



# The News-Journal

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## Housing Units OK'd For Raeford

By Sherry Matthews

A third federally subsidized housing project has been approved for the Raeford area by the Farmer's Home Administration (FmHA) in Raleigh, state officials said last week.

"We have approved the construction of a new 28 unit apartment complex that will be located just off South Main Street," FHA official James McNeill said.

The 28 new units will be housed on a 5.0 acre tract of land and will feature one and two bedroom houses for low income families.

According to McNeill, 14 of the

28 units will involve rental assistance programs that help provide low income families with housing.

Proposed rents for the new units will range from \$180 a month for one bedroom apartments to \$199 a month for two bedroom units.

These rates are "adjusted down" according to the future tenant's income, McNeill said.

The five acres of land, bought for the project, were purchased by the developer for \$42,000, or \$8,400 per acre, and an additional \$844,600 will be tagged to the units

for development costs, McNeill indicated.

At the prices described by McNeill, each unit under construction will cost \$30,253.

Construction of the new project, presently billed as the Lantern Lanes Apartments, will begin around the "first of the year," according to developer Shelton Weeks.

"We have not gotten our complete package laid out yet. I will not know for two or three weeks when I can expect construction to begin," Weeks said.

Although Weeks isn't quite sure

when the project will get "off its feet," plans are to have the new units completed by next spring.

"We can't be sure this early when they will be ready, but I am hoping the units can be completed by April or May," McNeill said.

Although the newest project won't be ready for tenants until next spring, one Raeford housing project is complete with tenants and another is getting the finishing touches applied before applications are distributed next month.

The Yadkin Trail Homes, located on Wooley Street, are near

completion and will be ready for occupants November 1.

Within the 14.86 acres of land is 48 one, two and three bedroom units. Rents range from \$292 for a one bedroom unit to \$430 for a three bedroom apartment.

Those rents will be adjusted to fit the income levels of the tenants with the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) picking up the remaining tab.

The developers of the project have paid \$124,000, or \$8,344 per acre, for the 14.86 tract with construction costs of \$1.25 million.

According to those figures, each of the 48 units in the Yadkin Trail site, was constructed for \$26,041.

A third housing project, located on North Fulton Drive in Raeford, is completed and housing tenants.

The Meadows Apartments were completed during the summer and became Raeford's first subsidized housing project to be approved by the Raeford Housing Authority.

Various other projects have been proposed in the past 11 years, but were scrapped or delayed because of adverse public reactions and other factors.

(See HOUSING, page 14A)

### Around Town

By Sam Morris

The rain came Saturday and Sunday and it was too late for some of the crops, but the water level was getting low, so it was needed. From all reports this section of the state received from two to three inches of rain. This is not official as we haven't received a report from Robert Gatlin as this is being written.

The forecast is for the temperature to be in the 70s for the remainder of the week during the day and in the 50s at night. This is good fall weather.

Don't forget the Halloween Carnival at Upchurch School on Saturday night from 5 to 10. The festivities will benefit the TMH classes in the schools. Wear a costume.

The North Carolina State Fair had perfect weather until Saturday and then the rains came and cut down on the attendance. They should have had approximately 600,000 to attend the fair and this would be below the attendance last year.

Many from Hoke County attended and from all reports it was worth the trip to Raleigh.

The Ingathering at Antioch was well attended as is always expected. The weather was on the cool side and eating outside was pleasant, without the gnats and flies.

We went early this year and missed seeing some of the folks we usually see at the ingathering but the fellowship and food was tops as it always is at the county ingatherings.

Usually at the ingatherings you run into politicians, but as this is an off year they were not in attendance, or at least were not looking you up like they do in an election year.

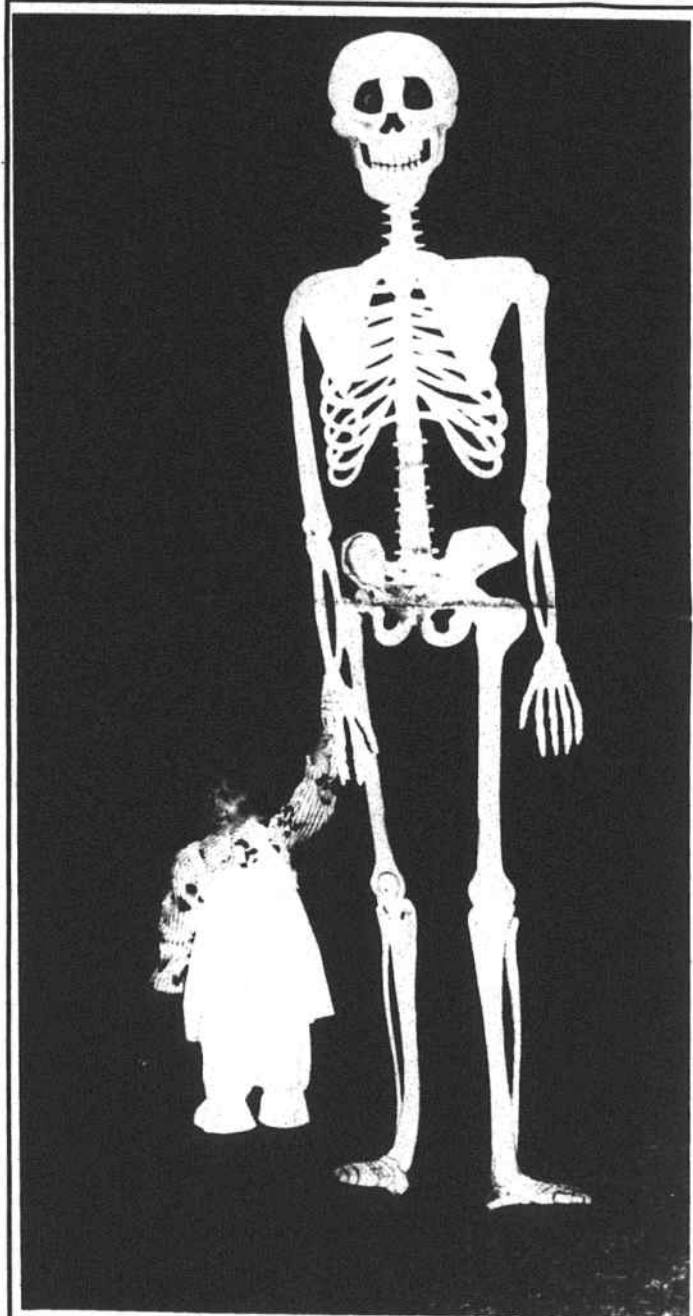
We hope they continue to have ingatherings, because it is a good time to see people you miss seeing during the year.

All veterans of World War II, the Korean War and the war in Vietnam don't forget about the parade on Armistice Day, November 11th. This is being sponsored by the local American Legion Post and they want all veterans to march in the parade. Get in touch with Earl McDuffie if you haven't done so at this time.

I had a little surgery last Friday morning. Nothing serious, but had to stay in the house until Monday afternoon. It happened at a good time because during the weekend there were plenty of football games to keep me entertained. If it had been during the week, I guess the walls would be scarred with me trying to crawl them. Soap operas are not for my viewing.

Friday afternoon Lester Seals of Austin, Texas came by the house with Graham Clark. Lester and I were in the army together and

(See AROUND, page 10A)



#### Ghostly walk

Monica Collins (left) appears to have a strange companion during this Halloween outing. However, the ghostly figure wasn't in a mood to walk, and chose to remain hanging around a Hoke County neighborhood. Monica is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Collins of Raeford. (Photo and Skeleton by Roland Fulk).

## Grand Jury Indicts Suspects

Ten area men were indicted Monday by the Hoke County Grand Jury on charges ranging from breaking, entering and larceny to robbery with a dangerous weapon.

Kaseen Geonti Sterling, 18, of Raeford was indicted on two separate charges of robbery with a dangerous weapon.

In the first indictment, Sterling has been charged with the July 18 robbery at gunpoint of Huffman's Grocery located at Rt. 3, Raeford.

During the robbery, between \$40-\$50 was taken from the register.

Also indicted in connection with the Huffman robbery was Willie Tyrone McPhatter, 19, of Rt. 4, Raeford.

McPhatter was also charged and indicted on two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon.

Sterling and McPhatter were also involved with a second robbery for which they were indicted Monday.

Both men were indicted in con-

nection with the July 12 robbery of The Pantry located on East Central Avenue.

In The Pantry robbery only a clerk's pocketbook was stolen.

Both robberies were similar in that a small caliber pistol was used, and the men were wearing toboggans over their faces during the crimes.

Samuel David Faulkner of Hoke County was also indicted Monday by the Grand Jury for the breaking, entering and larceny of Parks Grocery Store at Rt. 1, Aberdeen.

The indictment shows that Faulkner is being charged with taking a case of assorted cigarettes, a battery charger, 30 cans of beer and 22 blank checks valued at over \$500.

Two Hoke residents were indicted Monday for the August 20 breaking, entering and larceny at Jackson Tire Service at Rt. 2, Raeford.

The indictment indicates that Bernard Wendell Tabit and Marvis Tyrone Montgomery were involv-

## Testimony Continues In Stabbing Trial

By Sherry Matthews

Jurors were expected to begin hearing defense testimony Wednesday as the trial of a Fayetteville woman, charged with the February stabbing death of her stepfather, entered its third day.

The jury of eight women and four men could begin deliberations by the end of the day, court officers say.

Victoria S. Burnette, 21, who is charged with the second degree murder of her stepfather Roger Keith Shannon, expected to base her defense on sexual harassment.

Shannon's body was found stabbed to death February 8 in a wooded area between Rockfish and Arabia.

Burnette was arrested and charged in connection with the stabbing two weeks later on February 23 by Hoke County Sheriff's Deputies.

In opening remarks Monday, Assistant District Attorney Jean Powell painted a seamy picture for the jury of the events leading up to and after the murder of Shannon.

According to Powell, Burnette denied any knowledge of her stepfather's death during initial questioning by Hoke Sheriff Dave Barrington, but later confessed to the stabbing of Shannon.

Powell told the jurors that Shan-

non had received 11 stab wounds, six to the chest, two in the abdomen, one in the back, one in the left arm and one in the left leg.

Powell also told jurors that Shannon had been "handcuffed" prior to the stabbing, and that the victim had received head lacerations "consistent with someone kicking the body."

Powell also explained to the jury that Burnette was charged with "unlawfully" killing her stepfather, and that the defendant had committed the act "with malice."

Defense attorney Bobby Deaver told jurors that Burnette's admitted action of killing her stepfather was an "act of self-defense."

"Every killing is not unlawful. A person has a right to defend themselves," Deaver said in opening remarks.

According to Deaver, Shannon's murder "culminated" in Hoke County, but it did not "originate" here.

Burnette had been "sexually assaulted" by her stepfather at an "early age," Deaver said.

The defense will prove that Burnette was forced to leave home because of the sexual assault and later threats on her life, Deaver told the jury.

Defense attorneys Deaver and

Willis Brown are also expected to show that the "trauma" developed after the assault forced Burnette into a life of drugs and homosexuality.

"She was forced to leave. She was trying to escape the horrible nightmare," Deaver told the jury. Prior to the incident, Shannon had displayed "masochistic" tendencies that Burnette was subjected to during her stay in his Ft. Bragg home, Deaver said.

"She had to do it," Deaver said. According to Deaver, Burnette had agreed to take Shannon to meet some friends on the night of the stabbing.

Deaver informed the jurors that Shannon later took over the driver's position and eventually headed his light blue truck down Rockfish road towards a "wooded area."

"She went with him that night because she wanted to make peace with her stepfather for her mother's sake," Deaver said.

Shannon made advances toward Burnette while out in the woods and even said he was going to rape her again, the defense attorney said.

Burnette began stabbing at (See MURDER, page 14A)

## Man Dies In Hoke County Jail

A Moore County man, convicted Friday on Driving While Impaired (DWI) charges, died early Saturday morning in the Hoke County Jail.

According to Hoke Sheriff Dave Barrington, this was the first inmate death to occur in the county jail.

Eddie Hubert McCrimmon, 48, of West End, apparently died in his sleep, after being tried Friday in Hoke District Court on four separate misdemeanor charges.

McCrimmon's body has been

sent to the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in Chapel Hill where an autopsy will be performed, the sheriff said.

Although the cause of death has not been determined, local law officials are speculating that McCrimmon died from natural causes.

McCrimmon was given a 90-day jail sentence by Hoke District Court Judge Joe Dupree on four separate charges.

The defendant had been charged with driving without a license,

transporting open liquor, and possessing non-tax paid liquor.

McCrimmon had also been charged under the new DWI law.

He was found guilty on all four charges and was instructed to spend 90 consecutive days in the Hoke Jail. McCrimmon was given credit for the nine days he had already spent confined.

After the sentencing, McCrimmon was escorted back to the jail.

His body was found by Chief Jailer Everett Bowen early Saturday morning when the jailer could not wake the inmate for breakfast.

## City Garners 4th Award

By Sherry Matthews

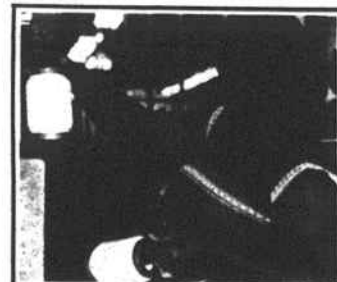
For the fourth consecutive year, the City of Raeford was presented the Governor's Community of Excellence Award.

The ceremonies, held Wednesday in Raleigh's Civic Center, marked the sixth year that North Carolina cities were awarded for their "hard work and devotion" to bringing industrial growth to the state.

"We have won this award for the past four years, and we are very proud of it," City Manager Ron Matthews said.

Matthews, along with Mayor John K. McNeill, City Councilman Vardell Hedgpeth, County Commission Chairman John Balfour, County Manager James Martin, Chamber of Commerce Director Earl Fowler and Chamber President Steve Parker were on hand Wednesday to accept the award and attend the industrial development conference.

(See CITY, page 13A)



### Inside Today

At the JRA Industry plant, formerly the Tex-Elastic Corporation, this employee secures one of the many spools of yarn that is prepared each day for use in women's support hose. The machines within the plant run seven days a week with three shifts keeping the lines of yarn moving. According to one JRA spokesman, the machines are only shut down three times a year. We take a look at JRA and Burlington Industries on page one, Section B of today's News-Journal.