

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The weather over the weekend was cool and wet. Saturday was like a day that you would associate with the hurricane off the coast of Florida. It rained all day. These were not the showers forecast by the weather reports but an all-day rain.

Sunday it was cloudy with threatening rain all day but it held off for the part.

The weather prophet hasn't been by this week, so I can't say how much rain we had over the weekend.

While on the subject of the weather it kinda amazed me Monday, while looking at the news on the TV, for something that appeared on the screen and no comment was made about it. The reporter was giving the temperature at that hour from a map that showed several cities over the state.

The temperatures were all in the high 80s or low 90s until she called out Fayetteville. She said, pointing to the map, that the temperature was 62 degrees. No other comment.

Now when in less than 50 miles the temperature is approximately 30 degrees different and with about the same elevation it seems to me that a weather forecaster would think that there was something out of the ordinary or that it was a mistake. Now being only 20 miles from Fayetteville and sitting in the den with the air conditioner running full blast that is what amazed me. Maybe some reporters just read what someone else has written and wouldn't know the difference anyway.

Of course, maybe I wouldn't either.

The item last week about the death of Mrs. Mildred Peele Cameron brought forth many phone calls, to name a few Mrs. Dot Cameron, Miss Mary Peele and Mrs. Floyd Monroe. They all confirmed that this was the Mildred Peele that lived in Raeford and finished school at Raeford High.

According to Dot Cameron she was married to Roy Cameron, a brother of her late husband Lee, and they had two children, Roy Jr. and Robert T. Cameron. Her husband survives and also the two boys.

Miss Peele stated that she was the daughter of the late William Patterson and Roberta McLean Peele. She stated that all the children that were mentioned last week, Robert, Glenn, Margaret and Mildred, had all died in the past several years.

Mrs. Monroe said that her daughter, Mary Alma, was in school at ECTC and that they were very good friends to the family.

Thanks for all the phone calls and we hope that this clears up the two deaths.

Roy Guin, dog warden for the City of Raeford, came by the office last week and had a ring that he had found near the dog pound. The dog pound is located below the Raeford cemetery and we mention it because the ring could mean a lot to the owner.

The ring was found Friday, June 15. It's a class ring from Alabama Polytechnic Institute in Auburn, Ala. Roy would like for the rightful owner to have the ring. So if you could come by the office and describe the ring and give the year of graduation, the ring will be turned over to the owner.

How the ring got near the dog pound is hard to come by but anyway that is what Roy said. So if you are a graduate of Auburn and have lost a ring come by and claim it.

Don't forget that the old Battery reunion will be held in Charleston, S.C. on July 13, 14 and 15. If you haven't made reservations please do so before June 29. Send your banquet fee to Graham Clark and your hotel reservation to the Francis Marion hotel in Charleston.

We already have some new faces (See AROUND TOWN, page 15)

For Construction Of Apartments

Realtor Seeking \$1 Million Loan

4 Million Hours, No Lost-time Accident

Plant Celebrates Safety Record

The Raeford Plant of Burlington Industries June 11-12 celebrated its safety record achievement of 4 million safe hours without a lost-time accident with a cookout for all employees.

Plant management cooked and served over 1,200 hamburgers, hot dogs and ice cream sundaes around the clock for employees on all seven shifts.

"There are only 3 or 4 plants out of over a hundred Burlington operations that have a better safety record than our people do here," said Cecil Bond, plant manager.

"Records like this are unusual and not easy to accomplish. It takes

everybody (management, supervision and employees) working together to make it happen. These people not only care about their personal safety but also about their fellow workers' safety. I am proud to be a part of this plant."

Personnel Manager Harry Williamson said, "We have had other 'feeds' but this one seemed to top them. It was a lot more work on management's part but everyone chipped in and did their part."

"For example, one department manager stayed right on the grill and cooked the whole time. Some employees in that department sent me a personal letter expressing their appreciation."



Baby Jasper and parents in photo made Tuesday morning.

At Home Now, Doing Well

Baby Born 1 3/4 Pounds

The baby weighed one pound and 12 ounces when he was born last February 2 at Duke Hospital in Durham, and the doctors said he didn't have a good chance of living.

Last Saturday, the baby went home to Airport Trailer Park near Raeford.

Monday afternoon, his father, Jasper Daniels Jr., said the boy and his mother were doing fine. The baby weighed 5 pounds 5 ounces then.

The baby's mother was five months' pregnant when the baby, Jasper Rodriguez Daniels III, was born.

His father told a reporter what the doctors said of his chances. He praised the doctors at Duke who worked with the infant. They gave him very good care, he said, and he was watched 24 hours a day.

Then he said, "We consider it a miracle from God." Daniels was speaking of the child's health as it was Monday afternoon.

Daniels, who will be 22 on Friday, devotes part of his time serving as a minister for Daniels Temple Revival Center, whose pastor is Eldress Pauline Daniels, the baby's grandmother. He supports his family by working as a machine operator for the Raeford

plant of Burlington Menswear.

Mrs. Daniels was taken to Duke from Cape Fear Hospital in Fayetteville by helicopter.

About May 1, the baby was transferred from Duke to a special nursery at Cape Fear Valley Hospital and remained there till he was taken home.

He is the couple's first baby. Mrs. Daniels is the former Claudette Blue, the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Blue of New York City. Her son's other grandparent is Jasper R. Daniels Sr., Eldress Daniels's husband. The elder Daniels live on Rt. 1, Raeford.

The first news of the baby was brought to *The News-Journal* for his parents by his aunt, Miss Louella Daniels of Raeford.

As for the cost of the special medical and hospital care, Daniels said an estimate is it will amount to about \$35,000.

Daniels will have to pay about \$1,200 of it.

The rest will be paid by the Burlington Menswear hospitalization insurance the company carries on its employees. Daniels, who will be 22 on Friday, will have been working at the plant four years next July 7.

Raeford Officials Praise Firemen

City's Insurance Rating Is Improved

The Fire insurance Classification for the City of Raeford has been advanced, and the change promoted statements of praise from city administration and fire department officials.

City Manager Ron Matthews said the change should result in a reduction of fire insurance rates for many insured commercial properties within the town.

The announcement of the change

was made Tuesday by Matthews. He said Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr.'s office had received a letter from B.B. Aycock of the Insurance Services Office of North Carolina advising the classification had been changed to Class Six from Class Seven. The change will become effective July 1.

Mayor McNeill said: "The citizens of Raeford should (See INSURANCE, page 15)



Cookout servers taking a break.

Mayer Gives Self Up At Pope

Melvin Mayer, the Hoke County magistrate who was accused of embezzling a \$900 cash bond a week and a half ago surrendered to Police Detective J.J. McNeill Sunday morning, according to Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins.

Wiggins said that a telephone message passed along by a third party informed McNeill that Mayer was at Pope Air Force Base and was ready to turn himself in. McNeill brought Mayer back to Hoke County where he was jailed under a \$25,000 bond.

Mayer was freed on a \$2,500 bond after a Monday-morning hearing before District Court Judge Joseph E. Dupree, who reduced the amount of the bond.

Mayer, who had been a magistrate for eight months and had been on the Raeford police force before then, since 1976, was charged June 9 with taking a \$900

cash bond for a defendant identified as Kevin I. Jones.

Judge Dupree discovered the discrepancy when he checked the files for a record of the defendant's bond and could find none, although the man's wife had posted a \$900 bond some two weeks earlier.

Mayer was originally believed to have taken a plane from Cherry Point to San Diego, Calif.

Police reported he called McNeill, telling the officer he was planning to go from there to the Orient.

Mayer was relieved officially of his duties as magistrate by District Court Chief Judge Derb Carter after the money was found to be missing.

Officials have recommended Mayer be removed permanently from his duties if he is convicted of the charge.

Lack Of Funds May Close Local Mental Health Center

The local branch of the Sandhills Mental Health Center may be forced to close due to lack of funding as local county commissioners trim the county budget, Phillip A. Diehl, chairman of the board of the directors of the center, said Monday.

Funding for the center was provided through a federal staffing grant for the past eight years, and that funding has run out, Diehl said. He explained that the county was told eight years ago that the funding would be temporary and that local funds would eventually have to support the project.

Federal funding in the amount of \$343,000,000 was available to run the service in a five-county area last year. For the up-coming year, a federal distress grant of \$100,000 was approved, although the board was told that no funds are available and if, in the future, funds become available, the application will again be reviewed.

The county commissioners tentatively approved \$29,373 plus a CETA secretary to run the service, although they recently trimmed that figure to \$21,000. Diehl says that the service will be forced to close at that amount, because every possible cut had already been made.

The mental health board originally requested \$38,497 and, according to Diehl, the original amount from the county plus the CETA secretary, would come within \$1,000 of that request.

Diehl said that the loss of the mental health center would give persons now receiving aid or on medication no place to go for help without driving to Moore County. The office that would replace the mental health facility would be a satellite of the Moore County facility, and would treat only emergency cases.

"With the absence, or extremely restricted availability of services, it is reasonable to predict a number of these patients will withdraw from medication and treatment," he said in a letter to the commissioners. "Several years ago before the local unit was established, the early release from Dorothea Dix Hospital and the lack of local facilities directly contributed to one young woman beating her grandmother to death and one man committing suicide by burning his house down around him."

The Hoke County facility was one of the most effective in the five-county area, Diehl said, having one more than tripled its patient load in three years.

Also, for the \$21,000 from the Hoke County general revenue funds spent at the local unit, more than \$60,000 in outside funds came into the local economy, he said.

Diehl said that the county commissioners will not adopt the budget until Monday and, unless more funding is made available for the mental health facility, it will be forced to close its doors.

Raeford Realtor Julian Wright has submitted to the U.S. Farmers Home Administration a pre-application seeking a \$1,000,000 loan for construction of apartments just south of Raeford, a Hoke County source associated with the Lumber River Council Government said this week.

The proposed complex would consist of 48 two-bedroom apartment units including units for the elderly and the handicapped. Total cost of the project is \$1,075,000, with Wright providing the additional \$75,000 in funds.

The complex reportedly would be across from the new Hoke Medical Complex on N.C. 211 just south of Raeford.

Local city and county officials were recently invited to make comments concerning the proposal relating to their local programs that might provide for an overlap of local efforts. Essentially no comment from local officials had been received as of Tuesday, Vic Josephs regional planning director for the council, said.

A local F.H.M.A. official said that the local office informed the council that the project would not conflict or duplicate any existing plans here. She also explained that no further steps will be taken in securing the loan until the local and state clearing houses finish the review. A hearing must be held on the matter through the Lumber River Council of Governments, and the council will meet to hear the matter Thursday night. If it wins approval from the council and from a review at the state level, being conducted at the same time, Wright will then be directly in touch with the F.H.M.A.; although completion of the process and actual receipt of the funding could take "quite some time," according to Howard Hust of the local F.H.M.A.

Wright could not be reached for comment.

Sutton Accepts State Position

Ernest Sutton, assistant superintendent of Hoke County schools, has resigned that post to accept the position of assistant director of transportation with the state board in Raleigh, County Supt. Ray Autry said Monday.

Sutton submitted a written resignation April 9, citing the fact that his salary and travel expense had been written out of the budget as the reason for his decision. Autry told the board in the April 9 meeting that funding for Sutton's position was cut because Carsie Denning with the state board said Sutton could no longer be paid with state funds as maintenance supervisor for the school system because he was over-qualified. Autry said that Sutton's salary would have to come from local funds if the position were continued, although only \$6,669 in state funds is paid for the maintenance position.

Sutton's total salary this year would have been \$26,736.

The letter of resignation submitted by Sutton was rejected at that time following a 40-minute executive session. Autry announced Monday that, although the board voted to retain Sutton, Sutton had decided to take the Raleigh post.

The resignation is effective July 1, and Autry said there are no plans to hire another assistant superintendent. The local board will be served by only one assistant superintendent, J.D. McAllister, who is paid by federal funds.

Sutton has served the Hoke County school system for 11 years.

"I appreciate his loyalty to the school system and to me," Autry said. "He has been a diligent worker and has contributed a great deal to the school system and to the children," he continued.