



**SIERRA  
CLUB**  
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# WENOCA SIERRAN

Newsletter of the

Sept/Oct 2005

## Upcoming Programs

- Thursday, 22 September
  - Candidates Night
  - Terry Bellamy
  - Holly Jones
  - Robin Cape
  - 
  - Thursday, 27 October
  - Ted Snyder on the North Shore Road
  - 
  - Meetings are at the Unitarian Church at the corner of Charlotte and Edwin, in Asheville
  - 
  - Social 7 PM
- Program 7:30

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## Terry Bellamy for Mayor



Thank you so very much for your endorsement of my Mayoral candidacy.

I believe that through the following initiatives we can address key Quality of

### We must keep in mind our

Life and Sierra issues:

**Purchase more low-emission vehicles**, including additional electric, hybrids and Compressed Natural Gas vehicles to be used for city business.

**Design and implement a multi-modal transportation plan** that includes the both the current Pedestrian Plan to improve our sidewalk network, and the Greenways

Plan.

**Enhance the city's support for green building practices.** As builders recognize the need to improve the quality of the homes they build by using green building techniques, the city should be a strong supporter by helping through our regulatory process.

**Work to create additional small area plans** that are created by neighborhood residents in collaboration with business owners, property owners in and around the neighborhood, city staff, and other interested parties. These plans will serve as a neighborhood's vision for their area, and could reduce a significant amount of negative response to development in and around neighborhoods

**Develop a set of guiding principles for development**, which will assist with planning future devel-

## Sierra Club Endorses Local Candidates

By Margaret Sticpewich

Using a combination of a written questionnaire and candidate interviews, the WENOCA chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed Terry Bellamy for mayor, and Robin Cape and Holly Jones for city council.

The written questionnaire was sent to all fourteen candidates. About half responded. Board Members Susan Stewart and Margaret Sticpewich then interviewed the candidates and discussed in depth their views on pressing environmental issues. After the interviews, the board debated the merits of

# Holly Jones, Candidate for City Council



By Holly Jones

I deeply appreciate the support of the Sierra Club for my re-election campaign to Asheville City Council. It has been an honor to serve on the City Council for the past four years. I want to work with you to pre-serve

the things that make Asheville and western North Carolina one of the most beautiful places in America.

I know that for many people who care about the environment, politics today can be a source of discouragement. Rather than

moving forward to clean up our air, preserve ecologically critical lands and create sustainable economies, our national leaders are working to roll-back our environmental laws.

While we may not be able to change the direction our country is headed overnight, we *can* change the direction we are going in Asheville. We can preserve our North Fork Watershed from logging and development. We can stand-up to the DOT's plans to blast an 8 lane super-freeway through the heart of West Asheville. We can tackle the challenge of sprawl. We can create more pedestrian and bicycle friendly streets and a more innovative, effective community transit network. We can encourage green-building.

I want Asheville to be a model for environmental sustainability.

"I want Asheville to be a model for

## Ted Snyder to speak the North Shore Road

Ted Snyder, Swain County activist, and Leonard

Winchester, chair of Citizens for the Economic Future of Swain County, will speak on the North Shore Road at the Sierra Club Meeting Thursday, October 27th, at the Unitarian Church on Charlotte Avenue in Asheville.

Ted is the author of the two-part article on the road printed in the Feb-March and May-

## Boycott Exxon

For the first time in many years, the National Chapter of the Sierra Club with a coalition of other environmental groups has called for a boycott of the ExxonMobil Corporation. The boycott is a response to ExxonMobil's "appalling environmental policies" according to Carl Pope, The Sierra Club Executive Director.

"Instead of advocating changes which will decrease our reliance on fossil fuels, oil companies merely seek to drill for more crude, no matter what the location, no matter what the damage. ... Of all the Big Oil companies, Exxon is the worst."

# Robin Cape, Candidate for City Council

By Robin Cape



What a honor it is to be supported by the WNC Sierra Club in my campaign for a seat on Asheville City Council! I am excited about the possibilities of what we can accomplish when the citizens and local government representatives work together to build a healthy and sustainable community. I believe that it is in the cities,

cities like Asheville, that the solutions to the many problems we face in this country will emerge; solutions for the reversal of environmental degradation, corporate domination and the disheartening of our collective soul.

The trend in America is that upwards of 80 percent of the people live in cities, or what the US Census currently describes as "metropolitan statistical areas". Cities are where most of the shared commons of economic development, with its networks of infrastructure, markets and labor

are located. It is where diversity and community abound. Here is the heart of the creativity of our country, the progressive, environmental and dynamic citizens of America come together to live, and it is here that we can have an impact on the overall future of this country.

My own experience in the political arena is that an engaged citizenry, using the tools of democracy, can overturn the status quo of environmental abuse and replace it with stewardship, conservation and long-range planning. We can

**We can make manifest the very things that have led us all to become environ-**

begin to implement on a policy level the very ideas that we have been fighting for in the fields, to make manifest the very things that have led us all to be environmental warriors. It is with great pride that I look to the 1800 acres that we in the Woodfin Water District have placed into conservation easement, knowing that democracy was the tool we used to accomplish that environmental success

*[Robin Cape led a group of activists that organized*

## Volunteers Needed

WENOCA Sierra Club would like to create a pool of volunteers who can help out with an occasional 2 to 3 hour shift at our table during special events such as Earth Day, Organic Fest, SEEE or other similar events.

This would be an easy way to help out the Sierra Club and the environment without making any long term commitments. If you are interested please contact Don Baker at 299-4171 or by email at :





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The Executive Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at EarthFare in Asheville. All WENOCA members are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Don Baker at 299-4171 or at [wenocan.president@gmail.com](mailto:wenocan.president@gmail.com)

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the healthy supermarket [www.earthfare.com](http://www.earthfare.com)  
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115 Fairview Road, Asheville • just up the hill from Biltmore Village

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is available online

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**WENOCA SIERRAN** is the newsletter of the Western North Carolina Sierra Club. The newsletter is published bi-monthly. If you have an article you'd like us to publish, please send it to the editor. Your comments are also welcome.

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