

# The News-Journal

75¢

Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

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RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

## Early voting starts Oct. 22, no county races

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

One-stop early voting for the municipal election starts this coming month. Absentee one-stop early voting will begin on Thursday, October 22 and end Saturday, October 31. The early voting will be held at the county board of elections. The municipal election will be held Tuesday, November 3. Only Raeford city residents will vote in

the election. There are no county positions up for election this year.

Raeford voters will have the chance to vote for their choice of six candidates who are running for three seats on the city council. Incumbents Robert "Bobby" Conoly, John Jordan and Mary Neil King and candidates Shirley Hart, Jeremy Hollingsworth and Jackie McLean are all seeking election to the board.

The five-member board is nonpartisan

and members serve four-year terms. Council members Charles Allen and Wayne Willis are not up for election this year; their current terms expire in 2017.

Next year will be a much busier year for elections. Besides the presidential and state level elections, Hoke voters will also choose candidates to fill two seats on the county board of commissioners and two seats on the school board.

The News-Journal will publish candidate

questionnaires in an upcoming issue to help local voters get to know their candidates for city council.

Photo identification is not required to vote in the municipal election this year. Valid identification will be required to vote in North Carolina beginning in 2016, with some exceptions listed.

For more information or help in obtaining a valid I.D., visit <http://voterid.nc.gov/> or call 1-866-522-4723.



The Old North Chapter of the Nam Knights of America Motorcycle Club hosted its quarterly Law Enforcement/Emergency Workers Appreciation Lunch Saturday at McLauchlin Park. The event offered free hamburgers and hot dogs for Hoke County law enforcement and emergency workers to show the club's support and appreciation for their service to the community.

## No sales tax referendum Measure to fund school languishes

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Local voters won't see a proposed sales tax increase on the ballot this November, because the bill seeking the state's permission for the referendum has not moved through the state Senate.

The proposed half-cent sales tax increase, intended to raise money for school construction, has been in the hands of the state Senate committee on rules and operations since June. The General Assembly did not take any action on it in the recent session, and according to state Rep. Garland Pierce, who introduced the bill along with Rep. Ken Goodman, the bill "did not get through."

"They were not willing to give the county permission" to hold the referendum, Pierce said.

"They did not move it forward," he said. (See SALES TAX, page 10)

## Rockfish man injured in tractor accident

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

A man from a well-known Rockfish family is recovering from an accident that left him trapped under a tractor for 45 minutes last week.

Earl Chason was driving his tractor on his family's property near Rockfish Road when the accident happened the afternoon of September 22.

"He just lost his balance and the (See TRACTOR ACCIDENT, page 10)

## Drug, alcohol addiction: the problem is growing

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

There is more need now than ever for support for people suffering from drug or alcohol addiction, according to retired military serviceman and

experienced mental health worker Dennis Fleming. "The problem continues to grow," he said in remarks Friday night at the annual Tia Hart Community Recovery Program banquet.

Fleming was the guest speaker at the banquet, which raises money for the nonprofit organization that seeks to fight substance abuse in Raeford and Hoke County.

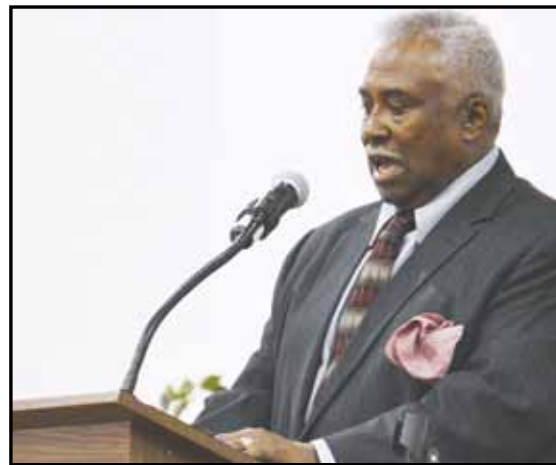
Local elected officials, community members and other supporters turned out to the banquet to hear speakers discuss the prob-

lems of drug and alcohol abuse and how people can support those struggling with addiction.

It's important for family members to realize that it's something their loved one is dealing with, and it's not something that they can control no matter how much they want to try and help that person, Fleming said.

"Three things to always remember: you didn't cause the addiction, you can't control the addiction, and you can't cure the addiction," he said.

The evening's program



Dennis Fleming speaks.

featured remarks by Fleming, who was the guest speaker of honor; an update on health-care by Dr. Karen Smith; a story of recovery by Connell Nicholson; and performances (See ADDICTION, page 10)

### This Week

**Man arrested in house break-in**  
Page 10

**2 arrested after Walmart thefts**  
Page 10

Browsing the Files ..... 4  
Classifieds ..... 8  
Court ..... 9  
Deaths ..... 4  
Editorials ..... 3  
Deeds ..... 2  
Sports ..... 5



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### Supermoon

Mario Malabunga, a teacher at Sandy Grove Middle School, took this shot of the Supermoon Sunday night. A Science, Technology, Engineering, Math teacher, he planned to use the picture to show students "how technology can be used to connect with nature/humanity." "My wife and I like to stargaze at times too," he said. The rare supermoon eclipse was visible through breaks in clouds here.

## Raffle for toy house funds real one

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Raeford-Hoke Habitat for Humanity organizers are hoping that a chance to win a custom-built playhouse for children will help raise money for building actual homes for families who need a safe, affordable place to live.

The local chapter of Habitat for Humanity kicked off a raffle with the grand prize of a playhouse, on display on Main Street in Raeford, going to the winner. Tickets are available for \$10 each and all profits will go toward building more Habitat homes for local families.

The Raeford-Hoke chapter of the organization dedicated its seventh new house in July and is seeking donations to get started on number eight as soon as possible. The group does not maintain a waiting list, organizer Daphne Dudley said, but they have a big response every time they take ap-

plications for a home.

"On average, whenever we open it up, I have never seen, except for one time, less than 40 or 50 applications," she said.



This playhouse is being raffled to help fund a Habitat house.

Members of the Habitat board, volunteers and donors built the playhouse. The 4-foot-by-4-foot playhouse will be delivered within a 50-mile radius at no charge. The drawing is set for December 5, and people do not have to be present at the drawing to win. (See HABITAT, page 10)



# Career and technical students chosen as ambassadors

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Hoke High School student Logan Locklear has big plans for the future.

"Who knows? You might be looking at the next Steve Jobs," he said. "In 10 years, you and your kids might be using electronics that I build, or the bridges that I helped build."

Locklear was one of the students taking Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes at the high school who stepped up to compete last week for the honor of serving as a student ambassador for the program.

The speech competition gave a glimpse into the hopes

and dreams of some of Hoke County's students, and a look at what the CTE program offers.

Locklear said the CTE classes helped him pursue his goals by developing his math and reading skills, both of which are important for his plans of working in the engineering field.

"Ultimately, you need to be skilled, and I'm ready," he said.

Kiara Richardson said she benefited from CTE classes by learning how to use office software popular with businesses.

"They have instilled me with skills and techniques that I would not have learned in a core class," she said.

She was able to earn certification in several software

programs, something that will help her in the future, Richardson said.

Other students spoke of their plans, including everything from opening their own business to becoming a plastic surgeon.

Anthony Madrigal, one of the two students selected to serve as CTE student ambassadors, plans to start his own film production company. Madrigal chose CTE classes that helped him figure out how to achieve his goal.

"I didn't know much about business, so I took business classes that taught me about the core of a business and how to run it," he said.

CTE classes are a good

resource for young people trying to plan for their lives after graduation, Madrigal said.

"I learned that you can pick any career that you want, but it's not as simple as picking what you want to do when you grow up," he said. "You have to know the requirements for that career field, the requirements to go to the colleges that specialize in that career field, and everything you need to know about it."

"Students entering high school need to realize that this is what they need to be planning on once they enter," he added.

Madrigal and fellow winner Alanis Sanchez will serve as student representatives for the school system's CTE program.

# — Real Estate Transfers —

Transfers of real estate recorded with the Hoke County Register of Deeds:

- Sept. 17
- 3.17 acres on Montrose lots 7B, 11B, 12B, 13B, 14B and 15B, from Wright Business Investments LLC to Edna Reyes of Raeford
  - Lot 2 on Army Road, in the Quewhiffle Township, from Roy and Melissa Harris to Roy and Michael Harris of Raeford
  - 471 Fairfield Drive, from Lakisha C. Linn of Raeford to Bank of America, National Associates, of Fort Worth, Texas
  - Lot 266 Summerfield East Section 4, from Daryl T. and Latonya Y. Jones of Ocean Springs, Miss. to Larry Chandler of Raeford
  - Lot 117 Colonial Charters Section 4, from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of Washington, D.C. to Merrick Investments LLC of Durham
  - Lot 34 Eagles Ridge Phase 2, from K&O Investments LLC to Kidd Construction Co. Inc. of Raeford
  - Lot 164 Wedgefield Phase 3A, from Thomas Family Business Inc. of Fayetteville to Kidd Construction Co. Inc. of Fayetteville
  - Lot 1 Obsen Place Phase 2, from Felicia and Seth G. Nelson of Fort Irving, Calif. to Michael and Antoinette Eakman of Raeford
  - 1.46 acres on Fulford McMillan Road, from A New Beginning Committed to God's Purpose Ministries Inc. to Willie Melvin and Francesca Perez of Raeford
  - 0.15 acres in Raeford, from Upchurch Milling and Storage Co. Inc. of Raeford to Serenity Therapeutic Services LLC of Raeford
  - 1510 McBryde Lake Road, from Willie James Purcell to David Purcell of Raeford
  - Lot 144 Northwood Estates Phase 3B, from Christopher T. and Kelley N. Lachenmeyer of Dennidley, La. to Tammy and Vonard Lee of Raeford
  - Lot 7 Magnolia Village Phase 1, from Precision Custom Homes and Renovations LLC of Raeford to Stephen Francis and Sally Marie Haynes of Raeford
  - Lot 28 Forest View, from Rebecca Jones of Colorado Springs, Colo. to Cassandra Fosser and Ryan Snell of Raeford
  - 10.03 acres in Hoke County, from Billy Jr. and Teresa Bentley of Raeford to Daniel S. Parker of St. Pauls
  - Lot 65 The Hollies at Westgate Section 2, Part 3, from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of Washington, D.C. to David W. and Lauren Allred of Fayetteville
  - Lot 92 Eagles Ridge Phase 2, from Howard Builders LLC of Leland to Chera M. Ray of Raeford
  - Lot 429 The Hollies at Westgate

Section 2, Part 1, from Michael P. and Krista L. Kessler of McKinney, Texas to Noel and Viktoria Phelps of Raeford

- Lot 5 on Bridges Road, from 3% General Contractors LLC of Linden to Arnell V. Bobbitt of Linden
- Lot 4 Tumberry Section 1, Part 5, from Caviness Land Development Inc. of Fayetteville to H&H Constructors Inc. of Fayetteville
- Sept. 21
- 1.01 acres along Rex Currie Road, Red Springs, from Lance and Wanda Thellman to William Rex Currie of Red Springs
- Lot 3 West Raeford Row, from Marley Moore LLC of Southern Pines to Curtis McNeill and Shameka L. Scott of Charlotte
- 308 Hendrix Road, from Angela N. Lemon of Raeford to Tracy and Angela N. McPhurrough of Raeford
- Lot 37 Somerset Section 2, from S.J. Investments Inc. of Lexington, S.C. to Jacob P. and Kala Elenes of Raeford
- Lot 23 Cobble Ridge, from Tiffany N. Lawson of Fayetteville to Stephen Thomas and Chelsea Jo Strick of Raeford
- Lot 61 Anderson Place Section 2, from Scott and Tamara Bullard of Fayetteville to Angela Amaro of Raeford
- Sept. 22
- 5.54 acres on Pendergrass Road, from Dianne and Edward McCallum, Wanda and Garland Nobles and Janice and Grafton Creekmore to Gillian Albro of Raeford
- Lot 27 Eagles Ridge Phase 2, from K&O Investments LLC of Fayetteville to Howard Builders Inc. of Leland
- 2.49 acres on Pendergrass Road, from Dianne and Edward McCallum, Wanda and Garland Nobles and Janice and Grafton Creekmore to Janice Creekmore of Raeford
- Lot 45 Anderson Place Section 2, from Dale E. and Crystal G. Cass and Christine B. and Michael S. Houser to Geraldine L. Caster of Raeford
- Lot 52 Brenthaven Section 2, from Floyd Properties and Development Inc. of Fayetteville to Anthony O. and Gabrielle Norwood of Raeford
- Sept. 23
- Two tracts, lots 451 and 482 Riverbrooke Section 4, from Riverbrooke LLC of Fayetteville to Caviness Land Development Inc. of Fayetteville
- Lot 16 in Raeford, from J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, National Associates, of Columbus, Ohio to Tanisha L. Taylor of Charlotte
- Lot 7 Bridgeport Section 1, from Wesley Matthew and Munira Ahlidi-nova Spear of Fayetteville to Philip D. Ostrander of Raeford
- Lot 125 Northwoods Estate Phase 3B, from Raymond and Patricia Hoskins of Napa, Calif. to Reynaldo V. Lakharam of Raeford.

# Prescription help available

Officials estimate some 70,000 North Carolina residents are eligible for extra help paying for prescriptions but haven't applied.

The federal Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) program, also known as Extra Help, assists qualified Medicare beneficiaries with out-of-pocket expenses associated with Medicare Part D prescription drug expenses.

To qualify for Extra Help, a Medicare beneficiary must meet certain income, resource and asset level requirements. The income and asset limits for Extra Help are \$1,471.25 per month with

assets up to \$13,640 if you are single, and \$1,991.25 per month with assets up to \$27,250 if you are married.

Individuals who qualify for these programs will receive Extra Help with their Medicare Part D prescription drug plans at the 100 percent level. This means they will pay a reduced co-pay of \$2.65 for generic drugs and \$6.60 for name-brand drugs, as well as lower monthly premiums.

Medicare beneficiaries may apply online themselves or by contacting the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213.

# Sandhills adds classes at Hoke County campus

Sandhills Community College Hoke Center has added several new classes to help train local workers.

The classes teach skills required to become a bank teller, EKG technician or a personal home care companion. The college also has a class for basic job-seeking skills.

The bank teller training will include an introduction to banking operations, handling cash, balancing operations, customer relations, and security procedures. Upon successful completion of the course, students are guaranteed an interview with a local bank.

The course will be taught by Elizabeth Gray and the cost is \$130 plus text. It will be held at the Sandhills Hoke Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 6-November 12, 9 a.m.-noon.

Skills to become a certified EKG technician will be taught in another class. Topics include cardiac anatomy and physiology, cardiac cycle, EKG strip analysis, 12 lead EKG, and EKG procedures. Teresa Hurtt will teach the class and the cost is \$185 plus text. It will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 6-December 3, 6-9:30 p.m.

Pre-Employment Training teaches how to properly complete an application, write a résumé, and prepare for an interview. Job

search techniques and how to be safe and successful on a job will be covered. This class is a requirement to be considered for employment with Smithfield Packing Company, and will be taught by Robbie Schultz Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The cost is \$75 (waived for qualified students) and a new class begins each Monday morning.

Direct Care Basics-Phase 2 will help students who have taken Phase 1 build upon skills introduced in Phase 1 and progress to include skills used in home management and personal care tasks using limited assistance. Completers will receive a Sandhills Community College certificate as a Personal and Home Care Companion. The class will be taught by Jane Drzewicki on Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 8-December 17, 1-4 p.m.

Registration is by phone with a credit card at (910) 695-3980. To register in person, stop by the Sandhills Community College Continuing Education office located on the first floor of Van Dusen Hall. Registration hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information on all fall Continuing Education courses, visit [www.sandhills.edu/coned](http://www.sandhills.edu/coned).



## Truck driver awarded

Tito McRae was named a top-10 finalist in the Randall-Reilly Top Rookie Truck Driving Award competition. McRae, from Hoke County, graduated from truck driving school at Sampson Community College a year ago and works for Maverick Transportation. Winners and finalists get cash prizes in a competition intended to increase professionalism of truckers.

# — Marriage Licenses —

Marriage licenses recently granted by the Hoke County Register of Deeds, with date of ceremony if different from date issued, and county of ceremony if other than Hoke:

Sept. 11 (Sept. 19)

• Jennifer Kathleen Casady and Robert Andrew Hibble II, both of Raeford. Married in Cumberland County

Sept. 14

• Rafael Castro Velazquez and Ma de la Luz Vera Garcia, both of Lumberton

Sept. 17

• Ricardo Andrade Viveros and Alicia Peralta Baeza, both of St. Pauls. Married in Robeson County

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**Worship Together**

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**

**Come Joy Us For Our 127th Homecoming**  
Philippi Presbyterian Church  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11  
Worship Service 11 a.m.  
Dinner following service  
2800 Philippi Church Rd.

**Leith Honda Aberdeen Clearance Event**

**2015 Honda Civic CVT LX**  
FB2F5FEW | 4-door Automatic

**\$199/mo.\***  
Lease For For 36 Months | Zero Down!

**-OR- 1.9% APR\*\***  
Finance For For 72 Months

**Leith Honda Aberdeen**  
910-692-2111 | [LeithHondaAberdeen.com](http://LeithHondaAberdeen.com)

\*36-month lease. No money due at signing. Capitalized cost reduction, acquisition fee, tax, tag and \$598 administrative/documentary fee included in monthly payments with approved credit through Honda Financial Services. Monthly payment includes tax. You pay 15 cents per mile for all miles over 12,000 miles per year at lease end.  
\*\*With approved credit through Honda Financial Services. See dealer for details. Offers valid through 9/30/15. LHAP004737 RN 9/23/30.

**HONDA**

# VIEWPOINTS

## Can you blame this on schools too?

BY KEN MACDONALD

Community service these days is a sentence, not a privileged duty. You get it for embezzling or public drunkenness. Perhaps it's partly because there isn't as much community—we all live cooped up in our air-conditioned houses watching TV and limiting our public discourse to Facebook. This is particularly noticeable here in Hoke County with the added challenge of a transient citizenry fast becoming the majority. Civic clubs are struggling for members. Churches too. Even volunteer fire departments. Few run for office; few vote. Anyone else notice the decline of the Turkey Festival? In all these aspects of community involvement, and many others, a few dedicated hangers-on do all the work, and a void is growing as apparently the last generation conditioned for service goes to their reward.

The scholar on democracy Benjamin Barber says it's partly because we've trained our kids for so long to become customers and consumers, not citizens. He makes a pretty good case for it too, tracing the overtaking of public schools by corporations and the subtle switch since the founding of the country from concern of the common good to getting a good job so we can buy stuff. "Hence," he writes, "the new consumer penchant for age without dignity, dress without formality, sex without reproduction, work without discipline, play without spontaneity, acquisition without purpose, certainty without doubt, life without responsibility, and narcissism into old age and unto death without a hint of wisdom or humility."

It's only gotten worse since the accountability movement in schools has us hyper-focused on competing internationally in science, math and technology and measuring our effectiveness with standardized tests at the expense of character building, critical thinker formation and citizen creation. And, of course, that's certainly what we're seeing in North Carolina, particularly here, in Leandro-land—teaching to the tests, not cultivating participating citizens (or even particularly capable workers).

"This government has allowed state testing to become a perversion," said educator John Kuhn in a Texas rally speech, "growing like Johnson grass through the garden of learning and choking to death all knowledge that isn't on the test, killing ancient wisdom like debate, logic, and ethics—deep human learning that once provided this state a renewable crop of leaders who knew courage instead of expedience, truth instead of spin, and personal risk for the public good instead of personal enrichment and reelection at all costs."

You might think these two authors would be among the chorus of those pressing to scrap public schools and privatize them, but you'd be wrong. Writes Barber, "A nation of fractious individuals schooled in avoidance ceases to be a nation. A democracy of consumers focused on their private interests ceases to be a democracy. A community of multicultural fragments celebrating only difference ceases to be a community. A republic of privately schooled narcissists blind to what they share ceases to have res publica and hence is no longer a republic."

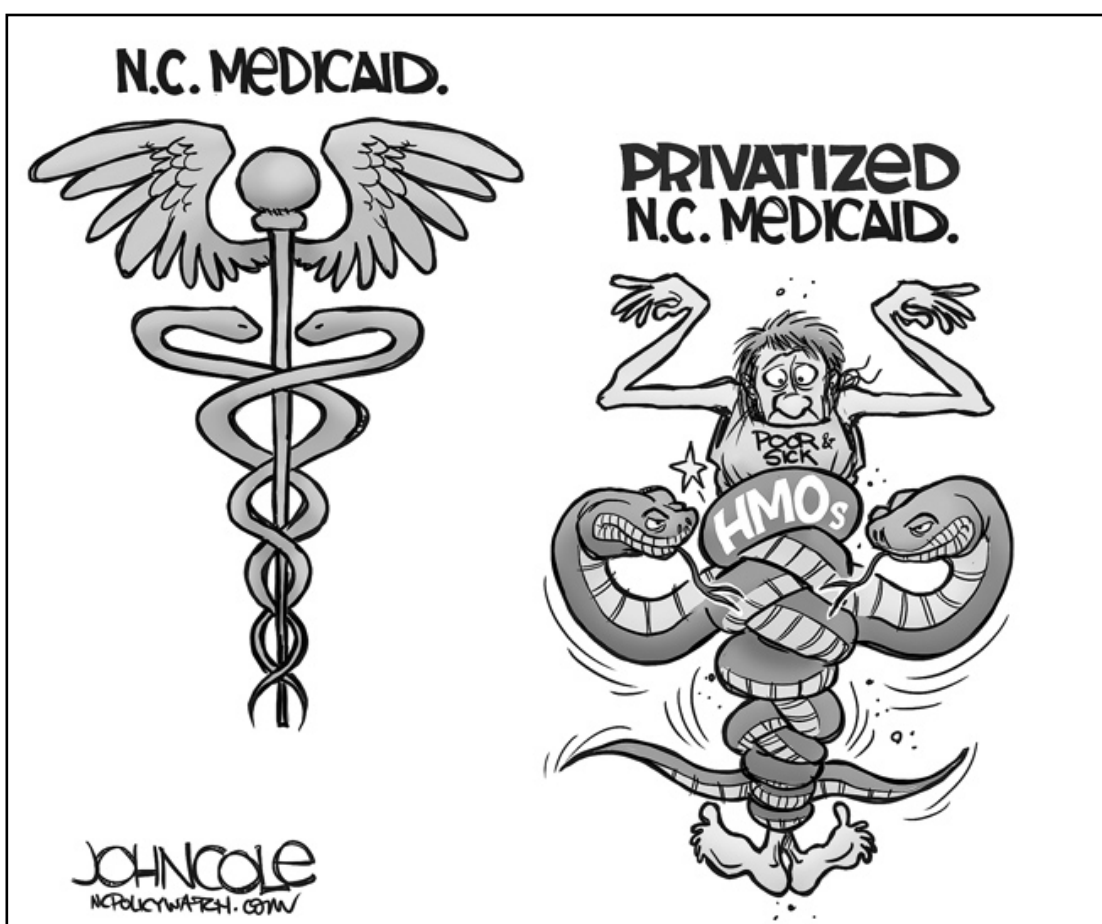
And Kuhn: "I see public schools as one of the most noble things our nation has done, and for decades... we all got together as citizens and taxpayers and we'll pay for it; we'll open the doors and we'll educate our people, and we're not going to pick and choose who we'll educate... I'm not saying the public school system is perfect and it has no problem; I'm not saying that, but what I'm saying is that it's an honorable attempt to do the right thing in the right way and we shouldn't abandon it, we should continue tweaking and fixing it, and fulfilling the democratic promise of what our forefathers came up with."

The dissatisfaction with public schools is understandable, espe-

cially in high-poverty areas where scores and ratings are bad. All parents must do what they deem is best for their children, and that can certainly mean private school. But at the level of society where our leaders are making decisions that affect us all, surely the solution lies more in a renewal and refining of public schools so that our way of life—democracy itself—is protected.

"No wonder some parents and teachers of goodwill who recognize the public character of education in theory are nonetheless ready to throw in the towel in practice" writes Barber. "But can Americans afford to abandon the battle to preserve education's essentially public character? Just imagine an America without public schools, one where better students are skimmed by more expensive private schools, leaving 'leper colony' style vestigial schools that while no longer public have become private (but not equal) dumping grounds for the very poor, for students without motivated parents, for special education hard cases and other 'losers' who, in the prevailing marketplace philosophy, more or less deserve what they get (or don't get)."

The decline of citizen contribution, and public participation in any way except shopping, is surely to continue unless we work to counter it. In Hoke County, we have a front row seat for the transformation from Mayberry. In the past, we've talked of the need to reform, renew and improve our schools in terms of global competition. Perhaps it's time to talk about the survival of our community.



## Almighty Dollar speaks, no one listens

BY CHRIS FITZSIMON  
N.C. Policy Watch

A remarkable thing happened during the recent House debate on a proposal misnamed Medicaid "reform" plan that turns over much of the health care program for the most vulnerable people in North Carolina to out-of-state for-profit managed care companies.

Rep. Nelson Dollar, a prominent member of the House Republican leadership and its top budget writer, not only stood and opposed the plan that he correctly said would be putting stockholders ahead of North Carolina citizens, he also challenged the misleading claims about the current Medicaid system made by the ideologues and special interests who are intent on privatizing it.

Dollar pointed out that for all the bluster about the current system being broken and out of control—two characterizations repeated incessantly by the privatizers—Medicaid claims costs have fallen in the last five years even as the program now serves 200,000 more people.

Dollar also told his colleagues that North Carolina currently ranks 42nd in the nation in the cost per full time Medicaid enrollee and that the cost per patient has declined in the last four years.

That hardly sounds like a program spiraling out of control.

Dollar reminded the House that insurance company HMOs that are a key part of the reform plan have been tried before in North Carolina and failed, in hospitals in Mecklenburg County, in the state's mental health system and in the state employee health plan in the 1980s and 1990.

It is not every day that a power-

ful member of the House takes the floor to argue against a carefully negotiated deal supported by the leadership of his own chamber, not to mention Senate leaders and a governor of his own political party.

But that's exactly what Dollar did.

For the past several years, he has been considered the House leadership expert on Medicaid and health care funding issues. His name had been floated more than once as a possible Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Agree with him or not, Dollar knows what he's talking about and that was clear again in the recent debate. But the vote to privatize part of the Medicaid program was decided long before Dollar made the case against it.

The constant drumbeat to discredit the Medicaid program had taken its toll. The claims that Dollar refuted on the House floor had been repeated so many times by so many special interest groups with a stake in privatization, they became part of the conventional wisdom in the legislative halls.

They were repeated again this week by several House members almost by rote, even after Dollar effectively countered them.

The House and the Senate ultimately passed the Medicaid privatization plan despite the arguments against it from Dollar and many Democrats in the House who were also worried about turning over health care to for-profit managed care companies.

Gov. Pat McCrory held a public ceremony to sign the bill into law, claiming it would transform the state Medicaid program. That's probably true, though not in the way McCrory's claiming.

In case there was any doubt about how the House would vote on the privatization plan, Senate leaders made sure by putting a provision into the state budget that passed this past week that would terminate the contract of Community Care of North Carolina (CCNC) in March if the Medicaid reform proposal did not pass.

CCNC is the provider-led North Carolina nonprofit managed care group that has won national acclaim and saved the state millions of dollars according to a recent audit requested by the General Assembly.

Community Care's role in the new Medicaid system will be greatly diminished but Senate leaders threatened to kill it almost immediately if lawmakers didn't approve their privatization scheme.

Despite the bullying tactics and the massive misinformation campaign, the misguided reform is hardly a done deal. The state needs waivers from the federal government to implement it.

Those could take years unless lawmakers also include a plan to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act and provide coverage for 500,000 low-income people. That would certainly make the Obama Administration more likely to act before Obama's term ends at the end of 2016.

That's the only silver lining in this week's troubling Medicaid vote. There's still time for lawmakers to come to their senses and stop trying to fix something that's not broken to give insurance companies a windfall at the expense of the most vulnerable people in the state.

They need to think twice about what they've just done.

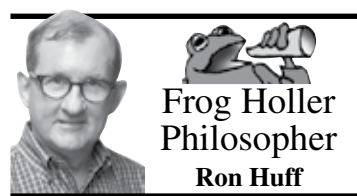
And they need to listen to Rep. Dollar.

## Weather makes for good porch sitting

Both Charlotte and I love summer but I must admit that I was ready when the heat began to lose its grip a little. We've been watching the sun set farther and farther to the south each day and the day of this writing is the autumnal equinox, the beginning of fall. It will move farther and farther until December 21, the winter solstice, when it reverses course and starts marching back.

Our front porch faces due west, and as porch sitters, we face in the general direction of the sunset. Many years ago, before the front porch was built, we built the barn/studio a little northwest of the house. This building was placed on a fairly level spot that was suitable for the pasture at a time when we owned only five acres. Little did we realize that it would obscure the sunset view from the porch for nearly half of the year. I maintain that we put it where it needed to be, but it is funny how such a consequence can be overlooked. It is coincidental that the sunset is just coming into full view as summer melts into fall. The improved view along with the cooling weather makes for some good porch sitting.

We depended on air conditioning more than usual this summer as we endured some relatively brutal stretches. I had another record electrical bill, something that is happening most every year now. I am always happy this time of year when we can turn off the air conditioner and open up the house, especially during the cool nights.



Frog Holler Philosopher  
Ron Huff

Charlotte's gardens are losing their summer grandeur, but are now benefitting from that wonderful light that comes as the sun's rays become less direct. The dogwood leaves are changing into their fall outfits and all the leaves are soon to follow. I have heard a prediction that this will be a colorful fall. In truth, they all are.

I got up one day last week and felt that burst of energy that comes with the cooler weather—that desire to do something out of the ordinary. Unable to rush right out on the spur of the moment, I settled for doing some of the Frog Holler chores under more pleasant circumstances. I am actually getting a handle on the weed and grass cutting as the growth season winds down.

This is the season for festivals and outdoor events. We are not habitual festival goers, but we do love eating on restaurant decks and patios and seek out those places in this weather. We enjoy outdoor gatherings with friends at their homes and at Frog Holler. I had the urge to get in the car and drive west toward the mountains the other day for no reason other than the invigoration of the season. The urge passed but I am sure it will return. Charlotte doesn't care much for the mountains, although I love them. Instead of heading west, we

will soon head east to the beach now that the crowds are gone and things are more relaxed. I love the beach this time of year when I don't break out in a sweat by merely breathing. I am looking forward to uncrowded beaches under a sun that has lost some of its bum.

Let's don't forget football season!

My summer of playing music outdoors is coming to an end as the weather gets more iffy. I will miss that over the winter as we turn to the inside to find suitable places to perform. I will be playing outdoors this coming weekend at Elsipalooza, an annual outdoor concert featuring several local bands that is held in honor of Elsi, the late mother of Steve and Robbie McKenzie, two of my musician friends. It is always a great event.

The Holler and the Hollerites are shifting gears and seasons. Incidentally, Helen, Bessie and Cornelia have begun laying eggs in earnest as Charlotte struggles to contain them in their new backyard range. Yes, they found their way back around to the front porch with little trouble and are now fenced in an attempt to keep me from stewing them.

I am seeing more and more evidence of hensense. Bessie was curiously staying in the coop the other day rather than roaming the yard. Investigation revealed that she was uncharacteristically guarding an egg. The next day the stock market fell six hundred points. She was just protecting her nest egg. More later.

### TODAY'S HOMEWORK (Notes on Education)

"What you see when you travel through all these communities and you talk to parents and you watch these teachers who work so hard and you spend time with these kids, is you get a sense of this immense rich thing that a classroom can be, a place of both learning subject matter but of learning how to exist in a public space and how to have this feeling, this sense, that you matter and that your mind matters and that this is a place that's safe and respectful and where I can take chances and I can learn something. And that can have an effect on who I'm going to be."

— Mike Rose, "The Intelligence In All Kinds Of Work, And The Human Core Of All Education That Matters"

"In reading an Oct. 29, 2013 article from 'The Atlantic' entitled 'When Outsiders Take Over Schools: Lessons From Memphis' I noticed that those who praise the ASD's [Achievement School District] efforts talked about the smaller classes, more one-on-one teaching, and tighter structure. If those are ingredients for success in turning around schools, then why are you advocating policies that remove class size caps, lower per pupil expenditures, and abolish teaching assistants in the very schools you hope will be taken over?"

— Stuart Egan from open letter to N.C. Rep. Rob Bryan

## The News-Journal

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# Obituaries



Christine Bruton

A memorial service and interment will be held at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia on Tuesday, December 15 at 1 p.m. in the Old Post Chapel. Family and friends can find more information at [www.diguidefuneralservice.com](http://www.diguidefuneralservice.com).

Donations may be made in her memory to the Robert E. Bruton Education Scholarship Fund at Merritt Island High.

### Ellaree Locklear

Ellaree Locklear, 78, of Raeford died Friday, September 25, 2015.

She was preceded in death by her father and mother, Robert and Girlie Brooks Locklear; one son, Silas Locklear Jr.; and one daughter, Linda Ruth Oxendine.

She is survived by her husband, Silas Locklear Sr.; two sons, Jerry Locklear of Raeford and David Locklear of Aberdeen; four daughters, Lela Hunt, Mary Ruth Harris, Patricia Bullard and Stella Locklear, all of Raeford; one brother, Robert Locklear of Raeford; 17 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 3 p.m. Tuesday, September 29 in Piney Grove Holiness Church.

### Beulah M. Watson

Beulah Mae Watson, 75, of Raeford died Wednesday, September 23, 2015.

Survivors include her daughter, Patrice Latosha Watson of the home;

eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 27 in Leach Springs Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

### Beverly H. Teal

Beverly H. Teal, 85, wife of Franklin R. Teal, and daughter of Dave and Claudine Hodgkin, died Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at Autumn Care of Raeford.

She graduated from Hoke High School in 1949 and was a lifelong resident of Raeford. She married Frank Teal on March 2, 1955 and they were married for 59 years until Frank's death in 2014.

She was a devoted wife and mother whose life centered on others rather than self. She was a tough fighter who battled Alzheimer's disease the last 10 years of her life.

She is survived by her son, Jimmy and wife Rebecca of Fayetteville; her brother, David and wife Linda of Raeford; her sisters, Janet Hodgkin of Raeford and Claudine Hodgkin of San Francisco; and several nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at 11:30 a.m. Friday, September 25 at Raeford Presbyterian Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to the Raeford Presbyterian Church Building Fund, 128 West Edinborough Avenue, Raeford, NC 28376.

# BROWSING THE FILES

## 47 Years Ago

October 3, 1968

A carload of white "nightriders" bullies several Negro youths at Armory Park after a Raeford-Clinton football game putting "them in fear of their lives," and a short time later a group of Negroes confront 40 to 50 white teenagers at their hangout, Tastee Freeze. Bottles are thrown and shots are fired, but no one is seriously hurt. Sheriff Dave Barrington and officers send carloads of teens home and the sheriff issues a proclamation: "I want to say here and now that we are not going to permit a group of young people who obviously are filled with vinegar to disrupt the congenial racial relations of Hoke County. Anybody attempting to cause trouble—regardless of his race—can expect to receive the full punishment permitted by law.

"We will not tolerate several bullies, no matter what their race, making the rest of the community pay for their narrow-mindedness."

Ken W. McNeill is elected to a three-year term on the county committee of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and is named chairman. Others elected are Julian Love, John Parker, Joe Upchurch and D.A. Currie.



4-H Club leaders are Mrs. John Hugh McKenzie (seated left to right), Mrs. Retha Long, Mrs. Grover McMillan, Mrs. Barbara Johnson, and Mrs. Clara Pope. Standing are Mrs. Robert Owen, Mrs. Woodrow Hayes, Mrs. Mary H. Small and Mrs. Pearl McRae.

At Highsmith-Rainey—Mrs. Ada Gills. At Southeastern General—Mrs. George Winborne Sr., Wallace McLean, Mrs. Harold Brady

Miss Marianne Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. June Johnson, is believed to be the first local female to obtain a private airplane pilot's license. She began taking an interest in her father's plan at age 15. The Hoke High graduate will receive her degree from Meredith College in January.



A Gibbon named Piot, brought to Raeford from Thailand by a Fort Bragg soldier, rides the leg of the soldier's daughter, Rhonda.

payment isn't accepted.

Hoke Schools Superintendent Dr. Bob Nelson is named the region's Superintendent of the Year. Nelson says he's selected because of two middle schools under construction and improvement in test scores.

The Board of Commissioners approve the sale of \$1.2 million in notes to pay for a new water system and the construction of a new elementary school in Rockfish.

## 25 Years Ago

October 3, 1990

House of Raeford loses its lawsuit against the city of Raeford and attorneys for the turkey plant say they'll probably re-file the suit. The suit claimed the city wrongfully fined the turkey plant for sewer permit violations and sought \$10,000 relief. Judge B. Craig Ellis dismissed the suit saying it wasn't under his jurisdiction.

James Parker of Star, unhappy that the Clerk of Court's Office wouldn't accept a personal check for child support, shows up with cash—154,165 pennies. Judge Warren Pate approves the payment and also says the court will take his check in the future. Parker, who is police chief in Star, says he is ready to go to jail if his

James Fout, manager of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, resigns because the organization lacks the funds to continue its full program. "I believe the chamber directors have taken a sincere interest in the work of the chamber, but a lack of community support is evident," he says. The chamber is about \$6,000 short of meeting the annual \$18,000 budget. Officers of the board are Wyatt Upchurch, president; Ralph Barnhart, vice-president; Alfred Leach, vice-president; Younger Snead Jr., secretary; and Charles Hotel, treasurer. Directors are Paul Dickson, Bobby McNeill, Bernard Bray, Frank Teal, Homer McGuinn, Ashwell Harward, Ed Manning and Jimmy Conoly.

Columnist Jim Taylor is driving between Fayetteville and Rockfish when he sees a young girl walking across the road, "apparently with a 'possum' hanging onto her leg." Turns out it's a Gibbon, a small monkey. Fortunately, he says, he has a camera with him to document it.

Hospital News: At Moore Regional—Alfred Cole, Mrs. S.R. Moore (home yesterday), Mrs. J.D. McMillian, W.C. Phillips (home), Israel Mann, Mrs. J.A. Baucom (home), Robert Hord, Mrs. Nancy French, Truman Austin (home Friday), Mrs. John Russell (home Saturday), John Buoyer. At Womack Army—Sgt. Paul Lawing, surgery last week. At Cape Fear Valley—Mrs. Weldon Bishop (entered Monday).

### Christine Bruton

Christine McNeill Bruton, a native of Hoke County and wife of Robert E. Bruton, a retired Florida educator who preceded her in death, passed away at Lynchburg General Hospital in Lynchburg, Virginia on Thursday, September 10, 2015. She was 92.

She was born in Raeford in 1923. She married Robert during WWII. After the war, they settled in Brevard County, Florida. She lived a long and full life as a wife, mother, friend, leader, Bible teacher, newspaper columnist and feature writer, but she was ready and eager for her next step.

Survivors are her children, John Timmons Bruton and wife Carol of Merritt Island and their children John, Amy and Beth, Christine Bruton Hickson and husband Maurice of Forest, Virginia and their daughters Kaitlyn and Kasey, and Thomas Eugene Bruton and wife Diana of Palm City, Florida, and their sons Robert and Nathaniel.

## Police Blotter

Raeford Police reported the following recent incidents:

### September 21

Possible sex offense, 500 block of East Sixth Avenue, victim's name withheld in accordance with News-Journal policy. The case is pending further investigation and no arrests have been made.

### September 23

Communicating threats, 1000 block of East Central Avenue  
Breaking and entering, injury to

real property, 1100 block of Bethune Avenue, victim Shirley C. Ferguson  
Embezzlement by employee, 300 block of Harris Avenue, victim Domino's

### September 24

Damage to real property, victim Gordon Franklin Crumpler  
Injury to personal property, felony larceny, breaking and entering, 100 block of West Donaldson Avenue, victims Kelsey Mikaela Lee and Joshua Michael Hall

### September 25

Larceny from buildings, 1200 block of Highway 401 Business, victim Family Dollar  
Larceny, 200 block of South Main Street, victim Family Dollar

### September 26

Larceny, 200 block of Cole Avenue, victim Dawn Maria Baldwin  
Assault on a female, damage to property, 500 block of John Roper Avenue, victim Nneke Annesha Hine

## Fire department says check smoke alarms

By CHARLES TAPP  
Raeford Fire Dept. Chief

If I asked you where your smoke alarms are in your home, could you tell me? If you're like many people, you may not pay much attention to where smoke alarms have been installed. However, location matters when it comes to smoke alarms. Are they working?

Smoke alarms should be installed inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.

Working smoke alarms are a critical fire-safety tool that can mean the difference between life and death in a home fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), smoke alarms can cut the chance of dying in a home fire in half. Meanwhile, NFPA data also shows that home fires killed 2,755 people in 2013, an average of eight people every day that year. Many of these deaths could have been prevented with the proper smoke alarm protection.

As a member of the fire service for 36-plus years, I've seen the devastating effects of fire first-hand; the loss of homes and their possessions are distressing. What's even worse

is witnessing a family's anguish after a loved one has been injured or, even worse, killed in a fire. It's heart-breaking.

The Raeford Fire Department is again promoting this year's Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, and its slogan "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!" to better educate the public about the true value of working smoke alarms in their bedrooms.

My sincere hope is that all Raeford residents participate by making sure they have working smoke alarms installed throughout their homes.

Here are additional smoke alarm tips to follow:

- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Test alarms each month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old, or sooner if they do not respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound and understands what to do when they hear the smoke alarm.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.

• Go to your outside meeting place. Call the fire department from outside the home.

If you live within the city limits of Raeford, give the Raeford Volunteer Fire Dept. a call 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/or install a new smoke alarm to make sure you are protected from fires in your home. They will also perform a fire safety inspection on your home upon your request. If you call us back in 12 months, we will also come back and replace your batteries. If you do not live within the city limits of Raeford, you can call your local fire department and ask them to come and check your smoke alarms as well. Also, have you considered volunteering in your community? Give us a call. We would like to talk to you about that as well. It's a great feeling to be able to help your neighbor in their time of need.

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# SPORTS

## Bucks soccer team on two-game winning streak

By HAL NUNN  
Sports writer

The Hoke County High School Bucks boys' soccer team is on a two-game winning streak after defeating Scotland County 6-1 and then Purnell Swett 4-0. They are now 6-7-1 overall and 2-2 in the tough Southeastern Conference. In the game against Scotland County last week, defender Leandro Hernandez was Player of the Game, according to Coach Colin McDavid. "Leandro

played solid defense and worked very hard not allowing offensive players to get past him," McDavid said. "Not only did he stop people, he also counter-attacked very well and won just about every ball that came his way." Scoring goals for the Bucks in the win against Scotland County were Edwin Andoney with two goals, and Humberto Mejia, Hector Castillo, David Williams and Darwyn Lopez-Garcia with one goal each. In the goal, Carlos Lopez-Rosario and Ezekiel Jones

combined for six saves.

In the game against Purnell Swett, Hector Castillo was awarded Player of the Game by Coach McDavid. "Hector followed directions very well and created many opportunities for his teammates," McDavid said. "His game intensity was outstanding." Scoring goals for the Bucks were Jonavan McKinnon, Hector Castillo, Darwyn Lopez-Garcia and Josue Maldonado, all with one goal each. Assists in the game

were made by Edwin Andoney, Nakya Davila, Kaylan Diaz and Alex Patrico. In the goal again were Carlos Lopez-Rosario and Ezekiel Jones who combined for a shut-out with four saves.

Next up is powerful Pinecrest tonight at Hoke High. Right now, in the Southeastern Conference, Pinecrest is leading 4-0, Richmond is in second at 3-1, Lumberton and Hoke are tied at 2-2 for third, Scotland is in fifth at 1-3 and Purnell Swett is in sixth at 0-4.



Tim Hawkes tees off on beautiful hole #2 at Upland Trace Golf Course. Team Hawkes, as they called themselves, did not place in the top three but did shoot a 66.

## Bucks lose to Gryphons 35-14 on Thursday

By HAL NUNN  
Sports writer

The Hoke County High School Bucks took to the road on a Thursday night last week due to threatening weather coming in on Friday but it didn't change the outcome. Hoke County falls to 0-6 on the season with a 35-14 loss at Rocky Mount. Many people have asked, why Rocky Mount? Late in the spring, Westover decided it did not want to play Hoke County this year and that left Hoke Athletics Director Gary Brigman searching for someone to play and Rocky Mount had that date open. With the bye week this Friday, it would not have been good to have two open weeks in a row before conference play starts October 9. The Bucks were able to

stay within reach in the first half, scoring 14 points to the Gryphons 21 off a Jacob Rushing 52-yard kick off return for a touchdown with only 18 seconds left in the half. In the second half, Hoke had only one first down and did not score again, losing 35-14 to go 0-6 on the season. The Bucks defense gave up 431 yards total offense and 316 of them on the ground. In passing defense, the Bucks gave up 115 yards in the air but only on four completions. Three players were in double figures in tackles with Quinn Maynor with 13, Sean Smaugh with 12 and Antonio Locklear with 11. The Bucks are off this week and will play the conference opener October 9 at home against Richmond County. The Raiders defeated Greensboro Dudley 14-12 Monday night.



#19 Quinn Maynor led the team in tackles again with 13 in the loss to Rocky Mount. He has a total of 84 tackles on the season.



#25 Joseph Chavis makes a nice stop on a play last Thursday night against Rocky Mount. Coach Tom Paris said last week that Chavis has really stepped up his play on defense for the Bucks.



#22 Jacob Rushing broke off a 52-yard touchdown run with 18 seconds left in the first half to pull Hoke County to within one score 21-14 at the half. He has been the majority of the offense for the Bucks this season.



The team of C.D. Bounds, Kerry Cross, Chip Causey and Larry Wolfe won the 4th Annual Linda Lee Memorial Golf Tournament at Upland Trace Golf Course last Saturday. Rick Sandy (far left) of First Baptist Church Raeford awarded the winning team its first place prize of \$400.

### Just Putting Around

Upland Trace Golf Course

First Baptist Church Raeford held its 4th Annual Linda Lee Memorial Golf Tournament last weekend. The tournament started out in a light drizzle but, after the first 20 minutes, the rain stopped and 13 teams made it all the way to the finish. The team of C.D. Bounds, Kerry Cross, Chip Causey and Larry Wolfe

took home first place after a tiebreaker with the team of Larry Guy, Evan Guy, Jeff Lunsford and Josh Guy. Both teams shot a 59. Third place went to Keith Jackson, Greg Wyrick, Ed Bailey and Richard Cook with a score of 60. The tournament serves as a fundraiser for the church Brotherhood Committee and building fund.

### Raeford Racing Round-Up

By HAL NUNN  
Sports writer

Rockfish Speedway back in action

After a weekend off at the dirt track on Lindsay Road, Rockfish Motorsports Speedway will be back in action this Saturday,

October 3, with a full slate of racing action. This weekend's race will help support Rockfish Fire Department and feature all divisions. The gates open at 2 p.m., heat races and qualifying at 4 pm and racing action right after that. For more information, visit [www.rockfishmotorsports.com](http://www.rockfishmotorsports.com).

### Fighting Bucks Sports Schedule

<b>September 30</b>	Boys V Soccer Home vs. St. Pauls 6 p.m.
Boys JV Soccer Home vs. Pinecrest 5:15 p.m.	Middle School Golf at Rockingham Jr. 3 p.m.
Boys V Soccer Home vs. Pinecrest 7 p.m.	Girls Sandy Grove Volleyball Home vs. West Hoke 4 p.m.
<b>October 1</b>	
Girls Tennis Home vs. Scotland 4 p.m.	
Girls JV Volleyball at Richmond 5 p.m.	
Girls V Volleyball at Richmond 6 p.m.	
<b>October 5</b>	
Girls Golf at Lumberton 2 p.m.	
Girls Freshman Volleyball Home vs. Pinecrest 4:30 p.m.	
<b>October 6</b>	
Cross Country at Richmond 5 p.m.	
Girls Tennis Home vs. Purnell Swett 4 p.m.	
Girls JV Volleyball at Lumberton 5 p.m.	
Girls V Volleyball at Lumberton 6 p.m.	
Girls Middle School Track at Hoke High 4 p.m.	

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Saturday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> in Laurinburg

Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> there's only one place to be – the John Blue Complex in Laurinburg for the Scotland County Highland Games.

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For the little pros out there we'll have events for the kids to try. Kids games registration ends at 11:30 the day of the games. You can register the kids online -- [www.schgnc.org](http://www.schgnc.org).

And join us after the games at 6:00 pm for a "Celtic Rock Concert." Cost to enter the concert is \$5 – free with your Games ticket.

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