



Thursday's snow left East Prospect Avenue looking like this Friday. The photographer was facing east when she took the picture.

Highlights Of 1981 In Hoke

Following are the highlights of November and December 1981 in Hoke County as reported by *The News-Journal*.

This article concludes the round-up of the main news events of 1981 in Hoke County.

NOVEMBER

Four incumbent members of the Raeford City Council were re-elected, and a newcomer, Thomas J. (Joe) Upchurch was elected in the municipal voting. The councilmen reelected were Graham Clark, Benny McLeod, Vardell Hedgpeth, Jr., and Bob Gentry. Eight candidates were on the ballot for the five seats. Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr., was reelected without opposition.

The Hoke County commissioners approved giving delinquent taxpayers 30 days' notice in writing before a \$200 legal fee is added to

their bills.

Mayor McNeill was elected a District 7 member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

Carol Ronalter was named Hoke County Teacher of the Year. She is a Hoke County High School teacher of the trainable mentally handicapped.

Hoke County people are ready for Thanksgiving 1981.

DECEMBER

Christmas season sales at downtown Raeford stores is termed good with the sales topping last year's.

The county commissioners are shown four tentative plans for a countywide water system.

The Hoke County Board of Education upheld its policy regarding possession and use of drugs on school property.

State Re. David Parnell of

Parkton announced he will run for the State Senate in 1982. The incumbent, State Sen. Sam Noble, also of Robeson County, is expected to run for reelection. Both are Democrats.

About 5,000 saw Raeford's first Christmas parade since 1971.

Raeford City officials and consulting engineers updated the directors of the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce on the city's wastewater moratorium placed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency till the sewage system is brought up to EPA standards. The moratorium has the effect of preventing new industry from coming to the area served by the city system till the situation is corrected.

The News-Journal announced a change of management effective January 1: Sam Morris, general manager, retired December 31. Louis H. Fogleman, Jr., will become publisher.

The December 31 edition reported the County Advisory Personnel Board submitted its recommendation on the appeal of William Hales from his firing as county dog warden November 23, and County Manager James Martin said he probably would act "the first of next week" on the recommendation.

After the December 31 edition was published, Martin advised he had decided to rehire Hales, thus accepting favorably the board's recommendation.

Howell Running For Commissioner

Tom Howell, local pharmacist, announced that he would be a candidate for the Hoke County Board of Commissioners in the upcoming Democratic primary.

Howell, 29, is a graduate of Hoke County High School and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

He is a life-long resident of Hoke County and is employed at Howell Drug Company, Inc. in Raeford.

Howell has been actively and continuously involved in Hoke County civic affairs since graduation from the university. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors and president of the Hoke County United Way, as a charter member of the Hoke County Arts Council, as Honorary County Chairman for the Mid-

State Lung Association, as co-chairman of the Hoke County Cancer Fund Drive, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Raeford Kiwanis Club, and as co-chairman of the St. Jude's Hospital Fund Drive for Hoke County.

He was named an Outstanding Young man of America for 1981.

At present, Howell is serving as president of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the Advisory Board of the Hoke County Unit of Sandhills Mental Health Center, and as a member of the Steering Committee for the "Hoke County" North Carolina Two Thousand Project.

Howell is a member of the Raeford United Methodist Church.



Tom Howell

Balfour Running For Fifth Term

John Balfour filed Monday with the Hoke County Board of Elections for reelection to the Board of Hoke County Commissioners.

Balfour is chairman of the board and is running for his fifth consecutive term.

A democrat, he will have to win renomination in the May primary in his effort to retain his seat.

Balfour first went to the board in 1965 on appointment by the Hoke County Democratic Executive Committee to fill the unexpired portion of the term of Harold Gillis, who had resigned. Balfour ran the next year for a regular term, placing second in a field of seven candidates in the Democratic primary, then moving onto the board in the November general election, unopposed in the voting.

Balfour won the party's nomination in the primary, then was reelected without opposition in the general election of 1978 for his third full term.

He is a farmer of Rt. 1, Lumber Bridge and is married to the former Joan Harlow of Lumberton. They have one child, John Balfour, Jr., who also farms and has his home in the same community as his parents.



John Balfour



COMPLETES 25 YEARS -- Marie Bryant, supervisor in the Twisting Department of Burlington Industries' Raeford Plant, recently completed 25 years continuous service. Pictured with Bryant (holding her certificate) are, left to right, Sam Creech, department manager; Twisting; Nancy Hodges, superintendent of Yarn Manufacturing; and Bill Archer, Production Manager.

4-H Corner

by Sharon McNeill
Southeastern District Reporter
Hillcrest Junior 4-H Club elected officers at their regular monthly meeting Monday night.

They are: president - Ronda Tatum; vice president - Sandy Lupo; secretary-treasurer - Leslie Adams; reporter - Lesia Adams; and recreation-song leader - Tammy Hendrix.

We offer congratulations to these persons as they strive to fill these important positions of responsibility.

About 20 members and visitors were in attendance. Enrollment cards and Project Selection Sheets were filled out. Those of you who were not present last night may stop by Alice's office and fill yours out, or you may do so at the next 4-H meeting.

The location and time of the next meeting will be announced later. Due to a class being conducted in the Lester Building Conference Room we will not meet there as previously scheduled for February 15.

Red Cross is counting on you.

Community Watch Celebrates Success

The Five Points Community Watch held a covered-dish supper January 7 to celebrate its first year -- a year without a break-in.

The Watch was organized after several homes in the area were broken into in December 1980. The people involved decided to do something about the situation, so they contacted neighbors and Sheriff David Barrington about organizing a Watch.

Barrington spoke at the first meeting, to introduce people of the community unfamiliar with the Community Watch to what was involved in maintaining an effective program. The Five Points people were informed that everyone would have to do his or her part for it to work.

The sheriff said that first of all signs would have to be purchased and placed on the boundaries of the designated areas. Monthly meetings should be held to notify members of any problems and/or changes in schedules; and, most important, each member would spend a day on the road every 30 to 40 days on a rotating basis (depending on the number of members). Being on the road, patrolling,

is the key to the success of the program, the members were told.

Every day, rain or shine, the patrolling member must drive from house to house, in and out of each member's driveway. If anything suspicious is noticed, he is to notify the sheriff immediately. No one is expected to be a hero, but everyone is expected to do his job conscientiously.

The theory is that by keeping the area patrolled, potential burglars will be discouraged rather than have to be caught.

Aside from the business aspect, Community Watch has brought together many people in the district who may never have met otherwise. Naomi Johnson, a member of the community said, "When people are united for a common purpose," she added, "a close bond is formed."

"We are really proud of our organization and hope that it continues to be as successful as it has been."

"If more communities become aware of alternatives, perhaps we will be able to stop some of the crime in this county."



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