

Board of Education Hires Supervisor, Administrator

By **Theresa Chen**
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education has added more names to its roster as the school system continues to augment its trend of personnel hiring.

The board approved the hiring of the two new employees, one to supervise and plan the system's budget and the other as an additional assistant principal at East Chapel Hill High School.

The board backed Superintendent Neil Pedersen's recommendation to employ Ruby Pittman, former vice chancellor for financial affairs at N.C. Central University, as the new director of budget and planning for the school system.

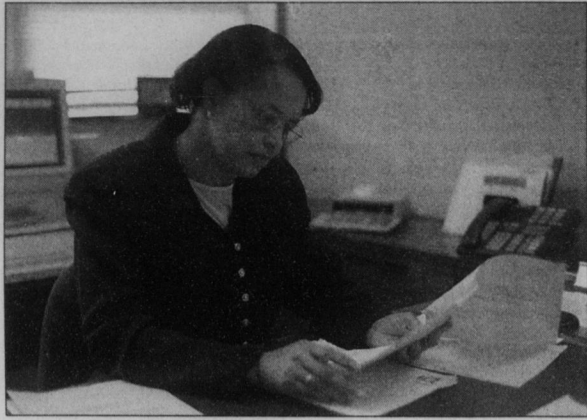
Pittman began her job Thursday at the Lincoln Administrative Building on Merritt Mill Road. The position was created to separate budgeting and finance, since both functions were previously handled by the finance director.

"The school system decided it wants to look more closely at what budget does," she said.

Pittman said that despite the new position, she felt prepared because of previous experience. She received a master's degree in business administration from UNC and has worked as assistant director for the Institute for Research in Social Science at UNC.

She also said that although her new job gave her control over the entire school system's budget, as opposed to just one university, she would have no problem, despite minor adjustments.

"I've got a lot to learn, but the principles of budget still apply," she said. "It'll take a while to emerge myself fully and then offer some suggestions to the



DITH/KATE MELLNIK

Ruby Pittman will assume the new position of director of budget and planning for Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools.

superintendent."

Pedersen said he had faith in Pittman's capabilities and was impressed by her budgeting experience.

"We were looking for someone who had a background in working in an educational environment and was used to using budgeting as a planning tool," he said.

The board also approved the appointment of Emmett Tilley III, presently the assistant principal of Southwest Elementary School in Durham. He will join two other assistant principals at ECHHS.

According to a school system press release, Tilley's previous experiences include teaching at Jordan High School, Hillside High School and Githens Junior

High School, all in Durham. He also acted as assistant principal of Carrington Middle School in Durham. Tilley holds a master's degree in educational administration from N.C. Central and a bachelor's degree from Duke University.

Although Tilley could not be reached for comment, and there is no set date for the beginning of his employment, ECHHS Principal David Thaden was enthusiastic about working with Tilley.

"I was the driving force behind bringing him on board, and I'm ecstatic that he was selected," Thaden said. "He brings a sensitivity to kids that's special and unique."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Carrboro Officials Seek Tax Increase

The boost will help cover future expenses, including land purchases and funding for public transportation.

By **Enyom Kpeglo**
Staff Writer

Carrboro residents could face an increase in property taxes to create revenue for the town's recommended 2000-01 budget.

Town officials will present the budget to the Carrboro Board of Aldermen tonight. Fifty percent of the proposed \$11,921,691 budget will come from a 6 percent property tax increase, producing \$7,232 in extra revenue.

Town Manager Bob Morgan said the additional funds would help the town purchase land for upcoming projects.

"We are proposing to buy land that (Carrboro) will need in the future," he said. "If we don't buy the land now then it might not be there when we need it."

Morgan said possible uses for the purchased land would include a new fire

station, a public works facility, a gymnasium and financing a small park that is already in the works.

The police department, the transportation department and town employees' salaries are expected to benefit from the tax increase as well.

Morgan said the recommended budget allows for additional personnel and equipment upgrades.

"They want to add a position for a new police investigator and improve radio communication by adding more frequencies," he said.

Morgan said the transportation department would receive increased funds as a result of Carrboro's increased population.

"The bus system cost is based on population figures," he said. "Since our population went up by 2 1/2 percent, we have to pay more for transportation."

The budget summary stated the need to recruit and retain town employees by implementing pay plan initiatives.

Morgan said the town wanted to decrease the turnover rate of employees.

"We've lost twice as many employees this past year (as compared to last year)," he said. "We want to have a 2 1/2 percent

salary increase for next year in order to remain competitive."

Morgan also said he realized most citizens did not like to pay taxes, but these measures would positively affect the town's future.

Alderman Diana McDuffee agreed that paying higher taxes was not a popular idea. "(Carrboro residents) have a whole lot of needs, and while citizens don't want the extra taxes, (taxes) are often the only way to fund needed projects," she said.

McDuffee said the proposed tax increase would affect most property owners in the same manner.

"The University and nonprofit organizations like churches are exempt, but the tax would affect everyone else equally," she said.

Alderman Mark Dorosin said he was looking forward to hearing the presentation.

"Financially, we might be in better shape now than in the future," he said. "If we wait until the last minute, we'll end up paying more in the long run."

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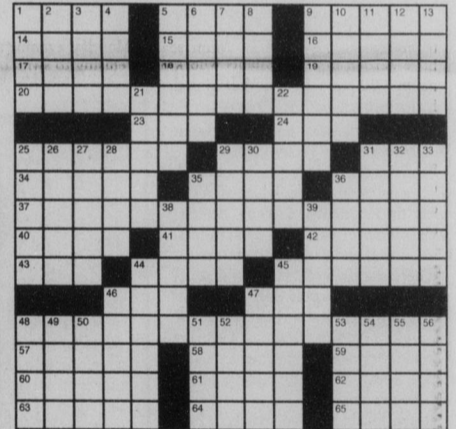


THE Daily Crossword

By **Phillip J. Anderson**

- ACROSS**
- Unruly kid
 - Pond coating
 - Doorstop
 - Five-star review
 - Ballet skirt
 - Loop of land
 - Type of rug or code
 - Spoken
 - Group of fish
 - Karl Marx's pets?
 - Omega's cousin
 - Cave-dwelling fish
 - Ruffles on shirts
 - Does something
 - Aussie bird
 - Sun-dried brick
 - Flesh mark
 - Moran of "Happy Days"
 - Pancho Villa's pet?
 - On the sheltered side
 - Property claim
 - Opening letters
 - "Viva ___ Vegas"
 - Swiss peaks
 - Fixed part of a dynamo
 - "Much ___ About Nothing"
- DOWN**
- Promote oneself
 - Very unusual
 - State firmly
 - Bulls or Bears,
 - Grammatical starter?
 - St. Patrick's pets?
 - Significance
 - Landscape dip
 - Hoodwink
 - Afterwards
 - Actor Sharif
 - Progress like
 - The Blob
 - Overact
 - Cost per unit
 - Slant
 - Earlier Central American
 - Lab dish
 - Malcolm Warner
 - Ms. Rogers St. Johns
 - Cartons

- e.g.
- Gems and gravel
 - Anathematize
 - Flaming Gorge state
 - Open slipper
 - Does dishes
 - Singer Merman
 - Portal
 - Pleased
 - Building additions
 - Theater award
 - Sore points
 - "Thief" star
 - Upright
 - Perform incorrectly
 - AI or Bobby of auto racing
 - Cut
 - Italian island
 - Sanction
 - Relation in
 - degree
 - Hold together
 - Domain
 - Advantage
 - D sharp
 - Small landmass
 - Paper quantity
 - Keen on
 - Smell
 - Himalayan mystic
 - E.T. vehicles
 - Breakfast area
 - Rest fitfully
 - Offed



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