

Books, 2-B; Church Calendar, 3-B; Classified Ads, 11-15-C; Editorials, 1-B; Entertainment, 6-7-C; Obituaries, 7-A; Pinehurst News, 1-4-C; Social News, 2-5-A; Sports, 8-9-A.

Sunny and Cold is the forecast with no chance of rain. High, 40 degrees today, low 26 tonight.

Sara Hodgkins Gets State Post

Sara W. Hodgkins of Southern Pines was appointed this morning by Governor-elect Jim Hunt as Secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources.

Announcement of the appointment to the Cabinet level position in state government was made at a 10 a.m. press conference in Raleigh.

Governor-elect Hunt, in making the announcement, said that North Carolina should strive not only for excellence in the arts but to take the arts to all the people of North Carolina.

Mrs. Hodgkins was on hand with her husband, Norris L. Hodgkins Jr., and their three children, for the announcement and made a brief statement in which she said she would point to the goals cited by the Governor-elect.

She will take office on Jan. 8, the day when Hunt will be inaugurated as Governor. She plans to continue her home in Southern Pines, where her husband is vice president and chief executive officer of First Union National Bank.

Mrs. Hodgkins will resign from the Southern Pines Town Council to which she was elected last year, becoming the first woman to hold such a position. She was the top vote-getter in the municipal election.

A musician and teacher of music in the public schools, Mrs. Hodgkins has been active in the Democratic party and served as the Moore County manager for Hunt in his successful primary

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Sales Tax

Sales tax collections, which are among the best economic indicators in the state, continued to increase in Moore County during November.

Secretary J. Howard Coble of the State Department of Revenue reported this week that the one percent local option sales tax in Moore for the past month amounted to \$116,352.51.

The one percent collection in neighboring counties was: Hoke, \$20,734.99; Lee, \$89,005.04; Montgomery, \$35,254.27; Richmond, \$93,078.80.

Hunt's Inaugural Has Moore Float

Moore County citizens responded enthusiastically to Governor-elect Jim Hunt's personal invitation to attend his inauguration Saturday, January 8, and planned to enter a Democratic float and two high school bands in the 1 p.m. parade.

The governor-elect called it a "people's day" as well as the inaugural of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and the Council of State, and said it would be held on Saturday so school children and working people can attend.

The Pinecrest and Union Pines High School bands will take part, as well as a float.

On the Moore County float will be grass and pines, with both a golfing and a hunting scene, said Town Council Member Sara Hodgkins, who headed the Moore campaign for the newly elected governor. She said financing was obtained through the efforts of Sam Poole.

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Group Drops Opposition To Annexation By Town

Resistance by the "Concerned Citizens" against annexation by the Town of Southern Pines has come to an end, and they plan to allow the annexation to take place effective January 1, 1977.

James Van Camp, attorney representing the group in their court action against the Town, which has held up the annexation since June 30, confirmed Tuesday night that he is in process of working out the change in plans with his clients, numbering 112 residents and property owners of the four outlying areas involved. Letters are being sent to them all, summarizing the situation in full.

Van Camp said he will contact W. Lamont Brown, Southern Pines town attorney, on technicalities involved in terminating the "Concerned Citizens" lawsuit, which is now in the N. C. Court of Appeals.

Briefs were filed in the case last September, and it was anticipated it would be heard next month.

Van Camp credited efforts of Mayor E. J. Austin and Town Manager Lew G. Brown with effecting the "turnaround" by which the town will gain about 1,100 new citizens on New Year's Day, along with about 1,000 acres of residential property and two industrial plants.

Mayor Austin, who met several times unofficially with leaders of the group, and who, with Manager Brown, was a guest at a meeting they held in the council chamber Monday night, expressed gratification that the controversy was ended, and said the new citizens would receive a sincere welcome.

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He said, "This is much more than a matter of extending our tax base and providing town services to a wider area. It involves 'people resources,' which are a town's most important asset. It is my hope that all the new citizens, who are already a valuable part of our community, will enter into full participation in town affairs."

He added that "this is the best Christmas present that Southern Pines could have had."

He praised the attitude of the 50 to 60 people attending the "Concerned Citizens" meeting Monday night, who came with an evident desire to seek better communication, asked pertinent questions with an apparent desire to learn the real facts about annexation, and "listened to the answers."

These were given by both the

(Continued on Page 10-A)

Two Faculty Members Get Top Awards At Sandhills

Two members of the Sandhills Community College staff were presented the most prestigious awards in recognition of their ability and their contribution to the college and community.

Each award carries a stipend of \$1,000 and a citation for their excellence.

Dr. Raymond A. Stone, president of Sandhills, Monday afternoon presented the awards

at a meeting of all college personnel. Mrs. Rose Anderson, the college librarian received the John R. Sibley Award, and Jack Acton, instructor in art, the C. Foster Brown Jr. Award. The selection was made by an official evaluation committee from a score of persons nominated for the honor by fellow faculty members.

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Merry Christmas



The Pilot

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Christmas Has Long Weekend

Holshouser Joins Local Law Firm

Governor Jim Holshouser is moving to the Sandhills to practice law when he completes his term as Governor on Jan. 8.

Confirmation of the report was made today, and the Governor will become a member of the law firm of Brown, Holshouser and Pate in Southern Pines.

W. Lamont Brown and Holshouser had discussed the law partnership some time ago and reached a final agreement this past Sunday.

Governor and Mrs. Holshouser are planning to move into a condominium which they have leased in Pinehurst.

They plan to take a short vacation after he leaves office and will return to the Sandhills in late January.

"The past four years have been exciting, but I am just as excited now about returning to law practice and the opportunity to

be in the Sandhills," Governor Holshouser said.

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Christmas is coming to the Sandhills, with a long weekend in store for most people for the celebration.

Most offices and business establishments in the area are planning holiday closings for both Christmas and New Year's. Also, many churches here are planning special services for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Holiday office closings in the area include:

The Southern Pines Town Offices will close Friday, Dec. 24, and Monday, Dec. 27 in observance of the Christmas holiday, and Monday, Jan. 3 for New Year's.

Mrs. Estelle Wicker, clerk of the County Commissioners, reports the County offices will be closed Dec. 23, 24, 27 and Jan. 3.

The ASCS office in Carthage will be closed Dec. 23 through Dec. 27.

The Pilot offices will close on Friday, Dec. 24, and Friday, Dec. 31.

The area banks are scheduled to observe Monday, Dec. 27, and Monday, Jan. 3 for the holidays.

The Alston House (House in the Horseshoe) near Carthage will be closed Dec. 23, 24, 25, 26, 31 and Jan. 1. It will open Jan. 2 with regular hours of Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Driver's License office in Aberdeen will be closed Dec. 23, 24 and 31.

The public schools in Moore County closed Friday, Dec. 17 following regular class hours, with classes to resume Monday, Jan. 3.

Some business establishments in Southern Pines will be closed Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Grocery stores are expected to close Saturday and Sunday, but open on Monday. The major department stores will be open on Monday.

Church Services Special church services planned for the holiday weekend in Southern Pines include:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church—

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Swine Flu Vaccinations Are Now In Limbo Here

With bad luck plaguing it from the outset, the government sponsored swine flu program was halted Thursday following reported cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome which could be related to the vaccine.

Guillain-Barre, or French polio as it is sometimes called, is an ascending paralysis which occasionally causes death, usually when affecting the respiratory system.

Dr. A.G. Siegel, Health Director for Moore County, said word was received Thursday, Dec. 16, at about 4 p.m. to halt distribution of the vaccine. Area private physicians were then informed to stop inoculation, but their supply was not withdrawn.

"We are in limbo," said Dr. Siegel. Though the halt was termed temporary, it is doubtful that the program will be able to return to any successful status

after this latest setback.

The inoculation program experienced trouble from the beginning when several elderly people reportedly died soon after being shot with the vaccine. These apparently coincidental deaths were overcome and lately the program was in its most successful period, following reports of suspected cases of the swine flu in the midwest.

Then last week the suspension was ordered following reports of at least 94 cases of the Guillain-Barre syndrome, 51 of which had been inoculated with the swine flu vaccine within three weeks before symptoms of the temporary paralysis were

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Tobacco Growers Vote 99% For Quota Program

Moore County tobacco growers voted overwhelmingly for continuation of the price support program and marketing quotas in the referendum held last Thursday.

The vote in Moore was 846 for and only 13 against.

Walter Fields of the Agricultural and Stabilization Committee in Carthage said there were about 300 more voters in this year's referendum than in the last three years ago.

The Moore vote was in line with that cast in the state as a whole, in which it was reported 97,333 for the program and 943 against—a 99 percent favorable vote.

The quota system passed by an even larger margin than three

years ago.

Approval means that the tobacco support program will be continued for another three years.

Nation-wide the vote for the program was 98.6 percent in favor, with 137,971 for and 2,011 against.

Fields said there were two votes challenged in Moore.

Also in Moore the voters approved the tobacco assessment program, under which growers are assessed a certain amount per acre, for promotion of tobacco. The vote for assessments was 830 for and 27 against.

The referendum had to pass by a two-thirds majority for the

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Woman Is 12th Fatality In Crash Near Carthage

A 64-year-old Lee County woman became Moore County's 12th traffic fatality of 1976 when her car was