

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

A short note from Hank Richards at Hoke High School is as follows:

"Dear Sam:
Please print the following announcement in this week's issue of The News-Journal.

"Parent-Teachers Conferences at Hoke County High School will be Wednesday, March 6th. Teachers will be available from 9:00-11:30 A. M. and 12:30-5:00 P.M. Students will not come to school on this date."

All parents who can find gas and have a problem concerning the school should go out on this date and straighten out the problem.

The filing deadline for the May primary was Monday, February 25, at noon. The last day brought forth a few surprises and the number of candidates was also surprising.

I think the biggest surprise was the filing for Clerk of Court by Robert Weaver. This is the first opposition for Ed Smith since he was elected. Weaver got his feet wet in politics last November when he won a seat on the Raeford City Council.

Eleven filed for County Commissioner with only three seats available. This should be an interesting race as all candidates seem well qualified to serve.

Eight have come forth for the Board of Education with five seats available.

It is good to see that so many are interested in the county government and are willing to give of their time and talent for these jobs.

May the best man or woman win.

Winter weather finally came to the county this week with the temperatures being between 20 to 50. I think that the weather has been helpful to all of us during the fuel shortage.

The cost of living seems to keep going up every month. Starting March 1 gasoline can increase \$.02 a gallon and postal rates will be \$.08 for a post card and \$.10 for a letter. Everyone will soon need a basket to carry money around in to pay the high prices.

Robert Gatlin came in the other day with 4 Texas grapefruits and gave them to Kay and myself. He said they didn't require sugar.

Gatlin also stated that Dick Neeley never had anything like that or ever gave a present like the grapefruits.

This letter is self-explanatory:

Dear Sam,
The Education Department of the RWC has just completed a "Dimes for Bricks" project in the county schools to raise money for our new Hoke County Library. The purpose of this project was not only to raise money but also to inform every student of the way we in Hoke County were wanting to celebrate our Bi-Centennial.

We did not anticipate such a big success. But, with members of our department working, with the great cooperation and enthusiasm of the superintendent, the principals, teachers, students and other school personnel, we were able to add \$3,020.56 to the Hoke County Library Fund. We think this amount is wonderful. But more important is the way in which everyone worked together to bring about something good. This is the true spirit of '76.

Our sincere thanks go out to all who helped to make this project a great success.

Sincerely,
JoAn M. Moses, Chm.
Ed. Dept.

Man Killed

A pedestrian was pronounced dead at the scene after being struck by a car on U.S. 401 Bypass at Dunlap Crossroads Saturday at 9:30 p.m.

Johnny Melvin, 61, General Delivery Raeford, reportedly stepped into the path of a car driven by Robert Cornell Virgil, Rt. 2.

According to investigating State Trooper E.W. Coen, Virgil reported he did not see anything, but heard the collision and pulled off the road.

Dr. R.G. Townsend, medical examiner on call, attended at the scene. Buie's Ambulance Service was called. No charges have been filed, said Coen.

Services for Melvin will be conducted at 3 p.m. today at the Laurel Hill Baptist Church by the Rev. S.V. Melvin. Burial will be in the church cemetery.



Ed Grannis Jr.

Ed Grannis Enters Race

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. - Assistant District Attorney Ed Grannis Jr. announced his candidacy for position of District Attorney for Cumberland and Hoke Counties. Grannis has served as assistant district attorney since December 6, 1970, and says, "During this time I have done my best to represent the people of North Carolina. There is no greater honor than to appear before a court of law representing the people of the state seeking justice."

Concerning his campaign Grannis said, "I am not a career politician, and I strongly feel that the office of district attorney should be above normal partisan politics. The power and responsibility entrusted to the district attorney should not be subject to political wrangling. I am a lawyer, an experienced prosecutor, and I strongly wish to continue to serve the people of Cumberland and Hoke Counties. I'll conduct my campaign along those lines."

Grannis indicated his belief that "...our criminal laws should be strictly enforced with each defendant held accountable for his actions. However, I realize that our system of law is a mockery if all men are not treated equally. I promise that any defendant will be treated fairly and impartially in any court for which I am district attorney."

A lifelong resident of Fayetteville, Grannis received his bachelor of arts degree from Wake Forest College and his doctorate of law from Wake Forest School of Law. Attaining the rank of captain in the Army, he served as trial counsel in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate with the 173rd Airborne Brigade while in the Republic of Vietnam.

A member of the Fayetteville Kiwanis Club, he attends First Presbyterian Church and is an organizer and Director of LaFayette Bank and Trust Company.

City Acts To Meet Deadline

The city council met in a special called meeting at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and unanimously voted to approve a resolution presented by Evan R. Minier, P.E., vice president of Moore, Gardner and Associates Inc., engineering consultants.

The resolution was on actions necessary for the City of Raeford to comply with federal schedules for the protection of waters into which the wastewater system of the city discharges.

The resolution was drawn up, according to Minier, because officials of the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, have placed new guidelines on requirements for receiving federal funds on Sewer system projects.

The resolution will enable, and authorize Moore, Gardner & Associates to perform facilities planning for the city's wastewater system at a cost of total payroll expended times a 2.5 multiplier plus direct expenses incurred on the project with the total cost not to exceed \$45,000.

Minier made it clear that the resolution was presented at this time in an effort to meet a new federal deadline of March 1 and in hopes of saving the city up to a year on actual project work in the future. He stated that the city will not be obligated for even ten cents of any agreement until the city applies for, and accepts, federal grant funds.

Sales Tax Report

Sales tax report from the North Carolina Dept. of Revenue lists Hoke County's January one percent sales and use tax collection at \$23,139.31.

The county sales and use tax summary of distributable proceeds for the quarter ending December 31, 1973, shows net quarterly collections at \$49,160.03, and collection costs of \$493.08, leaving net distributable proceeds at \$48,666.95.

School Seats Draw Eight

All incumbent members of the Hoke County board of education and three newcomers filed to compete for seats on the board in the May primary election. Incumbents filing were D.R. Huff Jr., chairman, Robert L. (Bobby) Gibson, W.L. (Bill) Howell Jr., Riley M. Jordan and A. Wilton Wood Jr. Newcomers on the ballot are Mrs. R. G. (Mina) Townsend, W. T. McAllister and R. L. Doby.

W. T. McALLISTER

W. T. McAllister, who has 23 years experience as an accountant, is employed at McCain Hospital.

The business school graduate who lives at Rt. 1, "believes a literate citizenry is essential to survival of democracy, and that our public schools remain the best bulwark against illiteracy. I would like to encourage support of and continued strengthening of our public school system."

The Hoke County native is married and has five children.

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11 Filed For Hoke Board

A field of 11 candidates are vying for three seats on the board of county commissioners in the May primary election.

Present Chairman T. C. Jones is not seeking re-election. Incumbents John Balfour and Ralph Barnhart are each seeking to return to the board.

Others in the race are Clarence G. (Joe) Odom, R. L. (Lud) Hales, W. B. (Brownie) McDiarmid, Burnice Blanks, A. Smith McInnis, Mrs. Kermit (Mabel) Riley, James Albert Hunt, Danny Deloris McCollum and Woodrow (Woody) Wilson Jr.

Odom, Hales and McDiarmid filed during the last week.

CLARENCE G. (JOE) ODOM

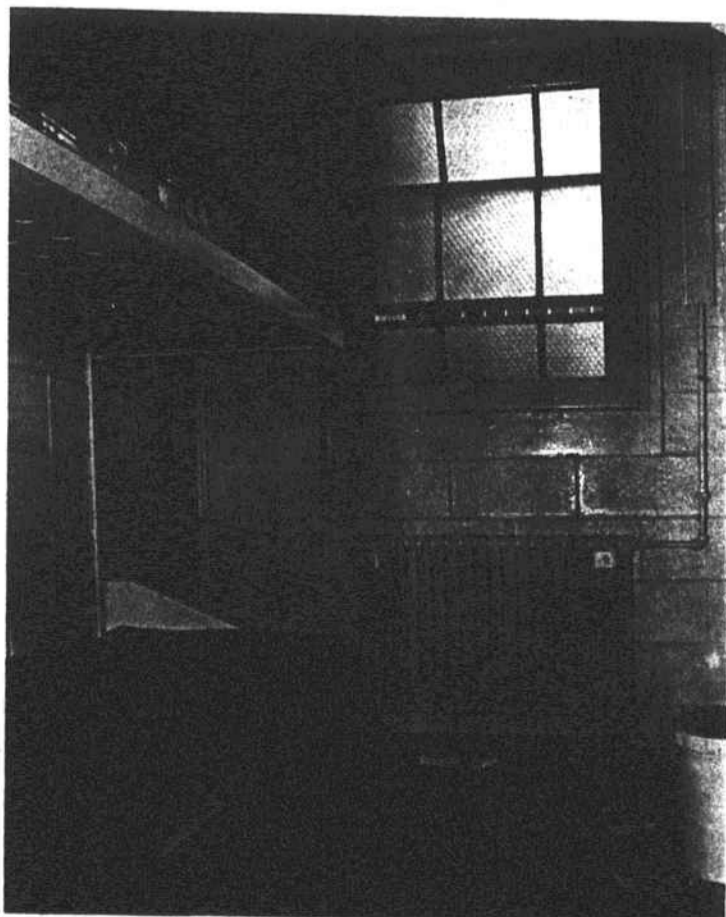
Clarence G. (Joe) Odom of Quewhille is also seeking his first elected office.

The Robeson County native retired in 1971 after operating a service station and grocery store on the Laurinburg Highway in Quewhille for 20 years. He has been a resident of Hoke County since 1955.

The member of St. Pauls Methodist Church says, "I want to talk to the people of Hoke County to get their views before I make a campaign statement."

He is married to the former Mildred

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JUVENILE DETENTION CELL--Double bunked cell is one of two in Hoke County Jail designed, according to state specifications, to house all juveniles in the jail. State law requires juveniles be segregated from rest of jail population. These cells were described as windowless by Attorney Philip A. Diehl in a petition for executive order requesting transfer of three juveniles to C.A. Dillon Training School while the youths await outcome of appeal of ruling they be tried as adults in the December, 1973, alleged kidnap and assault on two 14-year old girls. Diehl said his information on conditions in the cells came from juveniles' parents. Sheriff D.M. Barrington said cells were cleaned morning of day juveniles were transferred and trash and foam rubber torn from mattresses on top bunk were put on floor by youths during last day in jail. (N-J Photo)

Gas Program OK'd, Plan Begins Friday



RATION PLANNING--Local service station owners, county energy coordinator and representatives of city and county government met Tuesday morning at the courthouse to formulate a uniform gasoline distribution plan for area stations. The plan agreed upon encompasses Gov. James Holshouser's recommended odd-even system, twice daily pumping, publishing hours and half-tank or less prerequisite. Owners set a \$5 maximum sale limit. Stations implementing the plan beginning Friday are those in and near the City of Raeford. Outlying station owners felt their needs and problems differed from city stations and will work out their own system. The meeting drew approximately 50 people. (N-J Photo)

Smith, Crumpler Opposed Barrington Unopposed

When the primary election filing deadline passed at noon Monday, D. M. Barrington emerged as the unopposed candidate for sheriff, Clerk of Court E. F. (Ed) Smith faces City Councilman Robert R. Weaver for clerk's position and Coroner G. Franklin Crumpler is opposed by Danny Morrison.

E. F. (ED) SMITH

Smith who is seeking his first term since accepting the clerk of court position in 1962 is a Farmont native who has lived in Raeford since 1922.

He pledges, "to continue to give the same quality public service promised the first time I ran for this office. I appreciate how nice people have been to me and enjoy working with the residents of Raeford and Hoke County."

Smith has attended many schools of instruction on courts and the court

system sponsored by the University of North Carolina.

The father of two is a member of the Raeford Methodist Church, Raeford Masonic Lodge and Woodmen of the World.



Robert W. Weaver

Robert W. Weaver, elected to Raeford City council in November, 1973, was Raeford town clerk-treasurer from 1954 to 1957.

The Raeford native worked in city hall under the old mayor-council government before Raeford adopted the city manager form of rule.

His duties as clerk-treasurer included collecting taxes, water bills, keeping books and records and serving as clerk to the town council.

He operates Weaver's Antiques on U.S. 401 bypass and is a Wake Forest graduate with a B.S. degree in general science and 12 years experience as a textile industrial engineer.

He is a former deacon of the Baptist Church and past chairman of the board of deacons. Weaver says, "I have a good many years of community and industrial administrative experience and now have the time to render a service to the citizens of Hoke County."

Weaver reports, "I decided to run at the request of numerous county voters. If I win the primary, I will resign as city councilman."

Weaver and his wife Edna, a Laurinburg native, have two children.

DANNY MORRISON

Danny Morrison, in filing for coroner, is seeking his first elected office. The owner of Morrison's Ambulance Service and Danny's Oil Co., said, "I feel I am qualified for the job and with the ambulance service I am already at the scene of most accidents and am on call for other emergencies."

Morrison has taken several training courses given by the State Board of Health including emergency standard and advance courses and "E-3 and E-4" courses. He is planning on attending the "E-6" training course in the near future.

A Hoke County resident for seven

In an effort to alleviate the critical gasoline situation in Hoke County, service station owners, county energy coordinator and representatives of city and county government met at the courthouse Tuesday morning to discuss the problem and formulate uniform controlled gasoline sales procedures.

Approximately 50 people attended the session and owners of stations in and around Raeford agreed, effective Friday, to implement the governor's odd-even rationing plan. Under this program drivers of cars bearing license plates with a final odd digit or letter will be allowed to purchase gasoline on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Drivers of vehicles having even final digit tags will purchase on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Owners also agreed not to pump gas into vehicles which have more than half a tank of gas and to raise maximum sales to \$5. Most had been limiting sales to \$2 or \$3 per customer.

After much discussion of pumping hours, owners finally agreed each station would open at their usual hour in the mornings and pump half their day's supply of gasoline and all stations would open again at 4 p.m. and sell the remaining portion of the day's allocation. It was felt these uniform opening hours would prohibit cars from hopping from station to station to obtain additional gas. Enforcement of the odd-even tag numbers and half tank or less prerequisites could cut length of lines and reduce waiting time for customers.

It was also felt raising maximum sales limit to \$5 would reduce number of weekly trips to service stations and also reduce length of lines waiting for gasoline.

Owners of stations in outlying areas of the county did not vote to keep same operating hours as those in the city. Most felt their needs and problems were different and would require adjustments in selling hours.

During the discussion some owners told of various methods employed to control distribution, some of which the Internal Revenue Service say are illegal and expose the man at the pump to a possible \$5,000 fine.

Among these are selling by appointment, guaranteeing regular customers 15 gallons a week, but anyone else with a quarter tank or less can only purchase \$3 worth, and only giving a full tank to cars which have received other service at the station.

Tuesday Carol Cooper, IRS stabilization office in Greensboro, said, "any arrangement for selling gas by appointment violates federal energy law."

He also stressed keeping out of gas signs on pumps while selling to special customers and refusing to sell to others may also violate state laws.

Cooper reports station owners who sell after regular hours with station lights off may be violating the law depending on what they are trying to accomplish. If they are using this clandestine method to sell to special customers or to charge exorbitant prices, they are in violation of federal law.

Customers who siphon gasoline from vehicles and resell it on Sundays or after normal operating hours, are guilty of pricing violation and expose themselves to federal legal action, reports Cooper. In Hoke County this is also in violation of local tax laws and if more than two gallons is in the container it violates a new state law.

Cooper also reports it is legal for service station owners to service customers cars and pump gas into these cars upon completion of servicing, providing the amount of gas pumped into the serviced vehicle does not exceed amount the station attendant will pump into any car in line during regular pumping hours. "So long as no discrimination is shown, this is perfectly acceptable," reports the IRS employee.

Criminal violation of any federal law relating to distribution and sale of gasoline can subject the station owner to \$5000 fine, reports Cooper. If the conviction is on a civil charge the fine could be \$2,500.

Some motorists reportedly switch odd for even license tags in order to purchase gas on certain days of the week. Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins reports his men are checking automobile registrations against license tags of cars in gasoline lines and issuing citations for registration violations.

At Tuesday's meeting arrangements were made for emergency service for county health nurses, department of

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