## Commission, Carrboro try to improve relations

By CYNTHIA GRAY

Staff Writer

A subcommittee of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Downtown Commission will try to improve relations between the commission and the town of Carrboro.

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen denied funding for the commission's trolley project and voted down a special tax district that would have provided funds for the commission.

"We want to mend any fences, but we don't want to be pushy," said Joe Hakan, president of the commission

"The perception of the downtown commission was not really sold well," said Aubrey Bowie, director of the ArtsCenter in Carrboro and a member of the commission. "The information has been available, but there have been people all along who said they didn't know about it."

According to Hakan, Carrboro's rejection of the trolley funding stems from this lack of communication be-

tween the commission and Carrboro residents and merchants.

Hakan said in regard to the miscommunication, "If it's something we did, we want to correct it."

Milton Julian, owner of Milton's Clothing Cupboard and commission member, said that part of the problem was that Carrboro citizens didn't think they were privy to all the information about the downtown commission.

Some Carrboro merchants are concerned that the commission's plans would put an undue tax burden on Carrboro.

"My concern is that they will start out changing a little and then much more," said Cliff Collins, owner of Cliff's Meat Market in Carrboro. "The taxes aren't bad now, but I don't know what the taxes would be in five years."

Hank Strauss, owner of Aurora's
Restaurant in Carrboro and commission member, will head the committee, which will meet with other

will want to
"If every could order the committee, which will meet with other"

Carrboro businessmen to find out how the commission can help them.

"When you take two communities as small as these are, it only makes sense for them to utilize their resources for joint projects," Bowie said.

Bowie said it is important to improve relations between Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and he thinks that many people would like more cooperation between the two communities.

"There is more favorable feedback in Carrboro than meets the eye or has been in print," Julian said. He said that now it's a question of working out the kinks.

"I think it's definitely possible to work things out. I just think it's going to take time," Bowie said. "I don't think this failure to join right now is an absolute. What I'd like to see is for it to work so well that Carrboro will want to join."

"If everything's successful, we could order a new trolley in a year,"

## **City Police Roundup**

 An anonymous complainant reported that someone was discharging pyrotechnics in the Stinson Street area of Chapel Hill early Wednesday. When police arrived at 12:17 a.m., no fireworks were found.

 There was also a report of fireworks at 305 N. Columbia St. Tuesday. The suspects were located by police at 8:58 and advised of the laws governing pyrotechnic use.

 A woman reported that an unknown person was knocking at her door at 10:50 p.m. Tuesday at 29A Laurel Ridge Apts. When police located the suspect, he explained he was just soliciting the woman's help to kill a snake. No further action was taken.

 A woman told police Tuesday night that upon returning to her residence at 14 Sheppard Lane Apartments, she found her front door open. Police inspected the premises and determined that nothing has been stolen.

 A woman reported that her car's paint was damaged by fireworks while parked on Estes Drive Tuesday. When located by police, the perpetrator indicated his willingness to pay restitution for the damage.

Police assisted a woman Tuesday at 602 E. Rosemary St. with hoisting her flag on its pole at 10:17 a.m. Police also placed the pole in a bracket on the front of the woman's house.

 A woman reported at 1:10 a.m.
 Tuesday that her dog was barking at her house, presumably because of an intruder. Police searched the Cooper Street house and no intruders were found.

 A man was assualted in Amber Alley on East Franklin Street by two unknown suspects at about 1:50 a.m. Tuesday. Police were unable to locate the suspects.

 Police received yet another complaint of a barking dog at the Delta Upsilon fraternity house Monday. Upon arrival, police could not locate any fraternity members, and the dog was found secured on a leash. No further action was taken.

- compiled by Sarah Cagle

## Hillsborough, Chapel Hill Red Cross chapters merge

By SONJA POST

Staff Writer

The Hillsborough chapter of the American Red Cross merged with the Chapel Hill-Carrboro chapter July 1.

Red Cross officials estimated that the merger will improve services to the public in both communities.

Bloodmoblies will be better coor-

dinated, although the number of bloodmobiles and volunteers will remain the same, according to Robert Ziegler, director of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Red Cross.

"Immediately we will see better disaster services throughout the county," Ziegler said.

The original charter in 1917 stated

that the area chapters should eventually be joined, Ziegler said.

Plans to merge have been in the works off and on since 1962, but recent attempts didn't begin until January, he said.

The health services section of the Hillsborough Red Cross, which includes CPR, first aid and water safety, will also be enhanced by the merger, said Jim Botsford, director of the Hillsborough Red Cross.

"Eventually there will be more classes taught to the community allowing more people to be certified," he said.

"We need to recruit more volunteers in Hillsborough to increase service to the area," Botsford said.

The merged chapter will be located at 105 Main St. in Carrboro.

Ziegler said the organization might open an additional part-time office in Hillsborough or build a new building between Chapel Hill and Hillsborough.

## Vote

row said. NARAL will hold a prochoice rally in Raleigh Thursday.

Brody said she is not optimistic that the legislature will protect abortion rights.

"We have a progressive history on abortion that we need to maintain, but I also know that a majority (in the legislature) can shift," she said.

N.C. Rep. Sharon Thompson (D-Durham), chairwoman of the subcommittee considering Stam's bill, said the bill will not come up for a vote during the 1989 session of the legislature, but there is a good possibility it will during the 1990 short session.

The short session is designated for budget concerns, however, so Stam's bill may be ineligible for consideration, she said.

Thompson said she hopes North Carolina abortion laws will not change. "The Supreme Court has not declared any of our statutes unconstitutional, and it hasn't required us to make any changes in our laws," she said.

Brody said 42 of the 48 hospitals in North Carolina that perform abortions are public, and the proposed legislation would shut down those

operations.

Jon Ross, NCMH spokesman, said that the hospital is prepared to abide by any changes in North Carolina law, but that changes are unlikely.

"North Carolina is ahead of the game in terms of abortion," Ross said.

"What we do now, we do with the support and backing of the state and the legislature. If the bill were to pass, we wouldn't do (abortions) here. Our major concern relative to the abortion issue is that we assure quality health care to our patients."



