

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The temperature in Raeford Tuesday morning was around 14 degrees according to who and where the thermometer was read. The weatherman on television Monday night at Durham said the chill factor was minus 10 degrees. Now this is a little too cold for this writer. According to the forecast, it will not start warming until the weekend. Then it will get into the forties during the daylight hours. So keep reading this column and maybe it will bring forth warmer weather in the near future.

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This writer received a paper from Dayton, Ohio Monday and it was from Johnnie Pate, a native of Hoke County and a former Army friend during World War II. The paper had stories and pictures of the blizzard that hit Ohio last week and told of the many incidents of kindness and of how people were going out of the way to help a neighbor. A picture on the front page of the paper showed a man and his wife standing in a tunnel that was dug to get them out of their home.

The snow bank covered the roof of the house and the article said that drifts were up to 15 feet. So maybe we don't have it so bad!

Anyway, since this paper was printed, another snow storm has hit the northern part of the country and things may be in a worse condition than was described in the paper.

Thanks Johnnie for the paper and throw another log on the fire and keep warm.

Another article that came across my desk was a report from the Grandfather Mountain weather station. It stated that January, 1978, seemed mighty cold, but there were only eight days (five were consecutive) that registered below zero temperatures compared to 14 in January, 1977.

The article also stated that this cold and snowy January was perfect for the area ski slopes. It wasn't too cold and snowy, like last January, and as a result, slope operators agree that there was a dramatic increase in skiers over January, 1977.

So you see this winter has been mild compared to last winter and the outdoor types are having a big time playing in the snow.

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The filing for political office came to the end on Monday, and from all reports there will be a race for all offices.

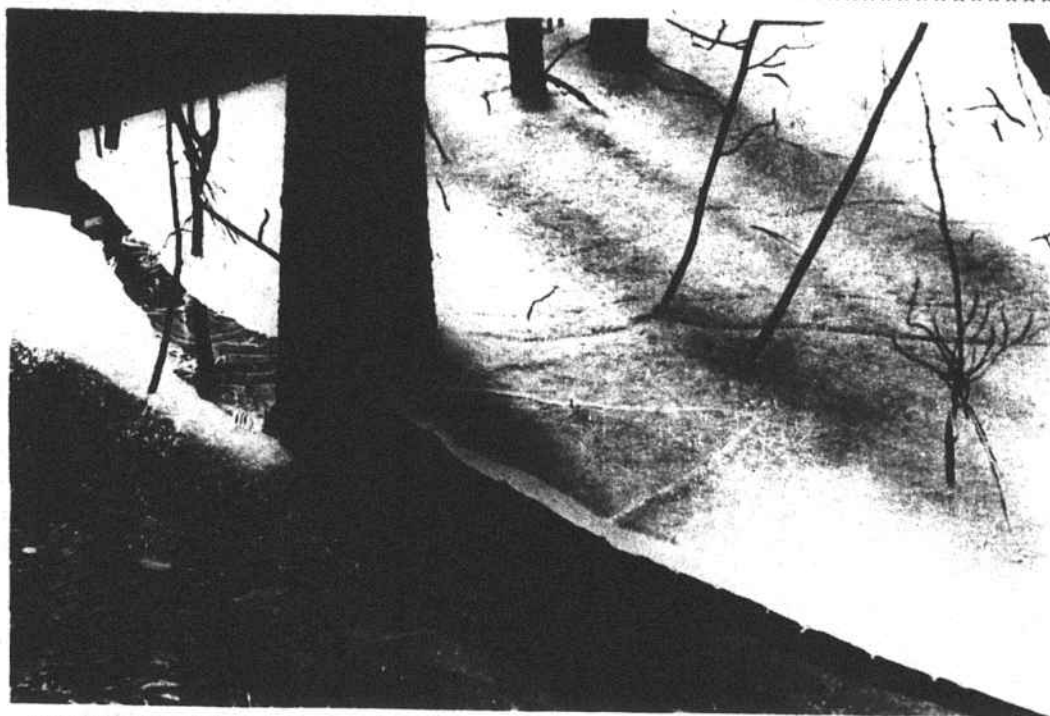
The three seats on the Board of Education top the field of candidates with eight filing for the November election. This is the race where the three high will go into office.

This will be the first time in many years when we have contests in the sheriff and clerk of court races. Of course, don't forget the coroner's race and three must be elected from a field of seven for county commissioner.

With the senate and congressional races, along with many judges to be nominated, it seems it will be a lively primary, May 2.

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# Raeford Manager To Resign



ICY WEATHER - As temperatures continue to plunge below freezing night after night, ice is beginning to build up in areas of Hoke County. The picture above was taken near the Lumber River just off Highway 401 in the southern part of the county.

## Cash Needed For Operation

An operation could mean the difference in 15-year-old Mitchell Royal's fight against leukemia if the family can raise the necessary \$3,000 to go to Seattle, Wash.

Mitchell is the son of Mrs. Nadine Lockey, who works at Summerfield Industries Inc. here in Raeford. They live in Vander, near Fayetteville.

The doctors at the cancer center at Duke University have been treating Mitchell for almost two months and want to send him, his twin brother and his mother to the University of Washington Medical Center because it has the most experience in bone marrow transplants.

Dr. Joseph Moore, a cancer specialist at Duke, said Mitchell has a type of leukemia which is highly treatable.

"Mitchell is in the very unique position of having an identical twin which gives him the unique opportunity of having a bone marrow transplant without many of the attendant problems most people have when bone marrow is transplanted from people who are not identical," Dr. Moore said.

The doctor said the chances are

good that this operation will cure the boy's leukemia. But the major obstacle blocking the transplant is the family's lack of money to pay their expenses to Seattle.

Dr. Moore said the family's health insurance is good, but it can't take care of a major operation such as the transplant nor the living expenses while out there.

Mitchell's grandmother, Mrs. Hazel Jordan, said the family has contacted charitable organizations but they have offered no help.

An effort is being made locally to raise money for the family. Contributions can be sent in care of The News-Journal, Elwood Ave., Raeford, or to the family, Box 140, Rt. 2, Fayetteville. Checks should be made payable to Mitchell Royal Fund. Contributions will be tax deductible. The fund is being handled by First Federal Bank of Stedman.

Mitchell went back to Duke this week for final tests before the family goes to Seattle next Monday, if the money is available. He has been out of school since December when the disease was discovered. At first he thought he was coming down with the flu when he began

feeling weak.

"I just started giving out and didn't feel like doing anything. I got tired out at school and felt like I was getting the flu," he said.

But soon he began having nosebleeds that lasted for an hour and then bruises appeared.

"I got bruises and it didn't seem that people hit me that hard," he said.

He went from 195 to 152 pounds and was taken to Moore Memorial Hospital when blood tests confirmed he had leukemia. He was sent to Duke that same afternoon.

## Deadline Is Next Week

The final date for purchasing 1978 automobile license tags or stickers will be next Wednesday, Feb. 15. Persons driving cars not displaying the 1978 tags after midnight on that date will be in violation of the law. The tags may be purchased at the local state license tag office located behind the Chamber of Commerce on Edinborough Ave.

## Board Awards Bids

The Board of County commissioners awarded a \$345 bid Monday for construction at the jail to allow easier access to the breathalyzer.

The bid was awarded to G.F. Bowen Construction for work consisting of cutting a new door. Also included in the bid was the permanent closing of a steel door.

Hoke County Sheriff Dave Barrington said the door would lead directly from the jailer's room into an interview room. Before, the interview room could be entered only through the cell block. The breathalyzer will be moved into the interview room.

The door will provide easier access to the breathalyzer and is necessary, Barrington said, because the jail frequently becomes crowded on weekends. He also said the room will still serve as an interview room as well as a place for administering the breathalyzer test.

Commissioners also awarded a \$12,612 bid to McGirt Plumbing and Electrical Service for plumbing for the new addition to the health center.

In other business, commissioners accepted a petition from property owners at Scurlock Court and Shawtown for addition and improvement to State Road 17. A public hearing was held at 11 a.m. to consider the permanent closing of State Road 1221 at McCain. No one attended the hearing and commissioners approved the resolution that had been requested by the state to permanently close the road.

Two new members were appointed to the board of trustees of Antioch Community Center. They were Mrs. F. C. McPhaul and Walter L. Gibson. A contract budget of \$1750.00 with the State Department of Human Resources for maternal and child health services was approved.

Several reports were given including an annual report from Sheriff Barrington.

Commissioners set Feb. 20 as the date for a public hearing to consider a request from the State Department of Transportation for secondary road construction and secondary bond allocation for an 18 month program. The hearing will be held in the commissioner's conference room at 8 p.m.

Raeford City Manager Robert G. Drumwright said Tuesday morning that he is resigning his position here because he is "ready for something else." There is a possibility that he may further his education, he said.

He denied a report that his resignation has been prompted by personality conflicts within city government.

Drumwright tendered his resignation at the close of Monday night's regular meeting of the Raeford City Council. He told the board he would like to vacate his position March 3.

"As far as I know, I will be available after March 3," he told the board. "but I want to make it official in case something happens."

The board did not accept his resignation at the meeting. Instead, the matter was tabled.

Drumwright, 30, assumed his duties here in Feb. of 1976 after working four and a half years as finance officer and tax collector for the City of Graham, N.C. A native of Alamance County, he received a degree in business administration at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### Insurance

In other business at the council meeting, the board discussed insurance coverage for the city's 38 volunteer firemen but took no action.

It was learned last month that the city failed to renew a group accident policy with Nationwide because the city manager felt it might constitute a conflict of interest for the city to buy the insurance through Vardell Hedgpeth, Nationwide's local agent, who was elected last Nov. to the city council.

Hedgpeth read a letter at Monday's meeting from the State Attorney General's Office which said there was no clear cut violation since there is no contract between the city and the fire department. However, Hedgpeth said he would rather not handle the policy since the city pays the premium.

"My main concern is for the firemen," Hedgpeth said. "I think we need extra coverage for them over and above workman's compensation."

"Personally, I didn't like the way it was handled," he said.

He said he wasn't notified by the city manager about his failing to renew the policy. He said he thought the matter should have been discussed before such action was taken.

Through workman's compensation, volunteer firemen can draw disability payments if injured on duty. (See RESIGNS, Page 14)

# Seven File Before Election Deadline

Seven candidates filed for public office this week as the filing period came to a close, according to Rose Sturgeon of the Hoke County Board of Elections.

The race for clerk of superior court gained a second candidate just before the filing period closed at noon Monday. Adding her name to the ballot for the May 2 primary was Miss Betty McFadyen. The only other candidate in that race is incumbent clerk Juanita Edmonds.

The race for the three seats up for election on the board of county commissioners increased by two this week. Mabel Riley and Clinton McLaughlin will make a bid for those seats bringing the total on the ballot to seven. Others in the race are Younger F. Snead, Jr., Wesley Miller, Robert L. Doby and incumbent commissioners J. A. Hunt and John Balfour. Ralph Barnhart, third incumbent, will not seek re-election.

Filing for seats on the school board were Stephen Benkosky, Elias Rogers, Richard Coker and Bill Cameron. This swells the field to eight. Three seats are up for election this year. Other candidates for the board are Walter N. Coley, D. R. Huff, Jr., William L. Poole, Jr., and Dr. Riley Jordan.

W. L. Howell and R. L. Gibson are not seeking re-election. Dr. Jordan will be the only incumbent on that ticket.

According to Rose Sturgeon, no candidates have filed for the positions of Soil and Water Conservation Supervisors. Seats held by R. E. Neely and J. Woodrow Hayes are up for election this year. The filing period for those positions does not

end until July 7.

### Betty McFadyen

Miss Betty McFadyen, former deputy and assistant clerk of superior court, filed in the race for clerk of superior court. She is a life-long resident of this county and is a graduate of Hoke High School. She attended Louisburg College and Appalachian State University. Miss McFadyen served as deputy and assistant clerk of superior court. She has had 10 year's experience as accounting clerk in the office of the county manager.

Miss McFadyen said, "I feel that with my past experience in the clerk's office and in the county manager's office that I am well qualified to serve the people of

(See FILES, Page 14)



CANDIDATE - Frank Crumpler, incumbent candidate for the office of Hoke County coroner, will face Tony Buie, another local funeral director, at the polls in the May Democratic primary. Crumpler serves as a fireman and is chairman of the March of Dimes campaign and the Cancer Society. He is a graduate of the Cincinnati School of Embalming and owns and operates Crumpler's Funeral Home.



Stephen Benkosky



Mabel Riley



William Cameron



Richard Coker



Clinton McLaughlin



Betty McFadyen



Elias Rogers