



SHOPPING CENTER SOLD — The Town and Country Shopping Center on U.S. 1 South was sold Tuesday by Storey Corp., headed by Voit Gilmore, to Balcor Income Properties, Ltd., of Skokie, Ill., for \$2,808,000. The center of 17 acres with 46 business firms was opened in 1964.—(Aerial Photo by Glenn M. Sides from plane piloted by Kurt Cunningham).

# Center Is Sold For \$2.8 Million

The 14-year-old Town and Country Shopping Center on US 1 South was sold on Tuesday by the Storey Corp. to Balcor Income Properties Ltd.-II of Skokie, Ill. for a reported \$2,808,000.

Storey Land Corporation is headed by Voit Gilmore, who announced that the company will now direct its attention to the new Windsong development in Southern Pines.

The sale, largest in the Sandhills since the purchase of Pinehurst by Diamondhead Corp., early in the 70s, had been under discussion for some days, but was not actually made until lawyers for both the buyer and seller met in Winston-Salem Tuesday afternoon.

Management of the Town and Country Center will be by Balcor Property Management, Inc., of Skokie, Ill., an affiliate company of the purchaser.

The shopping center is on a 17-acre site on US 1 and as of July 1 was 99 percent leased, with 46 business firms in operation at the Center.

It consists of six buildings with 147,400 square feet of space and parking places for 800 cars.

Planned and developed by Gilmore, Town and Country was first opened in 1964, with additional construction in the period from 1967 to 1969 and again from 1973 to 1975.

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## Rains, New Sources Mean Enough Water

The chances that Southern Pines will make it through this summer without a major water shortage seems quite good, with ample rainfall thus far and several new water supplies for the town.

The new water sources follow recently dry summers when water has been rationed for some types of use in the Sandhills.

The Butler well, purchased by the town some months ago from Paul Butler heirs on Ridgeview Road, is of industrial-sized

capacity, and can contribute 125 gallons per minute to the once-strained town supply.

Bill Wilson, public works director for Southern Pines, and Mildred McDonald, the town manager, report that two other wells and a whole new water line can be opened with only minimal work to do.

The Nicks Creek line, which will be used as a backup line, can pump 350 gallons per minute at its peak capacity. The line has

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## Final Fund Drive Begun By Friends Of Weymouth

The Friends of Weymouth is about to embark on its final drive to raise the \$700,000 needed to acquire 214 acres of unique woodlands where plans call for developing a regional cultural center for the arts and humanities.

"We are going to pull out all the stops now to reach our goal," said Admiral I.J. Galantin, Friends of Weymouth president.

In announcing the plans, Galantin said the drive will be managed by the organizations'

finance committee which is headed by William H. Frantz, Sr., with Stuart R. Paine and George W. Little as members.

The Sandhills College Foundation's board of directors agreed to a six-month extension with no imposition of penalty in the original one-year option to buy the property, home of novel-

ist James Boyd, for \$700,000. The Nature Conservancy holds the option on behalf of the Friends of Weymouth. The

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## New Convention Center To Be Built Here

A "Showplace Convention Center" seating 450 persons will be constructed here immediately at the south side of the Sheraton Inn in Southern Pines, Sheraton Manager Donald Calfee has announced.

Construction on the Center, largest of its kind in the area, is expected to be completed in the

spring of 1979. Architects for the building are Austin Associates, AIA, of Southern Pines and general contractors are Van Thomas Contractors of Siler City.

Already host to numerous conventions, The Sheraton Motor Lodge expects next week the North Carolina Writers Con-

ference. The new center will be attached to the present Inn, and will be of brick masonry construction. An L-shaped central banquet hall will be on the left of the present building. The hall will have large folding walls and will be constructed so that it can be sub-divided into three parts.

The entrance will be approached from two sides, from the Motor Inn on the right and from a 200-car parking lot to the left. Entrance will be by a mezzanine with a 24-inch sky dome to the left of the building, as one enters.

All of the land for the facility and parking lot is owned by The Sheraton, which owns the property as far along the US-1

Bypass as Morganton Road. Two extra meeting rooms for conventions are provided in the construction, on the left side on entering.

Calfee was in West Virginia (Continued on Page 12-A)

## Mrs. Donovan Found Dead Near Foxfire Home Pool

Mrs. Margaret Virginia Donovan, 58, wife of Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Joseph N. Donovan, was found dead Monday at 6:30 p.m. on a pull-out sofa at the poolhouse of her home on Shamrock Drive at Foxfire Golf and Country Club.

An autopsy was performed at Moore Memorial Hospital by Dr. James E. Laningham, but no cause of death was found. Tests

from the Medical Examiner's State office in Chapel Hill have not been received.

Mrs. Donovan's body was found by her husband, on his return. Death occurred about four hours earlier, sheriff's officers reported.

The autopsy was ordered by Coroner A.B. Parker, whose ruling was pending. (Continued on Page 12-A)

## Grant Is Sought To Buy Law Officers Building

An application is in the works for a Federal grant of \$34,640 to buy the Moore County Law Enforcement Activities Building and convert it into an activity center for senior citizens, according to Moore County Recreation Director Larry Moubry.

Located off Highway 15-501 near the Moore County School Administration building, the law enforcement building will be bought and then given to the

senior citizens, just as the one at West End was handled, Moubry said.

The grant should come from Title V out of the Older Americans Act with the county providing 25 percent and the grant providing 75 percent, making a total project sum of \$45,000. Moubry will know sometime today (Wednesday) whether the application is ready to be made. The application

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## Watch Program Success In Roseland Community

Moore County's Community Watch Program is flourishing in the Roseland area but is lagging in others, Sheriff C.G. Wimberly said this week.

Community Watch is, in effect, neighbors looking out for each other's property. If someone notices a strange car or person around a neighbor's home, he is to get the license number and report it to his Block Captain, who in turn reports it to the Sheriff's Department if it is thought the stranger is an unwanted visitor.

Since he started working on the project last fall, Sheriff Wimberly has met with more than eight communities. Some have followed up, organized their people and put up signs to warn thieves that they are on the alert. Others have lost interest.

"The crime rate is down and when it's down, people are less apt to want it (the program)," Wimberly said. "We want it because it's a great tool for the community. It prevents crime. Once something is stolen, it's hard to get it back."

Wimberly said there is only a 35 to 40 percent recovery rate on items stolen. Thus, crime does pay.

The Roseland Community Watch, organized eight months ago, is doing the best in the (Continued on Page 12-A)

## Republican Candidates Split Fund

Republican Congressional candidates met here Sunday and divided up \$16,823 in state check-off funds for their fall campaigns.

Moore County Chairman George W. Little, a member of the Republican Central Committee, said that the candidates meeting at the Sheraton Inn followed a session of the committee in which budget matters and campaign plans were discussed.

Jack Lee of Fayetteville, state chairman, and Todd Reece, state executive director, were present.

The Central Committee will receive another \$28,000 for the (Continued on Page 12-A)

## Tax Discounts

Newly effective this year, discounts of 2 percent will be given to all tax-payers of the Town of Southern Pines who pay their property taxes in July or August.

Tax bills are being sent out now.

## Rainstorm Ends Dry Spell Here

The thunderstorms and showers that occurred throughout the weekend brought 1.54 inches of rain to the Sandhills area, according to the N.C. forest service tower. This measurement is for both Saturday and Sunday.

Heavier rainfalls were reported in other parts of the county.

Unofficial reports of hail and high winds have come in from throughout the county, but the county agricultural extension office was unable to confirm reports.

Watts Auman said there was no damage to peach orchards in the West End area despite a violent cloudburst.

Ed Hitchings, spokesman for the Carolina Power and Light Company, said a power line was struck by lightning on Saturday and burned, leaving some 250 (Continued on Page 12-A)

## Tobacco

The tobacco harvest is under way in Moore County. Among the first farmers to begin curing tobacco were David Cummings of Vass and Jimmy Ross of Carthage, Rt. 3.

Many farmers are leaving the bottom four leaves, which was requested by the Department of Agriculture.

Tobacco auction sales will begin at Moore markets of Aberdeen and Carthage on Aug. 1.

## 'No Strike'

On the eve of a possible U.S. Postal Service strike, Southern Pines Postmaster Robert Peele said local employees "absolutely will not strike."

"As far as we're concerned, I anticipate no strike action at all," Peele said. "We are far removed from negotiations in Washington. We are hearing very little from them in these critical days leading up to the contract (which expires Thursday night)."

"This is to keep a tight lid on it so rumors won't be started. I am confident a settlement will be made by the deadline time and a new contract can be reached. It is also possible that the contract time can be extended a few days so an agreement can be made."

## Four Killed And One Hurt In Crash Of Plane During Moore Army Exercises

Four persons were killed and one was injured when a plane taking part in maneuvers by Green Beret forces from Fort Bragg crashed near Eagle Springs Thursday night.

The crash came at 9:41 p.m. just off NC Highway 211 near the intersection with the Samarkand

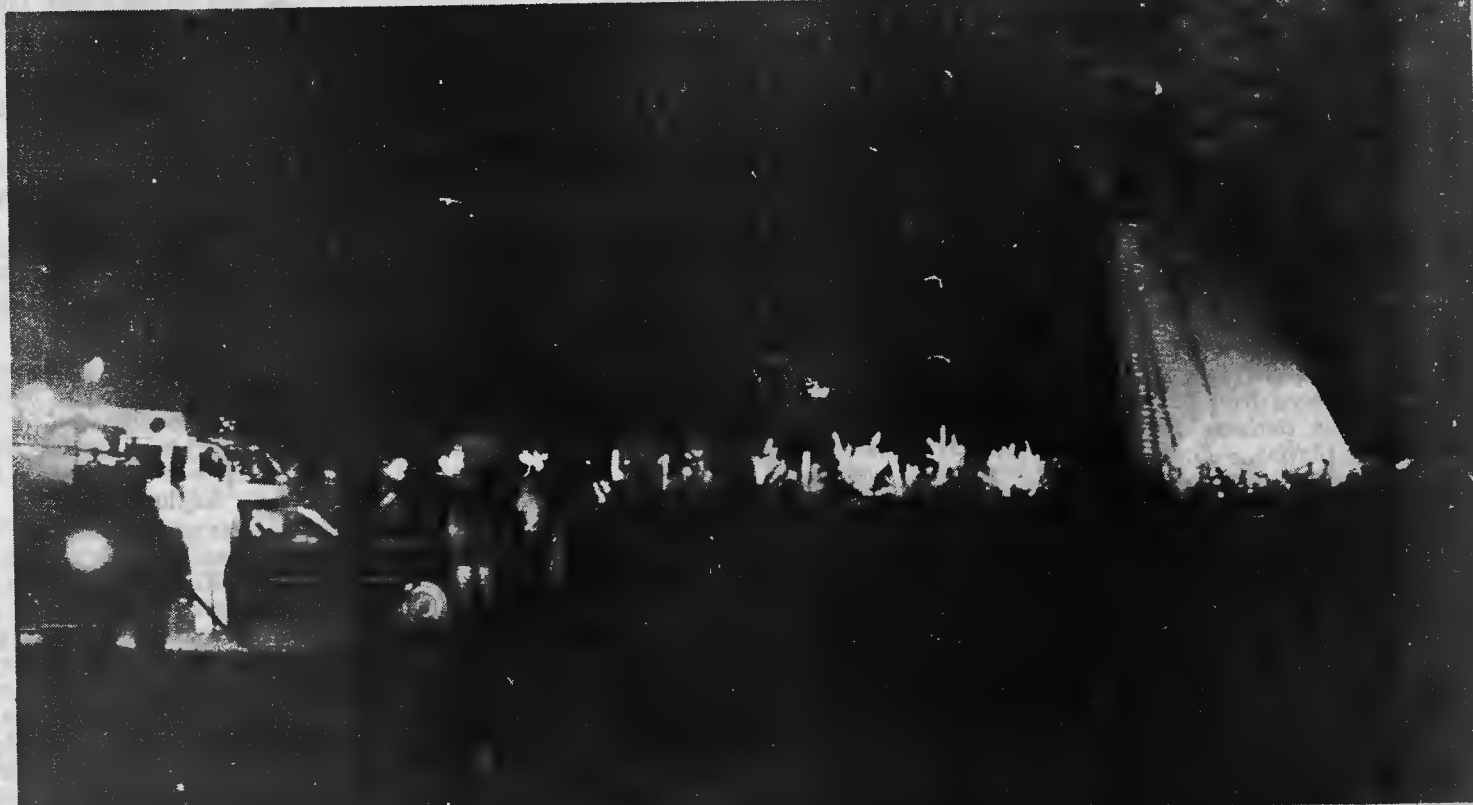
Road.

Pilot Photographer Glenn M. Sides, who was on the scene within an hour, said the four bodies and the injured man had been removed from the wreckage when he arrived.

The injured man, the lone survivor of the crash, was flown

by helicopter to Womack Army hospital at Fort Bragg and later transferred to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville. He was identified as Alexander MacPherson, 48, a civilian from Springfield, Va. His condition this week was listed as stable. Those killed were identified as

Captain Walter C. McCleskey, Jr., 29, of Cornelia, Ga.; Staff Sgt. Louis I. Lebatard, 42, of Fayetteville; the pilot, Ivan B. King, 47, a civilian of Fairfax, Va.; and the co-pilot, Dennis J. Gabriel, 39, a civilian of McLean, Va. (Continued on Page 12-A)



PLANE CRASH SCENE—Pilot Photographer Glenn M. Sides was on the scene shortly after the plane crash near Eagle Springs Thursday night and made this picture despite threats from armed Army men. The tail of the plane

can be seen at right and rescue workers from West End are at work at the left. Illuminated corn stalks can be seen in the middle of the picture.

## THE PILOT LIGHT

**LIBERTARIAN** — The Libertarian party has been certified by the State Board of Elections following the submitting of a petition bearing more than the 10,000 certified signatures required under law. Alex K. Brock, executive director of the state board, said the Libertarian party is now eligible to nominate candidates for U.S. Senate, Congress and State offices at a convention, but that the nominees must be certified to the board no later than August 1.

Persons registering as voters may now affiliate with the party or they can change their registration to Libertarian. As of Friday there were no registered Libertarians in Moore County.

**BREECE**—Signs announcing that George W. Breece is a candidate for Secretary of State in 1980 are appearing alongside North Carolina highways.

Breece, of Fayetteville, who will be 33 years old on Thursday, July 20, ran against Thad Eure for Secretary of State in the Democratic primary in 1976. Eure, who has held the office since 1936, won handily.

The former legislator from Cumberland County is counting on Eure's not being a candidate for reelection in 1980 and is getting an early start on his campaign.

**PRESIDENT** — Former Governor Robert W. Scott and Luther Hodges Jr., a recent (Continued on Page 12-A)