



CRAFTY - Mrs. Barbara Hiser instructs students at the recently started senior citizens' crafts class. The sessions will run for the remainder of the year, funded by a grant from Lumber River COG.

Training May Be Waived For Ambulance Personnel

The Office of Emergency Medical Services of the N.C. Department of Human Resources is waiving a requirement that on or after Jan. 1, 1976, every ambulance on an emergency mission be staffed by at least one certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) who has been trained in a program approved by the Office of EMS. The waiver, which was announced by OEMS Chief Jim Page, is subject to approval by the Medical Care Commission at its March meeting.

However, members of the Hoke County Rescue Squad will complete an EMT course Feb. 2, that will qualify approximately 20 squadsmen as emergency medical technicians.

Page feels that the existence of the deadline has been a threat to volunteer services and has inspired an array of letter-writing campaigns among some of the volunteer groups.

The 1973 EMS Act calls for the upgrading of ambulance attendants to the level of EMT by taking at least 71 hours of instruction, plus 10 or more additional hours of emergency room training.

"I'm willing to bet that the volunteers will show their concern for

skill and patient care without the oppressive insult of a deadline hanging over their heads," said Page.

He continued by saying, "Forty-one percent of North Carolina's ambulance service is provided by unpaid members of volunteer rescue squads and ambulance services, and 57 percent of the ambulance attendants thus far trained in the program have been volunteers."

"Members of several of these services have objected to the mandatory nature of the program, as well as the apparent lack of opportunity for educationally disadvantaged members of their organizations," stated Page.

An alternative for educationally disadvantaged members is being considered, but it must be approved by the Medical Care Commission. "If approved," said Page, "these members may complete the 81-hour training program and be certified as ambulance attendants but not EMTs. They may also take the American Red Cross Advanced First Aid and Emergency Care course which entitles them to certification as ambulance attendants, but not as EMTs."

Sunday School Lesson

When Socrates was told that the time had come for him to prepare for death, he replied: "Don't you know that I have been preparing for it all my life?"

Quite unlike Socrates, many of us delay in preparing for this great life-event. Sometimes we procrastinate too long and then there is no opportunity to prepare for it. Frequently it is only when we are confronted by death that we begin to ask ourselves what we believe about this experience and its consequences.

The story of Lazarus in John 6 is founded upon the conviction that Jesus Christ is Lord of both life and death and if we accept his Lordship we do not need to fear death.

In the story we find some of the common attitudes that still abound today.

First there is some petulance on the part of the two sisters, Martha, upon greeting him, seems just a bit accusing: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died" (11:21). In a similar fashion we sometimes complain meekly to God suggesting that if he loved us he would not have let a loved one die!

Next, we find Martha resorting to theological arguments. Told by Jesus that her brother would "rise again," Martha gives lip-service to her beliefs: "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." (11:24).

But Jesus is not talking about theological beliefs; he is speaking of her trust in him: "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live" (11:25). "Do you believe this? Jesus wants to know and Martha begins to understand at last: "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world" (11:27).

She really does not know what Jesus is going to do next. At the same time she knew that she trusted this man implicitly. Therefore, she would put herself and her brother Lazarus in his hands. Somehow, whatever happened, she knew that it would be all right because of Jesus.

Yet, it is not so easy just to put everything in his hands. We are too conditioned to doing things ourselves to trust another so fully. Thus, when Jesus approaches the tomb and commands the stone to be rolled away, Martha protests that there will be too great an odor from the decomposing body. Once again Jesus must remind her: "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" If she will trust him, she and her sister will be truly blessed.

So Jesus commands, "Lazarus, come out," and the dead man is restored to life.

We miss the point of this story, however, if we think of it only as a miraculous feat by Jesus. The point is not that Jesus will keep us from dying - for even Lazarus died eventually - but that Christ is the Lord of both life and death!

The call to us is the same as that which was given to Martha and Mary: if we will trust him, if we will put ourselves in his hands, we will find that neither life nor death can intimidate us. Like Socrates we can prepare for the experience of death throughout our life because we are secure in the knowledge that Christ is Lord of both life and death.

Winter Festival

A Winter Festival at Sandhills Community College Jan. 20-25 will feature sky diving, ice sculpturing, basketball games and the crowning of two beauty queens.

The college skydiving team, which placed seventh in a national collegiate meet, will be featured as will ice sculpturing by the art students.

A basketball game between the Spartans and Chowan College, followed by a dance and the crowning of Miss Sandhills Community College and Miss Winter Festival will climax the week.

Correction

The survivors of Mrs. Margie Faircloth Baxley, as well as Mrs. Baxley's first name, were incorrectly published in the death notices of an area newspaper, and this incorrect information was carried in The News-Journal last week.

Mrs. Baxley is survived by her husband, Paul Baxley; a son, Buck Baxley, and a brother G.G. Faircloth, all of Raeford.

The News-Journal regrets any difficulties resulting from this error.

College News

William Ernest Woods, a junior at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro has been recognized as a honor student there. A music major, he is president of the A&T band, "The Marching Machine" and is vice president of the music fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha. Woods is a graduate of Hoke High, where he was a member of the '72 championship football team. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Laney of Raeford.

Rebecca Peoples Stokes, a senior at East Carolina University, earned a place on the honor roll for the fall quarter.

To be eligible, a student must maintain at least a 3.0 average. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Peoples of Raeford.

Sherry J. Shepley, of Rt. 2, Raeford, has been named to the Dean's list at Wingate College for the fall semester.

To receive this honor, a student must earn an average grade of 3.3 on at least 15 semester hours and have no grade below a "C".

After Award

Miss Suzanne Baker Jordan has been endorsed by Rev. Jack Mansfield, pastor of the First Baptist Church, for a Regional Baptist Scholarship from Meredith College. The church nomination is based on the student's contribution to the church, her potential as a future leader in the denomination, and her scholastic ability.

Miss Jordan is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R.M. Jordan, and attends Hoke County High School.

She is now in competition for scholarships available for an entering freshman at Meredith from each of the 10 regions formed by the Baptist associations.



STUCK - Some unlucky motorist was sorry when he drove into the parking lot at the civil defense office off Prospect Street Tuesday and sunk into the oozing mud beneath the gravel. The gravel had been placed in the lot in response to many complaints.

Awards Given At Tex-Elastic

Five-year service pins were presented to Tex-Elastic employees at an awards ceremony at the civic center recently.

J.H. Millis, chairman and chief executive officer of Adams Millis Corporation, made the presentation as part of a tour of the 12 plants in the corporation.

Hoke County employees honored were, Richard A. Norris, Allene Bullock, Pauline Cox, Betty Stogner, Horace Stogner, S.L. Swain, Jr., Myrl Miller, Flossie Cox, Susan Burke, Julia Mercer, Edmond Burney, Betty Bundy, Lois Sumner, Leana Cook, Betty Barefoot, Betty Stewart and Bill Lawrence.

Also honored for five years of service were Ann Barefoot, Gladys West,

Thelma Nobles, Betty Stanton, Mary Smith, Annie P. Walters, Arlene Money, Essie Stewart, Ruth Parks, Marcus Williamson, Irene Smith, Louise McDowell, Sylvia Williams, Thelma Williams, Naneta Quick, James Peterkin, Mary Hales, Henry Leak, Myrtle Currie, Dorothy McIntosh, Louise Maxwell, Wilma Gordon, Dorethea Ferguson, Billy Currie, Annie R. Collins, James M. Campbell and Betty Conoly.

Others receiving five-year pins were Dorothy McMillan, Gladys Matthews, Helen Jones, Ralph E. Stewart, Louise Scott, Helen McMillan, Mae Wilson, Mae McEachern, Shirley Miller, Effie Baldwin, Dorothy Monroe, and Venetta Monroe.

Troopers To Enforce Law On Car Elevation

During the last session of the N.C. General Assembly, a law was enacted prohibiting the lowering or elevating of any passenger motor vehicle by more than six inches from the manufacturer's specified height without the written approval of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. This new law became effective Jan. 1.

Col. E.W. Jones, Patrol Commander, said, "This new law would definitely be an asset to traffic safety. For one thing, a vehicle's center of gravity plays an important role in its stability, and when this is altered by raising or lowering the vehicle, the danger of losing its control

is substantially increased especially while negotiating a curve."

Also, he added that elevating the car unnecessarily exposed the fuel tank and increases the possibility of tire or explosion in a rear end collision. "Lowering the rear of a car is dangerous because headlight can blind oncoming drivers and elevation of the rear end can deflect headlight beams," continued Col. Jones.

The height of vehicles varies slightly due to age or replacement of shock absorbers and springs, he pointed out, so troopers will issue warnings until specific heights are established.

Living Costs Outpace Incomes In Hoke County

(Special to The-News Journal)

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 -- To what extent have rising living costs and bigger taxes offset or wiped out the income gains that Hoke County workers have obtained in the last few years?

Where does the average local family stand today in the nip and tuck race between mounting costs and rising wages?

For a while, most families in the area were able to keep ahead of the game because their incomes were going up more rapidly than their living costs.

In three of the last five years, however, the reverse has been the case. The erosion of income was most pronounced in the past year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Nationally, it reports, although weekly earnings rose about 7 percent, on average, consumer prices surged by nearly 12 percent. As a result, there was a loss of close to 5 percent in net spendable income in the year.

A study by the Tax Foundation, a non-profit research organization, shows how inflation and higher taxes have been putting the squeeze on the family pocketbook.

In Hoke County, on the basis of its figures, pay increases of less than 34 percent in the last five years tell short of giving the average family the purchasing power it had with its smaller 1969 income.

As a result, local families that had an income of \$7,500 in 1969, would have to be earning approximately \$10,200 at this time to have the same purchasing power that they had then.

Those whose incomes were \$10,000 previously would require close to \$13,750 now to stay even. Families that were earning \$12,500 five years ago would need about \$17,300 to balance out.

For retired people in the local area who are living on fixed incomes and for the unemployed, the going is especially rough.

It is difficult, also, for working men who have to provide for their families alone. That situation is less common than it was at one time, however, because married women have been entering the labor force in growing numbers, producing second incomes.

Over 55 percent of the married women in Hoke County are now holding down jobs, the latest figures indicate.



Read I Peter 1:3-9

We would like you, brothers, to understand about those who are asleep in death. (1 Thessalonians 4:13)

I remember the summer evenings of my childhood. We would play out - of doors until darkness, and then my father would call, "Come in now. Time to go to bed." We often objected, but he always prevailed.

Life is like that. We are so busy out in God's world, when, suddenly, it's sunset. Then He sends out the call, "Come in now. Time to bed and go to sleep."

Jesus used sleep as a picture of death. Of the little maid, He said that she was not dead, but sleeping. And of Lazarus, He gave the assurance, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth."

The apostle Paul also speaks of death as sleep.

But why should Jesus and Paul liken death to sleep? The implication is that we shall awaken someday! Death is not the end; there is the morning of the resurrection.

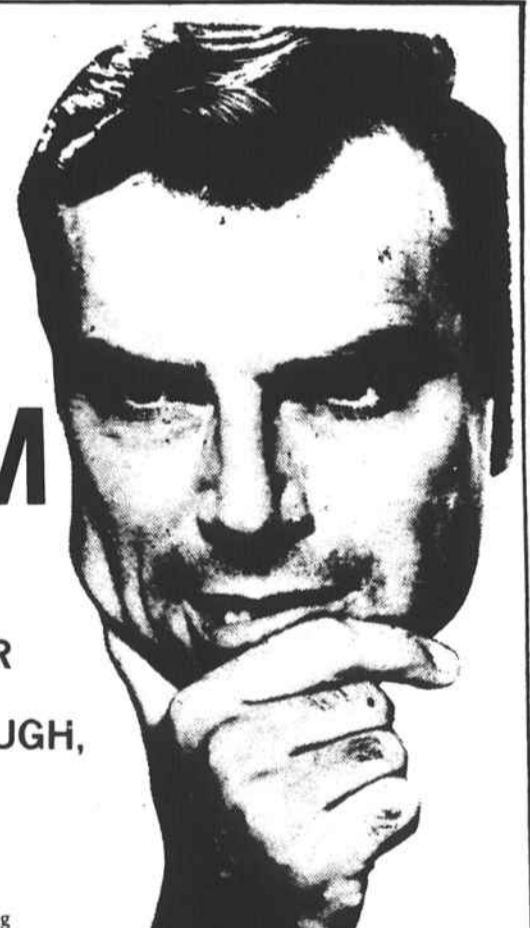
Yes, I did hate to go to bed as a child. But when I surrendered to it, there was always the new morning to look forward to.

PRAYER: Lord, we are grateful to You for taking the fear out of death. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: How much we have to look forward to beyond this life!

- copyright - THE UPPER ROOM
- Sidney Hatch (Tigard, Oregon)

YOUR SALES PROBLEM



IF YOUR CASH REGISTER HASN'T BEEN RINGING ENOUGH, GIVE US A RING

The staff of our Display Advertising Department are specialists in recognizing and solving sales problems. They have helped many merchants in this community to increase their sales, by understanding their particular problems. They can help you!

FOR HELP ON YOUR PROBLEM CALL 875-2121

FOR THE BEST IN NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING, WE OFFER THE STAMPS—CONHAIM SERVICE

CALL 875-2121

The News-Journal