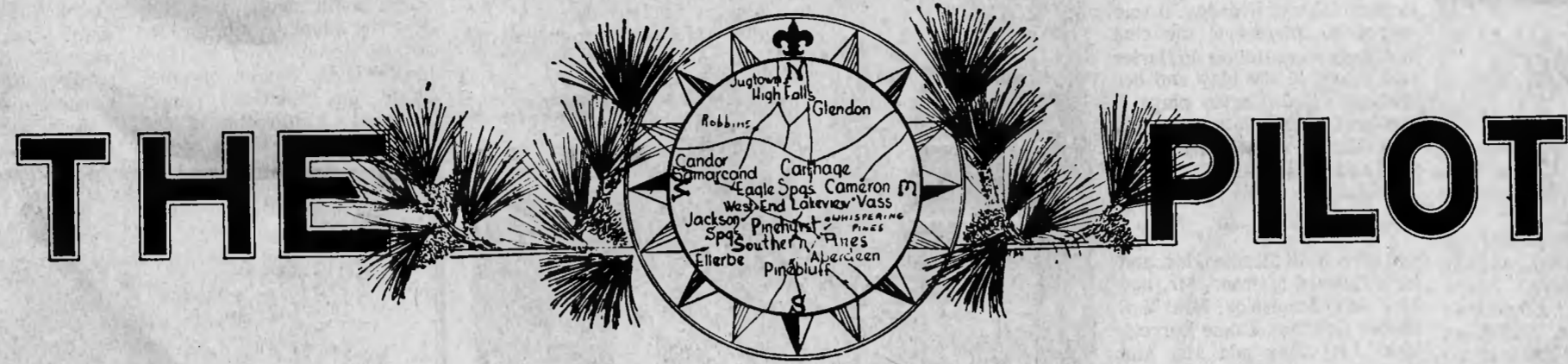


# MERRY CHRISTMAS



## THE PILOT

Vol. 59, Number 8      72 Pages      Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387      Wednesday, December 20, 1978      72 Pages      PRICE 15 CENTS

### \$7.5 Million Industry Will Be Located Here

#### Post Office Sales Up 23% In Busy Yule Season Here

With counter sales up 23 percent, the Southern Pines Post Office is having one of its busiest Yule seasons in recent years. Postmaster Robert Peele estimates that business has tripled in the local office over the past two weeks. This activity is expected to taper off this week. Counter sales have increased 23 percent over a comparable

period last year. However, 15 percent of this is attributable to the first class mail rate increase implemented in May, thus cutting the actual increase to eight percent. Even so, business has been surprisingly brisk, Peele says. In addition, the incoming mail—that is, the mail deliverable in Southern

Pines—has shown an increase of 17 percent this year. Mail volume is up more than 10 percent for the entire year, Peele adds. For the accounting period extending from Dec. 2 through Dec. 13, the Southern Pines office sold \$19,500 in stamps, mostly for first class mail but with some sales covering parcel post. During the same period last year, that figure was \$15,500. Peele reports that his office kept two windows open all day for four consecutive days last week, and there was a line at both windows almost continuously. Although the Southern Pines office did not extend its window hours, it was necessary to work some

### Underwood Elected To Moore SS Post

Calvin Ernest Underwood will assume the duties of director of the Moore County Department of Social Services on Jan. 2, it was announced this week by Lee Williams, Chairman of the Social Services Board. Underwood, who has been working as social work supervisor for the Durham County Department of Social Services, will succeed Mrs. Walter B. (Pauline) Cole, whose retirement becomes effective at the end of December. Mrs. Cole

has directed the Moore County department for 36 years. "The board's decision was unanimous. Mr. Underwood is fully qualified, and we like his philosophy toward public relations. He will let the people of Moore County know what's going on and will keep us up to date on the work of his department," said Williams. The 31-year old Underwood, whose annual salary will be \$18,348, is being employed as

### THE PILOT LIGHT

**PRaise**—Governor Jim Hunt praised former Governor Jim Holshouser on Friday when he presented his predecessor with the first copy of a book containing the Holshouser public papers. Reference was made to Holshouser's implementation of state government reorganization, a study of government operations and establishment of rural health clinics. Governor Hunt said, "Governor Holshouser spent his time making government work better and getting government to do more for the people in their communities....The test of whether we left things better. Governor Jim Holshouser passed that test with flying colors."

**CEREMONY**—Attending the ceremony in the State Archives-Library building were about 50 of Holshouser's cabinet members, aides and associates, including George W. Little, former Secretary of Natural Resources, and Gene Anderson, former aide and political adviser, of Southern Pines.

County officials will be closed three days, Friday, Monday and Tuesday, but state offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday. The Town of Southern Pines will also take Monday and Tuesday for the Christmas holidays, as will many other municipalities in the area. Post offices will be closed Monday, and there will be no window service or home delivery. There will be no mail.

**Hearing Re-Set**  
The hearing to determine the outcome of a temporary restraining order filed by a group of Pinehurst residents has been rescheduled for tomorrow (Thursday) in the Anson County courtroom in Wadesboro before Judge F. Fetzer Mills. The hearing was originally scheduled for Monday. Through the restraining order, the plaintiffs seek to prevent the Pinehurst Village Council from employing a village manager, an act which they contend is not within the council's authority. The class action suit was filed by James F. Thompson, A. Parker Hall, C.R. McIver, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fisher.

### Holidays Coming Up For Area

Moore County schools close today—at the end of the class day—for almost two weeks of holidays. Classes will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 2. For other offices and businesses Christmas will mean a holiday ranging from one day to three, with another holiday coming up a week later for New Year's Day. County offices will be closed three days, Friday, Monday and Tuesday, but state offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday. The Town of Southern Pines will also take Monday and Tuesday for the Christmas holidays, as will many other municipalities in the area. Post offices will be closed Monday, and there will be no window service or home delivery. There will be no mail.

### Mrs. George Marshall Dies Monday At Age 96

Mrs. George Catlett Marshall, the former Katherine Tupper Brown and widow of the famous author of the Marshall Plan, a longtime resident of Pinehurst, 96, died Monday night in Leesburg, Va. The funeral service will be held Thursday (tomorrow) at 3 p.m. in the Fort Myer, Va. Chapel. Gen. Marshall died in 1959, after serving as General of the Army, Secretary of State in 1947-1949, and Secretary of Defense, and being the only military person ever to receive the Nobel Peace prize. "Marshall Park" in Pinehurst is a memorial to him, as is a research center in Lexington, Va. dedicated by Presidents Johnson and Eisenhower in 1964. Mrs. Marshall was born in Harrodsburg, Ky. and attended Vassar College and graduated



**CHRISTMAS PARADE**—These young people on the J.P. Stevens Co. float sang as they rode in the Jaycee-sponsored Christmas Parade in Southern Pines Saturday morning. A large crowd gathered for the downtown parade which included Santa Claus.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides)

### 'Workable' Compromise Is Reached In Moore Communications Dispute

**BY FLORENCE GILKESON**  
Moore County's Communications Control Board and Sheriff Jerome Whipple reached "a workable communications" compromise at a special meeting Friday morning, according to Carolyn Blue, board chairman

and member of the County Board of Commissioners. The Friday meeting, devoted largely to a personnel discussion in executive session, followed a sudden reversal by Superior Court Judge John McConnell concerning a restraining order

issued by Whipple against the control board, the county commissioners, and certain county employees. After an all-day hearing in the Union County courtroom in Monroe Thursday, Judge McConnell signed an order dissolving the restraining order but taking note that the PIN machine and other necessary communications equipment

### County To Extend Note On Sewer System Work

Renewal of the grant anticipation note for the Southern Moore County Wastewater System will be considered in a

called meeting of the Board of Commissioners tonight. The meeting will begin at 7 o'clock in the board meeting room. The note, due to the Carolina Bank, has been reduced to \$825,000 and will be payable once the project is complete and a federal grant representing five percent of the cost is received. At their November meeting, the

should remain under the sheriff's control. Overnight the judge had a change of mind, however, and by 10 a.m. Friday he had signed another order, this one continuing the restraining order as it pertains to the equipment used by the sheriff's department, most particularly the PIN machine and other necessary communications equipment

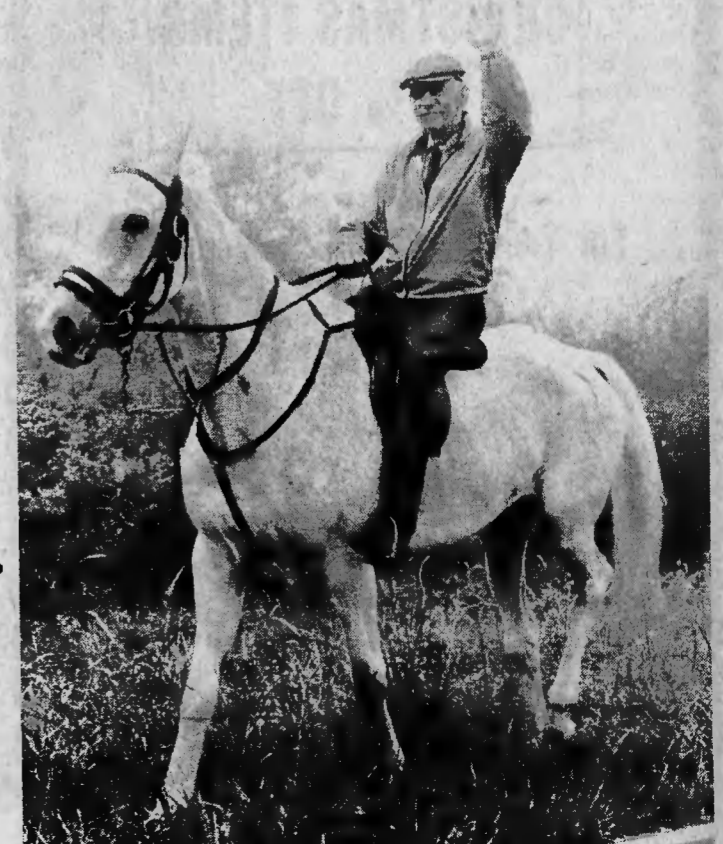
### Red Overton Dies At 83; Funeral Is Held Tuesday

John Tyler Overton, affectionately known in the Sandhills as "Red," retired owner of the Sandhill Drug Co. Inc. and horse and antique car lover, of 410 North Bennett Street, died Monday at Moore Memorial Hospital at the age of 83. Funeral services were held Tuesday at 3 p.m. at the Church of Wide Fellowship with the Rev. Michael J. Garber and the Rev.

Frederick Stecker officiating. Interment was in Bethesda Cemetery in Aberdeen. Originally from Mt. Gilead, Mr. Overton had lived in Southern Pines since 1929. He began his drug store experience with five years in Wadesboro and five years in Rockingham. His late wife, the former Sarah Isabelle Terry, was from Rockingham. They were

### Pinehurst Seeking Increase

Pinehurst, Incorporated has filed a water and sewer rate increase request with the State Utilities Commission which, if granted, would cause the average monthly bill to climb from \$7.60 to \$10.30 for water and from \$3.80 to \$11.55 for sewer service. The corporation's action came to light Tuesday at the regular December meeting of the



John Tyler "Red" Overton



### 'I Love You, Santa Claus,' They Say

**BY FLORENCE GILKESON**  
(Editor's note: As a rule Santa Claus does not grant interviews to the media. However, this year he agreed to this interview with The Pilot because the boys and girls of Moore County have been exceptionally good.) Bells tinkle softly, the sound of gently-falling snow is punctuated

by the distant tap tap tap of the elves' hammers, and there is an overall hum of cheerful, but very busy activity. It's the week before Christmas. The old gentleman pushed back into his over-stuffed chair, clasped his pipe ever so firmly, and eased his feet from the heavy black boots. The blaze in the open

fireplace felt good. "I love you, Santa Claus." Those are the most beautiful words in the world. You have no idea how helpful it is to be loved and appreciated," he said. Most of the hard work of making the toys, compiling long lists of names and addresses, and developing the speediest, most

efficient travel routes is at an end. Now Santa must rest in preparation for the finale—the big day, or rather, the big and very long night that will take him around the world with the speed of sound. "It's been a good year for Santa, and yes, I am ready for

(Continued on Page 14-A)