



PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNY CHAN
The dragon awaits his turn for a stroll downtown. Chinese New Year celebrations are Friday and Saturday evening at Jade Palace.

FILING
FROM PAGE 1

The primary will set the field for the November general election. Under the new county commissioner election rules, voters will select two commissioners from District 1, one from District 2 and one at-large candidate. The election will expand the board of commissioners from five to seven members.

With the exception of a portion near Interstate 40 and Whitfield Road, the two new county districts mirror the two school systems' boundaries. The election map and the expansion of the board were approved by Orange County voters in a 2006 referendum.

Rules for voting in the primaries and general elections are as follows:

- In the primary election, only residents of a district may vote for the commissioner candidate or candidates of their political party who reside in that district and seek to represent that district;
 - All eligible voters in Orange County may vote in the primary for at-large candidates of their political party;
 - For the general election, all Orange County voters can vote for the candidate(s) to represent District 1, District 2 and at-large.
- A detailed explanation of the districts along with a map can be found on the board of elections website at www.co.orange.nc.us/OCCLERKS/DistElectWeb.htm.
- The site will also post names and information on those filing for office.

PLAQUES
FROM PAGE 1

Eventually, the appearance commission hopes to script self-guided walking tours of Carrboro that include the historic properties. In addition, DeVine hopes to orchestrate house tours of some of the historic buildings.

Once the winning plaque design is chosen, the plaques will be available for historic-building owners to purchase and mount on the structures. DeVine said she believes the plaques can be reproduced for less than \$200.

ELECTION
FROM PAGE 1

known for years as Elementary Number 10, Hemminger said "elementary number 11 needs to be started right away."

Pelissier, who served on both the Orange County Planning Board and the county's Commission for the Environment, said she is also concerned about managing the county's growth. The key, she said, will be in developing and carrying out the county's new comprehensive plan, an effort being led by the planning board.

"I'm very committed to seeing that we have very good planning for our county," Pelissier said. Her experiences on the board of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority during the 2001-2002 drought, she said, convinced her that there needs to be a long-term approach to managing the county's resources.

Pelissier said if she wins the post, she also hopes to focus on local economic development, particularly in bolstering the farm economy.

Foushee, who was elected in 2004, is a former chair of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education. She has indicated she'll seek another term, but, citing a busy week, deferred outlining a platform to *The Citizen* for this story.

All candidates studying a


possible run for the board of county commissioners will have to weigh running for an at-large or district seat (see story on page 1), a novel experience in Orange County. Starting this year, the new board will expand to seven members with one at-large seat, two District 1 seats and one District 2 seat.

"I'm very committed to seeing that we have very good planning for our county."
— BERNADETTE PELISSIER

Neither Foushee nor Pelissier indicated where they intend to be on the ballot, but Hemminger said she definitely plans to file for a District 1 seat, which closely mirrors the Chapel Hill-Carrboro school district, where voters are more familiar with her.

The new districts, she said, added a twist to the race.

"But hopefully anybody running knows they'll represent the whole county and not just their district," she said.



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TRUCKS
FROM PAGE 1

Once new language is drafted, the board will review it and decide whether to call a public hearing, which in most cases is required before the town can modify its ordinances. McGuire said she did not know how long the process of rewriting the rules would take.

In the meantime, Marty Roupe of the town's zoning division said that the town will not move forward with what are typical next steps in enforcing a zoning violation. Businesses already got an initial letter, which told them they were not in compliance and asked them to voluntarily stop allowing the trucks to use the property, Roupe said. But the next step, a second letter setting a deadline and putting the businesses on notice that they face fines, won't be sent, he said.

Roupe said it doesn't make sense to try and enforce the rule if the board of aldermen has already indicated it wants to change it.

In other action Tuesday night, the board of aldermen:

- approved a memorandum of understanding with the Partnership to End Homelessness to help formalize a joint effort by Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Hillsborough and Orange County governments on the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness;
- authorized the transfer of a 7,537-square-foot parcel on Eugene Street to the Orange Community Housing and Land Trust to allow the trust to build an affordable home on the site, which is adjacent to the newly completed bike path as part of the Roberson Place project;
- set a public hearing to review road closings for the Tar Heel 10 Miler on Saturday, April 26;
- approved a change to the zoning ordinance to change lighting restrictions and parking space dimensions in two downtown zoning districts.

Further information on board of aldermen meetings, including video and audio of meetings, can be found through the town's website at www.townof-carrboro.org/BoA/Agendas/boaAgendas.htm

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