

The Daily Tar Heel

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2006

Town, community prep for festivities

BUSINESS OWNERS READY FOR HOLIDAY FOOT TRAFFIC

BY LAURA SMITH
STAFF WRITER

For Franklin Street thrill seekers, Halloween means a night of seeing friends and strangers attempt to wow the crowd with unforgettable costumes. For local businesses, it means a night of rowdy customers fighting the crowd for a drink or a bite to eat.

In preparation for a busy evening where officials expect 50,000 to 70,000 people on Franklin Street, many bars and restaurants are increasing the number of staff on duty during peak hours.

Spanky's Restaurant and Bar manager Aaron Stumb said he expects the crowd to keep his extra staff busy through closing at 2 a.m.

"We're stocking up on food, beer, everything," Stumb said.

"It's usually less rowdy than a football game, but it's usually pretty fun."

Buffalo Wild Wings Grill and Bar general manager Jason Kerwin said he hasn't yet decided when to close down the establishment for the night, but the restaurant is staffing up in preparation for a big crowd.

"Tuesdays are typically busy nights for us anyway, so I expect to see plenty of people show up," Kerwin said.

He said Buffalo Wild Wings will have one off-duty police officer as well as three hired security guards on hand.

Customers of Buffalo Wild Wings will have to pay a cover charge for admittance on Halloween night.

Luke Stepleton, manager at Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery, said with four extra staff at the bar and two or three more on the floor, he hopes to keep pace with the increase in customer flow he has seen in the past.

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HALLOWEEN PROTOCOL TO INCLUDE CLOSURES, TRANSIT

Street closings

Beginning at 9 p.m. Franklin Street will be closed between Raleigh and Roberson streets. Columbia Street will be closed from Rosemary Street to Cameron Avenue, and Henderson Street will be closed between East Rosemary and Franklin streets. Residential streets near downtown will be closed except to residents of those streets and their guests.

Transportation

The town will offer a shuttle between four park-and-ride lots and downtown. The cost of the shuttle is \$5 round-trip and \$3 one-way.

The buses will leave from the Jones Ferry Road Lot, Southern Village, the Friday Center and University Mall and will run until 1:30 a.m.

Chapel Hill Transit also will run modified night routes, ending at about 9 p.m.

Detailed information about Halloween transportation is available at www.townof-chapelhill.org/transit.

Parking

Cars parked within the festival area will be towed starting at 6 p.m.

Vehicles that are parked illegally will be ticketed and towed with a minimum recovery cost

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Steinbrenner incident halts campus play

YANKEES OWNER FALLS ILL AT GRANDDAUGHTER'S UNC SHOW

BY HARRY KAPLOWITZ
ARTS EDITOR

Pauper Players' Sunday afternoon performance of "Cabaret" was cut short when Department of Public Safety officials responded to a call that a man was suffering from chest pains, DPS spokesman Randy Young said.

Sophomore Emily Riehl, who was in the audience, said the man was New York Yankees principal owner, George Steinbrenner.

Steinbrenner, 76, was in attendance to watch his granddaughter, junior Haley Swindal, perform the lead role of Sally Bowles.

Young said the man was "conscious, alert and breathing" when DPS officials arrived at Playmakers Theatre between 3:30 and 3:41 p.m.

The incident left some audience members shaken and forced the company to cancel the performance.

"I didn't notice anything until intermission when people started going up to him," said Riehl, who added that she was seated two rows behind Steinbrenner.

"He was pale and his eyes were closed — it looked like he had fainted."

Riehl said someone called an ambulance at intermission and then, shortly after, someone else canceled the performance and asked audience members to leave.

"I was just dazed and confused," Riehl said. "I didn't know what was happening, and then I saw him and I froze in my seat."

University alumnus Danny Coles, assistant music director for the production, said the decision

to cancel the performance came when paramedics arrived.

He would not confirm the identity of the man who was taken to the hospital.

"I'm not completely sure what the circumstances were," Coles said. "I'm not even sure if it was chest pains or if it was caused from issues with the heat in the theater."

Coles said the heat had been turned on in the theater Sunday morning but was later turned off.

"The paramedics came, and we just felt the best decision was to cancel the rest of the show at that point."

Coles said audience members were offered refunds and encouraged to attend the Sunday evening performance, in which Swindal performed.

The man, Young said, was later put in the care of Orange County Emergency Medical Services technicians and taken to UNC Hospitals, where he was evaluated.

Howard Rubenstein, spokesman for Steinbrenner and the Yankees, said Steinbrenner is "doing well" in his Tampa, Fla., home.

"All I know is a few minutes ago, I spoke to George, and he was at home in Tampa, and he sounded OK," Rubenstein said.

After calling Steinbrenner "a little after 4 o'clock" on Monday, Rubenstein said Steinbrenner "arrived in Tampa a short while ago."

Steinbrenner was hospitalized in December 2003 after fainting at a memorial service for football great Otto Graham in Sarasota, Fla.

Junior Lori Mannette, director of the production, said Pauper Players is not commenting on the incident.

The last performance of "Cabaret" is set to take place Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Playmakers Theatre.

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

MUM'S THE WORD



DTH/ANNA DORN

Four Corners restaurant and bar, like many other businesses on Franklin Street, gets prepared for today with Halloween decorations. Tonight will be the one night of the year that Four Corners will have a cover charge, which will be \$5. They will clear out the furniture on the

second floor and have a beer tub. Other downtown eateries and bars are gearing up for an estimated 50,000 to 70,000 people to flock downtown tonight in costumes ranging from the mundane to the extraordinary. Police will be out in full force, some on horseback, to keep the event safe for all involved.

County missing prosperous past

Editor's note: The Daily Tar Heel traveled to North Carolina's five poorest counties to gauge the University's mission to provide service to the state.

BY LINDSEY NAYLOR
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

WINDSOR — The Historic Hope Mansion, home to 19th century N.C. Gov. David Stone, once entertained political powerhouses and graced the lucrative land of a 6,000-acre plantation.

Stand on the back porch of Stone's Palladian mansion today, and straight ahead is a cotton field where tenant farmers have toiled to make ends meet since the Emancipation Proclamation and through years of corporate consolidation.

Today: Bertie County
Wednesday: Tyrrell County

Still, economic development and programs spearheaded by UNC service institutes could mean a revitalized legacy of hope in Bertie's future.

A University for the People

UNC's mission statement lays out its three-pronged purpose of education, research and service.

Kevin FitzGerald, special assistant to the chancellor, said that mission is the driving force behind UNC's increasing concern with aiding poor communities in North Carolina.

"The University is really raising its profile and its interest in raising the question of, 'How can we strengthen our engagement in other

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Bertie County

Total population: 19,773
White population: 7,178
Black population: 12,326
Hispanic population:
Families below the poverty line: 19.3 percent
Individuals below the poverty line: 23.5 percent
Unemployed percent of civilian labor force: 7.1 percent

SOURCE: 2000 U.S. Census Bureau data

announcement

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

The Daily Tar Heel wishes you a happy Halloween and hopes that you keep safe on Franklin Street or wherever your costume might take you this evening.

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MAPPING OUT THE DAY

The Downtown Partnership launches a Web site detailing where to eat and what to do during your visit to Chapel Hill's main streets.



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A FOREIGN TONGUE

Our monthly Spanish section features stories on Día de los Muertos, elections in the Latino world and a spotlight on Chilean UNC golfer Martin Ureta.

this day in history

OCT. 31, 1918 ...

The Board of Trustees appoints Marvin Stacy as chairman of the faculty, replacing the recently deceased President Edward Graham.

weather



Sunny
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