



Cutting the ribbon
Adrain Williams (right center) cuts the ribbon on a new Hoke County business Thursday. Williams was assisted by his partner Jackie Price (left center) and County Commission Chairman John Balfour (left), as Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce

Manager Beverly Pasternak looks on. Williams opened the doors on Price-Rite Building Supply in Rockfish, which will carry a full range of building materials, the owners said.

...Hoke seeks funds for center

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from the sale of the old armory, said Balfour.

When asked if the building would be an asset to the county for industrial recruitment purposes, Raeford-Hoke Economic Development Director John Howard said: "One of the shortfalls of selling this county is the availability of buildings."

Howard said that there is only one building currently available in the county for housing a manufacturing operation. That building is an abandoned school in Rockfish where another industry recently moved from.

That industry built an addition to the school suitable for manufacturing.

According to Howard, when that building is sold, there will be nowhere else to house industry.

"I would rather have the old armory for sale than not," said Howard.

After much discussion, commissioners passed a motion allowing Department of Social Services (DSS) Director Ken Witherspoon and Cowan to apply for a \$56,000 grant that can be used to build a senior citizen center in Hoke County.

The state money is being offered to counties like Hoke who have no centers, Witherspoon said.

The grant will require "in-kind" or cash matching funds of \$6,270, said the DSS director.

Former county commissioner Mable Riley, on hand for the

meeting, said that she has had contact with a great many senior citizens in the county and that they would favor the building of a center.

Commissioners appeared to have problems with the grant as it would put the county under certain obligations.

"It really bothers me to accept something in a hurry up deal with strings attached," said Commissioner Upchurch.

Upchurch was speaking specifically to the lack of organization, no plans for the money and no site for the center.

Balfour also questioned the same things.

Witherspoon and Cowan will report to the board during their next meeting.

...Around Town continued

(Continued from page 1A)

High School for the years 1938 and 1939 would like to have a reunion. Some of the members of these classes are interested and would like to hear from others in the classes. If you are interested in having a reunion and have some suggestions or a date, then please get in touch with the following person:

Mrs. Helen Monroe
P.O. Box 641
Raeford, N.C. 28376

I would like to say that my class of 1935 has had reunions on three different occasions. We had good attendance and everyone seemed to have an enjoyable time. So get in

touch with Helen and your members will have a time you will never forget.

After the article in last week's paper I would like to set the record straight. I have shot in the 70's, but I have never broken 70.

Thanks to Harold McDiarmid for his generous donation to the Hoke Depot Restoration Fund. It is good to know that natives still think of their home town.

Monday, Sept. 16 was the date 45 years ago that many of us Hoke County men left for a year's stay in the Army. After fighting World

War II, most of us were fortunate enough to return.

Most men stayed from five to five and a half years serving our country. I can never forget the men who volunteered to go with our National Guard that Sept. day. So many signed up, that many had to be sent to other units of the 252nd, because both units here were filled to their table of organization.

The pay for a private in those days was only \$21 a month. After a month it was raised to \$50 per month. Things are different these days.

After thinking it over, it doesn't seem like it was 45 years ago. How time flies.

...Man caught at break-in scene

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trailer park, reports and witnesses say.

McGougan was not jailed, ac-

cording to Hoke County Deputy Clarence Patterson.

Also on September 9, Alfreda Wilson reported her home robbed,

reports say.

Unknown persons entered the home through the front door while another resident was either asleep or outside, reports say.

Dog catcher nabbed for AWOL charge

By Ed Miller

Last Tuesday, the new Raeford City Dog Warden, who was also a part-time city police dispatcher, was taken into custody for being absent without leave (AWOL) from the Army.

George Wesley Johnson, who was a resident of the Harmony Heights mobile home subdivision, was turned over to military policemen last Wednesday morning, said Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins.

Questions about the man began to arise late the week before his arrest when his license plate number was run through the Police Infor-

mation Network (PIN), said Wiggins.

The man had apparently borrowed a car from a fellow employee at Raeford City Hall to drive to his hometown of Brooksville, Florida.

The employee he traded cars with had to have the man called back to Raeford because the brakes on the car he left would not work, said Wiggins.

When a readout was sent back to Raeford, PIN machine operators discovered the man to be 19 years old.

During the application process to the city, Johnson told Wiggins

that he was 21, said the chief.

When the man got back to town, Wiggins questioned him about his age and he admitted that he had set his birth date at November 11, 1963 instead of 1965, the real year of his birth.

"A check with the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) gave us the information we needed," said Wiggins.

By the time Wiggins questioned the man, "he had already turned in his resignation."

The man was turned over to the Hoke County Sheriff's Department for holding, said Wiggins.

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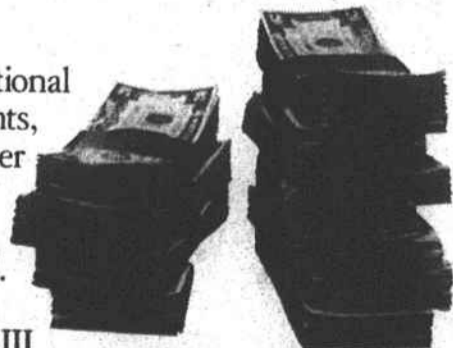
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