

saults, but Barrett gave permission to use her name in interviews before Cahoon was charged.

Barrett said she was pleased that Cahoon had been charged but is frustrated that lawmen may not have taken her seriously because she is a crack addict and prostitute.

Investigators have said Cahoon gave the address for his business, Spur-Tech Computers, as his home. Cahoon owns a house on the 2700 block of George Owen Road, according to Cumberland County tax records.

Barrett said Wednesday that after Cahoon took her to buy crack cocaine July 1, he took her to the house on the 2700 block of George Owen Road. Later, she said, he would move her down the road to the building he rented for Spur-Tech.

Cahoon punched Barrett in the face and restrained her in a chair, using duct tape around her arms, waist, thighs and legs, court records say.

Cahoon forced Barrett to perform oral sex several times and sexually assaulted her, records say.

A detective "observed visible deep ligature marks around Ms. Barrett's wrists and severe burns to her abdomen and chest," records say.

Lawmen have used cadaver-sniffing dogs to search Cahoon's property, Debbie Tanna, a spokeswoman for the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, said Wednesday.

The searches have not turned up anything and are standard procedure in such a case, Tanna said.

Cahoon is charged with eight counts of first-degree sex offense, four counts of kidnapping and two counts of assault inflicting serious bodily injury.

Bail was set at \$650,000. Total bail on all charges is now \$900,000.

2nd arrest

Investigators also arrested a man — on unrelated charges — who they say is associated with Cahoon. They would not say what their connection is.

Raymond Allen Rogers, 55, of the 8000 block of N.C. 87 South, is charged with reporting a series of false crimes to try to cover up his association with prostitutes. He is charged with

obtaining property by false pretense.

"He told investigators he gave his debit card to a prostitute for services rendered," Tanna said in a news release.

Rogers reported that the prostitute caused him a loss of more than \$7,000 after missing the card, Tanna said. Rogers is accused of giving false information to BB&T and allowing the bank to replace the money and sustain the loss, the release said.

Tanna said Rogers told detectives he had a "close relationship" with Cahoon, but she would not elaborate.

Rogers, a chemical technician, made fake crack cocaine to entice the services of prostitutes, according to the statement.

Rogers posted a \$10,000 bail, according to a spokesman at the Cumberland County Detention Center.

Staff writer Nancy McClary can be reached at mcclaryn@ayobserver.com or 486-3568.

Today, through generous donations by residents, Johnson and her children have a roof over their heads, food to eat and people who care. Johnson, 31, is now a chef at a new restaurant off Murchison Road.

She followed a twisted, torturous path to get there.

■ ■ ■

The day after arriving in New Orleans, Michelle Johnson and her children — Brittany, now 13, Kalla, 6, and Ethan 2 — found themselves driving back to Dallas with other family members fleeing the hurricane after a mandatory evacuation order. A trip that normally takes about eight hours took 20.

The next day, Hurricane Katrina came ashore, ravaging New Orleans and washing away Johnson's remaining possessions, which she had left at her aunt's home.

Back in Dallas, Johnson said, she found herself living with more than a dozen other evacuees in a two-bedroom apartment.

Those people had one major advantage: They were Louisiana residents who qualified for FEMA assistance. Johnson and her children got nothing. They survived largely on the goodness of others.

One hardship followed another. Last October, word came that authorities had identified the body of Johnson's 34-year-old brother, who was among the more than 1,300 people killed by Hurricane Katrina.

Two months later, fire struck the apartment where the Johnsons lived, destroying their clothing.

With little left, Johnson decided to move to Fayetteville to be with a friend who had also escaped Hurricane Katrina.

So, a week after the fire, Johnson again loaded her children and her few remaining possessions onto a Greyhound bus and headed east. En route to Fayetteville, she said, Greyhound lost their luggage.

"To this day, I still haven't received nothing (back)," she said.

Johnson moved in with her friend and that became more strained with each day.

Struggling to make ends meet, Johnson decided to go to her daughter's school to see whether a social worker could help her find assistance.

Johnson had no idea that she and her two youngest children were walking the wrong way until a man pulled up beside her, rolled down his window and introduced himself.

■ ■ ■

Joe McGee is a muscular and emotional man who quotes Bible passages, talks a mile a minute and aspires to become a motivational speaker. He believes that the more you help other people, the more you help yourself.

Four years ago, his then

WANT TO HELP?

■ For information about GOTDAD — Giving Opportunities Through Dedication And Devotion — a nonprofit organization that helps fathers spend more time with their children, visit its Web site at gotdad.org.

emotionally troubled daughter came to live with him. Kristin Frazier, 13 at the time, had just flunked the sixth grade. She was, McGee said, "a lost kid."

Not anymore. Under McGee's wing, Kristin began taking summer and night classes. Today, she is set to graduate from high school with her original class and plans to go on to college, her father said.

Kristin was the inspiration that prompted McGee to start GOTDAD — Giving Opportunities Through Dedication And Devotion — a nonprofit organization that helps busy fathers figure out how to spend more time with their children. The organization was founded in December 2004.

McGee, a 37-year-old Philadelphia native, also owns Empire Boxing Gym, which he uses as part of his nonprofit organization to provide free boxing lessons and self-defense courses for women and underprivileged children.

The gym and a marketing business provide McGee with a modest income, but he had always dreamed of opening a New Orleans-style restaurant. McGee said he told his daughter that he might travel to the Gulf Coast to try to find a good chef.

That conversation happened two weeks before McGee rolled down his window and struck up a conversation with Johnson.

"Where are you going?" he asked.

"Westover Middle School," Johnson replied.

"You are going the wrong way."

With that, Johnson accepted McGee's offer of a ride. Before they reached the school, McGee started to piece together a little of Johnson's history. She was a Katrina victim who was nearly destitute and ready to leave Fayetteville.

"Can you cook?" McGee said he asked her.

Johnson told McGee of her long love of cooking. She had grown up preparing New Orleans-style food — gumbo and jambalaya and red beans and rice. She had attended three culinary arts schools, including one at Delgado Community College in New Orleans.

The seeds for a restaurant were sown. It just took time for them to take root.

Within a week of their chance meeting, Johnson was asked to leave the house where she had been staying. Her family took up residence at a motel. Johnson said she had enough money for one more night in a motel room. She said she had gone to the Salvation Army but was turned away because the

agency didn't have room for a family.

Johnson had planned to return to the Gulf Coast when she heard from McGee again.

The two needed each other. McGee needed a chef. Johnson needed almost everything.

McGee went to work. He contacted members of his GOTDAD organization and the American Red Cross. Donations soon began pouring in. Fayetteville resident Craig Davis offered a vacant rental home in the Montclair subdivision. Others, including an Army captain, donated money, a microwave and other items.

McGee said he contacted another friend, Joe Mason, owner of Club International off Murchison Road. Mason no longer used the kitchen in his club on a regular basis. He agreed to lease it to McGee, who opened Straight "Outta" New Orleans about two months ago. The head chef? Michelle Johnson.

■ ■ ■

Joe McGee finds it hard to talk about Michelle Johnson or his passion for helping others without tearing up.

He and his daughter serve as Johnson's chauffeurs. They take her to the restaurant and the children to school or day care.

"I do it without any second-guessing," McGee said. "It's become a part of my life. We really took her in as my family."

McGee's efforts have not gone unnoticed.

The city of New Orleans issued GOTDAD a proclamation signed by its mayor, Ray Nagin, after McGee's organization held a one-year anniversary

remembrance of Hurricane Katrina victims. The city of Fayetteville issued a similar proclamation signed by Mayor Tony Chavonne. Several hurricane evacuees who came to Fayetteville attended the remembrance.

As for Johnson, she said she cannot begin to thank McGee enough.

"Joe is a wonderful man," Johnson said. "I can say so with all honesty. He opened up his heart and took the initiative to help me and my family."

"Not too many people would do this. I just thank God for meeting him."

Johnson said her struggles have taught her a valuable lesson, one she hopes to pass on to her children.

"Anything in life is possible," she said. "I teach my kids life is what you make out of it. If you want it to turn out positive, it will turn out positive. If you don't want anything out of it, you won't get anything out of it."

The job was designed to recall Kerry's inartful comment from the last election that he had voted for \$87 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan before he voted against it.

Two days ago, Kerry stirred controversy when he told a group of California students that individuals who don't study hard and do their homework would likely "get stuck in Iraq." Aides said the senator had mistakenly dropped one word from his prepared remarks, which was originally written to say "you end up getting us stuck in a war in Iraq." In that context, they said, it was clear Kerry was referring to Bush, not to the troops.

Staff writer Don Worthington contributed to this report.

Election

Jumping the two into a new District 45 Warner had been a state lawmaker since 1986. Two months after his loss, Warner changed to the Republican Party.

Warner's critics have accused him of playing politics and being opportunistic. Nonetheless, says Warner.

"I certainly do not, because the older I get, the more traditional I become to appreciate the conservative things that have been passed down to us," he said.

Glazier is considered a rising star. According to the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research, Glazier is ranked 19 out of 120 House members in his effectiveness, the best of any House member from Cumberland County. This year, he flirted with the idea of running against U.S. Rep. Robin Hayes, a Republican for the 8th District that includes part of Cumberland County, but he opted to stay out.

As with 2004, Glazier figures to outstep Warner, who plans to raise about \$30,000. Glazier said he has raised \$150,000 through mid-October — for a job with a base annual salary of \$13,951.

Warner is not worried about his lack of campaign money.

"We are not really dealing with money as much as philosophy," he said. "That's the kind of campaign I have always run, trying to keep an ear down to the heartbeat of the taxpayer."

Warner acknowledged that the illness and subsequent death of his father, Pete, in September slowed his ability to campaign and raise money.

"I was simply invisible on this campaign," he said.

Warner said the same thing happened in 2004 when his mother, Mae, died.

Glazier said he has spent the past two years learning the new district, which includes Hope Mills, Eastover, North Fayetteville and Massey Hill.

STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 45 CANDIDATES

RICK GLAZIER

- Age: 51
- Family: Married; two children
- Political party: Democratic
- Education: Bachelor's degree from Penn State University; law degree from Wake Forest Law School
- Elective offices held: Cumberland County school board, 1996-99; N.C. House, 2003-present



ALEX WARNER

- Age: 63
- Family: Married; three children
- Political party: Republican
- Education: Bachelor's degree from Campbell University; master's degree from East Carolina University
- Elective offices held: Cumberland County school board, 1980-86; N.C. House, 1987-2004



Staff graphic

"When you have two more years of experience and accomplishments, it's an easier time," he said.

Both men tout their experience at the legislature fostering relationships on both sides of the partisan aisle.

"Rick tries to boast of the fact that he's filed so many bills and passed so many bills," Warner said. "I never passed a bill by myself. It's a teamwork effort. You have to have the support of both parties and an idea that is at least functional."

Republicans say Glazier is vulnerable because he has not distanced himself from Jim Black, a fellow Democrat and speaker of the state House embroiled in ethics scandals. In April, Glazier publicly said it was time to re-evaluate Black's leadership in a private caucus. Glazier remains tightlipped about his opinion of Black.

"The votes did not exist prior to session to change, and I think it was critical that my discussions occur privately with the people who are going to make those decisions," Glazier said. Instead, Glazier wants to fo-

cus on his legislative priorities if re-elected. Those include improving roads, extending water and sewer lines into rural areas, and boosting access to health care. He wants to pay for these initiatives, in part, from state tax-revenue surpluses.

The men do agree on something: the need to bolster the state's educational system, which Glazier said is "the biggest economic driver that we have."

That's why Warner twice in the last six years helped push through House bills that would have given financial assistance to college students. The measures died in the Senate. Warner was chairman of the Education and University of North Carolina committees in the House.

Warner said he feels like the underdog in this race. It was familiar territory, he said, when he ran for the school board in 1980 and the legislature six years later. He said he is up to the challenge again.

Staff writer Andrew Barksdale can be reached at barksdalea@ayobserver.com or 486-3565.

Jelly Belly: Officers get 10 reasons to be in shape

the extent of "Do something about it," then I did what I was intending to do," said an unapologetic Goward, a trim 6-foot-7 who was forced to resign his \$92,000-a-year post last week.

Some of the chief's defenders said his ouster was a big over-reaction.

"He offered tremendously good advice, yet he was sacked," wrote Thomas Roe Oldt, a columnist for *The Ledger* of Leland.

In his memo, titled "Are You a Jelly Belly," the chief never singled anyone out, and apart from the title, didn't call anyone names.

Instead, he provided a list of 10 reasons police officers should be in shape. He said overweight police poorly represent the profession, poop out when chasing suspects and might have to report to "a higher level of force"

if a criminal got the upper hand in a fight. He said out-of-shape officers are a liability to the city and their families.

"Take a good look at yourself," he wrote. "If you are unfit, do yourself and everyone else a favor. See a professional about a proper diet and a fitness training program, quit smoking, limit alcohol intake and start thinking self-pride, confidence and respectability. And stop making excuses for delaying what you know you should have been doing years ago. We didn't hire you unfit, and we don't want you working unfit. Don't mean to offend, this is just straight talk. I owe it to you."

Winter Haven officers must pass physical examinations to be hired but are not regularly tested for fitness thereafter.

Goward, 60, said he is not a fitness freak, was not "asking for a department full of Arnold Schwarzeneggers" and did not order his officers to stay

away from fast-food restaurants or doughnut shops. In fact, the 36-year police veteran, who has also worked in Kansas and South Carolina, said Winter Haven's force is no less fit than the others he has served on.

David Greene, manager of the central Florida city of 30,000, said through a spokeswoman that he was too busy for an interview but told the local newspapers the anonymous complaint letters made it clear the Police Department had a morale problem because of Goward's abrasive management style during his 2½ years there.

"Emotions within the Police Department and the relationship with the police chief became raw," he told *The Ledger*.

Winter Haven officers contacted by *The Associated Press* said they were told not to talk to reporters about Goward's departure.

campaign in need of funding, but I don't share his views.

"Today, I saw that he finally apologized — and for me, just like many other Americans, it was too little too late," Kissell said Wednesday. "There may be Democrats who disagree with me, but I believe Mr. Kerry's comments show how disconnected he and the other Washington politicians really are from reality. Democrats and Republicans alike have to stop the politics of division and gotcha."

Kerry beat a grudging retreat in his return to the national campaign spotlight. Earlier, on the radio program "Imus in the Morning," the Massachusetts senator said he was "sorry about a botched joke" about Bush. He heaped praise on the troops, adamantly accused Republicans of twisting his words, and said it was the commander in chief and his aides who "owe America an apology for this disaster in Iraq."

Congressional candidates in Iowa and Minnesota swiftly made plain that Kerry was no

longer welcome to appear at scheduled rallies, and the senator scrapped an appearance in Philadelphia.

"It was a real dumb thing to say. He should say 'Sorry,'" said Democrat Glaura McCaskill, running in a tight Senate race, in Missouri.

The White House accepted Kerry's statement. "Senator Kerry's apology to the troops for his insulting comments came late, but it was the right thing to do," said Dana Perino, deputy press secretary.

Republican jabs

With Bush showing the way, Republicans had worked energetically to turn Kerry into an all-purpose target in a campaign that has long loomed as a loser for the GOP — much as they ridiculed him two years ago on their way to electoral gains.

"Anybody who is in a position to serve this country ought to understand the consequences of words... We've got incredible people in our military, and they deserve full praise and full support of this government," Bush said in an interview with *Newsweek*.

native talk-radio personality Rush Limbaugh.

"Of course, now Senator Kerry says he was just making a joke, and he botched it up," Vice President Dick Cheney said in remarks prepared for a campaign appearance in Montana. "I guess we didn't get the nuance. He was for the joke before he was against it."

The job was designed to recall Kerry's inartful comment from the last election that he had voted for \$87 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan before he voted against it.

Two days ago, Kerry stirred controversy when he told a group of California students that individuals who don't study hard and do their homework would likely "get stuck in Iraq." Aides said the senator had mistakenly dropped one word from his prepared remarks, which was originally written to say "you end up getting us stuck in a war in Iraq." In that context, they said, it was clear Kerry was referring to Bush, not to the troops.

Staff writer Don Worthington contributed to this report.

Kerry: Appearances at rallies are scrapped