

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 Tegucigalpa 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-

dentials. 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,

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

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.

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 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 accompany 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 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

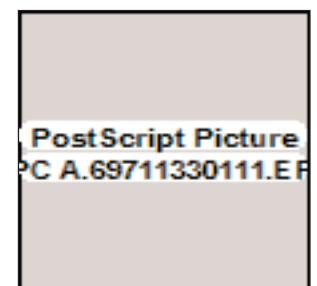
PineCone and the Town of Garner will present the old-time songs and tunes of the Double Decker String Band for a free concert at Lake Benson Park. Since 1977, DDSB has been playing and singing old-time music inspired by vintage recordings. Call 990-1902 for more information or visit www.pinecone.org.

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 Staggs 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 Benaiah 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.



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

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), John Atkins (36 years, North Garner Middle), Judy Smith (32 years, Rand Road Elementary), and Brenda Baker (30 years, North Garner). (Photo by Amanda B. Smith)

Get In The Swim!
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June 1st • 10am-12pm
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Hudson & Belk

Editorial

Letters to the Editor

Enforcing dog laws on a nuisance basis is better

To the editor:

Town Hall and the Board of Aldermen seem to be stuck between a rock and a hard place, with no immediate chance of getting out. With the Town's fiscal year ending at the end of this month, Aldermen have cut all they could trying to avoid the inevitable, a tax increase. Dire straits such as these we are in right now can all lead back to the Governor's choosing to withholding municipalities' share of the budget while trying to balance it. Let it also be known that the town manager has spent countless hours trying to clean up the mess that the town was (or may be still) in.

But more locally, questions looming around what is legally right and morally right have gotten the Town in quite a bit of media attention lately. It seems really easy sitting from an observer's standpoint to judge every decision you would make, but opinions on what would benefit the community as a whole is what has ignited quick tempers at board meetings.

The legality of infringing on personal liberties involving dogs and two dogs per lot could get the board into a bit of trouble, with parties questioning their

constitutional rights on the matter. Even though some people with large lots in the town limits can have up to five dogs on an acre lot, this doesn't seem to solve the "two dog limit." Just recently, a realtor that had a contract on a \$280,000 house saw it fall through because of the two-dog limit and the bad press.

The decade-old ordinance which was only enforced by request from a group of citizens a couple of weeks ago is harming the better half of the people who are "breaking the law." By keeping this ordinance, the town will put much constraint on the already hectic police department and the ever-growing in popularity animal control officer.

The Town's only animal control officer is already responding to 900 calls annually. Reporting an unruly dog (or cat in some cases) under a nuisance complaint like the way it was in the past, would save the town much money and time, not to mention a lot of happier citizens.

Hopefully, as our nation's birthday is drawing nearer, we can all unite under what makes this country so great: freedom.

**Nathan Adams
Garner**

Cops are subject to far too much scrutiny today

To the editor:

I would like to thank Officer Taylor and the other fine members of the Garner Police Department for their bravery and dedication in protecting us.

The bravery is obvious—pursuing a speeder who will not pull over, then tries to run you over and then runs into the night. Many other daily actions by the Garner Police Department provide similar proof.

The dedication, among other things, is braving months of

administrative duty and scrutiny when you are doing your job and protecting us. Every action of the good is examined for months to find that it is 'OK' from a policy perspective. Even minor issues will be dealt with.

I understand the need to ensure proper use of firearms, but in my mind this story shows the incorrect direction the law has gone. The rights of a small number of criminals far exceed the rights of the vast number of law-abiding people. This is a travesty.

Terry Duff

Cutting community college budget is a terrible idea

To the editor:

When Cooper Tools, Nortel, Alcatel and other major Triangle area employers outsourced, downsized, or laid off a large percentage of their workforce this year, scores of people found themselves unemployed.

Little did fifteen of these people know that their fate would bring them together to relearn basic math in one of Wake Tech's Adult Education Classes. This class prepares students for developmental, pre-curriculum math that will in turn lead to a certificate or diploma program at Wake Tech.

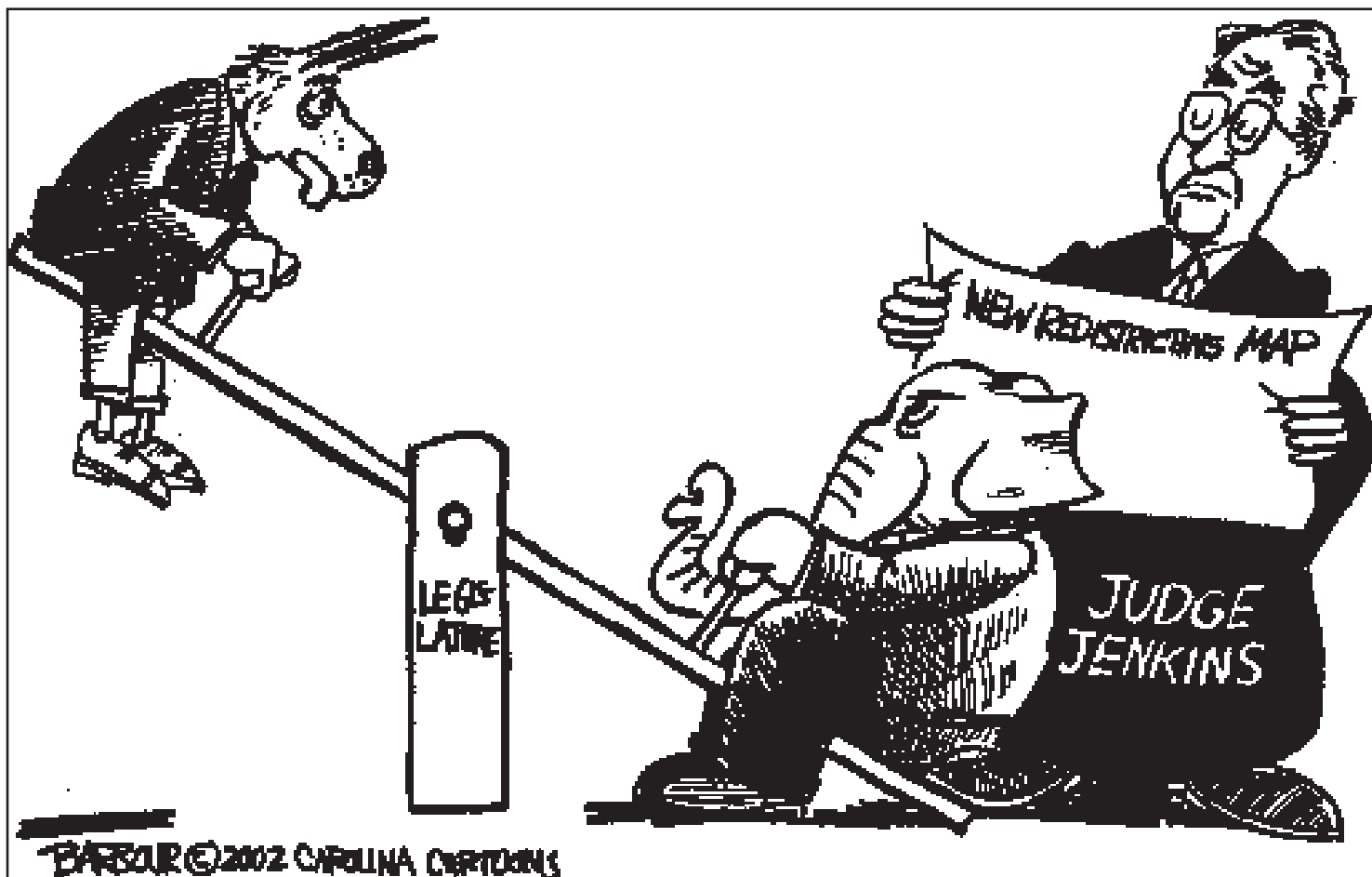
When these students have completed this course of study and move on, will others with similar needs be allowed the same opportunity? The outlook is doubtful if North Carolina's community college budget is cut more than 7 percent and not allowed to benefit from money normally received in the system as a result of annual enrollment growth. At a time when so many

NC citizens are seeking to improve their marketability through programs of study at Wake Tech, this door of opportunity may be closing.

These fifteen students in the Basic Skills Math program worked in their companies from 4½ to 24 years. Most of them were terminated after 20-plus years of service and have been out of school for over 25 years. They had excellent, well-paid positions in the company. All of them were high school graduates, and several had college degrees. They said that their greatest challenges in finding new employment were their age, their lack of marketable skills, the economy, and the relocation of local companies outside the US to take advantage of cheap labor.

Bravely, these fifteen students are facing these challenges head on. I interviewed many of them when they first came to the Individual Learning Center at Wake Tech. Many of them were

See LETTER, Page 5



Priests and public acceptance

I've been somewhat following these stories about Roman Catholic priests who are caught sexually abusing children. If I understand what I've read correctly, the guidelines that a church panel assigned to this debate are asking for are as follows:

If the priest has a one-time prior offense, they are allowed to continue serving in the ministry after review by a diocesan board. If they accept counseling, aren't prosecuted, and admit publicly that they are indeed guilty of these crimes, they would be allowed to continue to wear the collar of a priest. Even if they don't meet all of these guidelines, the priest would still remain a priest, but would not be allowed to serve publicly, and could not wear his collar or celebrate Mass in public. Any priest caught in such misconduct in the future would be removed. These proposals are contained in a report by the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse which bishops from all over the US are going to hold a vote on sometime in June.

I have but one question for who ever is on this so-called church panel, what happened to a zero-tolerance policy, hmmm? I know that I can count on support from parents when I say that one time is one time too many.

What are we supposed to do, look down at



My Ever So Humble Opinion

by Jennifer Staton

our child and say "Yes sweetie, what happened to you was wrong, it will scar you emotionally for the rest of your life, we will be seeing counselors for the next ten years, but he was after all a priest, and it only happened one time, so Father John will still be serving in our church and will act as our trusted mentor."?

Pardon my language, but that is complete and utter BS.

Folks, I can tell you right now, priest or no priest, if I ever found out someone had taken indecent liberties with my child, the only person they would have to worry about appearing in front of would be Jesus Christ Himself, because I would make sure he never lived to assault another child.

You know, we worry when we send our child to school that some stranger might convince them to get into their car. We worry when we send them into a public restroom

alone that some pervert might sneak a peek at them while we wait patiently outside the door, trying to give our little ones a bit of independence. It would never occur to me, to concern myself when I drop my daughter off at a church function. I would never in a million years, even begin to fathom that the men and women of God would harm my child in the House of the Lord before they return her.

I think the Vatican needs to take a hint from the State of North Carolina, which requires all of its sexual offenders to register and keep the State updated with current addresses. As concerned citizens, not to mention parents, we should be able to access the records of those pedophiles serving and living in our community. (FYI- If you didn't already know, North Carolina hosts such a website: <http://sbi.jus.state.nc.us/DOJHAHT/SOR/Default.htm>.)

If any among you have connections to the Catholic Church, I encourage you to use your resources and make your opinion known. Take a stand for the children, because it's obvious to me that this "church panel" has failed to do so.

Have an idea or suggestion? Want me to tackle one of your pet peeves? Send me an email jenniferstaton@clevelandpost.com.

Spend some time with dad this Sunday

On the Friday evening before Father's Day last year, I attended a "Father's and Son's Night" with my dad at the church he is currently serving. Dad had asked me if I could come to the event several weeks earlier and I had postponed a trip to the beach by a few hours to honor his request. Believe me, it was just a simple gesture on my part. Dad has done so much for me throughout my life, the least I could do was to be there for him that evening.

The guest speaker for the night was Mike Chadwick, a motivational speaker who travels from place to place sharing his testimony of how he returned to Christianity after a lengthy hiatus. I don't remember Mike's speech verbatim, but I'll do my best to recall it for you. He delivered a heartfelt message, which touched the souls of those in attendance.

Many years ago, Mike was a



successful contractor who had little time to spare with his family. His many building projects kept him busy day and night. During his speech that night, Mike reminisced about how his son Michael had walked into his office at home on several different occasions and pleaded with him to come out and play for a while. Mike's response to his young son was always an impatient "Not now, son. Can't you see all this paperwork here? I'm too busy. I promise we'll do it later."

Mike would watch his son as he slowly made his way out of the office with his head bowed. Why

can't he understand what I'm doing? Mike would ask himself as Michael closed the door. Doesn't he know I'm building a future for him?

One night a few years later, Mike lost his young son in a tragic automobile accident. Shortly thereafter, he turned to God to help him through the terrible crises and recommitted himself to his church and his family. One of the main points in his speech is a simple reminder that most of us need to hear from time to time, "Never be too busy for the important things in life like God and family, because you never know what the future will bring."

After I left the church that evening, I was headed to the beach when my cell phone rang. It was dad calling to tell me how much he appreciated me coming. "I'm really happy you were here tonight," he said, pausing for a second to clear the emotion from

his throat. "It meant a lot to me and it will make this Father's Day truly special." He ended the conversation with the words, "I love you buddy." It was all I could do to contain my own emotions and whisper back to him, "I love you too, Dad."

You know, I'm really lucky to have such a caring dad. Many years ago, his love and kindness helped me survive a serious struggle with a major depression, which was a direct result of my own self-centered attitude. Since then, through my dad's example, I've strived to be a better person. Thanks Dad.

Y'all think about your dad over the next couple of days and remember the good things he's done for you. Then, make some time for him on Sunday because you never know what the future might bring.

J.T. Smith can be contacted via email at jtsmith@clevelandpost.com.

Now playing this summer: A family of characters

Summer means a lot of things around the town, not the least of which is the commonly heard phrase, "Is it hot enough for you?" For many families, summer means packing the car and grabbing the map with vacation destinations in mind. "How much longer?" "Are we there yet?" "He's hitting me, she's touching me, I think I'm going to barf!" Also common phrases, heard from the back seat on family trips.

Some families, maybe on the traditional school calendar, use summer as a time to visit relatives out of state. And that's where we are and where we're headed this weekend. My two brothers live in Georgia, my sister is in Western North Carolina and my parents are in the Florida panhandle. And we are all converging this weekend in Brunswick, Ga. for the second wedding of my second oldest brother. We haven't all gotten together like this for several years and it offers the potential for excitement, hopefully not in the way of early fireworks. "A fami-



Around the Town

by Marti Hall

ly's history is like a novel in progress with a full cast of characters and, because each of them is a part of you, you want to know them all," said Frederick Waterman, a writer. My family has a full cast of characters.

Having just completed a small part in the Towne Players last production I can tell you when you spend that much time with a cast in rehearsals and performances, you start to feel like it's your second family. A play will typically have a lead member or members and supporting or lesser roles. And so it is with a family unit. Mom and dad are the directors then there is usually a lead child telling the others what to do, a child who demands a lot of attention, and a compliant child who

supports everybody. Comedy and tragedy, in big and little ways, weaves throughout the family's fabric. (In case you're wondering, I am the baby of the family and everybody claims I got more attention and was spoiled. I never knew what they were talking about.)

Our family cast of characters started of course, with mom and dad then two boys and two girls. We all four got married and had children, branching out the family tree to four spouses and twelve grandchildren. Then two of the original four children got divorced. Cut some limbs off the family tree. Now the second oldest is getting remarried. Graft a branch on and add two sprouts, her two kids. My oldest brother once said, and I wrote a column about it, that we are a family of mixed nuts. But what family isn't a little mixed up and nutty with maybe a cranky one, a trouble maker, a peacemaker and a show off? This group of people we did not choose, unique with warts and

all is our family for better or for worse. Sometimes we can't live with them but what would life be without them?

Sir Francis Bacon said, "It is a reverent thing to see an ancient castle or building not in decay; or to see a fair timber tree sound and perfect. How much more to behold an ancient and noble family which hath stood against the waves and weathers of time." We can hide many things from many people about ourselves, but those in our family know our character best. And most of the time they love us anyway.

So while we all at some point this summer, hit the road to spend a week or just a weekend with our beloved and nutty family members, to avoid indoor fireworks remember these words from Oren Arnold, "In the all-important world of family relations, there are other words almost as powerful as the famous 'I love you.' They are 'Maybe you're right.' I'm going to try it this weekend. Wish me luck."

Garner News

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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 107 Weston Rd. was charged with possessing drug paraphernalia May 29 at Garner Rd.

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 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 Carmon, 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.

Ayeshia Meshecole Terry, 19, of 103 McColum 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 it's 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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