

The News-Journal

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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

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City, County agree to split Planning and Development office

County commissioners and city councilmen (see related story page 4) voted Monday to split Raeford-Hoke's Economic Planning and Development directorship into separate functions.

Two positions will replace the job vacated in early April by Patric Zimmer, who quit to become a developer in Rockingham County.

Commissioners ordered the Planning and

Development Commission to start searching for a new planner to oversee zoning and land use laws and long-range planning for utilities, city annexation and other matters, said Barry Reed, Hoke's county manager.

Reed and City Manager Tom Phillips will work together to hire an economic developer, he said, to recruit industry, help existing industries,

foster new businesses and possibly head a "Main Street" program to revitalize downtown Raeford.

Both positions will be funded by the city and the county, Reed said.

A separate planner will help the county stay on top of land-use laws better, Reed said; currently, Hoke's junkyard law is administered by the Health Department while zoning and other laws

are the joint responsibility of the Planning and Development Commission and Inspections Department.

The PDC will not be in charge of hiring the developer because "most of its activities are in the planning area," Reed said.

The developer could answer to the PDC in the (See PLANNING, page 13)



Signs of the times

Hoke Register of Deeds Candidate Cecelia Weston stands among signs at the Hoke Library. Though she sought votes all day person to person, the effort wasn't enough to defeat incumbent Della Maynor-Goude.

Jordan, Hodges top vote getters

Could face Crowder, Leach again

Four candidates for Hoke County Commission could face each other in a second primary June 2.

None of the 11 candidates got the required 40 percent of the 6,238 votes cast yesterday to win one of two seats outright.

Riley Jordan led with 1,183 votes; he needed 1,248 votes to avoid a possible runoff.

Jean Hodges came in second with 811 votes, Charles Crowder third with 758 and James Leach followed with 731.

According to state law, Crowder or Leach may ask for the second primary; Crowder said this morning he likely would.

If either fails to ask, his name won't be on the ballot; the seven remaining candidates are out of the race.

They were led by Maggie Hunt with 626 votes, followed closely by Howard Sinclair with 624, Jimmy Morrissey with 578, Elizabeth Jones with

166 and Jim Knott with 129.

There were few surprises, if any, in other races of local interest.

District Attorney

Jean Powell, the incumbent district attorney for Hoke and Scotland Counties, handily defeated challenger Allen Webster 5,251 to 1,993.

Powell got 2,729 Hoke County votes to Webster's 756.

Register of Deeds

Challenger Cecelia Weston made a strong effort against Della Maynor-Goude, but not enough to win the job from the veteran Register of Deeds.

Maynor-Goude won 1,947 votes to Weston's 1,465 with strong showings in largely black and Indian precincts, particularly Raeford #5, where she got 294 votes to Weston's 26.

(See ELECTION, page 12)

Jury selection drags on

Lawyers are still picking a jury for the trial of Kerry Morston, accused of murdering Southern Pines drug detective Ed Harris in his western Hoke home.

Eight jurors have been selected so far; if Superior Court Judge Craig Ellis appoints two alternates to the jury, lawyers have six more to go in the process, which has gone on over a week.

Jury selection will take at least the rest of the week, said Jean Powell, district attorney for Hoke County and prosecutor in the case.

Powell last night called the jury selection "tedious," but said the process had to be slow.

Powell and her aide, William Farrell, and Morston's lawyers Woodberry Bowen and Ken Ransom are questioning each prospective juror separately, rather than in the presence of other jurors, she said.

"Because of the pre-trial publicity, the court felt that this was the best way," Powell said.

Questioning prospective jurors separately is

slow, but keeps jurors from "tainting" each other with opinions expressed during interviews.

"You can ask more detailed questions about jurors' opinions," Powell said.

"It's going as fast as it can," she said.

Ed Harris was gunned down over a year ago in the doorway of his Ashley Heights home.

Powell said it is normal for a complicated case like this one to take over a year. Morston is one of nine Moore County men charged in the murder; that means nine separate cases with a host of defense attorneys making motions for psychological analyses of their clients and other matters.

"The last evaluation (of a defendant) was just recently completed," Powell said.

"There have been volumes and volumes of legal motions that have been heard," she said.

It took three months just to get a copy of the medical examiner's report on the autopsy, she added.

Two in Leadership Hoke may start DARE program

Last week, The News-Journal interviewed two more participants in the Leadership Hoke program. These, in a series of interviews, are aimed at letting participants share what they learned while probing important issues in the county. —Ed.

Thanks to the efforts of two participants in the Leadership Hoke institute, county children may soon be learning how to say no to drugs from specially trained lawmen.

Jean Powell, Hoke's district attorney, and Helen Huffman, finance officer for the City of Raeford, took on starting Drug Abuse Resistance Education in Hoke County as their "case study" at the end of the institute.

And it looks like DARE will become a reality in Hoke.

"It's full force right now," Huffman said of the effort to start DARE in Hoke's schools.

Superintendent Bill Harrison favors

DARE and "both the law enforcement heads have expressed strong support," Powell said.

The only question that remains, Powell and Huffman said, is whether DARE is a high enough priority to afford assigning law officers to teach it part time.

But Hoke Schools may apply for a state grant to hire officers to teach DARE. Aimed at fifth graders, the DARE (See LEADERSHIP, page 13)

Jumper killed; second injured near airport

A British Army skydiver in training over Raeford Municipal Airport died yesterday, apparently from a mid-air collision with another jumper at dusk.

Lee W. Sands was found dead by Kevin Kinlaw, a Hoke sheriff's deputy, in a field near the airport with injuries to his head and neck. His parachute was found opened on the ground nearby.

Graham MacLaren, the other jumper involved, suffered a broken leg when Sands apparently flew into his knee just as the two were opening their chutes, according to a sheriff's report.

Sands apparently died from injuries sustained in the crash before landing.

MacLaren came to earth near the (See JUMPER, page 4)



EMS, Rescue and sheriff's officials await military authorities.

'Girl Talk' answers teens' sex questions

Between 30 and 50 sixth-grade girls are going to a sleep-over Friday night.

If that sounds like a pretty big slumber party, you're right. But West Hoke Middle School has lots of room. And there will be plenty of folks on hand to chaperone the girls, says Jackie McKoy,

director of Hoke's Teen Pregnancy Prevention program and organizer of the event.

Several helpers will answer questions about fashion, friends, beauty and, — yes — boys, she said.

Also on the agenda for the night is a

human sexuality program.

McKoy says Girl Talk is "for sixth-grade girls to become more knowledgeable about their bodies."

It's "an opportunity to ask questions which they would not otherwise ask in a (See GIRL TALK, page 11)

Fire inspections to begin in June

Fire inspections of businesses, churches, day care centers and schools will begin in June, says a local fire marshal.

City Fire Marshal Terry Tapp and County Marshal Jimmy Stewart are holding a meeting later this month to explain to businessmen, officials, and citizens what the inspections will entail.

Tapp says the meeting on May 26 will cover general rules and fees for inspections, and fines for violators.

"It's for us to be able to discuss what we're going to be expecting of them," Tapp says.

All businesses, factories, churches, day care centers, residential institutions and schools will be inspected periodically for fire safety violations.

Ordinances passed recently give fire (See INSPECTIONS, page 13)

Around Town

by Sam C. Morris

The weather over the weekend was perfect. It was warm and the rain stayed away. Most folks enjoyed a weekend outdoors. A low pressure system moved into the state Tuesday and the thermometer went down and the rains came to the county.

The forecast calls for the low pressure system to remain stationary for the remainder of the week. The highs Wednesday through Friday will be in the 60s and the lows will be in the 40s. On Saturday the temperature will again get into the 70s and the low at night will be in the 50s. There will be a chance of rain for the entire week.

Let's hope that when this system moves out the weather will once again become seasonable.

When someone writes a column in a newspaper, he or she should expect ev-

eryone to read an item the same way. Well this is not always the case, just as when two or more people see a wreck, each person will have seen it differently. I will explain what I mean by the above.

Last week Raz Autry in his column "A View From The Country," stated in an item that Autry and his golf partner, Sam Morris, would sing a duet at the Hearts in Harmony for Hospice. He had stated in the first paragraph that a lady said she couldn't believe anything in his column.

Later in the week after the paper had hit the streets, I was telling a friend about the item. He said he had read the column and that he had commented to his wife that they should attend and hear the duet.

I took it a little further and I asked Mary Archie McNeill if she would play for us. She consented to do so. Ruth Phillips said she would return my money

(See AROUND, page 4)