

Lodge 118 salutes America's heroes

Lodge 118, Woodmen of the World, met Wednesday, September 11, 2002 at 4 p.m. at the Raeford-Hoke Museum for the "In Honor and Remembrance" ceremony to help salute America's heroes and the dedication of the flag and flagpole.

More than 700 Woodmen of the World lodges across the nation commemorate the one-year anniversary of the tragedy on September 11th by presenting flagpoles, U. S. flags and commemorative plaques to their communities.

The ceremony was well attended

Woodmen of the World

Ruth Phillips

and we would like to thank each of you for your presence. Also, special "thanks" to all who had a part in the ceremony.

The Museum Committee served delicious refreshments after the ceremony.

The WOW members met later for a cookout at the lodge. The men

cooked hamburgers and hotdogs; the ladies brought desserts and tea, and Ruth Wilkerson prepared all of the delicious trimmings.

There were 21 members and guests present and it was a very enjoyable time for all.

The next regular meeting was held October 8 at 7 p.m. at the lodge building on College Dr.

Editor's Note: This article was intended for publication in a previous issue. Our apologies that it got lost in the shuffle.

Hospice still needs community's support



Hospice News

Ruth Phillips

There has been a lot of concern in the community about the status of Hospice of Hoke becoming Carolina Hospice and the fund-raising aspect of this change. We have been a non-profit organization since 1986, when hospice originated in Hoke County. Over the last 16 years the community has supported us through golf tournaments, fish fries, love light services, heart of hospice benefit dinners, membership drives, and raffles. These were all community events, which not only allowed us to receive funds for our patients, but also allowed us to bond as a community. We hope the camaraderie which hospice has developed with the community through these events will continue. We commend you and thank you for your loyalty.

Please contact our office at 875-8198, if you would like a speaker for an upcoming meeting. We will be glad to discuss the changes, the purpose and philosophy of hospice and how you can continue to be a part of the program.

We encourage the community to continue to support our organization through donations, referrals and prayers. Hospice funds have been set up at The First Baptist Church, the

Antioch Presbyterian, St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic, the United Methodist, and the Raeford Presbyterian Churches. We will continue to admit patients without a pay source; therefore we will need extra money to provide appropriate care. Our major goal continues to be the care, love and support of the patients and families in the Raeford-Hoke County area. We request your prayers, support and understanding in the months and days ahead.

The Carolina Hospice & Palliative Care office is located at 336 S. Main, Raeford, NC 28376 and telephone 875-8198. Office hours are from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with an on-call nurse during the weekend, 24 hours a day.

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Hoke unemployment rate is 9.5 percent

August unemployment rates fell in 88 of North Carolina's 100 counties from July to August.

Hoke's unemployment rate in July was 9.5 percent, according to the Employment Security Commission of NC; in August, that rate dropped to 9.4 percent.

The highest unemployment rate in August was reported in Edgecomb County at 11.8 percent; the lowest was in Currituck County at 1.5 percent.

Neighboring Cumberland's unemployment rate in August was 6 percent; Scotland's was 9.5 percent; and Moore's was 6.5 percent.

Blood drive

Healthy Hoke Task Force will host a Red Cross blood drive during its third annual Health Fair, October 19, from 10 to 2:00 p.m. at the NC National Guard Armory. Anyone interested in securing an appointment to donate blood should contact Deane Wells at 904-5452.

Child care training offered

Child Care Connections is offering training to Hoke County child care providers. On-site training, one-on-one and special educational state-required classes are being offered. For more information, call Jackie Rushing, provider consultant, at 904-6688. For quality enhancement, call Monica Walls and for parent specialist, call Shakera Graham, also at 904-6688.

Support groups help

Do you feel like no one cares? Do you feel there is no hope? Would you like for someone to listen to you? If you have answered "yes" to any of those questions and decided to talk about solving issues in your life, then you are invited to be a part of Hoke County Youth and Family Services and Domestic Violence Center's support groups for adults and children. Starting this month, the groups meet on Mondays and Thursdays at 6-7 p.m. at the center. For more information, contact Sharon Boge at 875-8989.

Medicare information

Anyone with questions about the

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Senior Health Insurance Information Program for Medicare should call the SHIP volunteer at 875-3613.

Buy groceries, help kids

Children's Development Center has partnered with Harris Teeter in making an investment in the education of Hoke County's children that are served at the CDC.

In order to help CDC, obtain a VIC card from Harris Teeter and purchase groceries that have a Together in Education label. Give the cashier your VIC card and this account number: 4904. After your first visit, you do not have to give the number again.

Two percent of the Together in Education purchases will go to the CDC.

Dial-A-Story is back

Dial-A-Story is back at the Hoke County Public Library. New stories, magical tales and happy endings may be heard by dialing 875-2039.

Improvement ideas on downtown wanted

In evaluating the needs of downtown Raeford, the Raeford Downtown Revitalization Committee is soliciting ideas from citizens.

Those with suggestions may put them in suggestion boxes located at the Post Office, Pratt Building, Hoke County Courthouse and City Hall.

H.E.L.P. Thrift Store

The Hoke Emergency Liaison Program (H.E.L.P.) is a non-profit thrift store. H.E.L.P. is here for your shopping needs and will accept your tax deductible donations. Proceeds go to help Hoke County residents in need. The store is located at 120 Main Street in downtown Raeford. For more information, call 875-8857.

Prevent child abuse

Call Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina if you need to talk about

stress, would like free parenting information, are concerned about a child, or would like to get involved in child abuse prevention in your community. The number is 1-800-354-KIDS.

Senior information

Senior citizens who need information about services offered in Hoke County or who need transportation or nutritious meals should call the Hoke County Division of Aging, located at 132 West Elwood Avenue. The phone number is 875-8588.

Back to school adults helped

Professional outreach counselors from Fayetteville State University Educational Opportunity Centers will assist adults with choosing a college, and with admissions and financial aid applications, career information and more. The services are free. Call (910) 672-1171 or 1-800-572-3646 for an appointment or for more information.

Scholarship established

A scholarship has been established for the six-year-old twin daughters of Raeford Police Sgt. Cliff Stauffer Jr., who also served for many years as a volunteer with Hoke County Rescue. The 33-year-old officer was killed in an automobile accident February 18. Donations will be placed in an interest-bearing account. Mail to: Holly and Megan Stauffer Scholarship Fund, c/o The Fidelity Bank, PO Box 416, Raeford, NC 28376.

Installing a well?

If you are hiring a well contractor to construct, install, repair, alter or abandon a well, ask to see his or her pocket card. This from Greg Caulder, of the Environmental Health Services. Hoke County Health Center. The pocket cards recognizes the contractor has successfully completed the necessary requirements of the state. The cards are issued by the Well Contractor Certification Commission of the N.C. Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources.

To anonymously report uncertified well contractors, call (919) 733-3221; or contact Caulder at 875-8756.

Search the well contractor data base at <http://gw.ehnr.state.nc.us>.

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