

FACING THE FOURTH — Pinebluff got a jump on other communities by celebrating the Fourth of July on Sunday and among the events, which attracted a large crowd at the town lake, was the pie eating contest (above). The celebration was topped off by fireworks Sunday night. - (Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Budget Extras Added; Split Vote Approval

BY FLORENCE GILKESON
In a meeting punctuated by mild fireworks and last minute amendments, the Moore County Board of Commissioners on Monday officially approved an \$8,325,040 budget and a 50-cent tax rate for 1979-80.

It was a split vote, the first budget action in more than 20 years that was not a unanimous decision of the board.

The day-long meeting was marked by a walk-out by Coroner James Andrews, disgruntled because a request for a pay increase and other assistance was turned down. His action was interpreted as a resignation although no official letter was presented to the board.

The board also approved, again 3-2, an amendment providing funding for Par Travel and Sandhills Arts Council, plus additions to Sandhills Community College and the Soil Conservation Service in January, with the understanding this will be done if funds are available at that time. This total is \$103,500.

Later in the day the board went a step further and took action toward the purchase of the Law Enforcement Officers lodge building, which senior citizens in the Carthage area have been using as a feeding site. The group was evicted by the LEO Association on Friday because the county had taken no action to buy the property.

Commissioner Carolyn Blue made the motion to approve the budget and the tax rate, and Commissioner Arthur Purvis made the second. In voting approval they were joined by Chairman Lee Williams, while Commissioners Tony Parker and James Craven cast the dissenting votes.

Parker declared that he had committed himself to a 48-cent tax rate. "I still believe we could have it (48-cent rate). I believe we could have changed some things such as the sanitary landfill; the schools are overfunded, and we never got an answer on mental health. What with inflation the way it is, we should have done something to hold to a no-increase tax rate," he said.

"I know we could have got that 48-cent tax rate. We really have a 51.5 percent tax rate because of what we did this morning. We've

Fourth Festival Slated; Green Aberdeen Speaker

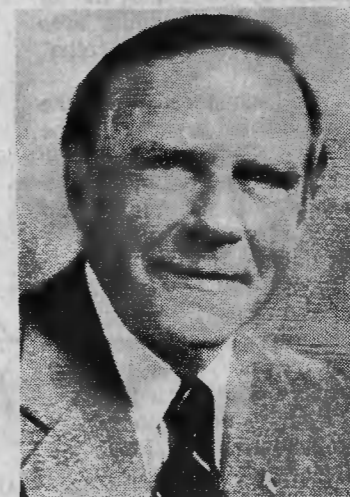
Parades, speeches, music, games and fireworks are on tap for the Fourth of July celebration in Moore County.

The biggest festival will take place at Aberdeen where Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green will make the Independence Day address. The other principal speaker will be Secretary Sara W. Hodgkins of the State Department of Cultural Resources.

Parades and other festivities are scheduled at Carthage and Whispering Pines.

H. Clifton Blue, general chairman for the Aberdeen Fourth of July festivities, promises an event-filled day tomorrow for the 15th annual observation of the holiday, which centers around Aberdeen Lake.

The first event will begin at 10 a.m., in a mile-long "Run for Fun" around the parade course in downtown Aberdeen. All contestants will receive certificates for finishing the



Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green

The parade will begin shortly afterward, at 10:30, led by the

Pinecrest High School Marching Band. Appearing in the parade will be the Ft. Bragg color guard, merchant's floats topped by Miss Aberdeen contestants, and local politicians.

There are more than 100 entries in the Parade.

The crowd will cross US 1, which will be monitored by police officers, for the formal speaking ceremonies at 11:30, which will take place at Aberdeen's Shamberger Park.

Lt. Gov. Green and Secretary Hodgkins will speak. Also attending will be the chairman of the state Democratic party, Sen. Russell Walker, all of the Miss Aberdeen contestants, the chairman of the county Republican

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School Building Action Asked; Critical Needs Are Described

The Moore County Board of Education issued a position paper in response to the County Commissioner's fiscal disregard toward the schools, in a called meeting Monday night. Budget cuts were also made by the Board, following executive session.

The position paper, which Superintendent Lee said was

written by Dr. Bill Walton, reflects the belief of school board members that not enough money was allocated for the long-term building needs of the school. In fact, no money was allocated to this purpose.

"We view with alarm your failure to take any official action on our long range plan for capital improvement," the paper, which

will be sent to the Commissioners, said.

"As you are aware, these capital needs have been well documented and hundreds of our school patrons and other citizens have indicated to you their desire that these needs be accommodated.

"At this time the Board of Education has not attempted to establish a number one priority, but rather has said that the needs at Cameron, Robbins Elementary and West End are all critical."

Cameron school, the Board writes, is 55 years old. The second floor was abandoned two years ago and "the fire marshal has repeatedly expressed concern over the deteriorated

electrical system and the wooden floors that for years were treated with oil.

"Structural engineers examined the building and found floors that had dropped, brick side walls that had bowed out,

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'Birdie Festival' Plans Have Variety Of Events

Entertainment, sports, crafts, lots of good food and bargains galore. Something for every taste, according to Marty Foster, co-chairman with Linda Hubbard of the Sandhills Birdie Festival.

They invite you to bring your family, your friends, your date to any and all of the events that mark the conclusion of the Birdie Festival Golf Open begun earlier this year by Par Travel Council of the Sandhills Area Chamber of

Commerce.

Festival week begins with "Wine, Weymouth and Song," an afternoon of light music by the Moore County Choral Society and Tom Martin's Jazz Group from the piazza at Weymouth Center, sponsored by Friends of Weymouth.

Two concerts on the Pepsi-Cola Carillon follow on Wednesday, July 24. One will be held at 12 noon at the Southern Pines Park, (Continued on Page 12-A)

Grant Sought By County To Help New Plant Here

Moore County Public Works Director Parker Lynch has been authorized to apply for a \$40,000 Industrial Development grant through the Farmers Home Administration.

The money will be used to supplement an Environmental Protection Agency grant to help build water and sewer lines to the ARO Corporation.

Lynch appeared before the

Moore County Board of Commissioners last week to request passage of a resolution permitting his office to complete the application. Approval was readily given.

ARO, the county's newest major industry, is building a plant on U.S. 1 north of Southern Pines. The \$7.5 million facility will produce part of the Bryan, (Continued on Page 12-A)

Land Use Study Set For Moore

Preparation of a county land use plan will be given first priority by Carl Dean, the Appalachian State University senior who will begin a six-month internship in Moore County on July 16.

The 23-year old Raleigh man will be working with the County Planning and Zoning Board and Zoning Administrator Tony Carlyle while undertaking the land use study. Once this work is complete, Dean will work in other administrative capacities for the county.

Carlyle said Dean will take an overall look at the county's present land use, taking into consideration such factors as development, resources, water and sewer lines, and land availability, and will make recommendations for land classification.

The study is not directly tied to (Continued on Page 12-A)

Tim Maples Signs With Baltimore

Tim Maples, the 18 year-old son of Virginia Maples and Duncan E. Maples, signed a one-year contract with the Baltimore Orioles on Sunday.

He will report to the Orioles Farm Club in Bluefield, West Virginia on Monday, July 9 to begin training.

"I'm relieved it's all over," he said Tuesday. A bunch of pressure went with it. I figured it was my only chance to go pro and I'll learn more than in college."

Maples was the only high (Continued on Page 12-A)

Moore Students Score Above State Averages

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL
Moore County students are superior to their peers across the state, reveal scores released by the State Board of Education last week.

County students in the first, second, third, sixth and ninth grades were tested in the Spring in reading, mathematics and language arts, including spelling, and in many cases scored above the national average.

All North Carolina students took the same test, the California Achievement Test, used for the second year in the "Annual Testing Program," which

measures the progress of individual students.

Individual students in Moore County are doing quite well, the scores reveal. In every case they scored above the state and regional (Southeastern) average.

North Carolina students as a group scored above the national average in first and second grades, and at the national average in third grade. In sixth and ninth grades, however, their scores were below the national average.

This trend reinforces data reported in last week's Pilot that (Continued on Page 11-A)

THE PILOT LIGHT

DEMOCRATS—The chairman of the State Democratic party, Senator Russell Walker, will meet Moore County Democrats at a breakfast scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 12 at the Holiday Inn.

Moore Chairman Phillip Jackson said that all Democrats are invited to the breakfast gathering.

HUNT—Governor Jim Hunt is seen as gaining points in the way he has handled the truckers strike in North Carolina.

While some of the truckers lashed out at the Governor for calling out the National Guard to see that trucks were able to enter and leave oil terminals at Greensboro and Charlotte the

public generally has applauded his actions.

Governor Hunt also went to the produce fields and markets in Duplin and Sampson counties and helped to get produce moving to markets again.

At the same time the Governor has shown a willingness to listen and to help the truckers in obtaining many of their objectives.

REPUBLICANS — Many Republicans already have chosen up sides in the 1980 Presidential nomination race.

Some of the top party leaders, however, such as former Governor Jim Holshouser of Southern Pines are still biding their time. Holshouser has been (Continued on Page 8-A)

Skylab Falling--Where Will You Hide?

BY JENNIFER CALDWELL
The Fourth of July traditionally brings a night full of fireworks, which delight young and old alike as they burst brilliantly across the sky. This Fourth of July there is another object in the sky, that is more curious than any firecracker and may make a bigger boom when it comes down.

The Pilot took to the streets before the Fourth and asked people where they thought Skylab would fall; and, if it fell in the Sandhills, where would they hide?

"There's no place to hide



Straw — because it's going to go through two floors. There aren't any six-floor buildings in Southern Pines so I'd probably go outside and watch for pieces so I could duck," said Deah Straw.
"I guess I could hide in my basement," said Mrs. Harold Bachman.
"I'd dig a hole," said Mose Jones.
"It's going to fall in the eastern part of the Atlantic Ocean," said John F. Malone.
"If it lands on us, we'll find out. I wouldn't hide."
Carrol — Gina Carrol said she'd hide "In a tree."
"Under the slide."
Aimee Calfee said she'd hide "Under the slide."
Glen Rounds said "There's only one thing that I'm con- (Continued on Page 11-A)

All Offices Closed For July 4 Holiday

Independence Day will be an occasion to celebrate Wednesday, with most public offices and agencies, banks and private businesses closed in observance of the national holiday.

Federal, state, county and municipal offices will be closed for the Fourth of July.

In Southern Pines the post office will receive incoming mail, will box and dispatch mail, but will offer no window service or home delivery.

The Fourth is a bank holiday, and all area banks and other financial institutions will be closed. Retail businesses will be (Continued on Page 12-A)

W.E. Greer Is Given S&L Post

One of North Carolina's top financial managers, W. Ed Greer of Raleigh, has been named as the new President of Sandhills Savings & Loan Association, Inc.

Greer, currently president of the State Employees Credit Union, will assume his duties in Southern Pines during the month of August.

The State Employees Credit Union is the third largest in the world, exceeded only by the Pentagon and Navy Federal.

Former Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr., chairman of the board of Sandhills Savings, in announcing the appointment said:

"Mr. Greer's tremendous background in expanding and merging will be a great asset as we at Sandhills Savings move forward with our plans for expansion.

"When Mr. Greer joined the State Employees Credit Union in 1960, it had \$4 million in assets and 13 employees. Today, it boasts \$336 million in assets and 270 employees in 22 branches."

Greer, 55, serves as chairman of the North Carolina Credit Union Association, and has been considered one of the most sought after financial managers in the state.

Said Greer, "My years with the State Employees Credit Union have been most satisfying, but I am looking forward to the new challenge of operating an efficient and expanding savings and loan. My wife, Aurelia, and I are looking forward to life in the Sandhills area."

The Greers have three children and four grandchildren. He is an elder in the First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh.

Hodgkins, Owens Winners Of Rotary Annual Awards

The top Rotary award—the Four-Way Test—was presented Friday night to Sara W. Hodgkins, Secretary of the State Department of Cultural Resources, and Dr. Francis L. Owens.

Presentations were made at the Southern Pines Rotary Club annual banquet, at which new officers were installed, at the Pinehurst Country Club.

President Felton Capel made the presentations after the citations were read by Phillip Brown, chairman of the awards committee. Other members of the committee were Royal Boston, Herbert Punchedard and Jerry Slade.

Brown said that the "Four Way Test Award is given in the Sandhills area of Moore County (Continued on Page 12-A)



WIN ROTARY AWARD — Winners of the annual Southern Pines Rotary Club "Four Way Test" Award were Sara W. Hodgkins, shown at top receiving the award from Club President Felton Capel, and Dr. Francis L. Owens (center bottom). With Dr. Owens is Capel and Phillip Brown (left), chairman of the awards committee.—(Photos by Emerson Humphrey).