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DOUGLAS BYRD 40, E.E. SMITH 21

GRAY'S CREEK 42, CAPE FEAR 21

SCOTLAND 27, JACK BRITT 15

WESTOVER 25, PINE FOREST 20

NORTH CAROLINA'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER — ESTABLISHED 1816

The Fayetteville Observer

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

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HOME EDITION 75¢

A GUIDE TO THE GREEK FESTIVAL
5 THINGS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS LOCAL & STATE, 1B

FINANCIAL CRIMES

Former Bladen officials indicted

■ The former fire marshal and schools superintendent are among the four accused of felony misuse of public money.

By Michael Futch
Staff writer

ELIZABETHTOWN — Four former Bladen County public officials, including the schools superintendent and fire marshal, have been indicted on felony fraud charges involving misuse of public money.

A grand jury on Tuesday handed up indictments against former Superintendent Gregory Killingsworth, who is accused of pocketing nearly \$6,300, and former Fire Marshal Mitchell G. Byrd, who obtained more than \$11,000 by returning retail items bought with public money, the indictments say. Also charged are Kelly Ard Smith, the former vice president of finance at Bladen Community College, and Sandra A. Baldwin, a former counselor for the

See **BLADEN**, Page 4A

BUSINESS PARK

Official says development has hit snag

■ The state won't issue more building permits unless the developer improves Santa Fe Drive and nearby intersections.

By Drew Brooks
Staff writer

Development of the All American Military Business Park has hit a snag, according to a city official.

Fayetteville City Manager Dale Iman said the state wants the park developers to spend millions of dollars to improve Santa Fe Drive and nearby intersections. That is preventing the city from issuing more than one additional building permit for the 200-acre park, which currently has one tenant.

Iman spoke Friday at a regional military summit hosted by Gov. Bev Perdue at Fayetteville Technical Community College.

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HELP FOR THE HOMELESS



Staff photos by James Robinson

'I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST'

By Michael Futch Staff writer

The 52-year-old Army veteran says he grew tired of the life of an addict. It kept him on the streets for 20 years, he says in a raspy voice.

But for three weeks now, Fred has lived in a recovery house on the outskirts of downtown Fayetteville. He was the first man to arrive through a new partnership with the VA — an effort to get hundreds of homeless veterans off the streets and into treatment.

In August, the Fayetteville Veterans Affairs Medical Center announced that it had contracted with Myrover-Reese Fellowship Homes and The Salvation Army to provide 23 short-term beds specifically for homeless veterans. Myrover-Reese, where Fred stays, provides seven beds for veterans with drug or alcohol problems, two of which are now filled. Myrover-Reese provides help to addicts who want to put their lives back together.

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Fred, a homeless Army veteran, is enrolled in the substance abuse program at Myrover-Reese Fellowship Home in Fayetteville. Here, Fred shows the room he stays in at the home.

A DECADE OF SACRIFICE



10 years after 9/11: A look at the remarkable men and women in uniform and their families who live every day with a new reality that started on Sept. 11, 2001.

A Sunday special section

JOBS PACKAGE

Average worker would gain \$1,500 under Obama plan

■ Proposed cuts in payroll taxes would boost checks next year.

By Stephen Ohlemacher
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Typical workers would get an extra \$1,500 in their paychecks next year under a plan by President Obama to expand a payroll tax cut that is scheduled expire at the end of the year.

INSIDE

- President rallies in Virginia, **Page 5A**
- Plan spurs cautious hope in small business owners, **Page 2D**

Higher-paid workers would get more, and businesses would get tax breaks, too.

The tax cuts are part of a nearly \$450 billion package that includes new spending designed to revive the economy and entice employers to hire

more workers at a time when the national unemployment rate is stuck at 9.1 percent.

The goal of cutting payroll taxes is to increase take-home pay for workers in the hope they will spend the money, creating more demand for consumer goods and services. Under Obama's plan, workers making \$50,000 a year would see their take-home pay boosted by \$1,550 next year; those making \$100,000 would

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today's weather 6B

Brilliant sunshine

87
High

64
Low

