

The News - Journal

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Around Town

BY SAM MORRIS

CORRECTION - The Scout News in last week's paper was in error according to Mrs. Clarence Willis. The article stated that Mitchell Sports was the leader of the scouts at Camp Tom Upchurch for the week. She states that Scoutmaster Sports has done more than his duty for the scouts but that Ernest Haire had acted as leader for the encampment.

Mrs. Willis also gave us a list of the scouts that were attending camp. They are Martin Best, Franklin Jordan, Randy Watts, Wayne Willis, Freddie Parker, Teddy Parker, David Avery, Steve Wilburn, John Campbell and Neil McNeill.

The information for the article last week came from Cape Fear Area headquarters in Wilmington and we thank Mrs. Willis for the correction.

I guess this column will have to fold after this week because D. R. Huff, Jr. came and moved his wagon last Saturday. Now I won't have anything to write about, but this will let folks know I didn't hold a raffle.

R. E. (Dick) Neeley, squire of Puppy Creek, informed me last week that I was as bad as a farmer crying for parity when I requested vegetables through this column. It made me feel good to know that Neeley had someone read the column to him.

The trip to the moon as stated here last week will show in the future how great an accomplishment it turned out to be. Listening to TV Sunday Michael Collins stated he would like to return to Hawaii under different circumstances. He said that in the past several days the astronauts had seen many things, but the beauties of Hawaii were something to return and see. The trip to the moon and outer space hasn't changed man's mind concerning a lovely lady. I believe they can't get their minds on the subject, because that remark shows they are normal.

The recreation program this summer was very successful. Everything went off very well, but as usual one or two small incidents will put a black mark on a good thing. The comments heard for the first few weeks were top notch and then last week one little incident happened and all the good things went down the drain.

A few of the boys that go to recreation, or use that as an excuse to get their cars, last week decided to use Magnolia Street as a drag strip. They would start from the parking lot at the Raeford Elementary school and go up Magnolia to the Presbyterian Church and return. Crossing the intersection at Prospect is dangerous but skidding around cars and people in the parking lot is worse. If the drivers of the cars were the only ones endangered that would be fine, but many more are involved.

The funds for running the program are donated each year through the United Fund and are given to help all the young people of the county have fun during the summer. The supervisors can't be two places at the same time. They are doing a good job. But if the summer program is to continue, then the ones that really appreciate it should in no uncertain terms put thumbs down on the few smart alecks that are trying to destroy it.

As the old saying goes - It is too late to lock the gate after the horse is out.



LABOR DISPUTE AT TURKEY PLANT - Leonard Frahm, plant manager, informed the protesting employees that unless they return to work in 10 minutes the plant would assume that the workers have quit their jobs. Over 100 workers walked off their jobs for two hours on Tuesday asking for higher pay.

Volunteer Fire Departments To Be Honored

Volunteer firemen from five Raeford and Hoke County communities will be honored at a dinner sponsored by the Raeford - Hoke Chamber of Commerce on August 15 at 7 p.m.

The purpose of this dinner according to Harold Gillis, manager of the Chamber of Commerce is to "show the communities appreciation for the service these men voluntarily give."

The dinner is open to the public and

14 4-H'ers Depart

For 4-H Congress

Monday morning found fourteen anxious 4-H'ers waiting to leave Raeford for the annual 4-H congress in Raleigh.

The fourteen youngsters attending the meeting are Donna McMillan, Jimmy Maxwell, Debbie Morris, Tony Stone, Dale Jones, David Willis, David Dombkowski, Sammy Young, Mike Matlock, Barbara Plummer, Danny McGougan, Joe McGougan, Debbie Vanhoy and Tim Young.

Debbie Anderson, Hoke County's senior Queen of Health, will attend Tuesday's events which include the health pageant. On Wednesday Ellen Willis, home agent and Wendell Young, farm agent, will attend some of the activities. Mrs. Grover McMillan, senior Stonewall 4-H Club leader, plans to attend the events on Thursday.

Three adults will accompany the group throughout the week. They are Brenda Abrams, assistant home agent, Joy Crisman and Talmadge Baker, assistant farm agent.

the featured speaker will be Elwood Insoce, director of Fire and Rescue Training for the North Carolina Department of Insurance.

On Saturday, August 16 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. the departments will give demonstrations on fire prevention at the W.T. Gibson school parking lot. The five departments involved are Raeford, whose members will give a gas fire demonstration; North Raeford, whose members will be showing a ladder rescue; Hillcrest, whose members will demonstrate a barrel fill; Puppy Creek, whose members will put out a smoke fire with air packs and Rockfish, whose members will demonstrate methods of extinguishing a gas, Kerosene and fuel oil fire under pressure.

Before the demonstrations the firemen will assemble at the J.W. McLaughlin School for a parade down main street at 2:15 p.m.

According to Gillis, the dinner and demonstrations are taking the place of the Firemen's Day competition.

The Friday night dinner will cost \$1.50 and anyone interested in attending the dinner is to contact the Chamber of Commerce office for tickets.

Rural Cancer Drive

The Rural Hoke County cancer drive ended last week with donations totaling \$776, according to Talmadge Baker, chairman of the drive. The annual drive started on Sunday, July 13 and ended in the latter part of last week. Many of the 4-H clubs in the area along with citizens throughout the county helped with the drive.

Demand Higher Wages

Workers Complain At Turkey Plant

Booster Club To Meet Mon.

The Hoke High School Booster Club will meet Monday, August 4 at 8 p.m. at the W.T. Gibson School cafeteria according to an announcement made this week by Charlie Hottel, president.

Preparations for the annual feed will be concluded at this meeting, Hottel said.

Back To Work For 3 Days Awaiting Directors Decision

Workers at the Raeford Turkey plant voiced their dissatisfaction Tuesday afternoon when workers from the packing and slaughter departments demanded higher wages. Upon returning from lunch the workers refused to go back to their jobs until they were promised higher wages. Leonard Frahm, plant manager, told the group that only the company's board of directors could give the approval for higher wages.

"I promise you that I will bring your complaints before the board as soon as possible," Frahm said. "But if you continue this we must assume that you are quitting your job."

After talking to the workers about the wage problem Frahm told the workers "if you are not back to work in 10 minutes we will assume you have quit."

Frahm then went back to the office to await the workers' decisions.

The group, which seemed to have no central spokesman, milled around in the parking lot discussing their next move. Such comments as, "They can't push us around" and "With what we get paid we are working for nothing" were voiced.

Shortly after Frahm voiced his ultimatum workers began returning to their jobs. Younger workers, many of them summer employees, voiced opposition to the returning workers.

"You're losing more by going back -- then they'll think you'll take anything they give you," was the reaction shouted by one young man.

The workers felt that the minimum wage now being paid was not enough for the "lousy" working conditions they were putting up with, although they felt with an increase in pay they could put up with the poor working conditions.

Minimum wage is \$1.60 an hour and some workers felt that this amount should be raised because of the skyrocketing cost of living.

Some of the workers said they had been asking for a raise for months and "all we received were promises."

"I can't give them a raise right on the spot," Frahm said. "I don't own this business. It's up to the board of directors to decide on wage adjustments."

Frahm stated that "Raeford Turkey Farms is paying as much if not more than any turkey processing plant in the state and surrounding area."

"If they refuse to return to work we will have to curtail production until we can fill the openings," he said. "We received no group complaints about wages until this afternoon."

The majority of the approximately 100 workers who participated in the protest returned to their jobs around 2:30 p.m. This left a hard core of about 30 to 35 workers still holding out.

Around 3 p.m. the remaining workers returned to their jobs, issuing the following statement.

"If we do not get some action in the next three days from the board of directors we will walk out again."

Floors Full

Markets Open Prices Higher

The Border Belt tobacco markets, delayed three days by a lack of buyers, finally got underway Monday in a way to gladden farmers' hearts.

Farmers averaged 79 cent per pound which is about \$2 to \$3 a hundred higher than on opening day last year.

The Flue-Cured Stabilization Cooperative received very little tobacco-less than five per cent of the sales at Lumberton according to Bob Thompson, sales supervisor there.

The co-op operates the price support program. When a pile of tobacco fails to bring at least one bid above the support price, it goes to Stabilization unless the grower rejects the sale.

P.R. Floyd, president of the Border Belt Warehouse Association, estimated that co-op receipts might run as high as 15 per cent on some markets. A high percentage of the receipts, he noted, consisted of tobacco with high support prices.

Sales were full on all Border markets --

Local Merchants

Plan Promotions

The Merchant's Division of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce met Tuesday morning to discuss future promotions, according to Harold Gillis, Chamber manager.

The members decided to begin the "Back to School" promotion on August 14th and to continue it throughout August and into September. A "Labor Day Extravaganza" for the town merchants is now in the making to run August 29th through September 1st.

All Raeford merchants will be contacted and asked to participate in these two promotions.

Chadbourn, Clarkton, Fair Bluff, Fairmont, Fayetteville, Lumberton, Tabor City and Whiteville -- and they are expected to be full for the remaining three days of auctions this week.

Border warehousemen had attempted to get the season under way last Wednesday but quickly suspended sales when an insufficient number of buyers appeared. Federal graders were on hand by order of Federal Judge Algernon Butler of Clinton.

The crop in the border belt, now better than 80 per cent harvested, is described as a "good smoking crop," with thin body and low nicotine level. It is considered one of the most desirable crops in years.

Heavy Rain

Hits Town Mon.

Although rain was in demand in the Raeford area the cloud burst that befell the community Monday night was maybe a bit too much. Around 5 inches of rain covered much of the area and flooded many yards when ditches became too small to drain the areas.

According to some reports two or three yards in the College Drive area were flooded. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Pegram's yard was completely submerged after the early evening rain.

Robert Gatlin, who lives on Harris Avenue, reported three and one half inches of rain during the early evening on Monday. W. J. Coates, of North Magnolia, also reported three and one half inches during this storm. The next morning around 4 a.m. Gatlin reported another inch of rain fell on the southern part of Raeford.

French Exchange Student Returns Home Next Week

By Margaret Ann Lamster

The legend that Frenchmen are suave, handsome and very poised has become a fact to the members of the Raeford



PHILIPPE BERTHEAU

community after meeting Philippe Marcell Piere Bertheau, Hoke High School's foreign exchange student.

Philippe, the American's image of a Frenchman, attended Hoke High last year as a senior and according to all reports he was enthusiastically received by all those who knew him. In two weeks Philippe will be going home and the citizens of Hoke County are that much richer for his friendship.

Although Philippe will not receive any credit in France for his year of schooling in America he feels "it was well worth it."

"I've gained more experience in this year that I had ever hoped to," he said. "I have been very lucky."

Throughout the year Philippe has been keeping a diary and according to him, he now has well over 300 pages of experiences to remember.

Philippe felt that the young people of both countries were much the same. "It is more in the older people where the differences are most noticeable."

Philippe felt that the people in France were more individualistic. "There are more diversities in families in France, I think."

"The social classes in France are more important than here and a social class is made up more by someone's name and ancestry than by how much money he has," he continued.

"Of course we have no racial problem in France," Philippe said. "I think the only solution to this problem in America is education."

When asked to describe the American that he had come to know, Philippe gave the following description.

"Americans are more materialistic than Europeans. They care more about things than French people do. I don't mean that this is bad, it's just the way it is. Americans are also more realistic -- Europeans are dreamers."

"The spirit of the community is something that is new to me," he said. "In France we do not have clubs within a community. I think this spirit helps to curtail any abuses a capitalistic form of government, as you have, could impose."

This fall Philippe will begin college. He is planning a career in commercial advertising, which is a fairly new and growing field in France. According to

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WORKERS DECIDE WHAT TO DO NEXT - A few of the more talkative workers that walked out at the Turkey plant discuss their next move in the wage dispute. Some of the workers complaining were high school students who will be returning to school within the next few weeks.