

# The News - Journal

The Hoke County News - Established 1928

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

VOLUME XXX NUMBER 48

RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

\$8 PER YEAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1979

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Someone asked me Monday if I got in my golf game over the weekend. Yes, this writer played golf Saturday, and on Sunday was on the course, but was thinking about getting back to the clubhouse because of the weather conditions. There wasn't much golf played in our foursome during the afternoon.

The wind was blowing and it was cold. The 50 degree weather was almost freezing with the help of the wind. Maybe this cold I have will go away when the temperature begins to stay around 70 degrees.

Tuesday morning, ice was formed on my windshield when I started to work, and it took a few minutes for the heater to melt the coating of ice.

Spring may have sprung, but old man winter is still fighting to stay around.

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In the column last week that usually appears on the editorial page captioned "Browsing in the Files" was an item about the opening of McDonald's Tire Recapping plant 25 years ago. It doesn't seem that it has been that long, but the older one gets, the faster time flies.

Harold Gillis read the item and came in later with a picture he had taken on opening day. I believe that Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. Gardner can be easily identified and from that point, help is needed in saying who was at the opening.

The picture is below. See if you can pick out someone you know:



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Robert Gatlin had the program at the meeting of the Raeford Kiwanis Club Thursday night, March 15. He introduced Lee Lively of the North Carolina Ports Authority, who told of the growth of the two largest seaports in North Carolina. He also gave the plans for the future of the ports, Morehead City and Wilmington. The future for North Carolina through its ports looks good.

The speaker mentioned the controversy over the crane that is going to be moved to Wilmington and backed the decision of the authority.

Tuesday morning I noticed in a newspaper that the legislature is becoming involved about moving the crane. Not knowing anything about the crane than what I heard a couple of weeks ago it would seem the board made the right decision. Of course politics becomes involved in about everything that happens these days.

Last Thursday night Tom Howell presented the program at the club and showed a film that his father took several years ago on a fishing trip to Florida.

A couple of the local Kiwanians were in the film, but it was hard to recognize them because age causes the graying of hair and changing of other physical features.

Both programs were extremely informative and enjoyed by the club.

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From all reports the first week-end showing of the musical "Spring For Sure" was highly successful. All comments have been on the good side and most people say that everyone should see it this coming week-end that missed it last week.

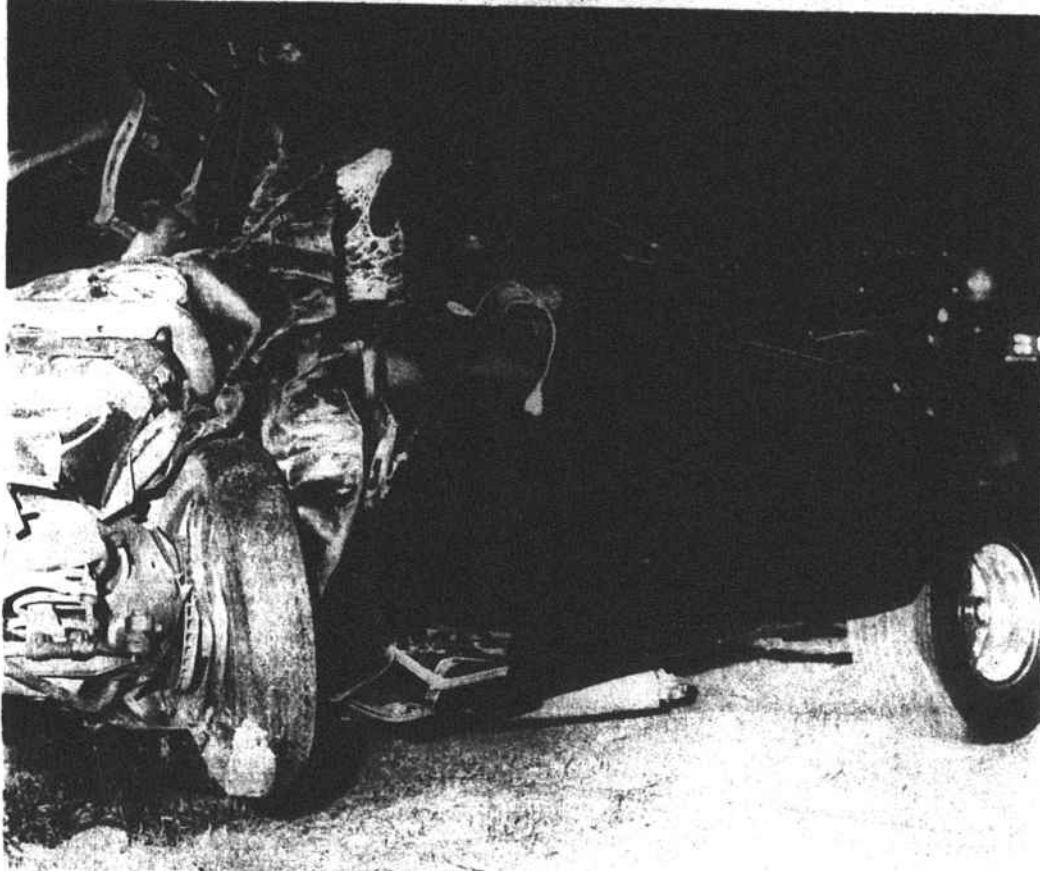
Tickets are available and can be purchased at Vardell Hedgpeth Insurance Agency or at Louise's Beauty Shop.

The musical is sponsored by the Raeford Junior Woman's Club.

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According to the polls that appear on TV and in daily papers most folks don't think that a gasoline shortage exists. The 1974 long lines are remembered, but also (See AROUND TOWN, page 13)

## Both Drivers Hurt In Head-on Collision



One of the two cars after they collided early Saturday near Raeford.

Both drivers were injured when two cars collided head-on about 4:35 a.m. Saturday on U.S. 401-A about a mile and a half north of Raeford, the State Highway Patrol reported.

Trooper Louis Rector the investigating officer, said Benny Edward Walters, 27, of Rt. 1, Box 205, Raeford, was admitted to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville for treatment of a dislocation of a hip and internal injuries.

A hospital spokesman reported Walters' condition was satisfactory Tuesday morning.

The officer said Bobby Linwood

Small, 20, of Rt. 1, Box 381, Raeford, suffered abrasions and contusions of the face and a large, open wound in his left knee. He said Small was released Saturday after being treated at Cape Fear Hospital.

Rector said he charged Small with driving left of center.

The officer said Small's 1971 Chevrolet crossed the center line as it was traveling north, and collided with Walters' 1973 Chevrolet, which was going south.

Rector said the cars were total losses. The damages were about \$2,000 to Walters' car and about \$1,600 to Small's, he said.

## Heart Attack Believed Cause Of Driver's Death

John Willie Jacobs, 61, of Rt. 1, Box 784, Shannon, was found dead in his car after it left the right side of SR 1001 about four miles south of Raeford and struck a tree Monday, the State Highway Patrol reported.

Trooper Louis Rector said Jacob's death was believed caused by a heart attack rather than by injuries suffered in the accident.

He said Jacob's body showed no sign of injury. Jacobs had complained of chest pains shortly before while he was at the nearby Cross Roads Grocery and Jacobs had a history of heart trouble.

The officer said Jacobs, traveling alone, bought Alka Seltzer at the store, then drove south. He said the

car traveled 159 feet from the store and hit the tree. Rector said the vehicle was not moving at an excessive rate of speed when the accident happened.

The damages to the car, a 1967 Ford, were about \$700, the officer said.

Rector said Jacob's body was sent to Chapel Hill for an autopsy to be made by the state medical examiner's staff to learn the specific cause of Jacob's death.

He said the body was taken to Red Springs Funeral Homes following the accident.

Red Springs Funeral Homes is in charge of the arrangements for the funeral services and burial.

## Shaw Town Road Section Improved

State highway workers last week filled up the holes and graded 500 feet of a road Shaw Town people have been trying to get improved for more than eight years.

It's not the entire half mile the people want fixed, but if the approximately 15 property owners on the rest of the half mile will give up the total 40 feet of right of way the state needs, than the rest of the road will be improved to U.S. 401 North.

Shaw Town is north to Raeford and is within the town's one-mile zoning perimeter.

What's been preventing the improvement of the entire stretch has been the inability to get every property owner along the route to pledge to give the necessary right of way. One refusal can prevent the improvement.

The half-mile road will serve about 200 people when the improvement is completed.

The State Department of Transportation will try to return by the end of the year to finish the improvements on the remainder of the half mile if the rights of way can be obtained.

Willie Featherstone of the Hoke County Agricultural Extension Service said Friday this is what the Shaw Town people were told at a community meeting March 19.

Featherstone, assistant county agent for community development, helped organize the most recent effort to get the road improved. He has been telling the people who to see and generally giving direction to the effort.

Mrs. Odessa Harris, whose home is on the improved 500 feet close to the point where it meets SR 1403, said Friday, "We're proud of the road."

Mrs. Mamie Brown said, "It's the best thing that's happened to Shaw Town since I've been here." She and her husband, James Brown have been living there the past three years.

Johnny B. Graham said, "We've been trying to get something done for eight years." He added it's been even longer, he has been told by people how have been living in Shaw Town longer than that. He's lived there eight years. Graham worked in the unsuccessful 1977 campaign, which was the last before the successful 1978 effort started. He worked with Walter McAllister.

After numerous efforts and as many failures, the successful effort was started in January 1978 by Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Madeline Pope (Mrs. Harris' daughter), and Mrs. Rosetta Brunson.

On Mrs. Pope's advice, they called on Featherstone for help. Featherstone had started work as

community development agent Nov. 1, 1975.

Later, Sproles recommended that they try to get the rights of way pledged on just a section of the half mile instead of trying to secure the property on the entire stretch, which is what the previous efforts had aimed at doing.

Working with the community people also was state highway area supervisor Billy Southerland.

Featherstone told a reporter Friday Sproles explained that the property owners were not being paid for giving right of way because, Sproles said, the road will serve only the people of a self-contained community, not benefit the people of the area outside and public money cannot be used for such purposes.

The 500-foot stretch has been accepted by the state for addition to the state road system, Featherstone said.

He also said that the road will be maintained but not paved, because the state needs a 60-foot right of way to pave a highway. The road bed including side ditching is about 20 feet wide. Ten-foot-wide margins on either side of the roadbed are needed by the state also for possible future installations.

He said maintenance work would be done about once a month.

The old road before it was improved was a path, Featherstone said, nearly impossible in wet weather for residents of the community who use U.S. 401 to get to work and back home. Residents had to travel about a half mile out of their way at those times.

The present remaining stretch also contains wide holes and appeared to the reporter to be a track about 10 or 12 feet wide.

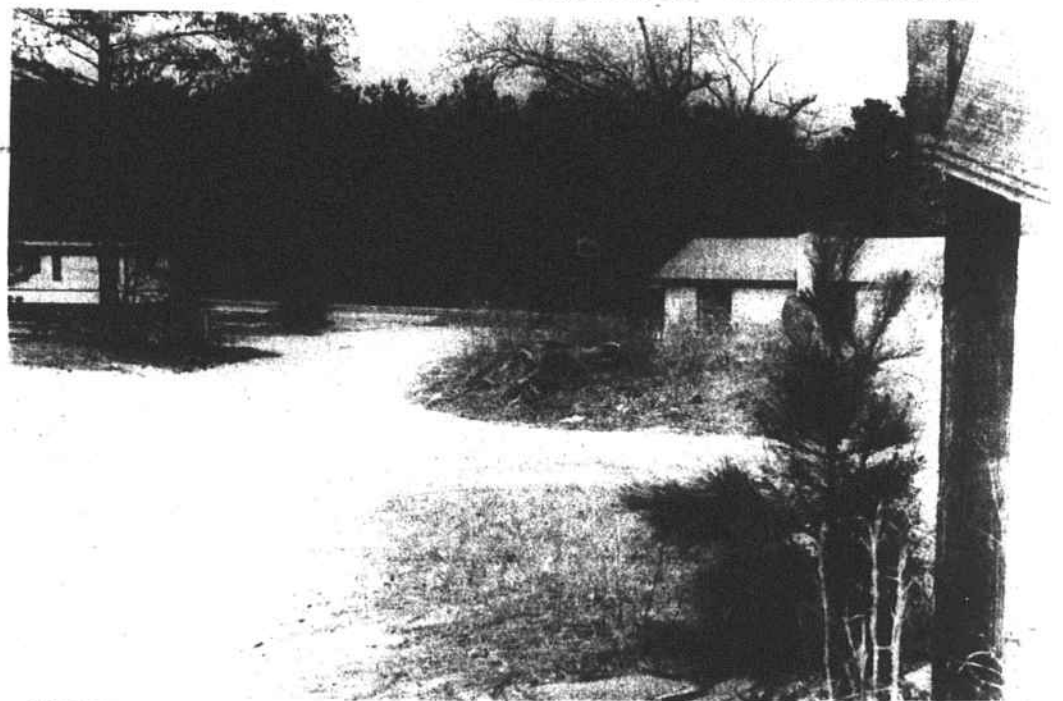
Residents of the community said the conditions made it difficult for ambulances, fire trucks and large passenger cars to reach that area of the community.

It is still difficult for such vehicles to reach other parts of the area, they said.

Besides this, Ms. Willie Mae Peterkin and Mrs. Brown said people have told them they wanted to visit them but couldn't because the road was too rough.

In previous efforts to get the entire half mile fixed, property owners on the way would agree to provide the right of way, but later one or more would have a change of mind because of a misunderstanding of the conditions or of the effect the agreement would have on their property, Featherstone said.

To get the 500-foot section improved, property owners in only five families needed to agree to give rights-of-way.



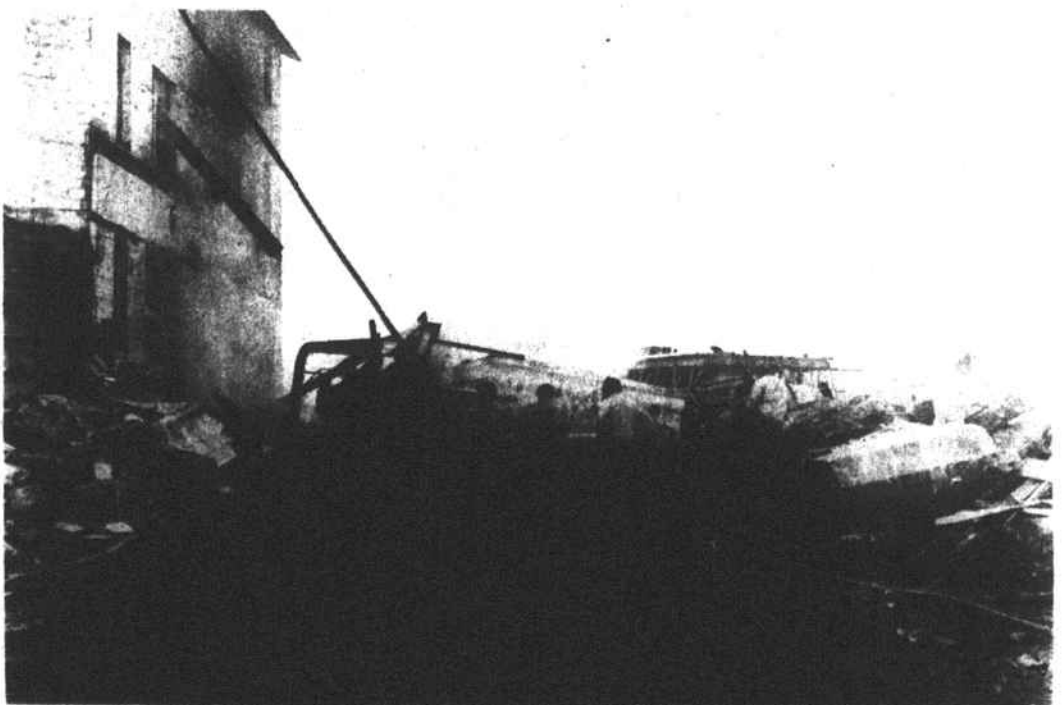
401 CONNECTION - A Shaw Town Road runs into the foreground to its connection with U.S. 401 north, marked by the Mobil sign. This section is part of the half mile whose improvement will be completed if rights of way can be obtained from property owners. The first 500 feet was scraped and its holes filled last week by the State Department of Transportation.

Featherstone said others along the remainder of the half miles who have been reluctant in the past to give rights of way will be persuaded

by the improvement to agree.

"It will let them see it will not (adversely) effect their property," he said.

Residents also would like to see eventually a loop road established to serve the homes lying off the community road.



FIRE - While a bin was being cut down from the side of the old Upchurch Milling plant behind the new Bank of Raeford construction site, a spark apparently dropped and later started a blaze, Buster Jackson of the Raeford Fire Department said. No damage was reported because the structure was scheduled for demolition, Jackson explained, and no injuries were reported.