

## BOARD EDITORIALS

## FOUR TO VOTE FOR

Chapel Hill Town Council hopefuls Sally Greene, Rudy Juliano, Bill Strom and Jim Ward have all the skills necessary to lead the town.

Several issues will loom large for town leaders during the coming years, including revitalizing downtown Chapel Hill, providing affordable housing for residents and improving the relationship between the town and the University.

Given these issues, it is important that the town have a strong crop of leaders who will push Chapel Hill in the right direction.

The Daily Tar Heel Editorial Board endorses current Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy in his re-election bid over write-in candidate Pat Killian. Foy's experience will be a major asset in leading and shaping future town discussions.

The more competitive race in this year's election belongs to the twelve candidates vying for four seats on the Chapel Hill Town Council.

Council members Flicka Bateman and Pat Evans are not seeking re-election, which means there will be at least two new faces on the council.

Each candidate on the slate brings an impressive set of ideas, which they believe will spark change in how business is conducted in the town.

Still, four candidates rise above the rest.

## Four for the future

The DTH Editorial Board endorses candidates Sally Greene, Rudy Juliano, Bill Strom and Jim Ward for the Chapel Hill Town Council.

Although Greene, a research lawyer, is launching her first bid for the Town Council, she is no stranger to local politics.

Earlier this year, Greene petitioned members of the Town Council to oppose a ban on panhandling after dark. She also serves as acting chairwoman of the Chapel Hill Planning Board and sits on the Northside Neighborhood Conservation District.

Greene also is in tune with environmental issues, knowledge that will prove beneficial in discussions about development within the town.

Juliano, a UNC pharmacology professor and administrator, is another political newcomer who is making an impact.

Juliano's vision for providing more affordable housing in the town is particularly note-worthy. He calls on University officials to include affordable housing at Carolina North. However, his idea for proposing a high occupancy vehicle lane along Interstate 40 as a way to improve transportation in the area goes beyond the reach of council duties.

During the recent candidates' forum sponsored by UNC's student government, Juliano drew some stares when he said that he would not take any extra measures to reach out to the student population if elected.

However, his frankness in demanding that students take a more pro-active role in getting involved

within the town is to be admired.

Incumbents Strom and Ward, while in office, have shown a willingness to balance the needs of the town with the desires of the University, which will be extremely important in future talks on development.

Strom's ideas for revitalizing downtown Chapel Hill including expanding its retail, residential and office capacity go above and beyond a call to simply add more parking. In addition, his idea to reduce term limits for town committees could encourage more student involvement in local government.

Ward's strong commitment to environmental concerns also stands out. During his first term, he has demonstrated an ability to balance growth and preserve green-space within town limits.

## The rest of the pack

Dianne Bachman's proposal to secure a rapid-transit bus line in the town is a laudable plank on her platform. But Bachman's role at the University raises concerns. Although UNC faculty members and employees should not be discouraged from active involvement in town affairs, Bachman's job as a UNC project manager in the facilities planning department could present too many conflicts when talks on University development projects arise.

Former Chapel Hill mayoral candidate Cam Hill has strong ideas for preserving the small-town feel of Chapel Hill. But Hill takes too adversarial a stance regarding the University, a trait that could stall future town-gown discussions.

UNC senior Mike McSwain's candidacy might help erase the age-old myth that students are not concerned with town affairs. Unfortunately, his platform was weakened by inadequate solutions to current issues facing Chapel Hill.

Still, McSwain's entry into the race should inspire all candidates elected to the council to reach out to students during discussions on town affairs.

Candidates Woodrow Barfield, Thatcher Freund, Andrea Rohrbacher, Doug Schworer and Terri Tyson each should be commended for adding new perspectives and different points of view in the race. However, their platforms simply are not as strong as other hopefuls vying for seats on the council.

With a dozen candidates seeking only a handful of spots on the Town Council, it can be hard to narrow down the field.

But in this campaign, experience in local government and the ability to propose innovative and workable solutions for pressing town issues should matter the most.

Today, vote for Sally Greene, Rudy Juliano, Bill Strom and Jim Ward for the Chapel Hill Town Council, and re-elect Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy.

## HEAD TO THE POLLS

Members of the University community should exercise their right to vote today and have a voice in future dealings within local government.

Thousands of voters will head to the polls today to choose the leaders who will shape local politics in the coming years.

There are many issues on tap in today's elections: the mayoral and school board campaigns, local bond initiatives and the ultra-competitive Chapel Hill Town Council race.

Although the races in Chapel Hill undoubtedly will have the greatest influence on the University, competitive races also are taking place in nearby Carrboro, Hillsborough and other surrounding areas.

But regardless of where you live, it is important that all area residents and members of the University community, especially students, head to the polls.

Last year's debate on rental duplexes within the town highlighted the significant impact decisions by town leaders can have on students.

In addition, almost all of the candidates in this year's council race have pointed to the student pop-

ulation as an important constituency in Chapel Hill.

More than 2,500 students registered to vote during a recent drive sponsored by UNC's student government.

If all of those students vote — and we certainly hope that they do — they could have a tremendous impact on the outcome of today's elections.

Their participation also will demonstrate that students have a genuine interest in what's going on in the community.

Polls will be open today from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. There are more than 40 voting places scattered throughout the county, including Fetzer Gym on the University's campus.

Registered voters can visit the state Board of Elections Web site at <http://www.sboe.state.nc.us> to find their designated polling place.

Heading to the polls is an invaluable way to express your views on the state of local affairs, so it is important not to let the opportunity pass you by.

**EDITORS' NOTE:** The above editorials are the opinions of solely The Daily Tar Heel Editorial Board and were reached after open debate. The board consists of eight board members, the assistant editorial page editor, the editorial page editor and the DTH editor. The 2003-04 DTH editor decided not to vote on the board and not to write board editorials.

## READERS' FORUM

## Town Council candidate Hill responds to rival's claims

## TO THE EDITOR:

Thanks to The Daily Tar Heel for this opportunity to respond to a political advertisement misrepresenting my position.

The ad, which ran last Friday in the DTH, claimed that I said UNC employees should not serve Chapel Hill as elected officials. The ad was paid for by my opponent for the Chapel Hill Town Council, Dianne Bachman. She works for UNC in the facilities planning department.

First, the charge is absurd. Of course UNC employees should be allowed to run for town office. I have never argued otherwise.

Anyone who has followed local politics knows that two years ago I vocally, and on the record, supported Dorothy Verkerk, a UNC professor of art history, for Town Council. Clearly, University people have shaped this town and are one of its valuable assets.

For goodness sakes, my parents had careers at UNC and my sister is an academic adviser there.

Secondly, what I have said and do believe is that a UNC employee who is also a council member could have a conflict of interest, depending on that person's position. This seems obvious, in the same way a developer — or his employee — might have a conflict sitting on the Town Council and casting a vote that could materially affect his or

her job, position or success. It is only fair that voters are informed of any potential conflict before an election.

Finally, it is especially disappointing this type of negative campaigning has come to Chapel Hill. Bachman claims I made the statement once — three weeks ago at a candidates forum. She had ample opportunity at other forums and in the press to discuss the issue or to simply criticize what she says she heard. Instead, she chose to buy an attack ad a few days before the election misrepresenting my position. Shame on her.

Cam Hill  
Candidate  
Chapel Hill Town Council

## Forum to discuss University resources for sexual crimes

## TO THE EDITOR:

Sexual assault and rape are topics of great concern to all people, but of greatest concern to the college-age population.

In fact, it is estimated that one out of every eight college women will be raped. That means that you probably know someone who will be raped in college. They are our friends, our sisters, our suitmates, our classmates.

It is a sadly common crime and a painful tragedy that touches us all. This is why it is important for all of us to know what resources

are available to UNC students.

Tonight at 8 p.m. in the Carmichael Ballroom, the Women's Affairs Committee will be presenting a program that aims to spread awareness of the ways Student Health Services, the UNC Hospitals Emergency Room and the Orange County Rape Crisis Center can come to the aid of a survivor of sexual assault.

Additionally, the ladies of SafeSkills, whose Web site is [www.safeskills.com](http://www.safeskills.com), will be presenting an interactive lesson on physical and psychological self-defense.

Bring a friend, join a discussion, and learn some of the most important information that (unfortunately) isn't as well known as it should be.

Joe Polich  
Charlene Wong  
Women's Affairs Committee  
UNC Student Government

## Dean campaign has strong ideas on foreign policies

## TO THE EDITOR:

Prof. Rick Vallery's assertion in the Thursday article on Democratic presidential nomination front-runners that Vermont Gov. Howard Dean does not support the rebuilding effort in Iraq is simply not true.

Dean did not support the war in Iraq. He did not approve of giving President George W. Bush carte blanche to administer the war.

## ON THE DAY'S NEWS

*"To make democracy work, we must be a nation of participants, not simply observers. One who does not vote has no right to complain."*

LOUIS L'AMOUR, WESTERN WRITER

## EDITORIAL CARTOON

By Danny Rosenblutt, [rosenblu@email.unc.edu](mailto:rosenblu@email.unc.edu).

To Limit Apathetic Voting Trends Among Students,  
The Voting Board Tests Hand-Raise Voting



## COMMENTARY

## Securing control over job, life key objective for many

My residence hall housekeeper stares at me from behind a honey bun and a Coca-Cola. Her keys jingle on her belt as she sits down. It's her break, and she's hanging out in the study lounge.

She tells me about her formative years. She had a job at a textile mill making 80 cents an hour, in 1971. She would have been about the same age as I am. Now she makes \$9.01 an hour, or \$18,000 per year.

This woman says she's 50, but she doesn't look a day over 40. That's astounding when I consider the work she does.

Sweeping balconies, unclogging and cleaning toilets, scrubbing sinks and mirrors, mopping floors and other things that I would rather sleep than do.

"It's going to be something that you get used to," my housekeeper says. In my infinite fortune, I'm not so sure I could.

There's a scene in the movie "Office Space" in which the bitter Michael Bolton (not the singer) and the enlightened Peter Gibbons are discussing career predictor tests. Gibbons explains that people's careers are defined by what they would do in their spare time. But the world would have no janitors, Bolton says, because nobody would clean up crap in their spare time.

For most of my life, I've been told that I could do just about anything and that college was the gateway to just about everything.

I have worked in a theater, and I cleaned up some crap in my time. My first day on the job, a woman somehow managed to throw up in every crevice of the bathroom. I've had to wipe a child's waste from the theater walkway.



BILLY BALL  
FOR KIDS WHO CAN'T READ GOOD

Even as an assistant manager, I had little to no control over what work I was doing.

I also thought of that job as a stepping-stone to something bigger. A temporary inconvenience on the way to wine and cheese with wealthy people with names like Duncan and Hannah. A cute story to tell to my grandchildren about how tough life was before Big Dadu made it big and discovered the secret to keeping Honeycombs cereal fresh.

The point is that most of my life — and I don't think I'm alone on this — was always a Scooby Snack to keep me barking.

I want to work so I can have my own personal bowling alley and a huge vat of banana pudding in which I'll bathe. My housekeeper, on the other hand, works to feed herself and her husband, who happens to be out of work with a broken foot right now.

Many UNC employees are waiting for bonuses this year. Employee Forum Chairman Tommy Griffin tells me about employees who've had to drop the health insurance on their families because they couldn't afford the \$400 monthly bill, a situation in which they have no control.

My housekeeper drives a sports car to work. She says other employees have resented her nice hair and clothes since she took the job at UNC two years ago (she's been a housekeeper in some

*"The point is that most of my life ... there was always a Scooby Snack to keep me barking."*

place for 16 years though). "Even though I'm a housekeeper, why do I have to be waddling down?" she asks as she holds one hand at knee-level.

It turns out that my housekeeper and I have more in common than I thought. We both are really just looking to have control.

Control over what? I'm not sure. Control of our work. Control of our pay. In my housekeeper's case, control of her appearance.

A point driven home by a recent trip to Lenoir Dining Hall. I came upon the waffle machines as closing time approached. There, along with her trusty cleaning tools, was a staff worker. Not just any staff worker — there before me was the waffle master.

With all of the ferocity of a snapping turtle, she reminded me that the time for waffles was past and that my hunger for waffles was a huge inconvenience to her and her waffle-machine cleaning agenda. Luckily, she made an exception for me because I begged.

There I was in one of my lowest states, and there she was finally on top of the hill, standing like justice for all to see. In that one sphere, she's the master and the meter and the CEO.

That was her waffle machine. That was her decision to make. Good for her.

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110 years of editorial freedom  
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