



Veteran Richard Ferguson salutes while a member of the Hoke County High JROTC Color Guard holds Old Glory steady.

Freedom Tree — a green ash — to be planted

The ideal of freedom was called a "precious and fragile" — words that might also describe the Freedom Tree that will be planted at the National Guard Armory on Teal Drive.

In a ceremony at 1 p.m. Monday — on the date celebrated as Memorial Day — a simulated planting was held, and Richard Ferguson, commander of Alphonso Pickett VFW Post 7930, explained the symbolism of the Freedom Tree.

A green ash, nurtured in Jacksonville Florida, is to be donated by Wal-Mart. The tree was grown from a seed from a shade tree at the "humble" birthplace in Denison, Texas of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The tree will "stand tall in the community — a lasting symbol of our freedom," said Ferguson.

The tree will represent the freedom bought by all veterans, Ferguson said. It is also part of a program with

the goal of helping communities come together as the nation recovers from the events of September 11.

Wal-Mart spokesperson Matt Fifer said the company is proud to be part of a "program in which ... freedom is recognized as our greatest national treasure."

The program is also sponsored by American Forests, a nonprofit conservation organization, and Scotts.

Around town

(Continued from page 1A)

is invited to attend.

Mildred Maxwell and Jackie Haddon were by the house last week and they left me information about a golf tournament for the scholarship fund honoring Dr. Robert Townsend. The tournament will be held Friday, July 26 at Bayonet Golf Course. There will be lunch at 1 p.m. and a shotgun start at 2 p.m. I will have more information in about this event in a later column.

Maybe I will be able to give you the date of the North Carolina primary election by next week. The General Assembly has turned over new district lines to the judge, and after his review will either approve or draw new districts.

I received a call from Joe Farmer, a nephew of J. C. McKenzie, and he said that J.C. had been buried in Wagram rather than Elizabethtown. Thanks, Joe, for the correction.

The Rev. Ian Rankin, pastor of the Antioch Presbyterian Church and his wife, the Rev. Maureen Paterson, associate pastor of the Raeford Presbyterian Church, went with a group on a missionary trip to Zambia and Zimbabwe from May 8 to 24. I thought the readers of this column would like to hear about their trip. I want to thank both of them for the following:

"In Zambia we visited Justo Mwalu Theological Seminary where many Presbyterian ministers from Southern Africa are trained in Lusaka, Zambia.

We witnessed the plight of many of Africa's children.

"The AIDS pandemic in Africa has left over 10.4 million children orphaned or abandoned. The House of Moses and Crisis Nursery are able to take care of only a tiny percentage of these children and yet they offer hope in a country ravaged by disease, poverty and drought.

"The Namumu Orphanage meets a similar need. Although the buildings are not completed and the orphanage is not officially open, 214 orphans come there everyday to school. There are no chairs, desks or supplies in the makeshift classrooms; the only evidence of learning comes from a large blackboard propped against the wall amidst all the building dust and debris.

"In Zimbabwe the current political and economic crisis, where unemployment is around 70 percent, has increased the number of street children by the hundreds over the last few years. Children as young as 2-years-old gathered on a street each morning to receive tea and bread from a South African woman who has dedicated her life to this ministry. It was heart-breaking to hand food to these children and know it would be the only meal of the day.

"Lovemore House for boys and the Home of Hope for women and children are both trying to provide a way off the streets for some people. Lovemore provides a safe Christian environment for 12 boys in a suburb outside Harare. As they played bas-

ketball with us in the courtyard they acted like normal young boys, and yet their lives have already been touched by more pain, grief and sorrow than most of us will ever experience.

"As we worshipped in churches throughout these two countries, with worship sometimes lasting 3-4 hours, we were deeply moved by the depth and power of faith we witnessed. The singing and dancing revealed a great joy in the Lord, and in spite of all that they could find to complain and be bitter about they found hope through their faith in Christ.

"Our trip was a very powerful reminder that we take for granted the many blessings in our life and find so much to grumble about when truly God is gracious to us beyond measure. Their passion and joy in the Lord was an inspiration and a reminder of how so often we rely on our own abilities and gifts and not on God. It is also a reminder that we are called by God to care for all of His children, and it was a privilege to see how God was working through the resources of the PC (USA) in Africa."

After reading what Ian and Maureen had to say about their trip, I thought about this week being Memorial Day week. I remember when I arrived in Manila in World War II. There was destruction everywhere and children running around who didn't know where their parents were or if they were dead. We should be thankful for the men and women who gave their lives so that we can have the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.

Russell takes over Chamber leadership

Individuals are lauded for contributions

By Pat Allen Wilson
Editor

The president's gavel passed from Wayne Simpson to Randy Russell at the 55th annual banquet of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce last week. Simpson is with Unilever, and Russell is with Cheerwine.

Other officers are Lisa Potts-Davis, first vice president; Rick Sandy, second vice president; Sherry Lucas, secretary; and Charles Davis, treasurer.

Letitia Evans Currie, who will become Chamber director June 3, was introduced. She replaces Lawanna Hayes, who resigned in late March.

Currie is a graduate of Peace College with a bachelor of arts degree in business communication.

Simpson said 15 candidates had applied for the director position.

In his farewell speech, Simpson said he had been "blessed in so many years" during his year as president and that it had been a privilege to work with "unselfish people." He also recapped "a year of change."

"The events of 9-11 affected the way we live, how we view family, friends, loved ones," Simpson said. He also gave special recognition to firefighters, rescue and law enforcement personnel who were present.

Simpson remembered two men who were "committed to the betterment of the community" — Hoke Schools Superintendent Mitch Tyler and Raeford Police Sgt. Cliff Stauffer, both of whom died earlier this year.

Simpson spoke of an increased membership and said Russell had



Randy Russell receives the chamber president's gavel from Wayne Simpson.

headed the membership committee. The annual legislative breakfast was "very successful and likewise the annual N.C. Turkey Festival," according to Simpson. Hoke Expo had 1,700 plus visitors and gets "bigger and better every year," he said.

Administrative Professional Day, an occasion to honor secretaries, was a first for the Chamber to sponsor and was a "huge success," Simpson said.

Simpson also recognized Hayes and her almost 16 years of contribution to the Chamber.

Twelve graduates of Leadership Hoke received their diplomas, and one of those graduates, Frank Crumpler, in turn, recognized Marilyn

Neely for her "service, leadership and commitment" to the Leadership Hoke program. "She is the engine that drives Leadership Hoke," Crumpler said.

Jackie Lynch was also lauded for her "outstanding contribution." She is the N.C. Turkey Festival director and has held down the Chamber office during the interim between directors.

For the first time, a Yard of the Year was recognized and that honor went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Leandro.

Speaker for the occasion, which had the theme of "your down-home chamber," was Bennett Deane, president of the Richmond County Chamber of Commerce.

Try biological control of garden pests



Tired of picking, squashing and spraying garden pests? Let someone else do the work! Biological control is the use of a specially chosen living organism to control a specific pest. This chosen organism might be a predator, parasite, or disease that will attack a harmful insect or weed. Biological pest control is a form of manipulating nature to achieve a desired effect. Biological pest control programs may range from choosing a pesticide that will be least harmful to beneficial insects, to raising and releasing one organism to have it attack another, almost like a "living insecticide."

What are the advantages of biological pest control?

Biological control methods can be used as part of a broad-based program to reduce the environmental, legal, and health hazards of chemicals in the garden. In addition, biological control may be a less expensive alternative to certain insecticides. Some biological control measures can actually prevent economic damage to plants. Unlike most insecticides, biological controls are often very specific against a particular pest. People, animals or helpful insects may be completely unaffected or undisturbed by their use. There is no impact on the environment and water quality, and it is fun watching bugs do the work for you!

What are disadvantages?

Biological control takes a little more management and planning. It can take patience and record keeping. Successful use of biological control requires knowing the biology of the pest and its enemies. Many natural enemies are also susceptible to pesticides, so using them

successfully requires care. In some cases, biological control may be more costly than pesticides, but the long-term advantages often outweigh the cost. Most natural enemies attack only one type of insect, but this can also be an advantage.

What is a beneficial insect?

A beneficial insect used for biological control would be any insect that preys upon a harmful insect that could otherwise damage the garden. These commonly take the form of a predator insect, which eats another. The eating may take place immediately, or the harmful insect may be paralyzed and eaten later, or it may even be consumed by the insect's offspring. Examples are lacewing larvae that eat aphids, paper wasps that catch caterpillars and feed to their young, and tiny parasitic wasps that sting and have offspring that eat the pest insect from within.

How can I protect the beneficial insects already in my garden?

The first step is to identify the common insects in the garden. The identity of the insect reveals whether the insect is eating the plant, looking for another insect to eat, just seeking shelter, or merely passing through. If it is a harmful insect, one can estimate how much further damage it could cause and whether a chemical is

needed. A small caterpillar will grow into a large one that will do a lot of eating. A large one may have already done most of its eating. Some chemicals can also kill beneficial insects so they must be used wisely and only if needed. Proper use includes choosing the correct chemical, using it at the correct strength, at the correct time, and at the correct place. When chemicals are necessary, there are often special ones that may kill the pest, and not harm the beneficial insect. Killing all the insects present may allow the pest population to recover more quickly than the predator population. Consequently, outbreaks of harmful insects sometimes occur following certain chemical treatments.

How can I identify an insect?

Field guides and gardening references books can be helpful. Gardeners should learn to identify beneficial insects in any life stage. However, if you are uncertain, you may contact the Hoke County Cooperative Extension Center for help. Helpful online guides to insects (both pests and beneficials) found in North Carolina are located at the following addresses:

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/ent/notes/>
<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/course/ent425/compendium/index.html>
http://ipmwww.ncsu.edu/current_ipm/otimages.html

For more information, you may come by our office located at 116 W. Prospect Ave. or give us a call at 910-875-2162.

Man shot in leg following alleged argument

By VICTORIANA SUMMERS
Staff writer

News of a shooting came over the scanner last Tuesday afternoon in the Scurlock area, but what appeared to have been a robbery turned out to be some sort of feud.

Major Thomas Carlton of the Sheriff's Office said the incident occurred at Moody's Variety Store at 2937 U.S. 401 Business and there was no evidence to support a robbery. The local store is located near Hillcrest

Baptist Church, he said.

Witnesses said victim Lynwood Bostic, 46, of Walnut Lane, staggered out of the store and left the scene before law enforcement officers arrived. He was shot in the left leg with a shotgun blast, but apparently not seriously injured. He was transported to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville where his injuries were reported as "not life-threatening," according to Carlton.

Johnnie McMillian, 40, of Dundee Mobile Home Park, was operating the

store when he allegedly shot Bostic at around 2:10 p.m.

He was arrested at about 3:45 p.m. and released on a \$10,000 unsecured bond after being charged with assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury.

"Mr. Bostic came into the store seeking to transact some business," Carlton said. "During the transaction, a dispute came about and Mr. McMillian apparently shot Mr. Bostic in the leg."

According to Carlton, the reason for the argument has not been determined.

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