

The News-Journal

Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

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RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, October 9, 2013

75-bed adult care facility approved

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

A development firm is bringing a 75-bed adult care facility to eastern Hoke County, following approval from the county Board of Commissioners.

Representatives from Locklear,

Locklear and Jacobs of Pembroke, representing property owner Venture Properties Group, appeared before the board members Monday night requesting a conditional use permit to operate the care facility. Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the permit for the busi-

ness, which will be located at 8398 Highway 401.

"We really feel this will fill a great need," architect Jay Stewart said. The adult care home will offer a 32-bed secure unit that will offer memory support for residents with dementia, Alzheimer's or other memory issues.

The facility is being developed by Smith-Packett, which works with operators in North Carolina and Virginia to build similar facilities in both states.

Representative Aubrey Knox said the home will be staffed with about 25-35 full-time employees.

The facility is meant to offer greater freedom for seniors who may have difficulty living alone, she said.

"This gives them a chance to have a social life," Knox said.

In other planning matters, commissioners also approved a request (See *COMMISSION*, page 5A)



Hoke racing

The #20 Micro Sprint car of Matt Jones leads the field coming out of turn four at Rockfish Motor Speedway off of Lindsay Road in Hoke County Saturday afternoon. Jody McCall, in the yellow winged car with 43 on the top, was winner of the main race. Other results are on page 7A. (Hal Nunn photo)



The sign says it all—Hoke's first hospital accepts patients.

Hospital opens

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

It took a week longer than expected, but the doctors, nurses and other staff members at FirstHealth of the Carolinas opened the doors Monday to Hoke County's first hospital.

The hospital was scheduled to open last week, but a state agency wasn't able to complete a required licensing inspection on time. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services issued the hospital's license last Thursday after the facility passed the inspection, FirstHealth officials announced.

The hospital opened at 8 a.m. Monday, October 7, ending a years-long wait for emergency healthcare services in (See *HOSPITAL*, page 6A)

Shutdown delays treatment plant

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Hoke County held a bid opening last week for construction of the county's long-awaited wastewater treatment plant, but the federal government shutdown has thrown the project off schedule by as much as two months.

The county bid out two contracts, one to put in the pipelines and one to build the treatment plant, and received 10 bids on one contract and four bids on another, County Manager Tim Johnson said. However, the bids came in higher than anticipated, and before sending a proposal on accepting any of the bids to commissioners, the county must discuss the matter with United States Department of Agriculture officials. The USDA is providing financing for the treatment plant.

But meeting with USDA Rural Center representatives (See *DELAYED*, page 6A)

Hoke schools census grows again

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Following an ongoing growth trend, Hoke County Schools added more than 100 students for the ongoing school year, officials said.

Hoke County Schools added 133 more students over the first 10 days of school than at the start of the 2012-13

school year. For the first 10 days of 2012, including pre-kindergarten children, the school system enrolled 8,396 students, Superintendent Dr. Freddie Williamson said. The same 10 days for 2013, also including pre-kindergarten children, reported an increase to 8,529 students enrolled in Hoke County.

The biggest gains were in grades three, seven and nine. This year saw

60 more third graders added to the county's elementary schools, 68 more seventh graders to the middle schools and 78 more freshmen at Hoke High.

Of all the county's schools, Hoke High saw the biggest increase with 93 more students on the 10th day of school than in the 2012-13 school year. The high school remains the largest (See *SCHOOLS*, page 5A)

This Week

City plans improvements to McLaughlin Park
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Food service
William Maness and Elizabeth Baker from Upchurch Elementary (left photo), and William Bethea from Hoke High were among volunteers who distributed 10,000 pounds of food Saturday at the high school. They represented Called Into Action, one of several organizations that took part. The food was for anyone who needed it.



Buie Cofield McPhatter

3 arrested for break-ins

Officers with the Raeford Police Department arrested three people last month after a witness called 911 about a breaking and entering in progress.

Police responded to the call September 18 at a home on the 200 block of East 5th Avenue. Officers spotted two men and one woman behind a residence, apparently trying to break into the house, according to reports. One suspect ran from police but was eventually caught and all

three were arrested.

Police were later able to connect the suspects to another breaking and entering that previously occurred on the 500 block of North Stewart Street. A kitchen window had been broken and a large LCD television stolen. Officers canvassed the area and found the television in the backyard of the residence on the 200 block of East 5th Avenue, where the three suspects had been apprehended. (See *BREAK-INS*, page 8A)



VIEWPOINTS

It should have been a week to celebrate

By CHRIS FITZSIMON
N.C. Policy Watch

In any sane political system, this would be a week to celebrate. For the first time in our nation's history, millions of Americans who have survived cancer, a heart attack or a stroke will be able to sign up for affordable health insurance. Companies can no longer deny them coverage or charge exorbitant premiums because of their past medical history.

Young adults in low wage jobs can sign up for affordable coverage this week too and won't have to keep gambling that they won't get sick and face financial ruin. Millions of families will no longer be just one serious illness away from bankruptcy.

But these are clearly not sane political times.

A group of far-right ideologists representing highly gerrymandered districts in Congress have literally shut down the federal government in a desperate effort to defund or delay the Affordable Care Act, halting services for millions of people and denying paychecks to hundreds of thousands of public sector employees in the process.

And to be clear, despite all the misleading headlines about Congress not being able to reach a compromise, this is not a run of the mill policy debate, this is the extremist wing of the Republican Party holding their party and the rest of the country hostage because of

their pathological hatred of a law passed by Congress and signed by a President who soundly won reelection last year.

The shut-downers apparently would rather not give folks who survived cancer a chance to buy affordable coverage.

Monday morning, the Heritage Foundation sent out an ominous email warning that "in less than 24 hours the government takeover of health care will begin implementation." The Heritage folks have apparently not visited healthcare.gov. There is no government takeover of anything.

People have the opportunity to buy health insurance offered by companies in the private market, just the way the plan with the individual mandate promoted by the same Heritage Foundation 25 years ago was designed to work. Just like the way it works in Massachusetts now after being established years ago by that known socialist, Governor Mitt Romney.

And here's the least reported part of it all. The vast majority of people in North Carolina and across the country who already have health care coverage will not be affected at all by the Affordable Care Act.

Roughly half the people in North Carolina are covered by health plans through their employer. Their plans won't change.

Nobody from the government will tell them which doctor they can see. That is up to their insurance company now and will be up

to their insurance company when the Affordable Care Act is fully implemented.

Another 17 percent of people in the state are currently covered by Medicaid, most of them children, people with disabilities, pregnant women, and seniors. They will not be affected by the new law. Neither will the 13 percent of North Carolinians currently on Medicare, folks older than 65.

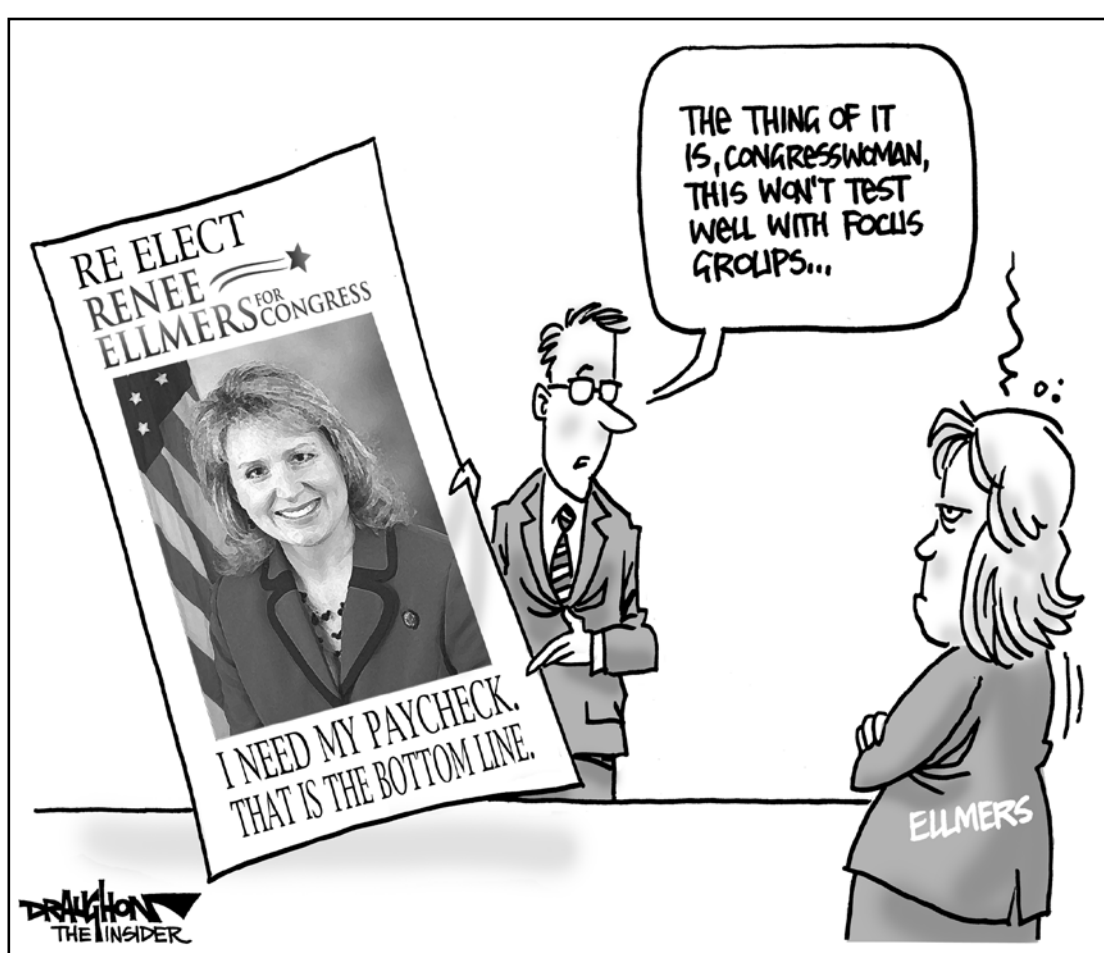
That leaves the roughly 17 percent of the state's population who are now uninsured and a few percent who currently have individual plans. Most of them can sign up for health care coverage this week and the vast majority will be eligible for a subsidy to make their premiums affordable.

Those are the folks who can't afford coverage now or have simply been denied it, many because of their history of cancer or heart disease or diabetes.

That's why the reactionaries want to shut the government down, because they are willing to do anything to make sure the Affordable Care Act does not work and does not help the millions of people without health care coverage.

Despite the destructive theatrics and the suffering they will cause, the Affordable Care Act will remain the law of the land and people in North Carolina and across the country will sign up and their health care coverage will begin in January.

Political insanity or not, that is something to celebrate indeed.



There is a need for a medical care program for all

Paul Burnley



In a recent column I expressed the need for a national health plan that covers all citizens. I received a number of calls and emails accusing me of supporting Obamacare. Nowhere in that column was Obamacare mentioned. The need is for a medical program that covers ALL citizens. This is not something new. Other administrations have tried for over 50 years to introduce medical programs that would cover every citizen, but all have been voted down by members of congress who, by the way, have one of the greatest health plans in the country, which is paid for by the taxpayers.

Our lawmakers (who are lobbied by the medical industry) say a national medical plan is too expensive for the citizens of this country. However, many of those who feel a medical health plan is too expensive have iPhones and video games and pay hundreds of dollars to view all the TV channels. This attitude is great for those who HAVE medical coverage, but there is a large segment of our population that does not.

There are those who say, "We have a national healthcare plan—Medicare." The fact that is overlooked is that Medicare only covers those over 65 or those who are disabled. This leaves millions out of the loop. Of those in the age bracket of 40 to 65 today, many

have lost their jobs and medical coverage because of factory closings, layoffs, etc.

The objection to a national medical program is the cost. The public will have to pay the price one way or the other. Our hospital emergency rooms are swamped with people seeking medical service who are unable to pay. This places the burden on the taxpayers, which means, overall, the public will pay. It is easy to see and understand that there is a need for the public to have medical service. Every time there is a free medical program to help those in need of medical attention, many people stand in line overnight to be seen. At the end of the day, hundreds are turned away because there is not enough time to serve the needs of all.

There is something wrong with our priorities when we, the wealthiest country on the planet, have citizens waiting in line for as long as 12 hours to be seen for a medical problem because we feel a national health plan is too expensive, yet we, the public, will spend hundreds of dollars to

attend a sporting or entertainment event. It was reported that a family of four spends on average four-to-five-hundred dollars to attend an NFL game, between tickets, parking, snacks, etc. Also, the public will pay up to \$100 to see an entertainer.

These antics are great for those who have medical insurance coverage, or have the means to afford medical costs, but there are millions that have to worry everyday that they or any member of their family needs any medical attention.

The greatest misunderstanding concerning a national health plan is that you will not be able to choose your own doctor or hospital. This is not true. If you have the resources, you can be served by any doctor or hospital you can afford. Basically, a national health plan is for those not in a financial position to afford needed medical service. The primary reason for a national health program is to have needed medical services for every citizen. You may not be able to pick a particular doctor or hospital, but everyone will be able to receive quality medical care, regardless of his or her financial status.

Paul Burnley can be reached by email at plburnley@aol.com.

Let's don't forget we all drink the water

By SCOTT MOONEYHAM
Capitol Press Association

For the last three years at the North Carolina General Assembly, Republican lawmakers have spent a lot of time talking about and doing something about the regulatory landscape in the state.

The legislators are responding to widespread complaints from business executives and owners that the environmental regulations that allow them to build and operate have become too tilted against business.

A notion prevalent among the business community is that state government regulators look for reasons to deny permits.

With that perception out there, Gov. Pat McCrory came into office talking about "serving customers" and making government more "customer-friendly"

as it relates to environmental permitting.

The political rhetoric, though, is mostly vague.

Republican legislators, and some moderate Democrats, say regulation is needlessly choking business; environmental groups respond that Republicans are loosening rules that will harm the public.

Most people are left scratching their heads, falling back on partisan leanings to figure out where they stand.

The debate becomes more defined when a specific business attempts a specific, high-profile project that has implications that reverberate throughout a community or region.

Right now, one such business is Martin Marietta Materials. It plans to build a limestone mine in Beaufort County. In doing so, it would

eventually dump huge amounts of freshwater pumped from the ground into a brackish water, tidal creek, Blounts Creek, which flows into the Pamlico River, where it is essentially saltwater.

The company has been granted most of the required permits for the project, but now faces the prospect of a court fight after the Southern Environmental Law Center challenged one of the permits.

The project has generated opposition, locally and statewide, from those worried about the effects on the creek.

The biggest worry is that dumping all that freshwater—up to 9 million gallons a day—into a brackish water creek will lead to significant changes in the ecosystem. The creek serves as an estuary for saltwater fish species (See MOONEYHAM, page 3A)

TODAY'S HOMEWORK (Notes on Education)

"Who besides a degraded rabble would voluntarily present itself to be graded and classified like meat? No wonder school is compulsory."
— John Gatto, "The Underground History of American Education"

"What's happened now is we're in a moment of Big Data where management consultants like McKinsey and the government and the big thinkers think that everything can be reduced to data and, if you just manipulate the data, you can come up with the answers. Ultimately, you're dealing with children and each one of them is different and Big Data doesn't really supply an answer when you're looking in the face of a child. That's one person and that one child needs something different from the next one and he or she is not a data point. He or she is a person."
— Diane Ravitch, Salon.com interview

"If we really want to talk about 'teacher quality,' the questions we should be asking are: What makes a good teacher? And, how can we provide support to teachers to that end? Why is the turnover rate so high? How does stripping teachers of protections against harassment and retaliation help them become better teachers? And, can anyone be the best teacher that (s)he could be with 170 students a day?"
— Megan Behrent, "In Defense of Public Education"

Not to be outdone by a party

Our friend Krista Duncan had a girls' pool party on a recent Sunday at her new home in Pinehurst. Not to be outdone, her husband Steve and I decided that we would take the afternoon and stroll around the village to see what kind of trouble we could get into on our own. They live only a couple of blocks from the heart of the village, so I suggested that we walk. The weather was spectacular, with a nice touch of fall, and cool enough to make walking a pleasure. Steve and Krista are members of the Pinehurst Country Club and he suggested that we have lunch at the newly renovated members club. We set out on foot to the club and within 50 feet of their house, I was already seeing views of Pinehurst that I had overlooked for many years. Just behind their house is a spectacular mansion that is being totally renovated. This was the first time I had ever laid eyes on the front of this property and it is quite impressive. I viewed the details of the construction as we strolled leisurely by. Just beyond the property on a small side street, I began to notice all of the beautiful homes hidden back in the trees, out of view of the passing motorist. It had been rumored that the members club would be torn down a couple of years ago and replaced by a new facility. I always loved the old building and was pleasantly surprised to learn that it had been beautifully renovated rather than demolished. As we approached the front entrance, the first person we saw was Wendell Branch from Raeford who works at the club. After a short conversation, we went in and sat on the back terrace in view of the 18th green of Pinehurst No. 2. We had a nice lunch and watched the golfers who, in addition to playing one of the most storied and difficult courses in golf, were likely further



Frog Holler Philosopher
Ron Huff

intimidated by the spectators on the terrace.

Next stop – Pine Crest Inn. We ambled our way from the club past the spectacular entrance landscaping out across the new roundabout on NC Route 2 and into the village. Once again, I was taken by all the detail of the area that is missed while driving. Although it was now around 2 p.m. on Sunday, we were surprised that the Pine Crest was practically empty. Feeling adventurous, we decided to walk over to Maxie's, a relatively new sports bar and restaurant. We took a shortcut through areas that I had never seen, which included a walk down a utility easement with mid-calf length rough vegetation. Steve is probably still looking for red bugs from the hike and I broke a little sweat in spite of the cool weather. Our path took us right by the Tater Barn, one of the oldest establishments in town. Seeking air conditioning, we decided to stop in there for a beer. I hadn't been in there for many years and the décor has not improved. Calling it rustic is very kind. Calling it a dive is not only descriptive but adds to its image and mystique. The place is tiny with smoke so thick it swirls when you walk through it, in spite of the recent smoking prohibition. There were four or five locals saddled up to the bar, cigarettes and cigars fuming. They were jiving with the cute bartender, the only woman in the place, and we took a table where we could watch the Panthers' game. The coolness of the

place made up for its shortcomings and the beer was ice cold. After a one-beer cool-down, we resumed our journey with new appreciation for smokeless air. It took us only two minutes in Maxie's to see that there was no table where we could watch both games I was interested in. In North Carolina, in a bar with at least 12 TVs, only one had the Panthers' game on and fans were crowded around it. Oh well, back to the Pine Crest. We avoided the weeds, took another scenic route and found the Pine Crest a little livelier. It was at this point that I predicted the exact method by which the Panthers would lose the game three scores before it happened. I am a regular at the Pine Crest and was surprised to see a bartender that I was not familiar with. Lucy had a megawatt smile and an accent that defines rural North Carolina. It turns out that she was new, but she held court like she owned the place. She gee-hawed up to us and fulfilled our need for another beer after the walk. About this time, Steve, feeling frisky and determined to have more fun than the girls at the pool party, ordered us both a shot of tequila. My rule on this is that one is great, and two will make a party with no other ingredients. After the shots, our new friend Lucy decided that there wasn't enough left in the bottle to keep, so she poured us two more shots on the house. What is a guy supposed to do! The party was now in full swing. After some undetermined amount of time, another loss by the Panthers, and an encounter with a local Huff whom I had never met, we decided that we had likely won the competition for having a good time. Keep on having those pool parties, girls.

More later.

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Obituaries



Raymond B. Ellis

Raymond B. Ellis

Raymond Basil Ellis of Aberdeen, formerly of Raeford, passed away on Thursday, October 3, 2013.

He was born August 23, 1932 to Henry Wallace Ellis and Katherine Mildred Martin Ellis. He was preceded in death by his son, Barry Dwight Ellis of Atlanta, Georgia. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, the Rev. Wallace Martin Ellis and Leonard Ralph Ellis, and his sister, Vivian Ellis Dull.

He was an avid collector of all types of old tools, coins, and glassware. He especially enjoyed flea markets and yard sales. For many years he and his wife toured the five-state yard sale. He cherished his time with his grandchildren, telling stories and showing off his collectible treasures.

He was a commercial builder for more than 40 years with D. R. Allen Construction Co. and Ellis-Walker Construction Co. of Fayetteville. Some of his proudest accomplishments included the home in Fayetteville that he built for his employer, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Allen. He also built the two homes in Raeford for his family. During his career, he was very proud of the many churches and commercial projects that he built in the Fayetteville area and all over the surrounding states.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Connie Fulk Ellis of Aberdeen; three sons, Stephen Ellis of Aberdeen, Bruce Ellis and wife Ja'Nae of Carthage, and Dennis Ellis and wife Diane of Raleigh; two daughters, Glynda Ellis Mealer and husband Vaughn of Rolesville, and Rhonda Ellis Faucette and husband Tommy of

Clayton; 11 grandchildren, Diana Ellis Dobbs, Kristen Ellis, Margie Hicks, Kevin Ellis, Brittanie Faucette, Brandon Faucette, Meagan Swayne, Alexis Weatherby, Jacob Ellis, Anthony Raymond Mealer, and Abby Mealer; and seven great-grandchildren, Alexis Dobbs, Hailey Dobbs, Justin Dobbs Jr., Nathan Raymond Dobbs, Matthew Williams, Hannah Williams and Autumn Williams.

The funeral was conducted at 3 p.m. Sunday, October 6 at Raeford United Methodist Church. A graveside entombment service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, October 10 at Raeford Cemetery where family and friends are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Raeford United Methodist Church, 308 North Main Street, Raeford, NC 28376.

Larry Lide

Larry Lide, 51, of 104 Heron Drive died Friday, October 5, 2013.

Survivors include his daughter, Gwendolyn Washington; his mother, Martha; sisters, Fannie Stuart, Mattie, Martha McDonald, Christine White, Belinda, and Lillian; brothers, Carnell and Levern; and two grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, October 9 in Buie Funeral Home in Raeford. Burial will be in Nazareth Missionary Baptist Church cemetery in Wagram.

James Earl Jones

A memorial service for James Earl Jones, who died December 6, 2012 in Brentwood Tennessee, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 19 in Sandy Grove United Methodist Church with the Rev. Judson Dunlap officiating. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the church.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Carol; sons, Christopher Neal Jones of Nashville, Tennessee, and Michael Reed Jones and wife Kristine of Pasadena, California; daughters, Kelly Anne Jones of Chattanooga, Tennessee and Kimberly Lynn Jones of Brentwood; a granddaughter, Elena Arevik Jones; brothers, Whiteford Jones and wife Bette of Raeford, and William Jones of Lumber Bridge; sister, Catherine McNeill of Antioch; sister-in-law, Barbara Jones of Raeford; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Gladys Moultrie
Mother Gladys Moultrie died in late September.

She was born October 7, 1935 to the late Israel and Pecola Moultrie. She was preceded in death by her two sisters, Hertesene Purcell and Anna Dora Moultrie.

She received her education from the Hoke County School System. She graduated from Upchurch High School. She moved to New York and worked in the nursing field for over 30 years.

She joined Tabernacle of Prayer for All People Inc. of Jamaica, New York under the pastorate of the late Apostle Johnnie Washington. Graduating in 1997 from the Tabernacle Bible Institute in New York, she received a double masters from United Christian College. In 1999, she received a doctorate of theology degree from the United Christian College of Sacred Theology. In 2001, she became an ordained minister with the Christian Council on Education, Inc. in the State of New Jersey.

In 2002, after many years of living in New York, she returned home to Raeford. She rejoined St. James United Church of God under the leadership of Overseer Willie Purcell Jr., where she remained faithful until her health failed and she had to return to New York.

Cherished memories are left for her four children, Armden Moultrie (Barbara) of Bossier City, Louisiana, Bridget Hopkins of Brentwood, New York, Trina Leslie (Vincent) of Hartford, Connecticut, and Grover Moultrie of Brentwood, New York; six grandchildren, Rasheda Hood (Raffiel), Cassandra Hopkins, Vinetta Leslie, Olivia Leslie, Viviana Leslie and Triamaine Robinson (Lamar); and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, step-grandchildren, and a special daughter, Debora Purcell.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 22 at St. James United Church of God. Burial was in Highland Biblical Gardens.

Wilson McEachin

Wilson McEachin, 64, of Walter Gibson Road died Sunday, September 29, 2013.

He was the son of the late Miles D. McEachin.

Survivors include his mother,

Willie Lee McEachin; daughters, Renea Parker, Cori Walker, Patricia Gillespie, and Shameka; sisters, Lucille, Bernice and Jacqueline McEachin; brother, Otto McEachin; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at noon Saturday, October 5 in Center Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Maggie Johnson

Maggie Johnson, 92, of Raeford died Wednesday, October 2, 2013.

Survivors include her daughter, Bernadette Thomas; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 5 in McCormick Chapel Memorial Baptist Church. Burial was in Johnson family cemetery.



Hannah M. Lee

Hannah M. Lee

Hannah McMillan Lee, 87, of Raeford died Wednesday October 2, 2013 at Autumn Care of Raeford.

She was born April 24, 1926 in Hoke County to the late N.A. McMillan and Minnie Stubbs McMillan. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jesse Lee.

She was a member of the Raeford United Methodist Church. She retired from Burlington Industries in Raeford.

Survivors include three daughters, Laura L. Edmondson (Thomas) of Raeford, Doris Lee of Cary, and Sibyl Ringsdorf (Ted) of Pinehurst; a son, Robert Lee of Pinehurst; two sisters, Ardenia Davis of Lumber Bridge and Reeta Baker of Raeford; five grandchild-

dren; and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 5 at Crumpler Funeral Home Chapel in Raeford with the Rev. Dr. Stephen Castle officiating. Interment was at the Raeford Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at www.crumplerfuneral-home.com.

Lisa F. Baker

Lisa Faye Baker, 52, of Raeford died Tuesday, October 1, 2013 at UNC Chapel Hill.

She was born October 21, 1960 in Cumberland County.

She was preceded in death by her father, Elwood Baker; her brothers, Doug Baker and Neil Baker; and her sister, Carolyn Baker.

Survivors include her daughter, Christy Baker; her son, Shawn Baker; her mother, Reeta Baker; and one grandson, Collin Creech.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date.

Online condolences may be made at www.crumplerfuneral-home.com.



Elma P. Williams

Elma P. Williams

Elma Porter Williams, 92, of Calabash, formerly of Raeford, slipped away peacefully from her earthly home to her heavenly home on Tuesday, October 1, 2013 following an extended illness.

She was born July 17, 1921 in Loris, South Carolina to the late William Edward Porter and the late Olia Moore Cannon Porter. "Mrs. Elma" loved God, her family, singing, cooking, and gardening and she had a delightful sense of humor. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, a member of First Baptist Church of Shallotte, and will be truly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Survivors include her three daughters, Sonya Anderson and husband Howard of Calabash, Betty Smith of High Point, and Linda Sims of Durham; her two sons, Larry Williams of Stockton, California and Harold Williams and wife Cathy of Liberty, Kentucky; eight grandchildren, Mark, Kevin, Brannon, Michael, Dale, Angel, Drew and Greg; six great-grandchildren, Emery, Cate, Julian, Logan, Jimmy and Eric; three sisters, Vera Graham of Myrtle Beach, Eva Edwards of Wilsonville, Alabama and Evelyn Gause of Marietta, Georgia. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Eugene Williams; two brothers, Lacy and Garcy Porter; three sisters, Bertha Porter McDowell, Ruby Williamson and Maude Porter; and daughter-in-law, Georgia Williams.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 5 at Hardwick Memorial Chapel with Elder James Allen officiating. Committal services followed at Antioch cemetery. Memorials may be made to Amedisys Hospice, 790 Sunset Blvd., Suite 8, Sunset Beach, NC 28468.

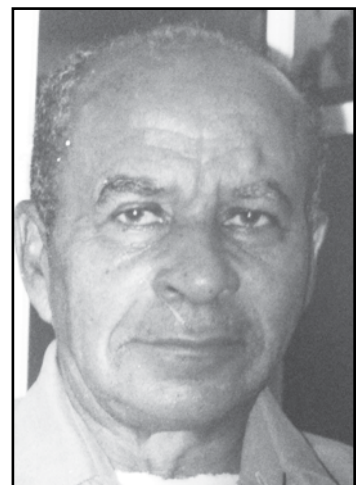
Online condolences may be made at hardwickfuneralhome.com.

Nathan Campbell

Nathan Campbell Jr., 70, of 1206 Fulton Street died Saturday, September 28, 2013.

Survivors include his sister, Louise Williams; and his brother, Norman.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Thursday, October 3 in Buie Funeral Home chapel in Raeford. Burial was in Laurel Hill Baptist Church cemetery in Lumber Bridge.



Robert C. McLean

Robert C. McLean

Robert C. McLean, son of the late Walter Herbert McLean and Ella Lide McLean, was born June 16, 1938 in Hoke County.

On Saturday, October 5, 2013 at Autumn Care Nursing Home in Raeford, he departed this earthly life and received his crown of righteousness.

He received his early education at Upchurch Elementary in Raeford and Peterson School in Red Springs.

At a young age, he attended Center Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Red Springs and later joined the New Christian Memorial Church in Baltimore, Maryland. Upon relocation to North Carolina, he joined Nazareth Missionary Baptist Church in Wagram.

He was preceded in death by his father Walter H. McLean, his mother Ella Lide McLean, two sisters, Rosa Parker and Arlethia Bullock, and two brothers, Bobby McLean and J.B. McLean.

He is survived by a brother, John H. McLean (Van) of Baltimore, Maryland; two sisters, Lula Mae Ferguson of Newark, New Jersey and Margaret Ellis (Deacon Frank Ellis) of Raeford; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, and friends.

Visitation will be held from 1-7 p.m. Wednesday, October 9 at Crumpler Funeral Home-Red Springs.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, October 10 at the Nazareth Missionary Baptist Church, 25120 Raeford Road, Wagram. Burial will be in the Community Rest Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at www.crumplerfuneral-home.com.

Mooneyham

(Continued from page 2A) including red drum and spotted sea trout.

The Southern Environmental Law Center argues that the state water quality standards require that "biological integrity" of the creek be maintained.

It is hard to see how dumping that amount of freshwater—more than most towns and cities east of Interstate 95 discharge daily—wouldn't compromise the ecosystem.

Of course, you won't hear much from environmental groups regarding Martin Marietta's need to make a profit with financial

feasible projects and that their mining operations provide building materials critical to roads, homes and the other buildings that we all use.

Still, when companies don't look for a middle ground but take advantage of the prevailing winds in Raleigh, it is no wonder that those winds blow hard with them and then turn hard again against them.

Meanwhile, back in Raleigh, the politicians tend to forget that, when it comes to environmental permitting, we are all the customers.

We all breathe the air and drink the water.

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Hardin's Express Stop..... Rockfish Rd.	Waffle House..... 401 Hwy Bypass
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District Court

Recent cases heard in Hoke County Criminal District Court:

Sept. 24

Judge Regina M. Joe, presiding
 • Jose Antonio Suazo Ayala, 64, 3535 Old Lowery Road, Red Springs, no operator's license, prayer for judgment, court costs

• Surcoria Fantajua Blackmon, 23, 18821 Grant St., Laurinburg, no operator's license, prayer for judgment, court costs

• Sabrina Dawn Bradshaw, 36, 119 Chance St., Fayetteville, possession or consumption of beer or wine on unauthorized premises, prayer for judgment, court costs

• Mario Doral Douglas, 27, 5650 McDougald Drive, Fayetteville, driving while license revoked, 10 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, court costs, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed

• Ronald Ellerbe, 44, 37 Sandy Grove Road, Parkton, second-degree trespass, five days in jail, credit for one day served

• Frank Leonard Hobbie, 40, 179 N. Paraham Road, Clover, S.C., improper equipment-speedometer, \$25 fine and court costs

• Ebodio L. Jacuinde-Ramirez, 27, 109 Pine Haven Drive, Sanford, no operator's license, prayer for judgment, court costs

• Marvin Lamont Johnson, 46, 533 E. Sixth Ave., Raeford, no operator's license, prayer for judgment, court costs

• Michelle Johnson, 23, 422 W. Prospect Ave., Raeford, disorderly conduct, seven days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees

• Neil Rogers McGeachy Jr., 48, 2440 Haire Road, Shannon, driving while license revoked, prayer for judgment, court costs; fictitious or altered title or registration, voluntary dismissal

• Rakeem Rashad McGoogan, 20, 7899 Ladonia Drive, Fayetteville, failure to stop at stop sign or flashing red light, court costs; no operator's license, voluntary dismissal

• Jamie Morrissey, 33, 153 Wooden Lane, Raeford, assault on a female, 60 days in jail

• Jameson Lee Packer, 25, 187 Trudeau Ave., Raeford, no operator's license, three days suspended, six months unsupervised probation, \$50 fine and court costs

• Tisheila Quick, 31, 318 F-Caver St., Laurinburg, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 ounce, 10 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$100 fine and court costs; fictitious or altered title, registration card or tag, voluntary dismissal

• Frederick Antonio Smith, 24, 701 E. 8th St., Lumberton, driving while license revoked, 21 days suspended, 12 months probation, court costs, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, transfer probation to Robeson County, may be transferred to unsupervised probation upon payment of all costs and compliance with terms of probation; speeding 68

miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, voluntary dismissal
 • Vicente Tamayo-Ruiz, 30, 215 South Hoke Road, Red Springs, no operator's license, three days suspended, six months unsupervised probation, \$50 fine and court costs

Sept. 26

Judge Regina M. Joe, presiding
 • Cedric Ballard, 28, 848 Frank Smith Road, Parkton, driving while license revoked, 10 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$200 fine and court costs, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed; cancelled, revoked or suspended certificate or tag, voluntary dismissal

• Steven Michael Bryant, 36, 392 N. McPhatter Road, Red Springs, breaking and/or entering, misdemeanor larceny, 60 days in jail, credit for 60 days served, pay \$1,525 restitution as civil judgment, judgments consolidated

• Billy Sherman Butler Jr., 49, 710 S. Bethel Road, Raeford, improper equipment-speedometer, \$50 fine and court costs; failure to wear seat belt by driver, voluntary dismissal

• Samuel Rodriguez Cardenas, 33, 120 Meadowwood Drive, Lot 11, Raeford, driving while license revoked, prayer for judgment, court costs; failure to wear seat belt by driver, voluntary dismissal

• Trentin Edgar Dunn, 17, 664 Louisiana Drive, Raeford, improper equipment-speedometer, \$25 fine and court costs; license not in possession, voluntary dismissal

• Gregorio Fraguero-Hernandez, 54, 258-C Blue Road, Red Springs, no operator's license, prayer for judgment, court costs; speeding 31 miles per hour in a 20-mph zone, voluntary dismissal

• Lauren Christine Gonzalez, 26, 2530 Roy Circle, Houston, Texas, improper equipment-speedometer, \$50 fine and court costs

• Shaneice Antoinette Grace, 21, 141 Rolling Pines Court, Raeford, failure to maintain lane control, court costs; reckless driving to endanger, voluntary dismissal

• Wonda Dalisa Hammonds, 29, 13980 Connor Road, Gold Hill, speeding 70 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, \$400 fine and court costs, fine by consent of defendant; reckless driving to endanger, voluntary dismissal

• Geromias Valencia Hernandez, 43, 248 Morgan McGoogan Road, Red Springs, driving while license revoked, prayer for judgment, court costs; failure to wear seat belt by driver, voluntary dismissal

• Ebodio L. Jacuinde-Ramirez, 27, 109 Pine Haven Drive, Sanford, no operator's license, prayer for judgment, court costs

• Brandon Lamar Johnson, 26, 5128 Aberdeen Road, Raeford, failure to wear seat belt by driver, \$25.50 fine and court costs; speeding 69 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, voluntary dismissal

• Bruce Calvin Johnson Jr., 42, 2904 Loon Drive, Fayetteville, reckless driving to endanger,

prayer for judgment, court costs

• Neil Rogers McGeachy Jr., 48, 2440 Haire Road, Shannon, driving while license revoked, prayer for judgment, court costs; fictitious or altered revoked registration card or tag, voluntary dismissal

• Lamont McKoy Jr., 21, 4729 Bent Pine Drive, Fayetteville, driving while license revoked, seven days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, court costs

• Nathaniel McLaurin, 47, 1457 Rockfish Road, Raeford, driving while license revoked, 30 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, court costs; failure to stop at stop sign or flashing red light, voluntary dismissal

• Sheila Campbell Murdaugh, 46, 910 Roseland Road, Aberdeen, driving while impaired, Level 2, 12 months suspended, 12 months probation, court costs, jail fee, split jail sentence to be scheduled by probation officer, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, obtain assessment and undergo recommended treatment; driving while license revoked, seven days suspended, six months unsupervised probation

• John Edward Oxendine, 60, 304 Myers Court, Fayetteville, driving while license revoked, 21 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$100 fine and court costs, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed; failure to stop at stop sign or flashing red light, voluntary dismissal

• Tracy Roland Phurrough, 41, 308 Hendrix Road, Raeford, failure to wear seat belt by driver, \$25.50 fine and court costs; driving or allowing to drive motor vehicle with no registration, voluntary dismissal

• Jerrell William Robinson, 22, 2157 Redstone Drive, Fayetteville, possession of drug paraphernalia, seven days in jail, credit for time served

• Rhamid Smith, 30, 614 Dockery Road, Raeford, driving while license revoked, 30 days suspended, 12 months probation, court costs, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed; speeding 58 miles per hour in a 45-mph zone, voluntary dismissal

• Anna Lee True, 24, 891 Flintwood Road, Fayetteville, improper equipment-speedometer, \$15 fine and court costs.

Oct. 1

Judge Regina M. Joe, presiding
 • Adam Gay, 39, 626 Pearsall Road, Red Springs, driving while license revoked, 21 days in jail, credit for three days served

• Quavas O'Brien Hart, 27, 312 McDougald Drive, Raeford, violation of county ordinance, 15 days suspended, 12 months probation, court costs, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, not to threaten,

harass, assault or interfere with prosecuting witness, obtain assessment and follow any recommended treatment for domestic violence

• Robert Andree Jordan, 38, 868 Sunbury Drive, Fayetteville, driving while license revoked, simple possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance, open container after first consuming alcohol, 30 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$100 fine and court costs, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed, judgments consolidated; reckless driving to endanger, voluntary dismissal; possession of drug paraphernalia, voluntary dismissal

• Henry Christopher Lloyd, 27, 213 N. Jackson St., Raeford, driving while license revoked (two counts), 26 days in jail, credit for 26 days served, judgments consolidated; hit and run, failure to stop for property damage, voluntary dismissal; speeding 64 miles per hour in a 45-mph zone, voluntary dismissal

• Ronald Ross Jr., 24, 128 Park Place, Raeford, injury to real property, 45 days in jail

• Tuputala Sali, 30, 8249 Rockfish Road, Raeford, assault on a government official/employee, 60 days suspended, 12 months probation, court costs, 10 days split jail sentence, not to use, consume or possess any controlled substances or alcoholic beverages, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, comply with recommendations for treatment of medical or alcohol abuse, comply with probation officer by providing proof of treatment; resisting public officer, 30 days suspended, 12 months probation, comply with same terms of above sentence, serve at expiration of sentence above

Oct. 3

Judge William C. McIlwain, presiding

• Ronald Ellerbe, 44, 464 Palmer Green Ave., Raeford, violation of probation, probation revoked, sentence activated, 120 days in prison

• Juan Foronte McPhaul, 32, Meadowwood Motor Home Park, Raeford, violation of probation, probation revoked, sentence activated, 150 days in prison, credit for 15 days served

• Isaac Louis Ransom, 28, 386 Edinburgh Road, Red Springs, assault on a female, injury to personal property, 75 days suspended, 12 months probation, pay \$700 restitution, court costs, 50 days in jail, no contact with prosecuting witness except by court order, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, take anger-management classes with Alpha Counseling, judgments consolidated; violation of probation, probation revoked, 45 days confinement, credit for 45 days served.

Police Blotter

Raeford Police reported the following recent incidents:

October 2

Injury to personal property, 1000 East Central Avenue, victim Angela Aracely Ramos

October 3

Damage to property, 100 block of Meadows Lane, victim Symphony Nichole Leak

Larceny, 100 block of West Elwood Avenue, victim Sarah Louise Konapka

Seizure of a firearm, involuntary commitment, 100 block of Lantern Lane

Larceny, 400 block of Aberdeen Road, victim Wilco-Hess

Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, larceny, 400 block of Aberdeen Road, victim Shante Nichole Johnson

October 4

Assault on a female, 900 block of North Jackson Street, victim Cathy Ann McKoy

Damage to real property, 500 block of West Donaldson Avenue, victim N.C. License Plate Agency

Worthless checks, obtaining property by false pretense, 1300 block of Highway 401 Business,

A1 Gas and Food Mart

October 5

Injury to real property, 100 block of Meadow Lane Apartments, victim Symphony Nichole Leak

Breaking and entering, 500 block of East 6th Avenue, victim Shaundea Levay Nesbitt

Injury to personal property, 700 block of Saunders Street, victim Doneshia Lenette Graham

Assault on a female, victim Gabrielle Megan Patrick

October 6

Larceny, 500 block of South Bethel Road, victim Tasha Nicole Combs

Damage to real property, breaking and entering, 1100 block of East Central Avenue, victim Sandhills Community College

Runaway juvenile, 100 block of South Jackson Street

Trespass agreement, 500 block of East Prospect Avenue

Simple physical assault, 200 block of East 7th Avenue, victim Anthony Dyson

October 7

Larceny, 100 block of South Main Street, victim State of North Carolina

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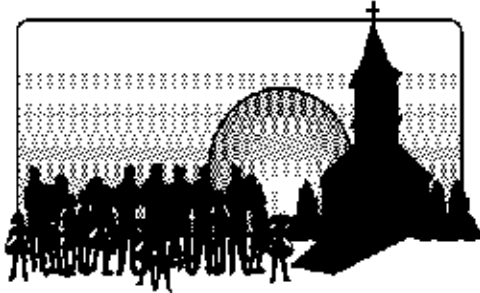
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Pittman Grove Baptist Church
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FirstHealth
 OF THE CAROLINAS

Test results out soon for new student benchmarks

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Educators and parents will soon receive data from a new set of temporary benchmark tests students took at the end of the last school year, but officials warn the scores won't match up with previous scores.

Student testing is in a temporary gap state this year, following the phasing out of old tests and before the new standardized testing takes effect in two years' time. In the interval, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction introduced tests for students in grades 3-8 and at the high school level to continue measuring student growth despite the lull between the old testing system and the new one that hasn't been released yet.

Last May and June, students in North Carolina took a series of tests that are meant to serve as a new set of benchmarks. As it was the first time students took this particular series of tests, the results can't be compared to previous year scores, according to Testing and Accountability Coordinator Sharon Allen and Executive Director for Digital Teaching and Learning Dawn Ramseur.

What does it mean for students? Nothing at this point, Ramseur said. The test results won't change anything about student promotions that have

already happened.

"It doesn't really mean anything for the individual students because we have nothing for us to compare it to," she said.

The officials warned parents, however, that it's expected the results may look poor due to the new implementation. There is often a dip in scores whenever new benchmarks are set for a new testing system, they said.

"It will look like they may see a difference in the child's score than they did previously, but the targets changed," Ramseur said. "It's about aiming higher and higher over time. It doesn't mean their student has lost ground, it means the bar has been raised by the state."

"Our schools are doing a great job. We haven't seen the results so we don't know what the numbers are going to look like...but the numbers may not show the good work they're doing with kids," Allen added.

The tests are North Carolina's stopgap common core benchmarks, Allen said.

"There will be in two years another round of new tests. Last year and this will be the same test, so we will administer the same tests with the same standards and curriculum this year," she said. "...The big difference here is this is the first time they've done every test at the same time."

Students will once again take the same tests this school year. Students in grades 3-8 will take

the tests at the end of the school year, while high school students will take the tests in December or January.

The tests include assessments for end-of-grade reading grades three through eight, end-of-grade mathematics grades three through eight, end-of-grade science grades five and eight, end-of-course biology, English II and Algebra I.

The temporary assessments are "an interim, a bridge between old end-of-grade to the online Smarter Balanced assessment," Allen said.

"The assessment is trying to make a move toward what students and teachers will see with Smarter Balance assessments," Ramseur said. "...This is not something you can compare with previous tests. I think that's so important because there is no comparison. This is a baseline."

Officials sent out an email to teachers and administrators in the school system to inform them about the scores that are soon to be released by the state.

"Whenever a new test is administered, the data must be analyzed and standards set. This is a normal practice that North Carolina has gone through each time a new test has been introduced," the email stated. "This standardizing also known as re-norming will set a baseline for all future test results. Essentially this establishes a new 'average.' It is important to note that these results cannot be compared to previous years' results."

Commission

(Continued from page 1A)

Commissioner Ellen McNeill questioned the safety of the billboards, asking about the possible distraction it might present to drivers.

"They're all texting, they're not looking at the signs," Commissioner Tony Hunt joked.

The billboards will only be allowed in commercial and industrial zoning districts, not in residential or agricultural districts.

The board additionally held a public hearing about a rezoning request for a two-acre parcel of property located at 135 North Shannon Road. Edward Key requested that the property be rezoned from Highway Commercial to Residential Agricultural to allow residential use of the parcel.

Other business

In other business, commis-

sioners approved an eight-item consent agenda including an uncollectible debt write-off for the Health Department in the amount of \$42,589.93, a resolution celebrating the 70th wedding anniversary of Neil and Artie McPhatter and a measure to reappoint Roman Jacobs to the position of jury commissioners.

Nancy Thornton, director of the Hoke Area Transit Service, appeared before the board seeking approval to apply for another year's funding from the Rural Operating Assistance Program. The program will receive \$21,804 from last year's funding of the grant, Thornton said. Commissioners approved the measure.

Board members also viewed a brief video about a North Carolina Association of County Commissioners seminar discussing the Affordable Care Act set for October 15 and held a closed session at the end of the meeting for consultation with the attorney in regards to economic development.

Sheriff Blotter

The Hoke Sheriff's Department reported the following recent incidents:

September 24

Breaking and entering, larceny, 300 block of Mockingbird Hill Road
Domestic violence order weapon seizure, 700 block of Hogart Street
Assault on a female, 700 block of Hogart Street

Assault with a deadly weapon, 7400 block of Red Springs Road
Larceny of a motor vehicle, 1700 block of John Russell Road
Larceny, 4500 block of Fayetteville Road

Injury to personal property, 4200 block of Old Maxton Road
Harassing phone calls, 200 block of Carter Road

Larceny, 4200 block of Fayetteville Road
Fraud, 7400 block of Rockfish Road

Breaking and entering, larceny, 200 block of Lakeside Road
Simple assault, 1500 block of Clan Campbell Drive

Larceny, 1800 block of Haire Road
Simple assault, larceny, 1800 block of O'Hara Drive

Simple assault, assault on a female, 1100 block of Fairfield Circle

September 25

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 200 block of Cox Road
Fraud, 7400 block of Rockfish Road

Fraud, 1800 block of Glenburney Court
Breaking and entering, larceny, 100 block of Cheraw Court

Breaking and entering, larceny, 1900 block of Balfour Road
Possession of drug paraphernalia, 100 block of Cavalier Drive

Domestic violence order/weapon seizure, 700 block of Hogart Street
Larceny, 100 block of Malloy Street

Larceny from a motor vehicle, 400 block of McDougald Drive
Assault on a female, 200 block of Woodrow Lane

Harassing phone calls, 1400 block of Fayetteville Road

September 26

Sex offense, 100 block of Oakview Drive
Injured subject, 300 block of Haire Road

Larceny, 7300 block of Rockfish Road
Breaking and entering, 2600 block of Laurinburg Road

Assault with a deadly weapon, communicating threats, 100 block of Heron Drive

Communicating threats, 9600 block of Aberdeen Road
Resisting a public officer, contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile, 500 block of TC Jones Road

Disorderly conduct, consumption of alcohol by person under 21, 100 block of Seagull Drive

September 27

Larceny from construction site, 4200 block of Shannon Road
Breaking and entering, larceny, 100 block of Royal Briar Court

Harassing phone calls, 300 block of Center Grove Church Road
Larceny of canine, 300 block of CC Steele Road

September 28

Breaking and entering, larceny, 200 block of Twin Creeks Drive
Breaking and entering, larceny, 600 block of Gatlin Farm Road

Injury to real property, 2600 block of Spring Hill Road
Breaking and entering, larceny, 700 block of McDougald Drive

Breaking and entering, larceny, 400 block of Lake Elizabeth Road
Larceny of firearm, 500 block of Cypress Drive

Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, 100 block of Cottonfield Court
Injury to personal property, 200 block of Wildwood Drive

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 100 block of Cottonfield Court
Injury to personal property, 6900 block of Rockfish Road

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 100 block of Haywood Drive
Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 200 block of Americana Drive

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 100 block of Haywood Drive
Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, injury to personal property, 600 block of Americana Drive

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 600 block of Americana Drive
Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 100 block of Haywood Drive

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, injury to personal property, 600 block of Americana Drive
Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 600 block of Americana Drive

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 300 block of Chamberlin Boulevard
Fraud, 1800 block of Glenburney Court

Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 400 block of Chamberlin Boulevard
Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, 200 block of Mecklenburg Drive

Larceny, 500 block of Hodgkin Road
Injury to personal property, 600 block of St. James Street

Breaking and entering, larceny, 100 block of Independence Drive
Breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, injury to personal property, 100 block of Lilac Court

September 29

Breaking and entering, larceny, 600 block of Gatlin Farm Road
Injury to personal property, 900 block of Gatlin Farm Road

Communicating threats, 500 block of TC Jones Road
Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, larceny, 200 block of Chamberlin Boulevard

Injury to real property, 100 block of Ashgrove Lane
Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, larceny, 200 block of Americana Drive

Simple assault, assault on a female, 1500 block of O'Bannon Drive
County vehicle accident, 1200 block of Fayetteville Road

Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, larceny, 600 block of Americana Drive

September 30

Found property, 300 block of Somerset Drive
Breaking and entering, larceny, 1400 block of Scull Road

Larceny, 100 block of Huckabee Street
Breaking and entering, larceny, 4800 block of Ashemont Road

Larceny, 4200 block of St. Pauls Road
Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, larceny, 100 block of Woodland Court

October 1

Larceny of a canine, 1300 block of Andrews Road
Larceny, 100 block of Village Lane

Assault on a female, simple assault, 200 block of Driftwood Lane
Assault on a female, 300 block of Brewer Drive

Attempted breaking and entering, 100 block of Mill Park Road
Sex offender failure to register, 100 block of Windsor Lane

Sex offender failure to register, 100 block of Baldwin Road
Attempted larceny of motor vehicle, 400 block of Northwoods Drive

October 2

Larceny, 400 block of Northwoods Drive
Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, 200 block of Americana Drive

Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, 200 block of Mecklenburg Drive
Breaking and entering, larceny, 100 block of Cypress Drive

Larceny, 2500 block of Army Road
Larceny, 500 block of Thomas Drive

Obtaining property by false pretense, 7800 block of Turnpike Road

October 3

Breaking and entering, larceny, 4500 block of Fayetteville Road
Runaway juvenile, 300 block of Woodberry Circle

Second-degree trespassing, 100 block of Wrightsboro Road
Simple assault, assault on a female, 300 block of Sandstone Drive

Possession of a controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, driving while license revoked, 100 block of Northwoods Drive

Injury to personal property, 100 block of Heron Drive
Armed robbery, 4900 block of Red Springs Road

Breaking and entering, larceny of firearm, 1200 block of Gainey Road
Larceny, 500 block of North Vass Road

Larceny, communicating threats, 900 block of Balfour Road
Assault by strangulation, 800 block of Potter Road

Injury to real property, 100 block of Oregon Trail
Simple assault, 300 block of Wilson Road

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Schools

(Continued from page 1A)

Sandy Grove Elementary has 583 students, Sandy Grove Middle has 573 students, Scurlock Elementary has 566 students, West Hoke Elementary has 422 students, Hawk Eye Elementary has 404 students, McLauchlin Elementary has 289 students, SandHoke Early College High School has 283 students and Turlington Alternative

School has 25 students. The school system is additionally adding another pre-kindergarten class of 18 students to West Hoke Elementary, bringing that school to 440 students and the district to 8,547 students, the superintendent said. Also, the school system is maxing out the number of students at SandHoke Early College, opening up another 100 slots to bring the total enrollment there to 500 students.

With the growth comes continued need of more space. The county opened Sandy Grove Middle, the county's first new middle school in over 20 years, this August. The next issue is at the high school, the superintendent said.

"Our greatest need for additional classrooms is at Hoke High School," he said.

The incoming freshman class expected to enroll in the 2014-15 school year is possibly the largest ever with 644 ninth graders incoming next fall, an increase of 284 students.

This year the senior class set to graduate in May 2014 is a smaller group of 360 students. The senior class of 2015 is expected to number 456 students, while the incoming class of freshmen that year is projected to be 700 students.

In the last six years, Hoke County schools have added 841 students to previous numbers, Williamson said.

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Hal Nunn at 964-0990; hal@thenews-journal.com



The staff on opening day gather for a picture.

Hospital

(Continued from page 1A) Hoke County. For the first time ever, patients seeking care at a hospital won't have to travel outside the county for help.

The hospital set out a giant "Now Open" sign visible on Highway 401, and before noon many cars were parked in the parking lot. A Med1 ambulance was parked at the emergency entrance shortly before 11 a.m. The hospital had its first patient just after the official

opening at 8 a.m., administrator Susan Beatty said.

"Just a few minutes after we officially opened the doors of FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital-Hoke Campus, the very first patient was receiving treatment in the emergency department," she said. "We are thrilled to be open and serving the patients of Hoke County. This is an event that FirstHealth and the Hoke County community have been looking forward to for quite some time. I

am so proud to be a part of Hoke County history."

In the first 16 hours after the official opening, "a number of patients with various medical conditions were treated in the emergency department and some patients were admitted to the hospital," Beatty said.

Moore Regional Hospital Chief Operating Officer Brian Canfield said the opening day was the culmination of years of community efforts to bring a

FirstHealth hospital to Hoke.

"This is a monumental event for both FirstHealth and Hoke County. We are extremely grateful for the community's support, and we look forward to serving the residents of Hoke County for many more years to come," he said.

The hospital currently has eight inpatient beds, but earlier this year the state awarded a Certificate of Need to put an additional 28 beds in the facility. The matter was appealed and

a final decision is not expected until November, but the decision may still end up in court beyond that time.

The FirstHealth hospital does not have a maternity suite or specific facilities for childbirth, but the doctors and nurses can handle it if an expectant mother ends up delivering at the hospital. If or when a child is born there, it will be the first time in Hoke County's 102-year history that a baby is delivered at a local hospital.

The hospital does have an operating room, but it's for planned surgeries, officials said. Cases requiring more specific care will still be transferred to a larger hospital. The hospital's helipad is operational in the event a life flight transport is needed.

Construction is still ongoing for a series of outpatient offices located to the right of the main hospital facility. The offices are on schedule to be completed in about another month, officials said.

Delayed

(Continued from page 1A) is impossible right now because the employees have been furloughed by the shutdown, Johnson said.

"There's nobody there for us to talk to, so hopefully they'll get this thing turned around and get started," he said.

The timing presents a big problem for the treatment plant's progress. Before contractors can start construction on the project, the county government must seek a final approval from the Local Government Commission. The LGC only meets once a month, and it's possible Hoke representatives won't be able to get the project before the LGC before January due to the delay with the USDA.

The shutdown is "affecting

us in a bunch of areas and this is one—it's got us dead in the water," Johnson said.

Even if the shutdown ends and workers go back within the next few days, it's realistically already too late to keep to the timeline needed to get the project before the LGC by November, he said. The LGC typically does not conduct a meeting in December.

"I can tell you we're not going to meet that now, there's no way," Johnson said.

One silver lining is that the county bid out the project with a 90-day window. From the date of the bid opening, October 3, the county has 90 days to actually start construction on the project. After that, officials would have to re-bid the wastewater treatment plant.

Once the county does get to meet with USDA representatives, then gets final approval from the LGC, construction should start quickly, Johnson said.

"Once you get the bids awarded, notice to proceed, and certain period of time to get it done, most will get a notice to proceed normally within 30 days of the bid opening," he said. If not for the shutdown, the county expected to get contractors on the project as early as November. Construction of the treatment plant will take about 18 months.

The wastewater treatment plant is the only current local government infrastructure project in Hoke put on hold due to the shutdown. Other projects already

have funding and will proceed as planned, Johnson said.

In fact, two grants that had been tied up at the state level came through just this week, the county manager said. A \$1 million grant for water line improvements and a \$150,000 grant for sewer line extensions to Village Dental—two projects tied to job creation—were left in limbo after the state shut down the N.C. Rural Center following allegations of improper use of funding. The center's duties were transferred to another state agency and the funding has now come through, Johnson said.

"The biggest issue is USDA being shut down, but most of the projects we've got going on, we're moving with them and we've already got our funding, so we're going to keep moving on these projects," he said.

However, many other agencies are also being affected by the shutdown. The Health Department and Department of Social Services are two county agencies that have funding tied to the federal government.

"All your programs, any of your social programs are going to be affected, whether it be through the health department or the department of social services,"

Johnson said. "It doesn't matter where you're at, because of the funding cycles, it affects everything...The government shutdown really affects you in every way you move because you're so tied to the state government and the federal government."

WIC continues, for now

Some states in the country have already shut down their Women, Infants and Children voucher program, a federally-funded and state-organized initiative that helps children and pregnant women receive adequate nutrition. However, North Carolina's WIC program is still going strong for now, Hoke County Health Department Director Helene Edwards said.

Edwards and other Health Department staff participated in a web seminar this week with state officials discussing the current status of the WIC program. The big priority is the vouchers that parents use to purchase formula for infants, Edwards said.

North Carolina participates in a rebate system in partnership with Carnation Good Start. The state had enough money from the rebate agreement to keep WIC going, Edwards said. Combined

with state cutbacks on spending implemented in January, the state's WIC program should be able to operate at least through the end of the month without the support of federal money, the director reported.

"For right now, we're not in a crunch," Edwards said. "...Right now the state is using state money to run WIC."

Formula vouchers obtained through WIC are still good and redeemable, she added. During the web seminar, some reports from western counties in the state suggested that some retailers had started turning away vouchers out of concern that they would not get paid for them. That hasn't been a problem reported in the Sandhills, Edwards said.

"Right now, WIC is still good, the vouchers are still redeemable, the vendors will get paid. The money is there," she said. "Some people were afraid the vouchers would bounce, but they will not."

As for what could happen if the shutdown remains in effect past the end of the month, long enough to deplete the state's resources for running WIC, Edwards said officials who operate the program are watching the situation closely.

Class Reunions

1956 — The Upchurch High Class of 1956 committee will meet soon. Contact Marjorie G. Hendrix at 867-8555.

1961 — If you are interested in attending a reunion for the 1961 Upchurch High School class, contact myrticemyrt@aol.com or call Myrtice Polard (910) 843-5952 or Martha McNair Brown (910) 875-6119.

1962 — Information on the class of 1962 may be obtained by calling Annie Gilchrist McLain, 487-4195; Mary Dobbins, 875-1071; Patricia McKinnon McKeller, 864-0772; or Ellen Clark McNeill, 875-3237; or email emcneill1005@aol.com.

1965 — Upchurch High Class of 1965 meets monthly at the home of Mr. Bobby and Jennie Allen. All interested parties are invited to attend. Contact Rev. Jennie Allen at (910) 875-5026; Pastor Cora Murphy (910) 684-0417; Mr. Paul Purcell (910) 904-1622; Janice McDougal (910) 423-6271; email jlmac65@nc.net;

snail mail 3649 Marcliff Road, Hope Mills, NC 28348.

1977 — Hoke County High School Class of 1977 will meet every Monday at 7 p.m. at Virgil's Drive-In. Any interested classmate may call James Quick at (910) 273-1863.

1987 — The Hoke County High Class of 1987 class reunion preparations are underway for 2012. For suggestions/details email: Della Brunson Smith at della.smith@hotmail.com or Anthony Sinclair at microtec31@netscape.net.

1998 — Planning for the

class of 1998 reunion has been completed. Please contact April Bratcher at (336) 841-5388 or (336) 338-2286 cell or Damon Williams at (910) 690-6707 ASAP so we can get an information packet to you via mail or email.

2001 — A website has been established for Hoke High's class of 2001 so that classmates may keep in touch and exchange reunion ideas. The website was begun by Gretchen Adams and the address is www.geocities.com/fightingbucks2001/index.html.

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David Botnick, P.T., DPT



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It is the goal of the Physical Therapist to keep you moving or to safely guide your return to your sport. A Physical Therapist can help determine the source of your pain, offer specific flexibility and strengthening exercises, and help you correct the way you move to prevent reinjury.

David Botnick, P.T., DPT

David Botnick is the supervisor of the FirstHealth Center for Outpatient Rehabilitation-Raeford. He received a master's degree in Health Care Administration and a clinical doctorate in Physical Therapy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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SPORTS

Bucks get first win over Wolverines

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

It was inevitable that someone would get their first win in last Friday's game between Hoke County and Westover. Neither team had broken into the win column of the season. What was not inevitable was that Hoke County would rush for 434 yards and put up 56 points on the Wolverines, a team coached by former Hoke County



Jacob Rushing, seen here getting ready to stiff arm the Westover defender, rushed for three touchdowns and 137 yards in the Bucks 56-14 win over the Wolverines.

head coach Greg Bryant. The Bucks two running backs, Jamal Darden and Jacob Rushing, combined for 270 yards rushing and five touchdowns to lead the Bucks to a 56-14 thrashing of the Westover Wolverines. Rushing had three touchdowns and rushed for 137 yards while Darden had two touchdowns and rushed for 133 yards. Geoffrey Thompson, Laquest Peterkin and defensive lineman Demetrius Wirt added the

other three touchdowns in route to the Bucks' first win.

Wirt picked up a Westover fumble near midfield and took it all the way to the house for a 54-yard touchdown run. When asked after the game it felt, Wirt said, "It felt great. I did it for my team and my family and you know, it's all about Hoke County." When asked if it was his first ever touchdown and how he felt the team was going to do this Friday against Richmond County, he said, "Trey Page was the first person to congratulate me. This is the first time in my whole life that I ever scored a touchdown and we are going to do great against Richmond County."

That optimism could be something the Bucks need to get their season on track after a 10-3 season last year and then going 0-5 this season before getting that first win last week. The Bucks are now 1-5 and heading into conference play in the tough Southeastern Conference. CarolinaPreps.com ranks three out of the six teams in the conference in



Demetrius Wirt #56, a defensive lineman, is seen here crossing the goal line after he picked up a Westover fumble and ran 54 yards for a touchdown, the "first ever in my whole life," he said after the game.

the top 25 in the state. The Richmond Raiders are 5-1 with their only loss coming at the hands of last year's 4-AA state champs, Matthews Butler 32-39. The Raiders average 48.7 points per game in their high-powered offense; however, they have also given up an average of 31.5 points per game.

The Southeastern Conference is the toughest conference in

the state top to bottom and this Friday's game will be exciting and interesting. The game Friday night is dubbed Elementary School Night and elementary school kids get in free with a paying adult. The top teacher participating in elementary school night with the most students in attendance will receive a pizza party to be given by our football

players and cheerleaders. The school with the most students in attendance will receive a \$200 PE Grant and the school with the best motivating banner will receive a \$100 art grant. The banners will be displayed on the fence to motivate and support the schools. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m. and you will want to arrive early to get a great seat.

Tennis team headed down the stretch

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The Hoke High Lady Bucks tennis team is heading into conference tournament time this week and last week they played Scotland County and lost 6-3.

The Bucks have one senior this year in Janeil Buchanan the number four player and each year we ask the seniors a couple of questions. #1) how long have you been playing tennis? Janeil; I have only been playing for two months. #2) what do you plan to do after high school? Janeil; I plan on taking nursing at UNC Charlotte. #3) if you could change one thing at Hoke High, what would it be? Janeil; Help underclassmen better prepare for college. #4) if you could change one thing in Hoke County what would it be. Janeil; we need a teen or pre-teen indoor recreational facility.



Taylor Jacobs keeps her eyes on the ball in her match against Scotland County last week. The Bucks are getting set this week for the conference tournament.



Janeil Buchanan is the only senior on the Bucks tennis team this year.

Raeford Racing Round-Up

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

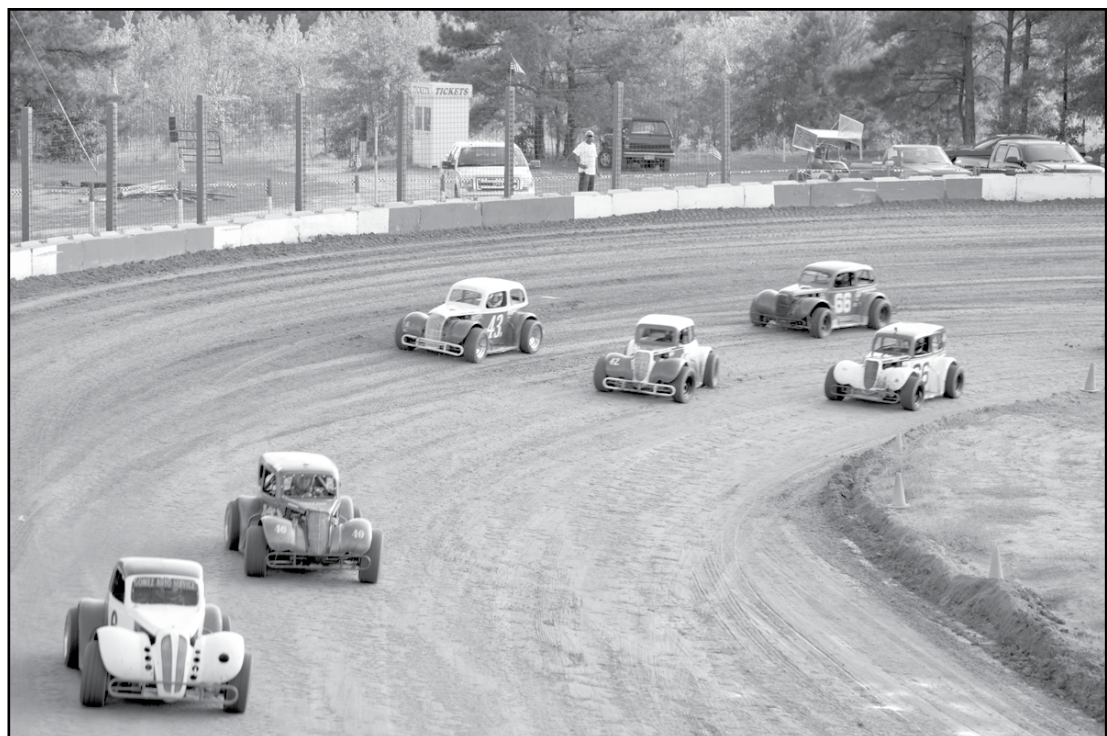
Rockfish Speedway results

Rockfish Motor Speedway, "The Rock of Hoke," is winding down its season of racing at the dirt track off Lindsay Road in Hoke County. This past weekend, the speedway hosted 28 cars in four classes of racing with Billy Gomez getting his third straight win in the top series of Legends cars.

Dan Hogan finished second and Robert Knowles finished third. In the Micro Sprint series, Jody McCall got the checkers for his third win of the season and Matt Jones finished second with Britany Trogden finishing third. In the Pro Go Kart series, Luke McPherson took home first place for his ninth win of the season while Logan McPherson came in second and Duke Layton came in third. In the Mini Pro Go Karts,

Dale Trogden got his third win of the season while Jake Layton came in second and Levi Brown came in third.

No racing will be going on this weekend. However, they will be back in action October 19 with the gates opening at 1 p.m. and the racing starting at 4 p.m. November 16, the speedway will host the last race of the season under the lights at The Rock of Hoke.



The Legends cars come around turn number four at Rockfish Motor Speedway in Hoke County. This race was one of the heat races before the main feature, which Billy Gomez, seen here in the car in second place, won. Leading the pack in this photo is the #6 car of Dan Hogan.

Fighting Bucks Sports Schedule

October 9
Girls Freshman Volleyball Home vs. Pinecrest 4:30 p.m.

October 10
Girls JV Volleyball at Pinecrest 5 p.m.
Girls V Volleyball at Pinecrest 6 p.m.

Boys JV Soccer Home vs. South View 5:30 p.m.
Boys V Soccer Home vs. South View 7 p.m.
Boys JV Football at Richmond 7 p.m.

October 11
Boys V Football Home vs. Richmond 7:30 p.m.

October 14
Girls Golf at Pinecrest 2 p.m.
Girls V Volleyball at Purnell Swett 6 p.m.
Boys V Soccer Home Purnell Swett 7 p.m.

October 15
Cross Country at Pinecrest Conference Meet 5 p.m.

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Sports Briefs

In preparation for Homecoming, the Hoke High Athletic Department and the Touchdown Club will host a Powder Puff football game next Thursday night, October 17 at 7 p.m. at Raz Autry Stadium. The 12th grade girls' team will face the 11th grade girls' team in a flag football game to accomplish two things: one to raise team spirit and morale for Homecoming and one to help raise money for the Touchdown Club.

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City plans improvements to McLauchlin Park

By BILL LINDAU

City property issues dominated Monday's monthly meeting when the Raeford City Council got together for the first time since August. This included resurfacing the tennis courts at McLauchlin Park, closing off a portion of Brown Street and allowing the purchase of land from the Fire Department. Council unanimously decided to move forward with two basketball courts and two tennis courts at the local park. The city would hear bids from two contractors interested in resurfacing the areas. Construction would begin at a time to be determined later, possibly in November or near the spring, depending on the weather.

Mike Wood, city manager, said the city wanted to have

some contractors look at the courts, which he said needed repair and were cracking. Two or three lights were out, he added.

"We need to do something to that court," said Mayor John K. McNeill III.

Council held a public hearing on a proposal to close the portion of Brown Street that lay between the three lots owned by the New Covenant Church. After closing the public hearing, council voted to close that portion of the street. Access will remain open for the other properties located from U.S. 401 Bypass to Stevens Street, according to the city.

Council also approved the final sale of city property to Neil Lloyd. The property fronts Fifth Street, located on the northwest corner of the City Fire Department. According to the

city, Lloyd's family wanted to expand their garage and needed the extra land to meet property setback rules. The city said an area approximately six feet wide and 140 feet long was needed to meet the setback. Wood said no upset bids had been received.

Also during the meeting, Raeford Police Chief Kemp Crumpler proposed a special building to house materials taken as evidence in criminal cases, such as illegal drugs, weapons and vehicles used by suspects. He said public funds would not be used for this containment building but would be paid for by forfeitures in criminal cases.

In other action, council approved the following:

- A tax refund of \$34.54 to the U.S. Bank National Association, due to the value of \$7,196 being located outside the city,

according to the Hoke County Tax Assessor; and a value of \$9,960 to the tax levy for Total Women's Care per the Hoke County Tax Listing Department, amounting to \$47.81

- Reappointments of Steve Hedgpeh and Gloria Hill to the Planning Board

- A budget amendment for \$744 from the General Fund to replace a computer damaged by lightning

- A budget amendment for \$11,238.53 from Water/Sewer Miscellaneous Revenue to replace the industrial control system at the water plant; the system was damaged by lightning

- A proclamation of October 6-12 as Fire Prevention Week; and

- Monthly departmental reports.

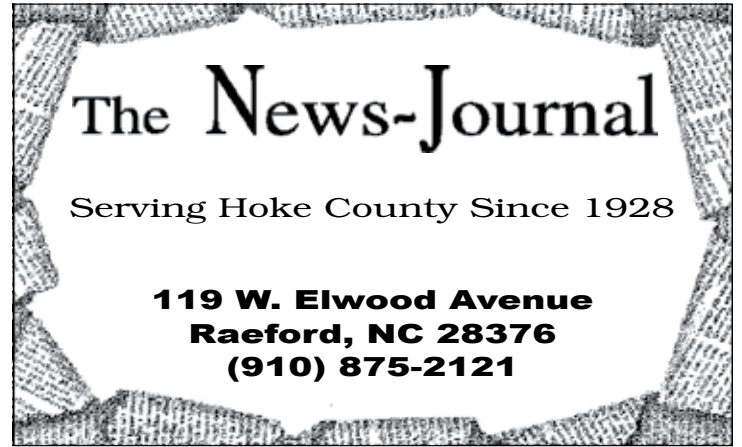
Break-ins

(Continued from page 1A)

Officers arrested Shaduntee Buie, 20, of the 500 block of East Prospect Avenue on charges of breaking and entering, two counts of larceny, two counts of felony conspiracy and damage to property; Tavon McPhatter, 19, of the 600 block of Saunders Street on charges of breaking and entering, two counts of larceny, two

counts of felony conspiracy and damage to property; and Davi-Marie Cofield, 18, of the 500 block of East 6th Avenue on charges of felony conspiracy.

Buie was held under a \$50,000 secured bond, McPhatter was held under a \$60,000 secured bond and Cofield was held under a \$1,500 secured bond.



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