residents on waste

Discuss \$10.4M cleaning of site

BY BRIAN HUDSON

University officials briefed concerned Chapel Hill residents about efforts to clean up a 0.2-acre waste disposal site located near the

Horace Williams tract. Between 1973 and 1979, UNC officials buried the chemical waste generated by campus laboratories and the former N.C. Memorial Hospital on the site.

Propelled by the University's plans to build a satellite campus on the tract, the clean-up process began in November 2003, when UNC signed a voluntary agreement with the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
"We are taking these steps even

though the University is under no state or federal order that requires mediation," said Peter Reinhardt, director of UNC's Department of Environment, Health and Safety,

on Thursday.

The waste disposal area would not be sanctioned by today's standards, but the site was constructed according to state and federal regulations in the 1970s, said Jim Shilliday, a senior scientist with UNC consultant Arcadis Inc., which has been charged with overseeing the estimated \$10.4-million clean

up of the disposal site by 2012. The site is located south of Crow Branch Creek near Municipal Drive. The agreement mandates that University officials inform the public of the clean-up process and hear any comments or concerns.

During the meeting, Shilliday

NURSING at its best

briefed local residents about the clean up and relayed the results of a study of nearby groundwater.

The study, completed in October 2004, found chemical contamination that exceeds N.C. groundwater standards in about a 3,600 sq. ft. area north of the site. At least five chemicals, including benzyne and chloroform, had been detected in the area, Shilliday said.

But testing of area surface waters indicated a level of chemicals far below federal drinking water standards, and there has been no human exposure, Shilliday said. The volume of the creek kept the

chemicals from hitting threatening levels by the time they reached the surface. "You're diluting out some of these of these compounds," Shilliday said. "So you wouldn't necessarily expect to see the con-centrations in the surface water."

Arcadis will purify the groundwater, and the clean up will com-pletely remove the chemicals from the disposal site, he said.

About a dozen area residents attended the meeting and asked questions about the clean up and the leak. A few worried about other local disposal sites and possible leaks. But Reinhardt said tests ruled out a chemical leak at the one other disposal site near the tract.

Al Burk, who lives near the tract, said the meeting abated any con-cerns. "It looked like it was being done pretty professionally."

Burk, a member of the Horace

Williams Citizens Committee, said the situation does not sound threatening. "We're just continuing to monitor the situation."

> Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

UNC officials brief Day to celebrate town's history

Carrboro embraces unique festival

BY EREN TATARAGASI

Since 1996, Carrboro has dedi-

cated May 1 to celebrating itself.
Carrboro Day is set aside every
year to take note of all the unique qualities that make the town special. This year's event will be held from 12:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday at the **Town Common**

Carrboro Day is the brainchild of Aldermen Jacquelyn Gist and attorney and Carrboro resident Jay Bryan. The concept was created as both sat in Bryan's living room almost 10 years ago.

"The idea was born in old Carrboro," Gist said.

"As the population of Carrboro grows, we want people to know they are in a community that has a history and identity," she added. Carrboro, settled in 1882 around

a University railroad spur, was first known as West End because it sits west of Chapel Hill.

Incorporated in 1911 as Venable, the town made its final name change two years later in honor of Julian Shakespeare Carr, owner of a local textile mill.

Unlike Hillsborough's Hog Day and Chapel Hill's Apple Chill, Carrboro Day is a noncommercial event that gives residents a chance to get to know one another.

"Having the commercial aspect

in Carrboro Day would dilute the essence of the day," Bryan said.
Sean Sunkel, town recreation

and parks supervisor of special events, emphasized that the event is resident-run.
"Carrboro Day is a citizen com-

mittee-run event. This event is run for the citizens of Carrboro, by the citizens of Carrboro," he said.

Sunkel's role in the event

involves providing logistical support and overseeing the budget, public safety and purchasing. All the action will take place in

one central location so participants have a greater opportunity to interact with one another and are not dispersed too widely.

The only items that will be on sale at the event are hot dogs and lemonade. Proceeds will go to support the newly opened Carrboro branch library, the Cybrary.

This year there will be 11 bands playing everything from jazz to county. And as always, there will be games, crafts, poetry and a picnic.

"Each aspect of the day is special and worth being a part of," Bryan This year, there also will be mor es and pictures on display detail-

ing the town's history.
Other events will include a performance by Bull City Gymnastics, an appearance by "Mother Goose" and family folk dancing. The Friends of Bolin Creek will



Bruce Thomas (left); Tatinana Boza, 4; and Justice Scott, 6, enjoy the afternoon weather outside of Weaver Street Market in Carrboro

also host activities from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wilson Park.

And as the guidelines for Carrboro Day state, "Bring a chair or blanket, a picnic for dinner and bask in all that's good about

The day will close, as always,

with the traditional spraydown by

the Carrboro Fire Department.
"That's my favorite part," Gist said. "Carrboro is my obsession, so it's just a really neat day.

> Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

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Expansive

By Arlan & Linda Bushman

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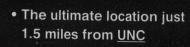
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