

BROWSING THE FILES



J.W. Turlington, principal of Raeford Elementary School, demonstrates an acoustiphone that allows a dozen students to listen to audio recordings. Mrs. R.G. Townsend tries it out during the school's open house.

47 Years Ago

November 21, 1968

The FBI arrests Henry McRae Jr. on charges of kidnapping Robert Lee Harrell Jr. a month ago. Harrell told police he was using a pay phone at the bus station when the door was pushed open and a man thrust a gun in his side. He was taken to South Carolina and released.

Meanwhile, the FBI is preparing to return Willie James Watson from New York to face charges of robbing and killing 69-year-old Adolphus T. Bobbitt who operated a store in McCain. He had been shot in the head.

Northwest Water Supply is in danger of losing \$221,700 raised to provide water to residents of north Raeford. The project must have 275 members in the coming week, but lacks 40.

Hoke may see a "modern trend in education." One plan is to give city children bus service if they don't live reasonably close enough to their school to walk. Another is to provide free kindergarten.

An ad urges readers to shop early and use zip codes when mailing. Postage is 6¢.

25 Years Ago

November 21, 1990

Burlington Industries plans to lay off 50 workers. That's the word from Personnel Manager Kent Vesser. The plant is going through rough economic times, though business is strong enough to keep it open five days per week.

Local turkey producer Wyatt Upchurch and his family travel to Washington to present a Hoke County turkey to President George Bush. The ceremony takes place in the Rose Garden and The News-Journal is on hand to record the event.

Christine Henry is named the region's Teacher of the Year. Henry has taught English in Hoke County for 23 years.



Mrs. Mary Roberts, right, talks with visitors to her fourth grade classroom Thursday night. Seen with her are Michael Tew and his mother Mrs. Janice Tew, and Mrs. Donald Floyd.

Community foundation takes part in matching campaign

The Hoke County Community Foundation has launched a month-long fundraising campaign beginning November 1 to boost local grant making.

The Chairman's Challenge is made possible through a campaign sponsored by the North Carolina Community Foundation (NCCF). Any resources raised for the Hoke County Community Foundation's community grant-making fund will receive a proportional share of a matching pool given by several anonymous donors.

Those interested in giving to the local campaign can visit NCCF's website at www.nccommunityfoundation.org and click Give Now, or choose the Giving tab from the home page where online, mailing or faxing instructions are posted. Checks also can be mailed to NCCF, Chairman's Challenge, 4601 Six Forks Road, Suite 524, Raleigh, NC 27609. Please indicate Hoke County Community Foundation in the memo line. Gifts must be postmarked no later than November 30 to be eligible.

The Hoke County Community Foundation makes grants to local nonprofit organizations. All money raised for the community grant-making fund stays local and supports local needs.

"The Hoke County Community Foundation participated in the Chairman's Challenge last year and we so appreciated the local support that helped to boost our local grant-making," said John Jordan, board president. "We are optimistic that our residents will rise to the challenge again this year!"

In addition to Jordan, board members include Wanda Cohen, Vickie Farmer, William Fields, Grace McDonald, Jean Harrison, Calvin House, Ron Huff, Regina Joe, Whiteford Jones, Joseph Poole, Jeff McNeill, Wanda McPhaul, Shari Dahman, and Leah Leach.

For further information, contact Dawn Neighbors, NCCF regional associate, at dneighbors@nccommunityfoundation.org or 910-292-4437.

Randy D. Blackburn
Randy Dwight Blackburn died Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at the age of 52.

He was born March 21, 1963 in Cumberland County to the late Junius and Joyce Ann Blackburn.

Survivors include his sister, Maxine Blackburn of Raeford; his brother, Julian Blackburn of Goldsboro; and a nephew, Daniel Blackburn of Raeford.

The funeral was held at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 15 in South Hoke Baptist Church with Pastor Ernest Goins officiating. Burial was in Highland Biblical Gardens Cemetery.

The funeral was held at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 15 in Leach Springs Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Anointed Temple Church in Red Springs. Burial was in Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery.



Ester L. Patterson



Joyce L. DeVane

Ester L. Patterson

Esther Love Patterson passed on Sunday, November 8, 2015 in Greensboro.

She was a graduate of Hoke High School in 1975. She was employed by North Carolina A & T State University and Bennett College in Greensboro.

She leaves to cherish memories her husband, David Patterson of Greensboro; a daughter, Lakeya Love; three sons, Donta Moore, Brett Moore and Koby Moore; six grandchildren, Akera Allen, Sabasjan Love, Nyris Moore, Gohan Moore, Saniya Moore and Silas Moore; four stepchildren, Monic, Tuesda, Deon and Niki; sisters, Peggy Davis, Annette Love, Hazel Lloyd and Lillie Pittman; brothers, Richard Love, Thomas Love, Tony Love and Bobby Love; and mother-in-law, Anna Patterson.

The funeral was held at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 14 in Faith

Joyce L. DeVane

Joyce L. DeVane died Monday, November 9, 2015.

Surviving is her niece, Deidre Murphy.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Sunday, November 15 in Buie Funeral Home Chapel.

Sharon D. Bullock

Sharon Denise Bullock, 48, of Raeford died Wednesday, November 4, 2015.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Thursday, November 12 in Mt Zion AME Zion Church.

Gilbert McGregor

Gilbert McGregor Jr., 87, of Raeford passed on Monday, November 9, 2015 at FirstHealth Moore Regional.

A family hour was held at noon Saturday, November 14 followed by the funeral at 1 p.m. at Conference B Headquarters in Raeford.



Augusta Douglas

Augusta Douglas

Augusta Douglas died Wednesday, November 11, 2015.

Survivors include three sons, Jacob Douglas (Tanya), Patrick Douglas and Allen Douglas (Shaquinna); five sisters, Eunice McLean (Archie), Evelyn Douglas, Annie Green, Marie Smith and Verlinda Graham; brother, Charlie Douglas Jr. (Isarell); eight grandchildren; and a special niece, Rochelle Love.



Aaron Clark (left to right), Abigail Clark, Trevor Young and Scott Warren

4 youth attend 4-H conference

Four youth delegates from Hoke County attended State 4-H Council Conference November 14-15 in Raleigh. The delegates joined more than 260 youth and adults representing 67 counties.

While at the conference, delegates had the chance to learn about health, improve their leadership skills and participate

in interactive workshops.

Hoke county 4-H'ers who attended were Aaron Clark, Abigail Clark, Trevor Young and Scott Warren.

The 4-H program is the youth education program of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, based at North Carolina State and North Carolina A&T

State universities. More than 232,000 young people ages five through 18 participate in North Carolina 4-H activities each year with the help of 20,563 adult and youth volunteers.

For more information on the 4-H program in Hoke County, please contact Cathy James or Cathy Brown at (910) 875-2162.

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Happy Holidays to all of you from all of us!

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