

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Summer is now with us. For the past few years it seems that spring and fall have fallen by the wayside. The seasons now seem to be winter and summer.

I can remember years ago when the nights would be cool in spring and fall but the days would be warm, not hot like this week has started out.

I received the following letter from Raz Autry, principal at Hoke County High School:

Dear Sam:
Another school year has come and gone. I have many people to thank for the success we have enjoyed. As Principal of the High School I would like to express my deep appreciation to The News-Journal and its excellent staff, WSHB and its staff. We are also deeply indebted to the Raeford Police Department and the Hoke County Rescue Squad; the Highway Department has been most generous to us.

All of these people that worked with and through these agencies have worked with us at any time we have called them, therefore on behalf of the young people and the faculty at Hoke County High School, "Thank You" for a job well done.

Sincerely
G. R. Autry

The wagon train will roll again this week and I can expect plenty of visitors in my part of town Thursday night. I hope that the trip is successful and horse and wagon lovers have a big time.

I miss R. B. Lewis coming by the office and knocking on the window on his way to work at the Bank of Raeford. I would think that retiring would work two ways. The daily routine one has lived for many years must now be changed and a new course set for life. Mr. Lewis has always been active so I would imagine that he will continue to be active in his retirement.

I understand that the Monday night drafting class taught by Robert Gatlin had graduation exercises recently. From all reports it was a formal occasion with cap and gowns worn by the graduates. Right Ken McNeill.

In looking at the proposed city and county budgets it seems that a recreation program will be well financed this year. This is as it should be so as to keep the young people active and in the right kind of recreation.

Congratulations are in order to the Hoke High girls that won in the track meet last Saturday in Raleigh. Also to the coach, Billy Colston.

75 Attend Center Opening

The Recreation Commission teen center opened Friday night to the music of the Survivals. Approximately 75 young people attended.

The center, located in the south end of the municipal building, will be open Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Fridays from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Nights when a band is performing 75 cents admission will be charged with all proceeds going to the musicians.

Operation of the center is sponsored by the Recreation Commission with W.K. Morgan serving as advisor to the teen board composed of Philip Kelton, Martha Ann Wood, Queen Esther Hollingsworth, Terry Dial, Wanda Locklear, and Franklin Jordan. Patricia Scott, Upchurch Teacher is also assisting.

The Recreation Commission is supplying chaperones and according to Morgan volunteers are needed for chaperone duty. Individuals wishing to assist may call Morgan at 875-2971.

Man Committed

An Antioch man was committed to Dorothea Dix Hospital, Raleigh, for hospitalization and treatment as the result of a hearing before the clerk of court of the general court of justice in Wake County on May 31.

Joseph Scott, represented at the hearing by Fayetteville attorney Lucy S. Hair, was committed for up to 180 days.

Scott was originally committed May 26 after he held members of his family hostage in their home.

County Commissioners Determine: County Building Now, Library Later

Raeford Shares Revenue Sharing

At a special meeting May 31 the city council allocated \$218,654 in revenue sharing funds. The action permits City Manager John Gaddy to file a planned use report with the federal government by June 20 as required by law.

The amount represents all revenue sharing funds received to date and those anticipated through the end of June 1974.

Allocations approved by the councilmen are city hall renovation, \$64,654; city garage and shed construction, \$40,000; recreation parks, \$34,000; fire truck, \$40,000; airport buildings, \$20,000; library, \$10,000; and garbage disposal, \$10,000.

City Buildings

The city has been occupying a portion of the Municipal Building under a lease-purchase agreement and will buy the structure before undertaking renovations. The amount allocated for renovation does not include purchase of price of the building which is approximately \$27,000.

A garage and sheds to house city vehicles could be constructed on land already owned by the city. Two possible sites are tracts on East Prospect Avenue and on US 401 North at Rockfish Creek.

Additional Allocations

The airport allocation would be used for dual-duty four-plane hanger and maintenance building which would be leased or rented to Gene Thacker, airport manager.

The \$34,000 allocated to recreation parks includes \$15,000 allocated in March plus an additional \$19,000. Councilman Franklin Teal stressed the funds should be used for non-recurring expenses.

It was pointed out at the meeting the city owns three fire trucks, only two are presently in use and one of those does not meet insurance standards. Year makes are 1938, 1948 and 1966. It is planned to trade the 1948 truck for a new one.

The \$10,000 library allocation will be earmarked for fixed asset use such as a building. The Bicentennial Committee has chosen construction of a new library as their project and is planning to conduct a building fund drive.

The \$10,000 garbage disposal allocation would be the city's share of digging equipment for the City-County Landfill. Gaddy pointed out Raeford paid about \$10,000 to have ditches dug at the landfill last year.

According to revenue sharing regulations allocations listed in the planned use report may be amended in the future if need arises.

Other Action

In other action the council approved paying \$349.80 to the Region N Council of Governments, a rate of 11 cents per capita. This is slightly higher than last year's \$318.

Council members discussed Raeford

traffic patterns and possible one-way streets. It was reported Kimberly, Horn and Associates, Engineers and Planners in Raleigh would conduct a traffic study for \$5,000. The council decided to request state assistance since streets suffering the greatest traffic problems are or intersect with state highway.

Reports Show Rash of Thefts

The Sheriff's Department reports a series of larcenies and breakins recently. Donald Lowery, Dial Cross Roads, Antioch, reported thieves entered his building by a back window Sunday and took pocket knives, pennies, a billfold and cigarette lighters, all valued at \$10.60.

The building was again broken into Monday night and thieves broke into a pool table and took an undermined amount of change.

Mike McQuage, Shannon Road, reported Monday someone had taken a mimi bike valued at \$150 from Cross Roads Grocery on NC 211 sometime Sunday night.

Friday William H. Lowe reported four hubcaps, three tires and rims were removed from a car on Bargain Motors Harris Ave. lot sometime the night of May 31. Missing items are valued at \$105. Joe Smith, Antioch, told authorities a lawn mower valued at \$90 was taken from under his garage the night of May 30.

Lawrence Stanton, city employee, reported a spotlight was damaged and a pillow taken from the new bulldozer and a hand plow stolen from the City-County Landfill during the night of May 31. Missing items were valued at \$58. Damage to the spotlight was \$2.95.

Bill Southern, reported a battery valued at \$35 was taken from a truck at the State Highway Maintenance Shop sometime between May 29 and June 5. Elizabeth Johnson reported her billfold taken from her desk in a Scurlock School classroom May 29. The billfold was later recovered with all items except \$5.

James Lentz, Lentz Antique Shop, NC 211 West, reported a breakin between May 28 and May 31 when items totaling \$750 were taken. Thieves apparently entered by breaking a window. See REPORT, Page 13

Child Bruised

The Sheriff's Department is investigating a reported child molesting incident. The alleged attack was discovered by the four-year-old victim's mother about 11 p.m. Saturday and reported to authorities at 1:25 p.m. Sunday.

The incident report shows the little girl was taken to Scotland Memorial Hospital by her mother and a deputy sheriff where an examination revealed bruises.



REPORTS FOR DUTY - Chester R. Bolton reported for duty Friday at the Hoke County Sheriff's Department. Bolton, one of two new deputies hired this month, lives at Rt. 3, Raeford.

Vacation Hints

Vacation season is here and every home owner worries about his untended home while he should be relaxing. Acting Police Chief Leonard Wiggins has a few hints that should minimize the worry.

Publicizing a vacation should wait until it is over. Arrangements should be made with neighbors or relatives to keep newspapers from piling up in the yard or on the porch.

Another precaution would be to leave a light on in the house to give the appearance someone is home. The best precaution of all is to notify the police department of vacation plans. Officers will check an untended residence more often than normal, will hand check doors and windows once or twice per day.

City Council Accepts Bid

The City Council Monday at its regular meeting accepted a bid of \$4,015 before taxes for the purchase of a branch chipper to be used to grind and chip branches and wood refuse. The chipper will not only eliminate branches filling the landfill, but will create chips that can be used for mulch, stock bedding and soil structure improvement.

The bid, by H and H Equipment Company of Charlotte, was the lowest submitted. Other bids were \$4,605 before taxes by Southland Equipment Company of Charlotte, \$4,649 before taxes by Controlled Environment Inc. of Pineville, and \$4,700 before taxes by Container Corporation of Carolina of Pineville.

The council also approved a contract with the state for \$2,600 to provide planning programs for the coming year in the areas of base mapping, updating of land use map and analysis, land development planning, study for housing needs and planning coordination of public and private agencies to meet those needs.

The contract will also provide planning assistance to the city manager, planning board, and city council in coordinating plans prepared with the programs of the school board, division

of recreation, Highway Commission and other state and federal agencies concerned with planning.

The council agreed to purchase the building occupied by the offices making up City Hall. The part of the building housing the water department, garage, police department and fire department are owned by the city.

The remainder of the building has been occupied on a lease - purchase agreement with Thomas, Snead and McNeill. The city has paid \$4,200 per year for four years. The balance owed is approximately \$27,000.

In other action, the council, on request, approved the title of finance officer be awarded Andrea Garrison, bookkeeper for the City of Raeford. Betty Smith, Raeford, was appointed City Tax Collector.

The council agreed to advertise for bids for curbing, guttering and resurfacing some streets inside city limits, and to advertise for bids on the purchase of a street sweeping machine. The council accepted the proposal that Memorial Day be added to the list of holidays for city employees.

Also approved at Monday night's meeting was to purchase a street sweeper. See CITY, Page 13

Is Hoke Hungry?

BY KAY PIOTRZKOWSKI

This is the second of occasional articles concerning hunger in Hoke County. These pieces are written in light of the recent U. S. Senate committee on hunger report which claims Hoke is one of 30 hunger counties in North Carolina. They are also undertaken in an effort to check the veracity of a story by Paul Bernish which appeared on page one of the May 20 edition of the Charlotte Observer.

Hunger County The Senate report titled "Hunger - 1973" was released last month. Population and income figures for the study were based on the 1970 census. The number of people using federal food programs was based on April 1972 participation.

According to this federal study Hoke County is a "Hunger County," a county in which "more than 25 percent of the population is poor, but fewer than one-third of those poor benefit from the Federal food programs."

With each federal study on hunger the criteria changes based on national findings. In 1968 the study "Hunger In America" designated a county a Hunger County if at least 40 percent of the population lived in poverty, if fewer than 25 percent of these people participated in food programs and if the newborn mortality rate was twice the national average.

The study shows Hoke County with 29 percent of its people in poverty and only 32 percent of those poor receiving Federal food assistance.

Hoke, according to the 1970 census, had 16,436 population. Twenty-nine percent poor would be 4,766 people. Thirty-two percent of these 1,525 people were benefiting from federal food programs at the time, reports the Senate study.

Base Figures The choice of April 1972 as the comparison month was an unfortunate

one for Hoke County because the surplus commodity food distribution program in the county was phasing out at that time and applications were being accepted for the new Federal food stamp program.

Participation in April 1973 had grown to 2,401 people or almost 51 percent of the poor in the county based on 1970 census.

These figures do not include the number of children receiving free lunches and breakfasts at Hoke County schools.

"Hunger - 1973" lists poverty income for a family of four in 1970 as less than \$3,968. This has been upgraded for 1973 to \$4,450. Current figures on Hoke income would enable a more accurate updating of the status of Hoke County where hunger and participation in food programs are concerned.

Program Comparison Another aspect which affects the recipients of the federal food programs is the difference in value received between the commodities distribution program and the food stamp program.

Under the commodity distribution program the average value of foods distributed is only \$7 a month, or 23 cents per person per day. Under the food stamp program the figure is less than \$1 a person per day for a family of four, according to the most recent federal study.

One other aspect which might be responsible for a difference in participation rate between the two food programs is certification and distribution.

Under commodity distribution the Department of Social Services (DSS) certified applicants for the program but distribution of commodities was the responsibility of the County Commissioners. Under the food stamp program DSS certifies applicants and distributes the stamps.

At their regular monthly meeting Monday county commissioners allocated \$145,364 in revenue sharing funds for a new County Office Building. Ten percent is designated for land purchase and 90 percent for construction.

This action on revenue funds for January to June 1973 permits County Manager T. B. Lester to file a planned use report with the federal government by June 20 as required by law.

Discussion

Before the vote on revenue sharing was taken, a discussion concerning designating some of the funds for a new library was held.

The discussion was introduced by Commissioner Ralph Barnhart when he reminded other commissioners the library board was scheduled for appearance at the meeting.

He pointed out the library board was seeking financial help. Barnhart stressed the board of county commissioners owed the library board an answer concerning use of revenue sharing money for the library building fund.

Lester recommended the money not be committed to a library at this time because construction of a new library is "way in the future." He said time limits on spending the money would expire and the commissioners would be forced to request an extension from the federal government.

Barnhart said he would like to do both, build a County Office Building and contribute to the library building fund.

Commissioner Tom McBryde remarked, "I agree but lets do one at a time. The number one need is a County Office Building."

Commissioner John Balfour commented building a County Office Building to house the welfare department is doing a service to poverty groups.

Lester pointed out no one had promised the library board any of the money.

McBryde commented there will be more revenue sharing funds later. Chairman T. C. Jones agreed, "I'm sure we'll have money to do both eventually."

Funds and Interest

The county is expected to receive \$290,000 in revenue sharing funds for fiscal year 1973 - 74. No mention was made of plans for the approximately \$136,000 remaining of the 1972 revenue sharing funds.

Nor was there any discussion of use for the estimated \$20 a day interest earned since December on the first revenue check for \$129,107 or additional interest drawn on subsequent checks.

Not Advised

When the library board appeared and presented information concerning the planned structure R. Palmer Willcox said, "We hope the county would consider designating some part of revenue sharing for the library."

Jones did not advise library representatives of the earlier discussion and vote concerning library versus County Office Building and use of revenue sharing funds.

As library board members were leaving and no one had yet informed them of the vote, McBryde advised Willcox that revenue sharing funds had been spent before the library board entered the room.

Funds Stopped

The library board showed commissioners plans of the Davie County library which might serve, with some modification, as plans for the

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Old Cars Go

Arrangements to rid Hoke County of abandoned and junked cars are being made by the Raeford Kiwanis Club and the Raeford Woman's Club.

At least 100 cars must be designated for removal before the auto crushing firm will come to Hoke County reports William Poole, Kiwanis member.

Individuals wishing to have old vehicles removed should contact, by phone or in person, Raeford Auto Company, Main Street, 875-2125; Hoke Auto Company, 217 N. Main St., 875-3363; or Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, 120 W. Edinborough, 875-2179.

These three points have release forms which must be signed by car owner or property owner before vehicles may be picked up. They will also need to know address where car is located.



CITY APPROVES PURCHASE - The City Council Monday agreed to purchase this single - story section of City Hall. The two - story section houses the Water Department, garage, Police Department and Fire Department and is owned by the city. The one - story section, houses offices occupied by the city manager and the Teen Center. It has been occupied on a lease - purchase agreement and is owned by Thomas, Snead and McNeill.