"The rate is designed

to be significantly lower

in the winter to offset the

higher costs in the summer."

GREG FELLER

Summer Demand Leads to Pricier Water

Prices will increase in the summer, but the Taste of Hope program is designed to help some pay the bills.

By COLIN SUTKER Staff Writer

High demand for water during the summer months has led the Orange Water and Sewer Authority to implement a new rate plan to promote conservation.

servation.

The seasonal rate hike, which goes into effect May 1, will raise the cost of water from its present level of \$2.90 per 1,000 gallons to \$4.08 per 1,000 gallons between May and September. It also will drop the pay rates for water to \$2.16 per 1,000 gallons between October and

Greg Feller, spokesman for OWASA,

says he hopes this measure will help decrease decrease water demand during the summer.

"The greatest conservation need is from May to September," Feller said. "It's when we get the highest peak demand

"We had one Dorothy Verkerk says not enough people know about the when demand was over 15 million gallons, well over the year-ly average of about 10 million a day."

Feller said this will be the first sea-sonal plan OWASA has implemented and that officials are not sure how the measure will specifically affect consumers. "It's hard to know (how it will affect water use) at this point," Feller

Town Council

Taste of Hope.

added. "It will be interesting to see how demand is effected and evaluate that." The rate hike has caused some con-

cern about the ability of lower-income families to afford the additional costs during those months. The economy is suffering, and any-

one not earning a living wage will have financial problems," said said Chris Moran, executive director of Inter-Faith Council. "People are running into

problem Spokesman for OWASA deciding which bill To counter this need, OWASA sponsors the Taste of Hope program, which gives customers the option to have their bill rounded up to the nearest dollar. The difference is then put into an

perse among needy consumers. "For the people who donate, it's less than a dollar a month," Feller said. "There are about 5 percent, or 600 customers, who donate. It comes to about \$3,000 a year in funds."

account and donated to the IFC to dis-

Town Council member Dorothy Verkerk said she is appalled at the small mers.

participation of customers.
"I think Taste of Hope is a great idea, but what I'm concerned about is that it has not registered with people," Verkerk said. "Everybody I've talked to since (hearing about the program) has not heard about it."

Feller said that for lower-income families, the seasonal rate plan does not dramatically increase costs but rather apportions them correctly to people

He said that according to statis-tics, low-income housing shows little change in water use patterns durthe summer ing

and the winter.
"Essentially,

not just a conservation technique," Feller said. "During peak months, they are more accurate in allocating costs to specifically heavy users.

"The rate is designed to be signifi-cantly lower in the winter to offset the higher costs in the summer.'

Feller added that people are still encouraged to use water-saving devices such as low-water shower heads and to employ xeriscaping, which is landscaping that reduces the amount of grass

"Conservation should be a yearround push."

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

Developments in the War on Terrorism

Allies Capture Kandahar Hospital

Afghan troops backed by U.S. Special Forces lobbed grenades into a burning hospital, ending a nearly two-month standoff with six al-Qaida gunmen. After the assault, the bloodied ward was littered with limbs



Bush Pledges Support to Afghanistan

■ The United States will play a leading role in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, including helping the nation build its own military, President Bush said Monday as he stood with Afghan leader Hamid Karzai.

Bush Says Captives Treated Humanely

■ President Bush said Monday that the 158 captives held by the United States in Cuba are not prisoners of war but are being treated well. Bush said he was trying to decide whether international rules governing treatment of POWs cover the suspected terrorists.

Campus Calendar Today

5 p.m. - Want to learn to dance Bhangra? Come to Masala's general meeting in Union 218, co-spon-

sored by Bhangra Elite.
7 p.m. – The Sonja H. Stone Black
Cultural Center's Cross-Cultural
Communications Institute presents a discussion and book signing with the former editor of Ebony magazine, Hans Massaquoi. Massaquoi will discuss his book, "Destined to Witness: Growing Up Black in Nazi Germany." The event will take place in the Toy Lounge of Dey

Wednesday

11:30 a.m. - Come out until 3 p.m. for "Peace in the Pit!" sponsored by Campaign to End the Cycle of Violence. There will be live music, skits, speakers and an open mic. Share your thoughts about America's war on terrorism

Thursday

5 p.m. - The UNC chapter of the

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will hold its general body meeting Union

Join the freedom fighters!
7 p.m. – The **Philosophy Club** will host a talk by former Professor Richard Smyth titled "Operation Skyhook, or How to Build a Philosophy House With Na Evenderies" No Foundation.

The talk will take place in the lounge in Caldwell Hall.

Items of Interest

Organize a team to fight cancer in the first UNC Relay for Life, sponsored by Campus Y Healthfocus. Information sessions will be held at 8 p.m. on Feb. 2, March 6, and March 19 or at 7 p.m. on Feb. 21 or April 4 in 103 Bingham Hall. information, more dossary@email.unc.edu.

The Baily Tar Heel

P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 Katie Hunter, Editor, 962-4086 Advertising & Business, 962-1163 News, Features, Sports, 962-0245 © 2002 DTH Publishing Corp. All rights reserved

ATTENTION

Are you suffering from **Allergies?**

North Carolina Clinical Research is seeking

Are 12 years of age or older

Have a history or diagnosis of allergies

Symptoms may include runny nose, congestion, sneezing,

participants for a medical research study who meet these qualifications:

in Raleigh & Chapel Hill

For more information call (919) 881-0309 8:30am to 5pm

After hours please leave a message.

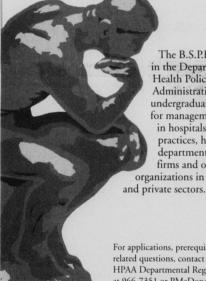
itchy nose and eyes
Eligible participants will receive at no cost study-related physical examination, skin test, EKGs and lab tests and study medication, as well as reimbursement for time and travel.

Dr. Craig LaForce and Dr. Karen Dunn. Board Certified in Allergy and Immuno

NORTH CAROLINA Clinical "Where patient care and the future of medicine come together."

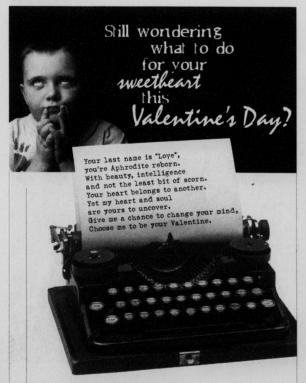
Deadline Extended

Applications accepted until February 11, 2002



The B.S.P.H. Program in the Department of Health Policy and Administration prepares undergraduate students for management positions in hospitals, group practices, health departments, consulting firms and other health organizations in the public

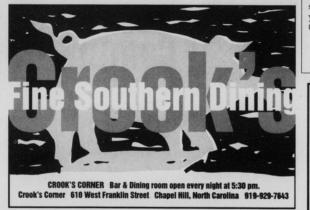
For applications, prerequisite, courses and related questions, contact Pam McDonald, HPAA Departmental Registrar, at 966-7351 or PMcDonal@sph.unc.edu



Here's an idea... tell them how you really feel.

bmit a poem to the DTH today.* All entries will be published in 5 Valentline's Day Special Issue fab and prizes will be awarded for the best three. Winners receive dinner, flowers, and movie lickets....not to mention the heart of that special someone







PRICE INCLUDES AIR & ACCOMMODATIONS!!!

London: \$694 Jamaica: \$714 Paris: \$794 Cancún: \$756 Madrid: \$824 **Bahamas:** \$769 **Dublin:** \$924 Ft. Lauderdale: \$450

Prices include airfare, accommodation and other features. Other destination: available. Space is limited. Call for details. Restrictions apply.



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Wanna Be an **Orientation Counselor??**

Work with WOW! (New Student Week of Welcome)

This is a great opportunity to meet people. work with new students. and move into your room early!

> You can pick up an application: · at the Union Desk · download it online at http://orientation.unc.edu · visit our table in the Pit this week

Applications are due Wednesday, February 13, by 5pm. Questions? Call the Orientation Office at 962-8521 or stop by 311 Carr Building.

THE ORANGE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION









In celebration of Human Relations Month. the Orange County Human Relations Commission is hosting a series of events throughout the month of February.

> **Human Relations Month Kickoff** February 1stat 6 pm at The Century Center in Ca "Orange County: Then and Now

Share the experience of our diverse communities. See how far we have come and how much farther we still have to go.

Panel discussion, music and light fare provided

Kiran February 16thfrom 3-6 pm

at New Hope Elementary School
A South Asian musical performance and a discussion culture and history of the region
COSPONSORED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Pauli Murray Awards Ceremony February 24thfrom 1-4 pm at A.L. Stanback Middle School

Join us in recognizing individuals who have worked to promote and foster better human relations among the diverse residents of Orange County. The Pauli Murray Human Relations Award commemorates the life and achievements of the late Reverend Dr. Pauli Murray

Essay Contest

throughout the month of February

Orange County school youth in grades 6 through 12 are invited to participate in an essay contest on the topic of human relations. Call the number below for information and guidelines for participation



All events are free and open to the public. For more information, please call the Orange County Department of Human Rights and Relations