

★★★★★★

All Voters
In County
Required
To Register

The News - Journal

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Registration
Books Open
In Precinct
March 30

The Hoke County News- Established 1928

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

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RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1968



Skid Marks Show Path Of Pickup Which Hit Train

How Long, O Lord?

Hoke Highways Stained By Six Fatal Wrecks

Several years ago, Frank Clement, then governor of Tennessee, drew a nationwide chuckle when he said in the keynote address before the Democratic National Convention (Dwight D. Eisenhower had been president for four years): "How long, O Lord, how long?"

Today, one must seriously think about the same thing when he takes a look at the automobile accident rate in Hoke County--which is no better and no worse, perhaps, than in the state and nation in general.

Nonetheless, scarcely a week has passed since February 1 in which a major wreck was not reported and pictured on page one of The News-Journal.

Power Off

Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation has announced that electric service will be off Sunday, April 7, from 9 to 8 a.m. in the Red Springs, Antioch, Lumber Bridge, Wakulla and Oak Grove areas.

New Registration Nets 1,296 Sign-Ups At 13 Precincts

The first day of a new registration by all Hoke County voters last Saturday produced a whopping 1,296 registrations in the county's 13 precincts, according to J. Scott Foote, chairman of the county board of elections.

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Registration Totals

	White	Negro	Ind.	Dem.	GOP	Total
ALLENDALE	4	52	7	63	0	63
ANTIOCH	49	28	73	139	8	*150
BLUE SPRINGS	19	45	9	68	2	70
BUCHAN	17	48	3	68	0	68
McCAIN	49	52	2	94	9	103
PUFFY CREEK	25	57	0	79	6	85
RAEFORD #1	70	56	0	120	6	126
RAEFORD #2	82	25	0	107	0	107
RAEFORD #3	42	58	2	100	2	102
RAEFORD #4	63	8	0	66	5	71
RAEFORD #5	0	217	0	216	1	217
ROCKFISH	24	0	0	21	3	24
STONEWALL	45	68	0	103	8	*113
TOTAL	486	714	96	1,239	52	1,296

out revision of the books. The voter's individual page simply is either added or subtracted from the book.

Seeking \$700,000

Town Sewer Bond Vote To Be Held April 20

No Raise In Taxes Required

Raefton voters will go to the polls April 20 -- two weeks from Saturday -- to vote on whether the town shall be empowered to issue \$700,000 in sewer bonds to head off an expected crisis in sewage treatment.

Only when the consulting engineer, Richard Moore of Asheboro, came up with a plan which would not require a tax increase or increased water-sewer charges for residential customers, did the board agree to the bond issue.

For the past several months, attorneys in New York City and local officials have been lining up the referendum.

The money will be used, along with some \$300,000 in federal funds, to substantially enlarge the existing sewage treatment plant and to provide additional outfall facilities to Burlington Industries.

Moore, whose firm designed the present treatment plant, warned more than a year ago that the designed capacity of the treatment plant was being exceeded by dangerous levels.

The plant was built to have a maximum capacity of 1.5 million gallons daily, but another limitation (biological oxygen demand capacity -- or B.O.D.) substantially limited capacity.

Designed B.O.D. capacity of the plant, completed in 1963, is 2,800. A three-team survey last summer indicated the plant was being operated at more than twice its B.O.D. capacity.

Burlington Industries and Raefton Turkey Farms, largest industrial customers for water and sewer, worked closely with town officials and Moore in setting up corrective measures.

They will include increasing the plant's B.O.D. capacity to 7,500, and installation of an additional



SOCIETY AND POLITICS--Lt. Gov. Bob Scott is served punch by Mrs. Palmer Wilcox, wife of a co-chairman of the Hoke County Scott for Governor committee. Women in the background at the open house held for the candidate are Mrs. Robert Gatlin, Mrs. Ruria Warner, Mrs. Robert Gatlin and Mrs. John Balfour were co-chairmen of the affair. Receiving guests with Scott and Wilcox were John Balfour and Benny McLeod, other members of the committee. The party preceded a supper held in the lieutenant governor's honor.

Scott Visits County

Dinner Meeting,
Tea Are Held

Bob Scott, of the Haw River political Scotts, brought his campaign for governor to Hoke County this week, and he made no apologies for asking for support in the May 4 Democratic primary.

"Nobody came knocking at my door at Haw River begging me to run for governor," he said. "There were no petitions circulated, either. I am running for governor because I want to be your governor. I want to work with you and for you... and I pledge that everybody who works with me for you shall know that government is supposed to be the servant of the people, rather than the people servants of the government."

Scott took a whirlwind tour of the county before returning to Hoke Civic Center in mid-afternoon for a reception and tea party staged by Hoke County Ladies For Scott. Mrs. Robert Gatlin and Mrs. John Balfour were chairman of the open house affair.

Tuesday night, Scott spoke at a dinner gathering of citizens in the Hoke High School gym. He outlined the program he proposes to inaugurate if elected in November.

Briefly, his proposals included: EDUCATION--Higher pay for teachers, at least equal to the national average, which varies from year to year. Lighter classroom loads in areas where needed. Freeing teachers of non-teaching duties. Strong program of industrial and technical training at junior high school level to thwart dropouts and prepare non-collegians for better wage producing capacity. Better summer programs, primarily

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Upchurch Kids Nod No More

Hoke County's celebrated "sleeping students" caper apparently is all over.

School officials said this week none of the seven children who last month went to sleep mysteriously are experiencing drowsiness anymore, and the Upchurch School first grade classroom has returned to normal.

International attention was focused on the children, and on Raefton, when the story of the sleepy children buzzed over the telegraph lines two weeks ago.

The story, first printed in The News-Journal, was picked up by United Press International and wired to major newspapers and other media throughout the world.

It told of six or seven children in Miss Hazel Galbreath's classroom who dropped into apparent sleep practically every day, usually in mid-morning, and were not easily awakened.

When school officials learned of the strange behavior, they asked medical authorities to investigate. Dr. Harry H. McLean of Raefton, regional medical consultant, N.C. Board of Health, conducted a complete

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Hoke Board Meet With All Present

For the first time in many months, the Hoke County Board of Commissioners met Monday with a full force but only one routine action requiring a vote was transacted.

Chairman T. C. Jones was back after a lengthy illness.

The action taken was the establishment of a 55 per cent ratio for between taxable value and assessed value in computing property taxes. It is the same as has been used in the past.

The board heard an appeal from Paul F. Johnson, representing the local fireman's association, but took no action on the request. Johnson said the rural departments felt a need to put in a communication system for the convenience of firemen and residents to be served.

Two-way radios on the fire trucks would allow firemen to call other departments from the scene of the fire, or to contact them if another fire broke out while they are fighting one. The setup would cost the county approximately \$1,200 a year, plus what each department would be required to pay.

The matter was tabled by the county men for the time being.

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Hoke Soldier Hit In Vietnam Battle

John D. Melton was wounded March 26 as a result of a surprise attack by North Vietnamese troops, his relatives here have been informed.

Melton's wife, Mrs. Jackie Folston Melton, received a telegram April 1, stating that he was wounded as a result of hostile action. A native of Raefton, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Odell Melton of Grant Avenue.

He received fragment wounds to the left arm and back, the telegram stated, while on perimeter defense. Prior to the receipt of the telegram, however, Melton had talked to his wife by telephone and had informed her that he was being moved to a hospital in Japan.

According to a news release, nearly 1,000 North Vietnamese troops, armed with flame-throwers and rocket-propelled grenades, attacked the American artillery base. The U. S. Military command said that 10 U. S. soldiers were killed in the battle and 71 were wounded.

The attack, launched under the cover of darkness by two or three North Vietnam battalions, was against the artillery support base (U. S. 4th Infantry Division) 19 miles west of Kontum City.

Four hours later, headquarters said, U.S. infantrymen had pushed the enemy troops back and restored their defense line. Meanwhile, the son-in-law of a former Raefton woman whose

own husband was killed in Germany during World War II, was killed in Vietnam last week.

John Harrity, a Navy medic, was serving with U. S. Marine forces in South Vietnam when he was fatally wounded. He was the husband of the former Patricia Hancock, who formerly lived here.

Her mother, Mrs. Charles Trexler of Salisbury, is the former Margaret Morris of Raefton, whose first husband, Joe Hancock, was killed in action in Germany during World War II.

Mrs. Harrity has been living in New Jersey, her husband's native state, for the past two years or so.

Details of the action in which Harrity was fatally wounded were not available, nor were funeral plans announced pending arrival of the body from overseas.

Mrs. Trexler has numerous relatives in Raefton and Hoke County, including a brother, Sam C. Morris. Other brothers are James Morris, Chimney Rock, and Bruce (Spee) Morris Jr., Gilmer, Texas.

Another Raefton man wounded in Vietnam early in the March has been returned to the United States.

He is Bobby Lundy, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lundy, who received serious shrapnel wounds

Development Board Seeks \$8,500 Study Grant

A grant of \$8,500 for a comprehensive study of resources and future water and sewer needs of Hoke County has been requested of the federal government, through Farmers Home Administration.

Cecil R. Register, county FHA supervisor, and Jim Fout, executive director, Hoke County Planning and Development Board, confirmed that the request has been made.

"The study will cover background basic studies of population, economic conditions, existing public utilities, natural resources, a rural production patterns and trends, and water resources," Fout said. "The finished report of the findings also will include a variety of useful maps."

One of the most important parts of the study will be a future development plan, which will indicate the desirable future location of residential, commercial, agricultural, recreational and vacant land uses. The future development plan will include a water and sewer systems plan covering immediate needs (5 to 10 years) and a projection for needs over a period of 20 years.