

The 2nd issue of our 86th year

**RAEFORD, NORTH CAROLINA** 

**25 CENTS** 

Wednesday, April 20, 1994

preview

INSIDE

## Two arrested for breaking into home of Hoke register of deeds

Two teenagers were arrested last Thurs- and larceny and with conspiracy. day for allegedly breaking into the home of Hoke County Register of Deeds Della Maynor.

Hoke County sheriff's Detective Arnold Wilson said Paul Jones, 18, of Route 1, Box 204F, and a 15-year-old boy were charged with felony breaking and entering

The two are accused of stealing several items of jewelry and a 9 mm handgun from

Maynor's Balfour Road mobile home. Wilson said the stolen goods have been for cocaine possession recovered.

Jones was taken to the Hoke County jail under \$10,000 bond.

The 15-year-old was taken to a juvenile and a hidden weapon inside his car. detention facility.

### Man arrested

Eric Lashaw Melvin, 21, of 916 Burbank St., Fayetteville, was arrested last Thursday after deputies allegedly found drugs

Melvin, driving a white 1981 Cadillac, pulled out in front of oncoming traffic while turning onto Rockfish Road from Arabia Road. A sheriff's deputy followed the car and stopped it just inside Cumberland County on Camden Road.

A search of the vehicle, Melvin and A sheriff's department report said three passengers turned up a possibly 9 mm handgun, a pager, more than \$1,800 in cash, a pill bottle containing cocaine and two small vials, the report said. Melvin was charged with possession of a controlled substance and carrying a concealed (See Crime, page5A)

## Fruit stand closure causes buzz

Neighborhood buzz over alleged strong-arm tactics has a City of Raeford official befuddled.

City enforcement of a North Carolina State Plumbing Code requirement resulted in a newly established produce stand temporarily and voluntarily closing to bring their business up to standards, says Raeford Public Works Director Mike McNeill.

McNeill says he approached the management of the produce stand at the corner of East Central Avenue and N.C. 20 last Wednesday after receiving complaints about increased traffic and other problems from residents in the area.

"I told them they needed to get a restroom facility and display their tax stamp ... they closed voluntarily," says McNeill.

The owner, Deborah McDonald of Fayetteville, could



Campaigning: sheriff candidate Dave Barrington Jr. (right) and his wife, Ilissa talk with Judge Bill McIlwain.

# **Board denies** rezoning request for subdivision

uch to the relief of about 11 King Road area residents, Hoke County commissioners Monday denied a developer's rezoning request to more densely develop an eight-acre tract in that area.

The King Road group's spokesman, Heriberto Serrano Jr., presented the board with a map and videotape of the area showing residents' concerns that area wetlands would be contaminated by septic tanks for the proposed 14 houses. Commissioners voted 3-2 to deny developer Charles Pierce's request for R-15 (lots of at least 15,000 square feet), and the area's RA-20 (residential/agricultural with lots of at least 20,000 square feet), which went against the

we're trying to do by asking for this rezoning."

Thorp, who pointed out that earlier in the meeting commissioners had just rezoned a similar tract from RA-20 to R-15 so that developers would have more flexibility with the lots, said the developer would probably go ahead and put a 12-home subdivision on the tract.

Commissioner Tom Howell, who, with Commissioner Riley Jordan voted against the motion to deny the request, noted that if the zoning changed to R-15, the subdivision would have to go onto a public water system.

### **Board denies** request for ETJ

Commissioners split a second

not be reached for comment.

He says he since has heard talk all over town that he forced the stand to close and that the requirement for restroom facilities does not apply to produce stands.

"I don't know where they got that I made them close --- it must be imaginations," he said.

Article 922.2.2 of the state plumbing code says, "Every building and each subdivision thereof intended for pubic use shall be provided with facilities in accordance with this chapter."

Raeford city ordinance article 5-103 states the city should enforce the state plumbing code.

McNeill said because the owner put poles in the ground, the stand is, in fact, a building and therefore falls subject to the plumbing code.

Since the stand's closing last Friday, portable toilets have been brought to the site, apparently so the owner can resume business on Wednesday.

McNeill said he did not know of other produce stands in the city needing to make adjustments to meet requirements at this time, but that he would continue to enforce the state plumbing code where any violations are made.

**Candidates take to the soapbox** The Public Affairs Department of the Raeford Woman's Club sponsored "Meet the Candidates" at the Hoke County Public Library last night.

The program, led by club designed to acquaint voters with candidates running in local and state races.

The candidates were given platforms. A social hour followed with refreshments served and time for conversation with tired of us being called poor." candidates.

During the speeches, several local candidates espoused the strengths of Hoke County and affirmed their dedication to service of its people.

Incumbent school board memmember Jackie Gladden, was ber Bob Conoly said, "I'm running as a token of appreciation for what Hoke County has provided for my family."

Jean Hodges, who is running for three minutes each to tout their county commissioner, said if elected, "I will work to regain Hoke County's positive image — I'm

seeking re-election, said, "I love Hoke County. Out of a hundred counties in North Carolina, I would say Hoke County has one of the greatest potentials in the state."

Chairman of the present board of commissioners L. E. McLaughlin distributed a progress report on Hoke County naming additions to the county tax base through new businesses and outlining overall growth and development in the county during his time in office.

Commissioner Cleo Bratcher. (See CANDIDATES, page 11A)

recommendation of the newly formed Hoke Planning Board which met Thursday night. The tract can still be developed for a subdivision, just not as densely.

"I've been living here for eight years," Serrano told the board. "I moved away from Cumberland County because my neighbor had a bad septic tank problem — his land was tested, too --- the bottom line is that sometimes a test is wrong."

Fayetteville lawyer Herb Thorp, representing Pierce, answered the group's concerns.

"We understand and respect that we've got to comply with the Corps of Engineers (on wetlands restrictions) and that's what

time Monday night over a City of Raeford request to extend its extraterritorial jurisdiction to one-mile out of the city limits. **Commissioners Cleo Bratcher** and Howell voted to approve the request, and Commissioners L.E. McLaughlin, Jordan and James Leach voted to deny the request.

**Raeford Public Works Director** Mike McNeill presented commissioners with a map proposing the change.

"We feel the need to be progressive, we feel the need to expand our ETJ," he told the board.

But McLaughlin asked why the city hadn't pursued the request about a year and a half (See COMMISSION, page 10A)

### Group seeks school board help with high school band program

A group of some 45 people met with the Hoke Board of Education Monday night to express concerns over the band program at Hoke High School.

The school board heard the matter in executive session. After a 30-minute conference it took no action.

The Monday meeting, held six days later than usual, was also notable for progress made in plans for upcoming programs such as 90-minute block scheduling at the high school, an alternative school, and a summer enrichment program for students.

In addition, school board Chairman John classes - two academic courses such as math gym last Thursday to discuss how block D. McAllister recognized two Hoke County High School students chosen to receive scholarships through the North Carolina Teaching Fellows program.

#### **Block schedule approved** for next school year

A new 90-minute block schedule for Hoke High was unanimously approved.

The new schedule will divide the school year into two 18-week terms. During each term, students will attend tour 90-minute

or English and two electives.

Proponents say block scheduling will provide the opportunity for students to take more electives, allow time for more discussion and cooperative learning, and lighten the class load.

Currently, students keep up with six classes, most of which are academic, core courses.

Hoke High business teacher Phyllis Fahrenbruck said approximately 160 parents came to a meeting in the high school

scheduling would affect students.

"They went away happy and knowing their students will be successful under this scheduling," said Fahrenbruck.

Superintendent Bill Harrison pointed out the new schedule, in addition to its instructional benefits, would save money on supplies, such as books, which would be turned in at the end of the first term and used by a different group of students during the second term.

(See SCHOOL, page 4A)

Around Town

### **Students D.A.R.E.** to celebrate Thursday

dents involved in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program will the program .

Fifth-graders currently enrolled in the program, as well as students who have already graduated from it, will be treated to food - hot dogs, chips, cotton candy and soft drinks - and will see exhibits and honor of the occasion. demonstrations by area emergency personnel in McLauchlin Park.

place from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Special guests at the event will include Raeford Mayor Bob Gen-

On Thursday, Hoke County stu- try and McGruff the Crime Dog. Two local restaurants will offer discounts to D.A.R.E. students enjoy a D.A.R.E. day filled with throughout the day. Burger King rewards for their participation in will offer a 15 percent discount, and Papa's Pizza To Go will give 10 percent off purchases.

April 21 was declared D.A.R.E. Day throughout the United States by President Bill Clinton. A parade will be held in Washington D.C. in

Raeford city council members followed suit when they met last Activities in the park will take week by declaring April 21 D.A.R.E. Day in Raeford. A number of businesses have (See DARE, page 4A)



#### New screen

Residents at Open Arms Rest Home recently received a new movie screen thanks to the Raeford Junior Service League.

#### By Sam C. Morris

The weekend weather was once again the dream for the folks who like outdoor activities. The temperatures were in the 70s and 80s and the rain came mostly during the early morning hours on Saturday. The wind and rain did away with many dogwood and azalea blossoms. It was still nice weather on Monday with the temperature around 80. The nights have been cool and the lows Monday morning was in the 40s.

The forecast calls for the highs Wednesday through Friday to be in the high 70s or low 80s, with the lows in the high 40s. Saturday, the high will be in the 80s and the low will be in the 50s. There is a chance of rain on Saturday. Only a chance!

I attended the Hoke County Democratic Party convention on Saturday at

from most of the precincts and Jackie Hadden presided.

The business for an off year was mostly routine and the people elected to the various committees and the delegates to the district and state conventions didn't have any opposition.

A few of the candidates who are running in the May 3rd primary were introduced and they were given a chance to speak for a few minutes. Most of them stated the office they were seeking and requested that the people vote for them.

This was my kind of convention. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 and it was adjourned at 1:30. Short but sweet! ....

SINCE LAST WEEK I believe all the candidates in the county have put up more posters. It seems that on every vacant lot next to a crossroads you will find many signs. The wind and rain did

(See AROUND, page 3A)

the courthouse. There were delegates