



# Garner News

This week

Mudcats move into first place  
See Page 9

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

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GARNER, NORTH CAROLINA 50¢

## Garner woman charged in accident

By Juli Denning  
Associate Editor

Edna Faye Barnes was charged with Misdemeanor Death by Vehicle in the accident that claimed the life of Garner resident Steven Kirby, said Garner PD's Public Information Officer Jon Blum.

The crash occurred on Saturday, August 16 at the intersection of Vandora Springs Road and Vandora Avenue. Kirby died later that afternoon at WakeMed.

"The evidence leads me to conclude that Ms. Barnes turned in front of the motorcycle driven by Mr. Kirby," said Traffic Safety Lt. Bob Stevens.

"She admits to making the turn that ultimately resulted in the death of Mr. Kirby."

Stevens, who is also the department's Crash-Reconstruction Specialist, said Kirby was not speeding and the motorcycle headlight was operating.

Kirby was driving a 1979 Honda motorcycle and wearing a helmet, when he crashed into the Ford Focus driven by Barnes.

However, Stevens said the helmet worn by Kirby was not one that is not approved by the Department of Transportation.

"They are commonly called 'salad bowl' helmets," said Lt. Stevens.

Barnes is scheduled to appear in court on September 23.

**Motor vehicle thefts**

There were four reported vehicle thefts this past

See ACCIDENT, Page 3

## Inside this week's issue...



Trojans get on winning track against Comets

- Raleigh's Pullen Park could be called a 100-year-old carnival.....Page 2
- Columnist Jennifer Staton wants to know why cops can speed their way to coffee and doughnuts.....Page 4
- Meet this week's Pets of the Week.....Page 5
- Dr. Jill tells you why you might need dietary supplements.....Page 7
- Wake Christian's football team loses its opener.....Page 9
- The Garner Trojans even their record at 1-1 with a 27-20 win at Clayton.....Page 18



This dog would like a new home...page 5

## New school, improvements to others could be coming

By Jessica Bennett  
Correspondent

Garner, if all planned goes well, may be getting a new elementary school.

The construction of a new elementary school is only one part of the Wake County Public School System's PLAN 2004, which will continue renovations in the county's 126 schools and add an additional 13 schools.

The Board of Aldermen heard WCPSS administrators discuss PLAN 2004 at its Monday, Aug. 19 regular meeting.

Of the 13 new schools, 11 new elementary schools are planned to open between now and 2008. No middle schools are planned, and two high schools are planned. A pre-kindergarten center is also planned, and is scheduled to open in 2007.

School administrators could not give details on the new school's location yet. Land for

the new school hasn't been purchased, but administrators did say they are currently looking for parcels of land.

Land for the school will be south of Timber Drive and Vandora Springs elementary schools.

Voters will return to the polls October 7 to vote on a \$450 million bond. The entire capital project is estimated at \$550. Money to accommodate for the \$100 million difference will come from savings from past construction projects, state school construction funds, interest earnings and other local funds, according to information from the Wake County Public School System.

In a county where schools built through one construction plan can out build total schools in a neighboring county, Wake County continues to see growth move further towards the out-

skirts of the county. Planned areas for new schools, according to information from the school system, form a ring around the county, starting in Rolesville, swinging down through the Knightdale-Wendell area, into Garner, Holly Springs, Morrisville and ending up in the Brier Creek area north of Cary.

Within those parameters, school administrators are looking for several sites in eastern Wake County, running northeast from Garner through Knightdale, and into northeastern Raleigh and the Wake Forest-Rolesville area.

And enrollment in Wake's schools continues to grow, more than 108,000 students have been enrolled for the 2003-2004 school year. By 2012, just less than 136,000 students are expected to attend county schools.

PLAN 2004 follows a \$500

bond referendum passed in 2000, which paid for renovations to nine existing Garner-area schools. In the Garner area, more than \$15.8 million in renovations came from the 2000 referendum funds. East Garner Middle School took up the largest chunk in Garner-area school renovation spending under PLAN 2000. A plan to demolish and replace the gymnasium, upgrade all classrooms, construct a new auditorium and renovate science, performing arts and physical education areas, East Garner's renovations carried a \$10.6 million price tag. And under PLAN 2004, Garner's other middle school, North Garner Middle, will undergo a second phase of a total \$9.4 million project, with a similar overall renovation.

In all, PLAN 2004 will bring a host of renovations to Garner area schools.

### Planning ahead: Garner area schools

If an October 7 bond referendum passes, voters will pump \$450 million into PLAN 2004, a broad school construction plan with a total price tag of \$550. The additional \$100 million will come from savings from previous construction projects and other sources. A new school is planned for the Garner area. Here are highlights of planned renovations:

<b>Aversboro Elementary</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$8.98 million total*	<b>Date:</b> 2005, 2008
<b>Highlights:</b> By 2005, re-roofing. By 2008, expand kitchen; upgrade play areas and equipment; provide stage for multi-purpose room; upgrade parking; construct new addition; replace flooring; upgrade all older classrooms.	
<b>Crech Road Elementary</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$150,000	<b>Date:</b> 2005
<b>Highlights:</b> Replace cooling tower and pumps.	
<b>Smith Elementary</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$288,700	<b>Date:</b> 2008
<b>Highlights:</b> New walk-in cooler and freezer.	
<b>Vance Elementary</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$505,500	<b>Date:</b> 2007
<b>Highlights:</b> Replace cooling tower and pumps.	
<b>Vandora Springs Elementary</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$212,500	<b>Date:</b> 2005
<b>Highlights:</b> Resurface basketball court; re-roofing.	
<b>East Garner Middle School</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$549,000	<b>Date:</b> 2007
<b>Highlights:</b> Re-roofing	
<b>North Garner Middle School</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$9.4 million	<b>Date:</b> 2006
<b>Highlights:</b> Renovate classrooms, offices, science labs, art classrooms, bathrooms and corridors in back and middle wing; upgrade kitchen and dining areas; upgrade gym and athletic fields; add track "straightaway; replace bleachers; replace lockers.	
<b>Garner Senior High School</b>	
<b>Cost:</b> \$445,000	<b>Date:</b> 2006
<b>Highlights:</b> Replace classroom flooring; add new serving line; water and sewer improvements.	
*notes two projects over four years Source: Wake County Public System	

Open for business



The Best Buy in White Oak Crossing shopping center opened its doors Friday morning and people poured through the entrance at 10 a.m. to check the new store out (right). Some other White Oak stores also opened their doors over the weekend, including HomeGoods and Dick's Sporting Goods, and more are expected soon.

## Garner resident charged with rape

By Juli Denning  
Associate Editor

Fernando Carbajal Lopez, 20, of 905 7th Avenue was charged with First Degree Burglary, First Degree Rape and Second Degree Sexual Offense late Sunday afternoon, according to Officer Jon Blum.

Officers were called around noon to the home of the victim, a 16-year old girl.

According to Investigator Mike Brown, Lopez, who had a prior relationship with the victim, went to her home around 4 a.m. Sunday morning and began knocking on her bedroom window. He then allegedly forced his way into the home before committing sexual crimes.

Investigator Brown spent Sunday afternoon interviewing

Lopez and the victim.

"His story changed several times, along with related details," said Brown. "His statements were routinely inconsistent."

"According to the victim, Mr. Lopez had been coming to her house for several weeks. He was told to leave each time by the victim or family."

Investigator Brown said family members were inside the home during the rape and Lopez allegedly threatened to harm the victim further and her family if she did not cooperate.

"Lopez was officially charged and placed in the Wake County Jail around 6 p.m.," said Officer Blum.

Bond amounts for other

See RAPE, Page 3

## Calendar Highlights

**Hole-in-One Tourney**  
**Wednesday, Sept. 3**  
**Knight's Play Golf Center**

A hole-in-one golf tournament is being held on September 3 at Knight's Play Golf Center in Cary to raise money for Joshua.

Joshua is 5 years old and has a rare metabolic disorder called Tyrosinemia Type I.

**Girl Scouting open house**  
**Thursdsday, Sept. 4**  
**Garner UMC**

Do you like to play sports, serve the community, take trips, experiment with science and have fun? Then Girl Scouting might be for you. Check it out. The Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council will hold a recruitment and information session from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on Sept. 4 at the Garner United Methodist Church.

**Old Fashioned Day**  
**Sunday, Sept. 14**  
**Mt. Herman Chr. Church**

On Sunday, September 14, Mt. Herman Christian Church will celebrate 125 years of spiritual growth with an Old Fashioned Day during the morning service and an Old-Timey Gospel Singing during the evening service.

The church is located at the corner of Raynor Road and White Oak

## Inside

- Editorial.....4
- Pets of the Week.....5
- Lifestyles.....5
- Church page.....6
- Health and Fitness.....7
- Legals/Classified.....11
- Sports.....18



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