

Social Events

Venkus, Connell exchange vows

Paula Sue Connell and Christopher Henry Venkus, both of Fort Mill, S.C., were married in a 4 p.m. ceremony on March 9 in the First Baptist Church in Raeford with Dr. Neil Armstrong officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Danny Dale Connell of Raeford. She graduated from Hoke County High School and Hardbarger Junior Business College in Raleigh and is employed with Brown & Glenn Realty in Charlotte.

The groom is the son of Gerald Venkus of Darrin, Ill. and Dianne S. Venkus of Palos Hills, Ill. He graduated from St. Michael's High School in Toronto, Canada and Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colo. and is the self-employed owner of Asset Relocation Services Inc. in Charlotte.

The church was decorated with cut arrangements of spring flowers and candelabrum entwined with greenery and white daisies. Reserved seats had mixed flower arrangements with white ribbon.

Musical selections included "O Perfect Love," which was the processional; "Bridal Chorus" by Wagner, and the recessional was "Trumpet Tune" by Clark with Elga Langdon as organist. Soloist Betty Odum sang "I Will Be There."

The bride, escorted by her father, wore a long gown of white Italian satin. It had a fitted bodice featuring an off-the-shoulder sweetheart neckline adorned with appliques of re-embroidered lace in a point d'esprit motif. The tapered long sleeves and Basque waistline finished the bodice. A pleated ballgown skirt flowed into a semi-cathedral train. She wore a cathedral length veil of illusion tulle attached to a pearl and sequined tiara with finger-tip veil trimmed with scattered pearls and carried a cascade bouquet of white roses, daisies, stephanotis and ivy accented with ivy pearls and baby's breath.

The maid of honor was Heidi Venkus of Willow Springs, Ill., sister of the groom. She wore a long, black tulle gown of satin styled with a halter neckline accented with white sleeves and satin scroll pattern on bodice. She wore black evening gloves and carried a spray of long-stemmed white gladiolus with white ribbon streamers.

Bridesmaids were Sharon Connell

of Wilmington and Dana Connell of Raleigh, sisters of the bride. They wore long gowns of black satin and tulle netting similar to the honor attendant and carried same bouquet of flowers.

The best man was Mark Kurzanski of Hickory Hills, Ill.

Ushers were Scott McCellan of Raleigh, Tony Rubino of Burbank, Ill., William T. Connell of Raeford, uncle of bride and Sammy G. Robinson of Laurel Hill, cousin of bride.

The groom wore a black full dress tuxedo with a white paisley vest with black satin lapels.

The best man and ushers wore black full dress tuxedo with black and white paisley vest with black bow tie.

Doreen Connell of Raeford, aunt of the bride, kept bridal register and Darlene Robinson of Laurel Hill, aunt of the bride directed the wedding.

The rehearsal dinner was held in Edinborough Restaurant in Raeford given by the groom's father, Gerald Venkus.

The wedding reception was held at Mid Pines Golf Inn in Southern Pines given by the parents of the bride.

After a wedding trip, the couple will live in Fort Mill.

Paula Connell was given a miscellaneous bridal shower on Oct. 29 in Chicago by Heidi Venkus, sister of groom-elect, Dianne Venkus, mother of groom-elect, and Carol V. Braun, aunt of groom-elect, all of Ill. The bride-elect was presented a corsage of roses.

Thirty guests attended, including Mazelle Connell, mother of the bride-elect.

A luncheon was given for 12 guests honoring Paula Connell on Feb. 10 in the Bryant House in Aberdeen. Hostesses were Peggy Summers, Sally Young and Kim Hedgpeth, all of Raeford.

She was presented a single red rose and a gift of a picture frame for her new home.

Special guests were Mazelle Connell, mother of bride-elect and Ruth L. Goodwin, grandmother of bride-elect.

A floating bridal shower was given for the bride-elect on Feb. 11 in the Gatlin Hall of First Baptist Church. Hostesses were Michelle Barefoot, Marilyn Thomas, Dorothy Kinlaw and Jean Wade, who presented her with a



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corsage of miniature roses. Their gift was a crystal pedestal bowl.

Special guests were her mother, Mazelle Connell and grandmother, Ruth Goodwin.

A lingerie shower was given for bride-elect Paula Connell in Raleigh on Feb. 24. Hostesses were Sharon and Dana Connell.

She received many nice gifts of lingerie.

Ruth Goodwin and Darlene Robinson gave a miscellaneous bridal shower for bride-elect Paula Connell March 1 in Laurel Hill. She was presented a gift of a white patterned bedspread and an assortment of gifts for her home.

Special guest was the bride's mother.

A bridesmaids' luncheon was given on March 9 in the home of the bride's aunt, Doreen Connell. The bride-elect presented gifts to her bridesmaids and attendants.

Hostesses' gift to bride was a picture.

On March 29 Paula Connell and Christopher Venkus were honored at a reception in the Palos Country Club in Palos Hills, Ill., given by the par-

ents of the groom.

The bride-elect was presented a bouquet of pink roses and the couple received many gifts for their home.

Special guests were parents of the bride, Dale and Mazelle Connell of Raeford, Darlene Robinson and her son Sammy Robinson of Laurel Hill, aunt and cousin of bride, Tom and Doreen Connell of Raeford, aunt and uncle of bride, Sharon Connell of Wilmington, Dana Connell of Raleigh, sisters of bride and friend of bridal couple, Pamela Oliver of Wilmington.

Approximately 150 guests attended.



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The family of Helen Morgan Sellars would like to thank you, during her lifetime on earth, for all that you have done. Since the beginning of our Mother's, Wife's, Sister's, and Friend's illness - you have been there for her and us. The cards, flowers, foods, deeds, visits, health care, calls, and prayers have all been significant factors in Mother's continued survival. Her strong faith and continued support have prepared her for the time to come. We cannot express enough our gratefulness to each and everyone of you.
Most Sincerely,
Helen's Family

Kindergarten Registration
April 15-19, 1996
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Register your child at the elementary school in your attendance area.

Scurlock Elementary 875-4182
South Hoke Elementary 875-2470
West Hoke Elementary 875-2584
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Rockfish-Hoke Elementary 875-9343
Upchurch Elementary 875-1574

PLEASE BRING BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND ALL SHOT RECORDS!
Beginner Day is May 1, 1996

Engagements

Hendrix-Williams

Linda P. Hendrix of Raeford announces the engagement of her daughter, Donna Lynn Hendrix, to Lee Manning Williams of Laurinburg.

The bride-elect is the daughter of the late Donald B. Hendrix.

The groom-elect is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Winston Williams of Laurinburg.

Their wedding is planned for May 18 in Trinity Presbyterian Church in Laurinburg.



Donna Lynn Hendrix

Jacobs-Evington

Mr. and Mrs. Gentry Jacobs of Red Springs announce the engagement of their daughter, Annie Denise Jacobs, to Brian Evington of Red Springs.

The bride-elect graduated from Hoke County High School and Meredith College and is employed with the Hoke County School System as a teacher.

The groom-elect is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Max Evington of Wallburg, NC. The groom-elect graduated from Thomasville High School and Pembroke University and is employed with the Robeson County School System as a physical education teacher.



Annie Jacobs and Brian Evington

Their wedding is planned for May 25 in Galilee Baptist Church in Red Springs.

Births

The following births were reported to *The News-Journal* by area hospitals.

Parents: Shayne and Tammy MacKinnon
Address: Raeford
Son: Nicholas Patrick
Date born: March 26
Hospital: Cape Fear Valley

Parents: Kenneth and Sonita

McDaniel
Address: Raeford
Daughter: Krystal Monique
Date born: March 27
Hospital: Cape Fear Valley

Parents: Donna Fields and Keith Sears
Address: Raeford
Son: Lucas Cody
Date born: March 29
Hospital: Cape Fear Valley

ELECT
Jackie Haddon
COMMISSIONER
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In Memory of Steve Ray Locklear

You have a birthday coming up. You would be 20 years old April 11. I miss you so much. I can't say how much you are missed by your family and friends. Me and your dad hurt so much when we don't see you around. When I go to your room I break down and cry. I can't believe you are gone. I miss you from playing with me. I miss all the times you went biking with me and your sister Kelly. You were always playing with me. Your brother Timothy, Steve & I took care of you for 18 years. You don't forget that overnight. I hope God is taking care of you now.
I love you,
Almond, Louise, Timothy & Kelly

1996 TOURS
July 28 - Aug. 1
4 Day Fantasy Cruise
Oct. 2 - 9 Canyon Land Tour (by air & land tour) includes The Grand Canyon, Zion National Park, Oak Creek Canyon, Bryce National Park, Las Vegas
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Deposits for cruise, Canyon Land and Opryland due immediately
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3-Year Anniversary Celebration
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Monday - Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
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You are invited to attend these special services.