

10th Snapshot Contest Winner(s)—Page 1B



The News-Journal

Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

75¢

No. 23 Vol. 107

RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, August 15, 2012

County hires Veterans Service officer

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer



Randy Smith

Hoke County has a new Veterans Service Officer and the office in Raeford is reopening this week for the first time in three months.

Before the ink was dry on his contract Monday, Veterans Service Officer Randy Smith had already processed two sets of paperwork for veterans.

"I love it, it's something I enjoy. It's a job I've always enjoyed doing, helping the veterans," he said.

Smith was raised in Fayetteville and served 20 years in the U.S. Army. After retiring, he worked as the Veterans Service Officer for the Veterans Administration Hospital. Smith worked at the VA hospital for about six years but has been informally helping other veterans with paperwork for even longer, he said.

"I did my own claim, got good at it, and helped everyone else," Smith said.

Smith also previously worked with Parks and Recreation in Fayetteville. He and his wife now reside in Hoke County.

County Manager Tim Johnson said the county offered Smith the job last week. Smith is very qualified for the position, Johnson said.

"I'm excited to get Randy on board. I think he's going to be very good for

the veterans," Johnson said. The county may also run ads to let veterans know of the availability, he said.

The office is back open but the operating hours are not finalized yet, Smith said. He hopes to work with veterans to determine what hours would best serve them and suggested afternoon and evening hours are likely.

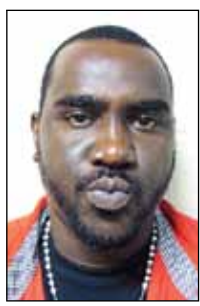
"If I'm there, they're welcome to come (See VETS OFFICER, page 4A)

Man killed two, authorities allege

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Authorities arrested a Raeford man Saturday at the scene of a double murder and charged him with killing two people including his ex-girlfriend.

Shawn Christopher McKoy, 33, of the 700 block of North Jackson Street in Raeford was arrested Saturday after deputies with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office were called to the scene of a domestic disturbance on the 100 block of Belton's Loop



McKoy

and found Larene Astrid Torrens and Travis Blue shot inside the home. According to information discovered during the investigation, Torrens and McKoy had a relationship at one point, Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said. Blue and Torrens were reportedly friends.

Deputies located McKoy (See MURDER, page 7A)

Man guilty in home invasion

A man accused of a home invasion in which a suspect reportedly pushed a gun into a child's mouth, beat her father and shoved her mother to the floor has pleaded guilty and will spend at least 13 years in prison.

Brian Keith Jones, 24, of the 6500 block of Lagoon Drive in Fayetteville pleaded guilty to assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and kidnapping. He was sentenced to serve 13-17 years in prison.

Jones was one of two men accused of pushing Billie Sue Frye to the ground to enter

the North Wright Street home she and husband David Frye shared with their three-year-old daughter in March 2010. Jones and Donte Maurice Vanclief of Fayetteville were arrested and charged in the case.

Six others were also indicted on charges alleging that they helped plan the robbery. Willie Harrison Ellerbe, Keith Revels, Marlena Locklear Spruill, Nora Chaney, and Lance Vanclief were all indicted on charges of robbery with a dangerous weapon, conspiracy and felony breaking and entering. Revels, Lance Vanclief and (See GUILTY, page 5A)



Batman made an appearance at National Night Out. So did Spiderman and other superheroes, such as police and deputies and firefighters and emergency service workers. (Catharin Shepard photo)

Night Out draws crowd despite clouds

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

The rain held off long enough Saturday for the DJ to crank up the music and cooks to fire up the grills at National Night Out, sponsored by the Hoke County Sheriff's Office. Patricia Monroe's family and friends

grabbed a picnic table under a shelter to avoid any stray raindrops and enjoy the hot dogs and other snacks available at the annual event, which gives emergency services workers and members of the public a chance to mingle in a relaxed setting.

"We love it, it's a wonderful occasion for the community," Monroe said.

"I think it's fantastic for the kids and the adults. It's just good to get together and have fun."

Vendors also came out to the event to sell fair-type food to hungry patrons. Charlene Altizer of B&B Outdoors of North Myrtle Beach was busy squirting funnel cake dough into a fryer and (See NIGHT OUT, page 7A)

This Week



Main Street wreck was close call page 5A

Alleged shooter arrested page 4A

State holds hospital bed hearing page 4A

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Hoke High School dance students hit the bar re

Class added to performing arts offerings, they're important too, principal says



Baun doesn't let her students say "can't." (Catharin Shepard photo)

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

"Can't" is not allowed on Kelly Baun's dance floor.

The new Hoke County High School dance teacher pounced on the word the first and only time it came out of a student's mouth during class Friday morning.

"You can't do it? What do we do if somebody says can't? This is your

one reminder," she called over the rhythmic music pounding out of a stereo in the corner.

Next time dropping the banned word means dropping to the ground for push-ups, she warned.

Being part of Hoke High's new elective class is not about being perfect, it's about trying hard and improving over time, Baun said. While the teens might have started the (See DANCE, page 5A)

Man sentenced for shooting soldier, stealing his car

A man arrested for shooting a Fort Bragg soldier last year and stealing his car pleaded guilty to multiple charges in the recent superior court session. William Harris, 22, of

Faison Avenue was sentenced to spend a minimum of 26 years, 10 months to a maximum of 34 years, six months in prison, Assistant District Attorney (See SHOOTING, page 4A)

Child's family seeks help with funeral costs

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Eight-year-old Zaria Evans was a happy, sweet girl who loved her grandmother's cooking, never got angry with anyone and was always excited about singing in church, her family said.

The little girl's life was cut short last week in a five-car traffic accident at the intersection of Club Pond Road and U.S. Highway 401. Now the family, still mourning the loss, is seeking help to cover funeral expenses for the child.

The days immediately after the wreck were difficult,

Zaria's grandmother Margaret Evans said.

"We're doing the best that we can. We have our moments of crying, and then we sit down and talk - we're getting more to the place where we can sit down and talk about it," she said. "But (Zaria's mother) (See ZARIA, page 5A)



VIEWPOINTS

Lower the speed at Club Pond

It's Hoke County's worst intersection and now it has claimed a life—that of an eight-year-old child. The US 401-Club Pond Road sees the most accidents of any intersection in the county, and often people are injured. There's a middle school on one corner and shopping centers on three other corners along Hoke's heaviest trafficked road.

From the beginning—when US 401 was enlarged to four lanes and East Hoke Middle was built—it seemed an accident waiting to happen. Then Walmart opened. Drivers encountered confusing turn lights. DOT fixed that problem but

danger remains. It's time to lower the speed limit from the junction of US 401-401 Business to Celebration of Praise Church—to a 45-mile-per-hour zone at the maximum. A 55 m.p.h. speed limit in that stretch of road is just insane.

We're not traffic engineers but it also seems the light at the intersection cycles too frequently. That means two-dozen drivers must make decisions more frequently—stop, speed up or dart, increasing the chance one of those decisions will be wrong.

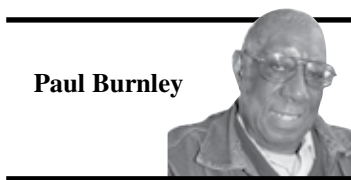
A little inconvenience for shoppers is worth the peace of mind and safety.

Obsession with sports hurts education

The public has been shocked by the scandal at Penn State University. In many ways incidents such as this have been caused by the lack of concern by the public to the importance of what our universities should be teaching our young people. Years ago, schools such as Yale, Harvard, MIT and other prestigious universities were noted for their educational programs. Today, the importance seems to be centered on the athletic programs.

Sports programs have dominated the path many colleges have taken. Many universities place more importance on the millions athletic programs are able to generate for them than the education of the individual students. While other countries are pressing their youth to gain knowledge that will not only ensure their future but also move their country ahead in the global market, we seem to be more interested in how well our youth perform on the football field or the basketball court. The country seems more obsessed with sports than the economy or the welfare of the country. More people watch the Super Bowl than the president's State of the Union address.

Sports are important to youth in building character. But we also should screen instructors, coaches and those who are teaching our youth. We cannot assume that because a person is a good



Paul Burnley

athlete or coach that he or she is a person of good character. Also, programs for youth are magnets for child abusers. This is why these types of programs and their employers should be screened more carefully.

This country's obsession with sports has led to many of these types of problems. We have moved to a point in sports that we will do anything to win. Young people are taught to win at any cost. There was a rumor that the teams in the NFL offered bounties to players who hurt opposing players.

Here in North Carolina, it seems we only think of sports instead of education at our universities. When we think of Duke and N.C. State, we think basketball. UNC is noted for football. Seldom is it mentioned that Duke has a great medical program. Sports and the revenue the sports programs bring to these schools are often the driving force for recruiting students. Thousands of dollars and countless hours are spent recruiting high school athletes to build sports programs at many of these schools.

On an educational level, many

countries, including many from the third world, are surpassing the U.S. in the educational process. Countries such as India always score higher on scholastic tests than U.S. students. The reason for that, although other countries do have sports programs, which is evident in the Olympic games where they compete favorably against the U.S., is sports do not overshadow the educational programs.

The lack of attention given to our educational programs in our colleges has left us behind many countries that a decade ago we considered backward. While we have been debating how many millions to pay an athlete, other countries we looked on as inferior were spending these resources to train their youth to surpass us in almost every form of education. Many of our American industries are now employing engineers and scientists from third world countries to head programs here because they are not able to find qualified applicants from our U.S. schools.

Could it be our quest to excel in every sports venture that compels us to push our children into programs, such as that in which Sandusky participated? If so, we must assume some responsibility for not supervising these programs more closely.

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

Doesn't sound like Billy Graham

By Ken MacDonald

I was a news anchor in Asheville for half a dozen years at the end of AM radio's tenure as king. Possibly because the regional clear channel was just about all you could pick up, or maybe because of the famous morning man, we had the largest percentage of listeners in the country. Among them was a local gentleman known the world over—Billy Graham. The evangelist lived just 20 miles away on the side of a mountain in Montreat. From time to time he called the station to chat with friends. One day I was offered a chance to meet him at his office. It was just a news conference and there were other reporters there, but to this day I remember the aura of the room and the feeling that I truly was in the presence of greatness. Before that, I was well aware of Billy Graham's reputation and had followed his work but afterwards I paid special attention. This was a man of character, diplomacy and respect. It was as if he was this country's Christian representative to the world. I'm not sure a diverse country such as ours should have just one faith's representative, but if we were going to have one, he

was a good one. I can't remember a time where he didn't treat people from other countries, cultures, or faiths with complete respect.

So it was quite a surprise to hear his tone change this year. First, he was quoted as saying, "My heart aches for America and its deceived people," in a letter that quoted his late wife Ruth saying, "If God doesn't punish America, He'll have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah." That's a little too flippant for the Billy Graham I know.

Then in the whole Chick-fil-A flap, he allegedly released this statement:

"I want to express my support for my good friends Truett Cathy and his son Dan Cathy, and for their strong stand for the Christian faith. I've known their family for many years and have watched them grow Chick-fil-A into one of the best businesses in America while never compromising their values. Chick-fil-A serves each of its customers with excellence, and treats everyone like a neighbor. It's easy to see why Chick-fil-A has become so popular across America."

Say what? This is like when Anne of Green Gables was trying to

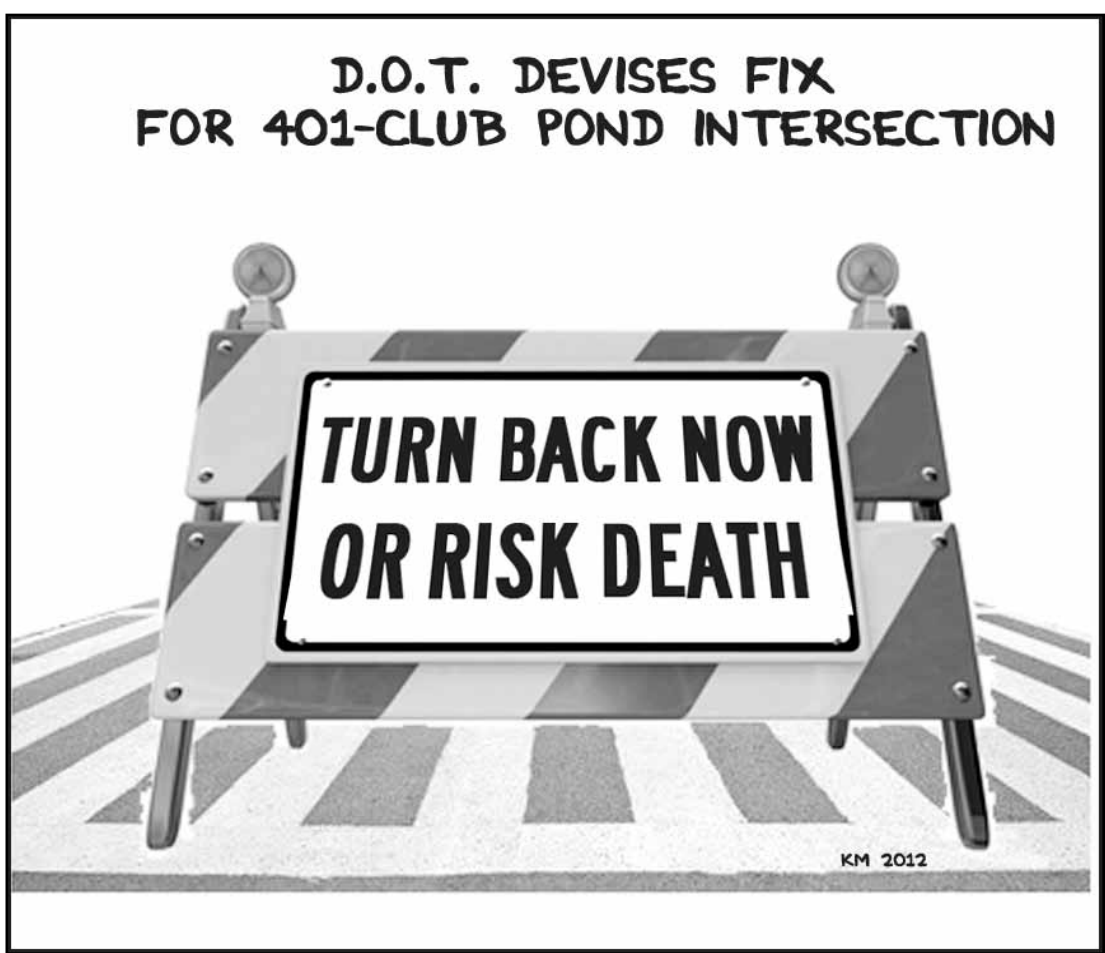
become a serious prose writer and one of her friends interjected into her work a plug for a baking company to win a contest. Her friend explained, "Where Perceval clasps Averil in his arms and says, 'Sweetheart, the beautiful coming years will bring us the fulfillment of our home of dreams,' I added, 'in which we will never use any baking powder except Rollings Reliable.'"

Could it be that 93-year-old Dr. Graham is also getting a little ghost writing? Perhaps son Franklin is at work behind the scenes?

I don't know, but not even two years ago, in an interview with Christianity Today, Graham was asked what he'd do different if he could go back.

"I... would have steered clear of politics," he said. "I'm grateful for the opportunities God gave me to minister to people in high places; people in power have spiritual and personal needs like everyone else, and often they have no one to talk to. But looking back I know I sometimes crossed the line, and I wouldn't do that now."

Put me in the camp of skeptics—who doubt Billy Graham is suddenly arrogant or flip. Or trite. Or aggressive. Or unkind. I think someone is putting words into his mouth.



We Get Letters

Power failures like India's coming

To the Editor:

While most people are enthralled by "The View," "The Bachelor," "Dancing with the Stars," the Olympics and other bread and circuses, have you noticed that India was in its second day of a nationwide power blackout?

This is what the future is going to look like in the U.S. We are headed toward a nationwide power failure.

U.S. infrastructure is falling, and all Obama cares about is the war in Afghanistan, and all Romney cares about is fighting another war against Iran.

The power utilities are installing so-called "smart meters" (actually Radio Frequency transmitters) that report electrical usage on a 15-second basis to the central utility office, allegedly to improve service.

The real reason for these meters is so any redundancy is removed from the electrical utility system, resulting in minimal critical capital expenditures.

The consequence is that all parts of the system are critical, and the likelihood of widespread power failures is not just increased but assured.

Did you notice the \$7.4 million severance payment for former Progress Energy CEO Bill Johnson, which is three times his annual base salary? He would also receive \$1.4 million in cash as his target annual cash bonus for 2012. Some progress.

I realize that most people consider engineers nerds who are normally ignored.

It's not just the White House and Wall Street that are corrupt. The whole nation is fundamentally flawed, and no politician is ever willing to speak the real truth.

Russell Walker

Homosexuality is sin, Bible says so

To the Editor:

Christians have a responsibility to judge (call) sin what it is: sin. How do we know what is sin? The Bible is God's clear explanation of what acts/behaviors are sinful. How do we know this? Because Jesus said, "I am... the truth..." Therefore, Christianity is not a smorgasbord to pick and choose what is truth as many Christians have made it regarding homosexual behavior. The demands from homosexuals for Christians to accept their aberrant behavior as normal sexual behavior is so long and loud that some Christians have bought it as "truth." As a Christian—Jesus Christ is my savior—everything to me—I no longer say to myself, "I think" or "I feel" regarding anything—I go to my father God and ask him since he created all things and I am here to serve Him.

I want truth about homosexuality and "marriage"—not what the paper, my box, my friends, my neighbors, my coworkers, my parents, my teachers, my college, my professors say it is. What I found is this: God calls homosexuality an abomination to Him (Leviticus 18:22) and in 1 Corinthians 6:9-20 says, "Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor adulterers, nor effeminate i.e. by perversion, nor homosexuals... will inherit the kingdom of God." The passage continues to say that some to whom Paul was writing were homosexuals but "you were washed, sanctified, justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ" i.e., came out of homosexuality lifestyle, stopped fornicating, etc. There is forgiveness and restoration through Jesus Christ for the sin of homosexuality. That is truth;

therefore, there should not be any discussion about "marriage" between homosexuals. Since there is, what is truth about that subject? Genesis 2:21-25 is truth: God created Adam and fashioned a woman from the rib taken from the man who shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife/woman. There it is: truth! You say, "I don't believe the Bible" or "I don't believe in God." Well friend, one day you will die and will face God to account for your beliefs and how you behaved according to your beliefs. I call upon all Raefordites and Hoke Countians to choose this day whom you will serve: God's truth or the World's truth. Joshua 24:15 Jeremiah 33:3 Join me in praying for "revival in Raeford," that Christians will receive truth and that souls will be saved.

Anna Catharin Brown

Find ways to hold college costs down

By Scott Mooneyham
Capitol Press Association

For the last two decades, as tuition increases at University of North Carolina system campuses have outstripped inflation four- or five-fold, UNC officials have assuaged their guilt by creating more financial aid programs for the poor.

Legislators and state treasurers have helped by pumping more money into those financial aid programs.

UNC officials have also been setting aside some of the revenue

gained from tuition hikes for those financial aid programs. The UNC Board of Governors' current four-year tuition plan requires each campus to set aside at least 25 percent of revenue from those increases for tuition assistance for needy students.

Now, some UNC officials are questioning the set aside.

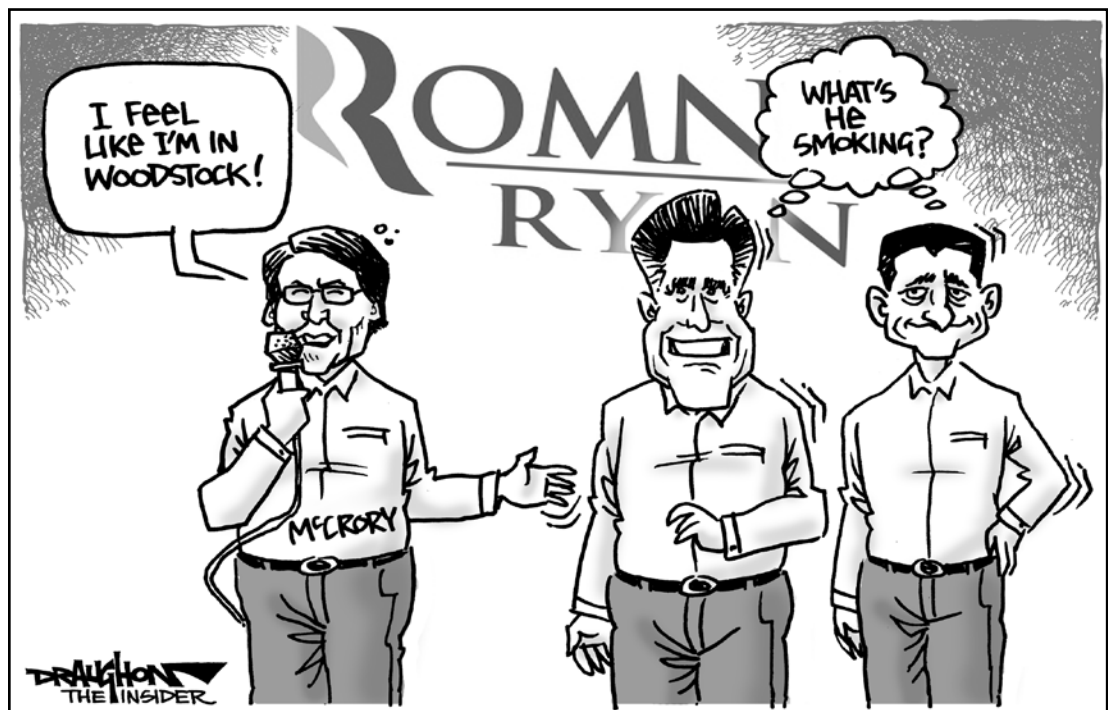
UNC system president Tom Ross has proposed amending the 25 percent requirement to instead make it a cap. So, individual campuses could set aside as much as 25 percent of tuition increases to help lower income students. Or

they could set aside nothing. Ross endorsed his proposal with the comments, "If this isn't right, vote it down, and I'll be fine."

Some members of the UNC Board of Governors thought it sounded just fine.

Fred Eshelman of Wilmington called the financial aid set aside "a hidden tax."

Frank Grainger of Cary suggested that tuition bills sent to families ought to disclose the portion of tuition money going for financial aid. (No doubt, he (See MOONEYHAM, page 3A)



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 Home Page: www.thenews-journal.com

Ken MacDonald (ken@thenews-journal.com)..... Publisher
 Catharin Shepard (cshepard@thenews-journal.com)..... Reporter
 Hal Nunn (hal@thenews-journal.com)..... Sports Writer
 Hal Nunn (hal@thenews-journal.com)..... Sales Representative
 Wendy Tredway (wendy@thenews-journal.com)..... Sales Representative
 Sheila Black (sheila@thenews-journal.com)..... Office Manager
 Robin Huffman (robin@thenews-journal.com)..... Composition Design/
 Legal Advertising

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ads@thenews-journal.com
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Obituaries

Mary L. Lawhon

Mary Lewis Lawhon of 25 Jefferson Davis Court, Martinsville, Virginia, died Friday, August 10 at her home. She was born on September 19, 1923 to the late Robert Banks Lewis and the late Maude Upchurch Lewis in Raeford.

She graduated from Salem College in Winston-Salem and performed graduate work at NC State University. She taught elementary and high school in Cumberland County, and during World War II she taught elementary school on the island of Trinidad, where her father was commander of troops in training for future deployment.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church and served in many capacities, including deacon and elder. She served her community on the board of trustees of the Memorial Hospital of Martinsville and Henry County, and the board of governors of Chatmoss Country Club. She volunteered at Memorial Hospital and enjoyed her associations with the Garden Study Club and Book Club.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Watson Lawhon. She is survived by son Richard Upchurch Lawhon and wife Donna; granddaughters, Andrea Lewis Lawhon Murray and husband Dan Murray, Tracey Marie Lawhon, and Mary Catherine Lawhon; son Robert Stirling Lawhon; and granddaughter Juliana Louise Lawhon.

A graveside service was held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, August 12 at Raeford Cemetery with the Rev. Jim Braden officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the First Presbyterian Church in Martinsville, Virginia or to the charity of one's choice.

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

Albert G. Swanson

Albert George Swanson—audio engineer, musician, essayist, philosopher, photographer, crossword puzzle creator, and adored husband, father, and friend—died July 24, 2012 in Washington state after battling an overwhelming blood infection. He was diagnosed in 2010 with a rare autoimmune disease, Wegener's granulomatosis, and had been on immunosuppressants from that time.

He was born September 15, 1948, to Albert George Swanson and Aris Shankle Swanson in Tacoma,

where he grew up. His mother was formerly of Raeford. He attended Mount Tahoma High School and the University of Washington, playing trombone in the Seattle Youth Symphony and in the Husky Marching Band. While studying music and psychology as an undergraduate and ethnomusicology as a graduate student at the UW, he began recording music, which became his profession after college. He went on to produce recordings for dozens of musical groups throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond for more than four decades.

He served as the Seattle Symphony's audio recording engineer from 1983 through 2006, recording the Symphony's live performances and editing them for radio broadcast on Classical KING FM 98.1. He participated in the majority of the Seattle Symphony's prodigious discography of more than 140 recordings.

Survivors include his wife, Eileen; a daughter, Amy King and husband Geoffrey of Seattle; a son, Stephen and wife Jeanne of Spokane; a sister, Pat Kaer and husband Bjarn of Goodyear, Arizona; numerous nieces and nephews; and his first grandchild, due in October.

Memorials may be made to the Vasculitis Foundation at www.vasculitisfoundation.org.



Zaria Robinson

Zaria Robinson

Zaria Evans Robinson, 8, of Raeford died Tuesday, August 7, 2012. Survivors include her parents, Sheika Evans and Antonio; two brothers, Justin Evans and Tyler Evans; maternal grandparents, Mitchell Bratcher and Helen Nash; and her great-grandmother, Margaret Evans.

The funeral was held Saturday, August 11 at 1 p.m. in Beauty Spot Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in East Lawn Cemetery in Rockfish.

District Court

Recent cases heard in Hoke County Criminal District Court, Judge John H. Horne presiding:
Aug. 7

- Elizabeth Carol Black, 50, 1517 Ashford Ave., Fayetteville, following too closely, court costs
- Marvin Reginald Black, 52, 5313 Sumac Circle, Fayetteville, driving while impaired, Level 2, 12 months suspended, 24 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, jail fee, obtain assessment, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed, not to use, consume or possess any controlled substances or alcoholic beverages, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same; driving while license revoked, 90 days suspended, 24 months probation, \$200 fine and court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, not to operate a motor vehicle until

properly licensed, transfer probation to Cumberland County; sentences to be served consecutively

- Aurelio Antonio Buendia, 24, 174 Cordelia Court, Fayetteville, noise ordinance violation, court costs
- Brigitte Cain, 17, 114 Haywood Drive, Raeford, resisting public officer, communicating threats, possession of stolen goods or property, 45 days suspended, 12 months probation, court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, not to go on or about the premises of prosecuting business, if defendant obtains admission to job corps, she may be transferred to unsupervised probation and all moneys remitted, defendant to be gainfully employed, judgments consolidated; shoplifting by concealment of goods, voluntary dismissal
- Leidy Maria E. Cherrez, 45, 186 Kubota Drive, Red Springs, no operator's license, \$25 fine and court costs

- Teyon Deonte Ellerbe, 22, 1509 Pole St., Raeford, simple possession of Schedule VI controlled substance, 10 days in jail, active; assault inflicting serious injury, voluntary dismissal
- Tyreke Absheer Knight, 20, 1536 Heartland Drive, Fayetteville, no operator's license, five days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$50 fine and court costs
- Michael Lee McCartney, 23, 202 Jones St., Pembroke, driving while license revoked, five days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$200 fine and court costs, attorney and appointment fees, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed
- Rontrice Dashawn Morrissey, 25, 108 Heron Drive, Raeford, driving while license revoked, 45 days suspended, 12 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, attorney and appointment fees, 48 hours in jail within 30 days of sentence, not to use or possess any

controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, sentence to be served at expiration of sentence already serving

• Marvin Curtis Shaw, 63, 964 Mockingbird Hill Road, Raeford, driving while impaired, Level 5, possession of open container or consuming alcohol in passenger area, 30 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$100 fine and court costs, community service fee, obtain assessment, surrender operator's license, not to operate a motor vehicle unless under limited driving privileges, judgments consolidated; unsealed wine or liquor in passenger area, voluntary dismissal

• Terret Lee Thompson Jr., 17, 1425 Stubby Oaks Road, Aberdeen, simple assault, five days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, no contact with prosecuting witness, not to go on or about premises of prosecuting witness without written consent.

Births

The News-Journal received these birth announcements from FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital

July 5
Tashina Burch, Raeford, a son, Tyshawn Shemar Burch

July 6
Jason and Rebecca Graves, Raeford, a daughter, Charlotte Rebecca Graves

June 24
Shamiah Holmes and Darrio Harris, Raeford, a son, Toni Rushawn Holmes

June 28
Ervin and Holly McMillan, Southern Pines, a son, Gavin Devon McMillan

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

Mooneyham

(Continued from page 2A) is also in favor of disclosing the percentage of student fees going to support athletic programs; in 2009, \$795 million in student fees at 222 major university campuses went to support intercollegiate athletics.)

Certainly, these set asides aren't ideal. They put more price pressure on the families who don't qualify for the tuition-assistance programs.

They are, though, a recognition that, if our best public universities are to be accessible to those at all income levels, the money has to come from somewhere.

And the idea that our public universities are to be accessible to all, and not places populated by economic elites, is more than some lofty goal. It is required by our state constitution.

The proposal also ignores another problem: A traditional

source of state dollars for financial aid is drying up.

For years, state legislators tapped the state's unclaimed property fund for financial aid. Some time ago, they began not only taking the interest but dipping into the fund's principal.

Today, there is a lot less money to tap.

In the midst of the debate over the set aside, more and more students are graduating from college with more and more debt. In 2010, North Carolina college graduates left school with an average of \$20,959 in college loan debt.

Ross' proposal would appear to create the wrong debate.

What the Board of Governors ought to be doing—what the state constitution requires of it and our elected leaders—is finding ways to hold down college costs for all.

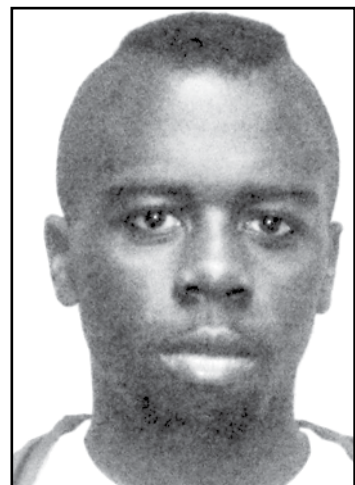
Failing at that, they create division and diversion.

Editorial Deadlines

Friday 12 Noon
Calendar Items - Social Items - News Items
Monday 12 Noon - Letters to the Editor



Sought
Chief Probation/Parole Officer Percy Moore is seeking Rashad Blue for alleged parole violation. He is 31, a black male, weighs 140 pounds and is 5'10" tall. Anyone with information should call Moore at (910) 875-5081.



Sought
Chief Probation/Parole Officer Percy Moore is seeking Terry Briskey for alleged parole violation. He is 20, a black male, weighs 165 pounds and is 5'9" tall. Anyone with information should call Moore at (910) 875-5081.

Correction

The News-Journal incorrectly spelled the name of a person involved in a five-car wreck last week at the intersection of Club Pond Road and U.S. Highway 401. The correct spelling is Lena Robinson.



Sought
Chief Probation/Parole Officer Percy Moore is seeking Shawn Chacon for alleged parole violation. He is 26, a black male, weighs 165 pounds and is 5'8" tall. Anyone with information should call Moore at (910) 875-5081.

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Alicia Beth Clark Memorial Fund
Saturday, August 18
12 - 5 p.m.
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Plate / Bake Sale
BBQ Pork or Baked/ BBQ Chicken
\$8 Tickets Include Raffle!
Please Donate To Help The Family!
You may also donate online at: www.AliciaBethClarkMemorialFund.com

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Alleged shooter arrested

Hoke County Sheriff's Office deputies last week arrested a man for allegedly shooting into an occupied home near Wayside Road. Quentin Maurice Davis, 22, of the 100 block of Woodland Court in Raeford was arrested Thursday and charged with discharging a weapon into an occupied dwelling.

Deputies responded August 9 to the 300 block of Timberidge Drive in eastern Hoke County after resident Evelyn Durham reported that someone she knew had shot at her home. While officers were processing the scene, the alleged shooter returned and was given commands

by deputies but did not comply. After several attempts to take Davis into custody, which were allegedly met with resistance, he was arrested, according to the Sheriff's Office. Davis was held in the Hoke County Detention Center under a \$50,000 bond.

2 from Fayetteville die in wreck

Two women from Fayetteville were killed last week in an early-morning single-vehicle wreck on Philippi Church Road, according to the North Carolina Highway Patrol. Driver Robert Lee Ferguson, 32, of the 7500 block of Glenraven Drive in Fayetteville and passenger Bruno Louis Kisala Jr., 32, of

the 6500 block of Senator Drive in Fayetteville, died August 9 when Ferguson apparently lost control of his 2006 Mercedes-Benz, ran off the right side of the road and hit a tree. The wreck happened around 2:44 a.m. near the intersection of Philippi Church Road and Pittman

Grove Church Road. Speed was a factor in the crash, authorities said. The vehicle was traveling 80 miles an hour in a 55-mile-an-hour zone when it hit the tree, the State Highway Patrol said. The car came to rest on the driver's side. The wreck is under investigation, authorities reported.

State hearing for hospital beds is Monday

The state will hold a public hearing Monday at 12:30 p.m. to hear residents' thoughts on a proposal to bring 28 more hospital beds to the region. This year the state allocated 28 more beds to the Cumberland/Hoke health services area, and both Cape Fear Valley and FirstHealth of the Carolinas medi-

cal systems applied to receive the beds. Cape Fear Valley seeks to use the beds in a Cumberland County facility while FirstHealth seeks to add the 28 beds to its Hoke County hospital, currently under construction on U.S. Highway 401. The two systems filed competing Certificate of Need requests with the state.

Next week's hearing will allow residents a chance to speak about the proposals. The hearing is set for 12:30 p.m. Monday at the L.E. McLaughlin Building (the Old Armory) on Central Avenue in Raeford. Residents who want to speak at the meeting should arrive before 12:30 p.m. in order to sign up on the speaking list.

Shooting

(Continued from page 1A) Mike Hardin said. Harris pleaded guilty to charges including attempted first-degree murder, two counts of armed robbery, two counts of kidnapping, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, discharging a weapon into an occupied property causing serious injury, breaking and entering a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle and assault on a female.

Harris was charged with shooting Sgt. 1st Class John Henry in the chest while Henry and his wife were putting gas in their car at the Wayside Road gas station on U.S. Highway 401.

"The victim and his wife were at the gas station getting gas and this man approached them with a gun," Hoke County Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said at the time. The shooting happened around 11:35 p.m. on May 13, 2011.

Law enforcement officials located the car through the vehicle's anti-theft tracking system and pulled Harris over in Fayetteville. Harris reportedly pointed a gun at Fayetteville officers, who opened fire on the vehicle. He was not shot and was taken into custody on a charge of assault on a government official.

Harris shot Henry just five days after being released from prison on a larceny conviction, according to state Department of Correction records. He was previously charged with larceny of a motor vehicle and possession of stolen goods, records show.



FirstCare opening
Community leaders were among those attending the FirstCare opening festivities and touring the new facility on US 401 recently. From left are Judy Pittman, Rep. Garland Pierce, County Commissioner Ellen McNeill and Melissa Pittman of the N.C. Turkey Festival.

State school officials attending convocation

Two academic officers with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction will attend convocation this year to visit with Hoke County teachers. Chief academic officer Dr. Rebecca Garland and deputy chief academic officer Angela H. Quick will visit the school system August 24 to speak with local educators about the upcoming changes to testing, including North Carolina's

move to the READY initiative. "Getting our students READY requires more rigorous standards and assessments, innovative technology tools to assist teachers, targeted professional development that meets the needs of teachers, and retooling our evaluation system to provide teachers with more feedback to help them improve. Dr. Garland and Quick will discuss these initiatives in depth in their presentation," the

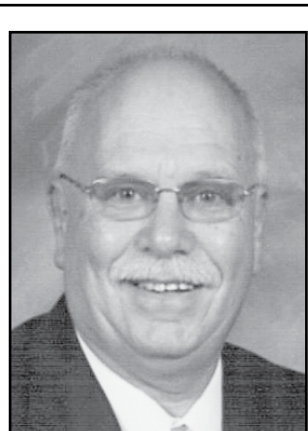
school system announced in a press release. The READY initiative also includes expanded teacher and administrator evaluations. "As part of the READY school accountability model, every 11th grader will take the ACT college entrance exam, and every school will be accountable for advancing all of its students toward readiness for college and career," the release said.

SBI investigating Red Springs murder

The State Bureau of Investigation and the Robeson County Sheriff's Office are seeking information on what happened to a Red Springs man found dead in his yard Sunday morning. Dennis Tipton, 47, of the 100 block of Clifford Road in Red Springs was found dead Sunday

morning in the front yard of his home, according to Robeson authorities. Tipton's death was not due to natural causes, the Robeson County Sheriff's Office said, but the office is not releasing further details about the case. The SBI is taking part in the investigation, Capt. Anthony Thomp-

son said. A medical examiner will conduct an autopsy. "Currently we're investigating it as a homicide. We're not releasing the cause of death at this point," Thompson said. Anyone with information is asked to call the Robeson County Sheriff's Office at (910) 671-3100.



Joins funeral home staff
Larry Chason, a Rockfish native, has recently joined the staff of Crumpler Funeral Home and Cremation Services. He was formerly employed with Rogers and Breece Funeral Home of Fayetteville.

Vets officer

(Continued from page 1A) in," he said. Smith's hiring came three months after former Veterans Service Officer Freddie McPhaul resigned from the position. McPhaul said he was forced to resign after receiving complaints about things he said while campaigning for a seat on the Hoke County Board of Commissioners while serving as a county employee. Emails provided by Hoke County Commissioner Ellen McNeill showed McNeill telling McPhaul to read the county employee handbook and consider his conduct while campaigning. Last month local veterans gathered at a board of commissioners meeting to speak to the board mem-

bers about their concerns regarding the selection of a new officer. George Balch, leader of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10 in Raeford, said he met with Johnson about the matter following the meeting. The county did listen to veterans' concerns in selecting Smith, Balch said. "I think they finally used the right procedure," he said. Balch knows two of the candidates for the position and previously worked with Smith at the VA hospital. Balch said he didn't recommend one candidate over another but was satisfied with the county's choice. "I think now we're on the right track for where we need to be," he said.

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CLIP & USE

Zaria

(Continued from page 1A)
Sheika (Evans), she still has it hard."

The grieving mother has the support of family and faith, Evans said.

"Zaria, she's resting in heaven on the right-hand side of God," cousin Gina Leggett said.

Zaria's grandmother said the girl liked to attend church and got excited when it was time to sing. As a first-grader she carried a New Testament around with her and would ask family members to read it to her. She got along well with her little brother too.

"Whatever you did, she never got mad," Evans said.

Evans last saw Zaria the day before the wreck happened. When she got the phone call Tuesday and arrived on the scene of the accident, she feared the worst.

"I knew then that somebody in there was critical or either had lost their life," she said.

Rescuers transported Zaria to Cape Fear Valley Medical

Center, where she died of her injuries. Sheika Evans, a Hoke County High School graduate and military veteran, is recovering from a shoulder injury sustained in the wreck. Her five-year-old son, who was also in the car at the time, was not hurt.

The family has set up a fund at PNC Bank in Raeford to accept donations to help cover the funeral expenses. Donations can be made at any PNC Bank to the Zaria Evans Angel Account, Account #5333260989, Routing # 054000030. Checks, money orders, wires and direct deposits are accepted. The mailing address is 201 North Main Street, Raeford, NC 28376.

"We are so grateful to people for all that they do," Evans said.

Zaria Evans was laid to rest Saturday at East Lawn Cemetery in Rockfish following a funeral at Beauty Spot Baptist Church in Fayetteville.

The North Carolina Highway Patrol charged driver Antonio Dingle, 35, of Fayetteville with

misdeemeanor death by vehicle, careless and reckless driving and failure to reduce speed, according to a Highway Patrol spokesperson.

Dingle was driving a Dodge truck south on U.S. Highway 401 and did not slow down to stop at the intersection of 401 and Club Pond Road, where four other vehicles were stopped at a red light, according to Highway Patrol reports. The truck was going 55 miles an hour when it ran into the back of Evans' car in the left straight-facing lane, authorities said. The impact knocked Evans' car into the back of a Hoke County Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle and into the side of another vehicle waiting in the right-hand straight lane of the intersection. The truck struck two other vehicles in the intersection before coming to rest in the right turn lane of Club Pond Road.

No other injuries were reported in the wreck, which happened around 10:30 a.m., according to the Highway Patrol.



Students in the beginning days of class. "If you have difficulty doing this, that doesn't mean you won't get there," Baun told them.

Guilty

(Continued from page 1A)
Ellerbe were also indicted on charges of first and second degree kidnapping.

At one point during the home invasion the little girl was crying and one of the men shoved a gun into the child's mouth, threatening to kill her if she didn't stop making noise, according to Frye. Frye begged for the men to shoot him instead of his daughter and

was pistol whipped and beaten. The robbers took shotguns and a rifle, credit and debit cards and keys, reports said.

After the home invasion, Frye said he and his wife were recovering but that their daughter was still suffering from the events.

"Most of all, I just want to see justice done for the sake of my little girl," Frye said at that time. "Being adults, my wife and I have

been able to get over this, but she can't. I'm afraid that she'll never get over it."

Donte Maurice Vanclief pleaded guilty in October last year and was sentenced to spend 13-17 years in prison. Spruill pleaded guilty last May and received a sentence of up to eight and a half years in prison. Cases against the other suspects are still pending, the assistant district attorney said.

Dance

(Continued from page 1A)
class without any training, they'll leave it with an understanding of jazz, ballet and contemporary dance styles.

The new dance program is part of a drive to offer more performing arts options for students at Hoke High, Principal Roger Edwards said.

"We're really excited about it, we want to be able to offer as many kinds of opportunities for our students (as possible)," he said. "We want to make sure our fine arts really has a variety of offerings. Fine arts are one area that's really tied to academics as far as supporting students and bolstering their self-confidence."

The principal spoke with Superintendent Dr. Freddie Williamson last year about adding a dance program, and with Williamson's support, the high school was able to include the program along with its existing offerings in theater arts, band, chorus and visual arts.

"We just feel really good for the

offerings we have for students, we feel like dance is really good for students," Edwards said.

The old chorus room in the technical education building got a makeover this summer in preparation for hosting the new elective course. The smooth black flooring, room-length mirror and ballet barre fixed to the wall are all tools of the trade for Baun, a newcomer from Ohio with professional dance credits and several years of teaching to her name.

"I have a heart for dance and I know that there's more opportunities in school systems for dance down here, and that's where my heart is. I want to be working with those kids who don't have the opportunities outside of class," she said.

Baun taught in public school in Ohio and previously taught in private dance schools. Before that, she was a professional dancer with the Travesty and Verlezza companies in Ohio.

"It's nice to be able to reflect on those experiences and share them with the students," she said.

During the first week of school the students listened to lectures about the basics, learned warm-up exercises and practiced a few moves. Friday morning, Baun wanted to dispel a few myths about dancing.

"Not everyone who dances is wealthy. In the school system you can dance and not pay an extra dime," she said.

One student asked if ballet shoes harm a dancer's feet. That was one area Baun could offer advice based on personal experience.

"I did point for a number of years. I think I have pretty decent feet," Baun said, flexing her bare toes. People better understand how to properly care for tired feet now so dancers can largely avoid damage, she said. But dance does change your feet in another way.

"You can crush Pepsi cans with your feet, they're so strong," Baun said.

With the lecture over for the day, she stepped to the stereo in the corner. "Y'all ready for this?"

"My music will always reflect my mood for the day," Baun said, stretching out her arms. "It's Friday, let's have fun!"

The warm-up moves develop students' flexibility. Some of the novice dancers were able to pull off one challenging stretch, while others had further to go. Their teacher walked through the rows, patiently correcting postures.

"Our goal is nose to knee. If you're not there yet, it's okay," Baun said.

The class worked through the warm-up before moving on to practice some moves. In just a week, the students had already learned several steps of different types including a leap through the air and a snaking shoulder-shimmy that moved them across the dance floor. Ultimately the goal is to develop skills to the point of being able to put on local performances, Baun said. The dance teacher is also starting an after-school dance club that will offer tutoring and help interested students continue developing their dance skills.

It's still early days for the troupe, but Baun showed confidence in the burgeoning dancers.

"If you have difficulty doing this, that doesn't mean you won't get there," she told the class. "We're not focusing on perfection in this course, we're focusing on progress."

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Hard knock
One person complaining of back pain was taken to Moore Regional Hospital Monday after this wreck at the intersection of Prospect Avenue and Main Street in Raeford, according to a report. Drivers James Little and Shelley Ivey both claim they had the green light at the intersection, police said. A Hoke Area Transportation Service bus was also involved but did not sustain any serious damage.

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SPORTS



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Fighting Bucks Sports Schedule

- August 16**
 Girls Tennis Home vs. Cape Fear 4 p.m.
 Girls JV Volleyball at 71st 5 p.m.
 Girls V Volleyball at 71st 6 p.m.
 Boys V Soccer Home vs. 71st 6 p.m.
 Boys JV Football at Ashley High 7 p.m.
- August 17**
 Boys V Football Home vs. Ashley High 7:30 p.m.
- August 20**
 Girls Tennis Away 4 p.m.
 Boys JV Soccer at Pine Forest 5:30 p.m.
 Boys V Soccer at Pine Forest 7 p.m.
- August 21**
 Girls JV Volleyball Home 5 p.m.
 Girls V Volleyball Home 6 p.m.

Bucks ready for Friday night football

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The Hoke County High School Bucks kick off their 2012 football season this Friday night at Raz Autry Stadium in Raeford. The game is also dubbed Military Appreciation Night. Military veterans and active duty get into the game free with an ID and will be recognized during the pre-game festivities at 7 p.m.

The Bucks are coming off a 2011 season that saw some highs and lows but this year should be a telling year for the program as Coach Milton Butts is in his third season at the helm of the Fighting Bucks program. Coach Milton Butts is in his 33rd year coaching football and he has seen it all.

"I have been coaching a long time and know that the week leading up to the first game is an important week for the team and this week we need somebody to step up and be a leader," Butts said.

Last year the Bucks jumped out to a 6-1 record highlighted by a 24-21 win over Richmond County. The win last year was the first time Hoke County had beaten Richmond County in 35 years and Coach Butts said after the game, "The kids worked hard for this game but it's just the first conference win and if we don't use this to get better, the win doesn't mean anything."

After that game, the Bucks went on a five-game losing streak to end the season 6-6 overall and 1-4 in conference play so the head coach of 33 years knew back then that a win is just a win unless you can use that win to get better.

Friday night will be a good sign of things to come if the Bucks can continue to build the program. Wilmington Ashley is a growing program that is under the direction of Tom Eanes, in his second year at the helm of the Screaming Eagles. Last year the Eagles were 2-8 overall

and 0-5 in the Mid Eastern Conference; however, they do have 11 returning starters and, according to Powell Latimer of the Wilmington Star News, they have gotten better than they were last year.

The Bucks are looking for leadership this week and Coach Butts said, "We need some of the seniors to step up and be vocal leaders because the ones we had last year are no longer here." Key returning players to watch are Detrez Newsome, Geoffrey Thompson, Jawane Harris, Tobias Edge-Cambell, Jamal Darden, Michael Locklear, Jared Aiken, Treqwon Covington, Shaikem McGougan, Willie Bradshaw, Shumaiz Cobb and Laquest Peterkin. It should be an interesting game Friday night and because it's Military Appreciation Night, fans should come early and get a seat and enjoy the kickoff of the 2012 high school football season.



Local players compete in National Tournament

Three members of the Fayetteville Force soccer club team are local Raeford / Hoke High standouts Ashelynn Priest (far left), Laura Diehl (second from left) and Amanda Priest (third from right). They play on the Premier and Select teams for the Force. This summer the team competed in a showcase tournament in Raleigh for the Capital Area Soccer League (C.A.S.L.), one of the largest clubs in the nation. The girls' teams competed against teams from all over the U.S. and Canada, made it to the quarterfinals and lost to the team that won it all. Sisters Amanda and Ashelynn scored three goals in the four-day tournament and Laura Diehl scored two goals. The coach of the team is Aaron Wood from St. Andrews University in Scotland County.

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Charles Darwin wrote, "It is notorious how powerful is the force of habit." He also wrote, "It is generally felt to be a far easier thing to reform the constitution in Church and State than to reform the least of our own bad habits." Habit is defined as a tendency or disposition to act in a particular way, mental disposition or attitude; a learned behavioral response that has become associated with a particular situation, especially one frequently repeated.

Most of life is habitual. We do the same things we did yesterday, the day before and every day for the last month. Habits, good or bad, make you who you are. The key is having the ability to control them.

One habit we have acquired is eating out. Eating out has become a way of life for most of us. Research shows almost half of our food budget is spent on food eaten away from home, and when we eat out, we usually eat more

Extension Today

calories and fat.

Childhood is a time for exploring, trying new things and developing lifelong habits. As children, we learn how to eat and what foods we like. It is also a time of active play and building skills in sports. During these years parents have the opportunity to show their children how to stay healthy for a lifetime.

You probably are already aware that healthy eating habits, exercise and weight management are important for long-term health. The challenge is doing something about it in a world filled with busy schedules, super-sized meals and snack machines.

As parents you don't have to make radical changes. The little things you do to encourage healthy

habits can make a big difference over time.

Parents are important role models and teachers of their children. They can influence children to develop healthy eating habits. When it comes to food, parents should consider the following:

- Offer children a variety of nutritious foods at regular intervals. Planned meals and snacks provide regular sources of energy, help children develop sensible eating patterns and control their weight more successfully.

- Help children learn to identify and pay attention to feelings of hunger and fullness. Just because the clock says noon, it doesn't mean that they are hungry or should eat.

- Avoid giving attention to picky eating behaviors. It's tempting to try to force or negotiate your child into eating, but these tactics don't work and may make the situation worse. As long as you provide a

variety of healthy and appropriate foods, you can trust your child to decide how much of these foods to eat.

- Don't allow children to drink large amounts of fruit juices. A serving of 100 percent fruit juice is only six ounces. Limit sweetened drinks, including soda, fruit punch and bottled tea.

- Remember your children are watching you! Be enthusiastic about eating a variety of foods. Buy fewer high-calorie, low nutrient foods. Encourage children to think about such foods as occasional treats, not regular fare. If they see you eating high calorie foods, they will want to eat those too.

For further information, contact Shirley Smith at the Hoke County Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension at 910-875-2162 or e-mail sjsmith@ncsu.edu.

Source: Deborah McClellan, MS, University of Illinois Extension



Murder

(Continued from page 1A)

attempting to hide in a darkened area inside the mobile home, according to the Sheriff's Office. McKoy was taken into custody and charged with two counts of first-degree murder. He could also face lesser charges including breaking and entering.

Deputies responding to the scene found Blue lying on the floor in the hallway of the home suffering from multiple gunshots to the torso. He was barely breathing when officers found him but was later pronounced dead at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville.

After deputies arrested McKoy, they discovered Torrens lying on the floor of the bathroom in the master bedroom of the home. She was unresponsive after having been shot multiple times. Emergency workers pronounced Torrens dead at the scene.

Blue and Torrens were both shot multiple times with a 9mm handgun, officials reported. Officers retrieved a weapon they believe was used in the shooting. McKoy was held in the Hoke County Detention Center without the possibility of bond. "We know we arrested the

shooter" but the case is not closed, Peterkin said. Investigators are still looking into the case to determine whether there may be any other person also involved.

Torrens' eight-year-old daughter was not at home when the shooting happened, Peterkin said. The girl was reportedly staying with her father at the time.

McKoy was previously convicted of misdemeanor charges including a 2001 assault on a female and violation of a protective order in Mecklenburg County, according to state Department of Correction records. McKoy was still on probation for 2011 misdemeanor convictions of damage to property, possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance and resisting an officer.

Blue's cousin Jonathan Taylor posted the news about the murder on his Facebook page over the weekend.

"So sad for the two lives that were lost and all the families and friends who are affected by this horrible tragedy," Taylor wrote. "I pray for peace in all your families' hearts. Still somewhat numb but I'm gonna be strong for my auntie and family."

Night Out



Life flight crew Larry Thomas, (from left) Leanne Reeves, Theresa Blanton, Rep. Mike McIntyre, Sheriff Hubert Peterkin and pilot Chuck Phillips attended National Night Out. The rescue team flew in from Fayetteville for the event.

(Continued from page 1A) carefully scooping the cooked treats onto plates as other workers poured lemonade. The threatening clouds didn't keep her from bringing her business to Hoke and the late-afternoon storms didn't seem to put a damper on the crowds either, she said.

"I'm glad the rain held off and we could do it again this year," Altizer said. "It actually looks to me like a little bit larger crowd than last year. I hope that it'll keep getting larger and larger out here."

Families got the chance to meet firefighters, law enforcement officers and emergency medical technicians and see some of their vehicles close-up during the event. Booths offered identification kits for children, voter registration and tours of a North Raeford Fire Department fire truck.

Cheyenne, 2, and Arianna, 7 months, perched on the chrome bumper of the truck as their parents stood nearby. The family has been attending the event for several years as a way to spend some time together having fun, mom Bronwyn Snyder said.

"It's good bringing the family together and actually being together," she said.

A UNC Hospitals life flight helicopter based out of Fayetteville flew in low over the crowd to land precisely in the middle of a baseball field. Crew members chatted with parents as kids got a look at the inside of the flying ambulance.

Andy's Cruise-In member

Jerry Scarboro oversaw the classic cars lined up on display, including a 1950 Dodge and a 1965 Ford Mustang. The cruisers drop by Andy's on U.S. 401 in Raeford every month to talk cars and have events like 50/50 raffles that help support the nonprofit

Andy's Foundation. Even though there weren't a lot of cars at this particular event due to the uncertainty about the weather, some of the cruisers came from as far as Laurinburg to support the event, Scarboro said.

"The rain did hold off long enough to come out for a little while," he said.

Sheriff Hubert Peterkin thanked the people who made the event possible.

"I always want to thank everybody for participating, all the agencies involved, emergency services, and we were just so grateful that we were blessed with the rain holding back," he said. "Right there for a little while it was iffy, we almost postponed it, but it turned out to be a beautiful event."

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