

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

Robert Gatlin should have a chart full of lines for the month of June for his rain chart. It seems that it is raining some every day now. The weather is also hot and things should grow if you can keep the weeds and grass out of your crop.

The Bicentennial celebration at Bethel Church was well attended from all reports and plenty of good food was put away by the crowd. Of course the weather could have been better but it seems that the day was enjoyed by all.

We can only imagine what the celebration will be 100 years from now!

The Bicentennial Edition of The News-Journal which will come off the press next week is still being worked on and should fall into place before too long. We hope that everyone has been contacted and if they haven't, we have made every effort to do so. This is one of the problems of getting out a special edition and no matter how hard you try or how many times you work on one, someone will be over-looked or an event or occasion of the past will be forgotten. But we try!

If you want an extra copy or copies of this edition let us know or buy them early. We will print some extra copies but with the cost of newsprint what it is today, we can't afford to have too many left around the office.

I don't know if you have been reading the editorials lately but for the past two weeks the editor has taken time to write these. It saves time for me as I can put the scissors away and also The Christian Science Monitor. How long this will keep up only time will tell but it makes for a better paper every week.

So keep writing and thinking, editor.

Well Kathy McMillan has done what no other Hoke County person has ever done. She has made the U.S. Olympic team. She did it in style last Saturday at Eugene, Oregon when she placed first in the long jump and will lead the team in this event at Montreal, Canada in several weeks.

Everyone should be proud of Kathy and the good will and advertising that she has done for Raeford and Hoke County. The state of North Carolina should also take notice of her accomplishment.

The next time you see her, stop and tell her what you think of her success.

We say again Congratulations, Kathy, and we are proud of you.

Miss Nancy Thornberg of Route 3, Raeford, was by the office last week and left the following article which we think should increase church attendance. The article was in a Portland, Ore. paper. It follows:

Members of Northend Prince of Peace Lutheran Church have received in the mail a list "of the many things that will be done for them" at church on "no-excuse-for-staying-home Sunday."

Cots will be placed in the narthex for those who say Sunday is their only day to sleep in, according to pastor Olin Nordsletten.

Murine will be supplied for those with tired eyes from watching late Saturday night TV shows.

Steel helmets for those who say the roof would cave in if they ever went to church ... blankets for those who think the church is too cold ... fans for those who say it is too hot ... score cards for those wishing to list hypocrites present ... TV dinners for those who can't go to church and cook dinner also ... and finally, Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who have never seen the church without them.



Don Slaughter

## Recreation Director Hired

Don Slaughter of Hendersonville is the new full-time recreation director for the county, it was announced by Hoke County Recreation Commission chairman Dick Lovett.

Slaughter, 34, accepted the \$13,000 a year post earlier this month and assumed his duties as of June 15.

A native of Kingsport, Tenn., Slaughter is a graduate of East Tennessee State University with a bachelor of science degree. He was a schoolteacher and football coach for eight years and for the past four years has been employed as recreation director for the city of Hendersonville.

He is a member of both the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Society and the National Parks and Recreation Society.

While in Henderson, Slaughter was a member of the Human Relations Commission, the "We Care" drug combating program and also the Kiwanis Club.

"We are very pleased and fortunate to have secured a person with Mr. Slaughter's experience. We welcome him and his family to our community," Lovett said.

Slaughter and his wife, Barbara, have three children, Michael 12, Mark, 10, and Donna, six.

## Realization Of Dream

# Kathy Headed To Olympics

Hoke County's Kathy McMillan, despite a muscle injury, won the womens long jump with a 22 foot-3 inch leap Saturday at the Olympic trials and achieved her dream of a place on the 1976 United States Olympic Team.

McMillan tied her American record with two wind-aided jumps of 22-3 in the opening day of tryouts at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Sharon Walker of Seattle, Wash. and Martha Watson of Lakewood, Calif. placed second and third and earned berths on the Olympic team.

## 'Penny Saved' Motto Of County Budget

County taxpayers got a break when the board of commissioners shaved off a penny from the proposed tax rate and adopted the 1976-77 budget with a tax levy of \$.89 per \$100 valuation.

The commissioners adopted the final budget at a Friday night meeting, along with other business, after the public budget hearing held Thursday night drew a few spectators, but no comments on the proposed budget.

The final budget, which totals nearly \$2.6 million, contains additional state and federal aid payments which were not anticipated earlier when the preliminary budget was drawn up, and for this reason, a 1977 tax rate which was projected at \$.90, a nickel increase, was reduced. The one cent reduction represents about \$14,000 in savings to county taxpayers.

Department of Social Services director Benjamin O. Niblock revised his agency's budget again last

# Crowd Packs Council Session Protesting New Trash System

## Holiday Schedule Of Events

The Hoke County Bicentennial Commission has announced its schedule for the Fourth of July weekend.

According to commission co-chairmen, Mr. and Mrs. Carson Davis, Jr., the festivities will run as follows:

### Friday

8:30 p.m., street dance, McLaughlin park. No Admission.

### Sunday

11 a.m., each church in Hoke County is asked to have their own Bicentennial celebration of religious heritage.

2 p.m., President Ford has requested that bells, chimes and sirens be rung for five minutes.

### Sunday

4 p.m., Lewis E. Bambauer will give the dedication address for the opening of the Hoke County Library. The public is invited. Main Street will be closed during the ceremonies.

5 p.m., Robert Gatlin will show slides of Hoke County at the fellowship hall of United Methodist Church. The public is invited. No admission.

8:30 p.m., America's 200th Birthday Celebration, an evening of patriotic music, birthday cake and fireworks in the Hoke County High School Stadium. No admission. Rain date: Monday, July 5, 8:30 p.m.

A crowd of about 20-25 downtown merchants packed into the city council meeting room Monday night to air objections to the city's proposed new dumpster garbage collection system, but the city council refused to consider having the city purchase the containers for the merchants.

Walter Coley of Hoke Drug Co. said the downtown businesses were solidly opposed to having to pay the costs of the 69 containers, which were estimated to be \$20,000-\$25,000.

"We protested the requirement to have us pay for them. We feel we are already entitled to garbage collection as we are paying taxes," Coley said.

Representatives from Southern National Bank, the McLaughlin Co., Western Auto, Conoly's Exxon, McDonald's Tire Recapping, DeVane's Department Store, Theresa's Dress Shop, Marks Food Store, Kinlaw Jewelers, Blanton's Grocery and Harrell's Grocery were among those present to voice concern.

Some asked that the city pay the costs as \$55,000 was originally budgeted for the truck and the truck and equipment will only cost \$38,000, leaving a \$14,000 surplus. One sanitation worker's job will be eliminated under the new system and it was urged the city use that savings to help pay for containers.

Some councilmen told the group they would be using residents' tax money to pay for commercial service and were against the idea. Also, an increase in taxes might become necessary.

The new commercial garbage system is scheduled to go into effect in about four to five months when the equipment is delivered. City manager Robert Drumwright reported the council agreed after the merchants left to go ahead with plans and send each merchant a letter listing prices of the various sized containers. Each business will get a chance to order a container with a small deposit and pay the balance over a six month period.

Drumwright explained the city will bulk order the number of containers needed and get a better price.

July 5 is the last date to order the containers, manufactured by Specialty Steel of Florence, S.C., he said.

In other business, the council formally adopted the 1976-77 city budget after some faltering with the Chamber of Commerce request for \$3,000.

Councilman Graham Clark made a motion to reduce the Chamber request to \$1,500, which was seconded by councilman Sam Morris, but Clark withdrew the motion after councilman Crawford Thomas Jr. and Benny McLeod voiced misgivings.

Thomas introduced a motion to give the Chamber the full request and it passed 3-2 with councilman David Lovette and Morris dissenting.

In other budget matters, William Bridgman of the Sandhill Regional Library System appeared and requested \$5,200 in city money to fund another library assistant, but the city council refused to change the budget and told Bridgman if additional federal revenue sharing funds come in they would consider it.

Bridgman told the council the reason he was seeking money from the city, which hasn't allocated anything in the coming year budget, was because the county government had funded only one out of two positions.

The council went into executive session before adjourning the meeting and agreed to raise the city manager's salary from \$13,000 to \$14,000, Drumwright reported.

The city council was scheduled to meet again Wednesday at 7:30 P.M. for another public hearing on the proposed \$200,000 bond issue to finance a new fire station.

## Officials Urge 401 Four-laning

City and county officials traveled to Fayetteville Monday to urge the Department of Transportation to place the shelved U.S. 401 four-

laning project back on the active list.

County manager T.B. Lester, commissioner James A. Hunt, planner Lester Simpson, Mayor John K. McNeill Jr., city councilman David Lovette and J.H. Blue Jr. attended the public hearing conducted by Rex Harris, State Board of Transportation member, and Bill Caddell, assistant secretary of transportation, at the highway division office.

The group requested the project to four-lane U.S. 401 from Seventy-First High School in Fayetteville to the 401-bypass

outside Raeford be placed on the list for funding. Enlarging the 10.6 mile stretch to four lanes is estimated at \$16 million.

As a second priority, the group requested four-laning a 5.4 mile stretch of the bypass from 401-business three miles east of the city to an area west of Palmer St. on U.S. 401.

The twelve member Board of Transportation will adopt a new seven year plan in October and slate highway improvements to be funded. In 1974, the 401 four-laning project failed to be included for funding.

## Rose's Office Here July 1

The mobile office of Congressman Charles G. Rose will be in Raeford on Thursday, July 1. The van will be parked at the post office

from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Administrative assistant Rip Collins will be on hand.

## Corrections

Due to a typographical omission in last week's News-Journal, it was reported that Jim Fisher is the new plant manager at the Raeford dyeing plant of Burlington. Actually, the story should have said Fisher is the new plant planning manager.

The News-Journal regrets any confusion caused by the omission.

In a story last week concerning the new library building, it was incorrectly reported that Austin of Southern Pines was the building's architect. The architect of the building is actually Hayes Howell Associates of Southern Pines.

The News-Journal apologizes for the error.

McMillan had injured a hamstring muscle in her left leg during practice Thursday and said it probably hurt her performance.

"I was conscious of it, and I was a little afraid of getting hurt worse, but I'll be okay. If my leg hadn't hurt, I would have made 23 feet, I think," she said Monday.

"I was familiar with the other girls. I have competed with most of them before but I didn't know how they would jump. Everybody was psyched up and you just don't know what to expect," she said.

McMillan, who flew back from

Oregon on Sunday, said she won't do any jumping the first part of this week because of her injury and will jog only.

She will leave July 6 for the Olympic training camp in New York which lasts about ten days and then go on to Montreal for the Olympic competition, a dream the 18-year-old McMillan has had since her freshman year at Hoke High.

"Right now I've got to get my leg right. I know I can't win that gold medal with 22-3. If my leg doesn't give me any trouble, I believe I can do it. I want that gold medal and

## Music Pupils

Music students and former students of Mary Archie McNeill who would like to participate in the July 4 sing should be present for rehearsal on June 30.

Those interested should come to the band room of the high school at 7:30 P.M. that night.

ment building with frontage on W. Prospect St. after Raeford Oil Co. expressed interest in purchasing it, county manager T.B. Lester said. Minimum bid to be accepted is \$4,500. No date was set for the sale.

The board also received a proposal from the state highway department to widen SR 1209 from SR 1236 to U.S. 401, which will be a link in the 211 bypass route now under construction. Palmer St. is slated to be widened two feet on each side. No starting date for the project was given. Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution approving of the plan.

A resolution to purchase five acres of land for the proposed new National Guard Armory at a cost of \$22,000 was passed unanimously. The city's share of the project, 25 per cent, would cost \$7,500 under the plan.

The site of the new Armory, which has received approval from National Guard officials at the state level, fronts on 401-bypass

opposite Clark's Gulf Station. The city may purchase more acres, Lester said, but no definite agreement has been reached.

Commissioners also certified the rosters of North Raeford Fire Department, Puppy Creek Fire Department, and Hillcrest Fire Department to the Fireman's Pension Fund. The board voted to set a maximum 10 cents fire tax levy for any district.

A contract between county attorney Charles Hostetler and the DSS for legal work incurred in implementing the new child support enforcement program was approved. Legal work is to be charged at \$30 an hour, effective immediately.

The board also voted a \$30 monthly increase to the health department's X-Ray technician, due to further travel from Southern Pines.

A request from a resident in the Chance subdivision on SR 1466 for paving of the road was ordered sent to the highway department for review.