

# The Progress

Vol. 1, No. 1

Morrisville, N.C.

May 24, 1995

## Here's a first for you

You have a first in your hands.

It's the first issue of *The Morrisville and Preston Progress*, a monthly newspaper serving two of Wake County's most progressive communities.

*The Progress* is being published by Durham-based Kirkland Newspapers, Inc., which also publishes three Wake County weeklies, *The Apex Herald*, the *Fuquay-Varina Independent* and the

### Garner News.

This isn't our first venture in the field of monthly publishing. We also serve the Cleveland School area near Garner with the *Cleveland Plus*.

The inaugural issue of *The Progress* was distributed by mail to nearly 3,500 Morrisville and Preston residents. For those who may not have received a copy, we're also making the newspaper

See **HERE'S** page 3A

## New homes planned in Morrisville

By SUZETTE RODRIGUEZ

The population of Morrisville could easily double in the next few years when several new Preston communities take root, town officials say.

Last month, developers submitted a preliminary subdivision plat calling for 99 single family homes to be built in a first phase on the east side of Crabtree Crossing Parkway.

And plans are in the works, Preston developers say, to build an additional 542 houses, villas, apartments and cluster homes in Morrisville over the next few years.

Town manager Bill Cobey says the town welcomes the new developments and the balance residential growth will bring to what has been

largely industrial and commercial area.

He says the town staff is working hard on a financing plan to complete a water and sewer connection to Raleigh so that the town can meet the demand for development.

Even though Morrisville has limited sewer capacity, the town board has encouraged developers to get their plans in and approved, says town planner Leisa Powell.

The latest preliminary plan submitted by Preston will go before the Planning and Zoning Board Thursday night for review, she added.

Lots for the proposed subdivision, according to the plat, average 13,124 square feet in size, or about one-third of an acre, with the smallest being 10,000 square feet.

Preston developer Tim Smith says homes in the first phase will range in price from \$250,000 to \$300,000.

He plans to break ground on the new project in about 18 months when town officials have said they believe additional water and sewer capacity will be available.

And there are other projects on the way.

Still in the planning stages is a 300-unit apartment complex to be built on the west side of a future extension of Crabtree Crossing Parkway, he said.

And nearby, 150 more lots for single family homes will edge an eight-hole expansion of the Preston golf course on the north side of the

Morrisville Parkway.

There's more.

Smith says there are plans to build 62 villas and 30 cluster homes on the west side of Crabtree Crossing Parkway along the golf course.

"Morrisville's riding on the coat tails of growth in the region. I think it's going to be the next boom area," he added.

Cobey says, in the meantime, the town board will respond to growth as it occurs, adding staff and services as they are needed.

When the Preston subdivisions are built out, he projects the town's current population of 1,800 to double. The addition of more people to the city limits is something he looks forward to.

## Smoke is No-No in yards

Leaf-burning ban to start on June 1

The fall tradition of burning leaves in Morrisville yards is no more.

Starting June 1, the town will no longer issue permits for the burning of residential yard waste. Instead, all yard waste must be placed at the curb for pickup by BFI, the firm under contract to the town of waste disposal services.

The burning of leaves and other debris had been allowed with the issuance of burning permits, which restricted the hours of burning as well as the distance from a residence. Fire Chief Tony Chiotakis said the yearly average for permits has exceeded 100.

State law changes all that. The law, according to Chiotakis, won't allow burning in a municipality that offers residential pickup.

"This is going to be good for Morrisville," said Chiotakis. "It's safer for children and elderly people, and houses are being built so close together that burning has become a real nuisance. It's just another sign of progress for the town."

Yard waste is picked up on the first and third Wednesdays in January, April, May, June, October, November and December. It is picked up the first Wednesday only in February, March, July, August and September.

Residents should place trimmings, clippings and leaves in clear plastic bags or brown paper bags. Limbs and brush should be tied in bundles not to exceed four feet long by 18 inches wide and 18 inches tall. Residents also are asked to tie bundles with string or twine and to limit the weight of individual bags so one person can easily pick them up.



**STREET OF DREAMS**—Jim Wahlbrink, executive officer of the Home Builders Association of Raleigh and Wake County said some 25,000 people are expected to tour the Dream Home Showcase in Preston Village.

## From lavish to lovely, Showcase lane reflects the latest in decorating trends

The Dream Home Showcase in Preston Village, boosted by mild weather and sunny skies, attracted an opening weekend turnout of 3,446, slightly above last year's opening turnout at Sunset Ridge in Holly Springs.

Katherine Prieskorn, spokesperson for the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County, said the event attracted 1,983 visitors Sunday after an opening-day turnout of 1,463.

As many as 25,000 Triangle residents are expected to tour the new homes before the Showcase closes on June 4. Hours are 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. except Sunday, when the hours are noon to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors and children.

See **FROM**, page 2A



**FOR THE KIDS**—Playhouses are a new addition to this year's showcase and appeal to the youngsters taking the home tour.

## Shopping centers eyeing completion; weather is factor

By BILL KIRKLAND

It was a long winter for Lacy Mayes and Ronald Price.

Mayes is the superintendent for the construction of the Preston Corners Shopping Center, located in the heart of the Preston commercial area at the intersection of Cary Parkway and High House Road.

Price has the same position at Cornerstone Village, another shopping complex springing up at the High House Road-Davis Road intersection, which is half a mile from the entrance to Prestonwood Country Club.

The wet winter meant construction delays for both projects, whose general contractor is John S. Clark Company, Inc., of Mount Airy. Price writes in each day's weather on a wall calendar, and he shows 38 days lost to bad weather. However, a mild spring is bringing both shopping centers closer to reality.

Mayes believes many of the 19 shops at Preston Corners will open as early as July.

"Each tenant is responsible for fitting up its own space," Mayes explained. By mid-May, work was under way in three of the spaces and others were expected to follow soon.

The anchor stores - Hannaford Food and Drug Superstore and Kerr Drug Store - will open in October or November, reports Marvin Waldo, senior retail consultant for the project's developer, Kane Realty Corp. of Raleigh.

Hannaford, based in Portland, Me., went back to the drawing board after purchasing Wilson's Supermarkets of Wilmington, the original lessee. The space has been expanded and is being redesigned, according to Waldo.

The shops at Preston Corners will offer a wide variety of goods and services for residents of Preston and surrounding Cary communities.

The complex includes four eating spots plus a litters coffee house and a Baskin-Robbins ice cream shop. Shoppers can dine at El Dorado (Mexican food), Pizza Hut, China

Gate and Manhattan Bagel Co.

State Farm agent Chuck Tickle will have offices in Preston Corners, as will Dr. Bobbi Stanley, a dentist, and Preston Optometry Center, headed by Dr. Kenneth Rousselo.

Mitchell's Hair Styling also will be located at Preston Corners, joining Tae Qwon Do, the Toy Chest, Pack 'N Post, Medlin Davis Cleaners, Premieres Video, Ivy Cottage Gifts and The Flower Basket.

The shops themselves will have 33,016 square feet of floor space. Hannaford Food will cover 47,766 square feet and the Kerr Drug store will contain 9,600 square feet. The parking lot will have 446 spaces.

At Cornerstone Village, most of the 500,000 bricks going into the construction of the 79,000-square-foot facility are already in place, and a September opening is planned.

A development of the Mount Airy-based Granite Development Ltd. and Durham attorney Richard Drew, Cornerstone Village will be anchored by a Lowes FreshMart Superstore, which will contain 46,000 square feet of floor space, and Kerr Drug Store, which will cover 9,600 square feet.

Craig Hunter of Mount Airy, a partner in the project, said other shops at the center will include Carbonated Video, Fantastic Sam's hair salon, PosiNet mailing service, an eye care center, a gourmet coffee and gift shop, and a pet grooming and supply store.

Of the six outparcels flanking the center, three have been sold to Nations Bank, Fonville Morrissey and Coastal Federal Credit Union. The remaining three outparcels are under contract and should close within the next three months.

"We, along with the grocery store, Lowes, are cutting no corners on the development of this project," Drew commented. He noted that landscaping alone will cost over \$130,000.

## Morrisville hosts Day at the Park

By BIFF ELLER

An estimated 5,000 people attended Saturday's Day at the Park, the yearly festival sponsored by Morrisville's Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources.

The fifth annual festival ran from mid-morning to nearly 11 p.m. and featured music, food, and games. A helicopter, pig races and face painting were attractions which drew lines of folks from Morrisville and beyond.

Wanda Cooley, busy making hot dogs at a booth set-up by the First Baptist Church of Morrisville said business had been brisk all day. When asked the favorite way people liked their hot dogs fixed, Cooley said, "all the way, of course."

Musical entertainment featured Dr. Tom "T-Bone" Tucker, Doc Waller and The Fantastic Waller Family, the Super Grit Cowboy Band, Jackie Gore Family and Friends and The Embers.

The festival was capped off with a fireworks display.

Members of the Half Century Club reported a good business selling homemade baked items, with the brownies and marshmallow treats being the hot sellers. Proceeds of the bake sale will go to the club's goodwill fund that purchases fruit baskets, and get well cards for people in the community, said Martha Upchurch.

Most of people at the festival were from Morrisville, but there were many visitors from out-of-town. One fellow who arrived early and planned to stay late made the trip from Durham. "We've been coming for the last three years," said Bonnie Rorie, who was enjoying the music and the food while waiting for the Jackie Gore band and The Embers. "The barbecue is real good and those curly fries are absolutely awesome," said Rorie.

Rebecca Everest, pausing to have her blood pressure checked by the Morrisville Fire and Rescue Department said she'd seen signs for the event while out in the area picking strawberries. "We just decided to come out, and we've enjoyed it," she said.

This year's festival was the best one yet, according to Alan Carroll, director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources. "We feel great about it. We're very pleased and already talking about next year," said Carroll. The first Morrisville festival in 1991 was initiated to compliment the fire department's fall barbecue. It has grown each year since then.

Ashley Stephenson, 8, of Morrisville stopped long enough after her inspection of a N.C. National Guard helicopter parked on the grounds to say her favorite part of the festival was "The Dragon", an inflated balloon attraction. "You know, the thing you jump on," she said.



**MAKE MINE ALL THE WAY**—Wanda Cooley prepares another hot dog at the Morrisville First Baptist Church booth.

We'll see you again on June 21!

BULK RATE  
POSTAGE PAID  
MORRISVILLE, N.C.  
PERMIT #23

Delivered expressly  
to the residents of  
Morrisville and Preston