

POLICE LOG

FROM STAFF REPORTS

■ A La Residence restaurant, at 202 W. Rosemary St., was the victim of breaking and entering with force Monday, Chapel Hill police reports state.

According to reports, unknown suspects took meat from an outdoor freezer.

The meat was valued at \$940.

■ Miami Subs, at 107 E. Franklin St., was the victim of breaking and entering without force Monday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

Police responded to the restaurant at 11:09 a.m. after it was reported that money from the safe and register was missing.

Reports state that the perpetrator used key/lock bypassing tools. The amount of money taken was undisclosed in reports.

■ A UNC graduate student was the victim of a burglary with force Saturday on Justice Street, Chapel Hill police reports state.

According to reports, an unknown suspect pried open the door and took various electronic equipment, a bass guitar, camera, walkman, comforter, jewelry, wallets and purses, altogether valued at \$1,290.

The property was last known to be secure at 7 p.m. Friday. The incident was reported to police at 10:22 a.m. Saturday, reports state.

■ A UNC senior was the victim of a breaking and entering with force Saturday on Pritchard Avenue, Chapel Hill police reports state.

An unknown suspect took a ring, DVD player, change, various cameras, lenses and a camera bag, altogether valued at \$6,370, reports state.

The property was last known to be secure at 4 p.m. Saturday. The incident was reported to police at 8:26 p.m., reports state.

■ A weed whacker and leaf blower were reported missing from an outdoor shed at a Wesley Drive home Saturday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The tools, valued together at \$300, were reported missing at 7:49 a.m. They were last known to be secure at 7 p.m. Friday, reports state.

An unknown suspect pried the lock off the shed, reports state.

■ A Chapel Hill High School student was arrested Friday on one misdemeanor count of concealing merchandise/shoplifting, one misdemeanor count of possession of marijuana and one misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia, Chapel Hill police reports state.

According to reports, Jose Luis Medrano, 17, was arrested at 12:32 p.m. Friday at University Mall.

Security personnel found Medrano with \$6.15 in jelly beans and \$1.50 in coffee, reports state.

Police then found marijuana seeds, pipe screens and cleaning tools on Medrano's person.

Medrano was brought before the magistrate and released on a written promise to appear in Orange County District Criminal Court on Feb. 7.

■ An employee of the Quizno's Subs on East Franklin Street was arrested Friday on one felony count of drug possession and one misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia, Chapel Hill police reports state.

Timothy James Burke, 17, was arrested at 4:12 p.m. after officers responded to complaints of drug use on a city bus, reports state.

Burke consented to a search, reports state, which yielded three tablets of Oxycodone, three tablets of Acetaminophen and a small snorting spoon.

Burke was taken before the magistrate and release on a written promise to appear in court.

Smith Level Road plans delayed

Aldermen to wait for absent member

BY MEGHAN DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

After two decades and the development of multiple design options, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen was slated Tuesday to agree on a plan to widen Smith Level Road.

But instead of selecting one of the two available options, the board chose to delay the vote until Alderman Alex Zaffron, who was absent, could offer his input.

Mayor Mike Nelson said Zaffron was the primary board representative on the project, and he thought Zaffron's opinion would clarify funding issues the aldermen face.

"This discussion has been going on for a really long time," Nelson said. "Alex has been our point man with the (N.C. Department of Transportation)."

Nelson indicated that he favored the NCDOT alternative to its original plan. The alternative was presented

to the town Jan. 5. The plan features two traffic lanes and a bicycle lane, gutter, curb and sidewalk on the west side of the road.

This plan would require the town to pay the right-of-way and utility costs — estimated at \$300,000 — while the state's Moving Ahead program would fund the remainder.

Town manager Steve Stewart said the town had not foreseen so large a financial responsibility and would explore town revenues and ask the state and county for assistance.

"The bottom line is that this is a fairly sizable chunk of money, something we had not anticipated until January 5," Stewart said.

The aldermen asked town staff and NCDOT officials for specifics on ways to fund the alternative expansion option.

"While I'm inclined to vote, \$300,000 is a lot of money," said Alderman Joal Broun.

NCDOT division engineer Mike Mills said the town could enter an agreement whereby the NCDOT would front the money necessary for the right-of-way and be reimbursed by the town at a later date.

The fate of the section of Smith Level Road between Morgan Creek and Rock Haven Road has been in contention for 20 years.

Controversy over the expansion became heated in 2001 at a public hearing to discuss NCDOT's original proposal to expand Smith Level to four lanes. Citizens raised concerns for the safety of pedestrians and bikers and over the flow of traffic to Frank Porter Graham Elementary School.

Town transportation planner Dale McKeel said those who spoke at the public hearing questioned the need for the project.

"It's taken this long for the town and the department to work through the issues raised at that meeting," McKeel said.

In response to citizen feed-

back, the aldermen in 2003 asked NCDOT to consider an alternate plan to make the road more pedestrian-friendly and reduce the number of traffic lanes.

"The four-lane plan is not our position or the position of our citizens," Nelson said Tuesday.

McKeel said there was also support for the alternative because construction could be completed before the area's third high school is slated to open.

Under NCDOT's original plan, the town would be expected to cover 30 percent of sidewalk costs, about \$60,000, Stewart said.

Alderman Mark Chilton said he believes the town is more likely to fund the alternative plan in spite of the added costs because of overwhelming town favor for the plan.

The aldermen did not decide on a date to re-tackle the issue. Mills offered to delay until mid-February.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

Carrboro looks to slow traffic

BY EREN TATARAGASI
STAFF WRITER

Speed cameras, reduced speed limits and speed bumps are just a few of the "traffic calming devices" included in plans that Carrboro's Transportation Advisory Board presented to the Board of Aldermen on Tuesday night.

The proposals stemmed from a 2004 re-evaluation of traffic management that was prompted by petitions and requests for improvements.

Current traffic plans don't leave room for new improvements the town has in mind such as the widening of sidewalks, said Chris van Hasselt, chairman of the transportation board.

"The process in place to determine whether streets need or don't need speed bumps, et cetera, is outdated and only leaves the option for speed bumps," he said.

Dale McKeel, Carrboro transportation planner, shared similar sentiments.

"This review gave us a chance to look at the existing plan and look for opportunities to add some flexibility and look at additional fea-

tures that would come into play in a neighborhood," he said.

The plan proposes a point system to evaluate the needs for traffic calming measures on streets about which the town receives complaints.

It is up to residents to initiate this process, said van Hasselt.

"It could take from four months to 12 months to review a request," said McKeel.

Some examples of what would gain a street points include: five points for every 20 pedestrians and cyclists in the peak hour; five points for no continuous sidewalks on at least one side of the street; and five points if the street is on a designated school walk route.

Streets with higher point values will be given priority when officials assign road improvements.

The plan suggests reducing the speed limit to a maximum of 25 mph in residential areas.

The aldermen said they would like to see a speed limit of 20 mph in certain residential areas.

Advisory board members recommended that speed cameras be used in certain neighborhoods and other areas as an effective way to

enforce speed limits.

But the aldermen were uncomfortable with the idea of using speed cameras in Carrboro.

"I can't go there," Mayor Mike Nelson said. "There are lots of things that are effective but still not the right thing to do for some communities."

"I believe it's too early to rule the cameras out as an option," van Hasselt said.

The aldermen were supportive of other traffic calming devices such as stop signs, speed limit signs, one-way street designations, no-turn-on-red restrictions and traffic barriers.

These measures, if implemented, could cost \$50 to \$70 per sign and as much as \$20,000 for median barriers.

The aldermen agreed Tuesday to support the points system, hold public information sessions on reducing the speed in residential areas and to work with town staff to create a comprehensive plan for street designs that would enforce a lower speed limit.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

Adult shop to take on Fla. county

BY SPENCER GIPPLE
STAFF WRITER

A local adult-products store is getting more than it bargained for in its attempts to expand outside the state.

Hillsborough-based retailer Adam & Eve, which also has locations in Raleigh, Durham and Greensboro, has met stiff opposition in its plans to open a new store in Nassau County, Fla.

General Manager Nolan Williams said the Nassau County location is part of the store's plan to increase its presence.

"We are the original and largest adult-products mail-order company in the United States," he said. "We've had over 600, almost 700 inquiries from people who want to talk to us and are interested in the store."

Williams said he knew protest would be inevitable any time the chain tried to expand.

"We see several states as major growth areas," he said. "But there are always people that aren't going to like it or approve of it."

Nassau County lawyer Gary Baker said he is one of those people.

"I'm against it for a number of reasons," he said of the planned store in Nassau County. "It's on the main drag next to a pizza parlor, tanning salon and sports store."

But Baker admits that it will be hard to legally shut down the store.

"You can't ban such establishments, but you can put restrictions on them," he said.

Baker said Florida state law prohibits adult stores from being located within 2,000 feet of a school.

He said that the site of the new store is less than 1,000 feet from a day-care center, but that such centers do not legally qualify as schools.

"We hope to gain enough supporters to picket in front of the store from the time it opens until it closes," Baker said.

He said that he plans to have someone photograph each person who walks in the store, and place the photos on a Web site and in local newspapers.

"My biggest concern is that guys will go in the store and buy pornography until it doesn't fulfill their urges anymore," he said. "And that can lead to creating sex offenders."

Williams argues that the stores' primary customers are not men. "The majority of our business comes from women and couples."

Williams said the store's right to open is absolutely protected by the state Supreme Court. He added that he thinks the company has been misrepresented in the news.

"We're not a porn shop," he said. "Everybody has sex, and nobody would be here without it."

Nassau County Commissioner Jim Higginbotham said he disagrees with what the store offers but will not try to exile it from the county.

"There's nothing we can do about them coming in," he said. "But I'm not crazy, and I won't waste taxpayers' money trying to fight that issue."

Baker said he will continue to fight passionately to move the store to a more discreet location.

"Adam & Eve's lawyers have grossly misjudged the determination of the people in this community."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.



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610 West Franklin St, Chapel Hill, NC www.crookscorner.com 919-929-7643

UCS Internship Fair

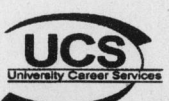
Thurs., Jan 27, 2005 10:00am - 3:00pm
Student Union Great Hall

Organizations from a variety of employment areas, such as business and industry, government and non-profits will be represented. Employers will be present to discuss internship opportunities locally and across the United States. Open to UNC-CH students only. This program is not for students in MBA, law, MAC, medical and dental programs.

To help you get ready for the fair, be sure to attend...

How to Prepare for the Internship Fair
Attend this informative session to prepare for interacting with employers. Topics include appropriate dress, materials to bring, developing an effective introduction, and more.

Tues., Jan 25 4pm 239B Hanes Hall



Division of Student Affairs
919-962-6507
ucs@unc.edu Hanes Hall
<http://careers.unc.edu>

Things to do:

- Study Bio
- Meet Drama Group
- Apply for GAA Student Membership Leadership Position
- Go to an information session on Tue, Jan 18 or Wed, Jan 19, 6pm at Alumni Center on Stadium Dr. - free dinner for first 50 people
- Apply online at Alumni.unc.edu
- Deadline is Fri, Jan 21
- email questions to guastudentmember@unc.edu

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