

# The News-Journal

Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

75¢

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RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, May 22, 2013

## House of Raeford closing by July 27

By CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Two months after announcing that it will close the turkey slaughter plant in Raeford and lay off 950 employees, the House of Raeford Farms poultry producer has set a deadline for shutting down that part

of its operations.

The House of Raeford set July 27 as the deadline for closing the turkey plant on East Central Avenue that has employed thousands of people over the last half-century, according to the company. The plant may have its final operating day sometime between July 13 and July 27.

Company employees that remain with the House of Raeford until the plant shuts down may receive a severance package, spokesman Dave Witter said.

When the company created and distributed a Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act notice to employees, the letter

suggested that as many as 1,060 people will lose their jobs. However, many of those people will be offered jobs at the cook plant and the net total job loss is still expected to be 950, Witter said.

"The 950 employee number used in our March 14 press release was our best estimate of net positions to

be eliminated when the plant actually closes. However, when issuing the WARN notice, we are required to use the current active employee count as of the date of the notice which also includes employees on leave," Witter said in a statement. "Therefore, all 1,060 active  
(See CLOSING, page 4A)



Members of the Rolling Thunder before raising a POW/MIA flag at the Raeford Post Office.

## Rolling Thunder honors vets

By CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

With a practiced hand, Raeford Post Office supervisor Novena Weeks gripped the black Prisoners of War-Missing In Action flag and helped raise it into place underneath a brand-new American flag.

As the flags ascended outside the post office on Elwood Avenue in Raeford, the veterans stepped back and saluted. Weeks joined them in raising her hand in salute.

"It means a lot to me because I'm a disabled vet, and I'm a supervisor here, so it just means a whole lot to me to be able to

(See VETS, page 6A)



Alford

Vanclief

S. Harris

Hunt

P. Harris

## Police arrest 4 in burglary

### Fifth sought after victim finds crime in progress

Officers with the Raeford Police Department arrested four suspects and are seeking a fifth in a burglary that was interrupted by the resident coming home to find his front door open.

A resident of the 700 block of Southern Avenue in Raeford arrived home last

week in time to see two men run out of his open door and into another nearby apartment. Two women also tried to leave the residence, but the resident blocked them in with his vehicle. On arriving, police began an investigation and made four arrests.

Officers arrested Terrell

Hunt, 26, on charges of two counts of second-degree burglary, larceny, two counts of conspiracy and injury to property. Authorities also arrested Hunt's fiancé Shanice Harris, 24, Harris' sister Charnetta Vanclief, 34, a resident of the 700 block of Southern Avenue.  
(See ARRESTS, page 4A)



Sheriff Hubert Peterkin salutes and Police Chief Kemp Crumpler stands at attention.

## Ceremony honors fallen officers

By CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Raeford Police Chief Kemp Crumpler was six years old in 1964 when Trooper William T. Herbin was shot and killed

while making a routine traffic stop on U.S. Highway 401.

The trooper's death and funeral made a lasting impression that ultimately pushed Crumpler to join the Highway Patrol himself, the chief said.

"I can remember all the uniforms. There were black uniforms, blue uniforms, a few brown and a few green, but I remember the sea of gray uniforms. There was a  
(See OFFICERS, page 6A)

## This Week

Commissioners deny rezoning of Quewhiffle Restaurant  
See page 3A  
Hunt gets tribal position permanently  
See page 3A

Calendar ..... 2B  
Classifieds ..... 5B  
Deaths ..... 3A  
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Sports ..... 5A  
Worship ..... 2B



## Hoke High sets graduation rules

The Hoke County High School Class of 2013 will celebrate commencement this Friday afternoon. The school system issued the following information for people attending the ceremony:

No through campus vehicle traffic will be

allowed after 4:30 p.m. The road gates on Bethel Road will be closed at 4:30 p.m. until the graduation is over. After 4:30 p.m. High School Street is one-way from Bethel Road to Harris Avenue.

(See GRADUATION, page 6A)



Junior Marshals are (first row, from left) Cooper Taylor, Alayna Lewis, Rebecca Mosher, Chantele Halliburton, Courtney Murphy; second row: Janeil Buchanan, Romello Kirk, John Sellers, Michael Powell, Dwight Tilley and Kelsey Lowery. Not pictured are Bryan Santiago and Brianna Peterkin.

## Former Raeford skydiver killed in Dubai accident

By CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer



Taylor

A former Raeford Parachute Center skydiving instructor and military  
(See SKYDIVER, page 4A)

## OTHER STUFF

By KEN MACDONALD

Today I'm going to do all your frustrated drivers a favor. (No, I'm not going to stop riding my scooter around town.) I'm going to share with you a way to trick your GPS unit into taking you the way you want to go.

You know what I'm talking about. You thought that after the days of Map-

Quest—get online, ask for a route to Asheville from Raeford and marvel as it directs you through Virginia—the new GPS gadgets would fix things.

I know I did.

But then I was in downtown Raleigh one day and wanted to come home. While sitting in my parking space,  
(See OTHER STUFF, page 4A)

# VIEWPOINTS

## Ben Clark drank the Kool-Aid

Hoke's legislator Ben Clark drank the Kool-Aid. He's signed on to support House Bill 944, the "Opportunity Scholarship Act," which does sound good, better than, say, "Gut Public Schools Act." To Clark's credit, he's going along with the bill because he thinks it will help poor kids in this district who have been denied a good education because of where they live and who have lacked the resources—the money to go to private school—to do something about it.

At this writing—Tuesday—we don't know how much HB944, because of protests, has been whipped into submission, but the original bill, filed back in April, calls for vouchers of \$4,200 to parents in households with incomes up to 300 percent the federal poverty level. Even if the rumors are true and the qualifications are being tightened to specify that students must qualify for free or reduced lunches, in Hoke County that's 65 percent of the kids.

Can you imagine what would happen if 65 percent of the children in Hoke County suddenly went to private schools?

But wait, there's more. The bill as filed also makes eligible the children of active duty military families. That should get us in the neighborhood of about 100 percent of our children.

The cynical among us would say, "So

what? Public schools have failed our kids."

But folks, it's not because of ownership of the schools that poor kids struggle. It's because they're poor and they often lack the outside-of-school support and resources of richer kids.

That won't change just because they switch to a private school, even with modest improvements in, say, class size or facilities, and frankly, for \$4,200 per year the gains will be modest. An elementary age student at The O'Neal School in Pinehurst, for example, pays \$13,300 per year.

Your \$4,200 per year will get you Fayetteville Christian and Flora MacDonald, and while they're fine schools, will they magically cure the woes of the poor and under-resourced?

Will any \$5,000 per year school? No.

Meanwhile, the repercussions for kids left behind are unknown. The effects on public schools are unknown. The effects on civil training and stewardship of democracy are unknown. The truth is HB944 isn't really helping poor kids at all. It's a move, a foot in the door, of privatizing education. It's part of a philosophy of less government. If it helps poor kids in the process, well fine and good, and that does help the sale.

## Frogs find fling at farm fun

Being from the extreme western part of Hoke County, I often wonder what is going on in other parts of the county and in the county seat of Raeford. We live only five miles from Aberdeen and therefore do most of our shopping, eating out and socializing in that direction. I have recently joined the board of the Hoke Community Foundation and have found myself making more contact with Hoke citizens than I am accustomed to. This has been very pleasant as the board is a dedicated group of great folks who are fun to be around as well as being willing servants to the needs of the county.

The board has the task of making yearly grants of funds, which are made available through the foundation. These funds are granted to those whom the board judges can put them to the best use for the county. The board also attempts to raise additional funds through certain events and activities. One of these is the annual golf tournament that is held at The Bayonet Golf Club.

The decision on the grants has been made for this year and these will be formally presented at an event called the Summer Fling. This



**Frog Holler Philosopher**  
Ron Huff

event has achieved such widespread fame that our frogs even know about it. Don't ask me how. Even we humans have heard about it all the way to Frog Holler. The event is held outdoors at the Williamson Farm, which is located at 1275 Bethel Road, not far from Hoke High. Legend has it that the buildings, grounds and pond are awe-inspiring in their beauty and that the event is always handled with great flair and taste. I know this through firsthand accounts of those who have attended. There is a short ceremony to present the grant awards, but this is really a social event. Wine is included and a wonderful dinner will be served. The best part is that it is open to everyone. Tickets for the event are \$20 per person. These can be purchased from any board member or from John Jordan at the Fidelity Bank. There will also be a raffle in which \$500 is given away. Tickets for the

affle are \$5 per ticket or 6 for \$25.

The 2013 Summer Fling is being held this year on June 8 at 6:30 p.m. Dress is casual. I intend to venture all the way to the Williamson Farm this year to witness this event for myself. We would love to see great participation and the profits go to the foundation.

If you can't attend, you can still support the good work of the foundation by buying raffle tickets or making donations. If you would like to donate, please send a check to: Hoke County Community Foundation, c/o John Jordan - Fidelity Bank, PO Box 406, Raeford, NC 28376. Please try to buy your tickets early so we can plan for your attendance. You can buy event and raffle tickets from the following members of the board: John Jordan, Jean Hodges, Whiteford Jones, Rebecca Wood, Wanda Cohen, Vickie Farmer, William Fields, David Conoly, Jeff McNeill, Calvin House, Regina Joe, Joe Poole, John Owen, or Ron Huff.

So this is what they have been doing in the rest of the county! More later.

## We've forgotten everyone is equal

What is political correctness? The thing that brought this question to my mind was an incident that occurred at a meeting that one of my friend's father attended at an interracial church in the area. He said he was amazed how well the younger members related to each other, but the older members did not interact with each other as well.

It was apparent to him that it was more difficult for the older people to communicate with each other. The uncomfortable feeling for the older ones may have been caused by the inability to relate to each other because of thoughts and myths that were obtained in their younger years, when there was no mixing of different races and cultures. With the younger people, with school integration and mingling, there is more understanding of different cultures.

This hypersensitivity between different people has made it difficult for people to communicate with each other. This difficulty is not only between blacks and whites but also with all segments of our population. Here in our area there is a great deal of people from south of the U.S. border. Most of the non-Hispanics refer to these residents as "Mexicans." Many of these people do not come from Mexico however. There are



Paul Burnley

more than a dozen Latin American countries south of our border, but we tend to throw everyone from these countries into the same category.

To keep from offending anyone, we stay away from certain words and phrases, because over the years these terms and phrases have changed. The result is no one is sure what is politically correct. When we think of offensive racial words, we only think of offensive words and phrases that describe blacks. But there were, and still are, offensive phrases that offend Irish, Italian, Asian, and other groups in this country.

It is clear to see that this has been one of the main causes of the decline of this country's popularity in the eyes of the rest of the world. We spend too much time dwelling on our differences instead of concentrating on what we all have in common. It seems that we all, from our leaders in Washington to the residents in our own neighborhoods, have forgotten the premise upon which this country was founded - that everyone is to be

equal. This is what caused the break away from England, the right for EVERYONE to be treated equal.

The main reason for our country falling behind many of the countries that 30 years ago we looked on as "third world" countries is that we lost our focus. We have spent too much time concentrating on racial, political and social differences, while these so-called backward countries have stressed education and technology for their youth. This is why they are exceeding us economically.

Over the years other countries have watched us bicker over politics and race and our inability to work together. Countries such as China, India and many other Middle Eastern countries have become world leaders by profiting from the mistakes the U.S. has made.

Our inability to work together politically, economically, racially, and socially has been an example not to follow for other countries that want to move forward and prosper. This also should make us aware that we must change our views and attitudes toward each other if we expect to regain our position as the world's leader.

Paul Burnley can be reached by email at [plburnley@aol.com](mailto:plburnley@aol.com).

## We welcome your letters

The News-Journal welcomes letters to the editor and encourages readers to express their opinions.

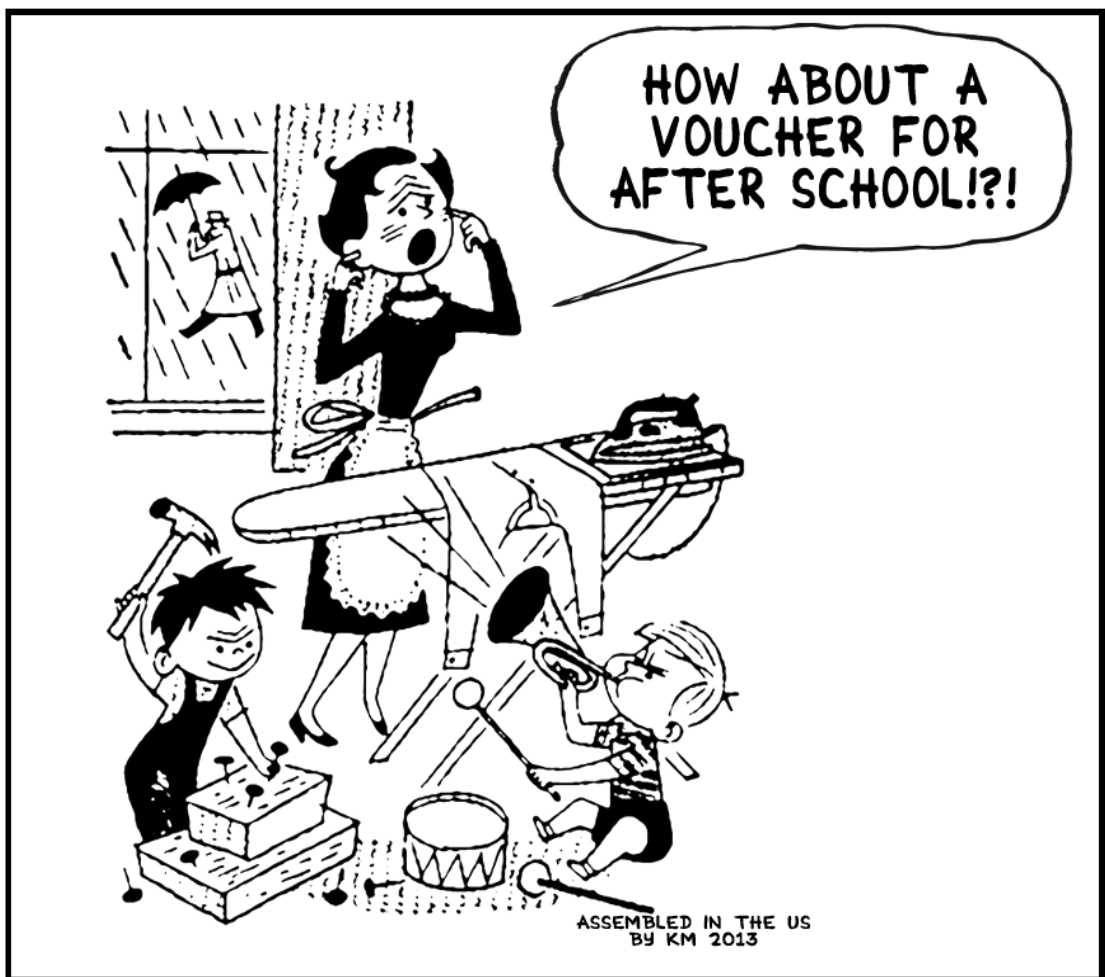
Letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. The street address and phone number will not be published, but are required so we may verify authenticity. The name of the writer

and, in some cases, the town the writer is from will be published at the end of the letter.

We are not able to publish letters that are essentially thank-you cards.

We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, as well as those that exceed 300 words. We will not publish letters that we

consider to be in poor taste or libelous. In some cases we may add an editor's note as a postscript when we believe a correction, explanation or amplification is warranted. We may also, at our discretion, limit the number of times an individual writer may submit a letter for publication.



**TODAY'S HOMEWORK (Notes on Education)**

"Whatever wicked principle ensures that the cheapest foods are the most unhealthy will also ensure that the cheapest schools in our School Choice Future are also the most unhealthy for kids. The free market will not guarantee that the most effective schools will survive. It will guarantee that the most marketable schools will survive. We will, via these education policies, add an ignorance epidemic to our obesity epidemic, wherein our poorest students are also our most test-prepped while our richest students are our most holistically-and-critically-educated. American education will not even pretend to equalize outcomes. It won't even try to confront inequality. It will crystallize our stratification. The American education system of tomorrow will no longer be an intended hedge against human sorting; it will be a party to it."

Jake Matthews —"The Anti-equality Movement"

"Of course we [educators] trust each other. They need to understand that these 'excuses' that we 'whine' about are brutally hard on us and on the children we care about. They sniff at social conditions that we actually deal with. That we manhandle and wrestle into submission when we're at our best. They write about the breezy ease of fixing poverty through adequate teaching; we clean up snot and call Child Protective Services and send home weekend food in backpacks."

—John Kuhn, "Circling the Wagons"

## We Get Letters

### Glad the legislature opens with prayer

To the Editor:

I am overjoyed that the N.C. Legislature opened with prayer to Almighty God and ended it "in Jesus' name!" It made me shout and give God the glory. I pray they do not become fearful—of newspaper reporters/editors, the Anti-Christian League for Underground Dwellers (A.C.L.U.), the Freedom From Religion Foundation, atheists, agnostics, "followers of Jesus" who will be attacking them with words such as "haters," etc. Without Jesus Christ, there is no First Amendment. "What's that?" you ask. Who made speech? Jesus Christ. Who gave each of us inalienable rights? Our creator, the trinity—Father God and His Son Jesus Christ. Where is that documented? The Constitution of the United States of America, written by godly men of character. Our "rights" do not come

from government; they come from God. Jesus-prayer was removed from our schools to satisfy one woman since 2008; the Obama administration has worked tirelessly to remove the cross of Christ from veterans' hospitals, chapels, universities, etc. with help from the aforementioned groups. The so-called "wall of separation" was written to the Danbury Baptist Church clarifying that the government cannot infringe upon us Christians, not vice versa. This phrase is misused to keep the name of Jesus out of his world, his town, his nation—U.S.A. that he founded and has had his hands upon since 1776.

I will continue to lift up the name of Jesus Christ, Messiah, in school, in government, in politics, at picnics, at graduations, at family reunions, in the hospital, at funerals, at football

games—wherever I am. I love him, I worship him and I know that "At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the father." (Philippians 2:10-11)

Without Jesus there would be no tongue, no speech, no government, no News-Journal—no nothing, which is where the U.S. is heading unless (Christians) "my people will humble themselves and pray and turn from their wicked ways and seek my face, then will I (Jesus) hear from heaven, forgive their sins and heal their land..."

Way to hear God's words, N.C. Legislature. Continue praying in Jesus' name and Raefordites, Hoke Countians, pray for national revival. May it begin in Raeford.

Anna Catharin Brown  
Raeford

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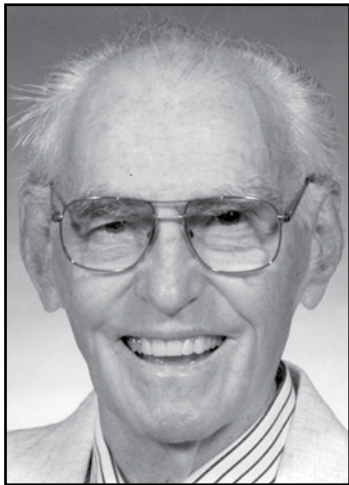
# Obituaries

## Sheila Spear

Sheila Joy Spear, 52, of Crestview, Florida, died Sunday, May 12, 2013.

Survivors include her husband, David Joseph Spear; her father, Edward Jarrell Jr. of Raeford; her mother Dannie Louise Botsford and stepfather Howard "Buck" Botsford; a son, Jeremy Spear; a stepbrother, Dennis Botsford; three stepsisters, Michelle Kirchhefer, Pam Sowell, and Cindy McGowan; and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

The funeral was held at 10 a.m. Friday, May 17 at Live Oak Baptist Church in Florida. Burial was in the church cemetery.



Elbert Wiles

## Elbert Wiles

Elbert Wiles, 96 of Traphill died Saturday, May 11, 2013 at Wilkes Regional Medical Center.

Survivors include his wife, Ruby Pruitt Wiles; five daughters, Pauline Caudill, Helen Blackburn, and Susie Wiles, all of North Wilkesboro, Trixie Faircloth (formerly of Raeford) and husband Stanley of Fayetteville, and Carolyn Osborne and husband Terry of Traphill;

three sons, Jack Wiles, and Danny Wiles and wife Vanessa, all of Traphill and Roger Wiles of Hays; one sister, Mabel Billings of Clemmons; 20 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 14 at New Covenant Baptist Church in Hays. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to New Covenant Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 315 New Covenant Church Road, Hays, NC 28635.

# Police Blotter

Raeford Police reported the following recent incidents:

**May 14**  
Assault on a female, communicating threats, 500 block of East Central Avenue (House of Raeford), victim Kimberly Rose Scott

Damage to real property, breaking and entering, 300 block of North Dickson Street, victim Bilal Haroon

Assault on a female, 400 block of West 8th Avenue, victim Brenita Samon Jones

**May 15**  
Larceny, 700 block of Harris Avenue, victim Magnolia McNeil Cole

**May 17**  
Shoplifting by concealing merchandise, 200 block of South Main Street, victim Bo's Foods

**May 18**  
Communicating threats, 100 block of Laurinburg Road, victim Waffle House

Damage to personal property, larceny, breaking and entering, 400 block of North Wright Street, victim Habitat for Humanity

Damage to real property, East

Palmer Street, victim Department of Transportation

Driving while intoxicated (alcohol), 300 block of Laurinburg Road (ABC Store), victim State of North Carolina. Police charged Ronald Floyd Foster, 51, of the 5300 block of Philippi Church Road.

Breaking and entering, larceny, 500 block of Palmer Green Apartments, victim Ashley Elaine Virgil

**May 19**  
Injury to personal property, larceny, trespassing, 400 block of North Dickson Street, victim Jessica Brooke Van Allen

Breaking and entering, 700 block of Forest Street, victim Javonda La Porche Daniels

Injury to personal property, 100 block of Lantern Lane, victim Michael Andrew McGregor

**May 20**  
Prowler, 500 block of East 6th Avenue, victim Lasheeda Murchison

Larceny, 500 block of East Donaldson Avenue, victim Wade Pittman

Breaking and entering, larceny, 100 block of Chilton Drive, victim Janelle Locklear Oxendine

# Hunt confirmed as tribal administrator

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Hoke County Commissioner Tony Hunt officially got the Lumbee Tribal Council's stamp of approval last Thursday when the council members voted 12-8 in favor of confirming Hunt as the tribal administrator.

Tribal Chairman Paul Brooks nominated Hunt for the position in March and named him the interim administrator earlier this month. Hunt is the third nominee proposed by Brooks during his time as chairman and the first to earn enough supporting votes from council members to be confirmed to the position.

As administrator of the Lumbee Tribe, Hunt will be

responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the tribe's government and programs, much like a chief of staff, officials said. Hunt will oversee matters relating to programs including housing, veterans' services, senior and youth services and more for the over 55,000 enrolled members of the Lumbee Tribe.

Hunt said he's excited about being confirmed to the position by the council members.

"I look forward to the challenges that come along with this very important role with the tribe," he said in a statement. "I want to make sure our tribal members continue to receive exemplary customer service and to improve in the areas we need

to improve in order to help this government continue to grow."

The council held a special called meeting May 6 to vote on Hunt as tribal administrator, but no action was taken because not enough members were present to qualify as a quorum. The Lumbee Constitution requires two-thirds of the seated council members to be present to conduct business and only 12 out of 21 members attended that meeting, tribe officials said. Brooks named Hunt the interim administrator thereafter.

Had the council not voted to confirm Hunt as administrator, Hunt could have served in the interim position for the remainder of Brooks' term in office. Hunt said in a previous in-

terview with The News-Journal that he plans to continue in his role as a Hoke County commissioner. His current term will expire in 2014. Brooks' term in office lasts through 2016.

"(Hunt) has been confirmed by the council," Tribal Speaker Pearlean Revels said in a statement after Thursday's council meeting. "There have been some issues that have been holding government back. I hope this government can go forward now and get done the work of the people."

Hunt's confirmation marks the first time since 2011 that the position has been filled. Under the tribe's ordinances, the maximum salary for the administrator is \$96,000.

# Commission denies zoning request

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Acting on the request of neighboring property owners, the Hoke County Board of Commissioners denied a rezoning proposal that would have changed the old Quewhiffle restaurant property from residential/agricultural to neighborhood business.

The matter, tabled from the May 6 meeting, brought potential business operator Dr. Thomas McMillan before commissioners to explain his plans for the property and also for the second time brought several area residents before the board to express their concerns about the possible rezoning.

McMillan said he is a licensed psychotherapist who grew up in Hoke County and today works with several mental health agencies. McMillan said that he does not plan to open any establishment that would sell alcohol or encourage disruptive behavior, which was a major concern multiple residents addressed at the last public hearing earlier this month. At one time "that was on the plate," but now, it's "off the table," he said.

"At this particular time, I have no intent to have any business that sells alcohol. I have no intent to have any business that participates in the atmosphere that a night club would have," McMillan said. At this point, he is considering leasing the property from the Beaver family for the purpose of some type of mental health or community service related to his profession.

However, neighbors questioned what might happen were McMillan to leave the area and someone else were to take on the property and then operate it as a club under the Neighborhood Business zoning.

The commissioners questioned whether the rezoning was even necessary, as McMillan's intended purposes stated during the meeting are already allowed under the current RA-20 zoning. McMillan at one point stated he thought the rezoning request was to change the property to RA-20, which is the current zoning for the property.

"Under the opportunities that's available under RA-20, it's much more abundant than they would be under the current zoning," he said.

"I think you kind of put yourself under current zoning, if you're going to spell out no alcohol, no clubbing, the current zoning would suit you,"

Commission Chairman James Leach said.

"That may be so, but when I look at the RA-20, there would be many more options," McMillan said.

Commissioner Tony Hunt pointed out that the property is already zoned RA-20. After obtaining a copy of what the two zoning districts allow, McMillan asked for more time to consider the matter. In public comments, seven people who live on Reservation Road spoke against the rezoning request. After hearing from the neighbors, commissioners voted unanimously to deny the zoning request.

## Other business

The commissioners set May 29-30 as the dates for the second budget workshop. County Manager Tim Johnson and Finance Officer Garvin Ferguson distributed copies of a proposed balanced budget for the commissioners to examine. The board members will have the chance to further question department heads about their stated needs and make any adjustments to the proposed budget before the public hearing on the ordinance, which is set for June 3.

At the June 3 commission

meeting, any citizen will be offered the chance to make comments on the proposed budget, which will be available on request at the county office building in Raeford.

The board members voted unanimously to request that the county planner examine the subdivision ordinances to include language to exempt families from having to pay the \$500 per lot subdivision fee when a parent is passing the land to a child or a child is passing the land to a parent. There is an existing three-lot maximum included in the ordinances, officials said.

The board approved an eight-item consent agenda including sewer waiver requests from Durban Development and Greg Floyd Properties, a project ordinance for the scattered site housing program and the 1B sewer phase project close-out with Hobbs, Upchurch and Associates.

The board also heard from Sandhills Mental Health representative Victoria Witt, who presented the annual budget request and services update on behalf of the mental health service agency.

The commission recessed the meeting until the budget workshop set for next week.

# English department collects food in student's memory

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Family and friends of Hoke High graduate and North Carolina National Guard service member Amber Bolton were shocked and grieved when the 22-year-old died suddenly late last year.

In honor of Bolton's memory and with the blessing of her family, the Hoke County High School English department held a food drive that collected thousands of nonperishable items to help feed people who are homeless and others in need in the community.

Amber Bolton's mother Debra Bolton has ties with Pittman Grove Baptist Church and along with Dana Tolston and church

member Janice Chason Griffie collaborated to distribute the food. To date, the drives in Bolton's memory have collected more than 3,600 cans of food.

The most recent drive hosted by teacher Krissy Khan collected over 500 nonperishable food items, which will be distributed to several local outreaches. The project has allowed her students a chance to perform community service, she said.

"We did not expect such a huge turnout like we had last semester, and so this semester we decided it was just natural to go back to our food drive," Khan said. Her students are also working on various other community service projects, she added.

Some of the cans will be do-

nated to the Pittman Grove Baptist Church's food pantry, while others will go to local families in need. Most of the cans will go to support Galatia Presbyterian Church, which every week feeds approximately 150 people who are homeless, Griffie said.

"These students and teachers are to be commended for their community work," organizers said in a statement.

Bolton served a tour of duty in Afghanistan with the National Guard and was promoted to Specialist E-4. She was buried October 24, 2012 with full military honors in the Pittman Grove Baptist Church cemetery. Survivors include her parents, Dana and Debra Quick Bolton of Raeford; a brother, Chase M. Bolton of Raeford; two

sisters, Ember L. Bolton and Danielle L. Bolton; maternal grandfather, Chuck Richards of Raeford; paternal grandmother, Rachel Bolton of Raeford; two uncles, David Bolton and Adam Richards; two aunts, Katherine Pebbles Cox and Jennifer Richards; a nephew, Daymian M. Bolton of Raeford; and many cousins. (See photo, page 1B)

# Soldier injured in wreck on Plank Road

A Fort Bragg soldier was seriously injured last week after crashing her motorcycle into a tree while speeding to elude military police, authorities reported.

The 27-year-old soldier was speeding at over 100 miles an hour on Plank Road near Mott Lake in

Hoke County when she apparently lost control, ran off the road and into the trees, Army officials said. She was flung off the motorcycle and sustained injuries including a broken leg.

The wreck happened around 3:30 p.m. last Wednesday, of-

ficials said. Emergency services responded to the scene and a helicopter transported the soldier to UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

The soldier may be charged with traffic accident resulting in serious injury, Fort Bragg spokesman Ben Abel said.

# The News-Journal

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## Local events set for Memorial Day

The local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10 and an area business will offer special events this coming week to honor veterans in celebration of Memorial Day.

The VFW will hold the annual Memorial Day ceremony in front of the Hoke County Courthouse on Main Street Monday, May 27 at 11 a.m. The service will feature a speaker, remembrance of veterans killed in action, wreath laying and salute to veterans.

This Saturday, May 25, Rockfish Motorsports Speedway at the Rockfish Flea Mall will host an all-day event 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The event will feature live music, activities and free hot dogs beginning at 11 a.m.

City and county offices will be closed Monday in observance of the holiday. Trash pickup for city customers will continue on the regular schedule.

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# Schools to increase AP offerings this year

By CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

By the time high school senior Aaron Kidd finishes college, he'll have saved about \$20,000 in tuition by taking enough Advanced Placement and community college classes at Hoke High to potentially graduate early from UNC-Greensboro.

"\$20,000 is kind of like, I would say, an inexpensive car. And four inexpensive cars add up to \$80,000. It would take years for people to pay that off," he told the Hoke County Board of Education last week. "By taking the college and AP courses, I'm paying off an inexpensive car in two years."

And for fellow soon-to-be Hoke High graduate Devan Herron, and some of their classmates, the story is much the same: extra work in high school means less time and money spent in college.

"So far, from Sandhills (Community College) I have 25 credit hours which are all transferable to East Carolina (University), where I'll be going next year," Herron said. "Also from last year from the AP credit hours, I got three credit hours from the English class that I took, and if I pass all of my AP tests this semester, I'll have an additional 17 credit hours which will transfer."

Herron and Kidd addressed the board last week in response to board chair Irish Pickett's questions about what kind of college education opportunities students at Hoke High receive, in comparison to what their peers at SandHoke Early College High School are able to accomplish through that program.

"I think it's been very positive, especially the classes I took this semester," Herron said. "I took biology and statistics, which will really help me out. I'll be studying biology and clinical laboratory science next year, so the classes have been really beneficial."

She will enter her freshman year in college as a sophomore with nearly enough credit hours to be considered a junior, she added.

The Huskins program, founded in the 1980s, was the first in the state allowing high school students to take community college courses, Hoke High guidance counselor Lorraine Mosley said. By the late 1990s, students at Hoke High were allowed to take psychology and western civilization courses taught by Sandhills instructors in addition to selecting from a small number of Advanced Placement classes. Students could choose to take an AP test and, if they scored high enough, could translate that class into college credit hours.

Over the years the school system has worked to expand the number of AP class offerings and this fall will offer more AP and community college classes than ever before, school officials said. Additionally, many of the course offerings feature online classes.

This fall students will be able to select from Sandhills classes such as business law, criminal justice, technology and society, college-

level algebra and English, sociology, developmental psychology and more. The students will also be able to select from over 20 AP classes, including micro- and macroeconomics, chemistry, calculus, psychology and biology.

One major change from the early days of the program is that the school system now pays for students to take the end-of-course AP exam and requires that students take the test as part of the curriculum, Hoke High Principal Roger Edwards said. Previously, students bore the financial task of paying about \$87 per test and some chose not to take the exams, missing out on potentially getting college credit.

"There's no (student) charge for the AP courses because you're helping us pay for that. As a result, we require students who register for an advanced placement course to take the exam because we pay for it," Edwards said. "It gives them all the benefit. They have the opportunity to have all the rigorous coursework and earn a plus two on their GPA, and if they score what they need to score, it's a college credit."

Not everyone was initially pleased with the idea of putting more focus on the academically rigorous AP classes, Superintendent Dr. Freddie Williamson said. The school administration received phone calls from parents who were upset the school wouldn't let their children get out of an AP class that they signed up for, but the board backed the policy, the superintendent said.

"We asked (board members) at one meeting to support our efforts to increase AP offerings, and we said to you the pushback was going to be that the work is challenging, that kids are going to ask to get out of that class, we need to say, we're not going to allow that to happen because you can do the work, and you supported us in that," Williamson said. "As a result, all of that has gone away, so that's the result of a board supporting, taking a position, to help our kids to do that. Because if we allow kids to register, drop out, then we'll never grow, never improve, and they can do the work, there's no question about that."

The extra training provided for teachers who lead AP classes also bleeds over into making their instruction in other classes more in-depth for students not in AP classes, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Bob Barnes added.

"That AP training elevates how they teach in all areas," he said.

The school system is also asking teachers to get additional certification in AIG and paying for the cost of that and for the additional AP training, Williamson said.

"If it's good for some, it ought to be good for all, and that is a teacher issue, to understand rigor," he said.

The school system is also working with some teachers to "embed" advanced placement rigor into honors classes, officials said.

On June 13, the school will host a meeting for parents of students in the 10-12th grades to discuss the advanced placement offerings in

greater depth.

There are pre-requirements for students to take Sandhills classes through what the school system calls the Career and College Promise Program. Students must be a junior or senior, have a weighted grade-point average of at least 3.0 and meet benchmarks on college readiness assessment tests.

However, the school system is looking toward lowering the age requirement for some parts of the program in the future.

"We're bucking tradition here. Common thinking is that freshmen are not prepared for a college-level class. We just don't believe that our highest-performing entering ninth graders, they're the highest-performing entering ninth graders in Hoke County middle school, that they can't, with the right teacher, the right conditions, the right amount of support in a rigorous program, have the opportunity to earn a college credit your freshman year," Edwards said.

Offering the classes earlier would keep students from getting into a "bottleneck" with their class choices in their junior and senior years in school, the principal said.

The popularity of the program has been slowly increasing over the last several years. In the 2010-11 school year, 176 students at Hoke High chose to take part in the college classes offered through Sandhills and 128 students enrolled in AP classes. By the 2012-13 school year, nearly 300 students were taking advantage of each program, with some crossover between the categories as some of the same students participated in both AP and college classes. The school system projects those numbers to rise further in the 2013-14 year.

It's possible for students to earn up to 12 hours of college credit in their junior year of high school, 12 hours their senior year, and credit for however many AP classes they would care to take. That adds up to potentially earning 30 or more hours of college credit during high school, Mosley said. With the added classes, it's now possible for students to have a grade point average of up to 6.0 if they make perfect grades, officials said.

For Herron and Kidd, and many of their peers, the long hours of studying and intense testing will mean a potential payoff in time and tuition money saved once they enter college this fall.

"By taking those classes, I'm getting the basic requirements out of the way so I'm able to focus on my major or minor without having to worry about, when am I going to take English 111 or when am I going to take Spanish," Kidd said. "I've already gotten a good portion of that out of the way."

## Budget approval, students recognized

In other business last week, the Board of Education approved the proposed current expense and capital outlay budgets for the

2013-14 school year. The school board voted unanimously to request from Hoke County commissioners \$5,068,200.00 funding for current expense and \$548,000 funding for capital outlay for the upcoming year.

The board recognized several students and educators for their achievements. In the Spotlight on Success, the school system honored Hoke High coach and counselor Nelson James for receiving the Southeastern Conference Tennis Coach of the Year award; Hoke High coach and teacher Mike Ray for receiving the NCHSAA Courage Award; Hoke High coach and teacher Regina McLaughlin for receiving the Women's Track Coach of the Year Award; Hoke High student athlete Tiarra Harris for receiving the Southeastern Conference Women's Track Athlete of the Year award; and Hoke High student athlete Kory Jones for receiving the Southeastern Conference Field Event Athlete of the Year in Men's Track award.

The school system received word from the state Department of Public Instruction that Hoke schools met all three of the Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) for the 2011-12 school year in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program.

"Although meeting AMAOs is the expected outcome for all Title III subgrantees, achieving all three AMAOs is an accomplishment that deserves noting," State Superintendent June St. Clair Atkinson wrote in a letter to the board. "You and your staff are to be congratulated for successfully addressing the needs of your English language learners and assisting them in achieving academic success."

Additionally, the board heard an update from SandHoke Early College High School Principal Colleen Pegram about the cohort graduation rate at the early college. The number of students successfully completing the five-year program with both a high school and associate's degree went up from 22 graduates in the first graduating class two years ago to 40 out of 43 students in the 2013 graduating class, the principal said.

Of those 43 students, eight completed the five-year program in four years and 30 are transferring to a four-year university. Several others announced their plans to pursue careers in the military after graduating. The program plans to admit a class of 100 freshmen, the largest ever single year cohort for SandHoke, this fall.

The board set a date for the grand opening of the Echo Ridge Teacher Housing Complex on Credit Union Way off of Teal Drive in Raeford.

The ribbon cutting ceremony will be held Wednesday, May 29 at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Jodie Bryant at 366-6974 or by email at jrbryant@hcs.k12.nc.us.

The board heard financial updates from Financial Officer Wanaa Chavis, approved a three-item consent agenda and held its usual closed session for personnel matters before adjourning.

## Closing

(Continued from page 1A) employees at the Raeford turkey slaughter plant received the notification... We still expect that 950 will be the net number of positions eliminated when the slaughter plant closes."

Company officials will be meeting this week with representatives from the state Department of Commerce's Rapid Response Team to put together an organized plan for the transition, Witter said.

"The biggest step is doing all we can in assisting our employees as they transition out of their current jobs. There are other things we will be considering regarding the building itself as well as equipment. However, we have not made any

decisions to date. I would expect most of that will happen after the plant stops operating," he said.

Besides the loss of nearly 1,000 jobs, the House of Raeford shutdown will take away the City of Raeford's largest water customer. The loss represents about a \$1 million decrease in revenue in the water fund, which is about a third of the city's income in that utility service, City Manager Mike Wood told The News-Journal in a prior interview.

Officials weren't sure how many of the company's employees live in Hoke County. Many are reportedly from surrounding counties and commute to work.

Additionally, the company is ending its relationship with

about 140 contracted turkey farms throughout eastern North Carolina. None of those farms are in Hoke County; a majority of them are located in Duplin and Sampson counties. Some of the farmers may have the opportunity to switch to chicken production and continue contracting with House of Raeford Farms.

The company said in March it is getting out of the turkey business altogether in order to focus more on producing chicken and fully cooked poultry products. The company plans to expand chicken operations within the next two to three years, Witter said. In March, House of Raeford officials cited high feed prices and flat turkey consumption as the primary reasons behind the closures.

House of Raeford Farms will continue operating its further processing facility in Raeford, which employees about 400 people.

Bob Johnson, son of Marvin Johnson and current Chief Executive Officer for House of Raeford Farms, said the decision to shutter the turkey slaughter plant was "the hardest decision we have ever had to make."

There have not been any decisions made regarding what will happen with the slaughter plant facility itself or the company's outlet store on East Central Avenue in Raeford, officials said.

"I would imagine we will not focus on that until after the plant stops operating," Witter said.

## Arrests

(Continued from page 1A) and Tiffany Alford, 35, also of the 700 block of Southern Avenue, on charges of felony accessory to a crime after the fact.

Authorities searched Vanclief's apartment and allegedly located two stolen televisions, a bag of clothes, a bag of shoes and

a PlayStation. The property was returned to the owner.

Police are still searching for Preston Harris Jr., 32, who reportedly fled the scene on foot. Harris is wanted on two counts of second-degree burglary, larceny, two counts of conspiracy and injury to real property.

The case was the second last week that saw stolen property quickly returned to the rightful owner. In another case in the Palmer Green Apartments, officers were able to recover the stolen property within minutes of the crime, officials said.

The Raeford Police Depart-

ment warned residents that many recent breaking and entering cases in the city have been traced to people known to the victims. Police warned residents to be careful about allowing acquaintances into their homes and not to let others know the schedule of when they may not be at home during the day.



## Firemen visit

North Raeford firefighter Kenny Martin (in turnout gear) was among firemen who visited the youth of Called Into Action last week. Chief Firefighter Johnny "Tater" Baker Jr., firefighters Martin and Myles Rothman, and apprentice firefighter Michael Verdeam taught fire safety, explained the equipment they wear and use, and allowed youth to tour the fire truck and practice spraying water with the hose.

## Other stuff

(Continued from page 1A)

I selected my home address, careful that the route it picked led me down US 1, not I-95, because I'd rather go through Virginia than Fayetteville.

"Proceed to the highlighted route," my little GPS female friend said cheerfully, and I pulled out of the parking space.

"Rerouting," she announced immediately.

Though I thought it was strange to reroute me immediately I followed her every command—dozens of turns through the heart of Raleigh—until I began to realize I was heading east. Argh! I-95. Fayetteville. Skibo Road. Mall traffic. The Walmart at East Hoke Middle School. That little hussy tricked me!

I know it's not just me. This weekend, I was at a newspaper conference in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina (a place you can't get to from Raeford). One of the featured speakers, Pat Taylor from the Southern Pines Pilot, failed to arrive by the beginning of

the meeting and organizers were frantically trying to phone him. "Pat is usually on time," they were saying. "This is so unlike him." I knew exactly what happened to him. "Siri, take me to Atlantic Beach," I could hear him saying.

Well, sure enough, Siri, or some other GPS genie, had taken him on a five-hour tour of Duplin and Onslow counties.

I got to thinking: there has to be a better way. What I came up with is deceptively simple. Perhaps you've already figured it out. Perhaps I'm just slow. But here's what you do.

When you're in your parking space in Raleigh, instead of saying, "Siri, take me home to Raeford," say, "Siri, take me to Sanford."

Use location fixes like pilots do. In Atlantic Beach, I asked the GPS genie to take me to Jacksonville, then Wallace; the rest of the way I knew.

You're welcome. ♦

## Skydiver

(Continued from page 1A)

veteran died Friday following a skydiving accident in the United Arab Emirates.

Lenn Taylor, a highly experienced skydiver and Accelerated Free Fall instructor with Skydive Dubai, was pronounced dead around 10:45 a.m. Friday, May 17 at Rashid Hospital in Dubai, UAE. Taylor suffered injuries during landing after a parachute jump, according to a report released from Skydive Dubai.

"The early reports only revealed that the instructor, who was participating on an instructional type jump with his AFF student and another instructor, deployed his parachute without incident. His parachute was fully inflated and functioning, serious injuries were sustained during the landing process," the report stated.

Taylor remained conscious despite his serious injuries and paramedics from the Dubai ambulance service were on the scene within five minutes of the accident, according to Skydive Dubai.

"The instructor was taken to Rashid Hospital via helicopter where

sadly he was pronounced dead after an hour of extensive medical procedures by a large team of medical professionals," the report stated.

Taylor logged more than 3,000 jumps during his more than 20 years of experience in both military and civilian parachuting activities. He previously worked as an instructor with the Raeford Parachute Center.

Skydive Dubai Desert Campus manager Raul Bocanegra served in the United States Army alongside Taylor.

"Lenn was my colleague in the U.S. Army as well as in Skydive Dubai, so not only did I lose an employee, friend of over 20 years, but we all lost a member of our family," Bocanegra said in an email.

Taylor began working with Skydive Dubai in March of this year. He quickly became one of the company's most popular instructors due to his positive attitude and knowledge, Bocanegra said.

"We are working with the U.S. Consulate in Dubai to have Lenn back in the United States as soon as possible," he wrote.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Tarique Thompson**

**2013**

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# SPORTS



The Hoke County High School boys' track team finished third in the 4x100 at the State Championships last weekend at N.C. A&T. They will now compete at the National Championships at UNC-Charlotte in mid June along with the Lady Bucks 4x2 and 4x4 teams. The Lady Bucks finished eighth in the state. Shown here is the boys' 4x100 team: Coach Stan Callender (left to right), Geoffrey Thompson, Tasmon Kimbrough, Brandon Smith and Detrez Newsome.

## Rockfish Speedway doing it up right

By HAL NUNN  
Sports writer

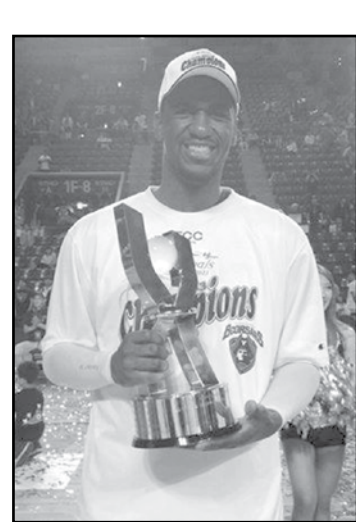
Last weekend's results

Rockfish Speedway, more commonly known as "The Rock of Hoke," is getting set for one of its biggest days and nights of the year. This Saturday, the track, flea mall, bingo hall, arcade and mini golf will host a Memorial Day celebration. Local businesses can come out and set up for free. There will be no racing this weekend but it will return next week when "The Rock of Hoke" hosts its first night race on June 1, sponsored by Gregory Poole of Fayetteville. That night the gates will open at 4:30 p.m. and racing action will start at 7:30 p.m. under the lights. This weekend the Saturday events will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit [www.rockfish-motorsports.com](http://www.rockfish-motorsports.com).

- Mini Pro**  
1. 32 Jake Layton  
2. 30 Levi Brown  
3. 8 Timothy Hogan
- Pro**  
1. 42 Logan McPherson  
2. 82 Eric Braxton  
3. 1 Michael Hogan
- Legends**  
1. 40 Robert Knowles  
2. 77 Joe Penfield  
3. 41b Dan Hogan
- Micros**  
1. 43 Jody McCall  
2. 29 Gary Jacobson  
3. 15 Matt Carr



The Diamond Elite girls' 10 & under travel fastpitch softball team based in Hoke County won four out of seven games this past weekend in Micro, North Carolina, finishing in third place in a USSSA sanctioned tournament. This was a huge accomplishment for the team that was formed only two months ago: Skye Hammond (front row, left to right), Aliyah McKeithan, Abby Dover, Jeanna Saunders and Amia Carter; middle row: Alyssa Norton, Michelle Repetto, Haleigh Line, Bailey Lockwood, Anna Mercer and Mackenzie Peters; back row: Coach Jimmy Saunders, Coach Bill Peters and Coach Jamie Dover.



LaShawn Malloy, a 2002 graduate of Hoke County High School, helped his team, Yokohama-B-Corsairs, win the BJ League Championship in Japan in only their second year in the league. The BJ League is one of the top two leagues in Japan.



LaShawn Malloy goes in for a slam in the championship game in Japan. LaShawn has been playing professionally for seven years and wishes to thank his mother Helen and father James Malloy of Raeford and all his family and friends for their support. This year he averaged 10 points per game and 7 rebounds per game, playing 15-17 minutes per game.

## Bucks release 2013 Football Schedule

August 23 at Wilmington Ashley	September 13 home vs. South View	October 4 at Westover	October 25 at Scotland
August 30 at Sun Valley	September 20 at E.E. Smith	October 11 home vs. Richmond	November 1 at Purnell Swett
September 6 home vs. Seventy-First	September 27 OPEN	October 18 home vs. Lumberton	November 8 home vs. Pinecrest

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**DEADLINES for MAY 29 ISSUE are as follows:**

- Legal - noon Thursday, May 23
- Editorial & Classified - 10 a.m. Friday, May 24
- Echo Ads - noon Friday, May 24
- News-Journal Ads - 4 p.m., Friday, May 24

# Graduation

(Continued from page 1A)

Only vehicles displaying Handicap Parking Decal or School Issued Parking Placard are allowed to proceed from Harris Avenue onto Bethel Road after 4:30pm. Handicap Parking Decal or School Issued Parking Placard must be displayed to park in the Gibson Student Parking Lot. All General Parking is accessed by Palmer Drive to Bethel Road with parking in the following areas: behind the stadium, the bus lot, behind the MacDonald Modular Building, the MacDonald Practice

Fields, behind the Vocational/Band Building.

Graduates should park at softball field area behind Baucom Building or may be dropped off at the bus lot entrance.

Graduates will leave the Baucom Building at 5:45 p.m. and proceed into the stadium at 6 p.m., after which the stadium gates will close. Each graduate receives two tickets to on-field seating for parents. Only one individual, regardless of age, per each field ticket is allowed on the field.

Any items that may block the

view of other spectators are not allowed in the seating areas during the graduation exercise. Examples may include umbrellas, large headwear, and balloons. Large bags and coolers are not allowed in the stadium.

Metal detectors will be in use at all stadium entry gates. Those who attend are asked to arrive early to be seated in the stadium on time for processional at 6 p.m.

In the case that extreme inclement weather prohibits the graduation from taking place, the rain date is Saturday, May 25 at 9 a.m.



Officers line up in front of the Hoke courthouse.

# Vets

(Continued from page 1A)

fly that. I support anything for veterans," she said.

The flag presentation is just one of the many ways Rolling Thunder reaches out to the community to bring awareness of Prisoners of War-Missing in Action (POW-MIA), leader Jim Hollister said. First incorporated in 1995, Rolling Thunder is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization with over 90 chartered chapters in the United States and with members abroad, according to the group's national website. Rolling Thunder has many members who are veterans and many ride motorcycles but neither qualification is a prerequisite to being a member.

Rolling Thunder is dedicated to bringing full accountability for the POWs/MIAs of all wars. The nonprofit also seeks to help American veterans of all wars. The group's watchwords are "We Will Not Forget."

Rolling Thunder Chapter 1 gathered to make the presentation after being invited to the post office.

"It means a lot to us and it means a lot to guys like (First Sgt. Lawrence) Bud (Wilson) who served our country and was counted a prisoner of war for several years," Hollister said. "We have over 80,000 Americans who are still missing from all wars,

from World War I all the way through to today, and we still have one missing from Afghanistan today. So any time we have the opportunity to present one of these flags, we feel very fortunate to do that."

The presentation happened to fall on the national Armed Forces Day, May 18. Rolling Thunder members gathered to raise the flag and share information about POWs. Post office employee Betty Barnes, who is also a member of Rolling Thunder, helped arrange the flag presentation.

"The (flag) that was up there needed to be replaced, so they asked us if we'd come out again," Hollister said. The group last presented American and MIA/POW flags to the post office a few years ago.

"Any time we have an opportunity to fly one of these, we feel it's very important that we do it," he said.

Having the flag flying helps to educate the public about veterans and especially about soldiers who went missing in action or were taken as POWs, Hollister said.

"Whenever someone comes by and sees this and asks about it, it will help them to remember those veterans still missing," he said.

Tens of thousands of American veterans are still missing in action. America's only living POW still

missing in action is Sgt. Bowe Robert Bergdahl, 27, of Sun Valley, Idaho, who was captured by the Taliban in Afghanistan in 2009 and remains in enemy hands. Bergdahl was a Private First Class when he was taken prisoner and has been promoted to sergeant in absentia.

In addition to flag presentations, the local chapter of Rolling Thunder takes part in many other veteran-supporting activities. Chapter 1 is planning to ride to Washington, D.C. to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall and plans to hold a remembrance ride in September to raise money to take area POWs to Americus, Georgia for the POW/MIA recognition. The group also has fundraisers to help underprivileged children and families, road captain Gordon Craig said.

"Our main mission is...to keep our public aware and educated about how many POWs there still are from all wars, and hope that we can get laws passed someday that everybody will be brought home. It's been getting a lot better since the Vietnam days," he said.

Next week First Sgt. Lawrence "Bud" Wilson, USA, Retired, a member of Rolling Thunder, tells his story of being a POW after being captured by enemy forces during the Korean War.

# Officers

(Continued from page 1A)

seed planted and through the years a dream was cultivated," Crumpler said. "Twenty years later, that six-year-old became a law enforcement officer. In death, life is influenced."

Crumpler joined Hoke County Sheriff Hubert Peterkin and Highway Patrol First Sgt. Timothy Simmons last week in remembering the sacrifices of those officers who gave their lives in service to the people of Hoke County and recognizing the officers who continue to risk their lives in the line of duty.

Thousands of officers across the United States have given their lives to safeguard the communities that they are sworn to serve and protect, Peterkin said.

"No matter how long it's been, it's very important that we remember them," the sheriff said. "We never know from day to day what we're going to be faced with. We ask as we move on that you continue to pray for our officers, that they'll be safe."

The service recognized Chief Pleasant Clay Oakes, 49, of the Raeford Police Department, who was shot and killed August 31, 1912; Patrolman Albert Howell, 37, of the Raeford Police Department, who died of a heart attack September 14, 1940 after chasing a suspect on foot through the Raeford Cemetery; Trooper William T. Herbin of the North Carolina Highway Patrol who was shot and killed August 31, 1964 while conducting a traffic stop 12 miles north of Raeford on U.S. Highway 401; and Det. Ed Harris, 45, of the Southern Pines Police Department, who was shot and killed in his home April 4, 1991.

Simmons gave a special address for the day. Simmons has served as a trooper for more than 30 years, including serving in Moore and Hoke counties.

"Together we stand, divided we fall. No agency can stand alone, no one officer can stand alone, but together we can fight the battle and we can win together," Simmons said.

The Board of Commissioners was represented at the event and Board of Education member

Rosa McAllister-McRae sang the national anthem. Members of the Patriot Guard attended the ceremony.

The Hoke County Honor Guard posted the flag, which was flown at half-staff in honor of those lost. The service was opened and closed with a prayer and also featured a gun salute. Members of the Hoke County Mighty Marching Bucks performed at the service.

## Editorial Deadlines

Friday 12 Noon

Calendar Items - Social Items - News Items

Monday 12 Noon - Letters to the Editor

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