

# Recycled phones combat violence

BY LINNIE GREENE  
STAFF WRITER

A local domestic violence prevention center aims to use technological clutter to institute positive change.

The Chapel Hill's Family Violence Prevention Center's phone drive, in its fifth year, sends used cell phones from drop boxes around town to Shelter Alliance, a recycling program in Florida.

Shelter Alliance, which helps raise money for 80 percent of domestic violence centers in the country, sends the center a check after salvaging precious metals located in phones' circuit boards.

The Violence Prevention Center raises awareness for the drive through word of mouth, posters and flyers and hopes to expand publicity at UNC. Currently, stu-

dents interning with the center are volunteering through the APPLES Service-Learning Program.

"They don't make money by getting good phones, they make money by getting a lot of them," said Brent Macon, a first-year volunteer.

According to organizers, the fundraiser benefits domestic violence prevention efforts and encourages environmental responsibility.

"Our program keeps phones out of landfills and at the same time, because of the intrinsic value the cell phones have, it raises money for the nonprofits," said Michele Triana of Shelter Alliance.

"A cell phone, even if it's damaged or outdated, still has value because of the metal in the circuit boards."

The money from the phone drive helps support numerous services

the Family Violence Prevention Center provides, such as lodging, emergency assistance and court advocacy, said Kenneth Wilson, interim executive director.

While the center has no specific budget item attached to the fundraiser, last year the phone drive brought in about \$3,500.

The program has raised a total of about \$16,000 in its five years.

Robert Taylor, Orange County's recycling programs manager, said failing to recycle cell phones can be environmentally hazardous.

"Even if the cell phone is broken, if you throw it away it's just going into a landfill and it's going to sit there forever," he said.

"In some cases some of those metals on the circuit board have metals associated with them that have toxic

properties like lead and other metals."

The program has drop boxes at UNC Hospitals and the Carolina Women's Center on Franklin Street as well as a contact at UNC's Law School. A drop box in the Student Union was added last week.

But last year, 90 percent of donated phones came from the box at the Whole Foods on South Elliott Road.

Macon and other organizers said the phone drive involves minimum effort for maximum profit.

"It doesn't require a huge time commitment. It's a way to turn something that you have lying around into money for a good cause," he said.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

## Council recognizes former educator's Merritt

BY CHRIS HOWERTON  
STAFF WRITER

James Merritt admits he currently has limited knowledge of the Chapel Hill Town Council's projects.

But the council unanimously chose Merritt on Monday to serve for one year, the remainder of the term left by Bill Thorpe's death in September.

Most of the five other candidates for the position had involvement in local politics, including town advisory board membership, service with the Orange Water and Sewer Authority's board of directors and previous campaigns for local offices.

Merritt, a former middle school guidance counselor and assistant principal, did not cite any political experience in his application.

Council members said one factor for choosing Merritt over the others was that he is black.

Thorpe was the council's sole black member, and there has been at least one black member since 1953. It was a priority to ensure that the council is accessible for everyone in the community.

"The longer I serve on the council, the more I figure out I don't know, and the more I feel that it's important for everyone to feel represented," council member Bill Strom said.

Council member Mark Kleinschmidt said he believes having a black member helps make sure all citizens are comfortable with their

leaders.

"It's about whether or not the policy-making body makes the council approachable to everyone in our community," Kleinschmidt said. "If you can't get people through the door, you're never going to hear what their concerns are."

Merritt said his race won't determine his policies.

"Being on the council, I would be an advocate for the black community," Merritt said. "But I see myself as a council member for all the people of Chapel Hill, not just for the African American citizens. That is divisive and that's not what I'm about."



Though he has little experience with council projects James Merritt says community ties will help him.

Merritt grew up in Chapel Hill but later moved to Virginia. He earned a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's degree in guidance counseling from Hampton University.

He worked as an assistant for counseling and instruction at New Horizons Regional Education

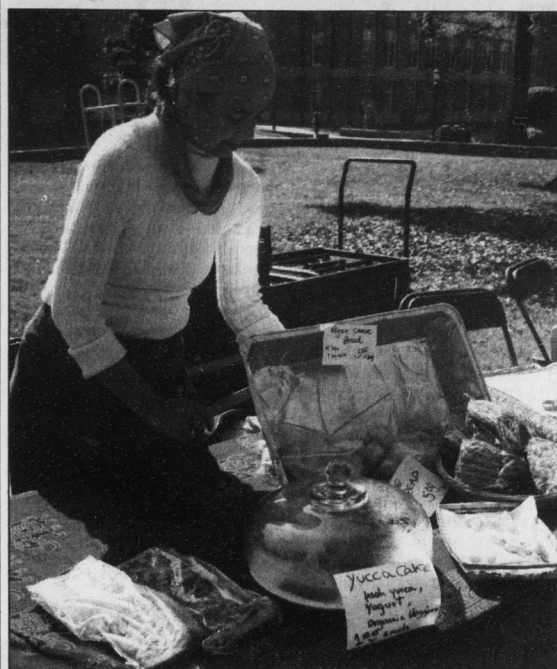
Center, and as a guidance counselor and assistant principal at Page Middle School in Virginia before moving back to Chapel Hill a few years ago.

Merritt's local roots in Chapel Hill gave him an edge over other candidates, including J.M. Green, who also is black.

"I know most of the history of the town, and I have deep roots in the community," Merritt said. "So I can get feedback in the community as to what the expectations are."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

## SUSTAINABLE FOODS



DTH/LAURA MELOSH

Yugala Silva of Yugala Baked Goods organizes her stand Tuesday at the farmer's market on Polk Place sponsored by FLO (fair, local, organic) Foods. The farmer's market was one of several events hosted for UNC's Sustainable Food Week.

**Herb Keinon**  
Beyond the Election

**The Future of Israel and the US-Israel Relationship**

קווה לעתיד  
יותר טוב

Hope for a  
better future

Diplomatic Correspondent Herb Keinon  
from *Jerusalem Post*

**Wednesday, November 12, 2008**  
**7-9pm ~ Manning 209**

Sponsored By: Chapel Hill Advocates for Israel  
Co-Sponsored By: Alpha Epsilon Pi, Chabad of UNC and Duke, Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, JEMS, NC Hillel, Residence Hall Association, and Student Government



## Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

### styrofoam is out... clamshells are in!

#### What are clamshells?

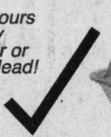
reusable  
plastic and sturdy  
machine washable  
sustainable  
\$3.50 at Lenoir  
or Rams Head

#### How do they work?

You can use **flex, expense, cash or credit** to get your own eco-friendly clamshell! Bring it back the next time you eat and **exchange** it for a **newly cleaned** one!



Ask for yours today at Lenoir or Rams Head!



### recycle this.

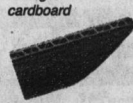
you can now  
recycle  
mixed paper  
in newly marked  
blue bins around campus!

This includes paper such as paperboard or boxboard, non-corrugated cardboard, and broken down cereal boxes and frozen food boxes.

### remember

You can recycle corrugated cardboard by breaking it down and placing it next to your trash bin for collection by Housekeeping or in a dumpster labeled specifically for it. If you live in a residence hall you can continue to use the blue outdoor dumpster!

corrugated cardboard



### keep a lid on it

We're adding lids to all of the paper barrels in the buildings, both for Office Paper and for NewsPaper/Magazines/Mixed Paper. We encourage all of you to please keep the lids on these paper bins, as it reduces the amount of non-recyclable contamination in the bins, and makes recycling cleaner and greener for all of us. Thanks in advance!

## America Recycles Day

Thursday November 13th

Noon- 3:00 p.m.

Polk Place

Fun and Free!

There will be all sorts of fun and exciting activities related to how you may recycle at UNC, including:

#### Swap Shop

Bring stuff to give away, take stuff to keep. It's all free!

#### Electronics Drop-Off

Bring your personal cell phones, cords, tapes, CD's, jewel cases, computers and printers, hard drives, Zip disks, floppy disks, and rechargeable batteries to be recycled as "Technotrash" via greendisk.com.

#### Trash Talkin' Wheel of Fun

Win fabulous prizes by displaying your knowledge of recycling and waste reduction trivia! Including Chico bags, Frisbees made from recycled plastic, reusable mugs, and more!

#### Meet Dottie Bottle from the Recycle Guys!

Get your picture taken with her!

#### Meet OWR's vermicomposting worms!

Learn about vermicomposting.

Learn about exciting new recycling initiatives on campus and off. Find out how YOU can get involved in recycling on campus.

For more information on this national holiday, and how you can pledge to recycle more, go to <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/americanrecycles.aspx>

Thanks! We'll see you there!

## need to recycle confidential paper?

Confidential Paper Recycling is similar to office paper recycling, but it allows University departments to recycle confidential documents in a secure manner.

Place paper in boxes labeled "Confidential Recycling."

Please use copier paper boxes or ones of similar size. If unavailable, please use smaller boxes. OWR will recycle the cardboard boxes you use.

Submit a work order by phone or online.

Confidential Paper is picked up on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

coming soon...

## carolina green

This will be a new umbrella initiative to make Carolina more sustainable! A part of it will be Green Meetings, which will be launched next semester to encourage campus departments to implement environmentally sustainable practices into events that they host.

## green games

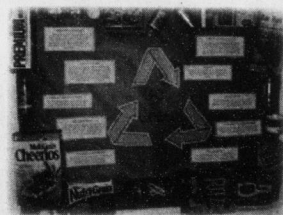
Spotlight On: Connor Community!

Residents from Connor Community organized "The Great Exchange"—clothes drive/swap, residents brought back clothing items from Fall Break that they no longer wanted to exchange in "The Great Exchange." Great job!

#### Current Leaders:

1. Morrison: 456 points
2. OCLQ: 386 points
3. Manning W: 251 points

A bulletin board in Connor Residence Hall



## eating it up

Recycling and composting are important to Carolina Dining Services (CDS) and it shows. Workers at both Lenoir and Rams Head dining halls are recycling more than half of their waste. Rams Head (and the Rams Head Market) diverted 59% of their waste from landfilling last year and Lenoir 64%. This is outstanding!

	cardboard tons	compost tons	total trash	total recycled	recycling rate
Lenoir	145	247	218	392	64%
Rams Head	74	112	129	186	59%

CDS also works with the Inter-Faith Council to donate "overstock" food from Top of Lenoir and Rams Head Dining Halls every Friday. Carolina Dining Services provides IFC with food that was prepared, but did not make it out to the serving line due to overproduction. CDS estimates that 35 and 75 pans of food are picked up by IFC each month.

OWRR wants to recognize CDS as an organization for their efforts and let the all of the CDS staff know how much their commitment is appreciated! Here's one such CDS worker with "hands on" experience with the compost program: Brian Jones.

