

# The News-Journal

If it happened, it's news to us

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## This week



Principal of Year  
is South Hoke  
School's Tona Jacobs  
page 8A

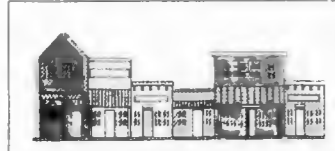
Hoke High PTO  
wants parents  
involved  
page 4A

Hoke Bucks power  
past Pinecrest  
page 12A

## Index

Births ..... 14B  
Calendar ..... 2B  
Classifieds ..... 12-14B  
Deaths ..... 7A  
Editorials ..... 2-4A  
Legals ..... 10-11B  
Public Record ..... 7A  
Religion ..... 8B  
Schools ..... 8A  
Socials ..... 5B  
Sports ..... 12A  
TV Listings ..... 4-5B

## Around Town



By SAM C. MORRIS  
Contributing Editor

The weather for the past week has been perfect. It hasn't been hot and it isn't cold enough to keep you from doing what ever you want to do. So far the rain has let up and the hurricanes have stayed out to sea or been in the Gulf of Mexico. This type of weather will not cause any of us to go broke because of the price of heating our homes.

The forecast for the remainder of the week, Wednesday through Saturday, calls for the highs on Wednesday and Thursday to be in the 80s and the lows in the 60s. Friday and Saturday the highs will be in the 70s or 60s and the lows in the 50s or 40s. There is a chance of rain on Friday.

Ruth Phillips was by the office last week and she was selling tickets for the annual Hospice fish fry. It will be held on Thursday, October 5 at the Edenborough Shopping Center. It will start at 11 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. By buying tickets to the event you don't only get a good fish meal, but you are helping a worthy organization. Don't take my word, just ask a family member who lost someone to cancer. Hope to see you there!

Don't forget that the homecoming at Philippi Presbyterian Church will be held Sunday, October 8 beginning with Sunday school at 10 a.m. The worship service will be at 11 (See AROUND, page 12A)

## County: no to tower, protects airspace

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

P.K. Airpark owner Gene Paul Thacker and Raeford's Mayor Bob Gentry convinced Hoke's board of commissioners to reject plans for a cellular tower proposed by Alltel Communications. In a unanimous vote on Monday night, commis-

sioners denied Alltel's request to construct the 200-foot structure on June Johnson Road — only 1.3 miles from Raeford's airport.

A decision on the tower had been postponed since August 7. Protests against the tower from citizens and experts and Alltel's arguments in favor of it were heard by the board.

Fred Funk, an aviation analyst at Fort Bragg, spoke against it, saying the military was going forward "with a disapproval" of the tower. According to Funk, the tower was a surprise to many high-ranking brass who had no idea it was being considered.

Airport neighbor Carl Miller, an Alltel customer, said he did not particularly care

to see an "airplane strung across" his front yard.

"Moore County is dumping these towers on Hoke County and so is Cumberland," Miller said. "They do not want the towers on their horizon."

P.K. Airpark is known as one of the busiest civilian parachuting airports in (See TOWER, page 10A)



Young residents at Hawkeye Sands socialize outside their homes on a sunny afternoon.

## Overdue Hawkeye fees may delay building project

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

plans to build the first single-family homes in Hoke for Native Americans.

Hoke County is attempting to collect delinquent fees not received for the past 10 years from Hawkeye Sands, a Native American and low-income housing development in southern Hoke. County Attorney Neil Yarborough estimated the back fees owed by the community may total almost \$50,000. Commissioners are wondering why the monies were never paid.

Officials at the Lumbee Housing Department, administrative agency at Hawkeye Sands, said they hope the matter can be cleared up to keep the problem from affecting future plans. LHD

"The homes will be offered on a lease-purchase basis, allowing recipients to own their own home within eight to 10 years," said Dr. Donald Locklear, director of LHD and the Lumbee Regional Development Association. "Once the homes are paid off, Indian families would become taxpaying homeowners."

"In the meantime, we are administering an \$8 million grant for Indian families in Hoke and Robeson counties that will eventually include the home building."

According to an agreement (See HAWKEYE, page 11A)

## Parents say East Hoke crossing is dangerous

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

The absence of school crossings or a 35 mph speed zone at East Hoke Middle School has raised safety issues by some parents. East Hoke's location is unique: It is the only school in the county situated on a four-lane, major highway, parents say.

At least six students residing in North Woods subdivision must cross U.S. 401 South in order to reach the campus. According to state policy, these students are not eligible to ride the bus. They live less than one and one-half miles from campus.

School Superintendent Mitch Tyler is trying to find solutions to prevent a "potential" problem.

"We have to be fair to everybody and not do one thing for one community without showing equal concern for others," Tyler said. "Establishing crossings and crossing guards are budgetary items. It has to be addressed with the county by the school board, or sheriff."

North Woods parents Peggy Curtis, Kimetha Thompson and Lucy Perrineau said there have been at least three automobile accidents in front of East Hoke this year. Factors such as being in one-car families, being working parents, or having infants at home deter most couples from driving their children to East Hoke.

"We are paying taxes, and we need this crossing for our children," Perrineau said. "Money should not be an issue. We have talked to legislators, the N.C. Department of Transportation and the school board to plead for a school crossing," she said. "Don't they want to avoid somebody's child becoming a statistic? They could have a lawsuit on their hands and a tragedy."

Perrineau, who has a 13-year-old son, said she "thanks God" every day their kids get home safely across highway

401. "The speed limit of 45 mph is excessive," Perrineau said. "It needs to be lowered to 35."

"This is a very busy intersection, and the kids only have 30 seconds to cross when the light turns red. Also, the pedestrian crossing is not directly in front of North Woods."

"Don't they want to avoid somebody's child becoming a statistic? They could have a lawsuit on their hands and a tragedy." — Lucy Perrineau, parent

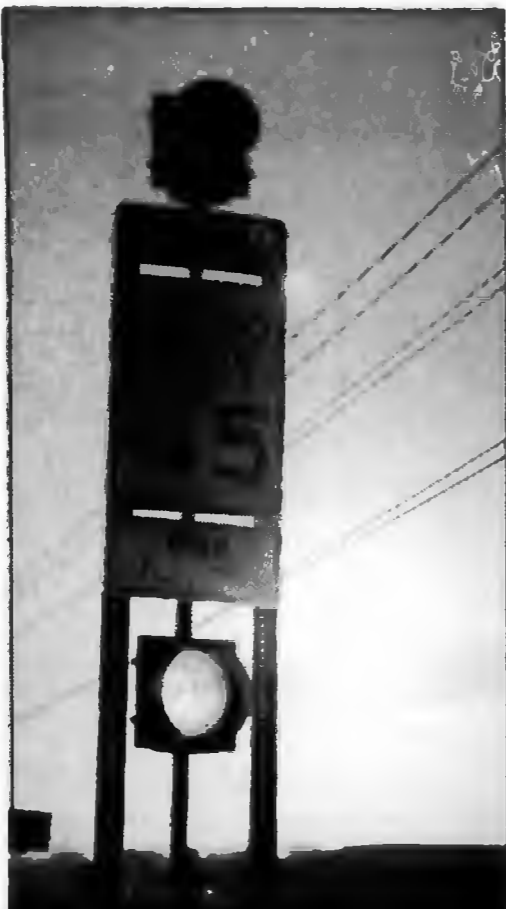
"They put up signs for the lower 45 mph speed with a flashing light."

Thompson said more still needs to be done.

"It is very hazardous for our kids to cross there," Thompson said. "Children may not always see approaching traffic."

Thompson, who has one child attending East Hoke, volunteered to serve as a crossing guard. She told school officials they did not have to pay her.

"I said I would get certified by taking the crossing guard course," Thompson (See CROSSING, page 9A)



A flashing light on U.S. 401 South with a 45 mph speed limit warns motorists to slow down at East Hoke Middle School.



Using his gourd  
"Fantasy in Flight," a helicopter fashioned from a gourd, won Kermit "Sonny" Wood "best in show" and another first place award at the 59th Annual N.C. Gourd Festival. The chopper's rotors actually rotate.

## McCaskill spearheads voter registration effort

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS  
Staff writer

With only 10 days left for voters to register, Hoke Election Board Chairman Willie McCaskill is spearheading a mission to encourage teens and other citizens to register. McCaskill addressed students at Sandhills Community College on Monday.

Friday, October 13, at 5 p.m. is the deadline for voter registration. A total of 17,172 voters were registered in Hoke as of October 2.

"It is not too late to register," McCaskill told students. "We want to help folks understand the voting process, and exercise the privilege of voting."

(See REGISTRATION, page 11A)

## Family looking for missing man

By PAT ALLEN WILSON  
Editor

Jame Archie "Poodie" Sanders was last seen walking along Alex Baker Road approaching New Freedom Chapel Road at about 8:30 or 9 Sunday night.

Now his family does not know where he is and they are worried. "My father is a sick man; he has multiple seizures and gets confused," says Angela McNeill, his daughter.

In the past, the 51-year-old man had a blood clot and brain surgery (See MISSING, page 10A)