



# The greatest show in town

Clown performances by Franzen Brothers Circus members will brighten the day here Friday. Flippo and Chryssi, a duet that delighted the students in area public and private schools on their visit here with the circus in 1983, are coming back, Kiwanis Ticket Sales Chairman Jimmy Wood said.

Circus General Chairman John Howard has announced that Flippo and Chryssi will have a full day in Raeford on Friday, April 12 and, as time permits, in surrounding communities.

"They will start their day on Friday on the 'Open Line' talk show on WSMR Radio, during which they will be giving away a few free passes to the circus and free tickets for elephant rides," Howard said.

As in 1983 when the Franzen Bros. circus was here, elephant rides will be offered, first-come-first-served to children attending

the circus for an extra dollar! Rides are given before and after each show and during intermission. "Parents may want to take pictures of this unique opportunity for their families," said Wood.

As much as possible, Flippo and Chryssi will be visiting each private school or day care center in the area for the remainder of the morning.

The rest of the day Friday will be spent in neighboring communities or on Main Street in Raeford. They will be at the Edinborough Shopping Center at 3:00 p.m. and at Raeford-Hoke Village at 4:00 p.m. to perform.

"They sure can make the little one's eyes light up," said Jimmy Wood, "and we hope parents will bring their kids by for a few minutes to see them." Flippo and Chryssi will be giving out a picture of themselves for the children to

color and take with them to the circus.

The best pictures will be judged by circus personnel and prizes will be awarded at the circus on Tuesday. "We hope to be able to provide these same coloring contest pictures to the public schools, graders K-4, on their return from vacation on Monday, April 15th," added Wood.

The circus will be at Armory Park on 401 Business for two shows - 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16. They will come here from a Monday performance in Norwood as they head North on their summer tour.

After Raeford they head for Fuquay-Varina.

Circus personnel will arrive in town before 9 a.m. Tuesday and begin setting up their big top tent and marquee right away.

Okha, their famous performing elephant will be assisting in raising

the tents.

Local Kiwanians, sponsors of the circus, invite the public to come out and watch the setting up process and share in the fun.

Then at 12:30 p.m. during the lunch hour, the Upchurch School Band, under the direction of Gil Clarke, will lead a circus parade from Armory Park up Central Avenue to Main Street, to the County Library.

They will then turn on E. Donaldson Avenue by McLaughlin School to Jackson Street and back to Armory Park.

Circus tickets are available at The News Journal and other locations in the area.

Ticket prices go up one dollar each at the gate if any are left.

Parking for the shows will be available on the vacant lot next to the Armory, at the Mental Health Center, and in the House of Raeford parking lot.



**All smiles**  
Flippo and Chryssi are polishing up their smiles for an appearance in Raeford on Friday. The Franzen Bros. Circus clowns will be performing on Main Street at 3 p.m. and will be at the Raeford-Hoke Village Shopping Center at 4 p.m. to promote next Tuesday's circus with juggling balls, unicycles, stilts and magic wands.



**Lots of love**  
Teacher Kim Evans (right), receives a hug from a Hoke County Children's Center student, while Center Director Anne Johnson (in the wig), clowns around during the recent Family Fun Frolic. The trio helped Raeford Kiwanis Club members sell tickets to the April 16 circus during the event. The Center serves 23 children and counts heavily on help from fundraisers like the circus.

## Circus is helping Children's Center

**By Ed Miller**

The circus is coming to town and much of the money raised from ticket sales will go to the Hoke County Children's Center.

The Raeford Kiwanis Club, who will sponsor this year's performance of The Franzen Bros. Circus, will give some of the proceeds to the center. The club raises about \$10,000 per year for local charities.

However, the money that the center will receive from the show was not foremost in the mind of center Director Anne Johnson.

"The children get to go," was her response to questions about what the children get out of the circus.

The 23 children presently being served by the center will be most excited by the circus coming to town because these children are special.

They are under age five and are all developmentally handicapped.

Perhaps it is not so much the special nature of the children as it is the special meaning the circus will have to them.

These kids do not learn the same ways normal ones do.

Every effort is a strain.

Intense training, discipline and consistency go into teaching some of the children to learn simple tasks.

The center strives to teach their pupils to care for themselves like others their age.

Getting dressed and toilet training are just two of the tasks teachers help children learn.

The center teaches children the difference between right and wrong and why a certain manner of behavior is wrong.

Eye-hand co-ordination is taught so children can build with blocks, use scissors, draw and perhaps write.

The center teaches colors, the alphabet and other cognitive skills.

A speech therapist works with the staff by recommending what to do for each child with speaking problems.

The therapist also works with the children directly.

When a child does something wrong, he is disciplined, as most children are, but in a different way.

It is done immediately and without anger.

Children are not yelled at or scolded in loud voices.

Punishment usually consists of the removal of a favorite toy or isolation from the group for a short time.

These youngsters are taught by example.

It's a hard job to teach just the basics to 23 children of this type considering there are only two full-time teachers, two temporary teachers and a social worker on staff.

Tickets Available from Raeford Kiwanis Club members or at:

The Hoke Co. Children's Center, WSMR, The News-Journal, Western Auto, Howell Drug, Miller's Corner Grocery, Convenient Mart, Fast Shop, B&W Food Mart, McNair's Cleaners, Theresa's and Valu-Mart.

AND

in Red Springs at Western Auto, Jenkins Dept. Store and IR's. In St. Pauls at WNCR Radio. In Aberdeen at WANC Radio.