Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C. No. 7 Vol. 111

Utility director hired, budget amended

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners has hired a new utilities director to oversee the local sewer plant and other operations.

The commission hired Hilton

Villines to step into the position left vacant since last year, when former director Leonard McBryde resigned to take a job in Moore County.

Villines was born and raised in Fayetteville and earned a bachelor's degree in industrial technology electronics from North Carolina A&T University in 1992. He worked as a plant engineer for AT&T for 12 years.

The commissioners interviewed candidates April 4 and selected Villines for the position. He started work Monday and will earn a salary of \$68,586.

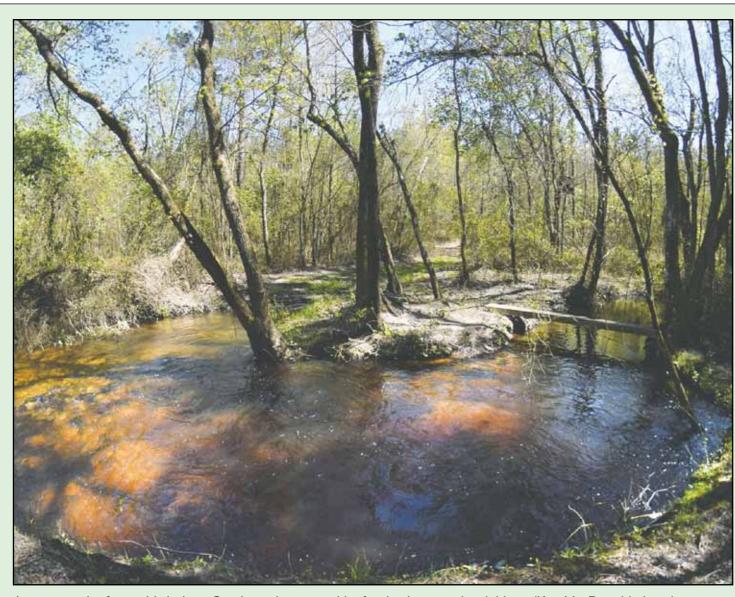
The board also interviewed

candidates to fill the empty finance officer position, but have not come to a consensus, according to closed session minutes from the April 4th meeting. Deputy Finance Officer Garvin Ferguson has been filling in as the interim finance office since December, when former department direc-

tor Barry Mayo retired from the position.

\$768,000 budget amendments

After cutting back on spending for the 2015-16 fiscal year and increasing the county's General (See COUNTY, page 10)



An oasis in the forest, Nicholson Creek can be crossed by footbridge, even by children. (Ken MacDonald photo)

Take kids for walk, or slog through swamp, Community Forest is family friendly

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

Hoke County is home to the first community forest in the state, and the

trails are open for anyone to enjoy hiking, kayaking, horseback riding and more.

The Conservation Fund bought the 532 acres of land from the International Paper Company, then worked to obtain grant funds to help Hoke County buy the \$1.3 million property from the Conservation Fund. Today, Hoke owns

the land but the forest is open to the community.

That makes it a big resource for anyone who enjoys the outdoors, (See FOREST, page 2)

Pierce, Goodman defend HB2 votes

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

Rep. Garland Pierce and Rep. Ken Goodman, who represent Hoke County in the state House of Representatives for Districts 48 and 66, were two of 11 Democrats who voted to support House Bill 2 when it came before legislators in a special session in March. House Bill 2, also

known as HB2, overturned a Charlotte city ordinance that allowed transgender individuals to use public bathrooms that match their gender expression, and also made it illegal for any city in the state to institute similar ordinances for municipality-specific LGBT protections.

The bill drew praise from conservative groups (See HB2, page 10)

Man killed in fiery crash

A Hoke County man was killed in a fiery car wreck last week on N.C. 20 south of Raeford.

Tykawnan Tyrone "Ty" McPhatter, 27, died April 12 when he apparently lost control of his car, which ran off the road and hit a tree. The 2010 Honda passenger car caught fire after striking the tree, according to authorities.

A Highway Patrol report said the accident happened just after midnight about 4.5 miles from Raeford. It listed McPhatter's address as Gainey Road. The report, by trooper D.R. Clark, indicated the Honda was traveling at an estimated 95 miles per hour when it left (See CRASH, page 10)

Worker hurt in Bragg blast

A man raking pine straw on the Fort Bragg military reservation was injured Monday afternoon when an explosive device apparently detonated in his hand, according to authorities.

The man, who was not identified, was a contractor working on the base when

he came across an unexploded device, according to Cape Fear Valley EMS Chief Robert Godwin.

"He apparently found a blasting cap and picked it up," Godwin said.

A call came in to Hoke County 911 shortly after 2 (See HURT, page 10)

This Week

Wildfire danger high Page 6

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Williamson awarded Order of the Long Leaf Pine

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD Staff writer

Hoke County Schools Superintendent Dr. Freddie Williamson recently joined the ranks of people like Maya Angelou, Billy Graham and Tennessee Williams as a recipient of The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the state's highest civilian honor.

North Carolina State Rep. Garland Pierce presented Williamson with the award, which is conferred by the Governor of North Carolina.

"It is awarded to persons for exemplary service to the State of North Carolina and their communities that is above and beyond the call of duty and which has made a significant impact and strengthened North Carolina,"

according to the office.

Williamson was born to Mr. and Mrs. Fulton Lee Williamson of Sampson County, where he was raised on a farm along with 12 siblings. He and his wife Shirley Bryant Williamson have raised four boys: Steven, Julian, Marcus, and Titus. They are active members of the Andrews Chapel Missionary Baptist Church where he

serves as chairman of the Board of Deacons and teaches an adult Sunday school class.

Williamson began his career in public education as a classroom teacher. He has worked in school administration for more than 25 years in various capacities and has been the superintendent for Hoke County

(See AWARD, page 7)



www.thenews-journal.com www.raefordnj.com



OTHER STUFF

By Ken MacDonald

There are certain things you're not supposed to say in church—even before service begins. But we're going to let it slide this time because, first, it was before the service began, and second, because of what was said.

"Turn around," a gentleman in the last pew called to me Sunday as I made my way to the balcony from my post in the sanctuary where I was handing out bulletins. I was in search of old bulletins I could hand out to kids as a prank, and I thought the balcony might hold the most potential.

Now "turn around" isn't bad, but when I stopped and did, the man exclaimed, "There's a big *ss roach on your back!"

That's what I get for hanging out in the youth room. Somebody swatted it to the ground, where I promptly (See OTHER STUFF, page 6)

Absentee voting begins

Absentee voting started this week for the Congressional primary election set for June 7.

The unusually scheduled Congressional primary election was ordered by the state after legislators redrew North Carolina's Congressional districts to bring the state into compliance with a panel of federal judges' order to address gerrymandering issues in some areas. The new maps put Hoke County into District 8, which is currently represented by incumbent Rep. Richard Hudson, a Republican from Concord. Previously, Hoke

(See VOTING, page 6)

Boogie in the Books

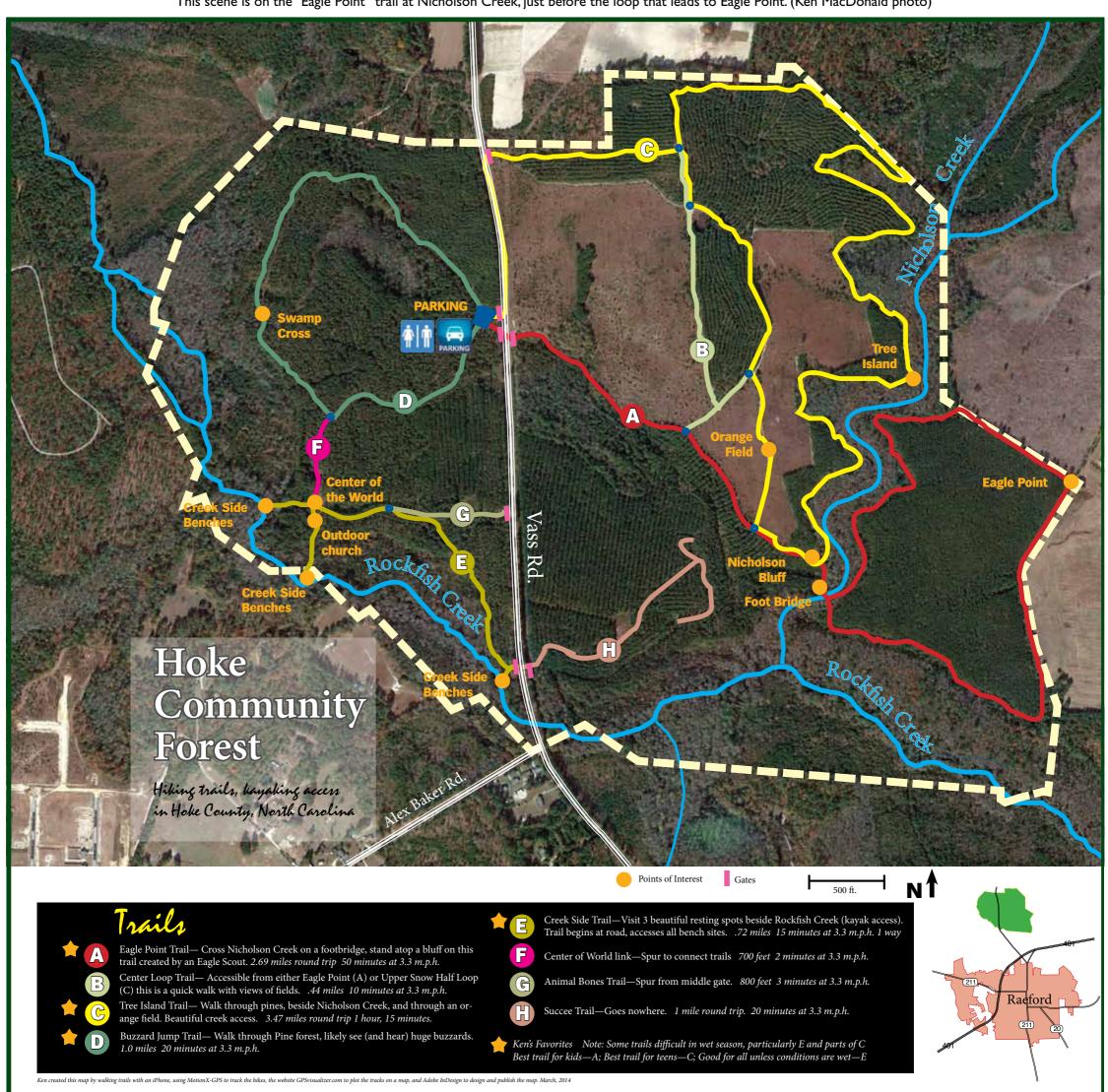


Boogie

Dancing in the aisles, boogying in the books—the event was a fundraiser for the Hoke Library Saturday. Money goes to the bookmobile. (Contributed photo)



This scene is on the "Eagle Point" trail at Nicholson Creek, just before the loop that leads to Eagle Point. (Ken MacDonald photo)



This map was created by the editor who walked each trail (in 2014 and verified most recently) and used phone apps to track them. The trail designations and names are but suggestions. For a laminated version, contact The News-Journal.

Forest

(Continued from page 1) Conservation Fund State Director Bill Holman said.

"The Hoke Community Forest is a great example of a project with many public benefits," he said. "It's open to the public and I would encourage folks in Hoke and other counties to enjoy it."

Boy Scouts from the area worked to break trails throughout the forest, and today multiple trails wind through the property. The shortest is less than half a mile with the longest trail measured at about three and a half miles round-trip. The trails are

suitable for mountain biking, hiking and horseback riding through Sandhills pine forest, with several paths winding along creeks where kayakers and canoers can launch their watercraft.

The community forest is also meant to protect and preserve some of Hoke County's natural resources and wild animal habitat. The streams along the property are permanently protected under a conservation easement by the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, which supports the water quality of Rockfish Creek and Nicholson Creek.

Raeford

Nancy Talton of the Sandhills Area Land Trust (SALT) is also working with the project and said

she hopes to develop educational opportunities for local students (See FOREST, page 6)

Open Discussion about Birth Control

The Hoke County Health Department will host a focus group to discuss birth control on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. The focus group will meet in the Classroom of the Hoke County Health Department, 683 East Palmer Road, Raeford, NC. Men and women of all ages are invited and dinner will be served. Participants will receive a gift card at the end of the meeting. Call 875-3717 ext. 2104 to register today.





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VIEWPOINTS

Not to burn you out, but what about water?

I am having a hard time with the topics that I write about. It is not that I have too few topics; it is that the things that I think are important more and more are becoming apocalyptic. Every time I turn on the TV to a channel that offers some real enlightenment about the world, I am hit in the face with evidence that we are heading down the tubes with blinders on. I originally wanted to concentrate more on local stuff and keep it relatively light, but I feel the urge to point out things that are very serious, but under-reported. The one overriding factor in all of these troublesome situations is the explosion of the number of humans on this little planet and the quest for each one of us to live a life with even a small fraction of what we in America take for granted.

I have mentioned the HBO series "Vice" in the past. This is perhaps the most informative, "in your face" and, as far as I can tell, unbiased investigative show that I know of. I would suggest that you watch this show if you can stand a taste of reality. The latest episode that I have watched is titled "Meathooked & End of Water". It has been my view for a long time that the quest for water may be the crisis that brings the human race back into alignment with nature. The cost of this, if it happens, will be mass elimination of human beings. This sounds terrible but, if mankind cannot control itself, ultimately nature will take over and do it for us!



This episode of Vice started out examining our appetite for meat. This appetite is not only growing here but also it is exploding worldwide as people in developing countries develop the habit. The production of meat on an industrial scale, which is the only way to currently meet demand, is depleting the resources of the earth, water in particular. As the climate changes and drought creeps around the globe, the need for massive amounts of water to grow the grain to feed the animals is making a bad situation worse. With rainwater decreasing, water is being pumped from increasing depths in places such as California where there is fear that the sinking water tables will never recover. They point out that the 1,800 gallons of water that it takes to produce one pound of beef is largely viewed as a free resource when computing the price of meat, when in fact it is doing great damage to the water supply – a basic requirement for life. This is one of those situations that makes me ask, "What is the real price of what we are consuming?

Vice even focuses on Duplin County, North Carolina, showing the massive waste lagoons that dominate the landscape and endanger our water supplies in the name

TODAY'S HOMEWORK (Notes on Education)

'The best and only way to send a message to the politicians is to let your

children refuse the tests. Do you really care how their scores compare to

those of students in other states? If you want to know how they are do-

"Point being, grades mean nothing any more. In the old days, if you were

a 3.6 student, it meant you have command over the material, and you don't

need to test that student any further. He's been tested for four years, and

ing, ask the teachers who see them every day.

Diane Ravitch, "Why Every Child Should Opt Out"

of cheap bacon. Now I love bacon as much as anyone, but maybe not as much as life itself. This is but one example of factory farming that glorifies the quantities produced while ignoring the overall picture of environmental damage.

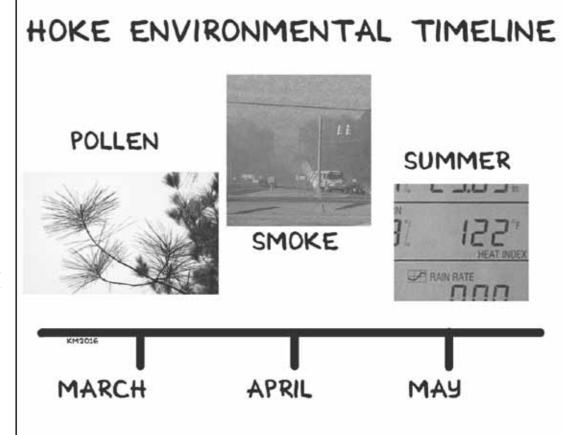
One segment showed a farmer who is growing livestock in a more sustainable way by rotating the grazing of the cattle and other aspects of the operation to reduce the environmental impacts. Adoption of these methods would result in a resurgence of agricultural jobs, but also higher meat prices.

They further explored research in which meat is being grown from stem cells with vastly reduced use of resources. While some might scoff at that idea, I would suggest you get used to it and even encourage it.

I hope I haven't ruined your day but I really feel that the more we understand what mankind is doing to our earth, the sooner we might do something about it. Perhaps those who say that there is nothing that we can do about global warming may just mean that there are so many ways that humanity can destroy itself that there is no need to worry about it at all. Maybe they are right.

I don't want to resort to war over water but wars over water supplies are already being fought in more ways than one. Man will go to war over just about anything, so killing others overwater will just come naturally. This story even has the frogs waving red flags! Have a nice day!

More later.



Leaders don't care about state's reputation

By Thomas Mills

The irony of Republicans complaining about unfair treatment by corporate America and the national media is just too rich. The people who just passed a law allowing discrimination against a segment of our population are whining that they're victims of discrimination. It's a shame they lack the self-awareness to make the connection.

They're not being treated unfairly, though. Other states might have laws on the books, but they didn't just write them in 2016 and they didn't overturn local governments' right to protect the LGBT community or deny people the right to sue over discrimination. The Western world, including corporate America, is moving toward tolerance while North Carolina Republicans seem to be moving in the opposite direction.

Republicans in North Carolina have also lost credibility when it comes to issues of fairness and discrimination. The whole episode followed the pattern of the voter suppression bills. They find a "problem" and use it to

achieve other, more nefarious, political goals.

Back in 2013, Republicans claimed they wanted to reduce voter fraud but overreached to make voting more difficult for people who don't agree with them. They could have passed a simple voter ID bill and moved on. Instead, they passed a wideranging bill that limited the types of identification, reduced early voting days, eliminated same-day registration, ended preregistration in high schools, and moved early voting sites away from college campuses.

Similarly, Republicans in 2016 could have addressed the so-called "bathroom ordinance" in Charlotte. Instead, they used it as a Trojan Horse to push much further reaching legislation including limiting local governments' ability to raise the minimum wage. With their long history of overreach and targeting people who have less power and influence, the GOP in North Carolina no longer gets the benefit of the doubt. That's how politics and the world work.

Finally, as the twitter hashtag

Moore family when a tire blew.

says, "We are not this." Over the past 50 years, we've become accustomed to seeing ourselves as an open-minded, tolerant state welcoming of all people and new ideas. The current GOP leadership is hanging onto narrow-minded views while using disparaging and divisive language unbecoming of state leaders. They are more reminiscent of George Wallace than Terry Sanford. In just a few short years, they're destroying a reputation that took decades to build.

The saddest part of this story is that leaders like Phil Berger don't seem to care about the state's reputation. They've created a delusional narrative about an ultra-liberal state outside of the mainstream and supported by a biased media establishment. They can't get outside of their own bubble to see how ridiculous they sound or the long-term damage they are doing. Until they're stopped, the rest of the country will continue to ask, "What's wrong with North Carolina?" What a shame.

Thomas Mills is Democratic nominee for North Carolina's 8th Congressional District.

he's a solid A student. Now, grades are so inflated that if you don't have a 4.0 you're a moron." Donald Driver, 14-year teacher, commenting on report of standardized tests administration gaffs. 'When homework comes prematurely, it's hard for children to cope with assignments independently—they need adult help to remember assignments and figure out how to do the work. Kids slide into the habit of relying on adults to help with homework or, in many cases, do their homework. Parents often assume the role of Homework Patrol Cop. Being chief nag is a nasty, unwanted job, but this role frequently lingers through the high school years. Besides the constant conflict, having a Homework Patrol Co in the house undermines one of the purported purposes of homework: re-– Heather Shumaker, author "It's Okay to Go Up The Slide"

Nearby fire brings sadness to former soldier

Why did a fire in Fayetteville cause a panic in Chapel Hill?

When I got word about the April 9 fire that destroyed the Haymont Grill in Fayetteville, a little bit of me got destroyed, too.

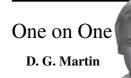
The Grill was a few blocks away from a house at 1805 Bragg Blvd., into which I and seven other lieutenants had stuffed ourselves while we were stationed at Fort Bragg in the early 1960s. The Grill became our favorite eating place, in part because Pete Skenteris, the longtime owner, took care of us. In early 2015, he told Chick Jacobs of The Fayetteville Observer, "Once someone comes once, they keep coming back. They become our friends, not just customers. We use only fresh ingredients, fresh ground beef, and seafood.'

I think he told me the same thing in 1963.

Since then, whenever I passed through Fayetteville, I tried to stop for a bite to eat and for a visit with the Grill's current clientele and with Skenteris, who had taken care of my roommates back then and thousands of others like us since then.

So you can understand why the far away fire took away something from me. But the Chapel Hill panic about the fire was about more than my memories.

If you read this column regularly, you may remember that I



have written about Haymont Grill several times recently. I used it as an example of the kind of place I wanted to include in my new book titled "North Carolina's Roadside Eateries: A Traveler's Guide to Local Restaurants, Diners, and Barbecue Joints" to be published in October by UNC Press as a part of its Southern Gateways Guides series.

Looking for old-time, locally owned restaurants that are community gathering places, ones that are close enough to the big highways for travelers to find them and, rather than loading up with franchise fast foods, have a meal with the locals, there could be no

better find than Haymont Grill. The fire that gutted the Grill caused an estimated \$750,000 in damages. Almost nothing survived except the iconic sign "Hamont Grill" that perched atop the building. Why was it Hamont and not Haymont? That abbreviation came about because a sign with six letters cost \$5,000 less than one with seven letters, and in the early days Skenteris needed to save every dollar he could.

Large cranes were required last week to lift and clear the big clumps of debris from the restaurant site, which is still secured for safety reasons.

No one knows, probably not even Skenteris, whether he will try to rebuild and restore the work of his lifetime. If he does know, he has not told others. He says he must wait until he gets reports from insurance company investigations and, until then, "There's nothing I can do but sit back."

Meanwhile, back in Chapel Hill, UNC Press has completed the design and formatting of "North Carolina's Roadside Eateries," including a long and loving description of the Grill and a beautiful photo of its "Hamont" sign.

"In a few days, it will be too late to make a change without incurring great expense," my editor told me when he learned about the fire. "You can remove the Haymont description now, but it has to be now, not later. We think it's best. Otherwise, your book will be out of date when it's published. But we have to decide now."

Finally, I agreed to remove the listing. The book will not be the same without the Grill.

Nor will my world be the same without knowing that Pete Skenteris and the Haymont Grill are waiting to welcome me back to Fayetteville.

Submit letters to the editor online: Look for heading "Send Us Stuff" at www.thenews-journal.com

We Get Letters Needs help finding death notice

I am searching for information that will lead me to the birthdate and, sadly, the death date of Mrs. Millie McNeill (McNeil?). She was the wife of Mr. John Dunc McNeill. They lived on a hill along the right-hand side of Vass Road, just below the caution light, which was not there at the time. Mrs. Millie was travelling to New York to visit her stepdaughter, Cremathea. She was riding with the Preston

My Millie died in this accident. A Laurinburg funeral home handled the arrangements. She is interred in the Raeford Community Cemetery without a headstone, which I want to provide. Therefore, I need the dates. Millie was an accomplished pianist and played for Silver Grove Church, I believe. I am not certain but I believe this accident was in the 1960s. No one I have contacted thus far

can give the dates. I learned her death certificate would be in the state/county where the accident occurred, which I don't know other than "outside New York." I remember reading the account in The Fayetteville Times. If anyone has this information, please call 910-875-2232. I will be forever grateful.

> Catharin Brown Raeford

-We welcome your letters

The News-Journal welcomes letters to the editor and encourages readers to express their opinions.

Letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. The street address and phone number will not be published, but are required so we may verify authenticity. The name of the writer and, in some cases, the town the writer is from will be published at the end of the letter.

We are not able to publish letters that are essentially thankyou cards.

We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, as well as those that exceed 300 words. We will not publish letters that we consider to be in poor taste or libelous. In some cases we may add an editor's note as a postscript when we believe a correction, explanation or amplification is warranted. We may also, at our discretion, limit the number of times an individual writer may submit a letter for publication.

The News-Journal

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April 20, 2016



Brandy Matthews

Brandy Lynn Frankie Matthews, 39, of Hope Mills died Saturday, April 15, 2016 at her home.

She was born April 23, 1976 in Benton, Illinois. She was a member of Raeford First Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Harry and June Pankey, and Bert and Mary Frankie.

She is survived by a daughter, Madison Grace Matthews of Fayetteville; her mother, Cathy Bundy of Fayetteville; her father, Brian Frankie (Brenda) of San Antonio, Texas; a brother, Cort Frankie (Rebecca) of Altus, Oklahoma; a sister, Brianne Chambers (Jewell) of Raeford; three nieces, Caitlyn, Ava, and Margaret Claire; and two nephews, Luke and Andy "Bubba".

A visitation will be held Sunday, April 24 from 2-3 p.m. at Raeford First Baptist Church, 333 North Main Street, Raeford.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 24 at Raeford First Baptist Church with the Rev. Tom Lee and the Rev. Russell Pankey officiating.

Memorials may be made to Madison Grace Matthews, c/o Cathy Bundy, 150 Barefoot Road, Fayetteville, NC 28306.

Online condolences may be made at www.crumplerfuneralhome.com.

James D. Parks

James David Parks of Raeford died Sunday, April 3, 2016 in FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital at the age of 75.

He was born July 31, 1940 in Hoke County to the late Robert and Wilda Parks. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Billy and Allen Parks

He is survived by his son, David Shane Parks of Monroe; his daughter, Sylvia Lowery of Wagram; two sisters, Nan Worrell of Star, and Carol Beaman of Mt. Gilead; three brothers, Robert Parks of Raeford, Gene Parks of Laurel Hill, and Edwin Parks of Raeford; and five grandchildren.

A memorial graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 29 at Shiloh Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Phil Pearce officiating.

Online condolences may be made at www.crumplerfuneralhome.com.

Callie Bell Love Buie

Callie Bell Love Buie, 103, died Thursday, April 7, 2016 at her home. She was born December 11, 1912 to the late Emmanuel and Hattie Love in Hoke County. She was married and was blessed with five children. Three preceded her in death: Willie Edward Buie Jr., Silas Love Sr. and John Henry Love. Also preceding her

Daniel and Leonard Love. She joined Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church at an early age. Later she joined Silver Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she served as a member of Nurse's

Hoke County Health Department

683 East Palmer Road. Raeford, NC 28376

ity medical care for children birth up to age 21 years that

do not have a medical home. Services include, well child

physical exams, sport physicals, sick visits, and referrals to

specialist with potential financial assistance. Call 910-875-

3717 for more information or to make an appointment.

Hoke County Special Olympics

Thursday, April 28th, 2016

Spring Games

Hoke County Health Department provides high qual-

in death were three sisters, Bertha,

Hattie and Mattie; and two brothers,



Aide Ministry until her health failed. She was a member of the Golden Link Chapter #67 Order of the Eastern Star, P.H.A. She was known for cooking for her church and the Hoke Reading and Literacy Council.

She is survived by a daughter, Maggie B. Gilbert of the home; a son, Manie Buie (Betty); four daughters-in-law; 18 grandchildren; 60 great-grandchildren; and 66 greatgreat-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 16 at Conference B Headquarters. Burial was in Silver Grove Church Cemetery.



Tykawnan Tyrone McPhatter

Tykawnan Tyrone McPhatter Tykawnan Tyrone McPhatter, 27, died Tuesday, April 12, 2016 in an

auto accident. He is survived by his mother, Janie McPhatter; sisters, Koesha Ingram and Syreela McDougald; brothers, Antwan Tyrone McPhatter, Tyrone McPhatter Jr., Desmond Crosby, Larry Chandler and Carlos Chandler; two aunts; and two uncles.

The funeral was held at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 17 in Turlington School Auditorium. Burial was in McLauchlin Chapel cemetery on Doc Brown Road in Raeford.

Ryan Lee Khan

Ryan Lee Khan, infant child of Andrew and Krissy Khan, died Wednesday, March 30, 2016.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her big sister, Kara Mae of the home; her maternal grandparents, Richard and Dana Tolston of Raeford; great-grandmother Jo, Tolston of Fayetteville; great-grandparents, Sally and Ronnie Reames of Tennessee; great-grandparents, Daniel and Rosann Canady of Columbia, South Carolina; great-great grandfather, Robert Nuss of Florida; uncle, Richard "P-nut" Tolston III of Raeford; aunt and uncle, Kim and A.J. Szadek of Oxford; and grandmother, Sandra Ells of Raeford. She is also survived by her paternal grandparents, Michael George of Raeford, Marisol George of Fayetteville, Michelle Khan of Lumberton and Ozzy Khan of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; great-grandparents, Azim and Safiah Khan of Fort Lauderdale; uncle, Bryan Khan of Ohio, and Mason and Dylan George of Raeford. She was preceded in death by her maternal great-grandfather, Richard Tolston, who is now holding her in heaven.

A memorial service was held Sunday, April 10 at Refuge Church in Fayetteville.

47 Years Ago

How did a Studebaker get into Goose Pond at Antioch? The car is found Friday night nearly submerged and is the property of Clinton Oxendine, according to Highway Patrol trooper E.W. Coen. But Oxendine says he wasn't driving it when it went into the pond. Coen says the car took a curve in the road too fast, went out of control, hit a stump, and sailed into the pond. For some inexplicable reason, the hood flew open and the motor "popped out." Oxendine reported he left the car by the road when it stalled on him.

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday at 2 a.m.

In a flurry of last minute filing, eight men are running for five openings on the Raeford Town Board, and two are vying for the mayor's position in the May 6 municipal election. The town board candidates are Franklin Teal, J.D. McMillian, Crawford L. Thomas Jr., Graham Clark, Ralph A. Pandure, Horace T. Davis, Joseph P. Davis and Hestel E. Garrison. The mayoral candidates: H.R. McLean and John K.

Another \$1,000 rolls in from a host of contributors and work begins on the athletic field at W.T. Gibson School. The total raised for a new stadium at Hoke High is \$21,000. Portable bleachers are now being installed across the field from the location of the stadium and the football field is graded and seeded.

Henderson Bledsoe, 88, dies in Surry County. He is the father of Lonnie Bledsoe, principal of Upchurch School here.

Mrs. Milo Postel welcomes another Junior Troop into Girl Scouting. The new troop at West Hoke is sponsored by Scurlock School and will meet in the school. Mrs. Thomas Monroe is the leader. This brings membership in Hoke to 256 Scouts and 72 adults.

Johnnie Sumner (Lumber Bridge News) spends Saturday night and Sunday with his cousin, Eddie Caddell, in Raeford. Glenn Crissman (News Notes From Quewhiffle) returns home from Moore Memorial Hospital. Hoke High's chorale (What's What at Hoke High), under the direction of Mary Archie McNeill, performs at Campground Methodist Church in Fayette ville for morning services. Mr. Julian Barnes (Rockfish News), who had minor surgery at Moore Memorial Hospital



A bus load of Hoke County club women attend the Southwestern District meeting of the Extension Homemakers April 16 in Salisbury. They are: Mrs. A.A. McInnis (left to right), Mrs. Alfred Berry, Mrs. J.A. Blue, Mrs. Cliff Conoly, Mrs. Julian Monroe, Mrs.W.I. Strider; at back, Mrs. J.A. Sappenfield, Mrs. Jack Holland, Mrs. W.B. Glisson, Mrs. H.A. McKenzie and Mrs. Sue Raybon.

Friday, is expected to come home this week. Teresa Orem (Stonewall Report) and her dancing class entertain the patients at Womack Hospital

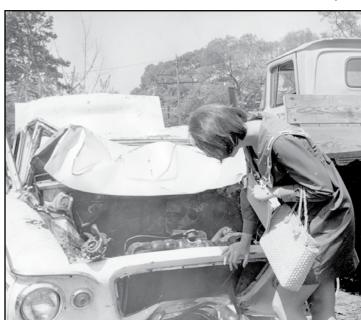
BROWSING THE FILL

25 Years Ago

Former Hoke High Bucks baseball star John Roper, playing with the Cincinnati Reds, returns to the area, where he pitches a shutout against the Fayetteville Generals. "I was a little nervous," he admits, about playing in front of family and friends.

A Raeford man erects a sign on the front of his house on Main Street reading, "Cleanup the rat's nest next door." Keith Raynor says he wants the city to force the neighbor, Mary Peele, to remove the growth around her house, but City Manager Tom Phillips says the law doesn't allow it. It's not dangerous, he says.

Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base officials say they will not pay for the noise they make in surrounding counties. They are responding to a Joint Compatible Land Use Policy that recommends local government adopt restrictions on uses of land in areas next to Bragg and Pope. It also recommends the military compensate landowners for devalued property.



MargaretAnn Lamster, reporter for The News-Journal, confirms there's no engine in a Studebaker pulled from Goose Pond Friday.



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CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commissions. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless telephone. A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

Lifeline eligible subscribers may also qualify for reliable home high-speed Internet service up to 1.5Mbps for \$9.95* per month for the first 12 months of service. Please call 1-800-257-3212 or visit centurylink.com/internetbasics for more information.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-855-954-6546 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

*CenturyLink Internet Basics Program - Residential customers only who qualify based on meeting income level or program participation eligibility requirements, and requires remaining eligible for the entire offer period. First bill will include charges for the kfirst full month of service billed in advance, prorated charges for service from the date of installation to bill date, and one-time charges and fees described above. Qualifying customers may keep this program for a maximum of 60 months after service activation provided customer still qualifies during that time. Listed High-Speed Internet rate of \$9.95/mo. applies for first 12 months of service (after which the rate revent to \$14.96/mo. for the part 42 menths of service) and requires 13 services. reverts to \$14.95/mo. for the next 48 months of service), and requires a 12-month term agreement. Customer must either lease a modem/router from CenturyLink for an additional monthly charge or independently purchase a modem/router, and a onetime High-Speed Internet activation fee applies. A one-time professional installation charge (if selected by customer) and a one-time shipping and handling fee applies to customer's modern/router. **General** — Services not available everywhere. Have not have subscribed to CenturyLink Internet service within the last 90 days and are not a current CenturyLink customer. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. **Terms and Conditions** — All products and services listed are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at centurylink. com. Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges — Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a carrier Universal Service charge, carrier cost recovery surcharges, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates.



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SPORTS

Just Putting Around———

By Hal Nunn Sports writer

Bayonet at Puppy Creek

The Wednesday Shootout winners from last week were Wayne Beasley, Dave Monks, Flash Gordon and Richard Inman with a score of 1-under. The Friday Shootout winners from last week were Henry Lech, Roger Buss, John Hudson, Brian Daniels and Rich Burger with a 4-under. Other winners were Loren Beahm, Joe Westerlind, Flash Gordon and John Herring with a 4-under. The Sunday afternoon winners were Vance McGougan, Mike Sutton, Mitchell Sports and Les Sandy.

Youth For Christ Golf Marathon Fundraiser will have the course closed until noon on Monday, May 2.

Upland Trace

The Saturday morning group



James Bynum (left) made a hole-in-one last Wednesday at Upland Trace Golf Course on hole #4 from 146 yards out. Johnny Boyles (right) awards Bynum his hole-in-one trophy.

winners were Don Frykholm, Steve Jumbelick, Lee Harless and Kris Taylor. The Saturday "Pack" group winners were Ed Bailey, Mark Faour, Todd Bradley and Johnny Boyles. The Sunday morning group winners were

Lee Harless, Don Frykholm and Glen Biggs. The Sunday after-#4 from 146 yards.

noon group winners were Jerry Johnson, Keith Jackson and Steve Jackson. James Bynum made a hole-in-one Wednesday on hole

Boys Baseball West Hoke Middle

Girls Softball West Hoke Middle

Boys JV Baseball Home vs.

Girls JV Softball at Purnell Swett

Girls Varsity Softball Home vs.

Boys Varsity Baseball at Pinecrest

Purnell Swett 7 p.m.

Pinecrest 5 p.m.

5 p.m.

7 p.m.

Home vs. Rockingham 4:15

Homevs.Rockingham4:15p.m.

Fighting Bucks Sports Schedule

April 20

Boys Baseball West Hoke Middle Home vs. Rohanen 4:15 p.m. Girls Softball West Hoke Middle Home vs. Roxanne 4:15 p.m.

Girls JV Soccer Home vs. Scotland 5:15 p.m. Girls Varsity Soccer Home vs.

Scotland 7 p.m.

April 21

Boys East Hoke Middle Soccer Home vs. Roxanne 4 p.m.

Girls East Hoke Middle Soccer Home vs. Rohanen 4 p.m. Coed Varsity Track at Richmond

4 p.m. Boys Varsity Tennis at Pinecrest

4 p.m. Boys Baseball Sandy Grove Middle

Home vs. Anson 4:15 p.m. Girls Softball Sandy Grove Middle Home vs. Anson 4:15 p.m.

April 22

Boys JV Baseball Home vs. Purnell Swett 5 p.m.

Girls JV Softball at Scotland 5 p.m. Boys Varsity Baseball at Purnell Swett 7 p.m.

Girls Varsity Softball Home vs. Scotland 7 p.m.

April 25

Boys Varsity Golf at Pinecrest 2 p.m. Girls Varsity Soccer Home vs. Purnell Swett 6 p.m.

April 26

Boys Varsity Tennis SEC Tournament Home vs. SEC TBA Boys Soccer East Hoke Middle Home vs. Rockingham 4 p.m. Girls Soccer East Hoke Middle Home vs. Rockingham 4 p.m.

Annual Bill Carver Classic 10.84 seconds and the 200-meter Sports writer

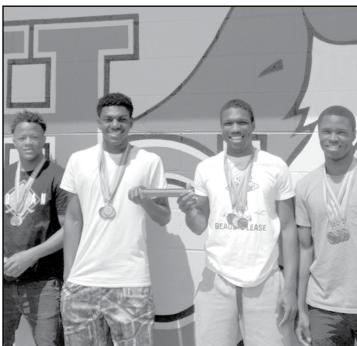
Smith wins MVP 17th

Hoke County High School Bucks senior runner Brandon Smith racked up some hardware last weekend at the 17th Annual Bill Carver Track & Field Classic at Reid Ross Classical School in Favetteville. Brandon won the 100-meter dash with a time of dash with a time of 22.47 seconds. He also helped his relay teams capture first place in the 4x100 and 4x200, earning him MVP of the meet. Coach Stan Calendar said, "Brandon did very well and I think it's the first time in 14 years that we have won the Bill Carver Classic." Finishing a tight second in the 100-meter

dash was Devin Norwood with a time of 10.94 seconds. The 4x100 team consisted of Smith, Devin Norwood, Montrell Douglas and Martez Riggens. The 4x200 team consisted of Smith, Norwood, Douglas and Jaylen Jones. The Bucks boys' and girls' track teams compete for the final time at home next week on Thursday, April 28.



Hoke County High School Bucks senior Brandon Smith captured four medals and an MVP Trophy at the 17th Annual Bill Carver Track & Field Classic at Reid Ross Classical School in Fayetteville last weekend. Brandon won the 100- and 200-meter dashes and helped his relay teams win the 4×100 and 4×200 .

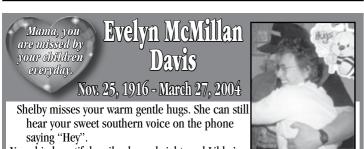


The 4x200 relay team captured first place at the 17th Annual Bill Carver Track & Field Classic at Reid Ross Classical School in Fayetteville. Team members are Montrell Douglas (left to right), Jaylen Jones, Devin Norwood and Brandon Smith.

Diamond Elite team wins Top Gun Championship

The 14U Diamond Elite fast pitch softball team based out of Hoke County won the Top Gun Championship last week at New Century School in Fayetteville. The team went 5-0, sweeping the competition. Team members are MacKenzie Peters (front row, left to right), Faith Matthews, Tot Hunt, Courtney Cygan, Peyton Daniels and Abby Dover; second row: Paige Cameron, Alyssa Norton, Jaden Pone and Hailey Pait; back row: Coaches Jamie Dover, Anthony Cameron and David Pait; not pictured: Summer Powell.

Sports News To Report? Call Hal Nunn at (910) 875-2121



Your big beautiful smile always brightened Libby's day. Now it lives in her memory since you went away.

Carolyn has fond memories of sitting with you in the swing. A special time together to laugh, chat and sing.

With a twinkle in your eyes, you met Zander at the door. He felt no one ever loved him more.

What a special time Wanda had when the family met at the old home place in town. You were the center and we all gathered round. The house was full of love and good cheer. Mama, it was all because I had you

When Debbie needed an ear to listen, you were always there. Your smile was so serene and dear. She heard you whispering in a soft, calming voice, "I will always care."

Betty recalls strolling in the yard by your side. You gave her love that flowed so deep and wide. You made her feel at ease without making a sound. Mama showed her the beauty God painted all around.

Larry said, "I saw an angel when I looked in Mama's eyes." He left early one morning on a dove's wing. He ascended through the skies. There was Mama in all her radiance and beauty to take Larry through heaven's door. He won't miss her anymore.

The heart remembers! — Love, Your Children



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Sports Briefs

Softball team defeats Pinecrest

The Hoke County High School Lady Bucks' softball team defeated Pinecrest last week 5-4 in SEC play. They are 12-5 overall and 3-3 in conference play, tied for third place with Lumberton. Richmondis in first place, Pinecrest second, Hoke and Lumberton third, Scotland fifth and Purnell Swett sixth. Their final two home games of the regular season are April 22 vs. Scotland and April 26 vs. Purnell Swett.

Hoke County Knights beat Guard

The Hoke County Knights 9-10 years old travel football team defeated the Fayetteville Guard 20-0 in recreation football. The Knights were lead by Trey Horne III who threw, ran and returned an interception for scores. Deshawn Gillespie added two receptions for 82 yards and a touchdown.

Rockfish Speedway hosts Military Night

Rockfish Speedway will host Military Appreciation Night this Saturday, April 23 on its second race night of the season. Any military ID card holder can get in for only \$5 on this special night. Gates open at 3 p.m. with qualifying and heat laps and racing action beginning about 5 p.m.