

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The golf courses were crowded the past weekend as fair weather prevailed Saturday and Sunday. For the past 10 weekends it has been raining either on Saturday or Sunday. Maybe the string will start the other way and it will be fair for a few weekends.

The goal for the United Fund drive was reached last week when Knit-Away reported. I think everyone that had a hand in the drive should come in for a big "Thank You". The drive started just as the recession started, and many people were laid off during this time. It is certainly hard to ask for money when most people don't know if they will have a job or not next week. Anyway, the people of Hoke came through once again.

Being chairman of the Selective Service Board, I have had many calls concerning where young men would register. The guidance department of Hoke High School is registering for the selective service and any student can register any day with them.

For non-students, the guidance department will register them on Wednesday or Thursday between the hours of three and four p.m.

If you have other business with the Selective Service you should go to the area office located in the Cardinal Building at 111 Lamon Street in Fayetteville.

I have had many inquiries about what is the comment on one-way Elwood Avenue. The answer is that all so far has been very favorable, but maybe the ones against it haven't had an opportunity to get in touch with me.

Southern National Bank opened its new drive-in window last week, and to get to the window one must enter from Main Street and exit on Elwood Avenue. This should fit in with the one-way street.

Anyway, in about two months we will all have seen what will happen on this street.

A call Monday from Leonard Miller, who lives on W. Prospect Avenue, wanted to know why the flag wasn't flying in front of the courthouse. I told him it was a mystery to me, but if he would call the county manager that he could get an answer. He said he already had done so, and that the answer didn't satisfy him.

I don't know how many other people observed that the flag wasn't flying at the courthouse, but I for one didn't notice it. It seems that it is always something like this that is observed and brought to the attention of someone. But keen observance will more than apt have the flag on the pole in the future.

President Gerald Ford stated Monday that the only way that we would have gas rationing in this country was "over his dead body". I guess no rationing!

By Commissioners

Bond Sale Okayed

The county commissioners voted Monday night to sell \$500,000 in school bonds and add \$250,000 to that from revenue sharing funds.

This will provide the \$750,000 that school officials estimate will be needed to finance construction projects for the county schools. County voters approved a \$1.25 million bond referendum this fall, but estimates on construction costs have fallen rapidly since then.

Schools Gain Night Guards

Nightwatchmen went on duty this week at most county schools.

The guards were hired to help stop the breakins and thefts occurring primarily at school lunchrooms, superintendent Raz Autry said.

Last month, one watchman was hired to patrol all the schools but it was soon apparent that this would not be enough, Autry said.

Home Destroyed

Fire Hospitalizes Three In Family

Legislators Here Monday

Hoke County's three representatives to the state legislature will be in Raeford Monday to meet with residents.

Reps. Joy Johnson, Henry Ward Oxendine and David Parnell will be at the Family Restaurant from 1-2:30 p.m. to answer questions and discuss issues before the legislature.

United Fund Tops Goal

The county United Fund finally topped the goal this week with a contribution from Knit-Away.

The textile workers donated \$4,615 to bring the county total to \$19,665.34. The goal this year was \$19,441.21.

Ashwell Harward, UF president, praised campaign workers and contributors for surpassing the goal. Campaign co-chairmen were Mrs. Joan Balfour and Mrs. Sarah Leach.

Major contributions came from Burlington with more than \$8,000; Raeford Turkey Farms with \$1,035; the schools with nearly \$1,500; McCain with more than \$600 and Tex-Elastic with \$450.

Contributions from the communities out in the county were the key to topping the goal, according to UF treasurer Sam Morris. There were more donations from the communities than there have been in previous years, he said.

Eight organizations share the fund. They are Girl Scouts, \$4,000; Boy Scouts, \$5,500; Red Cross, \$4,531; White Cane, \$750; 4-H, \$1,085; rescue squad, \$1,500; senior citizens, \$150; Carolina United (all national agencies), \$1,925.21.

C Of C Reports Sales Are Up

Sales and bank deposits are running slightly ahead of last year, despite the high unemployment rate in the area, directors of the Chamber of Commerce reported Tuesday.

According to Harold Gillis, C of C manager, several merchants reported that sales have increased over the same period last year.

Directors agreed that the full impact of the recession has not been felt here, Gillis said. He also pointed out that the sale of license tags here drew shoppers from Red Springs, St. Pauls, Sandhills and Fayetteville.

License tag sales were down slightly, See SALES, page 11



SEARCH - Equipped with protective gear to ward off the dense smoke and heat, a Raeford fireman enters the burning Walters' home to search for occupants of the house. However, the family had escaped before firemen arrived.

Income Too Much

Food Stamp Cut Off Draws Anger

An elderly woman living on social security checks has been cut off the food stamp program and her family claims she was hospitalized after that suffering from malnutrition.

Food stamp officials reply that she is no longer entitled to the subsidy because her income now exceeds the limit.

Mrs. Thelma Guin, 69, who lives near Scurlock School, was dropped from the county food stamp program Jan. 7. Until then, she had been receiving \$46 worth of food stamps for \$30.

Mrs. Guin was admitted to Moore County Hospital later that month. Mrs. Mary Ann Guin, her daughter-in-law, said the family was told by the doctor that the elder Mrs. Guin needed more food, the daughter-in-law reported.

The controversy centers on the status of a grandson, William Johnson, who is present in the Guin home.

W.G. Maxwell, food stamp administrator, said that according to information given him in December when Mrs. Guin applied for recertification, the 17-year-old lives in the home with her. Since he receives a social security check himself from his late father's account, the combined income of the two is \$337, Maxwell says. This is well above the \$280 limit for two persons.

According to Mrs. Mary Ann Guin, Johnson, who she says is 16, stays at the home at night only to care for his grandmother, who must have someone with her at all times. He pays for his own groceries and lives primarily with his mother, Mrs. Rosa Lee Gilbert. Mrs. Guin said Johnson, who is unemployed, is unable to contribute financially to his grandmother's care, nor can the other members of her family.

"All us kids got together and talked about buying groceries for her, but we're hardly making it out ourselves," the younger Mrs. Guin said.

Mrs. Guin said her mother-in-law last month paid bills in excess of her \$147 social security. She listed expenses as electricity, \$22.35; water, \$11.25; life insurance, \$16; banker's insurance \$4.40; medical prescriptions, \$30; taxes, \$15.60; house insurance \$43.

"She only had \$4.40 left for groceries and that was before a \$100 hospital bill that she had to pay beyond what the insurance paid and a \$39 kerosene bill," Mrs. Mary Ann Guin said.

Maxwell said that when Mrs. Guin applied for recertification, she had verified shelter costs, for housing, utilities and heat of \$52.52. This could not be deducted from her allowable income because it was not in excess of the shelter cost standard of \$99, Maxwell explained.

He said that when Mrs. Guin applied for recertification, she did not explain that Johnson was living with her to care for her.

"The only information we had was that he was living with her," Maxwell said. "We have no control over the process after they give us the information. Once we get the information, we work it up with the formulas and however it comes out is what we have to go by."

Maxwell said the only legal way he could see for Mrs. Guin to qualify for good stamps is for Johnson to pay her \$46 a month as board. No food stamps would then be issued for him but he could continue to live there and Mrs. Guin would again qualify.

"Many times young people living at home are actually hurting their parents," he said. "They get overcommitted for cars and clothes and don't contribute to the basic living essentials but their income must be included in the family income."

Area Incidents

5 Charged In Armed Robbery

Five men were arrested Sunday in connection with an armed robbery at a grocery near the Robeson County line late Saturday night.

Part of the money taken in the robbery was recovered, according to Sheriff D.M. Barrington.

YDC Formed In County

A Young Democrats Club was organized Thursday in a meeting at the courthouse.

Warren Pate was elected president and Willie McCaskill was chosen vice-president. Secretary - treasurer is Mrs. Kay Thomas.

Pate said the group was now applying for a state charter and would be recruiting additional members. A second meeting is planned later this month.

One of the primary interests discussed at the first meeting was obtaining low-rent housing in the county, he said.

Plant Returns To Full Work

Knit-Away will be back on a seven-day operation by Feb. 23, according to personnel manager Dick Lovett.

There are no employees now on layoff, he reported.

"This boy is possibly causing a hardship," Maxwell said. "He should be paying for half the food if he's eating there."

"He is just there to help her. If someone hadn't been with her last weekend, she might have died. A vein broke in her leg and she bled so much," Mrs. Mary Ann Guin said.

Maxwell said Mrs. Guin could reapply.

"Anyone can come back and we'll review the situation at any time," he said.

"But based on the information we had at the time, Mrs. Guin's income was more than can be allowed."

"So many people come in here with food stamps, the younger Mrs. Guin, who works at a convenience food store, said, "It seems a shame that someone who really needs them can't get them."

A father and his small daughter, both overcome by smoke, were pulled from their burning home Monday by a motorist who spotted the fire.

Three persons were hospitalized when their split-level home on South Main Street was destroyed by fire.

Alton G. Walters was listed in satisfactory condition in the intensive care unit of Moore County Hospital late Tuesday afternoon. He was reported to have been overcome by smoke and to be suffering from burns.

Mrs. Doris Walters, reportedly admitted with a back injury suffered when she jumped from an upper story bedroom window, was listed as discharged Tuesday.

Melissa Walters, 3, was listed in satisfactory condition. She reportedly was burned and suffered smoke inhalation.

The fire was reported to a Raeford policeman about 8:30 Monday morning and a report was phoned to the fire department by a neighbor about the same time.

The Walters family, however, escaped from the burning house before firemen arrived.

Walters and the child were rescued by Hoke County farmer, Bobby Gibson, who was passing the home when he saw the fire, Raeford fire chief Crawford Thomas reported.

Teenaged Lawrence Walters had crawled to the roof and was spotted by Gibson, according to Thomas Gibson found Mrs. Walters on the ground beneath the window and she told him that her family was still inside. Thomas said Gibson opened the front door and found Walters lying on the floor, covering the child with his body. Gibson carried them outside and took them to Raeford Medical Clinic where they were transferred to the hospital. Mrs. Walters returned to her house in search of her purse, Thomas said, and one of the firemen took her back to the doctor's office. Lawrence, who climbed from the roof to the ground down the television antenna, was not injured.

According to Thomas, the fire appears to have begun in the kitchen. Mrs. Walters left breakfast cooking and went back upstairs, where she lay down across the bed and fell asleep. Thomas said he was told.

The house was equipped with a fire alarm that sounded when a critical temperature is reached, Thomas said. The alarm woke Lawrence, who ran upstairs to wake his mother and sister, according to the chief.

Walters, who apparently was in the basement area, where a beauty shop is located, went upstairs and got his daughter, then tried to get to the front

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James Allen Lambert, 18, of Rt. 2, Red Springs, living in Hoke County; James Mitchell Locklear, 18, of 112 Graham St., Red Springs; Harvey Lee Jacobs, 22, of 112 Graham St., Red Springs and Carl Rogers Jr., alias Buckwheat, of Rt. 2, Red Springs, located in Hoke County.

Charged with receiving stolen goods is Lambert's father, Joseph Nick Hunt, 56, of Rt. 4, Red Springs, also in Hoke County.

Bond was set at \$5,000 each and a preliminary hearing is scheduled Feb. 21.

According to the sheriff, the operator of the store, Mrs. Faye Riddle, was held up outside after closing the grocery by two men wearing masks. One man

carried a shotgun and ordered her to throw the money to him, the sheriff said. Several other store employees were present with Mrs. Riddle.

Mrs. Riddle tossed the money bag containing several thousand dollars in cash and checks, the sheriff said, and the two men ran.

Deputies Harvey Young, James Peterkin and H.E. Bowen responded to the call and were joined by Highway Patrol troopers and later by Deputies James Lamont and James Riley.

Rogers, Jacobs and Locklear were picked up in Lumberton Sunday afternoon and returned to Hoke County

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Hearing Called To Plan Indian Fund Expenditures

Raz Autry, Superintendent of Hoke County Schools, announced that a public hearing on the Indian Education Act (IEA) will be held 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 19, in the court room of the Hoke County Courthouse.

Members of the IEA advisory parent committee, recently selected at three area meetings, will be on hand to discuss use of IEA funds for the year 1975-76. The committee and officers will be officially elected at this meeting.

The Hoke County School System received \$56,140.00 in IEA funds for the 1974-75 school year and may qualify for \$36,292.00 in IEA funds for

the 1975-76 school year if they meet federal requirements by February 28.

The public hearing required by the Indian Education Act, will provide an opportunity for discussion of the adequacy of current programs in meeting special educational needs of Indian children enrolled in the local educational agency, and the manner in which the program or project for which application is made will be coordinated with other programs to meet educational needs for Indian children.

All people of the Indian community will be welcome.