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Community Begins Recycling Program

By John Cohen
Staff Writer

In response to the growing amount of garbage and shrinking amount of landfill space in which to put it, many cities and towns across America have initiated mandatory recycling programs in which certain throwaway items are separated from other trash and taken to recycling plants. Recently, the City of Laurinburg has started such a program.

This program, which took effect on December 3, 1990, requires "all Laurinburg residents and commercial complexes not being served by dumpsters" to put glass, aluminum, newspapers, and plastic into four different marked bins which are provided by City Council. Once a week, a recycling truck will come through different parts of town, empty the contents from the containers, and take them to a nearby recycling plant. The program was started in response to shrinking landfill space, and to comply with a North Carolina law requiring counties to start such programs.

Thanks to Abe VanWingerden, Donia Henderson, Juri Kirs, and David Giesel, who met with city officials during Winter Term, St. Andrews will

soon be able to participate in the recycling program. As with everyone else involved, students will be asked to separate all recyclable items from the rest of the trash and place them into the marked bins which will be provided for each suite lounge. Every Tuesday night, suite leaders will be responsible for taking the bins out to the curb by the Circle, (near Belk Center) and for bringing them back the next day. There will be instructions on each bin as to what should and should not be put in them, and the bins will be brightly marked in order to prevent vandalism.

Currently, bins are located only in the suite lounges of Orange Dorm, but they will soon become available to the rest of the campus. If the program succeeds in the dorms, bins will be provided on the other side of the lake.

The program is directed by Beautification Director Shannon Newton. She started the program because she thought the city could get a "much better participation" in the recycling effort from those who live and work in Laurinburg. Shannon also cited a "huge demand on the part of the citizens" to get involved in recycling, and compliance with North Carolina's new waste reduction law as reasons

for curbside recycling.

Shannon Newton said that the program was easy to start. The City Manager, Peter Vandenburg, proposed the idea to City Council on July 1. The council approved the program that same day when voting on the city budget for that year. The next few months were spent getting the trucks, containers, labor, and other things needed to run the program. As mentioned earlier in this article, the program was started on December 3, 1990.

Shannon and other city government workers are confident that the new program will succeed in its goals. She mentioned that "before the program started, residents took their recyclable goods to two drop-off points. One was located at the Municipal Building in Laurinburg, the other one was near the Scotland County government complex." She said that "It's easier to recycle at home rather than take materials to the drop-off centers." She is also hoping that children will want to recycle more, and will encourage their parents to do so. She added, "Back when parents were kids the '3 Rs' stood for 'reading, 'riting,

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'MAME' OPENS TONIGHT - Encore! Theatre presents its first adult production at St. Andrews this weekend. Members of the St. Andrews and Laurinburg communities have been practicing hard since December for this musical comedy.

The show has been held over until Monday evening, however, tickets are going fast! Tickets may be reserved by calling the Scotland County Memorial Library, 276-0563. Adults, \$5 each and students, \$2.50. (Photo by Rooney Coffman)

School Receives Reaccreditation

St. Andrews Presbyterian College was recently reaccredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. President Tom Reuschling received word two weeks ago from the Association that the college satisfactorily completed the Institutional Self-Study Program and that its accreditation was reaffirmed by the Commission on Colleges.

Every ten years, the association examines all facets of each school in the southeastern United States, including academic programs, faculty, finances, and physical facilities. Part of the reaccreditation process is a

rigorous self-study of programs by faculty and staff and an indepth evaluation by a dozen faculty and staff from out-of-state institutions.

Dr. James Stephens, registrar and associate dean for academic affairs, headed up the self-study, which took three years to complete. "The accreditation went very well. Each of the academic units came through in good shape," Stephens said.

Reuschling said the self-study proved to be valuable to St. Andrews. "The self-study was an educational process in that we learned about ourselves. Also, getting consultation from other institutions was beneficial."

National Condom Week Hits Campus

By Joy Berry
Staff Writer

It is the week of romance, the week of chocolate candy, the week of hearts beating furiously at the sight of a lover. It is the week of Cupid, the week of foolish acts in the name of love, and the week of those familiar plush, satin hearts found in card shops. It is the week of Valentine's Day. It is National Condom Week.

And how will St. Andrews celebrate this glorious and festive occasion? Let me count the ways:

Beginning late last week, the athletic training department, which consists of many students majoring in pre-physical therapy of physical education, began selling Condom-O-Grams. Yes, condoms indeed. For the small fee of fifty cents, any student can send a Prime brand condom to a friend, foe, mate, or perhaps even a professor. Attached to the condom is a message from the sender and a safe-sex slogan such as "Abstinence is always a choice, but should you not choose it, practice safe sex," which was written by the Dean of Students, Cynthia Greer.

At first glance the idea of a Condom-O-Gram, which is designed almost exactly like the familiar Halloween-O-Grams and other seasonal candy packages sold by various

clubs and organizations around campus, appears to exemplify a sharp left turn in St. Andrews politics. Not so, Lisa Wheeler and others involved in this project were required to go through the usual channels of approval in order to sell the condoms. Lisa Wheeler and the student trainers presented the idea to Dean Greer and came up with the idea of the additional message to make a stronger statement.

The concept of selling the Condom-O-Grams originated at Wheeler's sorority when she was a student at York College in Pennsylvania. According to Wheeler, the York campus was more conservative than St. Andrews, a fact which gave her and the student trainers confidence that the project would go over well here.

Dean Greer, while she admitted to having reservations about the project at the start of the project, said that the Condom-O-Grams are "a good way to get the word out that they're (condoms) here and that if people choose to be sexually active they should use them."

President Reuschling agreed that the motive behind the selling of the Condom-O-Grams is justified, though it seems somewhat taboo. "If you can get somebody's attention...I think it's

worth trying once. If for some reason people get concerned or upset about it, we'll review it," he said. "The biggest issue is awareness and the main motive is appropriate. We'll see what happens."

Both the Dean and the President agreed that the main concern was not that the selling of condoms was taboo, but that the Condom-O-Grams convey the importance of practicing safe sex. The messages attached to the condoms are strong in nature, designed to catch and hold the recipient's attention. Also, they reduce the chance of the meaning being misconstrued as condoning promiscuity. "We didn't want it to look as if we were in the business of selling condoms. You can go to the Health Department for that. We were concerned with offering a service with a message: think about your decision to have sex. Should you still choose to do that, that's fine but do it carefully," she said on Monday.

Way Number Two:

While the Condom-O-Grams will be here only for a short time, St. Andrews has purchased two condom machines that will be here for good. On Thursday, a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in the Burris Center to officially declare the arrival of the machines. They will be ready

for operation on Thursday as well.

The condoms will cost fifty cents each and can be found inside the women's and men's bathrooms in the Burris Center. A vendor from out of town will stock the machine and maintain it. "It was hard to find someone to stock it," said Greer. "We're not a high-use campus, as compared to some of the other schools in the state." Many of the state funded colleges and universities in North Carolina have had machines on campus for up to a year now.

When you speak of having several accessible condom machines on campus, many people argue that there are ethical reasons not to have them. Abe VanWingerden, SGA Vice-President, expressed this view in a context that involves the Presbyterian church. "Although the Church probably would not celebrate the addition of condom machines, it would seem that the health concerns would supersede any type of ethical dilemma that may be encountered. The Presbyterians have never made a public statement concerning birth control like the Catholics have." Dean Greer and President Reuschling seem to agree with VanWingerden. In fact, they argue that the machines, like the Condom-O-Grams, are a health issue, and not so much an ethi-

cal issue. "Anyone could have come up with a whole range of ethical concern, but we determined that it was a health issue, life or death in some cases, more than anything else," Reuschling said. "If I could take a magic wand and make all of this unnecessary, I would. But no one has that power and this sort of thing is important."

Reuschling also stressed the presence of the machines on campus as a symbol of the danger of unprotected sex and sexually transmitted diseases. The existence of the machines, he feels, will serve as a reminder to students, both those who abstain from sex and those who do not, that there are dangers involved by which they can be affected. "I'm still old-fashioned enough to think that sex is something that should be entered into cautiously, but I don't think that I can presume that I'm going to change a lot of people's perspective on that issue. So for those who already entered into this type of thing, we're giving them this," he said.

Happy Valentine's Day, St. Andrews.