



THE PILOT



Sandhills Business Survey Shows Cautious Optimism

Some uncertainty but a cautious optimism marked most of the predictions of Sandhills business leaders in regard to the general economy in 1975.

In a survey of opinion by The Pilot there was a general feeling that an upswing will be coming by summer.

The opinions came on the heels of reports by most merchants in the Sandhills area that Christmas sales were "better than expected." All indications were that for most stores and shops business was good.

Practically all of those queried in the survey were of the opinion that Washington must shift its emphasis from fighting inflation to fighting recession.

As for the Sandhills region, most felt the region would fare better in the months ahead than the nation as a whole. "I'm optimistic as far as the future of the Sandhills is concerned," William Samuels of First Federal Savings and Loan Association said.

Floyd Sayre, executive vice president of the Sandhills Area of Commerce, predicted an uptick in growth and said that new travel trends would work to the advantage of established resorts such as exist in this area.

Sayre pointed out that the Sandhills has had a 16.2 percent increase in population in the period from mid-1970 to Jan. 1, 1974. "We have had some increase in the past year but it was beginning to level off," he said, adding that he expects an uptick in growth in 1975.

In regards to travel, Sayre said that surveys show that people are taking shorter trips and are

deciding beforehand where they are going. That, he said, is to the advantage of places like Pinehurst and Southern Pines. "There is a difference between a 'resort town' and a 'tourist town,'" he noted. Sayre said some conventions have been cancelled but that this has been offset by additional bookings.

Norris Hodgkins, Jr., of First Union National Bank said, however, that there is "some evidence of slowdown in this area," meaning the resort business, and he thinks that much depends on what develops in the next few months.

Hodgkins said that his bank's economist had been predicting a

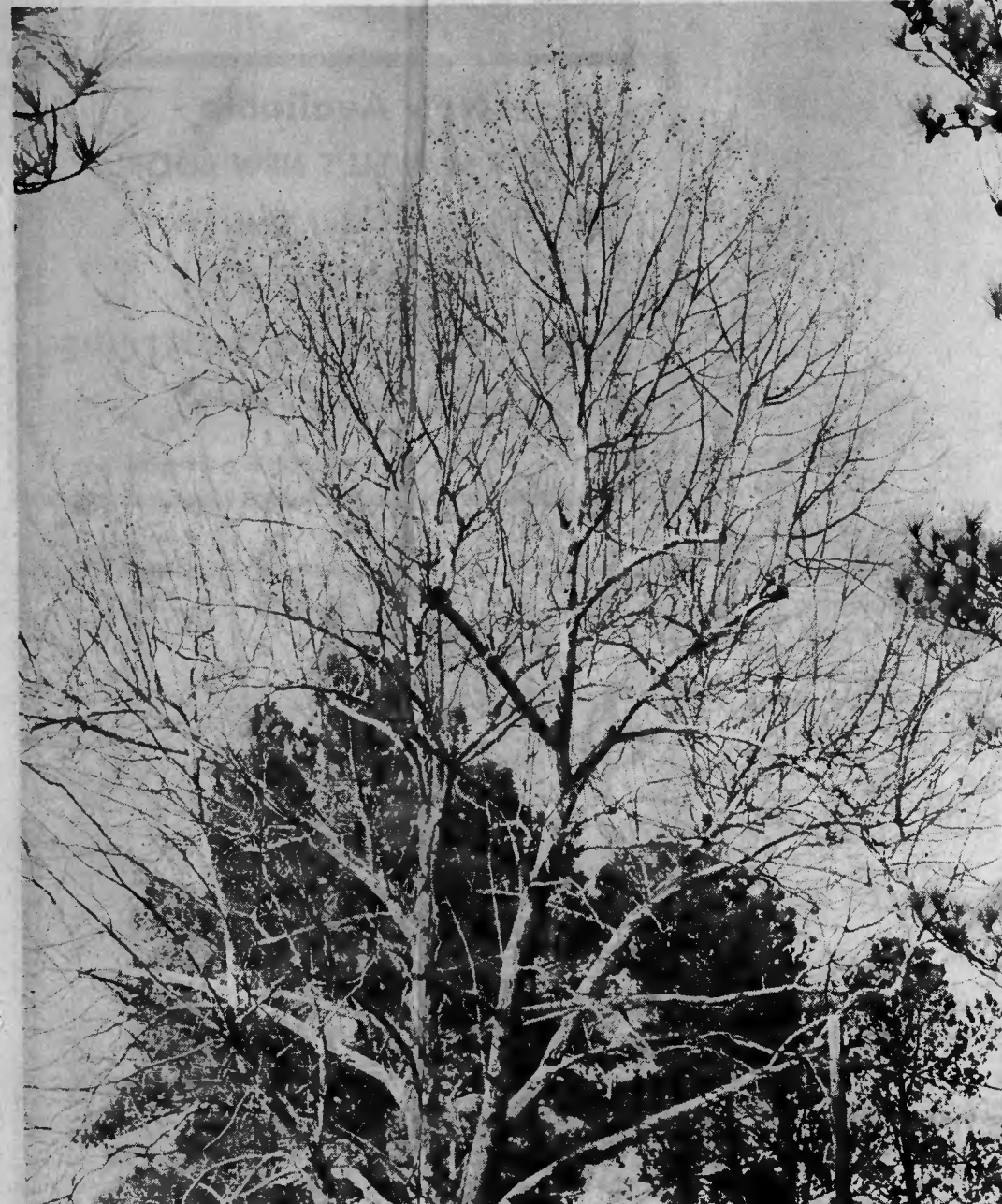
(Continued on Page 14-A)

Speaker

Secretary James E. Harrington Jr., of the Department of Natural and Economic Resources will be the featured speaker at the annual meeting of the Sandhills Area Chamber of Commerce on Jan. 28.

Harrington, who made his home in the Sandhills from the age of six weeks until three years ago, is a former president of Pinehurst, Inc., and also the Sandhills Area Chamber of Commerce.

Durward Grady will serve as master of ceremonies for the annual meeting at the Southern Pines Country Club, which will start with a reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m. Phil Pearsall is chairman of the committee in charge of the meeting, and tickets may be obtained from Chamber directors or at the Chamber office.



SYCAMORE WINTER — The stark naked beauty of sycamore trees, gleaming white in the sunlight or moonlight, seems to typify the winter scene more than anything else. Here are sycamores along East Indiana Avenue in Southern Pines which never fail to draw attention from visitors and residents. — (Photo by Glenn M. Sides).



GIFT TO PRESIDENT — Donald C. Collett (right), president of the World Golf Hall of Fame, presented President Gerald R. Ford with a special commemorative photo album of the President's visit to the \$2.5 million shrine last September. The President dedicated the Hall of Fame and spoke at the first annual induction ceremonies. Shown with President Ford and Collett is Mrs. Collett, who accompanied her husband to Washington and a visit to the Oval office in the White House.

Break-Ins, Brawl, Hold-Up Keep Moore Officers Busy

An armed robbery, a brawl, some minor vandalism and three break-ins, one involving all the offices in a Southern Pines commercial building, plagued law enforcement officers of Moore County during the days preceding and following Christmas. The robbery occurred in the Haw Branch section in extreme northeastern Moore County the Monday afternoon before Christmas. Fred A. Talley and his wife were on duty in their country store when a masked man entered brandishing a rifle. He said nothing, but made it clear with his rifle that he wanted money. They surrendered ap-

proximately \$100 from the cash register and Talley's wallet, and he left. The victims said the robber wore gloves as well as a mask, so they could not even tell the color of his skin. Thieves who broke into a home in northern Moore County Sunday and made off with \$20,000 in savings bonds may have trouble reaping any profit from their crime. For savings bonds must be signed by the owner or beneficiary in the presence of a witness—which makes them extremely difficult to cash illegally. The theft occurred between 10 a.m. and noon Sunday at the

home of Robert Reynolds, living on rural road 1470 northeast of Robbins. Entry was gained by forcing a rear door. The Moore County Sheriff's Department has the theft under investigation. The MacKenzie Building at 135 West New Hampshire Ave. was broken into during the weekend before Christmas, all the offices were entered and ransacked and three of them were robbed. The offices were left in something of a mess in the



RUTH — Ousted Republican Congressman Earl B. Ruth has put in an application for several jobs with the Ford administration including the position of governor of Samoa. The appointive governor of the South Seas island of less than 30,000 people carries a salary of \$45,000 a year, along with rent-free occupancy of the governor's mansion, free personal servants, including a cook and a chauffeur, a large office staff and a limousine. Ruth, who was defeated for reelection by Democrat Bill Hefner, said that he had filled out some forms in applying for the

job. He also admitted that he had applied for several other positions. The former coach and dean of students at Catawba College in Salisbury is at home for the holidays, but he is expecting appointment to a high-salaried job from his old friend, President Gerald Ford, whom he first met when both were in military training at Chapel Hill. Samoa signed a treaty of cession with the United States in 1900 and has had an appointive governor since that time. **UNEMPLOYMENT** — The unemployment figures of 6.6 per-

Dedication Of School Set Jan. 5

Wallace O'Neal Day School will dedicate its new \$850,000 educational building in ceremonies to be held Sunday, January 5, at 2 p.m. at the school. Principal speaker will be Calvin L. Criner, coordinator, non-public schools, in the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Also on the program will be Edward T. Taws, Jr., chairman of the school's Board of Directors; James R. Van Camp, chairman of its Building Committee; Mrs. Wallace O'Neal, who gave the land on which the school is located, in memory of her husband; and Cindy Wallace, a tenth grade student who will speak in behalf of the school's 150 pupils. (Continued on Page 14-A)

New Law On Drinking To Take Effect Jan. 1

BY WES LEFLER
While you are ringing in 1975 at a New Year's party, law enforcement officers will be ringing in a new law that could put you behind bars before daylight—if you are driving a car and you've had too much to drink. The new "per se" law goes into effect at the stroke of midnight, Jan. 1, 1975. It makes no difference whether you are an inexperienced drinker or an alcoholic, a fat man or a small woman, three beers or a fifth of bourbon. If the officer's Breathalyzer indicates your blood alcohol concentration is .10 per cent or

above, you are guilty of breaking the law "per se" (of itself). That's why the law is called the "per se" law. Ben Loeb, an attorney and assistant director of the UNC Institute of Government in Chapel Hill, explains the new law by saying, "It's not a question of being drunk or not at .10 per cent of blood alcohol concentration. It's just that you've gone over the legal limit in North Carolina just as one might break the 55 mph speed limit." Dr. John Ewing, director of the UNC Center for Alcohol Studies in Chapel Hill, says the object of

Ground Hog Open Slated At Mid Pines On Feb. 1-2

The First Annual Ground Hog Open Golf Championship will be held on February 1 and 2 at Mid Pines and Pinehurst, it was announced today by Bill Bryant, chairman of Par Travel Council of the Sandhills Area Chamber of Commerce. "We decided to give the ground hogs a break," Bryant says. "We'll waive entry fees for any ground hog teams that want to compete. Entry fees for people will be \$12 each." Proceeds from the tournament

will be used by the Travel Council in its area-wide promotion. According to Bryant a number of participants in the First Annual Team Championship, held by the Travel Council last August, asked for another similar tournament soon. Tentative plans are to schedule about four such tournaments annually. Entry blanks will be available at all the local pro shops and (Continued on Page 14-A)

Tar Heel Motorists Facing Many Traffic Law Changes

Motorists who continue making right turns on the red light at intersections controlled by traffic signals may find themselves in trouble starting New Year's Day. For this practice, made legal by legislative action only last July 1, is repealed as of January 1. Under that law, motorists could make right turns on the red light, except at intersections where special signs specifically forbade such turns.

What makes this situation troublesome to law enforcement officers is that the legislature is expected to again legalize such turns shortly after it convenes January 15. But until the legislature acts, such turns are

illegal, and violators can be given traffic tickets. Actually, law enforcement officers are expected to be lenient to motorists caught making the illegal turns. The (Continued on Page 14-A)

Jackson Is Given Senate Job

U.S. Senator Alan Cranston (D., Calif.) has announced the appointment of William E. Jackson Jr., of West End, former assistant professor of political science at Davidson College, as his chief legislative assistant for foreign affairs and military defense. Jackson will advise the Senator on legislative matters related to the Senate Committees on Foreign Relations, Armed Services, and Aeronautical and Space Sciences, on which the Senator serves. Cranston, a second-term Senator who was re-elected last month by the largest margin ever received by a U.S. Senator (Continued on Page 14-A)

Vass Man, 44, is Killed When Car Runs Off Road

Robert Edward Evans, 44, of Vass, a Civil Service employe at Fort Bragg, was killed Tuesday afternoon on the Loblelia Road, about six miles east of Vass, when his car went off the road and overturned. He was returning home from the post earlier than usual, because of the Christmas holiday, when the accident occurred about 2:30 p.m.

State Trooper Donald Baxley, investigating with Trooper C.A. Todd, said the car went off on the right, slid broadside for a distance along the shoulder, then went off on the left, and hit some deep ruts made by erosion. This apparently caused the car to flip over, Evans was thrown out and it landed on top of him. The Vass Rescue Squad took (Continued on Page 14-A)

Moore County Hounds Set Hunter Pace Next Sunday

Members of the Moore County Hounds will hold a hunter pace event at 1 p.m. Sunday, January 5. The "ideal time" event will be held over a flagged course of about three and a half miles and over approximately 30 fences in the hunt country. Contestants will ride in pairs, starting and finishing in Lang field, located on Youngs Road

two and a half miles from Southern Pines. An average of the finishing times will be taken, and the pair of contestants riding the course in a time closest to the average will be declared the winners. The event is open to any interested rider, and riders from fox hunts in eastern North and South Carolina will be invited. (Continued on Page 14-A)

Here's What Made Headlines In Moore County During 1974

BY VALERIE NICHOLSON
JANUARY
Federal grant of \$607,500 approved for Phases 1 and 2 of Moore County's regional wastewater treatment project 201 Planning Area. Gas shortage felt all over—most stations closed during holiday week or selling to regular customers only. Local merchants report record Christmas sales, as gas crunch kept most shoppers close to home. Moore County schools adjust to daylight saving without incident, though opening school in the dark brings some parent protests. County school bus system ranked third in state for overall efficiency, economy of operation. Amtrak reports 700 passengers boarding or departing train at

Southern Pines station during December. Local gas distributors, Chamber of Commerce cooperate in effort to get more gas for Sandhills. Pinehurst holds first democratic election, voting in a nine-member council from field of 29. Aberdeen town board in split vote authorizes Sunday sale of beer and wine, sparking controversies. Carthage gets 2,000-gallon gas storage tank, solving immediate town emergency. New Pinehurst Village Council sworn in; Billy G. McKenzie, who led in the election, named chairman. Southern Pines Pilot wins five awards at N.C. Press Institute. Bryan W. Smith, Pinehurst race track employee,

stabbed to death in Taylortown; Tony "Busy Bee" Ross charged with murder. Robert Earl "Yogi" Phillips of Aberdeen Rt. 1 charged in murder of two men in Marlboro County, S.C. William P. Saunders announces retirement from State Senate at end of current legislative year. Canine "execution ground" strewn with remains of 42 dogs found on Pine Lake shooting preserve. Moore County News to go semi-weekly. Ground-breaking held for \$828,000 building at Wallace O'Neal Day School. **FEBRUARY**
County commissioners table revised subdivision ordinance following protests at public

hearing. Sheriff C.G. Wimberly announces for reelection, will be opposed by June Cockman in Democratic primary. Jack Myrick, well known dog trainer, arrested in dog-killing case, charged with failing to bury animals within 24 hours after death. Hyland Hills completes transformation to motor lodge, golf course and restaurant complex on and near site of former Whispering Pines restaurant and lodges. Katharine Boyd, widow of poet-novelist James Boyd, community benefactor, former editor and publisher of The Pilot, passes February 8 at Weymouth Estate, her Southern Pines home; memorial reception held

there brings hundreds of friends to honor her. Lew G. Brown employed as Southern Pines town manager, effective March 1. Crowd protests new Sunday beer and wine sale ordinance at Aberdeen town board meeting. County commissioners propose odd-even number system to equitable gas allocation, ask citizen cooperation. Weymouth, the James Boyd estate, left in trust by Mrs. Boyd for benefit of Sandhills Community College. Compliance with gas allocation proposal seen as spotty—lines continue to exist at service stations. Despite gas shortage, Foxfire Golf and Country Club reports increase in convention business.

Stephen Paul Bridges, 23, dies of heart attack on basketball court in town park. Starting school construction program made possible by passage of statewide bond issue, plus local funds, county board of education approves plans for Union Pines classroom annex, accepts bids on athletic facilities at Pinecrest. Filing deadline finds 28 candidates for office, with primary contests for sheriff, House of Representatives, county commissioner, also State Senate (in district vote). Frank Swaim named new Pinebluff police chief, following resignation of Glen T. Wilson to join Pinehurst security force. Robbins Record/opinion poll shows

general belief gas shortage is a government fraud. **MARCH**
County commissioners discuss need for additional courtroom, see possible use of Moore County rescue squad building (now owned by county) as temporary solution. Ribbon cut for opening of Center Park Shopping Center on US 15-501 near US 1. Streakers run at Sandhills Community College. Forest fires burn 98 acres at Lakeview—one of several forest fires in county during dry spell. Robert Gary Bock, Jr., 21-year-old Fort Bragg soldier, goes to Death Row in conviction in Moore court of the stabbing death of a Fayetteville woman;

appeal taken. Southern Pines town council argues zoning question in connection with Duncraig Manor, group home for disturbed children in Weymouth area; Councilman McLaughlin, irked at a voting decision of Mayor Hubbard, stamps out in a huff. Presentation made before Southern Pines town council of a third version of local traffic and parking plan. Republicans take over county election machinery; C.C. Thompson is new elections board chairman, succeeding A.M. Brewer. State contract awarded for diorama at Weymouth Woods Nature Museum. Village Green, unique retirement community (Continued on Page 8-A)