

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Dale Teal was in the office last week with a vine which he said was from the garden of his father, Raymond Teal, and James Stephens. He said that it was an Irish potato vine and wanted me to see the little tomatoes that were growing on it. It has been years since I have been around a garden and so I took his word for the vine and tomatoes.

Now Dale was giving most of the credit to Raymond and Jim so if anyone doubts this story they will be glad to explain how all this happened.

The reunion for the Classes of 1934 and 1935 took place last Saturday night in Southern Pines and was well attended. After a couple of months of planning an event you wait with uncertainty as to what the outcome will be. This was how I felt about six o'clock Saturday afternoon.

I walked into the lobby of the Sheraton Motor Inn at about six thirty and two couples were in the lobby. Of course before I had a chance to recognize them they introduced themselves. I was glad of this for I am not sure if I could have called them by name.

In a few minutes the lobby was crowded with grey and bald headed men and ladies in long dresses. As name tags were being placed on dresses and coats all eyes were on them to see who each person was or if you had the right name in mind.

Before seven o'clock around 80 people had arrived and were milling around the lobby and dining room. Music from the "Big Band Era" seemed to set the mood as classmates began to recall old times and discuss what had happened over the past 40 years.

A few sidelines or scenes that bring back memories are:

*Clyde Upchurch, Jaybird McLeod, Johnny Womble, Nathan Epstein, Sam Snead and Robert Whitley talking about what a great football team they played on in 1933. They were even giving out signals that would go off-tackle or around end.

*Essie Mae Herring Stewart and Nellie Strother Seals, valedictorian and salutatorian of the class of 1935, together and later joined by Robert Weaver, most studious boy in the class.

*Annie R. Alexander Langis and Nan R. Harris Gordon who traveled many miles to attend the reunion.

*Carrie Hall Duke, with her youthful appearance looked like she was at the wrong reunion. These are just a few of the many things that happened that will live in my mind for many years to come.

Also a nice letter from Miss Margaret McKenzie who taught some of the 1935 class in the seventh grade at Raeford.

The other letters that were sent to Clyde and myself from classmates that could not attend. They were missed but the letters left them there in spirit.

Of the 85 that finished in the two classes 52 were present for the night. Eleven members had died during the 40 years, so only 22 of the two classes could not be there.

The question was raised many times during the night, when will we have another reunion? I can't say when, but after last Saturday night it was certainly worth the trouble.

If your class hasn't had a reunion, do so; you will have a big time.

Ambulance Cut-Off Threatened

Board Halts Budget Passage

Faculty Transfers Are Widespread To Strengthen Schools, Says Autry

Widespread teacher transfers were announced at the close of school last week by superintendent Raz Autry. The transfers, which in some cases amounted to shifting almost entire faculties, were undertaken for two reasons, Autry said.

"Number one, we want to put everybody in his field, something that hasn't always been done. And second, we wanted to put as many strong teachers on a faculty as we can and scatter some who aren't as proficient at each school," Autry explained. "The primary purpose is to put teachers where they can best

serve Hoke County, regardless of their preferences."

Autry said the decision to re-organize the faculties was approved by the board of education after study by supervisors at several levels.

In addition, five teaching positions were eliminated because of an expected drop in enrollment and 13 positions may be lost if the federal ESSA program is not funded. Autry said the ESSA teachers are being used primarily in math and reading or to reduce class loads.

Seven teachers were transferred

from Hoke High to Upchurch. They are Linda C. Moore, Sarah McCallum, Ernestine McKoy, Thelbert Torrey, Jack Johnson, Helen Bell and Betty Rouse.

Ronnie Branch was transferred to Scurlock and Jim Danks and Hank Richards have been moved to Raeford Elementary, where Richards will be assistant principal. Raeford Elementary will become a fifth and sixth grade school next year and South Hoke will be changed to second, third and fourth grades.

A number of faculty shifts were made at Upchurch. Leaving there for positions at the high school are Jesse B. McNeill, Larry Nichols, David Locklear, Ethel Callender and Clyde Jacobs.

Geraldine Maynor, and Sennie McPhatter to South Hoke; Dorothy Villines to Scurlock; Louise Barnwell and Betty Hunt to West Hoke; and Arlicia T. Ray and Gay Killens to McLauchlin.

Transferred to Raeford Elementary from South Hoke are Lanette Locklear, Valeria Wright, Vera W. Williams, Nancy L. Johnson, Betty H. Morgan, Helen N. Sellars and Iris B. Pickett.

At Scurlock, transfers to South Hoke include Betty Oxendine, Linda S. DuBois, Miriam Letie, and Addie E. Page.

Going to Raeford Elementary are Eva Snow, Sandra McCleary, Mary A. Scott and Phyllis Hall. Moved to West Hoke are Juanita McAllister, Gertie Wright and Florence Weaver and to McLauchlin is Eleanor S. Miles.

From West Hoke, teachers transferred include Wilson Chavis and Reba Holmes to Raeford Elementary; Barbara Lupo and Brenda Edwards to Scurlock; Susan Phillips to Upchurch, Donna Britt to McLauchlin and Bonnie Rose, Sarah

County commissioners were set to adopt a reduced 1975-76 budget Monday night at their public hearing when latecomer Danny Morrison, operator of the county's ambulance service, showed up and announced he was "ready to sell it to you all" because he would be unable to get by on the \$12,000 subsidy put in the budget for ambulance services.

"I'll go ahead and handle it until the 30th," Morrison told the commissioners. "I'll operate one (ambulance), that's the only way I can cut expenses."

Morrison claimed salaries alone to pay his employees would come to \$39,000 for the coming year.

Disagreement arose over the new state law which requires ambulance attendants be certified as emergency medical technicians (EMT).

County manager T.B. Lester and the board members told Morrison the law would not go into effect before 1977, but Morrison said "you better check again, it starts Dec. 31."

"I've saved Hoke County at least \$350,000 in the last four years," Morrison said. "Pass a county ordinance for people to pay for this."

\$24,000 Asked

Danny Morrison, operator of Morrison's Ambulance service, appeared before the commissioners at 9 A.M. Wednesday and requested \$24,000 to keep the ambulance service in operation for the coming year.

The commissioners agreed with chairman Ralph Bandy's suggestion to delay passage of the budget ordinance until Morrison could bring figures on his operating costs and expenses, but Lester warned Morrison "we haven't got the money."

A meeting was set for 9 a.m. Wednesday to take up the matter. Before Monday's unexpected development, the commissioners had agreed to pass a revised budget which slashed across the board pay increases for county workers.

Lester said the move to cut the proposed 5% increases from the budget has saved about \$35,000.

Based on the figures in the final budget approved at a special meeting June 4, the commissioners set a tax rate of \$85 per \$100 valuation, a nickel increase.

The board also agreed at last week's meeting to hold the fire tax levy in each district at ten cents per \$100 valuation, although the Hillcrest department is seeking a 15% rate.

The prepared budget ordinance calls for an overall figure of \$2,038,438, including general fund expenditures, state and federal grants, school contributions, debt service fund, and appraisal reserve fund.

The original budget prepared six months ago totaled \$2,130,414 and figurings detailing what was trimmed in addition to the pay hikes were released in minutes of the June 4 meeting.

The elections board fund was cut by \$1,390, for rent, utilities, and janitor service, because primary elections may be changed from May, Lester said.

The Sanitation Department budget was also cut, with \$4,368 recommended for repair of containers taken out and another

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Names Drawn For K-Garten

A total of 211 names were drawn Monday for the first kindergarten slots, but a decision is expected this month that may enable all five-year-olds in the county to attend kindergarten.

"If we get the two additional kindergartens we're expecting to have approved, we can, with the help of Head Start, take care of all our five-year-olds," county superintendent Raz Autry said.

He should know by June 20, Autry said.

The list of youngsters selected in the first drawings will be posted at McLauchlin, West Hoke and Scurlock schools for parents to check.

Another drawing will be held in August.



\$25,000 WINNER—Mary Ellen Garrison of Raeford received her check for \$25,000 in the Gallagher-Foster House drawing from Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr. in a ceremony Friday at city hall.

Just Out Of Hospital

Local Housewife Wins \$25,000

A Prospect Street housewife was handed a \$25,000 check Friday, the grand prize in a contest drawing long forgotten about.

Mary Ellen Garrison of 501 East Prospect Street received the check from the Helen Gallagher-Foster House Company with her family gathered around her at city hall.

"I don't know what to say, except I'm happy," Mrs. Garrison said as Mayor John K. McNeill presented the check.

Mrs. Garrison, 59, recently got out of the hospital and remained in her wheelchair, while her husband Hestel (Hec) patted her shoulder.

Mrs. Garrison first learned of her windfall while in the hospital.

"Hec came to the hospital and told me. I was kind of drugged, and all I remember is thinking, 'Now I can pay my hospital bill,' that's all that registered," she said.

Mrs. Garrison said she had entered many contests, "things that will come in the mail, you know" and hadn't really given any of them much thought.

"I won \$15 in grocery money once in a contest, and I won a radio in something years ago, but I never imagined anything like this..."

She has no plans yet for the

Deadline Set For Library

With a July first deadline approaching, the library building fund is still \$25,000 short.

So far, county residents have raised \$75,000 of the \$100,000 goal pledged as a Bicentennial project, fund chairman R.B. Lewis announced.

One recent contribution was Knit-Away, with a \$5,000 pledge to be paid in two installments, Lewis said.

A drive was begun several weeks ago to encourage memorial gifts.

"It is our hope that some of the children of the older Hoke County families will give donations as memorials for their parents," Lewis said. "We are urging the citizens and

businesses of the county to help us raise our part of the building expenses. This is a very worthwhile project and is our Bicentennial gift to our citizens as we near our 200th birthday."

"Please help as you possibly can. The time is short."

Rate Goes Up

Rates for post office boxes will go up effective June 10, postal officials announced Friday.

Information on applicable rates and the amount of increase may be obtained from the Raeford post office.

Julie Ann Kicklighter Named 4th Runnerup

Julie Ann Kicklighter of Raeford was named fourth runner-up in the Miss North Carolina Pageant Saturday night in Charlotte's Evans Auditorium.

The 19 year-old Meredith College student received a \$600 cash award as a finalist.

Miss Kicklighter, representing Southern Pines, also won first place in the talent competition Friday

night for her piano presentation, a Brahms capriccio. She received a \$100 prize.

Miss Kicklighter was honored at a reception Sunday in Southern Pines where she was congratulated by Jaycees, who helped sponsor her in the pageant.

Miss Kicklighter has been asked to appear at the Southport Fourth of July parade.

Rape Policy Hit

Sheriff's deputies and a magistrate were critical of the refusal of a physician at Moore Memorial Hospital to examine an alleged rape victim brought to the hospital by a deputy last Thursday.

The patient, a 19 year-old Dillon, S.C., woman, had to be transported to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville for an examination.

Deputy George McGuire took the woman to Moore Memorial after being notified by the Red Springs police the woman had reported she was raped after accepting a ride from two men in Fayetteville.

McGuire said after the woman was processed in the emergency room at Moore Memorial, Dr. William Allen, the on-call physician, was notified and Allen refused to come to the hospital unless a rape warrant was sworn out.

"He said he wouldn't examine her unless she has signed papers against the people who raped her," McGuire said.

McGuire said he told the physician warrants would be taken out when the identity of suspects was learned.

"I told him she wouldn't have to sign anything anyway, as I would, or another deputy would."

McGuire said a nurse who was present told him "Dr. Allen is the only one who does this, the others will come if they're called."

McGuire contacted Sheriff D.M. Barrington, who told him to take the

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Julie Ann Kicklighter

County Names Planning Board

The county commissioners selected eight persons to serve on the county planning board during a meeting June 4.

Charlie Morrison and Sarah Leach of Raeford, Brown Hendrix, Jr., of Stonewall township, Robert Taylor of Blue Springs, Henry Dial of Antioch, Julian Barnes of McLauchlin, Neill McPhatter of Allendale, and Shelby Calloway of Quewhiffle, were named.

County manager T.B. Lester said Friday each of the eight will be contacted by a member of the board.

No acceptances have been announced yet.