

GUARD UNIT IN FIELD—Members of the Avon Park National Guard are shown on field exercises recently at Ft. Stewart, Ga. Left to right: Sgt. Buddy McKenzie, Corp. Lanny Albritton, Sgt. Eddie Wilson, Corp. Heston L. Watford. The group is assembled around a 105 self propelled M52 Howitzer.

* * *

Avon Park National Guard Unit Commended For Field Exercises

The Avon Park National Guard unit, which comprises Battery C, 2nd Howitzer Bn, 265th Artillery, was this week commended for its impressive display in the recent field exercise at Ft. Stewart, Ga.

The commendation came from headquarters of the 51st Infantry Division. Basically, the praise was relative to the unit's overall superior rating.

"Morale, efficiency, and soldierly conduct of the personnel was inspirational and contagious. The battalion commander was extremely effective and commanded the respect and attention of his associates", the bulletin noted.

The informative went on to say that the local unit "favorably impressed the Active Army Evaluators, who rated the battalion on par with most regular Army units, and superior to some." Officers related over and over the effectiveness of the unit, rating it "one of the top, if not the top unit in the United States".

Capt. Billy M. Lambert is commander of the local battery. Ollie P. Gentry is first sergeant and James T. Landress is chief of the firing battery. The unit's present strength is 72 enlisted men and three officers, with one enlisted man and two officer vacancies existing.

(Continued from page one)

Little Loop

first inning, and hold until the bottom of the fourth, when Plant City went ahead 2-1. In the fifth, the bottom fell out, and the veteran Hillsborough County nine scored four more runs. They added four more in the fifth to wrap up the scoring.

Bobby Barben and Hoppy Rewis shared mound duties for Avon Park, with Gary Neal behind the plate. Johnny Elder, All-Star third basemen for Avon Park collected his team's only hit, a single in the first inning.

J. C. Walker and J. T. Landress managed the team in the first bid in an official Little League Tournament.

Florida tourists spend $416 million dollars annually on lodging, according to the Florida Tourism Steering Committee.

NOTICE

There will be a square dance August 5th at the American Legion Post no. 69. At the west end of Bell Street at AVON PARK for couples only.

ADMISSION $2.00 PER COUPLE

ALL COUPLES INVITED

Semi-Formal Dance Starts At 8 P. M.

Placid Man In Jail Following Canal Accident

Late last week Florida Highway Patrolmen were called to the southern part of the county to investigate a report that an auto was in a canal. The auto was there, and the man accused of having been the driver was in County Court Monday.

Raymond James Croy, 30-year-old white resident of Lake Placid, was found guilty of failure to have a vehicle under control. On that charge he was fined $30 or 20 days in jail.

He pleaded not guilty to leaving the scene of an accident, and his bond was set at $250. A bond of $50 was set on the charge of driving without a driver's license.

Croy is being held in jail in Sebring. Hendry County officials have indicated they are investigating charges of unauthorized use of an auto against Croy.

A Lake Placid Negro, David Johnson is in jail as a result of a variety of difficulties with checks. In County Court Monday, Johnson pleaded guilty to issuing four worthless checks. His fine was set at $50 or 30 days on each count.

Johnson pleaded not guilty on three forgery charges. His bond was set at $500 on each count.

WILHITES AWAY

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Wilhite will return the end of the week from a trip to Fort Stewart, Ga., where they have been visiting their son, 1st Lt. James Wilhite and his wife and young son, Joel.

MARINES INVADE

A few dozen Marines invaded the city recently, and according to reports, "they took the city" that is . . . the female population. The Marines were on a secret mission and stationed at the Bombing Range base.

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 425

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE DATE FOR QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES IN CITY ELECTIONS.

Be it resolved that the closing date for qualification of candidates in City elections is thirty (30) days prior to election.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded.

This Ordinance is an emergency measure and it is hereby found and determined that the welfare of said City or part thereof requires its immediate passage, and this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor and upon its being published one time in a newspaper published in said City.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Avon Park, Florida, this 24th day of July, 1961.

ATTEST:

LUCILE A. SHOCKLEY,
City Clerk
CLARENCE KING,
President, City Council

Approved this the 24th day of July, 1961.

E. A. DeLANEY, SR.,
Mayor

Approved as to form.
HILE E. NUNNALLEE,
City Attorney
Pub. July 27, 1961.

Commissioners

(Continued from page one)

"I have put on two men in the past year. I think the extra night work we have had has more than paid for itself in savings to the citizens. The only way I can cut like you have asked me to is to fire a man and sell a car."

In his budget request the Sheriff said that thefts in the unincorporated areas in the county have dropped about 50 per cent in the past year. He told the commissioners, however, that the case load for the Sheriff's department has grown by eight to 15 per cent each year in recent times.

Commissioner James Creel noted, "The budget and personnel for the Sheriff's Department has tripled during the past ten years while the population has doubled. Can you explain this?"

Sheriff Coker said, "Everyone is trying to build outside the city limits. These people want police protection, and since they are not inside a city they are the responsibility of the Sheriff's Department."

The Sheriff's proposed budget provided for some salary boosts. "I have some very good men now," the Sheriff commented, "and I'd like to begin to bring their salaries up to where they would be making at least as much as the highway patrolmen."

He said that recent legislation had included provisions for an across the board raise of $440 per year for law enforcement officers.

Sheriff Coker protested that the commissioners had underestimated income in the county fine and forfeiture fund. The commissioners had estimated a 1961-62 income of $75,000. He said fines in the first half of 1961 were running more than $6,000 for the same period in 1960. The commissioners countered that the $75,000 estimate is above the 1960 estimate.

Income from increased tax evaluation of taxable lands plus the larger fine income should boost the anticipated income about $19,000 above the commissioners' figure, Coker argued.

In the end the Sheriff quoted state law provisions for the commissioners to trim the Sheriff's budget item by item. He said he had submitted a minimum budget and therefore the commissioners would have to make the cuts.

Skipper said, "It is logical for you to make the cuts, but if you won't then the commissioners must. I suggest that we make the cuts in the two largest items in the budget."

The commissioners left intact a requested Sheriff's emergency fund of $10,000. Coker said, "With the civil rights situation as it is now, you can never tell what will happen next. This contingent fund is all I have to fall back on in an emergency."

The commissioners suggested that his first emergency may be a financial one within his department. "Make your budget go as far as it can," McIntyre suggested, "then you may have to fall back on your emergency fund if you get into real difficulties in these places where we have had to cut."

The commissioners sliced $4000 from the requested $80,690 for salaries, and $5500 was cut from the Sheriff's Department expenses item. The original request was for $58,925. Final figure on the Sheriff's budget was $151,115 or nearly $5,000 above the present year.

County Agent Bert Harris protested that in seeking to make things easier for the county his department suffered a budget cut. During the past year the extension staff personnel have requested expense money for out-of-county trips as the need arose.

"We have tried to be careful," Harris said, "and you have never refused us. This year we thought we would make it easier for you by requesting a lump sum for out-of-county travel. We took an average of our requests in the past and that was our budget item."

The commissioners cut $400 from the out-of-county travel item. The total agriculture department appropriation was $20,960—an overall increase of $340 from last year.

Surveyor Roger Miller said, "We are in sad need of some new maps for the county. Each day land holders unknowingly destroy old land corners. You are creating a problem for the future if you don't appropriate money to keep up with the job of re-establishing lines."

Miller said his budget for such work in the present year is $7500, and in the coming year it will be $6,000 less. The commissioners said that so far this year that particular fund has paid out only $465.

Dr. William F. Hill, county health doctor, said that the health department will raise year be able to add about $15,000 to its building fund. He said the current 1-mill tax levy is enabling the department to realize some savings from its own budget.

"When the time comes to build," Dr. Hill said, "we won't have to ask for new taxes. We are saving for it right now."

The Welfare Department, which has been in financial difficulties for several months, received a cut in funds for the coming year. The general welfare appropriation of $25,000 remains unchanged, and the hospital aid for indigents is boosted by $315 to a total of $15,180, but welfare administration was cut from $5400 to $4800.

The commissioners explained, "We have told Mrs. Church (the county welfare director) to operate all next year like she has the last half of this year—keep a tight rein on this all the time."

The National Guard has requested $1,000 to make needed repairs in the Armory at Avon Park. The commissioners set up an appropriation for half of that amount.

Flood control jumped from $3,000 to $6500 for the coming year. The parks and recreation appropriation was halved—down to $2500, and the publicity account was slashed from $1600 to $600.

Court maintainence and custodian salaries were chopped from $20,000 to $18,120.

Commissioners explained that some of the increases in general fund items were set by law. Some of offices must receive appropriations in proportion to the population and/or the amount of money handled by that particular office.

By state law the tax assessor's office received a $4000 boost and the tax collector's office received $2000 more for the coming year.

Supervisor of Registration Droit had explained that to meet legal requirements the county must up it ratio of voting machines to registered voters. The new budget provided for down payment on five new voting machines.

The registration office probably will get a cash register too.

While the commissioners' salaries remain at $12,300 county administration salaries will jump from $7100 to $11,340 for the new year. And administrative supplies shot up from $15,000 to $21,500.

Principal source of income for the county general fund is the seven mill tax levy. This will produce $259,513.89 of the $324,945 needed for the coming year. The difference will be made up through such things as railroad or occupational licenses and excess fees from the county judge, tax assessor, tax collector and county clerk.

Largest of the funds administered by the commissioners is the road and bridge fund. In 1961-62 this will be just under a half million dollars.

More than half of the funds for this department come from a six mill tax levy. As might be expected gasoline and fuel taxes furnish a large part—an estimated $113,000 next year.

Purchase of new equipment is estimated at $57,000 for the coming year and maintaining equipment will cost another $45,000 plus $26,000 for gasoline and oil. Largest single item of expense is $130,000 for labor.

Total road and bridge expense for the coming year is set at $415,000.

If the commissioners get by the August 1 hurdle without making changes in the budget, this tentative budget then becomes the Highlands County budget for 1961-62.

CONSERVATION CAMP

The following boys will leave Sunday by train for Ocala where they will attend the Youth Conservation Camp in the National Forest, Robert Barben, Steven Hartt, Jeffry Stokey, Robert King, Jim Ward and Mike Ward.

Production of sugar in south Florida is expected to double during the next three years.

National Ski Movements



Cypress Gardens, Florida: Last year's Girls Jumping Champion, Barbara Cooper (center) and Overall Girls Champion, Janelle Kirtley (right) are moving in on Women's Jumping Champion Judy Rosh as they enter the Women's Division for the first time this year. The National Water Ski Championships will be held in Austin, Texas, August 17-20 under the auspices of the A. W. S. A.

COME SEE THIS ONE

NEW TWO-BEDROOM C. B. HOUSE

On Lake — Just what you have always wanted — Built In Kitchen — Tile Bath — Large Bedrooms — Carport — 120 Foot Lake Front — Utility Room — No City Taxes

$14,950.00

WELLS BETTER HOMES CO.

Phone GL 3-4656 Box 818, Avon Park

NOTICE

CITY REGISTRATION BOOKS

ALSO

Qualifying Date Closes

AUGUST 11, 1961

FOR THE

CITY ELECTION

Sept. 12, 1961

LUCILE A. SHOCKLEY

City Clerk

FAST, EXPERT SHOE REPAIR

Finest workmanship. Quality materials

Why buy new shoes when we can repair your old ones so well? New heels and soles add mileage!

Meyer's Shoe and Upholstery Shop

817 So. Verona Ave.

ASPHALT
Hot and Cold Plant Mix
Cover Stone
Lime Rock Base Matter

FOR

DRIVE WAYS
PARKING AREAS
Subdivision
STREETS ROADS



We Are Ready To Serve You ! !

AVON PARK
Asphalt Materials
Company
Phone GL 3-6558
North of Sottile Warehouse
On Todd Property

Concrete Rock
Drain Field
Pea Rock
Base Sand - Lime Rock

A Division of Fuller Industries