

Around Town

By SAM C. MORRIS

Heston Rose was by the office last week and left a card with me which must date back to the 1920s. On the card is the following wording:

T. J. McGill
RAEFORD, N. C.
Dress Making, Hemstitching
Picot - Edging
Auto Curtains Repaired
Over A&P Store
Phone no. 247 P. O. Box -
Mail Orders
Given Prompt Attention

The P. O. Box number is missing as the card has been abused. We can remember Mr. McGill and was in school with his son.

The family left here, I believe, in the 1930s for St. Pauls.

The political season will last for three more weeks as we will have runoff races for governor, senator, representative and commissioner of insurance. Also a runoff is now set up between the two candidates running for governor on the Republican ticket, as can be expected in all second primary races the fighting gets rough as the primary day arrives. We hope that it will not get so rough that fences can't be mended before the general election.

The 25th Annual Dinner Meeting of the Raeford - Hoke Chamber of Commerce was well attended. We want to take the opportunity to congratulate J. H. Wright on receiving the first Distinguished Service Award ever given by the Chamber.

When the votes were counted on May 6 some write - in votes appeared on the ballot. Approximately seven votes were for Mrs. Charles Hostetler for the Board of Education. It is illegal to write - in votes in a primary and they cannot be counted.

If you want to write - in votes wait for the general election and then they will be placed upon the records.

Tom McBryde, semi - retired lumberman and farmer was inquiring this week about the golf tournament score. We informed him that Raz Autry said he would have them to us for this week's paper. Now McBryde made some comment about they would never show up for publication as Autry didn't want his score in the paper. Something about sandbagging. See McBryde for details.

Study Of 1971 Grads

A follow - up study of 1971 high school graduates in North Carolina has revealed that of the 261 graduates in Hoke County, 25.3 percent or 66 students are enrolled in senior colleges, while 10.7 percent, or 28 students are enrolled in junior colleges.

This can be compared with a state - wide average of 30.45 percent in senior colleges and 11.51 percent in junior colleges. This puts Hoke County just slightly below the state average last year for the number of graduating seniors who go on to college.

However, 12.7 percent of Hoke's class of '71 could not be located for the survey, so it can be assumed that at least

City Will Annex Burlington Mills

Runoffs Indicated In Several Races

Runoffs have been called by several of the candidates seeking party nominations in the primary battles in North Carolina. State Rep. Jim Holshouser, seeking the Republican nomination for governor, was the first to announce that he was headed back on the campaign trail, after a close second place finish to Rocky Mount businessman Jim Gardner. Gardner fell just shy of the required 50.1 percent margin for a victory in the race. Across the state, Holshouser was 1,737 votes behind. He made a statement that he was prepared for a "mudslinging campaign" in the second primary race after brushing off a claim by Gardner that "the White House" had asked Holshouser to withdraw before the first primary.

On the Democratic side with the results not being nearly as close, Lt. Gov. Pat Taylor also declared he would call for a second primary in his battle with Greensboro businessman Hargrove "Skipper" Bowles for the number one office in the state. In announcing his decision Taylor said "most of the state's establishment has been telling me to quit... well, I've thought about it and I've decided to stand and fight... This time I'm not going to be out-fought."

Unofficial tallies showed Bowles with 45.5 percent of the votes to Taylor's 37.5 percent. Taylor called for a revision of the state income tax to increase the rates of higher income groups and eliminate state income tax for persons earning less than \$5,000 a year. He called the plan "perhaps the most crucial difference" between him and Bowles. He also said he would be delighted to meet "Mr. Bowles and discuss the issues of this campaign."

Sen. B. Everett Jordan, who trailed

behind Rep. Nick Galifianakis in the Democratic U.S. Senate race also declared that the battle was not over. Galifianakis received over 49 percent of the votes in the four - way first primary vote.

Jordan said he thought the May 6 results "were not a true reflection" of voter sentiment. He said friends had not expended all of their efforts in the campaign because they felt he was not seriously threatened by Galifianakis. He charged Galifianakis with "pie - in - the - sky promises" which a freshman senator could not hope to fulfill.

State Rep. John Randolph Ingram also began preparing for a runoff election with Russell Secrest in the race for the nomination for North Carolina Insurance Commissioner. The race between Ingram and Secrest was extremely close in the six - man field, and the official results depended on the canvass by the State Board of Elections.

State Sen. Hector McGeachy also appeared headed for a runoff for the seat in the Seventh Congressional District against frontrunner Charles Rose. Before actually announcing plans, it was learned that he had begun mapping out his strategy and securing funds for the second contest. The May 6 results in the three - man field saw Rose finishing just short of the required 50.1 percent margin over McGeachy and Doran Berry, all Fayetteville attorneys. Rose collected 33,707 votes to 17,858 for McGeachy, and took every county in the district except his home county of Cumberland, which Berry led by a small margin.

The runoff date is set for June 3, one month from the first primary date.

Council Passes Bond Issue

In a special meeting of the Raeford City Council held last Wednesday night, an ordinance authorizing sale of water bonds totaling \$750,000 was passed. The bond issue will be subject to a general vote by Raeford residents scheduled for July 11.

The bonds, if passed, will provide funds for the city to extend and enlarge water works for Raeford. It will include drilling an additional well and adding additional water mains. The funds will also be used for improvement of treatment facilities. If the bonds pass, there will be a slight increase in water

rates. City manager John Gaddy said that the city is badly in need of the water facility improvements, and passage of the bonds will be the only way to finance the work needed.

The council also passed an ordinance prohibiting the use of motor vehicles, including "mini bikes" on the sidewalks, parks or other property of the city of Raeford. The ordinance reads as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor vehicle as defined by G.S. 20 - 38, including "Mini - bikes", on any sidewalk, in parks, or other property owned or under the control of the City of Raeford, providing nothing herein shall prohibit the operation of a registered motor vehicle on the public streets or highways in the City of Raeford in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina; or upon property set aside for the use of motor vehicles; provided, however, nothing herein shall prohibit the operation of a motor vehicle across sidewalks at a driveway to obtain ingress or egress to any lot or parcel of land served by said driveway.

Section 2. Violation of this ordinance shall constitute a misdemeanor as by law provided.

Section 3. All laws and clauses of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of said conflict.

This ordinance shall become effective May 11, 1972.

The council also authorized advertising for bids for the purchase of a police car

RAEFORD-HOKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



SERVICE AWARD - Julian Wright holds the distinguished service award he received from the Raeford - Hoke Chamber of Commerce at their annual dinner meeting Monday night. He is pictured with his wife.

Chamber Holds 25th Dinner

The 25th annual dinner meeting of the Raeford - Hoke Chamber of Commerce was held Monday at the W. T. Gibson cafeteria in Hoke High with about 200 persons attending. Guests enjoyed a baked ham dinner prepared by county 4-H clubs before the business portion of the meeting was conducted. The Rev. Hermon Winberry of the Raeford Methodist Church gave the invocation.

The program began with a welcome

followed by a special music presentation by the Hoke High Choral, directed by Mrs. Neil A. McNeill.

R. B. Lewis then installed the new officers and gave the highlights of the chamber activities for the past quarter of a century. Past chamber presidents were also recognized at that time. Installed as president for 1972 - 73 was Sam C. Morris, who accepted the gavel from outgoing president C. D. Bounds Jr. New vice president of the organization are Ed Brown and William Poole Jr., and the new secretary - treasurer is Freddie Williams.

Incoming directors were also introduced. They are Ed Brown, Graham Clark, Bobby Conoly, William Poole Jr. and Freddie Williams. Outgoing directors John Balfour, Jack Bray, Walter Coley and R. Palmer Wilcox were also recognized. Directors with one more year to serve are C. D. Bounds Jr., Graham Pope and James Wood. Those with two more years to serve are Ashwell Harward, Leonard Frahm, Graham Monroe and Sam C. Morris.

Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill then announced the proposed annexation of Burlington Industries and new Chamber president Sam Morris commented on the proposal.

Guest speaker Jack Riley of Carolina Power and Light Co. talked about the achievements of the company and current needs. He said that charges against Carolina Power concerning pollution are highly exaggerated and that the company is doing everything possible to control pollution and provide good service to its customers. He said the company needs to double its service within the next six years to meet the growing needs of the state.

Following Riley's talk, Charles A. Hostetler presented the Chamber's first distinguished service award to realtor J. H. Wright, who has provided the community with new houses and buildings that were needed.

Republicans Meet

Hoke County registered Republicans will meet at the Hoke Courthouse on Friday, May 26 at 8 p.m. All registered Republicans are urged to attend. Delegates to the district convention will be selected at that time.

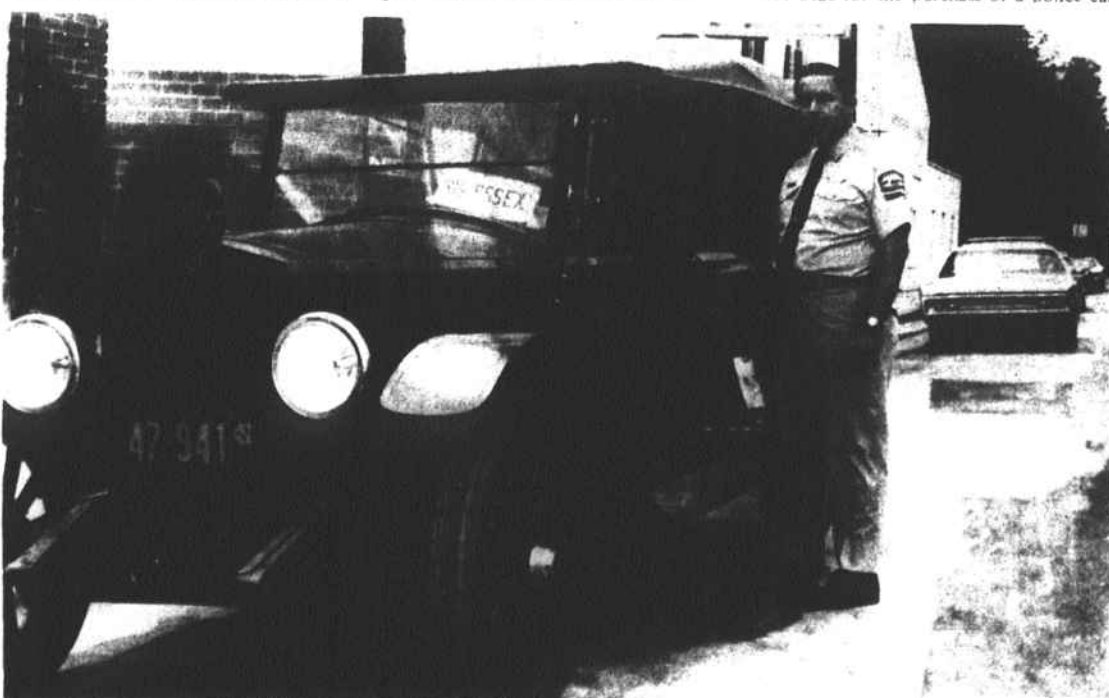
Clinic Closed

The Hoke County Health Center Immunization Clinic will close Monday, May 22, at 11:30 a.m. due to a nursing in - service.

Clean-Up Drives

Heavy rains last Saturday didn't dampen spirits of Hoke County Cub Scouts who turned out in full force to clean up the area around Rockfish Community. The bags of trash and debris they picked up along the roads and houses were carried off by the State Highway Patrol.

Mrs. Evelyn Manning, chairman of the "Clean Sweep" drive in Hoke County, and Mrs. Peggy Pope, assistant, said that the response in the community from groups like the scouts has been "really wonderful." They said that the people in the community, as well as school and state officials have helped a great deal with the various projects.



VINTAGE AUTO - Not everyone who shows up at the state Driver's License Bureau comes with a hot new set of wheels. This Hoke resident, F.B. Campbell, rolled up to the testing station in a classic 1919 Essex to be examined by Joe Sellers.



GUEST SPEAKER - Jack Riley (center) prepares to deliver his address to the Chamber of Commerce meeting. Also pictured are Palmer Wilcox, (left) who introduced Riley and Sam C. Morris, newly installed president of the Chamber of Commerce.

The city of Raeford disclosed plans Monday for the voluntary annexation of Burlington Industries. In making the announcement at the annual Raeford - Hoke Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting, Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill said that Burlington "will be a welcome addition to the city - it will open up new areas of financing for the city and take some of the tax burden off Raeford citizens."

The agreement between the city of Raeford and Burlington Industries follows several months of discussions and studies about the town's utilities and Burlington's expressed desire to help with the situation. The addition of the 100 acres will add approximately \$9.5 million to the assessed value of property in Raeford. This addition, plus expansion of Knit - Away Mills which has been completed, will nearly double the current assessed property value in the city from \$14 million to over \$27 million. The result of this greatly increased tax base will mean a lowering of taxes for Raeford residents to an estimated \$1 per hundred dollars of assessed value from the \$1.45 tax value currently in operation.

Annexation of Burlington depends, however, on passage of a \$750,000 water bond which will be subject to a vote on July 11. Passage of the bonds will mean a slight increase in water and sewer rates for Raeford residents, but McNeill said that the benefits of lowered taxes far offset the small increase in utility rates. He expressed hopes that "the people of Raeford will vote for the bond issue on July 11."

The minimum water rate in Raeford is now set at \$2.70 for 3,000 gallons. Passage of the \$750,000 bonds would increase it to \$3.00 for the same amount of water or a basic increase of \$.10 per 1,000 gallons. Now a basic wastewater collection fee of 50 percent of the water charge is made for all customers connected to the City Wastewater Collection Facilities. The proposed increase is to 70 percent of the water bill for sewer operation.

The reason the bonds must be passed before the annexation of Burlington is that the city is not presently in a position to provide the necessary capital improvements required to provide water and sewer service to the area. Burlington has indicated a willingness to annex to Raeford only if the city could meet the industrial requirement for water and sewers. The property under consideration for annexation consists of approximately 100 acres with improvements lying immediately west of and adjacent to the northwest corner of the present corporate limits between N. C. 211 and Turnpike Road.

Utility improvements proposed with the passage of the water bonds include drilling additional water wells, expansion of the water treatment plant and additional ground storage. It is also indicated that within a three to five year period additional improvements will be desired including extension of wastewater outfalls and collection to Southwest and West Raeford, extension of water distribution lines to Southwest and West Raeford, added elevated storage and possible expansion of the wastewater treatment plant.

City manager John Gaddy said that in addition to providing the necessary funds for needed improvements, issuance of the \$750,000 bonds would also give a capital reserve for future expansions as they are needed. That way, he explained, a new bond issue would not have to be called for everytime additional facilities are needed. Annexation of the Burlington property will be effective immediately after a favorable vote on the water bond issue. The city has discussed the arrangement with the North Carolina Local Government Commission and has approval to proceed. The reason that July 11 was decided on for the bond vote is to give the city sufficient time to formulate the municipal budget for fiscal year 1972 - 73, which would reflect the anticipated additional tax revenues and a new lower tax rate.

Burlington representative Jack Bradford commented at the Chamber of Commerce dinner that the annexation would be mutually beneficial to Burlington and the city of Raeford, and he expressed hopes that the people of Raeford will support the bond issue to make the annexation possible.

Also during the business portion of Monday's meeting Sam C. Morris was installed as the new president of the Chamber of Commerce. He said he hoped the people of Raeford will fully support local industries such as Burlington by helping provide them with needed facilities.

Band Concert

Hoke High School's band, under the direction of director Jimmy James will present their annual spring concert tonight, May 18, at 8 p.m. in the high school gym.

The band will present a 45 minute program beginning with the national anthem and ending with a number by Richard Fote titled "A Bit of Bequine." Also featured will be the first movement from the London symphony by Franz Joseph Haydn.

Admission is free and the public is invited to the concert.