

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Last week in the column was a letter from Mrs. Loyd Stinchcomb of Black Mountain. This writer made mention of some brothers and a sister of hers but as usual all of the names were not mentioned. It seems that in the Tapp family were five boys and four girls.

I called the names of four brothers and one sister but missed the oldest brother, Will Tapp who is still living here in Raeford and is 92 years young. From reports he is still going to the store every day and should live to see the century mark. Of the two sisters I didn't name, one of these, Mrs. Mary Helton, is at the Open Arms Nursing Home and the other one, Mrs. Hinson Walters, Dora, is now deceased.

Glad to bring this family roll up to date and I am sorry that some of the names were omitted. I will try to be more careful the next time I start writing about a family.

To the person that called this to my attention, many thanks.

While on the subject of things that happened in the years past, it brought to mind a letter I received yesterday from Kemmerer, Wy. When the letter was handed to me and it had the address in the corner of the envelope, the first thing that came to my mind was that someone was trying to sell me a spot just this side of heaven in that state. Anyway my curiosity got the best of me and I opened it anyway, rather than put it aside.

The message on the inside was a surprise and started me to thinking about the years I spent in the armed services. The letter was from a man that came into an outfit my brother, Spec and I served in during the closing months of World War II.

We were with an Engineer outfit outside Manila in the Philippines and were thinking more of coming home than the war. Three new officers came into the outfit and the letter was from one of these men. He had written the letter to all the officers of that outfit that he had the addresses of and of course this included my brother, Spec, who left Raeford in 1946. I could recall the three officers, but could not place name and face together.

Monday night the phone rang at the house and it was my brother, Spec, wishing me a happy birthday, and when I read him the letter he told me to send him a copy of the letter. My birthday was forgotten as we talked about officers and men of the outfit.

The man ended his letter with the following paragraph:

"I have some minimal ties with some of your states. My oldest boy graduated from the University of Oregon Medical School and married a Washington girl. One of my daughters married a North Carolina boy. I have two daughters in Texas and one of them is married to a Texan."

The man's name is C. Stuart Brown and he said he had been a judge for the past 14 years. Maybe his daughter is nearby in North Carolina. Stranger things have happened.

One closing remark is that I never thought that my younger brother had a better memory than yours truly.

A telephone call from Mrs. A.A. McInnis Monday said she was home from the hospital. She sounded cheerful, but was telling me she didn't feel up to writing the Rockfish News this week. I told her to rest up and get well before she undertook the task again.

When asked what they treated her for, she said, "I had run out of blood and they gave me some blood." Of course this brought forth the logical question, "Did they give you good blood?" She said she didn't know, but that her son, Thomas, had asked her if it was "mean" blood. Now you know a doctor wouldn't put "mean" blood into a 93 year young "red head."

All joking aside it was good to hear from Mrs. McInnis and we hope she soon starts feeling strong enough to give us some news from Rockfish.

I will not say anything about the weather because Skip Dickson said I wrote about it but never did anything about it. Enough said!

Four Local Candidates File



Juanita Edmund



J. Robert Saunders



J. A. Hunt



John Balfour

Four more candidates threw their hats into the local political ring during the past week, according to Rose W. Sturgeon, supervisor of elections for Hoke County.

Two incumbent commissioners and the clerk of court filed for re-election. And a second candidate filed for the office of sheriff.

In the race for Hoke County Sheriff, J. Robert Saunders of 110 Birch Circle filed Monday to have his name placed on the ballot for the May 2 Democratic primary.

Saunders is the second candidate to declare for the position. Raeford police detective Harvey Young entered the race last week.

Sheriff D.M. Barrington said last week that he plans to file for re-election the first of next month. The deadline for filing is Feb. 6.

Saunders is married to the former Sarah Jane Martin of Bladenboro. A Hoke County native, Saunders is employed at Summerfield Industries in maintenance.

When asked why he chose to run for the office of sheriff, Saunders said: "I felt like it was time for a change."

Incumbent commissioners J.A. Hunt and John Balfour also filed Monday. They will be seeking two of the three available seats on the Hoke board of county commissioners.

Balfour, originally appointed to the board by the Democratic Party Executive Committee to fill the un-expired term of Herman Gillis, will be seeking his fourth term on the board.

"I will strive to serve all the people of Hoke County and see that their tax dollars are spent wisely and that services are rendered as cheaply and effectively as possible," Balfour said.

He is a Hoke County farmer and is married to the former Joan Harlow of Lumberton. The Balfours have one child.

J.A. Hunt, owner of a trucking company and a grocery store, is seeking his second term on the board. He is married to the former Maggie Oxendine a Robeson County native. They have three children.

Hunt said in a statement to the press: "Today (Monday) I have filed for re-election to the Hoke County Board of Commissioners. I once again pledge that if I am elected, I will do my best to serve all the people of Hoke County. I am very proud of the progress our county has made in the last few years and I pledge to continue to work for progress, expansion of industry, county support of education and support of our volunteer fire department program. In supporting these programs, I promise not to forget our main responsibility -- the people of our county. I ask for and will deeply appreciate the support of each citizen of Hoke County."

Hunt is currently serving on the board of the Sandhill's Mental Health Center and the County Fire Board.

Juanita Edmund, clerk of superior court, filed for re-election to a second term Friday. Mrs. Edmund, having served as assistant clerk of court since 1968, was appointed acting clerk of court following the death of E.E. Smith in 1974. She was named by the Democratic Party Executive Committee to fill the slot left vacant by Smith in the Nov. election. She had no republican opposition.

She is married to Boyd Edmund and they have one child. A member of the First Baptist Church, Mrs. Edmund has also served on the Board of the Hoke County Association for Developmentally Disabled.

"I feel my experience qualifies (See CANDIDATE, Page 9)



David Parnell

Parnell Enters Race

David Parnell from Parkton has announced that he will be a candidate for re-election to the N.C. House of Representatives.

Parnell will be seeking re-election to his third term to one of three positions from the 21st Legislative District which is composed of Hoke, Robeson and Scotland Counties.

During the 1977 legislative session, Parnell was vice-chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture and the House Appropriation Base Budget Committee. He was co-chairman of the Joint Senate - House in the final drafting of the 1977 Appropriation bill.

In a statement, Parnell said that his experience and seniority gained during the past two legislative sessions would make him even more effective in serving the people of the 21st Legislative District.

He also stated that if elected, he would conduct himself responsibly in all matters before The General Assembly and would represent all of the people of Hoke, Robeson and Scotland Counties to the best of his ability.

Parnell, a Baptist, has been active in his church, serving as a Sunday school teacher, deacon and various other offices in The Parkton Baptist Church. He has also served as a member of The Robeson Baptist Association Executive Committee and at the recent session of The N.C. Baptist Convention. He was elected to The Board of Trustees of Meredith College at Raleigh.

Parnell, a Robeson County businessman and farmer, has not yet filed for the office, but he stated that he intends to do so within the next week.

Jobless

Hoke County's unemployment rate dropped by two-tenths of one per cent for the month of November.

According to the Bureau of Employment Security Research, the unemployment rate for Oct. was 7.7 per cent. The figures for Nov. were 7.5 per cent.

The figures represent estimates of the total labor force, total employment and total unemployment. With a total work force of 8,010, unemployment rate indicates that 600 people in Hoke County were out of work in Nov.

Board To Inspect Park Site

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners agreed Monday night to inspect a piece of land west of Raeford that has been proposed as the site for a county park.

If the board approves the 50-acre site, the county Recreation Commission will begin negotiations for purchase of the land.

Members of the commission appeared before the board at its regular meeting Monday night and said that plans at the park call for two baseball and two softball

fields, an all-purpose field (suitable for soccer, football and other activities), a swimming pool, four tennis courts, an all-purpose court, picnic shelters and facilities, a tot-lot, playground area, and parking lot.

Twenty-five thousand dollars in Revenue Sharing money has been allocated for development of the park, and members of the Recreation Commission said Monday they hoped to get a matching grant from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

Once the land has been purchased, members of the commission said they felt the project might be in line for various federal grants.

In other business at Monday's meeting, board chairman John Balfour welcomed County Manager James Martin to his first official meeting with the board. Monday was Martin's first day in his new position as Hoke County Manager. He was hired by the board at its last regular meeting Jan. 3.

County Tax Collector Elizabeth Livingston told the board that collections were four percent behind what they were a year ago.

"In the past I haven't done much foreclosing," she told the board, "but it seems to me I'm going to have to do things I haven't done in the past."

The board reaffirmed its support of her efforts to collect taxes and told her to use whatever means she had to perform her duty.

According to a vote of the board, Four-County Community Services, Inc. will be exempt from license and inspection fees for weatherization services. The non-profit organization helps the poor insulate their homes.

At the request of Tax Supervisor Les Simpson, the board granted an extension for tax listing, on an individual basis, to March 31. In order to take advantage of this extension, a taxpayer must ask Simpson for it and justify it to him, he told the board. Extensions will be considered on a case by case basis, he said. Otherwise the deadline for listing is Jan. 31.

The board approved plans by the Antioch Fire District to construct a fire station and purchase fire protection equipment with financial assistance from Farmers Home Administration.

The board appointed W. B. McDiarmid, Herbert C. Gillis and Henry Dial to the board of trustees of the Antioch Community Center.

County Manager Martin brought to the attention of the board the fact that the City of Raeford will begin exercising its right of extra-territorial building inspections in the one-mile zone outside the city limits. The Raeford City Council adopted an ordinance to that effect at its Jan. 9 session.

Boy Scout Troop 401 will fly the Scout Flag at the courthouse Feb. 6-10 in honor of Boy Scout Week. The board approved the request Monday night.

The next regular meeting of the board of commissioners is scheduled for Feb. 6.

Groups Raise Funds For Cerebral Palsy

Proceeds from a student-faculty basketball game, to be held at Hoke High School next Wednesday, Jan. 25, will go to the United Cerebral Palsy campaign, it was announced this week.

The contest will begin at 7:30 at MacDonald Gym and admission will be \$1. The game is being sponsored by the student government.

A drawing will be held at the game for a UNC at Chapel Hill autograph basketball, signed by members of the UNC basketball squad. Balloons will be on sale and a disco dance will be held in the gym after the game. Admission to the dance will be 50 cents, with all proceeds going to the Cerebral Palsy campaign.

The V.F.W. - sponsored Teen Club has opened a Cerebral Palsy canister drive in Raeford and Red

Springs, according to Mrs. Kenneth Stallings of Red Springs, chairman and adult advisor.

Canisters with posters have been placed in business establishments throughout the two towns. The Bank of Raeford and Southern National Bank are also participating in the fund raising drive. Each bank has placed a fish bowl in the bank for contributions.

Acting as co-chairman for the drive is Crissy Sawyer.

Members of the Teen Club committee are Debra Leaza, Ronda Atkinson, Debra and Pam Long, all of Raeford. Red Springs members are Jennifer Knight, Lucky Hughes, Sandy Belmain, Susie Tyndall, Robert Mathews and Craig Wyrick.

The annual telethon for United Cerebral Palsy will be held Feb. 4-5 and viewed over WRAL-TV, Channel 5, from Raleigh.

Girl Scout Cookie Sale To Begin Soon

Girl Scouts in Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council's 20 counties including Hoke, will begin their annual cookie sale on Jan. 27. Girls will be taking orders through Feb. 13.

The cookie sale is a major source of income to keep Girl Scouting on the move and growing. Proceeds are used for on-going programs and services, for purchase of equipment and for maintenance and development of Girl Scout property.

Troops receive a bonus for each

box sold to help finance their own programs and community projects. Through the cookie sale, girls are trained in salesmanship, planning, and budgeting.

Girl Scouts have been raising funds through the sale of cookies since 1936. Some 70 million boxes of cookies are expected to be sold nationally this year.

If you are not contacted by a Girl Scout and wish to order cookies, please call area cookie chairman, Chairman for Hoke county is Becky Brown, Raeford, 875-4264.



COOKIE TIME AGAIN -- Members of Brownie Troop 17, Dana English [center] and Amy Jordan, present a box of girl scout cookies to Becky Jones of The News-Journal to remind people that the annual cookie sale will be underway here in the next few months. Orders for six varieties of cookies will be taken from Jan. 27 till Feb. 3. The cookies will be delivered and money collected March 14-30. The scout troops will get 15 cents per box sold, at \$1.25 a box. Dana English is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ricky English, and Amy Jordan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Jordan of Raeford.

Jaycees Sell Jelly To Aid Burn Victims

Members of the Raeford Jaycees are knocking on doors this week in an effort to celebrate "Jaycee Jelly Week."

This week was designated "Jelly Week" in a proclamation by Mayor J.K. McNeill. By buying jars of jelly, residents of Raeford and Hoke County can help burn victims of North Carolina.

The burn center will be located in Chapel Hill and will aid in the resuscitation, reconstruction, rehabilitation and research for burn victims of the state.

William McDonald, assistant controller of The House of Raeford Farms, Inc., was named chairman of the Raeford Jaycees' 4th annual "Jelly Week" by Burnett Coleman, club president.

"A goal of 600 jars of jelly has been set for Raeford and Hoke County, and I am quite confident the citizens of our city won't let the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center down," McDonald said.

So during the week, when a Jaycee knocks on your door, buy a mug of jelly and help the burn victims of North Carolina.