Around Town BY SAM C. MORRIS

Winter is here, but Monday was a nice day. We haven't received the rain information from Robert Gatlin, but we expect he will show up before we go to press. Anyway the snow in the western part of the state didn't get down this far and this was fine with me.

Thanksgiving Day was just like any Sunday in the old town. Most of the stores were closed and most folks stayed home and watched the

football games.
Since church services are held on Wednesday night, most of the churches close down for Thanksgiving. That is, the staff is off, just like all the other businesses in the city. When the banks and post office close down about everything comes to a stand-

One thing that most people have the feeling of, is that we have two Sundays and two Mondays in the same week

From all we can hear it was a safe and sane holiday for Hoke

Don't forget that the Raeford Kiwanis Club annual Pancake Supper is being held this Thursday (tonight) at the Gibson Cafeteria, beginning at 5 p.m. The club advertises "all you can eat" for \$2.00 Tickets can be picked up from any Kiwanian or can be pur-Chased at the door.

Remember, that you don't only help the club with their many civic projects, but you can enjoy the fun and fellowship with your friends and neighbors.

So be on hand for the big event Thursday night. Hope to see you

The News-Journal photographer will be out taking door scenes for the Christmas edition of the paper on December 11 & 12. If you have a scene that you would like to have published in that edition, please call the office and leave your name and address.

The paper will come out on Tuesday. December 23 so that it will be in the mail before Christmas. This will also give the employees a half day off before Christmas.

So we urge all news articles and ads to be in a day early for the Christmas edition. Just remember to turn your calendar up one day for the Christmas issue.

Thank you.

Something we write about each year at Christmastime is for shoppers to be careful of packages they buy and put in their automobile Don't just place them on seats of your car and walk off and not lock your car. This is a golden opportunity for a crook to walk off with your hard-earned money

The best thing to do if y put packages in your car is to put them in the trunk of the car, where they cannot be seen by the public. of you must place them in the front of the car, be sure to lock the

doors.
Christmas is a time for giving and sharing, but it is for giving and sharing to whom we want to, rather than someone that is too lazy to work for something. So be careful with what you buy, and be careful with what you do with it after you buy.

Most of the time it is good to hear someone say, "Is Sam Morris in the office?" Of course it could be a salesman, a law enforcement officer, or maybe someone you haven't seen in several years. This happened this week

Monday morning the question was asked, and around the book cases strolled Daniel Johnson, or to many in the county, Pig Monroe of Miami, Fla. This was the first time Daniel had been in the office in four years. In a few minutes Sam Snead and Paul Dickson were also talking with him.

Johnson left Hoke County in 1933 and went to Miami and has been there ever since that time. He has worked for Southern Bell Telephone Co. up until two years go when he retired. He seemed to

children with Santa.

A mail box for letters to Santa also will be in the Santa House. (See AROUND TOWN, page 10)

For Feasibility Study

Industry Sites Federal Grant Sought

********** From Lumber River COG Counties

Visiting Officials Shown Downtown Plan

The Raeford city administration played host to city and county managers of the four-county Region N, Lumber River Council of Governments, November 26, showing the visitors photo slides made for the Raeford Downtown Revita-

lization project.

The visitors also were shown some of the city's equipment, which was put on display outside City Hall. The meeting, and the Thanksgiving luncheon which preceded it, were held in the City Council chambers. When the meet-ing ended, the visitors were taken on a tour of the three-year-old City Hall by Raeford City Manager Ron

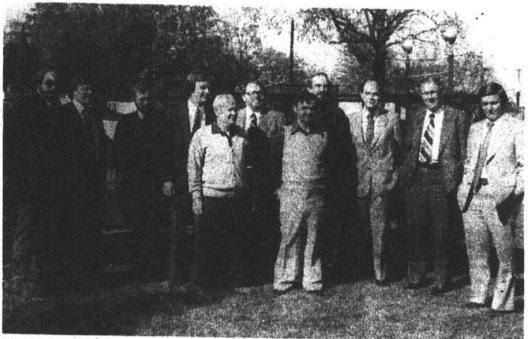
This was the montly session of the group, which also includes city and county clerks, of Hoke, Robe-son, Scotland, and Bladen counties. None of the clerks attended, however. The county managers attending included James Martin of Hoke County.

Among the other Hoke County

people attending were County Commissioner Danny DeVane. who is COG chairman; heads and other employees of Raeford city government departments, and Earl owler, manager of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Com-

Mayor Pro Tem Graham Clark, who also is secretary -treasurer of the COG board, welcomed the visitors. Matthews served as master ceremonies and showed the slides, whose commentator was Peter Batchelor of Townscape Union Development Services. Inc., director of the study of the downtown areas. The study was commis-sioned in April 1978. The Revitalization project is being conducted by the City of Raeford with the Downtown Revitalization project is being conducted by the city of Raeford with the Downtown Revi-talization Committee of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce.

Charles "Chuch" Niedringhaus of the COG staff also participated



Visiting city and county managers with Hoke County Manager James Martin [right] and Raeford City Manager Ron Matthews [sixth from left] at city equipment display in Raeford just before going into City Hall for their luncheon meeting, November 26.

in the luncheon meeting.

The photos showed downtown Raeford and the commentary pointed to the defects. They also showed drawings of proposed changes the report recommends to make downtown attractive and convenient for pedestrians so they will spend more time downtown shopping.

Matthews told the audience that the city will apply for federal funds to help pay for the revitalization. but that the revitalization will be done even if the city does not get the federal grant. The amount of the grant which will be sought has not been determined. The application will be prepared by Nedring-haus for filing January 12 following

three public hearings in Raeford. The first was held the night of November 25. The others will be held December 8 and 22.

Matthews also said that the improvements that have been made in recent times to the city could not have been made without the help of the three major industries here-burlington Menswear, Faberge, Inc., and House of Raeford. He referred to the industries' heavy contributions to the city's economy.

An \$8,200 contract to complete Phase I of the Revitalization project with Townscape was authorized November 3 by the Raeford City Council. Batchelor will direct the

work. The recommendations listed in

the presentation include essentially beautification of the downtown area by landscaping and by putting overhead wires and underground; diverting non-local truck traffic from Main Street between Edinborough and Central Avenues:

The recommendations listed include, generally, among many things, beautification of the down-town area by landscaping, restoring building fronts, and removing over head wires, which also would remove their poles; diverting non-local truck traffic from Main Street, and making other changes in the traffic pattern; and establishing a community center with

(See OFFICIALS, page 10)

pedestrian walkways, shade trees,

and brick crossways for pedestrians

to use in crossing the streets, and repaying sidewalks with brick; also,

establishing planters and a system

of street furniture, the latter con-

--Coordinating signs so they don't compete with each other.

street signs.
--Establishing south of the rail-road crossing Main a community

park and landscaped walkways.
--Establishing a service lane

and parking lots around the system.

-Correcting the confusion of

--Removing overhead wires

-- Building a community center

centrated in a single zone.

downtown area.

ith recreation facilities

At First Of Three Public Hearings

Revitalization Plans Described

About 40 Raeford business owners and operator's heard Raeford's Downtown Revitalization project described the night of November 24 in the City Council chambers in City Hall.

slide presentation of photos and drawings in color was given to illustrate the project.

sentation described the study and recommendations made rehabilitating the central iness section to encourage business section people to shop at leisure.

The study was made by Peter Batchelor of Townscape Union Development Services, Inc., of

The December meeting of the Hoke County Board of Education will be held December 9 starting at

date, the first Tuesday.

p.m. instead of on the regular

Mina Townsend and Ruth

The Aberdeen & Rockfish

Railroad depot building will be decorated and used for Santa

Board To Meet December 9

Santa House Plans

Raleigh with a team of students from North Carolina State University. The project is being conducted by the Town of Raeford with the Downtown Revitalization Committee of the Raeford - Hoke County Chamber of Commerce. Earl Fowler, chamber manager, conducted the meeting.

Batchelor also participated in the meeting with Charles "Chuck" Niedringhaus of the Lumber River Council of Governments staff; Raeford city officials, and the Re-

vitalization Committee.

The meeting was the first of three public hearings which will precede

McNair will be sworn in for new

four-year terms on the board just

in the November 4 general elect-

They were reelected to the board

During the meeting, Earl

The next meeting of the associa-tion will be held December 23.

before the meeting starts.

the filing of an application January 12 for a federal Community Development block grant to help pay for the project. Niedringhaus will prepare the application. The amount the city will ask for has not yet been decided on.

Fowler said the revitalization of downtown will be done, however, whether the city gets a grant or not.

The November 25 meeting was principally to familiarize with the project Raeford people who had not

been in touch with it. The City Council at its November 3 meeting adopted a motion to contract with Townscape to complete Phase I of the Revitalization project at a cost of \$8,200, Batchelor, who will handle the work, among other things will confer with downtown property owners on recommended changes to improve

appearances of buildings. The other public hearings are scheduled for December 8 and 22, in the council chambers. Each is

scheduled to start at 7 p.m. The recommendations for revitalization include:

--Restoring fronts of buildings to their original attractive states.

--Placing above store fronts canopies that will allow light through to show display windows

(eliminating darkness).
--Diverting non-local truck traffic from Main Street between Edinborough and Central avenues.

-- Establishing landscaped

--Providing pedestrian walkways through buildings from Main Street to parking lots. These would encourage potential shoppers to leave their cars parked and walk in the shopping area. --Continuing

pedestrian walkways.
--Extending development of the business district northward and

southward on Main.

The report also recommends the Revitalization start on the section of Main bounded by Central and Elwood Avenues.

The downtown study, com-

(See PLANS, page 10)

Draft Registration To Reopen

The U.S. Postal Service an-nounces that the local post office will continue to assist in the Selective Service registration pro-

All males born in 1962 will be required to register between Jan-

uary 5 and January 10 (inclusive), 1981.

Beginning on January 5, all males will be required to register within 30 days (preceding or following) of their 18th birthday.

The Hoke County commissioners Monday adopted a resolution authorizing applying for a federal grant to finance a study of potential sites in the county for new industry.

The motion to adopt the resolu-

tion stipulated that the grant not exceed \$30,000.

Earl Fowler, manager of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce, pointed to the relation between the study and the recently approved \$720,000 federal grant to Raeford to improve the city's waste-water treatment system, in expanding Hoke County's economic development. He said the waste-water system improvement was aimed to change the system to one suited for industry from one for domestic use primarily (A system capable of serving industry would of course also be capable of handling residential and other non-industrial waste).

The commissioners authorized County Manager James Martin to work on an agreement on the planned application with Clenton Smith, exceutive director of the Southeastern Economic Develop-ment Commission, based in Eliza-

The application will be filed with the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Commerce Divi-sion. The EDA also is the source of the Raeford sewer improvement

The EDA grant will pay 75 per cent of the cost, but the county government's share of the cost will be paid "in kind." -- providing

office space and services for examples -- rather than in cash.

Of the approximate \$900,000 estimated cost of the sewer system improvements, the city is applying for \$90,000 in State Clean Water Bonds, will provide \$65,000 through the sale of city bonds, and has \$25,000 budgeted for the project. Like the industrial sites study grant, the EDA waste-water grant pays 75 percent of the cost.

Smith, who appeared at the meeting with Ellen Gause, a project

analyst on his staff, told the commissioner at first \$24,000 in grant money and \$8,000 in county "in-kind" payment constituted the figure planned for the application.

The commissioners earlier agreed, however, that a \$30,000 grant which would require \$10,000 "in-kind" payment on the county's part, probably would be more than was necessary to pay for the study. Smith explained that the study

would show among other things which sites would be feasible as locations on which to establish industrial facilities. Referring to the difference be-

tween the proposed figures for the grant, he said the \$40,000 top (including federal and local shares) had been considered originally, and that \$40,000 could be justified, but that the scope of the work would have to be broadened.

The filing of an application, he also pointed out, does not commit the county commissioners to accepting a grant. Smith also said that the figure the EDA approves would not likely be the one specified in the application. He said that approval of the application is expected.

Under the procedure, he ex-plained, the EDA will make the commissioners an offer of a grant. which the commissioners have the

right to accept or reject.

Smith in replying to a question put by Fowler, said after the grant is accepted, the commissioners then would employ a consultant to conduct the study. The contracting would be done after the commis sioners advertised for and received bids to provide the consultant service for a specified fee.

He also said the consultant chosen need not be from outside

After being given the contract by the commissioner, the consultant would need to arrange the details of

the work, Smith said. The process of choosing the consultant will take about 30 days. and after the consultant gets ready to start work, the contractor pro-bably would find four months plenty of time to complete it.

Smith recommended that the commissioners review the study's findings at least twice before accepting the consultant's report.

Fowler described the study as a step towards orderly growth of the

(See GRANT, page 10)

Fowler, manager of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Com-merce, will cooperate with the House, sponsored by the Raeford Merchants Association. The association's regular association and contribute finanmeeting for November was held November 25. The plans were an-nounced after the meeting. Merchants will offer prizes, and registration will be held in all participating stores. Each gift will be provided in a Santa will be in residence in the separate drawing from the names of people registered. near future, and plans are being made to have a professional photographer make pictures of Beginning December 25, most stores will remain open daily till 8