What's Up

First-aid training

The Mooresville/Lake Norman office of the American Red Cross will offer a community first-aid and safety course, which teaches rescue breathing, choking and chest compressions for adults, infants, and children. The course also teaches first aid basics. The course will be offered on June 12, 14, and 19 from 6-10 p.m. at the War Memorial Building, and on June 23 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the War Memorial. Cost of the course is $56.

Red Cross will also offer a community CPR course, which teaches rescue breathing, choking and chest compressions for adults, infants, and children. The course will be offered at the War Memorial on June 12 and 14 from 6-10 p.m. and on June 23 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Those interested in receiving training only for adults can attend the first night of the course. Cost for community CPR training is $42, and cost for adult CPR is $31. For more information, call 704-664-4908.

Recreation programs

The Mooresville Recreation Department will offer a summer playground program for children ages 6 to 13. The cost is $30 per week, plus a $10 registration fee. The program will be held from June 11 to 15, June 18 to 22, June 25 to 29, July 9 to 13, and July 16 to 20. The sessions will be held from 12 to 5 p.m., and participants must bring their own snack. Children must be pre-registered. No registration will be taken over the phone.

The recreation department is offering swim lessons for children ages 6 and older. The lessons will be conducted from June 18 to 28, July 9 to 19, and July 23 to August 2. Cost is $30 per person. The swim team also meets on Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., with practices twice weekly.

The recreation department will also be offering volleyball at the War Memorial on Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m. Everyone is invited, and there is no fee. For more information, call 704-663-7026.

Pinewood derby race

The Children's Museum of Iredell County will hold its first Big Rig Race on Saturday, June 9 at noon at Signal Hill Mall. Fifteen young people will participate in the Pinewood Derby event.

Benefit attic sale

The Davidson Lions Club will hold its annual attic sale Saturday, June 16, on the Davidson Village Green from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds will benefit programs funded by the Lions, such as programs for the blind and the handicapped.

School dedication

Don't forget Sunday's formal dedication of Lakeshore Elementary School and Lakeshore Middle School, which opened last fall. The ceremony begins at 4 p.m. at the flagpole in front of the school. The public is invited.

Watt satellite office

Got a beef? Need help from the federal government? U.S. Rep. Mel Watt's staff will hold "satellite office hours" in the Mooresville Municipal Building on Monday, June 18, from 9-11 a.m.

Mayoral lunch

The Mooresville-South Iredell Chamber of Commerce will host a lunch forum with Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory on Wednesday, June 13 at the 12 p.m. at The Point Lake and Golf Club. McCrory will discuss the relationship between Charlotte and Mooresville and South Iredell. Cost for the event is $25 for chamber members and $35 for non-members. For more information, call 704-664-3898.

Downtown merchants salute a century of ALLTEL

Steve Marsh (left) the outgoing Mooresville Downtown Commission Chairman, presents Bruce Hicks of ALLTEL with a plaque commemorating 100 years of service for ALLTEL in the Mooresville area. The award was given during the downtown commission's 13th anniversary dinner meeting on Wednesday at the Mooresville Citizens Center. (Photo by Michael Roessler)

Speeding

Continued from page 1A

ty was chosen because of its high automobile death rate.

"(Iredell has) more than their share of speed related crashes and more fatalities over the last couple years," said Bill Hunter, associate director of the UNC Highway Safety Research Center. "The (law enforcement) facilities all wanted to participate."

Iredell was also chosen because of its combination of rural and urban areas and the intersections of I-77 and 40.

The radar van is the final step in the county's hope to reduce auto fatalities. The first step is awareness; the second step is Wolfpack, said Lt. Halliburton.

Wolfpack is speed traps set up around the county by six law enforcement agencies: the Statesville, Troutman and Mooresville police departments; the N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, the N.C. Highway Patrol and the Iredell County Sheriff's Office.

Through the eight Wolfpack programs run since February, about 1,000 tickets have been issued.

The mini-van being used now will rotate among the different agencies, which have already picked out the locations where it will sit for the next six weeks.

"We are going to spread it around," said Officer Souther. "It may be in Union Grove one day and somewhere else the next."

The van is still being tested and evaluated. If it works, it may be used in other counties.

"I think it has a potential to be a valuable tool for law enforcement," said Lt. Halliburton.

Pie in the Sky

Continued from page 1A

dson College in 1979 with a degree in chemistry. While in college, he worked for a pizza restaurant at Hilton Head, S.C. during the summers, an experience that would whet his appetite for the business and eventually lead him back to it.

Upon graduating, Whitener went to work for a lumber company in Huntersville. After working there for several years, he felt the need to try his hand at something new. "I got to the point where I needed to do something else," he said.

And so he opened Pie in the Sky.

Growing the business from a small upstart to a successful mainstay was a collaborative effort, Whitener said. "Without the help of my parents, I certainly wouldn't be here," he said. Until recently, Whitener's parents, Harry and Margaret, lended a hand in the restaurant, which is located in the Markade building at 125 N. Main St. Now, Whitener's wife, Tammy, works there.

Whitener said he believes the key to turning Pie in the Sky into a successful business was perseverance and customer service.

He said he doesn't understand why some merchants open stores downtown, then close them soon after. "I don't know why people expect so much so quickly," he said. "For a small business, you have to stay with it and build your customer base."

And that, he said, was the second key to turning his small business into a downtown mainstay. Whitener said he has built a loyal customer base over the last 15 years, people who are good to the restaurant. "Pay attention to customers and treat them well," he advised.

Whitener also said he believes people with a similarly committed work ethic are needed to help revitalize downtown. "That's the type of business we need. People who are willing to get in here and work," he said.

From his perspective on Main Street, Whitener said he has enjoyed working downtown and is hopeful for the future of downtown.

"It's in everybody's best interests," he said, to revitalize downtown. "Downtown is a good working environment ... It's a good place to do business."

And if Whitener continues to do business as he has over the last 15 years, it will probably continue to be so.

Tammy Whitener not only runs the cash register, but is her husband's "right hand" in the business.

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Alcohol

Continued from page 1A

Iredell County, according to ALE Agent Chris Poole.

"Sometimes we run campaigns with Mooresville and Statesville (police departments)," Poole said.

"They do the charging while we do the violations," he added, explaining that the local officers handle charging the individual that sold the alcohol, while ALE takes care of citing the store.

Those violations are then turned over to the state ABC Commission, which determines any penalties for the establishment.

Stores that receive administrative violations against their permits to sell alcohol could have their permit suspended, be fined, or both.

Selling alcohol to a minor is a Class 1 misdemeanor and if convicted, a person could face a fine of at least $250 and be required to serve at least 25 hours of community service. If the person has a prior conviction within the previous four years and are not given an active sentence, the minimum fine increases to $50 and they will be required to perform 150 hours of community service. Court costs of $90 could also be imposed.

ALE, which is a part of the state's Crime Control and Public Safety administration, also conducts checks on the sale of tobacco products and investigates reports of illegal gambling.

ALE agents conducted their own alcohol check in Mooresville in April, then worked with Mooresville police just before graduation.

In the earlier operation, Poole said, ALE agents issued eight violations to Zip 'N Go #4, Zip 'N Go #5, Times Turn Around #40, Food Lion #812, Fast Phil's #502, Rusty's Sports Bar & Grill, Food Lion #1570 and The Pantry #784.

Employees charged with selling alcohol to a minor were Ashley Goforth, 17; Robert I. Fisher, 38; Howard Cornell, 48; Raymond James Thomas, 23; Dale M. Satterfield, 48; Ashley Renee Shaw, 16; and Susie' Miller McMahan, 42, all of Mooresville; and Lisa Mundo, 34, of Statesville.

In the operation with Mooresville police, ALE issued violations to Shop N Save, Fast Phil's #503, the Texaco at Williamson Road, Times Turn Around #33, Pantry #172, Petro Express, Quality Mart and Food Lion #69.

Mooresville police cited Kathy Smith Wingate, 48; Benjamin Jordan Crabtree, 18; Jeffrey Alan Fearing, 37; James Clyborne Carpenter, 60; and Shannon Gerald Grady, 16, all of Mooresville; Amanda Reid, 16; and Amy Walls, 30, both of Cleveland; and Meaco Maurice Rucker of Statesville, for selling alcohol to a minor or an underage person.

During that same check, two arrests were made at Images Nightlife. Jason Glenn Evans, 26, and Conrad Edwin Tidswell, 25, both of Charlotte, were charged with selling alcohol to an underage person. ALE cited the club for membership violations. When a private club has a permit to sell liquor and mixed drinks, new memberships are not supposed to become active for 24 hours after the person signs up and pays the fee. That person can enter the club as a guest of an established member, but can't be signed in by a member of the staff.

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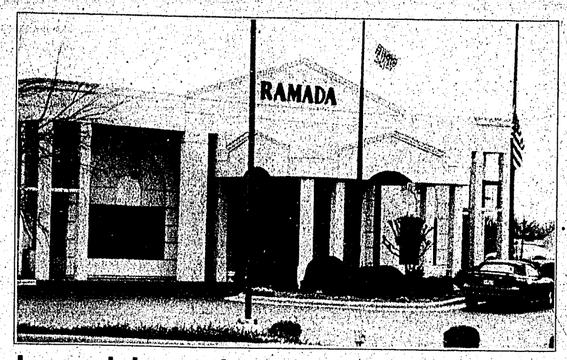

Local hotel gets top award

Mooresville's Ramada Limited hotel has been recognized as one of the best in the nationwide Ramada chain. The local hotel has won the 2001 Renovation of the Year Award from Ramada Franchise Systems, Inc., for which it had been nominated earlier this spring. The award is given to Ramada properties "that excel in quality assurance, training and guest service." Accepting the award from Ramada President Steven Belmonte (right) at a ceremony last weekend in Las Vegas was Baldev Thakor, owner of the Mooresville hotel. The 77-room hotel, at I-77/Exit 150, is run by General Manager Dipen Patel.

Troutman plan faces vote

By DONNA SWICEGOOD

The Troutman Town Board was expected to take another look — and possibly a vote — on a controversial rezoning request for a 613-home subdivision at its Thursday night meeting.

The request from Bob Dienst to build the mixed-use subdivision on Talley Street near East Monbo Road has generated protests from neighbors who cite increased traffic, higher taxes and more overcrowding in the schools as possible effects from the subdivision.

The Troutman Planning and Zoning Board approved the request at its May 8 meeting. Two board members, Ralph Dagenhart and Gene Holleman, voted against the request.

A public hearing was held by the Troutman Town Board on May 22 and had to be moved to Troutman Baptist Church because of the large crowd. About 150 showed up, most of whom opposed the development.

Because of the nature of the request, citizens speaking at the May 22 hearing were required to be sworn in, much like a court proceeding.

Bill Dustin of Centralina Council of Governments told the board and the crowd that this was different from most rezoning requests. "This has to be conducted in a quasi-judicial manner," he said.

Approximately 15 residents were sworn in and spoke against the development.

One resident, Amanda Wiser, said the development would not fit the rural character of the existing community. "It's rural; it's farmland," she said. "The development is more like a sore thumb that sticks out."

Dienst told the board and those at the hearing that the 203 acres will be developed regardless of the board's decision on this request.

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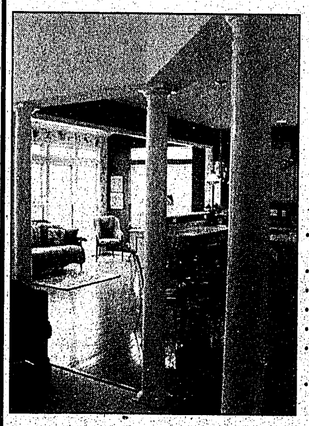

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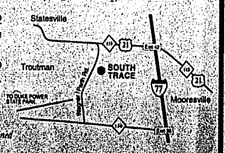
MODEL HOURS: Mon. thru Fri. 11-6, Sat. 11-5 and Sun. 1-6 or please call for an appt.



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Troutman's Palliser lays off 86 workers

Palliser Furniture in Troutman has laid off 86 of its upholstery employees.

In a prepared statement issued Tuesday, Palliser said the layoff came because it was outsourcing its upholstery operation to Brazil. "Like many other local manufacturers, Palliser has found the cost base for a full-scale upholstery operation in North Carolina is increasingly difficult," the statement read.

Palliser also said "this will require the dislocation of cutting and sewing employees" but that worker levels should increase again in the future.

Officials at Palliser declined to comment.

The company plans to restructure the Carolina divisions by going from a full upholstery operation to an assembly operation.

"Brazil offers us a cost basis on a par with China," Art DeFehr, president of Palliser, said in the statement. "We expect to be very competitive with the new product offerings, especially in Eastern U.S. markets."

Palliser makes leather upholstery and also has operations in Canada and Mexico.

This story was written by Jennifer Menster and Michael Livingston of the Tribune's sister paper in Statesville, the Record & Landmark.

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SHREK
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THE MUMMY RETURNS
PG13 - 1:00, 4:00, 7:20, 10:00
A KNIGHT'S TALE
PG13 - 1:00, (4:00), 7:10, 9:50
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PG13 - 12:00, 2:25, (4:40), 7:35, 9:55
CROCODILE DUNDEE IN LA
PG 12:10, 2:15, (5:00), 7:50, 10:00
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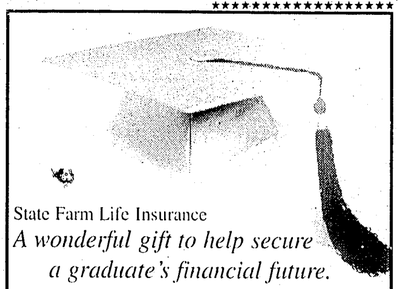
UNCC hosts 'Star Party'

Star gazers of all ages are invited to a free celestial viewing session at UNC Charlotte, Saturday, June 23, 8:30-11:30 p.m. The "star party" will take place outdoors at the university's observatory.

Several telescopes will be available for viewing the Moon, Mars and other stellar objects. Mars will be most visible after 9:30. Faculty members and students from UNC Charlotte's physics department will be present to answer questions.

Signs will be posted on University City Boulevard (Highway 49) to direct visitors to parking and the observatory. In the event of clouds or rain, the star party will be rescheduled. The UNCC Department of Physics and Society of Physics Students and the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club are sponsoring the event. For details, call 704-687-2536.



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