

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

Last week a letter from Fire Chief Crawford Thomas appeared in this column concerning the safety from fire with your Christmas decorations. I mention this to again remind people of the need for caution.

An article is appearing elsewhere in the paper this week about locking cars and not leaving packages in sight when left in your car. This warning comes from Police Chief Lamont and everyone should take his advice.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Clarence Lynch, 90-year-old trader and dealer of Raeford, was by the office recently and handed me the following note.

"Old antique man Lynch vows he is a 'small potato'. But take a look at his turnips, 6 1/2 lbs. and his fat pecans and high wagon wheels."

A picture of Mr. Lynch and his turnip appears elsewhere in this issue. I doubt that he grew the turnip as he gave it to me and he is too tough a salesman to give something away. Anyway I hope I can be having my picture made with a turnip at 90-years of age.

J.W. Turlington, principal at Raeford Elementary School, was by the office last week and was telling me about the fire drills he has been holding at his school. There are 452 students at the school composing grades 2 & 3. In a drill last week the building was vacated in one minute and 17 seconds.

Now I think this is remarkable and know that parents who have children at that school can feel assured that in case of fire their children know how to vacate the building in an orderly manner.

If any business hasn't turned in your money to the United Fund please do so as soon as possible. If you will call The News-Journal office someone will come by and pick up your envelopes.

The State Highway Commission workers turned in \$18,000 Tuesday with 100% participation. I would like to thank these men for their contribution.

Miss Mable McDonald, director of the Department of Social Services called Tuesday with a very sad story. She said that a family in the county consisting of father, mother, who is 17-years old, and two children, ages one and two were in dire need of furniture, clothing and food. Miss McDonald said the department had taken some clothing and food to the family and aided them in many ways, but if anyone could spare an old bed or anything to sleep on it would help the family.

She stated that the kids were now sleeping on the floor and the only heat was from an electric range. So look around your home and if you have a bed, cot or even an old mattress contact the Dept. of Social Service. Call 875-3772.

Student Heads For District Competition

Ronnie Ellis, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Ellis, 314 Dickson St., won first place in a science essay contest at Upchurch School.

The eighth grader's winning essay "What Electricity Means To Me" is entered in district competition and a win there could send him into the state finals.

The contest, sponsored by the North Carolina Electrical Industry Committee, was open to all seventh and eighth graders. Contest rules specified essays were to be of 400 words or less without supporting pictures, graphs or other illustrative material.

Presentations
On Dec. 20 Ellis will be presented an engraved framed certificate from the sponsoring unit and \$10 award from Upchurch School.

The second place winner, seventh-grader Rhonda West, daughter of James D. West, 212 Reaves St., will receive \$5 award from the school. Third place winner, also a seventh grader, Charles Johnson, son of Ruel B. Johnson, Rockfish, will receive \$3 award from the school.

Higher Awards
District winners will receive \$100 U. S. Savings Bonds and be invited to lunch with the Governor of North Carolina in Raleigh during National Electrical Week in February.

The first place state winner will be awarded \$750 savings bond and be invited to the 1973 all industry convention at Myrtle Beach S. C.

Second place state winner will receive \$500 savings bond and third place winner will be presented \$250 bonds. Participation in the contest was conducted as part of science classes in the school. Ellis' teacher is Mrs. Blue Woodard. Second and third place winners are students of Mrs. Katie Blythe.

Winning Essay
Ellis' winning essay is reprinted below with permission of Upchurch School officials.

Money Comes Home To Roost As Revenue Sharing Nest Egg Arrives

No Final Decision On Leonard Plans

Amid persistent rumors that the Samuel Leonard Training School at McCain will be closed next year, James Paige, director of the state Commission of Youth Development, said no final decision has been made in his office concerning the future of the school.

Paige also informed The News-Journal he would be aware if any such decision had been made by the Department of Social Rehabilitation and Control. Closing of Leonard would require action by the Legislature.

The youth director did state the whole concept of dealing with youthful offenders and delinquents if being "looked at" with an eye toward reorganization.

Economic Impact
Closing of Leonard School would have an economic impact on Hoke County. The payroll for 91 employees is approximately \$55,000 a month.

The annual operating budget is \$985,000. Also there is \$155,000 for student quarters renovation and \$27,000 for a staff residence. Henry Parker, director of Leonard School, says the staff residence money has been funded but bids have not been let.

The main buildings at Leonard are old and in need of repair but the academic and vocational building was built in 1970.

The school is fully accredited with the state and other associations, reports Parker.

Steady Decrease

Parker said the population at the school is 109. Although the institution is budgeted for 258 residents he reports that number would cause severe overcrowding.

In recent months there has been a steady decrease in the number of boys. Parker attributes this decrease to the fact boys are remanded to the school for a shorter period of time, about eight or nine months now, as opposed to an average stay of 13 months five years ago.

He pointed out the staff is able to give much more individual attention to each boy and results are apparent in reduction of behavior problems.

Half Way House

Concerning the prospect of forming half way houses for the boys Parker sees a need for both training schools and half way houses.

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City Accepts Airport Gifts

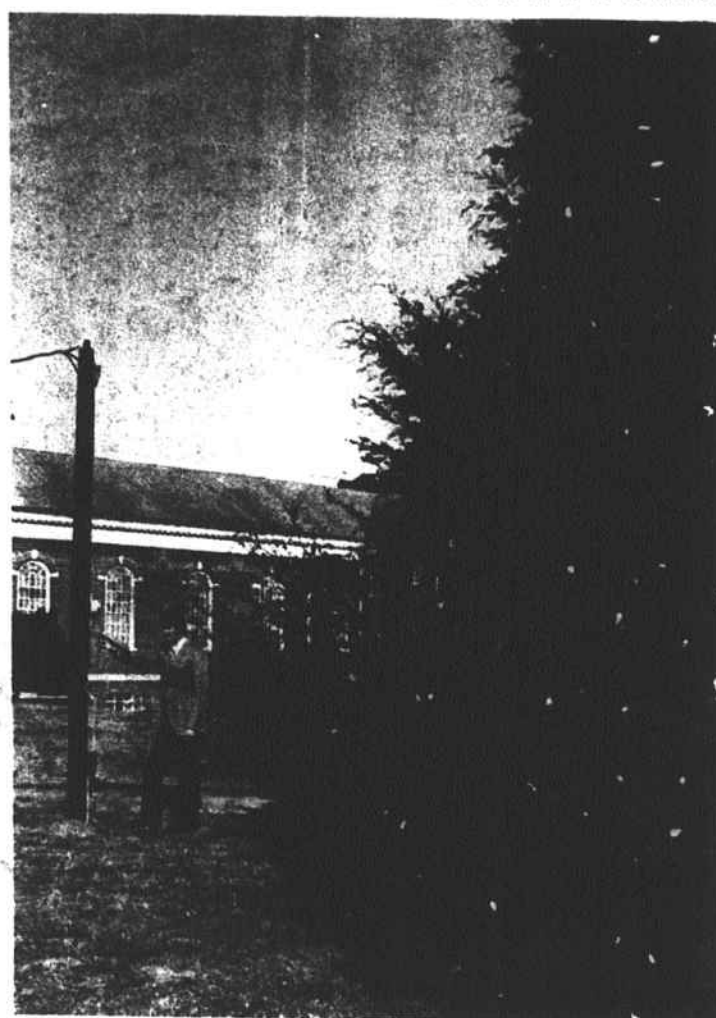
The City of Raeford has received more than \$16,000 in donations for the \$60,000 matching funds needed for the Raeford Airport improvement project. An additional \$20,000 has been pledged by the state of North Carolina.

The most recent donation was \$6,000 dollars received Monday from the Burlington Worsted Plant. Other donations, all received in November, are \$5,000 each from Knit-A-Way Inc. and Hoke County and \$500 from Raeford Turkey Farms Inc.

An individual contribution of \$200 was received from Thomas Cameron of Upchurch Milling and Storage Company.

City Manager John Gaddy said city officials solicited local industries for donations to the airport project.

Gaddy reports the project is running slightly behind schedule. The contractors are ready to pave but need dry weather. Other work is being held up because the paving must be completed before the electrical contractor can begin work.



TREE LIGHT, TREE BRIGHT - Louis Quick, Raeford Merchants Association president, flips the switch to light the Christmas tree on the Courthouse lawn. The tree is lit brightly during the holiday season.

No Doctors, Dentist For Hoke County Says HEW

Members of the Hoke County Board of Health were informed at their regular meeting Thursday that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) will not assign medical personnel to Hoke County under the National Health Service Corps Program.

The Health Department had requested two physicians and one dentist be assigned here. At present there are two physicians and one dentist with private practices in the county.

In October two HEW representatives were in Raeford checking the facilities, suites of offices in the Raeford Medical Building and the Health Center. At that time local officials were optimistic that the request would be approved.

Letter Read

At Thursday's meeting a letter from Donald J. Scheer, Regional Program director of National Health Service Corps (NHSC) was read to the board. It said, in part:

"Those who considered your application recognized the need for additional health professionals in your area but had to compare your needs and resources with those of other communities in North Carolina and across the nation. Because of the limited manpower available for the Corps, those communities receiving our assistance have either no professionals or are isolated from adequate health care service because of geography, socio-economics, distance, etc.

"Although additional professionals are no doubt needed and would be utilized effectively in your area, the number of

Help Stop Thefts

Raeford Police Chief James E. Lamont urges Christmas shoppers to exercise additional caution to protect themselves from theft.

Lamont says, the men in his department are patrolling the downtown area but need the assistance of all shoppers. He asks that packages be placed in trunks of cars or under the decks of station wagons rather than on seats in full view of passerby. He also reminds shoppers to keep their vehicles locked at all times.

The city and county coffers were enriched by almost \$170,000 Monday with the arrival of the first federal revenue sharing checks. The City of Raeford received \$40,705 and Hoke County's nest egg totaled \$129,107.

The amounts of the checks differed from recent unofficial estimates. The city's windfall was more than \$5,000 above the expected figure while the county received better than \$29,000 below the unofficially predicted amount.

Each government unit's share is based on a complicated formula involving taxes raised per capita income and population. It appears earlier estimates were based on older population figures and the amount of the checks was determined by using more current data.

Tax Rate
The amount of future checks could vary if there were significant change in the data on which the formula is based.

For example, new tax information will be sent to the federal government in January. This will reflect the reduction in county taxes last June when the rate dropped from \$1.50 per \$100 evaluation to \$1.48.

This two-cent reduction is probably not sufficient to cause a great change in the amount of funds received by the county. A greater reduction in the tax rate could reduce the total revenue sharing funds because the amount is based in part on the local tax effort.

Future Checks
The checks received Monday are for the first six months of this year. Second checks covering the last half of the year are expected sometime next month.

The amount of the second checks should be about the same as the ones just received. According to J.B. Lester, county manager and auditor, the money must be spent within 24 months.

Funds for 1973 will be paid on a quarterly basis with the first of these checks scheduled for March or April delivery. Under the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act, official name of the Revenue Sharing Act, checks will continue to be received until the final quarter of 1976.

On Deposit
Both local revenue sharing checks were deposited in the Southern National Bank in Raeford.

The county's share is in a 90-day certificate of deposit at 5.8 percent. It is estimated the funds will earn approximately \$20 a day under this arrangement.

The city's revenue sharing funds were placed in a six-months certificate of deposit earning 5.5 percent interest.

Governing Bodies
By regulation both the City Council and the Board of County Commissioners must act to set up a trust fund and separate accounts for the federal funds. This will probably be acted on at the next meeting of both governing bodies.

A budget showing the planned expenditures of the funds must be prepared, sent to the Treasurer of the U.S. and released to local news media. At a later date a statement of expenditures must also be prepared and published.

City Manager John Gaddy and Lester were emphatic when they said the funds would not be spent in a hurry. Both stressed much thought and research would go into the decisions of the City Council and Board of County Commissioners concerning the use of the money.

Regulations And Risks
Although the federal act has been

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Gillis Back From Tour

Harold L. Gillis returned Nov. 30 from a 15-day European tour. He was part of a 35 member group who participated in an Industrial Technical Seminar.

This group consisted of school administrators, instructors, vocational personnel and businessmen. They studied and compared technical vocational programs in the Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium, France, and England. They also toured several industrial plants including an automobile factory and a textile mill.

The trip included sight seeing in some of the major historical cities of Europe, such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Brussels, and London. A visit to some of the main battlefields of World War II was also included.

The Seminar was arranged under the leadership of Dr. Gerald M. Bohack of Appalachian State University and the tour was under the direction of Wholesale Loms.

Gillis participated in this seminar under the joint sponsorship of the Hoke County School system and the Raeford Hoke Chamber of Commerce.



CONGRATULATIONS - Upchurch School Principal Lonnie Bledsoe, left, congratulates Ronnie Ellis on his award winning essay titled "What Electricity Means To Me." Looking on are second place winner Rhonda West and third place winner Charles Johnson.

What Electricity Means To Me
The first thing I think about is all of the things we have that come from electricity, our power, light, heat, communication, transportation, and recreation.

How would we keep our homes warm in the winter without electricity? How would we work at night without lights? How would we communicate without electricity? We might be able to get by without electricity for a while, but not for long.

In a way we get our food through electricity. Incubators are used on farms to help hatch eggs. We eat the eggs of these chickens and we eat the chickens. Some cattle are protected by electricity. Electric fences help keep the wild animals

from killing the cattle. Thus, in a way this might be our next meal.

When a friend or a member of the family is sick or needs you for an emergency what other way is better than to communicate by phone? If we had no phone you would not know anything of what had happened.

In getting places we use cars, trolley buses, and electric streetcars. If we did not have electricity how would we get where we wanted to go?

In the homes we use electricity for many things. If we had no electricity we would have to scrub dishes and clothes by hand, cook meals over a fire, and keep our food in a damp place to keep it from spoiling but it would soon spoil anyway. We would have to make more quilts to

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