

Search for Napier continues at Mayo Lake

Family plans candlelight vigil Thursday night; aid sought from U.S. Navy

By TIM CHANDLER
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It's been 30 days since the search began for the body of Chad Napier at Mayo Lake.

Rescue crews from multiple local, state and regional agencies immediately began searching for Napier when he was reported missing shortly after noon on Monday, Jan. 31.

Napier, 32, of 275 Crystal

Springs Rd. in Timberlake had reportedly gone out for a canoe ride in the early morning hours of Jan. 31.

According to a Person County Sheriff's Office report, Alan Brent Foushee, 40, of 163 Anderbrook Dr. told authorities Napier yelled for help from the cold waters of Mayo Lake and that he swam out to try and save him, but was unsuccessful. The water temperature of Mayo Lake on Jan. 31 was 39 degrees, according

to Sheriff Dewey Jones.

Since Jan. 31, rescue workers have scoured an area of Mayo Lake near Buck Street Road searching for Napier's body.

As of the end of the day on Monday, the multiple rescue agencies had logged nearly 1,700 man hours in an attempt to locate Napier's body.

"There has only been a couple of days that there hasn't been someone out there on the water and those were days where the

wind was so bad it was not safe," Jones said. "All areas of interest have been checked by divers."

Search and rescue efforts are also planned for the remainder of this week.

Family members and friends of Napier have planned a candlelight vigil at the Mayo Lake boat landing Thursday night.

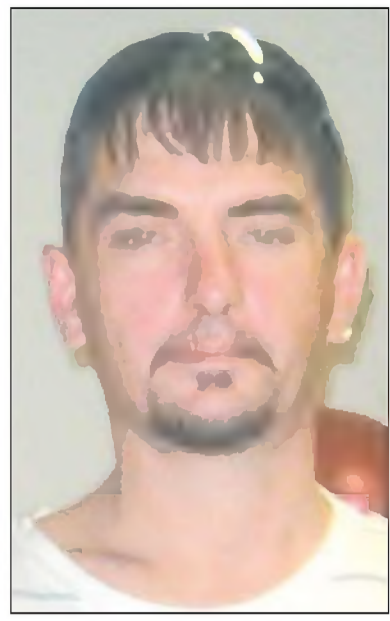
"At this point, the family needs closure and is asking the governor to call in the Navy or the Coast Guard to get this man

returned to his family, so they have a proper burial," Angela Higgins wrote in a letter published in today's edition. "The family is asking Person County citizens to come and show their support [at the vigil]."

"We need to show the rest of North Carolina that we may be a small community, but we have a big heart," Higgins added.

Jones said Tuesday that at-

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Chad Napier

City begins stormwater management talks Tuesday

By PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
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Roxboro City Council held a work session yesterday to discuss possible ways to go about implementing and paying for a storm water management program that is mandated by the state, but no formal action was taken.

Josh Johnson, engineer with Alley, Williams, Carmen and King, Inc. laid out several options for funding the storm water program, which is ordered but not funded by the state.

Johnson said there were three basic options for paying for the program, which include funding through taxes, charging a flat fee to utilities customers or charging a fee based on the amount of impervious area on each parcel of land in the city.

The easiest option, said Johnson, would be to add a flat fee onto the water bill, but that may not be the fairest, because small landowners would pay the same amount as large commercial properties that create much more runoff.

If the fee is added onto the tax bill, nonprofits and governmental properties will have to be identified and billed.

If the city were to charge according to ERU, or Equivalent Residential Unit impervious areas, property owners with larger areas would pay more. This method of billing is more costly for cities to set up and maintain, however.

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Photo submitted by Louisiana-Pacific

PARTY TIME — The Louisiana-Pacific plant in Roxboro celebrated one million safe working hours during a ceremony with employers and visitors on Monday.

Louisiana-Pacific celebrates 1 million injury-free hours

By GREY PENTECOST
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"Take pride. Today is significant and we need to recognize it as such," said Louisiana-Pacific's Roxboro Plant Manager Wayne Young to LP employees Monday afternoon. The cause of the celebration was the Roxboro mill's achievement of over one million hours worked without an OSHA recordable injury.

LP employees and visitors gathered

Monday for a special ceremony and luncheon, during which the award was presented by LP Corp. Chief Executive Officer Rick Frost.

"Most companies used to talk about accumulating a million hours of safe work, and what they were talking about is a million hours since their last lost-time accident," said Frost. "The million hours that we talk about here is the last time somebody got so much as a stitch or a prescription medicine from the doctor."

The Roxboro mill, a manufacturer of Oriented Strand Board, has gone almost four years with no recordable injuries.

According to a press release, LP measures its safety performance by a higher standard than some manufacturers, using an OSHA recordable injury as its benchmark.

As stated in the release, "An OSHA recordable is any occupational injury or illness that requires medical treatment

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No interim city manager named by council Tuesday

By PHYLISS BOATWRIGHT
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During a closed session meeting Monday, Roxboro City Council members took no action toward naming an interim city manager or deciding how they will begin the search for a successor to Manager Jon Barlow, who will step down March 25 to assume a similar position in Fuquay-Varina on April 1.

The closed session meeting was held following a work session in which council members discussed the implementation of a new storm water management program that has been mandated by the state.

Barlow later said he asked for the closed session so that he could sit down with council members as a group and discuss the transition.

"This was the first chance I'd had since the announcement" that he was leaving Roxboro, said Barlow, "to sit down with [council] as a group. I wanted them to know that I want to make sure the process goes as smoothly as possible" in carrying on after he leaves, he explained. He added, "Council needs to think about this and how they are going to work through" getting a new manager in place. But in the end, Barlow said, "I really don't have much to do with it. It will be up to city council" to make the final decisions.

Mayor Samuel Spencer was hospi-

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PCGPP completes gang assessment study

By GREY PENTECOST
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The Person County Gang Prevention Partnership (PCGPP) recently completed a county gang assessment and is hoping to get the community involved in strategies to prevent youth gang involvement.

The report was created by a team of researchers the PCGPP was able to contract with through the help of a grant the county received last year. Surveys were created for students, school staff, law enforcement and the community. The data was analyzed and a report generated.

The partnership gave its first presentation of the report to the Person County Board of Education earlier this month and plans to continue sharing the findings with the community, said PCGPP Chair David Carter.

Of the 1,850 middle and high school students surveyed, nine percent indicated that they were "currently a member of a gang."

However, partnership member Margaret Bradsher said she was struck by the number of students who said they were not in a gang, but answered the rest of the survey questions the same as those who had admitted gang membership, which indicated that they were involved but just weren't admitting it.

Of the community members surveyed, Carter said a direct correlation was found between community awareness and credibility. Community awareness forums were held last year during which those in attendance were educated on gangs in Person County and asked to fill out a survey to assess their awareness of gang activity in the county.

Several gang prevention recommendations were included at the end of the report, and involved various community groups.

Carter said he hopes funding can be generated for the efforts and that grassroots organizations will "come forward" and help assist schools in providing services to youth.

The PCGPP also plans to apply for funding through state and federal grants. Carter said Person County is eligible to receive at least \$25,000 through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act in the upcoming fiscal year to

2-TIME STATE CHAMP!



Photo by Jim Montoya

STATE CHAMPION, AGAIN — Person senior heavyweight Collin Campbell (right) tangles with Riles Deven of Fayetteville Seventy-First in Campbell's state quarterfinal victory. He rolled to a second consecutive individual 4A state championship this past weekend in Greensboro. See page A6 for more on the story.

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