

The News-Journal

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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

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Commission passes junkyard ordinance

By June Lancaster
News-Journal Staff Writer

The long-awaited junkyard ordinance was adopted by Hoke County Commissioners Monday night. The ordinance went into effect at 12:01 a.m. October 20.

The enactment of the ordinance followed a public hearing at which no member of the public spoke. Previous commissioners meetings on the junkyard issue have been well attended by both proponents and opponents of the ordinance.

County Attorney Duncan McFadyen outlined changes in the ordinance made at a commissioners work session Monday morning.

Main changes from earlier drafts of the ordinance include requiring

a six-foot high fence, rather than an eight-foot high fence. Included in the fence definition was the stipulation that it be constructed of 11.5 gauge wire, a less stringent requirement than the 9 gauge previously in the draft.

The fence is also required to have three strands of barbed wire all the way round the top. In addition, the gates for ingress and egress must be made non-transparent by using lattice work to screen them.

One provision the enacted ordinance contained which was not in earlier drafts was to allow housing units which are within 300 feet of a junkyard but which are occupied by owners, operators or

employees of already existing businesses to remain.

If such housing units are not lived in for a continuous period of six months, their non-conforming use would no longer be permitted.

Existing businesses will have 12 months to get in compliance with the ordinance.

Requests for variances should be made to the County Commissioners through County Manager William Cowan.

The board set a \$50 license application fee and a \$50 annual fee for license renewal.

Violations of the ordinance are subject to a \$50 per day penalty.

Junkyards which are within 1,000 feet of the right of way of federal highways are subject to

more restrictive measures.

Owners of four junkyards on US 401 Bypass have been notified by the N. C. Department of Transportation that they are not in com-

pliance with the Junkyard Control Act enacted by the N. C. General Assembly in 1967.

John Roper, Jackie Maxwell, Mary McNeill and Willie Monroe

were informed in an October 13 letter from District Engineer G. R. Sproles Jr. they have a thirty day notice to remove the junkyards or bring them into compliance.

Board votes against bus

By June Lancaster
News-Journal Staff Writer

The Hoke County Board of Education passed up an opportunity to get \$23,688 in state funds toward the purchase of an additional bus for its exceptional children's program at the board's

October 13 meeting.

The purchase of the bus had been recommended by Business Manager Don Steed. In a memo to board members Steed said the state had given Hoke County permission to use the \$23,688 toward the purchase of a bus.

A new bus with a lift for wheelchair-bound students costs \$28,836.29 so the school board would have had to add \$5,148.29 to purchase the bus. Steed recommended the additional money be taken from the contingency fund. In a split vote the board voted 3-2 against buying the bus.

Steed said one of the reasons he recommended purchasing the bus now is that the \$23,688 allotted to transport the children "is considered 'soft' money." He says, "It is available this year but may or may not be available in the future."

Currently the system uses four buses which transport 41 students in the exceptional children's program to and from school. The buses are designed with 15 seats but the back seats are removed to allow for the lift and for space for the wheelchair students.

Rhenda Cameron, director of the exceptional children's program says 10 to 12 students can ride on a bus depending on the student's size. One of those seats, though, is used by the adult monitor who rides on each bus to assist with pick-up and drop-off of students and to cope with any medical emergency which might arise.

Cameron says some of the buses are already filled to capacity but her concern is for future needs as well as for present ones.

She says the program has grown significantly and if more children are added there might not be enough room on the buses for them.

In addition, she says because the buses are so full the routes are long. Some children in the program are riding one and one-half to two hours each way.

In addition to the stress the children experience from the long ride, their instructional time is shortened because they arrive at school late and have to leave early.

Cameron says the routes and buses cover the entire county and they are designated as efficiently as possible. She says routes are con-

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Loading
Wheelchair-bound students prepare for the ride home from Upchurch Junior High School. Some students in the exceptional children's program ride 1 1/2 to 2 hours each way to and from school.

Rockfish will soon get its ball park

By June Lancaster
News-Journal Staff Writer

Thanks largely to the persistent efforts of Mamie Bundy, chairman of the Rockfish Community Committee, a ball park in the Rockfish area will soon be a reality.

Bundy and Rockfish Committee members Jesse Wheeler, Oscar Berry and Eddie Brock met Tuesday afternoon at Rockfish with Hoke County Board of Commissioners' Chairman Wyatt Upchurch, County Manager William Cowan and Parks and Recreation Director Denise Rice Melton to get the project started.

The county accepted a low bid of \$4,000 from Autry Grading Company to construct the ball park. Autry said he could start work on the park the middle of next week.

The \$4,000 is already in the county budget and was released for the Rockfish project last July.

Bundy and her committee have experienced months of frustrating red-tape delays in getting the Rockfish park underway. As recently as Monday night's commissioners meeting, Bundy again had to plead with the board to help her get the project going.

The Tuesday afternoon meeting was arranged by Upchurch in an attempt to straighten out the problems.

Now the bid has been accepted the first need is to move the 16 county-owned dumpsters from the Rockfish site.

The dumpsters have long been a problem because of misuse and abuse and there have been

(see PARK, page 16)



Fatal crash
A rescue worker examines a 1981 Yamaha motorcycle that crashed into a fence post (foreground) on rural paved road 1448 near Antioch at an estimated 75-80 m.p.h. Highway Patrol Trooper C.D. Cain says the bike's rider, Roger Bullard, 23, of Route 2, Maxton, died after being taken by Hoke Rescue personnel to Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton. Cain had been chasing Bullard, reportedly after trying to stop him for not wearing a helmet. The motorcycle's gas tank is visible to the left of the bike.

Sandhills Center looking for new building in Raeford

The Hoke County Unit of Sandhills Center for Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse may be about to get a new building. The current site at 132 Elwood Avenue, in an old real estate office, provides less than half the square feet of office space local Director, Mike Searles

says is needed. Searles says the need for additional space is desperate and results from efforts to provide Hoke citizens with new and more extensive services. Currently Sandhills Center in Hoke County provides a variety of services, but Searles says that hasn't always been the case. "We're

expanding," he says. "We've got a day services program for chronically mentally ill folks. We have a case management program for that same population. We have substance abuse treatment, and child and family services are getting started again. And we have adult services, which is for individual adults; marriage and family therapy; and treatment for depression and so on. "Searles says since taking over duties in Hoke County, he has tried to determine what help is needed most here, and meet those needs.

"What I've found is that other professional services -the teachers who I've met with, the department of social services, the physicians-are very much interested in providing quality care to the folks here in Hoke County," he says. "We're just part of that."

There's a lot more that could be done and we're trying to do it. "One of the greatest needs in Hoke County, according to Searles is help for problem children. Sandhills takes an approach that provides therapy not only for the

(see CENTER, page 16)



Out of room
Sandhills Center on Elwood Avenue is out of space. Director Mike Searles has requested additional space amounting to over twice the room of the present building.

Grand Jury indicts 40 on drug charges

A Hoke County Grand Jury has issued bills of indictment against forty people who were arrested on multiple drug charges in connection with the drug bust last month in Hoke County.

Indicted were Betty Locklear; Thurman Locklear; Gladys Faye Locklear; Elizabeth Turbeville; Bobbie Jean Hunt; Don Mikle Woods Jr.; Donna Frye Cummings; Stanley Cummings; Charles Wesley Bullard; Delois Bullard; Janie Mae Jacobs; Earl Bullard; Michelle Beeler; William McNeill; Mary Elizabeth Barrentine; Brenda Bullard Jackson; Missie Louise Lowery; Timothy James McVicker; Henry Bullard; Ronnie Bowen; Bernice Locklear; Anita Ann Locklear; Roy Linwood Grimsley; Leslie Douglas Lunsford; Garrett Lamar Carpenter; Horace Albert McLean; Jackie Goodman; Wallace Junior Jacobs; Lillie Ann Locklear; Verzell Jacobs; Paula Hall; Carlton Locklear; Jerry

Jones; Bobby McCrimmon; Regina Bullard McMillan; Neil Oxendine; Daryl Craig Barry; David Randall Huggins; Greg McGee; Gregory Cummings.

Charges against Bruce Anthony Borello who was also arrested in the September 29 drug bust were dropped because of an apparent mistaken identity. A Sheriff's Department report just made available reveals officers from Hoke County Sheriff's Department, Scotland County Sheriff's Department and the SBI arrested Donald and Dana Scott of Rt. 1, Raeford on September 27.

The arrests followed a raid at their home in which \$6,848.10 was confiscated along with cocaine and drug paraphernalia.

The Scotts were arrested for possession of cocaine with intent to sell or deliver, conspiracy to sell and deliver cocaine, and maintaining a dwelling for keeping and selling a controlled substance.

Around Town

By Sam Morris

The weather over the weekend was perfect. It was not cold or hot, just right. The temperatures were in the 70s during the days and around 50° at night.

Of course we couldn't expect things to remain this way too long. The forecast calls for temperatures to be in the 50s and 60s for the remainder of the week. It also called for rain on Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning.

The Hoke County Committee of 100's will meet Monday, October 26 at 7 p.m. in the Hoke County Library. According to a letter received this week, the organization now has a membership of 127. The present goal for membership is for a total of 150 persons.

If you are interested in helping Hoke County grow and prosper, then come to the Library next Monday night and find out how you can become a member of this organization. If you can't attend and want to join, write: Hoke County Committee of 100's, P.O. Box 565, Raeford, N.C. 28376.

The time for homecomings and ingatherings is with us again. There was a large crowd at Antioch Presbyterian Church last Thursday and the Shiloh Presbyterian Church is expecting a crowd this Thursday evening. The time for this event is starting at 5 p.m.

You not only get good food at these events, but the fellowship with these people will last you until your family gathers for Thanksgiving or Christmas. So go out to a homecoming or ingathering this week.

The pictures left on my desk last week still can't be identified except as to what you can see. Jackie Hadden came by my house last week and said that the pictures had come from the home of Gus Hasty of Maxton. Many local people remember Gus as a baseball player in the 1920s in this area.

One of the pictures was of a crowd of people, both old and young, that could have been taken

(see AROUND, page 16)

Election nears

Raeford voters will go to the polls Tuesday, November 3 to elect city councilmen to fill seats being vacated by three whose terms are expiring. Three men, Vardell Hedgpeth, Earl McDuffie Jr., and T. Joseph Upchurch have filed for re-election, and two others, Richard Ferguson, and J.H. 'Buddy' Blue, have challenged them. The News-Journal mailed questionnaires to all five candidates asking their views on the issues.

Their responses follow:
Will taxes have to be raised in Raeford?
Blue: No. The financial condition of the City of Raeford is sound.
Ferguson: No, taxes will not have to be raised in Raeford. Raeford should try to attract new industry, businesses and new residents into the city.
This will aid in any deficit of taxes we have.
Hedgpeth: No. We have worked hard with our budget. By cutting a few items we were able to pass do a balanced budget without having a tax increase. I work hard to prevent tax increases as I feel that we are taxed enough.
McDuffie: No. In two years on the city council we have not raised taxes. I do not see any increase in the near future.
Upchurch: Taxes will probably be raised to a slight extent. Taxes were not raised for 1987. Some (unclear) have had in the past are not available or have been reduced. I think that a small increase will keep us from a large increase later.
(see ELECTION, page 10)