

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The first pictures of "Citizens of Tomorrow" appear in this issue. Every week we will run some of these pictures until all have been printed. I don't know which will be run as Kay is making the selection. So just be patient and your children will make the news in a few weeks.

The weather for the past few days has been what the farmers hoped for a few weeks ago. I imagine every tractor in Hoke County was in the field Monday. Maybe the weather will continue as is and the farmers will be able to get the crops in the ground.

I think most of the federal, state and county offices will be closed Easter Monday. As far as businesses are concerned I haven't heard of any closing. The schools will close from Thursday through Tuesday for the Easter holidays.

I congratulate Coach Billy Colsen and the girls' track team at Hoke High on the victory last weekend. The writeup in The News and Observer showed the greatness of this group.

I received the following letter from Miles Powell who I wrote about in this column recently:

Thank you Mr. Sam Morris for the copy of your paper in which you tell of my visit with you. And now if you will be so kind, I will be pleased to have you pass on the following letter to Hootch McLean.

Dear Hootch: Your analysis of my pitching ability as reported in Sam's column, which I read with a great deal of interest, is quite correct.

Reminds me after pitching the last inning for Jersey City against Rochester back in 1918 and getting the hitters, one, two, three, my catcher asked me that night if that was all the speed I had. I told him it wasn't, but it really was.

Then in June, 1922, pitching for Kinston against Washington in the Eastern Carolina league, I allowed only four hits and naturally won the game. As I walked into the club house the next day, I heard our manager ask Gibson, my catcher, what I had on the ball to hold the league leaders to four hits. Gibson replied "nothing."

Anyway it was a lot of fun and I will remember the month I was with Raeford. I remember your name, but I forgot what position you played. I also remember McKeithan being the manager, but I do not remember him playing.

Naturally I remember McGhee because he was our catcher. He kept signaling for my "fast" ball on the outside low corner for right handed batters and I had pretty good luck in putting it where he wanted it. All of which helped me win four and lose one while pitching in Raeford.

Maybe when I go to Florida next winter, or return, the two service clubs in your town might like to have me give my talk on baseball the Thursday both of them meet. Then we could get together and do a little talking about old times. Anyway, I am glad to know you are still around.

Sincerely,
Miles Powell

Thieves Get Chain Saws

Deputy Sheriff Alex Norton is investigating a Saturday breakin at Cross Road Grocery on N. C. 211. Items valued at more than \$791 were taken by thieves who apparently gained entry by breaking a lock on the front door of the building. Among the missing items were seven chain saws, a tool box containing metric tools, cigarettes and beer. The breakin was reported to the Sheriff's Department at 4 a.m. Saturday.

In another county breakin a coffee pot and adding machine valued at \$86 were taken from the Hoke County school bus garage and maintenance shop Monday night. Thieves broke windows in both buildings. Deputies Harvey Young and George Brown are investigating.

The night of April 11 someone entered the Jesse Bratcher house near West Hoke School by breaking open a door. Once inside they tore out walls and plumbing fixtures and took copper pipe and fittings.

School Board Signs 60-Day Option; Gatlin Levies \$28,500 Price Tag

Stagger Bill Submitted

A bill introduced in the General Assembly by Rep. Joy Johnson, D-Robeson, which would stagger terms of office for Hoke County Board of Education members was referred to the Committee on Local Government last week.

The bill provides the five member board be elected on a partisan basis in the same way members of the General Assembly are elected.

Under the proposed legislation each party would nominate five candidates in the 1974 primaries. In the general elections that same year the three candidates receiving the most votes would be elected to four-year terms. The two candidates receiving the next highest number of votes would be selected to two-year terms.

After 1974 elections would be held every two years but for four-year terms. This would mean, in 1967 two members would be elected to terms which would expire in 1980. In 1978 three members would be elected to terms which would expire in 1982.

If a member vacated his seat during the term of office his political party's county executive committee would select his successor.

Under present law all five members of the board are elected at the same time for two-year terms.

Board Of Ed. Takes Action

At a special meeting of the Board of Education April 12, the land search committee recommended purchase of a tract of land from Robert H. Gatlin for the new Board of Education Building. (see related story)

In other action the board approved the budget request to be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners. The request is \$60,000 above last year's budget. D. D. Abernethy, school superintendent said the increased are due to inflation and loss of federal impact funds.

As the result of board action Abernethy will remain superintendent for four more years. He is completing his first four year term to which he was elected after serving 18 months of the unexpired term of his predecessor.

The board re-elected all school principals on tenure. According to Abernethy this means their re-election each year is automatic unless the board takes other action or until the principals resign.

Tires And TV Taken

The State Bureau of Investigation is assisting the Raeford Police Department in an April 11 theft of items valued at \$824 from Locklear's Sunoco Service South on 401 bypass.

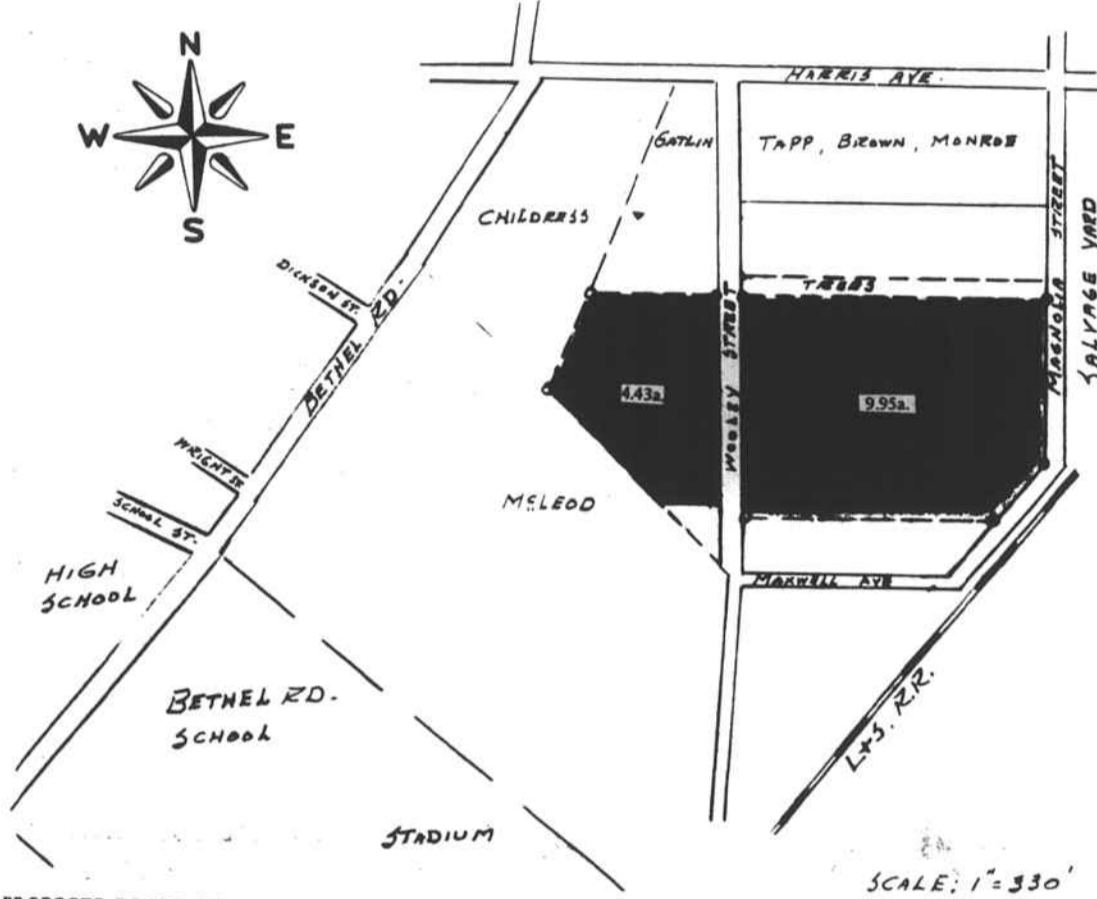
Lionie Locklear manager of the station reported the incident to the Police Department at 7 a.m. Saturday. Acting Chief Leonard Wiggins reports entry was gained by breaking a window. Among missing items are 19 new tires, two recapped tires and two portable television sets.

In an incident Monday Wiggins was on routine patrol about 6:50 a.m. when he discovered two money boxes were missing from wash machines at the Texaco Car Wash on 401 bypass. The amount of money in the coin boxes can not be determined until the firm's owner Billy Pugh comes from Asheville.

Saturday Roy McLean of Stonewall Township reported to police a tape player and tapes were taken from his car while it was parked in the Raeford Turkey Farms parking lot between 7 a.m. and noon. Value of the missing items was estimated at \$40.

Sometime between 11:40 p.m. Saturday and 7:40 a.m. Sunday someone jacked up a car in the Burlington parking lot and took the left front tire. The vehicle is owned by Ralph Currie whose wife was working in the mill at the time of the incident.

Kermit Wood of Wood's Furniture Store, 112 E. Elwood Ave., told police Tuesday morning a spare tire and rim were taken from a truck parked across from the store.



PROPOSED BOARD OF EDUCATION SITE - The Hoke County Board of Education has a 60-day option to purchase 14.38 acres (dark area) from Robert H. and Mamie R. Gatlin for \$28,500. The site must be approved by the State School House Planning Committee before purchase. According to D.D. Abernethy, Hoke School superintendent, the new Board of Education building would be constructed on the 4.43 acre lot facing and west of Wooley Street. Architects with Hayes-Howell and Associates Inc., Southern Pines, are working on rough sketches of the proposed building. The county commissioners have allotted \$90,000 in revenue sharing funds for the land and building. This plat of the land and surrounding area was drawn by Gatlin.

E. Oxendine's Confirmation Expected Soon

Earl H. Oxendine, the first Indian appointed to the State Board of Education, expects in the near future to appear before the Senate - House Committee on Education for confirmation of his recent appointment to the board by Gov. James Holshouser.

The 41-year-old Pembroke native said he will make no public statements concerning issues before the state board until after his appointment is confirmed.

The principal of South Hoke School since 1962 feels, "The Governor is genuinely concerned about the Indians and I believe the fact I am an Indian was part of the appointment, but I am also an educator. I think the Governor is interested in good education."

Oxendine, a Republican, worked in Holshouser's election campaign but reports, "I have not made any commitments to the Governor, nor has he made any promises to me."

The new appointee stresses his interest in Indian causes and improving the conditions of his people but points out, "I'm for all the children in the state. I'm an educator from a family of educators. Governor Holshouser knows this and I believe we have a friend in Raleigh. He is interested in all the people of North Carolina."

Oxendine earned his bachelors degree at Pembroke State University, a masters at Appalachian State University and did post graduate work at Michigan State and East Carolina Universities.

He was a teacher and coach in the Pontiac, Mich., school system for five years prior to accepting the principalship at South Hoke School. The father of five is married to the former Betty Hammond who teaches at Scutlock School.

Easter Service

Shiloh Presbyterian Church in Montrose invites the community to share in a Sunrise service at 5:25 Easter morning, with a hot breakfast following in the fellowship hall. Music will be led by the Church Choir with trumpet accompaniment, by Ralph and Randy Huff, and Tim Roberts

Hoke Waits For Funds

Hoke school authorities are awaiting word from the federal government concerning President Nixon's recent announcement releasing some federal impact funds. Last year Congress appropriated \$592.5 million for impact aid and the President impounded portions of these funds.

In the past Hoke County schools received about \$50,000 annually in impact funds but no money has been received for the 1972-73 school year.

The Hoke school system has 386 "B" students. Of these 192 are children of military personnel, 173 are children of civilian employees at military bases and 27 are children whose parents are employed by other federal agencies such as the post office, ranger service and VA hospitals. The system has no "A" students.

"A" students are members of families

Ministers Set Easter Service

The Raeford Ministers' Association will sponsor a community-wide Easter sunrise service at the Highland Biblical Gardens at 6 a.m. Sunday. The gardens are on rural road 1458 just east of NC 211 south of Raeford.

The Rev. Herman Winberry, Raeford United Methodist Church pastor, will deliver the message. There will be special music and congregational singing, according to the Rev. John C. Ropp, Association president.

In case of rain the service will be held at the Raeford United Methodist Church.

This Service is for anyone in the area, and all are invited and urged to take part. This Easter service is a service of worship to remember the Christian's celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave after His crucifixion on Good Friday. Those taking part will unite with thousands all over the world who will participate in similar services.

who both work and live on federal installations, such as Ft. Bragg or Pope Air Force Base. "B" students are children whose parents work on a federal installation but live in the civilian community.

W. E. (Gene) Carter Named Executive Vice President

A Raeford native has been named executive vice president and manager of The Bank of Raeford to replace Robert B. Lewis who is retiring as president after 53 years employment at the bank.

W. E. (Gene) Carter, a 1958 Hoke High School graduate, will assume duties at the bank sometime between mid-May and June 1. He attended Campbell College in Buies Creek and is presently vice president and manager of Waccamaw Bank in Chadbourn.

For the past seven years, Carter has been associated with Waccamaw Bank in Tabor City, Lumberton and Chadbourn. He has taken numerous American Institute of Banking courses and will complete the Carolina School of Banking this summer.

During the past four years in Chadbourn he was active in church, civic and business affairs. He is president of the Chadbourn Civitan Club, vice president of the Chadbourn Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Columbus County Committee of 100, trustee and Sunday school teacher of the Chadbourn United Methodist Church, a member and former director of the Whiteville Country Club and a member of the advisory board of the Chadbourn primary and elementary schools.

Carter, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Carter of 219 S. Main Street, moved away from Raeford 15 years ago. He is married to the former Eloise Upchurch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Upchurch of 101 N. Magnolia Street. They have one son, William, age three. Mrs. Carter taught sixth and seventh

The Hoke County Board of Education this week took a 60-day option on two lots totaling 14.38 acres south of Harris Avenue to be the site of the new Board of Education Building. Final decision on purchase of the land is subject to approval of the State School House Planning Committee. Representatives of the state committee were to inspect the site Wednesday.

If the option is picked up Robert H. and Mamie R. Gatlin 301 Harris Ave., will sell the lots for \$28,500. Terms of the option include a \$200 non-refundable deposit. If the option is picked up, the \$200 will be deducted from the purchase price. If no action is taken by June 15 the deposit will be forfeited to the Gatlins.

In a special meeting Feb. 23 the Board of County Commissioners authorized the School Board to spend up to \$90,000 in revenue sharing funds for purchase of land and construction of a building.

Lot one of the Gatlin property is 9.95 acres located south of Harris Avenue between Magnolia and Wooley Streets. Lot two is 4.43 acres on the west side of Wooley Street directly opposite lot one. Tentative plans call for construction of the new building and a parking lot on lot two facing Wooley Street.

D.D. Abernethy, Hoke school superintendent, met with representatives of the architectural firm Hayes-Howell and Associates, Inc., of Southern Pines, Monday morning to discuss building plans. He reports the firm is working on rough drafts of the proposed building within the guideline "plan a functional building designed for future expansion and providing as much space as possible within the limits of available funds."

Abernethy commented, "Refinements come later." He reports the Board of County Commissioners will take over the present Board of Education building for county offices and would like to begin occupancy by the end of this year. But he says, "The architects seem to feel this time schedule would be difficult to meet."

The Gatlin property was recommended by the Board of Education land search committee at a special meeting April 12. The committee members Bobby Gibson, Dr. R.M. Jordan and William Howell reported the less than \$2,000 per acre

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grade special education and history classes in Whiteville, Lumberton and Tabor City and was a substitute teacher at Waccamaw Academy in Whiteville.

Carter who plans on moving his family to Raeford said, "I'm looking forward to settling in my home town and being associated with the people of Raeford."



NEW BANKER - W. E. (Gene) Carter, a Raeford native, will be the new executive vice president and manager of The Bank of Raeford replacing Robert B. Lewis, president, who is retiring. Carter, his wife, the former Eloise Upchurch of Raeford, and their three-year-old son William will move to Raeford soon.