



Amy Webster, campaign manager of U.S. P.I.R.G., announces at a press conference June 1 the state of Chapel Hill's water supply. U.S. P.I.R.G. is a lobby group that fights for more measures to ensure clean water.

## Reports Indicate Violations of Safe Drinking Water Act in Triangle Area

BY WENDY GOODMAN  
CITY EDITOR

An environmental group said last week that local water supplies did not meet federal health standards for lead content. Statistics showed an "appalling" number of health violations in water supplies across the nation and that utilities in this area were also unsafe when compared with Environmental Protection Agency standards, said Amy Webster, the local campaign director for the United States Public Interest Research Group.

consumers in water because it exceeds a minimum level. Webster said these were the most specific incidences of violations in the Chapel Hill area and that the report had been sent to utilities in the area detailing the problems and possible solutions. Kathryn Kalb, the general manager of operations at the Orange Water and Sewage Authority, said the news that Chapel Hill had problems with lead levels was a surprise. "There aren't any problems with the water that we have sampled," Kalb said. "I'm surprised because we use a corrosion inhibitor that coats all pipes so that lead won't leak out into the water." U.S. PIRG released reports Friday showing that millions of Americans have been

drinking from water supply systems that violate the EPA's standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The reports came out at a time when a bill to weaken the Act has been floating around Congress which PIRG says would be more harmful to American consumers. "This would impose new hurdles to protecting our water from contaminants that EPA deems an urgent threat to public health," Webster said. "We need to send a strong message to Congress that this is not what we want to see happen, and that we want to see it strengthened."

## Murder Trials Flood Summer Court

BY CARLOS DE MATTOS  
STAFF WRITER

With three murder cases coming to court soon, Orange County prepares to clean up after the violence that has torn through this otherwise peaceful community during the past year. David Alton Lewis is scheduled to stand trial in Orange County Superior Court on June 20 for the shooting death of his former employer, James "Buck" Jefferson Copeland, in McDonald's on West Franklin Street, September 14, 1994. Police said Lewis confessed to the murder immediately afterward. Witnesses reported seeing a "young black male driving a pickup truck," leaving the restaurant after the shooting. He apparently drove to the Chapel Hill

Police Department on Airport Road.

The Orange County District Attorney Carl Fox said he would not seek the death penalty in Lewis' case because aggravating circumstances were not met that are necessary for capital cases.

Fox said there were 13 aggravating circumstances that must be met before one can seek the death penalty.

Fox said he would seek the death penalty in the cases of Wendell Williamson and Sean Patrick Goble. They have both been indicted.

Williamson, a former third-year law student at UNC and a native of Clyde, was charged with the shooting deaths of Kevin Reichardt, a UNC sophomore, and Ralph Walker on January 26.

Williamson has undergone a psychiatric evaluation at Dorothea Dix Hospital to

determine if he is competent to stand trial.

The report from the examination will be given to the judge and the defense attorney and not to the district attorney because a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity may be entered at Williamson's arraignment June 19.

After the defense enters a plea at the June 19 arraignment, the district attorney will receive the report.

The third murder case Orange County Superior Court plans to hear this summer involves a much-publicized truck driver. Goble confessed to strangling Sherry Mansur of Clearwater, Fla. at the intersection of Interstates 85 and 40, just south of Hillsborough.

Her body was found in Guilford County in February. His arraignment date has not been set.

## New Bus Line Ready for Fall, Finally

BY TANIA CALDERON  
STAFF WRITER

Chapel Hill Transit's newest bus route, the North-South Express, may begin service this fall, a year after it was scheduled to begin.

The new route which will include every stop on Airport Road south of Estes Drive and north of Rosemary Street, may relieve the congestion of an already heavily traveled route.

It will not only services two new park-and-ride lots, but will travel on Airport Road, where many students take the T, A, G and P buses to campus.

In order for the route to have begun service last year, two new park and ride lots needed to be completed.

The lots would have 400 parking spaces and would be strategically located at one of the town's corridors, said Chapel Hill Transit System administrative analyst Scott McCellan.

The town chose the corridors where Interstate 40 intersects with N.C. 86, at Eubanks Road, and the point where N.C. 54 intersects with U.S. 15-501, at the housing development of Southern Village.

"The sites were identified after Chapel Hill Town Council conducted a study of the city's most active traffic arteries,"

"(The route will begin next fall) in time for us to have an influence on more people."

SCOTT MCCELLAN  
Chapel Hill Transit Administrative Analyst

McCellan said.

The study, conducted in 1991, helped the town work toward the goals set out in its "Capital Improvement Plan."

The 1991 plan proposed having public transportation available on every major corridor, said McCellan.

Construction of the two lots began August 1994, with a revised completion date of December 1994.

However, the completion of the lots was delayed by poor weather conditions that "bogged down construction until March," McCellan said.

"Generally you can't do construction on the ground when it rains and then

freezes. It isn't stable, and the concrete could later expand," he said.

The Eubanks Road lot has been ready since April 10, and the final walk through of the Southern Village lot was conducted last week.

The development has yet to pave the lot's only access road.

"The one entrance is state mandated by the Department of Transportation because they didn't want too many entrances right off of U.S. 15-501," said Jim Earnhardt, Southern Village project manager.

The town's park-and-ride was located within the development, and its land was purchased by the town from Southern Village, Earnhardt said.

The main street that allowed access to the park-and-ride lot was set to be paved within the next 30 days, he said.

McCellan said there were no plans to begin servicing the route until next fall, "in time for us to have an influence on more people."

The route has been in the works for over a year.

## Franklin's Flash Photo Lab Changes Hands But Not Style

BY VIVIAN LO  
STAFF WRITER

Flash Photo Lab in University Square Plaza was sold to a new owner May 16, but no major changes have occurred in the operation of the lab.

Bob Allen, the new owner of Flash Photo Lab at 133 W. Franklin St., said he had not planned to get into film processing business before he purchased the business.

"The opportunity presented itself and I just figured it was a good opportunity to expand a little bit," he said.

Allen owns a commercial and advertising studio in Raleigh and the photo lab was his first move into Chapel Hill.

According to Allen, the majority of customers of the photo lab are from UNC. "Our customer basis is sort of broad, but there is a big student as well as a UNC portion, the school itself," he said.

Allen said the prices charged on the services and operations of the lab were still the same.

"Just a different signature at the bottom of the check, that's the only thing that changed," he said. "Just switched owners, that was all that happened."

"It's been successful. The former owner had it for 10 years and he made a success out of it. There is no reason to jump in and change everything. It was going well." Allen said future changes were possible.

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