

Peterkin

(Continued from page 1A)

on any examination while I was a police officer. Since this issue has been brought up and I have been falsely mentioned, I want people to know the truth.

"The scores were so high on the examination of the minority officers that some of the other police officers questioned the scores of the minority officers."

Hansen confirmed that all of the officers named in the newspaper account were minority police officers.

Peterkin said he was asked to implicate a supervisor, but he did not think that would be fair ethically or morally without proof.

"I was not aware of the supervisor doing anything wrong," Peterkin said. "He may have tried to coach some of the people to help them improve on tests, but to my knowledge there was no cheating involved."

Peterkin said he never resort to these type of tactics against his political opponents.

"I run on my own name, and my reputation in the Hoke community speaks for itself," Peterkin said. "My family and friends knew from day one this was only dirty politics and nothing valid."

"My campaign will be conducted with integrity just like I will run the Sheriff's Office, and it will be free of controversy."

Troxell said he knew of the rumors concerning Peterkin. "Some people questioned whether it was valid or not. My comment to them was to call The Fayetteville Observer and check to see if it was valid."

Troxell said several retired detectives in the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department told him that Peterkin cheated on an exam.

Hansen said the allegations were false about Peterkin, and he wanted to set the record straight.

"Hubert Peterkin was not suspended for cheating on an examination while he was employed at the Fayetteville Police Department," Hansen said. "He is a very capable young man and he is of good character."

"I actually encouraged him to run for sheriff of Hoke County. I think that he is very personable and with appropriate support, he will probably do well."

Hansen said the misunderstanding occurred because Peterkin was questioned to see if he knew who might have been involved. Hansen said only five people were suspected — not six



Hubert Peterkin as reported in the Observer article. He said it was not a matter of officers cheating on an exam because some of the officers were only "prepped" by their supervisor on one portion of the test. That portion of the test involved certain "what if" scenarios, he said. "There were a lot of people interviewed about the test, and cheating was not an appropriate word because

nobody was provided answers or copied from someone else's paper," Hansen said. "Hubert Peterkin failed to cooperate with us in discussing if a fellow officer could be involved."

It was not a case of him being suspected in the incident.

"Mr. Peterkin is a fine person. I would never have hired him at the Fayetteville Police Department unless I thought highly of him as a police officer."

Hansen said people needed to put this rumor behind them and go on with positive things about their community.

"I think it was wrong for that story to be passed out," Walker said. "It is old news and it has been solved a long time ago."

Retired from the U.S. Army as a sergeant major, Walker said he had survived Vietnam and he was not looking for another conflict in Hoke.

"So far, Mr. Peterkin has run a gentlemanly campaign," Walker said. "He has not criticized any of his opponents."

"I think the other candidates should follow his positive lead."

Deputy perk

(Continued from page 1A)

ties would reside in Hoke.

Major Thomas Carlton was present at the meeting but did not publicly discuss the Sheriff's vehicles. He said he was never asked by the commissioners to speak.

"When you talk about law enforcement, I think you have to look at vehicle use differently - not in terms of special favors," Carlton said. "We are on duty 24-7, 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

"It is very imperative that we always remain ready to respond to any emergency incident in Hoke."

Carlton said he knew commissioners must decide what is best for the county. He said he was concerned that if deputies aren't allowed to drive home out of the county some might resign.

"Deputies here are paid low salaries and a lot of professional folks in Hoke have opted to work in other counties because the pay is greater," Carlton said. "Our deputies are required to be on a 30-minute response time to Hoke County."

Carlton said the September 11 terrorist attack was a wake-up call.

"We do not want to be caught with our guard down," Carlton said. "Look what happened in New York City. We do not want the citizens of this county to suffer. We need to keep our law enforcement intact. Our deputies need to be able to respond at a moment's notice."

Daniels carried his protest further. "My main concern is using these cars on personal business," Daniels said. "Some of the deputies also have part-time jobs in other areas such as Laurinburg. They should not be allowed to drive Hoke County vehicles when they are off duty as transportation to another job."

"This is a flagrant abuse of taxpayers' money."

Daniels also said he was also concerned about the liability of deputies driving 50 to almost 100 miles round-trip to their homes on a regular basis.

"If they are called in on an emergency, they would be running with their emergency equipment on at high speeds through other counties to get to Hoke," Daniels said. "We do not need to be sued by somebody that might be hit."

"I do not see any exceptions to driving vehicles outside of the county unless it is on official business."

The deadline was Monday night for all department heads to turn in to county commissioners a list of employees who drive county-owned vehicles. Wright said that only a few department heads justified why employees should be entitled to drive vehicles home across Hoke's borders.

"We have 114 vehicles we are paying taxes and insurance on," Wright said. "We are going to have to look at the total budget."

"I do not think we ought to waste taxpayer's money."

Sandhills Youth Center inmate has short freedom flight

It was reported an inmate "drove off" from Sandhills Youth Center shortly after 4 p.m. Thursday. Johnathan Smith, 19, left in a SYC van marked "Community Work Squad" and was headed toward

Raeford, the report stated.

Some two hours later, Smith was found hiding in a closet in his mother's home in Cumberland County. He was returned to the youth center.

Authorities said the van's keys were not in the vehicle.

Smith had been incarcerated in the western Hoke facility at McCain on breaking and entering and larceny convictions.

City, county government meetings are listed

Listed here are the regularly scheduled Hoke and Raeford meetings. Meeting dates and times may be changed due to holidays and other conflicts.

County

The board of commissioners meets the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 p.m. Public input sessions are held immediately after business is conducted during the first-of-the-month meetings.

The planning commission meets the second Thursday at 7 p.m. The board of adjustment meets the first Wednesday at 7 p.m.

County meetings are conducted in the commissioners' meeting room of the Pratt Building at 227 North Main

Street.

The board of elections meets the second Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. in the board of elections office in the Pratt Building.

The Raeford/Hoke Economic Development Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. in the Depot (Chamber of Commerce Building).

The Hoke County board of education meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

The phone number for county offices is 875-8751.

City

Listed here are the regularly scheduled City of Raeford governmental meetings.

Meeting dates and times may be changed due to holidays and other conflicts. (September's meeting has been rescheduled to September 10 due to the Labor Day holiday.)

City of Raeford council meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. However, this month's meeting will be held the second Monday, September 12, at the usual time.

Board of adjustment and planning board meetings are held when there matters before the boards to be addressed.

The planning board meets the third Tuesday at 6 p.m., and the board of adjustment meets the second Monday at 6 p.m.

All meetings are held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 315 Main Street. The phone number is 875-8161.

Illegal burning can lead to fines

The state regulates open burning, and only leaves, branches or other plant growth can be burned — legally.

Residents can be fined up to \$10,000 for illegal open burning in North Carolina.

It's illegal to burn garbage, paper and cardboard; tires and other rubber products; building materials, including lumber; wire, plastics and synthetic materials; asphalt, shingles and heavy oils; paints, household and agricultural chemicals.

Homeowners can burn yard trimmings — excluding logs and stumps — if it is allowed under local ordinances, no public pickup is available and it doesn't cause a public nuisance. Other allowable burning includes campfires, outdoor barbecues and bonfires for festive occasions.

Landowners can open burn vegetation to clear land or rights-of-way, provided that prevailing winds are away from built-up areas and roads, fires are at least 1,000 feet away from occupied buildings, and burning is done between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Burn permits issued by the N.C. Division of Forest Resources, its agents or any local government do not excuse a person from following state air quality rules.

For more information call 875-4126.

LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

In compliance with General Statute 136-44.8, the proposed Hoke County Secondary Road Construction Program for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003 will be presented to the Hoke County Board of Commissioners for discussion and consideration at their meeting of June 17,

2002. This meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Pratt Building (County Office Building) in Raeford. A county map is posted in the Hoke County Courthouse showing tentative road paving projects rated according to the priority of each project and other work covered by the proposed program. 10-11C

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust made by Larry Washington to Seven Investment Club, Beneficiary, dated the 4th day of January, 2001 and recorded in Book 457, Page 242, Hoke County Registry, North Carolina, Default having been made in the payment of the note thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, William C. Fields, Jr., having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust by an instrument duly recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Hoke County, North Carolina and the holder of the note evidencing said indebtedness having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the Court-house Door, in the City of Raeford, Hoke County, North Carolina at 11:00 a.m. on the 20th day of June 2002 and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following real estate situate in the County of Hoke, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

LYING AND BEING in Blue Springs Township, Hoke County, North Carolina, being all of that 2.609 acre tract as shown on that map entitled "Survey for Larry Washington," drawn by Leland D. Strother, PLS L-2768, dated December 23, 1999, and recorded in Cabinet 2, Slide 2-53, Map 003, Hoke County Registry.

Should the property be purchased by a third party, that person

must pay the tax of Thirty Cents (.30) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100) required by NCGS 7A-308(a)(1).

The property to be offered pursuant to this notice of sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS, WHERE IS." Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust/security agreement, or both, being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either the Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation of warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale, and any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed. Also, this property is being sold subject to all taxes, special assessments, and prior liens or encumbrances of record and any recorded releases.

A cash deposit (no personal checks) of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale.

This the 29th day of May, 2002. William C. Fields, Jr. Substitute Trustee Willcox, McFadyen & Fields 112 E. Edinborough Avenue Raeford, NC 28376 Telephone: (910) 875-4065

10-11C

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on a Sewer Use Ordinance for Hoke County on Monday, June 17th at 7:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Pratt Building at 227 N. Main Street.

The public is invited to attend.

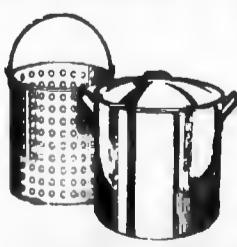
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