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Share Your Christmas deadline nears; help urgently needed

With less than one week before the official distribution day, Share Your Christmas organizers say they are in desperate need of donations—including turkeys, blankets, and fruit.

The group has raised enough money for a toy stocking for each of the approximately 400 children, but would also like to provide the other items for each family. Increases in the cost of turkeys, which averaged \$8 each last year, has proved to be one more snag the group has to resolve by next week.

Women's Club President Kay Thomas described the group as

"into the panic" as the time draws near with so many additional contributions needed.

So far, CP&L, Raeford Women's Club, Raeford Presbyterian Church, Kiwanis Club, Junior Service League, UCB, St. Andrews Church, Mildousan Home Extension Club, Al Simmons Enterprises, and six individuals have contributed to the project. Hoke's 1990 allocation from United Way is expected any day, but the rest is up the Raeford-Hoke residents.

If more contributions aren't received, organizers will be forced

to choose between blankets or food—a depressing option, they say. "There's something special about fresh fruits for Christmas," Treasurer Rick Travis said. "Many families asked for fresh fruit rather than clothing or personal items." The group's remaining balance and anticipated allocation from United Way would barely cover the cost of the turkeys—at last year's prices.

About 25 families, fortunately all of which have been adopted by groups and individuals, were placed in a special category (See SHARE, page 4)



As dawn on Sunday morning, the sun revealed ice-laden trees as pictured here adjacent to the Hoke Library. The ice came as a surprise to many.



The driver of this car died after this accident Saturday morning on Highway 211 West. Patty Locklear Brayboy was killed and four others were injured when the car was hit head-on by a pickup that slid on ice.

Early ice storm hits; is pretty, but deadly

The temperature dipped just a little more than expected by the National Weather Service Friday night, leaving Hoke County coated with ice Saturday and Saturday night. Much of rural Hoke was left without power and all areas of the county, including Raeford encountered downed trees, limbs and power lines. While the storm left the area a virtual "winter wonderland," it also proved dangerous, resulting in a number of accidents.

A Hoke County man was killed in Fayetteville, and a Pembroke woman died on ice-covered roads, both accidents occurring Saturday morning.

Mawyer M. Calloway, 55, of Highway 211 West was killed on his way to work at US Air in Fayetteville at 5:05 a.m. Saturday. According to the Highway Patrol, Calloway's 1986 Chevrolet pickup went out of control on Camden Rd. approximately one and one-half miles south of Fayetteville. The truck ran off the left side of the road, traveled back to the roadway, ran off the left side again, and overturned, hitting a sign and planter box. He was pronounced dead at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center.

Patty Locklear Brayboy died after an accident Saturday morning on Highway 211 West approximately a mile west of Raeford. According to the Highway Patrol, a 1978 Ford pickup driven by Arlen Franklin Martin of Vass crossed the center line after hitting a patch of ice, and crashed head-on into a 1986 Olds that Brayboy was driving. Martin and two passengers, Nora F. Martin and William Isaac Martin, along with a passenger in Brayboy's car, Hampton Cooper Brayboy, were all seriously injured and taken to Moore Regional Hospital. The accident occurred at 11:20 a.m.

At press time, more inclement (read frozen) weather was predicted for the latter part of the week.

\$4.5 million suit filed against sheriff

A former Hoke County prisoner has filed suit against Hoke County Sheriff Alex Norton, three deputies, and the Hoke Jail seeking \$4.5 million.

Leroy Carthens, now a prisoner at Central Prison in Raleigh, alleges in the suit that he was served spoiled food, causing him to get food poisoning; that he was improperly denied phone calls; and that the jail was overcrowded and infested with "rodents and vermin."

The suit was filed in U.S. District Court in Raleigh and requests that the court appoint Carthens counsel, a trial by jury, and damages totaling \$4.5 million.

According to the suit, Carthens was jailed in Hoke County from May 13 until October 15, except for a period between September 15 and October 9 when he was at Central Prison for medical reasons.

In the suit, Carthens claims he was given a "normal staple" of "beans and rice" each day at the midday and evening meals, and was served spoiled fruit cocktail, Spam, smoked sausage, and bologna on different occasions. According to the suit, Carthens suffered a

"swollen stomach, vomiting, headaches and loss of appetite for several days."

The suit claims the Hoke jail was overcrowded by 40 percent, denying inmates exercise, and was infested with rats, mice, roaches and flies.

Carthens also claims he was denied a special diet to "provide necessary nutritional requirements."

The suit calls the conditions at the jail "repulsive and repugnant to human dignity, and constituted cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the Eight, Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution."

The suit names Sheriff Elliott (sic) Norton and three deputies listed as Lt. Bowman (sic), Steve, and Jerry. The sheriff's name is Alex S. Norton; the lieutenant referred to is Lt. Bowen.

Norton and County Attorney Duncan McFadyen declined comment on the suit.

According to the Hoke Office of the Clerk of Court, Carthens was jailed in Hoke County for a conviction of second degree kidnapping and common law robbery.

School Board okays middle school plans

Hoke County School Board members approved the design of the two middle schools; the plans will now go to Raleigh for approval.

Ken Phelps of Boney Architects, who presented the design of the eastern and western buildings to board members, said school costs did not exceed available funds. However, several "alternative bidding" items—lockers, the paving of parking lots, tennis and basketball courts, base and wall cabinets, bleachers, acoustical paneling and lights—were not included in cost estimates.

Board member Shirley Gibson expressed concern about possible cost overruns saying, "if we approve the design tonight, we could go over and the board would be faced with coming up with money for the alternate bid items."

Phelps acknowledged that there was not sufficient money to complete all aspects of the building saying, "We cannot build a Cadillac here giving everybody everything they want."

Board members will ultimately have to make choices such as paving some areas—parking lots, basketball or tennis courts, or building a vocational lab, or providing lights for the parking area (inside/outside lights are not included), or installing lockers. But it is doubtful

sufficient money exists to complete all "alternate bid items."

Cost estimates include new kitchen equipment at the middle schools, and board members decided to leave kitchen equipment currently used at Upchurch Middle School in the building after the move. "With the growth that we have, we'll need it (Upchurch) as an instructional facility," Board Chairman Robert Wright said.

Phelps also updated members on the progress being made with the sewer systems. The only "drawback" with the school sites, he said, are the "lack of sanitation facilities adjacent to both of them."

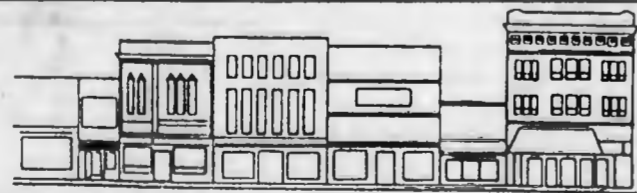
He proposed that board members accept a "force main" at a cost of \$153,000 for the 401 bypass site to avoid "on site clogging." Soil tests for the nitrification system—an on-site sewer system—fell in the third of four class types. "It's not the best, but it's possible," Phelps said.

Phelps says he hopes to tie the sewer system for the western site into an apartment complex currently under construction in the area.

Public Works Director Mike McNeill assisted in laying out routes for the (See SCHOOL, page 14)

Around Town

by Sam C. Morris



The weather over the weekend was about as bad as anyone could imagine. The rain that came into the county Friday turned to sleet late Saturday afternoon and the roads were covered with ice by dark. Many people were without power and telephone service for a couple of days. Also many were without cable service for about a day.

It started to thaw Sunday and just about finished the job on Monday. There was still a little sleet on the north side of trees and houses late Monday afternoon. We didn't get the main storm and were very lucky to have as little damage as we did.

The forecast calls for cold weather the remainder of the week with highs being in the low 40s and high 30s. The lowest will be in the 20s. There is a chance of more sleet on Friday. Let's

hope that we get only rain.

The weather hampered the crowds at many of the events that were scheduled in Hoke County last week. The attendance at the Kiwanis Club Pancake Supper was down from previous years. Of course many tickets were sold in advance so the proceeds might have been about the same. The attendance at the Raeford Presbyterian Church Living Christmas Tree was very small on Friday and Saturday nights, but it was crowded on Sunday night. Some of the churches in the county had to cancel services on Sunday. Schools ran on schedule because the roads were clear by Monday morning. Let's hope this is our ice for the year.

Raeford and Hoke County lost a citi-

zen over the weekend who will be missed by many people. This lady was Josephine Hall, who was Home Demonstration Agent in Hoke County for many years. Josephine had a lot to do with the county getting REA in the 1930s. After her retirement as Home Agent, she worked for several years with the senior citizens of the county.

Of course you have read in this column many items that Jo Hall sent to me even after her health was failing. My last committee work with her was when the county celebrated its 75th Anniversary in 1986.

Miss Hall was the only woman, so far, to have received the Raeford Kiwanis Club "Man of the Year" award. This was many years ago and the award is now called "Citizen of the Year." Not (See AROUND, page 14)

Local woman trying to open home for newly-released youthful offenders

A Hoke woman plans to open a transitional home for youths released from Sandhills Youth Center and other youth detention facilities in the area.

Thelma Mazingo will offer spiritual guidance to the youth in hopes of transforming their lives. With no educational background in counseling and minimal experience working with imprisoned youth, Mazingo is depending on her strong religious convictions to help the young adults make the transition to law abiding citizens.

She sees her plans as "bridging the gap" between prison and normal living.

"They are young people who have gone wrong. Society has judged them but you can't keep them paying again and again," she said.

Many of the youths don't have any place to live once they are released, and Mazingo hopes to resolve that dilemma through the transitional home.

She credits God with leading her to the project. "The Lord led me to visit the prisoners and to help them," she said. On her first visit to Sandhills, she says, she saw a "definite need" and felt the youths were "crying out for help."

"These guys are on their way to hell, living in darkness and outcasts from society." She remembers thinking, "someone

needs to tell them about the Lord—there is a real spiritual need here."

Mazingo said the majority of youth that she works with have professed a belief in the Lord and want to straighten out their lives and move away from the drugs and alcohol.

Mazingo, who has volunteered as a spiritual counselor at Sandhills Youth Center twice a month since May, believes the Lord will guide her through the project. "I'm turning to Him to solve all the problems—personal, spiritual and financial." She is also hoping that the Lord will "touch people's hearts in the community" and lead them to support the endeavor.

Mazingo says her concern for the youth has kept the project moving along. "I tell them I do care and I want to help you. You don't have to go back to the same way you were living before."

Most of the youth Mazingo has worked with were convicted on breaking and entering charges. She believes they engaged in that activity because of a need for money and "no means of getting it."

Because all youthful offenders at Sandhills and other facilities are required to get a GED, Mazingo hopes this will (See HOME, page 4)