



MOORE COUNTY SCHOOLKIDS were honored and entertained by the USAF Air-Ground Operations school in cooperation with the Sandhills Kiwanis club on National Kids Day.

In the morning winners in a model airplane contest took over the top administrative jobs at the school. At noon Brig. Gen. W. M. Gross, resuming his position as commandant, presented "decorations" and certificates to the six boys and one girl shown above. They are, from left, listed with the positions they filled: Henry Turner, Southern Pines, commandant; Jimmy Wynn, Pinehurst, deputy commandant; Billy

Bertrand, Pinehurst, school secretary; Chuck Ward, Southern Pines, deputy for education (Air); David Prim, Southern Pines, deputy for education (Army); Mary Elizabeth Chappell, Southern Pines, squadron commander; Mike Pearce, Pinehurst, adjutant; Kenny Holliday, Southern Pines, mess officer.

In the afternoon, hundreds of kids were brought in from all over the county and transported to Fort Bragg for a demonstration of new planes and paratroop jumping.

Jimmy Wynn, second boy above, is the grandson of General Marshall.

Townfolk Will Fete USAFAGOS Men and Families Armistice Day

MAKE IT SPARKLE!

"Make It Sparkle!"—That's General Gross' way of telling his men at USAFAGOS. "Let's do a good job!"

The community has its chance now to "make it sparkle" at the Armistice Day supper and dance for the USAFAGOS staff.

In an adjoining story The Pilot has listed many of the worthwhile things this school has done for our community. The list is far from complete. But it gives you an idea.

On Page 8 you will find a story written by General Gross, and published in a military journal, which tells the story of USAFAGOS itself—its history, its methods, its objectives—in his own words. It is an impressive account.

It's a community event Wednesday—let's "Make It Sparkle!"

Tickets On Sale For Supper, Dance "In Appreciation"

Armistice Day in Southern Pines will be observed in a unique manner—a celebration honoring the officers and men of the USAF Air-Ground Operations school, and their families.

Sponsored by the VFW, American Legion and other local organizations in cooperation, the observance will take the form of an outdoor supper and dance Wednesday evening at which the USAFAGOS personnel will be guests of the townspeople.

Tickets are being sold which have two parts. Costing \$2, each one admits the buyer and his guest to the supper. As they are purchased the two halves will be separated, and the part for the guest sent to the Air-Ground School.

The VFW Auxiliary is in charge of the ticket sale.

Louis Scheipers, commander of the John Boyd post, VFW, said there will probably be about 250 guests. This will include all the officers and men from the Air-Ground school and their families, also about 30 young soldiers from Fort Bragg who assisted in repairs on the town lake, with the help of Brig. Gen. W. M. Gross, school commandant, in answer to an SOS from the citizen committee in charge.

The supper will start at 5:30 p. m. on the municipal tennis courts, and will be followed by a street dance for which an orchestra has been secured.

In behalf of the ticket sale, Charles Swoope of the Forty and Eight announced that that organization's famous little locomotive will be at the park, on the New York avenue side, right after lunch time Wednesday afternoon, and will give rides to all ticket buyers, also their children.

Sponsors of the celebration said it was to give the citizens opportunity to express appreciation to the Air-Ground school, which in two and a half years has come to mean a great deal to the community.

"Everyone knows it is important to our nation's defense—though maybe not many realize just how important," they said. "It is also extremely important to our town, and we want to say thanks for the privilege of having it here."



Col. C. H. Williams, left, awarding diploma to USAFAGOS' 10,000th graduate, Col. Charles McDermott of Mitchell AFB.

are 15 Army officers on the staff, one Marine officer and one exchange instructor from the Royal Air Force of England.

Most of the officers are staff instructors, training other officers sent in each week from all over the country in various phases of modern air-ground coordination in warfare.

Officers and men are also engaged in activities of administration, motor transportation, supply, training aids, finance, billeting, security and the mess.

The families form a lively part of local life. Almost as soon as the school opened, the wives organized a club and offered their services to the Red Cross. They were put to work at once in the Motor Service.

The young single men also are becoming more and more a part of the town. Twelve of them have married local girls, and two more are being married today (Friday).

The school does its part in almost every community endeavor, and citizens have learned to say in response to many a need, "Let's ask the folks at USAFAGOS to help."

More Than Their Share

They do far more than their share in every local campaign, with 100 per cent contribution practically every time, and are the largest group to give blood when the Bloodmobile comes.

They have responded instantly several times when the need for blood transfusion purposes was made known to them, and have in this way very likely saved several lives. One such response for a prominent local man, was made just last week.

They have fought forest fires and now have their own fire truck and department, which have been offered to supplement community facilities of the need should arise.

They supply speakers for groups and special occasions, judges for contests, masters of ceremonies for such events as the recent Halloween carnival.

Honorary Citizen

The list of their community services already is practically endless, and growing every day. In partial recognition of these, General Gross was made Southern Pines' first honorary citizen by Mayor C. N. Page in 1952, re-

(Continued on Page 8)

Music Association Announces Plans For Winter Series

Don Cossacks Will Appear Next Month: Seats On Sale

The Sandhills Music Association concert series, popular musical event of the past four years, will be launched again this winter, it was announced at a meeting of the sponsoring organization Tuesday night.

Gathering in the Southern Pines Library, the group, whose members included representatives of Aberdeen, Pinehurst, and McCain, as well as Southern Pines, voted to start the sale of tickets immediately in conjunction with a drive for new members.

Dr. William J. Hollister, president, outlined the series of events which opens with the Don Cossack Choir on December 12.

Next on the list are Nelson and Neal, duo-pianists, on February 12, The Vienna String Orchestra on March 11, and the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra on April 23, with a date in January still remaining open.

Mrs. Paul T. Barnum will, as usual, conduct the sale of tickets from her office at the Barnum Agency on Broad Street.

The membership drive is in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Premo and Mr. and Mrs. Voit Gilmore, with publicity carried by a committee of Mrs. Hollister and Mrs. Hoke Pollock, with Mrs. J. G. L. Dundas as chairman. Letters were sent out this week to all county towns urging support of the organization in its attempt to bring good music to Moore County.

Following a discussion of the program for the year, which is to include three free concerts, the annual free children's concert of the state orchestra, the Young Musicians concert, and an evening of song by the Madrigal Singers, local amateur choral society, the president appointed the following "helpers" for the season: entertainment of guest artists: Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Johnson of Aberdeen; in charge of properties: Messrs Bill Benson, A. C. Dawson, Miss Laura Kelsey, and Mr. Thomas Howerton, chairman.

Mrs. N. L. Hodgkins, Jr., president of the county Music Educators' Club, was asked to assist her mother-in-law in making arrangements for the Young Musicians concert held late in the spring, at which pupils of all county teachers are the performers. Mrs. James Boyd and Dr. William Peck serve on the committee with them. The junior Mrs. Hodgkins also will work with Mrs. Ralph Chandler, Jr., on pre-concert arrangements for the children's symphony concert, including sending educational material to the schools.

Besides Dr. Hollister, as president, officers of the Music Association include Dr. Bruce Warlick, treasurer, and Mrs. William Wood, secretary.

SPHS Plays Today At Red Springs For District Title

A caravan of Southern Pines cars will be wending its way to Red Springs this afternoon, carrying a cheering, rooting citizenry to see the Blue Knights of Southern Pines High school play the district championship game.

The Moore County six-man football champs will meet the Clarkton team, champs of Bladen county, in the district playoff. Kickoff time is 3 o'clock.

The school band and majorettes will be on hand to put on their half-time show.

If the Blue Knights win today, they will be contenders for the Eastern Conference championship, and—if they win that—the State championship.

Southern Pines has held the State championship once in the past—unofficially, however, as it was before organization of official conference play. The local school authorities were instrumental in having the official program set up on a statewide basis the following year, and once since then the team has made its way to the Eastern Conference championship.

N. L. Hodgkins Elected President Sandhills Kiwanis

The Sandhills Kiwanis club held the annual election of officers and directors at the luncheon-meeting, held at the Pine Needles clubhouse this week. Elected to serve for the following year were: president, N. L. Hodgkins; vice-president, John F. Taylor of Aberdeen; secretary-treasurer, John Ponzer.

The following were elected directors: Paul Dana and I. C. Sledge of Pinehurst, Dr. E. M. Medlin of Aberdeen, and Gen. R. B. Hill, J. Graves Vann, Jr., W. P. Saunders and W. Ward Hill of Southern Pines.

Following the election, the gathering heard an address delivered by Coble Funderburk of Monroe, announced Eight District Democratic candidate for the U. S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Funderburk, who is a graduate of Wake Forest Law school, class of 1931, and is now practicing law in Monroe, has served three times in the state assembly, once in the House and twice as state senator.

Basing his remarks on the belief that America is too complacent, the speaker drew the analogy of the eagle who stirs his own nest, driving out the young to fly for themselves. Quoting from the Bible, from Edison, ("show me a contented man and you show me a failure,") and from the U. S. Supreme Court, ("free speech serves its high purpose best when it stirs a people to discontent,") he launched a scattered attack on the weakness of present-day religion, on education ("50 per cent of the world is illiterate,") on piling up the national debt, on high taxes, on the program of foreign aid, and on centralization of power in the federal government.

Mr. Funderburk called attention to the mounting score in juvenile delinquency and to the fact that the nation spends twice as much on alcoholic beverages as it does on schools and nine times as much as it does on churches.

The speaker did not offer any alternative program or suggestions for doing away with the wrongs he decried.

Famous O'Neill Comedy Will Be Seen At Auditorium

The Eugene O'Neill comedy, "Ah, Wilderness!" will be presented here Saturday evening by the also-famous Barter Theatre of Abingdon, Va., one of the nation's major professional drama groups.

Sponsored by the Southern Pines Lions club, the performance will be given at Weaver auditorium—curtain time 8 o'clock.

An experienced professional cast of 12 will be seen in the play, the only comedy written by O'Neill, acknowledged as the nation's greatest playwright. The play has many moments of laughter, others of deep heart-interest, as it presents the yearnings of an adolescent boy for a richer life. Living in a world of imagination, the 17-year-old's brushes with reality are funny and also pathetic, and the course by which he reaches a level of maturity is presented with understanding and skill.

The Barter Theatre, of which Robert Porterfield is director, has been a training ground for many actors and actresses who have reached the heights in the film and stage worlds. While once its members were apprentices of dramatic art, now it numbers many highly skilled veterans.

"Ah, Wilderness!" is the first play to be imported here in many years. Tickets may be obtained from members of the Lions club. All seats are reserved.

Nobel Peace Prize Winner Gen. George C. Marshall, former Chief of Staff, Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense, with Mrs. Marshall at their Pinehurst home. The picture was made Saturday, the day after the announcement of the 1953 award was made by the Nobel Institute of Oslo, Norway.

Fighting a flu virus, the General quit his sickbed for a short time to receive reporters and photographers. Story on Page 9. (Photo by John G. Hemmer)



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8th District Headquarters Moving Here

Lockey Confirms Plans For Building, Also For US 1

A building to house headquarters of the Eighth Highway Division will be built on property which the State will acquire on US Highway 1 near Aberdeen, just north of the Dairy Queen.

Authorization to purchase the 2.03 acre site was given District Commissioner Forrest Lockey of Aberdeen by the State Highway Commission last week. The land is part of the Forest Hills subdivision owned by J. Talbot Johnson and Mrs. Leon Seymour.

Decision to move the headquarters to this area from Asheboro, in Randolph county, was made following the re-districting which now gives the State 14 highway districts instead of 12. With the change Moore county became the center of his district, Mr. Lockey pointed out, with the other seven touching it in a border. These are Chatham, Lee, Hoke, Richmond, Scotland, Montgomery and Randolph.

Also, he said, it was important to place it, if possible on a main line railroad, for speedy delivery of mail, and other reasons.

The project will give the district a permanent headquarters, instead of second-floor rented quarters it now occupies. It will also give Commissioner Lockey an office close to his home and business, enabling him to put more time on the district job.

No plans have been announced for relocation of the shops, now also at Asheboro, and Mr. Lockey said he could not tell how many staff members would be moved to this section.

Payment of \$4,500 was authorized for the land. The money for the building was appropriated a year ago, for a permanent headquarters for the old Sixth District, as it was then.

At the same time the announcement was made, it was revealed that plans for many improvements of US Highway 1 were being made through cooperation of Mr. Lockey and the Fifth District Commissioner, Donnie Sorrell of Durham. The highway lies in these two districts from state line to state line. Major features reported "in the works" are bypasses around Henderson and Raleigh, straightening of bad curves in the Sanford area and improvements for some distance south of Aberdeen.

Children Start Grass Fires Here; Chief Urges Care

A warning for extra care in view of current dry conditions, with especial precautions in regard to children at play, was issued Thursday by Fire Chief Harold B. Fowler.

His message followed a busy week in which the volunteer fire department was called out on a number of grass fires, of which at least three were started by children.

This is dangerous at any time, warned the Chief. However, grass and trees are tinderbox dry following a long drought, and he said, "we are lucky to have had no serious disaster so far."

The firemen went to a grass fire during the past week on the grounds of the William P. Saunders home, just behind the Buchholz home, where a pile of wood was burned; another along a path between Illinois and Indiana avenues, east of Broad street; two fires in West Southern Pines which got out of control as trash or junk was being burned; and a grass fire in the 200 block of East New Jersey avenue.

One or two of the alarms stacked up on each other. Once the firemen had just returned and were filling the tank when another alarm came in.

"Fortunately," said Chief Fowler, "we have been able to get to all these fires fast enough to prevent any real damage. We might not be so lucky next time."

Firest Fires

The warning followed that of District Forester James A. Pippin of Rockingham, who was in town (Continued on Page 8)

Christmas Seal Sale Opens Soon

June Blue, county Christmas Seal Sale chairman for 1953 for the Moore County Tuberculosis association, this week announced the community chairman who will work with him toward achievement of the \$7,105 quota. Seals will be placed in the mail Monday, November 16.

The county quota this year, also most of the community quotas, are slightly smaller than last year. This is because last year extra effort was needed to finance the purchase of X-ray equipment for the county Health Center at Carthage. The equipment was purchased and installed, and by the end of 1953 will have been used for more than 1,000 free X-rays.

This year, said hChairman Blue, the budget includes \$500 to be contributed toward the mass X-ray to take place in all schools of the county during February. Other items in the budget are normal expenses of the program, principally aid in various forms for needy people stricken by the disease of tuberculosis. In its years of existence the program has improved the condition and actually saved the lives of several hundred persons.

Roderick Innis of Pinehurst has been appointed campaign treasurer. The list of community chairmen includes many who have served this cause year after year.

The Negro Division is headed by H. L. Bryant of Aberdeen, with a quota of \$1,000.

In the county communities, Southern Pines has been assigned the largest quota, \$1,600, with Joe Garzik as chairman.

Also: Pinebluff, Mrs. Timothy Cleary, \$200; Aberdeen, J. D. Arey, Jr., \$1,000; Pinehurst, Dick (Continued on Page 8)

Negro Farmer Is Moore's 12th Highway Fatality

A 54-year-old Negro farmer, Paul Ledbetter, of West End Rt. 1, was almost instantly killed in an automobile accident at Eastwood Saturday afternoon. This was the 12th fatality on Moore County highways since the start of the year.

According to Patrolman Johnnie Lowrimore, who is investigating the accident, Ledbetter was driving north on the Pinehurst-Carthage road when his car veered to the left, crossed the center line and hit the side of a southbound truck. The body of the truck was of wooden construction and a board flew off and pierced the windshield of Ledbetter's car, striking him in the throat and penetrating to the jugular vein.

The truck, driven by Lather Williams of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie, Fla., was the first of two in a line heading homeward after taking produce to New York. The second truck, with an employee of Williams at the wheel, skidded some distance as the driver braked down desperately to avoid the crash just ahead. He missed plowing into Ledbetter's car by just (Continued on Page 8)