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RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

\$8 PER YEAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1977

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The Labor Day weekend brought both hot weather and much needed rain. The forecast is for more rain, and according to some farmer friends of mine, we could still use some more.

As this is being written, I haven't heard of any violence or bad wrecks in Hoke County, but from the TV and daily paper, it seems the Labor Day holidays brought forth much violence.

Anyway for a lot of people, it will mean doing two days work in one to catch up.

\* \* \*

Earl Fowler, new manager of the Raeford - Hoke Chamber of Commerce, was the speaker at the weekly meeting of the Raeford Kiwanis Club last Thursday night. The program was under the direction of Richard Coker.

Fowler's talk centered on the fact that a number of houses were vacant in Raeford and the county and the chamber were starting a campaign to find out why, and to sell people on the idea of living here.

He had some interesting figures showing that some places in the county had a large number of employees living elsewhere and he was going to take steps through the chamber to inquire into this situation. He said that Director Bobby McNeill was in charge of this problem.

Earl's talk was interesting and the facts were somewhat surprising to some Kiwanians. The speaker also displayed some humor in his speech.

\* \* \*

The football season opened here last Friday night with a loss to Seventy - First. I didn't attend because of a previous appointment, and I haven't heard from the drug store quarterbacks as yet, so a full report on the team can't be given at this time.

If you will filter into a group of former Hoke stars you can find out what they think of the young Bucks.

\* \* \*

The following letter was received over the weekend and we request that you help Beth out if you can:

Dear Mr. Morris:

I would like to ask the citizens of Hoke County to help add to the educational opportunities of our schools. I would like all people who have a specific hobby or items collected from other countries and states, interested in sharing these with school children, to write to:

Beth Johnson  
c/o Scurlock School  
Rt. 2, Box 505  
Raeford, N.C. 28373

Please send your name, address, phone number, and a list of the items or hobby you could share. This information will be compiled into a Hoke County community resource record where educators can search for additional information plus an enriching human element unavailable in printed materials. Your co-operation is appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Beth Johnson

\* \* \*

The following note was received from Raz Autry, Superintendent of the Hoke County Schools, and we think that it is self-explanatory:

"All new citizens of Hoke County who have children in school are invited to the Hoke County Board of Education office Thursday, September 8, 1977, 8:00 p.m. to discuss any aspect of the school program they are interested in or have concern about."

"All of our citizens are invited but the meeting is primarily for new citizens of our county."

\* \* \*

Any of you people that want to know about the Free Lunch Program at the schools, be sure to read the article "From The Superintendents Desk."



**DONATION** - Hoke County Arts Council President Anne Hostettler presented the first donation to the Hoke County Chapter of the North Carolina Symphony this week. Receiving the check is Symphony President Doris Austin. The local symphony chapter will be sponsoring a Nov. 1 performance of the North Carolina Little Symphony in the high school auditorium. See related story inside N.J. (Photo by S.H. Aplin)

## Rep. Rose Intercedes In Air Force Plan

The Air Force has received

tentative approval from the Fayetteville Federal Aviation Administration Center (FAA) to establish a new military operating area over Raeford for jet fighter exercises, but Rep. Charlie Rose (7th District Democrat) has asked Washington FAA officials to block the plan.

In a letter to Langhorn Bond, administrator of the FAA, Rose has asked that the Atlanta office of the FAA review the determination and seek an alternative.

Rose termed the creation of such an operating space over Raeford "an unacceptable situation."

The Ninth Air Force, based at Shaw AFB in Sumter, S.C., requested the special designated area to allow close air support exercises involving craft from Shaw, Seymour Johnson AFB and Myrtle Beach AFB. The craft would be allowed to fly at speeds up to 500 miles per hour from elevations of 500 feet to 6,000 feet.

Gilbert Hofeinze, chief of FAA air traffic control at Fayetteville's Grannis Field, said Friday that he had recommended approval of the plan and that his report would be sent to the FAA in Atlanta for

regional approval within a week.

Hofeinze said his decision was based on air safety factors and the Raeford area was the only route he could approve. Hofeinze said the operating area could not be located either to the east or west, because of heavy air traffic associated with airports in Cumberland County

(See CONG. ROSE, Page 11)

Glidewell Construction Co. of Rockingham submitted the low bid, \$52,000, on the general contract, county planning and development assistant Bill Altman reported. Electrical work, heating and air conditioning, parking and landscaping and architect's fees will push the total cost to about \$113,000 for the 2,300 square foot facility.

Altman told county commissioners that he was scheduled to meet with the contractors this week to try and trim the costs closer to \$100,000.

Leaky roofs and insurance matters commanded the attention of county commissioners in a lively meeting Tuesday morning, the latter causing a 3-2 split among the members.

The roof on the courthouse, the roof on the health center, and the roof over their heads in the courthouse annex where meetings are held, are all in need of repair, county manager T.B. Lester said. Bids were received on the work for

the annex but the bids were "confusing" and the board tabled an immediate decision. The board did authorize Lester to solicit bids for a new shingle roof on the courthouse to replace the aged slate one, which has been repaired several times before.

Cost of the new roof will come out of the special fund for facilities. Lester estimated the cost at about \$10,000.

The board also authorized temporary repairs for the health center roof.

The 3-2 split came when commissioners Danny DeVane and James A. Hunt balked at disapproving a resolution sent through

for one remedial math teacher and one secretary - recruiter plus math supplies.

Bids for a new shop building will be put out in two weeks.

The following teachers were

approved by the board: Jeannie Smith, interim teacher for Glenda Lester; Sue H. Wampler, exceptional children; Judy F. Taylor, librarian at Raeford Elementary; Diane C. Williams, S. Hoke School; Phyllis Fahrenbruck, interim teacher at Hoke High; Jo Ann M. Hottell, Upchurch; Gayle Williamson, biology teacher at Hoke High; Carrie Tyson, exceptional children; Ellen V. Brown, Scurlock; Joyce Monroe Edwards, interim teacher at Raeford Elementary; Sara Gilmore, interim teacher at Hoke High.

The Hoke County Board of Education approved Monday night the establishment of the renovated one-room Glen Echo school as a memorial to one of the system's long - time superintendents.

The school house located near the Board of Education offices will be dedicated in honor of K.A. MacDonald who served as superintendent of schools from 1935 to 1959. Superintendent G. Raz Autry said. The school has been set up as it originally operated with period furnishings and will be used as an historical exhibit. Autry said that Hoke teachers may be able to reserve the school house to teach of their own classes in.

The Board also approved a \$27,000 program for migrant students which will include salaries

McCain Prison has been selected as one of two North Carolina prisons to receive federal funds in excess of \$3 million dollars each for renovation and expansion.

Odom Prison, near Raleigh, will receive a \$3.4 million dollar federal grant, while McCain will get \$3.3 million. Another \$100,000 will be added to the McCain total from state funds, while Odom will receive \$1.2 million.

Each prison will build a 144 single - inmate cell unit to relieve overcrowding and to isolate problem prisoners.

According to McCain Prison Superintendent J.C. Harris Jr., the McCain unit now has only ten single - inmate cells. The prison has a total capacity of 200.

Harris indicated that the single - inmate cell does not indicate a heavier security for the medium custody unit, but is rather a trend with the prison system to make treatment and control easier.

Harris indicated that he did not submit the grant application, but he assumed that these two units were chosen because they were more suitable for expansion. He indicated that he will meet with N.C. Division of Prisons officials today (Thursday) to see the plans.

Harris said that he assumed the renovations would include water, heat and electrical work and that construction may include food service areas, some office space and classroom areas as well as the single - inmate cells.

He estimated that construction would begin in 60 to 90 days.

## Leaky Roofs, Insurance Worries Occupy County Board's Attention

Leaky roofs and insurance matters commanded the attention of county commissioners in a lively meeting Tuesday morning, the latter causing a 3-2 split among the members.

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The 3-2 split came when commissioners Danny DeVane and James A. Hunt balked at disapproving a resolution sent through

the N.C. Association of County Commissioners.

The resolution condemned the General Assembly for its passage of the bill which stripped Commissioner of Insurance John Ingram of some of his authority. Under the new law, the Commissioner does not have the power to block insurance rate increases, the law allows companies to implement increases without prior approval.

The resolution requested that the legislature reconsider its action, but commissioner Neil McPhatter said he felt "they should leave it like it is" and made a motion to disapprove the resolution. There was some confusion during the

discussion and McPhatter's motion nearly died until Chairman John Balfour seconded it.

DeVane and Hunt both argued strongly in support of approving the resolution and commissioner Ralph Barnhart sided with McPhatter after several more minutes of confused debate among the members over the wording and meaning of the action.

Hunt did not respond on a voice vote taken and after DeVane requested a show of hands, the official vote was 3-2 in favor of McPhatter's motion.

Although not on the agenda. (See LEAKY ROOFS, Page 11)

## Texans Roar Into Town

The Texas Two-Wheeler and Popsicle, who are Jesse Kelly and James 'Pop' McKnight when not on the CB airwaves, were visitors in the city last week. Like lots of other people who pass through. Just ordinary travelers.

Not quite.

Instead of ten-gallon hats, the two Texas men wore helmets. Motorcycle helmets.

"It's the only way to travel," declared McKnight, who at 65, recently retired from teaching school. Never having been to the East before, he decided to accompany his friend Kelly to a cyclists' rally in Buffalo, N.Y. The pair made the 1,865 mile journey in only three days on their classy BMW choppers, camping overnight.

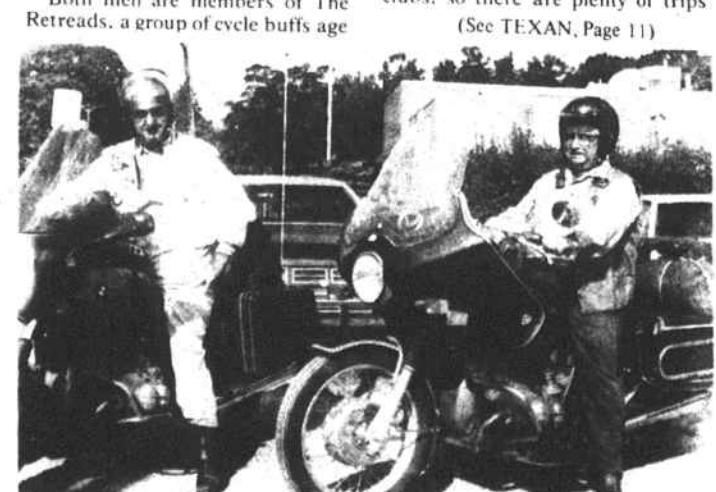
They arrived in Raeford Wednesday for a visit with Kelly's father-in-law David Smith, another cycle aficionado who is known as the Charles Bronson of Raeford.

At the Niagara Falls rally, Pop picked up a trophy for coming the farthest.

"Yeah, he lives about 200 yards

west of me," Kelly joked.

Both men are members of The Retreads, a group of cycle buffs age



CYCLE RIDERS - Jesse Kelly (on left) and James 'Pop' McKnight, also known as Texas Two-Wheeler and the Popsicle, don't care to sit home waiting for their Social Security checks, although at their ages they could. Instead they prefer seeing the country from their motorcycles.



Dr. Cortez A. Cooper, Jr.