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## Storm wipes out Relay event

### Pared-down version of cancer survivor event set for Sunday



Storm damage at Relay For Life.

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

Hoke County Relay For Life organizers braved the storm Friday afternoon as wind tore apart their tents and rain soaked their T-shirts, but when hailstones started falling, it became clear the event

couldn't go on as scheduled.

The 2014 Relay For Life was not just rained out but "destroyed" in a severe summer storm, co-chair Ashley Dial said. The organizers were forced to cancel the fundraising event for the American Cancer Society, and plan to hold a pared-down ceremony this

Sunday.

"This is the first time we've had to do this," Dial said.

The severe storm, which included wind, a lot of lightning and even hail in some places, descended on Raz Autry Stadium at Hoke County High School just hours before Relay was set to

start. The Relay committee had been hard at work preparing the site with the tents, merchandise, sound system and everything else that goes into the event. When the storm hit, the volunteers tried to keep things together.

"We were out in the middle of (See RELAY, page 4A)



Jeff Goins pampers a cabbage in his garden. He grew it, he said, using a heavy dose of a fertilizer known as Rootblast.

## And just exactly what the heck is chow chow?

BY KEN MACDONALD

You know the answer to that if you grew up around here, but that possibly excludes most of Hoke County these days. The question arises because it's that time of year when *The News-Journal* gets reports of record-size vegetables.

Monday I received such a call, and dutifully rode out to Old Maxton Road to find Jeff Goins and his giant cabbage.

Jeff is one of those fellows whose greatest accomplishment possibly is his child. You may remember Tina, the chef who left Raeford for Australia and made a name for herself. Anyway, his second-greatest ac-

complishment may be his cabbage.

When I arrived, I found a "Welcome Home Tina" sign on his carport—she's in town for three weeks, he says—and him in his garden in the side yard.

The cabbage had lovingly been enshrined under a small tarp to keep it from (See CABBAGE, page 4A)

## Scrap yard finds explosive, is evacuated

The OmniSource metal recycling yard evacuated its staff Monday after workers discovered a potentially live explosive device.

The staff members at the yard were going through a bag of scrap copper pieces brought in by a customer when they spotted something that looked like an explosive device and had a warning written on the side of it, a company employee reported.

Workers carefully removed the device from the bag, set it down on the ground and quickly backed away to a safe distance outside the property fence. Then they called for help.

The Raeford Police Department responded to the scene to block off the area.

The nearby Hoke County Department of Social Services building did not have to evacuate while authorities waited for military bomb squad members to retrieve the device.

This is not the first time the scrap yard has had to call in the bomb squad to deal with an explosive device.

In 2011, the company found live military artillery rounds on the property and sought out help in removing them.

Fort Bragg personnel took those rounds to the Hoke County landfill to perform a controlled detonation of them.

The proximity to Fort Bragg is probably what causes the scrap yards in the area to sometimes turn up explosive devices, officials have said.

The customers bringing in the scrap for sale don't even know what they have mixed in with the rest of the metal, a company employee said.

## This Week

Calendar ..... 2B  
Classifieds ..... 5B  
Deaths ..... 3A  
Editorials ..... 2A  
Legals ..... 3-4B



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## Kids will be taught in English one day, Spanish next

### Class of kindergartners at Don Steed Elementary to begin program in fall

BY CATHARIN SHEPARD  
Staff writer

A program coming to Don Steed Elementary School this fall won't formally teach students Spanish but instead will teach math, science, reading and more in the language itself.

Parents have signed up the first class of kindergar-

teners to take part in Don Steed Elementary's Spanish language immersion program when classes start this fall, Principal Kim Gray said.

"We're excited that these children will have the advantage of a rigorous academic program while learning a second language," she said.

The program will teach students Spanish simply by immersion, not by rote lesson as in formal language classes. One day the students will learn in English, and the next day a Spanish-speaking teacher will teach lessons entirely in Spanish.

"They're going to learn it (the language) through songs and play," the princi-

pal said.

The students are still taught the same curriculum as other kindergartners, and state assessments are administered in English.

The program, called "Splash," also offers resources for teachers and administrators and helps connect schools with teachers who speak the target

language. The immersion classroom at Don Steed Elementary is called a "two-way" immersion program as it mixes students who are native English speakers and students who are native Spanish speakers in the same class.

"Half of the class will be made up of children whose (See IMMERSION, page 4A)

## OTHER STUFF

BY KEN MACDONALD

PLEASANT GARDEN, aka RIDDLE-LAND aka RITALIN—When I married into the Riddle family, I felt like a sheep amongst wolves, a tweeter amongst woofers, a .22 in a roomful of bazookas. Faced with often-coarse, and always-aggressive, Riddles ("You want to hear a joke that's so funny it will make your hair fall out? Oh wait, I see you've already heard it!"), I had one ally—my mother-in-law Vivian. She had long-since figured out how to (See OTHER STUFF, page 4A)

## Man arrested, charged with break-in



Locklear

of the 400 block of Murph McLaughlin

Deputies with the Hoke County Sheriff's Office arrested a man Monday in connection with a reported break-in and entering and are seeking another suspect in the case.

Authorities arrested Ronnie Keith Locklear

Road in Raeford on charges of breaking and entering and felony larceny. Locklear was accused of allegedly breaking into the home of Danny Locklear, also of the 400 block of Murph McLaughlin Road. The suspect was given a \$3,000 secured bond.

The items stolen from the victim were recovered, authorities said.

There are additional warrants pending for the arrest of another suspect in the case, officials said.

