

Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

Don't forget the meeting tonight (Thursday) at the Hoke County Rescue Squad building on Adams Street at 7:15 p.m. for all people interested in attending a first aid course.

The meeting will be held to decide the nights and the hours the course will be offered.

This course should be of interest to a lot of people so go by and sign up for the course.

Sam Snead, a native of Raeford who lived in South Carolina for the past several years was by the office last week talking about old times. Snead and his wife, the former Louise Gibson of Red Springs, have recently moved to Red Springs and have purchased a home there. Sam said he hoped to be running into old friends in the next several months.

Raz Autry was by the office last week and said that his voice is returning to normal. It seems that Raz had a shot for an allergy and the reaction caused him to lose his voice.

It is rumored some folks would like for him to take another shot if it doesn't affect anything but his voice.

Wonder who would say this?

Recently two letters have come into the office through the mail and could not be published because they were not signed. These letters contained items of interest that the public should have received if the writers would have signed their names. We have run letters in this column and also in the "Letters to the Editor" column and withheld the name for good cause.

But the two recent letters were not signed and we will not run any letters not signed. If you think something is important enough to be printed you should be strong enough to stand up for it.

So if you want a letter printed, be sure to sign your name.

This writer regrets the error in this column last week which had the basketball team from UNC-Charlotte listed as UNC-G. We hope that it won't happen again. Anyway all students and alumni or alumnae of the school should be proud of their team.

The following letter was received last week:

Dear Sam:
We have finally settled in our new home on a country road in Bamberg, S.C. So we would like for you to know our Route address so we can continue to get The News-Journal. It's always good to hear of friends in Raeford. They are the kind not easily forgotten. We miss them, but have found some wonderful new friends here too. Truly God is everywhere.

Our door is always open to you or any of our friends who are coming down 301. We are on a secondary road right off it just before entering Bamberg and would be glad to come in and get you in response to a telephone call — area 803-245-5547. We are only about 1 mile off 301. So "y'all come". Fishing and hunting is good here.

Thank you, Sam, and remember us to all your staff.

As always,
Barbara and Sam Hiser

Thanks for the letter and I know someone will be stopping by to see you before long.

The Hisers address is Route 2, Box 260A, Bamberg, S.C. 29003.

Most of us around here don't realize how good the football program is at Hoke High School. We just take it for granted as we do most things that we live with every day of the year.

To prove my point, the following is from The Alamance News of Graham, and is a statement made by a coach from that area who was

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Carter, Reagan Take Races, All Bond Issues Pass Easily

County Allots \$4,000

County commissioners compromised with Bicentennial organizers at a special meeting Monday night and granted them \$4,000, after nixing the idea of spending \$1,500 to repair a 50 year-old fire engine owned by the city.

Carson and Iris Davis, co-chairmen of the Hoke County Bicentennial Commission, requested \$6,300 from the commissioners, including \$1,500 to be spent to repair the fire engine that will be Hoke County's representative in the Fourth of July state parade in Raleigh.

The organizers explained to the commissioners that the money would also be used to finance a tentative April Festival Week, and celebrations set for July 3-4 including a meal for the entire community.

The commission representatives explained that there probably would be some money coming back to the county treasurer since there would be a nominal charge for the meal, and the proposed sale of tiles depicting Hoke County over the years to the public.

"You're not in bad shape for your budget, except for the fire-truck," said Ralph Barhart, chairman of the county commissioners.

"I'm not in favor of spending \$1,500 to repair the firetruck," said commissioner Tom McBryde.

"The city paid their employees a bonus last year. I don't see why they can't contribute \$1,500 for the firetruck," he added.

McBryde asked how old the firetruck was, and was told that it is 50 years-old this year.

"That isn't old. I can remember that far back," he said.

"It looks like the town would be willing to repair the firetruck, since they own it," he continued.

"I feel like maybe the town will help us some there," said Davis.

"I know what you're up against. It seems that everybody that comes in here seems to be asking for money," said Davis.

"You're right," said McBryde.

Commissioner John Balfour made a motion that the commissioners grant the Bicentennial commission \$4,000 to be used as they wished.

After an amendment directing that the money be turned over to commission treasurer Robert Gatlin, and a provision for leftover money to be turned back over to the county treasurer, the motion was passed unanimously.

In other business, the commissioners:

Denied a request from United Independent Credit Union, a mi-

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Public Housing Tied To HUD Subsidies

Raeford Housing Authority members met Friday morning and heard an encouraging report from the Farmers Home Administration housing specialist that their planned application for 40 public housing units would receive priority for funds if it is tied in with Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) assistance on rent subsidies under the Section Eight program.

"The main concern right now, is to get your Section Eight commitment", Thurman E. Brunette, multiple housing coordinator with the Raleigh FmHA office, told the authority. "As far as getting the loan and building the project, that's no problem".

Burnette said the loan would be negotiated at 40 years at nine per cent interest, and if it was for under a million dollars, it can be approved at the state level. If it is more than one million dollars it would require approval from the national office.

"Given today's costs, the amount of money we could lose on a poorly



CAMPAIGN -- Mrs. "Sissy" Dolvin, (center) Jimmy Carter's aunt, greeted passerby on Main St. last Friday after making an unannounced campaign visit to Raeford.

Yadkinville Man Designated Social Work Supervisor

A new position has been created by the Hoke County Department of Social Services in order to take some of the supervision load off Ben Niblock, director.

Hobert Freeman, who has been working with the Yadkin County Department of Social Services since his graduation from Appalachian State University in 1971, has accepted the position of social work supervisor.

Freeman, 27, and his wife, Teresa and their son Scott were residents of Yadkinville, his hometown.

As the supervisor, Freeman will handle adoption within the county, and supervision of the county's four social workers, two homemakers, and one assistant homemaker.

"As far as supervision, I took some of the load off Mr. Niblock," said Freeman.

"Now we can deliver more service with the same amount of people," he added.

Freeman took over the new position March 1.

He said he has found a good working relationship between the county commissioners and the Department of Social Services in the county.

"A concern for the poor and the underprivileged makes the relationship a good one," he said.

He said the lack of knowledge about the poor and underprivileged is his biggest obstacle.

"The absence of knowledge about the department is why people don't know how to use it," he said.



ASSISTANT -- Hobert Freeman, a Yadkinville native, is the new assistant for the Department of Social Services. He will work closely with adoptions.

"The first time I came to the community was for the job interview and I wasn't aware of the

situation," he said. "I think, with the staff we have, we are delivering as many services as we can to the people in the county," he said.

"We could use another social worker here. He would probably be needed in the area of child protection, abuse, and neglect," he added.

Freeman said this area was very

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Eyeing Politics? Ask Mayor First

Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr. summarized three ingredients that are needed for success in politics at a recent citizens' forum.

"First of all, you need a blue suit. A little gray around the temples so you can speak with authority", the mayor said.

And the third ingredient? "Hemorrhoids - to give you a concerned look", he concluded.

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Knit-Away Closes Eden Plant

Knit-Away, Inc., which announced a major cutback in production at the Raeford plant two weeks ago which idled 200 workers, announced last week it is shutting down its Eden, N.C. plant and discontinuing the womens wear

business. The Eden plant had been in operation since 1970.

In making the announcement, Knit-Away chairman of the board R.P. Bruce, Jr. named Tom Edwards, plant manager at Eden, as manager of the knitting opera-

tion at Raeford.

Eric Bell of Wadesboro was named director of manufacturing at the Raeford plant. A former Burlington Industries' vice-president, Bell was a corporate consultant to Knit-Away. Bell and Edwards will report to corporate vice-president E.H. Brown, who is in charge of all manufacturing.

The move will leave the company with two major divisions, mens wear and over-the-counter home sewing. The firm will continue to operate its commissioned dyeing and finishing plant at Mt. Gilead.

"The knitting business, during the past six months, has deteriorated significantly, while, at the same time, there has been a marked increase in consumer demand for textured woven fabrics", Bruce said.

Bruce said that although he did not anticipate re-opening of the Eden plant in the near future, he is optimistic that Knit-Away's general business conditions would improve during the next three to six months.

"The Raeford plant's present five day, three shift operation is an accomplishment within itself in the depressed knit market", Bruce said.

"People don't look at the good ones. They only want to point out the bad ones," he said.

A pre-application to FmHA is required and much of the information will duplicate the data requested by HUD for a Section Eight application, Burnette said.

Following the meeting, the group inspected several suggested sites for the development, including a seven acre tract west of the Holly Park subdivision, where they were met by a Holly Park resident who voiced opposition to locating the development there, a spokesman said.

Housing authority member Ken McNeill said Burnette favored an undeveloped area north of Robbins Heights which was also on the list of proposed sites.

McNeill said later the land is owned by him and his five brothers, one of whom is Mayor J.K. McNeill, Jr.

He said he would step down from his seat on the housing authority if the land is sold to avoid any conflict of interest. He owns one-sixth of the property.

The Section Eight program would provide subsidies for low income families and pay a percentage of the monthly rental. Walter Smith, director of the Low Income Housing Development Corp. of North Carolina, said the HUD approval could come as early as 90 days.

Estimated construction cost per unit was put at \$18,000. Plans call for limiting the development to one and two - bedroom units.

Burnette said the design of the development will help further public acceptance, and enhance its value.

"If we cannot come up with something attractive within our budget estimates, we won't do it. We don't want anything shoddy just to stay within a budget", he said.

He warned the panel that major failures in federally funded housing developments in recent years, such as the Pruitt - Igoe projects in St. Louis, Mo., have created some ill will in the public's mind.

managed building could be unreal. Our only security on the loan is the building", Burnette said while emphasizing the FMHA's primary concern that any planned development be a success.

Housing authority member Ken McNeill expressed concern that residents living near any site under consideration may oppose public housing, and Burnette agreed acceptance could become an obstacle.

"You'll have resistance (on rezoning). It will depend on the leadership in the community, if they see a need for public housing. Clinton is excellent (example), shows you what good public housing is with good management. By and large, the ones in Fairmont look good", he said.

Burnette advised the panel to get a ruling from the city attorney on whether the housing authority can sign a promissory note. If not, revenue bonds would have to be issued which, in turn, would be bought up by the FmHA to cover the loan, he said.