



Cautious approach

North Raeford fireman Brent Hardin cautiously enters the mobile home owned by Ellis Locklear, which was gutted by flames last Friday around 7:40 a.m. The fire apparently started around an electrical

switch box, North Raeford Fire Chief Johnny Baker said. North Raeford was assisted by Hillcrest in fighting the blaze. The trailer was destroyed.

Photo by Pam Frederick

...Garbage mulled

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If the county grants the funds and the state kicks in their share, there will be a \$9,000 fund to draw interest until money is needed.

In a Raeford City Council meeting Monday night, McNeill asked for another \$5,000.

The total amount that will be available for cultural presentations will be \$18,000 if both governmental bodies give their share.

"Yours will be a one-time giving," McNeill told commissioners.

"We don't need the money now, but we need a statement of intent for approval to make the application," she said.

Amidst words of discouragement from County Commission Chairman John Balfour, Commissioner James Albert Hunt motioned that the matter be reviewed at budget time.

Inserted into the motion was a clause saying that if there was no money for the cause, it must be forgotten.

Although Balfour was non-committal with any money because of the expected loss of Revenue Sharing funds, he was quick to praise the efforts of the Arts Council and agreed to fund the money to McNeill if available.

The County Commission joined forces in a resolution with the Hoke County Department of Social Services (DSS) Board to allow children who are the victims of abuse to give court testimony either by closed circuit television or via video tape.

Approved last week by the DSS Board, the resolution will be brought before the North Carolina General Assembly this year, DSS Director Ken Witherspoon said.

The proposed law will relieve children from courtroom pressure by allowing only attorneys and friends in a room where closed circuit broadcasts are being made and lawyers and a judge in a room where video tapes are being made, Witherspoon has said.

The commissioners also:

- Set April 15 at 7:30 p.m. as the date of a public hearing on Hoke County's application for \$725,000 in Community Development Block Grant money. The funds will be used to revitalize the Tylertown area.

- Signed a contract with Dodge and Associates for \$34,950 hiring them as consultants on renovating the Hoke County Courthouse.

- Rescheduled a public auction from April 20 to April 27. The auction is to be across from the Hoke County Sheriff's Department.

- Passed a budget amendment.

- Appointed Wayne Bowman to fill a vacancy for Hoke County on the Region N Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

- Appointed Oscar J. Berry to the Rockfish Community Building Board of Trustees.

- Appointed Dick Neely to the Wayside Community Building Board of Trustees.

- Reappointed Paul Cole, Frances Turner, D.R. Huff Jr., Alvin Robinson and J.W. King to the Ashley Heights Community House Board of Trustees for two year terms.

- Appointed Earl McDuffie to the Hoke County Board of Health.

- Appointed Onnie Dudley, Kathi Ellis, Alex Norton, Louise McDiarmid and Shirley Rush as officers of the Affirmative Action Program.

...Around Town continued

(Continued from page 1A)

the old John Campbell farm off NC 211 south of Raeford. The picture showed people plowing mules in the field and doing other work on the farm. Jim and his wife Jeannette decided to have a fish fry for all the folks who are living that worked on the farm in 1935. Joe Upchurch said that he would do the cooking.

Luke McNeill took the old pic-

tures and made a TV tape of them, which would be the program at the fish fry.

Last week the big event came off at the Williamson place. They ate fish, looked at the film and talked about events of 50 years ago.

The names of the people living on the farm are: Bill McLaurin, Leola McLaurin, Mamie Adams, Annie Bette Willis, Winston McKae, Daisy Duberry, Roxie Grace, Walter Purcell Jr., Alwor-

thy Galbert, George Treadwell, Lee Esther Purcell, Neil Blue and Sarah Blue.

Others attending were Jim's two sisters, Joyce and Marie along with Marie's husband, Jimmie Warner and Phyllis McNeill, Luke's wife. Robert Gatlin was in attendance because he knew all the folks and he called them his neighbors for many years.

Jim said everyone seemed to have a good time. He said that he

certainly did. As Bill McLaurin was leaving, he told Jim not to wait 50 years for the next one.

Now this is my kind of doing. I know that the friendship that these people held for Mr. G.W. Williamson and his son, Jim, over the years, was cemented by the fine event put on last week by Jim.

Why can't we have more events like this?

Fox bill passes House

A bill which would allow fox hunting and trapping in Hoke County was passed by the House last week and was referred to committee for study in the state Senate on Monday.

The bill, which was introduced by Rep. Daniel H. DeVane, D-Hoke, would allow the killing of 30 fox per season in Hoke County. Under the proposed law, hunters

would have an open season on the taking of fox with weapons from December to January, and would be allowed to trap during January in Hoke County.

DeVane introduced the bill after local farmers, hunters and concerned citizens complained about the "abundant" fox population.

The measure has been endorsed by the Hoke County Commission.

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