

# ... Burlington Park phased

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 Finance Officer Charles Davis said.  
 The County only budgeted \$40,000 for the park, and that figure includes a \$20,000 matching grant from the state.  
 Last week, the county was in danger of losing the grant money because work on the park was not scheduled to begin by October 31, as stated in the grant agreement.  
 "I took it upon myself to authorize someone to go bushhog the land," Balfour said.  
 The grant is now protected, Balfour said.  
 According to Davis, after the land was cleared of grass and shrubs, the site looked much more level than was first estimated.  
 For that reason, Davis is recommending that the construction be considered in phases.  
 The original specifications show that 3,000 cubic yards of dirt would be needed to make the entire site level.

According to Parks and Recreation Director Denise Melton, 1,300 cubic yards could be taken from high places on the site, but, 1,700 would have to be hauled in.  
 Now that the land itself can be seen, those estimates may not be quite so high, Melton said.  
 In a meeting last week between new County Manager William Cowan, Balfour and North Carolina Natural Resources and Community Development (NRCD) representative Bob Campbell, the phasing plan was discussed.  
 With the grant now protected because some work has begun, there should be no problem in phasing the construction, Balfour said.  
 Other discussion during the meeting suggested that Burlington Park be developed only as a park, and that the county go elsewhere to build a baseball field.  
 The county will lose the grant if that is done, Davis said.  
 "I'm not interested in spending

all that money out there (at Burlington Park), and then building a ball field somewhere else," Commissioner Wyatt Upchurch said.  
 A committee was set up with Cowan, Vice Commission Chairman James Albert Hunt and Melton to study the phasing proposal, including costs, and report back to the board.  
**DSS services OK'd**  
 In further action, Commissioners voted a grant request from Department of Social Services (DSS) Director Ken Witherspoon to form contracts with vendors for transportation services.  
 According to Witherspoon, there are certain transportation needs in his department that arise at times when his staff driver is already busy or when there is no available transportation.  
 One of the county vans was offered to Witherspoon at the suggestion of Upchurch.

# ... Former Teacher of Year fired

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 tion of dismissal to Nelson on June 20, Baker said.  
 In North Carolina, a principal cannot recommend the termination of a teacher to the Board of Education. He must make that recommendation to the superintendent who then recommends to the board, Baker said.  
 Less than two years before, on November 22 of 1982, Williams wrote a letter of recommendation to the "Teacher of the Year Committee" on Baker's behalf.  
 "Mrs. Baker is always prompt and accurate in her endeavors and

seeks to do the best job possible. She gives of her time freely to any youngster who needs her. She is extremely creative, poetic and artistic and is keenly sensitive to aesthetic values," the letter says.  
 "Not only does Mrs. Baker possess excellent teaching skills, but also the ability to supplement, reinforce, motivate and transmit basic skills to children who are otherwise unable to grasp them. She has an unflinching commitment, a sensitivity to children's learning needs and problems, a belief in their ability to achieve and most of all a love for the art of

teaching," the letter continues.  
 The letter concludes by saying: "It is without reservation that I enthusiastically recommend Mrs. Ethelyn H. Baker to you as your choice of teacher of the year."  
 Baker was chosen to receive the honor for the 1982-83 school year.  
 "I am a competent teacher," said Baker Tuesday.  
 "I feel I have been treated unfairly."  
 Williams said he could not comment when contacted on Wednesday.  
 "It's a personnel matter. No comment," Williams said.



**Rural disaster**  
 Billy Norton reaches a helpful hand into the window of a burning house. The house was the home of Hoke County Commissioner Neill McPhatter. By the time the first of five fire departments arrived at the home, almost all of one room was engulfed in flame. North Raeford, Antioch, West Hoke, Raeford and Wagram fire departments responded to the blaze that took over five hours to extinguish. Firemen were still on the scene at 2 p.m. Tuesday. The fire is believed to have started in the laundry room area of the house; however, as of Tuesday, no cause for the fire had been found.

# Community service plan widened

**By Ed Miller**  
 Community service work is no longer exclusively assigned to persons convicted of driving while impaired (DWI), and local court officers are beginning to expand the program in keeping with the new law passed by the state Legislature last summer.

workers can now be assigned to clean them up," Pate said.  
 The program will be administered through the Community Service Program Directors, Pate said.  
 There are only a few types of defendants that may be excluded from the program.

county employees with their duties.  
 "I think we will be interested in the program," Cowan said, adding that, after talking with County Inspector Jack Ellis, he has found the defendants assigned duties in DWI cases to be working out "very well."

As per a law passed in the Legislative short session, almost any defendant convicted of a crime in district court can be assigned to work to improve the community, District Court Judge Warren Pate said last week.

Persons convicted of violent crimes, sex related crimes or some domestic crimes are not recommended for community service projects by the state, Pate said.  
 "There are some specific types of defendants I plan to assign work to," Pate said.

According to Community Service Program Director Marcia Britt, there are several county and private entities that are on a tentative list to receive assigned non-DWI workers.

The origin of the community service program came about with enactment of the Safe Roads Act which took effect in October of 1983, Pate said.

Persons convicted of shoplifting, multiple cases of writing bad checks and some serious traffic offenses will be prime candidates for service projects, he said.

The Hoke County Parks and Recreation Service will be getting workers along with the county Grounds Maintenance and House Keeping Department, Britt said.

The new portion of the law took effect on November 1, he said.  
 Namely what Pate has in mind is the upkeep of streets in town and roads in the county.

"I think they (service projects) will serve as a great deterrent," Pate said.

The Hoke County Library, Open Arms Rest Home and the North Raeford and Hillcrest fire departments are also on the list for project assignments.

"What I foresee is assigning defendants to do specific tasks," Pate said.

In a meeting last Thursday with new County Manager William Cowan, Pate and County Attorney Duncan McFadyen discussed the possibilities of assignments to aid

This is the first week of non-DWI community project assignments in Hoke County, Britt said.

"Dumpster sites in the county are disgraceful and some of those

# Soft drink break-in nets two years

**By Ed Miller**  
 A Raeford man was sentenced to two years in prison last week in District Court for breaking into a soft drink machine.

Carolina Department of Correction after pleading guilty to his third offense of DWI.

caught taking a "Kidstuff Set," a pair of socks, one tot press and two pairs of pants, records say.

Vincent Giles Ross has appealed his sentence to Hoke County Superior Court, he said Thursday. District Court Judge Warren Pate asked Giles if he had anything to say about an appeal bond in his case.

Gillespie, a Hoffman resident, was arrested on October 13 and also charged with driving without a license, according to court records.  
 Richard Earl Wallace, of Wingate, was given a 14 day active sentence in custody of the Union County sheriff, records say.

Theresa Hines McLean was given three years unsupervised probation and fined \$200 after she was caught on October 17 driving with a revoked license.  
 McLean is from Fayetteville, records say.

Giles responded by saying that he felt the sentence imposed upon him was unfair.  
 Pate placed the man under \$500 appeal bond.

Wallace, 18, had one prior DWI conviction, records say.  
 He was arrested September 8 and also charged with driving with his license revoked.

Patrick Lowry, of Pembroke, was given 30 days suspended for restitution in cases saying that he bounced four checks to a county business.

Giles, 19, was arrested on October 10 by Raeford Police officers after being caught breaking into a soft drink machine behind McDonald Tire Service in Racket Alley.  
 Two men were given jail terms in other court matters last week for driving while impaired (DWI).

Wallace was sentenced to two years suspended for three years special supervised probation and fined \$600, say records.  
 Annette Locklear, of Raeford, was given a one year suspended sentence and 24 hours community service for shoplifting, according to records.

Lowry plead guilty to writing four bad checks in the total amount of \$97.70 to Community Restaurant and Package Store, records say.

David Pete Gillespie, 49, was sentenced to a year in the North

Locklear, 23, was arrested and charged on October 20 after being

Leavy D. Baker, of Red Springs, was sentenced to 30 days suspended for restitution in a case charging him with a bad check.

Baker was found guilty of passing the bad check for \$30 to National Finance, records say.

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Prices Good At All Family Dollar Stores Through This Weekend. Quantities Limited On Some Merchandise. No Sales To Dealers. Main St. Raeford, N.C. 9-9 Daily 1-8 Sun.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public will take notice that the City Council of the City of Raeford desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the City and that the following property has been declared surplus to the needs of the City: One (1) Precision Scientific 1800 watt six burner hot plate (serial # 11AM-10).

The City Manager is authorized to dispose of the described property by private sale at a negotiated price.

This notice is published in accordance with G.S. 160A-267. The sale may be consummated not earlier than 10 days from the date of this publication.

Tom Phillips  
 City Clerk

Dated: November 6, 1984