

"People will take such an insignificant item that it makes you wonder why they wouldn't just pay the five dollars for it in the first place." **DEBORAH MILLER**, A SOUTHERN SEASON

# Police provide training to stop local shoplifting

BY SPENCER GIPPLE  
STAFF WRITER

With Black Friday approaching, the Chapel Hill Police Department is trying to advertise its training and shoplifting prevention program for local businesses.

Lt. Chris Blue of the community services division of the department said he encourages any business concerned with shoplifting to set up an appointment for a Shoplifting Awareness and Prevention Training session.

"It's certainly a time of year that businesses have more traffic," he said.

"It's important to remind employees to keep their eyes open and know that any business is vulnerable."

Blue said the program alerts business owners and employees to potential shoplifting techniques and ways to prevent them.

"I think good customer service is the best deterrent of all," he said.

If employees greet customers and talk to everyone who comes into a store, potential shoplifters will be less likely to try to steal because of a fear of being identified later, Blue said.

Deborah Miller, director of marketing and communications for A Southern Season, is familiar with that technique.

She said store employees go through the training session each year before the holiday season and already have done so this year.

"We have lots of new seasonal employees every year, and we want them to know what to look for," Miller said.

She added that she thinks most retail stores see an increase in shoplifting around the holidays,

and she pointed out that people will steal anything.

"It's weird," she said. "People will take such an insignificant item that it makes you wonder why they wouldn't just pay the five dollars for it in the first place."

Miller stressed that the store prosecutes shoplifters to the fullest extent of the law.

Autumn Spencer, manager at Time After Time Vintage Thrift Shop at 414 W. Franklin St., said her store is not particularly concerned with the threat of an increased number of shoplifters.

"I think we have it under control," she said.

"Generally, we just keep an eye on the store and watch the dressing rooms. If it gets really crowded, we'll make people leave their bags at the door."

She added that the store deals with about the same number of shoplifters regardless of the time of year.

Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said that last year there were 151 reported shoplifting cases in the city.

Of those, she said, 14 reports were made in November and 19 were made in December.

"I think it's a pretty unreported crime," she said. "It's one of those things where after the season, shop owners will look at what they did and didn't sell and say 'oops.'"

To set up a shoplifting awareness training appointment, contact officer Danny Lloyd or Lt. Chris Blue at the CHPD's community services division at 932-2929.

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

# UNC plans for steady growth

Expansion key to other UNC schools

BY JAVAERIA QURESHI  
STAFF WRITER

As the UNC system calls for the N.C. General Assembly to guarantee annual funding for enrollment growth, University officials are considering plans for expanding the student body.

"UNC-Chapel Hill is on a slow but steady growth path at the undergraduate, graduate and professional level," said Jerry Lucido, vice provost for enrollment management and director of admissions.

The Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost has projected that there will be a total of 468 more undergraduate students on campus two years from now.

UNC-CH will enroll 16,652 undergraduates in fall 2005, 127 more than it has now. In fall 2006, officials expect to educate 16,933 undergraduates.

The numbers represent UNC-CH's plans for a steady increase in growth.

The University lacks excess capacity for the new students, unlike other system schools, which are focused on rapid-growth paths, said Steve Farmer, director of undergraduate admissions.

"There are other schools in the university system that are planning for a much more rapid growth," he said.

And unlike those schools, the University isn't dedicated to taking such a track.

"I think the number of students that we prepare with bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, Ph.D.s and professional degrees is one of the ways to meet our mission," Lucido said. "It's certainly not the only."

The combination of statewide enrollment pressures, a lack of state funding and a campus already at its physical capacity requires that UNC's enrollment increases only modestly and that it maintains and enhances academic quality.

"We continue to grow as long as we can maintain the kind of quality and character that students have come to expect from us," Lucido said.

"We should only grow as much good strong quality education allows. We should do good what we do."

The University's Academic Plan states that expansion should occur only as adequate infrastructure, faculty, staff and funding become available.

"When we enroll the few new students each year, we do after making room for them," Farmer said.

One way campus administrators are trying to address the space crunch is the University's widespread construction of buildings — including classrooms, the Ramshead Center, the Sonja Hanes Stone Center for Black Culture and History and housing on South



DTH FILE PHOTO/LIRYS CULLINAN  
Junior Ashley Kennedy leads a tour of prospective students. Officials project that UNC will have 127 more undergraduates in fall 2005 than it has now.

Campus.

"The number of students won't have near the influence which our preparations to serve them will," Lucido said.

Officials said that despite the accommodative changes, the University is committed to retaining the true essence that defines UNC — the quiet of a peaceful college town, the beauty of the green spaces.

"It's important that as we grow modestly, we do not grow in such a way to lose what we treasure about Carolina," Farmer said.

Doug Shackelford, senior associate dean for academic affairs

in the Kenan-Flagler Business School, said enrollment increases at his school would bring in more brilliant students.

He said there were a large numbers of qualified business school applicants who were turned away because of the constraints.

"We would like to expand, but it is a little more complicated than that," Shackelford said.

"For one thing, we have a space problem. The second thing is for faculty and staff to take more students."

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

# Officials craft shelter's policies

Begin review of operations manual

BY TED STRONG  
STAFF WRITER

At a meeting Tuesday night, county officials indicated a willingness to ignore a state statute in order to ensure that what they said is a sensible policy on when to euthanize animals in the county's shelter.

The Orange County Animal Shelter Operations Task Force met to begin reviewing the interim operations manual for the

Orange County Animal Shelter, which the county took over from the Animal Protection Society last summer after allegations of mismanagement.

The county is in the process of consolidating animal shelter and animal control services into one county department or bureau.

County Commissioner Moses Carey Jr. emphasized Tuesday that the operations manual needed to be amended quickly and that the policies would evolve from there.

"We're going to learn as we go; we're not going to be perfect from day one. We're not going to be perfect in year one," Carey said.

Joe Pulcinella, the shelter's director, outlined some of the features that had been added to the shelter's standard operating procedures.

Judgements that used to be made by staff now will be made by management, and an extra series of checks was added before an animal is allowed to be euthanized.

The meeting also addressed policies task force members

wanted to alter.

Those policies included criteria for dealing with aggressive animals, the way that statistics for shelter operations are reported at the end of each month and the length of time animals are kept in the shelter.

Discussion about length of stay generated the most controversy.

Pat Sanford, a former director of the shelter, and Elliot Cramer, a vocal critic of APS' management of the shelter, said there needs to be a set duration after which an animal would be euthanized.

They said a state statute set to go into effect Jan. 1 states that animals may not be sheltered for more than 30 days without socialization with their own species — something not possible in the current shelter building.

They also said the Humane Society of the United States advised limiting length of stay in an opinion that the county solicited.

County officials took a different stance.

Pulcinella said he called county shelters in the area and found no fixed policy on length of stay.

He said a decision on how long an animal stays in a shelter is complex and should be

based on a variety of factors, like an animal's temperament and adoptability and the amount of available shelter space.

County officials said the county was in no way bound by the report from HSUS and should customize the report to fit its specific needs.

"It was never the intent of the HSUS to just take that and plop it down on Orange County," said Gwen Harvey, assistant county manager.

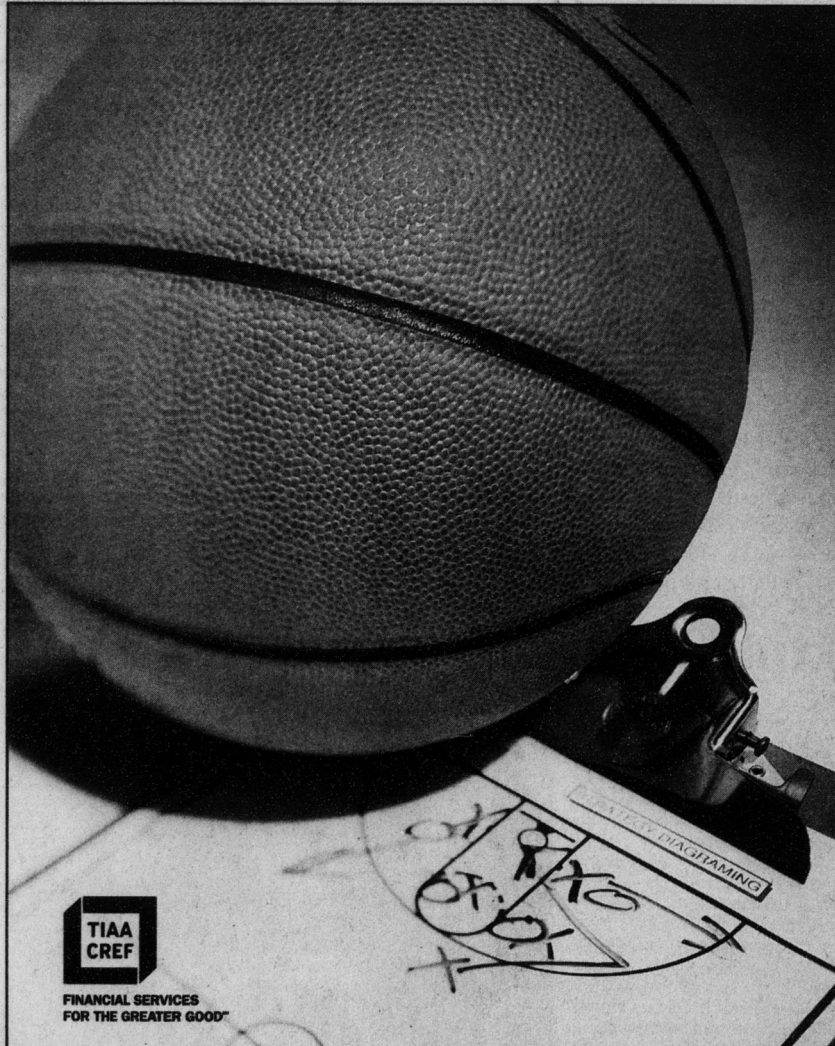
Carey also emphasized that the county has a history of doing what it thinks is appropriate, sometimes surpassing state law, sometimes doing other than it dictates.

"They're not going to come out here and haul anybody away if a few animals stay in a shelter more than 30 days," Carey said.

"We're going to do what we think is in the best interest of our citizens and our animals in Orange County."

But Cramer disagreed with this idea. "I was appalled. I was appalled to hear it said that the county may ignore state law."

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# County hears noise concerns

Residents offer varying opinions

BY ARLEY WOLBER  
STAFF WRITER

Orange County residents had a chance to sound off about the county's noise ordinance at a public hearing Monday.

Members of the Orange County Board of Commissioners fielded questions, listened to public murmuring and heard official suggestions for amendments to the ordinance.

County Planning Director Craig Benedict, who said clarifying the 20-year-old ordinance would be helpful, noted that it has been changed in the past.

The biggest change Benedict proposed involved shifting the start

time for the lowered nighttime noise limit of 50 decibels from 11 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Benedict also suggested reducing the nighttime noise limit to 45 decibels and changing the 60 decibel daytime limit to 50 decibels.

The county should provide better definitions of what violations of the ordinance are, Benedict said, suggesting that the county add a section to the ordinance explaining what nuisance noise is.

Commissioner Barry Jacobs agreed that the definitions needed some work.

He asked if it would make sense to have a more generic definition regarding noise violations.

The first resident to voice concern at the meeting was James Singleton, who lives near the intersection of Lawrence Road and U.S. Highway 70.

He has been fighting truck noise on Lawrence Road for five years, a battle he said has produced little success.

Singleton remarked that he would have gotten more help from SpongeBob SquarePants than he has gotten from the state.

"I'm asking for a real response from the county that I've been paying taxes to for 20 years," he said.

But commissioner Moses Carey Jr. pointed out that the commissioners do not have the authority to ban trucks from roads.

While most residents who spoke at the meeting focused on noise problems created by other people, Steve Chambers, who lives on White Cross Road, was more worried about his own right to make noise.

Chambers and his family race

"A lot of people move to the country because they can make noise."

**STEVE CHAMBERS**,  
ORANGE COUNTY RESIDENT

motorcycles in their spare time.

He said he is worried that the noise ordinance will not make provisions for those who make noise during their free time.

"A lot of people move to the country because they can make noise," Chambers said.

Orange County Sheriff Lindy Pendergrass, whose office is in charge of enforcing the noise ordinance, informed the commissioners that the county has not had many problems with noise complaints.

Jacobs told the residents who attended the hearing that they will be notified about the newest permutation of the noise ordinance as soon as information is made available.

No changes have yet been made to the ordinance, and the county has not set a date for further discussing potential amendments.

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

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