

The News-Journal

If it happened, it's news to us

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Turn your clocks back one hour before bed Saturday night!

This week

Costumed kiddies are Halloween treat page 1B

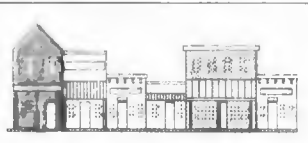
Next week

Can you identify local landmarks from photos? You'll win if you can in next week's contest.

Index

Births.....	4B
Calendar.....	4B
Classifieds.....	10-11B
Editorials.....	2A
Legals.....	8B
Public Record.....	5A
Religion.....	6B
School.....	12B
Socials.....	5B
TV Listings.....	6-7B
Weddings.....	5B

Around Town



By SAM C. MORRIS
Contributing Editor

When I went out to my car Monday morning there was frost on the windows and windshield. The temperature was in the 30s and it was the coldest it has been this fall. This is better than the rainy weather we have had for the past several weeks. Maybe the flooded areas of the state will dry up in the next few weeks.

The forecast for the remainder of the week, Wednesday through Saturday, calls for the highs to be in the 70s and the lows in the 40s. Maybe the weather will settle down and become seasonal again. There isn't any rain in the forecast for this period.

I was glad to read that the Hoke County High School football stadium had been named for Raz Autry. Of course there were many people that assisted in the raising of the money for this project, but it was the driving effort of Raz that kept everyone working for a successful conclusion.

Many people who now live in Hoke County were not here when this project was started and was completed. There were many people that didn't want the stadium built. They wanted to keep playing at Armory Park. Raz stated that the school would have more control if it was built on school property.

With the way people be-
(See AROUND, page 7A)

Backyard 'juke joint' raided

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

Barely a half mile from the playground at Upchurch Elementary School on Turnpike Road, Silver City resident Jake McLauchlin claims crack cocaine is being sold in the daytime—right on Alex Baker Road in plain view of neighbors. Another neighbor, who wished to remain unnamed, alleged he's seen the same illegal activities in the small community that falls under the jurisdiction of the Hoke County Sheriff's Department.

"You can buy anything you

want and just drive up to get it," the elderly McLauchlin said of the predominantly minority neighborhood. "You should see the street on payday on the first of the month!

"You can find 20 or 30 people lined up to buy drugs. We've complained before, and the law drives by but we never seen anybody arrested."

However, that situation was remedied recently by local and state law enforcement.

Ironically, McLauchlin's own son, Jasper McLauchlin, of 607 Alex Baker Road, was arrested
(See RAIDED, page 10A)



This building, known as "Billy's Barn," was the scene of a drug raid last week.



Ready or not, the trick or treat-ers are coming

This Halloween weekend, we'll be opening our doors to trick or treaters like James Thomas Jr., son of Shirley Thomas Quinn of Raeford. The two-year-old is one of many who came to *The News-Journal* office to have their photos taken for our annual children's Halloween contest. You can find them all in the "B" section of this week's newspaper. (Photo by Pat Allen Wilson)

Johnson leaves city council race

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

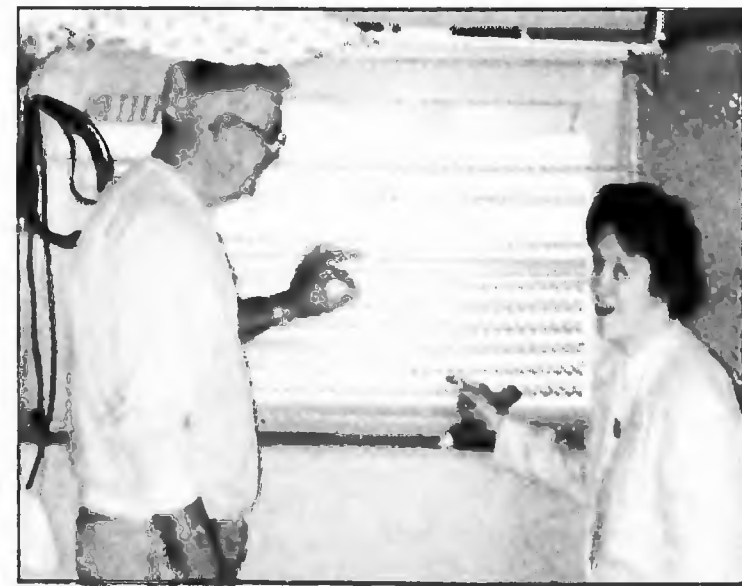
One week prior to the City of Raeford municipal election, candidate Gregory L. Johnson, who was seeking one of the three seats available on the City Council, has pulled out of the race.

Director Caroline Shook of the Board of Elections said it's too late to take his name off the ballots, hoping people will be informed as much as possible of his withdrawal.

"The strips on the voting machines have already been printed and installed," Shook said. "We can't take off Mr. Johnson's name. If people inadvertently still vote for him and don't realize he's no longer in the race, those votes won't be utilized towards another candidate. The votes will be counted, however."

"But, there's nothing wrong with leaving his name on the ballot."

On the morning of October
(See RACE, page 11A)



And, the winner is...

Technical consultant Gene Barnes of Virginia checks Hoke County voting machines for any necessary repairs on October 14 with Director Caroline Shook of the Board of Elections. The machines are stored at the old North Carolina National Guard Armory on Central Avenue being prepared for the City of Raeford Election on November 2. See related article, page 7A. (Photo by Victoriana Summers)

Public hearing approaches for county dog ordinance

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

Dog owners and animal lovers alike will be able to address concerns, or requests at a public hearing scheduled to address the proposed Hoke County Dog Ordinance.

The hearing is set for 7:30 p.m. on November 1 at the Commissioners' Room in the Pratt Building at 227 N. Main Street in Raeford.

"We're encouraging citizens to gather with us so we can get their input into the proposed dog
(See ORDINANCE, page 10A)

Six move on to election

Candidates respond to questionnaire; see page 6A.



Brent Clark
Age: 28
Address: 133 Harris Avenue
Occupation: shift supervisor, Nanodyne Inc., Maxton
Family: wife, Dyana; two daughters, Kyrsten and Katelynn
Education and/or experience: University of Maryland, 3 years; U.S. Navy, 6 years.



John O. Jordan
Age: 36
Address: 1019 East Donaldson Avenue
Occupation, branch manager, Fidelity Bank
Family: wife, Polly
Education and/or experience: Wake Forest University, B.S. degree in business; 2 years, Raeford City Council.

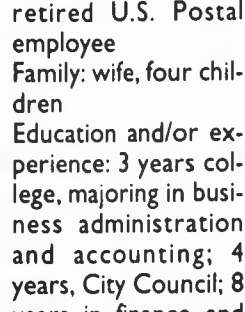


Jim White
Age: 59
Address: 214 West

Prospect Avenue
Occupation, site manager, Fort Bragg Office, CAMBER Corporation
Family: wife, Sara Winslett White; three children, Eddie, Bill and Bonnie, 7 grandchildren.
Education and/or experience: Economics degree, Mercer University, Macon, Georgia; Masters in education, Georgia State University; Army War College graduate.



Clyde A. Thomas Jr.
Age: 45
Address: 918 North Jackson Street
Occupation: retired military, U.S. Navy; retired U.S. Postal employee
Family: wife, four children
Education and/or experience: 3 years college, majoring in business administration and accounting; 4 years, City Council; 8 years in finance and budgeting in the U.S. Navy; 13 years, District 4 representative for the N.C. Council of American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO; member, chairman, Trustee's Board, The New Shady Grove Baptist Church; life member. Disabled American Post Chapter 17; past commander, Alfonso Pickett Veterans of Foreign War Post 7930; member, Ameri-



can Legion Post 20; past executive board member, Hoke County Civic League.



Earl McDuffie
Address: 309 Covington Street
Family: wife, 5 children, 9 grandchildren
Occupation: businessman
Education and/or experience: high school, business college, sales representative of 20 years for Hormel Company, 10 years, City Council.



Wayne Mills
Age: 53
Address: 819 East Prospect Avenue
Occupation: semi-retired sales
Family: wife, Teresa; son, Jamie, daughter, Melissa
Education and/or experience: 10 years (teacher, coach, administrator), Hoke County Schools; 15 years owner, Auto Parts and Equipment; 1 year owner, J&L Food Market; 1 year employee, Raeford Hardware; 7 years, president, CEO, JML Corporation.

County fires architect

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

An SOS plea by Fayetteville architect Robbie Ferris to save downtown Raeford may have gone unheeded for the visionary planner.

Ferris dreams of a concentrated hub of county, city, retail stores, banks and a picturesque residential community for the City of Raeford, which he describes as remarkably unspoiled and preserved.

As Ferris was representing the Raeford Downtown Revitalization Committee, he encouraged the new Hoke County Administrative Facility to remain in the heart of town rather than move to the outskirts. He addressed the Raeford Hoke Chamber of Commerce and the County Commissioners about the potential of downtown.

Simultaneously, Ferris was conducting a capital needs study for Hoke County, regarding demographic and financial analysis and existing building reuse solely for county use.

Now, Ferris has been dismissed by the county, putting the capital needs project in limbo temporarily.

"Robbie Ferris was fired last Thursday," Director Dennis Baxley of the Building and Maintenance Division said. "We felt there was a conflict of interest. I met with Bernice McPhatter, our County Manager, and we felt it was in the best interest of everybody for us to terminate the contract with Architects Shuller Ferris Lindstrom & Associates. They were trying to present
(See ARCHITECT, page 11A)

Business owner beefs up security after break-in

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

"You can bet my boots that I'm prepared to protect my business now!" said Carl Mounts, owner of the Rockfish Cafe and Rockfish Video and Tanning.

Mounts, whose business was targeted recently among the rash of break-ins around Hoke County, declared he's aiming to fight back.

"Some of these business are staking out their own places," said Mounts. "They're armed to the teeth at night to catch the bandits. They're looking for anything suspicious and watching out for strange cars."

"I'm afraid if these robberies continue that somebody is going to get hurt."

Rockfish Cafe was reportedly robbed on October 15 at about 2:15 in the early morning.

"My security alarm company called me and automatically called the Sheriff's Department," Mounts said. "The deputies showed up about 20 minutes later. They were on the other side of the county."

Mounts said he's concerned about the lack of deputies patrolling at night.

"The problem with these crimes is caused by a combination of things," Mounts said.
(See SECURITY, page 12A)