

Chatham Chatlist #3460

Contributed by Gene Galin
Tuesday, 07 July 2009

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----- 1 -----
Date: Mon, 6 Jul 2009 04:24:58 -0700 (PDT)
From: John Simmons <leja...@bellsouth.net>
Subject: guitar lessons wanted

A few weeks ago someone offered guitar lessons for children on the chat list. I lost the address! please contact me. Thanks. Deb

----- 2 -----
Date: Mon, 6 Jul 2009 04:39:48 -0700 (PDT)
From: tim keim <timkeim...@yahoo.com>
Subject: Attack of the Squash Bugs!

Attack of the Squash Bugs
July 3, 2009

As the worlds moribund systems of banking, energy, agriculture and "free market" (what a joke) economy continue to show signs of decay bordering on collapse, I've begun to think more and more about local food security. I've even wondered about my own food growing skills. Hitch our rickety dystopic house of cards to a still-surging population, its need for food and the dwindling water supply to grow said food, and precarious is not even close to describing the kind of future that's right around the corner.

With that challenging world speeding at us like a magnetic levitating bullet train, I thought I'd combine shovel, seed, water and sweat to try my hand at a little home-style food production. I planted a small suburban garden of three crops: German Johnson Heirloom Tomatoes, Crowder (Black-Eye) Peas from Thomas Jefferson's seed stock at Monticello and some Yellow Crook Neck Squash.

Looking at the peas and tomatoes, you'd think I was either lucky or an accomplished gardener. The peas have drawn no pests, we've had rain aplenty and I have been like a doting father over 32 strapping bean stalks. I've seen only one horn-worm on my tomatoes which I quickly dispatched, and the fruit on these six-foot vines is coming in fine. The squash plants have been another matter.

Two of my friends, one a professional organic farmer, have lost most if not all of their squash to armies of squash bugs (*Anasa tristis*). The five-eighths inch adults have piercing mouth parts that suck sap out of the leaves until the plant withers and dies. I'm still fighting to save my four remaining curcubits as they continue to blossom and produce. How does one wage organic war against a pest threatening one's food supply?

First of all, I refuse to spray non-biodegradable pesticides. Everything we put on the earth ends up in our water supply. I don't fancy drinking poison. Because of the poisons used in conventional agriculture a dead zone the size of New Jersey now smothers all life in this range in the Gulf of Mexico.

In the cool of the morning I go squash bug hunting like I was stalking big game. Squatting low enough to examine the tops and bottoms of all the leaves, I scan not just for the bugs themselves, but for clutches of their tiny amber eggs. I mash the eggs with my fingers and do the same to the bugs. Occasionally, I'm lucky enough to catch a male and female en flagrante so that I can stop a new generation along with my double kill. Forgive me if I sound too gleeful about wasting the little buggers, but I take it personally when my food supply is threatened. I'm trying to master a skill that could keep me and my family alive someday.

After weeks of these tactics with good results, I realized that as I was diligently executing my foes, I had also created a habitat in which they had been thriving. To decorate my garden and to keep the Pugs from pooping on my food, I'd used big rocks and logs to erect a barrier around the squash plants. Under the moist rock and wood bred not only *Anasa tristis*, but slugs, those little potato bugs and termites. UGH!! I dismantled my pest paradise, slaughtered its inhabitants and hopefully increased the yield of my beleaguered cultivars.

As a neophyte agronomist I know I've a lot to learn about growing enough food to live on. I also know that challenges to successful farming never end. The way we humans are persistently shooting ourselves in the collective foot (if not the head) we aren't making it any easier.

The era of petro-fertilized, pesticide, and herbicide dependent mono culture food production and gargantuan livestock farms is coming to an end one way or the other. Either we'll consciously stop this practice that is polluting us out of existence, or we'll foul our nest so thoroughly that we'll kill the planet's ability to feed us. Somber possibilities, both.

We can dispel apocalyptic hunger by planting seeds, nurturing their growth and living with the conservatism that is imposed by the earth who bore us....and we'll have a tasty time doing it!

----- 3 -----
 Date: Mon, 6 Jul 2009 07:58:42 -0400
 From: Jim Nitsch <j...@handyjim.com>
 Subject: Re: Plumbing Supplies?

Country Farm and home in pittsboro might be able to help you 542-3353
 wilkenson 929-8260 and ferguson 933-6994 in carrboro are both
 plumbing supply houses and should be able get what you want
 good luck
 jim

Jim Nitsch
 919-548-0748
<http://www.handyjim.com>

----- 7 -----
 Date: Sun, 5 Jul 2009 17:32:37 -0500
 From: "Joe Smith" <s...@photographer.net>
 Subject: Plumbing Supplies?

Any recommendations for a local plumbing supply company that would have

outdoor fixtures, such as you might put on a barn, at a wash rack, etc.?
Thank you.

----- 4 -----

Date: Mon, 6 Jul 2009 11:38:42 -0400
From: Al Cooke <al.co...@chathamnc.org>
Subject: Harvest to Help the Hungry

How does your garden grow? During the summer, many gardeners celebrate their successes. In most years we encounter lots of gardeners who have more than they can use. Perhaps you have enough to share.

In a tough economic time, food pantries and soup kitchens have reported major increases in the need for food. They make efforts to get food to those who need it. The increase in need has stretched their resources, and they are always looking for new sources. Fresh produce is particularly scarce, and the capacity for storing perishable goods is limited. We encourage you to consider donating some of your bounty through these established outlets..

Chatham County Cooperative Extension has created a web listing of local agencies that serve emergency food needs. None of them has the capacity to arrange for pickup. If you can contribute, you will need to deliver it to them on their schedule. Generally these agencies are short on manpower and have to control their hours of operation. Please make note of their schedules and try to work with them. You can expect a warm welcome. The agencies and schedules are listed at
<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/chatham/ag/homehort/Harvest4Hunger.html>

An administrator for one of these agencies recently noted that our plea "has inspired a generous response." Recipients have been pleased to receive fresh produce and the agencies have been grateful to be able to share.

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----- 5 -----

Date: Mon, 6 Jul 2009 13:34:27 -0400
From: Sam Groce <sam.gr...@chathamnc.org>
Subject: 2009 Livestock Field Day and BQA Chuteside Demo

Livestock Field Day to be Held at Carolina Stockyards

The Chatham County Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and the Chatham County Livestock Association cordially invites you to attend the 2009 Summer Livestock Field Day to be held on Saturday, July 25, 2009 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Carolina Stockyards, Inc. in Siler City, NC.

This event will be highlighted at 2:45 p.m. by a Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Chuteside Demonstration conducted by Dr. Mark Alley with the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine, Bryan Blinson, Executive Director of the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association and Sam Groce, Extension Livestock Agent in Chatham County.

Other demonstrations, vendor exhibits and educational exhibits that will be held from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. and then again from 3:45 - 5:00 p.m. include Haymaster South, manufacturers of a nutrient injection system into round bales of hay, Carolina Stockyards, information on Fire Ant control, trapping of coyotes, beavers and groundhogs and commodity or alternative feeds and others. There will also be live demonstrations on how to calibrate a sprayer and how to calibrate a litter spreader truck.

Attendance at the Field Day is free; however the Chatham County Livestock Association will be hosting a cookout at the conclusion of the program. The cost of the meal will be \$5.00 per person. If you plan to participate in the meal you must pre-register to guarantee that there is adequate food. For further information or to pre-register either call the

Chatham County Center at 919.542.8202 or e-mail jane.tr...@chathamnc.org. Pre-registration is due by Tuesday, July 21, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

We have worked to put together an informative and beneficial field day and hope that you can make plans to attend. We look forward to seeing you on July 25th.

North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran's status. In addition, the two Universities welcome all person without regard to sexual orientation. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.

Persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency may request accommodations to participate by contacting Sam Groce, Extension Agent - Agriculture at 919.542.8202 or sam.gr...@chathamnc.org, or by FAX at 919.542.8246, or in person at the County Extension Office at least 5 days prior to the event.

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----- 6 -----
Date: Mon, 6 Jul 2009 13:50:49 -0400
From: Debbie Roos <Debbie.R...@chathamnc.org>
Subject: photos of our Pollinator Day celebration!

Hi everyone,

I hope you had a relaxing holiday weekend...

We had a very successful National Pollinator Day celebration on June 27 at Chatham Mills/Chatham Marketplace in Pittsboro. I posted three pages of photos on my Growing Small Farms website at <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/chatham/ag/SustAg/CMpollinatorday09.html>

This was the third year in a row that Cooperative Extension has partnered with the Chatham County Beekeepers' Association to put on this event and it has grown every year (see the evidence in photos from past years linked on the bottom of the last page). If you didn't make it this year we will look for you in 2010!

Debbie

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----- 7 -----
Date: Mon, 6 Jul 2009 15:12:26 -0400
From: "jaime*chandra" <dom...@gmail.com>
Subject: 7.13.09 - PBO goes Int'l with Pecha Kucha Night

Pecha Kucha Night Pittsboro goes international!

Now Presenting Pecha Kucha Night, Volume 3 on Monday, July 13th, 7:30 pm at the Eco Industrial Plant, 192 Lorax Lane in Pittsboro

Advance ticket purchase recommended. Tickets \$5 available online:
<http://theabundancefoundation.org/pecha-kucha-night/>

(Pittsboro, NC)... Pecha Kucha Night brings prominent and emerging creative minds together for an evening of lightning-fast presentations, networking and fun. This phenomenon is now held in over 215 cities around the world. Pittsboro is one of the newest cities and was just accepted to the international www.Pecha-Kucha.org <<http://www.pecha-kucha.org/>> website. Chatham County has joined the ranks of progressive cities like New York, Stockholm, and Tokyo!

The Pecha Kucha 20x20 format, allows presenters 20 slides each shown for 20 seconds to reveal their passions, work and inspirations. The result is a high-energy showcase of inspiration. If you've ever sat through a boring presentation with the presenter rambling on and on and on or reading to you EXACTLY what is already on the screen, this definitely for you. And its appeal is spreading... Some Georgia Tech professors are already beginning to require students to deliver their lectures in the six-minute, 40-second Pecha Kucha format.

Pittsboro's Volume 3 features a spirited group covering topics ranging from "Rebuilding Appalachia" to "Chatham's new Farm to Table restaurant" to "How Geeks Inherited the Earth" to "Cohousing" to "How Chatham County could generate utility-scale renewable electricity." Get all the details about the presenters and topics:
<http://theabundancefoundation.org/pecha-kucha-presenters/>

Pecha Kucha (which is Japanese for the sound of conversation) has tapped into a demand for a forum in which creative work can be easily and informally shown, without having to rent a gallery or chat up a magazine editor. This is a demand that seems to be global - as Pecha Kucha Night, without any pushing, has spread virally to over 215 cities worldwide.

Pecha Kucha Night, devised by Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham, was conceived in 2003 in Tokyo as a place for young designers to meet, network, and show their work in public. Pecha Kucha (pronounced peh-chak-ka-cha) premiered in Pittsboro in October 2008.

~Jaime Chandra Kozlowski
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----- 8 -----

Date: Mon, 06 Jul 2009 15:59:39 -0400
From: Mark <mbarr...@mindspring.com>
Subject: Film night in Pittsboro

Come on out Saturday night to the Piedmont Biodiesel Plant for an outdoor screening of "A Puppet Intervention" - a documentary about Paperhand Puppet Intervention. The star-studded and paparazzi infested event will include Chatham filmmaker Mark Barroso and most of the cast and crew of the film. Festivities begin around 7:30 and the film will be shown at dark.
Admission is \$5 and bring your own chair or blanket. Beverages will be available. PG-13 for strong language. If you would like to see the movie trailer, check it out here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPsOKH_CkUM.

Rain date is the following night, Sunday, June 12. The event is sponsored by the Abundance Foundation - for more info call 919-533-5181 or go to apuppetintervention.com.

See you there!
Mark Barroso