

Class Subject: Family Of Alcoholic

Family involvement in the disease of alcoholism will be discussed August 19 at the Hoke County Library in a class open to the public.

The class will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. by the Sandhills Mental Health Center.

The speaker will be Dennis Brewster, a substance abuse counselor. The class is titled "Tough Love."

The announcement of the meeting says, "The first step in helping the alcoholic is to help yourself, the family, to live a normal, healthy life without trying to control the drinker."

"This can be achieved by first gaining information about the family involvement in alcoholism or drug dependency."

The announcement also gives the following information.

Many people find themselves living with a substance abuse problem. Mother, father, or husband or wife is an alcoholic. Son or daughter is abusing drugs. The family is affected by the substance abuse as much as the person using the drugs or alcohol. It's tough to love in a family where one member

is killing the family relationships.

The family of the alcoholic is involved in his disease, therefore it is in need of special assistance to live a normal, functional life. The family is considered the co-alcoholic.

The family finds itself protecting the alcoholism from public. Spouses and children may lie about the alcoholism. For example, Johnny may say, "My dad is a super father. He plays ball with me every evening." All along he knows that dad drinks until he passes out every evening.

Mom may say to the preacher, "We can't go to church anymore because 'dad' is too sick or works so hard during the week we need that time together as a family."

Families will protect the drinking and deny any problem, even with anger.

The anger comes from feeling guilty about the drinking. Spouse may feel blame for the drinking.

"If I would have been a better husband my wife would not have started drinking as much as she does."

Sometimes the family feels rejected or not loved anymore because of the alcoholic drinking. Then the anger comes across like this: "If you loved me you would not drink so much."

The hurt the family feels, the guilt it accepts, the responsibility for the drinker leaves the family incomplete, no longer able to love each other, the members no longer able to love each other. The hurt is too great to allow the members of the family to grow.

The family tries to make the drinker stop by threats or by pressuring him or by making him feel guilty.

For example, wife may say, "If you don't stop drinking I'll leave." Husband gets drunk, wife does not leave, or wife leaves but comes back in a day or two.

Sometimes the threat brings promises that the alcoholic means but can't keep. "I'll never drink again", or "If you leave me I'll kill myself or you or burn the house down." Then the non-drinker or co-alcoholic feels more responsible and more guilty.

Workers Help Save Injured Man

It all happened so fast. Donald Branch and Charles Jacobs, of Red Springs, right-of-way workers with Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation, were pulling into the parking lot at Currie Chain Saw in Lumberton to get a machine repaired.

The next minute they were using mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to revive an employee whose neck had been crushed.

On the morning of June 16, Branch and Jacobs started their day with a safety and rescue meeting conducted by John Brothers of the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives. The training was part of their "pole-top" rescue procedures - the type of thing everyone hoped they would never have to use but were always glad to know.

A few hours later, the two men went to Lumberton to have the Cooperative's "Bush hog" machine repaired. Upon arriving at the dealership, a man rushed up to the truck and asked for help.

On the floor of the warehouse, they found a man lying on the floor between a forklift and a crate that had two motorcycles in it.

"He wasn't moving," Branch said. "He was hurt bad and nobody was doing anything about it."

Jack Davis, a 49-year-old employee of the company, had been knocked down by the crate and was not breathing when Branch and Jacobs reached him. No one knew how the accident had occurred.

Acting through their training



Charles Jacobs and Donald Branch

from that morning, the men began heart massage and resuscitation. "We worked on him for about four or five minutes," Jacobs said. "We took turns giving him mouth-to-mouth and heart massage. For a while nothing happened, but then we got a good pulse rate and his color started coming back."

The impact of the accident fractured Davis's neck. He was taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville where the doctors confirmed the seriousness of the injury. There was a 99 percent chance that he would remain paralyzed from the neck down.

Davis has seen little improvement over recent weeks. Confined to Cape Fear Valley, he has been on a respirator to help him breathe since his admission.

The first good sign came the week before last. According to Henry Burchette, brother-in-law of Davis who works at the same place, the hospital was going to take Davis off of the respirator machine.

A married man without children, Davis continues the road to recovery, a road initially constructed by two customers who happened to know a life-saving technique.

State Elections Board Ruling

Diehl Calls Decision 'Infringement'

Philip (Phil) Diehl of Raeford, is quoted as saying a state elections board decision that removed John Anderson's name from next November's presidential ballot "was an infringement on our rights and the rights of voters across the nation."

He was quoted by a newsmen during a press conference Monday in Durham at the headquarters of the Independents for Anderson Party.

Diehl, an attorney, who is a plaintiff in the suit against the state board, said a court decision in the matter could be expected in "a month or six weeks."

Anderson's supporters said at the conference they were confident the U.S. District Court would overturn the state board's action.

Diehl and Gerald Eizenstat of New Jersey say Anderson withdrew from the Republican presidential primary race on April 24, and consequently did not participate in the May 6 North Carolina primary as the elections board claims.

The board, basing its action on its contention, voted 3-2 on July 29 to remove Anderson's name from the state ballot for the next general election.

Diehl, pointing out that the three votes in the action were cast by Democrats, described the board's decision as an attempt by the board to protect the major political parties from the Anderson candidacy.

He says the decision was not

valid because "this is a national election and Anderson is a national candidate, and this was a local decision."

When questioned about Anderson's low profile since Anderson's publicized meeting with Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, Diehl "played it down," the report of the Durham conference says.

Till Monday night, Kennedy was

trying to win the Democratic presidential nomination, opposing President Carter. He withdrew from the race after a majority of the delegates at the Democratic national convention voted to require delegates to honor commitments made by voters in their state presidential primaries and caucuses earlier this year. The requirement affects the first ballot on candidates for the nomination.

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1955

Acting County Superintendent W.T. Gibson said this week that he had been notified that the Moore County board of commissioners had declined to accept the offer of Hoke County of the Little River School tax plus the purchase of two buses in return for the privileges of having 176 Hoke County children of Little River Township attend school in Moore County.

Judy Almond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Crowell Almond of Quewhiffle Township, route one, Aberdeen, was declared State winner in the poultry demonstration at 4-H Club week in Raleigh recently.

3-Day Tennis Tourney To Open Friday

The Raeford Adult Invitational Tournament sponsored by the Hoke County Tennis Association will open at 1 p.m. Friday for three days of play on the McLaughlin Park courts in Raeford.

The finals are scheduled for Sunday.

The divisions of competition are: Men: singles and doubles; and 35 and older, singles and doubles.

Women: singles and doubles; and 30 and older, singles and doubles.

Mixed doubles. Father-and-son doubles.

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From Rockfish News: Fayetteville Street is looking for ward to a face lifting by the road crew sometime soon, even if Connie stays out at sea. If Connie hits, no telling how it will be.

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