

# Child Rescued After Five-Hour Search



LITTLE LOLA was lost deep in a pine forest but a 5½ hour search was ended when Charles Wilson found her sleeping in a sunken straw-lined spot. The rescue squad volunteer visited the little girl at her home the next day but Lola, in the arms of her mother, Mrs. Donald Needham of Reaves Street is sadly reminded of her frightful experience when she sees the big man who awakened her and carried her back to her daddy.

It was a happy time for a host of people when a lost babe in the woods was found sleeping in a fire lane at 10 o'clock last Wednesday night. Tiny three-year-old Lola Needham was the subject of a five-hour search which involved some 200 persons who prowled through pine thickets five miles from N. C. 211 at Timberland, the nearest paved road. The night was cold - 34 degrees, long before midnight.

Little Lola, had gone four

miles back into the woods on the Ft. Bragg reservation with her daddy, Donald Needham, and Billy Monroe, to gather pine straw. They had taken two trucks. Lola and her puppy were playing in one while her father and Monroe loaded straw on the other.

Suddenly, according to the little girl, she thought her daddy, who apparently was beyond the other straw-filled truck, was gone. She set out to look for him. It was four

o'clock when she was missed and her father began calling for her. When he realized she was not near-by, Monroe went for help.

Help came. Rescue Squads from Raeford and other towns came. Two fire departments and many individuals came. Despite the icy wind, men, torches in hand trudged through leaves and straw for five hours before Charles Wilson's searchlight fell on what he at first thought was a

stump. Lola's coat was dark brown in color. A closer look and it was surely the little sprite lying in a sunken spot in the fire lane, fast asleep.

She was a mile from where she had left her father and nobody knows what time she grew too tired to go farther or whether she fell into the indentation and was too weary to get up. They do know, however, that her life was in danger with a steadily dropping

mercury and a predicted thermometer reading of far below freezing point before Thursday morning.

Her mother reported that the doctor said she had taken more cold, (she already had one) but as of Monday she had not developed pneumonia.

Charles Tew, commander of Hoke County Rescue Squad, conducted the search. Wilson is one of the members.

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## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The snow flakes coming down like feathers and the trees and bushes bent with ice are beautiful to look at, but the houses without heat because of the electricity being off offsets the beauty to me.

At the wrestling tournament here Saturday a matman from one school was overweight for the weight he was to wrestle. Someone remarked that he could make the limit if his hair was cut. This was done and the wrestler lost ½ pound and made the limit.

The Raeford Presbyterians had church services Sunday as did the Methodists. The Baptists didn't but the Rev. Jack Mansfield attended the services with the Presbyterians. The Rev. Cortez Cooper remarked that he would accept the excuse of the Baptists of not having services because of the ice and snow, but if it had been rain he wouldn't take that for an excuse.

Dean Brady field representative for the United Fund in North Carolina was in town last Thursday and visited here in the office. Ed Murray, local president, and I had lunch with Dean and talked United Fund for awhile.

Dean told a tale about a five foot-four inch tractor-trailer driver which I will pass along to you readers. It seems the short truck driver stopped at a roadside restaurant for something to eat. He told the waitress to fix him the largest steak, with all the trimmings, in the house. He left to wash up before his meal. In the meantime four motorcycles stopped at the restaurant while the truck driver was in the wash room.

The riders of the motorcycles were the leather jacket, long hair type that usually go around looking for trouble. The waitress brought the steak to the truck driver and before he could put his fork or knife in it, one of the motorcycle riders took it from his plate and ripped it apart. He put half of it back on the plate and ate the other half showing off as he devoured the steak. The truck driver calmly ate the piece on his plate along with his other food, tipped the waitress, paid his check and left without a word.

The bully rider told the waitress that the driver wasn't much of a man. The waitress agreed and also said he wasn't much of a driver because he backed over all four motorcycles before he got his truck started again and back on the highway.

Last Thursday night Frank Blue had the program at the Kiwanis Club and introduced Ben Campbell, a former resident, who was born in Hoke County and attended graded school here. Ben is now head of the personnel department of Burlington Worsted. He talked about the progress made in the textile industries, concerning employee to employer, during the years he has worked in the industry. He had high praise for the relations between the people of Hoke County, employees and the management of Burlington. He did say that manpower was not as plentiful as it once was in the area because of the new industries that keep moving into the area. The supply of low income rental property was also mentioned as being needed in Hoke County. He believes that as all citizens become educated that the manpower needs will be met, but as far as the rental property this is something that must be taken under consideration by the local people. The talk was very informative and enjoyed by the Kiwanians.

The advancement that Ben has made with Burlington shows the hard work that he has done since finishing high school in the late thirties.

The inquiries concerning the outcome of the young Army recruit is still unknown to me.



You Think You Had It Rough? These Fellows Were Doing This At 2 O'Clock In The Morning!

## Law Officials Of

# Hoke And Cumberland Seek Enforcement Funds

Officials from Hoke and Cumberland counties formed the Cumberland-Hoke Law and Order Committee Wednesday to seek federal funds to upgrade local law enforcement agencies.

John D. Gaddy, town manager of Raeford was elected vice chairman; to serve with Col. Lloyd McDaniel, (Ret) assistant city manager of Fayetteville who was named chairman. T. B. Lester, Hoke County manager, was elected treasurer. The town attorney for Spring Lake, James Nance Jr., was named secretary.

A board of directors consisted of representatives of law enforcement agencies and governmental groups participating in the association is to be named at a later date. Sheriff Dave Barrington was among those who attended the meeting.

The federal program is part of the

## Circus Clowns At Sanatorium

Some 30 or 40 little children at The North Carolina State Sanatorium at McCain saw a real clown for the first time Friday when Coco and his little son, Coconut, the youngest of all professional clowns, paid them a visit.

The two are members of the crew of Barnum and Bailey and Ringling Brothers circus which is playing in Fayetteville tonight and tomorrow night at Memorial Auditorium.

The big man with red nose and matching hippie style hair, and the little boy, looking much like his father, showed the kids a few tricks, made their hair stand on end and then the older of the two demonstrated to the children how he put on stunts that made him the tallest man in the world. The little fellows started clowning with his dad when he was 18 months old.

Coco in the hospital auditorium later disclosed the secret of the tall circus man to adult patients and in jest said when he stood 17 feet tall and fell, he flew like an angel but landed like the devil.

Omnibus Crime Bill recently approved by Congress.

Under the bill, state agencies directly administer the federal funds, channeling them to local associations to upgrade law enforcement operations.

The governor's commission has set a 100,000 population minimum for the associations. Hoke County which would not be eligible otherwise, decided to join Cumberland County to seek the funds.

The Cumberland-Hoke committee's

first goal will be to obtain planning funds for this fiscal year which ends July 1.

McDaniels said he felt \$5,000 would be a "realistic figure" to try to obtain for the rest of this fiscal year. He suggested planning funds totaling \$25,000-\$30,000 may be the goal of the committee for the 1969-70 fiscal year.

Under the federal guidelines the association would have to match any federal planning grant with 10 per cent, either in money or "in kind."

## Churches, Schools Closed County Crippled By Ice And Snow

BY LUCY GRAY PEEBLES

### James Evans Is Charged With Murder

Andrew McLaughlin, 29, was shot and killed early Sunday morning at his home in Tyler Town.

James Evans, 30, a one time resident of Hoke County is being held in the county jail, charged with the slaying.

Evans allegedly shot McLaughlin with an "unorthodox weapon" after giving him a ride home at the end of a night of revelry.

According to Sheriff Dave Barrington the pair were reportedly on good terms before leaving a local juke joint early Sunday morning. At this point Evans had reportedly agreed to give McLaughlin a ride home for a fee of one dollar.

Evans lived in Hoke County for some fifteen years before migrating to Hartford, Conn. and later to New York City. He has been back in this area about three months. Motive for the shooting has not been determined, according to Sheriff Barrington.

### Supt. Abernethy In New Jersey

Supt. D. D. Abernethy left Saturday for Atlantic City, N. J., where he attended the American Association of School Administrators convention.

Abernethy said that while away, he will stop in Washington and meet with some congressmen which, hopefully, will include North Carolina representatives, in

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This week's intense coastal ice and snow storm started out to be a carbon copy of what was experienced last January 11-12 but fate stopped it half way, leaving not a paralyzed town but a crippled one.

Precipitation began Saturday with nightfall and continued into the night resulting in a slowdown of business and normal activities. Some churches omitted services Sunday morning and schools and many businesses took the day off Monday.

A beginning mist of fine snow and rain turned into a heavy snowfall and by 9 p. m. the ground was white. An approximate three-inch blanket was spread before more freezing rain laid a hard crust on top.

Sunday morning, excited children were disappointed to find that the thick white cover was too icy for sledding or making snowmen. So, the town came alive with war-playful war fought with white, hand-turned "cannonballs."

Limbs and utility lines began to come down under the weight of ice sending out utility line men at 1:30 a. m. Sunday and keeping them at work around the clock, day after day. Neither Carolina Power and Light Co. nor REA had caught up on Tuesday.

Ice still clung heavily on everything Monday until well after noon. Trees and heavy limbs continued to topple on power lines and many homes and businesses were without electric power, heat, and refrigeration for hours. Some were still without power Tuesday. CP&L linemen declared that before they finished one repair job, they had been called to three more.

Monday morning kids and parents glued themselves to the radio to be reassured that "There will be no school today." But No. 1400 on the dial gave them only some far off network riding the waves of heavy atmosphere, and not WSHB. The local station was without electric current and remained so all day.

Assistant Supt. Ernest Sutton said that efforts to phone long distance were fruitless because of out of town line trouble. The Sheriff's Dept., however, came to the rescue and radioed Laurinburg and Laurinburg transferred the message on to Fayetteville where the Hoke County School news was sent out over a radio station there and eventually

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## Art Festival Fri. And Sat.

Arts and crafts of many types will be featured at the Fine Arts Show to be held on Elwood Ave. at the former Dr. Marcus Smith office. Feb. 21-22. Hours are 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. Friday, and 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. Saturday.

Crafts will include decoupage, floral arrangements, silver, gold, and other types of jewelry, weaving, needlework, knitting, sculpture and many other items including Christmas made by women of the Methodist Church.

Of course, there will be paintings: pictures, tone painting, and ceramics, as well as mosaics.

Committee heads are: Mrs. R. G. Townsend, general chairman; Mrs. James Bowles, Mrs. Glenn Wood and Mrs. Younger Snead Jr., assistants; Mrs. Harry McLean, Art; Mrs. Ruria Warner, Music; Mrs. Jack Pope, Sewing; Mrs. William Smith, Crafts; Mrs. Al Brown, Literature and Public Speaking; Mrs. J. C. McLean, Scholarship; Mrs. Al Bruketa, and Mrs. Hubert Cameron, publicity; Mrs. Harold Gillis, building; Mrs. J. P. Crumpler, preparation for building; Mrs. W. E. Smith, gifts for judges; Mrs. Willis Hood, ribbons; Mrs. Belton Wright, youth art.



CLOWN'S TRICKS - Coco (the papa) and Coconut, the four-year-old, do some rope tricks for sick children at McCain hospital. Coco, last Friday as he donned stunts which made him nine feet high, told the hospitalized children that Coconut was the youngest clown in the world and that he was the only clown of any age who had a personal make-up man. All other clowns put on their own funny faces but Coconut's daddy is his son's make-up man.