



# Northside News



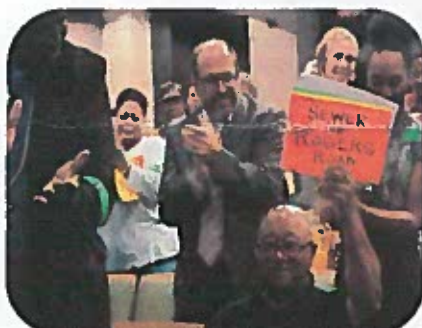
October 2014

*A print-link for neighborhoods of change*

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## Justice for Rogers Road Community

*By Elizabeth McCain and Manju Rajendran*



Minister R. Campbell and Rogers Road neighbors hold signs for justice at Town Council Meeting.

On Wednesday, October 15, residents of the Rogers Eubanks neighborhood and their supporters packed the Chapel Hill Town Hall chamber with bright signs reading "Sewer for Rogers Road", "Love your neighbor", and "Rogers Eubanks community deserves environmental justice". Several generations of many families participated in pressing the Town Council to do right, and the Jackson Center partnered with Rogers Eubanks Neighborhood Association to present the findings from a four-month participatory research study on sewer. Residents hoped the council would vote to include Rogers Eubanks in an Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ), which would allow Chapel Hill to release the funds to build long-denied sewer and water infrastructure for the 86 homes in the historic district off Homestead Road. Council members were moved by the countless letters they received from neighbors before the meeting, by the diverse and committed turnout, including from those who have been in the struggle for decades, and by powerful speakers of all ages. When they voted to

free the funds, there were tears in all eyes, and a full room standing ovation for Rogers Eubanks Neighborhood president, Minister Robert Campbell.

Forty-two years ago a landfill was dumped in the Rogers-Eubanks community. Many families in the Rogers Road neighborhood can trace their lineage back 150 years to a time when wagon trails wound through black-owned family farmland and clean streams. Today some residents still have well water contaminated by landfill toxins.

The EPA has investigated an environmental racism complaint regarding the lack of basic resources allocated to this area that received all our county's trash for four decades. When neighbors won the extraterritorial jurisdiction and made way for sewer, they helped make history. Along with the new community center that will be completed this fall, there is much to celebrate in the Rogers Road neighborhood, Northside's kin community. The Jackson Center feels fortunate to deepen the partnership with RENA over the past few months in community work and learn from veteran organizers. The Marian Cheek Jackson Center for Saving and Making History would like to warmly congratulate Rogers Eubanks Neighborhood Association (RENA) on this major victory, and offer gratitude for the opportunity to march together across this beautiful threshold.



Councilwoman Maria Palmer embraces two Rogers Road children at the meeting where Town Council passed ETJ

## Voices of Project Connect

*By Destinie Pittman*

Project Connect is a program that allows community members to share experiences with their past or current homelessness and gain access to necessary resources. At this event, local homeless people had the opportunity to access health care such as dentistry, blood cholesterol, blood pressure, and HIV testing as well as counseling in booths operated by volunteering doctors and other health professionals. They also enjoyed the chance to have haircuts, pedicures, and be interviewed (according to their consent of recording) to share their stories with the general public. As an interviewer for the story booth operated by Talking Sidewalks and the Jackson Center, I was able to gain insight from the lived experiences of numerous homeless people in the community. A story of a woman's battles with substance abuse was particularly inspiring for me in that she became determined to overcome them for the sake of her newly born grandson. Project Connect was a stepping-stone in her journey. Another inspiring interview allowed me to gain a new perspective of how mental illness correlates to homelessness in certain cases. The interviewee shared his adversities of being unable to acquire stable housing due to bipolar episodes. Through Project Connect, I have gained face to face exposure to the dynamics within the community surrounding UNC's campus in Chapel Hill-Carrboro areas. As a first-year UNC student, I am grateful to have experienced these first-hand encounters early on and will carry them throughout my academic career.



Fusion Youth Radio students and mentors celebrate their show on 'body Image' Sunday October 19th.

## The Struggle Continues

*By Jemeia Kollie*

The Chapel Hill Public library just recently became the newest host of the Jackson Center's exhibition titled "The Struggle Continues", which features photos by Jim Wallace. The exhibition captures the live action of the Civil Rights movement in Chapel Hill as well as displays photos of members from the Northside neighborhood who were either a part of the Civil Rights movement or relatives of those involved in the event.. The exhibition is an awesome representation of the rich history of the Chapel Hill/Northside Community, and the Jackson Center as well as the Chapel Hill Public Library are honored to be a part of the legacy.



## From A Student Neighbor

By Jackson Lee Valentine

Hello, Northside neighbors,

My name is Jackson Valentine and I am a student that lives right here in the Northside community at 103B Mason St. I am glad that I have the opportunity to share thoughts with not only my peers at the University, but also to my neighbors and fellow Northside community citizens. This article will serve as a continuing narrative from a student's perspective and let me just say that I couldn't be happier with the opportunity to share thoughts regarding community issues with you all.

I have just begun to learn about Northside's deep historic roots, from the planned sit-in during the civil rights movement, to having Dr. Martin Luther King stay here, to housing the B-1 Naval Band, which was the first integration of the modern Navy. It's clear that this community has many stories to tell and interesting people to talk to.

STUDENTS, LISTEN UP! Halloween is right around the corner and anyone who has ever been in Chapel Hill on October 31<sup>st</sup> knows that this is the biggest night for having parties, drinking, and hanging out on Franklin St. And make no mistake about it, this student loves a good party, but while you are out enjoying the festivities, please remember that Northside is not just a student living community and there are many other people living here who do not want their yards trashed and loud music to be playing all night long. So please, be mindful and aware of who your neighbors are and follow that good ol' golden rule when making decisions about parties and noise on Halloween. I know that students love this community just as much as everyone else does, so let's all work together to continue to make Northside a community of harmony and friendship.

## ASK KEITH

Ms. Keith Edwards is a lifetime resident of McDade Street and lifelong advocate for the community. Keith is widely known as a fighter for justice and receives calls from neighbors asking her about programs and referrals for help with household and community issues. To submit questions for "Ask Keith," call the Jackson Center at (919) 960-1670 or email us at [contact@jacksoncenter.info](mailto:contact@jacksoncenter.info)



Dear Keith,

Do you know of any activities for our youth on Halloween?

### Carrboro Halloween Carnival

October 31st at Carrboro Town Commons 6-8:30 p.m. Free games, concession stand, candy, and prizes! For more information on the event call 919-918-7364

### University Mall Trick or Treating

Bring your young ones to the University Mall on Halloween from 5-7 p.m. Their will be a local Chapel Hill radio station present who will be holding a "BEST COSTUME" contest. There will be trick or treating, free candy, music, and even a stage that will be set up for taking spooky photos.

### Poetry Ball and Poetry Slam

Sacrificial Poets are having a Poetry Ball and Slam on Saturday November 1st. At the Chapel Hill Teen Center. Teens are recommended to show up in costume! Spoken word pieces will be performed and followed by an after party. Great events for teens and older youth.

### Other activities throughout the week:

Oct 24th: Hargraves Community Center Fall Carnival. 5-7 p.m.

Oct 31st: Halloween on Franklin St.

Parents, remember to always check your child's candy before consuming!

Have a fun and safe Halloween!!

## ARCHIVE TRIVIA

Submitted this month by:  
Anonymous

What was the football team's favorite spot?

Call in on Friday, November 7 at 10am (919) 960-1670 with your answers

### Community Board

Birthdays in October/November: If we missed yours or someone else, call us to submit birthdays so we can make sure to remember them for the future.

- Charley Norwood— October 31st
- Lillian Edwards—October 31st
- Manju Rajendran— November 1st

First Friday of every month is Box Day at Heavenly Groceries. On Box Day, we have a larger shipment of food (including canned goods) that we distribute, thus our distribution is two hours long from 4-6 p.m. Bring a box or a couple of bags and we hope to see you there.

Carrboro Halloween Carnival: October 31st at Carrboro Town Commons 6-8:30 p.m. Free games, concession stand, candy, and prizes!

University Mall Trick or Treating: October 31st at the University Mall 5-7 p.m. Kids Halloween Costume Contest. Free event for the whole family.

Poetry Ball and Poetry Slam: November 1st at the Chapel Hill Teen Center. Poetry performances and after party for teens. Recommended to come in costume!

Submit your community posts to the Jackson Center: 1-2 sentences recognizing individuals or significant events in the life of our community. Posts for the November issue are due on Wednesday, November 12

## Autumn Neighbor Gathering

The Jackson Center will be hosting an Autumn Neighbor Gathering November 25th from 4-7p.m. Come by our location at 512 W. Rosemary St for FREE apple cider and hot chocolate!

We will also be doing a Pie Fundraiser. Throughout the coming weeks we will be selling homemade apple and pumpkin pies. The last day to pre-order pies will be November 16th with pie pick-up during the event on the 25th. Pies can also be delivered for an extra fee.

Come and celebrate the season!