

The News - Journal

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RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1969

Support Shown For Local Sales Tax

Around Town

BY SAM MORRIS

A post card from Dodge City, Kansas came to me Monday with a picture of the Hangman's Tree. Hanging from the tree were two ropes with the hangman's knot and noose. Under the branches of the tree enclosed by a wooden picket fence were several tombstones and graves of by-gone outlaws that expired in Dodge City and were planted on Boot Hill. The card was from Kermit and Mabel Riley, who are touring the west. The message on the card is as follows: "Hey Sam: Doing a little politicking - Putting in a lot of plugs for N.C."

Always good to receive mail from local people touring the U.S.

The boss stopped by early Monday morning and was telling me about his conversation earlier at the coffee session of local characters at a local restaurant with Robert Gatlin. It seems Gatlin had his chest stuck out because for the first time in the history at his house a male was born. He has been living on Harris Avenue in Raeford for approximately 35 years and the Gatlins have two daughters that were raised in the house. But Sunday night Robert's bird dog gave birth to five puppies, three males and two females. The first males ever to be born at the house on Harris Ave. Dickson stated that Gatlin was proud, but not proud enough to pass out cigars. Of course, the cigars could come after Robert gets down to earth again.

Congratulations to Robert and the bird dog.

The following note and letter was received last week from Mrs. D.R. Huff, Jr. of Ashley Heights. The picture was taken when the group presented the TV to the Smoaks.

The note and letter follows:
Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Smoak, beloved former teachers and principal of Ashmont School, were recently presented a color television by friends and former pupils. Due to health conditions, they have left the Ashley Heights community to be near their daughter in Sumter, S.C. They are greatly missed in the community. Below is a letter of thanks to their friends for the gift.

Sept. 29, 1969
7-A Wilmaranne Court Apt.
Sumter, S.C.

Dear People of Ashmont,
We hardly know what words to use to express our feelings about the wonderful gift of the color television. We do thank you so much for it and also for the love and concern which prompted the giving. Memory often takes us back over the many happy years we spent working and living in your neighborhood. We wish we could have done more.

We are enjoying looking at television. It is giving good service. You must come and enjoy it with us. We are not too far away, and hopeful that the bright side is just around the corner.

We send our love, best wishes, and fond remembrance to all of you who took part in this much appreciated project - and also everyone around. We hope life will bring you much joy and little sorrow.

The R. A. Smoaks



A program that was highly successful in the first, second and third grades of the schools last year was the Volunteer Teaching Aide. This program consisted of individual aid to students that were slow in reading and arithmetic. Individual instruction cannot be given by the teachers so parents came to the aid of the teachers last year and the program was rewarding to the students.

This year the schools would appreciate the aid of parents again to assist in this program. Mrs. R. G. Townsend Jr. is assisting in securing teachers aides for the first grade and Mrs. Harry McLean for the second and third grades. If you can give an hour of your time each week please contact either Mrs. Townsend or Mrs. McLean. You don't have to be a teacher or college graduate to assist in this program. The students will not be the only ones that will be rewarded because as you see the help you are doing, you will also be rewarded. So spare an hour a week to help this program.



ONE WEEK OLD - This little week old filly is the apple of J.D. McMillan's eye. She is a pure Tennessee Walker with some of the finest bloodlines in the breed.

In District Court

Convicted Drunk Drivers Given Heavy Sentences

District Court Judge J.E. Dupree handed down several stiff sentences to defendants convicted of driving under the influence in District Court last Friday.

Dupree had commented from the bench on previous occasions that too many people were being convicted of careless and reckless driving instead of driving under the influence.

Rufus Edward Green, of Route 8, Fayetteville was found guilty of driving under the influence and driving while his license was revoked. It was Green's third conviction for

driving under the influence. In a third charge, speeding 75 in a 60 zone, the State took a nol pros. Green was sentenced to two years in jail for each of the two convictions. Both sentences were suspended for five years and Green was put on probation for five years. The defendant is not to operate a motor vehicle within the territorial limits of the United States for five years, and is to refrain from the use of intoxicating liquors or alcoholic beverages for the same period. Green was fined \$700 and costs of court.

In other cases heard Friday:

James Wilson Brown, Fayetteville, driving under the influence, six months, suspended for one year, upon condition that he not drive a motor vehicle in North Carolina for one year. Judge Dupree granted Brown limited driving privileges because of the nature of Brown's business, \$100 fine and cost of court.

Nicola Hollingsworth, Rt. 1, Raeford, failure to drive on the right half of the highway, \$15 and costs.

Freddie Revels, Sr., Rt. 2, Raeford, violation of livestock law and injury to personal property, 60 days, capias and

commitment anytime during the next two years on the motion of the Prosecutor or the court. Defendant must pay \$40 for the use and benefit of Archie Clark, and pay costs of court.

Thomas Dial, Pembroke, worthless check of \$77 to J.W. Canaday, Jr., State takes a nol pros with leave.

John Wesley Brigman, Jr., Rt. 1, Red Springs, assault with a deadly weapon, State takes a nol pros.

Percy Lee Malone, Fayetteville plead guilty to driving under the influence and. See COURT, Page 9

Commissioners Hold Two Strategy Meetings

About 50 interested citizens of Raeford and Hoke County met at the Hoke County Courthouse last Thursday night to map out their strategy for getting the One Cent Local Sales Option Tax passed in Hoke County.

The Board of Commissioners of both Raeford and Hoke County were in attendance, but the majority of the people attending were school teachers who were urged by County School Superintendent Donald D.

Abernethy, to attend the meeting.

The group formed an organization of work for the passage of the Sales Tax in Hoke County called the Citizens for the Local Option Sales Tax. County Attorney Charles Hostetler was elected temporary chairman and County Manager T.B. Lester was elected temporary secretary.

After some discussion, J.D. McMillan nominated Charles Hostetler, The Reverend Jerry Quick, Lonnie Bledsoe, Louis Oxendine, and T.C. Jones to the organization's steering committee.

The Pro - Sales Tax group then went on record officially as supporting the One Cent Local Option Sales Tax. The City Board of Commissioners voted their support to the tax several months ago.

In a special meeting of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners held at the Courthouse Monday afternoon, a motion by Commissioner Ralph Barnhart to go on record as favoring the .01 cent Local Option Sales Tax was unanimously carried by the three commissioners present. Commissioners Balfour and Webb were not in attendance. The Board also stated that they are in favor of the following: the lowering of property taxes, improving the County schools, and increasing services such as providing garbage disposal dumps.

According to information distributed at the meeting, the Hoke - Raeford area would stand to benefit from the One Cent tax by approximately \$162,000. A further breakdown indicates the City would receive \$32,000 and the County \$132,000. This estimate is based on the assumption that all of the 100 counties in North Carolina vote in favor of the additional sales tax. Based on the present level of sales in Raeford and Hoke County about \$45,000 would be turned in for redistribution.

The new tax would be applicable to the same exemptions and exclusions of the present three percent Sales and Use Tax now paid by consumers in North Carolina.

If approved by the voters, the tax will be levied effective March 1, 1970. Every retailer in the County will collect 4% Sales Tax in the same manner on a different scale as they are now collecting the 3% tax. The State Revenue Department has responsibility for collecting and administering the local Sales and Use Tax.

If a county does not approve the tax, it will not share in one penny of the proceeds.

The regular voter registration books in Hoke County will be open, for the registration of people not previously registered, on Saturday, October 18th and 25th from 9 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. in the regular polling places throughout the county. Saturday, November 1, has been designated as Challenge Day. No absentee ballots will be used in this election.

Connell Makes

5 Appointments

For UF Drive

United Fund Campaign Chairman Avery Connell announced the appointment of several assistants for this year's drive.

Allen McDonald will be responsible for contacting people who work in businesses on the east side of Raeford, while Matt Thompson will be in charge of collecting donations on the west side of Main Street.

Mrs. Mary Matherly will handle contributions from the Courthouse employees.

Tom Burgess has been slated as coordinator of collection from businesses outside the city limits.

Mrs. Milo Postel and other Girl Scout leaders will assist by contacting people who are not employed in a business or industry.

Burlington Industries has not as yet selected anyone to head up the campaign in the Raeford Plant as yet. Information on the campaign organization is expected later this week.

The United Fund budget has been set this year at \$23,075.54. The drive to collect the donations to the fund will begin on October 26.

Retarded Children

Assn. To Meet

Thurs., October 23

The Hoke County Association for Retarded Children will meet in the Courthouse Thursday, October 23 at 7:30 P. M. Speakers will be Mrs. Bobby Britt and Mrs. Bessie Taylor. Mrs. Britt is co-ordinator for Robeson and Sampson Counties. Mrs. Taylor is Director of Day Care Centers in Lumberton. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Mrs. Ellen Willis

At National Meet

Mrs. Ellen S. Willis, Hoke County Home Economics Extension Agent, will be one of 43 home economics extension agents from North Carolina attending the National Association of Extension Home Economists. Mrs. Willis will join three other agents and drive to Philadelphia October 16. Tours to Pennsylvania Dutch Country and Longwood Gardens will be conducted prior to the meeting. Mrs. Willis will be back in the Extension office October 27.

Wayside Wins Top Community Award

Wayside and Stonewall Communities took top honors for community development Tuesday night at the Hoke County Community Development Awards Banquet. The program was held at the Gibson Cafeteria.

Representatives from Stonewall and Wayside were presented checks for \$75.00 as prizes for first place. Stonewall Community was judged to be the winner in the Small Rural Community classification, while Wayside was winner in the Large Rural Community division of competition.

Allendale Community was runner up in the small Community group and Rockfish took second place behind Wayside. Each received a check for \$50.

The win by Wayside Community was that community's third straight first prize winning effort in a row.

Stonewall and Wayside, along with the City of Raeford, will be representatives for Hoke County in the Sandhill's

Community Development competition. Hoke County is one of five counties who will have entries in the annual community development contest.

Entries in this year's competition will be judged on October 29. The Sandhill's Community Development Awards Program is scheduled to take place on November 10 at Samarcom. Tickets for the affair are available at the County Extension Office.

New officers for Community Development were nominated, elected and installed. C. D. Bounds installed the officers for the coming year. Mrs. Walter Parks will serve as President. She will be assisted by Vice-President William McDonald. Mrs. J. W. Hayes is the newly elected Treasurer, while Mrs. E. B. Newton was chosen to serve as Reporter.

The program for the evening meeting was entitled "Youth," and featured the talents youngsters from throughout Hoke County.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS - Community development officers for the coming year were elected Tuesday night at the Awards Banquet. They are, from left to right, Mrs. J.W. Hayes, Treasurer, Mrs. Walter Parks, President, William McDonald, Vice-President, and Mrs. Edwin Newton, Reporter.