

# CAMPUS and CITY

## Neglected children's search for foster families often difficult

By NICOLE PERADOTTO  
Staff Writer

"Rachael" (not her real name) is a creative, personable, 12-year-old honor roll student who loves animals.

Certified as an academically gifted child by the school system, she can no longer attend honors classes because she has had to deal with traumatic separations and life experiences. Rachael is one of a number of children across Orange County who, for reasons of neglect or abuse, are looking for

foster families.

Finding a family that will be able to care appropriately for children with special needs like Rachael's is often a difficult task, said Jennifer Montsinger, Supervisor of Prevention and Support Services at the Orange County Department of Social Services.

"If we have 50 children who need placements (in foster homes), we need at least 75 homes to place the children accurately," Montsinger said.

A child's age, sex and particular

emotional problems have to be considered when "matching" a foster family with a child, she said. She added that many emotional problems were reactions to needs, whether emotional or material, that were not provided for by the child's parents.

"Probably the one thing that is true from one county to the other is that the children have been neglected," Montsinger said.

She said many children lacked proper clothing or were living in inadequate

housing. If the home situation becomes dangerous to the child, social workers intervene, and the child is removed from his or her home.

"When there is a risk to the safety or well-being of the child, the agency takes custody of the child," Montsinger said. "Placing the child with a relative is the most ideal temporary solution."

If this is not an option, the child is either placed in a licensed foster or group home or in the case of handicapped children, a specialized institution.

Montsinger said it was the duty of the social worker assigned to the case to try to alleviate the situation. This usually entails frequent visits with both the parents and the child, as well as regular consultations with a therapist if one is involved, she said. The procedure is usually successful, she said.

"We work as diligently with the parents so the child can go home eventually, and most of them do," Montsinger said.

She said licensed foster homes are required to meet certain state requirements. The process for licensing consists of passing a sanitation and fire inspection as well as an annual physical

examination. A foster parent can be single, but if a married couple wishes to take in foster children, they must have been married for at least one year.

Montsinger said the family did not need to fall within a certain income bracket but must be financially able to meet the basic needs of the child. Foster families in Orange County receive a stipend of \$265 each month and two clothing allowances for the child, which vary according to the child's age.

Before requesting licensing for a potential foster family, Orange County social workers conduct in-depth studies of the family's social history, methods of discipline and problem-solving techniques. Court records are also systematically checked, said Montsinger.

"We don't want to plant the child in a situation where he is in ... further risk," she said.

Depending on the size of their home, foster parents may be limited by Social Services in the number of children placed under their care.

"Some families have five children, all not related," she added.

Montsinger said a strong bond often developed between foster family and

child. "When the child leaves, it's hard for the family. It's a real loss," she said.

At other times, the "match" between family and child does not meet the expectations of either party, Montsinger said.

"The foster parent with the best of intentions gets in over their heads," she said. "Parents who have worked well with their own kids aren't always able to manage the emotional problems of these children."

Problem management includes working with children like Rachael who "test the limits," said Sara West, a social worker at the Orange County Department of Social Services.

"She breaks the rules to see what happens," West said. "This is how she learned to cope with a traumatic home experience."

"What she needs is to learn effective ways of getting attention. She needs reassurance. It's the kind of reassurance that parents in an effective role do from day one with their infants. These children don't have that. They have no trust for the people that are with them."

## Aldermen accept growth guidelines

By KRIS DONAHUE  
Staff Writer

Carrboro's central business district is one step closer to gaining a new set of guidelines to direct future growth.

"Guidelines for Design," a plan developed by Lucy Carol Davis Associates, was presented to the Carrboro Board of Aldermen Tuesday night. The board accepted the guidelines and submitted them to advisory boards for final comments.

According to the plan, downtown Carrboro has great potential for growth in the 1990s.

"This growth will best benefit the town if it happens in ways that protect and enhance the positive characteristics of the district and improve those aspects which, at present, do not contribute to the downtown's physical appearance and economic viability," the plan states.

It also recommends that certain guidelines be formally adopted and worked into changes in zoning so public and private projects will be encouraged to follow the town's design goals.

Specific goals of the design guidelines include the following: sponsoring art, cultural and special events to attract people to the downtown area; creating a distinctive and continuously landscaped street and open space character; strengthening the pedestrian character of the downtown area; and encouraging small-scale improvements to existing buildings and sites.

The guidelines are intended to be a working draft for Carrboro to use as part of its process for positive change in its business district. They are meant to be achieved over a long period of time.

"Guidelines for Design," a 70-page manual, was also submitted to the town

on computer disk so the guidelines could be easily updated in the future as the needs of the downtown district evolve.

The aldermen said they were pleased with the new guidelines, which the staff will review to avoid conflicts with the Land Use Ordinance. The staff will then report back to the Aldermen with recommendations for changes.

Participants in the meeting discussed a color identification scheme proposed by the plan.

The plan suggests a uniform system of identification for all public amenities (parking, trash cans, benches, etc.) so people will be more apt to use them.

Since Carrboro already uses blue awnings to identify its bus shelters, the "bus shelter blue" was thought to be a good mark of identification for other public amenities in the business district. But Alderwoman Frances Shetley, commenting about the "bus shelter blue" to architects Lucy Carol Davis and Georgia Bizios, said, "I can't believe you think that's pretty."

Davis and Bizios responded that blue is not used for other signs in the town, and thus, would be highly visible. The color also complements the orange that Carrboro already uses in its logos and signs, they said. They assured Shetley the color would be used in small quantities, and the entire town would not be painted blue.

## Habitat for Humanity to build affordable housing

By JULIE ANN MALVEAUX  
Staff Writer

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County is planning the "Street of Hope," a project to be built in Chestnut Oaks subdivision that will show-case affordable housing for lower-income families.

The idea for the project came from the "Street of Dreams" in Chesley subdivision that displayed homes in the price range of \$350,000-\$550,000.

"We want to show that affordable housing can be just as creative and innovative (as more expensive homes)," said Sally Jessee, "Street of Hope" committee chairwoman.

The first home built by Habitat for Humanity in the area was completed in 1986 in Chestnut Oaks subdivision.

Presently, families occupy 12 homes in Orange County and three are under construction.

No timetable for the "Street of Hope" has yet been set, but builders and designers are being recruited. David Nichols, partnership coordinator and organizer of volunteer labor and fund-raising groups, said the committee is forming teams to build the homes. He said a firm will be found to furnish each necessary component of the construction.

"We are concentrating on professionals and subcontractors to design, build, and supply donated materials," Nichols said. "This is a chance for the business community to volunteer and participate in service and lower the cost

of constructing a home."

The Habitat homes range from 32,000 to 35,000 feet and are built for a family that has been selected by the organization's family-selection committee. According to Nichols, the committee tries to select people living in substandard housing who have the ability to repay the Habitat mortgage and are unable to find adequate housing by other means.

The selected families purchase the homes with no-interest loans from Habitat for Humanity. The mortgages range from \$200-\$250 a month, and the families help to build the homes.

The homes are tentatively scheduled to be completed next fall, and tours will be given at that time.

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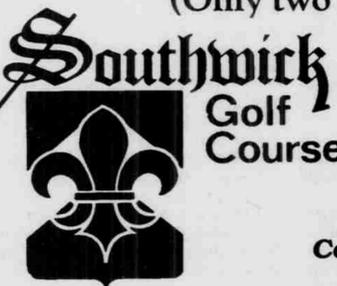
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## Campus Calendar

**FRIDAY**  
Noon: CGLA will have a Lesbian Lunch in 218 Union.

12:30 p.m.: The Black Cultural Center in conjunction with Campus Y Human Rights Week, presents an exhibit and slide presentation by Roy Lewis, a Washington, D.C., photographer, who will discuss the exhibit "From Natchez to New Orleans" in the upper gallery of the Union. Presentation in the Union auditorium. Reception to follow in BCC.

1:15 p.m.: The Institute for Research in Social Science will offer an IRSS Faculty Seminar, "Introduction to Analysis of Categorical Data," with Dr. Kenneth Hardy, in 2 Manning until 4 p.m. Call 966-4791 for more info.

2 p.m.: Career Planning and Placement Services will hold Job Hunt 102: Resume-writing workshop for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes.  
3:30 p.m.: IRSS Southern Studies Faculty Working Group presents "Amazing Grace": What Movers Missed, with Beverly Patterson, in Toy Lounge, 4th floor Dey.

5:30 p.m.: The Fellowship of Christian Athletes will meet at Rams Head parking lot for the Thanksgiving Progressive Dinner, if you've talked to Allison Scoebel!

7 p.m.: The Black Cultural Center, the Carolina Union Performing Arts Committee and the Department of Speech Communications present RAPPING: the ODYSSEY, a retelling of Homer's epic in 203 Bingham. Tickets are \$2 for students and \$4 for general public and are available at the Union Box Office. Also at 9 p.m. and on Saturday, Sunday and Monday night.

The Newman Center will have a memorial service to mark the anniversary of the martyrdom of faculty and staff at the University of Central America, San Salvador, at the Newman Center, Pittsboro St.  
8 p.m.: The Loreleis will be in concert in Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$4 and are available at the Union Box Office, Schoolkids Records, the Pit or

from any Lorelei.  
9 p.m.: The Union Interact Committee present Guadalcanal Diary lead singer Murray Attaway in the Cabaret. Tickets are \$3 for UNC students.

**SATURDAY**  
7 p.m.: The BCC, Performing Arts Committee and the Department of Speech Communication present RAPPING: the ODYSSEY, a retelling of Homer's epic in 203 Bingham. 9 p.m. also and on Sunday and Monday night. \$2 students; \$4 general public. Tickets available in Union Box Office.

8 p.m.: The Black Cultural Center with the African Student Association present Majke Fashek, Nigerian reggae star, in concert in Great Hall. Tickets are on sale for \$5 at the BCC.

The Carolina Union Performing Arts Committee is proud to present the Carolina Tar Heel Voices in concert in the Cabaret. Tickets are \$1 and available at the Union desk or from a THV.

**SUNDAY**  
7 p.m.: The BCC, Performing Arts Committee and the Department of Speech Communication present RAPPING: the ODYSSEY, a retelling of Homer's epic in 203 Bingham. 9 p.m. also and on Monday night. \$2 students; \$4 general public. Tickets available in Union Box Office.  
11 p.m.: WXYC 89.3 FM presents DJ Hip Hop Dog who will survey the history of hip hop on the Sunday Night Feature until 2 a.m. We will play old and new pop as well as requests.

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**  
Hunger Elimination Project of the Campus Y will be sponsoring an OXFAM Fast for a World Harvest. This 24-hour fast will raise money for distribution of educational materials and famine relief in the United States. Please help support the fasters.  
CAA announces that ticket distribution for the

Kentucky game on Dec. 10 and the Alabama game on Dec. 15, will be Sunday, Nov. 18, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
UCPPS announces a resume drop for employers recruiting Jan. 14 to Jan. 18 to be held Tuesday, Nov. 20, and employers recruiting Jan. 22 to Feb. 1 to be held on Tuesday, Dec. 4.

Tar Heel Recycling Project announces that the mobile drop-off site for today is on Stadium Drive by the dumpsters between Teague and Parker dorms.

The Bicentennial Class Committee wants you to create an original design with an exciting theme for the class of 1990 T-shirt! Turn all designs into the Student Government Office in Suite C of the Union. There will be a cash prize for the best design. Call 933-5163 for details.

Carolina Week By Week Lovers: Please send in the evaluation form at the back of the calendar to let us know of any changes or additions you would like to see made in the 1991-92 edition.

The Carolina Students' Credit Union is accepting applications for the credit committee. Please come by the CSCU office to pick up an application from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

The Student Union Gallery Committee presents Extremely Visible: "Art and Artifacts of the Helms Era," an exhibit of work by local artists and artifacts from national artist expressing concerns about scapegoating and censorship, in the Union Gallery until November 17.

PlayMakers Repertory Company will present "The Nutcracker: A Play," Nov. 28 to Dec. 22 at Paul Green Theatre.

The Carolina Union Activities Board Theatre Arts Committee present William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night in the Cabaret Nov. 29 through Dec. 2. The play is set in the 1920s. Admission is \$3 for students and \$5 for the public. Call 962-1157

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at UNC CHAPEL HILL  
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presents Exhibit and Slide Presentation

**"From Natchez to New Orleans"**  
Roy L. Lewis  
Photo-Journalist

Friday, November 16, 1990, 12:30 PM  
viewing of exhibit in Upper Gallery, Carolina Union and Slide  
Presentation, Lecture and Reception  
will follow in the Black Cultural Center



Roy Lewis, Washington, D.C., photographer, and New Orleans writer and poet Tom Dent worked together for nearly 10 years photographing along rural River Road and interviewing the people. "It used to be sugarcane and cotton, now it's oil and chemical plants — the new plantations," said Lewis.