

By Hoke Commissioners

## Fund Voted To Continue PA Program

### Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The rain came over the weekend, but yours truly didn't want to see it this time. Once again I got wet at a football game.

The forecast is for more rain this week and for the temperatures to be in the 40s and 50s. Yes, winter has arrived.

The following letter was received last week, but too late for publication:

Sam:  
Would appreciate your putting notice in N-J about Adult High School Diploma program.

Thank you,  
Eleanor Gentry

The Adult High School Program is a joint venture of Sandhills Community College and the Hoke County Board of Education to meet the needs of the adults in Hoke County.

In order to enroll, an adult must be at least 18 years old and out of school for one or more years, unless permission is granted by the Superintendent of Hoke County Schools.

They must also have proof of satisfactorily completing the eighth grade or be able to perform on the ninth grade level.

The course consists of the required units of study. It would take six quarters to complete the course by attending two nights per week. A person who has completed the 10th grade could complete the course in one year.

The cost will be \$5.00 registration and the other odds and ends, pencils, paper etc. that go along with school.

The registration started Tuesday at 6:30 at Hoke High School.

If you are interested, you can contact Eleanor Gentry at 875-4846 or 875-2156, Ex 27 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

So if you want a high school diploma bring \$5.00 and your Social Security number to the high school.

The following letter is self-explanatory:

Dear Mr. Morris:  
Through your news media we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the many volunteers who helped with the Bake Sale for the American Lung Association of N.C., Mid-State Region on Saturday, November 1.

To those who baked and contributed items for the Bake Sale, to those who volunteered their time to help at the sale on Saturday morning and to the many people who made purchases, we extend our gratitude.

Proceeds amounted to \$217.00 which will be most helpful in our patient service work in the local area.

To you, Mr. Morris, our thanks for calling attention to this project with your excellent publicity.

Cordially yours,  
Mary Jane V. Knight (Mrs.)  
Regional Director

The city street department had better be ready to haul leaves from the residents of the city. I don't believe leaves have ever fallen as heavy as they did last Saturday night. The wind was blowing and with the leaves wet and heavy, they covered the ground in a hurry.

If folks would bag their leaves or rake them to the edge of their yards, it would help the department in removing them. If possible, please keep them out of the gutters, because they will stop up the drains.

Most of the football bowl games for the holidays have been chosen and the basketball season is about to begin. This doesn't mean that the football games will disappear from the television because the pro season goes on into January. So just take it easy for a couple of more months and then the wives can take over the tube.



**TELLTALE SIGN** -- Raeford was one of 100 North Carolina cities named a Governor's Community of Excellence last month, and last week received two signs carrying the title. With the sign at Raeford's city limits on the U.S. 401 South bypass are, L-R, the Rev. Billy Beaver, president of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce; Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr.; and Earl Fowler, manager of the chamber, which sponsored the project to get the award this year and will sponsor it annually. The other sign is on the same highway at the northern city limits, and the city will order others from the state for the east and west city borders on N.C. 211. A total of 420 North Carolina cities of 15,000 or fewer population were eligible to seek the awards but only 100 qualified. To qualify a city must meet basic criteria required by new industry. A Community of Excellence will get prior consideration from state government industry hunters when an industry is interested in establishing a plant in the state. [Staff photo by Bill Lindau].

### Downtown Revitalization Meeting Monday

A meeting on the efforts and plans for revitalizing downtown Raeford will be held Monday at 7 p.m. in the City Council chambers of City Hall for everyone concerned with saving the downtown area.

City Manager Ron Matthews and Earl Fowler, manager of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, in their joint announcement issued Monday, described the meeting as "very important."

It has been called by city and chamber officials and members of the chamber's Downtown Revitalization Committee.

The future of downtown, particularly the businesses and other property bounded in Main Street on the west, Central Avenue on the south, Racket Alley on the east, and Elwood Avenue on the north, will be discussed. The area has been designated as Phase I of the

total Downtown Revitalization effort.

"We want to explore and talk about the possibility of the City of Raeford applying for a Community Development Small Cities grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development which, when put with City and local private funds, will expedite and assure success in our Downtown Revitalization effort."

### News-Journal Press Day Set For Tuesday

The News-Journal will be published a day early next week -- on Tuesday -- because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

The office will be closed all day Thursday, Thanksgiving day.

Because of the earlier press time, news and advertising intended for publication in the November 27 edition should be in The News-

Journal office a day earlier than usual.

All advertising and news material should be in the office by noon Monday. Pictures should be in the office by that time also. Film that will have to be processed should be in the office by noon Friday.



**COTTON'S DOWN** -- This truck dropped 25 of the 58 bales of cotton it was carrying from Raeford to Charlotte about 3 p.m. November 12 when the load apparently shifted as the truck was turning right from Central Avenue onto South Main Street. The bales, weighing 350 to 600 pounds each, were reloaded, however, in about 30 minutes, and driver Claude Bennett [Skeeter] Jones of Raeford, resumed the trip. The cotton is owned by Farm Chemical. No damage was done and no one was hurt. At the bales in the center of the picture are Raeford Police Sgt. Rodney Collins, who had just gotten off duty when the accident happened, and Jones [center]. [Staff photo by Pam Frederick.]

The Hoke County commissioners Monday night adopted motions to provide for continuation of a physician's assistant program, correct misconceptions about the purpose of the Ambulance Service, and accept a state grant of \$8,000 for land record management.

In other business the board also adopted motions:

--Appointing Barbara Buie, David Purcell, and J.D. McAllister to Youth Service Task Force. The appointments increase the membership to 15 from 12 people.

--Nominating Josephine Hall as a member of the Regional Older Adults Advisory Council.

The commissioners adopted a motion tabling appointment of a county resident to the Raeford Board of Zoning Adjustment till they could learn whether the county member could be appointed from among people living outside the Raeford city zoning area. The area includes the land lying within the city limits and one mile beyond.

Appointments of county members have been made previously from among people living outside the city limits but within the one-mile zoning area adjoining them.

The move to correct misconceptions about the ambulance service's job was stimulated by Commissioner Mabel Riley's report that she has received many telephone calls showing the existence of false impressions. She said the calls essentially show that the callers believe the ambulance service is free because it receives a county subsidy and consequently they are surprised when they are billed for transportation - for medical treatment.

The commissioners agreed that Hoke County people should be informed specifically that the Ambulance Service charges for its services, and that its primary job is to handle emergencies. Mrs. Riley said callers seemed to believe the Ambulance Service was a taxi service.

The service is owned privately and operates under a contract with the county government. The county provides it with an annual subsidy to cover expenses which can't be met by the income the service receives from people who use it.

The commissioners adopted a motion made by Commissioner Danny DeVane to enlighten the general public through explana-

tions published in *The News-Journal*. The motion provides that County Manager James Martin work with the newspaper's representative in preparing the material for publication.

Lloyd Horne, administrator of the Hoke County Health Department, explained to the commissioners the need for continuing the physician's assistant services.

It was reported at the November 3 meeting that the County Board of Education had been providing funds for the PA program, since physician's assistants working in it provided examinations for students, including those on athletic teams, covers ball games and practice sessions, and supervise the trainer. The school board, however, did not provide money for this purpose in its current fiscal year's budget, the commissioners were informed at their November 3 meeting. They considered the request at that meeting for funds to continue the program since it would have to be dropped soon unless they were provided.

Horne told the commissioners Monday night discontinuance "would hurt us drastically," especially in the Tuesday and Thursday, the "big" clinic days, and two months of appointments, most of them for children and older women, would have to be cut out.

The commissioners adopted a motion authorizing the county manager to appropriate \$4,000 to continue the program till June 30, the end of the current fiscal year.

The commissioners during the meeting also approved a contract between the health department and Division of Medical Assistance of the State Department of Human Resources.

They also approved an advance, repayable to the county, on expenses for Bill Niven, county coordinator for the federal Emergency Management Administration, to participate in a federal Emergency Management Institute December 3-12 on radio-logical emergency training. The meeting will be held in Las Vegas, Nev. The federal agency will pay the expenses of the people attending from the individual states.

In other business, the commissioners adopted a resolution authorizing the advertising of an offer to purchase property in Quewhiffle Township.



**RETIREE HONORED** -- Raeford Postmaster Joseph Carver (left) presents Malcolm McNeill a retirement certificate in recognition of McNeill's 35 years of government service, much of it with the Raeford Post Office. Kathi Lewis, right, on behalf of the Raeford postal employees, presented McNeill a watch honoring him on his recent retirement as a rural letter carrier. The picture was taken Thursday morning at the post office by Pam Frederick of The News-Journal staff.

### Government Offices Set Holiday Closings

Hoke County, Raeford city and state government offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays two days besides the customary weekend next week.

Hoke County schools will close for the holidays at the end of classes November 26. They'll reopen for classes the following Monday morning.

Federal government offices and the Raeford Post Office will be

closed Thanksgiving Day only, reopening November 28 for business as usual.

County and city government offices, and the landfill, will be closed Thanksgiving Day and November 28. The landfill will reopen Saturday, November 29.

Most businesses, including *The News-Journal*, will be closed Thanksgiving Day.