

Music  
in the  
park.

3A

# THE MOORESVILLE Tribune

Serving Mooresville, South Iredell and Lake Norman

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

**Raleigh**  
roll call  
How your state  
legislators are voting.  
**13A**  
Vol. 68, No. 61  
Mooresville, N.C.

Visit us at [www.mooresville.com](http://www.mooresville.com)

32 Pages 50 Cents

## Property owners keep wary eye on neighborhood's future

By MICHAEL ROESSLER

Mooresville planners are seeking guidance from the town board as to how they should proceed with the development of a new downtown zoning code — particularly in the area surrounding the old Lake Norman Regional Medical Center.

The request for guidance stems from concerns raised by residents in the old hospital neighborhood who object to a provision in the proposed rezoning that would only allow use of property for office space with approval of the town board. That rezoning is included as part of the proposed Downtown Development Code,

which is a result of last year's downtown planning charrette.

At the July town board meeting, commissioners tabled for 60 days consideration of adoption of the new downtown zoning code because residents in the old hospital neighborhood said they did not want to have

See ZONING, page 2A

## Downtown bank robbed

By DALE GOWING

A man escaped with an undetermined amount of cash Tuesday afternoon after pulling off downtown Mooresville's first bank robbery in more than 25 years.

A white male thought to be in his early 20's held up the North Main Street office of Mooresville Savings Bank about 1 p.m., demanding that a female teller place all of her \$50 and \$100 bills in a folder he handed her, said Mooresville Police Capt. Leon White.

"He showed no gun, so we don't

know if he was armed," White said.

Police said the man left through the front door, but they don't know if he got into a vehicle or fled on foot. The teller described the man as white with blond hair, wearing a white T-shirt and red baseball cap.

As of mid-afternoon Tuesday, police had no strong leads.

While other downtown businesses have been broken into or robbed over the years, Tuesday's robbery is the first of a downtown bank in "at least 28 years, which is how long I've been here," White said.

## At last, 'No Vacancy'

Schools open with all teaching spots filled

By JAIME GATTON

Not only were hallways filled with students this morning in the Mooresville Graded School District, but teaching positions — for the first time in years — were full, too.

"We have no vacancies right now," said a relieved Supt. Bruce Boyles, adding that this is the first time in at least 10 years the district's schools have been fully staffed with teachers.

And it's something schools are enjoying throughout Iredell County — a phenomenon of sorts, because many schools across the state and nation are being pummeled with a teacher shortage that has found its way into even the smallest school systems.

Iredell-Statesville Schools, for the second consecutive year, will begin classes on Aug. 6 fully staffed. "We have every classroom full. We're 100 percent again this year," said Cathy Davidson, spokesperson for the Iredell-Statesville Schools.

Boyles and Davidson give much of the

*"There are a lot of things going on at the local and national levels, and (teachers) are looking to small school systems that have good community support."*

**Supt. Bruce Boyles,  
Mooresville Graded  
School District**

credit to recruiting strategies for their districts' success in finding and hiring teachers.

"We've been recruiting since this time last year," said Davidson, adding that the Iredell-Statesville Schools are represented

See TEACHERS, page 2A

## Stricken athlete fights back from rare illness

Mooresville church has fund for Edher Soule

By LORAIN CONLON

Sixteen-year-old Edher Soule was on his way to becoming a soccer superstar. He was a member of three soccer teams and was due to join a semi-professional team in Mexico City this summer. He was athletic, energetic, outgoing — everything was going his way.

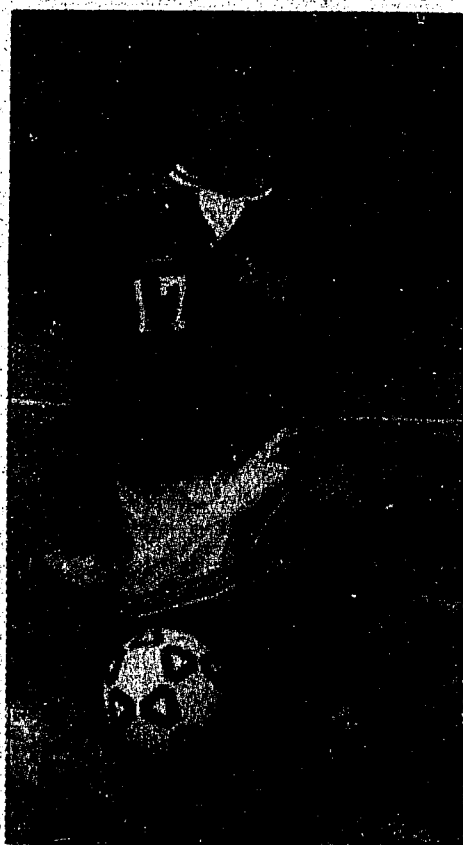
As the primary translator for his Mexican family living in Cornelius, Soule helped out tremendously around the house, working with his younger sisters, Rashel and Doazia.

Then one day in February something terrible happened. A tangled web of veins in his brain burst, shifting his brain and causing effects similar to a stroke.

Soule, who was once a promising soccer player, could no longer walk, who acted as translator for his family, could no longer talk. His memory was severely impaired, the right side of his body was paralyzed, and he had trouble swallowing.

Soule has a congenital condition called Cerebral Arteriovenous Malformation, or AVM, which occurs in three out of 10,000 people. The symptoms can include headaches, vomiting, double or blurred vision, seizures, muscle weakness, decreased sensation, a mental status change or a stiff neck. A frequent occurrence of headaches is a warning sign of the condition. However, Soule seemed to show none of these symptoms.

"There was absolutely no warning sign," said Vivian Lazcano, a close friend and parishioner of St. Therese Catholic Church in Mooresville, where the Soules are members. "He was at his friends' house helping them paint when he suddenly felt dizzy. Thinking it was the paint fumes, he went outside for air. It didn't help. He went home,



Before his illness, Edher Soule's future appeared to lie with soccer.

fell asleep on the couch, and they could not wake him up.

It was a devastating time for Soule and

See EDHER, page 2A

## A search for heritage

Throughout the summer, members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy/Battle of Bentonville Chapter are studying graves at Mooresville's Willow Valley Cemetery, seeking to identify the resting places of Confederate Civil War veterans.

To date, 94 Confederate graves have been confirmed, "but we believe there are many more," says Chapter President Kay Jones. Complicating the search is the fact that many of the graves have footstones but no headstones. UDC members are using historical records and other research materials in their identification efforts. The Chapter hopes to raise \$8,000 to install bronze markers at each grave.

Above, the UDC's Kathi Shuler consults a plot map showing where former Confederate soldiers are thought to be buried. At right, helping to mark a grave are Joseph Edwards, 1, left, and William Gray, 8.

For more information about the project, call Jones at 704-663-0390.



### Inside:

Obituaries.....6A  
Lifestyles.....7A  
Opinions.....10A  
Classified.....7-14B



© 2001 Media General Newspapers Inc.