

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The weather over the past weekend was about perfect. Another trip to the mountains and the weather was a complete turn around from last week. It rained going up Friday but cleared up around noon and was fair for the weekend. The temperature got up to the 60s on Friday afternoon.

The forecast is for rain and colder weather for the remainder of the week.

Before Christmas, Mrs. Joe Stanley came by the office and showed me a basset hound that she had bought for her family. Monday, Mrs. Stanley called and said the puppy was missing. She thinks that it wandered out on the golf course at Arabia and might have followed someone so far from the house it couldn't find the way back home.

If anyone sees or can give any information about this puppy, please get in touch with Mrs. Stanley.

A letter from Frank Jeter, Jr. is printed below. I believe that it is self explanatory.

Dear Sam:

It took a little time (couple of months) but Editor Bill Wright finally published my appraisal of Art Gore's beautiful new book "Speak Softly to the Echoes" in his December edition. I hope this will help stimulate interest in this good book.

I'm enclosing a photo copy of the version *The State* magazine published. Possibly you'll want to share it with your readers.

I continue to enjoy *The News-Journal*. Please give my regards to Paul and to Bill Lindau. Maybe I'll bump into some of you at the Chapel Hill press wingding.

Best regards -  
Frank

*Speak Softly to the Echoes* by Art Gore. Northland Press, Flagstaff, Arizona. 108 pages. \$25.

The question is sometimes asked: Is photography really art, or must true art come from the brush of a painter or the hands of a sculptor? In recent years we have seen several books of photographs that seem to answer the question beyond doubt in favor of the photographer, and "Speak Softly to the Echoes" is the latest example.

Art Gore of Raeford (North Carolina can claim him even though he now resides and works in Colorado) has combined his gifted eye with his lens and film, and doubtless the quality of his work with his own skills in his photographic studio. (There is no way you can get prints like these back from the corner drugstore.)

Raeford and North Carolina have a valid claim to this artist and this book, because most of the scenes are laid in his home state. In fact, in his prefatory comment, he says: "Most everything that I deem necessary to say about myself — what I was, what I have become, and what I aspire to be, verbal and visual — is proclaimed in this book."

The subject matter can be termed "homey." A Mason jar full of candy sticks. A rooster behind "Chicken wire" with a large axe mark ominously nearby in a pine stump. A barn leaning perilously, looking as though one more good wind would collapse its peeling structure completely — and with gaudy circus posters fading where the advance man nailed them up years ago.

The language of this book seems less eloquent than the fascinating pictures. But we read about Art Gore's youthful existence: how he swung in a tire swing with his light of love, until somehow he took a bone-crunching fall. The troubled schoolboy who took a beating without fighting back. Plowing with a mule, after first "bribing" him with a single ear of yellow corn. The young World War II draftee whose bright plans for the future came to a sudden and permanent halt somewhere in North Africa.

But between reading the "print pages" of this book you will stop to look at the large full-color photographs. And wonder "How did he make a picture like that

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## Waste-disposal Corrections To Be Requested Of Industries

# City To Seek U.S. Waste-Water Grant

## Don Slaughter Is Given 'Thank You' Dinner

The Hoke County Parks and Recreation Commission gave Don Slaughter a "thank you" steak dinner the night of Jan. 16 in the South Hoke Community Center, a farewell testimonial for Slaughter, who resigned Jan. 7 as commission director.

John Balfour, chairman of the Board of Hoke County Commissioners, presented Slaughter with a framed copy of the commission's resolution expressing appreciation for Slaughter's services as director since he started work in the position in June 1976, and a Raeford City Council resolution of appreciation was presented to

Slaughter by City Manager Ron Matthews.

Linwood Huff, vice chairman of the recreation commission, presented Slaughter with a plaque also expressing appreciation, and W.K. Morgan, chairman of the commission, gave him a letter formally accepting his resignation.

Slaughter, 38, is going to work in Bristol, Tenn., the city of his birth and rearing.

Members of the commission and the commission's staff and county commissioners and County Manager James Martin were among those attending the appreciation dinner.



John Balfour (left) gives Slaughter a framed copy of the county commissioners' resolution expressing appreciation of Slaughter's services.

## Merchants' Association Elect 1980 Officers

The officers of the Raeford Merchants Association were elected for the new year at a breakfast meeting of the association members Tuesday morning at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant. Twenty attended.

Michael Smith of Michael Men's Shop was named president, Gordon Ragsdale of Raeford Auto Co., vice president, and Theresa McBryde of Theresa's Dress Shop, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. McBryde

gave a financial report.

The members heard a report of the association membership drive under way. Dues are \$25 per member for the new year.

Named to a promotion committee were Ed Hasty, chairman, James Wood, Pete Sawyer and Ivery McNair.

In other business, Earl Fowler, manager of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce, gave a progress report.

## Commissioners To Talk Feb. 4 With Firms' Executives

# 2 Identical Reappraisal Low Bids Filed

The Hoke County commissioners found two low bids for the county contract to reappraise real estate identical — \$85,000 — Monday night, and decided to talk at their

regular meeting of Feb. 4 with representatives of the companies.

The bids were submitted by Southern Appraisal Co. of Sea Level, N.C., and Allen Appraisal, Inc., of Laurinburg.

A bid of \$116,750 was received from Trumble-McGuirk & Associates of Atlanta, Ga., but was turned down because it was too high.

Hall Roofing Co., of Fayetteville was awarded the contract to remove and replace the flat area of the roof

on the old county office building on West Elwood Avenue. The company bid \$4,189.43. This was on the four bids received but Hall was awarded the contract principally because it placed a guarantee of seven years on its work.

The other bids were \$3,500 from McGinnis Plumbing & Construction Co., \$2,645 from A&G Construction Co., and \$2,102 from Cumberland Roofing Co.

In other action at Monday night's mid-month meeting, the

commissioners adopted a motion endorsing the county board of education's resolution supporting a proposed statewide school bond issue of \$600 million.

County Schools Supt. Raz Autry in a letter concerning the proposed issue informed the commissioners Hoke County would get about \$3 million of the state issue if the issue is made.

The school board's endorsement was asked by the State Association of School Boards.

## McPhatter Files For Board



Neil McPhatter

The Rev. Neil McPhatter filed Jan. 16 for the Democratic renomination to the Board of Hoke County Commissioners on the party primary of May 6.

The winners of the primaries run in the November general elections.

McPhatter is running for his second four-year term as a county commissioner. He has been serving since January 1976 when he was named to complete the unexpired portion of the term of J.A. Webb. The vacancy was created by Mr. Webb's death in December 1975.

McPhatter won the nomination, then, the following November, was elected to his first full term.

McPhatter is 56, a building contractor, and pastor of St. Andrews Holiness Church of Tyler town. He is the first black person to be named a Hoke County commissioner.

McPhatter and Danny DeVane are the only commissioners whose terms are expiring this year, under the system of staggered terms on the five-member board.

DeVane, 34, also a Democrat, filed with the board of elections earlier this month. He is running for his second term also. He owns a Raeford department store and is a licensed auctioneer.

The filing deadline is 5 p.m. Feb. 7.

## Home Health Agency Of Raeford

# Nurses Of Nonprofit Group Serve Patients At Home

The nonprofit Home Health Agency of Raeford has been providing homebound people in Hoke County with skilled nursing service in their homes since December 1977.

Right now the staff of five, who include two registered nurses, are serving 45 patients, but want to serve more. Agency Director

George Kecatos says many more in Hoke need the service but don't know it's available. The agency's office is at 527 Harris Ave., at the end of the block of offices on the Northwest side of the street.

The registered nurses are Judy Ferguson and Ronda Pickler. The other member of the staff is Helen Fields, the nursing assistant.

When a person thinks of "homebound" patients, he thinks of adults. But one of the patients the Raeford staff is serving, will be 2 years old next month, and another will be 6 in March.

The agency is operated by the Home Visiting Department of St. Joseph of the Pines Hospital in

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L-R. Director Kecatos, Nurses Ferguson and Pickler, Nursing Assistant Fields, in Home Health Agency office in Raeford.

The Raeford City Council Monday night adopted a motion to apply for a federal grant to help pay for improvements in the city's waste-water treatment system.

The councilmen also decided to provide the city's three major industries with the information and recommendations contained in a report of an industrial-waste survey, ask the industries what they can do to correct the situations, then set up a schedule for each to bring waste-disposal into compliance with the city sewer-system use ordinance.

The report of the survey of industrial waste going into the city system was given to the council and discussed by Ray Topping of Moore, Gardner & Associates of Asheboro, the engineering firm which is the consultant to the city. Topping made the survey with aides from the company's Surfside Beach, S.C., branch.

The survey covered the waste disposal of the Raeford plants of Faberge, Inc., Burlington Menswear, and House of Raeford.

The subject will be discussed again at the council's next regular monthly meeting, which will be held Feb. 4. Dennis Ramsey of the State Department of Industrial Management will be invited to attend.

Situations which do not comply with one or more sections of the city sewer ordinance must be corrected because the city is held responsible by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency for uses of the city system which do not comply with EPA regulations; consequently, the city is subject to federal penalties of up to \$10,000 per day.

The city ordinance provides a penalty of \$200 per day per violation and for recovery from the user of compensation for federal penalties imposed against the city for violations committed by the user.

Councilman Bob Gentry suggested the city give the industries the information about noncompliances contained in the survey report, then ask them what they can do, rather tell them what they must do.

Topping recommended the city give the industries four months to study their noncompliance situations, and complete plans to correct them, then give them six to eight months to establish the correcting facilities.

He added that if an industry has problems with the scheduling set, the city should negotiate with the industry to find suitable adjustments. A deadline for bringing industrial disposal systems into complete compliance also would be set.

The application for the grant will be made to the federal Economic Development Administration. The motion did not specify how much the city would ask for but earlier in the discussion Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr., who asked for the motion, said the application would be for \$800,000. He said this would pay 80 per cent of the cost, and the city would have to put up the rest.

At that point Gentry said, "That's just our part," that the city still would need action by the industries. Then he made his suggestion that the industries should be provided with the report's information and asked what they could do to eliminate noncompliances.

Monday night's meeting was a special one set only for hearing and discussing the Moore, Gardner report.