

Local Businesses Prepare For Summer Slow Down

As students pack their bags, business owners get ready for a sluggish season.

BY TODD DARLING
STAFF WRITER

It's almost that time of year again — summer. The University begins slowing down as students head out of town for vacations and internships, and the town loses a significant amount of its population and business. So, how are local business owners going to cope with such a blow to their daily routine?

Business owners recently expressed concerns over the expected economic slump during the summer months. Owners said although the town would slow down with students leaving the area, business would be forced to continue.

"I definitely think business will drop because most of our clientele are students," said Angie Perrou, assistant manager of Bath and Body Works. She said the street-front location of the store also contributed to the level of business.

"We're affected by what goes on at the University since we are street-front, unlike the mall stores," she said. "Most of our associates are also students."

Reed Raynor, manager of the Ram's Head Rathskeller, estimated the slow summer months would offset his business by 10 to 15 percent. Although students will leave during summer months, Raynor said that his business as well as others still had steady business from tourists.

"(The summer) affects the dinner and weekend hours more than lunch," Raynor said. "But we've been here for almost 50 years, and people know us."

Some businesses in Chapel Hill, however, anticipated the summer months as their busiest time. Genny Wrenn of the Shrunken Head Boutique said she looked forward to summer and the influx of students from the various camps hosted during that time.

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ANGIE PERROU
Bath and Body Works,
Assistant Manager

"We're slammed in here," Wrenn said. "Everybody comes to the Shrunken Head, and we look forward to it."

To attract customers over the summer, Wrenn said her store ran specials such as free name printing on T-shirts and gift bags for children.

Pizza delivery stores in the area, popular with UNC students, also experience slumps in business in the summer, said John Gleespen, a manager for Gumby's Pizza.

"We're really affected," Gleespen said. "We lose half to three-fourths of our business." He said the business also lost students workers over the summer.

"On a normal Friday night, we'll have about six drivers, but during the summer, we only have three or four drivers," Gleespen said.

Local merchants also suffered from a loss of business over the winter months as snow and ice forced many businesses to close for several days. Despite the closings, business owners and managers said they had had a good recovery since then.

"This January was not our best January, but the rest of the year has been good," Raynor said. "Everybody is really happy about it."

Perrou said that the level of business since the winter months had made up for the closings.

Wrenn said that even through inclement weather and the slow summer months, all businesses worked together.

"We all want everybody to do good," Wrenn said. "We don't have any competitors."

Look Mom, No Hands



Elias Sorokin, a 15-year-old from Chapel Hill, rollerblades outside the Student Union on Monday afternoon. Monday's weather brought many students and Chapel Hill residents out to enjoy the warm temperatures.

No Arrests In Bank Robbery

An armed robber took money from the Centura Bank in Carrboro on Friday.

BY MARGO HASSELMAN
STAFF WRITER

An armed man wearing a ski mask entered the Centura Bank at 300 Weaver St. in Carrboro about 10 a.m. Friday and took an undisclosed amount of money from a teller drawer, police reports state.

There were no customers in the bank at the time and neither of the employees present was hurt, said Investigator Tom Hall of the Carrboro Police Department. He said police had no suspects in the robbery as of Monday.

Employees identified the robber as a white male with dark hair, between 5-foot-7 and 5-foot-9, of slender build, with a moustache and beard, Hall said. Capt. John Butler of the Carrboro police said the robber was carrying a handgun.

Hall said that because the investigation of the robbery was not complete, police did not know whether it was connected to any other recent crimes in the Carrboro area.

Hall related the events as follows: A man entered the bank shortly before 10 a.m. Friday wearing a ski mask that partially covered his face. A female teller was behind the counter, and a male bank employee was in the office area.

The robber forced the male employee behind the counter and told the two employees he had a weapon. The man told the employees to get away from the teller drawers, and then he jumped over the counter and took an undisclosed amount of money from a drawer.

Tammy Kenion of Centura Bank said robberies were very unusual. The last time the Weaver Street branch of Centura Bank was robbed was about three years ago, when it was a branch of Orange Federal Bank, she said.

She said the robbery had had no effect on the bank's operations. "No one was in the bank, so it doesn't really affect our business at all," Kenion said.

She said the robbery would not cause Centura to change its security practices. The building is equipped with alarms, several cameras and a button to summon police, she said. Police also drive by several times a day to make sure nothing is going wrong, Kenion said.

"There's nothing we can do except hope that we don't get robbed again."

Campus Calendar

TUESDAY
CAROLINA TAR HEEL VOICES AUDITIONS will be held today through April 24. Sign up at the Union desk. Call Brian Kahn at 968-6025 for more details.

3 p.m. - 10 p.m. JACKOPEIRCE BAND PARTY as part of the East Franklin Street Block Party. Sponsored by Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. Call Bryson at 968-6759 for more details.

7 p.m. "AN EVENING WITH AMY TAN" in Memorial Hall. Come hear the author of "The Joy Luck Club" and "The Hundred Secret Senses" discuss her works. Sponsored by the Carolina Union Activities Board.

STUDENTS UNITED INFORMATION SESSION in Union 210. Students United is an organization that is forming an avenue for students and faculty to interact on a personal basis through a lecture series.

HAVERIM-CAROLINA STUDENTS FOR ISRAEL MEETING at Judges Coffee Roastery. Do you want to be more involved in planning and discussing pro-Israel activities? If so, join us to discuss possible activities for next fall.

7:30 p.m. CAROLINA HISPANIC ASSOCIATION (CHISPA) MEETING at Papagayo's. This will be our last meeting — come say goodbye to your fellow CHispitos and learn about the beach trip.

8 p.m. UNC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA in Hill Hall Auditorium.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
UNITAS is still accepting male applicants to live in Carmichael Residence Hall next year. We currently have 10 more spaces available for the program designed to help you meet new people and develop meaningful relationships, and we want you to apply. For more information, call Sammy Banawan at 914-2363 or Shiny Wei at 914-3046.

"WAS THERE A TROJAN WAR? AND SOME OF ITS CONSEQUENCES," a lecture by UNC professor Peter Smith, will be given at 11:30 a.m. on April 25 in 100 Murphey Hall. Sponsored by the UNC Classics Club.

"ARCADIA," the final production of the PlayMakers Repertory Company's 1995-1996 season, runs through May 12 at Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-7529 for ticket information.

Tickets for "KUDZU," a new musical based on the comic strip by Doug Marlette and featuring the music of the Red Clay Ramblers, are on sale at the Carolina Union Box Office. The production runs April 25 through 28 in Swain Hall.

"MEDICINE'S GREAT JOURNEY" PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT runs weekdays through May 12 in the N.C. Neurosciences Hospital. Exhibit is sponsored by UNC Hospitals and the UNC-CH School of Medicine.

Tickets for GARRISON KELLOR'S "APRAIRIE HOME COMPANION" are available at the Carolina Union Box Office. Sponsored by the Carolina Union Activities Board.

Mixed-media works by seniors JASON FRANK, KELLY JOHNSTON AND HONG-EUN KIM. 1996 honors candidates in studio art, will be on display in the Hanes Art Center Gallery until May 2.

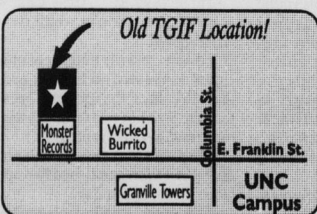
For the Record

The column "Open Hearing Ensures Fair Coverage of Full Story" (April 18) should have stated that electioneering is a violation of student election laws. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

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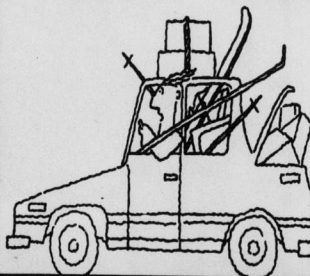
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Wanted



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Description: Person keeps employees informed about personnel policies, University benefits and Human Resources programs.

Any staff, faculty or student can nominate someone for this award.

Send a letter describing how this HR Facilitator helps you and/or your department. Be specific. The more illustrative the information the better each nominee can be assessed.

Nomination deadline 5 pm, May 13

Send nomination letters to:
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