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THOMASVILLE TIMES

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THOMASVILLE, NC 27360

'Free' lunches costing county schools

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

Davidson County Board of Education heard a report Monday about the amount of school lunches that have been charged rather than paid for.

And the number was alarming.

Jay Temple, executive director of Auxiliary Services, informed the board that so far the school system has accrued \$32,000 in lunch charges. If students continue at this pace, Temple said, the total will amount to \$70,000 — a bill the system will have to

'The kids don't have money, so they walk to the end of the line, get a plate of food, and say charge it.'

— Jay Temple

DCS Director of Auxiliary Services

foot.

"Federal law says we can't have any of these charges, and yet we have them," Temple said. "The kids don't have money, so they walk to the end of the line, get a plate of food, and say charge it."

Essentially, the charges come

from students who aren't enrolled in the federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program but whose parents didn't give them money for lunch that day. Last year, Davidson County Schools was forced to pay \$57,000 to cover charges parents neglected to pay.

"We have 40 percent of students on Free and Reduced lunch," Temple said, clarifying that as of Dec. 3, 2010, 40.31 percent of the system's students had been enrolled in the program. "That leaves 60 percent that have the opportunity where their parents walk out of their homes and don't give them money to eat. It's not that they're not capable. It's that they don't. It's getting out of hand."

On the middle and elementary school level, the system allows students to charge but requests

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Ring faces more counts of having sex with students

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

A Davidson County Grand Jury returned two more true bills of indictment Thursday against a former Ledford High School teacher charged with multiple counts of sex offenses with students.



Ring

Two true bills of indictment obtained from the Davidson County Clerk of Courts Office that were filed on Sept. 27 on behalf of the State Bureau of Investigation indicate that Scott Ring, 42, of Winston-Salem, is facing three additional charges of felony sex offense with a student. Ring is now charged with a total of five counts of felony sex offense with a student dating back to 2006.

According to the documents, Ring allegedly "unlawfully and willfully did engage in a sexual act" with a male student while teaching at Ledford High School between March, 21 and April 30, 2006. Ring also is charged with engaging in a sexual act with that same student between Aug. 1, 2007 and Oct. 31, 2007. Noelle Talley, public information officer with the North Carolina Department of Justice said in an e-mail to the Thomasville times that "Mr. Ring was served [Thursday] with indictments issued against him in September for five additional charges related to his sexual encounters with student at Ledford High School."

On Oct. 26, Davidson County District Attorney Garry Frank said a new victim had come forward and a grand jury returned two true bills of indictment, also issued on Sept. 27, against Ring for engaging in a sexual act with a student between Nov. 1 and Nov. 30, 2006, and between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31, 2007.

"There were two counts on the first victim and three on the second," Frank said. "There are a total of five pending counts on Mr. Ring."

Ring originally was arrested and charged in February with one count of indecent liberties with a student and sex offense with a student. Frank said Friday that Ring will not appear in court until Jan. 3, 2011, at the earliest. Ring was not re-arrested and he is not being held under any additional bond.

New charges stem from night club raid

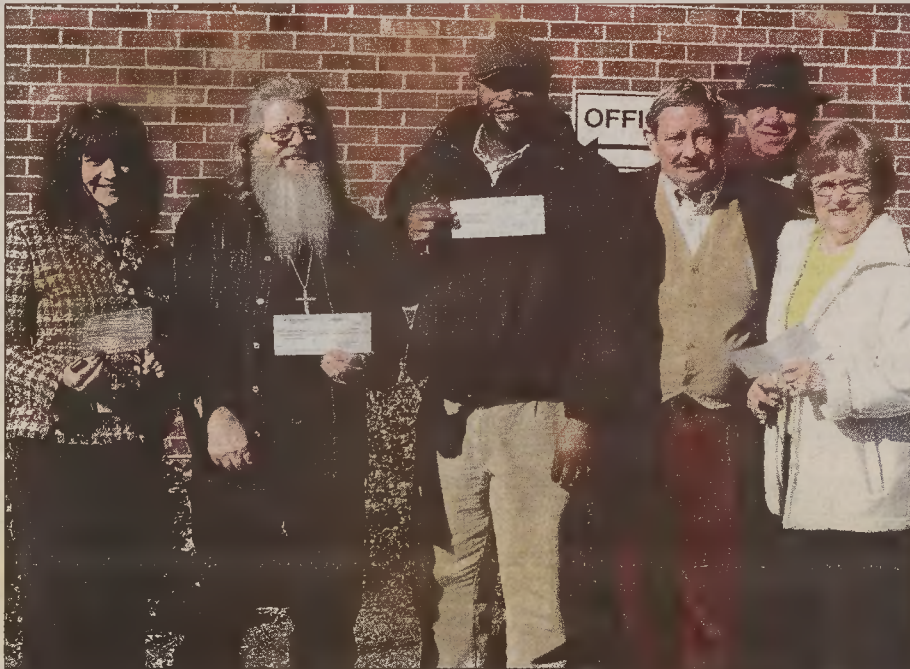
BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

Thomasville Police Department has added several new charges stemming from last Friday night's raid on a local nightclub.

TPD released a press statement Friday listing a total of 402 charges against 17 people as a result of a sting at La Estrellas Night Club at 802 Midland Ave. on Dec. 3. Part of the charges include 78 ABC violations against the club itself for what Capt. Darren Smith said stems from drug transactions being made inside the establishment.

"Any new charges that were invoked came from the search warrant that night," Smith said. "When we arrested one of these people, if they had drugs on them at the time we arrested them on their already active warrants than that was going

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TIMES PHOTO/ELIOT DUKE

CHILI FOR CHARITY

First Presbyterian Church in Thomasville recently presented local service agencies with the proceeds from this year's Chili Cook-off. Checks of \$850 each were presented to each group. Pictured, from left, are Terri Nelson of Fairgrove Family Resource Center, Brother Steve of His Laboring Few Ministries, the Rev. Marquis Ramsey of St. Stephen Progressive Baptist Church, Mike Lamm and Phil Griffin of First Presbyterian Church and Aurelia Sink of Cooperative Community Ministry.

Tracing family tree leads local man to pen trilogy

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

People have gone to great lengths through the ages to protect their family's honor — espionage, theft, even murder.

Larry Morgan wrote a book, a book to defend the reputation of a great-grandfather he knew little about.

It all started years ago when Morgan's wife, Peggy, began researching the Morgan family history, filling in blanks on a family tree. Peggy found a discrepancy in the records for Morgan's great-grandfather, Joseph, and his wife, Isabelle. Documents showed that the couple's daughter was five years old when they two married.

Further digging revealed that Joseph had in fact been married earlier to a woman named Ivy Rowland, the mother of the little

girl.

But the mysteries continued. Eventually, an anecdotal story from Morgan's mother about the family dog dragging a human limb into the house one night, and inconsistencies between the child's birthday — when she would have been conceived and Joseph's Absence Without Official Leave date — led Peggy to declare Ivy had been murdered by her husband.

BOOK SIGNING

Larry Morgan will be available at Shoppes on Main, 32 East Main St., for a book signing on Saturday, Dec. 18, from 2 to 5 p.m. Shoppes on Main is located behind Monkeez Brew.

"She alleged that my great-grandfather had done away with his first wife," said Morgan, who resides in Davidson County near Winston-Salem. "I couldn't let her get away with that, so I wrote a book to debunk all of her vicious attacks. The book kind of took on a life of its own."

Most of the story, chronicled in the novel titled "Ivy," is strictly contrived, though centered around real-life characters Joseph Morgan and Ivy Rowland and based in geographically accurate sites in North Carolina. At the time Morgan wrote the book, he knew little about his great-grandfather.

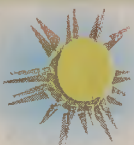
"We knew that he was a very religious man, very devout, and he raised a large family like everyone did," Morgan said, adding Joseph had done a lot of hard

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Today's Weather



Sunny, 41/23



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