

## Military Briefs

### McGougan is in Navy basic

Terrell Lamond McGougan, a 1999 graduate of Hoke County High School, recently began U.S. Naval basic training in Great Lakes, Illinois.

McGougan is the son of Mae McGougan and Leroy Smith, both of Lumber Bridge.



Terrell McGougan

### D'Annunzio talks about Paraclete company

The Kiwanis Club of Raeford met for its weekly meeting on November 6 at the Raeford Civic Center.

Reports were given on Terrific Kids, Santa's house, soccer team, and a new club in the Carolina's district. Congratulations were extended to Kiwanian John Jordan on his re-election to the city council.

Margaret Crumpler was responsible for the program. She called on her husband, Kemp Crumpler, to introduce Tim D'Annunzio. Tim resides in Raeford and is the founder and president (his wife serves as CEO) of Paraclete Armor & Equipment, a manufacture plant in Saint Pauls. His firm specializes in the design and production of products for military and sport parachute markets. The company has grown from 180 employees to near 400. He doesn't expect employment to exceed 499. The high rate of unemployment and the availability of space have benefited his business greatly.

His firm manufactures many products that are used by the military. For demonstration, he brought a Releasable Assault Vest (RAV). Using this vest, he showed the many features which have been incorporated into making it a very practical use of equipment. It is made of Mil. Spec. material and bomb proof production and will provide years of reliable service. This vest is equipped with a Spec-Ops Plate that has the ability to take six hits of 7.62x54 and two hits of the 7.62x39AP. It weighs ap-



Tim D'Annunzio

### Kiwanis Korner

Harold Gillis

proximately 60 pounds and is capable of breaking apart in seconds in a body of water. If this were not possible, one could very easily drown.

Questions were directed to him from many perspectives — from contracts, deliver, test procedures, training, and how his firm deals with growth. The military is the primary source of their products and they do not sell to the general public.

The club appreciated Tim's program.

## Raeford woman receives spouse-of-year award

Diane Richardson cited for commitment, 'willingness to help where needed'

Somewhat like the 82nd Airborne, Chellie Diane Richardson jumps in with both feet.

Richardson's willingness to help where needed and commitment to the community recently earned her the Virginia Holcombe Memorial Warrant Officer Spouse of the Year Award.

CW4 Henry Richardson Jr., president of the Bragg Silver Chapter of the United States Army Warrant Officers Association, nominated his wife for the award, which was instituted in 1989.

"What she likes most is helping people," her husband wrote.

Mrs. Richardson has been a volunteer with the Hoke County Rescue Squad for seven years and is a first responder. She is certified in search and rescue, can operate the jaws of life, and drives the rescue vehicles and ambulances. She is "on call" for a 24-hour period each week and for one weekend each month. She also serves as the squad's secretary and is an assistant team leader.

As the wife of the Bragg Silver Chapter of the USAWOA, she is either directly or indirectly involved with every activity the chapter participates in, her husband wrote.

Among her activities, Mrs. Richardson, who goes by Diane, helped decorate the VA Hospital's Christmas tree in Fayetteville and shopped and prepared the 2002 luncheon which the Bragg Silver Chapter gives annually to more than 100 disabled veterans and hospital staff.

Mrs. Richardson is active in fund-raising for the chapter and helped them raise money to send "care packages" to troops deployed to the Midwest through a motorcycle event called Ride for Freedom. Last year the event raised money to send out 20 squad-size care packages that included food, magazines, card games electronic hand held games, board games and footballs. This year more packages are going overseas.

Other fund-raising activities include selling hot dogs, drinks, chips and such at Pope Air Force Base's Green Ramp. Paratroopers buy the items prior to jumps and once, when a

jump was called off due to weather conditions, she took the items to each MP gate at Fort Bragg, Pope AFT and Simmons Army Airfield and served the soldiers standing guard.

"You can't imagine the look on a soldier's or airman's face when you get out of a truck and van and say, 'Hey, we are with the Bragg Silver Chapter of the United States Warrant Officers Association and we're here to serve you brunch.'" Mr. Richardson wrote.

Mrs. Richardson also helped sponsor the Eagle Challenge Golf Tournament, a major fund-raiser for the Bragg Silver Chapter.

"She has been selfless in everything she has done to support the Bragg Silver Chapter," her husband wrote. Many of her activities are "transparent to its members," he added.

Mrs. Richardson's remarkable volunteer activities are done in addition to her full-time employment at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in pre-admissions. She prepares medical charts for incoming surgical patients and that includes drawing blood and running EKGs for patients scheduled for surgery.

Mrs. Richardson is the mother of a 19-year-old son Bryan. She is step-mother to Trey, also 19, and also has a 17-year-old stepdaughter.



Diane Richardson receives the Spouse of the Year award from CW5 Franklin Meeks, president, and CW4 (Ret.) Roy Valiant, vice president, of the United States Army Warrant Officer Association.

### Martin (Continued from page 2A)

place of residence, by taxing the resources of the entire state and spending resulting revenue to serve the needs of all the people."

The immediate result of the state's takeover of county roads was that North Carolina had more miles of state-financed roads than any other state in the country. It maintained that position for almost 60 years. Today we are second only to Texas.

North Carolina's attention to its local roads may explain why it failed to grab its share of funding for the federal interstate highway system. During the 1940's, when the federal government asked North Carolina to prepare a plan for its interstate highways, the state responded with a very conservative and unimaginative proposal. It did not want to divert its resources away from its responsibility to build and maintain local roads.

As a result, under the original 1947 plan North Carolina received only 708 miles of interstate highways, just two more miles than South Carolina.

Other nearby states Virginia (with 911 miles), Tennessee (1,052 miles) and Georgia (1,141 miles) were far ahead of us.

Turner acknowledges that more highways are not the only answer to the state's transportation needs. He urges more funding for alternatives like mass transit and passenger rail connections to more North Carolina cities.

Ironically, in 1915, the year that Turner's story begins, North Carolina had a transit system that would sound like a dream come true for today's planners of transportation alternatives. In that year, the state's passenger rail system served 1500 different communities, each with its own rail station.

Maybe, the 1915 state-wide passenger rail system sounds idyllic. But no one can read Turner's book without understanding how critical its road transportation system has been to North Carolina's transformation from the poverty of 1915 to the prosperity of today.

D.G. Martin hosts UNC-TV's North Carolina Bookwatch, which airs Sundays at 5 p.m. This week's (November 16) repeat program features Greensboro science fiction writer Orson Scott Card, who will discuss his new book, Shadow Puppets.

### Jail threat (Continued from page 1A)

the event of a fire.

"Inadequate staffing, coupled with seriously crowded conditions, has grave implications beyond the risk of escapes from, or violence within the jail."

The NCPLS monitors conditions of jails, ensuring the safety, health, welfare, and humane treatment of prisoners throughout the state. Hamden urged Hoke officials to find satisfactory solutions to problems that currently exist at Hoke's jail.

"Jail and detention inspection reports show that the problems and deficiencies we observed during our tour are serious and long-standing," Hamden wrote.

#### Improvements

Commission Vice Chairman Charles V. Daniels said he had been unaware of restrictions on population at the Hoke jail.

He said until the legal organization contacted the county he had no idea a consent order was signed by the county with NCPLS in 1993 to prevent litigation.

"Even before this official visit occurred by them, county commissioners had already approved a Charlotte-based firm to conduct a jail assessment analysis for \$22,500," Daniels said. "This study was contracted based on Sheriff Peterkin's recommendation."

"We want to cooperate with the organization, but in a way I think it is unfair. Our board was already addressing challenges such as installing a security cage in the annex for jailers."

"I was not previously aware of

limitations on the number of inmates being housed."

Due to understaffing, last month Peterkin requested the board to approve hiring four additional jailers to adequately staff the facility. The board postponed a decision, but requested a jail study commission formed by local leaders to immediately address concerns about overcrowding and understaffing. Peterkin, Captain Sparks, chief jailer; Commissioner Jean Powell, assigned liaison with the Sheriff's Office and the board; and Commissioner Bill Cameron are among those on the committee.

Powell, the retired district attorney for Hoke and Scotland counties, said her board had already publicly committed to improve conditions at Hoke's jail.

"Prior to the jailbreak, the commissioners decided to do this study," Powell said. "Based on projections for the future and what options we have, we are studying the staffing and the (detention) building itself."

#### Problems

Other discrepancies allegedly found by the NCPLS were problems that required immediate "remedial" action.

"We received complaints about acts of violence that seem to be common in the jail," Hamden wrote. "It appears that detainees have sometimes taken control of entire areas of the jail through physical intimidation and threats of violence against other inmates."

"Indeed, we heard a number of reports that inmates have been per-

mitted to physically abuse and dominate other detainees," he said.

"This type of conduct is a direct result of inadequate supervision and an inability to adequately monitor activities within the cellblocks and the annex."

The group also determined that Hoke officials are in violation of the consent order that is still in place. NCPLS previously sued the county to remedy overcrowded conditions at the jail. Litigation was avoided when the county agreed to keep the inmate population at or below the limit of approximately 71 inmates. The legal services group estimated the county's liability for non-compliance during the past year could reach in excess of \$1.2 million if a lawsuit is filed. Hoke's inmate population has exceeded capacity by more than 46 percent, a violation of the consent order, according to them.

If the county does not comply with the existing consent order, a fine of \$100 per day per inmate could be assessed to the county.

#### Action

Last week, Peterkin transferred nine prisoners to an out-of-county facility in order to reduce crowding. Eight other inmates were released after being provided with bond reductions by the court. Following the recent jailbreak and subsequent recapture, kidnapping suspect Hector Noel Mojarro Frausto and robbery suspect Christopher Damien Handon were transferred to a newer facility at the Cumberland County Detention Center.

"We are also requesting a written, daily head count of all inmates in our jail," Commission Chairman Bobby Wright said. "It helps up to keep track of our jail population."

The NCPLS has also offered advice to the county on meeting state regulations.

"Sheriff Peterkin's desire to rectify deficiencies and to meet his responsibilities, his initiative in contacting this office, and our experience in working with responsible officials in Hoke County are indicative that

existing problems at the jail and issues of non-compliance with the Consent Order can be remedied on a cooperative basis," Hamden said. "Such an approach will allow limited resources to be directed to amelioration of the problems rather than the costs of litigation."

However, the legal services agency indicated the operation of Hoke jail is ultimately a responsibility shared by Peterkin and county commissioners.



#### Best in Show

The blue ribbon panel checked us out from every conceivable angle. The skill of our surgeons. The compassion our staff exhibits.

Training...technology...clinical research. And what was the judgement of the independent study\* commissioned by Business North Carolina? FirstHealth Moore Regional was awarded first place for being the best hospital in the state for heart care.

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\*Ranking based on Medicare data and national rankings. Monthly and annual hospital costs.

### USDA food distributed Saturday

Mt. Elim Baptist Church will distribute boxes of U.S. Dept. Agriculture food to eligible persons on Saturday, November 15 at 10:30-11:30 a.m. Eligible persons include any household considered low income.

Those households receiving food for the first time will be required to complete an application. Households with applications on file will need ID

confirmation.

For new applications, the head of each eligible household is required to complete and submit an application with proof of income. Applications may be picked up and filled out on site.

Mt. Elim is located at 921 Wilson Road.

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