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ARTS, BRIEFLY

Now, a Colbert Spider

Compiled by JULIE BLOOM

The menagerie of namesakes for Stephen Colbert, the Comedy Central host, has increased, with a spider species to be named after him, The Associated Press reported. Jason Bond, a biologist from East Carolina University, has named a newly discovered species of trapdoor spider found along the coast of California Aptostichus (ap-TAHS-tih-kus) stephencolberti. Mr. Bond, who specializes in spiders and millipedes and has also named a spider after the rock legend Neil Young, will appear on Mr. Colbert’s show on Wednesday. Already named after Mr. Colbert are a Virgin American airplane, a Ben & Jerry’s ice cream flavor and a bald eagle hatched at the San Francisco Zoo.
ECU NEWS BUREAU
Special to The Daily Reflector

With its array of warm-hued floor lamps and an always-on coffee maker, the home for the Tar River Writing Project in East Carolina University’s Bate Building feels more like a cozy writers’ lair than a classroom.

And that’s by design. For the second summer in a row, English professor Will Banks and English education professor Todd Finley are helping the region’s public school teachers to get in touch with their creative side.

“We want teachers to think about themselves as writers, and to explore how this work can transform the ways they teach writing,” Banks said.

Now completing its second year at ECU, the program uses a $43,000 grant from the National Writing Project to provide opportunities for 16 public school teachers to home-in on and improve their skills as writers and as educators. During the four-week course, participants earn three graduate credits, learn about and evaluate different styles of teaching strategies, examine how to integrate new technologies into the classroom, and share with their peers their experiences as classroom teachers.

“My job is to take the content and integrate good pedagogy into teaching that content,” said Finley, who teaches in the College of Education’s curriculum and instruction department. “It’s important that they can take what they learn here and use it in their own classrooms.”

Moreover, said Finley, the program fosters opportunities for strong community building and the creation of both personal and professional alliances that will last well beyond the monthlong intensive course.

Banks, who brought the Tar River Writing Project to ECU after being active in the National Writing Project, said another benefit is that the teachers are encouraged to conduct research in their classrooms.

The Writing Project grant pays for tuition for each participant, as well as books and materials. Once the teachers complete the summer institute, they are then eligible to participate in year-round development activities in the program’s advanced Teacher Research Institute. Working with the project’s associate directors, Jennifer Sharpe-Salter and Jonathan Bartels, the teachers have an opportunity to become “teaching consultants,” and offer professional development for their colleagues in their respective school districts. More information on the project can be found at www.trwp.org.

Event marks centennial of Jarvis Hall

One hundred years ago, C.V. York’s construction company started building Jarvis Hall, the first structure to appear on the ECU campus.

Last week, York’s grandson, Smedes York, returned to the building to celebrate the centennial of the original groundbreaking. On display were the historic shovel used to break ground for Jarvis Hall and a photograph documenting the July 29, 1908, event.

Jarvis Hall was named for East Carolina University founder, former Gov. Thomas Jarvis. The residence hall was renovated in 1999 and continues to house ECU students.

Students awarded scholarships

Three ECU students are being awarded scholarships by various departments.

LaTonya R. Taylor, a junior in the department of communication sciences and disorders in the College of Allied Health Sciences, has received the ECU Medical & Health Sciences Foundation Scholarship valued at $1,500. Taylor, the daughter of Wayne and Ernestine Taylor of Kinston, plans to work with el-
TAYLOR  

and the late Rock McClure, received a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. McClure has maintained a 4.0 grade point average in graduate school and plans to work in an underserved North Carolina area after graduation. The Health Sciences Golf Classic Scholarship honors recipients who have demonstrated achievement in clinical study and community service.

Erin L. McClure, a second-year physician assistant studies student from Asheville, has received the Health Sciences Golf Classic Scholarship valued at $3,000. McClure, the daughter of Dana McClure and H. Gay in memory of her husband, who was district solicitor and district court judge in the Sixth Judicial District of North Carolina for more than 40 years.

Student designers to display their work

The department of interior design and merchandising will hold an exhibit of work by interior design students at Joyner Library in August and September. The exhibit, "Space Intersects Life," will be displayed in two phases. The first phase is open until Aug. 26; the second phase is on display Aug. 27 to Sept. 25. The exhibit is located on the second floor of the library.
Our Views

At the helm
New leadership poised for ECU

East Carolina University continues to attract strong talent to key leadership positions, a fact that bodes well for its growth and development. In the past month, the school has hired deans for the medical school and the dental school that bolster confidence in the university’s direction.

Those two positions are crucial to East Carolina, of course, and their profile extends far beyond this community. Leading these critical programs poses no easy task, but the individuals selected look to be exceptionally qualified and eager to take the reins.

With its centennial celebration still under way, East Carolina can reflect on its humble beginnings as teacher’s college and its dramatic development since. The school boasts a nationally recognized medical school that has witnessed tremendous growth over the past three decades. And it stands poised to begin a program of instruction for dental professionals, filling a tremendous need seen in the rural counties of North Carolina.

To be successful in both areas, East Carolina needs professional, accomplished leadership at the helm. At the medical school, it needs an individual who recognizes the value of the school to the state as well as the community, and who can guide the development of that program in the years to come. And for the dental school, it needs someone who can inspire confidence as it takes its first steps.

Dr. James Hupp was announced on Friday as the first dean of the dental school. Since securing funding from the Legislature this year, East Carolina stands poised to fill a glaring need in this state for trained dental professionals. Hupp, who comes from the University of Mississippi where he led that school’s dental school, holds degrees from the University of California at Irvine, the University of Connecticut and Harvard University, among others. He will begin on Nov. 1.

Hupp follows the July selection of Dr. Paul R.G. Cunningham as the new dean for the Brody School of Medicine. He comes from the State University of New York where he chaired the Department of Surgery of the Upstate Medical University in Syracuse. Cunningham previously spent 21 years at East Carolina, so he will bring a thorough understanding of the community and the school when he begins work in September.

The addition of Cunningham and Hupp should inspire confidence among the East Carolina faithful. These are two accomplished individuals, eager to bring their experience and leadership to an emerging force in medical education.

East Carolina should celebrate these choices, and look forward to the progress to come.
Students get tips on picking a college, getting in

BY MATT EHLERS
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — Amelia Lumpkin is serious about this college-choosing business and has a color-coded spreadsheet for proof.

As a rising senior at Enloe High School, Amelia has trimmed her college wish list significantly from the 43 she had last year. Amherst College, Connecticut College and Brown University are near the top of the spreadsheet, which she took with her Sunday to a “Getting In” seminar at St. Mary’s School.

Organized by The Princeton Review, a company in the test-preparation and college-guide business, the presentation mixed application and standardized-test tips with subtle plugs for its services.

Not coincidentally, the company last week released a new edition of its book, “The Best 368 Colleges.” In it, The Princeton Review uses student survey data to rank colleges and universities in a number of social and cultural categories, including a school’s overall classroom experience and whether marijuana use is prevalent on campus.

Amelia, 17, attended with her mother and her sister, Samantha, 15, who is a rising junior at Enloe. As someone just beginning to contemplate the application process, Amelia figured some advice could help.

It was more fun to think about college last year — and make that big list — when the deadlines were off in the future, she said. With decisions to make soon, she’s beginning to understand how much different her life will be a year from now.

“No I realize I’m not going to live at home next year,” said Amelia, her voice trailing off.

It was at this point that her mother, Adrienne Lumpkin, reminded her that mothers retire from the laundry business when children leave home.

The “Getting In” presentations help to “lift the veil” on the ways schools make decisions about admissions, said Brian Culbreth, executive director of the Triangle and Triad office of The Princeton Review.

“It’s not a secret, even though people don’t understand the process,” he said.

Culbreth talked about extracurricular activities (admissions people like ‘em), personal interviews (make an appointment if they’re offered), and the weight that most schools apply to standardized-test scores (significant).

He also said to do some research before you send off your applications, and in the end, pick the school that’s the best fit for you.

Not that the Lumpkins need any advice on the research end. Little sister Samantha has a color-coded list, too.

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Triangle colleges hope ‘green’ look attracts students

BY WADE RAWLINS
STAFF WRITER

A rooftop at Duke University Medical Center sports a new lush groundcover: hardy succulent plants called stonecrop that tolerate heat and need little water.

This diamond-shaped quilt of green, covering the hospital entrance, absorbs much less heat than a traditional asphalt shingle roof, reflects less heat and filters rainwater runoff. It’s a test project to help medical center leaders decide whether to include a more extensive green roof over part of the planned $500 million hospital expansion.

It’s also a major statement — the kind of environmentally friendly touch that universities are trying to incorporate as they design, build and renovate buildings under the critical eye of students.

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GREEN ROOF
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"We have quietly been working on sustainability issues at Duke for about a decade," said Greg Warwick, architect for Duke University Medical Center. "The students expect it now.

Such expectations are now part of the annual college rankings sweepstakes. This week the Princeton Review, publisher of a college selection guide, debuted its green rating, a measure of how environmentally friendly campuses are based on policies, building practices and academic offerings. The green rating will join other scores the review publishes about financial aid, academic selectivity and quality of life to help applicants choose among colleges.

Good ‘green’ ratings

"Students really care about these issues," said David Soto, college rating director for The Princeton Review. "It’s going to be a yearly rating. We’re hoping to rate more schools.

Soto said more than 60 percent of students surveyed said they were interested in a school’s environmental track record and some would use it as a factor to help pick a college.

In The Princeton Review’s rankings, Duke, N.C. State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill all scored 90 or higher out of a possible 99 — placing them in the top fifth of more than 500 colleges and universities ranked.

"The largest institutions within the state scored well," Soto said.

The three have made conscious efforts.

This spring, NCSU opened an office of sustainability to promote "green" practices. In April, university leaders announced that all new construction would meet U.S. Green Building Council voluntary guidelines, which include energy and water conservation and use of recycled building materials, among others.

The university has installed low-flow shower heads and flow controls on faucets throughout campus, reducing its water consumption per square foot by 29 percent in seven years.

The university is also trying more energy-efficient LED lighting in a dormitory and parking deck.

"The best way to foster environmental stewardship is to expose our students, faculty and staff to a campus that models these principles," said Tracy Dixon, sustainability coordinator. "I think everybody is interested in it, not just students.

Elements of green construction such as efficient lighting and low-flow showers are included in many buildings across the UNC-CH campus. The university is currently building or renovating about 7.5 million square feet of buildings.

The School of Nursing Carrington Hall addition, completed in 2005, is the first building in the 16-campus UNC system to receive certification from the green building council. Like the Duke Hospital experiment, the building has a green roof to capture rainwater and reduce runoff.

The Rams Head Center, built on the site of a former parking lot near Kenan Stadium, includes a 700-space parking deck, a grocery, a dining hall, a recreation center, and a green plaza on top.

Within walking distance of 8,000 residents, you have a dining hall that offers local food, a market that offers organic
food, a campus recreation center and this beautiful plaza on top of a functional parking deck," said Brian Cain, research and outreach manager for UNC-Chapel Hill office of sustainability.

**Costs more, but lasts longer**

In many cases, building green costs more. Installing the green roof at Duke Medical Center added about $90,000 to the cost of replacing the roof, said Tim Pinnegan, structural systems project manager for Duke Health Systems. He declined to disclose the full price tag of the roof.

Clayton Rugh, general manager and technical director for Xero Flor America, which supplied about 6,000 square feet of green roof materials for the Duke project, said green roofs generally cost 50 percent to 100 more than traditional roofs, but will last two to three times as long. Plus, he said, they provide environmental benefits by capturing stormwater runoff and reducing how much heat is absorbed by the building, which cuts energy costs.

"You're not tearing off that whole roof and taking it to a landfill every 15 to 20 years," said Rugh. "You're getting that roof material to work for you 50 to 75 years. If a university wants to prevent waste of materials, a green roof is a good way to extend the life of the roof and interrupt several truckloads of landfill waste."

The roof is receiving positive reviews. Beth Yoder of Durham, a physical therapist at the hospital, said she notices the green roof as she helps patients walk down hallways. One patient joked that it was the doctors' baseball diamond.

"I never even thought about the psychological impact of green roofs in a hospital setting," Yoder said. "It's very uplifting. It makes me feel almost more alive and have a more positive outlook."

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**GREEN SCORES FOR N.C.**

The Princeton Review provides green scores for 15 North Carolina colleges and universities. The top score possible is 99. Only 534 schools nationwide provided sufficient information for a rating.

- Appalachian State University: 73
- Brevard College: 83
- Duke University: 93
- Elon University: 94
- Gardner-Webb University: 68
- N.C. State University: 90
- Roanoke Bible College: 76
- Salem College: 64
- UNC-Asheville: 85
- UNC-Chapel Hill: 96
- UNC Charlotte: 78
- UNC-Wilmington: 81
- Wake Forest University: 76
- Warren Wilson College: 95
- Western Carolina University: 80
Four-hour commuter leads rural county's medical clinic

BY MATT EHLMER
STAFF WRITER

ENGELHARD — It's a long commute for Sally Messick every week, making the four-hour drive from her home outside Pittsboro to Engelhard in Hyde County on the coast.

As a family nurse practitioner, she could find work closer to home. But it wouldn't bring her the same satisfaction. "Health care providers are one per square inch in Wake and Durham and Chatham counties," she says.

There is only one medical practice in mainland Hyde County, and Messick is in charge.

She works at the Engelhard Medical Center, which operates from an 1,800-square-foot double-wide trailer next to the town's fire department. In this rural, coastal county famous for its birdwatching, she is an essential link in the basic survival chain. She frets over sick children, draws up wellness plans and writes prescriptions for the county's 5,300 or so residents.

Officially, she sees patients on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and on Friday mornings. Unofficially, if she's in town, she will help no matter the hour.

About a year ago, Messick stitched up Ann Spencer's right pinkie finger after she caught it in the garage door. Spencer, who lives in nearby Fairfield, called Messick about 10:30 p.m., and the pair met at the clinic.

If Messick hadn't been around, Spencer would have driven to Belhaven, about 50 miles from Engelhard. Spencer appreciates that Messick is always available and that she takes the time to get to know her patients.

"She'll listen to you," says Spencer, unlike some providers who have their mind made up before they enter the room. "She sits there and talks to you. She explains everything."

Over dinner at a local fish house, Messick doesn't remember the late-night pinkie-stitching. This is not surprising for a woman who has immersed herself over the past four years in the lives of so many Hyde County residents. Just after sitting down at the restaurant, she asks a waitress about her medication.

People know they can call her

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TAR HEEL
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when they need help.

"I guess half the people here have her cell phone number," R.S. Spencer Jr. says before rattling off the digits.

R.S. Spencer, who is not related to Ann Spencer, owns a hardware store in Engelhard and serves on the board that runs the medical center.

"The county loves Sally," he says. "She's an angel."

Primary care needed

For more than 50 years, county residents depended on Dr. Henry J. Liverman, a family doctor. After he retired in 2002, Hyde County was without primary care services for about two years.

Engelhard Medical Center opened in 2004. It is one of 30 rural health centers that operates with help from the N.C. Office of Rural Health and Community Care. The nonprofit centers are public-private partnerships, each with a local board. The state provides limited funding, recruitment help and technical assistance.

The Engelhard center is not free, but everyone is seen regardless of ability to pay. In addition to Messick, a group of five, including a registered nurse and an office manager, helps staff the practice.

Before the center opened, Messick worked some temporary assignments around the state for the rural health office. She came to Engelhard not long before it opened its doors to help get the center running.

This assignment was supposed to be temporary. That was four years ago, and Messick has no

plans to leave.

"I love this practice," says Messick, 59, who enjoys being a part of an everybody-knows-everybody community. "I feel like I'm doing something worthwhile."

It can be difficult to recruit physicians to rural areas, as doctors burdened with student loans gravitate toward bigger paychecks and communities where their children can play soccer and dance ballet.

The Hyde County Health Department provides immunizations as well as child-health and nutrition programs. The medical center and health department work together closely, but Messick is the county's only provider of primary-care services.

If someone needs to see a physician, Messick can send patients to doctors in Belhaven or Greenville.

She generally leaves her Chatham County home on Sunday afternoon or Monday morning, and leaves Engelhard on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning.

While she's working, the responsibility of maintaining the Chatham County household — which includes five dogs and a couple of dozen chickens — rests with Messick's husband, Paul.

He doesn't seem to mind.

"I miss her, but I appreciate what she's doing out there," Paul says. The couple speaks on the phone nearly every night.

She is particularly suited for this kind of work, says John Price, director of the state's rural health office. Hyde County can boast of some old Southern money, but it also has its share of low-paid, transient workers on fishing-boat crews.

"I think Sally has a unique ability to interact with people, whoever they are," he says. "She's just as caring for the person who has no money as the person who has a lot of money."

Larger clinic on way

The practice has been a huge success, serving an average of 22 patients per day. The clinic has outgrown its beginnings, with a waiting room that sometimes extends to the rocking chairs on the front porch.

By this time next year, Messick expects to be working in a new, 6,000-square-foot clinic to be built just down the road. The community secured more than $1 million, the bulk of it in grants and money from the rural health office, to build it. The Hotel Engelhard, where Messick stays when she's in town, held a series of spaghetti suppers to help raise money, too.

Rural health care in North Carolina has come a long way since: Messick graduated from school, as more and more clinics have been built. Access to it is still an issue, she says, although the core of that problem has shifted.

Decades ago, transportation might have been the biggest hurdle for a rural resident looking

for health care. Today, it is a lack of health insurance.

When first approached about coming to Engelhard, Messick said she would, as long as she had a place to stay. For the first year or so, she lived out of a standard hotel room at the Hotel Engelhard.

She became friends with the owners, Bob and Ursula Hayes, and fell into a routine of speaking with them on the phone each weekend as she was driving to town. One night, after leaving home particularly late, she called the hotel and asked the Hayeses not to wait up for her. But they insisted. When she arrived at the hotel about midnight, they presented her with a key to her new living space. Bob Hayes, with help from others in the community, had completely renovated a room for her, refinished the floors and relining the bathroom. The room, which is much larger than her first one, is furnished with a gorgeous oak sleigh bed, a pull-out couch and satellite television.

This is one way the community has shown its dedication to her. Price, from the rural health office, calls it "the Sally suit."

Dr. Tom Irons is the associate vice chancellor for regional health services at East Carolina University, and a professor or pediatrics. He also serves as Messick's supervising physician, reviewing medical records with her and providing guidance.

He says Messick loves the people she cares for.

"She's one of the most gifted nurse practitioners I've ever known," he says. "But above all, she has a wonderful heart."

SALLY CARSON MESSICK


HOBBIES: Weaving, sewing and spinning her own yarn. She keeps a spinning wheel in her room at Hotel Engelhard.

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Dental school names dean

BY JOSH HUMPHRIES
The Daily Reflector

East Carolina University Chancellor Steve Ballard announced Friday that James Hupp will lead the new dental school at ECU.

Hupp, dean of the dental school at the University of Mississippi for the last six years, will be the founding dean of the new school.

"Jim Hupp is a superb leader and educator with remarkable breadth and depth of experience," Ballard said. "He has impeccable credentials and skills. He is a lead author of one of the world's best-known dental textbooks, author of a large number of book chapters and scientific articles and editor-in-chief of an international dental journal.

"He was a member of the team that reviewed the initial plan for our dental school two years ago, and we expect him to help us develop a new model for dental education."

Hupp will join ECU on Nov. 1.

The North Carolina General Assembly, in the recently completed session, appropriated $69 million to complete the construction of ECU's new dental school, which expects to enroll its first students in 2011.

It will be the second dental school in the state, and it will include education centers and clinics in eight to 10 areas across the state. Third- and fourth-year students will complete their dental education at these centers and clinics.

The Legislature also provided $1.5 million in operating funds for the school for this academic year to get the school off the ground.

"This is a once-in-a-career opportunity to help lead the creation of an educational institution," Hupp said. "I feel my entire professional life has prepared me for the work necessary to carry forward the vision of a dental school that prepares individuals to become community- and service-minded primary-care dentists."

"I was impressed by the talent that already exists at the other schools and colleges of East Carolina University," he said. "Chancellor Ballard and Vice Chancellor (Phyllis) Hults are clearly visionary leaders with whom I look forward to working. I hope to have the new dental school live up to the high standards of this great university."

Hupp previously served as chair of the department of dentistry in the University of Maryland Medical System and chair of the oral-maxillofacial surgery department at the University of Maryland Dental School.

He also chaired the department of oral-maxillofacial surgery at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and directed the residency program in oral-maxillofacial surgery at the University of Connecticut Health Center.

He holds a dental degree from Harvard University, a medical degree from the University of Connecticut, a law degree from Rutgers University and a master of business administration degree from Loyola College in Maryland.

He and his wife, Carmen, have four children, and his interests include gardening, the Civil War, cooking, wine, golf and classic Ford Mustangs.

Josh Humphries can be contacted at jhumphries@coxnc.com and 329-9565.
Darts & Laurels

Purple fever

Laurels — To 175 women clad in purple and gold, who descended upon ECU’s Murphy Center last week for a football clinic. The fun-filled program proved educational and entertaining as players and coaches led the group on a tour of the athletic facilities. It’s a sure sign that another great season of football is just around the corner. Go Pirates!

Darts — To heart disease, cancer and stroke, listed as top causes of death among Pitt County residents. According to the 2007 Pitt Community Health Assessment, one in four local deaths is the result of heart disease. Health officials say most of today’s causes of death can be attributed to lifestyle. The good news here is that most of us can make lifestyle changes and lead healthier lives.

Tax-free weekend

Laurels — To Wednesday’s scheduled appearance of ECU biologist Jason Bond on Stephen Colbert’s “The Colbert Report.” Bond classifies new species of trapdoor spiders. He made headlines in June when he agreed to name one of his newly discovered species after Colbert. The show promises to be a fun bit of back and forth between Colbert and Bond, and good publicity for East Carolina.

Laurels — To the success of ECU’s Second Century Campaign, which is more than halfway to its goal of $200 million halfway into the campaign. The campaign supports the university’s strategic plan, adopted last year with the goal of enriching, changing and saving the lives of East Carolina’s students, the citizens of eastern North Carolina, the state and beyond. Gifts and pledges toward fulfilling that vision are certainly monies well spent.