

The News-Journal

RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

Covering Hoke County Like A Roof Since 1905

Turkey Festival
schedule
On page 9



Volume LXXVIII Number 23 Thursday, September 18, 1986

25 CENTS

Turkey Festival begins

By Sally Jamir

The celebration begins September 18 as the Second Annual North Carolina Festival gets underway.

Festivities continue through Saturday with a highlight being the Turkey Olympics starting at 3:30 p.m. in Turkey Stadium on the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad Depot lot.

Several contestants this year are returning to re-capture their titles from last year. Many had exciting stories to tell.

Kerry Booker spoke on behalf of the Raeford Juniorettes whose turkey "Roadrunner" took the High Jump honors.

"All I can say is we were shocked! Everyone was trying to push their turkey over the bar, which was one inch off the ground," she said. "Ours just kind of walked up to the bar and stepped over it."

"It was a real good time, and we're looking forward to it this year."

Booker and the Juniorettes have not yet decided on a name for their contestant this year.

Johnnie Griffen conveyed the exciting time he and the J.C.'s had when they had trained "Streaker" who won the Slalom Race title.

"I had a Chow dog who had gotten loose in the yard when we were trying to train it," Griffen said. "The dog taught that turkey to run right fast!"

"The original turkey we had got a swollen leg and couldn't run in the race, so we got another one 30 minutes before it was time to run. We put it in and it just took right off."

"You can't train those hard-headed birds," Griffen said. "Get them used to a broom is about all you can do."

"It was an event I won't forget," Griffen said. "If we win this year we'll probably have streaker number three next year."

Griffen relates that their turkey had run in another event but only got so far because people were crowding in too close to the lanes.

This year, a special corral will be constructed to help control the traffic so the turkeys can run uninhibited.

Jennifer and John Manning's "Super Turkey" won for the "Fartest" category last year.

"We got a Bronze Nicholas hen turkey," Manning said. "I thought I could pick the biggest easy enough."

"We tried to put a 'S' on the turkey's chest to stand for 'Super Turkey' but it wouldn't stand for that."

"It was a lot of fun," Manning said. "Especially to see people act foolish."

The Evangelical Youth Group (See FESTIVAL, page 15)



Welcome

A sign on Highway 211 just outside of Red Springs welcomes visitors to Hoke County, birthplace of the official North Carolina Turkey Festival. The sign, and others like it, will be seen by thousands of visitors this week as they come to Raeford for the Second Annual North Carolina Turkey

Festival. The festival honoring the state's most prosperous bird is becoming well-known throughout the region. Three days of fun-filled events, including the Turkey Olympics, have been scheduled for the festival which begins today (Thursday, September 18).

Volunteers will help distribute food

By Sally Jamir

Department of Social Services (DSS) food commodities distribution in Hoke County will receive help from a volunteer organization as the result of action by the County Commissioners at their regular meeting Monday night.

The commissioners authorized the DSS to enter into a contract with an organization (such as the Volunteer Firemen's Association) to distribute food commodities.

Department of Social Services Director Ken Witherspoon said that when the department began distributing food in 1982, DSS was told this would be a short-term practice.

Currently, food is distributed in

the county four times a year. Witherspoon said.

Witherspoon explained that the distribution usually takes a 12-hour day with 36 volunteers assisting in order to complete the distribution.

Responsibilities of the volunteer organization chosen to carry out the distribution would include securing a location for distribution, unloading commodities, securing refrigerated storage and providing security for the stored food.

The commissioners also decided to grant a DSS request for overtime pay in order to handle the increase workload which comes in

the fall and winter.

Also, the commissioners approved the establishment of the position of administrative secretary (pay grade 61, step 1) to assist the DSS in the absence of Frances Cox, who filled this position until June when she was taken ill.

The commissioners tabled the matter of a DSS request for the establishment of an eligibility specialist II position.

In other business, the commissioners received a report on the N.C. Turkey Festival activities from festival committee chairwoman Evelyn Manning.

"Hundreds of people are work-

ing to bring attention to the community and the turkey industry in North Carolina," Manning said.

The commissioners unanimously agreed to fly the Turkey Festival flag, designed by Cheryl Honeycutt, under the Hoke County flag for the duration of the festival.

In further business, the commissioners moved to accept \$8,000 in matching funds from the N.C. Land Records Management Program, Department of Natural Resources and Community Development for use in an upgraded mapping program for Hoke County.

(See COMMISSIONERS, page 15)

Mims named region's Principal of the Year

Emma Mims, principal of J.W. Turlington School, has been selected as 1986 Principal of the Year for Region IV in a program co-sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and Wachovia Bank. Mims is the first Hoke County educator to be chosen for the honor.

Mims will now move on to compete with other regional winners. From the eight educational

district winners, two statewide winners will be selected.

"My first reaction was shock," Mims said in an interview. "It certainly is an honor."

Mims attended Shaw University for her BS degree. She received post-baccalaureate degrees from North Carolina Central University and East Carolina.

She began her teaching career in Hoke County as a math and science teacher at Upchurch High

School. After integration, Mims became a chemistry teacher at Hoke High School.

Mims has served as an assistant principal at the high school and Scurlock Elementary School. In 1978, she transferred to Turlington and became principal of the school.

"We do have a good educational system in Hoke County," Mims said.

Program fights drugs

By Sally Jamir

Drug abuse in Hoke County schools will receive needed attention if the Alcohol-Drug Defense (ADD) Program proposal recently approved by the Board of Education, obtains state funding.

The proposal, discussed by board members at their regular meeting on September 9, was prepared in order to satisfy the need for the county to provide comprehensive drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs in grades K-12.

The alcohol and drug prevention program in Hoke County will address three influences of drug use: economics, media and ideas of parenting.

Hoke County school nurse Kathie Ellis wrote the program proposal with the assistance of sixth grade Turlington school teacher Judy Norris and Hoke High School guidance counselor Sharmain Butler.

The goal of the program is to delay the age of onset or the age at which young people start to use drugs.

"If students can get through early teen years to where they're better able to make responsible decisions, we might be preventing them ever using drugs," Ellis said in an interview. "They need to understand that substances are not solutions."

Ellis explained that the Board of Education has established the ADD program within the Department of

(See PROGRAM, page 15)

Airplane goes up for sale

A plane seized on November 26, 1983 at Raeford's municipal airport with marijuana on board will be sold October 3 at noon, according to Sheriff Dale Barrington.

The Furches aircraft had been held by the Sheriff's Department, the District attorney's office and the State Bureau of Investigation in hopes of making arrests in connection with the drug transport.

Barrington said they obtained a release from the D.A.'s office because all agencies concerned did not want to hold the plane as evidence in the crime.

A court order was necessary to approve the sale of the plane which was registered under a fictitious company name, according to Barrington.

Around Town

By Sam Morris

The weather has finally tried to get in season during September. The 80-degree temperatures during the day are real nice and when you get up in the mornings, it feels like fall is on the way.

The forecast is for the weather to remain the same for this week, with maybe some rain on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Maybe if this keeps up we can expect the electric bill to get below \$100 per month.

•••

The Turkey Festival gets underway Thursday and from all reports, it should be bigger and better than last year, of course, we can't complain about last year because it was a huge success. The committee can take the one-year experience and add on to what was accomplished.

Two attractions that will be enjoyed on Thursday by both old and (See AROUND, page 15)



Committee meeting

Turkey Festival chairman Evelyn Manning, center, presides over a committee meeting on Monday. Committee members have spent some long, hard hours preparing for the big three-day event.

Reports from committee members indicate that all is going well and that the city is ready for the celebration.

Turkey Festival highlights

The NC Turkey Cooking Contest starts at noon today (Thursday). This is the fourth annual contest. Come out and watch the action!

• There will be many opportunities to see our Fort Bragg friends on Thursday & Saturday. Be sure and check your schedules ... and let them know how much you appreciate them.

• There will be over 100 units to be in the grand parade on Thursday. Don't miss it. There will be plenty of surprises.

• Do you need tickets to some of the events? You can get them at the Depot or pay at the door.

• If you want to participate in any of the tournaments and haven't signed up (tennis, golf or bridge) contact Turkey Festival Headquarters at 875-5929, or stop in at the Depot for information.

• The Hoke High Bucks want you out for their "First Annual" NC Turkey Bowl Football Game on Friday night against 71st High School of Fayetteville. Afterward, plan on attending the Outdoor Beach Music Concert at Old Armory Park. Both these events start at 8 p.m.

• The big day on Saturday is waiting for you!! Over 75 artists, craftsmen, and special vendors are ready to make your day enjoyable. It all happens on Main Street between the library and the Depot. Be early for the Opening Ceremonies at 9:45 a.m., at the Library, with Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan.

• Don't miss the Turkey Olympics this year. Our Mayor's Challenge Derby race is sure to be a hit. May the best town win!!

• Want a great way to end up the day Saturday? See the Horse Show at Star Farms on Highway 401 North.

• Remember to watch out for children...and, if you see any litter...stoop and toss it.