

# Garner News

Garner's Original Hometown Paper; A Community Tradition Since 1963

**This week**

**Garner Golf  
Outing results**  
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VOLUME 40, NUMBER 24

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2002

GARNER, NORTH CAROLINA 50¢

## More details on White Oak Crossing revealed

By JOHN CATE  
Managing Editor

Some additional details about the upcoming Phase 2 of the White Oak Crossing shopping center were revealed Monday night, as the plans for this phase came before the Planning and Appearance Commission for review.

The commission voted by a 5-0 vote to recommend approval of Garner Retail, LLC's application for a conditional use permit (CUP) to commence construction of Phase 2, which will be built south of the currently under construction Phase 1 scheduled to open this October.

As reported in the May 22 edition of *Garner News*, the second phase of

Future phases to include restaurants, medical plaza and a health club; planning board recommends approval of CUP for Target

White Oak Crossing will be anchored by a new 130,000 square foot Target discount store. In a table submitted to the commission by the engineering firm of Kimley-Horn and Associates estimating the traffic impact of Phase 2, the other developments were revealed. Along with Target, a 9,000 square foot "high-turnover sit-down restaurant" is slated for construction, along with a 3,500 square foot fast-food restaurant with a drive-thru window. The identities of these restaurants were not revealed.

Furthermore, Kimley-Horn also revealed some of what is in store for a future phase of White Oak's development. Planned for a future phase are a 60,000 square foot medical office plaza and a 36,000 square foot health club. The identities of these establishments were not revealed, either.

The Target and the two restaurants are scheduled for completion some time in the year 2004. Some of Phase 1, including at least two of the anchor stores, will be completed and opened by October of this year, with the rest to be

completed in 2003. No timetable was set for any of the other planned developments.

The Kimley-Horn report sparked a great deal of debate by the planning board over the issue of traffic signals for the new development. Planning Director Brad Bass told the board that additional traffic signals would be needed in the future, but that they were not anticipated as a requirement for any of the Phase 2 construction. Kimley-Horn concurred with this although it estimated that close to 5,000 additional

trips per day would be generated by the Target and the two restaurants, with a total of 6,934 if the medical park and health club were included in the total.

Commissioner Tom Teabo made the suggestion that as an additional condition of granting the CUP, the town board should require that the N.C. Department of Transportation study the traffic impact of the new development within one year of its completion. If the NCDOT finds that a traffic signal is warranted, the developer would pay for it. The planning board also added a condition that better measures be taken to hide retention ponds required by law as part of the construction. Pond D will need to be screened, and pond F may

See WHITE OAK, Page 2

## Youth take mission trip to Honduras

By MARTI HALL  
Staff Writer

Twelve students and three adults from the Garner and Cleveland communities left for Honduras Tuesday for a week of sharing the gospel and working on construction teams.

The Baptist State Convention's Brotherhood ministry sponsored the team along with 70 students statewide, ages 15 and up.

The group will travel to the city of Peguigalpa and then be broken into small teams to conduct backyard Bible school, participate in basketball evangelism teams and work with two construction crews building with concrete block and wood. They will work along side missionaries already serving in the area. The construction work is to rebuild areas still devastated by Hurricane Mitch several years ago.

They will be housed outside the city at a Christian camp about 10 miles away but nearly 30 minutes travel time. Rev. Ron Fowler, traveling with the group, is youth minister at First Baptist Church in Garner and



Rev. Travis Tobin, pastor at First Baptist Church in Garner, leads a commissioning prayer for 12 students and three adults who are visiting Honduras this week on a missions trip. (Photo by Ken Hall)

says there is one purpose to their activity this week, "All of it is different avenues to share the love of Christ."

"This is a missions camp like a youth camp. The training is hands on with 20 staffers already in place to show them what to do," Fowler said.

Each student had to pay for a passport, shots and small inci-

dents. The rest of the trip was paid for from the youth budget at FBC, donations from individuals, and a portion of church congregation offerings designated for missions.

The group consists of Ben Roelofs, Ken Powell, Jack Hunnicutt, Lee Marshall, Laura Morgan, Amanda Morgan, Ashley King, Amanda Edquist, Garner residents John and Freita McGinnis, with daughters Amber and Katie, arrived in Honduras ahead of the team to prepare for the week's work. John works with the Baptist State Convention in Cary.

Kelly Morris, Megan Meacham, Christie Powell, Sarah Petty, and adults Jeff Dunmire and Wendy Williams.

During the past year, Elrod has learned that Garner loves her queen. As she has prepared for the pageant, she has received numerous free services, from hair care to dental care to free workouts with a personal trainer. Perhaps Elrod's biggest supporter, her mother Sharon Farrell of Cary, has made Elrod's dress for the opening number. Elrod is the daughter of Terry Elrod, also of Cary.

## Miss Garner vies for North Carolina crown

By AMANDA B. SMITH  
Associate Editor

Kirstin Elrod, Miss Garner 2002, left home this week to vie for the Miss North Carolina crown.

Pageant preliminaries, including talent, swimsuit and evening wear competitions, will be held June 19-22, with the top 10 finalists competing for the crown June 22, at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.

Elrod and her 33 fellow contestants are staying at Peace College, where they are sequestered from friends and family as they prepare for the upcoming week.

"I started preparing the night I was crowned Miss Garner," Elrod said.

During the past year, Elrod has learned that Garner loves her queen. As she has prepared for the pageant, she has received numerous free services, from hair care to dental care to free workouts with a personal trainer. Perhaps Elrod's biggest supporter, her mother Sharon Farrell of Cary, has made Elrod's dress for the opening number. Elrod is the daughter of Terry Elrod, also of Cary.

"Mom spent hours and hours making that dress for me," Elrod said.

Elrod will perform the song "Love is Where You Find It," from "The Kissing Bandit," a 1948 film starring Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson.

Despite the pressures accompanying competition, Elrod is not nervous about the pageant.

"I was nervous a couple of months ago when we started rehearsals," she said. Then she had exams, moved to Garner, and began making daily appearances. "Now I'm too tired to be nervous."

She predicts that she will be nervous when she performs, but her nervous energy serves her well, she says, and she feeds off the energy of the crowd. Her performance history—Elrod is a rising senior majoring in opera performance at the North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem—will be an asset to her throughout the pageant.

Elrod's platform is counteracting chemical abuse, an area of



Miss Garner 2002  
Kirstin Elrod

community service that she chose after watching her uncle die from emphysema caused by many years of smoking. Good decision making is an important aspect of Elrod's platform, and she stresses that it is not enough to tell a child not to use drugs, but they must be told why they shouldn't use drugs. She has learned the importance of her platform from the children whom she has worked with, many of whom have seen drug use in their families and neighborhoods.

"It wasn't so long ago that I was a kid," said 20-year-old Elrod. "I grew up in Cary, in church, with strong family values, and I was not exposed to the things that some of these children are. I never thought a 9-year-old would come into contact with cocaine, but it happens. It was an eye-opening experience."

But Elrod realized that her influence on these children was limited, so she sought to speak with the adults who would have a more lasting influence. She has spoken to area civic clubs, including Kiwanis, and Morning and Mid-Day Rotary

See MISS, Page 2

## "My Three Angels"



More than 600 theater patrons watched the Towne Players perform "My Three Angels" over a five-night run at Garner Historic Auditorium the last two weekends. The next opportunity to see them on stage will be Aug. 22, 23 and 24 when they present "Dearly Departed," a favorite with the audiences that is requested every year. October will begin the fifth season for the Towne Players as they present "Lend Me a Tenor" Oct. 18, 19 and the 24-26. The rest of the season will be announced in August and season tickets will be on sale then. The three angels, Jeff Bowman, Rusty Sutton and Scott Honeycutt are pictured watching cast member Janet Doughty read a letter. (Photo by Ken Hall)

## Calendar Highlights

**State Games Ice Hockey**  
June 15-16, 22-23, 29-30  
Garner Ice House

The State Games of North Carolina Adult and Youth ice hockey tournaments will be held at Garner Ice House this month. Admission is \$3 per person per day. Call 861-7465 or visit [www.icehouse-garner.com](http://www.icehouse-garner.com) for more details. Adult A, B and C and 35+, as well as Mites and Pee Wees, are this weekend.

**Double Decker String Band**  
Saturday, June 15  
Lake Benson Park

PineCone and the Town of Garner will present the old-time songs and tunes of the Double Decker String Band for a free concert at Lake Benson Park. Since 1977, DDSB has been playing and singing old-time music inspired by vintage recordings. Call 990-1902 for more information or visit [www.pinecone.org](http://www.pinecone.org).

**Vacation Bible School**  
June 17-21  
Wake Baptist Grove Church

Wake Baptist Grove Missionary Baptist Church will present Vacation Bible School June 17-21 at the church, located at 302 E. Martin St. The theme of the VBS is "All Aboard With Jesus." For more information, call 779-6175.

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## Bowers addresses WCA grads at May 30 graduation exercises

By AMANDA B. SMITH  
Associate Editor

Jim Bowers, the missionary whose plane was shot down in Peru last year resulting in the death of his wife and daughter, addressed Wake Christian Academy's 64 graduates during the school's commencement ceremony May 30.

"There are lots of troubles ahead of you," Bowers told the graduates. "How will they affect you? How will you react? What will other people think when they know how you handled the trouble?"

Bowers used Proverbs 19:23 as the basis for his address: "The fear of the LORD tendeth to life; and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil."

Bowers explained the verse to mean that the fear of the Lord leads to true living; that we have a choice to either fear God or fear the unknown; and that if we follow God, we will be unfazed when bad things happen.

"You are enjoying true living if you receive God for who He is and give Him His way in every area of your life," Bowers said. "Each day comes with lots of selfish desires that are easier to follow than following God's way, which is best. Looking back we see that."

Bowers, who lives in Garner with his son Cory, used his late wife Roni as an example of following God. Although Roni received numerous awards and scholarships while in school, and could have pursued many careers, she accepted God's call to become a missionary, and she wanted to serve in a place where no one else was willing to go.

Bowers told the audience that God had given him and his son "tremendous peace" regarding the death of Roni and infant Charity. "All of us in some way learned from this," he said. "God has really shown himself to us like never before."

Author Kristen Stagg recently published a book entitled "If God Should Choose" detailing the Bowers family's story.

Salutatorians Sarah Popow and Anton Venema spoke of the lessons they have learned throughout their school career.

"Not only were we taught by our parents and teachers to reach for the stars, we were taught not to stop until we reach them," Popow said.

"Each class we took was different and unique, but each was bridged by a central idea: building our faith."

Valedictorian Kirk Barefoot, who received the Christian Leadership Award, challenged his classmates to live for God.

"We as individuals can change this world, armed not with armies, not with bombs, but with weapons far greater: knowledge, determination, but more importantly, the power of God," he said. "God has blessed this place, and God has blessed us. Now we must show him our appreciation by sharing his message with others."

Sandra Wolf, a rising senior, was given the Beniaiah Medallion.

Connie Ashworth Beck was named WCA's Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Sonya Massengill received the Middle School Teacher of the Year award, and Becky Buffaloe received the High School Teacher of the Year award.

## GEF honors retiring teachers with ceremony

The Garner Education Foundation recently recognized this year's retiring teachers and administrators.

The retirees were treated to a dinner at Ragazzi's, where Mayor Sam Bridges and GEF Chairman Jim McClure offered them congratulations.

After dinner, the retirees were honored at Town Hall and presented a certificate of appreciation. GEF board members Marjorie Barefoot and Anne Fowler organized the event, which was the foundation's first.

The retirees are pictured left to right. Their years of service and the school at which they most recently taught is included in parentheses after each name.



Front row: Sandra Nanney (27 years, Vance Elementary), Carolyn Langdon (32 years, Vance), and Virginia Wall (31 years, Garner Senior High). Middle row: Betty Parker (28 years, Aversboro Elementary), and Jeanine Liles (35 years, Garner Senior). Back row: Ellen Dingman (30 years, Garner Senior), Joan Cunningham (30 years, Garner Senior), and Willistine Tyrance (31 years, Aversboro). Not pictured are Don Strickland (27-and-a-half years, East Garner Middle), Judy Smith (32 years, Rand Road Middle), John Atkins (36 years, North Garner Middle), and Brenda Baker (30 years, North Garner). (Photo by Amanda B. Smith)

**Get In The Swim!**

Registration For Swim Lessons  
June 1st • 10am-12pm  
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Members of the Garner Police Department participated in the 16th annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics in May. Investigator Gordon Gay carries the torch to lead this year's group, followed by Lt. Chris Hagwood, and officers Paul Caldwell, Scott Crawford and Scott Selvek. The group ran from the Police Department Annex on Aversboro Road to the intersection of Tryon Road and Wilmington Street, where they handed off the torch to Raleigh officers. (GN photo by Amanda B. Smith)

**Garner Police  
Community  
Problem-Solving Line  
772-8896**

## Correction

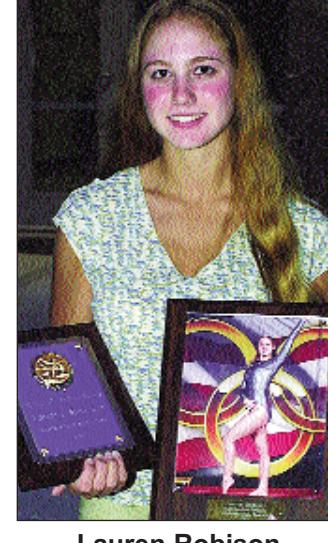
As a clarification to a story in last week's edition of *Garner News* about Lauren Carter Robison, Class of 2002 salutatorian at Garner Senior High School, she has not joined the Air Force, but rather has been appointed to the Air Force Academy. She has not enlisted yet.

The Air Force Academy is a four-year college that trains officers for the Air Force and other careers, and is the newest of the service academies established in 1954. It is like West Point and the Naval Academy.

It is not an easy application process and a congressman or senator must nominate the student. Congressman David Price nominated Lauren.

She will have a five-year commitment to the Air Force after she graduates with a bachelor's of science degree and will receive the rank of 2nd lieutenant.

Because of Lauren's gymnastics accomplishments she was also recruited as an athlete by the Air Force and will



Lauren Robison

be a member of the women's gymnastics team. The USAA is a member of the NCAA and follows the same recruiting rules as colleges.

Students appointed to the Air Force Academy must have a certain SAT score and GPA. The freshmen class

Laurie will be entering has the highest SAT scores and GPA's in the history of the Academy.

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## Police Reports

*Garner Police released the following incident reports for last week:*

Larceny, May 3 at 3704 Vesta Drive. A BMX bike was stolen. Fighting, May 28 at 720 Powell Drive.

Larceny from a motor vehicle, May 30 at Prince Cable Communication. A tool bag, hammer, wire cutter, scrap and seal, screwdriver and other hand tools were stolen.

Fraud, false pretense, May 30 at Cato.

Embezzlement, May 30 at Hudson Belk.

Larceny, shoplifting, May 30 at K-Mart. Assorted clothing was stolen and recovered.

Larceny, shoplifting, May 30 at Target. A DVD player and scissors were stolen and recovered.

Larceny, shoplifting, May 30 at Target. A CD player was stolen and recovered.

Obstruct/delay justice, May 30 at 400 Virginia Street.

Vandalism, May 30 at Bruegger's Bagels. A window was damaged.

Larceny, May 30 at Handee Hugo's. Ice House beer was stolen.

Larceny from a motor vehicle, May 31 at 917 Seventh Ave. A CD player was stolen.

Larceny from a motor vehicle, May 31 at 917 Seventh Ave. A 1996 Mitsubishi was damaged.

DWI, May 31 at Weston Rd./Delta St.

Larceny from a motor vehicle, May 31 at Glam-o-rama. A wallet with credit cards and currency was stolen.

Larceny from buildings, June 1 at 913 Powell Drive. A riding lawn mower was stolen.

Motor vehicle theft, June 1 at 107 Coachman Drive. A 2001 Honda was stolen.

Vandalism, June 1 at 4107 Vesta Drive. A tire was damaged on a 1986 Ford.

Family and child offense, June 1 at 1309 Elkhorn Drive.

Hit and run, June 1 at 807 W. Garner Road. A 1993 Ford was damaged.

Burglary, June 1 at 1404 Edgebrook Drive. Bricks and a door frame were damaged.

Larceny, shoplifting, June 1 at Wal-Mart. Fruit of the Loom

briefs were stolen and recovered.

Motor vehicle theft, June 1 at 601 November Street. A 1972 Oldsmobile was stolen.

Unauthorized use of conveyance, June 1 at 302 Penny Street.

Larceny from a motor vehicle, June 1 at Kroger. Nail guns and a drill set were stolen.

DWI, June 1 at 3000 Fayetteville Road.

Burglary, forcible entry, June 2 at 517 Bayleigh Court. Jewelry, a backpack, clothing and coins were stolen.

Damage to property, June 2 at Harth Drive. A 2002 Mustang was damaged.

Unauthorized use of conveyance. June 2 at 708 Winterlochen Drive.

Motor vehicle theft, June 2 at 210 Lorraine Drive. A 2002 Ford Focus was stolen and recovered.

Obstructing justice, June 2 at W. Garner Road/Willow Vista Drive.

Other criminal offense, June 2 at United Artist Theater.

Larceny, June 3 at Resco. Gas was stolen.

Motor vehicle theft, June 3 at Garner Auto Brokers. A 1994 Dodge was stolen and recovered.

Hit and run, June 3 at U.S. 401 Highway. A 1979 Chevrolet was damaged.

Larceny from a motor vehicle, June 3 at Webb's Minit Mart, Poole Road.

A cell phone was stolen.

Larceny from a motor vehicle, June 3 at Johnson and Johnson Import Speci. Misc. items were stolen.

Unauthorized use of conveyance, June 3 at Cottman Transmission.

Larceny, June 3 at 1404 Claymore Drive. A bicycle was stolen.

DWI, June 3 at Timber Drive.

Missing person, June 4 at Nor-Len of Garner.

Burglary, June 4 at 230 Bayleigh Court. A computer tower, monitor, keyboard, mouse, printer and speakers were stolen.

Fraud, June 4 at Home Depot.

Fraud, June 4 at Target.

Damage to property, June 4 at Lennox Apts.

Larceny, June 4 at K-Mart. DVD movies and a duffle bag were stolen and recovered.

Larceny, June 4 at 206 Tiffany Circle. A bicycle was stolen.

Larceny, shoplifting, June 4 at Wal-Mart. A carton of cigarettes was stolen and recovered.

Larceny, shoplifting, June 4 at Wal-Mart. Watches were stolen and recovered.

Drug violations, June 5 at U.S. 70 Highway/Yeargan Road.

Forgery, June 5 at Food Lion, Fayetteville Road. Checks were stolen.

Larceny, June 5 at Zip Mart. Gas was stolen.

*Garner Police also released the following arrest reports:*

David Gonzales, 41, of Anywhere, U.S.A. was charged with drug violations May 28 at Mechanical Blvd.

James Meadows, 43, of 1269 Oliver St. Durham was charged with begging May 29 at K-Mart.

Jessie Earl Moore, 38, of 107 Weston Rd. 1/2 was charged with possessing drug paraphernalia May 29 at Garner Rd.

Jessie Earl Moore, 38, of 4208 Old Poole Road, Lot 38 was charged with fraud June 4 at 153 E. U.S. 70 Hwy.

Camille Inez Clark, 19, of 901 Oak Water Drive was charged with embezzlement May 30 at Belk's.

Ella Mae Smith, 35, of 3210 Calumet Drive, Apt. C, Raleigh was charged with larceny May 30 at K-Mart.

David Morales, 35, of Anywhere, U.S.A. was charged with larceny, shoplifting May 30 at Target.

Rutilio Velasquez, 35, of 250 Keener Avenue, New Bern, was charged with escaping arrest May 30 at 400 Virginia Street.

Robert Earl Stancil, 65, of 201 Carroll Street was charged with DWI May 31 at Weston Road.

Stephanie Spruill Collins, 38, of 100 Westonridge Run was charged with fraud June 1 at Westonridge Rd.

Isiah Green III, 37, of Anywhere, was charged with trespassing June 1 at 207 Johnson Street.

Joseph Earl Holley, 23, of 3249 Calumet Drive D, Raleigh was charged with larceny, shoplifting June 1 at Wal-Mart.

Joseph William Trier, 36, of 8937 Ten-Ten Road, Raleigh was charged with burglary June 6 at 751 E. Garner Rd.

charged with DWI June 1 at Fayetteville Road.

Juan Manuel Estrada Garcia, 26, of 917 Seventh Avenue was charged with DWI June 2 at 604 Dupree Street.

Decarlos Dewayne Moore, 22, of 516 S. Person Street, Raleigh was charged with trespassing and other offenses June 2 at Garner Road.

Cecilia Dell Carmen Garcia Carron, 28, of 9809 Poole Road was charged with other criminal offenses June 2 at United Artist Theater.

Arthur Sylvester Case, 59, of 109 Bluegrass Court was charged with DWI June 3 at Timber Drive/Mechanical Blvd.

Lanny Leamon Watkins, 61, of 110 Nicklaus Drive was charged with DWI June 3 at Timber Drive/U.S. 70 Hwy.

William Mark Barker Jr., 29, of Kelly's Landing, Fayetteville was charged with larceny, shoplifting June 4 at K-Mart.

Wallace James Smith, 34, of 4208 Old Poole Road, Lot 38 was charged with fraud June 4 at 153 E. U.S. 70 Hwy.

Allan Sylvester Harding, 39, of 523 Sodan Drive was charged with larceny, shoplifting June 4 at Wal-Mart.

Joseph Williams Jr., 41, of 211 Ashe Avenue, Raleigh was charged with larceny, shoplifting June 4 at Wal-Mart.

Ismael Flores Granados, 26, of 917 Seventh Avenue, B206 was charged with drug violations June 5 at U.S. 70 Hwy.

Synthia Parmella Costell Mendez, 17, of 301 Rosaline Court, Raleigh was charged with larceny, shoplifting June 5 at K-Mart.

Ayesha Meshecole Terry, 19, of 103 McCollum Street, Lumberton was charged with burglary June 6 at 157 Bayleigh Ct.

Rasheem Watson, 17, of 111 South Person Street, Raleigh was charged with larceny, shoplifting June 6 at Wal-Mart.

Angelo Manuel Price, 34, of 905 Seventh Avenue was charged with simple assault June 6 at Westchester Apts.

Larry Darnell Turnage, 39, of New England, Conn., was charged with burglary June 6 at 751 E. Garner Rd.

## Letter Continued from Page 4

visibly shaken. This new journey of re-education was overwhelming to many. Yet, some found comfort, even challenge, in the camaraderie of colleagues with whom they had worked for many years.

The ILC provides a triage of education support options for students who need to brush up on their skills in order to begin their programs of study. For the fifteen students who found themselves in one of these programs, they are on their way. The support program in which they are currently

enrolled has grown in enrollment by 35 percent since last summer, and there is no sign of that rate slowing down.

If the community college budget is, this already lean operating system will be forced to close its doors to many people in the community. A deep cut in the community college budget will reduce the hope of all of us who believe in nurturing the dreams of all North Carolina citizens with affordable education.

Sharon W. McWilliams  
Department Head, WTCC

## More needed to promote success in Garner schools

### To the editor:

Each time I approach Garner city limits from the west, I enjoy seeing the beautifully landscaped area which features the Welcome to Garner sign. The department which takes care of the area does a wonderful job in replacing the old plants with new ones as the seasons change. It is a way of showing pride in our town.

I like the statement on the sign, "A Community Involved in its Schools." Under that is a statement "Home of Miss North Carolina 1994 and 1995." While this is an achievement for these young ladies, I would suggest a statement showing the result of the town's involvement in the schools.

How about "Home of 2 million dollar scholarship winners"? Now that's something to brag about! In 1987 when my daughter graduated, the approximate 350 students won \$500,000 in scholarships.

We thought that was a tremendous amount. Each year since then, this amount has increased. That achievement does not come to schools which are bad or which are filled with poor teachers.

There is more to grading/evaluating schools than just by end-of-year tests. There are many reasons why students may not be successful in school and many of these are outside forces unrelated to the school environment.

Some organizations in Garner have expressed great concern over the fact that prospective

newcomers and businesses ask about the status of the Garner schools and they say they have to tell them about the low scores. Why not accentuate the positive?

Even the students need to hear the positive. When they read the papers or hear on television that the schools are bad and the students are low achievers, how does that make them feel? All of us, even adults, like to know that people believe in us and have faith in our abilities.

There have been discussions recently about preparing pamphlets to "sell" Garner by mentioning all our eating establishments and strip malls. Why not tell the success stories of our students? In the fourteen years I taught at North Garner Middle School, I remember many students who went on to become doctors, lawyers, nurses, accountants, geologists, other kinds of scientists, repairmen, x-ray technicians and military men and women to name a few.

The board rooms of the Chamber of Commerce as well as Town Hall, could be filled with pictures and news articles about successful students in all areas, whether blue collar or white collar professionals. This could be in addition to the pictures of the Miss North Carolina.

Let's proclaim these accomplishments by recognizing them on our "Welcome to Garner" sign and show that we are a "Community Involved in its Schools."

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