



January 31 Set As Date For Election On Issuance Of \$450,000 Town Bonds

Alice Baxter Is Leaving Post At C. of C. Office

Miss Alice S. Baxter, manager of the Chamber of Commerce office since May, 1953, tendered her resignation to the board of directors at their regular meeting held Tuesday night at the Southland Hotel.

The license bureau of the Carolina Motor Club at the Chamber of Commerce office in the Southland Hotel will be closed from January 1 at least through February 15, because of lack of trained personnel to operate it, it was learned here today.

It is expected that the license bureau will reopen, for routine business, after the "rush period" of general license plate sales ends February 15.

will reopen after the New Year holiday, the 1956 auto license sale begins—the most rushing season of the year. For the license sale not only is a specially trained person required to be in charge, but extra help is needed.

Miss Baxter said she was sorry to leave at such a time, but had turned down two job offers in consideration of the license sale and when the third came along, felt she could not pass it up.

CHRISTMAS WITHIN

"Christmas Within!" This is the sign decorating the small bulletin board in front of the Library, this week, and until New Year's Day.

Those who follow its inviting message, who enter the door and go on into the Gallery inside, will experience perhaps, a slightly different Christmas.

Here is not the home Christmas or the church Christmas, but this is a Christmas that dates back through many homes and many churches. In the reproductions of old paintings of the Madonna and Child, in the singing angels, and even in the decorative tree, styled with a touch of Byzantine stiffness, here is a hint of how through the ages, men's hearts were drawn to express, through art, through music, through the creation of beauty, the Beauty that was born in Bethlehem: when, in that little Town, long ago: "All the bells on earth did ring On Christmas Day in the morning."

GREETINGS FROM AIR-GROUND SCHOOL

With the approach of Christmas, many people will be at home with their families and friends. Many others, however, have duties that will keep them far away. This applies particularly to many members of our defense forces. Numerous military installations are located in remote areas, even within our own country, and those on duty there will experience considerable loneliness during the holiday season.

For the members of our Air Force and Army assigned to the USAF Air-Ground Operations School, this Christmas will be far more pleasant than the ones we have spent in Korea, Alaska, Okinawa, Africa or other foreign bases. This is due in large measure to the friendliness with which you of the Sandhills have accepted us and made us full members of your fine community. To each of you the USAF Air-Ground Operations School extends best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Citizens To Vote Separately On Four Different Projects

Meeting at town hall Monday in special session, the town council set the date for a \$450,000 municipal bond election as Tuesday, January 31.

In the election, citizens will be able to vote separately on four propositions: \$150,000 for water improvements; \$150,000 for sewer improvements; \$100,000 for a municipal building to house town hall, jail, fire department and other offices; and \$50,000 for a West Southern Pines swimming pool and nearby structures.

Persons who were registered to vote in the town council election last May need not register again to vote January 31. Persons who are not registered may register between 13 and January 20 at the fire station.

Requirements for voting are residence of one year in North Carolina and 30 days in Southern Pines, prior to the election, as well as residence within the city limits.

Mrs. Grace Kaylor was appointed registrar by action of the council Monday. Mrs. Gertrude Stevenson and Robert Strouse were named judges of election.

Starting next week, The Pilot will run a series of four explanatory stories—one on each of the propositions to come before the voters January 31.

Construction At Hospital Slated For Early In '56

Construction of additions and improvements to Moore County Hospital — for which bids were opened and low bids accepted by the board of directors last week — is expected to begin "early in 1956," Thomas R. Howerton, administrator, said this week.

Contracts totalling \$366,700 will be awarded as soon as official approval is obtained from the U. S. Public Health Service and the North Carolina Medical Care Commission, the administrator stated.

Added to the construction contracts will be: \$26,000 for costs of movable equipment such as beds, patient room furniture, surgical instruments, linens and lobby furniture; \$22,002 for architect's fee; and a contingency fee of \$10,298.

These three items, plus the construction contracts, add up to \$425,000 which is the amount of the "project" in which the Public Health Service and Medical Care Commission will participate financially.

Addition of \$9,627.98 for items included in the construction work in which the Medical Care Commission will not participate brings total construction cost to \$434,627.98.

The amount of local funds required to complete the project on the basis of bids accepted is \$160,927.98.

Mr. Howerton said that 11 bids were received for the general contract and three bids for the laundry machinery contract.

The administrator listed the successful low bidders and the amounts of their bids as follows: (Continued on page 8)



'No Negligence' By Drivers In Traffic Fatality

"No culpable negligence" on the part of either driver was found by a coroner's jury at Carthage Friday night, sitting inquest on a collision of November 27 at Robbins Crossroads in which a critically ill woman was thrown from an ambulance to her death.

An autopsy ordered by Coroner Ralph G. Steed of Robbins had determined earlier that Mrs. Pauline Howell Griggs came to her death (Continued on page 8)

C. B. DEANE SAYS HE IS CANDIDATE

A rumor circulating in Moore County this week that C. B. Deane, Eighth District Congressman, would not seek reelection, next year, but would step aside in favor of his administrative assistant, John Lang of Carthage, was labeled false by the Congressman when a Raleigh newspaper called him at his home in Rockingham Wednesday.

"I'm very much a candidate," he was quoted as saying, although he has issued no formal statement as yet. He said he had not known that such a rumor was in circulation.

Request Made For Change In By-Pass Zoning Proposal

A public hearing on a proposed amendment to the town zoning ordinance, held at the town council meeting last week, was adjourned to the January meeting (Tuesday, January 10), in order to give the council and the planning board an opportunity to study protests and requests made at the hearing.

The proposed amendment sets up two new business districts and redefines the types of uses permitted in all three of the business districts.

Of special interest is the proposed new "Business III" district which consists of the area 500 feet both east and west of the highway right of way of the "U. S. 1 Thru-way" (by-pass), bounded on the north by the south property line of West Vermont Avenue (and West Vermont Ave. extended) and bounded on the south by the corporate limits of the town.

Business uses permitted in District III under the proposed amendment are only service stations confined to the retail sale of motor fuels and automobile accessories; and motels and motor courts.

At last week's council meeting, it was explained that the planning board, in setting the suggested limits of the Business III zone in the Southern portion of the by-pass, had followed the recommendation of the University of North Carolina graduate student planners who visited here early this year and whose findings and recommendations are presented in Southern Pines — (Continued on Page 8)



PRESENTATION—Sheriff C. J. McDonald, right, receives the Sandhills Kiwanis Club Builder's Cup from Superior Court Judge W. A. Leland McKeithen of Pinehurst. (Photo by V. Nicholson)

Sheriff McDonald Wins Builder's Cup For Selfless Civic Service To County

Sheriff C. J. McDonald was awarded the Builders Cup of the Sandhills Kiwanis club at the club's annual banquet and ladies' night, held Friday evening at the Mid Pines.

Superior Court Judge W. A. Leland McKeithen, making the award in behalf of the club, paid tribute to the "efficient, fair and impartial manner in which he conducts his high office, placing duty and service above all other considerations, so that he has won respect not only in his county but throughout the whole region and State."

The identity of the recipient of the Builders Cup was kept a secret until the moment of presentation. When Sheriff McDonald's name was called, the gathering of some 175 persons broke into an ovation of applause. Never Defeated He has been sheriff of Moore county since 1928, and has never been defeated in an election. He is the State's senior sheriff in point of service, and has served as president of the N. C. Sheriffs association. Judge McKeithen said he was known as a "fearless officer, who always gets his man." Sheriff McDonald was wounded in October when shot in the face and neck as he was making an arrest. Cited also as qualifying him for receiving the county's foremost (Continued on page 8)

Holiday Monday Will Top Lively Yule Week

AT POST OFFICE

Open 8 a. m. to 6 p. m., Saturday. Closed Monday, except for window open 10-11 a. m. No city delivery Monday. Mail distributed to boxes Monday, but not Sunday. Mail dispatched as usual both Sunday and Monday.

Parcel post will be delivered all day on Sunday (Christmas Day).

Special Appeal Made For Cheer Program Funds

A special appeal for cash donations to the Christmas cheer program for needy families was made today by John Boyd Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Fred Hall, Jr., chairman of the project, said that 15 more families have been added to the list of deserving needy persons. All families on the list have been investigated by the Moore County Welfare Department.

As the problem of additional baskets was presented to the VFW, members of the post were already packing dozens of Christmas cheer packages in the Straka building on N. E. Broad St. The baskets may be viewed there by the public today and tomorrow.

In addition to food items, toys are going to families with children. Many of the toys were repaired and painted after they were given to the post. The list of special gifts to be distributed to needy families with children, includes four bicycles, 14 tricycles and seven wagons or carts, Mr. Hall reported.

Food items in the baskets were put in grocery store barrels by shoppers or bought with cash donated to the cheer fund by individuals or organizations.

The unexpected necessity to prepare 15 more baskets means that the post will have to obtain additional funds, the chairman said.

Mid Pines Price Shown \$420,000

Exact sale price of the Mid Pines Club and the 240-acre tract on which it is located was \$420,000, it is shown by Federal stamps affixed to the deed which has been filed in Carthage. The sale had previously been reported as over \$400,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cosgrove, who have operated the club for some time, are the purchasers from the Homeland Investment Co. of Durham.

Stamps costing \$462 were affixed to the deed before it was filed. At the rate of \$1.10 in stamps per thousand dollars of price, the transaction would amount to \$420,000.

It was the largest Moore County real estate transaction within the memory of officials at the courthouse in Carthage. The entire tract is within the Southern Pines town limits.

Mail Breaking Record; Church Services Listed

The approach of Christmas is the biggest news story of the week in Southern Pines and this area—if what people are thinking about and busy about makes news.

It's a lively and prosperous Christmas season, generally speaking. Merchants report good Christmas trade. At the post office, 25,000 pieces of mail were dispatched Monday, breaking all existing records for one day's operations, said Postmaster Garland Pierce, and the volume of cards, letters and parcels for the holidays, both incoming and outgoing, is "unprecedented."

Southern Pines' business section is sparking with lights—strings of lights up and down Broad Street and, below them, little lighted Christmas trees placed by merchants along the sidewalk. More of the little trees are in evidence this year than last.

On the park is a lighted sacred display showing the wisdom of the Bible on camels, with Bethlehem, birthplace of the Savior, in the distance, the great star above it. The display was prepared by John Tullett of the Training Aids section at the USAF Air-Ground Operations School and rented by the Chamber of Commerce which has charge of the Christmas lighting program, for the second successive year.

The 50-foot-tall magnolia at the corner of Pennsylvania Ave. and S. W. Broad St., lighted by the Southern Pines Garden Club, attracts comment.

Stores, businesses and offices will close generally on Monday in this area with some establishments taking a longer holiday.

The Southern Pines Library will close at 12:30 p. m. Saturday and reopen Tuesday morning at 9.

The town office will be closed Monday and there will be no garbage collection that day. Attempt will be made to collect from all residences and businesses on Tuesday.

Banks in this area will close Monday. The Southern Pines post office general delivery and stamp window will be open one hour, 10-11 a. m. Monday.

The Pilot will be closed Friday through Monday. In Carthage, the Moore County courthouse will be closed from noon Saturday to Wednesday (Continued on Page 8)

Bank Will Open For Deposits Sat. Night

The Citizens Bank and Trust Company will be open between 7:30 and 8:30 p. m. Saturday to receive deposits by merchants, C. H. Bowman, cashier, said this week. The bank will be closed all day Monday, December 26.

IMPRESSIONS FROM INSPECTION COMMITTEE'S VISIT

Many Pledges, Hard Work Can Get College

By KATHARINE BOYD

(Photo of visiting trustees page 11)

Since the visit of the Presbyterian College committee to the Sandhills, I have been asked, many times: "What did you think? What was the impression you got of their reaction to Southern Pines as a site for the college? Do you really think we have a chance?"

One person's impression is not always another's, but, in this case, I find, after checking with the other local people who saw the committee that day, that all of us are agreed.

The answer to the questions being asked is, starting with the last one first: "Yes, we have a chance. We have a pretty good chance, too. The visiting committee was, definitely, greatly impressed, both by the site and by

the presentation of the Sandhills invitation." And one of them put his thought this way: "If you folks will go ahead and put your backs into the campaign; get pledges from everybody, I think you've got it," he said. As Andy Griffith says, "He did."

So, back to the first question: what impression did I get. The first thing that struck me was when we all sat down at the horseshoe table at the Hollywood Hotel. At each visitor's place was the brochure, the roll of four maps, and several other information items.

The brochure was glanced over, while a local man explained the salient points it featured. There were exclamations as to its factual simplicity—as requested previously by the group—then as to how well the whole thing had been carried through. The committee felt that it was to the

point, that it gave all the information desired, yet did it in a clear and non-ballyhoo fashion, obviously very pleasing to them. Maps Of Site Shown

Then the four maps were unrolled. The speaker explained each one. The largest showed a detailed topographical map of the site; the next showed the site again, as surveyed and laid out for the real estate development that had been always, until now, planned for this property.

The committee was struck—and said so, at length—with the value of the property, realizing through this real estate development study, as perhaps not before, that this is an unusually desirable piece of land.

The next map showed the property in its relation to the town and close surroundings, and the fourth map showed it in its location in Moore County, with (Continued on Page 8)