



County fire ordinance updated

Pine straw loses favor

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

For the first time since 1992, the Hoke County Board of Commissioners has approved an updated version of the county's fire ordinance including several new policies that could play a role in future development.

Fire Marshal Maj. Freddy Johnson and Assistant Director Benny Nichols wanted to take a look at revamping the ordinance because the existing document was outdated.

"It was over 20 years old and it was out of code compliance," Johnson said.

(See FIRE ORDINANCE, page 3A)

Man sought in beatings



Jackson

Authorities are searching for a Raeford man wanted for allegedly attempting to kill his ex-girlfriend and one other person by beating them with a shovel handle.

The Laurinburg Police Department on Monday asked citizens

to be on the lookout for Willie Leon Jackson, 29, of the 800 block of Hilltop Road in Raeford. Investigators alleged that Jackson attempted to kill former girlfriend Cheryl Medlin, 20, and her friend Robert McRae, 30, at McRae's home

(See BEATINGS, page 4A)

Man charged with assaulting wife



Whitehurst

Sheriff's deputies arrested a Raeford man Monday on charges that he tied up his wife and assaulted her in the couple's home.

Investigators arrested Richard Alan Whitehurst, 33, of the 300 block of McDougald Drive in Raeford on charges of felony second-degree kidnapping and misdemeanor assault on a female. He was held under a \$30,000 bond.

Whitehurst's wife reportedly told officers her husband physically assaulted her, removed her

(See ASSAULT, page 4A)



Clockwise from above: Valerie Livingston holds her ears as the Bucks football team celebrates with excitement when it received the 2012 N.C. Turkey Bowl championship trophy, defeating Raleigh Sanderson 49-7 Friday night; Harvey Jenkins, a 70-year-old avid tennis player, made it to the second round of the Festival tennis tournament; the Just Us Plus Dancers wobble. (Hal Nunn and Catharin Shepard photos)

Turkey Festival off to wobbly start

But that's a good thing, says organizers referring to the theme

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

The 2012 North Carolina Turkey Festival got off to a wobbly start Monday night at the official kick-off ceremony, and that's exactly how organizers wanted it.

"All you have to do is wobble," executive director Melissa Pittman told the crowd gathered at the old Armory for the festivities. The "wobble," Pittman's version of the dance created by rapper V.I.C., is the theme for this

year's festival. The Just Us Plus Parks and Recreation dancers gave a demonstration, but Pittman said she hopes to get everybody doing the wobble during the festival.

The ceremony offered a chance to thank the people working with the public and behind the scenes to make the festival a success. Putting the festival together this year has been a positive but at times "emotional" experience, Pittman said.

"It has also been a very emotional festival filled with many losses," she said.

The festival organizers took time to remember the many festival supporters who passed away over the last year and in years past, including Russell Smith, Christina Payton, Bob Gentry, Kay Thomas, Carol Burnett, Pat Kelly, Raz Autry, Gene Paul Thacker and others.

"The people in Hoke County who love this festival have given so much," Pittman said.

Thacker also received a special memorial

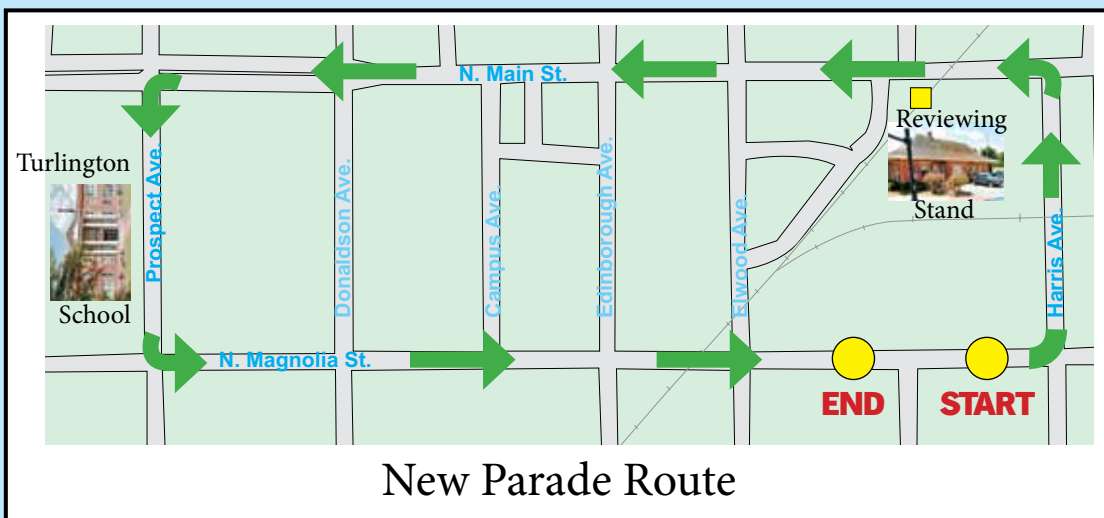
(See FESTIVAL, page 6A)

Parade takes new route

Frequent fliers to the North Carolina Turkey Festival will notice something seems backward this year about the annual parade set for Thursday afternoon in downtown Raeford.

"This year we have been asked to reverse the parade route," festival executive director Melissa Pittman

(See PARADE, page 6A)



New Parade Route

This Week

Art winners announced page 6A

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Raeford soldier dead in Afghanistan helicopter crash

A Fort Bragg soldier who recently lived in Raeford was one of two people killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan last week.

Chief Warrant Officer 2

Thalia Ramirez, 28, recently of Raeford and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jose Montenegro Jr., 31, of San Juan, Texas died September 5 when their helicopter crashed in Logar Prov-

ince, Afghanistan. Military officials are still investigating why the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter crashed and have not released further details about the incident.

Ramirez and Montenegro, who were stationed at Fort Bragg, were assigned to the 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade of

the 82nd Airborne Division. They were serving a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan. They were scheduled to return to the United States

(See SOLDIERS, page 4A)

OTHER STUFF

By KEN MACDONALD

My, my, how things have changed in the world of air traveling since I last flew in February.

No more peanuts.

No, they have found a way to charge you for everything. Board the plane early, \$9; access to a private club in the airport, \$50; pick a better seat at the last moment—I didn't look at the price.

But the most notable change was at boarding.

"We'll start pre-boarding Early Boarders™," the gate lady said on the P.A. A few people who'd paid the \$9 proudly walked to the scanner.

(See OTHER STUFF, page 4A)

Imagine whirled peace

The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind

On September 21, Turlington Alternative School and Don Steed Elementary plan to take part in an international art and literacy project, Pinwheels for Peace, by "planting" pinwheels with messages of peace.

Pinwheels for Peace is an art installation project started in 2005 by two art teachers, Ann Ayers and Ellen McMillan of Coconut Creek, Florida,

as a way for students to express their feelings about what's going on in the world and in their lives. In the first year, groups in more than 1,325 locations throughout the world were spinning pinwheels on September 21. There were approximately 500,000 pinwheels spinning throughout the world. Last year, 2011, over 4 million

(See PINWHEELS, page 4A)



VIEWPOINTS

State legislature is again for sale

BY CHRIS FITZSIMON
Capitol Press Association

Not too many years ago, Republicans in North Carolina railed against what they described as the “pay to play” culture in Raleigh where special interests who gave political leaders big bundles of campaign contributions were rewarded with privileged access and preferential treatment.

That was when the Republicans were in the minority in the General Assembly and having trouble raising as much money as their Democratic opponents.

A new report from Democracy North Carolina finds that not only have the fundraising tables turned but also that Republicans seem to be embracing the pay to play culture even more than the Democrats they constantly criticized.

The report finds that Republican legislative leaders are not only raising more money from special interest political action committees than their predecessors, they are also raising a higher percentage of their campaign cash from the PACs than Democrats did.

In fact, they are raising more of their money from special interests than disgraced former Democratic House Speaker Jim Black did in his heyday on Jones Street—and that’s not an easy bar to clear.

The General Assembly passed new ethics and fundraising rules as a result of the scandals that ultimately sent Black to federal prison.

One of the new laws was a ban on lobbyists making contributions to legislators’

campaigns. It’s hard to believe that was ever legal in the first place, that the same people who were asking legislators for votes could also put checks in their hands—but it was until just a few years ago.

The Democracy NC report finds that the law hasn’t stopped the indirect exchange of money for votes, it just required a rewording of the appeals. The report cites a recent solicitation from the political staff of House Speaker Thom Tillis sent to lobbyists telling them to get their PACs to send a check before an upcoming deadline or at least explain when the money will be sent.

Bob Hall with Democracy NC calls the appeal a “shake-down, plain and ugly,” and notes that the fundraising figures show it appears to be working.

If that’s not enough evidence that we have the best government special interests can buy, consider another report issued this week, this one from the Center for Public Integrity. It finds that out-of-state corporate money is playing a major role in the governor’s race in North Carolina.

The report details how corporations from across the country give hundreds of thousands of dollars to groups like the Republican Governors Association and the Democratic Governors Association who then run attack ads against candidates in North Carolina.

That leads to the troubling scenario where groups like the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce is basically funding attack ads against Democratic gubernatorial candidate Walter Dalton. A

spokesperson for the insurance company AFLAC, a big donor to the Republican Governors Association, was unaware that the group’s donation was also being used to attack Dalton on television.

Maybe even more disturbing still are the large anonymous contributions given to another category of political groups who are not required to disclose who is paying for the ads they run against candidates in North Carolina and elsewhere.

That makes a mockery of the Right’s long opposition to meaningful campaign finance reforms like public financing that would provide funding for candidates without the special interest strings attached. Their argument used to be that all we needed for a vibrant democracy was full and immediate disclosure of who was funding campaigns.

Now they seem perfectly comfortable not only that our elections and our government are for sale to the highest bidders but that we often can’t even find out who the bidders are—at least until after the election when the legislative bodies meet and starting providing a return on the special interests’ investments.

Record special interest money in pay to play Raleigh, unlimited contributions from Milwaukee helping determine who will be governor in North Carolina, and anonymous corporate money deciding who will represent us in Raleigh and Washington.

There’s a lot of ways to describe that system but democracy is not one of them.

THE TURKEY FESTIVAL BOARD REVERSES THIS YEAR’S PARADE ROUTE...



Today’s campaigns have roots in 1896

Are you already tired of the presidential campaigns and the barrage of television ads, glad the conventions are over, and dreading the upcoming debates? Blame it on William Jennings Bryan.

It used to be different. That was before radio, television, and airplanes. It was not so long ago that presidential candidates did very little personal campaigning. Sometimes the candidate stayed at home on his front porch and let his supporters across the country organize for the election.

All that changed in 1896 when William Jennings Bryan secured the nomination of the Democratic Party and mounted a hard-charging national campaign. Until that year, a presidential candidate had rarely, if ever, appeared in North Carolina. But, as Bob Anthony told me the other day, Bryan whistle stopped through North Carolina for three days in September 1896 making more than 20 stops in “Asheville, Black Mountain, Old Fort, Marion, Morganton, Hickory, Statesville, Mooresville, Charlotte, Salisbury, Greensboro, Burlington, Durham, Raleigh, Selma, Goldsboro, Wilson, Rocky Mount, Whitakers, Battleboro, Enfield, Halifax, and Weldon. Longer stops and off the train rallies were at Asheville, Hickory, Charlotte, Salisbury, Greensboro, Raleigh, Golds-

boro, Wilson, and Rocky Mount. Briefer stops, with Bryan often

One on One
D. G. Martin



speaking from the rear of the train, were at the other places. He arrived in Asheville from Knoxville on Sept. 16, and his last stop was at Weldon on his way to Virginia during late afternoon of Sept. 18. In three days in the state, he spoke to crowds that collectively were estimated to have numbered more than 100,000 people.

If you are tired of full-time campaigns, blame it on Bryan. Anthony, curator of the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill, has been preparing a talk for a program on important North Carolina political campaigns at the Wilson Library on the UNC campus this Friday and Saturday, Sept. 14 and 15.

The program will examine campaigns of North Carolinians like William Graham, Zeb Vance, Kerr Scott, Luther Hodges, Jim Holshouser, and Reginald Hawkins, and the Raleigh mayor’s campaign of Isabella Cannon.

How does William Jennings Bryan fit into this pattern? Anthony says that the three day-multiple stop tour in our state

was reason enough. Presidential and gubernatorial campaigns have never been the same in North Carolina or the rest of the country.

But there is more. Anthony’s talk is titled “Next to Nebraska: North Carolina and William Jennings Bryan’s 1896 Presidential Campaign.”

Anthony says that Bryan credited support from North Carolina as being, next to his home state of Nebraska, the most important for him in securing his party’s nomination.

Even though Bryan, at age 36, barely met the minimum age requirement to be president, he had several things going for him in our state, according to Anthony.

- He was a compelling public speaker who had previously proved his talents with a rousing speech at the women’s college in Greensboro, where he gained many admirers.

- He had made a good friend of Josephus Daniels, the young but influential editor of the Raleigh News & Observer.

- He was a pro-farmer advocate who had admirers not only among Democrats but also among supporters of the Populist Party, which had come to power in the North Carolina legislature in a cooperative or fusion effort with the Republican Party. Many North Carolinians, whatever their political party, agreed with Bryan’s efforts to increase the supply of money by coining more silver and weakening the gold standard.

After his famous “Cross of Gold” convention speech opened the door, Bryan’s North Carolina supporters were poised to help him win the nomination.

Bryan lost the election. But his vigorous effort won in North Carolina and led to earthshaking changes in the state’s political power structure. Bryan’s candidacy drew support from Populists, thereby weakening their fragile partnership with Republicans. That change led to the 1898 and 1900 White Supremacy campaigns that destroyed the Populists, marginalized the Republicans, and froze African-Americans from the North Carolina political process for most of the 20th Century.

Blame it on Bryan.

We Get Letters

‘Lunch room police’ violated constitution

To the Editor:

I recently read an article about a preschool child in Raeford who had her “home-packed lunch” stolen by “lunch room police” and replaced with three pieces of meat from the school lunchroom menu. She must have been stuffed!

If this story is true, I am compelled to ask, where in the pages of the Constitution for the United States, the Supreme Law of the Land, does it ‘specifically’ grant the Federal government the authority to harass preschool children in this fashion? Does it not suggest to a child’s not fully developed mind that the school knows more than mommy or daddy? Where in the pages of the Constitution does it grant the school the authority to demand what a home-packed lunch contains?

I know not what her parents did, but I know what I would have done. First, the person or persons of government-assumed authority would have been charged with theft of a child’s meal! That would have

been followed with a charge of violating the 4th and the 10th Amendments to the Constitution.

If that were my child, she would not have set foot in that school again until the power hungry, dim-twitted “police of the lunchroom” had been discharged from the school system entirely.

As soon as your school system discovers that the laws of the Federal government do not override the laws of a Sovereign State government, this kind of ‘horse defecates’ will cease.

George E. Sexton
USAF Retired
Shepherd, Montana

Editor’s note: This story is six months old and even Rush Limbaugh has let it go, but apparently word has now reached Montana. There was much weeping and gnashing of teeth when a preschool student’s lunch from home lacked an ingredient (milk) that nutritionists feel is necessary for a balanced meal. A teacher

who noticed it, and trying to conform to their policy, apparently inadvertently went too far and, instead of giving the child milk, sent her through the line for a complete meal (of chicken nuggets). After state representatives and at least two congressmen got involved, and Rush Limbaugh called the school people “food Nazis,” the badgered teacher was pressured to resign. The policy, school officials say, is intended to supplement kids’ lunches if teachers notice they lack prescribed ingredients. The nutritional guidelines for N.C. preschool classrooms are part of state policy, which applies only to children attending the state’s taxpayer-funded subsidized pre-kindergarten program for identified at-risk four-year-olds. It does not apply to students attending K-12 public school. In response to the situation, N.C. legislators introduced a state law so parents can opt out of the supplemental food program. It hasn’t passed yet, however.

Should state pay incentives to a retailer?

BY SCOTT MOONEYHAM
Capitol Press Association

When it comes to taxpayer-provided incentives for business, those provided to retailers make the least sense.

The reason: Retailers need consumers/taxpayers more than consumers/taxpayers need them.

Retailers have little leeway when building or renting stores. They go where the demographics and transportation infrastructure suggests they will see the most traffic.

People may do a bit of oohing and ahhhing when the hot, new restaurant franchise or big box retailer comes to town. That’s still no reason to throw tax dollars at a company to bring relatively low-paying service jobs to a community when it is needed by the retailer to expand its customer base and revenue flow.

Distribution centers built by retailers are a different animal, posing trickier questions for the government officials given the task of handing out cash and other inducements to lure jobs to the state and its regions.

This entire business of business incentives is distasteful.

But let’s set aside the broader question of whether state and local governments should even be handing out tax dollars to convince businesses to build here or there.

They have. They do. For the foreseeable future, they will.

So, if they do and will, are retail distribution centers the kind of thing that state commerce officials should try to lure with incentive dollars?

They recently did. Gas station and convenience store operator Sheetz Inc. will receive up to \$2.7 million from the state over the next 12 years if it meets employment and other targets.

The company plans to build a distribution center in Burlington. It is expected to employ 254 people by the end of 2018, and the company will invest \$32.8 million in building the facility.

Based in Altoona, Pa., the company has been expanding into North Carolina for a few years now, with high-ceiling, nicely-laid out stores that offer fresh-made sandwiches.

The distribution center will serve North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

So, perhaps the company

could have hopped further up Interstate 85 and built in South Hill, Va., or directly above Burlington in Danville, Va., along U.S. 29. State officials had to be concerned that was a possibility.

Still, the decision probably isn’t sitting too well in some corners today.

Three large convenience store chains are headquartered in North Carolina -- Pantry/Kangaroo, WilcoHess and VPS Convenience Stores. All three compete with Sheetz for business, and the news that the state has furthered that competition probably isn’t very welcome.

The jobs that will be coming to Burlington also aren’t going to be at the higher end of the pay scale, like those where the state doles out money for manufacturing or pharmaceutical jobs. Based on the projected payroll, those 254 jobs would average \$29,133 in annual salary.

Nonetheless, it’s hard to say no when 254 jobs can be plopped on this stretch of highway or one across the state line.

It becomes even more difficult in these tough economic times, when your unemployment rate exceeds 9 percent.



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Pinwheels

(Continued from page 1A)
pinwheels were spinning in over 3,500 locations, including the United States, Europe, Asia, Australia, Canada, the Middle East, Africa and South America. "This project is non-political — peace doesn't necessarily have to be associated with the conflict of war, it can be related to violence/intolerance in our daily lives, to peace of mind." Karrie Detwiler, art teacher at Burlington, said in a statement. "To each of us, peace can take on a different meaning, but, in the end, it all comes down to a

simple definition: 'a state of calm and serenity, with no anxiety, the absence of violence, freedom from conflict or disagreement among people or groups of people.'" Turlington Alternative School and Don Steed Elementary will create pinwheels of all shapes and sizes. As part of the creation process, the students will write their thoughts about "war and peace/tolerance/living in harmony with others" on one side. On the other side, they will draw, paint, collage and more to visually express their feelings. The students will as-

semble these pinwheels and on International Day of Peace they will "plant" their pinwheels as a public statement and art exhibit/installation. "On September 21, keep a lookout for the pinwheels. The spinning of the pinwheels in the wind will spread thoughts and feelings about peace throughout the country and the world," Detwiler said. For more information, go to <http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.com> or contact Karrie Detwiler at 910-875-2583.



New beginning
New Beginningz Bible Institute Bible College President Bishop William Robert McPhaul Sr., instructors, family members and friends gathered Saturday at the ribbon cutting for the institute on Harris Avenue in Raeford. The new Bible College, part of the Bible Institutes of America, offers classes on topics including the Old Testament, New Testament, church history, leadership skills and more. For more information, call 476-0653.

Soldiers

(Continued from page 1A)
this week. Ramirez was originally from Nairobi, Kenya. She joined the United States Army in 2003 as a water purification specialist and then completed aviator qualifications in 2008, according to a news release. She was serving her second overseas deployment at the time of the crash. She previously lived in San Antonio, Texas. Ramirez flew more than 270 missions and 650 hours during her latest tour of duty, according to the Department of Defense. She received many awards including the Air Medal 3rd device, the Purple Heart Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Valor, Army Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Valorous Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with three Campaign Stars, Global War on Terror Expedition-

ary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon 2nd device, NATO Medal, the Combat Action Badge and the Army Aviator Badge. Ramirez is survived by husband Jesse Belbeck in the U.S. and parents Justin Ramirez and Alexandra Moll of Kenya. Fellow soldiers remembered Ramirez and Montenegro Friday at a ceremony on Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan. "As we finish up this deployment and return home, in some way remember my friend Thalia," Chief Warrant Officer 2 Joseph Panza, Troop F, 1-17 Air Cavalry Regiment said at the ceremony, the DOD reported. "Whether it's a moment of silence, a toast, or a prayer to whatever divine power you believe in. Just a small gesture for someone who made a huge sacrifice doing what she believed in." Montenegro joined the U.S. Army in 2001 as an enlisted infantryman. He earned aviator

qualification in 2008 and passed the Warrant Officer Basic Course in 2009. This was Montenegro's third deployment. Montenegro's awards include the Air Medal with Valor 4th device, Air Medal 2nd device, Purple Heart Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with "V" device, Army Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Valorous Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with three Campaign Stars, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon 3rd device, NATO Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Combat Action Badge and the Army Aviator Badge. Montenegro is survived by his mother Reyna Torres and sister Liliana Montenegro.

Man arrested for March school bus wreck

Authorities have arrested a Parkton man wanted for hitting a loaded Hoke County school bus while fleeing from authorities this March. Deputies arrested Isaac Lee Nesby, 44, of Cold Camp Road on 26 counts of assault with a deadly weapon, fleeing to elude arrest, drug trafficking, assault on a female, and failing to appear in court on multiple prior charges including counterfeiting trademark sales and sound recording. He was also charged with three counts of breaking and entering, one count of conspiracy to commit breaking and entering and two counts of making threatening phone calls. Investigators with the Robeson County Sheriff's Office arrested Nesby Monday after finding him hiding in a closet of his home, ac-

ording to a report. Nesby was allegedly speeding to get away from investigators around 2:39 p.m. March 14 when he lost control of his 1998 Nissan and ran into a school bus that was taking children home from nearby Sandy Grove Elementary, officials said. The bus was stopped not far from the elementary school to let children off at their home when the wreck happened. Nesby was driving north on Chason Road traveling at about 90 miles an hour when he lost control of the vehicle and hit the stopped bus, according to reports. State Department of Justice spokeswoman Jennifer Canada confirmed Nesby was under investigation by Robeson County authorities and the State Bureau of Investigation when the accident happened.

Bus driver Della Locklear and four children reported pain and were taken to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries. Nesby was also injured in the crash and transported to UNC Chapel Hill Hospital. According to public records, Nesby was previously convicted of speeding to escape police in 1994 and again in 1996, among a slew of other felony and misdemeanor convictions including assault with intent to seriously injure, assault with a deadly weapon against government officials, assault on a female, drug possession and driving on a revoked license. He was most recently incarcerated from 2001-06 on a felony conviction of second-degree kidnapping, robbery with a dangerous weapon and other charges.

Beatings

(Continued from page 1A)
September 9. Medlin and McRae were at McRae's residence on Morgan Circle in Laurinburg when Jackson reportedly went to the house and beat both victims with the handle from a shovel,

authorities said in a press release. Medlin and McRae sustained multiple head injuries and were transported to the hospital. They were listed in serious but stable condition.

Jackson is wanted on two counts of attempted first-degree murder and two counts of assault with a deadly weapon. A magistrate Monday issued the warrants for Jackson's arrest.

Assault

(Continued from page 1A)
clothing and took her into the bathroom, where he allegedly threw her into the bathtub and bound her wrists and ankles together with zip-ties. The Sheriff's Office reported that after 15 minutes of abuse, Whitehurst cut the victim loose and she clothed herself and ran out of the house, where she called for her mother to pick her up.

The victim called 911 around 5:30 a.m. Monday, officials said. Detectives with the Sheriff's Office responded to the scene and discovered physical evidence supporting probable cause to arrest Whitehurst, according to a press release. The victim was also granted a domestic violence protection order against the defendant.

Library Friends hold book sale

The Friends of the Hoke County Public Library will hold book sales this week at two North Carolina Turkey Festival events. The first book sale will take place inside the library Thursday afternoon during the parade from 2:30-6 p.m. The second sale will take place Saturday on the patio in front of the library during

the Super Saturday events from 12-4 p.m. Book prices are 50 cents for medium/small books, slightly damaged books and paperbacks, \$1 for hardcover books, \$2 for oversized books, \$5 for a collection bag of books and 10 cents for magazines. The Hoke County Public Library is located at 334 N. Main

St. in downtown Raeford. For more information, call the library at 875-2502. The Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization helping to support the library. Membership dues are \$15 for individuals and \$20 for families per year. The next meeting will be held September 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the history room of the library.

Woodmen rep completes course

Woodmen of the World representative Eugene "Tre" Smith III has earned the professional designation of Fraternal Insurance Counselor (FIC). The designation, conferred by the Fraternal Field Managers' Association (FFMA), is awarded to candidates who successfully complete three levels of

insurance-related coursework and meet other guidelines. The basic course provides an introduction to life underwriting principles; the ethics course covers ethics for the insurance professional; the intermediate course covers total needs planning; and the advanced course covers a survey of advanced sales techniques.

Smith III is a local representative of Woodmen of the World and serves members in and around the Hoke County area. The local Woodmen of the World office is located at 119 College Drive, Raeford. To learn more about Woodmen of the World, visit woodmen.org or call your local office at 910-875-5593.

School Briefs

Makes Dean's List
Samuel A. Pope of Raeford

made the Dean's List at Missouri State University. To be named to the list, students must

earn at least a 3.5 grade point average. Pope made the list for the summer term.

Other stuff

(Continued from page 1A)
"We'd like to invite Platinum Plus™ members to board," the lady continued. I noticed they were being funneled to a lane labeled "Priority Access," which was separated by only a pole from the lane that read something like "Losers and Flotsam." "Gold Medal™ winners may now board." (I may have gotten that name wrong.) "Emerald, Ruby, Sapphire, Dolostone and White Chert passengers plus We Are The World members..." "We'll continue pre-boarding with First Class passengers. "Uniformed military personnel..." "Rocket scientists. "Everyone else who's not a

loser." That left me and another guy who didn't get to pre-board. You see, if I'm going to pay an extra \$9, I want to PRE-pre-board. We boarded. Interestingly, they no longer offer priority boarding to disabled passengers or "families traveling with small children." I was beside a lady who was carrying a small child, pushing a stroller filled with bags, and pulling a wheeled suitcase. I helped by taking the stroller. We looked like a young family, except I'm not young. Maybe people thought I was the grandfather. I was thinking, "Lady, if I was going to haul a youngun' onto a plane AND try to skirt the \$25 baggage fee, I'd have paid the \$9 to board first."

But we all get ourselves in these messes. I was flying across the country with nary even a peanut. One thing that hasn't changed is the mood at the gates. I would call it exasperation. Or resigned indignation. One guy must have been on the edge, because when the poor gate attendant announced a 45-minute delay, he yelled "F---! I cannot take this anymore!" I heard someone yell, "Call the police," and though the guy shut up and sat there shaking, about six officers arrived by Segway, bicycle and on foot and hauled him off. Come on! Give the guy some peanuts. They brought him back a little while later and he boarded. But not in the Priority Access™ lane. ♦

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SPORTS



Tennis tournament winners

Jean Roller (left) and Nelson James (right) were the winners of the mixed doubles division of the 2012 N.C. Turkey Festival tennis tournament. The tennis tournament was brought back when the new championship-style courts were built at the high school. Other winners were Kristen Johnson-Ladies' Singles Champ, Thaddeus Trippett-Men's Singles Champ, Barry Bullock and Tony Williams-Men's Doubles Champs, Eden Blaine and Michaela Colvin-Girls' Doubles Champs and Dean Crenshaw-Boys' Singles Champ. The tennis tournament was a fixture at the festival for about 15 years and then there was a 5-year layoff. Some have called the new tournament the Turkey Open!



Hunting season begins

Caleb Sutton, a Raeford native, and his buddies, Drew Patton and Mike Varano, shot this flock of Canada geese in Cumberland County on the first day of hunting season - September 1. They shot a total of 30 geese and probably could have shot their limit of 15 each if it wasn't so hot and they left early.

Just Putting Around

Upland Trace: Winners for the Labor Day morning tournament were Don Frykholm, Dixie Musselwhite, Huse Lowery and Guy Wall. The Labor Day evening tournament winners were Jerry Johnson, Ricky Ward and Johnny Boyles.

Bayonet: The Wednesday Shootout winners were Don Hodgkin, Carl Casey, James Braden, John Byrd and Claire Brown. They won with a score of 5-under par. A hole-in-one was made by Jameel Walker using a 9 iron on hole #3 at 160 yards.

Sports Briefs

The Hoke County Touchdown Club supports the freshman, junior varsity and varsity football teams at Hoke County High School. Their next meeting is tonight at 7 p.m. at the Gibson Cafeteria on the campus of Hoke High School.

The Hoke County Athletic Department has two new ways

to support the Bucks Athletic Department online at www.ihigh.com/fightingbucks. If you go to the website, click on "Donations Made Easy" and support either the Hoke County High School Athletic Hall of Fame or the Hoke County High School Athletic Department itself.

Love scores four to lift Bucks

By HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The Hoke County High School Bucks soccer team took on the Red Springs Red Devils Monday night in high school soccer action. Hoke

County's Simon Love scored all four goals for the Bucks, two in the last 10 minutes to secure the win 4-2. Hoke County is 6-1 on the season and Coach Derek Butler feels he has a team that can play together. "We have a good group

of boys that really pull together for each other," Coach Butler said. Next up for the Bucks will be the Richmond Raiders Wednesday night in Richmond and their next home game will be September 19 against Scotland County.

Bucks pierce Spartans 49-7

By HAL NUNN
Sports writer

Like a male deer uses his antlers to show supremacy, the Hoke County High School Bucks showed their muscle last Friday night on the gridiron in the 2012 N.C. Turkey Bowl to defeat the Sanderson Spartans of Raleigh 49-7. You could almost feel the game was getting out of control when, after the Bucks scored their first touchdown off a Detrez Newsome 2-yard run, Sanderson fumbled the ball on its next series and Skaikeim McGougan picked it up and scrambled 25 yards for the second score of the game. By halftime, the score was 35-0 and the final score was 49-7.

Hoke running back Detrez Newsome rushed for 207 yards on 13 carries with five touchdowns, one coming off a punt return. After Sanderson figured out that it was probably not a good idea to punt to Newsome, they kicked off to the other side of the return team and Brandon McRae busted a 90-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. McRae is one of the fastest guys in the state who finished in second place in the 4x100 meter



Tyron Miller (left) and Geoffrey Thompson (right) receive the Sportsmanship Award from N.C. Turkey Festival committee member Jerry Sherman (center). Each year two players in the game are selected who showed the best sportsmanship during the Turkey Bowl.

run for Hoke at the state championships last spring and finished third in the 100-meter dash. Newsome on the other hand has rushed 77 times this year for 918 yards and 15 touchdowns in four games. He has 987 all-purpose yards so far this season.

The Bucks will take to the road this Friday night to take on the Colts from Cape Fear. For those who are not making the trip to Cape Fear, you can listen to the game on the Bucks Broadcast Network on AM1400 Raeford or online at www.ihigh.com/bucksnetwork.

Sports News To Report?
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Valerie Livingston (holding trophy), committee chairperson for the N.C. Turkey Festival, presents the 2012 N.C. Turkey Bowl championship trophy to the Hoke County High School Bucks after their convincing win over the Sanderson Spartans last Friday night.

Fighting Bucks Sports Schedule

September 12 Girls Tennis at South View 4 p.m. Girls Freshman Volleyball Home vs. Scotland 4:30 p.m. Boys JV Soccer Home vs. Richmond 5:30 p.m. Boys V Soccer Home vs. Richmond 7 p.m.	September 13 Girls Tennis at Pinecrest 4 p.m. Girls JV Volleyball Home vs. Scotland 5 p.m. Girls V Volleyball Home vs. Scotland 6 p.m.	September 14 Boys V Football at Cape Fear 7:30 p.m.	September 17 Girls Golf Home vs. Lumberton 2 p.m. Girls Tennis Home vs. Jack Britt 4 p.m.	September 18 Girls JV Volleyball Home vs. Purnell Swett 5 p.m. Girls V Volleyball Home vs. Purnell Swett 6 p.m. Cross Country Away Conference Meet 5 p.m.
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Festival

(Continued from page 1A) in his honor Friday night at the Turkey Bowl football game. For years he organized the skydiving demonstration for the festival, but this year the skydivers who turned out to perform were doing so to remember the airpark owner and skydiving legend. Their performance and the pilot's

close flyover were an excellent tribute to Thacker, Pittman said. "When they buzzed the stadium, it was poetic," she said. Those attending held a moment of silence followed by a song written and performed by Patty Webb. Pittman, festival president Valerie Livingston and future

president Leslie Hinson presented the sponsors and supporters with plaques and framed certificates of appreciation for their assistance with making the festival possible. Local businesses, governments and individuals were among those who received the plaques and certificates. The festival leadership also recog-

nized the board members and directors who helped put the event together. "I can't say thank you enough," Livingston said. Hinson said it was "an honor and a privilege" to be a part of the festival. "Without your support, this festival would not be possible,"

she said. **Upcoming festival events**
Thursday, Sept. 13: Children's Day, 9:30 a.m. at Turlington auditorium on Prospect Avenue; Parade, 5:30 p.m., Main Street in downtown Raeford
Friday, Sept. 14: Stuffin' and Stompin' dinner, 5-8 p.m., West

Hoke Middle School, plates \$7
Saturday, Sept. 15: Super Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., McLaughlin Park, vendors, food, games, turkey cooking contest, dog show, car show and more; 5K Turkey Trot/2K walk, 8 a.m., Hoke County High School; 8 p.m.-12 a.m. Blackwater Rhythm and Blues band, Armory park

Parade

(Continued from page 1A) said. For the last 27 years, the parade has run from North Main Street to South Main Street. This year, that's changing due to traffic congestion problems with local schools.

Commerce directly across from Central Avenue. Once the parade has gone down Main Street to Prospect, it will make a left, then a left onto Magnolia back to the starting position at the light at Harris/Magnolia, Pittman said.

"The festival was asked by law enforcement officers to change the route to try to help with the congestion caused by the floats and participants arriving while the buses are trying to pick up students to go home," Pittman said.

The parade floats begin to line up at 4 p.m. The parade will begin moving down Main Street at about 5:30 p.m. with about 30 floats, five bands, many fire trucks and walking groups and other participants. Jean Hodges, CEO of Hodges Associates, will serve as the parade Grand Marshal.

This year the parade will line up on Magnolia Street starting at the light on Harris Avenue and stretch back to Turlington School. Then the parade will turn left onto Harris, then to the light on Main Street making a left onto Main Street. The reviewing stage will be directly in front of the Raeford/Hoke County Chamber of

People participating in the parade or dropping off those who are participating should not attempt to drive down Magnolia Street, Pittman said. Participants are asked to park on side roads and walk to the location of their parade unit.

Art contest winners announced

The North Carolina Turkey Festival 2012-13 Art Contest winners were announced last week. Categories included the county's elementary, middle and high schools and Sandhills Community College. Overall winner: Ashley Priest, East Hoke Middle School High School
 1st place: Rashad Toldbert
 2nd place: Hailey Johnson
 3rd place: Lizzie Grimsley Middle School
 1st place: Scherita Cambridge, East Hoke Middle School

2nd place: Ashley Priest, East Hoke Middle School
 3rd place: Emily Locklear, West Hoke Middle School Elementary School
 1st place: Kynna Hollingsworth, Hawk Eye Elementary
 2nd place: Jiavanni Bain, Don Steed Elementary
 3rd place: Cianna Jones, Hawk Eye Elementary
 Sandhills Community College
 1st place: DaJante Thomas
 2nd place: Lawernee Shamberger
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Entries in the Festival Art Contest held at the Hoke Library. Art can be viewed in the conference room. (Catharin Shepard photo)

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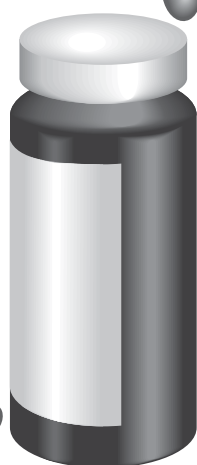
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