

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Last week in this column there was an item concerning the early opening of school and that it should open in September instead of August. It was also stated that Raz Autry, superintendent of schools, had made a comment to me about the opening date.

The letter that follows explains his view point on the subject:

Dear Sam:
Since you opened the door for me on the heat problem at the beginning of school, I will certainly try to set the record straight on some of the problems we would encounter if we opened school later. The board and I are fully aware that the weather is entirely too hot to open schools in August, so we are all in total agreement on this. Unfortunately, other powers and local pressures govern our action to a certain extent...e.....

1. Teachers are employed for 10 calendar months. Within these months, the law requires that teachers be given 17½ work days, 9 legal holidays, and 12½ days vacation. The work days must be during the normal work week.

2. The state and the High School Athletic Association rules state that a school must be in session before it can participate in athletic contests. If football season is delayed it will run into basketball, wrestling, etc.

3. Most parents want a week of vacation at Christmas and Easter. Many families plan their vacation at this time.

4. Teachers must be in summer school by the first week of June for renewal credits and advanced work.

5. Students who want to attend summer school must enroll as early as May 20 in some colleges.

6. Air conditioning the classrooms would be a tremendous expense to the taxpayers, especially with the cost of electricity.

There are several alternatives, in my personal opinion, and I would hasten to say that if any of our citizens can add to them to feel free to do so because the board and I take the position that the schools belong to the people and we are here to serve them. The alternatives I have are:

1. Air condition our classrooms. I suggested this in the bond issue but it proved too costly.

2. Have teacher work days at the beginning and end of the school term, although this would not serve the original purpose.

3. Cut the vacation time to conform with industry. This would give three legal holidays at Christmas and one at Easter.

4. Open school at 7:30 a.m. and dismiss at 1:00 p.m. for the first several weeks of school, eliminating everything but classes.

5. Open after Labor Day and close the middle of June.

Sincerely,
Raz Autry

The Bucks came through in fine style last Friday night against Pine Forest and play here again this Friday night with Red Springs offering the opposition. The weather should be cooler this weekend, so go out and support the Bucks.

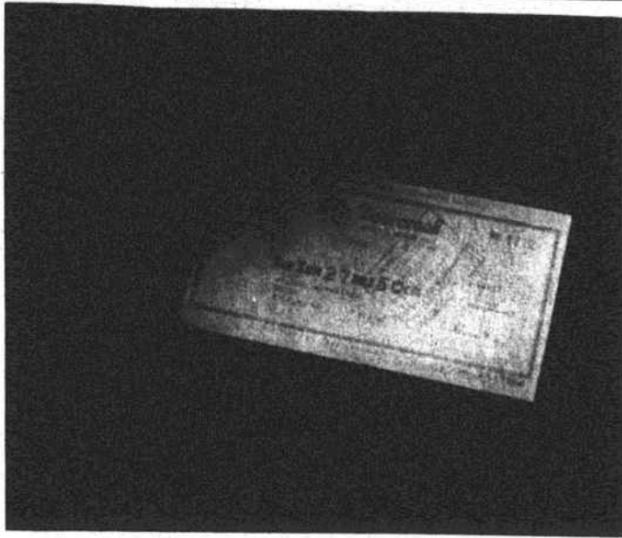
Golfers in this area will have an opportunity to see the name stars in Pinhurst this week as the World Golf Tournament is being played there. So if you haven't ever been to a big tournament this is a good chance for you.

More Use Urged

Landfill Open Saturday

The county landfill expanded Saturday hours to all day beginning last weekend, a plan which officials hope will encourage more people to take trash to the landfill and relieve heavy use of some of the 91 container sites.

The city, which shares costs of operating the landfill, agreed to the request of county commissioners made last month. Commissioners



"CHECK" ACCEPTED - With bank stamps all over it, one of the certificates redeemable only at a South Carolina resort is displayed. The bank teller mistakenly cashed it for a customer.

'Check' Gimmick Fools Tellers, Banks Grumble

Bank officials are grumbling over authentic looking "checks" mailed out in a South Carolina resort firm's advertising campaign after tellers were fooled and mistakenly cashed them.

The forms, which look exactly like any bank check but are marked redeemable at the resort office, were issued by Deercreek Corp., a Myrtle Beach development, in a campaign to attract potential buyers by reimbursing trip expenses. Amounts of the certificates ranged up to \$27, according to one bank spokesman.

"I've called the N.C. Bankers Association and they are going to get in touch with the Attorney General's office", Bank of Raeford president Gene Carter said.

"We've cashed two accidentally. This is a poor form of advertising, they could write letters instead", Carter said.

Johnny Altman, operations manager at Southern National Bank reported the bank cashed one for a customer who couldn't write.

"They put their 'X', and the teller had it witnessed and all", Mrs. Altman said.

Both banks have alerted their personnel to watch out for the "checks" and explain to customers why they are not negotiable.

Not all customers are happy with the explanation. One woman had to be escorted out by a policeman, a spokesman said.

Sat. Hours At Library

The public library will be open 9 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. on Saturdays beginning Sept. 13, Mrs. Lee Cameron announced. Story hours for pre-schoolers will resume Sept. 16 at 11 A.M.

Wife Jailed For Murder

The estranged wife of a West Hoke man found shot to death late Sunday night was jailed by Sheriff's deputies on an open charge of murder.

Archie Thomas McLean, 22, was found lying in a yard by deputies about midnight with a gunshot wound in the right chest, Sheriff D.M. Barrington said.

McLean's estranged wife, Glenda Ann McLean, 20, was arrested a short time later at her home at Rt. 3, Box 226-D, Raeford and a .22 caliber automatic rifle was seized, Barrington said.

Barrington said McLean apparently managed to walk about 50 yards to a neighbor's home before

collapsing. He was pronounced dead at the scene by medical examiner R.G. Townsend.

Motive for the killing was apparently a domestic argument, Barrington said.

Mrs. McLean is being held without bond pending a preliminary hearing Sept. 19.

McLean's body was ordered sent to the state medical examiner in Chapel Hill for an autopsy.

were warned the county may be forced to buy more containers if overuse cannot be cut.

Pick-up Sanitation Service of Raeford provides twice weekly service of the containers on a flat rate contract. The county is charged for extra trips during holiday periods or other circumstances when increased service is needed.

Crop-Spray Argued

City Rejects Ban

City council members heard an appeal from residents in the Bethel Road area to ban crop dusting within the city limits but the council ordered the matter tabled, saying an agreement could probably be reached with the owner of the field involved.

About ten persons led by Woodrow Wilson, Jr., of 205 Dickson St., argued crop spraying in a field owned by J.B. McLeod near the high school was dangerous and a health hazard.

"We think the town should zone it. Everybody here has children, and it's just plumb dangerous", Wilson told the council.

Several people reported the spray released by the crop dusting plane went over yards of homes when the plane crossed Bethel Road, but pilot Larry Upchurch denied it.

"I cut the spray system off way back in the field because of you people. I haven't intentionally been careless", he said.

Roy Wood, owner of the crop dusting service told the council spraying was done according to state and federal laws.

"We're sympathetic, but the problem is nationwide, agriculture and residential running together. The farmer has got a right to plant it, and

Candidate Filing Opens

Filing period for candidates in the municipal election opens Friday at noon, the board of elections office announced.

Candidates will file for mayor and five seats on the city council in the November general election. Terms for mayor and city councilmen are two years.

Candidates must pay a \$5 fee at the time of filing. The elections office is open Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays from 9 A.M. to noon and 1-5 P.M.

Deadline for filing is noon on Oct. 3.

Hoke Jury Hears Triple Slaying Case

Wife, Mother-in-law Held For Murder

Two women have been charged by sheriff's deputies for the murder of Cleo Bullard, 35, of Rt. 1 Aberdeen which was reported shortly after 2 A. M. Tuesday near the Ashley Heights Community according to Sheriff Dave Barrington.

Charged are Louvenia Bullard, 33, identified as the wife of the victim, and Ether Henderson, 51, mother-in-law of the victim. The two were apprehended at the Bullard

home, said Barrington.

Barrington said that Bullard was dead on arrival at Moore Memorial hospital. An autopsy report disclosed that Bullard died of a stab wound in the heart and massive internal bleeding.

"A knife has been recovered, but it is not certain that it is the murder weapon," said Barrington.

The women are being held without bond pending a preliminary hearing.

Selection of a jury to try Frank Pruitt II, on trial for his life a second time for the triple slaying of a Fayetteville woman and her children, began Tuesday here before Superior Court Judge Henry A. McKinnon.

District attorney Ed Grannis, Jr., requested the trial be moved to Raeford because of publicity during Pruitt's 1974 trial, and a special jury pool of 100 names was drawn late last week.

Pruitt, 23, a former Ft. Bragg soldier, was convicted last year for the Oct. 9, 1973 killings of Christel Donlin, 30, and her children Patricia, 7, and Jeremiah, 4, in their home in the Bonnie Doone section of Fayetteville.

Pruitt, a black, was convicted of three counts of first degree murder and one count of arson and received four death sentences.

Under North Carolina law conviction of first degree murder carries an automatic death sentence.

The N. C. Supreme Court overturned the convictions in March of this year and granted a new trial on grounds Pruitt's constitutional rights were violated when he made an alleged confession to detectives.

Ten jurors were seated before proceedings adjourned Tuesday with the remaining jurors to be selected Wednesday.

Six whites and three blacks compose the jury seated after numerous persons were excused after extensive questioning by Grannis and defense attorney Donald Grimes.

The ten jurors tentatively set to remain on the panel are Robert A. Whitworth, Herman R. Currie, Willie Ed Purcell, Wesley Robert Russell, Mandy Ree Lowery, Mrs. J. K. (Mabel) Riley, Jackie Polston Melton, McCorkle Emmett Dressler, Theodore R. Jackson, and Daniel Joseph Livingston.

Grimes said that he didn't know yet whether Pruitt would take the stand in his own defense. "I just don't know at this time. We would like to rely on a weak case by the state. It may be necessary, but it will depend on the state's case," he said.

"It's going to depend on the admissibility of certain evidence by the state. If it is admitted, the state's case will be strong. If not admitted in court, then it will be weak," he said.

Grimes predicted it would be a lengthy trial.

"The trial in January of 1974 lasted seven days and this one will probably last into next week," he said.

Pruitt, dressed in a denim suit, composed Tuesday, occasionally thumbing through a book entitled

Housing Agent OKayed, Library Plans Muled

improvement loans and also offer guidance on "do it yourself" projects.

The board's action came after hearing Raeford Housing Authority members Dayna Pate and Neill McFadyen urge the idea be adopted, claiming the agent is available to the county at no cost for a period of two years.

"I've got my doubts he can accomplish an awful lot, but maybe we should give him a try", commissioner John Balfour said.

The motion to approve the plan was carried with commissioner Tom McBryde abstaining. J.A. Webb, who is hospitalized, was absent.

In other business Thursday, the board took no action on a costly bid for furniture for the new library after briefing library representatives Mrs. J.M. Andrews, Mrs. J.L. McNeill, Mrs. Charles Hostetler, and Mrs. Lee Cameron on revised plans.

Costs, which now range from \$36,000 to the original bid of \$52,800, were compared with use of existing furniture and the quality of grades of new furniture offered.

The board agree to delay any decision at the request of Mrs. Andrews, who asked for time to go over the proposals with Bill Bridgman, regional director. Another meeting with the county board was tentatively set for later in the month.

The board discussed the new Title IV child support enforcement program with Benjamin Niblock,

See HOUSING, page 13

Ft Bragg Commander Is Kiwanis Speaker

Lieutenant General Henry E. Emerson, commander of XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg, addressed the Raeford Kiwanis Club at the civic center Thursday night and explained his "Pro-Life" program of military leadership and discipline.

General Emerson was introduced to the club by his old friend, Clyde Upchurch, with whom he had spent a hot afternoon of dove shooting, as an old friend of Hoke County as well.

Upchurch recalled Emerson's interest in helping with the county public health program several years ago as commander of the JFK Center for Military Assistance, and other instances. He cited Emerson's service in Korea and Vietnam, and that he wears the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star and other decorations and awards for valor and outstanding service. He also recalled having known the general since he served at Fort Bragg some years ago as a colonel in command of the First Logistical Command.

General Emerson, although casually dressed after dove shooting, was accompanied and assisted in his presentation by his aide - de - camp, Capt. Drew Dix, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism above and beyond the call of duty in Vietnam.

As explained by General Emerson, the PRO-Life is an all-encompassing concept which affords the soldier multidirectional opportunities to succeed at something. No aspect of his life is ignored, in the expectation that he will be reached by at least one route. That success is then

See SPEAKER, page 13



Gen. Emerson

The council agreed to advertise for See BAN, page 13