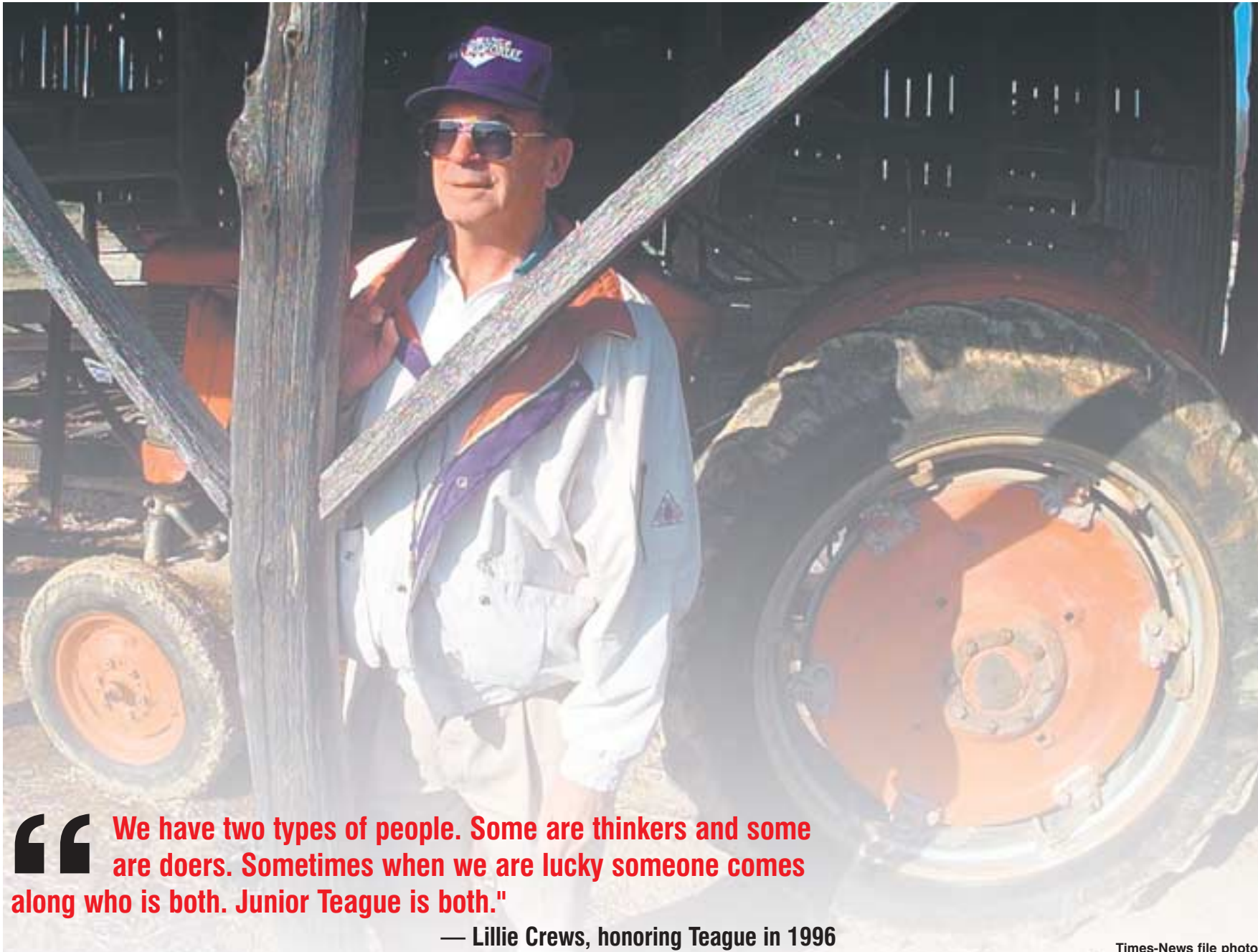


County mourns loss of 'Junior'



W.B. Teague was a beloved politician

By Jim Wicker and James Moffat
Times-News

Alamance County Commissioner W.B. "Junior" Teague, one of Alamance County's most beloved politicians, died on Monday.

Teague, 75, died due to complications from a severe stroke. He had been hospitalized at Alamance Regional Medical Center after suffering a stroke on March 4.

Last week, he was moved to Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro for therapy, where he died shortly before noon on Monday.

"Alamance County lost one of the best friends we've ever had," said Alamance County Republican Party chairman Robert Sharpe.

The last Alamance County commissioner to die while in office was Jack O'Kelley in 1983.

The county's Republican Party will have to choose a replacement for Teague. Sharpe said the party's leadership will discuss the seat sometime this week.

Teague served as a county commissioner for more than 18 years, from 1982 to 1998 and again from 2002 until his death.

"We have two types of people. Some are thinkers and some are doers. Sometimes when we are lucky someone comes along who is both. Junior Teague is both."

— Lillie Crews, honoring Teague in 1996

Times-News file photo

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Celebrating his accomplishments

By James Moffat
Times-News

How loved was W.B. "Junior" Teague in Alamance County? Consider this:

He was overwhelmingly elected to a fifth term as an Alamance County commissioner in 2002 — after pulling out of the election.

Teague, who served the people of Alamance County in a variety of ways for three decades, died on Monday morning. He was 75 years old.

Teague is the first commissioner to die while in office since Jack O'Kelley in 1983.

As a final tribute the state House of Representatives held a moment of silence in memory of Teague at the beginning of its session on Monday night.

Teague's political career began not in an office or on the campaign trail, but over a barbecue cooker. Teague was a regular at fund-raisers for Republican candidates, serving such poli-

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"Alamance County lost one of the best friends we've ever had."

— Alamance County Republican Party Chairman **Robert Smith**

"I'm going to miss his friendship, his advice and his humor. I just can't believe he's gone."

— Alamance County Board of Commissioners Chairman **Larry Sharpe**

"I just got tired of it ... Being away from home so much. Being away from the people in Alamance County. I miss going to the country stores and talking to the people."

— **Teague** in 2001, on why he decided not to seek re-election for the state House of Representatives

"I always called him my mentor. I looked up to him as my mentor. That's

because he always did what he thought was in the best interests of the people of Alamance County."

— Alamance County Commissioner **Dan Ingle**

"Junior was without a doubt a most unique politician. There will never be another one like him."

— Alamance County Commissioner **Tim Sutton**

"He always put the public good above partisan politics. He would always be guided by an overriding principle, if it is good for Alamance County, he would not only support it, but he would work harder than anybody else to make sure it was achieved."

— U.S. Rep. **Howard Coble**

"That's a big loss for us, for Alamance County and

the whole state. Junior is irreplaceable. I think we will all miss him."

— State Sen. **Hugh Webster**, R-Alamance

"Rep. Teague was a strong and sincere advocate for the people of his district and we are saddened by this loss."

— Gov. **Mike Easley**

"Junior Teague was a man respected by all the members of the House, both sides of the aisle. Nobody controlled him. He represented his constituents in an honest and straightforward manner." He brought the perspective of a farmer to the General Assembly. Farmers are the salt of the earth, and he was one of the best."

— House Speaker **Jim Black**, D-Mecklenburg

Funeral Services

Funeral services for Alamance County Commissioner W.B. "Junior" Teague will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Pleasant Hill Christian Church by Rev. Howard Spray, Rev. Danny Wallace and U.S. Congressman Howard Coble. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Loffin Funeral Home in Liberty.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 111-D Pomona Drive, Greensboro, N.C., 27407, or to the American Cancer Society, 1114 Magnolia St., Greensboro, N.C. 27401.

Board rejects plans for golf course

By Isaac Groves
Times-News

MEBANE — While the planning board liked the proposed medical facility on the old Arrowhead golf course, it voted 10-0 against the 490 homes that went with it.

"I feel like I'm against mom, church and the flag," said board chairman Everett Green. "But we've got 2,500 or 2,800 lots right now in Mebane developed, and it's all something like this."

The plan the Stokes Bush & Wright Land Company presented included a lot of perks for the city, like 16 acres for a \$13.5

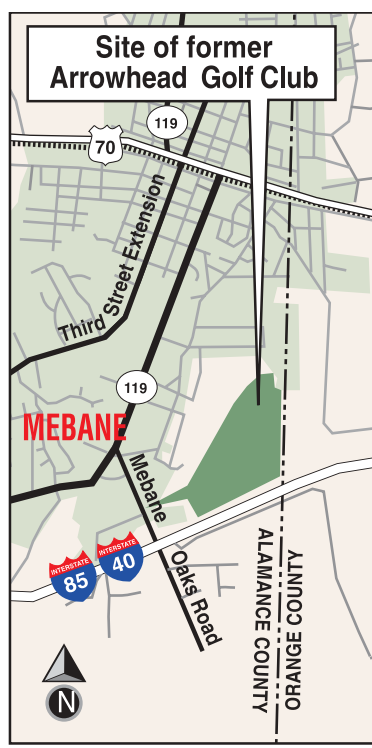
million expansion of Mebane Medical Park.

It also included about 56 acres for commercial development by Interstate 85/40, which Burlington lawyer Lawson Brown said could bring millions in property and sales taxes to the city, not to mention retail jobs.

But that was not enough sugar to swallow 143 acres with 350 houses and 140 town houses.

With almost 1,000 homes approved or proposed along Mebane Oaks Road, planning board members said the city

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Times-News

ACC wants \$7.5M

School hopes for bond vote in fall

By Mike Wilder
Times-News

The board of trustees at Alamance Community College is asking the county to put a \$7.5 mil-

lion bond referendum on the November ballot.

After discussing the college's construction needs last month, the board agreed on the \$7.5 million request at its meeting Monday night.

The proposal will be sent to the county's board of commissioners with the request that it be put on the Nov. 8 ballot.

County Manager David Cheek has said paying off the bonds would likely require a property tax increase of one-half to three-quarters of a cent per \$100 property value.

Russell Wilson, chairman of the college trustee board's building and grounds committee, said

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Robot surgery a success

5.6 pound infant was smallest recipient ever

By Todd Dvorak
The Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Amber Vairo has grown two inches and gained nearly a pound, and the three tiny scars on her belly have all but vanished — along with any doubts she'd survive a complex surgery to fix a

life-threatening condition.

Last month, at just 5.6 pounds and six days after birth, Amber became the smallest patient in the world to undergo robotic surgery of any kind, according to her doctors at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics.

She was born with a hole in her diaphragm, the abdominal muscle that is critical to breathing and forms a wall between the chest and abdomen.

The condition, called congenital diaphragmatic hernia, can be fatal

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