

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Well ole man Winter finally arrived and Tuesday morning I turned the heat on in the office. I don't know how low it was but it must have been in the upper thirties or low forties. Anyway the temperature was not suppose to get into the 70s for the next day or so.

If we don't get some rain before long Robert Gatlin will lose his job as rain chart drawer for the paper. Last month we had less than an inch of rain and this month, so far, it is about the same.

All any of us can do is talk or write about the weather but we can't change it. Enough said.

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This writer received a letter last week from a former Hoke Countian who now lives in Savannah, Ga. Of course the subject of his letter concerning the naming of the town of Raeford was answered in this column several weeks ago. Anyway the letter follows:

Dear Sam:

In last week's paper about the courthouse it was stated that Raeford was named for the McRae family, but you did not go far enough. Raeford was named for two families. The RAE came from the McRae name and the FORD came from the A.A. Williford family. Williford was a farmer and businessman at that time. He was married to my father's sister.

Sam, I enjoy reading *The News-Journal* very much. Because it keeps me informed about the few friends (that are still living) that I have there. I have been a subscriber since 1925.

Neill D. Currie

Thanks Neill for the letter and I know that you saw the paper the next week that agreed with your letter. Mr. Currie is an uncle of David Scott and James Currie and was a long time boyhood resident of the county.

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On Monday, October 9, 1978 a feature appeared in *The Fayetteville Observer* headed "Milkman Still Busy With City Rounds." It was written by Elizabeth Geimer of the *Observer* staff. The article featured Tracy Cottingham of Fayetteville who has been delivering milk for Sycamore Dairy for 27 years. Now Tracy lived in Raeford and went to school here back in the 1930's. He also left here with the National Guard on September 16, 1940.

In reading the article you can see that this man loves his work and that the early morning hours of delivering milk seems to agree with him. If you haven't read it you should because it shows how people can become a part of a man's job.

This article was called to my attention one day last week while eating lunch but it slipped my mind but Walter Webb was by the office Monday and brought me a copy. I will mail it back to Walter later on but if anyone would like to see it just come by the office.

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Chris Watkins director of music at the Raeford Presbyterian Church, was by the office Monday and said that the church was packed for the service Sunday night. The combined choirs from many churches in the county gave a program entitled "Alleluia." A 20-piece orchestra from the University at Greensboro accompanied the choirs. It is nice to know that Raeford people have something like this performance to touch their lives.

Last week Chris also came by the office with a cake for the staff and thanked them for the help they have given him in his work here. Come again Chris even if you don't have a cake to give us.

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The trip to Charleston this past weekend was all that anyone could ask for. The weather was perfect and the accommodations were nice and the meeting of old friends made for memories that will linger a long time.

Many people have asked me about this one and that one that was in the unit. How did they look? Well they all were about the same. Some didn't have as much hair as 30 years ago and others were like

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# Faberge Says Production Has Begun At Raeford Plant

Faberge, Inc., the fragrance, cosmetic and toiletries manufacturer, announced Wednesday in a press release that it has started production of its new Farrah Fawcett-Majors line at its new facility in Raeford.

A spokesman for Faberge said that except for a small warehouse, the plant was formerly occupied by Summerfield Industries. The 59-acre improved site was purchased in June.

The new Faberge plant provides the company with a southeastern shipping center and allows for expansion of the company's manufacturing capacity.

Among products to be made in Raeford in addition to the Farrah Fawcett line will be Brut 33 stick deodorant.

Faberge estimates it will employ over 200 workers at the new plant when it is fully staffed.

Until Wednesday's announcement, there had been no official word on who was behind Raeford Manufacturing, which was the name Faberge had been using for its

plant here. No explanation was given for the long silence.

The press release was disseminated Wednesday morning through all the regular news channels, the spokesman said. The New York Stock Exchange was notified, as were the national wire services.

Since buying the plant here, the company has added 75,000 feet of floor space. The new firm has openly expressed support for the community and plans to participate in a civic-minded way in local affairs. Chamber of Commerce Manager Earl Fowler said last month.

Up until Wednesday's press release, announcements about the new company were made through the local chamber of commerce, which company spokesmen said was instrumental in their decision to locate in Raeford.

Summerfield Industries, a textile plant, was the second largest employer in Hoke County at the time of its closing in February, and unemployment here rose to over 11 percent in its absence.

# Local School Board Hopefuls Speak

Seven of the eight candidates for the three board of education seats up for election November 7 spoke at an NCAE sponsored "meet the candidates night" last Thursday.

Two seats will be left open by W.L. Howell and R.L. Gibson, who have chosen not to run. Incumbent Riley Jordan is seeking re-election to his seat.

The candidates were presented with a roster of 13 questions written by school employees. Incumbent Riley Jordan was the only candidate absent from the session.

### Bill Cameron

Cameron, a 35-year-old Hoke County farmer, jovially said he chose to run for the board because he "had a bad day at the tobacco market and needed a free trip to Vegas." He was referring to a trip the school board made a couple of years ago to attend a convention in Las Vegas, a trip which created quite a stir on the homefront. On the serious side, he told those present that he was interested in education and had a desire for the improvement of the school system.

He believes that more unity and harmony is needed in the school system. "Harmony leads to better students and teachers," Cameron said.

When asked if he would support a local supplement for teachers, Cameron said yes, but that the supplement should come from local funds. A supplement would improve teacher morale, Cameron said.

Involvement on all levels in decision-making processes of the board and preparation of the budget should include input from teachers and principals, Cameron said. He also stated that more parental involvement is needed in the schools.

"Teachers need protection," Cameron said. He told the audience that he would support the tenure law and would also support a procedure to allow teachers to

voice grievances through proper channels.

"I believe we need to inform the public as to what is happening in the school system," Cameron said. He said public relations in the schools need improving.

### Richard Coker

Coker, a retired Lt. Col., is currently teaching in the Business Education Department at Fayetteville Technical Institute.

He says he is running for a seat on the board because he is involved with education and is dedicated to the public school system.

Bringing harmony and justice to the school system are his major goals.

"You can't have education without harmony and equity," Coker said.

We need to improve teacher morale in the school system, make school board meetings truly open because the board is doing the public's business, delegate and decentralize control and encourage more participation by parents, students and teachers in school decision making," Coker said.

He also said that communications from the schools need to be improved with emphasis on the good aspects of the schools.

"Everyone should be concerned with the welfare of the schools," he said. Coker would reduce class size by doing a better job of management. He said funding for the schools should be used wisely.

"We should not be just throwing money at education," he said.

Board members should visit the schools, to see that they are working properly, he said. Without visits, information received by the board is "filtered," he said.

"I wouldn't give up tenure," Coker stated. "Teachers need every bit of protection they can get. Tenure protects teachers from incompetent administrators and gives them a chance to correct problems," Coker said. He would also

support a grievance system for school employees.

Coker said he thinks money could be found in the budget to pay the teachers a supplement.

"Inequities exist in the supplement now paid, but I wouldn't throw supplements out," he said. "Teachers should have a supplement even if it means a tax increase."

He called for the board to establish a funded public relations position. "We need a shift to the positive in public relations," Coker said.

### Elias Rogers

Rogers, a paint contractor of Rt. 1, Red Springs, said he is running for a seat on the board because he wants to be part of the decision making process.

"I would improve education because a good education is essential in succeeding in life," Rogers said.

He thinks teachers should be encouraged to have input into decision making and policy making procedures.

Rogers would also support a grievance policy.

"Grievances should not be allowed to go without recognition," Rogers said. "This could lead to low morale and low morale leads to low productivity," he continued.

Rogers also said he would support a teacher supplement here.

"All the other schools around us receive a supplement," Rogers said.

The tenure law should remain as it is, he said.

"With tenure, more than one man's decision is required before firing," Rogers concluded.

### Stephen Benkosky

Benkosky, head of the local Job Services office, said he is running for the board because he is a local citizen who feels he has something to offer from the management position.

His goals as a board member would be to improve the over-all school system. Some of the programs that involve federal funding should be refused, he said.

Benkosky says he would visit the schools if he were elected, but he is concerned with the number of kids not in school.

"I would more than likely visit the schools with an absentee in tow," he said.

He would support a grievance system, although he does not support the teacher tenure law.

"The Department of Defense did away with tenure 10 years ago," Benkosky said. "To separate from anyone, you must have justification," he continued.

He believes that persons who did not get satisfaction from a grievance system should go to the press and should not be condemned for doing so.

"Hoke County can't compete with Ft. Bragg's federal funding," Benkosky said. Therefore, he believes the county is too poor to pay a supplement to teachers.

"I would favor a bonus system," he said. Under this system, a teacher chosen by other teachers would be paid a \$1,000 or \$2,000 bonus at the end of the school year.

"Parents are the key to the whole problem in the schools today," Benkosky said. "You can't teach the children if the parents don't care."

### Walter Coley

Coley, 44-year-old co-owner of Hoke Drugs, says he is running for the board because he has four children who attend the Hoke County Schools.

He says there should be a grievance system in the schools, and if that system worked well, there would be no need for tenure.

On the subject of supplements, he said that he would support a teacher supplement that came from local funding.

"Parents should know what is going on in the school system," he said. He expects parents to encourage their children in their work at school.

He also said he believes that parents should be able to request a teacher change for a child because

of personality conflicts between the child and teacher.

"Sometimes, the teacher would be just as glad to be rid of the child as the child would be to be rid of the teacher," he said.

Public relations in the schools are fair, Coley said, but need unification.

### D.R. Huff, Jr.

Huff, a 54-year-old farmer and proprietor of an Exxon station at Ashley Heights, says he looks on being a board member as a challenge.

"My goal is to make good schools better," Huff said.

He said he did not believe in the teacher tenure law as much as he once did.

"It makes it difficult to get rid of poor teachers. Teacher evaluation (See HOPEFULS, Page 15)



UNUSUAL TELEPHONE - Bill McFadyen demonstrates how his remote controlled telephone works. The system was designed and built for him by a friend. It may be the first of its kind.

# Telephone Operates By Remote Control

by Charles Blackburn

"I'm afraid I'm going to have a big phone bill this month," lamented Bill McFadyen. But he was all smiles.

McFadyen, a resident of Open Arms Rest Home here, was showing off a new remote controlled telephone that a friend installed in his room this month. He thinks the device may be the first of its kind. It certainly doesn't look anything like a telephone.

"I've never heard of another system quite like this one," he said. McFadyen, 33, who is confined to a wheelchair and has limited use of his arms, got the idea for the telephone a couple of years ago. He asked his life-long friend, John McDiarmid, an electronics whiz, if it would work.

"Sure will," came the reply, and McDiarmid began the project. "He picked up most of his knowledge of electronics through experience, as far as I know," McFadyen said of his friend. "He just has a talent for it."

McDiarmid lives in Raeford and is an electrician and instrument repairman for Kelly - Springfield.

McFadyen said when the two were boys, McDiarmid always had a knack for getting model airplanes

going when the rest of the neighborhood crew had given up on them.

The telephone is nothing less than ingenious.

A rechargeable remote control transmitter, like the kind used to guide model airplanes, is attached to McFadyen's wheelchair. The transmitter has two long toggle switches on it.

One of the switches sends a signal to a radio receiver on the table by McFadyen's bed which broadcasts the impulse necessary to connect a circuit, giving him a dial tone. The other sends a signal that moves a bar up and down a series of pre-programmed telephone numbers. When the bar is over the number he wants, he stops it.

By moving the first toggle to a different position, he sends a signal that dials the number automatically. The system uses a desk speaker that not only broadcasts but picks up McFadyen's voice several feet away.

And so he is able to conduct a telephone conversation from his wheelchair without having to ask someone to dial the number for him.

"I never had any privacy when making a call before," McFadyen (See TELEPHONE, Page 15)

# County Board OKs Policy Amendment

New county employees, including those recruited from other county governments, will be allowed two weeks vacation their first year here, according to an amendment to the county's personnel policy adopted Monday night by the Hoke County Board of Commissioners.

Heretofore, new workers have been eligible for five days leave their first year. The amendment also spells out what transfer employees can expect in the way of job benefits.

The new policy comes after two new members of the Hoke County Department of Social Services resigned because the county had no guidelines governing transfers. Questions over vacation leave and other benefits prompted the workers to accept employment elsewhere. Both left the first of this month.

Department Director Ben Niblock told the board at the time that lack of a policy would hurt recruitment efforts. He and members of the Board of Social Services argued that an employee with prior

experience in another county shouldn't be treated as a brand new worker.

Monday night the board voted to prohibit the carryover of unused vacation and sick leave for employees transferring to Hoke. According to the amendment, all transfer employees will be treated the same as new workers.

In other business, the county had a profitable evening, receiving notice of a \$2,648 grant for emergency medical services and a refund of \$2,400 from the general contractor who built the South Hoke Community Center.

The grant comes from the Region N Council of Governments and is to be used for the purchase of equipment for the Spring Lake - Hoke Ambulance Service and the county volunteer rescue squad.

The board learned that Godwin Construction Co. didn't use all of the money allocated for construction of the community center. The \$100,000 center, which was recently accepted by the county, was financed with a federal grant.