### Senior citizen works to solve vision problems of the Jamaican people

Editor's note: This story begins a weekly series on the Chapel Hill community.

By JULIE BRASWELL Features Editor

LaRue Foust is considered legally blind, but the 83-year-old Chapel Hill resident is making sure that poor people in Jamaica can see by gathering eyeglasses to send to

The eyeglass project, started by Foust's friend Elbert Anderson, an eve doctor from Wilmington, gives Jamaicans who could not otherwise afford eyeglasses a chance to be treated for sight problems. Anderson, an ophthalmologist, makes periodic trips to Jamaica. His next scheduled trip is in November.

Foust is busy collecting eyeglasses and she already has 70 pairs stashed away. The used eyeglasses were given to her by residents of Hil-Ihaven Convalescent Center, where she currently lives, and by members of the community.

"I am expecting to get 35 more pairs of glasses by the end of the month," Foust said. "I will keep collecting as long as they need them."

Foust said sight problems are high in Jamaica, with as many as 200 people left standing in line after the eyeglasses have been distributed. As a former social worker, Foust has a soft spot for people who need help. Her own vision problems also help her understand those who cannot see well.

Foust lost most of her sight after she had a stroke last September. The stroke paralyzed her left arm and leg and partially blinded her. Since her stroke, she has lived at the convalescent center. Her year-long therapy has now allowed her to walk with the aid of a cane.

"One day I was shopping, and suddenly, things began to get dark,"

### Village Views

Foust said about the stroke. "Then, I couldn't raise my hand to my face. It was hard; I had to give up things I love, like embroidering and reading."

But to listen to Foust talk of her illness, it's obvious tat the stroke only set her back temporarily. She has ordered a talking machine that will read the books to her that she can't read herself. Foust insisted on helping with the eyeglass campaign when she heard about it last

"To help the people in Jamaica, who I am sure are so appreciative of the eyeglasses, is something I want to do," she said. "I think it is a good project and one that should be done.

Foust, who lived in Wilmington for many years before moving to Chapel Hill, attended Wesley United Methodist Church, where Anderson was a member. Her family also visited Anderson for any vision problems they had.

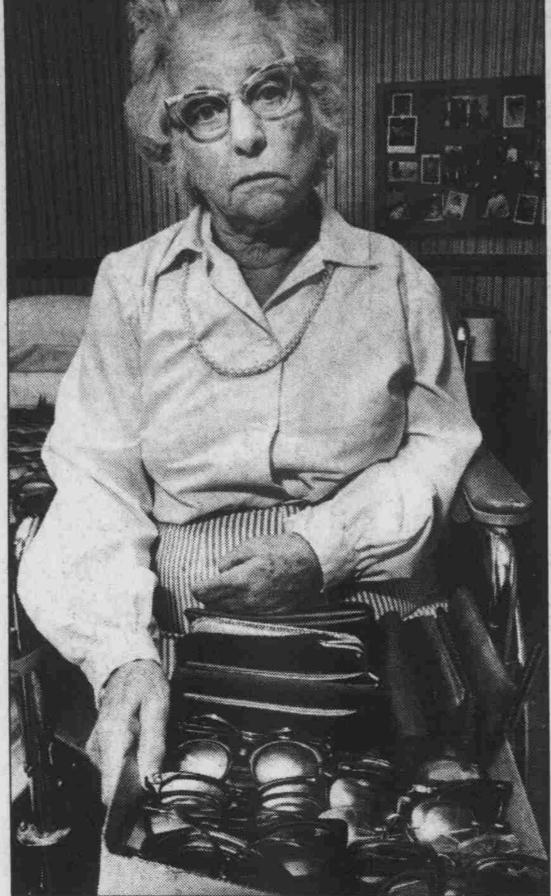
Foust receives eyeglasses from friends, convalescent residents and interested citizens. Foust said the student population at the University could help by donating eyeglasses.

"The students could certainly be a help if they sent the glasses to me, or brought them here," Foust said. Foust has no specific number of

eyeglasses in mind that she wants to collect; she just keeps collecting. The number of eyeglasses she has sent with Anderson in the past has been in the hundreds.

Before being taken overseas, the pairs of used eyeglasses are put into a sanitizing solution and then specially tested to determine whether the lenses are for farsightedness or nearsightedness.

Foust understands how the peo-



DTH/Charlotte Cannon

LaRue Foust collects used eyeglasses to send to Jamaica

ple who receive the glasses must feel after having been unable to see clearly.

"They will be able to see the leaves on the trees and an animal's legs," Foust said. "When my granddaughter received some new glasses, she suddenly discovered that cows had

Students who have switched from eyeglasses to contact lenses or who want to get rid of an old pair of eyeglasses can wrap the glasses and send them to LaRue Foust, Room 111, Hillhaven Convalescent Center, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514.

### Unlikely characters, boring story make 'Dancing' fall flat

At a film called "Dirty Dancing." one would think the entire audience would be on its feet. But alas, the movie keeps everyone firmly off their feet and asleep in their seats.

Produced by Linda Gottliel, "Dirty Dancing" stars Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey as two kids getting to know each other in the summer of 1963. Frances "Baby" Houseman (Grey) is the daughter of a doctor who takes a vacation at Kellerman's in New York where dance instructor Johnny Castle (Swayze) works.

Johnny teaches Baby how to rumba, mambo and tango, then how to fall gracefully into bed with him. The romance that should be here is replaced by sex. And this is 1963? But as Baby explains to her older sister Penny (Cynthia Rhodes), "The first time should be with someone you sort of love." Point taken, but a bit presexual revolutionary.

There is a bit more underlying plot, but it is not worth dredging up. The worst of it is that Baby lies to her daddy (gasp!). The ending is monstrously prosaic, with the two of them you guessed it — dancing.

Grey looks about 13 years old in much of the story, even though her character is supposed to be entering Mt. Holyoke College in the fall. Baby is planning to major in the economy of underdeveloped nations so she can join the Peace Corps. She's a goodygoody idealist, wanting to change the world.

Swayze, on the other hand, looks very old, especially when compared to Grey. His character is supposed to be some kid who rises from the gutter via Arthur Murray to a posh hotel where women stuff their room not all that dirty.

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**Kelly Rhodes** 

Cinema

keys and diamonds into his pockets. He really looks like he's had a hard

The air of the era, which was sorely needed for a contrast, was lacking. Even the big old cars looked just as they do today - rusted. At this expensive place in 1963, people would have really nice cars, not piles that a 1987 scene coordinator found on the side of a road. The clothes, too, looked like they'd been bought in 1987. Baby ran around in fashions far ahead of her time.

What needed more emphasis was the contrast between the kids and the adults. The music helped some, but more often than not, the point of the changing times was lost in a dance.

The sad thing was that the music, not the dancing, was the best part of "Dirty Dancing." A wide range of artists from Otis Redding to the Blow Monkeys helped set the pace, especially when nothing else was happening.

"Dirty Dancing" was choreographed by Kenny Ortega, who seemed to do well with what he had to work with. Swayze could at least move gracefully; Grey just didn't ever seem to get it together.

To hear some great old rock 'n' roll, go see "Dirty Dancing." But don't go for the title; what was shocking in 1963 (i.e., gyrating hips) is boring in this film because the point was not emphasized enough. And it's

## Roadshow Video offers delivery service

By JULIE BRASWELL Features Editor

The idea of picking up the phone to order a pizza can bring more than just food to your door now - it can bring a video cassette movie.

Mike Bare, a 23-year-old UNC night school student who transferred from N.C. State University, is the owner of Roadshow Video, a video cassette and VCR rental store that opened three weeks ago in Chapel Hill.

"The idea is not totally new, but it is new to this area," Bare said in a telephone interview Sunday. Bare got the idea for the store, he said, when he and his roommate were drinking late one night and wanted to rent a movie, but realized that no video stores were open that late at night.

The store, which currently offers about 1,000 movie selections, hopes to cater to the college crowd with the video delivery system. So far, students have given the service about 30 percent of its business. Bare would like to see this percentage rise to about 60 percent.

Movies cost \$3.50 when delivered, \$2.50 when paid for in the store. VCRs rent for \$7.50 when delivered and \$5 in the store. Pizzas, sub sandwiches and other snack foods are available for delivery along with the films.

VCR, he also returns to pick it up service. the next day. As on-campus deliveries increase, Bare hopes to put several drop boxes on or near the campus to make it easier for students to return

Memberships at Roadshow are not required, although lifetime memberships are available. The store has 1,500 members, made up of both residents and students. Students who moved into Foxcroft and Kensington Trace apartments this semester found free membership information

"Giving information to the apartments for the students was a quick way to get students to know about us," Bare said.

Students who rent the movies or video equipment must fill out a form that includes address, phone number and driver's license number. Bare is not worried about movies being returned because he goes back to get the films himself.

"If I take the movie somewhere, I know where it is," he said. "And we make them fill out all of the information that we need."

Roadshow opens at 11 a.m. and stays open until 11 p.m. every night. On Sundays, the video store opens at 1 p.m. Bare and three other employees run both the business that

When Bare delivers a movie or comes into the store and the delivery

Bare spends about 16 hours a day at the business or out making deliveries. At night, he attends business classes. Even before he graduates, Bare will have gotten a taste of the business world. To get the video delivery venture off the ground, he had to put up over \$20,000. The lease for the store, which shares a building with a convenience store, was worked out with the convenience store owner.

The video store is as well-stocked as other area stores. Bare said he keeps eight to 10 copies of the newest releases of movies on the shelves.

"When someone calls in and wants a new movie delivered, you're going to want to have that movie on the shelf to be able to give it to them," Bare said.

Roadshow is located on Weaver Dairy Rd. at Cedar Village. Movie deliveries may be placed by calling 968-TOGO.

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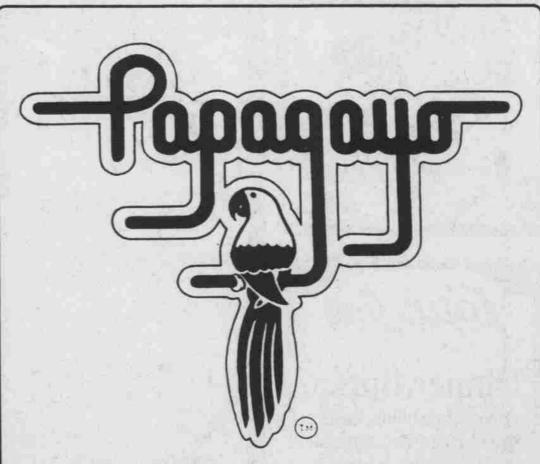


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