

The News - Journal

The Hoke County News - Established 1928

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

VOLUME LXII NUMBER 26

RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

\$4 PER YEAR 10¢ PER COPY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1967



SWEETHEART--Raz Autry, right, principal of Hoke High School, is shown here congratulating Becky Ray, winner of the district "DECA Sweetheart" title last week at a district meeting of distributive education clubs at Siler City. Miss Ray is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Ray of Rockfish.

'New Career' Poverty Program Is Explained To Hoke Board

Hoke County commissioners were presented a proposition Monday on a New Career program to be sponsored by the federal government through Sandhills Community Action Program.

Frank Kivett, head of SCAEP, explained a program by which employees would be provided for different county agencies free of charge throughout a training

period of at least a year. Starting pay, he said, would be \$1.60 per hour. They would work 20 hours a week and would undergo training elsewhere 20 hours a week for 20-hour week.

The proposal brought forth some imposing questions and comments.

A delegation composed of Miss Mabel McDonald, director of the county welfare depart-

ment, Mrs. Dorothy Cameron, county librarian, W. T. Gibson Jr., school superintendent, and Mrs. Ruth Phillips of the ASC office.

Kivett explained that the worker would be a trainee for one year without cost to the county. The second year could be financed partly by the county and partly by the federal government. But beginning with the third year, the federal government would drop out of the picture and the county take over all salary demands.

To meet qualifications, the worker would come from the low income bracket. They must have completed the eighth grade and have less than two years of college to be placed in any type of job, Kivett said.

Gibson asked where the workers would be found. He said, "We are short of help at the shops and have tried for two months to find desirable help. The only thing we have come up with was untrainable." He said he hired what he thought might be a promising employee a couple of weeks ago and when the second Monday morning came around he didn't show up for work. Tuesday came and he still wasn't heard from.

"There must be some poverty stricken people who are not from the bottom of the barrel," Kivett declared. "The classroom training will help." J.R. Attaway, Hoke County CAP director, said he would be glad to see NEW CAREER, Page 9

Town Board Vetoes Directive To Police

Raeftord town board Monday night substantially modified instructions passed on to Raeftord policemen by Mayor H. R. McLean and Town Manager Ed Williams.

The edict, in the form of printed instructions, was signed by Williams, who told town commissioners he complied with the request of Mayor McLean, who "had said something about it several times and I told him we would have to put something in writing until the town board could act on it."

This week, the board effectively squashed the instructions without taking formal action.

Most notable among the instructions was an order to cut nighttime patrol car mileage to 50 per cent and to use the patrol car during daylight hours "only when necessary."

Mayor McLean told the board "they're riding too much." Their activity would be more effective, he said, if they parked where they could be seen and where they could observe traffic.

Town Board Vetoes Directive To Police

Commissioner J. D. McMullan disagreed.

"I believe our policemen have been doing a wonderful job, and I don't think they should be in any way restricted. The night patrol is necessary, because we owe police protection to everybody in Raeftord, and it is comforting to know that the police car cruises through all neighborhoods several times a night."

Palmer Wilcox agreed. It was suggested that several break-ins and other crimes have been foiled or solved in recent months primarily because cruising officers passed while the crime was being committed or soon after it happened.

The mayor and manager's instructions also stipulated that during daylight hours, officers should remain on foot at intersections and other traffic trouble spots to insure orderly flow of traffic and to apprehend violators.

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Lumbee River Co-Op Election Protested

A contested election of a Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation director appeared headed for the courts this week after some 175 to 200 ballots cast for a Hoke County man allegedly were ruled invalid.

A complaint was filed by Elias Rogers, who lives between Raeftord and Antioch, protesting the conduct of last Wednesday's election held at the co-op's annual meeting in Lumberton.

In the voting, the elections committee ruled void an estimated 175 to 200 ballots cast for Rogers, who was nominated from the floor. His name was written in on the ballots, he said.

The committee declared that Mrs. J. M. Andrews, wife of the late Judge J. M. Andrews of Antioch, had been re-elected. The elections committee apparently used a technicality of a by-law to prevent single ballot voting to label the large number

of Rogers' ballots invalid. Instructions on the top of the official ballot clearly advised "Vote For Three."

Rogers said the write-in ballots contained checks for the first two candidates, and beside his write-in candidacy, or a total of three on each ballot.

The board of the directors was to have met yesterday to hear the complaint, but postponed the meeting.

Rogers said he was told the meeting was postponed because one of the directors could not be present.

"We are going to protest this election as long as we can, and we are prepared to go to court, or to Washington, if necessary," Rogers said.

He said no Indian or Negro had ever before been a candidate for an office in the co-op, which serves rural electric needs in Hoke, Robeson, Scotland and part of Cumberland County.

\$950,000 Project

Town Board Gives Nod To Sewer Bond Issue

Vote Ends Year-Long Deliberation

Raeftord town commissioners voted Monday night to put in motion the action necessary to call a \$950,000 bond referendum in Raeftord for water and sewer improvements.

The board formally adopted an engineering plan by Moore, Gardner and Associates of Asheboro, consulting engineering firm which has been working with the town for several years trying to solve its water and sewage treatment problems.

The plan, drawn by Richard Moore of the engineering firm, calls for a \$950,000 project. It would include improvement and expansion of the sewage treatment plant at a cost of \$805,500; new outfall lines costing \$212, \$897.11; engineering fees of \$49,103.82; land cost of \$5,000, and legal fees of \$4,500.

The town will apply for a federal grant covering 30 per cent of the cost. The remaining \$650,000 will have to be raised by a bond issue, on which residents of the town will be asked to vote as soon as the referendum can be set up.

The bonds would be paid over a 30-year period with revenue raised through increased water and sewer charges to industrial and commercial customers. Individual citizens would not be taxed with additional water-sewer charges.

Only users of more than 200,000 gallons of water per month would be affected by rate changes.

New rates are proposed as follows:

200,000 to 500,000 gallons, 30 cents per thousand.

500,000 to 1,000,000, 24 cents per thousand gallons.

1,000,000 to 2,000,000 gallons, 25 cents per thousand.

Over 2,000,000 gallons, 20 cents per thousand.

Water rates for out-of-town customers for up to 200,000 gallons per month are now one and one-half times the rate for "in-town" customers. The

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DEMOLISHED--A Fort Bragg civilian employe was driver of this car, which was demolished when it slammed into two tractor-trailers in separate crashes Tuesday night on

Highway 401 at Tanglewood Motel east of Raeftord. The driver, William Lee Combs Jr. of St. Pauls, was critically injured.

Fort Bragg Civilian Employe Seriously Hurt In 'Odd' Wreck

A Fort Bragg civilian employe was critically injured late Tuesday night near Tanglewood Motel on Highway 401 when he backed his car into one tractor-trailer, drove a half-mile, turned around, and slammed into another.

State Highway Patrolman J. D. Robinson identified the man as William Lee Combs Jr., apparently of St. Pauls, later identified as a Bragg Civil Service employe.

Combs was taken to Womack Army Hospital, where his condition was described as "serious" Wednesday morning.

Robinson said eyewitness accounts indicate this series of events:

Stanford M. Williams of Columbia, S. C., driver of a tractor-trailer, said he was following another tractor-trailer toward Fayetteville when the lead trailer swung left to avoid hitting the car, which was backing down the highway. The car crashed into Williams' rig, but was not rendered inoperable.

Williams said the car then circled around Big Star Truck Stop, which is no longer in operation, and back onto the highway. It went toward Fayetteville, driving mostly on the shoulder of the road.

About a half-mile from the scene of the first accident, the car turned around and came back toward Raeftord at an apparent high rate of speed.

James William Miller of Panama City, Fla., driver of the second tractor trailer, said he had slowed to render assistance to the first truck driver. Miller's rig was moving slowly, with all wheels off the pavement, when the car came straight at it and hit it at the left rear wheels of the tractor.

Force of the impact was so great, Robinson said, that it knocked a wheel and tire off the tractor, dislodged the battery, knocked the driveshaft off, tore the landing gear from under the trailer, and demolished a left rear wheel on the trailer.

Combs was pinned half in, half out of the vehicle when he arrived, Robinson said. Officials at Fort Bragg indicated Wednesday morning that Combs was brought to the hospital in serious condition and had to be kept, although it was

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Commissioners May Condemn Easements On East Prospect

Raeftord Town Board of Commissioners voted four-to-one Monday night to proceed with a street improvement project on East Prospect Avenue, despite the objections of two or three property owners along the street.

If necessary, the town will condemn the required right-of-way to provide for curb, gutter and sidewalks from Stewart Street to the town limits near the swimming hole on Rockfish creek.

The board has been trying for a year to secure the right-of-way for the project, which will be completed by the State Highway Department. Most property owners have granted easement, which amounts to a foot or two on each side of the road.

There are about six property owners who have not agreed to contribute right-of-way according to Town Manager Ed Williams, and several of the six have not been available.

The project is essential, town commissioners and other officials declare, because of the tremendous number of school children -- many of them six and seven years old -- who walk from Robbins Heights to school and back. At some places along the route, there is not room for them to walk on the shoulder of the road, so they walk on the pavement. Speed limit is 35 miles per

hour along the street, but automobiles are observed every day whizzing along at higher speeds on the street.

Franklin Teal cast the one dissenting vote.

"I am not against condemnation in extreme or isolated cases, but this case does not qualify, in my mind, as one

in which condemnation is necessary," he said.

Moments later, Teal joined other commissioners in voting to condemn other property, if necessary, to open a narrow unpaved street in the McLaughlin Chapel section on St. Pauls Road.

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United Fund Drive Reported Lagging

Raeftord-Hoke United Fund's current fund raising campaign, which was supposed to have ended Saturday, is lagging, campaign officials declare.

To date, only \$3,636.45 has been reported in the drive to raise slightly more than \$22,000 for support of local, state and national causes.

Workers have been urged to complete their canvasses, so the campaign can be brought to a close.

The announced collections included only a small percentage of volunteer workers' efforts. Returns from Pacific Mills Dyeing Plant and Raeftord Worsted Plant were only a fraction of what final results will be.

The industrial division reported collections of \$2,257.95. They included \$1,799.23 from Raeftord Worsted Plant, \$281.10 from Upchurch Milling and Storage Company, and \$177.62 from Pacific Mills Dyeing Plant.

The commercial division turned in preliminary totals of \$518.50. Included were these individual totals:

Raeftord Hardware, \$7; Israel Mann Department Store, \$30; J. H. Austin Insurance Co., \$20; The Johnson Company, \$8; Theresa's, \$13; Credit Bureau of Raeftord, \$6; Griffin's Fabric Shop, \$2; Hoke's Taxi Service, \$3; Southern National Bank,

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CHAMPION--This horse doesn't quite qualify as "the old gray mare." She is Roxanna Bar, world champion quarter horse mare and winner of champion mare honors at Friday's quarter horse show here. At the halter is Fat Lemmon of Brookfield, Wis., who also showed the world champion mare here last year. Roxanna Bar is owned by Mrs. Don McMillian of Houston, Tex. More photos and text on Page 7 and 9.