

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

As I sit at this desk Tuesday morning pondering how to begin this column it occurs to me that with the building air conditioned, how did we write or work twenty five years ago without it.

Summer is now in full swing and you can tell it when you leave these air conditioned offices and buildings; even most homes are air conditioned these days.

Did it ever enter your mind what we would do if the energy shortage cut out these modern conveniences? Of course air conditioning would be one of the first things to conserve energy in an industry. How long would it take us to adjust to the way we worked years ago. Of course some have never worked without these luxuries.

Also buildings would have to be renovated because most are built without windows. This would take time and be an added expense.

Anyway it is nice to live in this time and we should all be thankful for what we have and try to conserve it.

Think about it!

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The Bicentennial year is still with us but most of us began feeling a let down or started to forget after the July 4th celebration. We are now in the third century of our nation.

The following letter was received last week and it tells the story of how most of us feel.

Dear Sam:

During the Bicentennial the people of Hoke County have reflected on the past, celebrated the present and built a landmark for the future. Those who became involved received far more than they gave. The friendships that developed, the unity of working together, the pride one felt for his community and country was a wonderful experience. May we all strive to strengthen these values for the future.

There is always a little sadness when a task enjoyed is completed but the time is near for the Hoke County Bicentennial Commission to cease functioning. However, the tiles, the five Hoke County scenes, will continue to be on sale at the library and the Chamber of Commerce.

Sam, thank you and The News-Journal Staff for your cooperation and support.

It has really been a thrill to see the participation of churches, organizations, institutions and businesses; the creativeness of citizens; the excitement of children and the talents of individuals.

We would like to thank everyone who gave so freely of themselves to make all the celebrations held throughout the county during the past eighteen months a reality.

Most sincerely,  
Carson and Iris Davis

Thanks Carson and Iris for a job well done.

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The Democratic convention ended with everyone still speaking to each other. The players have been chosen to represent them in the big game that takes place the first Tuesday in November.

The Republicans will meet next month and choose their players for the big game.

After you have observed both conventions and been taken down the Campaign road, then you will take the field and choose the players to lead us for the next four years.

Just remember when you come to a decision it only counts if you VOTE. Don't forget this!

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Don't forget to give your support in any way that you can to Kathy McMillan who is jumping on Friday night. In case you haven't read or heard the event will be televised Friday night beginning at eight o'clock. Be sure to look!

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When you hear of someone being put out of business or closing their business for one reason or another you have a sad feeling for the person or persons that are involved. Listening to TV Monday night an announcer stated that Amy Carter had closed down her lemon-

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# Ambulance Subsidy, Beer Sales Spark Commissioners' Session

## Kathy's Day Friday

Kathy McMillan's bid for a gold medal for the United States at the Summer Olympics in Montreal will come this Friday when the women's track and field events are scheduled.

Preliminaries begin Friday morning and the long jump event is scheduled for 4 P.M. that afternoon. Taped television coverage is scheduled to begin at 8 P.M. Friday.

Miss McMillan, the holder of the American women's record in the long jump at 22 feet, three inches, has recovered from a leg injury she suffered during the Olympic tryouts in Eugene, Ore., last month.

Her biggest rival for the gold medal is considered to be East German Sigrun Siegel-Thon, who set the world record of 22-11 1/4 in May. It broke the record of 22-8 1/2

set earlier the same month by Angela Voight, another East German, who will also be competing in Montreal.

Alex Ferenczy, coach of the United States women's track team, had confident words for Miss McMillan.

"At the trials, I was asked if I thought Kathy McMillan had reached her peak, and I answered definitely not. I said I think she can jump much further", Ferenczy said.

**Hoke High coach Billy Colston, Kathy McMillan's coach for the past four years, has been invited to speak at the prestigious N.C. Athletic Association's high school coaching conference. It was announced this week.**

The conference, scheduled the

last week of July in Greensboro, features the most outstanding coaches in the state in the high school and college ranks.

Miss McMillan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander McMillan, expect to make the trip to Montreal to see their daughter realize her four year - long dream of being in the Olympics.

Mrs. McMillan said Tuesday she had spoken to her daughter by telephone and that Kathy was sending tickets to the stadium. The McMillans plan to leave Thursday if the tickets arrive.

Track and Field Magazine has picked Kathy McMillan as the likely silver medal winner at the Olympics with the East German Siegel-Thon rated first.



ACCIDENT--A head-on collision at 4:30 P.M. Monday resulted in one dead and three persons injured. A Southern Pines youth was pinned inside a 1968 Volkswagen for 30 minutes before the Rescue Squad could free him. He died at Moore Memorial Hospital that evening.

## Collision Kills Youth

A Southern Pines youth died Monday evening of head and chest injuries sustained in a head-on collision that occurred 4:30 that afternoon at NC 211 and Turnpike Road.

According to a Highway Patrol report, Everette Adair, 17, of 814 S. Mechanic St., Southern Pines, was a passenger in a '68 Volkswagen driven by Jeff Edward Jeffries, 18, of 330 N. Leek St., Southern Pines. The young men

were coming to Raeford to purchase license tags for Jeffries newly purchased VW.

The VW attempted to pass another vehicle traveling in the same direction and sideswiped it, and then hit head on a Ford Falcon traveling away from Raeford, according to the patrol. The Falcon was driven by Henry Jackson Graham, 53, of Rt. 3, Raeford. His son William Graham, 18, was a

passenger.

All four were transported by Harris Ambulance to Moore Memorial Hospital where they were all treated for multiple fractures.

Adair was pinned in the VW for about 30 minutes before the Hoke County Rescue Squad and patrolmen could free him. He died about 7 p.m. that evening.

Charges against Jeffries are pending further investigation.

## Inflation Takes Bite

By Marty Vega

Travel costs for local government workers have risen sharply, like everything else, and this year county taxpayers will foot a bill of \$32,000 or more to send county officials off to various conventions, seminars and meetings, along with business within the county, an increase of nearly \$10,000 over this year's travel expenditures.

County commissioner James A. Hunt last week submitted a bill of \$687.87 for plane fare, lodging, meals and taxi fare to cover a trip to Salt Lake City, Utah for the National Association of County Officials (NACO) annual convention June 26-30. Hunt's trip was the first time any county commissioner traveled out of the state on county business, according to T.B. Lester, county manager and finance officer. Hunt was not officially sent by

the board of commissioners as a delegate.

Travel expenses for county commissioners are budgeted at only \$2,000 for the entire year and that amount is really intended to pay for the annual state convention of county commissioners, Lester said. All five commissioners, along with Lester, usually attend that meet. This year it is in Pinehurst. Last year it was in Asheville.

The \$2,000 fund also covers any incidental travel, as commissioners may be reimbursed 12 cents a mile for trips to the Council of Governments (COG) regional office in Lumberton, or state offices in Fayetteville, along with meals.

Benjamin Niblock, director of the Hoke County Department of Social Services, also made the trip to Salt Lake City, going by car, but has not yet turned in a bill to the county manager's office. The total

travel allowance for the social services department is set at \$11,475 in this year's budget. Last year it was \$6,884.

Niblock said that under the formulas governing state and federal matches for county social services departments, 72 per cent of his trip expenses are reimbursed by state and federal aid, and only 28 per cent is borne by local taxpayers.

"It's not uncommon for our staff to go out of state, two years ago the child services (conference) met in New Orleans," Niblock said.

"I would like to say this. If Jim (Hunt) and I are going to be singled out and subjected to having to submit a breakdown of expenses like this then I think everyone should get the same treatment. What about when the board of education went out to San Francisco, was that ever in the paper?" he said.

With two members absent for the monthly meeting Monday night, the other three county commissioners postponed any decisions on changing the yearly subsidy paid to one of two ambulance services and also delayed any action on a request to review the Sunday ban on beer and wine sales.

Rev. M.H. Williams, president of the Hoke County Civic League, a black ministerial association, and Tony Buie, owner of Buie's Ambulance Service, appeared before the board to protest the renewal of the contract with Harris Ambulance Service, which carries with it a \$27,000 subsidy, to provide ambulance service in the county for the 1976-77 fiscal year.

Earlier this year, Buie had requested consideration by the board to giving him a subsidy to operate his service, but the board adopted the new budget without any funds appropriated for a second ambulance service.

Williams requested the board authorize a subsidy to Buie without specifying any amount and told the commissioners their refusal to subsidize the black ambulance service "disturbed both the black community and the whites".

Buie said since the sheriff's office is rotating ambulance calls between his firm and Harris, he needs extra funds to make up for trips for which he never collects his fee, but the board said he is under no obligation and may refuse calls since he does not hold a contract with the county.

A discussion of the controversy over Sunday beer and wine sales was added to the regular agenda at the request of Donald Peterson, operator of the Kash and Karry market in Raeford, who told the commissioners it was "unfair" to have two establishments selling beer for take-out under brown bagging permits on Sundays.

"My views are it is very unfair that two people can do it. For one reason, we cannot get fair distribution of beer because these people are selling in such quantities on Sundays. I have called St. Louis and Milwaukee about it. It's a very ticklish situation", Peterson said Tuesday.

"Every Sunday they're asking me to jeopardize my license. A regular customer comes in and I can't sell it to them. I have to obey the law. Well, they are going to go where they can buy it. I say, let's open it up to everyone. You're hurting the county in revenue. I'd say about \$9,000 or so in Sunday sales, and the bootlegger is going to sell it anyway, and that's no revenue", Peterson said.

The board's decision to table the matter until the Aug. 2 meeting was the second time the issue has been before commissioners. At the June meeting, a petition signed by nearly 40 grocery owners seeking an end to the ban on Sunday beer sales was presented to the board by Billy Parks, operator of Parks Grocery north of the city limits. The petitioners requested permission to sell beer and wine between the hours of 1 P.M. and midnight on Sundays.

### In other business, the commissioners:

Approved payment of \$725 in legal fees incurred by Charles Hostetler, county attorney, during a civil proceeding filed by citizens seeking Sheriff D.M. Barrington's removal from office earlier this year;

Appointed James Harris and Bobby Conoly in the Emergency Medical Service Advisory Council, replacing Ralph Barnhart and Lawrence Caviness;

Extended the two per cent discount on payment of taxes through Aug. 15, 1976, because of a delay in mailing of tax notices;

Appointed county planner Lester Simpson to the Regional Manpower Advisory Committee, replacing Dick Lovett;

Authorized purchase of liability insurance on the surplus jeep at the Civil Preparedness office which is used for emergencies;

Agreed to refuse issuing a key to the landfill to Pick-up Sanitation Service after hearing a report from T.B. Lester, county manager, regarding state regulations requiring the presence of a landfill operator;

Approved the sign for the new county office building at a cost of approximately \$700;

Authorized inspector Jack Ellis to attend a four day training school at a cost of \$100;

Approved an amendment to the 1976-77 budget to cover a \$4,000 grant from the state for the senior citizens program;

Okayed resolutions to the Lumber Riber Council of Governments for that agency to continue administering the manpower, older adults and family planning programs for this fiscal year.

Commissioners tabled until the next meeting a bill from commissioner James A. Hunt in the amount of \$687 to cover expenses for his trip to the National Association of County Officials (NACO) convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, and also the matter of appointing members to the Council of Women.

"I don't see why newspapers should even print this information - public servants have to give up so much of their privacy. If a citizen wants to know how much somebody's trip cost, it's a matter of public record and they can go down to the county office and look it up," he said.

"I read the Charlotte Observer and the Raleigh paper every day and I defy you to find any article written about the cost of trips made by officials there," he said.

"Anybody who wasn't aware of the national convention being out in Salt Lake City I would say is not very well-educated and I doubt if they would have any interest in the cost," he said.

In the health department, this year's travel budget has increased to \$8,250 from last year's \$6,500. Most of the money is used for the 12 cents per mile allowance for the

dog warden, sanitarians and nurses who do a great deal of traveling around the county.

Part of the money is also spent on staff members traveling to the district office in Fayetteville or sometimes the state office in Raleigh for meetings. One or more representatives attend the yearly state convention of the nurses' association.

The finance department has a \$1,200 annual travel expense allotment, an increase of \$300 over last year. Lester, who is the only county official who does not receive a mileage allowance, uses the money for trips to Chapel Hill for seminars, and also the yearly state meeting for finance and budget officers at Chapel Hill which usually lasts a week, and various other meetings and conferences

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