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Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Last year we went from summer into winter without any fall weather. The mornings for the past week have the fall feeling to them and this is as it should be.

We don't know what to expect for the remainder of September, but if the days would cool off a little, it would be perfect for this writer.

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In last week's paper in the write-up on William McDonald becoming the new president of the Raeford - Hoke Chamber of Commerce, it stated that he was on the board of directors at the Raeford Presbyterian Church. It should have said he was on the Board of Deacons.

When you are writing an article about someone that has just been elected president of something, he or she will be members of many boards and it is hard sometimes to keep in mind that church boards are not directors. They could be elders, deacons, stewards, etc.

Anyway we are sorry about this mistake, but we offer our congratulations to McDonald and know that he will do a fine job.

* * *

Well the Bucks came through last Friday night and from all reports did the job in a convincing manner. I believe this is what the team needed and this should make for a better spirit as they prepare for a tough Lee County High School team here Friday night. To most of us it would be called Sanford.

It is almost impossible to tell teams by what they are called any more. Back when I was in school Fayetteville had one high school and Raleigh and Charlotte had only two. But times have changed, and cities now have from four on up high schools. To make it more difficult, in a small county like Hoke or Lee, they have consolidated the schools and changed the names of that school.

Anyway mark your calendar for the first conference game for Hoke High and be in attendance at Hoke High Stadium Friday night.

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There was an article in last week's paper headed, "Program Recruiting School Volunteers." This program aids children by encouraging them to take more interest in learning. You do not tutor, but just offer parental guidance to some child that needs it.

Can you share with someone that may not have what your child has? If you can, then contact Florence Cohen at 875-4106 or Mrs. Kay Thomas and volunteer your service. I can assure you that the program will not only help the child, but will give you a feeling that you haven't had before. Try it!

* * *

Last week when I read about the death of D.J. Dalton, it brought back memories of the days when the REA office was on Main Street in Raeford and was located in a building now torn down. The building was where SNB now has its parking lot.

The News-Journal office was next door and as I would come to work early in the morning the crews for the REA would have their trucks in the alley behind the building getting ready to go out for work.

Of course the head man or manager was Mr. Dalton. He was always on the job, but he was also a man that you didn't hear much from. I don't believe I ever heard him raise his voice. Always around, but not by a loud way of showing it.

The Lumbee REA was his baby and he nursed it from infancy to what it is today. It was not an easy job and every part of the United States was in the same fix for electricity as was Hoke, Scotland, Robeson and a part of Cumberland County and he was undertaking to fill their needs, of course, everyone wanted the lines run into their section of the county first. How this man kept the board of directors and all these people satisfied, is still a puzzle to me. Not for one year, but for 31 years. His problems were increased above other REA managers, because he was dealing with whites, blacks, and Indians.

Yes, D.J. Dalton in his quiet (See AROUND TOWN, Pg. 13)

Hoke Board, Sanitary Service At Odds Over Contract Terms



HOLE IN THE GROUND—City workers who cut the trees at the old Sinclair property apparently got overzealous about their work and mistakenly cut down one or two trees which were on the property of the Post Office. City manager Robert Drumwright took responsibility for the boo boo as he gave the instructions, although the stone marker at the corner of the boundary (visible in the corner) line was overgrown by the tree. Postmaster Joseph Carver, who said he wasn't really sure if one or two trees were cut, said a mutually agreeable arrangement had been worked out to compensate for the loss. The city will do some free landscaping work for the post office.

Rose Charge Dropped

A Raeford man who was charged last May with several others in a widely publicized alleged prostitution ring was cleared last week when the charge was dropped by the District Attorney's office.

Paul Rose, owner of the Uptown Restaurant, was charged with aiding and abetting prostitution, a misdemeanor, in connection with an investigation by Fayetteville police into a modeling agency.

The charge was dismissed Sept. 13. Assistant Dist. Atty. Beth Keever said no witnesses could be located to testify.

More Arrests Made In Hog Heist Capers

Two of the four men charged by Hoke County authorities last month with hog rustling were arrested again last week near here and charged with more thefts.

Sylvester Locklear, 17, of Rt. 1, Box 120-B, Aberdeen, was arrested Sept. 14 at the Pembroke swine market while he was waiting in line with approximately 25 feeder pigs to sell, Sheriff D.M. Barrington said. Later the same day, Harley Junior Cummings, Rt. 3, Box 266, Raeford, was arrested on a nearby road. Both men were arrested Aug. 21 and charged with multiple felony counts involving a series of hog heists.

Upchurch Farms had reported the disappearance of 55 feeder pigs, worth \$2,200, early on the morning of Sept. 14. Barrington said Det. Alex Norton, accompanied by the farm overseer, David Warren, went to the Pembroke market and spotted Locklear in a pickup truck.

After Locklear was brought to Hoke County and jailed, Norton returned to the market and spotted a second pickup truck also loaded with about 25-30 pigs, the sheriff said. Apparently the driver of the pickup had spotted Norton and had slipped away, the sheriff said.

Cummings was taken into custody by Norton while walking down a nearby road.

Mayor Files To Run, Morris Nixes 3rd Term, Others Mum On Plans

Mayor John K. McNeill Jr. filed last week with the Board of Elections to run for a fifth term in the November election.

McNeill, 57, an employee of the Raleigh office of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, has been an elected official since 1952 when he ran for the city council. He was re-elected to the council until 1967 when he sought the mayor's post.

On the city council side, Sam C. Morris announced that he will not seek a third term.

Morris, 59, cited business responsibilities as interfering with the time required to be a city councilman.

Graham Clark, 61, and Benny McLeod, 41, both said this week they were undecided about filing again. Clark was re-elected to a fourth term in 1975 and McLeod was re-elected to a third term that year, outpolling all other candidates.

Neither Crawford Thomas Jr. or Bob Gentry, the other council members, could be reached Tuesday.

Filing period for candidates closes Oct. 10.

Jaycees Plan 'Scary' Halloween

The Raeford Jaycees announced plans for a "Haunted House" Halloween attraction with plenty of scary entertainment Oct. 29-31.

Robert Pecora, project chairman, said the entertainment has been done successfully by other Jaycee chapters throughout the country. He said the Haunted House will feature plenty of spine tingling sights, with the spirits of ghosts, witches, devils and demons for both children and adults to see.

Pecora also said that the Jaycees are hoping this sort of attraction will cut down on a lot of undesirable behavior on Halloween.

"It seems that Halloween brings a lot of pranksters and vandals. The pranksters' little bag of tricks used to consist of small and subtle objects of humor, but in recent years, they have graduated to such things as sabotaging children's treats with razor blades, poison, drugs and other horrible things," Pecora said.

"And then you have the vandals who will deal out \$500 worth of damage for the five cents of candy they missed. The end result of all this is a great fear on the part of parents and a disappointment for the kids," he said.

"The Jaycees would like to provide the sort of entertainment to make Halloween the scary and fun holiday it is supposed to be," he said.

Advance tickets for the Haunted House are \$1 apiece and will go on sale soon through Jaycee members.

A showdown between county officials and Sanitary Container Service Inc. over the firm's refusal to begin residential garbage collection within the county is expected within a week.

Joe Etheredge and Fred Snyder of Sanitary met with commissioners Monday night and said the company had received "very little response" from people who want house to house pickup.

Etheredge said that company policy requires that the service be curbside only and he told the four commissioners present that they had approved that rule in June when the contract was awarded.

"I'd like to straighten that out," Chairman John Balfour said. "The only thing we were approving was the rate of \$4.50 a month. We took no action on anything else."

"The number one complaint from the calls I've had is people just don't want to go out to the road with their garbage," he said.

Commissioner Danny DeVane criticized the firm for not providing house to house pickup in the two and one-half months since July 1 when the contract went into effect.

The contract requires that the firm provide service to customers who were previously getting service from Pickup Sanitation Service. However, it also requires that there be at least 10 homes located in a two-mile radius. Additionally, the contract does not specify whether the service shall be curbside only. Pickup Sanitation Service did not insist on curbside collection.

DeVane also criticized the firm's policy of pre-payment and said that was another reason why customers were reluctant to request service.

"People don't want to pay in advance if they don't know what they're going to get," he said.

Balfour and DeVane both said that some citizens wouldn't object to paying more than the \$4.50 rate if they could get their trash picked up behind their homes.

"People want it the way it was before. They might be willing to pay a little extra for the convenience," DeVane said.

"We'd like to start residential service tomorrow but we'd like to have it curbside. We can get it resolved but we'll have to get back to our vice-president. Company policy is curbside only," Snyder told the board.

The Sanitary representatives also said they were exploring the possibility of sub-contracting the service to another business.

Clyde Leach, owner of Pickup Sanitation Service, was in the audience during the meeting but he did not say anything.

The board did agree to share the cost of placing wire fences around approximately five dumpster sites to help control the spread of trash. The county's share would be about \$65 for each fence erected, County Manager T.B. Lester said.

Ambulance Grant

Against the recommendation of the county manager, the four commissioners (Ralph Barnhart was absent) voted to apply for a Governor's Highway Safety Program grant to obtain a new ambulance for use by the Hoke County Rescue Squad.

Lester explained that under new regulations effective July 1, the ambulance would be considered a "replacement" for a 1974 van the squad now is able to use under a "grandfather" clause. If the grant is approved and the new vehicle received, the van could not be used except under extraordinary circumstances.

"I can't see spending \$10,000 when that one is less than four years old and it doesn't have that much mileage on it," Lester said.

Under the formula for the grant, the county would pay one-half the cost of the vehicle, or about \$9,000-\$10,000.

DeVane, a former Rescue Squad member, argued strongly in favor of making the application and said the county could realize some money through the sale of the van. DeVane also said it would be a good idea to get as many ambulances and emergency vehicles as they could in case the county had to take over public ambulance service anytime in the future.

In an unusual move for him, Balfour made a motion not to go ahead with the application. After several more minutes of argument, Commissioner James A. Hunt agreed to second the motion if it was amended to mean that the county would place the funds in the budget for another time. Balfour's motion was not put to a vote since Hunt did not second it officially, apparently.

DeVane then made a motion to go ahead with the application with the stipulation that proceeds from the sale of the van are to be used to help pay the local share of the grant. Hunt then seconded that motion and it passed unanimously.

In an unrelated matter, the board unanimously approved the expenditure of \$400 to send ambulance drivers of the Rescue Squad to a training session. The motion was made by Hunt, who remarked "If we're going to spend \$10,000, another \$400 can't hurt".

Appointments

The board voted to participate in a state grant program concerning alternative care for juvenile offenders. \$5,250 has been allocated to Hoke for study and services. Under a new law effective next July 1, certain juvenile offenders may not be sent to training school and alternative care must be provided within the community, such as foster homes.

The board approved the appointments of George Barbour, Benjamin Niblock Hobart Freeman, Richard Alligood, James McLeod and J.K. McNeill Jr. to the juvenile committee.

In other appointments, Gerald Wright and Bill Altman were named to the Advancement, Inc., board.

Odom Roofing Co. was awarded work on a new roof for the courthouse annex. Its bid was \$576. Cost of the shingles will be approximately \$2,400, Lester estimated.

Next regular meeting of the board is Oct. 3 at 9 a.m.

A special meeting to review zoning ordinance proposals was set for 7:30 p.m. Oct. 6.