The News - Journal NATIONAL NEWSPAPER North Carolina PRESS ASSOCIATION ARE OCIATION NNA SUSTAINING MEMBER - 1973 Published Every Thursday at Raeford, N.C. 28376 119 W. Elwood Avenue Subscription Rates In Advance Per Year - \$5.00 6 Months - \$2.75 3 Months - \$1.50 PAUL DICKSONPublisher-Editor SAM C. MORRIS General Manager MRS. PAUL DICKSON Society Editor MARTY VEGA Reporter

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 climaxed in the Declaration of Independence 200 years ago.

Second Class Postage at Raeford, N.C.

From these common interests, in political and religious freedoms, in freedoms of expression and movement and thought, in the rights to "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 space outside our world, as our technicians and scientists are right now figuring out where to land our spacecraft on the planet Mars, millions of miles away. Our advance in human rights has moved steadily to bring the "unalienable" rights of the Declaration of Independence to all people. As there was controversy, corruption, and dalliance then, so there is now, and the growing controversy is 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 bounced us back to great heights of good government, a cycle that is 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 and determination for any family to get a son or daughter, however bright, far enough along in basic education to be qualified to go anywhere for advanced learning.

This common interest and this remoteness brought these people together for their common good with Raeford Institute, and

Raeford, and then Hoke County as the results.

In both endeavors, the one stated in Philadelphia in 1776 which we are celebrating, and that along Peddler's Branch some 80 years ago, we had bickering and selfishness and bumbling, but in both we also had vision, unselfishness, determination, bravery and great

The virtues in these situations prevailed, and they prevail today. Those who do their part get personal satisfaction from it, and we all benefit. Those who obstruct and argue and don't do their part know

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.

The overall outlook, we would say, is good.

Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, June 28, 1951

The Carolina Telephone and 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 Company.

The weekly cotton insect survey made June (25) Monday shows that the boll weevil is well under control in fields which have been poisoned.

Belton Wright and Frank Currie this week announce the opening of a hardware store in the Sunset Hills section of Raeford next to Raeford

J.A. McGoogan, county auditor, announced this week that his office has been desginated to handle price stabelization orders in Hoke

From Rockfish News:

The only cool place the people around here can find these hot times is in Rockfish or Puppy Creek, and they are making good use of the opportunity.

15 years ago

community leaders.

Thursday, June 29, 1961 turned Sunday from a seven - day tour of "agri-business" opportun-ities in Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. J.L. McNeill, Tom McBryde and J.H. (Buck) Blue made the

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

journey on two chartered airplanes

with more than 150 other Tar Heel

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

Recreational officials reported that about 160 youngsters a day 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 campaign to call a special election for a library tax levey was proceeding "to a successful conclusion."

IN CONGRESS. JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of Merica,

She international special property of the control of the street united Diales of Johnson the section of the control of the con Suan Lines Sutton Gunnath Jani dame John Adams John Morton Aso Tras Painte Edward forKedge 1/1. Step Hopkins George Withe Richard Henry ale. William Ellery. -Thomas Syand gar Son" Huntington W Hychanion Garar Rioney John How Cher Holing

by Marty Vega-

Part III Of History

And so the days wore on and there was still no sign of the shadowy figure who rode off that night on his way to Raeford to sound the alarm. The settlers were not greatly concerned, as some days ago a riderless horse came galloping back and the people figured a horseless rider would soon follow. The matter was quickly forgotten and historians literature. and historians later came to the conclusion that the brave young conclusion that the brave young patriot had made the courageous decision to stay in Hoke County because the settlers there were embroiled in a controversy among themselves, namely the right to sell beer and wine on Sundays, and the rider thought this a very strange land indeed, as in Cumberland County the royalists had kent the County the royalists had kept the entire county DRY for a long time long journey into the Fayetteville city limits or travel to the Revolutionary soldiers encampment of Ft. Bragg to quaff a beer and therefore, the people of Hoke ought to consider themselves lucky to have it six days a week and so the young 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.

And there was one outspoken young settler of sturdy Scotch-Irish who lived in the Loch Lomond settlement of Cumberland County. Although it was named Loch Lomond the majority 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 as Michigan, had a Spanish surname. which led some to believe that the Puerto Ricans were coming into the neighborhood, and others to believe she was in some way associated with the Chevrolet division of General Motors. Neither was true, as the truth was clear from the odor of boiled cabbage and potatoes which wafted from her kitchen, gifts from the good people of Hoke who had gardens and generously shared their bounty with the gardenless, and besides,

there was always Scotch in the

This young lass, who was only in her very early 20's, gave much to the Revolutionary War effort tirelessly. Her young, naive husband joined Washington's Army in the last, dark days of 1773 and she was now a military wife of some two and a half years. Credit should be given to this brane were as a few of the should be given to this brane were as a few of the should be given to this brave woman, as she would sew buttons on his uniform and see 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. She 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 Declaration of Independence and the birth of 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 to form the design. This was to be my own salute of the 200th Anniversary of my country.

I did not feel that this needlepoint was just a piece of nostalgia. Of course, there were the crossed flags at the top — the earliest and the most recent of my country. But what I wanted to remember was a landmark in the history of humani-

ty.

Here were words so important —
so true — that they belong to all
nations and to all times: All men are created equal, ...

endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable

Such a landmark should not be lightly regarded. It is not a marker of physical boundaries, such as the Old Testament law had in mind. But it is similar in spirit.

CLIFF BLUE ...

People & Issues

Atra Clark

A GREAT AMERICAN TRA-DITION ... We have been told that "Up North" in the New England Villages and towns it used to be the annual tradition (and maybe still is) for various and condensition is) for various and sundry citizens to call together all of their neigh-bors and friends at a certain time of the day on July Fourth; and when all assembled on the front lawn or in the back yard, the host would 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 of human freedom known as the Declaration of Independence. The

reading time was twelve minutes. Well, to a country editor down in the South, this northern custom 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. We understand that some visitors to the Northeast report that it was the first time in their lives that they had hear the Declaration read out loud, from start to finish. And the report is that it is a spine-tingling, lump-in-the-throat experience, as one contemplates the true meaning of those great words, what it must have been like when the people assembled in the same way, and listened to those same words 200

As we reach the 200th anniversary of the birth of our nation, it would be well for all of us to take a few minutes during this busy holiday season to turn back to our Declaration of Independence and seek from it the guidance and inspiration we surely need in these

days, and in our times.

CANDIDATES ... From the statements being made by our Tar Heel gubernatorial candidates these days — both Democrat and Republican, North Carolina is in real bad shape. Frankly, one begins to wonder whether the disease or

the remedy is the worse of the two. George Wood, latest of the major candidates to enter the race is calling for some major change every few days. Most earth-shaking was his call for a constitutional conven-tion with no member of the General 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 document than a group of non-legislators. We admit that our State Constitution could well stand some changes but to turn the job over to amateurs to begin with sounds a little fright-

Jim Hunt wants to revamp the North Carolina Utilities Commis-And the other candidates have

their suggestions.
CORRECTIONAL INSTITU-TIONS ... The modern method of trying to rehabilitate delinquent boys and girls in our correctional institutions has in the opinion of many, been almost a failure. Before the sexes were brought together we suspect the results were far better. Now with the fences down, and both sexes together, more problems than ever before seem to have resulted. Take Samarkand Manor in Moore County. People in the community recentbecame so disturbed with the ly became so disturbed with the inmates running loose at night, breaking in, stealing, etc. that more than 200 citizens petitioned the Department of Human Resources for dismissal of the Director Wall-intended as the corrector. tor. Well-intended as the correctional 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 the penal institutions for the adults.

Years ago prison and juvenile inmates were assigned to work just like ordinary boys and girls, men and women. Now, with regular 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 correctional institutions from the Corrections Department to the Dept. of Human Resources has not improved the situation.

