

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The Hoke County Historical Association met last Thursday night in the Fellowship Hall of the Raeford Presbyterian Church. The meeting was well attended and the program was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Carson Davis, Jr., who are the Hoke County Bicentennial co-chairmen.

They turned the program over to Mrs. Ruth McEachern who presented slides of historical homes in Hoke County. Mrs. McEachern gave a description of each house and other very timely comments. Everyone seemed to enjoy the program very much.

J.H. Blue, Jr., volunteered to look into having historical markers placed at a number of places in Hoke County.

In the business meeting before the program, six directors were elected. Also, it was brought out that the fall meeting would be a tour over the county of many historical places.

The one-way traffic for Elwood Avenue has now been in effect for a month and a half. I have heard very little, if any, bad comments about the change. At first the change gave the policemen a hard time but now very few cars are seen going the wrong way. As soon as the lines are marked on the street, I believe most of the problems will be solved.

Sam Snead of Bonneau, S.C., was by the office last week for a visit. He had read in this column about needing some addresses for the class of 1934 and was good enough to supply same. He said that he was looking forward to the reunion and seeing all his old classmates.

The article in last week's paper about attendance at the baseball games, when the team is leading the conference, at first leaves the impression that most people don't care about baseball anymore. This could be true, but the major leagues, years ago, went to night baseball to increase attendance, and I believe that more people would attend the games here if they were played at night.

Of course, school officials must have good reasons for wanting the park moved to the high school grounds. Anyway, most night sports like football and basketball are well attended, so don't condemn the fans until you are sure they can get to the park at the time games are played.

The flag now flying each day at City Hall was sent to Chief of Police Leonard Wiggins at the request of Congressman Charlie Rose from the office of maintenance of the Capitol in Washington. This flag flew over the Capitol on April 18, 1975, and was sent to the chief a few days later. Also, there was a certificate that tells of the date that the flag flew. If you would like to see it I know that Zeke would be glad to show the certificate to you.

I will add a thank you to the Congressman.

One thing you wait for after a paper comes off the press is to see if anyone finds any mistakes. At our office this comes on Thursday and with a weekly paper after that day you can expect that everything is all right.

Now, on a daily paper, this comes seven days a week, that is, if they get calls like weekly papers.

I noticed in a paper this week that a feature story concerning an old timer, Moses Melvin, had a picture with the story and the cutline read "Moses Malone". Maybe the writer was a basketball fan, as well as a feature writer.

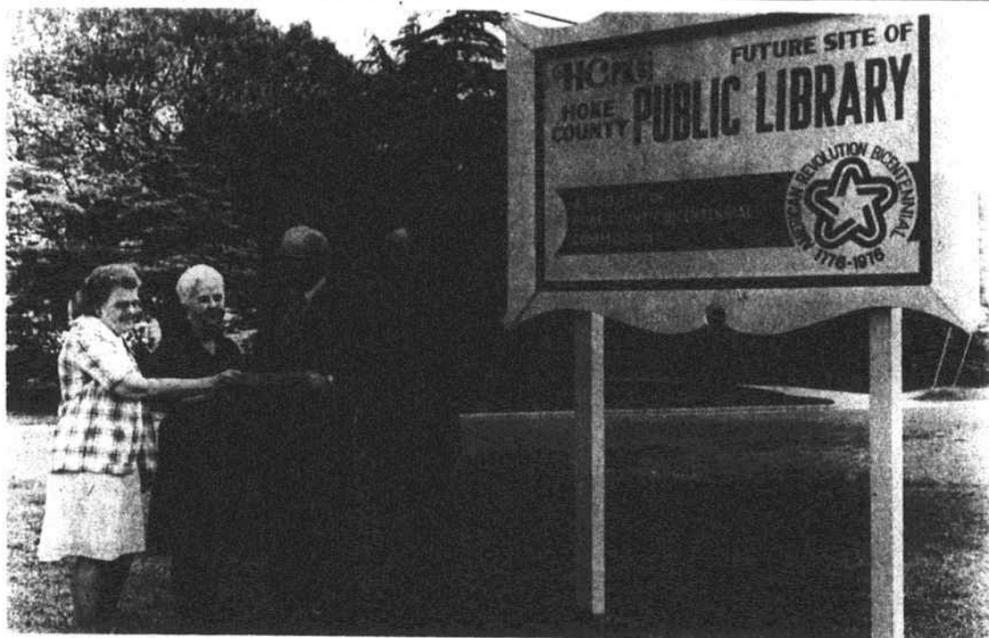
Anyway, mistakes are made by all.

Barrington Denies Allegations In Prisoner's \$300,000 Lawsuit

Allegations made by a Central Prison inmate seeking \$300,000 in damage from Sheriff D.M. Barrington in a lawsuit were denied in a written response filed last Thursday.

Barrington's attorney, Palmer Wilcox, also requested the court to dismiss the suit on the grounds the complaint fails to state a claim on which damages can be awarded.

The lawsuit, filed by William F. White, convicted of the June 6, 1974 robbery of the Hoke ABC store, also



BUILDING FUNDS - A \$6,000 donation from Burlington to the Bicentennial library fund is accepted Tuesday by elated library committee members. Mrs. Lee Cameron and Mrs. J.M. Andrews receive the check from Jack Bradford, plant manager of Burlington Apparel Fabrics Raeford plant and Gilbert Bernhardt, plant manager of Burlington Apparel Fabrics Dyeing plant. The money, the second remainder of a \$12,000 pledge to the library, was donated now, Bradford said, because the community has worked so hard to raise its portion. Work is expected to get underway soon.



J. D. Thigpen

New Trooper Assigned Here

Highway Patrol Trooper J.D. Thigpen has been assigned to duty in Hoke County.

He is replacing Trooper E.W. Coen, who was transferred recently to Rockingham.

Thigpen, a native of Maxton, joined the Patrol last April and has been assigned for the past six months to the Governor's mansion.

He is a graduate of Maxton High School and attended Pembroke State University.

Fund Drive To Begin

A door-to-door canvass for the Hoke County cancer drive will be held the week of May 4 - 10, sponsored by the Raeford Junior Woman's Club.

Information pamphlets including the warning signals of cancer will be left at each home.

Kicking off the cancer campaign on May 2 will be the benefit dinner at 6:30 at the high school cafeteria and gym. Tickets for the turkey dinner are still available at \$3.50 for adults and \$1.50 for students and may be purchased by calling Mrs. Allen Edwards at 875-4565 evenings.

Guest speaker will be Albert Long, evangelist from Durham. The Hoke High Chorale will perform following the dinner.

names former District Attorney Jack Thompson, Superior Court Judge Donald L. Smith, and defense attorney Doran J. Berry as co-defendants.

In a handwritten petition filed in federal district court in Raleigh earlier this month, White alleges that Barrington kidnapped him at gunpoint, arrested him and searched him without a warrant, and failed to advise him of his legal rights, in addition to other alleged violations of his civil rights.

New Fire Door Well Broken In

The new, modern overhead door at the city fire department got a thorough breaking in Friday, barely a day after its installation.

From piecing together information, the scenario early Friday morning went something like this when the fire alarm sounded and the action began.

The new door failed to open completely, an act apparently unnoticed by the driver of the first truck out, and the door was smartly banged by the truck as it roared out, jamming it.

Firefighters manning the second truck fought the balky door alongside Police chief Leonard Wiggins, attempting to raise it with some determined wrestling. The second truck then sped away, tearing the door as it left.

City Manager John Gaddy put no monetary estimate on the damage to the door, saying simply "it bent h--- out of it".

The new door was a special size, he said, and a replacement will have to be ordered from the factory.

New Number For Sheriff

All calls to the sheriff's department must be dialed through 875-5111, Sheriff D.M. Barrington reported.

Two additional lines were installed recently that automatically relay from 5-5111.

875-2844, which had been a second number, is no longer in service, he said.

Superior Court Underway

Man Not Guilty In Driving Cases

A Rt. 1 man was found not guilty of drunken driving and driving while license permanently revoked in Superior Court here Monday following a long jury trial.

Ledbetter Jacobs Jr., Rt. 1, Box 77-A, was appealing a December 1974 District Court conviction in which he was sentenced to an active 18-month term.

Members of the jury were Jack Mansfield, Mary M. Ray, Effie E. Purcell, Sandra A. Pittman, Louise S. McDiarmid, Sally McKenzie, James Best, Benny McLean, L.E. McLaughlin, Jr., Evelyn Baker, Dorothy B. McCallum, and William E. Pope, Jr.

Jacobs was represented by public defender Mary Ann Tally. A second case pending against Jacobs, for driving while license revoked, had been scheduled for trial on Monday, but was continued to the next term of court following the jury's acquittal.

In other action Monday, presiding Judge Hamilton H. Hobgood ordered a man convicted for armed robbery back to prison after reviewing motion for a post conviction hearing.

Billy Ray Collins, alias James Earl Collins, had been convicted of armed robbery and was sentenced to 20 - 30 years in prison by Superior Court Judge James H. Pou Bailey.

Because of an incorrect entry on a



Joseph Carver

Postmaster Takes Over

Joseph D. Carver has been named postmaster for the Raeford Post Office, officials announced last week.

Carver assumed his new duties effective April 25.

A career employee, Carver began as a city carrier at Fayetteville in 1963. He later was promoted to carrier technician and acting foreman. From 1971-1973 he was postmaster at Vass, and then returned to Fayetteville as manager of the Eutaw Postal Station.

Carver is currently studying at Fayetteville State University and expects to receive a degree in business administration this fall.

Carver and his wife, Diana Victoria, reside with their three children in Hope Mills.

record in the clerk's office, which showed the defendant was convicted of common law robbery. Collins apparently thought he had been convicted of lesser crime and had grounds to have his sentence reduced.

Also on Monday, Richard Lee Smith, slated for final judgment for worthless checks, failed to appear and a capias was issued. Smith was free on bond.

A capias was also issued for James E. Bordeaux, charged with breaking and entering and larceny, after Bordeaux's

Rape, Burglary Charges Filed

A 17 - year - old unemployed Raeford man was arrested on a charge of rape after a warrant was sworn out by the alleged victim April 21.

Jerry Shaw, Rt. 3, Raeford, was also charged with first degree burglary by sheriff's deputies in connection with the alleged assault on Estelle Rogers, 62, April 20 at her home.

Shaw appeared in District Court Friday for a preliminary hearing but the case was continued until legal counsel could be appointed.

Shaw's bond was set at \$10,000 on each charge.

Budget Time: Costs Are Up

Budget requests totaling \$1,140,042 have been received by the county board of commissioners at budget hearings held recently.

In addition to these requests, which make up the general fund, the school system has asked for \$652,973.75 in county revenue.

Last year, the final budget, excluding school funds, amounted to \$1,063,851 and the schools received \$712,084.20 from county taxes.

When the tentative budget is completed, probably next week, it will be available for public inspection for 20 days and then a public hearing will be held before the final budget is adopted. The tax rate is not set until the final budget is approved.

However, County Auditor T.B. Lester said he isn't far enough along in compiling the tentative budget to even speculate on the tax rate this year.

First, he said, he must add in all the other revenue the county will receive during the year.

"The difference between the other revenue and the budget determines the tax rate," he explained.

Last year, the tax rate was 80 cents on every \$100 valuation. This was a reduction from the \$1.47 cent rate of the previous year, but comparisons are difficult because taxes were based on 100 per cent valuations for the first time. Before the law changed last year, taxes were based on 65 per cent valuation.

Lester said that 60.46 per cent of the tax rate goes to schools and 39.54 goes to the general fund.

Salaries Up

Contributing to the higher budget requests this year are increased allocations for travel and utilities and a five per cent salary raise for county employees.

Funds requested for the governing body this year are \$18,226, up from \$16,090 last year. Most of the increase comes in travel expenses, with \$1,500 planned this year compared with the \$400 in the budget for travel last year.

Lester said that the expansion of Lumber River Council of Governments, headquartered in Lumberton, has accounted for the additional travel. Usually several trips a week to Lumberton are necessary.

A raise in election board salaries accounts for the increase from \$14,030 last year to \$17,670 this year, Lester said.

Finance department requests were up from \$29,417 last year to \$32,792 this year. Salary raises and a maintenance contract on the new computer account for the increase.

Tax listing requests are up from \$31,895 last year to \$34,080 this year. Increased costs of travel and postage amount to nearly \$1,000 of the increase.

Several factors account for increases in the tax collector's budget requests, from \$24,106 last year to \$27,750 this year. Professional services, which previously have been listed elsewhere in the budget, will amount to \$1,800. Salary hikes amounting to about 11 per cent are also recommended. Lester said that salaries in that department have been too low and that the raises were more of an adjustment than a raise.

\$10,000 For Utilities

Legal expenses are expected to remain the same as last year, \$1,200 and the Register of Deeds office has requested \$19,515 with increases coming in salaries and supplies.

The request for public buildings of \$57,541 includes a \$10,000 increase in funds for utilities. "We don't know what is going to happen there," Lester said.

Other increases include salary raises, provisions for hiring a new janitor for the new building and repairs on the county's part of the courthouse and at the health center.

The sheriff's department requests are up sharply this year from \$148,680 last year to \$171,280 this year.

The requests include funds for another deputy and jailer and two more patrol cars.

An LEAA grant request for a detective was turned down, Lester said, but it has been resubmitted. Lester said he hoped the grant would be approved this time so that county funds would not have to be

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Bloodmobile Tomorrow

The Bloodmobile will be at Raeford United Methodist Church from noon to 5:30 Friday for donations.

The quarterly visit is being sponsored by Knit-Away, however, county Red Cross chairman Clyde Upchurch urged support from other county residents also.

We're trying for 120 pints, Upchurch said, because use of blood has been heavy.

EPA Check

The city has received a \$41,500 reimbursement from the Environmental Protection Agency for the water treatment expansion completed in 1970.

The check received Monday is in addition to \$140,000 reimbursement

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At Hoke High

Athletic Banquet May 12

The annual Hoke High School Athletic Banquet will be held May 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gym.

Awards will be given to Hoke High men and women athletes and the Hoke

Booster Club is particularly urging parents to attend.

Tickets, at \$2.50 each, are on sale now at Howell Drug, Hoke Drug, Southern National Bank and Bank of Raeford.