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**THURSDAY** MAY 16, 2013 \$1

**13 GARAGE SALES LISTED INSIDE TODAY**

**SW Guidance Center director talks about state's new mental health plan**

**Grain truck swerves to miss camper**

**4-44 announces Summer Fun program, kicks off with tubing at Aldrich**

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**City still has miles to ride through its tree program**

**Anticipating growth**

**Demographer gives school board data on what lies ahead**

**TREES AVAILABLE**

### SW Guidance Center director talks about state's new mental health plan

By ROBERT FRYER  
The new mental health plan for North Carolina, unveiled last week, is a landmark document that will reshape the way the state approaches mental health care, according to the director of the state's largest mental health provider.

Robert Fryer, director of the Southwest Guidance Center, said the plan, which was developed by the state's Department of Health and Human Services, is a "game-changer" for the state's mental health system.

The plan calls for a shift from a focus on hospital-based care to a focus on community-based care. It also calls for a focus on prevention and early intervention, rather than just treatment.

Fryer said the plan is a "big step" in the right direction, but he said there is still a long way to go. He said the state needs to invest more in mental health care, and he said he is optimistic about the future of the state's mental health system.

### Grain truck swerves to miss camper

By JEFFREY W. HARRIS  
A grain truck swerved to miss a camper on a highway in the western part of the state on Tuesday, according to a police officer.

The incident occurred on I-85 near the town of Mooresville. The truck was traveling in the westbound lanes when it swerved into the shoulder to avoid a camper that was in the middle of the road.

The driver of the truck was not injured, but the camper was damaged. The driver of the camper was also not injured.



Grain truck swerved to miss camper on I-85 near Mooresville, N.C. on Tuesday. Photo by Jeffery W. Harris.

### Anticipating growth

Demographer gives school board data on what lies ahead

By JEFFREY W. HARRIS  
A demographer has provided the school board with data on what lies ahead for the district's student population.

The data shows that the district's student population is expected to grow significantly over the next few years. This growth is primarily due to an increase in the number of students in the district's youngest age groups.

The demographer also noted that the district's student population is becoming more diverse. This is due to an increase in the number of students from other parts of the state and other countries.

The school board is expected to use this data to plan for the future of the district's schools. This may include building new schools and hiring more teachers.



Map showing the district's student population distribution. Photo by Jeffrey W. Harris.