

## By Commissioners At Mid-month Meeting

# Hoke's Sunday Beer Sales Ban Repealed

Action by the Board of Hoke County Commissioners Monday night allows sales of beer and wine on Sundays, for off-premises consumption.

The repeal became effective immediately.

The commissioners on a 3-2 vote adopted a motion made by Commissioner Danny DeVane to repeal the ordinance enacted August 10, 1971, prohibiting the sales of beer and wine between 1 p.m. Sunday and 7 a.m. Monday.

The negative votes were cast by Commissioners Mabel Riley, who had called for tighter law enforcement a new effort to get the state brown-bagging law changed rather than return Sunday sales to the county; and Commissioner Neill McPhatter, a minister.

DeVane made the same motion at the commissioners' September 8 meeting but it died for lack of a second.

Stores which have brown-bagging permits because they meet the state requirements concerning dining room seating capacity and percentage of income which comes from food sales also are permitted to sell beer and wine on Sundays though for off-premises consumption. Other food stores which have permits to sell beer and wine during the week but not, under the county prohibition, on Sundays, do not have this right. DeVane had said previously he was opposed to alcoholic beverages sales on Sunday but favored repeal of the prohibition because the situation was unfair to store operators not eligible for brown-bagging permits.

Commissioner James Hunt and John Balfour, chairman of the board, joined DeVane in making up the vote that adopted the motion. Hunt said he had not voted for repeal in the past but that he had voted now because he felt the present situation was unfair.

The motion was made after the commissioners heard store operators ask for repeal. Franklin Davis said he felt the situation was unfair, even though he has a permit to sell on Sundays. "If I didn't have a license," he said, "Wagram is wide open" nearby for him to use, he added. About a dozen people appeared before the commissioners to support repeal.

The popular vote which had approved legal sales of beer and wine in Hoke County, however, also approved a stipulation that the beverages be sold at room temperature. It was pointed out that store owners selling beer and wine were violating the law by selling beer and wine from refrigerators. DeVane said that this old condition ought to be changed. Balfour replied that if the people voted in beer and wine sales on that stipulation, then it should be adhered to. He suggested, however, that County Attorney Duncan McFadyen look into it.

Mrs. Riley argued that extending beer sales on Sundays would increase hazards to public safety.

### Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Did you turn on your heat during the weekend? Some folks did just that. The temperature dropped down into the 40s and it was rather cool on Saturday and Sunday mornings. It was not hot Monday morning, but the temperature started going up after the sun came out.

The forecast is for rain, maybe by the last of the week, with the daytime temperatures in the 70s.

The Hoke County Civic Center committee had a meeting last Tuesday and had a discussion about the condition in which the center was left after some folks had rented it for an event.

The committee voted as of October 1 to require a security deposit of \$50.00 to any group using the Civic Center. This deposit will be returned after the building has been inspected and found to be in good condition. If something is wrong, then the committee will have it fixed or cleaned up, and refund from the deposit what it didn't need to put it back in the same condition it was when rented.

This deposit is up and above the cost for using the building. I don't know what they charge, but I suspect around \$50 per night.

The action of the committee is justified because the center has no funds for repairs. It is a shame that people who use the building can't leave it in the same condition that they found it. It is about like anything else in this day and time, and that is, if it doesn't belong to me, why care what happens to the center.

Maybe the day will return when we will once again have respect for other people's property. Let's hope so, anyway.

The following letter was received Friday and should close the controversy about Baker Bowl.

Friend Sam:

I was wrong, don't call the Chamber of Commerce of Philadelphia. Baker Bowl is correct. I called an old baseball friend of mine in Philadelphia and he said Bowl. I hope I can be wrong many more times in my lifetime.

The Baker Field is the Columbia University in N.Y. football field.

Your friend  
Maurice Fleishman

Thanks Maurice, for the information and I hope you live many more years and will continue to enjoy sports during that time. I don't believe you have been wrong many times.

Last week when I wrote about the foursome at Raeford playing golf at Cedar Rock Golf Course in Lenoir I didn't know that the tournament also had a day of play for the ladies. They did and Mary Ruth Lancaster and Dot Bounds won in their flight.

Congratulations to these ladies and maybe next time it will be included in the same article as the men.

A death that most of the old National Guard members of the 252nd will be interested in is that of Col. Royce S. McClelland of Wilmington, who died Saturday. Col. McClelland was the regimental commander of the 252nd when they were called to active duty in September 1940.

He was 92 years of age.

Someone in the clubhouse at the Arabia Golf Course said that Pete Sawyer was still trying to obtain his golf wedge from a nest of yellow jackets around the lake at the second hole. Someone said that George Wood had placed them there and that Pete should get him to get his club.

I also heard over the weekend that Hugh Lowe was still resting from his fishing trip a few weeks ago. Seems that he and Billy York of Lumberton made quite a haul.

## For Hoke County Farmers

# Featherstone Sees New Opportunities

September is turning out to be a big month for Willie Featherstone Jr.

On September 14, he and Mrs. Featherstone became the proud parents of their first child -- a daughter -- Patrice Michelle.

On September 16, he assumed his new duties as chairman of the Hoke County staff of the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service.

His promotion to the position was announced by John Balfour, chairman of the Hoke Board of County Commissioners, and Dr. T.C. Blalock, director of the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service, following approval by the board.

He succeeds Wendell S. Young, who retired last June 30 after 18 years in the position.

Featherstone is already familiar to many Hoke citizens. The 31-year old Arkansas native has been on the county staff since 1975 doing community development, housing, and farm management work. He will continue doing this work, plus his new administrative duties. He also hopes to give more attention to forestry.

"We have a lot of forestland that could be put into better production," he said in a recent interview.

Featherstone sees several other

opportunities for Hoke farmers and landowners.

"The new Campbell Soup plant at Maxton will eventually create a market here for more vegetables, and I believe this can help smaller farmers. It has been proven that people can make a profit growing snapbeans and cucumbers."

"Another alternative is live-stock," he continued. "Stocker cattle to graze or glean fields have a potential."

Featherstone is proud of Hoke's agriculture, which grosses farmers about \$21 million annually "and pays the bills." "Most farmers do a good job with production," he said. "One of the things I would like to help them with more is record keeping and other aspects of management."

Hoke has two agricultural extension agent positions, both vacant at present. One position is assigned to crops and the other to livestock. Featherstone hopes to fill them quickly.

The staff also consists of one home economics agent, one 4-H agent, two nutrition aides and two secretaries. One of the secretaries is to be appointed to replace Jean Hodgins who left it August 31 by retiring.

While the professional staff is important, Featherstone says an extension program "is only as strong as the volunteers who participate in it." This is why he plans to rely heavily on an advisory leadership system "to help us chart our direction and carry out our programs."

"Our goal is to make Hoke citizens proud of their extension staff," he said. "We want to keep our program visible and make our information relevant to local situations and needs."

The Agricultural Extension Service is an educational agency that functions as a part of county government, state government through N.C. State and A&T State universities, and the federal government through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Featherstone has a B.S. degree in agriculture economics from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and an M.S. degree in adult and community college education from N.C. State University.

He is a trustee of Lewis Chapel Baptist Church, Fayetteville, and a member of the NAACP and the Fayetteville Business and Professional League. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Featherstone re-



Willie Featherstone, Jr.

side in Heth, Ark.

His wife, who is also named Willie, is a native of Arkansas, too. She is a teacher at Brentwood Elementary School in Fayetteville.

Under a condition of the appointment to the county Extension chairmanship, Featherstone is to make his home in Hoke County by July 1, 1982. The Featherstones are living in Fayetteville now.

## Hunt Picks Hoke Transport Efficiency Body

A six-member Hoke County Transportation Efficiency Council has been appointed by Gov. Jim Hunt to examine the work program, policies, methods, and operations of the local Department of Transportation maintenance unit.

The councils are being or have been appointed in the other counties of the state.

Named to the Hoke council have been Danny DeVane, Sam Morris, and Kenneth McNeill of Raeford, James Hunt of Rt. 1, Red Springs, Lawrence McLauchlin of Rt. 1, Raeford, and Ellen McNeill of Rt. 4, Raeford.

Named ex-official members were Martha C. Hollers of Candor, the highway Division Eight member on the State Board of Transportation; and the State House and State Senate members of the 12th Senate and 21st House districts in the General Assembly. Mrs. Hollers is chairman of the council.

Harold Gillis, Hoke County Democratic chairman, and other Hoke County people provided the governor with information and recommendations for establishment of the council.

Gov. Hunt said in a letter written Thursday that "Secretary of Transportation, Bill Robertson, will work very closely with you and the

Board of Transportation to identify areas of concern in your counties. I want the local Councils to have direct input through their Board of Transportation member."

He added, "We have made progress in many areas but must continue to work together to reach maximum efficiency and productivity in the Department of Transportation."

The text of the governor's executive order to establish the councils follows.

**WHEREAS**, the operations of the Department of Transportation affect the lives of all North Carolinians; and

**WHEREAS**, our state's 76,000 miles of roads and highways provide the economic lifeline throughout North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens' suggestions and comments for improving operations and productivity in the Department of Transportation can be of tremendous importance in reducing costs and improving service;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED:**

**Section 1.** A County Transportation Efficiency Council shall be established in each of the 100 counties.

**Section 2.** Each council will examine the work program, poli-

cies, methods and operations of each Department of Transportation county maintenance unit.

**Section 3.** Each council will make recommendations to the Governor and the Board of Transportation on cutting costs and improving efficiency in those units. The Department will implement those recommendations that are appropriate.

## Merchants Plan Christmas Events

Plans to hold a Christmas parade Saturday, December 12, starting at 10 a.m. were made Tuesday morning by the Raeford Merchants Association during the association's monthly meeting at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant. Community musical groups will participate in the parade.

The plans also include keeping stores open till 9 p.m. daily December 14 through December 23; holding a Santa House at the A&R depot 7:30 to 9 nightly through the Christmas season with Santa in residence and holding a contest for Christmas decorations

**Section 4.** Each council will act as a channel for citizens to express concerns, complaints, comments and suggestions regarding highway work.

**Section 5.** Each council will meet at least quarterly.

**Section 6.** This order is effective immediately. Done in the Capital City of Raleigh, North Carolina, this the 21st day of May, 1981.

in merchants' store windows, with an award presented to the owner of the window judged best decorated.

The association meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 a.m. at the Wagon Wheel. All merchants are encouraged to attend.

## Driver Killed By Felled Line

Ellsworth C. Osling, 20, of Rt. 3, Box 185, Raeford, was killed about 1:30 a.m. Saturday when he ran onto fallen power lines following a traffic accident about three miles west of Raeford, the State Highway Patrol reported.

The report says the 1981 Toyota Osling was driving apparently at a high rate of speed left SR 103 on the right side, struck a utility pole, continued on and overturned once, coming to rest on its wheels.

Osling got out of the car and ran about 60 feet, then stepped on wires brought down when the pole was hit and knocked down, and was electrocuted.

The damages were about \$4,000 to the car and about \$300 to the utility pole, the property of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp.

State Trooper J.E. Stanley investigated.

Osling's body was taken to Buie Funeral Home.



Shriners preparing fish: rear, L-R -- Duffy Turlington, George Newton, Miles Edge, and John T. Furrage, all of the Mecca Shrine Club. The men in front are from New Bern; the chef crew chief [right] and a member of the crew.

**ABC OFFICER**

In another matter related to alcoholic beverages, the commissioners were informed that the county ABC Board had voted unanimously to hire Sam Motley as county ABC officer and that Motley is to report for duty December 31.

County Manager James Martin told the commission the information was contained in a letter written to him by Alfred K. Leach, ABC Board chairman. The letter says the board acted at a meeting on August 3.

The letter also says, "The financial condition of our ABC Law Enforcement Fund as of October 1, 1980, was \$138.35. Since the retirement of our last ABC officer, the account has now built up to \$9,316.38."

The letter adds that the board members voted for Motley after all available candidates for the job were interviewed by the board at the August 3 meeting.

Mrs. Riley, however, expressed objection. Motley is a Hoke County deputy sheriff planning to retire this fall. Mrs. Riley said that under the state employees' retirement program an employee of one government agency must wait a specified number of days after

(See BAN LIFTED, page 14)