

# Carroboro raises \$24,000 toward town commons area

By JESSICA YATES  
Staff Writer

People who purchased \$8 T-shirts with an ivy leaf logo at Saturday's Earth Day parade helped bring Carroboro closer to having its own Town Commons and Farmer's Market, said Catherine Peele, treasurer of the project's task force.

The \$93 earned from the T-shirt sales, in addition to \$131 from sales during the Apple Chill festival, will go toward the \$400,000 project, Peele said. The commons and market will be constructed on a 1.7-acre baseball field next to Carroboro's Town Hall.

The complex will have shelters, which could house farmers' food stands and public events; a park; a bandstand; and parking space. Although the Town Commons and Farmer's Market will be for public use, organizers decided against using public money from taxes, said Patrick Davis, chairman of the task force.

"Under the present approach, we hope we can fund this through funds raised via private efforts and volunteer efforts," Davis said. About \$24,000 has been raised so far, which is enough to cover the Phase 1 costs of the project, the \$21,000 designing job, which will

be done by Lucy Carol Davis Associates.

Under guidelines set forth by the Carroboro Board of Aldermen, construction for each phase cannot begin until the task force has enough money to cover the estimated costs of that phase.

As Town Manager Robert Morgan and the Board of Aldermen are reviewing the preliminary plans, the task force is searching for \$125,000 worth of capital and labor to cover Phase 2 plans, site preparation.

"A substantial amount of that work could be done by in-kind contributions," Davis said. "We've received indications from people and companies that they will provide services, materials and landscaping that will go into the project."

The task force has applied for corporate and foundation grants but has not

received any money from the groups yet. "One of the obstacles we've run into is with the preliminary design effort still in a cloud, people are saying, 'Come back to our funding organization once you have a final design,'" Davis said. "We're hoping that the final design will take about three to four months."

The preliminary design has not been approved by the aldermen, so architects have not started the final plans. "I anticipate that sometime in May I will take it (the preliminary design) to the board," Morgan said. "The only controversy to this point has been the bandstand."

"The board hasn't been comfortable with the way it looked. Most people

wanted the look of a gazebo, yet a bandstand is a much larger structure."

Alderman Frances Shetley said she and aldermen Jay Bryan and Tom Gurganus were asked to form an ad hoc committee to refine the architects' sketches after the three expressed reservations about the bandstand design.

"I felt the architecture was not fitting with the historic area in Carroboro," Shetley said. The bandstand had a "futuristic design," she said. The ad hoc committee changed the plans last month.

While having a final design will help secure grants, the task force is using other fund-raising methods as well, Davis said. It is planning a benefit auction for September and held a Sun-

day brunch and band performance to gain public support. A homecoming celebration was held last June for alumni of a public school that was located in the present-day town hall, raising nearly \$5,000.

The construction site for the project was donated by the board. The complex's organizers wanted something that could be used for a Fourth of July celebration and the farmer's market needed to be relocated, so the board has been very supportive of the project, Morgan said. The land now used for the farmer's market is being leased from private owners.

"It'll be more secure on land owned by the town," Morgan said.

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## Residents to clear town of litter in ninth G'LITTER Day activities

By SUSAN WARD  
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill residents have an opportunity to pitch in and clean up the town during the ninth G'LITTER Day on Saturday.

G'LITTER (Get Litter) Day started four years ago to promote awareness of litter problems and to help clean up the community.

Francis DiGiano and Margie Wood organized the first clean-up day in 1986 and were pleased with the way it turned out. They received encouragement from Director of Public Works Bruce Helflin, and together the three founded Cleanscape Inc. Cleanscape has sponsored G'LITTER Day twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring, since 1986, DiGiano said.

DiGiano said the trio formed the organization because of "concern for certain areas in the community that were in really bad shape." He said they

wanted to do something for the area that could involve citizens. He said the event started with just two people but now included anyone who was interested in participating.

The cleanup will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until noon. Volunteers for the event are asked to meet in the parking lot of the Chapel Hill Police Station on Airport Road.

Volunteers will receive roadside assignments, plastic bags, gloves and safety vests at the police station. Participants are reminded to wear appropriate clothing and shoes, DiGiano said. Cash prizes of \$50, \$30 and \$20 will be awarded to the three largest groups that participate.

People who would like to help but cannot attend Saturday's activities are encouraged to get involved, DiGiano said. Trash bags will be available at all Chapel Hill and Carroboro branches of Central Carolina Bank from April 16-

April 27 for people who want to clean up on their own.

Cleanscape also sponsors the Profitable Image Enhancement (PIE) program. This is a service similar to Adopt-a-Highway, a program where an organization is given a certain area of a road to keep clean. Cleanscape pays the groups for each bag of trash they collect.

The difference between Adopt-a-Highway and Cleanscape is that Adopt-a-Highway deals with state and interstate highways and Cleanscape works with local roads.

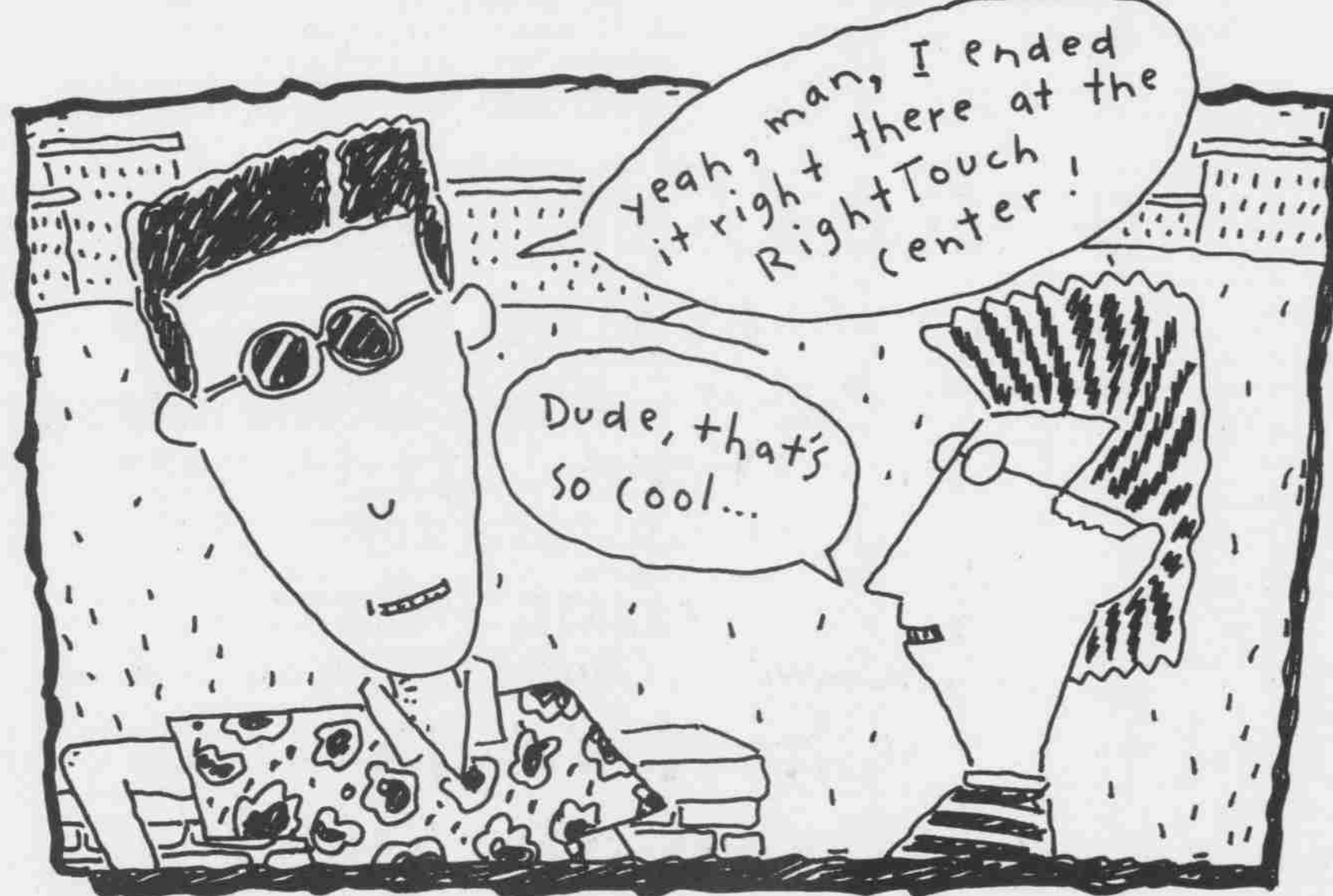
The Campus Y and Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) plan to participate in the event. Jimmy Langman, a senior from Charlotte who works with SEAC, said, "It is important that students get involved in community affairs. We're residents of this area, and we should try to do things that help out more than just the campus."

DiGiano said about 50 to 100 people had participated in the past, but he was expecting an even greater turnout this year. He said he was glad the event was taking place so soon after the Earth Day celebration because "it will hopefully make more people aware of the environmental problems."

Daryl Grissom, a freshman from Salisbury, said he thought G'LITTER Day was "a good idea because it makes students aware of the problem with litter in the community and it motivates them to do something about it."

DiGiano said he encouraged anyone interested to help clean, and the project was a "good chance to show concern for our community."

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