

Fletcher man charged with 3 break-ins

FAIRVIEW — Buncombe County deputies say a Fletcher man broke into the same house on Cane Creek Circle three times and stole two watches and a bracelet worth a combined \$15,300.

Davis Walker Hale, 18, of Glen Trillium Drive, also pawned the stolen items, according to warrants served Friday.

Hall was charged with three counts of breaking and entering and larceny and three counts of obtaining property by false pretense. Bond was set at \$10,000.

Asheville man tries to escape jail

ASHEVILLE — Buncombe County deputies say an Asheville man robbed another man, stole his identity then tried to escape from jail.

Dominique Lamar Fore, 20, of Deaverview Road, was charged with attempted jail escape, identity theft and common law robbery, according to warrants served Friday.

Warrants state Fore stole a man's armband "by violence or intimidation" and used his identifying information to make a financial transaction. Bond was set at \$225,000.

Exonerated death row inmate to speak

BREVARD — Former North Carolina death row inmate Glen Edward Chapman will speak at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Brevard College. Joining him will be Pamela Laughon, a UNC Asheville psychology professor who was instrumental in securing his retrial.

Chapman was wrongly convicted of the 1992 murders of two women and spent 14 years on death row at Central Prison in Raleigh before being granted a retrial in 2007. In 2008, Chapman was exonerated and freed from prison. He now lives and works in Asheville.

A reception will follow, and copies of Chapman's book, "Life After Death Row: The True Story of Glen Edward Chapman," will be available for purchase.

The free talk, in the Reserve Dining Room of Myers Dining Hall at Brevard College, is sponsored by the college's English department.

From staff reports

Correction

A story in Saturday's Citizen-Times misspelled the name of one of the candidates for Asheville City Council. The candidate's name is Lael Gray.

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LOTTERIES

Wed. Powerball
16-26-35-52-58 PB 2 (5)

NORTH CAROLINA
nc-educationlottery.org

Sat. Day Pick 3 2-9-9

Fri. Eve. Pick 3 4-9-3

Sat. Day Pick 4 8-6-1-4

Fri. Eve. Pick 4 2-7-8-6

Fri. Cash 5
3-16-18-24-27

SOUTH CAROLINA
sceducationlottery.com

Sat. Day Pick 3 2-7-9

Sat. Eve. Pick 3 6-2-3

Sat. Day Pick 4 9-3-2-1

Sat. Eve. Pick 4 6-0-0-3

Sat. Palmetto Cash 5
6-16-21-22-32

Numbers for lotto games and Powerball are listed in numerical order. Details at CITIZEN-TIMES.com/lottery

TENNESSEE
www.tnlottery.com

Sat. Day Cash 3 4-9-0

Sat. Eve. Cash 3 5-5-7

Sat. Day Cash 4 8-7-8-7

Sat. Eve. Cash 4 4-9-4-1

Fri. Pick 5 2-9-14-31-33

FLORIDA
flalottery.com

Lotto
1-7-17-32-33-34

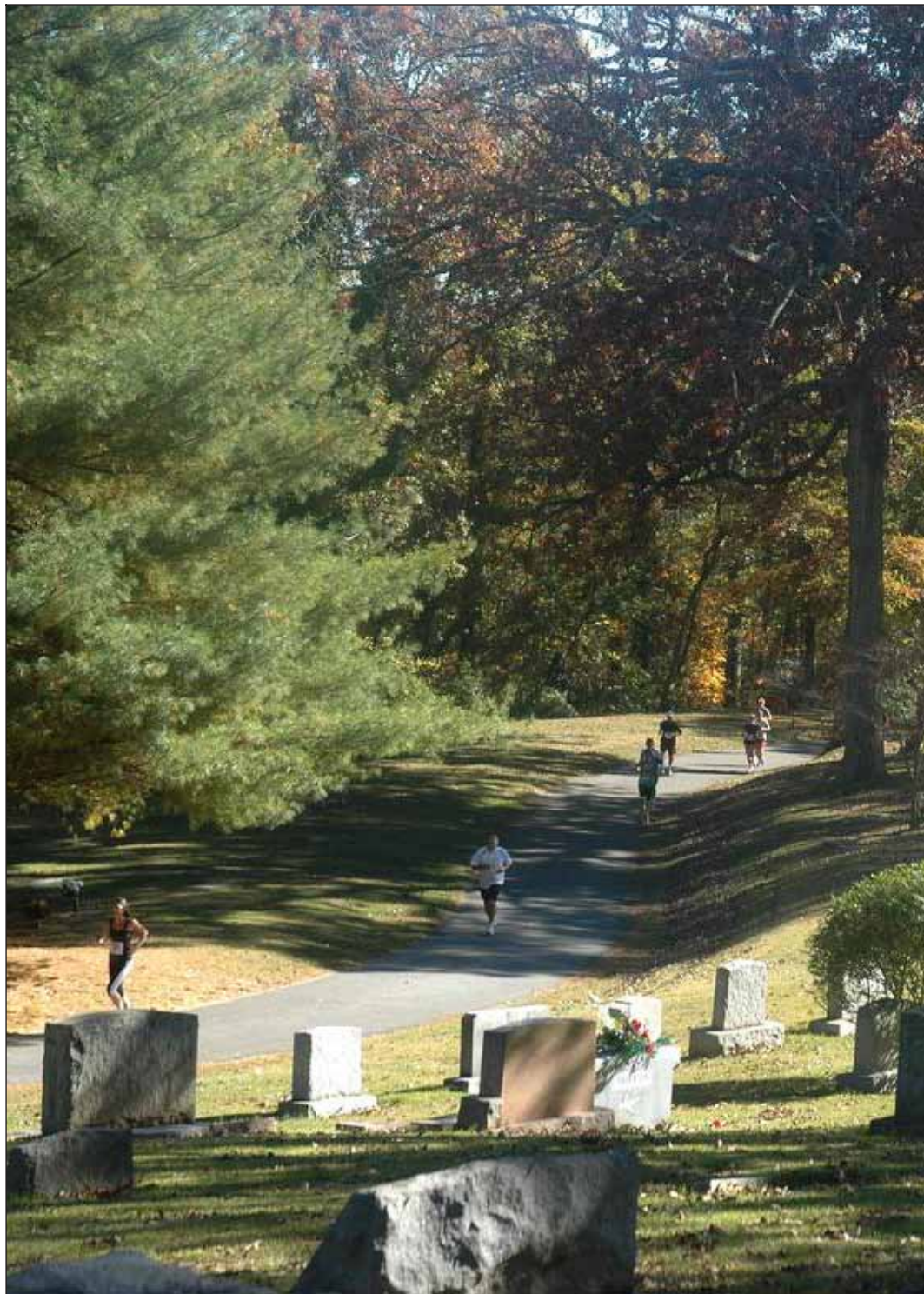
MEGA MILLIONS
megamillions.com

Fri. 6-21-35-37-38 (17)

Wed. Win For Life
6-16-21-22-32

2-8-12-21-31-35 (5)

Run homeward, angels



Runners take the path through Riverside Cemetery during the Thomas Wolfe 8K on Saturday. For a photo gallery from the race, visit CITIZEN-TIMES.com. KARLA HELD/SPECIAL TO THE CITIZEN-TIMES

Zombie festival brings big fan community to life

Slow-walking eaters love their fast food.

My favorite moment from my time at the fifth-annual Ashtoberfest Zombie Walk on Saturday was when I encountered the undead hordes at the Biltmore Square Mall food court.

It's like Chick-fil-A had brain on the menu.

Of course, the walking dead were ordering waffle fries and nuggets, just like hungry, unsuspecting mall patrons who left the mall with more than their new bedsheets from Dilard's.

But that was what made it so

funny: I caught these crazed cannibals acting like the folks cast as zombie bait in the movies.

It was the type of quiet scene that really brought the festival to life for me. I collected all these moments that if you just removed all the fake blood, it would be like any other Saturday night at the mall. Teenage girls giggling and gossiping, flirting with unsure boys. Ladies touching up their hair and makeup in the bathroom mirror.

These unplanned, very human moments, lightened the event's dark undead theme. It's truly just another excuse to build community and celebrate all the frivolous fun that separates life from death.

There was also a lot of joy in

the planned aspects of the first-time festival — the walk has been downtown and in West Asheville. It was expansive and impressive, featuring live music, movies, costume contests, a brain-eating showdown, scavenger hunt for the littlest zombies. And hundreds, maybe thousands, came out to feast on this gory glory (it was hard to guess the number of attendees because the event was throughout the mall).

Three of these folks came all the way from Greenwood, S.C., about two hours away.

I grabbed the lively Jarrod Moody, 24, and Janna Bontregger, 21, as they waited for their Chick-fil-A order. For this couple, death is not when they part;

See ZOMBIE, Page B8

Biltmore Forest board run amok

Fences might make good neighbors, but in Biltmore Forest they make for great lawsuits.

Word must've gotten around that I really enjoy a tale of bureaucratic silliness, because Rex Ballard called me last week to share his story.

You may remember Ballard as the owner of the long-standing Ballard's Appliances, which he closed this year after a 56-year run.

For years, Ballard has lived

not far from his store, on the other side of Hendersonville Road in Biltmore Forest, the upscale township south of Asheville. He and his wife, Irene, have a tastefully landscaped yard and a 2,600-square-foot home.

All they wanted to do was replace part of a 25-year-old chain-link fence with a nice stucco and brick wall, valued at about \$8,000. Technically, because the planned 42-foot wall has removable sections, it's a fence.

Back in 2008, when they first formulated their plan, the Ballards had no idea they were embarking on a battle that would take more than two years

to settle and cost \$16,000 in legal fees.

The Biltmore Forest Board of Adjustment rejected their plan in October 2009, giving no reason for the rejection. Ballard said it then went to mediation, but the board did not follow the mediator's suggestion either — probably because it called for allowing the fence.

I should mention that Ballard had snapped photos of more than 20 existing fences in Biltmore Forest and provided them to the board. And his next-door neighbor actually appeared at one hearing and voiced his support for the Bal-

See FENCE, Page B3

Dems rally to reclaim power

'12 elections focus on Western Gala

By Barbara Blake
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ASHEVILLE — North Carolina Democrats are about to embark on an epic quest to reclaim the state legislature and help secure the White House in the 2012 election, but only with the help of independent voters and a strong voter turnout from the party's base, Democratic Party leaders said Saturday night.

"The Republicans won the last election (in 2010) because Democrats didn't vote," said state Senate Minority Leader Martin Nesbitt, of Asheville, before addressing a crowd of the party faithful at the Western Gala fundraiser at the Grove Park Inn.

"We were complacent then, but in the coming year you're going to see the ultimate political battle for the soul of this state and this country," Nesbitt said.

"At the state and national level, Republicans have killed jobs and attacked the people and institutions that are important to this country. The message tonight will be that help is on the way, get ready for battle, get the best candidates you can get, roll up your sleeves and get to work," he said. "And, of course, get out the vote."

Among the other party luminaries scheduled to speak at the dinner were U.S. Rep. Health Shuler, U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan, N.C. Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton and state party chairman David Parker. Several hundred patrons paid \$100 for dinner tickets or \$250 for the dinner and a reception, with proceeds going into the party's election fund.

Also scheduled at the podium

See GALA, Page B3

Middle school success targeted

After-school effort grows in Buncombe

By Julie Ball
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BLACK MOUNTAIN — Four days a week at Owen Middle School, a group of students stays after school.

After a snack and an hour of tutoring and work on homework, the students spend time on something fun — an enrichment activity tied to wellness or art or maybe even a field trip.

The after-school program, which began at Owen Middle earlier this month, represents an expansion of the YMCA 21st Century after-school program that began two years ago at Enka and Erwin middle schools.

"The idea is it's not day care," said Heather Deifell, youth development director for the 21st Century program. "We know that middle-schoolers can go home and watch TV and get on the computer, but that is considered the most at-risk time for delinquent behavior."

Gina Gallo, youth success manager for United Way, worked with the YMCA as the agency

See SCHOOL, Page B3

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