

County —

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group savings accounts as well as offer personal support for other small business owners.

Loans of \$500 up to \$8,000 are made available a fixed interest rate of 16 percent. Each member shares responsibility for insuring that loans are repaid and members sustain successful businesses. The lending helps those who cannot secure a loan with a bank create a better credit history.

"What we do is mold entrepreneurs to where they can work with banks," Henderson said.

Henderson said group members also receive timely and appropriate technical assistance and take part in a support, networking system.

Henderson said several Hoke County businesses are already involved with the SSMLP and being able to come into Hoke County to share information will make it easier for new businesses to become involved and gain shared information.

Hearing held

Also at Monday's board meeting, commissioners and members of the audience were on hand for one of three public hearings that will decide if Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates will apply for an \$850,000 block grant on behalf of Hoke County. The grant would fund a project to hook up 30-40 homes in the area of the 401 Bypass to the county's sewer system.

Will Buie, an engineer for the project, told commissioners during the hearing that there has been some concern that the project would put too much strain on the county's wastewater capacity. So, Buie said he included a treatment package as part of the application process.

According to the grant guidelines, if Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates applies for the grant on Hoke's behalf, the county will be required to match up to 10 percent of the grant — or about \$85,000. The applications are due on Friday, Oct. 18, and at this point there has been no public input during any of the community development block grant hearings held in conjunction with the commissioners meetings.

Accidents

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According to Hoover, Cantelberry has been charged with a stop sign violation.

Yield violation

A few hours later a three-vehicle accident also sent four people to the hospital for treatment at about 12:40 p.m., Hoover said.

Apparently a car driven by Sylvia Cooper, 50, of Raeford was at a stop sign on Scott Currie road and headed into the intersection of NC 211 in front of an oncoming vehicle. Hoover said Cooper's car was hit by the oncoming truck and slid into another truck that was stopped at the stop sign across the street on Old Maxton Road.

Cooper and two passengers in her vehicle, Sadie Cowan, 76, and Corey Cooper, 8, both of Raeford, were taken to Moore Regional Hospital for treatment.

A passenger in the first truck, Donald Sweeting, 55, of Richland, was reportedly injured but refused transport. Hoover said the passenger in the third truck was not injured.

No charges have been filed as yet, but Hoover said Cooper may be charged with a yield violation.

VOTE Jonathan Breeden NC House
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FOUND
A little brown dog on Reservation Road. Please call 281-5832 or Hoke-Raeford Humane Society 875-5486 and describe the dog.

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