

The Northside News

A printlink for neighborhoods of change

MIDWAY DISCOVERIES



Joab Ham stands in front of the Midway Community Kitchen, the location for his delicious pop-up restaurant Kingdom's Palate.

Local business are pillars to a thriving community. “Midway Discoveries” is a new monthly article that features a local business that are stumbled upon while out and about in Northside/Pine Knolls.

In this first article I want to share with you a new pop-up restaurant, Kingdom’s Palate, run out of Midway Community Kitchen. A young entrepreneur, Joab Ham, is serving up lunch-time classics with a healthy spin. I caught him in late January on the second week of the restaurant’s existence.

Friday, January 26th, 12:30 p.m. It is smack dab in the middle of lunch and my stomach is singing the ever familiar tune “FEED ME!!” I prepare to head home for lunch when I see Hudson (Senior Director of the Jackson Center) come into the office with an armful of food in containers that I do not recognize as being from any of the restaurants I usually frequent in the historic Midway business district. I’m already hooked when Hudson tells me: “There’s a guy across the street at Midway Community Kitchen who is giving away a free meal to the first ten customers of the day.” Inside one container was a fresh chicken salad sandwich with large chunks of purple grapes beautifully mixed in, spread on a fluffy golden brown croissant. In a medium sized cup was a parfait of ruby red strawberries, granola, and blueberries as cool-blue as the hope diamond sitting on

a cloud of yogurt. This was exactly what I was craving for lunch that day and in response to my salivating taste buds I jumped from my seat and made my way across the street. This is where I met Joab Ham, the creator and sole employee of Kingdom’s Palate.

Joab is an up-and-coming restaurant owner and cook from Durham who serves “DELICIOUS tasting and NUTRITIOUS FOOD”. Every Friday and some Saturdays Ham comes up with a menu that consists of 2 entrées and three sides served fresh and ready. “I promise you this food will give you more energy than ever,” Ham tells me. “I used to cook soul food all the time and I started feeling bad, so that’s when I resorted to cooking this food.” My lunch time meal of a chicken salad sandwich, parfait, and a few ginger and honey barbecue wings was low in calories but high in flavor! According to Ham: “I’m trying to put some soul into it but at the same time keeping it healthy!”

Catch Kingdom’s Palate at Midway Community Kitchen located at 505 W. Rosemary St. most Fridays from 12:00-3:00 p.m. and follow the restaurant on Instagram @kingdomspalate. Great lunch spot with entrées between three and seven dollars!

I wonder what we’ll discover next time?
--George Barrett, your Graham Street neighbor

FROM RATHSKELLER'S TO MASON'S GROCERY: LOCAL BUSINESSES, FOOD, JUSTICE, AND THE CREATION OF COMMUNITY

Locally-owned businesses are invaluable ingredients in the ever-changing recipe that makes up community. They bring people of different backgrounds together and have played a vital role in the Northside’s history – yet, until 1964, many Chapel Hill businesses were not open to Northside residents. A fabulous student project called On and Off the Midway: A History of Local Eating, shares some of that complex history. In 1958, only 26 black students attended UNC and only 3 restaurants in Chapel Hill were integrated—Danziger’s, Harry’s, and the Rathskeller (otherwise known as “The Rat”—across the alley from where Bandido’s is now). In this digital journey through restaurant life on and off the Midway, Logan Wagner and Olivia Weidener interview one of the Rat’s long-time waiters, Mr. “Man” Cozart—and discover the power of food to fuel a movement for change. Travel through time at <https://spark.adobe.com/page/c9xYFZW7hHMdU/>

Black-owned businesses have been important community spaces where Northside residents knew they would be treated with dignity. One of the most enduring institutions is the funeral home. Chapel Hill Funeral Home was established around 1940. Over time, it changed hands, becoming Bynum Weaver Funeral Home, and finally Knotts Funeral Home. In this oral history excerpt, Michael Parker, a long-time employee, describes how the business has anchored the community through significant change and what it means to be a neighborhood business.

Interviewer: Would you tell us a little bit about Knotts - how long it’s been here and a little bit of the history?

Michael Parker: This building that Knotts is in is a historic building. It’s the first funeral home and was called the Chapel Hill Funeral Home. Knott purchased it about 13 years ago. I worked for the Chapel Hill Funeral Home. I started when I was nine years old... so we’re here. It’s a historic building. It was moved from off of Franklin Street, over where the News & Observer building was. They moved it over here [to its current location at 113 N. Graham St. across from Rumors Boutique and Syd’s Hair Shop] and we added onto the building here to make this a larger chapel. I’ve seen the whole neighborhood change, from Knotts, from Mama Dips starting next door. Across the street, different churches were here. A church was right there. A barbershop here - this whole area has changed. Right across the street were houses... they were torn down. This building stands. This is the only building on this block besides the one next door that is historic now.

Interviewer: What does it mean to be a neighborhood business?

Michael Parker: Neighborhood business means that you need to be a neighbor to the people next door or wherever. This particular business is a neighbor, family, and friend.



SCAM ALERT

Photographed below is an example notice that many of our Northside and Pine Knolls neighbors have received in the mail. As exhibited by the bolded language of “THIRD NOTICE” followed by “How much longer before I hear from you?!” the card can create a sense of urgency, fear, and emotional concern.

Because these mailers have been brought to our attention, we want to be clear that these cards (often on yellow or white paper) are **scam postcards** that ultimately try to swindle someone into selling their home or property. **Please be aware.**

We have circled some language on the submitted postcard that can be used as signs to identify the scam. Most notably is the request to “keep this matter private.” The language used makes the postcard incredibly deceptive and predatory.

THIRD NOTICE

HOW MUCH LONGER BEFORE I HEAR FROM YOU?!?!

I’ve done all I can to get a hold of you and this is my last resort... please turn the card over...It’s important that I hear from you ASAP.

IQ Real Estate Investing, LLC
608 W. Johnson St. Suite 15
Raleigh NC 27603

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
STL-04U 97401

ent6008
6179 T21 P2

Return Service Requested

*****AUTO**ALL FOR AADC 275
Mark Royster
802 Nc Highway 54 W
Chapel Hill NC 27516-7915

THIRD NOTICE

Attention: Mark - I Urgently Need To Speak With You About Your Property At **Edwards St A**

I’m hoping that this card catches you in time. I’ve tried for hours to find your phone number using the internet but was unable to :-(

I’ve recorded a brief message about your property at **Edwards St A** so that you could at least hear me out and then decide if we should speak over the phone.

All you have to do is CALL (888) 941-3403 to listen to my recorded message about this matter. Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to listen to my message. (no one will answer)
I would appreciate you keep this matter private.



Floraffiti™ is a community project that unearths words important to community members through a series of poetry workshops. Sonny Kelly, a PhD student at UNC, will lead participants through a series of fun, engaging spoken word poetry workshops at YouthWorx, 117 West Main St, Carrboro - next to the PTA Thrift Shop. From the creative words assembled, participants will join artist, Carter Hubbard, to plant the words throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro. The new, local poets will perform their solo and group pieces around their sprouted words during the 2nd Friday ArtWalk in May.

Poetry Workshop Session I:
March 20 & 22, 4:30-6:30 pm
March 27 & 29, 4:30-6:30 pm

Poetry Workshop Session II:
April 3 & 5, 4:30-6:30 pm
April 10 & 12, 4:30-6:30 pm

2nd Friday ArtWalk Performance: May 11, 2018 6:00-9:00 pm

More information: Floraffiti.com and to sign up: floraffiti@gmail.com

This project is sponsored by: Orange County Arts Commission, Orange County Visitors Bureau, Carrboro Arts Committee, Carrboro Coffee Roasters & Open Eye Cafe, Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership, Carrboro Tourism Development Authority, Chapel Hill Cultural Arts Office, and PTA Thrift Shop

ASK KEITH

Ms. Keith Edwards is a lifetime resident of McDade St. and a 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 us at (919) 960-1670 or email at contact@jacksoncenter.info

With this being Black History Month, can you tell me the name of the longest standing African American businesses in Chapel Hill and Carrboro that are still operating today?

Since I have been in the world, the main three for me are Midway Barber Shop, Bills Barbecue at first and then after it closed it was taken over by the same family to become Mama Dips, and Tate Realty.

These are proud owned African American businesses that have been serving African Americans and others throughout Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and surrounding communities for many years. These African American businesses have been a mainstay for the African American community. This is our history. The longer they stay in business, the longer our history grows. We salute these businesses and many others during Black History Month.

ARCHIVE TRIVIA

Name three of the six rooms in the Rathskellar (the Rat) down in Amber Alley.

Last month's answer: Also known as Freedom's Eve, the Watch Night church service began in 1862 with blacks “watching” and waiting for word of their freedom.

Think you know the answer to this month's archive trivia? Call the Jackson Center anytime after 9am to win a prize!

COMMUNITY BOARD

- 2/1

Barbara Wall
- 2/3

Sam Christensen
- 2/8

Yvette Matthews
- 2/15

Sarita Nwachukwu
- 2/16

Calvin Smith
- 2/24

Della Pollock
- 2/25

Brentton Harrison
- 2/26

Margaret Clark

february birthdays

LOOKING FOR ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING & POTENTIAL EMPLOYMENT?

Co-operative Housing Opportunity
Information Meetings:
Friday, February 16th | 9:00 am - IFC Conference Room
Friday, February 23rd | 4:00 pm - IFC Conference Room

Are you looking for accessible and affordable housing and potential employment?

Please join Emanuel Kearney of Phoenix-Resource Consultants and interns Sam and Jacob of Justice United at one of the following interest meetings: Friday 2/16/18 at 9:00am or Friday 2/23/18 at 4:00pm in the IFC Conference Room as we create a plan for the future, in which we envision a sustainable co-operative housing and employment community
IFC Address: 1315 MLK Jr Blvd Chapel Hill, NC

The community will provide affordable and accessible housing for low-income individuals regardless of background! Stop by a meeting, learn more, and give us your input! If you cannot attend a meeting and want more information, email plemanuel@yahoo.com and sgalina@live.unc.edu

Coming Soon

Be on the look out for the new Heavenly Groceries Donation Program in the coming weeks!

For more information email brittany@jacksoncenter.info

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Supplemental Food Program
The Department on Aging will be helping to administer a NC Department on Agriculture and Consumer Services supplemental food program to county residents age 60 and over who meet income guidelines. This program provides a monthly package of food designed to supplement the nutritional needs of low-income older adults. If a person qualifies, they may designate a proxy to pick up approximately 32 lb box of food per month from the Passmore or Seymore Centers. For more information or to apply, call the Orange County Department on Aging Helpline at (919) 968-2087.

Summer Youth Employment Program
The Summer Youth Employment Program is open to all Chapel Hill/Carrboro youth who meet the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) income guidelines. The program supports between the ages of 14-18 years old. Youth generally work 6-7 weeks during the summer within different departments at the Town of Chapel Hill and various nonprofit agencies. Applications are available at the Town of Chapel Hill website. For more information or to apply, call John French at (919) 969-507.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Frederick Douglass' Birthday Events
Although his exact birth date was not recorded, Frederick Douglass was born in February 1818. To commemorate his 200th birthday, many community groups are hosting a series of free events for the public!
Frederick Douglass Speaking Tour featuring Nathan Richardson
Thursday, March 8th | 7:00 pm
The Arts Center | 300-G East Main St, Carrboro
Join poet, author, and spoken word performer Nathan Richardson as he embodies Frederick Douglass, speaking about his life as a slave, his escape to freedom, and his rise as a great writer, orator, and abolitionist. Mr. Douglass will recite excerpts from his historic speeches and will conclude the program with an unscripted Q&A session with the audience. The performance is free and open to the public. It is most appropriate for adults and children ages middle school and up.

A Family Communication Workshop Series, specifically designed for youth (ages 12-17) and their parents
8-week series starts March 14th | 6:00-8:00 pm
A.L. Stanback Middle School
Family Table is an opportunity to learn, develop, and practice communication and conflict resolution skills in an interactive and fun environment, with dinner provided! Participants will:
Gain understanding of conflict and how it affects relationships
Practice skills to handle conflict more effectively
Improve communication with entire family
Learn how to maintain a peaceful presence
This program is offered free of charge to residents of Orange County. It takes place Wednesday evenings from 6-8pm starting March 14th. For more information, call (919) 929-8800 ext 14 or email vhanson@disputesettlement.org.

St. Joseph CME Church Missionary Society Anniversary "Woman in the Mirror" State of the Mind Pageant
Saturday, March 17, 2018 | 9:00 am
510 West Rosemary St, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
As we prepare for a glorious 2018, are you still allowing the seven deadly sins to live in your State of Mind? Join the Missionary Society at St. Joseph CME Church, who will allow you to take a look in the mirror as we present "State of the Mind Pageant." We have assembled an amazing cast from surrounding churches and communities as well as the talented choreographer-the one and only Mr. Robert Davis of Chapel Hill. Come out and determine this year what will be your state of mind! Our day will start with the pageant followed with a full breakfast prepared and served by the Men of St. Joseph CME. The tickets are \$15.00. You may purchase by calling (919) 929-1116 or buy at the door on March 17, 2018.