

The Hoke County News - Established 1928

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RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

\$8 PER YEAR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1982

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The humidity has been high during these hot summer days and it can become almost unbearable when you get away from the air conditioned buildings.

The afternoon and evening thundershows help somewhat, but not enough to make it comfortable.

Every week it seems that the weather forecast will be for a cool front to move through, but it always seems to move north or south of us. Anyway we can look forward to winter, or can we?

An advertisement elsewhere in the paper tells about a Band Carnival to be held Saturday at the Edenborough Shopping Center beginning at 10 o'clock in the morning and running until seven o'clock in the evening. This event is sponsored by a group of concerned parents of band members.

The carnival will feature games, cooked goods and will feature a dunking booth.

In case you don't know what a dunking booth is, then maybe I can explain. A person will sit on a seat or perch that is fixed to drop him or her into a pool of water when struck at the right place with a baseball thrown from so many feet away, of course you pay for the chance to drop him or her into the water.

Usually well-known people share the seat so that their friends or enemies can have a shot at getting them wet.

The names of a few of the people that will be in the seat are as follows: Jimmy James, band director; Raz Autry, superintendent of schools; Dave Barrington, Hoke County sheriff; Lynwood Huffman, assistant school principal; Gil Clark, assistant band director; and Frank Crumpler, local funeral director.

Now I know that all these people have friends in the county but I would imagine that a few of them have made an enemy or two. So if you want revenge on them, go down to the shopping center Saturday and drop them in the water. I cannot give you the time of when they will be on the seat. You will have to stay around for your favorite target.

This is all in fun, but for a wonderful cause: The Hoke County High School Band.

I haven't seen Danny DeVane since he was nominated for the House because I was out of town on Election Night. From all reports he could still be on cloud nine and maybe I will see him when he returns to earth.

There is a lot of talk and speculation on who will fill DeVane's place on the Board of County Commissioners. Also when this will take place and who will do the appointing.

The appointment can't come until DeVane resigns and in fact he doesn't have to resign. If he doesn't he will lose the seat when he is sworn in as a house member. I believe this will be next February if he comes through the November election.

The final say will come from the county commissioners who will vote on who is to replace him. They can ask the Democratic Executive Committee to recommend three people, but they don't have to take any of them.

If the commissioners can't get together, then I believe the Clerk of Court makes the selection.

So you see it can be a long drawn out process before anything is done.

Whoever is selected we hope he or she will be a person with some business experience. County government is a big business now!

The following letter is self-explanatory.

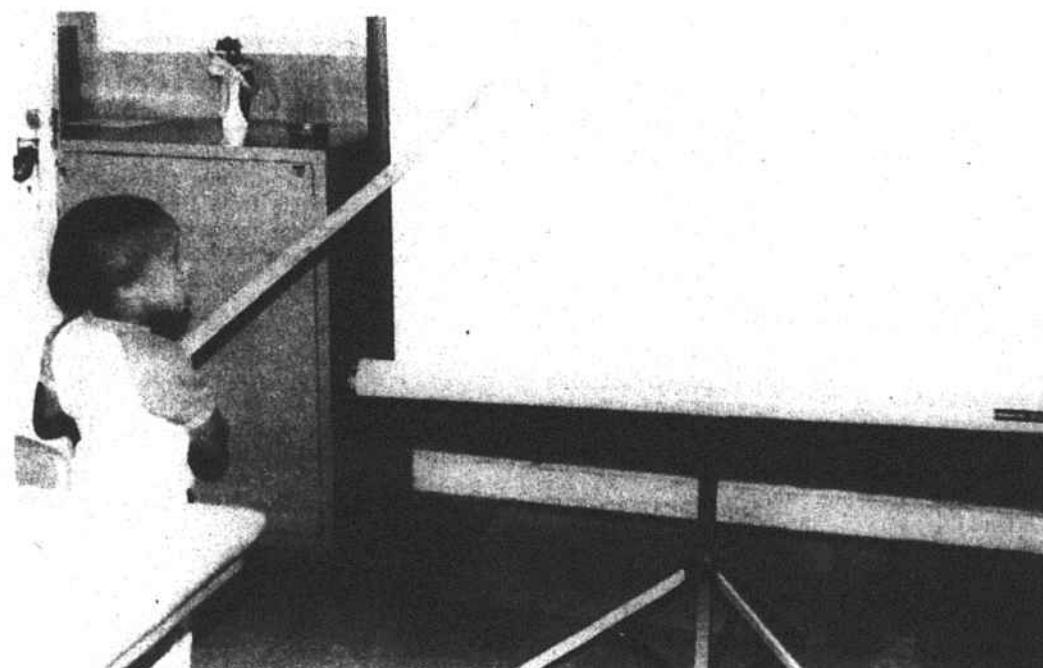
Dear Sam:

My mother had a fire at her (See AROUND TOWN, page 14)

Hoke Allocated \$44,896 For Child Care

Bryan Page Gives Demonstration

He's Only 4, But He Can Read



Bryan Page reading the text on a photographic slide in the GED class.

Bryan Page showed a GED class here Friday afternoon he can read what grownups read.

He's 4, and he's been reading since he was 3, his aunt, Carol Page, the GED and Adult Basic Education teacher here for Sandhills Community College, said.

Bryan's mother, Vivian Page, is a teacher of the first grade in school, she said. But Bryan learned to read pretty much on his own, she added.

Clarence Page, Bryan's father, and Mrs. Page and their son live in Orange, N.J. Clarence Page is from Raeford, however.

In the GED class, whose students are adults going for their high school diplomas, Bryan read a passage of geography about the St. Lawrence River, on the border of Canada and New York state.

Rose Sturgeon said Bryan also read to her part of the news story in last week's *News-Journal*. Incidentally, it was the story about adoption of black children. Mrs. Sturgeon's office is across the hall from the GED classroom, in the old County Office Building on West Elwood Avenue.

Bryan read out loud. He read the St. Lawrence piece slowly, but accurately, without stumbling over any of the words, and the words were in more than one syllable, as well as in one syllable -- about what the average text written for adults who have gone to high school contains.

But Bryan also can identify simple words when they are spelled. His aunt, for example, spelled d-o-g, c-a-t, and b-a-l-l to him, and he replied rather quickly what words they were. There was one variation, though. When Miss Page spelled c-a-t, Bryan replied, "Meow."

Miss Page said Bryan also can write a little. He can write his name, for instance.

Bryan attended a pre-school class last school year at Clark School in Orange. This fall term he will start attending kindergarten in Orange.

Board Returns Schools To Fees

The Hoke County Board of Education recently sent the school system back to the fee system following the county commissioners' rejection in July of the school board's request for an extra \$20,230 to avoid it.

The school board at its regular meeting for August adopted a motion to establish a \$3 per student fee for grades Kindergarten through 6, and \$10 for students in grades 7-12.

In other business the board voted to employ Melda J. Zaleski as fulltime psychologist for the county's special education program, and Lynn Jones, wife of Hoke County High School head football Coach Tom Jones as Hoke High mathematics teacher.

Mrs. Zaleski worked in 1981-82

nearly a year in the school system parttime. County Schools Supt. Raz Autry, who made the recommendations for the appointments, told the board.

Mrs. Jones was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Cecelia Ropp, who left to teach in Georgia.

The board also adopted a new attendance policy for students, and voted to uphold the pupil-assignment policy, thus turning down a request that an elementary grade student be allowed to attend McLauchlin School instead of West Hoke School. The changing of district lines this year put the child's home in the West Hoke district. The result was he will attend West Hoke instead of McLauchlin, which he attended last year.

Autopsy Findings Expected

The findings of an autopsy to learn the specific cause of a 6-year-old girl's death are expected to be received here about the middle of next week, Dr. Ramnik Zota, Hoke County medical examiner, said Friday.

The autopsy was being performed by the staff of state medical

Hoke County has been allocated \$44,896 in local, federal and state funds for day-care services for the fiscal year 1982-83, which started July 1.

The money is included in the allocation of \$19.6 million for the services throughout the state for the fiscal year. The allocation for the state was announced last week by Dr. Sarah T. Morrow, secretary of the State Department of Human Resources.

Of the total for Hoke County, \$22,516 is from the federal Title XX program, \$20,936 from the state, and \$1,444 from the county government.

Of the total for the state, the General Assembly appropriated \$6.9 million.

The Hoke and other allocations will be used by county Social Services departments and the Appalachian Regional Commission child development programs to help provide day care for an estimated 13,500 children of low-income families in the state.

Morrow emphasized that both she and Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. feel that day care is one of the top priorities of this administration. "Day care services are an economic necessity for many families with small children," Morrow said. "It often is necessary for both parents to work in order to make ends meet, especially in North Carolina, which has more working mothers than any state in the nation."

North Carolina was the first state to provide state day care funding for eligible low-income families. State and federal is allocated to all 100 counties on the basis of population.

Under the state's local social services program, some services are optional while others are mandatory. State regulation requires that North Carolina provide day care for children in low-income families when it is needed in order for a parent to work.

Once the necessity for day care is determined by county departments of social services, there are two categories of families eligible. Families that receive monthly financial assistance through either Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) or the Supplemental Security Income program are automatically eligible. Other low-income families may be eligible if their gross incomes are below a maximum income level established by the state. The maximum income level for a family of four in North Carolina is \$16,252. Some eligible families are required to pay a portion of the day care cost for their children depending on their income level.

Raeford Church Gets Bequest

McKeithan Scholarship Fund.

McKeithan died June 9 after an illness of several months. He was 84.

His will also provides for his sisters, Miss Annie McKeithan of Raeford, and Mrs. Mary C. McCauley of Candor, and his brother, John Daniel McKeithan of Raeford.

Two extremely effective programs to date are the garden project headed by Spivey and the work done with Hoke County's exceptional children. Spivey's garden has donated over \$2,000 worth of produce to Hoke County's poor, and it's still producing.

Anthony Steele, who was released last week, returned from

the "I Can" program.

The purpose of the "I Can" program is to replace the "I Can" trainee's hostile, belligerent attitudes towards himself and society with self-acceptance and positive thinking and motivation. According to SYC's write-up on the effectiveness of the program, "We have seen belligerence fade and replaced by co-operation and have seen some eyes that were dulled with gloom start shining from thoughts and words of hope."

Johnson and Olsen work with the residents who are encouraged to participate in community-oriented projects. Kevin Spivey, an "I Can" alumnus, said, "Ron Issacs (another alumnus) and I stay in here (Johnson's office) about all the time because he has helped us so much. He always buys us Cokes and gets mad if we try to buy him one."

The "I Can" program comes under the Programming Department headed by J.P. Smith, Sr.

Residents are encouraged to become "I Can" trainees when they enter SYC; however, the program is strictly voluntary. Twenty residents begin each 12-week session, but generally only 12-14 graduate. Some may be released prior to graduation; others do not make it because of the high standards. The program is divided into seven chapters: attitude, self-image, goal-setting, relationships with others, desire, work, and how to succeed.

Specifically, McKeithan's last will and testament provided that 20 percent of the estate goes to the church, but not to exceed \$60,000. The excess will go to the Neill M.

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