

## 510 Pounds Delivered Thursday

# Inmates Growing Food For Hoke Needy

The Hoke County Department of Social Services Thursday afternoon delivered 510 pounds of squash and cucumbers to needy families of the county.

The vegetables were grown at the Sandhills Youth Center by members of the Center's "I Can" Alumni Association. "I Can" is the Center's motivational course for the residents of the Center, and at the end of each course, a graduation ceremony is held for those who complete it successfully.

The day before the vegetables were given away in Hoke, the first crop of the garden was distributed the previous week to Moore County needy families by the Moore County Department of Social Services.

But more vegetables are coming out of the garden, which covers about two acres. It's growing beans, cabbage, tomatoes, squash, watermelons, and cantaloupes, under the care of the alumni, and corn and probably other vegetables will be planted later.

Kevin Spivey of the alumni association is the project manager. Groups outside the Center help. The Hoke County Agricultural Extension Service staff provides technical advice. The Sandhills

Community Action Program helps, and the Raeford Woman's Club and the women of Raeford United Methodist Church sponsor the alumni association.

On the Center staff, Roosevelt Johnson helps in his role of program coordinator, and Leslie Hotte, the Center's food service supervisor, teaches the young men the proper ways of handling the vegetables after they are harvested, including storing them.

The alumni were inspired in working with Social Services last Christmas season in helping take Christmas packages to needy families. After meeting the people, they decided they wanted to do more. So they took on the garden, which had been started last year but hadn't worked out.

Johnson said the young men put it this way: they're serving sentences for taking from a community; so now they want to give.

Growing the vegetables and giving them to the needy is their way of giving back some of what they have taken. And nobody is making them do it; they are working the garden because they want to.

Keeping a garden producing



**READY TO GO** -- "I Can" alumni, supporters and others with part of the 510 pounds of vegetables ready for delivery Thursday to Hoke County needy families. Front, L-R -- alumni Mike Cannady, Ronald Isaac, Kevin Spivey, Ted Yarboro, John Davis, and Alfred Powell. Rear, L-R -- Roosevelt Johnson, Youth Center program coordinator; Banks Wannamaker, Extension assistant agent; Michael Cotton of Raeford, a member of the Center staff; Sheffie McLaughlin, senior citizens' coordinator for the Hoke County Department of Social Services; Leslie Hotte, Center food service supervisor; J.P. Smith, Center program director; Ken Witherspoon, Hoke County Social Services Department director; and Willie Featherstone, Extension chairman.

takes some money. But instead of asking for donations, the alumni hold money-raising programs. One

is collecting discarded aluminum cans and selling them to a recycling company.

## Area Incidents

# Thieves Get Bug Lights, Guns

The following were reported to the Raeford Police Department recently, Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said.

Mary Jones, 1004 N. Jackson St., reported someone stole a \$300 stereo radio and cassette player from her house June 24.

Someone stole a \$90 bug light from the back yard of Robert L. Conoly at 319 W. Edinborough Ave., between 11:15 p.m. June 25 and 1:30 a.m. June 26.

Someone stole a bug light and a hammock valued at a total \$150 from the yard of Charles Hostetler, 305 W. Elwood Ave., between 11 p.m. June 25 and 7 a.m. June 26.

A coin box at Bill's Car Wash on 401 bypass was broken into Monday. The amount of money taken was not known.

Elnora Smith Crew, 317 Douglas St., Laurinburg, reported someone stole four hub caps worth \$110 from her car while it was parked at the House of Raeford Monday.

The Hoke County Sheriff's Department received the following.

A bicycle was stolen from the property of David Goodman, off N.C. 211 west, about 3.5 miles from Raeford, Sunday or Monday.

An aluminum gate worth \$89 was stolen June 20 or 21 from the property of Lillian Mulrooney, Rt. 2, Raeford.

Someone tried to break into the home of Ola Mae Oxendine, Rt. 1, Shannon, June 25, first through the front door, but her two Great Danes scared him off. Then the prowler, believed to be a male, climbed to the roof of the house by

the rear door, but then jumped off and ran into the woods.

James McPhaul, Rt. 1, Raeford, Saunders Street Extension, reported someone broke into his car June 24 or 25, stole \$293 worth of property, and cut the top of the car. Stolen were a power booster, an AM and FM radio with a cassette player, and a man's coat. The damage to the top of the car

amounted to about \$190.

Someone broke two windows at Upchurch Junior High School Sunday. Nothing was reported missing. About \$25 damage was done to the windows.

A total of \$7,708 worth of personal property was stolen from the home of W.C. Hamilton, Rt. 2, Raeford, on Dundee Farm in a break-in June 25 or 26 believed committed by two persons. The

articles stolen included two saw guns, seven sweaters, a clock radio, \$180 in cash, 20 record albums, a blow dryer, three electric saws, a diamond ring, pots, pans, a pair of shoes, and a pocket book.

Leonard Ray, 1813 Silver City St., was reported shot in the stomach with a .22 caliber rifle the night of June 11 on Cockman Road behind St. James Church. He was given hospital treatment.

## Tarheel Health Watch

### HOME POISONINGS

Poisonings are generally thought of in the home as child killers, but actually the biggest toll is in the 25 to 44 year old age group, with those 15 to 24 years close behind.

The North Carolina Medical Society points out that the answers to preventing poisonings involves proper labeling, organizing medicine chests and educating adults about the dangers of mixing drugs and medicines that can strengthen each other's actions.

Of course, every effort should be made to keep poisons out of the hands of children. Under-the-sink storage areas for lyes, cleaners, insecticides and disinfectants are

an outright invitation to children. Keep only such of these materials as you actually need. Keep containers tightly closed. The same applies to medicine.

Although the danger of carbon monoxide has been well publicized, large numbers of people still die every year from this cause. Automobiles are a primary offender. The motor should never be left running in a closed garage. Always leave one of the car windows open a crack, even in winter. The exhaust and muffler may leak fumes into the auto interior.

Furnaces, heaters, and stoves also are dangerous producers of carbon monoxide, if improperly vented. Have them checked regularly by qualified people. Gas space heaters or stoves in tightly closed rooms may cause suffocation by using up all the oxygen in the room.

Suffocation is the most serious killer of infants and very young children. Children under four account for more than half of all deaths from suffocation. Choking on inhaled bits of food or other small objects leads the causes of death. Keep small toys, beads and other items that could lodge in the windpipe away from babies. Ex-

amine the toddler's solid food for lumps and foreign objects.

Smothering in bedding is a home safety hazard. Cribs should be designed to prevent strangulation, and mattresses should not be too soft.

### Perform a death-defying act.



Stop smoking.

WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

### HAY PRODUCTION

So far this year Hoke County hay producers have had a tough time dodging showers to get in their first cuttings. In fact, the majority of those first cuttings have had some rain damage.

The damage has been primarily in the leaching of valuable nutrients from the grasses due to the rain. However, because the hay gets wet, it has to be left out to dry longer. Another problem, sun-bleaching, can take place then.

Obviously, hay producers can be affected by many different things. Their losses can be very large in some cases. Yet, when the industry as a whole is considered, the estimated losses are almost staggering. In fact, just the estimated value of nutrients lost in the industry from leaching or bleaching is over a billion dollars per year. Also, it is estimated that over thirty million dollars in hay is lost per year because of farm fires caused by the spontaneous combustion of damp hay.

However, hay remains one of the most versatile and valuable food sources for animals. As with other forages, hay crops can be grown on marginal land which has very little row crop value. As a stored forage there are several important aspects of hay

can be kept for long periods of time with very little loss of nutrients. That is, if it is protected from the weather.

Second, there are many crops which can be used successfully as hay crops. They range from alfalfa to bermudagrass to oats, barley or wheat.

Third, hay can be produced and fed in small or large amounts.

Fourth, hay can be harvested, stored, and fed by hand or the production and feeding can be completely mechanized. Modern technology has gone a long way in changing hay-making. In fact, one man can do what it used to take several to do in a hay crop.

Fifth, good quality hay can supply most nutrients needed by many different classes of livestock. Because of that, hay is the most commonly used source of stored feed on most farms.

Since hay is such a widely used feed source, it is important that the factors affecting hay quality be understood. By understanding those factors, hay producers or hay buyers can better recognize the quality of the hay they examine.

The ultimate test of hay quality is how animals eating it perform. Three factors influencing performance would be consumption, digestibility and nutrient content, and toxic components.

Hay quality can be affected by many different factors. In any

## Farm Focus

by Richard Melton  
Extension Livestock Agent  
Banks Wannamaker  
Extension Field Crops Agent



visual evaluation of a hay crop those factors would have to be considered. Plant maturity is probably the most important factor of nutrient content or quality. As plants age the protein and nutrients present in them decrease and the amount of fibers present increase. By looking for stems, seedheads, and leaves, the overall maturity of the crop can be evaluated. If there are relatively few seedheads present and an abundance of leaves present, the hay would be considered less mature than a hay with many stems and seedheads.

Texture or the length, diameter, and flexibility of the stems is another important factor to evaluate. The smaller and more flexible the stems, the better the hay quality.

Leafiness was discussed with plant maturity as a factor in hay evaluation. It should be considered, because the more leaves present the greater the hay's nutritive value. In fact, leaves contain over twice as many nutrients as stems.

Foreign matter should also be considered when evaluating hay quality. The more foreign matter present, the poorer the hay quality. Some examples of foreign matter would be weeds, sedges, rushes, stalks, manure, paper, and glass or bottles.

Color is a relatively poor measure of hay quality, but it is used many times in evaluating hay. The primary reason it is considered such a poor measure is because it is influenced so greatly by fertilization and curing. However, some factors to consider are if the hay is a bright, dark green color, it is usually high in vitamins and proteins.

Aroma is the final factor of evaluation discussed here. When hay is evaluated, it should always be smelled. A musty or moldy odor would indicate that the hay was baled wet. If that odor was present you should check for mold. The mold would appear as a white to gray colored, flakey substance. It could most likely be found, if present, on the leaves in a tightly packed section of the bale.

Always evaluate hay for quality, visually, chemically, or both ways. After all, unless you really look at it you won't have any idea what you are feeding your animals.

Please feel free to call the Hoke County Agricultural Extension office if you need any further assistance in evaluating hay.

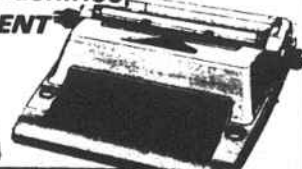
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Time, Energy And Money To  
My Campaign.

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**SHERIFF DAVID M. BARRINGTON**

Paid by Sheriff David M. Barrington