

Dedication honors women's studies founder

Center's reading room gets christened

BY MEREDITH LEE MILLER
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Remnants of Hurricane Ivan brought gusty winds, gray skies and pouring showers to Chapel Hill on Friday.

But Mary Turner Lane still insisted it was a beautiful day because she was being honored at the Carolina Women's Center, located at 134 E. Franklin St.

Dozens of family, friends and supporters gathered at the center to celebrate the dedication of its reading room to the founder of the curriculum in women's studies at the University.

"Look at all the women who have benefited from my passion of equity," Lane said to the audience in the newly named Mary Turner Lane Reading and Resource Room. "It is a beautiful day for me."

Lane founded the women's studies program at UNC in 1977 and has made significant contributions to the center and for women in general, said Diane Kjervik, the director of the Carolina Women's Center.

"Mary Turner Lane fought for what women needed on campus," Kjervik said.

Turner's daughter drove down with her family from Washington, D.C. to witness the dedication ceremony at the center.

"I'm just so proud of her," Mary Ellen Lane said. "She has made women aware that they have to fight for their place."

She said her mother continues to support women's services.

Last year, Lane helped fund the center's renovation project.

Parts of those renovations were focused on the center's reading room,

which acts as a gathering place for its discussion groups.

Those at the center said naming a room after Lane came naturally.

"I think it's a great tribute to what (Lane) has done," said Emily Weiss, a UNC graduate student who works at the center.

Weiss is working to increase donations to the library so it can obtain a greater selection of books for local women to utilize. The center also wishes to add electronic resources.

Kjervik said the renovated room is now a warm and inviting environment in which women can find resources about women's issues.

Several in attendance remarked that the designers did a spectacular job in transforming the once-dull space into something special.

"It's very welcoming" said Susan Moeser, University organizer and wife of Chancellor James Moeser. "I hope people will use this (room)."

Interior designers Melanie Woods

and Vicky Bryant worked with Lane to create an feminine environment where women can study and learn.

"We wanted the room to have a residential feeling," said Woods. "We wanted a place of importance where women can gather."

The center's convenient location on Franklin Street makes it accessible for both students and members of the community, said Kjervik.

The center also works with other groups in the area, such as the Orange County Rape Crisis Center, to strengthen its services for all women in the community.

"Women have worked hard for this center," she said.

Lane said her goal in her career was to let women know they must achieve their full potential.

"All I ever wanted is for women to have equal access to society."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.



DTH/LAURA MORTON
Mary Turner Lane (left) speaks with Judith Wegner, chairwoman of the faculty, after a Friday dedication ceremony at the Carolina Women's Center.

Residents stand firm on IFC

Pine Knolls adds banner to ammo

BY RYAN C. TUCK
CITY EDITOR

Terry Clark stood outside her house off Merritt Mill Road on Sunday afternoon and stared at a large banner hanging between trees in front of her neighbor's house.

The banner read, "STOP the shelter on Merritt Mill Road."

Clark, of 107 Park Road, is a member of the Pine Knolls Community, a group that has been making headlines recently for its opposition to the Inter-Faith Council's interest in moving its men's homeless shelter to a site on Merritt Mill.

She said the banner perfectly summarizes the neighborhood's position on the proposed relocation.

"All of us know each other. ... It's nice and quiet here," Clark said. "Leave the shelter where it is."

The banner Clark was admiring was put up this weekend by Ted Parrish of 741 S. Merritt Mill Road, who has been voicing opposition on behalf of his neighborhood to various organizations for the past three weeks.

Parrish said he ordered the banner, which is about 8 feet long and 3 feet wide, to let drivers on Merritt Mill Road know that "we aren't changing our minds."

Parrish said he also ordered the banner because smaller signs the community had made were stolen between Sept. 10 and Sept. 12.

The signs, which were the size of computer paper and printed with the same message as the banner, were reported stolen to Chapel Hill police Sept. 13.

There are a few of the original signs on telephone poles along South Merritt Mill Road, but Parrish said the majority were stolen.

"We ordered the larger banner and put it out of reach so nobody would steal it," Parrish said.

The banner is hung about 30 feet above the ground between two trees in front of Parrish's house.

Clark said the neighbors are happy Parrish put up the banner because they are scared about what the shelter would do to the neighborhood.

Residents have expressed concerns that the shelter would bring more crime to the area.

The IFC has been open about its plans to move the shelter from its current location at the corners of Rosemary and Columbia streets.

Though the building recently underwent a series of renovations, Chris Moran, executive director of the IFC, said that it is still inappropriate and that a better facility is needed to serve the homeless.

Moran said the IFC is pursuing its option on the location on Merritt Mill Road as soon as the organization has enough money to relocate.

Pine Knolls community members met with Moran and Natalie Ammarell, president of the IFC, last Tuesday to discuss the concerns of both sides.

Parrish said that no future meetings have been set and that he doesn't know what is left to discuss between the two parties.

"I don't know what they think they're doing," he said. "There's nothing they can say to allay our fears."

Parrish has petitioned the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education and the Chapel Hill Town Council to oppose the shelter's relocation.

The group will petition the Carrboro Board of Aldermen on Tuesday, Parrish said.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

FBI gains unrestricted access to student records

BY AMY THOMSON
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security gave the FBI access last week to two databases containing personal information about international and exchange students.

The FBI has always had access to the databases through the department, but now, its access is direct and unrestricted.

Government officials claim that this move is another step in improving communication between the two groups, while some members of the higher education community worry the information will be misinterpreted.

"Because several of the hijackers (involved in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks) were in the U.S. on student visas which they had overstayed, (the department) felt it was very important for the agency investigating these circumstances to have access to this information," said Dennis Murphy, spokesman for the Department of Homeland Security.

"There could be cases where people come in claiming to be students and never go to school."

The department created the Visitor Immigrant Status Indicator Technology and Student Exchange Visitor Information System programs after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

SEVIS and U.S.-VISIT ensure that immigrants and foreign visitors are in the nation legally by managing biographical and travel information, as well as biometric

"My only concern is that they understand what they're looking at and that they can interpret the data they see."

ROBERT LOCKE, UNC INTERNATIONAL CENTER DIRECTOR

identifiers such as fingerprints and photographs.

Congress requires that schools file paperwork containing such information on their international students, which helps keep track of those students' immigration status.

The databases were created to keep this paperwork from becoming lost or disorganized.

Murphy emphasized that no international student or foreign visitor has reason to worry about the private nature of their personal information.

"Both the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security are required to follow the nation's privacy laws," he said.

A member of the White House staff who wished to remain anonymous said the FBI works very closely with the Homeland Security Department.

The student databases, she said, are sources the FBI uses to determine if wanted terrorists are in the country.

An FBI spokesman declined to comment on how the bureau plans to use the information from the database.

Robert Locke, director of the International Center at UNC, said he worries that the information schools provide to the Homeland Security Department could be misinterpreted.

UNC provides the government with data such as students' majors, the length of their academic programs and the degrees they are pursuing. Such information, Locke said, easily could be misused by federal workers.

"My only concern is that they understand what they're looking at and that they can interpret the data they see," he said.

He said something as simple as an international student going to part-time status could be viewed as an immigration violation if federal workers misinterpret that student's motives.

"There could be errors in (the database) either because of human or computer error, and I hope if they see something that they think's amiss, they'll investigate first what the cause of that is before they take action."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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CORRECTION

■ Due to a reporting error, the Sept. 16 article "Group releases dispute report" misstated Nancy Sutfenfield's title. She is vice chancellor for finance and administration.

To report corrections, contact Managing Editor Chris Coletta at cocoletta@email.unc.edu.

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