

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

Tuesday morning, election day, was sunny and warm. Rain has been forecast but if it stays as it was at 7:30 in the morning, many should turn out at the polls. I can't remember as many different ballots on an election day.

Everyone or every issue can't win, but the majority will decide, and we must accept it and live with the outcome.

While on the subject of weather, Robert Gatlin stated this week that in October heavy frost occurred for seven mornings. He said that he couldn't remember when so many trees had all leaves gone this early.

After hearing this I went home and noticed that my pecan tree was completely bare of leaves and almost bare of pecans.

The annual Kiwanis Pancake Supper will be held at the Gibson Cafeteria, Thursday night, December 5, 1974. Tickets can be obtained from any Kiwanian, and the proceeds will be used for civic projects.

At the same time and place will be the annual Raeford Woman's Club Bazaar with all proceeds going to the Hoke Library Building Fund.

So, mark this date on your calendar now and help these organizations with their projects.

If you see Iris and Carson Davis wearing lapel buttons that read "Be a part of something great" ask them to explain.

They have just returned from the N.C. Bicentennial Fall meeting in High Point and want every Hoke County citizen to "Get into America" and be caught up in the "Spirit of '76".

The best way to learn about this great and vital movement is to hear about it from those with the information. Call them at 875-4274 or 875-4870 and they will come to any club, school, church or neighborhood group and explain what Bicentennial '76' really is and how it can help better our "quality of life".

It would be a real shame to wait 200 years for something and then miss it!

The Hoke High Bucks won last week at Lumberton to up the season record to 6-3. The Bucks close the season Friday night against the Dunn Green Waves at Dunn. Follow the Bucks for the last game of the season.

## Few Children Counted In School Census Try

Allen is a ten-year-old livewire. Rarely still, he is a problem to his fifth grade teacher. His grades are poor and he is falling behind his classmates in his school work. He is becoming noisier, and more obnoxious.

Just a bad kid? Probably not. More than likely, Allen suffers from some form of minimal brain damage, that makes it more difficult for him to learn, even though he is a bright youngster.

He could use special classroom help. Yet, he was not registered during the recent Count the Children census.

Roscoe doesn't go to school. Eight years old, he is mentally retarded and has birth defects that make it difficult for him to walk. He has lived with his grandmother most of his life. She has never been to school either and she and the boy rarely leave their home in a rural section of the county. Roscoe was not registered during the census either.

Jeanne, nine, is unusually bright and is talented in art besides. She is considered to have a good chance to attend the Governor's School for gifted children next summer. She was not registered in the Count the Children campaign.

In fact, the entire census effort was a big disappointment to the 60 or so volunteers who manned posts at the schools all week during Oct. 21-26.

Only about 11 children were registered, according to Mrs. Kay Thomas, president of the Raeford Woman's Club, which staffed the census crews. However several children, already in special programs, are expected to be registered, upping the total.

"I can't believe we only have 11 children in Hoke County who need special attention from the schools," she said.

"But when the time comes to share the education money, that's what we're going to get. This census was an effort to try to see just what we needed in the county."

# Bonds Okayed, Board Re-Elected With Democrats Sweep In Hoke

## Commissioners Okay Tax Listing Plan

The board of county commissioners Monday approved a request by tax supervisor Tommy Wilkerson to establish a central office in Raeford for tax listing.

Last year all taxes except at Allendale were listed in Raeford, Wilkerson said. The listings were much more uniform than in previous years when the taxes were listed by registrars in each township, he told the board.

Wilkerson said there were some complaints from residents about having to come to Raeford for listing. He also remarked that he would like to see the commissioners support a measure expected to be introduced again in the General Assembly to remove personal property tax except on autos.

The board also gave permission to the new electrical inspector to keep his state license and continue contracting for work outside the county.

Jack Ellis, recently hired to replace James Baxley, informed the board of the state law that allows a county inspector to take work outside the county for which he inspects and asked permission to continue his private contracting. He estimated that jobs outside the county made up about 30 per cent of his electrical work.

It would not interfere with the time he needed for inspection, he told the board.

T.B. Lester, county manager, reported that after a conference with REA representatives, the county would

draw up an ordinance covering inspection procedures.

In a relatively short meeting of mostly routine items, the commissioners approved an additional \$150 for printing a civil defense disaster booklet, and okayed the purchase for \$280.48 of a radio scanning device for civil defense to monitor emergency broadcasts. They also agreed to buy gravel to repair the parking lot for the civil preparedness office. The board tabled a decision on repairing or selling an electrical generator.

The board agreed to recommend placing a road near the airport on the state paving priority list and to recommend placing of Thomasfield road on the state system.

The board approved payment of vacation pay to Mrs. William Herbin, adopted the state standards of sediment control and approved a resolution supporting membership for county employees in the National Guard.

The board also formally ratified an existing policy by approving a resolution to name a North Carolina bank as co-paying agent, in addition to a New York bank, for county revenue bonds and other debts. The resolution also approved the designation of the bank to destroy redeemed bonds and coupons.

Reports were heard from the county farm agent and from Kenneth Davis, who completed the county audit. (See related story.)

The board also approved a \$25 donation to Caswell Center in Kinston, where about eight children from the county reside.

## Lions To Host Lt. Gov. Hunt

Lieutenant Governor Jim Hunt will speak Monday evening at 7:30 at the Gibson building cafeteria at Hoke High.

Hunt was invited to speak here by the Raeford Lion's Club, but all other civic organizations have been invited.

The general public is invited also.

## Council Approves Airport Lease

The city council approved a lease Monday night with aviation school operator Paul Rose, ending at least a year of study and delay on the airport property.

Seven persons, including Rose and his attorney, Phil Diehl, attended the meeting. The airport lease has been under study by the council and two airport committees for at least a year. City attorney Palmer Willcox read the lease, which he had prepared from recommendations made by the airport committee and then the mayor, John K. McNeill, and several councilmen questioned sections.

The original term of the lease would extend for three years with an additional nine years in options.

The lease agreement was pushed through by the two newer council members, Robert Weaver and Sam Morris who made and seconded motions to approve the lease. Morris told the council that this was his twelfth meeting, and the twelfth time the airport lease had been on the agenda.

"I'd like to come back next month and not have it," he said.

The council set the rent at \$60 a month for the airport property, which does not include water, sewer or a building. The lease is subject to renegotiation when Rose makes improvements.

After the lease had been signed, the visitors left the meeting and the council took up the remaining few items on the agenda.

They approved a motion to advertise for bids on a loader - compactor for the landfill and agreed to turn over to the library committee interest payments now being earned on the \$15,000 of revenue sharing money that the city has pledged to the library.

They directed city manager John Gaddy to investigate several matters: a radio dispute at the airport, and a query from the state highway department about turning over a driveway to Knit-Away. Gaddy was also asked by the council to investigate getting a traffic light at Bethel Road and Harris Avenue before the city approves a request by Homer Tuttle to install gasoline pumps.

Gaddy reported that he had received an estimate of \$6,000 to run a water line down St. Pauls Drive to the city limits, but that the city did not have the funds now to install the line.



WORRIED - Raz Autry, county school superintendent, waits for the school bond votes to be counted. He was smiling before midnight, as the bonds were approved by more than a hundred votes.

By fewer than 200 votes, Hoke Countians approved a \$1.250 million school bond issue.

Hoke voters also returned all incumbent board of education members to the board and buried Republican candidates in a landslide of Democratic votes. Both Amendments to the state constitution were approved.

Almost 2,685 voters, counted unofficially, went to the polls, slightly more than half of the registered voters in the county.

The school bonds passed with 1393 for and 1229 against - a margin of 164 votes. The bond issue was defeated in five of the 13 precincts in the county: Buchan, Stonewall, Rockfish and Puppy Creek and Raeford 1.

The greatest approval came from Raeford 5, where voters passed the bonds 218 to 96 against. McCain bond supporters edged out a victory by only one vote: 86-85.

The race for the five seats on the board of education was tightly contested, with four of the seats remaining in doubt until early Wednesday morning.

Dr. Riley Jordan led the ticket, taking a lead early in the evening.

Mrs. Mina Townsend, who had campaigned hard for several weeks, came close to a seat, trailing the fifth member of the board, Wilton Wood, by only 95 votes.

Robert Doby, despite a large vote from Raeford 5, fell short by more than 300 votes.

W.T. McAllister, who was killed two weeks ago, still received 287 votes. Totals for the five men reelected to the school board were: Riley Jordan, 1701; Bobby Gibson, 1606; Bill Howell, 1599; D.R. Huff, Jr., 1553; and Wilton Wood, 1321.

Mrs. Townsend received 1236 votes and Robert Doby got 986.

### Democrats Win

The rest of the races in the county were never in doubt, as Democrats were elected by huge margins.

In the county commissioner's election, James A. Hunt led the ticket, as he did in the primary, with 2,315 votes. Democratic incumbents John Balfour, with 2258 and Ralph Barhart, with 2213, were both well ahead of the only Republican in the race, Burnice Blanks, who polled 182.

James H. Carson, Republican candidate for attorney general, was the top GOP vote - getter in the county, and he only drew 456 votes. Rufus Edmiston soundly defeated him, polling 2,124 votes.

Robert Morgan elected to the U.S. Senate, was soundly approved in the county, polling 2106 votes to his Republican opponent's William Stevens, 402.

In the state judicial districts, Susie Sharp, elected to Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court, got 2,320 votes in the county. Her opponent, James Newcomb, received 190.

Superior Court Judge Donald Smith, a Republican, got 230 votes, far behind his Democratic challenger, Edwin Preston, Jr., who polled 2,218. Forrest A. Ferrell defeated Ted S. Douglas for Superior Court 2,232 to 171.

William Copeland received 2,196 votes for Associate Justice to the State Supreme Court, while his opponent, James M. Baley, Jr., polled 211 votes.

### General Assembly

In the state legislature, Luther Britt was returned to the State Senate, polling 2,127 votes to Steve Strickland's 247.

In the State House of Representatives, Joy Johnson of Fairmont received 2,159 votes; Henry Oxendine of Pembroke got 2,143 and See ELECTION, Page 13

## Going Slow

Contributions to the 1974 United Way Fund drive are coming in slowly, according to figures released by Sam C. Morris, local treasurer.

Donations were listed as Home Sec. ty, \$9.75; Clark's Gulf, \$10; Upchurch Milling, \$131.40; individual, \$100; L & S Railroad, \$60; individual, \$30; Community Fund, \$19; individual, \$10; Production Credit, \$4.00; individual, \$10; Hoke Oil & Fertilizer, \$234.00.

Stonewall Township, \$190.52; Civil Defense, \$15; McCain Hospital, \$299.50; Post Office, \$50.

The total for these gifts is \$1,173.17. The county goal is \$19,441.21.

WORRIED - Raz Autry, county school superintendent, waits for the school bond votes to be counted. He was smiling before midnight, as the bonds were approved by more than a hundred votes.

The council also adopted a resolution on flood plain control, which would enable residents to a federal requirement that will enable residents to buy flood insurance.

Mayor McNeill explained the progress of a waste treatment study for most of the county, which the city will undertake with county approval and said that no further progress can be made until the county board approves a resolution okaying the study. An area waste treatment plan is a requirement for any further federal money for sewage disposal, McNeill said.

The council also agreed to ask a representative from Moore Gardner Associates to talk to the board about new opportunities on public housing recently enacted in federal law.

## Interest Plumps Total Of Revenue Funds

The county earned about \$28,000 in interest on the revenue sharing money deposited in a saving account last year, while spending only about \$3,000 during the year, according to an audit prepared by accountant Kenneth Davis.

However, Davis noted in his summary that a number of contracts pertaining to the county office building had been let after the close of the fiscal year on June 30.

Interest earned on certificates of deposit on revenue sharing funds amounted to \$28,550.46 and expenditures are listed at \$3,058.

Davis told the commissioners that

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## Red Springs Man Dies Following Hoke Crash

A 46-year-old Red Springs man died several hours after a Saturday evening accident on the Duffie - Wagram Road.

Boyd Gatlin Collins underwent extensive surgery at Cape Fear Valley Hospital, where he was transferred from Scotland Memorial Hospital. He died early Sunday morning.

According to State Highway Patrol Trooper K.W. Weston, Collins was returning from a hunting trip about 6:30 p.m. when his vehicle struck a horse. The '67 International Scout vehicle skidded and overturned, throwing Collins from the car.

Weston said the horse ran away after the crash. Its owner is unknown.

He was the 17th victim to die on Hoke County roads this year.

The Red Springs Rescue Squad assisted at the accident scene.

Trooper Weston also reported the arrest Friday night of a motorist charged with possession of a controlled substance, marijuana.

According to Weston, James E. Morrison Jr. of Rt. 4 Fayetteville was arrested about 11:50 in Tyler Town after he was spotted driving left of the center line. He was charged with DUI and possession of marijuana after a search revealed the suspected substance in plastic sandwich bags.

Bond was set at \$600.