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RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

25 CENTS

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Tylertown Fire Department 'won't give up without a fight'

Tylertown Volunteer Fire Department is still trying to come back from decline but budget woes have left the department facing possible absorption of its territory by the North Raeford and Hillcrest fire departments.

Fire Chief William Kershaw said the little fire department won't give up without a fight. "Over my dead body," Captain Hervon

McCollum said of the possible takeover. "We've got the community's support through all of this, we're not going to let them down now."

Last week members of the fire department appeared before the Hoke County Commissioners to request \$8,000 beyond the department's meager fire district tax income of approximately \$9,000 per year.

Because their tax base is so much greater, other departments such as North Raeford and Rockfish receive \$42,000 and \$37,000 more than their smaller counterpart.

"We asked for increased funding for our 1992-1993 budget because our funds are not up to par with other fire departments," Kershaw said. "With the funds we're getting," he said, "we're

barely able to maintain what we've got."

Kershaw said that although Lilly Chapel and Crestline receive less money from Hoke-related fire district taxes, their monies flow from Scotland and Moore counties, respectively.

"This is the first time we ever tried to increase our budget," Kershaw said. "I feel like they could (See TYLERTOWN, page 4)



Rocketeer

Brian Johnson pushes a button (bottom left) and engines of two model rockets fire. A wosh of smoke (top right) is followed by the eyes of Johnson and other rocketeers at a 4-H Rocketry Workshop held Friday. The class was part of the 4-H Summer Fun Program.

Chamber presses for medical clinic Sets meeting to 'clear the air'

Misinformation and poor communication seems to be the cause of the stalemate between opponents and proponents of the proposed medical center for Hoke County. But the Chamber of Commerce hopes to rectify the situation with an open forum Tuesday, June 30 at the library at 7 p.m.

"There seems to be a lot of misunderstanding and we want to get all the facts," Chamber president Tony Austin said.

"I hope everybody can hear both sides of the story and make up their minds," County Manager Barry Reed said.

Troubles plagued the proposal virtually since its inception.

The plan seeks to establish a medical center which would bring in more doctors to the area under grants sponsored by the Kate B. Reynolds Health Care Trust, the Duke endowment, and local (patient-generated funds).

Debate surrounding the medical center began when county officials discovered

the building housing Dr. Robert Townsend's office, which would be used for the new facility, belonged to an incorporation formed years ago. The corporation was formed on May 26, 1976 after two committees tried to bring doctors to the area.

Younger Snead, president of the Hoke County Medical Complex Inc., said his committee was responsible for building a site to house doctors and the other committee, chaired by Wyatt Upchurch, was responsible for recruiting doctors.

The 501C3 non-profit corporation received 80 percent of its financing from a federal grant and 20 percent from a loan.

According to Snead, the HCMC constructed the current building to house three doctors and an eye doctor. But under the new proposal, the building would be revamped to house three permanent doctors, one physician's assistant and (See MEDICAL, page 12)

Food Lion plans expansion

Food Lion officials say they're soon going to expand the Raeford store, making it one of the largest in the chain upon completion.

Food Lion representative Mike Mazingo said the store will take over the old Sky City store.

"The current store is about 20,500 square feet," he said. "Most new stores are only 29,000 square feet, but this one will be about 34,512 square feet upon completion."

Since the chain will work with existing space, the takeover defrays expansion costs.

"It'll be one of our biggest stores," he said. "You'll see a lot more variety in products because of the greater available space."

Mazingo also said the renovators will equip

the new store with a deli-bakery.

No construction will occur until the chain accepts a bid for the renovations.

"We don't know a completion date yet," he said. "We're still waiting to take bids."

Once construction begins, it will not disrupt store operations, he said.

"The renovations will not interrupt business at all. In fact," he said, "it sometimes stimulates business because it creates a lot of interest."

But don't expect increased hiring with the construction, Mazingo said.

Sales regulate staff positions available, he said. "Normally if sales are up, then there's an increase in positions."

Stranger than fiction



Spaghetti as he appeared in 1966.

Raeford residents remember 'Spaghetti'

The macabre fascinates us. It must, or McDougald Funeral Home would not display a corpse for 61 years.

But that's exactly what happened.

From the spring of 1911 until the fall of 1972 people drove from Hoke County and all over to view the remains of Cancetto Farmica, or better known as Spaghetti, a slain carnival worker who became a fixture of area history.

"All ages came to see him, and all races," said Hewitt McDougald, who inherited the funeral home, and Farmica, from his father.

"I'd say we had them from all over the world," he said. "The farthest I know of is from Australia."

But why did they come? "Well, he was just laying around and folks came in to see him," he said. "The longer he stayed, it looked like the more attention he got."

"Back then," said Hoke resident Dale Teal, "Raeford only had one hamburger place so we went to Laurinburg because it had more places we could eat and hang out. We were just in Laurinburg and (See SPAGHETTI, page 3)

Can't cross this bridge when you come to it

Bridge 101, straddling the Hoke-Cumberland county line, is getting a much needed face-lift but is also inconveniencing many residents.

"I'm the closest house to the bridge and now it takes me 5.7 miles more to get to work," Rockfish resident George Small said. "It's just an inconvenience."

Small's sister, Karen Small, also lives on Camden Road near the bridge.

"I think residents in the area wonder what's wrong with the bridge

anyway," she said. "It seems like they could have fixed up something temporary."

Mr. Small also said he, and others, felt the re-route should have been only for non-resident traffic.

"They should have eliminated it as a truck route," he said. "Re-route the trucks, don't re-route us."

But the primary complaint from residents was lack of notice of the project.

"The biggest thing was that really no written notice went out to us to

tell us so we could prepare for it," he said. "I found out through the grapevine."

"We did not receive very much notice," Ms. Small said. "I heard it in the shoe store. They did this without any real notification."

But Cloys Owens of the North Carolina Department of Transportation says residents received ample notice.

"They usually try to give two weeks notice," Owens said. "Most of the time they run it in the paper. Two

weeks is about what they give everywhere."

Owens said residents should expect inconvenience to make road and bridge improvements.

"Any time you close a road it's going to inconvenience people," he said.

But necessity outweighs inconvenience, he said.

Owens, who is DOT engineer for the area, says the scheduled repairs come none too soon.

(See BRIDGE, page 8)

Raeford man stabbed to death

Hoke sheriff's deputies arrested Gerald Marcus Scriver Sunday for the stabbing murder of a Raeford man, 24-year-old Jerry Louis Ray.

Thirty-three year old Scriver turned himself in to a Hoke sheriff's sergeant who was in the Harmony Heights area responding to a gunshot complaint.

Scriver, of Nevada Drive, Raeford, saw Sgt. John Pandure and, according to sheriff's reports, assumed he was looking for him.

Sheriff's Detective Bobby Connerly said Scriver stated that he and Ray argued over a neighborhood basketball game that occurred earlier. Scriver said, according to reports, that Ray came after him with a pipe. The case is still under investigation.

Scriver allegedly stabbed Ray in the upper left torso, puncturing a lung and his heart.

Ray died at Cape Fear Valley Memorial Hospital.

Girl reports assault

A 12-year old girl reported that two boys forced their way into her mobile home and assaulted her.

The boys, aged 13 and 15, forced the door open and took turns holding her down, while trying to fondle the girl, said Sheriff's Det. Bobby Connerly.

Woman, baby assaulted

A 15-year old girl was charged Saturday with assaulting a Raeford woman and her eight-month old baby. (See CRIME, page 8)

Around Town

by Sam C. Morris

Last week I wrote that after a few more warm days, summer might be here to stay. Well, summer came in according to the calendar, on Sunday, June 21. It was the longest day of the year, but it didn't bring the warm weather. In fact, it was cooler than last week.

There were many storms around the area Sunday, but I haven't heard of any damage in Hoke County. Someone did say that there was hail in the McCain area.

The forecast for the remainder of the week sounds more like spring than summer. The highs Wednesday through Saturday will be in the 80s. The lows for the period will be in the 60s. There is a chance of rain, maybe on Wednesday.

One weather reporter on television said the low temperatures could be coming from the eruption of a volcano in the Pacific last year. That caused the volca-

nic ash to flow this way and possibly blocked the heat coming from the sun to the earth. He said it also occurred in 1963 when the conditions were the same after the eruption of a volcano. Your guess is as good as mine!

Television and the daily papers are full of news about the presidential candidates and I haven't read anything about either the Democrats or the Republicans holding a convention. Of course Clinton and Bush say they have their party nominations locked up. The Independent candidate keeps getting more petitions in states to get his name on the ballot.

Clinton is doing everything that he can to get separated from Jesse Jackson. This is a smart move and it may pay off in November. Bush is trying to get the economy going and he is again promising no new taxes. Perot says he is not a (See AROUND, page 5)