

C Of C Meets

The Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce held its regular monthly meeting Monday.

The main item of business was the bringing of Santa Claus to Raeford on November 28. Santa will again make his appearance by air landing at the Army park at 5 p.m. He will then be escorted through downtown Raeford by the Hoke High School Band. Plans for a "Santa House" downtown were discussed.

Christmas lights and decorations will be erected in the near future. The across main street lights will not be put up and none of the lights will be turned on due to the energy crisis. A Christmas tree will be erected but probably will not be lighted.

It was announced that the grant for the Hoke County Forum has been approved and final plans for the forum will be made shortly.

Events of last month, including the Firemen's Dinner, the Opening of Edenborough Center and the coming of the Welcome Wagon to Raeford, were discussed.

Merchant activity was discussed. It was reported that Frances' Fabric has moved to a new Main Street location, and a new Raeford Fabric business has opened on Harris Avenue. The Bantam Chef has opened and Collins Department Store is closing.

Industrial activity was also discussed. The energy crisis effect on local plants was the topic.

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Countian Graduated

Mrs. Kathryn McPhatter, Hoke County resident, is among eleven Dental Therapy Assistants recently graduated after completing 480 hours of classroom training and 1440 hours of clinical training through the Department of the Army at Ft. Bragg.

Mrs. McPhatter, after working as a dental assistant for nearly six years with the Department of the Army, and receiving her GED in 1971, was selected for the advanced training course and graduated with an "excellent" rating.

As a graduate, Mrs. McPhatter is now qualified to do reversible dental procedures under the supervision of a dental officer.

She is the wife of Richard McPhatter, Jr. and the mother of eight children.



SMALL CLAIMS BRIEFING - Assistant Attorney General Michael R. Mann briefs people who will be working with small claims filed in magistrate's court. The session, held in the Hoke County courthouse Friday morning, was attended by the clerk of court, magistrates, law enforcement officers, representatives of business firms and members of the news media. This is the first consumer awareness program of its kind in North Carolina.

Small Claims Session Held

As part of a consumer awareness program 800 booklets, "How to Use the Magistrate's Court to Resolve Small Claims", were delivered to E.F. Smith, clerk of superior court, Friday by Assistant Attorney General Michael R. Mann.

The Justice Department representative also briefed magistrates, law enforcement personnel, representatives of business firms and members of the news media on the small claims procedures.

The State Consumer Protection Division delivered an estimated 90,000 booklets to Clerks of Superior Court throughout the state explaining how magistrate's courts may be used to settle small claims.

"This type of distribution should point out the booklets are available - and that they are in the clerks' offices. We hope every North Carolina consumer and business operator will know about the booklet by tomorrow," said Assistant Attorney General Eugene Hafer of the Consumer Protection Division.

"Attorney General Robert Morgan, who created the Division in 1969, said,

"The Magistrate's Court is the people's court. It is provided as a service of state government, for the use of citizens who wish to have small claims and disputes resolved in court."

Morgan said, "Many North Carolinians occasionally find themselves involved in disagreement with another citizen. Often, the matter cannot be resolved easily. Each has a point of view, possibly regarding money owed by one to the other, and the positions are clearly in conflict. There may be a matter of principle involved, as well as something of value."

The booklet is designed to help North Carolinians use the Magistrate's Court and to increase the confidence citizens have in the justice system.

Magistrates are authorized to handle consumer claims involving \$300 or less.

The 17-page booklet includes sections of types of claims handled by magistrates and the steps in filing for hearings. It also gives examples of various types of claims suitable for hearing before a magistrate.

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Farm-City Week Proclaimed

A Farm-City week livestock display will begin at 10 a.m. Friday at Edenborough Center at the corner of Main Street and Harris Avenue. The display will provide information about farming and crops.

Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill has declared November 16 through November 22 to be Farm-City week, and has called on citizens to participate in joint visits, seminars, pageants, fairs, civic and social events attendant to a successful Farm-City week in Raeford.

Serving as Hoke County Farm-City Week chairman will be W.E. (Gene) Carter, executive vice-president of the Bank of Raeford. Wendell Young, county extension chairman will serve as co-chairman for the county committee.

The purpose of the event is to help create a better understanding between rural and urban people.

This will be the nineteenth annual observance of Farm-City week. Last year's observance, according to final reports, involved the active participation of more than 15,000 communities in the U.S. and Canada. The National Farm-City Council is composed of representatives from more than 150 major farm organizations, industries, businesses, associations, governmental agencies, educational institutions, and church groups.

A presidential proclamation and a joint congressional resolution have called for Farm-City Week observances each year since the inception of the event. Farm-City Week has won the Freedoms Foundation's Distinguished Service award and the Silver Anvil Award from the Public Relations Society of America for being the best community relations program of 1966.

Page Named To State Post

James O. Page has been appointed chief of the new North Carolina office of Emergency Medical Services. He will assume duties of the office Dec. 1.

Page is currently in charge of 27 mobile rescue units for the Los Angeles Fire Department and is a part-time attorney and script writer. He writes for the "Emergency" television series.

His appointment was announced recently by state secretary of Human Resources David Flaherty.

Page, 37, will be paid \$25,680 a year in his new job which was created by the 1973 General Assembly. He will be in charge of a staff of approximately 25 people whose task will be to coordinate training, transportation and communications in emergency medical services throughout the state.

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