# Morthside News

### 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.

Send us questions for Keith, and she will respond with suggestions and referrals.

Please call in your questions (and leave a message i



if we miss you) to the

jackson Center at (919) 960-1670 or email us at contact@jacksoncenter.info.

#### Dear Keith,

What is your take on the town council election? Do you have any issues you hope whomever is elected will address?

First, I want to thank all the candidates who are willing to serve. I have talked with many people who live in Chapel Hill and Carrboro who feel as if both towns are leaning towards the haves and excluding the have-nots and their concerns are the same as mine.

These are some of the issues people are concerned about:

- We need more diversity within our towns and schools.
- We need more affordable housing, an issue that affects minorities at a higher rate than any other population.
- We need consistent enforcement of town ordinances and
- We need renewed oversight of the police department.
- We need longer bus schedules at night and the extension of routes to outer areas.
- We need a higher retail base to draw from so we can give families who own homes tax relief on their property taxes.

Both towns must work even harder to become more family friendly. The towns must do more to engage families in town activities. We need people to serve who are concerned about the families, the communities, and future of both towns. Many candidates have stated these issues in their campaigns. If candidates who are running for office are willing to actively address these issues and others, then we will have a better place to live and learn.

I encourage residents to find out more about the candidates and to make sure to cast your vote during early voting this week or on election day next Tuesday.

### **Voting information**

#### **Early Voting:**

\*Early voting also allows same day registration. You can vote at any of the sites below if you live in Orange County

When: Now until Saturday, November 2
Times vary by location/day (call number below)

**Where:** Carrboro Town Hall, Rams Head Dining, Seymour Senior Center, or Board of Elections Office in Hillsborough

#### **Election Day Voting:**

When: November 5, 6:30 am-7:30 pm Where: At your precinct\*\*

\*\*For more information call the Board of Elections at 919-245-2350

or online at www.co.orange.nc.us/elect

# We're Making Art!

Northside News is looking for writers and visual artists to contribute to our WE'RE MAKING ART! column. If you have any work you'd like to submit, please send your pieces to contact@jacksoncenter.info



CJ Suitt is a poet and facilitator from Chapel Hill, NC working to elevate youth through spoken word poetry. CJ believes in the power of the spoken and written word, song and hip-hop to empower and transform young people's lives. CJ is currently a service member with the NC LiteracyCorps.

I meet Everett at the bar

He is a 50 year-old man wearing an over sized jacket and undershirt in 30 degree weather

He asks for the cheapest beer they have

He begins to look for his money in the two CVS bags he has brought in with him that seem to hold what's left of his life After polite introduction

He asks the 20 something brunette

if she is afraid of black people

The barkeeps pounce claiming he is asking "racist" questions

As if we don't share a history of silence as if the question isn't one
our fathers founded

The rest of the bar finds him annoying

I find him sitting satire, the joke no one gets

He is too loud now, talking to this lady on the phone dismissively The way white men do with their wallets yet this is no cause for alarm not the reason he is out of place. This bar is too small

Start tab, charge it to the shame

She makes the drink in front of me and keeps an eye on Everett, Her eyes scream creep every time he speaks a word to anyone that isn't me

I can hear her father telling her "baby there are some people you just can't help"

I, the only black man in the bar besides the drummer and Everett, realize with my income & 20 more years, I could be him.

A walking library in a room full of blind people

That has not yet translated itself into Braille

Feeling for what they know is there

But don't have the language to acknowledge

His slurs and forward questions

Are the only ways he knows to be social

It's his culture, It is diverted eyes and a life that doesn't small talk

often. He uses his last four dollars to buy a shot

Barkeep is suspect of his request. He sees me, friend,

A face that won't dismiss him

Won't call him creep in its expression

Fact is, I see him - Uncle, Cousin, Brother, Dad.

For some boy who looks a lot like me and here he is, a mosaic of Labels and brown glass shards

And it is all I can do to write in this noisy bar....

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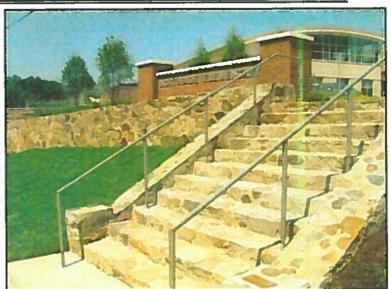
October 2013

A print-link for neighborhoods of change

Vol. IV, Issue 1



**Above:** Northside Elementary Alumna Clementine Self teaches 1st grade students a civil rights freedom song



Above: Northside Elementary and the original stairs of OCTS

## **Note from Northside Elementary**

By: Prin. Cheryl Carnahan and Asst. Prin. Coretta Sharpless

September 21 was another historic moment in Chapel Hill as the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools dedicated Northside Elementary, its eleventh elementary school.

While the building is new, the spirit of Northside is not. As many of you know, there was another school from another era that used to sit on the site. In 1924, Orange County Training School was originally built on the lot. Funds were raised by this community in conjunction with a grant from Julius Rosenwald to build the school.

Through the years, classrooms were added and in 1951, the school took on the name Northside Elementary. When the district became desegregated in the 1960s, Northside was closed and students went to other district elementary schools.

We are proud to be part of this neighborhood's rich tradition of education and look forward to combining its incredible history with 21st Century technology. Northside Elementary is a place where every student can think, learn and grow with purpose, persistence and pride.

We especially enjoyed the dedication ceremony where former Northside alumni and community members met new Northside Elementary students and staff. This place has a history we aim to honor. Our teachers are incorporating the local history into their curriculum and we also have a memory hallway, which has pictures from the original schools, as well as the school's 1924 cornerstone.

# Tune in! FUSION YOUTH RADIO

Sunday November 17st on WXYC 89.3 FM

Visit us at <u>www.jacksoncenter.info</u> or 512 W. Rosemary Street or call (919) 960-1670

#### **Northside Elementary Quick Facts**

- Northside accommodates 585 students and has art, science and music rooms.
- The building is over 97,000 square feet and is LEED Green Certified through the US Green Building Council.
- We have a storm water management plan to reduce runoff and a rainwater cistern
- There is a vegetated "green" roof area, which is also used for science classes.
- On the rooftop, we have solar thermal panels to generate hot water for the building's kitchen and space heating needs.
- There are windows and clerestories to maximize daylight in classrooms.

# **Neighborhood Trivia**

This month's Trivia is going to be a little different. In order to get the prize you need to team up with a student or resident and submit your answer along with your teammate's name.

Here's the trivia challenge: "Name two of the families who helped build the stone walls around UNC."

Call in to the Jackson Center starting Monday Nov<sup>4th</sup> at 9 AM to answer. The first three teams with the correct answer win a prize!

Volunteer Opportunity: Habitat Home Repair in Northside on Nov. 15. Contact us!

Do you want to contribute your reflections, photos, stories, or opinions to Northside News?

Contact the Jackson Center at

(919) 960-1670 or contact@jacksoncenter.info to share!