

Pregnancy Prevention Gains Council Support

By LEAH COLE
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council voted unanimously Monday night to approve a petition endorsing the expansion of the Teen Voices Peer Education Program into Orange County.

Teen Voices, which targets high school students, is an adolescent pregnancy prevention and youth development program that was created in Durham in March.

The endorsement is part of a grant submitted by Planned Parenthood of Orange and Durham counties to the N.C. Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program. Grant approval can provide the program with five years of funding.

Robyn Schryer, peer education coordinator at Planned Parenthood, said the program's goal is to provide teens with factual information that they can then share with their friends.

"We hope that we are perpetuating facts instead of myths," Schryer said.

She said Teen Voices aims to

empower teens to make choices based on their own ethics and values. "For teens, the best method of birth control is the perception of having a future."

Town Council members expressed enthusiasm for the program. "Are you aware of the Women's Center program Teens Climb Higher?" Town Council member Edith Wiggins asked Schryer at the meeting.

Schryer informed the council members that Teens Climb Higher is a program designed to serve middle school students. She said she hopes the two programs can work together, with students moving from one program into the other.

"We are tremendously excited about the opportunity to bring this program to Orange County," Schryer said. "The program (in Durham) has been enormously successful in its pilot year."

Schryer said the endorsement would not require funds from the Town Council.

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

Town Taps New Transportation Director

By THERESA CHEN
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill's transportation system will soon be under the leadership of a new director.

Mary Lou Kuschatka, assistant general manager for the Alexandria Transit Co. in Virginia, will step into the role of Chapel Hill transportation director starting Oct. 23.

The transportation director is responsible for supervising transportation employees, preparing the annual budget and working with the town manager and Town Council on policies and procedures.

"I'm very excited about coming to Chapel Hill, and I look forward to working with the people in the transit system," Kuschatka said.

Kuschatka, who was chosen from a group of four finalists, has experience as general manager or operations manager for transit systems in California, New York and Greensboro. She also worked with transit in Blacksburg, Va., for 10 years after she graduated from Virginia Tech. She said her experience in a college town and the ambiance of Chapel Hill attracted her to the job.

Assistant Town Manager Bill Stockard also said Kuschatka's experi-

ence in Blacksburg is one of her strongest assets. "She's worked in a college town on the front line," he said. "She's supervised from 75 to 200 employees where she's worked."

Kuschatka was one of about 20 candidates recommended to town officials by a search firm. The transportation department held a panel made of residents and representatives from Chapel Hill, Carrboro and the University.

"(We) decided based on all those criteria that (Kuschatka) was the best fit for the position," Stockard said.

The job opened up in April when Bob Godding retired after 23 years in

the position. Scott McClellan has been filling in as interim transportation director since then and will now become assistant transportation director.

"Am I looking forward to having (Kuschatka) on board?" McClellan said. "Absolutely."

Even with a half-year search, Stockard said Kuschatka is the best fit for the job. "Even though it took time to get the right person in there, the ultimate feeling is that it's worth it, because it can provide a leader like (Kuschatka)."

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

N.C. Hillel Offers Jews Spiritual Trip Home

By STEPHANIE HORVATH
Staff Writer

While most students return home to visit their families during Winter Break, 20 Jewish students from UNC will have the chance to travel to their spiritual homeland for the first time.

N.C. Hillel, the Jewish student organization on campus, will select students to receive a free trip to Israel. The venture is sponsored by Birthright Israel, a worldwide initiative to allow Jews ages 18 to 26 to travel to Israel for the first time.

Birthright Israel, which is funded by Jewish philanthropists, the Israeli government and about 200 other organizations, allots spots to Hillel each year.

"The philanthropists who fund it believe it's every Jew's birthright to visit Israel," said sophomore Toby Osofsky, Hillel's Birthright Israel liaison.

The trip sends students with a tour group to spend 10 days in the country. "It's really to give students an opportunity who have never been to Israel to see the culture," said Shoshana Kaufman, Hillel's program director.

Hillel President Kimberly Grabiner, a UNC senior and a participant in last year's program, said previous trips to Israel were too costly, but that Birthright allowed her to fulfill a lifelong dream.

"Ever since I was younger, I thought I could connect to my religion more if I could see its birthplace," she said.

Interested students must apply by

Oct. 5. Applications are available on the Internet at <http://www.hillel.org>. All applicants will be interviewed by trip organizers, and Hillel will choose 20 students by lottery from the applicant pool.

Applicants must consider themselves Jewish, be between the ages of 18 and 26 and affirm that they have never been to Israel with a tour group.

Stops will include Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and the Dead Sea. "During the day there's a lot of touring and seeing major sights and going to historic sites," Kaufman said.

Benjamin Silverberg, a sophomore who went on the trip last year, said visiting the Wailing Wall was a defining moment. The Wailing Wall is the eastern wall of the Old Temple in Jerusalem where many people congregate to pray.

"I cried both times I was at the wall. It was really powerful," he said.

Grabiner said the trip gave her a greater sense of pride in her religion.

"For some people, it's a chance for them to realize their religion can be a significant part of their life," she said. "You're also more connected to everything you've been taught as you grow up."

But Osofsky said the students who go on the trip are not necessarily religious. "Most students find they re-evaluate their relationship with Judaism," Osofsky said. "The trip is really a step in the process leading to a stronger Jewish identity."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Campus Calendar

Today

9 p.m. - Alpha Phi Omega will sponsor an American Red Cross Blood Drive in the Great Hall.

12:30 p.m. - University Career Services presents a workshop on "Internships" in the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center.

5 p.m. to 6 p.m. - ANAD, a support group for persons learning to cope with and recover from eating disorders, will meet in the Center for Healthy Student Behaviors conference room, which is located on the second floor of Student Health Service.

Call 962-9355 for more information.

5:30 p.m. - A Major Decisions Dinner will be held for prospective and current journalism, communication and English majors.

The informal dinner, held in the Union Cabaret with faculty and alumni, is free for student members of the General Alumni Association and \$3 for nonmembers.

7 p.m. - The Alpha Epsilon Delta pre-health fraternity will sponsor a Medical School Panel in the Union Auditorium.

Representatives from UNC, Duke, East Carolina and Wake Forest Medical Schools will be present.

7 p.m. - Meet the chief justice of the N.C. Supreme Court at the UNC School of Law.

Chief Justice Henry Frye, who is an alumnus of the law school and the first black to hold the post, will speak with students in the rotunda. Light refreshments will be served.

7 p.m. - Passion Play: If you play the game, know the rules. Learn about such topics as STDs, Protection, and Alternatives to Sex.

A representative from Student Health Service will be present at the program in 100 Hamilton Hall.

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. - The Black Student Movement will hold its general body meeting in Upendo Lounge. Hip Hop Nation will be present to facilitate a discussion on Hip Hop Evolution.

6 p.m. - Come learn about the history of Tai Chi and its benefits to your own health and well-being.

Jun Wang will lead the program in Coker Arboretum. If it rains, the program will be held in the lobby of McIver Residence Hall.

7 p.m. - A Teach for America interest session will be held in 305 Hanes Hall for all those interested.

For the Record

Monday's article "Bike Ride Raises Money for Young Cancer Patients" incorrectly identified the 9.2-mile bicycle ride as the Miles for Smiles Funride. The correct name of the ride is the Miles for Smiles Funride.

Monday's article "Feminists' Forum Boasts Diversity, Inclusion" incorrectly quoted Matt Ezzell as saying that men were oppressed and repressed by sexism. Ezzell said men were not oppressed by sexism, but that they could be repressed by societal constructions of gender and that they should work to help change the atmosphere for women.

The Daily Tar Heel regrets the errors.

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Advertising & Business, 962-1163

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SPEEDY POLINI



DTH/JEFF FOULAND

Sophomore John Culpitts rides his 40cc Polini motorcycle near Conner Residence Hall. Culpitts said the bike, which can reach 70 miles per hour, is used by Grand Prix racers to improve reaction time.

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