

...Telephone vote expected

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 matrix. We think a cost study would be helpful," Clemmons said.
 Following Campbell's lead, the commissioners voted unanimously to consider the matter further in executive session.
 Prior to the vote, Howard told the commissioners that establishing EAS from Raeford to Fayetteville was of vital economic importance to Hoke County, which has the lowest per capita income in the state.
 "Extending the service area would improve the tax base by making the county more attractive for new homes," Howard said.
 EAS would also help those living in Fayetteville and working in Raeford, as well as persons from Hoke County who work in the larger metropolitan area, Howard said.
 The City of Raeford stands behind the plan to establish EAS, City Councilman Vardell Hedgpeth told the commissioners.
 Extended service would benefit most businesses in the community, he added.
 EAS is the number one factor

which will determine future growth of Hoke County, Southern National Bank Vice President and Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce spokesman Steve Parker said.
 "I believe a number of people from Ft. Bragg and Fayetteville would come to Hoke County to live if it was not for having to call long distance," Parker said.
 Local telephone service to Fayetteville would benefit farmers and would aid all of those needing medical and dental specialists, Hoke County Extension Service Chairman Willie Featherstone said.
 Featherstone, who was also speaking as a resident of Rockfish, said he believed that area of the county would increase dramatically if EAS was established.
 "Extended area service will stimulate growth and increase tax revenues, which will help farmers and others living in Hoke County," Featherstone said.
 The poor and elderly of Hoke County would benefit from EAS, Department of Social Services (DSS) Director Ken Witherspoon said.

EAS would remove another obstacle in helping the poor and elderly of Hoke County have a better quality of life, the DSS director said.
 Such simple things as calling a pediatrician would no longer need to be a toll call if EAS was in place, county resident Kay Thomas said.
 Hoke County has problems, and EAS is one way that residents are addressing the needs of the community, Thomas said.
 "We need to make improvements and to expand our schools. We need to expand our tax base. Hoke County has people willing to work on our problems and telephone service is one of the problems we're working on," Thomas said.

Urban parks, many designed 50 to 100 years ago, are among the decade's big losers in the heated competition for city funds. But their prognosis for recovery is encouraging as cities develop a sense of pride in their parts and a feeling of shared ownership among its users.



Balloon lift
 Scurlock School kick off North Carolina Mathematics Education Week with a Balloon Lift. Almost 390 balloons left Scurlock's courtyard for distances unknown. It is hoped that persons will find some of them and let the students know how far they traveled. Principal George Wood (left, with the hat) joins the fun during last week's lift.

...Funds misconception confusing

(Continued from page 1A)
 "I feel like if the state wants to set the rates, let them pay the bill," Commissioner James Albert Hunt said.
 As a matter of information, commissioners were told that they had been recognized as a body at the North Carolina Literacy Association (NCLA) banquet on May 4.
 Hoke County Commission Vice-Chairman Neill McPhatter accepted the award that was the first

of its kind ever awarded by the NCLA.
 The commission was recognized for its outstanding support to the Hoke Reading-Literacy Council.
 In other action, Commissioners made the following appointments:
 • Mitch Tyler and Bobby Rogers to the Hoke County Youth Services Task Force.
 • Charlotta King to the Hoke County Public Library Board of Trustees and the Sandhills Regional Library Board of Trustees.

• Charles Constantino, Henry Carpenter and Paul Johnson as Puppy Creek Fire Commissioners.
 • Charlie Pendergrass, James Carson and Herschel B. Nixon as West Hoke Fire Commissioners.
 • Danny McGougan, Jimmy Maxwell and Billy McNeill as Stonewall Fire Commissioners.
 Members of the County Commission also voted to request the addition of Preachers Road to the state system. The road is a connector road between U.S. 401 and the Plank Road on Ft Bragg.

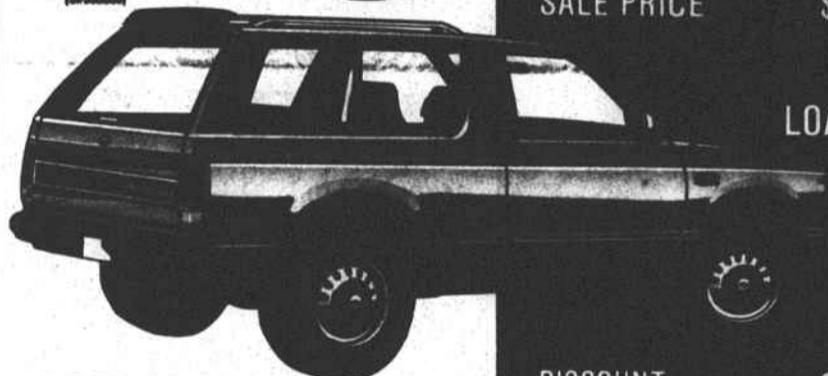
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Prices Good At All Family Dollar Stores Through This Weekend. Quantities Limited On Some Items. No Sales To Dealers. Main St. Raeford, N.C. 9-9 Daily 1-6 Sun.