

# The News-Journal

If it happened, it's news to us

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## This week

County weighs construction options page 12A



Winners of contest announced page 11A

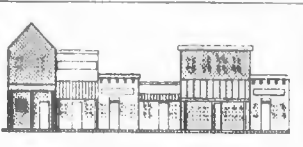
## Next week

Chief Deputy Peterkin gets highest certification

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## Around Town



By SAM C. MORRIS  
Contributing Editor

The fall season is nice except for all the leaves that fall. Even if you don't have trees the wind will bring them from other places. We did have some rain last week but since that time it has remained dry. The daytime temperatures have been in the 70s and the lows at night have been in the 40s and 30s. Of course the clock changed on October 31 and I still can't get my sleeping time to change. Now I am awake at 4 am instead of 5 a.m. Anyway, it is nice to have light when you start to get out for the day.

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. There isn't any rain forecast for the period.

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The election for City Council last week came off without any incidents or complaints. The worse part of the election was the number of people that showed up at the polls to vote. Only 29 percent of the registered voters took time to vote. Of the three incumbents in the race only one didn't return to the council. Clyde Thomas was replaced by Wayne Mills. John Jordan and Earl McDuffie were returned and were one and two on the vote count. We offer congratulations to the winners.

(See AROUND, page 12A)

## County buys land to build

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

County Manager Bernice McPhatter confirmed on Tuesday the county has finalized the acquisition of the 22-acre site on Palmer, just on the outskirts of Raeford. This property is designated by the County Commissioners as the campus, where the Hoke County Administrative Facility is planning to locate a multitude of its departments for the future.

Purchased for \$220,570 from the American Can corporation, also listed as U.S. Can, the purchase of the property paves the way to continue with the timetable slated to build the new \$2.3 million county complex. It's

scheduled for completion in April 2001.

"Yes, it's true," McPhatter said. "We have purchased the land."

However, when McPhatter was asked if the land would still be used for the future county complex, or if any hope exists for it to remain in the downtown district, she said other options are being explored.

"We have looked at two lots downtown across the street from the existing county office building," McPhatter said. "We've gotten quotes and they're reasonable."

Owner of the downtown lots is Duncan McFadyen. The vacant property is located next to

(See LAND, page 11A)

## Commission wants 10 Commandments in Hoke classrooms

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

Honor thy father and thy mother...Thou shalt not kill...Thou shalt not steal...

Hoke County Commissioners are hoping to revive the familiar refrain of The Ten Commandments to help students hold onto their values in these "turbulent" times.

If you multiply the "golden rule" of do unto others as you would have them do unto you by 10, Hoke County Commission Chairman James A. Leach said Hoke County would have the greatest teachings to move forward into the 21st Century.

"The greatest golden commandments are The Ten Commandments in the Bible," Leach asserted at the board of commissioners meeting last Monday evening. "I think it will teach our children good morals and the right way to live."

According to Leach, Hoke is one of the first counties to address this topic and request a resolution be approved.

Commissioners voted unanimously to support the North Carolina state legislature in a bill under consideration which would place The Ten Commandments in every school classroom.

"It's time these age-old commandments be restored to hold a

(See TEN, page 11A)

## New police weapon is computers in cars

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

Ready...aim...search.

The City of Raeford Police Department believes they've just installed the greatest weapon that will serve as a tool to help prevent crime, apprehend suspects and access information.

"We're installing personal computers (PCs) in our patrol cars," Raeford's Police Chief Mack High said. "We've bought laptop computers that will wind

(See COMPUTERS, page 11A)



Chief Mack High



Raeford Police Sgt. R. Jenkins operates a new PC computer in his patrol car



Civic League members, in protective garb, view a graveyard where caskets have floated away.

## Civic League tours damage

Nineteen members of the Hoke County Civic League visited the low-lying areas of Greenville, Tarboro and Princeville recently to get a first-hand look at the damage done by Hurricane Floyd and to let the flood victims know that Hoke Countians love and support them.

The group discovered thousands of people are still are not able to recover from losses or rebuild their livelihood.

The tour was guided by one

of the past Civic League presidents, Dr. J. W. Gorham, pastor of Shady Grove Baptist Church. Gorham is a native of Greenville, which was heavily damaged.

The first stop on the tour was CornerStone Missionary Baptist Church where Reverend Sidney A. Locks Jr., a former member of the House of Representatives for

Hoke, Robeson, Scotland, and Cumberland counties, is the pastor. CornerStone Baptist is an Aide Center for the flood victims where neighbors can go for a hot

meal if they like. Civic League President Dr. Mary K. Thomas expressed to Reverend Locks, love, regrets and concerns from all of Hoke County. She also let him know that the Civic League will revisit to assist them and their community in tangible ways.

The second stop was a visit to Dr. Gorham's home where his mother and sister still lives. There wasn't any damage in this part of the town.

(See TOUR, page 12A)

## Christmas parade is Saturday Parade, Stuffin' and Stompin' are postponed festival events

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

Two major events postponed earlier due to Hurricane Floyd are being revived to complete the N.C. Turkey Festival itinerary for 1999.

There will be lots of gourmet gobbling going on at the re-scheduled N.C. Turkey Festival's renowned, "Stuffin' & Stompin' Turkey Dinner," scheduled for Friday night, Nov. 12.

And on Saturday, Nov. 13, the first ever Turkey Festival "Christmas Parade" will take place along Main Street.

"We're going to kick-off Thanksgiving with the dinner on Friday night," said Jackie Lynch, executive director of the N.C. Turkey Festival. "Last year we had a turnout of about 1,500 people for the dinner. This year we're anticipating at least that amount of guests and probably more, because the dinner is so close to Thanksgiving."

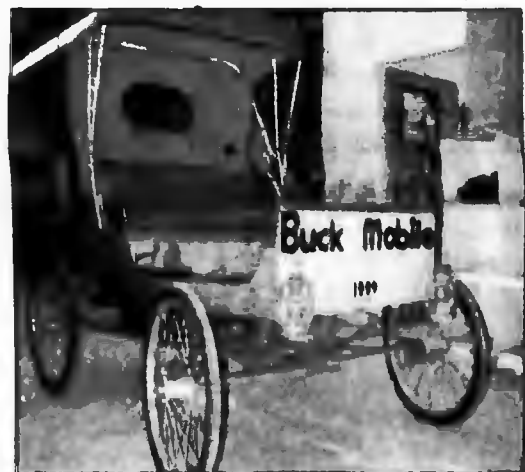
Locally harvested Sandhill's vegetables and some mouth-watering turkeys from the famous House of Raeford will be dressed up for the fine evening of family hospitality and entertainment at the Stuffin' and Stompin'.

And Saturday, although snow won't be crunching, a procession of holiday floats and a bounteous number of marching bands will showcase the yuletide season rapidly approaching.

### Eatin' and feedin'

Hosted by West Hoke Middle School, the annual "Stuffin' & Stompin'" is slated from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at West Hoke Middle School.

Returning for another engage-



This is the "Buck Mobile," built by Hoke High welding students Brian Johnson, Kevin Oldham, Matt Brock, Stephanie Clark, Kenneth Oxendine, Michael Parkins, Steve Inman and Justin Dew for this week's parade.

ment this year, the musical group, "Modern Knights," will be featured from 6:30 until 7:15 p.m. and again from 7:45 until 8:30 p.m. Earlier in the evening, the country-western dance team, "Wild Mustang Dancers," will be struttin' their stuff from 7:15 until 7:45 p.m. in between the sets of music played by "Modern Knights."

Lynch said tickets cost \$5 for

(See FESTIVAL, page 11A)

## McLaughlin awarded for service

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

A man of vision...

Hoke County Commission Chairman L. E. McLaughlin, Jr. earned battle stars during military campaigns in the Central Pacific, Central Burma and India Burma. However, McLaughlin, a retired U.S. Army major, said the only stars now in his eyes are solely for the citizens of Hoke, whom he's represented as a commissioner since 1990.

"The only praise I need will be when I reach the 'other side'," McLaughlin said. "Everything I do now is for the citizens of this county."

McLaughlin, 77, said it came as a total surprise when he was named the 1999 recipient of the Calvin Haggins "Board Member of The Year" honor. The award was bestowed upon him by the Lumber River Council of Governments' Board of Directors on October 21.

Since 1993, McLaughlin has served as a COG Board member

as Hoke's representative. Chosen by his peers on the board that includes Bladen, Scotland, Hoke and Robeson counties,

McLaughlin was lauded by COG as a "true advocate of regionalism," supporting endeavors for

(See AWARD, page 11A)

