

Joint planning agreement redefines area boundaries for future growth

By ANDREA SHAW
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Orange County are the first local governments in the state to negotiate a joint planning agreement that would allow both towns jurisdiction over a 44,000-acre area outside their current planning area.

The area is bounded by the University Lake watershed on the west, New Hope Creek drainage basin on the north, Durham County line on the east and Chatham County line on the south.

Both towns would also have input into a 38,000-acre outlying rural buffer controlled jointly with Orange County. The towns would eventually annex the extraterritorial areas, but the rural buffer would remain part of the county.

Area residents will have a chance to respond to this proposed joint planning agreement at an Oct. 14 public hearing.

Orange County planner Gene Bell said the agreement deals primarily with growth and needs that accompany growth.

"The joint planning agreement allows towns additional power to areas which would some day be in its city limits," Bell said. "It's going

to allow for the outward expansion of Chapel Hill and Carrboro."

Also included in the agreement is an appendix which prohibits development of the University Lake watershed until the Orange Water and Sewer Authority completes a study next year.

Bell said the planning issue dates back about 10 years, but came up again three years ago when Chapel Hill and Orange County entered into a joint planning agreement. Chapel Hill had wanted to extend its extraterritorial jurisdiction three miles beyond the city limits.

Carrboro entered into the new agreement when negotiations began last October and Town Manager Robert Morgan said Carrboro wanted to wait.

"We wanted to wait until a map was drawn up clearly defining boundaries and where growth and expansion was expected," Morgan said. "And the administrative agreement (between Chapel Hill and Carrboro) was felt to be very cumbersome."

But friction between Chapel Hill and Carrboro is responsible, too, for Carrboro's lack of involvement in the project, said Shirley Marshall, chairwoman of the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

Chapel Hill town council member Jonathan Howes said Carrboro's endorsement of the plan has eliminated that friction.

"Carrboro feels the desire to expand because they're hemmed in by University Lake watershed on the west," Howes said. "Chapel Hill doesn't feel any particular need to grow. Since we ended up agreeing to the plan, I think the friction may be overemphasized."

Morgan said the Carrboro Board of Aldermen is expected to endorse the agreement tonight.

"There were many places where the county authorized municipalities to have control over planning," he said. "Towns need to have some say because once an area becomes developed . . . they need to be aware of who's going to provide needed services."

Chapel Hill town council member Julie Andresen agreed. "We've got to have some line as to how far a town

can grow and still have rural area," she said. "It's clear (with the agreement) who has responsibility for zoning, administrative control or town services."

Marshall said the joint planning agreement would not make the planning process easier, but it would give area citizens an idea of what to expect from town government.

"It gives people more of an understanding of what is going to be in store for them," she said. "It clarifies the direction of where and when development is going to take place."

After the public hearing, any needed changes in the agreement would go before an intergovernmental planning group before individual governments vote on the agreement, Marshall said.

The agreement should be finalized by early 1988. Once it goes into effect, any one of the parties can withdraw from the "permanent pact" upon giving a one-year notice.

Kappa Sigma gears up for charity tournament

By RACHEL ORR
Assistant University Editor

The swoosh of a basketball falling through the net is sweet music to the Kappa Sigma fraternity and the American Cancer Society.

Those who take to the basketball court in the seventh annual Kappa Sigma Backyard Basketball Classic, to be held Wednesday through Saturday, will be bouncing the ball to benefit the American Cancer Society.

Teams of three players will be vying for a grand prize of \$150 in the single-elimination tournament, Patrick Radford, Kappa Sigma house manager, said Monday.

Matches will be held on the basketball court behind the Kappa Sigma house in Little Fraternity

Court, located off Cameron Avenue.

Last year's tournament had 65 teams and raised about \$3,000 for the cancer society, Radford said.

"We usually try to get about 65 teams each year," he said.

A \$15 entry fee allows teams to compete in the tournament, Radford said. If an organization enters three teams, the total entry fee is \$35. A \$10 fee will be charged for each additional team entered after the first three.

To boost the amount of money raised through entry fees, Kappa Sigma members have solicited donations from local merchants, Radford said.

Beginning today, fraternity members will also be selling commemorative T-shirts, Radford said.



Students finish drive for voter registration

By BRENDA CAMPBELL
Staff Writer

Student Government's voter registration drive ended Monday, after registering 1,200 to 1,300 new voters during its three-week drive.

The drive began Sept. 11 at the Smith Center before the presidential candidates forum, said Charlene Boyd, co-chairman and coordinator of voter registration.

"That day was our big push to start the drive off," Boyd said. "We had people at the center and in the Pit all day."

Through the Student Government's Executive Branch, 13 students signed up to be special registration commissioners, Boyd said.

The students have been at a table in the Pit every day since Sept. 11. They have also spent at least one day in each residence hall, Boyd said.

John Edwards, who also served as co-chairman and coordinator of the drive, said organizers hope more students will work in next year's drive.

"Each person has only worked

about five hours during each week," said Edwards. "But next year we hope to have more interested students that would like to be commissioners."

Boyd said the commissioners tried to publicize the drive in several ways. "We put ads in the newspaper and delivered flyers to all the dorms."

Edwards said he hopes the drive has heightened awareness of the Nov. 3 election.

Rob Friedman, one of the candidates for town council, said he wished more people had registered to vote. But if all the newly registered voters participate in the election, he said, they could help secure a council position for any candidate.

"There is no excuse for a registered voter not to vote," Friedman said. "Much of what is being voted on, like the noise ordinance, affects the students."

By taking the time to vote, students can let town officials know that they are aware of what the council does and that they want to affect its decisions, Friedman said.

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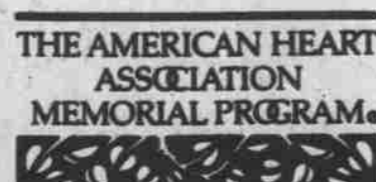
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