



**UDC Chapter Bestows
Prestigious Crosses
Of Military Service**

**Tribune Shows
Patriotism With
Full Flag Page**

**Mooresville Man Trades
Principal's Office For
Belizean Classroom**



Mooresville Tribune

"Although I Disagree With Everything You Say I Will Defend Unto Death Your Right To Say It"

VOL. LVII No. 12

A Park Newspaper

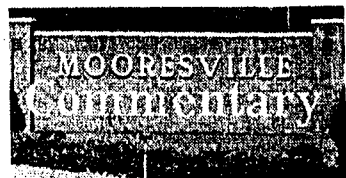
Mooresville, N.C. (28115) Wednesday, May 1, 1991

(704) 664-3334/FAX 664-3614

Single Copy 25c

(USPS 362-380)

© 1991



LEE SULLIVAN

There's a rumbling afoot and town decision-makers, if they haven't already, need to hear it. Many people — in town and out — are wondering if Mooresville isn't getting, or at least trying to get, too big for its britches; too big for its own good; too big too fast.

Growth has been, and continues to be in one form or another, the number one topic at town board, planning board and chamber of commerce gatherings. And to date, accommodating — even enticing — growth has emerged as the top priority.

Efforts have been, to say the least, successful. New shopping centers, new industries and new housing subdivisions have sprung up all over. But when will it end? How much growth is enough?

Earlier this week, an event here at the Tribune pulled those questions to the surface. A woman came in the office Monday to change the address for her subscription. She said she and her family were moving out of town. "Mooresville's gotten too big," she said. "It was a nice quiet place when we moved here, but now we're going to look somewhere else."

So far at least one family, by trying to attract more of everything, Mooresville has lost its appeal. There are bound to be other similar cases. And you have to wonder how long it will be before businesses and industries follow that pattern.

After all, some of the "improvements" and additions in Mooresville are precisely those things that people came to Mooresville to avoid.

It's not an easy issue, but it is one that deserves careful study and consideration — more than can be accomplished in public hearings about individual projects. Growth, in some form, is a necessity for modern municipalities. And Mooresville, because of its proximity to Lake Norman, Charlotte and national and international transportation links, has had growth thrust upon it.

But the town's popularity carries with it the opportunity for Mooresville to be more selective about the type of development it wants, and approves.

Big brother Lynnie Sullivan, a former Mooresville resident and now a land surveyor in Cary, says Mooresville is doing everything wrong. By relaxing subdivision standards, Mooresville is getting houses, but not the quality housing and neighborhoods people want. By bending over backwards to see what the town can do for potential commercial or industrial developments, the town is forgetting to ask what the developers will do for the town.

In short, he says, by concentrating on short-term needs, the town is forgetting about long-term impact.

He uses Cary as an example. Not that long ago, Cary was a small, quiet town that found itself in the path of progress. Growth was coming hard and fast but Cary officials, according to him, didn't relax standards to attract it.

I tell him Mooresville's situation was a little different. When Mooresville first started trying to lure developments, it wasn't as popular as it is now. It had to do something to get subdivision builders and industrial clients interested. I explain that the recruiting and ordinance changes were designed to help the town grow.

"Why?" he asks. "Why did the town have to grow?"

I ask him the same question about Cary. Cary didn't have to

See COMMENTS Page 16

OBITUARY INDEX

First Section

Brawley...page 14

Downey...page 14

Johnson...page 14

Lewis...page 14

Lomax...page 14

Third Section

McGee...page 1

Ralney...page 1

Williams...page 1

Woolen...page 1

Lowrance Board To Review Four Proposals

The Lowrance Hospital Funds Advisory Board will reconsider financial assistance for two community projects and get additional information on two others during its 4:30 p.m. meeting today

in the courtroom of the Municipal Building. Board Chair Jimmie Houston said the public is welcome.

Back on the table are requests from the Iredell County Health

Department and the Iredell County Learning Center. The health department asks \$290,000 to finance services aimed at reducing infant mortality in the county. The center wants \$35,000

to buy a van especially-equipped to accommodate handicapped persons.

These two applications are among seven in the advisory board's "priority group 1." The other five were funded in mid-April. They will share \$875,000.

The board did not recommend funding the two projects because financing for them was expected from other sources. The health department thought it would receive a share of \$10 million allocated statewide to combat infant mortality, and the center said it might get the price of the van from the N.C. Department of Transportation and the N.C. Council on Aging.

Houston said early this week the health department and the center have notified the board they will not get the state help, and both asked that their applications be reconsidered. The center was told money for the van simply could not be found. The health department said four neighboring counties will get state funding, but Iredell will not.

If the board funds the two projects, they will bring to \$1 million the amount the advisory board has recommended that county commissioners disburse from the \$4.7 million trust that grew from the 1986 sale of county-owned Lowrance Hospital to private interests for \$3.6 million.

At the time of the sale, a five-year moratorium was placed on use of the proceeds. The restriction was lifted Jan. 1, and in mid-March county commissioners released \$1.9 million. Of the remainder, \$2 million has been loaned to the South Iredell Community Development Corporation, and it has been promised an additional \$800,000 that must be held in reserve. Monies also are being held to cover the county's long-term liability for the hospital.

Also at today's meeting, Houston said, the board will hear spokesmen for funding-priority groups 2 and 3, each of which contains one project. Group 2, a multi-purpose building for the community, would require \$1.8 million. Group 3 is a health-education facility whose sponsors, Mooresville schools, Mitchell Community College and Lake Norman Regional Medical Center, say would cost \$3 million.

Crafts Emphasized For Ninth Annual Lake Norman Festival

It's May so Mooresville's annual salute to spring and warm-weather activities can't be far away. And it isn't.

The ninth annual Lake Norman Festival, sponsored by the Mooresville-South Iredell Chamber of Commerce, will be held May 18.

The event, headlined by a crafts show and locally-based entertainment, will be an all-day affair on Main Street featuring an assortment of special activities.

Marcia McNeil is once again the chairperson of the event and she and other organizers have put together preliminary plans for the festival while staying on the lookout for additional craftspeople and entertainers interested in participating.

Local bands are the number one priority on the committee's list and any bands interested in taking part should call the Chamber office, 664-3898.

More craftspeople are also needed. Booths of handmade crafts and artwork are Lake Norman Festival traditions and the festival's motto concerning crafts has been, and remains, the more the merrier.

In addition to crafts, food booths will also be set up on Main Street giving Festival goers the chance to satisfy their taste buds while taking in the sights and sounds of the event.

Among the events already penciled in on the Festival schedule are musical and dancing entertainment on center stage throughout the day and a display of antique cars.

A pet parade open to unique, top-bred, cute or just plain run-of-the-mill but special-to-their-owners domesticated animals will be held at 11 a.m. Another animal-related event will be a demonstration by Corsea, the Mooresville Police Department's new drug-detecting dog.

While there are still booths available for the Festival, several spots have been reserved by craftspeople and artists who have made their marks in the creative community.

Artists Barbara Travis Shoemaker and Sal Vaccaro are among those planning to take part.

Shoemaker, a resident of Troutman, creates images in pen and ink. Her first published work was

a 1984 calendar featuring drawings of 12 historical figures in

See FESTIVAL Page 16

No. 1 On Board Agenda: Scary Parts Of SB 753

Raleigh will be very much with the Mooresville Board of Education during its May 3 meeting.

The No. 1 item on the agenda for the 9:30 a.m. monthly meeting in the Senior High School library: "legislative update." Specifically, the status of particular substitutes and amendments pertaining to public education in Senate Bill 753, the omnibus state budget bill.

SB 753, containing these particulars, came out of appropriations, passed a first-reading voice vote on the floor and went to the Senate finance committee April 25. The particulars, if they become law, would dramatically change the landscape of school administration at the local-

system level.

For instances that are most concerning for those systems directly concerned, Mooresville included:

•State funding would end for certain administrators — superintendents, assistant superintendents, directors, supervisors, coordinators and maintenance directors.

•County commissioners could consolidate all school systems within their counties.

North Carolina has 100 counties and 134 school systems, and the intent of Provisions in SB 753 is to bring about a reduction to one system per county. Riders in

See LEGISLATION Page 16

Community-Wide Salute To All Veterans Set For Sunday

Attention all veterans. Prepare for your day in the sun.

Mooresville's "Welcome Home Veterans" parade and rally is locked and loaded for Sunday afternoon. The event, sponsored by the United Veterans Task Force, will begin with a 1:30 p.m. parade followed by a community-wide rally at Mooresville Stadium.

All veterans of United States

military conflicts — the World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama and the Persian Gulf — are urged to participate and take their places as guests of honor.

The day of celebration and recognition will begin with a parade starting at the intersection of Church Street and Center Avenue. The parade will feature, among other things, marching Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts,

vintage automobiles and the Mooresville Senior High School Band.

The parade will follow Center Avenue to Mooresville Stadium.

Starting at 3 p.m. at the stadium, bands will play, singers will sing and speakers from military branches as well as representatives of local, county and state government will take their turns congratulating veterans and welcoming them home.

Representatives of the North Carolina Air National Guard and of individual National Guard units are scheduled to make brief remarks and students involved in military training programs are also expected to participate.

The list of music scheduled to be performed includes "The National Anthem," "America," "God Bless America," "American the Beautiful" and "God Bless the USA." The singing will be done by individuals and groups — including local Girl Scouts — from the Mooresville-South Iredell area.

Also scheduled as part of the rally's events is a military fly-by. Mooresville's Dan Linkous, a

former Air Force pilot and current USAF pilot, will lead a fly-by of World War II era aircraft.

The rally is the result of months of work by the United Veterans Task Force, a volunteer agency working with the support of the Mooresville-South Iredell Chamber of Commerce and community

churches.

The rally was originally planned for March 3 as a "Support Our Troops" event, but it was rained out on that day. The war in the Persian Gulf ended before the rally could be rescheduled. But

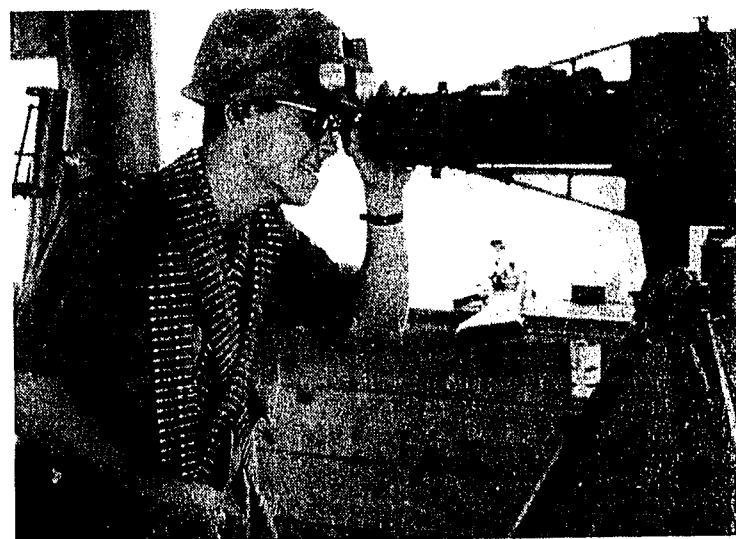
See TROOPS Page 16



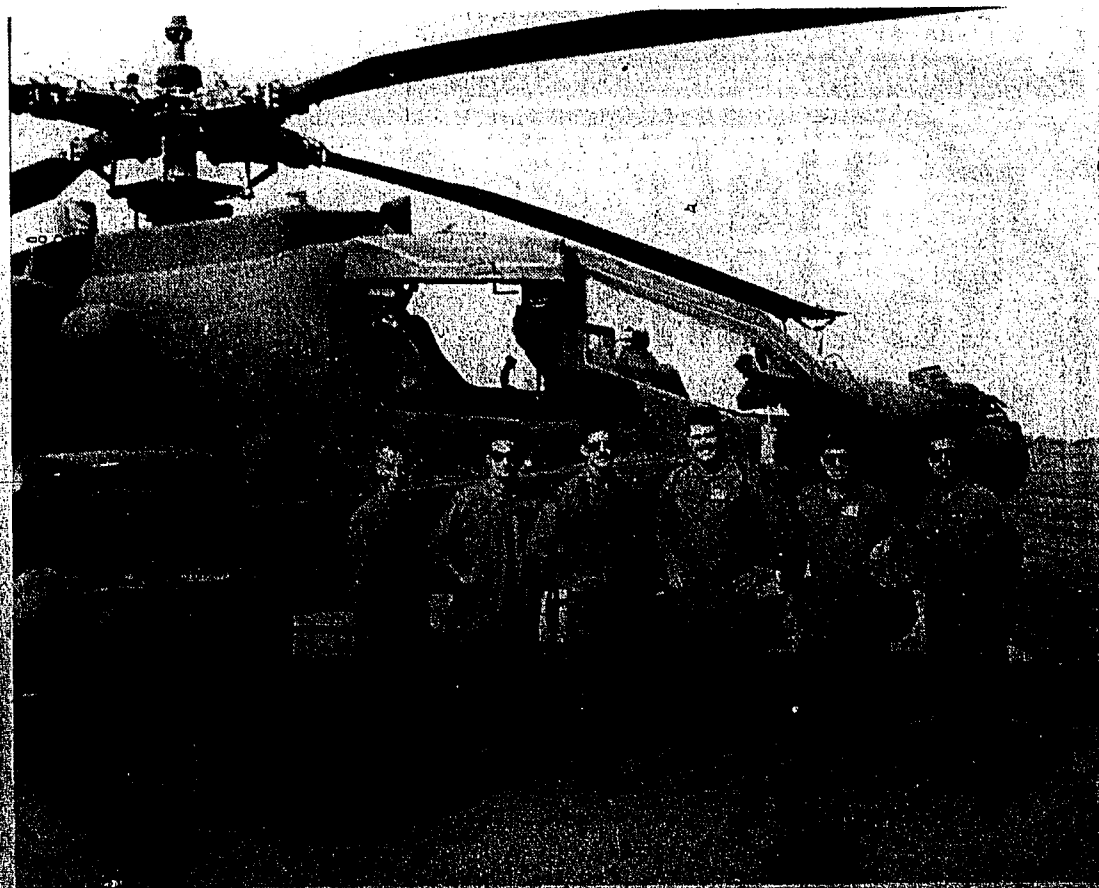
Mooresville native Nat Smith, left, as a World War II GI bivouacked in Austria



Submariner Mitch Brawley of Mooresville on USS Queenfish's deck in early days of the Korean War



Heavily-armed Mooresville son Jeff Stonestreet performs lookout duties during combat tour in Vietnam



Long-time Mooresville resident Jayson Wilson, third from right, with other Army Apache helicopter pilots of Operation Desert Storm