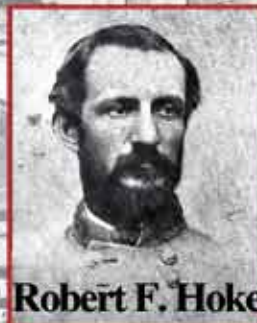




Hoke County



Robert F. Hoke

CENTENNIAL

1911 - 2011





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Hoke's History

as reported by The News-Journal

The News-Journal was founded in 1905 and was here for Hoke County's entire history.

For this publication we pored through all of our microfilm, bound books and electronic media to bring you the highlights of that history, year by year.

Credits

Contributors to this publication are Jordan Jacobs, Karen Hough, James Pope, Lynette Dial, Joyce Monroe, Stephen Pate, Barbara Buie, James Pope, Cary A. Wilson, the Rev. Dennis Lamm, Ellen McNeill, Rudee Orians, John Kelly Sr., Lincoln Graham, and John C. Kelly Jr.

Special thanks to the Hoke County Public Library and the Raeford-Hoke Museum. — Pat Allen Wilson

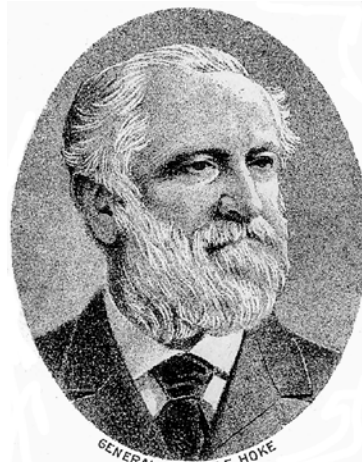
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Hoke was respected for his service as a Confederate Civil War officer

Confederate soldier Robert Frederick Hoke died at age 75, a year after he was honored by having North Carolina's 99th county named after him.

It was Hoke's performance as a soldier that earned him the respect of North Carolinians.



General Robert F. Hoke

Hoke was born in Lincolnton on May 1837. His father, an attorney, ran for governor in 1844 but died of a heart attack before the campaign ended.

Hoke was a cadet at Kentucky Military Institute when his father died, and he dropped out

to take over management of the family's cotton mills and iron works; he was 17 at the time.

He was 24 when he joined the Confederate Army and was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in Co. C of the 1st North Carolina Volunteers. As a member of the 33rd North Carolina Regiment, he was promoted first to major and then to Lt. col. He led the regiment in numerous battles, including fights at Hanover Courthouse and Second Manassas.

Hoke did not hold a rank for long before his next advancement. He was promoted to colonel in the 21st North Carolina in August, and in January he made brigadier general for his performance at Fredericksburg. In the winter of 1862-63 he served with Gen. Robert E. Lee and was wounded at Chancellorsville. He fought as a major general in Richmond during the South's last efforts.

His regiment was hardest hit at Bentonville, and a weary Hoke surrendered when orders came down to do so.

With the loss of family holdings following the war, Hoke moved to the mountains of western North Carolina and panned for gold. Later, he became involved in iron mining near Chapel Hill. Eventually he directed the Atlantic Coastline Railroad and served as president of Home Life Insurance Co. of Raleigh. He died July 3, 1912 and is buried in Raleigh.

Happy Birthday
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Linda Revels
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Garvin Ferguson
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Tracing Hoke’s History Through *The News-Journal*

Hoke County has never been without a weekly newspaper. Established in 1905, when Raeford was incorporated, Facts and Figures was published. A subsequent newspaper was called The Hoke County Journal, and for a brief period a second newspaper, called The Hoke County News, existed. The two papers merged, thus The News-Journal.

We began going through newspapers on microfilm at the Raeford Public Library and through bound books of newspapers kept at The News-Journal office. Some of the newspapers we found online. Newspapers prior to January 1918 have been lost. Starting with January 3, 1918, we selected an article or articles from each week – either headliners or a topic

that caught our fancy. We particularly concentrated on items of history and items that reflected cultural changes. We found some years were missing and then there were the weeks when nothing seemed noteworthy so we just skipped that week and went on to the next. Remaining true to journalistic ethics as outlined today, we did not shy from topics

we found painful or thought our readers might find offensive. Racial bias is sometimes clearly evident, particularly during the early years. These articles speak of the times and we cannot change the way it was, just hope lessons were learned. –Pat Allen Wilson, Editor

Years for which we found information are solid black.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 |
| 1912 | 1922 | 1932 | 1942 | 1952 | 1962 | 1972 | 1982 | 1992 | 2002 |
| 1913 | 1923 | 1933 | 1943 | 1953 | 1963 | 1973 | 1983 | 1993 | 2003 |
| 1914 | 1924 | 1934 | 1944 | 1954 | 1964 | 1974 | 1984 | 1994 | 2004 |
| 1915 | 1925 | 1935 | 1945 | 1955 | 1965 | 1975 | 1985 | 1995 | 2005 |
| 1916 | 1926 | 1936 | 1946 | 1956 | 1966 | 1976 | 1986 | 1996 | 2006 |
| 1917 | 1927 | 1937 | 1947 | 1957 | 1967 | 1977 | 1987 | 1997 | 2007 |
| 1918 | 1928 | 1938 | 1948 | 1958 | 1968 | 1978 | 1988 | 1998 | 2008 |
| 1919 | 1929 | 1939 | 1949 | 1959 | 1969 | 1979 | 1989 | 1999 | 2009 |
| 1920 | 1930 | 1940 | 1950 | 1960 | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |

For a few years, we found only partial coverage.

1918

Jan. 3 – There were 11,607 bales of cotton ginned in Hoke County prior to Dec. 13, 1917 as compared to 7,752 ginned by Dec. 13, 1916.

Jan. 10 - The annual report regarding mileage and expenses allowed county commissioners: J.C. Thomas, chairman, paid \$60.20 last year; Louis Parker, \$1.80; Jesse Gibson, \$51.80.

Feb. 6 – Commissioners order the 1917 poll tax of \$17 to be returned to D.A. Currie because he is a cripple.

May 16 – Neill M. McKeithan of Dundarrach advertises a good farm or buggy horse in good condition, will sell for a reasonable price.

May 23 – Raeford High School graduates seven: Roland Earle Blue, Mabel Marie Gatlin, James Leland Nesbit, Georgia Willie Wright, Arthur Archibald Campbell, Margaret Dubley McLean and Alice Ava Rackley.

May 30 – Edgar Hall announces his candidacy for sheriff.

June 6 – F.A. Wishart, superintendent of roads, indicts his boss, L.T. Brown, for plowing into a road. Wishart blithely explains, “But he broke the law.”

July 4 – Gov. Bickett proclaims a call to prayer for victory in battle for our troops.

Aug. 22 – Carson Chason dies of his battle wounds.

Prof. J.M. McBryde is severely wounded in France.

Aug. 29 – The first bales of cotton of the season in Cumberland County are sold by Joe Walston to the Tolar Hart Mill for 32 cents a pound. Walston was paid \$165.76 for the cotton and \$34.65 for the seed.

Sept. 26 – The Food Administration urges people to increase food production in 1919 as it means so much for the success of the war.

Oct. 24 – The influenza epidemic reaches such alarming proportions that the mayor calls a mass meeting to discuss ways to combat it.

1919

Dec. 4 – News & Junk: Two of the stills the sheriff captured in November are good copper ones.

Feb. 5 – The school authorities have a truck to bring children to school (and we hope take them back home).

Epstein’s Dept. Store has bought out Mrs. Mary Belle’s store.

1920

Feb. 12 – Broadus Utley playfully snapped an unloaded pistol, or so he thought, in Miss Lelia Causey’s face with the result that the young lady has a painful wound in her face just below the right eye.

May 27 – The streets should be sprinkled all over and it should be done at night.

June 3 – A number of people attend what is thought to be the last service of Long Street Church. But it is announced another service will be held there the last Sunday in August.

June 10 – Mr. W.L. Floyd opens a café in Raeford.

June 24 – An all-around bad man is on trial: George Allen is convicted of multiple crimes after he threatened, assaulted and attempted to bribe voters. One of his victims is an old man crippled with rheumatism and arthritis.

Sept. 2 – (Road rage even then!) A.P. Spell, attorney from Red Springs, is shot after a car collision with a South Carolina man who left the scene. Someone came along and took Spell to the hospital and also looked after the two young sons he had with him.

Sept. 9 – Raeford School opens with 331 students. Mrs. Mollie Sinclair is in charge of the dormitory but there are not enough rooms.

Sept. 16 – Mr. W.F. Walters has brick on his lot not only to erect a building but to make it

three stories high.

Nov. 4 - A letter to the editor concerning the poisoning of a dog notes the loss of confidence in one’s neighbor is worse than the loss of the dog.

Nov. 25 - Raeford Hardware Co. is already dressed in holiday attire. It is very pretty.

Dec. 2 – Make Chisholm says if outgoes are taxable, he is “ruint.”

Dec. 9 – Since the rebuilding has begun on Fayetteville Road and a good deal of rain has fallen, it is well nigh impossible to travel it. The road is mirey, the road has been built up several feet higher close up to the bridges and a car is set on end to cross them. And while concrete bridges will be built sometime, some safer temporary arrangements should be made.’

Dec. 23 – The A&R depot at Wagram, a store, the post office and a large lot of cotton burned at Wagram Monday night. The origin of the fire is not known.

1921

July 28 – “It was carried in the daily papers yesterday that Camp Bragg is to be discontinued Aug. 1. It is said the government will pay for the land within the camp boundaries when money is available. We do not know that the news is authentic but we give it as we receive it.”

Oct. 20 – A few nights ago, some vandals threw bottles or brickbats through the plate glass in the cold drink wagon belonging to Messrs. McQuage and King doing about \$25 damage. That was wicked.

1923

April 5 - On Saturday, March 23, as shadows began to gather, God sent his death messenger and removed from our midst Miss Loula Currie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Currie. She was in her 37th year of age.

April 12 – On the first Monday in April, county commissioners and the school board meet in joint session. The question of the school expense is discussed and the school budget is presented. From what we learn, there is no likelihood of a reduction in taxes. The rate will be about the same as it was last year.

May 17 – Mssrs. J.D. Niven and Bennett Cox buy Mr. M.S. McDiarmid’s grocery business on Main Street.

May 24 – Some fishermen catch a 7-ft. aligator in Opie Odum’s mill pond in St. Pauls.

July 5 – Ku Klux Klan, in full hooded regalia, go to the home of the McPhersons, Indian tenant farmers, who run a two-horse farm about three miles west of Wagram. “Klan activities are confined to that section of Scotland County, the rest of the county being bitterly opposed to the KKK. They have allegedly beaten some mulatto women and Negro men. McPherson asked for police protection and believes there is more trouble to come.” The man he asked for help is believed to be a member of the KKK.

Aug. 16 – Construction of a colored high school, located a mile north of town, begins. Another colored high school is at Bowmore.

Nov. 8 – Angus Dobbin in Quewhiffle Township, above Timberland, is shot in the heart and dies. Charlie Clark, Will Booth, Nelson Alexander and Judge Roper were to be held, but Roper escaped.

Nov. 22 – Mr. E.F. Powell of Whiteville is badly injured in a two-car collision with A.K. Currie at the intersection of Prospect and Fulton. ...”He was brought to Hotel Raeford and Drs. Brown and Geddie did all they could for him. ... It is probable that Mr. Powell did not see Mr. Currie, at least in time to avoid a collision; that is true of both drivers or it wouldn’t have occurred. It seems to be one of those unavoidable accidents that could not be prevented.” Mr. Powell died in Highsmith Hospital at 9 o’clock that night.

Nov. 29 – The splendid residence of Mr. and

Hoke is best of all worlds

We in God-blessed Hoke County have a uniqueness not shared by many places in North Carolina.

One can drive through almost any section of the county and view farm fields as far as the eye can see. The beauty of white fields of white, snow-like cotton bolls; green, glistening soybean plants; or golden leaves of tobacco cannot be surpassed.

Yet, these Hoke sandhills also boast communities teeming with residential growth; Hoke is one of the fastest growing counties in the state – even in the nation.

In western Hoke, horse country has moved from nearby Moore County to our fair county. Fort Bragg swells us with pride as we are home to not only U.S. Army train-

ing sites, but soldiers and their families live among us. We are host to businesses and industries that saw the promise and made their homes here.

Culturally, we represent Americana, and each culture makes unique contributions to this place they call home. In Hoke you will find the friendliness of a small town and places with the beguiling names of Rockfish, Arabia, Puppy Creek, Dundarrach, Antioch and Quewhiffle.

Some here consider Hoke one of the best kept secrets in North Carolina. Perhaps the best part of all is that this “secret” is located just minutes from cities and their attractions and is close to the major transportation corridors. In Hoke, we think we have the best of all worlds.

1925

Jan. 17 – Tom McFadyen drove his coupe into the A&R bus as he turned into Main Street from Central Avenue. The accident is blamed on poor lights and a thick, fine rain.

Feb. 12 – Locals: A farmer in Sampson County kills a hog weighing nearly 1,100 pounds.

Feb. 19 – Kiwanis Club is seeking paved roads for Hoke. The county has gotten less than a mile of pavement from the millions that have recently been spent for paving in the state.

March 12 – D.C. McLeod, a Lillington man, reared in Hoke, wrote an ode to Rockfish Creek.

March 19 – The bitterest municipal fight ever known in the history of the town was fought in 1905.

March 26 – The Hoke County Journal describes the battle to make Hoke a county some 14 years ago. When J.W. McLaughlin introduced the bill that established Hoke, he was sick and with a sore throat. The speech left him with permanent throat trouble.

April 2 – Cotton baling dropped by a half. There were 18,684 bales in 1923 and 9,195 in 1924.

April 6 – Local News: Quite a number of farmers are finding cooperative borrowing as helpful as cooperative marketing.

April 16 – The city passes an ordinance forbidding the building on property that abuts a sewer line.

June 4 – The high school granted 15 diplomas and one certificate. Some medals were also handed out.

June 11 – The proprietors of three filling stations advertise that they will do business for cash only: Main Street, Central and Auto Inn. People are too careless about paying what they owe.

July 9 – The cannery offers a market for cow peas in the fall and for beets and collards in the late fall.

July 30 – Mr. A.J. Fuller is erecting a filling station on his corner lot, Main Street and Harris Avenue.

A heavy rain washed out crops and corn was blown over and broken off.

Aug. 6 – Sanatorium, N.C. – The mountains and the Sandhill country offer a wonderful climate for the cure of (TB)... The state sanatorium cares for 182 white patients and 60 colored ones... Six months is usually the shortest time in which a patient may be safely returned to active life... There is no medicine to cure TB... Only right living will do it.

Mrs. T.B. Upchurch was destroyed by fire, and the family had a close call to escape with their lives. There was no water and firefighters were barely able to save nearby buildings.

Dec. 6 – The T.B. Upchurches wrote a letter of thanks to people who helped them after the fire and invited them to a banquet when their new home is finished.

Dec. 13 – Archie Gibson, 20, “a young man of promise” dies and is buried at Shiloh.

Dec. 20 – Pension checks for Confederate veterans are now being distributed by the Clerk of the Superior Court Wm. L. Poole.

1924

Jan. 17 – While riding in a sidecar of a motorcycle, James C., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. M.B. McBryde of Antioch, is instantly killed when the motorcycle collides with a wagon at a curve in the road.

June 19 – Ed. Note: This was the week that the National Guard was called out in anticipation of a disturbance that local law enforcement might not have been able to handle. It appears there was a senseless act followed by a senseless reaction that was followed by a senseless write-up in the Hoke County Journal, published by D. Scott Poole. Excerpts in quotation marks are as they appeared in the HCJ. “Not often are the good people stirred as they were Monday when a brute Negro laid hands on beautiful and accomplished, and loved because she is lovable, daughter whose parents are some of the best people in the country whose home is near Montrose.” The unnamed woman sat on a log waiting for the mailman and was allegedly seized by the neck but got away from her attacker and ran to her home. Three Negro men found the man and turned him over to officers. “Soon the news of the capture spread and in a short time the town was filled with sullen, indignant men and there were indications of revenge. Governor Morrison, as a precaution, ordered the local military under Capt. Poole to assist the sheriff in keeping order. The crowd dispersed and a second wire at 11 o'clock called the company off duty. The sheriff and a strong guard of deputies remained on duty all night. While they have strong provocation, and the wretch is within the grasp of the law, we hope they will restrain their just indignation... His own race seems as indignant as the white people.”

Dec. 25 – “The Economy Grocery Co. has a beautiful Christmas dress.”



RAEFORD-HOKE Chamber of Commerce

Congratulations Hoke County! 100 Years Old

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Bo's Supermarket #11
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Theresa Byrd
Calico Corner
Cape Fear Farm Credit
Cape Fear Valley Health System
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Carolina Turf
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Children's Developmental Center
City Of Raeford
Comfort Heating & Air Inc
Connell Real Estate
Crumpler Funeral Home
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Edinborough Restaurant
Exit Realty 1st Class II
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FCI
Family Florist #2
Joseph Farmer
Fidelity Bank
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FirstHealth of the Carolinas
Five Points Pet Resort
Floors To Go
Friendly Reminders, Inc
Harold and Peggy Gillis
Going Your Way
Grace Baptist Church
Gabriella's Restaurant
H&H Construction
H&R Block
Hallmark Realty

Harvest Comm. Family Worship
Hawk Eye Elementary
Hedgpeth Farms & Greenhouse
Hillcrest Scurlock Water System
Jean Hodges
Hoke Area Transit
Hoke Cotton Warehouse
Hoke County ABC Store
Hoke County Board of Education
Hoke County Civic League
Hoke County Farm Bureau
Hoke County High School
Hoke County Native American
Hoke County Offices
Hoke County Parks & Recreations
Hoke Partnership for Children
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Hoke Emergency Liaison Program
Hoke Family Medical
Hoke Reading Literacy Council
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Howell Drug
Imark Insurance
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Johnson Company
Johnson Concrete Co
Jordan Clinic
George and Charlotta King
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Liberty Home Care
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Upchurch Elementary School
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Village Family Dental
Waccamaw Transport
West Hoke Elementary
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Wayne Willis
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Aug. 27 – The B.L. Lucas Co., incorporated builders and contractors, will go out of business it is said after the present contracts are completed. We understand now Mr. Lucas thinks of going to Florida.

Sept. 17 – Mr. Ed Jordan of Arabia lost not only his barn set fire by lightning last week but a horse, wagon, two mules, a buggy, all his grain, forage and farm implements.

Sept. 24 – Caption under a photo of a young man – Evangelist Carl E. Gaddy, who begins a tent meeting in Raeford tomorrow night. Friends have written that he is a good, zealous man but to us he is a stranger, and we make this announcement by request. If he succeeds in driving the Devil out of anybody's life, we wish him Godspeed.

Sept. 31 – As Mr. G.C. Ammons' son was turning into his home in the mill village Saturday night after the show, a car driven by two men from Carthage drove into his car and several of his children were cut by more or less broken glass. One of the Carthage men was thrown through the window and badly lacerated about the head.

Oct. 15 – Mr. Charlie McInnis had his wrist (broken) by a kick of a Ford car a few days ago.

Oct. 22 – We meant to tell you Mr. Charley McInnis got his arm broke cranking his Ford last week and we left out the word broke.

1926

Jan. 14 – Mr. Tom Culbreth lost a Peace Dollar when he fell on the street the night of the fire.

Jan. 28 – Farm Agent Brandon ordered 60 bushels of Lespedeza seed last week. Mr. E. R. Pickler of Ashley Heights takes 20 bushels of these. He is the largest individual purchaser.

Feb. 11 – Rockfish is the host of an Old Fiddlers' Music Convention.

Feb. 18 – A awful accident occurs as successful farmer L.W. McCormick was killed instantly while using TNT to blast away stumps.

March 4 – Due to excessive poaching of the creature, Raeford's Grey Squirrel population has nearly been wiped out.

March 11 – Town authorities purchase a lot adjoining the Carolina Telegraph and Telephone Co. on Main Street in order to build a new City Hall.

March 18 – Movement has risen in county government to create a county high school in which pupils from all townships of the county could attend.

April 15 – A study concludes that crop yield of Hoke County has risen steadily and that 1925 was the largest yet.

April 22 – Two men are ordered not to be seen in Hoke, Cumberland or Robeson counties for the next two years because of activities involved with making illegal whiskey. Otherwise, they will serve two years in Wayne County working on the roads.

April 29 – Local News: Mrs. J.D. Tapp is furnishing Raeford Drug Co. with fresh buttermilk of very fine quality, an uncommonly good drink.

May 20 – Rural Policeman Barrington captured a young white man named Wilson and a copper still he was running on Drowning Creek. Wilson is also wanted in Moore County for stealing cars.

Aug. 26 – The state Board of Health is holding a clinic for children on tonsils and adenoids at the Raeford Presbyterian Church.

Sept. 9 – Short Item: The trains in town now run about half time.

Sept. 23 – N.C. McFadyen, who was for four years, prior to 1915, Raeford postmaster, was sentenced to three years in federal prison in Fayetteville.

Sept. 30 – Jesse Lee, father of 12 children, will serve three months on the road for making whiskey.

Oct. 7 – County Farm Demonstration Agent L.B. Brandon has shipped into Hoke County, for fattening purposes, a car load of hogs. Many Hoke farmers have corn, which is hard to sell for cash, so they will sell pork.

Oct. 14 – The hard surface road between Aberdeen and Raeford is complete except for culverts, etc.

Nov. 4 – The fine farm home of Mr. M.A. Chisholm went up in smoke at about five o'clock Sunday morning. It was clearly the work of an incendiary as the mules in the barn had been turned out and the gate latched. The barn and its contents were almost destroyed when the fire was discovered and the home was burning inside. The Chisholms were visiting in Moore County at the time.

Nov. 11 – About six weeks ago, Ernest and Albert Faircloth stole an automobile and 600 pounds of tobacco from B.P. Saunders of Ashley Heights. They were arrested, posted bail, and will be tried on Tuesday.

Nov. 18 – Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jordan were seriously hurt in an accident. Their auto ran into a car parked alongside the road during a heavy fog.

Dec. 2 – Mr. Martin McKeithan killed three hogs last week that weighed 315, 316 and 327 pounds.

Dec. 23 – The Bank of Raeford building now has steam heat and is now very comfortable.

1929

Jan. 25 – Twenty thousand pounds of TNT arrive for use on farms, in order to rid areas of tree stumps.

Feb. 1 – Bad weather fails to prevent a high yield in cotton.

Feb. 15 – A tobacco specialist comes here to teach farmers more efficient ways of growing quality tobacco.

March 1 – More than 7,630 lbs. of poultry ships from Raeford to markets.

March 8 – Seven young men survive a car crash into the side of a bridge near Hoke-Cumberland line.

March 15 – Hoke deputy sheriff foils prisoners' attempt to escape through tampering with jail locks.

March 29 – Prominent Raeford attorney E.S. Smith dies.

The State Department of Transportation looks into building a highway to St. Pauls.

April 5 – From a survey, Raeford farmers learn they space their cotton rows too far apart compared to other coastal farmers.

April 12 – Bob Usher is arrested for illegal manufacturing and procession of whiskey found between the Parker place and the Fort Bragg reservation.

April 19 – Raeford's National Guard unit is praised for receiving high rankings from the Coastal Artillery Corps.

April 26 – After a most successful and peaceful winter season, Hoke County Jail is practically empty with few prisoners.

May 17 – Raeford High School's baseball team competes in the Eastern Championship game against Clayton. They win the championship in a tense battle.

May 24 – A study tells Hoke parents that milk is directly related to a child's school performance.

May 31 – After a grievous loss to Western champs, Raeford High, however, still remains state champion runners-up.

June 14 – Raeford begins to ship dewberries and other products to New York by motor truck



Mill Prong House – Maybe the oldest house in Hoke, the early Federal style house was built around 1802 by John Gilchrist. The land it sets on was part of a King's grant to James Lowery and Henry O'Berry. Col. Archibald acquired the land sometime in the 19th century, and he and Ellen McEachern reared 10 children in the home. The house, in Hoke near Wagram, was located on a major thoroughfare originally called Old Post Road.

instead of train.

June 21 – A Raeford girl wins big prize in a Madri Gras Parade in Greensboro.

June 28 – A rifle match held on Hoke County/Fort Bragg area for all surrounding National Guard units.

July 5 – Neil Smith Blue, a prominent Raeford citizen who helped in the building of Aberdeen and Rockfish railroads after the Civil War and who turned over 11,000 acres of land to the government for the Fort Bragg Reservation, dies while attending church service.

July 12 – The State Highway Patrol becomes active in Hoke County for the first time.

July 19 – Hoke County and surrounding areas are now being supplied with plenty amounts of electricity as contract is signed between Carolina Power Company and the Raeford Manufacturing Company.

July 29 – After a long and speedy chase through Rockfish, Deputy W.R. Barrington arrests a drunk driver.

Aug. 2 – Local farmers are greatly pleased with new and very high selling prices for tobacco.

Aug. 9 – Hoke County Board of Education sets official dates for county schools to open for new school years.

Aug. 16 – Two people are arrested for attempting to steal chickens from one of the many chicken houses of the State Sanatorium.

Aug. 23 – The Battery Guard of Raeford leaves for extensive training at Camp Perry, Ohio.

Aug. 30 – Hoke County establishes official books to be read in its high schools.

Sept. 6 – County Police Officers go on a day-long fishing trip.

Sept. 13 – The Town of Raeford raises sufficient funds to build new street near the Oil Mill.

Sept. 20 – Wild, mad dog, thought to have rabies, is captured in streets of Raeford after attacking and biting many other local dogs.

Sept. 27 – Hoke County Schools receive much needed government funds and aid.

Oct. 4 – After a long week of drenching

rain, the county has high levels of water, which is good for farmers.

Oct. 11 – Prison officials along with county commissioners decide to begin to work prisoners on cleaning and maintaining roads.

Oct. 18 – A man is placed on bond of \$1,000 after being arrested for creating fake checks worth hundreds of dollars.

Oct. 25 – Raeford High School boys organize a school orchestra.

Nov. 1 – County commissioners makes it against the law to fish in county ponds using nets instead of poles.

Nov. 8 – Hoke County's two newspaper companies, the Hoke County News and the Hoke County Journal, combine to create one sole news coverer, The News-Journal.

Nov. 15 – School teachers host the first ever educational banquet.

Nov. 22 – John L. McFadyen, a long-time resident of Raeford and Spanish War veteran, dies suddenly Wednesday.

Nov. 29 – As a local man was driving home from Person County, he hit and killed a wild turkey with his car. Noticing the bird was only slightly bruised, he and his family had a Thanksgiving Day turkey dinner later that night.

Dec. 6 – The Education Board is well in budget, even being able to donate an old, abandoned school to local Boy Scouts and selecting a site for a "Colored" school.

Dec. 13 – Police officers bust two illegal liquor stills near the Hoke/Robeson line.

1930

Jan. 3 – Austin Cotton Gin is destroyed by fire on Christmas Day with "the fire boys having to leave warm beds and dreams of Santa Claus." The gin and contents were destroyed but the cotton and seed houses were spared. The gin is the second to burn on the site.

Jan. 10 – Five of 13 mallard ducks stay on

the farm of D.C. Newton in Antioch and decide to cast their lot with a flock of tame ducks, running and eating with them as if they had spent their lives there.

Jan. 17 – W.M. Blue says five shoats have invaded his garden. He penned four of them up, and is waiting to hear from the owner, who must pay for the ad and the feed the hogs consumed in order to collect them.

Jan. 24 – A Kiwanis joke backfires when the speaker is a minister who proceeds to preach a sermon. Some members get hot under the collar and “the fur flies” before it is revealed that it was all just a trick.

Jan. 31 – Old man winter, assuming a fatherly mood, tucks Raeford in bed under a blanket of snow.

Feb. 7 – John A. Cameron is paroled from prison. He killed Raeford Police Chief P.C. Oates. See “Murders Most Foul” elsewhere in this issue.

Feb. 21 – Marvin Gillis, assisting with roadwork, burns himself painfully when he lights a cigarette and his clothes are saturated with gasoline. His injuries are not serious.

Feb. 28 – Robert Cole allegedly steals a car and runs down a boy and his pony. Dan Newton, 13, is dead at the scene as is the pony.

March 7 – “On the historic banks of Puppy Creek, some 150 men of the masculine gender (more or less) assembled to celebrate an already famous fish fry and stew.”

March 14 – John Arthur Hendrix, 2, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Hendrix of Stonewall Township, died of burns he received when he and his four-year-old brother stopped by an outhouse that housed straw. The straw caught on fire and the little boy was trapped inside. His mother pulled him from the burning building and was also burned.

March 21 – The Sanatorium treated 1,037 patients last year at a cost of \$2.20 per person per day.

March 28 – T.B. Upchurch writes from Hot Springs, Ark., where he is recuperating, that people should grow more vegetables and food-stuffs that are edible as the only crops he saw as he drove west were cotton fields.

April 4 – The elections board is named: J.S. Johnson and Ryan McBryde, Democrats; and B.L. Cox, Republican.

April 11 – The Raeford Theatre sustained a great deal of damage when film caught on fire.

April 18 – A moratorium on catching certain fish is declared because of spawning season. Fishermen are not to keep crappie, perch, bream or bass.

April 25 – Census figures show Raeford has a population of 1,302.

May 2 – There are 739 people in Little River Township as compared to a 621 count in 1920.

May 9 – A small dog, belonging to R.L. Dixon, went mad and bit three of his children. It also bit a mule and killed a number of chickens before jumping in bed with the baby. All the Dixons and a neighboring child are taking painful shots as is the mule.

May 16 – The county agent urges people to eat their chickens as the market price is so low.

May 23 – Thirty-four graduate from Flora Macdonald; one is from China.

May 30 – Fifty-five graduate from Hoke High.

June 13 – The county’s population increased by 25 percent since 1920. Hoke’s 1930 population is 14,242.

June 20 – Little Miss Margie McKenzie, 7, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey McKenzie of Shannon, sang on WPTF radio in Raleigh and was a hit.

June 27 – Hoke farmer W.T. Covington is being recognized for his work in sculpting.

July 4 – Sargon pills cure whatever ails you, according to their ads. The ad this week features a wheelchair-bound woman who is now walking on her own.

July 11 – Confederate veteran Andrew Jackson Currie dies at 86 and is buried on the Fourth of July.

July 18 – R.L. Dixon brought to town a snake 5 feet long, black with dim white stripes over cross sections of its body and it had a short, blunt tail. It was found in his hen house. No one could identify it. Could it be a chicken snake?

July 25 – Dr. Laughinghouse, state Health Officer, talked about pellagra at the courthouse.

Aug. 15 – The News-Journal is now all home-owned since Paul Dickson bought out R.L. Eastham in a deal that includes the old Journal plant.

Aug. 22 – A second pellagra clinic is held in Raeford. There were 54 patients at the first one.

Aug. 29 – Hoke farmers are bringing truck loads of cattle from the Valley in Virginia, where drought is so bad there is no chance of making hay.

Sept. 5 – The tax rate is \$1.04. Commissioners weren’t able to reduce the rate because of taking over the school’s debts.

Oct. 12 – The store owned by J.S. Maultsby in Montrose burned in a fire caused by an electrical short. The stock was a total loss but firefighters were able to save a service station nearby.

Sept. 19 – A family suit involving a man who died after setting fire to spilled gasoline while he worked for the state is being heard by the State Industrial Commission.

Sept. 26 – Raeford Cotton Mills is to be auctioned.

Oct. 3 – Advertisement: It’s as easy and natural to enjoy the fragrant mildness of a Camel cigarette as it is to admire beauty when you see it.

Oct. 10 – A local girl meets tragic death within an hour after being hit by a speeding car.

Oct. 17 – A man contacts a state entomologist after finding a mysterious beetle that he nor anyone else in his part of the state has ever seen before, which gave off a terrible odor and was eating his store products. It is later determined to be the Carabid Beetle, a native to the northern U.S.

Oct. 24 – Raeford Cotton Mills is sold to an attorney from Wilmington for \$25,000, with him being the only bidder for the property.

Oct. 31 – 8,875 bales of cotton were ginned in the county, compared to last year’s 5,274. Local prophets predict around 13,000 bales next year.

Nov. 7 – Raeford football fan wins College Game Predictions contest held by the Fayetteville Observer by only missing the actual scores of the six games by 41 points.

Nov. 14 – Oscar Scull of Raeford was nearly killed from a punctured artery and severe cuts delivered to him by his large hog after entering the pin to feed it.

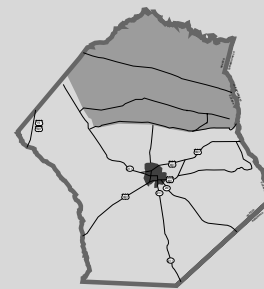
Nov. 21 – One of the greatest strides in manufacturing in Hoke County in a long time occurs as Upchurch Milling Company installs modern feed, grinding, and mixing plants, which greatly out-process the old and now obsolete plants.

Nov. 28 – Hoke County faces a cotton stealing epidemic as two prominent farmers have over 1,500 pounds of cotton total stolen from their fields.

Dec. 5 – Frank Graham, president of the UNC system, comes to speak to an interested audience at the high school. He was invited by the Raeford Woman’s Club.

Dec. 12 – The county loses bid for new highway construction job from the government.

Dec. 19 – While destroying a still, Deputies Barrington and McNeil are unexpectedly visited by State Prohibition Agents who had planned to raid the same still. A possible shoot-out was then



Hoke County was Valentine’s Day gift to its citizens

Glenn County’s 100th birthday?

Well, almost.

Hoke might have been named for a North Carolina governor instead of a Confederate general.

Leaders fought for six years before the General Assembly established a county called Hoke out of parts of Robeson and Cumberland counties.

Cumberland County Senator John Williamson McLauchlin was the leader in the movement. Among his backers were the founder and president of the Aberdeen and Rockfish railway, John Blue.

The proposed naming of a new county after Governor Robert Glenn, who served from 1905-07, was political as he held the office when the first bill was enacted.

Although McLauchlin had some powerful friends supporting his move to break away from two county seats that were an inconvenient distance from what is now Hoke, he faced some powerful opposition from Cumberland’s leaders. McLauchlin’s first effort failed and he and the Hoke delegates tried again in 1909, this time choosing the name Hoke after one of the South’s heroes, Confederate Major General Robert Frederick Hoke.

Some Robesonians came up with the proposal that a new county be called North Robeson County, but both the proposals were voted down.

By the time 1911 rolled around, supporters of a county named Hoke had gained much support due to the fact that the naming would be a tribute to a man perceived to be one of the state’s most beloved citizens. Armed with petitions that held the signatures of a vast majority of the area’s residents, Senator McLauchlin introduced Senate Bill #33 in January.

The Senate passed the bill first, and on the evening of February 14 there was a Valentine spirit among House members. They voted 56 to 30 to form the state’s 99th county.

The Raleigh Observer reported on February 22 that Hoke had gotten its valentine. The bill was enacted into law on February 17 and became effective April 3, 1911. Thousands of Hoke citizens swarmed into Raeford to celebrate.

For years, citizens of Hoke had complained that the trip to Fayetteville or Lumberton on business matters was too

long and hard. There were only dirt roads, and trips to the county seats took two days each way. At the same time, business leaders worried that customers were drawn to the Cumberland and Robeson cities. The Bank of Raeford had been established in 1903, and its officers and customers alike were concerned about future growth. A common complaint was that tax revenues were spent in areas more heavily populated than in the rural areas that became Hoke. As Hoke took shape, Quewhiffle, Raeford, Little River and McLauchlin townships were formed from Cumberland County and Blue Springs, Antioch and Stonewall townships were formed from Robeson. Jephtha Peele and W.T. Covington were appointed by the governor to meet with Cumberland and Robeson commissioners to lay out the boundaries.

The new county held 268,000 acres with a population of 10,000.

Cumberland was congenial after the transaction took place, perhaps because Hoke took over a portion of its debts along with the land. However, some of the citizens of what had been proposed as Robeson County said Hoke had taken the only valuable property in Robeson. Hoke’s new officers were to be appointed by the governor, but he refused to do so until a primary was held. The first county officials were W.B. McQueen, clerk of court; J. Hector Smith, register of deeds; Edgar Hall, sheriff; treasurer, W.J. McRaney; county commissioners, J.W. Johnson (chairman), S.J. Cameron and J. A. McPhaul; coroner, Dr. A.P. Dickson; surveyor, J.W. McFadyen; superintendent of education, Professor J.W. McGoogan; state senator, J.W. Johnson; board of education, N.A. McDonald, John A. Hodgin and Neil McKinnon; and state representative, Thomas McBryde.

Construction of the courthouse took a year, and offices were rented for officials.

Old Raeford was located at what was known as the old swimming hole. John McRae and A.A. Williford operated a turpentine distillery and general store respectively. Each took a syllable from his name and came up with the name Raeford for the post office they established.

Raeford, a cotton field in just 1898, was made the county seat.

avoided as one of the agents called off the raid after recognizing Barrington.

Dec. 26 – The Presbyterian Church of Raeford holds a Christmas Carol Service, which saw huge crowds and was proclaimed to be “One of the finest Christmas services ever remembered in Raeford.

1931

Jan. 2 – A man is killed during the holidays when his car is struck by a locomotive on the Rockfish Railroad.

Jan. 9 – A Hoke County man files a patent on his invention of a new type air heater, which many believe to be a huge success.

Jan. 16 – Hoke and Scotland deputies are absolved in the shooting death of Jim Brigman in Scotland County after officers go to his sister's home to arrest him for making whiskey. The ruling was self-defense.

Jan. 23 – A tobacco cooperative is getting into shape fast.

Jan. 30 – The Rev. John R. Miller, a Baptist, carries with him a purple egg with stripes on it laid by a Rhode Island Red. The good minister believes it is a sign of good times ahead.

Feb. 6 – More than 60 Presbyterian ministers gather to pray, particularly that funds for feeding the poor and needy do not run out.

Feb. 13 – The Brookings Institute recommends 12 counties consolidate for more efficient government. Hoke and Cumberland should consolidate with Fayetteville as the county seat. (Bear in mind Hoke originated as the 99th county because it was hard for folks here to get to Fayetteville to do their business with the county.) The reaction of one resident is that he might go

to bed in Hoke and wake up in Cumberland.

Feb. 20 – An editorial states that Hoke would lose if the state takes over county roads.

Feb. 27 – Hoke farmers consider growing sweet potatoes as part of diversification and improvement.

March 6 – Commissioners make plans to widen and improve Old Wire Road.

March 13 – The Ellis Williamson Post of the American Legion is active; the first social of the season is a shad roast.

March 20 – A fire of unknown origin causes brings down a brooder house belonging to Alfred Cole. The house, equipment and 200 chicks were lost.

March 27 – Gen. Pershing's Experiences, a column, will appear in installments in The News-Journal April 10.

April 3 – Paul Dezerne is found guilty of hit and run but not guilty of sideswiping a car that went off the road and into a barn that collapsed, killing four people.

April 10 – A mechanical pitcher in the McNeill Wholesale House is attracting a lot of attention, particularly from the old timers.

April 17 – John Williamson McLauchlin, considered the father of Hoke County, celebrates his 85th birthday.

April 24 – Maggie Covington, 16, is fatally shot by accident, by her brother, who thought the gun he was holding was unloaded.

May 1 – Essay written by a grade school youngster: “The Cat Bird is a bird. He is neither too large nor too small. He is black and white. His bill is yellow. His nest is made of sticks, straw and other soft stuff. The mother bird lays three eggs in it.” – William Howard

May 8 – A tenant house that burned was Edinboro Medical School's office occupied by

Dr. Hector McClean. The medical college operated from 1866 until 1872.

Clinics in Hoke schools find a large percentage of students have defective teeth and abscesses.

May 15 – The “heroes of the 60s” or veterans of the Civil War were honored during a memorial service.

May 22 – The Raeford Post Office posts a bulletin that solicits more space.

May 29 – Hoke High School graduates 29 students.

June 5 – There are two reported cases of typhoid fever in Hoke.

June 12 – The boll weevil is already out in cotton fields. Farmers are urged to fight it “from now on out.”

June 19 – Watermelon is to be the big summer crop here.

June 26 – Hoke's most prominent citizen, James Williamson McLauchlin, passes at age 85. He was instrumental in Hoke becoming a county.

July 3 – The crusade against diphtheria begins. More than 2,000 receive typhoid vaccinations.

July 10 – Farmers are told to pack their watermelons well so they will make it to market.

July 17 – Unlike dire predictions, the boll weevil infestation in Hoke may be light, and the watermelon season is predicted to be bright.

July 24 – The state equalization board sets teacher allotments: White: Hoke High has eight, and 29 elementary; colored, 43; Indian, 2.

July 31 – Battery F and 1st Battalion Combat Train return home from Ft. Moultrie, S.C. Lieutenant Colonel and officers say it was the most successful training ever held.

Aug. 7 – A moderate drought was broken by a severe storm that brought wind and lightning, particularly hard on corn crops. Wind blew down a barn on N.B. Blue's farm, flattening it on top of his mules. The mules survived with only minor cuts and bruises.

Aug. 14 – Businessman E.B. McNeill is chosen president of Bank of Raeford. He replaces J.W. McLauchlin.

Aug. 21 – J.H. Austin is the first Boy Scout in the county to earn the rank of Eagle.

Aug. 28 – Six barns, all filled with high grade tobacco, were recently burned. Explosions were heard coming from some of them. Sheriff Hodgins rescued one man, Alton Potter, who was asleep in a burning barn that belonged to J.M. Downer.

Sept. 4 – The opening of schools is delayed two weeks because children are needed to harvest crops and because the trucks (buses) need more attention.

Sept. 11 – Two snake stories: Miss Loyd Tapp found a water moccasin in her upstairs bedroom. Mrs. D.P. Brown's grandson found a four foot long snake that measured 12 inches around, had 10 rattles and a button; she killed it with a hoe.

Sept. 18 – Baucom's has new, fall Sunday-Go-to-Meeting hats for 98 cents.

Sept. 25 – South Carolina law makes it a misdemeanor to grow tobacco in 1932; that is, providing three-fourths of the cotton-growing states follow suit.

Oct. 2 – Sheriff's deputies raided three stills, one in Little River Township and two in Que-whiffle. They arrested two men in Little River.

Oct. 9 – Mr. and Mrs. Lee Maulsby barely escape with their lives when their Montrose home burns to the ground.

Oct. 16 – Cotton proves itself king with prices rising sharply. Tobacco prices are lower this year than last.

Oct. 23 – The number of farmers who have full ownership of their farms has increased by 10.7 percent from 1920. Hoke has 392 fully owned farms.

Oct. 30 – The Ladies Shoppe moves into the Blumont Hotel.

Nov. 6 – Local artist W.T. Covington presents a bust he made of J.W. McLauchlin to be placed in the courthouse.

Nov. 13 – No active cases of TB were reported in white children in grades one through three. More than 400 students were tested.

Nov. 20 – The President's organization on Unemployment Relief urges people to give to the local Unemployment Emergency Committee.

Nov. 27 – Stonewall Township residents post a notice regarding trespassing. Written permission of the property owner is required. It has 25 signatures.

Dec. 4 – Raeford third graders write what they know about Indians: “The Indians were very tall. Their skin was reddish brown and their eyes were black and sparkling. Their hair was very black and straight.” – Jean Graham

Dec. 11 – Two notables visit Hoke: Dusty Cook, outfielder of the New York Yankees and teammate of Babe Ruth, visited with Clyde Upchurch and the two of them went hunting. Helen Kane, co-star of “Whoopie,” with Eddie Cantor, consulted with Raeford doctors. She said Raeford is “one of the prettiest towns she has seen in the state.”

Dec. 18 – Sheriff Hodgins and deputies raided a small but well-equipped still below Antioch in the loft of a house. Henry McNeill was arrested and sentenced to four months of road work.

1940

Jan. 11 – There is a high rate of syphilis in Hoke; many babies are born with the disease.

Jan. 18 – The Williamsport, Pennsylvania pro baseball team returns to Raeford for their spring practice in March and April.

Feb. 1 – An ambulance carrying a corpse hits a mule-pulled wagon on the Aberdeen-Raeford Road near Montrose. There are no injuries except for bruises to the mule. The driver of the ambulance is charged with driving under the influence.

Feb. 8 – A truck-trailer loaded with 150 Georgia hogs crashes through a barricade at a bridge protection job on the Fayetteville Highway. The truck plunges nose first into Beaver Creek at McNeill's Mill. The truck runs over Caswell Reinhardt, a construction worker from South Carolina. More than half the hogs were killed or injured so severely they had to be put down.

Feb. 15 – Even though flagmen were posted at the bridge where a construction worker was killed, there is another wreck with no injuries reported. A warrant has been issued for J.A. Niven, who exited his vehicle and assaulted a flagman.

Feb. 22 – Nathaniel Bryant and William Young are put to death for the slaying of Tom Moore, 34, when they attempted to rob John Maulsby's store and filling station at Montrose last March. The men maintained until their death that they had not been in Hoke County at the time of the killing. The execution was delayed once for a more thorough investigation.

Feb. 29 – Downtown businessmen meet in Town Hall and decide to make pamphlets extolling the virtues of Raeford.

March 7 – William Harris of Hoke County High wins a Future Farmers of America speaking contest. He addresses forest conservation in the U.S.

March 14 – Sam Marshall's case is thrown out of court because his charge, removing manure from a stable after the first of the year, is found not to be a crime.

March 21 – In May 1905, a help house on the Raeford Institute burns. It was Sunday and Preacher Mercer had announced his text but he

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was left alone because the congregation went to the fire. — F. Scott Poole

March 28 — The Kiwanis will stage a minstrel show. Proceeds will be used for underprivileged children.

April 4 — More than 20 cases involving liquor are tried in Recorder's Court.

April 11 — Stores will close for the Williamsport Gray's game with the Toronto Maple Leafs.

April 18 — Candidates filing for local offices in the May 25 primary here number 26.

April 25 — Julian Samuel Johnson, largest planter in Hoke, dies shortly before his 48th birthday. He served as a town commissioner, was chair of the Board of Elections and owner of a gin and fertilizer and feed sales. He was president of Johnson Co. insurance.

May 2 — Peggy Bethune dreams she is fleeing from a fire and awakens to smoke in the house. Soot in the fireplace is on fire, and all in the house flee before flames spread.

May 9 — Work on the Fayetteville Road is complete except for a bridge, where concrete needs to set.

May 16 — The graduating class of Hoke High is awarded 54 diplomas.

May 23 — Census figures show Hoke to have a population of 15,074 in 1940, a gain of 329 over the 1930 census.

May 30 — Raeford is chosen to be the site of the Lumbee River Membership Corp.

June 6 — The Hoke County Chapter of the American Red Cross is in urgent need of war relief funds. The goal is \$800, and only \$12 has been collected.

June 13 — D. Lacy McBryde begs England not to sink the ship his brother is on when he returns from Scotland. There is no concern that the Germans will sink the liner, but the allies could do so and blame it on Germany, MyBryde says.

June 20 — The Cumberland County Bar Assoc. condemns D. Lacy McBryde's letter as "unamerican."

July 25 — Several are convicted of stealing watermelons from R.D. Strother of Quewhiffle and D.A. Williams of Blue Springs.

Aug. 1 — Wild dogs will be shot at Ft. Bragg. Some are running in packs of five or six.

Aug. 8 — The Rural Electrification allots the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. \$428,000 for the construction of 450 miles of power lines in Hoke, Robeson, Scotland and Cumberland counties.

Aug. 15 — The Raeford Library has 1,765 books.

Aug. 29 — Harvey R. Baucom is convicted of manslaughter in the shooting death of his brother-in-law, George Thompson. Baucom is sentenced of five to seven years in the state prison. Judge J. Paul Frizzell says he hopes Baucom gets along well.

Sept. 5 — Some units of the North Carolina Guard are expected to mobilize September 16. This includes the 252nd Coast Artillery of Raeford.

Sept. 12 — Capt. William F. Poole is being promoted to the rank of major and will be reassigned. He commanded Battery F for the past 16 years. Capt. Julian H. Blue will take over as Battery F commander.

Sept. 19 — Tommie Upchurch receives a patent on his invention of a rail crossing designed to decrease wear on railroad crossties where they meet the rail. The A&R Railroad has tested some of the cushions three miles out of Raeford.

Oct. 3 — The Raeford Board of Aldermen adopted a resolution of regret on the passing of town policeman A.M. Howell.

Oct. 10 — Young men ages 21-35 are to register for selective military service. Hoke draft board

members are A. McEachern, Thomas B. Lester and Floyd Monroe. Physician is Dr. Robert L. Murray and appeal agent is Arthur D. Gore.

Oct. 17 — It is rumored that the Ft. Bragg reservation wants to take in more of Hoke County than it has already taken. Another report is that barracks to house Negro troops is to be built several miles from Raeford.

Oct. 24 — Selective Service has 1,395 men between the ages of 21 and 35 registered for the draft.

Oct. 31 — Steven Atkins of Shannon is the first to have his number drawn for the draft.

Nov. 7 — Hoke voters cast their ballots overwhelmingly to return F.D. Roosevelt to the Presidency.

Nov. 14 — An 18-year-old prisoner, George Kelly, strikes jailer W.E. Blue over the head with a milk bottle and escapes, hiding in the woods for three hours before he is apprehended.

Nov. 21 — The prodigal son returns: Cyrus Hobson ran away from home and joined a carnival when he was 15. Twenty-two years later he returns to a father, J.L. Hobson, who does not recognize him. Among his adventures, the younger Hobson became a lion tamer. He decided to return when a lion under his charge escaped and killed a spectator.

Dec. 5 — A Chapel Hill professor tells teachers at Hoke High that a course of study is needed whereby students will learn to use their hands as well as their minds.

Dec. 12 — National Guardsman Robert Woodcox decides, while his unit is deployed to South Carolina, to come home to Hoke for a little while. He borrows the colonel's car without asking and is welcomed when he arrives here by the law.

Dec. 19 — D. Scott Poole believes gambling is a sin and playing the market is considered gambling, not doing business. However, he regrets somewhat that he did not invest in cotton futures.

Dec. 26 — David A. Smith of Smith's Radio Service gives notice that he will no longer service car radios, thinks home radios are more important, especially in view of the present world situation.

1941

Jan. 1 — Sonny Parks, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Parks of Raeford, is the winner of The News-Journal's baby contest, making him Baby King of Hoke County.

Jan. 8 — Only six passenger cart tires, five tubes and eight truck tires are allowed this month for Hoke, according to the Tire Rationing Board, made up of F.P. Sexton, J.B. Thomas and Ryan McBryde.

Jan. 9 — Mattresses are being made in the National Guard Amory. Nearly 500 have been made and 700 more will be made. Those who receive the mattresses are required to pay \$1.

Jan. 16 — B.H. Hutchinson, drivers' license examiner for Hoke, Scotland, Robeson, Lee, Harnett and Johnston counties, issued 10,448 permits and refused 1,363 to those who didn't pass the tests.

Jan. 23 — Schools are expected to reopen Jan. 28 after they were closed down due to an influenza and cold outbreak among teachers.

Jan. 30 — The jury is deadlocked in the trial of Arthur Ray Patterson, a Ft. Bragg soldier responsible for the death of Charles Milhizer in a car-truck crash. Patterson will be tried again in April.

Feb. 13 — When completed, the Lumbee River Electric Corp. will serve 2,000 customers in four counties.

Feb. 20 — L.A. Rivenbank, school mechanic, was injured in a wreck on Highway 15A near

the county line.

Feb. 27 — Robert Graham was sentenced to three months of roadwork for snatching the gun of Highway Patrolmen Joe Murrill.

March 5 — The county is seeking a higher tire allotment. In the meantime, two soldiers are indicted for tire theft.

March 6 — The Williamsport Grays, during their spring training exhibition games, will play five of them in Raeford.

March 13 — Gus Parker of near Rockfish is seriously hurt when his vehicle, which he was driving on the A&R railroad tracks, is struck by a train.

March 20 — The well at Rockfish School is dug deeper and they have water after two months of a dry spell.

April 3 — Albert McNeill is killed instantly and Harry Daniels drowns when their car crashes through the railing of Blue's Bridge over Rockfish Creek on the Raeford-Vass Road. McNeill was hit by the bridge railing, which penned Daniels in the car. It took two hours to pull the car from the swollen creek.

April 10 — The Army Day memorial is held at Longstreet Church on the Ft. Bragg reservation.

April 24 — After Sister Shaw Maynor, 18, went home to her mother after a quarrel with her husband Oscar Maynor, 23, he shot her and then beat her with his single barrel shotgun until the barrel bent, neighbors say. Maynor then went into the woods, killing himself. His widow is expected to live.

May 8 — Gov. J. Melville Broughton will address Hoke High's 53 graduating seniors.

May 15 — Gov. Broughton says the outcome of the war in Europe depends on skills, training and faith of the victorious.

May 22 — A driver was killed and his companion critically injured when his truck broke through the pavement above a washout at Lake Rim. A Miami-New York bus followed the truck into the washout and 11 passengers were hurt. The bus driver's heroic efforts saved his passengers. He held the emergency brake to keep the bus from sliding into the waters of the stream while his 16 passengers scrambled to safety through a broken window. He left the bus only seconds before the pond dam gave way and the bus was tossed several hundred yards into the rushing waters.

T.B. Upchurch Jr. submitted a camouflaged, bullet-proof helmet he designed and patented to the Army.

May 29 — Hoke landowners are lagging in signing up for the maneuver program which gives the Army permission to train on their land.

June 12 — Rockfish Creek is not polluted and is fit to swim in; signs posted indicating such were done by vandals.

July 10 — The dam on the pond owned by Clyde Upchurch burst for the third time. The breaks are attributed to muskrats.

July 24 — Hoke is to have a full-time rural policeman come September. W.R. Barrington, Raeford's police chief, takes the job.

Aug. 7 — The Raeford-Vass Road is to be closed to civilian traffic for several days due to a large-scale maneuver by the Army.

Aug. 21 — Zebulon V. Pate, 75, president of five of the largest businesses and manufacturing concerns in the country, dies.

Aug. 28 — Five are convicted of hunting deer at night and are fined \$500 and court costs.

Sept. 11 — Aircraft warnings' stations in Hoke are ready to go. Five are on the reservation and the other five are manned by civilians.

Sept. 18 — A highway guide directing a convoy in downtown Raeford was run over by a civilian car.

Sept. 25 — Three men are charged with stealing and selling 1,400 lbs. of seed cotton.

Oct. 16 — Deposits of the Bank of Raeford top \$1,000,000.

Oct. 30 — Children are told they can take part in national defense by joining the American Red Cross.

Nov. 6 — The National Guard Armory is leased by the Federal Works Agency and will be used as a USO recreation center for soldiers.

Nov. 20 — Hoke farmers are urged to collect scrap metal for defense use.

Dec. 4 — New bridges are promised over Hwy 15-A at opposite ends of the county over the Lumbee River and Rockfish Creek.

Dec. 11 — There will be no Christmas lights this season in order to save on power. A gala day is planned, however, in conjunction with "scrap iron collection" day.

1942

Jan. 8 — Fire strikes twice at the Hoke Chevrolet Building. No vehicles are damaged.

Jan. 15 — Fire destroys the Raeford Power Plant. Carson Bundles, night operator, escapes by diving through a window into the creek on which the hydro-plant is built after an explosion ripped the plant. Electricity generated was used by Upchurch Milling and Storage and Hoke Oil and Fertilizer and some rural residences.

The program, "Scrap the Japs with Scrap," brought in 700,000 pounds of scrap iron.

Jan. 22 — The Army asks that rifles, helmets, uniforms, etc. taken as souvenirs during the Battle of the Carolina maneuvers be returned.

Jan. 29 — With the sugar shortage expected to get worse, it is recommended that farmers grow sugar in the form of sorghum for molasses.

Feb. 5 — Dr. R.A. Matheson is expected to come home to Raeford to resume his practice after his discharge from the Army.

Feb. 12 — Boy Scout Week is celebrated. Sponsored by the Raeford Kiwanis, Troop 1 was formed in spring of 1929. Scouts are playing a part in the defense of this country.

Feb. 19 — Walter Barrington was at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 and hopes to be home for a brief leave before his transfer to Boston, Mass.

Feb. 26 — Ninety-two white families sign up to care for 171 white children in Wilmington in case of attack, and 26 colored families sign to take 53 colored children. School buses will pick up the children if it comes to that.

March 5 — County commissioners order all drafted men classified 1B on account of gonorrheal infection to be treated for the disease at the county clinic.

March 12 — Because so many people living in Hoke get their mail at rural route addresses that are served by post offices in other counties, those counties are getting Hoke's share of tire allotments. For instance, in Allendale Township, eight cars are shown when the number should be 96.

March 19 — Bank of Raeford is offering a \$25 war bond to Hoke's best Victory Garden.

March 26 — Paul Davis is given six months on the road for stealing a pistol.

April 2 — Three Boy Scouts earn the Eagle rank: William Lawrence Poole Jr., Hal Clark and George White.

April 9 — A forest fire that burns several thousands of acres spreads from Ft. Bragg onto 1,600 acres of private land in Little River Township. Landowners lose timber, outhouses, a farmhouse, fences and tobacco seedlings.

April 16 — John McFadyen is reported missing after his boat was torpedoed and went down about 200 miles east of New York.

April 23 – The United Daughters of the Confederacy will not put flags on the graves of Confederate soldiers this year but will instead use the money to buy war bonds.

April 30 – It is War Bond Pledge Week in North Carolina. Every home is to be canvassed and Hoke's May quota is \$8,000.

May 7 – The A&R depot is to be converted into a center for soldiers.

May 14 – Survey results show that 41 percent of Hoke's cars are accredited to other counties.

May 21 – The names of 310 Hoke men serving in the military are recorded with Selective Service. (The N-J lists all the names.)

May 28 – Vehicles traveling on rationed tires obtained through government rationing boards cannot be used to transfer voters to the polls.

June 4 – In "Timberland News," Julius Jordan is at home for a two week vacation. He will return to college in Atlanta and expects to graduate in February with a degree in dentistry.

June 11 – There is severe hail damage to crops in Quewhiffle and Little River townships. Lightning strikes the barn of A.N. Clark, destroying it and the stock inside.

June 18 – In "Timberland News," Arch Tapp planted posts with stock wire stretched from one post to another for his beans to run on. Lightning struck one of the posts, ran down the wire and burned the bean runners.

June 25 – Lonnie Guin, 41, dies of typhus fever.

July 2 – More than 40,000 lbs. of scrap rubber are collected in Hoke; 20,000 more sought.

July 23 – W.C. Lee is having Raeford Café remodeled to house a modern café.

July 30 – Related to the war: Waste fats are needed to make explosives; old tires cause a big increase in fatal accidents.

Aug. 6 – One volunteer and 30 Hoke draftees are inducted into the Army; three volunteers enlist in the Navy.

Aug. 13 – Hoke is subject to the May Act, which makes prostitution near Army facilities a federal crime.

Aug. 20 – Hoke Countians are asked to sell 400,000 lbs. of scrap in a week. Cotton gins are collection centers.

Aug. 27 – Sales of beer, ales and rubbing alcohol are restricted on weekends.

Sept. 3 – Eugene Bill of Bill's Service Station allegedly shot and killed Johnny Harris when he refused to leave the premises. Bill was charged and was out on bail when Johnny Harris's father walked into the station and shot and killed Eugene Bill and his mother, Nellie Bill, and his sister, Estelle Bill Wilson. W. Alec Harris then turned himself in.

Sept. 10 – An Army tank crashes through the bridge over a swollen Rockfish Creek. The load capacity of the bridge is four tons and the tank weighs 28 tons. Three soldiers escape; a fourth one drowns.

Sept. 17 – The Kiwanis entertain 150 soldiers with a fish fry

Sept. 24 – A farm machinery rationing board is named for the county.

Oct. 1 – Three buses full of soldiers crash together on Hwy. 211 two miles west of Raeford. The wreck causes 17 soldiers to be hurt, none seriously.

Oct. 8 – Eleven are killed and 18 are hurt near St. Pauls when a gas tanker explodes and burns after it strikes a Queen City bus. The truck driver said he had swerved to avoid hitting a wagon filled with cotton.

Oct. 22 – All farm trucks must be registered.

Oct. 29 – Because of a shortage of fertilizer, especially nitrogen, farmers are urged to plant soil restoring crops such as legumes.

Nov. 12 – An article addresses "a colored man who makes it good." J.C. McLauchlin, son of J.D. McLauchlin, worked his way through college in New York, taught in a Mississippi college and eventually became Dean of Agriculture at A&T College in Greensboro.

Nov. 19 – Old silk and nylon hose are needed in the production of war materials.

Dec. 3 – Lt. (jg) Currie, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Scott Currie, is credited with shooting down three Japanese planes in the Pacific war zone.

Dec. 10 – Carl Morris, who has been a town commissioner since 1931, is chosen to fill out the unexpired term of G.W. Brown as Raeford's mayor.

Dec. 17 – Hoke farmers vote to continue cotton marketing quotas.

Dec. 24 – The Raeford Fire Company's 57 members vote to retain Harry Green as chief.

Dec. 31 – Hoke's cotton crop this year exceeds last year's crop by 2,226 bales.

1943

Jan. 6 – David H. Hodgin chairs the Hoke polio campaign.

Jan. 13 – Capt. T.B. Lester is expected to be dismissed from an Army hospital after fracturing a leg bone while on maneuvers at Ft. Bliss, Texas.

Feb. 4 – With Our Boys in the Service: The following Hoke County Boys (white) are inducted at Ft. Bragg Friday, January 29: William M. Davis, William H. McBryde, James H. Ferguson, Edward H. Taylor, John D. McPhaul, Eugene Watson, Paul L. Davis, Raymond L. Clark, Wade D. Pittman, Robert Locklear. A number of boys reporting that same day are rejected for physical reasons.

Air Raid Warnings for Raeford – Warning Signal: A series of repeated short blasts on the fire siren. This will be the warning for an actual raid or for a practice alert. If at night, it means a complete and instant blackout. All clear signal: One long blast of the siren.

Feb. 11 – With Our Boys in Service: Lt. (j.g.) Ben Currie is awarded a medal for heroism against the Japanese.

An excerpt from a letter sent by Lt. Paul Dickson says, "Col. Lewis mailed me a clipping yesterday about William McFadyen, first I'd heard about their getting him (and I don't believe they have). The good men go, it seems ... William's death is the closest (the war) has come to me. I so well remember his brilliance ... his cussedness at times and the fact that he wouldn't stay put. He undoubtedly would have done something brilliant in a literary way and yet what more can a man attain than the privilege of dying for his country."

Feb. 25 – Blackouts are set for this week: New air raid signals will be tested.

March 4 – Raeford Girl Scouts collect excess wire hangers.

March 11 – The Hoke County Farm Bureau completes their permanent organization. N.H.G. Balfour is president.

Ryan McBryde is named to the state board of education.

March 18 – Hoke County Red Cross drive is lagging. Blackout was definitely a success.

April 8 – Observers at the Sanatorium N.C. Post will be called upon to maintain a 24-hour watch.

April 15 – The municipal election is quiet. Only 16 votes are cast. Carl Morris is elected mayor.

April 22 – Judge Willie Brown McQueen is found dead at age 67.

April 29 – All eating places are required to file menus with the price clerk of the local War

Luella Harrington turned 100 too



Luella Harrington has lived through all of Hoke County's history, with a month to spare. She celebrated her 100th birthday February 15, just before

the county joins in celebrating Hoke County's own centennial. Harrington has witnessed the Great Depression, World War I and World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam. During her life, she has seen America led by 18 different presidents, from President William Howard Taft in 1909-13 to current president Barack Obama. She was there when Jackie Robinson became the first African-American to play on a

major league baseball team and when Dr. Mae Jemison became the first female African-American astronaut in space.

As a young girl, Harrington worked as a field hand and also earned money as a babysitter and housekeeper. She later worked in a fish market, making 25 cents a day. She also worked at the Open Arms nursing home. It was her dream to own her own home, but because money was tight, she purchased one brick block each week until she had enough blocks to build her house.

Harrington is still mentally sharp, active and is the oldest member of the Silver Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Raeford. She gave birth to one daughter, who passed away in 2001. She has eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 16 great-great-grandchildren.



Luella Harrington as a young lady.

They shared birthdays with Hoke

Readers may recognize a relative or more in these records taken from the Hoke County Register of Deeds Office:

Lorena Belle Andrews, Lacy Barrett Adcox, Amanda Jane Black, Lula Jaquetta Blue, Sadie Mae Blue, Monnie Blue, Johnnie C. Brigman, Laurie D. Brooks, Harriet Annie Brown, Emma Vivian Collins, Elizabeth Cromartie, Charles Angus Currie, Robert Augustus Currie, Willie Brown Currie, Lillian Saphrona Faircloth, Wade Hampton Faircloth, Leo

Fuller, Graham Bradley Gainey, Etta Louise Gibson, Albert McArthur Guin, Susan McLendon Gullledge, Fred Hadley, Marcellus Hadley, Mary Alice Hagins, Lily Agnes Harrell, Clayton Hendrix, Thelma Mae Holt, Edward Woodrow Huggins, John McDiarmid McNeill, Vinson Walles McNeill, Archibald Floyd McPhaul, Hazel McPherson, Harry McRae, Neill Archie McRae, Jesse E. Mudd, Blanch Elizabeth Musselwhite and Odell Oldham.

Price and Rationing Board.

May 6 – Camp Mackall, the country's first large-scale training post for paratroopers, is dedicated to Pvt. John Thomas Mackall, a paratrooper from Ohio.

May 13 – Respected colored woman Odessa McMillan is killed by lightning when she went after a cow on the McFadyen Farm belonging to

Julian Johnson. The cow was injured.

May 20 – The Wartime Rationing Guide announces Stamp No. 12 in War Ration Book 1 is good for 5 lbs. of sugar until May 31.

May 26 – Raeford and Hoke County welcome members of the N.C. State Ginners' Assoc. conference.

June 3 – Canned milk is now rationed.

June 10—An Army plane crashes near Red Springs while on its way to Maxton Air Base. Twenty-four soldiers die.

June 24—News of our Men and Women in Uniform—Mr. and Mrs. D. Scott Currie receive a cablegram from their son, Lt. David Scott Currie, stating that he has landed safely overseas.

July 1—450 residents, colored and white, attend canning classes following a food conservation workshop.

A group of 30 Negroes are sent to Ft. Bragg for induction.

A public cannery is operating at Hoke High.

July 15—James Gordon Currie is promoted to major at the age of 24, possibly making him the youngest major in the Army.

July 22—The Work or Fight Committee assigns W.R. Barrington as special war officer for Hoke.

July 29—Heavy rain and hail damage crops in East Hoke.

Aug. 5—The Hoke budget for the upcoming year is set at \$126,560.25.

Aug. 12—Hoke County whites and Indians are given pre-induction exams at Ft. Bragg: James Locklear, James W. Dickerson, Julius Alex Brigman, Daniel Festus Tally Jr., Edward Sorrell Smith, James Jones, Alton Rosser Holder, Foster Ammons and Arthur Richard Skipper.

Sept. 9—Third war loan drive—for invasion starts. "It's up to us now."—editorial on the front page.

Sept. 16—Hoke citizens purchase \$59,450 in war bonds during first 6 and ½ days, 26 percent of war loan quota.

Sept. 23—Hoke falls behind in its drive toward \$209,000 third war loan quota—as did most of the country.

For the first time since sugar rationing cut off the bootleggers supply of a vital ingredient of stump-hole whiskey, county officers raid two large blind tiger stills located in an isolated area of Quewhiffle Creek. A white man and a Negro are charged. It is believed the 'shine was sold to soldiers for both money and sugar.

Sept. 30—Hoke High, hit by wartime conditions, opens with 122 less students than the year before.

Oct. 7—The county goes 12 percent over bond quota at \$233,000.

Oct. 14—It is reported 230,000 Tar Heels are serving in the Armed Forces.

Oct. 21—Brownie, the pooch who served as Camp Mackall service club mascot, is lost in Raeford, having gone AWOL.

Oct. 28—A New Jersey soldier praises the hospitality of Raeford and the USO here.

Nov. 4—Cotton ginning in Hoke increases; 10,061 bales are reported this year.

Nov. 11—Hoke County has almost 700 boys in the Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

Nov. 18—The Army asks for maneuver rights in Quewhiffle Township.

Nov. 25—A glider crash at Camp Mackall kills four, injures 14 during training.

Dec. 2—Ground-air maneuvers call for blackouts in rural towns of this area Dec. 6 and 7. A test blackout is held.

Dec. 9—Hoke Red Cross unit makes 150 gift boxes for soldiers in camp hospitals for Christmas.

Dec. 16—The governor submits plans for the consolidation of Negro schools.

Dec. 23—Alex Harris, killer of three members of the Bill family Aug. 27, is to die in the gas chamber Jan. 28.

Dec. 30—News of our Men and Women in Uniform: Edwin McDuffie is wounded in action in Italy but expected to return to duty.

1944

Jan. 20—Alex Harris, 48, will die in the gas chamber tomorrow for the January 1943 slaying of Mrs. E.A. Bill and her three children.

Aug. 17—Pvt. Howard Lindsay is the victim of friendly fire in France.

Aug. 24—Dundarrach's Donald McRacken is killed in action in France.

Capt. J.W. Barbour is badly wounded in the South Pacific. His brother Stewart G. Barbour has been a POW of the Japanese since Wake Island was overrun.

Aug. 31—Safety training classes are given at Edinburgh Mills.

Sept. 7—A ban on children assemblage is lifted, allowing Hoke's youth to go to school. The ban was in effect because of a polio outbreak.

Sept. 14—Several people are hurt, none seriously, when an Aberdeen and Rockfish motor bus crashed into the rear end of a parked troop train in Raeford.

Cpl. Raynor C. Hair, formerly listed as missing in action, was killed in France.

Sept. 21—The tire situation is acute in Hoke. Tires are rationed.

Sept. 28—Raeford native Dr. Archibald Alexander McFadyen, medical missionary to China, dies suddenly at age 67.

Oct. 15—Pvt. Eugene Johnson dies in combat in Germany.

Oct. 26—Club women approve plans for a youth center in Raeford.

Nov. 2—"When Ft. Bragg took 90,000 acres of land out of Hoke's taxables, it reduced the taxable property some \$3 million, it has been estimated, and all through that property sand-clay roads had been built, and at the county's expense. Most of the citizens found homes in other counties so the population was less. The county was a small one to start with, but Ft. Bragg may be a refuge, a 'high tower' for all of us some day."—Poole's Medley, D. Scott Poole

Nov. 9—A record voter turnout in Hoke goes 11-1 for President Roosevelt.

Nov. 16—Frank Wright, Negro, is sentenced to 20 years for burning a barn.

Willie McVicker, white, is given a two-year suspended sentence and three years probation for assault with a pistol on Jack McKenzie.

Nov. 23—Sam and Spec Morris are promoted to 1st lieutenants.

Nov. 30—531 school children, participating in a contest, pick 697,341 pounds of cotton. Winners are Mildousin white, Macedonia Indian and Burlington Negro schools. Cash prizes are awarded.

Dec. 14—In this present war, no other county in the state has a larger percentage of commissioned officers than Hoke. —Poole's Medley, D. Scott Poole

Dec. 21—Ardis E. Graham, Negro, is killed in action in France.

1945

Jan. 4—Pilot Lt. Eldred Helton, U.S. Army Air Force, has been missing from air action over Germany since Dec. 17. His brother, Lt. Lawrence Helton, also a pilot, was killed June 1 while on a training mission in Arkansas.

Jan. 11—PFC Clinton "Jack" Hall and SSgt. Daniel E. Chason are missing in action in Germany, and Sgt. Henry E. Deaton is killed in action in France.

Jan. 18—Ft. Bragg has a seaplane base at Mott Lake.

A Hoke family hears from their son, who is a POW in Japan; SSgt. Stewart Gordon Barbour

wrote he is "doing well."

Feb. 1—Sgt. Joe Hancock is killed in action in France, and Pvt. Raymond E. Zimmerman is a POW of the Germans.

Feb. 8—Food Stamps will now expire in four months.

Feb. 15—Sailor Horace Williams is missing in action.

Mrs. H.A. Cameron is named chairman of the local Red Cross drive.

Feb. 22—Hoke Polio Fund doubles quota.

March 1—Lt. Eldred Helton, previously MIA, is reported to be a POW of the Germans.

March 8—Upchurch Milling Co. will buy surplus eggs from farmers.

March 15—The Allies dropped ... liquid fire on Tokyo Saturday and it was left a flaming intern. I suppose some folks might term that given them what they deserve. —Poole's Medley, D. Scott Poole

March 29—Hoke Parents-Teachers Assoc. collects clothing for distribution overseas.

April 5—PFC Lonnie Teal, 21, is missing in action in Europe.

The Rockfish swimming hole is given to the county.

April 12—Marine PFC Albert Smoak is killed at Iwo Jima.

April 19—PFC J. Lonnie Teal Jr. is killed in action in Germany.

April 26—War Bonds and Stamps sold by Hoke children help buy a trainer plane for the U.S. Army Air Force.

May 3—Clarence P. Kinlaw receives a medical discharge from the Navy and is back in the jewelry business.

May 10—Mrs. P.P. McCain, 52, of Sanatorium, is chosen 1945 North Carolina Mother of the year.

May 17—Hoke Concrete Co. receives a war permit to install new equipment, can make 12,000 concrete blocks per day.

May 24—Pilot Lt. Eldred Helton, U.S. Army Air Force, has been liberated from a German POW camp, his family learned.

Belk-Hensdale will open a store in Raeford June 1.

May 31—Three "little stills" get three "little fines."

PFC Clinton C. Hall has been liberated from a Nazi POW camp.

June 7—N.L. McFadyen is sworn in as Raeford's mayor.

June 14—A War Bond rally is planned with Group Army Personnel to present a "great program."

June 21—Cotton is blooming early this year.

June 28—Relatives learn that Capt. W. Mark Currie was lost when a Japanese ship was torpedoed by an Allied submarine this past October.

July 12—There seems to be no letup of troop movement by the A&R Railway. They go both ways. —Poole's Medley

July 26—Lt. Paul McCain Jr. is declared dead by the War Dept. He was lost in the Straits of Dover July 8, 1944.

Aug. 9—Editorial: Sterilization is the best cure for mental illness, prevents mental defectives from producing more like themselves.

Aug. 16—Sailor Horace Williams is now listed as killed in action.

Gasoline and fuel oil released from rationing.

Aug. 23—Edinburgh Mills is to make peacetime materials now.

Training is suspended at Laurinburg-Maxton



Lewis and Tommy Upchurch ready to go to church.

Army Air Base.

Sept. 6—Flora Macdonald College begins its 50th year.

Sept. 12—Mrs. Bill Wright is rushed to hospital after accidentally eating a rat biscuit, thinking it was a war-rationed treat.

Sept. 19—SSgt. Howard Pope, a POW of the Japanese since 1942, is liberated.

Oct. 4—There is some question about who was the first mayor of this town, but George Edgerton was the first mayor of Raeford. He was a mule dealer. He left Raeford in 1905 soon after I arrived, but I did not run him off. —Poole's Medley, D. Scott Poole.

Harvey Warlick and Zeb McDaniel open a farm supply store here.

Oct. 18—The war fund drive is doing poorly; only 30% of quota is reached.

Oct. 25—Sheriff James Story of Guilford County is accidentally shot in the head and chest by buckshot and died while deer hunting here.

Nov. 8—Neill McFadyen doubles his corn yield by changing seed; North Carolina State College supplied the new seed, Hybrid Tennessee Ten.

Nov. 15—An editorial urges residents continue to find room in their homes for soldiers and their families as they did during the war.

Nov. 22—Fire destroys the cotton seed house at Oakdale Gin. Firefighters are credited with saving the gin.

Nov. 29—Construction of a new colored school is to begin soon. The concrete block building will replace Upchurch High.

Dec. 4—More than half of Hoke's young men drafted for military service were rejected.

Commissioners held a stormy session, disagreeing on which roads should have priority for resurfacing. N.A. Balfour resigned from the board because Raeford-Rockfish was not given first priority.

Dec. 20—There were 7749 bales of cotton ginned in Hoke County from the crop of 1945 prior to Dec. 1 compared to 14,976 bales ginned prior to Dec. 1, 1944.

Dec. 27—Sugar rationing will continue.

1946

Jan. 3 – A pound jar of peanut butter sells for 30 cents at Pender Quality Food Store. You could also buy two lettuce heads for 23 cents, a 16-count box of tea bags for 11 cents or a cake of Lux toilet soap for seven cents.

Jan. 10 – Joint funeral services are held for a mother and daughter. Sarah Catherine Holt, 86, and her daughter, Mrs. Rufus Sanders, 54, died at the same time, Holt in Raeford and Sanders in Fayetteville.

Mules are involved in two wrecks. A mule dies when the wagon it was pulling is hit from behind by a car. A runaway mule pulling a wagon causes two cars to collide and one hit the wagon, slightly injuring the mule.

Jan. 17 – Full page ad for clothes' drive: NEEDED for the naked, ragged and destitute surviving victims of the war-torn allied countries of Europe

Feb. 7 – The county will rebuild a baseball park at the Armory; Ellis Williamson American Legion Post will lease it.

Feb. 14 – The Solid Fuels Administration declares Hoke as one of the areas in which the coal shortage has become an emergency. A supply is to be shipped here. Striking miners are blamed for the shortage.

Feb. 21 – Quail restocking has taken place since the hunting season ended. Hoke has had seven prosecutions for illegal hunting.

Feb. 28 – The Lumbee River Electric Cooperative is adding 230 miles of lines. Most of the new customers have been waiting for power since 1940-41 when the war stopped all construction.

March 7 – George W. Russell, 25, who had recently been discharged from the Navy, dies in a one-car crash at Rockfish Bridge on Hwy. 15-A.

March 14 – Hoke's tobacco allocation this year is 4,454 acres.

March 21 – State Highway Patrolmen inspect 21 buses of Hoke Schools and find them generally to be in good condition.

March 28 – Merchants announce Wednesday afternoon closing: Bank of Raeford, McLauchlin Co., Baucom Appliance Co., Raeford Dry Cleaners, Home Food Market, City Grocery, Raeford Grocery and Raeford Hardware Co.

April 4 – Miss Sally Ray had a serious fall yesterday, suffering a fracture of the shoulder. She fell down the steps at the grocery store of J.E. Conoly and Son at about 10:30 yesterday morning. She is a patient at Highsmith Hospital in Fayetteville.

April 11 – Last night there was a cutting in the town of Raeford and, of all places, in the Bank of Raeford. David Chason used a knife



Clarence P. Kinlaw took a leave of absence from the jewelry business to serve in World War II. Here, he is shown in his store in the late 1930s or early 1940s.

on David Hendrix, and to a considerable extent.

April 25 – Miss Jane Pratt of Raeford is chosen to serve the remainder of the unexpired term of 8th District Congressman William O. Burgin, who died. She is the first woman Congressman in North Carolina.

May 2 – School News by K.A. MacDonald: Ashmont School presented the operetta, "A Day in Flowerdom." The children played to a well-filled auditorium and all enjoyed it thoroughly.

May 9 – Newspaper filler: If you want more soap, keep turning in more used fats.

May 16 – The Rural Electrification puts in 2,135 miles of new power lines in Hoke.

The Timberland Post Office is to be closed and mail will be delivered from the Raeford post office.

May 30 – On the third day of April, 1911, the new county of Hoke began functioning. It was a very windy day, the wind strong from the south, but several thousand people assembled. There was a big picnic dinner on tables on the school campus and several trenches full of BBQ beef and pork down in the pines near where the grammar school is now. – Poole's Medley

June 6 – Diplomas are awarded to 34 at Hoke High.

June 13 – All persons under 16 who come

into North Carolina from an area where infantile paralysis is present in epidemic form will be quarantined immediately, the State Board of Health announces.

Fort Bragg is now under the command of the 4th Army.

June 20 – The government authorizes the purchase of supplies to build a new freezer locker plant here. Construction is to begin within 10 days.

June 27 – Carolina Power & Light lines are going up at a rate of 15 miles per month.

July 4 – The county is to have a fire warden.

July 11 – Editorial: We're Nice Folks: Did it ever occur to you that the United States never invaded any Country? And we rarely ever forced any of the Nations in Latin America to behave – not even Mexico when it rampaged. Great, big-hearted old Uncle Sam has engaged in wars this century to help out people who have been attacked by human devils.

July 25 – A 17-year-old highway employee dies at the intersection of Duffie and Molatto roads when he is thrown from a truck. Lerew Cain's skull is crushed when the truck's steering gear malfunctions and the vehicle hits a power pole guy wire.

Aug. 1 – Mrs. Katie McBryde McPhaul

purchases the Bluemont Beauty Shop from Mrs. Harry Green.

Aug. 8 – The War Dept. announces that Camp Mackall will continue as a subpost of Ft. Bragg.

Aug. 15 – Upchurch Milling and Storage Co. is completely destroyed by fire early Monday morning. The alarm sounded at 6:30 a.m. but by this time the fire was out of control. Firefighters prevent flames from spreading to the ice and emergency power plant in the rear of the building behind the fire wall. It is believed the fire started by spontaneous combustion. Damage is estimated at \$75,000 to \$100,000.

Aug. 22 – Sugar is still scarce and homemakers are warned to treat it as if it were gold dust.

Aug. 29 – Veterans who wish to apply for the money they have coming under the recently passed bill authorizing terminal leave pay for enlisted men may obtain blanks and assistance in filling them out at the sheriff's office. Marion Maxwell is doing this free of charge, and Clara Mae Gibson at Hoke Auto Co. will notarize them for free.

Sept. 5 – Hoke's 750 white veterans are invited to dinner and to "the biggest postwar rally" sponsored by Ellis Williamson American Legion Post #20.

Sept. 19 – Lt. Tom McLauchlin is seriously injured in an accident near Camp Polk, Louisiana, where he is stationed. His injuries consist of a broken jawbone, teeth knocked out and skull injuries. His mother, Mrs. H.C. McLauchlin, reports he is conscious and has passed the crisis.

Sept. 26 – A Ft. Bragg soldier is shot and in serious condition at Bill's Roadhouse and Service Station. No charges yet.

Oct. 3 – Bill Wright is under a \$500 continuous bond following the shooting of a Ft. Bragg soldier at his place of business, Bill's. The soldier is said to be recovering.

Nov. 7 – Hoke has a heavy voter turnout considering it was an off-year.

Nov. 14 – The goal of \$30,000 to build a new Raeford Baptist Church is nearer after a fund drive raises \$4,000.

Nov. 21 – A record corn crop is expected for North Carolina.

Nov. 28 – Dr. Paul P. McCain, president of all TB hospitals in North Carolina, is killed in a Raleigh car wreck. He was the foremost authority on TB, and McCain, formerly Sanatorium, is named after him at a later date. Services were held at Sanatorium.

Dec. 5 – N.H.G. Balfour, outgoing commissioner chair, is honored by the county. F. Knox Watson succeeds him as chair.

Dec. 13 – Raeford Elementary will present an operetta, "The Guiding Star," for the PTA.

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A walk through the Raeford of my youth

BY JOHN KELLY SR.

The town of Raeford began as a community on the southern edge of Cumberland County where a general store and a gristmill were located. The larger Raeford community was formed during the waning days of the nineteenth century. It is the county seat of Hoke County, created in 1911 from portions of Robeson and Cumberland counties. The growth of the area required a more centrally located seat of government rather than having to travel to Lumberton and Fayetteville.

The economy of the area was based on cotton production and supplying the needs of farmers who were engaged in cotton growing activities. The town is served by two major roads, U.S. Route 401 (Old 15-A), a major north-south route, and State Route 211. The route of the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad passes through Raeford while running from Aberdeen to Fayetteville, and the Laurinburg and Southern Railroad, which extended its line from Wagram to a terminal in Raeford.

Most of the business activity took place along Main Street with other establishments located to the North and South of Main Street, or along the routes into or out of town. Fertilizer and farm implement establishments were usually a part of one of the hardware or farmers' supply activities. The Cotton Mill, Upchurch Milling Company, and Hoke Oil and Fertilizer Company were the major commercial enterprises. A cotton-loading platform was located between Upchurch Milling Company and the railroad tracks. Lester's Dairy, Morris Livery Stable, and the Lumberyard were east of town.

I have memories of my trips to town: the statues of the deer atop the Gulf Oil service station, the Bluemont Hotel where the bus station was located, Rose's 5 and 10 cent store, the theater, and a host of grocery and hardware stores. There was an establishment which always had its windows covered by green shades. I was told that it was a funeral parlor. I visited the post office, located in the Bank Building, on a regular basis; visits to the bank were less frequent. Lundy's Shoe Repair Shop and the Newspaper office were on Elwood Avenue, around the corner from Miss Lizzie Nivens' Millinery. Dr. Matheson's office was the medical facility that my family visited during the early years. I knew where Dr. Brown's office was located, but I never visited it. I was always impressed with the size of McLauchlin Company; it appeared to cover an entire block. It was a grocery store, a hardware store, a clothing store, and a supplier of other items needed by a farming family. The hardware store between Home Food Market and the Rexall Drug Store was torn down after I came to Raeford in 1936.

The route taken as we walked to school took us up Main Street, past the Log Cabin service station and the Presbyterian church,

past Hoke High School through a section of woods to the street which passed in front of the theater owner's home and on to school. I recall that the McIntyre and Scurlock homes were the two buildings being constructed entirely of cinder blocks.

Mr. Alexander operated the local A and P (Atlantic and Pacific Tea) Store. The A and P chain now exists as Super Fresh Stores. There were two grocers located on the North side of Main Street between Baucom's and the Hotel. Progressive was one of the two and we shopped there on occasion.

The Raeford doctors were special friends, beyond the medical care they provided. Dr. O'Briant checked out books from the library for me as blacks were barred from using the facility. Dr. Smith, the local dentist, allowed our family to come to his office for dental care long before blacks regularly sought dental care.

Theater attendance was a part of my weekly routine as we climbed to the balcony assigned to blacks for movie viewing. There was a second set of stairs to the balcony on the east side of the building. I was told that it was for Native Americans, but I don't remember ever seeing them in the balcony. The usual fee for attending was ten cents. There was a candy and novelty store housed in a streetcar-like building on the lot near the theater.

Graham's Gulf Station across from Bluemont Hotel was a favorite place to visit. Each week they gave away free comic strips. We also turned in soda bottles for either a penny or a nickel depending on the size. The State Highway Patrolman usually parked his car on the street in a space in front of the service station. Elk Restaurant was located next to the service station across from the hotel. There was a machine/repair shop located to the rear-side of the service station near the railroad tracks. The operator of the shop was also connected to the funeral business in Raeford. I think he worked with the Buie Funeral establishment in some capacity. When the alligator in Upchurch's pond was killed, it was brought to this shop. I don't recall why he was brought to this location.

We shopped at Israel Mann for shoes and dress suits and Baucom's Cash Store for our school clothing. Our first electric refrigerator, a Frigidaire, came from Baucom's Cash Store. I enjoyed visiting Baucom's for it utilized a mechanical device no other store used. There may have been a similar system in McLauchlin Company Store, I never visited enough to be certain, but I don't think they utilized this kind of system. The device used a unique method of collecting payment and returning the customer's receipt and change. The office was located toward the rear of the store and all transactions were sent to the office in capsules attached to metal spring-like tracks to be finalized. These tracks ran continuously from each department to the office. Change and receipts were placed in the capsule and

returned along the same track. The tracks and capsules created a staccato beat as the system ran throughout the store. A thudding sound was produced which sounded much like cars running over the expansion joints in highways when the capsule dropped into

place on its return. There are historic sites where this kind of system can still be found, but most have been replaced with an advanced generation of cash register.

We shopped at Home Food Market (John K. McNeill); many folks shopped there because



A young John C. Kelly

he would "carry you on his books." This created a considerable overhead for management, as some customers never paid their bills. They were either unable to pay or elected not to pay. Management seemed to have been philosophical about the problems created for the store's balance sheet.

There was a huge sawdust pile on the right side of Route 211 east leaving Raeford going toward Red Springs. We passed this pile each time we left our home and headed uptown to the business district. We must have made some comment about the pile, which suggested to our father that we might like to climb it. We were admonished never to climb a sawdust pile lest we risk being trapped beneath the sawdust in an area where a fire was burning.

We were told that fires were sometimes set to these piles but were smothered by the addition of more sawdust atop the burning mass. This created what appeared as a solid mass of sawdust, but burning from the inside created a hollow cone, which might collapse when weight was added to the surface. This was enough warning as we passed the pile but never climbed it.

The Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad passed about one hundred yards from our house on a route to Fayetteville and then to Fort Bragg. The railroad operated two trains and a jitney daily except Sunday. The trains hauled freight while the jitney carried mail and passengers. We knew the trains and jitney were approaching as they always tooted a whistle at a crossing about a mile from our house. (The crossing is near the cemetery where Rufus and Mary Kelly are buried.) The Laurinburg and Southern is a second rail line which reached Raeford by a more easterly route.

Dec. 19 – Kiwanis pays tribute to the late Dr. McCain, a Kiwanian who exemplified the motto, "We build."

Dec. 24 – The folks at Montrose have a dinner to bid farewell to Dr. and Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Riley.

1947

Jan. 2 – Raeford Drug Co. changes heads again when Tom Cameron and William Howell buy the business from Mitchell Epstein, who had owned the business for about 90 days. Epstein bought it from G.W. Hutchinson, who bought it from L.E. Reaves.

Jan. 9 – Rep. Jane Pratt, first woman in Congress, 8th District, ends her career when C.B. Deane is sworn in. She was elected last year to fill in for W.O. Burgin, who died while in office. She had served as secretary to him and to three congressmen from the district.

Jan. 16 – Belk-Hensdale starts their pre-inventory sale. Men's all-leather boots are \$4.98.

Jan. 23 – Archie Lee Wall joined his wife in death after their Jan. 13 wreck. She died a few hours after he drove their car into the path of an oncoming truck.

Jan. 30 – W.R. Barrington, 56, former commissioner, U.S. commissioner, Hoke deputy, Raeford chief of police, and justice of the peace, dies after an extended illness.

Feb. 6 – The Cabin Service Station, owned by C.J. Connell, was gutted by flames that started from an oil fire inside the building. The store stock was a total loss.

Feb. 13 – The Lumbee River Rural Electric Co-op plans to spend \$40,000 to build a warehouse and office here.

Feb. 20 – Rep. C.B. Deane gives his first speech before Congress. He says the health of young people has reached a new low and attributed this to a lack of health and hospital facilities. He calls for more federal aid to same.

Feb. 27 – Raeford graded and high school teachers agree to dress windows in downtown Raeford to advertise the American Red Cross. The annual Red Cross drive has just begun.

March 6 – Freddy Kilowatt says "kite flyers are always safety wise. They stay clear of electric wires, and fly in open skies."

March 13 – The Johnson Co. begins operation of a seed cleaning plant located across from the gin in Oakdale one mile southeast of Raeford. The plant cleans, de-lints and treats cotton seed.

March 20 – Dr. H.S. Willis is to succeed Dr. P.P. McCain, who was killed in an accident in Raleigh Nov. 5, as superintendent of the TB Sanatorium in west Hoke.

March 27 – Virginia Wilson, extension specialist in food and nutrition, is going to show homemakers how to make yeast breads.

April 3 – A gambling game of "skin" causing an argument ends abruptly when LeRoy Shaw is shot to death. Robert Smith is being held.

April 10 – The Lumbee River REA is authorized to provide electrical service to 830 families. The cooperative currently serves 2,000 members.

April 17 – The News-Journal publishes baby photos of nine graduating seniors. One is Luke McNeill.

April 24 – W.L. "Will" Tugwell, formerly of Raeford, dies when his tow truck and the car he was towing struck an oil rig and burns in Virginia. He operated an automobile service here.

May 1 – A fountain at the TB Sanatorium is dedicated to the memory of Dr. P.P. McCain Sr., head of the TB hospital system who was killed in a car wreck last year, and to his son Lt. P.P. McCain Jr., who was killed in action while in the Army Air Force during the war.

May 8 - The Rev. Bailey Heyward is the new minister at Raeford Presbyterian Church and preached his first sermon last Sunday.

May 15 - The semi-pro baseball league begins the Peach Belt playoffs. In the league are Raeford, Southern Pines, Hamlet, Laurinburg, Aberdeen and Bennettsville.

May 26 - Hoke High graduates 47 seniors. Speaker at ceremony is Rep. Charles B. Deanne. Elizabeth Parker was valedictorian.

June 5 - W.L. Poole is sworn in as the new mayor.

June 12 - That's Rich column has this: "Saw a sign on a truck: Old Rose Distributing Co. But surely they don't have that much call for old roses."

June 19 - James C. Lentz just finished mortician's school and is taking over McDiarmid Funeral Home. He will operate under the name James C. Lentz Mortuary.

June 26 - Eight gamblers find themselves in Recorders Court. Found guilty, they were each ordered to pay court costs and \$5 except the man on whose premises the gambling took place was charged \$10.

July 17 - A night prowler found himself fined and given a suspended sentence and another man was fined and sentenced for breaking prohibition laws.

July 24 - Twin State Warehouse in Fairmont advises farmers to sell their tobacco early for the best prices.

Aug. 14 - The body of Rephew Shaw is found on Highway 15A, and an autopsy showed his heart had burst and he had probably been run over by an auto. No other clues were found.

Aug. 22 - Judge Chester Morris sentences Robert Hamilton to 24 years in the state pen for shooting his wife at their home on June 13. He pled guilty to second degree murder.

Aug. 29 - The cemetery is a disgrace, and graves are overgrown with grass and weeds.

Sept. 4 - Cotton is being harvested, and gins are starting operations.

Sept. 11 - Irish potatoes were not a good crop this year but sweet potatoes are doing fine.

Sept. 18 - Mr. and Mrs. Paul (Grace Jones) Sides announce the birthday of a daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Talmadge (Audrey Cothran) Bobbit have a new son.

Sept. 25 - Recorder's Court has a busy day with 24 cases dealing with liquor, cars, bad checks, cussing and fighting.

Oct. 2 - Southern cotton farmers had \$12 million in losses in 1945-46 and are urged to prevent fires beginning in the fields. Rocks, metal, and matches can cause fires once they are in the gin.

Oct. 9 - State troopers were kept busy yesterday with four accidents in one day, one resulting in a fatality. A Brooklyn man had stopped to fix a flat tire and was getting a spare out of his trunk when he was struck from behind. He died two days later.

Oct. 16 - Three layday hunters were fined and had their licenses revoked for hunting and bagging three deer.

Oct. 23 - James Bledsoe, 33, who says he is a vampire is charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill (there is no arrest term for being a vampire). He is alleged to have slashed two men with a pocket knife and then drinking their blood. Lemire Locklear had 75 stitches to close his wounds, and James Cobb had 51.

Oct. 30 - It's a long way from the cotton fields, but Hoke Congressman C.B. Deane says there are jobs available at the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Nov. 6 - The body of an infant is found buried in the woods on Turnpike Road near Mountain Grove Church. The story unfolds like this: A woman gave birth to a stillborn one night and

gave the baby's body to a cousin and told him to bury it in the church cemetery. The cousin was afraid to go in the cemetery at night so he dug a hole in the ground in the woods and placed the baby in it. The man who later found the child thought liquor was being buried and went digging come daylight.

Nov. 13 - Rockfish School is undergoing a mumps epidemic. Fifty-two absences are blamed on the disease.

Nov. 20 - A large industry that flourished in Hoke is brought to an abrupt halt. The business had two 500 gallon vats for manufacturing and thirty-six 300 gallon storage vats. The 24/7 operation churned out 350-500 gallons of liquor per day until Sheriff D.H. Hodgins put a stop to it.

Nov. 27 - Ten men are indicted for operating the gigantic illicit distillery published in last week's issue.

Dec. 4 - Staff Sgt. Daniel E. Chason is given a hero's burial in Lumber Bridge. He was killed in action in Belgium on December 1, 1944.

Sanatorium Post Office is to be renamed McCain after Dr. P.P. McCain Sr., who was killed in a car wreck a year ago. Dr. McCain was superintendent of all TB hospitals in North Carolina.

Dec. 11 - Hoke farmers are told that cotton is the most logical cash crop to help them make up some of the \$645,000 loss farmers will suffer from the 28% reduction in 1948 flue-cured tobacco acreage allotments.

Dec. 18 - The American Wringer Co. of Rhode Island will open a plant here if there is community support.

Dec. 25 - The Raeford Kiwanians eat lightly at their regular meeting and use the money saved (\$60) for CARE to feed people in war-scarred Europe.

1948

Jan 1 - The town commissioners accept police chief W.J. McQuage's resignation and appoint Officer H.M. Meeks chief of police.

Jan. 8 - About 50 people attend a meeting at the Raeford Chamber of Commerce, forming a proposed corporation contracting with the American Wringer Co. The board of directors names the new business the Hoke County Development Corp.

Jan. 15 - Troy Whitehead of the White-Tex cotton mill announces plans to double the plant's size. The mill plans to employ up to 300 workers.

Jan. 22 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club calls on the county Board of Commissioners to reconsider allowing Moore County access to Hoke County's hospital and clinic help funds.

Jan. 29 - The Ellis Williamson American Legion post and the Hoke County High School Key Club join forces to raise about \$8,000 in funding for lighting at the local ball park.

Feb. 5 - Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. announces its construction program bringing electricity to more of the county will move faster thanks to quicker shipments of conductors and transformers. The cooperative serves more than 3,000 customers.

Feb. 12 - Fuel is scarce in Hoke County after much of the state receives heavy snowfall.

Feb. 19 - The Boy Scouts and North Carolina Council of Churches collect more than 2,000 lbs. of clothing for the Church World Service Center.

Feb. 26 - Richard McPhatter allegedly shoots South Carolina native Leo Steele twice in the abdomen with a .45-caliber automatic pistol following a reported disagreement. Steele is hospitalized while McPhatter is held without bond.

March 4 - Leo Steele dies at a Fayetteville hospital from gunshot wounds allegedly inflicted by Richard McPhatter. McPhatter is released

under a \$500 bond but put back in jail pending the outcome of a coroner's inquest.

March 11 - Nathaniel Leslie, 45, dies after allegedly being shot by his brother-in-law, Luke Thomas, at Leslie's home. Coroner W.L. Roper sets Thomas' bond at \$2,000.

March 18 - A Raeford man dies and seven others are injured in a car accident in Fayetteville. Donald Newton reportedly dies instantly when his car collides with a Greyhound bus, while the seven passengers in Newton's car sustain injuries of varying seriousness.

March 25 - A possibly rabid dog enters the dry goods store of Israel Mann and is shot by Chief of Police H.M. Meeks.

April 1 - The American Wringer Co. signs a contract with the Hoke County Development Corp. agreeing to build a rubber thread plant in Raeford.

April 8 - A dozen candidates file to run for office in Hoke County, seeking to fill a number of positions including five seats on the county commission board.

April 15 - Judge McDiarmid finds Fred Tyson and Herbert Parks guilty of assaulting each other with deadly weapons during a knife fight. Tyson and Parks are sentenced "to the road" for six months, sentence suspended on payment of costs and each other's medical expenses.

April 22 - The Hoke Cotton Harvesting Corp. buys the county's first home owned and operated cotton picker. Owners J.L. Warner, J.A. Roper, A.R. Currie and Hallie Blythe hope to use the machine to assist other farmers in harvesting their crops.

April 29 - About 1,800 paratroopers with the 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Army stage the world's largest peacetime parachute jump over the Fort Bragg reservation. One paratrooper is reportedly sideswiped in the air by a cargo parachute while another trooper's main parachute fails to open, but both men escape without injury.

May 6 - The Raeford Rebels baseball team takes on the Southern Pines team in the first game played under the donation-funded Armory Park baseball field's new lights.

May 20 - Hoke County resident John Henry Plummer Jr., 33, is killed by a lightning strike on his farm near Timberland.

May 27 - Citizens circulate a petition supporting a vote on whether to allow beer and wine sales in Hoke County, with petitioners hoping to stop the sale of beer.

June 3 - J. Fulford McMillan, W. Marshall Thomas, John William Smith and Julian H. Wright are elected to the county Board of Commissioners, while incumbent F. Knox Watson retains his seat.

June 10 - The Raeford Garden Club presents a community performance of "Fun For You" at the Hoke County High School auditorium, including impersonations and door prizes.

June 17 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club sponsors a project to dust Hoke County with DDT to control flies, mosquitoes and other pests. Duster airplane operator Clyde Christopher advises residents to leave their windows and doors open during dusting.

June 24 - Coroner W.L. Roper and a jury hold an inquest into the death of Evaline McKay, 22, who was found dead in a field nine miles north of Raeford. Robert Woodcox, Zenios Hanes and Thomas Tate and wife were arrested and held in connection with the case.

July 1 - Law enforcement officials report that Florence Tate confessed to killing Evaline McKay, 22, with a knife over a domestic dispute. Tate's husband, Thomas Tate, along with Robert Woodcox and Zenios Hanes are also held

under bond following the coroner's inquest into McKay's death.

The district semi-pro baseball tournament starts at the Raeford Armory ball park.

July 8 - Moore-Hoke County health officer Dr. J.W. Willcox reports there have been no cases of polio in Hoke County despite a recent outbreak of the disease in Moore County.

July 15 - Dr. H. Hodgins, chairman of the Hoke County chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, calls a meeting of concerned residents discussing a polio epidemic in North Carolina.

July 22 - Hoke County men between the ages of 18-25 are ordered by President Truman to register for the draft.

Hail, rain and strong wind destroy or damage many farmers' crops and outbuildings in Hoke County.

July 29 - The county health board passes a Polio Ordinance prohibiting children from participating in any kind of congregation or gathering in an effort to stop the disease from spreading. F.C. McPhaul Jr., 5, is taken to Duke hospital with Hoke County's third confirmed case of polio in the 1948 outbreak.

Aug. 5 - Doctors report a drop in the number of daily reported cases of polio, renewing hope that the state's worst polio epidemic is beginning to decline.

Aug. 12 - Bobby Zackery, 19 months, son of Sgt. and Mrs. R.D. Zackery, is the first Raeford child diagnosed with polio in 1948. Violations of the Polio Ordinance result in a fine of \$50 or 30 days in jail. Schools are set to open Sept. 9 if the epidemic permits.

Aug. 19 - Welders Lory Long, 28, and Lacy David Pearce, 25, are burned by steam in a boiler room accident at the Hoke Oil and Fertilizer Co. They are later discharged from the hospital after recovering.

Aug. 26 - Judge Q.K. Nimocks decides to allow a special Saturday vote on the sale of beer and wine in Hoke County.

R.B. Lewis is elected president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Sept. 2 - Hoke County boards of education and health lift the ban on gatherings that went into effect July 27 due to the polio epidemic, allowing schools to open on Sept. 15.

Hoke County voters choose to outlaw the legal sale of beer and wine in the county's special Saturday poll.

Sept. 9 - Game wardens catch four men hunting in closed season and without license during a crackdown on game violators.

Sept. 16 - Representatives from the Carolina Telephone Co. urge local subscribers to report service outages in response to a letter of complaint written by the Raeford Chamber of Commerce.

Sept. 23 - Willie J. McPhaul is charged with allegedly killing Jesse Jackson in Blue Springs township and held without bond as law enforcement officers interview witnesses and seek a motive for the shooting.

Sept. 30 - The Hoke County High School Bucks football team takes on Rowland High in the first night time football game ever played in Raeford.

Oct. 7 - A Charlotte firm takes on construction of an office and warehouse building for the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. near Red Springs.

Oct. 14 - Seven Hoke County men are drafted into the U.S. Army by the Selective Service board. They are the first in the county to be called under the new draft law, which includes all men between the ages of 19 and 25 who are not veterans and unmarried.

Oct. 21 - Town employee Marion Blue, 50, is

killed near his home. Richard Kelly, Blue's son-in-law, is arrested in connection to the murder.

The board of trustees at Flora Macdonald Academy selects Halbert McNair Jones of Laurinburg as acting president of the school, succeeding Dr. H.G. Bedinger.

Oct. 28 - About a dozen people seek to improve the condition of the Raeford cemetery.

Nov. 4 - Hoke County voters choose Harry Truman for president over candidates Thomas Dewey, Henry Wallace and Strom Thurmond.

Nov. 11 - Mrs. Neil A. McDonald of the Raeford Woman's Club is named chairman of the 1948 Christmas Seal Sale in Hoke County.

Nov. 18 - The Hoke County Farm Bureau seeks to increase its membership with a booth in front of the Bank of Raeford.

Nov. 25 - Upchurch School pays tribute to T.B. Upchurch, hanging a portrait of the late benefactor of the school for black children.

Dec. 2 - Hoke County joins 52 other North Carolina counties in donating farm produce for overseas relief agencies through the Friendship Train program.

Dec. 9 - Local officials hold memorial services for Dr. Paul P. McCain at the Central North Carolina Tuberculosis Sanatorium at McCain, unveiling a portrait of the late doctor.

More than 600 stockholders of the Laurinburg Production Credit Association hold their annual meeting in the Hoke County courthouse.

Dec. 16 - Uzell Jones of Quewhiffle township is arrested and held without bond in connection with the shooting death of Flora Belle Anderson. Jones is suspected of allegedly violating the corpse.

Dec. 23 - Hoke County native and state Senator Ryan McBryde III quits his position with

the General Assembly due to illness. McBryde served as a senator for 15 years.

Dec. 30 - The Raeford Methodist Church burns to the ground in less than an hour. The fire begins shortly before noon and also damages windows on the courthouse next door.

The Hoke County Democratic Committee selects J. Benton Thomas to succeed Senator Ryan McBryde.

1949

Jan. 6 - Officers seek former convict Buddy Barrett, 40, for allegedly shooting Charlie McDougald with buckshot in a fight near the Ed Buie funeral home.

A gunman holds up the Scottish Bank at Pembroke, escaping with about \$9,000 in cash. Three Robeson County men are arrested in connection with the armed robbery, the third discovered in a cabin in Hoke County.

Jan. 13 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club installs its officers for 1949 at the club's regular supper and meeting at the high school cafeteria. Robert Gatlin is installed as president of the club.

The Presbyterian Church begins conducting three months of music worship programs Sunday evenings under the direction of Flora McDonald College, with the congregation taking part in the singing.

Jan. 20 - Floyd Cameron allegedly cuts the throat of John Edward Burke in Quewhiffle township. Burke is taken to Moore County Hospital.

Jan. 27 - Uzell Jones is convicted of the murder of Flora Belle Anderson of Quewhiffle and sentenced to death in the gas chamber. Jones appeals the case.

Feb. 3 - The March of Dimes seeks to double

its quota in a polio fundraising drive.

Feb. 10 - Eight men are fined for selling illegal alcohol in Hoke County.

Feb. 17 - The National Guard unit was reassigned from the 677th Antiaircraft battalion to the 130th Antiaircraft battalion and also assigned to the 30th Infantry division.

Feb. 24 - Hoke County merchants and the Raeford Chamber of Commerce partner to create a "dollar days" weekend sale.

March 3 - H.E. Vernon of Caswell County assumes his duties as the Hoke County farm agent, replacing A.S. Knowles.

The Hoke County High School girls' basketball team makes it to the finals in the American Legion high school basketball tournament.

March 10 - The American Red Cross begins its fundraising drive. Fund chairman Israel Mann encourages donors to give generously.

March 17 - Hoke County corn growers gather at the Little River community house to view a film, "More Corn Per Acre," telling the story of corn production in North Carolina.

March 24 - W.F. Walters, 81, dies of a cerebral hemorrhage. Walters was one of the oldest continuous residents of Raeford still living.

March 31 - Mildred McMillan is charged with assaulting Roland Ray with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. Ray was reportedly seriously injured. McMillan was held under \$200 bond.

April 7 - The Birmingham Black Barons, world championship baseball team in the Negro League, play the Asheville Blues in Armory park.

April 14 - As many as 1,000 women with the Women of Robeson Baptist Association visit Raeford for their annual meeting.

April 21 - The Hoke County Agricultural Association conducts one of the largest farm surveys

attempted in the county as part of a statewide effort to gather information from farmers to establish wheat and cotton acreage allotments.

The Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. plans to build an additional 400 miles of line through a \$450,000 grant.

April 28 - W.R. Tillman Jr., 34, and Watson Faircloth, 45, both farmers of Cumberland County, drown in Upchurch's pond while fishing.

May 5 - Antioch Presbyterian Church dedicates its new educational building during the regular morning worship hour.

The county Board of Education reorganizes and selects district committees. K.A. MacDonald is re-elected as superintendent of schools.

May 12 - Mayor William Poole proclaims May 15 as opening day for the Clean Up Paint Up Fix Up Program, calling on all city departments and residents to take an active part in supporting clean living conditions in town.

May 19 - Hoke County farmers enroll in a corn-growing contest between North Carolina and Virginia, hoping to increase corn yields.

May 26 - Three Army officers die and an enlisted man is seriously injured in a car accident near Raeford. Capt. Benjamin McElhinney Jr., 28, 1st Lt. Lawrence D. Rayman Jr., 28, and warrant officer Merle G. Maxson, 39, died. Recruit Johnny D. Cherry, 17, was seriously injured.

The public buildings bill authorizes Raeford to have a post office and federal building but does not provide any money to construct the \$85,000 facility.

June 2 - Law enforcement officers arrested two men on charges of operating whiskey stills in the Antioch township. Wilford McNeill and Roy Dial pled guilty and were sentenced to 60 days each or payment of a \$25 fine and court costs.

Happy Birthday 100th Hoke County


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SELECT AGENT

June 9 - Hoke County votes in favor of a state road bond and school bond to raise money for school and road improvements.

The Raeford Kiwanis Club sells more than \$780 of brooms manufactured by blind workers at Guilford Industries in Greensboro.

June 16 - The Raeford Baptist Church completes a week of Bible study at the daily vacation bible study.

June 30 - A 14-year-old accused of house-breaking escapes from Morrison Training School and was later caught by law enforcement officers.

July 7 - Former Senator Ryan McBryde, 62, dies in Highsmith Hospital after leaving the General Assembly due to illness. McBryde was a prominent religious, civic and political leader in Hoke County.

The county Board of Commissioners raises the tax rate from \$1.10 to \$1.25 per \$100 valuation.

July 14 - A Catholic Church opens in Red Springs for a two-week revival. The chaplain, Father John Roueche, served as a chaplain in the Army for five years during World War II.

July 28 - The Hoke County National Guard unit of 104 men spend two weeks at Camp Stewart in Georgia for the annual unit service encampment.

Aug. 4 - The Raeford Presbyterian Church hosts the Council of the Presbyterian Youth Fellowship annual Vesper Conference.

Aug. 11 - The Raeford Chamber of Commerce holds its annual meeting at the courthouse to elect its directors.

Aug. 18 - The state of North Carolina receives approximately 54,164 acres of land set aside for wildlife conservation by the Secretary of the Interior.

Aug. 25 - The Raeford Lions Club receives its charter from the district governor, Charles E. Kirchner, during a ceremony and banquet at the armory.

Sept. 1 - Marcus Cecil Dew, a local civic, church and business leader, dies following a car accident.

Highway Commissioner George Coble announces 70.8 miles of Hoke County roads will be paved along with more than 1,400 miles of other roads in North Carolina.

Sept. 8 - The Raeford Rebels baseball team defeat Aberdeen and earn a trip to the finals in the Sand Clay league.

Fletcher Clark, Indian, is charged with violating the landlord and tenant act, pleading guilty to leaving his crop after having contracted to gather it. Judge Henry McDiarmid orders him to return to the farm and gather the crop. Archie Locklear, Indian, charged with aiding and abetting Clark by letting him use his wagon to move with and a house to move to, is required to pay the court costs.

Sept. 15 - Alcoholics Anonymous makes plans to organize a group and hold an open meeting at the courthouse.

A group of Hoke County representatives visit state Highway Commissioner George Coble and request the roads in Little River township be included in a paving project. Coble reportedly agreed to restore the 4.2 miles of paving that was not included and an additional 3.1 miles of paving.

Sept. 22 - An x-ray machine is available in front of the bank for people seeking to undergo tuberculosis screenings.

Sept. 29 - The Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. installs an office in Raeford managing the applications for service the company has on file.

Oct. 6 - Members of the Business and Professional Women's Club celebrate National Business and Professional Women's Week from Oct. 9-16.

Oct. 13 - A fire destroys Carter's tobacco ware-

house causing more than \$50,000 in damage.

Oct. 20 - A group of British cotton farming representatives arrive in Raeford to study the American cotton industry.

Oct. 27 - Employment drops in Hoke County in the first quarter, a decline of 6.58 percent. The average wage in Hoke County is \$29.93 a week.

Nov. 3 - Rep. Charles B. Deane of the state General Assembly speaks at the annual Hoke County Farm Bureau rally and fish fry.

Nov. 10 - Matthew J. Graham, a black youth charged with attempted breaking and entering with intent to commit a felony, is found not guilty by Judge Henry McDiarmid. The state had no witness who saw Graham attempt to break into the house. Although the state did offer some evidence from Harry Dees' bloodhounds, the judge was not convinced.

Nov. 17 - Former Marine and Raeford native Paul Saunders is badly burned while rescuing a child from a burning building.

A jury finds Manley H. Grooms guilty of manslaughter in connection with the shooting of Fronzo Jackson.

Nov. 24 - Dr. M.S. Woodson is named the next president of Flora Macdonald College.

Dec. 1 - County Production and Marketing Administration committee members begin preparing for the national cotton marketing quota referendum held across the United States. About 2,000 Hoke County cotton farmers are expected to be able to vote.

Dec. 8 - The principals of the county schools for whites are in favor of insurance for students attending school. The policy covers children for any accidental injuries sustained while on school property.

Dec. 15 - The 1949 cotton crop proves larger than the 1948 crop, but North Carolina fell far behind in producing cotton.

Dec. 22 - Uzell Jones, 36, a black man of Quewhiffle township, is executed in the gas chamber after being convicted of the murder of Flora Belle Anderson. Prison records reportedly stated that Jones, father of 11 children, "had the mental development of a 11-year-old."

Dec. 29 - Raeford voters cast ballots supporting bonds for improving water, street and sewage facilities.

1950

Jan. 5 - Walter Duncan "Preacher Man" Brown, owner and operator of the Raeford Hardware Co., plans to move the business into the former Bruce store and tear down the old Raeford Hardware building on Main Street.

Jan. 12 - Plans are tentatively in place to run U.S. "super-highway" 301 through Raeford.

Jan. 19 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club hears from Vernon D. Herbert of Fayetteville, district director of the Federal Social Security Administration.

The A&P chain of grocery stores publishes an ad fighting against allegations that A&P violates anti-trust laws.

Jan. 26 - The March of Dimes fundraising campaign raises \$800 to help victims of polio.

Feb. 2 - Robbins Cloth Mills, Inc. acquires the title to the former White-Tex mill in Raeford after a long negotiation.

Ernest Stallings of Johnston County assumes his duties as the new farm agent in Hoke County.

Feb. 9 - The plan to pave the road from Raeford to Vass falls through.

Feb. 16 - The state Rural Electrification Authority writes to a group of about 240 people in Raeford who expressed interest in forming a telephone cooperative, suggesting performing a countywide survey to determine the demand for



Annie Black Lindsey McFadyen and grandchildren

telephone service.

Feb. 23 - The Raeford Chamber of Commerce holds its annual meeting, selecting R.B. Lewis as president.

March 2 - The community fundraising effort begins for the American Red Cross with Hoke County chairman Clyde Upchurch seeking to raise \$1,728.

March 9 - In an effort to combat roadway fatalities, the state Highway Patrol begins marking the sites of fatal accidents with red, three-foot numerals.

March 16 - The Robbins Mills plant announces plans to employ about 100 people in a "throwing" plant that twists rayon yarn before it is woven.

March 23 - Hoke County High School students participate in safe driving testing and instruction by the safety engineer of the Farm Bureau insurance companies.

March 30 - Army Sgt. Thomas J. Childers dies from injuries suffered in a vehicle accident south of Raeford.

April 6 - Garth Waddell Wade, a black man in jail on charges of forgery, escapes for the second time while jailer Harry Dees is sleeping. Wade is accused of breaking into a grocery store and stealing \$25 after his escape.

Sheriff and police officials raid Bill's Club and the Farmer's Restaurant, discovering assorted alcoholic beverages and several illegal gambling devices.

April 13 - The Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad Co.'s passenger, mail and express bus, known as the "jitney," takes its last trip as the railroad discontinues local passenger service.

Raeford is chosen as the site of 15 grain storage bins ordered by the state of North Carolina Production and Marketing administration.

April 20 - E.O. Wilson, manager of Bill's Club, is sentenced to 90 days and a \$25 fine on charges of possessing slot machines and violating prohibition laws. H.L. McMinis, operator of the Farmer's Restaurant, is also charged with violating prohibition and sentenced to one year on the roads, with sentence suspended on payment of a \$250 fine and court costs and two years of good behavior.

April 27 - The local National Guard unit visits Fort Bragg to practice with live ammunition.

May 4 - Flora Macdonald College holds its annual May Day celebration with Betty McLean acting as May Queen.

The state Board of Elections requires all Hoke

County voters to re-register to be eligible to vote.

May 11 - Soldier Robert Green is charged with speeding at 90 miles an hour and sentenced to six months on the roads, suspended on payment of a \$100 fine and court costs.

May 18 - More than 2,500 Hoke County residents register to vote in elections.

Katie Belle Wooten is found guilty of prostitution and sentenced to serve two years in the state prison.

May 25 - The boll weevil threat to cotton farmers is the worst in 25 years, according to entomologist George of Jones of North Carolina State Extension Service.

June 1 - A class of 39 seniors graduates from Hoke County High School.

Neither candidate for the U.S. Senate receives a majority vote in the primary, and the state Board of Elections orders a second primary vote.

June 8 - The Raeford Baptist Church celebrates its 50th anniversary with a dinner and address by Dr. J. Clyde Turner.

Census data shows 2,024 people living in Raeford and a total of 15,609 in Hoke County.

June 15 - The Laurinburg and Southern Railroad gives up the mail contract on service between Raeford, Wagram and Laurinburg after 40 years of continuous service.

June 22 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club visits Camp Tom Upchurch, the new camp of the Cape Fear Area council of the Boy Scouts of America.

June 29 - Willis Smith defeats Frank Graham in a second primary to claim the Senate Democratic nomination.

July 6 - The dam at the Raeford Power and Manufacturing Co. at Lake Upchurch breaks due to seepage around the concrete. About 50 feet of the dam washed away.

July 13 - Wilmer McDonald opens the first laundry operation in Raeford, the Raeford Cleaners and Laundry Service.

1951

Jan. 4 - Raymond Deberry, 21, identified as a Negro, is arrested on charges of allegedly assaulting Helen Barrington, a white woman, with alleged intent to commit rape. Police officer Harry Dees reported that Deberry allegedly got into Barrington's car while it was stopped in front of the Hoke Drug Co.

Jan. 11 - The town commission votes to expand and improve the town water, sewer and streets using \$200,000 in bonds, if residents are



School children saved war bonds in 1942-43

willing and if the Local Government Commission allows.

Jan. 18 - The Selective Services board releases the names of the 30 Hoke County men drafted into the Army through the service since 1949. Of the 30 men, 11 are white and 19 are black.

Jan. 25 - Edwin Johnson, charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious bodily harm, is found guilty by a jury and sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Feb. 1 - The March of Dimes fundraising campaign strives to raise money to help children with polio.

Feb. 8 - The Raeford community joins in celebrating the World Day of Prayer with businesses closing their doors for an hour in the afternoon.

Highway commissioner George Coble and engineers meet with the Hoke County Board of Commissioners and add 62 more miles of road to be paved.

Feb. 15 - Former Senator William Umstead addresses the annual Fellowship Banquet of the Cape Fear Area Council of Boy Scouts of America.

Feb. 22 - Weldon McDonald and John McLean are charged with breaking and entering a store and stealing money intended for the March of Dimes.

March 1 - Russell Cagle, identified as a "colored soldier," turns himself in to police authorities in Washington, D.C. on a murder charge in Hoke County. He was charged with the murder of John Black in 1944.

Fearing a rabies epidemic following a number of cases of the disease, the Hoke County Board of Health declares a dog quarantine, requiring dog owners to confine their dogs.

March 8 - The county commissioners and Board of Education face a school space shortage due to the increasing number of children at the Raeford Graded School.

A coroner's jury rules that Hugh Jones, 32, died after allegedly being shot by his wife, Ruthie Jones. Jones was held without bond.

Raeford voters turn out in support of a \$180,000 bond issue for streets, water and sewer improvements.

March 15 - The Board of Education requests a \$275,000 bond to build additional classrooms for Hoke County children.

March 22 - An additional 52 men are expected to be drafted into the Army from Hoke County, exhausting the draft board's 1-A candidates.

Law enforcement officers break up a gambling game at Bill's Club east of Raeford and discover illegal alcohol.

March 29 - The Raeford Business and Professional Women's Club meets to hear Charles Hostetler, local lawyer, as guest speaker.

April 5 - Raeford voters choose M.H. Gatlin, J.W. McPhaul, B.B. Lewis and J.H. Blue to serve as town commissioners.

April 12 - Work starts on a new Cooper Foods store on Main Street at the corner of Edinborough Avenue.

April 19 - The Davidson College Male Chorus performs this week at the Raeford Presbyterian Church.

May 3 - School board chairman answers questions about the local school bond issue during a public meeting at the courthouse.

May 10 - Hoke County voters pass a \$275,000 bond referendum for local school construction.

May 17 - Ozell Beatty is sentenced to two years on the roads by Judge Henry McDiarmid after facing charges of being drunk and disorderly, disturbing religious worship, fighting his wife at church and destruction of personal property at the county jail.

The McLauchlin Co. announces the sale of its grocery store to the Cole Feed and Seed Co. of Elizabethtown.

Matthew McRae Jr., described as a "colored lad," allegedly admits to setting fire to several barns belonging to Clyde Upchurch. The 10-year-old, as indicated by school records, is sentenced to the Morrison Training School at Hoffman for detention "as the authorities think he needs it or until he reaches his majority."

May 24 - Robbins Heights, a 130-unit housing development on the north side of East Prospect Ave., is ready for residents to move in.

May 31 - Hoke County High School awards degrees to 50 students this week.

June 7 - The local National Guard unit completes its required training for the year at Fort Bragg.

June 14 - The Raeford commissioners unanimously repeal a \$1 monthly sewer fee and hike water rates by one-third. The minimum monthly bill is \$2.

Riley Moore Jordan receives his Doctor of Medicine degree from Wake Forest.

June 21 - Boll weevils appear in greater numbers during Extension Service crop inspections.

June 28 - Raeford police raid Bolton's, a filling station to the south of town, and discover 21 pints of illegal alcohol.

The Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. spends more than \$60,000 to improve and expand its Raeford facilities.

July 5 - The Raeford town board orders Police

Chief Harry Dees to begin strict enforcement of an ordinance requiring businesses to pay an annual privilege fee.

The Robbins Mills rayon plant ramps up production with a total of 300 workers employed and more expected to be hired.

July 12 - The Raeford Lions' Club inducts 14 new members at the annual fish fry.

July 19 - The state Highway Commission completes 21 additional miles of paving in Hoke County.

County extension agent E.M. Stallings reports boll weevils in 62 percent of the county's untreated cotton fields and 21 percent in treated cotton fields.

July 26 - Cooper's Super Market opens on Main Street in downtown Raeford.

Aug. 2 - Public accountant for the town of Raeford James Williams reports a substantial tax rate increase may be necessary for the town to remain financially sound.

Aug. 9 - The Raeford town board discusses whether to issue \$30,000 in bonds for water to supplement the \$130,000 issue, for which a deficit already exists. A tax rate of \$2.75 per \$100 valuation may be necessary, accountant James Williams suggests.

Aug. 16 - The school system urges parents of children entering school for the first time to have their child have a physical exam before beginning classes.

Willie English Jr., 36, is charged with allegedly raping a 13-year-old girl. English is held without bond. The following week he is found guilty and sentenced to no less than 18 months and no more than three years in prison.

Aug. 23 - Hoke County completes 10 additional miles of road paving under the bond issue program.

Aug. 30 - The county Production and Marketing Administration committee urges cotton farmers not to take too low a price on their 1951 crop and suggests considering government loans if needed.

Sept. 6 - School board Chairman Robert Gatlin explains that construction is not yet under way on school improvements because the board seeks to secure bids for all three projects before proceeding.

Sept. 6 - Judge R. Hunt Parker orders Bolton's Place padlocked on evidence from sworn affidavits that it was used for illegal drinking.

Sept. 12 - Bob Murray and Lauchlin MacDonald install street names on Raeford street corners, a project funded by the Raeford Chamber of Commerce. Robert Gatlin plans to release a town map showing the street number of all town lots. The U.S. Post Office plans to add two more employees and begin mail delivery service in town.

Corp. John Banks of the U.S. Army, identified as "colored," is allegedly shot and killed by Pvt. Joe Brooks, identified as "colored." Brooks is incarcerated at Fort Bragg.

Sept. 19 - The U.S. Post Office announces mail delivery service to Raeford homes will begin by Oct. 1. Mailboxes bearing the occupant's name are for sale by the Raeford Boy Scout troop.

Sept. 27 - Postmaster Lacy Clark signs a lease with C.K. Thomas, J.L. McNeill and Younger F. Snead for constructing a post office on a Main Street lot. Local efforts to get a government building have thus far failed, and the existing property lease with the Bank of Raeford expires the following year.

Oct. 4 - Demolition begins on the old Raeford Hardware building on Main Street, which was built in 1903 by Marcus Dew. It was the only frame building in the downtown business section. Work also begins on the town's new post office.

The town board votes to charge a \$10 fee for damaging street signs.

Oct. 11 - Heston Rose and his two bloodhounds track and recover a lost child in Scotland County.

Cafe owner Charlie Flynn, identified as "colored," allegedly shoots and kills Bennie Murchison, identified as "colored," after Murchison allegedly pulls a knife at the cafe. Flynn is released under \$1,000 bond. Bystander John Singletary, identified as "colored," reportedly runs around the neighborhood after the shooting and enters the home of Police Chief Harry Dees. Dees gets out of bed and shoots Singletary in the leg, but reportedly Singletary is not seriously wounded.

Oct. 18 - John Singletary is held under \$500 bond on charges of breaking and entering after he allegedly entered the home of Police Chief Harry Dees and was shot in the leg.

Raeford's new \$28,000 sewage disposal plant begins operating this week, offering service to an additional 5,000 people.

Oct. 25 - William G. McAllister, identified as "colored," is found guilty of leaving a tractor and trailer parked on a highway at night without lights, causing a traffic accident. McAllister is sentenced to 90 days, suspended on payment of costs.

Nov. 1 - Town residents vote unanimously to issue an additional \$30,000 in bonds for extending and enlarging the waterworks service.

The state Department of Public Instruction refuses to approve any plan by the county for an addition to the Raeford Graded School, and the school board moves forward with contracts for work on the two other school improvement projects included in the bond issue from May of 1951.

Nov. 8 - The Raeford town Board of Commissioners sets the tax rate at \$1.50 per \$100 valuation.

Nov. 15 - The Raeford Chamber of Commerce plans a Christmas parade, with local businesses invited to participate.

North Carolina Gov. Kerr Scott speaks to the Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. meeting, supporting the spread of rural telephone service.

Nov. 22 - Postmaster Lacy Clark requests the Raeford Post Office patrons' cooperation in preparing Christmas mail by prepaying postage, clearly addressing mail and adding a return address.

Nov. 29 - The Raeford Lions' Club holds a toy drive, collecting used toys to repair for use at Christmas.

Dec. 6 - The Baptist Church congregation dedicates the church this week. The church was constructed in 1947.

Dec. 13 - The Raeford Chamber of Commerce holds a Christmas parade on Main Street welcoming Santa Claus to town.

The Raeford Chamber of Commerce selects Neill McDonald to serve as its next president.

Dec. 20 - The Hoke County 4-H starts a pure-bred pig chain with a Sears-Roebuck Foundation sponsored purchase of eight pigs, distributed to local 4-H members.

Dec. 27 - Hoke County is named among the top third of all cotton producing counties in the state, with 12,698 bales.

1952

Jan. 3 - The Raeford post office prepares to move into its new building on the west side of North Main Street.

Jan. 10 - The Kiwanis Club installs its 1952 officers at its meeting. Marion Gatlin is named

president with John McPhaul as vice president.

Jan. 17 - Raeford police officer J.W. Stanton resigns from his job following an informal hearing by the mayor and two board members. Stanton is charged with obtaining money under false pretense, bribery and malfeasance in office. He is later cleared of all charges after Judge Henry McDiarmid finds no probable cause in the cause.

The March of Dimes starts its annual fundraising effort with a variety show at Hoke County High School.

Jan. 24 - Farm agent E.M. Stallings leaves his job with the county to enter the farm supply business.

Jan. 31 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club names J. Lawrence McNeill "Man of the Year" for 1951.

Feb. 7 - William Lamont of West Donaldson Ave. reports his car stolen and later recovers it from the lot of an automobile dealer in Fayetteville.

Feb. 14 - The Hoke County fundraiser for the March of Dimes exceeds its goal by more than \$2,000.

Feb. 21 - "Look" magazine rates Raeford as "good" in a survey of vice conditions. The survey is published in an article titled "Battle Against Sin."

Feb. 28 - James Edwards, 19, and Rufus Edwards, 17, are arrested for allegedly raping a 13-year-old girl and being an accessory to the fact. Both are held without bond.

March 6 - Angus Keith is injured when his car is hit by a train on the Laurinburg and Southern track south of Raeford.

Robbins Mills holds a meeting prior to establish a Little League team, sponsored by the company.

March 13 - The Raeford Junior Chamber of

Commerce - the Jaycees - hold their first meeting this week at the Benton Thomas pond.

March 20 - The Jaycees begin a roadway improvement program by planting shrubs and seeding grass along Raeford roads.

March 27 - Robeson County officials request 50 Hoke County men to serve as jurors in the trial of four alleged Ku Klux Klan charged under an 1868 statute forbidding membership in secret political organizations.

Cpl. Dexter Holland of Raeford helps maintain Army aircraft in Korea as an airframe mechanic in the 79th Ordnance Battalion. Sgt. C.J. McNeill returns home from a year in Korea serving with the 7th Signal Co. Message Center.

April 3 - A jury of Raeford men is unable to reach a verdict in the case of four alleged Ku Klux Klan members. The judge rules a mistrial.

April 10 - Stuart Moore is charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and held under a \$5,000 bond.

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners vote to employ John Potter as the county's next farm agent.

April 17 - More than 230 Home Demonstration Club women and visitors attend the annual district federation meeting at the Raeford Methodist Church.

Turkalina Farms Inc. announces plans to operate a turkey processing freezing plant in Raeford. The plant plans to employ 30 people.

April 24 - James Spencer Edwards, 19, is found guilty of raping a 13-year-old girl and sentenced to six to eight years in state prison. Edwards appeals the ruling. Charges were dropped against Edwards' brother, Rufus Edwards, who had been charged as an accessory to rape.

Frazier Lowry dies of knife wounds sustained

in a domestic disturbance north of Red Springs. Officers arrest James Allen Hammond in connection with the case.

May 1 - The Aberdeen-Raeford Little League Baseball holds tryouts for the two Raeford squads that will take part in the baseball season. About 70 boys report to try out.

May 8 - The Raeford Television Company opens for business in the post office building next to town hall. Owner Dodson Lowder and manager Martin Webb offer the Hallicrafters line of television and radio sets and the Necchi line of sewing machines.

May 15 - Raeford receives a new sanitation truck with garbage collection unit, purchased from North Carolina Equipment Co. of Raleigh.

May 22 - Hoke County tops its fundraising goal for the American Cancer Society by collecting more than \$850.

May 29 - The Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. receives a \$670,000 loan for system improvements and extending line service to new members.

Hoke County High School confers degrees to 57 graduates at commencement exercises.

June 5 - About 1,500 voters turn out and cast ballots for county and state contenders, including T.O. Moses for county recorder and William B. Umstead for governor.

The Raeford town board authorizes the employment of a black farm agent and clerk under the "North Carolina Accepts the Challenge" movement to improve the conditions and incomes of the farm population.

June 12 - The state Highway Commission adds another 10 miles of paving on Hoke County roads.

A hailstorm badly damages many acres of

tobacco across Hoke County, with as much as 50-60 percent of the crop estimated damaged or destroyed.

June 19 - Funeral services are held for Raeford native 1st Lt. William McFadyen, a bombardier on a B-25, after the remains of his plane are found near New Guinea.

The Hoke County Health Department holds an immunization program to give shots for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

June 26 - The Raeford Jaycees presents the Miss Hoke County pageant, with contestants sponsored by local businesses.

July 3 - Dr. Riley Jordan starts practicing medicine in Raeford with Dr. R.A. Matheson.

Mary Sue Upchurch is crowned the first Miss Hoke County in the first Raeford Jaycees beauty pageant.

July 10 - Worth McCall is charged with assault on a female with intent to commit rape inflicting serious bodily injury and released under a \$15,000 bond to await trial.

Lacy McRae, 19, is accused of allegedly raping a 7-year-old girl.

July 24 - Maggie McNeill, 30, identified as "colored," dies after being run over by Samuel James Purcell, driving his 1941 Ford coach. A coroner ruled that Purcell was not to blame.

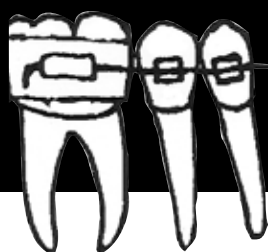
Sheriff D.H. Hodgkin and Police Chief Harry Dees discover a 10,000 gallon illegal alcohol still and destroy it.

July 31 - Airman Second Class John Franklin Niven, 18, a Raeford native, dies in an air crash in Japan when his aircraft crashes after taking off from Ashiya Air Force Base.

Aug. 7 - A windstorm nearly demolishes the drive-in movie theater west of town. The theater was forced to close due to the damage.

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**Robert L. Conoly, John Jordan,
Mary Neil King, Shelley Wilburn,
Wayne Willis**

The Aberdeen-Raeford Little League All-Stars advance in the district championship playoffs.

Aug. 14 - The Aberdeen-Raeford Little League All-Stars team wins the District 5 championship but lose in the statewide tournament.

Aug. 21 - Carolina Power and Light Co. installs a 100,000-horsepower turbine at its Lumberton plant to help generate electricity for the area.

Worth McCall, charged with assault on a female with intent to commit rape inflicting serious bodily injury, is released this week when a grand jury rules there is not enough evidence for the case to be tried.

Aug. 28 - A group of 40 Hoke County men travel to Fayetteville to serve on the case of an illegal lottery operation in Cumberland County.

Sept. 4 - Hoke County schools open for the 1952-53 school year with a record number of students at J.W. McLaughlin Elementary and Hoke County High School.

Sept. 11 - The county Board of Commissioners approves requests for six new public roads in the Raeford area.

Federal alcohol agents and state ABC officers arrest Brantley Allen, 38, and Daniel Peterson, 25, during a raid. The agents confiscate a vehicle and an amount of tax-paid whiskey.

Sept. 18 - R. Pearson Lambert, 52, is charged with having incestuous relations with one of his daughters and with ravishing and having carnal knowledge with another against her will. He was held without bond. His daughter Mildred Lambert Chavis was charged with having incestuous relations with her father and held under a \$2,500 bond.

Sept. 25 - The stockholders of the Hoke County Development Corp. declare a six percent dividend and elect new officers at the annual meeting.

Oct. 2 - H.H. Burnett, 25, of Virginia is held under a \$4,500 bond for allegedly running over and killing Pearl Shipman, 71, of Raeford.

Oct. 9 - Raeford Mayor W.L. Poole joins the state governor in declaring this week National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, dedicating the city government to making an effort in employing people with physical handicaps and recognizing the work already done by those with handicaps.

Oct. 16 - The Hoke County Farm Bureau requests immediate steps be taken to stabilize cotton prices so farmers can earn a reasonable profit from their crop this year. The crop is expected to be more than a million bales short nationwide.

Oct. 23 - T.B. Upchurch Jr. of Raeford is reelected to serve another term as president of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Association.

Oct. 30 - The Hoke County Sheriff's Office apprehends four men accused of moonshining and destroys five stills. Arrested were Preston Jones, Prentiss Monroe, David McRae and Jayson Armstrong.

Turkalina Farms turkey plant announces it is employing 100 workers in the area, processing 50,000 pounds of turkey a day.

Nov. 6 - Hoke County voters cast ballots in the presidential election, selecting Adlai Stevenson over Dwight D. Eisenhower by a margin of 1,761 votes to 616 votes, although Eisenhower claimed enough support elsewhere to win the race.

Nov. 13 - The Raeford town board members vow to cooperate with the health department to wage a one-year war against the local rat population.

Nov. 20 - County Superintendent Kenneth MacDonald and Hoke High Principal W.T. Gibson Jr. address the county Parent-Teacher Association and discuss why the planned construction work at Raeford Graded School did not take place.

struction work at Raeford Graded School did not take place.

Nov. 27 - Raeford Postmaster Lacy Clark dies at the age of 67 after a brief illness.

Dec. 4 - The rat control program, already in effect in Raeford, goes into effect this month for the entire county after county commissioners also approve the program.

Members of the Army Corps of Engineers visit Raeford and survey parts of Hoke County for what could potentially be future Fort Bragg expansion.

Dec. 11 - Congressman C.B. Deane announces that the Army intends to buy more land in a corridor between Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall.

Dec. 18 - The Hoke County Board of Commissioners and the town and county committee on the Army corridor land acquisition call a mass meeting of all citizens and property owners to learn more about preventing property from being taken by the Army.

Dec. 25 - An Army representative agrees at a Washington, D.C. conference with Hoke County representatives to restudy the plan to take 50,000 acres of land from the county to establish a corridor between Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall.

1953

Jan. 1 - Dentist Julius Jordan is the new president of Raeford Kiwanis.

Jan. 8 - The Bank of Raeford enters its 50th year of business. Original officers were John Blue, president; George A. Graham and J.C. Thomas, vice presidents; John W. Moore, cashier; A.W.E. Capel, J.A. Blue, W.J. Upchurch, J.A. McPhaul, and N.S. Blue, board of directors.

Jan. 15 - The county's first traffic death of 1953 occurs when Sam Swan, 50, dies from injuries suffered in an accident at the intersection of Fulton and Sixth avenues.

Jan. 29 - Raeford doctors think Hoke is having a mild epidemic of influenza.

Feb. 5 - The Christmas Seal sale raises \$1,788.03 in 1952. Seals help fund research and treatment for tuberculosis.

Feb. 12 - Ninth grader Leon Cameron Jr. attains the coveted Eagle Scout award.

Feb. 19 - County commissioners approve a new route of 15-A which would come in by the present cutoff north of town to a point just west of Jess Dunlap's station and then curve south, crossing 211 with an overpass west of the Raeford Oil Co. tanks then proceeding to its present route of 15-A at the Bolton property south of Raeford.

Feb. 26 - State College has this hint for farm homemakers: Make down instead of up. The plastered or painted look is not attractive. The natural look is what we want.

March 5 - The county board takes steps to stop illegal drink sales by hiring a rural deputy.

March 12 - Hoke leaders and Army officials will meet to discuss rumors that Ft. Bragg wants 50,000 acres of Hoke land. The southward expansion between Ft. Bragg and Camp Mackall would allow for a reservation big enough for firing guns with ranges up to 40 miles. Estimated cost of acquiring the land through condemnation and purchase is \$85 average price per acre.

March 19 - Hoke leaders learn that it is Ft. Bragg's intent to acquire 44,373 acres of the county's land for a corridor from the post to Camp Mackall.

March 26 - Editor's addenda: People along the corridor and all the way from Aberdeen to Fayetteville got a good look at one of the reasons Ft. Bragg wants Hoke land Tuesday when the Aberdeen & Rockfish hauled one of Army's 280 millimeter guns down its main line. Took four flat cars to haul the four major components appearing

Murders most foul

In 1912, the year after Hoke was born, a man named P.C. Oates died; he was the county's first known murder victim.

Oates was Raeford's police chief. While discharging his duties, he arrested John A. Cameron, a man whose land holdings were in the part of Hoke that is now Ft. Bragg, for being drunk and threw him in jail. This was in August 1912.

A humiliated Cameron vowed to get revenge on Oates, and he did so by murdering the chief on Raeford's Main Street.

Cameron waited between two stores, the N.S. Blue Store and the McKeithan Market, with a weapon and ambushed Oates. The dying victim fell on the sidewalk in front of the two stores and Cameron got in the buggy that had brought him into town and went home.

Sheriff Edgar Hall arrested Cameron, and a judge sentenced him to life in prison. Cameron was imprisoned in Raleigh but escaped on December 21, 1914 after serving less than a year of a 20-year sentence. Some say he returned at times to his Raeford

home and stayed in a secret chamber. The large, dark red brick home, still standing, is located on North Main Street.

Cameron turned himself in to Raeford authorities on November 17, 1928 after 14 years of freedom. During this time he had become a prominent and prosperous businessman in Sylacauga, Alabama. He was returned to prison but appealed his sentence and won. He was paroled February 4, 1929, and came back to Raeford to live.

In appeals for clemency, it turns out that Cameron had given \$10,000 to Oates' family.

Irony

In December of 1979 the bones of one of Cameron's sons, Leon, were found in his backyard in Timberland; he had been missing for 35 years.

Leon's wife confessed to killing him in one of the most gruesome crimes in Hoke County. Winnie McNeill Cameron had cut her husband into pieces and dropped them in the outhouse. After her confession, she killed herself.

to be the tube or barrel, the recoil mechanism, and big trucks with spades and a lot of hydraulic devices. The barrel by itself took one car. I don't believe there is room enough in this part of the state to shoot it, much less in Hoke County.

April 2 - A group of Hoke leaders intent on fighting Army's plans to take some 44,370 acres of Hoke land travel to Washington, D.C. and promise to report to residents at a public meeting.

April 16 - A wire service message, source unknown, states prospects of the Army acquiring thousands of acres of land in Hoke lessened when it was learned that an influential Senate - Michigan Republican Homer Ferguson - may fight the plan. Ferguson is the ranking Republican member of the Senate appropriations committee and a member of its sub-committee on military appropriations.

April 23 - The American Farm Bureau Federation opposes Ft. Bragg's taking of Hoke land.

April 30 - Rockfish and Ashley Heights lose their post offices.

May 7 - A charging bull leaves David Hendrix with cuts and bruises.

May 21 - Forty-seven members of Hoke High senior class get diplomas and hear a preacher's sermon.

May 28 - Ellen Koonce and C.J. Benner Jr. are Hoke High's top students.

June 4 - Alfred Cole takes office as Raeford's mayor.

June 8 - Ads: A new Packard Clipper sells for \$2707 at North State Motor Co.

June 25 - Mayor Alfred Cole crowns his daughter Sarah Jane Cole, who was chosen Miss Raeford II.

July 9 - T.B. Upchurch Jr. and the House agriculture commissioner head a delegation from the N.C. Promotion Committee in Washington to testify before the a sub-committee of the House Agriculture Committee to oppose a move by Western cotton interests to change basis of cotton allotments for next year in a way that could cost North Carolina cotton growers 90,000 acres of cotton.

July 23 - Seven people are killed in a head-on collision, five of them Blue Springs teenagers: James William Blue, John Archie Blue, Billy Joe Clark, Robert Easterling, and Robert Neill Currie. Two Smithfield men are also killed in the accident on the Laurinburg Road three and one half miles south of Raeford.

July 30 - Tar Heel farmers feel the effects of drought. Soil is described as "dry" to "very dry."

Aug. 6 - The Fayetteville Observer publishes an editorial advocating Ft. Bragg's expansion into Hoke County.

Aug. 13 - A fat man weighing 702 pounds is on exhibit in Raeford for a small amount of silver donation.

Aug. 20 - Raeford Theater presents The Bowery Boys in "Loose in London."

Sept. 3 - Five young vandals, ages 14-19, are told to bring their parents to court.

Sept. 10 - The city board authorizes the paving of Fifth Ave. from Fulton St. to Stewart Street, Stewart Street from Seventh Ave. to Donaldson Ave., Edinborough Ave. from Stewart to Jackson St., and Jackson St. from Donaldson to Central Ave.

Sept. 17 - Bon Mart of Raeford features the enlarger bra for the girl with the small bust for \$2.50. No pads. No foolers. No puffs.

Oct. 1 - A 1953 Hoke farm census reveals 158,903 farm acres. Harvesting is done on 651,198 acres while 9,807 people live on farms and 84 of the farms had telephones in 1952. Census reports indicated 786 milk cows, 623 beef cattle, 887 hogs, and 38,651 hens and pullets of laying age.

Oct. 15 - Want ad: For sale Model A two-door sedan, everything in good condition, \$75.

Oct. 22 - Bobby Baker, 5, is recovering after having been run over by a wagon hauling a ton of corn.

Oct. 29 - "No Corridor" reads the headline. The Army drops plans to buy 49,000 acres in Hoke, will take 2,781 in Cumberland County.

Nov. 5 - The county board requests the State Highway Commission proceed at once with

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the paving of roads in the area which the Army proposed to take now that the takeover threat is over. Work on the roads had been postponed.

Nov. 12 – The sheriff busts his 34th still of the year near the road to Duffy's Station to Lilly's Chapel School. Officers confiscate 200 gallons of liquor and 3,000 gallons of still beer (liquor in process).

Nov. 19 – Funeral services with full military rites are held for 1st Lt. David Leon Cook (USAF), who was killed in Korea on June 2, 1951. He and his six brothers served in World War II.

Nov. 26 – More than 5,000 attend Raeford's big parade and festival. The parade features 2,000 participants.

Dec. 15 – Two more traffic fatalities bring the number of highway deaths to 15. Joseph Wesley, 43, principal of Shaw colored school and pastor of two churches, is the 15th fatality.

Dec. 24 – The sawmill of A.V. Sanders, on the northwest of Raeford, is destroyed by a fire of unknown origin.

Dec. 31 – Edgar Hall, Hoke's first sheriff, dies.

1954

Jan. 7 – The town board votes for new lights of the mercury-vapor type on Main Street.

Jan. 14 – Raeford businessman Israel Mann is new Kiwanis president.

Jan. 21 – Charlie Gales is sentenced to die for the gun barrel clubbing death of his wife in a cotton field while his children and a neighbor were present. Said Gales, "Don't have mercy. I've got what I want." His case was appealed but he lost. Later the governor commuted his sentence to life in prison.

Feb. 4 – Raeford enters CP&L's "Finer Caro-

lina" contest for 1954.

Feb. 11 – Dundarrach and Arabia communities are to get telephone service.

Feb. 18 – Raeford businesses offer a three-day Dollar Sales event. Nylon hose are 2 for \$1.

Feb. 25 – The Hoke Trading Co. in Bowmore is entered and a safe stolen.

March 4 – More than 1,000 are expected at Farm Day to be held at Hoke County High School. The need for a permanent farm program was emphasized.

March 18 – Members of Godwin, Spring Lake and Raeford Lions Club meet to hear Carbine Williams, inventor of the Army carbine rifle, speak.

March 25 – Claudine Hodgins, a junior at Hoke County High School, is named All-State in basketball.

April 8 – The Hoke County unit of the National Guard, Battery A of the 130th Anti-Aircraft Battalion, commanded by Capt. Edwin Newton, receives a Superior rating.

April 15 – Extensive roadwork is planned for Hoke that includes the widening and repaving of Hwy 15-A.

April 22 – Raeford Theater shows "Give a Girl a Break" with Marge and Gower Champion and Debbie Reynolds.

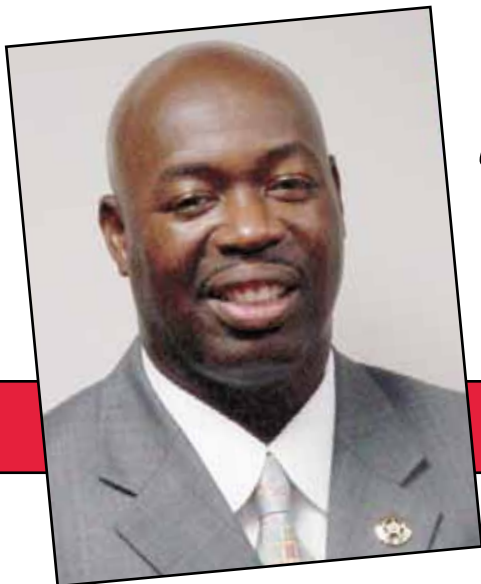
April 29 – A clean up, fix up, paint up week is planned by the city.

May 6 – A student driver is given a suspended sentence and ordered to pay medical costs of Mose Graham after he caused the bus to backfire and scare Graham's mule, causing him to be hurt.

May 13 – Free inspections are made by car dealers here.

May 20 – Police Chief J.H. Dees resigns and J.S. Poole is serving as acting chief.

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Men of Hq. Co., 2nd Medium Tank Co., 196th Armor, N.C. National Guard sport beards for Hoke County's 50th birthday.

May 27 – J.P. Stevens buys 41 percent of Robbins stock.

June 3 – For an off-year, voting is heavy; 2,000 cast their votes.

June 17 – Hoke farmers who sell wheat need a marketing card to identify that the wheat is penalty free.

June 24 – A booster club is formed to help the athletics program at Hoke County High School.

July 1 – Neill McFadyen Jr. attains the Eagle Scout rank.

July 8 – County board raises the tax rate to \$1.15 per \$100 valuation.

July 15 – Construction is begun by John K. McNeill of two brick and cinder block buildings in his lot facing the west side of Main Street facing Raeford Furniture. This is the first new construction since McLauchlin Co. built the building now occupied by Cooper's Super Market several years ago.

July 29 – Robbins Mills Inc. reports a loss of \$3,791,759 in the first six months of the year as opposed to last year's gain of \$49,978 during that time frame.

Aug. 5 – Robbins Mills Inc. is to become part of a huge textile combination, American Woolen Co. and Textron. Textron bought J.P. Stevens' shares.

Aug. 12 – Thieves take off with 150 sticks of tobacco from the farm of H.M. Meeks in Quewhiffle. Such thievery is hard to trace.

August 19 – It is requested that Hoke be declared a disaster area because of drought.

Sept. 9 – Hoke's 12 colored schools are expected to open with an attendance of 2,000. White schools opened on Sept. 2 and Indian schools will open Sept. 26.

Sept. 16 – A school bus is involved in a slight accident on the road between Five Points and Ashley Heights. No injuries are reported.

Sept. 23 – The community is saddened at the tragic death of Dr. and Mrs. David M. Tuttle, who fell to their deaths over a mountain falls near Brevard. She is the daughter of H.A. and Florrie Cameron. They were the parents of two young children.

Oct. 7 – T.B. Upchurch is reelected head of the N.C. Cotton Growers Assoc.

Oct. 14 – A Macks five and dime opens in the new McNeill Bldg.

Oct. 21 – Although there is considerable damage from Hurricane Hazel, Hoke is spared the worst of it. There are more than a hundred insurance claims.

Oct. 28 – John D. Currie, 25, is killed when his ring catches on machinery and he is pulled into a gin at Lumber River Gin Co.

Nov. 11 – Local sales of vehicle tags go on sale here.

Nov. 18 – The Scottish Log Rolling District of Woodmen of the Word celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Nov. 25 – Hoke County Recorders Court clears a record 78 cases November 24.

Dec. 2 – A storekeeper near Lobelia, in Little River Township, is shot in the back during a robbery and is left in critical condition. A 17-year-old youth confesses to the crime.

Dec. 9 – C.E. Autry is sworn in as the first Raeford constable.

Dec. 16 – Cotton production in Hoke this year is the lowest in the state. 7,834 bales are ginned in Hoke.

Dec. 23 – For the fourth time in a year, Hoke Trading Co., five miles south of Raeford, is broken into. A 17-year-old confessed to the crime.

Dec. 30 – Adam Lee Crisco, 70, dies of a heart attack on Elwood Ave. His brother Arlie Crisco died of a heart attack on the street a few years earlier.

1955

Jan. 6 – Segregation: The word coming this way is that the leadership of the General Assembly from the east feel strongly that the 1955 General Assembly should speak its mind in clear and unequivocal language regarding segregation in the public schools. These leaders are reported to feel that the U.S. Supreme Court... have their ears very definitely attuned to public reactions as to the Courts historic decision and that plain language from the N.C. General Assembly accurately presenting the state's viewpoint will not go unnoticed by the robe-clad men making up the highest judicial court in America and likely the world, before they hand down their decree telling how their anti-segregation decree is to be carried out. While this view may not have the view of Governor Hodgins, who seemed to endorse...to do and say nothing until after the Superior Court acted, the thinking of the eastern legislators is likely to prevail. - Tarheel People & Issues, Cliff Blue

Jan. 13 – Hoke sees its first traffic fatality of the year when two men lose their lives in a tractor-trailer-car collision 4 1/2 miles south of Raeford on Hwy 15-A. The dead are Charles M. McNeill and Junior Knight.

Jan. 20 – Highway patrolmen will be at the sheriff's office from 9-10 a.m. every day except Sunday to inspect out-of-state cars for North Carolina registration. Regulations do not permit the officers to spend more than an hour a day

off the road.

Jan. 27 – School dime cards go home with Hoke school children from the March of Dimes drive. Slots in the card are to hold dime donations.

Feb. 3 – Truman B. Austin is Kiwanis Man of the Year based on his work on the town board and his work on street improvements.

Feb. 17 – Claudine Hodgins scores 46 points in the Hoke girls' basketball 65-64 victory over Tabor City.

Feb. 24 – U.S. Rubber Co. buys Para Thread Co. plant in Hoke.

March 3 – Robbins Mills is Amerotron after merger. Syllables of Textron, American Woolen and Robbins Mills form the name.

Younger Snead Jr. becomes Eagle Scout.

March 10 – Historical markers are unveiled: the Battle of Monroe's Crossroads and Edinborough Medical College.

March 24 – Dr. Riley Jordan announces Dr. Robert F. Jones of Greenville, S.C. will join his practice in Raeford.

April 7 – Amerotron plans expansion.

April 14 – Patrolman W.T. "Bill" Herbin is the only highway patrolman on duty as the other two resigned. Later he is joined by Patrolman Joe Dupree.

April 21 – David Scott Poole, 96, former legislator, columnist and editor, dies.

1028 children get polio vaccine.

April 28 – Parker United Methodist Church, 44 years old, is dedicated. Members met at Glen Acre Schoolhouse until the church was built.

May 12 – "Man Without a Star" is showing at the Raeford Theater. It stars Kirk Douglas and Jeanne Crain. Tim Holt is on at the Raeford Drive-In.

May 19 – J.W. McLauchlin School holds its annual May Day exercises. The children were well-trained and costumed.

May 26 – Textron American hopes to boost its annual sales volume by half a billion dollars in the next five years by further expansion of its nontextile business. A net profit of \$10 million is expected this year.

June 2 – Mrs. Leo Little is the director of a newly formed club for teenagers.

June 9 – Cotton and tobacco land is being measured for acreage compliance.

June 16 – A severe hail and wind storm damages crops in south and east Hoke. Some crops are a total loss.

June 23 – An estimate of hail and wind loss on June 11 was \$40,000 to 70 farms. Another lesser hail storm hit June 22.

June 30 – Western Auto Assoc. will open a new store on Main St. in the location previously occupied by The News-Journal.

July 6 – Hoke's tax rate is expected to increase by five cents - \$1.20 per \$100 valuation.

July 14 – Co. A, 130th Tank Battalion, which is changed from an anti-aircraft unit to a tank unit, received an M-14 tank, unloaded from an Aberdeen & Rockfish Railroad car.

July 28 – Raeford Theater closes after 20 years of operation.

Aug. 4 – Angus C. Keith retires after serving as a rural mail carrier for 42 years.

Aug. 18 – Hoke and Moore officials agree that students of Little River Township will continue to attend Moore County schools for the next two years. Little River Township is separated from Hoke by the Ft. Bragg military reservation, and youngsters have attended schools in Moore for the past 25 years.

Aug. 25 – Raeford Theater, after repairs and renovations to accommodate Cinemascope and Vista-Vision, reopens under new management on Sept. 1. The opening movie is "Girl Rush" with Rosalind Russell and Fernando Lamas. A

preopening cartoon show for the kids is planned.

Sept. 1 – Schools are to open Sept. 8, the first time in recent years white, colored and Indian schools have opened at the same time.

Sept. 8 – Town voters approve 16-1 two bond issues totaling \$60,000 for improvements to the water and sewer systems.

The county board made plans for a new health center on East Central Ave. alongside the Armory.

Sept. 22 – Raeford's Charles Hostetler will head the 12th District Bar Assoc., made up of Hoke and Cumberland counties.

Sept. 29 – Mass TB testing for the eastern states would include Hoke.

Oct. 13 – Amerotron expansion will add 200 new employees.

Oct. 20 – John A. McGoogan, 71, Hoke's first schools superintendent, dies. He was also the county tax assessor and supervisor, county treasurer, and was hired as county auditor and tax supervisor on July 1, 1927, a position he held until his death.

Nov. 3 – An employee of Social Security will be here the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Nov. 17 – The Hoke County ginning report indicates a decline of 18 percent, or 1,268 bales, from last year.

Nov. 24 – The Dundarrach Trading Co. cotton gin is completely destroyed by fire despite the efforts of firefighters from five neighboring towns. Damage to buildings and equipment is estimated at \$40,000 and cotton bale loss was estimated at \$16,800. A warehouse was also destroyed.

Dec. 15 – Hoke cotton farmers vote overwhelmingly in favor of cotton marketing quotas.

Dec. 22 – Fires during the week before Christmas leave five families without food, shelter or clothing. One woman lost her life when her clothing caught on fire.

Dec. 29 – Response of people in county to help fire victims is "great."

1956

Jan. 5 – In "Arabia News," the Ruritan installs officers: Whiteford Jones, president; Jesse Lee, vice president; John Glisson, treasurer; and Carl McKenzie, secretary. Supper was served by Arabia Home Demonstration Club members.

Jan. 12 – The year begins tragically when an 80-year-old woman's clothing caught on fire from her fireplace. She died and her home was destroyed. A 16-year-old boy was struck by a car and injured.

Jan. 19 – Auditor J.W. McPhaul says only 25 percent of Hoke residents had listed their taxable property with the deadline coming up in two weeks.

Jan. 26 – The Chamber's Distinguished Service Award goes to Ray E. Chandler for his service in several areas to include youth leadership.

Harry A. Greene is Kiwanis Man of the Year based on his service in many areas.

A father and son are killed in a three-way accident on Hwy 15-A involving a Trailways bus.

Feb. 2 – A tourist is killed in a wreck on Hwy 15-A east of Raeford, just a short distance from where a father and son died a week earlier.

Feb. 9 – Marion H. Gatlin, furniture dealer, is named president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Feb. 16 – McCain Hospital, a prison sanatorium housing 139 TB patients, is dedicated.

March 1 – Thirty-one visited poultry farms in Pender County to get ideas on the business.

March 8 – Hoke High girls' basketball team, led by forward Janet Guin, wins their third Fayetteville tournament crown.

March 15 – The American Legion Ellis



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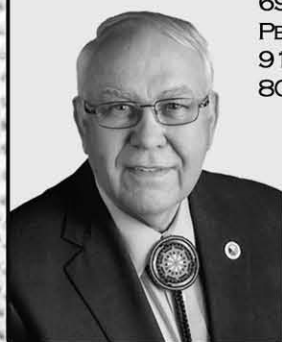
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LUMBEE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

TRIBAL APARTMENTS

ELDER APARTMENTS

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM/WOW PROJECT

FINANCIAL EDUCATION

SECTION 184

HOMICIDE & MOTOR VEHICLE

DEATH PREVENTION PROGRAM

HOUSING REHABILITATION

NEW CONSTRUCTION

TOBACCO CESSATION & PREVENTION

HOMEOWNERSHIP

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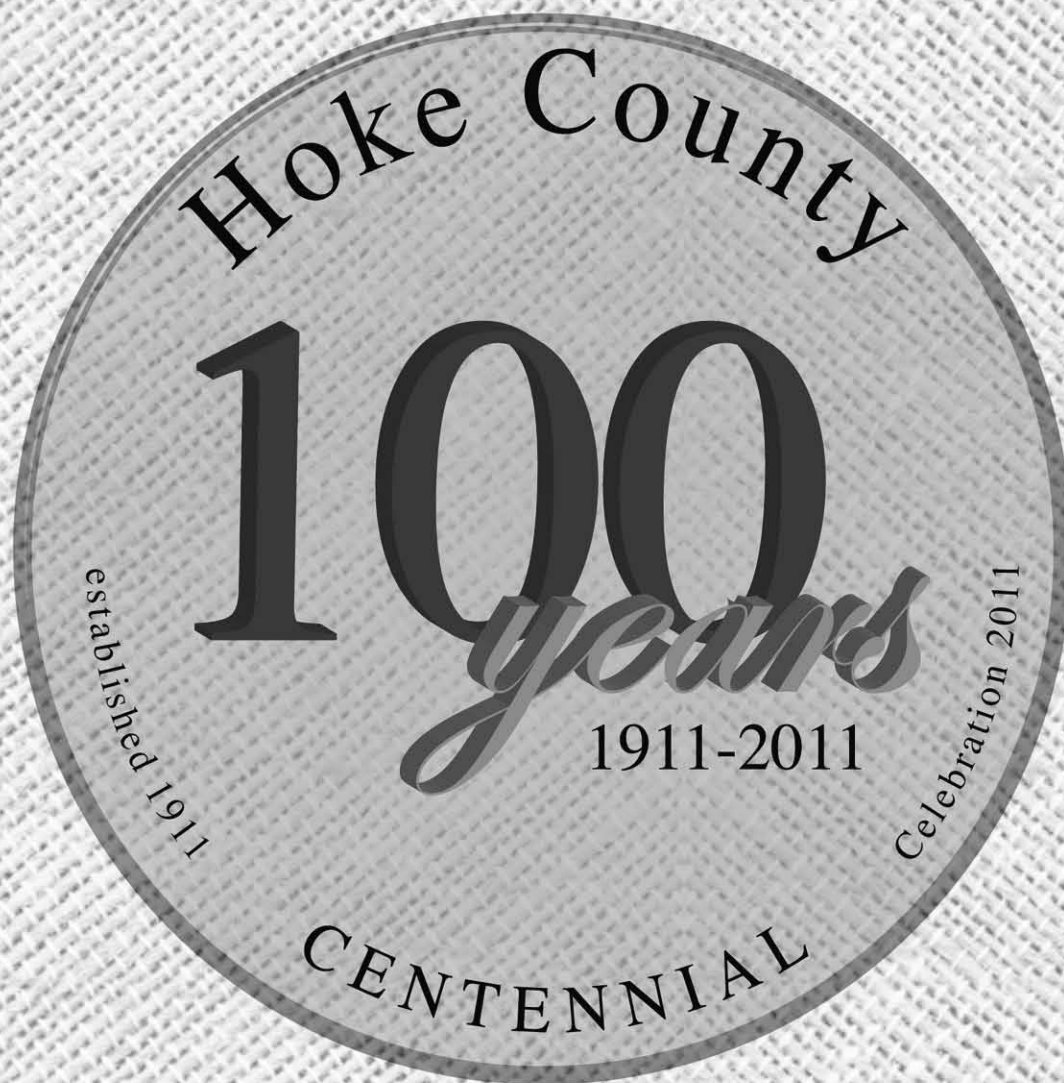
ELDER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

INDIAN HEALTH CLINIC



Williamson Post plans to build a pool here and plans to raise \$20,000 for the project.

March 29 – Jane Roper, 55, dies of burns she received when flames were ignited from an oil stove. Her husband was badly burned. The heavily populated section of North Raeford where they lived has no fire protection.

April 5 – The News-Journal publishes its own photo for the first time. It is of a home demonstration club dinner. All the ladies have on hats.

April 12 – School board and county commissioners meet, and commissioners are told the schools budget will go up for the upcoming fiscal year.

April 17 – Leon Cameron Jr. wins a Navy scholarship to Duke University.

April 24 – A Robeson County man is jailed under charges he drove at 100 MPH, collided with a state patrol car and left the scene without reporting an accident.

May 3 – A man who caused an accident in which a father and son were killed receives a 10-year sentence for each death.

May 10 – The single shot voting law applies to Hoke although not to every county in the state. The law requires that where more than one position is to be filled, such as on the county board of commissioners, a voter must vote for as many candidates as there are seats to have his vote counted.

May 17 – The school board approves plans for a West Hoke School on Turnpike Road and for an addition to the J.W. McLauchlin School in Raeford.

May 24 – June Hall is valedictorian, and Tommy Harris is salutatorian at Hoke High.

May 31 – The county board sets a tax rate of \$1.30 per \$100 valuation for fiscal year '57, a five cents hike over the previous year.

June 7 – Pacific Mills, a member company of Burlington Industries, takes over Amerotron plant here.

June 14 – Estimated school building needs are \$500,000. It is pointed out that Hoke spends a lot less on building and repairs than surrounding counties.

June 21 – A McCain man dies when he attempted to repair an elevator at the TB Sanatorium and gets his head caught between the elevator and the floor.

June 28 – Raeford Bakery in the Raeford Hotel bakes a 131-pound cake to celebrate its first anniversary and will share it with customers.

July 5 – Pacific Mills promises town officials it will be a good neighbor.

Burlington Mills is to be the target of Textile Workers Union of America and the AFL-CIO.

July 12 – The new health center on East Central is to be dedicated to John A. McGoogan.

July 19 – The cotton crop prospects are the best in several years, farmers are told. Moisture conditions are said to be excellent.

July 26 – Hoke farmers agree to remove 247 acres from production under the 1956 Soil Bank Program.

Aug. 2 – For the second year in a row, all Hoke schools will open at the same time - Indian, white and colored.

Aug. 9 – County commissioners meet with members of a rural firefighting committee and take the first step of establishing fire protection for rural communities by pledging matching funds.

Aug. 16 – Money is available and plans are made to pave all the streets in Raeford.

Aug. 23 – Hoke Oil & Fertilizer Co. announces the building of a new housing development in Raeford. Westside Heights will be located near the water plant and north of Sunset Hills.

Aug. 30 – A Hoke High booster club is formed to sell season tickets to finance athletic programs.

Sept. 13 – Hoke Schools open with a 136 student increase. There are 3,431 in the 19 schools or divisions this year as compared to 3,295 on opening day of the previous year.

Sept. 27 – The school board is told the people of Little River Township, cut off from the rest of Hoke by the military reservation, are considering leaving Hoke for Moore County. Their children attend Moore schools as it is a 40-mile drive to the nearest school in Hoke.

W.J. McQuage resigns as Raeford's police chief.

Oct. 4 – Starting Oct. 15, the town board plans to seize property from those who owe back taxes.

Oct. 11 – A CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program) drive is set to collect food for the hungry.

Oct. 18 – County and town officers catch moonshiners in the act when they uncover a large 'shine operation on the Raeford-Rockfish Road about five miles from town.

Oct. 25 – Hoke representatives and those from local phone companies meet with state utilities officials to determine if phone service should be provided to McCain to Raeford or Aberdeen or both.

Nov. 1 – A fire truck, with the capacity to carry 500 gallons of water, is bought for the Rural Fire Dept. It will be kept at Town Hall.

Nov. 15 – A census report shows 5,928 bales of cotton ginned in Hoke from the crop of 1956 as of Nov. 1 as compared to 5,892 ginned the same time last year.

Nov. 22 – An estimated 150 joined the Hoke County Farm Bureau.

Nov. 29 – A tentative date for union demands at the Priebe-Pietrus Poultry Co. plant is Dec. 14.

Wrecks kill two on Hoke highways, bringing the traffic fatality number to 11 this year.

Dec. 6 – Douglas McPhaul is named chairman of the new county board.

The death of a man who had just been commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the Army and was on his way to report for duty brings Hoke's traffic fatality number this year to 13. A man injured in a previous wreck dies.

Dec. 20 – Two more traffic deaths, one of them a little 7-year-old girl running to catch her school bus, brings the number of Hoke's fatalities to 15.

Raeford Baptist Church's entry in the Christmas Parade, entitled The Holy Bible, is the leading float.

Dec. 27 – A tenant farming family of 11 has four of their members in jail or doing road work over the Christmas holiday. Not happy with this situation, The News-Journal writes a scathing editorial condemning the system that landed the father and three of his young sons in trouble with the law.

1957

Jan. 3 – Law enforcement officers go to destroy a moonshine still near McNeill's pond and run across two men allegedly in the process of making moonshine. The officers chase the subjects but are unable to capture them. Frank Jones and Hugh Carter are later charged with violating the prohibition laws.

Jan. 10 – John W. Flannery is installed as president of the Raeford Kiwanis Club.

The people of Little River Township, with former county Commissioner John Smith as their leader, request to have the township annexed to Moore County. The Hoke County board approved the request "with regret." Reasons cited included the fact that the Fort Bragg reservation has separated the township from the rest of the county for many years.

Roscoe Artis, sometimes known as Roscoe

Scrivens, is charged with assaulting a female with intent to commit rape. Artis was arrested after law enforcement officers conducted a manhunt seeking him.

Jan. 17 – Roscoe Artis pleads guilty to assaulting a female with intent to commit rape. He was sentenced to serve not less than 12 nor more than 15 years in prison and assigned to hard labor.

The Hoke County Rural Fire Department announces plans for fire equipment and telephone numbers to be called in case of emergency.

Jan. 24 – Raeford doctors announce the community is in the grip of a viral infection epidemic with as many as 84 students at the high school reporting out sick in a single day.

Jan. 31 – Three Upchurch School teachers die in a car wreck along with a Laurinburg bricklayer. Studie Mae Truzerls, Wilhelmenia Davis Hardie, Richard Simon McLean and Albert McIver die of injuries sustained in the head-on collision.

Feb. 7 – The Hoke County commissioners ask Congress to allow tobacco farmers placing their allotted acres in the acreage reserve program or soil bank to be paid for the tobacco not grown at the rate of 50 percent of parity, rather than at the current rate of 18 cents per pound.

Feb. 14 – Two Rockingham men who worked as painters on the county schools are charged with stealing about \$350 worth of paint from the West Elementary School.

Feb. 21 – The Raeford Jaycees honor president Bion Brewer with the Distinguished Service Award and present the first Outstanding Young Farmer award to D.R. Huff Jr.

Christine McRae, 25, identified as "colored," is charged with the alleged murder of her four-year-old son, Jerry. An autopsy report describes the cause of death as "brain hemorrhage caused by blows." The child was reportedly treated for burns to his hands the week before his death.

Feb. 28 – General manager L.D. Coates of the Priebe-Pietrus Poultry Co. announces company employees will vote on whether they should be represented by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers of America.

March 7 – Dr. Perry Odom, a chiropractor, is arrested and charged with allegedly assaulting with intent to commit rape against Verna Stanton, the wife of Police Chief L.W. Stanton. Stanton reportedly sought to have the sheriff's office make the arrest due to his personal connection, but the sheriff was absent from the office at the time.

March 14 – A majority of the employees at the Priebe-Pietrus Poultry Co. vote in favor of representation by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workers of North America.

The county commissioners of Hoke and Moore counties hold a joint meeting and agree to allow Moore County to annex the Little River Township.

March 21 – The Chamber of Commerce prepares for a meeting regarding the plan to "Keep Raeford Ahead."

March 28 – William "Bill" Clark, salesman at the Raeford Lumber Co., is elected president of the Raeford Jaycees, succeeding J. Bion Brewer.

April 4 – Harriet McCall, 52, is charged with allegedly stabbing her husband of 35 years, Rufus McCall. McCall survived the injury and reportedly asked police to release his wife from prison.

April 11 – Educators, supporters and guests celebrate the National Education Association's centennial in Raeford.

April 18 – The countywide tax valuation project appraises local taxpayers' property values, using standards approved by a county commission committee.

The Raeford Kiwanis Club begins planning a two-month program of organized and super-

vised summer recreation for people ages 6-18. The program cost is estimated at about \$2,500.

April 25 – Marshall Williams, 18, drowns while swimming in an irrigation water hole during a 90-degree heat wave.

May 2 – Harriet McCall, charged with allegedly assaulting her husband, pleads guilty and is sentenced to six months in jail, suspended on payment of \$100 and costs and five years of good behavior.

May 16 – Willis Nettles, 26, is found dead on a smoldering mattress in his home by neighbors who broke into his house after seeing the smoke.

Hoke County accountant John W. McPhaul releases a summary of his budget for the county's \$24 million tax valuation, which is 40 cents lower than previously expected. The 90-cent tax rate is suggested for the county's budget.

May 23 – Dr. C.C. Applewhite, Dr. J.W.R. Norton, Dr. Julius Jordan and Mrs. John A. McGoogan dedicate the Hoke County Health Center in memory of John A. McGoogan.

June 6 – John F. Campbell is named the new president of the Raeford Chamber of Commerce at the annual chamber Board of Directors meeting.

Hoke County High School confers degrees to 53 graduates at the 1957 graduation exercises.

June 20 – The A&P Tea Co. plans to bring a new grocery store to Raeford as Roy Purser of Raleigh buys the McKeithan residential property on South Main Street with intent to build a store there and lease it to the company.

June 27 – The county Board of Commissioners sets the tax rate at 90 cents per \$100 valuation based on a \$23.1 million valuation. The entire county budget is set at \$178,110, while the school board budget for the year is set at \$94,358.

Hoke County is assigned one of 120 unmarked Highway Patrol cars, marking the first time in more than two years that unmarked cars will patrol the highways as a result of a bill enacted in the state General Assembly.

July 4 – The Raeford town tax rate is set at \$1.05 per \$100 valuation, based on a \$6 million property valuation. This was a decrease from the 1956 tax levy of \$1.50 per \$100 valuation, based on a \$4 million property valuation.

The Flora Macdonald College trustees file suit to prevent the school from merging with any other institution. The Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina accepted earlier this week a motion directing trustees of Flora Macdonald, Peace College and Presbyterian Junior College to execute an agreement of consolidation. Laurinburg was selected as the site of the proposed merged college.

July 11 – The Hoke County ASC office continues making soil bank payments on wheat, cotton and tobacco. The payments began in the last week of June. A total of \$89,337 has been paid out to local farmers.

July 18 – The Raeford Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors agree on a contract with Phil B. Rieg to be the first full-time professional manager at the Chamber. Rieg, from Fayetteville, was extensively interviewed before the board voted unanimously to offer him the position.

July 25 – Heavy rainfall this week brings much needed relief to suffering crops throughout the county, with up to nearly two inches of rain reported in a single night. Many crops have already been damaged by the dry weather.

The Hoke County school board sets Sept. 5 as opening day for the public schools, marking the second year that all segregated schools begin on the same day. The board also agrees that action is necessary to deal with the problem of school overcrowding.

Aug. 1 – L.D. Coats, manager of the Priebe-

Pietrus Poultry Co., announces that the parent company has signed a contract with the Amalgamated Butchers and Meat Cutters for four plants, including the Raeford plant. The contracts cover operations in Arkansas, Iowa and Concord, N.C. Pay scales are set to rise to \$1.09 for women and \$1.15 for men.

Aug. 8 - A venereal disease survey of the entire population of Hoke County is planned by the Hoke County Health Department, the North Carolina Board of Health and the U.S. Public Health Service. The survey is expected to take three weeks and will be completed through teams working the streets on Saturdays and going from house to house in the county, taking small blood samples from each person who agrees to be part of the survey.

The Hoke County commissioners witness the pouring out of about 200 gallons of non-tax-paid liquor of various descriptions. The liquor represented about a year's worth of seized bottles brought in as evidence for the recorder's court. The liquor is poured out into the street gutter next to the courthouse.

Aug. 15 - James McRae, 4, is taken to the hospital this week after being hit by a Pure Oil Co. truck from Aberdeen. The child is reported to be in fair condition at Moore Memorial Hospital. Sheriff D.H. Hodgin reports that the investigation is underway.

Aug. 22 - A mistrial is declared in the case of Rufus McRae, charged with manslaughter in the fatal beating of his wife's child. McRae's case and that of Christine McRae, also charged with manslaughter, are continued to November.

Roscoe McMillian, charged with rape, is given a six-month sentence for simple assault, suspended on payment of costs of court. The

alleged victim of the attack, Linda Mack, was sentenced to 30 days in woman's prison for contempt of court. Mack reportedly lied under oath regarding the date of her marriage.

Trial begins in the case of Dr. Perry Odom, a local chiropractor charged with assault with intent to rape Verna Stanton, wife of Police Chief L.W. Stanton.

Aug. 29 - Woodrow Jackson of Smithfield is served with three warrants in charges brought against him including assault with a deadly weapon, assault with intent to commit rape and the larceny of jewelry valued at \$200. He was released on a \$5,000 bond.

The jury seated for the trial of Dr. Perry Odom deliberates for less than five minutes this week before finding him not guilty of assault on a female. Earlier in the day, Judge Malcolm Seawell reduced the charge from assault with intent to commit rape to simple assault.

Sept. 5 - Raeford district principal W.T. Gibson reports both schools in Raeford showed sizable increases in opening day enrollment over opening day of 1956.

Sept. 12 - The Longstreet Presbyterian Church celebrates its 200th anniversary. More than 400 people attended the service at the church, located on the Fort Bragg reservation.

Sept. 19 - The town commissioners discuss a letter from Dr. Perry Odom, local chiropractor, addressed to the town and the town's attorney. Odom demands the discharge of Police Chief L.W. Stanton or the publication of a public apology to him by Stanton, and says he will sue the town for Stanton's having assaulted him unless one of these actions is taken. The board defers action to the next meeting, but a letter from Odom to The News-Journal states that Odom does not

Raeford's downtown gin

Raeford Gin, located on South Main Street, began operations in the fall of 1925. The principal stockholder was E.L. McNair of Laurinburg, who was president of the corporation. Marshall Thomas was secretary and treasurer. Other stockholders were E.H. Evans of Laurinburg, John McDiarmid, Lewis Parker and J.W. McLauchlin.

Bookkeeper was Younger Snead Sr. The gin was one of the best equipped in the country, according to him. The steel structure held "the very best" equipment that cost \$45,000. He recalls ginning 131 bales in one day. Wagons filled with cotton sometimes lined up Harris Avenue back to the Laurinburg Highway waiting to get to the gin.

Other early employees were Lucy McNeill, Harvey Cole, A.R. Currie, Julian Wright, Buck McPhaul and Rufus Kelly. T.B. Lester was the next bookkeeper, followed by D.C. Cox.

The gin fell on hard times during the Depression when shares fell, and the gin received a new charter. The gin was leased to Marshall Thomas briefly in 1945. The charter was suspended Feb. 1, 1946 and reinstated Nov. 9 of that same year. The reason for the suspension was failure to pay a \$10 fee.

Hoke Oil and Fertilizer Company bought interests in the company and gained control in 1947 until its last year of operation in 1965.

Marshall Thomas and brother J.B. leased the gin in 1947 and operated it for many years. Later, J.B. McLeod, son-in-law of J.B., operated the gin.

King cotton fell from its throne in the South and the need for cotton gins dwindled. Raeford Gin ginned its last bale in 1965, and the building remained empty until it was dismantled in 1971.

intend to sue the town or Stanton.

Sept. 26 - Raeford Police Department Officer G.G. Faircloth allegedly enters the cellblock at the county jail this week and beats a prisoner. Faircloth reportedly says that he locked up Jettie Hood Smith, 47, identified as "colored," to be charged with driving drunk and violating prohibi-

tion laws. While the jailer was away from the jail, Smith called from the jail and asked him to quiet the other prisoners, but at the time Faircloth and Officer Marvin Grissom entered the cellblock, Smith was speaking loudly and indecently. When Smith did not respond to orders to stop, Faircloth reportedly entered the cell, where Smith allegedly



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assaulted him before the officer hit Smith on the head with a blackjack and then continued to hit him. The case will go to court.

The Raeford Baptist Church breaks ground on a new education building, including a basement, new classrooms and an assembly hall.

Oct. 3 - James M. Horner, 32, and Billy Gordy, 29, of Fayetteville are charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of Sarah Moultrie Quick Lindsay, Hoke County resident.

Oct. 10 - The J.M. McGougan family receives the Master Farm Family award from the Progressive Farmer Magazine and the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service. The award is given to six families in the state every four years. The award is presented at a ceremony at the farm.

Oct. 17 - Robert Lovette, 17, and John Carter, 18, appear in court to answer multiple charges in a series of break-ins and thefts in the county. Carter and Lovette reportedly confessed to breaking into Hoke High School, Matherly's Pool Room and the Mildouson School, allegedly stealing cash and objects. Each receives a sentence of two years, suspended for probation of two years.

Oct. 24 - The body of Bradley McDowell Norton is discovered in Hodgins Pond at Antioch, about 75 yards from where his boat is found, after searchers spend two days looking for him.

Jettie Hood Smith pleads not guilty to driving a car while under the influence of alcohol and assaulting a law enforcement officer while in the line of duty. Smith is found guilty on all three counts and a one year sentence is suspended on payment of \$150 and costs.

Oct. 31 - The Goodall-Sanford plant at Hot Springs transfers to Raeford Worst Corp. and will add new equipment to increase the production of the plant, with employment expected to increase in the future.

Nov. 7 - The hunt is on for the killer of two North Carolina Highway patrolmen. The subject is suspected to have stopped and bought gasoline at a Raeford filling station before traveling to Tennessee and abandoning the stolen vehicle.

Nov. 14 - The North Carolina Utilities Commission suspends the higher rates applied for by Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. until a December hearing.

Nov. 21 - Roscoe Wilson, 4, reportedly runs in front of a car driven by Ruth Levi and is taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital. His condition is not critical and no charges are filed.

Nov. 28 - The United Fund campaign to raise money for good causes reaches 80 percent of its \$8,325 goal.

Dec. 5 - Raeford and Hoke County representatives agree to pool resources and purchase a two-way radio system for the police and sheriff offices. The cost of the complete system is \$640, and it offers six units in the system, four mobile units and two base stations.

The Raeford Chamber of Commerce and the Raeford Jaycees present the annual Christmas parade, expected to be the largest yet with two bands and 25 floats.

Dec. 12 - Paratrooper Robert Ridgeway is pulled out of his carrier plane over Hoke County and landed near the Oakdale gin on the farm of Clyde Upchurch Sr. Ridgeway landed safely and was the guest of the Upchurch family for lunch before returning to Fort Bragg.

The Raeford Chamber of Commerce submits a plan to raise farm income. The immediate goal for 1958 is to add another \$1 million to the county's farm income through cooperation between local companies, farmers and farm agents.

Dec. 19 - Nine people are sentenced for stealing a total of more than 200 bushels of corn. Sentences of 90 days are suspended in all cases on payment of a small fine and costs.

Sheriff Dave Hodgins takes out a warrant on Nathaniel Graham in connection with the death of his wife, Naomi McPhaul Graham. An autopsy report reveals that Graham died due to non-fatal blows to the head and exposure to severe cold.

Dec. 26 - Little River Township prepares to be annexed into Moore County. The move is likely to have little effect on Hoke County, officials say.

1958

Jan. 9 - The state drops the case against Christine and Rufus McRae, accused of manslaughter in connection with the death of their son Jerry, 4. The prosecutor takes a "nol pros with leave," meaning the case can be reopened in the event new evidence appears. The child died after being burned and beaten, according to an autopsy report.

Jan. 23 - Mamie Harris is charged with abandoning, neglecting and failing to care for her four minor children. Judge Harry Greene sentences her to a year in the woman's prison in Raleigh. The children are taken into custody to the county welfare department.

Jan. 30 - Kenneth A. MacDonald is named Man of the Year by the Raeford Kiwanis Club at the organization's annual awards night and banquet. The award was presented by Robert Gatlin.

North Carolina Gov. Luther H. Hodges tours the Raeford Pacific Mills plant and speaks to a group of local farmers, businessmen and families at Hoke County High School. Hodges addresses the local campaign to improve and support the farm economy.

Feb. 6 - The Raeford Jaycees presents Angus Currie with the Distinguished Service Award at the annual awards ceremony. The Outstanding Young Farmer Award is presented to John Balfour.

Feb. 13 - For the second year, Hoke County High School leads the state in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing higher education at colleges, universities and technical schools. Superintendent K.A. MacDonald announces. In 1957, more than 70 percent of Hoke High graduates went on to pursue further academic or career training.

Feb. 20 - A meningitis case at Hoke County High School causes Principal W.T. Gibson Jr. to provide all students with sulfa tablets intended to protect them from the disease. Student William Edmunds was taken to Robeson Hospital this week and diagnosed with meningitis.

Feb. 27 - Over 15,000 bags of sugar are scattered along Highway 401 when a cargo truck runs off the road and overturns. The driver reports that his truck was sideswiped by another truck traveling in the opposite direction.

March 6 - Robert Barbour visits with the Raeford town board and the Community Council, discussing a plan to support the organized growth of Raeford. Barbour, a member of the City Planning Division of the state Board of Conservation and Development, suggests a plan that would help increase parking space, location of throughfares, prevention of slum areas and planning for future development.

March 13 - Elmer Parnell, manager of Home Furniture Co., announces that a group of local businessmen have obtained financial backing for a Raeford credit bureau. Included in the committee are W.L. Howell Jr., J.W. Canaday and Homer McGuinn. The group had difficulty finding financing for the venture for about two years but eventually worked out a deal through membership fees and the Raeford Chamber of Commerce.

March 20 - The Hoke County Board of Education votes unanimously to request \$920,000

in school bonds from the county commission. The money, representing a 25-cent tax rate increase, would be set aside for a new high school facility.

March 27 - Clara Frierson is found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon after witnesses testify in court that she attacked Sara Peterkin with a coal shovel during a dispute at a church society meeting. The sentence was suspended on payment of \$75 for the hospital bill. Frierson allegedly assaulted Peterkin during a dispute about who would be elected a delegate to a missionary conference.

Mary Cummings charges six men of the McCain area with rape. Cummings reports that while walking home from the After Hours Club, the men took her into the woods and raped her. In custody in relation to the case are James Harris, 20, Willie Ross, 27 and David Jones, 18, who are held without bond.

April 3 - James Harris, 20, Willie Ross, 27 and David Jones, 18, plead not guilty to a charge of rape in recorder's court. The case is sent to county Superior Court. The other three suspects have not been apprehended.

April 10 - Hoke County Board of Elections Chairman W.L. Poole approves a petition requesting a liquor referendum on the same day as the May 31 Democratic primary election. The referendum will allow people to vote whether to have a legally-controlled store for the sale of alcoholic beverages or whether to remain a dry county.

April 17 - The Hoke County Recreation Program Inc. is formed this week as an entity to seek \$3,000 to continue the successful summer recreation program for local youth. The previous summer program saw hundreds of young people participate in supervised activities.

April 24 - The McCain Sanatorium celebrates its 50th anniversary this week. The hospital pays tribute to its workers and founders. The sanatorium was the first of its kind founded in the state.

May 1 - James Harris, 20, Willie Ross, 27 and David Jones, 18, enter a guilty plea of assault on a female in county Superior Court. Harris receives a sentence of 18 months on the roads and Ross receives a sentence of two years on the roads. Jones is sentenced to one year on the roads, but the court considers probation for Jones because of his youth.

May 8 - The Hoke County Board of Commissioners adopts a fiscal year budget of \$176,390, with a 93-cent tax rate. The tax is 3 cents higher than the previous year due to the loss of about \$800,000 valuation when Little River township was annexed to Moore County. The budget is about \$1,700 less than the prior year.

The Raeford tax rate remains the same, \$1.05 per \$100 valuation, as it was in 1957. The Raeford commissioners approve a budget of \$130,010 for the fiscal year.

May 15 - A fire at the Raeford Auto Co. severely burns a mechanic and damages the facility. A gas line leak in a truck undergoing repairs sparked a fire when workers placed a lamp underneath the vehicle. Fred Garrett suffered second and third degree burns and was taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital.

May 22 - A group of local citizens hold a meeting planning opposition to the establishment of legal liquor stores in Hoke County. The committee, chaired by T.B. Upchurch, urges everyone concerned with the issue to attend.



Martha Reynolds holds the reins during one of Hoke's wagon train trips.

May 29 - The Priebe-Pietrus Poultry Co. will resume operation under L.G. Frahm, new plant manager, the company announces. The plant will operate three days a week and move up to full-time operation as orders for production increase. Raymond Maxwell continues as plant superintendent.

June 5 - About 2,600 Hoke County voters turn out to accept \$920,000 in school bonds for construction of a new high school. The voters choose not to allow the legal sale of alcohol in the county.

A group of 61 seniors receive diplomas from Hoke County High School at spring graduation exercises. Dr. Bruce Whitakers, president of Chowan College, presents the commencement address.

June 12 - Floyd Blue and Malloy Whitley plead not guilty to charges of assault with a deadly weapon causing serious injury and pain. Blue is found guilty of simple assault, with sentence of 30 days on the roads suspended for payment of a \$10 fine. Whitley is found guilty of simple assault and sentenced to six months on the roads, suspended for payment of a \$25 fine.

June 19 - Racing, speeding and illegal whiskey are involved in a fatal wreck on N.C. Highway 211 that kills one and injures others. Theodore McNeill, 42, was fatally injured when he crashed his car into the rear of a car belonging to a family having a picnic on the roadside. Flying metal also injures the owner of the other car, Wayne Cashatt.

June 26 - Patsy Jean Cameron is named Miss Hoke County at the third annual beauty pageant. Each of the girls appear in a bathing suit, evening gown and talent competition at the Jaycee-sponsored event.

July 3 - The News-Journal subscription rates are raised to \$4 a year to compensate for the rise in the cost of newsprint and the extra expense of publishing photographs.

Dr. A.L. O'Briant is appointed Hoke County health officer succeeding Dr. J.W. Wilcox. O'Briant has practiced medicine in Hoke County since 1938.

July 10 - Patsy Jean Cameron travels to Charlotte to compete in the Miss North Carolina beauty pageant after winning the title of Miss Hoke County. The Raeford Young Men's Club sponsors her in the contest.

July 17 - Hoke County is classified as a military zone of the new civil defense plan put in place at the request of Gov. Luther Hodges. The county will accept evacuees from other counties in the event of an air attack. County officials also learn of the method of evacuating Hoke County in the event of such an emergency.

July 24 - An early morning fire at a home near Raeford destroys the farm tenant dwelling and badly burns Hester Deberry, daughter of Ed Deberry. The house is destroyed in the fire and local residents donate clothing and other assistance to the family. Faulty wiring is identified as the cause of the fire.

July 31 - Edwin Johnson, 33, a U.S. Navy veteran, is killed while attempting to escape from a road gang. In 1951, Johnson was sentenced to 12 years in prison for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and a companion charge of assault with a deadly weapon. Johnson and another prisoner reportedly ran from the road crew and Johnson was killed by a guard.

Aug. 7 - Montgomery Dairy's new fortified milk claims that it "supplies practically all your daily vitamin and mineral needs."

Aug. 14 - Raymond McNeill, identified as "colored," dies from a gunshot wound to the face at a nightclub north of Raeford. McNeill was allegedly shot by Carwell Hollingsworth, operator of the Ace High Club, during an argument over a pig's foot. Hollingsworth is held without bond.

Aug. 21 - Charles McCartney, a wandering evangelist known as "The Goat Man," visits Raeford in a wagon pulled by his team of goats.

Aug. 28 - Local law enforcement officers warn farmers of night-owl tobacco thieves operating in the county. Farmers report losing as much as 500 pounds of tobacco from their barns to thieves.

Sept. 4 - The Raeford Chamber of Commerce announces a membership drive. President Dr. Riley Jordan urges local business, industry and professional individuals to join the chamber.

Sept. 18 - More than 180 children enroll in first grade in Hoke County's white schools this month as the national and state debate rages over

desegregation.

Sept. 25 - A young couple arguing over marital troubles were arrested for fighting this week. Betty Sinclair, wife of Walter G. Sinclair, a soldier at Fort Bragg, reportedly attempted to hang herself in the Hoke County jail, according to sheriff's reports. Sinclair was charged with and pled guilty to simple assault against his wife and received 30 days suspended on payment of a \$10 fine and court costs.

Oct. 2 - The Hoke County United Fund drive begins this week with a goal of raising \$12,000 for charitable causes. Campaign chairman Paul Dickson announces a kick-off supper.

Oct. 9 - County school Superintendent K.A. MacDonald meets with school committee Chairman A.H. McPhaul and Hoke County High School principal W.T. Gibson to discuss plans for the new Hoke County High School facility. The plans arrive this week from Architect T.T. Haynes of Southern Pines.

Oct. 16 - The Hoke County United Fund reports collecting pledges exceeding its goal of \$12,000. The amount includes a donation of \$8,000 from the 1,400 workers of Pacific Mills.

Oct. 23 - The A&P supermarket advertises T-bone steaks for 95 cents per pound, a 10-pound bag of potatoes for 49 cents, a four-pound bag of apples for 29 cents and a dozen glazed donuts for 33 cents.

Oct. 30 - The Raeford town board plans to improve the local water system by adding an old backup pump to improve water pressure and supply. The demand for water increases as the Pacific Mills plant, the town's largest water customer, increases production. The plant's water bill is often as much as \$2,000 a month.

Nov. 6 - Lack of impending issues and

competitive races removes most Hoke County voters' interest in voting in the general election this week, as the county has the lowest voter turnout to the polls in a decade. Fewer than 700 people cast votes in the election.

Nov. 13 - The Raeford Chamber of Commerce sponsors a clean-up day in town, calling the event "Company's Comin'." Committee Chairman C.P. Kinlaw and the Raeford Woman's Club worked together to create suggestions about how to improve the town's appearance. The recommendations include cutting grass along the sides of the streets and in vacant lots.

Nov. 20 - The Hoke County Board of Commissioners employ additional tax workers for the county tax collector's office to assist in cracking down on property owners who have not paid their taxes. The collectors will assist in making contacts and property seizures as necessary.

Nov. 27 - Caldwell Hollingsworth is found not guilty in the shooting death of Raymond McNeill on the night of Aug. 8. Hollingsworth, charged with murder, was found not guilty by a jury in about half an hour. The killing was declared at the time to be the culmination of an argument over a pig's foot.

Dec. 4 - Dr. Julius Jordan is elected permanent chairman of the new Hoke County Board of Commissioners at their meeting this week. Sworn in by Clerk of Superior Court M.D. Yates are Jordan, J.H. Blue, C.C. Conoly, J.A. Webb and Lacy McNeill.

The Raeford Theatre premieres Cecil B. DeMille's "The Ten Commandments" for a seven-day engagement.

Dec. 11 - Hoke County experiences the largest snowfall many have seen in decades, with drifts of 10 inches or more reported in some

parts of the county. Schools are shut down and businesses close.

Dec. 18 - Long-time Hoke County Schools Superintendent K.A. MacDonald announces he will retire this year. The school board selects Hoke County High School Principal W.T. Gibson Jr. as his replacement.


Dec. 25 - Joe Oxendine is taken to the hospital after being shot five times allegedly by a friend, Junior Goodman, at Goodman's home. The two were reportedly drinking. Oxendine is reported in serious condition while Goodman is charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, larceny of an automobile and a previous charge of manufacturing of whiskey.

1959

Jan. 8 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club installs J.H. Austin as president succeeding Charles Hostetler. Other officers installed by Benton Thomas are Clyde Upchurch Jr., vice president and A.H. McPhaul, secretary and treasurer.

The Raeford town board seeks federal aid to build a government-required sewage disposal plant at the cost of \$450,000. A survey of the area's streams revealed pollution in the water, signaling that the present sewage disposal plant for the town is inadequate. Engineer Richard Moore of Asheboro draws up plans for the new plant.

Jan. 15 - John A. McCoy, a prisoner working on the roadway on U.S. Highway 401, is struck by a vehicle driven by Livio Virgil Zanotti of Miami. Witnesses report Zanotti narrowly misses hitting a flagman before running into McCoy. McCoy is taken to the hospital with a broken leg and severe cuts while Zanotti is charged with careless and reckless driving.




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These folks lived in three centuries

They are a people of kindred spirit who inspired others. They had perseverance, were strong in body and character, loved family, friends and community, and had a strong faith in God. Most lived lives that touched three centuries.

John McKinnion was born April 8, 1892 in South Carolina to parents who were a blacksmith and a cook. He became a farmer and self-employed carpenter, and he and his wife of 74 years, Ollierena, reared 11 children. At age 107 he was honored as the oldest living Mason in North Carolina. He was described as a gentleman of real character who inspired others. He died at age 109.

A country woman, Nancy Ray did a lot of walking. She walked to another's home to do housework and then walked home to care for three sons. Born in Rockfish to former slaves Neill and Ann McNeill Ray, she was one of 12 children. During her more than 111 years of living, she never left the county. Neighboring children enjoyed the tea cakes she baked and stored in a pillowcase to keep flies away. A Sunday school teacher for many years at St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church, her advice to youth was to remember their raising and to be nice to others.

The Rev. Isaiah Locklear was the founding pastor of South Hoke Baptist Church. When called to preach in 1928, he thought preaching was a burden but those thoughts soon turned to joy. He preached his last sermon when he was 100. He was 101 when he passed away on June 10, 2001. "There is no greater life than a life lived for the Lord," he said.

Pauline Terry Buie came to Hoke in 1913 with her family. She married Ed Buie, and they opened Buie Funeral Home in the

late 1920s. When her husband died in 1955, she took over the business. The mother of four children, she thought she had to feed every person who came to her home. Described as a brave woman, she was a few months short of her 100th birthday when she passed away on April 4, 1998.

Margaret Cameron Keith was born on July 9, 1893 to Samuel Johnson and Margaret McKeithan Cameron. Her family was one of those transplanted when Ft. Bragg took their land in 1918. As a young woman, she accompanied her father to Raleigh to witness firsthand the birth of Hoke County. She married Angus Calvin Keith on January 15, 1919 in Sandy Grove Presbyterian Church, now on the Fort Bragg reservation.

Aquilla McPhatter Jones was the only child of Deacon and Roberta McPhatter. She worked as a welder in the Brooklyn Navy Yard during World War II for \$50 a week, sending much of her money to her family in Hoke County. Born April 5, 1904, she survived a stroke to live well past 100 years old. "I prayed a lot," she said on her 100 birthday before bursting into song: "Lord, hold my hand while I run this race."

Maggie Rucker believed "if you sow good seeds, you will reap good seeds." She and her husband, Booker T. Rucker, lived in Duffie for 40 years. The mother of six is an excellent cook who mothered everyone else's children. Those children recall her as beautiful and energetic but mostly they remember her love.

Alexander McQueen was 113 years old on Sept. 23, 1982. A blacksmith and a farmer, he was the son of former slaves. He remembers being so poor that the family didn't even have plates to eat from or mattresses to sleep on. He worked on the courthouse when it was built in 1911.

Jan. 22 - Livio Virgil Zanotti receives a one-year sentence on the roads for being drowsy while at the wheel of his vehicle and running into a prisoner on road detail. The sentence is suspended on payment of a \$50 fine and court costs.

Carpenter Willie Parks is killed after falling from a wall of a home under construction near Raeford and striking his head on concrete. Worker Bill Smith reports seeing Parks fall from the wall of a home into the concrete flooring of the basement of the in-progress home. Parks dies of his injuries at a Fayetteville hospital.

Jan. 29 - J.D. McMillian is awarded the Raeford Jaycees Distinguished Service Award for 1958 at the annual banquet held at McLauchlin School. Bobby Gibson receives the Outstanding Young Farmer award.

Feb. 5 - The Raeford Kiwanis Club names the Rev. W.B. Heyward "Man of the Year" for 1958. The reverend accepts the award on behalf of all the clergymen in town. The award is presented at the annual club banquet.

A National Guard airplane flown by Major J.B. Mullineaux and Lt. J.W. Lipscomb experiences engine trouble and makes a safe landing on Wire Road. The helicopter sent to assist the pilots also experienced engine trouble and could

not take off again.

Feb. 12 - Raeford needs a hospital to promote further growth, hospital investigation committee Chairman Charles Hostetler tells the Raeford Chamber of Commerce. The directors make plans for a committee to promote the construction.

Feb. 19 - The Rockfish 4-H Club plants pine seedlings on school grounds with the help of director P.S. White. Farm agent Frank Williams instructs the students in planting.

Feb. 26 - Funds are allocated to Hoke County for driver education courses in public schools in an effort to make roadways safer. Superintendent K.A. MacDonald says he hopes to get the school program underway this year.

March 5 - Charles Wallin of the Hill Directory Co. of Virginia begins preliminary work on a Raeford city directory for the community. The directory will list all residents alphabetically with street addresses and telephone numbers. The list will also include whether homes are rented or owned.

The Raeford town board discusses staggering member terms and implementing longer terms so that the situation will not arise that an entirely new board should serve the town. The board

members instruct the town attorney to confer with the local General Assembly representative.

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners pass a resolution authorizing the sale of \$920,000 in bonds for a new high school. Local voters passed the issue in a special vote the previous year.

March 12 - Carole Ann Marshall of McCain is killed instantly in a car wreck this week as she and three other girls return to Greensboro College from a shopping trip in Chapel Hill. Also killed is her roommate, Edna Childress, of Virginia.

March 19 - The Raeford town board meets with workmen from the North Carolina Natural Gas Co. to investigate locating the trunk lines for gas service in the town. Charles Hostetler represents the Carolina Power and Light Co. and Donald McCol discusses how to safely install the lines without risk of explosion. The town board approves appointing a safety inspector to oversee the project.

March 26 - Local farmer Tom Holland shoots his wife in the leg, wounding her severely while five of the couple's 14 children look on. Son Rickey Holland reported wrestling with his father for control of the shotgun after his mother was shot. Holland is held without bail in the county jail while his wife's condition remains critical at a hospital.

April 2 - Mrs. Tom Holland's leg is amputated after she is shot by her husband at near point-blank range. The only reason Holland, who was drinking, gave for the shooting was that his wife had been away from home all day, Sheriff D.H. Hodgins says. Holland remains in jail.

April 16 - Tom Holland pleads guilty of a charge of assault with a deadly weapon and not guilty to the accompanying charge of intending to kill his wife when he shot her in the leg. Judge Harry Green allows bond at \$5,000.

April 23 - Lola McNeill is found guilty of assault on Mary McLauchlin and sentenced to six months in prison, suspended on the payment of a \$58 hospital bill, a \$50 fine and court costs. She is required to be on good behavior for two years. She is also found not guilty of assault on Jasper McLauchlin.

April 30 - The Hoke County National Guard reorganizes at Fort Bragg for a four-day shake-down training session. The unit, previously organized as the 130th Tank Battalion is now the 2nd Battalion of the 196th Armor Regiment, 30th Infantry Division.

May 14 - Hoke County High School increases grades required for graduation, set to begin in 1961. Students will be required to carry a 77 or C average on 18 units of classes in order to graduate. A special diploma will be issued for those who do not maintain a C average, giving the student credit for completing 16 units with less than a C average. The state minimum to graduate is 16 units.

May 21 - The U.S. Rubber Company opens its new Raeford Warehouse this month, according to supervisor Ralph Plummer. The warehouse contains 5,000 square-feet of space for storage and was filled within only a few days, officials said.

The Board of Education advertises for bids on a plan to build two new county schools using \$920,000 voters approved last year for the project.

May 28 - Hoke County Schools retiring teachers and county Superintendent K.A. MacDonald are honored at a surprise ceremony. MacDonald, planning to retire this year, served as superintendent of schools for a quarter of a century.

June 4 - Mail service improvements designed to guarantee next-day first-class delivery for about 1.6 million people in the state are announced through Raeford postmaster D.C. Cox. Residents are assured that barring occasional distribution errors and mechanical failures, revised sched-

ules will allow all postal patrons in the area to receive first-class mail overnight. The mail must be deposited in the larger offices prior to 5 p.m. and in smaller offices before the final dispatch of the day.

Mayor Alfred Cole states "We are seeking to help Raeford grow," as the town board welcomes two new members and three returning members to its first post-election meeting. The Clerk of Superior Court swears in J.D. McMillian and Clyde Upchurch Jr. as new members and also swears in Marion Gatlin, John K. McNeill and Angus Currie, who have previously served on the board. The outgoing members were A.V. Sanders and Tom Cameron.

June 11 - Hoke County school board members award contracts totalling \$838,995 for construction of a new high school and work at Scurlock School, Hawkeye School and Upchurch High School. Bids are awarded to A.G. Carter, Speros Construction Co. and Ballou Construction Co. The work is expected to be completed in time for the 1961 school year.

June 18 - Mayor Alfred Cole announces a long-needed improvement in the town's sewage disposal system. The town awarded a bid of \$13,977 to Outen Brothers Ditching Co. to add sewer lines in the southwest section of Raeford, with work scheduled to begin quickly. Cole also announced adding a fourth police officer to the town's staff, with Charlie Proctor scheduled to report for work July 1.

June 25 - D.R. Huff, a farmer in Quewhiffle, is allegedly assaulted by three trespassers, identified as "negro." Huff told police that he discovered Maggie Lee Watson, Junior Watson and Marie McMillan picking blackberries on his property, and the three beat him with a shoe when he told them to leave. The two women are found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon and sentenced to six months in prison, suspended on payment of a \$30 fine and court costs, while Junior Watson, also found guilty in court, is sentenced to six months on the roads, suspended on payment of a \$30 fine and court costs.

July 2 - Hoke County experiences a 103-degree day this week as about an inch of rain falls on dry crops. The severe rain and hail storms caused some slight crop damage but most farms escaped unharmed.

July 9 - Digging holes to collect rainwater for farm irrigation has saved Hoke County farmers \$200-300 for every \$100 investment this year, the local Soil Conservation Service reports. Using the rainwater has especially been helpful in the Quewhiffle section of the county, agent Furman Clark says.

July 16 - An alleged dispute over a girl at the Chatterbox hangout leads to a Robeson County youth being stabbed in the stomach. Police Chief Lawrence Stanton reports that Bethel Lee Bennett and Rufus Johnson, both of Robeson County, were arguing over a girl near Griffin's Bar-B-Que on Harris Avenue. Bennett allegedly stabbed Johnson and ran from police before being captured at his home. He is held without bail on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon causing serious pain and injury.

Raeford Pacific Mills plant workers Ernest Paul Atkinson and William Leroy McAllister die in a car wreck near Fairmont, while worker Atlas Ned Bullock is taken to Robeson Memorial Hospital with a fractured skull and other internal injuries.

July 23 - John Henry McNeill, 10, identified as "negro," reportedly runs into the road on U.S. Highway 401 and is killed by an oncoming car. The child's older brother, Prentiss Jr., reports to police that the two were gathering soft drink bottles on the side of the road and did not see the

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White Oak School, constructed in 1926



Hannah Springs taught from 1950 until the school closed.



Students after dedication of the monument

car coming. McNeill's death is ruled an accident.

July 30 - Thomas McRae and Leland Stewart, identified as "colored," are arrested on charges stemming from an apparent drag race involving a stolen car. McRae is found guilty of engaging in speed competition with another vehicle, driving with no operator's license, and careless and reckless driving, while Stewart is found guilty of engaging in speed competition, driving with expired operator's license, speeding over 75 miles an hour and careless and reckless driving. Both men are sentenced to several years on the roads. The two reportedly raced down Main Street at 75 miles an hour to 100 miles an hour where Stewart, driving a car reported stolen in Moore County, lost control and ran into a fire hydrant.

Linda Furmage, 9, is electrocuted while trying to connect a television set at her home in the Lumber Bridge community. Her parents were away from the house when the accident occurred.

Aug. 6 - Vernie Melvin, charged with assault on his wife, turns himself in after being missing from the county for a month. Melvin is held under a \$2,000 bond. His wife was unconscious in Cape Fear Valley Hospital for two weeks and blind for three weeks after Melvin allegedly hit

her on the head.

Three Hoke County youths are seriously injured when the driver of their car ran off the road in Quewhiffle township. Grady Vanhoy, 16, James Pope, 16 and Larry Pope, 14, were taken to the hospital with head injuries after the vehicle struck several trees.

Work is completed on the town's natural gas lines as an addition to the available Raeford utilities. Representatives of the Natural Gas Co. appear before the town board to inform them of the completion of the work.

Aug. 13 - Essie Mae McLaurin, identified as "colored," allegedly shoots to death Russell McKeithan, identified as "colored," as the man reportedly attempted to break into her house through a window. McLaurin is released under a \$2,000 bond.

John Wesley McPhaul, 17, identified as "colored," survives being shot in the hip and right leg during a dispute over a girl at Miller's Grill, also known as "Sloppy Joe's." Willie Davis, 30, identified as "colored," is arrested on charges of assault with a deadly weapon causing serious pain and injury and released on a \$500 bond.

Aug. 20 - More than 35 people gather at the

Presbyterian Church to examine the needs of local youth in preparation for the White House Conference on Children and Youth. Among the suggestions and concerns raised were that children need more discipline and responsibility, with parents taking greater responsibility in spending time with their youths. Rev. Kermit Wheeler states that the church has lost its place of centrality as one of the guiding forces in the lives of young people.

Aug. 27 - Melvin Roper, 31, identified as "negro" and reportedly "known as feeble-minded in his home community of Five Points," is allegedly struck over the head and killed by a county merchant for stealing a slice of bologna. Onslow Rorie, identified as "white," was reportedly slicing meat for customers at his service station at Five Points when Roper took a slice of the bologna after being told to put it down. According to Raeford Police Department Officer D.J. Jones, Rorie then picked up a tire iron and struck Roper over the head. Roper died at home after the incident. Rorie is charged with manslaughter and released under a \$1,000 bond.

Sept. 10 - Hoke County Schools report the first-ever total school enrollment of more than

4,000 students. The number is up by more than 400 students from the previous year.

The Raeford town board discusses whether to charge people more for water services if they live outside the town limits. Angus Currie made a motion to add a 50 percent charge for out-of-town water customers, but the motion is defeated in a vote.

Sept. 24 - The state announces the "point" system for driving records, with points accruing for each convicted offense. Offenses and penalties include five points for passing a stopped school bus, four points for reckless driving, three for failure to yield the right of way and two for a moving violation. Collecting 12 points within two years leads to a license suspension.

Oct. 1 - Al Stanley, manager of Lumberton radio station WTSB, applies to the Federal Communications Commission for a permit to operate a radio station in Raeford. The standard broadcast facility will broadcast for 17 hours a day under his request, with antenna for the new station located eight miles east of Raeford city limits on U.S. 401.

Dan Melvin, 24, dies after being shot at the "Sunset Park" dance hall. Fred Currie and Ralph Warren are arrested on charges related to the death. Another man, Egypt Morgan, is severely injured by a knife at the same night club, with Bobby Lee Leach charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. All men involved are identified as "colored."

Oct. 7 - The Raeford Jaycees sponsor a Hoke County fair at the National Guard Armory. Exhibitors from all over the county arrive to showcase crops, vegetables, canning, flowers, youth work and more.

Oct. 15 - Work on a sewer system line raises a stink in town this week as the open line begins piping sewage into Peddler's Branch. The Raeford town board plans a vote on a \$480,000 improvement on water and sewer systems.

Oct. 22 - The United Fund drive seeks to raise \$15,000 for community services and programs. The program kicks off this week with a luncheon at the McLaughlin School.

Oct. 29 - Southern Bank's attempt at bringing a branch to Raeford is disapproved by the Comptroller of Currency.

Nov. 5 - Michael Phillips, 2, identified as "colored," is killed instantly when struck by a car on U.S. 401. Police reports suggest he wandered into the road while walking with his family. Police do not choose to bring charges against the driver, Sherman Leach.

Nov. 19 - Postmaster Charles R. Lee offers his resignation, denied by his superiors, in the face of charges of embezzlement in excess of \$1,000 of government funds.

Nov. 26 - Essie Mae McLaurin, identified as "colored," pleads guilty to manslaughter in the killing of Russell McKeithan on Aug. 8. She is sentenced to three to five years in prison, suspended on the condition that the defendant observe an 11 p.m. curfew for a year and refrain from using any intoxicating beverages and remain on probation for five years.

Dec. 3 - Ralph Warren is acquitted of murder and a similar charge against Fred Currie is dismissed in the shooting death of Dan Melvin.

Tom Holland, accused of shooting his wife and causing her to lose her left leg during a domestic dispute, appears in court with his wife. Representation for the family told the court the situation at home was much improved and that Holland was needed in the home to help look after the children. Holland pleads guilty to assault with a deadly weapon and is sentenced to two years in prison, sentence suspended on condition that he be on probation for five years and must obey

all laws and support his wife and children while remaining gainfully employed.

A four-vehicle collision seriously injures Mrs. C.D. Jackson of Raeford and her baby son, Kent, just north of Raeford. Both were thrown from the car when it was struck by a Mack tractor-trailer.

Dec. 10 - Raeford voters pass almost a half million dollars indebtedness to finance improvements in water supply and sewage disposal. The Raeford town board approves an additional charge of 50 percent to out-of-town water rates.

Dec. 17 - The Galatia Presbyterian Church burns this week with little saved from the nearly 100-year-old building. Faculty connections to a new gas furnace are believed to be the cause of the fire. The church was founded in 1825.

Dec. 31 - Two men are shot Christmas Eve in Hoke County, one in an argument over a cow pasture and another in a domestic dispute. Sanford Jacobs is allegedly shot in both feet by L.J. Locklear over whether he could keep some cows in his pasture, while George Cunningham is allegedly shot in the arm by Mitchell McCall.

1960

Jan. 7 - Members of Raeford's town board vote unanimously in favor of creating an industrial park in the southeast corner of the town. The proposal comes from Lindsay Cox, representative of the state's department of conservation and development community planning department.

Jan. 14 - A jury deliberates two hours before finding Onslow Rorie guilty of assault with a deadly weapon in the August death of Milton Roper. He was sentenced to not less than 18 nor more than 24 months in prison. Rorie was previously convicted of having carnal knowledge

of his step-daughter in Rockingham in 1946.

Willie Davis, identified as "colored," is found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon and sentenced to two years on the roads. Johnnie Melvin is found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon causing serious pain and injury and is sentenced to two years on the roads.

Jan. 21 - The Raeford community holds a public meeting regarding the possibility of planning a swimming pool at a cost of \$22,500 with \$12,000 for the bath house, fencing and land costs. The membership fee for 1960 is set at \$15.

Jan. 28 - An influenza-type ailment in Hoke County schools causes mass absences from classrooms. Dr. R.A. Matheson says the number of cases has "reached epidemic proportions."

Feb. 4 - The Hoke County Board of Commissioners discontinues the county's rural police department, effective in March of 1960. At the same time provision was made for the appointment of deputies for the county Sheriff's Office.

Feb. 11 - Earl Hendrix is named Young Farmer of the Year by the Raeford Jaycees and the Farmer's Club of Hoke County. The ceremonial banquet is held at Hoke County High School.

Feb. 18 - The Tar Heel Development Association, a three-county group dedicated to promoting growth in the southeast including Hoke County, plans to establish an industrial education center among other plans for developing the area.

Feb. 25 - Textile workers are likely to see a wage raise at Raeford plants, including the Pacific Division of Burlington Industries. The average wage prior to the change, \$1.49 an hour, will go up to \$1.56 an hour.

March 3 - Hoke County receives about five inches of snow, followed by a topping of sleet and freezing rain, breaking trees and power lines across the county. Raeford residents report

experiencing power outages. Carolina Power and Light Co. sends out repair workers to fix the problems.

The Hoke County Development Association holds an awards banquet for community leaders in all areas of business and interests. The Wayside community won for making the most overall progress.

March 10 - Dr. Riley M. Jordan receives the Raeford Jaycees Distinguished Service Award for his work in the community as a doctor and a citizen.

The Hoke County Board of Education passes a resolution that the board will accept into Raeford's white schools children from any community school where people of the community seek to close the local school.

March 17 - Patrons of Ashemont School of Quewhiffle township discuss closing the rural seven-grade school and sending the students to McLauchlin Elementary School in Raeford. The reportedly heated discussion centered around young children having to ride the bus 50 to 60 miles to school every day.

March 24 - Foster McBryde Jr. and Sam Spencer are arrested and charged with liquor law violations by sheriff's deputies following a raid on a still near the Rockfish Creek bridge.

March 31 - The 1960 Census starts taking count this week of all U.S. residents. Mrs. Mary McKenzie is serving as crew leader for Hoke County, with herself and numerators undergoing special training in preparation for taking the count.

April 7 - The Hoke County Board of Education holds heated discussions on whether to close the three elementary schools outside of Raeford and bring students to the McLauchlin Elementary school for the rest of the year. Residents of

Mildouson asked to close the school, but many Rockfish residents opposed the idea of closing the Rockfish school. Ashemont residents were also not in favor of closing the Ashemont school.

April 21 - The Hoke County Board of Commissioners estimates the tax rate will be about \$1.20 per \$100 valuation as property values continue to rise in the county. Real estate valuations rose almost \$500,000 in the county during 1959, county accountant J.W. McPhaul announces.

April 28 - Dr. R.A. Matheson dies at his home in Raeford. Matheson served in France during World War I and attended the University of North Carolina after returning home. He was a member of many local organizations and served as a local doctor for many years.

A Pepsi-Cola ad announces the new 16-ounce size glass Pepsi bottle.

May 5 - The Hoke County Board of Education decides that the Ashemont and Rockfish Elementary schools will operate through the next school year after considering whether to consolidate the schools with McLauchlin Elementary.

The Galatia Presbyterian Church congregation and pastor holds a groundbreaking ceremony for the new church to replace the nearly 100-year-old building that burned. The Galatia Church was originally founded in 1825.

May 12 - Preliminary U.S. Census figures for the county are not as high as some officials expected. The Hoke County population is 16,363, compared to 1950, when the county had a population of 15,607, and 1940, which showed a population of 14,937.

May 19 - Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. announces that all telephone numbers in Raeford will change to conform to a national, uniform system now being adopted by the telephone industry. The Raeford exchange is

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|--|--|

assigned the code "875."

May 26 - The state Highway Patrol including those patrolmen operating in Hoke County announce they will begin checking driver's licenses to make sure people are not driving without authorization.

June 2 - Hoke County High School graduates 57 seniors at the spring commencement exercises, with speaker Dr. Ralph Brimley, director of Public Relations and Extension at Eastern Carolina College in Greenville.

June 9 - The Raeford swimming pool opens this week amid a streak of hot weather. Memberships are sold for \$150 a year with fees \$15 a month. The dues go to pay lifeguards and the membership cost will go to pay for the original cost of the pool.

June 16 - Hoke County voters select Terry Sanford as the Democratic candidate for the governorship.

The Raeford Chamber of Commerce votes unanimously to change the name to the Raeford-Hoke County Chamber of Commerce.

July 7 - The Red Cross Bloodmobile visits Raeford this week to seek blood donations to build up the blood bank.

July 14 - Voters at the Democratic National Convention select John F. Kennedy as the Democratic candidate for the presidency.

July 21 - The county Board of Education grants a group of seventh graders from Rockfish Elementary the right to attend the McLaughlin Elementary School even though the majority of Rockfish families protested the idea originally.

July 28 - The town erects a new water tank on Dickson Street, which "looks more and more like a guided missile with its nose pointed toward Saturn and beyond." The tower is still under construction.

Aug. 4 - The county receives more than 7 inches of rain in a two-day period when Tropical Storm Brenda passes over. The rain is a much needed relief to the dry conditions, but some wind damage is reported in the county.

Aug. 11 - William Barnes is arrested on a charge of first degree murder in connection with the shooting death of Wilford McNeill near Antioch this week.

Aug. 18 - The Raeford Rural Fire Department saves a house belonging to Ken McNeill from fire. The house on his property reportedly caught on fire in a bedroom. The family attempted to put out the fire on their own with little success, but the department was able to extinguish the flames.

Aug. 25 - The Hoke County Board of Education votes to assign 53 students of Ashemont School to Raeford schools. Although Ashemont School supporters lobbied to keep the school open, the group of students represents about half

of the school's student population.

Sept. 1 - Luke Maxwell is reported as having been taken to the hospital in August after being beaten by two men near Antioch. He reportedly suffered a broken jaw and lacerations and contusions. Sheriff's deputies charge "June Bug" Locklear and Fairley Chavis in connection with the incident.

Hoke County Schools open for the school year with a record number of students enrolled in classes.

Sept. 8 - The United Fund Board of Directors meets and adopts a \$16,000 budget to assist local worthy causes. The budget this year includes \$400 to help finance the x-ray unit operated by the Hoke County health center. The directors request that funded programs account for how the money is being spent.

Sept. 15 - The Powell Bill funds for street and roadway repair total \$11,049 for work in Raeford. The money will be used to pave or otherwise improve Raeford roads.

Sept. 22 - The Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies agrees to send out a traveling science demonstration-lecture program to Hoke County High School for a week to instruct the students in chemistry, physics and general science classes.

Sept. 29 - The first traffic fatality in downtown Raeford in several years occurs this week when Linda Jean Smith, 3, is run over on Main Street by a tractor-trailer loaded with tobacco. Her mother, Mrs. Daniel Hewie Smith, was walking to the Raeford Lumber Co. yard with a friend and her children when the little girl reportedly ran across the road in front of the truck.

Oct. 13 - A lightweight, tropical men's wear fabric produced locally will hit the spotlight nationally as the Raeford Worsted Co. ramps up promotion of the blended Dacron material known as Raeford 2/80. Themes and slogans include "Screen Out the Heat and Look Smart as the Devil with Raeford 2/80s."

Oct. 20 - Twice-convicted felon Conley Spencer Hayes, being held for trial in November on charges of breaking and entering and larceny, reportedly saws through a barred window at the Hoke County jail and escapes. The hacksaw blades were allegedly smuggled in by a Marine from Camp Lejeune, according to Hayes. Hayes is recaptured and additionally charged with escaping from jail while officials search for his accomplice.

Oct. 27 - A mobile x-ray unit is available for free chest x-rays as a screening for tuberculosis. The visit is sponsored by the Raeford Jaycees. Response from locals causes lines at the location on Main Street.

Nov. 3 - Four weekend wrecks cause injuries to four people, one listed as "critical," and dam-

age or demolish five cars. Three cars went out of control, one after attempting to avoid a deer.

The local United Fund announces that it has surpassed its \$16,000 fundraising goal for the year with more than a 10 percent margin. The money is provided to worthy charities.

Nov. 10 - Hoke County voters go to the polls in record numbers giving John F. Kennedy more than a three-to-one local victory over Republican candidate Richard M. Nixon for the presidency. Voters also elect Democratic governor candidate Terry Sanford.

Walter J. Moore of Fayetteville is charged with aiding, abetting and assisting in the escape of Charles Porter and George West from the Hoke County jail this week. Moore, a turn-key at the jail, allegedly allowed the two to escape. He is found guilty and sentenced to a year on the roads. He pled not guilty and chose to appeal the decision.

Nov. 17 - Angus Currie resigns from the Raeford Board of Commissioners after taking a position with the Scottish Bank of China Grove, with his resignation effective Nov. 15. The vacancy is scheduled to be filled next month.

Billy Ray Scott, 12, is reportedly accidentally shot while holding a gun for his brother, Johnny, who was leaving to attend a turkey shoot. Officers believe Scott accidentally pulled the trigger on the gun and shot himself. Scott died at his family's home.

Nov. 24 - William Barnes, identified as "Indian," pleads guilty to the first degree murder of Wilford McNeill, identified as "Indian," and is sentenced to serve life in state prison by Judge Donald Yates.

A local group begins preparing to celebrate Hoke County's Golden Jubilee, with the 50th anniversary of the county's charter set for 1961.

Dec. 1 - The Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce and the town and county commissioners gather to honor local businesses including Pacific Mills, Priebe Poultry Co., Hoke Oil and Fertilizer Co., U.S. Rubber and Upchurch Milling Co. among others at a ceremony focused on local industry.

Dec. 8 - Hoke County's Golden Jubilee is scheduled for May 14-19 in 1961, with plans to open with a religious service at the Armory baseball park, followed by the presentation of a historical pageant on the five nights afterward.

The Raeford Board of Commissioners elects Carlton E. Niven to fill the unexpired term of Angus Currie as a town commissioner. The board then unanimously votes to remove the ladder on the town's new water tower to prevent people from climbing on it.

Dec. 15 - Hoke County suffers its first reported vehicle wreck fatality in several years when

Carwell Hollingsworth, identified as "colored," is killed after his automobile overturns near Bethel Church. Officers report that Hollingsworth was thrown from the vehicle.

Dec. 22 - A multi-car wreck kills Stewart Peters, a Chicago tourist, when the car he is driving collides head-on with an automobile containing three Fort Bragg soldiers. Six other wrecks occur this week, five of which are alleged to be the result of drunk drivers.

Ira L. Poole, married name Mrs. Luke Bethune, retires from her position as Hoke County librarian after serving 23 years with the county. She saw the library grow from 3,000 volumes to more than 15,000 volumes during her years with the facility.

Dec. 29 - Three Hoke County homes are destroyed by fire this week. Floyd Monroe, Palestine Matthews and J.L. Blackmon lose their homes during the Christmas holiday weekend

1961

Jan. 5 - The Raeford Furniture Co. closes its doors after 46 years of commercial service. The store property is sold to Niven Appliance Co. The furniture store was started by W.E. Freeman, a depot agent, who bought stock from C.S. O'Neill, who operated a furniture store in the present Niven Appliance Building location. The Raeford Furniture Building was constructed after the December 1925 fire that completely destroyed that section of downtown Raeford.

Jan. 12 - Cynthia Rowland, 13, is sent to the hospital with a confirmed case of meningitis. Doctors warn parents of other children at Raeford Elementary School to be on the lookout for any sign of the disease in their own children.

Jan. 19 - Robert Rogers, 46, identified as "colored," allegedly robs the A&P Tea Company grocery store escaping with about \$20 worth of hams. Rogers is caught and arrested within hours of the alleged early-morning theft with the assistance of a bloodhound from McCain. Rogers was reportedly out of work for a year.

Fort Bragg soldier Robert Weldon Young, driver of a vehicle that took the life of Stewart Peters in December, is charged with manslaughter and placed under a \$3,000 bond.

Jan. 26 - R.B. Lewis is awarded the Kiwanis Club's "Hoke County's Outstanding Citizen" recognition at the annual club meeting and Ladies' Night. The award is usually called the Man of the Year award, but the club sought to honor Lewis' long-term accomplishments in the area, award presenter Tom Cameron said.

Feb. 2 - The Hoke County Golden Jubilee committee seeks family members of the families listed on records in the courthouse in 1911: Ad-

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Feb. 9 - James Lee Locklear, 46, dies this week following a car wreck on Wire Road near Antioch. Locklear reportedly lost control of his vehicle and crashed into a tree, becoming the county's first traffic fatality in 1961.

The Hoke County commissioners accept accountant J.W. McPhaul's resignation as McPhaul seeks to go into business. The board members choose T.B. Lester, the county's third accountant in its 50 years.

Feb. 16 - Michael Barlow, 12, is accidentally killed when a rifle he was handling discharged. The other family members reportedly believed the gun he was playing with was unloaded, according to a family friend.

Hoke County's farm income generated more than an additional \$400,000 in total sales in 1960 than in 1959, according to a summary by county Agricultural Agent W.C. Williford.

Feb. 23 - Dan Ferguson dies of his injuries sustained in a wreck south of Raeford earlier this month. The driver of the car Ferguson was riding in, Needham McBryde, is charged with reckless driving. F.K. Watson Jr., 17, also dies this week in a wreck that seriously injures Edward Currie, 16.

Hoke County leads the state in number of serious forest fires in 1961. Fires have already consumed more than 2,000 acres of forest in the county since Jan. 1.

March 2 - The News-Journal publisher Paul Dickson announces the appointment of Peter B. Young as editor and Sam C. Morris as general manager of the Raeford News-Journal.

March 9 - Hoke County High School football star Johnny Howard Sams is killed in a traffic accident this week. Two other Hoke High students, Charles David Baker and James McDonald, are also injured. More than 500 people attended Sams' funeral, with the football teammates serving as pallbearers.

March 16 - Hoke County shoppers show mixed feelings towards a proposal by Terry Sanford to create a 3 percent food tax, with monies collected going toward expanding education in the state.

March 23 - Hoke County High School Principal Dewey Huggins tells members of the Raeford Kiwanis Club that there is a definite correlation between grades at the school and student scores on the college board exams. The grading standards at the school are still strict, and despite three prominent local athletes having difficulty getting into college, it may be due to colleges raising their standards.

The Hoke County Golden Jubilee committee begins circulating wooden nickels, with each representing a 5-cent donation to the festival.

Four people die and others are injured in a series of car accidents in Hoke County. David

Neill McDonald, 22, Harry Eugene Holland, 19, E.H. Ware, 50 and Bertha Mae Wallace, 46, die in two separate fatal crashes. McDonald was the brother of William James McDonald, critically injured and still hospitalized as a result of an accident earlier in the year.

March 30 - The Hoke County commissioners account for a \$102,216 general fund total, with \$22,608 in special funds, \$39,608 in welfare funds and \$34,979 in health funds.

April 6 - The Hoke County and Raeford boards agree to split the cost of bringing a new radio receiver so local law enforcement officials can communicate freely with the highway patrol.

April 13 - Daniel F. Ferguson, identified as "negro," is arrested and charged with homicide in connection with the shooting death of Elijah Hamilton of Raeford.

April 20 - A coroner's jury finds "no probable cause" to charge James William McDonald with manslaughter in the March death of Johnny Sams. McDonald himself was critically injured in the wreck.

April 27 - Plans for the Golden Jubilee continue with the Old Raeford Chapter of the Jubilee Belles preparing their costumes for a pageant and promenades on Main Street.

May 4 - Four incumbents, including Mayor Alfred Cole, are voted out of office on the town board this week as Raeford voters head to the polls for the local elections. Only J.D. Millian and John K. McNeill Jr. remain on the board following the election.

May 11 - The Golden Jubilee celebration of Hoke County's 50th anniversary kicks off this week with a parade, beauty pageant, observance in the county churches and pageant about the county's history.

Kelly Devane Edwards, 13, identified as "negro," dies of a broken neck after being struck by a car. Edwards was reportedly walking across the street after leaving his school bus when he was struck. Highway Patrolman E.G. Inman arrested M.D. Kelly of Pope Air Force Base on charges of manslaughter, reckless driving and failing to stop for a stopped school bus.

May 19 - The Golden Jubilee Queen, Rosemary Cameron, a junior at Hoke County High School, salutes the crowds at the celebration honoring Hoke County's heritage. Gov. Terry Sanford crowned the queen and addressed the audience, applauding the community's plan to improve life in rural areas.

May 26 - Gordon Crumpler is sworn into office as county coroner, replacing Dr. William Barry, who resigned the previous month. Crumpler is the director of a local funeral home and ambulance service.

June 1 - Law officers use dynamite to blow up a massive 800-gallon moonshine still discovered this week and arrest two men in connection with the still. John Henry Davis, 37, and Hugh Lowry, 37, are charged with violating the prohibition laws.

Hoke County High School graduates 74 students at the spring commencement exercises. The address is presented by Dr. Voight Cromer, president of Lenoir-Rhyne College.

June 8 - A delegation of Hoke County men testify before a House committee in opposition to a proposal to create a new Congressional district that would match Democrat Paul Kitchin against Republican Charles Raper Jonas. The change would mean placing Hoke County in the 7th Congressional District.

June 15 - What attorney Charles Hostetler calls "an unfortunate misunderstanding" temporarily costs the Hoke County Health Department its eligibility to receive federal surplus property. A federal auditor from the Department of Health,

Education and Welfare questioned the use by the town and county of certain items of federal surplus equipment signed out to the Health Center. The arrangement was known and had been approved by the state officials in charge of distributing the federal surplus property and was used for sanitation purposes related to the public health programs of the health center, Hostetler says.

June 22 - Hoke voters circulate a petition for a proposed special tax levy to help support the Hoke County library. Otherwise, supporters argue the library will have insufficient funding to open six days a week and maintain an adequate full-time staff.

June 29 - Raeford businessmen J.L. McNeill, Tom McBryde and J.H. Blue travel to Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas on a seven-day agri-business tour sponsored by Wachovia Bank.

July 6 - Two people are killed and three are injured over the holiday weekend. Green Locklear surrenders himself voluntarily after allegedly shooting and killing his wife, Frances Locklear, in front of their children. Franklin Gene Holt, 20, dies in a car accident. Three others are injured in several car wrecks.

July 13 - The News-Journal announces a transition to offset printing, a revolutionary process that uses photographic negatives of a newspaper page to create a plate for printing. The equipment costs \$60,000. The News-Journal reports it is the first newspaper in the state to use the method.

July 20 - Michael Robert Sutton, 9, of Wrightsville Beach, dies after being hit by a car while riding his bicycle. The driver, assistant home agent for the county Mary Lou Roman, collapses while attempting to aid the child and is taken to the hospital. The event is ruled an accident.

A severe storm hits Hoke County and does up to \$1 million damage to local crops. Farm and business leaders appeal to the government to declare the hardest hit areas Emergency Areas. The designation would allow them to access federal aid and state relief measures. Locals are asked to donate food, clothing or other needed items for those suffering a substantial loss.

July 27 - The dog warden reports having killed 330 dogs in just three months, with more than 100 complaints registered through the health department or sheriff's office.

Aug. 3 - Hoke County farmers begin selling tobacco at Fairmont and Lumberton markets, buoyed by reports of good prices in the Georgia-Florida markets. Farmers are expected to sell about 3.5 million pounds of tobacco.

Aug. 10 - The United States Department of Agriculture declares the county an Emergency Area and authorizes farmers to make production emergency loans to help with expenses following a severe storm earlier in the summer.

Aug. 17 - Hoke County law officers destroy two 400-gallon capacity stills in Antioch township. Arrested at the scene are John Westley Brigman, 43, and Charles Junior Locklear, 29.

Aug. 24 - Green Locklear is convicted of



Mary K. Brady and two small patients at the TB sanatorium, later named McCain Hospital

murdering his wife and sentenced to eight years in state prison. Judge Henry McKinnon later found Daniel Ferguson, charged with second-degree murder of Elijah Hamilton, not guilty on basis of self-defense.

Aug. 31 - M.D. Kennedy, an airman from Pope Air Force Base, pleads guilty to manslaughter of a child crossing the road after leaving a school bus. The airman is sentenced to 3-5 years in prison with sentence suspended for a three-year probation and court costs.

Sept. 7 - The Raeford town board opens bids for the purchase and installation of a civil defense/fire alarm siren, but Town Clerk Charles Morrison says it will be some time before the order can be placed. The issue must first be approved by the civil defense headquarters in Raleigh.

Sept. 14 - The Hoke County Fair comes to Raeford this week with a midway, games, miniature golf course and many exhibits and competitions for local farmers and 4-H students. One of the biggest problems is getting men to bring in their exhibits, while the women do a good job of showing up with items for display, agent W.C. Williford says. The News-Journal publishes a special section with information about the event.

Sept. 28 - The Raeford town board discusses with town engineer Richard Moore drawing up plans for a conventional, lagoon-based sewer system. A \$100,000 federal grant would provide for the lagoon, as the existing lagoon "went septic" on Labor Day "for no apparent reason."

Rosa Lee Baldwin confesses to killing her husband, James Lee Baldwin, with a shotgun. Baldwin is arrested on charges of murder.

Oct. 5 - Priebe Poultry temporarily shuts down its turkey killing line after a financial crisis. The company reportedly experienced a cash shortage and lenders refused additional money against the inventory of frozen turkeys on hand. The poultry market appears to be generally depressed, but plant manager Leonard Frahm says the line will be ready to return to business in a few days.

Oct. 12 - Priebe Poultry resumes operations at the Raeford plant with all of the company's 135

D. Scott Poole printed first newspaper in Hoke

D. Scott Poole first passed through this area in 1902. The next time he came here, he established a newspaper.

The first issue of Facts and Figures, set by hand, was published March 30, 1905. Hoke was not yet a county and Raeford was only four years old.

Poole published a newspaper for several years before he moved to Wendell and began a newspaper there.

Fred P. Johnson then published Facts and Figures, and its name was changed to The Hoke County Journal after Hoke became a county. Fred's father, J.W. Johnson, and other men incorporated the newspaper on September 3, 1913. Bion J. Butler was named editor.

Poole returned to Raeford to resume operation of The Hoke County Journal in January 1915.

For a short period, Hoke County had two newspapers. Paul Dickson of Raeford and R.L. Eastham of Red Springs partnered to publish The Hoke County News in 1928 and printed it in Red Springs. The

following year, Dickson bought The Hoke County Journal and merged the two papers to become The News-Journal.

Dickson bought a Linotype from The Greensboro Daily News and began publishing the newspaper in Raeford with the help of John Russell and Fulford McMillan. Their office was located on Edinborough Avenue. In the 1930s, the paper was moved to Main Street.

After Dickson's death in November 1935, his widow, Annie Barnes Dickson, with help, took over publication of The News-Journal. Her son Paul Dickson Jr. helped until he and co-worker Sam Morris left for the National Guard in 1940.

Mrs. Dickson continued to keep the paper alive until Dickson and Morris returned, and Dickson became editor and publisher January 31, 1946.

In 1955 the paper was moved to 119 West Elwood Avenue. Many changes have taken place since that time but the newspaper is still at that location.

Raeford-based workers returning to work this week. Some payroll checks and other payments bounced during the two-week period the plant had to shut down.

Oct. 19 - County Health Director Dr. Clifton Davenport reports a case of diphtheria and urges parents to immunize their children. The victim, a 4-year-old boy, is quarantined along with the seven other children living in the same household.

Oct. 26 - An experimental sewage lagoon on U.S. 401 is bulldozed this week, putting an end to the project that at one time promised to give the town a modern disposal system at a bargain cost. The project now ended, the sewage instead returns to being delivered into Rockfish Creek.

Nov. 2 - Two men, identified as "negro," are arrested on charges connected with an attack on Sadie Jordan, 43, identified as "white." Preston McPhaul and Wesley McPhaul are arrested and held.

Hoke County, transferred by the state General Assembly into District 7, meets Rep. Alton Lennon, representative of the 7th district. Hoke County belongs in the 7th District, not the former 8th District, Lennon tells voters.

Nov. 9 - Hoke High Class of 1959 valedictorian Sadie Chambers dies in an automobile accident near Gastonia. The 20-year-old of Quewhiff township becomes the 11th Hoke County person to die on the roadways in 1961.

Nov. 16 - Two Hoke County teenagers die this week as the result of a car wreck and an accident with a gun. Clarence Odom Jr. is killed in a car wreck in Southern Pines when he loses control of his car, and Patricia Ann Capel, 13, dies when Wayne Kivett, 15, and Jeremy Dial, playing with a supposedly unloaded gun, accidentally shoot her.

Army officials at Fort Bragg deny a widespread rumor that the military post plans to acquire more land in Hoke County. The public information officer reports that no one has surveyed additional land, contrary to rumors.

Nov. 23 - A Civil Defense Area Director

for 11 North Carolina counties informs the Hoke-Raeford Parent-Teacher Association that elaborate fallout shelters are nice but not absolutely necessary. "Whether it's an expensive and luxurious shelter, or one you dig yourself, the point is to get a mass of material between you and the enemy radiation. Three inches of lead will do it, or 24 inches of concrete, or three feet of closely-packed dirt. The average home offers little protection," retired Army officer Victor Harris says.

Nov. 30 - The Civil Defense provides a special mention of managing waste following a nuclear attack. "Where radioactive fallout does not present a hazard, temporary pit toilets may be constructed in a yard area or an existing privy may be used."

Dec. 7 - A truck runs into a train this week on the Hoke-Moore County line, derailing the locomotive and badly damaging the McNair Farm truck. The drivers walked away from the accident unharmed. The truck driver reportedly failed to stop at the train crossing.

Dec. 14 - The Hoke County Board of Commissioners seek to meet with a leading civil defense expert in Raleigh to discuss the possibility of a defense program in the county. Long-time Hoke County Civil Defense Director Alfred Cole resigned from the position the previous month.

Dec. 21 - Local National Guard unit, the 2nd Medium Tank Battalion, gains a new commander this year as Lt. Col. T.B. Lester steps in to take over from Lt. Col. William Lamont Jr. Lester has been a member of the National Guard since 1932.

Col. Wallace Dawson of the state Civil Defense headquarters tells Hoke commissioners that a bomb dropped on Fort Bragg will not cause fallout in Hoke County for at least an hour. The commissioners will seek public input on how to proceed in developing a civil defense program.

Dec. 28 - An N.C. Civil Defense lesson suggests "In an emergency it can be assumed that electric power from your regular source will fail.

Only a few farms will have an emergency source of electric power. Furnaces which depend upon electricity to operate the controls supplying the fuel to the furnace and to operate the fan forcing the heated air throughout the house electric ranges will be useless until power can be restored."

1962

Jan. 4 - The Hoke County commissioners vote unanimously in favor of a minimum Civil Defense program to be financed out of available revenues in the contingency fund. Alfred Cole, long-time defense director for the county, sought to resign in November but responded favorably to suggestions that he withdraw his resignation. The urgency of the situation is amplified by a letter from the state Civil Defense headquarters that in the future, the federal government will send architect and engineers to survey and mark private buildings that might be used as fallout shelters.

Jan. 11 - Hoke County farmers learn more about the all-risk Federal Crop Insurance program this week as three U.S. Department of Agriculture agents arrive to add interested parties to the list of farms covered by the insurance. Many farmers, hurt badly by the previous year's million-dollar storm damage, are eager to participate.

Preston McPhaul, 19, pleads guilty to the rape of a Raeford woman and is sentenced to life in prison. His cousin, Wesley McPhaul, charged with being an accessory to the rape, tendered a guilty plea to the lesser offense of forcible trespass. He received a two-year suspended sentence.

Jan. 18 - A five-year-old boy is hospitalized this week after being struck by a car in front of his home. Joe McLaughlin reportedly rode his bicycle into the road in front of the vehicle.

John Willie Pearson, charged with rape of a Raeford woman, is found not guilty by a jury after three hours of deliberation.

Jan. 25 - Israel Mann is honored by the Kiwanis Club as Man of the Year. The Jewish, Lithuanian immigrant from a small village called Kretinga opened his store in Raeford in 1926 after coming to Hoke County.

Feb. 8 - Riley Barrett dies after reportedly walking in front of a vehicle driven by Leroy Kensel, 20, a soldier at Fort Bragg. Three others were injured this week in county car accidents.

Feb. 15 - Sheriff Dave Hodgins, who has served in the position for 37 consecutive years, announces he will run one final time to reclaim the office. Hodgins is Hoke County's second sheriff, with the first being the late Edgar Hall.

March 1 - Checks owed Priebe Poultry employees for back pay fail to arrive this week as had been promised by Chicago attorney Harry Ash, the court-appointed receiver for the bankrupt interstate poultry corporation. Ash now says the checks will be mailed next week; they arrive on schedule.

March 8 - Petitions begin circulating in the county regarding a vote on allowing a licensed ABC store to set up shop. The petitions must carry the names of 15 percent of registered voters in the county to qualify for a vote, according to state statute.

March 15 - A petition with more than 800 signatures calling for an ABC election is delivered to the Board of Elections, ensuring that a vote on the issue will be called. Only 405 signatures were required to call the election.

March 22 - Col. Robert J. MacDonald tells the Raeford Kiwanis Club that the Army has already secured maneuver rights on 22,000 acres of land in the area, out of a total 28,000 acres requested.

March 29 - The Board of Elections announces

that a countywide ABC election will be held May 26 in conjunction with the regular primary voting. A total of 631 signatures out of more than 800 were checked and found to be valid.

April 5 - The Hoke County Commissioners approve a tentative budget that totals \$228,068, a figure that "holds the line" on the present tax rate of \$1.25 per \$100 of valuation. The increase in valuation this year was due to property improvements and more accurate listing.

April 12 - "Down East Faces," an art exhibit created by North Carolina artist Jack Berkman, is set to be displayed at downtown Raeford businesses. The artwork features portraits of the Wilmington City Council at work, a woman eating a donut, a teenage girl with her cat and others. The exhibit is sponsored by the fine arts department of the Woman's Club and The New-Journal with the cooperation of the merchant's division of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce.

April 19 - Sheriff Dave Hodgins, 65, decides not to run for a final term in office after his family opposes his candidacy in the position he held for nearly four consecutive decades. Five candidates enter the field to seek the office.

April 26 - Raeford ranks second in the amount of money donated to the sustaining gifts division of the Moore Memorial Hospital building fund, just behind Southern Pines. A total of 44 firms and individuals in the county have pledged a total of \$6,440, while similar pledges from Southern Pines amounted to \$6,732.

May 3 - Prohibitionists from many county churches meet this week at the Raeford Methodist Church to organize the "dry" vote for the May 26 election against a proposal to establish legal control of alcohol with an ABC store.

May 10 - The Raeford town commissioners approve a tentative \$210,000 budget that will raise the tax rate 12 cents per \$100 valuation to a new high of \$1.17. The increase came in the debt service fund that jumped from \$36,000 in 1961 to \$60,000 in 1962 in anticipation of the sale of \$315,000 worth of bonds authorized by voters for a sewage treatment plant.

May 17 - Hoke County Democrats rename Sam Morris as party chairman in a meeting held following the biennial county convention at the courthouse.

Proponents and opponents of the controlled sale of legal alcohol in the county hold events and elect officers to lead committees supporting their respective viewpoints ahead of a vote on the issue.

May 24 - Bankrupt Priebe Poultry closes its Raeford operation this week, leaving about 125 men and women out of work. The new crisis for the company came as a result of the lease on the plant, held by Bonner Thomason of Fayetteville, expiring June 1. Some turkey growers are still owed money for their work.

May 31 - A record number of voters turn out to cast votes with seven out of 11 precincts in the county supporting the legal sale of alcohol through an ABC store. Voters also select Dave Barrington for Sheriff, Ed Smith for Clerk of Court and Eli Shankle for the Board of County Commissioners.

June 7 - Priebe Poultry officially closes this week with all forms of operation discontinued by Chicago attorney Harry Ash, the court-appointed trustee in bankruptcy. Manager Leonard Frahm says that about 125 workers at the plant have been notified of complete termination of employment. The plant brought in about \$500,000 in payroll every year.

Retired school administrator K.A. MacDonald is unanimously selected to lead the ABC board with William Lamont Jr. and Jimmy Conoly selected as members for a two-year and

one-year term. The Attorney General's office is investigating whether the 1901 Raeford town charter, which states that an ABC store "could not be located within the corporate limits of the town of Raeford," would effectively prohibit the store. The board eventually chooses to locate the store just outside the city limits.

June 14 - Local business leaders report a strong possibility that a syndicate of area agribusinessmen have agreed to purchase the Priebe Poultry plant and reopen it under new management, provided the community fund the construction of a deep-freeze unit.

June 21 - The local corporation soon expects to set up shop and finance the construction of a deep freeze unit at the former Priebe Poultry plant, according to Tom Cameron. A Chamber of Commerce committee is working to provide financing for the project. Herbie Evans, Marvin Johnson, D.J. Murray and Sherwood Stone have conditionally agreed to purchase and operate the plant.

June 28 - The Hoke ABC board signs a binding verbal agreement with realtor John Wright for construction of a liquor store on U.S. 401 next to the Tastee-Freeze, just outside the Raeford city limits.

Turkeys move down the line once again at the former Priebe Poultry plant, now known as Raeford Turkey Farms Inc., after being closed for several weeks due to the former company's bankruptcy. Plant manager Leonard Frahm asks area citizens to submit names for the three brands of turkeys that will be processed there. More than 100 employees are back on the job.

July 5 - About seven merchants stand with E.A. Martin, manager of the Johnson Cotton Company, as he tells the ABC board that the

location of the liquor store would be "an undue hardship on us." The merchants also express concern over the location - right across the street from Hoke County High School and next to a popular teenage hangout.

The county Board of Commissioners withdraws \$28,500 from the reserve fund for capital improvements at the Hawk Eye Indian School, the Burlington School and the Upchurch School.

July 12 - Group retail sales figures as compiled by the N.C. Department of Revenue show Hoke County lagging behind other counties in the area.

July 19 - Foster McBryde Jr., reportedly despondent over a separation from his wife Nellie, holds two officers at bay with a pistol before being subdued. Raeford Police Chief Lawrence Stanton sustained rib injuries, with Sheriff-elect Dave Barrington narrowly missing a bullet. McBryde is sent to Chapel Hill for treatment of head injuries and a psychiatric evaluation and will be charged with assault with a deadly weapon, resisting arrest, carrying a concealed weapon and assaulting officers.

A savage hail storm batters sections of A-lendale and Blue Springs townships, causing an estimated \$200,000 in damage to the area. But the storm knocked the edge off a dry spell, county agent W.C. Williford says.

Beatrice Morrison, 25, dies due to "acute alcohol intoxication," according to county coroner Frank Crumpler. The coroner suspects that Morrison had been drinking moonshine.

July 26 - One person is killed and six injured on Hoke County roads in a series of vehicle wrecks this week. Charles S. Outlaw, 22, of Pink Hill dies en route to the hospital. Outlaw is the first person transported by the county's newly organized rescue squad.

The town's new civil defense siren is "out of whack," and only a very few shelter spaces are found in the county that offer acceptable protection from a nuclear attack without further modification, according to Hoke Civil Defense Director Alfred Cole.

Aug. 2 - J. Lawrence McNeill, chairman of a special Chamber of Commerce committee, announces that \$100,000 worth of stock will be sold in a development corporation that will lease a deep freeze storage facility to Raeford Turkey Farms, Inc. The announcement comes the same week that U.S. Rubber announces it will build a warehouse for storage.

The first truckload of legal liquor to be sold arrives this week at the ABC store.

Aug. 9 - The ABC store opens in Hoke County for the first time this week and makes \$800 gross on the first day of operation. Upcoming on the ABC board agenda is a list of local inebriates who will be denied sale and the possibility that wine will be sold in some local grocery stores.

Foster McBryde Jr. is found guilty of resisting arrest, assaulting an officer, carrying a concealed weapon and assault with a deadly weapon. He receives two years on the roads, suspended on payment of a \$200 fine, court costs and five years of good behavior.

Aug. 16 - A truckload of wine is delivered to the A&P grocery store on Main Street with store personnel declining to comment except to say that the wine would go on sale immediately.

Aug. 23 - Hoke County Schools prepare to handle a flood of more than 5,000 students as the end of summer vacation rolls around.

Aug. 30 - The office of Gov. Terry Sanford approves and forwards to Washington a preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for

Hoke County. Final certification in the nation's capital will make the county eligible for a wide variety of special federal programs designed to raise the standard of living in Hoke County.

Sept. 6 - The Raeford town board discusses whether grocery stores selling wine are violating the law. Town attorney H.D. Harrison Jr. says that the A&P is in compliance with the state law, but the question is the validity of a local charter prohibiting town or county commissioners to grant a liquor license.

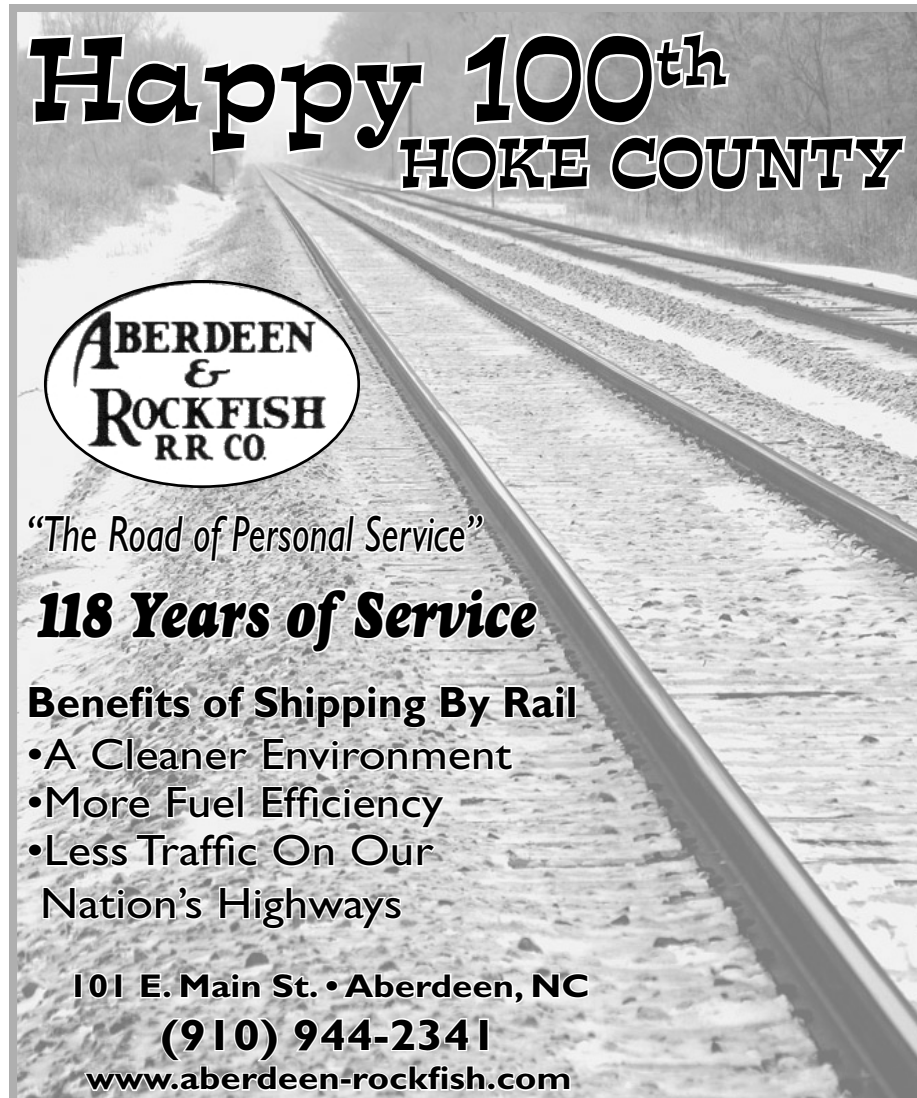
Sept. 13 - Volunteers prepare to host the annual Hoke County Fair amid concerns that it may be the last one held, due to low farmer participation and the N.C. Department of Agriculture moving to end the tax exempt status of the Jaycees' Fair Association unless Hoke farmers provide three exhibits and 27 different divisions.

Sept. 20 - The Elk Restaurant, a landmark for early morning patrons, is sold to Charlie Daramus, who purchases it from Tony Drake. Drake suffered a serious heart attack but is recuperating in the hospital.


Oct. 4 - Raeford Turkey Farms, Inc. introduces for the first time the "House of Raeford" label and name for its premium turkeys. The local business leaders plan to meet next week to discuss a Hoke Development Corp.

Oct. 18 - Lt. Col. T.B. Lester resigns as the commanding officer of the 2nd Medium Tank Battalion. He steps down after more than 30 years service in the National Guard and U.S. Army. Lt. Col. Paul Dickson steps in as the new leader.

Oct. 25 - A front-page editorial writes: "No matter how the words are sugar-coated, the stark fact is that we are now at war with Cuba. What remains to be determined is whether or not we are at war with Cuba's big brother ally,



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the Soviet Union."

Nov. 1 - The civil defense work in Hoke County continues under the pressure of the still-continuing Cuban crisis, with director Alfred Cole pointing out that the need for "a steady and realistic Civil Defense effort will be with us for years, regardless of the outcome of the Cuban crisis."

Nov. 22 - Phil Ellis of the N.C. Traffic Safety Council addresses the local Parent-Teacher Association to say that sudden death or serious injury on the highway is a problem that can be solved "and we know how to solve it." Among the suggestions he proposes are a chemical test to determine drunkenness, more highway patrolmen for better law enforcement, more strict licenses for young drivers, more traffic engineers and court reform.

Nov. 29 - A Superior Court jury deliberates for two hours before returning a not guilty verdict for Foster McBryde Jr., charged with resisting arrest, assaulting an officer and assault with a deadly weapon. McBryde appealed the previous conviction.

Dec. 6 - A wave of fires believed to be the work of arsonists burn over 500 acres of Hoke timber and destroy the Hoke Exchange feed mill. Additional fires in Antioch and Allendale kept the rural fire department busy.

Dec. 20 - James Hall is charged with incest against his 17-year-old daughter, but the state prosecutor chooses to take a nolo prosequere with leave, meaning that the state is dropping the case but reserving the right to take it back up.

Dec. 27 - About 300 town voters are expected to return to the town hall polls to cast their vote for or against \$150,000 street and water bonds that will go to match a similar sum from the

federal government.

1963

Jan. 3 - Just over 100 voters approved one bond issue, turned down another. The street bond issue was passed by only three votes, and the water and sewer bond was turned down by the same amount of votes. The town plans another vote.

Jan. 10 - "If you like 'em solid, sure-footed and quick, Fairlane's your kind of car," reads a Ford ad.

Jan. 17 - The front page has a photo of little Annie Belle Smith wearing a 9-ft. boa named Hitler around her neck like a scarf. Hitler, described as playful, belongs to Donnie Smith.

Jan. 24 - Methodist College student Lela Mae Croom died when the car she was a passenger in skidded on ice and crashed into a tree on Hwy. 401 northeast of Raeford. Herman Locklear, 24, died of a blood clot after a car he was a passenger in crashed. His death brings Hoke's traffic fatalities to two.

Jan. 31 - The city drops the idea of a sewer and water bond vote.

Feb. 7 - With 2,000 cases of the flu, an epidemic is reported.

Feb. 14 - The Highway Patrol, ABC agents, federal ATU agents and the sheriff's department raid 25 homes and arrest 25 people for having illegal liquor to sell. Sheriff's deputies also dynamite a 450-gal. still found in Antioch.

Feb. 21 - Doctors Harry McLean and Riley Jordan say Hoke needs its own hospital after McLeantreats an elderly woman with pneumonia and cannot find a hospital room for her. "Finally, I gave her what medication I could and left her

at home," McLean said.

Feb. 28 - Alfred K. Leach is presented the Distinguished Service Award by the Jaycees.

March 7 - A possum did not deter a rescue squad member from rescuing a cat that had been chased high in a tree by a dog.

March 14 - A 12-year-old boy loses three fingers of his right hand and is burned by bits of explosive when he finds a grenade and it explodes in his hand. Later, he sues the U.S. Government, saying he pulled the pin because a soldier told him it was harmless.

March 21 - Blue Springs folks build their own community center at a cost of \$2,800 with much of the labor contributed.

March 28 - Burlington Industries announces a profit sharing plan to its employees.

April 4 - Commissioners are looking at a budget that calls for a tax hike of three cents.

April 11 - Southern National Bank is to build a branch office on the corner of Elwood Ave. and N. Main St.

April 18 - A fallout shelter is proposed by Sam Morris and Alfred Cole.

Hoke County will be part of a gigantic military maneuver, Swift Strike III, this summer.

April 25 - Floyd Wilson resigned as Hoke High's football coach and athletic director amid a cloud of controversy.

May 2 - A strong movement to have all Hoke mail delivered by the Raeford post office is underway.

In the city election, only one new candidate is on the ballot.

May 9 - Raeford is one of nine communities in which heavy and light artillery, machine guns, bazookas, tanks, etc. will be set up on Main Street on Armed Forces Day.

May 16 - The driver of a pickup almost drowned when his vehicle overturned and landed near a drain pipe in Thomas' pond on Turnpike Road.

May 23 - Hoke (white), Upchurch (African-American) and Hawk Eye (Indian) will graduate 165. Nancy Bray and Jean Brock are valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of Hoke High. Upchurch's top student is Marilyn Murchison.

May 30 - A Hoke County drifter, the victim of a hit and run at Five Points, is identified as Leon Dunton of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The county may have to bury him.

June 6 - Commissioners request a raise for themselves in the upcoming budget.

June 13 - Brenda Strother of Ashley Heights is the winner out of 100 contestants who designed and made their own dresses. Her white brocade party dress with scoop neckline has a fitted bodice and pleated skirt.

June 20 - A caption under a photo reads "Watermelon Mann" and shows department store owner Israel Mann passing out pieces of watermelon to youngsters.

June 27 - A house is moved from Campus Street to make way for a new Raeford Savings and Loan Assoc. building.

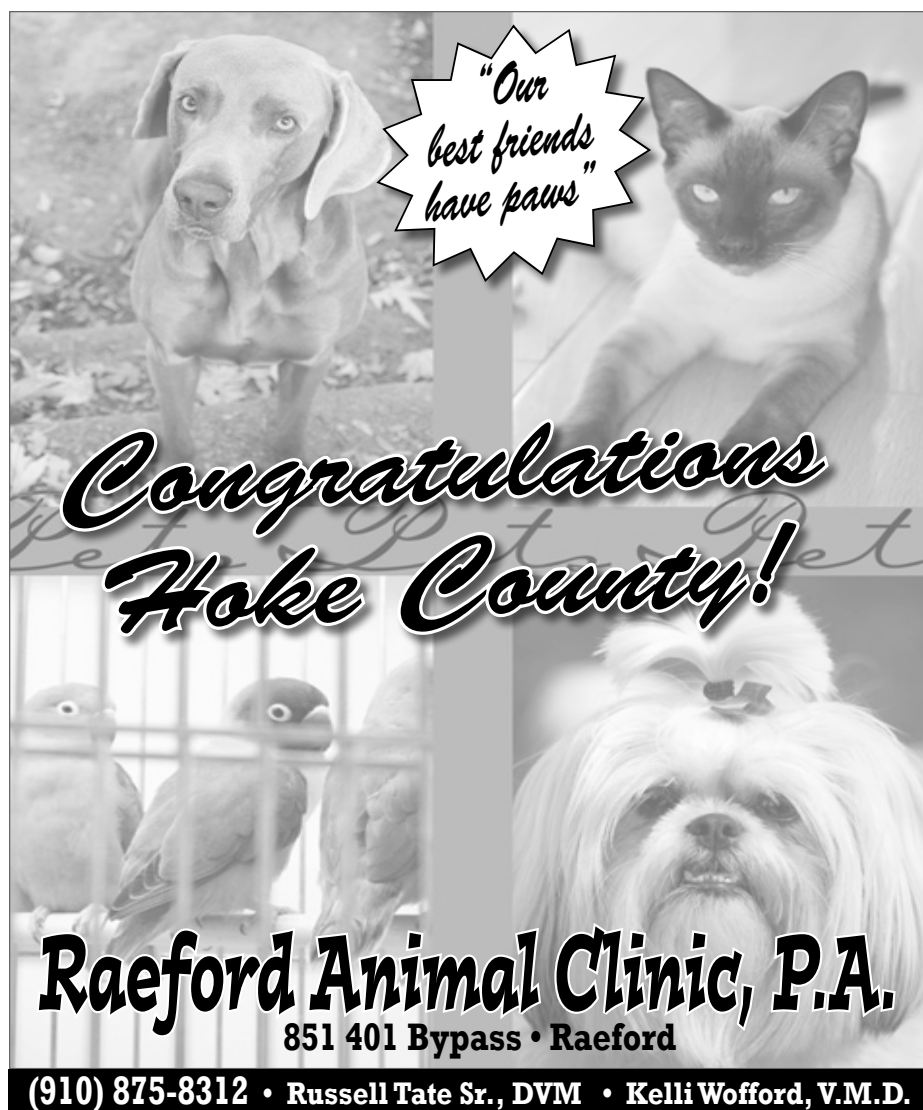
Raeford's post office number is 28376 (as if you didn't know).

July 4 - John Pecora is named Hoke High's football coach and athletic director, and J. Ed Williams of Dunn is the new city manager.

July 11 - Miss Rosemary Cameron is named Hoke Watermelon Queen.

July 18 - Clyde Teal sells the service station side of Teal Oil Co. to his brother Franklin Teal, who will operate it as Teal Service Station.

July 25 - Pete Dickson shot a picture of



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The Home of Good Things To Eat.

This ad appeared in The News-Journal
Thursday, October 24, 1918.

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Animal Supplies
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(910) 875-3375

youngsters swimming and playing in the old water hole on Rockfish Creek on a hot summer's day.

Aug. 8 - The rural fire truck arrived too late to save a tobacco barn belonging to Ken McNeill. Now the rural fire truck is out of gas and money too.

Aug. 15 - Charlie Brown, guerilla leader of the Army's Swift Strike, has been hiding in plain sight at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Upchurch Jr. He was captured but escaped to regroup and attack forces headquartered in Hope Mills.

Aug. 22 - Two men are charged with killing their wives: one is an ax murder that crushed a skull, and the other is a murder by shotgun blast to the neck. Both men are later convicted; one gets life and the other gets 25 years.

Sept. 5 - Two men are killed when their 1956 Lincoln roared through a stop sign and smashed into an embankment. Dead are Carl Sarvis, 40, of Southern Pines and James Kimball Jr., 29, of Vass.

Sept. 12 - The Bucks, under the coaching of John Pecora, new to the job, won their opener in the last minutes of the game. Final score was Bucks 14, Lumberton 7.

Sept. 19 - Dave H. Hodgin was 33 when he ran for Hoke sheriff and won. He held the job for 34 years. Now retired, he was never injured but recalls a time of danger when he was escorting two prisoners to Death Row, and one carried a knife that had been slipped to him. He thinks he did not get the knife in his back because a burly Raeford policeman decided to ride in the back with the prisoners.

Sept. 26 - A five-year-old girl is credited with saving her "feeble" grandmother from a fire that gutted a seven-room house where 25 people lived. Except for the grandmother, the adults were working in the fields.

Oct. 3 - Mrs. J.L. Warner, a third grade teacher at McLauchlin School, is named Teacher of the Year by the Raeford Woman's Club.

Oct. 10 - R.B. Lewis, former fire chief and volunteer firefighter who retired after 34 years, reminisces as he sits behind the wheel of a 1926 LaFrance fire engine.

Oct. 17 - Sheriff Dave Barrington and Deputy Jesse Lee spent the weekend in the woods in McLauchlin Township and nabbed three men for making 'shine and blew up three stills.

Oct. 24 - Albert McLeod, 45, was struck and killed by a train near the head of Upchurch Pond. The train was traveling about 30 mph and was coming out of a curve when the engineer saw McLeod sitting on a crosstie with his head slumped forward.

Oct. 31 - Wage employees of the Raeford Worsted plant will be given a pay increase of approximately five cents per hour.

Nov. 7 - U.S. Rubber promises pay raises.

Nov. 14 - Dave Barrington, the youngest sheriff in North Carolina at age 29, is the son of a Hoke deputy and jailer and was born in an apartment occupied by the Barrington family above the jail.

Nov. 21 - A Raeford man, Angus Thompson, gets 30 days for beating his 11-year-old stepson and making him drink from a hog trough.

Nov. 28 - Hoke holds a memorial service for slain President John F. Kennedy.

City employees get a raise.

Dec. 5 - Cemeteries give the city headaches, one involves a commercial cemetery whose owners want water piped to it. The other is outside the city limits but within the mile jurisdiction where zoning can be controlled by the city and neighbors don't want it.

Dec. 12 - Steve Hedgpeth is named "top dog" of the Bucks' 1963 football squad.

Dec. 19 - Free food is handed out to 300 needy families.

Dec. 26 - Winner of the Raeford Garden Club door decoration is the door of Mr. and Mrs. Davis of East Prospect Extension with predominantly pink and white decorations.

1964

Jan. 2 - A rash of accidents keeps local officers busy. There is one fatality.

Jan. 9 - Sheriff Dave Barrington asks for an additional deputy. Later in the year he got two.

Jan. 16 - Two cases of meningitis are reported in Hoke.

Jan. 23 - Thieves raid the county office building for a second time but came away empty handed. An arrest is made later.

Jan. 30 - Work begins on plans for a new post office.

Feb. 6 - Plans for a perpetual care cemetery at Sunset Hills are halted after residents protest.

Feb. 27 - Volunteer firefighters vehemently protest a "poor" rating given by the state. Townspeople rally behind their firefighters.

March 5 - County commissioners end a free handout program to needy families. For three months 11, staple items were given out.

March 12 - President Johnson's income tax cuts will mean \$676,680 to Hoke citizens.

March 26 - Sheriff Dave Barrington wins the Distinguished Service Award from the Jr. Chamber of Commerce.

April 2 - Three Raeford policemen, Sam Motley, Harvey Young and J.C. Barrington, are honored for saving the life of a Main Street woman by carrying her from her burning home.

April 23 - Hoke schools' proposed budget is the highest ever at \$189,658.

April 30 - Hoke High Principal Dewey Huggins resigns after five years.

May 28 - The new Hoke High principal is Donald D. Abernathy.

June 18 - Raeford merchandisers protest increased fees for privilege licenses. The town council turns a deaf ear.

June 25 - County commissioners approve an appraisal for tax revaluation purposes.

July 9 - The county health director tells town councilmen the town will have to stop using the town dump on Rockfish Creek.

July 16 - Raeford Savings & Loan moves to a new location on Campus Ave.

July 23 - James R. Fout Jr. will manage the Chamber of Commerce.

Aug. 13 - The local unit of the National Guard will drill once a month instead of weekly.

A West Elwood Ave. site is chosen for a new post office.

Aug. 20 - Charlie Morrison is appointed permanent postmaster of Raeford.

Sept. 3 - The first African American is quietly admitted to an all-white school, McLauchlin Elementary.

State Highway Patrolman Bill Herbin is murdered during a routine traffic stop. Two men were convicted in December; one's conviction was overturned.

Sept. 24 - The Bucks upset mighty Rockingham 13-0.

Oct. 1 - Veteran state highway patrolman Joe Dupree resigns to run for judge of Hoke Recorders Court, an office he won.

Oct. 8 - State Highway Patrolman Jimmy Mayo is assigned to Hoke.

Oct. 15 - Hoke County Agent W.Y. Young wins the distinguished service award from the National Assoc. of Agricultural agents.

Oct. 22 - Hoke Schools Superintendent W.T. Gibson Jr. says 12 additional school rooms are needed and urged voters to approve the school referendum.

Ben Ray

Ben Ray was a member of a nearby church, probably East Freedom, who was asked to deliver the Morning Prayer. His prayer was appropriate, but his closing was different. Instead of the customary "Amen" closing, he ended his prayer with "yours truly, Ben Ray."

It may have been that he was ahead of the times in personalizing his prayer.

Goufa Dust

"Goufa dust" is an earthen material that is taken from cemeteries and is believed to have special powers. An individual wanting to effect certain changes would take his goufa dust and sprinkle it about. The individual against whom the action was taken is helpless against its intended power unless he had a potion to counteract its effects.

Master has gone to Heaven

One of the slaves who served a family by performing household duties returned to the kitchen after visiting the living quarters section of the home. "Master has gone to heaven; he's dead, and he's gone to heaven," she announced. Another slave spoke up and said, "I don't think so. Master was a man who always prepared for his journeys, and I don't think he prepared for going to heaven. In all my years I never heard him pray the first time."

The perception of a child

Grandma told the story of an event, which took place at Walls Chapel Church. She took her young son to church with her.

The proud mother walked about the church grounds greeting people while carrying Edward Mason snuggled against her shoulder.

One of the persons she interacted with was her Aunt Caroline Wall. Aunt Caroline reached over and pinched the child's cheek and said, "You are a pretty child." The child replied, "You are ugly."

Aunt Caroline then asked Grandma, "What did he say?" Grandma's response was "I don't know."

Grandma's response was correct especially since the child's assessment was not an objective one.

The Swamp Thing

The northernmost of three swamps in the Bowmore Community is known as the Big Middle Swamp, and passes behind the site of Aunt Fannie Priest's home. Fallen logs made up a portion of a footpath through the water-filled swamp. We were told never to venture into that area, because the swamp was filled with "things." On occasions, we could hear one of the "things" let out a low bellowing noise. In spite of the cautions, our childhood curiosity got the better of us more than once, but we never saw the "thing."

Several years later, a group of curiosity seekers gathered on U.S. 401 at the point where the highway passes through the Big Middle Swamp. A huge animal had tried to cross the road by crawling through a culvert underneath the highway and had gotten wedged in the small space. It would let out the kind of bellow we associated with the "swamp thing."

The huge thing was an alligator from the swamp that had to be destroyed.

Oct. 29 - Fire Chief J.D. McMillan warns "thrill seekers" to stay away from fire scenes or get ticketed.

Nov. 5 - County commissioners vote to participate in the free food program in winter months only.

Nov. 19 - Hoke Superior Court opens a one-week criminal term with three murder trials on the docket.

Dec. 3 - Raeford Medical Group, with three doctors, opens a clinic on Campus Avenue.

Dec. 10 - Eli Shankle is reelected chairman of county commissioners.

Dec. 17 - Willie Junior Smith and Rudy Clegg Bruton of Moore County are convicted of the slaying of State Trooper Bill Herbin. Only a plea of mercy from the jury saves the men from the gas chamber.

Dec. 24 - Plans for a half-million dollar golf and country club are announced.

1965

Jan. 7 - A state inspector says Hoke's jail "barely" passes the test, and a new jail should be planned.

Jan. 14 - Teen vandals damage Raeford Methodist Church.

Raeford merchant Jesse A. Baucom dies.

Jan. 21 - Rudy Clegg Bruton, convicted of murdering State Trooper W.T. Herbin in August, seeks an appeal. He said he was convicted on

circumstantial evidence.

Jan. 28 - Raeford's new airport is completed and ready for inspection. The runway runs roughly north and south and is 3,600 ft. long and 100 ft. wide and will accommodate twin-engine planes.

Feb. 4 - Farace Oxendine, Hawk Eye School's basketball and baseball coach, is shot and killed at a grocery store in Robeson County. His cousin is charged with his murder.

Feb. 18 - Farmer John Balfour, a member of the Hoke board of commissioners, receives the Jaycees' Distinguished Service Award. Grover Owens is named Man of the Year.

Feb. 25 - Forest fires last year burned 941 acres. Most were caused by debris fires that got out of control.

A prank caller has called in three wrecks with arriving officers, ambulances, etc. finding no accidents.

March 4 - A flu outbreak is near the epidemic stage. Student absences because of flu number 430.

March 11 - Hoke and Cumberland counties, placed together in the 12th Judicial District, will be the first of six districts to test legislated court reform. The first court session will be Dec. 1, 1966.

March 18 - Police and court officials plan a crackdown on excessive speeders. One speeding case involved a high speed chase that was clocked at 120 MPH as the driver sped toward

Hwy 401 marker honors slain trooper



W.T. Herbin

State Patrolman W.T. Herbin died on a hot, sweltering day in August more than 45 years ago in a cornfield in east Hoke County.

It was a senseless murder that followed a routine traffic stop.

Herbin, who was 34, had been a patrolman for 14 years - most of that time spent in Hoke County - when his life was brutally taken August 31, 1964. He had stopped four men in a black 1957 Chevrolet at about 3 p.m. on a Sunday eight miles from Raeford on Hwy. 401. A fellow state trooper and friend, Joe E. Dupree, drove by, slowing down and briefly turning his siren on. Herbin waved him on.

That night another patrolman, E.W. Coen, found Herbin's body. He had been badly beaten with his own weapon and shot in the face four times.

According to testimony, Herbin was serving warrants for the misdemeanor arrests of Albert Reaves, 48, and his brother-in-law, Willie Allan, 60, for public

drunkenness, and of Willie Junior Smith, 26, for having no operator's license. A fourth man in the car was Rudy Clegg Bruton, 22. All were from Taylortown in Moore County.

Smith fled across the cornfield, Herbin in pursuit. Indications are Herbin fired a warning shot. He was overpowered by Bruton and Smith in the field, according to testimony.

Allan and Reaves drove away, leaving the two younger men to fend for themselves.

Every available law officer in the region was alerted to help in the search for Herbin's killer or killers. They found the Chevrolet, with Allan sitting inside, on Raeford-Vass Road inside the Fort Bragg reservation.

Reaves was located later, and Smith and Bruton were found in bed in Taylortown.

All four men were held under first degree murder charges without bail, but charges against Reaves and Allan were dropped. In December, Smith and Bruton were convicted of first degree murder by an all-male jury in Bladen County. The jury deliberated two hours and 15 minutes before the verdict. The duo escaped the death penalty because the jury recommended mercy, and life sentences were handed down. Bruton appealed and the state Supreme Court overturned his verdict, saying he was convicted on insufficient evidence.

A Greensboro native, Herbin left a widow and a 13-year-old daughter.

Herbin's body was returned to Greensboro for burial. Governor Terry Sanford attended the service. The Hwy. 401 overpass in Raeford bears a dedication marker in the state trooper's name.

Fayetteville on Hwy. 401 Bypass.

March 25 - Hoke budget requests are up by \$67,308 from '64. All departments asked for more money, bringing the total proposed budget up to \$365,659.

April 1 - Hoke is one of 17 counties in the state to be eligible for 100 percent poverty aid.

April 8 - For the first time since 1901, the town annexes property. The town limits move east, taking in nine of 12 landowners who said they did not want to be annexed.

April 15 - The town's newest residents by annexation are vocal about their desire not to be in Raeford.

The school board studies desegregation plans.

April 22 - Thirteen candidates file for the town board. Mayor H.R. McLean is unopposed.

May 6 - R. Palmer Wilcox and Franklin Teal win town board seats. They join incumbents John K. McNeill Jr., C.P. Kinlaw and J.D. McMillan.

May 13 - Sixty Negro students ask for school transfers. Six have asked to be assigned to Hawk Eye School for Indians, and 54 want to go to previously all-white schools.

May 20 - Hoke gets federal aid for Headstart program; 300 preschoolers are enrolled.

May 27 - Hoke's plan for desegregating public schools did not meet federal approval. Specific reasons were not spelled out.

June 3 - The state Supreme Court reversed the murder conviction of Rudy Clegg Bruton, 23, in the slaying of State Trooper W.E. Herbin last August. The state said there was insufficient evidence. Bruton said at no time did he enter the cornfield where Herbin's body was found. Willie Junior Smith was also convicted but did not appeal. Both men had been given life sentences.

Five men are found guilty of tobacco barn thefts.

June 17 - Commissioners launch plans for a new jail.

Postal delivery schedules are revised to give patrons better service.

June 24 - The town budget is expanded without a tax hike.

July 1 - A cloudburst in the middle of the night drops six inches of rain in three hours and floods a square-mile area of Hoke's best farmland.

July 8 - The Hoke tax valuation process is halfway done, and it appears property values will be up considerably.

July 15 - A 20-year-old man becomes Hoke's

fifth traffic fatality when his Volkswagen is pulverized by an 18-wheeler near the Big Star Truck Stop on Hwy. 401, the scene of many accidents.

July 22 - The Raeford National Guard unit is designated a priority unit for call-up in event of a national emergency.

July 29 - Someone turned stop signs at Burlington Crossroads in south Hoke. As a result, a serious wreck occurs and three people are injured, one critically.

Aug. 5 - Headstart integration is ordered. The U.S. government threatens to withhold financial aid to all Hoke schools.

The tobacco crop is off 50 percent and may mean a 50 percent loss to Hoke farmers.

Aug. 12 - The county is declared an "emergency" area because of excessive rain, and loans with three percent interest are available to farmers.

Aug. 19 - As a result of undercover activity, an ABC raid nets 12 bootleggers who face 32 charges.

Aug. 26 - While Hoke's integration plan is in place and expected to be okayed, the U.S. government lags on making a decision of approval or disapproval.

Sept. 23 - The federal government finally agrees that Hoke's plan spells desegregation in the schools.

Meanwhile, a young Philip Kelton has quietly integrated McLauchlin Elementary School.

Sept. 30 - Raeford will add another well at a cost of \$15,000 to its dwindling water supply.

1966

Jan. 6 - The year's first traffic fatality occurs when the brakes on farmer D.W. Gillis' truck fail, sending him careening into the side of a heavily loaded tobacco rig three miles south of Raeford.

Jan. 13 - A NC State University poll shows Hoke to be the fifth fastest growing county in the state with a population of 18,788 as determined by a 1965 census.

The state legislature meets in special session to reapportion both houses of the General Assembly.

Jan. 20 - Hoke, Robeson and Scotland counties are to remain in the same House district with four seats allotted.

Jan. 27 - The school board and commissioners disagree over where to locate a new elementary school.

Feb. 3 - Kiwanis name Clyde Upchurch Jr. Man of the Year.

The worst blizzard in a century paralyzes the South, including Hoke, when snow storm follows snow storm.

Feb. 10 - Commissioners again refuse to endorse the school board's plan to buy a 30-acre site across from Bethel Rd. for a new elementary school.

Feb. 17 - Former commissioner chairman T.D. "Doug" McPhaul dies when he crosses the road to retrieve a Sunday newspaper and is struck by a car.

Feb. 24 - Pvt. Jerome McCormick becomes Hoke County's first fatality of the war in Vietnam.

March 3 - State inspectors say Hoke's jail is unfit for human habitation.

Without the approval of commissioners, the school board closes a deal to buy 30 acres of land adjacent to Hoke High.

March 10 - Hoke receives \$419,230 in federal funds for use in the county's five non-white schools.

March 17 - The \$650,000 jail and bond issues are approved by a 4-1 majority.

March 24 - School officials allot insurance money and other funds to rebuild a portion of

McLauchlin Elementary School, where fire had wiped out six classrooms and a library.

March 31 - The first of many public meetings on rural fire protection is set for April 6. A plan to establish rural fire districts came about from the public sessions.

April 7 - The town board is told it would take \$1 million to provide the town's water and sewer needs.

April 21 - Fire districts are set up in a dozen rural areas, and plans are made to form volunteer fire departments. At the end of the year, five fire departments were either in operation or being organized.

April 28 - Work begins on a new vocational shop and band room at Hoke High; it was completed in the fall.

May 12 - School transfers more than doubled when students were given a choice of which school they wanted to attend. Choices were mostly African Americans choosing to go to previously all-white or predominantly white schools.

May 26 - Hoke receives a grant to begin a Headstart preschool, anti-poverty program here.

Jerry Cummings, 27, charged with murdering his uncle, escapes from the Hoke jail. He is found in Georgia, returned, and given a life sentence after conviction.

June 2 - Hoke schools graduate 208 seniors.

June 9 - Plans for a new county jail are modified when it is found the jail would cost more than the \$100,000 authorized by a bond referendum.

June 23 - Six classrooms and library construction are underway at McLauchlin Elementary and are put to use shortly after school starts.

June 30 - The state Highway Patrol begins using radar guns and stops 70 speeders in a week's time.

July 7 - A small tornado dips down in the Five Points community and damages farms, buildings and trees, but no injuries are reported.

July 14 - An agriculture census shows fewer farms in Hoke. In five years the number of farms has dropped from 1,011 to 600.

July 21 - Dangerous Drowning Creek takes its second victim of the year.

Hillcrest Fire Department gets the state's highest rating.

July 28 - Hoke's crops are burning. There is an urgent need for rain.

A third drowning occurs when a young man dies in a farm pond near the Moore-Hoke line.

Aug. 4 - A tax on the sale of packaged beer would bring the county \$20,000 if voters approve. T.B. Lester is named county manager.

Aug. 11 - Record prices are paid for tobacco.

Aug. 18 - The U.S. Commissioner of Education tentatively approves Hoke's desegregation plan calling for freedom of choice but indicates it will have to produce more transfers.

Aug. 25 - Realtor and commissioner Harold Gillis is indicted on charges he embezzled \$14,000 from a client. He later received a suspended one-year sentence.

Sept. 1 - Beer and light wine off-premise sales are approved 3-2 by voters.

Sept. 8 - Commissioners veto the sale of beer and light wine on Sundays.

Sept. 22 - A new town ordinance aims to eliminate the consumption of beer and wine in public.

Oct. 6 - A Total Community Development plan calls for the establishing of an industrial park.

Oct. 13 - A Sandhills Community Action Program (SCAP) releases a survey showing the scope of poverty here.

Oct. 27 - Commissioners delay a hunt for industry because money was not appropriated in the budget.

Ashemont wins the Community Development Award.

Nov. 10 – A three-car accident on Rockfish Road kills three men, bringing Hoke's total traffic fatalities this year to 12.

Nov. 17 – Judge Coy Brewer is named 12th Judicial District (Cumberland and Hoke) chief judge.

Nov. 24 – Four youths die in Ashley Heights when flames engulfed the tent they are sleeping in. David Womble, Harry Duke Pickler, Clarkson Allen, Harry Teal Jr. and John Crissman were on an overnight campout when their campfires spread to the tent. Only Teal escapes with minor burns.

Nov. 31 – A new elementary school will cost \$605,000.

Dec. 15 – Forty-three Raeford National Guard recruits will go on active duty come January.

Dec. 22 – Raeford's canine postman retires after 46,800 miles. Duke, a brown boxer, followed mailman Tommy Macko (not his owner) for five years as he made his rounds. Duke somehow knew when it was a weekend and didn't show up then. Duke was forced into retirement when his owners moved.

Dec. 27 – A Hoke survey shows the price of food increased \$60 per family over last year's costs.

1967

Jan. 5 – Marine Pvt. W.J. Bennet, former Hoke High wrestling and football standout, is credited with saving the life of a woman involved in a traffic accident by crawling into the wreckage where she was trapped and giving her mouth-to-mouth respiration.

Jan. 12 – Water and sewer woes, to the tune of \$1 million, continue to plague the town board.

Jan. 19 – Building permits in Raeford numbered 63 in 1966 compared to 30 the year before.

Jan. 26 – After protests from downtown merchants about a lot the Chamber bought for a new office building on Harris Ave., the chamber rents an office downtown, next to City Cleaners.

Feb. 2 – W.L. "Rube" Poole is named Kiwanis Man of the Year in recognition of his work with young people.

Feb. 9 – Sheriff Dave Barrington reports that stills and moonshine making have been substantially reduced since an ABC store was located here.

Feb. 23 – The state announces that Hwy. 211 between Raeford and Aberdeen will be widened and the highway will be rerouted to the rear of the hospital at McCain.

March 9 – Bids are taken for the county's new jail, which is torn down later in the year with prisoners housed in Scotland County while work on the new jail takes place.

March 23 – Tourist trade brought \$385,000 to the local economy in 1966.

April 6 – The cost of educating a student is higher in Hoke than in neighboring counties and the state as a whole. The per-pupil cost in Hoke is \$383.70. The state average is \$368.78.

April 20 – Israel Mann, Raeford merchant, becomes the first North Carolinian to earn the Shofar Award, the highest Jewish award for work with Boy Scouts.

April 27 – A young family of three is wiped out when their compact car is struck by a tractor-trailer. The driver of the truck is also killed.

May 4 – Gilbert McGregor, one of the best high school basketball players in the country, receives 150 scholarship offers and settles on Wake Forest.

May 11 – Hoke High students "take over" city hall for a day, with a student sitting in for each town official.

May 18 – County commissioners raise taxes by 10 cents, advancing the rate to \$1.38 per \$100 valuation to help pay for schools and jail bond money.

May 25 – Southeastern Economic Development Commission – a 10 county organization including Hoke – is organized, and Hoke's Jim Fout, Chamber of Commerce manager, is named first president.

June 1 – More than 2,500 acres of cotton is plowed up again this year after wet, cool weather destroys the crop.

More than 200 seniors graduate from Hoke's three high schools, Hawk Eye, Hoke and Upchurch.

June 8 – Commissioners authorize a fire tax for Puppy Creek and Rockfish fire districts.

June 15 – Ella Sanders, 105, believed to be Hoke's oldest person, dies. She was born into slavery and was the mother of 13 children.

June 29 – The third annual wagon train makes the 25-mile trip across the Ft. Bragg reservation from Raeford to Little River Township in Moore County, camps out two days, then returns to Raeford. There are 60 wagons and 150 riders on horseback.

July 6 – Raeford Presbyterian, Raeford Methodist and First Baptist churches allowed their classrooms to be used by McLauchlin Elementary students while the school is being renovated following a fire Oct. 31, 1964 that destroyed six classrooms. First and second graders returned to McLauchlin after renovations were completed. Second and third graders are waiting for the completion of the Bethel Road School, which should be finished in November.

G.R. "Raz" Autry is named Hoke High principal.

July 13 – The town board backs the mayor on having police crack down on youngsters who violate bicycle riding laws.

July 20 – Members of Parker UMC object to the proposed building of a drag strip across from the church at Hwy. 401.

July 27 – A federal school team is to study Hoke's school integration plan.

Aug. 3 – Burlington Industries announces wage increases.

Aug. 10 – A sewerage survey indicates the Raeford wastewater treatment plant is overloaded, and it looks like an expansion can't be avoided.

Sheriff Dave Barrington may be prosecuted for killing a 7-ft. alligator found near Antioch.

Aug. 17 – A federal government team suggests the immediate integration of most of Hoke's schools.

Aug. 31 – Hoke schools open for some 5,000 students while the school board works on integration plans other than the "freedom of choice" plan.

Sept. 7 – The North Raeford Fire Department has a building and a fire truck and is almost ready to start operations.

Sept. 14 – Hwy. 211 is to be rerouted so that it passes McCain Sanatorium to the rear.

Oct. 5 – Raeford's quarterhorse show is expected to get an A rating with eight world class winners showing.

Oct. 12 – A brooding sow mauls a 71-year-old farmer who had entered her pen to remove four dead pigs.

Oct. 19 – Hoke United Fund hopes to raise \$22,000.

Nov. 2 – The North Carolina Sanatorium at McCain has a new 300-bed addition called the Brooks Wing.

Nov. 9 – The town board approves a \$950,000 sewer bond issue, ending a year-long debate.

Nov. 16 – Wayside and Rockfish claim top development awards. Wayside is declared the winner of the farm community of the Sandhills

Area Development Assoc., made up of Hoke, Moore, Montgomery, Lee and Richmond counties. Rockfish wins in the rural non-farm division of SADA.

Nov. 23 – A stop sign knocked down at the intersection of Bethel Road and State RPR 1149 is to blame for a two-car accident that killed a 17-year-old and seriously injured a mother and her son.

Nov. 30 – Hoke High's school band, under the direction of Jimmy James, participates in parades in Monroe and Charlotte and wins high praise for both performances.

Dec. 7 – The war in Vietnam takes the life of Marine 1st Lt. Samuel Warlick. In his last letter to his parents, he wrote of his pride in his men and the Marine Corps.

W.T. "Hoot" Gibson, schools superintendent, dies of a heart attack in his home. The school board says he left the school system "in good shape."

Dec. 14 – Donald Abernethy, former Hoke High principal, is named superintendent of schools.

Dec. 23 – Two weeks after his death, the new Bethel Road School is named for "Hoot" Gibson.

Dec. 30 – African-American citizens plan a voter registration drive. Every voter is required to register in 1968.

1968

Jan. 4 – Under state law, the slate must be wiped clean and all voters must register this year.

Jan. 11 – A blast of winter brings sleet and the flu to Hoke.

The just completed 16-classroom W.T. Gibson junior high school, located near Hoke High, is already overcrowded.

Jan. 18 – The Marine Corps awards four medals to 1st Lt. Sam Warwick, who was killed in action in Vietnam in November.

Sp4 Horace Stogner Jr., a 1966 graduate of Hoke High, is awarded three medals for his actions in Vietnam.

Jan. 25 – At least a dozen deer have been killed by vehicles as the animals attempt to cross Hwy. 211 at McCain since deer season began.

Feb. 1 – The late W.T. Gibson, superintendent of schools at the time of his death, is honored as Kiwanis Man of the Year.

Feb. 8 – Not satisfied with the progress Hoke schools are making in desegregation, the U.S. government is threatening to cut off federal funding.

Feb. 15 – A large blood donor turnout saves Hoke from being removed from the Red Cross blood program. Some 212 pints are collected.

Feb. 22 – The federal government has softened somewhat on its threat to cut funding if Hoke schools do not end the "dual system" of education. Guidelines are being sent out.

Feb. 29 – Three federal anti-poverty programs are aimed at Hoke to help cure economic problems.

March 7 – A new voting precinct, Raeford #5, is carved from Raeford #1 and Raeford #2. The new precinct is north of town. Upchurch High will be the polling place of Raeford #5.

March 14 – School officials are baffled as to why more than half a dozen first graders at Upchurch School fall asleep in the classroom and are hard to awaken.

March 21 – A cat gives birth to 10 kittens; a car and train collide, seriously injuring a man; a family of seven loses their home; and the sleeping first graders at Upchurch are not anything to get worried about.

March 28 – The sleeping first graders receive national attention, and psychologists study the

situation, decide the causes are uniquely psychological.

Two young men are killed when their car slammed into a Greyhound bus at the intersection of East Prospect and Hwy. 401 Business.

April 4 – There have been six traffic fatalities in Hoke since the beginning of the year.

April 11 – The 2nd Battalion, 252nd Armor is called to quell rioting in Wilmington following the murder of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

April 18 – With voter registration nearly at end, 4262 voters sign up.

April 25 – Ralph Huff of the Ashley Heights community receives an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Town voters approve a \$770,000 bond issue to improve wastewater collection and improvements.

May 9 – Town manager Ed Williams resigns, and the city board passes anti-riot measures giving the mayor the right to impose a curfew and declare a state of emergency.

May 16 – Cpl. Kenneth Wayne Floyd becomes the third Hoke Countian to die in combat in Vietnam.

May 30 – The federal government is initiating administrative action against Hoke for failure to comply with the civil rights act of 1964. The county has failed adequately planning for the elimination of a dual school system.

June 6 – The school board votes to wipe out the dual school system; Hoke is to have only one high school.

June 13 – Engineers are instructed to proceed with a comprehensive study of water-sewer needs in Hoke.

July 4 – The school board adopts a resolution to totally integrate grades 6-12 this fall and to consolidate the three high schools into one.

It is feared the county's corn crop is lost due to drought.

July 18 – Hoke will share a \$1.3 million grant with three other counties in an effort to keep people emigrating from the counties.

Plans for a private school at Rockfish fail because the number of students fall short of the state's enrollment requirements.

July 25 – Raeford receives a \$338,250 grant to apply toward \$1 million wastewater treatment plant improvements and sewer lines. The remainder of the work will be done by bonds approved by voters.

Aug. 1 – Raeford is "dead as a doornail" as Burlington's two plants here, Raeford Worsted and Pacific Mills Dyeing, close this week for annual summer vacation. Some 1600 employees are involved.

Aug. 8 – John D. Gaddy, former town manager at Bessemer City, replaces town manager J. Ed Williams, who left to become town manager of Erwin.

The county names a human relations council consisting of three members of each race, white, colored and Indian.

Aug. 15 – Soybeans is becoming Hoke's biggest crop.

Aug. 22 – Bus problems are ironed out after two days when Hoke Schools opened on a fully integrated basis for seven grades.

Aug. 29 – Hoke Schools have met the requirements of the Civil Rights Law of 1964 and opened without threats to lose federal aid. Grades six through 12 are integrated this year and one through five will be integrated this coming school year.

Sept. 19 – One man was killed and eight are injured in a two-car collision, bringing Hoke's number of traffic fatalities this year to nine. One of the cars carried a gunshot victim and was be-



HOKE COUNTY CIVIC LEAGUE

In 1974 Dr. M. H. Williams and about 12 ministers and several laypersons of local churches established the Hoke County Civic League. The League has only had seven presidents: Dr. Williams, Mr. Walter Blue, Rev. J. L. Glenn, Rev. W. K. Mitchell, (interim), Dr. J. W. Gorham, Dr. Mary K. Thomas and currently Dr. B. O. Shoffner



Dr. B. O. Shoffner,
President



Dr. M. Rouse, Jr.,
Vice-President

The Hoke County Civic League was organized to ensure a more equitable representation for the minority community. Through a strong coalition formed among all of the races who worked together, the League was successful in bringing about the election of Hoke County's first minorities: Mrs. Ruth McNair to the Board of Education and Dr. N. W. McPhatter to the Board of Commission.

The League promotes community growth and advancement through economic development that strengthens and enhances the potential of business in Hoke County. Further, the League focuses on "Building up the Whole Man" and encourages industry, self-reliance, general improvement, along with spiritual and moral advancement. Strong emphasis is given to the promotion of an awareness of governmental services and participation in the election process. Members of the Hoke County Civic League are asked to work with their churches, community organizations and agencies, and to attend worship services dedicated to serving man as we serve God.

FIRST BLACKS IN HOKE COUNTY TO BE ELECTED TO PUBLIC OFFICE



First Row: L-R J.D. McAllister, 1st Black interim Supt. Hoke Co. Schools, 1st Black Chairman, Board of Education; Vera Hollingsworth, 1st Black Clerk of Court; Ellen McNeill, 1st Black Female Co. Commissioner; Jim Davis, 1st Black Sheriff. Second Row: Dr. N.W. McPhatter, 1st Black Co. Commissioner; Onnie Dudley, 1st Black Register of Deeds; Judge Regina Joe, 1st Black District Court Judge; Dr. Mary K. Thomas, 1st Female President Hoke Co. Civic League, Senior Tar Heel Legis Delegate. Third Row: James Leach, 1st Black Chairman Hoke Co. Commissioner; Clyde A. Thomas Jr., 1st Black City Councilman; and Ruth McNair, 1st Black Board of Education (not pictured).

HOKE COUNTY MISSIONARY UNION

Established March 1975

Christ in Every Home



Sister Annie Y. McKinnon

First President 3/75 – 9/89

Past Presidents

Sister Retha Long Hardimon 9/24/89 – 9/23/96

Sister Clara Davis 9/24/96 – 1/13/01

Sister Patricia McKinnon-McKeller 1/12/01-1/12/08



Minister Yulla P. Hines

Presidency began 1/08 – Current

A mind thorough which Christ thinks

A heart through which Christ loves

A voice through which Christ speaks

A hand through which Christ helps

OBJECTIVES: SHAW UNIVERSITY, FOREIGN MISSIONS, STATE MISSIONS, CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME, AND THE J. J. JOHNSON BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

The Missionary Circle consists of the Youth Department, Young Adult Department and the Senior Department

*The Hoke County Missionary Union meets quarterly and rotates among its member churches
Buffalo Springs, Center Grove, Laurel Hill, Lewis Chapel West, Mount Pisgah, Rock Hill, Shady Grove and Silver Grove*

ing driven to a Fayetteville hospital.

Sept. 26 – Hoke is declared a disaster area because of drought. Farmers are eligible for emergency farm loans.

Oct. 3 – A racial incident is averted by “cool heads” after a carload of white youths harassed some colored youths following a Hoke High football game, according to Sheriff Dave Barrington.

Oct. 10 – The Chamber of Commerce increases its membership from 84 to 129 following Jim Fout’s resignation as manager. He said he quit because funds were all gone.

Oct. 17 – Horace Stogner Jr., twice wounded in Vietnam, is going back for another tour in the war-torn country because he believes in the cause.

Oct. 24 – The Wayside community of 135 families is, for the second year in a row, the winner of the Hoke County Community Development service award. Wayside completed a fire station, redecorated the community building and initiated clean-up and beautification to earn this year’s award.

Nov. 7 – Hoke County voters go Democratic in a record voter turnout with 4,527 casting their ballots.

Nov. 14 – A High Point man and his daughter die as the result of a pick-up accident at McCain.

Dec. 12 – Lt. Col. Paul Dickson retires as commander of 2nd Battalion, 252nd Armor National Guard unit, which he had commanded since Oct. 1, 1962. A World War II veteran, he organized the battalion as an artillery battery in 1947, and the first enlistee was Clarence Willis, who is the only remaining member of the original unit. Major Edwin D. Newton assumes command.

Dec. 19 – Three people are killed at a crossroads in the Ashmont community.

1969

Jan. 2 – D.H. Hodgin, former sheriff, dies at age 73. He was Hoke’s top law officer from 1928 until 1962.

Jan. 9 – Israel Mann’s store is sold to a Red Springs man, and the store is expected to reopen in two weeks. Mann came to this country from Lithuania 43 years ago. He opened the Main Street store in 1925.

Jan. 16 – West Hoke, Cameron Village and Scurlock communities receive grants for improvements.

Jan. 23 – Burlington Industries will pay the \$120,000 necessary to make the expansion of the Raeford Sewage Disposal Plant a reality.

Jan. 30 – Willie J. McQueen becomes Hoke’s first fatality of the year when his car leaves the highway, flies through the air, and hits a tree on a rural paved road at Duffy Station.

Feb. 6 – Charles Hottel, civic and church leader, is named Kiwanis Man of the Year.

Feb. 13 – The first still to be uncovered this year is located about one mile from Rockfish on Dundarrach Road. Whoever had set up the whiskey still used surplus food meant for use by low income families.

A new stadium is proposed for Hoke High.

Feb. 20 – Cumberland and Hoke officials form a law and order committee to seek funds to upgrade local law enforcement agencies.

Feb. 27 – A stadium committee comes up with a plan for a \$30,000 stadium.

March 13 – Housing and industry are seen as the county’s primary needs.

March 27 – The town of Raeford is soon to become the city of Raeford.

April 3 – A six-year-old boy is killed when he trips and rolls under a moving school bus at South Hoke Elementary.

April 10 – An accident on Hwy. 401 south of Raeford releases almost 200 homing pigeons

that were being transported from Virginia to be released in Hamlet. Five birds are killed, four are injured and the remainder fly away, presumably back to Virginia.

April 17 – A contract is let for a new Hoke High stadium.

April 25 – Mr. and Mrs. John Scott Poole announce the birth of a daughter, Edna Holiday, on March 22.

May 1 – Raeford Turkey Farms, Inc. is enlarged.

May 8 – John K. McNeill is reelected Raeford’s mayor.

May 15 – Sp4 John M. Pratt, 21, is killed by friendly fire in Vietnam. He is the fourth youth to die in Vietnam. Jerome McCormick, Samuel Warlick and Kenneth Floyd died.

May 23 – The county’s ad valorem tax rate is increased by seven cents to \$1.45 per \$100.

May 29 – Burlington Worsteds Plants announces a wage increase.

June 12 – Town commissioners raise taxes by 13 cents; the tax rate is \$1.30.

A hail storm causes heavy damage to crops. June 19 – Crop loss is high from heavy rain. Cotton, soybeans and tobacco plants suffer.

June 26 – Tobacco crop loss by hail and rain is estimated at a million dollars.

July 3 – Tex-Elastic Corporation buys Uniroyal Plant.

July 31 – Workers at Raeford Turkey Plant complain, want higher wages.

Aug. 7 – The pedestrian death of a nine-year-old boy marks the 5th traffic fatality in Hoke.

Aug. 14 – Speed leads to Hoke’s sixth traffic fatality.

Aug. 21 – Deadly head-on collision on Hwy. 401 brings Hoke’s fatality rate to nine.

Aug. 28 – Hoke’s dual school system ends. The system is one of the first in the state with a significant non-white population to complete de-segregation measures.

Sept. 11 – Students and parents complain about busing. Superintendent explains complexities of busing.

Sept. 18 – Hoke High stadium, the site of several football games, is completely paid for.

Sept. 25 – A fake doctor makes the rounds in Hoke attempting to sell a cure-all medication.

Oct. 2 – Marine 2nd Lt. Sam Warlick is posthumously awarded Vietnam’s highest medal, the National Order of Vietnam. He was killed in action in Vietnam in November 1967.

Oct. 23 – A man is shot three times at The Record Room in downtown Raeford by a merchant after he held a knife to her sister.

Nov. 6 – Hoke voters reject an optional one-cent sales tax. Voter turnout is small.

Nov. 20 – Sol Cherry is appointed the first public defender for District 12, which includes Hoke.

Nov. 27 – The Puppy Creek Philosopher thinks the U.S. government should create a Dept. of Humor with full cabinet status.

Dec. 4 – The city council cracks down on two-hour parking violations.

Dec. 11 – A tractor and car collide on a bridge in Antioch, killing a man and bringing Hoke’s traffic fatalities to 13 for the year.

Dec. 25 – Cuts in checks for families with dependent children are an unwelcome Christmas gift.

1970

Jan. 1 – An editorial cartoon shows an old long-haired guitar-toting folkie proclaiming “Oh, no ... not another generation gap” as a young “The ‘70s” comes running up proclaiming Happy New Year.

In the first two issues of The Raeford News-Journal of the 1970s, the decade of the 1960s is referred to as “The Sizzling Sixties,” “The Serious Sixties,” and “The Earthquake Decade.”

Jan. 8 – Janet Hollingsworth, a student at Upchurch School, is the winner of a portable Panasonic television in Howell Drug’s Boy and Girl Contest.

Jan. 15 – An editorial on desegregation states that in “one of the last strongholds of segregated schools, Mississippi, where there is deep reluctance to comply with the Supreme Court’s speedup from a ‘deliberate’ pace to desegregation now ... that which has had to come has come. The United States cannot countenance racial discrimination in the public schools if its idealism is to endure.”

At A&P, T-bone or Porterhouse steaks are \$1.19 a pound.

Jan. 22 – In a front page photo, Mrs. Lee Cameron, Hoke County librarian, shows some of the shelving in the local library purchased with monies donated to the Hoke County Library Memorial Fund, The ‘Library O Fund.’ The ‘O’ stands for “opportunity,” and also refers to money the library “owes.”

Jan. 29 – A refrigerator truck carrying 9,000 lbs. of meat overturned onto its side on NC 401 north of Raeford. No meat was spilled.

Feb. 5 – Fayetteville Attorney Charlie Rose III files for candidate in the Democratic primary for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Feb. 12 – Hoke Co. farm income is up \$2.5 million for 1969 from 1968.

Feb. 19 – The Hoke Co. Health Department, located in a building constructed 14 years ago, is running out of room for patients.

X-rated Swedish film “Fanny Hill” is showing at Town & Country Cinema in Aberdeen. Coming next is Alfred Hitchcock’s “Topaz.”

Feb. 26 – Garbage and trash heaped beside the road or dumped in the woods and fields is a problem in Hoke that is growing daily.

Belk Hensdale advertises a closing out sale. “Our lease expires soon! ... In Raeford: Thank you for years of loyal shopping.” The store moves to Red Springs.

March 5 – Three persons are being held without bond in the murder of 36-year-old Henry G. Monroe, who was found shot, stabbed, beaten and with his clothes ripped off beside Old Maxton Road. The sheriff reports that the slaying appeared to have occurred in the Sydney Townsend home after Monroe was found in bed with Townsend’s wife. The coroner reports that Monroe died from a blow to the back of his head. In August, Townsend and Darnell McMillan will be sentenced to prison for eight to ten years after pleading to manslaughter. They were originally charged with murder.

March 12 – Roy Jackson, commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9160, states in a letter to the editor that the demonstrations in Washington, D.C. by the Vietnam Moratorium committee on Nov. 15, 1969 did not succeed in altering public opinion. “We’ve got to renew our spirit of Patriotism through this great land of ours.”

March 19 – Two teenagers died in a head-on collision near Montrose in the first traffic fatalities



These ladies were residents of Hoke when the county was formed. From left, Isabel Atkins, Mary Williams, Julia Atkins Kelly with daughter Pauline on her lap.

in the county for 1970.

March 26 – Judge Joseph Dupree says district court “will not be used as a collection agency” and will not collect bad checks.

Gospel group Hopper Brothers and Connie will sing at Raeford Foursquare Gospel Church for Easter Sunday.

April 2 – Youngsters from the “trainable retarded” class at McLauchlin School are shown resting in a photo after an Easter egg hunt.

April 9 – Joe Lowery, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Lowery of Raeford, is home with his parents after serving two years in the Marine Corps and being wounded in Vietnam.

April 16 – Four of the youths charged in the recent break-ins in Raeford were brought before District Court. One was sentenced to 18 months suspended for 3 years with 3 years probation.

April 23 – Four lanes are planned for U.S. 401, the highway commissioner says.

April 30 – A woman who said she took out a warrant charging her husband with abandonment and non-support of their children because she was mad at him was jailed for the day by Judge Dupree.

May 7 – Light turnout for the Board of Commissioners election as only 2,300 citizens cast ballots.

An editorial cartoon shows flags at half-mast in memory of those killed at Kent State University.

May 14 – “In Vietnam, it becomes increasingly evident that victory is not an option,” states a News-Journal editorial.

May 21 – A Fayetteville city ordinance against profanity is ruled unconstitutional.

Born to a former slave, Mrs. Manda Jackson of Raeford celebrates her birthday, which may be her 100th. She remembers her birthday as being 1870, but letters from her home county in South Carolina indicate she may have been born as late as 1874.

May 28 – The Lumbee Farms poultry processing plant opens in Lumber Bridge.

June 4 – A Ft. Bragg soldier, E6 Victor Marti-

Dundarrach born in 1911 too

Less than three weeks after Dundarrach received its charter to become a town in Robeson County, its citizens found themselves in Hoke County.

Dundarrach was the center for rural life in the area when it was incorporated on February 24, 1911. Legislative action created Hoke out of parts of Robeson and Cumberland counties, effective April 13, 1911.

At that time, the little crossroads town boasted a saw mill, grist mill and cotton gin and the Dundarrach Trading Company. The trading post was a country version of Sears & Roebuck, a grocery, and feed and farm supply store, all rolled into one. Country folks could buy everything from shoes to 100-pound bags of flour. Customers purchased dry goods, appliances, food, drugs, fertilizer, baled hay, washing boards, mule bits, bagged corn, butter molds, plows and more. They could also cash checks, buy hunting and fishing licenses, transfer car titles, get documents notarized and make phone calls as at one time the company had the only telephone in town.

The gin burned in 1955 and there are only homes, a church, fire station and empty buildings in Dundarrach proper now.

Dundarrach is located in the southeastern part of Hoke on St. Pauls and Old Wire roads. It is laid out in a perfect square with one mile in each direction, and the Aberdeen & Rockfish Railway depot is in the middle.

L.A. McGinnis was Dundarrach's first mayor. Commissioners were Edgar Hall, Jesse Gibson, M.C. McMillan and L.B. Smith. One of the earliest residents was Col. Alexander McMillan, the first Master Mason in Hoke County.

It is unclear when the governing body ceased to exist, but the town almost lost its charter in April 1971; House Bill 867 would have abolished the town. Many of its residents weren't even aware the town was chartered.

A petition bearing 22 of the town's 50 plus residents asked that Dundarrach remain chartered. Legislators honored that request, but General Assembly action is required before the government can be activated.

For a time, in 1940-49, a jitney, or a "doodle bug" as it was sometimes called, went through Dundarrach twice a day, at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., on its way to Fayetteville. Tickets were 25 cents for adults and 10 cents for children. The jitney is in Ft. Bragg, California now, and the depot belongs to the Dundarrach Historical Society.

The history of the trading company was, to a great degree, the history of Dundarrach. Z.V. Pate of Laurel Hill purchased the store in 1911. Edgar Hall, Hoke's first sheriff, owned an interest in the store. He sold his interest in 1915 to Jesse Gibson, who had managed the store. In 1940 Gibson sold his interest back to the Pate family, who still owns the building.

The building was constructed in two parts connected by a covered breezeway. The office served as a place for church services until the Dundarrach Presbyterian Church was built in 1906 (or thereabouts). Norman A. McInnis, brother of the mayor, worked at the Trading Company for 40 years, beginning in 1911. Tom Jones managed it from 1955 until 1984, when the Trading Company closed. It later housed a multi-business and an antique store. It stands empty now.

Near to Dundarrach was a grade and high school named in memory of three young men who died in World War II: Grover McMillan, Charlie McDougal and Carson D. Chason. Mildouson was formed by combining syllables from the three men's names. The school burned down a few years back.

Dundarrach was named by early Scotch settlers. In Gaelic, it means "oak hill." The Gaelic pronunciation is "Dun-dark" but Hoke residents call it "Dun-dar-ick."

nez of the 82nd Airborne, is killed in a car-truck collision on U.S. 401 South near Bowmore.

June 11 – Head Start begins its fifth year in Hoke.

The sign for Sugar's Men's Shop was put in place on the new store in the old Belks-Hensdale building.

June 18 – Hoke schools superintendent Donald Abernathy appeared before the state Senate Select Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity to report on steps toward total integration. "Integration is working well. We have had no racial disturbance."

June 25 – "Million dollar rain" falls on county in time to avert major crop disaster. It comes too late to save some corn.

June 2 – A wreck on Highway 211 ended the lighthearted pursuit of a newly married couple.

June 9 – Students from North Carolina State University architectural school design low-cost homes being built in a subdivision off Vass Road near the Northwest Water Supply water tower. "All of the designs so far have been modernistic,

with asymmetrical roofs and use of open space. However, not all of the homes in the area are expected to be of that type." The Raeford project has been described in professional magazines.

June 16 – The city council asks for federal aid to add paved runways and runway lighting to the city airport.

June 23 – The new air pollution law – prohibition on open burning – should not cause local industries too many problems.

June 30 – Knit-Away will begin construction on a knitting/textile plant in Raeford which will employ 300-350 people.

Aug. 6 – Esso runs a full-page ad for new Big Plus, "the lowest-lead, highest-octane gasoline ... to help clean the air. There are 83,000,000 cars on the road today. What we've done is to make Big Plus an anti-pollution gasoline that 9 out of 10 drivers of today's cars can use without worrying about engine knock.... Why we didn't take out all the lead. We could have, of course. But engine testing shows that some lead is needed to prevent valve damage."

Aug. 13 – Town & Country Cinema in Southern Pines is showing "Airport" with Burt Lancaster and Dean Martin. Next week will be "Chisum," starring John Wayne. Sunrise Cinema will show GP-rated "Pussycat, Pussycat, I Love You" and "Dark Shadows."

A bicycling band of youngsters, "The Phantom Carolinas," camped overnight in the park behind McLauchlin School as part of a tour from Charlotte to Charleston sponsored by the Metropolitan New York Council's American Youth Hostels.

Aug. 20 – Smallpox shots will not be given out at the Health Department until Oct. 1 due to the high incidence of sores and mosquito bites, as well as cases of measles and chicken pox.

Aug. 27 – Allen's Ltd. advertises that "May-fair Slacks are all man... and there's nothing a woman likes better!"

Sept. 3 – A Raeford man's hand was partially severed by equipment at the Kelly-Springfield plant in Fayetteville where he worked.

Sept. 10 – Spec. Earl Dew, 21 of Raeford, was killed in a rocket attack in Na Trang, the sixth serviceman from Hoke County killed in Vietnam. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dew, he was in the country for a total of 13 months when he was killed, after having returned from leave in July.

Sept. 17 – S/Sgt. Henry Hardin Jr. of Route 3, Raeford, was shot and killed at his home. His father-in-law, Neil David Baker, is being held without bond. He would be acquitted. "I never did anything I hated to do worse than that, but I believe I was protecting my life and that of my family," said Baker. "You could not reason with him when he got into a rage."

Oct. 1 – "I guess all of us are digging our graves every day but some do it faster," Judge Joe Dupree says after finding no probable cause that Neil David Baker murdered his son-in-law. Baker said he was defending his family when he shot his son-in-law Staff Sgt. William Hardin Jr.

Oct. 8 – A grant of \$89,240 is awarded Hoke schools under the emergency school assistance act. The money will be used to help eliminate racial segregation and discrimination by new or expanded activities.

Oct. 15 – The Green Beret held its first sports parachute jump at Raeford Airport.

Oct. 29 – Hoke social workers are told a family aid plan is needed. Skyrocketing costs for social and medical programs are making a federally-financed family program necessary.

Nov. 5 – The Hoke High Bucks earn the Southeastern Conference crown after downing Bowman 14-7. Coach John Pecora is named Coach of the Year.

Nov. 11 – A boy, 3, and a girl, 5, both crying, are found alongside the road at Davis Bridge where they had been dumped by a man who offered them candy and told them he would take them to their mothers. The children were taken to their homes but could not describe the man who took them.

Nov. 18 – An explosion and fire tore out the front of a mobile home in Ponderosa Pines. The trailer's occupant was in the yard when the blast occurred but was not hurt.

Dec. 3 – Cadet Paul Currie, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Scott Currie, was in the Macy's parade in New York City on Thanksgiving Day. He is a member of the West Point Glee Club, and they performed during the parade.

Dec. 10 – A thief or thieves entered Joe Sugar's Men's Store through a skylight and took merchandise.

Dec. 17 – Burlington Industries gives one-week vacations to its employees plus Christmas bonuses.

1971

Jan. 7 – The Puppy Creek Philosopher says an environmentalist is someone who found out in the last two years what the word ecology means.

Jan. 7 – Commissioners agree to apply money from the one-cent tax revenue to a garbage disposal system, city-county recreation program, and toward keeping personal and property taxes down.

Jan. 21 – The old Raeford Gin, whose operations began in 1925, is dismantled.

Rockfish Water System is officially turned on.

Feb. 11 – An 86-year-old man pools his and his 77-year-old brother's Social Security checks to pay a fine after the elder brother is convicted of making moonshine.

Feb. 25 – Hoke's official population from the 1970 Census was 16,436 people.

March 10 – A tornado touches down in Timberland destroying a home; the occupant was away.

May 13 – Postal rates go up; stamp prices rise from six cents to eight cents.

May 27 – Peddler's Branch is contaminated by a break in a sewer line.

June 3 – More than a third of ninth grade students at Hoke High are found to have health problems severe enough to warrant further medical attention. Problems range from heart murmurs to anemia.

July 1 – Bob Gentry is named personnel manager at the Raeford Plant of Burlington Worsteds.

July 8 – The state agrees to build a road to the county landfill.

Aug. 19 – A one-car crash on Highway 401 kills three in a family. It followed a car and 18-wheeler crash two weeks earlier that also killed three. Ten have been killed on that highway since the beginning of the year. Two more died in a crash a few months later. Hoke ended the year with 27 traffic fatalities compared to 10 the previous year.

Nov. 4 – Around Town announces the Hoke County Selective Service office is open two days a week for young men to register for the draft.

Dec. 2 – The Hoke Agricultural Extension Service publishes information on how to protect farm animals from fallout in event of a nuclear attack.

Dec. 16 – Three Knit-Away executives, two from Raeford, are killed when their plane crashes near the Charlotte Airport. The pilot also died.

1972

Jan. 6 – State health officials approve the county's landfill site. Final arrangements between the city and the county are yet to be ironed out.

Jan. 13 – Rain, slick roads and excessive speed are blamed for four wrecks that killed one person and left another seriously injured. Lack of a seat belt was blamed for the death.

Firefighters put out a blaze in Tylertown while a woman fought them with a hatchet and broken bottle. She had set the fire herself and was taken to Dorthea Dix for a mental examination.

Jan. 20 – The Rev. Donald N. Hicks receives a flat no to his request for a permit to make a home in which former convicts can be rehabilitated.

Jan. 28 – The Federal Aviation Authority gives the city an impressive loan toward improvements to the Raeford Airport. Later, this loan becomes problematic when the city tries to sell the airport to a private investor.

Feb. 3 – A mistrial is declared in the case of Johnny Scott and Freddie Revels Jr., accused of stealing \$8,000 in equipment from Arabia Golf Course. Scott's father is accused of tampering because he had lunch with a member of the jury.

The pair is later found guilty.

Feb. 10 – Two companies vie for a permit to do a countywide trash pickup.

Feb. 17 – Three grocery stores were broken into and robbed, according to reports. Robbed were Little Giant on Harris Avenue, Tuckers Grocery in Robbins Heights and Harrell's Grocery on Prospect Avenue. Mostly cash and cigarettes were taken.

Feb. 24 – A car crashed into the plate glass window of Joe Sugar's on Main Street. No injuries, except the mannequins looked a bit roughed up.

March 2 – Knit-Away Inc. held a fashion show to highlight what's new in fashion. Attendees were told Knit-Away has 865 workers and a planned expansion by the end of the year.

March 9 – Hog cholera is discovered on the James Potter farm, leading to the slaughter of 1,200-1,400 hogs. Hogs within a mile radius are killed to be on the safe side.

March 16 – Two youths – one a sophomore at Hoke High – are charged with a brutal slaying in the Arabia community. Stanley Adcox, 51, was beaten and stabbed and died of multiple skull fractures in his driveway.

March 23 – The city's new backhoe collides with a Holly Farm truck in town. The only injury is to the truck's feelings because the backhoe came out without a scratch and the truck had \$3,000 in damages.

March 30 – A Fayetteville woman found a pigeon with a red band on its leg on Hwy. 211 and asks the owner to come forward.

April 6 – With the new landfill in operation, commissioners have launched a clean-up campaign.

April 13 – The number of registered voters

has reached an all-time high in Hoke with a primary coming up.

April 20 – The Raeford Jaycees selected Raz Autry as deserving of the Distinguished Service award.

April 27 – A woman who is thrown from her car when it overturns becomes Hoke's fifth fatality of the year. Ruth Ballard Jones, 22, died on Hwy. 211 east of Raeford.

May 4 – Paul Dickson III, 30, son of The News-Journal publisher, is killed in Fayetteville after being hit by an out-of-control car. The three people in the car that struck him also died.

May 11 – Despite a large number of registered voters, the turnout for the primary was small.

It is announced Hoke will begin a Food Stamp program July 1 of this year.

May 17 – The city and Burlington Mills agree that the city should annex the plant and its 100 acres. This will bring \$9.5 million in assessed property value to the city.

May 24 – Hoke's residents will pay two cents less in ad valorem taxes as the rate goes down to \$1.48 per \$100 of assessed value.

May 31 – Sam Morris had this tale in his "Around Town" column: Tom McGill repaired and sold sewing machines, which he delivered by horse and wagon. His horse could be quite stubborn and balked on the way to a delivery. Mr. McGill had a shocking machine on his wagon and touched it to the horse as a hint to get moving. Unfortunately for them both, the horse just keeled over dead.

June 7 – Joyce McKenzie wins an award for having the highest grades among Upchurch Jr. High students.

June 15 – An arsonist continues to leave destruction around the country. The targets are

vacant homes and empty sheds.

June 22 – An empty brick home is the latest in a rash of arsons in the county.

The Sunset Branch of the Bank of Raeford was robbed by an armed man.

June 29 – Knit-Away expands its Raeford plant to the tune of \$3.5 million.

July 6 – About 350 signed up for Food Stamps, and some of them are pictured waiting in line at Dept. of Social Services

July 13 – A \$750,000 water bond issue is passed. It will save the average consumer \$26 a month, according to the city manager.

July 20 – Youngsters die on the highways. An 8-year-old boy is killed when he rode his bike into the path of an oncoming car on Hwy. 211. A 4-year-old girl was killed when the car she was in smashed head-on into a tow truck on the Duffie-Wagram Road.

July 27 – A 16-year-old took a break from working in the tobacco field and was taking a dip in a drainage pond when he drowned. It is the second drowning in Hoke this summer; the other victim was a six-year-old boy.

Raeford's ad valorem tax rate fell by 15 cents, thanks to the annexation of Burlington Mills.

Aug. 3 – A third drowning is reported in Hoke when the body of Lewis King, 45, is found in a pond behind the Samuel Leonard Training School.

Aug. 10 – Commissioners amended the budget to supplement the ambulance service. Out of 32 trips made last month, only two bills were paid, they were told.

Aug. 17 – James Roy McGougan, 16, and Glenn Cummings, 22, were both sentenced for the murder of Stanley Adcox of Arabia on March 8. No reason for the brutal murder was given.

Aug. 24 – Fifty trash containers are placed around the county at collection sites.

Aug. 31 – Hoke is designated as a Redevelopment Area County by the Southeastern Economic Development Commission, and this means individuals and organizations are eligible for funds to improve employment and economic conditions in the county.

Sept. 7 – In Hoke, expenditures for students are above average.

Sept. 14 – Crops harvested in Hoke increase despite the loss in acreage, according to a farm census report.

Sept. 21 – An expanded free breakfast program is instituted at South Hoke Elementary, bringing to 300 the number of meals served out of 435 enrolled students.

Sept. 28 – Hoke High Class of '59 dedicates a sundial to the memory of three classmates killed in vehicle accidents: Paul Dickson III, Sadie Lee Chambers and Clifton Murdock "Pete" Brown. The sundial is placed in the Hoke High courtyard.

Oct. 5 – Johnny Scott and Freddie Revels Jr. are found not guilty of stealing liquor and cash from the ABC liquor store during an April 22 break-in.

Oct. 12 – Two accidents leave one dead and nine injured. The accidents occurred at McCain on Highways 211 West and 401 North.

Oct. 19 – Plans are made for Edinborough Shopping Center, named after Edinborough Medical College, which was chartered in the area in 1867. The site is at Harris Ave. and Main St.

A Raeford woman, 28, dies saving a young child from a burning house on Saunders Street Extension. The woman threw the child out a window but was not able to get out herself.

Oct. 26 – A copias from the column of Sam

*Serving The Great People
of Hoke County Since 1947*



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Hawkeye School began at Jacob's Point

BY LYNETTE DIAL

When Elisha Dial moved to Hoke County in 1916, there were no Indian schools in the southeastern part of the county. Having quit school at an early age to help his father tend their acreage, he desired better for his own children. So four years later, he approached Superintendent W. P. Hawfield about a school for the Indian children in that area. Dial was charged, by Hawfield, with the task of finding 20 Indian children to attend school. Rising to the challenge, as he always did, Dial found 30 children and a teacher.

As a result, a one-room vacant building at Jacob's Point was designated as a school for the Indian children to attend. From that time until the 1933-34 school year, the attendance grew to the point of overflow, with more students than one teacher could teach. Many of the children walked three or more miles to attend the school, including all of the Dial children.

Macedonia was another Indian school that had been established in the southwestern part of the county. However, that one-room school building burned around 1933, leaving those Indian students to be transported to Robeson County for some years because Hoke County had nowhere else for them to go. Seeing the need for something to be done about the lack of space and facilities for Indian children, Dial found himself returning to the Hoke County Board of Education for another request. This time, with the support of parents, Rodney Locklear and Levi Brewer, he requested a consolidation of the two Indian schools, and a larger, more adequate building to house the combined students. But there were no funds available to grant the request, and a consolidation would be much farther down the road.

In the meantime, the Indian communities worked together, donating their time, labor and resources to help secure more space for their children to be educated. As a result, the Antioch Indian School was built in 1935 to replace old Jacob's Point. It was a two-room school building that housed grades 1-8. The teachers there were Kinlaw Jacobs, Mary Lee Goins, James E. Dial, Mary Liza Locklear, Eleanor Dial, Wilson Chavis and Georgeanna Dial.

Another school was built to replace the old Macedonia School as well; it too housed grades 1-8. The teachers there were Carrie Moore Dial, Libby Bryant, Johnny Bullard, Jessie Bell Chavis, Libby Hunt and Cattie Bell Bullard. Both buildings were built on new sites which were more accessible to the Indian families. Performing a double function, they served as schools during the week and churches on Sunday.

Seventeen years elapsed between Dial's request for consolidation with a better school and its accomplishment.

In 1952, a new, modern school was built at the intersection of Bethel and Antioch roads. This location, being an equal distance from both the Indian communities and their schools, was the perfect spot. The new building provided everything the Indian students needed: up-to-date furniture, good bathroom facilities, and

a lunchroom large enough to accommodate the high school grades once the state allotted for a high school teacher. In previous years, Indian students who pursued a high school education had to travel to Robeson County to receive one. That year the school opened with the name "Consolidated Indian School," under the leadership of principal James H. Dial. The dream that their children could live at home and still receive an adequate education was finally realized by Indian parents Elisha Dial, Rodney Locklear and Levi Brewer.

It wasn't long before the first high school graduation took place at the new school. The graduating class of 1955 consisted of three students: Winford Rogers, Johnny Branch and James Anderson Maynor. It was led by principal Spurgeon M. Bullard, who saw the school through two more name changes and the addition of a new school gymnasium. In the 1954-55 school year, the name changed again to the Hoke County Indian School. In 1959, Principal Bullard's last year there, a teacher named Lew Barton suggested the school choose its own name, a name it could be proud of. He suggested "Hawkeye." The name was sanctioned by the school committee and unanimously agreed upon by the faculty, staff and students.

Overwhelmingly, everyone agrees that it was the adoption of the Hawkeye name and the Hawk as mascot that was responsible for the new school spirit that infected everyone. They even decided to vote on school colors, choosing green and white as their selection. Enveloped by the Hawkeye spirit as well, Coach Bobby Dean Brayboy organized the first Indian boys' and girls' basketball teams in Hoke County. Then school spirit tripled when Hawkeye was accepted into the Tri-County Indian High School Athletic Conference. Following the Hawk's lead, Coach Forace Oxendine expanded the school's athletic program to include baseball. When the Hawkeye teams began winning championships and trophies, the Indian people of Hoke County realized that they had acquired more than a decent school and education for their children. They had acquired an identity; they were Hawkeye!

Newman Oxendine followed S.M. Bullard as principal and preceded Earl Hughes Oxendine. Mr. Hughes, as he was affectionately called by the students, was principal at the time of desegregation. In the 1968-69 school year, Hoke County Board of Education decided to implement a countywide consolidation of schools. Once again the school would house only the younger grades; and once again it would suffer through another name change. When the doors of the school opened that year, its students were attending South Hoke Elementary School.

The school has remained an elementary school since that time, with many progressive changes having been made to enhance the facility. There have been additions of new classrooms and a media center. Even a larger cafeteria has been built to accommodate the growing number of students. The majority of students



The Levi Brewer family - he wanted his children to have an education.

who attend school there are still from the Indian community. However, something has been different, since the day the name "Hawkeye" was removed from the school's walls. It is as if the soaring spirit of the Hawk, which had inspired the students and connected the community, took flight on the very day that its namesake was removed from the school's walls.



Betty Lou's freshmen girls.

On June 22, 2007, the Hoke County Board of Education was again approached by Indian parents with a request relating to the school. This time, instead of three representatives, the Lumbee Indian Community filled the meeting room to overflow capacity with the request that the school's former name of Hawkeye (the name chosen by their people) be reinstated, once and for all. Realizing, for the first time, what the school name really meant to the Lumbee people, the School Board voted unanimously to overturn the former decision, reinstating the name Hawkeye... We patiently await the return of the soaring spirit of the Hawk!

Yet, it would do so without the proud name

of Hawkeye which unified the Indian people of this county inspiring them to become their best: doctors, lawyers, businessmen, teachers, even politicians received an education and their first glimpse of the possibilities within its doors.



Hanging out before the prom.



Miss Mary Lee's class

Morris: To any lawyer to execute and return within 30 days: (Sundays excepted). You are hereby commanded to take the body of MATTHEW JOHNSON if to be found in your county and have him before me or some other justice of peace in and for said county to answer ALEXANDER MCLAUCHLIN in a plea of debt of 50 cents due by account. Herein fail not. Given under my hand and seal the 9th day of March 1864. S/D.L. Taylor, Justice of the Peace

Nov. 2 – Sam Morris alluded to the groundbreaking of the Continental Yarn Corporation in Rockfish. Rockfish citizens worked hard to make it happen.

Nov. 9 – For the first time in Hoke history, voters went Republican in the presidential election.

Nov. 16 – An editorial cartoon shows Nixon opening a gift box from U.S. voters containing a Superman's suit. "Just what I always wanted," he says.

Nov. 23 – In what may be a landmark case, Junior Lee Washington, 22, is given a sentence of death by gas for raping Patricia Adams, 22, twice on Aug. 2. He was given life for kidnapping her and her two children and 10 years for breaking and entering. Washington is black and Adams is white. She testified he told her he wanted "an uppity white chick." Washington appealed.

Nov. 30 – A portable building that housed two classrooms was burned and investigators suspect arson. Other buildings were damaged by flames.

Dec. 7 – A three-roll foil or paper rack of wrapping paper sells for 29 cents at Valu-Mart.

Dec. 14 – City and county coffers are enriched by \$170,000 in federal revenue sharing. Raeford receives \$40,705 and Hoke gets \$129,107.

Dec. 21 – The 1973 General Assembly will consider closing the Samuel Leonard Training School in McCain.

Dec. 28 – Farmers want their farmland assessed on use, not market value, they tell commissioners.

1973

Jan. 4 – Motorists on Hwy. 211 at Antioch are being beaten or shot and robbed while stopped for a sign at Old Wire Road and Hwy. 211.

Jan. 11 – Katie Burns, 60, and Billie Jo Davis, 3, are killed when the brakes on a car fail and it slams into an A& R Railway train at FSI at Dundarrach. Four others are injured and penned in the vehicle. All are Duffie residents.

Jan. 18 – Eight policemen have resigned from the Raeford department, three joining the sheriff's department, in the last 15 months. Some officers cite long hours and low pay. The department is left with four employees, including the chief.

Jan. 25 – R.B. Lewis is described in The News-Journal as "energetic" and cited for his community work when he retires as president of Bank of Raeford, the county's oldest bank, after 53 years at the post.

Feb. 1 – Bobby Strother receives the Outstanding Young Farmer award from the Jaycees. Jaycee of the Year is William McDonald.

Feb. 8 – Six inches plus of rain fell during a 12-hour period and overflowed creeks, washed out road shoulders, undermined road beds and inundated streets, highways and yards. At one point, Prospect Ave. Extension was under two feet of water.

Hoke High Principal Raz Autry is Kiwanis Man of the Year.

Feb. 15 – The weather continues to dominate the news. Eight to ten inches of snow is blown by high winds and Hoke is paralyzed.

Feb. 22 – FHA Farm Family of the Year is the Bobby Strother family of Five Points. Strother is

lauded for his managing and budgeting abilities, soybean and tobacco production practices and mechanized harvesting techniques.

March 1 – A still in Puppy Creek is destroyed. It is the first still to be found this year. Last year, only one was uncovered.

March 8 – The Army's support of the Hoke health clinic will end this month, and about half the services now offered will also end.

March 15 – Commissioners, in an attempt to stay in compliance with state laws regulating public meetings, will be posting notices of special meetings at least two days prior.

March 22 – The health center crisis is temporarily relieved with the hiring of a former Army doctor. The Army's domestic action program that provided a doctor to the health clinic was ended due to a shortage of physicians in the military.

March 29 – The General Assembly is considering a new charter for Raeford. The current one, drawn up in 1901 when Raeford was mostly a part of Cumberland County, allows people to work off their unpaid taxes.

April 5 – Police Chief John Lamont and three officers walk off the job following a dispute between City Manager John Gaddy and Lamont. Gaddy refuses to reinstate Lamont.

April 12 – A St. Joseph aspirin bottle of 100 sells for 19 cents at Valu-Mart.

April 19 – The school board, pending state approval, is to buy 14.38 acres south of Harris Ave. to be the site of the new board of education building.

April 26 – Hoke deputies will see larger paychecks in the future as commissioners authorize raises to stave off a possible shortage in the department. The city police force is up to its authorized strength under acting chief Leonard Wiggins.

May 3 – The Rev. Elias Rogers of Antioch is charged with interfering with federal officers while they searched a Robeson County home where two truckloads of documents were taken after Indians took over the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington.

May 10 – The library board asks the school board to give land at the corner of N. Main and Donaldson for a new library while commissioner are told it will cost \$380,000-480,000 for a new library building.

May 17 – Hoke High's female athletes win their second consecutive girls' state track championship. Kathy McMillian broke a record with her broad jump of 17'7".

May 24 – A 7-year-old boy is shot in the left eye and died after a rifle his father thought was empty discharges.

May 31 – Foster homes for teens in Hoke are needed as is evident when no place is available after a 13-year-old and a 15-year old have no place to go after their father is imprisoned for killing their mother.

June 7 – Commissioners decide county offices should take priority over a new library building.

June 14 – A B.C. Moore department store is coming to Raeford.

June 21 – Two military policemen stationed at Ft. Bragg are arrested for growing marijuana.

June 28 – Leonard "Zeke" Wiggins is named police chief.

Six bovine farm animals were killed in a lightning strike at the Ralph Wiggins farm on N.C. 211 near Lake Elizabeth Road. The animals were found burned by the charge, huddled close to a pine tree. Two weeks earlier, three sows were killed by lightning on a farm near Timberland.

July 5 – "Out of Gas," "No Regular," "No Gas" and similar hand-printed signs begin to appear at the county service stations as monthly gasoline allocations run out. A photo on the front

page features a sign from Gore's Grocery and Service Station on Shannon Road that reads "Out Gas Thank You."

July 12 – An advertisement from Carolina Telephone-United Telephone System asks "Why not two telephone lines? You solved your transportation problems with two cars... your TV problems with two TVs. Solve your communication problems with two lines. Just call your local business office."

July 19 – The drive to rid Hoke County of abandoned and junked cars is still underway, reported the Raeford Kiwanis Club and the Raeford Woman's Club.

A Bruce Lee movie, "The Chinese Connection," is playing at the Sunrise in Southern Pines, says an ad.

July 26 – Berder Niven has been forced to close his service station on North Main Street because of the gasoline shortage. The station has operated since 1946. An independent retailer, Niven switched from Esso in 1970.

Aug. 2 – Meat prices up, supply down. Wholesalers cut beef orders by as much as 90 percent the next week and "feel they will have no beef to sell next week."

Aug. 9 – Funeral services are held for Hoke County Register of Deeds Martha McKenzie Clark, 47, who died suddenly at her home.

Aug. 16 – A Five Points 19-year-old man was being held without bond on murder charges following the shotgun shooting death of a Cameron Heights 17-year-old youth at a Five Points residence. Four teens are sentenced after pleading guilty to kidnapping of a 12-year-old Hoke County girl in May.

Aug. 23 – A witness testifies someone paid him \$500 to say he had lied at a trial in which two were convicted of breaking and entering and larceny at the Arabia Golf Club. The witness said the alleged bribe took place at the office of a Carthage attorney. In the courtroom, the attorney burst out that "that is the biggest lie I've ever heard in a courthouse. I hope the sheriff didn't put it in your mouth."

A 75-year old Fayetteville man is found alive bound and gagged near his car suffering from exposure and dehydration after having been kidnapped four days earlier. Two teenagers and one 21-year-old from Stonewall Township are charged.

Aug. 30 – A Family Dollar store opens on Main Street.

Sept. 6 – Hoke county schools will receive \$11,000 in impact aid for this school year, as a result of recent court action against the Nixon administration, for students whose parents are employed by the military but not living on a military base.

"Paper Moon," with Ryan and Tatum O'Neal, is being held over at the Cardinal in Fayetteville. Sunrise in Southern Pines is showing "Scream Blacula Scream."

Sept. 13 – Law enforcement plans a crack-down on trail and mini-bike operators who use the vehicles beside roads and highways.

Sept. 20 – One of those convicted in the break-in of the Arabia Golf Course clubhouse in 1971 leads law enforcement on a high-speed chase through the county, at speeds of up to 100 miles per hour. The vehicle was fired upon three times.

Sept. 27 – An editorial cartoon comments on Vice-President Spiro Agnew's troubles.

Oct. 4 – The board of education agrees to let county commissioners use 2.5 acres of board of education land on Wooley Street for construction of a new county office building.

Oct. 11 – Two 500-gallon stills are destroyed in a raid in the Antioch township.

Oct. 18 – A U.S. Air Force UH-1N helicopter crash midday Monday in the woods at the Dick Neely farm near 401 kills two servicemembers. Local hunters assist the injured at the crash.

Oct. 25 – A 9-year-old boy is killed when a grain truck driven by his mother overturns at Rural Road 1143 near the Robeson and Hoke county line. The vehicle had swerved side to side due to a shifting load of corn.

Nov. 1 – Firings of 13 employees at the Office of Youth Development coupled with public allegations of misconduct and incompetency may lead to lawsuits filed against the state.

A 16-year-old girl died after being shot in the face with a .12-gauge shotgun at a home near Lake Elizabeth Road outside of Raeford. An 18-year-old is held.

Nov. 8 – Spokesman for WSHB radio station said the station had not been transmitting since 6 p.m. Tuesday due to a transformer blow-out.

Nov. 15 – Undercover buys of LSD, cocaine and marijuana result in the arrest of eight suspects.

Nov. 22 – Two found guilty in the attack of a 75-year-old Fayetteville man are sentenced to 35 years. "I have seen the wounds of the victim and it is amazing and fantastic he did not die... The evidence shows this was a planned crime by minds bent on crime... it shows in the planning this was an ambush... The public at large is entitled to protection..." said Judge Maurice Braswell.

Nov. 29 – Pump after pump dribbled to the last drops of gas throughout Hoke County during the past week.

Hoke County Rescue Squad purchases a new Hurst Rescue Tool, known popularly as the "Jaws of Life."

Dec. 6 – With one Hoke deputy sheriff hospitalized with tuberculosis, it is revealed that it is possible some prisoners at the county jail may have been exposed to TB.

Dec. 13 – Two masked people reportedly pull off an armed robbery at Wayside Grocery.

Dec. 20 – The Raeford City Council votes not to use lights in Christmas decorations for the city this year in accordance with President Nixon's wishes that cities and people cut down on outdoor decorative lighting to conserve energy. The public expressed a difference of opinion: "I can't understand it," said one woman. "Why couldn't we have lights just an hour or so the week before Christmas. My kids are getting real blue about not getting to see the pretty lights this year."

Dec. 27 – Cars go hungry; Hoke sans gas.

1974

Jan. 10 – Raeford Turkey Farms announces a major plant expansion. The project is expected to double production in two or three years.

Jan. 17 – Samuel Leonard Training School at McCain is to close by Feb. 10.

Jan. 24 – Former Hoke High principal George "Raz" Autry will be superintendent of schools.

Jan. 31 – Kiwanis Club honors Benny McLeod as Man of the Year.

Feb. 7 – Accidents claim five lives on Hwy. 401 North in a week's time.

Feb. 21 – Youthful offenders will begin arriving at Sandhills Youth Center, formerly Samuel Leonard Training School, on March 1. The center will not be fenced and there are no armed guards.

Feb. 28 – An odd-even gas plan implemented by the governor is adopted in Hoke in view of the current energy crisis.

March 7 – Commissioners up deputies' pay at the request of Sheriff Dave Barrington.

Knit-Away helps employees survive the energy crisis by providing a bus for each 12-hour shift.

March 14 – The board of elections wants the county to provide them with office space.

March 21 – Dave Barrington hires two new deputies, James Peterkin, black, and Elisha Dial, Indian. James R. Riley, white, joins the force a little later.

March 28 – The Indian Education Program notes Indian participation in extracurricular activities is increasing. Four Indian girls are trying out for the cheerleading squad.

April 4 – Commissioners consider drawings of a proposed county office building to go on Wooley Street that could cost a half-million.

April 11 – Half of the court cases involve driving under the influence (DUI).

April 18 – Russell Davis, Hoke High graduate and sophomore basketball star of the Louisburg Hurricanes, is the first junior college athlete in North Carolina and in the history to make the All-American team for junior colleges.

April 25 – The Hoke County Firemen's Assoc. stokes a fire when they endorse three of the ten commissioner Democratic candidates: Mabel Riley, James Albert Hunt and Woodrow "Woody" Wilson. "Vote to save lives" reads their ad.

May 2 – The Raeford Woman's Club contributes \$3,000 for the library fund.

May 9 – In a light turnout, voters support two of the firefighters' recommended commissioners, Hunt and Riley.

May 16 – The Hoke High girls' track and field team win the state championship for the third time.

May 23 – The state Division of School Planning recommends discontinuing the Raeford Elementary School building for educational purposes.

May 30 – The city drops the tax rate 23 percent after a transfer of \$58,000 from a capital revenue fund balance carryover.

June 6 – The school board decides to ask for a \$3 million bond referendum on November's ballot for school expansion and upgrades.

June 13 – Two men rob the ABC store at gunpoint and were arrested shortly after.

June 20 – A Fayetteville man is dead after his vehicle is found upside down in Rockfish Creek east of Raeford. He is Hoke's ninth traffic fatality.

June 27 – The sheriff's department padlocked the Adult Club in Silver City after an officer investigating complaints of noise was hit with a shotgun pellet and bottles and rocks were thrown at deputies.

July 4 – A dismissed teacher, charging racial discrimination, files suit against the school board and superintendent Raz Autry.

July 11 – The Court of Appeals upholds Judge Joe Dupree's decision that three juveniles be tried as adults. The youths, ages 14 and 15, are charged with the 1973 kidnapping and assault of two 14-year-old girls. Four older youths received life sentences in the case.

Aug. 1 – County commissioners gave their approval of a \$1,246 million school bond referendum.

Aug. 8 – Mortgage loans are down in Hoke as the tightening of the mortgage market is felt.

Aug. 15 – Hoke High junior Kathy McMillan breaks a Junior Olympics' record in the broad jump by jumping 19'9".

Aug. 22 – The corrections office, located in McCain, is moved to Fayetteville.

Aug. 27 – Residents are vocal but divided about the county's proposed leash law.

Sept. 12 – Hoke's 11th traffic fatality occurs when a 23-year-old mother of three is killed on Hwy. 401 near Big Star Truck Stop, the scene of frequent accidents. The wreck involved three vehicles, one an 18-wheeler.

E.E. Smith, clerk of court since 1962, dies.

Sept. 19 – Burlington Apparel Fabric's worsted plant reduces its staff by 32 employees.

Sept. 26 – Two soldiers are killed in a wreck in the Twin Bridges area, bringing the number of traffic fatalities in Hoke to 13.

Oct. 3 – The city and merchants start a trash clean-up after complaints from Keep North Carolina Beautiful Committee.

Oct. 10 – The four-laning of Hwy. 401 between Fayetteville and Raeford is approved but not funded.

Oct. 17 – Robert Williams, 70, a feed dealer, is found dead in his home, where he operated his business. He'd been bound and struck on the head, but a heart attack appears to be the cause of death. Robbery is thought to be the motive except a large amount of cash is found in a bedroom.

Oct. 24 – W.T. McAllister, school board candidate, and his wife, Mary Lee, Scurlock School manager, shot numerous times, die in their home. Jesse L. Luckie, 25, a former boyfriend of their daughter's, is charged.

The same day the McAllisters are murdered, two of their nephews are killed in an accident on Hwy. 401 Bypass that takes the lives of three. Hoke's traffic fatalities rises to 16.

Nov. 7 – A \$1.25 million bond referendum for expansion and improvement to Hoke schools is passed.

Nov. 14 – Hoke Dept. of Social Services Director Ben Niblock says 43 children with special needs have been identified.

Nov. 21 – Open Arms Rest Home plans to expand.

Nov. 28 – A man is critically injured when his car strikes a train on West Prospect Ave.

Dec. 5 – The state proposes to build a road between Hwy. 211 West and Hwy. 401 near the Thomasville subdivision.

Hoke sheriff David Barrington travels to New Jersey to look into the disappearance of Brenda Jones, who hasn't been seen since Nov. 4. Her husband, Rodney Jones, killed himself in New Jersey Nov. 16.

Dec. 12 – The state claims Hoke owes thousands for prison care.

Dec. 19 – Hoke's 14th traffic fatality occurs when a young man on a weekend pass from prison is killed in a two-car collision on Hwy. 211 West 13 miles from Raeford.

Dec. 26 – A wreck in the city on Central Ave. that kills one is Hoke's 14th traffic fatality.

1975

Jan. 9 – Almost 340 employees, an entire shift, at Raeford Turkey Farms is laid off due to a shortage of live turkeys. The cutback is expected to be temporary.

Jan. 16 – A 51-year-old New Jersey man fell 115 feet to his death as he was painting Raeford's water tower on Dickson St.

Jan. 30 – Ashwell Harward is named Kiwanis Man of the Year.

Feb. 20 – Few senior citizens show up for the free hot lunch program's initiation in the Cameron Heights community center.

Feb. 27 – Health worker Jessie Nicholson is pistol-whipped, shot and left for dead when she gets lost in the McCain area and happens upon a break-in in progress. She walks a half mile to Highway 211 for help. Four men are charged.

March 20 – Elwood Avenue is Raeford's newly designated one-way street.

March 27 – A tornado hopscoches across the county, first dropping down near Drowning Creek in western Hoke and finally delivering a parting shot in the east near the Cumberland County line. Damage is estimated at \$100,000

but no injuries are reported.

April 3 – Deputy George McGuire is cleared in the March 6 shooting death of Angus Thompson after a coroner's jury deliberated less than five minutes.

April 24 – Jessie Lockety, 25, pleads guilty and receives two consecutive life sentences for the murders of W.T. and Mary Lee McAllister on Oct. 19, 1974.

May 15 – Hoke High girls win the state track title again as Olympics' hopeful Kathy McMillan breaks records.

May 29 – School officials consider a new dress code after a Superior Court judge rules in favor of an 11th grader's suit charging he was harassed about the length of his hair.

July 3 – Raeford merchants advertise their third annual town-wide yard sale.

July 10 – Hoke High athlete Kathy McMillan jumps 21'7" to win first place honors for the U.S. women's team in track and field championships in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

July 31 – Two families from Raeford perish when their private plane crashes in a swamp near Darien, Georgia: Hillman and Geneva Edens and their 8-year-old daughter, Cynthia Kaye, and Mr. and Mrs. Odell Melton.

Aug. 14 – The groundbreaking for the Bicentennial Library is held amidst a holiday spirit.

Oct. 16 – John D. Gaddy, 51, pleading no contest, receives a four-year suspended sentence for misappropriating city funds and is fined \$2000. He resigns from his position of city mayor.

Three people die in a two-car collision on Old Maxton Road. One of the vehicles goes into a 15' deep water canal.

Hoke High athlete Kathy McMillan shatters records when she jumps 21' 2 3/4" at Pan American games in Mexico City.

Nov. 6 – A citizens' campaign petitions the city to rehire John Gaddy in some capacity.

Raeford voters return John K. McNeill as mayor. Councilmen are Sam Morris, Graham Clark, Benny McLeod, Crawford Thomas and David Lovette.

Nov. 20 – The city council votes unanimously not to rehire John Gaddy as city manager in spite of the signatures of 300 residents and appeals of upstanding citizens, to include the police chief.

Nov. 27 – Widows are victims when a flim-flam is successful at several homes. A woman is admitted to each home after extending a \$20 bill for a debt owed the widow's husband. Then she manages to sneak money from the victim's purse.

Dec. 4 – The county contributes \$50,000 toward the cost of a new Armory.

Dec. 18 – No Christmas bonuses for county workers.

The Chamber of Commerce is told by Jim Bernstein, chief of rural health care of the N.C. Dept. of Human Resource, that a hospital is not realistic but more doctors are needed.

1976

Jan. 1 – The landmark Raeford Hotel, in a state of deterioration, closes for repairs.

Sheriff Dave Barrington says the jail had a record number of inmates over the holidays – 25 in all.

Jan. 8 – The city council requests the Raeford and Fayetteville phone exchanges be linked in an extended service agreement.

Jan. 15 – Robert Drumwright of Graham is named city manager.

J.H. "Buck" Blue, former commissioner and National Guard commander, dies.

Jan. 22 – Indians turned out in force to protest the firing of deputy Elisha Dial by Sheriff Dave Barrington.

Jan. 29 – A study conducted by N.C. State University indicates only 45 percent of Hoke's population thinks the county is becoming a better place to live.

Feb. 12 – Hoke High's Kathy McMillan set a long jump record at the Mason-Dixon games in Kentucky by jumping 20'11.5".

Feb. 19 – Hoke's farm income fell by \$1.5 million from the previous year. A switch from cotton to soybean production is blamed.

March 4 – Burlington Industries invests \$5 million in new equipment to add 150 new jobs.

March 11 – Knit-Away lays off 200 personnel.

April 1 – Hoke residents begin a pre-Fourth bicentennial celebration of the nation's birthday.

The Raeford-Fayetteville-Ft. Bragg telephone exchanges merge.

April 8 – Robert Banks Lewis, retired president of Bank of Raeford, civic leader and one of the founders of Raeford Fire Dept., also serving as fire chief, dies at age 82.

Three Raeford men, Wilfred Thomas Walters, 43, Edward Earl Andrews, 28, and Robert A. Barefoot, 31, die in a van-tractor-trailer accident on Prospect Avenue in Raeford.

April 22 – Superintendent of Schools Raz Autry presents a budget plan that would hike the share of the county to more than \$275,000.

April 29 – Olympic hopeful Kathy McMillan breaks the long jump record again by jumping 22 ft.

May 6 – Commissioners increase county meetings to twice a month.

May 13 – The '77 year budget calls for no tax hike.

May 20 – The Chamber of Commerce hears that a solid economy gain is ahead.

Kathy McMillan leads the Hoke High girls' track team to their fifth straight first place.

Adult magazines are banned where beer is served.

May 27 – Seven citizens, led by fired deputy Elisha Dial, attempt to remove through civil action Dave Barrington from office based on his alleged misconduct.

June 3 – A Superior Court judge rejects Barrington ouster attempt.

June 10 – Grocers ask the county to lift a ban on the sale of beer on Sundays.

June 17 – Kathy McMillan leaps 22'3" to break the American record in Olympic trials despite a muscle injury.

June 24 – Kathy McMillan is headed to the Olympics.

July 8 – As part of the bicentennial celebration, Raeford-Hoke's new library is dedicated.

July 29 – Kathy McMillan, 18, brings home an Olympic silver medal in the long jump in Montreal. Her winning jump was 21'10 _".

The N.C. League of Municipalities calls the Raeford fire station on Main Street a fire trap.

Aug. 5 – Billy Colston, Kathy's coach, and the athlete credit each other for her victory on Kathy McMillan Day.

Aug. 19 – Commissioners deadlock on a vote to ban beer sales on Sunday.

Sept. 2 – Hoke gets \$460,000 in HUD money for community development.

Sept. 9 – Tennis courts in McLauchlin Park are open.

Sept. 16 – Department store owner Danny DeVane wins Democratic nominee for commissioner over Charlie Pendergrass.

Sept. 23 – Commissioners reject the county-wide sale of beer on Sundays by a 3-2 vote.

Sept. 30 – City voters approve a \$200,000 bond issue to build a new fire station.

Nov. 11 – Hardee's announces plans to bring a restaurant here.

Nov. 25 – A special federal census of Hoke

Ed Buie was an entrepreneur who loved church, community

BY BARBARA BUIE

Ed Buie was born in Harnett County on March 15, 1886 and died on November 1, 1955. Exactly when he moved to Hoke County is unknown to this writer as is much of his life before 1917.

Buie's early entrepreneurship is evident by the number of businesses he was involved in possibly before the 1920s and into 1930s. His son James Edward (Nuncy), born in 1918 and currently residing in Charlotte, remembers them well. There was always farming. At one point, Buie was in the sawmill business and it is believed that he stayed in this until the late 1940s or early 1950s. He ran a café just off Main Street where his wife, Pauline Terry Buie, did the cooking. Stew beef and rice was the signature dish at the café and Nuncy still declares it the best ever served. Buie was also in barbering and for a short while operated a "pressing club."

Buie Funeral Home, located on Vass Road, is his most lasting legacy. For four generations Ed Buie's motto has guided

the business – "We strive to deserve your confidence."

The story goes that while working for Mack McDiarmid, owner of a local funeral home, McDiarmid purchased a new hearse and Buie bought the old one. But Nuncy remembers when a mule and a wagon served as the hearse and bodies were picked up from the sanatorium and "buried with a quick prayer from Papa."

In April 1936 Buie purchased a used Kissel hearse from The Sayers & Scovill Company and in 1941 Buie bought a Buick hearse from them with an insurance value of \$600. By 1950, the hearse was a Cadillac insured at \$3,000. For all his hard work, Ed Buie never rewarded himself with a new car or a new hearse.

A successful business was not Buie's only contribution to Hoke County. He was involved in his church and community. He shares credit for bringing a second high school to Hoke County and is named as a trustee on the cornerstone of the early McLauchlin Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church.

County nears an end.

An editorial calls for free school lunches for all.

Dec. 2 – Raeford Municipal Airport gets the go-ahead for expansion. Fifteen acres will be added for aircraft parking.

Dec. 9 – Hoke gained 1,970 people over the 1970 census. Population is now 18,406.

More than 200 cases jam the District Court docket.

Dec. 23 – Hoke High Coach Billy Colston is named N.C. Coach of the Year.

Dec. 30 – Tarheel Turkey Hatchery of Raeford loses a turkey house and \$5,487 in tom breeder turkeys (about 300).

1977

Jan. 6 – County commissioners agree to ask the state legislature to exempt Hoke from brown bagging laws, thus halting the sale of beer in restaurants on Sundays throughout the county.

Jan. 13 – The city helps the parking situation by creating an off-street parking area off W. Elwood Ave.

Jan. 20 – Area restaurants vow to fight beer ban on Sundays.

Feb. 3 – Propane supplies in Hoke are critical. Schools are particularly hit hard.

Feb. 10 – County begins a four-day, 32-hour work week in response to Gov. Jim Hunt's appeal for energy conservation.

Hadley-Peoples Manufacturing Co. textile mills in Rockfish shut down, putting 90 people out of work.

Feb. 17 – Farm income in Hoke did an upturn in 1976.

Letter carriers picket the post office, charging the postmaster with harassment and taking over the work of union members.

March 3 – A suit filed against the city, charging negligence after a teenaged motorcyclist crashed into the gate barring traffic from moving through the school on Bethel Road during school hours, is dismissed.

March 10 – Commissioners learn that county salaries fall below the state guide.

March 17 – Burlington Menswear drops its fourth shift. A change in product mix requires fewer yarn manufacturing operations.

March 24 – A Greensboro-based firm proceeds with plans to build a 40-unit complex on Hwy. 401 Bypass in Raeford.

April 7 – A two-block stretch of West Elwood Avenue loses its one-way status to the relief of city commuters.

April 21 – The Burlington Industries textile mill is emptied after a bomb hoax. The threat is repeated the following week.

May 5 – Sandhills Mental Health Center reveals plans to open a facility in Hoke and expand services.

May 19 – Not guilty is the verdict a Hoke Superior Court jury handed down to one of three men charged with killing Robert Leslie Brooks at his Rockfish store Dec. 23 during a holdup. Charges against the other two are later dropped.

The Hillcrest fire station is damaged when a firefighter attempts to drive out of the building before opening the door.

May 26 – An Aberdeen & Rockfish railway plan for a lumber yard in the city is opposed by Raeford councilmen, who ask the zoning board not to approve it.

June 9 – Commissioners look into an ordinance that would ban massage parlors.

June 16 – The county budget tops \$3 million while the city budget calls for a two cents tax hike.

June 23 – The city zoning board approves A&R railway's request for a log loading yard.

June 30 – Hoke's schools score low on the National Teacher Examinations; they rank 132 out of 145 schools in the state.

July 7 – Vandals lose 10,000 gallons of gas at Raeford Oil Co.'s propane storage site. The situation is described as potentially dangerous.

July 14 – Mounds of garbage pile up after the changeover to a new trash disposal service.

July 28 – Hoke's crop losses are put at \$3 million following one of the severest droughts on record.

Aug. 11 – A study sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce recommends a city and county government merger.

Orlando "Tubby" Smith joins the Hoke High faculty as head basketball coach. He later went on to lead Kentucky to the NCAA championship.

Aug. 25 – School opens a week late so that tobacco crops can be harvested.

The Hoke County Mental Health Clinic opens its doors.

Sept. 1 – Four hog rustlers are rounded up after deputies stake out Raeford Livestock Co..

Sept. 8 – McCain Prison receives a \$3 million grant for renovations and expansion.

Sept. 29 – Uptown Restaurant owners close the dining facility down charging financial woes and harassment by the city.

Oct. 27 – The Hoke Parks & Recreation Commission is seeking land on which to build a county park.

Nov. 3 – The main section of Hoke High is dedicated as the K.A. MacDonald Memorial Building. The late superintendent worked for the school system from 1935 to 1959.

Nov. 10 – Newcomer Vardell Hedgpeth is elected to the city council.

Nov. 24 – The County Line Plaza on Hwy. 401

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is declared a total loss after an early morning fire.

Dec. 8 – The city signs a 12-year lease with Gene Thacker for airport facilities. At a later meeting, the action is rescinded.

Dec. 22 – Hoke Schools are approved for the Community Act, a community-schools project. Don Steed is coordinator.

Dec. 29 – City merchants report a busy Christmas.

1978

Jan. 5 – Bladen County native James Earl Martin is chosen county manager upon the death of T.B. Lester, Hoke's first manager.

Jane Sellars is chosen the first Miss Raeford, sponsored by the Jaycees, while Julie Kicklighter of Raeford was chosen Miss Raleigh.

Jan. 12 – The city is forced, on the threat of losing funds for airport expansion, to lease part of the Raeford Municipal Airport to private enterprise. As a result, a contract is signed with Vance Aircraft Sales to conduct training and sales.

Jan. 26 – T.B. Lester is awarded posthumously Kiwanis Man of the Year. He was the Hoke County manager until his death last fall. He had worked for the county since 1961.

Under the Dept. of Transportation's latest seven-year plan, Hwy. 401 from Fayetteville to the 401 Bypass is to be widened.

Feb. 2 – Winds up to 80 MPH rip through Hoke turning over mobile homes, lifting roofs, downing trees and causing power outages. McCain Hospital loses part of the roof of its main building. No injuries are reported.

Feb. 16 – The Puppy Creek Philosopher figures the Arabs oilmen are pulling money out of a hole in the ground over there and it goes into a hole in the ground over here.

Feb. 23 – Summerfield Industries, Hoke's second largest employer, closes, idling 600 workers. The need for double knit fabrics declined while materials' prices skyrocketed.

March 2 – Former Raeford city manager John Gaddy, who resigned in 1975 after being convicted on three counts of misappropriating city funds, receives a pardon from Gov. Jim Hunt.

March 9 – When cotton was king in Hoke and the streets were laid out by surveyor Hector Smith, it was determined that they be wide enough for a two-horse wagon to turn around without backing up, says Robert Gatlin.

March 16 – Farm income figures from last summer's drought are released. The drop was from \$19 million in 1976 to \$16.5 million in 1977.

March 23 – The state names a 60-mile section of the Lumber River that borders Hoke and Scotland counties as North Carolina's first River Trail.

March 30 – Congressman Charlie Rose says he will help Raeford, by filing a suit if needed, stop a Military Operations Area from being charted in the skies over Hoke.

April 6 – City council approves a six-member revitalization committee as well as an \$11,000 study of downtown to be conducted through NC State University.

April 20 – Citizens voice concerns at a public hearing about a proposed Military Operations Area (MOA) being charted in the skies over Hoke. They are told an environmental impact study would have to be conducted first and that the military will be required to follow FAA regulations and will not be flying over Raeford.

April 27 – Congressman Charlie Rose asks the Pentagon to drop MOA plans.

May 4 – Voted in as a Democratic nominee, Mabel Riley is assured a commissioner seat, making her the first woman to sit on the county board.

May 11 – The fate of McCain Hospital for

the treatment of TB is still uncertain after a study that recommends the hospital be used for a different function.

May 18 – Ronald Lee Matthews of Goldsboro is named city manager following the March resignation of Robert Drumwright.

May 25 – Military and FAA officials consider modifying the MOA.

June 8 – The U.S. Parachute Team trains at Raeford Municipal Airport.

Raeford Manufacturing Corporation is buying Summerfield Industries plant, opening in the fall and hiring 300 workers.

June 15 – The proposed county budget calls for a five cents hike in ad valorem taxes, raising the rate to 97 cents per \$100 valuation.

Raeford Elementary School is renamed after James W. Turlington, 39-year employee of Hoke Schools. He spent 18 years at Raeford Elementary. Hoke High graduates 318.

The first woman EMT, Judy Ferguson, joins Hoke Rescue.

June 22 – The county rescinds its proposed tax hike after citizens' outcry.

June 29 – The city changes its zoning laws to accommodate Raeford Manufacturing Corp., the industry moving into the Summerfield location.

July 20 – The Raeford Evangelical Methodist Church Quiz Team wins a national Bible quiz contest.

Aug. 10 – Four youngsters, ages 7 months to 3 years, and a young father were killed in three different traffic accidents this year. Another young adult was killed in a fourth wreck this year.

Test scores indicate Hoke's students fall below the state average.

Aug. 17 – The SBI alerts the sheriff that toxic chemicals (PCB) had been dumped along North Carolina roads, particularly on the Ft. Bragg reservation inside Hoke boundaries.

Sept. 14 – The school board votes to end junior high football.

Oct. 5 – The Federal Aviation Administration compromises on the MOA and rejects Army plans to lower the military flying floor to 500 feet. The FAA suggests 1,500 feet.

Work on restoring the historic Mill Prong House is begun.

McCain Hospital is to remain a TB facility.

Oct. 19 – Work begins at the Faberge plant (Raeford Manufacturing Corp.), producing the new Farah Fawcett-Majors line.

Oct. 26 – Medical Services Clinic – for the treatment of after-hour patients – opens on Campus Avenue.

Nov. 2 – Work begins on the new Bank of Raeford on South Main Street.

Nov. 30 – A Hoke jail inmate sets fire to his cell twice in one morning.

Dec. 7 – Hoke Sheriff Dave Barrington asks for more help, says his deputies are working 60-hour shifts not including court time.

Dec. 14 – Upchurch Junior High will keep its football team, the school board decides.

Helen S. Barrington, 81, is honored for her 31 years of service in the court system.

1979

Jan. 11 – Only 11 students fail competency tests administered by the state. Schools Superintendent Raz Autry is elated.

Jan. 18 – District Court Judge Joseph E. Dupree is temporarily removed from office until the results of a DUI charge are determined. The judge was charged after he was involved in an accident.

Jan. 25 – Dentist Dr. Julius F. Jordan, local civic leader and former county official, dies at the age of 59.

Feb. 1 – Dr. Marcus R. Smith, retired dentist, receives the Kiwanis Citizenship Man of the Year award.

Feb. 8 – District Court Judge Joseph E. Dupree pleads guilty to DUI. He had blown a .15 on a breathalyzer test. Dupree returns to the bench.

Feb. 15 – Snow and ice black out much of Hoke. A lineman is injured when he touches a live wire and falls 20 feet while attempting to restore power.

Feb. 22 – The worst snowstorm since 1927 brings everything to a standstill in Hoke.

March 1 – The 1978 farm income in Hoke tops \$20 million.

March 8 – Upchurch Milling & Storage Co. is being dismantled. The first building was erected in 1914 and destroyed by fire in 1946. The original building was a corn and flour mill.

March 15 – Sheriff Dave Barrington, a jailer and a prisoner are all hurt in a fight at the jail.

March 29 – The state Dept. of Transportation is improving a part of Shaw Town Road after citizens begged for the repairs for eight years. The work had been held up because of problems getting right-of-way.

April 5 – Arson is suspected in three fires at Hoke High.

April 12 – An adolescent attempts to nab a woman's young child at their home after striking her on the head.

May 3 – Jim and Linda Hinley are awarded a five-year ambulance contract by the county to replace Spring Lake Ambulance Service.

May 10 – The city council asks for a feasibility study to take trucks off city streets and route them around the city.

May 17 – A Maxton man becomes Hoke's fifth traffic fatality of the year when his car plunges into Rockfish Creek and he drowns.

June 7 – Citing inflation, the city adopts a budget with a three cents tax hike. The tax rate is 60 cents per \$100 valuation.

A reception at City Hall honors five local Vietnam veterans: John Leandro, Eddie H. Allen Jr., John D. Melton, William Tommy Connell and James Lee Madden.

June 14 – Melvin Mayer is missing and a \$900 cash bond is also missing. Mayer gives himself up and is charged.

Sam, a Raeford bulldog, gives birth to 14 pups.

June 21 – A baby boy, born Feb. 2 weighing 1 _ pounds, is doing well.

June 28 – Raeford's Sally Austin wins the state women's golf title.

July 19 – A Rockfish Road one-car accident claims the lives of a man and his wife, but their two young sons survive with injuries that are not serious.

July 26 – The News-Journal is not notified of school board meetings, a violation of the open meetings law.

Aug. 2 – Hoke seeks payment for acreage the U.S. government took while developing Ft. Bragg under the federal Payment-in-Lieu-of-Taxes Act. Hoke was formed in 1911 with 286,000 acres. The government took 92,000 acres in 1918-23 when Bragg was formed. In 1958, Hoke had to transfer Little River Township (20,000 acres) to Moore County because it was effectively cut off from the rest of the county.

Aug. 9 – Commissioners voted to table a county thoroughfare plan because of concerns that a route would take traffic away from downtown. (When the plan was approved and implemented much later, the argument was that traffic, especially trucks, needed to be taken off Main Street.)

Aug. 23 – Faberge is expanding.

Aug. 30 – Daisy Smith Quevedo dies at age 82. She taught seven grades in the one-room

Rockfish Colored School for 24 years and was the last teacher to instruct in a one-room school.

Sept. 6 – The county board approves the alternate route around Raeford.

Sept. 20 – Three are injured in a car-ambulance collision on Hwy. 211 west of Raeford. The ambulance was transporting two people who had been hurt in an accident just a half hour before.

Sept. 27 – The Bank of Raeford's open house for its new building on South Main drew 1,100. The bank opened its doors on May 16, 1903.

Oct. 4 – Former mayor H.R. "Hooch" McLean dies. He was born in Robeson County in 1891 before it became part of Hoke. A World War I veteran, he also played pro baseball.

Oct. 11 – Twins Richard Lee and Albert Lee Smith died when flames swept through their old frame house near Dundarrach. Their 17-year-old brother escaped.

Nov. 8 – Ella Traywick writes Sam Morris for his Around Town column, "My Grandmother McFadden lived above Sandy Grove Church and cooked for the unit of Cavalry soldiers of Sherman's Army. They camped under an old oak at the church. When they left, they left her a horse with which to raise crops."

Nov. 14 – The ministerial alliance sponsors a Thanksgiving service for every race, creed or color.

Nov. 21 – Hoke comes in second in a 14-county competition to rid farms of tobacco pests.

Dec. 13 – A mother is jailed because she cannot get her two teenage daughters to go to school.

Dec. 20 – The bones of a man, Edward Leon Cameron, whose wife said he left her 35 years ago, are found in her backyard. A day after the bones were found, Winnie McNeill Cameron, 69, was found dead of a self-inflicted shotgun wound. She left a note saying she had killed her husband.

1980

Jan. 3 – David Scull of Raeford heats the Red Springs Piggly Wiggly store where he works with hot air that would have been expelled to the outside. He uses 100 degree heat from the compressor room to bring the store temperature up.

Jan. 10 – Hoke schools budgeted for a new computer to be compatible with the state education board's computers.

Jan. 17 – Predictions are that Hoke will have a population of 23,400 in 1990.

Jan. 24 – The city is going after a federal grant for wastewater treatment improvements and seeks support of the city's top three industries.

Jan. 31 – To the man who says it takes more energy to make alcohol out of grain than the alcohol itself yields, the Puppy Creek Philosopher has this to say, "It is a good thing that that expert wasn't operating 50 years ago or he would have proved that it takes more grain to feed a mule than the mule can produce pulling a plow, thus making farming mathematically impossible."

Feb. 7 – Commissioners are told that compliance with a federal heating guideline leaves much of the courthouse too cold to work in.

Feb. 14 – The farm income in 1979 is estimated at \$20,869,468.

Feb. 21 – A headline reads: 2 not guilty of assaulting each other.

Feb. 28 – The second story of the two-story Austin House on Edinborough Ave. burns. The owner says he will restore it. Precious antiques were on the second story.

March 6 – Hoke gets 11 inches of snow and sleet.

March 13 – Hoke High students and staff came through with 114 pints of blood for the Bloodmobile.

March 20—President Carter’s call for massive cuts in spending could mean a half million dollar loss in revenue sharing for Hoke.

March 27 – A toll-free number is set up so that folks outside the Raeford calling area can contact the sheriff’s office in case of emergencies.

April 3 – A 6-month-old girl dies when fire swept through the home. Her parents were able to get three other young children out but could not get to the baby’s crib.

April 10 – The Dept. of Housing and Urban Development rejects Hoke’s bid to continue community development and turned down a request for \$400,000, saying other places were needier.

April 17 – The city council and the Indian Housing Authority are working together to get

funds for low income housing for Hoke people.

April 24 – Art in the Park celebrates the arts in McLauchlin Park.

May 1 – A warehouse filled with two tons of hay on Wilmouth Ave. is completely destroyed by fire. Nearby buildings were damaged.

May 8 – The Raeford Junior Woman’s Club wins state honors including the top award in the education field.

May 15 – Darlene Clark, fourth grade teacher at South Hoke, is named Teacher of the Year.

May 22 – An editorial cartoon depicts a group of exhausted men pushing a Chrysler and Uncle Sam is offering the driver: “Here’s another half billion to keep the car going.”

May 29 – A Superior Court judge rejected for-

mer operator Paul Rose’s claim that a hangar built by him at the Raeford Airport belongs to him.

June 5 – A Food Town supermarket is to open in Raeford in a year. The grocery store will hire 50 personnel part-time and full-time.

July 3 – Preliminary reports of the 1980 census show Hoke County with a population of 19,463—a gain of 18.4 percent over 1970. Figures show Raeford gained 24 people since the last census, a figure City Manager Ron Matthews finds hard to believe. Raeford’s population is now 3,204, the census shows.

July 10 – William Fort Evans, 28, was clocked at 100 mph on Main Street. He led officers on a high speed chase until he wrecked near Oakdale Gin when he lost control on a curve, jumped a

ditch, hit a barbed wire fence and slid 100 feet. Warrants are awaiting Evans’ recovery; he is in serious condition at Cape Fear Valley.

July 17 – A Puppy Creek woman is frustrated that she can’t reach the military to report low-flying helicopters over her property. The aircraft reportedly flew just over the treetops. The Army responds after she contacts Congressman Charlie Rose’s office.

Icesonnia Horsley wins two golds and one bronze in track at the AAU Southeastern Region III Junior Olympics but can’t compete in the national Olympics because she is, at 12, too young.

July 24 – A dozen men born in 1960 registered for the national draft in the first three hours.

July 31 – Ft. Bragg announced low-level

Parker United Methodist Church celebrates 100 years

Parker’s Chapel was organized on January 29, 1911 by the Rev. J.W. Bradley, who was then pastor of the Raeford Circuit of the Methodist Protestant Church. This organizational meeting took place in Glen Acre School House, which was located about one quarter mile west of the present church building. The members continued to use this School House for services until the first church was built.

The first trustees of the church were Louis Parker, Gary B. Parker, Hugh Haire and Thomas Hobson. These men purchased one and one-fourth acres of land from J.H. and Sarah K. Townsend in 1913 and made plans for the first church building. With the men of the church and community furnishing the timber and doing the work, the first building was completed and dedicated about 1915, with the name Parker’s Chapel being given to it.

The church made progress under the leadership of each of its ministers and members. After some 20-25 years, the first building began needing repairs. During the ministry of the Rev. E.R. Clegg, a building fund was started and during the early ministry of the Rev. E.C. Crawford, about 1940, the old building was remodeled and two Sunday school rooms were added. The need for a new building became evident and Rev. Crawford started another building fund, which continued to grow each year from the proceeds realized from the annual Harvest Day and from the gifts of members and friends. Under the leadership of the Rev. W.L. Maness, the membership of the church and the building fund continued to increase.

Early in 1949, under the leadership of the Rev. P.O. Lee and the members of the Building Committee, and with a \$1500 donation from the Duke Endowment, the present church was begun. Louis Parker, who died before the new church was completed, purchased the land for the new church from Preacher Alex Whitty. The first service in the new building was held on December 18, 1949, under the direction of Rev. Lee with the Rev. B.P. Robinson doing the preaching on the subject, “The Never Changing Christ.”

At the Annual Conference in 1962, the church became the Parker Church Charge and was appointed students from Duke

Divinity School to pastor it. These students, Henry Gventer and Clay Morgan, lived in the community in an apartment furnished by the church.

At the Annual Conference in 1966, the church became a part of the Hoke Charge, sharing a pastor with Sandy Grove Methodist Church and continues to be on this charge to the present. Also in 1966, construction on a parsonage on Bethel Road was started to house the ministers for the churches. The Bethel Road parsonage was sold in 2006.

In 1939 with the merging of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Methodist Protestant Church and Methodist Episcopal Church South, Parker’s Chapel became Parker Methodist Church. The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church combined to become the United Methodist Church in 1968.

Original charter members of Parker’s Chapel were Louis Parker, Harvie L. Hobson, Nancy Parker, Mary C. Hobson, Gary B. Parker, John T. McVicker, Mollie Parker, Pat Moore, Henry P. Parker, Mary Haire, W.P. Parker, Maggie Haire, John L. Hobson, William Haire, Maggie B. Lindsay, Malcolm Haire, Alice A. Carter, John B. Haire, John B. McVicker, Hugh Haire and G. Thomas Hobson.

The first trustees of Parker’s Chapel were Louis Parker, Hugh Haire, Gary B. Parker and Thomas Hobson.

Superintendents of Sunday school are Gary B. Parker, Jimmy Clark, Louis Parker, David Scull, Hugh Haire, Ralph Plummer, Jimmy Plummer, John Plummer, Dan Dees and Agnes Clark.

Music Ministry

Since 1911, the family of Parker United Methodist Church has loved praising God through joyous singing. The congregation has been led by church members, friends, and the wives of ministers who gave much love to the choirs and the congregation. Among those remembered are Sue Bowell, organist, and Jim Wilkes, who led the singing. Others are Molly G. Parker, who played the pump organ while Gary B. Parker led the singing, “Miss Alice” Upchurch, who came with Mrs. P.O. Lee from Raeford United Method-

ist Church, Myra Morgani, who played the piano, Jane Ruggles who taught the youth and led the choir, and Jaxie Knowles, who led the choir. Church members who have used their talent through musical ministry are Alma P. Lovette, Myra Mott Bomba, Thomas McFadyen, “Miss Eula” Lunsford, Frances Sullivan, Delaine Peckham McDonald, Billy Baxley, and Alma Lee Simpson. Parker UMC continues its proud tradition of joyful singing with its choir and congregation.

Ministers are:

Raeford Charge:

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| J.W. Bradley | 1911-1913 |
| E.B. Craven | 1913-1914 |
| S.T. Moyle | 1914-1915 |
| J.T. Draper | 1915-1917 |
| B.P. Robinson | 1917-1921 |
| J.H. Frizzelle | 1921-1924 |
| N.C. Yearly | 1924-1928 |
| W.F. Trawick | 1928-1932 |
| B.H. Houston | 1932-1935 |
| E.R. Cleggg | 1935-1939 |
| E.C. Crawford | 1939-1943 |
| W.L. Maness | 1943-1947 |
| P.O. Lee | 1947-1953 |

Parkton Charge

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| N.P. Edens | 1953-1957 |
| C.B. Long | 1957-1960 |
| Mr. Johnson | 1960-1961 |
| Henry Gventer | 1961-1964 |
| Clay Morgan | 1964-1967 |
| Hoke Charge | |
| O.V. Elkins | 1967-1969 |
| Berry Barbour | 1969-1972 |
| Gordon Ruggles | 1972-1975 |
| Charles Litzenberger | 1975-1978 |
| T.D. Hoogerland | 1978-1982 |
| Russell Knowles | 1982-1986 |
| A.J. Eure | 1986-1993 |
| Larry Patrick | 1993-1996 |
| Donald Shields | 1996-2000 |
| Mike Nelson | 2000-2004 |
| Willie Frizzelle | 2004-2005 |
| Richard C. Jackson | 2005-2009 |
| Charles Herring | 2009-Nov 2009 |
| Dennis Lamm | Dec 2009 – present |

Interesting Facts about the Church

- Parker’s Church was dedicated about 1915.

- Parker Methodist Church was dedicated on May 1, 1955.
- The first funeral in the old building was that of Fletcher Parker and the last funeral was that of W.P. Parker.
- The first funeral in the new church was that of Elmer Shrewbridge.
- The first wedding in the old church was Mary Parker and J.S. Mott on June 18, 1924.
- The only two weddings after that were those of Ralph Plummer and Louise McFadyen on October 20, 1945 and Salley McMillan and Carl Nunnemaker in 1947.
- The first wedding in the new church was Beatrice Haire and B.B. Cole on September 10, 1951. The latest wedding is that of Becky Plummer and Russell Rutland on February 18, 1984.
- Nancy Parker, Ina Parker, Mamie Phillips, and Lucy Hobson purchased the first piano for Parker’s Chapel.
- The first organ in the new church was donated and played by Thomas McFadyen. Mary Eliza Haire was the first organist for Parker’s Chapel.
- For the first revival service in Parker’s Chapel, the men of the church sawed logs and placed boards on them for pews because the church was not finished.
- Josh Parker gave the pews for Parker’s Chapel.
- Mr. Hugh Haire gave the floor for Parker’s Chapel.
- C.B. Parker was the first superintendent of Sunday School.
- The cost of the new church and furnishings was a little more than \$20,000.
- In the late 1940s, Bible School was cancelled because of a polio epidemic.
- The funerals of Mr. Hugh Haire and Mr. Gus Phillips were conducted on the same day.
- Because of planes from Pope Field (later Pope Air Force Base) breaking the sound barrier, some windowpanes were broken in the church. They were replaced with panes of a different pattern. The current stained glass windows were added during a major renovation in 1995.
- Of the many Veterans buried in our cemetery, one is from the Civil War.

flights are being flown near the Raeford community.

Aug. 7 – The Army gives out phone numbers for complaints of low-flying aircraft.

Aug. 14 – High winds hit the Raeford Airport and destroy one plane, damage four others.

Aug. 21 – Fire destroys three tobacco barns on the Earl Hendrix farm, burning up 10,000 pounds of tobacco and damaging a nearby grain silo conveyor system and a two-ton truck filled with tobacco. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Aug. 28 – A petition signed by 35 residents of the Holly Park subdivision opposes plans for low-income housing on land adjoining the subdivision.

Sept. 4 – The county board thwarts any chances of a low-income/elderly complex being built near the Holly Parks subdivision.

Sept. 11 – State Trooper K.W. Weston just happened to be at the right place at the right time to save the life of 14-year-old Keith J. Grantham, who had fallen from the back of a moving truck and was having seizures. His cruiser was behind the truck.

Sept. 18 – Hoke law officers destroyed 4,000 pounds of marijuana either growing or harvested in South Hoke. Nine Wilkes County people are charged.

Sept. 25 – Three Hoke men, Matt Thompkins, Hervey Jackson, and Delton Harden, were ocean fishing about 40 miles southeast of Wilmington when they saw evidence of a boat wreck, then faintly saw a hand waving over the breakers. They were able to rescue two men in water-logged life jackets, but a third man had died when the boat went down.

Oct. 2 – The new county offices on South Magnolia St. are dedicated to Thomas B. Lester Jr., the county's first manager. He served in several other capacities until Hoke adopted the county manager type of government in 1966. He died at age 65 in 1977.

Oct. 9 – The city asks the county to join in the operation of the Raeford Municipal Airport. The county says no.

Oct. 16 – The U.S. Economic Development Administration gives the city \$750,000 toward improvements to the wastewater treatment plant.

Oct. 23 – The county asks the state for an advanced life support program to help save the lives of heart patients.

Oct. 30 – The Hoke High Marching Band wins honors for the fourth consecutive week. At the latest meet, the band is rated superior; they also won best band, best drum and best color guard. The band is directed by Jimmy James.

Nov. 6 – The city and county agree to hire a planner and set up a planning board.

Nov. 13 – Tax collector Elizabeth Livingston

kept her sense of humor when Barry Nixon paid his property taxes for 1978, '79 and '80 with a cart full of pennies. "Just so people pay, we don't mind how they bring it," she said.

Nov. 20 – Raeford is one of 100 cities to be designated as a Governor's Community of Excellence.

Nov. 27 – Hoke High volleyball standout Terri Tyler is named to the All-Region and All Regions X volleyball team in the National Junior College Athletic Assoc. She is a sophomore at Chowan College.

Dec. 4 – The A&R Railroad Depot is to be decorated and used as a Santa House, sponsored by the Raeford Merchants Assoc.

Dec. 11 – A 20-year-old man and a 15-year-old were accidentally shot with the same bullet from a gun that had reportedly been stolen by the juvenile. It went off when the juvenile put it under a car seat, hitting the juvenile in the leg and hand then traveling through a speaker before hitting the other.

Dec. 18 – The Raeford Community Choir's 60 members will present the Handel's "Messiah" in the sanctuary of Raeford Presbyterian Church.

Dec. 25 – Hoke County ambulance crews and rescue members learned how to rappel and how to rescue patients from high places. Teachers were Special Forces Seventh Group, C Company, 2nd Battalion.

1981

Jan. 1 – Hoke commissioners pay \$50,000 for land on Main Street on which to build a new county office building and possibly a courthouse annex. The property acquisition includes Raeford Motor Co. Body Shop.

Jan. 8 – Burlington Industries offers the county 6.7 acres, located across from Raeford Oil Co., for a park.

Jan. 15 – Senior citizens age 60 and older are eligible for lunches at Hoke High. The cost is \$1.25.

Jan. 22 – The state attorney general's office is asked to rule whether or not two appointments to the ABC Board made during a closed executive session are valid.

Jan. 29 – The appointments of A.K. Leach and Ivery McNair to the ABC Board are valid in spite of being made during a secret meeting. The appointments, however, did flaunt North Carolina's open meetings law.

Feb. 5 – Dr. Riley Jordan, who chaired the school board, resigns. He is concerned that his stand against the ABC Board's secret appointments and his opposition to the city's turning down of a rezoning request that would make way for an office building to house schools'

food services office would hurt the schools' need for finances.

Feb. 19 – A 77-year-old northeast Hoke woman dies after a tornado picked up the mobile home she was in and dropped it 15-20 feet away from the cinder blocks it was on. More property damage occurred as the tornado moved east.

Farmer Bobby Wright is named to replace the vacancy left by Dr. Riley Jordan.

Feb. 26 – St. Joseph in the Pines of Southern Pines plans a Hospice service here.

March 5 – With the appraisal of county property 75 percent complete, most residents will see the value of their property double.

March 12 – Food Town plans a store in Raeford.

March 19 – A man kills himself in a wooded area by dousing gas on his body and igniting it. The fire spreads through the woods and burned a greenhouse.

McCain Hospital for the treatment of TB and other lung diseases, threatened with closing, is needed, according to hospital administrators.

A military pilot is killed and his passenger injured when a plane that had just released skydivers crashed at Raeford Municipal Airport.

April 2 – Governor James Hunt has been asked to intervene on behalf of McCain Hospital.

April 9 – Brady Turley, custodian at Turlington School, says he was fired because of his letter to the editor published in The News-Journal.

April 16 – McCain Hospital is facing cuts, not foreclosure, Hoke residents are told.

April 30 – Harold Gillis is the new chair of Hoke Democrats

May 7 – The county accepts Burlington Industries' offer of land for a ballpark near the Hwy. 401 Bypass overpass.

May 14 – Brady Turley, who said he was fired as Turlington School custodian because of a letter he wrote to The News-Journal, is given a job with county schools' maintenance group after he and Superintendent Raz Autry meet and talk.

May 21 – Raeford native Eliza Jane Pratt, the first and only North Carolina woman to serve in Congress, dies. She had been chosen to fill the unexpired term of Congressman William Burgin in 1946 and served until his term ended in 1947. She was Burgin's secretary at the time of his death.

June 4 – McLauchlin Elementary youngsters act out nursery rhymes.

June 11 – Turlington sixth-graders raise \$1,234.57 to buy a caracal lynx to donate to the N.C. Zoo at Asheboro.

June 25 – Hoke and Scotland counties are placed together in a new 21st Congressional District due to the General Assembly Redistricting Act.

July 9 – Burlington Industries employees donate 257 pints of blood when the Red Cross Bloodmobile stops by.

July 23 – Heavy rain brings down trees and branches, also downing a mile long stretch of power lines and disrupting power for some. Heavy lightning accompanied the rain and set fires, burning down one house.

July 30 – Kathy McMillan Ray, 1976 Olympic silver medal winner from Hoke, wins the long jump competition during the National Sports Festival at Syracuse, New York. Now a resident of Clarksville, Tennessee, Mrs. Ray jumped 20 feet.

Tobacco in 1981 is bringing higher prices, up \$43 per 100 pounds from 1980.

Aug. 6 – John L. Parker, 42, a Fayetteville roofing contractor, trips and falls backward into 220-volt power lines while working on the roof of Upchurch Junior High School. He dies immediately.

Aug. 13 – Judge Joe Dupree finds no probable cause in the murder trial of four men. He did, however, order them to pay funeral expenses for the two victims, who were killed at the Hour Glass Club.

Aug. 20 – Hoke liquor sales in 1980-81 are down. Commissioners postpone action on Sunday beer sales.

Sept. 10 – The Raeford Savings and Loan Co. is merging with the Heritage Federal Savings and Loan Assoc., becoming United Carolina Bancshares Corp. Current bank employees will retain their jobs.

An after-hours medical clinic is closing but local doctors plan a new, private, after-hours plan.

Sept. 24 – Hoke's Sunday beer and wine sales ban, passed Aug. 10, is repealed by a 3-2 vote. Sales are allowed for off-premises consumption.

Oct. 1 – A school bus leaves the road and overturns, injuring 34 students, none seriously.

Oct. 8 – Following the county's example, the city votes to drop a ban on beer and wine sales on Sunday.

Oct. 15 – An \$11,000 grant is awarded for the restoration and preservation of the Mill Prong House, built in 1790 and expanded in 1830.

Oct. 22 – Commissioners vote to accept a \$67,439 bid for a computer replacement system.

Oct. 29 – Ground is broken for the new National Guard Armory on the west side of Teal Dr.

Nov. 5 – T. Joseph Upchurch is elected to the city council, unseating Sam Morris.

Nov. 12 – Raeford Mayor John K. McNeill is elected to serve on the N.C. League of Municipalities board.

Nov. 19 – Carol Ronaltor, who teaches trainable, handicapped youngsters, is named Hoke Schools Teacher of the year.



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The Sinclair house on Edinborough Ave. was the home of John T. and Eliza Blue Sinclair and here they reared six children. Built in 1887, the dwelling began as a two-room cottage with no running water or plumbing. Today it is the site of the Robert Gentry Post Office.



Eliza Sinclair



Dec. 3 – Christmas sales in Raeford termed good, better than last year's sales.

Dec. 31 – Raeford stores report Yule business was "good to fantastic."

1982

Jan. 7 – The county will pay one-fourth of the \$40,000 needed to extend a sewer line to Tarheel Hatcheries.

Jan. 14 – Temperatures drop to 4 degrees with a wind chill factor of 15 below zero.

Jan. 21 – A storm brings rain, ice and snow; school is out for three days.

Jan. 28 – Three deputies are among the five hurt during a DUI arrest attempt near Scurlock School. Maj. Jimmy Riley is bitten on the cheek in an affray that got out of hand after a mob formed.

Feb. 4 – Seven stores are barred from accept-

ing Food Stamps.

Feb. 18 – W.E. "Gene" Carter leaves the Bank of Raeford presidency, which is taken over by Robert "Bobby" Conoly.

Feb. 25 – Clarence P. Kinlaw is named Raeford Man of the Year.

March 4 – Hoke had a 19-inch rainfall in three months.

March 11 – The two brothers involved in a February assault are given suspended sentences and ordered to pay restitution to the injured officers.

March 18 – South and West Hoke and McLauchlin schools are changed to K-4 grades.

March 25 – The Raeford-Hoke Shopping Center is ready for construction.

April 1 – The Hoke County Rescue Squad made 272 calls last year.

Arts 82 begins with a downtown parade.

April 22 – Kevin Oxendine, 4, ran into the road and was killed by a truck that struck him.

April 29 – A committee is formed to respond to a state move to change the operation of the McCain Sanatorium for treatment of TB and other respiratory illnesses.

A&R Railroad had a one-time only trip from Raeford to Fayetteville and back. The trip covered 56 miles and took just over an hour.

May 6 – Proposed uses for McCain Hospital include a therapeutic center for alcohol and drug abusers.

May 13 – No decision will be made on McCain Hospital until state officials have met with a Hoke study group.

May 20 – Commissioners OK four programs to help at-risk children before they enter the court system as offenders.

May 27 – Hoke High graduates 313.

The McCain Hospital situation is on hold until the '83 legislature meets.

June 3 – Thomas C. Gilchrist Jr. is selected to go to the West Point Military Academy.

June 10 – A proposed budget would hike the ad valorem tax rate to 72 cents per \$100 valuation.

June 17 – Because property valuations went up some 35 percent, most taxpayers will pay a higher rate even at a reduced tax rate. About 100 citizens appear before commissioners to protest.

June 24 – An undercover sting nets 18 people charged in drug cases.

July 1 – Commissioners pass a \$3.7 million budget with a 70 cents tax rate.

July 8 – Hoke schools ask the county for more money.

July 15 – Hoke received \$255,500 for water construction under the N.C. Clean Water Bond Act.

July 22 – The state Elections Board will not allow James Peterkin Jr. a runoff in the sheriff race against opponent Dave Barrington. Peterkin failed to prove his case that there was a conspiracy against him.

July 29 – After a traffic collision pushes her car into Mott Lake and it lands upside down, a woman's body is recovered.

Aug. 5 – The city is giving notice to House of Raeford and Faberge that they have until Nov. 1 to get a pre-treatment in place or share penalties the state would impose on Raeford.

Aug. 12 – Hoke is allocated \$45,000 in local, state and federal monies for child care.

Aug. 19 – Commissioners support a plan by the Lumbee to build 51 units of housing for the elderly in the South Hoke-Rockfish area. Later on, financial cuts torpedo that idea.

Aug. 26 – J. Scott Poole has praise for Leroy Horsley signing on 1,000 voters but says he is letting him go from the election board because he made too many errors in that capacity.

Sept. 9 – Most Hoke students are testing above the state average.

Sept. 16 – Twenty-three students are moved because of rapid growth and classroom overcrowding.

Sept. 23 – The threat of a sewer showdown eases as House of Raeford cooperates with Raeford in cutting back on waste discharge.

Sept. 30 – The public is incensed and seeks legislation that will make it harder for child molesters to get by with rape. A suit was dismissed because a six-year-old could not say that her father penetrated her. The little girl had been taken to the hospital with profuse bleeding.

Oct. 7 – Anthony McQueen, who is 113, gets special recognition by the state.

Oct. 14 – A weekend search for Florence R. McCray fails to turn up anything. She went missing Aug. 1

Oct. 21 – McCain Hospital's fate is still

undecided.

Oct. 28 – Two National Guard sergeants are accused of misappropriating state property. Money, that is.

Nov. 4 – Commissioners order heat for the dog pound and look into building a new one.

The state eases a Nov. 1 deadline for the city to allow time to fine tune the renovated sewage treatment plant.

Nov. 11 – Commissioner Robert "Bob" Gentry says the city-county pound is OK even though the county's health department says conditions are inhumane.

Nov. 18 – State and federal agencies will fund 95 percent of airport improvements but the Federal Aviation has concerns about the jump school being operated so near the parachutists' landing zone.

Nov. 25 – A Tarheel Turkey Hatcheries' tom turkey weighing 50 pounds was sent to President Ronald Reagan, but he did not end up on the presidential table; his life was spared.

Dec. 2 – History fact: J.H. Austin was elected mayor of Raeford in 1913, and a year later the town began preparing for water and sewers service. The project was completed in 1916.

Dec. 9 – Three masked men tie up a night watchman and torch Nashville Music, one of three nightclubs owned by Brady Locklear. The men are frightened away before they could ignite a second club they had drenched in gasoline.

Dec. 16 – Schools superintendent Raz Autry has announced his retirement, and a search is underway for a replacement.

Dec. 23 – The sun shone on the Christmas parade, but a public performance by the Upchurch Jr. High Chorus had to be cancelled because of the children's bad behavior.

Dec. 30 – Low income housing construction at Wooley St. and at Fulton St. is set to begin next month.

1983

Jan. 6 – Customers protest when a cable re-alignment left out the public television channel. The server promises to restore it.

Jan. 13 – House of Raeford is fined \$30,000 for discharging sewer in Rockfish Creek, and the city is giving the plant until March 31 to comply with regulations.

Jan. 20 – A petition seeks to oust the board of directors of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. because, an action group says, they spent too much for personal expenses.

Jan. 27 – A study committee recommends the county keep the financially strapped private ambulance firm it pays an annual \$60,000 to provide service in Hoke.

Feb. 3 – Southern National Bank agrees to sell the Pilot building and adjoining lot to the county for needed additional office space for \$128,062.

Feb. 10 – Hoke commissioners agree to increase the contract for a private ambulance firm from \$64,000 to \$105,436.

House of Raeford begins construction of its own wastewater treatment plant.

Feb. 17 – The Federal Aviation Authority says zoning is needed around Raeford's airport to allow for future expansion.

Feb. 24 – The Lumbee River EMC attorney advises the board have a recall election but they refuse.

March 3 – A five-year-old girl, left alone while her parents were at work, dies when her trailer home burns.

March 10 – The city council votes that a radio be in operation to keep pilots informed during jumping operations at the airport. Jump school owner Gene Thacker disagrees.

March 17—The Federal Aviation Administration says a radio is not required. The committee assigned to study airport operations doesn't change its stance.

Under a court order, April 28 is set as a recall voting date for the Lumbree River EMC if 10 percent of customers sign a petition.

March 24—A North Carolina prison hospital is proposed for McCain, the state's last TB treatment sanatorium.

The Lumbree River EMC board votes to ignore a Superior Court order to set a recall vote, changes by-laws.

March 31—Lisa McLean, a sixth grader at Turlington School, is Hoke's spelling champ.

April 7—County and city representatives meet regarding construction of a dog pound.

April 14—Robert A. Nelson of Alamance County is named schools superintendent.

The city gives House of Raeford a reprieve on the \$30,000 fine imposed last month because the plant is building its own wastewater treatment plant.

April 21—Lumbree River EMC directors reject a petitioners' request for a recall vote a second time.

April 28—An action committee says it does not have the financial resources to continue its efforts to oust the Lumbree River EMC board.

May 5—A legislative committee orders the closing of McCain as a TB sanatorium and requests it be reopened as a prison hospital.

May 12—A Blue Ribbon study committee recommends a landing zone for jumpers be moved ½ mile east of the airport. Jump school owner Gene Thacker disagrees.

May 19—McCain Sanatorium is considered for a Veterans Administration hospital.

May 26—Faberge is planning an expansion of the plant that would create 50-100 jobs.

Health officials are looking at three sites in the Ashley Heights and McCain areas where caustic and carcinogens chemicals have been dumped.

June 9—Cleanup of low to mid-levels of PCB-laced and lead contaminated sites at Ashley Heights and McCain begins.

June 16—A fourth dangerous dump site - this one on state-owned property - is being looked at where it is believed oil from electrical transformers and acid from batteries was poured.

June 30—More PCB sites are found in west Hoke, raising the number of contaminated sites to five.

Commissioner James Hunt is jailed for failure to appear in court on worthless check charges.

July 7—The school board fights to keep Hoke High's Army JROTC program.

July 14—County commissioners vote against funding for Hoke High's JROTC program.

July 28—"Pork barrel" funds are earmarked to renovate the Mill Prong House, a 181-year-old Hoke landmark.

Aug. 4—House of Raeford is given an Oct. 1 deadline to complete its wastewater plant.

Commissioner James A. Hunt is to be given a suspended sentence on condition he resign from the county commission board.

Aug. 11—The county landfill site is eyed for an animal shelter location.

There is no money for courthouse renovations because the funds went to Mill Prong House renovations.

Aug. 18—County commissioners levy a ½ cent sales tax and also agree to fund Hoke High's JROTC program.

Aug. 25—Cherokee Indian Missionary School of Hoke County opens with 14 students.

Sept. 4—Joseph E. Dupree, District Court judge since 1966, announces his retirement.

Sept. 8—Commissioners agree to build a new

animal shelter at the county landfill site.

Sept. 15—PCB and lead-laced soil from three contaminated sites in Hoke will be taken to a South Carolina hazardous waste disposal site.

Sept. 22—The county votes to join the city and support a Hoke-Raeford airport.

Sept. 29—McCain TB Sanatorium closes its doors to make way for a 300-bed prison hospital. Most employees will remain.

Oct. 13—The Lumbree River EMC action group resurfaces, vowing again to unseat the current board. However, three of the board's directors are returned by voters and the action group's leader quits.

Oct. 27—A federally subsidized housing program for low income residents is planned for a five-acre area off South Main.

Nov. 10—City Manager Ron Matthews resigns.

Incumbents are returned as councilmen in a city election. Mayor John K. McNeill ran unopposed.

Nov. 17—Hazardous dump sites in McCain and Ashley Heights are expected to be clear next week. The dismantling of battery casings and the salvaging transformers containing contaminated oil are blamed for the contamination, which is costing the Goldsboro business owner \$10,000.

Nov. 24—A Sandhills Community College satellite is eyed for Hoke.

Dec. 1—Marijuana valued at \$800,000 is found on a plane that flew into the Raeford Airport.

Dec. 8—The investigation of a marijuana-filled plane continues with investigators checking out-of-town suspects.

Dec. 15—A long-range facilities planning committee zeroes in on Turlington School as "old and over-filled with students."

Dec. 22—Warren Pate is chosen for the District Judge seat vacated by Joe Dupree.

During a break-in at the Hoke Rescue Squad building, the only things taken are photos of a plane crash that happened six months ago about a mile from the Raeford Airport.

Dec. 29—Businessman William D. Morrison is found dead by a customer in Morrison's Grocery on Harris Ave. He was shot several times and robbery appears to be the motive.

1984

Jan. 5—A state report says the Hoke jail does not meet health and dietary standards. Sheriff Dave Barrington says the jail is more than adequate.

Jan. 12—Public demand could put the Hwy. 401 widening back on track after it was shuffled to a later year on the Dept. of Transportation Plan.

Jan. 19—Site work has begun on Burlington's expansion that includes new, state-of-the-art equipment, and a \$4 million yarn preparation and warehouse.

Jan. 26—State and local authorities are looking into illegal toxic waste disposal sites on Hwy. 401, one behind Virgil's Restaurant and another near the Big Star Truck Stop. The sites are said to contain PCBs and lead. Later, the levels are determined to be safe.

Feb. 2—The state Dept. of Community Resources and Development has lifted a six-year sewer moratorium that prevented industrial development. Existing industries were adding to the pollution, and after Burlington and Faberge built pre-treatment plants, House of Raeford is urged to do the same. The city has spent more than \$1 million to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant.

Feb. 9—The state planning engineer and an architect recommend Upchurch and Turlington

schools be replaced at a cost of \$10 million.

Feb. 16—Mary Jane Waddell Benton, at 107, remembers dirt roads and lots of trees and farms where Raeford now stands.

Feb. 23—Sandhills Community College is seeking citizens' input to determine if a college satellite should be put here.

March 1—Former city councilman Marion Gatlin is named Kiwanis Man of the Year.

March 8—A plan to sell mixed drinks in Hoke is in the works.

March 15—A 15-mile high speed chase ended with Hoke detective Jimmy Riley's car being struck twice, causing \$2,000 in damages and earning Ricky Jerome Gillian, 22, of Fayetteville, 14 charges that include assault with a deadly weapon.

March 22—Sandhills Community College okays the UCB Bank building on Main Street for a possible satellite.

March 29—A study committee determined Turlington School should close and Upchurch Jr. High to be gradually replaced by new buildings.

April 5—Rehab funds are sought for the Tylertown community.

April 12—Retail sales brought in \$4.5 million more in '83 than the previous year, according to the N.C. Dept. of Revenue.

April 19—Thomas A. Phillips of Troy is named Raeford's new manager.

April 26—A school needs study group makes its recommendations. Tied to the package is an "urgent" need for a \$2.5 million bond issue.

May 3—The first annual Hoke Heritage Hobnob, later to become the N.C. Turkey Festival, has big events on tap.

May 10—Gene Paul Thacker, parachute jump school owner, is in jail, charged with trafficking \$14 million in cocaine. At Thacker's request the sheriff's department is investigating the sabotage of two of his planes. The consequences could have been deadly if the sabotage had not been found before takeoff.

May 17—Friends bail out Gene Paul Thacker, who has charges against him in Florida.

A study indicates a college in the former UCB building is not practical.

May 24—A woman and two men are given stiff sentences, a total of 68 years, for robbing a Davis Bridge convenience store clerk and kidnapping her and taking her out in the country, where one raped her.

May 31—Hoke High teacher Robert Taylor took his own life, according to the sheriff, after commerce in child porn charges were filed against him became public.

June 7—Hoke Countians learned federal funds are available for the four-lane Hwy. 401 project.

June 14—The city hikes taxes by one cent.

Robert Lee Doby, owner of Doby's Funeral Home, is given a five-year suspended sentence for selling insurance without a license.

June 21—The new Airport Commission cancels leases.

June 28—The county passes an interim budget while awaiting state decisions on funding.

July 5—Jump school owner Gene Paul Thacker turns himself in to Florida, where he is wanted on trafficking in cocaine charges.

July 12—Camp Mackall is expanding but isn't looking to get land from Hoke.

The state has approved \$67,500 to rehab the courthouse.

July 19—The new county budget has a 7.5 percent rise in ad valorem taxes.

Unless discharges in Rockfish Creek are halted, Raeford could face a sewer moratorium again.

July 26—The county is trying for a teacher

tenure program.

Aug. 2—Hoke spent \$700 for bird repellent but the pigeons continue to make the courthouse their home.

Aug. 9—The city gives a nod of approval for a third funeral home.

Aug. 16—For the second year in a row, the city and county lose out on Community Block Development grants.

Aug. 30—A new program is underway to help raise Hoke students' CAT scores.

Sept. 6—An ambulance carrying a patient with chest pains flips and tosses the patient and her husband from the vehicle. The man dies of his injuries.

Sept. 13—The Chamber of Commerce agrees to pool its resources with local government toward industrial development.

Sept. 20—An increase in enrollment has school officials worried.

Sept. 27—A parachutist dies after his chute fails to open. It is the second jump fatality this year at the Raeford airport.

Oct. 4—Rockfish Creek flooding results in 800 feet of sewer line being crushed.

Oct. 12—Hoke Auto Company is closing after 52 years.

Oct. 18—Over a million gallons a day more of wastewater is flowing into the wastewater treatment plant than is being sold to water customers, a study shows.

Oct. 25—The shortage of foster homes is critical here.

Nov. 1—Authorities are looking into possible food stamp misuse and emergency energy help fraud.

Nov. 8—Former teacher of the year Evelyn Baker is fired by the school board.

Nov. 15—Hoke High's JROTC program has a money crisis.

Nov. 29—The Chamber of Commerce eyes the depot downtown as a possible office; A&R Railroad donates it to the Chamber.

Dec. 6—For the first time in 10 years, a bank is robbed. Three men are arrested for robbing United Carolina Bank.

Commissioner James Albert Hunt is given a two-year sentence for writing bad checks and for a probation violation.

Dec. 13—A year later, no arrest has been made in the shooting death of William Daniel Morrison in his convenience store on Harris Ave.

Dec. 20—Construction of a \$1.6 million nursing home, Autumn Care, is given a green light.

The 401 widening project is back on track.

Dec. 27—Mobile classrooms at Turlington School are in violation of the city's ordinances.

1985

Jan. 3—As reported by Sam Morris in "Around Town," the weather is unbelievable with records being broken across the state. Temperatures have risen to the 70s.

Jan. 10—Judge D.P. Herrington orders the county to build a new courthouse, calling the conditions "deplorable from a maintenance point of view."

Jan. 17—The deer, sculpted by W.T. Covington, that have been atop Graham's Gulf Station and Elk Restaurant for more than 50 years are coming down.

Jan. 24—The county could lose \$400,000 in federal funding if an Affirmative Action Plan is not filed. One has not been filed for 15 years.

Jan. 31—Sheriff's statistics show most break-ins go unsolved. Last year, 430 were reported and 335 are unsolved.

Feb. 7—Commissioners have asked the N.C. Utilities Commission to establish a direct phone

Promises broken, a promise kept

The victory in getting Hoke's establishment as a county was tarnished when just nine years later Fort Bragg began taking land for expansion of the military post.

By the time the U.S. government ended its land grab in 1923, Hoke had 194,000 acres, down 92,000 from its original 286,000 acres.

Most of Hoke's residents on the land targeted to become part of Fort Bragg left willingly, taking the money offered them, packing up their belongings, and moving to Raeford or elsewhere. Some balked at the move and the homes they did not want to leave were loaded onto flatbed trucks and pulled to the edge of the reservation where they were dumped.

At least two churches, Longstreet and Sandy Grove, were left behind. Post officials did not destroy them as they did the homes but kept them up, occasionally opening the doors for worship services. Both are on the National Register of Historic Places.

There was one lone resident who was allowed to stay. He was removed

from his home by authorities several times but he always went back. When asked why he kept returning to his home, he said his "master" had given him the land when slavery was abolished.

"I promised him I would never leave it," the old man said.

And so he was allowed to keep his promise until he was too old to care for himself. In fact, when the military held their mock battles near his home, he was taken to Longstreet Church for his own safety.

During the land transfer, Little River Township with its 20,000 acres was separated from the rest of Hoke. Fort Bragg promised to maintain the Vass-Raeford Road so Little River people could do business in Raeford. However, military officials reneged on this promise; not only was the road allowed to deteriorate but it was sometimes closed because of military practice maneuvers.

Some years later, Hoke gave Little River to Moore County, thus losing another 20,000 in acreage.



This photo was made in 1919 when Ft. Bragg took almost a third of Hoke land. Here the acreage is being cleared for training.

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link between Raeford and Fayetteville.

Feb. 14 – Commissioners seek a Community Development Block Grant to revitalize Tylertown.

Feb. 21 – John G. Balfour is Kiwanis Man of the Year.

Feb. 28 – Dept. of Social Services took three young children from their home because of severe abuse and neglect.

March 7 – Hoke High will house classes of the Sandhills Community College satellite.

March 14 – Carolina Telephone would have a revenue increase of \$1.75 million the first year if a Raeford-Fayetteville direct line is approved.

March 21 – Circus of the Stars, a Very Special Arts Festival, was sponsored by the Hoke County Exceptional Children's Program and Arts for the Handicapped.

A UH-60A Blackhawk helicopter crashes on Ft. Bragg in Hoke County, killing 12 soldiers aboard. Investigators are looking into why the accident happened.

March 28 – Direct line telephone service between Raeford and Fayetteville is tied to Hoke's economic future, commissioners are told.

April 4 – Raeford's city council votes to change the length of terms for future council members. The top two vote getters would serve four-year terms and the other election winners would get two-year terms, thus staggering elections.

April 11 – The school board votes unanimously for a middle school structure.

April 18 – The N.C. Turkey Festival will open with a turkey cooking contest.

April 25 – Residents are asked to clean up to help with industry recruitment.

May 2 – Like the shootout at OK Corral, two men shot at each other until one was dead. It was over a bag of marijuana that Gary Michael Lomack, 27, lost his life. Jonathan Ray, 22, is accused, but charges are later dropped.

May 9 – Special children had their Special Olympics Field Day.

May 16 – Hoke students' achievement tests rise to a national norm.

May 23 – The proposed county budget of \$6.47 million would raise ad valorem taxes by seven cents.

May 30 – The trial of Gene Paul Thacker, former Golden Knight and operator of a jump school at the Raeford-Hoke Airport, accused of drug trafficking in Florida, begins.

June 6 – Thacker is cleared after 15 minutes of jury deliberation.

June 13 – Fire district taxes rise in Tylertown, Crestline and Pine Hill.

June 20 – Hoke commissioners decide to pare the ad valorem tax rate proposed in the FY1985-86 budget by taking four cents off.

June 27 – Of 11 people who spoke at a public hearing regarding the proposed budget, only two were against a seven cents property tax hike.

July 4 – The final county budget carries a six cents tax hike.

July 11 – The school board debates how much to charge Sandhills Community College for power and maintenance of Hoke High while SCC's classes are held there.

July 18 – Commissioners may have broken the open meetings law when they went into a closed session to discuss pay raises for themselves.

July 25 – Recorded violence indicates a woman cut her husband; a husband slashed his wife's throat and the hand of her friend; and a 16-year-old hit her father with a bottle after her uncle held her down and her father beat her with an extension cord. No injuries were fatal.

Aug. 1 – Three deputies file suit against the sheriff, county manager and county claiming

they worked many hours overtime without pay.

Hoke County farmers had their best crops ever until hail and rain beat up about 100 acres on 12-14 farms.

Aug. 8 – Ethelyn Baker must go, the school board says of the teacher, and a Superior Court judge agrees, citing her employment performance as inadequate. Baker becomes a columnist for The News-Journal.

Aug. 15 – For the third consecutive year, the county was turned down for Community Block Development Grant funds that would have revitalized Tylertown.

School redistricting that calls for some students to change schools has their parents "up in arms."

Aug. 22 – The state is investigating an old community dump behind Koppers Company at Ashley Heights for possible toxic contamination.

Aug. 29 – Two nursing homes seek to come to Hoke County, but there has been almost a year's holdup. Autumn Care and Brithaven want to build here.

Sept. 5 – County commissioners are against a proposed hazardous waste treatment plant in Scotland County.

The CAT scores of Hoke students have moved up and are above the national average.

Sept. 12 – City councilmen give City Manager Tom Phillips permission to establish a Downtown Revitalization Commission.

Sept. 19 – The county receives a federal grant of \$25,000 to study whether or not an industrial park is feasible.

Sept. 26 – Thousands flock to Raeford for the first annual N.C. Turkey Festival.

Oct. 3 – Students at Upchurch Jr. High visit historic churches and sites around the county.

Oct. 10 – A 22-year-old Raeford man hangs himself with his socks while in a detoxification cell. The State Bureau of Investigation is looking into the matter.

Oct. 17 – Most of the 300 attending a public meeting regarding extended area phone service are in favor of calling toll-free from Raeford. Those opposed are concerned about future rate hikes.

A tour bus bringing Raeford senior citizens back from the Amish country in Pennsylvania wrecked on I-95 in Virginia, injuring the driver and a passenger.

Oct. 24 – A mobile home was destroyed by flames and arriving firefighters find a man inside the back door who is burned beyond recognition. An investigation is ongoing.

Oct. 31 – A man working in a church thrift shop is clubbed.

Nov. 7 – In Montrose, a son is shot by his father while attempting to keep the older man from going hunting while drunk.

Nov. 14 – The Dept. of Social Services is investigating 105 cases of food stamp fraud. Parks Grocery and Exxon is barred from taking food stamps after paying \$60 for \$73 in food stamps, an act called "discounting."

Nov. 21 – Don Steed, Hoke schools finance manager, is named District 9 Administrator of the Year by the N.C. Assoc. of Educational Personnel.

Nov. 28 – The District Attorney is looking into a "jailhouse" lawsuit in which a man claims he was beaten by deputies while being held.

Dec. 5 – The cost of a new middle school will be \$8 million, commissioners learn, and courthouse renovations are to begin Jan. 2 at a cost of \$375,315.

Dec. 12 – The A&R Railroad depot restoration project receives a \$6,500 grant.

Sharon Graham, 21, of Autry St. receives a suspended sentence for biting Hoke Deputy Clarence Patterson, while he was discharging

his duties, in October.

Dec. 19 – The Register of Deeds office moves to the old Bank of Raeford while the courthouse is being renovated.

Dec. 26 – Telephone subscribers with 875 numbers receive ballots to vote whether or not they want extended area service to Fayetteville with no long distance charges.

1986

Jan. 2 – The county is spending \$600,000 to renovate the courthouse.

Jan. 9 – An editorial states Hoke's economic future depends on a positive vote for extended area phone service from Raeford to Fayetteville. Opponents fear growth.

Jan. 16 – Men working on state-owned property at McCain discover the decomposed bodies of two women, who had been shot to death at different times.

Jan. 23 – John G. Balfour announces he will not seek reelection to the county commissioner board he has served for 24 years.

The skeletal remains found among pine trees at McCain are identified as Marie Puryear, 22, and her sister Teresa Annette Puryear, 15, both of Raleigh. Edward Lee Cummings, 42, of Willow Springs is charged with their murders.

Jan. 30 – Citizens vote in favor of extended phone service 3 to 1.

Feb. 13 – A cockfight raid turns up 200 participants off Highway 15-501 near the Scotland County line. Officers make 150 arrests.

Feb. 20 – The city promises to curb the smell coming from the wastewater treatment plant.

Feb. 27 – Rep. Danny DeVane is Kiwanis Citizen of the Year.

March 6 – A man who is charged with setting two fires at Food Lion and was sent to a mental institution in Raleigh escapes, steals a van and drives home to Hoke.

March 13 – North Carolina Rubber Products is the latest industry to come to Hoke and will bring 20 new jobs here.

March 20 – Arson is suspected in the burning of a room at Hoke High.

April 3 – A reward is offered for the arrest of whoever set fire to a classroom at Hoke High and later broke into a food locker at the school and destroyed food.

April 10 – A special District session is held for the trials of those caught in a cockfight raid in February.

April 17 – The county's share of the water funds will help eliminate the odor coming from Raeford's wastewater treatment plant.

April 24 – The Raeford-Hoke Economic Development Commission and the Chamber of Commerce move their offices into the Depot.

May 1 – The community begins its Diamond Jubilee celebration of Hoke's 75th birthday.

May 8 – The Diamond Jubilee Celebration features fireworks, a parade, the giving away of a diamond valued at \$4,000 and more.

May 15 – Hoke native Art Gore reveals the sculpture he made for Hoke's Diamond Jubilee. It can be seen in the Hoke County Courthouse.

May 22 – A tornado drops down in Hoke and injures five people, destroys six mobile homes.

June 12 – The county reinstates the 10 cents fire tax.

June 26 – A committee is formed to initiate action on four-laning Hwy. 401 from Fayetteville to Raeford.

July 3 – Hoke commissioners passed a budget of almost \$6 million retaining the tax rate at three cents per \$100 valuation.

July 10 – Flames destroyed Jimmy's Exxon on Hwy. 401. Arson is suspected.

July 17 – The weather is in the news. A twister hit and the heat wave damages crops and poultry.

Aug. 7 – Hoke Rubber begins production.

Aug. 14 – Hoke's Child Support Enforcement Program is ranked 10th in the state.

Aug. 21 – Mayor John K. McNeill challenges mayors of surrounding towns to a Mayors Derby during the N.C. Turkey Festival.

Aug. 28 – School starts with more than 5,000 students enrolled.

Sept. 4 – Grand Ol' Opry comedian Jerry Clower kicks off the N.C. Turkey Festival.

Oct. 9 – A change in zoning is approved for a proposed nursing home.

Oct. 16 – Autumn Care proposes to build a new nursing home.

Oct. 23 – Burlington Industries remains optimistic despite the President's veto of the Textile Enforcement and Apparel Trade Enforcement Act.

Oct. 30 – Tylertown Fire Dept. seeks financial help.

Nov. 13 – A Hoke school bus is involved in an accident involving a truck and a car on Hwy. 211. Students are not hurt.

Nov. 27 – The newly renovated courthouse is rededicated.

Dec. 11 – Local farmers are eligible for disaster assistance.

Dec. 18 – JRA Industries is to buy out Spanco Industries.

Dec. 25 – A new land use plan is to be considered in 1987.

1987

Jan. 1 – Mary Archie McNeill is recognized for her community service with the first annual Nancy Susan Reynolds award. In 1983 she was named Volunteer of the Year by Gov. Hunt.

Jan. 8 – Hoke Drug Co. on Main Street went out of business at the end of the year. The company dates back to 1911 when it opened as McPherson Bros. Drug Co. Howell Drug Co. - across the street - bought the prescription file and inventory.

Jan. 15 – Nine Hoke industries provided 784 additional employees in 1985, according to a study.

Jan. 23 – Funding is sought for the planned Hoke Regional Water System.

Jan. 29 – Raeford Postmaster Joe Carver leaves his position for a job in the postal department in Fayetteville.

Feb. 5 – A Committee of 100 is formed to help in Hoke economic development.

Feb. 12 – DWI cases flood the court docket.

Feb. 26 – McLaughlin Hardware and Lock Co. opens its doors after seven months. The store on Main Street burned and there are no plans to build at the old site.

March 5 – County commissioners okay new subdivision regulations, designed to stop serious problems caused by rapid growth.

March 12 – A 100-bed medium security prison will be built adjacent to the McCain Correctional facility.

March 26 – A site in western Hoke is selected for two group homes for the mentally retarded. Raeford had vetoed a rezoning change that would allow a facility in city limits.

April 9 – Hoke Literacy Council Director Barbara Buie, who is also president of the N.C. Literacy Assoc., is appointed to the Governor's Commission on Literacy.

April 30 – A cellmate of Edward Lee Cummings, 42, testified Cummings told him he had murdered two sisters, Karen Marie Puryear and Teresa Puryear, in 1985. The bodies were found in shallow graves.

May 14 – Edward Lee Cummings is found

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Happy 100th Hoke County!

guilty of murdering Karen Marie Puryear and is sentenced to death.

Karen Robbins is named new postmaster.

May 26 - Residents and local officials push for a speed-up of the widening of Hwy. 401 from Fayetteville to the Raeford bypass.

June 4 - Dundarrach Presbyterian Church, 82 years old, dedicates a new steeple. The church's pastor, the Rev. Ben Ferguson, says he and the church are the same age.

June 18 - Residents are vocal about a proposed three cent hike in the upcoming county budget. Commissioners listen and work on cutting the proposed budget.

Hoke High graduates 278 seniors.

June 25 - Extended areaphone service begins; Hoke residents can call Fayetteville toll-free.

July 2 - Commissioners pass a budget with no tax increase. The rate is 81 cents per \$100 valuation.

July 9 - The Olympic torch is carried through Hoke. Two Irish lads visiting here carry it as do several Hoke residents.

July 16 - Hoke County's Judicial District is to be split. The Superior court will be District 16A and encompass Hoke and Scotland counties. District Court will remain in the 12th Judicial District and encompass Hoke and Cumberland counties.

July 23 - Raz Autry and Marshall Parks report bumper peach crops.

Aug. 6 - The Chamber of Commerce asks the county to regulate junk yards.

Aug. 13 - Burlington Industries is streamlining its operations and will let some employees go. Raeford residents report improvement in the waste treatment plant odors.

Aug. 20 - A revised school board policy on corporal punishment outlines specific guidelines including one that requires parents be notified

if corporal punishment is administered to their child.

Aug. 27 - Hoke receives a half million dollar grant to rehab 40 homes in the Tylertown community.

Sept. 3 - Boxer James "Bonecrusher" Smith is to be grand marshal of the N.C. Turkey Festival parade.

Sept. 10 - A washing machine that wouldn't stop rotating even after it was unplugged turns out to have a deadly rattlesnake in its works.

Sept. 17 - Hoke's volunteer rescue service is 20 years old.

Its New York owner says he may give the Raeford Hotel apartments a facelift.

Sept. 24 - The N.C. Turkey Festival draws 40,000 visitors.

Oct. 1 - A drug bust nets 47 people.

Oct. 8 - Two restaurants, BBQ Hut and Pizza Villa, open.

Oct. 15 - The court redistricting law was designed so that minorities have a better chance at attaining judgeships.

Oct. 22 - The county passes a junkyard ordinance that calls for, among other requirements, a 6-ft. fence.

Oct. 29 - Burlington Industries is to add 100 new employees.

Nov. 12 - Estimates for improvements to Raeford's wastewater treatment plant are \$1.2 million.

Nov. 26 - Two doctors are leaving Raeford - Dr. Riley Jordan and Dr. George "Chip" Barth.

Dec. 3 - A committee is to take a second look at the court redistricting law.

The first citation is issued under the new junkyard ordinance.

Dec. 10 - Firefighters save the old Page building at the intersection of Main St. and West Elwood Ave.



Hoke County Native Americans Club

Hoke County Native Americans Scholarship Fund

Tona Jacobs, Chairman
Della Maynor, Vice Chair
Lynette Dial, Treasurer
Don Woods, Treasurer
Linda Revels, Clerk
Woodrow Cooper, Member
Rebecca O'Berry, Member
Tony Hunt, Member
Eunice Ann Locklear, Member
Jaqueline Hunt Chavis, Member



Native American Dinner 2010

Front row L-R: Unella Rogers, Margaret Jones; back row L-R: Charles Godwin, Anna Locklear Godwin, Roman Jacobs, Della Maynor, Russell Hunt, Rayburn Maynor, Bertha Tyler Hunt, Rebecca Jones O'Berry, not pictured, Velma Lowery Carter



Native American Dinner 2009

Front row L-R: Patricia Jones Maynor, Anna Locklear Godwin, Della Maynor, Unella Rogers, Bertha Tyler Hunt; back row L-R: Ronald Maynor, Billy Cox, Linda Lowery Revels, Charles Godwin, Rayburn Maynor, Tony Hunt, Russell Hunt, Richard Locklear

First Native Americans Elected To Public Office

James Albert Hunt — Commissioner 1974
Della Maynor — Register of Deeds 1976 - 2002
Dwight Oxendine — Board of Education 1990 - 1994
LREMC Board of Directors — Elias Rogers 1967
1st Lumbee Tribe District II Representative — Mike McNeill 1999

2011 Native Americans Elected To Public Office

Tony Hunt, Chairman - Board of Commissioners
Della Maynor - Board of Education
Linda Revels - District 11 Lumbee Tribe Representative
Maggie Hunt - LREMC Board of Directors



Maxway announces the store is closing.
 Dec. 17 – Edward Lee Cummings, 42, having been convicted of murdering sisters Karen and Teresa Puryear, receives a second death sentence.
 Dec. 31 – A public hearing is set on the proposed widening of Hwy. 401 between Fayetteville and the bypass near Raeford.

1988

Jan. 7 – Dave Barrington announces he will retire after 25 years as Hoke sheriff.

Jan. 14 – The deepest snow - 8 inches - since 1973 fell on Hoke.

Jan. 21 – A police officer finds a fire at Hoke United Methodist Church. Classrooms are damaged and the church gets renovated.

Jan. 28 – Kiwanis Man of the Year is Avery Connell.

Feb. 4 – The city's wastewater treatment plant is out of compliance with state regulations and could face a moratorium on sewer hookups.

Feb. 18 – A virus or viruses hit hundreds of Hoke residents and affects school attendance.

Feb. 25 – L&S Salvage is found not guilty of

violating the city's newly enacted junk ordinance.

March 10 – The state forbids Raeford from adding sewer taps until it is in compliance with state regulations.

March 17 – Hoke High's Marching Band is to play in the Gator Bowl.

March 24 – The city takes action on sewage plant problems, investigates House of Raeford for possible illegal discharge.

March 31 – Construction will start April 12 on needed improvements to the city's wastewater treatment plant.

April 14 – Work on Scurlock and South Hoke

schools is halted because the insecticide application is of chemicals that will be banned shortly.

April 21 – Monitoring wells are drilled at the site of The Pantry on Harris Ave. because an underground gas tank is leaking.

May 12 – A single-engine plane carrying a pilot and four parachutists crashes on takeoff from the Raeford Airport, injuring all.

The school board shelves the middle school concept because construction of new schools is slow.

May 19 – The Commission of School Facility Needs awards Hoke \$9.9 million for facilities'

They were farmers—quotes show Hoke's agricultural orientation

Corn will save the world just as it saved the colonists. There are 30 bushels of corn for every American. – Hoke Journal, Jan. 31, 1918

The weather is alright for hog killing but we are told it's the wrong time of the moon. – Hoke Journal, Dec. 4, 1919

Lay-by time: There was a period during the year when crops were no longer in need of cultivation and a reduced amount of labor was required from persons who normally worked in the fields. This could be called the beginning of the harvesting season, but we called it "lay-by time." A major activity during this period was the "big meetings" or revivals at nearby churches.

There was a large bell used to summon farm workers to and from the field. It was also used as a distress signal. In cases such

as fire, illness or death, the bell would be rung to summon neighbors. – Grandma's Family, compiled by John C. Kelly Sr., edited by John Kelly Jr.

The behavior of farm mules – Mules knew what the ringing farm bell meant. When the bell rang, some mules would turn around in the middle of the row and head for the barn. – Grandma's Family, compiled and edited by John C. Kelly

It is recommended team-hauled wood be used instead of railroad-hauled coal. Changes of fuel should be made. – Hoke County Journal, January 10, 1918

It is recommended eggs be hauled by motor trucks. – Hoke Journal, July 1918

On the loss of \$1.5 million in Hoke farm income from 1975 to 1976: "Cotton prices

were low but there is not as much gross income in soybeans as there is in cotton." – Hoke County agent Wendell Young in 1976

Soldier of the Soil – Victory begins with the American farmer working long before sunset (sunrise?) until long after nightfall. Upon him falls the burden of feeding the fighting forces... civilian population... and mouths in war-torn countries. – The News-Journal, Oct. 5, 1944

A man did as much plowing in 1868 as he did since at any time, but what that plowing produced is valued differently. I sold 1,600 lbs. of average tobacco in 1930 for \$80. I was \$30 poorer after selling than I was before I planted that crop. Three crops of tobacco, at least since the Civil War, have sold at an average of 7 cents a lb. – D. Scott Poole, The

News-Journal, Nov. 4, 1944

Some are expecting bud worms to ruin the corn crop of Hoke but they hardly will. Salt sprinkled in the buds of growing corn will do away with these worms, even a handful of dirt will check that damage. – Poole's Medley, July 4, 1946

The boll weevil is totally destroying the cotton crop in places, and we are expecting to hear of a general onslaught any day now. – The Hoke Journal, August 6, 1925

The statesmen, the animals, the fowls, the insects, and the cotton exchanges are all determined that the farmers shall not prosper. – The Hoke Journal, December 24, 1925

Thou shall cherish the soil and keep it. – Holy Bible

Happy 100th Birthday



Hoke County



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needs here.

May 26 – A city well is closed down after the discovery of benzene, a derivative of petroleum.

June 9 – The city's new budget features a two-cent property tax increase.

June 23 – The county budget calls for a four-cent per \$100 valuation increase on property taxes.

June 30 – A dedication ceremony for 204 low income houses in a tri-county area is held.

July 7 – Raeford Hotel is bought by a pharmacist who wants to remodel it.

July 14 – The N.C. Turkey Festival organizers say the event will feature the nation's longest turkey submarine sandwich.

July 28 – Hoke native Ron Kirkley bikes across the United States, beginning at Harper's Island, N.C. and ending at Seattle, Washington.

Aug. 4 – Hundreds of workers strike at House of Raeford protesting wages and working conditions.

Aug. 25 – Kentucky Fried Chicken opens its doors on Hwy. 401 Bypass.

Sept. 15 – The fourth annual N.C. Turkey Festival begins.

Sept. 22 – Commissioners refuse to sign for Critical Needs Money until a meeting with the school board is held and they are told how the money is to be spent.

Sept. 28 – Voters approve a \$1.25 million bond for construction of phase one of a countywide water system and vote down liquor by the drink.

Oct. 5 – The Rev. Jesse Jackson comes to Raeford as a show of support for House of Raeford employees who want to unionize.

Oct. 12 – House of Raeford workers vote down unionization 420 to 391.

Oct. 26 – Two students had pistols at Hoke High and another pulled a knife while he was fighting with a girl.

Nov. 2 – A sweet potato that looks like a nestling baby and weighs eight pounds is grown by Mattie Smith.

Nov. 9 – With the demand for water increasing and supply decreasing, the city decided to drill two new wells at a cost of \$120,000.

Nov. 9 – A rape crisis center opens in the post office building but the director's lack of credentials are a concern.

Nov. 23 – Raeford's Dr. Robert Townsend is named N.C. Family Physician of the Year.

Dec. 7 – Chief Deputy Alex Norton, sworn in upon the resignation of Dave Barrington, is Hoke's fourth sheriff.

Dec. 14 – The school board alters its plans and decides to build two middle schools and convert Upchurch Jr. High into an elementary school.

Dec. 21 – The Share Your Christmas project did not fare as well this year as previously.

Dec. 28 – A Food Stamp fraud investigator is hired.

all hit in one week.

March 15 – McLauchlin School Principal Mitch Tyler is Principal of the Year.

March 22 – Child abuse and neglect charges at South Hoke Day Care Center are substantiated following a state day care investigation.

Mar. 29 – The Ku Klux Klan marches through Raeford in a membership drive.

April 5 – Main Street's C.P. Kinlaw Jewelry marks its 50th year of business.

April 19 – Nine communities meet here to discuss military land use.

Commissioners approve the purchase of property for two middle schools.

April 26 – Raeford Aviation owner Gene Thacker offers the city \$152,040 for Raeford Municipal Airport.

May 3 – The sale of Faberge to Unilever falls through but Faberge says it still plans expansion.

May 10 – Two group homes for the mentally handicapped, operated by Sandhills Mental Health Center, will be built in Hoke.

May 17 – Surveying begins on the Hoke side of the Hwy. 401 widening project to the east of Raeford.

June 7 – A new wing of Hoke High is named for Sarah Baucom, an English teacher.

June 14 – Hoke resident William Currie returns home after observing the massacre of students at Tiananmen Square. A student at St. Andrews College, he had studied at Beijing since January.

June 21 – Commissioners pass a two-cent increase for the county budget.

July 5 – Hoke-Raeford's developer says Hoke's future depends on small businesses, existing industry.

Aug. 2 – Some 1,500 inactive voters are purged from the registration rolls.

Aug. 16 – Hoke is identified as one of the "hot spots" of growth by a Seattle researcher.

Aug. 23 – Chesebrough Ponds buys Faberge for \$15 million.

Aug. 30 – School officials learn that Hoke schools may lose accreditation if end-of-year test results are not raised.

Sept. 6 – An auto theft ring in Arabia is broken up by DMV Enforcement. James Neal Souter is arrested and 56 cars are confiscated.

Sept. 13 – Hoke is chosen for 250 military units under the 801 housing project. They will be built on Rockfish Road near Scurlock School.

Sept. 20 – A \$3.35 million bond issue to fund an elementary school in eastern Hoke is passed with only 13 percent of voters casting their ballots.

Sept. 27 – The SBI says two fires that destroyed the auditorium at Upchurch Middle School were deliberately set.

Oct. 4 – Timothy Ray Earl of Lumber Bridge is charged with setting the Upchurch School fires.

Oct. 11 – In a dispute over water runoff between neighbors, one of them shoots and kills a man and injures her husband.

Oct. 18 – Raeford outlaws open burning.

Oct. 25 – Three Hoke boys, two teenagers, run off with the circus when it came to town in Sept. One, who is 20, returns when Hurricane Hugo threatens South Carolina.

Nov. 1 – The state investigates the sewage found in Peddlers Branch.

Nov. 8 – Mayor John K. McNeill is returned to office.

Nov. 15 – The school board refuses to pay a construction company \$63,000 for work on six schools because the projects were not completed on time.

Nov. 22 – The Dept. of Environment of Health and Natural Resources is looking into raw sewage in Peddlers Branch. The sewage is linked to House of Raeford.

Nov. 29 – The historic James P. Smith House is destroyed by fire. Smith invented the Smith Plow.

Dec. 6 – Senate Bill 2 will mean sweeping changes (improvements) for Hoke schools.

Dec. 13 – A \$4.3 million lawsuit relating to jail conditions is filed against Sheriff Alex Norton by a former inmate.

Dec. 20 – Mitch Tyler is named principal of Hoke High.

Dec. 27 – A pretty but deadly ice storm hit Hoke.

1990

Jan. 3 – Staggering increases in fuel oil and produce has residents tightening their belts.

Jan. 10 – Developers say Hoke's economic future depends on schools and water.

Jan. 17 – Mayor John K. McNeill dies at age 69. He was Raeford's mayor for 21 years and before that a city councilman for 16 years.

Jan. 24 – The U.S. Census Bureau is looking for folks to count Hoke's citizens.

Jan. 31 – Fire ants are discovered in Hoke County for the first time.

A fungus is found growing in Peddlers Branch below the turkey processing plant.

Feb. 7 – Councilman Bob Gentry is named Raeford's mayor.

Feb. 14 – Raeford Hoke Economic Developer Jim Grimes resigns after less than a year on the job.

Feb. 21 – The state accuses the city and House of Raeford with polluting Peddlers Creek.

Feb. 28 – The city is not sure why improvements to Raeford's wastewater treatment plant aren't functioning up to expectations.

March 7 – The county may take over a soon-to-be renovated, state-owned water system that will save Hoke a million dollars. The well at McCain can produce 580,000 gallons of water, and the prison hospital, prison subsidiary and Sandhills Youth Correctional facility would use only half of that.

March 14 – Burger King plans a Raeford restaurant.

Raeford needs doctors.

March 21 – The county landfill will be abandoned in a year.

The SBI is filing environmental law violations against House of Raeford.

April 4 – All eyes are on Raeford as the state's first criminal environmental case goes to trial. House of Raeford is accused of routing a pipe from a waste holding tank to an area that drains into Peddlers Creek.

April 11 – Residents complain about the odor coming from Raeford's wastewater treatment plant.

April 18 – The school board rejects a site for a new school recommended by a site selection committee. The proposed site is a donation of 25 acres.

May 2 – Police Chief Vance L. Wiggins "Zeke" dies of a heart attack.

May 9 – Tarheel Turkey Hatcheries plans to expand and will add 22 new employees.

May 23 – The Raeford Auto Co. building, called the only suitable place for judicial offices, tests free of contaminants by the state after an old, leaking gas tank is removed. The state later reverses its findings.

June 6 – The Hoke High Bucks baseball team goes to the state finals; two players sign with the Cincinnati Reds.

House of Raeford is given an ultimatum: Clean up or shut down. The city threatens to cut off the poultry processing plant's water if it doesn't comply with wastewater discharge requirements.

June 13 – The Bucks take the state basketball

championship.

June 20 – Hoke's 11 districts see a 47 percent rise in fire taxes.

House of Raeford promises to comply with wastewater discharge requirements.

June 27 – The turkey plant, city and a septic service are fined in three separate environmental violations.

July 11 – The State Bureau is investigating after a riot ensued following the shooting of a 69-year-old man by a Hoke detective. About 200 were involved in the riot in Jones City that was disbursed by tear gas.

July 18 – House of Raeford posts a \$100,000 bond with the city to guarantee against violations. City manager Tom Phillips rejects the bond.

Aug. 1 – A restraining order stopping the city from cutting off House of Raeford's water is issued after negotiations between the two break down.

Aug. 8 – Commissioners approve bids for the first phase of a 10-year, countywide water system.

Aug. 15 – House of Raeford is found guilty of dumping wastewater into Peddlers Creek and is fined \$15,000. The state has no law that makes it a crime to dispense wastewater in such a manner. Meanwhile, the city's wastewater treatment capacity improves 20 percent because the plant is in compliance.

Aug. 22 – A half million dollar Community Block Development grant has been misused as repairs to Tylertown homes are shoddy.

Aug. 29 – The state is looking at revising pollution laws because of the House of Raeford case.

Preliminary census figures show Raeford has shrunk and Hoke did not grow as much as expected.

Sept. 5 – An attorney will look at Schools Superintendent Bob Nelson's actions after he changed plans for the construction of East Hoke Middle School without consulting the school board.

Sept. 12 – The case is closed involving the shooting of a 69-year-old man by a deputy, causing a riot to ensue. The deputy acted in self-defense, according to the DA.

Sept. 19 – An estimated 53,500 flocked to Raeford for the annual N.C. Turkey Festival.

Oct. 3 – The city says it can't guarantee the Army it will be able to provide sewer for an 801 housing project on Rockfish Road.

Oct. 10 – The school board forms a group to decide the future of Upchurch Middle School.

Oct. 17 – The Hoke-Robeson Drug Task Force says drug use is widespread in the area, but the task force is making inroads into the selling of drugs.

Oct. 24 – House of Raeford takes its case against the city back to court, claims it was fined illegally. A Superior Court judge dismisses the case.

Nov. 7 – Commissioners approve a land use plan that is the first step in county zoning.

Nov. 14 – The water to the Raeford Hotel is cut off for nonpayment and tenants move out. The hotel later closes.

Nov. 21 – Burlington lays off 50 workers.

Nov. 28 – The widening to four lanes of Hwy. 401 from Fayetteville to Hwy. 401 Bypass and Hwy. 401 Business will begin this coming year.

Dec. 5 – Sheriff Alex Norton reorganizes his department.

James E. Murdock is named police chief.

Dec. 12 – The SBI investigates Sheriff Alex Norton, who is accused of altering documents.

Dec. 19 – Louis Cunningham, the 69-year-old man shot four times by Detective Jim Curtis, sues Hoke officials for \$1 million.

Dec. 26 – Conoly's Exxon changes hands. Charlie Daniels and son Brian take over.

1989

Jan. 4 – Jean Powell is sworn in as the Hoke-Scotland Judicial District to become the state's first female DA.

Jan. 11 – The Raeford Airport is closed because of a problematic drainage ditch.

Jan. 18 – Deputy Ed Harris is forced to resign after drugs in his custody turn up at Hoke High.

Jan. 25 – Dr. Robert Townsend is Kiwanis Citizen of the Year.

Feb. 1 – The impending sale of Faberge calls for expansion and will bring more jobs.

Feb. 8 – Dept. of Social Services opens a Community Cupboard, an emergency food bank.

Feb. 15 – Dan's Hair Design closes after more than 15 years in business.

Feb. 22 – High winds, thunderstorm and ice

1991

Jan. 2 – Hoke is looking into suing the state because of inequities in school funding; poor counties get less.

Jan. 9 – The state lifts a moratorium on new taps into the city's sewer system; the city can now add new businesses.

A state report card says Hoke schools are average.

Jan. 16 – An all-night party is planned to keep graduating seniors safe.

Jan. 23 – Legislators announce funding cuts to Hoke, whose leaders bemoan state and federal governments' imposing costly programs on local governments that have to pay for them.

Jan. 30 – Dr. Robert Nelson retires as schools superintendent after eight years.

Bobby Conoly is Kiwanis Man of the Year.

Feb. 6 – The military lifts its moratorium on military family housing and puts the Section 801 project to build 250 homes on Rockfish Road back on track.

Feb. 20 – Plans to convert the Raeford Auto Co. building into a courthouse annex are stalled as the state looks into possible contamination of soil by an underground gas tank.

Feb. 27 – Arson is suspected in a fire at a trailer at Hoke High. Damage is estimated at \$6,000. Three students are later charged.

March 6 – The city wastewater treatment plant needs \$700,000 in repairs.

March 13 – The state goes back on its promise to pay \$95,000 to the county after it took away its authority to tax inventories.

March 27 – Businessman Tom Cameron, 75, is beaten to death and robbed while he was at a pond. Three men are seen running from the

scene. The brutal murder stuns the community.

April 3 – Two downtown buildings, Page Trust and the building that houses Candlestick Crafts, are to be renovated for offices and housing.

April 10 – The county is forced by the state to buy covered dinner plates for jail inmates at a cost of \$50 each.

April 17 – An Aberdeen & Rockfish train derails, and no one is injured.

April 24 – Former Bucks baseball star John Roper, now of the Charleston Wheelers, comes home to shut out the Fayetteville Generals.

May 1 – State cuts and federal mandates may mean a 30 percent tax hike for county taxpayers.

May 8 – Schools say they need 13 percent more in the upcoming budget.

May 15 – Nine men are indicted in the murder of Southern Pines Detective Ed Harris, 45, murdered in his Hoke home.

May 22 – A jail committee says the county jail needs a \$2 million addition.

May 29 – Cousins Club, the South Hoke scene of violence and alleged illegal activity, is padlocked. It is owned by fired deputy Elisha Dial.

Dr. William C. Harrison is picked from 22 applicants to lead schools.

June 19 – A homemade bi-plane crashed just north of Raeford Airport, killing the pilot, an Army Special Forces captain.

June 26 – Two parachutists walked away after their main parachute as well as their reserve chute failed to open. The pair, strapped together, landed in trees.

A new business in Hoke, Wheeler's Pallets, recycles pallets.

July 5 – A mother and son built a 60-ft. high dream castle like the one Ingeborg Katolik grew up in near Rockfish. Her son Gurgun Katolik did much of the construction.

July 17 – The dilapidated Raeford Hotel may be auctioned as the current owner is not meeting his financial obligations regarding the building.

July 24 – The move to two new middle schools is delayed until Oct. 21 because construction is taking longer than expected.

Some Rockfish residents are not happy with the proposed zoning plan, commissioners were told at a public hearing. Ditto from Quewhiffle citizens.

Aug. 7 – A Superior Court judge put Sheriff Alex Norton out of office, citing seven wrongful actions. Commissioners swear in Coroner Frank Crumpler as the new sheriff.

Aug. 14 – A court decision backs up the county's new junkyard ordinance but little did commissioners know the county would be among the first cited. Raeford issues a cease and desist order regarding junked cars the county had parked next to the National Guard Armory. The county quickly cleans up its act.

Aug. 21 – The county adopts a new zoning law. Six men escape from jail, five of whom are charged with the murder of Southern Pines Detective Ed Harris at his home in Hoke. Five are apprehended and the sixth man is caught later.

Aug. 28 – Sixteen men have applied to fill the vacancy left by Alex Norton. The case of the state vs. Norton continues.

Sept. 4 – While the statewide trend for SAT scores is for them to fall, Hoke's SAT scores jump by 23 points.

Sept. 11 – Commissioners narrow the number of men who want the sheriff's job: Wayne Byrd, Frank Crumpler (who is acting sheriff), Jim Madden and James Robertson.

Sept. 18 – Wayne Byrd – not without his own controversies – is sworn in as Hoke's new sheriff.

Oct. 2 – The four-laning of Hwy. 401 between

Fayetteville and highways 401 Bypass and 401 Business begins.

Hoke is invited to join Cumberland and Bladen counties in a plan to turn trash from the three counties into fuel for DuPont's Fayetteville plant.

Oct. 9 – Insurance money from the burning of Upchurch School's stage may go to buying new, badly needed buses.

Oct. 16 – A recommended change to the zoning law passed earlier this year would shorten the wait for mobile homes.

Oct. 30 – A 17-year-old defendant, angry at how much time he had spent in jail awaiting trial, attacks a bailiff in court and gets 150 days added to his term.

Nov. 6 – County commissioners reject a land use plan that would restrict development around military bases.

The city agrees to give Turlington School space to Cooperative Extension and Veterans Services offices.

Nov. 13 – Hoke schools is one of five systems named for possible takeover by the state if student performance doesn't improve.

The city again leases Raeford Municipal Airport to Gene Thacker, who wants to buy the airport. Airport commissioners can't sell the land unless the Federal Aviation Administration approves it, and the FAA has yet to do so.

Nov. 20 – The Hoke High Bucks football squad takes the first round during state playoffs. They defeated Smithfield-Selma 31-0 but lost a close one to North Durham in the second round.

Nov. 27 – Ground is broken for the new Rockfish Elementary School.

Dec. 11 – The Heritage Village military housing with 250 units will burden Hillcrest Volunteer Fire Dept., firefighters say.



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Serving Our Community

Upchurch students were like family

The dozen classrooms sitting in a long shotgun row were a rite of passage for the students of Upchurch High School, with the start of each fall semester bringing them one door closer to a diploma.

James Pope traced a finger over a 1954 yearbook photo of the school building where he spent the early years of his life, recalling how students entered the door at one end as first graders and grew more excited as they moved down the hallway one classroom at a time.

"When you got up here, you knew you were about to go out the door," he said, tapping the set of windows nearest the exit.

Upchurch has educated Hoke County students for more than 90 years, enduring name changes, repurposing and fires. The original five-room school was built in 1920, nearly half a century before black and white Hoke County children could sit next to one another and learn from the same teacher.

The first facility, built using donations, was called the Raeford Grade School or Raeford Colored School and taught students up to seventh grade. Children who previously attended single-room schoolhouses in the county consolidated into the new grade school under the leadership of Rev. P.P. Johnson, the first principal, and later principal J.C. Bagget, Pope said.

A group of dedicated local citizens sought to expand the school and educate older students too. In 1930, the school added grades 8-11 and principal David Scurlock took charge of the renamed Raeford High School. Having a black high school in town was a "dream come true" for many, Pope

said.

Raeford High School became Upchurch High School in 1936, re-named for the local family that donated many of the materials for the building's construction. But everything the community worked to accomplish was threatened when Upchurch caught fire one day in 1945.

Pope and his brothers lived less than a mile from the school and could see the smoke and hear the commotion as the building burned. For nearly a year, teachers like English instructor Anna G. Smith held class in the Rockfish Grove and Silver Grove churches while the Board of Education purchased additional property and rebuilt the school in its current location. Principal A.S. Gaston led the reopened Upchurch High in 1946 as a fully fledged 12-grade high school under the blue and gold banner of its eagle mascot.



The Upchurch Class of 1954

Attending Upchurch High School was a different experience from what many modern students know, Pope said. Teachers often lodged in their students' homes and the children stayed together with their classmates from first grade until graduation.

"You became a family," he said.

The class of 1968 was the last to graduate from Upchurch High School, with principal David McAllister's signature on their diplomas. When Hoke County schools integrated in 1968, the facility was converted to Upchurch

Middle School.

Even though their alma mater has changed so much over the years, graduates of Upchurch High School remain close. The Upchurch High School alumni honor the past by providing for the future through scholarships for deserving students.

"Upchurch over time has been a school to try to get the children to higher learning. If you take that higher learning, you can go anywhere, but you must have it within yourself," Pope said.

The state tightens sewage limits, but the city remains in compliance.

Dec. 18 – Lawmen from four agencies joined forces to arrest 13 drug dealers in Robeson and Hoke.

Dec. 25 – Students moved from Turlington and Upchurch schools to East and West Hoke middle schools on Hwy. 401 and Hwy. 211, respectively.

1992

Jan. 1 – A Main Street teen center called Streamers opens.

Hoke's teen pregnancy rate is 12 percent.

Jan. 8 – Candidate filing is delayed until legislators have an opportunity to redistrict the state.

Jan. 15 – The school board nixes the notion of rebuilding the auditorium at Upchurch School.

The owner of Quinn Food Products on Hwy. 401 Bypass blames a zoning miscue for stopping him from expanding. When Hoke's zoning law went into effect in October of last year, the plant was not zoned industrial and now the owner can't put up another building. The owner says he lost potential customers at a loss of \$680,000. Later, commissioners quickly remedy the situation and the customers are recouped.

Jan. 29 – Deputies put Hoke's only radio station off the air when they confiscate equipment

to pay an \$8,000 debt owed by the manager, James Ross, who is on probation for writing useless checks.

Feb. 5 – Duffie residents want the Renaissance Club closed, citing loud music until early morning hours, vulgar language and shots fired.

Fire inspections are now mandatory for Raeford businesses.

Feb. 12 – The city-owned Raeford Airport needs \$1.3 million in improvements, including adding 149 acres of land to its current 51 acres.

Feb. 19 – Richard Condor and Aaron Plyler now represent four precincts in the state senate: Puppy Creek, Rockfish, Buchan and McCain. They are guests at the Chamber of Commerce Legislative breakfast.

Feb. 26 – A body and a skeleton are found in wooded areas. They are unidentified as is a third skeleton found earlier in the year.

March 4 – Sandhills Community College's Hoke Center can move into Turlington School, which is largely abandoned.

March 11 – Construction of Rockfish School is halted because the land is found not suitable for septic tanks after the site is graded. Construction resumes after the county buys six additional acres.

The most recent body - found behind North Raeford Fire Dept. - is identified as a 20-year-old Fayetteville man, who is believed to have been shot elsewhere.

March 18 – Commissioners consider laws

that will control nightclubs.

April 1 – Hoke's zoning law has spurred housing development in the eastern part of the county, according to Ann Pate, Planning Board chairman.

April 8 – The county approves a drug sniffing dog for the sheriff's department.

April 15 – Rockfish Elementary will be Hoke's only school with a majority of white students after attendance lines are drawn.

April 22 – Ground is broken on a 250-unit military home development under 801 Section housing.

A former inmate sues the county over an alleged sex assault that occurred while he was in jail last year.

April 29 – Hoke signs a 21-year deal with Bladen and Cumberland counties and an energy company to dispose of its recyclable trash.

May 6 – The city and county agree to split the planning and development office.

May 13 – Kiwanis choose Wyatt Upchurch Person of the Year.

May 20 – A non-profit medical clinic, staffed by four or five doctors, is set to open here. Hoke has been identified as in need of physicians.

May 27 – Kerry Morston of Southern Pines is found guilty in the shooting death of Southern Pines drug officer Ed Harris. The shooting occurred at Harris' home in west Hoke. He was given a life sentence.

June 3 – Hoke students scored higher on standardized tests this year than in previous years.

June 10 – Hoke students showed marked improvements in most areas on CAT scores.

June 17 – Rockfish residents say they don't want a subdivision there but the county approves it anyway.

June 24 – Tylertown Fire Dept. fights to remain independent while the financially strapped firefighting unit faces possible absorption into other departments.

July 1 – County taxpayers saw an eight cents hike in taxes while city residents will not only be paying county taxes but will also see a two cents hike in city taxes.

July 15 – The state gives Hoke schools until 1995 to meet accreditation standards.

July 29 – Quewhiffle is home to the sport of paintballing.

A Superior Court judge says House of Raeford owes the city \$50,000 in fines from 1990. The poultry processing plant discharged unauthorized waste into the city's sewerage system thus causing the state to place Raeford under a sewer tap moratorium. This created an economic hardship for Raeford because no new business could tap in. More than a year later, the plant wins an appeal.

Aug. 12 – The school board approves after-school day care.

Aug. 19 – Hoke commissioners vote to shore

up the new water system to cope with growth before adding new lines.

Aug. 26 – After weeks of wrangling for a place to call home in Raeford, Hoke Family Medical Clinic finally signs a lease for offices on South Main.

Sept. 2 – Violent crimes increase in Hoke. Property crimes also increase.

Sept. 9 – Hoke commissioners approved a 2,000,000-gallon water tank in the Wayside-airport area.

The National Labor Relations Board gives House of Raeford employees another opportunity to vote on whether or not they want to unionize by setting aside a 1998 election when workers rejected a union. House of Raeford is appealing.

Sept. 23 – Development in the east end of the county stops as everyone waits for more available water. The state has a moratorium on the Rockfish water system.

Sept. 30 – Faith was not enough to keep Hoke's only radio station on the air, and the Rev. James Ross is selling out.

Oct. 7 – The state lifts a moratorium on the Rockfish water system.

Bernice McDougald, the mastermind in the murder of Southern Pines Detective Ed Harris, is found guilty and receives a life sentence plus 60 years. His is the second conviction in the murder; six more men await trial.

Oct. 21 – The county stands by its zoning plan and refuses to rezone to allow a \$5 million strip mall to be built on Hwy. 401 near the Cumberland County line.

Nov. 4 – Schools Superintendent Bill Harrison says the growth in east Hoke will require more schools.

Nov. 18 – Peach Orchard residents consider a lawsuit to stop the installation of a cellular tower.

Nov. 25 – The county buys land off Hwy. 401 for a waste transfer station.

Dec. 2 – The courtroom annex opens on Main Street. The county renovated the Raeford Auto Co. building on North Main to house facilities.

Dec. 9 – A woman and her five-year-old daughter are held captive and tortured over a weekend by the woman's former boyfriend. He is arrested.

Dec. 16 – Commission chairman L.E. McLaughlin issues a memo calling for a hiring freeze until Jan. 6 and some question whether or not he had the authority to do so.

Dec. 23 – A brawl courtroom scuffle occurs after two men involved in the Ed Harris murder are sentenced. Leroy Medley and Terry Evans get 100 years each, and Medley acts out his anger at the sentence. A third man, Mitchel McNeill, receives a 50-year sentence. The three had pled guilty. That brings to five the number of men sentenced for the 45-year-old detective's murder. Two more are to be arraigned.

1993

Jan. 6 – Hoke's only radio station is forced off the air as deputies begin foreclosure procedures. The station's owner, the Rev. James Ross of Gospel Tabernacle Enterprises, owes \$93,000 in debts.

A deputy investigating a fight between party goers and party crashers broke his leg while he was trying to break up the affray.

Jan. 13 – Nilson Van & Storage is moving to Hoke's industrial park on Hwy. 401 east of Raeford, bringing 30 jobs with it.

A report card shows Hoke Schools' tests are improving overall.

Jan. 20 – The widening of Hwy. 401 from Fayetteville to highways 401 Bypass and Business is creating more accidents. The project is

supposed to be completed entirely by the end of 1994.

Jan. 27 – Kay Thomas is named Kiwanis Citizen of the Year.

Feb. 3 – Commissioners stop construction of a Five Points garbage collection center after neighbors voice concerns. The convenience center was eventually built.

Feb. 10 – Voters approve water bonds of more than \$3 million to complete phase two of a planned countywide water system.

Feb. 24 – Jackie Lynch is Kiwanis' first female member.

March 10 – Schools, jobs and infrastructure are the key issues facing the county, 400 people told commissioners at a public forum.

March 17 – Wicked weather strikes twice as fierce winds whip woods fires on one day and then hurricane force winds damage buildings a few days later.

March 24 – Officials are concerned that Prison Legal Services may sue the county because the jail is overcrowded. PLS files a suit a week later.

April 7 – A crowd tells the city council they don't want to be annexed and the city has nothing to offer them. Raeford is looking into annexing Shawtown and a small area off Prospect Ave. on the east, Thomasville and College Drive on the west side, and a small tract behind Andy Anderson Mobile Homes. Annexation plans are later dropped.

April 14 – It will cost taxpayers an extra 15 cents per \$100 valuation to build a new 98-bed capacity jail.

April 21 – Commissioners fire County Manager Barry Reed, who had already resigned to take another job in Person County.

April 28 – The oldest building in Raeford, a depot built of long leaf pine in 1895-97, burns and arson is suspected.

May 5 – The city allows the county to join its trash plan.

A grant will renovate 31 homes on Army Road in McCain.

May 19 – The Heilig Meyers store and a warehouse at Main St. and Harris Ave. burn at an estimated \$1 million in damages. The 10 Hoke firefighting units, 11 from Cumberland County and two from Fayetteville work the blaze to prevent it from spreading to downtown. Arson is not suspected.

June 2 – The trial of a man charged with killing Hoke businessman Tom Cameron in 1991 is postponed, and two more men are charged.

Clyde McPhatter stamps go on sale at post offices across the nation. Raeford native McPhatter was the lead singer of The Drifters, a rhythm and blues group that was popular in the '50s. He died in 1972.

June 9 – Pregnancy tests on campus are available at Hoke High if they are requested.

June 16 – A task force attacks violence in Hoke schools.

June 23 – Raeford's AM radio station is back on the air under new ownership.

June 30 – The new county budget calls for a tax increase of five cents per \$100 valuation. Commissioners also voted 3-2 to give themselves a raise.

Hoke is parched by a summer drought.

July 14 – Upchurch Elementary, the county's first year-round school, opens.

Aug. 4 – Hoke's attorney for 15 years, Duncan McFadyen resigns, citing policy differences.

Aug. 11 – With county commissioners pitted against each other, a public hearing is set to determine the fate of a joint city-county planning board.

Aug. 18 – Unmoved by a large crowd at a

public hearing, commissioners vote 3-2 to move the county planner's job from under the control of the city-county planning board and make it accountable to the county manager.

Aug. 25 – Raeford-Hoke Planning Commission Chairman Ann Pate resigns, the third official to do so this year. She cites differences of opinion with most of the commissioners. Later, planning board member Marcia Snow resigns, citing political differences with commissioners. She is followed by Glenn Crissman.

Sept. 1 – School starts with an enrollment of 5,398, which was more than anticipated.

Sept. 8 – John Gregory Chisolm pleads guilty to murdering Ed Harris in 1991 in western Hoke and is given a life sentence. Harris was a drug officer with the Southern Pines Police Dept. when he was shot in his home. More than one man was involved.

Local telephone service to Red Springs is okayed.

Sept. 27 – Heritage Village, the 250 unit military housing project located on Rockfish Road, opens.

Oct. 6 – Hoke commissioners revise the junkyard ordinance to help junkyard owners stay in business.

Oct. 13 – County commissioners vote 3-2 to abolish the city-county planning commission as well as the planning director's position.

The county landfill closes and garbage is taken to Montgomery County.

Oct. 20 – William Earl McNatt is found guilty of murdering prominent businessman Tom Cameron in March 1991 and receives a life in prison sentence. James Harris entered a plea bargain in the brutal beating of the 75-year-old man, and Bruce Harris awaits trial.

Remains of a man found in a wooded area off Hwy. 211 west are believed to be those of criminal Gwi Hwan Moon.

Nov. 3 – A bond issue of \$300,000 is passed thus funding the Sandhills Community College Hoke Center.

The county board agrees to improve the jail.

The city fined House of Raeford for releasing waste into Peddlers Creek in 1990, and a Superior Court upheld those fines. However, the turkey plant wins an appeal.

Nov. 24 – Ground is broken for a tri-county waste to energy project involving Hoke, Bladen and Cumberland counties. Recyclables and non-combustibles will be separated and landfills will see 90 percent less waste.

Dec. 8 – A grant funds an alternative school study here for junior and high school students.

Dec. 15 – The county hires a grant writer.

Dec. 22 – The family of L.C. Cunningham wins a \$330,000 settlement in his shooting in July 1990 by a sheriff's deputy. Cunningham survived the shooting but died a year later at age 69.

1994

Jan. 5 – A \$15 million House of Raeford facility is proposed for a site off Hwy. 20.

A Hoke detective says the remains of a man found shot to death 13 years ago are those of missing soldier Richard James West Jr.

Jan. 12 – A rash of vacant buildings' fires is suspicious, firefighters say.

Jan. 19 – A deputy, responding to a domestic dispute, shoots and kills a man with a knife who was lunging at officers and ran for one of them. The man outlasted three doses of Mace and a shot that was not fatal before being struck down.

Jan. 26 – John D. McAllister is named Kiwanis Hoke County Citizen of the Year.

Feb. 9 – Commissioners deny a rezoning request by a developer who wants to build a

subdivision at the intersection of Rockfish and Camden roads. Overcrowded roads and traffic congestion are two of the reasons for turning down the request.

Feb. 23 – A Hoke High senior who was suspended from school for the remainder of the year for taking a weapon to school will be able to graduate after all. Steven Calloway is attending Mt. Calvary Christian Academy in Southern Pines. The 17-year-old had forgotten to take his pocket knife out of his pocket and turned it in to school authorities. The knife is used in his after-school job at an auto body shop.

March 16 – The West Hoke Middle boys' basketball team sets an academic record. All players have grade averages of 90 or above.

April 6 – Kay Thomas, 48, a realtor, community activist, leader and candidate for the N.C. House, District 16, is killed and a friend seriously hurt after a wreck as they put up campaign signs.

April 13 – The city-county planning board is officially dead, and the county created its own planning board as did the city.

April 20 – The county board votes to deny the city's request to extend its extraterritorial jurisdiction to a mile outside of city limits.

April 27 – A Days Inn hotel is to locate on Hwy. 401 Bypass.

May 4 – Wayne Byrd returns as Hoke sheriff, and Jean Hodges is voted in as a commissioner. She is the second woman to serve on the county board, the first being Mabel Riley.

May 11 – Capt. Suzanne Edwards becomes the first woman to serve as Hoke's chief jailer.

June 1 – House of Raeford denies OSHA inspectors entrance to the plant because they have cameras.

Hoke is one of five counties suing the state for unequal spending in schools, attempting to change a policy that gives schools in high wealth counties more funding than those in low wealth counties.

June 8 – The county's proposed budget calls for a four cents property tax hike.

June 15 – A gas main burst after being hit by a farm tractor and 30 residents of Crawford Wright, Wallace McLean and Turnpike roads area are forced to leave their homes.

June 22 – Turlington School will serve as an alternative high school in the future.

June 29 – A man is accused of setting fire to a mobile home at Cope Road and Hwy. 211 with six people sleeping inside. Three of the children are his.

July 6 – Cheryl Stearns, two-time women's overall world parachuting champion, is a resident of Hoke.

July 13 – A 10-passenger plane crashes in woods near Raeford Airport and burns. The two pilots aboard escape shortly before the plane bursts into flames. In two weeks, another plane crashes near the airport. One of the pilots, William O'Keefe, 38, who was in the first crash, is aboard. Again, there are no injuries.

July 27 – Almost all employees who walked off their jobs at House of Raeford are back at work. They wanted pay raises and complained of working conditions that are detrimental to their health.

Aug. 3 – The four lanes of Hwy. 401 between Fayetteville and highways 401 Bypass and 401 Business will be completed and should be opened to traffic in September.

Aug. 10 – Raeford's 9-1-1 center is struck by lightning twice.

Aug. 17 – Hoke is given almost \$400,000 by the N.C. Dept. of Transportation to repave 11 roads.

Aug. 24 – The \$2.5 million Hoke-Robeson Gin Co. is under construction on Old Maxton

Freedom Chapel, still standing, was first black church

Freedom Chapel Methodist Episcopal Zion Church was the first African American church in Hoke County. Located at the corner of Freedom and South Bethel roads, the church still stands.

The congregation built a new church in 1977, and services continue to be held there. The bell from the original church hangs beneath a cross in front of the new church on New Freedom Road. It called the congregation to worship in the 1880s.

The original church was built of horizontal wooden slats that are still in good condition. White siding now covers the exterior. The building has been sold twice since the congregation moved away.

Walls Chapel

King Wall and Richard Graham organized Walls Chapel Church more than 125 years ago under an oak tree on the site of the present church edifice.

Three buildings, including the current edifice, have been built on the present church site. The third building has been modified three times. It is reported that at least one of the early buildings was mysteriously destroyed by fire.

The Walls Chapel Church Cemetery, also known as "Long Rest," became the community cemetery when "Graham Graveyard" was closed in 1937. — Grand-ma's Family, compiled by John C. Kelly Sr., edited by John C. Kelly Jr.



The first Freedom Chapel AME Zion Church.



The bell at the new building is from the old church.

Road. Twenty farmers in Hoke and Robeson have pledged 10,000 acres of cotton for ginning.

Sept. 7 – The county board officially adopts Hoke's flag.

Sept. 14 – A small plane crashes into Hwy. 20, killing its pilot and injuring his passenger.

Sept. 21 – Hoke is denied Smart Start funds that will go to other counties.

Sept. 28 – Hoke native Jo Northrop's book, *Country Matters*, is published. Much is about her life on a Hoke County farm. Northrop is blind.

Oct. 12 – A school bus runs a stop sign and slams into a log truck at the intersection of Old Maxton and Walter Gibson roads. The driver

and a student are injured.

Oct. 26 – House of Raeford employees choose to go union with a 411-365 vote.

Nov. 2 – House of Raeford files a complaint against the union, alleging illegalities in voting.

Nov. 16 – The mother of two teens spends five days in jail because of her children's truancy.

Nov. 23 – The county board makes plans to build a new jail at a county-owned site on Hwy. 401.

Nov. 30 – The turkey plant continues with plans to expand. A new processing plant will be near the existing plant.

Dec. 7 – House of Raeford and the workers'

newly formed union have it out at labor hearings.

Commissioners put the proposed jail site on hold as alternative sites are sought.

Dec. 14 – Upchurch Elementary is now an all-year school. Students who do not want to go to classes year round may go to Scurlock.

Dec. 21 – End-of-year test results show Hoke falls below the state average.

Dec. 28 – The National Labor Relations Board issues a complaint against House of Raeford. The plant is accused of using threats and intimidation to try to sway the Oct. 21 vote that resulted in a union being formed by plant workers.

1995

Jan. 4 – An 18-year-old Hoke High student goes on a New Year's Eve killing rampage, leaving five dead. He killed Jamie Hunter, 39, and wife Debbie Hunter, 37, and paralyzed their 15-year-old daughter Mary Ann at the Family Fun Arcade that the Hunters had just opened in Puppy Creek. Tim Powell, 20, and Steve Locklear, 18, arcade patrons, were also killed. About two hours later he killed James Morrison, 31, at the Zodiac Lounge on Vass Road. All of the victims were shot. Although he was later convicted of the murders, Rodriguez Ferguson did not get the death penalty.

Jan. 11 – Two of Rodriguez Ferguson's brothers are charged with conspiracy to commit armed robbery in connection with the New Year's Eve murders.

Jan. 18 – Hoke schools are put on a warning status for the third consecutive year for low achievement performances.

Jan. 25 – Franklin Roosevelt Teal is named Man of the Year by the Kiwanis.

Feb. 1 – Civic leader, educator, farmer Robert Gatlin dies at age 85.

Feb. 8 – A Stop the Violence march is led by Elle Graham to draw attention to escalating violence in Hoke. Eight people have been murdered in a three-week period.

Dr. William Harrison leaves as Hoke schools head to go to Orange County, and Don Steed becomes interim superintendent.

Feb. 22 – The county denies a rezoning request that would allow a low-density subdivision near Ft. Bragg. Officials at the post are concerned about encroachment that would hinder training activities and perhaps eventually close the post.

March 1 – A forklift operator dies on the job at Chesebrough-Ponds.

March 8 – North Carolina colleges and universities accept Hoke High graduates at a high rate.

March 29 – The cost of transferring prisoners to other counties and leasing space is draining the county, and a new jail must be built, the sheriff says.

April 5 – Domestic violence is epidemic in Hoke, according to statistics.

April 19 – Tax figures point to a need for residents to shop in the county.

April 26 – Members of Russia's Blue Lightning parachute train with the U.S. Golden Knights at Raeford Airport.

May 3 – The state says Hoke's financial woes are unprecedented in North Carolina. Commissioners are told, "You have no fund balance, negative working capital and a low enterprise fund." The jail project is put on hold because

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of finances.

May 10 – The Humane Society wants a shelter for unwanted pets.

May 17 – Commissioners deny a zoning change that would allow a strip mall northeast of town on Hwy. 401.

May 24 – Strong storms rip through the county, and 12 roads are closed because of debris and downed trees.

May 31 – The entire staff of Hoke Parks & Recreation Department resigns suddenly.

June 7 – A Ft. Bragg skydiver broke a world record by jumping 331 times in 24 hours.

June 14 – Hoke detective Lt. Bob Conerly is wounded in the back and left paralyzed in a training accident.

June 21 – Don Steed, an educator for 26 years, will be superintendent of schools. He has held the interim position since February.

June 28 – The county approves a budget with a five cents tax hike.

July 5 – A complaint filed in 1994 alleging racial discrimination against Indians and blacks was dropped after schools agreed to take steps to resolve concerns addressed in the complaint.

July 12 – Hoke High improved on end-of-grade test scores.

July 19 – Hoke is the poorest county in the state, according to per capita figures released by the University of North Carolina. The per capita income was \$11,921 in 1993.

The county rezones land to allow Triangle Lumber to locate in east Hoke, bringing 250 jobs.

Aug. 9 – Neil McFadyen dies at age 83. He was a former city commissioner, mayor, school board member and House representative.

Aug. 16 – The school board receives a \$100,000 grant for its transition program for exceptional children.

Aug. 23 – Burlington Industries cuts 125 jobs. The marketplace forces layoffs.

Aug. 30 – On the average, Hoke's SAT scores dropped 27 points from last year's totals.

Sept. 6 – County commissioners vote to lease a prefabricated jail to be placed next to the current jail.

Sept. 13 – Police officers patrolling the campus of 1,748 students at Hoke High are a welcome sight to teachers, who sometimes fear for their safety.

Sept. 20 – Commissioners hear complaints from Antioch residents about rusty water. The water comes from the county's water system.

Sept. 27 – Police Chief James E. Murdock dies of a heart attack.

Oct. 4 – So far, 18 cases of rabies have been discovered, and health officials are concerned that Hoke will join the state's epidemic.

Oct. 11 – The county's budget is tight with no room for emergencies, officials say.

Oct. 18 – The jail budget is being eaten up faster than anticipated with 33 percent of funds gone in three months.

Oct. 25 – A \$900,000 Community Development Block grant allows Southland Pine Needles of Fayetteville to build a plant at Ashley Heights.

Nov. 15 – Hoke's own Cheryl Stearns jumps 352 free-falls in 24 hours to break both men's and women's records.

Nov. 22 – Turkey sales are on the rise, good news for Hoke's turkey industries.

Nov. 29 – A 50-year-old man dies in a barn fire after he falls asleep with a cigarette. Leroy Carthens's death is the result of smoke inhalation.

Dec. 6 – Rain, wind and other adverse weather conditions damage the cotton crop.

Dec. 13 – A survey of the Raeford Post Office is mailed out to customers.

Dec. 20 – The county's reserves are still low, but the auditor says Hoke is "on the right track."

Dec. 27 – Two houses and a swimming pool burn. No injuries reported.

1996

Jan. 3 – A Memorial Day service is held on the one-year anniversary for the victims of the Puppy Creek Family Fun Center murders. "What happened here changed our lives. People of Hoke County should never forget it," said Dodie Butler, mother-in-law of victim Tim Powell.

Jan. 10 – Hoke has an icy weekend.

Jan. 17 – J.R. "Dick" McNeill is named police chief, replacing J.E. Murdock, who died last year.

Jan. 24 – Columnist D.G. Martin argues that the first President Bush was correct in stopping the Persian Gulf War when he did. "How long would we have had to stay in Iraq? What would have been our reaction ... when snipers started shooting at American soldiers in the streets? What if just one bomb had gone off in any one of the thousands of places that the occupying soldiers would be?"

Jan. 31 – Sandy Grove and Long Street churches, built by Hoke citizens but lost in Ft. Bragg's land grab in 1918-23, are maintained and open for services once a year.

Feb. 7 – County commissioners turn deaf ears to those who want liquor by the drink sales in Hoke by refusing to put it to the vote.

Feb. 14 – Hoke County will start a "blue bag" recycling program.

Feb. 21 – The Hoke school system is one of six in North Carolina that does not have state accreditation.

Feb. 28 – Four Burlington employees are charged with fraud after allegations they falsified time cards.

March 6 – Hoke heroes - medically disabled Hoke deputy Bob Conerly, special education teacher Jim Curtis and forester Hunter Birkhead - will carry the Olympic torch. Conerly will bear the torch from his wheelchair.

March 13 – Hoke citizens who use the solid waste landfill will be required to show ID cards to prove they are county residents.

March 20 – A split hose from a truck used to fill up school buses spilled gasoline onto the Hoke High campus.

Rodriguez Ferguson pleads not guilty of killing five people on New Year's Eve, 1995.

March 27 – After seven years of negotiations, Gene Thacker buys the Raeford Airport.

April 10 – Hoke's fund balance builds up; tax collections also go up.

April 17 – It took a jury less than 20 minutes to find Eric Murillo, 46, guilty of the shooting death of his wife, Beth, a Cumberland County school teacher. The defense had argued the shooting was an accident.

A three-vehicle crash on Hwy. 211 West in Timberland took the lives of three, one a two-year-old boy.

April 24 – Eric Murillo is given the death sentence for killing his wife.

May 15 – Hoke is to finally receive funding to begin a Smart Start program.

May 22 – A referendum for liquor by the drink fails because it falls short of the number of signatures needed on a petition.

May 29 – Schools appear to be making educational gains as end-of-grade test scores rise.

June 5 – Mike McNeill, head of public works, is interim manager after Tom Phillips leaves.

June 12 – The Hoke school board goes to Raleigh to lobby for more money.

June 19 – A new court system begins for juveniles who are accused of committing non-violent, misdemeanor crimes; they are tried by their peers.



**Congresswoman Jane Pratt,
North Carolina's first female
member of Congress**

July 10 – Two murdered immigrants using aliases because they were here illegally create problems for law enforcement.

July 24 – Traffic on East Elwood Ave. is rerouted when a truck that was over the height limit brought down a power line.

July 31 – The 60-year-old Turlington School gymnasium is torn down. It had been condemned.

Aug. 14 – The state delays naming a portion of Hwy. 401 after State Patrolman W.T. "Bill" Herbin, who was brutally murdered in the line of duty August 31, 1964.

Aug. 21 – Raeford United Methodist Church catches on fire and flames are quickly extinguished, but the church has considerable smoke damage. The cause of the fire is blamed on an old electrical coffee pot.

Aug. 28 – Parents Without Partners helps single parents over the humps.

Sept. 4 – Habitat for Humanity has its first meeting in Hoke.

Sept. 11 – Hurricane Fran hits with a fury, a few injuries and no deaths, but extensive property damage and power outages.

Sept. 18 – The Red Cross steps in to help.

Sept. 25 – Allison J. Yount, 27, dies when her wayward parachute slams her into a Mack truck on Hwy. 401 near East Hoke Middle School.

Oct. 2 – A bond referendum may give Hoke schools \$21 million.

Oct. 16 – The Pieces of Eight amputee skydiving team makes a record-breaking tandem jump.

Oct. 23 – Henry Locklear, who served in Vietnam, is honored as most decorated Lumbree veteran.

Oct. 31 – Rodriguez Ferguson is back in court attempting to have his statement that he murdered his victims thrown out.

Nov. 6 – Smart Start begins in Hoke.

Nov. 13 – Proponents of a \$21 million school bond referendum are happy that it passed with flying colors and will ease classroom overcrowding.

Nov. 20 – The Dept. of Social Services cracks down on false ID use.

Nov. 27 – Arson is suspected in a fire at Oakdale Gin that causes \$40 to \$50,000 in damage to cotton alone.

Dec. 4 – Jean Hodges becomes the first woman in Hoke history to chair the county board. Mike McNeill is tapped to be city manager after serving as interim manager for six months.

Dec. 11 – Statistics show crime is on the rise in Hoke schools.

Dec. 18 – The county fund balance is on the rise.

Dec. 25 – A computer crash loses records of more than \$500,000 in bills.

1997

Jan. 1 – Hurricane Fran is still unfinished, in part, due to waiting for approval of \$6,000 in FEMA funding, expected later in the week.

Jan. 8 – Under the new N.C. Welfare Reform plan, about 178 Hoke food stamp recipients will lose their benefits the following month unless they start working.

County board discusses possibility of teen curfew.

Jan. 15 – Hoke County is ranked first in population growth in N.C., according to Business North Carolina Magazine

Jan. 22 – Hoke Board of Education distributes surveys to parents concerning the possibility of year-round schools. When the surveys are returned, the results are mixed.

Jan. 29 – In a feature on county and city officials fighting the "drug problem," Det. Mack High is quoted as saying, "If the U.S. government can't stop it from coming in, how are we going to stop it from being sold?" He is referring to limited manpower and limited money.

Feb. 5 – Juan Vasquez Chavez, 40, was killed in an apparent hit-and-run incident on Rockfish Rd.

The county is battling the statewide teacher shortage.

Feb. 19 – Storyteller "Granddaddy Junebug" is advertised as scheduled for a Black History Month event at Mt. Calvary Church Fellowship Hall.

Feb. 26 – Sprint advertisement encourages getting Caller ID so you will know who or what is "lurking at the other end of your ringing phone."

State Rep. John Nichols (R) files bill to stop N.C. Daycare Commission from regulating outdoor playground equipment at daycare centers. "They were getting ready to hire playground police..." says Nichols.

March 5 – First Health of the Carolinas passes the final hurdle with city council allowing for construction of a "bigger and better family care center" on Teal Drive.

March 12 – Schools go year-round for K-8 with a unanimous vote by the Hoke Board of Education.

Countryside Recreation Nightclub, known as "The Bayfield," is temporarily closed by ALE agents and sheriff's deputies under 1913 civil law, allowing it to be declared a "public nuisance." Owner Elisha Dial is arrested for resistance, allegedly threatening to release his dogs on deputies. The resistance charge is thrown out in June.

March 19 – Someone smashed historic headstones in Phillippi Presbyterian Church Cemetery, forgetting the "older, more fragile" ones.

March 26 – Amid a shower of glass bottles, police deputies quell a Robbins Heights riot that began after response to a call of a suspicious person and shots fired. Six are arrested.

April 2 – Letters to the editor argue for and against liquor by the drink sales.

April 9 – A photograph on the front page documents the Hale-Bopp comet visible in the night sky, as taken by Parkton resident Jim Skinner.

April 16 – The first-ever reported case of Legionnaire's Disease puts a Raeford woman in the hospital.

April 23 – Ft. Bragg commander's plan to gate certain areas of the post draws fire from community leaders. Bragg officials met with city and county officials the following week.

An archaeological excavation is in progress at Mill Prong. A brick floor and fireplace foundation has been unearthed.

April 30 – A turkey escapee from the House of Raeford is nabbed by police officers around 10:30 p.m. on Central Ave.

May 7 - Liquor by the drink passes in Hoke County by 38 votes.

May 14 - Two are charged in the 1995 murder of 18-year-old Armando "Tito" Nations.

May 21 - A propane leak at Cheseborough-Ponds in Raeford prompts evacuation of 85 employees.

May 28 - Girl Scout leader pleads guilty in cookie money scam. She is accused of embezzling \$2,400 in cookie sales money.

June 4 - Mayor ProTem Thomas "Joe" Upchurch dies.

June 11 - A 19-year-old House of Raeford employee has his hand severed in an accident at the plant, after it is tangled up in the evisceration department. The union filed a class-action suit over conditions and the state investigated the incident. His hand will be attached.

June 18 - Firefighters and rescue workers retrieve paratrooper Jill Murphy from 60 feet up in a pine tree after she has become entangled and passed out during a skydive.

Hoke County dispatcher Melissa Bissett helps in the rescue of a woman from a burning home after a trace of a 911 phone call with no one speaking at the other end.

June 25 - Lightning strikes twice in Hoke over two days, destroying both Bea's Motorcycle Salvage and a house.

July 2 - A drug hunt nets over half a million in marijuana off Ryan McBryde Road.

July 9 - The crash of an Army Blackhawk helicopter off Plank Road kills eight. "I could see his dog tag still around his neck," said McCain Correctional officer Bryan Donaldson of the burned soldiers at the scene.

July 16 - A fire chief's wife is arrested for missing fire department money - \$10,900.

July 23 - Farmers remain "optimistic" despite hot, dry summer with temperatures above 100 degrees.

July 30 - House of Raeford is fined \$3,150 by state Dept. of Labor for the hand-severing incident.

An abandoned house on McFarland Blue Road burns. Accelerants were found.

Aug. 6 - Outside the House of Raeford, workers protest for safety.

Aug. 13 - Cartoon mocks Apple computers as having to move corporate headquarters back into a garage after "completing one of biggest, saddest debacles in U.S. business history."

Aug. 20 - Hoke County Chief Jailer Al Schwarzbher is hired by the county to be the new fire marshal "amidst a flame of mixed emotions from county firefighters."

Aug. 27 - Gas prices are at a state average of \$1.18 a gallon.

An editorial by N.C. Attorney Mike Easley highlights concerns for parents about the Internet.

Sept. 3 - A Hoke County Sheriff's Deputy shoots and kills David Michael Sivak after a chase near the Hoke-Moore border.

Sept. 10 - Family of David Michael Sivak want more answers in the shooting incident.

Sept. 17 - FirstHealth advertises the staff of their family care centers.

Sept. 24 - A former Dept. of Corrections prison guard pleads guilty to selling drugs to an inmate.

Oct. 1 - Jury selection begins in the trial of Rodriguez Ferguson for the New Year's Eve 1994 and New Year's Day 1995 shooting spree at the Puppy Creek Family Fun Game Room and Zodiac Lounge, which resulted in five deaths. Defense attorneys seek to suppress Ferguson's signed confession.

Oct. 8 - 250 households lose water for a day after a subcontractor breaks water line while laying cable.

Oct. 1 - The Hoke County Library now offers Internet access.

Oct. 2 - The new county jail is almost complete.

Oct. 29 - A Raeford woman, Ella Mae Futrell, dies when a tractor-trailer collides with her Honda Accord on Mockingbird Hill Road.

Nov. 5 - Teen curfew passes for county.

Nov. 12 - Schools to upgrade computers.

Nov. 19 - Kids at Jones Daycare spot an emu running down the street. The bird is captured when its legs are hogtied by a Hoke County Animal Control officer near Hwy. 401.

Nov. 26 - Jim Davis will challenge Sheriff Wayne Byrd for election.

"Operation Roundup" nets 21 arrests.

White Tom Turkey from Tarheel Hatchery of Raeford is Presidential Thanksgiving Turkey for 1997.

Dec. 3 - A 20-year-old Hoke resident confesses to the murder of a 68-year-old man, tells authorities where to find body in a field off Blue Springs Road.

Dec. 10 - Rodriguez Ferguson is sentenced to five life sentences and an additional 9-12 years in prison for New Year's 1994/1995 killings at Puppy Creek Family Fun Center and Zodiac Lounge.

Dec. 17 - Two-story home burns around 3:30 a.m. off Alex Baker Road.

Dec. 24 - Hoke DAV Chapter 17 brings Christmas cheer to vets at Autumn Care.

Dec. 31 - Burglary ring believed busted.

1998

Jan. 7 - Jim Davis and incumbent Wayne Byrd file for the job of Hoke County sheriff. Davis is the first black to file for the office.

Jan. 14 - Brittany Lynn Locklear, 5, is snatched as she waited for her school bus. Her kidnapper molested her and then drowned her in an irrigation ditch. Searchers find her body the next day and the investigation is on.

Jan. 21 - The State Bureau of Investigation, the FBI's Child Abduction and Serial Killers Unit work with the Hoke Sheriff's Office who set up a "war room," bring in dogs, give polygraph tests, set up roadblocks and interview suspects in the Brittany Locklear case. No arrest.

Jan. 28 - Sheriff Wayne Byrd says if Brittany's killer is caught, DNA will nail him.

Feb. 4 - Frank Crumpler is Kiwanis Man of the Year.

Twins Jonah and Joshua Pate of Raeford make their mark in Hollywood.

Feb. 11 - The election board sets a hearing after Jim Davis' residency is challenged by citizen Robert Vaughn.

The dam that overlooks Rockfish Road and holds back the two McLauchlin Lakes bursts but causes no problems.

Feb. 18 - County commissioners reinstate public input sessions.

Feb. 25 - Jim Davis begins the first of charges he seems to hurl at random; he says his civil rights have been violated.

March 4 - After Jim Davis's mother tells the election board her son has lived with her since 1944, the board upholds his residency.

March 11 - Commissioners vote against allowing Sprint to erect two cellular towers in western Hoke. In June, they give approval.

March 18 - The Hoke County Law Enforcement Assoc. named Sherwood Allen Faircloth Officer of the Year. The wildlife officer died of cancer at the age of 41 and his wife accepted the award for him.

March 25 - Orlando "Tubby" Smith leads Kentucky to the NCAA championship, trouncing

Duke in the process. Hoke Countians remember him as the head basketball coach at Hoke High from 1977-79.

April 1 - A four-hour workshop looks into Hoke's future, coming away with a sense of direction.

April 8 - Katie Roberson, 71, having undergone the loss of two teenage children in one week, never lost her faith and writes Jesus' name wherever she goes.

April 15 - John McKinnon, North Carolina's oldest Mason, celebrates his 106th birthday.

April 29 - A letter writer says foster parent pay is too low.

May 6 - Four incumbents are unseated in the May primary that one man calls "the biggest change I've seen in 20 years." Jim Davis becomes the first black sheriff and Vera Hollingsworth the first black Clerk of Superior Court.

May 13 - Some not happy with Jim Davis' win in the sheriff's race in the May primary are looking to have Wayne Gardner, chief deputy of the sheriff's department, run in the general election as an unaffiliated candidate.

May 20 - Smith McInnis is given the N.C. Folk Heritage Award for keeping old-time fiddle tunes alive.

May 27 - Hoke firefighters find the Robeson Community College Emergency Services Training Center in Lumberton "as near the real thing as you can get."

June 3 - Supporters get Wayne Gardner's name on the sheriff's race ballot as an unaffiliated candidate.

June 10 - Hoke's first annual Relay for Life raises \$40,000 for cancer research.

June 17 - Sheriff candidate Jim Davis challenges the validity of Gardner's name on the ballot and also calls for an FBI investigation of criminal activity in Hoke.

June 24 - Someone poisoned cows grazing in a field and eight died. No clue as to whom.

July 1 - Commissioners set the ad valorem tax rate for 1989-90 at 75 cents per \$100 valuation.

July 8 - Drought and heat are taking a toll on farmers while firefighters are uneasy.

July 15 - A world class equestrian park is under construction at Five Points in west Hoke.

July 22 - FirstHealth announces plans to build a health facility here.

July 29 - The sheriff's department makes a \$5.8 million drug haul.

Aug. 5 - Jim Davis is arrested in Maryland on charges as he attempts to carry a loaded handgun on board an airplane. Charges are later dropped.

Aug. 12 - James Bernard McLean, 45, is murdered at the store he operated in Duffie. John Edward "Boogie" Blue, 25, and Kish Aaron Harris, 23, are charged.

Aug. 19 - Cameron Village residents in western Hoke are unhappy that the community has been bumped from Phase II to Phase III of the water project.

Aug. 26 - The Carolina Bay complex is placed under the care of the Nature Conservancy.

Sept. 2 - Hoke County Emergency Services Director Al Schwarzbher says lessons were learned even though Hurricane Bonnie veered at the last minute and did not do the damage Hoke was braced for.

Sept. 9 - Hoke County's attorney, Neil Yarbrough of Fayetteville, garners N.C. Attorney of the Year.

Sept. 16 - The state board of elections says there were no improprieties reported in a letter to sheriff candidate Jim Davis and his campaign manager Gregory Thompson.

Sept. 23 - The N.C. Turkey Festival had just wound down when skirmish took place. A Raeford policeman was attacked by a female

and some arrests followed.

Oct. 7 - The county took measures to develop infrastructure plans in order to attract industry.

Oct. 21 - The old Raeford Hotel on South Main is in double trouble. Both foreclosure and condemnation notices are posted on the front door.

Oct. 28 - Voter registration is up by almost 2,000.

Nov. 4 - Raeford #5 precinct sweeps Davis in as Hoke's first black sheriff.

A Superior Court judge found Deputy Frank Hicks used "justifiable deadly physical force" when he shot David Sivak to death on Labor Day 1997. Hicks said he had acted in self defense when Sivak tried to run over him with his van.

Nov. 11 - Farm-City Week stresses the importance of agribusiness.

Nov. 18 - The county sets aside a reserve fund of \$1.8 million for sewer projects in an effort to attract industry.

Nov. 25 - The state Board of Elections decertifies Jim Davis, who allegedly went into voting areas of 11 precincts during voting hours. He was to have been sworn in Dec. 7.

Dec. 2 - Dollar General opens on Hwy. 401 Bypass.

Dec. 9 - Bernice McPhatter, who has been serving as interim county manager and finance director since Mike Wood resigned as manager, is named county manager.

Dec. 16 - The state Board of Elections votes in Raleigh to notify the county BOE to certify Jim Davis as sheriff. The state said Wayne Gardner had not challenged Davis' election. A meeting is set for Jan. 5 to hear grievances.

Dec. 23 - The drama surrounding Davis' election as sheriff continues to unfold. The DA said Davis' charges that threats were made on his life last summer were unfounded; Wayne Byrd's son Robin Byrd is charged with setting fire to the yet-to-be occupied home of Davis' campaign manager Greg Thompson; and Davis is sworn in by Judge Warren Pate, who says, "The process has run its course and Davis has earned the right to be sheriff of this county and all its citizens."

1999

Jan. 6 - The state Board of Elections clears Jim Davis, Hoke's new sheriff, of electioneering charges.

Jan. 13 - Jim Davis asks for an extra \$50,000 in his budget to give the sheriff's office a facelift.

Jan. 20 - On Main Street and in daylight, a man jumps into a woman's car and cuts her on the face, forces her to drive elsewhere, cuts her again and takes her cash.

Jan. 27 - Burlington Industries' restructuring means 475 are out of their jobs.

Feb. 3 - Hoke asks the city for a sewer connection for Silver City residents. The city obliges.

Feb. 10 - Ernest Sutton is Kiwanis Citizen of the Year.

Feb. 17 - Raeford Kiwanis celebrates 75 years of service.

Feb. 24 - An editorial urges politics be kept out of Raeford-Hoke Economic Board.

March 3 - The Raeford-Hoke Crimestoppers program is reactivated.

March 10 - A turn-of-the-century home on Wallace McLean Road goes up in flames. Every fire station in Hoke is called out to battle fires that spread throughout the county as they are whipped by winds.

March 17 - Unifi's closing leaves 143 without jobs.

March 24 - A city-county wastewater treatment pact provides sewer relief to the county.

March 31 - A civil lawsuit filed by the widow

McCain Sanatorium was instrumental in wiping out TB

tMcCain Sanatorium in Montrose in northwestern Hoke played a large role in reducing the number of deaths from tuberculosis in the United States.

Land for the sanatorium was bought in late 1907, and the hospital was built the following year. The choice of Montrose as a site for the hospital is thought to be the doing of attorney Henry Page of Moore County, who was on the site selection committee. Few people wanted a TB sanatorium in their neighborhood, and this beautiful pine-covered area with the highest elevation for miles around was a perfect choice.

The first patient was admitted in 1908, the same year the sanatorium was built. Water was hauled from barrels from the Bethune spring. In 1909, the hospital was closed because of a dwindling water supply. It reopened the following year.

In 1911, the same year Hoke became a county, a new, state-of-the-art building was erected with three windows per room; this allowed patients plenty of fresh air.

The first superintendent was Dr. James Brooks of Greensboro, who was largely responsible for the sanatorium's existence. Dr. L.B. McBrayer replaced him in 1914 with a young assistant, Dr. Paul P. McCain.

A power plant was built in 1915, and running water was pumped to the sana-

torium. The following year a post office was established and the site was called Sanatorium.

From 1915 to 1951, the sanatorium had a training school for nurses. Young women with TB that was under control could study and earn a two-year degree. Nurses were eligible for testing after they'd trained for a year in a hospital in one of the fields of pediatrics, surgery or obstetrics.

In 1924, Dr. McCain became superintendent. Considered the world's foremost expert on lung diseases, Dr. McCain eventually oversaw all of North Carolina's sanatoriums. He was killed in a car wreck in Raleigh in late November of 1946. Services were held at Sanatorium, and the following year the hospital was given his name.

In 1945, there were 750 patients in the sanatorium. Among those were children as McCain was the only TB sanatorium in North Carolina to admit children.

In 1915, the TB death rate was 156.4 per 100,000. In 1965, there were fewer than six deaths per 100,000.

In late Sept. 1983, McCain TB Sanatorium closed its doors to make way for a 300-bed prison hospital. McCain had succeeded in its mission and put itself out of business.

of David Sivak is dropped. A Hoke deputy was cleared in the shooting death of her husband this past December.

April 7 – The state Bureau of Investigation calls on the public to expose Brittany Lynn Locklear's killer. She was snatched as she waited for her school bus, raped and killed.

April 14 – Bobcats have quietly made a comeback in Hoke County.

April 21 – Charlotte Kelly is tapped to lead Democrats after Ben Haddon's resignation. Haddon, who had been sanctioned, said he did not like the direction the party was going.

April 28 – Hoke schools, facing 162 more stu-

dents this year than last year and with increased expenses per student, asks for \$238,000 from the county's upcoming budget.

May 5 – Terrell McIntyre Day is proclaimed here and the basketball standout's jersey is retired.

May 19 – The planning board recommends commissioners stop approving private cemeteries.

May 26 – Hoke's Kathy McMillan, Olympic silver medal winner in the broad jump, is inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame.

June 2 – Travis Wood, a seventh grader at East Hoke Middle, is recognized as one of 15 top students in 15 states in the Southeast, Southwest

and Midwest.

June 9 – Hoke born and raised sculptor, photographer and author Art Gore, best known here for his sculpture in the Hoke Courthouse lobby, dies. The bronze and marble statue shows a soldier's hand emerging from a twisted mass of authentic World War II weapons and reaching for the hand of a child.

June 16 – An 11-year-old girl goes missing from her South Hoke home. Dana Pevia turns up years later in the U.S. Consulate in Mexico with two children. Her boyfriend had forced her to go to Mexico.

June 23 – Raeford Presbyterian Church turns 100 years old.

June 30 – The county adopts a \$16.6 budget, paring taxes by a penny.

July 7 – Hoke picks up a \$3 million grant for water improvements.

July 14 – The first Habitat for Humanity house goes up on Horace Walters Road.

July 21 – Hoke Elections Board members are sworn in with three representing three races: Delbert Minshaw is white, Roman Jacobs is Lumbee Indian and Willie McCaskill Sr. is black.

July 28 – Commissioners okay funding for a sewer line that would connect the county to Fayetteville PWC in Cumberland County.

Aug. 4 – Earl Hendrix is honored as the Southeastern Farmer of the Year for North Carolina.

Aug. 11 – Hoke's teen pregnancy rate is the second highest in the state.

Aug. 18 – A task force targets the shortage of teachers here.

Aug. 25 – G&N Construction renovates a house on North Stewart, a house that is later moved to make way for a new jail. The construction crew is entirely female.

Sept. 1 – Sheriff Jim Davis garners grants of \$220,000.

Sept. 8 – A \$6 million expansion project will almost double Hoke High's space.

Sept. 15 – Hurricane Floyd aims for Hoke.

Sept. 22 – Hoke was in the bull's eye path of Hurricane Floyd but it veered at the last minute, sparing lives and property here.

Sept. 29 – Sheriff Jim Davis forms a Citizens Advisory Board.

Oct. 6 – The city annexes the House of Raeford poultry processing plant.

Oct. 13 – The public has its say at a hearing regarding the purchase of the 2,500 acre tract in western Hoke that will be a habitat for the red-cockaded woodpecker. The land would be taken off Hoke's tax rolls.

Oct. 20 – Hoke High's stadium is named after former superintendent of schools Raz Autry.

Nov. 10 – The county buys 22 acres of land on West Palmer with plans to build a Hoke

governmental complex.

Nov. 17 – An auditor says Hoke is in top shape but does not uncover the fact that County Manager Bernice McPhatter is stealing from the county.

Nov. 24 – Raeford Baptist Church celebrates its first 100 years.

Dec. 1 – The equestrian park at Five Points grooms for the Stoneybrook Steeplechase.

Dec. 8 – House of Raeford is looking at an expansion.

Dec. 15 – Betty Smith is promoted to assistant city manager as gratitude for her 31 years of service.

Dec. 22 – With a moratorium on private cemeteries, the county appoints a committee and begins to sort through its cemetery mess, counting 32 active and inactive graveyards in Hoke.

Dec. 29 – The county and others gear up for YK2 disaster that did not happen.

2000

Jan. 5 – Albert Currie Road residents' complaints about the odor coming from R&W Farms after fields are fertilized by chicken manure and ground up, dead chickens are met with deaf ears.

Jan. 12 – The sheriff's budget is overspent and commissioners implement a hiring freeze even though the HSO is short four deputies. Sheriff Jim Davis says the spending is necessary.

Superintendent Don Steed announces his retirement.

Jan. 19 – Chief Deputy Hubert Peterkin and three deputies quit the sheriff's office.

Jan. 26 – The planning board denies a rezoning request for a nightclub that neighbors say will be topless.

A large snowstorm paralyzes Hoke, closes schools, offices.

Feb. 2 – Longtime Raeford physician Dr. Robert Townsend hangs up his stethoscope.

Peterkin says he will run for sheriff in 2002.

Feb. 9 – James H. "Jake" Austin is named Kiwanis Citizen of the Year.

Feb. 16 – Thieves hold six people at gunpoint and terrorize them for two hours at Ashley Heights Transport.

Feb. 23 – The hiring freeze imposed on the sheriff's office is lifted.

March 8 – A 16-year-old Hoke High student receives a long-time suspension after he writes an English essay describing the murder of his English teacher with whom he has had conflict.

March 15 – A multi-million dollar shopping center is planned for a site at the intersection of Hwy 401 Bypass and Business.

March 22 – A Holden Beach man sends Raeford Volunteer Fire Dept. a check after his life was saved by a stranger. His car, pulling a

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They fought Uncle Sam for us ... and won

It was December 1952 when Hoke citizens learned that Ft. Bragg was about to get a Christmas gift - at Hoke County's expense.

The U.S. Government was planning to create a corridor connecting Ft. Bragg with Camp Mackall. They were looking at taking acreage from Hoke a second time, and that would have been the death knell for the county.

The government had taken 92,000 acres in 1918-23 to expand Camp Bragg into Ft. Bragg. Now they were looking into taking 44,370 more.

Plans were to slash through the county north of Raeford, near Ashley Heights and through west Hoke. Quewhiffle would be isolated from the rest of the county just as Little River Township had been isolated in the first land transfer. (And there went another 20,000 acres when Hoke had to transfer that township to Moore County)

An estimated 2,300 people (432 families) would be transplanted. The irony of this is that many of these people had lost their land some 30 years earlier during the first expansion. Many were farmers, and the land was considered to be some of the best acreage for growing tobacco in the county.

Hoke citizens were mostly kept in the dark about what was happening, but they knew they had to mount a defense. "We are fighting for the existence of our county and have no compromise or terms of surrender," someone wrote.

The first action was to contact Congressman C.B. Deane of Rockingham; the second was to call a meeting of Hoke residents

More than 1,000 citizens braved a cold rain to present a united front. Some who lived in the area that was to be taken formed a landowners group. They were, to the best of our knowledge, Horace Walters, John Parker, Dick Neely, Reuben Webb, Carl Riley, G.W. Ray, Fulford McMillan, and Burnice Williams. Another committee, made up of C.L. Thomas, Robert Gatlin, N.S.A. Balfour, A.V.

Sanders, Harry Greene and Paul Dickson, was headed by J.L. McNeill.

A lawyer was hired, retired Gen. Kenneth Royall, the last Secretary of War under President Truman and who was also a supporter of Republican President Eisenhower. He was perceived as a political ally and he didn't charge too much.

The committee members began their assault, meeting with Army officials and making numerous trips to Washington. "We tried to have someone up there every weekend," Gatlin was quoted as saying.

The Army tried to convince the Hoke County delegation their mission would suffer if they didn't get the land, but Hoke wasn't buying it.

Uncle Sam was prepared to pay less than \$100 an acre, about 66 percent of the value. So sure of their victory, the Army had allocated \$6,047,337 to buy the land. The Hoke committee thought it would cost more than \$22 million to compensate landowners, pay for the McCain Sanatorium, the state land surrounding the sanatorium, and roads and schools.

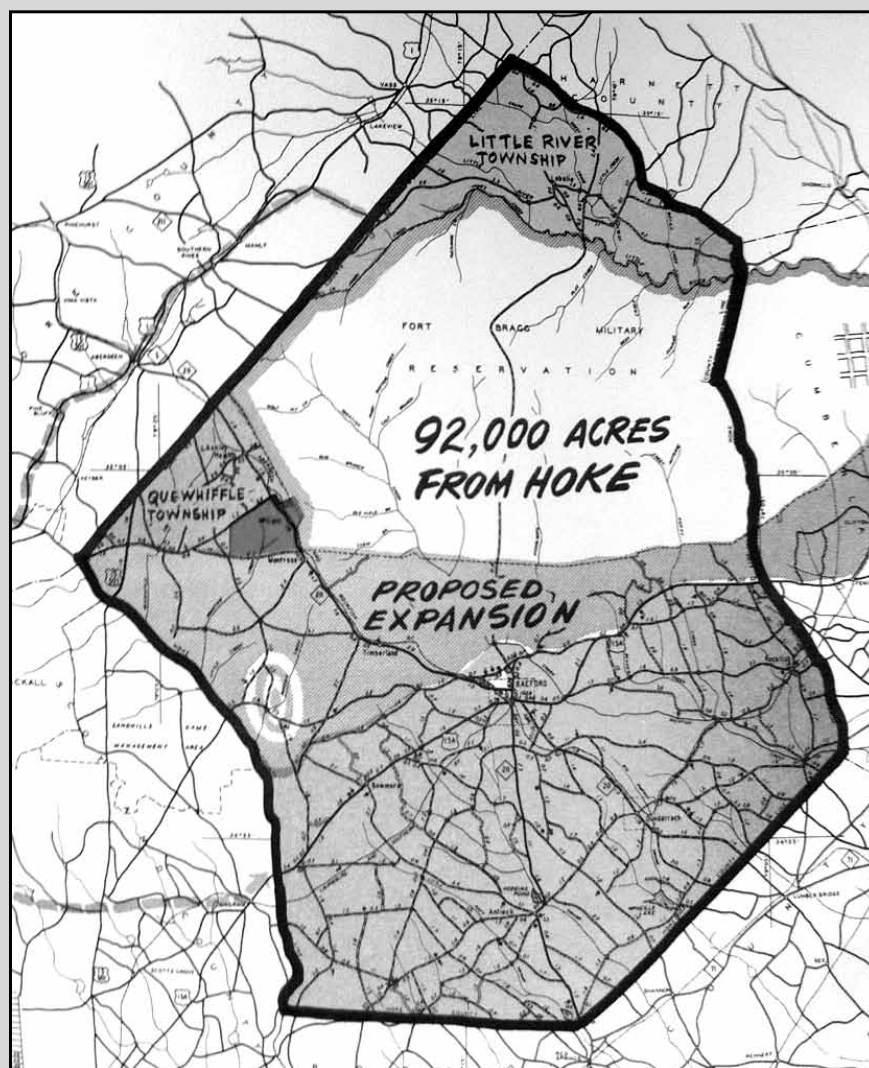
The Hoke committee tried to get the Army interested in a sparsely settled section of Harnett County to the northeast, but the Army said no.

It was a low blow when Thomas A. Young, assistant to the Secretary of the Army, announced the decision to buy the land. Said an angry McNeill, "I'll eat every grain of dirt you get out of Hoke County."

On March 31, 1953, a final meeting was held with Undersecretary of the Army Earl Johnson. In preparation, the delegates worked all night on the floor of The News-Journal to get together a map that showed in detail Hoke's projected losses.

It may have been the map that saved Hoke's land.

The delegates had 20 minutes in which to make their case and every step was planned. They were accompanied by representatives



The presentation of this map saved the day.

of the sanatorium and even carried with them a resolution by the N.C. General Assembly that opposed the land grab.

The Army debated until that fall when Royall heard by word of mouth that the Army had abandoned its plan for Hoke land. The News-Journal published in 72 pointtype on October 29, 1953 this headline,

"No Corridor."

The Fayetteville newspaper had published an editorial voicing its approval of the Hoke land purchase. What a bitter pill to swallow when the Fayetteville paper learned the Army would take 2,781 acres from Cumberland County instead.

boat, struck an I-beam that had fallen in the road. The stranger told the stunned man to get out immediately; his car exploded just seconds later.

March 29 - Ground is broken for the Sandhills Community College Hoke Center.

April 5 - Commissioners Charlie Daniel and Tony Hunt say the amount of unpaid taxes is excessive, totaling almost \$242,000.

April 12 - Tax Collector Judy Pittman says the tax collection department is doing its job, and law restricts her from sending out overdue notices until the year is up. The department also does everything it can to work with delinquent taxpayers to avoid foreclosure.

April 19 - Winnie, a boxer-bulldog mix, wins a national hero's award after she saved two neighboring dogs from starvation. Each time she was fed, she took her full food bowl across the street and set it down in front of the garage door. Her owner found two starving dogs in the garage.

April 26 - A new county complex, planned

for 20 acres outside of Raeford, goes to bid.

May 3 - Tom Squier gets the Extra Mile award and Ireni Autry is chosen to receive the Kay Thomas award at Volunteer Appreciation Night.

May 10 - Mitch Tyler is the schools' new superintendent.

The News-Journal files a civil suit against the county after the paper is denied access to public records.

May 17 - Kristy McMillan Newton, defeating Raeford attorney Harry Southerland, is named the winner in the District Attorney's race for Hoke and Scotland counties. She is the state's youngest DA.

May 24 - Nature Conservancy buys 245 acres off Stubby Oaks Road as a refuge for the red-cockaded woodpecker, on the endangered list. The land is taken off the taxable list.

May 31 - A petition is being circulated that calls for planned county offices to remain in downtown Raeford.

June 7 - The county listens to concerns about new offices leaving downtown and kills plans to build a \$2.5 million complex just outside the city limits.

June 14 - The county's oldest resident, Nancy Ray, dies at age 111.

The city offers to give the old, dilapidated hotel on Main Street to the county.

June 28 - Hoke's Emergency Services sets up a Raeford-Hoke website.

July 5 - A rezoning request allows Federal Express to build a warehouse here.

The Five Points world class equestrian park receives a \$25,000 grant.

July 12 - The county declines the city's gift of the old Raeford hotel.

A Superior Court judge dismisses The News-Journal's suit against the county charging that the county denied the newspaper access to public records. The N.C. Press Association lawyer for The News-Journal had filed the suit under the

wrong statute.

July 26 - Johnny Butler, 53, a Vietnam veteran who is mentally ill, has been missing a year. He wandered away from his mother's home on Pittman Grove Church Road and has not been seen or heard from since.

Aug. 2 - A two-year-old locks himself in his parents' car at their Heritage Village home and dies from the heat. This is the first death of that kind in Hoke County. After an investigation, the parents are charged with involuntary manslaughter.

Aug. 9 - Joan Lunden, TV's "Good Morning America" host, skydives at the Raeford Airport.

Aug. 16 - A national drug task force breaks up a drug smuggling ring that operated in Union and Hoke counties. Twenty-five people are arrested.

Aug. 23 - Toxins from the closed county landfill are found in county wells nearby. The county ignored warnings from the state in the past.

Aug. 30 - The owners of Open Arms plan

Lincoln Graham's recollections of Bowmore

(Written using notes provided by Lincoln Graham on 6-13-08)

I am the fourth child and fourth son born into a family of five boys and one girl, children of Matthew and Katie McKeithan Graham. I was born and grew up in Bowmore, North Carolina during a time when many changes were looming on the horizon. It was still a farming community but many were beginning to move to other areas in search of their niche in life.

There were several stores in Bowmore; Tom and Minnie Graham McLaughlin owned a store, a man named Parks owned a store at the corner of U.S. 401 and Gibson Road, a Mr. Long operated a store near where Bill McQuage eventually opened a store further north on U.S. 401, but the store we identify with most closely is the Buddy Ellis store and filling station he opened when he returned to the area after living in New York for a while. Mack Evans operated a small confectionery near his home across the street from Bowmore School where he catered mostly to schoolchildren.

There was a blacksmith shop in Bowmore owned by Uncle Tom McLaughlin. Great Grandpa Richard Graham owned a cotton gin, which Grandpa Ed Graham probably operated for a period after Great Grandpa Richard's death.

I remember Grandpa Ed and Grandma Julia almost as well as if it was yesterday. When my mother and father had to go someplace where it was not convenient to have their children in tow, we were left at Grandma's. She always had plenty of good eats and there was plenty of fruit and nuts in season. All were grown on their farm.

Grandma was very strict about things that we were told not to do, but if we behaved properly she would give us anything we asked for. Grandpa liked to tease and he would play a little, and most of the time he let Grandma provide the discipline, and if you had not done as you were told she would do a job on you.

I remember playing in the old cotton gin building as a child. Most of the machinery was still in place, and there was a several stories high building as seed house where the seed went after the lint and seed were separated.

Of course the gin was not operating when I played there, and I do not know when its operation ceased. My Father used the old seed house as a barn after the ginning operations were discontinued. Finally the ginning machinery was dismantled and removed from the buildings. That was a sad time.

I remember the old King Wall House as it was called in the early 1920s. The last family that I remember that lived there was a Mr. Robinson. I think my father called him Bud Robinson. I knew a Johnny Robinson who used to come to visit my two older brothers along with Mr. Jim McLeod's oldest son James. James McLeod used to work for "Old Man Long" who had a store in Bowmore. He operated the store for a very short time.

Grandpa had a mule that did not pull a plow as I can remember. He would hook her up to a one-horse wagon, which had seats in it, and we would go to the Sandhills to see Great Grandpa Peter and Great Grandma Hester in this wagon. They would let my cousin Thornton Priest and me sit on the front bench and hold Old Ella's reins while she took us to the Sandhills and back with only a tug on the reins, which let her know we were ready to travel.

The worst thing about our visit to Grandpa's was when Uncle Arlington would hold you and make you listen to his singing and piano playing. His singing and playing was real bad. But all in all, visiting Grandpa and Grandma was fun.

After Luke and Charlotte Purcell separated he moved to a house at the corner of 401 and McNeill Farm Rd. He always grew the best watermelons, and we loved to visit and have him share his melons.

Walls Chapel Church was constructed of wood and rested on brick pillars. The church had two front entrances reached by walking

up wooden steps. I think it was constructed that way so that one entrance was for women and one was for men.

Most of the people who lived in Bowmore were kinfolk. I did not know how all were related but the old folks would always say, "They are kinfolk."

Uncle Peter and Aunt Margaret Love were two of the "kinfolk" who lived on what is now Graham Road.

Uncle Tom McLaughlin always wore white dress shirts and used an elastic band on each arm above his elbow to keep his sleeves from touching his hands. Uncle Tom owned a beautiful black horse, which he used to pull his buggy. The harness and buggy were always clean and well polished.

Uncle John Dunk had a gray mare, which he used to pull his buggy. He was as particular about the care and treatment of his horse and buggy as was Uncle Tom. One of the stories I heard about Uncle John Dunk was that he decided to drive one of his cars, which was usually driven by one of his boys. Unfortunately, Uncle John Dunk had taken one of his nips so the car ended up in a ditch. A passerby offered to help in getting the car back on the road. His comment was "the car got in the ditch by itself so it can get out without help." (If the story is true, I imagine the logic was generated by his "nip.")

After the farm economy began to decline during the 1920s people left Bowmore and went to Newport News, Va., and New York City looking for work. Many returned, some remained in the city and other relatives joined them. After my retirement I came back to the area and made my home in Fayetteville, and rekindled strong social and religious ties to Bowmore groups.

I am now one of the senior members of our Graham and McLaughlin families, and I am sharing these anecdotes related to our family so that younger family members may know how rich their heritage is. —Grandma's Family, compiled by John C. Kelly Sr., edited by John C. Kelly Jr.

give a 21-gun salute to a comrade, Johnny Butler, whose remains were found after he went missing for more than a year.

Jan. 24 — John David McAllister is honored by having his name on the recent addition to Hoke High. He spent 37 years as an educator and 12 years on the school board.

Jan. 31 — Almost half of Hoke citizens are living below the living income standard.

Feb. 7 — John Jordan is Hoke's Citizen of the Year.

Raeford Mayor Bob Gentry announced work on a truck bypass will be constructed to the south and west of the city.

Feb. 14 — Sheriff Jim Davis takes Brittany Locklear's family in for questioning even though they had already been cleared of any involvement in the little girl's 1995 death.

Feb. 21 — The county mourns the loss of L.E. McLaughlin, commissioner since 1990 and chairman of the board five times. He died of cancer at the age of 78.

Feb. 28 — Raeford finalizes plans for its centennial celebration to be held in 2005.

March 7 — Citing sewer costs, the city puts the brakes on expansion.

March 14 — A budget crisis forces county cutbacks.

March 21 — Democrats choose former city councilman Clyde Thomas Jr. to fill the late L.E. McLaughlin's commissioner seat, but commissioners split 2-2 on the nomination.

March 28 — Low wealth counties come out on top as Judge Howard Manning orders reallocation of money to aid students in poor counties.

Hoke is the third fastest growing county in the state.

April 4 — A second vote to fill a county board vacancy fails, while Commissioner Charles V. Daniels' service station business is boycotted by a group because he did not cast a favorable vote for Clyde Thomas Jr.

Hoke has four tense days as two men go on a crime spree and shoot a Scotland County deputy multiple times before they surrender.

April 11 — Linda's Child Care's license is suspended after sexual abuse alleged.

April 18 — Superior Court Clerk Vera Hollingsworth chooses Cleo Bratcher to fill the late L.E. McLaughlin's county commissioner seat, thus ending a stalemate.

April 25 — Charles Robin Byrd is convicted of setting fire to Greg Thompson's house, is given prison time.

May 9 — Cleo Bratcher is elected chairman of the county board.

May 16 — McKenzie Hicks and Ashley N. Davis are Hoke High's valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

May 23 — Raeford begins its 100th birthday celebration with a parade.

Boats are to be built in the old Unifi building in Raeford, and the company begins moving but...

May 30 — The school board meets in a special session to pare its budget at the request of the county.

June 6 — A state audit shows that federal grants for FY 1999-2000 budget were misused by the county. The money must be returned.

June 20 — Citizens speak out for more money for law enforcement.

June 27 — Caring residents come through for little Sammy Sosa and fund artificial eyes for the toddler, who lost his eyes to malignant tumors.

July 4 — The county moves forward with plans to build a new \$3.5 million health center on West Palmer Street.

July 11 — Commissioners request an investigation into how grant money was spent.

July 18 — County Manager Bernice McPhatter

to build a new \$2 million complex.

Sept. 6 — The State Bureau of Investigation determines there is no corruption among local officials as charged by Sheriff Jim Davis.

The Hoke High stadium is dedicated to former schools superintendent Raz Autry.

Sept. 20 — Schools superintendent Mitch Tyler holds public forums to hear what is wrong and right with the school system.

Sept. 27 — The Mildouson School near Dundarrach goes up in flames. The school was built in the 1920s on land donated by Z.V. Pate. It was named after Carson Chason, Charlie McDougald and Grover McMillan, who lost their lives in World War I. At the time the building burned, it was leased by a church.

Oct. 4 — Citing air space dangers, commissioners say "no" to a cellular tower that would have been 1.3 miles from the Raeford Airport.

Oct. 11 — Unilever Home and Personal Care

is expanding and will bring in 70-80 more jobs.

Oct. 18 — Alma DeLuca Pecora came to the United States from Italy on a ship with her family before her seventh birthday. The mother of Coach John Pecora, she celebrates her 100th birthday in Raeford.

Nov. 1 — David McLeod "Dave" Barrington, Hoke sheriff for 25 years, dies at age 67. He was 28 years old when he took the oath in 1962, the youngest sheriff to be sworn in.

Nov. 8 — Burlington Industries' gift of \$20,000 will buy computers for Sandhills Community College's Hoke Center.

Nov. 22 — The Blue Springs Development Corp. asks to partner with Hoke County and is turned down.

Nov. 29 — Two teachers receive minor injuries when they try to break up a fight among students on the Hoke High campus. Two students are charged.

Dec. 6 — The bones of Johnny Butler, 52 at the time of his death, and missing since July a year ago, are found by a hunter just a few yards from Rockfish Road over Thanksgiving. Family members are angry at Sheriff Jim Davis because it was a week after the discovery that they were notified.

Dec. 20 — Jones Store in Raeford closes its doors.

Dec. 27 — Firefighters eat smoke on Christmas Day as a fire that was burning gift wrapping and ribbons goes out of control.

2001

Jan. 3 — Western Auto, serving customers for 64 years, closes its doors.

Jan. 10 — A survey concludes demands on schools are increasing.

Jan. 17 — Marines gave up Christmas leave to

leads the way in wage increases while E-911 officers check to see if she misused funds targeted for E-911.

July 25 – Commissioner James Leach says commissioners – not McPhatter – are to blame for the county having to return \$93,000 plus interest in C.O.P.S. grant money. The Governor's Crime Commission says that's not the case.

Aug. 1 – E-911 money was misspent and must be returned, an audit says.

Aug. 8 – With residents' faith in county

government shaken regarding two cases of misspent money that had to be returned, commissioners Charlie Daniels and Bobby Wright push for changes.

Aug. 15 – Schools get a \$125,000 grant to establish a Community Technology Training Center

at West Hoke Middle School.

Aug. 22 – Commissioners ask for an outside audit of the county's finances.

Sheriff Jim Davis writes President George

Bush about Hoke "corruption," calls for the resignation of McPhatter and county attorney Neil Yarborough.

Aug. 29 – Hoke's regular auditor finds "gaps" in bank records that prevent him from completing the county's audit.

Sept. 5 – County Manager Bernice McPhatter holds her job without a contract to protect her from termination.

Sept. 12 – Hoke reacts with prayer for victims of the terrorist attack on the twin towers of New York City.

Sept. 19 – Spirits are lifted with the 17th annual N.C. Turkey Festival.

Sept. 26 – Volunteers return from helping in the World Trade Center's catastrophe; firefighters collect \$30,000.

Oct. 3 – The community loses its oldest citizen, Johnny McKinnon, who was 109.

Oct. 10 – Sandhills Community College dedicates Upchurch Hall here, named for Wyatt and Mary Upchurch who donated the land the campus is on.

Oct. 17 – County Manager Bernice McPhatter quits after being questioned about possible embezzlement. Former health center chief Don Womble is named interim manager, then quits.

Sheriff Jim Davis cites for a traffic violation his opponent Hubert Peterkin, who used to be his chief deputy.

Oct. 24 – Cleo Bratcher, Bernice McPhatter's brother, names himself acting county manager.

Oct. 31 – Five young brothers give up their vacation money to support terrorist attack victims' families.

Nov. 7 – Former schools superintendent Don Steed is named interim county manager.

Nov. 14 – Wyatt Upchurch is named Business

Person of the Year by the Center for Entrepreneurship at Methodist College.

Nov. 21 – Burlington Industries files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

The Five Points horse park gets a \$200,000 grant.

Nov. 28 – Tom Squier receives the 2001 Nancy Susan Williams award for race relations.

Dec. 5 – The deal falls through and a boat factory moves on to another port instead of relocating in Raeford.

Dec. 12 – Congressional state house and senate redistricting plans delay election filing.

In the second month of investigating allegations of embezzling by former county manager Bernice McPhatter, an SBI probe interferes with normal business.

Dec. 19 – Shirley Rush, finance director caught up in the probe of Bernice McPhatter and on leave with pay, is given a temporary job as assistant transportation director.

Dec. 26 – Sheriff candidate Hubert Peterkin is cleared of traffic violation charges made by Sheriff Jim Davis.

2002

Jan. 2 – The county wants compensation for the revenue lost when 2,400 acres, known as the Calloway Tract, is taken off the tax books as a nature conservancy.

The county ranks high in Ft. Bragg's land use plan as Hoke applies to the prevention of encroachment on the reservation that would compromise training there.

Jan. 9 – A county audit finds credit card abuse by 14 county employees and elected officials.

Jan. 16 – Burlington eliminates 400 jobs.



Hoke Drug Co. dates back to 1911 when the McPherson Brothers Drug Co. opened in the C.J. Benner Building. In 1912 it was moved to the corner of Main and Elwood, and S.P. McPherson and Frank S. Blue renamed it Hoke Drug Co.

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Jan. 23 – The city asks the county to “forgive” taxes owed by them for the Spanco/Unif building owned by the city.

Jan. 30 – In a daring, daylight ambush, men stand behind a school bus that is stopped to let off children and shoot into a crowd of young men in Robbins Heights, killing one. Arrests are made and it turns out the young man who died was not the intended victim.

Mike Wood is called back to be county manager.

Feb. 6 – Both county and city are losers in the \$350,000 tax bill owed by Burlington Industries.

Feb. 13 – The sale of the Calloway Tract as a nature preserve will eventually cost the county \$25 million.

Feb. 20 – Raeford loses a police officer, and the entire county loses a valuable member of the Hoke County Rescue Squad when Cliff Stauffer is killed in a traffic accident.

Feb. 27 – State cuts, Medicaid deficits, tax losses are some of the reasons Hoke faces a budget shortfall.

March 6 – Once again the community is devastated by the loss of a valued citizen. Schools Superintendent Mitch Tyler dies suddenly. Allen Strickland is named interim superintendent and is later given the job permanently.

The state demands corrective action after it receives the county audit seven months late and chides commissioners for not staying on top of things.

March 13 – A \$2 million assisted living complex, Open Arms Retirement Center, opens.

March 20 – Commissioner Charlie Daniels and Sheriff Jim Davis spar over the personal use of patrol cars. Months later the sheriff and commissioners reach a compromise.

March 20 – Money that would help Sheriff Jim Davis establish a drug task force and outfit and train it is in limbo until the McPhatter controversy is over.

April 3 – Facing a \$1 million shortfall, county commissioners hope to avoid a tax hike.

April 10 – An eight-year class action civil lawsuit initiated by Hoke is won. The state must give the same education to students in low wealth counties as it does to those in high wealth counties. The state appeals.

April 17 – The historic McFadyen-McLaughlin House will be home to a museum for the history of Raeford and Hoke.

April 24 – The sheriff “fines” a deputy \$1,000 and his method of discipline gets the commissioners’ attention. Later, the sheriff and the county manager butt heads over the same issue.

May 8 – Burlington Industries is denied a reduction in taxes by the Board of Equalization and Review.

May 15 – A Rockfish mother and her young daughter, Angie Darnell and Logan, drown in a flood in West Virginia.

May 22 – Controversy continues to dog the sheriff. Chief Mack High accuses him of stalling a murder investigation, and Davis says he questions the integrity of those who first investigated the Brittany Locklear murder, says he has a new witness.

Sheriff Davis is injured in a wreck on Hwy. 401 at the Hoke-Cumberland line, will be out of work indefinitely.

May 29 – Attorney Harry Southerland refuses to pay the county the money he spent for a trip to D.C. he made after he was no longer a contracted employee with the county.

June 12 – The new museum opens its doors to visitors.

June 19 – Green Beret Sgt. 1st Class Peter Tycz II dies in a plane crash in Afghanistan.

June 26 – Overall, crime is up in Hoke; violent

crime decreases.

July 3 – Sam Morris, The News-Journal’s “Around Town” columnist, dies. He was involved in every aspect of life in the city and county to include serving as a city councilman, serving the Democratic party, helping to start the Raeford-Hoke Museum, teaching Sunday school, working for United Way, and other civic involvement projects.

July 17 – Hoke’s water supply is in peril due to drought.

July 24 – John G. Balfour, cotton farmer and former commissioner chair, dies.

A Moore County judge removes James Leach, a county commissioner and a candidate for the House, from being the executor of an elderly woman’s estate because of alleged misuse of cash and property.

July 31 – James Leach withdraws from the House race.

Aug. 7 – Dr. Karen Smith is recognized for her work with minority men.

The sheriff and the county are at odds over the repair of patrol cars. Davis says he doesn’t trust the county-contracted garage, says they misappropriated funds. A&J Repairs refuses to return cars until bills are paid and the county pays.

County officials and the state Bar Association scrutinizes attorney Harry Southerland’s handling of county foreclosures.

Aug. 21 – After a 10-month investigation, former county manager Bernice McPhatter is indicted; investigators say she embezzled \$269,000 over a nine-year period.

Aug. 28 – The SBI is investigating allegations that ex-county attorney Harry Southerland misappropriated county funds for his own use.

Sept. 4 – A press conference called by Sheriff Davis angers Brittany Locklear’s mother, who says he is just using her dead little girl to help get him reelected. Wayne Byrd said the same a week prior.

Sept. 11 – In a delayed primary election, Hubert Peterkin won the Democrat spot for Hoke sheriff. He will face Robert Crull as a Republican opponent.

Vera Hollingsworth, who was the first African-American to be elected clerk of court, retains her seat.

Sept. 18 – The elections board dismissed complaints by Christina Davis-McCoy claiming election day violations. She appealed to the state, who agreed with the county.

Sept. 25 – The county, wishing to recover losses from the alleged embezzlement of former county manager Bernice McPhatter, submits a bond claim of almost \$270,000.

Oct. 2 – The city is no longer on the state’s blacklist of sewerage violators.

Oct. 16 – Timothy Jordan and William Barefoot are found guilty of shooting Scotland County Detective Dan Scamperle several times while on a crime spree in March 2001. Barefoot, 38, was sentenced to a minimum of 60 years in prison, and Jordan, 19, to a minimum of 52 years. Barefoot later escaped from custody and was caught four days later.

Oct. 30 – The county orders an equipment audit before a new sheriff takes office.

Nov. 6 – Hubert Peterkin wins over Republican Robert Crull.

Nov. 20 – The Nature Conservancy buys land, 88.5 acres northeast of Raeford.

Nov. 27 – The ladies at Mt. Elim make quilts the old-fashioned way for charity.

Dec. 4 – The swearing in of Hubert Peterkin heralds a “new era” of law enforcement.

Dec. 11 – An ice storm drops limbs and trees and kills power.

Dec. 18 – The loss of \$500,000 creates a

crisis for Hoke schools.

Finance director Shirley Rush is fired by county commissioners.

Della Maynor-Bowen retires as register of deeds after 30 years. She was the first Native American in the state to gain that office.

Dec. 25 – A shake-down of the county jail turns up wine, weapons and other unsafe conditions.

Raeford Patrolman Ronnie Morrissey earns the J. Edgar Hoover Gold Medal.

2003

The state Dept. of Commerce and the military had hoped to get the Joint Land Use Plan (JLUS) adopted by the state legislature this past April.

But the plan, drawn up by the Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base Regional Land Use Advisory Commission, never got to the General Assembly - in part because of opposition from both Raeford and Hoke County officials who say Hoke can’t bear to lose more land to restricted development without compensation.

The JLUS calls for a buffer of land near and around the borders of Fort Bragg, and most of that acreage is in Hoke. In response, Hoke and Raeford developed their own Hoke Preservation committee with a plan to stop the JLUS proceedings and work with the NCDOT and the military to better serve both agencies. By the end of the year, it appeared a compromise could be reached that would benefit both the military installations and Hoke citizens.

The impact the JLUS would have here and efforts by local leaders to look after the interests of Hoke residents is our top story of the year.

The second top story is the trial and conviction of former county manager Bernice McPhatter for embezzling almost \$300,000 from Hoke taxpayers over a period of seven years.

The choice for third top story is made up of the problems and proposed solutions for Hoke’s jail coupled with the escape of four prisoners who were later apprehended.

One of the optimistic occurrences of 2003 includes the furtherance in the courts of the Leandro vs. North Carolina low wealth education lawsuit ranking high as a top story, but a final decision on the state’s appeal has yet to be handed down. Also at the top are the promises of Hoke’s participation in the state’s 21st Century Community program and the stabilization of jobs at Burlington Industries after the company was sold and pulled out of bankruptcy.

Additionally, inroads were made in stopping illegal drug trafficking within Hoke’s borders. City and county officers worked together on 16 drug raids and arrests including some described as kingpins. Early in January, Audrey Dean McGirt, the owner of Ashley Heights Trucking, was sentenced to more than 30 years in federal prison following her conviction of running an international drug trafficking operation.

These happenings are followed closely by stories of loss and gain: the loss of Raeford’s beloved mayor of 13 years, Bob Gentry, to a heart attack in October; the return to her family from Mexico of Dana Pevia, who was 11 when she was taken from her bus stop four years ago; the activation and deployment to Fort Stewart, Georgia of some approximately 450 troops of the HHQ Co., 105th Engineer Battalion out of Raeford, who are to leave in February in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and the resignation of Raeford Police Chief Mack High followed by the appointment of his second in command, Kevin Locklear, as police chief.

Joint Land Use Study

At a hearing in April, commissioners voted

3-2 to reject the JLUS as presented.

One of JLUS’s most damaging proposals would restrict land use to one dwelling per 10 acres within a one-mile radius of the military boundaries. Approximately 21,000 of Hoke’s acres is involved in restrictions. Fort Bragg and state Dept. of Commerce authorities hope legislators will pass the JLUS into law in 2004.

The JLUS was just one aspect of a two-pronged approach to use Hoke land for its own purposes. In partnership with the military, the Nature Conservancy was buying up land that restricted development and provided habitats for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, which greatly restricts training at Fort Bragg.

Consisting of community leaders and local volunteers, Hoke Preservation is studying ways to improve Hoke’s “no-win” situation to one of “win-win” for both Hoke and Bragg.

Both commissioners and Raeford’s city council passed a 17-point resolution outlining local concerns and compensation requests that will be presented to the Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base Regional Land Use Advisory Commission for their consideration.

McPhatter conviction

In November, a Cumberland County jury found former Hoke county manager Bernice McPhatter guilty of embezzling and forgery and uttering of nearly \$270,000 of taxpayer money. She was sentenced to six to 8.4 years in prison with no chance for probation.

After 10 hours and 25 minutes of deliberation, the jury entered a unanimous verdict against McPhatter, 47, who also formerly served as Hoke’s finance director. She had been indicted by a Hoke County Grand Jury in August 2002. District Attorney Kristy M. Newton said Hoke officials gave McPhatter the most powerful and prestigious position in the county, and she “betrayed” them.

McPhatter, who is serving her time in Central Prison, a maximum security facility in Raleigh, stole from the county by simply writing checks out to herself and depositing them in her personal account from 1994 until her resignation in October 2001. During a two-year period, she deposited more than \$370,000 into her own account - while making between \$80,000 and \$85,000 in annual salary. The checks she wrote, signing commissioners’ and the former county manager’s name, ranged from \$1,000 to \$25,000.

McPhatter did not testify during her trial and her attorney, Greg Thompson, presented no defense. During closing arguments, he said evidence showed McPhatter had been “used” by the county.

More than 35 witnesses - including former and current commissioners - testified in the trial that was moved from Hoke because of pre-trial publicity here.

McPhatter’s resignation on October 11, 2001 ended a 20-year career with the county that began when she was hired as a clerk. She resigned on October 11, 2001 after some suspicious commissioners called for a “full and complete” audit, and one of the checks she had written to herself was uncovered.

Finance Director Shirley Rush was indicted in August 2002 for accessory after the fact in connection with the embezzlement because she allegedly accepted a check from McPhatter to replace the found check. She is still awaiting a trial date on that charge.

In December, McPhatter’s husband, Malcolm McPhatter, asked that she be compensated for more than \$46,000 for annual leave and sick days. Commissioners unanimously turned down his request.

The county has been almost completely

compensated for the embezzled amount through bonding and insurance. McPhatter was ordered by the court to pay \$500 in restitution, representing the amount of the insurance deductible. Because of the embezzlement claim, county insurance rates are expected to increase in July.

Jail problems

Problems with the Hoke County Detention Center are carried over into 2004 with a jail study commission formed by local leaders to "immediately" address concerns about overcrowding and understaffing.

The N.C. Prisoner Legal Services said conditions at the jail threaten the safety of inmates and the guards who supervise them. "Inadequate staffing, coupled with seriously crowded conditions, has grave implications beyond the risk of escapes from or violence within the jail. Jail and detention inspection reports show that the problems and deficiencies we observed during our tour are serious and long-standing," Michael S. Hamden, executive director of the NCPL, wrote of the facility that had begun housing female inmates for the first time since the jail opened in 1967.

Representatives of the state organization toured the local facility in early November following a jailbreak of four inmates on October 28, all of whom were subsequently recaptured. In the annex, site of the jailbreak, a booth was supposed to be monitored by a fourth jailer. It remained unmanned during the escape because of continued understaffing, according to Hoke Sheriff Hubert Peterkin. While it was initially reported the escapees left through a window, in reality, they had walked through an unlocked door. Peterkin blasted commissioners for not giving him the jailer slots he had asked for. Commissioners have since allocated two more jailer positions although Peterkin asked for four.

Three of the escapees, Hector Noel Mojarro Frausto, 23; Christopher Damien Handon, 22; and Steven Ray Locklear, 20, were apprehended near Atlanta, Georgia and returned to Hoke after more than a week of freedom.

A fourth escapee, John Shannon Phillips, 32, was apprehended the day after the escape when he allegedly attempted to shoplift a pair of shoes at a Raeford store.

Stay tuned...

This past year saw the beginning of construction of Hoke Landing, a shopping plaza east of Raeford. Housing a MiCasa Mexican Restaurant, a Domino's Pizza, a Subway, a Family Dollar store, and a Chinese restaurant, the multi-million dollar Hoke Landing shopping center is to be completed on March 3, according to developer Joe Riddle.

The new year also finds the city-owned former Bluemont/Raeford Hotel in the same condition as in 2003, still dilapidated and abandoned with both the city and the Downtown Revitalization Commission hoping someone will come along and renovate it. Bob Murphrey of N.C. Small Town Development told city councilmen the building, constructed in 1926, can and should be saved. "Renovating the hotel is more financially advantageous than tearing it down," he said.

2004

Jan. 7 – City manager Mike McNeill retires.
Jan. 14 – City and county support four key development projects to enhance economic and living conditions here as a part of the 21st Century Community Program.

Hoke senior citizen Evelyn Price is the Lumber River Agency Area on Aging Volunteer of the Year.

Jan. 21 – Consultants tell Hoke to build a new jail as overcrowding and inadequate conditions will only worsen as the population grows.

Jan. 28 – The city fines House of Raeford and puts the plant under the supervision of the city's public works director.

Feb. 4 – Nature Conservancy buys the rights to 689 acres bordering Ft. Bragg. The owners will retain the property but development is restricted. The goal is to prevent the post from encroachment.

Kiwanis name Tom Squier and Mike Lucas for honors.

Feb. 11 – Two new schools at a cost of \$19 million are needed to keep pace with growth.

Feb. 18 – The county is to hire a planner to help cope with growth.

Feb. 25 – The land use plan that would provide a buffer against encroachment of Ft. Bragg is shelved; the Pentagon prefers voluntary conservation measures.

March 3 – Local National Guardsmen deploy to fight in war in Iraq.

March 10 – A second Food Lion opens in Hoke, this one where cotton fields used to be, where Highways 401 Bypass and 401 Business meet.

March 17 – The city approves the first phase of a \$2 million streetscape for Raeford's downtown.

March 31 – In a low wealth lawsuit, a judge orders the state to give Hoke schools money.

April 7 – The state says it has no money to give to Hoke's school system immediately.

April 14 – Connie Chavis, mother of 5-year-old Brittany Locklear, who was snatched from her bus stop Jan. 5, 1995, raped and murdered, goes on the Montell Williams Show and is subjected to hypnosis.

May 5 – John Mims, 81, Bataan Death March survivor, who was also a POW of the Japanese for four years, treks eight miles at the Death Memorial March in White Sands, New Mexico. His goal is to bring attention to the soldiers who fought and died in the Philippines.

May 12 – The county's jail expansion plan will block off Edinborough Ave.

May 19 – Congressman Robin Hayes seeks to have the Raeford Post Office renamed in honor of the late Robert "Bob" Gentry, Raeford's mayor at the time of his death.

May 26 – Hoke planner Linda Revels becomes the first Native American to head the Southeastern Economic Development Commission.

June 2 – The state Dept. of Public Instruction drags its feet on Hoke's request for an eight percent supplement for teachers last year.

June 9 – A cockfight raid nets 150 men, women and children on Edinborough Road.

June 16 – Turlington Alternative School may expand to take in sixth graders, currently is 7th-12th.

June 23 – A mega-site industrial park gets a \$40,000 boost from the Golden LEAF Foundation; the money would go toward purchase.

June 30 – Attorney Harry Southerland, a member of the Hoke school board, is barred from practicing law in North Carolina.

July 14 – Unilever closes its aerosol division, and 80 employees may face layoffs by February.

July 21 – The state says the Raeford sewer plant needs to clean up its act.

Upchurch Elementary becomes the first Hoke school to garner a School of Excellence award.

July 28 – State Superior Judge Howard Manning gives the state a two-week deadline to come up with money for low wealth education.

Aug. 4 – The Supreme Court hands Hoke a victory in the education lawsuit, says the state must educate students equally, whether they are

in a high wealth or a low wealth county.

Aug. 11 – The ABC scores show Hoke schools are progressing.

Hoke schools will end their year-round schools; not all were on the program.

Aug. 18 – Burlington's civilian market suffers from foreign competition, and 70 employees are laid off.

Sept. 1 – The Hoke Health Center groundbreaking is held.

Sept. 8 – A 13-year-old kidnapped girl is found in South Carolina after an Amber Alert is issued. The man who kidnapped her, a family friend, is charged.

Hoke's SAT average slips 34 points in 2004.

The Vietnam miniature Moving Wall with the names of the dead etched in stone comes to Raeford.

Sept. 22 – A Vietnam veteran leaving after he volunteered at the Moving Wall on display in Raeford is killed in an accident. The truck driver who caused the accident is Vietnamese.

Sept. 29 – Senator David Weinstein prepares a bill that would allow gambling at the annual Stoneybrook Steeplechase.

Oct. 6 – The county gets half a million for new jobs.

Oct. 13 – Sandhills Community College is to expand here. Construction of a \$1.5 million facility is to start this coming summer.

Oct. 20 – Hoke gets a \$1 million grant to aid in development. The county is a 21st century "poster child."

Oct. 27 – The Raeford Post Office is dedicated to the late Mayor Robert "Bob" Gentry.

William Glenn Barefoot, considered dangerous, escapes from custody, is facing 84 years in prison time.

Nov. 3 – John K. McNeill III is chosen to be Raeford's mayor.

Nov. 10 – After a two-week manhunt, Barefoot is captured.

Nov. 17 – Schools take a second look at the calendar after teachers protest the end of year-round schools here.

Nov. 24 – Downtown development gets a federal grant of \$150,000.

Dec. 1 – A Hillcrest convenience store's third robbery in a year turns deadly, and a 53-year-old disabled clerk is fired.

Dec. 15 – McCain Correctional Hospital, picked from 500 prison hospitals, is named the nation's top prison hospital.

Dec. 22 – A county cell phone audit prompts changes. Excessive personal use is discovered.

The city fines House of Raeford \$13,000 for a spill. The plant shuts down temporarily to avoid the waste from going in Rockfish Creek.

Dec. 29 – Arson is suspected when a Christmas Eve fire razes Z.V. Pate warehouses on St. Pauls Road.

2005

It took 10 years for Hoke Schools to win a class action victory in the courts for more financing from the state for education.

The Supreme Court ruling in Leandro vs. North Carolina this year established the right of every child in the state to "the equal opportunity to receive a sound basic education." That ruling underlined the responsibility of the state to ensure that end.

Yet, 2005 ends with the students of Hoke seeing few identifiable results from the ruling as the needed finances are slow in coming. A shortage of teachers continues in spite of programs designed to bring more qualified teachers into the system. In addition, Hoke schools are looking

at an influx of students from military families relocating to Fort Bragg and are attempting to find room for them in the system.

That is why The News-Journal has identified the needs of the schools as the top story of 2005.

Coming in as close seconds are the "aggressive building mode" of the county and the renovation of downtown Raeford.

Responding to pressure from state officials, the county hashed out plans to expand the jail at a cost of \$7 million. The sheriff's office will move from its cramped quarters behind the courthouse to a renovated health center on Central Avenue. Meanwhile, construction of a new \$2.8 million health center on Palmer Street is underway and expected to be completed in February. County commissioners have also made preliminary plans for a new recreation center at \$2 million and a new agriculture center that is expected to cost \$4 million. Also in the plans are a new animal shelter.

Main Street is still partially torn up as streetscape plans for a new look for downtown are underway. After years of efforts to save the old and abandoned Raeford Hotel, the six-story historic building fell to the wrecking ball in early May and a vacant lot is left in its place.

Work on the \$2.5 million streetscape includes new sidewalks, curbs and gutters, landscaping, the moving of electricity lines, burying of cable and TV lines and the resurfacing of streets over a nine-month period.

While county officials hope expected growth in Hoke plus new tax valuations will pay for planned county buildings, there are no plans for new schools. Plans are to add 20 more mobile huts to accommodate the predicted influx.

Hoke's school enrollment gains 500 per year, and at least 1,143 students will come to Hoke in the 2010-11 school year.

Jobs come, jobs go

In business news of the past year, Clean Burn Fuels, LLC announced plans for a \$100 million ethanol-gas blending plant at the Hoke Regional Industrial Park on Highway 20 in Dundarrach. A visit by county officials to one such plant in Illinois quelled fears that the operation would be too odiferous for its neighbors. The proposed plant is expected to initially hire 100 employees.

The 1,400-acre industrial park was state certified in February. Owned by the Z.V. Pate family, the property is listed in a five-year option contract with the county for purchase.

On the employment downside, Burlington announced layoffs of 200 employees in July, and Unilever announced in October 50 employees would be let go.

While some new business construction is underway in the Raeford area, Lafayette Ford closed its doors in January. Long-standing Montrose Motorcross closed in western Hoke, but the 145-acre Wide Open Motorcross opened in southern Hoke.

House of Raeford's Central Avenue poultry processing plant shut down for several days, leaving 700 employees temporarily out of work. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture inspectors ordered the closure of the plant because of conditions that could lead to bacteria contamination. The plant reopened after USDA and HOR worked out a corrective action plan.

City officials, whose wastewater treatment plant problems were contributed to by House of Raeford, they said, is also reporting the plant as being cooperative. The city has been in compliance with state requirements regarding plant operations for 10 consecutive months.

Other news highlights

City elections in November found a woman

elected to the city council for the first time in history. Mary Neil King took a seat but another councilman, Julian H. "Buddy" Blue, died the morning he was to be sworn in, leaving the council with a vacant seat. Eddie McNeill retained his council seat.

John K. McNeill III was elected to the mayoral seat he had filled since he was appointed a year after Mayor Bob Gentry died. McNeill defeated two opponents.

Although two black female candidates were not elected, they believe inroads were made by the under-represented African-American community.

January found Kristy McMillan Newton beginning her second term as Hoke-Scotland District 6A district attorney. Later in the year, Regina McKinney Joe was sworn in to represent Hoke and Scotland counties as the first female African-American head public defender to be appointed in the state. McMillan Newton had been the youngest DA.

A week after Hoke-Scotland Chief District Court Judge Warren Pate announced his plans to retire, Joe and Raeford attorney Russell Smith each announced they would seek his bench seat.

In June, the Tylertown Fire Department merged with North Raeford Fire Department after almost 36 years of Tylertown operating historically as Hoke County's only minority volunteer fire department and as the smallest fire district in the county.

2006

The top stories of Hoke-Raeford include actions that tore at the fabric of the community. Yet another story involves unified efforts on behalf of educating the children.

A forced annexation that brought 151 acres containing approximately 135 residences into the city limits pitted neighbor against neighbor, church member against church member and left most residents in the annexed area angry and upset.

Fake ballots that looked too much like the real thing distributed during the May primary may have changed the outcome of the election and left some losing candidates outraged.

Meanwhile, Hoke got a new public schools superintendent and, under his leadership, efforts to make education advancements and boost test scores have begun.

Annexation

While some say the annexation of the Palmer Street/College Drive area was long overdue, those in the designated area, still reeling from higher taxes imposed by the county and higher water

bills from the city, said they could not afford the extra costs and they did not want any services offered by the city. They particularly wanted to remain in the North Raeford Fire District as it is closer to them than the Raeford Fire Department.

City officials said by being in the city some would save money. However, the annexation will cost some newly annexed residents, particularly those with larger homes, \$100 or more per month. Many of the city's new residents are elderly and on fixed incomes and indicated they simply don't have the money to pay additional taxes.

The annexation, cited as good urban planning, will bring an estimated annual \$176,000 to the city's coffers.

Voting complaints

In the May 2 primary, Democrats incumbent Jean Powell and newcomer Ellen McNeill were voted in as commissioners while a previous commissioner, Tony Hunt, was returned to office. Bill Cameron narrowly lost his bid for reelection and called for and was granted a recount.

After the recount, Cameron conceded defeat but later protested the distribution of the phony ballots, on the day of the primary, that urged voters to elect designated candidates. The ballots were strikingly similar to real ones.

Even though the state Election Board's attorney admitted the ballots did not fall under election law guidelines, the state election boards shrugged off Cameron's complaint. He did not appeal but instead sought action against Sheriff Hubert Peterkin, whose former administrative assistant, Lissa Jones, said she had made the ballots - 3,500 of them - for the Hoke County Civic League under the sheriff's direction and on county time and with paper paid for by the county.

When the complaint was presented to District Attorney Kristy Newton, she dismissed Jones' and Cameron's charges as "frivolous" and "unsubstantiated" and said they were politically motivated. The sample ballots endorsed Peterkin. Cameron later endorsed Peterkin's opponent in the general election - write-in candidate Troy McDuffie, Peterkin's former chief deputy who left to become Red Springs' police chief.

Cameron then took his complaint to the commissioners, who also took no action. Although Jones did not come through with a promised copy of the marked ballot distributed at the polls, a similar one was downloaded from files in the sheriff's office. No person or organization came forward to claim responsibility for the fake ballots, and Peterkin denied any involvement.

In the primary, Peterkin defeated Charlie Daniels, who chose not to seek reelection as commissioner but ran for sheriff instead. Peterkin soundly defeated both Daniels and McDuffie and in a show of solidarity, Daniels attended

Peterkin's swearing-in ceremony.

School overcrowding

Dr. Freddie Williamson became the first African-American Hoke schools superintendent on July 1. He continued changes made by Don Steed, who came out of retirement to serve as interim superintendent for almost six months.

Hoke schools have grown at the rate of 500 students annually for the last three years. A larger influx of students is expected as plans for expansion at Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base are implemented with Hoke serving as a "bedroom" community.

To help meet this need, the year was begun with 20 additional mobile classrooms added to alleviate overcrowding.

A new elementary school - to be named after Steed - is planned on Philippi Church Road on a 50-acre tract donated by Hoke farmer James Hendrix. With the approval by Hoke voters in November of a \$20 million school bond, plans and designs are underway for a middle school near Arabia.

Williamson initiated renewed efforts to put Hoke High on the right track through the formation of a "dream team" staff at the school. Also this year a new high school, called SandHoke, that blends both high school and collegiate courses, was begun.

Meanwhile, the school board has vowed to improve test composite scores for students and ensure they pass a computer skills test required for graduation. The board approved a turn-around plan for the high school and hopes to see a 10 percent increase in student scores by mid-year. The state Department of Public Instruction is providing a consulting team toward that end.

A recent study shows that Hoke is at the bottom in inability to pay for education and yet the county ranks high in funding efforts.

In other education advancement plans, Sandhills Community College Hoke Center broke ground to add a twin education building at the Hoke Center. The \$1.7 million project should be completed by the fall 2007 semester.

Business, industry

Plans are still on track for the \$100 million ethanol plant in the Dundarrach community. The county bought the land, and Clean Burn Fuels has contracted for the engineering work to begin. The plant promises to bring about 100 jobs to Hoke.

Burlington Industries is planning \$7 million in improvements with promises to bring 65 more jobs to the plant this summer. The city paved the way by planning water improvements for that expansion.

A recreational wind tunnel in eastern Hoke is

still on the table. Tim D'Annunzio, who planned to build the facility, left a commissioners' meeting in frustration after presenting his request for a conditional use for the facility and hearing residents complain about additional traffic and noise. Since then, he has taken some commissioners on a tour of such a facility in Colorado in an effort to prove noise is not the problem as it was presented by residents.

D'Annunzio will take his proposed project before the commissioners again.

Hoke's county commissioners approved a bid to construct the future 152-bed Hoke County Detention Center. Mandated by state laws that the current jail does not meet, the facility will cost \$8.5 million.

Good news

Raeford's downtown streetscape project was completed after many years of planning, and a celebration walk down a renovated Main Street took place on a cold day in November. As hoped, businesses are beginning to move in. In addition, 23 acres in the heart of Raeford made the National Register of Historic Places. This encompasses 50 buildings that contribute to the historic character of the city.

Still in the works are plans for a 572-acre tract northwest of Raeford to be the state's first "community forest." The Conservation Fund has offered to sell the undeveloped land to the county for \$1 million in order to help restore habitats of the vanishing long leaf pines.

An Earth Day celebration in April opened the first leg of the All-American Trail on the Fort Bragg perimeter road that borders Hoke. The seven-mile hiking trail from McCain at King and Plank roads to Raeford Vass Road is the first leg of a 70-mile course planned through four counties that will someday encircle Fort Bragg.

2007

Jan. 3 - Regina "Gigi" Joe makes history when she is sworn in as district judge for Scotland-Hoke counties. She is the first African-American woman to serve in that capacity.

Jan. 10 - The city council voted to fund water system upgrades for the upcoming expansion of Burlington Industries. The water work will cost \$1.2 million.

Jan. 17 - Ground is broken for the Don Steed Elementary School on Philippi Church Road. The new school will accommodate 700 students from kindergarten through the fifth grade.

Jan. 24 - County commissioners approve the largest skydiving wind tunnel in the world on Hwy. 401 near the Cumberland County line.

Jan. 31 - Hoke school ABC scores are below

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the state average, disappointing officials.

Rockfish resident 1st Sgt. Keith A. Callahan is killed in Iraq. The father of three young children, he is remembered as a hero.

Feb. 7 – SSgt. Ronnie Lee, 26, is killed in action in Iraq. He leaves a widow and two daughters.

Feb. 14 – Commissioners, under court order, approve a 500-ft. radio tower near the Raeford Airport.

Feb. 21 – Commissioners seek to block Fayetteville from annexing any part of Hoke County by requesting legislative action to forbid such action. Legislators agree.

Feb. 28 – Cpl. Montrel Shante McArn is the first Hoke High graduate (class of 2003) to die in the war in Iraq.

March 7 – Luke McNeill is rewarded with the Order of the Longleaf Pine for documenting Hoke's history.

March 14 – The Children's Developmental Center for kids with special needs is threatened by funding cuts.

March 28 – The mother of a West Hoke Elementary pupil withdraws her daughter from the school and expresses anger that a warrant was taken out against her and her husband for her daughter's absences. She says her daughter's absences were excused and the school made a mistake. The husband, a Golden Knights skydiver, has been deployed during the school year.

April 4 – County commissioners, while compiling a budget for the upcoming year, are told of the need to expand the water supply.

April 11 – Giovanni Davis, a Hoke High grad who is pursuing a successful acting career, returned to encourage students to follow their dreams.

April 18 – Staff Sgt. Casey Combs, 28, dies in combat in Afghanistan. He leaves behind a widow and a young son and daughter.

April 25 – A bus transporting East Hoke Middle students to school catches fire and burns at the intersection of Rockfish and Philippi Church roads. The bus driver gets kids off the bus in time to prevent injuries.

May 2 – Two centers opened: the Hawkeye Indian Cultural Center on Red Springs Road and the law enforcement center that now makes its headquarters in the former health center.

May 9 – The Carolina Horse Park Foundation again requests a tax exemption from the county. State and U.S. governments have already recognized the non-profit status of the world class park, which encompasses 250 acres.

May 16 – Regina Sutherland is the new city attorney. It is the first time a woman has held the job.

Sgt. Timothy P. Padgett, a Green Beret and volunteer firefighter with the Rockfish Fire Dept., is killed in Afghanistan.

May 23 – Fayetteville commercial developer Joseph Riddle III buys 30 acres in Wayside, at the intersection of Wayside Road and Hwy. 401.

May 30 – The annual wagon train winds its way through Raeford for the 44 time

June 6 – A criminal complaint is filed against House of Raeford and five former employees after an undercover animal rights activist from Mercy for Animals videotaped incidents of abuse.

June 13 – The school board is asked to rename South Hoke Elementary School to Hawk Eye, the name it held when the school was founded as a Native American school in the days of segregation.

June 20 – Overall crime is up slightly as the county grows. The sheriff is given more deputies and jailers in the fiscal year 2007-08 budget.

June 27 – Hoke's Jenna Walters, a Lumbee Indian who won the Miss Fayetteville title, does not take the Miss North Carolina crown but

places in the top five in the talent division. She sang a country song, "Break It to Me Gently."

July 4 – David Jackson was suddenly fired as Parks & Recreation head and is just as swiftly rehired after citizens show up at a commissioners' meeting to plead for his job.

July 11 – A young mother of four and one of her children dies in a collision with an 18-wheeler.

July 18 – Sixty-three dogs are rescued from a home off Turnpike Road in west Hoke. The owners are away.

July 25 – Victoriana "Vickie" Summers, award-winning reporter for The News-Journal since 1999, is found dead in her home. She died of a massive stroke.

Aug. 1 – The public will get to enjoy nature in a 532-acre tract of land set aside for that purpose. The land, which borders Vass Road, will be deeded to Hoke County.

Aug. 8 – The county contemplates building a wastewater treatment plant.

Aug. 15 – The Allendale Community Center on Old Wire Road is renamed the Dr. W.A. McPhatter Community Center. McPhatter is a pastor and former commissioner.

Aug. 22 – Clean Burn Fuels clears the final hurdle with a \$35,000 loan to become an ethanol producing plant.

Aug. 29 – Hoke High's SAT scores see a small gain.

Sept. 5 – Johnson Hall is dedicated for use as Sandhills Early College's classrooms. It is the latest addition to Sandhills Community College's Hoke campus.

Hoke is placed under water restrictions. Sept. 12 – The city plans to annex 12 tracts of land in six areas with a total value of \$3.4 million in phase two of its annexation plan.

Sept. 19 – Two school buses collide at the intersection of Hwy. 401 and Oakdale Gin Road, leaving 12 students slightly hurt.

Oct. 3 – The N.C. Board of Public Account Examiners suspends Jame F. Baker, Hoke's auditor, for five years, citing errors, deficiencies and improperly submitted financial statements. Baker says he is working to correct things.

Oct. 10 – Hoke schools meet federal reading target.

Growth and drought are straining the county's water system.

Oct. 17 – Bill Cameron is named Southeastern Farmer of the Year, chosen from farmers in 10 states.

Oct. 24 – Raeford joins the county and the state in restricting water use.

Nov. 7 – Robbins Heights gets a \$850,000 grant to rehab or tear down 18 homes.

Voters nix the land transfer tax that would have gone to fund schools and parks and recreation projects.

Nov. 21 – Former President H. Bush, 83, jumps in tandem here with a Golden Knights skydiver.

Nov. 28 – Hoke's AIDS rate is higher than the state average.

Dec. 5 – A major shopping center that is to contain a Walmart is approved by county commissioners.

Dec. 12 – World War II veterans tell stories the world is forgetting.

Dec. 19 – Progress Energy has plans to put a 230,000-volt power line through Hoke.

Dec. 26 – A Parents As Teachers program is announced to help parents become better.

2008

Two topics drew more attention, prompted more conversation and stirred up more citizens than any others over the last year in Hoke County

– power lines and plaques.

The year began with hundreds of area residents angry over Progress Energy's plan to seize private land to construct a 300-foot wide transmission line across the entire length of the county.

There was much speculation over the route's final path, with the most outspoken critics saying the power line should have been built across uninhabited areas of Fort Bragg north of Raeford. However, Progress Energy, which said the line was necessary to handle the growing population of the area, chose a final route south of Raeford through farmland and private land.

Outraged landowners met on several occasions and hired a lawyer to help fight the utility giant. Survey crews from Progress Energy began cutting down trees and surveying before the route was approved by the state.

The situation came to a head in August when hundreds of citizens crowded the boardroom at the county offices to appeal to members of the utilities' commission for an alternate route that wouldn't affect Hoke's property owners. After a final meeting in Raleigh, the state's utilities' commission decided in November to approve the project as well as Progress Energy's route for the line.

As the year ends, landowners are still negotiating with utilities' officials over the price of the easements across their land. Progress Energy can take owners to court and start condemnation proceedings if the citizens refuse to sell.

A spokesperson from Progress Energy says the 230-kilovolt power line will help supply the county's electrical needs in the years to come.

Not plaque-ated

In August, the county's first new school in several years opened on Philippi Church Road. However, most of the news articles that followed the opening of the Don Steed Elementary School revolved around Commissioner James Leach's decision to take down a plaque just before the school's official opening.

Leach, who serves as chair of the board of commissioners, was displeased with the names on the plaque – which honored the board of commissioners serving at the time the school was funded. Leach thought the plaque should contain the names of current board members Tony Hunt and Ellen McNeill.

Leach had county public works director Dennis Baxley enter the school and remove the \$800 plaque. News leaked and many citizens were outraged, calling for an investigation.

District Attorney Kristy Newton seized the plaque from the county after Baxley put it in storage. After a closed meeting, the board of education decided not to pursue charges against Leach, provided the plaque was returned to the school system.

After a statement was released by the school board's attorney, the school system decided to allow a plaque honoring each board involved in construction, a total of four plaques in all, to be placed at each new building.

Gas has its ups and downs

No one could have predicted the spike in gas prices in September, after Hurricane Ike struck the Gulf Coast. Lines formed at pumps around Raeford as panic buying set in. Fights were reported and some stations even shut down as they ran out of gas.

The high gas prices, above three dollars for most of the summer, affected businesses and consumers as many cut spending and changed their driving habits. However, just as quickly as it came, the price of gas retreated to the lowest it's been since 2004.

Domestic Violence

At least two murders in Hoke County last year were directly related to domestic violence and a third case has gone unsolved.

In March, Alan Thomas stabbed his estranged wife Linda Shaw-Thomas to death at the woman's Raeford home. After a brief manhunt, Thomas turned himself in personally to Sheriff Hubert Peterkin. He later received life in prison. Thomas had a history of spousal abuse. Shaw-Thomas was the media specialist at Hoke High.

In April, Cherquito McDonald, 28, was shot and killed outside her job at Burlington Industries in broad daylight right after her shift. The alleged killer was boyfriend Jonathan Deon Melvin, 30, of Alex Baker Road. According to authorities Melvin was involved in a domestic dispute with McDonald at the time.

Later in the year, Rosemary Wynn was found dead in her home on East Lake Road. Sheriff Hubert Peterkin named her husband, the Rev. Sam Wynn, as a person of interest in the case.

A sworn affidavit by a detective said the home was filled with blood and that Rose Wynn was badly beaten, with black eyes and bruises. Peterkin called the death suspicious.

Later, however, the state medical examiner released his findings to say the death was accidental, clearing Sam Wynn, who'd gone on to become the district superintendent for the United Methodist Church. Sheriff Peterkin refuses to close the case and took issue with the medical examiner's findings.

Local turnover

The year brought a new county manager, city manager and police chief in a shakeup that was more complicated than a baseball trade.

Police Chief Mike Dummett was sworn into office in April, replacing the ousted Kevin Locklear. Dummett moved here from Salisbury.

County Manager Mike Wood resigned from his post mid-summer, with some saying he was forced out of his position. However, Wood said he was merely retiring.

Richard Douglas resigned as city manager, taking a job in Selma for a higher salary. Douglas has been replaced on an interim basis by Wood, who just finished his career across the street at the county office.

Tim Johnson was hired as the new county manager, unanimously selected by the board of commissioners with no controversy.

2009

The announcement that Hoke County may receive its first hospital dominated news' headlines last year, leading to an epic battle between two health systems that rages on today.

Other big stories in 2009 were increased crime in Raeford, Walmart's construction, approval of a regional sewer plant and the grand opening of the county's new jail.

However, just like in the national headlines, health care dominated the headlines in the latter part of the year.

In June, FirstHealth announced plans to build a \$35 million facility in Hoke County with eight beds and an eight-bed emergency room, imaging services and an outpatient operating room. FirstHealth submitted a second certificate of need to build a separate outpatient surgery center on the same site.

A week later, Cape Fear Valley Regional Health System announced plans to build a \$79 million hospital just over the Cumberland County

line that would include 41 inpatient beds, a 16-bed emergency room, operating rooms and an obstetrics unit.

The two health systems battled it out at an August public hearing, with Hoke residents divided over which plan to support.

In November, the state approved certificates of need for both plans and FirstHealth announced their plans to go ahead and build Hoke Regional Hospital on a site near the intersection of US 401 and South Parker Church Road.

Things went south when the two health systems filed appeals to the state against their competitor's plan, potentially tying up construction in the legal system. FirstHealth filed its appeal first, but claimed to only do so in advance of Cape Fear's appeal and vowed to retract it if Cape Fear retracted.

With plans to build by 2012 up in the air, the hospital battle could be next year's big story as well.

Crime rose to unprecedented levels in Raeford and left the police chief asking the city council for help.

A spree of violent crime, including a March kidnapping and rape of a teenage girl at Burger King, an April armed robbery at CVS in which suspects armed with a machine gun stole narcotics at gunpoint, a May armed robbery at Wright Realty and an August armed robbery at the Waffle House made headlines.

Police Chief Mike Dummett met with the city council in September to try to get more officers and equipment.

Armed with stats that claimed violent crime had risen by 74 percent since 2004, Dummett told council members that two officers guarding

Raeford during a shift was not enough.

The chief asked for not one but three officers and three cars to the tune of \$207,087.99.

However, council members, citing the cost, balked at making any decisions, tabling the matter.

Walmart finally admitted it was building a store here and broke ground on the site in April after an historic house that stood on the plot of land burned to the ground.

Still, it wasn't until fall that Walmart officials admitted the growing construction site was a big box store.

Now, workers are putting up walls and the retailer should be open by June of this year, improving Hoke County's sales tax base. County commissioners approved the construction of a \$19 million regional sewer plant that would bring sewer service to the highest density areas of the county.

When the plant comes online in 2012, it will be able to treat 2.5 million gallons of waste a day, eventually treating up to five million gallons.

The plant will be built on Ellis Road near Rockfish Creek and will be paid for with a combination of grants and loans.

Hoke's new jail is open. The \$8.5 million, 145-bed facility features electronic locking systems and plenty of surveillance, making it more secure than the county's old facility.

Hoke County began housing federal and state prisoners, generating nearly \$800,000 in additional revenue which will help the jail pay for itself.

The old jail was remodeled houses minimum-security inmates.

Other big news stories in 2009 included:

• State officials announced McCain prison hospital is slated for closure as part of budget cuts.

• Mike Wood was named city manager after resigning from his post as county manager.

• A woman was charged and convicted of willfully trespassing upon or impeding the progress of a public school bus after she entered the bus to remove her eight-year-old daughter. Mindy Brumfiel claimed the bus was driving recklessly.

• Hoke County officials opened a \$2.5 million recreation facility on NC 211 that became the new host of recreation sports.

2010

Hospitals dominated Hoke County headlines for the second year in a row as two local health care companies battled to build the county's first hospital.

In 2010, the state approved plans for FirstHealth of the Carolinas to build an eight-bed, \$32 million hospital and Cape Fear Valley Health System to build a 41-bed, \$92 million hospital, both off U.S. 401.

Days before the deadline, FirstHealth issued a news release publicly asking Cape Fear Valley officials to refrain from appealing the certificate of need decision. Cape Fear Valley officials filed an appeal with the state Office of Administrative hearings just 30 minutes before the October deadline.

FirstHealth countered with its own appeal about 15 minutes later. FirstHealth also appealed its own certificate of need decision due to a requirement that it give up 30 acute care beds from FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst.

Although Cape Fear Valley is continuing with plans to build an ambulatory care center, Health Pavilion Hoke, which will be located on the proposed hospital site across from Paraclete Skyventure, the status of both hospitals remains questionable.

Kim Hausen, chief clerk with the state OAH, said that unless one or both companies withdraw their appeals, the matter could remain tied up in court for three to five years.

Although officials from both companies say that discussions between the two companies have begun, neither has made a move to withdraw its appeals.

Hoke County also became home to the east coast's largest ethanol manufacturing plant in 2010.

Cary-based Clean Burn Fuels built and began operating its facility in Dundarrach, located about three miles southeast of Raeford. Ethanol, which is produced by fermenting and distilling grains, is blended with gasoline to produce a higher-octane fuel that releases fewer harmful emissions into the environment.

When operating at full capacity, the \$100 million facility will produce 60 million gallons of ethanol per year and could expand to produce as many as 240 million gallons per year.

Only months after beginning operations in August, Waccamaw Transport opened its facility next to the ethanol plant. Waccamaw Transport was the company chosen to haul the denatured ethanol to different cities across the east coast, where it will be blended with gasoline and distributed to gas stations.

Congratulations Hoke County on your 100th Anniversary!

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Hoke County Congratulations on your 100th Anniversary



A Union School with grades 1-12

Upchurch High School 1920 - 1968

The first principal of the school was Reverend T. P. Johnson
The second principal was Professor J. C. Bagget, Raeford Grade School and Raeford Colored School
1927-1929 Raeford Colored School Grades 1-7
W. T. Fairley, principal
1929 Mr. David P. Scurlock, Principal
1930-1936 Raeford High School Grades 1-11
1936 Named changed to Upchurch High School
1945 School destroyed by fire; classes held in Rockfish Grove and Silver Grove churches
12th Grade added; Mr. A. S. Gaston, Principal
1946 Rebuilt facility opened
1951 Mr. George Page, Principal
1968 Last class graduated; high schools integrated
Mr. John D. McAllister, Sr. was the last principal of Upchurch High School



SCHOOL SONG

Dear school we're proud of you indeed
Sweet memories we'll retain,
For all the long years yet to come
These treasures shall remain.
Our honor to the blue and gold
Which colors will never fade,
Our pride for these dear old walls
Where training has been made.

Oh, Upchurch High! Dear Upchurch High!
We sing our praises to thee,
Through all these years you've been so dear
We pledge our loyalty.

Upchurch Alumni and Friends

Congratulations to the County of Hoke on its 100th Birthday Commissioner Ellen McNeill

**Family commitment, church and community involvement are important
as I work to make Hoke County a better place to live for all**



Four generations

1st row: Candace, Jon, Nick, Lillie Clark, DJ, Marcus; 2nd row: Myra, Ellen, Melissa and Pamela; 3rd row: Willie (5 of the 7 grandchildren shown above.) Andrew and Darryl Jr., grandsons, and Naomi, great-granddaughter, not pictured.



Willie and Ellen McNeill



I firmly believe in community service and giving back. I am a member of the Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, the Hoke County Civic League, the Hoke County Missionary Union, 4-County Community Services Board of Directors, Shaw University Alumni Association, the Upchurch High School Alumni and Friends, the Raeford-Hoke Reading Literacy Council, the Raeford-Hoke Museum, the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce and other service organizations. I received the North Star Scholarship in the Fall of 1994 and Spring of 1995. During the Hoke County Union's Shaw University/A.Y. McKinnon Banquet in August of 2008, I gave back the full scholarship amount to Shaw University. Dr Clarence Newsome, President of Shaw University received the \$1,000 check.

Class of 1962

UPCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL



Upchurch High School Class of 1962 - Miss Emma J. Mims and Miss Anna G. Smith, Advisors
Mamie Lee Adams, Charlotte Allbrooks, Maxine Artis, Oscar Lee Baldwin, Ti-Yetta Black, Florence Butler, Dennis Carpenter, Elizabeth Cherry, Ellen Louise Clark, Willie James Cooper, Erwin Jerome Daniels, Mary Helen Davis, Mary Elizabeth Dobbins, Ada Lucille Dupree, Helen Rebecca Farmer, Johnny Farmer, Jr., Morris Farmer, Willie Louis Frierson, Eva Mae Gates, Annie Parthenia Gilchrist, Hazel Frances Gilchrist, Thurman Gilchrist, Mary Arnetta Graham, Louise Handon, Lovie Elnora Haynes, Marion Hollingsworth, Mary Louise Kershaw, Elvon Killens, Gladys Lloyd, Margaret Lois Mack, Jasper Melvin, George Melvin, Annie Linzie Monroe, Clyde Moore, Preston Moore, Leerona Morris, Vera Leticia McCollum, Carrie Lee McCrimmon, Thomas McDougald, Winston McGill, Nellie Ann McGrit, Annie Patricia McKinnon, Edith Helen McKinnon, Tim McKoy, John C. McMillan, Leslie Lee McMillan, Cora Lucille McNair, Delois McNair, Theodore McNair, Thomas McNeil, Anglish McPhatter, Jr., Johnnie Mae McPhatter, Arlington McRae, Cleveland McRae, Ella Mae McRae, Gloria Montez McRae, Louise McRae, Thomas Parker, Jr., Benjamin Lee Powell, Ella Mae Purcell, Sarah Purcell, Esther Lee Ray, John David Ray, Patricia Ann Readdy, James Willie Roper, Clarence Leverne Ross, Ester Shaw, Dozier Cecolia Shields, Willie Sinclair, Algie Lee Singletary, Arlane Singletary, Lank Singletary, Shirley Diane Smith, Steven E. Swann, Annie Lee Thomas, Hazel N. Thomas, Louis Thomas, Williard Troy, Bertha Mae White



Mr. G. A. Page, Jr.,
Principal



Deborah Davis and Armden
Moultrie, Mascots

The Upchurch Class of 1962 is the first known class to hold a reunion July 7, 1973. The Class of 1962 has held reunions in 1973, 1978, 1982, 1987, 1993, 2004, 2007 and 2010. (The class does not meet the year of the Upchurch Alumni Reunion, which is held every three years.)



Reunion of 1993

Mamie Lou Sanders, Alma Graham, Elizabeth Cherry, Carrie McCrimmon, Annie Thomas, Parthenia Gilchrist, Hazel Thomas, Delois McNair; 2nd Row: C. C. Gibbs, Instructor, Willie Sinclair, John McCrimmon, Thomas Parker, Ellen Clark, Johnnie McPhatter, Oscar Baldwin, John C. McMillan, Louis Thomas, F. W. Caldwell, Instructor; 3rd Row: Patricia McKinnon, Winston McGill, James Willie Roper, Marion Hollingsworth, Tim McKoy, Steven Swan



The Eagles

The class song in the tune of "He" was written by Parthenia Gilchrist and Lucille McNair.

Class flower: White Carnation
Colors: Navy and powder blue



Members of Class July 5, 2007

Thomas McDougald, Patricia McKinnon, Patricia Readdy, Lank Singletary, Ellen Clark, Willard Troy, Mary Helen Davis, Mary Dobbins; 2nd row: Johnny McPhatter, Alma Graham, Parthenia Gilchrist, Ti-Yetta Black, Willie Sinclair, Thomas Parker, Mamie Adams; 3rd row: Winston McGill, Annie Thomas, Tim McKoy, Marion Hollingsworth, James Willie Roper, Algie Singletary, Louis Thomas

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and at Highsmith-Rainey Specialty Hospital for over 100 years.

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