

The News-Journal

Covering Hoke County Like A Roof Since 1905

RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

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to compete in Gospel fest
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'Share Your Christmas'
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Skilled workers needed, EDC told

By Sally Jamir

The country's dire need for educated and skilled workers for the literally millions of jobs which will be created in the next 14 years was the focus of discussion for members of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) during their meeting last week.

The need for employable people was brought home to EDC members by viewing the video entitled "Jobs: 2000 A.D." which was produced by the National Alliance of Business.

EDC Director John Howard said the video conveyed the startling projection that "by the year 2000, the expanding business and industrial community will be creating 16 million new jobs but it is expected that there will be only 14 million qualified people to fill them."

The video states that the projection is based on U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics and mirrors current simultaneous trends toward an ever-modernizing technology as well as an ever-growing illiterate and unskilled workforce.

"We can not sit in isolation, doing our own thing on the farm, and in manufacturing and industrial communities," Howard said. "We

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Deputy arrested, charged with DWI

A Hoke County Deputy was charged with Driving While Impaired (DWI) on Saturday near Dundarrach, according to a Highway Patrol spokesman.

Line Sergeant F. Moody said Tuesday that former deputy William C. Morrison was arrested and charged with DWI at 3:46 a.m., November 8 on N.C. 20 near RP 1005 near Dundarrach.

Records say that Morrison, 34, Rt. 2, Box 117 B, Raeford, was observed crossing over the centerline of the road.

Hoke County Sheriff Dave Barrington said on Monday that he was terminating him as of today.

Morrison's court date is set for December 4.

Chief re-elected

At the annual business meeting, Raeford Volunteer Fireman re-elected Chief Crawford Thomas. Elections were held after a meal shared with City officials.

Other officers who will serve for 1987 include Neil A. McDonald, John Scott Poole, Jake Winchester, Jimmy McPhaul and Terry Tapp.

Around Town

By Sam Morris

Records were broken all over the state this past weekend as the temperature registered in the 80s. We didn't get any much needed rain, so it is still dry.

The forecast is for the bottom to drop out of the thermometer by the weekend, according to the weather report, the lows will be in the 20s and it will be in the low 40s by Saturday for the high.

We hope that everyone has a full tank of fuel oil or plenty of gas, if they aren't on electric heat. For the folks that will be using the wood heaters or your fireplace, please be careful. As the first cold weather comes to Hoke, let's not have any house fires to spoil the winter season. Don't let the blaze get too high in the heater or fireplace.

The voting last Tuesday, November 4 shows that 49.1% of the registered voters went to the

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Freedom

A red-tailed hawk spreads its wings just before being released by Dr. Russell J. Tate, owner of the Raeford Animal Clinic. The bird was found last Thursday by Jim Fant on the Upchurch land near the airport. The bird seemed stunned, and Fant

brought it to the clinic for observation. On Monday, Tom Pilkerton of the NC Wildlife Commission said the bird seemed fine and was ready to be released.

Six men arrested for gambling

Six Hoke County men were arrested for gambling at a local video gameroom by Sheriff's Department, Police Department and highway patrol officials on Saturday morning.

A report filed by Detective C.E. Harris, Hoke County Sheriff's Department, stated that as a result of information from a confidential source, several officers went to the Casino Light Gameroom at 9:35 a.m. on October 8 to investigate a report that there was a poker game in progress and money being bet.

Harris, Deputies Stewart Pait and Ronnie Lowery, Officer Monterio and Trooper Brent White went to the gameroom. As they entered, Harris reported that the officers saw six people sitting around a table.

The report says there was U.S.

currency and playing cards on the table.

When the people around the table saw the officers approach, they started trying to stuff money in their pockets, according to the report. The officers checked people for weapons. One man resisted and was charged with resisting arrest.

Records say that \$823 was confiscated along with two decks of playing cards.

Among the players was John Wesley McLean, Hill Street, Raeford, owner and operator of the gameroom. McLean was charged with possession of cocaine, allowing gambling in a house of public entertainment, keeping a gaming table, and engaging in a game of chance where money was bet.

Donald Edwin Jordan, Scotland Avenue, Raeford, was charged with resisting arrest, simple possession of marijuana, simple possession of drug paraphernalia, engaging in a game of chance where money was bet.

Also charged with engaging in a game of chance where money was bet was Ralph D. Currie Jr., Rt. 2, Box 307-B, Raeford, Anthony J. McKoy, Rt. 1, Box 156-A, Red Springs; Andrew Selles McLaughlin, Rt. 1, Box 447, Raeford, and Raseen Geom Sterling, 206 N. Wright St., Raeford.

According to a November 2 Sheriff's Department report, Ronnie Clark, 16, Rt. 1, Box 260, Shannon, was charged with second degree kidnapping of John William Clark, Route 1, Shannon.

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Two are hospitalized

School bus in three-car accident

A Hoke County school bus with 16 students was involved in a three-car accident early Monday morning, according to a county school spokesman.

Hoke County Finance Officer Don Steed said the bus carrying students from West Hoke elementary school was hit while driving toward Raeford on Hwy 211.

A report filed by Trooper B.T. Burr said that there was only one very minor injury among the students but that passengers in another car involved in the accident were taken to Moore Regional Hospital.

Steed said that there was a

nurse, Imogene Roper from the Moore County hospital, who stopped and helped with the students during the ordeal.

Burr said there were other nurses who stopped to assist after the accident occurred.

The report states that at 6:45 on Monday the bus, driven by Patricia McNeill of Raeford, pulled out of a driveway and started going toward Raeford on Hwy 211 about nine miles northwest of Raeford near RP 1225.

Records say a 1980 Toyota, driven by Henrietta Hill, 45, of Raeford, was proceeding toward Aberdeen on 211 when it slowed

for the bus and was then hit by a truck which had just come over a rise in the hill. When the truck hit the car, the car ran into the bus.

Steed said the driver of the truck, John West of Lumberton, was not at fault in the accident.

Hill and a passenger in her car, Barbara Billinger, 36, were both taken to the hospital, treated and released on Monday.

Burr reported that both women are nurses who were on their way to work at the Moore County hospital at the time of the accident.

Damage to the bus was \$900, \$2500 to the Toyota and \$200 to West's 1982 Chevrolet pick-up.

Additional funds needed for restoration project

The Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce is asking for donations to complete the restoration of the old Aberdeen-Rockfish Railroad Depot on Main Street.

Although the building has housed the offices of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Commission since April, two major projects must be tackled before the restoration is complete.

The roof must be repaired and missing cement mortar must be replaced. The estimated cost to finish the two projects is \$4,000.

When the projects are finished, the City of Raeford and the County of Hoke will assume maintenance responsibilities.

Many citizens have already contributed to the restoration project by donating money, materials or labor. Last year,

\$40,000 was raised through contributions, "pork barrel" funds and grants.

"We're asking people to come back one more time and make a contribution to finish the depot," said Steve Parker, who co-chairs the restoration committee with Bob Conoly.

"We have to ask for additional contributions because of budget overruns on labor costs and the expense of telephones, venetian blinds, ceiling fans and electrical fixtures," Parker said. "There was also a lot of expense in getting the paint chemically removed from the building."

Parker said it's important to finish the project to enable "the Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Commission to go about the business of attracting industry and making Hoke County and Raeford a better place to live."



Tax deductible contributions may be sent to: The Raeford-Hoke Depot Restoration Fund, P.O. Box 11, Raeford, N.C. 28376.

Recent contributors to the depot are: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kinlaw, Avery and Norma Connell and Dr. and Mrs. Robert G. Townsend.

Farmers

Locals hold their own through difficult times

By Sally Jamir

Farmers in Hoke County have been financially hurt by the inadequate rains and high temperatures of the summer but so far none have had to face foreclosure, a spokesman for Farmer's Home Administration (FHA) said Thursday.

There were 1,332 North Carolina farmers who received letters in February telling them that their farm accounts were delinquent, FHA Special Projects Representative Eddy Miller said last Thursday.

The accounts concerned loans which were made to farmers by FHA in the mid- to late 1970's for the purchase of land.

"Toward the end of the 1970's, farmers were not able to meet debt service on all their obligations," Miller said. "But FHA continued to provide operating credit to put crops out on a year to year basis, even when no pay schedule was provided."

From 1982 to 1985 FHA staff operated under new instructions. The letters were sent telling farmers they must show FHA that they can repay operating credit.

Farmers were given seven service options to choose from in order to pay back the loans. The choices included re-scheduling loan rates at lower interest rates or taking a total deferment on the loan for a time period of up to five years.

Farmers were given 30 days to respond to the letter.

Miller said that of the total letters sent, 364 recipients did not re-

spond and 968 did respond requesting one of the possible service options presented in the letter or informing FHA of their loan repayment plan.

Of the total, 242 farmers were either denied a service option or are still being considered for an option, Miller said.

Farmers have the right to appeal the FHA decision, Miller said. If the appeal is denied, they must liquidate their debt within 30 days.

September 30 was the deadline for all letters to be responded to. However, "some are still coming in," Miller said.

Hoke is included in the eight-county FHA district which Miller oversees. Within this area 36 farm accounts were accelerated, meaning farms faced foreclosure.

Miller said he is "sure some of the letters went to Hoke County," although he doesn't have a record of how many.

Because FHA is a creditor, they receive information on the financial standing of farms in the county.

Miller said that he has received word that five farms in Hoke County have filed for bankruptcy.

Two types of bankruptcy are filed for. Chapter 7 bankruptcy is a straight liquidation and the total assets go to the creditors.

A Chapter 13 bankruptcy involves giving a debt re-organization plan to the court. It legally prevents creditors from trying to collect, while giving the farmer a chance to re-group and

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Local SADD chapter popular with high school students

By Sally Jamir

Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD), a student organization supporting activities which help prevent impaired driving, may well be the largest club Hoke High School has ever had.

Kelly Calloway, president of the group, said that the membership drive for the club started this fall near the beginning of school. They were may close the membership drive soon, but before they do, more members may join.

"I believe it's the largest club that has ever been at the high school," Calloway said.

Calloway said that Eleanor Gentry, faculty sponsor for the group, hopes the members will total 100 before the drive is over.

Interest in the preventing the loss of lives and destruction which drinking and driving causes started in 1984. This year interest grew and with the help of former driving instructor Howard Barkley, several people organized SADD.

"Mr. Barkley helped us and mailed items to us in after he'd moved to help us organize the group," Calloway said.

Other officers in SADD are Teresa Kelton, vice president; Lisa Usher, secretary; Crystal Glisson, treasurer and Lisa Barnes, historian.

There are a number of reasons students join the group. Some have had personal experiences with the tragic results of trips taken by drunk drivers.

Calloway herself had a sister whose former fiance was killed in an accident involving a drunk driver. And she reports that the first student to sign up and pay a \$4 membership fee had a friend who had died in a similar accident.

One of the programs given by the group will include a videotape lecture by Robert Anastas, a high school teacher in Marlboro, Massachusetts, who lost three of his soccer team players within three weeks in accidents involving drunk drivers.

Statistics related to drunk driving are staggering.

"Out of 60 people born today, one will die and three will be in-



Kelly Calloway

jured in accidents related to drunk driving before their 20th birthday," Calloway said.

"A drunk driver will be killed every 23 minutes and in one day, 70 people are killed and 2,150 are injured by drunk drivers," she said.

Other than the meetings the group holds on every fourth Monday, the local SADD chapter sponsors activities such as carwashes, and provides special services at the high school prom.

"For the prom we'll work with a local florist to arrange putting messages in flowers about not drinking and driving," Calloway said. "At the prom we'll pass out cards or envelopes with quarters in them and numbers for a hotline to call if you need drivers. We're going to call them SADD sacks."

Calloway talked enthusiastically about future plans of the group, mirroring the SADD slogan: If we can dream it, it can be done.

The SADD theme is just as determined:

I am only one,
But I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
And what I ought to do,
By God's grace, I will do.