

The Weather

Warmer weather and sunny skies are predicted for weekend. Visitors to the Southern Pines House and Garden Show beginning at 10:30 today were greeted by a cool 47 degrees and a beaming sun, which is expected to warm up the area later today.

THE PILOT

Index

Bible Lesson, 3-B; Books, 2-B; Classified Ads, 7-8-9-10-11-C; Editorials, 1-B; Entertainment, 6-A; Obituaries, 9-A; Pinchurst News, 1-2-C; Social News, 2-3-4-5-A; and Sports, 10-11-A.

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EASTER JOY — Taylor, Sally and Mimi Hyde, daughters of the Rev. and Mrs. Hal Hyde, sing hymns of happiness at Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church, under direction of Mrs. Robert Ewing. Choirs through the county will join them Sunday as churches observe the Resurrection.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Stoneybrook Is Saturday; 63 Horses To Be Running

Holiday Closings Scheduled

Moore County and Southern Pines municipal offices will be closed on Easter Monday, as will banks and savings and loan associations.

The Pilot will be closed in observance of the holiday on Monday.

Easter Monday, of course, is a legal holiday in North Carolina—the only state, plus the Virgin Islands, in which it is observed as such. Tuesday will also be observed as a legal holiday, in lieu of the Memorial Day of former years. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week will be days of annual vacation leave for the teachers—and with the teachers on leave, it's naturally a holiday for the boys and girls.

Easter weekend, and the one after that, stretch out the holiday to a full nine days, before classes resume at their usual time, Monday, April 22.

(Continued on Page 12-A)

Funds Received

Moore County received \$99,274 in Revenue sharing funds Tuesday, Mrs. Estelle T. Wicker, County Tax Supervisor, reported today.

This was among more than \$39 million received by state and local governments in North Carolina in revenue sharing allocations.

The Town of Southern Pines received \$43,732 as its quarterly share of the allotment, according to Town Clerk Mrs. Mildred McDonald.

Aberdeen Approves Rezoning

A change in the zoning of property owned by Ernest D. Ransdell and U.T. Hight, Jr., on U.S. Highway 15-501 south of Aberdeen from residential to business was approved by the Aberdeen Board Monday night.

The action was taken on the basis of a legal opinion of Lawrence McN. Johnson, town attorney, and he was instructed to draw up an amendment to the zoning map to show this change.

Johnson also notified the Board that a third property, owned by Fentress Phillips, failed to qualify for lack of 75 percent approval by the Board.

The Board then ordered that Leonard Russell, zoning enforcement officer, contact Phillips and ask that he comply with the town's zoning ordinance. If Phillips fails to do so, legal action is to be taken.

The Board also took action that hopefully will enable the Aberdeen police department—with a big assist from the federal

(Continued on Page 12-A)

Spelling Champ

Nelson McCaskill of West End, an eighth grader at Pinehurst Middle School, is the new Moore County spelling champion.

He won the title on Tuesday when Marsha Ransdell, an eighth grader at Aberdeen Middle School, missed on the word "misdemeanor," which he correctly spelled.

The winner received the first prize of \$20 and the runner-up second prize of \$10. Both were presented certificates.

The spelling contest was held at the Moore County schools administrative offices in Carthage, with Mrs. Voit Gilmore as the caller. Last year's winner was Kelley Stone of Southern Pines, who was unable to compete because of illness. Her sister, Mary, represented Southern Pines.

(Continued on Page 7-A)



BEFORE THE RACES—This is a scene of the Stoneybrook race track this week as it was being readied for the big races on Saturday. Shown trying out the track are Carolina Cup winner Breaking Dawn, ridden by Phoebe Walsh, and another top contender, Bold 'n Brassy, ridden by Joan Walsh Hogan. These horses from the Mickey Walsh Stoneybrook stables will be entered in Saturday's races.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Record Building Is Seen For First Quarter Here

Building permits issued in Southern Pines during the first three months of 1974 totaled \$1,208,000, which is believed to be an all-time record for the first quarter of any year, Arthur Tener, building inspector, announced today.

The past quarter's total compares with \$538,000 in permits issued in the first three months of 1973.

The current figure does not include the new North Carolina National Bank building under construction at the corner of May Street and Morganton Road, since that site is outside the Southern Pines town boundary. However, its total cost will be in excess of \$250,000.

Nor does it include the First Citizens Bank & Trust Co.

Rape Case Is Probed By Police

The SBI and Sheriff's officers are helping Aberdeen police investigate a rape reported by Mrs. Virginia Kimbrell, middle-aged Aberdeen widow of the Forest Hills section.

The assault took place April 4 at Mrs. Kimbrell's home, and she received medical attention.

Officers said the victim had been out for the evening, came in and went to bed. She could identify the attacker only as a black male.

They said that the man gained entry through a window and that a phone had been jerked from the wall.

Investigation is continuing.

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At last week's meeting of the commissioners it was voted to hold a hearing on the proposed Moore County Thoroughfare plan for the future on April 25. At this hearing road projects in the years ahead are to be outlined.

On the same day, in the afternoon, the board will convene and sit as the Board of

Equalization and Review, at which appeals in regard to tax assessments will be heard.

In other business last week the commissioners:

—Authorized Sheriff C. G. Wimberly to order a washer and dryer for the new jail, some \$3,200 worth of furnishings he and the architect had decided would be needed, also coveralls and padded shoes to be worn by the inmates.

(Continued on Page 12-A)

Mrs. Davis is Appointed To NC State Arts Council

Mrs. William P. Davis of Southern Pines has been appointed by Governor James E. Holshouser Jr., to the North Carolina Arts Council.

She was one of seven new members named to the Council. One member, Francis Speight of Greenville, was reappointed.

Another Southern Pines resident, Tom Hayes, is now a member of the Council and a former member and vice chairman is Mrs. Norris Hodgkins Jr.

Thad Stern Jr., of Oxford is chairman of the Council. The other new members appointed by Governor Holshouser

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(Continued on Page 12-A)

No Decline in Welfare Rolls; Food Stamps Are On Increase

Despite President Nixon's report to Congress last week that there has been a decline nationwide in persons on welfare rolls the Moore County Social Services Department said there has been "no noticeable decline" in this county.

There has been a big increase in food stamp recipients in Moore, however, primarily because of the "find and feed" work of volunteers.

Comparative figures on welfare recipients are difficult to

determine, one reason being that as of Jan. 1 of this year two major categories—Old Age Assistance and Aid to the Disabled—were taken over by the Social Security department.

There continue to be people who the Moore department says are ineligible for Social Security payments for various reasons, such as never having been on Social Security payrolls or inability to verify birth dates.

In December there were 809 persons in Moore receiving

Saturday is Stoneybrook time. What promises to be the biggest crowd ever—even larger than last year's 25,000 spectators—is expected to be in Southern Pines for the 27th annual Stoneybrook Steeplechase Races.

The races also promise to be the most exciting ever, with an entry of 63 horses representing the top steeplechasers in the country.

Stoneybrook has come to be recognized among the top four major sports events in North Carolina—ranking with the Atlantic Coast Conference basketball finals, the Greater Greensboro Open golf tournament, and the Carolina 500 auto races.

But it's more than a sports event—it's a No. 1 social event, drawing people for the races and the socializing from all over North Carolina and from all up and down the Eastern Seaboard.

Preceding the races Friday will be a Steeplechase Ball at the Country Club of North Carolina.

It's the richest of the Dixie Circuit in purse money, with \$21,000 being offered this year.

Entries in the featured Sandhills Cup, having its 34th running Saturday, include winners of three of the four feature races held so far this spring on the Dixie Circuit, which includes Atlanta, Aiken, Camden, Tryon, Stoneybrook and Tanglewood.

Metello, last year's winner of the Sandhills Cup, won the Atlanta Cup this year and is leading contender for the Dixie Circuit Purse given by the six races to the top horse on the Circuit. Metello is owned by Milton Ritzenberg and trained by Burley Cocks.

The big winner at Aiken, Wustenchef, will also be running in the Sandhills Cup. Wustenchef is owned by Augustin Stables and trained by Jonathan Sheppard.

The owner of Stoneybrook Farm, M.G. Walsh trains, and Mrs. Walsh owns, the winner of the Carolina Cup at Camden, Breaking Dawn.

Another strong entry in the Sandhills Cup is Juac Hollow, 1973 winner of the feature races at both Atlanta and Aiken and second at Atlanta this year behind Metello. Juac Hollow is owned by G.H. Bostwick and trained by Jack Weipert.

The Chopper, winner of the Right Tag at Atlanta, is owned by

(Continued on Page 12-A)

Pooler Case

First degree burglary is no longer a capital crime under a new law passed by the Legislature last week, but the law doesn't apply to a Moore County man now on Death Row.

Samuel Pooler of upper Moore was convicted of first degree burglary last August 17 and sentenced by Judge Maurice Braswell to die in the gas chamber. His case is on appeal to the State Supreme Court.

This week the office of Governor Holshouser announced that the Governor will have a statement later this week on any plans for executive clemency for those on Death Row now, but who would not have been there if the new law had been in effect when they were convicted. The Governor, of course, may decide to wait until the Supreme Court rules in the Pooler case.

Easter Services Planned By Churches of Sandhills

Christians throughout Moore County are observing the most sacred of their religious festivals this week, as Easter Sunday approaches to hail the risen Christ.

Easter sunrise services will be

held in Southern Pines at Our Savior Lutheran Church.

On Maundy Thursday, commemorating the Last Supper, there will be a number of services in various churches.

At Emmanuel Episcopal

Church in Southern Pines, there will be three Holy Communion Services: at 9:30 a.m. at the Penick Home, at 10 a.m. for the Altar Guild, and at 5:30 p.m. for Acolytes and Lay-Readers.

In celebration of Holy Week services at Our Savior Lutheran Church will include a Maundy service Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on the general theme "What a Man," with scripture from Luke 23:46-47. Special choir music will include "All in an April Evening."

At Brownson Memorial, a Communion Service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary Thursday.

A traditional candlelight Communion Service will be held at the Church of Wide Fellowship Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

In Aberdeen, Page Memorial Methodist will hold Communion at 7:30 p.m.

On Good Friday, a Community Service will be held at Emmanuel Episcopal church for an hour, with the Rev. Martin Caldwell, rector, bringing the message.

Catholics will celebrate Maundy Thursday with a 6 p.m. Mass and Good Friday services at 6 p.m. at St. Anthony's in Southern Pines. The latter service will include readings, Veneration of the Cross, and Communion. On Holy Saturday, there will be a Vigil Service and a Mass of Resurrection, beginning

(Continued on Page 12-A)

Jobless Rate Below 2.4% Is Reported For Moore

Unemployment in Moore County, almost always low, is now less than 2.4 per cent, estimates Alton Cockrell, supervisor of the Carthage office of the Employment Security Commission.

This compares with a national rate of over five per cent.

Cockrell gives several reasons for the full employment here: mobile home building, cut back because of the energy shortage, is back full speed, including

Taylor Mobile Homes in Southern Pines; the tourist season is in full swing; and construction in the area is booming.

At the height of the energy emergency, unemployment was estimated here at 2.6 per cent.

Commercial electricians, who work in various cities and states, are among those filing now for unemployment insurance, Cockrell said.

Carthage Board Takes Steps Toward Zoning

First steps toward adopting a land use and zoning plan for the town of Carthage were taken at the monthly meeting of the Town Council Tuesday night.

A comprehensive land use plan was presented to the Council by its planning board with the request that it be studied and suggestions made as to possible modifications. Opinions of qualified persons outside the Council also will be sought.

The presentation included a map showing present land use in Carthage and a second map

depicting proposed zoning. Carthage has no zoning regulations at present.

The proposed zoning program will be discussed further at the May 14 Council meeting.

The Council also heard a request from representatives of the Carthage Recreation Association for financial assistance for its proposed recreation program.

Needed are funds for such purposes as busing players to various contests, buying baseball, basketball and other equipment.

(Continued on Page 12-A)

Witchweed on 29 Farms Found in Moore County

Witchweed has been found on 29 farms in Moore County, Thomas Colson, assistant agriculture extension agent, reported Tuesday.

The dreaded parasite has been found in areas widely scattered pretty well covering the county, Colson said.

A control program by the N. C. Department of Agriculture is making witchweed less of a problem. The department works in cooperation with the Extension service.

The plant gets its name from its sudden appearance in corn and other pasture crops. Congress appropriated a million dollars for its control in North and South Carolina.

Treatment now is mostly conservative, Colson says, with such methods as constant weeding by plant control agents of the Agriculture Department and rotation of crops.

"We've kicked it down pretty

Council Hires Firm for Study Of Parking, Traffic in Town

The Southern Pines Town Council Tuesday night approved employment of a professional firm to conduct a traffic, parking and safety engineering study of the downtown business section at a cost of \$7,800.

The three-months study, to be made by Wilbur Smith and Associates, Inc., of Winston-Salem, will include complete studies and analyses of conditions within a 10-block area of the Central Business District, east and west

from Ashe to Bennett St., and north and south from Vermont to Massachusetts, with recommendations to help the town solve its mounting problems of today and the years ahead.

The proposal of the Winston-Salem firm was presented by Lew G. Brown, town manager, who was familiar with their work from his previous employment in Durham. Their references showed they had worked with many North Carolina cities, and

Brown said they had done good work in Durham, which has the most extensive parking system in the state.

A recommendation of a local committee of business people, in a report made at the March council meeting, had been that a professional study be made, and the council has asked the manager to follow through. After discussion of the proposal, Mayor E. Earl Hubbard and

(Continued on Page 7-A)



LEGISLATURE — This morning there was talk around the State House in Raleigh of legislative adjournment today, but Rep. T. Clyde Auman said it looked to him that the General Assembly would adjourn late Thursday afternoon.

Both House and Senate had long calendars for floor action today, and although a lot of bills will die in committee he believed there would be enough clean-up action to carry over until tomorrow.

There had been talk the session might extend into next week but when a new tax bill introduced in the Senate last week was postponed in a Senate committee on Tuesday the adjournment movement took on an accelerated pace.

PRESS BILL — The North Carolina press had a vital interest in the "right-to-reply" bill but it had some strong support from several Senators who also saw it as unnecessary and unworkable.

The bill was defeated Tuesday in the Senate after lengthy debate by a 24 to 19 vote, despite the fact that 30 senators had signed the bill when it was introduced by Senator Phil Godwin a few weeks ago.

Among those who spoke out strongly against it were Senators Bill Staton of Sanford, C.B. Deane Jr., of Rockingham,

(Continued on Page 12-A)