Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

No. 32 Vol. 111

RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

The 'hardest part' starts Recovery begins after Hurricane Matthew strikes





One organization the county's needy turn to felt the full brunt of Hurricane Matthew—the H.E.L.P. store on Central Avenue (left). The storm peeled back the building's roof, depositing ceiling tiles onto clothes and supplies. 12-year-old Samuel Young (right) made the best of things, paddling his board across a field beside his yard on Balfour Road. (Ken MacDonald photos)

What we do for our citizens now is going to define us, period'

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

The storm might be over, but the hardest part is still to come.

"It's the recovery phase that's the hardest. That's what we're fixing to start," Hoke County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Director Maj. Freddy Johnson told county officials Monday morning.

Hurricane Matthew sideswiped North Carolina Saturday, bringing strong winds and heavy rain to an area that just a week earlier saw historic amounts of rainfall.

The back-to-back hits took a toll on Hoke County, leaving behind washed-out roads, thousands without power and water, and a long list of logistical problems for officials trying to get the county back to normal.

Hoke received over 10 inches of rain for the second time in two weeks, with some

residents in the eastern and southern areas of the county reporting their rain gauges caught upwards of 12 or even 14 inches of rainfall from the storm. Winds gusted up to 40 miles an hour, tearing down trees that also took power lines down with them. (See MATTHEW, page 10)

This Week

Elections complaint filed Page 6

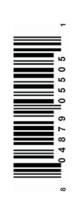
Browsing the Files 2 Calendar.....2 Deaths.....4



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Top: Second Harvest Food Bank volunteers give out food and water at McLauchlin Schooland talk about the storm. Left: Lines formed at gas pumps early in the week after the storm passed. On Monday, police had to direct traffic at some stations. Many people came from other towns. (Ken MacDonald photos)

How to help

Residents who made it through the storm and who want to help local flood victims can donate items or money to support recovery efforts.

Donations of bottled water and nonperishable food can be made to the

Hoke County Department of Social Services, which reopened Tuesday. The phone number to contact for more information is (910) 878-1974.

Donations of money can go to the American (See DONATE, page 6)

A little Facebook inspiration



My heart truly aches for the people who are without basic necessities. At work today, the busiest I've ever seen, I still found myself almost in tears, when a customer "paid it foward", his meal was \$8 and some change, he paid for the lady behind him which was \$26 and change. It was so sweet to see her reaction, she was very grateful, and kept asking If I was serious. So I get off work, stop at the store, and over hear a family discussing their needs in the parking lot. I couldn't not help. I tell them, go in the store get ANYTHING they needed, I will pay for it, the 1st thing they pick up is milk for the baby. The little \$26 n change I spent on this family filled my heart with such joy. We both walked out crying, we hugged and went our separate ways. I didn't want a thank you, I'm just happy I was able to help a family in true need. Those tears were real, the need was real, and I thank God for putting me there at that moment to help that family! #HeDidThat #HelpingOthersBringsMeJoy

A bit of inspiration from Serena Harding, a Raeford native.

#ImGeateful #TheNumber26 #TearsOfJoyAndSadness

BROWSING THE FI

47 Years Ago

October 16, 1969

Some 50 people turn up at the county courthouse to show support for a local sales tax. Other than local officials, most attend at the urging of Schools Superintendent Donald Abernethy, and support the option because it benefits schools and would hopefully allow lowering property taxes. They also see garbage dumps in the county's

District Court Judge J.E. Dupree hands down several "stiff" sentences to convicted impaired drivers. He says it's time to get serious about the offense. A Fayetteville man gets

his third conviction for driving under the influence and is sentenced to two years in jail for two convictions, sentences that are suspended. He's put on five years probation.

The Hoke High Bucks defeat the 71st Falcons Friday 14-0. The victory puts the Bucks at 3-3 for the season. The main gun for the Bucks is running halfback Larry Fellows. He gains 106 yards rushing.

25 Years Ago October 16, 1991

With Hoke's new zoning ordinance, mobile home dealers say the wait for a home is so long it will put them out of business. The Hoke Planning and Development Commission is looking into a change to reduce the wait.

Raeford City Council will decide Turlington School's future one day before the election that will decide most of their fates. Despite opposition from people who live near the school, the Planning and Development Commission approves a planto use the school for offices, recreation and the community college. Middle school students now at the school will soon move to the new West Hoke Middle School.

With a new part-time manager, the H.E.L.P. store has its feet firmly on the ground. Nora Cockburn begins work Thursday.

your smoke detector? How old is

Does your home have a working smoke alarm? According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the answer is likely yes: NFPA research shows that most American homes have at least one. But do you know how old your smoke alarms are? If you're like most people, you're probably not sure.

A recent survey conducted by NFPA revealed that only a small percentage of people know how old their smoke alarms are, or how often they need to be replaced. That lack of awareness is a concern for the Raeford Fire Department along with fire departments throughout Hoke County, because smoke alarms don't last forever.

"Time and again, I've seen the life-saving impact smoke alarms can have in a home fire, but I've also seen the tragedy that can result when smoke alarms aren't working properly," says Charles Tapp, chief of the Raeford Fire Department. "That's why we're making an effort to educate residents of Raeford and Hoke County about the overall importance of smoke alarms, and they do have a life limit."

The Raeford Fire Department recommends smoke alarms be replaced at least every 10 years but, because the public is generally unaware of this, many homes have smoke alarms past their expiration date, putting people at increased risk of them possibly not working properly.

The department, along with NFPA, is promoting this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years," to better educate the public about the critical importance of knowing how old their smoke alarms are and replacing them once they're 10 years old. Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15.

To find out how old your smoke alarm is, look on the back of the alarm where the date of manufacture is marked. The smoke alarm should be replaced 10 years from the date of original installation. The Raeford Fire Department also says smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and that batteries should be replaced at least once a year or when they begin to chirp, signaling you that they're running low. Remember, a new home with electric smoke alarms still have batteries in them for backup when power is out.

Call the Raeford Volunteer Fire Department at 910-875-5150 and arrange for them to come out to your home and check your smoke alarms. They will replace the batteries and/ orinstall a new smoke alarm to make sure you are protected from fires in your home. If you contact them back after 12 months, they will also come and re-install new batteries annually for you. Upon your request, they will also perform a fire safety inspection on your home while they are there. If you don't live inside the City limits of Raeford, contact your local Fire Department and ask them to assist you with checking your smoke alarms.

Also, have you considered volunteering in your community? Tapp says the department would like to talk to you about that also. "There is no better feeling than being able to help your fellow neighbor in their time of need during an emergency." If you do not get an answer, please leave a message; someone will call



Gift of camp

The "Munson Minions," as they're known, turned over several hundred dollars to Camp Monroe so that a child can go to camp next summer. They raised the money with a fun run held last month at Godwin Archery, a sponsor. Accepting the money is camp director Andrew Plyler. The Minions are Justice (left to right), Max, Aurora, Liberty and Freedom (in car seat).

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

October 13, 18, 22 & 27

FAMILIES ALL READ (F.A.R.) is a Smart Start program designed to encourage families to go F.A.R. reading together. Children 0 up to 5 will receive a free book when accompanied by a parent and an additional book on their 5th visit and thereafter. For more information, call the Hoke County Public Library at 875 - 2502. Our October programs are: October 13, 6:30 p.m. - FUN FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN LITERACY WORK-SHOP; October 18, 6:30 p.m. - FALL FUN!; October 22, 2 p.m. - MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE!; October 27, 6:30 p.m. - HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

October 13

WEST HOKE MIDDLE FIRST PTO MEETING will be held at West Hoke Middle School in the gym from 6-7 p.m. We will have light refreshments. There is a \$5.00 fee to join. We accept cash or check.

October 14, November 4 & December 9 AMERICAN RED CROSS FIRST AID/CPR/AED

CLASS SCHEDULE (Adult/Child/Infant) - Classes may be changed/cancelled depending on availability of instructor, holiday and inclement weather. All classes will be held from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. To register or for more information, call Hoke County Health Department at 910-875-3717 ext. 2106.

October 18

Hoke County Parks & Recreation trip to the NORTH CAR-OLINA STATE FAIR with be leaving the parking lot at 7 a.m. and returning at approximately 6:30 p.m. The cost will be \$15.00 per person (transportation). Money is NON-REFUNDABLE. Senior citizens 65 and up admission will be free, teens and adults ages 13-64 admission will be \$10 and children 6-12 admission will be \$5. If you or someone you know is interested, please come by the office to pay and sign up. The deadline was October 5, 2016.

October 29

DIABETES HEALTH SYMPOSIUM will be held in the senior room at L.E. McLaughlin Building from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. spnosored by the Hoke Public Health Advisory Council.

October 30

"MORAL MARCH TO THE POLLS RALLY" featuring Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, president of the NC NAACP, will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at Sandhills Community College, Owens Auditorium, 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst. The event is for all citizens of Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, Chatham, Lee, Randolph and Richmond counties. He will address defending the right to vote in NC, expanding voting rights, race-based redistricting, and other efforts that undermine equal protection under the law. Learn how to get involved in the "It's Our Time, It's Our Vote" campaign to make recent historic court victories against voter suppression real at the ballot box. The event is sponsored by Democracy NC, the NC NAACP, and the Moore County NAACP, a non-partisan, issues-oriented organization whose mis sion is to ensure the equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and discrimination.

NAACP president to speak lina, expanding

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, president of the N.C. NAACP and leader of the Moral Monday Movement, will be the featured speaker at the "Moral March to the Polls Rally and Tour Stop" Sunday, October 30 at 5 p.m. at

Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College. The rally is for citizens of Chatham, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph and surrounding counties.

Barber will address defending the right to vote in North Carovoting rights for all people, and race-based redistricting. The event

is sponsored by Democracy N.C., the N.C.

NAACP, and the Moore County



SPECIAL WORSHIP EVENTS

Philippi Presbyterian Church 128th Year Anniversary Homecoming

October 16, 11 a.m. (covered dish to follow)

Rockfish Church of God 22nd Annual Homecoming Cel-

ebration

October 16, 11 a.m. Trunk-O-Treat (no demonic

costumes) October 29, 6 - 9 p.m. Pastor and Family Appreciation

November 6, 11 a.m. Word of Life Temple, Inc.

Christian Skate Night October 20, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Usher Board Service October 23, 3 p.m. Youth Sunday October 30 Hallelujah Night (no demonic

costumes) October 31, 6 - 8 p.m.

Christmas Party (\$20) December 10, 6 p.m.

Faith Tabernacle Glorious Church

3G Project and Family Harvest Festival October 31, 6 - 8 p.m.

2040 Club Pond Rd Raeford, NC 28376 910.550.3951

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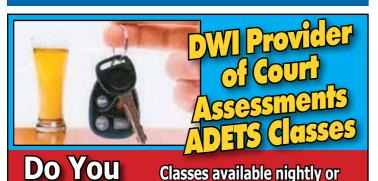
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News-Journal to again publish most popular section

The News-Journal office will again be crowded as some 150 families make their way to the paper over five days this Halloween season for the annual Costume Contest. Thousands look forward to the newspaper special edition with photos of the contestants and winners.

Goblins, superheros, fairies and pumpkins will have their photos made free of charge.

It's the newspaper's most popular time of the year as everyone looks forward to seeing the photos of the costumes.

Parents are encouraged to begin making or selecting their children's costumes early and to avoid the crowds by having their childrens' photos taken early. Picture days this year are Oct. 12-13 from 8-5 p.m., Oct. 14 from 8-noon & Oct. 19-20 from 8-5 p.m. No appointment is necessary. The paper will provide a small candy gift for participants,

and then print their pictures in a special tabloid Nov. 2 that will be included with that week's edition of The News-Journal.

Advertisers are encouraged to make reservations soon with sales rep Hal Nunn. It's one of the paper's most-read and anticipated features. Call 875-2121.

(Wednesday & Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

Photos will be published in the NOVEMBER 2 issue of The News-Journal.



PRIZES FOR · Most Original Cutest · Scariest Funniest





Each child will receive a treat for having their picture taken

Children must be 12 years old & under. Children must be dressed in costumes.

Don't Miss This Great Opportunity To Advertise
Your Business In Our Most Popular Section!

1/8 page \$75 1/4 page \$140 1/2 page \$220 Full page...... \$360

Advertising Deadline: October 19

When water comes back on, you gotta boil it

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

Many Hoke County utilities customers were left without water service for several days after Hurricane Matthew hit because some of the pump stations lost power, according to officials.

More than 6,500 customers lost water service after the storm, according to Hoke County Utilities Director Hilton Villines. Workers were in the field Sunday

attempting to restore service, and about 800 people in Arabia and Antioch were among the first to get their water back on.

"They got power there, the water's flowing there," Villines said Monday afternoon.

The rest of the water system was up and running Tuesday morning, Hoke County Manager Letitia Edens said. All residents now have access to water, but for people still without power to run their water heaters, it was cold

Boil water advisory

The county—along with Northwest and Hillcrest water services—issued a voluntary boil water advisory October 9 for county residents who lost water service. The advisory was just a precaution and not mandatory, Villines said.

"We put it out so people would be cautious for safety reasons,"

At the time the advisory was

issued, officials weren't sure how long the power would be out and how long the system would sit idle. But at least some of the pumps got power back within two days, officials reported.

Mandatory boil water orders are only implemented when there's a risk of coliform bacteria in the water. That wasn't the case here, and there wasn't any issue with contamination, Villines said.

Residents on the city of Raeford's water system also didn't

need to boil their water, according to city manager Dennis Baxley.

Utilities officials were waiting to get water test results back from a laboratory before deciding whether to drop or extend the boil water advisory. The test results were expected back by 1 p.m. Wednesday.

During the service outage, grocery store shelves went bare of bottled water as the wait for water service restoration stretched out for several days. At the Food

Lion on Cole Avenue in Raeford, the store brought in a pallet full of bottled water Monday afternoon and gave it away in the parking lot for free to help storm victims.

The county Department of Social Services also started collecting donations of bottled water, along with nonperishable food, to help residents who were still without water service.

Tuesday afternoon, bottled water was being sent to volunteer fire departments in areas affected worst.

Roads take big hit in storm

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

Just days after Department of Transportation workers were able to reopen some of the roads flooded by historic rainfall, many of the same roads – along with dozens of others – were closed again by flooding, fallen trees and downed power lines from Hurricane Matthew.

As of Tuesday, the North Carolina Department of Transportation reported that Gillis Hill Road, Galatia Church Road, Pittman Grove Church Road, Rockfish Road, Club Pond Road, L. McLaughlin Road, Potter Road, Old Wire Road and Palmer Street all suffered damage or flooding and were closed in some locations. Johnson Mill Road, which was seriously damaged in the 200-year rainfall event September 29, remained closed in two places.

Gillis Hill Road at the Hoke/ Cumberland County line joined the list of roads on the waiting list for extensive repairs. The road broke apart in raging floodwaters around the 3200 block, leaving a deep, wide hole in the roadbed. C.C. Steele Road in Hoke County also washed out, leaving the county solid waste department scrambling to find ways to deal with residents' trash disposal without being able to access the landfill and transfer station.

Besides the roads listed as closed by the DOT, the Hoke County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management Division also posted a document with additional road issues. As of Tuesday afternoon, the list included 30 roads with issues such as flooding, sinkholes, total washouts of the roadway, and downed trees and

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD

Staff writer

were left without power after Hur-

ricane Matthew and a few suffered

minor damage from the storm,

for students the week of October

10-14, with the days designated

as optional teacher workdays for

staff. Staff members who couldn't

make it in to work due to damaged

homes, flooded driveways or other

storm-related problems will have

a chance to make up the time so

they won't have to use an annual

leave day, according to the school

students early Friday, October 7

as the hurricane approached the

the missed days, along with mak-

ing up some of the time off from

the previous rainfall and flooding

that closed schools at the end of

September. October 28, originally

scheduled as an early release

day for students and a half-day

of professional development for

staff, will be a full day for students.

Information on makeup days for

this week's absences was not yet

can be found online on the Hoke

County Schools website, http://

www.hcs.k12.nc.us/, and The

News-Journal will also continue

posting updates on closings and

delays on its Facebook page.

Updates on school closings

available.

North Carolina coast.

The school system released

Students will have to make up

Hoke County Schools closed

according to school officials.

Some Hoke County schools

Schools lose power,

Storm damage

Some Hoke County schools

At Hoke County High School,

suffered minor damage from the

strong winds ripped the vinyl sid-

ing off of some classrooms on the

Gibson side of campus. Upchurch

Elementary was without electric-

ity for several days after a tree on

Turnpike Road crashed down,

taking a long stretch of the power

lines with it. East Hoke Middle

School was still without power

Tuesday, but officials hoped to get

the power back on at all county

ceiling tiles at Don Steed Elemen-

tary as a precaution as the storm

approached. The elementary

school, which is eight years old,

has had problems with a leaky roof

from the very beginning, officials

reported. After the 200-year rain

event that hit Hoke County Sep-

tember 29, workers had to replace

nearly 600 of the ceiling tiles and

clear out classrooms that flooded.

appeared bad enough that it would

require significant repairs, ac-

cording to Hoke County Schools

Director of Public Information

held up pretty well in the storm,"

ken fences due to fallen trees,

"Overall, our schools really

A few schools did suffer bro-

Many school sports events

were canceled or rescheduled due

to the devastation in the region.

Jodie Bryant.

Bryant said.

she said Tuesday.

However, none of the damage

Workers took down over 500

schools by the end of the day.

close for a week

power lines. Many other roads that were temporarily blocked by trees were reopened Monday or Tuesday as crews with chainsaws worked to clear the debris.

worked to clear the debris.

Crawford Wright Road developed a sinkhole in both lanes at the Crawford Wright Pond, where the heavy rainfall caused the pond to overwash the dam. Arabia Road, which was impassible Saturday due to the floodwaters, developed multiple sinkholes.

At North Old Wire Road near Dundarrach, officials noted that "half the road is missing."

Other roads weren't damaged, but tangled trees and power lines made crossing them difficult to impossible.

Some roads that were not marked as closed still had obstacles blocking the way. On Club Pond Road, some drivers dared to creep around low-hanging wires from a downed power line that crossed the roadway just above vehicles' rooftops. Drivers on Main Street in Raeford and on Turnpike Road near Upchurch Elementary School both slowed down to sneak past – or under – low-hanging trees that leaned over the roads.

Work crews were out assessing the damage after the storm, but an estimated time for repairs was not immediately available due to the extent of the damage.

To check updates on road closures, visit the DOT's website at https://tims.ncdot.gov/tims/RegionSummary.aspx?co=47 or the local emergency management road closures list available at http://tinyurl.com/hj8thr6. The News-Journal will also try to keep road status updated on our Facebook page.

Oakwood Avenue, behind old Johnson Concrete, was destroyed at its lowest point. (Ken MacDonald photo)

One garbage site open, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., washed-out road closes county landfill

By Catharin Shepard Staff writer

Hoke County's solid waste department was left with a lot of trash and nowhere to put it this week after flooding from Hurricane Matthew destroyed the road to the county landfill, leaving officials scrambling to find a temporary solution.

C.C. Steele Road was left with a 10-foot-deep hole in the roadbed, making it impossible for trash trucks to access the transfer station, county solid waste director Don Russell said Monday.

tor Don Russell said Monday.

"That was the only one thing out there that could put us out of commission. Anything else would have been just a glitch, but the road's washed completely out," he said. "We can't get in, we can't get out, and that's the only disposal facility. All the trash in

Hoke County comes through us."
Russell and his staff were working Tuesday on a temporary fix. Power was back on at the Scurlock convenience site, which was upgraded just a few years ago and is the most modern site available.

"It's the largest site, it's the most centrally located...we've got more capacity there than anywhere in the county," Russell said.

The plan as of Tuesday was to get the Scurlock convenience site up and running and then try to process an entire county's worth of solid waste through it.

"If we can keep it open, keep the cans empty, people in this county will have somewhere to take trash. That's the best we got right now," Russell said.

The county announced it would open the Scurlock site at 6 a.m. Wednesday and keep it open until 10 p.m.

Once trash goes through the compactor at the Scurlock site, the county can transport the trash to the landfill in Fayetteville. But it's a long drive, especially with roads out, so it may take up to three hours for each trip, Russell said. Unfortunately, Robeson County landfill is down right now, and the Moore County landfill won't take trash from Hoke County because they don't have a permit for it, he added.

The department was also working on getting two trucks in service to transport the trash to Fayetteville.

"Two trucks are stuck in the landfill. I've got one in the body shop, I've got one over at the



Emergency Communications Director Jimmy Stewart talks about activity in a meeting of department heads.

Volvo in St. Pauls, but they're out of power and not working now," Russell said. He was trying to get both trucks back in working condition quickly.

"Hopefully, with two trucks, we'll keep that site open," he said.

Tuesday, he was looking into a possibility of driving two trucks from the transfer station through the Community Forest and out to Vass Road.

All but one of the county's solid waste disposal sites lost power, and the one that stayed up was too small to meet the needs of an entire county, Russell said. The site at Five Points did have power Monday, but "that's a small site at the furthest end of the county," he said.

Russell said that workers could heavily staff the Scurlock site as all of the other sites are closed and that his department was willing to keep the site open 24 hours a day if necessary.

They hoped to get the Scurlock site open for customers by Wednesday if at all possible, he said.

The department is already working with engineers to start the process of repairing the washed-out road, but Russell warned that there is still water over the road, which may cause delays and require additional paperwork.

"We may have to deal with permits from the Corps of Engineers," he said.

The Hoke County Board of

mously Monday during an emergency meeting to appropriate \$275,000 to the solid waste department to provide for immediate needs.

The county landfill shutdown

Commissioners voted unani-

The county landfill shutdown also impacted Raeford residents, as the city relies on the county's facility for trash disposal. City Manager Dennis Baxley reported the city is currently transporting its trash to a Fayetteville landfill, which may result in delays in trash pickups for city residents. It will not impact city recycling pickups.

County residents who have private company trash service should contact the service for information on any delays or service interruptions for their trash pickups.

-Numbers you may need

Have a storm-related question?

Call the Emergency Operations Center at 878-1227

Need bottled water?

Call or stop by your local fire department

Need food assistance?

Call the Department of Social Services at 875-8725

Need to report price gouging?

Call the state at 1-877-5-NO-SCAM

Want to donate?

Bottled water and nonperishable food to Department of Social Services at 314 South Magnolia Street, Raeford or donate money to American Red Cross, www.redcross.org.

SUBSCRIBE to The News-Journal Call 875-2121 or visit www.raefordnj.com get the paper each week in the mail



City police had to direct traffic at some gas stations as lines formed at the pump and spilled into the roads. (Catharin Shepard

City's issues are garbage, roads

By CATHARIN SHEPARD Staff writer

Two roads in the city of Raeford washed out in Hurricane Matthew, some residents couldn't get down their flooded streets and enormous trees landed on homes and across roads, blocking travel for days but things could have been worse, Raeford City Manager Dennis Baxley said.

"Except for the power losses and the massive amount of trees down, we faired fairly well," he said.

But the most pressing problem is a county issue that's impacting city trash collection, Baxley said. The road to the county's solid waste transfer station washed out completely, and the city relies on the station and the county landfill to dispose of its trash.

By Catharin Shepard

Staff writer

source that helps local residents

in need suffered serious damage

Program (HELP) store on East

Central Avenue, which provides

food and clothing to families

in need, was damaged by the

storm that hit Hoke County this

weekend. Volunteers were to be

at work Wednesday morning

from Hurricane Matthew.

A longtime Hoke County re-

The Hoke Emergency Liaison

"Right now, we're having to truck it over to Cumberland County," Baxley said. "There will be a delay in trash collection because they have to drive three hours to dispose of it."

City recycling collection shouldn't be impacted, as the recycling items are handled at a facility in Wagram that was apparently not damaged by the storm.

However, the closed landfill is also an issue for disposing of all the yard debris from the storm, the city manager said. Right now, the city is collecting the debris and dumping it at a staging area until they can dispose of it properly.

Raeford also lost two roads due to washouts. East Prospect Avenue and Oakwood Avenue both suffered serious damage and will have to be rebuilt. East Prospect at

The building owner reported

that a new roof was put on the

building in March, but the strong

winds from Hurricane Matthew

peeled back the rooftop. The

nonprofit thrift store interior and

its contents – including clothing,

home goods and other items -

suffered water damage from the

what to do. They're trying to sal-

vage everything they can," HELP

board member and Raeford City

"We're trying to figure out

heavy rainfall.

Peddler's Branch, an area prone to ers, Baxley reported. flooding, was damaged.

"Peddler's Branch washed over the road and it eroded the east side. so the east lane is washed out," Baxley said.

The city is already working with engineers to address the issue, but until the road is fixed, that part of East Prospect will remain closed.

Oakwood Avenue suffered even worse damage, Baxley said. "Thatroad's gone, it's no longer

there," he said. That road will also have to be rebuilt, the city manager said.

The city government's buildings escaped damage, though there were several trees down at the Raeford cemetery. Workers have cut those up and they're ready for

removal, and the fallen trees didn't

damage any of the graves or mark-

Council member John Jordan said.

"severe," but there were a few

silver linings – director Bonnie

Johnson was able to rescue her

computer from the store and get

it running again, and most of the

nonperishable food at the HELP

store's food pantry was fine. The

food pantry was housed at the

back of the store where it was

protected from the water damage,

Johnson is working with the

Department of Social Services to

Jordan said.

The damage at the store was

At this point, the city is primarily working on clearing fallen trees so that Duke Energy and CenturyLink can restore power to customers. The Hoke County Public Library on Main Street in Raeford was one of those custom-

There were also some trees

down at McLauchlin Park-at

least seven by our count, but "that's

kind of the least of our worries,"

There were homes in the flood-

prone Covington Avenue area

that suffered water damage, and

during the hurricane, authorities

were called to the neighborhood

in response to a report of a person

stuck in a car in rising water.

he said.

ers without power and remained closed Tuesday while other county offices opened.

store floods, roof damaged come up with a plan to move the

program to a different location while trying to clean up the damage. The board will also meet soon to discuss how to move forward, Jordan said.

The HELP store was founded in 1991 to help get toys and food to local families for Christmas, and it soon developed into a year-round charitable venture. The program works with Hoke County DSS to assist those in need and also operates a thrift store open to the public.



now. (Ken MacDonald photo)

Power outages look like Fran

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD Staff writer

Three days after Hurricane Matthew flooded North Carolina and knocked out power to hundreds of thousands of residents, some Hoke County households were still in the dark as overnight temperatures plunged into the 40s.

About 950 Duke Energy customers and about 2,600 Lumbee River Electric Membership Cooperative (LREMC) customers in Hoke were still without power Tuesday afternoon, with both companies listing October 16 as a worst-case restoration date.

At the height of the outages,

Have you ever dreamed

of owning your own home

in a decent neighborhood?

Raeford/Hoke Habitat for Humanity is a

Christian Housing Ministry dedicated to

providing decent, affordable housing for

low-income families in Hoke County.

We are now accepting applications

for a home until October 31, 2016.

If you or someone you know may

benefit from our program, please call

Susan Quick at (910) 308-0245.

more than 50,000 LREMC customers across the entire service area of southeastern North Carolina were without power. Over half of those had service restored by 4 p.m. Monday, and the company was working on bringing the lights back on for the rest as soon as

"Many of these outages are attributed in part to Duke Energy's loss of transmission lines that supply Lumbee River EMC's distribution system," the company said in a statement Monday.

The company's work crews were also trying to deal with environmental hazards left behind after the storm, LREMC officials said.

"Crews continue to navigate

through flooded areas, clearing debris, repairing broken poles, lines, circuits, substations as well as other infrastructure. Additional line crews and tree trimming crews are assisting Lumbee River EMC to restore power as safely and quickly as possible," the statement said.

Duke Energy held a conference call Monday to provide updates on the situation. The damage to the Duke Energy infrastructure from Hurricane Matthew was "on a similar scale" with what the company experienced in Hurricane Fran in 1996, with over 800 broken poles and countless miles of wires torn down.

The kind of repairs that workers are attempting are "work that takes a long time to do," and the utility company had pulled in workers from other areas and planned to be at full staffing strength by Wednesday to continue addressing the power outages in affected areas, Duke Energy officials said.

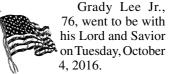
While the company listed October 16 as the estimated date for getting power back on, officials reported that was a general "worst-case scenario" estimation and many customers could get power back much sooner.

Residents without power can get assistance at the local Red Cross shelter at West Hoke Middle School in Raeford, or call the **Emergency Operations Center at** (910) 878-1227.

Loans Available Come & visit our friendly staff today ...or you may also apply online @ www.nfcmoney.com L-R, Tammy Parker, Betty Turner & Elizabeth Smith **National Finance Company** 714 Harris Ave. • Raeford • 875-2136



Grady Lee Jr.



He was retired from the U.S. Army and was a faithful member of Ashley Heights Baptist Church. He was a Christian man who loved and served the Lord with gladness and was prepared to meet him.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Lee; his children, Debra Hicks and her husband Mike of Hope Mills, Jennifer Williams and her husband Steve of Fayetteville, Vonard Lee and his wife Tammy of Raeford, Deana Ann Pearce of Raeford, Charles Lockamy and his wife Kathryn of Carthage, Judith Carol Lockamy of Aberdeen, and Rebecca De-Berry and her husband Donnie of Carthage; his brother, Curtis Lee and his wife Mabel of Latta, South Carolina; his sisters, Sylvia Dawson of Marietta, Georgia and Gwendolyn Hartson of Pinehurst; 15 grandchildren; and two greatgrandchildren.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Thursday, October 6 at Ashley Heights Baptist Church with the Rev. Eugene Ussery officiating. Burial with military honors followed at Ashley Heights Cemetery.

Memorials may be made in his memory to Ashley Heights Baptist Church, 10351 Aberdeen Road, Aberdeen, NC 28315.

Online condolences may be made at www.bolesfuneralhome.



Sharon Guenther

Sharon "Sherry" Kay Guenther of Raeford died Monday, October 10, 2016 in Cape Fear Valley Medical Center at age 73.

She was born in St. Clair County, Illinois on September 25, 1943 to the late Arthur Wright and Adelaide DeBoer Wright. She was a loving mother and grandmother. She enjoyed cooking, baking, gardening, and going to the beach. Above all, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

She is survived by her son, Steven W. Guenther of New Athens, Illinois; her daughter, Sue Guenther of Carthage; and her grandchildren, Chantelle Guenther and her fiancé Dustin of Prairie du Rocher, Illinois, Cole Guenther of Millstadt, Illinois, and Kurt Baldwin and Matt Baldwin, both of Carthage.

A private family memorial service will be held at a later



Shipp, Justin Thomas, Martin Palomares, Dezmond Campbell

Bucks Battalion places in three events

traveled to Scotland High School for their annual Drill Meet on Saturday, September 24. The Buck Battalion Drill Team competed in four of five events and placed in three.

The Color Guard, led by Justin Thomas, won second place in this event. Members are Jerry Pressley, Martin Palomares, and first-year cadet Bailey Cartlich.

Squad with Arms, led by Ramon Rivera with team members Devan Porter, Jerry Pressley, Makayla

Daniels' Exxon..... E. Central Ave.

Edinborough Restaurant......S. Main St.

Fast Shop......W. Prospect. Ave.

Food Lion.....Laurinburg Rd.

Food Lion......Fayetteville Rd.

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Hardin's.....Rockfish Rd., Rockfish

Hardin's Express Stop Rockfish Rd.

Highway 55 401 Bypass & 401 Business Home Food Supermarket......Main St.

Five Star #2.....

Food Mart #4

Food Stop

City

Phone

The Bucks Battalion Drill Team Shipp, Justin Thomas, Martin Palomares, and Dezmond Campbell, took fourth place.

> Devan Porter with team members Ramon Rivera, Jerry Pressley, Makayla Shipp, Justin Thomas,

Squad without Arms, led by

Martin Palomares, and Dezmond Campbell, took fourth place.

The Buck Battalion also competed in the Individual with Arms event with cadets Dezmond Campbell and Justin Thomas but didn't place.

The News-Journal

The News-Journal is sold at these locations: A-1 Gas & Food Mart..... E. Central Ave. Jay's Food Mart...... Hwy 211. at county line Andy's US 401 J&L Grocery & Meats Rockfish Rd. Arabia Food MartArabia Rd. Lucky StopHwy. 401 & Palmer St. Barbee Pharmacy Harris Ave.S. Main St. Citgo Mart.....Red Springs CVS Pharmacy......401 Bypass Daddy Mac Mini Mart 6079 Turnpike Rd.

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Sports



The Hoke County High School Lady Bucks tennis team was suppose to have the conference tournament this week but, because of the school being closed, we are not sure if they will play a conference tournament. These five seniors will be moving on no matter what: Kamaria Harris (left to right), Alexa Burnett, Monica Maynor, Savannah Wade and Veronica Buckland.

Tennis seniors ready for future

By Hal Nunn SPORTS WRITER

The Hoke County High School Lady Bucks tennis seniors are ready to move on from high school and take the next step in life. Each year, we catch up with them and ask a few questions. This year's questions: 1-How long have you been at Hoke High? 2-How long have you played tennis? 3-What do you plan to do after high school? 4-If you could change one thing about Hoke High and one thing about Hoke County, what would that be? Their answers: Kamaria Harris: 1-I have been at Hoke all four years. 2-I have played tennis two-and-a-half years. 3-I plan to attend FSU and play tennis or go to N.C. Central and take law

Football cancelled this week

issues. The meeting was not com-

pleted by press time but Hoke High

Athletics Director Gary Brigman

said there will be no football this

reporting that Cumberland County,

Columbus County, Bladen County

and Robeson County are all closed

for the entire week and this will

put athletics in a difficult situation.

Tennis and volleyball will be the

two biggest concerns because of

regionals and conference tourna-

ments, which may be cancelled.

"This hurricane has sort of put us

in the same situation as with the

snow and ice a couple of years back

where we had to cancel confer-

ence tournaments in basketball,"

classes. 4-At Hoke High, I think we need a better track program and tennis program. I would hire a whole new coaching staff for those and improve the program overall. In Hoke County, I would want to see something for kids to have more freedom to do stuff because there is nothing for us to do outside of going to Fayetteville. Alexa Burnett: 1-I have been at Hoke all four years. 2-I have played tennis for three years. 3-I plan to go to ECU and take Physical Therapy. 4-At Hoke High, I would add a swimming pool and, in Hoke County, I would like to see a movie theatre or bowling alley. Monica Maynor: 1-I have been at Hoke all four years. 2-I have played tennis for three years. 3-I plan to attend college and go into the military, maybe

learning more about biology. 4-I like the way Hoke High is but maybe we could add a rugby team or lacrosse team because those are up-and-coming sports and, in the county, free WiFi for everyone. Savannah Wade: 1-I have been at Hoke for three years. 2-I have played tennis for two years. 3-I plan to go to ECU and get a nursing degree. 4-At Hoke High, I think they need to make the school entirely indoors and build a swimming pool. In the county, we really need a theatre. Veronica Buckland: 1-I have been at Hoke for two years. 2-This is my first year playing tennis. 3-At Hoke High, I would like to see the students be able to leave campus for lunch and, in the county, it would be really nice to have a Chick-fil-A restaurant.

Sports Briefs

Brigman said. Golf looks to be okay, cross-country may be okay Athletic directors from all the and soccer looks to be good to go. Southeastern Conference high So, volleyball, tennis and football schools met yesterday to discuss maybe be seriously affected. athletics because of the storm

Middle school football

Middle school football has started and Sandy Grove is 2-0, week. The game at Lumberton East Hoke is 1-0-1 and West Hoke has been cancelled. Officials are is 0-1-1.

Rockfish Speedway

Rockfish Speedway cancelled last Saturday night's race because of the storm and did not have a race scheduled for this coming Saturday. The next race will be October 22 with a full night of racing in all divisions. It will probably be the last points' race of the season. The next two big weekends will be November 4 and 5, the Big Mod Lite feature called Prelude to the Classic, and then the huge Winter Classic, where the Micro 600s will run for \$1,000 and cars from all up and down the eastern seaboard will be in Hoke County.

First Baptist Church Golf **Tournament**

The 5th Annual First Baptist Church Golf Tournament that was scheduled for this coming Saturday has been postponed. It will be rescheduled for later in the month of October or in November. Contact the church for more information at 875-3508.

Hoke County Community Foundation Tournament

The Hoke County Community Foundation Golf Tournament has been rescheduled for this Friday, October 14 at Bayonet at Puppy Creek. There is still room for more golfers and, if you would like to sign up, please call 904-1500.

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



Spend some quality family time together. Worship at the church of your choice. Our community has a number of churches and a variety of denominations for you and your family.

BAPTIST

Pittman Grove Baptist Church 4921 Pittman Grove Church Rd. 875-5045

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Night Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal & Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Pastor Ken Williams

Hillcrest Baptist Church 2699 Hwy 401 Business

Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening Service 6 p.m. 910-875-6194





PRESBYTERIAN

Antioch Presbyterian Church ANNUAL October 20, 2016 11:00 a.m. Barbecue with Hash or

Chicken Salad \$800

6582 Red Springs Rd.

Includes Beverage & Dessert Drive Thr Crafts & Baked Goods Booth

Bucks fall to 1-6 overall and 0-1 in conference

Friday's game at Lumberton cancelled



Hoke High quarterback Kevin Thorpe throws out of the end zone last Thursday night as the Bucks fell to Richmond County 35-7.



Offensive Coordinator Tony McCants talks it over with quarterback Kevin Thorpe in the third quarter, when Hoke High cut the lead to 14-7.



The Richmond offense was led by quarterback Leon Zeigler and running back Damontre Bennett who rushed for 149 yards on 20 carries. The Raiders offense racked up 251 yards rushing.

Elgin Blue Memorial **Basketball Court** Dedication A ceremony honoring Elgin Blue

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners invites everyone to come out to the Hoke County Sports Complex on Red Springs Road on Saturday, October 22 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

We will be celebrating the opening of the new Elgin Blue Memorial Basketball Court. A dedication ceremony honoring Elgin Blue will be held. We will serve hot dogs and all the fixings.

Hoke County Sports Complex October 22 10 a.m. -2 p.m.

There is no charge and we look forward to seeing everyone there!