



MAY DAYS — A cow grazes in a barn lot glowing with the bright yellow flowers of May on one of the byways near Bensalem as one

of the signs of May days now with us in the Sandhills.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

## Budget Requests Run Ahead Of Last Year

**BY FLORENCE GILKESON**  
Budget requests mounted above the \$2.8 million point Monday as nine agencies carried their proposals directly to the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

Although the requests presented Monday represent little more than a beginning toward the overall budget picture for the county in the 1981-82 year, the total was nevertheless revealing—more than \$400,000 above the amount appropriated for these same nine agencies for 1980-81.

Not included among these requests was the school system, which will be asking for \$5.9 million, over \$1.5 million more than was appropriated for this year.

County Administrator Larry Moubry said he will present budget requests for most of the remaining offices and departments at the board's meeting on Monday, May 18. The new county budget must be adopted prior to July 1, when the new fiscal year begins.

## Fee Hike And Water Problem Seen

An increase in the wastewater treatment fee and potential water problems in the southern end of the county came to the attention of the Moore County Board of Commissioners Monday.

cent user rate increase proposal after Southern Pines Mayor Hope Brogden and Town Manager Mildred McDonald requested a delay while they "discuss it with our people."

The engineer, who designed the plant, said a major need in the new year is a build-up in the equipment maintenance fund in order that adequate spare parts may be available at all times.

Because the facility is relatively new, there has been little need for major repairs, Hall said, but he reminded the board that as the plant ages, this need will increase.

## Pinehurst Favors Liquor By 594-44

Pinehurst voters made good and sure Tuesday that their resort community is not endangered by pending legislation to strip them of liquor by the drink.

From the beginning no organized opposition was felt in Pinehurst.

Officials of the Moore County Board of Elections, which conducted the referendum, reported this vote by precincts: East Pinehurst - 266 in favor of liquor by the drink and 23 opposed;

The school board approved a \$5.9 million county budget in a special meeting Monday, slightly lowering the budget after receiving bids for the Cameron school project.

They voted 594 to 44 to retain the sale of mixed beverages within the village limits. Wary of a bill introduced by a Wake County legislator, the Pinehurst Village Council asked for the referendum as insurance that, just in case the bill does pass, the resort will be covered through the referendum.

West Pinehurst - 326 in favor and 21 opposed. Two absentee ballots were counted, both in favor of the measure.

The original schools budget from county funds was \$5,969,994, and with lower bids for the Cameron school project, the schools are now requesting \$5,911,513, still almost a 40 percent increase over the approved budget last year.

## Sam Ragan Is Presented North Caroliniana Award

**BY FLORENCE GILKESON**  
Sam Ragan confessed Friday night-to a life long love affair with North Carolina.

The Pilot, was the nation's first secretary of a state department of culture. He is a poet, columnist, teacher and mentor of aspiring writers and has emerged as a leader in North Carolina's development of cultural resources.

The annual meeting of the Moore County Historical Association will be held at Weymouth Center on Sunday, May 10, at 4 p.m., when six new board members will be elected.

Dr. George E. Melton, chairman of the History Department at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, will address the association on "History In The Public Schools."

His confession came in his acceptance of the North Caroliniana Society Award during a banquet at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill. Ragan was presented the prestigious society award in recognition of "his public service and his promotion, enhancement, production and preservation of the literature of his native state."

A picnic supper on the Weymouth grounds will follow the meeting. The public is invited to attend.

Ragan, editor and publisher of

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AWARD — Sam Ragan of Southern Pines is shown after being presented the North Caroliniana Society Award at Chapel Hill on Friday night.—(Photo by Florence Gilkeson).

## Court Term Will Open On Monday

The first week of a two-week criminal session of Moore County Superior Court will open Monday.

Judge Hal H. Walker will preside for the session which convenes at 10 a.m. Monday. Judge Judson D. DeRamus Jr. will preside for the second session, to open Monday, May 18.

Twenty felony cases will go to the grand jury to be returned as bills of indictment and possible trial during one of the two weeks.

The trial calendar contains one murder case, that of Charlie Wayne Edwards, who is charged in the January slaying of his mother, Ruby Oakley Edwards. The 34-year old defendant is also charged with assaulting his father, Harvey Edwards, with intent to kill.

True bills of indictment were returned against Edwards on these charges at a previous session of court, but the cases were continued.

The trial calendar also contains almost 100 cases, including felonies continued from previous court terms and misdemeanors appealed from district court.

## Weymouth Near Debt End As Officers Are Chosen

It's getting closer and closer to mortgage burning time for the Friends of Weymouth.

A big step to reach this plateau was taken at the organization's annual meeting last week and officials hope area residents will climb aboard the bandwagon to contribute the \$4,000 more needed.

"I feel that we are a going enterprise which has assumed a definite role in the community," Sam Ragan told last Thursday's

session as he was named to head Weymouth for the third one-year term.

When the meeting began, there was a \$14,500 balance due on the \$100,000 which Friends of Weymouth had to borrow two years ago to buy the Georgian style home and tree-studded grounds from the Sandhills College Foundation, Inc., for \$700,000. Most of the woodlands have been turned over to the state

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## Federal Budget Cuts Mean Positions Lost In Moore

**BY LIZ HUSKEY**  
Federal budget allotments for 1981-82 are so uncertain, that Moore County school officials are expecting to lose at least nine personnel positions and have held back renewing contracts of 37 first-year teachers, Associate Superintendent C. Edison Powers told The Pilot Thursday.

Based on the way the federal cuts have been heading, Powers said school officials anticipate a 25 percent cut for schools.

Such a cut will dig deep into several federally-funded programs such as Child Nutrition, Right to Read and Vocational Education.

But all is uncertain at this point. "Usually by this time we've received in writing anticipated allotments," Powers said. "We have not received any notice, because of the uncertainty of the federal budget."

The situation promoted school officials to meet with all teachers who had been in the school system only a year, then gave them notice that their contracts would not be renewed until federal funding was made available in their areas.

The letter to the 37 teachers read: "In view of these uncertainties, the Board of Education is withholding the issuance of all contracts in all

program areas for first year professionals in Moore County... "Your professional evaluation indicates you have had a very successful first year and every effort will be made to issue you a contract as soon as funding has been finalized for your particular program area."

The school administration has received notice of 15 resignations or retirements, but some of these are in areas that are not losing positions, or are in areas that

require specially trained personnel, such as principals and media specialists.

Therefore, the administration cannot just transfer people to the vacant areas.

The first major allotment is based on the projected Average Daily Membership (ADM) in the next school year. Based on these projections, the number of personnel allotments is determined. In the 1981-82 school year,

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## School Budget Lowered By Cameron Project Bid

The finance officers of the Board of County Commissioners and of the Board of Education of Moore County will meet together this week before the proposed schools budget is presented to the county commissioners May 18.

The school board approved a \$5.9 million county budget in a special meeting Monday, slightly lowering the budget after receiving bids for the Cameron school project.

The original schools budget from county funds was \$5,969,994, and with lower bids for the Cameron school project, the schools are now requesting \$5,911,513, still almost a 40 percent increase over the approved budget last year.

Dr. Charles Phillips and Tony Parker, county commissioners, attended the meeting, and Chairman Phillips said the school board request was "overwhelming," but said "I hate to see our good school system have to lose anything."

He suggested that the two boards' finance officers meet, at which time schools finance officer Joe Vaughn could present a more detailed report of the school system's other sources of

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## Jobless Rate Up In Moore

Moore County's unemployment rate climbed by an unexpected percentage point in March.

The 7.1 percent jobless rate reported by the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina was up from the 6.0 percent figure reported for February. In March, 1980 the county's jobless rate was reported as 4.5 percent.

The increase for March places Moore County slightly above the average for the state, which was 6.9 percent.

Moore was one of 20 counties with an increase in the jobless rate. Seventy-three counties showed a decrease, while the remaining seven counties were unchanged.

State ESC Chairman J.B. Archer attributed the cause of the high joblessness across North Carolina to an uncertain economy with its continuing high interest rates and inflation.

In its monthly report released last week the ESC said 23 counties registered unemployment

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### THE PILOT LIGHT

**HEFNER**—Congressman Bill Hefner was reported this past weekend as being outraged at what he called a "smear campaign" against him by the Raleigh-based Congressional Club, founded some years ago to support Senator Jesse Helms and of which Helms now serves as honorary co-chairman.

Several thousand letters were sent to Hefner's constituents in the Eighth District charging that Hefner had voted for money to give away the Panama Canal and had approved aid to Marxists in Nicaragua.

Hefner said, "It is absolutely untrue." He said he had voted against aid to Nicaragua last year, and his vote for the Panama Canal was for an appropriation to keep it operating.

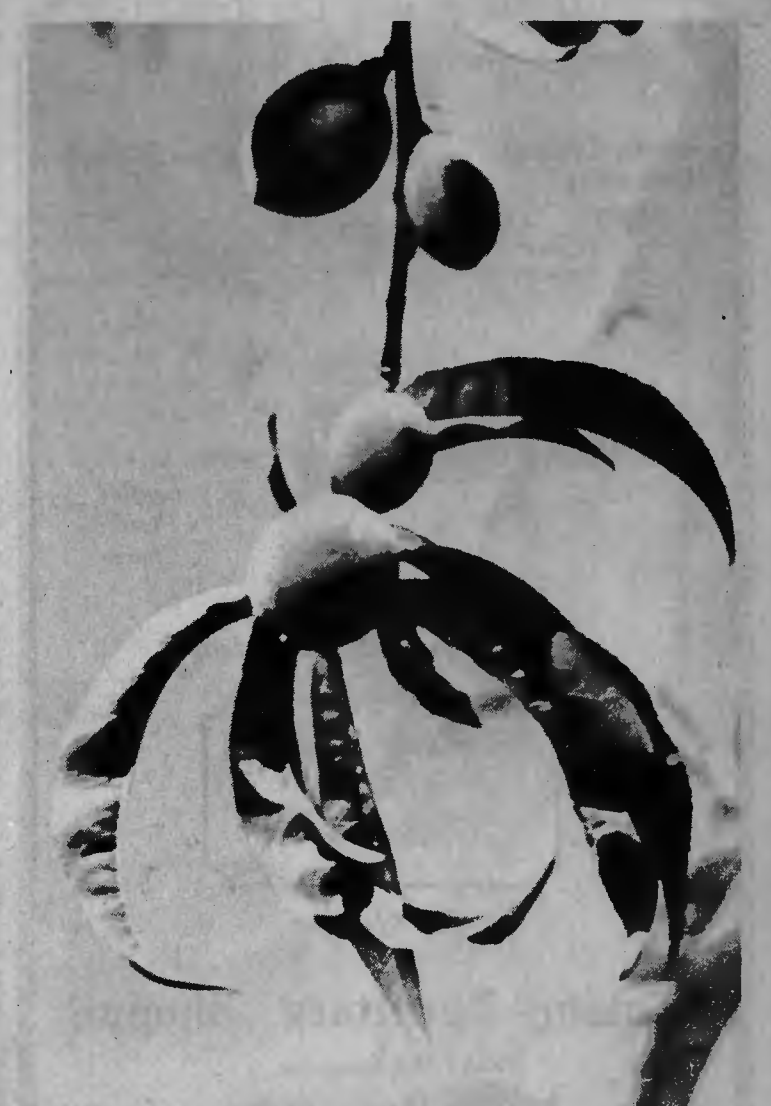
He said he had tried to call Senator Helms to protest the "smear campaign" but Helms did not return his call.

In the news story out of Washington about the Congressional Club's efforts to pressure congressmen to vote for President Reagan's budget package it was pointed out that the Liberal Americans for Democratic Action rated Hefner as 22 on a scale of 100, making him one of the most conservative members of the state's delegation.

**VICKERY**—Senator Charles Vickery will meet with members of the Sandhills Area Chamber of Commerce at breakfast on Monday, May 18.

The meeting for a discussion of

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PEACHES — Early peaches are ripening in the Sandhills and the luscious fruit hangs heavy on the trees in this Bensalem Township orchard.—(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).