

## City Council Election

# 4 Councilmen, Upchurch Win

### Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The rain last week came to almost four (4) inches and was needed. We still need more rain, but the forecast doesn't look too promising.

In another article about weather in the paper, you will see that we are still approximately 10 inches short from last year. This, added to the 12 inches we were short in 1980, makes the water level about 22 inches low.

As Robert Gatlin stated Monday, maybe we will have snow this winter to bring the water table up. But remember, it takes six inches of snow to make one inch of water.

Mrs. Richard Neeley of the Wayside or Puppy Creek Community and a board member of the Mid-State Lung Association gave me the following information.

"The Hoke County members of the Mid-State Lung Association Board of Directors are interested Hoke County citizens are sponsoring a Bake Sale for the benefit of McCain Hospital and the Lung Association on Friday, November 6th beginning at 9 o'clock.

"We need donations of baked goods from the many cooks of the county, as well as people to buy these products. If you will contribute, please bring these 'goodies' to our sidewalk tables downtown at Valu-Mart or Edenborough Shopping Center (next to Moore's) Friday morning or contact one of the following persons to pick up your baked goods or give you information about the sale.

"Jessie P. Neeley - 875-2523, Flora Alice Crowder, 875-3334 or Mary Brady, 875-3395."

Nathan "Nig" Epstun was by the office Monday. He is now living in Latta, S.C. and is well-known to many Hoke County citizens.

Nig stated that he stopped on Main Street and proceeded to go from one store to another looking for someone he knew to make conversation. He said after going up one side and down the other he knew that someone he knew would be at the newspaper office.

We talked about our old high school days and also about the people who had been on Main Street when he lived here in the 1930s and before. When he asked about Mrs. H.R. McLean, nee Sadie Culbreth who taught him in the fourth grade, I told him she lived on Reaves Street. He called her and left the office to continue, with her, talk of the "old days."

Nathan looked in good health and from the way he talked, Raeford still means home to him. It was good to see him and I hope he will do the same again.

Did you have anyone at your home on Halloween night, I mean did any "trick or treat" people come down your street? Over on Jackson Street, I believe that this was the largest group of goblins or candy seekers I have experienced in the 30 years living there.

Of course, now the "thing" is to get a pickup truck and fill it with youngsters and then tour the town. Maybe this is fun, but I don't think that the gas burned is paid back by the goodies picked up.

Several people told me that they ran out of candy before seven o'clock and they cut off the lights. I suspect they missed some of the kids from their neighborhood.

The winner of the game Saturday at Chapel Hill between Clemson and Carolina should about decide the race for the ACC.

If you are going to the game leave early as the traffic between Sanford and Chapel Hill will be heavy. See you there!

	RAEFORD NO. 1	RAEFORD NO. 2	RAEFORD NO. 4	TOTAL
<b>MAYOR</b>				
JOHN K. McNEILL, JR.	205	246	49	500
<b>CITY COUNCIL</b>				
R. L. (Bobby) CARTER	143	171	41	355
GRAHAM CLARK	148	171	38	357
B. M. (Bob) GENTRY	160	169	37	366
VARDELL HEDGPETH, JR.	168	163	40	371
EARL McDUFFIE, JR.	71	86	27	184
JAMES B. McLEOD	183	202	37	422
SAM C. MORRIS	126	146	32	304
T. JOSEPH UPCHURCH	155	182	40	377

Four Raeford City Councilmen were reelected and Thomas J. (Joe) Upchurch was elected to the City Council, replacing Councilman Sam Morris, in Tuesday's municipal election, complete unofficial returns from the three city precincts show.

Graham Clark was reelected by two votes over Robert L. (Bobby) Carter in the fifth-place tally.

Earl McDuffie, Jr., trailed the field of eight candidates with 184 votes. Morris ran seventh with 304, and Carter sixth with 355.

James B. (Benny) McLeod led the field in the council contests with 422 votes.

Upchurch placed second with 377. Vardell Hedgpeth, Jr., was third with 371. B.M. (Bob)

Gentry fourth with 366, and Clark completed the lineup with 357.

Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr., unopposed for reelection, received 500 votes. He is completing his sixth two-year term.

The results won't be official till the Hoke County Board of Elections makes it official canvass of the return Thursday at a 10 a.m. meeting.

The councilmen-elect and mayor will take office formally when they are sworn in officially just before their council meeting of December 7.

Clark was reelected to his eighth two-year term. McLeod to his sixth, and Gentry and Hedgpeth to their third.

Morris is completing his fourth term.

## Board Adopts Medicine Policy

The Hoke County Board of Education Monday night approved recommendations for appointments of two people to school system positions, heard a report of an audit made of the system, and adopted a policy governing administering of medicine to students who must receive it during school hours.

The medical policy excludes and prohibits administering at school medicines which are injected. "Medication" is defined as substances prescribed by a licensed physician and prepared by a licensed pharmacist, including liquids, tablets, or capsules to be taken by mouth, or substances to be applied externally.

The policy requires that for a student to receive medicine at school during the school day, requests from a parent or guardian must be accompanied by written authorization signed by the parent or guardian. It also requires the parent or parents of the child must also assume responsibility of informing the principal and his or her designated representative of any change in the child's health or medication.

A physician's signature is re-

quired on the school form. "Authorization of Administration of Medication to a Student at School." The form details the name of the child, the name of the medicine and its dosage, time to be administered, time interval for the medication to be received, and possible side effects.

The public health nurse serving the school will provide consultation when necessary to the appropriate school personnel.

The policy contains other provisions are Shirley J. Wright as a science teacher at Upchurch Junior High School, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ellen Currie; and Alice Ellis, as Hoke County High School secretary-bookkeeper, to succeed Becky Tillman, who has resigned.

In other action, the board approved a request made by the Rev. Douglas Mark, new associate pastor of Raeford Presbyterian Church, to have his children in a school from kindergarten through the fourth grade. The minister also requested that they be at Scurlock. The board approved the request. The request currently concerns the Marks' son, who is 6. Their other children are under school age now.

### In Letters To Delinquent Taxpayers

## \$200 Charge To Be Specified

The Hoke County commissioners voted Monday to have people delinquent in paying taxes to be given 30 days' notice in writing to pay in full before a \$200 legal fee is added to the bill.

The fee goes to the collector of delinquent taxes, Herbert Wooten, a Raeford attorney, appointed to the position, a new one, by the commissioners early this month.

Wooten told a reporter that the meeting that the county tax department would rather have the people pay their taxes instead of having to pay the \$200 legal fee for being delinquent, in addition to their taxes.

Elizabeth Livingston, the county tax collector, was directed to send the revised version of the letter, specifying the amount of the fee. The action was taken after a discussion in which Commissioner Neill McPhatter said he believed people should be notified that the fee would be added, if the bill isn't paid in 10 days.

Mrs. Livingston said that property owners delinquent in paying had been advised by letter but that the fee had been mentioned generally, without specifying the amount.

Mrs. Livingston was asked to write new letters to taxpayers already warned of the charge, telling them exactly what it would be.

McPhatter said he felt the new letters should be sent since the delinquent-tax collecting program is new.

Later in the meeting, Mack Sandy, accompanied by his wife, told the commissioners and with heat that he had been billed for taxes on property he didn't own any more, and the legal fee had been added to the bills. He declared it was unfair for him to be charged the legal fee since he had not been informed of the amount in notices sent him previously by the tax collector.

He showed papers including deeds in telling the commissioners that he and his wife had transferred the property they owned, including the lot bearing their home, to their son, William, in 1978. County Tax

Supervisor Less Simpson, after checking, said he could find no record of the lot with the house on it having been transferred to William Sandy. Mack Sandy replied that the transfer had been officially recorded.

In the end, Sandy said his wife would write the county tax department a check for a total of \$1,156.04, which, according to his previous statement, included \$68 which he owes and the \$200 fee, the rest being his son's share of the bill. The amount was for back taxes for 1979 and 1980, except for the legal fee. The total did not include the taxes due on the house and lot, which were exempted because of the question of ownership.

Mrs. Mack Sandy accordingly wrote a check and, on her request, received an itemized statement of a bill, for \$526 from Mrs. Livingston.

Sandy said his son had the deeds and that his son was at sea.

He also warned the commissioners that if he was declared legal owner of the house and lot he would bring legal action. A search for documentary substantiation of ownership will be made by County Attorney Duncan McFadyen.

He also told the commissioners that he and his wife were paying the \$200 not as a legal fee but just

giving it so "he can buy groceries." The word "he" referred to Wooten.

Sandy was advised that he should have caught the error in statement of ownership of the questioned property when he listed his property in January for taxes.

Theodore Jackson following Sandy appealed from a tax bill. After the commissioners heard his statement, he was advised to inform Mrs. Livingston he would pay soon but is not liable for the legal fee. His wife's bill, however, was left, as it was.

### DEPOSITORY

In other business, the commissioners adopted a motion to deposit the county's Central Depository Account at Southern National Bank and to rotate the deposit every two years between the Bank of Raeford and Southern National instead of deciding with a bid system which has been used. Both banks bid to get the account for the two years starting in January. Charles A. Davis, county finance officer, in a written memorandum, reported "since there does not appear to be any significant differences (between the bids), it would be my recommendation that

(See \$200 Charge, Page 12)

### By City Council

## \$15,490.24 Bid On Machine Accepted

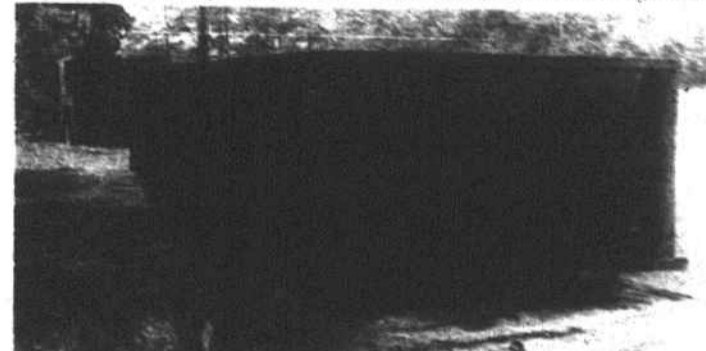
The Raeford City Council Monday night voted to accept the low bid of \$15,490.24 submitted by Ditch Witch of North Carolina, with main offices in Raleigh, to provide the city with a "ditch witch" machine for use of the city's Water, Sewer and Street departments.

City Manager Ronald Matthews, in his description and recommendation written for the councilmen and Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr., said the "machine would expedite much of the water and sewer installation that we have been and are presently doing." His report

said, "We are presently renting a machine like this, which is not only expensive, but at times has delayed and caused setbacks in our projected schedules and completion of projects."

The Raleigh company was one of three bidders to supply the machine. The others and their bids were Ditch Witch of South Carolina, office at Lexington, S.C., \$20,181.81; and Vermeer Carolina Sales and Service, Fayetteville, \$16,500.

In other business at their monthly meeting the mayor and



**BIGGER CAN** -- This is one of the larger public trash bins the Hoke County government is leasing on trial to replace the smaller containers. This one and two of the smaller bins are on N.C. 211 west of Raeford near Turnpike Road. The county has leased five of the new containers, to replace 20 to 22 of the smaller types. The new containers have a capacity of 25 cubic yards each. The capacities of some of the smaller bins are four cubic yards, others six, and others eight. The larger bins are believed to be more economical to maintain and require fewer sites than the smaller. This one replaced two bins. [Staff photo].

councilmen heard Earl Fowler, executive vice president of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce, brought them up to date on the efforts of the Highland Plains Urban Center, composed of Hoke, Scotland, Cumberland, Robeson, Sampson and Bladen Counties.

They also heard Jimmy Conoly, owner of Enviro-Chemical, discuss the possibility of establishing a semi-pro baseball team in Hoke County to compete in a Tri-County Association of 13 teams. The other counties would be Robeson and

Cumberland. Matthews brought the mayor and councilmen up to date on city water and sewer projects and activities.

Ten city employees were presented with Sandhills Community College certificates for completing the college's Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation course. They are Matthews, William Posey, Fire Chief Robert "Buster" Jackson, Terry and Johnston Murray, Melton Pittman, Linda Reams, Dorothy Shell, Betty Smith and Jerry Jackson.