

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

From the number of people that have been asking about the Clerk of Court job, I don't believe that anyone will have to be drafted. The Democratic Executive Committee will decide who will replace E. E. Smith on the ticket. This should be done in the next ten days.

I did hear one member of the committee say that her phone had been ringing often since the word got out on how the position would be filled.

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Something that I have noticed in the past few weeks is that many people haven't been using the new law of "Stop and then turn right on a red light." The city council voted that this could be done in Raeford, and the law said that it could be done at any light not marked "No right turn on red."

The stop lights at the banks, old hotel corner, and at the shopping center all come under this law. Traffic would not jam up as much if everyone would start using this new law.

I know it is hard to teach an old dog new tricks, but I believe it would help if all of you would try to remember.

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Furman Clark was by the office recently and was telling me about his trip to Hawaii. He and his wife went recently and according to Furman, the world isn't as large as one would think. He said that while there he and his wife ran into a couple from Georgia, and after several minutes of conversation, the man asked him what part of North Carolina he was from. When he said Raeford, the man asked him if he knew Bob Lewis, Younger Snead, Buck Blue, Paul Dickson, etc. Furman told him he knew all of them and also told him of others who were dead.

The man from Georgia was Edward J. Phibbs, Jr., who was a 2nd Lt. in the High Point outfit during World War II. He had gone to Trinidad at the same time as some of the men mentioned above.

Furman said they talked for a long time and he told Phibbs about everyone he asked about.

So, you see, it is a small world after all.

In case anyone would like Phibbs' address, it is: 2466 Dunkirree Lane, Deraville, Ga. 30340.

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The weather has been hot for the past several days, and it has also been dry. This should soon start the cotton pickers in the fields. I don't know if any cotton has been ginned in Hoke County this week or not, but it certainly seems time for it.

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The Hoke High Bucks have started a winning season by taking the margin of Red Springs and Pinecrest in the first two games of the season played at the Hoke High Stadium. They will be on the road this week, but they still need your support if you can find time to follow them.

## Area Incidents

### Two Hoke Brothers Charged With Rape

Two Hoke County men were arrested last week in South Carolina and were charged with the rape of a Fort Bragg woman.

Held in the county jail on bonds of \$50,000 each are Jerry Wayne Barton, 17 and Lloyd David Barton, Jr., 28, both of Rt. 1, Raeford.

According to Sheriff Dave Barrington, the woman was picked up Sept. 10 on Vass Road by school bus driver Kenneth Dixon, who took her to the county school bus garage. She reported to deputies that she had been picked up by two men outside a bar in Fayetteville and had been thrust into a van and driven to a wooded area off Vass Road where she was beaten and raped.

The sheriff said several people at Goin's bar in Fayetteville furnished Deputy James Lamont with a description of two men driving a van such as she described. Lamont and Deputy James Riley also reported seeing the van at a gas station in the county several days earlier, the sheriff said.

Deputies learned that the two men might be at a relative's business in South Carolina, sheriff said, and Deputy Harvey Young was sent on Sept. 11 to



LOOKING AT ROADS - Cecil Budd, chairman of the secondary roads council and Rex Harris, member of the state transportation board, toured the county Monday with J.H. Blue examining requests for caution lights, traffic islands and similar roadwork. Harris commented on the prospects for approval of four lanes for 401.

## 401 Project Needs Public Support

The speed with which the construction of four lanes on U.S. 401 gets underway will depend largely on cooperation in the community, if the project is approved by the state transportation board in Asheboro, Oct. 4.

That was the view Monday of Rex Harris, board member from Fayetteville and one of four members on the important planning and projects committee.

Harris and Cecil Budd, chairman of the secondary roads council, were in the county with J. H. Blue, Republican spokesman, to investigate such road work as installing caution lights near Upchurch Junior High and at the intersection on 401 by-pass by Virgil's Drive-in.

Harris emphasized that he couldn't promise in advance of the board meeting that the 401 four-laning project would be approved. However, he said, it had passed the key hurdle by being approved by the planning and projects committee.

Assuming that it is approved, then community support becomes vital, he said.

"The board is going to have to start spending highway money on a year to year basis to get the most from it," he explained. "So if this project gets tied up in litigation or in an environmental study or delayed for some other reason, then I would vote to spend the money somewhere else."

Therefore, community support is necessary to see that the project isn't blocked, he said.

Harris listed eight steps that must be taken in any project before construction is begun:

-A planning study and environmental impact study with location alternates must be done.

-A draft of the environmental impact statement must be submitted to state and federal agencies.

-Public hearings must be held.

-The results of the public hearings must be incorporated into the

environmental draft and distributed to federal and state agencies.

-Surveys and right-of-way plans must be made.

-Public hearings on the highway design must be held.

-The right-of-way must be acquired.

-Then construction contracts must be let.

Harris said he could find no record in Raleigh that any of these steps had been taken in the past, even though the project was approved once before in 1970.

Harris said the emphasis of the transportation board of spending the money allocated to it each year will mark a major change.

"With the rate of inflation, and who knows where that will end, we can't afford to have money tied up in projects that are held in litigation. We'll just have to shift the money to another similar project," he said.

Harris said that recent news stories had made it seem like the 401 project was his number one priority.

"Actually," he said, "I have no priorities on roads. I am a board member for all the state, not just Cumberland or Hoke counties.

"Buy my main concern is with the credibility of this board and this administration on roads say ten years from now," Harris said. "When I look back on past highway commissions and the past administrations on their highway policies, I don't want to go down in history the way they have."

Budd commented that the county has a high percentage of secondary roads paved - nearly 85 per cent, he said. The money allocated for paving in Hoke this year, some \$19,000 was allotted on the same percentage as for all the counties. Each county was allotted 2.8 per cent of its unpaved roads for this year, he said.

Budd commented that while the state as a whole had a good secondary road system, North Carolina lags far behind in receiving federal highway funds.

"We get only 52 cents for every highway dollar we send to Washington," he said. "North Carolina is dead last in the amount of federal highway money spent."

"That's the way some of our Congressmen could help get better roads, is in getting some of that federal money back," he said.

Budd urged Hoke citizens to attend the transportation board meeting. It is to be held at 9:30 at the courthouse in Asheboro. The secondary roads council will meet at 1 p.m. and a "people's day" will be held at 2.

## Fire Destroys Rt. 1 Home

A fire destroyed a house on Rt. 1 Friday morning, George Baker, North Raeford Fire Department chief reported.

"The roof had caved in and the place was completely engulfed in flames when we got there", Baker said.

The wooden house, was being rented by Willie Thomas McRae, who was not at home at the time of the fire, the chief stated. The owner is reported to be in New York.

Eleven members of the fire department and all three firetrucks responded to the 7:45 a.m. blaze. Baker said his men had the fire out in about 30 minutes. No injuries were reported.

Cause of the fire is unknown.

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## Burlington Reduces Staff; Other Firms Say No Cuts

### Four Seek Clerk Job

The Democratic executive committee will meet in the courthouse Saturday at 11 a.m. to name a successor on the November ballot for Ed Smith, Hoke County Clerk of Superior Court who died last week.

The meeting was called by Sam C. Morris, party chairman, who said the name of the new candidate must be submitted to the county board of elections by Sept. 23.

Four area persons, including Mrs. Juanita Edmund, are seeking the Superior Court Clerk post, county Democratic chairman Sam C. Morris, said Tuesday.

Mrs. Edmund was appointed acting clerk of the court by Senior Resident Judge Maurice Braswell.

Smith, who held the job since 1962, won in the May primary race and his name would have been on the Nov. 5

ballot.

The other three who have asked to be considered are Nan Haywood, secretary to Fayetteville attorney Carl Barrington, Charles Morrison, who is retiring as Raeford postmaster and Eric Allen, a former mill supervisor with Burlington.

Several other persons expressed interest but have not asked to have their names submitted to the committee, Morris said.

Word was received by the county election board Tuesday from Alex Brock, state board of elections chairman, that the Republican Party would not be permitted to propose a candidate.

Earlier indications from Raleigh had been that a GOP candidate might be allowed under election laws and local party spokesman J. H. Blue had said the party would look into the possibility.

## United Fund Meeting Set

The budget and admissions committee of the United Fund is meeting tonight at 7:30 in the board of education building.

United Fund agencies will present budget requests and new organizations seeking admission to the fund will submit applications to the committee. Members of the community fund

drive committee are Ashwell Harward, UF president; Younger Snead, Jr., Wyatt Upchurch, W. T. McAllister, vice-president; Mrs. O. B. Israel, secretary and Sam C. Morris, treasurer.

The budget committee will then submit a report to the United Fund board of directors, who will set the date for the campaign.

## School Board Approves New Teacher Workshops

By Cheryl Walker

A new format for teachers workshops headed the list of items approved by board of education members at their regular meeting Monday night.

The new plan, designed to be more convenient and more beneficial to teachers, requires all teachers to attend four workshops during the school year. Each session will run from 2 - 4 p.m. and will consist of four separate workshops, each one dealing with a different topic. Teachers will choose the particular workshop they wish to attend from the program offered.

Scheduled workshop days are Oct. 4, Dec. 6, Feb. 21, and April 25. Schools will be dismissed at 1:30 on these days.

New personnel hired as a result of board action included four teachers, Gloria B. Strickland, Muriel S. Graves,

Nancy R. McNeill, and Carolyn V. McGee; four aides, Catherine B. Henderson, Mamie Godwin, Sarah Beatty, and Willa McDuffey; and one secretary, Sharon Harris.

In another personnel move board members approved the transfer of Charles Wilson from South Hoke to Upchurch Jr. High School for personal medical reasons. The board took this action as a result of a doctor's recommendation.

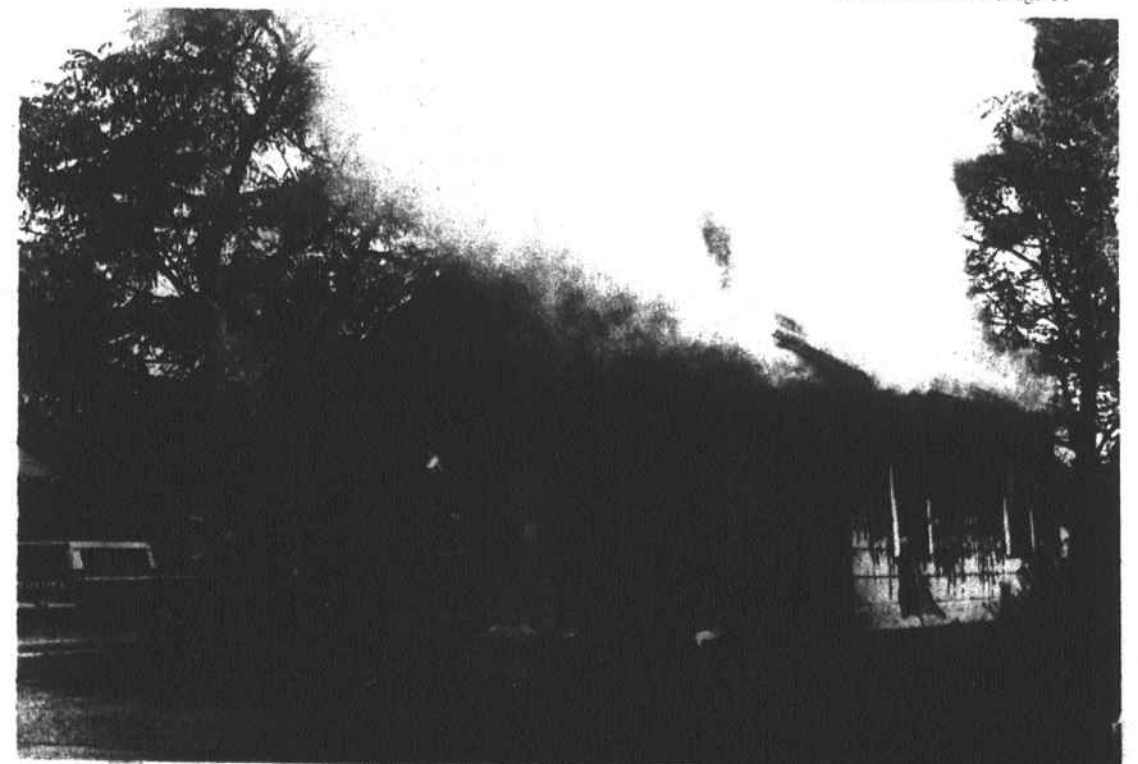
The board voted to offer the opportunity to attend kindergarten at either Scurlock or West Hoke to five kindergarten - aged children living in Central District. These youngsters are unable to attend kindergarten in their own district because no space is available there; however vacancies for kindergarten students exist at Scurlock and West Hoke Schools. Parents electing to send children to kindergartens located outside their district must furnish the students transportation to and from school.

Superintendent Raz Autry was requested by the board to check into the possibility that some Hoke County residents may be attending public schools in Moore County. Autry suggested that he meet with Moore County Supt. of Public Schools, Rob

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## Stories Cancelled

There will be no story hours held at the library Tuesday as librarian Mrs. Lee Cameron must attend a meeting that day.



ENGULFED - Fire from an undetermined cause Friday destroyed the home of Willie Thomas McRae in the North Raeford fire district.