

# McDonald house prepares to open

By KARI BARLOW  
Staff Writer

In conjunction with the upcoming opening of the Ronald McDonald House in Chapel Hill, the Chapel Hill Ronald McDonald House board of directors has hired a resident manager for the house.

Shirley Evans of Toledo, Ohio, has accepted the position and should start work in the next seven to 10 days, said board of directors member Rick Strunk.

The Chapel Hill Ronald McDonald House will hold its grand opening April 17, he said. The house is on Old Mason Farm Road.

Evans and her husband Harry said they are looking forward to moving to Chapel Hill and working at the house.

Harry Evans said, "We're very excited. We're looking forward to a very excited community. The total support of the community in North Carolina continues to amaze us."

Board of directors members said Evans was well qualified to be the resident manager.

Strunk said, "She has been very active as a volunteer previously. She has a real good understanding of the mission of the Ronald McDonald House."

Board of directors member Roland Connelly said, "We had well over 100 applications. It was a long decision, but we feel she's going to do a great job."

The resident manager position involves a great deal of responsibility, Connelly said.

"It's a full-time job," he said. "They will have relief help, but their primary function is the operation of the house."

The position also includes overseeing the house's staff of volunteers, Connelly said.

Strunk said Chapel Hill's house will be North Carolina's fourth Ronald McDonald House.

The house provides a home away from home for the parents of children who are receiving medical treatment in Chapel Hill, Strunk said.

Shirley Evans said, "They can stay in a comfortable home and see that there are other parents going through it. The magic word is support."

The large number of pediatric patients in Chapel Hill will enable the house to serve a large number of

people, Strunk said.

"There were so many pediatric patients in Chapel Hill," he said. "This is something that can certainly serve these folks."

Connelly said the McDonald's food chain donated \$200,000 to help build the house. The Ray Kroc Foundation, established by the founder of McDonald's, also donated \$50,000 to the house.

In addition to the starting funds, money for the house has come chiefly from private donations, he said.

Strunk said, "It'll take a concerted effort to keep getting the donations to keep the house functioning. We want to heighten awareness."

"But the house is here. It's going to serve a tremendous purpose," he said.

# Student charged with cruelty to animals

By MARK SHAVER  
Staff Writer

A third-year UNC law student was arrested Tuesday by Chapel Hill police and charged with three counts of cruelty to animals and three violations of wildlife statutes.

Gary Brandon Kivett of Brookside Apartments in Chapel Hill has been charged with using a shoe to beat one or more raccoons unconscious, with keeping a raccoon in a bag in a closet for several days, with denying a raccoon food and water, with possessing a raccoon in violation of

wildlife laws, with possessing a raccoon for sale and with taking a raccoon to another county out of season.

The charges are misdemeanors. Three of the counts are punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and one year in jail; two by a fine of up to \$500 and 90 days in jail; and the last by up to two years in jail.

"The charges are laughable," Kivett said in a telephone interview Wednesday. "They are ridiculous. I never had any raccoons."

"They don't have any proof. I don't know how I was supposed to walk up to them and bash them on the head. No animal will stand there and let you hit it."

The Orange County Animal Shelter has been investigating Kivett since October, said Pat Sanford, executive director of the shelter.

Sanford said she would not comment further on the charges because she was afraid publicity would make it more difficult to convict Kivett.

Kivett's status at the law school would not be affected by a conviction

on the charges, said Elizabeth Furr, assistant dean of the law school.

No one at the N.C. Board of Law Examiners could be reached for comment on how conviction on the charges might affect Kivett's eligibility for the bar exam and a license to practice as an attorney.

Kivett was arraigned before Chapel Hill magistrate Newell Cogdell and released on \$300 unsecured bond. Trial has been set for March 31, and Kivett has hired Chapel Hill attorney Syd Alexander to represent him.

# Craft gallery to feature local works in weekend grand opening

By AMY WEISNER  
Staff Writer

Ten local contemporary artists will host the grand opening of the Chinaberry Craft Gallery Saturday at The Courtyard shopping complex on West Franklin Street.

"We're all involved in ownership and management of the gallery, so

we can meet with the public one on one and offer more personalized service," said Pamela Strauss, president of the Chinaberry group.

Chinaberry began almost 14 years ago when several artists recognized that owning their own store would allow them to display the works they preferred in ways they chose.

This "total freedom" idea encourages each artist to be more creative and experimental, Strauss said.

Artist Robin Brice said, "Almost everybody has some smaller items, which are affordable for students." Items in the gallery range in price from \$1 to \$500, but most works are priced between \$15 and \$35.

Strauss said since students are a large part of their business, the group has encouraged artists to create smaller gift items.

The gallery is able to offer relatively

low prices for high quality works since artists own and operate the gallery, an arrangement which cuts out a "middle man" fee, she said.

Although the gallery officially opened March 1, Chinaberry will hold the grand opening this weekend so all of the artists can be on hand to discuss and explain their techniques, Strauss said.

The works in the gallery include etched and carved glass, pottery, woodwork, baskets, tapestries, embroidered fabrics and extensive

jewelry pieces in silver, gold, glass and porcelain.

One of Chinaberry's participating artists is Diane Ingersoll, who specializes in colored pottery. She said she is currently designing ornately detailed pottery Easter eggs with painted scenes on the inside, which sell for \$15.

"Many galleries are cold, intimidating and expensive," Ingersoll said. "Chinaberry has managed to stay away from that and provides a more comfortable atmosphere for those interested in contemporary art."

Artists are chosen to be in the group after they present their works to a jury of artists. The jury then

decides if the quality of the artist's work is high enough for the artist to be admitted into the group.

Strauss said acceptable works must be of the highest quality and must be original in approach, so the gallery can maintain a diverse collection.

Chinaberry will begin in-store demonstrations by artists in the coming months, and many of the individual artists will show their works at local craft fairs such as Apple Chill, Strauss said.

The shop will be open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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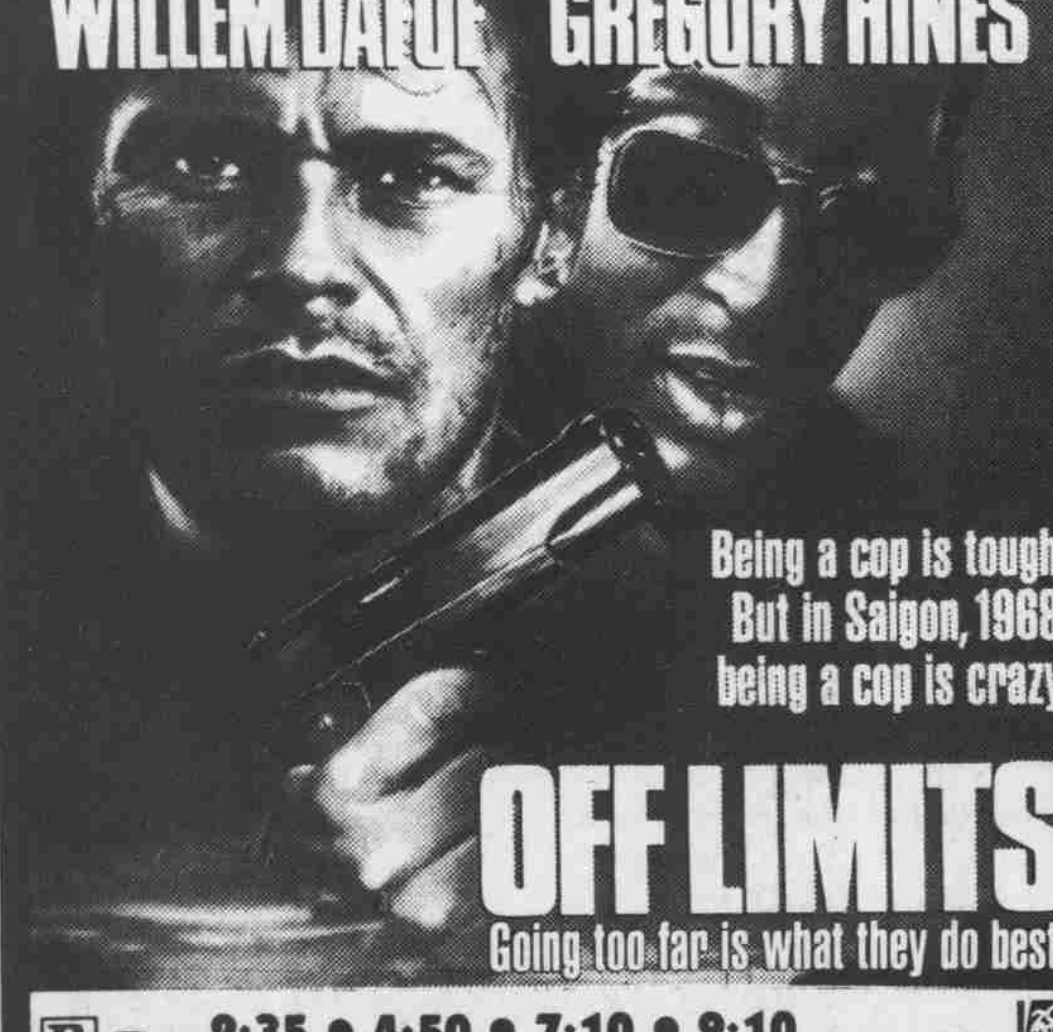
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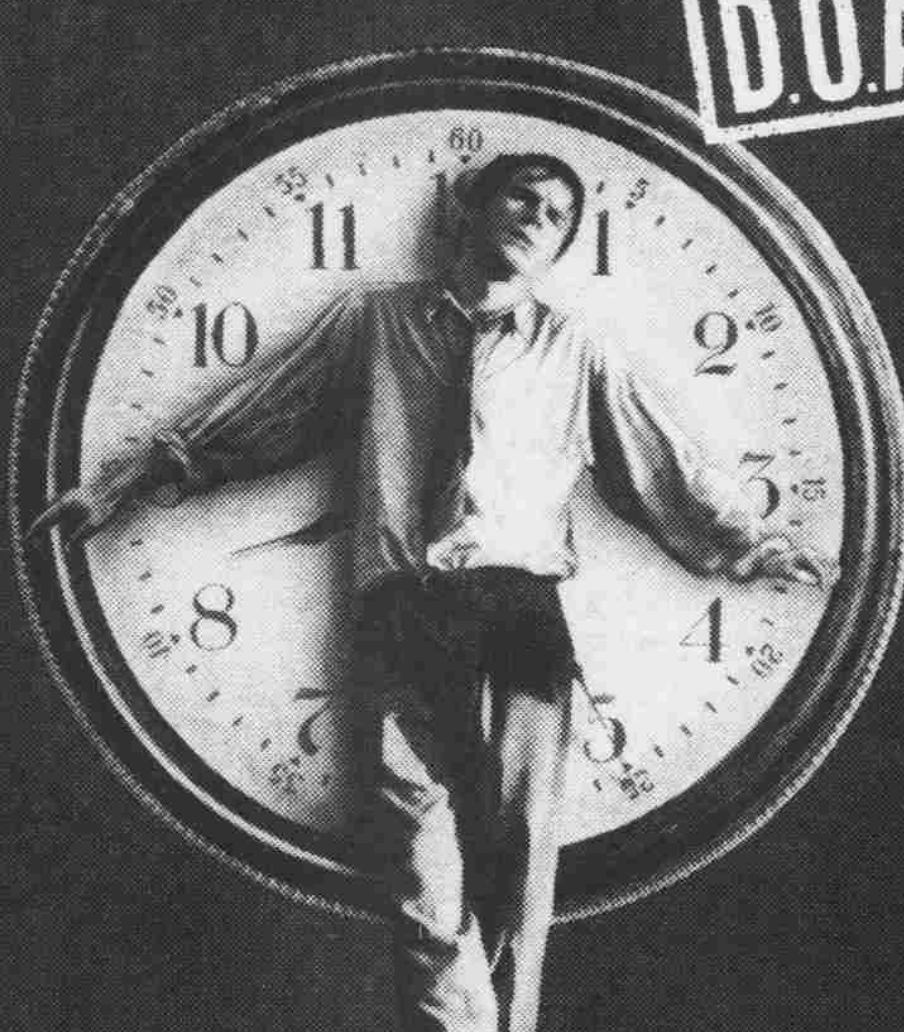
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