

COMMERCE

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Streets at SouthPoint have detracted business from Franklin Street. Other business representatives said they believed the revitalization efforts will be successful in returning business to Franklin Street.

Meredith DiCostanzo, director of sales for the Siena Hotel, said she believes Chapel Hill is moving in the right direction. "I think (the downtown) is diversifying a lot more."

However, she said, she would like to see more mid-tier clothing stores that cater to the students on Franklin Street.

CORRECTION

An entry in the Campus Briefs section in Wednesday's paper should have said the restraining order issued against a UNC football player was taken out at Durham County District Court.

To report corrections, contact Managing Editor Daniel Thigpen at dthigpen@email.unc.edu.

DiCostanzo said she thinks it is important that Franklin Street try to cater to the students because students frequent downtown more often than other local residents.

While most expo participants said downtown revitalization efforts should be successful, others still pointed to the lack of parking. Lorrie Canciller, a program assistant with the Small Business and Technology Development Center, said the biggest problem Franklin Street businesses face is limited parking. "I would go do more there if (parking) wasn't such a chore for me."

The Chapel Hill Town Council recently approved a development contract to examine the potential market value of two downtown parking lots.

Overall, business representatives said Chapel Hill's business atmosphere is welcoming to diverse retailers.

David Twomley, owner of Chapel Hill Chiropractic said, "I have not met one person that hasn't been open arms."

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ROBBERY

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latter two did not give Spell any money, police reports state.

Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said an outside party alerted the police as the incident was in progress. "When the police arrived, one of the victims yelled, 'He robbed us!'" Cousins said. Police then placed Spell under arrest.

FORUM

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revitalize downtown with regard to ample parking and the possibility of UNC as an owner of downtown property.

Candidate Sally Greene suggested hiring a "dynamic architect" to design the new parking lots to emphasize the town's artistry and to make them visibly appealing.

Strom emphasized his desire for the promotion of the arts in the revitalization of downtown.

"I would like to see Chapel Hill no longer a place to come to for hats and T-shirts but the region's place to

Spell was placed in Orange County Jail, where he was held on a \$2,500 secured bond. He posted bail and appeared in Orange County District Court on Thursday. His next appearance is Oct. 23.

Although Spell was in possession of a knife, reports state he did not use it. No injuries were sustained by those involved.

The victims were unavailable for comment on the incident.

Spell might have been under the

influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the incident, reports state.

This is the second felony arrest of a Franklin Street employee in the past month. In mid-September, four employees at the Franklin Street Jiffy Lube were arrested in connection with the Rosemary Street RBC Centura bank robbery.

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come for the arts," Strom said.

Some candidates expressed concern over UNC owning property downtown, citing its exemption from property taxes as well as local merchants' resentment of competition from on-campus businesses.

"The idea that UNC's going to buy more property downtown is really scary to me," Hill said.

But others said UNC could bring in more revenue and significantly contribute to downtown's development.

"I think UNC could be a very effective player as a landlord," Greene said.

In a show of hands, nine candi-

dates supported all five of the proposed bonds. Of the two dissenters, Schworer only supports the sidewalk and library bonds, and Tyson supports the sidewalk, library and greenway bonds.

Moderator Vicki Boyer said the forum was held to present an unbiased, nonpartisan view of those running.

Early one-stop voting will be open in Chapel Hill at the Morehead Planetarium starting Monday. All polling places will be open Nov. 4, the official election day.

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VACCINE

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which is prevalent in the United States, the vaccine was developed for the sub-Saharan Africa region, where the epidemic is at its worst.

At the end of the study, a total of 96 people at sites in both the United States and South Africa will have been injected with the vaccine. Samples of their blood will be drawn and infected with the HIV virus in order to determine the vaccine's effectiveness.

AlphaVax, a Durham-based company founded by UNC in 1998, owns the rights to the production of the VEE vector vaccine.

Jeffrey Chulay, medical director of AlphaVax, said 15 subjects have been injected with the vaccine thus far.

"HIV continues to be a very important problem in the world — especially Africa," he said.

Johnston, who was present July 17 for the first human inoculation of his vaccine at Johns Hopkins University, said the volunteers must be in good health, within a certain age group and at low risk for HIV infection.

Johnston said that if the vaccine is successful, it will work by introducing the body to an inactive form of the virus and allowing the immune system to respond to this virus. In any future encounter with the actual virus, the immune system will recognize HIV as a pathogen. "The idea behind a vaccine is to trick your body into thinking it's already been exposed," Johnston said.

He said the first stage of the testing will determine the vaccine's safety, the appropriate dosage and the lack or presence of an immune response.

Johnston said the process of finding a cure has been challenging. "This virus is a virus from hell," he said.

Swanstrom said the virus is especially difficult for researchers because it takes over the immune system's defense. "The big problem with HIV is that it knows how to grow in the face of our immune system," he said.

Swanstrom said that finding an HIV vaccine will be difficult and that tests of multiple experiments and methods of treatment are necessary to fight the epidemic. "We need to do it right now," he said.

Despite the urgent need to find a cure for the virus, Johnston said it could be 10 years before the effectiveness of this particular vaccine is determined. "You have to be patient."

Contact the Features Editor at features@unc.edu.



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