

Around Town

By SAM C. MORRIS

Marvin Pinson, who managed the Raeford Plant several years ago and is now in Clarksville, Va., was by the office last week. We were discussing with him the textile business and the short hours of the local plant. He stated that things should pick up in the near future and that all the executives of the company were working very hard to get things back on full production. We know that management of the company is concerned and will do everything to put the wheels to rolling again.

It was good to see Marvin and we hope to keep in touch with him over the years to come.

We rode out to the Arabia Golf Course last Saturday morning and we can't remember ever seeing the number of cars that were parked there that early in the day. We were talking to Brown Hendrix later in the day and he stated that the first 17 people that came up that day all were in an automobile. Anyway most of the golfers played early because the course was not crowded Saturday afternoon.

The baseball season opened Monday, but interest now in the big leagues is not what it was many years ago. Back in the 1920s and 1930s most teenagers could name the players on every team in the major leagues. We doubt today that many teenagers can name the teams in the big league.

The week of April 18-24 is National Library Week. A local committee has been appointed to help promote the week in Hoke County. The committee consists of Ernest R. Sutton, chairman, J.W. Turlington, A.W. Wood, Jr., Mrs. R.E. Neeley, Mrs. Charles Hostetler, Mrs. Harry McLean, Mrs. Phyllis Hall, Mrs. J.L. Warner, Mrs. Ruth McNair, Mrs. Helen Small and the writer of this column.

One project that is now underway is a Poster Contest in all schools of the county. Mrs. Phyllis Hall, librarian at Raeford Elementary School is in charge of this project. Mrs. Hall said that the principal and librarian at each school would pick the three best posters and they would be sent to her and later would be judged with the posters from all schools. The deadline for the poster contest is April 15. Mrs. Hall said that the best posters would be on display at a place to be named later.

Other projects will be forthcoming and we will send them along to you so that we can give full recognition to National Library Week.

We think that the recreation committee has come up with a fine program for the summer. If the help comes from Ft. Bragg as expected this would be the best program ever carried out in the county. We congratulate this committee on the work they have done so far and also to W.K. Morgan for his assistance to the committee.

Lights Out After Crash

A car crashed into a utility pole early Sunday morning and blacked out part of Raeford for several hours.

The driver and an infant in the auto received only minor injuries.

City police have charged Mrs. Manda Joan Sanders of Raeford with careless and reckless driving.

Mrs. Sanders was driving into Raeford on South Main Street when she lost control of her car on a curve and struck a large utility pole and transformer, Police Chief L.W. Stanton said. The accident happened about 1:10 a.m.

Damages were estimated at \$300 to the pole and \$1,000 to the car.

Bake Sale

A bake sale will be held on Main Street Saturday beginning at 9:30 by the Philippi Women of the Church.

Proceeds will be used for furnishing a kitchen in the community building.

Two Die In Separate Wrecks

Two men died in separate wrecks in the county last week.

Richard Truman Pickens, a soldier at Ft. Bragg died Friday following a wreck on U.S. 401 near Bowmore March 31.

Bobby Locklear of Maxton was killed in a one-car wreck near Antioch last Thursday morning.

Pickens was driving south on 401 about 4 p.m. when he came upon two cars stopped in the highway for a left turn. Highway Patrol Trooper E.W. Coen said. Pickens tried to pass the cars on the right hand shoulder and lost control of the vehicle, which overturned in the highway.

Countywide Recreation Planned If Help Comes From Ft. Bragg

Commissioners Meet As Review Board; Hear About Housing In Regular Session

The county commissioners met for an hour last Monday as an equalization and review board and then held their regular monthly meeting.

As a review board, they denied the request of C.G. Odom of Quewhiffle township to be released from taxes on property purchased from Clayton Chavis in 1967 in a foreclosure sale.

They approved a refund to the heirs of Mrs. Alma I. McKenzie Townsend of \$45.44 for taxes paid since 1966 as a result of an error in arithmetic.

Four acres of land were depreciated from \$500 to \$150 an acre at the request

of W.W. McLean. The land had been returned to McLean from Hoke Memorial Gardens.

A request was approved to release the estate of Mrs. John L. McLeod from 1970 taxes as Mrs. McLeod died in 1969 and willed all property to the church.

Also approved were adjustments in listing for J.R. and Parthenia McAllister from 37 acres to 35.5 acres and Carey E. Snelgrove from 47.2 acres to 43 acres. The valuation on an unoccupied house owned by the D.G. McFadyen heirs was reduced from \$5,200 to \$3,500.

The board also inspected and approved an improvement list for 1971 and a list of insolvent personal property taxes submitted for release.

Members representing the Raeford Housing Authority met with the commissioners during the regular session.

Joe Upchurch, chairman; Monroe Williams, city housing administrator and William Bostic, Jr., representing Sheetz and Bradford Architects, Inc. appeared before the board to explain the housing authority and how it affects the county.

The authority has jurisdiction up to ten miles from the city limits, with the approval of the county, they said. Housing units can be located throughout that ten mile area, if the county approves and agrees to provide all services that are provided to any other county resident.

Bostic said that the city is planning to submit an application to the federal government for approval of low income housing units within the next two weeks and would include plans to locate some

units in the county if that was agreeable with the board. He said he would have the application ready for the next commissioner's meeting.

However, Bostic explained, there was a long waiting period for approval from the federal government and it will probably take several years to get any units built.

Bostic described some of the types of housing units that are available. Most are single family or duplex dwellings, he said. Usually built of brick veneer, frame construction, they range from three to six bedrooms. He said that usually no more than twenty units are placed in one area and that usually only four or five are put together.

Public housing may be built through three plans, Bostic explained. In leased housing, the homes are built by a private developer and leased to the housing authority to operate. In conventional housing, the authority gets the plans and asks for bids. In turn-key, the authority selects areas of city or county to be developed and developers acquire land and bid to build the units. The authority awards the bid and buys the units from the developer.

A new feature of public housing, Bostic said, was that in many cases, the tenants could purchase the home when their income reached a certain level. The average length of time of occupancy for public housing in the state, he said, is three years.

The county would be paid a percentage of the yearly rents in lieu of taxes.

Dr. Riley Jordan, Dr. Robert Townsend and Dr. Page Hudson, chief medical examiner for the state, came before the board to explain the medical

(See REVIEW BOARD, Page 11)

Early Service Planned Easter

A community early morning Easter service, sponsored by the Raeford Ministerial Association, will be held at 6 a.m. Sunday at the Highland Biblical Gardens located just off the Red Springs Road.

The Rev. Allan Symth will be the guest speaker. Special music will be presented.

City Approves Contract With County On Landfill

The city council, at a regular session Monday night, agreed to a proposal approved earlier that day by the county commissioners to operate a joint city-county landfill.

The landfill will be managed by city personnel and operated with city equipment. The county government also agreed earlier to pay \$10,000 for the first year's operation and the city council approved the agreement. Operating costs for the first year are estimated by city manager John Gaddy at about \$20,000.

A contract for paving and resurfacing several city streets was awarded by the

council to Lee Paving Company of Sanford.

Lee submitted the low bid of \$5,910.97. Other bids were received from Crowell Company for \$7,554.49 and Riley Paving Company for \$6,129.06.

Streets to be paved this summer are Covington, Lewis and Cumberland in the McLauchlin Chapel area.

In other business, the council approved the city fire department's roster. This is a requirement of the state for payment to the Fireman's Relief Fund. A total of 38 members were certified as active members.

Water Woes Come From Bad Valve

A faulty check valve at the water plant was blamed by city manager John Gaddy for loss of water pressure over the weekend.

Bill Sellars, director of public works and Malburn Edge of the street department worked on the valve until about 4:30 a.m. Sunday, Gaddy said. The problem was discovered late Saturday afternoon.

Two additional wells are completed

now and are being connected to the city water system now, Gaddy said. When this is completed in about two weeks, the city will have nine wells operating. This will add about 300 gallons a minute.

This should relieve some of the difficulties that have plagued the city, he said. Water to Burlington was curtailed for part of one day last week, he said.

Other test wells have been drilled, he said, and look promising but the city does not have the money to develop them.

Medical Examiner System Goes Into Effect Here

Sudden or unnatural deaths here will be investigated by a medical examiner from now on as the county joins other counties in the state under the medical examiner system.

Three doctors have been appointed, effective April 1, as medical examiners for Hoke County. They are Dr. Riley Jordan, Dr. Robert Townsend and Dr. W.J. Steinger at McCain.

Drs. Jordan and Townsend and Dr. Page Hudson, chief medical examiner for the state, met with county commissioners Monday to explain the system. Sheriff D.M. Barrington was there also.

A law to provide statewide medical examiners was enacted in 1967. Dr. Hudson said and implementation was begun in 1968. All counties are expected to have medical examiners in the near future, he said.

Medical examiners were nominated by the county medical society and appointed by the chief medical examiner.

They will be notified, according to the

law, of any death that is "apparently by criminal act or default, or apparently by suicide, or while an inmate of any penal or correctional institution, or under any suspicious, unusual or unnatural circumstance." Medical examiners are also to be notified of any death that was unattended by a physician.

The powers of the medical director are somewhat broader than those of the

County Health Department Closed Monday

The Hoke County Health Department will be closed all day Easter Monday and no clinic services will be provided on that day.

Persons who want health cards will be seen April 14 from 8 to 10 a.m.

Food Class Draws Crowd

Nearly three dozen representatives from ten churches attended the first session of the food and food buying class sponsored by the Raeford Presbyterian Church March 29.

Mrs. Becky Bracy of Sandhills

coroner, Dr. Hudson explained.

"The system for medical evaluation for violent, sudden or unnatural death has a broader spectrum and more authority than the coroner," he said.

Under the law, a body cannot be moved without the consent of the medical examiner. "No person shall disturb the body at the scene of death until authorized by the county medical examiner," the law states.

The coroner will no longer sign death certificates under the new system.

County coroner Frank Crumpler said that after talking with the Robeson County coroner, he does not think his office will be changed too greatly, aside from not signing the death certificate. Robeson County has a medical examiner.

"It is not going to affect me too much, as I understand it," he said. "I will still go on calls and help investigate incidences of foul play and such. I just won't sign the death certificate."

"I think it will be a good thing for the county," Crumpler said. "A doctor knows more about the human body than anyone else. But it is going to be expensive. There are going to be more autopsies under this system."

Sheriff Barrington told the commissioners that the solicitors are insisting an autopsies in almost every case

(See MEDICAL EXAMINER, Pg. 11)

A recreation program throughout the county is planned this summer if aid is received from the Ft. Bragg civic action team operating here.

The Raeford - Hoke Recreation Committee met last week and announced plans for a Monday through Friday program of activities at six locations in the city and county.

Supervised playground activities are planned at Upchurch, Raeford Elementary, McLauchlin, West Hoke, South Hoke and Rockfish.

A request for Army aid has been submitted by the committee. W.K. Morgan, recreation director, emphasized that the summer activities at the school parks depended upon receiving personnel and equipment from the Army.

"We don't have the money or people to equip even one park, let alone six," he said. "If we don't get the help from them, then we will have our basic recreation program of softball, boys' baseball and such like we've had before."

Morgan said he had requested one soldier for each park and a variety of recreation equipment such as basketball goals, and backstops, jungle gyms, swings, slides, bike racks, and see-saws.

In addition, he has asked for Army personnel to officiate at games and to help coach Little League teams.

If the program is approved, Morgan plans to have one supervisor from the Army and one Neighborhood Youth Corps worker at each park. Activities planned include basketball, horseshoes, badminton, stick pool, tetherball, softball, dodge ball, kick ball, four square, croquet, rodeos, kite contests, bike races, field trips, decorating contests. The parks will be open about five hours a day.

The recreation program this year is operating on less funds than the committee originally requested from the United Fund. Slightly more than \$6,000 was requested but a total of \$5,000 has been approved by the United Fund and city and county governments. The county has allotted \$2,500 from next year's budget to be paid in July. The city council approved \$1,500 and the United Fund allotted \$1,000 to the program.

Morgan said that in the past he has added new facilities to the program. This has included re-lighting the Armory Park field and improving the field, stands and concession stand. He has also built new baseball diamonds. This year, he said, he will not be able to make any improvements.

"The operating expenses, buying equipment, uniforms, paying the light bill, insurance, paying officials and people to work in the program, that will take all the money we have," he said.

"Any building or improvements will have to come through the Ft. Bragg program."

The recreation committee met last week for their second meeting since the program was re-organized under sponsorship of the local governments. Charlie Hostetler was named secretary - treasurer of the group.

Benny McLeod is chairman of the committee. He was also chairman of the recreation committee that was set up under the United Fund. As in past years, W.K. Morgan is recreation director and Howard Barkley is assistant director.

The committee approved an increase in the league entry fee for softball teams from \$25 to \$48 a season. They also ruled that all teams must wear some kind of matching uniform.

Softball teams are being formed now. The boys' baseball and the supervised play will begin at the close of the school year.

City Joins 15 Finalists In Contest

Raeford is one of sixteen communities named to the finals in the two-year Governor's Beautification program.

The finalists are: Raeford, Waynesville, New Bern, Durham, Wyse Fork, Cane Creek, Randleman, Greensboro, Old Sparta, Newton, Statesville, Ayersville, Jacksonville, Beulaville, Fayetteville and Taylorsville.

Representatives of the 16 finalists communities will be guests of honor at the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh on May 11 where Gov. and Mrs. Robert Scott will present awards.

The "Years of Beauty" program competition was based on a community's efforts to clean up and beautify itself. There were five categories of competition, based on population. Winners in each of the five categories will be announced at the awards presentation ceremony.