

In the Village

Members may run again

By RACHEL PERRY
DTH Staff Writer

Although no official campaign announcements have been made, the four Chapel Hill Town Council members whose seats will be up for election this fall have indicated that they plan to run again.

Marilyn Boulton, Bev Kawalec and Bill Thorpe were first elected to the town council in 1977. Joe Herzenberg, who ran unsuccessfully in 1979, was appointed to the council after the election to fill the vacancy created by Gerry Cohen's resignation.

"I will probably run again, but I haven't finished thinking about it yet," Herzenberg said.

"I'm leaning toward running, but I still haven't made a final decision," Boulton said.

"I am going to be running for my second term," Thorpe said.

"I am not ready to make my official announcement, but I expect to run again," Kawalec said.

The deadline for official campaign announcements is in early October, one month before the council elections.

The four incumbents agreed that one of the council's biggest accomplishments during the past four years was the passage of Chapel Hill's new zoning ordinance last spring.

"The groundwork for that began in 1977," Herzenberg said. "The new zoning ordinance makes some important changes in the way the town can develop over the next years."

Implementation of the new zoning ordinance is one particular motivation in running for town council again, Kawalec said.

"I would like to experience it working for a while," she said. "We need to have people on the council that have a commitment to it, to see if changes need to be made."

"We're still in the middle of looking at floodplain zoning for Chapel Hill. I feel like there's unfinished business at hand — that makes me want to continue," she said.

"I don't take the 'unfinished business' approach to running again," Thorpe said. "I would just like to continue my role on the council in keeping citizens informed on town affairs."

Boulton said the council might be more effective if the members' terms lasted six years instead of the present four.

"It takes two to three years on the council to really know what's going on, and then it's almost election time again. Eight years (two present terms) is a long time."

Long-term goals the four members cited for the council during the next four years included maintenance of present service levels, holding down taxes, expansion of town bikeways and open space for park land, and more cohesive operation within the council itself.

"I am very much in favor of the service levels we have now," Thorpe said. "We have good police and fire departments, and the morale is good there. You haven't heard citizens complain about the service we provide, and you don't see any employees striking in Chapel Hill."

Thorpe also said he wanted to keep the town's taxes at the current levels.

"I would like to see the council expand Chapel Hill's bikeways and open space for park land," Herzenberg said.

There has to be much more give-and-take on the council in the future," Boulton said. "We've had many instances where we couldn't reach a decision because we were unable to compromise."

"It's so important to have a group that works together. Voters need to look at the whole group of people they're electing, not just as individuals on individual platforms," she said.

But Thorpe disagreed.

"I think you're elected as an individual to represent the community, so you should act as an individual on the council according to what's best for your constituents," he said.



Herzenberg



Kawalec



Thorpe

Planning needed to avoid water shortage

By LILLIAN WOLFSON
DTH Staff Writer

Water shortages like those of past years are still enough of a threat to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area that students should take measures to conserve water, an Orange Water and Sewer Authority official has said.

The University's sudden August population increase strains the area's water supply, University Lake, at a time of year that is typically dry, said Pat Davis, an OWASA intern who is a UNC graduate student in city and regional planning.

University Lake supplies about 6.5 million gallons of water each day to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area when the University is in session, but only 6 million gallons when school is out, Davis said.

The lake was designed in 1932 to pump about 3.5 million gallons.

The last serious water shortages were in 1968 and 1977. Mandatory water-use restrictions were imposed by local government in both instances. Less severe shortages also occurred during the 1970s.

Davis said students should take steps to conserve the water supply:

- Reduce shower time. The average dormitory shower uses about 3 gallons of water per minute. By cutting time in the shower, students save the University both water and heating dollars.

- Flush toilets only when necessary. Every toilet flush uses about 5 gallons of water. Toilets should not be used for ashes or tissue.

- Wash only full loads of clothing. A washing machine uses 45 gallons of water regardless of the size of the load being washed.

- Turn water off when shaving or brushing teeth.

The University has tried to reduce water consumption in several departments.

University Housing has installed water-restricting shower heads and faucets and less water-consuming toilets and urinals.

The University Laundry Department is converting its machines to well water from University Lake water.

North Carolina Memorial Hospital is using well water for its air conditioning units, and University caretaking crews use well water for gardening as often as possible.

Post office now houses area court

By MICHELLE CHRISTENBURY
DTH Staff Writer

Courtroom officials are pleased with the additional space they acquired when the District Court facilities moved to the old post office building on East Franklin Street July 31.

The District Court's previous location was in the old police building on Rosemary Street.

"We were all very anxious to move," said Cindy Mayes, administrative assistant for the district attorney's office.

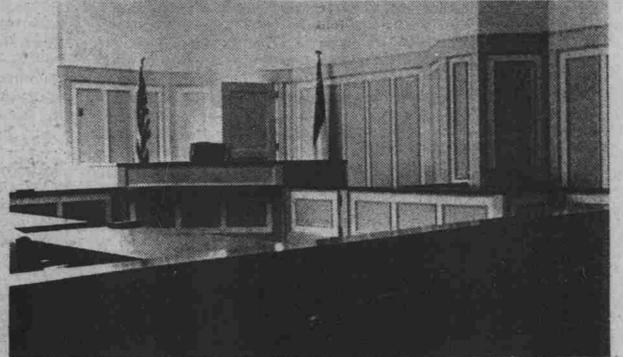
"The new facilities are great, and the courtroom is absolutely gorgeous. We now have space which we needed badly. Before, we barely had enough room for two desks and a file cabinet. Now we can be more accessible to the public and have more staff available."

The move has provided more privacy for local lawyers and other courtroom officials. There are three conference rooms that will primarily be used by lawyers and probation officers to speak with their clients.

There are separate offices for the district attorney in the basement and separate offices for the judge and the judge's secretary. There is also now a judge's chamber, a feature not present in the old facility.

District attorney Wade Barber Jr. praised the new facility.

"We have moved from one of the worst



DTH/Scott Sharpe

The District Court has made an impressive move to East Franklin Street. The space will be a plus for everyone.

district court facilities in North Carolina into one of the best," he said.

"The court situation is so improved that the change in the decorum in the courtroom is immediately obvious to anyone who walks in. I'm very appreciative that the Town of Chapel Hill has provided such a nice facility."

Chapel Hill has spent almost \$600,000 on the purchase and renovation of the building, according to figures from the Chapel Hill Planning Department.

The renovation project was financed by bond sales approved in a 1978 referendum, by proceeds from the town's waste water fund, interest on town deposits and budget funds appropriated for the project.

R.L. Blackwood, superintendent of postal operations, said postal activity will not be affected by the court's presence. "Our own living conditions have improved, and we have ample room to operate at the present time," Blackwood said.

Chapel Hill planner Liz Rooks said

renovators wanted to maintain the appearance of the building, which was built in 1937. "The building is a very important structure to the visual appearance of the East Franklin Street side," Rooks said. "The building is important from an architectural standpoint in that it is a good example of a neo-Grecian classical style."

The building also has historical significance to Chapel Hill. The building is recognized as a source of community pride and organization, Rooks said. It has been a place for rallies, petitions, public stands and silent vigils.

Rooks said that improvements would be made to the outside of the building. A ramp for handicapped access in the front of the building and landscaping to improve drainage are planned.

The District Court serves the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area of District 15-B of North Carolina. District 15-B includes Orange and Chatham counties and has courts in Hillsborough and Pittsboro as well as in Chapel Hill.



DTH/Scott Sharpe

For your public safety, seven new additions have been made ... to Chapel Hill's Police Force — Mercury Zephyrs

Chapel Hill department buys seven police cars

Seven new Mercury Zephyr automobiles have been added to the Chapel Hill Police Department fleet this summer as part of a routine car-replacement program.

Six of the cars cost \$7,159, and the other one cost \$4,079.

Three of the cars, including an unmarked one, will be used by the detective department. The remaining four are designated for use in regular patrol work.

The Zephyrs will replace older Plymouth cars, some of which have been driven more than 100,000 miles, a police spokesman said. The Plymouths will be either auctioned off or used for spare parts.

The police had purchased smaller subcompact cars built by Toyota a summer

ago, but ordered the Zephyrs this time because they were available on state contract.

Greg Feller, assistant to the town manager in Chapel Hill, explained that there were other cars to choose from but that the Zephyrs were more acceptable for reasons such as the police officers' comfort.

"There were other cars we could have acquired that would get somewhat better mileage, but there are many more factors to be considered," Feller said.

— STEVE GRIFFIN

New park west of Carrboro to open soon

A large park being built by the town of Carrboro on N.C. 54 west of town is nearly finished and is scheduled to open next month.

The park has been under construction for two years.

Carrboro recreation director Richard Kinney said the park would have two softball fields, two football fields, a baseball field, two tennis courts, a playground, picnic tables and a sheltered picnic area, a children's playground, a nature area and a lake.

The park will be open to all citizens, including UNC students.

— MORRIS HAYWOOD

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