



HARNESS RACING—For many years Pinehurst has been a special training site for harness racers and on Sunday an exhibition event was held at the track before a large

crowd. Here's some of the close action—John Schroeder driving Fifty Grand and Gary Cameron II driving Son of A Fella.—(Photo by Emerson Humphrey).

Group Home Has Way Cleared To Open With Property Use Right

More problems beset the Moore County Group Homes when Mrs. Tracey Brown approached the Moore County Board of Education at their regular meeting on Monday night.

Mrs. Brown, one of the homes' managers, was following up a letter addressed to Robert E. Lee, Superintendent of the Moore County Schools, requesting permission to use the easement between the home's location at 340 E. Pennsylvania Ave. and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Perham.

This strip of land originally belonged to the Southern Pines Middle School and when consolidation took place this property was given to the Moore County Schools. The Board of Education was unaware that they owned the property and questioned the possibility that they may not own the alleyway.

Janet Griffin, Choral Director for Pinecrest High School, and Pat Yates, Director of the Drama Department, along with the cast of "Oliver!" presented a short sketch from the play. Ms. Yates explained to the board how important the drama department had been and how much it has meant to the students. "I feel the drama program has been very successful," she stated.

ARO Corp. To Begin Hiring Interviews

The ARO Corporation of Bryan, Ohio has expanded to the Sandhills and will be interviewing prospective applicants for potential employees beginning next week.

ARO and Sandhills Community College have established a cooperative training program, whereby employees of ARO will be trained for their job at the college. For this purpose two buildings have been leased in the Sandhills Industrial Park, one building for training and the other a combination training-production facility.

Civil Term Scheduled Next Week

Moore County Superior Civil Court will convene Monday with Judge Harvey A. Lupton presiding.

Sixty jurors have been summoned and will report for service at 2 p.m. Monday.

On the docket are 17 cases for trial, eight of which are non-jury matters, and eight cases for motions before the court.

Auman Bill Requesting Two More Court Clerks

In preparation for occupancy of the new courts facility, State Representative Clyde Auman has introduced into the North Carolina General Assembly a bill calling for appropriation of funds to employ two additional deputy clerks of court in Moore County. The bill is written to become effective July 1.

McLeod. In fact, his office needs another deputy right now, but the present quarters are so badly cramped there is no place to put anyone else.

These jury cases are docketed for trial Tuesday: Kay Tyner versus Randall Thomas; Ruby Lee Davis versus Brenda Maness

At least one additional deputy clerk will be needed when the move is made into the spacious new facility, according to Moore County Clerk of Court Charles M.

"We won't just put them on the payroll. We'll wait and see if we need both deputies," McLeod told The Pilot.

Moore Deputy Spots Escapee Who's Caught After Hot Chase

A sharp-eyed sheriff's detective spotted an escaped prisoner on a Cameron Street Sunday night, an act which led to a dramatic chase into neighboring Harnett County.

Pilson is charged by Moore County authorities with speeding in excess of 55 miles an hour in an attempt to elude arrest, careless and reckless driving, and second offense driving while license revoked. Whitaker said Pilson was released Monday into the custody of Lee County officers for a hearing on a charge of felonious larceny of a vehicle. Pilson also faces action by the North Carolina Department of Correction.

Detective Thomas Cox was on routine patrol about 10:30 p.m. Sunday when he observed Pilson standing in a telephone booth on a Cameron street, Whitaker told The Pilot. Reports indicate that Pilson had escaped a few days earlier from the Rockingham prison unit, where he was serving a sentence for a misdemeanor offense.

Edgar Samuel Pilson, 24, of Carthage, Rt. 3, was arrested a short time later when he attempted to hide in the edge of a field in Harnett County, according to Det. Lt. Ricky Whitaker of the Moore County Sheriff's Department.

Cox called by radio to Whitaker, who was in the Vass

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Schools Aren't Free; Many Fees Charged

A free public school education is far from being free for individual students in Moore County.

In fact, they may be charged as much as \$43 or more each year in fees. They even have to pay \$1 to use the playground.

Even so, Moore County schools have not received harsh criticism or refusal to pay any of the instructional or activity fees levied by the Moore County School Board on behalf of individual schools, according to school spokesman Robert Dalton.

The Greensboro City Schools last week lost a case in Superior Court when it was ruled unconstitutional that such fees be levied in the public school system.

The majority of public school systems in North Carolina charge some type of fee to supplement monies from other sources. If school fees are judged unconstitutional by higher courts individual schools could lose thousands of dollars a year.

In Moore County schools fees are levied at a flat rate for elementary, middle and high schools. According to Dalton, the principals decide during their summer meetings if they need to charge a fee and how much that fee needs to be. It is a uniform schedule, approved by the Board of Education and by a school's own advisory council.

In the elementary schools, a student who does not take Band and who does not enroll in an insurance program would pay between \$10 and \$6.50, depending

Peach Blooms

Peach blossoms will be reaching their peak in the Sandhills this week, Rep. T. Clyde Auman, peach grower of West End, reported. Auman said that Sunday night's cold snap did not damage the peaches, and he was hopeful that other cold weather this week would not be too damaging to the young peach buds.

The Auman peach orchards are located on NC Highway 73 near West End.



DEATH CAR—One person—Grantland Harris Nelson, 23—was killed around 3 a.m. Sunday when this car left the highway on Midland Road here and crashed into a tree. Police and Fire and Rescue Department members are shown at the scene.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Young Man Dies In Crash Of Auto With Tree Here

A fatality occurred early Sunday morning on Midland Road near Leak Street when a car driven by Clinton Daniel Kelly II of Candor went off the road.

feet back across to the left, coming to a stop at a tree, killing the passenger.

tree was estimated at 60 m.p.h., police said. The impact of the accident was on the passenger side of the car. The driver, (Continued on Page 16-A)

Killed instantly was the car's only passenger, Grantland "Grant" Nelson, 23, of Asheboro. Charges are still pending against Kelly while police are awaiting lab results from a chemical test.

GOP Has Resolutions On County Government

Two term limits for county commissioners and a county manager form of government were among resolutions adopted by Moore County Republicans at their recent county convention. The seat held by County Commissioner Carolyn Blue, a Democrat, was targeted as a top priority contest in the 1980 election.

Over 150 attended the county convention held at the courthouse in Carthage on Saturday, March 17. George W. Little of Southern Pines was unanimously re-elected as chairman. Mrs. Diane W. Sutphin of Eagle Springs was elected as vice-chairman and Don Pitts and Joyce Rhodes were re-elected as

According to the police report, filed by Patrolman Ronnie Atkins, "the vehicle was traveling west on Midland Road when the car ran off the right side of the road at an excessive speed, lost control, traveled 181

treasurer and secretary of the party. Winford Williams of Aberdeen was elected as finance chairman and Harris Blake of Pinehurst was elected as audit chairman. Dawn Leland, Willie Hill, Richard Morgan, Mark Welliver, Bobbie Peters, C. Coolidge Thompson, Dr. Louis Marchetti, John Womack, and Floyd Cole were elected as at-large members of the Executive Committee.

Weather Station Near Here

A 24-hour weather station is located on the Fort Bragg reservation near Southern Pines, part of a 350-station National Warning System set up by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

'Downtown Watch' Plan Proposed By Merchants

A "Downtown Watch" was a suggestion made of a solution to problems merchants have been voicing about vandalism.

That ideas be given on ways to remedy what the businessmen saw as problems downtown. Hicks volunteered to take a night to walk around part of the business area, much the same way foot patrolmen work for the police department. The Council and Hicks noted the "psychological effect of this action...vandalism won't know who to look for."

At the station Captain Tom Utley and his staff operate on VHF frequency 162.475, available on multi-band radios, weather-only sets, available at specialty stores, and police scanners fitted with the appropriate sensory device.

This weather station is useful not only for making plans in advance but for use in Civil Preparedness and Civil Defense work, in case of extreme and possibly dangerous weather conditions.

Council member Hope Brogden said "all the studies (Continued on Page 16-A)




The Sandhills Observatory

VIEWING SCHEDULED Sandhills Observatory will be open to the public on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights, April 4th, 5th and 6th. This will probably be the last month that Jupiter will be well placed for viewing until about the first of 1980. Saturn is now high in the sky, and of course on the above nights the moon will be illuminated by the Sun at just the right angle to bring out maximum crater detail.

Persons interested in making a reservation should call Allen Clarke at 295-3660 any night before or during the above dates. Only 15 can be accommodated on each night. No charge is made.

The Observatory is located between Pinehurst and Aberdeen on N.C. Rt. 5; 2.65 miles from the railroad underpass at Pinehurst and 3.25 miles from the intersection of Rt. 5 and U.S. 1 in Aberdeen.



THE PILOT LIGHT

HEFNER—Congressman Bill Hefner will be in Moore County this weekend for two appearances.

AUMAN—Rep. T. Clyde Auman said he is having a bill prepared to change the distribution of ABC store profits in Moore County and to divide on a 50-50 basis the mixed drink tax for Southern Pines.

On Saturday, March 31, he will be the main speaker for the Carthage Jaycees. Hefner will speak at the annual Distinguished Service Awards banquet which will be held at the Sheraton Inn in Southern Pines.

The bill may be introduced later this week. Rep. Auman said the compromise on the liquor money appears to be satisfactory to all concerned.

During the banquet, the Jaycees will present awards for Outstanding Young Man, Outstanding Young Farmer, Outstanding Young Educator, and Boss of the Year.

DEMOCRATS—More than 25 Moore County Democrats are expected to attend the 49th annual Jefferson-Jackson Day celebration at the Raleigh Civic Center on April 7.

On Sunday, April 1, Hefner will be the lay speaker at the morning services at Calvary Baptist Church located between Robbins and Carthage.

Senator Joe Biden Jr., of (Continued on Page 16-A)

Bluebird Man Comes On Visit With Free Homes For Friends

BY FLORENCE GILKESON Jack Finch is a developer of sorts. He wants to attract a new population to Moore County, but it's the type of population the environmentalists and the growth people can agree on.

Thursday morning, then moved operations to Sandhills Community College, the Southern Pines Elks Club, and the Pinehurst Women's Exchange. Last year he erected 41 homes at Hyland Hills Country Club.

good for people. He has the facts to prove it.

Finch—his name is something of a hint—is a bluebird man. As president and chief promoter of the non profit Homes for Bluebirds, Inc., Finch was in the Sandhills last week to erect more bluebird homes. He put up 30 homes at Holly Hills

To call bluebirds an interest is to understate Finch's goals. Bluebirds are really a passion of this retired blueberry nurseryman from Bailey. Finch not only likes bluebirds, but he is convinced they are good for the environment and thus

Bluebirds dine almost exclusively on insects, a factor which makes them attractive to farmers and gardeners. When insects become more difficult to find in late fall and winter, they expand their diet to include wild berries. Curiously, these attractive little birds almost never damage cultivated crops. Aside from the practical aspects, they are beautiful birds (Continued on Page 12-A)