

# Class Probes Gift Ideas Despite Low Turnout

By KAREY WUTKOWSKI  
Staff Writer

Senior Class officers held forums this week to give the class an opportunity to speak out on the selection of a senior gift, but only three students took them up on the offer.

Class president Danya Ledford said she was disappointed by the lack of attendance. "I wish more people would have come, but I think a lot of people spoke to me personally instead of coming to the meeting," she said.

Senior Class Vice President Will Alston said the meager attendance was due to bad timing.

"With the hurricane last week we had to reschedule, but we sent out messages to everyone on the senior listserv. This is also exam week for a lot of people."

Tia Lendo, a senior political science major from Pennsylvania, came to Thursday's forum to share her idea for the gift. She proposed that the Senior Class create three fellowships for students who exemplify leadership skills and dedication to public service.

"I received a fellowship, and it has been life-altering," she said. Lendo said she disapproved of all of the ideas that the Senior Class officers and marshals created.

One of the ideas is Academics with Recognition in which seniors would donate money within the University, either to an academic department or for endowments or scholarships.

But many marshals said the gift would not unify the class, which sparked Ledford to seek input from the rest of the seniors. "We would also have a marker as physical recognition of the gift. It would be something tangible," Ledford said.

"We've gotten a lot of positive feedback and some negative feedback from this idea." The other ideas are the addition of a room in the newly renovated Student Union and the creation of a physical structure like a granite wall.

Ledford said officers would continue taking suggestions from the Senior Class through September and October.

Members of the Senior Class can offer gift suggestions by filling out a gift idea submission form, which is due today and available at the Union desk.

The Senior Class officers also sent out forms online through the senior listserv, and applications are available at their Web page.

*"I wish more people would have come, but I think a lot of people spoke to me personally instead of coming to the meeting."*

DANYA LEDFORD  
Senior Class President

"There is usually not a senior voice. No class has ever tried this hard to get feedback from the entire class," she said.

The final proposals will be presented to the Senior Class in an online vote in November. Ledford said the ultimate goal regarding the Senior Gift is to unify the class. "We want to get the whole class excited and pumped up about it. We want the highest participation ever."

The University Editor can be reached at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Chapel Hill Set for New Fire Station

By ERICA SANDIN  
Staff Writer

Twenty-two Chapel Hill residents discussed whether the safety of a nearby fire station outweighed the late night sound of sirens at an informational meeting Thursday night.

Fire Chief Dan Jones and Deputy Chief Bob Bosworth met with concerned residents at Christ Church in Southern Village to discuss the need, cost and design of the new fire station to be located on Bennett Road and the southeast corner of U.S. 15-501.

The fire station is projected to be completed by early 2001. The date was chosen in order to correspond with the city of Chapel Hill's annexation of Southern Village and possibly some other surrounding areas.

Jones helped decide on the location, using the Geographic Information System to determine an average response time. Based on the fire station's average four minute travel time, Jones decided the 15-501 location would work best.

"It was the best place to reach the most areas in the quickest time," Jones said.

However, some residents of Southern Village, particularly those on Arlen Park Drive whose homes overlook the construction site, are worried about the physical appearance of the building and the noise from the sirens.

"I live directly across from the intersection," said Madeline Cains, who resides on Arlen Park Drive. "My hesi-

tion is the view and noise." Despite objections to noise and the view, other Southern Park residents said they thought the new fire station would be a welcome addition to the neighborhood.

"I think it's a necessary thing and it's positioned beautifully to cover both the old and new areas of of Chapel Hill," said Phillips VanDusen, who lives on Parkside Circle.

The cost of the fire station will be financed through a public bond, approved by voters and passed in 1996.

Jim Baker, financial director at Chapel Hill Town Hall said the project was allocated \$1.3 million. Three thousand dollars will go to the purchase of a fire truck, and the remaining million is for the construction of the station.

Architect Mike Hining said he designed the station to be both expandable and residential in style.

In the preliminary plans, the station is a single story building that will house two fire trucks and employ 12 people.

Jones said the new station would be more beneficial to the area in several ways.

"It will definitely improve response time, lower insurance ratings in the area, and increase fire safety in Southern Village and in the already existing part of Chapel Hill," Jones said.

The Chapel Hill Town Council will hold a public meeting at Town Hall to further discuss the project on Oct. 11.

The City Editor can be reached at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Local Schools to Receive High Honor

By TRICIA BARRIOS  
Staff Writer

Two Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will be honored today in a ceremony celebrating their designation as Schools of Excellence.

State Superintendent Mike Ward will make presentations at Estes Hills Elementary School and McDougle Middle School in ceremonies designed to celebrate their academic achievements.

Ward will present each school with a banner commemorating its achievement and address each student body.

"It's something the whole school should be proud of," said Kay Williams, Director of Communication for the Department of Public Instruction.

Schools of Excellence is a category within North Carolina's ABCs of Public Education system.

To attain this level of achievement, a school must have 90 percent of its students at or above Achievement Level III, a grading standard on the end-of-grade test.

In addition, the school must meet or exceed its expected growth-gain goal.

Dale Minge, principal of McDougle Middle School, credited good teachers, good students and hard work for his school's success.

He said his school took a hard look to decide which children were having a hard time with the test and then tried to give them the attention needed to make them successful.

He said he considered the School of

Excellence rating a somewhat difficult distinction to attain. "That's a pretty high proficiency," he said.

Shannon Leonida, assistant principal at Estes Hills Elementary School, said her school's achievement was due to its rigorous curriculum, hardworking teachers and dedicated parents. "The hardest thing is maintaining it," she said.

Teachers and other certified personnel at both schools will receive \$1,500 as an incentive bonus; teachers' assistants will receive \$500.

Both school administrators agreed that the end-of-grade tests were only one measurement of academic success.

"Each school's own goals are important too," Minge said.

He said there was a lot of pressure on teachers to get a good rating.

"There's the pressure of knowing that everyone in the state will know how every school did," he said.

The N.C. Board of Education put the ABCs system of testing in place at the direction of the General Assembly.

The board's ultimate goal of the program is improving the level of student achievement, more specifically in basic core courses.

This year, 50 out of 2,000 N.C. schools achieved the Schools of Excellence rating.

Williams said she wasn't satisfied with the number of schools honored this year.

"It should be higher, and it will be."

The City Editor can be reached at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

## Campus Calendar

### Today

11 a.m. - Kenan Professor of History and President of the German Studies Association Dr. Gerhard Wienberg will discuss "Nazi Germany in Peace and War."

Sponsored by Shared Learning, the speech by Dr. Wienberg will be at the Church of Reconciliation, 110 N. Elliot Road.

For more information, call Marvin Block at 929-7316.

8 p.m. to 10 p.m. - The UNC Chapter of the NAACP will be having "Ill Vibes," an evening of jazz and poetry in the Union Cabaret.

Tickets will be sold in advance in the pit for \$4 or can be purchased for \$4 at the door with a canned good.

### Monday

2 p.m. to 7 p.m. - The Lab! Theatre will hold auditions for its second set of shows. Sign up for a time outside Room 105 of the Center for Dramatic Arts.

For more information, look online at

[www.unc.edu/student/orgs/lab](http://www.unc.edu/student/orgs/lab).

3:30 - Vince Hill, doctoral candidate in the School of Public Health's Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, will present a talk Sept. 27 as part of the department's In House Seminar Series.

Called "Reduction of Enteric Microbes in Flushed Swine Waste Treated by a Biological Aerated Filter and UV Irradiation," Hill's seminar will be held in 2301 McGavran-Greenberg Hall.

4 p.m. - An Anthropology orienta-

tion will be held in 431 Greenlaw Hall for majors, intended majors and others interested in the subject.

Learn about the department requirements, meet professors and the adviser. Arts and Science anthropology advisers will also be present to answer questions. Refreshments will be served.

8 p.m. - Circle K, a service organization, will hold a general meeting in 431 Greenlaw Hall.

### Tuesday

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Make-up final for Dr. Benavie's Spring Economics 10 class will be held in 268 Venable Hall.

Don't forget to bring a dean's excuse.

2 p.m. to 7 p.m. - The Lab! Theatre will hold auditions for its second set of shows. Sign up for a time outside of Room 105 of the Center for Dramatic Arts.

For more information, look online at [www.unc.edu/student/orgs/lab](http://www.unc.edu/student/orgs/lab).

6 p.m. - The Campus Y Finance Committee will be having its first interest meeting in the Campus Y basement. For more information, contact Tiffany Foster at [tfoster@email.unc.edu](mailto:tfoster@email.unc.edu).

### Wednesday

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - The Ackland

Art Museum is presenting a faculty forum "Past and Present - East and West: Four Perspectives on the Art of Hung Liu." Faculty from UNC and Duke University will consider such issues as female identity in Asia, assimilation and conflict in East-West cultural relations, China's engagement with its imperial past and art and politics in post Cold War China.

### Thursday

7 p.m. - Dr. Michael Petit, adjunct professor of English, will discuss the film "The Mask of Fu Manchu" in Toy Lounge on the fourth floor of Dey Hall.

In his speech, "Queer Monsters/Asian Stereotypes: The Mask of Fu Manchu," Petit will discuss what the film's popularity conveys about Western sexual and racial visions of the Far East.

### Items of Interest

An exhibit, titled "Bits and Pieces," in the Carolina Union Gallery features work by Shirley B. Little and will run until Oct. 11.

What would you as our next chancellor? Have any suggestions, comments or concerns that you want the Chancellor's Search Committee to be aware of? Please e-mail the Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor with your questions and concerns for the Chancellor's Search Committee at [sacc1@listserv.oit.unc.edu](mailto:sacc1@listserv.oit.unc.edu).

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