

# Northside residents share woes

## Want University help with problems

BY ERIN GIBSON  
STAFF WRITER

Loud noises, late-night parties and recycling bins overflowing with beer bottles are only a few of the problems Northside residents say have gotten them up in arms against their student neighbors.

A community watch meeting at Hargraves Community Center on Tuesday focused on the challenges of incorporating UNC students into the community.

Many residents think the situation has gone too far. Several people said they have to call the police nearly every weekend to break up a party.

"This is out of hand," said Northside resident Estelle Mabrey. "There are recycling bins full of beer bottles, parties until 2 a.m.

and people stealing my property." The residents want the university to intervene.

Melissa Exum, UNC dean of student affairs, said she is willing to do her part. "I will respond as far as the law allows, then as far as I can as dean," she said. "Where the law ends, I can take over based on principles and standards."

Exum said she is willing to work on ways to prepare students for the transition between living on campus and in neighborhoods with information about what is expected of them as community members.

The University and community want to work together to have a back-to-school block party next fall. The goal is for the families and students to meet each other, put

faces to names, welcome everyone into the community and develop more respectful relationships.

"I think a lot of it is that students may not be any more comfortable in the situation and just as hesitant as the other residents," said Chapel Hill Police Chief Gregg Jarvies.

Some residents expressed interest in having the University take disciplinary action against the students.

"We will show up at 2 a.m. if the police call us," Exum said. "We won't deal with trash problems, but if a police report is generated we can deal with it more directly."

Jarvies explained the limitations placed on University involvement.

"Anytime there are alcohol offenses involved, students are victims of sexual assault or there is a criminal activity arrest the

University can be notified," he said. "Traffic offenses including DWI, shoplifting and most noise violations will not be reported."

The excessive noise level and late parties were residents' primary concerns, and police officials said residents should continue to call them to handle the problem.

If two complaints are made in 30 minutes, the residents will be given a warning. An additional call will result in a citation.

Mabrey is especially worried about the screaming that takes place outside of her home.

"If those women were being hurt I wouldn't know the difference," she said. "I don't want women being attacked or raped, but it is a reality, and they are crying wolf."

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Theater complex raises concerns

BY ASHLEY DUNCAN  
STAFF WRITER

Businesses owners and town officials voiced concerns Monday about the impact of a 10-screen, 1,600-seat movie theater at the Village Plaza Shopping Center on South Elliot Road.

Eastern Federal Corp., a Charlotte-based movie theater company, presented a new concept plan for the Village Plaza theater at Monday's Chapel Hill Town Council meeting.

The Town Council initially approved a Special Use Permit for the movie theater on Jan. 27, 2003, but the new proposal involves changing the original permit.

The first permit was approved with a condition that Eastern Federal would improve an access road into the shopping center along Elliot Road. This road, called Driveway D, is located on the adjacent property owned by Guinn and Company.

The permit required Eastern Federal to make Driveway D, as well as one another driveway, 30 feet wide, with striped left and right exit lanes, an entrance lane and stop signs.

Richard Gerlitz, the project architect, said Driveway D is not on the Eastern Federal property.

"The driveway should have been deleted (from the Special Use Permit), but it was left in through an error and approved by the council," he said.

Neighboring property owners, Guinn and Company and Mark Properties are concerned about the theater's possible effect on traffic circulation and shoppers parking in the lots outside their tenant's stores.

Richard Ortiz, attorney for Guinn and Company, said deleting the requirement to improve Driveway D shows the lack of

cooperation from Eastern Federal to deal with any other property owners.

"A cross access stipulation needs to be acceptable for all tenants," he said.

"All traffic is headed into Mr. Guinn's property. To protect our customers, the access cannot be free-flowing. We must be able to put up some barriers."

Roger Waldon, Chapel Hill town planning director, said the special use permit shows unimpeded access between the two properties.

Jim Groot, owner of Red, Hot and Blue in Village Plaza, said he fears that Eastern Federal will make the theater profitable by directing their customers to park in other parts of the shopping center after the theater spots fill up.

"The question is, 'Where will all the cars go?'" he said.

Rosemary Hargrove, owner of The Cotton Boll, said she also is concerned that overflow traffic from the theater will be directed to park in front of her store.

"I already have complaints about parking and people who say they don't come to my store because they can't find a place to park."

These complaints concerned council member Jim Ward.

"This could jeopardize the success of very successful town businesses," he said. "Unless I can feel confident that this project can go ahead without jeopardizing existing businesses, I can't support it."

Throughout the meeting, Mayor Kevin Foy reminded the room that the purpose of the discussion was to examine the concept plan. There won't be a vote until the public hearing, scheduled for March 15.

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## BAILEY

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be committed to the neighborhood.

Bailey chairs the Northside Neighborhood Conservation District Advisory Committee which brings together investors and residents to make zoning recommendations.

Bailey acknowledges that it's not an easy job and that it will be difficult to reach compromises between developers and longtime residents.

"There's no magic bullet solution out there," Chilton said, noting that the future of the neighborhood is controversial.

Bailey's opponents over the issue of development in Northside include Mark Patton, a resident and investor in the Northside community, who owns several rental properties there.

Patton disagrees with Bailey's vision for the community, claiming

she risks infringing on residents' property rights as she tries to deter developers. "It's an inappropriate goal," he said.

Despite opposition, Chilton said that at least Bailey's commitment spurs actions.

"There are dozens of people involved in trying to advocate for that neighborhood, but I don't know if all those people would have crystallized around the issue if not for her."

Bailey attributes her effectiveness to her straightforward nature.

"I'm not afraid to speak in front of a mic," she said. "I'm not afraid to open my mouth."

Chapel Hill Town Council member Edith Wiggins also said Bailey has an impact on local leaders.

"When she comes to the council with residents from Northside, we listen, and we listen hard," Wiggins said.

Bailey is not only articulate, Wiggins added, but also a caring,

committed and energetic young woman. "I personally would like to see her on Town Council," she said.

Bailey said that right now her two daughters, ages seven and nine, are the reason she hasn't jumped into the political arena.

"Honestly, I think that's the only thing that holds me back," she said. "They're my priority."

Bailey's concern for her children, though, is largely her motivation to work for a better Northside.

"It's personal because it's where my children grow up," Bailey said.

Bailey's passion also stems from a long-time personal connection to the community. She grew up in Durham County but worshiped in Northside and had family who lived there.

She now lives in what was once her uncle's home on North Graham Street. She moved there when she was forced to leave her home in Durham County to make room for the Friday Center and Jordan Lake.

Furthermore, the neighborhood is critical because it contains much of the last low-income housing in Chapel Hill, she added.

"I don't know anywhere else in Chapel Hill we could afford at this point."

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## COVENANT

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with his wife Wanda and children, Scott and Kimberly.

Moeser said he is confident Williams' involvement will be significant for the program.

"I think having him identified with the Covenant, people will notice it all more, and it will help communicate across the country that Carolina is accessible regardless of financial situation," Moeser said. "I believe it will inspire many others to make a contribution."

The Covenant is the first program of its kind at a public university. Other schools such as the University of Virginia are putting together similar programs.

In a release Tuesday, UNC officials said they will use the Williams spot in future televised games and show it in other venues including the Smith Center.

Shirley Ort, UNC's director of scholarships and student aid, said she is grateful for Williams' contribution to the Covenant.

"I was so excited about it when I heard of his gift," Ort said. "It will help fund and get the word out. It is symbolic of how important it is to provide access to low-income students who want to come."

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## FRANKLIN

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build the structure on the intersection of Franklin Street and Columbia Street.

"I've been pretty fortunate to have business in Chapel Hill," Riddle said. "I have a good rela-

tionship with the town. They've been pretty supportive of me, and we've been trying to get new ideas.

"I hope to do something that looks as good as Top of the Hill. I want people to say it's a great downtown."

Aaron Nelson, executive director of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, said he expects the development to have a positive impact on Chapel Hill's economy.

"(Downtown) has been getting a lot of negative press lately," he said. "But things are really turning the corner."

Riddle said he doesn't want to take business away from other merchants, but instead wants to add something different.

"I don't want to do anything to hurt other people," he said. "I want to bring something new."

West Franklin Street includes several high-end restaurants as well as bookstores and venues such as The Cave and Local 506.

The Chrysler-Plymouth building, located across the street from a University business office, is recognizable by a bright mural of nature scenes on its east wall.

Riddle already has begun plans for the building, but said it will be several months before he actually works on the land.

"Anytime you build a building it takes a little while," he said.

"We still have to get approval from government agencies. It'll probably be six months before I break ground. But it still won't be fast enough for me."

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**Happy Hinton James Day**

On February 12, 1795, UNC's first student walked in from Wilmington. He had to be hungry. Let's do lunch.

Complete the crossword puzzle. Complete the phrase. Become eligible to win prizes, including a \$300 tuition credit, an iPod and a gift certificate for outdoor gear.

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**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hinton James Day**

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**ACROSS:**

- but the kitchen sink
- Uh-oh!
- poet used no punctuation for his initials
- eat with pita, falafel
- waste not, not
- Steinbeck novel "Mice and Men"
- Hat worn by Monica L.
- a lot, weight-wise
- used to get responses by mail (no stamp needed) (abbrev.)
- Emergency broadcast message: "This test"
- off-again; as with a tumultuous relationship
- a peanut isn't one, but a cashew is
- Not me, or them

**DOWN:**

- Capital of Italy, or a type of tomato
- "I'm fine; and?"
- Something prankster does to trees (abbrev.)
- your education before college (abbrev.)
- getting closer
- hereditary legacy
- Intentionally shallow reality show "Are You?"
- term for an alien spacecraft (abbrev.)
- Us
- It runs the buses between Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill (abbrev.)
- like sutor, another old-fashioned name for boyfriend
- void; Seinfeld was called "a show about"
- Lame comeback: "you!"
- Fairy tale setting: long and far away
- lingo meaning capture or arrest
- rules of language governing grammar
- tip for a fountain pen
- acronym for the Council of Economic Advisors
- phoned home, then biked there
- Bobby McFerrin song "Worry, Be Happy"
- to be fired: to get the

**ACROSS continued:**

- chain store sells vitamins and supplements (abbrev.)
- In "Ring Around the Rosy," you say this twice before falling down
- Latin expression used with further explanation, meaning "that is" (abbrev.)
- Final meal for a fish
- Microscopic creature
- Country code for Guinea
- These help pull the plow
- Description of a narcissist

**DOWN continued:**

- Not cats and dogs in this song: "It's Raining"
- New show on Fox, set in coastal California "The" (abbrev.)

**It's GAA Student Membership:**

1A 3D 12A 17D 24A 30D

GENERAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**TURNOUT**

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of person votes in student government elections. "Obviously these are people who are involved on campus, people who feel they have something invested in student government."

West added that she would like to see the inclusion of students who normally do not vote in the elections.

Nonetheless, all of those involved in the election saw the increase as a positive step toward more student involvement.

"I'm just glad that we got more people involved," former candidate Matt Compton said. "It shows that people really care about this school."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

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