

Weather

Sunny skies and warm weather lie ahead for the Sandhills. Temperatures are expected to be in the 80s Thursday, with a low tonight in the mid-50s. No rain is seen in the immediate future.

THE PILOT

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Court Facility Is Delayed; Costs Are Found Too High

The Moore County commissioners in regular meeting Monday set public hearings for three more fire service districts, established a Moore County Womens Council and sent a cost proposal for the new Courts Facility Building back to the architectural cutting room.

They had told architect E. J. Austin last week they would take the weekend to consider his estimate of nearly \$2 million for a "turnkey job" on the new building, and—despite delays which have drawn the fire of judges, lawyers and grand juries over a period of years—decided to hold back a bit longer in hopes of effecting greater economy.

Austin's estimate, on which he had put one month of detailed study, but said at this stage necessarily had to be "approximate," totalled \$1,887,795, of which \$1,564,295 was for the actual building. The rest—\$303,500—covered, on the commissioners' request such items as landscaping, paving of parking areas, with curb and gutter, furnishings and fees.

The building, designed as a three-story structure of some 30,000 square feet, with partially developed basement, to be built of pre-cast textured concrete on the old Carthage Hotel site, with frontage on the "courthouse square," would contain two full-

sized courtrooms, smaller hearing rooms, judges' chambers and other accessory rooms; offices for the clerk of court and staff, with ample vault space; lawyers' conference rooms and offices for the magistrates and probation-parole officers; and, (Continued On Page 16-A)

Bob Helms Departs County

The Moore County Commissioners met Monday without Bob Helms, county administrator, who had worked for the county for five years less one month, and, said Chairman W.S. Taylor, "I don't know how we're going to get along without him."

Helms, who came to Moore as county planner April 1, 1971, left last weekend to report Monday to another group of commissioners, at Albemarle, and start on his new job as Stanly County manager.

On Thursday, Helms' last day of work in Moore, he took part in a special meeting of county commissioners, which was filled with developments of projects he had been nursing along. The (Continued on Page 8-A)



SUN BATHERS — It was almost like summer on Sunday and Cindy McDonald and Christina Thomas took advantage of the warm sunshine to start early on a tan at a Moore lake.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).



BIKE RIDER HURT — Southern Pines Rescue workers John Grant and Ricky Hall are shown tending 14-year-old Thomas Alexander Hampton following an automobile-bicycle accident on a U.S. 1 access road here on Thursday afternoon. No violation was indicated for the driver of the automobile, Eric Terry, 475 Hodgin Street (standing, foreground). Thomas was treated for minor injuries and released from Moore Memorial Hospital.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Democrats Will Meet Saturday; More Precinct Officers Named

The Democrats of Moore County will gather at the courthouse in Carthage on Saturday, March 6 at 1:00 p.m. for the 1976 County Convention.

Chairman J. Ed Causey has issued the call for the convention. The purpose of the convention is the election of the officers of the County Executive Committee and members of various district committees and alternates to represent Moore County at the Eighth Congressional District Convention and the North Carolina State Convention. "Moore County is allotted 21 delegates and 21 alternates to the District Convention and the same number to the State Convention," Causey said. "Each person attending the County Convention has been elected at precinct meetings held on February 12 at the polling place in each precinct in the county. These people will elect the delegates to represent Moore County at Concord on May 8 at the Eighth District Congressional Convention and at Raleigh on June 12 at the State Convention."

Democratic nominee for Governor in the last gubernatorial election. In order to be a delegate to the County Convention each person was required to sign a statement as to his or her preference among the aspirants for the Democratic Presidential nomination. Delegates to the National

Convention in July will be chosen according to the vote in the March 23 Presidential Primary and any candidate must receive at least 5 percent of the total vote cast in order to be considered for the allocation of a delegate. All of the precinct officers have come in except for Ritters, but no (Continued On Page 16-A)

NC Only State Without Industry Revenue Bonds

BY BILL NOBLITT The key determination to be made by Tar Heel voters March 23 in the question of tax-free revenue bonds to aid industry is not the philosophical merits of such a system, but the fact that North Carolina is being hurt financially by the lack of them, says State Rep. Ben Tison, D-Mecklenburg.

"We are the only state in the country without some form of revenue bond aid....And the proposal here is a most conservative one on the scale of aid provided by the other 49 states," Tison believes.

Himself an industrial development specialist with North Carolina National Bank in Charlotte, Tison was chief

sponsor of the rewritten bond measure endorsed by the General Assembly for listing on the ballot March 23. A Constitutional change is involved. Voters defeated the measure in 1974, and a previous step in the same direction by the General Assembly without a statewide vote was held unconstitutional. "But the point now is that we are getting bypassed by a lot of good companies which are looking for locations, or seeking to expand.

"I'm not talking about some jackleg, fly-by-night sweat shop operations either, but good, substantial firms." "Honestly, we are 50th in the nation in manufacturing wages (Continued On Page 16-A)

45th Hunter Trials Set Here Saturday Morning

The 45th Annual Hunter Trials, one of the highlights of the hunt season in Southern Pines and throughout the eastern United States, will begin at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, continuing throughout the day at the Trial Course at Scotts Corners on Youngs Road.

About ten hunts will be represented with participants coming from throughout the

eastern United States. Judges for the events will be Gene Cunningham and William Bermingham, MFH.

Food will be available at the concessions with all proceeds benefiting St. Anthony's Catholic Church.

Following the Hunter Trials the Hunt Ball will be held at the Country Club of North Carolina.

THE PILOT LIGHT

REGISTRATION — A last minute flurry of registration of new voters added 732 to the Moore County voting lists, with Republicans almost matching Democrats.

Among the new voters are 362 Democrats, 320 Republicans, 31 independents and 19 who listed themselves as "No Party."

The February registrations up to the closing of voting books on the 23rd brought the Moore County total to 19,689 voters who are eligible to vote in the March 23 balloting. Independents and "No Party" registrants cannot vote in the primary for president, but can vote for the constitutional amendments and bond issue.

Chairman C. Coolidge Thompson of the Moore County Board of Elections said the total registration is broken down as follows: Democrats, 12,240; Republicans, 6,579; Independent, 615; American Party, 3; No

Party, 252. Registration by race is 17,013 white, 2,662 black, and 14 other.

HUNT—Lt. Gov. Jim Hunt, who is running hard but still not formally announced as a candidate for Governor, has been meeting with campaign leaders in a series of regional meetings.

Last week a meeting was held in Asheville and Hunt was presented with \$98,000 raised for his campaign in 12 mountain counties.

This past weekend another meeting was held in Wilson, and attending from Moore County were Sara Hodgkins, who is heading up his campaign here, and Bob and Wanda Hunt, who are co-chairmen of the "Friends of Jim Hunt" organization in the county.

LEE — Howard Lee, former mayor of Chapel Hill, formally announced this (Wednesday) (Continued On Page 16-A)

Four Facing Marijuana Charges; Pot Found Growing In Windows

Four persons—a mother and her son and a young married couple—have been arrested in Southern Pines on marijuana charges.

Mrs. Hazel Patch Kobleur, 40, and her son, Michael D. Kobleur, 20, of 445 North Bennett St., were arrested Monday morning and

charged with the growing of marijuana.

Both are scheduled for hearing on the felony charge in district court on March 12.

The other arrests followed a raid by the Moore County Sheriff Department Friday morning. Charged with felonious

possession of marijuana with intent to distribute were Bobby Jasper Berry, 27, and his wife, Wanda Vest Berry, 22. Sheriff C. G. Wimberly said several ounces of marijuana were found in the raid on their home at 335 North Leak Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Berry are being held under \$1,000 bond each for appearance in district court on March 25.

Southern Pines police accompanied the sheriff's officers on the raid of the Berry home.

Discovery of the marijuana growing at the Kobleur home came after Southern Pines firemen were called to put out a fire from a faulty furnace. Firemen carried several items (Continued on Page 16-A)

Pair Held On Charges Of Setting Man Afire

A third macabre incident to take place in the vicinity of the cemetery of the Carthage Presbyterian Church during a seven day period in which 58 stones were overturned and one of the town's oldest landmarks destroyed by fire has been made public with the arrest Monday night of two Carthage youth, charged with assault with intent to kill by setting fire to a 69-year-old Carthage resident.

Randy Cook and Johnny Goines, both Carthage residents,

were arrested Monday night on a warrant issued after George Maness finally confirmed the rampant rumor that the two boys had accosted him and set fire to his clothes on February 17.

Maness told the police he saw the boys drinking beer in the cemetery when he started down the path on the adjacent lot, not 200 feet away. The boys saw him and attacked him, one holding him while the other held a lighted paper sack, setting fire to his (Continued On Page 16-A)

Forum Sessions Slated On American Experiment

"Reassessment of the American Experiment," a series of three Bicentennial Forums, will begin March 9 in Moore County.

The series, which is being held on a statewide basis, is sponsored by the North Carolina Library Association and the

North Carolina Humanities Committee. Local sponsors are the Sandhill Regional Library System and the Moore County Bicentennial Commission. The public is invited to these free programs on March 9, 16, and 23, 2:00 — 4:00 p.m., at the Moore County Library in Carthage.

The opening session will discuss "The Idea of America," examining the philosophy and vision of the founders of the American republic. Speaker will be Dr. Ernest Marshall of East Carolina University, after which the audience and a local panel will join the discussion. The discussion section of the program is designed to be similar to an old-fashioned town meeting, with everyone expressing opinions on the subject of discussion.

Dr. Marshall has been teaching in the Department of Philosophy at East Carolina University since 1964. He received the B. S. degree from (Continued On Page 16-A)

Jobless Rate Down To 5.5%

Unemployment reported by the Moore County Employment Security Commission reached 5.5 percent as of February 20, Counselor Earl Roberson of the District office said.

Although this is a little above the 4.8 reported the week before, it is still far below the national average and is seen as another indication of an accelerated economy. In January, unemployment here reached a high of 7.9.

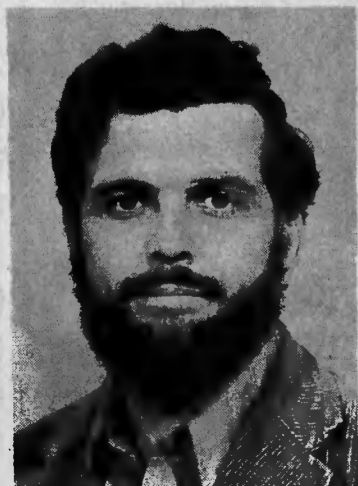
As an aid to job-seekers, the Sanford ESC office, which is the district office for Moore, announced that this week, job applicants must make appointments before taking state (Continued On Page 16-A)

Heart Fund

A Heart Fund Benefit cocktail party will be held on Sunday, March 14 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Pine Needles Country Club.

The benefit is being planned by Warren Bell, Mrs. Sam Poole, and Mrs. E. Wilson Staub. Tickets may be obtained for \$25 per couple by calling Mrs. Poole at 692-7462.

Joe Monroe is county chairman for the Heart Fund.



Dr. Ernest Marshall



Elliot Richardson

Secretary Richardson To Speak At Cancer Fund-Raising Dinner

Elliot Richardson, Secretary of Commerce and the only man who ever held four Cabinet positions, will be the featured speaker at a cancer fund-raising dinner here next month.

Miss Betty Dumaine, general chairman, announced today that Richardson would appear at the benefit dinner to be held at the Country Club of North Carolina on Saturday, April 3.

The dinner, which will be preceded by a reception, is being sponsored by the Moore County Chapter of the American Cancer Society in cooperation with the Comprehensive Cancer Center at the Duke University Medical Center.

Dr. William W. Shingleton, (Continued On Page 16-A)

director of the Duke facility, also will speak at the event which is expected to draw a capacity crowd of some 400 persons. The reception is scheduled for 7 p.m., to be followed by the dinner at 8 p.m.

Richardson was nominated as Secretary of Commerce by President Ford on November 3, 1975 while serving as Ambassador to Great Britain, a post he had held since February 20 of that same year. He was confirmed by the Senate on December 11 and took the oath of office on February 2.

Prior to this, Richardson served in former President Nixon's Cabinet as Secretary of (Continued On Page 16-A)