

# ... School budget mulled

(Continued from page 1A)  
 He added that he will go along with funding the outlying areas. In an attempt to answer some of the many questions, Commissioner Hunt agreed to meet with all the fire chiefs in the county to try and find a way to cut the proposed number of first responders and thereby, the costs of insurance. Hunt promised program representative Bobby Strother a decision at the next meeting. Commissioners also heard from County Extension Agent Willie Featherstone about a program under which the state will provide funds to hire a "Family Education Aide" to the extension staff for two years.

At the end of the two year period, the extension service will evaluate the position and make recommendations as to whether it should be continued, Featherstone said.

If the aide is kept after the initial

period, his salary will be paid by the county.

Commissioners voted to allow an aide to be hired for the probationary period.

Featherstone said that Cumberland and Robeson counties have enlisted in the program already and are satisfied with the results to this point.

The board also heard a letter from County Supervisor Loyd A. Robinson concerning property taxes due from county residents who have Farmers Home Administration (FHA) loans.

FHA will pay the delinquent taxes on behalf of the government for borrowers, the letter said, but not as a convenience to the borrowers.

If the borrowers do not pay, their loans will be foreclosed on, the letter said.

The commissioners voted to let a field tax collector call on the defaulting borrowers and try to collect what is due the city and

county before foreclosure proceedings are started.

It costs the county about \$400 to begin the foreclosure process.

Commissioners also voted to change the bi-laws of the Hoke County Emergency Service Advisory Council to say that there can be seven members on that council instead of five.

The council wants participation from fire and law enforcement representatives, Commissioner Cleo Bratcher said.

In the Monday night meeting, the commissioners also took action on these matters:

\*Approved two grant applications by the Hoke County Youth Services Task Force.

\*Set June 18 at 7:30 p.m. as the date for a public hearing on the 1984-85 county budget.

\*Granted an easement to Carolina Power & Light to place a number of poles on county property behind the old National Guard Armory.

# ... Thacker released on bond

(Continued from page 1A)  
 When asked if he believed Thacker would show up for future court appearances, City Councilman Gentry said: "He'll be there."

It has not been determined if his client will fight extradition to Florida, attorney Randy Gregory told the court.

A hearing on the matter would probably not be held for 30 to 60 days, Gregory said.

Gregory told the court he believ-

ed the Florida requested bond was excessive, and that if Thacker was going to avoid prosecution, he would do so as quick for \$500,000 as he would for \$250,000.

"If he is not going to show up for \$250,000, he's not going to show up for \$500,000," Gregory said.

Gregory argued that drug cases were common in Cumberland County and that bond rarely approaches the \$500,000 mark.

"We've never seen this amount of cocaine in Cumberland County," Dickson countered in his argument against the bond reduction.

Although Dickson attempted to have Thacker grounded from flying until his case is decided, Johnson noted that he would not deprive the jump school operator of his livelihood.

At the time of his release, Thacker had been in jail for nine days.

# ... Sandhills branch faces obstacles

(Continued from page 1A)

\*The electrical system will have to be totally replaced.

\*There is a lack of "reasonable" exit ways.

The bank also suffers from a lack of parking and poor access from main roads, the report says.

The report did say that the bank had many positive aspects to consider:

\*It is an attractive old building the looks of which would be very conducive to a college.

\*The exterior of the building is brick and may have some value as an historical structure.

\*The ceilings are high and

would be ideal for lowering to accommodate new lighting and new heating and air conditioning ducts.

\*Handicapped accessibility from the street is good.

\*Some of the water piping is in good shape.

\*The boiler in the building is relatively new and still has a lot of use in it.

In a letter to Martin, Stone said that the staff of Sandhills had chosen the armory as the better site for the college; however, the architects' report shows that it too has some flaws.

\*The plumbing system is not adequate for educational pur-

poses. There is only a single men's room and shower.

\*The water piping will have to be replaced.

\*Heating and cooling systems will have to be installed as the old system is old and worn out.

\*The electrical system will have to be totally reworked and most of it replaced.

Sandhills officials seem to think that the armory is more easily accessible than the bank, according to the letter from Stone.

The letter also says that parking at the armory is far better than that at the old Bank of Raeford.



Helping at Hobnob

Raeford Kiwanis Club member John Howard (center) and Raeford Woman's Club member Shirley Maxwell (right) give a hand to a food service

employee during the Friday night feed at the Hobnob. About 500 persons attended the affair.

# Hobnobbers thinking of next year

An effort is being organized to expand the scope of the Hoke Heritage Hobnob next year and to involve more members of the community, supporters say.

Festival board members are scheduled to meet this week to review last week's event, but early financial returns indicate that the Hobnob will be on tap for the coming year.

Next year's festival will have about \$3,000 to get started and efforts will also be made to add grant money to the project.

The financial success of the Hobnob depended on donations from local residents and organizations. These individuals and groups were among those contributing to the festival:

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Maxwell, Mr. and Mrs. John Glisson, Mr. and Mrs. Luke McNeill, Raeford Jayettes, Mr. and Mrs. Danny DeVane, Mr. and Mrs. G.H. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. George Shook, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Niven,

Mr. and Mrs. Ashwell Harward, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Frank McFadyen, Anna Jordan, Raeford Junior Woman's Club, Raeford Woman's Club, Raeford Kiwanis, Dr. and Mrs. Bob Nelson, Mrs. Murriel Matheson, Art Department of Raeford Woman's Club, Mr. and Mrs. David Wanon, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gillis, Mary Teague McNeill, Mrs. J.S. Johnson Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Lancaster, Mrs. Lorena Upchurch, Chaminade Music Club, Sarah Leach, Dr. R.G. Townsend Jr., Howell Drug Co., Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burgess, Raeford Cleaners and Launderers, Ken and Betsy Ann McNeill, Faye Baker, Mrs. W.P. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Upchurch, Mr. and Mrs. D.P. McFadyen, D.R. Huff, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Pate, C.B. Corporation, Lt. Col. Arthur Hayes and Dr. Virginia Hayes, Mr. and Mrs. James Best, Dr. Lawrence Bullard, Eloise Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Johnson III, Mr. and Mrs. C.P. Kinlaw, Emma Jean Mims, Harold and Joyce Monroe, Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Neeley, Mr. and Mrs. John Pecora, Raeford Garden Club, Raeford Lumber Company, Mr. and Mrs. A.W. Wood, Burlington

Industries, Western Auto Associate Store, Mr. and Mrs. John K. McNeill Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coley, Mrs. Grace Andrews, Raz Autry, Mary Brown, Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, Home Food Super Market, Mrs. Robert Gatlin, Marion Gatlin, Mrs. R.B. Lewis, Edna A. McNeill, Mrs. J.C. McLean, Mary Virginia McFadyen, Mrs. H.R. McLean, Mr. and Mrs. Neill A. McNeill, Southern National Bank, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Senter, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stone, Raeford Jayces, Mrs. Rachel Stevens, Dr. Ramnik Zota, United Carolina Bank, Mr. and Mrs. David Howell, Hoke County Public Library, Heritage Federal Savings, Southeast Production Credit Assoc., Mr. and Mrs. T.B. Upchurch Jr., Ella Gibson, Alma Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Maxwell, Mrs. Nell Snead, Caroline Parker, Mr. and Mrs. George M. King, Louise Sawyer, Stevie N. Sawyer, Tar Heel Hatcher Inc., Phil A. Diehl, The News-Journal, Dr. John W. Southerland, Mr. and Mrs. H.L. Gatlin, Eleanor Gentry, the Hoke County Commission, Emily Cameron and The Raeford City Council.

CO-ED INDEPENDENT

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**"FMA ORIENTATION HOUR"**  
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