

JACKETS FALL

Lee County baseball squad loses big to Fuquay-Varina Friday night
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DAY OF SORROW

Friday was Day of Mourning for those killed at Va. Tech
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TAKE 5

Oliver Crawley



This week, we Take 5 with Oliver Crawley about the Railroad House Historical Association. Crawley, 54, was raised in Raleigh and graduated from Virginia Episcopal School in Lynchburg in 1971 and from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1975. He moved to Sanford in 1976 to work with Carolina Power & Light Co. Since 1997, Crawley has worked as a financial advisor with Legg Mason in Raleigh; the asset management and brokerage firm was acquired by Smith Barney last year. In addition to his work with the Railroad House, Crawley serves on the board of directors of Lee County Industries. He and his wife, the former Terry Mann, attend St. Thomas Episcopal Church. They have two adult children.



MORE INFO: SHARKORIHILLS.ORG

MUSIC, NATURALLY

WEEKEND BEGINS EARLY AT GRASSROOTS FEST

PHOTOS BY BROOKE WOLFE

You couldn't have asked for a better day than Friday, the second of a four-day music and arts festival known as the Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival in Silk Hope, just outside of Pittsboro.

The event will end Sunday, but not before groups like Yo Mama's Big Fat Booty Band, Marmou Diabate and Donna the Buffalo take the stage.

Pictured: (Top) Members of the group Bombaball, from Durham, perform Friday afternoon during the festival. (Right) Andrea Bowden, 9, of Cary puts a few finishing touches on a rock sculpture.

(Bottom Left) Edie Fagan, of Hillsboro, dances to the music of the Monkey Charmers on Friday afternoon in the cabaret tent at the festival. "It's so relaxing and so close to home," said Fagan. (Left) Members of the group the Monkey Charmers perform for festival goers Friday afternoon.



Saturday's Performers

Atsaktankie, Bear Fox, Kusun Ensemble, Spiral Hoop Dance, Strut, Mamadou Diabate, Solazo, Carolina Chocolate Drops, Donna the Buffalo, Yo Mama's Big Fat Booty Band, Hobex, The Allen Boys, Apple Chilli Cloggers, Open Air Dance, Keith Frank & the Solleau Zydeco Band, Second String Cloggers, Solazo, Unknown Torgues, Randy Whitt & the Grifs, Walker Street Fiddlers, Northwood Jazz Ensemble, Big Fat Gap, Bluegrass Experience, Chatham County Line, Gandall Murphy, Brenda Linton, Mother Goose, Poetry Slam, Johnny Burke and the Deltas, Peace Jones, Harper and Geoff Achison.

Public safety gets a jolt

Deputies will soon begin using tasers

By GORDON ANDERSON
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — Lee County sheriff's deputies will soon get a new tool that is expected to improve their safety while offering a safer alternative to handguns.

In the coming weeks, deputies and jail staff will be trained to use tasers, electric guns that fire a 50,000-volt incapacitating shock designed to bring down threats to officers without having to use deadly force.

So far, the department has one taser, which is planned for use by staff in the county jail. But officials hope to bring more of the weapons — which cost about \$1,200 apiece — in soon.

"We're hoping that in the long run, the mere presence (of tasers) will cut down on aggression toward our officers," said Sgt. Ed Murchison, the department's only certified taser instructor. "Most people who are familiar with 50,000 volts don't want anything to do with it. It's kind of like looking at a double-barrel shotgun."

Murchison, as part of his taser certification, was required to be hit with the gun.

See TASERS, Page 6A

Q: What is the purpose of the Railroad House Historical Association?

A: The Railroad House was built in 1872 as a residence for the local depot agent for the Raleigh and Augusta Railroad. The house was located on the western side of Hawkins Avenue near the intersection with Charlotte Avenue.

W.T. Tucker and his family moved into the house in 1872. His wife operated Sanford's first school from the house and Mr. Tucker was Sanford's first mayor. The house had many different residents from 1872 until 1962.

A planned expansion of a nearby service station threatened the historic house with demolition at one point, but a community effort saved the house, and it was moved a short distance to its present location in 1962. The Railroad House Historical Association was established as a non-profit organization to preserve the house.

For many years, the Railroad House was the home of the Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce and state license plate agency.

In recent years, the house has been the home to a local history museum.

The RRRHA has expanded its mission to include the encouragement and support of historic preservation in Sanford and Lee County.

See TAKE 5, Page 6A

Local school officials say safety a concern after Va. Tech

By JONATHAN OWENS
Herald Staff Writer

Monday's mass shootings at Virginia Tech have brought the issue of school safety to the front burner for high schools in Lee County.

The district's chief school resource officer Daria Cole said students have taken the issue seriously.

Southern Lee High School was extra cautious Wednesday when students were evacuated for 33 minutes while staff members swept the campus after an apparent bomb threat. Cole said the threat was a hoax, but an investigation is ongoing.

While they don't believe the bomb threat — which came in the form of a letter

students found at lunch time — had anything to do with the Virginia Tech incident, Cole said the threat of a "copycat" is always there. "But for the most part, our students have been very well behaved this week," she said.

Superintendent Jim McCormick said the principals and administrators have increased their contact with

Cole and himself since Monday, discussing strategies for keeping students safe.

"There have been a lot of discussions this week about it," he said of the shootings. "But I have not picked up any kind of sense of fear from any of our students."

He said the shootings in See SAFETY, Page 6A

Your thoughts

Do you believe the media's coverage of the Virginia Tech shooter will spur "copycat" killers? Do you feel the media went overboard in its coverage? E-mail Editor Billy Liggett at billgett@sanforherald.com and vote in our online poll at sanforherald.com

BEST BETS

Broadway Centennial: Lincoln's pine box

As part of the centennial celebration, a replica of President Abraham Lincoln's coffin will be on display at Smith Funeral Home.

One of five replicas made 10 years ago by the Batesville Casket Company of Indiana, the coffin was based on the only surviving photo from 1865 of Lincoln lying in state.

Four of the five replicas travel the nation for display in funeral homes, while the fifth is part of the permanent collection at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

Lincoln was exhumed in 1901 and his coffin was re-buried in a cage that was encased in 4,000 pounds of concrete. The effort was made by Lincoln's son Robert to prevent attempts to steal the body.

The coffin will be on display today (12 to 5 p.m.), Saturday (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Sunday (1 p.m. to 5 p.m.) for free. Groups of 10 or more require an appointment by calling (919) 258-6711. Smith Funeral Home is located at 201 First St., Broadway.

DEATHS

SANFORD

Geraldine Cook, 72
Ricky Donathan, 53
Gilbert Lett, 82
William Peele, 83
George Roberts, 48
Rosemary Sommer
Ada Thomas, 63

MONCURE

Floyd Davis, 79

BIRTHDAYS

Best wishes are extended to everyone celebrating a birthday today, especially Kiyah Kelly, Joselyn Reneae Trussell, Latoria Snipes, B. Cassidy Lynn Stacy, Gwen Brown, Lakeshia Wilson, Wendy Bryan, Trevor Scott Stone, Christopher Key, Lindsey Gill and Dithra Swann.

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FYI

The new season of the Sanford Farmers Market begins today at Depot Park. The market will be open 9 to noon Saturdays at Depot Park;

4 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays; and at the Government Center 10 a.m. to noon Mondays and the Enrichment Center 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays

