



# THE PILOT



## Merchants' Group Expands to Serve Sandhills Towns

### Name Is Changed; Change in Shopping Hours Proposed

The Southern Pines Merchants association is now the Sandhills Merchants association, through a re-christening of the year-old organization at a meeting of directors held last Friday, said L. T. Clark, president.

The change was decided on after the entolling of several members from Pinehurst and Aberdeen, and queries from a number of others wishing to use facilities of the Credit Rating bureau. "There is much exchange of commerce among the three towns and for real effectiveness our association should cover them all. We are going to do our best to do so," Mr. Clark said.

He went on the air at WEEB Friday afternoon to explain the change, also to present two proposals concerning Christmas shopping hours and to urge all Sandhills Christmas shoppers to remain in the Sandhills for their Christmas shopping. "We have in Southern Pines, Pinehurst and Aberdeen a variety of stores and merchandise to fit all needs, wishes and pocketbooks," Mr. Clark said. "Every year many of our Christmas shoppers light out for the nearest big city with their Christmas lists, and return home to find they could have gotten the same things at the same prices or less light in their own neighborhoods."

**Shopping Hours**  
He said this week that members of the association are being queried concerning their willingness to keep their stores open Wednesday afternoons during the Christmas season, for shoppers' convenience, and also wanted their comments on a proposal to

## Weymouth Estate To Be Certified As State Tree Farm

Establishment of Weymouth Estate as a state tree farm Southern Pines, as a state tree farm, measuring up to prescribed standards of the N. C. Forestry association, was announced by William S. Edmunds, of Raleigh, executive director of the association, this week.

Certification of the 1,100-acre tract of timberland will be made officially in the form of an award to be presented with appropriate ceremony some time next month, Mr. Edmunds wrote the owners, James Boyd, Jr., and Daniel Boyd. The award, sponsored jointly by the Forestry association and the Southern Pine association of New Orleans, will be shared by the owners and Don Traylor, resident forester, under whose supervision the high standards of forestry have been maintained.

The presentation will be attended by leading forestry officials of the state, according to plans being made by James A. Pippin, of Rockingham, district forester, who will be in charge. Site and date are to be announced later.

The award recognizes the carrying out of a well-balanced forestry program over at least a five-year period, with the rigorous observance of modern forestry practices, forest management, fire control, etc. With the award is given a metal sign to be placed at some point on the property, designating it as a certified state tree farm.

## AT POST OFFICE

The post office is cooperating in your Christmas mailing problems by staying open all day Saturdays, and Sunday afternoons, until Christmas.

The new hours as announced by Postmaster A. Garland Pierce are as follows:  
Saturdays December 10, 17 and 24—8 a. m. to 6 p. m.  
Sundays December 11 and 18—2 to 5 p. m.

A special stamp window has been opened for the Christmas season, also one for delivery of incoming parcels. The general delivery window, usually an all-purpose one, is being used exclusively for general delivery and outgoing parcels.

## Brown Appointed Census Supervisor in Eighth District

Appointment of W. Lamont Brown, of Southern Pines and Pinebluff, as Eighth District supervisor for the 1950 census has been approved by the Census Bureau at Washington, according to announcement received this week from Congressman C. B. Deane.

Headquarters will be set up at Lexington for the district. Serving under Mr. Brown will be Sam Eanes, Biscoe native now living in Lexington, as assistant supervisor, and Philip Ross Craver of Lexington as chief administrative clerk, Mr. Deane announced.

Something of the size of the district job, part of the biggest nose-counting in history, is seen in statistics released by the Census Bureau. With a headquarters staff of 25, and 25 crew leaders, enumerators employed on a basis of one to 1,000 population will total 386. Mr. Brown and his staff will be on the job for six months, starting soon after the first of the year. Crew leaders will be at work three months and enumerators an estimated six to eight weeks.

Mr. Brown said this week his law office here will remain open and he will be there at stated times each week to look after his law practice during the time of the census.

**Don't Apply Yet**  
He also said that it is far too soon for anyone to apply for jobs, though several have already done so. He declared, "All I know about the work so far is what has been released to the public generally. No instructions have come as yet, and no definite dates set. I have no application forms nor

## Two Arrested in Harnett, Charged With Vass Theft

Sheriff C. J. McDonald said members of his department, aided by an SBI agent, arrested Eldon Bullard and James Douglas at their homes near Olivia, Harnett county, Tuesday night and placed them in Carthage jail charged with breaking and entering the Lee Smith store, near Vass, early Thanksgiving day.

The combination store and service station was "cleaned out" by robbers at that time. Found at the homes of Bullard and Douglas, neighbors on the road from Jonesboro to Fayetteville, were a quilt, adding machine and a quantity of groceries which Mr. and Mrs. Smith identified as theirs.

Hearing of the two men has been postponed pending further investigation, the sheriff said, with the likelihood that additional charges may be lodged against them. Bullard is said to be a soldier, stationed at Fort Bragg, Douglas a former serviceman now employed at Olivia. Both are married.

Assisting Sheriff McDonald in making the arrests were Deputy Sheriff A. W. Lambert and Harnett Constable McDonald (no relation to the Moore sheriff). The SBI was called in early and an agent accompanied the officers Tuesday night.

How the case was broken was not revealed except for the sheriff's statement. "We acted on information received, after working night and day all week.

## Countywide Eye Clinic Will Be Lions' Project

### Health, Welfare Officials Invited To Carthage Meeting

Plans for a countywide mass eye-testing clinic, to be sponsored by all seven Lions clubs of Moore, will be discussed at a dinner meeting to be held at the Carthage hotel at 7 p. m. Tuesday.

Invited to meet with a committee of Lions, headed by Farrell Brown, of Aberdeen, as chairman, are representatives of state and county health and welfare departments and of the N. C. Association for the Blind, also G. M. Cameron, chairman of county commissioners and also of the county health and welfare boards.

The cooperation of all of these will be asked in the project, which will concentrate on the schools for eye-testing of all the children, and also provide free eye-tests for adults at various places in the county.

Lions clubs have always had work among the blind as their major project, and this extends to all phases of eye handicaps and blindness prevention. They provide glasses for needy persons on recommendation of health and welfare authorities, and render various forms of aid to victims of blindness or near blindness.

The plan for the clinic has been approved by W. Lamont Brown, of Pinebluff, zone chairman, and by each club. This will be their first countywide project, and will be handled by a committee representing all the clubs, appointed by Mr. Brown.

Members are: T. Clyde Auman, Harold Markham, of the West End club; Jack Williams, Rudy Womack, Carthage; Hubert McCaskill (secretary), E. O. Ledbetter, Pinehurst; G. E. Walker, W. E. Alexander, Robbins; Leon Wiley, Douglas; David, Pinebluff; Rev. C. W. Worth, Ferrell Brown, Aberdeen; N. A. McGill, W. E. Gladstone, Vass; Zone Chairman Brown, member ex officio.

## 100,000 Trees Being Planted at Spring Hill Farm

Work on a large reforestation project started Tuesday morning on Spring Hill Farms, between Southern Pines and Pinehurst, to transform 100 acres of abandoned peach orchard land into a timber farm of pine. One hundred thousand trees will be planted within a week or 10 days.

The planting of 30,000 longleaf pine seedlings, 60,000 slash pine and 10,000 loblollies is being done by George Pettigrew, of Raleigh, and his tree-planting machine, which operates at a rapid clip on somewhat the same principle as a tobacco planter. It plants 6,000 to 12,000 trees a day.

The land is owned by the Judge W. A. Way Estate, with Mrs. Way in charge. The project is the result of several months' consultation with officials of the N. C. Forestry division of the state department of conservation and development, and is being done according to plans of the division, with seedlings secured from the state nursery at Clayton. Don Traylor, Weymouth Estate forester, has also acted as consultant and is cooperating with the project.

When completed, this will be one of the largest man-made pine forests of the state. The trees will be left to mature to cutting size, then will be thinned according to modern forestry practice under supervision of skilled foresters, returning dividends over many years of productivity.

On completion of the Spring Hill Farm's project Mr. Pettigrew and his planter will take on another in Moore county, planting a 30-acre pine farm for Burke E. Wilson, about four miles west of Aberdeen.

### MAIL TRAINS ADDED

Two local trains carrying mail were added this week by the Seaboard Air Line, as follows—No. 5 southbound, leaves Southern Pines 7:05 a. m.; No. 6 northbound, leaves Southern Pines 11:51 p. m.

## SANTA ARRIVES SATURDAY MORNING, TOWN LIGHTS WILL GO ON THAT NIGHT

All the kids in town from one to 100 years old will be downtown Saturday morning, to see Santa Claus make his triumphal entry to the strains of Christmas music at 10:30 o'clock.

The old Saint will be escorted into town and around the streets of Southern Pines by a police escort, marking the official opening of the Christmas season here.

And Saturday evening at dusk the new street lights will be turned—1,200 many-colored blubs, strung on both sides of Broad street, in the first such display to be seen here since before the war. Silver evergreens erected along the streets will add to the lumbic effect.

**Christmas Music**  
Jack S. Younts, Chamber of Commerce Christmas decoration chairman, said the Christmas music will sound over an amplifying system for 15 minutes every hour Saturday, and also on the two other Saturdays before Christmas, and some of the days between.

The stringing of the lights has occupied the attention of a hard-working crew all week. It's been

a monumental task, and several good Chamber of Commerce members are wearing blisters on their fingers.

Virgil Clark has not only donated the space in front of his service station for the task, but also the services of his employees when they were needed—and they frequently were. Joe Garzik and the firemen were in charge of the silver-sprayed trees. Others did other jobs—it's been a community project.

**Come, All**  
Now it's done, said Harry Fullenwider, Chamber president, it is hoped that everyone within a wide area will come to see, to hear, to enjoy—and to get the Christmas spirit.

He asks particular attention to the shop windows, which the merchants have decorated in friendly competition for judging and awards to be given Christmas week. A residential decoration contest is also under way.

Jackson Motor company is providing a car for Santa Claus Saturday—a new convertible, just what you'd like to see under your tree.

## Federal Government Favors Payment of County's Claim for Airport Damage

### FOR THE NEEDY

Fun at a "fish fry" at the VFW home tonight (Friday) will help make Christmas happier for many needy families of Moore county.

The VFW post and auxiliary are sponsoring the fish fry, planning it as the "best ever" with fish, hush puppies, slaw and all the trimmings. Proceeds will be used for the filling of Christmas baskets, to be delivered just before Christmas at homes where otherwise there might be little cheer. An investigating committee from both organizations has been named to make up the list.

For the fish fry, to be held from 6 to 8 o'clock, the VFW home on West New York avenue is being opened to the public for the first time.

Misses Trudy Stephenson and Pauline Crain are chairmen of the project. Tickets may be secured from them, at the VFW home or from members of the post and auxiliary.

## George C. Burns Passes Suddenly

Lieut. Col. George C. Burns, retired, veteran of the Mexican war and both World wars, died suddenly at 5:15 p. m. last Thursday at his home on Country Club drive, following a heart attack. His death was a profound shock to this community where in a few years of residence he had become one of its best known personalities.

Funeral services were held at the Brownson Memorial Presbyterian church Sunday at 2 p. m., conducted by the pastor, Dr. T. E. Davis. Burial was in the family plot at Mt. Hope cemetery, accompanied by full military honors accorded by a firing squad and bugler of the 82nd Airborne division, Fort Bragg.

Pallbearers were Col. P. G. Shearman, Judge J. Vance Rowe, E. Nolley Jackson, John H. Stephenson, William McAllister, Henry L. Graves, J. M. Pleasants and Leon Talton.

Colonel Burns had for several years operated a successful real estate business here, and also handled properties for out-of-town owners. He was active in veterans' affairs and assisted in the organization of the John Boyd post, VFW, in May, 1946, one month after his retirement from the Army Air corps. He served as the post's first quartermaster.

He was also a member of the Sandhills post, American Legion. He was a member of the Pilgrims Lodge, AF & AM, of Steubenville, Ohio, and was a Shriner.

**Distinguished Record**  
His army record, extending over many years, in which he

## Disastrous Fires Do \$350,000 Damage at Aberdeen, Carthage

### WINS HIGH HONOR



A. L. BURNEY

## Burney Awarded Silver Beaver at Boy Scout Banquet

### Campbell Elected Vice President, Brown and Gilmore On Board

A. L. Burney, of Southern Pines, was the recipient of the Silver Beaver award, highest in volunteer scouting, at the annual meeting and banquet of the Occaneechee council, Boy Scouts of America, held at Meredith college, Raleigh, Thursday night.

His appointment as advancement chairman of the Council was also announced by Harold R. Makepeace, of Sanford, who was reelected president.

Moore district, one of the council's most active and outstanding, was represented by a delegation of 50 or more scouts, in the gathering of some 400 attending the banquet.

With the election of W. D. Campbell, of Southern Pines, as vice president; approval of W. Lamont Brown, of Pinebluff, as district chairman, and appointment of Voit Gilmore, Southern Pines, as a member at large, this gives Moore district four members on the Council's executive board.

**For Distinguished Service**  
In a full program a-sparkle with progress reports, and the singling out of many individuals for credit in a year of consistent forward movement, the Silver Beaver awards held the spotlight as marking years of distinguished service and hard work in behalf of Boy Scouting.

Moore now has a contingent of five men who wear the blue and white ribbon and silver emblem of the Silver Beaver. The others are N. L. Hodgkins, Paul C. Butler, W. D. Campbell and L. L. Hallman.

Mr. Burney, moving this year for the first time into Council levels, won the award for his service to the Moore district in the past four years, in which he served on the district committee first as chairman of organization and extension and for the past

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## Grade School Burns, Also Warehouse With Carnival Equipment

Two of the most disastrous fires seen in Moore county in years occurred this week within four days of each other, for a total estimated loss of almost a half million dollars (replacement value).

The Aberdeen elementary school was gutted by fire just before dawn Friday. Tuesday night, around 6 o'clock, the Smothers Brothers Warehouse No. 1 at Carthage, housing the Penn Premier shows in winter quarters, was razed in a spectacular and costly blaze.

Loss of the elementary school at Aberdeen, where ground has only recently been broken for a new school, was momentous mainly in the dislocation of classes which must be experienced for the rest of the year. This week the eighth grade, two first grades and two second grades are meeting at the Baptist church, two seventh grades in the high school gymnasium, two third grades in the Methodist church educational building. Fourth, fifth and sixth grades, crowded out of the old building, will continue to meet

## N. C. Symphony Will Perform Here Twice April 11

A contract has been signed to bring the full N. C. Symphony orchestra to Southern Pines April 11, it was revealed by Voit Gilmore, president of the Sandhills Music association, at a meeting of the association held at the library Tuesday night.

By April 11—barring emergencies—the new school auditorium will be completed, with a seating capacity of 750 persons and a stage large enough to hold the 63-piece orchestra.

The presentation here will include a free afternoon concert for schoolchildren and a paid performance, open to the public, that night. Cost of bringing the symphony is considerable. "We are not planning to make money on the project," President Gilmore said. "If we can bring such an outstanding musical event here and break even, we will be satisfied. Our main hope is that sufficient interest will be shown, and pleasure given, for the association to go ahead with plans for a series of musical events to be held at the auditorium next season."

Dr. W. F. Hollister will be campaign chairman, in charge of pre-concert ticket sales.

A preliminary program using local talent was decided on for January or February, Miss Birdilia Bair was named chairman for this event, the nature of which will be decided later.

Incidental expenses of the association are to be met by small membership dues settled on at the Tuesday meeting, with William F. Henderson, treasurer, in charge of their collection.

## These Will Also Serve Boy Scouting On Council Level



VOIT GILMORE  
Member at Large



LAMONT BROWN  
District Chairman



W. D. CAMPBELL  
Vice President