

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

I have received many letters since starting this column in The News-Journal but the following leaves me somewhat puzzled.

"Dear Sir:
"I want to thank you for the paragraph in the July 5th News-Journal Around Town.

"Thanks,"

Now I had several different subjects in the column last week and some had more than one paragraph. So I don't know which item the letter writer is thanking me for. Anyway he did read the column and liked a paragraph.

Mrs. Paul Solomon was by the office last week and wants to thank the people of Hoke County for the contribution to the Heart Fund Drive. The drive netted over \$1900 and many others helped with the drive and she wanted to thank them also.

If you want to make a memorial contribution to the heart fund it can be made to Bobby Conoly at The Bank of Raeford.

Tom McBryde wants me to sell his rye crop for the price I quoted in the column last week. Now I should have added the word "grass" to rye and then he would have known what I was writing about. Anyway rye grass seed will be higher this year.

My daughter, Sarah, was home this weekend from Virginia Beach and when she returned Sunday three families had brought things by the house to be given to their sons and daughters that are now living at Virginia Beach. This is a small world after all.

The thunderstorms last week played havoc with some TV sets in the county. I have heard of three sets that were hit by the lightning. Maybe others were hit and I didn't hear about them.

If you want to hear the latest about California go by the Hotel Barber Shop and Stanley Koonce will tell you. Now he may lose his voice but I think he will cut a record so you won't miss a thing. Stanley and Louise went last week to visit their son and daughter - in - law in California and had a very nice time. They left Saturday night by plane from Fayetteville and returned Sunday night.

Farm Vote Set Tuesday

Hoke County flue-cured tobacco farmers are reminded of the referendum to be held Tuesday with polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Growers will determine if they want to continue the acreage - poundage program and price support in 1974, 1975, and 1976. The program, which has been in effect since

Hunt Names McFadyen

Lt. Gov. Jim Hunt has named former State Rep. Neill L. McFadyen of Raeford to the Tax Study Commission.

Hunt also reappointed senators Herman Moore, D - Mecklenburg, the commission chairman, and Edward Knox, D - Mecklenburg.

The commission is charged with reviewing the state's tax laws and recommending changes.

McFadyen, who has farming and real estate interests in Hoke County, served six terms in the House from 1961 to 1971.

He has been mayor of Raeford, chairman of the Hoke Board of Education, president of the Hoke Farm Bureau and president of the Sandhills Area Development Association.

Retailers Meet Discuss Plans

The Raeford Merchant's Association met Thursday morning to discuss plans for Labor Day sales promotion and Christmas season plans. Also discussed at the meeting were advantages and disadvantages of blue laws. The group decided to take no action on the subject

Board OKs School Year

The Hoke County Board of Education adopted the official 1973-74 school calendar at the regular monthly meeting July 2. The school year will open with pupil orientation Aug. 27 although teachers, under the new expanded term, will begin work Aug. 15.

Last day for students will be June 6. The teacher year extends to June 14 but the final three and a half days of that are vacation or holidays, one in lieu of Memorial Day when school will be in session for both faculty and students.

Student days off are Sept. 3, Labor Day (teachers off); Oct. 12 (teachers NCAE meeting); Nov. 22-26 Thanksgiving vacation and one day in lieu of Veterans Day (teachers work Nov. 26); December 19 through Jan. 1, 1974 winter vacation (teachers off); Jan. 22 (teachers work); March 6 (teachers work); April 15 through 19 spring vacation (teachers off); April 25 (teachers work). These dates are apt to change if schools close because of snow.

The board elected Charles M. Lassiter, Jack Johnson and Mary Sommers to teach at Hoke High School and Margie Kircus to teach at Upchurch.

Ernest R. Sutton and John D. McAllister, both assistant superintendents, were elected to two-year terms.

Lottery Will Fill Classes

Preparations are underway to begin three state kindergartens in Hoke County. One of each of the 26-student classes will be at McLaughlin, Scurlock and West Hoke Schools. The project will be funded with three \$19,800 state grants to cover hiring teachers, aides and purchase of supplies.

Names of children to attend the kindergartens will be chosen by lottery July 27. Parents of the children selected will be notified the following week.

Parents will be required to show their children's birth certificates and immunization records.

Eligible for selection for all children who will be five years old on or before Oct. 15. D. D. Abernethy, superintendent of schools, asks individuals who know of children in this age bracket to contact the Board of Education office, 875-4106.

The three new kindergarten classes are in addition to the four or five ESEA kindergartens which will continue in the county this coming year.

1965, will continue if approved by two-thirds or more of the growers voting.

All farmers 18 years of age or older are eligible to vote in the referendum if they share in the 1973 flue - cured tobacco crop or its proceeds. Where no tobacco is produced in 1973 on a tobacco allotment farm, only the owner and operator are eligible to vote.

This program is open to all eligible participants, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Polling places, designated by the Hoke County ASC Committee are Allendale Community House, Antioch Community House, Blue Springs Community House, Archie Clark's Store in McLaughlin, ASCS Office in Raeford, Stonewall Community House and Marshall Parks' Store (Montrose) in Quewhiffle.

Ken McNeill, chairman of the Hoke Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Committee, urges growers to consider carefully the facts about the acreage - poundage program before voting.

The acreage - poundage program for flue - cured tobacco allows carrying forward undermarketings from a short crop to the next year. Growers may also market up to 110 percent of the farm's poundage quota - without penalty - by borrowing from their next year's quota.

Price support under the acreage - poundage program is available on up to 110 percent of the farm's poundage quota if the harvested acreage is within the farm's acreage allotment. A marketing quota penalty applies to any tobacco marketed above 110 percent of the farm's poundage quota.

If growers do not approve the acreage - poundage quota program on July 17, no marketing quota, no acreage allotments, and no price support will be in effect for the 1974 flue - cured tobacco crop. Another referendum would be held next year for the subject



SWEARING IN - Clerk of Superior Court E.E. Smith administers oath of office to Mrs. Martha M. Clark of Blue Springs. Mrs. Clark assumed duties as register of deeds July 2. She has worked five years as assistant to now retired Register of Deeds J.E. Gullede. Mrs. Clark said she wants to carry on in the same efficient manner as her predecessor.

City Budget Adopted

The City Council held a regular monthly meeting July 2. The first order of business was to approve the city budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1973. The proposed city budget totaling \$1,057,915.70 in general fund revenues and revenue sharing funds was adopted without a change.

Budget spending is divided into four schedules with the largest allocation going to the general fund. Under general fund, street, sanitation and garbage disposal bit off the largest chunk of expected spending with \$218,484.56. The police Department was allocated \$90,099.92, an increase of more than

CofC Meets

The Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce held its regular board of directors monthly meeting Tuesday at the Family Restaurant.

It was reported that dues were coming in at a good pace this year. Twelve NEW members have joined the Chamber for the year 1973-74.

The doctor and dentist status was discussed. Continued efforts are being made to attract a doctor and a good "prospect" for a dentist has been located and every effort will be discussed at their monthly meeting.

It was also reported that the A&P and Mack's stores in the Edenborough Center are in the final stages. Opening dates should be announced in the near future.

The Sunday opening of some stores and the possibility of other opening in the future on Sunday were discussed by the board. Also, discussion of blue laws in general was held. No action by the board was made on blue laws, however, it was the opinion of the majority of the directors present that this (Blue Laws) is something the Chamber could not support and it should be left to the individual.

It was reported to the Board that Knit Away was expanding again and that an official announcement would be coming shortly. Continental Yarn at Rockfish is in the final stages of their building program.

A new contract with the N.C. Dept of Motor Vehicles has been signed with an increase from .30 to .32 fee per transaction. The Chamber is the license plate contractor for Hoke County. Based on approximately 14,000 transactions a year, this should increase the Chamber's budget by \$300.

Other activities in the future were discussed briefly including Fire Prevention Week, shopping center opening, and working with the Merchant's Association on Christmas plans.

Man Cited

Charles E. Handon, 20, Rt. 1, Box 589, posted \$200 bond Monday and is scheduled to appear in district court Friday to face felonious hit and run charges in connection with an incident Saturday evening on Airport Road.

Handon allegedly hit Mr. and Mrs. Nathan June Campbell with his vehicle following an argument over Handon's relationship with the Campbell's 13 - year - old daughter. Witnesses report Mrs. Campbell was struck first and then the vehicle hit her husband. Campbell was taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital by Morrison Ambulance Service. Highway Patrolman E. W. Coen investigated the incident.

Correction

William Hector Odum, 44, of Rockfish was the person arrested near Davis' Bridge July 1 and charged with DUI and resisting arrest, not William T. Odum, 21, 614 Stewart Street as listed in last week's News - Journal.

County Tax Rate Down Two Cents

Jury Rules No Cause

A corner's jury July 3 found no probable cause to bind James Leslie Britt over to the grand jury in the June 29 shooting death of James McDonald, 31, Rt. 1, Raeford.

Two witnesses testified that Britt, owner of Britt's Store (old Wayside Station) on U.S. 401 north, fired five shots at McDonald. At the time of the shooting Britt was running backwards as McDonald advanced on him. Both Mrs. Nevla Jones and her daughter testified McDonald had his right arm raised and brought it down toward Britt. They said McDonald kept advancing on Britt after the first, second and third shots were fired and did not falter until the first shot was fired.

Other testimony revealed McDonald had apparently broken windows in the Jones' home, and Britt's Store. Witnesses said McDonald had approached Jones' front door on more than one occasion that evening and had rattled the door in such a manner as to frighten the occupants of the building.

Deputy Sheriff Alex Norton and Dr. Riley Jordan, medical examiner, both testified to finding a knife with McDonald's body after the shooting.

Tuesday Dr. Jordan said the autopsy report had arrived and revealed McDonald had been shot twice in the arm and three times in the chest.

Also testifying at the inquest were Marlin and Guilliford Jones. Both said McDonald approached their home, asked for water, later rattled the door and frightened them. Neither saw the shooting, but Guilliford said, "I would have done the same thing (as Britt)."

Storm Damage Varied

Recent storms left a trail of damages throughout the county. Most of the damage reported has been electrical, but according to Wendell Young, county agent, some crops have been damaged.

Young reported two acres of tobacco flattened and 25 to 30 feet tall pine trees topped by strong winds on the James Hendrix farm July 5. Light hail damage to Wayside Community crops was reported Monday.

Electrical damage seemed spotty with most incidence occurring when lightning struck power lines and traveled into homes through wires knocking out electrical appliances.

Mrs. Martha M. Clark, Blue Springs, says lightning struck her home early last week knocking a hole in her chimney, causing damage to the roof, blowing fuses and knocking out lights in the kitchen and dining room. The lightning also melted Mrs. Clark's telephone line and a new one had to be installed before service could be restored.

The Presbyterian Church, Edinborough Avenue, also received electrical damages. The air conditioning, pipe organ and phones were knocked out July 5, but no damage was done to the building.

Mrs. Helen Barrington, 1104 N. Fulton, reported lightning knocked out her air conditioner, electric stove, and two television sets. Telephone lines were melted and had to be rewired. She says her electric clocks stopped at 2:15 p.m. July 5 and power was off about six hours.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Gatlin, 301 Harris Ave., report lightning struck their central air conditioning unit and traveled into the house knocking out the television and shattering an electric powered antenna changer during the July 5 storm.

Rainfall records kept by Gatlin, show Monday's rainfall sporadic over the county. Reports from west of Raeford were .6 to 1 inch of rain while the

Theft Protection Program Starts

Operation Identification, a protective measure being introduced in the City of Raeford by the Public Affairs Dept. of the Raeford Woman's Club, Mrs. Graham Clark, chairman, in cooperation with local police is designed to protect property against theft.

Participation in Operation ID requires homeowners engrave their social security number on all valuable

At meetings July 2 the board of county commissioners approved a two cent reduction in county tax rate for 1973-74. The new rate is \$1.46 per \$100 assessed valuation as compared with \$1.48 for 1972-73 rate.

No citizens attended the public budget hearing and commissioners approved the \$1.3 million (including revenue sharing funds) budget.

In other action the board witnessed the swearing in of Mrs. Martha M. Clark as register of deeds. She succeeds J. E. Gullede who has retired.

The board designated the recreation commission as a legal operating body which can accept public funds, and private gifts and donations. Commission members re-appointed to one - year terms are Benny McLeod, chairman, George Wood and Ellen Willis; two - year terms, R. Palmer Willcox, Charles Hottel and Mrs. Milo Postel; and three - year terms, D. D. Abernethy, Robert Doby and Allan Smythe.

The board approved \$500 to repair the Allendale Community House and petitioned the state Highway Department to place the landfill road on the state maintained system. Reappointed to the South Eastern Economic Development Commission were Tom McBryde, Dr. R. G. Townsend and J. H. Austin (replacing William Windley).

Commissioners also tentatively approved allocating \$200,000 in revenue sharing funds for the new county library - if and when the funds are available.

The board approved a resolution recommending Richard Condra as 4th vice president of N. C. Association of County Commissioners.

At a special evening meeting the commissioners approved a \$12,000 supplement to Morrison Ambulance Service to provide service in the county. Last year Morrison received \$5,000 and late last month the commissioners had agreed to increase the supplement to \$8,600 but Morrison said he could not continue to operate on less than \$12,000.



STRUCK BY LIGHTNING - Lightning hit tall pine tree in front of Mrs. Helen Barrington's N. Fulton Street residence Thursday afternoon. Bolt apparently hit top of tree and traveled down trunk to ground stripping bark along its path. Some items in Mrs. Barrington's home were damaged.

Wayside Community reported 2.2 inches with light hail. Gatlin reports the average rainfall in Raeford Monday as 3/4 inch.

Ed Chappell of Carolina Power & Light says overall damage throughout the county has been light. He said one main power line was down in the July 5 storm, but the 400 customers it served were only without electricity for 15 to 20 minutes. Other minor repairs reported by Chappell were to transformers blown by electrical storms.

Bill Southern, Hoke County Highway Department foreman, said no damage to roads or highways has been reported as a result of the recent storms.

possessions. The program begins Monday.

An engraving tool to be used for Operation ID was presented to Police Chief Leonard Wiggins by Mrs. Pete Parker, chairman of the RWC Crime Department.

Residents of Raeford wishing to participate in the program should call

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