

Around Town

By SAM C. MORRIS

The United Fund got a real shot in the arm last week when Knit-Away sent in a check for \$500. If the 50 or 60 other firms that haven't contributed would do so, Hoke County would go over the top. So if you haven't donated, please do so today.

The time for filing closed Monday and brought forth a few surprises. We have seven candidates for the two seats on the Board of Commissioners and seven candidates for the five seats on the Board of Education. The filings brought forth three women, so it looks as if Women's Lib is coming to Hoke County.

Anyway with the largest number of candidates on the state ticket and the presidential primary and nearly 6,000 registered voters in Hoke County, the turnout in the May 6 Primary should set a record for the county.

If you are not registered be sure to do so. See story on registering in this week's paper.

The following letter was received Tuesday and is self explanatory:

17 Feb. 1972
Phu Loi, Viet Nam

Dear Mr. Morris,
I've been wanting to write this letter for a long time but, for various reasons, I've been putting it off. The point is I'm so very proud of Hoke County and its citizens.

First let me congratulate the football team of this past year. They went further in competition than any team I can ever remember. I feel the primary reason was not just coaching (even though it was obviously, outstanding) or even fundamentals, but the hearts of the young men. Raeford has had some excellent teams in the past; baseball, basketball and football. As a matter of fact I played on the football team of 1964 when we beat Rockingham for the first time in 28 years. I remember the days of Jimmy Gunn, Johnny Sams, Jimmy Byrd, Steve Phillips, and many other great athletes, too numerous to mention. But these great teams never obtained the heights that the teams since 1966 have reached. The Gilbert McGregors, Bruce Morrisons and Russell Davises have seen to that.

The point is that although Raeford had some fine athletes and creditable records, we weren't using all our available resources. Since the consolidation of our schools, we have so much more talent to choose from.

When I went to Hoke County High, it wasn't integrated and I often wondered what would happen when it was. Needless to say, I have been delighted with the results. The black people have contributed more to our school than anyone would ever have imagined possible, not only in athletics, but in many other fields, as well. I'm very proud of the citizens of Hoke County and the students of Hoke County High, black and white. This is only an example of what could happen all over our county if everyone forgot hates and prejudices and made conclusions from performance alone.

In my job, as a professional military officer, I've had to overcome a lot of these prejudices myself. I've learned that no matter what color, race, or religion, a man is still a man.

Again, congratulations to the young people who are bridging gaps that have existed for hundreds of years.

CPT John A. Plummer
AirCav Troop 11th Armored Cav Regt.
APO 96257

4-H Awards Tonight

The annual achievement awards program for Hoke County 4-Hers will be held tonight at 7:30 at Raeford Elementary School auditorium.

The program theme will be "There's A New World Coming."

Annual awards will be given to county project champions, the health king and queen, the electric awards winners, and the county's junior and senior most outstanding boy and girl.

White Files For House

Frank S. White, a Pembroke tobacco warehouseman, is a candidate for the House of Representatives from this district.

White was in Hoke County Wednesday, campaigning for one of the three seats in the district composed of Hoke, Scotland and Robeson counties. There are seven candidates, including four incumbents, running for the three positions. Under See WHITE, Page 9

Monday Filing Deadline Brought Plenty Of Candidates For County



Hillman P. Edens



Thomas F. McBryde



Carson Davis, Jr.



Mrs. Mabel Riley



Mrs. Lina L. Angstadt



E.P. Smith



Dr. Riley M. Jordan



D.R. Huff, Jr.



W.L. Howell



William L. Poole, Jr.

School Board Policy

Sending Child To Private School Bars Public School Employment

The county school board has decided that those whose children are enrolled in private schools will not be hired by the Hoke County school system and has notified a Raeford woman who has been a substitute teacher for many years that she is no longer eligible to substitute.

Mrs. Charles A. Hostetler was notified in a letter Feb. 8 from county superintendent Donald D. Abernethy that her name was not approved for the list of substitutes at the school board meeting the night before.

"As requested, I submitted your name to the board of education for addition to the substitute teacher list," he wrote. "The board declined to approve your name. It is the board's contention that parents who do not have enough confidence in the public school system to send their children to the public schools should not be employed by the public schools."

Mrs. Hostetler, who says she has been substitute teaching in the county since W.T. "Hoot" Gibson was principal at Hoke High, has two children in private schools and a son in the eighth grade at Upchurch Junior High School. Her daughter, Dorcas, is a first grader at Robeson County Day School at Lumber Bridge and her son, Anderson, is a senior at Hargrave Military Academy in Virginia. Abernethy said Wednesday morning that the board's decision was not based

on Mrs. Hostetler's qualifications as a teacher nor was it an attempt to "get Anne Hostetler."

"The board hates to hire someone to substitute when it is quite obvious that they've bolted the system," he said. "They hate to put white teachers in front of black students when the teachers have sent their children to another school to dodge integration."

Mrs. Hostetler wrote Abernethy asking for clarification. "I would like a list of qualifications so that I might comply in order to become an acceptable volunteer."

Saw, Flooring Are Stolen

A chain saw and 2,000 feet of hardwood flooring were reported stolen from Raeford Lumber Company last Friday morning.

The theft was discovered by Carson Clippard when he came to open the business that morning. The saw was taken from the office after the front door was broken, according to the police report. The flooring was taken from the warehouse. The loss was estimated at \$769.95.

In an interview Tuesday she said, "I will accept their decision to keep me unemployed in public schools without clarification if they choose. But they've forgotten my son, Henry."

"I would like to help in the schools. I have always understood that substitutes were needed during the year. I like to teach and I like to work only part time. I didn't realize that they had 41 names on the list and didn't need my help," she said.

She works each week also as a volunteer in the reading program at McLaughlin.

Mrs. Hostetler said she was disturbed because the decision put serious restrictions on an individual's freedom of choice.

"This questions the freedom of choice," she said. "It's like saying I can't work in the public schools because I don't go to the right church."

"I am very hurt that they can't use me," she said.

Substitutes are nominated by the school principals and are approved by the board, Abernethy said.

It is a non-written policy not to hire those whose children are in private schools, he said.

"The board has very strong feelings on this subject," Abernethy said. "Mrs. Hostetler is not the only one who has come under this policy."

Fund Gets Boost From Knit-Away

The United Fund edged closer to its goal this week with a boost from Knit-Away.

R.P. Bruce, Jr., president of the textile plant, contributed \$500 from the company, even though the organization did not hold a drive this year.

Sam Morris, Fund treasurer, estimates that less than \$600 is needed to make the goal of \$18,171.11. There are still some envelopes that have not been returned, he said.

"In a letter to Morris, Bruce said: "Due to the fact that we were putting our payroll on the computer during the time of the United Fund drive was in progress, it was not practical for us to solicit our employees for payroll deductions."

"I am therefore enclosing a check in the amount of \$500, which I trust will be helpful in reaching the campaign goal for this year."

"Although we were not in a position to allow our employees to participate in the drive this year, I am confident that our company will be in a position to play a more active role next year and in the years to come."

Car Crashes Into Store

A car crashed through the plate glass window at Joe Sugar's on Main Street last Thursday evening.

Naserena Eddie Robinson reported to Raeford police that he put the car into reverse and pressed the accelerator. The car jumped the curb and crashed into the building 27 feet away, stopping with part of the hood and the front wheels inside the building.

Damages were estimated by the police at \$1,200 to the car and \$1,500 to the store. Robinson was charged with making an unsafe movement.

Britt Announces For State Senate



Luther J. Britt, Jr.

Seven was the magic number Monday at the county board of elections as the expected last minute rush of filing brought in seven candidates for both the board of education and the county commission.

Two seats are at stake on the board of commissioners and all five seats are up for re-election on the school board.

Filing shortly before the noon deadline, incumbent Thomas F. McBryde joined incumbent J. A. Webb in seeking re-election to the county board of commissioners.

Their opposition includes two women candidates this year. Mrs. Mabel Riley, an auto mechanic, and Mrs. Lina L. Angstadt, a legal secretary, are both in the race. Running also are E. P. Smith, Carson Davis, Jr., and Hillman P. Edens.

All the present members of the school board filed for re-election. They are Wilton Wood, Dr. Riley M. Jordan, D.R. Huff, Jr., W. L. Howell, and Robert L. (Bobby) Gibson.

Also seeking one of the five seats are Mrs. Sarah Leach and William L. Poole, Jr.

J. E. Guldgee is running unopposed for register of deeds.

Eight candidates filed for the State House of Representatives from this district, which also includes Scotland and Robeson counties. Neill L. McFadyen filed for re-election some weeks ago with the Hoke County Board of Elections.

Scott Poole, chairman of the election board here, said he was notified after the deadline Monday that six candidates had filed in Robeson County. They are Tracy Britt, of Maxton; Joy J. Johnson, of Fairmont; C. A. Brown, Jr. of Maxton, Gus Speros of Maxton, Frank S. White of Pembroke and Tommy Dial of Pembroke.

Mrs. Mary Odum filed for re-election from Scotland County.

The eight House contenders are competing for three seats. One of the incumbents will lose under the re-districting that dropped the representation from four to three.

State Senator Luther Britt, Jr. has filed for re-election to the Senate, in the new district of Hoke and Robeson counties.

The county races have brought some novices into politics, as several are making their first run for office.

Hillman P. Edens, who filed last Thursday before the field became as crowded, said in a statement "I feel that I am qualified for the job of county commissioner and that, if elected, I feel that I have the time to do the necessary things that are expected of me."

Edens is originally from Robeson County and moved his electrical business to Hoke six years ago.

"With the kind of business I am in, I believe I know at least 75 per cent of the people of Hoke County and I stand on my reputation as a business man and friend to the people of the county," he said. "The people who live here and the growth of the county are my main concern."

Eden is married to the former Geneva Bullard of Maxton and they have two children.

Mrs. Riley is a native of Hoke County and graduated from Raeford High School. She has been a mechanic in business with her husband, J.K. Riley for the past 30 years. They are members of Phillippi Presbyterian Church.

The mother of four boys, Mrs. Riley was named Mother of the Year several years ago.

She is running for the county See FILING, Page 9

State Senator Luther J. Britt, Jr., filed last week for re-election to the North Carolina Senate to represent the new Thirteenth Senatorial District of Hoke and Robeson counties in the Democratic primary on May 6.

In announcing, Britt listed increased educational opportunities, a statewide recreation program and return of tax dollars to the cities and counties as his goals for the next session.

"I believe that the greatest need facing eastern North Carolina and the counties of Robeson and Hoke is continuing educational opportunities, whether it be teaching an adult person to read and write for the first time or teaching a teenager to use his technical skills or a college student to be practical in his approach to life."

Britt also said he hoped a statewide recreation program could be developed "whereby the schools of North Carolina

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