

THE PILOT

VOL. 37—NO. 21 EIGHTEEN PAGES SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1956 EIGHTEEN PAGES PRICE TEN CENTS

West End Forest Fire Burns 750 Acres; Several Homes Threatened

The county's worst forest fire of the season burned an estimated 750 acres of timberland near West End Saturday afternoon.

Whipped along by wind gusts that occasionally reached 50 miles per hour, the fire was finally brought under control about 8 p.m. Saturday night by county fire officials and more than 200 volunteers.

Travis Wicker, county fire warden, said preliminary investigations indicated the fire got its start from a trash dump used by residents of West End. The dump is located not too far from West End and also serves some of the businesses there.

Wicker said he has not made any determination as to the extent of the financial damage the fire

caused but expected the final figure would be several thousand dollars.

No one was hurt during the fire but the State Highway Patrol had to be called to control the heavy traffic on highway 211. At one time the combination of dust caused by high winds and the billowing smoke made it impossible to see the highway.

Several houses on highway 211 were threatened by the blaze but officials reported none were damaged. Three tobacco barns belonging to Art Johnson of West End were caught in the blaze and destroyed but, except for those and the timberland, no other major damage was reported.

At one time the fire jumped highway 211 and was raging on the side nearest the railroad tracks but volunteers managed to keep the blaze between the highway and the tracks.

The burned-over land was owned by several people, including Dr. Clement Monroe of Southern Pines, and Bob Von Canon, Fred Monroe, Eb Hinson and Floyd Horner, all of West End.

Wicker reminded people today that the woods are extremely dry at this time of year and cautioned against any carelessness by anyone going into them.

"Even though we had a good rain Friday, the woods became very dry shortly afterwards, mostly because of the high winds and sunshine on Saturday," he said.

Volunteers who helped Saturday afternoon included the fire departments of West End, Eagle Springs, Pinehurst, and John Goldsmith of Southern Pines. All the county's equipment was called in to help put out the fire.

PTA Family Night Supper, Art Show Slated Wednesday

An art and hobby show will precede the "family night" supper and meeting of the Southern Pines Parent-Teacher Association Wednesday of next week. The public is invited to attend the show and to enter exhibits in it.

According to plans announced by Jimmy Hobbs, PTA president, the show will open at 4 p. m. in the school gymnasium.

A supper for teachers, parents and students will be held in the school cafeteria from 5:30 to 7:30 p. m.

There will be no admission charge for anyone at the art and hobby show, but a small charge will be made for the supper. Tickets can be secured from the teachers, at the schools.

At 8 p. m., there will be a short business meeting during which reports of the nominating committee for next year's officers will be made.

The art and hobby show will be open before and after the supper. Various rooms at the school will enter exhibits competitively.

Other persons interested in displaying works of art or hobbies are asked to call Mrs. Hoke Pollock at 2-3121.

The gymnasium will be open at 10 a. m. Wednesday to receive exhibits.

Suspect In Huge Liquor Conspiracy Arrested Here By Policemen Monday

Louis Ordille, of Sanford and New Orleans, named by federal officials as a suspect in a \$3 million-a-year liquor conspiracy cleanup, was arrested by Southern Pines police Monday morning and turned over to federal authorities in Greensboro.

Ordille, who had been staying in a Southern Pines hotel recently, was one of 31 men indicted by a federal grand jury in Statesville in what federal agents called "the biggest mass cleanup of bootlegging in the history of North Carolina." Ordille was the 29th suspect arrested.

The federal grand jury accused the 31 men of conspiring to funnel illicit whiskey into several of the dry counties in the mountain area of the state. Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit agents estimated the syndicate's annual gross income at upwards of three million dollars.

Ordille, according to Chief of Police C. E. Newton, was never involved in any illegal whiskey operations in Moore County. His only activity here was merely as a stopping-off point between trips. Officers said he liked to play golf and might have chosen

History Group To Gather April 19

The annual meeting of the Moore County Historical Association will be held next Thursday, April 19, at Bilyeu Farm, the home of Mrs. C. Louis Meyer, near Pinehurst.

Mrs. Meyer, whose husband, the late Louis C. Meyer, was a great friend of the historical association, will entertain the membership with tea following a short business session, which is scheduled to begin at 4 p. m.

Post Office Will Close Wednesdays

The Southern Pines post office began regular Wednesday afternoon closings this week, to continue each Wednesday until further notice.

As on Saturday afternoons, post office windows will close each Wednesday at 12:30 p. m.

Postmaster Garland Pierce, in making the announcement, said the change is caused by a curtailment of manpower made necessary by a reduction in Congressional appropriations for the post office department.



AT NEW SCHOOL—Principal Irie Leonard, Bobby Parker, president of the Junior class, and Bob Cline, president of the student council, lean on the main entrance railing at the new Southern Pines High School building as they talk over plans for the open house to be held at the school Friday night. The colonial lamp fixtures, added recently, completed the doorway. Some of the shrubs planted by the Southern Pines Garden Club, which landscaped all the school grounds, can be seen here. (Pilot Photo)

Public Invited To Inspect New High School On Friday

With the student council and Miss Polly Miller, the council's faculty advisor in charge, an open house will be held at Southern Pines High School Friday from 7:30 to 9 p. m. to permit the public to view the structure.

Built over the course of two years and fully occupied during the past school year, the building is the latest and largest addition to local educational facilities.

The two-story brick building, in modified colonial design, is located at the corner of May St.

Glee Clubs Will Compete Next Week For Picquet Cup

The annual judging of high school glee clubs in Moore County will take place Friday night of next week in Weaver Auditorium. The winner will be awarded the Charles W. Picquet Cup by the Sandhills Kiwanis Club. The Aberdeen High School Glee Club was the winner last year.

The contest, to promote organized singing in the public schools, was founded in 1946 with the presentation of a trophy by Mr. Picquet, manager of the Carolina Theatre. It has been carried on by the Kiwanis Club regularly since then.

Next week's Kiwanis meeting will be held in the Southern Pines School cafeteria at 6 p. m. prior to the program in the auditorium. The public is invited to hear the singing by the groups from some six or seven county schools.

SPHS Basketball Players Honored By Rotary Club

Twenty three players and managers of the Southern Pines boys' and girls' basketball squads were awarded letters and stars at the annual Rotary basketball banquet held Thursday night at the high school cafeteria.

In addition to the letters, several other awards were made, including the coveted Veterans of Foreign Wars awards for the most valuable player on both the boys' and girls' squads.

Johnny Watkins, who averaged more than 20 points per game for the season and contributed a tremendous defensive job, and Patty Hobbs, who is rated by Coach Leonard as one of the most outstanding guards he has ever coached, were the recipients.

Patti Britt and Julian Pleasants were selected by the players and coaches as the most improved players on the teams and were presented medallions to signify (Continued on Page 8)

Letters Open Local Cancer Fund Drive

Letters asking for contributions to the annual Southern Pines fund drive for the American Cancer Society are being sent out this week, reports Mrs. J. S. Milliken. The local campaign, with a goal of \$700, is part of the county-wide solicitation headed by Dr. William Nicol of Carthage.

Mrs. Milliken, who has headed the local campaign for several years, asks that checks be made out to the American Cancer Society and mailed to her at Box 55, Southern Pines.

Few Candidates File For Primary As Deadline Nears

Commissioners All Unopposed; Saturday Last Day To File

Candidates who wish to have their names on the ticket in the May 28 Democratic primary were reminded today by Sam C. Riddle, chairman of the Moore County Board of Elections, that they must file before noon Saturday, April 14.

The filing deadline in previous years had been 6 p. m. With just slightly more than one day left, it is expected that there will be a rash of filing Saturday morning.

So far the only candidates who have filed are the present Board of County Commissioners, Judge J. Vance Rowe and Solicitor W. Lamont Brown of Recorder's Court, George H. Purvis, for renomination to the Board of Education, and Robert Bowman, who filed for constable in Mineral Springs.

Dr. W. N. McDuffie of Robbins has also filed on the Republican ticket but will not, of course, be a candidate in the Democratic primary. The present coroner is Ralph Steed, a Democrat, who is also from Robbins.

Riddle said today that registration in the county would open April 28 and close May 12. There are three Saturdays during that period.

Zoning Problem To Be Settled By Council Friday

Failing to reach a solution to the controversial "Residence 1" zoning problem at their regular meeting Tuesday night, members of the town council will meet at 10:30 a. m. Friday in town hall with the planning board and representatives of the Knollwood area.

Purpose of the meeting is to try to reach a conclusion on the "living area" regulation in a proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance. Knollwood representatives are asking for a ban on construction of new houses in "Residence 1" which would not contain at least 2,000 square feet of living area. Chairman Don (Continued on page 8)

W. H. Frantz Buys Olive Farm; Plans Build Stable There

William H. Frantz of Tremont Farm, Media, Pa.—a well known Eastern horseman who has been a winter visitor to the Sandhills for many years—has purchased the W. W. Olive farm on Youngs Road and plans improvements there.

The Olive farm lies between Youngs Road and the Port Bragg road, southeast of the property of Mrs. Audrey Kennedy. It adjoins the Kennedy, Notre Dame Academy and Boyd property, as well as the old McCormick place. James (Continued on Page 8)

Dr. Nicol Heads Cancer Campaign

The annual drive for funds for the American Cancer Society will begin in Moore County next Wednesday, it was announced today by Dr. William Nicol of Carthage, county chairman.

Dr. Nicol, who replaced Dave Ginsburg of Carthage as chairman, said that the quota for the county this year is \$3,300, and that drive chairmen hoped the funds would be raised during April, which has been proclaimed as Cancer Month.

A complete list of community chairmen and quotas has not been compiled as yet, though community chairmen have been announced for some areas.

Among those already appointed are Mrs. S. L. Windham, Aberdeen; Mrs. Jack Phillips, Cameron; Dave Ginsburg, who has served as county chairman for the past twelve years, Carthage; Mrs. W. D. Hyatt, Pinehurst; and Mrs. J. S. Milliken, Southern

Stevenson Will Arrive Here Sunday; Rally Is Scheduled At Aberdeen

Neither wind, sand and rain and their aftermath causes folks to give up their plans to go on the Southern Pines Home and Garden Tour!

That is the conclusion to be drawn from the mounting figures on attendance given out at the Shaw House at twelve noon, deadline time. From Mrs. James W. Milliken and Mrs. L. T. Avery of the Southern Pines Garden Club, who were selling tickets for the tour at their station out by the front porch of the old house, came the welcome news: "350 as of now!" (Eight more arrived as the figures were being taken down, with four more cars in view by the gate trying to find a place to park.)

Inside, Mrs. A. P. Thompson was welcoming guests to the lunch that sent its succulent airs out to join the spring perfumes of flowerbeds and herb garden where Mrs. C. A. Smith, soon to be reinforced by Miss Helen Butler of the Civic Garden Club, were greeting visitors.

Hostesses stationed at the various homes were relaying news of enthusiastic crowds and gardens miraculously tidied by early workers, after yesterday's storm.

It looks like another Grand Tour.

Ernest Klabbatz Succeeds Brother As Head VFW Post

One brother succeeded another as commander of the John Boyd Post, VFW, last Thursday night.

The new Post Commander, Ernest Klabbatz, received the gavel of office from the retiring commander, Harry Klabbatz, in the installation ceremony conducted by Past Commander Louis Scheipers.

Present in the group of some 50 members of the Post, which is currently observing its 10th anniversary year, was Carl Klabbatz, father of the new and retiring Post Commanders, who is himself a longtime active member who has held several offices in the Post.

The installation ceremony featured a supper meeting at Dante's Restaurant. No other business was conducted.

New officers installed were: Ernest Klabbatz, commander; C. W. Smith, Jr., senior vice-commander; Joel S. Ivey, Aberdeen, junior vice-commander; John D. Stephenson, quartermaster; Harry Gorczyca, post adjutant; James Davenport, post chaplain; Jasper Swearingen, post advocate; George Nanopoulos, post surgeon.

These are elective officers. Also installed were the following appointed by the new commander: Alton Clark, legislative officer; Richard Johnson, patriotic instructor. (Continued on Page 8)

Severe Winds Lash Section

Those hard winds that raised tremendous clouds of dust over Moore County and the rest of the Sandhills Saturday afternoon caused considerable damage but apparently not as much as had been originally believed, according to reports received from several farmers.

The dust storms, caused by gusty winds that occasionally reached 50 miles per hour, played havoc with newly planted grain crops and freshly plowed fields.

The Saturday winds, as well as a high East wind that blew over the county Wednesday, caused scattered damage to trees, gardens, signboards, and roofs.

Several farmers in the West End area said that had the windstorm been maybe three weeks later, the damage would have been far more serious, probably causing some farmers to lose their entire grain crops. As it was, some farmers reported that the only thing ruined was early corn, some of which was blown right out of the field.

The high winds caused the most (Continued on page 8)

Governor To Attend Monday Night Event

Adlai E. Stevenson, candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination, is expected to arrive here Sunday.

In a stay that will last until Wednesday morning, the candidate has only one scheduled public appearance—an open house rally to be held at the Aberdeen school gymnasium at 7:30 p. m. Monday.

Arrangements for the open house are being made by State Rep. H. Clifton Blue of Aberdeen, president of the Moore County Stevenson for President Club, the second such club to be formed in the state.

Mr. Stevenson is coming here primarily for a rest at the Paint Hill Farm home of his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest L. Ives.

Mrs. Ives said today that she had talked yesterday with Bill Blair, Mr. Stevenson's executive assistant, who indicated there was no doubt that the candidate would be able to fit the Sandhills visit into his schedule. He will be in Florida late this week and plans to leave Florida by plane Saturday night or Sunday morning, Mrs. Ives said. Exact time or manner of his arrival here was not known today, she said.

Gov. Luther H. Hodges, a Stevenson admirer, is expected for the Aberdeen open house, along with many state officials and legislators, and a delegation from the No. 1 Stevenson for President Club in the state, which was formed in Wake county.

Mr. Blue said that the Aberdeen affair will be "democratic with a little 'd' and there will be no reserved seats. I believe," he said, "we'll have a big crowd."

Aberdeen Police Chief Bob Yates has requested help from the State Highway Patrol in handling traffic. Visitors will be directed to suitable parking places.

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E. Leslie Horne, Officer, Resigns

E. Leslie Horne, who has been with the Southern Pines police department since December 1 of last year has submitted his resignation, effective April 21, City Manager Tom E. Cunningham said today.

In his letter of resignation to Chief C. E. Newton, Mr. Horne said that he is leaving with regret but that he has had an opportunity to go to another police department at a salary of \$40 more a month than he is getting here and will also have shorter hours in his new job.

Mr. Cunningham said that Mr. Horne is going to the Wake Forest police department.



SANDHILLS QUEEN—Miss Lois Williams, student at Elise High School, Robbins, center, is the newly crowned Queen of the Sandhills. At left is Miss Johnysy Cameron, who placed second, and at right is Miss Elise McWilliams, chosen third in the contest at Pinehurst. Both are students at Vass-Lakeview High School. (Photo by Hemmer)



DR. W. F. NICOL

Dr. Nicol said that chairmen would be appointed in Eureka, Hillcrest, Eagle Springs, Jackson (Continued on Page 8)