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Chapel Hill names new police chief

McCarthy served as Fayetteville head

BY KAYLA CARRICK
CITY CO-EDITOR

Chapel Hill police Chief Gregg Jarvies met Thomas McCarthy almost 20 years ago when McCarthy moved to North Carolina to take the police chief post in Gaston County. During the years, Jarvies said the pair spent many hours swapping stories and discussing Chapel Hill. "When you want to bounce off an issue or a problem, he's one of those folks I would call without hesitation," Jarvies said. "You pick out cer-

tain chiefs that you respect and you appreciate their experience and their integrity. Tom's one of those guys." And when Jarvies announced his plans for an April 1 retirement in December, he encouraged McCarthy to apply for the job. Following a nationwide recruitment effort that garnered 57 applicants, Town Manager Roger Stancil Tuesday will assume the position of Chapel Hill police chief June 25 and will earn an annual salary of \$122,000.

Maj. Brian Curran will lead the force in the interim. McCarthy most recently served as a police chief in Fayetteville, where Stancil worked as city manager for 26 years before becoming Chapel Hill town manager in September. McCarthy retired Feb. 1 from his Fayetteville stint wanting to return to public safety someday. But he didn't think he would jump back in the saddle so soon. "Chapel Hill stimulated the interest a lot quicker than I anticipated," said McCarthy, who visited the town often when his daughter attended the UNC School of Law.



Thomas McCarthy will succeed his friend, Gregg Jarvies, as police chief on June 25.

"That was the attraction — coming to Chapel Hill." A former UNC student and 31-year member of the CHPD, Jarvies has been described as the perfect bridge between town and gown. And while his successor might not be an alumnus, Jarvies said

McCarthy has plenty of experience working closely with Fayetteville churches, civic organizations and Fayetteville State University. "Partnering with this University is going to be no different," Jarvies said. "He's got the talent to do that." Curran said McCarthy is a leading proponent of the community policing model, which emphasizes partnerships with businesses and local groups to solve law enforcement and community problems. But the new chief plans mostly to observe at first, without making any changes right away. Student Body President James

Allred said McCarthy should do well as he's already had a taste of a Chapel Hill Halloween. Fayetteville police aided local officers in October. "His experience with those sorts of festivals and major events will serve him very well in this town," said Allred, who helped with a role-play exercise during the interviewing. An assessor during the four finalists' interviews, Chapel Hill fire Chief Dan Jones said McCarthy's charisma stood out during a mock discussion with town staff. "He did an excellent job of

SEE MCCARTHY, PAGE 9

Spring events combine into one big party

Leaders seeking acts to perform

BY JORDAN LAWRENCE
STAFF WRITER

The executive branch of student government and the Residence Hall Association have a date, time and location for their collaboratively planned spring event. What they don't have is a name. Plans now are firm to combine the student government-backed return of Spring Fest with RHA's yearly Beach Blast on April 20. The reinstatement of Spring Fest, the second semester counterpart of Fall Fest, is one of Student Body President James Allred's platform points. "Spring Fest and Beach Blast will collaborate on the event," said Hilary Marshall, chairwoman of the executive branch's student life committee which has been involved in planning the event. "Though the semantics have not been confirmed, each group wants to make sure they get credit."

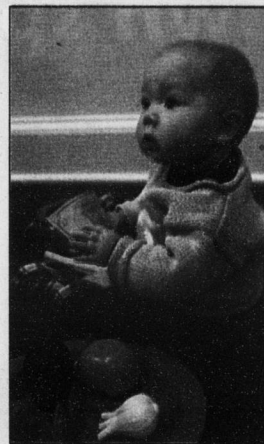
The event will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the Ehringhaus Recreation Field. Marshall has worked closely with Myrna Charlot, the community governor for Ehringhaus, while planning the event. Both said that because many other organizations are involved in planning and sponsoring the event, it is important that the naming and publicity of the event give credit to all those organizations. Other organizations sponsoring the event include mtvU, who is providing the money to pay for musical entertainment and the University's chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. RHA and student government agreed to collaborate when it became apparent that both groups wanted the Ehringhaus field on April 20. RHA had been given permission to use the field by the University. Because of scheduling issues and regulations on the non-ath-

SEE SPRING FEST, PAGE 9

Kidzu celebrating one-year birthday

BY CATARINA SARAIVA
STAFF WRITER

Today, Franklin Street will abound with something it has been seeing a lot more of during the past year — children and families. Kidzu Children's Museum will celebrate its one-year anniversary by opening its doors free of charge. The day's celebrations will include crafts, cake and gift bags filled with Mardi Gras beads and stick-on tattoos. Since the museum's opening a year ago, downtown Chapel Hill again has become a popular spot for more than just students as families found a niche on Franklin Street. "The most important thing that it's done is that it's brought back families into downtown," said Liz Parham, executive director of the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership. In its first year the museum exceeded its expected number of visitors by almost 10,000. It now boasts twice the anticipated members, said Jonathan Mills, president of the museum's board of directors. "We're absolutely thrilled," Mills said. "It's a testament that we're doing something right." The museum will host singer-songwriter Paul Rosenberg at 10:30 a.m. for the premiere of "The Kidzu Song." From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. children can decorate birthday crowns, and at 3 p.m. birthday cake and cupcakes will be given out.



Sumi Farrell, 7 months old, cooks and serves plastic food with her sister at Kidzu on Tuesday as their mother keeps a close eye.

Museum members Jesse and Helen Kalisher take their children to both the Museum of Life and Science in Durham and to Kidzu. "I think it's great to have something in Chapel Hill," said Jesse Kalisher, a town resident. Though it is not permanent, the downtown location has provided families an option that is more

SEE KIDZU, PAGE 9

HOME SWEET HOME



Sima Fallahi, released from Mecklenburg County Jail on Tuesday afternoon, looks out her front door as she waits for Kathleen Barton to arrive. Kathleen and her fiance Bob Wright have been taking care of Sima's daughter Leila since her incarceration in November.



Fallahi arranges a series of mandalas she drew in jail on her dining room table on Tuesday afternoon. She said art helped calm her nerves.

Iranian woman returns from jail

BY SARA GREGORY
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Sima Fallahi's house off North Greensboro Street in Carrboro has been empty for more than three months. But Tuesday a kettle of water boiled for tea, fresh cut flowers adorned the kitchen table and ice cream chilled in the freezer. It looks as though it was never empty, but Tuesday, the Iranian-born Fallahi unlocked the door to her home and walked in for the first time since being arrested by Chapel Hill police Nov. 29. "It feels so good to be home,"

Fallahi said. "My friends have been here to clean. I think they've done a better job than I do." Fallahi's friends are Kathleen Barton and Bob Wright, the couple who took temporary guardianship of Fallahi's 11-year-old daughter Leila while Fallahi was imprisoned, and the ice cream and flowers were among the many housewarming gifts with which they greeted her. Fallahi, 49, was arrested when police found an outstanding deportation order after she applied for a permit to sell her art. Since Dec. 1 she has been held in Mecklenburg County Jail. Though she was able to return Tuesday, Fallahi still must wait to

SEE FREED, PAGE 9

Passport rules affect hot spots

BY NATE HEWITT
STAFF WRITER

New passport requirements to enter Mexico, Canada and some Caribbean locations are pushing these usual Spring Break hot spots off the top 10 list. Nine of the 10 leading destination searches on college campuses for March and April were cities within the United States, according to a study by Kayak.com. London was the only international location to make the list. "We believe that this is due to the new passport laws requiring Americans to travel with a passport to many international destinations," said Alexis Razzano, a spokeswoman for Kayak.com, a travel search engine that provides various flight options and prices. To compile its data, Kayak.com reviewed the searches conducted from the domains of 200 colleges across the nation on its Web site. The new passport law, which was implemented on Jan. 23, requires travelers to present a valid passport or equivalent identification if they fly from the U.S. to Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, or

Bermuda. But obtaining a passport usually is a long and arduous task, costing \$97 and taking up to 10 weeks to be processed and received. Even if a traveler pays an extra fee for the expedited service, it can take up to two or three weeks to be processed. The expedited service costs \$60 in addition to regular application fees and overnight delivery costs. Sophomore Heather Bursleson, who is going to Acapulco for Spring Break, said she was not aware of the change until February when she received an e-mail from her travel agency, StudentCity.com. "I'm so glad they sent out that e-mail," she said. "It's something a lot of students don't know."

SEE PASSPORTS, PAGE 9



inside | dailytarheel.com

HONOR'S MAN A new chairman is named for the Honor Court, PAGE 6
ARE WE THERE YET? Town leaders set to talk about future transportation, PAGE 7
HAVE A SAFE TRIP Event promotes staying safe during Spring Break, PAGE 11

special section

TIME TO DANCE
Check out the section inserted inside this issue for a full preview of the ACC Tournament, which starts Thursday and will feature UNC on Friday.



campus | page 13

DANCING KING
Matt Harding, a man who has gained fame on the Internet for dancing in cities around the world, spoke to students about international travel.

this day in history

MARCH 7, 1958 ...
A first-year medical student is arrested and charged with indecent exposure after jumping nude into a car containing two high-school girls.

weather

Partly cloudy
H 63, L 35
index
police log 2
calendar 2
games 10
sports 10
opinion 14