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there's a way
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The News-Journal

'If it happened, it's news to us'

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HOKE COUNTY 50 CENTS

Wednesday, October 9, 1996

Consortium joins county Group to help businesses

By Jen Osborn
Assistant editor

Hoke County residents wishing to start or expand a small business now have a place to turn for technical assistance, professional services and information.

At Monday night's regular meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners, officials approved a request from the Southern Sandhills Microenterprise Loan Program (SSMLP) to include Hoke County in its service area.

What that means is local residents who want to take part in the program no longer have to drive to Moore, Montgomery, Scotland or Richmond County and the program can hold informational meetings in Hoke County. The program comes from a con-

sortium of the Small Business Center of Sandhills Community College, and Montgomery and Richmond Community College.

Beth Henderson, South Sandhills Microenterprise Fund enterprise agent, said the SSMLP offers a peer-to-peer lending technique in which funds are made available through the North Carolina Rural Center by the General Assembly.

According to information from SSMLP, after attending an introductory meeting, those who wish to participate in the program complete a mandatory six-session orientation that teaches guidelines of the program as well as business training. During regular meetings the group members hear business plan presentations, select loan recipients, process loan payments and establish

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Shelnutt seeks commission seat

By Jen Osborn
Assistant editor

Editor's Note: The News-Journal is profiling each of the candidates for local office. The series has been on-going for several weeks. This week's profile is county commissioner candidate Gene Shelnutt.

For the past few years, Gene Shelnutt said he and a few acquaintances gather together and naturally end up on the subject of county government.

Through the discussions, people quickly realized he had strong convictions about where things are and where things should be in county politics.

"In December of last year I was asked to become a candidate because of my strong beliefs about how county government should run," Shelnutt explained.

He said he thought it was his duty as a citizen to step in and do what he can to enhance the standard of living for everyone in the county. So in May, Shelnutt

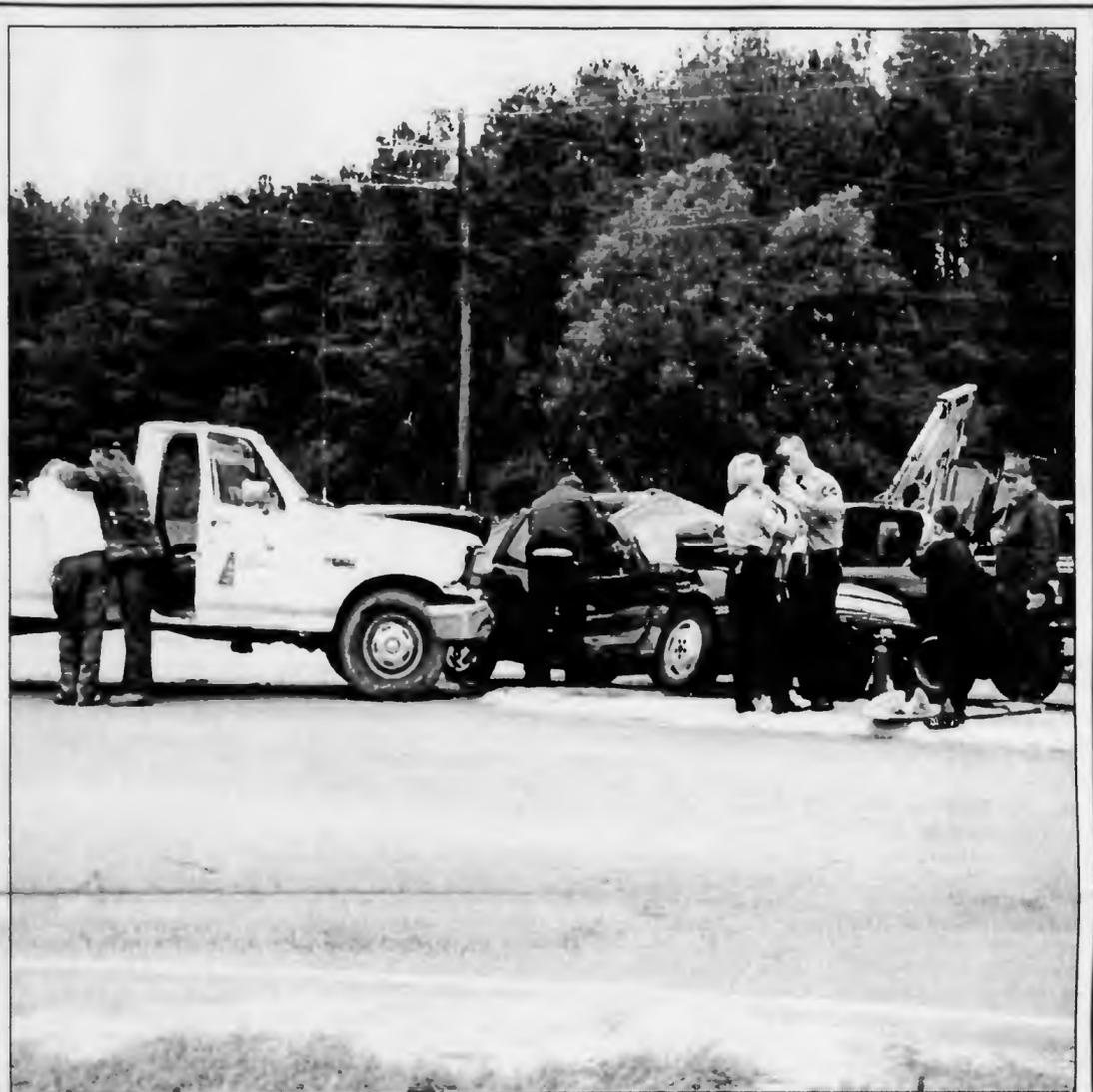


Gene Shelnutt

joined nine other residents in the race for one of two open seats on the Hoke County Board of Commissioners.

"I'm just a concerned citizen," Shelnutt said and explained that he makes no promises to anyone but the local voters. "I'm not a

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Two separate accidents sent eight people to the hospital on Monday. Above, emergency medical personnel examine victims of a car accident on Scott Currie Road. Below, workers stabilize a man who was hurt in an early morning accident on Rockfish Road.

Car wreck sends child to hospital

By Jen Osborn
Assistant editor

Several people were injured Monday morning during vehicle accidents caused when drivers failed to see oncoming cars or traffic signs, said Trooper J.D. Hoover of the N.C. Highway Patrol.

At about 9:25 a.m. on Monday, a two vehicle accident was reported at the intersections of King Road and Rockfish Road. Hoover said a vehicle operated by Rhoda Cantleberry, 20, of Fayetteville was traveling on King

Road toward Rockfish Road. Apparently Cantleberry didn't see a stop sign, ran through the intersection and her vehicle was hit by an oncoming car.

Cantleberry and two passengers in her vehicle, Wes Sherman, 30, and 4-month-old Chance Sherman, both of Fayetteville, were all injured and transported to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center for treatment. Hoover said Phillip Mills, 48, of Lumber Bridge, a passenger in the second car, was also taken to Cape Fear Valley for treatment to injuries he received in the accident.

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Photo by Kristin Guthrie

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris
Contributing editor

The fall weather continues and it has been cold early in the mornings. We haven't had any frost, but it could come at any time. As I write this column Monday afternoon, the weather forecasters called for a heavy rain Tuesday. There is a tropical storm coming up from Florida. We don't need anymore rain in North Carolina.

The forecast for the remainder of the week, Wednesday through Saturday, calls for the highs to be around 70 degrees and the lows will be in the 40s

and 50s. Maybe we will be dry after Wednesday.

Caroline Shook, clerk to the Hoke County Board of Elections, brought me the ballots Monday for the election in November. I didn't count them, but there were a handful of yellow sheets. She said that all these would be on the voting machines but it is good to see what you must face when you go behind the curtain.

I hope that she will have the number of registered voters by next week. The deadline to register is Friday, Oct. 11.

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Registration deadline nears

By Jen Osborn
Assistant editor

Citizens still have a few more days to register to vote, according to information from the board of elections office.

Caroline Shook, clerk to the board of elections, said Friday at 5 p.m. is the deadline to register for anyone who wants to vote in the upcoming Nov. 5 general election. Those with mail-in registrations must have them post-marked on Friday.

Shook said local residents can register at several places in the county including the board of

elections office in the Pratt Building; the Hoke County Public Library; while doing business at the department of motor vehicles, the department of social services, the economic security commission office (job service), the health department, Sandhills Mental Health Clinic and ADAP; through armed forces recruiters or at Hoke County High School. It's not necessary to register in the precinct in which you live and a person can go to any site to register in the county.

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. To cast a ballot local voters

must vote at the designated location for their precinct, which are listed below:

Allendale, Allendale Community House, Old Wire Road; Antioch, Antioch Fire Department, Highway 211 East; Blue Springs, South Hoke Gymnasium, Old Maxton Road; Buchan, Pine Hill Fire Department, Ashemont and Calloway intersection; McCain, Shiloh Presbyterian Church, Highway 211 West; Puppy Creek, Puppy Creek Fire Department, North Pittman Grove Church Road; Raeford #1, Hoke County Public Library, 334

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