

Over \$6,000 taken in county residence break-in

After a further investigation, Hoke County Sheriff's deputies have re-evaluated the haul from a January 2 break-in at a county residence to more than \$6,000. An updated list of missing items turned in to the Sheriff's Department reports that about \$6,000 in camera equipment, horseback riding equipment and jewelry were taken from the residence of David Allen Sportsman during the break-in. The amount was originally reported to be \$900. According to sheriff's reports, a trailer occupied by Sportsman was

apparently illegally entered on January 2. Also taken from the trailer was a black and white television set and a calculator, reports say. In another county incident, sheriff's deputies have three juvenile suspects in an investigation of an apparent break-in at an area fast food store. The front door of M&H Food Mart was opened and the store was entered on December 30, reports say. Detective Weaver Patterson filed the report. Taken in the apparent break-in

were candy, chips and nuts amounting to about \$50, reports say. According to the report, the investigation is continuing into the matter. There were two cars broken into during a church service in the Ashley Heights area on January 3, according to reports. Grady VanHoy reported a citizens band radio and an AM-FM converter removed from his vehicle for a loss of \$75. According to reports, the vehicle was unlocked. Chris Martin reported the bat-

tery apparently taken from his car during the same period. There was no value placed on the battery. A Shannon resident, Bill McNeill, reported a break-in at his house on January 2. According to sheriff's reports, a window in the rear of the house was broken out while the victim was out of town. The house was completely ransacked during the break-in, reports say. There were firearms and shotguns shells reported missing from the house.

There were two sets of footprints and a set of tire tracks found and recorded at the scene, reports say. Also taken from the home were bedclothes, a case of motor oil, a tank of gasoline, boots, shoes, a knife, a flashlight, a ring and two watches, reports say. The value of all the missing items was not on the report. South Hoke School was reported broken into on January 2. Although only about \$50 was taken from a change machine in the teachers' lounge, there was about \$150 in damage reported. Also on January 2, The Brickhouse nightclub was reported broken into. George Walker reported finding the front door of the establishment forced open and the security chain missing. Money from the club's game machines, pool table and jukebox was allegedly taken, reports say. At the time of the report, the amount taken in the break-in was uncertain, reports say. From Raeford, Police Chief Leonard Wiggins reported the home of Juanita Hewitt broken into and apparently robbed. Hewitt heard a noise from the

rear of her house while the robbery was occurring, said Wiggins. Taken from the home was an antique clock and a handmade antique chest valued at about \$900 together, Wiggins said. On New Year's Day, Candice Edge reported a pistol, some cartridges and a check book taken from her car at the Raeford-Hoke Village. The items were valued at \$113, Wiggins said. A Raeford man was charged with larceny on January 2 after allegedly taking a package of steaks and three cartons of cigarettes from Raeford's Food Lion. Billy Marcus McVicker, 51, was caught leaving the scene and charged with larceny, Wiggins said. The missing food and smokes were valued at almost \$29, the chief said. On January 4, Janice Perry reported her 1980 Chevrolet Monza missing. The car was valued at \$5,070, say reports. According to Wiggins, the car was recovered the next day. The car had been burned and was totally lost, Wiggins said. Investigations into the matter are continuing, said Wiggins.

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... Courthouse ordered

(Continued from page 1) done to the structure, built in 1911. Raeford attorney Phil Diehl addressed problems with the building in meeting state regulations governing handicapped laws. The building is not complying with the laws, Diehl said in a letter to the commissioners. Many problems are associated with the building and some of them stem from the second story courtroom. The only accesses to the room

are via narrow stairways in the front and rear. There is no way for a handicapped person to get up the stairs without having to be carried. Investigations into installing an elevator in the building have been met with high costs. Currently, there are about \$193,000 in a fund for court house renovations. A certain amount of every fine paid in the court house is set aside for maintenance of the old building.

... City rejects TV hike

(Continued from page 1) is going to open in Lumber Bridge and room will have to be made for it on the basic cable programming. In other action during the meeting, a request from the Hoke Literacy Council, for \$1,000 additional funding, was tabled until the next meeting. As she had told Hoke County Commissioners earlier in the day, the Hoke Literacy Council has not spent a great deal of effort this year in fund raising activities, said Literacy Director Barbara Buie. Instead, the efforts of the organization have been put toward teaching. "We did not set up as a fund raising organization although over the last year one would not know it," said Buie. Although Councilman Benny McCloud praised the Literacy Council for the job they do in Raeford, he had some questions about where support money should come from. "I really think it ought to be under county funding," said McCloud. He also asked if the Literacy Council had asked the Hoke County Board of Education for any money. The Board of Education does not want to have to choose between public education and literacy, answered Buie. According to the Literacy Director, Scotland, Cumberland and Mecklenburg counties receive

funding from the federal level through the community college system, but Hoke has been unable to land any of that money for local residents. "Because we are not duplicating services nationally (with school systems), we hope there will be stabilized funds for us soon," said Buie adding that there are none currently. As a matter of information to councilmen, City Manager Tom Phillips addressed the trailers at J.W. Turlington School. There is an amendment to a proposed new city zoning ordinance now being studied by Department of Natural Resources and Community Development (NRCD) allowing schools to use "modular" classrooms, said Phillips. According to the manager, the proposal will be returned to the Raeford Planning Board who will make a recommendation to the City Council. Raeford City Councilmen also: Approved four amendments to the city's personnel policy with Councilman Gentry voting "no." Heard a report saying that, for the first time, the Raeford landfill received a totally clean bill of health in their last inspection. Received a letter from NRCD concerning a water study. Suggestions for improving the system were included. Heard monthly reports. Took a short executive session to discuss matters of land acquisition and disposal.



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