

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Two visitors were by the office last week and we were sorry to miss one of them. Frank Jeter, Jr. who is the public relations executive for the Soil and Water Conservation department for the state was by the office Thursday and he and a representative from *The Progressive Farmer* were here looking over the farm operation of Earl Hendrix. Frank was editor of a paper at Spring Lake several years ago and we did the printing for him. It was nice to talk to Frank again.

The other visitor, whom I missed, was Charlie Simmons of Winston-Salem who worked for Dickson Press many years ago. I believe Charlie was here in the late 40s or early 50s. Maybe he will drop by again when I am in the office.

The Fourth of July was quiet in Hoke County, and according to a highway patrolman, the traffic was light. From all reports the gas situation was good because of the light flow of traffic. Maybe we create a problem that could be solved by driving too much. So far no gas lines have developed here and if people won't panic, maybe we will have plenty of gas or plenty for our needs.

Congressman Charlie Rose was in the city Friday and was at the Burlington Mill plants. The story about his visit to the plant is printed elsewhere in the paper. So take time to turn a page or two and see what the occasion was for the congressman to be there.

Anderson Hostetler was in charge of the program at the Raeford Kiwanis Club last Thursday night. He introduced Bill Cribbs, a friend of his who had just left the military service after serving for four years. Cribbs had finished Wake Forest and as a ROTC cadet had gone on active duty.

He stated that his father was a graduate of West Point and had retired after many years in the Army. Cribbs is what most folks would call an "Army Brat" having been raised on a military post and being a part of the Army until he went off to college.

I will not go into his talk except to say that he painted a very dark picture concerning the "Volunteer Army." Every Kiwanian took in every word and most of the time you could have heard a pin drop. If you are interested in his comments talk to any member that was present.

The following two letters were received this past week and we print them for your information.

Dear Sam:
On 2 July, 24 excited children left for Camp Monroe. The camp fee and individual personal needs were funded by the Hoke County Campership Program sponsored by the Raeford Woman's Club. This program is made possible through contributions from businesses, individuals, church and civic organizations. The Woman's Club would like to thank all persons who contributed money and/or their time to this worthwhile project. A special thanks to *The News-Journal* for the publicity provided the program.

Sincerely
Betty C. Knox
Pres. Raeford Woman's Club

Editor:
After leaving Hoke County, I find I must express my opinions of the county and its people.

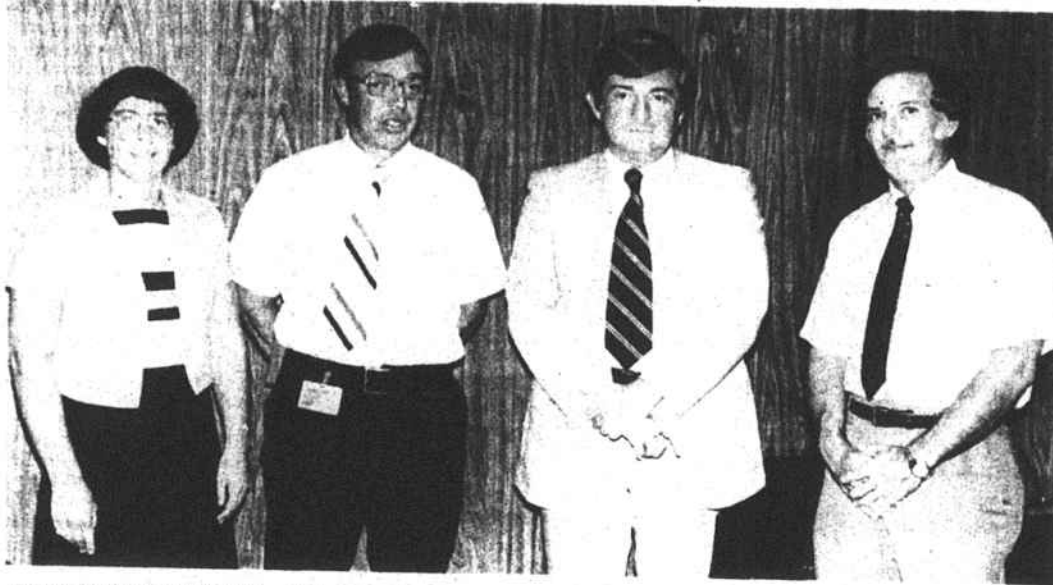
When my family and I arrived in Hoke County almost two years ago, I made up my mind not to become attached to the people there, for I knew the day would come when we would have to leave. But my intentions soon fell by the wayside as I discovered the friendly warmth and home-town feel of the county.

Although we have lived in many places, my family has never been as warmly received nor shown the courtesies that we enjoyed in Raeford. It is my opinion that there are no strangers in Raeford, just new faces, and newcomers are rapidly absorbed into the folksy.

(See AROUND TOWN, page 9)

By School Board Action

Oxendine, McAllister Get New Posts



CONGRESSMAN VISITS -- U.S. Rep. Charlie Rose of North Carolina's Seventh District, which includes Hoke County, visited the Burlington Industries Menswear plants in Raeford Friday afternoon. Rose, (third from left) is shown in an office of the dyeing plant with (L-R) Nancy Foltz of Burlington's corporate public relations staff in Greensboro and Gib Bernhardt, Menswear dyeing plant manager; and, right, Cecil Bond, Raeford plant manager. Burlington has two plants under one roof at Raeford, the Raeford and the dyeing.

The Hoke County Board of Education Monday night named Hoke High School Principal Earl Oxendine director of compensatory education, a new position.

Board chairman Riley Jordan said applications will be accepted beginning immediately to fill the vacant principal slot at Hoke High.

In the same action, the board appointed John D. McAllister associate superintendent of schools. McAllister had been serving as assistant superintendent.

In their new positions, however, neither of the two will get an increase in pay at this time. Oxendine now receives \$26,500 and McAllister \$27,800.

Also announced was a decision to designate a selected teacher as assistant principal at each of three of the county's schools -- Turlington, Upchurch, and Hoke High. Those selected for the new positions will continue as full-time teachers but will have additional duties to assist the principal. Each will receive a \$79 increase in monthly pay.

In other business, County Schools Supt. Raz Autry advised the board that a decision will have to be made in July as to whether the annual teacher supplements will be paid this year.

Autry said that with the tightened budget given the school system, it may be necessary to use up unappropriated surplus funds in the 1979-80 school year.

The \$100 supplements have been paid from the county's share of federal impact-aid funds, Autry said.

He said that of 251 teachers in all

categories, about 210 are eligible to receive the supplement, which means that \$21,000 would be required to carry it through.

The board disapproved a request from a Hoke County family seeking clearance to send their 5-year-old child to kindergarten in Moore County instead of Hoke. The family lives close to the county line and both parents work in Moore.

The request was denied on the basis that to make such an exception would "open too many doors" for similar action in other cases.

Another action of the board at Monday's session was to approve teaching contracts for Beth Fox (art) and Deborah L. Bertram (exceptional children). Decisions on two others proposed for the Hoke system were postponed for administrative reasons.

The board also approved appointments of four new members to the Community School Advisory Council for 1979-82, as the term for the standing council members had expired on June 30. New members Joyce Griffin, Robert Jones, Grace Kelton, and Robin Oxendine will replace D.R. Huff, Jr., Marion Hollingsworth, Ann Bundy, and Alan Sappenfield, respectively.

In considering plans presented by two insurance companies for school student insurance in the coming year, the board decided to stay with Youthguard, Inc., as in the past year. Youthguard offers up to \$25,000 in coverage and carries lower overall premiums than the other plan that was up for consideration.

Everything Goes Day

A Time For 'Just Feeling Good'

by Joe Holt

It was a time of gaiety and camaraderie, of fun and games, of friendly but sometimes fierce competition; a time of hot dogs and hamburgers, of paper cups and crushed ice and soda; of sitting on the grass and talking and laughing and just feeling good.

It was Hoke County's first annual Everything Goes Day, and it was the Fourth of July.

An estimated 500 holiday fun-seekers and community supporters participated in the festivities held near the hamlet of Rockfish between Raeford and Hope Mills. Some visited briefly and left, some came several times, and some came early and simply stayed all day.

Raeford Major J.K. McNeill, Jr., arrived early in the day to officiate at the opening of festivities. Speaking into the field microphone of Raeford radio station WSHB, the mayor welcomed everyone and expressed the "pride Hoke Countians can feel as hosts and supporters of this worthy undertaking."

And worthy it was. Jaycee Tommy Connell explained that the Jaycees had planned the Everything Goes Day to "do two important things -- to offer something to Hoke County people that they could identify with and enjoy on the Fourth without having to travel very far from home; and, in so doing, to raise some badly needed money for the March of Dimes for research in the prevention of birth defects."

It seems the plan worked out all right. From our vantage point behind a camera (whose film, we discovered later, hadn't been moving on the winding gadget), we observed that for those who love outdoor fun but aren't particularly attracted by large crowds, this first Everything Goes Day was tailor-made.

There was just so much to do, it was hard to know which way to turn. The program offered a sack race, frisbee toss, and dodgeball. There also were the obstacle course, the inner-tube race, continual volleyball, and hot-dog eating. Then there were the greased pole, the all-day relay, the rope-pulling contest, the canoe race, and the Jayceettes' auction sale. And, of

FD Goes Month, 25 Days Without Fires Reported

The Raeford Fire Department went a month and 25 days up to July 4 without receiving a single fire alarm, the first time in the department's history that has happened, Assistant Fire Chief Robert Jackson reported.

The department was organized over 60 years ago.

course, there was horseshoe pitching.

Things didn't seem to be going according to any kind of schedule, but along about 1:30 or so, when the heat had risen to somewhere in the neighborhood of egg-frying temperature, there was the sky-diving. Down they came, those daring young folk with the world at their feet, providing the spectators with early neck-bending practice for watching the fireworks that would close the festivities at around 9 p.m.

In the competitive events, it seems the Rockfish All-Stars came off with all the trophies except for the one for horseshoes. That one was wrested away by the duo of Larry Long and Earl Chason. And word had it that one of the radio-controlled model airplanes being flown from a nearby field as part of the day's agenda had crashed and burned sometime during the afternoon.

But the real story here is not the day itself, but rather the hard work of those who made it happen, and the root purpose of the whole affair. For while it was designed for relaxation and fun for the people who came, for the Raeford Jaycees the project was a real trial of organization, teamwork, and perseverance.

Though patterned after some of the less expensive activities of the television series, "Almost Anything

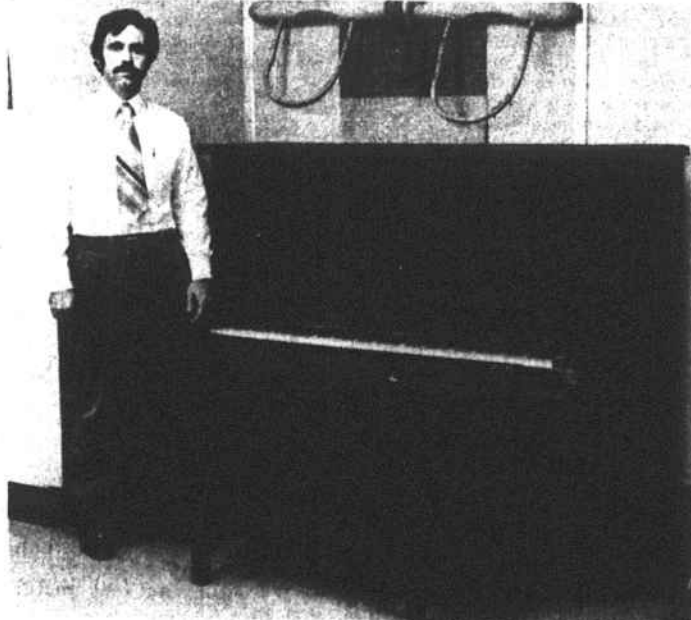
Goes," the local effort, unlike its TV counterpart, had had to be underwritten not so much by money as by volunteer toil and sheer will power. The Jaycees had worked for weeks in advance to get all the games, canoes, stands, and other materials in place and ready for the events. Huge holes had had to be dug, lined with waterproof material, and filled with water. (The small pond at the site could accommodate only the canoe and inner tube races.)

In addition to the engineering, arrangements for food and beverages, charcoal, utensils, ice, and other necessities had had to be made. And advance publicity for the event had had to be attained.

Perhaps the least successfully accomplished of all these chores was the publicity part. Though valiant efforts at advertising had been made by the Jaycees, there were still people living nearby who did not seem to know what was going on. But, thankfully, there were many throughout a large area who did.

Then there were the volunteers -- the local citizens who pitched in, the men and equipment of the Rockfish Volunteer Fire Department who stayed on station all day, the two sergeants from Fort Bragg, and the two ladies from out of town who were so obviously a part of the nucleus work force.

(See EVERYTHING, Page 15)



GIFT PIANO -- This piano was given recently to the Sandhills Youth Center, for youthful offenders, at McCain by Horace Blake of U.S. 401 north near Raeford. The center's superintendent, F. D. Hubbard (above), said the piano will be repaired, and residents of the center will give it a face-lifting. He said a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the center learned while the committee was looking for a piano to replace one that had broken that Blake had one to give. The repairs will be paid for from money donated by an Aberdeen adult Sunday school class toward the purchase price of a piano, with permission of the class, Hubbard said. The center has 200 residents ages 18 to 21.

Promoted From Assistant

Featherstone Named Associate Agent

Willie Featherstone, Jr., was promoted recently to associate agent at the Hoke County Agricultural Extension Service.

The appointment, effective July 1, was announced by Dr. T.C. Blalock, director of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service.

Dr. Blalock said in the announcement that the promotion "carries challenges for increased responsibilities in educational programming, professional development, and leadership."

Featherstone, who has been with the local Extension office as an assistant agent for the past four years, presently provides leadership to the community Resource Development Program in the county. Among his duties is that of working closely with Hoke County Extension Chairman W.S. Young and others in key positions throughout the county, to identify specific needs on a priority basis and then to plan and execute effective programs of action to address them.

Dr. Blalock pointed out that, in addition to his present duties, as associate Extension agent Featherstone will also assume responsibility for an educational program in marketing of agricultural products and will develop a definitive program in farm management.

Featherstone received his bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and is now pursuing his master's degree in the same field through North Carolina State University.

He and his wife, the former Willie Josephine Buie of Grady, Ark., are members of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church in Fayetteville, where Featherstone serves as superintendent of the Youth Department in the Sunday school and as president of the Layman's League.

Mrs. Featherstone is chairman of the Program Committee in the Sunday School and teaches kindergarten at Manchester Elementary School in Cumberland County.

The couple are members of the Inspirational Singers, a group which performs at other churches and gatherings on request, as well as at its home church, Lewis Chapel.

In Hoke, Featherstone also serves as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hoke County Literacy Council, an activity of volunteers in the community to



Willie Featherstone teach the illiterate how to read and write (see page 15). "Literacy Workshop," *The News-Journal* edition. (See FEATHERSTONE, Page 15)

McMillan Wins Pan Am Gold

Kathy McMillan of Raeford won the gold medal in the women's long jump at the Pan American Games in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Sunday.

Earlier this year, Miss McMillan, the 1976 Olympics silver medal winner in the event won the indoor and outdoor National AAU women's long jump competitions.

Her winning jump in the Sunday games measured 21 feet 2 1/4 inches.

She placed third in the event in the Pan American games of 1975. The runnerup to the Raeford athlete in Sunday's event was the defending champion, Ana Alexander of Cuba, with a jump of 20 feet 8 1/2 inches; and third place was taken by Jane Frederick of Orinda, Calif., with 20 feet 1/4 inch.

Miss McMillan is a rising senior at Tennessee State University of Nashville.

She is undefeated in competition. This year besides winning the (See McMILLAN, Page 15)