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RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

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Hoke commissioner Hunt arrested

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Hoke County Commissioner and Lumbee Tribal Administrator Tony Hunt was arrested last week after allegedly holding a gun to his wife's head and threatening to kill her, according to the Hoke County Sheriff's Office.

Hunt, 51, of the 1100 block of Stonegate Drive in Raeford was



Hunt

arrested November 27 and charged with felony larceny, assault on a female, assault by pointing a gun, domestic criminal trespassing, resisting, delaying or obstructing a public officer,

carrying a concealed weapon and communicating threats, authorities said.

Deputies with the Sheriff's Office received a complaint about a domestic disturbance at the home of Linda Hunt on the 3700 block of Old Maxton Road in Red Springs. The couple had been separated since July, Sheriff Hubert Peterkin said. Deputies at

the scene reported that Hunt was driving his 2012 Toyota Tundra pickup truck in a "careless and reckless" manner in the front yard of the home.

When the deputies arrived, Hunt allegedly attempted to drive off. When the deputies stopped Hunt and asked him where the gun was located, Hunt "replied it was in the house," according to

the Sheriff's Office. When the officers frisked Hunt, "he attempted to maneuver his jacket to conceal the fact he had a concealed handgun in his jacket pocket," authorities said.

The deputies arrested Hunt at the scene. Detectives arrived at the location and began an investigation. The investigators questioned (See HUNT, page 6A)



Charles Allen, second from left, begins his term on city council; taking the oath with him are Mayor John K. McNeill (left) and Wayne Willis. (Hal Nunn photo)

New member starts work on city council

BY BILL LINDAU

Raeford City Council went back to work Monday evening with a new member beginning his term. Council also approved a new regional transportation organization, which includes Raeford and a part of Hoke County, and received a clean audit.

Charles Allen was sworn in as a newly elected city councilman. Evelyn McLeod, clerk of Superior Court,

administered the oath of office to Allen and also to re-elected Mayor John K. McNeill III and Wayne Willis. Also, councilman Robert Conoly was once again appointed mayor pro tem. Council also presented a plaque to outgoing council member Shelley Wilburn, honoring her for her service on the council.

During Council's first monthly meeting since October, they saw a presentation from Michael Rutan of

Cumberland County as he discussed the Metropolitan Planning Organization. This multicounty group, based on the 2010 census, will now include the Fayetteville Urbanized Area, the City of Raeford and a part of Hoke County. It also includes Eastover, Parkton, part of Robeson County and part of Harnett County.

When the regional transportation planning organizations were created, (See COUNCIL, page 4A)

Southerland says he'll run

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer



Southerland

Former Board of Education member and Hoke County attorney Harry Southerland announced this week he plans to seek a seat on the Hoke County Board of Commissioners next year. (See SOUTHERLAND, page 6A)

Hoke woman found dead on Scotland County road

The Scotland County Sheriff's Office is searching for information in the death of 21-year-old college student Demosha Bratcher-Clegg of the 400 block of Stevens Street in Raeford.

Clegg was found dead Sunday around 9 a.m. on Plantation Road near Laurinburg, according to Scotland County authorities. Officials are treating the case as a homicide.



Clegg

Investigators are reportedly waiting on the results of an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

Clegg, a student at Eliza- (See CLEGG, page 6A)

3 sought for home invasion

The Hoke County Sheriff's Office is seeking three suspects wanted in connection with a home invasion and armed robbery that took place early Monday

morning near Red Springs.

Deputies responding to a 911 call to a home on the 300 block of Branch Road learned that three armed (See INVASION, page 4A)

New gun ordinance on the way following complaints of noise, safety

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

After some Hoke residents on multiple occasions asked commissioners to address what they described as unsafe and nuisance gunfire in the eastern part of the county, a new gun ordinance is on

the way.

Another group of four concerned residents appeared before the board at the regularly scheduled meeting Monday to ask commissioners to address the issue. The group showed a video document-

"I could not believe what I saw out there. It's absolutely dangerous, I could not believe it."

— Chief Deputy Gary Hammond

ing the sound and frequency of gunfire coming from a private firing range located just a few hundred feet from the residents' homes.

Resident John Jenson of Edisto Court said the range near his home

presents a safety hazard and is a community nuisance.

"They practice unsafe range procedures, they're unaware of certain range space requirements, and it's kind of a safety factor for the community," he said.

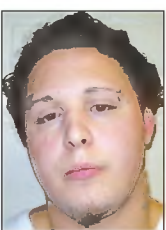
Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy (See GUNS, page 5A)

This Week

County seeks new veterans officer Page 4A

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Father, son arrested for robbery, beating



Son



Father

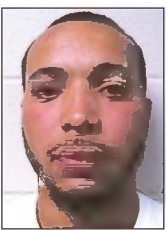
A father and his son were arrested last week for allegedly robbing a woman and assaulting her boyfriend with a hammer, according to the Hoke

County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies with the Sheriff's Office arrested Johnny Dean Locklear, 44, of the 300 block of Locust Lane in Raeford and Johnathan Dean Locklear, 22, of the 300 block of Locust Lane in Raeford. They were charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, assault with a deadly weapon and

(See BEATING, page 4A)

Man allegedly shoots car with son inside



Buie

A man from Red Springs was arrested last week for allegedly shooting into a car with five people, including his own child, inside, according to the Hoke County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies arrested Joshua Edward Buie, 22, of the 2500 block of South Duffie Road in Red Springs on charges including three counts of discharging a weapon into an occupied moving vehicle, assault with a deadly weapon and

child abuse.

Authorities responding to a call of shooting into an occupied vehicle on the 3700 block of Blue Springs Road reported that driver 21-year-old Samantha Hunt and Buie, the father of Hunt's child, had been arguing prior to the incident. Hunt, three other adults and Hunt and Buie's child were in Hunt's vehicle when she stopped at a gas station.

Buie was waiting in his vehicle at the gas station and followed Hunt after she left, authorities said. Hunt "attempted several times (See SHOOTS CAR, page 4A)

House of Raeford may pay evacuees from ammonia

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

People who were evacuated from their homes due to an ammonia spill at the House of Raeford may be entitled to a payment of up to \$60 from a proposed class action settlement, according to a legal notice from the poultry company.

An ammonia spill on January 5, 2011 at the House of Raeford slaughterhouse on East Central Avenue in Raeford forced a number of residents in the area to leave their homes and prevented others from returning to their homes until responders dealt with the incident. Now, all residents who were living within a half-mile of the plant during the evacuation may receive the one-time payment of up to \$60 if they choose to participate in the proposed settlement, and if the settlement is finalized.

The settlement is in regards to a 2011 lawsuit (See SETTLEMENT, page 8A)



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