

... Hunt on probation

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rest of Hoke County in his official capacity as a board member.

"Mr. Hunt has been very generous with his time and resources in attempting to assist anyone in need," Martin said in the letter.

Presently, Martin is Robeson County Manager.

In another letter, Commissioner Upchurch said that Hunt "has had the care of the Hoke County tax payers in his mind."

Hunt was described as being "an effective County Commissioner" in a letter from John Balfour.

"I do not condone his actions.... but his problems have not interfered with his decision making on the issues confronting the Board of County Commissioners," Balfour said.

In a release given to reporters after the court session, Hunt said: "I apologize to the people of Hoke County for any embarrassment I might have caused. I expect my success today in court to end my legal problems. I intend that these do not arise again."

In an interview after the court session Thursday, Hunt said: "For 30 months, I've had it rough. I appreciate my friends."

"I have turned over a new book; not a new page, a new book," Hunt said.

"Everybody knew I had problems. I tried to smile on the outside, but it was hurting me inside," the commissioner said.

According to Hunt, he was at his peak as a businessman when his troubles started.

"Three years ago, I was wheeling and dealing as big as any man in Hoke County. Today I'm happier than I was then," Hunt said.

"What helped me through was friends and prayer," said the man. "I'm proud of my friends. That's from deep down in my heart."

"The Board of County Commissioners (from Hoke County) are some of the greatest people on earth," said Hunt.

Hunt did not appear disheartened regarding his problems and his political career.

"I'm willing to serve Hoke County as long as people want me. My heart's in Hoke County."

"I've been to county commission meetings many a time when I didn't have a dollar in my pocket and didn't know where the next dollar was coming from," said Hunt.

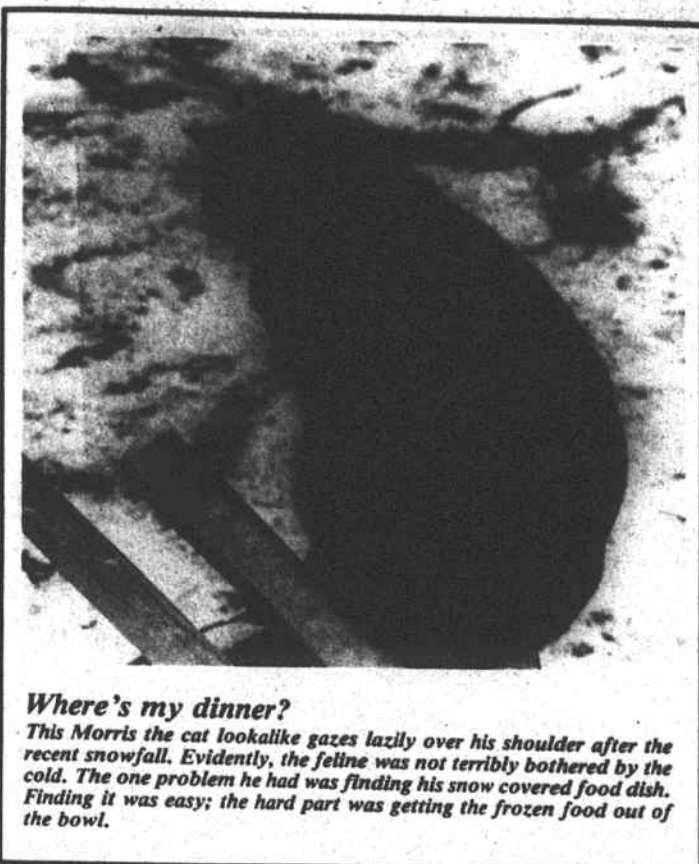
According to the commissioner, there have been several accusations aimed at him that are not true.

"I will never compromise county business for my personal business," Hunt said about one accusation.

"I've been accused of being in the bottle and on drugs, but I and the good Lord know better."

"My Bible says that the truth will set you free."

"I have never lied in court about my problems and I am a free man," said the commissioner.



Where's my dinner?

This Morris the cat lookalike gazes lazily over his shoulder after the recent snowfall. Evidently, the feline was not terribly bothered by the cold. The one problem he had was finding his snow covered food dish. Finding it was easy; the hard part was getting the frozen food out of the bowl.

... Literacy fund

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"We're gonna have to cut down somewhere," said Upchurch.

"I am in favor of literacy and I showed that last year," said the commissioner, adding that reading will make people happy but there are people in the county going bankrupt and those people are not happy.

The money is to be taken out of the contingency fund, said Cowan.

Funds accepted

Members of the commission also passed a motion to accept \$1,175.29 in additional energy assistance money for the Department of Social Services (DSS).

DSS Director Ken Witherspoon was present at the meeting. The additional money is a match to contributions from Carolina Power and Light (CP&L), said Witherspoon.

CP&L put letters in with their bills last fall asking for contributions to aid persons who could not pay their power bills, said Witherspoon.

The additional money accepted during the meeting was the power company's match to those contributions, Witherspoon said.

In other action, the commissioners:

•Voted to table making appointments to the Parks and Recreation Commission until persons can be found to fill the seats open on the board.

Commissioner Upchurch is "disturbed with this department," he said in the meeting.

•Voted to send an application requesting that the Camp Rockfish Road be put on state maintenance on to the Department of Transportation (DOT). The commissioners also voted to send a request for the paving of Forrest Road back to the petitioners to have the application changed to read as a request for state maintenance.

•Adopted a job description for the future county tax administrator.

•Accepted a lease agreement for the South Hoke Day Care Center. The agreement is a renewal of the present lease, Cowan said.

•Passed a motion allowing a public hearing on community development block grant applications on February 18. Deadlines for the application are on April 18, Cowan said. The hearing is to be a 7:15 p.m.

Hoke man still in jail for Dec. bank robbery

By Ed Miller

The 20-year-old man who robbed a local Main Street bank in December is now in the custody of the state attorney general pending psychiatric examination.

Grady Dominic Cunningham, who robbed Raeford's United Carolina Bank, was turned over to the attorney general on January 15, according to Federal Clerk of Court for the Middle District, Joe Creekmore.

Cunningham was before a federal magistrate on December 5, said Creekmore.

Probable cause was found during the hearing and no bond was set in the case, Creekmore said.

At last report, Cunningham was being held in a federal cell in Greensboro, said Creekmore Tuesday.

There has been no trial date set for Cunningham, said the clerk.

According to North Carolina FBI Director Robert Pence, Cunningham had a court appointed lawyer at the December 5 hearing.

Cunningham was ordered to remain in custody, Pence said.

(Continued from page 1) sion fees and attorney fees, records say.

Robert Everette Burke, of Raeford, was sentenced to one year in jail after being convicted of a probation violation.

According to records, Burke was convicted of DWI in Richmond County in March of last year.

During his probation, he left the area and did not tell his probation officer, records say.

Burke had also not paid his supervision fees, records say.

The 44-year-old man was recommended for work release.

Ricky Gates, 21, received a one year prison term for not enrolling in school as ordered by the court, records say.

On April 5, 1982, Gates was convicted of possession with intent to sell and sale of marijuana.

The Raeford man was ordered

to go to school but did not, according to a probation violation report.

Gates was also recommended for work release.

David Roper, 28, of Raeford, was given a suspended sentence after being convicted of forging a check to buy some medicine.

According to testimony given in court, Roper was involved in an accident last year that left him with painful injuries.

The man did walk with an accentuated limp.

The suspended sentence was imposed because of the amount of the check, \$50, and because the money was used to buy medicine, according to Judge Johnson.

Valenci Parker, who was in court pending a probation violation, was allowed to continue on probation provided she find a job by February 15, 1985.

Parker was convicted of breaking and entering early in 1984, records say.

Katherine McIntyre was also in court on a probation violation.

According to court records, the woman had been paying no supervision costs.

Her sentence was modified to say that her supervision fees would be remitted.

Neal Edgar Stock, of Raeford, who was convicted in August of 1982 of possession of methamphetamine, was in court on a probation violation.

In May of last year, Stock was convicted of DWI and possession of marijuana.

The man's judgement was modified to order that Stock enroll in an alcohol and drug abuse clinic and submit to any blood and urinalysis test ordered by his probation officer.

In a case appealed from Hoke County District Court, John Creech, of Red Springs, was convicted of removing landmarks between his property and that of Brenda Money.

In district court, Creech received a six month suspended sentence, one year unsupervised probation, and a \$25 fine, records say.

Upon his appeal in superior court, Creech was given two years suspended for five years unsupervised probation, a \$25 fine and ordered to pay \$125 to Brenda Money, records say.

Benjamin Bellinger, a 33-year-old Raeford resident, appealed an assault conviction to superior court and received the same sentence he got in district court.

Bellinger was given two years on supervised probation, fined \$200 and ordered to pay \$920 restitution to the complaining witness.

... Around Town continued

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look forward to another front that will move through over the weekend.

I haven't heard of any serious incidents brought on by the cold weather as this is being written.

The Lt. Col. Martin Beach family was honored early in the month in Lawton, Okla. They were selected to represent the Lawton-Ft. Sill area in the second annual "Great American Family" award program. Mrs. Beach is the former Ann Gatlin, daughter of Robert Gatlin and the late Mrs. Gatlin.

According to an article in the *Lawton Times*, the "Great American Family" award is given to inspire families across the nation to strengthen family relations and contribute to the quality of American life through community service. To be nominated, the family should be exemplary in character and ability and inspiring in their proven capacity to serve others.

Mike Stambough, who made the announcement said, "The broad scope of their individual involvement in military and civilian ac-

tivities clearly reflect a cohesive, mutually supportive family."

Col. and Mrs. Beach and their two children, Martin and Rohann, according to the article, are involved in youth work, military functions, etc. and the children are active in all phases of school and church work.

We want to congratulate the Beach family on this honor and also the proud father and grandfather, Robert Gatlin.

Greg Hathaway, who lives with his wife, Margie and three children on E. Edinborough Ave. spoke to the men of the Raeford Presbyterian Church last Sunday morning. He spoke on Alzheimer's Disease. Greg is a member of the Fayetteville Family Support Group which deals with Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders. He also is on the state committee.

Everyone at the meeting learned a lot from the talk Greg gave at the meeting. He became interested in this, when Margie's father came down with the disease.

If anyone, civic club or organization is looking for a pro-

gram, it would be worth your time to see if Greg would come and relate his knowledge and experience with the disease.

It is the fourth killer of people behind cancer, heart attacks and strokes.

If you would like some information on the subject, call (919) 484-5968.

The Super Bowl was a little one-sided, but it was well worth viewing. The 49ers were a little too strong for Miami.

The sponsors of the TV broadcast paid \$500,000 for 30 seconds of advertisement. It must have been viewed by many millions of people to get that type of revenue for a spot.

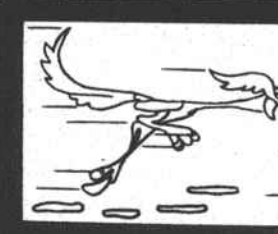
... Festival on tap

(Continued from page 1)

associated farms, Hoke County is one of the major production areas.

In addition to the Turkey Festival on September 21, promoters will also sponsor a Sunday in the Park Festival on April 28.


Plans for that one-day event are still being made.



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