

	Max.	Min.	Rain
Nov. 30	79	67	1.86
Dec. 1	84	67	
Dec. 2	80	65	.33
Dec. 3	71	58	
Dec. 4	75	49	t
Dec. 5	81	60	
Dec. 6	71	62	.40

Airport Operator Sues City Over Lease

Following months of hassling with the Avon Park City Council over a lease agreement, James Renfro doing business as Highlands Aviation, Inc., filed suit in the Circuit Court for a declaratory

judgment, according to Anthony A. Accorsi, attorney.

The suit was filed to determine the validity of a lease entered into by the City of Avon Park and Highlands Aviation, Inc., on Aug. 23, 1976, stated Accorsi, who with James W. Kelly, Sebring, are representing Highlands Aviation.

Part of the complaint states that the city council (defendant) has at various times, since the execution of the lease, claimed that the lease is not valid and binding for various reasons, including: Fraud, misrepresentation, failure or lack of consideration and execution by the mayor and city clerk without the authorization or approval of defendant city council.

Besides putting the validity of the lease to rest the suit asks for attorney fees and court costs and other relief deemed proper.

When asked about the suit, Mayor Marshall Davis declined to comment stating the matter had been turned over to the city attorney, Jack Hancock. However, Hancock was not available for comment on the suit.

Renfro a licensed pilot started operations at the Sebring Airport and was incorporated as Highlands Aviation, Inc. and came to the Avon Park Airport about two years ago. He purchased the land and building belonging to Frank Murr, as he had property adjacent to it.

The lease agreement signed on Aug. 23, 1976 started as of June 1, 1976 running to May 31, 1981, with Highlands Aviation, Inc., having the option of two five year renewal periods.

Local Student Dies Of Suspected Encephalitis

Charles Elder, 17, of Avon Park died Wednesday morning, Dec. 7, at 5:05 a.m., at a hospital in Gainesville. Charles who had been diagnosed as definitely having encephalitis by a team of six doctors, began suffering from the effects of the infection on Nov. 16. After being examined by local doctors, tests were run to verify the presence of encephalitis.

According to Highlands County Public Health Authorities, initial reports to them late Wednesday morning, from Gainesville ruled out St. Louis encephalitis as causing the death of Charles Elder. The exact cause of death will not be known until results of an autopsy have been studied.

Charles, who attended the Avon Park High School, was originally admitted to Walker Memorial Hospital in Avon Park, but was then transferred to Winter Haven General Hospital for further examinations. He was later moved to the University of Florida's Shane Teaching Hospital in Gainesville, where it was confirmed a definite encephalitis case.

Although Charles did not undergo brain surgery, fluids around his brain were drained in a preliminary test to find any traces of other diseases or injuries. Doctors had Charles under heavy sedations because of hard convulsions. The convulsions were less serious after the medication was administered, but Charles was unconscious due to the medicine.

Funeral arrangements have been made with Stephenson-Nelson-Smith Funeral Home in Avon Park. Charles is survived by his immediate family: Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Elder and a sister.

Encephalitis is a disease contracted from a mosquito bite. Only certain mosquitoes are able to carry the infectious disease. The mosquitoes transmit the disease by first biting an infected bird and then biting a human. The encephalitis season along with the mosquito season is generally during the summer months, but with the warm weather stretching in to Dec., this year, the mosquitoes are still out.

In an earlier Avon Park Sun article about an encephalitis case in Highlands County, it was written that the City of



Charles Elder

Avon Park has had the necessary spraying equipment, but was not using it because of complaints from citizens because of the unpleasant smell of the chemicals and the noise from the machinery. But according to Malcolm Crews, City Clerk of Avon Park, the city has not had functioning equipment for several years.

Crews stated that the equipment has been setting up, unrepaired for years. The truck used to transport the equipment throughout the city limits was sold. Crews said that the city council discussed the possibility of purchasing a new model of insect spraying machine in which no flammable chemicals are used. The council, however, declined to purchase the equipment because of its excessive cost.

The equipment, upkeep and operation would be too much for the city to handle. The new improved machinery is expensive, the maintenance and upkeep are also expensive, and the chemicals and time and a half overtime for workers is expensive.

Davis And Britt Returned Dennis Unseats Howard

First time candidate Henry Dennis edged out ten year councilman Milton Howard with incumbents, Mayor Marshall Davis and councilman Robert Britt, being returned to office by 1677 voters Tuesday, with 19 absentee ballots remaining to be counted Wednesday morning.

In precinct 1, (Winter Guest Club) with 811 voters, Howard took the lead with 394 voters, followed by Dennis with 387 voters, with Britt third having 358 votes. However the 866 voters in precinct 2, (County building on Lake Avenue), turned the tally around giving Britt 512 votes for a commanding lead of 870 votes to Dennis' 344 votes and totalling 730 votes to edge out Howard with 316 votes for a total of 710 votes.

Election watchers quickly calculated

that even if Howard were to take all 19 absentee ballots he would still be one shy of overtaking Dennis.

In the mayor's race, incumbent Marshall Davis easily won over challenger Jack Duggan with a 954 tally to 669 victory. Davis carried precinct 2 by over 200 votes.

Percentage wise of the 3167 registered voters in Avon Park, 53.22 percent (including absentee voters) took part in this city election. Precinct 2 had a 53.29 voter turnout as compared to precinct 1 with a 51.92 percent turnout. Absentee ballots accounted for 0.6 percent.

In the mayor's race over three percent of the voters did not vote while on the councilman ticket about 11 percent did not vote for one or two of the candidates.

Most of the candidates were at the Winter Guest Club to get a first hand account of the voting, however, Mayor Marshall Davis was at his usual job of selling tickets at the girls basketball game at the Avon Park High School gym. (see sports page for story of girl's victory).

After the congratulations and condolences were spoken, Councilman Robert Britt and councilman elect Henry Dennis informally pledged to work together and formally agreed. "We will serve the people of Avon Park to the best of our ability."

In commenting about the election victory of her husband, Frances Dennis said, she "figured that it would be a hard row to hoe, but she will be involved just as much as the job requires."



Mayor Marshall Davis



Robert Britt



Henry Dennis

Buddy McKenzie

Receives Distinguished Service Medal

At the annual Christmas party of Florida National Guard, Battery B, 2nd Bn 118th FA Battalion, former Sergeant First Class Vertle L. "Buddy" McKenzie was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the State's second highest medal for the performance of exceptionally meritorious service to the Florida National Guard.

The citation read in part: Sgt. 1C McKenzie distinguished himself by outstanding meritorious service to the

Florida National Guard while serving as Firing Battery Chief, Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 118th Field Artillery. His leadership and professional attitude during this period contributed significantly to the outstanding success enjoyed by his unit and numerous trophies, awards and citations awarded to the unit.

He has through his years of service given numerous hours of his personal time to prepare his unit for annual

training and assisting in community projects and recruiting and retention of members of the unit. He has carried his outstanding service to the Florida Guard into his retirement years and stands ready to assist the National Guard when called upon.

Buddy enlisted in the Florida National Guard when he was 16 years of age, with his parents consent, on June 28, 1964 and retired June 29, 1974 as chief of the firing Battery of six 105 millimeter howitzers,

working directly under the Battalion Executive Officer. He was also responsible for the fire direction computer center (FDC) and the ammunition.

The Distinguished Service Medal is the second highest award given in the state. Buddy is the first man in his unit to receive the award.

During the evenings' program the Battalion Commander Capt. Thomas K. Simmons had his railroad tracks

(Captain's bars) pinned on him by former Battalion Commander Major Carroll Lloyd.

The annual Battalion Christmas party was attended by approximately 200 guardsmen and their guests. The decoration of the National Guard Armory was completed by First Sergeant Jerry B. Childress ably assisted by guardsmen and their wives.

Following the dinner a variety of dance and show numbers were played for dancing by the "Main Street Band" of Arcadia. One of their members, drummer Jack Higgins, Sebring, received his promotion to Staff Sergeant during the evening program. Jack has about six years in the National Guard.

Hood Arrested After Fire In Home

In the early morning hours of Wednesday, Nov. 23 (2:37 a.m.) the Avon Park Fire Department responded to a fire call from the residence of Sue Hood at 601 North Lake Ave.

When firemen arrived they found that the fire had been extinguished by relatives. There was minor damage to an easy chair, carpet and window drapes in the north dining room area, along with some smoke damage.

According to Fire Chief Mack Flowers the possible cause of the fire was a short circuit in a radio that was on the chair.

Following the fire Mrs. Hood was placed under arrest for disorderly intoxication and taken to the Avon Park Police Station. She was released the next morning, according to Police Chief Bob Brooks, on her own recognizance in lieu of \$112 bond.

Collides With Deputy's Car

Many people have run-ins with the law, but few persons actually collide with it.

However that's what happened to David Prevatt, 324 W. Canfield St., Avon Park.

Prevatt's auto collided with a Highlands County sheriff's department patrol car, operated by Sgt. Colin Harnage, at the intersection of W. Main St. and N. Forest Ave. on Nov. 30.

Harnage said he was west bound on Main St. when the Prevatt car, also west bound collided with the cruiser. Damage was estimated at \$30 to the cruiser and \$200 to the Prevatt vehicle.

Prevatt was cited by Florida Highway Patrol Troopers for careless driving.



NELL MCKENZIE Proudly pins the Distinguished Service Medal jacket as he is congratulated National Guard Christmas by major Carroll Lloyd at the dinner at the Army.

Viewpoint/Commentary

Edward Carter, Publisher - Lewis Miller, Editor

AVON PARK SUN

2A The Avon Park Sun, Dec. 8, 1977

What Will The Winter Be Like?

COAL MINERS STRIKE! How will it affect the lives of people in Avon Park? If the temperatures stay as they are today (Monday) there will be no effect, stated Brock Lucas of the Florida Power Corporation. However, if the temperatures drop down similar to last winter's low temperatures, he predicted "dire effects," since it is unknown how long the coal miners strike will last.

But why should this affect Avon Park when there has been no serious power shortage in the past, especially with a generating plant literally at the city's back door?

The Crystal River generating plant was converted from oil to burning coal following the Carter administration suggestion for companies to change where possible. This coal burning plant is now down for routine maintenance, but when it starts generating power again it has only enough coal for several weeks operation.

At present Florida Power can purchase electrical energy from such suppliers as Tampa Electric, Florida Power and Light, Orlando, Tallahassee and from the southeastern power grid system in Alabama and Georgia.

southeastern power grid system are fueled by coal burning units. And what about the Florida Power nuclear generating plant? Lucas said at present it was operating at the high level of 90 percent of capacity. With "full out" production or all generating units on the line the nuclear plant produces about 25 percent of Florida Power's electrical energy, while normally it generates about one third of the required energy.

Then why don't electrical companies build more nuclear power plants? Lucas stated it took 10 years to build this plant at a cost of four times more than the original estimate. And it may be 10 more years before a major problem of nuclear generating plants is solved — that of the safe disposal of spent nuclear fuel.

In the meantime the company may have to spend up to \$10 million to build safe storage facilities for the spent fuel (plutonium). One suggestion that has been made is that the spent fuel be rocketed into the Sun where it would be consumed. But apparently the Environmental Pollution Agency doesn't allow that either.

In the meantime Brock Lucas is optimistic, as from the company's sources, he predicts a 60 percent chance of a milder winter this year. Some weather bureau predictions were for a 50 percent chance of a winter such as last year and 50 percent chance of a milder winter, temperature wise, this year. What do you base your prediction of this winter's weather on? We'd be interested to know.

VA Warns Students

Veterans Administration Regional Office Director, William R. Blackwell, today cautioned GI Bill students to look before they leap if they're considering dropping courses or seeking non-punitive grades for themselves.

Blackwell said that in certain circumstances the law now requires the agency to retroactively cancel assistance payments for courses dropped without a grade after a reasonable drop-add period.

This applies also in cases where a course is completed but the grade assigned is in effect, ignored by the school for graduation requirements — a so-called "non-punitive" grade.

"In other words," Blackwell said, "veterans dropping courses in such circumstances, or receiving a non-punitive grade could wind up in debt to the federal government."

He pointed out, however, that VA will not retroactively collect payments already made when the situation is in circumstances beyond the student's control.

The law, which went into effect last December, prohibits VA payment of educational benefits for any part of a course that is not used in computing graduation requirements.

Blackwell explained this could mean that many students will find themselves overpaid under the GI Bill for courses from which they withdrew and for courses in which the assigned grade does not count toward graduation.

Payments for such courses, he said, must be stopped as of the first day of a school term.

For example, if a student withdraws from a course on December 1, 1977, under

the conditions outlined, VA payments for that course will be terminated retroactively to the beginning of the school term unless mitigating circumstances are shown.

In the past, GI Bill payments for such a course would have continued to the end of the month of withdrawal.

"The safest course," the VA director said, "is not to drop a course or request a 'non-punitive' grade until you contact the school's veterans' affairs office and find out what effect the withdrawal or grade may have on your monthly VA check."

The agency also recommends that both students and school officials provide a brief statement concerning the circumstances of the withdrawal or "non-punitive" grade assignment when reporting such action to the VA.

Parents Should See Good

To whom it may concern: In reply to the concerned parents about the middle school incident.

Instead of blaming the principals and teachers for the isolated happening and things you don't like, you need to lay the blame where it belongs, on your legislators and elected officials who have legally tied the hands of school teachers.

Therefore we have no direct disciplinary control over the children.

If these parents are so concerned, let them come to the school and see the good we are doing even under adverse conditions.

A well meaning "thank you" goes a long way. I, too am a concerned parent as well as a teacher.

D. McDaniel



Our Reader's Opinions

Discipline Is A Problem

To Whom It May Concern:

Hats off to all concerned parents whom I wish could compensate for the many who seemingly are not. However, if any parents are equipped with skills or sensitivity by which they can perceive all misbehavior before it is committed, home, school or elsewhere, I'm certain that all principals teachers and other school personnel would delight in sharing such. This could very well be the solution to all of our discipline problems.

Again I'm sure that the principals and teachers are receptive to constructive criticism but I cannot conceive in anyway how verbal abuse which tends to reflect discredit upon an entire school

can serve any useful purpose to principals nor teachers, who in a sense are defenseless when it comes to discipline, due to unsurmountable restrictions imposed upon them by the state, county, schools and the very homes themselves. What teacher is going to disrupt his classes everytime a discipline problem arises to address a referral affidavit to the office which may sometimes take him through the third degree and chase the good pupils who are in a majority of precious time wasted on the problem children who constitute a minority? Truthfully, I have not arrived at an acceptable answer yet.

Calvin C. Gibbs

Chiles Taken To Task

Senator Lawton Chiles, Senate Office Building, Washington D. C.

Dear Senator Chiles:

Since you were not careful to voice your arguments to try to justify Jimmy Carter's give-away of our Canal Zone and canal in answer to questions, I shall likewise, be candid in giving you my opinion.

We, Floridians elected you to look after the best interest of our people. This you don't proposed to do. I believe your proposed actions along with the peanut dreamer will hasten our inevitability of war or destruction. You know as well as Jimmy Carter knows about 75 percent of the American population don't want to change our status at the Canal Zone one iota.

Jimmy Carter is a one-time president and indeed, may be the last one, because at the rate he is accommodating the communist world including the Russians, Chinese, Castroists and Panamanian communists and communist lovers, they may well have overwhelmed us before Carter's term has ended. If you don't know you ought to be finding out what the Russians are doing in Cuba, since Carter

lifted all surveillance of the Russians there.

Some senators whose time has a few years yet to run, may think they can follow Jimmy Carter down a primrose path South American way, and their journey will be buried in the sea of forgetfulness before their time comes for reelection.

The more the Russians move into Panama, the higher the anger of American patriots will get. Now this is not just a country boy's dream. I am giving you the thoughts, many of the bright minds in America are thinking. I have already read them in newspapers, magazines and periodicals from various parts of the country.

If President Carter only had the perception to see what is best for himself, the country and the senators he is drawing into a trap, he himself, would withdraw the Bunker Torrijos treaties and admit he has played the fool.

If he does and you go ahead and sign for them, you can be sure, when your term is ended, I don't want you to represent me any longer in the United States Senate and to know if I am alone in this decision, we wait for the Sincerely yours, C. B. Williams Sr.

Two Historic Events

Dear Editor:

Two great historical events took place, both in the month of November, 1977, which shook the whole world and turned the dark pages of history to light. These marvelous, strange, unexpected and unbelievable happenings are political and spiritual. The political one was the courageous visit of the honorable Anwar Sadat, the president of Egypt to Israel, the holy city of Jerusalem.

A hope for peace and joy for peace were created in the hearts of the weary, tired and confused people of the Middle East. Especially Egypt and Israel. The word peace rang so sweetly in the ears of those who were yearning for peace for many years.

I believe that the destiny of the nations and of individuals are in the hands of the Almighty God. It was the finger of God that moved President Sadat. We pray for that holy and mighty finger to lead him to the end for a meaningful just and successful peace for the all in the Middle East.

The second historical event, the spiritual one, was the miraculous conversion of the king of pornography and obscenity, the Hustler magazine publisher, 41 year old Larry Flynt, into the Christian faith, from infidelity to the genuine belief in God, from ungodliness to Godliness, from a sinful heart to a heart cleansed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ who shed his precious blood for all of us sinners.

Yes, there is joy in heaven among the angels of God for the conversion of Larry Flynt the sinner. "Likewise, I say unto you there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15:10.

All the children of God everywhere rejoice and sing praises unto God for Larry Flynt's repentance and finding the path of holiness and eternal life. His brilliant mind is surrendered to the service of the Lord and his kingdom. He is willing to lose, to turn down a \$20 million dollar business to save his soul and the souls of many who were misled through his filthy and lustful literature and magazine. "For what does he profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matthew 16:26.

At my friend, John Varner of Clarkston, Ga., said once, "I served the devil fifty years, but now I am determined, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to serve the Lord." (Thank God he is still serving the Lord, even in his old age). So Larry Flynt is determined by the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit, to serve the Lord while he is yet young, strong and able. God will make him a thousand fold blessings to the youth of America and the world our prayers and the prayers of all Christians will be with him all the way.

By, Bedros M. Sharian

Things Out My Way

By Alice Smith

We are a house divided. Not in many fields, thank heaven, nor where it really counts.

I'm a mystery novel buff of many years standing. Bill reads westerns. Both of us read heavier stuff for mental exercise. But we each have our own private stock of R&R's, rest and recreation, that is. Occasionally, my spouse crosses into my area, if I recommend a "who-done-it" with sufficient enthusiasm. I'm never strayed onto his range until recently.

I noted in passing, that he was reading a battered paperback, having trouble with falling pages, but concentrating deeply on the fine print. I said, "What are you reading?" and he said, "Would you believe 'The Virginian'?"

Whereupon, I struck a straddle posture, with hands on twin holsters and intoned, "When you call me that — smile!"

This is the sort of "cute" thing for which wives should get twenty lashes. Bill didn't even notice. I inquired as to whether the Virginian had actually said that oft-quoted phrase. He lifted an eyebrow and said "Do me a favor and read this. You'll be surprised." I did and I was.

Owen Wister published "The Virginian" in 1902, which is an oddity to begin with. Wister was an Eastern

gentleman, grandson of the great and legendary English actress, Fanny Kemble. He was an honor graduate at Harvard in music and returned to receive a law degree; became a practicing attorney in Philadelphia, but he spent his summers in Wyoming, camping and hunting.

"The Virginian" was a best seller for six years; over a million and a half copies were sold. It became a play, starring Dustin Farnum, which ran for ten years in New York and on the road. The movies filmed it three times and television produced a successful western series with the same title. Whatever became of James Dwyer? As I recall, he dead-panned his way through several seasons in the title role.

Aside from the famous line "When you call me that — smile!" the book has delicious humor, a truly beautiful story, and presents the terrible dilemma of a strongly moral man who must destroy his friend or sacrifice his deepest principles.

The Avon Park Library has a copy of "The Virginian" and it happens to be one that was illustrated by Frederic Remington, that great painter of the early western scene. His work hangs in fine museums all over the country.

Try this turn of the century novel if you haven't read it. It pays to prospect in fresh territory. Sometimes there's gold in them thar hills.

Nader's Reforms Are Expensive States Bafalis

WASHINGTON — Ralph Nader is making a name for himself as a consumer watchdog, but his reforms are expensive.

Nader's Public Citizens Congress Watch recently released its ratings for the first session of the 96th Congress — a session it labeled "disappointing."

The purpose of Nader's Congress Watch is lofty indeed to "facilitate concerned citizens in holding their elected public officials accountable."

But it works only if "concerned citizens" accept Nader's ideas on how the government should be conducted. And his ideas are costly — very costly.

One of the 40 votes on which the House of Representatives was rated was a vote on an amendment to limit the number of children eligible for participation in the federal summer food program.

A vote against the amendment was labeled a "pro-consumer vote." Yet Representative Albert Quie of Minnesota who offered it did so because of documented fraud in the conduct of the program.

And, his amendment wouldn't have kept the needy children from getting food. In fact, he just wanted to limit the number to 200 percent of each state's number of children from poverty level families. That is, if a state has 60,000 children from poverty level families, only 120,000 will be allowed to take part in the program.

According to Congress Watch, that was wrong — it was wrong to limit participation to even twice the number who really need it.

And yet, New York City investigation after investigation showed children getting free milk by the case and then selling it to friends or throwing cartons at passersby. Millions and millions of dollars was lost through fraud and abuse.

But Congress Watch says it's wrong to try and limit the program to just the needy.

Congress Watch also said it was wrong to require food stamp recipients to pay a little for their allotment. Last January's freeze and the disastrous results of the emergency food stamp program showed that giving food stamps

away increased dramatically the fraud and abuse.

If one can get \$100 worth of food stamps without putting up a penny, and then turn around and sell them on the street for \$50, a dishonest person might be tempted to try it. But, if the \$100 worth of stamps cost \$10 or \$15, the temptation isn't as great. We learned that in Florida.

But Ralph Nader says giving the states away and increasing the cost of the program is a pro-consumer vote. Just as he says turning Social Security into a welfare program would be a pro-consumer vote.

That's what would happen if you allow the Social Security Trust Fund to dip into general revenues to fund its deficits. It would no longer be a separate and distinct program, repaying Americans for the money paid into the system. It would be a welfare and a slap in the face of millions of Americans who have worked hard for years and paid into Social Security for their own retirement.

But Nader considers it pro-consumer. And so he is mad at Congress.

It's a good thing. It would cost hundreds of millions — perhaps even billions — to fund his ideas.

But then Ralph Nader is out to promote all the liberal giveaway programs by covering them with the flag of consumerism — a disguise he hopes will help intimidate the Congress into going along.

The Avon Park Sun welcomes readers' opinions on public issues. Letters must bear the writers' true name (signed in ink or pencil) but, if specifically requested name will be withheld, from publication in strict confidence of the Editor. The Avon Park Sun reserves the right to reject or shorten any letter. Normally, a letter may not exceed 500 words. Only original letters, written exclusively to The Avon Park Sun and dealing with only one subject, will be considered.

A WEARY HAWK defends his capture. Certain immunities protect this hawk from contracting diseases from pigeons.

PIGEONS AT SCHOOL attracted to the schools by the scraps of food accidentally dropped on the ground, by school children, carry many diseases and parasites which have been seen with some minor illnesses in children.

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Single Copy 5c



New Social Service Program At Walker Memorial Hospital

Walker Memorial Hospital has a newly organized Social Service program which has been operating since April of this year. Assisting individuals and maintaining the dignity of the patients is a primary concern of Walker Memorial Hospital. Therefore, as a concerned medical facility, Walker Memorial is providing this community service.

The objective of the Social Service program are to identify the need of the individual, assess the need, and provide social services for the patient of the Hospital, prior to, during, and after hospitalization.

Frequently, when a patient has been hospitalized, they will need further assistance after being discharged from the hospital. The Social Service Program serves as a liaison between the patient and the agencies within the community, in aiding the patient to return to the community.

The Social Service Program can refer a patient or patient's

family to a community agency when there is a need for follow-up health care, financial assistance, rehabilitation, or the treatment of long-standing emotional problems.

The program also aids in the discharge planning of patients who are not able to return to their home, such as patients who require further help in an extended care facility, nursing home, or boarding home.

The program also aids in the discharge planning of patients who are discharged to the home environment, but continue to necessitate medical equipment, wheelchairs, hospital beds, nursing services, sitters, or any other post-discharge care that may be needed by the patient or patient's family.

Successful discharge planning starts with early referral to the Social Service Program. If there is an anticipated hospitalization, and an indication that further medical care may be required after hospitalization, a

telephone call or visit may be made to the Social Service office at Walker Memorial Hospital prior to hospitalization.

Brenda Liles, 23, program

coordinator, wishes to thank the community agencies and church organizations for their extreme cooperation in helping these patients and their families.

WATCH YOUR FAVORITE TEAM

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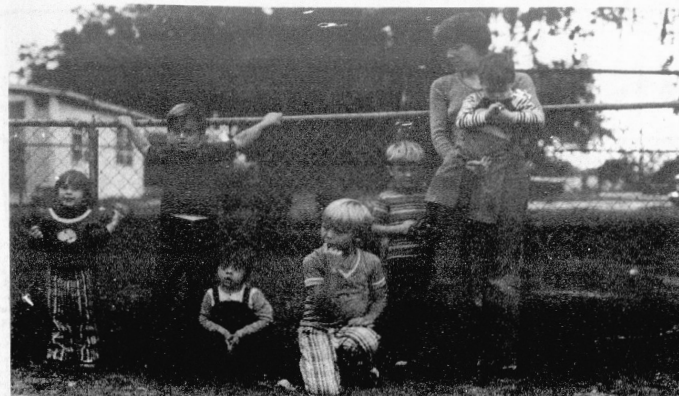
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EXCELLENT WINE !
CORDIAL SELECTION !
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BE SURE TO STOP IN AND ENJOY OUR GIANT
6' T.V. SCREEN IN THE LOUNGE.



they are hoping for newer. Morris, Jimmy Griffin, Milton, an aide, is holding Clay safer playground equipment. Sammy Wiggins, Joe Morris, Rogers. Sunphoto by Betty Picture L to R. Elizabeth Mark Dover, and Penny Amburn.

Development Training Program For County's Retarded Citizens

The Ridge Area Association for Retarded Citizens of Highlands County operates a developmental training program for exceptional preschoolers in Avon Park. This program has been in operation over ten years and is the only program in Highlands County that serves children, ages two to six years, with some sort of developmental delay. It is located at the east side of the Elementary School, at the corner of Charles and Byrd Streets.

This facility is a three room building and meets the indoor needs of the children well. However, the outdoor play facilities are not nearly as adequate as the classroom. Currently the children are transported to Donaldson Park or walk across to the Elementary School's playground. This poses a problem for those children who are physically handicapped, however.

Therefore, about a year ago, the advisory of the preschool acted on the deficit of a poor playground. They researched the topic of playgrounds and discovered some startling information. According to national statistics of emergency room accidents, 177,000 children's accidents reported per year are caused when playing on traditional playground equipment, such as slides, swings, merry-go-rounds, and seesaws.

When breaking down these statistics, it shows that Highlands County has the potential for fifty-three

accidents at playgrounds with traditional playground equipment, which will require emergency room care. Also, the need for this outdoor large muscle or gross motor activity is very essential for the children who will use the playground.

Their large muscle coordination must precede those activities requiring finger coordination of the smaller muscles. This new playground is necessary for the children's development as for their safety when at play.

Consequently, the advisory board sought out the safest playground as well as a playground design which would meet the children's needs. The committee, composed of Mike Metz (parent), Marilyn Barchell (former teacher), Lorraine Howard (public school teacher), David Springsteen (parent), Jack Morris (parent), and Beverly Minutt (parent), reviewed some research and visited some playgrounds already established. They found that Dr. Bowers of the South Florida University had designed a playground that was made specifically for children.

This playground at the United Methodist Play Learning Center in Tampa, there were no accidents in the first three years of its existence. It is a new type of playground made child-size to allow the child to crawl and walk and climb over constructed passage-ways, up

ladder-like rises, and through a maze. Being child-size also encourages children to play with their peers and not be involved with an adult to play. The playground is also assessable by crawling children who do not walk yet, and by children in wheelchairs.

After speaking with Dr. Bowers and visiting playgrounds, the committee designed their version of a special playground for the Ridge Area Preschool. Some of its features are a zigzag box, tube slide, crawl mound, a ground level playhouse, and a crawl way.

Now that the planning has been done, the actual construction can begin right outside the building of the preschool. Three members of the playground committee have a good knowledge of carpentry and have designed and decided on the materials to be used. However, getting the materials is much easier than constructing the playground, and is a big job for just the three carpenters.

In order to build it, the committee and children are relying on community support and help. The Ridge Area Preschool would like to help of people who have a knowledge of basic carpentry and construction to aid us in the supervision and the building of the playground. If you are retired and/or have time to help, it would be appreciated. Or, if you want to help, but would rather donate money or materials, the following is

needed for the playground:
¾ inch exterior plywood
2 x 4 x 8, treated
indoor outdoor carpet
plastic tubing
1½ inch sheets of aluminum
tubular slide
mud chugs
fencing

Ridge Area would like to begin work on this as soon as possible after the holidays. If you would like to be a part of this special project for the children, call them at 385-4298 for additional information. Also the preschool staff welcomes visitors at anytime. Come by and see their program in operation and also see the model of the playground.



We wish the following people celebrating their birthday's this week a big "Happy Birthday!"

December 8 - Peggy Wells, Linda Weber, Mrs. C. R. Wingfield, Steven Grice, Jerry McKenzie, Christine

December 10 - Kenny Kapt, David Johnson, Mrs. W. E. Willis, Harry Lyons.

December 11 - Tara Young, Trodie Myers.

December 12 - Johnny Starling, Jewell McClure, Stephen Anderson, Debbie Cushman.

December 13 - Mazelle Arnold, Danny Sims, Thomas Lance Marshall.

December 14 - Mrs. E. A. Martin, Sondra Smith, Randy Hudson.

December 15 - Mrs. C. F. King.

We wish the people celebrating their birthday the week of Dec. 1-Dec. 7, a belated "Happy Birthday!"

December 1 - Mary Elaine Ferguson, Kimberly Ann Manley, Mary Elaine Ferguson.

December 2 - Robbie Delaney, Marion Crichton, Ruby Yasko.

December 3 - Beverly Edmondson, Tim Dupree, Susan Gurtanus, Maurice Sims, Darrell Cloud, Roy Bennett II, Jack Batts, Braddon Ball, Billy Wilson, Jr.

December 5 - Jerry Copell, Florence Ellons, Sandy Cook, Rick Elam.

December 6 - Hal Wordan, Anita Bruton, Carrie Bill Wates, Mrs. G. D. Godwin, Patsy Butler.

December 7 - Irene Forest, Chet Brojek, James A. Heim, Frances Gurgonus, Jack Heiting, Mrs. Grady Campbell, Gary Proser.

December 4 - Sean Sharpe, Michele Jackson, Mrs. Roy Clara Bennett, Trumie Hayes, Willie E. Boatsright.

Ridge Pomona

Grange To

Meet Dec. 10

Ridge Pomona Grange will meet Saturday evening Dec. 10 at 8 o'clock in the Woman's Club hall, corner of Vernon and Pine. Members of Lake Placid Grange will be hosts.



Brenda Liles, 15 Walker Memorial Hospital's new social service program co-

Eckerd's Contest Nears End

It's going to be a very Merry Christmas for three lucky finalists who win the top grand prizes in Eckerd's \$500,000 Sweepstakes drawing on Dec. 17. Top prize in the drawing will be \$20,000; second prize \$10,000; and third prize \$2,500.

Meanwhile, with only seven days to go, the Sweepstakes sped into its last lap today. Thousands of dollars in prizes are still to be awarded before the contest ends Dec. 7, when all Sweepstakes tickets will have been distributed to Eckerd Drug Store shoppers in Florida.

Climax of the Sweepstakes will be the Dec. 17 grand prize drawing, in which more than 300 finalists will be entered. In addition to the three top prizes, seven \$100 prizes will be awarded at the drawing. All other finalists in the drawing will receive consolation prizes of \$10.

The public is invited to the drawing, at 10 a.m., in the Eckerd Drug Store, 2156 U.S. Hwy 19 So., Clearwater.

Since the Sweepstakes began Sept. 8, more than 70 contestants have won \$1,000 cash prizes, and more than 900 have won \$100 prizes. In addition, thousands of Eckerd shoppers have won \$5 and \$2 cash prizes and 12-exposure color film.

All adult shoppers receive Sweepstakes tickets when they visit Eckerd stores. No purchase is required.

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SINCE 1951

People / Events

By Betty Amburn

4A The Avon Park Sun, Dec. 8, 1977

Joseph P. Bagwell III Weds Wanda E. Perry

Miss Wanda E. Perry, of Rock Hill and Charlotte, S.C. and Joseph Pinckney Bagwell, III, of Charlotte, S.C. were united in marriage, at Oakland Baptist Church in Rock Hill. The Reverend Henry Finch



Mrs. Joseph Bagwell III

officiated the double-ring ceremony.

Large arrangements of chrysanthemums and gladioli's, Peace roses and yellow pompon mums were used in the Baptistry. Nine-branched brass candelabra decorated with smilax and green plants at the base, and flanked by green plants, completed the altar arrangements. Large jade plants graced each of the entrance doors.

Clinton Flowers, organist, and Mrs. Joyce Prater, vocalist provided the wedding music. Selections used were "All For You," "Walk Hand in Hand," and "The Greatest of These is Love."

Given in marriage by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J.

Victorian yoke highlighted with simulated Brussels lace. The full sheer sleeves embossed with Cluny lace and appliques of Venice lace, were gathered into a fitted cuff. The full flowing skirt adorned with Rose of Cluny lace and small Venice lace florets extended to a bordered walking-length veil of candlelight illusion attached to a modified Juliet cap. The silk-fabric cap was gathered in the back to give a flower effect, each being centered with small seeded pearls. She carried a cascade bouquet of feathered Starburst mums, white roses, and baby's breath.

The bride's sister, Mrs. John King Boykin, of Dalton, Ga., was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Sylvia

Helm, Candy Jendler, and Carol King, all of Charlotte, S.C.; Linda Brock, of Columbia, S.C. and Lisa Bagwell, of Fort Mill, S.C. The flower girls were Jennifer Bagwell and Lynn Boykin.

The bride's attendants wore gowns of elegant perisperm Quiana, fashioned in one-shoulder style. The off-shoulder bodice featured a long chiffon ruffle which extended to the waistline. They each carried a single long stemmed peach colored chrysanthemum tied with perisperm ribbon steamers.

The flower girls wore long dresses of apricot more chiffon. The bodice featured a high neckline of candlelight - Venice lace and long sheer sleeves decorated at the cuffs with matching lace. The skirts were enhanced with a satin bow at the waist, and a large flounced bottom.

J. P. Bagwell, of Fort Mill, stood as best man, and the groomsmen were Scott Bagwell, of Columbia; Bartlett Buie, of Myrtle Beach; Stephen Bagwell, Jimmy Perry, and Mike Bagwell, of Rock Hill.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held, with Mr. and Mrs. Vasco Yonce receiving guests at the door. The long table was overlaid with an organdy cloth, with overlays of lace draped at the sides and marked with wedding bells, doves, and bows in the wedding colors. Twin arrangements of Sonia roses, yellow chrysanthemums, yellow and butterscotch mums were flanked by silver candelabra adorned with floral sprays.

The buffet table was laid with organdy and lace overlays which were draped at the sides and marked with perisperm color bows. The bridegroom's table was marked with an old-fashioned carriage and the traditional bridegroom. Twin candelabra were used also on the cake table.

The couple left the reception for a wedding trip to Sea Island, Ga. They will make their home in Charlotte, S.C. For traveling, Mrs. Bagwell chose an off-white suit with a shellpink blouse.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Perry, of Rock Hill, S.C. and the granddaughter of Mrs. J. M. O'Hern, of Avon Park.

"The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Bagwell, Jr., of Fort Mill, S.C."

Avon Park Grange To Meet Dec. 13

Avon Park Grange will meet Tuesday evening Dec. 13 at 8 o'clock at the Woman's Club hall. There will be a program of Christmas music, also impressions of National Grange by Mr. and Mrs. Leston Goodrich, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Wyant, who spent several days at the annual session in Greensboro, North Carolina on their trip to Florida in November.

Members are requested to bring a cuddly toy for the Christmas Cheer project. There will be refreshments following the meeting.



Mr. and Mrs. David Roberts

Vittoria-Roberts United In Double Ring Ceremony

Mrs. Mollie Vittoria announces the marriage of her daughter Brenda Leigh, to David Allyn Roberts on Saturday November 5, in Wauchula.

The wedding was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Cowart, grandparents of the bridegroom. Rev. Jerry Harper, Pastor of Lake Dale Baptist Church, officiated in the double ring ceremony. Witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. Hayward Batts.

The bride is the daughter of

Mrs. Mollie Vittoria of Plant City and the late Fred Eugene Vittoria. She graduated from Plant City High School 1977, and was attending Hillsborough Community Jr. College.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Walton of Avon Park. He graduated from Avon Park High School 1973 and is employed by United Telephone Company of Florida.

The newly weds are living in Avon Park.

Highlands County Credit Women International Meet Dec. 12, 1977

Monday, December 12, 1977

A regular meeting of the Highlands County Credit Women International will be held at Howard Johnson's in Sebring, Florida at 7:30 p.m.

Bob Bargar, Executive Vice President of the Avon Citrus Bank will be bringing us Ira Hayes, Vice President of the NCR Corporation, whose topic will be "Keeping Pace with Tomorrow". Ira Hayes started his career as a street cash register salesman with NCR and will share his techniques in progressing to his present status. You will find this program top best

entertaining as well as educational and I urge anyone in the area of credit to attend.

Please note that though the name has not been changed, the by-laws of CWI have been changed to read credit persons rather than credit women exclusively. The primary purpose of CWI is to educate its members in the area of credit and keep them abreast of the ever changing laws in credit.

Please encourage your employees to come to this meeting and all guests will be welcome.



Jane Eberle

Couple Announces Engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Eberle, of Avon Park are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jane Ellen, to Roger Brent Carnes, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Carnes, of Sebring.

Miss Eberle is a 1975 graduate of Avon Park High School, and is currently employed as an associate of the J. C. Penney Co.

Roger is a 1971 graduate of Sebring High School and is currently employed at the Dale Thomas Land Surveying Co.

A Feb. 11, 1978 wedding is being planned and is to be held at the New Hope Baptist Church in Wauchula, at 7 p.m. Rev. Travis Hudson is scheduled to perform the ceremony.

Mr. And Mrs. Clarence Keppler Celebrate Sixtieth Anniversary

Saturday, December 3, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence B. Keppler of Avon Park celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Christensen on Poinsetta Street near Lake Lillian.

Genevieve Keppler chose a navy blue double knit knee length dress with full length sleeves trimmed in Navy blue lace. The high neckline was a lovely lavender orchid corsage. Mr. Keppler wore a navy blue suit with a small orchid boutonniere.

The celebration was sponsored by their children - Dr. and Mrs. Burton Keppler of Kingsport, Tennessee and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Martin of Avon Park. Grace Larsen, wife of Dr. C. J. Larsen, presided at the white guest book where more than eighty guests signed their names with the beautiful white feathered quill pen.

A white chintilly lace cloth draped the serving table which was centered by a three-tiered wedding cake iced in white and decorated with yellow and white roses. The four pillars holding the second tier were decorated with cupids and crowning the top tier were the original bride and groom dolls dating back to the wedding 60 years ago.

Serving punch from a crystal punch bowl was Olive Peterson, and assisting with the serving of the other refreshments were Beulah Christensen, Helen Richardson, Rosemary Clark and Caroline Martin. The assorted crystal and gold three-tiered serving dishes held various nuts, mints, crackers and olives.

A formal bouquet of yellow mums and white gladioli's graced one corner of the dining room, and in the center background was a large round golden ornament labeled "60th" and documenting the exact date-December 30, 1917 when the wedding took place in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mrs. Keppler met her husband originally at



Mr. and Mrs. Clarence B. Keppler

Emmanuel Missionary College, Berrien Springs, Michigan, now known as Andrews University. He was one of her violin students, and they both played in the college orchestra. Mrs. Keppler played two violin solos at the open house Saturday night - "Love Song" by Sammartini and "Nachtstuck" by Schumann, accompanied by her granddaughter Marga Kerr at the piano.

The Kepplers moved to Vero Beach, from Milwaukee, Wis. forty years ago. They have lived in Avon Park for the past eight years, where they are

members of the Walker Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church, and also of the Senior Citizens Club of which they were directors for two years. Mr. Keppler is a former baker and chef and has taught several cake-decorating classes in the area.

Among the out of town guests attending the affair were Dr. and Mrs. C. Burton Keppler and their two children, Karen and Benjie of Kingsport, Tenn., Dr. and Mrs. Elton R. Kerr, Randy and Ruthie Kerr, of Jacksonville, Douglas and Gay McAfee Martin of Orlando, formerly of Avon Park.



Cradle Roll

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kent Reed, Sr., of Avon Park, announce the birth of a daughter, Laura Annetta, born Nov. 29, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 5 lbs. 9 1/2 oz.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Westbrook Hodges, of Frostproof, announce the birth of a son, Scott James, born Nov. 29, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 lbs. 9 oz.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fredrick Richter, of Wauchula, announce the birth of a son, Daniel Moss, born Nov. 26, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 5 lbs. 14 oz.

Dr. and Mrs. Albert Joseph Bajohr, Jr., of Sebring, announce the birth of a son, Aaron Joseph, born Nov. 25, at Walker Memorial Hospital weighing 8 lbs. 8 oz.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin August Brooks, of Sebring, announce the birth of a son, Aaron Joseph, born Nov. 25, at Walker Memorial Hospital weighing 8 lbs. 1/2 oz. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Lamont Allen of Wauchula, announce the birth of a daughter, Kristen Eileen, born Dec. 1, at Walker Memorial Hospital, weighing 6 lbs. 12 1/2 oz.

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