



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM -- Children enrolled in the Raeford Kindergarten, operated by Mrs. Fred Holland and Mrs. John Scull, presented a Christmas program Dec. 21 at Upchurch Junior High School for their parents. The group, clad in pajamas, sang several Christmas carols.

Library News

OVERDUE BOOKS LIST OF NAMES

Kenneth Carpenter, Toni Culbreth, Peggy Cecil, Alice W. Cancro, Rickey Chappell, Kellis Dawn Cox, Lynette Dial, Sara Patricia Daniels, Jerrol Davis, Jes-

sie Dupree, William Paul Dickens, Ava Gayle Eisenhour.

Mrs. Maxwell out

This is the time for all kinds of winter ailments and our Mrs. Maxwell is the first from the library to have flu. She was out all last week. It's nice to have her back.

Hoke Historian needed

State Library would like to know the names of any Hoke County folks who know a lot of old history of Hoke County. Maybe you are just that person. If so, please send your name in to State Library, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

New Year's resolutions

If you have made lots of New Year resolutions and find they are indeed hard to keep -- and because you will not be keeping all of them you can spend some of that extra time reading. You just wouldn't believe all the magazines we have unless you see for yourself. New

books are coming in every month for the young and young at heart. Let up help you do something quiet and restful.

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

Jan. 9
ARABIA -- Shirley Maxwell, Mrs. Crawley, Bertha Hendrix, William Harris, Betty Lou McGougan, Gerald Scriven, Aretha Ray, Lillian White, Helen Standley, Kenneth Bissett, Bonnie Cline, La Ronda Seado, Alice Evans, Gail Watson, Carylton Oxendine, Jamie Branscomb, Ellen Jane Stevens, Shiela Folder, Bonnie Henry, Clara E. Gleason, Sabrina Ann Lukehart.

Jan. 11
Helen Williams, Nadine Wadsworth, Brenda Tillman, Marlene Russie, Edna Couey, Janice-Jones, Cynthia Hardman, Angela Hammonds, Janet Vance, Rachel Hamm, Barbara Trout, Doris Boahn, Martha Moye, Tony Barefoot, Joyce Blackburn Merrijo Shaffer, Peggy Lynn Coble, Alford Patterson.

4-H Corner

The Raeford Junior 4-H Club met Dec. 5 to begin working on our Christmas project. Our project was

making Santa Jars for the children at McCain Hospital.

College News

Rev. Lester Sessoms, Jr., pastor of the Calvary United Methodist Church in Fayetteville, is on the dean's list at Methodist College, where he is a junior it was announced this week.

To make the dean's list, a 3.0 average is required. Sessoms is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Sessoms, Sr. of Raeford. He is married to the former Pam Smith of Raeford.

Following the meeting, the group was treated to a hot dog supper. The group met again on Dec. 12 to finish up our Christmas project.

Our guest speaker for this meeting was Mrs. Knight. Her topic was Christmas Seals.

Several members met Saturday, Dec. 17, to help promote the Christmas Seal drive. The proceeds were \$61.65. We would like to express our thanks to everyone who contributed to the drive.

Cardinal Health Agency Holds Final Hearing On Application

The Cardinal Health Agency Board of Directors conducted a final public hearing on its application for full designation as the health systems agency for southeastern North Carolina in Lumberton at 7 p.m., Wednesday night.

The application has been on public view since the first public hearing Nov. 30. Citizens are invited to submit oral or written comments, especially on the composition and qualifications of the board of directors.

The hearing and meeting were held in the board room of the Southern National Bank Building in Lumberton.

The Cardinal Planning Committee presented the Annual Implementation Plan for approval. The plan has been revised in light of comments from the public; the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (DHEW); and the State Health Coordinating Council.

The board also received recommendations from the Evaluation Committee concerning approval or

disapproval of three projects proposed for federal funding or reimbursement.

The board voted to submit the application for full designation to DHEW when it met immediately after the public hearing Wednesday night. Cardinal has operated since July 1976 as a conditionally designated agency under the National Health Planning and Development Act of 1974.

The application must include the Annual Implementation Plan as well as the long-range Health Systems Plan which was approved in August. The Planning Committee considered the revised plan at 3 p.m., Wednesday, in the Cardinal Health Agency office in Lumberton.

Following board approval, the Annual Implementation Plan was placed in the public libraries of each county in the area.

The Evaluation Committee met Tuesday in the Cumberland County Office Building to conduct public hearings on three projects. Cumberland Medical Center, the

250-bed private hospital proposed for Fayetteville, was approved for Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement a year ago. That approval was for one year. The proponents have requested a six-month extension for getting the \$12 million project underway.

Cardinal must also review the Cumberland County Health Department grant application for federal funding to construct a new public health center at a cost of \$5 million.

The committee will also consider the Wilmington Childhood Lead Poisoning Control Project grant application for continued federal funding amounting to \$49,567.

Cardinal is the health planning and resources development agency for Anson, Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, New Hanover, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson and Scotland counties.

All meetings of Cardinal Health Agency's board and committees are open to the public.



Who really controls agriculture? Is it government? After all, the President and Congress can tell farmers how much to plant and how much they will get for their crops on loan. Government regulatory agencies can tell farmers just about anything -- from how much dust can be stirred up on the farm to what to feed livestock.

How about big labor and big business? Big labor can refuse to load agricultural products for shipment, as they once did. Big labor can tell farm workers not to pick a crop and let it rot in the field, as they have done. Big business can decide what price farmers will pay for a tractor and whether any will be available.

Or how about banks? Any farmer who went through the depression will tell you the banks control agriculture. The banks can extend credit or foreclose mortgages and sell whole farms, equipment, livestock, everything. However, the banks don't control agriculture.

So who does? The answer is simple. It's the weather.

The weather has been responsible for all the boom and bust cycles, the feasts and famines going back to Bible days.

Consumers and farmers were reminded of the importance of weather this past summer. The drought in the West and Midwest spread to the Southeast, including North Carolina where over half the counties were declared disaster areas. It is the weather which largely determines if we have a surplus or just enough food and other agricultural commodities to get by on.

Government, big labor, big business, banks -- they all have a powerful impact on the agricultural industry ... and on the price consumers pay for their food and fiber. But it's Mother Nature with her many moods and unpredictable wand that really controls the situation.

Perhaps we should keep this in mind the next time we're looking for someone to vent our anger upon when we pay our grocery bill.

Farm Items

By W. S. Young, Agri. Extension Chairman
& Freddie O'Neal, Asst. Agri. Extension Agent

The USDA estimates that soil losses in the United States are reaching 10 tons per acre per year. Recent studies in the midwest show that losses on gently rolling farmland is six to eight tons per year and on steeply sloped farmland are much higher.

This drastic waste of a limited resource, not only contributes to the largest source of pollution of our nation's waterways in soil runoff, but is also extremely counter-productive. This continuous shifting of topsoils significantly reduces land productivity.

Farmers must utilize tillage practices and conservation methods that will stop this great loss. Someone has said the day will come when farmers will be held accountable for the proper management of our soils if we don't get our house in order first.

N.C. State plant pathologists have found that Venus and Saturn tomato varieties are more resistant to southern bacterial wilt if they are transplanted when seven or eight weeks old. Two and four week plants were almost as susceptible as the normally susceptible manual variety.

Farmers that are interested in having any types of test plots on their farms in 1978 should contact the county agents office. Plans will have to be made as to type, acreage and plot layout. Many chemical companies are interested in testing new products in the area and I would suggest that farmers cooperate. This gives local farmers a chance to see how it performs here in the county.



PERFORMANCE AWARD -- Mrs. Minnie S. Renegar of the XVIII Abn Corps and Ft. Bragg Adjutant General's Office, is presented the Department of the Army Certificate with a Sustained Performance Cash Award commending her for outstanding performance of duties and numerous special tasks during the last year. Major Robert P. Ives, assistant adjutant general, presented the award. Mrs. Renegar is supervisor of the Adjutant General Central Mail Room and has been a member of the Adjutant General's Office since 1951. She has received 12 Outstanding Performance Awards and 10 adopted Suggestion Awards. Mrs. Renegar is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Younger Stephens of Rockfish.

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BOW TIE BLOUSES, X-Sizes 38-44	10 ⁰⁰	8 ⁵⁰
COWL NECK BLOUSES, Asst. Solids	7 ⁹⁵	5 ⁸⁸
POLYESTER PANTS, Asst. Colors	6 ⁵⁰	4 ⁰⁰
LONG SLEEVE CARDIGANS, Prints	8 ⁰⁰	6 ⁸⁸
HI-FASHION BLOUSES w/Tie	10 ⁹⁵	8 ⁵⁰
PRINT LONG SLEEVE SKIVVY	7 ⁹⁵	5 ⁹⁵
POLY-GAB PANTS, Fly Front	9 ⁹⁵	7 ⁹⁵
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QUEEN SIZE PANT SUITS	13 ⁹⁵	11 ⁹⁵
POLY-RIB SHELLS	7 ⁰⁰	3 ⁸⁸
QUEEN SIZE PANTS	8 ⁹⁵	5 ⁹⁵

Many Other Items Too Numerous To List

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PRICES GOOD WHILE THE SUPPLY LASTS
MERCHANDISE DIRECT FROM OUR OWN FACTORY

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To All The Customers
Of Floral Fashions

With deep regrets I will be discontinuing my business as of Sat. Jan. 7. Due to the growing responsibilities of being a mother, I can no longer devote the time needed to operate the business well.

Your patronage has been deeply appreciated.

Joann L. Sessoms