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RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, August 8, 2012

4 file for school board, clerk on ballot

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Four people filed to run for a seat on the Hoke County Board of Education by the time the filing period closed Monday at noon, Board of Elections Director Caroline Shook said.

Incumbents Hank Richards and Rosa McAllister-McRae filed to run again to retain their seats. Candidates Betty Perkins and Roosevelt McPherson also filed to run.

Perkins serves on a number of local organizations including as president of the Hoke High Mighty Marching Bucks Band. McPherson ran for a seat on the Board of Education in 2010 but did not win in the election.

Additionally, the Hoke County Republican and Democratic parties are reportedly in the process of selecting their respective nominees to place on the November ballot in a race added at the last minute. The death of Clerk of Superior Court Russell Smith left the position open, and the state determined there is still enough time to let voters select the next person for the office. The race will be on the ballot this fall, Shook said.

The political parties will each put forth its nominee selected internally within the party. The nominees have not yet been announced, Shook said.

The nominees must be selected and their names provided to the Board of Elections office by August 20 for there to be time to

submit the names to be printed on the General Election ballot, she said.

Hoke voters will also select two Board of Commissioners representatives this fall. Democratic incumbents James Leach and Bobby Wright are running to retain their seats and received the most votes in the May primary. Republican candidates John Harry and Elda Thacker are challenging for the seats.

The General Election is set for Tuesday, November 6.

Gambling raid leaves 15 charged

Law enforcement agencies cited 15 people last week on illegal gambling and drug charges after executing search warrants at two Shannon-area homes.

Officers with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office, Raeford Police Department and Scotland County Sheriff's Office discovered people in the process of gambling when they searched two locations on Balfour Road, authorities said. The search also turned up a boat motor reported stolen from the North



Carolina Fish and Wildlife Service. Deputies also obtained warrants for the arrest of Mark Bullard, 33, property owner of a home located at 3416 Balfour Road, on charges of possession with intent to sell or deliver controlled substance, manufacture marijuana, maintaining a drug dwelling, possession (See BUST, page 6A)

Pizza deliveryman beaten, arrest made

A Hoke County man was charged Tuesday with the attempted murder of a 19-year-old pizza delivery driver who was robbed and beaten badly enough to require brain surgery.

Investigators with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office arrested Juan Foronte McPhaul, 30, of the 200 block of Springer Drive in Raeford on charges of attempted first-degree murder, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury, robbery with a dangerous

weapon and conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. He was held under a \$500,000 bond.

Domino's Pizza delivery driver Tyler Lloyd, a Hoke High graduate, was making a delivery to a home on the 100 block of O'Bannon Drive in Raeford Friday night when two unknown men approached him, according to the Hoke County Sheriff's Office. The two men did not have money to pay for the food delivery so Lloyd began robbery with a dangerous



An 8-year-old child was killed in this car when five vehicles collided in front of Walmart Tuesday. (Catharin Shepard photo)

Child killed in wreck at Club Pond

A child was killed and at least one other person injured in a five-car wreck Tuesday morning at the intersection of U.S. Highway 401 and Club Pond Road. Eight-year-old Zaria Evans of Fayetteville died of her injuries, according to a spokesperson for the North Carolina Highway Patrol. The girl was riding in a 2007 Honda driven by her mother, Sheika Evans. Evans' five-year-old son

was also in the vehicle at the time, according to reports. Their conditions were not immediately available. Charges are pending against (See WRECK, page 6A)

Charges are pending against (See WRECK, page 6A)

It's the worst intersection in Hoke, says DOT

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

The site of Tuesday's wreck has seen more injuries and property damage from car wrecks over the last five years than any other crossroads in the county, according to the state Department of Transportation.

A total of 59 wrecks at the intersection of Club Pond Road and U.S. Highway 401 injured 68 people and caused an estimated \$312,175 in property damage between January 2007 and December 2011, according to crash data from the state Highway Patrol. Another 125 people involved in those accidents were not hurt.

The crossroads that was once bordered by empty fields saw its first development more than 20 years ago when Hoke County Schools built East Hoke Middle. Additional developments over the years including nearby subdivisions, a shopping center and most recently a Walmart have (See DANGEROUS, page 8A)

This Week

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Group targets Hoke diabetes, obesity

Nearly 70 percent in county are overweight, a third obese, survey finds

The Hoke County Collaborative on Diabetes has been meeting for the past nine months to devise ideas and strategies to serve the increasing population of diabetics and reduce the problem of obesity.

According to a survey conducted by FirstHealth, 68.2 percent of Hoke

County residents reported being overweight and 31.2 percent reported being obese. Hoke County has one of the highest diabetes rates in North Carolina. Obesity and diabetes are complex issues that often afflict populations without health insurance, according to a recent study conducted by the

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In Hoke County, 30 percent of residents do not have health insurance. "Tipping the Scales," a 2011 report commissioned by Be Active NC, stated that overweight and obese individuals in North Carolina contributed to more than \$17.6 billion in total medical bills

and lost worker productivity in 2010.

Hoke County Collaborative on Diabetes is a result of the leadership of the Hoke County Community Foundation (HCCF). Some of the members include Helene Edwards, director of the Hoke County Health (See HEALTH, page 4A)

Two years later, McCain Hospital awaits new life

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer



One-third of the main building, shown from the rear. (Ken MacDonald photo)

The McCain minimum-security correctional hospital has been empty since 2010, but it could be repurposed if someone wants to remove the electric fence, clear out the clutter of old hospital equipment and tear down the barred gates.

A private company from Moore County has expressed interest in turning the McCain facility into a healthcare complex, according to a letter from the Hoke County Board of Commissioners supporting the idea.

But what would a company find if it opened the doors to the old building? Dennis Purcell is one of the people

who could tell them – or better yet, show them. As a longtime facility maintenance supervisor with the state Department of Public Safety prison division, he worked at McCain while it was still operating. Now that it's closed, he still walks the empty hallways from time to time to check the building's condition.

It's a long walk from one end to the other, and years of history lurk in the closets, cabinets and rooms.

Inside McCain

Originally built in the 1920s as a sanatorium for people with tuberculosis, the 300-acre McCain facility operated in that capacity for more than (See MCCAIN, page 5A)



VIEWPOINTS

You say tree hugger as if it's a bad thing

BY KEN MACDONALD

For much of my life I considered myself a conservative. I have worn the same style of clothes since Land's End came out with khakis, driven the same truck for 18 years—so far—and can be predicted to park (both my truck and my butt) in the same place week after week at church. True, I wore a dress once in the Relay for Life womanless beauty pageant and now mix it up with a scooter, but a true Raeford-ite I am.

I also picture myself with a full head of hair, but once each day, at shaving time, I see it's not true. In the same way, maybe I'm kidding myself on my outlook on life. Maybe I AM a tree hugger, as my brother alleges. Maybe what I consider reasonable is another man's left-winged, liberal drivel.

But shouldn't we test what we're told and think for ourselves and push ourselves to think about issues instead of just barging along with the crowd?

I have 733 friends on Facebook, and with events of the last few weeks, lots of them have seen fit to opine, mostly in one accord. I've run across a few notable posts, from those who say hold on, maybe it's not so simple. Maybe the crowd is wrong. And so I offer these excerpts in the spirit of reaching out (and around trees):

From best-selling author Anne Lamott, on Facebook, the day following the massacre in Colorado:

If I were God's West Coast Rep, my PREFERENCE would be that crazy, mentally ill men not be able to buy rifles and handguns, period. But I am just one aging, bleeding-heart peacenik, and I would settle, gladly, for the law making it harder for crazy, mentally ill men to buy assault weapons.

I swear to you gun nuts: you get to keep the rifles and handguns, even if you are mentally ill! I promise. We just want the semi-automatics. God is my witness.

Unfortunately, this is probably never going to happen. The NRA will make sure of that—you know it, I know it. So that's a little discouraging. A crazy man could buy an assault weapon, with a magazine that holds hundreds of rounds, and kill 134 people next month at a public event, and the NRA would STILL terrorize legislators into voting down the Assault Weapons Ban.

One tiny, tiny fly in the gun nuts' argument though, that law-abiding citizens are safer against the crazy man with the gun, is that something like 45 percent of American households have guns, and yet not ONE citizen has ever shot and stopped a crazy man mid-mass shooting.

From Paul Douglas' blog entitled, "A Message From a Republican Meteorologist on Climate Change—Acknowledging Climate Science Doesn't Make You a Liberal," in which the self-styled conservative says he's seen the light that climate change is indeed real and partly caused by humans.

My father, a devout Republican, who escaped a communist regime in East Germany, always taught me to never take my freedom for granted, and "actions have consequences." Carbon that took billions of years to form has been released in a geological blink of an eye. Human emissions have grown significantly over the past 200 years, and now exceed 27 billion tons of carbon dioxide, annually. To pretend this isn't having any effect on the 12-mile thin atmosphere overhead is to throw all logic and common sense out the window. It is to believe in scientific superstitions and political fairy tales, about a world where actions have no consequences - where colorless, odorless gases, the effluence of success and growth, can be waved away with a nod and a smirk. No harm, no foul. Keep drilling. {snip}

This is a moral issue. Because the countries least responsible will bear the brunt of rising seas, spreading drought and climate refugees. Because someday your grandkids will ask what did you know...when...and what did you do to help?

From author Rachel Held Evans' Facebook post entitled, "All Right, Then I'll Go to Hell," a piece on the church's treatment of gays and lesbians, and referring to Mark Twain's Huckleberry Finn in which Huck decides to take his chances in hell if it means betraying his slave friend Jim.

"Once you start listening to your feelings, over and beyond the plain meaning of Scripture, it's a slippery slope to hell," they say.

A part of me agrees. I want to be faithful to the inspired words of the Bible, not bend them to fit my own desires and whims. Being a person of faith means trusting God's revelation, even when the path it reveals is not comfortable.

But another part of me worries that a religious culture that asks its followers to silence their conscience is just the kind of religious culture that produces \$200 rewards for runaway slaves. The Bible has been "clear" before, after all—in support of a flat and stationary earth, in support of

wiping out infidels, in support of manifest destiny, in support of Indian removal, in support of anti-Semitism, in support of slavery, in support of "separate but equal," in support of constitutional amendments banning interracial



marriage. In hindsight, it all seems so foolish, such an obvious abuse of Scripture.

...But at the time? Sometimes true faithfulness requires something of a betrayal.

From author and speaker and self-described former fundamentalist Matthew Paul Turner whose blog post entitled "5 Reasons Why the Church Failed Yesterday" on Thursday, the day after supporters of Chick-fil-A showed up en masse, drew more than 1,700 comments.

Yesterday's campaign, while I don't think it should be considered or called "hate," neither can it be called love. Christians all over America ignored the second greatest commandment: to love our neighbors. Call yesterday what you want, freedom of speech, a rally behind "family values," a sincere fascination with CFA's brand of fried poultry... but it cannot be called love. It was not love. {snip}

Again, we can debate this point all day long, but that does not change the fact that people felt hatred because of what happened yesterday. Whether or not hate actually existed is not the point, people felt hated. And rather than acknowledging those feelings or trying to understand or engage them in any way, Christians everywhere marched off to their local CFA like it was a cross to bear, a necessity, a battle cry of some sort, the waffle fry's last stand. {snip}

Once in a while, our culture needs to be surprised by how much we love people—all people. Once in a while, our culture needs to be overwhelmed with joy that we are involved in the greater story. Once in a while, our culture needs to see us being a part of the solution and not the problem. But yesterday? There were no surprises. And no surprises only builds more distrust, not peace, not grace, not hope, and not love.

With growth comes expense

Hoke County, which was very rural, now has become one of the fastest growing counties in the state. With the expansion of the 401 corridor between Fayetteville and Raeford, this area has become one of the largest construction projects in the state - not only with the two hospitals planned for that area but a number of new businesses that are moving into this region - and will bring expense. To service the population growth, services must be rendered to these new businesses and residents that are moving to the county. One of



the major problems and expenses to our county will be a sewer project. Hoke must have its own waste treatment plant. Since 2009, the county has had a network of underground pipes that run from Raeford and connect to the Cumberland County treatment plant. As I reported, the building of

the two new hospitals will generate more healthcare facilities to the area, which will require sewer services. Since 2009, the population has doubled in the area from Rockfish Road to the Raeford city limits. This growth alone requires the county to expand its sewer system.

As always, the major objection to the sewer system plant is the cost. It will be financed with a \$10.7 million low-interest loan from the U.S Department of Agriculture to be paid back over 20

(See BURNLEY, page 3A)



Tillis appoints man to wrong job

BY SCOTT MOONEYHAM
Capitol Press Association

There may be nothing sacrosanct about the way in which North Carolina's elected leaders have traditionally divvied up appointments to important state boards and commissioners.

Normally, the appointments are divided between the governor, and leaders of the state House and state Senate. To try to create expertise and diversity of viewpoints, the laws creating the boards often designate that some seats are filled with individuals with certain backgrounds.

On the state Marine Fisheries Commission, for example, a "scientist" seat is filled by a retired national marine fisheries scientist; a "recreational fisherman" seat is filled by an Atlantic Beach charter boat captain who earns his keep taking hook-and-line fishermen on trips out of and around Beaufort Inlet; and two "commercial fishermen" seats are filled by fish house owners.

This kind of arrangement isn't perfect.

I've picked on the Marine Fisheries Commission here because

I'm aware of how, from time to time, it is accused of having conflicts of interest when it comes to setting the rules that determine who is going to catch and keep what kind of fish.

But what the system ensures is that the folks setting the rules are at least well-versed in the subject matter. Ideally, the conflicting interests of commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen and scientists should lead to balanced policy.

Recently, another state-appointed panel and one of its members has come under scrutiny because of the same kinds of designations and potential for conflicts of interest.

This board, a new one, will set up regulations to govern hydraulic fracturing for natural gas, should it occur in North Carolina. The board member, Ray Covington, heads a group in Lee County called N.C. Oil and Gas, which will manage gas-rights leases.

In other words, Covington's group is looking to cash in on any natural gas boom here.

Some critics have said that Covington shouldn't be on the board, that his involvement represents a clear conflict of interest.

In fact, his involvement is no more of a conflict than that represented by Marine Fisheries Commission member Mikey Daniels of the Wanchese Fish Company, or the hundreds of other industry officials on other state boards and commissions.

The problem is not Covington. Rather, it is the seat that he fills.

House Speaker Thom Tillis appointed Covington to a seat designated for a conservationist. The 15-member Mining and Energy Commission has six slots designated for industry officials, which is where Covington belongs.

This isn't the first time that Tillis has run afoul of appointment designations. Last year, he named a licensed real estate broker to a slot on a state home inspectors' oversight board despite a specific prohibition against filling that seat with a licensed real estate broker.

These slip-ups are strange exactly because Tillis and his colleagues make the law.

If they believe these kinds of designations have no point, do away with them. If they want a different balance, create it.

Anything else is insulting people's intelligence.

Claim to credit for grad rate is absurd

BY ROB SCHOFIELD
N.C. Policy Watch

The big news last week in the North Carolina public policy world was the announcement that the state has made some real progress on high school graduation rates.

This is from a news story: "High school graduation rates in North Carolina cracked the 80 percent mark in 2012 for the first time, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction said Thursday."

This is obviously grounds for celebration. Though still far short of where the numbers need to be, the state seems pretty clearly to have made some real progress on an important indicator of success in K-12 education. Good for North Carolina and all of the dedicated people whose work went into producing this result.

Unfortunately, as one might have expected, the new results have produced some "through the looking glass" responses. Ironically, just days before the graduation rate announcement, Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger was claiming that the state K-12 system was "broken." According to House Speaker Thom Tillis and his staff, however, the new numbers offer validation for the education budget cuts of the last couple of years.

This is from an email sent out by the North Carolina House Republican Caucus last Friday:

"Today's graduation rate numbers prove that far-left Democrats are wrong on education. Our approach to education is working."

Got that? According to current legislative leaders, recent improvements in state high school graduation rates are the result of the education policies adopted since they assumed responsibility for writing the state budget and crafting substantive education legislation in 2011.

It's often said that success has a thousand fathers and failure is an orphan, but this claim is truly ridiculous. Even if one accepted the extremely suspect proposition that the policy changes implemented in the summer of 2011 could somehow have had any major and measurable

beneficial impact on student outcomes in the 2011-12 school year, the last such outcome likely to be affected would be graduation rates - i.e. something 13 or more years in the making. For better or worse, that die was cast years ago for the kids in the class of 2012.

But even if one suspended common sense and accepted this scenario as a possibility, the notion that the changes enacted in 2011 could have produced such positive results - changes for which the centerpiece was a budget reduction of hundreds of millions of dollars - is enough to make a person laugh out loud.

To claim that slashing the state education budget and firing thousands of educators produced an immediate uptick in the high school graduation rate is sophistry of the highest order.

But, of course, the same would also be true if lawmakers had acted with the dedication and responsibility that was called for by doing everything in their power to preserve or even increase state outlays for education. The plain truth is that making impactful changes (positive or negative) to such a massive system as the North Carolina public schools - a system that educates more than 1.5 million children - almost always takes several years to pull off.

As in so many important things in life, one can't simply snap one's fingers and produce immediate results.

By any fair analysis, the recent positive change in North Carolina's graduation rate is clearly attributable to myriad intentional and incremental improvements made over many years in scores of places. For one graduate, it was the Smart Start program in which they were able to enroll in 1998. For another, it was the Limited English Proficiency or English as a Second Language teacher who helped them get acclimated to third grade. For another, it was the unemployment insurance benefits that kept their family from being foreclosed upon after the father's layoff during the recession of the early 2000s. For yet another it was the Health Choice children's health insurance program or access to an

arts or athletics class that kept them engaged in school.

The point, of course, is that making the public schools work effectively is like constructing a giant, three dimensional, jigsaw puzzle. Sure, there's no reason to waste resources, but as a general rule, the more hands, eyes and smart people you enlist to help, the better the results.

As a former legislative leader noted with some eloquence (and evident ire) in a statement issued last Friday:

"North Carolina's graduation rate has improved 17 percent since 2006 as a result of long-term effort and investment in education. This year's rate passed an important milestone, but it is part of a six-year trend, not an overnight improvement. Dropout prevention is the product of many years of effort, often beginning in middle school or earlier... This legislature has stepped backwards on public education, yet it now wants the public to believe that cutting \$650 million in funding has somehow strengthened our schools. Their efforts have diminished public education in North Carolina and unless reversed will continue to damage public education for years to come."

Now in fairness, Democrats imposed some problematic education cuts as well during the Great Recession when state revenues were crashing, but the basic truth in the above statement seems inescapable. The notion that we can produce improved results by reducing our commitment to such a critical issue is, in a word, absurd.

And while predicting the future is always difficult, it seems all but certain that if the trend of recent years is not reversed, North Carolina's marked progress will be unsustainable - not, perhaps, for the class of 2013, but almost certainly for the classes of 2018 and 2023.

Let's hope this obvious bit of common sense sinks into the minds and hearts of state leaders of all parties and ideologies before such a grim and unnecessary backslide becomes unavoidable.

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Obituaries



Christina Payton

Christina Payton

Christina Payton of 308 West Elwood Avenue died Saturday, August 4, 2012 in Cape Fear Valley Medical Center at the age of 42.

Known as Chris to her friends and family, she was born in San Diego, California on December 17, 1969 to Larry Stewart and Juanita Davis Stewart.

She passed away on Friday while running in her neighborhood. She graduated from the Lincoln County School System as valedictorian in 1988. She continued her education at the University of Georgia and spent a summer as a YMCA camp counselor in Dupree, South Dakota. It was there that she met Bill Payton, a man who would be devoted to Chris for the rest of her life. They were married in Athens, Georgia in 1992, and Chris graduated from UGA in 1993. A devoted homemaker, she accompanied and supported Bill throughout multiple duty stations with the US Army in Europe and the Southeast, including multiple tours at Fort Bragg. His most current assignment as an Army Chaplain at Camp Mackall brought them back to Raeford, where they raised sons Hunter and Noah. She pursued her own career as an art teacher in Geissen, Germany, and in Hoke

County Schools, first at Upchurch Elementary and most recently at McLauchlin Elementary. She was an experienced and articulate grant writer, securing several grants during her tenure in Hoke County Schools to supplement funding for her classrooms. She was beloved by her students and coworkers, who enjoyed her bright and infectious smile, her sardonic wit, and her genuinely kind and compassionate nature. She enjoyed the outdoors and was an avid supporter of local Boy Scouts of America troops. Through the Boy Scouts, she was inducted into the Order of the Arrow and earned the coveted Wood Badge. She was also a skilled gardener and enjoyed hobbies as varied as basket weaving, photography, and making paracord "survival" bracelets. A devoted Christian woman, her greatest joy was found in caring for and spending time with "her men", and protecting and nurturing her family was her highest priority.

Survivors include her husband, William Payton and two sons, Hunter Payton and Noah Payton, all of Raeford; her father, Larry Stewart and her mother, Juanita Davis Stewart, both of Lincolnton, Georgia; and two sisters, Doris Lankford of Lincolnton, Georgia, and Margie Stewart of Augusta, Georgia.

A memorial service will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 9 at Rockfish Church, 9949 Fayetteville Road, Raeford with Chaplain Steve Bryant officiating.

Visitation will follow the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Boy Scouts of America at <http://aplacetogive.scouting.org/magento/>, and/or any Autistic Research Foundation.

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

Vonnie C. Lide

Vonnie C. Lide, 59, of Raeford died Thursday, August 2, 2012.

Survivors include his wife, Wanda; children, Makieta Dowdy and Rodnelus; his mother, Martha; siblings, Carnell, Larry, Fannie Stewart, Mattie, Martha, Lillian, Christine Whike, and Belenda; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held Tuesday, August 7 at 2 p.m. in Nazareth Missionary Baptist Church, Wagram. Burial was in the church cemetery.

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

July 31

• Julian Serrano Cuevas, 22, 389 Woodrow Lane, Raeford, driving while impaired, Level 5, 60 days suspended, 18 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, community service fee, impaired driving charge fee, not

to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed

• Harold Orlando Hill, 41, 5719 Meharr Drive, Fayetteville, driving while license revoked, seven days in jail, credit for seven days served

• Demetrious L. Hollingsworth, 37, 126 Shady Tree Drive, Raeford, improper equipment-speedometer, \$25 fine and court costs

Man arrested in Fayetteville shooting

A Hoke County man was arrested in Fayetteville Monday on charges of fatally shooting two men found dead in their car shortly after it crashed on Gillespie Street.

Eric Junior White, 22, of Beltons Loop in Raeford was charged with two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Anthony DeAngelo Aigle, 23, of St. Pauls and Jamone Lasalle Jacques, 26, of Fayetteville, police spokesman Gavin MacRoberts said.

Fayetteville police responded

around 9 p.m. Sunday to a call of shots being fired and a vehicle accident in the area of Gillespie Street and Campbell Avenue. Officers discovered Aigle and Jacques with gunshot wounds and dead in their vehicle.

Homicide detectives continue to investigate, authorities said.



White

National Night Out this weekend

Hoke residents can enjoy food and entertainment this Saturday at the annual National Night Out event sponsored by the Hoke County Sheriff's Office.

Agencies including the Sheriff's Office, Raeford Police Department, State Highway Patrol, Health Department, fire departments, probation and parole, animal control and others will offer public safety booths to provide information. The office will offer free child identification kits, a car show and free food and entertainment.

This year the event will also feature a special tribute recognizing Native American heritage, Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said.

"We're going to be participating with that ceremony at the event," he said.

The National Night Out program is meant to offer communities a chance to meet their neighbors and help prevent crime.

"This event will be Sheriff Peterkin's way to educate all individuals on public safety, to get involved and tips to help crack down on crime, and give something back to the citizens of Hoke County to connect with one another building a stronger bond for a stronger community," a media release stated.

The event will be held from 5-8 p.m. this Saturday at the Hoke County Recreation Complex located at 3195 Red Springs Road.

For more information, contact Lt. Cathy LaBuz at 878-1203 or Monica Richmond at 878-1205.

District Court

• Adam Lynn Horst, 20, 119 Beech Drive, Raeford, consumption of alcohol by person 19 to 20 years old, 10 days suspended, six months unsupervised probation, \$35 fine and court costs

• Ann Jenkins, 36, 186 Kurt Patrick Lane, Red Springs, misdemeanor larceny, court costs, show cause dismissed, defendant paid costs in full

• Neecie Ann Locklear, 41, 1559 McBryde Mill Road, Red Springs, violation of protective order against domestic violence (two counts), communicating threats, 100 days suspended, 18 months probation, court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees, undergo mental health assessment, return telephone to prosecuting witness, judgments consolidated

• Katelynn Mae Marks, 20, 119 Beech Drive, Raeford, consumption of alcohol by person 19 to 20 years old, 10 days suspended, six months unsupervised probation, \$35 fine and court costs

• Daili Garcia Marquez, 35, 114 Ernest Road, Red Springs, improper equipment-speedometer, \$100 fine and court costs; no operator's license, voluntary dismissal

• Yeinnor Nieves Pizarro, 30, 345 Robin St., Fayetteville, no operator's license, 10 days suspended, six months unsupervised probation, \$50 fine and court costs; speeding 71 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone, voluntary

dismissal

• Jessica Nicole Marshall, 28, 175 Regency Drive, Raeford, simple assault, 30 days suspended, 12 months unsupervised probation, \$100 fine and court costs, comply with all conditions of domestic violence protective order

• Julian Serrano, 22, 398 Woodrow Lane, Raeford, no operator's license, possession of open container or consumption of alcohol in passenger area, 20 days suspended, 18 months probation, \$50 fine and court costs, not to operate a motor vehicle until properly licensed, not to use or possess any illegal drugs, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same, judgments consolidated

• Paula Streater, 18, 231 Ivywood Lane, Raeford, resisting public officer, 10 days suspended, six months unsupervised probation, court costs, attorney and court-appointment fees

• Latoya Yvette Whitaker, 34, 2353 Doc Brown Road, Raeford, improper equipment-speedometer, \$25 fine and court costs

• Nellie Locklear Zavala, 54, 443 Koppers Road, Aberdeen, driving while license revoked, 45 days suspended, 12 months probation, \$100 fine and court costs, not to use or possess any controlled substances, submit to warrantless searches, random tests for same; fictitious or altered title, registration card or tag, voluntary dismissal.

Burnley

(Continued from page 2A)

years, as well as an interest-free loan of \$1.3 million from the Lumbie River Electric Membership Corporation. This should not be a burden on the taxpayers of Hoke County. Also, revenue received from the new businesses and residents to our area will offset the cost to the taxpayers.

Hoke County now has the opportunity shake its "Mayberry" image and become an area that soon will be able to compete with areas such as Fayetteville and other commercial areas in the state. With growth also comes changes that we must make to meet the challenges of a growing county. This will be the costs for new and better service to the citizens we have now, as well as the new citizens this area will attract. There has been major growth in the last few years, and the programs that are to be implemented will bring more businesses as well as new residents to Hoke County.

As I have stressed in this column over the last few months, with this growth comes job opportunities. With the two new hospitals and other medical

public industries moving to Hoke County, it is important that the citizens of Hoke County are able to fill these positions. If these positions have to be filled by people from outside Hoke County, it does nothing to improve the economy and living conditions of the residents of our area. There are classes being taught at the community colleges in the area on skills and trades that will be needed to fill the positions that will be available. Now is the time to prepare for these positions.

One of the main complaints of "small towns" in this country is that when the young people finish high school they leave because there are no jobs for them. In many instances, the youth have not prepared themselves for the changes that have or will come to their area.

We in this area have the advantage of being able to know and see the changes that are coming and have the time to prepare ourselves to fill the jobs that will be available. This not only improves our way of life but also keeps the revenue earned in our county, which generated more jobs here.

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The Hoke County Health Department Board of Health will hold an open meeting on Monday, August 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Health Conference Room at the Hoke County Health Department, 683 East Palmer Road, Raeford, NC. The public is invited to attend.

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Nuisances, traveling vendors in city considered

BY BILL LINDAU

Raeford City Council held its first monthly meeting since June Monday evening with two public hearings and consideration of a group of proposed amendments to the City Code and the Unified Development Ordinance.

Proposed amendments to the City Code address such issues as public nuisances and the maintenance code for businesses. Among the public nuisances addressed are accumulation of growth and refuse and unlawful conditions on private property, including those that create a public safety hazard. A 16-page list of the proposed amendments to the City Code was given to the local media.

The amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance propose eliminating the itinerant sale of retail goods. The amendments would not affect the abilities of established retail businesses from holding events on their property nor prevent vendors from attending festivals.

City Manager Mike Wood said the Unified Development Ordinance amendment must be approved first by the planning board, while only City Council can approve any changes to the City Code.

Council approved to table these proposals for 30 days. Wood said it would give them time to look over the proposals further and possibly set a public hearing on the matter.

It seems Council will have longer than that to discuss the amendments; Council will not meet in September, with Labor Day falling on the first Monday of that month. Their next regular meeting is scheduled for October.

Following the first public hearing of the day, Council approved a request to rezone property at 202 N. Jackson St. from residential (R-8) to neighborhood business (NB). The parcel is owned by David and Edith McNeill of Fayetteville. The McNeills requested the rezone to NB to operate as a child care center, listed as a conditional use.

According to the minutes from a July 24 planning board meeting, the structure on this property was remodeled in 1980 to accommodate the permitted-use child care center under the previous Zoning Ordinance.

The property is now vacant, according to the minutes from that meeting. Since 2010, businesses such as the proposed child care center have not been permitted in residential districts, with the adoption of the current Unified

Development Ordinance.

Code Enforcement Officer Felicia Locklear addressed Council concerning the McNeills' request. Nobody in the audience had any comments on this issue.

The second public hearing of the day involved the proposed closing of a portion of Cameron Street, between West Fifth Avenue and West South Avenue. One landowner present at the meeting said it was "fine", but no one else at the meeting had any comment. Council approved closing that part of Cameron Street. Wood said that anyone with a grievance against the closing has 30 days following Monday's meeting to file it with the city. Council said if a grievance is filed, it would meet again to discuss the issue.

Council had a special attendee. N.C. Sen. Ben Clark briefly addressed council, thanking them and the city for their support. Clark told Council of his website, www.senatorclark.org, where users can leave messages.

In other business, Council:

- Approved the resurfacing of parts of six city streets, including West Central Avenue, Green Street, West Fifth Avenue, Pine-wood and Pinecone avenues and Polaris Court. This includes two sections of West Fifth Avenue,

from Fulton to Dickson streets and from Magnolia to Main streets. The second area needs milling and root removal, according to the city. The part of West Central Avenue from Roberts to Dickson streets will need root removal as well. A total of 18,437 square yards is to be resurfaced. According to the city, bids will be solicited from paving contractors, with a recommendation to be presented at Council's October meeting.

• Approved a one-year probation period for newly hired officers of the Raeford Police Department. This has been a six-month period for all employees, Police Chief F.K. Crumpler said in a statement; and

• Announced Hoke County's 12th annual National Night Out, scheduled for this Saturday, 5-8 p.m., at the Hoke County Recreation Complex on Red Springs Road.

Council members received commemorative T-shirts for the upcoming North Carolina Turkey Festival. Festival President Valerie Livingston presented the shirts and thanked council for its support. The festival is set for September 7-15, with the opening ceremonies set for Monday, September 8, Livingston said.



These dead crabs are raising a stink.

Rotting seafood has neighborhood retching

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

On hot days the stench of decay floats across Pittman Grove Church Road and straight into Wanda Monroe's yard. A surprise awaits people with stomachs strong enough to follow the smell to the wooded area across the street.

Rotting fish heads. Dead and stinking crabs bursting out of sodden cardboard boxes and black garbage bags, attracting a fleet of swarming flies. A pile of illegally dumped and decomposing seafood just close enough to neighbors' homes to send gagging residents running for their doors when the breeze blows the scent in their direction.

"You can smell it when you get out of the car. Usually when I come home I can smell it, and late in the afternoon it gets really bad," Monroe said.

Monroe doesn't know where it came from or why someone dumped a load of rotting seafood along a two-lane road in a quiet part of Hoke County. She just wants it gone.

The seafood trash showed up about two weeks ago. The property owner wasn't responsible for it and is also aggravated by the illegal dumping, Monroe said. An officer with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office couldn't find anything at the site to trace it back to whoever dumped it in the first place, and the state Department of Transportation said the mess was too far back from the road to be under DOT's authority, Monroe said.

Assault

(Continued from page 1A)

returning to his vehicle. The men attacked him, beat him "extensively" and robbed him, law enforcement officials said.

When Lloyd did not return from the delivery and wasn't answering his cell phone, coworkers became concerned and called for help. A patrol officer located Lloyd inside his vehicle on Clan Campbell Drive and called for an ambulance, which took Lloyd to Moore Regional Hospital.

The Hoke County Sheriff's Office is still investigating the case. More arrests are expected, the office announced.

An update posted on Lloyd's father's Facebook page reported that the young man suffered a fractured skull, collapsed right lung and gash to a leg from the beating and under-

"He said there's nothing they can do except for the land owner to pick it up or get rid of it," she said.

To make matters worse, her son's girlfriend's dog got a whiff of the raunchy stench and bolted for the pile of rotting fish and crabs at the first opportunity, only to be hit and killed by a car while running across the road to get to the dump site, she said. The accident also caused damage to the car that hit the dog.

"It just makes you so mad," Monroe said.

Monroe's family owns a backhoe and, with no better option available, wants to move the mess and bury it. But that would mean burying plastic trash bags that won't decompose any time soon, and it also means having to get close enough to the boxes and bags of decaying seafood to move it all. Monroe's son and the property owner's son made attempts to try and move it, but the stink was so bad, they had to back off.

"You can't get near enough to move it. You start moving it, it's rank. You throw up, it's that bad," she said.

There's one other thing Monroe and her family would like. If anyone knows who tossed the rotting seafood onto private property, she asked that they contact the Sheriff's Office to pass on the information.

"People see that an animal got killed, that somebody got into a wreck with children in their car, their car got tore up, that should make them think, and mad enough — if you saw something, you might turn them in, or if they know of anybody else dumping anywhere," she said.

went brain surgery Saturday. He was moved from the intensive care unit Monday but remained hospitalized. Lloyd suffered from bruising and swelling in the brain but the swelling is going down and he is awake, able to walk and wants to go home, an update reported.

"Again, please continue praying as he has a long road to walk. We have seen God move powerfully thru this experience as he continues to improve," the update said.

This is the second time in the last year that a pizza delivery driver has been robbed in Hoke County. In January a Domino's delivery driver attempting to make a delivery was approached and robbed by two men. One arrest was made three days after that robbery.

Teacher's death hits school community

J.W. McLaughlin Elementary School art teacher Christina Payton died suddenly last week at the age of 42 while running in her Raeford neighborhood.

An obituary reported Payton was transported to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center but passed away.

Payton had only been teaching at McLaughlin Elementary for a year, but in that time she made a big impact on students and fellow faculty, Principal Sheila Gilliard said.

"I could talk on and on about her, and I will miss her. She was a dear colleague. The faculty is just in turmoil right now. We want to reach out and touch her family," she said.

The school is sending out letters to parents to inform them and will have counselors available for children to speak with when the school year starts, the principal said.

Payton, known as Chris to her family and friends, was born in California to Larry and Juanita Stewart. She grew up in Georgia where she graduated as valedictorian of her high school class in 1988. Payton went on to attend the University of Georgia, where she and her husband Bill Payton met and married.

The couple lived abroad at various duty stations while Bill Payton served in the U.S. Army. His most recent assignment as a chaplain at Camp Mackall brought the family to Raeford, where they raised sons Hunter and Noah. Payton pursued a career as an art teacher with Hoke County Schools, first at Upchurch Elementary and most recently at McLaughlin Elementary.

Payton was an "extraordinary teacher" willing to go the extra mile for students, Gilliard said. Last year Payton, an experienced grant writer, applied for and received funding for a project to let all students at McLaughlin try hands-on loom weaving. She received the grant in

part because of her innovative way of introducing writing skills into the project, which was typical of how Payton found ways to improve in the classroom, the principal said.

"She cared about children, all of them. She had a good rapport with parents. She had a good rapport with teachers. Students loved her in art," Gilliard said.

During their last conversation just days before Payton died, Gilliard said the two talked about how excited and proud Payton was of her own children's achievements in school.

Payton enjoyed the outdoors and supported local Boy Scouts of America troops, an activity she loved to participate in with her sons. She was inducted into the Order of the Arrow and earned the Wood Badge in recognition for her efforts. She was also a skilled gardener and enjoyed many hobbies including basket weaving, photography and making paracord "survival" bracelets.

"Her devotion to God and family was profound. She was fiercely loyal, vibrantly joyful and uniquely blessed with incredible common sense and remarkable intellect," her obituary said.

Survivors include her husband, William Payton; two sons, Hunter Payton and Noah Payton, both of Raeford; parents, Larry and Juanita Stewart of Georgia; and two sisters, Doris Lankford and Margie Stewart, both of Georgia.

The memorial service will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 9 at RockFish Church, 9949 Fayetteville Road in Raeford with Chaplain Steve Bryant officiating. Visitation will follow the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Boy Scouts of America at <http://aplacetogive.scouting.org/magento/>, and/or any Autistic Research Foundation.

Health

(Continued from page 1A)

Department, Ulva Little, health educator, Roxanne Elliot and Melissa Herman, FirstHealth Foundation, Karen Smith, MD, Wanda Cohen, HCCF board member and John Jordan, president of the HCCF. Linda Kinney, Deputy Director of the Care Share Health Alliance, and Mary Anne Howard, Sandhills regional associate with the North Carolina Community Foundation, have been serving as conveners bringing together people in the community interested in and working with the issues of obesity and diabetes.

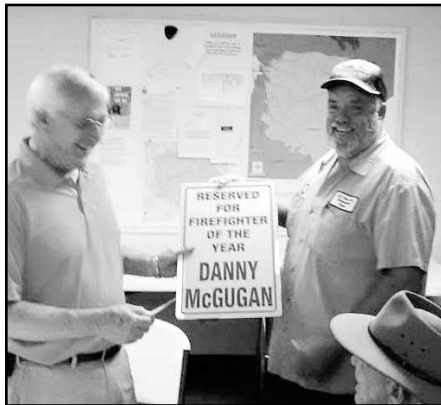
"When our advisory board in Hoke started looking at the issues that we needed to help address, this one rose to the top," said John Jordan, HCCF affiliate board president.

One of the first objectives of the collaborative is to raise awareness about resources available to Hoke County residents by publishing a resource directory that includes current

services provided to diabetics in Hoke County, including possible services provided by the local faith communities.

Members of the Hoke County Collaborative on Diabetes presented its health concerns to the Hoke County Board of Health in May. The Hoke County Board of Health then presented its concerns in the form of a resolution to the Hoke County Commissioners in mid-June. Dr. Karen Smith was invited by the White House to be part of a national group of medical professionals from across the country in mid-June to address local health care concerns. She read the resolution that was approved by the Hoke County Board of Commissioners addressing the problem of obesity and diabetes in Hoke County and the strategic plan that speaks to these critical issues.

The collaborative continues meeting, most recently Tuesday.



Top Stonewall firefighter

Danny McGugan (left) receives a parking placard from Neil McKenzie (right) for winning Firefighter of the Year for Stonewall Volunteer Fire Department.

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McCain

(Continued from page 1A)

50 years before the state took it over for use as a correctional hospital. Beginning in 1983, the hospital became home to geriatric or disabled inmates who needed a nursing home-like care environment. The state closed McCain two years ago and transferred all the prisoners to other facilities in the state.

In its heyday, the enormous McCain facility was practically a self-contained community.

"They did everything, laundry, cooking, cleaning," Purcell said.

It literally had its own zip code (28361) to go along with its on-site post office, and a plant across the road provided utilities services. The now-bare rooftop once held a tall tower where watchers kept a lookout for fires, ready to signal McCain's own firefighting department if flames rose on the property or the surrounding area.

It was a good vantage point for lookouts too. The builders selected the location near Ashley Heights because of the layout of the land. At that time, doctors believed fresh air would help tuberculosis patients and also help prevent the disease from spreading, so the sanatorium ended up in one of the highest geographic locations in the county. The view from the roof shows treetops for miles around, even offering a glimpse of Camp Mackall. It also shows some of the neighboring outbuildings that are also part of the property — administrative buildings, including the old administrator's home — that are now largely fallen into disuse and disrepair.

During its years as a correctional hospital, the facility was the state's "best kept secret" for employees who worked there, correctional officer Eddie Gerald said. Once a prison worker got a job at McCain, they rarely left, so it was hard for newcomers to get a coveted spot in the minimum-security facility, he said.

In some ways the empty facility resembles modern hospitals, Regional Director J.C. Huggins said.

"They had everything for a hospital except an operating room," he said.

Signs in English and Spanish offer safety warnings and remind staff to wash their hands. Eyewash stations and sharps containers dot the hallway walls. Bariatric motorized beds creak to life with the push of a button.

There are also older reminders of the days when patients with tuberculosis were brought to McCain — or ordered there by a judge — to receive treatment for the highly contagious disease. In another room, a round metal lid that looks like a port door on a submarine sticks out from the wall. It's an old autoclave, sunk into the wall. Another section of the hospital has flickering blue ultraviolet lights mounted along the hallways. Doctors once thought the lights would kill germs, Huggins said.

Many places in the building look like a move in progress that was never quite finished. Containers are piled high in a large room with windows on three sides — the therapy room. The wood-paneled chapel has stacks of hymnals and a large cross is still attached to the wall. A prisoners' library is full of shelves of books, and even an ancient piano rests in the middle of what used to be an activity room.

Other parts of the former hospital look almost as if the residents and staff only stepped out for a moment. Patient names are still scrawled in

ink next to doorways. A Styrofoam lunch container on the floor waited for someone who would never come to claim it. A massive steel potato peeler lurked in the industrial-sized kitchen. Shelves of modern medical equipment like plastic bedpans and emergency transport chairs are stacked in cabinets and locked away in storage rooms.

The valuable or still-working equipment has been removed and distributed to other facilities. A few pieces of the older equipment even ended up in the Raeford-Hoke Museum, N.C. Public Safety spokesman Keith Acree discovered a souvenir for the state division: a green sports jersey with McCain Hospital in bold white type.

The empty hospital is full of little reminders of what it used to be. A bored worker scratched a good-bye message into the edges of an old wooden desk. A large stainless steel tub used for water therapy sits in one corner of a tiled bathroom. A nurse's desk sits in the dark, waiting.

By the end of its second life the state prison division shut McCain down because of the immense costs to keep the old facility going. Some estimates put the additional expense into the millions. It wasn't cost-effective when there were other, newer correctional hospitals elsewhere. The doors shut in April 2010.

But what about the building left behind?

A new purpose

It's possible that McCain, already having fulfilled two completely different purposes in its existence, could spring to life for a third time in some fashion.

It's a simple enough process to turn unused state property over to a county government, Acree said. In such a scenario, the state would deed the property to a county and then the county would be free to make decisions about what to do with it from there. A private company would have to have the board's approval and support before moving forward.

Already the Hoke County commissioners have expressed interest, and put that interest on paper, in having a private company develop McCain. When the prison closed in 2010, the board passed a resolution seeking to take on the McCain property. As of the regularly scheduled Monday night meeting, the board members were discussing plans to take a tour of the facility sometime soon.

The board members weren't the only ones kicking the tires at the old sanatorium. At least one other group toured it recently and then sent an architect back to inspect the structure. The verdict? It's old and could use some work but seems to be standing strong, Huggins said.

However, if a private company did want to transform the old buildings into useable space, there are several hurdles in the way, Acree said. First is the issue of repairing and cleaning up the large buildings, many of which have equipment and supplies left over from more than half a century ago. Additionally, a private company would have to find a way to provide utilities because county lines do not service the site. It could be possible for the state to work out a way of selling service to the new owners, Acree said, but added that speculating on the matter is extremely premature.

Until then, McCain continues to wait, empty and silent, for whatever the future might bring.



Spokesman Keith Acree stands inside the electric fence at McCain.



A typical patient room inside McCain.



A view outside one of many windows.



Prison employee Dennis Purcell stands on the roof where a fire tower once stood.



Prison employee Eddie Gerald examines an old autoclave.



The McCain morgue where bodies were held.

Missionary Union presents scholarships

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Three area students received scholarships Friday at the Hoke County Missionary Union's annual banquet.

Rodney O. Anderson Jr., Jasmine Bogan and Dimitri D. Pabon were selected to receive the annual award from the group of local churches.

"We would like to wish each recipient the very best life has to offer. Remember to keep Christ in all that you do and your successes will be endless. Congratulations," Union President Rev. Yulla Hines said.

Rodney O. Anderson Jr. is the son of MG Rodney O. and Linda Anderson. He is a member of a military family and has lived in several states but was born in Fayetteville and attended middle and high school in Fayetteville. He graduated from Jack Britt High School after attending the Integrated Systems of Technology Academy. He participated in the National Honor Society, Leadership Fayetteville Youth Academy, Key Club, National Society of High School Scholars, Fayetteville Force Soccer Club, American Legion Tar Heel Boys' State, N.C. Olympic Development Program soccer team and also served as the team captain for Jack Britt's varsity soccer team from 2010-12.

Anderson also served as a volunteer for the Fort Bragg USO, the American Red Cross Youth Fort Bragg Chapter, and the NAACP Youth Council and was a winner in his age category of the annual Black History Quiz Bowl in Fayetteville. He is a member of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church where he volunteers with the food closet. He plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he plans to major in international affairs and continue to play competitive soccer. Anderson was unable to attend so his father accepted the award on his behalf.

Jasmine Bogan is the daughter of Jimmie D. Bogan and Jeriah H. Bogan. She is a graduate of Reid Ross Classical School in Fayetteville and a member of Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church-West. While in high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society, Academic Scholar Program, Ladies of Grace Club, Future Farmers of America, Reid Ross Classical Country Youth and Lewis Chapel Chamber Orchestra. She participated in the praise dancers, Youth for Christ Choir, United Order of



Pabon (left to right), Bogan and Anderson were recipients of scholarships.

Tents, Girl Scouts USA and the youth softball team. She also participated in the James F. Wentz Oratorical Contest and was a Parks Scholarship nominee. Bogan volunteered with the Key Club, North Carolina's Governor's Page program, the Obama/Biden presidential campaign and the Fayetteville chapter of the Jack and Jill Community Service Project. She plans to attend Fayetteville State University this fall and major in biology to become a veterinary surgeon.

Dimitri Pabon is the son of Rev. Andrew and Mrs. Gertrude R. Pabon. He is a member of Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church. He recently graduated from Gray's Creek High School. While in school, Pabon played junior varsity and varsity basketball and was on the honor roll. He served as a Bear Mentor assisting incoming freshmen with their transition from middle school to high school. He volunteered with the roadside cleanup committee, media team and the tutoring program and is very active in his church, volunteering as an usher and sound technician at the M. Rouse Jr. Community Resource Center. Pabon participated in the National Youth Leadership Forum and had the opportunity to witness criminal cases being tried by the U.S. Supreme Court. He also visited George Mason University.

Pabon plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Pembroke this fall to pursue a degree in marketing and would like to work for a major marketing company.

Dr. Gregory Moss, pastor of Saint Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, offered the keynote message for the banquet. Dr. J.W. Parsons of Silver Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Samuel Norman of Center Grove Baptist Church,

Rev. George Campbell of Rock Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Matthew Rouse Jr. of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Barry Shoffner of Buffalo Springs Missionary Baptist Church, Minister Sarah Pope of Silver Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Larry Simmons of Laurel Hill Missionary Baptist Church and Rev. Yulla Hines of the Hoke County Missionary Union took part in the ceremonies. Chairwoman Esther Hollingsworth-Shaw from the scholarship committee and Callie Graham presented the scholarship awards.

Elected officials from the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, Raeford City Council and state General Assembly attended the event. Schools Superintendent Dr. Freddie Williamson and Sheriff Hubert Peterkin also attended.

A special ceremony surprised assistant youth director Julia Moore with recognition for her dedication to the Missionary Union's youth programs.

"She has a heart for the youth ministries," Hines said.

The program also recognized the late Rev. Richard and Kathryn McPhatter who were both active members of many area organizations including the Missionary Union. A page in the evening's program also memorialized McPhatter.

"Our Union was blessed with Sister McPhatter, who offered her services and provided them in a loving and Christian manner. She left a legacy for us to emulate," the special dedication read.

The Missionary Union includes Buffalo Springs, Center Grove, Laurel Hill, Lewis Chapel West, Mount Pisgah, Rock Hill, Shady Grove and Silver Grove churches. The speakers thanked the sponsors that donated to the program's efforts.

Bust

(Continued from page 1A)
of drug paraphernalia and possession of stolen goods.

Those charged included:
Timothy Jones, 38, 2600 block of Duffie Road in Red Springs, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of marijuana, order for arrest

Sierra Alycia Godwin, 21, 19300 block of Riverton Road in Wagram, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of marijuana
Lawannda Ann Freeman, 43, 300 block of McGoogan Street in Red Springs, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of marijuana
Manson Cummings Jr., 28,

200 block of Jessie Road in Maxton, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of marijuana

Joseph Utley Locklear, 33, 5600 block of Shannon Road in Shannon, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of marijuana
Justin Dew, 29, 900 block of Old Maxton Road in Raeford, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of marijuana
Samantha Paige Locklear, 24,

3500 block of Balfour Road in Shannon, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of marijuana
Christopher Dale Locklear, 31, 3200 block of Balfour Road in Shannon, bet at a game of chance, simple possession of

marijuana
Clyde Brandon Cooper, 31, 4000 block of Laurinburg Road in Raeford, bet at a game of chance

Corey Allen McCall, 26, 100 block of Seals Drive in Lumberton, bet at a game of chance

Matthew William George, 29, 7100 block of Philippi Church Road in Raeford, bet at a game of chance

Rikki Queenell Locklear, 20, 7100 block of Red Springs Road in Red Springs, bet at a game of chance

Robert Allen Jacobs, 42, 2300 block of John Road in Shannon, simple possession of marijuana.

Commissioners give back FirstHealth money

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Hoke County will reimburse FirstHealth of the Carolinas for money the healthcare organization paid to cover the costs of holding a called meeting of the planning board for the purpose of examining FirstHealth's permit request.

Commission Vice Chairman Tony Hunt called the issue into question Monday night at the board's scheduled meeting. The board was asked to consider approving FirstHealth's conditional use permit to operate its forthcoming hospital on U.S. Highway 401.

The healthcare company paid costs involved with the planning board holding a special called meeting outside of its usual meeting schedule for the specific purpose of considering the hospital's conditional use permit. The planning board recommended approval of the permit.

The planning board held two meetings in July, the scheduled July 12 meeting and a called meeting July 26. Hunt said he had never heard of the planning board holding a called meeting before.

"I didn't know that we were having called meetings for the planning board," Hunt said.

FirstHealth specifically requested the second meeting, County Planner Conrad Garrison

said. "What had happened is FirstHealth had requested a special meeting to meet this August deadline," he said. "The only way to do that was with a special planning board meeting. They sent the request into the board...the board openly agreed to hold the special meeting."

FirstHealth paid for additional costs for advertising the special meeting so the county would not incur that cost, Garrison said.

"Wait a minute, Conrad. So they paid for the extra meeting?" Hunt said.

"Yes, sir," Garrison said.

"So they paid the fees so the board members could meet, and they're supposed to make a decision on whether or not to give them a conditional use permit. Is that what you're telling me?" Hunt said.

"They paid the county," Garrison said.

"They paid the county and we pay the board members? That doesn't sound right," Hunt said.

Hunt asked Garrison why he did not question the request. Garrison said he asked County Manager Tim Johnson, who instructed him to take the matter before the planning board. The planning board approved it, Garrison said.

"My point is simply this, we haven't had any called meetings for planning, yet we have a called meeting for this individual for a

planning meeting and on top of that, they paid all the expenses that the board incurred that was voting on whether or not to approve their conditional use permit," Hunt said. "Now maybe I'm just missing it, I may be the slow one in the room tonight, but my question is, you're asking the board to approve something the planning board approved that the applicant actually paid for the expenses of the meeting?"

FirstHealth did pay for the extra advertising costs for the called meeting, Johnson confirmed.

The board members moved the vote on the conditional use permit to the end of the meeting. Following a closed session, the board reconvened and voted to use county money to reimburse FirstHealth for the amount given to pay for the advertising. The board then voted to approve the permit. Hunt abstained from voting.

In other business, the board approved a conditional use permit for a small daycare on Ernie Place, approved proposed changes to the Hoke County Subdivision Ordinance and approved amendments to the Hoke County Zoning Map to add a corridor overlay and flight path overlay district. The board also approved its consent agenda and heard presentations from tax collector Daphne Dudley and Health Department Director Helene Edwards.

Wreck

(Continued from page 1A)
Antonio Dingle of Fayetteville who was driving a 2005 Dodge truck and was the first to strike Evans' car, according to the Highway Patrol. Hoke County Sheriff's deputy

Jameel Miller was also involved in the wreck while driving his patrol car, but the deputy was not injured, Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said. Drivers Elena Robinson of Raeford and Gideon McClellan of Hope Mills

were also involved, according to reports.

By News-Journal deadline Tuesday the Highway Patrol was still investigating what caused the wreck and had not released further details.



Nursing assistant graduates

These students of the nursing assistant I class at Sandhills Community College Hoke Center recently graduated following the summer term. Shown left to right, first row, are instructor Mary K. Socha, Latoya Allen, Nikeaira Graham, Briana Allen, Jessica McLaughlin, Yashica Smith, George McClain, Elaine Hammond and instructor Jenell Morris. On the back row are Yessica Hout, Savannah Posey, Jonathan Saucier, Lady-Nicole Caldwell and Elizabeth Bullard. Valeria Kershaw, Hannah Scrim and Kecia Stubbs are not pictured.

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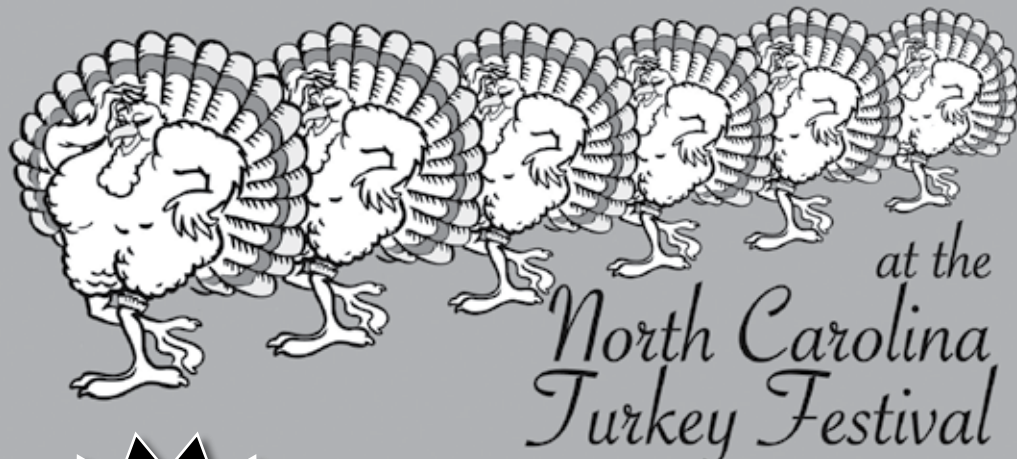
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SPORTS

Raeford Racing Round-Up Herb Thomas Tribute Night held

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The rain might have washed out the Pennsylvania 400 to allow Jeff Gordon his first win of the season but it couldn't wash out the excitement and historical nostalgia that was displayed at Fayetteville Motor Speedway Saturday night as the Herb Thomas Tribute Night went off without a hitch at the dirt track by the airport in Fayetteville. Joel Thomas, son of 2013 NASCAR Hall of Fame Inductee Herb Thomas, came to Fayetteville Motor Speedway and brought the 1951 and 1953 NASCAR Championship trophies with him for all who wanted to see. He also brought along some old photos of his father in the glory days of NASCAR. Folks from all over North Carolina came to see the historical trophies and memorabilia as well as some great racing action on the track.

Shaun Harrell of Raeford jumped out to the lead on the first lap in the Herb Thomas Late Model tribute race and led every lap to get the win. That win was Shaun's seventh win of the season and 73rd win of his career. Willie Milliken finished second, Cody Shaw finished third, Damon Kotke finished fourth and Michael Mason finished fifth.

Next up for Fayetteville Motor



Larry Long (right) of Fayetteville Motor Speedway stands with Joel Thomas (left), son of 2013 NASCAR Hall of Fame Inductee Herb Thomas, just before the racing action begins last Saturday night. Sitting on the table in front of them are the 1951 (right) and 1953 (left) NASCAR Championship trophies. In the middle of the table is an acrylic trophy issued to Herb Thomas as the Driver of the Decade in NASCAR for the 1950s.

Speedway is a regular night of racing action this Saturday with all classes running. The Carolina Clash makes its return to the 4/10th mile clay oval, which was built in 1968. Fayetteville Motor Speedway has

had one of the greatest NASCAR drivers of all time, Dale Earnhardt Sr., win on it many times. For more information on FMS, go to www.thenewfayettevillemotorspeedway.com or call 910-223-RACE (7223).



New Assistant Coach Chris Davis (in baseball cap) demonstrates to the receivers for Hoke on how to get a defender off them when running a route.

Bucktown Jamboree this week

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The Hoke County High School Bucks' football team is already tired of hitting each other and this week they hope to lay some hits on some opposing teams. The Bucks get a chance to see some different teams this week and Coach Milton Butts is looking forward to seeing how they match up against teams such as Douglas Byrd, Southern Lee, Fairmont and Red Springs.

"We have to see how we match up against other teams and Douglas Byrd will be a good test Wednesday night," Coach Butts said Tuesday. The Bucks will play Douglas Byrd tonight at Gray's Creek at 6:30 p.m. in the Cumberland-Robeson County Football Jamboree. Hoke is trying to figure out who is going to be the quarterback this year since senior David Walrath graduated and now is with the Braves at UNC Pembroke.

"We got four guys back there right now and one new kid who has moved into the area but it looks like Geoffrey Thompson, Michael Locklear and Jawane Harris will be getting most of the reps," Coach Butts said.

The Bucks were picked to finish third in the Southeastern Conference Coaches Poll behind top pick Richmond County and last year's



Head Coach Milton Butts (right) enjoys the hot summer Saturday morning by making sure each player is hydrated. He went around to every player on defense and offense giving them a squirt of water between reps.

state champs, Scotland County. Pinecrest was picked to finish fourth with Lumberton fifth and Purnell Swett sixth.

The Bucks will also face Southern Lee, Red Springs and Fairmont Friday as they host the Bucktown Jamboree. Local fans will get their chance to see the young Bucks in action for the first time at Raz Autry Stadium beginning at 6 p.m., if the weather holds out. This week scattered thunderstorms are probable all week long heading into the weekend. The Bucks have not

had a full compliment of players just yet as school just started this week. Ninth and tenth graders can still come out this week and try to make the team; however, they will not be on varsity. Freshman football players can come out until August 17, the date of the first game. Last week the Bucks had 75-85 players on Thursday and the last few days they have focused on the varsity. It will be an interesting year for Hoke County as Coach Butts is in his third year at the helm and expectations are high.

Just Putting Around

Each week we will try to update our readers on local golf events and golf course tournaments in and around Hoke County. If you know of any local golf events, please email them to Hal Nunn of The News-Journal at hal@thenews-journal.com.

Bayonet at Puppy Creek: Members/Guests Tournament-First Place Gross-Ben Crane and Daniel Dexter (177), Second Place Gross-Dave Monks and Dan Meyers (182), Third Place Gross-Scott Azzarelli and Tony Austin (184). Closest to the Pin Saturday: #3 Mia Kelly, #9 Ron McCan, #14 Jose Vigil, #16 Lou DiCarlo. Closest to the Pin Sunday: #3 Ben Crane, #9 Dan Meyers, #14

Dan Meyers, #16 Tony Austin. The winners for the **Upland Trace** Saturday morning tournament were Keith Jackson, Greg Wyrick, Guy Wall and Lee Harless. The winners of the Sunday morning tournament were Don

Frykholm, Dixie Musselwhite and Ray McLemore. The Sunday afternoon tournament winners were Flint Hamilton, Jimmy Saunders, Jay English and Jeff Lunsford. Richard Autry eagled the par 5 17th hole on July 30.

Fighting Bucks Sports Schedule

August 8 Boys V Football at Grays Creek Scrimmage 6 p.m.	Forest 7 p.m.
August 9 Girls V Volleyball Home 6 p.m.	August 14 Girls JV Volleyball at Jack Britt 5 p.m. Girls V Volleyball at Jack Britt 6 p.m.
August 13 Boys JV Soccer Home vs. Pine Forest 5:30 p.m. Boys V Soccer Home vs. Pine	Boys JV Soccer at Cape Fear 5:30 p.m. Boys V Soccer at Cape Fear 7 p.m.

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Dangerous

(Continued from page 1A)

added more traffic to the area. Now the intersection tops the list of Hoke crossroads with the most accidents, traffic injuries and property damage.

Other U.S. 401 intersections including Wayside Road, Lindsay Road and Hobson Road also made the top 10. Another 20 intersections elsewhere in the county experienced more than 10 wrecks over the same time period.

The state uses a classification system to track different levels of injury in wrecks. Severe injuries are considered Class A, moderate injuries are considered Class B and minor injuries are considered Class C. The state adds fatalities and Class A injuries together, and adds Class B and Class C injuries together for calculation purposes.

Despite having the greatest amount of property damage and the highest number of injury-causing wrecks, U.S. 401 was not the deadliest road in Hoke County. Of the 48 people killed in car accidents in Hoke County over the last five years, eight died in wrecks on N.C. 211. U.S. 401 had the second-highest number of fatalities of Hoke's roads with seven people killed between 2007-2011. Another five deaths occurred on Old Wire Road, three on N.C. 20 and three on Rockfish Road with the remaining deaths scattered throughout other locations in the county, according to NCDOT data.

Hoke intersections with the most accidents, 2007-2012

1. U.S. 401 and Club Pond Road: 59 wrecks, 68 injuries (2 K/A, 66 B/C), \$312,175 damage, 6.96 severity index
2. U.S. 401 and Wayside Road: 47 wrecks, 25 injuries (0 K/A, 25 B/C), \$197,735 damage, 3.36 severity index
3. U.S. 401 and Lindsay Road: 45 wrecks, 31 injuries (1 K/A, 30 B/C), \$256,450 damage, 5.64 severity index
4. U.S. 401 and Hobson Road: 43 wrecks, 23 injuries (1 K/A, 22 B/C), \$268,220 damage, 5.00 severity index
5. U.S. 401 and U.S. 401 Business: 36 wrecks, 29 injuries (1 K/A, 28 B/C), \$183,200 damage, 6.81 severity index
6. Galatia Church Road and Lindsay Road: 28 wrecks, 41 injuries (2 K/A, 39 B/C), \$181,800 damage, 11.70 severity index
7. Rockfish Road and Club Pond Road: 23 wrecks, 24 injuries (0 K/A, 24 B/C), \$123,350 damage, 4.54 severity index
8. U.S. 401 Business and Rockfish Road: 23 wrecks, 23 injuries (0 K/A, 23 B/C), \$90,425 damage, 4.22 severity index
9. N.C. 211 and Old Wire Road: 22 wrecks, 36 injuries (0 K/A, 36 B/C), \$144,100 damage, 6.05 severity index
10. U.S. 401 and North Parker Church Road: 18 wrecks, 21 injuries (3 K/A, 18 B/C), \$157,715 damage,

7.43 severity index

The severity index

The state takes several factors into account when considering roads with accident hot spots, a spokesman said. How much traffic goes through the area, how many wrecks occurred there and how many of those wrecks resulted in injuries or deaths provide different views of which intersection or roadway could be considered the most dangerous. That's why a different location topped the NCDOT's list of high-accident intersections with the most severe accidents when counting only intersections with five or more wrecks between 2007-2011.

The crossroads of N.C. 20 and Oakdale Gin Road rated an 18.82 on the state's severity index, which takes into account not only the number of wrecks but also how many of those wrecks caused serious injuries. In 11 crashes at that intersection over a five-year period, two people were severely injured or killed and another 12 people had moderate to mild injuries. In comparison, the state rated the U.S. 401 and Club Pond Road intersection as a 6.96 on the severity index.

The severity index is a tool engineers use to monitor crashes at intersections. The higher the severity index number, the more severe crashes that are happening there, an NCDOT engineer explained.

The severity index: Top 10 in Hoke
N.C. 20 and Oakdale Gin Road,

- 18.82 Pittman Grove Church Road and Philippi Church Road, 18.57 Shannon Road and Old Wire Road, 17.33
- U.S. 401 and Pittman Grove Church Road, 16.10
- Donaldson Avenue and Magnolia Street (Raeford), 16.10
- U.S. 401 Business and Scurlock School Road, 14.87
- Johnson Mill Road and South Parker Church Road, 13.25
- U.S. 401 and Wrightsboro Road, 13.25
- N.C. 211 and Shannon Road, 12.89
10. Doc Brown Road and Scull Road, 12.89

Road improvements

All of the collected data helps engineers decide when it's time to intervene at an intersection or on a roadway.

The state's road safety improvement program started back

in the 1960s. Today engineers run computer programs that examine crash data and point out which intersections happen to have a lot of accidents. The state doesn't always intervene—sometimes it can be more expensive and less useful to try and fix a minor problem, and the state has a set amount of funding dedicated to those types of safety improvements. And residents don't always agree that proposed changes would make the roadway any safer, such as with recent contested plans that would close one end of Galatia Church Road in Cumberland County just before an intersection the state identified as having a large number of wrecks.

NCDOT traffic engineer David Willett said the state has taken steps in recent years to address some specific intersections in Hoke County that had a lot of wrecks.

"Most of the ones we've been made aware of, there have been some type of improvements done,"

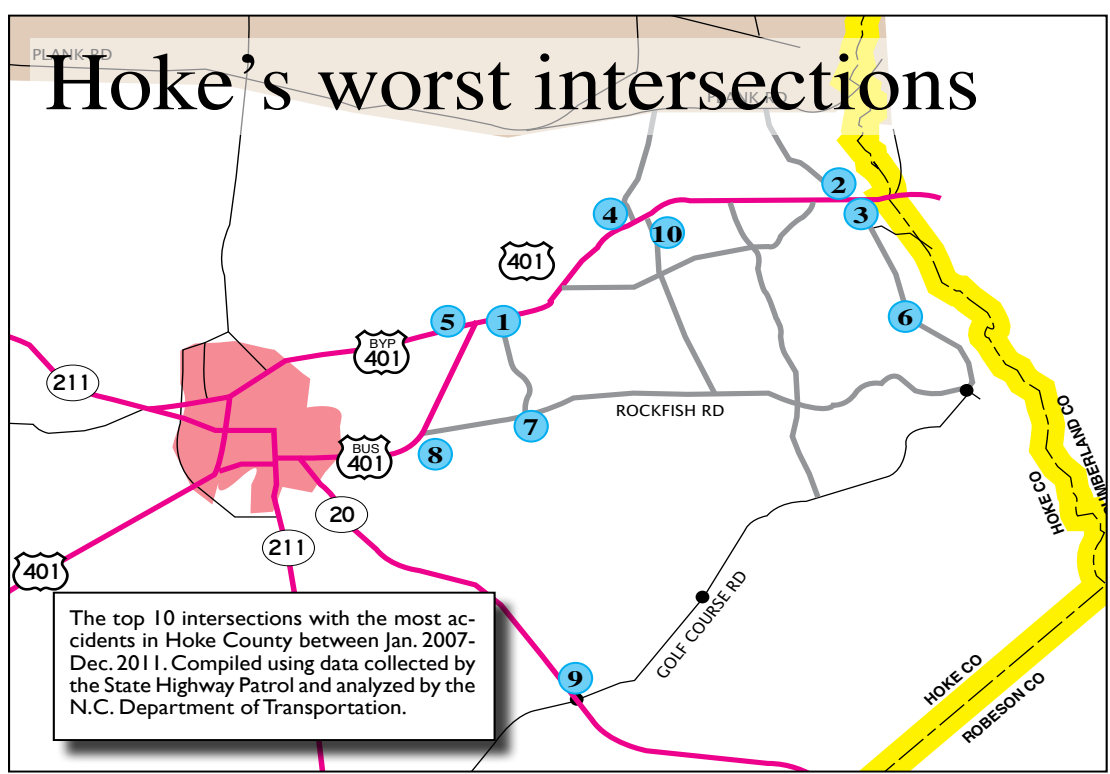
Willett said.

The state installed a "protected left turn," meaning a turn arrow light for the left lane, at the intersection of Club Pond Road and U.S. 401. In the last few years NCDOT also installed four-way stop signs at Rockfish Road and Club Pond Road, Rockfish Road and Pittman Grove Church Road, and Lindsay Road and Galatia Church Road.

Because of the way the data is compiled, DOT officials don't have proof yet whether the improvements have helped or not. There aren't any other interventions planned for the immediate future, but there are a few places under examination for possible action.

Some are "spot safety" projects meant to address specific issues and others are related to development that may be changing the traffic patterns, Willett said.

"We are looking at some other projects, most of them are on 401," he said.



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