

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The rain that came to Raeford last Saturday morning helped the gardens but it didn't reach very far out into the county. The golf tournament at Arabia didn't get any rain at all. In fact they didn't receive any over the weekend at the golf course.

It was raining in other parts of the state because some of the golfers that had signed up for the tournament reported in late, thinking that it was raining here like in their home towns. Richard Morgan, chairman of the tournament for the Lions Club, said that over 25 participated and he believes the rain held back the field of 150 that the Lions had hoped for.

Anyway the tournament was a success and the Lions raised money for their many projects.

Some people don't care too much about tournament golf and when they have these tournaments, you either have to wait for a late tee off time or sit at home and watch a golf match on TV. Not so this time, because the new nine was open for all comers.

The article in the paper last week showed holes one and two, but the entire course is like playing in a hallway. The fairways are narrow and the rough still needs some cleaning out. If you don't hit the ball straight, you will soon be out of balls. It is a challenge.

Don't forget the Chamber of Commerce annual dinner on Monday night, May 14 at 6:30 o'clock at the Hoke High Gym. The tickets are on sale now and if you don't have yours, call the chamber office and make a reservation.

Besides the feature attraction of two former football greats at Carolina, the new officers and directors will be installed for the coming year, also the annual report will be given and this will tell you how much the chamber has accomplished during the past year.

So don't delay -- make your call today.

I received the following letter last week and for all members of the Class of 1950 of Hoke High School please take note:

Dear Mr. Morris:
Would it be possible for you to include the following in your column "Around Town" at your earliest convenience. Any charges I would be happy to send to you.

The class of 1950 is planning a reunion for November 24, 1979. The place, time and cost will be sent at a later date. If you are interested in attending, please send your name (if married include your maiden name) and address to Minnie Stevens Renegar, 4644 Cheltenham Road, Fayetteville, N.C. 28304.

A speedy response would be of great help.

Thank you, I am
MINNIE STEVENS RENEGAR
(Class of 1950)
4644 Cheltenham Road
Fayetteville, N.C. 28304

There is no charge, Mrs. Renegar, glad that we can be of help. Hope that you can get all your old classmates together.

A picture and article in *The Raleigh News and Observer* Monday was about a native of Raeford, Dan F. McInnis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan McInnis of East Edinborough Avenue, was featured in the article.

The article was headed, "Forest services office uses new know-how to fight fires."

The article was very interesting and the picture of young Dan is what grabbed my eye. He looks just like his mother. If you missed the article, come by the office and we will be glad to let you see it.

Correction

The fatal traffic collision of May 1 at Dundarrach occurred when a car was driven from a service station into the path of a tractor-trailer by the victim, Edgar Granvil Burchett, 18, of Rt. 1, Shannon.

The *News-Journal* reported erroneously that Burchett apparently failed to stop for a stop sign at the intersection of N.C. 20 and SR 1105.

The *News-Journal* regrets having made the error.

At Raeford Council Meeting

Truck Route Around City Proposed

Property Owners Seek Improvements Of Roads

The Board of Hoke County Commissioners Monday was asked by an owner of property on a subdivision road not to accept the list of county secondary roads proposed by the State Department of Transportation for improvement.

The property owner, Jesse Wheeler, said he was making the request on behalf of owners of property on the road, SR 1466, in the R.C. Chance subdivision. Shortly before, he said, "we ask" that the Chance road be improved.

He indicated the objection to the acceptance by the commissioners of the proposed priority list was that the Currie Road, a connector with N.C. 20, has been given first priority, though it contains one house and a cemetery on one end while the Chance road, which is not on the list, contains the homes of "six teachers, (and) one football coach," and two Boy Scout troops meet there twice a week.

District Highway Engineer Fred Beck earlier in the meeting explained that since 1957, DOT has required all subdivision streets be paved under the owner-participation plan. Under the plan, owners of property on a subdivision street pay part of the cost of the paving. This amounts to \$4 per foot, and the property owner pays about a third of the total under the plan, and the state pays the rest if the money is available.

Jack McGinnis, owner of property on SR 1414, saying he represented the people who live on that road, told Beck the surface is rough, the road has sharp bends, a hill that becomes slippery when it rains, and has sharp drops at the shoulders. He said that though a highway department representative had said the road would be improved, the only improvement made has been addition of markers pointing to the hazards.

McGinnis asked the commissioners "to use whatever power you have left" to prevent DOT from paving roads that don't need paving, and to have DOT improve roads that need improving.

Beck told McGinnis that, some time ago, DOT was unable to obtain the rights-of-way from property owners to widen it and eliminate sharp curves.

Such rights of way are needed before the work can be done, he said.

In reply to a question from McGinnis he said no new effort had been made to obtain the necessary rights of way since a petition had been filed by property owners.

Beck explained that "the commissioners tell us what to do with the money" allocated for stabilization. The county has \$4,139,20 earmarked for this purpose, he said.

To this statement commissioners indicated they hadn't known it was up to the commissioners to tell DOT what specific use they wanted made of the money.

Robert Sheffy, another SR 1466 property owner, asked Beck questions about state DOT policy affecting improving of roads.

Later, the commissioners adopted a motion by Commissioner Danny DeVane that acceptance of the DOT priority list be delayed till commissioners could obtain an explanation of the proposed Thoroughfare Plan.

The discussion of roads was held during the commissioners' regular meeting on the first Monday of the month.

Early in the discussion, Beck reported that, in response to requests made by the commissioners last month, traffic counts showed: on 1414 -- 98 vehicles, compared with the original tally of 111; and on the Chance road (1466) -- 248 compared with the original 210.

Livingstone Named Teacher Of Year

Harold Livingstone of West Hoke Elementary School was named Hoke County Teacher of the Year and will compete for the district title and award in January.

He was among seven teachers nominated for the county honor and was chosen by the Teacher of the Year Committee of the North Carolina Association of Educators and Classroom Teachers Association of the county.

Livingstone has been teaching in Hoke for the past six years. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Livingstone of Wagram.

Harold Livingstone attended elementary, junior high and senior high school at Shaw School (now Saw Middle School) in Wagram. He transferred in 1968 to Scotland High School at Laurinburg and graduated from that school the following year.

Livingstone received a Bachelor

of Science Degree in intermediate education in 1973 from Fayetteville State University and recently completed work for a Master of Arts degree in educational administration from North Carolina Central University in Durham.

Active in civic work since graduating from Fayetteville State, he has served as Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 475 in Wagram, is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Hoke County Jaycees and served as chairman of the Jaycees' Cystic Fibrosis fund raising campaigns of 1974 and 1975.

Livingstone is a member of Spring Branch Baptist Church of Wagram and is assistant chairman of the church's board of trustees, a member of the board of ushers and assistant superintendent of the Sunday school.

The others nominated for the Hoke County Teacher of the Year award were Mrs. Jean Wood of South Hoke Elementary, Mrs. Belinda Coleman of Scurock, Mrs. Joyce Dial of McLaughlin, Mrs. Dorothy Farrow of J.W. Turlington, Mrs. Carolyn McBryde of Upchurch Junior High, and Mrs. Betty Rogers of Hoke County High.

The selection committee consisted of teachers, parents, a member of the Hoke County school board, a patron, and a student. The members were Mrs. Sarah Baucum, Mrs. Pauline Locklear, Mrs. Cohilda Lyons, Mrs. Nellie Flowers, Mrs. Cynthia McNeill, Mrs. Faye Jordan, Miss Sherie Simmons, Floyd Caldwell, Mrs. Arthur Kemp, Mrs. Palmer Wilcox, Mrs. Bettie Willingham, Father Paul Strassel and Walter Coley, a member of the school board.

Duce Nivens represented the radio station at the meeting.

Beck said cable counts made on the same roads showed discrepancies with the visual counts. A tally made by the cable counter of 1414 showed 118 vehicles, he said.

The cable count on the Chance road showed 672 vehicles.

Beck said in regard to the discrepancies, he couldn't say what happened.

Wheeler said his personal counts of traffic on the Chance on a weekday from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. showed 40 vehicles, and on a Friday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 58 vehicles. On the Currie Road, however, he said, he counted 32 vehicles in the same period in the morning and 47 in the same time on a Friday.

Beck said the DOT count on the Currie Road was 160 vehicles in 24 hours.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

In other business Monday, the commissioners adopted motions to hold public hearing May 21 on proposed uses of 1979 - 80 federal Revenue Sharing funds, and on a proposed flood plain ordinance and resolution. The hearings will be held in the courtroom of the courthouse. Afterward, the commissioners will reconvene in their conference room in the county office annex next to the courthouse. The revenue-sharing session was set for 7:30 p.m. and the hearing on the proposed ordinance at 7:45 p.m. The proposed ordinance concerns a federal insurance plan covering property against flood damage.

The commissioners also during the meeting adopted a motion approving fees to be charged by the County Health Department for family planning services.

State Rep. David R. Parnell advised the commissioners a bill concerning possible state revenue sharing with the counties has been introduced in the General Assembly. He said the bill would provide for a feasibility study of possible state involvement.

Parnell came to the meeting to see whether the commissioners had information regarding General Assembly action to give him. None indicated they had anything in mind for him then.

The commissioners adopted a motion approving, if funds are available, the PACE federal program which aids needy young people to help pay college expenses.

George Holden, a consultant with the State Division of Youth Services, told the commissioners the county can get a total of \$13,627 in Community Based Alternative Funds for 1979-80 if the General Assembly bill is enacted, and he is "99.9 percent sure it will," and the county has from July to January to say it wants it. He said the county could get \$17,804 for 1980-81 also.

CBA is a program to help children who have behaviour difficulties.

He said the county puts up 10 percent of the total "in kind" or in cash. "In kind," he said, means office space or secretarial equipment, for examples.

Holden also told the commissioners the county also could get a federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention grant of \$11,629 without having to contribute matching money if the county wants it. The JJDP program aids troubled juveniles referred by courts, schools, or a Department of Social Services.

JJDP funds go to states which no longer commit to state schools juveniles who commit "status" offenses but provide for care in their home communities. A "status" offense is one a juvenile commits which is not a violation of the law for an adult; for examples, running away from home, or staying out of school without official permission.

He said a letter of intent to apply (See PROPERTY, page 15)

The Raeford City Council Monday night adopted a motion to ask the State Department of Transportation for a feasibility study of a proposed route that would eliminate through truck traffic from downtown Raeford.

The proposed new truck route, prepared by Robert Gatlin, retired civil engineer, for the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce, would have eastbound trucks traveling on N.C. 211 westward to N.C. 20 continue on Prospect Avenue (N.C. 211) to SR 1403, then turning south, traveling on 1403 to the N.C. 20 intersection at Oakdale Gin Co.

Trucks currently turn off Prospect at North Main Street, then use Main to Central Avenue, where they turn east, traveling on Central to the N.C. 20 intersection.

Gatlin said the proposed route was designed especially with logging and petroleum tank trucks in mind, and the fire hazard. He said a truck fire could destroy a large section of downtown. "I saw that half block burn up in 1925," he said, referring to the downtown fire of that year.

The truck route in this area is used by eastbound trucks destined for the oil distribution depots at Wilmington.

Gatlin also referred to the noise made by trucks moving through downtown at the posted speeds of 20 miles per hour and the contamination of the air by exhaust fumes.

Gatlin said an alternate truck route had been recommended by Peter Batchelor of the North Carolina State University in his study of the downtown section for a revitalization program.

He said trucks on the present route meet three stoplights and have to make two 90-degree turns and a 45-degree turn.

The proposed new route for the trucks contains one 90-degree turn, a curve, and an intersection he said.

Police Chief Zeke Wiggins said, however, that school children walk on part of the proposed route in going to school and back home and that trucks would be running 45 to 55 miles an hour on Prospect Avenue instead of 20 miles per hour down Main Street. "Which is more dangerous?" he asked.

He said the truckers are going to get their speed up to make a hill. Councilman Vardell Hedgpeth Jr. said the only problem would be speed. The route would be safer in reference to the fire hazard, he added, but "a lot of kids walk (on the proposed route) to school."

Earl Fowler, manager of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce, presented the council with a "rough draft" of the 1979-80 chamber budget. Of the total, the city is being asked to provide \$5,050 which would be \$50 more than it provided last year.

Fowler called the city's share an "investment". He said the city, and county funds only are used for industrial and economic development. He said industrial and economic development should have a separate budget. Fowler said it is one of three agencies involved in the operation. The others are the nonprofit state motor vehicle license sales office and the chamber of commerce.

Fowler presented the proposed budget shortly before introducing Gatlin to describe the proposed new truck route.

In other business at the council's meeting, its regular session for (See TRUCK, page 15)

Fugitive Arrested

Five-year Search Ends In New Jersey

A man who has eluded law officials for the past five years after allegedly being involved in the beating and attempted rape of a local woman, was arrested in Camden, New Jersey, at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Sheriff Dave Barrington said.

Robert Lee King, originally of Hoke County, is being held in the Camden jail pending extradition to North Carolina.

A grand jury true bill of indictment returned April 1, 1975, charges King with assault on a female with intent to commit rape; assault on a female with intent to kill inflicting serious bodily injury; kidnapping; auto larceny; and breaking and entering.

On February 19, 1975, Jessie Nicholson, a health worker, got lost while on her way to pick up children for dental treatment. After finding herself on a dirt road near McCain, she came upon an isolated cabin where a break-in was in progress according to a report taken from newspaper files.

When Mrs. Nicholson drove up, five men ran from the cabin and fled into nearby woods. A sixth man went to his vehicle, brought out a gun and advanced toward Mrs. Nicholson.

She rolled up the window and locked herself in, and the man pointed the gun at her and threatened to kill her if she did not open the door, the report said.

Mrs. Nicholson complied, and the man forced her into the cabin where he attempted to rape her.

The woman resisted and was pistol whipped in the face and shot in the right side of the head, the report said.

The assailant drove off in Mrs. Nicholson's car, and the woman managed to walk to N.C. 211, about a half-mile away, where she was picked up by a truck driver.

She was transported to Raeford Medical Clinic, now Dr. Riley Jordan's office, and was taken from

there to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville.

Barrington said King was found in New Jersey through information obtained from an informant in this area. King has been arraigned in New Jersey on other charges under the name of Robert Shields.

He was arrested on the job Monday morning and was carried before a U.S. commissioner on charges of interstate flight to avoid prosecution. He was then delivered to the Camden jail.

"I have received no word on him waiving extradition," Barrington said. If King fights extradition, bringing him back to North Carolina could take 60 days.

When King does return to Hoke County, Barrington said, he will be taken before a Superior Court judge for arraignment, and then tried in a separate session of Superior Court.

"We have identified him as Robert Lee King," Barrington said. He explained that the identification was confirmed through the use of photographs. "There is no indication he has ever been back to Hoke County since he left here in 1975," Barrington continued.

Five others were charged and tried in connection with the incident.

On November 3, 1975, in Hoke County Superior Court, James F. McNair, Bruce Leonard King, Curtis A. Hill, Dwight Graham and John Track McNeill were convicted of breaking and entering and larceny. They were each sentenced to not less than three nor more than four years suspended, and placed on probation for three years, according to courthouse records.

Barrington expressed his appreciation to FBI agents who aided in the arrest of King.

"I would especially like to thank FBI Special Agents James Lothpeich and Howard Bergin from the Fayetteville office for their efforts," he said.



Harold Livingstone