

## News and Events of Interest to Norlina Readers

Phone 456-3329 to include items on this page

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Hicks visited Mr. and Mrs. Steven J. Johnson in Oxford on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Kober of Hillsborough spent the weekend with Mrs. O. T. Hicks.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fleming of Prince George, Va. visited his mother, Mrs. Myrtle Fleming on Sunday.

Mrs. David Perkinson of Cary visited Mrs. Gladys Perkinson on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Baker of Raleigh spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Baker.

Mr. and Mrs. "Sonny" Goodbar of Durham visited Mr. and Mrs. Roger Norwood on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Buster Dishmon of LaCrosse, Va. spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Ron Baker and children.

Henry Lyles of Roanoke Rapids visited M. A. Lyles on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Boswell of South Hill, Va. visited Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hundley on Saturday evening.

Mrs. Gladys Weathers of Winston-Salem spent the past week with Mrs. Cornelia Wiggins. Visiting on Sunday were Buck, Ben and Stacy Wiggins of Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibby Floyd and Chip Gums of Columbia, S. C. and Mr. and Mrs. Plaxton Autry, Robbie, Johnny and William of Tarboro visited Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gums during the weekend. Joining them for Sunday dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Horace Robinson of Henderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Wildon Price of Kinston visited Mrs. Glen Ayscue in Epsom on Saturday morning. They spent the remainder of the weekend with her mother, Mrs. Studie Coleman. Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Coleman of Norlina joined them for dinner on Sunday.

## North Carolina Literary Notes

by E. T. Malone, Jr.

Recently I read in one of the state newspapers that there is a movement afoot among some Congressmen in Washington to establish the position of official Poet Laureate for the United States. Although somewhat suspicious at first, I have come to find this an attractive notion.

North Carolina already has a Poet Laureate, which I think is fine and the history of which I will get to in just a moment.

The United States of America does not have a Poet Laureate. I think that we probably could use one. And I will try to explain that, too.

One obvious reason that the U. S. needs a Poet Laureate is that an estimated 83.7 percent of Americans do not know what a Poet Laureate is.

Kings, apparently, always needed court poets. Centuries ago in many parts of Europe wandering poets attached themselves to wealthy or noble households. In those more superstitious times there was an aura of magic attached to the mysterious bard or troubadour, who was often a harpist, doctor, mighty storyteller and magician. If he was not treated with sufficient hospitality the ancient poet in Ireland would compose verse "satires" which were so powerful they might blister the skin off a stingy host's nose.

These dangerous personages, in return for subsistence in the extravagant style to which they claimed to be accustomed, wrote "sword songs" praising the strength in battle of their benefactors. Also in their repertoire were "laments," for the wealthy or noble departed, "odes" honoring outstanding achievement and other pieces specially made up for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, harvests, or patriotic occasions. The United States, however, does not need a Poet Laureate for such reasons because most of these functions are now carried out by public relations people, marketing experts, or advertising agencies.

Officially appointed Poet Laureate in England was John Dryden, in 1670, although a number of men held this title unofficially before his time. Since then the post has been filled by men of various levels of talent, the best known to Americans probably being Alfred Tennyson, 1850-1892. The term originated from the ancient practice of placing a laurel wreath crown on the head of winners of academic or athletic competitions.

Since the Poet Laureate was supposed to be a poet-defender of the king, some highly talented artists turned down the post as a matter of conscience or felt that it was a job for a hack or "yes-man."

Americans have always been a little unforthright with poetry. (If a real man won't eat quiche, should he be expected to spout verses?)

In a perfect world, the Poet Laureate would be the best poet in the land, or at least the poet whose work best captured the spirit of a nation. After several years of discussion the North Carolina State Legislature set up the office of Poet Laureate in 1935. The position was vacant until 1948 when Arthur Talmadge Abernathy of Burke County was named to the job. He resigned after a short tenure, and in 1953 James Larkin Pearson of Wilkes County took over. Known for his simply-worded poems such as "Fifty Acres," which praised his mountain home, he was an appropriate choice.

No one anticipated that Mr. Pearson would live to be 103. More than one worthy aspirant for the honor died while waiting for this stubborn old gentleman to relinquish his lifetime appointment.

Finally, in 1982, the state's first really active Poet Laureate took office in the person of Sam Ragan of Southern Pines. Ragan transformed what had been a largely moribund ceremonial post into a lively, creative and useful position. His lead, strong, unpretentious poetic style epitomized our state's ideal image of itself. He became a promoter of poetry to the people of North Carolina.

On the national level, the selection process gets more complicated.

America today needs a Poet Laureate of the stature of a Robert Frost or a Carl Sandburg, a poet of strength and talent who can deal with the diversity of our vast land and its many races and tongues, a poet of vision who will speak out boldly to invigorate the souls of all our people and bring them new hope.

### Firewood

When wood is burned in a stove or fireplace, heat is used to evaporate water from the wood before heat is given off. That is why dry wood produces more usable heat than the same amount of wet wood.



Warren County High School Senior Laurie Barker was recognized as one of the outstanding seniors in the Raleigh District of the United Methodist Church at a district rally at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church Sunday night. Shown above with

Laurie (center) are her mother, Melba Barker, and her pastor, the Rev. Gene Cobb of Norlina Methodist Church.

(Photo by Mary Hunter)

## Black Lutheran History Discussed

BY LILLIAN KILIAN

In keeping with the observance of Black History Month, the Rev. H. Douglas Rathjen, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ridgeway presented "Highlights of Black Lutheran History," at a meeting of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League on Feb. 13.

He told of a number of black religious leaders who had been lauded for their contributions to the Lutheran Church. During the presentation, a few of the league members stated that they were, or had been, acquainted with one or more of these outstanding leaders.

In the absence of Mrs. Annie Bender, president, Mrs. Elnora Somerville, vice president, presided over the routine business session. She stated that kits for making uniforms for school children in Tanzania have been received, and that three

members of the league volunteered to make the uniforms.

She also noted that on Palm Sunday the League will supply all church members and visitors with a cross made of palms from African Palm Company, Tanzania.

Mrs. Somerville then read letters from various organizations, acknowledging gifts contributed by the league, among which were World Relief, Lutheran Hour Radio Broadcast and International Lutheran Laymen's League.

The league will make a contribution to the "Mission of the Quarter," St. Matthew's Church of Hickory, to help that church with a unique project, the publishing of articles of faith, "Preaching Through the Press," in the local newspaper.

Six members plan to attend the "Joy Event," an annual workshop session of prayer, Bible

study and service to be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Raleigh, on March 15.

After singing the league hymn, saying the pledge and praying, the members enjoyed a social hour with Mrs. Lillian B. Kilian, hostess.

The next meeting will be March 13 with Mrs. Eva Holtzman, hostess.

### Common Link

UCLA School of Medicine researchers have found a common link between distinct families of cancer-causing viruses that may shed light on the changes that lead to cancer.

The researchers showed that the gene believed to be responsible for the cancer associated with the RNA virus, human T cell leukemia virus-II (HTLV-II), is related to a class of genes in DNA viruses which are linked to certain cancers.

This relationship indicates that viral proteins may alter the regulation of genes in normal cells, converting them into malignant cells.

## Methodist Church

### Lists Schedule

Norlina United Methodist Church has announced the following schedule:

Feb. 23, Second Sunday in Lent—Sunday School and confirmation classes at 9:45 a.m. Morning worship at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Gene Cobb preaching on the topic, "Enemies and Friends of the Cross."

Feb. 24—A general meeting of the Norlina United Methodist Women at 8 p.m. at the church.

Feb. 26—Chancel Choir practice at 7:30 p.m.

**LEIGH'S**  
**GEORGE WASHINGTON'S**  
**★ BIRTHDAY SALE ★**

**FEB. 20, 21, 22**  
**Honest to Goodness**  
**Low Prices**

**Ladies: Winter Gowns - Robes**  
**50% Off**  
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

**Rain Coats - Reg. \$99.00**  
**Sale \$58.00**  
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**Ladies Shoes - Values To \$48.00**  
**Reduced To \$10.00**  
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**5 Ladies Roth-LeCover Suits**  
**Reg. \$250.00 - Sale \$75.00**  
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**Boy's and Girl's Sweat Pants**  
**And Shirts**  
**25% To 50% Off**  
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**Boy's Sweaters And**  
**Long Sleeve Shirts**  
**50% Off**  
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**Group Of Men's Shoes**  
**FREEMAN, BOB SMART, HUSH PUPPIES**  
**1/2 Price**



**LEIGH'S**

Leigh Taylor  
Quality Clothing For The Family  
**NORLINA, N. C.**

**NORLINA**



**CLOVER FARM**

**HOORAY!!!**

**WINTER IS MORE THAN HALF OVER. TIME IS NEAR FOR SPRINGTIME PICNICS.**

PRICES EFFECTIVE: FEBRUARY 20, 21, 22

<b>CUBED STEAK</b>	<b>1.69</b> Lb.	<b>FRESH FRYER LEG QUARTERS</b>	<b>29¢</b> Lb.
<b>HEAVY WESTERN STEER BONELESS CHUCK ROAST</b>	<b>1.39</b> Lb.	<b>HEAVY WESTERN STEER FRESH GROUND BEEF</b>	<b>95¢</b> Lb.
<b>HEAVY WESTERN STEER BONELESS STEW BEEF</b>	<b>1.79</b> Lb.	<b>DAIRY CHARM ICE MILK</b>	<b>79¢</b> 1/2 Gal.
<b>WHITE POTATOES</b>	<b>79¢</b> 10 Lb. Plastic Bag	<b>ORANGES</b>	<b>99¢</b> 4 Lb. Bag
<b>ARMOUR POTTED MEAT</b>	<b>3/89¢</b> 3 Oz.	<b>DEL MONTE CATSUP</b>	<b>89¢</b> 32 Oz. Bottle
<b>TROPICANA ORANGE JUICE</b>	<b>99¢</b> 64 Oz. Carton	<b>KRAFT MACARONI &amp; CHEESE</b>	<b>2/89¢</b> 7 1/2 Oz. Box
<b>HARTNESS CHOICE SELF-RISING FLOUR</b>	<b>89¢</b> 5 Lb. Bag	<b>DEL MONTE CUT GREEN BEANS GOLDEN W.K. KERNAL OR CREAM CORN</b>	<b>2/89¢</b> 17 Oz. Can
<b>PET RITZ PIE SHELLS</b>	<b>79¢</b> 2 Per Pkg.	<b>MORTON SALISBURY, TURKEY, CHICKEN OR MEAT LOAF DINNERS</b>	<b>99¢</b> 11 Oz. Box
<b>HEAVY WESTERN STEER SHOULDER ROAST</b>	<b>1.49</b> Lb.	<b>SMITHFIELD BACON</b>	<b>1.39</b> 16 Oz. Pkg.
<b>DELTA TOWELS</b>	<b>2/1.00</b> PP-59¢ Ea.	<b>ARMOUR VIENNA SAUSAGE</b>	<b>2/89¢</b> 5 Oz. Can
<b>STAR KIST CHUNK LIGHT TUNA</b>	<b>69¢</b> In Oil Or Water	<b>TREND DETERGENT</b>	<b>99¢</b> 42 Oz.
<b>COLOROX BLEACH</b>	<b>89¢</b> 5¢ Off 1 Gal.		