

# County, City Budgets Up, No Tax Hikes Predicted

By Sherry Matthews

County and city officials are expected to review budget recommendations this week that call for no tax increases for the coming fiscal year.

Both budgets have increased, but city and county managers say they don't foresee having to call for a tax hike.

The county's recommended 1983-84 budget calls for a 4.4% increase or \$175,286 more than last year's approved \$3,968,999.

According to County Manager James Martin, the increase will not mean a tax hike over the current year's tax rate of 70 cents.

Martin has dipped into the county's \$1.2 million fund balance account to even up the monies that will be handed out to the different departments.

Even with the proposed \$466,305 taken from the fund

balance, Martin has had to cut requested departmental wish lists to allow for a balanced budget.

Before the requests were cut, the county's budget was 10.2% over last year's approved figures or \$414,275 over the previously OK'd funds.

The food stamp budget, which is part of a Department of Social Services package, requested \$167,955 of which Martin is recommending \$111,780 be approved by the county commissioners.

Another department that is receiving a cut in requested monies is the health department administration.

Their request of \$244,829 has been slashed to \$164,215.

None of these cuts are final, nor is the entire budget package until the county commissioners approve it, Martin said.

A balanced proposal must be in the hands of the commissioners by June 1 and an approved budget must be ready by July 1, Martin said.

"At this point, none of these figures are really final," Martin said.

City Manager Ron Matthews is also planning to present the city councilmen with an increased budget with no tax hike attached.

Matthews is requesting a \$2.5 million budget this year which is an increase of more than \$200,000 over last year's \$2.33 million approved budget.

According to Matthews the increase does not mean a rise in the 54 cent tax rate of the 1982-83 fiscal year.

The city's budget, too, is not final until the councilmen approve it, Matthews said.



### In search of home

After a day of fun in the sun and perhaps one too many turns on the sliding board, this poor puppy looks as if he might need a lift home.

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## Woman Pleads Guilty Of Bad Check Binge

A Hoke County woman was found guilty last week in District Court of going on a two-month bad check writing binge, which left eight area stores holding the bag for more than \$600.

Gale Roberts of Rt. 3, Raeford, was found guilty of apparently writing the 19 "worthless" checks within a two-month period.

Six of the 19 checks, which totaled nearly \$150, were written to Sky City, located in the Raeford-Hoke Village.

District Court Judge Joseph Dupree sentenced Roberts to a 30-day suspended sentence with three years probation for the Sky City charges and ordered Roberts to pay \$143.52 in restitution and court cost.

Judge Dupree also sentenced Roberts to 30 days for writing a worthless check on a closed account.

Dupree suspended that sentence for three years and ordered the defendant to pay \$125 restitution to Park's Exxon and the cost of the action.

The defendant was given several other 30 day suspended sentences on the remaining worthless check charges.

Restitution to the eight stores totaled over \$600.

Dupree ordered that each of the sentences begin at the expiration of the previous one.

In other court action, Judge Dupree handed down the following judgements:

--Thomas Weldon Bishop, Shannon, failing to immediately report a collision to police, \$25 and cost.

--Leroy Benjamin Pickett, Ash, driving under the influence (DUI), six months suspended for 12 months, \$250 and cost, surrender operators license.

--David Ray Shaw, Lumberton, exceeding a safe speed, prayer for judgement upon payment of cost.

--Terry Alan Dooley, Raeford, knowingly giving a malt beverage to a minor, 30 days, \$25 and cost.

--Margaret G. Bright, Rocky Mount, being less than 18 years old and being in possession of a malt beverage, prayer for judgement upon payment of cost.

--Mary Pridgen McRae, Red Springs, careless and reckless driving after drinking, 60 days, \$100 and cost, enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

--James Leroy Bunch, Washington, speeding (65-55), prayer for judgement upon payment of cost.

--Bruce Leonard King, Rt. 3, Raeford, careless and reckless driving after drinking, 60 days, \$100 and cost, enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

--Carl Lee Monroe, Raeford, DUI, no less than six months, no more than six months suspended for one year, \$500 and cost, surrender operators license (granted limited driving permit), enroll and complete the alcohol and drug abuse school within 90 days.

--Parnell Miles, Fayetteville, speeding (47-35), prayer for judgement upon payment of cost.

--Ronald Edward McLean, Lumber Bridge, failing to stop at the scene of an accident and collision in which the vehicle driven by the defendant was involved which resulted in property damage, 90 days, \$100 and cost.

--John Henry Love, 662 Dockery Road, Raeford, speeding (65-55), prayer for judgement upon payment of cost.

--Burt Muir Jr., Rt. 4, Raeford, DUI, no less than six months, no more than six months suspended for three years with supervised probation for three years, \$250 and cost.

## Deaths & Funerals

### Watson Guy

A graveside service was held at Antioch Presbyterian Church cemetery Saturday for the Reverend Watson G. Guy, 64, who died in Mobile, Alabama, Wednesday, May 25. A funeral service was conducted in Mobile on Friday.

A native of Hampton, Va., and a graduate of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va., Mr. Guy was married to the former Elizabeth Hodgkin of Antioch, who survives him along with two daughters, Misses Ann and Virginia Guy, all of Mobile, a son Richard Guy of Gaithersburg, Maryland, a sister Mrs. James A. Smith, Jr., of Eden, and two grandchildren.

Having served pastorates in Kingsport, Tennessee, and Mobile, he became executive director of the Southwest Alabama Council on Alcoholism.

In 1977 he was presented an Executive Service Award by the National Council on Alcoholism for his service and promotion "of public awareness of the disease."

A 12-volume series of his works dealing with the recovery of alcoholics through physical, mental and spiritual rehabilitation was accepted in 1972 for the shelves of the Rutgers University Center of Alcohol Studies in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

An accident in 1980 left him with massive brain and internal injuries from which he never recovered.

### Alton W. DeBerry

Mr. Alton W. DeBerry of Grace Creek died Monday, May 23.

Funeral services were held at the Grace Creek Baptist Church at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 26.

The Reverend Lacy Jones officiated the service.

Burial was in the church cemetery following the service.

Surviving are his wife Mrs. Sarah Reid DeBerry, a daughter, Mrs. Yolanda D. Williams of Raleigh, his mother, Mrs. Daisey DeBerry of Raeford, a brother, Robert DeBerry of Fayetteville, six sisters; Mrs. Annie Butler, Mrs. Mary White, Mrs. Hester McNeil and Mrs. Retha D. Long, all of Raeford; Mrs. Lula Bratcher of East Orange, New Jersey and Mrs. Elemer Cogdell of Fayetteville; two grandchildren.

The family was at Stephen Rogers Funeral home last Wednesday from 7-8 p.m.

### Mrs. Betty Howell Lee

Mrs. Betty Howell Lee, 83, of Rt. 3, Raeford, died Saturday morning in Cape Fear Valley Hospital.

Funeral services were held Monday, May 23 at 2 p.m. at the Crumpler Funeral Home Chapel.

The Rev. Lester English officiated the service. Burial was in the Richmond Memorial Park in Rockingham.

Surviving are three sons: Alexander Lee of Melrose Park, Ill., Harvey Lee, Jr. of Rockingham,

and Jack G. Lee of Rockingham, 12 grandchildren including Mrs. Garry Frederick, Billy Norton, Don Norton and Mrs. Billy Fred McVicker all of Raeford, and Dale Norton of Washington, D.C., and 7 great-grandchildren.

Crumpler Funeral Home was in charge.

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and advantages to being a part of this type of program," Williams added.

"I really think this is the route we should go," Williams said.

Simpson and Nelson both agree. "If I hadn't thought it was a good program, I would have never applied for it to begin with," Simpson said.

"It is really worth the expense," Nelson said.

"It is exciting to watch a child who was shy and lacking in self-confidence lead the honor guard," Nelson said.

"That is the reason it is all worth it," Nelson added.

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