

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Many songs could be sung about the weather that has been with us the past several days. A comment from Mrs. J.M. Andrews at the Open House of the Hoke County Library Sunday may have a solution for one of the weather problems. She said if it got dry next summer all they had to do to bring rain was have something at the library.

The day that the library was dedicated was a rainy day and Sunday, the Open House was greeted by rain. The weather didn't seem to dampen the spirits of the folks that attended.

The Hoke County Historical Association will meet at the Hoke County Library Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock. Mrs. David Welmore, curator of the Scotland County Museum in Laurinburg will speak and bring with her artifacts from the museum.

I have received calls this week from local folks who want to bring things to the meeting. They are welcome and let's everyone come and relive an hour in the past.

The American Legion Post will have a Flea Market at the Edenborough Shopping Center on Saturday, November 20th from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Lawrence Bounds, post commander, said that many usable items would be offered for sale. Go by and look over the stock. Proceeds will aid legion activities.

The Hoke High Music Booster Club will hold a bazaar during the hours of the Raeford Kiwanis Club Pancake supper Thursday night, December 9 at the Gibson School cafeteria. More details later but mark this date on your calendar.

The News-Journal will publish a day earlier next week, due to Thanksgiving. So get your news in early so that it won't be left out.

Another letter from Curt Smith brings back memories of some trips I took with my father to Carthage and other county seats where court was held and mule and horse trading were the things of the hour. Curt's letter follows:

Dear Sam:
I can't quite swallow the Uncle Price bit. If you had put 'step' in front, O.K. I understand Spike and Jack are very active in Laurinburg elderly group.

One of my never to be forgotten trips was with your father and Uncle Carl. When I was a small kid I hung around the Morris Bros. stables a lot and Carl asked my dad to let me go on a caravan with them to Troy. We camped at the Old Camp ground just before you reached the covered bridge. Several other groups joined us during the night and next day there was trading among the experts; it impressed me very much.

Bruce, your father, made a deal with Mr. Charlie Fuller from Lumberton for all the mules so we turned around and made for Raeford. I didn't get to go thro' the covered bridge then but later I did.

Mrs. A.R. Morris was one of my dearest friends and I spent many happy hours sitting on her porch listening to talk of the past. She was a very wonderful lady.

My best to you and yours.
Sincerely,
Curt Smith

Morgan Aides To Be In City

Members of Sen. Robert Morgan's staff will be in Raeford at city hall on Monday, Nov. 29.

Bill Johnson and Cindy Johnson, staff assistants to Morgan, will be here for the purpose of listening to any citizen who is having problems or seeks information on any matter concerning the federal government. Morgan's office also said that persons with suggestions on how to improve federal services would be welcome. The Morgan aides will be in Raeford for the meetings from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.



PRESENTING CHECK -- Danny DeVane, co-chairman of the Hoke County United Fund, is shown receiving a Burlington contribution of \$1,000 from Jack Bradford, plant manager of the Raeford plant and Gib Bernhardt, plant manager of the dyeing plant.

UF Gifts Top \$7,000

The United Fund is now nearly a third toward its goal, with \$7,047 in cash gifts already collected, UF co-chairman Danny DeVane announced Monday. This year's goal for Hoke County is \$22,811.

DeVane reported that the schools division has completed canvassing and that division's total is \$2,253.

Burlington's two Raeford plants have cash and pledges reported in the amount of \$10,594, which includes a corporate donation of \$1,000.

Anyone who wishes to make a contribution to the 1976 UF campaign can mail a check to P.O. Box N, Raeford, or drop by DeVane's Department Store.

Oil Company To Get \$1,000

County commissioners, without admitting to any fault on the part of the county, did agree to reimburse Raeford Oil Co. \$1,000 toward the 10,000 gallon fuel oil loss that the company incurred when the oil was mistakenly dumped down a sewer cleanout hole at the new library.

The action came at the commissioners' regular meeting Monday morning after Randall Ashburn, accompanied by Neill A. McDonald III and Crawford Thomas Jr. repeated a request for \$1,969 to cover half the loss of Sept. 27. Ashburn also appeared at the last meeting of the board two weeks ago.

County manager T.B. Lester and inspector Jack Ellis acknowledged that the oil company driver was not told the capacity of the second of two tanks to be filled when he checked with the county offices about the location of the tanks. The first tank, which was serviced without trouble, was 500 gallon capacity. However, Ellis argued that the sewer cap was of such a different type that the driver should have noticed it, especially since he had to make "seven trips back and forth" to deposit that large a quantity, securing the lock each time he left it.

Ashburn told the board that contractors use a wide variety of caps nowadays, prompting commissioner John Balfour to remark "maybe the city needs to pass a code on how oil caps are going to look".

The dumping mistake, which was noted at the city sewage treatment plant first, poured a large quantity of oil into Rockfish Creek which brought an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) investigator to Raeford. The EPA found no wildlife kill and ruled the oil spill was an honest mistake. Under federal law, heavy penalties can be meted out for discharging pollutants into waterways.

The vote to pay Raeford Oil Co. \$1,000 was unanimous.

Inmate's Bill

In other matters Monday, commissioners were disgruntled to learn the county is responsible for a \$802 medical bill incurred by a jail prisoner who had to be taken to a hospital last month by order of a physician.

Sheriff D.M. Barrington told the board that under state law, a

R.B. Lewis Portrait Unveiled

Miss Beth Avera, a high school senior from Winston - Salem, unveiled a portrait of her grandfather, the late R.B. Lewis, to a crowd of approximately 200 during open house ceremonies Sunday afternoon at the Hoke County Library.

Lewis served as chairman of the finance committee to raise funds for the Bicentennial library project. He was successful in raising \$100,000 from the community to match revenue sharing funds appropriated, and without his efforts, the Bicentennial library might not have become a reality.

The portrait was commissioned by The Bank of Raeford, where Lewis served as president from 1961 to 1973, and presented to the library by current bank president, Gene Carter. Mrs. J.M. Andrews, president of the library board, received the gift on behalf of the members of the library staff.

library board and the building committee.

The oil painting, done in pastel shades, is a composite of several photographs of Lewis. The artist, Anne Kesler Shields of Winston - Salem, has been a family friend for many years. Mrs. Shields ('59 MFA) studied at the Showhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine and under the direction of Hans Hoffmann in Provincetown, Mass. She also commissioned for an urban wall project by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Refreshments were provided by home demonstration groups with Mrs. Elizabeth Tolar serving as the food leader. Miss Josephine Hall presided at the punch bowl and was assisted by Mrs. Robert McPhail.

Entertainment was provided by the hand bell choir from the Methodist Church under the direction of Mrs. Lewis Upchurch.

Several potted plants were also sent to the library in honor of the occasion.

The ceremony was attended by Mrs. R.B. Lewis and daughters, Mrs. Watson Lawhon of Martinsville, Va., and Mrs. Charles Avera of Winston - Salem.

Watson Lawhon acted as spokesman on behalf of the family. His son Bob from Greensboro also attended the ceremony. Mrs. Avera was accompanied by her husband and her son, Allen, a student at Chapel Hill.

Although the portrait unveiling was meant to honor Lewis as a prime mover in getting the library built, he was also honored as an

(See R. B. LEWIS, Page 14)

25 Year Term Given For Killing

Child Abuse Topic At Meeting Tonight

Kathy Jones, regional coordinator for Parents Anonymous, will be the speaker tonight (Thursday) for a special program in the auditorium of Raeford Elementary School to highlight Child Abuse Awareness Week, Nov. 14-20.

The special program is a joint project of the public affairs department of the Raeford Junior Woman's Club and the Hoke County Department of Social Services to help call attention to the problems of child abuse and child neglect.

A thirty minute film, "Don't Give Up On Me", which portrays an abusing parent who seeks help, will be shown. The program begins at 7:30. A question and answer session will be included.

An informational pamphlet

which outlines some of the various services available to parents will be distributed free.

Some of the resources which can be provided through the department of social services include foster care, mental health services, counseling for special problems, financial assistance for those eligible and homemaker services.

The meeting will also deal with the Child Abuse Reporting Act, a law which requires any person who has knowledge of abuse to report the information to the department of social services for investigation.

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners gave its support to the public awareness campaign and officially proclaimed the week Child Abuse Awareness Week. Commissioner John Balfour is expected to attend tonight's program, along with other city and county officials.

The public is invited.

N-J Deadline Comes Early

The News-Journal will publish one day early next week because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

All news announcements, including society news, must be turned in by 5 P.M. Friday, Nov. 19 for publication in next week's issue. Deadline for classified advertising is 5 P.M. Monday, Nov. 22.

The News-Journal office will be closed Thanksgiving Day.

County Hires Assistant

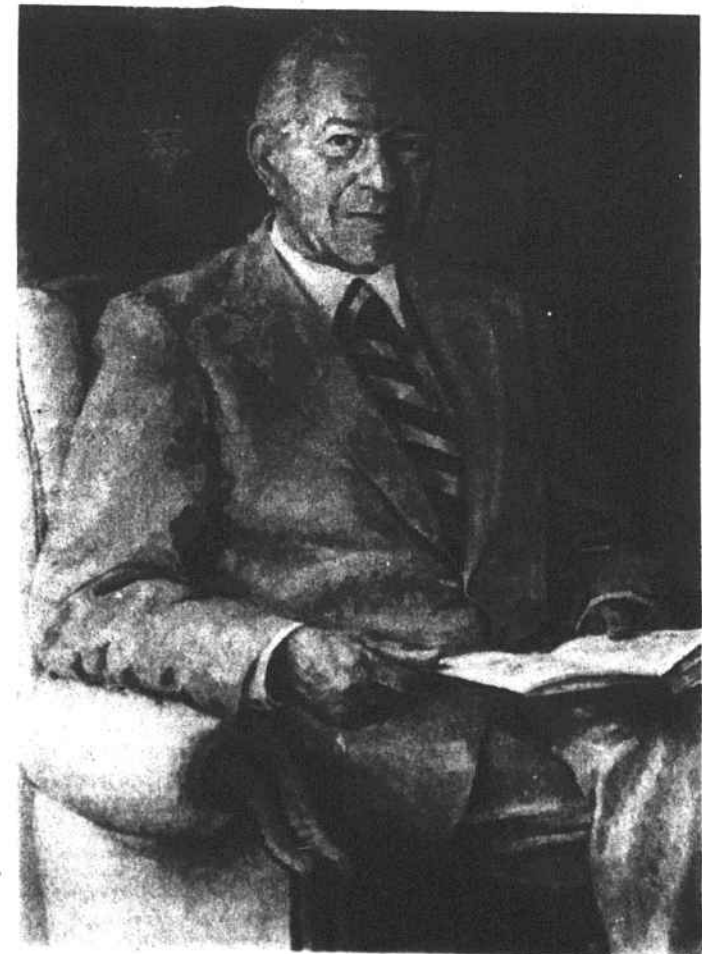
William Altman has been named administrative assistant to county manager T.B. Lester. Lester announced.

Altman, a retired serviceman and former Hoke County magistrate, will be responsible for a wide range of duties, including some work in county planning, Lester said.

The administrative assistant's

job, which pays \$9,000 annually, has been funded through the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (C.E.T.A.) program.

Altman is now familiarizing himself with local government operations and is studying the community development projects which he will help administer. His appointment was effective Nov. 1.



R. B. Lewis

Judge Giles R. Clark sentenced a 23-year-old Raeford man to not less than 16 nor more than 25 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to second degree murder last week here in Superior Court.

Cyrus Peterkin, Jr., Rt. 4, Box 53, Raeford, was brought to trial on a first degree murder charge brought through the Aug. 23 death of Simmid Peterkin, Jr. In a plea bargain worked through his attorney, Dino Economou, Peterkin pleaded guilty to the lesser included offense of second degree murder. The court credited the defendant with time spent in jail pending trial.

In other action, a jury declared Abraham McGee, 527 E. Sixth St., guilty of assault with a deadly weapon. McGee had pleaded not guilty to a charge of assaulting Fredrick Morrison and wounding him in the neck using a hand gun. McGee was sentenced to two years in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction. McGee's probation on an earlier assault charge was revoked immediately following his conviction.

William Nathan Dill, Rt. 2, Box 240, Raeford, pleaded guilty to a charge of arson of the burning of a motor vehicle. Dill was sentenced to three years in the custody of the Department of Correction as a result of the charges brought by Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co. The defendant was also fined \$250 plus costs of court and ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$3,066.01 to Nationwide.

Dennis Lee Watson, 16, Rt. 2, Box 105, Raeford, appeared in court charged with felonious breaking and entering. The court sentenced him to 18 months in the custody of the commissioner of correction of the North Carolina Department of Correction as a committed youthful offender. Sentence was suspended. Watson was also fined \$50 plus court costs and ordered to pay the clerk of court \$15 restitution for the use of Jerry Jones. He was further ordered to remain in school or be gainfully employed during his two year probation period.

Willie Howard McNeill, Rt. 1, Box 109, Red Springs, had charges of trespass and hit and run dismissed after he agreed to plead guilty to unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and driving left of center. McNeill was sentenced to 24 months, suspended. He was placed on probation for 24 months on the conditions that he pay \$436 restitution for Preston Locklear for damages to an automobile, \$300 restitution for Marianne McLean (See KILLING, Page 14)

New Motel Is Eyed

The industrial development team of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce met recently and agreed to go ahead with efforts toward locating a motel in or near Raeford.

Chamber president Gib Bernhardt, along with committee members Carson Davis Jr., Alfred Leach and Julian Wright, announced preliminary plans to gather cost estimates for the project. A corporation may be set up at a later date for investment purposes.

A possible location for the planned motel is U.S. 401-south near St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church, according to Davis, although no agreements have been reached.

Bernhardt also announced that the team is compiling updated information on the land market and real estate properties within the city and county to provide prospective new industry with accurate and current data. The 75 acre Calloway farm near the Burlington plant and the 60 acre Lentz farm both were mentioned as attractive for industry.

Chamber members will meet with civic leaders on Dec. 7 at 10 a.m. in the conference room of the new library to gain more input on industrial recruitment methods. Pam Cooper, industrial recruitment consultant with the Department of Natural and Economic Resources, is expected to attend.