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RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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Thursday, April 18, 1985



Grand entrance

The Upchurch Jr. High School marching band joined the Franzen Bros. Circus parade Tuesday while Jeffrey Strother rides on Orka the elephant. Other

youngsters who were not stuck in school, watched with longing. Thankfully, the circus shows did not conflict with school hours.

County rejects gamble to improve CD chances

By Ed Miller

Members of the Hoke County Commission passed on an opportunity to improve their chances of getting \$725,000 in federal Community Block Grant funds by not committing less than \$10,000 in local money to help with the improvements.

Commission members were advised by Lumber River Council of Government (COG) Director Jim Perry that if any local money, "even a token amount" were placed in the budget for road improvements in the area, it would be viewed favorably by those who score the applications.

If approved, the grant money would make improvements to minority housing in the Tylertown area, Perry said.

There will be 56 houses up for renovation if the grant is funded, said the director.

"We did work very hard to make this a competitive application," Perry said.

Commissioner Cleo Bratcher made the motion to send the application in as it is, and the motion passed unanimously.

Perry recommended a small

amount of money, \$1,000 or \$2,000, be budgeted for the improvements.

"Far less than \$10,000," would be needed, Perry said.

According to the COG Director, Hoke County's application last year lost out on being funded by about 100 points in the scoring process.

Those needed points may have been obtained if the road improvements were funded, he said.

According to Perry, competition for the grants is very competitive.

Last year, Hoke County's application finished 121 out of 169 applications, a spokesperson for the state Department of Natural Resources and Community Development has said, adding that the application would have to have finished in the top 39 to be funded.

Trailer law aired

About 15 people appeared at the Monday night meeting to hear what was said about a proposed ordinance setting guidelines for mobile home parks in the county.

Commissioners gave up their copies of the ordinance to eager

residents who attended the meeting.

According to Planning Board member and former Hoke County Commissioner Mable Riley, most of the people present are owners of mobile home parks in the county.

Commissioner Bratcher asked about one section of the ordinance stating that a developer must have five acres of land to begin a trailer park on.

Brown Hendrix Jr., Planning Board Chairman, said that the five acre minimum is "a good average between (what is required) in Moore County, Bladen County ... and what (the planning board) was working with in 1970".

According to Hendrix, a developer can get about five mobile homes on an acre of land if streets are not put in.

"We're not saying that an owner has to fill up five acres. He must just start with that," said Hendrix.

In a motion, the commissioners set May 20 at 7:30 p.m. as the time and date for a public hearing on the ordinance.

(See COLLEGE, page 11A)

NC cooking contest scheduled for Turkey Festival opening

Raeford was selected last week as the site for the 1985 North Carolina Turkey Cooking Contest.

The contest, which is a statewide event sponsored by the North Carolina Turkey Federation in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, is scheduled for the opening day of the North Carolina Turkey Festival.

Tentative plans are to hold the contest on Main Street on September 18, a festival spokesman said.

A cooking seminar with a well-known chef is also being planned

to be held prior to the judging of the state's best turkey recipe.

"The cooking contest is held in order to further promote turkey and turkey products," Department of Agriculture Marketing Specialist Teresa Parker said.

"It's designed to expand the creative side of turkey cooking and to improve consumer awareness," she added.

The contest is expected to draw over 1,000 visitors to watch the competition between the five finalists and to attend the seminar.

It is also hoped that the contest

will draw state officials for the opening of the turkey festival.

The contest is open to all residents of North Carolina, except those connected with the contest.

The best recipe will be awarded \$500. Second place is \$250 and third, fourth and fifth are \$100 each, Parker said.

Deadline for entering is July 15. Entry blanks are available at the Hoke County Extension Service office or at the office of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce.



Moore project delays Raeford motel opening

By Ed Miller

A condominium project in Moore County has delayed the beginning of motel construction slated to begin in Raeford on April 1, but the developer of the project said there is no question that the project will be completed.

"Yes, the motel will be built," Developer Gene Ballard said Monday.

To demonstrate his good faith, Ballard said he has moved office furniture and equipment into a building across Highway 401 from the construction site, he said.

Ballard has also purchased the land where the building has been proposed, he said, adding that he has also invested "quite a bit of money" in architect's drawings.

Currently, Ballard is reviewing bids from contractors on the motel project, he said.

Although an updated timetable had not been completed as of Monday, Ballard said: "something should be concrete next week."

The 30-unit motor inn will be called "The Colonial Motel," Ballard told the Raeford City Council last month.

The proposed motel will be located on the corner of Palmer Street and Highway 401, said Ballard.

At that meeting, the city council gave Ballard assurance that he would have water and sewer hook-ups on site when needed.

The Hoke County Commission (See MOTEL, page 12A)

Airport commission approves budget

By Ed Miller

The Raeford-Hoke Airport Commission passed a motion to present a \$13,000 budget to the Hoke County Commission and the Raeford City Council for approval in a meeting last Thursday.

Members of the Airport Commission are also asking both local governments to keep a previously budgeted \$37,500 each in an account for capital outlay.

That money can be used to build "T-hangers" at the airport and generate some revenue for the county and city, Commission Chairman Frank Baker said.

According to the charter for the commission, Raeford pays half the costs for running the airport and Hoke County pays the other half, Baker said.

"That's a cheap airport," Commissioner John Plummer said at the meeting.

According to the budget proposal prepared by Baker, the airport made \$22,800 last year in fuel sales, rent and tie-down fees.

The commission also paid out \$20,000 for the fuel, according to the budget request.

Until last year, the airport had never made money.

According to the proposal, the largest request for any one line item is \$3,000 to be used for airport departmental supplies.

This line item includes bulbs for the runway and beacons and small lights that must be replaced from time to time, Commissioner Wayne Byrd said.

According to Byrd, until last year, City Engineer Bill Sellars had been stockpiling such equipment for the facility.

That stockpile is nearly gone and must be replaced, said Byrd.

A request has also been made for \$2,000 for airport ground maintenance.

Last year, the city cut grass on the landing field and around planes, but that will not be the case this year, Byrd said.

Byrd, who was instrumental in determining the amounts to be placed in each line item, also called for \$1,500 to be placed in a building repair line item.

According to the commissioner, the "fixed base operations"

building is in need of repair.

In other line items, \$1,500 was budgeted for professional services, \$300 was placed for a telephone just installed at the airport, \$1,000 is needed for airport insurance and \$1,000 was budgeted for equipment repair.

When broken in half, Hoke County and the City of Raeford will only have to budget \$6,500 each to run the airport.

In discussion during the meeting, commissioners were informed that a zoning ordinance for the area around the airport is forthcoming.

Commissioner Plummer will have a rough draft of an ordinance ready for the next meeting, he said.

In other action, commissioners approved a survey questionnaire drawn up by Commissioner L.E. McLaughlin.

The questionnaire was designed by the commission to determine if personnel are needed to pump fuel at the facility before 11 a.m.

McLaughlin told other commissioners that the question form is finished and should be at the airport for pilots this week.

Democrats elect new party officers

A Rockfish woman was elected Chairman of the Hoke County Democratic Party Saturday.

Norma Campbell garnered the approval from about 70 party members who gathered at the Hoke County Courthouse Saturday afternoon for the annual convention.

Campbell, who is a native of

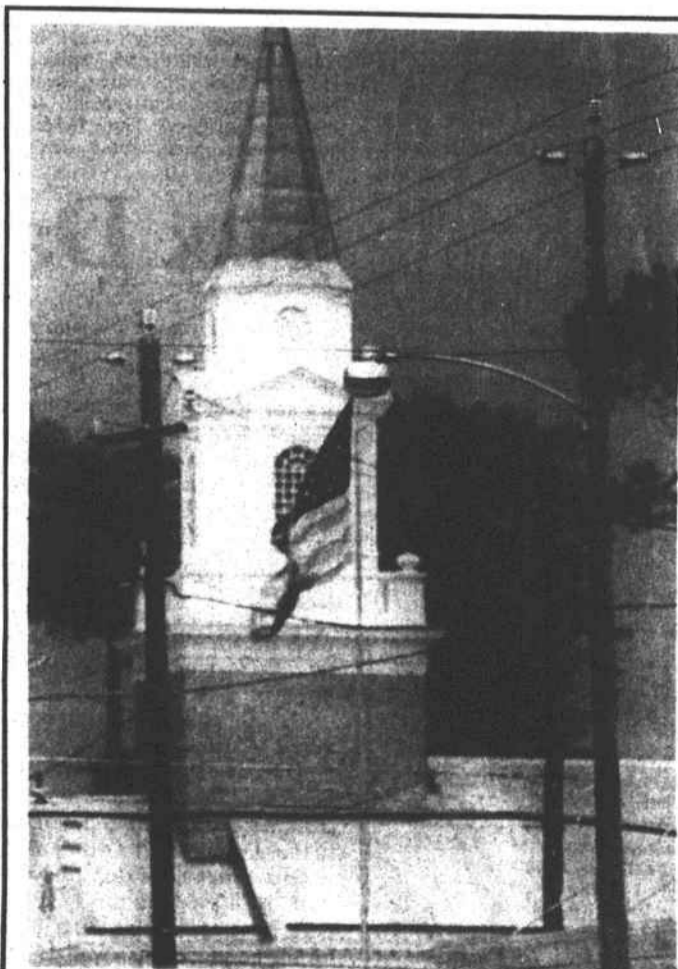
Newark, New Jersey, and the mother of a teenage son and daughter, has lived in the county for seven years. She is married to Marion Campbell and employed by Carolina Telephone and Telegraph.

Campbell will take over the post from Harold Gillis, who served as chairman for the past two terms.

In addition to Campbell, Tom Howell was elected first vice chairman, Carolyn Page was named second vice chairman and Wendell Young third vice chairman.

Gregory Burke was elected party secretary, and Charlotte Kelly was named treasurer.

Campbell was also elected to the state executive committee.



Maybe rain

As the clouds rolled in heavily Tuesday over the Raeford First United Methodist Church, many residents, perhaps all the residents wished for rain. It has been so dry lately that a ban has been placed on all outside burning in this area of the state. The dry weather is also hurting some of the area farmers. However, little relief came for Hoke County from these clouds.

Around Town

By Sam Morris

The weather for the past week has been nice as far as the temperature is concerned. The nights have been cool and then it warms up during the day. The only drawback is that we need rain. We had a trace of rain Saturday night and Sunday afternoon, but it wasn't enough to do anything but settle the dust.

The forecast calls for rain Tuesday and the temperature will go up to the high 80s by the end of the week.

Last year at this time it was almost too wet to get into the fields. Not so this year!

As most of your readers of this column know, I enjoy playing golf. I try not to let a bad shot or a bad round of golf upset me. It is fun to play and when you are having fun, you shouldn't let your temper take this away from you at any time.

I also enjoy watching golf matches on TV. Last Saturday and Sunday while watching the Masters tournament, I realized that the pros don't hit every shot perfectly. Many players on the par 3, 13th hole, had high scores. One player took a nine on the hole, but even when he was upset, he didn't throw his club, or stop playing in the tournament. This is their bread and butter and they must control their temper to succeed.

So now when I take the eight and nines on a hole, I will just remember the pro that took a nine

(See AROUND, page 11A)