

## Housing Slated For Nov. Start

### Thirty Units Will Be First Under Jurisdiction Of The Raeford Housing Authority

by Warren Johnston

After about 11 years, ground is expected to be broken in the next 30 days on what will be Hoke County's first subsidized housing project to come under the auspices of the Raeford Housing Authority.

Although the authority was formed on March 11, 1971, a 30-unit project planned for North Fulton Street will be the first housing construction or management to be overseen by the group since it was organized.

Various other projects have been proposed during the 11-year history of the authority, however, because of adverse public reaction and other factors, plans for the units have been scrapped or delayed.

Once the almost \$1 million Meadows project is completed, the Raeford Authority will become one of the unique groups in the state, Chairman J. H. Blue said.

Under present arrangement, the authority will manage units being constructed in Hoke County, but will not own them, Blue said, adding that if the almost \$6 million in subsidized housing planned for the county is constructed, it will remain on the tax books.

"We will be the only housing authority in North Carolina managing units, that doesn't own any," Blue said.

"It becomes an economic thing. We can demand high quality units and demand that they are maintained," he added.

Because of federal cutbacks in spending, it is no longer economically feasible for low-income housing developers to allow projects to deteriorate. In the past, after a project ran down, federal money was available to fix them up, Blue said.

Now, lending agreements with the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) and the federal Housing and Urban Development Administration (HUD) restrict developers and require that properties be maintained.

The authority will also be able to screen tenants and make sure that apartments are maintained, Raeford City Manager Ronald Matthews said.

Matthews also serves as the acting executive director of the authority.

If the properties are not managed properly, the citizens will be able to remedy the problem locally, Matthews said.

"We don't want the same thing to happen to the units that we manage that has happened to other projects here," Blue said.

"People want a decent place to live, and we're going to make sure they have it," Blue added.

The Meadows, which are designed by a Chapel Hill architectural firm, will be 15 duplex buildings centered around a cul-de-sac. Project Developer John Loving said Friday.

Loving and his partner Douglas Brown, along with architect Prentice Lacy, met with Matthews and representatives from FmHA here Friday in a pre-construction conference.

The project site will be well-landscaped and each unit will have its own yard, giving them the appearance of a single-family dwelling, Loving said.

Apartments will be rented to persons based on their income. Each tenant will pay about 30% of his income toward rent, and the balance will be paid under a HUD program, Loving said.

All of the units will be designed for families with a mix in the project of two and three bedroom apartments.

Two apartments will be equipped for the handicapped.

Construction is expected to begin around November 1, and Loving said he expects that units will begin renting by early summer.

Although Brown and Loving are the general contractors of the project, local sub-contractors are being hired and the project will increase local jobs, Loving said.

"We think that the project is going to be an asset to the community," he added.

FmHA has been making efforts during the last several years to increase the desirability of income assistance projects, state architectural co-ordinator Payton Hollman said.

"We have increased architectural fees in order to have creative designs, so we're not caught in a low-income appearance," Hollman said.

"We don't want the stigma of a low-income project. We want the units built so they look like apartments that anyone would want to live in," he added.

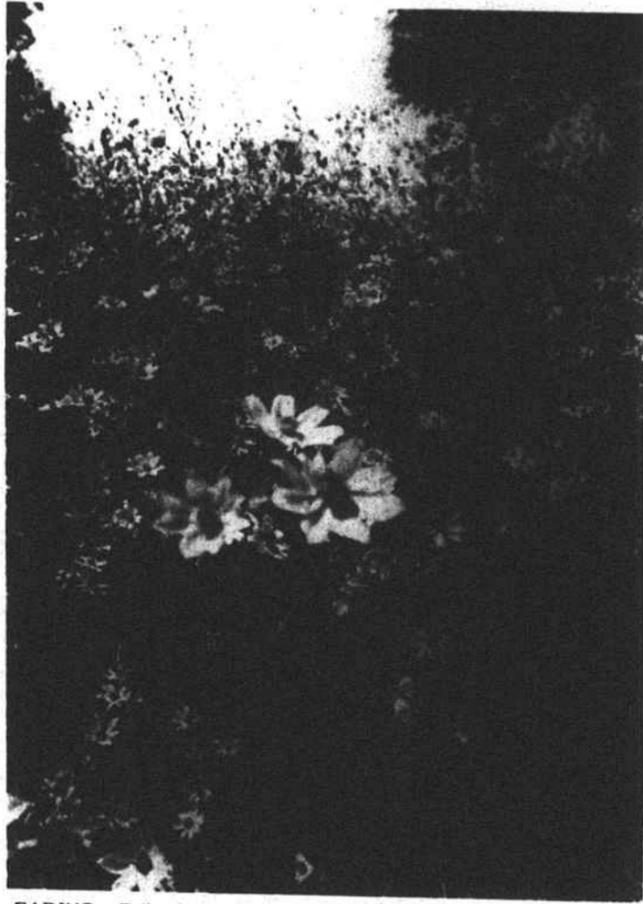
The new approach by FmHA in North Carolina may be one of the factors that has contributed to the state being first in the nation in income subsidized housing.

During the last several years, FmHA has gone from placing \$17 million in project loans per year to over \$53 million, Hollman said.

Sometime during the spring, authority members will probably begin hiring a fulltime management staff, Matthews said.

In addition to an executive director, the authority will hire a clerical person and someone to handle maintenance duties, Matthews said.

(See Subsidized pg. 14)



FADING -- Fall wild flowers are still blooming in Hoke County but will be fading fast as chilly weather approaches. Temperatures dipped into the 50's this week.

## Weekend Search For Woman Fails

Raeford police assisted by the Hoke County Rescue Squad, Hillcrest Fire Department firemen and other volunteers searched several areas Sunday morning for the missing Florence R. McCray of Raeford.

Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said Monday the search was called off after four hours of work failed to reveal new developments. He thanked all the people who participated in the search. He said 15 people took part, including himself, Raeford Detective James Murdock, and J.K. Riley, serving as a volunteer auxiliary policeman. Riley is a retired Hoke County ABC law enforcement officer.

Mrs. McCray hasn't been seen or heard from since 11:30 p.m. August 1 when she talked by

telephone with her mother.

The Sunday morning search was one of several conducted in various places in Hoke County and on the Ft. Bragg Army reservation since Mrs. McCray vanished.

Wiggins said he'd rather not tell where the search was conducted Sunday.

He also advised that the police want anyone who has even the most minor bit of information concerning Mrs. McCray to get in touch with them. He said this to clarify a headline published in last week's edition of *The News-Journal*, which he felt may have given the impression that the police didn't need any help in the search. He explained that what he meant was the police didn't need help from volunteer investigators.

## Raeford To Receive NC Powell Bill Check

An additional \$11.8 million in state street aid funds is available this year for municipalities across North Carolina, through the Powell Bill Secretary of Transportation William R. Roberson Jr. has announced.

Checks amounting to more than \$43 million were mailed last week to 462 qualifying municipalities for

local street construction and maintenance.

Raeford will receive an allocation of \$68,280.28 in Powell Bill funds. This allocation is based on the community's population of 3,731 and its 24.75 miles of local streets.

Secretary Roberson said, "Sharing these resources in another (See Powell on pg. 14)

## Illiterate Voters Can Get Help

Registered voters who can't read or write or are physically unable to mark a ballot are allowed under state elections law to get assistance at the polls on election days, under certain conditions.

Here's what Chapter 163-152 of the Election Laws of North Carolina, 1981, says. An illiterate or physically handicapped voter can receive assistance from a near relative.

If no near relative is present, the assistance may be given by any voter from the same precinct as the illiterate or physically handicapped person is registered in, if the voter has not given aid to another voter.

The illiterate or physically handicapped also may be given assistance by a registrar or a judge of elections, or one of the assistants (a poll worker).

A voter may be helped if: —He or she is physically disabled to the extent that he or she cannot

enter the voting booth; or so physically disabled he or she cannot mark a ballot.

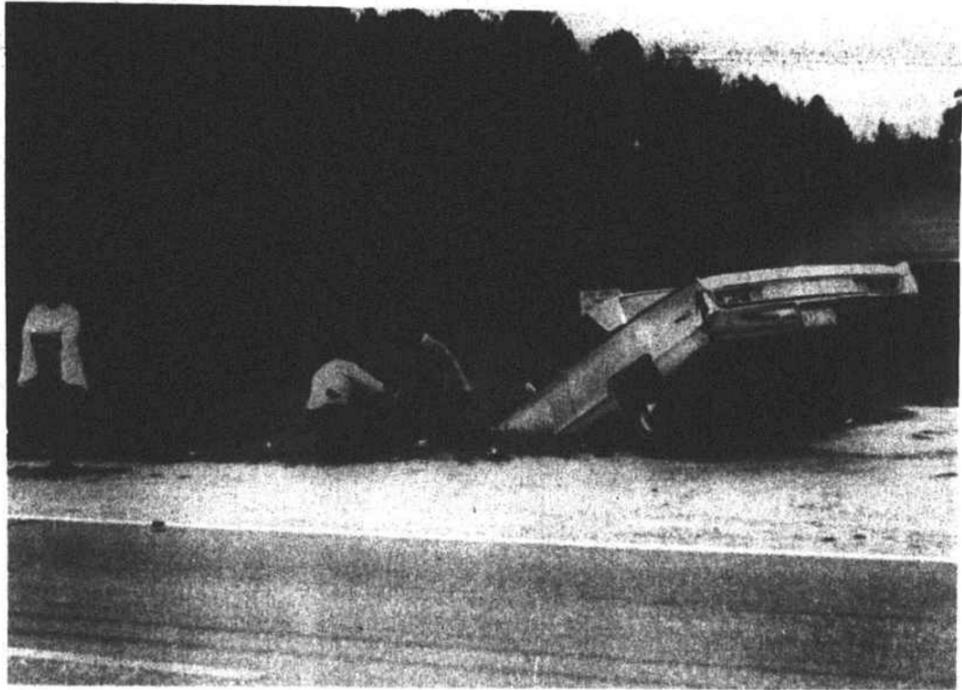
—He or she is illiterate. The voters eligible for assistance must ask for assistance at the polling place on the election day.

If the illiterate or physically handicapped voter is refused help, he or she is advised to call the county elections office, 875-4526.

The elections law was looked up for *The News-Journal* by Rose Sturgeon, supervisor of Hoke County elections, Thursday.

She also advised that no one is too old to vote, though a person can be too young to vote. The only age restriction set by the state election law is 18; a person must be at least that age to be eligible to vote.

Mrs. Sturgeon was asked for this information because a Hoke County man hasn't voted in a number of years because he thinks he's too old.



State Trooper Bill Bowden talking with Sylvia Edwards (seated) following Monday's accident that sent her car at right off U.S. 401 south of Raeford.

## One Killed In Rash Of Accidents

A Hoke County woman was injured fatally in a two-car collision about 4:10 p.m. October 5 on N.C. 20 about 1.1 miles east of Raeford.

A Hoke County High School teacher, on his way home from his class, was injured also but not seriously enough to be admitted to a hospital.

State Trooper R.V. Lee said the woman was Mrs. Minnie Cain McGregor, 63, of Rt. 1, Box 280, Shannon.

The teacher is Ernest Daniel McGougan, III, of Rt. 1, Box 251, Lumber Bridge.

Mrs. McGregor was dead on arrival at Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville at 5:15 p.m.

Cumberland County Medical Examiner Dr. Hal Henschen decided death was caused by "multiple trauma" as the result of the accident. A spokesman at his office said the doctor found no need to perform an autopsy as the cause of death was evident.

Lee reported Mrs. McGregor was driving a 1980 Chevrolet auto and McGougan a 1979 Chevrolet van when the collision occurred.

The funeral for Mrs. McGregor were conducted Friday morning at

Crumpler Funeral Home Chapel by the Rev. Donald Cooper. Burial was in Raeford Cemetery.

Surviving are her son, Marion Cole of Mansfield, O.; her brothers, Hubert Cain of Charleston, S.C., and George Cain of Fayetteville; her sisters, Mrs. Rosella Adams of Wilmington, and Mrs. Leola Harris and Mrs. Marie Andrews of Fayetteville; and four grandchildren.

Two other Hoke County traffic accidents injured four people.

Delton Smith Ivey of Rt. 3, Box 59, Raeford, was reported in stable condition in Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville under treatment for a fracture of an arm and a cut on the head. Ivey was injured when his 1983 Ford pickup truck overturned after being struck at 5:05 p.m. Sunday at the intersection of Vass Road and U.S. 401 by a 1973 Ford, State Trooper Bill Bowden reported.

Sylvia Edwards of 203 Reaves St., Raeford, and Sonia L. Rushing, Phoenix City, Ala., were injured when the cars they were driving collided at 10 a.m. Monday five miles south of Raeford on U.S.

401 south, Bowden reported. He said both were released Monday after being treated at hospitals -- Rushing at Cape Fear Valley, and Edwards at Scotland County Hospital.

In the Vass Road-401 collision, he reported, Van Daryl McIntosh of Rt. 1, Box 466, Raeford, was charged with driving under the influence and failing to stop at a stop sign.

He said McIntosh drove past a stop sign on Vass Road and into 401, his car colliding with the truck. Ivey's truck was overturned on the road by the impact. McIntosh's car continued onward, running into the parking lot of Park Store and hitting a parked, newly restored Mustang owned by Randy McRae of Raeford.

Ivey's dog was killed in the accident.

The Monday accident occurred when Rushing's Toyota traveling south struck the left side of Edward's Chrysler which was facing south and starting to turn east onto a rural road. The impact sent Rushing's car off the east side of the road and Edwards' off the west side.

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The rain over the weekend brought cooler weather to this area the first of the week. As this is being written Monday afternoon, the temperature is in the low 70s and I don't believe the sun has broken through all day.

It is time for the cooler weather and it makes one feel better this time of year when the weather is like it is today.

Don't forget to mark October 22 on your calendar. That is the day that the Hoke County Music Booster Club will have their annual feed at the Gibson Cafeteria. The serving will start at five o'clock on Friday afternoon, October 22 and will continue until 8:30 that night.

This is for a good cause and where else can you get a good meal for \$3.50. Besides the food, you can enjoy the fellowship of many of your friends and more than likely you will meet someone you haven't seen before in Hoke County.

So go out that night and have a wonderful time.

(See Around Town pg. 10)



## Inside Today

Smokey Bear helped Hoke County Firemen celebrate Fire Prevention Week. *The News-Journal* takes a look at last week's activities on Page 1 Section 2 of today's edition.