

The News-Journal

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

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Around Town



By SAM C. MORRIS
Contributing Editor

The warm weather has finally gone away. The temperature Monday just did get to 70 degrees. We also had about an inch of rain over the weekend. We could still use more rain.

The forecast for the remainder of the week, Wednesday through Saturday, calls for the fall-like weather to continue. The highs Wednesday and Thursday will be in the 70s and the lows will be in the 50s. Friday and Saturday the highs will be in the 80s and the lows in the 60s. There is a chance of rain on Friday and Saturday.

Maybe the electric bill will go down since the air conditioners will not be running night and day.

The Philippi Presbyterian Church in Hoke County will celebrate its 110th year on Sunday, October 11, 1998. It will begin at 10:00 o'clock with Sunday school and will be followed by the worship service at 11:00. A covered dish picnic dinner will follow the service in the fellowship hall.

(See AROUND, page 14A)

County moves to attract industries

By PAT ALLEN WILSON
Staff writer

Responding to a letter from the Hoke County Economic Development Commission, county commissioners agreed Monday night to have county engineers present design plans and estimated costs of three sewer projects identified as needed for business and industrial development.

Those projects are hookups to the line which extends from the

city to East Hoke Middle School, extension of city sewer to Highway 20, and an extension from Cumberland County to serve the Wayside and Rockfish communities.

Commissioners stopped short of actually funding one or all of the projects, but have looked into setting up a capital reserve fund for sewer projects. Commissioner Tom Howell has said the county needs to balance the residential growth Hoke is experi-

encing with industrial and commercial growth.

County Attorney Neil Yarborough recommended the county "do everything up to the point of actually spending big money" and move forward to the design stage. He said the county shouldn't spend money until there is a prospect. "This is a step closer," he said. "If we do get a prospect we can say we have a plan."

Yarborough said the county can get economic development

funds from the state if there is a prospective client. "We can say we do have a plan," he said.

It was pointed out that a proposal to rezone 150 acres in the East Hoke Middle School area to highway commercial will go before the planning board later this month.

Howell noted that some of the proposed sewer projects are not "high dollar."

In the letter to commissioners, Derrick Staten, chairman of the Economic Development Com-

mission, pointed out that at a workshop held in late March, experts agreed that one of the first steps for economic growth would be the installation of sewer service to areas available for commercial and industrial development. "The opinion of the experts was that our area would not even be considered for economic and industrial development until sewer and water service were provided to locations available for development," he wrote.

(See COUNTY, page 13A)

Flap has Haddon on hot seat

By PAT ALLEN WILSON
Staff writer

Hoke Democratic Party Chairman Ben Haddon is among a growing number to find themselves on the "hot seat" as the race for Hoke County sheriff continues to heat up.

On September 17, a group called Concerned Democratic Citizens of Hoke County wrote Barbara Allen, chairman of North Carolina Democrats, and re-

quested a speedy hearing into Haddon's removal from office. They cited as reasons that Haddon had failed to support or endorse any of the local Democratic Primary winners for the upcoming general election. They identified him as "the direct cause of party division in the county."

The Concerned Democratic Citizens are chagrined because they say Haddon will not support their candidate, Jim Davis, the man Democrats chose as their

man for sheriff in the May primary. Davis defeated current sheriff Wayne Byrd.

Wayne Gardner, Byrd's chief of deputies, has since filed as an unaffiliated candidate after his supporters presented a petition to the Hoke County Board of Elections with more than 1,400 signatures. Gardner, a Democrat, began a leave of absence from the sheriff's department on Monday so he could concentrate on

(See HADDON, page 13A)

Boat accident claims buddy's life

By PAT ALLEN WILSON
Staff writer

A boating accident Friday morning on the Intracoastal Waterway at Southport resulted in the death of one of three fishing friends with Raeford ties.

Carl Michael Lee, 46, of Parkton died when the 17-foot

fishing boat he was in hit a navigation marker. His brother-in-law Wayne Beasley, 53, a Raeford businessman, and friend Noah A. Hendrix of Raeford received bruises and scrapes in the accident, according to the Coast Guard.

The men left the N.C. Wildlife boat ramp and were east

bound, on their way to do some spot fishing, when the mishap occurred, according to Senior Chief Robert Bradford of the Coast Guard station at Oak Island.

The boat, owned and operated by Beasley, was traveling about 20 mph at half throttle speed

(See ACCIDENT, page 12A)

Fire Dept. seeks to dedicate building

By KRISTIN GUTHRIE
Staff writer

Raeford Fire Chief Dickie Lippard appeared before the City Council Monday night to request that the City grant the Raeford Fire Department permission to dedicate the department's building in memory of the late

Crawford Thomas Jr. Lippard said the department plans to mount a plaque on the front of the building stating its dedication to Thomas, Jr.

In other news around town, Raeford residents will soon see an island at the corner of Edinborough and Magnolia Street. City Council members

voted to install the island with a new curb and gutter sidewalk in an effort to make the intersection safer. City Manager Mike McNeill said they plan to install the island right away in hopes that it will help cut down on the frequency and severity of accidents at this particular corner.

(See CITY, page 13A)

Lumber River deemed wild and scenic

By PAT ALLEN WILSON
Staff writer

In a ribbon-cutting ceremony held Saturday at Princess Anne landing near Fair Bluff in Robeson County, the Lumber River became part of the U.S. Department of Interior's National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The Lumber joins North Carolina's New, Horsepasture and Chattooga rivers in achieving the status which is bestowed on rivers which have clean water, natural beauty, undeveloped banks, abundant wildlife and recreational potential.

Eight-one miles of the 115-mile river have been designated

Wild and Scenic. About 22 miles of the designated stream makes up the border between Hoke and Scotland counties. The remaining designated section is in Robeson County.

Under its new status, the Lumber River has complete protection from federally funded dams,

(See RIVER, page 13A)



Barbara Lippard and some of the children of Hillcrest Baptist Church deliver a wagon load of pennies to BB&T to be used to support Baptist Children's Homes. (Pat Allen Wilson photo)

Church kids go 'extra mile' for Baptist Children's Home

By PAT ALLEN WILSON
Staff writer

The children of Hillcrest Baptist Church went that extra mile and then some.

They were told it takes 84,440 pennies—or \$844.40—laid edge to edge, to equal a mile.

They were also told that amount of money would make a significant difference in the lives of the children of Baptist Children's Home. For instance,

the money translates to:

- a month's groceries for a cottage of 12 children;
- clothing allowance for 22 children for one month;
- one month's supply of milk for 11 cottages;
- 42 pairs of jeans or 20 winter coats;
- three days of electricity or natural gas for Mills Home campus;
- 11 days of water/sewer ser-

(See PENNIES, page 13A)

Strong flu season predicted

By KNIGHT CHAMBERLAIN
Editor

The Center for Disease Control is forecasting a particularly strong flu season ahead and Hoke County residents are urged to get vaccinated.

This month, the Hoke County Health Center will participate in a statewide prevention effort, Senior Vaccination Season, by playing host to a series of flu and pneumonia vaccination clinics for adults 65 and older. Medicare B consumers will have no out-of-pocket costs for these

(See FLU, page 13A)



Wreck injures one

A woman who is eight months pregnant is assisted by EMS personnel (left photo) after a two-vehicle accident in the Ashley Heights on Aberdeen Road Tuesday, September 29, shortly after 10:30 a.m. One person was injured in the two-vehicle crash which left a pickup in a field (right photo) about 150 yards from its impact with an Isuzu Trooper. The accident occurred about 12 miles west of Raeford. (Pat Allen Wilson photos)

