The News - Journal

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## THURSDAY, JULY 1,1976

## The view from Peddler's Branch

Common interests, in freedom primarily, brought the people of the thirteen colonies together in the thought and action that From in the Declaration of Independence 200 years ago.
From these common interests, in political and religious freedoms, in freedoms of expression and movement and thought, in the rights o "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," our nation has grown, in these two centuries, to its position of strength, leadership and responsibility to the whole world
As a nation, we have advanced in technology in all directions - in the production of things, the care of the human body, and in the now figuring our wher, as our technicians and scientists are right millions of miles where to land our spacecraft on the planet Mars, millions of miles away. Our advance in human rights has moved Independence to all "unalienable" rights of the Declaration of and dalliance then so there is now was controversy, corruption, the degree to which we will advance individual rights at the expense of public rights.
These battles among ourselves have been our protection and a source of our strength. Exposures of corruption and dalliance have taking place right now for what is not the first time. Our politicians are looking to their knitting so they will not lose their needles, so to

And along Peddler's Branch, which used to be quite visible running through the middle of where the City of Raeford now sits, it was common interest that brought the people of north Robeson to the south of Peddler's and the people of west Cumberland to the north of it together and inspired them to get busy and do something. They were a long way by horseback, wagon or buggy, through mud and swamps to their county seat in Lumberton in one direction and to Fayetteville in the other. To go to these places to trade was like a trip to New York or Europe today, and it took a monumental desire bright far mor bright, far enough along in basic education to be qualified to go This common interest and this
This common interest and this remoteness brought these people together for their common good with Raeford Institute, and In both endeavors, the County as the results.
we are celebrating, and that along Peddler's Branch in 1776 which we are we had bickering and selfishness and bumbling, but in both we also had vision, unselfishness, determination, bravery and great dedication.
The virtues in these situations prevailed, and they prevail today Those who do their part get personal satisfaction from it, and we all it too.
The challenges still lie along Peddler's Branch, as they lie along the Potomac, but the opportunities are still around, too. As in the past, the right persons still appear to meet them

## Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

25 years ago
Thursday, June 28, 1951 Telegraph Company is spending more than $\$ 60,000$ to improve and expand its facilities in Raeford, it
was learned today from W.E. Marshall. Fayetteville manager of

The weekly cotton insect survey the boll weevil is well under control in fields which have been poisoned.

Beiton Wright and Frank Currie
his week announce the this week announce the opening of
a hardware store in the Sunset Hills section of Raeford next to Raeford
Super Market.
J.A. McGoogan. county auditor.
announced this week that his office has been desginated to handle price
stabelization orders in Hoke stabelization orders in Hoke
County.

The only
aro only cool place the people times is in Rockfish or Puppy Creek, and they are making good

15 years ago
Thursday, June 29, 1961 turned Sunday from a seven retour of "agri-business" opportunities in Mississippi, Louisiana and
Texas. J.L. McNeill, Tom McBryde and J.H. (Buck) Blue made the with more than 150 other Tar Heel community leaders.

Flame cultivation of cotton was introduced for the first time in
North Carolina last week at the North Carolina last week at the
farm oi John G.. Balfour, about arm oi John G. Balfour, abou
four miles west of Lumber Bridge.

Joe David Wright was buried Sunday afternoon at Raeford
Cemetery following services at Cemetery following services
Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Recreational officials reported that about 160 youngsters a day
have been participating in a varied have been participating in a varied
program of activities at Raeford
Elementary Gymnasium.

Trustees of the Hoke County Public Library met Tuesday and
announced that their petition cam. paign to call a special election for a
ibrary library tax leyey was proceeding "



## by Marty Vega

## Part III Of History

## CLIFF BLUE . . .

People \& Issues

## 5

And so the days wore on and
there was still no sign of the shadowy figure who rode off tha night on his way to Raeford to
sound the alarm. The settlers were not greatly concerned, as some day ago a riderless horse came galloping back and the people figured a orseless rider would soon follow. and historians later came to th conclusion that the brave young patriot had made the courageous decision to stay in Hoke County embroiled in a controversy among
themselves, namely the right to sell themselves, namely the right to sell
beer and wine on Sundays, and the beer and wine on Sundays, and the
rider thought this a very strange County the royalists had kept the entire county DRY for a long time and one had to either make the
long journey into the Fayetteville long journey into the Fayetteville
city limits or travel to the Revolu. tionary soldiers encampment of F Bragg to quaff a beer and there fore, the people of Hoke ought $t$ consider themselves lucky to have it
six days a week and rider presumably declared it was Miller Time, or else shouldered his responsibility of when you've got to
get the beer don't fool around. young settler of sturdy Scotch-Iris stock who lived in the Loch Lomond settlement of Cumberland County. Although it was named
Loch Lomond the majcrity of the settlers were not Scotch, later historians discovered the real estate developers gave it such a name so as to make the development sound ritzy and yet build only small,
modest homes.
And yet the young settler, who originally came from the Arctic region that later became known a which led some to believe that th Puerto Ricans were coming into the neighborhood, and others to
belifeve she was in believe she was in some way
associated with the Chevrolet divy associated with the Chevrolet divi-
sion of General Motors. Neithe was true, as the truth was clear
from the odor of boiled cabbage from the odor of boiled cabbage
and potatoes which wafted from and potatoes which wafted from
her kitchen, gifts from the good
people of Hoke who had gardens people of Hoke who had gardens
and generously shared their bount
there was always Scotch in the This young lass, who was only in
her very early 20's, gave much to her very early 20 's. gave much to
the Revolutionary War effort lessly. Her young, nai effort tire joined Washington's Army in the joined, dark days of 1773 and she was
last now a military wife of some two and a half years. Credit should be given
to this brave woman, as she would to this brave woman, as she woul
sew buttons on his uniform and se that his uniforms were always cleaned and pressed. (He was one of the few who had a uniform, you
see.)
This young woman would cook
her husband's meals, offered to take care of the horses. and did many, many other tasks thanklessly
during those rugged days. Sh during those rugged days. She
asked nothing for herself, being the asked nothing for herself, being the
brave, unselfish sort she was, but she clung to one fervent hope on the eve of the signing of the Declaraof our great nation - that the Tigers might rise from next to last place in the division by beating


My needle went in and out
carrying the colorful thread carrying the colorful thread to form
the design. This was to be my the design. This was to be my own
salute of the 200th Anniversary of my country.
I did not
I did not feel that this needle-
point was just a piece point was just a piece of nostalgia flags at the top - the carliest an the most recent of my country. Bu what I wanted to remember was landmark in the history of humani
ty. ty.
Her
so tru so true were words so important
nations and they belong to all nations and to all times:
All men are created All men are created equal,
endowed by their

## Rights

Such a landmark should not be
lightly regarded. It is not a marke rightly regarded. It is not a marker Iestament law had in mind. Brt is similar in spirit.

A GREAT AMERICAN TRA Up North" in the New Englan annual tradition (and maybe the is) for various and sundry citize to call together all of their neigh bors and friends at a certain time of the day on July Fourth; and when in the back yard, the host woul climb atop a stump or log or a chair and then, in an appropriately solemn tone of voice, read to the
assembly that great document human freedom known as the Declaration of Independence. Th reading time was twelve minutes. the South, this northern down in doesn't seem a bad idea at all, and it causes us to wonder if how many If any, other parts of the country this practice may be observed. W
understand that some visitors Northeast report that it was the first time in their lives that they had hear the Declaration read out loud is that it is a And the repo is that it a spine-tingling,
lump-in-the-throat experience, as one contemplates the true meaning
of those great words, what it must of those great words, what it must
have been like when the people have been like when the people
assembled in the same way, and
listened to those same words 200 years ago.
As we reach the 200th anniver-
sary of the birth of sary of the birth of our nation, it
would be well for all of us to take few minutes during this busy holiday season to turn back to our Declaration of Independence and
seek from seek from it the guidance and
inspiration we surely need in thes days, and in our times
CANDIDATES statel Heel gubernatorial candidates these days - both Democrat and
Republican, North Carolina is in real bad shape. Frankly, one begins to wonder whether the disease o the remedy is the worse of the two.
George Wood, latest of the majo candidates to enter the race is calling for some major change ever few days. Most earth-shaking was his call for a constitutional convention with no member of the Genera
Assembly being eligible for election Assembly being eligible for election
as a delegate to the constitutional
convention. This might sound good
at first, but legislators as a whole are much better prepared to come forth with a reasonable documen than a group of non-legislators. We
admit that could well stand some changes but to turn the job over to amateurs to begin with sounds a little fright
ening. $\underset{\text { Jim }}{\text { ening. }}$ Jim Hunt wants to revamp the
North Carolina Utilities Commission. And the other candidates have CORREStions.
CONAL INSTITU trying to rehabilitate delinquen boys and girls in our correctiona
institutions hat institutions has in the opinion o
many, been almost many, been almost a complete
failure. Before the sexes were brought together we suspect the
results were far better. results were far better. Now with
the fences down, and both sexes together, more problems than ever Sefore seem to have resulted. Take
Samarkand Manor in Moore County. People in the community recently became so disturbed with the
inmates running loose at inmates running loose at night,
breaking in, stealing, etc. more than 200 citizens tha the Department of Human Re sources for dismissal of the Direc-
tor. Well-intended as the tor. Well-intended as the correc-
tional institutions may be, coddling of the young people who have gone astray as well as the adults, appears to have been a failure insofar as decreasing crime is concerned,
which is supposed to be the main purpose of the juvenile as well as purpose of the juvenile as well as
the penal institutions for the
adults. adults.
Years Years ago prison and juvenile
inmates were assigned to work just like ordinary boys and girls, men and women. Now, with gris, men
regular
labor appearing to be labor appearing to be a thing of the past, what more can you expect?
Many people feel that our penal and correctional institutions need a complete revamping, otherwise you can expect crime to continue to increase and run rampant over
law-abiding citizens. Certainly it appears that moving the correcappears that moving the correc
tional institutions from the Correc
tions Depal tions Department to the Dept. of Human Regdurces
proved the situation.

