

# Unemployment Rate Drops, As 40 Get Jobs

Forty workers found jobs during September causing the unemployment rate in Hoke County to drop to 10.8 percent for the month.

Unemployment has been seesawing all year, and state Employment Security Commission officials do not expect dramatic changes in the rate until late in the year.

"We expect it to stay level and will remain double-digit for a while," Hoke-Scotland Job Service Manager Al McKenzie said.

Recent increases in employment are attributable to workers being recalled from temporary layoffs, McKenzie said.

The unemployment rate is also showing the effect of increases in the work force in Hoke County.

Economic conditions are forcing people to seek work, who have not been working, like housewives, McKenzie said.

"People need that second income," he added.

During September, Hoke County's workforce increased by 120 persons.

Despite the increase in the workforce, the number of jobless persons in the county dropped in September to 870 from the August figure of 910.

McKenzie said he expects the October employment figures to reflect the recent hiring of 120 persons at the Raeford-Hoke Village Shopping Center.

Most of the workers hired at the center are residents of Hoke County, the Job Service Manager added.

Hoke was among 56 counties in the state that had a decrease in unemployment during September. The county rates reflect the

decrease in statewide unemployment which dropped from 9.0% in August to 8.7% in September.

The national adjusted rate in September was 10.1% or more than 10 million unemployed.

The statewide unemployment rate declined for the second consecutive month.

Forty-four counties recorded double-digit unemployment.

Rutherford County with a rate of 11.9% from 10% in August, presented the largest percentage point increase.

Counties with the highest unemployment rates were: Swain at 18.0%, Richmond at 15.5%, Cherokee at 15.2%, and Cleveland at 14.9%. Bladen, Warren and Yancey counties each registered 14.8%. Person and Robeson County each had a 14.1% unemployment rate.

Counties with the lowest unemployment rates were Orange 3.5%, Dare 4.3%, Alleghany 4.6%, Durham 4.7% and Wake 4.9%.

Unemployment increased in five of the state's 10 standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSAs).

Four SMSAs decreased, and one remained the same. The Raleigh/Durham area increased from 4.5% in August to 4.7% in September; Wilmington from 10.6% to 10.9%; Salisbury/Concord from 8.4% to 8.8%; Burlington from 11.0% to 11.2%; and Jacksonville from 6.4% to 7.1%.

SMSAs which decreased were: Charlotte/Gastonia from 7.4% in August to 7.0% in September; Greensboro/Winston-Salem/High Point from 8.3% to 8.0%; Hickory from 9.8% to 9.4% and Fayetteville from 9.9% to 8.2%.

Asheville remained the same at 7.5 percent.

## DeVane Resigns

(Continued from page 1)

to review zoning ordinances. The meeting is to start at 7 p.m.

### Agenda

A motion to publish the board's meeting agenda in *The News-Journal* in advance of a meeting, for public information, died for lack of a second.

The motion was made by Commissioner Mabel Riley and was a repeated attempt by her to get the publication authorized.

The opposition to the motion was based on technical points that a complete agenda cannot be worked up in time for publication

prior to a meeting.

Matters for an agenda continue to come to the county manager's office as late as Thursday before the meeting the day before the agenda is customarily made public.

*The News-Journal* goes to press Wednesday mornings.

DeVane pointed out, also, that a "cover" list of business on an agenda has so little information about each item that the public would only be confused if the bare list were published.

The "cover" lists only the bare fact of an item of business. Beyond the cover, each item's background is described in detail, but such background on all the items covers several pages.



Thicket of campaign signs outside Raeford Precinct No. 1 voting place on West Elwood Avenue Tuesday. Their distance from the polls complies with the state law setting the minimum distance. Lloyd Manning is in the picture, campaigning for his mother, Evelyn Manning, the Republican candidate for county commissioner.



Farm Bureau President William R. Boyles (left) presents plaque of appreciation to T. Jeff Harris for outstanding service.

## Farm Bureau Meeting Deemed A Success

Over 200 members and guests attended the Hoke County Farm Bureau's annual membership meeting held Monday evening, October 25 in the W.T. Gibson Cafeteria at the Hoke County High School.

Two directors Neill L. McFadyen and T. Jeff Harris were honored for their outstanding service and dedication to Hoke County Farm Bureau.

McFadyen and Harris have both served as president or as a director of the organization for 20 years. During this time, both served on various county and state committees in Farm Bureau.

Plaques of appreciation were presented to each. Because of an illness, Mr. McFadyen was not present.

Officers elected for the year 1983 were: William R. Boyles, president; W.W. Cameron, Jr., vice-president; L.E. McLaughlin, Jr., secretary and treasurer.

Directors elected were: Herbert Amaral, T.J. Harris, James N. Maxwell, Jr., Neill McFadyen, Ken

McNeill, Charlie Pendergrass, George Shook, and Robert A. Wright.

Resolutions concerning farming, law and order, and natural resources were adopted by the County Farm Bureau to be sent to the N.C. Farm Bureau office in Raleigh for their consideration. Chairmen of the committees were: Tobacco, T.J. Harris; Cotton, James N. Maxwell, Jr.; Field Crops, Ken McNeill; Natural Resources, Herbert Amaral; Law and Order, George Shook; Livestock, L.E. McLaughlin, Jr.

President Boyles announced the 47th annual meeting of the N.C. Farm Bureau Federation will be in Raleigh at the Royal Villa Motel on December 5th through the 8th. Also, the National meeting of the American Farm Bureau will be in Dallas, Texas on January 9th through the 13th, 1983.

Members and guests enjoyed a delicious meal served by Chason's Bar-B-Que. After the meeting adjourned, a drawing was held for door prizes.

## Boy Dies From Injuries

A 16-year-old boy, injured when the bicycle he was operating was struck by a car October 16, died about 5 p.m. Thursday in Cape Fear Valley Hospital of complications resulting from his injuries. State Trooper K.W. Weston reported.

The officer said the boy was Robert William McNeill, 16, of Rt. 3, Raeford.

He said McNeill and Harry

Stevens were riding their bicycles on Turnpike Road when a 1969 Pontiac being driven by Lauree Marie Sineath of Rt. 3, Raeford, pulled up behind them.

Weston said that Mrs. Sineath started to pass the bicycles and McNeill drove his bicycle into the left lane into the path of the auto. The accident happened about 4 p.m.

He said no charge was filed. He said the specific cause of McNeill's death was found by an autopsy.

Surviving are his mother, Ruby McNeill McLaughlin; and his maternal great-grandparents, Fannie and Neil Ray.

### Area Incidents

## Thieves Get Guns

Over \$3,000 in guns, home furnishings, and vehicle tires were among the articles stolen in separate thefts in Hoke County in recent weeks, the Sheriff's Department reported.

Willie Jackson, Rt. 2, Raeford, reported October 15 four shotguns stolen by someone who broke into his home in the Arabia community. He said the guns were a 12-gauge shotgun valued at \$300, two 16-gauge shotguns, one worth \$90 and the other \$240, and a 410-gauge shotgun worth \$140.

A 12-gauge shotgun worth \$175 was reported stolen by Earl Conolly, of Rt. 4, Raeford, on October 22 stolen from his truck while it was parked at the 401 Hunt Club. He was at a turkey shoot.

Clyne Boyler, Rt. 2, Lumber Bridge, reported Friday a .38 pistol worth \$100 was stolen from his home.

Pauline Bigg Pittman of Rt. 2, Raeford, reported Friday someone broke into her home during the three weeks she was gone, ransacked the place and stole a \$279 color television set.

A total of \$775 worth of fishing equipment and \$100 worth of home furnishings and two suitcases were stolen October 23 or 24 from the shed area at the home of John Morley Kilhotz, Jr., of Rt. 2, Raeford.

Hoke Auto lost eight tires from two vehicles in the company lot October 25 or 26. The property was valued at \$600.

Joseph McNair, Rt. 3, Raeford, reported Sunday he was cut on the cheek about midnight by someone he didn't know. He said he was cut while he was at home.

The Raeford Police Department received the following reports dur-

## Agency OKs Housing Units

Bent Tree Associates of Raeford was instructed by the Raeford Housing Authority last week to proceed with its planning of an apartment project in the Adams Street-East Prospect Avenue area.

The company plans to build 16 one-bedroom and 32 two-bedroom apartments and has applied for a loan of \$1,451,100 from the U.S. Farmers Home Administration to help finance the development.

The Housing Authority acted at its October 26 meeting after hearing the Bent Tree proposal and finding that it met all Authority conditions, including site and architectural standards and agreement to allow the Authority to manage the project after the apartments are completed.

Buddy Blue, Authority chair-

man, explained this week that the hearing and action on the proposal was only preliminary, and that the project itself is still about a year away from construction.

He said the project also must get the approval of FmHA and the City Planning Board.

Planning Board recommendations are subject to approval of the City Council.



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