

Friday, August 17, 2001

Animal samaritans

Rescue groups go the extra mile to help strays, distressed pets

By JAIME GATTON

It's often been said that a dog is man's best friend. But when it comes to animal rescue groups, those roles are reversed: It becomes man who is dog's best friend.

Baron, a 6-year-old Weimaraner, would no doubt attest to that if he could.

When he was rescued in January, Baron weighed 157 pounds — double the normal weight of an adult Weimaraner.

Mooresville's Linda Schilling, a member of the Tarheel Weimaraner Club Rescue based in Raleigh, welcomed Baron into her home until a permanent home could be found for him. But along with the dog came a costly veterinarian bill — well over \$1,000 — much of which the Schillings are personally responsible for since they are providing a foster home for Baron.

Rescue groups and foster families for animals are few and far between. They consist of individuals willing to lend a helping hand to animals who would otherwise join the ranks of thousands of homeless animals that have to be euthanized every year.

Most clubs have a particular purebred dog they rescue, like the great dane rescue club in Huntersville and a rescue group for golden retrievers in Charlotte.

The clubs work with county animal shelters, humane societies and



Baron, a weimaraner, is being nursed back to health. (Photo by Jaime Gatton)

See PET RESCUERS, page 2A

Revisions to zoning code still drawing fire from foes

Use of property is issue in old hospital neighborhood

By MICHAEL ROESSLER

Mooresville's town planners are suggesting several revisions to a proposed zoning code for the downtown area, in the hope of reaching a compromise with residents opposed to the code.

But a mayoral candidate who has been a vocal opponent of the new zoning said he believes the revisions are still unacceptable.

At a joint meeting of the Mooresville Town Board and Planning Board later this month, the planning department will suggest several changes to the proposed Downtown Development Code. Included in the changes will be the creation of a mixed-use overlay district that will allow residents around the former Lake Norman Regional Medical Center building to use their property for office space without seeking town approval.

Residents of the old hospital neighborhood have opposed provisions in the proposed zoning changes that would only allow the use of their property for offices after gaining such approval.

Mooresville Planning Director Tim Brown said he thinks the proposed change represents a "very strong middle ground" that should satisfy the neighborhood's residents. "It will go a long way to preserve the character of that vital part of our community," he said.

The proposed Downtown Development Code does not create zoning districts primarily based on the allowed use of property. Rather, the code emphasizes design criteria and architectural guidelines. If adopt-

See ZONING OPPOSITION, page 2A

Polling place changes for town's Ward 1 voters

By MICHAEL ROESSLER

Some Mooresville voters this fall will cast their ballots in a different place than in years past.

The change stems from the town board's adoption this summer of new voting districts. The districts had to be redrawn using population

data from the 2000 census.

Voters in Ward I, which includes the area east of N.C. 115 and south of Wilson Avenue, will vote this fall at Mooresville Intermediate School. In years past, voters in Ward I cast their ballots at Mooresville Middle School. However, the town redrew the dis-

tricts in such a way that the middle school is now in another district.

Becky Galliher, Iredell County's Director of Elections, said the Board of Elections will meet next week to officially designate the intermediate school as the new polling place.

Voters in Ward II, which

includes the area east of U.S. 21, west of Broad Street, and north of the golf course, will vote at the National Guard Armory, as in years past.

Voters in Ward III, which includes the area east of Broad Street and north of Wilson Avenue, will vote at the War Memorial, as in

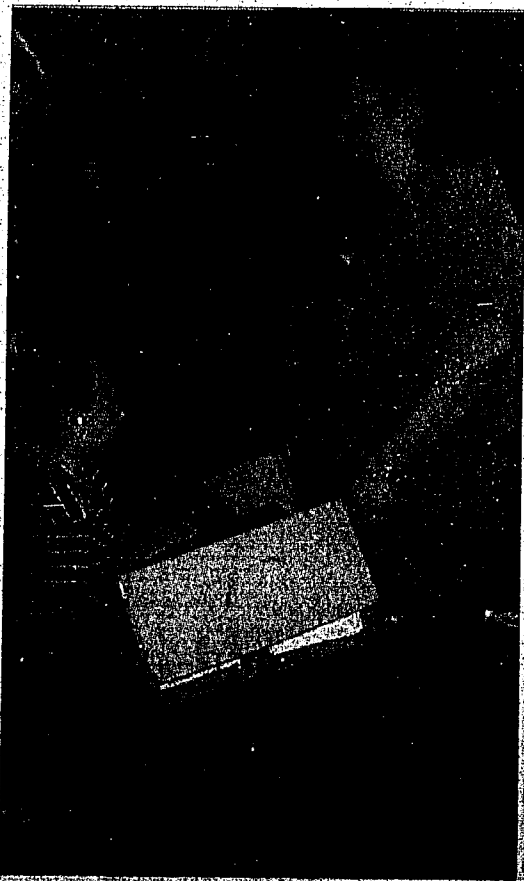
years past.

Voters in Ward IV, which includes all of the town west of U.S. 21, as well as the area immediately around the golf course, will vote at the Mooresville Golf Course clubhouse.

See VOTING, page 2A

Schools Tools offer a kind hand

Thanks to the people of Mooresville, many underprivileged students will have "school tools" this school year. The Mooresville Post Office, Randy Marion Chevrolet, Donald Craig Motor Co., Food Lion and WSOC-TV last weekend sponsored a town-wide collection of school supplies and personal hygiene items for children who need them. Folks donated items such as paper, pencils, crayons, rulers, toothbrushes and combs by placing the items at their mailboxes for postal carriers to pick up. The items were then delivered to the National Guard Armory (see photos), where they were sorted and taken to the schools in the Mooresville Graded School District. Donations continue to be accepted at Food Lion locations in Mooresville. Look for the "School Tools" barrels.



At far left, Mooresville Middle School staffer Jodi Sterner sorts items. Above, Regina Johnson and son, Alex, haul a box of School Tools. (Photos by Jaime Gatton)