

# The Progress

Morrisville & Preston

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## Morrisville strikes golden deal for new restaurant

**BY MARY BETH PHILLIPS**  
Some good eatin' is coming to Morrisville, as Golden Corral restaurant announced plans this week for a 10,323-square-foot new-style restaurant, to be located in Park Place shopping center.

*'The restaurant will feature cooking stations similar to the "Brass Bell" Golden Corrals.'*

—Gloria Barker, Golden Corral

"Brass Bell" Golden Corral restaurants have at breakfast time, said Gloria Barker of the corporation's legal staff.

The buffet format will still be offered, but with the addition of cooking stations, she said. The site was approved at a development committee meeting held in August, she said. Site plans will be

submitted to the town soon. Park Place Shopping Center is located along N.C. 54. A Cinemax theater is already in operation there. Construction on the new restaurant is slated to begin in the fourth quarter of 1997. The corporation hopes to open the restaurant in early 1998.

This will be the second "Strata" restaurant in North Carolina, Ms. Barker said. The first is under construction in the Research Triangle Park, near the current Golden Corral on N.C. 55. The existing restaurant will be closed when the new Golden Corral is completed. There is also a "Strata"-type restaurant in California. The Golden Corral chain began in Fayetteville in 1973. Corporate offices are now based in Raleigh.

## Board okays Shiloh sewer

**BY MARY BETH PHILLIPS**  
Work will begin on the extension of sewer lines to part of the Shiloh community, after bids were awarded at the Morrisville Town Board of Commissioners meeting Aug. 25.

Local firm J.F. Wilkinson was low bidder for the project, with a bid of \$621,691.80. Five other firms bid on the project; bids were opened Aug. 14.

Mayor Pro Tem Billy Sauls made the motion to accept the low bid, taking \$100,000 from the Community Development Block Grant fund, \$300,000 from the water and sewer capital reserve fund balance, \$40,000 from the water and sewer capital reserve fund for the current year, \$70,000 from the sewer capital improvements fund, and \$151,692 from the fund balance.

A three percent contingency of \$30,000 was also included in the bid approval, and an additional \$10,000 was added for inspections. The high bid for the project was \$845,636 from Park Construction, with other bids falling between the two.

After the motion was approved unanimously (Commissioner Mark Silver-Smith was absent) Sauls said, "Anybody who doesn't think we're trying is sure mistaken. Unfortunately, at present, this will not serve everyone, but there are some things we are working on that will serve the whole area."

Sauls also moved to set aside 50,000 gallons of sewer capacity in the sewer allocation with the town of Cary to be earmarked for the Shiloh community alone, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Also at the commissioners meeting, Tommy Esqueda of consulting firm CH2MHill presented a report on a study that his firm is making for a newly formed Wake County Water and Sewer Task Force.

The firm is mapping the population growth of the 12 municipalities in the county, and making recommendations on how partnerships can be formed between municipalities in providing water and sewer services.

"Morrisville is ahead of the curve," he said, citing the good relationship with Cary and the recently signed, 20-year agreement for sewer services.

"Other municipalities don't have a handle on what they will be doing in the next five to 10 years," he said.

Also at the meeting, Sauls passed out a blue print of an alternative fire station building. The site plan submitted by the architects was tabled at the previous meeting. Sauls said, "We need build a fire station within our budget."

Commissioners were told to study the plan and discuss it at the next meeting.

Town Manager David Hodgkins said later the reduced plan was drawn by the same architect, Surapon Sujavanuch, at the request of the town board.

The new plan eliminates a training

## Canes feeling at home

**BY MARY BETH PHILLIPS**  
Calling all charities...

The Carolina Hurricanes are looking for a few good organizations to support in North Carolina, said Chris Brown, head of media relations for the recently relocated and renamed pro hockey team.

*'Our players like to give out teddy bears, things like that.'*

—Chris Brown, spokesman

Whalers had supported annually for many years, especially the children's hospital at the University of Connecticut, Brown said recently, as he conducted a tour of the Hurricanes' offices in Aerial Center in Morrisville.

Some of the players have signed up to play in the Jimmy V golf classic to benefit cancer research, but the hockey players miss the hands-on experiences with the children, Brown said.

"It's one thing to give money, but our players like to go out and be with the children, give out teddy bears, things like that."

He said he knows goaltender Sean Burke has made a lot of toll calls since the move, to children he got to know at the U. Conn. hospital in Hartford.

"These guys were as popular as they could get in that city," Brown said.

Brown expects the team's popularity to catch on in North Carolina soon.

"Once the people around here find out how accessible our players are, compared to the average pro athlete..."

"They have not been through a media support system that has made them believe they are any different than any other guys," Brown explained.

In other words, they are just regular guys.

Besides Burke, Brown mentioned Geoff Sanderson as someone to be watching out for. He played on the NHL all-star team last year, and is probably the most talented hockey

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**FOUR PART HARMONY**—Barbershop quartet members Dick Smith, Bill McFadden, Bob Dickson and Archie Steen serenade crowds

across the state. The "Never Home 4" hail from Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maine.

## Quartet tunes up for Senior Games

**BY RON PAGE**

Put together four retired engineers from Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maine, ages ranging from 67 to 71, put them in the Triangle in North Carolina, and what do you get? In the case of Bill McFadden, Dick Smith, Bob Dickson and Archie Steen you get the "Never Home 4," a senior barbershop quartet that is causing audiences around the country to sing their praises.

"I guess you might say we're experienced," says Dick Smith, the lead tenor. "We have about 132 or 133 years of singing experience between us."

Smith, who is also an avid golfer, lives appropriately in a town house overlooking the golf courses at Prestonwood Country Club. The 67-year-old retired metallurgist, a transplant from Michigan and New England and a half-dozen other northern communities during his career, says he's been singing since his junior choral days, the last 28 in quartets.

"We've developed a close relationship," he says, referring to the other members of the foursome. Bill

McFadden, the tenor above lead, is from Pennsylvania, and has been singing for 37 years. Bob Dickson, who sings base, came from New Jersey and has 30-plus years singing, while Archie Steen, a baritone, is a native of Maine who spent a lot of time in New York State.

"He's been singing for 35 years, does a lot of our arrangements, and is the one with real talent," says Smith.

Smith says none of the group ever envisioned performing at such a variety of public events as they do today. "We had 77 gigs last year," he said. But they enjoy every minute of every engagement.

"We've all spent our lives in the engineering field," he explains. "Bill is 67 and was a computer engineer, Bob, 69, a civil engineer, and Archie, 71, a mechanical engineer. My time was spent in metallurgy."

He says they've discovered singing together, in quartet style, is as precise as engineering. "It's an

experience that just gets better and better."

The men met at the Society for the Preservation of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America's general assembly chorus in Raleigh, a group today that includes 106 members.

"We started by singing valentines," Smith explains. "We'd go to the place where the valentine was to be delivered, give the message, sing a lyric such as 'Let Me Call You Sweetheart' or 'Heart of My Heart', present the person we were singing to—and that could have been a male or female—with a single rose, and go home. We wore our chorus vests, and were reasonably good. You might say we were a 'Let's-Make-Fun-quartet,'" he says.

The group has enlarged its scope considerably since those days and expects to perform more times this coming year than ever before. "We

have a repertoire of between 35 and 40 songs and usually do eight or 10 during a normal 20- to 25-minute program that includes jokes and story telling," Smith says.

"They dress in straw hats and vividly-striped jackets. We tell people the material came from the awning of a local store," Smith said.

A major part of their singing takes them throughout high schools in Wake County. The group calls it one of the most fun things they do, promoting barbershop singing among high school students. The program is sponsored by the Society in Raleigh.

"We try to explain to the students what barbershop singing is all about," Smith explains. "It's a harmony that's unique, one that produces gentle overtones like crazy. You may hear five or six different notes just from overtones, expanded sounds that can literally chill you."

"I recall my first contact with such singing. It came in Connecticut while I was building my own home. I was working during the day at engineering, and would work on the

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**A MEMORABLE MOMENT**—Rich Styles of the Adstreet Agency was among the locals enjoying the Jimmy V Classic Saturday at Prestonwood Country Club and meeting start like Susan Anton.

## Locals rub elbows with rich and famous

### 30,000 people turn out for the Jimmy V Classic

**BY ROXANNE POWERS**

Enticed by the unseasonably mild weather, folks turned out for the Jimmy V Golf Classic in record numbers last weekend—as many as 30,000, organizers said.

Pam Valvano and daughter Jamie Valvano Howard said they were thrilled. "This is wonderful! We just couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day."

Later Mrs. Valvano added, "All three of the girls are very involved in the tournament. It's just been so good for them to feel that they can have a part in fighting this disease."

Celebrities also seemed happy to contribute to the cause, especially Jim Sonfield of Hootie and the Blowfish, who acknowledged that the group's relationship with Nicole Valvano probably hastened the group's climb to the top.

"God definitely places people in our paths and us on a path...We feel this tournament is part of our path, and we're very grateful to be on it," Sonfield said.

Kimberlin Brown, who plays Sheila Forrester on "The Bold and the Beautiful," said playing the role of an evil woman is fun.

"Everyone should get that opportunity sometime; it's a chance to get it out of your system," she said.

Ms. Brown said playing in the tournament appealed to her because an aunt died of cancer. "This is just my way of giving something back."

Vendors were among the contributors to the classics too. Terry Rudd of Mancino's Pizza and Grinders said his business would give more than 50 percent of this year's profits to the Classics.

"Last year our location allowed us to visit with a lot of the celebrities, which was a lot of fun, but, this year, business, and therefore our contribution, will be greater," he said. Preston residents enjoyed the activities from their back yards

where the viewing was comfortable. Ray and Sigrid Mroczek and their guests, Jo and Chet Melanowski, said they caught a glimpse of their favorite celebrities.

Mrs. Melanowski was most enamored with Susan Anton ("She's a

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