

The News-Journal

Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

75¢

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RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, September 26, 2012

Geothermal drilling begins at school

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Small drill holes going 300 feet into the ground are starting to dot the landscape on what will eventually become the Sandy Grove Middle School sports fields. Roger Williams, job foreman

with MidSouth Geothermal, said his company has drilled about 40 of the 192 holes that it will take to complete the geothermal heating and cooling system that's a first for Hoke County Schools.

Construction on the school is ongoing and on schedule, Hoke County Schools Facilities Director Charles

Tapp said. The school should open for students in time for the fall 2013 semester.

"This time next year they'll be throwing passes" on the football field, Tapp said.

Buried underneath student athletes' feet will be the completed geothermal system, made up of

nearly 200 loops of pipe that will use the natural insulation of ground temperature to help heat and cool the middle school.

The system is set up in eight circuits with 24 holes in each circuit, with each hole 4.5 inches wide and 30 feet apart. Each of the holes has a looping set of pipes that run water

into the ground and then back up, Williams said. The system works by taking advantage of the stable temperature deep in the ground to cool or warm the water, which then is run back into the school's system.

"If it's 30 degrees outside, the heat pump has to run for a long time (See SCHOOL, page 6A)



In the limelight The Hoke County Parks and Recreation Panthers cheerleading and football teams (along with others) marched in front of the grandstand Friday night at Raz Autry Stadium during the Hoke-Westover game. Each year the Hoke High Athletic department invites the Parks and Recreation teams out for a night of fun and football. (Hal Nunn photo)



Student clashes prompted several dozen people to pray on the campus of Hoke High Saturday.

Pastors pray at high school

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Student clashes at Hoke County High School last month inspired some area church leaders to take action.

Pastors and church members gathered on the high school campus Saturday morning to pray for students as part of Pastors Called to Action, a newly formed group currently focusing on Hoke County's schoolchildren.

"It's the ongoing situation or situation we thought was ongoing with the fights in the schools that kind of brought us together, and

it has turned into a whole lot more than that," Hillcrest Baptist Church Pastor Toby Neal said.

About 50 people including children and teens joined Neal, Roger Burns of Raeford Evangelical Methodist Church, Bruce Hurst of Leach Springs Missionary Baptist Church, Shelly Dial of Dundarrach Baptist Church, Wallace Locklear of Rock Assembly of God and evangelist Tim Locklear in the service Saturday morning in front of the high school media center.

The pastors took turns praying and after the service joined hands with Superintendent Dr. (See PRAYER, page 6A)

This Week

Children removed from home page 3A

Bucks 6-0 in conference play page 5A

Calendar2B
Classifieds5B
Deaths3A
Editorials2A
Legals3-4B
Sports5A
Worship2B

Officers surround Hardaways in dispute

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Law enforcement vehicles surrounded Hardaway's Herb Garden and Jericho Deliverance Temple last week as

officers sought a child at the center of an apparent custody battle.

Betty Hardaway, evangelist and proprietor of Hardaway's Herb Garden, said (See SURROUND, page 3A)

OTHER STUFF

By KEN MACDONALD

On my way to see my grandbaby (and the rest of her family) near Raleigh Sunday, I was just leaving the dreaded stoplights in Tramway on US1 and was psychologically preparing myself to trick, plead and coax my four-cylinder 18-year-old pickup up to 65 miles per hour when—what?—the speed limit has been increased to 70! Fortunately the first stretch in Sanford is downhill, and it took only three or four miles for the S10 to attain 70. I thought to myself that it wasn't that (See OTHER STUFF, page 6A)

School board candidates address the issues



McAllister-McRae



Perkins



Richards

like to mention and anything else you want the public to know about you that is not covered in the other questions.

Rosa McAllister-McRae: Rosa was born and reared in Brooklyn, N.Y. to Pastor and Evangelist Hosia and Helen McAllister. She later moved to NC with her parents, and continued her education in the public school system (See ELECTION, page 4A)

The News-Journal asked candidates for Hoke School Board issues affecting education the county. Two seats are open on the board in the November election. We heard back from

three of the four candidates (not Roosevelt McPherson)

1. Please give a short biography about yourself including education, work experience, any family you'd



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VIEWPOINTS

School something to be proud of

The Hoke Board of Education and others with hands in the Sandy Grove Middle School now under construction are doing a good thing. They are jumping some paperwork hurdles and building a school that gets its energy not from oil-based sources but from the sun and ground.

We in Hoke County know all about risks associated with alternative energy—can

you say ethanol?—but this isn't that. That was more about a get-rich-quick scheme than any real effort to find technological solutions to dwindling natural resources. This is something to be proud of. Visionary, if you will.

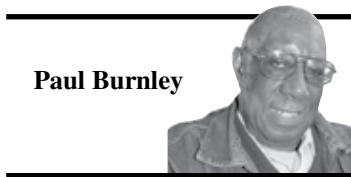
The bleeding edge of technology always brings risk, but nothing ventured, nothing gained.

To fix nation's health, address eating habits

Each time we turn on our TVs or read an article in a newspaper or magazine, we hear of how overweight the American public has become. The percentage of obese people has reached its highest point and is growing each year. With the lifestyle and wealth of the people of the United States, it is understandable that many could be a few pounds overweight. But the majority of people are 50 to 100 pounds overweight—or more.

Every time we see an advertisement for a "fast food" company, they are introducing a new dinner or dish that contains more calories than the food of their competitors. Some have what is known as a "breakfast sandwich" with over 700 calories. Is it possible that these companies are adding to the problem of obesity in this country? I know that most restaurants have low calorie meals and salads but advertise the high calorie meals much more because the high calorie meals and sandwiches give the public the idea that they are getting more for their money.

This is one of the reasons we



Paul Burnley

have reached this point in this country. The goal of the fast food companies and restaurants is to outsell their competitors. More and more restaurants are featuring all-you-can-eat menus in an effort to lure as many customers as they can.

As for customers, they feel that, to get their money's worth, they will eat all they can.

I am aware that these fast food companies are not in the business of educating the public in the art of healthy eating, but I feel they should not use tactics to encourage people to overeat. Eating more without giving thought to the complications of overeating has caused the rise in obesity.

This is where advertising in this country has gotten out of hand. We hear announcements about the illnesses caused by overeating, which are followed by a commercial announcing

how great it is to eat a breakfast sandwich with over 700 calories.

Health issues have become one of the greatest financial problems for many. Our eating habits and lifestyles have led to many of these health problems that could be eliminated. We see and agree with all these programs that tell us overeating is causing not only health problems but also financial problems, while sitting in front of the TV eating a "Big Mac."

We all are aware that being overweight leads to diabetes, high blood pressure and other illnesses, yet we continue overeating. Until each individual understands that we are responsible for our own actions, we will continue to have this problem.

There have been objections to a national health program because of the cost. If more attention was paid to our eating habits, we would reduce many of our health problems. Here is where preventive medical programs would reduce medical costs for all.

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

State needs help with litter problem

By SCOTT MOONEYHAM
Capitol Press Association

Some years back, former state Sen. Charlie Albertson wrote a jingle for the state intended to deter roadside littering.

"I love Carolina. I know you do too. If we want it looking good, we've got work to do," the country crooner sang.

Apparently, not a lot of people were listening.

It seems that the state Department of Transportation is having trouble finding enough people to pick up roadside trash, whether those people are prison inmates, involved with civic organizations, or come from corporate sponsors of private roadside clean-up.

More than 4,600 civic organizations and volunteer groups picked up some 3.4 million pounds of trash along 12,000 miles of state roads last year. People fulfilling community service work requirements collected another 2.3 million pounds, while prison work crews collected 878,000 pounds.

Because of state budget cuts, fewer prison work crews make the rounds along state roads

these days, meaning the amount of litter that they are collecting is declining.

The state's Sponsor-A-Highway program, where companies pay a sponsorship fee to a vendor that then arranges for roadside litter collection, is trying to find more sponsors to make up for the declining prison-crew clean-ups.

Albertson, though, had another idea to reduce litter -- impose tougher fines on litterbugs.

It's an idea that pops up every few years at the legislature.

In 2011, another state senator, David Rouzer, who is currently running for Congress, pushed the proposition of harsh fines to get rid of roadside littering.

Initial littering fines under his proposed bill would have been set at \$1,000 to \$4,000. Repeat violators could have been fined as much as \$8,000, with a 12-hour community service requirement the only way out of the fines.

Right now, initial fines are typically \$100 to \$250 unless the littering involves the dumping of larger amounts of trash.

The bill passed the Senate but didn't go anywhere in the House. In addition to the roadside

clean-up and littering fines, the state also engages in some gentle nudging to try to keep roadsides clean. Its Swat-A-Litterbug program allows private individuals to report roadside littering, with offenders sent a letter reminding them of potential fines and the desire to avoid trashed-up roadways.

When I was a kid, keeping the roadways picked up of trash could be a pretty profitable exercise.

Back then, before the advent of the plastic soda bottle, glass soda bottles could be redeemed for a nickel deposit. At a time when a dollar could buy substantial loot in a store's snack and candy aisle, kids made a habit of collecting bottles from roadsides. Scout and 4-H groups also saw profit in roadside trash collection.

A few years back, another state senator, Doug Berger, suggested that we return to those days with a 10-cent deposit on cans and plastic bottles.

His idea didn't go anywhere either.

Maybe it's because you can't stand in the way of progress.

Or is that regress?



UNC's biggest problem is the right wing

By CHRIS FITZSIMON
N.C. Policy Watch

No one can argue that the reputation of the flagship institution of the University of North Carolina has been damaged in the last few years as what began as an athletics scandal led to questions about academic integrity and allegations of financial misconduct in the university's fundraising arm.

Monday, Chancellor Holden Thorp announced he was stepping down at the end of the academic year, adding his name to the list of university officials who have resigned or been fired since the scandal began, a list that includes the athletics director, head football coach, chief fundraiser, and the chair of the Department of African-American studies.

And there may be more to come, depending on the findings of an investigation that is currently underway headed by former Governor Jim Martin.

Troubling times indeed for the nationally acclaimed University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

But there are even more serious threats to UNC-CH and the rest of the university system in the air and they have nothing to do with the corruption that often surrounds big money college sports.

These threats are political, financial, and philosophical, and could make the university system unrecognizable in the next ten years.

Much of the danger looms in a new 27-member UNC Advisory Committee on Strategic Decisions appointed last week that is charged with coming up with a five-year plan for the university system that addresses everything from academic standards to financial planning, with even the system's core mission up for grabs.

The commission's members include two of the most prominent funders of right-wing political machines and campaigns in North Carolina, Art Pope and Fred Es-

helman. House Speaker Thom Tillis and Senate President Phil Berger are members too, fresh from making the biggest budget cuts in history to the UNC system in the recent two-year legislative session.

N.C. Chamber President Lew Ebert was also appointed. Under Ebert's leadership the Chamber has become far more partisan and more interested in the tax cutting agenda of the Republican leaders than supporting important public investments in key state institutions like public schools and the universities.

Not everyone on the commission is a committed anti-government ideologue or Republican political heavyweight. Former UNC President William Friday is on it, along with a few chancellors of UNC schools, some members of the Board of Governors and a few Democratic officials.

But the appointment of Pope and Eshelman is hard to ignore, especially in the context of the current political debate in North Carolina.

Right-wing think tanks and Republican politicians, both heavily funded by Pope and Eshelman, make no secret of their disdain for the university system and that was reflected in the massive budget cuts the university suffered at the hands of the General Assembly.

But it goes much deeper than that. Folks on the Right want tuition raised dramatically too and the current Board of Governors, half of which was elected by the Republican General Assembly, is already backtracking on the policy of setting aside a percentage of every tuition increase to help low income families afford to send their children to a UNC school.

The General Assembly will elect the other half of the Board of Governors in 2013 and if Republicans maintain control of the House and Senate, it's a safe bet all 32 members will be

Republicans after the next round of board elections.

The right-wing think tanks constantly attack the UNC system for virtually every part of its operation, from curriculum to funding to the socialist professors they see behind every tree. Pope himself funds an organization whose entire thinly disguised mission is to dismantle public higher education or at least radically reform it.

The attacks reflect the anti-intellectualism that's part of the current right-wing political dogma and it means that liberal arts may be shoved aside in favor of a curriculum designed only for job-training, not critical thinking skills or an appreciation for the humanities.

Then there is the budget. The priority of the new ruling order in North Carolina is to reduce taxes first and ask questions about important investments later.

Never mind the studies that show the university system is a vital economic engine for the state. Better to slash budgets and cut taxes on businesses, the dogma holds.

And finally, UNC is a public institution, part of the government that the groups funded by the likes of Pope and Eshelman bash almost every day.

They don't believe in public institutions. Their core mission is to radically dismantle them, from public schools to human services to the university system, and leave everything up to the vagaries of the holy free market they blindly worship. And they are on their way.

The athletic scandal that embarrassed the university and cost many good people, including Holden Thorp, their jobs was troubling enough.

But unless the ideological winds in North Carolina dramatically change soon, supporters of UNC haven't seen anything yet.

Letters policy

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 au-

thenticity. 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.

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Obituaries

Annie E. Butler

Annie E. Butler, 93, of Raeford died Friday, September 21, 2012. Survivors include a son, Alvin; daughters, Odessa McKinnon, Thelma Johnson, Alma Durant, and Madeline McNair; sisters, Mary White and Retha Hardimom; 44 grandchildren; 91 great-grandchildren; and 66 great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held Wednesday, September 26 at 2 p.m. in Silver Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Shirley A. McNeill

Shirley Ann McNeill of Smithfield died Thursday, September 20, 2012 in Johnston Medical Center at the age of 73.

She was born in the Blue Springs Community of Hoke County to Clifford McNeill Sr. and Annie Parks McNeill. She was the youngest of three children. Her parents and her siblings, C.J. McNeill, Jr. and Jean Harris, preceded her in death. She is sur-

vived by her cousins, niece and nephews, as well as her neighbors and church friends.

She was a graduate of Flora MacDonald College. She served as the Certified Director of Christian Education at First Presbyterian Church, Hamlet and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Raleigh. She was the first DCE at First Presbyterian Church, Smithfield, serving from December 18, 1989 through her retirement on February 28, 2003. She also served there as an elder. She continued to live in Smithfield after her retirement.

A memorial service was held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, September 23 at First Presbyterian Church, Smithfield.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m. Monday, September 24 at Bethel Presbyterian Church.

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

Elaine B. Fair

Elaine Brannon Fair of Ra-

eford died Sunday, September 16, 2012 in Pinehurst Health Care and Rehab Center at the age of 96.

She was born on August 24, 1916 in Blacksburg, South Carolina to the late Millage B. Brannon and Willie Harden Brannon. She was preceded in death by her husband, John Palmer Fair and her son, William Brannon Fair. She was a member of Christ United Methodist Church in Greenville, South Carolina where her home was until 1998.

Survivors include her son, John E. Fair and wife Pat of Kernersville; her daughter, Sandra F. Potter and husband James of Raeford; eight grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 22 in Woodlawn Memorial Park, Greenville, South Carolina with the Rev. Larry Smith officiating.

Memorials may be made to Christ United Methodist Church, 901 Easley Bridge Road, Greenville, SC 29611.

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

Births

FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst has reported these births to The News-Journal:

July 17

Michael Keith Melton and Christina (Chrissy) Marie Melton, Raeford, son, Paul "Avery" Melton.

July 18

Melissa and Trevor Yascavage, Raeford, a daughter, Mila Rain Yascavage

July 23

Donald and Jodi Workman, Raeford, a son, Gunner Tebow Workman

The News-Journal also accepts birth announcements directly from parents at www.thenews-journal.com.

Surround

(Continued from page 1A)

A domestic dispute between her son and his girlfriend turned into an argument over custody of their one-year-old daughter and led to a confrontation involving authorities at Hardaway's place of business.

The child's mother and a Raeford police officer came to the store and church building at the corner of Fayetteville Road and Vass Road last Wednesday to take custody of the child, family members said. The child's father, Marcus Hardaway, had taken the child the week before from the baby's maternal grandmother's home, according to Hardaway.

When Hardaway wouldn't allow officers to remove the child from the property, deputies with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office arrived on the scene.

"The city police officer came

out last week to our store to get the baby, my grandbaby, from her father and then I refused to let them take anything out of my store, or anybody," Hardaway said. "Then they called for the sheriff's department to come and the sheriff's department came out and I would not let my grandbaby go, so they left without the baby."

The dispute between her son and his girlfriend arose from a domestic incident that took place two days earlier, Hardaway said. Marcus Hardaway was arrested Monday on a charge of assault on a female and given a \$500 bond. He was released from jail the same day and disputes the charge.

Hardaway said he has spoken with an attorney and has a child custody hearing set for later this week. State Department of Correction public records show Hardaway was previously convicted on

felony charges of drug possession in 2007 and discharging a weapon into an occupied dwelling in 2002.

Betty Hardaway was upset that law enforcement officers pursued the matter at her place of busi-

ness. Her son lives in a home on property she owns near the church and business buildings, she said. "The police had my place surrounded as if somebody had killed somebody," she said.

Recent cases heard in Hoke County Criminal District Court, Judge William C. McIlwain presiding:

Sept. 18
• Brandon Paco Clark, 28, 190 Singleton Road, Red Springs, improper equipment-speedometer, \$50 fine and court costs

• Dockery Junior Collins, 33, 1834 Haire Road, Shannon, driving while license revoked, 45 days suspended, 12 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same

• Courtney Kelly Davis, 19, 295 Shad's Ford Boulevard, Fayetteville, speeding 78 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, prayer for judgment continued, court costs; reckless driving/wanton disregard, voluntary dismissal

• Johnathan Donte Davis, 22, 4889 Mount Tabor Road, Red Springs, unsafe passing in yellow lane, \$125 fine and court costs

• Katherine Colleen Dempsey, 22, 970 Bassman Lane, Fayetteville, driving while license revoked, prayer for judgment continued, court costs

• Edward Ray Faircloth, 49, 256 Starlight Drive, Raeford, driving while license revoked, 30 days suspended, one year unsupervised probation, \$100 fine and court costs; speeding 52 miles per hour in a 35 mph zone, voluntary dismissal

• Dennis Fairley, 40, 1394 Doc Brown Road, Raeford, driving while license revoked, 120 days suspended, 12 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, community service and pay fee, 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; driving while impaired, Level 3, 180 days suspended, 18 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, split jail time, not to use, consume or possess any controlled substances

District Court

or alcoholic beverages, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same

• Rodney Antuwan Forte, 26, 2912 Alden Drive, Fayetteville, driving while license revoked, 45 days suspended, 12 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, 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, transfer probation to Cumberland County, may be transfer to unsupervised probation upon payment of all fines, costs, fees and completion of community service

• Terrell Keonte Gray, 22, 997 Aberdeen Road, Raeford, consumption of alcohol by person 19 to 20 years old, court costs

• Aaron Reyes Gutierrez, 29, 2846 U.S. 401 Business, Raeford, no operator's license, 10 days suspended, six months unsupervised probation, \$75 fine and court costs; failure to stop for stop sign/flashing red light, voluntary dismissal

• Gary Holt Jr., 26, 318 Henry Cooper Lane, Red Springs, communicating threats, resisting public officer, urinating in public, four days in jail, credit for time served, judgments consolidated

• Lakeshia Laree McArthur, 27, 7862 Turnpike Road, Raeford, speeding 64 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, \$125 fine and court costs

• Darvaughn Jerome Mixon, 29, 307 Allegiance St., Raeford, speeding 64 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, \$50 fine and court costs

• Keithen Case Odom, 29, 2628 Union Chapel, Pembroke, driving while license revoked, 91 days suspended, 12 months probation, \$200 fine and court costs, electronic house arrest and pay fee, 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 fines,

costs, fees and when any other conditions are met; speeding 78 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, voluntary dismissal

• William Edward Ogburn Jr., 49, 337 N. Shannon Road, Red Springs, improper equipment-speedometer, \$50 fine and court costs

• David Ray Rickett, 46, 3216 Lillipian Place, Fayetteville, shoplifting by concealment of goods, 10 days in jail, credit for 10 days served; inhaling toxic vapors, possession of drug paraphernalia, 45 days suspended, 18 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, transfer probation to Cumberland County, judgments consolidated; possession of toxic vapor substance, voluntary dismissal

• Johnathan Rodriguez, 29, 383 Oakridge Drive, Raeford, failure to stop at stop sign or flashing red light, \$50 fine and court costs; driving or allowing to drive motor vehicle with no insurance, voluntary dismissal

• Carter Todd Smith, 16, 4705 Bent Grass Drive, Fayetteville, improper equipment-speedometer, \$15 fine and court costs

• Mandeline Alice Watcher, 69, 516 Bowman Road, Aberdeen, shoplifting by concealment of goods, 10 days suspended, two years unsupervised probation, 24 hours community service and pay fee, stay away from prosecuting business

• Alan Blain Wilkie, 32, 995 E. Central Ave., Raeford, open container after consumption of alcohol, \$50 fine and court costs

• Renee Menufo Wright, 47, 1051 Galatia Church Road, Raeford, simple assault, communicating threats, 20 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$100 fine and court costs, not to assault, threaten, harass or intimidate prosecuting witnesses, stay off the property of the prosecuting witnesses, judgments consolidated.

ness. Her son lives in a home on property she owns near the church and business buildings, she said. "The police had my place surrounded as if somebody had killed somebody," she said.

Two children were removed last week from a Hoke County home after one child suffered injuries including a fractured skull, according to the Hoke County Sheriff's Office.

The Hoke County Sheriff's Office responded September 18 to FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital after doctors discovered a 20-month-old child brought in by her parents had sustained multiple injuries. Besides the skull fracture to the back of her head, the child also had multiple bumps and knots on her head, "scratch-type" injuries on her sides, a swollen left eye and bruising about her face, according to the Sheriff's Office statement.

The child's parents were "extremely irate and not cooperating" with Hoke County Department of Social Services workers who were already at the hospital working on the case, officials reported. The parents left the child at the hospital and had returned to their home on the 2400 block of O'Hara Drive in Raeford by the time authorities arrived at the hospital, according to the Sheriff's Office.

The 20-month-old child was admitted to the hospital and a second child, a nine-month-old infant, was taken into custody by the Department of Social Services. The parents later gave consent for law enforcement to search the home.

The case is still under investigation, officials said.

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull

Child suffers fractured skull



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- * Dynamic Ministry
- * NCNN Network News
- * Hoke County Football

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- * Raeford Presbyterian Church Live 11 am - 12 pm Sundays
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Election

(Continued from page 1A)

in Hoke County. She is a member of God's Deliverance Church for All People where she serves as trustee and a member of the ministerial alliance. She is the Youth Director for District 1 of her church organization, which includes four churches in the surrounding area. Rosa has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Fayetteville State University, with a minor in Speech and Theatre, and a Master's in Professional Counseling from Webster University. She holds a North Carolina Professional Counseling License and a National Counseling Certification. Rosa is the Residency Coordinator and Transfer and Personal Counselor for Sandhills Community College, and she works part-time as a Mental Health Therapist with Smith Psychological Services with locations in Seven Lakes and Fayetteville, N.C.

Betty Perkins: I was born in Fayetteville, N.C. and relocated to Brooklyn, N.Y. where I attended the public school system and graduated from Franklin D. Roosevelt H.S. in Brooklyn, N.Y. My very first job was with the NYC Board of Education as a tutor for adults learning the English language. I worked in the corporate field with NY Tel.Co./AT&T for 16 years, 8 of which were spent at #2 World Trade Center. I studied Psychology at Pace University in NYC. I moved to Raeford, N.C. in 1989 and was a hog farmer for 4 years. I started my own business - BJ Enterprise, a property management co. and worked in the mortgage/real estate industry. I received a Doctors Degree in Theology from Faithway Church Bible School. I am the proud mother of three, Steven, Melissa and Brandy.

Hank Richards: Hank Richards, age 70, has resided in Raeford since 1967 with his wife, Linda and two children, John and Ann (both Hoke High graduates). He is a graduate of Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, N.C., with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics, and East Carolina University with a Masters Degree in Public School Administration. He was a teacher and administrator in the Hoke County Schools for 36 years and a member of the Hoke County Board of Education for the past eight years.

2. Why did you decide to run for the Hoke County Board of Education?

Rosa McAllister-McRae: Since I have been on the Hoke County Board of Education, we have accomplished many things, thanks to (Dr. Freddie Williamson) the visionary leader that is currently in place. That being said, we have a lot more desires ahead of us. In order to become a 21st Century Learning System, we have to put standards in place. We have to have a vision and a mission. People, Organizations, Schools, Churches, Businesses and everyone and everything else

will absolutely perish without a vision. I welcome the opportunity to continue this endeavor of being on the board, because I want to see the vision manifested. Hoke County School System is on the move, and we're moving forward "Into the Future". We have not arrived, but we have certainly LEFT.

Betty Perkins: Over the past ten years I have been involved and made aware of many situations and issues involving numerous students, teachers and staff members. Upon volunteering with the Hoke County school system as Parent Teacher Organization president at West Hoke elementary and middle schools, tutored math and reading, worked with the Step Team (West Side Effex) - as a team mom and coordinator, Band Booster president, event coordinator and treasurer, Parent Teacher Student Organization coordinator and actually started the current organization. I decided that with having a position on the board I can be beneficial in helping make a positive difference with issues and situations that involve students, teachers and staff.

Hank Richards: Upon graduation from college and moving to Hoke County, my life has revolved around education. My interest in the school system did not disappear upon my retirement. Being a member of the Board of Education enables me to give back to the teachers, parents and community a small portion of that which was given to me during my 36 years as a Hoke County Educator. Hoke County has made great progress the past eight years, both academically and structurally. I would like to participate in the continuation of this growth.

3. What local education issues are your top priority and why? How have you or how would you address those issues?

Rosa McAllister-McRae: Having a Teacher's Assistant in every classroom from k-3, we need to have a Teacher's Assistant in classes because they not only assist the teacher but they add value to the learning process as a whole. Yes, I want to be a 21st Century Learning System, but I do not want to replace a Teacher Assistant, with any kind of technical gadget: laptop, iPad, iPod, iPhone, or the like. It is essential that we work hard to keep the Teacher's Assistant. It should be a balance in the education system; a human touch should never be lost. And, Teachers now have to do the extra work that their assistant was doing. If a child is struggling with the learning process, that assistant may be able to take a little more time with that child. I would propose (if we could) that we tap into local dollars, the state doesn't really see the necessity in keeping the Teacher's Assistant, to be honest, and they don't see the necessity in keeping public schools. Local people see the local issues.

Betty Perkins: Parent involvement is really lacking in our schools and positive communication between students, teachers, parents and administration is truly a priority issue. A program should be put in place to specifically address ways to involve more parents positively and to interact more directly with parent-teacher, teacher-student and administration.

Hank Richards: Safe and Comfortable Learning Environment for all Students: Our schools are all equipped with the security cameras and equipment, renovated each year, and we are now building our third school since I have been on the Board, to address overcrowded classrooms.

Highly Qualified Teachers in all Classrooms:

This is an on-going process - one that is a major focus for the present Board members.

Human Resources have done an excellent job in this area, even during the years of teacher shortages. The Hoke County Schools Beginning Teacher Support Program is designed to help grow and retain Master Teachers.

Providing a 21st Century Learning Opportunity:

These learning opportunities are required so all students will graduate career- and college-ready. The Hoke County Board of Education has made state-of-the-art technology a major focus countywide. We have in place:

1. Wireless in all of our schools (Wi-Fi)
2. Upgraded Internet speed
3. E-book library with online viewing of books
4. Online search of library materials for all schools
5. Implemented a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative
6. Implemented technology honor code for students
7. Over 3,000 devices (desktops, laptops, and iPads) systemwide

4. Briefly describe your personal philosophy about public education.

Rosa McAllister-McRae: Public Education is crucial to all students, private schools are just that: private, and it's nothing wrong with that, but public schools will give a student an opportunity to be all that he/she can be. Truth be told, even the undocumented student will be able to perform and get ahead in public school. The public school has a plethora of programs that students will be able to take advantage. This will allow a student to further their careers in their education, and most of the time for free. Mike Easley proposed an Early College Proposal to the public school system. And now students are taking the track of a five year program and completing with a High School Diploma and a Two Year College Degree that was free to them. Of course, public education has their battles, but who doesn't. One thing is for sure, in order to teach in public

education, you must have the correct credential to follow. I was taught in the Public Education System and I believe in the Public Education System. You must understand, it isn't the money that's keeping the teachers teaching, it isn't the money that's keeping the EC Community doing what they do, it isn't the money that's keeping the principals leading the schools, it isn't the stipend that's keeping the coach coaching, but it's the love, the commitment and passion that is keeping them focused on their jobs. If it wasn't for a public school teacher, a public school principal, and a public school counselor, I wouldn't be where I am today. I thank God for Public Education!

Betty Perkins: I personally feel that public education is a privilege that everyone does not have, too many take it for granted. Everyone should be aware of how fortunate we are to have a good public education system.

Hank Richards: Public Education has made our country what it is today. School should be a place where young people go to work and adults facilitate that work. It is designed to provide a free opportunity for all students. Education is a building block for one's success in life. A solid basic education provides a license for every individual to fulfill the dream in life. To me, in the larger picture, Public Education is Economic Development.

5. For incumbents: What have you done during your time on the board to wisely manage financial resources? For candidates: If elected, what would you do to wisely manage financial resources?

Rosa McAllister-McRae: In order to manage financial obligation, you must prioritize, we have to put things that we deem highly important first. Because of the budget cuts, we have to take notice of what isn't working. At one point, the electric bill was pretty expensive, so we put a new energy program in place, and it has saved the system at least 25%, if not more. In this economy, we had to learn to do more mandates, with fewer dollars and we have accomplished that goal.

Betty Perkins: Financial Resources should be used on a priority based scale by determining what is most beneficial for educating our students.

Hank Richards: With the recent cutbacks in state and federal funding, efficiently managing resources is a top priority. Four years ago, the Hoke County School System entered into an Energy Education Program with Energy Education, Inc. We have reduced energy consumption by 24 percent, resulting in a savings of \$1,375,208 over four years.

Sandy Grove Middle School, now under construction, is a 74,000 square foot building designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold Standard and will be a Net-Zero Facility, one that returns more energy to the grid than it consumes. Innovative design and construction features include: large photovoltaic and geothermal heating and cooling systems, high efficiency lighting, and a whole building generator and solar panels. It is estimated to save Hoke County Schools and Hoke County nearly \$35 million over the next 40 years.

Due to funding cutbacks, we have had a Reduction in Force, accomplished in most cases by not filling vacated positions. We have also implemented a hiring freeze on new non-certified and administrative positions.

6. What is something you'd like to see handled differently in the local school system? Why? What do you think should be done instead?

Rosa McAllister-McRae: We are a work in progress, that being said, a working document is just that, it's evolving, and always changing if updates are needed. The school system works no differently; a work in progress means we're working to better the system all the time. If we need to look at a particular matter to see a need to change something, then we will go back to the drawing board, and revamp, rethink, and revise. At this point, there is nothing that we aren't already handling for the betterment of the school system.

Betty Perkins: Dealing with disciplinary problems should be more selectively handled, each

one according to individuality and specifics, not as an overall "blanket rule". I have been made aware of numerous situations involving discipline and think that this is one of the most popular issues that I have been made aware of.

Hank Richards: So much of what happens on the local level is dictated by the state of North Carolina.

The school calendar comes first to mind. Due to state regulations, our calendar is not an educational calendar; it is one for the tourism industry. If not changed, it will have a big impact on the 2013-2014 school year. There simply is too much state control. The local system needs to have a say in what is best for the educational system in its community.

7. For incumbents: What have you done to address serving the growing number of students in Hoke County? For candidates: If elected, what would you do to address serving the growing number of students in Hoke County?

Rosa McAllister-McRae: Because of BRAC and other variables that have come or is coming to our community, there is a need to accommodate new students. The county takes part in a process where they look at ten years in the future to estimate the growth of this county. As you know, many military bases have closed down. Because of the displacement of military families, they are having to move and being stationed in Ft. Bragg, and we have had many military people move to Hoke County because of that. The Hoke County School Board has had many, many dialogues about the uncertainty of just how many military families and other families that would actually move to this area. The dialogue consisted of accommodation issues. I am happy to report, that based on data we have accomplished our goal in accommodating new students very well. We are still in the process of building new schools. I would certainly like to thank the County Commissioners for doing a wonderful job in the building of the new schools. Since I have been elected, we have added on SandHoke Early College, Don Steed Elementary, and now our first "green" school: Sandy Grove (See ELECTION, page 6A)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Hoke County Senior Services has been awarded \$75,000 by the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency (NCHFA) under the 2012 cycle of the Urgent Repair Program (URP 12). The funds provided by NCHFA come from the North Carolina Housing Trust Fund. The URP 12 provides funds to eligible homeowners 1) to correct housing conditions which pose an imminent threat to their life and/or safety or 2) to provide accessibility modifications and other repairs necessary to prevent their imminent displacement. Eligibility households:

1. A minimum of 50% of the units must be owned and occupied by very low-income household with special needs.
2. The remaining 50% of the assisted units must be owned and occupied by low-income household with special needs.
3. Household with special needs include households with household members who are at least 67 years old

Handicapped or disable members, defined as follows:

1. A person with a physical or mental indefinite duration, 1) is expected to be of long-continue and indefinite duration; 2) substantially impedes the person's ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions
2. An adult who has chronic mental illness should be considered handicapped if he or she has a severe and persistent mental or emotional impairment that seriously limits his or her ability to live independently and who impairment could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.
3. A person shall be considered disabled if they are receiving Social Security Disability, Railroad Retirement Disability, or Supplemental Security Income as disabled, one hundred percent Veteran's Administration Disability benefits or is determined to be disabled by a licensed physician.
4. A person whose sole impairment is alcoholism or drug addition shall not be considered handicapped or disabled under the Urgent Repair Program.

Others eligible:

1. A single-parent with at least one dependent children in residence; or
2. with five or more persons
3. Children below the age of 6 whose elevated blood levels are between 10uy/dl and 20uy/dl.

Median Income is based on 2012 HUD Medians and are calculated for 1 to 8 person household

| Number in Household | 30% of Median (very low-income) | 50% of Median (low-come) |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | \$10,850 | \$18,050 |
| 2 | \$12,400 | \$20,600 |
| 3 | \$13,950 | \$23,200 |
| 4 | \$15,450 | \$25,750 |
| 5 | \$16,700 | \$27,850 |
| 6 | \$17,960 | \$29,900 |
| 7 | \$19,200 | \$31,950 |
| 8 | \$20,400 | \$34,000 |

Application will be taken by appointment at the Senior Service's office at 423 East Central Avenue in Raeford. Application will be taken beginning October 1, 2012 and through November 1, 2012. Deadline for having an application on file is November 1, 2012 no later than 5:00pm. Please 910-875-8588 for an appointment. **Must come into office to fill out application**

Senior Servcies of Hoke County

423 East Central Ave.

Raeford, NC 28376

910-875-8588

Note: This is not a housing rehabilitation program. Only specific repairs/modifications in accordance with the goals listed above will be considered.

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| WHOLE BONE-IN (SLICED FREE) Pork Loin \$1⁷⁹ <small>lb.</small> | ANGUS BEEF BONELESS Ribeye Steaks \$7⁹⁹ <small>lb.</small> | FRESH CUT PORK Spare Ribs \$1⁹⁹ <small>lb.</small> | GWALTNEY (VARIETY) Hog Dogs 2/\$³ <small>1 lb.</small> ABERDEEN Bacon 2/\$⁵ <small>12 oz.</small> SAVE \$ WHEN YOU BUY MEAT BUNDLES |
| RUSSETT (5 LB. BAG) Potatoes \$1⁹⁹ <small>GREEN</small> Cabbage 39¢ <small>lb.</small> | Tomatoes \$1³⁹ <small>lb.</small> KELLOG'S (VARIETY) Pop Tarts 2/\$⁵ <small>12 ct. box</small> PREGO (24 OZ.) Spaghetti Sauce 2/\$⁴ | NATURAL LIGHT (18 pk. cans) Beer \$9⁹⁹ <small>12 oz.</small> Juicy Juice 2/\$⁶ <small>64 oz.</small> OF 89¢ <small>2 ltrs.</small> | Coke or Pepsi Products <small>12 pk. cans</small> 2/\$⁷ Powerade 32 oz. 99¢ <small>2 ltrs.</small> Coke or Pepsi 2 ltrs. \$1⁰⁹ |

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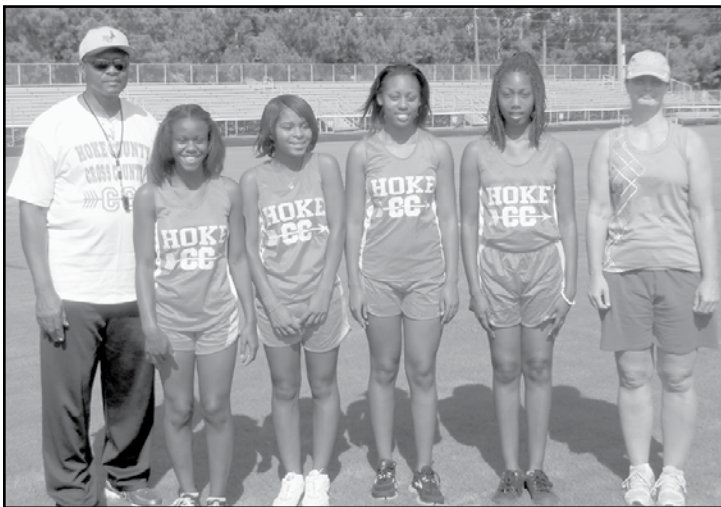
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|---|---|---|
| OVERLOAD BUNDLE - \$179.99 (63 lbs. MEAT) 20 lbs. Fresh Ground Beef • 6 lbs. Boneless Chicken Breast 20 lbs. Boneless Beef Chuck Steaks • 6 lbs. Smoked Sausage 6 lbs. Chicken Hot Dogs • 5 lbs. Fryer Drumsticks | FAMILY BUNDLE - \$169.99 56 lbs. MEAT / 4 lbs. Frozen Vegetables 12 lbs. Ground Beef • 9 lbs. Pork Spare Ribs or Beef Ribs (your choice) 15 lbs. Boneless Beef Chuck Steaks 10 lbs. Boneless Beef Chuck Roast 10 lbs. Fryer Drumsticks • 2 - 2 lb. Bags Frozen Vegetables (your choice) | ECONOMY BUNDLE \$129.99 42 lbs. MEAT / 6 lbs. Frozen Vegetables 10 lbs. Boneless Beef Roast (Chuck) (Chuck) 10 lbs. Boneless Beef Steaks (Chuck) (Chuck) 12 lbs. Fresh Ground Beef 10 lbs. Fryer Leg Quarters 3 - 2 lb. Bags Frozen Vegetables (your choice) |
| BEEF & CHICKEN BUNDLE - \$92.99 35 lbs. MEAT 5 lbs. Boneless Chicken Breast • 10 lbs. Fryer Leg Quarters 10 lbs. Boneless Chuck Steaks • 10 lbs. Fresh Ground Beef | HARDIN'S ORIGINAL 1998 BUNDLE 55 lbs. Meats & 6 lbs. Veggies 12 lbs. Fresh Ground Beef 10 lbs. Lean Pork Chops 3 lbs. Chicken Hot Dogs 10 lbs. Fryer Leg Quarters 4 lbs. Smoked Sausage • 4 lbs. Sliced Bacon 4 lbs. Boneless Chicken Breast Frozen Vegetables (3 2 lb. bags of your choice) | MINI BUNDLE 19 lbs. Meats \$38.99 3 lbs. Fresh Ground Beef 10 lbs. Fryer Leg Quarters 2 lbs. Boneless Beef Steaks (Chuck) 4 lbs. Loin End or Rib End Pork Chops |
| COOKOUT BUNDLE 34 lbs. \$88.99 5 lbs. Boneless Beef Sirloin Steaks 5 lbs. Beef Ribs For BBQ 6 lbs. Fresh Ground Beef 3 lbs. Chicken Hot Dogs 2 lbs. Smoked Sausage 7 lbs. Whole Chicken Fryers or Cut Up Whole Fryers 5 lbs. Extra Thin Sliced Fresh Cut Pork Chops | ROCKFISH BUNDLE 28 lbs. Meats, 2 lbs. Frozen Vegetables \$89.99 6 lbs. Fresh Ground Beef 4 lbs. Beef Back Ribs or Pork Spare Ribs 5 lbs. Extra Lean Pork Chops 3 lbs. T-Bone Steak 2 lbs. Smoked Sausage • 3 lbs. Chicken Hot Dogs 1 2 lb. bags Frozen Vegetables (your choice) | VEGETABLE BUNDLES: 5 2 lb. bags Frozen Vegetables of Your Choice Mix N Match from about 20 different Vegetables 10 lb. BOX FOR \$18.97 |

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SPORTS



The Lady Bucks' cross-country team consists of Coach Paul McPherson (left to right), Briana Lee, Jacqueline Smith, Summer Thompson, Daisy Dandy and Coach Deanna Ray. Not pictured are Ailex Lloyd and Diane Adam.



The Bucks boys' cross-country team consists of Coach Paul McPherson (back row - left to right), Johnathan Massie, Aaron Kidd, Demarea Brandy, Timothy Fox, Karon Johnson and Coach Deanna Ray; kneeling, left to right: Reggie McMillan, Domonique Love and Deon Love. Not pictured are Cody Oxendine and Jordan Jacobs.

Cross-country girls get win

By HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The Hoke County High School Fighting Bucks' cross-country teams competed at St. Andrews last week and the girls' team won, beating Lumberton and Scotland County. Ailex Lloyd placed third overall with a 23:59 in the 3.1-mile run. Ailex is a sophomore who steadily stays in the top 10 and recently placed first in the N.C. Turkey Festival 5K run. In

the boys' cross-country meet, the Hoke Bucks came in second place behind Scotland but ahead of Lumberton. Aaron Kidd was the top finisher for Hoke with a 19:09 in the 3.1-run. Karon Johnson came in eighth overall with a 19:52 run and Dominique Love came in tenth with a 20:40 run. Aaron is a senior who placed first overall at the N.C. Turkey Festival 5K run and he steadily places in the top 10 at each meet.



Golf team competes

The Hoke County High School Lady Bucks' golf team competed in Southern Pines Monday and came in third place out of six teams. The Lady Bucks finished behind Pinecrest and Scotland County but ahead of Purnell Swett, Richmond County and Lumberton. The top finisher for the Bucks was Megan Munroe who shot an 84. The team consists of Alexis Rodriguez (front row - left to right), Haley Johnson, Amanda Jones, Ashelyn Priest and Jane Breyak; back row - left to right: Symonne Thompson, Megan Munroe, Kelsey Lorenzen and Coach Buddie Currie.

Bucks outrun Wolverines 21-0

By HAL NUNN
Sports writer

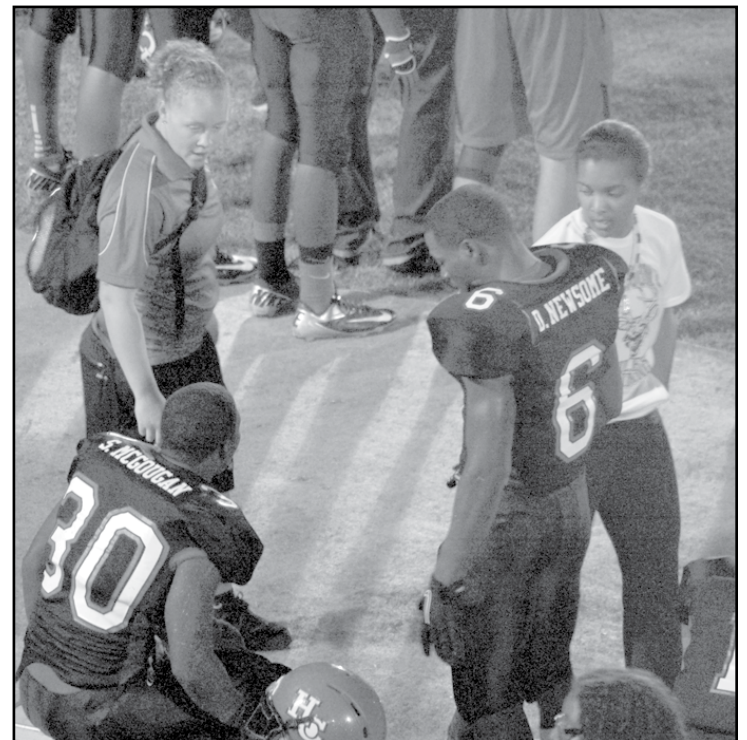
It doesn't get much bigger than this coming Friday night. For the first time in school history, the Hoke County High School Fighting Bucks' football team is 6-0 going into conference play against a 5-0 Richmond Raiders' team this Friday night.

The Hoke High Bucks took care of business last Friday when they shut down the Wolverines from Westover 21-0. Westover coach Greg Bryant made his return to Raz Autry Stadium as head coach and could not get his team into the end zone. The Hoke defense held onto the shutout as the offense exploded in the second half with 21 points. Hoke's starting running back Detrez News-

some scored three touchdowns in the game and rushed for 296 yards. He now has 1,397 yards rushing on the season with 21 touchdowns.

"We were very fortunate Westover didn't capitalize on our turnovers," Head Coach Milton Butts said. "We can't continue to turn the ball over and don't plan to this Friday night."

Hoke will travel to #2 state ranked Richmond County this Friday night where the Raiders will be celebrating homecoming. The Bucks will be without two of their best receivers/runners, Jawane Harris and Brandon McRae. Defensively, the Bucks may be without one of their top tacklers, Shaikheim McGougan, who had a high ankle sprain during the Westover game. Richmond County is averaging 49.8 points



Athletic trainer Porcha Locklear talks with Shaikheim McGougan and Detrez Newsome during the Bucks game against Westover. McGougan is questionable for this Friday's game due to a high ankle sprain during the game Friday night.

per game and Hoke is averaging 36.7 points per game. Coach Butts said Richmond is very physical and has a very fast defense so the Bucks will need to match that intensity this Friday night on the road. For those not making the trip

to Richmond County, catch the game live on the Bucks Broadcast Network on AM1400 WMFA Raeford or online at www.ihigh.com/bucksnetwork beginning at 7:15 p.m.

Just Putting Around

Upland Trace: The winners in the Saturday morning group at Upland Trace Golf Course in Hoke County were Ray McLemore, Wayne Beasley and Richard Cook. The winners in the Sunday morning group were Mark Madden, Al Smith, Ray McLemore and Don Mikolajazah.

Bayonet: The Wednesday Shootout winners from Bayonet at Puppy Creek Golf Course last week were Robert Crowder, Carl Casey, John Byrd and Jean Carter. They shot a 6-under par. The runners-up were Brandon Jobe, Marcus Dudley, Dennis Gustaphason and Paul Hill with a 4-under par.

Fighting Bucks Sports Schedule

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| September 26 Girls Freshman Volleyball at Purnell Swett 4:30 p.m. | September 27 Girls Tennis at Scotland 4 p.m. Girls JV Volleyball Home vs. Richmond 5 p.m. Girls V Volleyball Home vs. Richmond 6 p.m. Boys JV Soccer at Union Pines 5 p.m. Boys V Soccer at Union Pines 7 p.m. Boys Freshman Football at Richmond 4 p.m. Boys JV Football Home vs. Richmond 7 p.m. | September 28 Boys V Football at Richmond 7:30 p.m. | October 1 Girls Golf at Scotland 2 p.m. Girls Freshman Volleyball Home vs. Lumberton 4:30 p.m. Boys JV Soccer at Jack Britt 5:30 p.m. Boys V Soccer at Jack Britt 7 p.m. |
| | | October 2 Girls Tennis at Purnell Swett 4 p.m. Cross Country Conference Meet Away 5 p.m. | |

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The Color Guard for last Friday's game was two sets of twins for Hoke County Junior ROTC: left to right, Alexander Davis (left guard), Jonathan Davis (U.S. Flag), Christian Kelly (State Flag) and Roberto Kelly (right guard). This is the first time that two sets of twins were on the color guard.

52nd Annual Conoly/Conoley Reunion would like to say
Thank You

We recently celebrated the 52nd Annual Conoly Reunion and on behalf of the Conoly Family, we would like to thank Antioch Presbyterian Church and the Raeford Museum for allowing us to enjoy the tradition in their venues. We also thank the local support from Hedgepath Farms, Daniels Exxon, Traywick Construction, NAPA, Raeford Hardware, Home Food, Maxwell's Garage, Edinborough Restaurant, Deb's Custom Frames, Hair It Is--By Gina Shaff, Howell Drug and Barbee Pharmacy.

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The committee to elect
EVELYN McMILLAN MCLEOD
HOKE COUNTY Clerk of Court
invites you to join her for breakfast!
Saturday, September 29
7:30 a.m. • L.E. McLaughlin Building
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Candidate Evelyn McMillan McLeod has 37 years of diversified experience in the Hoke County Clerk's Office, is committed to moving that office forward and is determined that everyone will be treated with dignity and fairness.

Please come and be heard by candidate Evelyn McMillan McLeod, get to know her, meet other Hoke County candidates and elected officials. We look forward to seeing you.

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Message from Kuwait

Sharon Davis, mother of Hoke County graduate and N.C. State University football safety Earl Wolff, sent a personal video message to her son during Military Appreciation Day Saturday at Carter Finley Stadium in Raleigh. From her base in Kuwait, the Army mom's message was put on the scoreboard for all to see. The Wolffs are from Hoke County. Earl's brother Eric also plays football, for Winston-Salem State University.

School

(Continued from page 1A)

to get it to 70 degrees inside your home," Williams said. "We've got 65-degree ground temperature. Just put that in your mind, it only takes a little while to get from 65 to 70 (degrees) if that's what they want inside the building. The efficiency is a whole lot greater than what they get with conventional."

Many large institutions like colleges and military installations are moving to a geothermal system because of the potential cost savings on heating and cooling bills, Williams said. MidSouth Geothermal has installed geothermal systems on Fort Bragg in recent years, he added.

The geothermal system is located under the sports fields because drilling isn't allowed underneath permanent buildings, Tapp explained.

"You can't do any type of drilling where there's going to be a permanent building," he said.

People using the fields on top of the completed system "won't even know it's there," MidSouth Geothermal Vice President Mark Adams said. The pressurized system will use about 12,000 gallons of water from the municipal water source to heat and cool the school, he said. Once the system is filled with water, the school won't need to add more water to it because it operates

as a closed loop, the company vice president said.

The savings for large buildings can be significant, Williams said.

"There was one college we had done that had saved \$3 million or \$4 million within just a few years," he said.

Solar and LEED

In addition to the geothermal system, the school is also solar-powered. About 80 percent of the roof will be covered in solar panels, several solar "trees" will sit outside the front of the building and a field behind the school will also have some of the panels, Tapp said. The school's solar panels will likely generate more electricity than the school can use and the excess can then be sold to Progress Energy, he said.

"You'll be collecting solar energy from sun up to sundown seven days a week. The school's only going to be operational a maximum of 10 hours a day, five days a week," Tapp said. "They'll take all that excess energy that's constantly being brought in by the sun, go through an inverter, put it back on the grid to a meter and then sell it."

As one of the requirements for the school to earn its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification, the

construction site is also sorting its waste products like a household sorts recyclable materials - but on a much larger scale.

"It's actually supposed to end up being a net-zero school," Tapp said.

Additionally, all the products being used in the school construction are American-made, he said.

The \$20 million school is being financed through a private-public partnership that architect firm SHoP characterized as the first of its kind in the nation. A 3-cent property tax increase implemented last year by the county commission is funding the school construction. Developers also took advantage of \$4.2 million in available tax credits, knocking the "sticker price" for the county down to about \$16 million.

The school facility will be owned by developer Firstfloor K-12 Solutions until it is fully paid for, at which time the building will be deeded to the county, officials have said. Once completed, the 75,000-square-foot Sandy Grove Middle School will have room for about 600 students in grades 6-8.

The school system hasn't decided on Sandy Grove Middle's mascot yet, Hoke County Schools Public Relations Director Jodie Bryant said.

9. Hired an independent firm to conduct a long-range facility study. The results of this study will be presented to our County Commissioners within the next month.

8. What is one issue classroom teachers are facing today that you would like to address as a member of the school board? How would you address it?

Rosa McAllister-McRae: We must have effective teachers in every classroom setting, there is a "READY" initiative in the state of North Carolina. Our "READY" initiative will allow students to be college and career ready. In our global and ever-changing world, the public school system has to make sure that our students are ready for whatever path they decide to take. North Carolina teachers will implement a new Standard Course of Study that includes the Common Core States Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics. Because of the "READY" initiative, students will be taught more rigorously, this of course will require the teachers to work more diligently as well. I would address this issue by stating that our teachers will do what it takes to comply to the new

standards. That said, the board must ensure that professional development, workshops, feedback, evaluation and everything it takes to pursue this endeavor is in place.

Betty Perkins: The need for additional teacher support in the area of the purchasing supplies and equipment. Provide teachers access to all necessary supplies and equipment.

Hank Richards: Available and affordable housing has been an issue for quite some time, especially for new employees coming to Hoke County. The Board of Education recently addressed this issue by supporting a grant from the State Employees Credit Union Foundation to construct 24 units for teachers (2-bedroom, 2-bath). The complex will be built and operated under the direction of Partners for Hoke County Schools Education Foundation. Groundbreaking is set for Friday, November 9, 2012.

Another issue: Classroom teachers and staff need to be heard. The state provides Satisfaction Surveys every two years. The results from the surveys should be taken to heart, making this instrument one to drive improvement in climate and instruction countywide.

Prayer

(Continued from page 1A)

Freddie Williamson and County Commission Vice Chairman Tony Hunt, who works with the school system as a parent coordinator, for further prayer and discussion.

The event Saturday was about showing a united front in support of Hoke County students, evangelist and former assistant pastor Tim Locklear said.

"We wanted to come together to demonstrate to the community and demonstrate to our Father in heaven and show the enemy that we are unified together in Christ to try and help our children because we love our children," he said. "We want to make sure that they're protected, we want to

make sure that they're safe, we want to make sure that they get a wonderful education, which is ... it's what they deserve."

The event was the first of what organizers hope will become a larger long-term effort, Locklear said.

"I pray that we'll have more and that it will begin to grow more and more and more," he said.

With the superintendent's approval, Neal said, the pastors also plan to apply for campus volunteer credentials and identification cards in order to mentor students. Prospective mentors who wish to serve on school campuses in the county must go through a background check and other safety clearances before being allowed to

work with students, according to county school policy.

"That's all an ongoing process to come in and help in any way possible," Neal said.

Williamson said he appreciated the support from the group of pastors.

"Any time you have the home, school and church working together as one, with a common message of expectations, it can only have a positive impact. This prayer group is one of many that pray for our school system, our employees, and for our students every day," he said. "We appreciate any support provided in our efforts to educate all our students in a safe, caring environment. As superintendent, I believe in the power of prayer."

Other stuff

(Continued from page 1A)

long ago that when I hit 70, I expected to lift off in the Piper Tomahawk in which I was taking flying lessons.

Of course I was quickly passed by traffic doing 80, and it got me to thinking. If I took off my rearview mirrors to improve aerodynamics, could my truck, too, get only 11 miles per gallon?

Just like everybody else, I like getting someplace as fast as possible. But I was struck by the irony that even as I was on the way to pay homage to the finest grandbaby ever born, I was at the same time blazing through her share of gasoline, because it is, after all, a limited resource, despite the head-in-the-sand behavior of our country.

Back in my cozy office I was doing a little research to clear up the fuzziness and see what happened while I wasn't paying attention since the 55-mile-per-hour nationwide limit was imposed in 1974 to save fuel because of the Arab oil embargo. The short answer is that it was repealed in 1995 when we got comfortable again.

Checking out websites from the U.S. Government Accountability Office to Treehugger.com, I found that slowing down can bring tremendous savings—up to 65 cents per gallon if you reduce the speed from 70 to 55. In fact, if everyone drove no more than 55, it would supposedly save more oil than the U.S. imports from the Persian Gulf. (There's also a savings in lives.)

I also read about a guy who

tried it—drove his 2001 Malibu for a 200-mile trip in California at 55 miles per hour one way and 70 the other. A writer for the San Francisco Chronicle, he did the science so I don't have to. Besides, there's no way my truck would do 70 miles per hour for 200 miles.

Here's what he found. Driving 55, he saved \$8 in gas over going 70. He also was passed by 830 vehicles and was flipped off by an apparent 12-year-old riding in a Dodge Stratus.

And there's the problem. If some people drive 55 while others do 80, it's just a matter of time—probably a short time—before one hits the other, and hard. And slow-poking it in the right lane will anger all the left-laners. Speaking as a scooter rider (80 miles per gallon, thank you very much) and a bicycle rider (1 peanut butter sandwich per hour), I know about road rage.

I'm not going to lie to you. I'd rather drive 70 than 55, because there's only so much texting you can do to keep entertained during the extra travel time (I'm kidding!), but should we just keep on burning gas like there's no tomorrow?

I have to agree with the contentions in a New York Times article entitled "The Age of Innocence," by David Brooks, who's not always my cup of tea. He wrote that democracies in the U.S. and Europe struck a balance based on the nature of citizens. "People are naturally selfish and need watching," he wrote, "but democratic self-government is possible because we're smart enough to design structures to police that selfishness."

Over the years, the balance has been lost, he writes.

"Leaders today do not believe their job is to restrain popular will. Their job is to flatter and satisfy it. A gigantic polling apparatus has developed to help leaders anticipate and respond to popular whims. Democratic politicians adopt the mind-set of marketing executives. Give the customer what he wants. The customer is always right."

Some day, we are going to wish we had conserved our gas—and water, green space, mountains, helium, air, soil, the ocean, wetlands, animal habitats...probably not fire ant mounds...and trees. Why can't we see that far ahead? My grandbaby wants to know. ♦

Election

(Continued from page 4A)

Middle School.

Betty Perkins: Expansion of our high school and the hiring of additional teachers and staff.

Hank Richards: In the past eight years, Hoke County has seen a growth of 2000-plus students. During that time, we have kept abreast of growth by:

1. Constructing Don Steed Elementary School for 700 students
2. Adding Sandhills Early College for 250 students. Plans are also underway to expand this school to a 500-student capacity, requiring additional classroom space.
3. Building a new cafeteria at Hawk Eye Elementary
4. Adding modular structures: Hoke High - 32 classrooms; Upchurch - 16 classrooms; Rockfish - 10 classrooms
5. Presently under construction is Sandy Gove Middle School for 600 students
6. Constructed a Pre-K building at Hawk Eye Elementary
7. Purchasing 11 acres adjacent to Hoke County High School for future expansion
8. Planning for the construction of a Ninth-Grade Academy building at Hoke High

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