

The News-Journal

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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

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House of Raeford has plan; wants to keep waste permit

House of Raeford officials have made public a three-phase plan of improvements which are termed "very realistic" by City Manager Tom Phillips and which are designed to lower the amount of blood in the wastewater the company discharges to the city's wastewater treatment plant.

As he revealed the plans during a 20-minute show cause hearing last Wednesday afternoon, House of Raeford official Harold Brock asked City Manager Tom Phillips not to revoke the company's permit to discharge wastewater to the city treatment plant and to give the company time to make its improvements, the first phase of which is underway this week.

Brock unveiled a three-phase redesign plan which he said will bring the plant back in compliance with its wastewater permit. In a written outline, Brock said the company is committed to the plan and believes the actions will provide a long term solution to the violations for which the company has been fined in excess of \$50,000 by the city.

Phillips said Wednesday he would study the blueprints and written data provided by Brock and make his decision within 10 days. This week Phillips says he has decided to offer the company a consent agreement which, if signed by the House of Raeford, will permit it to continue discharging wastewater to the city but requires them to meet the target dates they specified in their improvement plan.

Phillips says the city will want the right of inspection after the improvements are complete but says he will withhold his decision on fines im-

posed against the company until after Phase II improvements are complete. He says the fines will not be less than the costs the city has incurred because of the violations at the treatment plant, violations which a state official says occurred primarily because of industrial effluent.

The written part of Brock's presentation last week included a brief description of the redesign plans along with charts and tables prepared by a study team from N. C. State University. Brock said one of the company's aims in having the study done was to find out what the biggest problem was at the plant and "what we should concentrate our efforts on."

The team studied water volume and strength levels of the wastewater at several points in the production process, according to Brock. The study revealed "a higher concentration of soluble material (blood) than would normally be found at a poultry plant."

Brock said the company is "spending a lot of money" on equipment and process changes. The first phase of improvements involves a redesign of the killing and evisceration areas in the plant. In the killing area, the improvements are designed to get a faster kill and capture the blood before it gets into the wastewater, according to Brock's presentation. The company has purchased an automatic killer which officials say does a better job of bleeding the birds faster. The plans also include lengthening the tunnel through which the blood flows.

(See HOUSE, page 13)

Rezoning plan angers residents

More than a dozen residents of Pine Forest subdivision are expected to attend next Monday's Raeford City Council meeting to speak in opposition to a controversial request to rezone a 2.05-acre parcel of land at the corner of Prospect and 401 Business, and property owner Frank Crumpler says he knows of just as many who support his request.

Frank and Dayne Crumpler, owners of the land, first took their request to the then Raeford Planning Board to have the land rezoned from R-12

residential to highway commercial in May 1987. The Planning Board voted to not recommend the rezoning and that recommendation was upheld by Raeford City Council at its June 1987 meeting.

Since the planning board was dissolved earlier this year to make way for the combined Raeford/Hoke County Planning and Development Commission which has not yet gone into effect, the request goes straight to City Council for its decision.

Neighborhood residents say they're

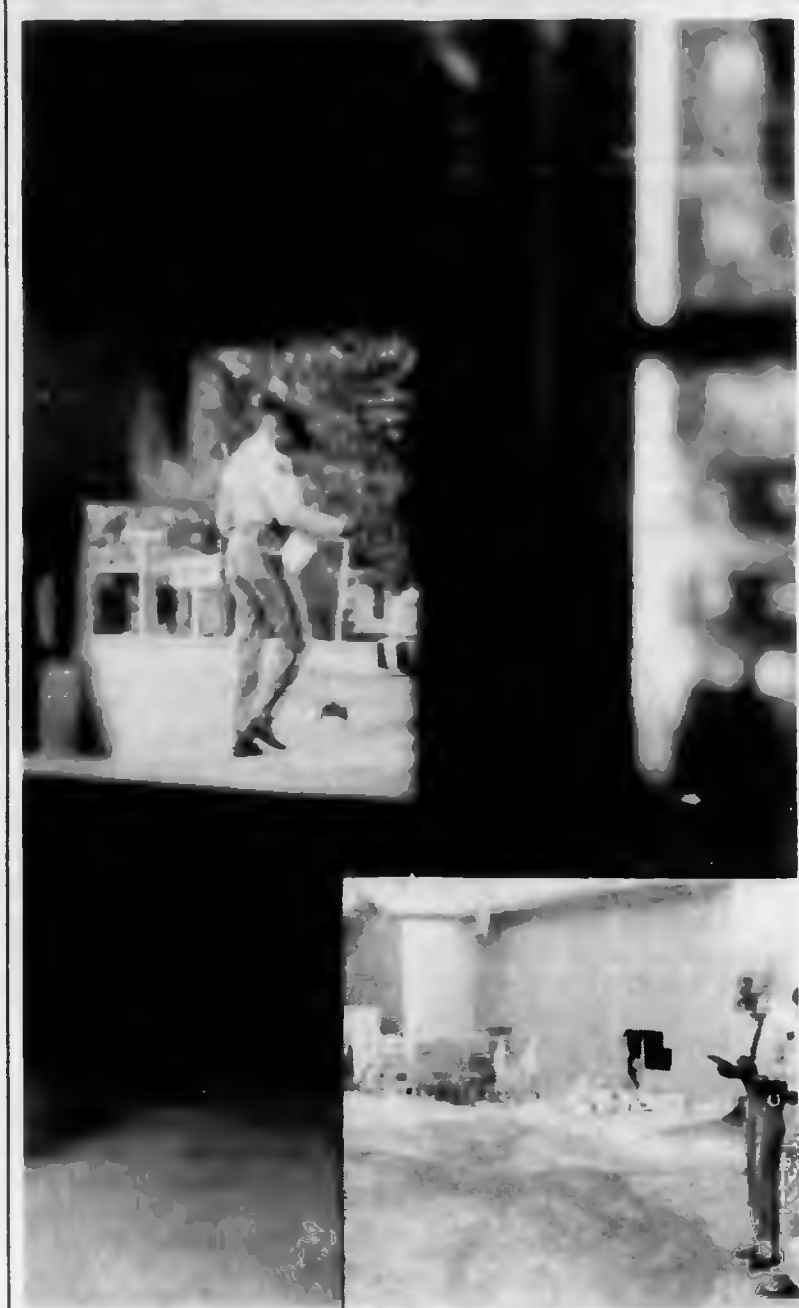
afraid the rezoning will change the nature of their neighborhood from residential to commercial. Residents who spoke in opposition to the rezoning last year plan to appear again next week. "We're trying to protect our neighborhood for our children," says Barbara Lupo whose property adjoins the Crumplers.

Lupo says another concern her neighbors have is of increased traffic at an already busy and dangerous intersection which she says is "jokingly known in Hoke County as

the wrecking corner." Just last Friday, County Commissioner Mabel Riley was involved in a minor wreck at the intersection.

Of the neighbors Lupo has talked to she says "they feel we need to keep this neighborhood a quiet family neighborhood." Lupo says a lot of young children live in the neighborhood.

Although Crumpler had said last year he was planning to move Click's Nursery from an adjacent lot (See REZONING, Page 12)



Hit and run

Highway Patrol Trooper C.D. Cain is framed by the inside walls (top) of the J & L Clover Farm store in Scurlock as Cain investigates an incident in which a car rammed the store's wall early Wednesday and left the scene. The car damaged a beer cooler and left a hole in the wall (bottom). At press time no arrest had been made.

Council formed to address needs of Hoke County youth

Teenagers in Hoke County are probably like teenagers everywhere. They all have a great deal of energy and curiosity—a combination that can cause trouble if it leads to experimentation with drugs and sex. The summer can be a particular temptation for youngsters with time to spare and not much readily available entertainment.

But a group of local citizens, in-

cluding some teenagers themselves, have formed the Hoke County Youth Advocacy Council to try to deal with some of the concerns and problems teenagers experience.

The community-based task force which had its first meeting in April is an outgrowth of the Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act; however, the issues being considered by the group go beyond drugs.

Youth Advocacy Council (YAC) members want to make the community aware of their goals. To that end, a speaker's bureau manned by people who will speak before community groups and civic clubs on the particular concerns of teenagers, including substance abuse, teen pregnancy, school drop-outs and teen suicide is being developed.

Members of the task force hope

that as more people in the community become aware of the problems facing today's teens, they will come forward to sponsor wholesome activities.

YAC will also have a booth at this year's Turkey Festival to help make the public aware of the goals.

Another goal of the task force members is peer counseling—training

teenagers to talk to their peers. As Kathi Ellis, one of the motivating forces behind the advocacy group says, the idea is "to steer their peer in the right direction."

As Hoke County's School Nurse, Ellis emphasizes that peer counseling would not take the place of professional counseling if that was needed, but would provide someone a teenager could talk to who might

have a suggestion to which the troubled teen would listen.

Officers of the Youth Advocacy Council are Glenn Green, chairman; Marilyn Brown, vice-chairman; and Tywanda Ellison, secretary. Other members include parents, school officials, teenagers, law enforcement and court officials and others interested in the needs of Hoke County teenagers.

Young Rockfish girl is granted her wish

Jessica Bascomb's wish is to be well. The 11 year old Rockfish child has lymphocytic Leukemia. Knowing that her wish can't be granted by any mortal, when asked by the Sunshine Foundation to name anything she wanted she chose an above ground pool.

Last Wednesday her wish was granted.

As the Bascomb family watched, Hallmark Spa and Pools employees—donating their time—erected a four-foot pool in the side yard. The \$2,200 pool was donated by the company after Ernie Bates, the Fayetteville Sunshine Foundation

representative called with Jessica's story.

By Wednesday afternoon the pool was in place but lacked that essential amenity—water. Not to worry.

Again, as the family looked on, first one fire truck, then another, and another until there were six, pulled into the driveway.

"Look at this," Debbie Bascomb, Jessica's mother said. "When anyone is bad-mouthing the world—let them see something like this. Let them feel this."

The trucks—from Hillcrest, Rockfish, North Raeford, West Hoke, Stonewall and Pine Hill fire

"When anyone is bad-mouthing the world—let them see something like this. Let them feel this."
—Debbie Bascomb

departments—lined up to dump water into a central reservoir from which the water was pumped into the pool. Twenty minutes later the water level rose to the three and a half foot level.

Mrs. Bascomb says her supervisor at the Fayetteville Purolator Plant told Jessica's story to the Sunshine Foundation, which exists to grant the wishes of terminally ill children.

The youngster was diagnosed at Duke University as having Leukemia October 22 after originally going to the doctor for what her family thought was an appendicitis. She is currently undergoing a three year treatment plan. If she relapses, a new plan will be devised. "Each day we pray for the best," Mrs. Bascomb says. Jessica, a J.W. Turlington School student last year, missed 57 days, but made them up and passed.

Jessica's wish for a pool is easy to explain. She had asked her physical therapist if, given her debilitating illness, she could swim. When the (See WISH, page 13)

Raeford Hotel is sold; buyer plans changes

The Fayetteville pharmacist who bought the Raeford Hotel at Main and Central about a month ago has big plans for remodeling and redefining the historic old building but is not yet ready to reveal those plans publicly.

Reginald Dawson, a Revco pharmacist, says he is definitely interested in downtown Raeford and believes the renovation of the old hotel building is important for more than one reason. Not only does Dawson want to see the hotel take on a new image, he believes the renovation will have a positive impact on other downtown property.

Dawson, who owns other property in Fayetteville, says he's talked to designers about his plans and has got some estimates for the building but

hasn't hired an architect yet. They all seem to be busy on school projects right now, he says.

Even though Dawson is still evaluating his plans for the building he says he does want to bring back some of its historical significance.

"The building has some very interesting architectural features which I hope will be used" as the building is renovated, says Kay Thomas, chairman of the Downtown Revitalization Commission.

"I think the building and that corner are so vital to the health of downtown that the purchase is more significant than people realize. It is very important and the Downtown Revitalization Commission is very pleased that someone is investing in downtown Raeford," she says.

Around Town

by Sam C. Morris

The weather over the 4th of July holiday was super. The temperatures were in the 80s and the lows at night were in the 60s. We could still use some rain, but we still are better off than other areas of the state and nation.

The forecast for the remainder of the week is for the temperatures to be in the 80s for the high and the lows in the 60s through Thursday. Friday and Saturday has a forecast for highs to get back into the 90s. There isn't any rain in the forecast.

Most of the folks who turned out for the July 4th events sponsored by the Constitutional Bicentennial

Committee of Hoke were dressed in red, white and blue. They were served free lemonade by the committee, before and after the contest.

Most folks had a picnic basket and enjoyed eating together on the lawn. After the picnic they assembled in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church. The Handbell Choir of that church presented a program entitled "We the People."

This is the second annual event sponsored by this committee and since the celebration of the Constitution has one more year, maybe we will have the third annual event. Hope to see you next year! (See AROUND, page 13)



Excited

Jessica Bascomb is excited at the prospect of swimming in her very own pool and watches as it is filled with water. The pool was her wish to the Sunshine Foundation, an organization that arranges to grant wishes of terminally ill children.



Operation swim

Volunteers from six Hoke County fire departments fill a reservoir first, and then Jessica's pool, with water. The operation took 20 minutes.