



RICHMOND COUNTY

DAILY JOURNAL

Weekender

September 10-11, 2011

\$1.00

"WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE ALWAYS REMEMBERS."

— 6th Grader Jimmy Cooley

Rockingham Middle remembers 9/11

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY JOURNAL

The nearly 720 students who attend Rockingham Middle School were toddlers and pre-school age children on the bright and sunny September morning that changed America forever. They were too young to remember the sights and sounds of that fateful day, "9/11."

Principal Pam Patterson and teacher Denise Sullivan wanted to make sure that students took time to reflect on how that day changed our nation so they coordinated a school-wide ceremony held Friday morning.

"These students were between two and four years old on September 11, 2001. I can remember exactly where I was that day," Patterson said "Even though they are too young to share the memories that their parents and teachers have, they are the future, and it is our responsibility to make sure that they never forget."

The ceremony featured appearances from several Richmond County leaders including Sheriff James Clemmons, Rockingham Mayor Gene McLaurin, Rockingham Fire Captain Victor McCaskill, District Attorney Reece Saunders, and Clerk of Court Kathy Gainey. Reverend Mike Sykes of First United Methodist Church in Rockingham, and John Webb, a retired educator, were also among special guests.

McLaurin spoke to students about the significant impact September 11 had on the country. He discussed the personal acts of courage



Rockingham Mayor Gene McLaurin speaks to students at Rockingham Middle School during a ceremony to remember 9/11 Friday. He spoke about the impact September 11 had on the country.

of the men and women who worked to rescue and aid others that day, along with the thousands who have served the country following

the attacks. He led students in a school-wide chant "I'm proud to be an American."

"We must trust God, we must not give up hope, and

we must know that freedom and justice will prevail," McLaurin said in his

REMEMBER
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KELLI EASTERLING/DAILY JOURNAL

J.A. Bolton, Richmond County's professional storyteller, entertained North Side Fire Dept. with tall tales, at Roberdel United Methodist Church Wednesday.

Firefighters honored at memorial

Kelli Easterling
RICHMOND COUNTY DAILY JOURNAL

Every year following the tragedy of 9/11, Roberdel United Methodist has honored volunteer firefighters and directors at North Side Fire Department.

"After 9/11 we realized what a sacrifice firefighters are willing to make for us, and we just want to show our appreciation," said Linda Hawkins, church member.

The church cooked up a big spaghetti dinner and served homemade desserts to their local heroes on Wednesday night.

"We believe they fulfill John 15:13, which says 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends,' and we thank them for that," said Hawkins. "We hope they never have to do that, but we know that

HONORED
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Volunteers asked to 'Care for a Day'

Kelli Easterling
RICHMOND COUNTY DAILY JOURNAL

United Way of Richmond County is inviting community members to participate in its annual Day of Caring on Wednesday, Sept. 14.

The Day of Caring was established to promote the spirit and value of volunteerism, increase awareness of local human service agencies and demonstrate what people working together for the community's good can accomplish.

"This is the fourth year we've mobilized volunteers to help with various projects around the community," said Michelle Parrish, United Way executive director.

Parrish said that, in the past, many employers have been gracious enough to allow workers to take time off to participate in the project.

"We always have at least 100 participants," said Parrish. "And this year I hope to see even more."

Community members are asked to arrive at one of seven service project locations at 9 a.m. the morning of the event — except for the senior center project, which will begin at 11 a.m.

This year's locations will be:

- 9 a.m. Cordova School, at 194 Church St. in Cordova
Project: beautification
- 9 a.m. Literacy Council, at 316 East Washington St. in Rockingham

CARE
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Stirk charged with growing marijuana

STAFF REPORT

The Richmond County Sheriff's Office, in a joint effort with the N.C. Highway Patrol and State Bureau of Investigation, recently located 35 marijuana plants, each measuring approximately six-foot tall, behind a residence on Old Cheraw Highway in Rockingham.



Stirk

Christopher Scott Stirk, 40, Old Cheraw Highway, Rockingham, was arrested and charged with manufacturing marijuana, according to the Sheriff's Office.

The plants were located in an area behind Stirk's residence.

"This is an ongoing effort in the fight against drugs,"



STAFF PHOTO

Pictured, from left, is Deputy Landon Cowick, Det. Robert Smith, Det. P.T. Dawkins, Sheriff James Clemmons, Det. Ty Rucker and Det. Dan Mcinnis.

said Sheriff James Clemmons. "Everyone involved did an excellent job and they each

worked very hard in their attempts to keep drugs out of our community."

Stirk was placed in the Richmond County Jail under a \$5,000 secure bond.

Habitat invites all churches to breakfast



Carpenter

Kelli Easterling
RICHMOND COUNTY DAILY JOURNAL

Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills in Richmond County is making a move to "get back to its roots," and inviting every church in Richmond County to register to attend the upcoming Apostles

Build Faith Breakfast.

"Habitat for Humanity is a faith-based organization, that was started with the help of small churches in Georgia," said Chris Carpenter, Richmond County area manager for Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills.

Carpenter said the organization wants to go back to

basics, back to the foundation of the service group.

"Habitat would never have grown into what it is today had it not been for the churches," he said.

The breakfast, which will be held at Cole Auditorium on Wednesday, Oct. 12, at 8 a.m., is a major attempt by the organization to bring together churches in the

county for a single purpose — uniting to build houses for people who need a "hand up."

"We're signing up the first 100 churches who contact us and register for the breakfast," said Carpenter. "But nothing would make

BREAKFAST
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Deaths

Odell Ellerbe, 81
Havana Henry, 87, Tarboro
Patricia Lemar, 69, Rockingham
Lenora Magee-Brady, 70, Rockingham
Willard Neighbors, 87, Hamlet
Larry Quick, 56, Hamlet
Obituaries can be found on Page 5A.

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