

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

The past weekend was warm and golfers were out on the golf courses. Due to the gas shortage very few people were joy riding in the nice weather. Many people have acquired bicycles and the streets were filled Sunday with bicycles, by adults, teen-agers and children.

More Hondas and motorcycles are on the highways than have been before. Most folks must change their way of life on weekends due to the gas shortage.

Monday the gas lines were shorter in Hoke County, but on the way to work Tuesday, the line to Conoly's Exxon down Stewart Street was a couple of blocks long before seven a.m. I believe that if everyone would cooperate with the plan adopted by the service stations in the county, it would shorten the lines and everyone could get the gas they need.

This, of course, means to stop all unnecessary riding around wasting fuel. It takes only a few rotten apples in a barrel to spoil the entire barrel of apples.

Think about this!

I understand that the lines for gas at Fort Bragg Saturday were between three and four miles long. But the soldiers were taking it in the spirit they should, and not arguing or fussing about the wait.

Some, while waiting, were polishing their cars. Others were working on the motors of their cars, and the children had toys and playthings on the shoulder of the road.

Some had even fixed picnic lunches and were making a picnic out of the wait.

So you see, life can be fun if you look on the brighter side of any situation.

The slogan of the week: "For better and honest government vote Republican."

The Hoke High School Booster Club will have a golf tournament at Arabia Golf Course in the near future. Details for play can be had by anyone wanting to compete, by calling the Arabia Golf Club and asking for same.

The highest price for gasoline in town the first of the week was \$7.22 a gallon for high test. I am not sure what the lowest was, but I paid \$5.55 Saturday for high test. It seems the price doesn't make any difference to the motorists as long as they can get the fuel.

The fuel shortage must be having some effect on the politicians. Usually, by this time, most of the candidates have made an appearance two or three times into the newspaper office. I hope the situation will ease so that they can move around the county so that the voters can make the right choice.

If you are in town Sunday because of the fuel shortage, go by and see if any changes have taken place at the church of your choice.

Compare this to today's streakers! 40 years ago

Theresa McBryde was called to the Deans Office for going barefoot on campus at Western Carolina.

## Zoning Changes Sought

The city council instructed City Attorney Palmer Willcox to meet with James Kier, state planning representative, to discuss legal specifications in changes to be made in the city zoning ordinance.

The action at Monday's city council meeting reportedly stemmed from zoning board members' expressed desire to provide a zoning ordinance for recommendation to the city which

## Fires Reported

Two fires in Hoke County Tuesday reportedly burned 11 rural acres. The fires were among 23 over a six county area in two days burning a reported 250 acres of woodland area.

According to Myron Tupper, field manager with the N.C. Forest Service District Headquarters in Fayetteville, of Hoke's fires was caused by children playing with matches and the fire was believed deliberately set. Local foresters were unavailable for comment.

# Commissioners Up Deputies' Pay

## Two Killed In Robeson

Removal of stop signs, apparently by vandals, contributed to a traffic accident which claimed the lives of two elderly Hoke County ladies in Robeson County Friday and injured four additional people, say law enforcement officers.

Killed were Annie W. Odom, 74, and Mrs. Carrie Black Jones, 79. Both women lived in Arabia section. State Highway Patrolman R.H. Newton said the 1966 compact car driven by Mrs. Odom with passenger Mrs. Jones ran through an intersection near Lumber Bridge and collided with a car driven by Richard D. Lorenz, 26, of Lumber Bridge.

Lorenz, his wife, LaRee, 24; and children, Rodney, 3, and Richard, 5, were taken to Womack Army Hospital for treatment, report patrolmen.

Newton reports a stop sign at the intersection was missing. Apparently it was stolen earlier. Patrolman Joe Stanley said numerous stop signs in the David Bridge area in Robeson and Hoke counties had apparently been vandalized.

Carrie B. Jones

Services for Mrs. Jones were Sunday at Sandy Grove Methodist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Survivors include five daughters, Mrs. Eva Hendricks of Raeford, Mrs. Bonnie Mize, Mrs. Julia Rishing, and Mrs. Carolyn McCain all of Red Springs, and Mrs. Nita Quick of Shannon; one son, John B. Black of Raeford; five sisters, Mrs. Macie Bunnell of Parkton, Mrs. Ruby Harris, Mrs. Rosa Sessoms, Mrs. Mary Dees and Mrs. Sue Bundy all of Fayetteville; two stepdaughters, Mrs. Vivian Jones of Vass and Mrs. Virginia Partington of Sanford; six stepsons, Colin M. Jones of Vass, Fulton Jones of Rescue, Va., Curtis Jones of Hartwell, Va., Hurley, James and Preston Jones all of Sanford; eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Annie B. Odom

Services for Mrs. Odom were Sunday at Crumpler Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was at the Davis family cemetery.

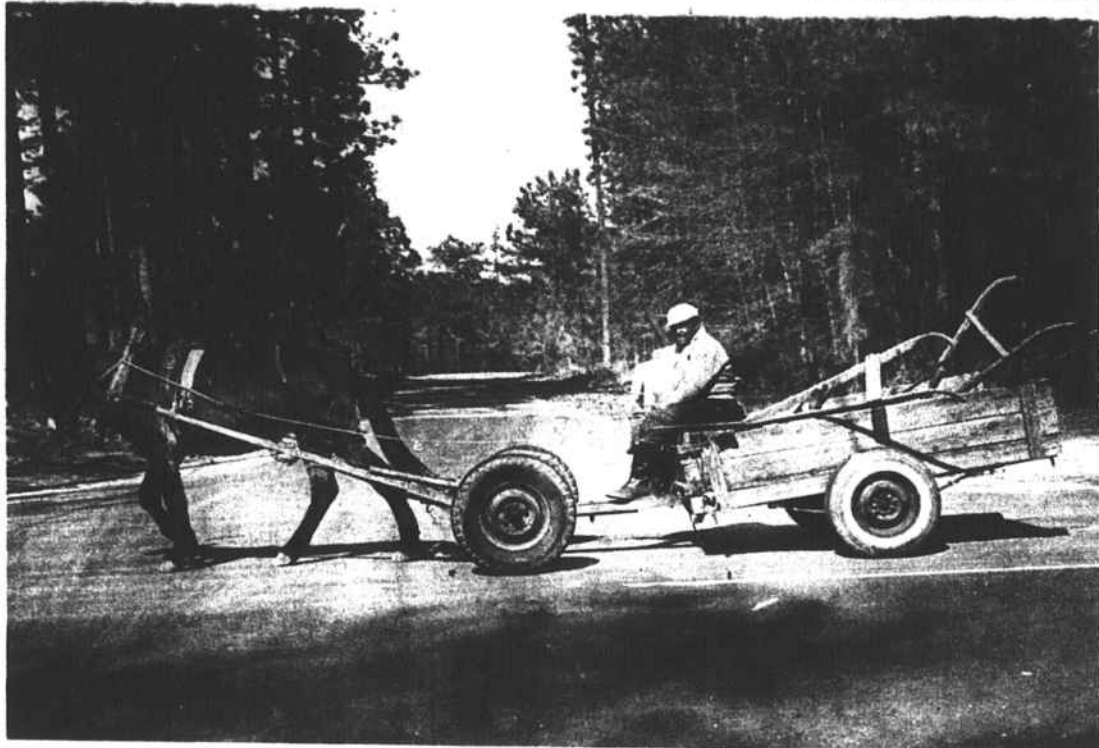
Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Edgar Pittman, Mrs. Evelyn Mull, of Raeford, and Mrs. Annie Murle Hook of Washington, D.C.; three sons, Daniel W. Jr. of Richmond, Va., Alton Eugene of Raeford and William H. Odom of Chester, Pa.; one brother, Frank Welch of Fayetteville; twelve grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

## State Appoints Election Board

The State Board of Elections appointed two republicans and one democrat to serve on the Hoke County Board of Elections for the next two years.

Members to be sworn in at noon Monday are J. Scott Poole, Democrat, Abner Lee Strother, Republican, and Earl M. Chason, Republican.

The board will meet Monday morning and select a chairman.



**SIGN OF THE TIMES** - Roscoe McMillian, Jones Hill, said he gets good mileage from a gallon, of oats that is. He said he had been using a horse drawn wagon in his gardening business for nearly five years. McMillian said he sometimes leaves his wheels at home and rides the horse to work. The cart is similar to what was called a Hoover Cart during the depression. When there was not enough gasoline for cars, people used their car tires on horse drawn carts.

## Board Schedules Pre-Registration, Approves New School Class Plan

At their regular monthly meeting Monday the board of education set March 27 and 28 for 1974-75 school pre-registration for kindergarten and first grade students. This will be the only opportunity for parents to pre-register children. Registrations will also be taken at the beginning of the school year.

Pre-registration hours are 8:25 a.m. to 2:25 at McLaughlin School, 8:20 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. at Scurlock and 8:25 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. at West Hoke School.

The board members passed a resolution which stipulates all children must have proof of immunization against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles and polio and present a birth certificate in order to pre-register. Children must be five years old on or before October 16 in order to be eligible for kindergarten enrollment. Hoke County Health Clinic administers immunizations Mondays from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

Members also approved a plan designed to alleviate overcrowding at Upchurch Junior High School. The plan is contingent on recommendations of

the State Planning Committee which surveyed Hoke County schools and will make a report in April.

Under the plan adopted Monday South Hoke School fifth graders who are promoted at the end of the current school year will remain at South Hoke next year as sixth graders. This will reduce Upchurch's enrollment by 215 students and, according to Superintendent G. Raz Autry, will not crowd South Hoke facilities.

Current fifth graders at Scurlock and West Hoke will, if promoted, attend sixth grade at Upchurch next year. Long range plans to retain sixth graders at Scurlock and West Hoke are dependent on future construction dates, stresses Autry.

Long range features of the approved plan call for Upchurch to house only seventh and eighth grades, Scurlock and West Hoke, first through sixth and South Hoke, fourth through sixth.

Under the plan portable classrooms will not be needed at Upchurch next year. These classrooms will be used as needed at other schools until more permanent structures are available, said Autry.

## Walters Faces Check Charges

A local business man was released on \$1,600 bond Tuesday after Sheriff D. M. Barrington served him with eight worthless check warrants.

The warrants charge A.G. Walters, 520 S. Main Street, with allegedly delivering eight checks dated from Dec. 12, 1973, to Jan. 31, 1974, to Charlie R. Robinson. The checks, payable to Barrow Oil Co., Stokesdale, range, according to the warrants, in amounts from \$1,309.23 to \$6,893.27 and total more than 32 thousand dollars.

Complainant on the warrant is listed

as Max D. Barrow. The N.C. Secretary of State's office identified him as a member of the board of directors and an incorporator of Barrow Oil Co., Inc.

Wednesday, Mrs. Lucille Barrow identified Robinson as a collection employee of Barrow Oil.

The cases are scheduled to be heard in district court February 15. Walters' bond was posted by J. H. Wright.

Walters operated Walters Supermarket on Aberdeen Highway until a fire raged through the building February 4, of this year.

## City Revamps Priorities

The Raeford city fathers approved a priority revamp of revenue sharing fund use at the regular monthly city council meeting Monday. Forty Thousand dollars, previously earmarked for renovation of city hall buildings, was redistributed to be used for paving and guttering city streets.

John Gaddy, city manager, said the change in money use plans came because there was not enough time to complete plans and put the revenue sharing money into use before the spending deadline. According to Gaddy, revenue sharing funds must be spent within 18 months of the date received. Time needed to prepare and plan the renovation of city hall buildings reportedly would extend past the deadline.

The council also instructed Gaddy to

contact the State Highway Department and request curbing, guttering and a drainage system be installed along East Central Avenue, a state maintained road.

In other action, the city approved purchase of equipment for a new fire truck including hoses, nozzles, and wrenches, and advertising for bids on moving equipment for the airport and a motor grader for work on streets.

Also approved was a request by the Hoke Recreation Commission that remaining recreation funds be spent to improve the Robbins Heights play ground area. No cost of the project was mentioned. The commission was instructed to provide maintenance on equipment at the city park at Donaldson Ave. and Stewart St.

The Council discussed purchase of a new police car, but not action was taken.

## Correction

Last week The News-Journal stated eight candidates are vying for five seats on the Board of Education in the May Primary election. According to Scott Poole, chairman of the Hoke County Board of Elections, the Board of Education is a non partisan election and will take place at the time of the November election on a separate ballot. Names of the eight candidates will not appear on May primary ballots.

## Bus Run By Local Firm

Knit-Away Inc. has taken an unusual approach to help employees in surrounding communities hit hard by the gasoline shortage.

The textile firm runs two 39-passenger buses on round trips to Fayetteville and St. Pauls for each 12 hour shift. At 6 a.m. each morning a bus leaves Fayetteville with Knit-Away employees and heads for Raeford by way of Hope Mills picking up employees enroute.

Passengers are discharged at the mill and employees who are completing the 12-hour night shift board the bus for the trip home. The bus again departs Fayetteville at 6 p.m. with night shift employees.

A second bus runs a similar schedule from St. Pauls through Lumber Bridge and Red Springs. Dick Lovett, Knit-Away personnel manager, reports Raeford area workers are not serviced by the bus line.

Lovett says the firm decided to try the service on an experimental basis "as a community service to help lighten the load on gas stations during the present energy crisis."

The pan began with three buses but one run, for 8 a.m. day shift employees was eliminated. Lovett reports, "a tremendous employee response to the idea but participation has been less than hoped for. An average of 65 to 75 people use the buses each 24 hours."

"We are continuing to alter schedules on the basis of use and demand. Since many employees live in rural areas pick up point selection has been difficult." The employees pay a token fee for riding the buses.

At the request of Sheriff D.M. Barrington, county commissioners approved salary increases for Hoke County Deputy Sheriffs on patrol duty. Two of the three men currently on the force, Chief Deputy Harvey Young and Deputy Alex Norton received \$1,000 annual raises and Deputy George McGuire received a \$1,200 increase.

The Sheriff's Department has been short one deputy since August 1973 and lost several more since then. This shortage of manpower resulted in a \$10,000 surplus in the department budget. This surplus will fund the increases for remainder of fiscal year.

Barrington reported tentative hiring of two new men pending score results from Employment Security Commission exams which they were scheduled to take Wednesday. The prospective new deputies are James Peterkin Jr. and Michael Coen.

Another prospective deputy, according to Barrington, is J.R. Riley, former Raeford policeman. Riley is at present still certified for law enforcement by the state but there is a possibility his certification may expire unless he returns to police work this month.

At a public hearing, attended by no members of the public, commissioners inspected petitions and approved extending North Raeford Fire District from three to four miles.

In energy crises related actions the commissioners approved charging the general fund for civil preparedness phone bills and travel expenses.

They also decided to apply to a gasoline distributor to fill 10,000 gallon tank at civil preparedness building. If the supplier denies the request the county will request an emergency gasoline allocation from the state.

Most of the fuel would be used by the Sheriff's Department although it would be available for emergency use by fire departments, sanitation and possibly Highway Patrol cars, decided commissioners. They authorized County Manager T.B. Lester to work out details of distribution if the gasoline is obtained.

Civil Preparedness Coordinator William Niven showed commissioners a film on operation of an emergency operation center (EOC). Niven requested space in the new County Office Building be designated an EOC. He recommended this space serve a dual purpose by being used on a day to day basis for many purposes including as a conference room for meetings.

Commissioner Tom McBryde told Niven, "We had planned on that originally but fear you are a casualty of inflation. We will keep you in mind but we just can't afford it now."

Chairman T.C. Jones commented, "I don't know - if only a small tornado hit us we'd feel we could afford it."

Commissioners set April 9 for budget hearings and April 23 for first meeting of Board of Equalization and Review. They also voted to retain same tax discounts for 1974. They are two percent for July payments and one percent for August payments.

Also approved was a promised one-step pay increase from \$600 to \$628 a month for county food stamp supervisor. Board members voted to send the county manager and his wife to the April 18-20 managers conference in Pinehurst.

In other business commissioners voted to support formation of Region N Manpower Consortium. They also decided to make five reservations for the March 13 Sandhills Mental Health dinner meeting.

They listened to a presentation given by Miss Betty Britt, Region N, on hot lunch program for older adults. If Hoke County should participate in the program Region N could supply only 25 meals a day and estimates about 425 people in Hoke County are over 65 with below poverty level incomes. This is the target population for the project.

Commissioners recommended Miss Britt confer with Hoke County Department of Social Services to determine need and feasibility of program in Hoke County.

## School Starts New Schedules

New season schedules have been partially completed for seasonal sports at Hoke High School. Coming up this week will be a baseball game on Tuesday against Richmond County here; a conference tennis match Tuesday against Richmond there; a track meet against Richmond County and Pinecrest Monday here; and a track meet against West Montgomery March 14 here.

The first boys golf match is set for March 25 against teams from area schools at 1 p.m. in Hoke County.