

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

I have been thinking this week about the rain chart that was in the paper this month for the month of May. It seems that records were set about everywhere for the number of inches of rain to fall during the month of May. This is not the only thing that came to mind about the weather. This past winter was the warmest I can remember, but of course, with the fuel shortage it was certainly a good thing.

Then, on the other hand, a warm winter doesn't kill the insects that are in logs and other places where they live during the winter months. I have been told in recent weeks that the woods are full of red bugs and ticks this year.

I understand that the ticks are giving the National Guardsmen of the 30th Division a hard time up in the reservation.

So, if you are planning a picnic or outing in the woods any time soon, be sure to check for ticks when you return, because they can lead to more serious diseases.

The robbery at the ABC store recently has brought forth a couple of remarks that I think should be passed along to readers of this column. The first remark I can't say was given to me firsthand, but the second incident was straight from the horse's mouth.

According to reports, one of the clerks in the store said that the gun in the man's hand didn't look so bad until he cocked the gun. I don't know if any of you have ever been in this man's shoes, but from talking to people about the incident, it would seem this is a bad sound.

Now the manager of the store stated that he didn't like looking down the barrel of a gun, but if he had his choice it would be better than chasing the bandit in a car with Sheriff David Barrington driving.

I asked the manager what he would do if the situation would come up again. His reply was, "He went that way."

For complete details talk to Wayne Ashburn.

According to latest rumors it seems that if people don't start saving gas and stop so much traveling that by August we will be back in gas lines again. I hope this doesn't come to be.

I do know that the speed of drivers has increased on the highways since the pumps are open all day again. So, to keep them open, let's all of us try to conserve fuel by not making trips that we don't have to make and by driving 50 and 55 on the highways.

If you think you gain a lot of time running 70 or 75, just make the trip at that speed to a certain place and the next time drive 55 and see how much time you have gained at the higher rate. I will tell you, very little.

Hoke Board Agenda Set

County commissioners were to meet Wednesday (June 19) 7:30 p.m. in the courthouse. Subjects on the special meeting's agenda included discussion on changes in local government employees retirement system; approve fire district tax; transfer budgeted funds to Veterans Service and jail; OSHA training seminar; approve additional funds for dog pen improvement; approve budget ordinance and approve McAllister Road addition.

Sales Tax Collections

The May report from the State of North Carolina Department of Revenue lists Hoke County net collection for one-percent sales and use tax as \$18,590.

This figure reflects an upward trend in recent months following a more than \$8,000 drop in February. May collections were \$653 above April, \$3,561 above March, and \$3,613 above February's low of \$14,977.

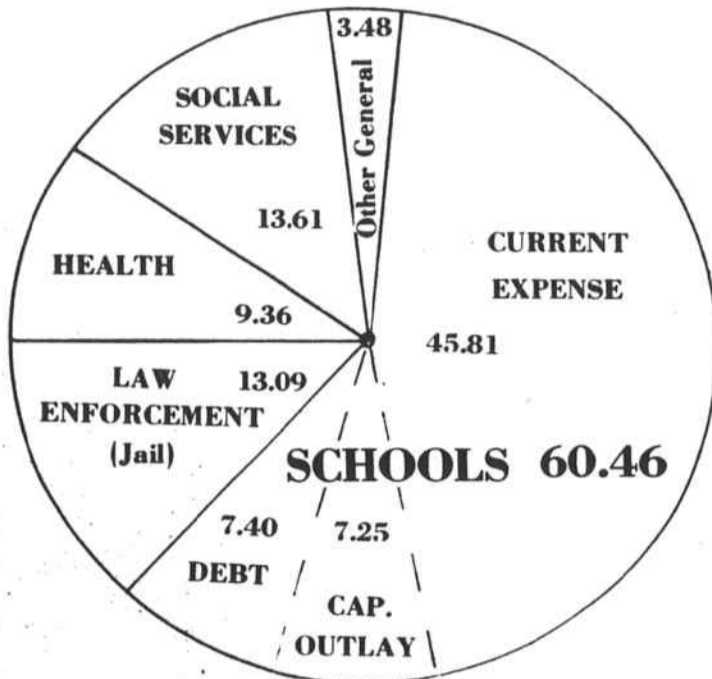
Rose's Office To Visit

Congressman Charlie Rose's mobile district office will be in Raeford from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 28. The office, staffed by Rose's administrative assistant, Rip Collins, will be parked near the post office.

Boosters To Meet

Booster Club meets at Mike Wood's Cole Avenue home, 7 p.m. Monday. Noah Hendrix, president, requests all officers and members attend. Refreshments will be served.

Hoke County 1974 - 75 Tax Dollar



HOKE COUNTY TAX DOLLAR - Pie graph shows distribution by cents of each tax dollar paid to Hoke County by local taxpayers. Largest bite is for education with schools receiving 60.46 cents including 45.81, current expenses; 7.40 debt and 7.25 cents capital outlay. Next largest category is 13.09 cents of each dollar for law enforcement and jail. Health draws 9.36 cents while 13.61 cents of each tax dollar covers Hoke County's share of social services budget. The remaining 3.48 cents goes to other general funds. (R.L. Gatlin graph)

Area Incidents

North Raeford Fire Department answered a 1:30 a.m. call Monday to extinguish a car motor fire. The vehicle belongs to Louise Morris and was parked at her Rt. 1 residence. Firemen estimated damage at \$400.

North Raeford firemen also answered a 1 a.m. call Friday to residence of Jessie McCaskill where two mattresses and a rug were burning. The Sanderson Street house is owned by Jim Stephens, firemen report.

Recently 2x6's and 2x4's valued at \$143, were reported taken from a partially built house on College Drive.

Saturday, William Mark Wylie, Rt. 2, reported to sheriff's deputies that during preceding three weeks two horses and a pony had been shot with a 12 gauge shotgun.

On June 13, James Stanley Farris, Rt. 1, reported a motor bike missing from a shed at Harmony Heights.

Mrs. Mabel Foster, Ashley Heights, reported a bicycle valued at \$45 was taken from her back yard June 11.

A radio, stereo speakers and car door were reported removed June 12, from an automobile at John Walla Winston's residence, Rt. 2. The missing items were valued at \$60.

On June 5, building materials valued at \$1,310 were reported taken from James Williams' yard on N.C. 211 West. Included in missing items were \$1,100 worth of aluminum siding, caulking, window channels, rolls of foil and nails.

Two chairs valued at \$20 were reported missing June 12 from N.C. Rural CEP (old Burlington School).

Tuesday, Wendell Ronnie Branch, Rt. 2, Box 124, reported a hog feeder valued at \$100 was stolen within the last three weeks.

City police are investigating several recent reported thefts.

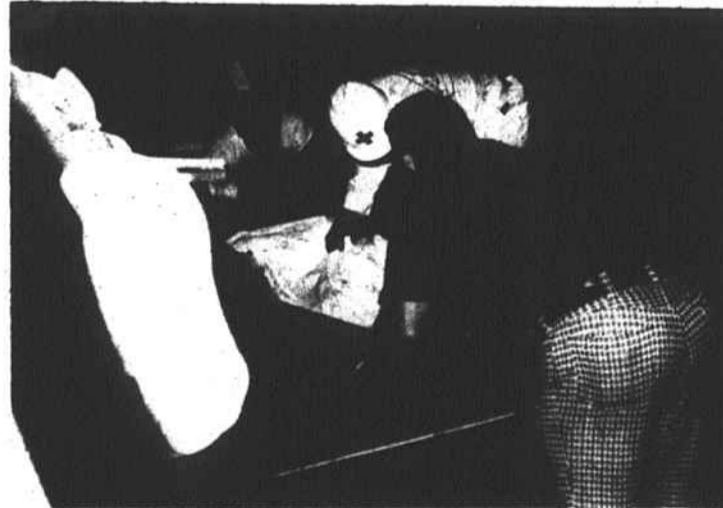
Lois Tew, 101 Reeves St., reported 15 tapes and assorted clothes, valued at \$200, taken from her car between 11 p.m. June 15 and 10 a.m. June 16.

Dan Campbell, employee of Webb's Radio and TV Service, 107 N. Stewart St., reported a windowpane in the door of the shop broken June 15. Nothing was reported missing.

Mrs. Odessa McKinnon, 512 Grant St., reported four yard novelties taken from her yard June 14. Value of the novelties was placed at \$70.

Ernest Jacobs, Raeford Hotel, reported a box containing \$60 in cash

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FATALITY - Workers prepare to place victim's body on stretcher in bed of pickup truck following fatal accident early Saturday morning at Twin Bridges. Hamp Wishart Smith, 25, of Fayetteville was killed in the crash. Rescue Squadsman Jim Wade, left, and Hubert Davis, center, work with Johnny Craycraft, Morrison Ambulance Service, back to camera. Pickup was found upside down in Rockfish Creek with only three tires visible above the water's surface.

Fayettevillian Becomes County's Ninth Fatality

Hoke County's ninth traffic victim of the year was a 25-year-old Fayetteville man whose vehicle crashed through a wooden bridge railing and landed upside down in Rockfish Creek about seven miles east of Raeford. Hamp Wishart Smith was pronounced dead at the scene by Hoke County Coroner G. Franklin Crumpler.

Highway Patrolman K.W. Weston said a pickup truck driven by Smith was traveling west toward Arabia when the accident occurred about 12:10 a.m. Saturday on Rockfish-Arabia Road at Twin Bridges. The vehicle apparently missed a slight curve in the road but

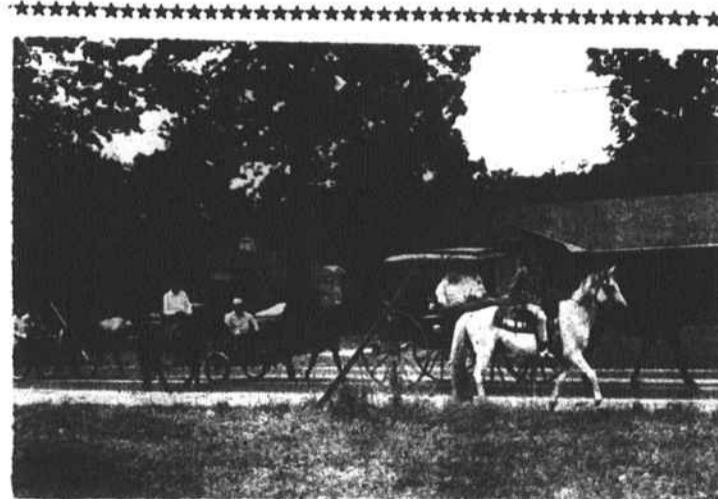
there was no evidence of excessive speed, the patrolman reports.

When rescue workers arrived only three tires were visible above the water's surface. Hoke County Rescue Squadsman Jim Wade went into the water in an unsuccessful attempt to find the victim.

A wrecker was needed to pull the vehicle from the water before rescue workers could remove Smith's body through the rear cab window of the truck.

The patrolman estimated damage to the vehicle at \$3,800 and to the bridge at \$1,500.

City Okays Budget



WAGON TRAIN - Hoke Saddle Club's tenth annual wagon train rolled Friday and returned from Sinclair's Pond in Ashley Heights on Sunday. Henry Maxwell served as wagon master during the three-day event. Participants estimate approximately 12 to 15 wagons and 30 to 40 riders took part in this year's activities. This is a drop from the 16 wagons and about 100 riders who reportedly joined the wagon train last year. (N-J Photo)

Hoke To Receive Funds

Hoke County schools will receive a \$240,261 Emergency School Aid Act (ESAA) grant to deal with the problems of desegregation in local schools. The federal grant will begin in July and run for one year.

Raz Autry, school superintendent, reports the funds will be used for 24 teachers, counselors and aides.

Included in the Hoke County funding for the first time will be six remedial math specialists for grades kindergarten through eight. Two will teach at Upchurch Junior High School and one at each elementary school except McLaughlin.

Five remedial reading teachers, one for each elementary school, will also be included in the program. A guidance

counselor for Upchurch Junior High School and one at elementary school level will be included as will 11 aides and all materials for the programs.

During 1973-74 year ESAA funds were used for guidance and reading programs. No ESAA funds were received by Hoke County in 1972-73, but 1971-72 funds were partially used for portable units.

The ESAA grants were developed to help students overcome the disadvantages of minority group isolation and to eliminate isolation of minority group students in schools.

Nationwide only 97 ESAA grants were awarded. Area systems also receiving grants were Fayetteville, \$257,101; and St. Paul's, \$113,786.

Second Meeting Needed; First One Lacks Quorum

At least one Hoke County Democratic precinct meeting did not draw a quorum Tuesday evening and will have to be held again 8 p.m. June 25 in preparation for the County Democratic convention scheduled 2 p.m. June 29 in the courthouse.

Only four people attended the Raeford 4 precinct meeting so a second meeting should be held at the Civic Center. Unconfirmed reports indicate McCain precinct may not have drawn a quorum and would then need to call a second meeting. By press time Wednesday reports had not been obtained from Buchanan and Raeford 5.

Other precincts held meetings and elected officers and members of executive committees.

Allendale re-elected L. A. McGugan, chairman; Mrs. Marie McCormick, first vice chairman; Mrs. Jessie James

Locklear, second vice chairman; Miss Wida McLaughlin, secretary treasurer; David Liles, George Wilson, Joe Gillespie and Weldon Locklear, executive committee members.

Linwood McNeill was selected to replace Stephen Coble as third vice chair man and Berlene McKoy was elected to the executive committee replacing Verlene McKoy. Delegates selected were Ruth McEachern and Marie McCormick.

Antioch elected W.B. McDiarmid, chairman; Mrs. F.C. McPhaul, first vice chairman; Walter Gibson, second vice chairman; Henry Dial, third vice chairman; and Herbert Gillis, secretary-treasurer.

Also D.A. Currie, W.B. McDiarmid and John Henry McNeill, executive committee members; with Bill Mannes, See MEETING, Page 11

Hail Damages Area Crops

County Agent Wendell Young reported an undetermined amount of crop damage due to hail late Friday in an area from Blue Springs to the Duffie Community.

Young said the hail storm did not hit a solid area, but "hit and missed" fields across Hoke County. According to Young, Jeff Harris, Blue Springs had damage to tobacco and cotton crops;

James Oldham, Blue Springs had damage to corn; and Bobby Gibson, Antioch, had damage to cotton and soybean crops.

"I don't really think the damage was too bad," said Young, "not to where crops have to be plowed up or anything." He said insurance and ASCS office investigators are checking the damage for crop compensation.



NEW BUILDING - Construction on new Board of Education Building on Wooley Street progresses. The structure is being built by Chisholm Construction Co., of Rockingham, on 4.43 acre tract on west side of Wooley Street south of Harris Ave. The Board of Education land purchased from Robert and Mamie Gatlin includes a 9.95 acre tract on east side of Wooley for a total acreage of 14.38. (N-J Photo)

Raeford's city council met Monday and approved a \$1.26 million 1974-75 city budget containing general fund expenditures of \$620,559; water and sewer department expenditures of \$411,800; and Revenue Sharing fund expenditures of \$231,089. The budget was adopted as displayed to the public.

The budget also included a 23 percent drop in the city tax rate setting the rate at 55 cents per \$100 valuation based on 100 percent of assessed property value. The lowered rate was made possible by transferring \$58,000 from a capital revenue project fund balance carryover from the current fiscal year.

The street department bit off the largest chunk of general fund spending with \$134,428 followed by the Police Department with scheduled spendings of \$105,120 up \$15,020 over last year's Police department budget.

Other general fund expenditures include governing body, \$58,270; non departmental, \$52,042; Fire Department, \$55,197; garbage disposal \$39,338; Sanitation Department, \$38,717; Powell Bill, \$45,000; public buildings, \$30,100; municipal garage, \$29,800; Planning and Zoning Department, \$16,052; cemetery, \$10,993; and airport, \$5,500.

Water and sewer spending will focus on water and sewer, maintenance budgeted at \$147,725. Non-departmental spending is set at \$135,115 with \$102,217 set aside for the treatment plant and \$26,744 for administration.

City employees salaries are up ten percent across the board with possible ten percent pay hikes written into the budget as merit increases for later in the year.

Since both pay increases are reflected in budgeted salaries, discrepancies between budgeted salaries and actual salaries may occur.

City Manager John Gaddy's salary was approved at \$17,200, up \$2,000 over last year. Councilmen's salaries remain \$500, the same as last year. City Finance Officer Andrea E. Garrison's salary was approved at \$7,500, up \$2,200 over last year.

William C. Sellars, zoning administrator, received an \$800 raise placing his salary at \$8,800.

Police Department salaries total \$83,720 chief of police was raised to \$10,450 as of July 1, from \$9,500, with a maximum salary for the position set at \$11,000. Policemen's salaries were raised from \$7,500 to \$8,250 with maximum salaries of \$9,000 budgeted.

Fire Department salaries were set at \$8,000 for Chief Mechanic, Billy H. Barefoot up from \$6,811, \$3.50 per hour for the mechanic, William D. Lunsford, \$3 per hour for radioman Clyde Smith, and \$2.50 per hour for radiomen Allan Inman and Graham Niven.

Street Department Superintendent Dewey F. Inman went from an \$8,280 annual salary to \$9,000. City Tax Collector Betty Smith received a pay hike to \$6,800 as of July 1 with a possible salary of \$7,500 budgeted for the year.

Revenue sharing funds budgeted included \$60,000 for a new garbage truck; \$39,956 for the proposed city garage; \$29,741 for airport buildings; \$29,377 for city street curbing and guttering; \$27,150 for recreation and parks; \$20,000 to the library with \$5,000 to be spent by the library board and \$15,000 earmarked for the library building fund; \$9,500 for garbage disposal; \$8,863 for city garage equipment, sheds and fencing; \$6,000 for a fire truck; and \$500 for miscellaneous expenditures.

Debt service fund payments for the coming fiscal year include \$56,255 paid on interest on bonds; \$56,000 paid on principal maturities; and \$150 paid into the debt service fund.

In final action, the city approved the Hoke County Civil Preparedness ordinance presented at the regular monthly meeting by Civil Preparedness Director William T. Niven.

The council looked over a new map of city airport property drawn by Koonce, Noble & Associates, Inc. of Lumberton, consulting airport engineers. The map, based on the original airport property map dated March, 1964, indicated a plot of land with a 205 foot border on the airport runway and 355 feet deep is owned by the city. The plot of land was previously thought to be outside city property boundaries.

The council, has already approved the lease of airport land to Paul Rose for a business location provided acceptable terms can be reached. Gaddy said the Airport Commission would be asked to determine what the land should be used for and make a recommendation to the city council.