



East Chapel Hill takes on Orange

SPORTS | B1

Back smoking after birthing

Factors for 1/2 of women who stay quit also in study

UNC News Services

CHAPEL HILL — Although many women quit smoking during pregnancy to protect their unborn children from the effects of cigarettes, half of them resume the habit within a few months of giving birth.

By shedding light on the factors that enable the other half to put down that cigarette

Women with a live-in partner who shared some of the burden of child-rearing were more likely to remain smoke-free.

were more likely to remain smoke-free, while women who were single mothers or who lacked the social and financial resources to deal with being a new parent were more likely to relapse.

"In the future we can look at these and other factors in women who quit smoking during pregnancy to assess who is at low or high risk of relapse," said Carol E. Ripley-Moffitt, research associate in UNC's department of family medicine and the study's lead author. "We can then offer more intensive interventions for those at higher risk to address the physical, behavioral and social issues related to relapse."

Smoking during pregnancy increases the risks of pregnancy complications, decreased birth weight and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Ripley-Moffitt said. She noted that the past 15 years have seen a steady decrease in the number of women who smoke while pregnant, in part because of an overall decline

see **SMOKING** | page 3



THE HERALD-SUN | PHOTOS BY MARK DOLEJS

Carmine's, the new Italian restaurant replacing Sal's in Eastgate shopping center, is scheduled to be opened this month by owners Darius Robustelli (left) and John Runge. Robustelli's father in Dover Plains, N.Y., was in the business — by the time he left it behind a few years ago, he'd opened 15 restaurants.

A slice of family life

Dad of co-owner of Italian eatery opening soon is a 'pizzologist'

BY DANIEL GOLDBERG
 dgoldberg@heraldsun.com; 918-1046

CHAPEL HILL — Some vocations are passed on through genes.

Look in the phone book and count how many funeral home names end in "& Sons." Check out a major league baseball roster and spot all the juniors.

For Darius Robustelli, it was something else; something often melted under mozzarella and

topped with pepperoni. As brother Carlo Robustelli explains, "My dad has a Ph.D. in pizziology."

When Darius and childhood friend John Runge open Carmine's Italian restaurant at Eastgate shopping center this month, they'll officially be doing it on their own. Not so much, perhaps, if you count the years spent in Tony Robustelli's restaurants growing up and the intervening time watching and tasting in other establishments.

"I want this to be a family-oriented restaurant," Darius said, summing up a philosophy that pizzologist Tony Robustelli echoed later during a phone interview from his home in Dover Plains, N.Y. That means reasonable prices,

good food, local ingredients and employees who can carry a conversation.

The owners of Carmine's are busy renovating the space formally occupied by Sal's Pizza and Ristorante for 28 years. That Chapel Hill staple left when property owner Federal Realty wanted to boost rent from \$19-per-square-foot to \$30-per-square-foot.

But then, building on tradition isn't a new concept for the proprietors of Carmine's.

Tony Robustelli's parents left Sarno, Italy, in the 1940s to escape Mussolini. They settled in the Bronx where Sebastian Robustelli

see **CARMINE'S** | page 3



Gene Conner (left) primes a door frame Thursday as Harry Bailey preps a chair rail to be painted at Carmine's. Co-owner Darius Robustelli and his siblings and cousins learned the Italian restaurant trade from his father, folding pizza boxes, working the register, serving, doing dishes and cleaning bathrooms.

Not so rare, brain aneurysms often fatal

2% of folks get them, including scientist saved by UNC doc

BY PAUL BONNER
 chh@heraldsun.com; 918-1035

CHAPEL HILL — Weixi Qin was busy examining the chemistry of rats' brains when suddenly his own brain was stricken.

Qin, a pharmacological researcher at East Carolina University in Greenville, recalled feeling dizzy about 15 minutes before he had to sit down, then lay his head on a desk. Next, only a few fleeting impressions: a face peering inquiringly into his own, an oxygen mask strapped across his mouth and nose.

When he woke up three weeks later in Chapel Hill at UNC Hospitals, he learned he had suffered a ruptured cerebral aneurysm, and because he is a brain researcher, he knew better than most patients just how close his brush with death had been.

This month, millions more people have also learned about how this not-so-rare bulge and sometimes rupture in the wall of blood vessels feeding the brain can fell a seemingly healthy person. U.S. Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones, who represented the Cleveland area, died from a cerebral aneurysm that ruptured while she was driving the night before.

She had planned to attend the Democratic National Convention in Denver, where her fellow party members nominated for vice president a man who 20 years earlier had defied the odds and survived two brain aneurysms, Sen. Joe Biden.

Approximately 2 percent of people have cerebral aneurysms, said Anand V. Germanwala, chief of cerebral vascular and skull base surgery at UNC Hospitals and Qin's doctor.

"So one out of every 50 people you see walking on the street has an aneurysm," Germanwala said.

No known cause

The trouble is, few of any of them know it.

Nor does anyone know for sure what causes the weak spots in the walls of blood vessels that swell and, for about 30,000 people a year in the U.S., leak or burst and cause a life-threatening hemorrhage. High blood pressure or smoking are known risk factors. Incidence increases with age, but it is theorized that the weak spots are congenital, German-

see **BRAIN** | page 3

Study ties spanking to harsher forms of punishment

From staff reports

CHAPEL HILL — Spanking has been, and still is, a common method of child discipline used by American parents.

But mothers who report that they or their partner spanked their child in the past year are nearly three times more likely to state that they also used harsher forms of punishment than those who say their child was not spanked, according to a new study led by UNC's Injury Prevention Research Center.

Such punishments included behaviors considered physically abusive by the researchers, such as beating, burning, kicking, hitting with an object somewhere

other than the buttocks, or shaking a child less than 2 years old.

"In addition, increases in the frequency of spanking are associated with increased odds of abuse, and mothers who report spanking on the buttocks with an object — such as a belt or a switch — are nine times more likely to report abuse, compared to mothers who report no spanking with an object," said Adam Zolotor, the study's lead author and an assistant professor in UNC's department of family medicine.

The study has been published on the Web site of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine and is scheduled for publication in the

journal's print version on Sept. 17.

Although some surveys show evidence of a modest decline in spanking over the last 30 years, recent surveys show that up to 90 percent of children between the ages of 3 and 5 years are spanked by their parents at least occasionally.

Zolotor and his co-authors conducted an anonymous telephone survey on parenting of a probability sample of 1,435 mothers in North Carolina and South Carolina in 2002.

Forty-five percent of the mothers reported that they or their partner had spanked their child in the previous 12 months and 25 percent reported spanking with an

object on the buttocks. Four percent reported using harsher forms of punishment that met the study's definition of physical abuse.

Spanking with an object

Statistical analyses of the survey data found that while any spanking was associated with increased risk of abuse, spanking with an object was strongly associated. Only 2 percent of the mothers who reported no spanking reported use of physically abusive punishment.

In comparison, 6 percent of mothers who reported spanking and 12 percent of mothers who reported spanking with an object also reported abusive punishment.

"This study demonstrated

for the first time that parents who report spanking children with an object and parents who frequently spank children are much more likely to report other harsh punishment acts consistent with physical abuse," Zolotor said.

The American Academy of Pediatrics states that "striking a child with an object is unacceptable and may be dangerous." Zolotor said the study supports this policy statement by underscoring that while spanking increases the likelihood of physical abuse, frequent spanking and spanking with an object are far more likely to lead to abuse.

INDEX

- CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6, D1
- CROSSWORD, PAGE 3, D5
- EDITORIALS, PAGE 2, A6
- MOVIES, PAGE 3, C4
- OBITUARIES, PAGE C2
- SPORTS, PAGE B1
- TELEVISION, PAGE D6

HOW TO REACH US

News, 929-1379
 Advertising, 967-6581
 Classifieds, 419-6910

DELIVERY AND SUBSCRIPTIONS
 Circulation, 419-6900

ERRORS

Call Chapel Hill Herald
 Editor Neil Offen at
 918-1035 or e-mail him
 at noffen@heraldsun.