

Weather

After a week of well-nigh perfect weather, the Sandhills area is due to get some rain. Likelihood is 20 percent tonight, 70 percent Thursday. Temperatures will range from a low of about 58 tonight to the mid-70s on Thursday.

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Annexation Steps Taken By Council

The Southern Pines Town Council, in special session Saturday morning, took another step toward annexation of three peripheral areas, while still remaining uncommitted to eventual annexation.

Then, following the 30-minute session in the Conference Room, they moved over to the council chamber for the public meeting with Rep. Clyde Auman, to discuss legislation he has introduced in the General Assembly on behalf of the Town.

Danieley Is Finals Speaker

Dr. J. Earl Danieley, former president of Elon College, and now professor of chemistry there, will be speaker for the Sandhills Community College commencement ceremony at 8 o'clock Friday evening, May 23, on the Sandhills campus.

If Pine Trees Are Brown Don't Rush To Cut Down

In several places in the Sandhills recently pine trees have become infested with "brown needle cast" and some people are confusing it with another pine beetle.

Needle cast is not a serious disease, he said, and affected trees almost always recover. It is caused by a fungus, which turns a portion of some needles brown, thereby giving the entire tree a brownish cast.

Joy Johnson Winner of Crown As Moore County Junior Miss

Joy Lynn Johnson, 16, a student at Pinecrest High School, and daughter of Mrs. Virginia Johnson of Southern Pines, was crowned Moore County's first "Junior Miss" at a gala pageant held Saturday night in the auditorium of the Pinehurst Middle School.

Two other Pinecrest students, also from Southern Pines, won second and third place honors—Dawn Daughtridge as first runner-up and Kathi Metcalfe as second.



MISS JUNIOR MISS — Joy Johnson, 16, was crowned Moore County's first "Junior Miss" Saturday night at the Pinehurst Middle School. With her, above, are Dawn Daughtridge (left), first runner-up, and Kathi Metcalfe, second runner-up. — (Photo by V. Nicholson).



BICENTENNIAL FLAG — The Bicentennial Flag denoting Moore County's designation as a "Bicentennial County" was raised last week in ceremonies at Carthage. — (Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Mystery Plane Fire Still Being Probed

Investigation was continuing this week into a mystery blaze which, early last Thursday morning, seriously damaged a large private plane parked in a remote corner of the Southern Pines-Pinehurst airport.

aircraft brokers, of the Washington (D.C.) National Airport, who gave the value estimate, stating also that the plane had been flown from Washington to the Sandhills on a "demonstration flight." They said they knew nothing of the fire until called by a news reporter Thursday afternoon.

Arts Grant

The Sandhills Arts Council has been awarded a \$2,000 grant from the North Carolina Arts Council for a summer drama program.

Julian Long, director of the Sandhills Council, said that the program will be directed by Rick Barnes of Union Pines High School and will include two major dramatic productions.

Rescue Effort Still On

Mrs. Kathy C. Overton and Dr. John Tierney, formerly of the Southern Pines Fire Dept. Committee on Emergency Rescue, now defunct, have announced the formation of a Citizens Committee on Rescue.

Unique Elbow Operation Is Being Performed Here

Man-made hip joints, knee-joints, fingers, and other prostheses are restoring increasing numbers of Americans to active lives.

Elbow, out of only fifteen such procedures done thus far in North Carolina. Only ninety such operations have been done in the United States.

THE PILOT LIGHT

VOTE TODAY — The bill to establish a new commission for youth development and to transfer the training schools from the Department of Corrections to the Department of Human Resources will come to a vote in the House of Representatives early this afternoon.

JONES — Meanwhile, intensive lobbying against the bill has been carried on by Secretary David Jones of the Department of Corrections.

Moore Federal Funds Go Over Half Million

Moore County will receive \$566,877 in federal revenue sharing funds for the next fiscal year—some \$63,000 more than the county received last year.

Mrs. Estelle Wicker, county budget officer, said that notice of the projected figures had been received from the Office of Revenue Sharing, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Just how the revenue sharing funds will be spent has not been decided by the Moore County commissioners. Last year most of it went into the school buildings fund.

The commissioners usually allocate the funds for a "one time shot," or special projects. It has considerable flexibility in how the funds can be spent, although they cannot be used for current expenses.

Moore County felt fortunate in getting an increase in the funds, because several counties in North Carolina, including Cumberland, are reporting sizeable decreases in the projected amounts they will receive.

In regards to the general revenue picture for the county, Mrs. Wicker says that tax collections so far this year have been good, comparing favorably with last year.

The 1975-76 Moore County budget is being based on a total property valuation of \$410 million.

The Moore County commissioners, holding a series of special meetings during budget-making time, got a good look at progress in education in the county, along with its increasing costs, on two successive Tuesday nights.

On Tuesday of this week Dr. Raymond A. Stone, president of Sandhills Community College, accompanied by H. Clifton Blue, chairman of the college board of trustees, and Jim Halstead, assistant to the President, submitted a budget estimate of \$288,339 for 1975-76.

Some \$46,923 greater than last year, the budget total could go up by \$491,000, Dr. Stone said, if their application for a federal grant, to help build a new \$2.5 million building, is not awarded as anticipated.

Tuesday night of last week, the Moore County schools offered the county's largest single budget request, with a group of about 15 persons speaking on different aspects of their needs during the (Continued on Page 7-A)

Aberdeen Tax Rate Set at \$1

A tentative tax rate for Aberdeen of \$1 per \$100 valuation was approved Monday night by its town board, which also named former Commissioner William J. Bayliff to fill the vacancy created by the April 12 death of Commissioner Al Cruce.

The motion to hold the tax rate at \$1 per \$100, the same as for the current year, was made by Commissioner Lloyd Harris after a tentative budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1 was discussed and approved Harris's motion was seconded by Commissioner Vivian W. Green and carried by the board.

The proposed budget will be open for inspection from about May 21 to July 9, when public hearing on it will be held. Bayliff will serve on the town board until the November town election.

In other actions, the board: Approved a letter to Rep. T. Clyde Auman thanking him for his consideration and fortitude in deciding to introduce a bill to extend the Aberdeen city limits, and authorized letters to State Senators Charles Vickery and Russell Walker, urging them to (Continued on Page 7-A)

College, School Budgets Seek Increase in Funds

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Sailing Program Approved

Resumption of a sailing program after a lapse of several years, to be established by the town recreation department on the town reservoir, was proposed Tuesday night by Johnny Williams, recreation director, to the Town Council in regular meeting.



CHURCH UNDER WAY — This striking photograph by Glenn M. Sides shows the St. Anthony's Catholic Church under construction here. The unique design of the church will be constructed so that all worshippers will be equi-distant from the altar.

Samarkand Staffer Says He Was Fired Unjustly

Charles Lamonds of Eagle Springs who was fired from his job on the maintenance staff at Samarkand Manor without any reason being given would like to get his job back but he can get no one to listen to him at either the local or state level.

Charles Lamonds of Eagle Springs who lives less than a quarter-mile from the Samarkand Manor campus, said this week. He said he had asked for help from the State Employees Association, of which he was a member, but the organization had done nothing in his behalf. He has also talked with three other people and nothing has been heard from them.

'Open House' Sunday To Stress Available Mental Service Help

Health Month, the center is sponsoring an "Open House" on Sunday, May 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. The public is invited to come look over the complex on the grounds of Moore Memorial Hospital and ask any questions concerning mental health.

John Gardner, Administrative director of the center, urges people not to be ashamed to seek professional help. "As society becomes more and more complex, especially with inflation and unemployment so high, people are confronted with a tremendous amount of stress... they feel ashamed and guilty when they can't control it themselves. Actually, it may due to a physical problem beyond their control."

For Good of Department Sheriff Says of Firing

Petitions were being circulated in Moore County this week calling for the reinstatement of Charles Watkins as a deputy sheriff.

The former deputy said he had no knowledge of the petitions until he was informed of them by the newspaper. He said, however, that he has received many calls of encouragement from various citizens in the county. "I (Continued on Page 10-A)

Wimberly Issues Statement

At the time Sheriff Wimberly issued no public statement. This week, however, he said, "It was done for the good of the Moore County sheriff's department. I felt it was my duty to discharge him."



Charles Watkins