

# Viewpoints

## Commission's effort to lure resident county employees weak

Hoke County officials are correct in expressing their desire that non-resident department heads and other county employees should live here. However, the stand now being taken by the board of commissioners does not seem to further the cause of attracting the outside workers.

Commission members are sticking to the letter of a recently passed regulation which requires department heads making more than \$15,000 to reside in the county.

The legislation appears pointless, and in the end will probably only affect one employee, who agreed to move here when he took the job over a year ago. The real problem is much greater.

A recent survey conducted by *The News-Journal* showed that almost half, or 231, of the employees, working for the county whose salaries come from either federal, state or local funds, live outside Hoke County.

Members of the commission say they have a limited influence over most of those 231 employees, because they are school teachers and come under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education.

But the commissioners are ignoring their sphere of influence as leaders in the community, and seem to be missing the point by singling out department heads for residency.

### Editorial

If the political leaders are interested in county employees residing here, they can do more.

A meaningful move might be to develop philosophical and regulatory guidelines which would influence all future hirings of publicly paid workers in Hoke County.

In addition, commission members could step up efforts to improve the quality of life here which would make Hoke County more palatable to those who wish to live elsewhere.

Members of the Hoke County Commission

have said they believe it is "unrealistic" to require "all" public employees to live where they work.

As long as Hoke County's leaders retain that belief, employees will continue to live elsewhere and this county will be the loser.

We urge commission members to exercise their leadership abilities and influence other political bodies, like the school board, to start a "live and work in Hoke County" campaign.

If this county is going to progress, the Hoke County Commission needs to do more than to pass regulations which will require one previously committed department head to move.

## Street received its name from 1st medical college

By Robert Gatlin

College Drive in Raeford begins at Bethel Road and ends at Highway 211 west of the city.

This street was named College Drive because its origin is about 100 yards from where the old Edenborough Medical College was located.

Few persons are now aware that North Carolina's first chartered medical school existed in the backwoods of what was then Robeson County; shortly after the Civil War. It was chartered by Dr. Hector McLean in 1867 as the Edenborough Medical College and functioned for 10 years until Dr. McLean's death in 1877.

Located on Bethel Road, just west of the present city limits of Raeford, Dr. Hector McLean, the owner and founder of the College was of Scottish extraction. His father John McLean was born in Inverness, Scotland.

Hector McLean was born in Robeson County, May 14, 1818. He is said to have graduated in medicine at the University of Louisville, about 1840. He settled near the present City of Raeford in what is now Hoke County, and is said to have had an extended practice from Randolph County into South Carolina.

Dr. and Mrs. McLean (Flora) had only one child, Angus Murphy, who was born in 1855. He is believed to have graduated in medicine at his father's school and then to have taken other courses in one of the medical schools in Philadelphia. He practiced medicine in Robeson County and in Texas, and returned to his birth-

### Looking On

place in 1881 where he died in 1888.

Dr. and Mrs. Hector McLean and their son, Angus, are buried in the McLean family cemetery near where the College stood.

The medical college was chartered in 1867, by the General Assembly of North Carolina in an act which reads, in part, as follows:

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that Dr. Hector McLean, of the county of Robeson, and such other persons as he may associate with him, be, and they are hereby, declared to be a body corporate, and politic, by the name and style of the Edenborough Medical College, and by that name and style may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded; that the said corporation may acquire, hold, possess and enjoy real and personal estate; that they may make all such rules, by-laws and regulations as may be necessary for the good government of the same; that they may elect or appoint a President and Directors or a Board of Managers, or a Board of Trustees; that they may acquire by purchase or donations all such real estate as may be necessary, and improve the same, from time to time, together with all such personal property as may be necessary to make said Institution a first class Medical College of the highest grade; that they may employ or associate with them all necessary teachers and professors,

whose duty it shall be to deliver lectures and give instructions in all the various branches in Medical Science.

"Be it further enacted. That said instructors may receive for their services, for the instruction of students in said Institution, such compensation as may be fixed or prescribed by by-laws, rules and regulations of said College, or fixed or agreed upon by the President, or Directors, or Board of Managers, or Board of Trustees, and may sue for and recover the same in any of the Superior Courts or Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, or before any Justice of the Peace having jurisdiction of the same; that they shall have perpetual succession and may have a common seal.

"Be it further enacted. That the said Edenborough Medical College may confer degrees and grant diplomas to practice medicine in any of the counties of this State, and such diplomas shall entitle the recipient to all the rights, privileges, immunities and advantages that can be given, granted, or bestowed by any Medical College or Institution where the arts and sciences of medicine are taught; and that any graduate of said Institution, having received his diploma for the same, and having complied with all its requirements, may practice medicine in any of the counties of this State, subject to the same rules and regulations as are now required by the laws of North Carolina, in such cases made and provided.

Ratified, the 26th day of February, A.D. 1867.



"Let's count our blessings and show what good neighbors we really are..."



Madilyn

## Letters To The Editor

### Environmental laws should be improved

Dear Editor:

After reading the article which appeared in the *Fayetteville Times* entitled "Hoke Dump Site Ordered Treated Again," I wonder why this chemical site was allowed to happen in the first place.

In my opinion, this was a careless and dangerous act against our environment and the residents near the site.

The article stated, "Last September, Woody Wilson was ordered to remove thousands of pounds of lead-laced industrial and automotive batteries and electrical transformers from three dump sites he operated in Hoke County, then to remove the top soil and treat the areas with lime."

It was further stated that "Wilson complied with the orders, but the soil removed apparently was not deep enough or wide-spread enough at one site" which, according to the article, is only 400 feet away from a mobile home park.

The newspaper went on to say that the latest rounds of tests concluded that the soil contains lead levels in the range of 10 parts per million and that under state standards, five parts per million is considered hazardous. Also PCBs (Polychlorinated biphenyls), a chemical believed to cause cancer, was found in small amounts at the site.

We need stricter laws and they should be enforced to prevent such careless acts in our state and county to protect its citizens and environment. It is time to call a halt to this wide-spread health prob-

blem. No one can be sure of the long-term effects these toxic dumps have on humans and future generations.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Wood  
Practical Nurse Student  
Sandhills Community College

### Hoke County schools are doing good job

To the Editor:

I would like the Hoke County citizens to know that in spite of any negative publicity that may have been printed recently, there are good things happening in your school system. Poverty is not only a problem of Hoke County. It is everywhere in the United States. To have it highlighted here does not make Hoke County a novelty.

But what is novel about Hoke County? You have some good people in the classrooms of your seven schools.

Hoke County has truly some superior students. They leave here and do as well in colleges and universities as those students who come from "wealthier" areas. Look at the average students who graduate, go to technical schools or get jobs and become taxpayers. Look at the slower students who get attention and special help. They too graduate with dignity and become good citizens.

For those students who have handicaps, local schools go all out to help them be all they can be.

Maybe our schools don't always look affluent, but the teachers have an abundance of knowledge, love, compassion and patience. Hoke County has a Morehead

nominee this year. Lisa Gillespie may graduate from the N.C. School of Math and Science, but she is a product of OUR schools. Ask this warm and talented young lady where she's from. She'll say Hoke County.

Chau Tran is a freshman at State. He came to this community from Vietnam. The teachers took him in and helped him learn English and develop his potential. He's now in Honors Calculus. Ask him where he's from. He'll say Hoke County. Are they the products of private schools and wealthy homes? No. They are only two examples. There are many more. Hoke County schools are excellent.

Money is not always a measure of success.

Sarah F. McCallum  
Hoke High School

# Good times won't be the same without Marvin

By Warren Johnston

Marvin Gaye and I go back a long way. We spent many a great afternoon down by the river and more evenings than I can count standing on chairs.

For years I have fostered ideas of returning to college, seeing Marvin again and reliving some of the good times.

"Well, I guess that's it. No more dreams of returning to college. Marvin Gaye is dead," I told my wife Sunday after I had heard the news.

I hadn't thought about Marvin much until recently. It was after *The Big Chill*. My wife, who is somewhat younger, brought him up. "Who sings 'I Heard It Through The Grapevine'?" my wife asked as we were leaving the theatre.

"I can't believe you asked that," I said in disgust. "That's Marvin Gaye, 1968 on Motown."

The song was easy to remember. Marvin, with the help of a few Blue Ribbons, had brought us through some tough times with it. That was the year of the Tet Offensive, and the year we decided that perhaps it wasn't our War after all.

### The Puppy Papers

I first met Marvin in 1964, the year I graduated from high school.

Prior to commencement ceremonies we had spent most of the spring sitting around in the class of 200 members' only convertible listening to Marvin and Smokey Robinson go through the paces of "I'll Be Doggone (and you'll be long gone)."

Then it was off to college and before long, somebody was gesturing that we invite Marvin over to the Phi Delta Theta house for a couple of beers and a Wednesday "Over-the-Hump" party.

After three days of grueling classes, an evening with Marvin always sounded pretty good.

We'd scrounge up dates. Then we'd drag them back to the House and make them stand on chairs, while Marvin and Tammi Tyrell belted out "Ain't Nothing Like The Real Thing."

There was no dancing in the House. One would just stand on a chair, put an arm around your date and try not to spill beer down

the front of her blouse while you both swayed to the music and screamed out "Ain't No Mountain High Enough."

It was generally a lot of fun, but a little hard on the chairs.

We'd sway and sing all evening, or at least until somebody fell off of a chair. But by then it was usually time to get our dates back to their dorms by the 11:15 p.m. curfew anyway. After dumping off our dates, we'd head up town for an early morning breakfast at the Open House. It was fried eggs, bacon, grits and a "Stubborn Kind Of Fellow" on the jukebox.

The next time I ran into Marvin was in the Coast Guard. I was in the Coast Guard, and Marvin was on the radio. He would provide the entertainment as we sunbathed on the fantail of the U.S.S. Unimak.

Several of us would join him in a chorus of, "I heard a man ain't supposed to cry," as we doused ourselves with coconut-smelling oils.

"Yeah, Marvin and I have shared some good times," I told my wife.

"It's sad to see him go."