

Around Town

BY SAMC. MORRIS

The rainfall over the weekend was approximately one-half inch and it was needed. We still need for the nights to get warm if the gardens are to grow. Now this is not my saying but comes from others now deceased, that had me tending the gardens many years ago. Whatever they had me doing in the family garden though, didn't leave me with a "green thumb."

The weather forecast is for cool weather the remainder of the week.

Paul Dickson showed me an invitation that he had received the other day from Margaret Gainey and it was for the graduation of the Class of 1932 at Raeford High School. One reason he showed it to me was that my sister Margaret, now deceased, was in the class. All the class members were listed on the invitation.

Monday, Paul was by the office and stated that he and Jake Austin were trying to get up a 50th Reunion of the class. There are many in the class that still live in and around Raeford. Many take the paper, and if you read this, drop a note to Paul at the following address if you are interested in having this reunion.

The address is:
Paul Dickson
P.O. Box 550
Raeford, N.C. 28376

The class of 1935 had a 40th and 45th reunion and a fine time was had by all. So drop a note to Dickson and get the reunion plans underway.

When you pick up the newspaper this day and time and read about the businesses that are closing and the number of folks that are unemployed, it makes you feel good to live in Raeford and Hoke County.

The industrial plants here have been running almost full time and even on weekends. It is good to have Burlington Industries, Faberge, The House of Raeford and Tex-Elastic in our community. All these plants have about full employment at this time and from all reports they don't see in the near future any cutback in their running time.

We commend the management of all these plants and hope continued success to them and hope that the community relations will always be good.

The political season is in high gear with many signs and cards on display around the county. The date for the primary still hasn't been set and until a decision is made by the court, nobody can say when it will be. In fact we don't even know who we will be voting for in some of the races until a final date is set.

So be patient and we should get to vote by August 1st.

The books are still open if you haven't registered to vote, so do so today.

Chris Watkins, director of music at the Raeford Presbyterian Church, has resigned and will become director of music at a church in Decatur, Ga. His resignation becomes effective May 1. We publish the following letter we received from Chris this week. The letter follows:

Dear Folks of *The News Journal*: This is the last news article that I will be turning in as the director of either the Raeford Community Choir or the Raeford Presbyterian Church music department. This Sunday the Raeford Community Choir will be giving its last presentation for some time. Would it be possible for you to use the article that I am enclosing on the front page for this week's edition?

I know that this is a lot to ask but I know that all the members of the choir would be greatly appreciative, and it would help promote all of the community to come to this final worship service by this wonderful community choir. In 1980 you put

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\$1,161,991 In County Funds Asked

Higher School Budget Proposed

Of N.C. Public Finance Officers Association

Helen Huffman President-elect

The Spring Conference of the North Carolina Public Finance Officer's Association was held in Chapel Hill at the Institute of Government on March 2, 3, and 4.

The Association elected the slate of officers for the fiscal year 1982-1983 as follows: president - Douglas E. Carter, Charlotte; president-elect -- Helen Huffman, Raeford; secretary treasurer -- Bernice Phillips, Reidsville; Directors -- Al Averette, Greenville, Nancy Nichols, Mt. Airy, Bill Gear, High Point, and Richard Slozak, Goldsboro; and past president -- Betsy Wilson, Lenoir.

The NCPFOA was established in 1953 by a small group of North Carolina finance officers who understood the expanding role of governmental finance and therefore, wished to provide a collective way to enhance the objectives of public finance and provide a forum for interchange of ideas.

From this small group composed of five units the association has grown to an association of over 226, with membership from small cities, large cities, counties, and associate membership from the banking and finance community and the public auditing profession.

The association sponsors workshops dealing with subjects such as cash and debt management, budgeting and accounting which serves to continually strengthen the members as well as the association.

The NCPFOA participates on the State and National levels through the North Carolina League of Municipalities, the Institute of Government, and the Municipal Finance Officer's Association, as well as, three association sponsored meetings held each year and a quarterly NCPFOA Newsletter provided by the association.



1982-83 OFFICERS -- Raeford City Finance Officer Helen Huffman [front row, right] the new president-elect of the North Carolina Public Finance Officers Association, is shown with other 1982-83 association officers and the past president. L-R -- Al Averette of Greenville, director; Nancy Nichols of Mt. Airy, director; Betsy Wilson of Lenoir, past president; Douglas E. Carter of Charlotte, president; Bernice Phillips of Reidsville, secretary-treasurer; and, right, behind Mrs. Huffman, Richard Slozak, of Goldsboro, director. Bill Gear of High Point, not in the picture, also was named a director.

To Be Honored Friday In Raleigh

Hoke Girl Regional Safety Tip Winner

Dana Connell, a student at Hoke County High School and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Connell of 109 N. Magnolia St., Raeford, is

one of eight regional winners in the contest among North Carolina's high school students to add an eighth lifesaving tip on grade-cross-

ing safety. She and the other regional winners will be honored Friday at the North Carolina Safety Council's

annual awards luncheon in Raleigh.

Each of the regional winners will be awarded a \$50 savings bond. The state winner, selected from the regional winners, will be announced at the luncheon and awarded a \$500 bond.

The contest drew 2,100 entries, and one regional winner was selected from each of the state's eight educational districts.

Miss Connell's tip, judged best in the South Central Region, was, "Think - First! Move - Last! Trains are machines - not humans. They cannot judge your actions."

Other regional winners include Christine Smith of Wilmington, Harvey McCullough of Washington, Wanda Honeycutt of Raleigh, Denise Bradshaw of Rt. 4, Reidsville, Suzanne Sikes of Wadesboro, Melissa Spears of Hickory, and Alesia Dalton of Rt. 1, Hendersonville.

Announcement of the regional winners was made by William M. Garmon, chairman, and Col. Charles A. Speed, executive director of N.C. Operation Lifesaver, the N.C. Safety Council's program to reduce accidents, injuries and fatalities at highway-rail grade crossings.

Boy, Killed In Accident

Kevin Oxendine, 4, of Rt. 2, Box 95, Raeford, was killed about 7:15 p.m. Monday when he was struck by a car on SR 1003 when he ran into the path of the vehicle, Trooper B.A. Bowden of the State Highway Patrol reported.

The officer quoted the driver, James Neil Inman, Rt. 2, Box 82, of Raeford, as saying he was unable to avoid hitting the child as he did not see him till the boy was at the left front of his vehicle.

A witness, Herman Cummings of Rt. 2, Box 69, Raeford, said the child ran from back of the house and into the roadway before he was able to stop him.

The child was the son of Patricia and Franklin Oxendine of Rt. 2, Box 95, Raeford.

Witherspoon Lung Assoc. President

Ken Witherspoon of Raeford was elected president of the Mid-State Regional Board of Directors of the American Lung Association of North Carolina at the regional board meeting in Southern Pines on April 6.

Also elected to the Executive Committee from Hoke County was D. Ralph Huff, III, second vice president.

Mrs. Mary B. Brady and Harold Stone of Raeford were elected to serve three-year terms on the Regional Board representing Hoke County. Mrs. Lynette Norton was re-elected to serve another three-

year term. Another local resident included on the regional board is Mrs. Richard Neeley.

The American Lung Association is the oldest non-profit public health education organization now in existence in the United States. Their program of work in the local community includes youth and adult health education toward the prevention and control of lung diseases such as Asthma, Emphysema, Chronic Bronchitis, Lung Cancer. The Association also administers to patient service needs and supports lung disease medical research both in North Carolina

and on a nation-wide basis.

The Mid-State Regional office is located in Southern Pines and serves a 12-county area in the south-central part of the state including Hoke County.

Information on programs and materials available may be obtained by calling the Southern Pines office (919) 692-3981 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Serving as Regional Director is Mrs. Mary Jane V. Knight of Southern Pines; Mrs. Diana T. Kelly of Whispering Pines, Program Director.



Ken Witherspoon

Choir To Give Musical Worship Service

The Raeford Community Choir will present a musical worship service, "Hymns Triumphant -- A Symphonic Choral Suite," arranged by Lee Holdridge, at 8 p.m. Sunday in the sanctuary of Raeford Presbyterian Church.

Unlike many of the worship services that the Raeford Community Choir has presented in the past years, this musical presentation is made up entirely of hymns of the Christian church that have been arranged for multi-sectional choir and orchestra. The work is divided into eight parts listed under the different phrases of the Lord's Prayer.

For example, the first movement of the worship service is "Our Father Who Art in Heaven." Within this selection will be parts of the following hymns: "Immortal Invisible," "Come, Thou Almighty King," "This Is My Father's World," "The God of Abram Praise," "Holy, Holy, Holy," "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind," and "Eternal Father Strong To Save."

Each member of the congregation will hear at least one of his

her favorite hymn arranged for the choir and orchestra in many beautiful arrangements that interweave themselves with each other.

Accompanying the 60-voice choir composed of singers from the Hoke and Moore County area, will be a 20-piece orchestra of strings, woodwinds, percussion and brass played by Christian musicians from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the North Carolina Symphony, and area ensembles from North Carolina.

Directing his last Raeford Community Choir worship service will be Chris C. Watkins, director of music at Raeford Presbyterian Church. Watkins will be leaving the area in the next weeks to accept the position as the director of music at the Clairmont Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Ga. This is the fourth largest Presbyterian church in the Decatur-Atlanta area, with a membership of 2,000 people.

"This will be one of the most joyful evenings for the congregation and choir alike," says Watkins. "The music of this worship service has been a challenge to direct and sing because you are working with hymns that each member of the

listening congregation has heard and sung many times before. As a director and as members of the choir, we have had to concentrate on making the musical expression and the text of each hymn stand out in such a way so that the meaning of the hymn and its words would come together as a total meaningful way or worship.

"Too often in church we sing the hymns without paying attention to the words that we are reading. When sung as a musical piece the singer must concentrate on the words and meaning he or she must express to the listener.

"After working for three months on this aspect of hymn-singing you can be assured that each of us in the choir has a better understanding of the words of a hymn in relationship to the music and meaning that the composer intended.

The doors of the church will open to the public at 7:30 p.m. barring foul weather. No one will be allowed in the sanctuary prior to this time in order for the choir and orchestra to rehearse.

A nursery for all children too young to sit quietly in the sanctuary will be provided in the children's

department of the church.

Immediately after the service a reception will be held in the fellowship hall of the church by the W.O.C. of the Raeford Presbyterian Church. The public is warmly invited to attend in order to greet the choir and rejoice in the Christian atmosphere.

Watkins said, "Please make special plans to attend this last presentation by the Raeford Community Choir for 1982. There will not be a collection or love offering taken at the door. Everyone that loves the music of Christ's Church, and everyone that thrills to the sound of voices lifted in praise to God accompanied by magnificent instruments is warmly invited to come and worship Sunday night at eight o'clock.

Correction

The story headlined "Helping Handicapped Helps Inmates" on page six of the April 15 edition of *The News-Journal* reported erroneously that Kevin Akins started helping at the Hoke County Children's Center on April 8. He started March 8.