

...Hunt Picked Up

(Continued from page 1A) In February, Hunt was once again charged with passing over \$200 in worthless checks in Scotland and Union counties. The commissioner, who is serving his third term on the board, operates a trucking and rental company, a grocery store and the garage which has been put up for sale. In addition, Hunt has had a funeral home under construction for some months, although no new work has been performed recently. All of these businesses are located in the South Hoke area.

... Around Town

(Continued from page 1A) tant to Raeford and Hoke County. This will be one of the first times in many years that I have missed either the Congressman or his aide when he made a visit to Raeford. Usually I have lunch with them and talk over things that will benefit the county. This is something that must be done if we are to have an outlet in Washington. I believe that Harold Gillis is doing a bang-up job in this department.

The reason for the incomplete coverage and the missing of the staff member is that I am writing this column from Natchez, Miss. Along with my wife, Mary Alice and two ladies from Henderson and Louisiana, we left Raeford last Thursday morning for a trip to points west. The Pacific Ocean should turn us around to head back for Raeford.

The first day we traveled to Tuscaloosa, Ala. Something that we haven't had in Raeford for the past several weeks has followed us every since we hit the Georgia line. That is rain.

Of course this has kept the hot weather back and the rain hasn't been too hard, so it hasn't been too bad driving.

We arrived in Natchez Friday about noon and immediately booked a tour of the historical homes for the afternoon. We visited Monmouth, Melrose, Longwood and the Briars.

Mary Alice and I were here in Natchez in November of 1981 and visited five homes at that time. It was fortunate that the ones we visited Friday were different places.

I reckon you could call me a history buff, because I enjoy seeing how our forefathers lived. They may not have had all the modern conveniences, but they did know how to live.

It will be on to Gilmer, Texas Saturday and spend the night with my brother, Spec and his wife.

Maybe if my paper holds out and the creeks don't run dry, more will come next week.

To all you folks that have made comments about me traveling with three ladies, so far everything is working out fine.

LARGEST AREAS OF INLAND WATER. The two countries having the largest areas of inland waters in the world are both located on the North American continent. They are Canada and the United States.



Stepping up for a drink This young squirrel appears to be resting on these buckets before nervously taking a drink from their contents. The squirrel also seemed amused by the flower bulbs which were stored below the water.

Breakins Plague City, County

County and city residents were plagued last week with break-ins and larcenies, reports show.

Since June 20, the sheriff's report shows that six complaints have been filed dealing with break-in, entering and larceny.

The following crimes were reported to the sheriff's department last week.

-G.W. Ray, Rt. 1, Raeford, reported that someone had gained entry into his home by prying the door open. Nothing was reported missing.

-Roy Lee Harris, Rt. 3, Raeford, complained that someone had stolen his motorcycle.

-Sam Melvin, 401 Truck Stop, reported that someone had broken the lock off his garage door and

taken two Keystone Mag wheels and two tires. According to the report, no damage was done to the door or the car.

-Trannie Williams, Rt. 5, Raeford, reported that someone had taken her .38 caliber revolver from her bedroom dresser drawer.

-Archie C. Davis Jr., Rt. 3, Raeford, complained that someone entered his home after prying the front door open. According to the report, a ring, a television, a shotgun and some stereo equipment were stolen from the house.

-Angela Hunt, Shannon, reported that someone forced their way into her home wearing a stocking over their face and carrying a knife. According to the report, Hunt scared the prowler away before any harm was done.

In city action, Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said these reports were filed last week:

--Edward Lee Wright Jr., 511 E. Sixth Avenue, complained that someone had taken his .22 caliber pistol from his home.

--B.C. Moore's Department store found four "Members Only" jackets, valued at \$199.96, missing from their facility. Chief Wiggins said that the merchandise was recovered and will be turned back over to the department store.

--Ronald D. Scurry, 809 McLean Street, reported that someone had apparently thrown dirt, rocks and asphalt into his swimming pool.

Investigations into these complaints are continuing, reports show.

Death Toll Pegged At 15

Fifteen people could lose their lives and approximately 800 injured in traffic accidents in North Carolina over the long Fourth of July holiday weekend, the North Carolina State Motor Club has estimated.

The state will count its toll over a 78-hour period beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, July 1, to midnight Monday, July 4.

Last year 18 fatalities occurred during a similar period and 926 were injured.

The Fourth of July holiday weekend occurs near the start of the summer vacation season and, according to John G. Frazier, III, Motor Club President, tends to produce more fatalities on average than any other holidays, except Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Traffic fatalities to date are running below the death rate of a year ago. "The safety trends are certainly most encouraging," said Frazier. "We are hopeful that the current safety trend will continue through the year and for the first time in twenty-eight years North Carolina's traffic deaths will not pass the 1,000 mark," Frazier continued.

In 1982 traffic fatalities totaled 1,320 in North Carolina, a 11.8% decrease from 1981. To date 510

fatalities have been reported this year while 534 were reported killed through this same date last year.

The downward trend is attributed to economic conditions, and the crackdown on DUI drivers by law enforcement officers throughout the state. The concentration on DUI drivers will continue over the upcoming holiday week-end, along with speeding drivers.

The best protection we have against traffic fatalities is seat belts and child restraints. North Carolina data indicates that if used, available restraint systems could save 60 to 70 of every 100 unbelted occupants who die in crashes. Only about 9% of drivers in accidents protect themselves by using restraints. The North Carolina law requiring use of child restraints for children under two years of age became effective July 1, 1982.

Children under two riding in child restraints are five times less likely to be seriously injured than those riding unrestrained.

"As we celebrate our independence on this Fourth of July, let's not forget the freedoms we enjoy. Among them the freedom to travel anywhere we like," Frazier stated. "Help keep the highways of North Carolina safe by being a

good citizen and a safe driver," he continued.

Nobody is immune to accidents, and no one can control all of the factors involved in a traffic collision but there is a simple and effective way of cutting your risk by more than half--wear your seat belts.

The Veterans Administration has broadened the guidelines for medical treatment for those veterans who have problems which they attribute to nuclear radiation. Details are available at the nearest VA office or medical center.

Clarification

In a story last week about Hoke County District Court, it was reported that Jon Casper Pate, Rt. 4, Raeford, was found guilty of possession of pyrotechnics (firecrackers) and was given a 30-day sentence.

Court records inaccurately reflected Pate's actual sentence. Pate was given the choice of 30 days or \$50 and court costs. He apparently chose to pay the fine.

We regret the confusion.

... Stamp Woes Eased

(Continued from page 1A) were sent out, more and more clients were left waiting for services. "We got further behind as we went along," Witherspoon said in an earlier interview. In May, Witherspoon appealed to Hoke County Commissioners to appropriate money for additional staff to help lighten the load, but at present only one additional employee has been approved. With the temporary suspension in effect, hopes are that additional staff will not be required. "The present system requires a lot of people to make it work effectively," Food Stamp Supervisor Delores McLeod said. According to Witherspoon, a modified program will suit everyone's needs much better.

Normal Stamp Flow Expected By Sept.

A new state reprieve from the food stamp early reporting program will allow Hoke County case backlogs to be "caught up," members of the Department of Social Services (DSS) board were told Monday. DSS Director Ken Witherspoon, who was criticized last week for "volunteering" to be a test county for the monthly reporting program, also apologized to the board during the regular monthly meeting for "any embarrassment" the situation might have caused. "I never intended to embarrass Hoke County, the commissioners, this board or myself," Witherspoon said. "I also did not intend for the clients to suffer," Witherspoon added. Hundreds of client households are stuck somewhere in the system without any benefits coming their way due to the monthly reporting system. "I believe, based on what we knew, that this board would have agreed to this monthly reporting project," Witherspoon said. "We were vulnerable because we wanted to reduce our error rate,"

Witherspoon added. Witherspoon told the board at Monday's meeting that the state's suspension would be some help. "This is not a problem that will immediately be solved," Witherspoon said. At this point Witherspoon is hoping to get state waivers that will "cut down" on those clients who must report their monthly income. "Waivers are very important right now," Witherspoon said, adding that getting clients down to a "manageable" number was vital. Even with the suspension until October 1, Witherspoon remains unsure of getting back on a normal routine. "If I'm caught up by September 1, I'll be very lucky," Witherspoon said. In other events, board members voted unanimously to take action against four new fraud cases that total some \$1,500. According to Witherspoon, some of the fraud cases already in the court system have been paid off. "Some have not been tried yet and others are caught up in the court system," Witherspoon said.

... Budget Approved

(Continued from page 1A) employees were needed to meet the increased paperwork that monthly reporting has caused. The suspension will apparently allow Witherspoon and his staff to catch up on the paperwork and decrease the disgruntled client load that has not been receiving their benefits. Hunt was apparently opposed to making any decision on additional employees for the social services department until October. According to Hunt, the social services staff should "have to work just like I do." No decision was made on the issue.

Squad Aids In Search

Thursday, was found by members of the North Carolina Wildlife team.

Squad members Mark Posey, Johnny Melton, Buddy Dunn and Jim Wade were called to assist, along with 29 other volunteer rescue squads from the surrounding area, with the search at Blewett Falls Lake. The body was found an hour after Hoke squad members arrived. Rodney Crepps of Rockingham, who apparently drowned on

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Illustration of a man in a hat and sunglasses running while carrying a large stack of money. UNITED CAROLINA BANK ucb

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