

First cookies

Hoke County Girl Scouts Tonya Murdock (left), Yondell McCrimmon (left center), and Lisa Edwards (right center) hand over the first local box of Girl Scout cookies to Melissa Pittman. The cookies will go on sale this week in the area, and according to Pittman, "the cookies are pretty

Cookie sales kick off

January 18th marks the start of this year's Hoke County Girl Scout Cookie sale.

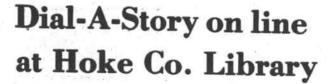
An American tradition that dates back to 1933, it's still the main fund-raiser for the Girl Scouts, one of America's finest youth groups.

The very first Girl Scout in-signia, the trefoil, decorated the first cookie. It's still a favorite, but over the years, a lot more cookies have been added to the selection. Like peanut butter Dosidos, chocolate Thin Mints, Tagalongs which are peanut butter patties and the famous Samoa cookies. Also, the newest pure Chocolate Chunk cookie. And, they're all great cookies for a great cause.

About 130 local Girl Scouts and parents held a Kick Off Rally for the sale of Girl scout Cookies Saturday.

After seeing a film on how the cookies are made and how the funds can aide local troops, the girls sang Girl Scout songs.

At the close of the rally, all were treated to Girl Scout cookies and Cokes. Door prizes were given to the lucky ticket holders.



Libraries lend books, or so people used to believe, but libraries aren't limited to books alone, for increasingly the services provided have been extended to include such things as paintings for loan, records or taped music. Or stories. Stories that aren't

checked out for reading necessarily - just good, old-fashioned stories

told in a gentle, comforting voice. Instead of checking out the stories, persons are able to call the library and listen to a story over the telephone.

This is now possible through a new program at the Hoke County Public Library. The program is called Dial-A-Story and it means the library will have a sort of round-the-clock storyteller available for anyone who calls a special telephone number that can be obtained at the library. "It's fun to call on the phone

and hear a story but this is also a way of being a spokesman for books," says Elizabeth Burgess, who coordinates the Dial-A-Story system for the library.

"Radios, television, stereos, and every other kind of audio equipment vies for our attention. But it takes a little more effort to pick up a paper or book and read it, and the rewards are so much greater. We felt reading needed something to speak for it."

The Dial-A-Story system is sim-ple for the caller, who only has to dial a phone number to hear one complete story.

When the phone connection is complete, the phone circuit puts out electical cues to trigger a

special tape player that immediately begins playing the story selected for that day.

The tapes last approximately four minutes, each beginning and ending with musical excerpts. "The music helps tie the program together to give it a nice finished sound. It also sets the mood, and gets the children to recognize the different instruments for a total enrichment experience," explained Burgess.

A professional storyteller's soothing voice greets the caller, tells him a story, then invites the caller to come to the library where he can find lots of exciting books to read.

Some of the stories are tradi-tional folk tales like "The Billy Goats Gruff," "The Elves and the Shoemaker," or "Sleeping Beauty."

"One of the prime objectives," Burgess said, "is to get children into the library and reading. This is an attractive way to do that."

"We've tried Dial-A-Story out on kids and they really love it," say the people from Winsor Enter-prises. "Even children considered to have short attention spans showed a genuine interest throughout the entire tape."

And children aren't the only ones who like hearing stories. One library offered a similar story service by phone. When they monitored the calls over several 24-hour periods, they were surprised to find many callers --- all night long. The magic number is 875-2039.



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Distributing books

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Nancy Morgan, library outreach coordinator, interests a resident at Open Arms Rest Home in new large print books given to the library by the Raeford Lions Club.

Large print books are helping readers

By Elizabeth Burgess

Hoke Co. Librarian The Hoke County Public Library is certainly grateful to the Raeford Lions Club for the gift of 25 new large print books. The library has so many readers who prefer the large print editions that we know the books will be enjoyed and appreciated.

During the past year, the library has been the recipient of many nice gifts from individuals, organiza-tions, and clubs. The library has been able to purchase a piano, has received a video monitor and recorder from the Bicentennial Committee, a new microfilm

room

reference collection.

Library News

New Books At Library

These new books received this week by the Hoke County Public Library, a member of the Sandhill Regional Library System. They are available at the Hoke County Public Library and Bookmobile in Raeford:

Adult Fact

Barker, Felix - "Highgate Cemetery: Victorian Valhalla"; "The Radio Amateur's Hand-book"; "The Year's Best Mystery and Suspense Stories"

Office Behind'

Klein, Norma - "Lovers"



