

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

Next Tuesday, the voters of Hoke County have the right to choose many people to run our government in the nation, state and county. More candidates are on the ballot for an off-year election than I can remember. Also, this time some issues have been brought before the voters which will do away with a popularity contest.

As I have stated many times in this column over the years, I care not who you vote for, but if you don't vote, you should keep your mouth shut as to how the politicians run this country. Another thing is when the people speak they are usually right, so give the ones elected a chance to serve before giving them lip service.

But Be Sure To Vote Next Tuesday.

Last week in this column I told of an incident that happened on the golf course at Arabia. I was relating this incident because of the other golfers in the foursome, and knowing that they were men of outstanding character and would stand behind what I had written. But as usually happens, someone always wants to stir the water and bring mud to the surface.

Last Saturday morning in the post office, Bernard Bray, Earl McDuffie and Crawford Thomas were giving me a hard time about the incident. I asked them if they didn't believe what the other three golfers would say. Their answer was no. They said I should get some reliable witnesses like Glenn Wood and Clayton Buoyner. So, from now on, even if Harvey Warlick should get a birdie on the fly, I will keep it out of this column rather than have the reputation of my friends questioned.

The following letter is about the concert of the Cumberland Chorale Thursday, May 9, at the Raeford Elementary School:

I would like to remind all your readers to be sure to plan a great night out Thursday, May 9. The Chaminade Music Club is sponsoring the Cumberland Chorale. The Chorale program will consist of show music, spiritual and folk music and Madrigals. The cost is only \$1.00 per person and the Raeford Elementary School auditorium, is a convenient location. Tickets are available from any music club member.

Please don't miss this opportunity for an evening of family entertainment. That is Thursday, May 9, at 8:00 p.m., Raeford Elementary auditorium.

Sincerely, Beth Johnson

The weather has been perfect for the past few days. The temperature has been around 90 degrees and no rain has been in sight. The wind has dried out the soil, and I believe most farmers would like to see some rain. Anyway, the last couple of nights have been warm and this is good for the crops.

Spring Concert

The Hoke High School Band under direction of Jimmy James presents a Spring Concert Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the Hoke High School gymnasium. Admission is free. The public is welcome.

Wood Services Conducted

Funeral services for Kermit L. Wood, 61, who died Sunday in Moore Memorial Hospital, were conducted Tuesday at the First Baptist Church by the Rev. Jack Mansfield and John Glenn. Burial was in Raeford Cemetery.

He was a long time resident of Hoke County and co-founder of Wood Furniture Co., WWII veteran and past commander of the American Legion.

Pallbearers were Alvah Salisbury, Lamar Simmons, Bill Creech, Bill Smith, Bill Haire and Bernard Bray.

He is survived by his widow, Mildred Baird Wood of Raeford; one daughter, Mrs. O. B. Smith of Lexington, Ky.; two sons, Kermit L., Jr., and Mike Wood, both of Raeford; three sisters, Mrs. Rena W. Smith, Mrs. Briggs Burnett, both of Raeford, Mrs. Betty W. Johnson of Fayetteville; one brother, Glenn W. Wood of Raeford and six grandchildren.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Hoke County Bicentennial Library Fund.

Hoke Countians Vote Tuesday

Firemen Hear Candidates

About 60 people attended the Hoke County Fireman's Association meeting Tuesday evening to hear views of three candidates endorsed by the association for seats on the county board of commissioners.

Candidates Mrs. Kermit (Mabel) Riley, Woodrow (Woody) Wilson and James Albert Hunt each presented their platforms, stated views on various issues and fielded questions from the audience.

When questioned concerning people's discontent over reevaluation and alleged difficulties in obtaining information from county government Hunt replied, "I have heard a lot of talk but I have not looked into this. One reason I am running is to let the people know what is going on in government."

Mrs. Riley said she was also seeking office to establish closer ties between commissioners and the people, "Now we can't have a decent conversation with any of them. They are too busy or send you to some one else."

Wilson said he would work to put tax lists back in the townships so it will again be convenient for county residents to list their taxes. He said he would like to see funds spent to hire a doctor for the County Health Center. He also said he would like some commissioner meetings held in the evenings.

In answer to a question concerning ambulance service Mrs. Riley said, "They are paying the service more than \$12,000 a year and they do not have a written contract with him."

Danny McCollum another commissioner candidate in the audience said "When you pay that much money the county should have a written contract. If county government neglected to write a contract on this much money no telling what they do on other amounts of money?"

All three candidates support assisting the fire departments, rescue squad and law enforcement agencies with additional funds.

Association President Grady Peeler closed the meeting with, "Experience with present commissioners left a bitter taste in my mouth. We can't dictate who you vote for. We have got to get out with friends and neighbors and by word of mouth support these three candidates."

Piotrkowski Wins Awards

Kay Piotrkowski, The News-Journal associate editor, won two awards for the paper in non-daily publications divisions in the 1973 Contest of the North Carolina Press Women's Association (NCPW).

The awards, honorable mention in news and features categories, were accepted by Mrs. Piotrkowski at the spring NCPW workshop in Chapel Hill Saturday.

The recognition was for a news article published April 5, 1973, headlined "Week Of Dispute Follows Arrest". The story received honorable mention among 37 entries judged by Richard J. Gonder, The Virginian-Pilot and Evening Ledger-Star director of services, Norfolk, Va.

The second award was for a feature article published March 1, 1973, headlined, "Hoke Stills Are Still Than They Used To Be". The story received

See AWARDS, Page 11



KERMIT L. WOOD



POSTER PARADISE - With the May 7 primary election fast approaching campaign posters are sprouting all over Hoke County. This window on Raeford's Main Street might take prize for most posters since it displays eleven campaign posters and two posters advertising horse show and drag racing. The primary is Tuesday with polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. (N-J Photo)

Bloodmobile Here Today

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be parked at the Raeford United Methodist Church parking lot today from noon to 5 p.m.

Clyde Upchurch, county Red Cross Chapter chairman, said Hoke Countians used 100 pints of blood during the first three months of the year and a donation goal of 100 pints is set for today.

Upchurch estimated county residents used 39 pints of blood in March, 33 in February, and 30 in January. Mrs. Ralph Barnhart serves as blood program chairman for Hoke County.

City Employees Get New Plan

City employees will receive a new Position Classification Pay Plan and Personnel Ordinance according to John Gaddy, city manager. Gaddy said the plan, worked out by the Institute of Government, UNC, Chapel Hill, is expected to be worked into the city's next fiscal budget.

Dr. Donald Hayman, program head, conducted a seminar on the plan which he said "will give employees a chance to express how they see their jobs."

City employees filled out questionnaires which were reviewed by city department supervisors. The forms were then submitted to the Institute of Government for analysis.

Gaddy said the city has never had such a plan before.

Atlanta Denies Gas Requests

The North Carolina energy panel received several hundred Form FEO 20s, requesting priority to receive gasoline from a distributor for the buyers own bulk tanks. Many of these requests were from farmers, local governments and businesses.

A team from the Federal Energy Regional office in Atlanta, Ga., reviewed these requests and the vast majority were disapproved because it is not the policy of the FEO to assign these purchasers to a supplier thus establishing the buyer as a bulk purchaser, if he were purchasing gasoline from a service station during 1972.

FEO reports such purchasers will have to continue to obtain gasoline at service stations or make their own bulk purchase arrangements with a distributor.

Law Officers Expand Board

The Hoke County Law Enforcement officers Association voted to expand its board of governors from seven to eleven members. Newest board members are Linwood Harton, SBI; Ed Grannis, assistant district attorney; E.E. Smith, Hoke County clerk of superior court; and Elmond Turner, N.C. Department of Correction.

New members approved are SBI Agent Hugh Currin, Superior Court Judge Coy E. Brewer and James Albert Hunt. Hunt is an honorary member.

RWC Ups Contribution To \$3,000 For Library

The Raeford Woman's Club voted Tuesday night to increase their contribution to the Library building fund from \$1,000 to \$3,000 in honor of the Club's 50th Anniversary.

The action came during a semi-centennial celebration banquet held at the Southern Pines Country Club following a report by RWC Horse Show Treasurer Mrs. Belton Wright showing this years Horse Show net income at \$2,189.87 tentatively.

Mrs. J.M. Andrews accepted the contribution for the Library Fund, and R.B. Lewis, head of the Bicentennial Committee fund drive to raise \$100,000 towards the new county library, and guest at the banquet, thanked the RWC for their support of the project.

Installed as new officers for 1974 - 76 were Mrs. Crawford L. Thomas Jr., president and Mrs. T.F. McBryde, Treasurer. Mrs. Thomas introduced new standing committee chairmen.

Special guests at the banquet were

RWC charter members and past presidents.

Mrs. R.G. Townsend, outgoing president welcomed guests and members and Mrs. W.T. Lester led the pledge of allegiance. Mrs. Robert Gatlin gave the collect. "The Clubwoman's Hymn" was sung by Mrs. J.H. Austin. A program titled "Traditions in Transition" or "Our First Fifty Years," a narrative poem written by Mrs. J.C. McLean, was narrated by Mrs. Charles A. Hostetler and enacted by club members. The spoof on the club's history portrayed community action undertaken by the club since its beginning in 1924. Verses depicted city employees digging up fir trees and dogwoods planted by the club, the establishment of a USO center during WWII, aid given to school programs, the heart fund drive, Rain plagues Horse shows and the cutting of a symbolic ribbon opening the Hoke Civic Center.

Murder Sentence Given

In superior court this week Lewis Melvin Roper, Rt. 3 Box 220B, convicted of second degree murder received 10 to 12 years in prison as a committed youthful offender.

Last November Roper pleaded guilty in connection with the Aug. 12, 1973 murder of Eldon Leona Neely, Cameron Heights. At that time prayer for judgment was continued until a pre-sentence diagnostic study could be completed.

Larry Blue, Rt. 1 Box 555, pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in the March 9 death of Lester Blue. The convicted man was sentenced to eight to ten years suspended five years with five

years probation and was assessed costs.

Larry Wayne Pittman, Rt. 2 Box 243, received three to five years suspended five years and was placed on five years probation, fined \$1,000 and assessed costs for distributing cocaine and phenylcyclohexidine, a controlled substance.

Pittman was arrested in a county wide drug raid November 1973 and convicted of distributing the drugs to an SBI undercover agent on October 10 and 24 last year.

Sherman Rogers entered a plea of guilty to escape second offense and received 12 months to begin at expiration of all sentences he is now serving.

Land Purchase Plan Previewed

City Manager John Gaddy has outlined a plan for the city to purchase 22.72 acres of additional land adjacent to the Raeford Airport. He hopes to present the plan to City Councilmen for discussion at Monday's monthly council meeting.

The three tracts of land making up the acreage were selected as possible additions to the airport by Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) engineers during a recent visit to the Airport for a study on expansion of the facility.

A 2.87 acre plot southeast of the runway and a 8.39 acre plot northeast of the runway would be used for glide slopes according to Gaddy. He cited possible use of an 11.46 acre plot southwest of the runway for facility expansion and as a possible site for Paul Rose's flying instruction operation.

Rose has been voted a site at the airport by the city provided an agreement can be reached. He is presently operating from a temporary airport location granted him on a month to month basis. His present location is scheduled to be used in phase two airport improvement now underway.

Gaddy added that the city hopes to get a 75 percent FAA grant to pay for the expansion and land purchase if the action is approved by the council.

Havens Is CofC Speaker

The annual Chamber of Commerce dinner and installation of officers Monday features guest speaker J.F. Havens, Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. president from Tarboro.

The event is scheduled to begin with a social hour at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. in the Gibson Building at Hoke County High School. Tickets, \$5 each, are available at the chamber office, 875-2179.

Sam C. Morris will install new officers: president, Bob M. Gentry, Burlington Worsted personnel manager; vice president, Edwin H. Brown, Knit Away Inc., vice president; vice president, Graham Clark, city councilman and owner of Clark's Gulf Station; secretary - treasurer, Freddie Williams, Southern National Bank city executive.

New directors to be installed are John Biddix, Burlington Dyeing Plant manager; Gene Carter, Bank of Raeford president; George J. (Dick) Lovett Jr., Knit Away Inc. personnel manager; and James B. (Benny) McLeod, Hoke Cotton Warehouse and Storage Co. manager.

The Rev. Herman Winberry, Raeford-United Methodist Church pastor, will give the invocation. Music will be supplied by the Hoke High School Chorale under the direction of Mrs. Neill A. McNeill. Food will be prepared by Hoke County 4-H Club.

Havens, a Tarboro native, is one of North Carolina's most avid supporters, and one of the telephone industry's

Hoke County residents go to the polls Tuesday to vote in the primary election for numerous state, district, and local candidates.

The 13 polling places open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. Blue Springs residents vote at South Hoke School, Buchan at Odums Store; Allendale, Allendale Community House; Antioch, Antioch Community House; McCain, Shiloh Community House; Puppy Creek, Wayside Community House; Rockfish, Rockfish Community House; Raeford 1, Hoke County Courthouse; Raeford 2, County Office Building (across from U.S. Post Office); Raeford 3, Hillcrest Fire Station; Raeford 4, Hoke Civic Center; and Raeford 5, Upchurch Junior High School.

Board of elections records list 6,634 registered voters in Hoke County. Of these 6,118 are Democrats, 407 Republicans, 74 independents, 15 American Party and 15 no choice indicated.

The county commissioners race finds ten Democrats vying for three seats on the governing board. Two of the candidates are incumbents seeking re-election. Three are candidates publicly endorsed by the Hoke County Fireman's Association.

Incumbents are John G. Balfour, seeking his third term, and Ralph Barnhart, also running for a third term. Endorsed by the firemen's group are Mrs. Kermit (Mabel) Riley, Woodrow (Woody) Wilson and James Albert Hunt. In 1972, with two commissioners' seats open, Mrs. Riley placed third in a field of seven candidates. Wilson and Hunt are seeking elected office for the first time.

Others in the race are Danny Deloris McCollum, West Hoke Fire District chairman; A. Smith McInnis, commissioner from 1962 to 1964 and Hillcrest Fire Department board of directors member; Clarence G. (Joe) Odom, Quewhiffle resident; W. B. (Brownie) McDiarmid, a Hoke County native and manager of General Auto Sales, Inc., Red Springs; and R. L. (Lud) Hales, former grocery store owner and present owner of Bargain Motors. In the 1962 commissioners race with five seats available, McDiarmid placed sixth in a field of nine candidates.

With such a large field of candidates a runoff primary may be needed. A second primary would be held June 4.

In other contested county races, incumbent Clerk of Superior Court E.E. Smith, who is seeking his fourth term, is opposed by City Councilman Robert W. Weaver. G. Franklin Crumpler, incumbent, is pitted against Danny Morrison for coroner.

In the 12th Judicial District (Hoke-Cumberland) the superior court race finds incumbent Democrat Coy E. Brewer facing Democratic District Court Judge Seavy Carroll. For district attorney, Democrats Ed Grannis, assistant district attorney, and Sol Cherry, former chief public defender, square off.

District court candidates include William S. Geimer and George Stuhl vying for Carroll's seat and Sylvia X. Allen, Onnie Alford, Charles Lee Guy

See VOTE, Page 11

widely-known personalities. He began his telephone career in 1928 as a clerk in the Accounting Department of Carolina Telephone in Tarboro.

After being named chief clerk in 1935, Havens was assigned to the plant department in 1940 for training; special assignment in the general office in 1941; named assistant commercial manager in 1942; and assistant to the president in 1948.

In February 1952, he was elected vice president, personnel - public relations, and director of the company in March

See HAVENS, Page 11



J.F. HAVENS