athletes.

Those changes, Williams said, have been incorporated in all the school's physical education classes. But he acknowledged that problems with excess weight spill well beyond his campus.

"It's like a lot of things in education," Williams said. "We can control a lot of what they do at school, but if they go home and they're sedentary, they eat fried foods, that can sabotage the data."

Sheree Vodicka, communications manager for the state's Eat Smart, Move More campaign, said the key to tackling obesity lies beyond one institution and one approach. Her organization, using funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, provides small grants to foster communitywide efforts. She, too, lamented the complexity of the problem.

"It's going to take changes across all sectors of society in order for us to see the change we're looking for," Vodicka said.

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