

In Proposed 1980-81 Budget Report

No Hike In Hoke Tax Rate Seen Needed

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Reunion notes:
A classmate from the 1935 class who attended the reunion of 1975 and again in 1980 is Annie Ruth Alexander Langis. Annie Ruth now lives in Massachusetts and comes by the office about every time she is in town visiting her mother, Mrs. W.L. Alexander. She is also looking forward to the 1985 reunion.

Someone informed me Monday morning that Carrie Hall Duke, whom I mentioned in this column last week, had a slight heart attack last week but was doing fine at this time. Hope she will be up and about before too long.

Maybe more notes later on about the reunion.

Someone came by the office this week and was telling me that if you really wanted to know about inflation just go to a hospital. This person had a bill dated in 1962 and the room and board for a day was \$9.50.

Another bill dated last week showed room and board at the same hospital \$113.00 per day.

Yes, if things keep going up, it will be impossible to go to the hospital because you will be sicker when you leave, after receiving the bill.

Robert Gatlin was by the office last week and was telling me about he and his wife's trip to Mt. Holly to visit the Leo Fullers. As most of the older folks here know, Leo was born and raised in Hoke County and graduated from Raeford High School in the late 1920s. Leo was a star in football and baseball. He played third base on the 1929 team that won the Eastern Championship and lost to Shelby in the state finals.

He is in the retail furniture business, but his son, Jim, looks after the business most of the time as Leo is semi-retired. Robert said he takes *The News-Journal* and must read every word in it, because he could tell him things about Raeford that he didn't know and this is hard to do.

Leo lived as a young man in the home now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sellars on N. Main Street. He and his wife, Julia, lived in the home now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Matherly on Magnolia Street.

According to Gatlin, Leo is in fine health and he stayed three days with him and talked about old times in Raeford and Hoke County.

The following letter was received last week:

Dear Mr. Morris:

I am sending you a list of the members of the Class of 1936 from Hoke County High School and would like to ask if you can suggest any way we might have a class reunion. Somewhere among my old papers, I recently came upon this list of my classmates and realized that I have not seen most of them since the night we walked across the stage and were awarded our diplomas.

Would it be appropriate to ask you to print the class roll in your column in *The News-Journal* and request that anyone who would be interested in locating class members, or anyone who is a class member to send in their present address? I know of several of this list who are deceased, but do not have any account of how many are still living.

I shall appreciate any suggestions or any assistance you can give me.

Class Roll:

GIRLS:
Jean Andrews, Helen Barrington, Louise Bevan, Myrtle Capps, Elizabeth Crowley, Elizabeth Currie, Mary Anne Currie, Elizabeth Davis, Sallie Davis, Linda Mae Dixon, Rachel Dixon, Reva Epstein, Edna Lentz, Florence Anita

(See AROUND TOWN, page 11)

Crop Land Photographed From Air

The crop land on Hoke County farms was photographed from the air Friday for the U.S. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

John Currin, ASCS Hoke County manager, said the work was done primarily to determine tobacco production acreage.

Crews throughout the state have been doing similar aerial photographing of the other counties.

Currin said before the Hoke picture-taking crew took off Friday morning from Raeford Airport that photographing the county would take 4 to 6 hours that day, depending on weather conditions.

The photography team consisted of the photographer, Kenneth Goetze of Raleigh, and the observer, Mark Thompson of Oxford. Goetze is a Guilford College student and Thompson a Duke University student, and they are working for ASCS this summer to earn money to help pay for their college educations.

The plane used for the work is a single-engine Cessna and the pilot was Brad Walker of Hillsborough, who formerly worked for ASCS and now flies for the federal agency on private contract.

Currin and Walter Thomas, chief field assistant for the Hoke ASCS, were at the airport with the members of the aerial photo crew.

Currin said the crew was doing the same work he had to do on the ground but the aerial photographing didn't completely replace the ground work. He said he would have to follow up on the ground when defects showed up in the photos.

The county's crop land was photographed from the air in 1978 for the first time and in 1979 as an experiment to see whether it would work.



AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY -- L-R. Kenny Goetze, Mark Thompson, pilot Brad Walker, John Currin, and Walter Thomas are shown with the plane at Raeford Airport Friday morning shortly before Goetze, Thompson and Walker took off to take aerial photographs of Hoke County farms crop land for the U.S. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Currin is Hoke County manager, and Thomas, chief field assistant in Hoke for the ASCS.

Students Sought For Census Work

The U.S. Census Bureau is looking for college students and soon-to-be college graduates to work as temporary enumerators in the 1980 Census operations. Enumerators will be going door to door in their own communities to interview residents who did not

return census questionnaires by mail and assist with the completion of these questionnaires.

Applicants must take a written, job-related test and complete a paid training session before beginning work. Employees will be paid on a piece-rate basis designed to yield \$4 per hour for the average worker. Jobs will last three to six weeks.

To apply, call the toll-free census recruiting number which is 1-800-632-0336 for North Carolina.

Students may also contact the Census Office in the city nearest their homes. Here is the address and telephone number of your local Census Office: 512-514 Hay Street, Fayetteville, 28301, (919) 323-5396; Or call your local Employment Security Commission.

Free Lunches Slated

The Hoke County School Food Service will offer a free Summer Feeding Program for all children ages 19 and under.

No child shall be discriminated against because of race, sex, color or national origin.

Lunches will be served in all the cafeterias with the exception of J.W. McLaughlin. They will also

be served in the following churches: St. Peter's Baptist, Center Grove Baptist, Laurel Hill Baptist, and Hoke County Holiness.

The program will begin June 23 and end Aug. 8. The serving time will be 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. daily except for July 4th, no lunch will be served that day.

All lunches must be eaten in the lunchroom or at the church sites.

Burlington Announces Raises

Burlington Industries today announced upward wage adjustments for its 46,000 production employees in 10 states.

The wage increase will become effective during the week of June 15.

"Percentages will vary to some degree among our various divisions

since they are different types of operations," according to Charles A. McLendon, executive vice president.

Burlington's last general increase for wage employees was in July 1979. The 1980 adjustment will be the 12th increase by Burlington in the past 11 years.

Bill Wounded, Effort Fails

Woman Tries To Save Duck's Life

Somebody last week killed one duck and wounded her male companion so badly he couldn't feed himself, and had to be put to sleep.

A woman telephoned *The News-Journal* Friday that the ducks had been swimming in Jones's Pond on the farm of T.C. Jones near Pittman Grove Baptist Church for at least a month that she knows of, but she doesn't know who if anyone owns them. She said she lives near the Jones farm.

"The children loved to see them swimming," she said. She asked that her name not be used.

She said she saw the wounded

duck, its bill bent, walking near her house Thursday. She said she called the Raeford Animal Clinic and was informed a veterinarian wasn't available at the time but was advised to feed the duck with a medicine dropper or a bottle, and this she tried to do, though it was difficult.

She said the duck had been wounded by possibly a BB or other kind of pellet-firing gun.

The woman notified the Sheriff's Department Friday after being advised by a reporter, since the killing and maiming apparently

constituted cruelty to animals. She said she was informed the county animal warden would be sent to her house to see what he could do for the bird.

The woman said she wanted to do everything she could to save the duck's life because he was making such a great effort to live. "I want to give him a chance," she said.

However, a veterinarian was quoted as saying there was little that could be done for a duck with that kind of wound. Synthetic bills have been made experimentally to replace damaged bills but it is not

known whether one would have served satisfactorily on the duck. William Hales, the animal warden, said Monday the duck had to be put to sleep Friday because his lower bill had been destroyed so he couldn't eat or drink.

The woman said she called *The News-Journal* because she wanted to bring to people's attention this brutality that had happened. "It's terrible people are so ignorant," she said of whoever is responsible for shooting the ducks.

The other duck was found dead at the pond by a fisherman, she said.

Variety Wholesalers To Buy Drug Chain

Variety Wholesalers, Inc., board chairman and president John W. Pope has announced plans to purchase the 115 stores of a firm based in Hattiesburg, Miss.

The firm, Value-Mart, Inc., is not to be confused with Valu-Mart, a chain of four stores owned by C.B. Drug Co. of Harrisburg, N.C. One of the Value-Mart stores is on

Main Street, Raeford. The report published elsewhere last weekend left the impression that the purchase plan concerned Valu-Mart, because of the simi-

larity between the names. Value-Mart, Inc., operates stores in seven states but none in North Carolina. (See VALU-MART, page 11)

The present level of Hoke County's services can be maintained in the new fiscal year at the current tax rate of \$1.01 per \$100 and "We believe the proposed budget is fiscally sound," says County manager James E. Martin in the report of the county budget proposed for 1980-81.

The new fiscal year will start July 1.

Martin reports in his message to the commissioners that the revenue anticipated from the property tax in 1980-81 is computed on an approximate assessed value totaling \$180 million at an estimated 92 per cent collection rate. The assessed value of taxable property in the county for the past year's revenue from the tax was \$174 million. The return from the tax for the new year is estimated at \$1,672,560. The past year's total through this month is estimated at \$1.7 million.

The budget proposed for 1980-81 provides for a 10 per cent cost-of-living pay raise for most county employees, and several additional adjustments in salaries.

The county manager's salary for the current year is \$21,348, and the budget proposal recommends it be left that way for 1980-81.

The proposed budget recommends that the pay for the county commissioners be set up on a basis of \$175 per month for the chairman and \$125 monthly for each of the other commissioners, an allowance of \$50 per day each for meetings and conferences outside the county that commissioners attend, and an increase in travel allowances to \$100 from \$60 per month for the chairman, and to \$85 from \$50 for the commissioners. The chairman's current pay is \$2,100 and the other commissioner's \$1,500 per year each.

The proposed budget provisions include \$3,251,064 operating funds for all departments, compared with \$2,847,326 estimated through this month for the current fiscal year, which will end June 30, in the general fund.

Other provisions are: \$840,444 in special appropriations, compared with \$811,579 for the present year. The special appropriations include \$701,824 for current expenses for the school system, compared with \$664,806 for 1979-80. -- \$115,623 for county and school system debt service.

-- \$46,515 for school capital outlay (new construction and equipment), compared with \$22,000 for 1979-80. The board of education had requested \$92,015 for the new fiscal year. Martin, however, was quoted by County Schools Supt. Raz Autry at last week's school board meeting for May as saying he would try to get as much from the federal revenue-sharing funds as possible for the schools.

The proposed budget shows \$409,042 in federal revenue-sharing funds for 1980-81 compared with \$467,673. The new year's total includes about \$194,000 in funds previously budgeted but not spent. Martin says in his report.

The proposed budget also recommends \$49,500 for five new cruisers for the Sheriff's Department, at a cost of \$8,500 per car less a total of \$1,500 in trade-in allowances.

Generally, county departmental requests include an increase for mileage expenses for private vehicles driven on county business, to 21 cents from 17 cents per mile, because of the increasing cost of gasoline. Martin's report says. In most cases, however, the amount budgeted for travel is unchanged from the current year.

The report also contains these statements in reference to 1980-81 budget items, among others:

-- Planning: a new department subject to approval of an application for a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

-- Public buildings: increase for utilities and supplies.

-- Sheriff: increase for auto expense and supplies.

-- Jail: increase for food, supplies and an additional cook.