

The News-Journal

Turkey Festival
Preview inside



The 22nd issue of our 83rd year

RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

Wednesday, September 11, 1991

State awards first contract to widen Highway 401

The long-promised widening of U.S. 401 north of Raeford to four lanes is one step closer to fulfillment.

The state awarded a \$6.8 million contract last week to Barnhill Construction in Tarboro to widen the highway from Brock Road in Hoke County to 71st High School in Fayetteville.

A contract to finish the project from

Brock Road to the intersection of 401 Business and 401 Bypass has yet to be awarded.

"I say glory hallelujah," said County Manager Barry Reed.

"There are a lot of Hoke Countians who said they were going to die before 401 got four-laned and they're going to be wrong."

"I say glory hallelujah," said County Manager Barry Reed.

"Change and growth are coming to Hoke County," he said.

Reed gave much of the credit for bringing the project off the state's back

burner to Rep. Danny DeVane.

"Danny has worked hard on this project and I think he needs to get a lot of credit for this."

"I was real pleased to see the contract awarded," DeVane said, "especially with the tight times."

"It's my way, way overdue. We've been accused at every election of putting out

stakes beside the road," DeVane joked.

The widening will support growth Hoke County is already seeing in its eastern half as residential developments, geared toward people who work in Fort Bragg or Fayetteville, begin to spring up.

"We're getting a lot of growth on the eastern side of the county," DeVane

said. "It's good, solid growth."

"There's a good potential that we'll get more industry. That's one of the things they look for, four-lane highways."

Wyatt Upchurch, chairman of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, said he was mainly concerned for the (See 401, page 6)



Raeford Postmistress Clara Pope displays the cancellation stamp celebrating the Turkey Festival.

One-time cancellation stamp offered for Turkey Festival

Philatelists (that's stamp collectors to you and me) take note!

The Raeford post office will offer—for one day only—a unique North Carolina Turkey Festival can-

cellation stamp for your cards and letters.

Those who want their ordinary cards and letters turned into collector's items can have them stamped

Saturday, September 21, between 9 a.m. and noon, though Postmaster Clara Robinson said she may keep the office open a little longer that day.

Robinson expects a lot of local interest in the unique cancellation; already, out-of-towners have been sending her letters and cards to cancel with the rubber stamp.

To make it easier on postal employees that Saturday (it is the festival, after all), Robinson asks you to send letters and cards to be cancelled with the special stamp to this address:

NC Turkey Festival
Postmaster
Raeford, NC 28376

The stamp was designed by Hodges Associates, Inc., an advertising firm in Fayetteville.

Hodges' president and Raeford resident Jean Hodges is the president of the 1991 Turkey Festival. The stamp is one of her company's contributions to the festival.

Carolina Telephone and Telegraph
Carolina Turf
City of Raeford
Clayton Brooks
County of Hoke
Dickson Press, Inc.
Donald R. Johnson, DDS, PA
Dr. R.G. Townsend
Dr. Ramnik Zota
Edinburgh Restaurant
Enviro-Chem Company
Farm Chemicals, Inc.
Fast Shop Food Mart
First Citizens Bank
Heilig-Meyers Furniture
Hodges Associates, Inc.
Hoke Cable, Inc.
Hoke Cotton Warehouse and Storage
Hoke County Board of Education
Hoke Rubber Products
(See SPONSORS, page 12)

Festival gets more sponsors

With the Festival only a week away, organizers are trying to finalize their fundraising efforts.

Any business wishing to become a sponsor should call Diana Pressley at the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce at 875-5929 or Marvin Lynne Maxwell at home at 875-3818.

So far, the following businesses and industries have become sponsors (updated lists will be printed in upcoming editions of *The News-Journal*, the most recent additions in bold):

Aberteen Bottling Co.
Associated Posters
Auto Parts and Equipment
Barbee Pharmacy
Bird in Hand
Cape Fear Farm Credit
Carolina Power and Light

West middle school behind schedule

Board also adopts spanking policy

Teachers and students won't be able to move into West Hoke Middle School on schedule.

"The west site is a big if," Don Steed, schools' business manager, told school board members at last night's meeting.

"My personal feeling is that it's going to be at least two to three weeks behind the east school," he said.

Construction crews simply have not worked fast enough to finish the school, Steed said.

"I don't think the commitment is there," he said.

"It just has not materialized."

One problem with the west site, Steed said, is it started construction about four to five weeks

later than the east site.

The east site has suffered setbacks as well; crews are still waiting for chalkboards to arrive for classrooms. They have hesitated to lay carpet until the boards are installed, but Steed said they may have to go ahead.

The gymnasium floor and canopy covering the entrance are the only two things which might not be finished by the October 21 deadline.

East Hoke Middle School should be ready for occupancy by October 21, the deadline the School Board set for getting students out of Upchurch and Turlington Middle Schools and into the new ones.

Students scheduled to go to East Hoke Middle (See SCHOOLS, page 5)

Sheriff contenders narrowed to five

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners interviewed five finalists for the job of sheriff of Hoke County Monday night, but failed to decide who would get the job.

The search for a sheriff to replace Alex Norton, ousted by a Superior Court judge for misconduct on August 5, has come down to:

- Daniel Brock, director of load management for Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. Brock worked about a year and a half as a deputy in Hoke County. He also graduated recently with a degree in business administration from Methodist College.
- Wayne Byrd, owner of Byrd's Alignment on

Prospect Avenue, who lost to Norton in the 1990 Democratic primary. Byrd served as a constable in Red Springs before the position was abolished.

- Frank Crumpler, who, as county coroner, automatically filled the post of sheriff when Norton was ousted. In the short time he has held the post, Crumpler has already seen two prisoner escapes and the spotlights of television news teams from both North and South Carolina.
- Jim Madden, who, running on the Republican ticket, lost the 1990 election to Norton. Madden says he has just over 10 years law enforcement experience in various jobs.

(See SHERIFF, page 10)

County wants school for offices

Hoke County will try to let a little pressure off its crowded office space by moving 15 offices onto the campus of Turlington Middle School if city and planning officials let them.

But the county may face stiff opposition from the old school's neighbors, which include members of Raeford City Council. And the old school may not have enough parking for the county to put offices there.

County Manager Barry Reed sent the City of Raeford a letter requesting a

conditional use permit for the school when teachers and students leave it for the new West Hoke Middle School being built on Highway 211 West. City and county officials have also formed a special committee to look into county office space and zoning requirements.

The county wants to move Agricultural Extension and Parks and Recreation to the site, and temporarily move courts officials there, too, Reed said. Commissioners may want to make the campus Sandhills Community College

later, he said.

"Using it as the community college is probably still in the minds of the commissioners," Reed said.

Moving the Extension office from the T. B. Lester Building on S. Magnolia Street would make way for more office space required by the Department of Social Services (DSS), which shares the building.

DSS has a long-standing request for more office space, which, department (See TURLINGTON, page 12)

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The weather in the mornings makes you think that fall has arrived a couple of weeks ahead of schedule. The temperature Monday morning was 58 degrees. It warmed up into the 80s during the day, but the humidity was low, so it didn't feel so hot. The rain has held off for a few days and the farmers are once again in the fields getting out tobacco.

The forecast calls for the temperature to reach 90 on Wednesday. Then Thursday through Saturday the highs will be in the 80s and the lows will be in the 60s. There is a chance of rain on Wednesday.

The weather should be perfect for the football games Friday night and on Saturday.

Don't forget to sign up for the 6th annual superball golf tournament sponsored by the Hospice of Hoke County. The tournament will be played at the Arabia Golf Club on Friday, October 4. Call Arabia Golf Club 875-3524 for

further information.

Another of the Old Timers of Raeford and Hoke County was buried Sunday at Raeford Cemetery. Marion Gatlin died last Friday at Autumn Care. He was for many years a school teacher in the local school system. Before his teaching career in Hoke County, he was in business with his brother at Raeford Furniture Co.

Marion was active in civic, political, and church work. His 43 years perfect attendance at the Raeford Kiwanis Club will more than likely stand for many years. He was Hoke County "Man of the Year" in 1983.

As we people who have lived in this county all of our lives, we see that many of the families who helped get Hoke County started are now slowly losing all the members of those families. So many of the younger members have moved to other parts of the state and nation. Marion (See AROUND, page 6)



Fire damage

This turkey house, belonging to Jimmy Wood, burned Saturday morning, apparently after an electrical malfunction in the structure's fans. Wood said

the building was valued at \$80,000. Forty-six hundred turkeys belonging to Tarheel Hatchery perished.