

# The News-Journal

RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

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## Raeford Redevelopment Commission created

By Sally Jamir

Members of the City Council on Monday voted to accept a resolution creating a Raeford Redevelopment Commission for the purpose of the revitalization of the downtown business district.

The purpose and functions of the commission will be virtually the same as that of the Downtown Revitalization Committee.

According to City Manager Tom Phillips, the name change is primarily so that the commission will "have the opportunity to get involved with low interest loans" that are made available to businessmen if they want to use them.

Appointments to the commission were made and include Ivory McNair, Thomas A. Phillips, Abdullah Shareef, Larry Calloway, Eloise Carter, Rev. Frank I. Lloyd Jr., Kay Thomas, Joe Upchurch and Tommy Wright.

In other business, the council voted to accept from Alert Cable TV the proposed Cablevision Super Basic Package service. The action was taken after a public hearing on the new service was held at the beginning of Monday night's meeting.

The service combines both the basic service, including channels 3-13 and the expanded service, including channels 15, 17, 19, 21 and 22 at a cost of \$13.00. The cost is two dollars less than the previous combined rate for the two services.

Showtime, The Movie Channel and Playboy will remain as Premium Channels, costing \$9.95 each. The Converter Box and the Remote control converter box will remain at the same costs, \$1.00 and \$2.00 respectively.

Prior to acceptance by the council, a survey of customers was done by Alert Cable asking them a series of questions relating to their service requirements and consideration of the new service.

In reference to the survey on the new service, City Manager Tom Phillips said, "once you interpret this, it would come out almost 50-50 in favor of it."

City Attorney Painter Wilcox stated that a second vote on the service would be needed at the next meeting in order to change the (See COUNCIL, page 6)



### Peach harvest

Hoke County peaches are ripening quickly and are ready for eating, cooking and putting away. Fruit such as these Winbto variety will be picked at a dis-

ting rate this weekend to the satisfaction of peach lovers everywhere.

Photo by Sally Jamir

## DSS adopts policy for hearing impaired

By Sally Jamir

The Hoke County Board of Social Services adopted a policy for the provision of services to the hearing impaired at their regular meeting on June 30.

Deputy Director Ken Witherspoon related that "we have never worked with a deaf person but we need a policy."

This need is based on Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act passed in 1973 which requires that when federal money is involved, all services be made accessible to the handicapped.

The policy adopted for these services states that hearing impairments affects an estimated 343,000 North Carolinians. Of this number, approximately 45,000 are profoundly deaf.

A possible 10,000 deaf citizens depend on sign language as their primary mode of communication. Cued speech is steadily gaining use as a language for the hearing impaired.

The policy purpose is to establish the provision of interpreter services for deaf people so

that they may make the fullest use of service delivery channels.

In other business, the board reviewed case action and fraud activity in the food assistance program for the month of May.

Generally, program participation was down by approximately 200 participants and total benefits of \$6,500. According to Witherspoon, this is because of the decrease in the unemployment rate in May.

Witherspoon said that many in the food assistance program "would rather earn wages" and observed the connection between the employability of these participants and the development functions of the County Commission and the Economic Development Commission.

Overall there have been fewer participants in the program this year than last year. Witherspoon speculated on the two primary reasons for the decline.

One is that the household composition has been redefined to include fewer members. The other is that the integrity of the program

has been improved by making steps to safeguard it against fraud.

One of these safeguards is by giving prospective participants double interviews in order to double check information asked, given and received by all parties.

This helps to protect both the interviewee and interviewer from giving incorrect information.

In addition, the board was given a presentation of the food stamp application process by Allison Poole of the DSS.

Poole conveyed the importance of a quality interview during the application process and the responsibility of the DSS agency to do its part in re-checking qualifying information.

"It used to be the household responsibility, now it's our responsibility," Poole said. "If information is not on the application "and the agency could find it out, it's our fault."

The board reviewed the Aid to Families With Dependent Children Program, which in June totaled approximately 465 participants.

## Public hearing set for half-cent tax

By Sally Jamir

Members of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday set a public hearing on enacting the additional half-cent local option sales tax passed by the state legislature and officially ratified Monday by Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan and Speaker of the House, Listen Ramsey.

The commissioner's regular meeting on Monday was recessed until Tuesday in order to await official ratification before local action. The public hearing on the tax was set for July 24, 8 p.m. at the Pratt Building.

In its first two years, the tax will be divided in the ratio of 40% county, 60% schools. In the second two years the ratio will be 50% county, 50% schools. The following four years, the tax will be divided in a ratio of 60% county and 40% schools.

In the two years following this four year period, the tax will be divided in a 70-30 ratio and for one year following this the ratio would be 80-20 for one year.

After this time, all revenues will go to the county.

In other business during the July 7 meeting, the board accepted from Dale Teal, tax collector, reports on tax collection, releases, and unaudited tax settlement for 1985 and prior year's taxes.

The board passed an order for the collection of 1985 taxes. Also, the board passed a resolution to grant Teal permission to request funds on a N.C. Land Records Management Program Grant application for use in modernizing

land records and mapping.

The board would match funds obtained through this grant.

In addition, the board passed a request from Department of Social Services (DSS) Director Ken Witherspoon authorizing him to enter into contracts with providers of day care, child and transportation services for a period of one year.

Numerous appointments were accepted by the board. They include the appointment of:

- Clidic Mae Locklear and Willie McPhaul to two years on the South Hoke Community Center Board of Trustees.

- Mrs. Joyce Blackburn to two years on the Hoke County Domiciliary Home Community Advisory Committee.

- Jack Frazier and Rhonda Pickler to one year on the Hoke County Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Advisory Council.

- Jessie R. Lee, Jim Williamson and Jim Warner to two years on the North Raeford Fire District Commissioners.

- Carolyn McKay to the Hoke County Private Industry Council.

In addition, the board voted to participate in an "agreement for mutual aid regarding EMS services in the state."

In a letter to County Manager William (Bub) Cowan from EMS Project Director Tim Harper "written mutual aid agreements must be in effect among all providers of emergency medical services within the region to ensure and simplify access to additional resources in a major emergency incident."

## Arson suspected in service station fire

A Hoke County gas station was apparently the target of arsonists on the morning of July 2, according to a spokesman at the Hoke County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Dave Barrington related that evidence found at the scene of the fire which engulfed Jimmy's Exxon on Highway 401 indicated a flammable substance had been put in the building.

"Found in the ashes was a flammable liquid which was sent to State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) laboratories for analysis," Barrington said.

Records say Lee Allen Schwein, a soldier at Camp Lejeune, reported the fire to Deputy D.R. Hardin at approximately 3:00 a.m.

Upon Hardin's arrival the store was totally engulfed in flame. Puppy Creek and Hillcrest Fire Departments responded to the call and put out the flames.

After the flames were under control, Puppy Creek Fire Dept. Chief David Willis showed Hardin a ball and bat and gas can in the fire-gutted building that couldn't be accounted for by the store owner, Jimmy Quage.



Jimmy's Exxon

Hardin called Detective J.R. Riley to the scene and told the Hoke County dispatcher to contact the SBI arson investigation.

Records say the store had been checked at approximately 2:45 a.m. by Deputy Hardin.

Value of the equipment and stock destroyed in the fire is estimated to be \$60,000. (See ARSON, page 6)

## Festival T-shirts arrive

Turkey T-shirts are here! The N.C. Turkey Festival Board has authorized the sale of 1986 official Turkey Festival T-shirts to begin on July 10.

The shirts are to be available in the Chamber of Commerce office on Main Street. They are available in seven sizes, from an infant size to an adult XL. This year's color is a bright, eye-catching pink. The price for all sizes is \$5.00.

The sale of T-shirts is an important money-raising facet of the Turkey Festival the profits from T-shirt sales will help with advance expenses of the festival, like deposits for musicians, publicity, and paying for the shirts themselves. Hoke people should buy shirts soon so that wearing them will promote the festival here and in vacation spots everywhere.

N.C. Turkey Festival plans for 1986 are under way. The Cooking Contest is scheduled for September 18. Bands are booked for September 19 and 20. Craftsmen have already secured booths for Saturday. Volunteers are being contacted.

Everyone can be supportive by buying and wearing 1986 Turkey Festival T-shirts. On September 8 there will be a Wear Your T-Shirt Day.



### Straut your stuffin

Sharon Maxwell, right, and her aunt, Mary Monroe Maxwell, model the new T-shirts for this year's N.C. Turkey Festival.

## Raeford man knifed on 4th

A Raeford man was assaulted and wounded by a man with a knife in front of the Davis Store on 401 South on the evening of July 4, according to records at the Hoke County Sheriff's Department.

Gregory Lacy Dockery, Route 1, Raeford, was apparently confronted by a suspect at 10:00 p.m. Friday. The man first made some obscene remarks to Dockery and then cut him on the neck.

According to records, the wound required medical care of 30 stitches at Scotland Memorial Hospital.

No arrest was made, records say.

In an unrelated incident, Paul Boquist of Route 1, Red Springs was apparently shot in the left foot with a BB gun by a juvenile suspect in South Hoke.

Boquist's mother, Shirley Locklear, at first thought the shooting was an accident but realized the youth had made threats to people prior to the incident which happened last week.

Boquist was treated for the wound and released.

Barbara Batton of Route 4, Raeford reported the shooting of her dog with a pellet rifle at Lois Batton's residence which is in the same neighborhood as Batton's home. The incident occurred at approximately 9:00 p.m. on June 30.

Records say three children of the Batton family each stated that a (See HOLIDAY, page 6)

## Around Town

Sam Morris

It seems to me that we have had enough hot weather for the year. Even though summer has been with us only three weeks, it has been hot for about two months. The thermometer on Monday was pushing 100° and according to all reports Tuesday and Wednesday will be hotter.

We do not have any rain in the forecast for this week, not even thundershowers. It hasn't been as dry in Hoke County as it has been in other parts of the state. You could say that we have been blessed with rain this year, compared to many other places.

I just hope that our air conditioners keep going, because it

would be hard to live without them after getting used to them.

I received a letter last week from Victoria Thomas-Harvey, a teacher at the Hoke County Children's Center. It had a news release with the letter which she wanted run in this column. The release follows:

The Hoke County Children's Center has scheduled a parent meeting on Tuesday, July 15. The meeting will be held at the Children's Center, 202 N. Jackson Street, Raeford from 7-9 p.m.

Jenny Seykora and Gale Meese of the Advocacy Center for (See AROUND, page 12)