

Inspecting the work
 Faberge Vice President Gus Zitzman (left) and assistant Frank Hollendorfer inspect the progress on the firm's \$1 million expansion. As a result of the Phase One 75,000 square foot addition, Faberge will hire 70 additional employees. The work is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Incumbents, Two Other File For City Government Seats

Of the seven candidates vying for the five seats on the Raeford City Council, only two are not incumbents.

Earl McDuffie, who ran unsuccessfully two years ago, and political newcomer James A. Leach, are the only two candidates who do not already have a seat on the council.

At least two of the five incumbents apparently decided at the last minute to put their names in the pot for the town board seats, just making the Friday filing deadline.

Incumbent Graham Clark will be running for his eighth term of office.

Bob Gentry is seeking his fourth year.

Vardell Hedgpeth Jr. is running for the fourth consecutive time.

Benny McLeod is trying for his seventh term, and Joe Upchurch running for his second term of office.

Mayor John K. McNeill, the only candidate signed up for the mayor's race, will be running for his eighth term in office.

The election for the two-year city council positions will be held November 8.

...Judgeship Decision Due Soon

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state Rep. Daniel H. DeVane said.

DeVane, Parnell, Rep. Sidney A. Locks, Rep. Pete C. Hasty and businessman and Hunt supporter Alfred K. Leach met with the governor Thursday afternoon in what DeVane called a "warm reception."

"He wasn't negative. He was non-committal. He said he would look at all the candidates," DeVane said.

The governor was told that the appointment was important to Hoke County and that this county deserved to retain the judgeship, DeVane said.

Pate was the second highest vote getter in the polling before the 12th District Bar.

The Raeford attorney is competing with Cumberland County Assistant District Attorney Stephen H. Nimmo, who finished first by three votes, and with Cumberland attorney Hank Finch.

Finch has the backing of state Sen. Anthony Rand and other members of the Cumberland County delegation, while Nimmo is believed to have the backing of former North Carolina Governor Terry Sanford.

The Pate delegation let Hunt know that they represented Hoke, Scotland and Robeson counties, DeVane said.

"We let him know that if he appoints someone else, he's going to make a lot of people mad," DeVane added.

...Around Town

(Continued from page 1A)

Weather Service in Hoke County, gave me some figures the other day for the September weather.

The rainfall for September was four inches. This is a little above the average for this month. In 1980 it was 5.2 inches; in 1981 it was 0.7 inches and in 1982, 2.1 inches.

The temperatures were from one extreme to another. The high was on Sept. 11 & 12 with readings of 100 degrees. The low was 40 degrees on Sept. 23 & 24. According to Gatlin if it had dropped two more degrees we would have had frost. The low reading, during the day, was Sept. 25 & 30 at 74 degrees. The high reading at night was on Sept. 6 when the thermometer was on 74 degrees.

It is very seldom that we have as many hot days in September as we did this year. Besides the two 100 degree readings, there were 10 days with readings of 90 or above.

Friday and the mayor is unopposed, but the old council members have opposition. Seven are running for the five seats. The election is Tuesday, November 8, 1983.

Rose Sturgeon, election supervisor, was telling me Monday that someone called up about filing and when she told him it was too late he remarked that the newspaper was at fault for him not knowing or something to that effect. If he had filed two weeks ago when the story was first run he wouldn't have missed his opportunity to run. Maybe he wouldn't know when to vote if the paper didn't carry a story. If you make a mistake, you must find someone or something to blame it on.

So be sure to watch out two years from now when the filing dates are and don't wait until the last minute.

Conservation Dept. He is now retired and lives in Raleigh. I will quote a few paragraphs to show you what I mean.

"Dear Sam:
 "If you work as a newspaper man, and particularly one who covers politicians, you can get some very uneven impressions. From my own early years, I remember how favorably I was impressed by Kerr Scott, rough but honest; Dr. Frank P. Graham, a gentleman in every sense of the word; and Luther Hodges who talked like a conservative businessman but had a keen vision of things as they should be.

"I also have some recollections that are not nearly as favorable, I'm sure you have also been watching somebody and thought to yourself: Is he really a congressman? for whatever office he held or aspired to."

Yes, Frank was endorsing a candidate for governor and was wanting me to give him an endorsement. I can't get involved at this time, Frank, but if he wins, I will help your man in the general election.

It is good to hear from friends even if it is about politicians. Keep the letters coming.

Don't forget the Athletic Booster Club Bar-B-Que Supper, Friday night, Oct. 14 at the Gibson Cafeteria. There will be carry-out plates only and these can be picked up from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. The cost per plate is \$3.50.

It is for a good cause, so eat up and help the Boosters.

Every once in awhile I will receive a letter from a friend and have to read three or four paragraphs to finally find out why he has written. One such letter came last week from Frank Jeter, Jr., a former newspaper friend and lastly publicity man for the Soil

Sandhills Chief Takes Office

Michael F. Watson has been appointed Center Director at The Sandhills Mental Health Center, nearly five months after the Board of Directors accepted a resignation from Dr. Steven Dingfelder.

The controversial resignation was sparked after Dingfelder was accused of violating state conflict of interest statutes.

At the same time, the center was being audited by the Department of Human Resources because of the unit's alleged misuse of funds.

In May, Dingfelder and four other board members resigned their positions.

Paul McDonald, Hoke County's unit director, was asked to serve as acting area director for the center.

McDonald has served in that capacity since mid-May.

Watson's appointment, which was announced last week, will apparently clear the way for McDonald to resume his responsibilities at the Hoke unit, but "nothing definite" has been decided, a spokesman for the center said.

Watson currently serves as Assistant Director of the Division of Youth Services within the State Department of Human Resources. He maintained a similar position in Florida before moving to North Carolina.

According to a press release, Watson holds a master's degree in urban and regional planning and is currently pursuing his doctorate degree.

Watson, 37, will take over the center's helm November 1.

The Sandhills Center provides mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse services to the five-county areas of Moore, Hoke, Anson, Montgomery and Richmond Counties.

Low Income Energy Funds Available

Applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program will be taken October 17 and November 30 at the Social Services offices on South Magnolia Street.

The program, is a one-time cash payment to those low income households who are eligible.

To be eligible for the program, a household's total countable income should be equivalent to the 1981 non-farm poverty level.

Total monthly income to be eligible for the program ranges from \$361 for a one person household to \$936 for a six person household.

The households total assets must not exceed \$2,000 and those in the household must be paying the heating bills to meet some of the other eligibility requirements.

Energy payments to those eligible will depend on the household's income, type of heating fuel used, and the temperatures for that area of North Carolina where the household lives.

The one-time payment will be received by eligible households in February.

Anyone believing they meet the eligibility requirements should contact the Hoke County Department of Social Services.


Elderly or handicapped individuals that need to apply can send a representative or call 875-8725.

Applicants should prepare household information on income, savings, checking accounts, property, stocks or bonds and wage verifications for October.


The deadline for filing ended

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