

... Around Town
(Continued from page 1)

The author states on the first page, "These things I saw and some of them I was a part." He dedicates the book to the men of the 1929 Patrol and to their wives and children. He was asked to write the book by the present Commander, Colonel John T. Jenkins.

The book starts with the horse and buggy days in North Carolina and then moves to the coming of the automobile on the roads of the state. Some of the laws that are mentioned in the book will bring a smile to your face as you read them.

As the number of autos increased more problems were caused by them and so the legislature took over the task of writing the highway laws. Before then, it was up to the counties and towns. In 1913 a law provided that "no person shall operate a motor vehicle upon the public highways of this state recklessly, at a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and proper." Year after year other laws were added.

In 1929 the General Assembly created the State Highway Patrol. The patrol consisted of a captain as commanding officer and under him were nine lieutenants. It was interesting to note that one of the lieutenants was the late Rufus Beck, who lived in Raeford for many years before his death. These officers attended a school in Harrisburg, Penn. for two weeks.

Plans were then made for recruiting 27 patrolmen, three for each of the nine highway districts. Applicants were called for a school at Camp Glenn, near Morehead City. Around 400 applications were received from the men living in all sections of the state and of this number 67 were picked to attend the school. The school ran for six weeks.

The captain was issued a Buick, the lieutenants, Ford coupes and the 27 patrolmen, motorcycles. They then toured the state to meet with county and town officials and officers.

The patrol started to work on July 1, 1929. They worked six days a week and many times had to work the seventh day. Their pay was \$150 per month. As of January 1, 1982 the beginning salary for troopers was \$14,256 annually with a maximum of \$23,556. Other members receive more. From the 37 officers and troopers in 1929, the patrol now numbers 1137. There are 35 officers, 233 non-coms and 885 troopers, also 1 pilot. From 1929 to 1947 the Patrol was staffed by white male officers. On January 1, 1983 there were three females, 12 Indian males, and 61 black males on the patrol.

These are just a few highlights from the book and I would recommend it to you for reading.

I can remember when the first three motorcycle troopers came to Hoke County. Most folks were caught for improper lights, etc. They just gave warning tickets and you went to a filling station and had the car fixed. It was a real show back in 1929 watching the troopers stop cars on main street.

Thanks Dickson for the book.

... Committee Formed

(Continued from page 1)

ing a housing market ranging from medium to higher priced homes, obtaining a Community College based in the county, building a motel and revitalizing Main Street.

Questionnaires are expected to be completed within a week.

The committee will use the information from the survey to develop a game plan for action to be taken, Chamber President Steve Parker said.

"If we don't do something different, in 20 years Hoke County will be occupied only by grand parents," Fowler said, noting that he was paraphrasing what another county resident had said.

FMA Schedule Set

The Flora Macdonald Academy will begin its fall schedule on September 1 with staff members of the academy on hand to welcome students to the beginning of the 1983-84 school year, Headmaster Eugene McKethan announced Tuesday.

Students will be on half day schedules for the first two days of school and will resume the regular school hours (8:25 a.m. through 2:50 p.m.) on September 6.

The 1983-84 school calendar includes the following:

- August 29-30: staff development;
- August 31: Teacher workday;
- September 1: First day for students;
- September 5: Labor Day holiday.



Honored 4-H'ers
Leah Hendrix (center) and Sharon McNeill (right) of the Hillcrest 4-H Club, were honored as members of the 4-H Lifesavers Club while at North Carolina 4-H Congress in Raleigh. They received this honor by doing projects, exhibits, and talks on safety this past year. Also pictured is Alice Pettitt, 4-H extension agent, who accompanied the group.

City Cracks Down On Parking

City officers will begin cracking down on illegal parking in Raeford, following a new ordinance passed Monday during the regular city council meeting.

The existing parking ordinance was amended to prohibit parking on three streets within the city limits.

"The no parking signs are already up on two of those streets, but there is just no ordinance that allows me to actually write tickets," Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said.

Parking would be prohibited on the south side of Campus Avenue from Main Street to Magnolia; East Central Avenue from McDuffie Street to Patterson, and on the north side of Elwood Avenue from Stewart Street to Magnolia, Wiggins said.

"We want to do this for safety purposes," Wiggins said.

According to Wiggins, his officers cannot enforce "no parking" signs that are already erected until the ordinance was adopted.

The ordinance was unanimously approved but will not become effective until the second reading at the September council meeting.

A second ordinance, calling for the closing of "pool halls" at 6 p.m. on Sundays was abolished during Monday night's meeting.

Under the existing ordinance, it is against the law for a pool hall to remain open after 6 p.m. on Sundays.

According to Wiggins, there is no provision for game rooms within this ordinance.

"I received a complaint about Jack's Video Village because he remained open after 6 p.m.," Wiggins said, adding that Jack's had two pool tables.

According to the chief, a clarification of the existing ordinance was needed.

"I would recommend that you simply do away with the Sunday evening closing time for pool halls," Wiggins said.

"I think it would be a good idea. There is really no difference between that and going to the movies," Councilman Vardell Hedgpeth said.

DSS Gears Up For Cheese

The Hoke County Department of Social Services (DSS) is scheduled to distribute butter and cheese on September 5 and 6 to households who receive food stamps or aid to families with dependent children.

The Board of Social Services reached the decision to limit recipients last week after they learned that the new guidelines contained only two groups that could receive the surplus products.

The other group that could have received the products would have been households whose income was not above 130% of the non-farm poverty level.

Individuals who were disabled, received Supplemental Security Income, or anyone over 60 were not among the eligible groups to be considered for this current distribution.

After this distribution, the board will reach a decision as to which of the two groups will receive the next distribution.

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture established the guidelines as to who would receive the products.

The Agriculture Department acted upon the advice of an ad hoc committee established to set guidelines.

An inadequate supply of the surplus products being released by the United States, Department of Agriculture is causing the cutback.

The inability of USDA to package the products in distributable quantities was also cited as another reason for the change.

The recently passed jobs bill contains monies to cover distribution and storage cost.

This legislation has language which identifies the poverty stricken and unemployed as target groups to receive the commodities. This also influenced the current decisions.

DSS Director Ken Witherspoon said he is concerned that the changing of eligible groups has the potential for causing confusion and frustration.

Reduced quantities will be provided to the eligible households.

Youth Nabbed For Break-in

A local youth was arrested last week by Hoke County Sheriff's deputies in connection with three separate break-ins.

Sheriff's records indicate that a 14-year-old juvenile had apparently broken into a Lumber Bridge residence on three separate occasions and had accumulated over \$4,000 in property.

The juvenile was apparently apprehended during the third break-in attempt and was turned over to local authorities, reports show.

In an unrelated incident, Raeford Police arrested two men in connection with the apparent larceny of shorts, shirts and shoes from two area stores.

Michael Levern Bethea, 17, and John Leward Fairley, 17, both of Raeford were arrested and charged with the larceny of property belonging to Sky City and The Shoe Show, Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said.

The two men were apparently

caught after police received a complaint from Sky City.

Local police are also investigating the theft of \$9 from a Raeford woman's residence.

According to Wiggins, Mrs. John T. Davis of 210 West Sixth Avenue, reported that someone had apparently cut a screen and entered the back of her house while she was talking with someone at her front door.

According to Wiggins, \$9 was stolen from Davis's pocketbook.

Hoke School Finance Officer Don Steed reported that someone had broken into the school's bus garage.

Along with damage to the garage's fence, the apparent culprits sneaked away with \$44 in gas that was apparently siphoned out of five different buses.

According to Chief Wiggins, an investigation into the incident is continuing.

Hoke High ROTC Still A Possibility

By Sherry Matthews

The hope of having a junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) at Hoke High School for the coming year was resurrected by the Hoke County Board of Education Tuesday night.

Although funds have not been allocated in this year's school budget and the county commission failed to approve additional monies to be used for the program, school finance officer Don Steed told board members that the needed money was "now available."

According to Steed, there was \$23,000 remaining after bids were taken for school roofing. The ROTC program is estimated to cost \$20,000.

The \$64,000 budgeted for roofing was a "very liberal figure," Steed said.

When the actual bids came in, board members took the lowest price, leaving about \$23,000 in the schools' revenue sharing budget, Steed added.

At Tuesday's meeting, Board Chairman W.W. Cameron told members that the excess money "could" be used to initiate the ROTC program.

Cameron said he believes the Hoke County Commissioners are willing "to commit" to funding the program for following fiscal years.

Cameron told members he had discussed the matter with Commission Chairman John Balfour, who

is apparently in favor of the program.

"At this point Hoke High is still on the list for the ROTC program. The people at Ft. Bragg have told us that if we can get the money, the program will be there," Superintendent Robert Nelson said.

The main concern would be the source of money for the program in the future, Nelson said.

Additional dollars should be funded, and money already within the school budget should not be used, Nelson said.

Cameron asked Board Attorney Bill Moses if the school board should get a commitment "in writing" from commission members.

Moses immediately called for an executive session to discuss his opinions with the board.

The executive session lasted approximately 45 minutes, and the matter was not discussed by the board following the closed meeting.

"We are going to try to meet with the county commissioners to possibly work out a way to get the ROTC program," Cameron said after the executive session.

The ROTC program has continued to have wide-spread support from the public and students.

Over 100 students have shown interest in getting involved with the program and public support has been great, Nelson said in an earlier interview.

Hefner To Hold County Meeting

Congressman Bill Hefner has announced that he will be holding a series of "County-wide Town Meetings" throughout the 8th Congressional District.

The Hoke County meeting will take place at the county courthouse Tuesday, August 9 at 7:30 p.m. Meetings will also be held in Scotland, Moore, Richmond, and Montgomery counties.

"I am holding these meetings to discuss matters of interest and concern with my constituents," Hefner said. "I hope that anyone who has a complaint or wants to make a suggestion will attend."

The congressman has recently been released from Bethesda Naval Hospital after undergoing 3 days of tests.

Hefner was found to have bron-

chitis but was otherwise given a clean bill of health.

Hefner, who asked for and received a leave of absence from the House of Representatives for the hospitalization period, was not present for the votes to censure Reps. Daniel B. Crane (R-Ill.) and Gerry E. Studds (D-Mass.) on Wednesday, July 20.

"Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted to censure these representatives," Hefner said. "Had a resolution come to the floor to expel them, I would have voted for expulsion. Their actions are inexcusable."

Hefner had entered the hospital July 17 on the advice of his physician and was released late Wednesday afternoon. He then returned to his Capitol Hill office.

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