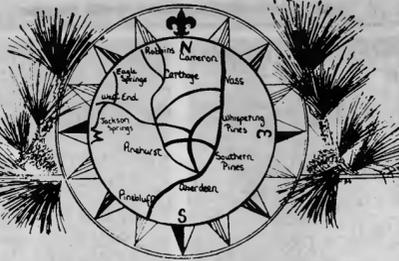


Weather

The forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies, with a 30 percent chance of rain and a high of 94, low tonight 65. Yesterday was a real scorcher, with a high of 98. Sunday was the coolest day of the week, with a high of 85 and a low of 58.

THE PILOT



Inc

Books, 2-B; Church Calendar, Classified Ads, 8-11-C; Editorials, Entertainment, 4-5-C; Obituaries, 7-Pinehurst News, 1-3-C; Social News, 2-6-A; Sports, 8-9-A.

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SAILING IN SANDHILLS — More and more sailboats are seen these days on the Southern Pines reservoir lake where instructions in sailing are given each morning during the week by David Drexel under the auspices of the town's Department of Recreation.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

College Hopes For \$2 Million Facility Soon

The chances for a new \$2 million building at Sandhills Community College were further enhanced this week with a letter of assurance from Chairman W. Sidney Taylor of the Moore County commissioners that maintenance funds will be provided although they are not included in the official 1975-76 budget.

In a letter to H. Clifton Blue, chairman of the Sandhills Community College Board of Trustees, Taylor said: "The Moore County Commissioners are excited and delighted over your prospects of obtaining funds from the Frederick Kennedy Foundation for your proposed new building. You may be sure that this board will adequately fund the annual maintenance cost of this new facility as it is now doing for your present buildings."



VOTING MACHINES — Interest in a voting machine was stirred in the courthouse corridor, as county commissioners come out of their meeting room, along with board of election members and other interested people, to witness the salesman's demonstration. From left are seen Commissioners W.S. Taylor and Floyd Cole; Angus M. Brewer, of the elections board; H.A. Brogden, county auditor; James Thomas, Moore County Republican chairman, and Henry Bost, the salesman; and at right, Commissioner Arthur Purvis.—(Photo by V. Nicholson).

Vass Chief Says No Speed Trap But There Is 'Tightening Down'

There's no "speed trap" at Vass but Police Chief James R. Grissom says there is definitely a "tightening down" on speeders.

That tightening down resulted in 30 cases of speeding at last week's term of District Court in Southern Pines.

Chief Grissom said the crackdown has had the desired effect. "We didn't have a single arrest

for speeding this past weekend," he said. "People have slowed down."

The police chief admitted that 30 cases in one week is an "unusual number," but he defended it as necessary to emphasize that speed laws will be enforced in Vass.

"I want the public to know there is no speed trap here," he said. "There is no sitting behind

a bush. All cars are visible."

Chief Grissom said that speed limits signs are further out on US Highway 1 and that signs are posted at every intersection and there is a notice that radar is used.

While the Vass police force was below normal in manpower the chief said it was impossible to adequately patrol the highways. Now, however, the Vass police force is at full authorized strength of four men.

At first Chief Grissom said the police tried stopping a lot of people and giving them a war-

(Continued on Page 10-A)

Despite Confession He's Free in Murder

A verdict of acquittal reached late Friday afternoon by a Moore County jury, after one hour's deliberation, ended the first-degree murder trial of Floyd Sheffield, 39, of the Robbins community, which had consumed the entire week in Moore Superior Court.

The case had been based almost entirely on statements made by the defendant, with little or no corroborative evidence, even of the circumstantial variety—except in one glaring instance: that Sheffield had told three people he

had strangled his neighbor Gleason Harding Kennedy, 55, when no one else knew this or had any suspicion of him, and an autopsy—the second to be performed on Kennedy's body—had shown this to be true.

In the process of District Attorney Carroll M. Lowder's making this point, and getting Sheffield's self-incriminating statements into the record, there were numerous sensitive areas in which the admissibility of evidence was in dispute, which resulted in almost two days of

(Continued on Page 10-A)

Youth Killed When Car Overturned In Robbins

Ronnie Wallace, 16, of Carthage, Rt. 1, was instantly killed Thursday afternoon when the car in which he was riding went out of control as it entered Robbins on the Talc Mine Road.

Investigating officers said the car, apparently traveling at a high rate of speed, crossed the yards of several homes, was airborne part of the time, and overturned. Young Wallace was thrown from the car, his body landing 120 feet away.

Seriously injured in the wreck was Michael Freeman, 17, of Eagle Springs, Rt. 1, who suffered fractures of the neck, spine and pelvis but was described a day or two later at Moore Memorial Hospital as in "satisfactory" condition.

Moore Coroner A.B. Parker, who is assisting Patrolman I.D. Marley of the Robbins police in the investigation, said Freeman had been determined to be the driver of the car, which was owned by his brother.

It was learned that he had picked up Wallace earlier that day at North Moore High School, after the younger boy had completed his driver education class. They rode around a while and were coming into Robbins when the accident occurred, the first traffic fatality in over 15 years to occur within the Robbins city limits.

Investigation is continuing and no charges have yet been filed, the coroner said.

(Continued on Page 10-A)

Budget Approved By Town

The Southern Pines Town Council formally adopted a budget of \$1,806,454 Tuesday night despite a plea for more funds from the Sandhills Arts Council.

Julian Long, director of the Arts Council, was the only citizen to appear before the town governing body to question the budget allotments. After consultation with Mayor Earl Hubbard and several board members, Long said he understood the plight of board members.

Long came to protest the cut of \$2,500 in the Art Council's appropriation from \$5,000 last year. "Our efforts will be hampered if we have to raise an extra \$2,500 from other sources," Long said.

Mayor Hubbard, emphasizing that he is a strong supporter of the Arts Council, said the town is still under too much of a financial strain to be the sole county supporter of the Arts Council. He suggested that the Arts Council make a greater effort to inform the public in other municipalities

(Continued on Page 7-A)

\$13 Million Grant Awarded to Moore

Moore County has been awarded nearly \$13 million by the Environmental Protection Agency for the construction of a wastewater treatment project.

Congressman Bill Hefner was notified by the EPA on Wednesday, June 18, of the grant.

A total of \$12,986,250 was awarded to the county for the project.

The money will be used to construct the wastewater treatment plant, a pump station, interceptors, monitoring stations

and for an infiltration-inflow survey.

W.S. Taylor, Chairman of the Moore County Board of Commissioners, said that the engineering for the project was nearly completed and that he hoped construction could begin before too long.

Taylor, who was notified by Congressman Hefner's office of the grant, announced the approval to the Board of Commissioners during their meeting on June 18.

County Budget Adopted; 75¢ Tax Rate Retained

The Moore County commissioners in special meeting last Wednesday afternoon adopted their proposed \$9,279,575 budget without change, despite a request of the Sandhills Community College for additional funding in the sum of \$84,000.

Sales Tax

Sales tax collections, highly regarded as an economic barometer, continued to run at a high level in Moore County during May.

Secretary J. Howard Coble of the State Department of Revenue reported this week that the one percent local option sales tax collections in Moore for the month totaled \$88,839.52.

Collections of the one percent tax in neighboring counties were: Hoke, \$17,110.11; Lee, \$66,660.78; Montgomery, \$33,432.21; Richmond, \$78,286.24.

No action was taken on the request, despite what was described in the public hearing preceding the special meeting as a crisis situation at the college.

A delegation from the college was present.

The budget had been prepared for adoption based on retention of the 75-cent tax rate, based on an estimated total valuation of property at \$410 million.

It involved adoption of the tentative budget, presented in single-spaced, 12 page summary as the budget ordinance for 1975-76 following its being read aloud by Mrs. Wicker, an hour-long process.

The adoption wound up a full afternoon's work by the commissioners in which they also approved the franchising of the county's garbage collection and landfill operation to the Montgomery Garbage Collection

(Continued on Page 10-A)

Hearing Thursday Could Wind Up Controversy On Duncraig Manor

A hearing which could quickly wind up the Duncraig Manor controversy, or turn it around to seek a new direction, has been set by Superior Court Judge James M. Long for 2 p.m. Thursday, either at Monroe or at Carthage.

The hearing will be on a defense motion in the Town of Southern Pines' suit against directors and officers of the Southeastern Regional Mental Health Center at Lumberton, asking a summary judgment on the basis that an agency of the State cannot be sued.

If the judge allows the motion, the case will become "not triable"—though it could probably go on into an appeal.

Judge Long said he would notify lawyers on both sides as soon as possible after noon on Wednesday, whether he would conduct the hearing at Monroe, where he is presiding over a court term this week, or whether he will be able to complete his work there in time to move it to Carthage, as he would prefer,

because of the local interest.

W. Lamont Brown, town attorney of Southern Pines, and W. D. Sabiston, Jr., of Carthage, who is associated with him in this case, will conduct the arguments for the plaintiff, while W. Osborne Lee, Jr., of Lumberton and James Van Camp of Southern Pines and Carthage will act for the defense.

If the defense motion is allowed, it is anticipated that a companion suit, Mrs. Constance

M. Baker vs. the Town of Southern Pines, will possibly be withdrawn.

Both suits are listed, in first and second place, to be tried together, on the preliminary calendar completed Monday afternoon for a special civil term of Moore Superior Court set for the week of July 21.

A court order confirming the date of the special term, with assignment of Superior Court

(Continued on Page 7-A)

Tobacco Sales To Start On Moore Marts July 15

Tobacco auction markets in Moore County will open on July 15—the earliest opening in the county's history.

Markets in Moore are at Carthage and Aberdeen.

The date was set by the federal Flue-Cured Tobacco Advisory Committee. The committee establishes market areas and opening dates for the Florida to Virginia flue-cured tobacco growing region. Their recommendation is routinely approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Talmadge Baker, Moore

County Agriculture Agent, observed this week that "there is a real good tobacco crop on the way. The early opening of the market is indicative of that."

Baker expects the first curing by the end of next week, which means growers will have to hurry to prepare for auction openings just three weeks away.

The committee also announced that 24 sets of buyers have been assigned to this region, designated as Area C, and including 21 markets. Area C includes Ellerbe, Carthage, Sanford, Fuquay-

(Continued on Page 10-A)

Weymouth Museum To Open

The Weymouth Woods museum which interprets the story of the Sandhills region will be open to the public in just two weeks.

That's the word from Scott Bowling, museum curator for all North Carolina State Parks. Bowling was in town last week to survey museum progress so far and to make plans for the future.

Bowling said the museum will tell the story of how the Sandhills were formed, how the longleaf pine forest came into being, and why the forest is unique to the region.

"The museum is not a self-

(Continued on Page 10-A)

Legislature Nears Closing And Anything Can Happen

BY BILL NOBLITT

The final hectic days before adjournment of the General Assembly are especially important for conscientious citizens and lawmakers.

The chances for error are plenty; it will be weeks, even months, before people figure out what has happened in some cases.

During that rush to adjournment is brought even more strongly home the truth of that old political saw: there are two

things in life a sensitive fellow ought not watch—lawmaking and sausage making.

"We ought to quit and go home, leaving things undone instead of rushing along headstrong into trouble," opined State Rep. W.S. Harris Jr., D-Alamance, as he watched the hatchet committee wade in often total confusion through nearly 60 legislative proposals in less than four hours.

Echoing the general mood, State Rep. Craig Lawing, D-

(Continued on Page 10-A)

'Dr. Vida' Keeps On the Go; 79 Years Do Not Slow Her

BY JIM BUIE

The summer of 1970, "just for fun," she walked part of an Australian desert until the soles of her shoes melted off. The next summer, she sojourned to India where she was hoisted up mountains by hospitable natives.

The summer after that, she spent four days shooting the rapids of the Colorado River.

She is Dr. Vida McLeod, 79, a general practitioner in Southern Pines since 1926.

Her patients hail her as a vanishing breed of doctor, one who cannot look upon them in an impersonal way.

"She's like a second mother to me," one middle-aged lady observed. "When I go in for a

check-up, she wants to know how every member of the family is doing. She never hesitates to give advice about things that are bothering me either."

The slim, vibrant "Dr. Vida," as even the children patients call her, finds nothing unusual about herself. "What possibly could be interesting about me?" she greeted this reporter.

A graduate of Baylor Medical College of Texas in 1919, Dr. Vida was originally interested in pathology and radiology. She swore never to practice medicine, but when her husband, Walter, a Southern Pines physician, became fatally ill, she stepped in and took over his practice.

Patients often send her gifts in appreciation for her service, everything from pistols to bowls of tomatoes.

Her working day varies in length, but she often does not return home until after 7 p.m. "I don't have the same responsibilities as a lot of doctors," she said. "I live alone. There's nobody to wait for me at home except two hungry dogs."

The dogs-Chief, a mischievous Skye Terrier, and Kiwi, a nine-year old dachshund, are the latest in a long line of canine companions. Until the mid-1960's she had two Great Danes, one of whom would accompany her to the office each morning.

(Continued on Page 10-A)

THE PILOT LIGHT

HAWAII — In several North Carolina counties there has been criticism of county commissioners attending a convention at public expense in Hawaii, especially in view of commissioners doing a lot of budget cutting and not granting any pay raises to employees.

There has been some grumbling here.

At any rate, three Moore County commissioners—John Womack, Chairman W.S. Taylor and Lee Williams—along with the wives, left last Friday for the convention in Hawaii of the National Association of County Government officials. Also attending are County Administrator Bob Helms and Mrs. Estelle Wicker, county finance officers. The commissioners are

paying the expenses of their wives. Also attending the convention and paying her own way is Mrs. Grier Gilmore, register of deeds.

FOOD TAX VOTE — A proposal to allow North Carolinians to vote on repeal of the sales tax on food next March when the presidential preference primary will be held was defeated in the State Senate last week by a vote of 32 to 14.

The proposal had been sponsored by Senator McNeill Smith of Greensboro and among the 14 voting for it were the two senators from this district—Senator Charles Vickery of Chapel Hill and Senator Russell Walker of Asheboro.

LEE — Howard Lee, the black

(Continued on Page 10-A)



TRASH PROBLEM — This picture by W.F. Ritter made at Robbins Cross-Roads shows part of the problem the county has been having with its trash disposal problem. New methods of collection and new containers are planned.