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## Want To Know About That "Golfcrest Deal"?

Why did the town council pay Newland Phillips \$2,433.59 for water lines laid more than three years ago in his Golfcrest subdivision outside the city limits?

Was it legal? Was it economical? Was there any alternative?

The Pilot this week went to W. Lamont Brown, town attorney, and City Manager Tom E. Cunningham for the answers, since the matter has been the subject of some interest and general misunderstanding.

Both said the same thing—"It was a compromise arrangement. We didn't particularly like it. Neither did the Mayor nor the rest of the council. But it was the best way out of a bad situation."

### A Legal Action

In answer to the questions above, the town attorney said, "First, it was legal. North Carolina General Statute 160-255 covers the matter fully. There is ample precedent, supported by Supreme Court decisions, and also by the N. C. League of Municipalities."

"Second, it was economical. For the \$2,433.59 the town secured title to 2,000 feet of six-inch

water line and 700 feet of two-inch water line already installed at a cost more than twice that amount. The town would have had to pay the full amount later, and perhaps a good deal more.

"Third, yes, there was an alternative—the council could have refused to pay. However, Mr. Phillips had a legally enforceable agreement, made with the former town board in 1951. He could, and most likely would, have sued, and won.

"Also, in the event Golfcrest residents ever petitioned for annexation, the town would have had to pay for these water lines, and any others which might have been laid in the meantime. It is a question as to whether the town could afford the payment later. It might even have required a bond issue, or forced the turning down of the petition.

### Only Practical Course

"The council made the payment reluctantly, and Mayor Clark was the last to come around. The city manager and I didn't like it either, though we were the ones who worked out the plan, as the

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## Chamber Supports Action To Retain USAFAGOS; Fall Plans Are Considered

### Mother Acts Fast, Saves Daughter From Fiery Death

Mrs. R. E. Rhodes of Ridge Street extension suffered severe burns Saturday afternoon when paraffin she was heating on the kitchen stove, to cover jelly jars, exploded and caught fire.

The flaming wax covered Mrs. Rhodes' hands and set fire to her ruffled slip. Her mother, Mrs. J. Garrett, hearing her screams, rushed to her and threw a rug about her, undoubtedly saving Mrs. Rhodes' life.

The two women were alone in the house at the time. Mrs. Garrett called a neighbor, Mrs. E. Nolley Jackson, who came to their aid. By then Mrs. Garrett, who is 70 years old, had put out the flames, applied soda paste to her daughter's burns and was beating out fire which had started up in the kitchen from the blazing wax.

Mrs. Rhodes was taken at once to Moore County Hospital, and Monday was transferred to Duke Hospital, Durham. Doctors said some skin grafting would be done on her hands, also a small bit on her hip. She was slightly burned also about the legs. She received no burns on her face.

Mrs. Garrett was slightly burned on one arm, but said later, "I didn't even notice that—I was too busy."

## Major Vehicles Of Town Now Radio-Equipped

### Central Controls At City Hall; Savings Are Seen

All major pieces of mobile equipment owned by the Town of Southern Pines are now radio-equipped, with central controls in the town hall.

The two-way hookup set up by the police department, for law enforcement purposes, three and a half years ago has been expanded during the past eight months to include the water department truck, the sewer and streets department truck and the big new fire truck. Installation on the fire truck was completed just last week.

The radio speaker is in the police station, on the second floor of the town hall, where a staff member is on duty 24 hours a day.

Also, City Manager Tom E. Cunningham, whose office is on the first floor, has received his operator's license, and can talk to the town crews just by going upstairs and making a quick call. "The saving in time and the extra convenience are far greater than we expected," the city manager said this week. "Also, they represent considerable saving in actual money."

"The operating trucks, which are out all day, anywhere in town, do not have to check back and forth for information and instructions. We can find them in an instant, anywhere they happen to be working.

"Water can be turned on practically as soon as requested—frequently before the person making the request gets back home. In one recent case, where a family moved into a home late Friday afternoon, this saved their spending the whole weekend without water. In sewer emergencies, we have been able to get a crew on the job within minutes.

"Having radio on the fire truck releases the police car, in case a hurry call comes through. Formerly, after bringing an officer to handle traffic, the police car had to stay on the scene to relay messages to the firemen."

## "Kids Day" Will Be Big Day For Moore Youngsters

Saturday will be National Kids Day, and in Moore county, as all over the land, U. S. Air Force personnel and Kiwanians will join hands to give the kids a wonderful time.

Invitations have been issued through every school in the county for every boy and girl, eight to 14 years of age, to take part in the event, said W. T. Huntley, National Kids Day chairman for the Sandhills Kiwanis Club. Children even younger may join in provided a parent comes along.

Pope Air Force base will be the center of activities for the young visitors from Moore and neighboring counties, all under sponsorship and supervision of the Kiwanians.

Some 500 youngsters are expected to assemble at Weaver Auditorium at 9 a. m. There they will receive a greeting from Brig. Gen. Daniel W. Jenkins or some other high ranking official of the USAF Air-Ground Operations school. Welcome will also be extended by N. L. Hodgkins, Kiwanis Club president, and members of the club will distribute special souvenir buttons to the guests.

At 10:15 a caravan will be formed to take the kids to Pope Air Force Base. Many parents are expected to provide cars, and three USAFAGOS buses, also the school activities bus, will carry the overflow. A Kiwanis Club member will ride with each bus, and stay with his group during the day.

The real fun will begin at 11 o'clock when the caravan reaches Pope.

### Aircraft Displays

Static displays of all types of great modern aircraft will be on every hand. Types shown will include

## BLUE KNIGHTS

The Blue Knights will travel to Rowland tonight (Friday) to play the Rowland High School team under the lights. Kickoff time, 8 p. m.

The game will be a real test, as both teams are undefeated so far this season. Rowland has won two, while Southern Pines has one tie and one victory.

The 0-0 tie was with Maxton two weeks ago, and word from Robeson county is that Rowland is tougher.

The Blue Knights won against West End on the local field last Friday, having things pretty much their own way for a 52-12 score. The game offered an opportunity to play the reserves quite a bit. Outstanding players were Jimmy Humphrey, Billy Cox, Bobby Cline and Johnny Watkins.

## Gilmore Elected To National Post With State YDC

Voit Gilmore, 36-year-old local businessman and town council member, was elected national committeeman of the North Carolina Young Democratic Clubs at the annual YDC convention held at Charlotte last Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Gilmore was unopposed for the office, as were all the other officers when election time rolled around—a situation believed to be unprecedented in an organization which thrives on contests and campaigns.

In Gilmore's case, the fact that opposition threatened, but failed to materialize, was attributed by many to his smooth, effective and well-organized campaign. The campaign developed after he was elected Moore County YDC president at the county convention at Carthage August 27. It became official

## Mrs. Holtzclaw Heads Appeal For Promotional Fund

The annual fund drive of the US Highway 1 Association is under way here, with a quota of \$480 and a deadline of October 1, or very soon thereafter.

Mrs. Oscar Holtzclaw, conducting the drive, said this week she has raised \$168 through personal visits and letters to tourist-related businesses, and hopes to get up the rest within the coming week. She asks that all individuals and businesses interested in the resort and tourist trade do their part promptly in this well-known promotional endeavor. Any money raised over the quota will be retained in Southern Pines, for advertising and promotion.

A letter this week from Lester Rose, of Raleigh, executive secretary of the association, informed her that the money had to be in hand very soon if Southern Pines is to share in the program for the year. This includes advertising folders, maps and other promotional materials, with effort expended in various media to attract tourist travel along US Highway 1. With strong competition from 301, which has a strong association and well-heeled budget, it has become of vital importance to keep US 1 in the public eye.

Mrs. Holtzclaw may be reached at Jefferson Inn, which she and her husband manage. She is the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce representative on the Highway Association board.

## One-Day Drive--1,200 Workers

The annual Boy Scout fund drive will be held Tuesday, October 5, in Moore and other counties of the Occaneechee Council, when a one-day solicitation will have as its aim the raising of the \$121,071 budget.

In Moore approximately 1,200 workers will take part in the "Dawn-to-Dusk" campaign, with an estimated 500 attending the "kickoff breakfasts" throughout the county, according to Brig. Gen. Pearson Mencher of Southern Pines, district chairman. Places where the breakfasts will be held will be announced later.

## Commissioners Plan Conversion Of County Home

### Will Be Private Boarding Home, Supervised By State

The Moore County Home, "poor house" type of county institution for the care of the indigent for many years, will be converted into a privately operated boarding home for white persons.

This is the decision recently reached by the county commissioners and announced this week by the chairman, Gordon Cameron.

Mr. Cameron said that details of the arrangement had not yet progressed beyond the tentative stage, and the time set for the move remains indefinite. It had been hoped that it could be accomplished within the next two months, but costs of the necessary renovation of the old building, now being considered by the county board, are so high that more time will probably be needed to study the matter and figure out methods of financing.

"It really is hardly settled," the chairman of the board said. "It's something we hope very much to do, but it's going to be quite a difficult undertaking."

While it is understood the arrangement has been approved by the county board, it remains to be accepted by the State Department of Public Welfare, which must license the Home and the new operators before it can be opened. Only fully licensed homes, it is ruled, may accept cases under the Old Age Assistance program.

Renovation of the building is expected to include new lighting throughout; also a new stove and hot water plant, beds and other furnishings.

Facilities Enlarged  
It is planned to equip the Home to care for 20 boarders. With only from five to eight, on an average, there during the past 10 years,

## Lightning Strikes Foursome, Sets Golf Course Afire

Lightning jabbed out of a practically clear sky Sunday afternoon to strike the Southern Pines Country Club golf course, stunning a foursome and setting fire to the pinestraw beneath a tree.

Will Russ and O. T. Parks, Jr., of Southern Pines, Carlos Frye and Harry W. Davis of Carthage had just teed off on the 18th tee when the bolt flashed from the blue. Russ, Parks and Frye were knocked flat. Davis staggered, but kept his balance. As the stunning sensation passed, and the prostrate golfers scrambled to their feet, they saw the pinestraw about them had caught fire. For the next few minutes they were too busy putting out the fire to be scared. But then—"We were nervous and shaky for about an hour," Parks said later.

The caddies had gone ahead and were not affected. The golfers went on and finished their game, unhurt, and very thankful to be alive.

It was a fair afternoon, with "just one little dark cloud" in the sky. It was from the heart of this cloud the bolt presumably came. A short time later there was another rather severe flash, which, however, did not strike the course. An hour or so later, a rainshower fell.

## Ballpark Lights Go Up As Project Nears End

### Accident As First Pole Is Hoisted Causes Delay



INGLIS FLETCHER

## Sunday Will Be "Homecoming" At Old Bethesda

The clans will be gathering Sunday at historic Old Bethesda Presbyterian church, between Southern Pines and Aberdeen, in observance of the annual Homecoming Sunday and 164th anniversary of the church's founding.

The tradition of excellent speakers recalling the days of the Scottish pioneers will be maintained by a distinguished young historian and a famous woman novelist. They are Dr. Blackwell Robinson, of the University of North Carolina history department, and Inglis Fletcher, author of many historical novels, including one about Flora Macdonald, Scottish heroine, soon to be published.

Dr. Robinson and Mrs. Fletcher, who lives in Edenton, will be heard on the afternoon speaking program, starting at 2:15. Delivering the sermon at 11:15 will be the Rev. C. W. Worth, former pastor of Bethesda church, now of Whiteville.

### Picnic Luncheon

The two parts of the program will be divided by a noon hour gathering and picnic luncheon in the grove.

Hundreds of members, former members and their friends and relatives, as well as others interested in the lore of the old Scots, are expected to attend the event from all over North Carolina and several other states. J. Talbot Johnson of Aberdeen is serving as program chairman for the 27th successive year.

Dr. Robinson is well known in the Sandhills, as he spent the summer of 1953 here compiling a history of early Moore county for the Moore Historical association. This is slated for publication under the association's auspices as soon as funds are available.

Mrs. Fletcher, who will be accompanied by her husband and other members of her family, recently returned from Scotland

Despite delay occasioned by an accident last Saturday, the lighting of the school athletic field progressed mightily this week.

Eight of the big poles were erected, seven of them complete with lights ready to be hooked up with the lighting system. Two are 75 feet high, six 70 feet. A ninth pole, 40 feet high, which will carry transformers and switches, will go up soon.

Cross-arms and lights were placed last Saturday afternoon on an erstwhile giant of the forest, and quite a crowd of interested onlookers were present to see the first pole go into place.

Hoisted by a crane, it had reached a height of about 50 feet in the air when the crane started to topple and the pole came to earth with a sickening crash.

"It was like an atomic explosion," one viewer said later. When the dust cleared away, it was found that every one of the 24 bulbs and reflectors, also the cross-arms, had broken.

Persons close to the 75-foot pole got away fast as it crashed, and there were no injuries. The crane did not topple, as it had started to do, because the weight of the big pole. Vernon B. operator, said he had had no choice but to let go.

The Camco Construction Co., of Sanford was in charge of the job. Ted Baroody, supervisor, said that the loss—amounting to about \$750—was covered by insurance. A rush order was sent off at once for replacements, and the new bulbs came in Tuesday, with reflectors expected to arrive the end of the week.

Tuesday morning, Camco sent over a large crane, which could handle the big poles like jacksaws, and the work went forward then without a hitch.

Next week will see the transformers and switches installed and all the wiring connected up, said W. B. Holliday, chairman of the project sponsored by the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce.

Newland Phillips of the Phillips Motor Co., gave a 1937 car to the fund committee last week, and it was sold for \$50.

This brought the total of contributions to \$3,054, the chairman said.

Collection of pledges constitutes the committee's main worry now. The sum of \$611 is outstanding, some of which are not to be paid until October 1, with two or three to be paid in November.

All the rest are past due. C. E. Holt is in charge of the pledge collection. "We need to collect every dollar of this, or go in the red," he said. "We hope all those who made pledges will keep the faith. It is impossible to contact everyone personally, and we urge that this money be sent in quickly."

## Homecoming Game "Under the Lights" Recalls Another Historic Occasion

Friday night, October 8, will be a history-making night in Southern Pines sports. For, come that evening at 7 o'clock, Supt. A. C. Dawson will throw a switch that will turn night into day at High School Memorial Field. Shortly afterwards the referee's whistle will signal the kickoff, beginning Southern Pines' first home game under the lights.

It will be Homecoming Game, and the visiting team taking part in the gala occasion will be an Eastern Conference stalwart, Bladenboro High. Runner-up in the Eastern finals and semi-finals two years in a row, the visiting footballers from way down East are worthy foemen of what appears now to be a Blue Knight powerhouse in the making.

But the historic part of the game reverts back to an occasion seven years ago this October. On that date, Southern Pines High school, a pioneer of six-man football in our Tar Heel state, pro-

moted a game with a powerful Lexington Orphanage team that attracted over 2,000 fans, including His Excellency, Gregg Cherry, North Carolina's governor at that time.

The promotion of the game was to attract attention to the advantages of six-man football in high schools, with too few students to play or finance 11-man football. The results exceeded any foreseen probabilities.

The big dailies had their sports-writers on hand to view the game, and the sportscasters of the three major radio stations were there. On that fall day fewer than 30 schools in North Carolina played six-man football; there were no conference groupings, no eligibility requirements, no nothing, but the hope and faith of a few.

Today more than 70 schools in Tar Heel play six-man football, with more than 1,000 boys participating, who otherwise would not

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