

Around Town

BY SAMC. MORRIS

Most of the farmers in Hoke County are hard to find these days. Since the sun has replaced the rain most of them are out in the fields. Some are debating whether to plow up cotton and plant soybeans instead. One farmer told me this would be the smallest cotton crop for Hoke County in many years.

From reports some of the local green thumb gardeners are replanting. Maybe fresh vegetables will still come forth this year.

Mrs. Joe Stanley of the Raeford Junior Woman's Club was by the office last week and said the club would once again put out containers for scrap or old papers at the Edinborough Shopping Center. The paper drive will be Saturday and Sunday, May 27 and 28.

We have received many calls here at the office concerning paper drives, so we are glad to pass on this information.

Kill two birds with one stone, help the club and also get rid of old papers.

Last Sunday night at the Raeford Presbyterian Church, Dr. and Mrs. John Ropp showed slides and related some of their experiences while on their trip to the Holy Land. The fellowship hall was filled and those that were in attendance left feeling as if they made the trip with them.

Most of the time when you attend a club meeting or similar occasion and someone is telling about a trip it becomes boring or you sometimes catch yourself letting your mind wander. This was not so last Sunday night, because I have never seen anyone that seemed to have received as much from a trip, or could relate their experiences with as much enthusiasm. If you haven't talked to Dr. Ropp, take time out and listen for awhile. It will be worth your time.

It was good to see Mrs. H.C. McLaughlin and her son, Tom and his wife, Alice, last Sunday. They were down for the day from Charlotte.

Mrs. McLaughlin, who lived here for many years and occupied the home now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Upchurch on N. Main Street, looked in the best of health and as young a when she was here. To people that don't know Mrs. McLaughlin, she taught me in Sunday School in the late 1920's. So nice to see the McLaughlins and hope they will come back soon. They did say they read The News-Journal every week.

Bob Gentry was by the office Tuesday and was telling me about the American Legion baseball team that Post 20 will sponsor this year. He said that boys from Hoke High, Southview and Red Springs would be eligible to play on the team. The team will be coached by Johnny McMillan and Doug Waits. There will be seven home games and the first game will be Sunday afternoon at three o'clock. Regular season passes will be available to the public from any member of the legion. No regular price, just a donation.

Gentry states that prospects indicate that the post will have an excellent team.

The post will sponsor a Fish Fry, Friday, June 2, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the parking lot beside Macks in the Edinborough Shopping Center. Price, only \$2.00 per plate. Get your ticket from any Legionaire. Proceeds will go to the baseball team.

Go by, eat and help the boys play ball.

Every once and awhile people who work on a newspaper are asked to serve on some kind of a committee. A few weeks ago someone called me and asked if I would serve on the committee to select the "Teacher of the Year" for Hoke County Schools. I accepted, but didn't know what was in store for me.

I went out to the High School a (See AROUND TOWN, Page 15)

Officials Consider Air Zone Changes

Committee Advises Against County Ambulance Service

On the advice of a special committee, the Hoke County Board of Commissioners has decided not to go into the ambulance business. The board opened bids on the service Tuesday morning and will award the contract at its June 5th meeting.

Four bids were received: Daniel H. Morrison, \$100,000; Kenneth Douglas, \$119,000; Spring Lake Ambulance Service, \$45,000; and Toney Buie, \$102,063 (for 1978-79), \$109,000 (for 1979-80), and \$117,293 (for 1980-81).

The contract is automatically

Hoke Woman Files Suit

A Hoke County woman has brought suit against a Red Springs firm, alleging that one of its salesmen sexually assaulted her last year while she was waiting to have her car repaired.

In a civil suit, Ms. Theresa McCraney of Raeford charges that Michael Flanagan, a car salesman for Red Springs Motors, drove her to an unspecified location while she was waiting to have her car fixed and "reduced her willpower with alcohol and/or drugs." She claims he then assaulted her.

The suit contends that Red Springs Motors is responsible for Flanagan's alleged actions and seeks \$250,000 in actual damages and \$50,000 in punitive damages.



AWARDS -- Local Raeford Jaycee members attended a state convention in Raleigh last weekend. Displaying awards won there are (L-R) Wayne Mills, Doug Baker, Tommy Connell, Burnett Coleman, Ken Koonce, Billy McDiarmid, Robert Pecora, Mike Crowder and William McDonald.

Jaycees Win Awards At State Convention

Members of the Raeford Jaycees attended the North Carolina Jaycees State Convention in Raleigh this past week-end where they participated in the elections of the new state officers for the year of 1978-79.

The Raeford Jaycees also attended the State Awards Banquet where they received 19 awards for their activities during the 77-78 Jaycee year.

Three Raeford Jaycees received individual awards during the awards ceremony Friday night. Jaycee Kenneth Koonce, now president of the Raeford Jaycees, was recognized as being in the top 10 Spokes in the State of North Carolina while Robert Pecora was awarded as being in the top 10 Sparkplugs in the State. Burnett Coleman, 1977-78 president, was singled out also as being one of the Outstanding Local Presidents in the state and was presented the Outstanding Local President Award by State President John Fletcher.

The Raeford Jaycee Chapter also received many awards which are listed below:

First Place Award in Division III in Parade of Chapter Points; One-A-Month Award for recruiting one member per month; The Giessenbier Award for having the

renewable every three years unless either the county or the provider wants to terminate it.

The board voted earlier this month not to renew its contract with Toney Buie. At that time a special committee was appointed to study the possibility of the county's running its own ambulance service.

Commission Chairman John Balfour said Tuesday the committee recommended that the county stay out of the ambulance business. The projected annual operating cost of a county-run service was \$102,900. Buie has been receiving a \$25,000 subsidy from the county to provide 24-hour ambulance service. His contract expires June 30.

Last month it was revealed that Buie did not have enough Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) to man the ambulances properly. A state law requires that an EMT ride in the back of the ambulance with the patient on all emergency runs.

According to Buie's records, more than 100 emergency runs earlier this year were made without EMTs. Since that time, additional personnel have been hired.

Garbage Contract

The board opened bids on the collection of garbage in the county. In all, seven bids were received. The board will award the contract at its June 5th meeting.

The low bid was submitted by Carolina Waste Systems, Inc. at \$53,628. Sanitary Container Ser-

vice, which currently holds the contract, was third lowest, with a bid of \$56,244.

Landfill

A state inspector called off-site erosion at the county landfill "a major violation" of state regulation and warned county officials that legal action would be taken unless the problem was corrected within 10 days.

The landfill was inspected last week. And Tuesday the board of commissioners was told that work had begun on a sedimentation basin at the landfill. It should be finished in the next 10 days, the board was told.

Because of the urgency of the situation, there wasn't enough time to advertise for bids on the project, which reportedly is costing \$1,600. Commissioners said the City of Raeford has known about the problem for the last six months and had promised to do something about it.

The board voted to meet with the Raeford City Council on June 5 to discuss landfill problems.

Courthouse Roof

Leaks are general in the courthouse roof, the board was told by an architect at Tuesday's meeting. The roof will cost between \$6,000 and \$10,000 to replace, and the board authorized architects to advertise for bids on the project.

The Hoke County Courthouse has recently been nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Runoff Election Next Week

Only four names will appear on the ballot in next Tuesday's runoff election. Two races were left undecided by the May 2 Democratic primary.

Charlotte businessman Luther Hodges and N.C. Insurance Commissioner John Ingram will have another go at each other to see which one will face incumbent Republican Jess Helms in the November general election for a seat in the U. S. Senate.

Although Hodges led a field of eight candidates in the primary, he fell just short of getting 40 percent of the vote. Ingram called for the runoff.

Horace Locklear and William Gay will face each other in a runoff for a seat in the N.C. House of Representatives from the 21st District of Hoke, Robeson and Scotland counties. Only about 170 votes separated the two candidates in the primary.

The polls will open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

Pilot Wins Crop-dusting Competition

A Raeford man won a \$200 award for the best spraying and distribution pattern at the N. C. Agricultural Aviation Association's (NCAA) Spring Fly-In last Saturday.

Larry Upchurch was awarded the prize after he came the closest to spraying a perfect pattern at the Laurinburg - Maxton Airport. Competitors sprayed a pattern laid out for them by the NCAA.

The NCAA represents about 100 agricultural pilots who spray by air. It includes industrial members that supply spraying equipment.

Upchurch, a Raeford native, is married and has two children.

Upchurch, a local cropduster, attributed his win to the performance of his airplane, a 1978 Cessna Agrtruk.

Military and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials are considering changes in a military zone that has been proposed for Hoke County, it was learned this week.

FAA Administrator Langhorne Bond sent a letter to 7th District Congressman Charles Rose in which he says that, as a result of concerns expressed by citizens at a meeting here April 13, his office "is working closely with the military in an attempt to resolve any detrimental effects the MOA would have on the town of Raeford and the airport."

The letter goes on to say "proposed modification of the MOA would establish an access corridor to Raeford Airport, raise the MOA floor over the airport to an altitude that will provide for adequate operations and traffic patterns, and establish an MOA floor of 3,000 feet over the city of Raeford."

Bond told Rose his office will notify him of the fiscal results of negotiations with the military. The letter is dated May 5.

The MOA, or Military Operations Area, has caused much concern among local residents ever since it was discovered at the first of the year that officials were planning to chart the zone in the skies over Raeford and surrounding areas.

Military and FAA spokesmen have called the zone a safety measure and have said repeatedly that it will not have any adverse impact on the area. However, in spite of such assurances, the local residents are suspicious of the zone.

They fear that military activity in the area will increase once the zone is established and the resulting noise from the jet aircraft will hurt the local economy.

For years fighter planes flying ground support missions for infantry troops at Fort Bragg have circled in holding patterns over Hoke County. The MOA would concentrate these patterns into a defined area around Raeford. The zone would appear on aviation charts to let pilots unfamiliar with the area know that "something unusual is going on."

Congressman Rose has also received a letter from Fort Bragg Commander Lt. Gen. Volney F. Warner, which reads in part:

"As you know, the FAA is responsible for the establishment of MOAs. The Military Services have been directed to comply with new FAA order which restricts Air Force high speed fighter aircraft from operating below 10,000 feet unless they operate in designated airspace such as a MOA. The FAA tells us that MOAs must be established in the Fort Bragg area if we are to continue to receive Air Force Close Air Support. This support is an essential part of our combat readiness training and must continue.

"Few complaints have been received from local citizens regarding this Air Force support. From our vantage point, formal recognition of the MOAs will not result in an increased level of fighter activity in the Fort Bragg area. Without the MOAs, there is insufficient airspace within the Fort Bragg reservation to accommodate both the maneuvering of fighter aircraft and Army field training involving such activities as paradrops, helicopter operations, artillery, mortar and other weapons firing.

"I have recently been informed that the Air Force and FAA are currently negotiating an FAA proposal which would raise the minimum altitude of the south Hoke County MOA from 500 feet to the 2,000-3,000 foot level over the City of Raeford and its airport. We are hopeful that this higher altitude proposal will meet the requirements of the Air Force while also reducing the impact on Hoke County communities.

(See MOA, Page 15)

Bouyer Gets DSS Post

Clayton Bouyer, 51, a Raeford merchant, was recently appointed to the Hoke County Social Service Board to fill the post left vacant by Mrs. Betty L. Rogers, whose term has expired.

Bouyer is the owner and operator of the Bait Bucket. He is a life-long resident of Hoke County. A member of the American Legion, Bouyer and his wife, Janet, have three children. They attend the Raeford Presbyterian Church.

As a member of the social services board, Bouyer will serve for three years. No member is allowed to serve more than two terms. Two members are appointed by the state, two by the county commissioners and the remaining member is appointed by the board itself.

Currently serving on the board are Mrs. Bertha Hendrix, Mr. Hallie Blythe, Mr. Neil McPhatter and Mrs. Irene Israel.

Bouyer's appointment is effective July 1.

Baucom Named Hoke Teacher Of The Year

A Hoke High English teacher this week was voted Teacher of the Year for Hoke County.

Mrs. Sarah Baucom, who has taught in the high school for the past 16 years, was selected by a representative group of teachers, community leaders and a student.

She was born and raised in Maxton where she graduated from Maxton High School. Mrs. Baucom received her teaching degree from Flora Macdonald College

where she majored in history. She taught for four years at J. W. McLaughlin School and, after marrying Ransom Baucom of Raeford, she taught ninth grade English at Sanford Junior High. She has been teaching ninth and tenth grade English for the past 16 years at Hoke High.

As a member of the Raeford United Methodist Church, she has served in many areas of church work and is a member of the Raeford Woman's Club, the North Carolina Association of Educators and the National Education Association.

Mrs. Baucom believes in daily homework, reading and returning all student papers, and an orderly yet relaxed classroom. She has a genuine interest in each of her students and the respect of her fellow faculty members and students, a school official said.

Each school in the county selected a nominee for the selection committee to review. Nominations were as follows: Mrs. Joyce Dial, McLaughlin; Mrs. Mary Jones, Seurlock; Mr. Harold Livingstone, West Hoke; Mrs. Nellie Flowers, South Hoke; Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Raeford Elementary; Mrs. Gladys Colson, Upchurch; and Mrs. Sarah Baucom, Hoke High.



Mrs. Sarah Baucom