

# The News-Journal

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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

Thursday, November 5, 1987



## Victorious

Joe Upchurch, top vote-getter in the City Council election, eyes a chart of election results posted on a wall in the office of The News-Journal Tuesday night.

## Road names approved

By June Lancaster  
News-Journal Staff Writer

Hoke County Commissioners voted 4-1 on Monday to approve the county road names recommended by a 21-member county-wide task force.

The decision came after an hour of sometimes emotional discussion between commissioners and members of the public who felt they had not been adequately informed about the road-naming project.

Commissioners had asked Ellen Willis, chairman of the

McLauchlin Township task force, to tell them what procedure was used to name roads in her township.

That request was made after commissioners heard complaints at their October 19 meeting from members of the black community in McLauchlin who felt they had been left out of the process.

Commissioner Cleo Bratcher said he thought the community needed to meet again on the matter. Commissioner Tom Howell said, "It appears to me they took (see ROADS, page 16)

## Cars shot on 401B

Three complaints of someone shooting at cars traveling on 401 Business were received by the Hoke County Sheriff's Department last week.

Frances M. Sullivan of Rt. 2, Raeford was driving her 1985 Chevrolet on Highway 401 between Rockfish Road and Raeford

on October 28 when shotgun fire hit her windshield, according to one report.

On October 30, Nicole Woriox of Rt. 4, Raeford was driving her 1987 Ford Pickup toward Raeford when her windshield and headlight were hit by gunfire. Also on Oct. (see CRIME, page 16)

## First 'Teacher of the Month' selected

By Ken MacDonald  
News-Journal Associate Editor

The volunteer education support group "Partners in Education" has named its first Hoke County "Teacher of the Month."

Ann Shannon, a first grade teacher at McLauchlin School, was presented a plaque and a \$25

check. The selection was based on nominations from principals of all of Hoke County's schools.

Shannon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin D. Newton Sr., has a degree in Primary Education from Pembroke State University. She taught for one year in Cumberland

## City incumbents re-elected

In unofficial results, the three incumbents, Vardell Hedgpeth, Earl McDuffie and Joe Upchurch were re-elected to Raeford City Council in Tuesday's election. The three will serve four-year terms. Results will be official after a canvass today by the Hoke Board of Elections.

The top vote-getter was Upchurch with 365 votes. Hedgpeth was second with 341 and McDuffie third with 316 votes.

The two challengers, "Buddy" Blue and Richard Ferguson, received 209 and 99 votes respectively. There was one right-in vote for Benny McLeod.

The voter turn-out was a little higher than had been expected, according to Caroline Shook, Hoke County Elections Supervisor.

There are 1742 registered voters in the city's three precincts. 512, 29%, of them cast ballots in Tuesday's election.

Precinct No. 1 had 227 (26%)

voters; Precinct No. 2 had 243 (38%); Precinct No. 4 had 42 (21%).

Raeford No.2 was the last precinct to report. Their count was not in until after 10 p.m.

Shook said the report was late because a recount was done to make sure the first count was accurate.

Top vote-getter Upchurch was asked if he was surprised the election turned out the way it did.

"I didn't have the slightest idea how it would turn out," he said. "You never know how these things will come out."

Upchurch said, "I don't know why I was the top vote-getter except I've been living in Raeford for 62 years."

In a pre-election questionnaire published in the News-Journal, Upchurch was the only candidate who said an increase in taxes might be necessary.

Upchurch agreed last night the victories of the incumbents could indicate voters realize a tax hike may be necessary.

"We didn't have one in 1987," he said, "and you can't keep going, providing services that people expect without an increase."

	Absentee	Raeford No. 1	Raeford No. 2	Raeford No. 4	TOTAL
<b>CITY COUNCIL</b>					
BLUE	86	97	26		209
FERGISON	58	39	2		99
HEDGPETH	144	167	30		341
McDUFFIE	136	149	31		316
UPCHURCH	158	171	36		365

## County approves central communication

Hoke County Commissioners formally approved establishment of a Central Communication System for Hoke County at their board meeting on Monday.

During the meeting commissioners considered a job description and salary range for the director of the new system.

County Manager William Cowan had drafted a proposed job description based on a survey of central communication systems in area counties. He had recommended a salary range of \$19,379 - \$26,062 and five to seven years experience as a supervising telecom-

municator for the department head.

Following a lengthy discussion on salary and qualifications, the board voted 4-1 on a motion by Commissioner Cleo Bratcher to approve a salary range of \$15,943 - \$21,441 for the director. That is the range of county salaries in pay grade 64.

Commissioner Mabel Riley voted against the motion. She said, "I want it known that I'm not going to go along with any of this."

Earlier Riley said, "What we're doing is creating another department. Hoke County does not need

another department."

The new system will be housed in an area of the sheriff's department building.

Operating budget for the first year will be \$69,819 with the county putting in \$52,364 and the city putting in \$17,455.

\$67,500 had been budgeted for capital expenditures to establish the system. Of that, \$48,000 is county money, \$12,000 is city money and \$7,500 is from pork barrel funds.

The board's action followed a special joint meeting of the commission and the Raeford City

Council on October 5 when both bodies informally agreed to establish a central communications system department which would report to the county manager.

Now that the commissioners have approved the establishment of the department, all that remains is for the city to give its formal approval. That is expected to take place at the council's next regular meeting in December.

The new department will take over the work now being done by dispatchers in the police and sheriff's department.

## Education study committee arrives

By June Lancaster  
News-Journal Staff Writer

Five distinguished community college administrators from throughout the state have been in Raeford this week studying Hoke County's post-secondary education needs.

The group, chaired by Dr. Ed Wilson, executive vice-president of the N. C. Department of Community Colleges, was appointed by former Governor Bob Scott, president of the state Department of Community Colleges.

Other members of the team are Dr. Gene Carpenter, dean of continuing education at Caldwell

Community College and Technical Institute; Dr. Jan Crawford, dean of instruction of Surry Community College; Peggy Graham, director of Human Resource Development in the Department of Community Colleges and Luby Weaver, associate director of Occupational Programs in the Department of Community Colleges.

The appointment of the survey team followed a meeting in Raeford in September between Scott, Rep. Danny DeVane, Hoke County Board of Commissioners' Chairman Wyatt Upchurch, Hoke County Board of Education Chair-



## Studying Education

A special panel studying Hoke County's post secondary education needs has been working this week. Pictured (standing left to right) are Hoke Representative Danny DeVane, Dr. Ed Wilson, Peggy Graham, (sitting left to right) Jan Crawford, Luby Weaver and Gene Carpenter.

## Around Town

By Sam Morris

The cold weather must have gone north because it has been like spring weather for the past several days. We did get over an inch of rain last week and this helped the dry soil. It also caused many leaves to fall, and with the wind over the weekend, it made raking the leaves a tough job.

The forecast is for the temperatures to remain in the mid-70s until Friday. Then a cold front will move through and the temperatures will drop a few degrees. It is possible for rain also to come to the area on Friday.

The Bethel Presbyterian Church Ingathering will be held on Thursday starting at 11 o'clock and con-

tinuing until 2 p.m. There will be Bar-B-Que and chicken salad available and with the forecast on good weather, it should make for a happy occasion.

So go out and enjoy the good food, and more than that, see old friends and enjoy the fellowship.

The 4th Annual Mullet Roast will be held at the Hoke Civic Center on Friday, December 4 starting at 6:30 p.m. The first three events have been better than most of us had anticipated. So we are all looking forward to the upcoming event.

The roast is co-sponsored by the Committee of 100s and the (see AROUND, page 16)



## Teacher of the Month

Partners in Education has named Ann Shannon with her are P.I.E. President, Bill Archer (left) and (center) its first "Teacher of the Month." Pictured J.W. ... Principal Mitch Tyler.

## Briefly Noted

The City of Raeford is beginning its fall leaf collection and is requesting residents to assist by keeping trash and sticks separate from the leaves.

Leaves should be placed adjacent to the property line near the street but not in the street.

All Hoke County Schools will be closed Friday in lieu of closing on Veterans Day. Neither teachers nor students will attend.

The United Way campaign reports having raised only one percent of its \$40,000 goal. The remaining 99 percent will have to be raised in less than a month as the December 1st end of the campaign nears.

## Skateboards banned

By June Lancaster  
News-Journal Staff Writer

City Council Monday night enacted an ordinance making it illegal to skateboard on any street or sidewalk in the central business district of Raeford.

The central business district consists of the area bounded by Magnolia, Stewart, Donaldson and Campbell and includes Edinborough Shopping Center.

Violators of the ordinance are liable for fines of up to \$50. However, Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said his department in-

itially will issue warnings to first offenders.

Monday's action simply adds the skateboard provision to an already existing city ordinance banning roller skating on streets and sidewalks in the central business district.

The action was taken in response to complaints from city residents about the hazards of skateboarding. Citizens have expressed concern about the danger to both pedestrians and skateboarders.

Chief Wiggins said his department (see CITY, page 12)