

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The weather for the Easter Parade was perfect in Hoke County. The temperature was in the 80s and there wasn't any rain. Robert Gatlin was by the office Monday morning and said that one-tenth of an inch fell about 11 o'clock Sunday night.

The forecast for Monday was 70 percent chance of rain, but as of this time, about 3:30 p.m. no rain had fallen in Raeford. The sky was overcast but the wind had been blowing the clouds around and it didn't look like we would have much rain.

A farmer was in the office during the day and said that all crops needed rain very much, but that tobacco couldn't hold out much longer.

We are all hoping that the rains will come before too long.

The Raeford Presbyterian Church was filled Easter Sunday for the morning worship service. I haven't heard about the other churches, but understand that a large crowd attended the sunrise service at the Hoke High Stadium.

Easter Monday is a state holiday and many financial businesses, state, county and city offices all close for this holiday. Some of the other businesses also close, but many of the chain stores remain open, along with most service stations.

The schools of the county schedule the entire week for holidays and use them as snow days if they must close during the winter. The schools didn't have any snow days this year, so they were closed all week.

Times have changed, because Easter Monday years ago didn't close anything in Hoke County, including schools. But of course in those days, it was a six-day work week and some folks worked from sun-up to sun-down.

Those were what we hear called "the good old days?"

Reports from my family members that had to travel on I-95 and I-85 to get home for Easter was that the roads were crowded. They stated that when they left the interstates that the traffic was not bad at all.

I was talking last week with someone about the high cost of energy and it brought to mind the hard times of the early 30s. There wasn't much money flowing around at that time and what little a family had, they would purchase a few needed items like sugar and coffee. The other essential food items were either raised in the garden or produced such as hogs, chicken, cows, etc.

Now one thing that we all have to put up with and have to do is pay taxes and die. Of course we didn't want to die and most folks didn't have money to pay taxes.

So getting back to energy, they would pay their taxes by bringing in loads of wood which would be used for fuel at the courthouse, jail and the schoolhouse. This kinda sticks in my mind because they used to stack the wood between the courthouse and the jail. The method of getting the wood to the schoolhouse was with a wheelbarrow and the power behind this was the high school boys. If there were no volunteers, then if you had been in trouble the punishment was to haul wood for the recess period or after school.

The school term had been cut from nine to eight months because of the economy and there was talk of cutting it to six months if things didn't get better. They must have improved because we never had the six months school.

So in the 1930s it was not the high cost of energy that caused the problem, but the lack of money. The problem was solved then and the high cost of energy today is with money in abundance, but the costs are above anything any of us would have ever imagined. But the problem must be solved and it must be solved in a way that it was in the 1930s when the lack of money was

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Hoke High Students Participate

'Accident' Tests Emergency Services

Correction

The News-Journal in its April 16 edition reported erroneously that the Hoke County Grand Jury the previous week returned a true bill of indictment on a charge against Daniel Eric Jones, 18, of Rt. 1, Raeford, of possession of more than one ounce of marijuana.

The News-Journal regrets the error and is happy to make the correction.

Jones had been in Superior Court in connection with an alleged violation of probation, in that he had failed to be regularly employed or enrolled in school as a fulltime student. Judge William Helms, however, modified and continued Jones on probation. The modification was that Jones be employed outside his family. The court had been informed in Jones's defense that Jones had been employed by his family.

The condition of employment or fulltime student status was one imposed May 27, 1980, in suspending a sentence for possession of marijuana, after Jones pleaded guilty to the charge. The Grand Jury returned a true bill on this charge in January 1980.



'Victims' of the disaster awaiting emergency medical help. The 'disfigurements' on them were made up to fit the spirit of the drill.

Ambulances, fire engines, and police cruisers came rushing to U.S. 401 bypass at Teal Drive about 9:30 a.m. April 15 where a school bus and a gas truck stood side by side in a field, and about 40 students, showing ugly signs of injuries were sitting or lying on the ground.

Thick smoke rose from different places near the truck and bus.

Hoke County Ambulance Service and Hoke County Rescue Squad workers quickly went to work, giving emergency help and putting the seriously injured on stretchers and into waiting ambulances for trips to hospitals.

Police Chief Leonard Wiggins and his officers were on 401 directing traffic.

They also were answering questions asked by motorists who wanted to know what had happened.

The answer was: it was an emergency drill staged by the Hoke County office of the federal Emergency Management Agency (formerly Civil Preparedness). It was directed at the scene by the Hoke EMA manager, Bill Niven. Also participating was Capt. Norman Dean of the Army National Guard.

Dean handled the "special effects", the canisters which provided the thick smoke that added realism to the scene. Dean commands Company C, Second Battalion, 252nd Armor. The battalion's Headquarters and Headquarters Company is based in Raeford.

The "disaster" was an exercise for the county's emergency services, and Hoke High health-occupations students helped, serving as "victims". Most of the "injuries" had been made up in advance, at school, before the "disaster" occurred, though some needed touching up at the scene shortly before the emergency services men and women arrived.

Niven later praised Mrs. Sally Young, health occupations teacher, for organizing her students so no time was lost once the emergency situation was started. In the drill, the emergency services people went into action after receiving a radioed report from the Hoke County Sheriff's Department that a gas truck and a school bus had collided.

The sheriff's department notified the Raeford Police Department once it was learned that the "accident" had occurred in the city limits.

Niven also praised the Hoke High art students, who had made the simulated injuries with makeup.

Though the accident and its results were simulated, the professional emergency people and the participating students acted as though it were real.

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Niven said Hoke High's cooperation was superb, starting with Dr. Lenwood Simpson, the principal, who received Niven's request for student help about two weeks before the exercise, when it was first being planned. Simpson was at the scene April 15, staying till he learned his help was no longer needed.

Later last week, an official of the state Division of Emergency Management said, "I evaluated an exercise held in Raeford.... Over the 12 years that I have been with the Civil Defense program, I have probably witnessed a hundred type exercises/drills".

"The unusual aspects of this exercise was the total involvement that your Emergency Management Coordinator, William Niven, obtained from the community. Besides the obvious involvement of the emergency services, law enforcement, fire and rescue, he also utilized the services of the health occupation and art classes of Hoke High School; the National Guard; and an instructor from the Sandhills Community College."

"This approach Mr. Niven employed, in preparation for this exercise, caused much more of the community to become aware of the emergency preparedness efforts being accomplished in Hoke County. It was an excellent exercise and I was very proud of Mr. Niven's preparation for this exercise."

The statements were made in a letter written Thursday by Vance E. Kee, coordinator, Area "C", of the state EM Division, to John Balfour, chairman of the Board of Hoke County Commissioners.

April 30-May 1 At Upchurch Junior High School

Arts Festival Offers Variety Of Displays, Performances

The 1981 two-day Hoke County Fine Arts Festival will be held April 30 - May 1, at Upchurch Junior High School under the sponsorship of the North Carolina Grass Roots Arts Program, the Hoke County Arts Council and the Upchurch students and faculty.

The programs will offer visitors a variety of work in crafts, visual arts, dance, and music, with many visiting performers on the program.

On April 30, the gym will be opened at 9:15 a.m. to the public and the Upchurch English classes

to view the arts and crafts setups. Students arts displays will be held in the Choral and Band Rooms.

Arts and crafts demonstrations will be held April 30 in the gym.

That afternoon, also in the gym, these performances will be given: -- Dance: Bill Weaver - Scottish

Piper and School of Highland Dancing, Red Springs; singing -- the J.W. Turlington School Chorus, "It's Music"; mime, juggling, and clowning -- Kevin Campbell and Andy Finney (noon to 5 p.m.), North Carolina School of the Arts, Winston-Salem; singing -- Hoke High Barbershop Singers; impressionist -- Danny Norton, Raeford; vocal duet -- Vincent McAllister, Raeford, and Ann Freeze, Upchurch chorus director; vocal solo -- McAllister; instrumental music -- "Once In A While" Group, Raeford; singing -- First Baptist Church Children's Choir.

A concert will be given that night at 7:30 in the Upchurch auditorium by the Upchurch Chorus and Band.

The performing arts presentations will be given May 1 in the Upchurch auditorium. Starting at 8:15 a.m., the 82nd Airborne Division All American Chorus will sing compositions ranging from patriotic to "pop."

This performance will be followed an hour later by playing of scenes from the historical drama, "Strike at The Wind," which is given at Pembroke every summer.

Following an hour break, the Click 'N' Cloggers of Durham will give a performance of folk dances, starting at 11:40 a.m.

Following lunch, jazz artist and composer Loonis McGlohon and his Jazz Trio of Charlotte will perform, starting at 1 p.m. The other members are drummer Bill Stowe, and Terry Peoples, on the string bass.

A rock group, which is being arranged for, will provide the closing entertainment at 2 p.m.

Also participating in the festival will be Richard Mayberry, visiting artist at Anson Technical College near Wadesboro.

A chicken dinner will be served April 30 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Upchurch cafeteria with the proceeds from the sale of tickets at \$3 each to go to the Upchurch chorus and band.

The festival committees are: Upchurch Principal Allen Edwards, school coordinator; Joan Balfour, Arts Council coordinator; Eloise Carter and Jimmy James, Arts and Crafts co-chairmen; Anne Freeze, Performing Arts coordinator; Mary Archie McNeill and Glenn Langdon, programs; Upchurch Assistant Principal W.K. Morgan, stage director; Gail Stephens, Arts Council, finance chairman; Mary Archie McNeill, correspondence; Judy Chavis, Bonnie Davis, floral arrangements; Dwan Upchurch, Carol Tolin, Lodging and Meals, Nancy Davis, hospitality chairman.



The 82nd Airborne Division Chorus, shown here, will be among the groups entertaining the visitors May 1 during the 1981 Hoke County Fine Arts Festival which will be held at Upchurch Junior High School starting April 29 at 9 a.m.

Set Clocks An Hour Ahead For DST Sunday

Daylight Savings Time will start officially at 2 a.m. Sunday.

This is to remind you to set your clocks forward an hour before you go to bed Saturday night or early Sunday.

If you normally go to bed at 10 p.m. Saturday, set your

clock to 11 p.m. before you retire.

Of course, if you don't want to mess with the clock, just remember to get up an hour earlier than usual starting Sunday morning.

Otherwise you may be the only one at the church when you arrive for Sunday school.



The performance of Loonis McGlohon (above) and his Jazz Trio of Charlotte is on the entertainment program for May 1 at the Hoke County Fine Arts Festival.