This message sent on behalf of Bob Lowman:

Friends and neighbors:

In my last message to you, when I told you that UNC was returning the grant money it had been given to expand the Bingham Facility, I said that I would get more information to you as soon as our new course was clear. The School of Medicine and the Office of the Provost recently reached a decision on how the University will proceed at the Bingham Facility, which is to maintain the facility at its current size while making some much needed improvements. We will not be constructing any new buildings on the site.

Here is what we plan to do at the Bingham Facility:

- Move the dogs used to study muscular dystrophy into Building 3 (the one still under construction) by about April 1, 2011;
- Install a new 2T permitted wastewater treatment system, which will include enlarging the big pond slightly, replacing its plastic liner with a clay liner and installing a new spray irrigation field with appropriate set-backs from the property line as required by law or regulation;
- Upgrade the potable water system by replacing some underground pipe to create a redundant system and increase water pressure in the buildings (we will not drill a second well);
- Renovate Building 1, the oldest structure, including electrical and mechanical systems, and repurpose the west wing for veterinary operations; and
- Consolidate our propane tanks into one larger tank or have a natural gas line run out to the property.

I met yesterday morning with representatives from Preserve Rural Orange to let them know about these plans. I would like to invite all the neighbors of the facility to attend our next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 28, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in 336 Bynum. We hope this will be the first in a series of meetings held every two weeks to share information with neighbors and solicit your ideas. Because not everyone will be able to attend daytime meetings, we will send out email updates after each meeting to ensure everyone is kept informed about plans and activities at the Bingham site.

Sincerely,

Bob Lowman