

SHOP AND SAVE!
 SPRING VALUE
 DAYS MAY 13-15

THE PILOT

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SIXTEEN PAGES

SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1954

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PRICE—TEN CENTS

Sales Event Slated By Merchants

Spring Value Days
 May 13-15 Sponsored
 By Chamber Commerce

Yellow and green posters giving notice of Spring Value Days to be held next weekend—May 13, 14 and 15—went on display Thursday at more than 30 local stores and other business places.

The participating stores also received quantities of coupons for the prize drawing contest, which are to be given with purchases before and during the cooperative sales event.

The end-of-season sale, offering many specials in both merchandise and services, is a project of member merchants of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce, with Miss Katharine T. MacDonald as chairman.

The coupons are to be deposited in containers set up in each store, and other coupons will appear in advertising to be sponsored next week by the merchants and also by the Chamber of Commerce.

An appropriation of \$250, or more than \$100 more than was spent by the Chamber in promoting the first Value Days event, held last fall, was approved by the Chamber directors for the sale promotion covering newspaper and radio advertising, handbills, posters, cards for store "specials" and a \$25 Grand Prize, offered by the Chamber in connection with the prize drawing.

Each store will offer its own prize after a drawing to be held Saturday afternoon, May 15, and the coupons will all be put together then for a drawing for the \$25 prize. The prize drawing feature is limited to adults.

Member merchants of the Chamber who have not yet joined in with the sale event, but who wish to do so, are asked to call Miss MacDonald or Miss Alice Baxter, secretary, at the Chamber office, before close of business Saturday, also merchants who are not members of the Chamber, but wish to join in time to take part in the Spring Value Days.

Democrats Set Precinct Meets For Saturday

Precinct meetings to elect precinct chairmen and committeemen will be held by Democrats throughout the county Saturday, time and place to be set by each precinct chairman.

In Southern Pines, Chairman L. V. O'Callaghan announces that the meeting will be held at the American Legion hut on Vermont Ave. at 2 p. m. He urges all Democrats to attend.

The Democratic County convention will be held at the courthouse in Carthage Saturday, May 15, at 3 p. m. to elect delegates to the State Convention which will be held in Raleigh, Thursday, May 20, according to announcement by W. Lamont Brown, chairman of the Moore County Democratic Executive Committee.

Registration for voting in the Democratic primary May 29 continues this week with registrars at polling places from 9 a. m. to sunset Saturday. Registration will run through Saturday, May 15.

The local polling place is the fire house on New Hampshire Ave.

TAG SALE
 The annual tag sale for benefit of the Moore County Maternal Welfare Committee will be held Saturday in Southern Pines and other communities throughout the county. Mrs. Claude Reams is in charge of the local sale. Tags will be sold outside the post office and the Citizens Bank and Trust Co. Tag funds are used to support a free bed in the Moore County Hospital Maternity ward, for prenatal clinics and other maternal welfare purposes.

High School Baseball Team -- Group and Area Champions



The Blue Knights of Southern Pines High School, with the area and group championships in the state playoffs tucked away, face their toughest test of the season today (Friday) in a district championship game with Red Springs here at 3:30 p. m. Members of the squad are—kneeling, left to right: David McCallum, assistant manager, Bobby Cline, Kenneth Creech, Thomas Vann.

Charles Watkins, Billy Hamel, Anthony Spinello, Lynn Van Benschoten, Joe Marley, Jimmy McDonald, manager. Standing, same order: Coach Irie Leonard, David Page, Garland Pierce, Harold McNeill, Winifred Cox, Tommy Ruggles, Jimmy Barber, Jerry Daeke, Tony Parker, Donald Van Benschoten, Bobby Watkins. (Photo by Emerson Humphrey)

Blue Knights To Play Here Today For District Title

Southern Pines High School Blue Knights captured the group championship in the N. C. high school baseball playoff Wednesday when they defeated Massey Hill of Cumberland County, 3-2, in an exciting game at Memorial Field here.

On the mound all the way, David Page pitched a great game. Billy Cox led the hitting for Southern Pines.

The victory put Southern Pines in a playoff that will take place here today (Friday) at 3:30 p. m. with Red Springs, for the district championship. Today's contest is expected to be a close, hard-fought game with tough opposition from the visitors.

County Tournament
 Play in the Moore County High School baseball tournament is due to start next week. If Southern Pines wins the Red Springs contest, the Blue Knights become automatic Moore County champs. The county tournament will then be run off without participation by the local boys. If Southern Pines does not win the Red Springs game, the Knights will take part in the county playoffs.

Pairings to take care of both of these eventualities have been drawn up by the Educoc Club committee planning the tournament.

In a game with Farm Life High School last Friday, the Blue Knights gained a walloping 17-3 victory. Johnny Watkins, who hurled two and a half innings, was the winning pitcher. McCaskill was on the mound for Farm Life.

OFFICE CLOSED
 The Chamber of Commerce office will be closed Monday, as the Secretary will be out of town.

Students Elect Council Officers

Patti Woodell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac A. Woodell, was elected president of the student council at Southern Pines High School in voting by students at the school last Friday.

Other student council officers named by the students are: vice-president, Bobby Cline, son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Cline; corresponding secretary, Norma Bowles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Bowles; recording secretary, Thomas Vann, son of Mrs. T. C. Vann and the late Mr. Vann; and treasurer, John McConnell, son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. McConnell.

The election followed a nominating convention Friday morning in which delegates presented their candidates with forceful speeches, mounted placards and other means. One musical skit, performed by a diminutive band, consisted of a rendition of a famous concerto.

After the nominations, students voted throughout the day at study hall periods. Members of the 1953-54 student council presided

Lagging Civil Defense Program Is To Get Boost In Meeting Next Week

Public Invited To Attend Discussion Session On May 14
 A drive to complete Southern Pines' lagging Civil Defense program will begin with a public meeting at Weaver Auditorium Friday, May 14, at 8 p. m., it was announced this week.

Asking the question, "How well is Southern Pines prepared for a tornado?", local and county Civil Defense officials stressed in announcing the meeting that the peace-time benefits of a well-organized Civil Defense program alone are worth the effort to set up and maintain a local program. They cited cases of lives saved and community disaster relieved by efforts of Civil Defense volunteers in towns and cities hit by tornadoes in recent years.

Gen. A. V. Arnold, head of Civil Defense in Moore County, Gen. Roger M. Wicks, county warden, and Louis Scheipers, Jr., local warden, are planning the May 14 meeting. An effort will be made to set up the warden system in Southern Pines. A civil defense film is tentatively scheduled.

All persons willing to volunteer for Civil Defense work are especially urged to attend the meeting, as well as the largest possible number of citizens.

BANKS CLOSE MONDAY
 The Citizens Bank and Trust Co., Southern Pines, and other banks in this area will be closed Monday in observance of Confederate Memorial Day, a legal holiday in this state.

HEARING ON CODE
 Public hearing on a proposed plumbing and heating code for Southern Pines will be held in the town hall at 8 p. m. Tuesday, May 11.

Center Keys Now At Town Office

Any one wanting to use the community center building on May St. should call for the keys at town hall, it was announced this week by the recreation commission.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Leonard have moved from the community center where they were residents in charge of the building.

The center recently was put up for sale by auction, with a single bid of \$3,000 made, a figure the town council is not expected to accept.

A sub-committee of the Citizens Advisory Committee recommended to the council that the building be sold and the proceeds used to build a more centrally located and more efficiently usable structure.

DRIVE NEARS GOAL
 The 1954 fund campaign of the American Cancer Society in Southern Pines is within \$150 of its \$700 goal, Mrs. J. S. Milliken, local chairman, said this week. Many who have customarily given in past years have not yet contributed, said Mrs. Milliken. Contributions may still be sent to the chairman at Box 55, Southern Pines.

Young Musicians Will Perform In Concert Saturday

Fifteen Moore County young people will perform Saturday night at the Pinehurst Country Club in the fifth annual Young Musicians' Concert sponsored by the Sandhills Music Association. The concert will begin at 8 p. m.

Those taking part in the popular event include music students in schools of the county or with private teachers and several college students whose homes are in Moore. Most of the performers will play the piano, but there is one trombone selection and several will sing.

Program co-chairmen are Mrs. N. L. Hodgkins, Sr., and Mrs. N. L. Hodgkins, Jr. Dr. William F. Hollister of Midland Road, president of the Music Association will be master of ceremonies.

There will be no admission charge. The program ends the 1953-1954 series of musical events sponsored by the Sandhills Music Association. The regular concert series ended with the appearance of the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra here April 16.

Program Given
 On the program are: Sue Cameron of Vass-Lakeview, piano, "The Ballet Dancer, Op. 40, No. 6," Bjone Ralseth; teacher—Mrs. H. D. McInnis.

Henry Turner, Jr., of Southern Pines, piano, "Spinning Song," (Continued on Page 5)

Officials See Difficulty In County Home Change

ELKS TO HONOR MOTHERS SUNDAY

Southern Pines Elks will honor mothers of the community when the lodge's annual Mother's Day service will be held Sunday at 5 p. m. in the ballroom of the Southern Pines Country Club.

The public is invited, with all mothers given a special invitation to attend.

Commissioners Get Outline of School Needs

Highfalls Delegation Asks Deputy: Other Requests Considered

Anyone who questions the statement that running Moore County is Big Business should attend a commissioners meeting and listen to the figures that form part of the monthly discussion.

At last Monday's meeting, Mrs. Bessie Griffin, register of deeds, added a new record. She said that her office was doing a whale of a lot of business, these days, with the past April one of the biggest months on record. During that month somewhat more than \$1200 was collected in fees for registration of deeds, marriage licenses, birth certificates and so on.

Southern Pines School Needs
 From the standpoint of Southern Pines, the point of greatest interest in the commissioners' meeting was the discussion of school fund allocations, in response to the presentation of local needs made by John Howarth, chairman of the Southern Pines school board, and A. C. Dawson, school superintendent.

The sum of \$193,000 was given by the Southern Pines men as the amount needed to cover the expansion program that must be met in both the Southern Pines and West Southern Pines schools, to take care of the growing enrollment. In laying the details before the board, the discussion developed into an "if the county give so much, the state would give so much," proposition with the present state allocation, now available, standing at around \$29,000, and a balance on hand of \$15,000. Further state help apparently depends on whether or not the school board has in view sufficient funds to complete the project . . . which was where the county entered into the picture. (Continued on Page 8)

County Board Replies To Pilot's Story

The Pilot this week received a letter from the Moore County Board of Commissioners, as a reply to the article published in last week's issue, "County Home Poses Human, Financial Problem."

Describing conditions at the County Home and containing a brief review of its financial setup, which, it was believed, constituted an unwarranted drain on county finances, the article has brought many comments, with the only official statement, thus far, coming from the commissioners in the form of the letter printed below.

Dated May 4, it is signed by Gordon M. Cameron, as chairman of the board. Inquiries of individual commissioners brought the information that none had read the letter, but its contents was discussed and Mr. Cameron was authorized by the board to write it in the name of the full board.

Quered as to the letter's contents, Mr. Cameron said that the main problem of the Home, which, thus far, the commissioners have been unable to solve was that of taking care of Negro mental cases in any other way than in the home.

"There is no other place for them," Mr. Cameron said. "The colored mentally afflicted are constantly being sent back to us when we place them elsewhere and the only thing we can do is to keep the Home going so there will be a place for them."

When it was pointed out that there are only two colored people at present at the Home, of whom neither one is mentally deranged, he said that this was a temporary state.

(The Pilot article was in error in stating that one of the two Negroes was a mental case. This case had been sent to the Home from the jail.)

The state setup in this respect includes the Mental Hospital for Negroes in Goldsboro, where Moore County cases are occasionally sent. There are also several private nursing homes for Negroes which, while not equipped to take insane patients, take many who are senile and mentally deranged from old age. The two nearest are Coker Boarding Home near Fayetteville, and St. John's Nursing Home near Laurinburg, to both of which Moore County colored patients have been sent. There are at present 11 Moore County patients, both white and Negro, being taken care of in private nursing homes.

Mr. Cameron assured the Pilot that "the County Home is much on the minds of the commissioners." Asked if his letter should be considered the last word from the commissioners on the subject, he said he was not able to speak for the board without further consultation, but he felt the problem would continue to have their consideration.

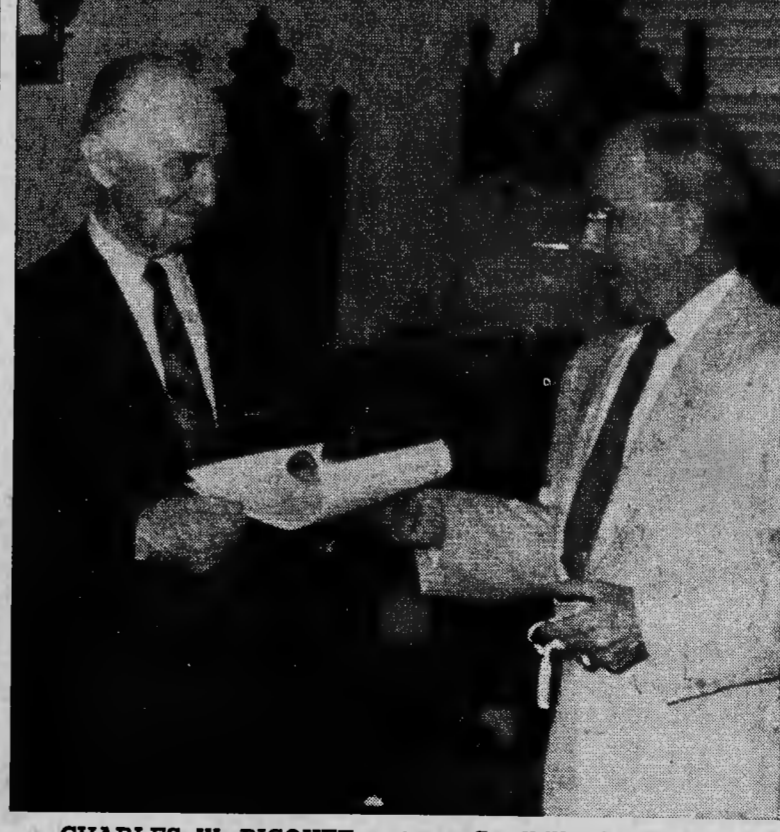
The commissioners' letter to the Pilot follows:
 The Pilot,
 Southern Pines, N. C.
 Referring to your article in last week's paper regarding the County Home beg to answer as follows:
 As for the County Commissioners, their hides are tough and can take the criticism but we do feel the article was most unfair, unjust (Continued on Page 5)

Band Tag Day Slated May 15

A tag day for benefit of the Southern Pines High School band will be held Saturday, May 15, it was announced this week by Band Director L. H. Ledden.

Majorettes in uniform and other High School girls will sell tags in the business section to help raise needed funds for purchase of new band instruments badly needed by the organization.

The band gave its third annual concert at Weaver Auditorium last Friday night before an enthusiastic audience.



CHARLES W. PICQUET, veteran Sandhills theatre owner, left, receives from D. Wade Stevick a citation by Southern Pines Lodge 484, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, recognizing him for his civic and entertainment services during the past 42 years. Seated in the background is L. R. McRae, master of the lodge, who presided during the supper meeting honoring Mr. Picquet in the lodge hall Monday evening. Mr. Stevick was a member of the committee in charge of the event. "In receiving this honor," said Mr. Picquet, "my cup runneth over," and it is difficult for me to express my appreciation of it." He has been a member of the lodge for 30 years. (Photo by Walter Harper)



PATTI WOODPELL at the ballot box. Several of the races were close, requiring run-offs.