Reported rabies cases rise from last year

BY LENZIE PURCELL

After reporting the second positive rabies case of 2011 last week, Orange County has seen two more cases than this time last year.

County Animal Services Director Bob Marotto said although the number of rabies cases have been low in recent years, an upswing is possible.

"Just because there has been a lower number of rabies in the past few years, it should be understood that we are just in a trough,"

Marotto said.

"We have every reason to believe that at some point in the very near future the number of confirmed rabies cases is going to increase."

During 2009 and 2010, Orange County saw a 50 percent reduction in the number of positive rabies cases from 2008- falling to 11 cases from 22.

Because rabies is known to go through cycles of intensity, Marotto said the community needs to remain vigilant in its surveillance and control of the disease.

Chapel Hill Veterinarian Debbie Stine, who recently worked with the N.C. Center for Health Statistics to study the progression of rabies, said she has never seen a positive rabies case in her practice, but many of her clients bring in their pets because they believe their animal may have contracted the disease.

"What we normally see are people who have a pet that has been bitten by wild animal," she said.

can only be diagnosed after a Stine said there are a few clear warning signs that a pet has contracted rabies, including aggressive behavior and foaming at the

Stine also said seeing nocturnal animals during the day could be a sign of rabies.

'It is important to keep your pets vaccinated, especially if you think your pet could be around an density of an area's raccoon popu-

Although a positive rabies case infected wild animal," she said.

complete necropsy is performed, be vaccinated both three months and one year after birth. Then, the pet must receive a booster shot every three years or after coming in contact with a wild animal.

N.C. Public Health Veterinarian Marilyn Goss Haskell said raccoons are the main carriers of rabies, and they have the most direct impact on the disease's cycle.

This cycle can be affected by the

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lation, the number of native rac-N.C. law mandates that all pets coons in an area and the extent to which humans and raccoons come in contact.

Haskell said it is hard to say why Orange County has seen a decrease in rabies cases during recent years because the reports are not part of a controlled scientific study.

"We will have to see what the data tell us this year," she said.

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Announcements

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Announcements

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Announcements

Choose the Next DTH Editor

The Daily Tar Heel

The DTH is seeking four students to serve on the Editor Selection Committee, the 11-member board that will convene on April 2nd to select the next editor of the paper.

The four at-large students will join the other members in reviewing the applications for editor and interviewing the applicants before making the decision. Any UNC student not working on the DTH staff may apply. Applications are due March 18th. They may be obtained at the DTH office, 151 E. Rosemary St., or under the "About" section at Dailytarheel.com.

Applicants must be available from 6-7 p.m. Thursday, March 31st and from 8:30 a.m. to as late as 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 2nd. (Meals are served).

DEADLINE IS MARCH 18!

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HABILITATION TECHNICIAN: Pathways for People, Inc. is looking for energetic individuals interested in gaining experience while making a difference in the life of an individual. We have 1 position available with a teenage male with autism in Chapel Hill Hours are M-F 3:30-6:30pm and up to 40 during the summer. Must have a love of out-doors. Contact Amyleigh at 919-462-1663 or go to www.pathwaysforpeople.org for more information.

LEGAL ASSISTANT: Carolina Student Legal Services is seeking candidates for its legal assistant position to begin July 1, 2011. Duties include typing, filing, reception, bookkeeping and legal research. Knowledge of Microsoft Office is a must. Knowledge of Macintosh computers and website development is helpful but not required. This is a full-time position, M-F 8:30am-5pm, requiring a 12 month commitment starting on July 1, 2011 and ending on June 30, 2012. Perfect for May graduate who wants work experience before law school. Mail resume with cover letter as soon as possible but no later than March 4, 2011 to Dorothy Bernholz, Director; Carolina Student Legal Services Inc. PO Box 1312 Chapel Hill, NC 27514. CSLS Inc. is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.

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HOROSCOPES



Aries (March 21-April 19) Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 6 - Relationships are espe-

Today is a 9 - This may be your best Monday this year, so far. Everything lines up for you today in love, work and communication. Don't forget to

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 7 - There's light at the end of the tunnel (and it's not the oncoming train). Keep looking for new opportu nities in your career. You'll be nicely surprised. Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Gemin (may 21-June 21)
Today is a 7 - When the road seems
too steep, just climb one rock at a
time, until you've reach the top of
the mountain. The future looks brighter from the ridge. Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Today is an 8 - Love is in the air, although it may not seem to be cooperating today. Patience is really a virtue. Focus instead on work challenges, and wait for the right moment. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is a 6 - If your mind wanders to exotic places, maybe it's time to actually go there, or to add some adventure to our daily routine. Ride a bike to work. Your daily routine. Mac a 2 Take an unexpected detour. Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Yirgo (Adg. 25-3ept. 227)
Today is a 6 - Spend frugally today. You
may get disappointed in love. Let go of
Valentine's Day expectations. Love the
people around you, and things open

Today is an 8 - Don't let all this activity cause you to lose your focus at work. Eat healthy fresh food, move the kinks out of your body and settle back to it. Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 5 - If it was that simple, you'd play all day ... but you're worried that there's too much going on. It's all part of

the game, and it all works out.

cially important today. You may discover new romance, even in an existing rela-

tionship. Take time out to really appreci-

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 6 - Work smarter at home Use ideas from family members, both younger and older. Take a deep breath and think it through. Dexterity handles the problem Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is an 8 - Keep exploring. Writing a diary can be very helpful. Don't waste your time with gossip. Your ideas deserve better. Look into publishing your words. Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 7 - Don't make expensive

promises now. Focus on your work, placing one brick at a time, and eventually you'll reap the benefits. Rome wasn't

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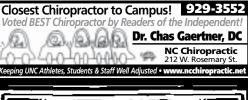
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