

Thursday, May 30, 2002

Vegetarian Restaurant To Close Thursday

Pyewacket, a restaurant that has

weathered many economic downturns, will be closing its doors May 31. The longtime Franklin Street resi-dent, located at 431 W. Franklin St., was known for its varied vegetarian fare and

unique atmosphere.

The restaurant has been in operation for more than 25 years and has always operated outside the confines of standard business.

Catherine Dowd, a one-time employee of the restaurant, had high praise for the establishment and its

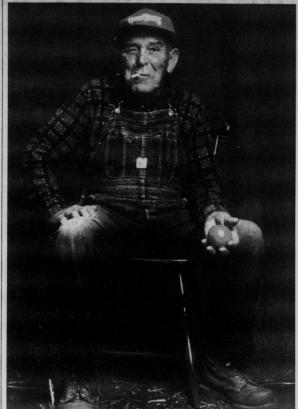
"I worked (at Pyewacket) for about a year and a half in 1981. I've worked several waitressing jobs, and I can say (owner) David Bacon is a lot more easygoing and progressive than any other boss I've had," she said.

Dowd expressed sadness over Pyewacket's imminent closing.

"This was one of the only places where staff split tips. It was so progressive but still had a real family feel," she said. "It's always been there; you just always assumed that it would still be

Bacon could not be reached for comment by press time

Art Goes From Carrboro Farmer's Market to Washington, D.C.



High art and the Carrboro Farmers Market are not usually entities entangled with each other. But Chapel Hill resident and photographer Sonia Katchian has found a talent for and public interest in the combination with The Carrboro

Farmers' Market Photography Project.
Exhibited at The ArtsCenter in 1995, Katchian's recent donation of color prints to the Archives Center of the Smithsonian Institution and her reception of a grant from the Orange County Arts Commission to create a related docu-mentary has renewed interest in the photographs and their subjects, local farmers from the Carrboro Farmers' Market.

Living and working in New York City and Tokyo for a total of 31 years, Katchian admits that her urban background makes her an unlikely candidate r a project centering on agriculture.

"I was always a city girl. It was initially not a logical involvement," she said. "Here I plopped in rural North Carolina. I suppose it was logical to eventually become

involved with the agriculture here."

But it was Chester (pictured at left) who planted the seeds for The Carrboro

Farmers' Market Photography Project in Katchian's mind.

"It was Chester the farmer who really triggered the idea," she said. "I saw in my mind's eye how I wanted to docunt this farmer's life.

"He has a sense and an ability to tell stories unlike any other person I've ever met besides my mother. He is an acknowledged legend in our community." A love for the man Katchian simply

calls "Chester," the town of Carrboro and

caus "Chester," the town of Carrboro and the agricultural culture of North Carolina served as the inspiration and the basis for the project through its completion.

"I was very grateful to have had a new beginning here in North Carolina, and I had an ability to convey visually that gratitude," she said. "This would be a project that could not see that the a project that could act as a gift from me

back to the people of Carrboro."

But as with any artist whose work has been completed, Katchian struggled to find a suitable home for the prints.

"I had hoped someone from Carrboro, either the city or an individual patron, would come forward and purchase the collection for the city."

The Museum of Natural History also declined Katchian's offer for purchase with the explanation that the museum

By James E. Buell

Banks 34 Deep breath

say
35 Turn inside out
37 Child's toy
38 Field of study
39 Tatum's dad
41 Hemingway's
sobriquet
42 Fortified
47 Perfect prose

does not take visual art, preferring to include artifacts into their collection

It was then Katchian contacted Pete Daniel, curator of agriculture at the Smithsonian. He had seen the original exhibit of Katchian's work at The ArtsCenter and had recommended it to the Archives Center and David Haberstich, head of photographic collections at the Smithsonian. Katchian's

ation soon followed. Haberstich agrees that the pho-cographs hold both significant artistic

and documentary purposes.

"I'm interested in photographers as artists," he said. "And one of the things that (the Smithsonian) is interested in is all aspects of America. Agriculture and the social, cultural and economic condi-

nte social, cultural and economic condi-tions of farmers fall into that category."

Now that work has begun on the doc-umentary provided for by the Orange County Arts Commission grant, Katchian is looking forward to capturing Chester's life on a different sort of film. Filming is set to be completed by the end of July.

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.









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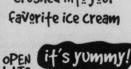
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