

Antiques Fair

Will be held for the 20th time by the Moore County Historical Association March 24-25 at the Southern Pines National Guard Armory. Preview Party, March 23. Page 7-A.

THE PILOT

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Vol. 57, Number 18 44 Pages Southern Pines, North Carolina Wednesday, March 2, 1977 44 Pages Price 15 Cents



GOLF COURSES BUSY — After weeks of cold the warm weather of recent days brought out the golfers on all of the courses in the Sandhills, and early this week they were crowded. Here's a scene on the No. 3 Pinehurst course on Monday afternoon.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Charges Renewed Against Turner After Dismissal at Court Hearing

BY VALERIE NICHOLSON
Charges of arson and murder were renewed Monday against Henry Webster Turner, 35, of Southern Pines when the grand jury returned true bills on both counts.

The charges had been dismissed last Thursday following preliminary hearing in Moore District Court, when Chief District Judge F. Fetzer Mills found no probable cause in the case in which Turner's mother had died in a fire at their home on Jan. 11.

Bills of indictment had been sent up independently Monday morning by District Attorney Carroll Lowder, on the grand jury's convening at Carthage for the current special term.

An order of arrest was not immediately signed, but Lowder said this would probably be done today.

Among the 55 true bills handed down, on what may have been the grand jury's busiest day in history, were also eight against Robert L. Stuart, Jr., 18, charged with arson and other types of felonious burning, which had taken place in Southern Pines and Pinehurst over a five-week period.

Committed January 25 to Dorothea Dix Hospital at Raleigh for psychiatric evaluation, Stuart had been returned Monday on the finding that he was competent to stand trial.

Wednesday, he was carried by his attorney, P. Wayne Robbins, to a bond hearing in Monroe, where the Superior Court Judge William Wood, who had committed him to Dix Hospital, set bond for him at \$50,000. This was immediately made.

Friday, he appeared with his attorney in Southern Pines District Court, where he waived hearing on the eight felony counts and was bound over for grand jury action.

Judge Wood had in January revoked a \$4,000 bond set for Stuart by a magistrate, following a strong protest by many people fearful that more fires might be set.

A wave of alarm was beginning to manifest itself in the Southern Pines-Pinehurst area this week, (Continued on Page 16A)

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Water Vote Questions On Agenda Monday

Opponents of the county-wide water system, to be voted on in a bond referendum on March 29, will be heard at the regular meeting of the Moore County commissioners next Monday.

Chairman W. Sidney Taylor said a request from the group to be heard has been placed on the agenda for 3 p.m.

Representatives from county commissioner boards in Hoke, Scotland and Robeson, along with the Sierra Club, are expected to be present and to ask questions about the water system, especially as it pertains to the water flow of Drowning Creek.

Under the proposed water system Drowning Creek will be the principal source of water in the early phases of the program.

Chairman Taylor said he had talked on Tuesday with Ralph Barnhardt, vice chairman of the Hoke commissioners, about the matter. "Their chief concern," he said, "appears to be the dilution of the effluent from the regional sewer system which will flow from Aberdeen Creek into Drowning Creek."

Drowning Creek flows into the the Lumbie River, which flows through Scotland and Robeson counties.

"I feel certain we can answer their questions effectively," Chairman Taylor said, pointing out that the waste water which will be returned to Aberdeen

Creek will be completely treated, and that the water flow of Drowning Creek will be more than ample to thoroughly dilute the effluent.

The water supply in Drowning Creek is plentiful, Taylor said, and he cited a 36-year study of (Continued on Page 16A)

Lightning Damages Houses

A single bolt of lightning during the sudden storm Thursday morning caused considerable damage to electrical systems in several houses on Riverside Dr. in Southern Pines.

Fuses were burned out, telephone and electric lines knocked out, and it was even reported that a cord on a bamboo curtain began to smoulder.

John Ponzer, of 295 Hillside Dr., said the lightning came through the cable connected to his television, knocking out the set. A long panel of electric sockets on the wall over the kitchen counters popped right off the wall, he said.

A neighbor, Mrs. Edward DuRant, reported to Ponzer that (Continued on Page 16A)



FOREST FIRE — Two lady firefighters of the Southern Pines Fire Department—Judy Rorie and Carol Smith—are shown fighting a forest fire behind the Charlton Motel. Fire Chief Pete Rapatas said the fire was believed to have been started by a passing train.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Group Will Oppose Moore Water Bonds

A citizens' committee headed by Linda McFayden of Pinebluff met last night to approve a paper questioning the proposed Water Bonds as a possible threat to the environment.

Moore County committee members opposing the Bonds include Howard Muse, Jay Carter III, David Drexel, Mildred Carpenter, Dr. Thomas Suther, Lockie McFayden and Dieder Newton, Mrs. McFayden said.

They are joined by Warren Pate of Raeford and others from Scotland, Hoke and Robeson Counties who say further environmental studies are needed.

A citizens group met with Jim Mulligan of the Department of Natural and Economic Resources in Fayetteville yesterday to voice what they called lack of environmental planning from the engineering firm of Les Hall and Associates, on which Moore County Commissioners are basing their water study and proposed county-wide system.

They also alerted Dr. Leo Applegate of Scotland County, Chairman of Land Use and Planning for the Council of Government for Region N, which includes Hoke, Scotland, Robeson and Bladen Counties who, they said, is working on the issue in those counties.

The paper is being circulated to inform voters of issues "of which they may not be aware," Mrs. McFayden, acting chairman of the group, explained.

It says: "1. Moore county farms, forest lands, and open spaces are the key to the quality of life residents now enjoy. Do we as taxpayers wish to see this destroyed in order to subsidize high intensity growth of condominiums, mass suburbia, and industrial parks that these systems will promote?" (Continued on Page 16A)

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Buildings Destroyed In Fire From Train

A brush fire Sunday along the railroad tracks behind the Charlton Motel, destroyed several small wooden storage buildings and nearly got out of control, according to the Southern Pines Fire Dept.

The Fire Dept. answered the call at about 12:02 p.m. Fire was reported from Saunders Blvd. to the Carolina Mobile Home Park. Several acres of land were burned, in addition to the wooden sheds, firemen said.

The brush was believed ignited (Continued on Page 16A)

Peach Festival Slated At Ellerbe On Saturday

The Ellerbe Civitan Club and the North Carolina Peach Growers Association are making plans for the North Carolina Peach Festival to be held in Ellerbe on Saturday, March 5.

There are 15 Peach queen contestants that are residents of the peach growing counties of Anson, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, and Richmond. Only single girls between the ages of 17 and 26 are eligible to enter. Any peach producer or civic club can sponsor a contestant for a \$15 entry fee.

Competition will be in four (Continued on Page 16A)

30-Year Term Given In Motel's Robbery

Anthony Thomas, a resident of Berkley, Aberdeen, was convicted this week in Moore Superior Court of the armed robbery last November 12 of the desk clerk at the Pinehurst Motor Lodge, drawing a sentence of not less than 30 nor more than 35 years.

It could amount to half a lifetime—for \$60 in cash.

The trial opened the court term (Continued on Page 15-A)

Mental Health Clinics Have Acting Directors

Clinical acting directors for each county in the area served by the Sandhills Mental Health Center have been appointed by Area Director David Culbreth.

He said Tuesday that Dr. Theodore Clark, who has resigned as clinical director, has a verbal agreement to continue emergency service to in-patients with other psychiatrists working with him through this week.

Dr. Clark, he said, will continue serving the alcoholic program at Sandhills Mental Health Center by contract.

Doctors who are the acting directors in the clinical and medical supervision of patients are:

Moore County: Dr. James Groce.

Montgomery: Dr. Ralph Beasley.

Hoke: Dr. Fagan.

Richmond: Dr. Randy Grigg.

Anson: Dr. Larry Champion.

Culbreth says the appointment of these physicians satisfies state requirements.

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School Chiefs Raised Under New Contracts

The Moore County Board of Education Tuesday night granted their top administrators, Supt. Robert E. Lee and Associate Supt. C. Edison Powers, contract renewals for four years each, effective with the new fiscal year.

They also granted raises for both men in their county-paid salary supplements. Added to Lee's present supplement of \$6,616 will be \$2,000 over the first biennium, \$4,000 over the second, for a total of \$8,000 over the four-year period; and, for Powers, \$1,000 over the first biennium, \$2,000 over the second—\$3,000 in all—added to his present supplement of \$6,510.

The county funds will supplement their state salaries, which at present are \$21,792 for Lee, \$19,848 for Powers. The General Assembly is expected to give these salaries a boost, though it is not known yet by how much.

The board granted the contracts and raises in a brief executive session held in the course of their regular session, leaving their meeting room in the Administrative Building for the purpose, and returning to report to the press on actions taken.

They said the levels of compensation Lee and Powers would receive were "in line with others in the state serving systems of comparable size."

Lee's state-paid salary is 43rd among 142 superintendents in the state, and all systems now pay supplements, according to their (Continued on Page 16A)

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THE PILOT LIGHT

HUNT—Governor Jim Hunt is beginning to make use of his "Green Stamps," and more appointments, one of the major sources of power for the Governor's office, can be expected in the coming weeks.

Many of the major ones, however, including 12 superior court judgeships, will not likely be forthcoming while the legislature is in session. The Governor will be holding back until he gets his program through the General Assembly, and he will need that leverage.

There is still a feeling in Raleigh that the Governor will push hard for passage of a constitutional amendment to

give the governor veto power and the right to succeed himself. Many legislators say they may vote to submit those questions to a vote of the people, but they will insist on not applying to the present occupant of the office.

ILLITERACY—Eleven percent of the adult population in Moore County cannot read and are classed as functional illiterates, according to a recent study made by the Highway Safety Research Center at the University of North Carolina. This compares with 8.3 percent of the state's adult population as a whole. (Continued on Page 16A)



James Van Camp

Van Camp Appointed To Post

James Van Camp, Southern Pines attorney, has been named a defense attorney on the reorganized Governor's Crime Commission, formerly the Law and Order Commission, of which he was Executive Director in the Scott Administration.

Practicing in Southern Pines, Van Camp also served on the committee from 1970 to 1973 on appointment of Gov. Scott.

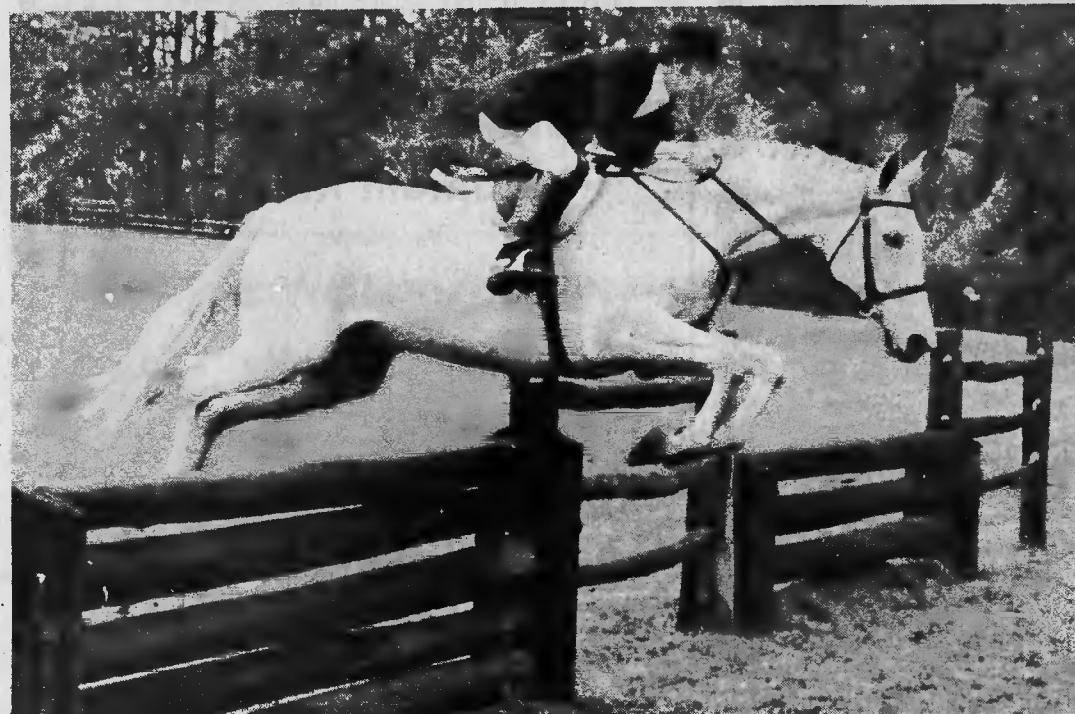
He attended Atlantic Christian College and received his law degree from Wake Forest University School of Law. He was appointed by former Attorney Robert Morgan in 1973 to serve on the 30-member Criminal Code Commission.

Van Camp, from Jacksonville, has law offices here on S. West Broad Street.

He is among 22 citizens and professionals appointed by Governor James B. Hunt Jr. District Judge Phil Carlton of Pinetops is the new chairman, and Wake District Attorney Burley Mitchell, vice chairman.



TRUMPETS OF SPRING — These bright yellow harbingers of coming warmth lift noble heads to Pilot visitors.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).



CHAMPION RETURNING — "Kettle Hill" of Fairway Farms of Sedgewick, champion of the 1976 Hunter Trials, is returning to defend his championship at the 30th annual event in Southern Pines on Saturday. See story Sports Page.