



Surrounded by friends
Melinda Smith sits among older friends and exhibits her lace-net darning, a revived craft.

Hoke crafter doing it all

One of the most meticulous crafters in our community is Melinda Smith. Specializing in the varied world of country crafts, Smith has become a familiar face at local art festivals. Her work has earned a well-deserved reputation of being decorative, unusual and perfectly made.

"I do everything—cross-stitch, candle-wicking, stenciling, stuffed pillows, quilting and country animals," says Smith.

She and her husband, Mark, also together create wooden crafts. They have recently constructed an unusual bear cradle for which Melinda made a quilt, just the right size.

An avid reader of craft magazines, Smith is one of those talented, self-taught people who can glean ideas from pictures and often draw her own patterns for wood cuttings or stitched items.

"Crafts are important to me. I love doing them and finding something new to create," she says of her hobby.

This aspect, looking for the new and unusual item, is a distinguishing factor in Smith's crafting.

"For instance, I haven't seen lace net darning anywhere, so I tried it," she explains, exhibiting her finished product, a duckling, (very neatly done, of course), woven on blue background.

Lace net darning, Smith has

Hoke Arts Scene

By Sonya Falls



found, is an ancient needle art which is being revived. Taking its beginning from the practical side when men wove nets for catching fish or prey, the basic skills and techniques of netting began to be used for creating decorative veils and clothing.

Netting is mentioned in Exodus in reference to garments, head dressings and uses in tabernacle curtains and veils. Egyptians also used netting decoratively as far back as 2500 B.C.

Netting skills traveled to the United States with the colonists and today are finding new popularity in patterns such as Smith has created. Another well known example of net darning is seen in the familiar Army-Navy cloth.

Although Smith creates many country items to sell, especially around Christmas, it is something that she says she did not plan.

"Someone would see something I had made for my home and they would ask me to make them one. Or, they might have a pillow to put together and would ask me to finish it up," Smith states.

At any rate, after exhibiting her Christmas line at Raeford Junior Woman's Club Christmas Craft and Home Tour last year, Smith found herself swamped with orders for wreaths, stenciled pillows, or country cats and mice.

"I was very busy!" she laughs. "Examining her work, it is easy to see why so many choose her items. No matter what she produces, it is finely and neatly constructed. In a time when so many people are involved in producing country crafts, quality becomes an important criterion for craft selection.

"I don't throw much away because of errors," Smith says. "I'm very careful because I want it to be right. I cut corners where I can, because crafts are expensive, but I don't cut the quality of my things."

Considering the future and her hobby, Smith admits that she would like, one day, to own her own craft shop.

"I'd be in my glory then," she says, her eyes sparkling. "I've been doing crafts since I was 13 and I haven't stopped yet. I'll always find something new to do."

It is pretty obvious that whatever direction the craft world takes next, Melinda Smith will become an active part of it. As she has said, she does it all.

Fall has been filled with activity

Open Arms Rest Home has had a busy fall.

The highlight of our September was our participation in the Turkey Festival Parade.

Mrs. Maggie McPhatter, Jessie Black, Mrs. Elizabeth Tolar and Mrs. Mabel Tapp, all spotlighted the Open Arms float.

The rest of our residents enjoyed the parade activities from the up front view from the sidewalk adjacent the Rest Home.

Everyone certainly had an exciting time.

As usual, the public has been very considerate and thoughtful in their contributions to our residents.

The children from the First Baptist Church visited the Rest Home on Wednesday, October 30 with candy, songs and plenty of smiling faces.

The trick or treat visit from our local children was certainly enjoyed.

One of our most special residents, William P. Saunders, celebrated his 88th birthday on October 28.

His family and friends shared his birthday party with the residents and a good time was had by all.

Saunders, when asked of his comments about his birthday and party said, "I'm ready to have

News from Open Arms

Ann Pate



another." We have no doubt that his sentiments are seconded by all who attended.

Open Arms has many fine cooks or "kitchen chefs," but one of the most talented is Mary Stephens. Mary has retired from Open Arms, but continues to work part-time. For her appreciation to the staff for a retirement party previously given, Mary threw a party of her own for the staff and friends on Monday, October 28.

Mary cooked dinner for "tons" of people with the menu including homemade egg rolls, 12 famous fried chickens, roast, stir-fried mushrooms, ham and on & on.

The meal was fabulous. Mary's not bad at Bingo either, just ask some of our Bingo playing residents.

Many of our folks enjoyed a visit recently from Rev. and Mrs. Guin who were visiting here in Raeford from Burlington.

Rev. Guin was a past minister of the Evangelical Methodist Church.

Mrs. Mabel Tapp, one of our more "energetic" residents, visited

her daughter, Mrs. John D. McPhaul in Pinehurst last week. Any of you who like to walk every morning early, drop by the Rest Home and try to keep up with our "Mabel Tapp."

Open Arms is very fortunate to have, sponsored by the First Baptist Church, a weekly Sunday School class and a Wednesday night prayer service.

Willie Carl Odom teaches the Sunday morning class every week at 9:45 a.m. The public is welcome to come and share.

A new activity beginning at the Rest Home is a ceramics class. Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, of Chick's Ceramics in Rockfish is teaching the class.

Residents will be given the opportunity to attend these six special classes compliments of Sandhills Community College. See, you're never too old to learn! Come for a visit some Thursday morning and see for yourself.

The Rest Home is most interested in providing as many activities and special events for our residents as possible.

If you have some "hidden" talent and a little time on your hands, give us a call at Open Arms and get yourself on the calendar.

These news tid-bits come to you from Open Arms Resident Council.

Hoke volunteers are honored at Executive Mansion Nov. 7

Hoke County residents were honored at a reception hosted by Governor and Mrs. James G. Martin at the Executive Mansion November 7 for the Governor's Outstanding Volunteers for 1985.

About 200 volunteers toured the Executive Mansion and participated in a recognition ceremony with the Governor, Mrs. Martin, and Arlene Pulley, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Citizen Affairs.

Mrs. Ruth Ansley and the Raeford Jaycees were honored for their service to Hoke County and to the state.

"Your efforts and dedicated service to the people of North Carolina shine as an example of

the achievements made possible through concern for our fellow citizens," the Governor said as he commended the volunteers. "Our strength lies in the spirit of volunteerism, and it is my privilege to celebrate that spirit with you today."

"This is the Governor's special way of thanking North Carolina's volunteers for their selfless service and caring hearts," Pulley explained.

Outstanding volunteers from 84 counties visited the Executive Mansion from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. and were presented with Certificates of Appreciation and North Carolina's official Volunteer Pin.



Completes 30

June Rogers has recently completed 30 years of continuous service at the Burlington Industries Raeford Plant. Rogers began his employment with the company as a Yarn Packer in the Preparation Department, where he has spent his entire 30 years service. He has worked in that area on several different jobs and presently as a Slasher Tender Complex.

It's Registration Time for Sandhills Community College Continuing Education Classes HOKE COUNTY

TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	FROM - TO	LOCATION	DAYS	TIME	COST
Housekeeping & Custodial Training	Walker	Dec. 3-Jan. 23	Hoke High	TTH	7-9 PM	10.00
Housekeeper Training - Vacuum Or Dust First?	Wright	Jan. 13-Feb. 19	OCOB	MW	9-12 Noon	10.00
Introduction To Public Speaking	Havis	Jan. 8-Feb. 19	Hoke High	W	6-9 PM	10.00
Auto Care & Maintenance For Women - Small Repairs For The Home	Vaughn	Jan. 9-Feb. 13	Hoke High	TH	6-9 PM	10.00
Furniture Refinishing	Ellis	Jan. 6-Feb. 24	Hoke High	M	7-10 PM	15.00
Nurses Aide	Suggs	Dec. 2-Feb. 24	OCOB	M	7-10 PM	15.00
CPR	Leandro	Jan. 13-Apr. 18	OCOB	MTWTFH	9-1 PM	10.00
Welding, Basic	Pate	Jan. 28-Feb. 6	Hoke High	TTH	7-10 PM	10.00
	Cameron	Dec. 3-Feb. 25	Hoke High	TTH	6:30-9:30 PM	10.00
Fundamentals Of Real Estate I (Salesperson)	Kugelmann	Dec. 3-Feb. 25	Hoke High	TTH	6-9 PM	10.00
Emerg. Med. Technician Refresher	Pate	Jan. 14-Feb. 6	Hoke High	TTH	7-10 PM	10.00
Emergency Medical Technician	Staff	Jan. 14-May 8	Hoke High	TTH	7-10 PM	10.00
Sewing And Quilting	Clark	Dec. 4-Feb. 19	Wayside	W	12:30-3:30 PM	15.00
Sewing And Quilting	Stewart	Dec. 3-Feb. 25	Cameron Heights	TTH	9:30-11:30 AM	15.00
Sewing	Clark	Dec. 4-Feb. 19	Wayside	W	9-12 Noon	15.00
Sewing	Gibson	Jan. 7-Feb. 25	Hoke High	T	6:30-9:30 PM	15.00
Crafts	Hudson	Dec. 2-Feb. 25	Open Arms	MWF	9:30-11:30 AM	19.00
Crafts	Bullard	Dec. 3-Feb. 25	Bowmore	T	1-4 PM	19.00
Basketry, Stenciling & Crafts	Walters	Jan. 7-Feb. 25	OCOB	TTH	9-12 Noon	19.00
Basketry, Stenciling & Crafts	Walters	Jan. 6-Feb. 24	OCOB	MW	6:30-9:30 PM	19.00
Painting On Fabric	Augustoni	Jan. 7-Feb. 25	OCOB	T	1-4 PM	19.00
Oil Painting	Augustoni	Dec. 5-Feb. 20	OCOB	TH	1-4 PM	19.00

REGISTRATION

Hoke County Continuing Education and College Credit Classes

FAST SHOP

FOOD MART

HWY. 211 WEST RAEFORD, N.C.

QUARTER POUND FRESH MEAT PATTY

HAMBURGER

1.39

FAST SHOP WASHERRETTE

• 15 Washers
• 7 Dryers
• 1 Big Boy

Hours: 6:30 AM - 10 PM

FRIDAY ONLY FISH & SHRIMP COMBINATION PLATE

\$3.99

slow. hushuppies

CAN COKES

6 pk. 1.49 12 oz.

HOT DOGS

2/1.00

Deli Sunday Special

8 pcs. CHICKEN

(ONLY) 5.99

NEW ITEM

FRIED STEAK BISCUIT 1.09

PARADE BREAD . . 24 oz. 2/1.09

BI-RITE DETERGENT . 42 oz. 1.49

6 pack 12 oz. BLACK LABEL BEER

\$2.19

ONION RINGS 79¢

LG POTATO CHIPS 99¢

7 OZ. BAG

NOW LEASING

Rinse'N Vac STEAM CLEANER

24 hrs-only 12.95

2 LITER COKE ONLY

89¢

Non Refrig. (LIMIT 3)

2 liter PEPSI Non Refrigerated

99¢

We Have A Convenient Line Of Groceries

KITCHEN OPEN: BREAKFAST BISCUITS - FRIED CHICKEN

ICE COLD BEER - WINE

EAT IN OR TAKE OUT

875-4550

CIGARETTES ALL BRANDS