If it happened, it's news to us

No. 27 Vol. 116

RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

266 cases, 3 more deaths last week Schools report 52 with COVID after first week in class

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

Hoke's numbers continued to rise with the county seeing a high level of virus spread, along with more hospitalizations and deaths, according to health officials.

Hoke County has seen 440 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in

the past 14 days, including 266 new cases over the last seven days. The state's most recent count shows the county's death toll at 59 people since the start of the pandemic. There have been three more deaths in the last week, Hoke health officials reported.

The county has recently been among the highest in the region

for hospitalizations. Another five people from Hoke were sent to the hospital with COVID-19 in the last week, Health Department Director Helene Edwards said Monday.

Area hospitals have reported they are feeling the strain as more patients with COVID-19 need inpatient care to battle the virus.

Both Cape Fear Valley Health and FirstHealth of the Carolinas reported seeing high numbers of COVID-19 patients throughout the hospital systems. Both have implemented visitor restrictions and are asking people to only go to the emergency room for actual emergencies, and use non-emergency care options like primary care or

urgent care where needed.

Schools see cases

Last week was the first week of school for Hoke County Schools students and teachers, and the first time many students had set foot inside a physical classroom since the start of the pandemic. With

(See COVID, page 6)



Chamber music

crowd enjoyed the music of the Sand Band in the early evening last Thursday at a free concert sponsored by the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber hosted the event as an end-of-summer get-together for the community. The concert was held at the Old Armory park on East Central Avenue in Raeford.

Students, parents call for change after viral post

Petition seeks to change dress code

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

Some students and parents at Hoke County High School voiced concerns and called for changes to the school dress code after a student's post on social media went viral.

A girl's description of allegedly being touched inappropriately by two other students in a classroom could not be verified through the Hoke County Sheriff's Office, which said there wasn't a report filed related to the incident. Due to policies meant to protect student privacy, school officials said they couldn't comment on the specific situation or discuss any disciplinary actions that might have been taken.

"Policies protecting students' privacy are in place and adhered to, thus we cannot disclose information about any disciplinary action taken pertaining to any particular student. However, we take all allegations seriously," Hoke County Schools said Tuesday in a statement. "The district's protocol is to promptly investigate any and all allegations and if needed, to report those to the appropriate authorities, launch an investigation, initiate a safety plan, and offer support to the student, while also maintaining student privacy and confidentiality."

The community's reaction to the viral post was swift with students writing a petition, and parents (See VIRAL POST, page 6)

He's in semifinals on America's Got Talent

Hoke High graduate Tavis Cunningham and musical group 1aChord have advanced to the semifinals on the performance competition television show America's Got Talent.

Cunningham, who graduated with the Bucks Class of 2020, joined forces with two fellow music lovers he met while attending college at the UNC-Greensboro.

Cunningham, Christoff Hairston and Julian Kennedy make up the male vocal trio 1aChord.

The three college students went from sitting at the same table in the college cafeteria, to singing together. They recorded a cover of The Clark Sisters' "Name It, Claim It" that went viral on (See GOT TALENT, page 3)



Cunningham, in screen capture.





Congressman visits

Rep. Dan Bishop, above left, who represents Hoke County as part of the Ninth Congressional District, speaks with One Stop Barber Shop business owner Michael T. Swinney during a visit to Hoke County August 19. The Congressman visited many local businesses to ask how they're doing as part of his tour through the county. His visit also included a stop in Rockfish, right, meeting with Sheriff Dr. Hubert Peterkin and Raeford Police Chief Marc Godwin to discuss public safety, and speaking at the Hoke County GOP meeting. (Catharin Shepard, contributed photos)

VFW fundraiser set to help veterans

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Ralph A. Pandure Post 10 in Hoke County will hold a fundraiser this month to raise money to help support veterans and their families.

"Our post is inviting all veterans, their families and the civilian communities in

Hoke County for a fundraising event to better serve veterans and veteran families." an announcement about the event said.

"Hoke County has one of the highest rates of soldiers with disabilities in the United States per capita. We (See VETERANS, page 4)

County will take part in national 9/11 memorial

Hoke County will take part in a special ceremony happening nation-wide this September 11 to commemorate the victims of the terrorist attacks of 20 years ago.

The county was chosen as one of 60 communities across the country to participate in the first annual National Flag of Honor

Across America Memorials. Organizer Brandy McPherson presented the information to the Hoke County **Board of Commissioners** last month.

The county will host a ceremony September 11 that will include reading the names and information of 50 of the people who died (See MEMORIAL, page 3)

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Hurricane Fran hit Sep. 5, 1996. This is the home of local resident Charles Tapp, who was blown from his roof, trying to prevent rain damage. Next week, a look back.

Conducts Membership Drive -

The Hoke County Farm Bureau,

member of the North Carolina Farm

Bureau, set themselves a goal of 340

members in their membership drive

being conducted this month. This

action was taken at a meeting of

the Hoke Bureau at the courthouse

this week. The Farm Bureau at this

time through its National Office in

Chicago, its office in Washington,

and the National and State boards

of directors is trying to keep farmers

from experiencing another 1932, by

upholding the laws that have been

passed by the organization to do for

farm people what has been done for

Veterans' Farmer Training

Program – The Veterans Farmer

Training Program established in

conjunction with the Agriculture

Department of Hoke County high

school has gotten off to a good

start, according to W.P. Phillips,

teacher of agriculture. To date, a

total of twenty-three veterans have

filed applications for the course,

of which sixteen have had all the

necessary forms prepared and en-

tered upon their training program.

This type of training is one of the

opportunities offered under the G.I.

Bill of Rights. Any veteran who has

had three months or more service

and holds an honorable discharge

from the armed forces is eligible to

apply if he is interested in securing

Opens Service Station – Berder

Niven, who was discharged from the

army last Dec. has opened the service

Car Falls on Kenneth Haire -

Kenneth Haire, son of Mr. and Mrs.

Hugh Haire, had the misfortune

last Sunday to have his car fall off

a bumper jack while he was under

it. He was taken to a Fayetteville

hospital with chest injuries but has

been released and according to last

reports is recovering satisfactorily.

47 Years Ago September 12, 1974

Raeford Growth Lags, But In-

come Zooms – The rate of growth

in the Raeford area slowed during

the last decade to the lowest level

since 1920 and the blighted areas

of the city remain in the same or

in worse condition than they were

pared for the city in 1960 has been

A land development plan pre-

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thirteen years ago.

station facing the Graded school

agricultural training.

other groups.

Hoke County Farm Bureau

virtually ignored since then. On the

other hand, the median income for

Raeford families is \$10,470, con-

siderably higher than the median

income in other urban areas in the

state. These were among statistics

contained in a new land develop-

ment plan update, presented in a

preliminary draft at the public haring

on zoning held recently. The survey

Four Lanes for U.S. 401 Gets

Tentative Nod – Again – The four-

laning of U.S. 401 between Raeford

and Fayetteville was given tentative

approval at a meeting Thursday in

Morehead City of the planning and

projects committee, Department of

Transportation secretary Troy Doby

this does not mean the project will

receive final approval when the full

transportation board meets Oct.

7, if approved the project will be

placed on the seven-year highway

proposal was viewed favorably at

at the August meeting of the planning

and projects committee in Charlotte

by Rex Harris, the board member

from Fayetteville," Doby said. "At

that time, it was one of three projects

widening of U.S. 401 between

Raeford and Fayetteville will have

been approved. In August 1970,

the then Highway Commissioner

Charles Dawkins of Fayetteville

announced a \$3.8 million project

to widen 10.5 miles of the highway

from Seventy-First High School to

After about twenty minutes

of discussion, in which approxi-

mately a dozen supporters of the

proposed leash law took part, the

city council Monday night passed

the ordinance requiring dogs to

be confined or under control. The

leash law will require all dogs in

the city to be registered with city

hall and wear a collar bearing city

and county tags and a state rabies

vaccination tag. It also forbid own-

ers to allow a dog to run at large

25 Years Ago September 11, 1996

Fran's Fury Hits Hoke-see story

off the owner's property.

next week.

just north of the 401 by-pass.

.."This is not the first time

However, Doby did say that the

"This project was first brought up

While Doby cautioned that

was made in 1973.

announced Monday.

construction plan.

he brought up."

the committee meeting.

90 Years Ago September 11, 1931

Kills Big Snake – One afternoon last week, Mrs. D. P. Brown, of Timberland, heard her little four year old grandson, who was playing in the yard, call to her saying that he saw a snake. Mrs. Browninvestigated, and found the snake to be a huge rattler; since there was no one else at home to kill the snake, she quickly got a hoe and killed it herself. The rattler was measured and found to be four feet long, and 12 inches around. It had 10 rattles and a button.

Square Dances to Begin -Messrs. "Cliff" Conoly and Fairley Dunn are making plans for a series of square dances to be held in the Armory Hall of Battery F this fall. The first dance will take place next Tuesday evening, September 15, from 3:30 until 12 o'clock.

The managers have secured the services of Causey's String band, of Lakeview, which is very well known here. Last year the square dances held every week proved to be very popular, and indications are that they will be even more so this year.

Bet on Roosevelt But Prefer Baker – A majority of democratic newspaper editors favor Newton D. Baker as the party's presidential nominee, but believe Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York will win the nomination, a survey by The Outlook and Independent revealed a few days ago.

Aberdeen Market Opens Sept. 22ND – Sandhills Looked To For High Grade Tobacco; Special Effort To Get Independent Buyers - The Aberdeen market, which is the main outlet for Hoke County tobacco, opens on the 22nd of this month, and local growers are looking forward to the event with much interest. For many years Aberdeen has been a favorite spot of the tobacco companies for picking up good tobacco of the finest quality and the expressions of buyers who have been looking over this field indicate that they are expecting a higher percentage of the choicest tobacco on this market this year than ever before.

75 Years Ago September 12, 1946

Man charged in drug bust

Investigators with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Unit arrested a man last week following a traffic stop on Addor Road.

Deputies charged Major Marks, 44, of the 200 block of Ironwood Drive in Pine Bluff with possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana, fleeing to elude, driving while license revoked and fictitious registration plate.

Officers were following up on a drug complaint Thursday, August 26 when they attempted to conduct a traffic stop. Marks, the driver, reportedly failed to stop for blue lights and siren, according to the sheriff's office. He eventually dove into a yard and then fled from law enforcement on foot.

Pursuing officers located Marks hiding in an abandoned vehicle in the area, the sheriff's office said in a press release. When detectives searched the vehicle, they found approximately 42 grams of marijuana and \$3,200 in cash.

Authorities took Marks into custody on the listed charges. He was taken to the Hoke County Detention Center and held under a \$20,000 secured bond.

Fredrick D. Bass

Fredrick D. Bass

Fredrick Donell Bass, 65, died Thursday, August 19, 2021 at Womack Army Medical Center in FtBragg. Born April 5, 1956, he was the son of Bernice Bass Cherry and the late Arthur Moe Sims.

He is survived by his wife, Regina Potts Bass; children, Jerone Crawford, Makadrian Bass Holsey, Maryia Bass Maynor, and Mother Bernice Bass Cherry; sisters, Mychelle McDonald, Cathryn Artis, Pauline Barnes, and Portia Jenkins; brother, Michael Bynum; aunt, Inez Moore: and uncle. Charles Bass.

The funeral was held Saturday, August 28, 2021 at Cape Fear Conference B Headquarters at 1 p.m.

Committal was at Rest Haven Cemetery in Wilson.

Cedrick J. Monroe

Agency wants to hear your broadband

The Lumber River Council of Governments(LRCOG)inconjunction with its members Bladen, Hoke, Richmond, Robeson and Scotland counties, and the municipalities in them have been working on a broadband internet access demand study aimed at improving broadband availability within the five-county region.

The public's input tool into the study was scheduled to end on August 31, 2021; however, due to a lack of responses, the LRCOG has arranged for a one-time extension of the response window to September 17, 2021. Individuals with and without broadband (internet) service within Bladen, Hoke, Richmond, Robeson, and Scotland counties are encouraged to visit www.lrcogbroadband.com to complete the survey online or call 910-618-5533 to complete the survey by phone or

David Richardson, Executive Director of the LRCOG, said, "having a substantial response rate from each county is critical in developing statistically significant data that may be used by local governments to help attract internet service providers to the region and to assist in the preparation of grant applications for the expansion of broadband." The goal is to have a response rate of five percent of households within each county and currently the survey has only received 53% of the needed responses from Bladen County, 48% of needed responses from Hoke County, 36% of needed responses from Richmond County, 84% of needed responses from Robeson County, and 19% of needed

The study is being funded by a grant from the US Economic Development Administration.

The LRCOG provides an array of programs and services to the member governments located within its region: Bladen, Hoke, Richmond, Robeson, and Scotland counties. It serves as an administrative and service delivery arm for federal, state, regional, and local programs of its member governments.

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Cedrick Jevon Monroe, 35, died Friday, August 27, 2021 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville. Born July 9, 1986, he was the son of Patricia Thomas and the late Donnie G. Monroe

He was a 2004 graduate of Hoke

internet needs

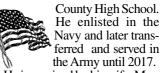
to receive a paper copy.

responses from Scotland County.

bituaries



Cedrick J. Monroe



He is survived by his wife, Marcella Monroe; children, Zymana Monroe, Zymeria Monroe, and Zymeir Monroe; goddaughters, Sazerricka Monroe, and Alexis Finney; mother, Patricia Thomas; sisters, Latora Davis, Jacqueline Monroe; brothers, Travis Bronson, Antoine Grace, Levern Kershaw, Keith Wright; and one granddaughter, Aubrielle Graham.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, September 3, 2021 at Cape Fear Conference B Headquarters at 1 p.m.

Willie Mae Purcell

Willie Mae Maynor Purcell, 69, died Thursday, August 19, 2021 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville. Born April 1, 1952, she was the daughter of the late Willie Lee Maynor and Kathryn C. Maynor.

She is survived by her husband, Jeffery Purcell; son, Charles Blue (Gerelane); two granddaughters; three great-grandchildren; sisters, Jerlene Spivey (Carl) and Barbara Crooms (Anthony); and brother, Jerome Maynor (Tammi).

A graveside service was held on Sunday, August 29, 2021 at McLauchlin Chapel Cemetery at



Willie Mae Purcell

Swanda Smith

Swanda Demetrius Morrisey Smith, 39, died Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania. Born June 26, 1982, she was the daughter of



Edward and Linda Hamilton of

She is survived by her husband, Tyrone Smith; parents, Edward and Linda Hamilton; sisters, Lynette Morrisey, Barbara McNeill (Terry), Kenisha Murchison and Kylah Bratcher; grandmother, Julia Hamilton; aunts, Lorine Billinger, Valerie Swindell (Jessie), Linda Morrisey, Sandra Morrisey (Edgar); and uncles, Steve Hamilton (Stephine), Larry Morrisey (Lisa) and Gregory Morrisey.

The funeral was held on Sunday. August 29, 2021 at Mt. Pisgah MBC Resource Center at 3 p.m. Committal was in McLauchlin Chapel Cemetery.



ATTORNEYS

Debbie G. Baker **Attorney At Law** Auto Accidents, Traffic, Criminal Defense, Civil Call 910-904-5585 or **910-229-9280** for help 24 hours a day. **Email:**

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VIEWPOINTS

We're all just suckers fed a line

Since the end of World War II America has kept itself entangled in conflict after conflict with other countries. We are so good at this, we don't even need our adversaries to be countries. We can get into a prolonged, military fuss with just about any kind of organization, even ones that are not well organized. Other than the successful standoff with the Soviet Union on Cuba, I can't think of many successful outcomes. Of course, it can be argued that since we have had gas to burn in our cars and military machines all these years and there have been no major foreign terrorist attacks on our soil since the Trade Centers, some good has come out of the Mideast conflicts. If we could add up the good versus the bad, we would probably have been better off to ride horses and stay out of other people's homelands.

As I write this, the withdrawal from Afghanistan is chaotic and sure to leave many unsatisfied, if not dead, after the dust settles. I am in favor of getting out and have been since I first realized that there is no changing a country that has so many centuries of tradition and conflict, so many diverse tribes and so little will or ability to bring everyone under one government. It may have been virtuous to try to bring this human amalgam into the modern world, but after 20 years, the writing was on the wall.

There are a couple of characteristics of humans in general, and Americans in particular, that seem to perpetuate these conflicts.

in the attacks. The county received

Memorial

(Continued from page 1)



Among them are fear, greed, revenge, arrogance, empathy and the belief that everyone would be better off to have our system of government. We are sold the need to fear by those who are paranoid and those who profit from the fear. Greed is a human inclination that rules the lives of many. Revenge was the need that tragically got us into the Gulf War to begin with. Arrogance creeps into our psyches even when we resist it. The belief that our system of government is right for everyone is simply not true. How many times do we have to attempt to force our system on others before we learn that?

This leaves us with empathy and the urge to help others in need, as we see the heart-wrenching scenes of the desperate people as they try to flee. There is no doubt that the situation is terrible, that people will be unjustly treated and that there will be consequences politically and to our prestige. This does not change the fact that we were embroiled in a losing struggle to make Afghanistan into something that it is not.

Leaving Afghanistan was going to be messy, no matter what we did to try to make it better. It certainly could have been planned better, but if spending 20 years only produces an army that can-

not stand up for more than a few days, no amount of planning could have made this palatable. There are too many complications and too few resources. The day before I wrote this over 10,000 people were flown out of the country. and yet, criticism is in order. If everyone who seems to want to leave the country could, I'm not sure how many would be left. It is a tragedy that the oppression and suffering of so many just seems to be inevitable.

This fiasco will teach our leaders nothing. They will continue to be led into conflict by their advisors for all kinds of reasons. Think of the money that has been paid to American contractors to propup the war in Afghanistan and to line corrupt pockets and build, and rebuild, infrastructure from nothing. Think of the position that the military has endured, seeking military solutions to unsolvable problems while trying to maintain our prestige. The human cost has been tragic and will endure. The question I love is "Are we more or less safe from terrorists?" Even better, are we more or less safe from

As I grow older it becomes more and more apparent that we are all just suckers being fed a line of information that is customized for our consumption to justify the actions of those in power. I now have little faith that anything out of any politician's mouth is not spun to first serve the politics.

Even as we leave Afghanistan there are rumblings of returning. More later.

by Hoke County Teen Court. It is led nationally by Global Youth Justice and funded by that agency and the Federal Agency Ameri-Corps National Day of Service.

8:30 a.m. September 11 and will be held at Freedom Park in downtown Raeford, at the corner of Main Street and East Central Avenue. For information on volunteer opportunities, call (910)

event will also include efforts to improve communities across the country.

organizing community service projects with the national 9/11 day, so we're doing that with our Open Door Soup Kitchen here in Hoke County," McPherson said.

September 11 falls on a Sat-

in New York where the Twin Towers once stood before it was delivered to the county. The flag is registered specifically to Hoke County, McPherson said.

Besides the ceremony and the flag, the commemorative

a special American flag imprinted "Part of that program is with the names of the people who died on 9/11. The flag visited the 9/11 Memorial and Museum

urday this year. The community service projects will take place after the memorial.

The News-Journal

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	urantS. Main St.
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I		Hwy. 211 S
I	•	Hwy. 401 & Vass Rd
I		Fayetteville Rd
I		Walmart Hwy 401
I		119 W. Elwood
I		McCair
I		E. Central Ave
I		
I		US401 (Flagstone Ln
I		Davis Bridge Rd
I		Hwy. 211 Wes
I		N. Fulton St
I	Something's Brewing Coffee	Shop7104 Fayetteville Rd
I	Tobacco World	Fayetteville Rd
I	211 Food Mart	Hwy 211
I	Waffle House	401 Hwy Bypass
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I	Zip N Mart	Fayetteville Rd
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The National Flag of Honor Across America Memorial in Hoke County is being organized

The event is set to start at

Class Reunions

1971 —HHS Class of '71 50th Reunion underway for the Class of 71's 50th reunion. A virtual meeting was held on August 23 to discuss committees and proposed dates. Venues are being researched for the fall of 2022. We are in need of contact information for ALL members of our class. If you have not already shared your contact information, please send it to Deb (Anderson) Geisler via Facebook Messenger, email hokehs1971@icloud.com or 14402 Marina San Pablo Pl, Unit 903, Jacksonville, FL 32224. If you are in contact with other members of our class, please ask them to share their info as well. Classmates are also encouraged to join the Hoke County High School Class of 1971 Facebook page for updated information. The next virtual planning meeting will be held in September. If you are interested in being a member of a committee, please contact Deb Anderson in one of the ways listed above.

Politicians must fix state school budget

BY DIANE MITCHELL & DEE GRISSETT

If you sat down in the dentist chair, you would think it crazy if the receptionist barged in to say, "Good morning, we're still trying to hire a hygienist. So between phone calls and scheduling appointments, I'm here to clean your teeth." It sounds like a Three Stooges skit, but something similar is happening in our public schools. It's not funny at all to educators like us.

Many North Carolina students are going back to school to find classrooms without qualified teachers. Because of a widespread teacher shortage, schools are filling classrooms with substitutes, teaching assistants, and unlicensed instructors. North Carolina has zero education requirements to work as a substitute teacher.

The teacher shortage is worse in some counties, but it's felt across the state. Scroll through the school district websites, and you will see over a thousand vacant teaching positions even as the school year has already started. Teaching vacancies on the first day of school were three times higher in Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools than two years ago. Only 30% of North Carolina students have a fully licensed math teacher. Math teachers in Robeson County are covering classes in person in one school and then jumping onto Zoom meetings to teach math remotely to students in other schools. "The teacher shortage is real, large and growing, and worse than we thought," said a Robeson County assistant superintendent. 41 of Hoke County's almost 600 teaching positions are vacant more than a week after schools started. More than half of those vacancies are elementary positions

teaching our youngest children. The U.S. Department of Education tracks Teacher Shortage Areas across states. For the

2021-22 school year, the federal government says North Carolina has a shortage of qualified teachers in all grades of math and special education and all core subjects in all elementary school grades. Many school districts are offering new teacher signing bonuses funded with federal COVID relief dollars, but the teacher shortage persists.

Behind these numbers is real harm to our children. Students are less likely to learn to read with a substitute teacher who's not familiar with the best ways to teach reading. Students are less likely to master math with a teacher who is learning as they go. We are letting our students down during their formative years. Our children dteserve better.

How did we get here? It's deeper than COVID. For the last decade, North Carolina's state lawmakers have passed state budgets that underfund public education and undermine teachers. Politicians are not treating or paying teachers as professionals. North Carolina's average teacher salary is \$10,000 below the national average. Experienced teachers are leaving the state and profession. College students are choosing

other careers. Better pay would go a long way to solve this teacher shortage. New Hanover County recently doubled its local salary supplement for its teachers who are now some of the best paid in the state. A school district with some 1700 teachers started the school year with just ten teaching vacancies. Unfortunately, that's a solution many rural counties like ours cannot afford. The teacher shortage is a statewide problem that needs a statewide solution.

And our state's Supreme Court has said public education is the state's responsibility. In its Leandro rulings, the court said every child has a constitutional right to a "sound, basic education," and the state is not living up to its constitutional responsibility. Court-ordered improvement plans include placing a well-qualified teacher in every classroom. So far, the state legislature has largely ignored these rulings.

Some politicians have tried to dismiss the teacher shortage by claiming we need more data to see if statewide teacher vacancy numbers are better or worse than last year. That's like waiting to fight the forest fire until you can confirm the blaze has grown since yesterday. North Carolina's teacher shortage is obvious now. It's hurting our children now. Now is the time to fix it.

The immediate first step to ending this teacher shortage is adopting a state budget with better funding for public education. Of course, state lawmakers who have underfunded our public schools are dithering over a \$6.5 BILLION surplus and have still not adopted a new budget that was due two months ago. So far, their budget proposals would largely ignore the NC Supreme Court's funding demands for education. Instead, they would further cut corporate income

Meantime, many North Carolina schools are leaning on teaching assistants and longterm subs to cover classrooms that don't have permanent, licensed teachers. Parents, the public, and voters should tell our politicians to fix this now. You would not go to the dentist, and then let the receptionist clean your teeth.

Diane Mitchell is a high school social studies teacher in Hoke County and president of the Hoke Co. Assoc. of Educators. She has been an educator for 40 years.

Dee Grissett is a business curriculum teacher in Robeson County and president of the Robeson Co. Assoc. of Educators. She has been an educator for 16 years.

Got talent

(Continued from page 1)

TikTok. Not long after, they were singing in front of America's Got Talent celebrity judges Sofia Vergara, Simon Cowell, Heidi Klum and Howie Mandel.

All four judges gave the group a standing ovation for their first performance on the show, where 1aChord performed their own arrangement of Coldplay's hit song "Fix You" for their audition. Since then the singing group has powered through the competition, keeping their chances at winning alive. They recently performed a cover of R.E.M.'s "Everybody Hurts" that proved to be a hit with the judges, earning them another standing ovation.

Vergara said of the performance. Cowell told the group they are "so talented."

"I think this has been the best performance of the night so far. I think you guys are just magic,"

he said. Mandel said he couldn't believe the group met just this year, and that they are doing something

"I was forgetting where I was,"

the music industry today.

concert," he praised them.

out for the top spot on America's Got Talent as they enter the semifinals. All three of the members of

1aChord are studying music in college, according to UNC-Greensboro. Cunningham is a sophomore musical theatre major, while Kennedy is a senior jazz studies major with a concentration in piano performance, and Hairston is a sophomore music major with a concentration in voice.

The university's communications office recently profiled the group and spoke with them about the impact UNC-G has had on their lives.

"If it weren't for UNCG, I never would have met Julian and Christoff, and 1aChord wouldn't exist," Cunningham told Alexandra McQueen of UNC-G University Communications. He and his fellow students praised the school's faculty for helping

in a different lane than what's in them develop their skills.

"They have helped us by "I would buy a ticket to your teaching us the basics of what we need to do on that stage when we 1aChord continues battling it perform—connect with ourselves and the audience – and to share our talent," Cunningham said.

> To see the UNC-G interview with the students, visit https:// news.uncg.edu.

All three of the young men said in promotional videos for the show that they grew up singing in church. The judges have consistently praised the trio's vocal styling that puts a contemporary gospel twist on popular music with their "angelic" harmonies.

America's Got Talent airs on NBC. The group's Facebook page is available at https://www. facebook.com/official1achord, and they're on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/official1achord.

To support 1aChord, vote for them in the competition online at agt.vote.nbc.com or through the America's Got Talent app. Supporters are using the hashtag #Vote1aChord.

The News-Journal

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SPECIAL Worship

NOTICE: In order to keep our Special Worship up-to-date we are adding an expiration date to the following announcements. If you would like the event to continue in our listings after the expiration date, please call (875-2121), fax (875-7256) or email (robin@thenews-journal. com) requesting this at least a week before its expiration.

The Raeford United Methodist Church Preschool has openings in the 3- and 4-year-old preschool classes. If interested, contact Karen Tapp for more information at 910-875-1772. (expires November 2021)

Word of Life Temple, Inc. services will be held outside at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings until further notice. Masks are mandatory. Everyone is asked to stay in their car or stand beside their car. (expires October 2021)



Wendenburg New PA at FirstHealth Primary Care office

FirstHealth of the Carolinas Primary Care has welcomed a new family nurse practitioner at its Hoke

Amanda Wendenburg, FNP-BC, will start seeing patients on Sept. 7 at the Raeford office. She joined the staff of James Mergy, M.D., Andrew LePorte, D.O, and Jamie Dickerhoff, FNP-C.

Prior to joining FirstHealth Primary Care, Wendenburg worked at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital – Hoke as a registered nurse and supervisor for more than five years. While working at the hospital, she utilized FirstHealth's Continuing Education in Nursing program to earn both her bachelor of science degree in Nursing and master of science in Family Nurse Practitioner from the University of Texas at El Paso.

Wendenburg said she followed in her mother's footsteps to pursue a career in health care.

"My mom was an operating room nurse and a single mom, who sometimes had to bring me along during after hours," she said. "I became interested in health care after spending a lot of time in a small-town hospital's operating room on-call room."

Originally from Texas, Wendenburg relocated to North Carolina when her husband was stationed at Fort Bragg. She said she has grown to love the community and is excited to continue to serve Hoke County residents in the primary care setting.

"I would see numerous patients come through the emergency department for primary care complaints," she said. "I want to help bridge the gap in care and promote health and wellness across the lifespan."

In her spare time, Wendenburg enjoys gardening and spending time with her husband, John, and their three children, John, Ben and

Veterans

(Continued from page 1) want to reach out to these veterans and let them know that their local VFW is here for them."

All of the proceeds from the event will be distributed to veterans and their families.

The VFW is seeking businesses in Hoke County willing to donate products or services to support the cause. The prizes will be raffled off Saturday, September 18 at the field adjacent to Crumpler Funeral Home, located at 131 Harris Avenue in downtown Raeford.

Post 10 will offer the community free hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks.

"This is our annual community event, and we hope veterans and their families, and the community will come, 'greet and meet," enjoy some food music and non alcohol drinks, as we honor our veterans," organizers said.

The VFW motto is "to honor the dead, by helping the living." For business contributors, the

501c3 is 56-2101771. VFW Post 10 is located on the grounds of Raeford Airport. It is named after Ralph A. Pandure, who was a prisoner of war in World War II. There are over 6.000 VFW posts worldwide, and the local one being Post 10 indicates its long history of serving veterans.

For more information, contact Gary Gauthier at (517) 648-8112 or Rosemary Dinnen at (910) 273-3629.

CREDITOR'S NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION Before The Clerk COUNTY OF HOKE IN THE MATTER OF Luther Locklear 21 E 263

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Luther Locklear, deceased, are hereby notified to exhibit them to Stephanie Wearins, Administratrix CTA, of the estate of the defendant at 3380 Deep Branch Rd., Lumberton, NC 28360, on or before the 3rd day of December, $2021, or\,be\,barred\,from\,their\,recovery.$ Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Administratrix CTA. This the 1st day of September,

Stephanie Wearins, Administratrix CTA

For the estate of Luther Locklear 3380 Deep Branch Rd. Lumberton, NC 28360

Legal Advertising

View legals online at www.hokenews.com

CREDITOR'S NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION Before The Clerk COUNTY OF HOKE IN THE MATTER OF Brenda Locklear 21 E 264

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Brenda Locklear, deceased, are hereby notified to exhibit them to Stephanie Wearins, Administratrix CTA, of the estate of the defendant at 3380 Deep Branch Rd., Lumberton, NC 28360, on or before the 3rd day of December, 2021, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Administratrix CTA

This the 1st day of September, Stephanie Wearins, Administratrix

CTA For the estate of Brenda Locklear 3380 Deep Branch Rd. Lumberton, NC 28360

> **CREDITOR'S NOTICE** IN THE GENERAL COURT

OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION Before The Clerk COUNTY OF HOKE IN THE MATTER OF Alvin H. Copeland, Sr. 21 E 250

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Alvin H. Copeland, Sr., deceased, are hereby notified to exhibit them to Alvin H. Copeland, Jr., Executor, of the estate of the defendant at 263 Iris St., Raeford, NC 28376, on or before the 3rd day of December, 2021, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executor. This the 1st day of September,

Alvin H. Copeland, Jr., Executor For the estate of Alvin H. Copeland,

263 Iris St. Raeford, NC 28376

> NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

HOKE COUNTY In the Superior Court FRANCIS AND ANITA MEAUX V. MICHOLAS WORLEY AND AME-QUABINT WORLEY

Hoke County File Number: 20 CVS 711 To Ame-Quabint Worley: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed on October 27, 2020 in the above-entitled

sought is as follows: Breach of contract, declaratory judgment and exclusion of Defen-

action. The nature of the relief being

dant's interest in the subject property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than October 30, 2021 and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 1st day of September,

2021. Gregory T. Whitley MacRae, Perry, MacRae, & Whitley, L.L.P. 131 S. Cool Spring Street Post Office Box 1167 Fayetteville, N.C. 28302-1167 (910) 483-0107

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HOKE COUNTY FILE No. 21 JA 26 IN RE: G. Salazar-Tepetate,

a minor male Gregorio Xalxocotzin, Father of G. Salazar-Tepetate, born December 28, 2011. Take notice that a Petition has been filed by the Hoke County Department of Social Services alleging that the above-named juvenile is abused and neglected. You have the right to be represented by a lawyer at all stages of the proceeding. If you want a lawyer and cannot afford to hire one, the Court will appoint a lawyer to represent you. You may hire a lawyer of your choice at any time, or you may waive the right to a lawyer and represent yourself. You may contact the Clerk of Court of Hoke County at (910) 878-4100 to request a court appointed lawyer or for further information. If the Court determines the allegations in the Petition to be true, the Court will conduct a dispositional hearing to consider the needs of the juvenile and enter an order designed to meet those needs. Upon proper notice and hearing and a finding based on the criteria set out in N.C.G.S. § 7B-1111, these proceedings may end with your parental rights being terminated. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to respond, Petitioner will apply to the Court for the relief sought in the Petition

First published this the 1st day of September, 2021. Charles R. Smith, Esq. The Charleston Group Lawyers Attorney for the Petitioner Hoke County Department of Social Services

Post Office Box 1762 Fayetteville, N.C. 28302 Telephone: (910) 485-2500 State Bar No. 52402 09/01, 09/08, 09/15

> LEGAL DEADLINE: FRIDAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION DATE

E-mail legals to: robin@thenews-journal.com GENERAL NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE 21 CVD 504

Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Hoke County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled "COUNTY OF HOKE, a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina v. BRADDY LOCKLEAR, JR. a/k/a BRADY LOCKLEAR, JR. and DONNA M. LOWERY LOCKLEAR", the undersigned Commissioner will at 10:00 a.m. on the 9th day of September, 2021 offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction, at the courthouse door in Hoke County, North Carolina, in Raeford, the following described real property. PIN: 29440-00-01-460

"Lying and being in Antioch Township, Hoke County North Carolina and being a portion of the land conveyed to Aletha Locklear as recorded in Deed Book 196 Page

188, Hoke County Registry and being bounded on the North by the lands of Clarence and Margie Dial (DB 325 Pg 532) and the Hoke County Holiness Church, on the East by the tract of which this is a part and by SR 1436 "Balfour Road", on the West by George McNeill (DB 192 Pg 159), and being more particularly described

as follows: Beginning at an existing concrete monument found in the Western right of way line of SR 1436 "Balfour Road", said monument being an original corner of the tract of which this is a part, a common corner with George McNeill, said monument also being located North 47 degrees 00 minutes 25 seconds East 3727.04 feet from NC Grid Station "Mae", said monument also being located North 29 degrees 41 minutes 00 seconds West 23.91 feet from an existing iron pipe found at the edge of the pavement of SR 1436, said pipe being the original South corner of the tract of which

this is a part, and runs; THENCE North 29 degrees 46 minutes 55 seconds West for a distance of 338.88 feet as the original West line, a common line with George McNeill, to an existing concrete

monument; THENCE South 84 degrees 30 minutes 45 seconds East for a distance of 182.69 feet, as the original North line, a common line with Clarence and Margie Dial, to a new 5/8" rebar

set in said line;
THENCE South 28 degrees 58 minutes 45 seconds West for a distance of 139.36 feet, a new line to a new 5/8" rebar set;

THENCE South 29 degrees 46 minutes 55 seconds East for a distance of 142.92 feet, a new line to a new 5/8" rebar set in the West right of way line of SR 1436 "Balfour Road";

THENCE South 28 degrees 58 minutes 45 seconds West for a distance of 35.09 feet, as the West right of way line of SR 1436, to the point of BEGINNING.

Together with and subject to covenants, easements, and restrictions of record.

Said property contains 0.43 acres more or less."

The said property is being sold "as is", with all existing conditions or The last and h be accepted and will be final and irrevocable, and may not be withdrawn and shall not be refunded after the sale. The last and highest bidder shall be responsible for making any investigation deemed appropriate prior to sale as to the condition of the property, the status of title to the property, or any other matter(s) affecting the property.

The sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the abovedescribed property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. This sale will not convey any personal property that may be located on the real property and the Commissioner makes no warranties or representations as to whether improvements to real property are real or personal in nature. A cash deposit of ten (10%) percent or \$750.00, whichever is greater, of the successful bid will be required. Upon notification of close of the upset bid period the last and highest bidder will have 3 business days to deliver the balance of the bid (in certified funds) to RKS Law.

This 16th day of August, 2021. RUDOLPH K. SMITH RKS Law Attorney for Hoke County Tax Collection Department Post Office Box 2095, Fayetteville, NC 28302 (910) 486-3230 Publication dates: 9/1/2021 & 9/8/2021

File No: 21 CVD 504

27-28C

Pursuant to NC General Statute GS 44A-40-44 the undersigned will offer for Public Auction on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 12:00 Noon at AA All American Airborne Self Storage 9875 Fayetteville Road, Raeford NC Various items of personal property to the assertion of a lien at AA All Ameri can Airborne Self Storage. The entire contents from the following storage units will be sold at Public Auction to the highest bidder. Unit # P-28: T. Dawdy Unit # 5143: E. Green Unit # 30024: J. Hagler

Unit # 11013: M. Rasmussen Unit # 1028: C. Wilson AA ALL AMERICAN AIRBORNE SELF STORAGE, LLC 9875 FAYETTEVILLE ROAD RAEFORD, NC 28376

Unit # 4047: A. Harris

Unit # 11619: T. Journette

Unit # 914: Dennis Rifle

CREDITOR'S NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION Before The Clerk COUNTY OF HOKE IN THE MATTER OF Sondra Denise Little 21 E 247

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Sondra Denise Little, deceased, are hereby notified to exhibit them to Brenda Little, Administratrix, of the estate of the defendant at 230 N. McPhatter Road, Red Springs, NC 28377, on or before the 27th day of November, 2021, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Administratrix.

This the 25th day of August, 2021. Brenda Little, Administratrix Of the estate of Sondra Denise Little 230 N. McPhatter Rd. Red Springs, NC 28377 26-29P

> LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING HOKE COUNTY,

NORTH CAROLINA NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to G.S. 160D-601, that the following Public Hearing will be held before the Hoke County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm, at the Pratt Building, 227 N. Main Street, Raeford, NC, for the purpose of hearing the following:

Application for General Use Rezoning RZ-21-13 submitted by Brad Calloway to rezone six (6) unaddressed parcels totaling approximately 33.41 acres. The parcels are known as Hoke County Parcel Identification Numbers (PINs) 694150001052 (1.4 acres), 694150001015 (0.83 acres), 694150001017 (4.08 acres), 694150001055 (21.2 acres), 694150001374 (4.27 acres), 694150001375 (1.63 acres). All of the properties are currently zoned Residential Agricultural (RA-20) and the applicant requests all the properties to be rezoned Highway Commercial (HC).

Application for General Use Rezoning RZ-21-14 submitted by New Westgate, LLC to rezone an approximately 181 acre portion of the unaddressed parcel known as Hoke County Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 494660401002. The property is currently zoned Residential Agricultural (RA-20) and the applicant requests to rezone the property to Residential (R-8).

All interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing and be heard. Changes may be made in the advertised proposal, which reflect information presented at the hearing. The above listed items may be viewed in the Planning Department, 423 E. Central Avenue, Raeford, NC.

> CREDITOR'S NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT

OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION Before The Clerk COUNTY OF HOKE IN THE MATTER OF Brenda Kave Helvey 21 E 148

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Brenda K. Helvey, deceased, are hereby notified to exhibit them to Vanissa K. Townsend, Executrix, of the estate of the defendant at 13161 Thrift Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22193, on or before the 13th day of November, 2021, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executrix.

This the 11th day of August, 2021. Vanissa K. Townsend, Executrix For the estate of Brenda K. Helvey 13161 Thrift Lane Woodbridge, VA 22193

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to G.S. 153A-323, that the following Public Hearings will be held before the Hoke County Planning Board on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm, at the Pratt Building, 227 N. Main Street, Raeford, NC, for the purpose of hearing the following:

Application for General Use Rezoning RZ-21-15 submitted by Jamal Shahbain to rezone the approximately 114 acres per location Phillip Church Rd also known as Hoke County Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 494740001003 (114 acres) & 494750301009 (114) acres. The property is currently zoned Residential Agricultural (RA-20 and the applicant requests to rezone the property Residential District (R-8).

Application for General Use Rezoning RZ-21-16 submitted by Thomas Strickland to rezone the approximately 6.46 acres property location Aberdeen Rd also known as Hoke County Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 694150001242. The property is currently zoned Residential Agricultural (RA-20 and the applicant requests to rezone the property Highway Commercial (HC).

Application for General Use Rezoning RZ-21-17 submitted by Thomas Strickland/Joshua Rouse to rezone the approximately 1.82 acres property location Aberdeen Rd also known as Hoke County Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 694150001377. The property is currently zoned Residential Agricultural (RA-20 and the applicant requests to rezone the property Highway Com-

mercial (HĈ). All interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing and be heard. Changes may be made in the advertised proposal, which reflect information presented at the hearing. The above listed items may be viewed in the Planning Department, 423 E. Central Avenue, Raeford, NC. Jacqueline Lowery, Zoning Clerk

CREDITOR'S NOTICE IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION Before The Clerk COUNTY OF HOKE IN THE MATTER OF Arthur F. Taylor 21 E 233

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against Arthur F. Taylor, deceased, are hereby notified to exhibit them to Jack Organ, Co-Executor, of the estate of the defendant at 5727 Arabia Rd., Lumber Bridge, NC 28357 and Wanda Bentz, Co-Executrix at 1725 Savage Rd., SC 29407, on or before the 27th day of November, 2021, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Co-Administratrix.

This the 25th day of August, 2021. Jack Organ, Co-Executor For the estate of Arthur F. Taylor 5727 Arabia Rd. Lumber Bridge, NC 28357 Wanda Bentz, Co-Executrix 1725 Savage Rd.

GENERAL NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

21 CVD 372

Charleston, SC 29407

Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Hoke County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled "COUNTY OF HOKE, a political subdivision of the State of North Carolina v. RAEFORD HOLDINGS, LLC", the undersigned Commissioner will at 10:00 a.m. on the 9th day of September, 2021, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction, at the courthouse door in Hoke County.

North Carolina, in Raeford, the following described real property. PIN: 69434-06-01-186

"A certain tract or parcel of land in Raeford, North Carolina, fronting on the west side of Main Street and on the north side of Campus Avenue, adjoining the First Baptist Church of Raeford on the north, Riley M. Jordan on the west, and Hugh A. Gardner and Riley M. Jordan on the southeast, being further described as follows:

BEGINNING at a ½ inch re-bar

in the west right-of-way line of Main Street, said iron being the southeast corner of the property of the First Baptist Church and being the beginning corner of the John Leandro tract described in Deed Book 226 at Page 715 in the Hoke County Registry, said beginning point being further located S 01-00 W 190.70 feet from an iron pipe at the intersection of the south right-of-way line of West Donaldson Avenue with the west right-of-way line of Main Street; running thence from the beginning as a common line with the First Baptist Church, N 89-00 W 262.44 feet to a point in a concrete walk, a common corner with Dr. Riley M. Jordan; thence as a common line with Jordan, S 01-00 W 146.06 feet to a 3/4 inch iron in a paved drive, said iron also being in the north right-of-way line of Campus Avenue; thence as the north right-of-way line of Campus Avenue, S 89-04.8 E 112.76 feet to an iron pipe in said right-of-way line, a common corner with Hugh A. Gardner (Deed Book 135, Page 117); thence as a common line with Gardner, N 00-58.2 E 49.90 feet to an iron pipe; thence as a common line with Gardner, S 88-55.6 E 84.66 feet to an iron pipe, a common corner of Hugh A. Gardner and Riley M. Jordan (Deed Book 218 Page 086) thence as a common line with Jordan S 88-52.6 E 65.05 feet to a point in the west right-of way line of Main Street; thence as the west right-of-way line of Main Street, N 01-00 E 96.25 feet to the point of BEGINNING, containing 0.71 acre, more or less, and being the same lands described in Deed Book 226, Page 715, Hoke County Registry.

The legal description set out above was prepared from a survey be Leland D. Strother, Registered Surveyor, dated July 26, 1984.

The said property is being sold "as is", with all existing conditions or faults. The last and highest bid will be accepted and will be final and irrevocable, and may not be withdrawn and shall not be refunded after the sale. The last and highest bidder shall be responsible for making any investigation deemed appropriate prior to sale as to the condition of the property, the status of title to the property, or any other matter(s) affecting the property.

The sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the abovedescribed property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. This sale will not convey any personal property that may be located on the real property and the Commissioner makes no warranties or representations as to whether improvements to real property are real or personal in nature. A cash of ten (10%) per \$750.00, whichever is greater, of the successful bid will be required. Upon notification of close of the upset bid period the last and highest bidder will have 3 business days to deliver the balance of the bid (in certified funds) to RKS Law.

This 17th day of August, 2021. RUDOLPH K. SMITH RKS Law

Attorney for Hoke County Tax Collection Department Post Office Box 2095, Fayetteville, NC 28302 (910) 486-3230 Publication dates: 9/1/2021 &

9/8/2021

File No: 21 CVD 372 27-28C

PUBLIC NOTICE

Hoke County has been awarded a \$100,000 Urgent Repair Grant (URP) through the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency funded through the NC Housing Trust Fund. The program provides funds to eligible homeowners to correct housing conditions which 1) pose an imminent threat to their life and or safety

2) provide accessibility modifications and other repairs necessary to prevent their imminent displacement. Eligibility:

1. A minimum of 50% of the units must be owned and occupied by very low income households with special needs based on the 2021 HUD median income limits.

2. The remaining 50% of the assisted units must be owned and occupied by low income households with special needs.

Handicapped or disabled members, defined as follows:

1. A person with a physical or mental condition 1) with an indefinite duration or long continuing duration; 2) substantially impedes the persons' ability to live independently and could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.

2. An adult who has a 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's 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 addiction shall not be considered handicapped or disabled under the Urgent Repair Program.

Others eligible: 1. A single-parent with at least one dependent child in residence.

2. Have five or more persons living in the home

3. Have children below the age of 6 with a lead-based hazard in the home.

Applications will be taken by appointment at the Hoke County Senior Service's office at 423 East Central Avenue in Raeford. Applications will be taken beginning September 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 between 8:30am-4:30pm. If we do not receive qualified applications Hoke County Senior Services reserves the right to open the application process back up to continue taking applications at a later date. If additional funds remain once the qualified homes have been repaired applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis until funding has been exhausted. For more information or to make an appointment please call 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.

SPORTS



Hoke's Varsity Football Team earns their second win. (Photo by Glen Young Sr.)

Hoke High football defeats Lumberton 43-0

JESSICA HENDRIX BROWN Sports Writer

The Hoke County Bucks football team dominated in yet another game, this time on the road against the Lumberton High School Pirates. The Bucks won 43-0 at the away game Friday night, giving them a 2 game winning streak and hopefully the momentum they'll need to take on the Southview Tigers this Friday. Hoke's big win against the Pirates started with the Bucks scoring a safety when Lumberton missed the snap on a punt at the end of its second poslead. Hoke followed it up with an 8-yard run by Warren Avery bringing them to a 9-0 lead with 3:11 left in the first quarter. With less than a minute left in the first half, a long punt return brought Hoke County to the Pirates' 8-yard line; Devontre Daniels, who led Hoke County with 60 rushing yards on six carries, scored on the next play with 19 seconds on the clock, bringing the score to 16-0 at the half.

The second half began with Hoke County recovering a fumble, and Hoke's Lavell

session, giving the Bucks a 2-0 Jackson returned it 30 yards for a Bucks touchdown, the extra point was good, making for a score of 23-0. Hoke County then had two 7-yard touchdown runs first by Warren Avery, who ran seven times for 59 yards and two touchdowns, and the second by Jaleb Tupuloa. In the 4th quarter, a 25-yard pass from Avery to Kamonte Williams brought the Bucks to their 43-0 victory. The Bucks host South View High School this Friday night at home in the Raz Autry Stadium, kicking off at 7:30 p.m.



Senior, Julio Antinozzi, takes the corner kick for the Bucks. (Photo by Jessica Brown)

Bucks soccer ends their 5 game winning streak with a 4-2 loss against Terry Sanford

JESSICA HENDRIX BROWN Sports Writer

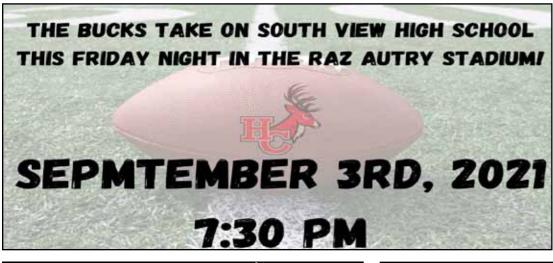
After an Intense match at home Monday night, The Hoke High Men's Varsity Soccer team ended their 5 game winning streak with a 2-4 loss against the Terry Sanford Bulldogs. The Bulldogs scored twice in the first half, shutting the Bucks out 2-0 by halftime. Hoke came back strong in the second half, scoring a quick goal against the bulldogs but couldn't keep the bulldogs out of their defensive end and Terry Sanford quickly answered the Bucks' goal with another of their own. After a corner kick in the last 20 minutes of the game, the Bucks were able to

score a second goal, bringing the score to 3-2. After a series of fouls and yellow cards given to Terry Sandford, the Bulldogs put in their fourth goal. The Bucks goals were scored by Ivan Rodriguez-Baez (Jr.) and Ke'Nautica Billinger (Jr.). Hoke plays at home tonight and Thursday night at the Raz Autry Stadium.



Hoke tennis team wins

Hokes tennis team is on a roll with wins against Scotland High School (5-3) and Lee County High School (9-0) last week. Back row left to right: Molly Bartch, Caitlyn Moore, Bailey Mass, Alyssa Pridgen; middle row, left to right: Alyssa Cascavilla, Jada Carvajal Garcia, Kyla Sites.; front row, left to right: Ava Burrow, Bella Khantivong; not pictured: Taylor AcFalle. Varsity tennis is coached by Lee Artis. (Contributed photo)

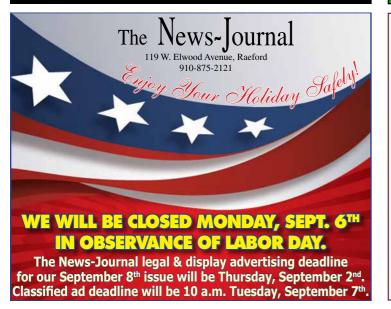




Volleyball team to play Lee County Bucks volleyball plays at 6 p.m. Thursday at Lee County High School. (Contributed photo)



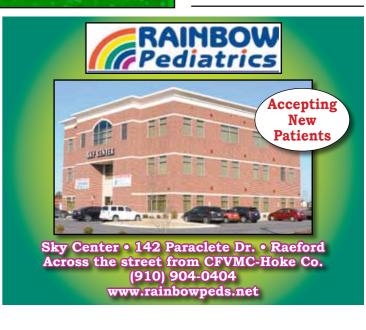












Accepted into



Lloyd

Zaquanna Lloyd of Raeford has been accepted into the NCCU Law School program. Her focus is on criminal law and her goal is

to become a judge by the age of 24. She graduated from SandHoke Early College in 2019 with a high school diploma and associate degree. In 2020 she graduated from UNC-Greensboro with a bachelor arts degree in English. She has an interest in vulnerable populations

Students graduate Two Raeford students at Troy

of minorities.

University graduated following the summer term. Christopher Leach and Jillian Thiel graduated following term five of the Alabama university.

Students graduate

Two Raeford students of Upper Iowa University graduated

Braden Meyer earned a bachelor of science degree in Public Administration.

Daniel Wagner graduated Magna Cum Laude with a bach-

and the inadequate representation elor of science degree in Information Technology.

Student makes Dean's List

Jasmine Jasenia Marcano of Hoke County was named to the Dean's List of Central Carolina Community College in Sanford. To be named to the list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5.

Student graduates

Carissa Walker of Hoke County graduated from Central Carolina Community College in Sanford. She was among 700 who graduated after the spring semester.

Viral Post

(Continued from page 1)

directing comments to the Hoke Board of Education urging school leaders to take action against perpetrators of sexual misconduct.

A petition called "Help us change Hoke County High's dress code and targeting of young women!" started by Gabby Lynn on Change.org gathered over 1,100 signatures in just a few

"We, the students of Hoke County High School, want a change. Young women shouldn't be told that it's their fault a boy sexually assaulted and harassed her because of what she was wearing. We want our school to change the dress code, and stop targeting young female students who wear spaghetti straps and shorts that are just an inch shorter than their fingertips. We want our school to reprimand the young boys who think it's okay to touch and make comments on a young women's body," the petition stated.

A group of students protested the school's dress code last week. "If you are sexualizing me you are the problem," "does my skin make you uncomfortable," and "fight the sexist dress code" were some of the signs the students carried during the protest.

One student contacted the News-Journal directly, saying

they felt their concerns were not being heard.

"They are ignoring us. We feel like our school does not care whatsoever," the student wrote in

Some Hoke County parents also took to social media, or directly contacted the Board of Education about the situation. Hoke High parent Beth Cuadra wrote an email Monday to the Board of Education and The News-Journal expressing her thoughts on the situation.

"There is no excuse for this repugnant bigotry! What is Hoke County going to do to change this systematic support of 'rape culture' and 'slut shaming' so that purportrators are held accountable for their indiscretions and not protected through victim-blaming?' Cuadra wrote. "The community is looking for change and improvement and there are many of us willing to help, but it has to be implemented and enforced on an administrative level."

Hoke High Principal Dr. Thomas Benson last week sent an email to students about the dress code, saying the school would work with the student government association to revamp it. He also asked students to tell school staff and the on-campus sheriff's deputies if they have been touched

inappropriately.

"We realize that we must revamp some things about our current dress code. My administration and I plan to review and get the assistance of our SGA to provide some specific criteria about our current dress code. As soon as SGA has their leadership established, we will provide some updates for students, parents,

"Also, If you have been inappropriately touched and/or had someone say anything inappropriate to you, please make sure you notify administration and a SRO immediately," the email from the principal said.

Another email Monday stated that those students who protested

Friday would be counted absent. "We were made aware of the potential for a protest and procedures were in place to allow those students the opportunity to express themselves. HCS always values our students' opinions and encourages them to speak out when they feel there is a topic needing to be addressed. At the same time, rules and procedures are in place to eliminate distractions and provide a safe, positive, and productive learning environment for all students and staff," the district said in a statement

Community Calendar

Items should be submitted for the Community Calendar by noon Friday before the publication date. You are asked to keep in mind that paste-up of the calendar page is done on Monday before publication. Also, if an ongoing item has been discontinued or needs to be changed, you are asked to contact the editor as soon as possible.

September 29 - October 3

The SECOND (INDIANHEAD) DIVISION ASSOCIA-TION is searching for anyone who served in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and our 99th annual reunion in Kansas City, Missouri visit our website at www.2ida. org or contact Bob Haynes at 2idahq@comcast.net and

NOTICE: In order to keep our Calendar up-to-date, we are adding an expiration date to the following announcements. If you would like the event to continue in our calendar after the expiration date, please call (875-2121), fax (875-7256) or email (robin@thenews-journal.com) requesting this at least a week before its expiration.

Military service-connected meetings

A. PANDURE VFW POST 10 meets the second Monday of each month at its Post Home, 145 Hanger Lane, Raeford. It is located off Doc Brown Road at the Raeford Airport. For information contact Commander George Balch at 910-875-4410, e-mail gbalch@nc.rr.com or visit us on Facebook. (expires November 2021)

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS CHAPTER 17 meets the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at 145 Hanger Lane, Raeford. It is located off Doc Brown Road at the Raeford Airport. For information contact Adjutant George Balch at 910-875-4410 or e-mail gbalch@nc.rr.com (expiresNovember 2021)

Calling all ACTIVE AND RETIRED NAVY, MARINE AND COAST GUARD to join Fleet Reserve Branch 259 located in Fayetteville. The Branch and Unit meet the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Retired Military Association building off Gillespie Street. (expires

AMERICAN LEGION POST 20 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the National Guard Armory on Teal Drive. All members and those interested are encouraged to attend. For information, call Calvin Ely, 910-261-6716 or John McRae, Adjacent, 910-286-1705. (expires November 2021)

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 62, the "Sandhills" Chapter for Raeford, Aberdeen, Southern Pines and Pinehurst, meets the 1st Saturday of each month, 1800 hrs at the Southern Pines VFW Post 7318 Clubhouse in Southern Pines, 615 South Page St. All present and past Special Forces soldiers are invited to attend. For additional information, contact Chapter 62 President, Tom Galbicsek at: tngabs@yahoo.com (expires

Others

The DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF HOKE COUNTY meet every fourth Monday, via Zoom for now. For login info call 910-875-8982.

ne HOKE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY meets the third Thursday of every month at PK's Grill Raeford Airport at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. For more

information please visit the website at www.hokegop com. (expires December 2021)

WEEKLY NA MEETINGS www.na.org — Mondays: 8-9 p.m., Hoke County Public Library, 334 N. Main St., Raeford, rear entrance; Tuesdays & Thursdays: 8-9

p.m., Raeford United Methodist Church, 308 N. Main St., Raeford, rear entrance. (expires November 2021) COUNTY SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM, sponsored by Tia Hart Recovery Program is open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday at 116 East Elwood Avenue, Raeford. For more information call Shirley Hart at 910-

875-0033 or 910-273-6137. (expires February 2021) The PINE HILL BOARD OF DIRECTORS meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Pine Hill Fire Department. (expires November 2021)

HOKE COUNTY BEEKEEPERS meet the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hoke County Cooperative Extension, 116 W Prospect Avenue, Raeford. Anyone interested in beekeeping is welcome. For more information contact Shannon Newton, Area Horticulture Extension Agent, at 910-875-3461. (expires August 2021)

DIABETES SUPPORT meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Hoke County Health Department. 683 East Palmer Road, Raeford. (expires November 2021)

DO YOU NEED HOME REPAIR FROM HURRICANE FLORENCE? During Hurricane Florence, if you applied for FEMA and your issues were not resolved, please contact Hoke County Long Term Recovery Group, We Care Connections Building located at The Harvest Church, 409B E. Central Ave., Raeford. Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday & Friday by appointment only. 910-875-5796 or 910-848-0290 (mobile) lisabarnett.hcltrg@gmail.com. (expires August 2021)

Any retired person(s) 50 or older interested in participating in or learning more about SENIOR GAMES please call Hoke County Parks & Recreation at 910-878-1255 and speak with Patricia Graham, Senior Games Ambassa dor. (expires November 2021)

ROCKFISH COMMUNITY MEETINGS — Third Tuesday of every month at Rockfish Pack and Ship, Uhaul and Flea Market, 2950 Lindsay Rd., Raeford. Come and discuss community issues and ways to make our community better. Light food 6:30 p.m. and meeting starts at 7 p.m. For more info go to http://www. rockfishreview.wordpress.com or call Rockfish Pack and Ship 910-875-6325, Uhaul 910-848-2968. (expires

FREE BREASTFEEDING CLASS will be held the first Thursday of each month and is open to the community. Snacks will be provided. Call 910-875-2298 to reserve a seat. The class will be held at the Hoke County Health Department at 10 a.m. in English & 11 a.m. in Spanish.

PINE HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT BOARD OF DIREC-TORS meet third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Pine Hill Fire Department. (expires November 2021)

LIBERTY HOSPICE SERVICES has volunteer opportunities available in our Raeford/Hoke County area. Our volunteers are provided with training and ongoing supervision that will allow them to assist with office support, visit a patient at home or in a local facility, or get involved with our Pet Therapy Program. Call our office at 910-875-8198 to learn more. (expires August 2021)

(Continued from page 1) classes in session and in person five days a week, the school system is following its reopening plan set with guidelines about safety measures in place. The Board of Education followed recommended guidance from federal and state health and education agencies in drafting the plan.

By the end of the first week, there were 52 known cases of CO-VID-19 in Hoke County Schools, according to the district's reporting dashboard. That includes 37 students and 15 teachers or staff members

Each of the district's schools had at least one known positive case among either students or staff. Hoke High, which has the largest student population, had the most cases with 11 students testing positive for COVID-19. The school system is updating its virus case dashboard every week on Fridays.

FDA-approved vaccine available

Nearly half of Hoke County's population has gotten at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, according to The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). As of Tuesday, 49 percent of people in the county have received at least one shot, and 43 percent of people are considered fully vaccinated.

NCDHHS released new data last week that showed unvaccinated people were up to 15.4 times more likely to die from COVID-19 than people who've been vaccinated. The information was taken from a four-week period ending August 21.

"With the more contagious Delta variant spreading across the state, Governor (Roy) Cooper continues to urge North Carolinians to get their COVID-19 vaccine," the governor's office said in a press release.

this week.

The Food and Drug Administration fully approved the twodose Pfizer vaccine for people age 16 and up, and the vaccine is available for people age 12-15 under the emergency use authorization. The Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccines are available for people age 18 and up under the FDA's emergency use authorization.

North Carolina has administered more than 10.4 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, and 65 percent of adults statewide have received at least one shot.

Local providers including the Hoke County Health Department, Cape Fear Valley Hoke Pharmacy, Walmart Pharmacy and FirstHealth of the Carolinas primary care providers are able to offer the COVID-19 vaccine.

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the first time it appears online or in the newspaper so that necessary changes can be made. The newspaper will not be liable for mistakes in an advertisement beyond the first week of publication

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or brought to the newspaper office should be paid

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The News-Journal reserves the right not to publish classified advertisements it considers to be of questionable taste. The publication of an advertisement is not

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