

OWASA purchase to preserve water supply

Officials urge water conservation efforts

BY ALEX HENDERSON
STAFF WRITER

The Orange Water and Sewer Authority finalized the purchase of 74 acres of undeveloped land Wednesday for the preservation of the community's water supply.

The tract, which cost OWASA \$2.2 million, is located next to University Lake and Morgan Creek.

OWASA Planning Director Ed Holland said that because of the property's proximity to the lake, the authority decided to make the purchase in the interest of long-term water preservation.

The land previously was owned by the Harold W. Ray Family Trust and the Annie C. Ray Trust. Leaders of the trusts approached OWASA about six months ago with a proposal to sell the land.

"It sort of came to us," Holland said.

and Cane Creek.

Cane Creek, which holds more water than University Lake, also is more expensive to pump out of, Holland said.

By the year 2030, the community's water supply will grow significantly, thanks to the addition of a stone reservoir being quarried by the American Stone Company.

Holland said that because of this addition, there is no risk of the community running out of water, but that responsibility for water usage still rests with its residents.

"The better job we do conserving water, the longer it will last," he said.

OWASA has applied to the N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund for a \$1.4 million reimbursement for the purchase.

The trust fund's board of trustees will vote on the reimbursement when it meets in October.

"We're hopeful," Holland said.

The fund has supported OWASA in several grants during the last few years for watershed preservation and the acquisition of conservation easements to protect drinking water quality.

Conservation easements are purchases that OWASA makes with landowners that ensure the responsible management of the

"If we could have negotiated ... an easement would have been preferable."

ED HOLLAND, OWASA

land without the passage of ownership, Holland said.

"If we could have negotiated appropriate terms, an easement would have been preferable," he said.

For example, farmers might agree not to farm on a particular piece of land they own in order to preserve the water quality on that land. The easement is a form of reimbursement for these agreements.

Holland said there is a possibility for future cooperation between OWASA and the town of Carrboro to provide limited recreational use of the 74 acres.

OWASA also might attach restrictions to the land's usage and attempt to sell it on the open market.

There is no public access to the land under its current ownership.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

Car Free Day runs smoothly

BY LIZA ZAYTOUN
STAFF WRITER

Chapel Hill Town Information Officer Catherine Lazorko met her family for pizza Friday, just like every week.

But this trip, she didn't have to hunt for a parking space.

In celebration of Car Free Day, Lazorko walked to meet her family, who rode the bus downtown.

Carrboro and Chapel Hill residents came together Friday to celebrate Car Free Day. Participants pledged to go car-free or car-lite, by carpooling.

Lazorko rode the bus to work.

"I'm not a daily rider," Lazorko said. "It was very convenient and a perfectly pleasant experience. It was a good night to go walking."

Lazorko helped organize a breakfast at the town hall for employees who carpoled, vanpoled, rode the bus or biked — 15 people attended.

Instead of waiting at traffic lights, participants in Car Free Day were waiting for the bus. Chapel Hill Transit offers free rides every day.

The day's events were sponsored by the ReCYCLery, Students United for a Responsible Global Environment and the Village Project.

Fares were waived on other local buses that are not usually free.

Kurt Neufang, assistant director of Chapel Hill Transit, said Friday was like most days because the Chapel Hill system is always free.

"We experience a high ridership everyday," he said.

The fare-free service began in 2002 as a collaboration between the University, Chapel Hill and



SARAH BRUCE demonstrates how to attach and detach a bicycle from the front of a Chapel Hill Transit bus Friday at Car Free Day in Carrboro. DTH/KATE LORDB

Carrboro. Neufang said he was hopeful that Car Free Day would introduce the bus system to another segment of the community.

"We appreciate the patronage of the students and the employees of the UNC Hospital, but we want to reach out to the nonaffiliated residents as well," he said.

Nick Pyeatt, a graduate student at the University, took his usual J route from Rock Haven Road to campus Friday and said he noticed it was a little more crowded.

Pyeatt, who didn't experience any delays, said he depends on free transit to get around.

"I think very highly of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro bus system," he said. "It allows my wife and I to only have one car."

Lafayette Poteat drove a bus on car free day. He has been driv-

ing for Chapel Hill Transit for 18 years.

"I get told a lot how much the Chapel Hill Transit is appreciated," he said. "I meet a lot of interesting people."

He said he didn't notice increased ridership on Car Free Day.

Some town employees chose to bike to work instead of taking the bus.

Lazorko said two employees in the inspections department that lived far away drove to the park-and-ride lot on Eubanks Road and then rode their bikes to work.

"They were really excited and feeling very proud at making it up the hill," she said. "They were surprised at how little time it took."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

games

Sudoku

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The Weekly Sudoku of "The Daily Tar Heel"

Sudoku

	2		5		3	8		
1			6	2	4			9
		4						
	4							3
			7					
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Solution to Monday's

1	7	3	9	4	2	6	8	5
5	9	8	7	6	1	2	4	3
6	4	2	8	3	5	9	7	1
7	1	5	3	2	9	4	6	8
2	3	4	1	8	6	5	9	7
8	6	9	5	7	4	3	1	2
4	8	1	6	5	3	7	2	9
9	5	6	2	1	7	8	3	4
3	2	7	4	9	8	1	5	6

Photos provided by sudokunews.com

My dog ate it

Students now are required to write at least 10 pages of papers for their courses. See pg. 12 for story.

No more reload

The new course registration system will see its first test soon. See pg. 3 for story.

Aiding North Carolina

Amendments to national legislation would bring more AIDS funds to the state. See pg. 8 for story.

This is CNN

A UNC senior will report on campus activities for CNN. See pg. 9 for story.

Tijuana en Carrboro

En Fiesta Grill la comida viene con un auténtico mexicano acento. Veá pg. 16 para la nota.

Accident prompts traffic petitions

BY ANDY KENNEY
STAFF WRITER

Eighty-one-year-old Louis Shook was riding his bicycle across the intersection of Churchill and Long Leaf drives Sept. 17 when he collided with a car.

Shook, who suffered a fractured skull, said he is about a quarter of the way through his four-week recovery.

Though residents have long complained about traffic in the neighborhood, the accident prompted a new wave of community action.

Lisa and Wayne Richardson and Hugh Stevenson filed two separate petitions requesting the installation of a four-way stop at the intersection. Both petitions will be addressed at the Chapel Hill Town Council meeting Wednesday.

"Regardless of who is at fault, the intersection is an infamously dangerous one and needs to be fixed ASAP — before someone else gets hurt or killed," Stevenson wrote in his petition to the council.

Lisa Richardson explained her reasons for the petition Monday.

"There's been talk about putting a four-way stop at that intersection for as long as I've lived in this neighborhood, which is probably about 10 or 12 years," she said.

Shook said he rode through the intersection because he thought it was a four-way stop. He is now a strong advocate for adding one.

"I would feel a heck of a lot better and a heck of a lot safer," he said.

Residents also have expressed concern about the intersection's proximity to Ephesus Elementary School.

"It's a walk zone," Richardson said. "It's certainly not safe in the morning when people are trying to get to work and people are cutting through the neighborhood."

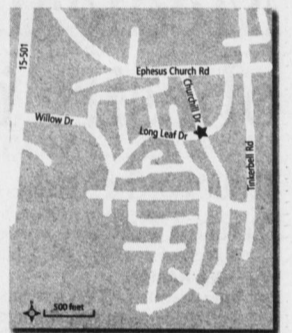
The neighborhood can easily be used as a shortcut to U.S. 15-501, which is about a mile from the intersection.

The Chapel Hill Traffic Engineering Program will play an important role in any action taken.

"I have received several complaints in the last few weeks," Chapel Hill Traffic Engineer Kumar Neppalli said.

"I have completed my investigation and will be presenting it at the Oct. 9 (council) meeting."

Neppalli also said that the town deals with similar issues every month and that there are "a lot of complaints in the town right now for speeding problems and cut-



through traffic problems."

Council member Sally Greene expressed confidence in the engineering department's responses to citizen requests.

"That's a terrible thing, and I think a four-way stop is probably a good idea there,"

Should the decision to add stop signs be made, Neppalli said construction would begin soon.

"They will be installed within two weeks from Oct. 9, or maybe earlier."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Subtle info
- Garners
- Cyberspace place
- Grunted denial
- White heron
- Smell
- God of discord
- Xenophobic fear
- Short synopsis
- Comment in the margin
- Hotsy-__
- Acacia tree
- Sure thing
- Acrophobic fear
- For two, in music
- Tennessee's streetcar
- Drivers' org.
- Heron's cousin
- Primary color
- Invitation replies
- Rib
- Put the whammy on
- "QB VII" author
- Arachnophobic fear
- Chicken coop
- Clue dir.
- Fossil resin
- Isolation
- Addictive drug
- Agoraphobic fear
- Joyless
- Fisherman's

DOWN

- Wahine's dance
- Flapjack chain
- Microwave?
- Triskaideka-phobic fear
- Shot down
- Self-image
- Display
- Part of a hammerhead
- Lead balloon
- "Illness as Metaphor" writer
- Creative spark
- Civil wrong
- Gaelic tongue

CLASPE ALTI EDDA
AORTA ROAR NOEL
DONALDDUCK FUME
STORMTEST POBOX
KIRBY DELL
ODDEST PONDERS
BEAST SALON DEE
OBIT MADAM MACE
LIL FUSSY SETUP
STYLISH METERS
DALE CLINE
GNOME WYANDOTTE
RAZE DICKDURBIN
AMEN IDLE PIANO
BENT GEES SCREW

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Alpha Epsilon Delta

Health Fair

Annual

Today!

September 26th

10am-4pm

Great Hall Student Union

Meet with Pre-health Admissions' Representatives from around the country!!

bites g'reat bites g'reat bites g'reat bites g'reat

great bites

eat lasting great food from the triangle area

on September 27th in The Daily Tar Heel