

Weather

Since last Thursday, there has been over five inches of rain, with a 40 percent chance of rain continuing until this evening. The low tonight will be 70, the high today and tomorrow will be 87. Sunday was the coolest day, with a high of 82, a low of 69, and 2.05 inches of rain.

THE PILOT

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BikeRider Is Killed By Auto

John Robert Chriscoe, 23, of West End, Rt. 1, was killed Friday about 9:30 p.m. when the bicycle he was riding near his home in the Doubs Chapel community was struck from the rear by a car. Coroner A.B. Parker, who assisted State Trooper John Smith in the investigation, said that, after the impact, the youth's body was carried some 273 feet on the car before falling to the road, and the bicycle was carried a considerable distance beyond that. The accident occurred in front of the home of Lloyd Chriscoe, his uncle, who heard the sound of the crash and came running out with his wife. They summoned the Carthage rescue squad, but young Chriscoe was found to be dead on arrival at Moore Memorial Hospital, and the Coroner said he was probably instantly killed. He gave the cause of death as massive head injuries, with multiple fractures of the cervical spine. He also said the bicycle was properly lighted, front and rear, was being ridden with the traffic flow and appeared to have been in all respects in conformity with the law. The driver of the car, John Blue McKenzie, also of West End, Rt. 1, has been charged by Trooper Smith with driving while drunk. Smith, who had to be out of the county this week, said the investigation would continue and other charges might be made. Chriscoe, who had a habit of bicycle riding, and went each day or night to Sandy Black's Store, had just left his home, where he lived with his grand- (Continued on Page 16-A)



TOBACCO SEASON OPENS — Auction sales opened on the Carthage market on Tuesday in the earliest opening date in history. The above picture was made at the first sale, with mixed reaction from tobacco growers.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

\$84.71 Average Recorded On Carthage Opening Day

Tobacco markets opened in Moore County Tuesday with the first day's sales at Carthage averaging \$84.71 per hundred pounds. Sales opened at Aberdeen this

morning. This is the earliest opening date in the history of the Moore County markets. A few farmers complained about prices paid but most expressed the belief that it would

be a lot better later in the season. Most admitted that the quality of early offerings was poor. All Carthage warehousemen said, however, they heard nothing but comments of satisfaction with market prices in view of the quality. According to the warehousemen, very little if any tobacco had rejected bids. Nearly 30 percent of tobacco at the Tobacco Cooperative and Farmer's Warehouse was turned over to the Tobacco Stabilization Corporation, however, under the price support program. At the Cooperative Warehouse, over 5,430 pounds went to stabilization, out of a total volume of 13,342 sold. Tom Colson, assistant agricultural Extension agent for Moore County, said Moore markets "averaged a little higher than most places. Of course, our quality may have been a little better too." Almost all of the tobacco sold this week was first primings, and most observers expect higher prices to be recorded as better quality tobacco is sold from higher up the stalk. The weather may have a detrimental effect, several farm- (Continued on Page 16-A)

Gringle Charge Dropped; McKenzie To Face Trial

Of two persons held under charges of embezzlement and misuse of funds of Choice, Inc., in incidents which allegedly took place in 1973 and 1974, one was released following preliminary hearing last week in Moore District Court, while the other waived preliminary hearing and

was continued under bond. No probable cause was found by District Judge W.M. Lampley against Robert Eugene Gringle of Durham, former director of the Choice, Inc., youth-oriented drug control program at Southern Pines. (Continued on Page 16-A)

Miss McDonald, 74, Dies Funeral Rites Thursday

Miss Flora C. McDonald, 74, former Moore County Home Demonstration Agent, died Tuesday night at Moore Memorial Hospital where she had been a patient for some time. Miss McDonald, who lived on Summit Avenue in Carthage, retired in 1963 after 30 years of service as Home Demonstration agent.

She was a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Home Demonstration Agents. She was an organizer and honorary director of the Moore County Historical Association. Miss McDonald was also a past president of the Women of the First Presbyterian Church in Carthage. Over the years Miss McDonald also received other state and national honors in recognition of her pioneer work in the Home Demonstration field. She knew nearly everyone in Moore County and had taken an active part in many projects of the Moore County Historical Association, holding a keen

office is now at work on drafting a complete revision of state laws regulating public utilities and the revision will be ready for consideration by the Legislature next year. Such a revision was proposed early this year, but the Attorney General said there was not time to do the work for the 1975 session. Edmisten does not believe that increasing the size of the State Utilities Commission is going to help in speeding up decision on rate increase requests. He is opposed to interim rate increases but does think the commission should act more quickly on requests from the utility companies. MORGAN — Senator Robert (Continued on Page 16-A)



Miss Flora McDonald

Appointed

Charlie Brown of Carthage was among eight persons appointed this week by Governor James Holshouser to the Governor's Coordinating Council on Aging. He was named to a term expiring on June 30, 1977. Brown is a farmer. He and his wife have one daughter, Bonnie Jean. (Continued on Page 16-A)

Parking Survey Started

Should parking be monitored in downtown Southern Pines is the main question in a survey being conducted by the town administration office, according to Town Manager Lew Brown. Brown said post cards containing four questions and space for additional comments are being printed this week and will be mailed to local retail stores and businesses soon. The purpose is to find out how merchants and business people feel about restrictions on parking and to decide what should be done about employ parking. The survey is the result of a discussion at the July 8 meeting of the Southern Pines Town Council. At this time the council asked the administration to formulate a questionnaire to find out the opinions of business personnel in the downtown area, from Vermont to Massachusetts Avenue and between Ashe and Bennett Streets. Brown said he expects responses by August 12 and hopes a decision can be made concerning parking regulations soon afterwards. (Continued on Page 16-A)

House In Horseshoe Getting Ready For Drama, Bicentennial Observance

BY HOWARD S. MUSE, JR. "The Bicentennial is coming! The Bicentennial is coming!" might very well be the rallying cry as the nation begins to celebrate its 200th birthday. In Moore County, no place will be more central to the local bicentennial celebration than the House in the Horseshoe, the county's best known historic site. Built about 1772 by Philip Alston, the house, which takes its name from its location in a large bend of the Deep River, was one of the first "big houses" in the North Carolina upcountry. On Sunday, August 5, 1781, Colonel Philip Alston, leader of a Whig band, was camped in and around the house with his men. Early in the morning, David Fanning, a Tory commander, attacked the house with a larger band of Tories. After a brisk two-hour battle, during which the Tories attempted to set fire to the house by rolling a cartload of burning hay against it, the Whigs surrendered. They were later released on parole. Numerous bullet holes are still visible in the outer walls. Something of a rogue, Alston fled the state in 1789 after being

implicated in a probable murder. He died the next year. In 1798, Benjamin Williams, a Revolutionary War patriot who was soon to become a four term governor of North Carolina, acquired the 3,000 acre plantation. After Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin made it profitable to grow cotton in the upland South, Williams turned the estate into one of the North

Carolina's first large cotton plantations, planting 42 acres in 1801 and nearly 200 acres the next year. Following Williams' death in 1814, the land changed hands many times, until, in 1954, it was acquired by the Moore County Historical Association. Next summer a tentatively titled "The House in the Horseshoe," historical drama being written by Joseph C. Simmons of

the Department of Dramatic Art of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, under the sponsorship of the Moore County Historical Association, will recreate highlights from the history of the historic site. But what of the house itself, which is on the National Register of Historic Places? It has become an increasingly popular tourist attraction, with 3,406 visitors last year, and 150 to 600 visitors a month this year. For the past month, the house, which is administered by the Historic Sites Section of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, has had a resident site manager in the person of Sherwood Godwin, a 27-year old Johnston County native. As he pointed out to the writer what the Historic Sites Section has in mind for the house, one could easily tell that he's already well-stepped in the house's lore. "Except for the porches, the house is in excellent shape. There have been a lot of structural changes, but people lived in it until 1954 and kept it up," stated Godwin. Although the Historic Sites Section has a (Continued on Page 16-A)

St. Swithin's Day--Rain

It rained on Tuesday—and if the legend of St. Swithin holds true it will rain every day for 40 days. Tuesday was St. Swithin's Day and the legend goes back to the Ninth Century in England. According to the legend, St. Swithin served as a priest who was a counsel to King Egbert of the Ninth Century. He was also the Bishop of the Cathedral of Winchester and, among other, is known for instituting tithing. When he died he was buried in the church yard, which was his request. However, about a hundred years later fellow priests thought to honor him by moving his remains from the church yard to a prominent place in the cathedral. The priests started their digging into the grave of St. Swithin on July 15 but a heavy rain halted their work. They couldn't work the next day because it also rained, and every day thereafter when they tried to remove the bones of the saint it rained hard—for 40 days. Finally they gave up. Since that time it has been said that if it rains on St. Swithin's Day it will rain for the next following 40 days. So keep your umbrellas handy.

Future Study Plans Gets OK For Region

Road Work Under Way In Moore

Gregg Allen, personnel officer of the Aberdeen branch of the North Carolina Division of Highways, announces some new road construction going on in Moore County. Allen said left turn lanes are being added and signals installed at an intersection near Moore Memorial Hospital. The intersection is located where Page Road crosses with N.C. Highway 211. Two country roads are presently being paved, State Road 1853 near Lakeview and SR 2019 in Lobelia near Mt. Pleasant Church. Six-tenths mile of SR 1853 and 1.6 miles of SR 2019 are being surfaced. Another country road, SR 1217, near Taylortown, is scheduled to be paved soon but right-of-way rights are tentative at this point. The highway division will also be resurfacing various bus parking areas at the schools in the county. This project will be completed by September. According to Allen, the local division has been busy putting up barricades because of recent flooding. Among the flooded (Continued on Page 16-A)



E.J. Austin



Voit Gilmore Elected Chairman

Sheriff Revamps Curtailed Force

A reorganization of the sheriff's department, effective today (Wednesday), was announced this week by Sheriff C.G. Wimberly. Sheriff Wimberly said that the reorganization was being done to get the best use of his manpower and to provide 24-hour a day service for Moore County citizens. The reorganization follows a statistical study, he said, and with the help of the Institute of Government. Under the reorganization there will be a reduction in the number of deputies assigned to the detective division and the reestablishment of a patrol division with 12 men working in three-man, eight-hour shifts. There will be rotating shifts, Wimberly said, so that everybody will get a chance at day work. Deputies Ernest Hooker and Don Davis were transferred from the detective division to the patrol division. Deputy Ted Riley will continue to work as a detective. Those on patrol duty will also be involved in detective work, Wimberly said. It was a case of "evaluating positions in order to get the best results," he said. Meanwhile, Sheriff Wimberly said he has heard nothing further from the county commissioners following his plea last week for the board to reconsider its freeze on salary increases. He had pointed out that the commissioners had adopted a pay plan which provided for wage increases for deputies as they gain experience and further training. He admitted there's a "lot of grumbling" going on now among his staff because of the low pay and the fact no raises are in sight. He said he had obtained salary figures from adjoining counties and municipalities in the county and find that they are paying more. "The towns have a (Continued on Page 16-A)

plans for a community planning study by the American Institute of Architects are being discussed in Moore County after being given endorsement at a meeting called last week by the Sandhills Area Chamber of Commerce. A steering committee authorized by the meeting last week met on Monday and elected Voit Gilmore as chairman and discussed steps to be taken in advance of bringing a Regional-Urban Design Assistance Team here, possibly in October. Special emphasis will be given to the Sandhills area, although the study itself will be county-wide in scope. Initiated by the Chamber of Commerce, of which Architect E.J. Austin is president, the study seeks to state problems in development and to offer options and alternatives for design and long range planning. Considerable preliminary work is done in data gathering and study before an on-site four-day visit by a special team of architects and planners. A "plan for planning" would be the result of the concentrated survey, which seeks to involve every element of the community. Austin outlined the objectives at last week's meeting at the Sheraton Inn in these words, "We have a fine quality of life here in the Sandhills. How can we keep it and improve it?" In discussing the quality of life here, Austin declared that "It just didn't happen. There were people of vision—people such as the Tufts, the Boyds, the Patricks, the Sam Richardsons—who worked hard to make it the place it is today." "We are," he said, "a group of small towns becoming urban- (Continued on Page 16-A)

Museum Exhibit Delayed New Brochure Is Issued

A new brochure on the Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve here has been published by the Department of Natural and Economic Resources in anticipation of greatly increased visitation upon the opening of exhibits in the museum. Delayed by the delivery of material, completion of the exhibits is now expected late this month or in early August. The exhibits in the natural history museum will feature the subterranean life of the preserve, a beaver pond, and a special "sounds of the night" show. Weymouth Woods was established as a preserve in 1963 following a gift of the forest lands to the State by the James Boyd family. It is for the protection of a unique area of the State, and the specially adapted plant and animal life of the Sandhills Region. Nearly 600 species and varieties of plants can be found in the 425-acre preserve. Insectivorous plants are located in moist areas, including pitcher plants and sundew. The red-corked woodpecker, which is featured in the new brochure, is an endangered species that (Continued on Page 16-A)

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GOVERNOR'S TOMB — The tomb of Governor Benjamin Williams is near the House in the Horseshoe in upper Moore County.

THE PILOT LIGHT

SCHOOLS — There was a lot of talk during the last days of the 1975 Legislature that the public schools budget was being cut drastically. Actually the 1975-76 schools budget was increased—this year's budget being \$14 million greater than in 1974-75. Next year's school budget will be even greater—\$28.7 million greater than the \$800 million appropriated for the current year. The State Board of Education met last Thursday and authorized the spending of most of the \$800 million, but A.C. Davis, controller, said it would be at least a week to determine how much each local school system will receive. UTILITIES — Attorney General Rufus Edmisten says his

office is now at work on drafting a complete revision of state laws regulating public utilities and the revision will be ready for consideration by the Legislature next year. Such a revision was proposed early this year, but the Attorney General said there was not time to do the work for the 1975 session. Edmisten does not believe that increasing the size of the State Utilities Commission is going to help in speeding up decision on rate increase requests. He is opposed to interim rate increases but does think the commission should act more quickly on requests from the utility companies. MORGAN — Senator Robert (Continued on Page 16-A)