

Harnett County News

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TWENTY CENTS

Around Town

by STEVE PLUMMER

REVAMPING JAYCEES
Lillington Jaycees President Sam Hatley announced this week that there will be a special breakfast meeting of the Lillington Jaycees and all men in the area interested in joining the organization.

The meeting will be held at Speedy's Restaurant on Tuesday, July 31 at 7 a.m.

The Jaycees are mounting an effort to reorganize the group and solicit new members. Hatley said they have already gotten some form of commitment from about 25 men in the area to attend the meeting.

This worthwhile organization has had its ups and downs in regards to its membership rolls in the last five years, but they have been consistently important to the community in service and in the high regard in which they are held.

A strong and vital Jaycee organization is just as important to Lillington as a similar type of Chamber of Commerce or civic club. A strong nucleus is already available in the club, with members like Hatley, Ricky Byrd, Victor Quick, Horace Bethune and a few others.

However, these men cannot carry the responsibilities alone, even though they have tried through most of this year. If you are interested in joining and you are under 35 years old, then make plans to attend the meeting next week.

The Jaycees, and Lillington, need you.

AMERICAN LEGION MEET
Russell Thomas, commander of American Legion Post 28, urges all members to attend the group's regular meeting to-night (Thursday) at 8 p.m.

POETRY CONTEST
A news release from California that came across my desk this week announces a poetry competition sponsored by the World of Poetry, a quarterly newsletter for poets.

Poems of all styles and subjects will be accepted for competition for the grand prize of \$1,000 or for 49 other cash and merchandise awards.

Rules and entry forms are available from World of Poetry, 2431 Stockton Blvd., Dept. A, Sacramento, California, 95817. I know from experience that there are a lot of talented poets in the News' circulation area, so get those odes written and sent off.

NEW FRIENDS
I made some new friends last week the hard way. I don't want to say I just "bumped" into them because it was sheer luck that I didn't.

Last Tuesday night I was returning from the press in Benson and had just passed the entrance to Keith Hills on highway 421.

Just before I got to that long curve before College Mart I attempted to pass a slower car. As I pulled even with them, my right front tire on my Mercedes (oops, I mean Granada - I'm always getting those cars confused) blew out, promptly sending me into a series of spins in the middle of the highway.

How I managed to avoid hitting the other car is beyond me - I was too busy just trying to hang on. I kept spinning until I went off the road, ending up on a grassy hill just beyond the picnic spot on the right hand side of the road.

As I sat in the car wondering if I was still alive, the two men in the car I attempted to pass, Don Strother and Randy Cowan, came running up to check on the same thing.

As we inspected our cars and ourselves and determined there was no damage to either (other than my flat tire), the two Campbell students began to change my tire for me in the drizzling rain.

They changed the tire because I suddenly fell victim to the shakes, or post-accident blues.

I want to take the opportunity to thank the two men now for their concern and their aid because without them, I would have been thumping into town.

I apparently bent a control rod on my tire as a result of the spinning so I didn't want to drive it into town. The men gave me a ride to my office where I called Bill Green of Green's Garage for a tow. Bill was just sitting down to supper when I called, so I want to say thanks to him for his help too.

By the way, Randy, who is a religious education major, is looking for a furnished apartment in or around Buies Creek. He comes highly recommended by me, so if anyone in that area is looking for a responsible tenant, get in touch with him through the school.

NEW STEWART
Received word at the last possible minute before closing this column Tuesday morning that there is a legitimate reason for that big smile on Speedy Stewart's face this week.

He is a grandfather once again. Not only that, but his daughter, Marion Britt, the one who called us Tuesday, announced that she is an aunt once again (makes sense, wouldn't you say?).

The cause of all the excitement is Matthew Bryan Stewart, an eight-pound, 15-ounce package that arrived Monday at Wake Medical Center.

His parents are Neil A. (Nicky) Stewart Jr. and his wife, Frances of Raleigh.

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HARNETT COUNTY 4-HERS going to Raleigh for the week are, from l-r, front row: Jeanie Hampton, Windy Hills 4-H Club; Derrick Johnson, Shawtown 4-H Club; Steven Howell, Busy Bee 4-H Club; Cliff Spaulding, Windy Hills 4-H Club. Back row, from l-r: Cindy Dewar, Busy Bees 4-H Club; Suzanne Farrar, Windy Hills 4-H Club;

Reisha Lasater, Helping Hands 4-H Club; Cindy Hampton, Windy Hills 4-H Club. Cindy Dewar, Suzanne Farrar and Cindy Hampton were winners in the district competition and will be competing in the state competition in the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Dairy Foods Division and Home Environment Division. (Photo by Lorraine Mize)

Danes Enjoy Area Visit

by STEVE PLUMMER

Two attractive Danish teenagers who have been visiting Harnett County for the past three weeks have decided that Americans are nice but working in tobacco is no fun.

Not only that, they have developed a real taste for the bluegrass music but cannot enjoy the taste of American hot dogs without a few slices of cucumbers on them.

Lene Nielsen, 18 and Tove Neeseen, 17, are part of a group of about 15 Danes who have been visiting in eight or ten North Carolina counties in the past month.

The Scandinavians, called Caravaners because they are traveling en masse, are individual representatives of their home counties. They are members of the international 4-H organization, but they are not part of the international 4-H exchange program.

They're here because a group of them wanted to come and the Danish 4-H program agreed to help sponsor them.

The girls have been living with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kinton in Duncan for the time they have been in Harnett. The Kintons are experienced in foreign visitors, having hosted representatives of several countries.

The Kintons have also participated in foreign exchange programs when two of their daughters, Robin and Kathy, visited several countries through 4-H exchanges.

The Kintons have had enough experience with foreign visitors not to get overly excited about them. The two girls from Denmark seemed to appreciate that attitude as much as

anything else they experienced here.

"They did not make a fuss over use when we got here," said Tove. "They accepted us like members of the family and did not treat us any different than they would one of their own daughters."

Lene said the Kintons' willingness to carry on with their regular routines despite their visitors gave them an opportunity to see rural American life as it really is.

"We have enjoyed ourselves here," Tove said. "We have visited some chicken and hog farms, Blue Bell Manufacturing and a few other industries. We also worked on a tobacco farm for a few hours, but we didn't like that too much. It's hot, hard work."

The girls rode a two-seater bicycle around the Duncan community and became a common sight to the residents of the area.

"People would ride by us and honk their horns and wave," Lene said. "I think they thought we were strange."

Not true, said Mrs. Kinton, who claims that the residents of the area accepted the girls just like the Kintons have.

"We took them to some softball games and to church, so they got to meet . . . right many people," Mrs. Kinton said. "Everyone enjoyed having them here."

The girls also heard a local bluegrass band one Sunday afternoon at the Duncan Junction, a former train-depot-turned-country-store-and-grill.

Did they enjoy bluegrass? "Oh yes," said Tove. "We are

going to the bluegrass festival in Angier too."

The girls also enjoyed their first fishing trip in a pond near the Kinton home. They caught 22 bream but their enthusiasm waned when Mrs. Kinton told them they had to clean the fish themselves before they could eat them.

"If we had known that, we would have only caught one each," Lene said, laughing.

The Danes were impressed with the friendliness of American people in general and the residents of Harnett County in particular.

"The people here are friendlier than the people at home," said Tove. "We've never been anywhere where people that don't know you will say hello to you on the street."

"If someone were to do that at home," Lene added, "the people would think you were crazy."

The girls, who spent one week in a Maryland home before arriving in Harnett, left this week for 4-H Club Congress in Raleigh, where they will be reunited with their other countrymen.

From there the Danes will go to Ashe County before returning home. Although the girls were told that they would probably like the scenery in the Blue Ridge mountains, they weren't too sure they wanted to go.

"We like it here," Tove said. "We would rather come back here than go anywhere else."

Deputies Crack South Harnett Vandalism Ring

By NANCY BOUNDS

Detectives with the Harnett County Sheriff's Department have cracked a large ring of vandals believed to have been responsible for over \$3,000 worth of damage to property in the southern part of the county.

Chief Detective Bill Strickland said today that eleven people, including four juveniles, have been charged with vandalism in the case.

From June 16 until July 2 water towers, streets, mailboxes, street signs, and windows to restaurants and laundromats were repeatedly destroyed and defaced by the vandals.

Strickland said that all the

damaged property belonged to William S. Wellons of Rt. 1, Spring Lake, and all were in the Old Farm area in the southern part of Harnett County.

Detectives have been working since the destructive outbreak began to round up the people involved.

Five military men from Ft. Bragg were arrested and pleaded guilty to charges of vandalism in court last week.

They are: Michael Humsburger, 19; Michael Mansell, 19; Charles Montilone, 19; James L. Berube, 22; and S.L. Ray Claud, 21. All five live on Rt. 1, Spring Lake.

Also arrested in the case were Robin Stutts, 16, and four

juveniles whose names were not released. Two of the juveniles were male and two were female. One of the girls has been charged with breaking and entering as well as vandalism.

An eleventh person sought in the case is Richard V. Clark, 17, who has been charged with one count of vandalism and two counts of breaking, entering and larceny.

Strickland said a warrant is out on Clark, but the man has not been apprehended yet.

Miss Stutts' case is expected to go to court around July 31 and the juveniles will be handled in juvenile court.



MR. AND MRS. ROBERT KINTON, LENE AND TOVE

Chief Deputy Resigns

Harnett Sheriff Lewis Rosser said today that he plans to appoint an administrative assistant instead of a chief deputy to replace Chief Deputy Bill Carson, who has resigned to take a post at Campbell University.

Sheriff Rosser said he would probably promote one of the girls in his office to administrative assistant. Her job would be primarily to handle the multitude of paper work in the office.

He said at a later date he plans to appoint one of the uniformed officers to head up the staff of uniformed officers. Sheriff Rosser said he would probably be designated as Captain of the Uniformed Division.

Sheriff Rosser said these moves not only will save the county money but will also put the chain of command in the right perspective.

"My goal," he said, "is to give the people of Harnett County the very finest law enforcement

possible at the lowest cost." He said he is constantly seeking ways of improving service.

Sheriff Rosser said it may even be a few months before he names the Captain.

He also announced that he has been assigned two new narcotics agents to serve under Bill Strickland, Chief Detective and head of the sheriff's narcotics division.

Carson said in an interview Thursday afternoon that the university had made him an offer he couldn't refuse. Beginning August 15 he will be the school's director of personnel and purchasing agent.

"I hate to say my reasons for leaving the department were money, but that did play an important part in it," Carson explained. "I just felt it was good opportunity and a chance for advancement."

Carson, 30, joined the

top of the department.

"I thoroughly enjoy law enforcement work," said the young deputy. "I'm going to miss it, but I feel this is a good opportunity, one that I need to take."

Carson is a 1973 graduate of Campbell. He majored in business administration. To put himself through school, he worked part-time and at nights with the Department of Corrections and at Dorothea Dix Hospital.

Sheriff Lewis Rosser praised Carson as being a fine officer, one that will be missed. Rosser promoted Carson to Chief Deputy in December of '78.

"He's a good administrative assistant," Rosser said. "He knows his beans in administration! We hate to lose him, but I can understand the grounds we're losing him on. I can't blame him a bit."

Carson and his wife, Janet, have one son, Dwight, who is 8 years old. The family lives on Route 1, Lillington.

Harnett County Shrine Club Chartered Friday



OFFICERS of the newly-chartered Harnett County Shrine Club in Lillington were installed Friday night at the Masonic Lodge here. On hand for the ceremony was Potentate John Godwin of Wilmington.

The officers are, l-r, Richard Byrd, treasurer; James Brown, secretary; Godwin; Frank Long, president; Lamar Simmons, second vice president; Ray Pauley, vice president. (Photo by Steve Plummer)

The charter night banquet of the newly-organized Harnett County Shrine Club was held Friday at the Masonic Lodge in Lillington, with about 125 members, guests and wives on hand for the event. Potentate John Godwin of Wilmington presided over the event.

Installed as the charter officers of the new club were Frank Long, president, Ray Pauley, vice president, Lamar Simmons, second vice president, James Brown, secretary and Richard Byrd, treasurer.

The charter board of directors was also installed Friday. They included, along with the officers, H. M. Cagle, Stacy Starling, Lloyd Welborn, Gilbert McPhail, Lewis Rosser and Mel Bethune.

Potentate Godwin commended the members and organizers of the new club for such a large initial membership. He encouraged the members to become active in the community, active in Shrinedom and active in service to the Shriners Crippled Children hospitals, the pet project of the fraternal organization.

Potentate Godwin also told the members of the upcoming Fall Ceremonial on Nov. 17 in Dunn and the Shriners parade in Lillington on Oct. 6.

"We are going to have a sea of red fezes here as we put on the biggest parade Lillington has ever seen," promised Godwin.

The Shriners, or Knights of the Sudan Temple, are well known to the general public because of their colorful costumes and parades and events they sponsor to support the organization's hospitals for the care of crippled children of all races and creeds.



DIRECTORS of the new Harnett County Shrine Club, installed at the charter night Friday in Lillington, are, l-r, James Brown, Lamar Simmons, H. M. Cagle, Stacy Starling, Ray Pauley, Lloyd Welborn, Potentate John

Godwin, Gilbert McPhail, Frank Long, Lewis Rosser, Mel Bethune and Richard Byrd. Committee chairman Chalmers Stewart is on the end. (Photo by Steve Plummer)