

Today's Pilot Spotlight is on a couple whose business started with an orchid.

School Lines Will Depend On Bus Plan

A plan to make school attendance areas more flexible in order to reflect changing population trends, and make the best use of all existing school facilities in meeting new demands, is expected to be put into effect in Moore County in the coming school year.

Disaster Area Here Designated

Congressman Bill Hefner announced today that President Carter has designated Moore County an agricultural disaster area. The President's designation resulted from the severe drought in North Carolina this past summer and the severe freezing weather this winter across the country.

According to Hefner, the designation means that livestock farmers in Moore County may appeal to the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service for partial reimbursement of livestock feed costs under the emergency livestock feed program.

Farmers who would like more information should contact their local ASCS office. In addition to Moore County, five other counties in the 8th Congressional District were included in the designation. They are Davie, Cabarrus, Montgomery, Rowan, and Yadkin.

Prison Term Given In Drug Conviction

The last three days of the criminal term held last week at Carthage, with Special Judge Robert L. Gavin presiding, featured only one jury trial, in which Gregg Pierce was convicted on two drug counts, drawing two years in prison on each.

The sentences, for possession of MDA, and possession of amphetamines with intent to sell, are to be served concurrently. Appeal was noted, then the notice was withdrawn before the end of the term. The court ordered that drugs seized in the case be destroyed.

In two cases, defendants pleaded not guilty, juries were empaneled and in one case

state's evidence was completed, the pleas then being withdrawn and guilty pleas submitted in their place. One case was that of Frank Hales, charged with assault with a firearm on a law enforcement officer, who had attempted to use a rifle on Carthage Police Chief Allan Benner when Benner tried to take it away from him. The incident occurred on the courthouse square at a time when the defendant was drinking. Defense counsel appealed to the judge that, in passing sentence, he recognize that his client had problems of age, ill health and alcohol. The sentence was 18 months, with physical and

psychological counseling. (Continued on Page 14-A)

Webster Elected Head Of Arts Council Here

Terrell Webster, a local attorney, is the new president of the Sandhills Arts Council.

Webster, who was elected at a meeting of the Council board of directors on Friday, succeeds George Garrett as head of the three-year old organization. Other officers elected at a meeting held at the Campbell House, where the Arts Council has its office, are Voit Gilmore, first vice president; Mrs. Archie McLean, second vice president; Cynthia A. McDonald, secretary; Mrs. A. Reynold Tucker, treasurer.

Plans were also made at the board meeting for an Arts Council Masque on April 29, at which works of arts will be auctioned, along with entertainment and a dinner. Patsy Tucker is serving as chairman of the Arts Council benefit event. Julian Long, executive director of the Sandhills Arts Council, reported that this year there are more than 1200 members of the Council this year.

Webster and his wife, the former Leila McKimmon of Raleigh, live on Bethesda Road in Southern Pines. He is with the law firm of Johnson and Poole of Aberdeen and Pinehurst. He and his wife are the parents of three girls and two boys, all either in college or graduated. He is a member of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, and is on the board of directors of the Southern Pines Rotary Club and the Pinehurst Forum.

Webster moved in April, 1973, to Southern Pines from Conover in Catawba County where he was president of the Conover Glove Manufacturing Co., chairman of the school board and served four years on the Catawba County board of commissioners.



Terrell Webster



HUNT TEAM WINNERS—A record crowd turned out here Saturday for the 20th annual Hunter Trials in which there were also a record 17 entries in the hunt teams, class nine. The Paddock Junior Team of (left to right) Pat Darden on Granite Fox, Jane Packard on

Cordon Bleu and Leonard Short on Battle Bounce is shown taking the last fence to win the class and trophies, donated by Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Webb.—(Photo by Emerson Humphrey).

Q&A On Moore Water Bond Issue

Questions raised about the proposed county-wide water system and the \$12 million bond referendum on March 29 have been answered by the "Neighbors for Clean Water," which is promoting approval of the bond issue.

Pamphlets containing questions and answers have been published and are being circulated throughout Moore County.

Here are some of the questions and answers:

Q. Does Moore County need a county-wide water system?

A. Yes, our towns and rural areas are now facing challenges in water supply, treatment and distribution. Fire protection is inadequate for most of the county. Water is essential for the proper health and safety of Moore County citizens.

Q. How will fire protection be enhanced by this system?

A. The system will give us a dependable water supply to fight fires in certain locations. A plentiful water supply is essential to fight fires, particularly in major structures such as schools, hospitals, businesses and other employment centers.

Zone Vote Hearing Delayed

The recommendation of the Moore County Planning Board to the county commissioners, delivered to them Monday by Tony Carlyle, zoning administrator, was that "a public hearing be held at the earliest possible date, to consider amending the Moore County zoning ordinance to require a three-fourths vote in dealing with zoning change requests, as specified in the original 1968 ordinance."

The motion had been unanimously adopted by the Planning Board at its March 1 meeting, made by William H. Gentry, Jr., and seconded by J.W. Cranford.

But the commissioners had already decided to postpone all meetings, hearings or any other actions which had any relation to zoning, until after the water bond vote set for Tuesday, March 29. Zoning is in some areas a pretty emotional issue, and if any emotions were going to be stirred up between now and the referendum, the board wanted it to be on getting out an affirmative vote.

They asked Carlyle to see that he had a place on the agenda for their regular meeting Monday, April 4, by which time the water bond issue will be decided; and they would then set the date for the hearing on the three-fourths vote, also on a zoning meeting to be held at Pinehurst.

People from Pinehurst, Foxfire and surrounding areas will be asked to attend, to hear of (Continued on Page 12A)

Q. Will fire hydrants be installed along the water lines?

A. Yes, hydrants will be placed within five hundred feet of customers in developed areas along the county water lines.

Q. If the referendum does not pass, what will happen to the towns which need new or expanded water systems?

A. The towns will be required to improve their independent systems. The towns will bear the financial burdens themselves (some with bond issues, no doubt) and service areas will be limited to the town vicinity. Further, overall higher rates in the long run may be expected by this independent approach to our county-wide water needs.

Q. How will a new county-wide water system help Moore County?

A. The most pressing current needs for water will be met and our lifestyle will be maintained. New businesses will be accommodated by an adequate water supply, thus creating more jobs for our citizens, particularly our youth.

Q. Where will the water come from?

A. The southeastern portion of the County will receive water from Drowning Creek. Robbins area will continue to obtain water from Bear Creek. The water for the Vass area will continue to be derived from Little River.

Q. Moore County already has enough people and enough industry. Why should we encourage growth by initiating a county-wide water system?

A. An adequate water system may be a factor in the future growth of Moore County. However, growth would expand the tax base, as it has in the past decade, and help us keep a low tax rate.

Q. How much will the water system cost?

A. The first phase of the water system will cost \$12,000,000.

Q. Where will the money come from to pay for the bonds?

A. Revenues from the users of the system are expected to pay for the bonds. Federal and State grants and low-interest, long-term loans are anticipated to aid in financing the system also.

Q. Will the system cause an increase in taxes?

A. The system will be financed by bonds. (Continued on Page 12A)

THE PILOT LIGHT

HUNT - Governor Jim Hunt is determined to get a 2 percent reduction in the number of state employees, primarily in what is known as the middle management group, but he is running into some problems with the various departments.

Department heads are relying to a large extent on division directors and others to make reduction recommendations, but what they are getting are proposed cutoffs at the lower levels and practically none in the middle range which was padded out during the Holshouser administration.

Governor Hunt is expected to bear down even harder in the coming week to get the cuts he wants, and one of the departments targeted for

attention is Human Resources. There are 140,000 state employees on the payroll and a cut of 2 percent would mean eliminating 2,800 jobs. At the average state salary of \$10,000 per year that would represent a savings of \$28 million.

The cuts do not necessarily mean that employees will be fired, but that vacant jobs will not be filled. Personnel officers estimate that during a normal year there are about 6,000 vacancies to be filled.

ERA - Some of the Senate proponents of the Equal Rights Amendment, which went down to defeat by the narrow margin of 26-24 last week, feel that not enough pressure was put on two

Miss Linder Is Winner UNC Morehead Award

Loretta Kay Linder, daughter of Mrs. Ines G. Linder of 230 N. Ashe St., Southern Pines, and of Leroy O. Linder of Carthage, has received a Morehead Award to study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The announcement is made today by Hugh G. Chatham of Elkin, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the John Motley Morehead Foundation.

A senior at Pinecrest High School, Linder is president of the senior class, a National Merit Semi-Finalist and on the varsity tennis team.

She is one of 66 high school seniors who have received 1977 Morehead Awards presented to students of superior achievement and potential. Academic standing, character, evidence of leadership and service, physical vigor and ambition are the qualities looked for in a Morehead scholar.

The scholarships currently are worth \$11,000 for North Carolina students for four years of study at UNC.

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Loretta Kay Linder

Linder's selection followed a yearlong screening process which culminated in final interviews in Chapel Hill Feb. 25-28. All finalists who did not receive Morehead Awards were tendered North Carolina Merit Tuition Scholarships funded by the Morehead Foundation.

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Bond Vote Opposed

Exhuming Of Body Ordered

Henry Turner, 35, of Southern Pines, who was freed February 24 in Moore District court from charges of arson and the murder of his mother, was indicted Monday by a Moore County grand jury on both counts, re-arrested Thursday on voluntarily surrendering himself in Moore Superior Court, and on Friday was transferred to Dorothea Dix Hospital at Raleigh.

In addition to committing the defendant to Dix for psychiatric evaluation, over a period of up to 60 days, Special Judge Robert L. Gavin signed an order for exhumation of the body of Mrs. Julia Turner, 70, for autopsy by the state medical examiner.

No autopsy had been held at the time of Mrs. Turner's death in a fire January 11 at the home in Southern Pines which she

provide service to surrounding areas, including High Falls. Q. Where will the water come from? A. The southeastern portion of the County will receive water from Drowning Creek. Robbins area will continue to obtain water from Bear Creek. The water for the Vass area will continue to be derived from Little River.

Q. Moore County already has enough people and enough industry. Why should we encourage growth by initiating a county-wide water system?

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No School

The public schools of Moore County will be closed on Friday, March 11. Friday has been designated as one of the 17 1/2 Teacher Work Days of this school year.

Originally, Thursday, March 10 was scheduled as the Teacher Work Day and March 11 was to have been a leave day for teachers. Schools were closed on January 25 due to inclement weather and that day was considered as a leave day for teachers. Thursday is being used as a make-up day for the day lost and the Work Day was moved to Friday.

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A group of about 25 men and women—including two or three members who said they were "just observers"—visited the Moore County commissioners in regular meeting Monday to express their opposition to the water bond vote set for March 29. Mrs. Linda McFadyen of Pinebluff, spokesman for the group, said they included representation from Scotland, Hoke, Richmond and Robeson counties as well as Moore.

She said they were concerned at the use, or possible abuse, of waters whose benefits are shared among the counties, by the Moore County regional wastewater treatment plant now under construction, and the proposed clean-water filtration plant for which the bond issue would pay.

Mrs. McFadyen said also that "a lot of concern centers around the residential and industrial growth" the regional sewer and water systems could promote.

Pollution by the wastewater system, and overuse by the clean-water system, of Drowning Creek, on which both plants are to be located, were feared by members of the group.

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Cablevision Hiked; Zone Change Heard

The Southern Pines Town Council Tuesday night tentatively approved renewal of the cablevision franchise of the Sandhills Community Antenna Corp., with some modifications, including a rate raise from the current \$6.95 to \$7.75 per month for a single set.

The corporation had requested \$8 last fall, and following a public hearing, and a concession to the firm—allowing it to seek business locally in door-to-door solicitation—the council had deferred action pending a conference of the town attorney with

James Doolittle, president of the firm. Tuesday night, Doolittle proposed the \$7.75 as a "holding rate" for a period of "six to 12 months," then, he said, "if we find it necessary," they would return to the \$8 proposal.

The council expressed little faith that it would not be found "necessary." However, it concurred with the \$7.75 request, with the proviso—proposed by Councilman Earl Hubbard—that there be no further raise in rates, or request for one, for two years.

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Carter Radio Session Gets Strong Approval

BY CRAIG LAMB

If a quick survey taken early this week is any indication, not many Southern Pines residents were in the audience of President Carter's radio talk show debut on Saturday. However, actually hearing the broadcast does not seem to have been required to understand the point Carter made by doing the show.

Nearly everyone who heard the broadcast, and many of those who did not, thought it was a good idea. The idea of a President reaching out to the people, trying to keep in touch with the public is refreshing to most, except one woman who thought the broadcast was "naive."

Tony Parker, Moore County commissioner, was very pleased with the broadcast idea. Talking to the public in an informal, relaxed manner is the kind of politics Tony believes in.

"That's the way I first saw him when he visited here a couple of years ago, when he was Governor of Georgia," Tony said. "He walked around Southern Pines all day meeting people and talking with them. He has always been down to earth and easy to talk to."

Tony also appreciates the fact that Carter will not double-talk an answer to a question he doesn't know the answer to. It is a down to earth quality to admit occasionally that you don't know

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PEACHES DELAYED - Cold weather has delayed the peach blooms by about three weeks in Moore County, but work continues. Floyd Smith of West End is shown fertilizing a mixed variety of peaches on the farm of Clyde Auman.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).