

Around Town

by SAM C. MORRIS

A fireman stated the other day that he had heard Neil Senter really give the fire department a hard time about using too much water when they put out a fire. According to Senter, as the fireman kept on talking, water damage is usually greater than the fire damage. The fireman then said that Senter wanted all the water in Raeford recently when the home that his daughter lives in caught on fire.

Now this may be the truth but we will have to get it straight from Senter later.



Mrs. Odom Announces

WAGRAM -- Emphasizing a continuing concern for public education, Mary Horne Odom has announced her candidacy for reelection as a representative to the North Carolina General Assembly.

Mrs. Odom, a Democrat, is seeking her second term as a representative from the district which encompasses Robeson, Hoke, and Scotland counties. Under the 1971 House reapportionment plan the new district has three seats, rather than four.

"It was a great privilege to serve the people of this area in the 1971 General Assembly, and I am grateful to the voters for allowing me to do so," the candidate said. "I sought the office initially because of my concern for public education with the firm conviction that the quality of life in North Carolina depends upon an educated citizenry. This remains my prime concern."

As a freshman legislator, Mrs. Odom was a co-signer of the consumer protection bill. She was instrumental in the passage of the open meeting bill, the Indian Affairs Commission bill, and the Teacher Employment and Dismissal Bill.

One of two women House members in the 1971 session, she worked for state support for retarded children in state institutions.

Rep. Odom introduced the Teacher Licensing Bill, now being studied by the Legislative Service Commission. She is a member of the committee assigned to this study.

In the special November session she actively campaigned for a change in the primary election date, shifting the voting day from Tuesday to Saturday.

Governor Scott appointed Rep. Odom to the State Citizens Committee on the Schools in January.

The 50-year-old Greenville native has taught school in Scotland county 18 years. She is presently a coordinator of Industrial Cooperative Training at Scotland high school, Laurinburg. A graduate of Greenville city schools and East Carolina University, she holds a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Rep. Odom is married to L.W. Odom Jr., a retired deputy of the Scotland county sheriff's department with 23 years service. They have lived in Wagram since 1947 and have three sons, Leggett of Lumberton, Johnny and Phillip of Raleigh. She is a member of Wagram's Montpelier Presbyterian Church, where she is a past president of the Women of the Church.

The representative is a member of the Lumberton chapter of the Business and Professional Women's Club, which in 1971 voted her "Outstanding Woman of the Year."

She also holds membership in the Association for Retarded Children, the League of Women Voters, the Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce, and a number of professional organizations. She is a past president of the Scotland county chapters of the N.C. Association of Educators and the Association of Classroom Teachers.

County Offices Vacant

The filing deadline for both state and county offices is Monday at noon and so far only four candidates are officially running.

Scott Poole said Tuesday that the only candidates who have filed are D.R. Huff, Jr., for school board; J.A. Webb for county commissioner; Joe Gullledge for register of deeds and Neill McFadyen for the state House of Representatives.

The filing deadline for county offices came unexpectedly early this year as a result of some election law changes by the General Assembly. In the past, the county deadline has been in March, thirty days later than the deadline for state offices. Poole said, but this year the filing date was made the same for both offices.

Burned Out

A fire in the Ashley Heights section over the weekend left a family of four homeless.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cummings and their two children lost everything in the fire.

The Department of Social Services has asked for donations of clothing, bedding, and household articles, which may be left at the county DSS office. The children's ages are a boy, about 10 and a girl about 8.

Rescue Squad Notes Progress During Ten Years Of Operation

Stores

Robbed

Three grocery stores in the city reported breakins last Thursday to city police.

Robbed were the Little Giant on Harris Avenue, Tucker's Grocery in Robbins Heights and Harrell's Grocery on Prospect Avenue.

City policeman Chester Price found the glass door of the Little Giant broken about 5 a.m. Feb. 10 while he was patrolling. This was the second breakin at the store recently.

Missing items included about \$75 in cash and cigarettes valued at \$200.

Later that day, about 250 packages of cigarettes were reported stolen from Tuckers. Upon investigation, city police found the lock on the front door had been broken, although this had not been noticed when the store was opened at 8 a.m.

The lock was broken from the back door, at Harrell's Grocery and approximately \$900 - \$1,000 in cash and goods are reported missing. Stolen items include about \$40 in cash, cigarettes, cigars, chewing and smoking tobacco and medicines.

The investigation is continuing. No arrests have been made.

Fine Arts

On Exhibit

Fine arts will have their day in Raeford Saturday when the annual arts festival sponsored by the Raeford Woman's Club opens.

The festival will be held this year at the civic center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Entries will be taken at the center Friday from 9 to 1.

Chairmen for this year's festival are: art, Mrs. Gerald Wright, crafts, Mrs. Tom Staton; creative writing, Mrs. Belton Wright; public speaking, Mrs. W.L. Lester and music, Mrs. Ed Roach.

Mrs. Sarah Leach Files For County School Board

Mrs. Sarah C. Leach filed Wednesday morning for the board of education. She is the second candidate to file for one of the five places.

"I am running as an interested mother with four children in the public schools," she said. "I have a feeling that mothers work more closely with their children and really know more of what is going on in the schools than fathers do."

"I don't want anyone to think that I have any complaints against the present school board," she said. "I think they have done a good job over the years. I get the products of the public schools in my class and I can tell a tremendous difference in the students I get since integration versus the ones who spent most of their school career in a segregated school. Certainly the quality of their education is improving."

Mrs. Leach, a Scotland County native who has lived here since 1958, is a graduate of Meredith College, where she majored in commercial education. Since 1967, she has taught the general office clerk course under the Manpower Development Training Act.

She is a member of Antioch Presbyterian Church, where she is secretary of the Women of the Church. She is also a member of the public affairs department of Raeford Woman's Club and is incoming club treasurer. Mrs. Leach is also secretary of the board of directors of the Hoke Swimming Association.

She is married to Alfred K. Leach. They have four children.

Thefts At Two Homes

Two homes in the county were broken into during the daytime last Friday after the doors were torn down.

The George Wilson home on Rt. 1, Red Springs was entered between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. while he was away, according to Sheriff D. M. Barrington. The only items reported missing were guns, the sheriff said.

Stolen were a .22 caliber pistol, a 12-gauge shotgun, three .22 caliber rifles and a 16-gauge shotgun.

A short distance down the road, the home of Miss Willea McLaughlin was also entered during the day. Items reported missing there were a tear gas gun and tear gas kit.



FIRST PAYMENT -- Eric Allen (L.), president of Hoke County Rescue Squad, Inc. and Danny DeVane (R.), treasurer, make the first payment of \$4,400 on the new rescue squad building to Freddie Williams, center, vice-president of Southern National Bank. (Photo by C. Tew)

Holtz To Speak At Wolfpack Club

Lou Holtz, New Head Football Coach at NCSU, will be the featured speaker at a Wolfpack Club gathering scheduled for 6:30 P.M. on February 22 at the Raeford Civic Center.

Holtz came to State from William and Mary where he served as head football coach for 3 years. His record of 13-20 included the Southern Conference Championship in 1970 and a trip to the Tangerine Bowl.

Chancellor John T. Caldwell describes Holtz as "brilliant" and "a young man of splendid character" who is "dedicated to coaching successful football completely within the bounds of a limited budget and the accepted rules of the Atlantic



Lou Holtz

Coast Conference and NCAA competition."

The 34-year-old coach succeeds interim coach Al Michaels, who took over last June after Earle Edwards resigned the head coaching position he had occupied for 18 years.

"I'm not a magician. I cannot just wave a wand and make things happen," Holtz said. "What we'll have to do is get into the homes of the outstanding players."

"And I'm not going to tell you we'll be national champions, or ACC champions, or that we'll have a winner in one year, three or five. But I will say we will be an exciting team as long as we hold onto the ball and play good defense."

William and Mary boasted a prolific scoring machine under Holtz, and the coach plans to continue the same type of offensive philosophy at State that brought a landslide of points to the W&M scoreboard.

The Indians narrowly missed a fantastic season in 1971 when five times fourth quarter leads were overturned by the opponent.

Two of those losses were to ACC teams, champion North Carolina and defending champion Wake Forest.

Athletics Director Willis Casey said William and Mary's competitiveness against these and other teams influenced State's decision to name Holtz.

"I cannot speak for the screening committee," Casey said, "but I'm sure they (screening committee) considered the North Carolina game, the Wake Forest game, and the fact they beat Tulane at Tulane."

All Wolfpack Club members, State Alumni, interested friends and supporters from Hoke, Richmond, and Scotland counties are urged to attend the steak supper. This will be the ladies night meeting so don't forget the ladies. Reservations may be made by calling Hugh Simmons at 875-4573.

Freedom Short

City police arrested a 71-year-old man who had been released from Wagram prison unit only that morning and charged him with larceny from several Raeford stores.

Willie Hodgins of Columbia, S. C. was arrested about 1 p.m. Monday as he was boarding the bus to Columbia and is in jail in lieu of \$350 bond.

He is accused of stealing a billfold valued at \$1 from Pope's and a bar of soap and a jar of hair dressing from Hoke Drug Company.

Hoke County Rescue Squad, Inc. was ten years old Wednesday.

The squad was begun in 1962 as a civic project of the Raeford Moose Lodge and operated under their guidance until 1965 when they were incorporated as an independent non-profit organization.

The first vehicle was an old ambulance donated to the squad by Jim Lentz Funeral Home which was quickly painted white and a few items of equipment purchased to put in it. This vehicle was parked at the Pendergrass - Webb station on 401 bypass and a 16-man squad was set up on a team basis to operate it.

In 1965 a 1955 equipment truck was purchased for the squad to add more equipment to transport to the scene of accidents. The old ambulance was sold for cash to pay on the truck.

A year later with continued support through the Hoke County Commissioners, City Council and numerous donations the rescue unit went to a two vehicle squad. A \$500.00 check from Burlington Industries was used toward the purchase of a 1960 station wagon. At this time also an aluminum boat and a flare torch were purchased. The vehicles were moved to the alley behind Webb's TV where they were parked until 1968.

The squad contacted Mrs. Lewis Upchurch in early 1968 and she agreed to allow the vehicles to move into the old airport on Seventh Street. Repairs were made to the building to allow training sessions and fund raising suppers there.

With \$3.00 in the bank, but faith in the people in Hoke County the squad purchased a brand new 1969 station wagon. The wagon was paid off a year later and a new equipment truck was ordered. The 1971 van was delivered during 1970.

At this time the County Commissioners were contacted regarding a possible building site on a piece of property belonging to the county on Adams Street near the National Guard Armory. The Commissioners wasted no time in granting the request and deeding a lot 125 X 150 over to the squad.

The board of officers had already done their homework. The plans for the rescue headquarters were drawn up and approved by the members previously. Now all that was lacking was an agreement to finance and letting the bids for construction.

A low bid of \$18,875, was turned in by Davis - McCullen Construction Company of Fayetteville after a \$16,000 loan was negotiated through the Southern National Bank. This left a difference of \$2,875 to be raised during the period of construction.

The fund drive by civic leaders, law enforcement officers, school officials and the civil defense director raised over \$4,000.

At the completion of this ten years of operation, after making one payment on the building the squad now owes four payments of \$3,200 at the Southern National Bank, and \$1,300 at the Bank of Raeford. The \$1,300 note is the remaining debt on the 1971 Van.

Since the building payment has been paid early to fall on their anniversary, all funds raised and donations received will now be applied to the vehicle note.

It is noted that of the 16 members who started out to form a rescue squad here in Hoke County ten years ago there are only two still active in it. Earl Conoly and Jim Wade have seen the squad from its beginning with an old ambulance to the present with two new vehicles and a new brick building.

Conoly and Wade admit they've seen hard times when squad members paid for gas to operate the vehicles, when ice had to be scraped off the windows before rushing to the scene of an accident with injuries. However, the struggling has now paid off.

The squad has the latest of equipment because the people of Hoke County have seen the first-aid and rescue training put to work as their vehicles arrive on the scene of accidents, drownings or all night searches for lost persons.

Officers for this year are Eric Allen, commander; Charles Tew, executive vice-commander; Jim Wade, vice-commander; Billy Posey, secretary; Danny DeVane, treasurer.

Members are Eric Allen, Earl Conoly, Hubert Davis, Danny DeVane, Harvey Jackson, Norman McKenzie, Johnny Melton, Bill Parker, Billy Posey, Jimmy Riley, Billy Scott, John Smith, Neil Smith, Charles Tew, Jim Wade and Wilfred Walters.

Last year the squad answered a total of 241 calls, compared to 187 in 1970.

They assisted at 180 wrecks and put in 1,320 manhours during the year. The squad logged 6,388 miles. Although the squad vehicles are not used as ambulances unless requested to serve by the investigating officer if the local ambulance is unavailable, the rescue squad provided ambulance service in 27 cases. Of these, 15 cases were taken from the wreck to the hospital; eight victims

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