

The News-Journal

Hoke County's newspaper since 1905

75¢

No. 9 Vol. 113

RAEFORD & HOKE COUNTY N.C.

Wednesday, May 2, 2018

30 shots into car kills man, injures family

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Richard Locklear, 26, of Raeford was killed in front of his family early Sunday morning when robbers fired at least 30 rounds of ammunition into their car in south Hoke, according to the Hoke County Sheriff's Office.

Law enforcement authorities in Hoke County and Virginia have arrested

three people wanted on murder charges in connection with the fatal shooting. Investigators charged Laroyce McLean, Sherron Leach and James Quick with first-degree murder and three counts of attempted murder. Officers located and arrested McLean and Leach in Red Springs, while Quick was found and apprehended in Richmond, Virginia. All three suspects were held

without bond.

Locklear was pronounced dead at the scene of the shooting. His cousin Vincent Locklear, who was driving the vehicle, was also shot and suffered non-life-threatening injuries. Flying glass from windows broken by the gunfire injured Richard Locklear's girlfriend Jessica Chavis.

The three adults and the couple's two-year-old son



Quick



McLean



Leach

were traveling together in a pickup truck at the time of the shooting. The child was not injured.

Authorities suspect the robbery and shooting was a planned crime, not (See *ATTACK*, page 11)



The victim: Locklear, from his Facebook page



Gardeners

Some of Raeford's Open Door Soup Kitchen's food will soon come straight from the garden. Girl Scouts and leaders from Troop 1077 have built what they're calling Edible Gardens at 357 Oakdale Gin Road, near the soup kitchen, and they'll be tending it once a week to try to harvest tomatoes, snap peas, beans, sweet corn, bell peppers, sweet onions, kale, blueberries and even zucchini. Troop leaders Jenkaker Beck and husband, Sharon Nelson and Nikki Thomas, several construction workers, and girls ages five to 16 started this weekend. The soup kitchen feeds hundreds of people each week. (Contributed photo)

Primary is Tuesday

Early voting ends Saturday

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Saturday is the last day to cast an early one-stop ballot in the 2018 primary election, with election day set for Tuesday, May 8.

Three seats on the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, the office of Sheriff plus several state and national positions are up for election with candidates facing primary challengers. The winners of the primary will go on to face candidates from other political parties in November.

Voters have been turning out strongly for early voting, according to numbers from the Hoke County Board of Elections. By Tuesday afternoon, 1,893 Hoke voters had cast ballots during the early voting period. That figure includes 1,491 registered Democrats, 99 registered Republicans and 303 unaffiliated voters.

Voters can still cast their ballots ahead of time at one of two locations in Raeford and Rockfish. The Board of Elections located at 227 North Main Street in Raeford will offer one-stop early voting until May 4 from 9 a.m.- 6 p.m. and on May 5 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The Rockfish Community Center at 2749 Lindsay Road is open for early voting through May 4 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and on May 5 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Filing for the Hoke County Board of Education (See *ELECTION*, page 10)

Hearing set for Clark residency appeal

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

An appeal filed by Spring Lake Alderman James O'Garra means the matter of state Sen. Ben Clark's residency will go before the North Carolina Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement Thursday.

After a three-person panel determined last month that incumbent state Sen. Ben Clark provided sufficient evidence that he does live in Hoke County, O'Garra filed an appeal to the panel's decision.

The state Board of Elections will hear

the matter at a meeting set for Thursday, May 3 at 3 p.m. The meeting will be held in the agency's boardroom located at 430 North Salisbury Street in Raleigh.

Whatever the state board decides, the matter could potentially end up going to the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

O'Garra challenged Clark's residency in February, claiming that Clark lives in the Vander area of Cumberland County which is located in state Senate District 19. Clark denied the allegation and argued that he still lives in the home he helped his parents build in the late 1980s, located

on Lake Ridge Road in Hoke County, which is part of District 21.

If the state board confirms the panel's decision, Clark can continue to seek reelection to the office. If the state board rules differently, Clark would no longer be eligible to hold the office. His challenger in the Democratic primary election, candidate Dr. Naveed Aziz, would win and go on to face Republican candidate Timothy Leever in the November General Election.

Attorneys for Clark and O'Garra (See *CLARK*, page 6)

Campaign finance reports in for April

By CATHARIN SHEPARD
Staff writer

Candidates for local office have largely spent their campaign funds on signs, business cards, ads and other promotional materials, according to campaign finance reports filed with the Hoke County Board of Elections.

(See *CAMPAIGN FINANCE*, page 12)

Fundraiser to help teacher kidney transplant

Sandy Grove Middle School will host "Kick For A Cause" Friday, May 4 to help raise money for a teacher scheduled to receive a kidney transplant from another local

teacher to combat a serious illness.

Fifth-grade science teacher James Kline has suffered from a chronic kidney disease known as focal segmental

glomerulosclerosis, or FSGS, since he was 18 years old, according to fundraising information. Last summer, Kline went into kidney failure. Ever (See *FUNDRAISER*, page 12)

OTHER STUFF

By KEN MACDONALD

On a freezing-cold, blustery day in December, 1995 I took a teenager sailing on Mott Lake. "Toshi," I said, as we zipped to the center of the lake, "I'm going to let you steer, but if we get going too fast and start tipping too much, turn into the wind—I don't want to get wet." Not even two minutes later we were swimming. When we got back to his house and were dripping water on his kitchen floor, and sipping hot chocolate, his mother clearly wasn't happy with me. But he never was in any real danger of dying, or even of getting sick. (That bit about catching pneumonia from sailing with Ken is a myth.) We had taken (See *OTHER STUFF*, page 10)



Quite a catch

Joy Dorey, art teacher at Monarch Vocational Options, hams it up with a fish created by students there. The organization is celebrating 60 years of work in mental health with intellectually and developmentally disabled people. (Ken MacDonald photo)

Look for this symbol to find stores that sell The News-Journal

