



SLEIGH RIDE — Mrs. Tony (Doris) Parker gives son, John D., a ride on a sleigh Monday after the snow had stopped Sunday night after reaching a depth of up to 12 inches.—(Photos by Glenn M. Sides).



STALLED CARS — For the few motorists who tried to go out on Monday morning the going was rough. Many stalled cars but few accidents were reported in the Southern Pines area.



DIGGING OUT — Residents of the Sandhills area started digging out of the heaviest snow in years on Monday. It was a heavy snow which lasted all day Sunday.

# Heavy Snowstorm Hits Sandhills But Wrecks, Damages Are Slight

One of the worst snowstorms in many years hit the Sandhills on Sunday, bringing everything to a halt and forcing the closing of schools for three days. The depth of the snow measured up to 12 inches, with drifts deeper in many places. The snow began falling during the early morning hours on Sunday and continued throughout the day, tapering off

Sunday night. By Monday morning the entire region was blanketed with the most snow many residents ever had seen here, and long-time residents comparing it to the record snowfall of 1927. Traffic was brought to a standstill and on Monday morning about the only vehicles which could safely make it through the snow were four-wheel drive jeeps, cars and trucks. There were few major accidents (the State Highway Patrol reporting only two) and no injuries. Most people simply stayed home. For those motorists who did venture forth, however, the going was slow and hazardous. The Highway Patrol reported that many drivers did slide into roadside ditches. Moore County schools were closed Monday, Tuesday and

today (Wednesday), but officials said that if all went well the schools would be open on Thursday. Southern Pines police and Moore County sheriff's deputies were kept busy during the snowstorm on Sunday and on Monday taking doctors and nurses to hospitals and rest homes. Chief Earl Seawell of the Southern Police said his staff had taken more than 100 persons to Moore Memorial and St. Joseph Hospitals and to the Penick Home. Police also helped town forces in clearing the streets. Barbara Garner, spokesman for the Moore County sheriff's department, said Tuesday that there were no reports of crime in the county but that deputies have been working around the clock on "one emergency after another."

"They've been taking nurses to work, pulling people out of ditches, calling wreckers and ambulances," she said. "We've had 24 hours full of it." She said some of the deputies have worked longer hours than that, but it had not been necessary to call in any off-duty officers to help. Some of the vehicles were equipped with chains and "everyone made it to work okay," she said. There were few business places open on Monday, but by Tuesday as the sun warmed and

melted the snow, with more roads opened by Department of Transportation crews, activity was beginning to return to normal. Highway crews were "working around the clock" to clear

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## Train Passenger Traffic Shows Good Growth Here

Rail passenger traffic through Southern Pines is up, not down, in spite of a recent recommendation by the U.S. Department of Transportation to discontinue the Champion rail service. Statistics to back up this assertion are available from both the Amtrak office in Washington, D.C. and the local ticket agent. In fact, one Amtrak official calls the passenger train service

through North Carolina "the number one growth group in the Amtrak system for long distance travel." He refers to the Silver Star, the Silver Meteor, and the Champion. While he calls the New York to Florida travel "stunning," he says the Southern Pines "ridership is respectable." In January the Champion discharged or took on 396 passengers in Southern Pines, compared to 355 in January last year, according to Carl English, ticket agent here. January is a traditionally slow passenger month, and English estimates that the figure is perhaps 100

greater in December and other high-travel months. Joseph Vranich, manager of News Services, Amtrak's Washington headquarters, told The Pilot that during the 1977 calendar year the Silver Star served 6,985 passengers at Southern Pines. The Silver Star makes two stops in Southern Pines, whereas the Champion makes only one stop daily. Vranich said he does not yet have the computer print-out on the 1978 passenger service, but he is willing to estimate there has been a growth of 10-20 percent since 1977. (Continued on Page 10-A)

## Moore Road Work Plans Not Made

Specific road improvements for Moore County in 1979 have not yet been decided, according to Fred Beck, Division Engineer, with the N.C. Department of Transportation division office in Aberdeen. Beck said his division office is waiting to meet with the county commissioners for a discussion of secondary roads in Moore County. Martha Hollers, district representative on the Board of Transportation, will meet with the commissioners and highway engineers at that time. Although bond money for roads has been set, the General Assembly has yet to allocate specific money per county for secondary road improvement. Most road work in North Carolina is done in the summer and fall.

## Fraud, Abortion Issues On Social Service List

Welfare fraud, abortion funding, and the Work Incentive Program are among the subjects to be considered Wednesday, Feb. 28, when the Moore County Board of Social Services holds its monthly meeting in Southern Pines. The meeting will open at 2:30 p.m. in the Community Services Building on Pennsylvania Ave. Calvin Underwood, director of the Moore County Department of Social Services, said the meeting is open to the public, and interested persons are encouraged to attend. The board recently announced plans to move its meetings into various points about the county to provide more widespread participation from all communities. In the past board meetings have been held in the DSS offices in Carthage. The public portion of the meeting will adjourn at about 4:30 p.m., and the board will meet in closed session to discuss individual public assistance (Continued on Page 10-A)

## Auto Tag Extension Is Given

Motorists who are late buying their 1979 license tags or renewal stickers across North Carolina last week may have heard the news while in line to get them—the deadline for purchasing current validation tags has been extended until Feb. 28. Transportation Secretary Thomas W. Bradshaw said the extension, granted by the General Assembly, was necessary because such a large number of people had waited until the last week to buy their new tags.

"We can only process 100,000 a day statewide," he said, and when he checked figures last Friday, one million tags still needed to be processed prior to the Wednesday deadline. Snow across the state was mentioned as another factor for the extension, as several days were lost when motorists could not travel to local license bureaus. (Continued on Page 10-A)

## Slain Ambassador Dubs Had Home In Sandhills

A memorial service was held Tuesday at 10 a.m. in Arlington National Cemetery for U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan Adolph "Spike" Dubs, who was kidnapped by terrorists and slain last week. His body was returned to the United States by Air Force plane, arriving at 12:20 p.m. Sunday at Andrews Air Force Base, near Washington. President Jimmy Carter was present at the air base and offered condolence to Mrs. Dubs and their daughter, Lindsay. Dubs had a home at the Lawn and Tennis Club of North Carolina, Southern Pines, and was a frequent visitor to this area when he was in the country. The U.S. State Department has officially protested the actions of (Continued on Page 10-A)

## Criminal Court Term Will Open Here Monday

Eleven bills of indictment will go before the Moore County grand jury Monday when a criminal session of superior court convenes at 10 a.m. The docket also contains 24 cases for trial plus three cases for compliance, four for probation violation, and 25 cases for orders of arrest and bond forfeiture. Among the orders of arrest and bond forfeiture is the case of Phyllis Morrison, charged in the Nov. 24 slaying of Charles Ed-

## Board Meet

Moore County Board of Commissioners will meet tomorrow night (Thursday) at 7 o'clock in the board room of the courthouse in Carthage. The Monday night meeting was postponed because of the snow. At the board's Feb. 5 meeting it was decided to resume a second, night meeting each month, and the third Monday night was chosen as the meeting time.

## Rowdyism Problem Here At Night

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL The area properly termed downtown Southern Pines is growing, and attracts both townspeople and tourists to its shops and streets every working day. But a growing contingent of Southern Pines' citizens believe that this downtown area is not so attractive when the sun goes down. From comments made by local businessmen, it would seem Southern Pines has a split personality. Buzz Hicks, owner of Le Flea Market on N.East Broad Street and other

properties across the street, makes no bones about the way he feels—"The downtown area is in danger of deterioration," he said. "People are afraid to come downtown at night." Gene Mayhall, owner of The Mechanic on Connecticut Avenue, said "It's gotten to the point where I don't want to come around here at night. I think it's a completely different place at night." Jerry Daeke, a Southern Pines Town Council member, said that he has received complaints about conditions at the Southern Pines

town park. "The complaints I've had have been about young kids hanging around the park, drinking and smoking marijuana." He said some women have indicated they are afraid to play tennis on the town courts at night. A local businessman, who preferred not to be named, said "When this thing came to light was last summer. The ABC officers arrested a lot of minors for drinking. "They're buying it or getting someone to buy it for them and then taking it to the park and

drinking it there. The park's a gathering place for this sort of thing. "Not too long ago a 14 or 15 year old girl drank a pint of vodka through a straw and didn't even know where she was. The kids all left her there to roam around." This particular man will not allow his teen-aged children to go to the park at night. Another area of concern to both police, who are called there often, and its owner, Harry Parks, is the Convenient Food (Continued on Page 10-A)

## THE PILOT LIGHT

LEGISLATURE—New revenue estimates will be coming soon which will show the state better off financially than predicted earlier this year. Leaders of the Legislature have been working on a budget for 1979-80 which show revenues expected to be 10 percent higher than last year. The new estimates will show anticipated revenues to be much higher than that. As a result Governor Jim Hunt has told his department heads to send in their supplementary budget requests for the Legislature. Early in the session he had told them there was practically no chance for any supplementary funds. STEWART—Speaker of the House Carl Stewart was in the

Sandhills this past weekend to attend the State Beaux Arts Ball at the Country Club of North Carolina. He was asked about his prediction that the General Assembly session would last only four months. His reply was, "That's not a prediction. It's going to happen." Stewart is making plans to run for Lieutenant Governor in 1980, and is expected to announce his candidacy late this summer. Another leader of the Legislature who was here for the ball was Senator Kenneth Royall of Durham. SCHOOL—One of Governor Hunt's pet projects, the new state school for gifted high school (Continued on Page 10-A)



SNOW DEPTH — This measurement of the snow at Pinehurst showed a depth of 13 1/2 inches on Monday morning.—(Photo by Bill Harpster).

## Volunteers Are Worth Many Millions In Area

BY PATSY TUCKER Volunteer work in Moore County is a multi-million dollar business with thousands of people giving of themselves. At a recent meeting of Red Cross volunteers, former Governor James Holshouser stated that "Americans are known for the spirit of voluntary action. Our nation is based on the idea of each person being willing to give to their limitations. No

man is an island unto himself." It was also brought to light that Red Cross volunteers output in the state amounted to \$52 million last year. What is a volunteer? What makes a volunteer? Of course a volunteer is a person who gives of his time and efforts in service to others. He is generally interested in the program he is working with and (Continued on Page 10-A)

**The Sandhills Observatory**

**SOLAR ECLIPSE MONDAY** On Monday, February 26, there will be a total eclipse of the sun visible in the northwest part of the U.S.A. Over the rest of the country the eclipse will be partial. In the Sandhills, fifty-six percent of the sun will be blotted out by the moon. It is doubtful if most people here will notice anything unusual because the amount of light remaining will still be more than is the case on a cloudy day. The moon will begin to touch the edge of the Sun at 10:41 E.S.T. The shadow of the moon

will continue across the sun and at 11:39 E.S.T. the maximum obscuration will occur. From then until the moon completes its transit at 1:35 E.S.T. less and less of the sun will be eclipsed. For safety one should NEVER look directly at the partially eclipsed sun with the unprotected eye. One safe method for naked eye viewing is to look through a Shade No. 14 arc welders glass. Be sure its a number 14. This glass can be obtained from welding supply firms. An alternative is to use a (Continued on Page 10-A)