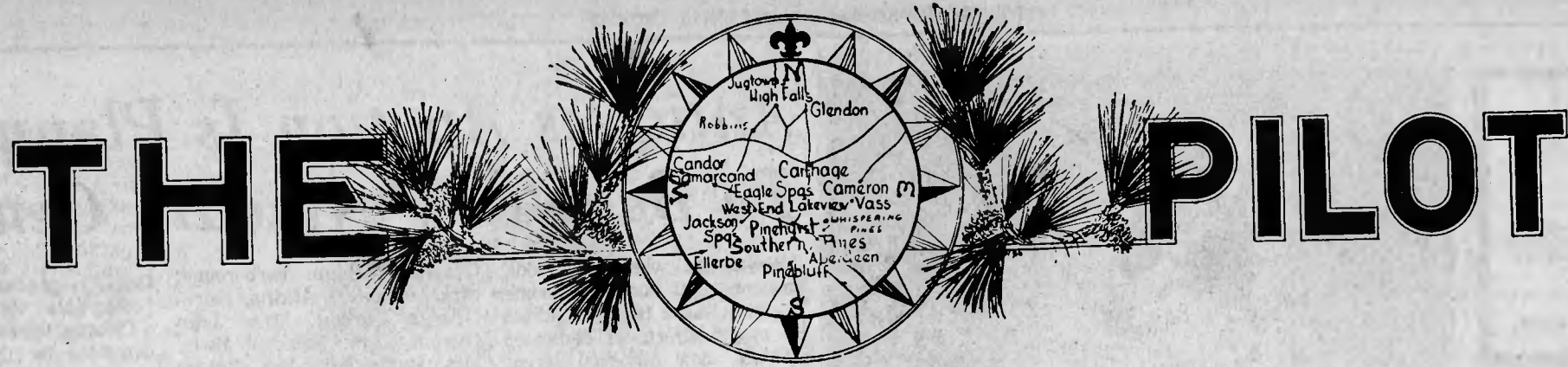


## Sidewalk Sale

is scheduled in downtown Southern Pines on Saturday. See story on Page 9-A.



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SUNDAY AT WEYMOUTH — More than 400 persons turned out for the Sunday at Weymouth Festival and heard music by the Pinecrest Band (in foreground), watched skydivers.

played games, ate barbecue and, in general, relaxed and enjoyed it.—(Photo by Emerson Humphrey).

# School Issue Sparks Board Meet; Budget Requests Top \$12 Million

BY FLORENCE GILKESON  
With budget requests exceeding \$12 million, the Moore County Board of Commissioners entered into spirited debate

Monday night when they plunged into preliminary details of the 1979-80 budget. Drawing the most heated comment were the subjects of

the school budget and petitions for property valuation relief from a group of Whispering Pines residents.

Examination of approximately 40 petitions for property valuation relief reached a climax when the board voted 3-2 to deny relief requested by the Whispering Pines taxpayers.

## Board Head Has Answer On Information Demand

Board of Education Chairman Lou Frye responded Monday night to criticism from a county commissioner who was denied

access to school personnel information. Mrs. Frye's comments prefaced the school board's formal presentation of its 1979-80 budget request to the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

It was the first time the controversy had been mentioned at a public board meeting.

## Flag Day

It has been announced that Fort Bragg's 82nd Airborne Band will appear at the local Flag Day celebration June 10 at the National Guard Armory.

Local patriotic organizations are jointly preparing a program to honor the flag's 202nd birthday. The public is encouraged to attend and join in on this celebration.

The Southern Pines Lodges of Elks and Does, American Legion Post 177, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7318 and other groups will participate.

## 275 Grads Hear Dr. Owen At Sandhills Exercises

Dr. Francis L. Owens, prominent physician, member of the Board of Trustees of Sandhills Community College, and a leader in civic projects in Moore County, was the speaker for the commencement ceremonies at the college Friday evening, May 25.

His message to the 275 candidates for graduation was a challenge—"The words com-

mencement and graduation, although used interchangeably, one means to begin and the other means to end. So what are you doing tonight? Are you starting or finishing?"

Developing the theme Dr. Owens said "I think a fair appraisal would be—graduation is commencement with limited experience and limitless goals" (Continued on Page 12-A)



AWARDED DEGREE — Dr. Francis L. Owens, (right) the commencement speaker, was awarded an Honorary Associate in Humanities Degree by Dr. Raymond Stone in recognition of his service to Sandhills Community College.—(Photo by Emerson Humphrey).

A public meeting in Southern Pines will provide area residents with an opportunity to express their views on highway needs and priorities to representatives on the Board of Transportation and the department's professional staff.

Scheduled for 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6, the meeting for residents of Chatham, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Richmond and Scotland counties will be held in the Town Hall in Southern Pines.

The Southern Pines meeting is one of 14 scheduled throughout the state to solicit input from individual citizens, local officials and county leaders in the annual update of the highway improvement element of North Carolina's Transportation Improvement Program.

Public meetings to update aviation and public transportation programs, also included in the program, have already been conducted in the 14 (Continued on Page 14-A)

## Downtown Tax Talked At Meeting

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL  
A slim representation of the town's merchants and businessmen attended a meeting Thursday night with the downtown revitalization steering committee to discuss the proposed municipal tax on commercial property.

Chairman John May said "We are not interested in doing anything in downtown Southern Pines that the people don't want to be done. The steering committee can't revitalize Southern Pines, only the people can."

Property owners in Southern Pines have been asked to pay a tax of 25 cents on each \$100 of (Continued on Page 13-A)

## Highway Hearing Wednesday

A public meeting in Southern Pines will provide area residents with an opportunity to express their views on highway needs and priorities to representatives on the Board of Transportation and the department's professional staff.

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# 80¢ Town Tax Rate; \$3.8 Million Budget Gov. Hunt Picks Carthage For Rural Health Center

Governor Jim Hunt today designated Carthage as the site of a rural health center.

The Carthage Medical Center will provide additional primary care resources to the town, as well as to residents of the central Moore County area.

Community leaders have worked for several years to meet the need for primary medical care in their area. The area has been served by a single physician since 1970.

As a rural health center site, the community will be able to receive technical and financial assistance from the N.C. Office of Rural Health Services. Assistance will include funds to match locally raised building funds, start-up assistance for the project and continuing technical assistance.

Richard Blue, president of the nonprofit community corporation established to develop the medical center, said the community will conduct a house-to-house fund drive beginning June 30 to meet the goal of contributions from 750 households. Blue emphasized that the facility will belong to the community. Title will be held by the nonprofit corporation whose board will be elected annually in a public meeting.

The fund drive's goal is to raise \$40,000 locally to match \$95,000 from the state to build

## Play Tonight

The Pinecrest Patriots, in the semi-finals for the State 4-A Baseball Championship, will play Wilmington Hoggard for the Eastern title in Wilmington tonight.

The game scheduled for Tuesday night was rained out.

## Noted Horseman Cameron Dies Of Attack At Age 59

Adelbert Charles (Del) Cameron, 59, of Pinehurst, who was inducted into the Harness Horse Hall of Fame in Goshen, N.Y. in June, 1975, died Thursday in a Philadelphia

Hospital from an apparent heart attack. A funeral was held Monday at 3 p.m. in the Church of Wide Fellowship conducted by the pastor, the Rev. Michael Garber, assisted by Dr. Charles W. Lowry.

A native of Massachusetts, born to a family with a racing tradition, he came to the Sandhills when he was 24 years old to drive for Octave Blake, owner of Newport Stock Farm, a harness horse stable. He worked for Newport Stock Farm for 26 years. He trained and raced horses for himself and many other owners. He was in business with his son, Gary, and his wife, Miriam, who was his bookkeeper. During his career, his horses won more than \$5,000,000 and he was a member of the Drivers of 1000 club.

Among his most famous horses (Continued on Page 14-A)



Del Cameron

## THE PILOT LIGHT

LEGISLATURE—It looks like the state's biennial appropriations bill will go to a conference committee to resolve the differences between Senate and House versions.

The Senate voted approval of its bill last week, and the House on Tuesday passed the Senate bill after deleting the controversial "85 rule" in respect to state employee retirement pay.

Rep. T. Clyde Auman said Tuesday, however, that he expects matters to be resolved and other matters disposed of so that the 1979 session of the General Assembly can recess on June 8.

SALES TAX—Moore County hit a new high for the collection of the one percent local sales tax for one month in April.

Secretary Mark G. Lynch of the state Department of Revenue reported this week that the local tax amounted to \$152,593.25 for April in Moore.

Collections of the one percent tax in neighboring counties were: Hoke, \$20,053.82; Lee, \$116,852.71; Montgomery, \$38,769.19; Richmond, \$110,910.93; Scotland, \$67,150.83.

MORGAN—Senator Robert Morgan announced this week that he has joined with some 30 (Continued on Page 14-A)

and equip a facility to house the center. Services at the Carthage

Medical Center will be provided by a primary care team (Continued on Page 14-A)

## Pinehurst Rate Bid Argued At Hearing

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL  
A proposed rate increase made by Pinehurst, Inc. to the North Carolina Utilities Commission was heard by members of the commission in a public hearing May 24.

The hearing before Commissioners Fischbach, Tate and Roney lasted most of the day at Sandhills Community College. The commissioners will study testimony presented by lawyers for Pinehurst, Inc. and lawyers for the public staff before making a decision on the increase. Commissioner Fisch-

bach, who served as chairman, said the decision will be made by July 1.

The burden of proof is on Pinehurst, Inc. to show they need a rate increase.

The original application of Pinehurst, Inc. for authorization to adjust its water and sewer rates and charges was filed before the state's Utilities Commission on November 14. In making the request, Pinehurst, Inc. offered the following rationale:

"For the 12 months ended June (Continued on Page 12-A)

## SCC Seeks \$1.4 Million From County Budget

Sandhills Community College supporters appeared before the Moore County Board of Commissioners Monday night and requested \$1.4 million in operating funds and capital reserve. The request is almost triple the funding allocated by the county for the 1978-79 fiscal year, which ends June 30.

The college requested \$500,000 in local funds to match a state appropriation to be used for construction of a vocational-technical-classroom and laboratory building. The General Assembly is expected to approve the state appropriation before the current session adjourns.

In addition, Sandhills requested, for the first time, funds to enhance the

instructional program by beefing up salaries and thus placing the college in a competitive position to seek more highly qualified personnel. This figure is \$227,000.

Clifton Blue, chairman of the board of trustees, and Dr. Raymond Stone, president, were accompanied by almost 25 people, including alumni, parents of students, community leaders, and trustees.

"Education is not cheap today," said Blue in his opening remarks. "But Sandhills Community College has the most economical education available."

Because of a lack of additional funds, the institution has found itself unable to attract some of (Continued on Page 14-A)

## 42 Escape Serious Injuries In School Bus Wreck Friday

Forty-two school children escaped serious injury Friday at 7:30 a.m. when a school bus overturned, but the driver, Brian Michael Martinsen of Cameron, Rt. 1 was charged by State Highway Patrolman W.D. Waters with careless and reckless driving.

The patrolman said Martinsen was driving the bus west on RR 1001, also known as Lobelia Road,

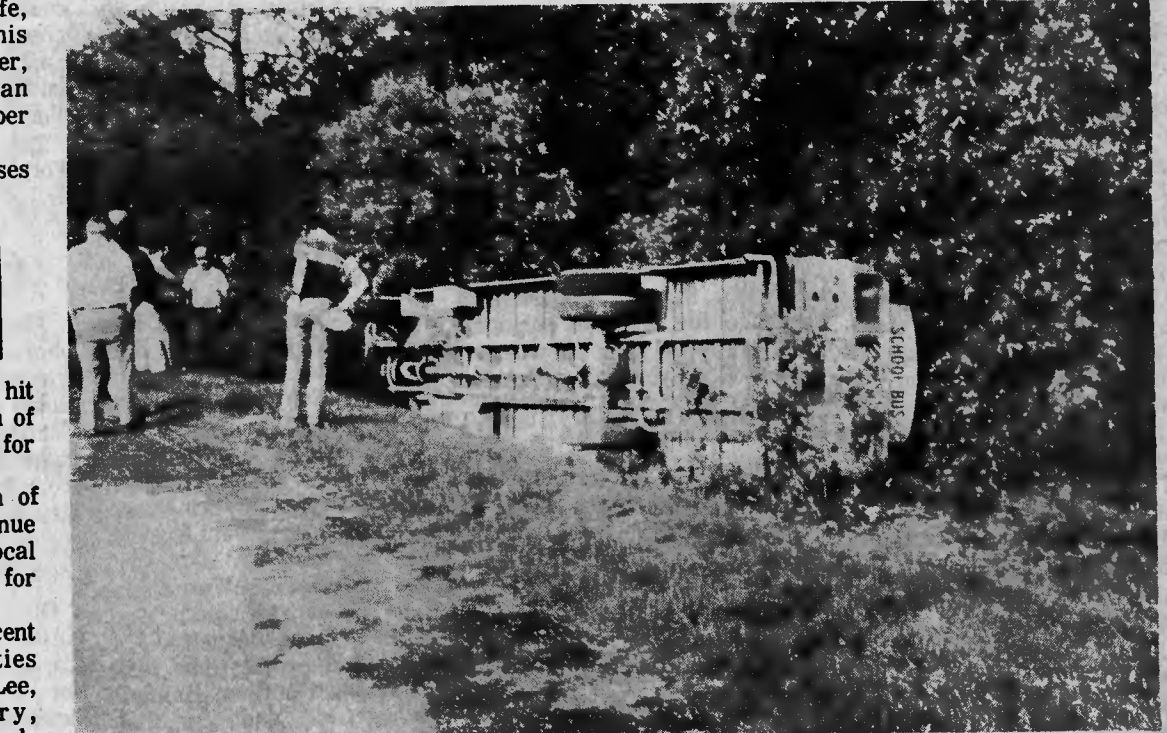
made a left turn on to 2086, and "due to inattention" overturned the bus to its side. The bus was "loaded to capacity," he said.

Patrolman Waters said that six youngsters were taken by the Rescue Squad to Moore Memorial Hospital and that all of the 42 were examined and released by the Hospital later.

The case against Martinsen will be tried June 27.

According to Robert Dalton, spokesman for the Moore County Schools, damage to the bus was \$1800. He said the 16-year-old driver from Union Pines had been a substitute bus driver for about two months, and had been driving as a permanent employee about two weeks.

He said the bus traveled about 100 yards after it left the road (Continued on Page 14-A)



WRECKED SCHOOL BUS — The driver, a 16-year-old, stands to the left of Bus 48 with Vass-Lakeview Principal Henry Hood and other school personnel, just after the bus overturned while carrying 42 students, none seriously hurt. The bus was damaged in the amount of \$1800. The accident occurred off Lobelia Road.—(Photo by Barbara Danley).