

# Hoke County DSS Joins State Food Stamp Campaign

The Hoke County Dept. of Social Services will join a statewide effort this month to inform area senior citizens about the federal food stamp program.

Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr. has proclaimed Sunday, Nov. 20, as "Food Stamp Awareness Day for Senior Citizens."

In issuing this proclamation, the Governor is focusing attention on a concerted effort underway to ensure that senior citizens understand the food stamp program and how it can help them satisfy their nutritional needs.

The program is aimed at low-income people and allows partici-

pants to buy, at a fraction of their face value, stamps which can be redeemed for food at area grocery stores. Annual income is considered in computing the percentage of the face value that a participant must pay.

The statewide campaign is being implemented to improve the diets and health of individuals over 60.

Hoke County Food Stamp Supervisor Delores McLeod said that her department is currently working with elderly people here to see that they get nutritional diets.

"Many senior citizens will illnesses are so concerned with stick-

ing to the diet prescribed by their doctors that they neglect their nutritional needs," she said. "We are showing them that they can maintain these diets and still eat balanced meals. The food stamp program can help."

Local Director of Social Services Ben. O. Niblock said his department encourages, not only the elderly, but all persons who feel they might be eligible for the food stamp program to apply.

In regard to the elderly, he said that often their families are not financially able to provide for them adequately. Many do not live at home with their children, he said.

"We want to make available to our senior citizens the services they need to enable them to maintain good health and live comfortably in their own homes as long as possible," Niblock said.

The Dept. of Social Services is planning to work with local churches to inform people about the food stamp program, he said.

New eligibility requirements for food stamps will take effect Jan. 1, Niblock said.

According to the present requirements, a family not on public assistance can have only so much income a month and be eligible for the program. An individual can earn no more than \$262 a month (net). A couple can earn no more than \$344 a month.

The new requirements raise the limit on a family of three from \$447 per month to \$460; for a family of four, from \$567 to \$580; for a family of five, from \$673 to \$687; for a family of six, from \$807 to \$827; for a family of seven, \$893 to \$913; for a family of eight, from \$1,020 to \$1,047.

## Farm Items

By W.S. Young, Agri. Ext. Chr.

Freddie O'Neal  
Asst. Agri. Agent

Some progress is being made in the control of witchweed in Hoke County, according to Mr. Ronald Baxley, the APHIS representative here. This is a parasite that lives off the roots of corn and many of the grass crops. Six farms consisting of 198 acres have been released from the quarantine this year. Thirteen others were released last year. Farmers are encouraged to cooperate with this agency by reporting any plants that they might see growing on their farms.

This is the season to make a compost pile to be used around the home. Leaves, grass clippings and other garden refuse are ideal materials. A layer of the material, a layer of soil and the addition of nitrogen fertilizer, continued for several layers, can make up the pile. After it has rotted it can be used as a topdressing for lawns, as a growing medium for house plants or for starting seedlings. The pile must be kept moist and will decay faster if it is turned over periodically.

A farm accident survey will be conducted in Hoke County and in counties across the country during the 1978 year. About 10 farms in the county will be selected, and detailed information will be secured from the operator. Then other visits will be made during the year to find out the number of accidents that have occurred. Since farmers are in the high risk group, as far as accidents are concerned, this should provide some ideas for better safety programs.

## Heilig-Meyers Announces Dividend

Heilig - Meyers Company, the Richmond based home furnishings chain, announced the declaration of its semi - annual dividend. The dividend of 12 cents per share is payable on Nov. 30, 1977 to stockholders of record on November 21, 1977.

Hyman Meyers, President, also announced the Grand Opening of a completely remodelled store in Marion, N.C. The 14,000 square foot facility is the 63rd store operated by Heilig - Meyers and is the 5th store opened in this fiscal year.



CHRISTMAS SEAL CHAIRMAN -- Mrs. Richard Neeley is serving as Hoke County's 1977 Christmas Seal Chairman. She is shown above on the left with Dr. H.D. Ireland (center), president of the Mid-State Lung Association, the local Christmas Seal agency; and H. Clifton Blue of Aberdeen, who has been appointed the 12-County Area-Wide Christmas Seal Chairman for the Mid-State Lung Association. The appointments were announced at the association's fall board of director's meeting held Nov. 2 at Mid Pines Club in Southern Pines.

## Hoke Christmas Seal Chairman Announced

Mrs. Richard Neeley of Raeford has been named Hoke County's Honorary Chairman for the 1977 Christmas Seal Campaign. Mrs. Neeley's appointment was announced at the Fall Board of Directors meeting of the Mid-State Lung Association held Nov. 2 in Southern Pines.

The Mid-State Lung Association, which serves a total of 12 counties, including Hoke County, also has an Area - Wide Christmas Seal Chairman, H. Clifton Blue of Aberdeen.

Dr. H.D. Ireland of McCain Hospital is currently serving as the President of the Mid - State Lung Association. Those in attendance at the fall board meeting representing Hoke County were: Mrs. Richard Neeley and Ralph Huff.

Since 1907 Americans have been giving to Christmas Seals to fight lung diseases, first tuberculosis, and in more recent years, asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, air pollution and smoking.

The 1977 Christmas Seal Campaign officially began Nov. 1 and will continue through the Christmas holiday season. Christmas seals have been mailed out to thousands of residents of North Carolina.

Contributions are sent to the State Christmas Seal Association office in Raleigh (The North Carolina Lung Association), where they are recorded. The funds are then forwarded to the area Lung Association office serving the local community to be used in the program of work such as patient service needs, community service projects, health education programs in local schools and community organizations, and medical research being conducted in North Carolina medical centers.

This centralized mailing and receiving center for the Christmas Seal campaign cuts down the cost of the yearly fund - raising campaign and enables area staff members to devote maximum time to the local program of work.

Out of every dollar contributed, 90 percent remains in North Carolina, with the remaining 10 percent used by the American Lung Association for the national program of work, including health education and medical research.

## LAW FOR LIVING

By Professor Howard Oleck, Wake Forest Univ. School of Law

(Distributed by the N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers as a public service)



### Husband Does Not Own Wife

Women's lib laws today tend to treat married women as independent persons, not as slaves of their husbands. This is a change from the ancient view of women as basically being in the same status as a man's horse or his dog.

But the old common law principle was, and in many places still is, that a married woman normally is dominated by her husband. North Carolina, for example, had declared that to be the law since 1871. In the case of State v. Williams, 65 N.C. 398, a wife was freed from a charge of committing assault and battery, because the trial judge had not

instructed the jury that a wife was presumed to have acted under her husband's coercion in committing that crime. It was the duty of the prosecutor to prove that she had not been coerced by her husband, if her husband was present when she committed the crime.

A 1977 North Carolina Court of Appeals may have changed the old rule. State v. Smith, 33 N.C. App. 511, discussed the rule, and said that the old rule had been changed in a 1911 case; not that it was sure of that. This sort of waffling is called dictum (plural, dicta) by lawyers, and may be rejected by other judges or courts.

Blackstone's Commentaries, a famous summary of English law, said that the old presumption of subservience of wives was at least 1,000 years old. This was because the legal existence of a woman was deemed to be suspended, and merged into her husband's, during marriage. Husband took over her property, and she could not legally sue or be sued without him, nor enter a contract or convey her property without his consent. In fact, he had the right to beat her, as long as he did not inflict permanent injury, according to North Carolina law in 1864 (State v. Black, 60 N.C. 262).

Today, some states have abolished these brutal old laws by statutes, and some have abolished them by court case decisions.

The North Carolina court, in the 1977 decision, said that our modern social order no longer accepts the view that a woman usually is so subservient to her husband that she merely is his instrument in a crime. The fact that she commits a crime in his presence no longer should raise a presumption that she acted under his coercion.

Of course it may be proved, if true, that she did act under his coercion in a particular case, if she did in fact. But the old presumption no longer should be assumed in cases such as these.

## Booster Club Schedules Dinner Here

The Hoke Music Booster Club will sponsor a bazaar and turkey dinner Nov. 18.

Dinner will be served from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. in the Gibson Cafeteria at Hoke County High School. Tickets will be \$2.50 and may be obtained by calling Joyce Jameson at 875-4528 or 875-4509. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

Music groups will perform during the evening in the courtyard. The Upchurch eighth grade band, directed by Jimmy James, will perform at 5:45 p.m.; the high school choral group, directed by Mary Archie McNeill, will perform at 6:15 p.m.; and the Upchurch choral group, directed by Linda Huff, will perform at 7 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m. the Hoke County High School band will be on the athletic field with the performance they use in competition.

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