

Around Town

By SAM C. MORRIS

The Labor Day holiday has come and gone for those that were off Monday. The Raeford business district was busy Monday as most stores were open. The industrial plants closed but outside of the governmental agencies most everything else went about a normal day.

The television show of Charlie Rose, Democratic Candidate for Congress from the seventh district was about Hoke County on channel six this past Sunday night. I was watching the Olympics when the phone rang. The caller was Josephine Hall and she informed me about the show. I immediately turned the TV to channel six.

Charlie had a fine show concerning Hoke County, but as will happen some of his statements were a little off base.

It is true that the newspaper in Hoke County was one of the first to go off set but the name of the paper is "The News-Journal" and not "The News-Reporter." I thought that as many times as Charlie Rose had been in this office that he would know the name of the paper. I also wonder what Jimmy High in Whiteville is thinking, as he publishes the paper in Columbus County known as The News-Reporter.

Another statement made by Candidate Rose that the only building left in the military reservation, that was once part of Hoke County, was Longstreet Church. I know that the church is in the reservation and that they have a meeting once a year. But to the families that are in Hoke County, including yours truly, Sandy Grove Presbyterian Church was standing the last time I was up that way.

I know it is hard to write something or put on a show about something without making a few mistakes, but when you are putting on a show and at the same time asking the public to vote for you for Congress I believe things should be checked and double checked for accuracy.

Anyway the people are grateful to Charlie for the fine show about our county.

I haven't been able to get up with Robert Gatlin but from other sources it seems that the rainfall Monday night was approximately two inches. From the looks of things this morning (Tuesday) more rain could come at any time.

Usually by this time of the year someone is by the office to say that a bale of cotton has been ginned. Guess that the crop will be late this year, but then not as much cotton is being grown in the county now as a few years ago. I believe Hoke County has only one gin in operation at this time and that is operated by The Johnson Company at Oakdale.

Machine Entered

A Lumberton youth was arrested for breaking into a vending machine at Burlington Mills last week when he went back to collect the money which he had stashed outside.

Hoke Sheriff's deputy Harvey Young arrested Bennie Ray McMillian, 19, on a misdemeanor breaking, entering and larceny charge for stealing \$83.23 in change from the machine belonging to the Mid-South Vending Co.

McMillian, an employee of the plant, was apprehended as he was leaving the mill after completing his shift. The machine was believed to have been broken into around 2:30 a.m. He was released on a \$300 bond.



WHAT KIND OF BIRD? - Maj. William T. Altman found this injured bird near his residence on College Drive, and is having trouble identifying it. Local bird fanciers with information about the species are asked to contact The News-Journal. The bird has not yet been observed flying, but is known to be quick on its feet.

Two Draw Six Month Sentences

Two persons drew six month sentences in District Court Friday in charges stemming from an apparent argument at the Tazee Freez on July 20.

Willard M. Lewis was sentenced for assault with a deadly weapon by pointing a gun at Johnny Scott and Lucille Helms drew her sentence for assault by pointing a gun at William Rufus Hayes. Both gave notice of appeal and were recognized for appearance in Hoke Superior Court.

In other cases tried in District Court Friday, Judge Joseph F. Dupree presiding.

Bennie Ray McMillian of Lumberton drew a 12 month suspended sentence for misdemeanor larceny. He was placed on probation and fined \$200 and court costs.

Ronnie L. McPhatter of Red Springs drew a two year suspended sentence for misdemeanor breaking, entering and larceny and receiving. He was placed on probation for five years and ordered to pay \$200 restitution and cost of court. He drew an additional 12

month suspended sentence for misdemeanor breaking, entering and larceny, and a two year suspended sentence for house breaking and larceny.

Barthonia Ray Jr. of Raeford was sentenced to a 12 month suspended term for misdemeanor receiving of stolen goods. He was ordered to pay restitution and court costs.

The court found no probable cause on charges against Ray of breaking, entering and larceny.

James Murphy of Shannon drew a 12 month suspended sentence for misdemeanor breaking, entering and larceny.

He was ordered to pay restitution and court costs. He drew two additional suspended sentences of two years each for other charges of breaking, entering and larceny.

Prayer for judgement was continued for James Everett Walters of Laurinburg for driving without a chauffers license.

Prayer for judgement was continued for two years in a case charging Wesley Hollingsworth of Raeford with assault.

Prayer for judgement was continued for Doris Drake Moore of Pope Air Force Base for driving with an expired license.

John Robert Pittman Jr. of Fayetteville was sentenced to 60 days for speeding 74 in a 45 mph zone, suspended upon payment of a \$35 fine and court costs.

Rickey Dean Barnett was sentenced to 60 days for careless and reckless driving, suspended upon payment of a \$35 fine and court costs.

Raymond Earl Tyson of Fayetteville was sentenced to 60 days for driving 80 in a 60 zone, suspended upon payment of a \$35 fine and court costs.

Lillie Hobson of Raeford was sentenced to 15 days, suspended upon payment of a \$50 fine and court costs for using profane language in public.

Prayer for judgement was continued for Billy Edwin McLawhorn of Raeford for driving while his license was revoked. He was ordered to pay court costs.

Roscoe Locklear of

Pembroke drew a six month suspended sentence for a second offense of DUI. He was fined \$250 and court costs.

Lacy Junior McGee of Raeford drew a six month suspended sentence for petty larceny. He was ordered to pay court costs.

Terry Johnson of Raeford drew a four month suspended sentence for careless and reckless driving. He was fined \$100 and court costs.

Samuel McMillian of New York City drew a six month suspended sentence for DUI. He was fined \$150 and court costs.

Prayer for judgement was continued for two years for James Bullock on a charge of assault.

Freddie McCollum Jr. of Red Springs was ordered to surrender his license for six months or pay a \$25 fine for exceeding a safe speed.

John Cecil Everett of Raeford was sentenced to 30 days suspended for driving without a license. He was fined \$25 and court costs.

John Edward Gaynor of See COURT, Page 9.

Resolution Passed By Board Puts Retirement Age At 65

In Hoke

Pupil Expenditures Above State Average

The Hoke County school system expended more per student last year than the state - wide average, according to a State Dept. of Public Instruction Survey.

Total expenditure per pupil in Hoke totaled \$687.33 as compared to a state average of \$662.81. Of this total, \$487.33 was for educational expenditures, compared to a state average of \$478.24.

The survey pointed out the popular belief that rural schools in North Carolina have less money than city schools is not always true. Hoke was classified as a rural system in the survey.

Executive secretary of the North Carolina Association of Educators Dr. C.A. Dawson said that "there is no rhyme or reason to comparison of educational spending in this state." Dawson pointed out that the two school systems which spent the least and most per pupil last year were both rural systems.

"We think parents ought to be concerned about these wide variations in expenditures for the instruction of their children," Dawson said. "The variations are particularly striking in some counties where you can step across a city - county

boundary line and the expenditure changes by as much as \$175."

The survey included funds from all three sources: local, state and Federal.

Man Charged With Assault

A Raeford man was injured in an apparent assault at Smith's Club on Rt. 1, Raeford, last weekend.

Kelly Ray was admitted to Cape Fear Valley Hospital with head injuries, after he was allegedly attacked with some type of instrument.

Arrested on a \$1,000 bond and charged with assault with intent to kill was James Earl Monroe, 23, of Raeford. Preliminary hearing is scheduled for Sept. 22 in Hoke District Court.

FHA Has Record Year In County

The Farmer's Home Administration in Hoke County gave financial assistance totaling \$1,159,145 during the fiscal year 1972, which ended June 30.

Included in the total was the Hillcrest - Scurlock water system grant of \$50,000, to help finance the installation of a public water system, according to Jake Vinson, FHA supervisor in Hoke.

A total of 58 families obtained loans totaling \$773,115 to finance the repair or construction of adequate dwellings through the Rural Housing Program. Twenty-five farm families received loans totaling \$133,030 to finance their farming operations, and two more families obtained loans totaling \$93,000 to purchase farms through the FHA Farm Program.

In addition to the grant of \$50,000 to the Hillcrest - Scurlock Water System, they obtained a \$110,000 loan to install a public water system to serve 130 families in these two adjoining communities located just east of Raeford.

Over \$821,000 of the total FHA loan funds were used to purchase or improve real estate, adding an estimated \$426,000 to the Hoke County tax assessment with an estimated \$6,000 added to tax collections in the county.

Project Underway Improves Housing

A project is currently underway in Hoke to improve the situation of the 33 per cent of county residents who must live in sub-standard housing.

A group of five volunteers have been working with residents in the communities, discussing possibilities for better housing through FHA loans. The program got underway a few months ago when Mrs. Gladys Bryant, housing

specialist from Raleigh in the Extension Homemakers Division, helped set up the program in Hoke.

"Since that time remarkable progress has been made," according to home agent Mrs. Ellen Willis. She said a number of applications for home repairs or construction have already been filed with the FHA office, and plans for a housing class to further instruct people about

housing possibilities are in the final stages.

Mrs. Willis said "the volunteers started out just knocking on doors in the various communities, telling people about ways to improve their housing situation. Now many of the residents of the communities are seeking out the volunteers for help."

Jake Vinson, FHA supervisor in Hoke said the reason the program was started

was to reach people that may be hesitant to come to the office for help. "The volunteers are people who reside in the communities and understand the problems of their neighbors," Vinson explained.

The Extension Office began work to help improve the housing situation in the county after the 1970 census report showed that of the 4,314 dwelling units in the county, a total of 1,448, or 33.6 per cent, were substandard, in that they had either incomplete or no plumbing facilities.

Vinson said a recent national survey conducted by a group of business executives across the United States indicated the number one need across the nation is better housing.

Rural housing funds available for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1972, have been increased 32 per cent over the last fiscal year. Vinson said "I feel we have adequate funds to take care of Hoke County's needs this year and funds to develop the county, making it a more attractive place to work and live."

Vinson said he has loans outstanding at present for over 250 houses in the county, and is expecting this number to increase substantially with the 1973 fiscal year being the biggest year ever.

The volunteers who have been working in the communities are the following: Raeford and Scurlock - Jimmy Morris, P. O. Box 501, Raeford, Live Points and Montrose areas - Mrs. Helen Small, McCain, McCain and Ashley Heights - Mrs. Retha Long, Box 21, McCain, South Hoke and Antioch - Plummer Locklear, c/o Social Services, and Bowmore and

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BEFORE AND AFTER - These two pictures illustrate the work currently being done in the county by the Extension Office and the Farmer's Home Administration to improve housing in Hoke. Picture on the left shows the substandard dwelling a North Raeford family had to live in before an FHA loan made construction of this modern brick home possible.

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution making retirement mandatory after 65 for all appointed county employees at their monthly meeting Tuesday morning.

The resolution would make retirement mandatory on July 1, following an employee's 65th birthday. Included in the resolution was a provision that would allow an employee to extend for a year at a time, on the recommendation of the county department head and the county manager. The recommendation would also be subject to approval by the Commissioners.

Under the resolution, an employee could extend indefinitely, but approval of the extension would have to be made each year. The resolution passed will take effect of July 1, 1973.

County attorney Charles Hostetler pointed out to the Commissioners that elected county officials would be exempt from the mandatory retirement age, as would employees hired by the Board of Education. The resolution only applies to employees directly appointed by the County.

In other action taken by the Commissioners at their regular monthly meeting Tuesday morning, a resolution was passed to help pay the rent for classroom space rented by Sandhills Community College for classes conducted in Hoke County.

The request for funds amounted to \$250, which would only have to be paid this one time by the board. Up to now Hoke has not paid any of the rent on the building on Flwood Avenue which is used for Sandhills Classes.

Classes have been conducted in Hoke County in such areas as office practices, upholstery, sewing and a number of other subjects. In making the request from the board, Sandhills president Dr. Raymond Stone said Moore County did not feel they should have to pay all the rent for the building, since the classes were for the benefit of Hoke County.

The Commissioners also approved payment of a bill of \$363.70 for repairs to the Ashley Heights Community House, located in the Quewhiffle Community. The original amount approved by the board was \$350.

David Scott Currie was appointed to the City-County Zoning Board to replace D.C. Cox, who has recently resigned the post.

The Commissioners were also reminded of a public hearing for the changeover from the Sandhills Community Action Program Inc. to the Tri-County Region N. The hearing will be on Sept. 11 at 2 p.m.

The realignment of the boundaries for the Community Action Agency is by Federal order. Involved in the program are the N.C. State Office of Economic Opportunity, the OEO Southeastern Regional office in Atlanta and the Community Action Agencies.

The purpose of the change is so each region in the state will have a single region-wide agency to coordinate application for use of federal funds. Up to now, Hoke has been part of several systems.

In the realignment, agencies in Hoke will become part of the region which serves Robeson, Bladen and Scotland.

Also approved by the Commissioners at Tuesday's meeting was payment of dues of \$124 to the National Association of County Commissioners, which are due Oct. 1.

The board also heard reports from the tax collector the Grand Jury, county agent Wendell Young, home agent Ellen Willis, and Farmers Home Administration director Jake Vinson.

All commissioners were present at the meeting.

Cycle Accident Injures Two

Two persons were seriously injured in a Labor Day Holiday weekend accident in Hoke County involving a motorcycle and a car.

The accident occurred Saturday night at 8:25 near Scurlock School, when a car driven by Coleman Bernard Peterson of Rt. 2, Raeford, made a left turn into the path of an oncoming motorcycle.

Dennis Hawkes, 24, driver of the cycle, and Patricia J. English, 26, were both injured when their cycle crashed into the side of the car. They were admitted to Cape Fear Valley Hospital for treatment.

Peterson has been charged with failing to see before turning, according to State Trooper K. W. Weston, who investigated the accident. The accident resulted in an estimated \$750 in damages to the motorcycle and \$200 to the car.

The Hoke County Rescue Squad was summoned to the scene of the accident.