

	Max.	Min.	Rain
April 10	81	50	
April 11	83	58	
April 12	85	63	
April 13	90	65	
April 14	91	64	
April 15	89	65	.80
April 16	89	62	.02

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AVON PARK SUN

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GETTING A HEAD START on BCAP Week (Beautify-Clean-up Avon Park Week), are Keith Debo and Ralph Fulmer (standing, from left), members of the Avon Park Grange, who have just been appointed to the

Park Committee by the city. Lending a helping hand are Ricky Lee, John Marsh and Mike Burt (from left). BCAP WEEK is April 22 through April 27. Photo by Sharpe

County Will Operate Avon Park's Landfill

"Will the county take over operation of the Avon Park landfill and how soon can it start?"

With that opening by Melvin Crews it seemed hard to resist, so Thursday night the Highlands County Commission agreed to assume the task. It was the grand finale to an

ecological evening.

Crews then asked if the county contemplated taking over the land along with the operation. He wanted affirmation that if the landfill is closed down, the land will revert to the city.

He was assured the land would belong to Avon Park in

case of either a county-wide fill or a possible recycling plant. "Actually," said Wilkinson, "we didn't want to be fined \$5,000 for state pollution violations."

Concluded Crews, "Now you probably want us to decide whether to accept your offer and the answer is yes."

County Hospital \$160,000 Short In Construction Funds

The Highlands General Hospital Board, already faced with the problem of finding a new administrator, found out at Thursday's special meeting that they are \$160,000 short in construction and furnishing funds for the new wing, and \$300,000 of \$624,000 accounts receivable may not be collectible.

Questioning of why the deficit exists and solutions to the problem ran rampant.

A tentative answer came even before the question, as Chairman Hazel Scarborough announced that the board recommends an increase in the hospital's debt ceiling from \$450,000 to \$750,000 to cover unanticipated additional costs of construction.

A meeting has been set up between the board and Senator Tom Gallen on May 4 in the courthouse, to apply for the special legislation necessary to allow the increase.

Realtor Guy "Lucky" Campbell, representing the

Highlands County Property Owners Association, stated that he was not there to judge, but to report back to the Association on where the hospital stands today and how it got there "in fact and circumstance."

Mrs. Scarborough answered, "We feel we got rid of our main problem," referring to the recent dismissal of Hospital Administrator T. S. Yeager. She then asked acting administrator Marcy Clements to comment on the rising cost of construction.

"Building costs have been rising at a one and one-half percent per month rate," said Clements, "and that's part of the reason why we're \$100,000 short."

Board secretary Charles Schumacher from Sebring corroborated by stating that the 1973-74 budget also was based on erroneous figures.

"I find it hard to understand how an informed governing body, with regular audits, could award a contract and not

estimate costs accurately," said Campbell.

Schumacher explained that

the board went along with payment of current expenditures from savings funds

expecting that Medicare adjustments would replenish the funds. "We were told at one time that Medicare would pay back \$85,000 into the hospital's cash flow," but Schumacher said, "somehow the figure dropped to \$36,000. As it turned out, we ended up owing \$9,000."

He went on to explain that almost 60 percent of the hospital's patients were affected by Medicare payments, which pay only costs and often not the full cost the hospital incurs in the treatment of these patients.

Scarborough added that the board was strictly a policy-making body "and no better than the administrator," she said.

Newly installed board member Wayne Taylor said hospital charges are strictly regulated by Phase Four regulations, whereas expenditures have been rising by 16 percent per year.

The main factor contributing to the hospital's cash flow problem came out when Comptroller Juan Sanchez stated that, although accounts receivable was \$600,000 last month, almost \$300,000 of that was uncollectible. "When I came to the hospital a year ago the accounts receivable was \$500,000. Approximately 35 percent were over 120 days old at that time and some were as much as two years old."

Ron Wilson, WJCM newsmen, asked what methods were taken in order to recover

Continued On P. 3

April 22-27 Designated City Beautification Week

The week of April 22 through 27 has been officially designated as BCAP Week, (Beautify-Clean-up Avon Park Week). Upon prompting of the

Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Marshall Davis signed a proclamation Monday declaring next week a time to beautify and clean up around

the city. The City Park Committee strongly urges every citizen to make an effort to beautify and clean up in and around his property not only during this week but also afterwards.

Members of the Park Committee are Keith Debo, Ralph Fulmer, Mildred Head, Anna Belle Worden, J. Marshall Davis and Wendell Williams. Barbara Klueber, Mrs. J. F. Wagner and Franklin Ward all work in an advisory capacity with the Park Committee.

Mrs. Head, who is also the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee, is contacting the various garden clubs in an effort to get their sponsorship of a garden-of-the-month judging and awarding system.

"No one actually saw them doing it," the commission spokesman said. "But the local people are on the alert out there now."

The commission has asked that anyone who should see such an activity to report it immediately.

There have been no arrests made in connection with the case.

Fish Kill Reported In Lake Near Avon Park

Quite a large fish kill in Lake Horton last week is thought to have been caused by careless citrus workers filling a spray tank from the lake, according to a spokesman for the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Several pesticide cans, including Delnav 8-6 and A-tropex, were found near the lake along with evidence that a truck had obtained water from the lake. These two pesticides are highly toxic to fish, the spokesman said.

The pesticide was either spilled directly into the lake or the rain last week washed what had been spilled on the ground into the lake.

A local wildlife officer who investigated the incident said that he spotted approximately 30 dead fish in the lake.

Florida Power Granted Rate Increase

Florida Power Corporation has received approval from the Florida Public Service Commission for a 5.7 per cent interim rate increase, it was announced today by C. W. McKee Jr., vice president, finance and control. The commission's order (No. 6094) was issued April 5, 1974, and the new rates will be effective for all meter readings on and after April 10, 1974.

The commission made some adjustments in the request which established the percentage increase at 5.72 per cent and will result in annual



ANNA BELLE WORDEN (standing far right), executive manager of Avon Park Chamber of Commerce, explains the functions of a Chamber of Commerce in every community to members of Webelos Den 2 of Pack 156, when they made a visit to the Chamber recently. Leaders of the Scouts are Barbara Henly and Betty Johnston. (from left, background) Scouts standing back row, from left, Eddie Loyd, Phil Cribb, Jeff Henly

and Decaris Jones. Front row, from left, Jody Johnston, Todd Bennett, John Hood, Ben Johnston and Steve Allen. Mrs. Worden gave the Scouts brochures of the City of Avon Park and a booklet on Highlands County, plus a list of the Chamber activities. She also told the Scouts if they were in a strange city and needed assistance in any way, to contact the local Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Sharpe

Board To Seek Bids For Rest Rooms At Hopewell

Progress was made on Highlands County school construction at Thursday's meeting of the school board. Architect James Heim is beating the drainage problem and will submit final plans of a new administration building at the May meeting. Amount will be contacted for further information on relocatable classrooms, and tentative approval was given Heim to request bids for restrooms at Hopewell School in Avon Park.

The issue of the Carver School property in Lake Placid is still undecided.

The board accepted Superintendent George Douglass' recommendation regarding the 1974-75 school calendar. I sets forth that school will begin the day after Labor Day, Christmas vacation will extend from Dec. 21-Jan. 5. Spring vacation will be the entire week of Easter. June 9 is the last day of school. June 13 is the last day for teachers. Tentative dates for the summer program were set: June 24-July 25. To receive

state funding for the academic portion, credits must be entered on each child's academic record.

A committee comprised of elementary principals and Supervisor Ferrell Smith drew up a request for state funding in academics. In reading the request, chairman Henry Bailey called it "A masterpiece of double-talk."

In other action, Bus No. 19 was cashed out of service temporarily until it undergoes surgery.

Permission was granted to seek bids on education supplies. The committee in charge is made up of Garland Boggs, Glenn Odham, Ralph Genito, Joe Franz, Mrs. Conrad and J. Frank Ward.

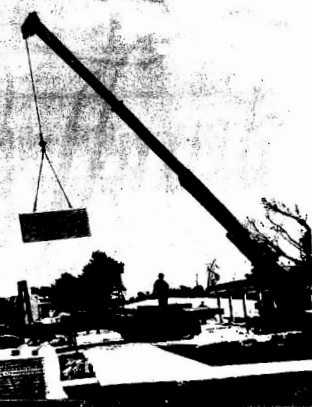
The board will rent the Educational Building at Firemen's Field at \$75 a month for six months. The structure will be used for storage by the schools. Members approved the Title II program, which will upgrade books and audio-visual materials in all county schools. Price tag is \$10,076.

Lions Barbeque Set For Saturday

The last Lions chicken barbecue of the season is set for this Saturday, the 20th. It is to be held at the Lions Den on W. Bell Street from shortly before noon until 6:30 or so in the evening. The price remains unchanged at \$2 for one-half a barbecued chicken, baked beans, applesauce, honey and egg rolls and coffee or tea.

Tickets may be obtained from any member. Lions Albritton's Barber Shop on S. Lake, Stinson's Service Station and Ianes TV Sales and Service on W. Main. They may also be purchased at the door. Carry out plates will be provided for you who prefer to take your service home or back to the job.

Don't miss this final chance to once more enjoy the yum, yummy Lions barbecued chicken.



THE UNLOADING AND PLACING OF outside wall panels for the Home Economics and Health Occupations building at South Florida Junior College moves along under the direction of Johnny Walker (center), construction supervisor. From a central location, the fully extended 161-foot boom placed the 4 x 9' panels, weighing one ton each, around the building where right angle brackets are bolted to the panels and welded to steel floor plates and roof tie plates. (Photo - Miller)

Station Operator, Board In Row Over Mobile Home

Highlands County commissioners refused to tune in Charles Esposto's request for a legal definition of when "a mobile home is no longer a mobile home and not needing a tag."

Esposito (better known as Chuck Shane) operator of a radio station in Avon Park, complained to the commission

at its April 16 meeting that county employees are "harassing" him because he has refused to purchase the \$1 RPT tag. This tag identifies a mobile home as "real property," on the tax rolls of the county tax assessor.

Shane said he has a tag for the mobile home he lives in, but he had refused to purchase a tag for a shell he uses for equipment storage.

He said he had paid taxes on it, as personal property, since 1968.

County Zoning Director Bill Stephenson said, "It is \$1 for the RPT tag this one time and that's all there is to it. Then next year, the county men will see the black and white tag and know the mobile home is on the tax roll another way."

County Attorney H. P. Danty Jr., objected to Shane's terminology.

"I don't think your term 'harassment' is fair. We are just trying to get everybody on the tax roll where they belong."

Shane said that after he had twice refused to purchase the RPT tag he was left a citation saying he was subject to a fine of \$500 and a jail sentence if he did not comply with the tag law.

By present law all mobile homes, regardless of use, must have either a RPT tag or a RV (recreational vehicle) tag. After the RPT tag is purchased, the property is thereafter taxed as real estate while the TV tag is purchased annually from the motor vehicle tag agency.

At Tuesday's meeting Shane did not indicate whether he would continue his fight to have his storage shed exempt from the RPT rule.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE members and dignitaries recently inspected the Avon Park Recreational Center. Shown here trying out some of the games in one of the playrooms are, from left, Steve Roberts, Morris Adams III, chamber directors; Mayor and Mrs.

Marshall Davis, county commissioner and Mrs. Kelly Phillips, John F. McClellan, Walker Memorial Hospital administrator; and Dennis Guenther, city recreational director. Photo by Sharpe

Continued



The views expressed on this page except under the heading of Editorial, are those of the writers expressing them and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Avon Park Sun or its staff.

Editorials

Two Lessons

America is just now coming out of a severe gasoline shortage.

The lines at the service stations have disappeared. The restrictions on the hours the stations may sell gas have been lifted, and you can get enough gas to go about anywhere you want to in the United States.

The one big change in the picture is that fuel costs more now and there are indications that the price will rise still higher in the future.

We never did get down to the ultimate desperation of gas rationing, with coupons and all its ills, but we did fumble through a period of fuel allocation which is a cousin to rationing. Allocations were handled with the usual governmental boo-boos and are now finally being raised to sensible levels, only because more fuel is available.

The real individual who saved the day, however, was the patriotic American who formed car pools, used public transportation, cut out much of his pleasure driving, and cut down on the use of fuel and electricity in his home and office.

The government introduced daylight saving time on a national basis, which didn't save enough fuel to help any, and set the speed limit at 55 miles per hour.

Cutting back the speed limit caused hardship to truckers but it did save some gas and it did save lives and cut down on accidents.

At the same time the American people were struggling with the gas shortage, they also had to fight a food shortage. To meet this problem they changed their eating habits and began to raise their own food.

With these examples fresh in our minds, the big question is whether the American people learned that we cannot sustain our standard of living if we keep on wasting our natural resources. And, have we learned that governmental controls can never take the place of good common sense exercised by the citizens of the United States?

We sincerely hope we have learned these two lessons so well that our economy will be given a chance to return to the healthy normal operation of the free enterprise system.

Gardening In Florida



Have you ever wondered how you as an individual can fight pollution in your leisure time?

By growing a fine lawn, beautiful shrubs and trees you can fight many types of pollution and have fun doing it.

A healthy lawn reportedly produces enough oxygen during the day to support an adult human being. This same lawn reduces glare and heat, reduces dust, prevents erosion and provides a beautiful background which accentuates your home and ornaments.

Plants absorb and thus immobilize large quantities of nutrients and some pesticides and, therefore, reduce soil and water pollution by such materials. In urban areas and the asphalt shopping centers, plants can be used for shading and greatly lower temperatures—reducing thermal pollution.

Ornamental horticulture industries have reduced pollution by using waste or by-products to enhance plant growth. Numerous organic wastes are used as fertilizers, soil amendments and mulches. Several chemical by-products can be used to improve plant nutrition. Fiber products from paper industries have found use as media for plant propagation and as mulches which also control weeds. Manures are used for fer-

tilizers and soil amendments for nursery stock. Also, the nursery industry in Florida is no doubt the largest user of waste from restaurants and provides a large outlet for used oil cans.

Ornamental horticulturists and the ornamental industry have been for many years and will certainly continue to be vitally interested in stopping all types of pollution. Horticulturists, including you as a home gardener, should continuously strive to improve environmental quality by the use of plants. These plants are your lawns, flower gardens, parks, roadsides, recreation areas and golf courses.

Our objective should be to enhance the beauty and pleasure people find in their jobs and leisure time while at the same time improve the utilitarian value of our land. This objective will inherently deter the deterioration of our environment, increase beauty and pleasure for man and generally enhance our total environment.

Viewpoint/Feature

Letters From Our Readers

Honest Man Finds Keys

To the Editor:

I had such a wonderful experience Sunday night I would like to share it with your readers.

On arriving home from church I found I had lost my keys. I had stopped at the post office on the way to church so went back there to look but could not find them. As I was on the way home I had a strong impression to stop at the police station.

A nice young lady was on duty. As I was in

the middle of a sentence which would have been completed as follows: "Does anyone ever turn in lost articles to you?" . . . I saw the whistle on my key ring sticking out from under a piece of paper on the desk. She said a man had turned them in.

Somewhere in Avon Park or vicinity is a nice, honest man who goes out of his way to be helpful to others. I am very grateful to him.

Mrs. H. L. McCully

Special Section Disappointing

To the Editor:

I have been a loyal reader of the Avon Park Sun for 40 years. After reading the special home building supplement in the March 28 issue, I am writing my first letter to the paper. I wonder why you bothered to send this supplement to your Avon Park readers. Anyone reading it could deduce that Avon Park has no high school, no golf courses, no realtors, builders, banks, furniture stores, zoning, sewers, shopping centers or attractive homes.

Forty-one articles in this supplement were about selling and none about Avon Park. Eleven pictures related to selling and none to Avon Park. Lake Placid and Spring Lake received considerable mention, too. Three articles were about South Florida Junior College, with no mention being made that it

is located in Avon Park. There was a fine article about two of our leading citizens, Mr. and Mrs. G. Franklyn Ward, without even a hint they resided in Avon Park. I like Sebring and Little Lake Placid, and I am glad that their growth has been greater than ours. I hope our growth in Avon Park will be attractive and in line with what our resources can handle, but there is nothing in these articles to indicate that we have had any growth whatsoever. In fact, I think sending out this supplement with the Avon Park Sun was an insult to the advertisers, subscribers, and readers of the Avon Park Sun. Perhaps this is what happens when a small town newspaper is no longer locally owned and printed.

Barbara B. Kiburg
Avon Park

Know Your Hospital

By John McClellan

As a hospital administrator I have quite a few people coming and going through my office. Some of them come in to transact business, some are seeking employment, some with complaints and some to express appreciation for what we are trying to do here.

Recently a patient returned to the hospital a few days after being discharged and wanted to talk to me. I wondered when she came in what complaint she might have. She started out by saying that she liked the location of our place—quiet and peaceful here by Lake Lillian. She appreciated the new building which is such a contrast to the old one that she stayed in when she was a patient several years ago. She appreciated the new equipment, the food, the cleanliness and the service. What seemed to impress her most was the spirit and the concerned atmosphere of the employees. She repeated that there was something different about the "spirit of living service" of so many of the workers.

We are glad that this spirit is recognizable, if it were not, we might as well close up for unless a church related hospital has something distinctive to offer, it has no reason for existence.

We feel that our chaplaincy program makes a contribution here.

Man is more than flesh and blood. When patients come in often they are frightened, ill at ease or upset. Questions arise such as, "Who am I or what might happen to me?"

"In what do I really put my trust?" In a hospital people often think of their nature and their relationship to something beyond themselves—the reality of more than bone, muscle and tissue and that man doesn't live by pills, injections and the surgeon's knife alone. It is in a situation like this we recognize the importance of treating the whole person rather than just fragmented parts. Health is more than a relationship between a doctor and his patient. It involves Christian theology in a very real way because mental attitudes and basic beliefs have a vital relationship to health. Therefore, it is well known that the effective practice of medicine cannot ignore man's emotional or spiritual problems.

Terminally ill patients and their relatives particularly need more than "medicines or injections." Our Chaplain is frequently seen in the hospital during the night, perhaps sitting with a loved one, by the bedside of a terminally ill patient.

The Chaplain endeavors to keep in touch with the ministers of the community, letting them know that one of their parishioners is hospitalized or has taken a turn for the worse. In the event of death, if the doctor doesn't particularly care to do so, the Chaplain usually notifies the family, sometimes going to the home.

Nearly every department in our hospital, not mandatory but encouraged, begins the day with a short devotional service. On Monday at 8 a.m. there is a combined meeting in the cafeteria of the employees from all departments.

Emergency room calls, death calls and special counseling of both employees and patients are all in the program. This service, we feel, is a benefit both to patients and employees.

I would like to express appreciation to each minister of the community. Their cooperation, visits and contribution to the hospital will be of our patients is greatly appreciated.

National Library Week



National Library Week is to be observed this year April 21-27. The purpose of the week is to encourage all people to read more and make greater use of their libraries.

In the United States, the President, members of Congress and other major elected officials may debate legislative action and national policy. But it is the people who have the last word in deciding the ultimate course that the nation is to follow, and only an informed public can choose wisely. All indications are that the American people are doing their homework. Twenty-two thousand new books were published last year, along with some 8,000 newspapers and thousands of other publications. The local newspaper is still the major source of day-to-day information, and the library is the reference point in every community where people go to learn or read for pleasure. The library is the symbol and the citadel of knowledge and an informed public. In America, this is the key to freedom itself.



Food for Thought

By Jane Nickerson



The arrival in Florida this month of Cesar Chavez, the farm labor leader, was being discussed at one table as I entered the Acapulco Cafe one recent morning just before 9 a.m. Two chicanos, breakfasting on tortillas, scrambled eggs and sausage (made on the premises, I found later), were wondering whether Chavez would pass through Zolfo Springs.

That's the hamlet in Hardee County, where they told me they lived and where on U.S. Route 17, near the post office, Gregorio Trevino opened his Acapulco Cafe five years ago. It's a working man's restaurant, 10 tables, 40 chairs and no trimmings, serving chicken mole, guacamole, enchiladas and tacos to the Mexican Americans who have settled in the vicinity. About 20,000 now live in Florida.

In Hardee County, where citrus fruits and cucumbers are a leading source of income, many work in agriculture. Like Trevino and his wife, Rita, and their five children, the majority were born in Texas, not Mexico, but their lifestyle is Mexican. "We serve barbecue and fried chicken sometimes," Trevino told me, "but most of our customers want Mexican cooking."

A few miles north of Zolfo Springs at Bowling Green, still on Route 17, the Herrera brothers, six of them, also Texas born, stone-grind white corn in a bare little plant and make it into the flat, round patties, the tortillas, that provide Mexicans with their staff of life. Stone is slower to heat than metal, and so is advantageous, because heat damages the flavor of the corn, I was told. "The difference between a fresh tortilla and a canned one?" John Herrera, one of the brothers, echoed the question I had put to him. "It's like the difference between anything canned and the same thing fresh. The fresh is better, don't you agree?"

John and Manuel, another brother, showed me how they package the tortillas in plastic bags. They sell them under refrigeration (for the tortillas are perishable) to markets and a few restaurants in an area that reaches from Homestead to Dade City. "That's where most of our trade lives," John explained.

In the kitchen of the Acapulco Cafe, Rita, who does all the cooking, prepared some of the Herrera tortillas to indicate their versatility. For tacos, she immersed a tortilla briefly in hot, deep fat, folding it with a fork into a crescent. When it had become crisp, she removed and filled it with a highly seasoned, chopped meat.

For enchiladas, Rita dipped the tortilla in and out of the fat, to heat and make it pliable, then rolled it around another ground-meat mixture. At home, experimenting with both fresh and canned tortillas, I concluded they were as versatile as French crepes, taking to numberless meat, poultry and even creamed-vegetable fillings.

But I had gone to the cafe to find out how Rita made chicken mole, which a friend had told me was the best she had eaten outside

Mexico. Rosa Zamora, one of Rita's daughters, explained that there was more than one mole sauce and that it was used not only for chicken but also turkey.

It took Rita no more than 10 minutes, if that long, to prepare the sauce out of bread, chili powder, other seasonings and water. She added previously cooked chicken to it, letting it simmer in the sauce just until it was hot. She served it with rice cooked the Mexican way.

At home I found Rita's sauce had more than a use with chicken. Kept on hand in the refrigerator, it was effective in enlivening hamburgers, spaghetti sauce, white beans and a meat gravy. It's hotter than—well, the comparison is obvious. So I am giving the recipe with two sets of proportions. In measuring the seasonings, use the smaller amount if your tastes are American, the larger if you are accustomed to the fire of Mexican cooking.

RITA'S MOLE SAUCE

- 1/4 cup shortening
- 2 slices white bread
- 2 to four tablespoons chili powder
- 1/2 tsp. to two Tbs. yellow rice seasoning
- 2 to four small bay leaves
- 1/2 to two tps. powdered cumin (see note)
- 1/4 to one-half tsp. garlic powder
- Pinch to one-half tsp. black pepper
- 1/4 tsp. oregano
- 1 to one-half tsp. ground cloves
- Sprig fresh mint or pinch dried mint
- 2 cups water or chicken broth

1. Heat the shortening in a heavy, seven-inch fry pan till a haze just begins to rise above it. Brown the bread on both sides, a slice at a time, in the hot fat. Remove and drain on paper.

2. In a small pan mash the bread with a potato masher or pestle. Add all the other ingredients except the water. Mash together thoroughly. Slowly add the water, stirring. Heat, stirring, to a boil. Simmer five minutes.

3. For chicken mole, cover cooked chicken with spoonfuls of the sauce and heat till chicken is hot. Reserve any remaining sauce for other use. Or brown chicken in hot oil; add the sauce in amounts to suit taste. Cover tightly and cook till tender over low heat, about 20 to 30 minutes. Serve with Mexican rice.

Yield: About two-and-a-half cups sauce. Note: Powdered cumin may be unavailable in a supermarket. Substitute cumin seed, more readily available, and crush before adding to sauce.

Photo Contest

We prefer good black and white prints, at least 3 1/2 by 5 1/2 inches. Subject matter can be almost anything of real human interest—a good landscape, farm scene, family pet, an outstanding baby picture, etc. It should be a picture made in Avon Park or made elsewhere

by someone living in Avon Park. A five-dollar prize will be awarded the outstanding picture published in each calendar month. Persons should bring the photos by the Avon Park Sun office for consideration.

Photo Of The Week

HEADLIGHTS CUT A WINDING pattern through the night as a car travels eastward along Main Street past Lake Verona. Photographer Thome Dence captured this unusual scene with a long time exposure and his camera on a tripod. The Sun previously printed this picture; however, reproduction in the paper was not good and did not give the photo or photographer due credit.