

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The letter printed in this column last week sent in by Mrs. Joyce C. Monroe has caused some comment. I hope that school officials can work out a schedule so that the youngsters that can't make the school team will be able to play ball. I know for a fact that school officials have been thinking about an idea of getting something going on this project.

While on the subject of letters I would like to make clear once again that the policy of this paper both in my column and in the Letters to Editor column, is to publish all letters whether we agree with the writer or not so long as the letter is not slanderous toward anyone and is in good taste. It is absolutely necessary that the writer sign the letter. If for good cause shown the writer's name will be omitted but only for a good reason.

I received a letter this week that had a good point in the letter but was only signed "A Concerned Parent." If the writer of this letter will come forward and observe the above rules I will be glad to publish the letter in next week's column. I will hold it for another week and await the writer to come by and sign the letter.

If a point is strong enough to write a letter about it is strong enough for the writer to sign it.

So if you write a letter and want it published, just have the courage to sign them.



LIBRARY FUND DONATION - Miss Isabelle McFadyen, left, presents a check for \$15 to Hoke County Bicentennial Library Fund Chairman R.B. Lewis. The donation from the Friendship Club was given in honor of Mrs. Lee Cameron, Hoke County librarian.

Three Donations Start Library Fund Drive

At a meeting September 11 the library fund drive received three donations totaling \$1,030., reports R.B. Lewis, Hoke County Bicentennial Library Fund drive chairman. The largest was a \$1,000 gift from Mrs. J.M. Andrews and Horace Andrews as a memorial to J.M. Andrews, husband and father. The two others, both \$15, were from Hoke County Friendship Club and Mrs. A.M. McGee.

The committee's goal is to raise \$100,000 toward cost of a new Hoke County Library building as the county's bicentennial project. The campaign to raise the money from corporations, businesses, civic clubs, schools, churches, scouts and individuals will begin October 1.

Solicitors who reside throughout the county will accept donations. Contributors may also mail donations to Lewis at 123 W. Prospect Ave. in Raeford. Memorial donations may also be contributed. Township solicitor chairmen and team members are:

Raeford - Mrs. J. Lawrence McNeill, chairman, Mrs. Edwin L. McNeill, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coley, Mrs. Charles Hostetler, Mrs. Truman Austin, Joe Stanley, Ernest Bratcher, William S. Thomas, Fred Holland, Graham Pope, Mrs. N.L. McFadyen and Mrs. J.B. McLeod.

McLauchlin Township - Mrs. Caroline Parker, chairman, Mrs. Herman Koonce, Omer Register, Mrs. Robert McNeill, Mrs. Earl Conoly, Wade McDougald and Eugene Shannon.

Stonewall Township - Mrs. David Hendrix, chairman, John E. McGougan, James D. McGougan, Tom W. Jones, Mrs. Brown Hendrix, Mrs. Clara Gibson Jones and Mrs. Weldon Bishop.

Antioch Township - Miss Jean Hodgins, co-chairman, Mrs. A.S. Baldwin, co-chairman, Mrs. Robert Gibson, Joel Dial and John H. McNeill Jr.

Blue Springs Township - Earl Hendrix, chairman, Mr. and Mrs. Willie McPhaul, Anthony Oxendine, Willie Ron Jacobs, James Albert Hunt, Edwin Hasty and Jeff Harris.

Quewhiffle Township - Mrs. D.L. Huff Jr., chairman, Floyd Dees, Al Potts, Dan Vincent, Harold Satterwhite, Mrs. Peter S. Sawyer, and Mrs. Warren Phillips.

Allendale Township - Miss Sallie Liles, chairman, Mrs. Venetta McAllister, Miss Willa McLauchlin, Oris McPhatter and the Rev. Neill McPhatter. Raeford industries and businesses - Lewis and Harold Gillis.

Church Opens Center

The old Burlington School at Duffie's Station has been purchased by the Laurinburg District of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, under the direction of the Rev. S.J. Farrar, presiding elder at Cary. The school has been renamed The Laurinburg District Center. The churches in the Raeford-Hoke County area affiliated with this district are McLauchlin Chapel, M.H. Williams, pastor; South Freedom and Mt. Zion, L.O. Melvin, pastor; and Mountain

Grove, H.J. Moore, Pastor. Seventeen other churches make up this Laurinburg District.

The district has three major goals in mind for use of the two-building facility: a day care center, youth recreation, and a rest home.

The day care center is open daily this week at 1 p.m. for registration of children ages 2 and older. The first full day of operation is Monday. Applications may be picked up from the Rev. Milton H. Williams, Annie Little or at the center. At present, children, are being accepted from Robeson and Hoke Counties with transportation provided by the center for students in the Red Springs - Raeford area. One hot meal and two snacks will be prepared by the center's kitchen staff each day.

Mrs. C.M. Green, who holds a master's degree in education, is in charge of instruction at the center. Programs will include a nursery for 2-4 year olds, a pre-kindergarten for 4-5 year olds, a kindergarten for 5-6 year olds, and after school care and activities for school-age children. The Reverend Williams, may be contacted at 875-2205 between 3:45 and 7 p.m. weekdays.

A portion of this same building will also be used for youth activities in the evenings and on weekends. Sports will be available in season; baseball, basketball, softball, tennis and other indoor games. The teams will be drawn from the twenty-one churches involved. A swimming pool will be constructed and a certified swimming instructor and life guards will be on duty. A picnic area will be provided.

These plans are expected to be completed and the recreation department in full operation by May 1, 1974. Membership will be open to church affiliated groups.

The older building at the district center site is being completely renovated for a rest home to house approximately 20 patients. Tentative plans call for rest home opening within 90 days. A public open house is planned for the facility.

Prisoner On Leave Leads Law On High Speed Chase



RESULTS OF HIGH SPEED CHASE - High speed chase on shot out tire string mop like remnants of tire fibers dangling from bent and worn rim. Early Sunday morning chase took place in Raeford and Hoke County at speeds reported in excess of 100 miles an hour. Alleged driver of fleeing car was Freddie Revels Jr. who was on home leave from prison in Richmond County. In November 1972 Revels began serving two concurrent 9 to 10 year sentences for breaking, entering and larceny of Arabia Golf Club in August 1971. At one point State Highway Patrolman C. A. Bennett fired three shots at Revels' vehicle, one hit tire blowing it. One Hoke County deputy sheriff and a Raeford policeman assisted in the chase.

Early Sunday morning Freddie Revels Jr., formerly of Hoke County, ran afoul of the law while on home leave from a North Carolina Correctional facility in Richmond County.

Last November Revels began serving two 9 to 10 - year consecutive sentences for breaking, entering and larceny of the Arabia Golf Course clubhouse in August 1971.

During his most recent scrape with law enforcement officers, Revels was chased through Raeford and Hoke County at speeds alleged to be in excess of 100 miles an hour. In the course of this chase Revels' vehicle reportedly collided with a state highway patrol car, a truck and a tree.

His vehicle was fired on three times after he allegedly tried to run down State Trooper C. A. Bennett. The incident ended with Revels being transferred to a more secure state prison unit and his home leave privileges rescinded indefinitely according to correctional officials J. C. Harris Jr. and Sandy Tuten.

Correctional and law enforcement officials agree Revels was on home leave but none were able to inform The News - Journal the exact time limits on the leave.

At approximately 12:45 a.m. Sunday Trooper Bennett was manning radar on U. S. 401 north about five miles from Raeford when a 1970 Chevrolet passed traveling south at a high rate of speed. Bennett gave chase and followed the car to rural paved route 1405. The suspect turned left at Pete Peterson's Store, streaked past the Adult Club and sped through Robbins Heights. During the chase Bennett reports the blue light and siren on his vehicle were activated.

Then the speeding car reportedly went west on Prospect through a stop sign, crossed U. S. 401 business through a stop sign at an "extremely high rate of speed" and apparently lost control on a sharp curve near the Oakdale Gin.

The 1970 vehicle reportedly went out of control and spun around three or four times on the highway and struck the front of Bennett's patrol car with the left side of the suspect's vehicle. It was at this time Bennett says he saw the driver's face and recognized him as Revels and could also see Revels' wife, Peggy Harris Revels in the car.

Revels then, according to Bennett, regained control of the vehicle and continued north on N. C. 20 toward Raeford. Once inside the city limits Revels turned into a private drive at Agnes Mae Campbell's home. The dirt drive is about a half mile in length and is a dead end. At the dead end Revels' vehicle slid and the rear of the fleeing vehicle struck a small tree, reports Bennett. The patrol car then hit the right side of the suspect's car with

See CHASE, Page 13

Four Convicted In Area Thefts

Four men were convicted in District Court Friday on charges stemming from the August 28 breakin at Parks Grocery and the August 29 breakin and theft at Upchurch School.

Robert L. McNeill, Raeford, was convicted of misdemeanor larceny, and received 12 months. The State presented no evidence on charges of felonious breaking and entering and felonious receiving. He was reportedly wanted by the U.S. Marine Corps for being absent without leave.

Gregory William Jordan, Rt. 1, was convicted of misdemeanor breaking and entering and misdemeanor larceny in connection with the Upchurch School incident and received four years suspended five years and was placed on five-years probation. He was also convicted of misdemeanor breaking and entering in the Parks Grocery case and received a consecutive 12-month sentence suspended five years and was placed on five-years probation with terms he pay \$32 restitution to the Hoke County Board of Education, \$218 restitution to various pawn shops, a \$250 fine and costs. The state took no pros on two companion charges of felonious larceny.

Dwayne Toomer McNeill, Raeford, was convicted on two counts of misdemeanor breaking and entering and one count of misdemeanor larceny. He received two consecutive two-year terms suspended five years in the Upchurch School case, and was placed on five years probation. He received 12 months suspended five years for the breaking and entering of Parks Grocery, and was placed on five-years probation with the

See THEFTS, Page 13

Two Seek Third Terms

Although no one has filed for city office with the County Election Board, Raeford's mayor and one city councilman expressed intentions to run for a third term in office. One councilman said he definitely would not run, and three councilmen were undecided.

John K. McNeill Jr. said he would seek a third term as mayor. He said he had worked in city government long enough for it to become a "way of life."

"The city is working on two or three projects I would like to see continued," said McNeill. "One project is the expansion of the city's water system. The town needs this. I'm also concerned with the traffic problem in the downtown area, improvement of City Hall facilities and construction of the maintenance garage for city vehicles. I feel with the past experience I have, I could contribute to the completion of these and other projects."

McNeill further stated he was not interested in seeing the town get too large. "I think natural growth will increase the population. We're geared to handle that increase. The people of Raeford have set up services to enable several industries and new businesses to locate here and we're just getting our heads above water."

"With revenue sharing and other income, the city has been able to do things we wouldn't ordinarily, such as

contribute to the library and recreation funds and hold the tax rate steady."

City Councilman Hestel Garrison also made known his plans to seek a third term but said he had not filed to run for office as yet.

Franklin Teal of Raeford Savings and Loan Assn. stated he definitely would not seek another term as councilman. Although his job takes more of his time now, Teal said his main reason for not running was that he thought, "Fight and a half years as city councilman is long enough."

"I'd like to thank the people of Raeford for letting me serve eight and a half years. It has been something I enjoyed doing. I served with two mayors, two city managers and about nine councilmen and never heard what I thought was a selfish vote from anyone," said Teal.

"Although I take no personal credit, the city has made a lot of progress in the last ten years and I will continue to have an interest in city government," continued Teal. "For those interested in running for city government, I do not consider it a thankless job as some say, I did the best I could."

Graham Clark, Crawford Thomas and James B. (Bennie) McLeod, holders of the remaining council seats, said they have not decided whether to seek additional terms as city councilmen.

Hoke Native Joins Force

Raeford Police Chief V. Leonard Wiggins announced the hiring of a new patrolman for the Raeford Police Department.

John J. McNeill, 36, a Hoke County native with 15 years experience on the New York City Police Department, joined the Raeford force Sunday. The Upchurch High School graduate has attended the FBI School, N.Y. State Troopers Academy, Institute of Basic Research at Staten Island, N.Y. and the basic police course at Fayetteville Technical Institute.

For the past three months he has worked for the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department and is a former employee of The News-Journal.

McNeill replaces Gilbert Tillman who resigned from the force Saturday after six months as a Raeford policeman.

The new policeman lives in Fayetteville with his wife and their four children ages from two to seven. The

family hopes to move to Raeford soon, possibly in the Robbins Heights area.



JOHN J. McNEILL



Tuesday morning in the Post Office Harvey Warlick asked me if a certain box was rented by the Raeford Savings and Loan. I said I didn't know and why? He said to come look and the above picture shows a dirty and cut golf ball in a box. Now Harvey and I are golf partners and play against Frank Teal and N.L. McFadyen most of the time. Of course Frank happens to be manager of the Savings and Loan so maybe if you put two and two together you can see what Harvey was driving at.

Bobby Cox, president of the Hoke County Swingers, was by the office Monday and said that the week of September 17 - 23 was National Square Dance Week. He said that the Swingers would get together, but they didn't plan any special event for the week.

I would like to know how many weeks out of the year don't have some kind of special week; or maybe how many have more than one? If anyone can answer these questions, please let me know.

The drive for the Library Building is getting ready to move out and it seems that the organization under the leadership of R. B. Lewis is staffed with qualified solicitors. The drive will go on for six months or more so if you feel when a solicitor asks you for a donation that a month later will be more convenient to meet your financial need, be sure to say so. I have a strong feeling that this drive will get a big response from the businesses and people of Hoke County.

Senator's Aide Visits, Speaks In Hoke County

WASHINGTON - U. S. Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) announced that George Dunlop, staff assistant for Eastern North Carolina, will be in Raeford September 27, to meet with local citizens.

Dunlop will be available to receive suggestions and to make note of problems between 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Hoke County Courthouse. Also, he will speak to the Raeford Kiwanis at 6:30 p.m. the same day.