

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The saying "March comes in like a lamb and goes out like a lion", or vice versa, could be put on April this year. The wind has been like a lion for three days the first of this month. But, after all the rain that has fallen recently, it took something to help dry out the soil, and the wind did a fine job.

The temperatures haven't dropped as low as has been predicted and I don't believe anything was killed by the cold nights.

So, maybe if the winds will cease, we can all enjoy an early spring.

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The date for the 1934-1935 Class Reunion of Raeford High School has been set and will be held on June 7. Letters will go out this week to all members giving them complete details. So, to people that have been asking about the date to give to family members, this is it.

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Whenever you start planning for any event you never know what will pop up or what will be brought to mind. Of course, I am thinking about the work in planning the reunion mentioned above. The one thing that is on my mind at this time is the members that have died since graduation day.

In the Class of 1934, six members have passed on and in the class of 1935, five of the classmates are no longer with us. This is something you don't think about until you start getting addresses and making plans.

The class of 1934 had 40 members graduating and the class of 1935 had 45 to graduate. So, this leaves 74 members to contact and to prepare for on the reunion day.

It would surprise you how far away some of the class members now live; and, some that live within 20 miles, it was almost impossible to locate.

Anyway, most of the members I have contacted are looking forward to the reunion.

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While on the subject of reunions, I noticed in last week's paper that the class of 1963 had a reunion. In the write-up it stated that a memorial gift was given to the Hoke County Library in memory of Sammy Warlick and Rosemary Cameron.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Warlick and Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Cameron had this to say, "Our love and appreciation to the class of 1963 for the gift to the Library in memory of Sam and Rosemary. Thank you for remembering and caring."

This should be enough to make their reunion a complete success.

I hope others can bring forth statements such as above.

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A report was given at the City Council meeting Monday night by the City Dog Warden. While looking at the report I began to think that fewer dogs have been seen on the streets of the city recently, and I haven't heard many complaints about having to tie up dogs. The report did say that 45 complaints had been received by the department, and all had been answered and the problems solved.

So, maybe the leash law will work after all.

## 'Goofer Dust' Strikes Again

"Goofer dust", which some people believe will cast a spell, was found scattered at the front and back entrances of the courtroom Friday morning and down the stairs leading to the back entrance.

However, a county employee took quick action to counter the hex with a folk remedy.

The 'dust' is dirt taken from a cemetery at midnight, according to Archie Byrnes. Byrnes, in charge of county buildings, said the "goofer dust" was left sometime after he had filled the courtroom water pitchers.

"It's old black magic," Byrnes explained. "That's all I know about it. But there's a Dr. Buzzard down in South Carolina, who for \$25 can tell you how to break the hex and he says put salt on it. So that's what we did."

Byrnes bought salt and had it spread over the "goofer dust" by Lawrence Ferguson, courthouse janitor.

The courtroom was hit by "goofer dust" once before when it was found sprinkled on the jurors' chairs and tables for the solicitor when Junior Lee Washington was tried for rape in November, 1972.



WALK FOR ANGELA - Second grader Angela Locklear is one of the youngsters who will benefit from the Jaycee-sponsored walkathon Saturday. With her are Raeford Jaycee president Bobby Strother (left), her mother, Mrs. James Earl Locklear, Larry Phillips, Jaycee, and Mrs. Audrey Rivenbark, a home service consultant for United Cerebral Palsy of N.C.

## Hoke Girl To Kick Off Charity Hike

Until she was about a year old, her parents did not suspect that Angela Locklear was afflicted with cerebral palsy.

Now a second grader at Raeford Elementary, Angela, 10, has had two operations and walks with the aid of crutches and braces.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Earl Locklear of Rt. 1, Angela is one of about ten residents of the county who suffer from cerebral palsy, a condition that impairs the body's motor function.

A Walkathon, which will start with sign-up at the stadium at 8 a.m., Saturday, will raise money for the cerebral palsy fund. Raeford Jaycees are preparing for more than 1,000 walkers, who will be sponsored at amounts averaging about a quarter a mile.

The 20-mile route loops around the county with checkpoints at Gentry's Tire Service, the armory, Upchurch School, along Turnpike Road and Bethel Church.

The Jaycees are providing water at each checkpoint and refreshments along the route. Entertainment, including skydivers, is scheduled at the stadium to wrap up the Walkathon.

Angela will be at the stadium to see the start of the charity walk.

## School Board Okays New Policies

Three policy statements were approved and contracts for the superintendent and two assistant superintendents were renewed Monday night by the county board of education.

Four year contracts were renewed for Raz Autry, superintendent, and J.D. McAllister and Ernest Sutton, assistant superintendents.

W. L. Moses was re-elected attorney for the school board.

The board approved policies on student locker assignments, corporal punishment and in-field teaching for faculty.

## Special Venire Ordered For Luckie Murder Trial

Jurors from Cumberland County will be selected for the murder trial later this month of Jessie Luckie, a Superior Court judge has ruled.

Judge Hamilton Hobgood last Thursday ordered a special jury pool of 150 Cumberland County residents be subpoenaed for the trial, set April 28.

Luckie is accused of the slaying last fall of W.T. McAllister and his wife, Mary, who were widely known in the county.

At the time of his death, McAllister was a candidate for the school board and was active in the Democratic Party, serving as precinct chairman of Blue Springs. Mrs. McAllister was manager of the Scurlock School cafeteria.

Luckie's attorney, public defender James Little, first asked that the trial be moved from Raeford to Fayetteville. He argued that it would be impossible for Luckie to get a fair trial here.

In his arguments to Hobgood, Little

## Commissioners Approve County Planning Board

Hoke County commissioners voted Monday to activate a county planning board and agreed to submit a letter of intent to apply for federal planning funds.

The board acted following a public hearing Monday, held at 11 a.m. in the courthouse annex conference room. Earlier that morning, the commissioners met as a board of equalization and review and later, they held the bulk of their regular monthly session.

The ordinance creating the seven-man planning board was approved following several months of preliminary study. Members are to be appointed sometime later.

John K. McNeill Jr. attended the hearing to discuss the planning services of the Department of Natural and Economic Resources. He told the board that the state agency could contract to develop a land use plan for the county. The total cost will be about \$8,000 with the county paying \$3,200 if federal funds can be arranged, McNeill said.

Lumber River council of government planners David Bartlett and Larry Stahm strongly urged the commissioners to prepare for participation next year in

the Community Development Act of 1974. In addition to the land use study, Bartlett told the board the county also needs a land development plan, and a detailed housing study to apply for federal community development funds.

### Equalization and Review

The board, meeting for equalization and review, denied requests from four persons for tax deductions.

Appearing to complain about tax valuations were Neill F. Sinclair of Quewhille, L.E. McLaughlin, of Blue Springs, Creston Rowland of Wayside and Mable Riley of Hillcrest.

In the regular meeting, the commissioners agreed to ask the state to look into a drainage problem in Allendale for James McCormick, who complained that a ditch along the highway was needed in his area.

### Bids Opened

The commissioners reviewed four bids for repainting the courtroom, jury room and four downstairs offices at the courthouse and accepted the low bid

## Housing Gets City Approval

Raeford's dormant housing authority was put back in action Monday night when the city council agreed to appoint new members to the panel.

The council also heard plans to take action against buildings declared unsafe and discussed providing a home visiting service to the city's elderly and shut-ins.

The housing authority appointments followed a public hearing last month on housing.

A group of city residents lobbying for public housing recently had asked for the re-activation of the authority. The board, which was chartered several years ago when Raeford applied for 50 public housing units, had ceased to meet and the terms for most of the members had expired.

Persons considered Monday night for appointment to the new authority included former members Ken McNeill and Bobby Carter. Also suggested were Neill McFadyen, James Hunt, Jack Mansfield and J.D. McAllister.

City manager John Gaddy told the council that building inspector Bill Sellars was preparing a list of unsafe buildings. When the list is completed, Gaddy said the city would begin efforts, including court action if needed, to have the buildings removed.

Some of the buildings were condemned several years ago by former inspector Monroe Williams. Gaddy told the council, but the city did not enforce the condemnation notices.

### Plan For Elderly

An idea to serve Raeford's elderly and shut-ins was brought up for discussion by Mayor John K. McNeill. Under the program, the city would hire a home visitor to perform small household services and perhaps provide transportation for the elderly. McNeill, who said the program was unusual for cities to be involved in, estimated the cost at about \$20,000.

The plan is expected to be discussed further during the upcoming budget hearings.

An increase in the fee to open graves at Raeford Cemetery is also expected to be discussed at the budget hearings. Gaddy told the council Monday that the cost to the city for actual labor and equipment is \$67.50. He suggested an increase from the present \$25 fee to \$75 for weekdays and \$100 after 4 p.m. and on weekends.

### Airport

The council heard recommendations from the airport committee meeting that the city buy three additional strips of land adjoining the city airport from Gene Thacker. Gaddy said the acquisition of one portion was essential to qualify for the last portion of a federal grant.

The council also discussed city operation of the Unicom radio and approved a motion to alter the proposed lease with Thacker to include an additional portion of land and set a time limit on occupation of his present premises.

A contract to roof the municipal building was awarded to Cumberland Roofing and Sheet Metal Company for the low bid of \$5,021. The council also agreed to advertise for bids for two new police squad cars to replace the city's 1972 and 1973 patrol cars.

The council accepted \$1,000 federal training grant for the police department and agreed to pay \$50 matching funds.

Plans to build a public parking lot or a drive-in window to pay water bills for the lot adjoining city hall were discussed. Gaddy was instructed to notify Raeford auto dealer Bernard Bray to vacate the lot by 1976.

The council also agreed to submit a letter of intent to apply for federal planning funds to the regional council of governments.

### Dog Complaints

During March, 42 complaints about dogs in the city were answered, dog warden Roy Guin reported.

Of these, 12 dogs were impounded and only two were claimed by the owner. Five were destroyed and the other five were sold.

One dog bite report was investigated and the dog was quarantined at home, according to the report.

from J.F. Odom for \$1,187.

Other bids were Lupo Paint Contractors, \$1,975; Bridges Brothers Paint Contractors, \$1,300 and Elias Rogers Paint Contractors, \$2,800.

Clyde Leach submitted a proposal to the board for repainting the 91 garbage containers in the county for \$48 each.

The commissioners appropriated \$500 for the Ashley Heights community house. Otis Webb told the board that funds were needed to help pay for a new well being installed at a nearby church that will also serve the community house.

### Other Business

In other business, the board authorized expenses for county manager T.B. Lester and his wife to attend the city and county manager's annual conference in Banner Elk on May 8-10; authorized expenses for the tax collector Elizabeth Livingston to attend an annual convention April 16-18 and approved attendance for Lester, and Ralph Barnhart, chairman, at a budget conference in Raleigh April 14.

The board agreed for the county to take over supervision of the recreation commission payroll and to bill the commission for expenses.

The board approved a county matching expenditure of \$62,500 for a \$1,250 training grant to the sheriff's department from the Law Enforcement Assistant Administration. Also approved for payment was a \$456.25 bill for legal expenses incurred by the sheriff's department during the inquest for Deputy George McGuire.

## YDC Meeting

The Young Democrats Club will meet Thursday at 7:30 at the courtroom.

A question and answer session will be held with Sam Morris, county chairman of the Democratic party.

## UFO? Deputy Won't Say

A skeptical Hoke County deputy saw lights in the sky early last Thursday morning but he won't say it was a UFO.

"It looked like a plane to me," said George McGuire. "I wouldn't have even reported it but I was told to look for lights in the sky and that's what I saw, so I reported it."

McGuire said he was notified on the radio by Hoke jailer Upton Daniels that Robeson County deputies had spotted an unidentified flying object headed toward Lumber Bridge.

McGuire said he was near Davis' Bridge when he got the call and drove toward Lumber Bridge. He was in Robeson County when he saw the lights in the sky.

"The lights were a good distance away," McGuire said. "I thought they were over Fayetteville. It looked like a plane."

He returned to Hoke County to take another road that would perhaps allow him to get closer to the object and lost sight of it completely, McGuire said.

## Pedestrian Killed Fri

A 63-year-old Raeford man was killed Friday night as he apparently walked in the path of a car on the 211 cut-off near the North Raeford Fire Department.

Trooper C.A. Bennett said Jesse James McNeill, Rt. 4, was killed instantly. The driver of the car, Curtis Oscar Bandy, Wagram, was not charged.

Bennett said McNeill was walking in the center of the road at about 8:30 p.m., according to Melvia W. Maynor, who swerved her car to avoid hitting him.

McNeill then stepped into the path of Bandy's car and the impact threw him across the hood and into the windshield, Bennett said. The glass broke and McNeill was thrown to the shoulder.

It was the sixth traffic fatality in Hoke for the year, and the second pedestrian death.

Extensive faculty re-assignments, to be announced at the end of school, were also discussed.

The text of the three policy statements follow:

### Locker Policy

The undersigned student and parent (or guardian) request that the student be assigned a school locker at the school listed below and understand and agree that any assignment made to the student is made and accepted under the following terms and conditions:

1. Only property belonging to the student which is necessary for his school activities is permitted to be placed in the locker, such as school books, gym shoes, etc.

2. No gun, rifle, pistol, explosives, black jack, or any other weapon of any kind or drugs not prescribed by a physician or alcoholic beverages of any kind, are permitted in the locker or on the school grounds, and the possession or carrying, whether openly or concealed, of any weapon or drugs is a violation of the law.

3. The Principal or any Assistant or

See SCHOOL BOARD, page 13