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No North Carolina exclusive
This Virginia motorist displays his preference for turkey with a "Gobble" license plate. Photographer Dayvid Teague snapped this shot in the Spring Lake area. We take another look at the

local turkeys and the North Carolina Turkey Festival on page one of section B and page 11 in section A in today's News-Journal.

Suicide eyed in shooter's death

By Ed Miller

A man found dead in an alley behind Raeford's Page Bank and Trust Building Thursday night apparently opened fire and wounded a man and a woman before ending his own life, local authorities said Tuesday.

The dead man, who is believed to have killed himself, has been tentatively identified as Stacy Lowry, Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said.

The other victims of the shooting spree, Sadie Brown and David Price, have both been released from Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, said the chief.

Brown was shot in one leg and Price was wounded in the hip, said Wiggins.

The shooting occurred last Thursday night in the Page Bank and Trust Building, according to witnesses and Wiggins.

According to neighbors, Brown lives in the old bank building and Price, a recently transplanted

native of New York, is her cousin.

As close as police can tell, Lowry shot the two persons, ran to an alley beside the apartment building, put the gun to his head and fired, said Wiggins.

A gunshot wound was found to the temple of Lowry with powder burns around it, and the gun was found under the dead man, said Wiggins.

"We have to treat it (the alleged suicide) as homicide until we can prove different," said Wiggins.

Police officials think the man committed suicide because relatives and friends told Wiggins that Lowry had threatened suicide many times, the latest times being early last week, the chief said.

"It appeared that the wound was self-inflicted. Upon investigation, we found that he (Lowry) was the one who shot the others," said Wiggins.

The investigation shows that Lowry and Price had been arguing, Wiggins said.

The pair had been "bickering back and forth most all day," he said.

Lowry's body has been taken to Chapel Hill for an autopsy.

Currently, police are waiting for State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) officials to lift fingerprints from the gun, said Wiggins.

Others who live in the Page Bank and Trust Building heard the shots, and one woman even had a visit from Price after he was shot.

"I was about asleep when I heard something like a gun," Dorothy Jones said.

The woman said that Price broke down her door and fell in her apartment.

"All at once, someone ran in here and busted my door down," said Jones.

"He ran down here to get away from the gun," she said.

"It scared me."
"Then I heard the woman come (See SUICIDE, page 10A)

Police collar Hoke man during Western Auto B&E

After answering a silent alarm last week at Raeford's Western Auto, police arrested a local man and charged him with breaking, entering and larceny.

Terry Dyrant McGregor, 25, was arrested at the scene, inside the store, and charged, Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said.

Upon arrival at the store, police found the bottom panel of a door kicked out, said Wiggins.

McGregor allegedly had \$57 in cash and a gold ring in his pockets when arrested, said Wiggins.

Raeford Police personnel were assisted by Hoke County's members of the North Carolina Highway Patrol, said the chief.

In an unrelated case, an investigation into the background of a man arrested for violating state alcohol control laws, led officers to charge James Lewis Willis with skipping out on probation, a report from the Hoke County Sheriff's Department says.

Willis, 19, was caught for the probation violation after a check was run on him through the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), according to a report by Hoke County Detective C.E. Harris.

County receives fed grant for economic development

By Ed Miller

Hoke County can now begin to study the feasibility of an industrial park with \$25,000 in grant money given the Raeford-Hoke Economic Development Commission last week.

News that the grant has been awarded to Hoke County has excited Economic Development Commission Director John Howard.

"Essentially, this grant will permit us to do work endorsed by the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) using grant funds set aside for underprivileged areas like ours," said Howard.

Members of the Economic Development Commission gave Howard permission to apply for the grant in July.

"An important driving force behind achieving this grant is the work done by Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill Jr.," said Howard.

"He, among other leaders in the community have been working toward this objective over the last eight to ten years," he said.

"I am extremely pleased, for their sake, that we will now be able to move forward," said Howard.

"This is the first grant given usually in a series of grants," said Howard.

According to Raeford City Manager Tom Phillips; "It is the first step in a number of grants that could result in an industrial park for Hoke County."

An EDA letter set the effective date of the grant as September 15 and said the grant money will be available for 12 months.

The grant sets up a work plan for seeking an industrial park that will be divided into four phases, said Howard.

Phase one, "site feasibility and selection" is divided into five separate parts.

These parts include defining what Hoke County wants as a site,

identifying probable sites, identification of favorable industrial types for the site, assessment of physical features of sites and descriptions on how the site will be controlled, said the developer.

Phase two will entail a detailed site investigation and developing a master plan and program for it.

This phase will also examine "the ability of the Raeford-Hoke County Development Commission to meet anticipated costs," said Howard.

Marketing is phase three and can be happening simultaneously with phases one and two.

The final phase will be an executive summary that will assess the effectiveness of how the grant money was used, said Howard.

"Our strategy, since the inception of this year of our Economic Development Commission locally, has been to do this work anyway," said Howard.

"Now, the grant permits us to move vigorously and without impact on our own budget," he said

Committee is named for 75th

By Ed Miller

Members of the Hoke County Commission took the first steps in planning a celebration for the county's 75th anniversary Monday night by appointing the members of a steering committee to head the festivities.

Long-time Hoke residents Sam Morris, Clyde Upchurch Jr. and John D. McAllister were named to the committee by County Commission Vice-Chairman Neill McPhatter.

Morris was named chairman of the committee, said McPhatter.

Two of the three men were on the 50th anniversary committee 25 years ago, said Commission Chairman John Balfour.

The three members of the committee will have the authority to appoint additional members to subcommittees, said Balfour.

In other action, commissioners passed a motion accepting plans and specifications for the Hoke County Courthouse and allowing the architectural firm who drew up the plans to send them out for bidding.

"These are an excellent set of specs," said Hoke County Manager William Cowan.

"We plan to open bids on October 23," said Cowan.

Provided the bids are acceptable, the lowest bidder will be awarded the contract on November 14 with construction to

begin on November 21, said Cowan.

Cowan said the contractor will be given 240 days to complete the courthouse project which will put the completion date on July 19, 1986.

For each day the contractor is late, a fee of \$100 will be charged him, said Cowan.

The 240 day figure was picked in case inclement weather disallows painting and other outside work, he said.

"Structurally, the building will look as it did when it was originally constructed," Cowan said.

Current operations now ongoing in the courthouse will have to be moved, said the manager.

Three buildings will be used because county officials wanted to house the operations without having to rent space.

The assistant district attorney's office, magistrates, the probation department and some others will be moved to the Hoke County Public Library, he said.

Others will be placed in the courthouse annex which is part of the Hoke County Sheriff's Department and the Register of Deeds' office and the Hoke County Board of Elections office will be in the Pratt Building, said Cowan.

According to the manager, Hoke County District Court will be held in the commissioner's meeting room in the Pratt Building.

Although it is still undecided, Superior Court will probably not be held in Hoke County, he said.

Superior court judges who serve in Hoke County are now deciding that issue, said Cowan.

"Do you think all records will be secure enough?" Commissioner Wyatt Upchurch asked.

There will not be adequate space, but there will be duplicates on microfilm and they will be sufficient, according to the manager.

Commissioners also passed a motion allowing the movement of the offices until the courthouse construction is complete.

Cowan is still working on getting sufficient telephone lines to the offices.

A sign will be placed on the grounds of the courthouse telling people where the temporary offices are located, said Cowan.

Commissioners also voted to let the county's Building and Grounds Committee look into future uses for the old National Guard Armory.

Chairman Balfour recommended considering making the building available for sale.

Currently, there are two county departments housed in the building, said Balfour.

The Hoke County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and the Hoke County Parks and Recreation Department will have new quarters built with money received (See HOKE, page 2A)



Starting the monument

Sculptor Art Gore works on the first hand of the Hoke County memorial planned for the grounds of the courthouse. Gore is beginning the work in clay and will later cast it in bronze. The monument is an effort by Eagle Scout candidates Josh and Jay Pate. About \$2,000 has been raised toward the \$5,000 estimated cost. Additional funds will be raised by the Hoke County American Legion during the Turkey Festival.



In town Friday

North Carolina James G. Martin will be in town on Friday for a brief visit. The governor will inspect the newly restored Raeford depot while he is here. Martin's helicopter is scheduled to land at the Edenborough Shopping Center at 11:30 a.m. Friday, and the governor will stay only 20 minutes before departing for Winston-Salem. Local residents are being encouraged to come to Edenborough Shopping Center and greet the governor.

Around Town

By Sam Morris

The weather went from summer to winter overnight. It has been nice over the weekend, even if it cools down at night. We haven't had any rain so cotton should be picked in a week or so.

The forecast is for the temperature to get into the low 80's for the remainder of the week. This is as it should be with fall season starting Sunday, Sept 22.

It was good to see so many Turkey Festival T-shirts in the city Monday. I believe that people started buying the shirts after they saw someone wearing one on Monday. If you don't have yours, get one before the festival ends on Saturday. They will be something you will want to keep.

The festival will be underway when the paper hits the streets, but it should start with a bang and be something to remember with all the special events taking place until Saturday.

The committee has worked hard, and they should be congratulated on a job well done.

The graduating classes of Hoke (See AROUND, page 2A)