

60,000-Square-Foot Draymore Addition Will Be Ready In October

Warehouse Symbolizes Growth Mode For Mooresville Textiles

True, 114-year-old Mooresville has outgrown its well-deserved image as a cotton mill town during the past quarter-century. Today, Mooresville-South Iredell has a variety of irons in its economic fire, its agricultural base still prominently among them.

For all the area's healthy commercial and industrial diversification, though, its long suit and its strong suit is textiles. Everybody knows it, and everybody takes some measure of pride in the community's textile-based past and present.

It follows, therefore, that everybody is excited about glowing prospects for a strong textile-based future. As textiles goes, so goes Mooresville.

A 60,000-square-foot warehouse under construction here for Home Curtain Corporation is evidence of growth for its manufacturing operations. Draymore Manufacturing and Superba Print here, and Glenn Manufacturing in Morven.

The metal building going up some

250 yards back of Draymore, Superba on Plaza Drive also symbolizes a growth mode for all textiles here. Burlington Industries, Carisbrook Yarns and Nortek also are going great guns.

Together, the four companies provide no fewer than 2,600 jobs — and they have jobs going begging.

Maurice Smart is Home Curtain's corporate personnel manager. This week, he characterized business as "extra good."

"We're putting up the warehouse to free manufacturing space here and in Morven," he said. "The Morven plant actually will be the main beneficiary because we'll be moving finished goods and piece goods here from there."

Smart said Draymore-Superba began a second shift in early spring, and "we've got 40 job openings right now." He said "quality products and on-time delivery" have more to do with Home Curtain's upswing than, say, home starts and other measures of its market.

Together, Draymore and Superba employ 1,000. The Morven plant has a workforce of 500-plus.

Fred Wright is personnel manager at Burlington Industries' denim-making plant here that provides 950 jobs.

"Quite simply," he said this week, "we're doing the best we've ever done. Denim is the country's No. 1 fabric, and denim is all we do. Right now, we're turning out as much cloth as this plant ever has produced."

The local BI operation is running a full schedule, six and seven days.

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Soup Kitchen Volunteers Are Needed

Mooresville's Soup Kitchen will launch its second season Sept. 8 in the dining room of the activities building of First Baptist Church on South Church Street.

A hot meal will be served Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. until noon throughout the fall and winter, according to Phyllis Stubbins, one of the project's coordinators.

The food-service program began Jan. 19, and 1,793 meals were served through June 3, when it was suspended for the summer.

This week, Stubbins issued an appeal for food and volunteers.

"If a person can dry dishes, open cans, stir soup or pour tea we can use them," she said.

She urged everyone willing to volunteer three hours "one day a week, one day a month, or one day a year" to help in the Soup Kitchen to contact her or the First Baptist Church office.

Volunteers will meet Sept. 1 at 10:30 a.m. in the activities building of the First Baptist Church for orientation and training.

"In addition to manpower, Stubbins said needs of the program are canned food, paper napkins, paper plates, paper towels, cups, bowls, cleaning supplies and money.

Inside This Week

—Iota Zeta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority plans to conduct benefit auction for Jubilee House, section one, page 7.

—Doolie resident Earnhardt's NASCAR racing success reflects rich family tradition in the sport, section three, page 11.

—Mooresville's French guest for a month leaves as a special friend and ideal ambassador, section one, page 10.

—Junior High's football Red Imps experience near complete overhaul in coaching staff with the arrival of three new ones, including the head coach, section two, page 3. More sports, pages 2-6, section one, page 11.

2,150 In Mooresville Classrooms

School bells rang Monday at the five schools that make up the Mooresville system. First-day enrollment was 2,150, according to Supt. Sam Houston.

First-day attendance was 17 more than last year, he said.

Monday enrollment by schools: Park View Elementary, 400; South Elementary, 405; Woods Elementary, 342; Junior High, 519; and Senior High, 484.

Kindergartners through grade four attend Park View and South, while Woods serves fifth and sixth graders. Grades seven, eight and nine are at Junior High, and students in grades 10 through 12 attend Senior High.

"We expect enrollment to continue to increase almost daily during the next 10 days or two weeks," Houston said.

The 20 schools in the Iredell County system began classes this morning. Enrollment figures were unavailable at press time, but officials early this week said they expect about 10,700 students.

Mooresville Tribune

MOOREMILL MT. ULLA OSTWALT TROUTMAN HAZEPPA SHEPHERDS MAYNEWTON SHINNVILLE DOOLIE MT. MOURNE BELLS CROSS TERRELL CASCADE HILL

"Although I Disagree With Everything You Say I Will Defend Unto Death Your Right To Say It"

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Bus Driver Woes Loom On Iredell's Horizon

A new federal guideline increasing the minimum age for school bus drivers will have little impact in Mooresville but could create serious problems elsewhere in Iredell County.

The United States Department of Labor ruling, set to become effective Jan. 1, 1988, requires that all school bus drivers be at least 18 years old.

In Mooresville, at least during this school year, the new ruling will not cause any significant problems. Al Jones, assistant principal at Mooresville Senior High and director of the local system's bus operation, said all of his current drivers will meet the age requirements.

"By Jan. 1, all of our drivers will

be 18," Jones said. "Two of our drivers are 17 now, but they will turn 18 before the end of the year."

But the bus driver situation is not that secure throughout the county. Sheryl Morrison, who instructs Iredell County's bus drivers as part of her duties with the state school bus-traffic safety department, said only half of the county's bus drivers would meet the increased age requirement.

The county oversees the operation of 150 buses, including the 12 in Mooresville, and Morrison said about 50 percent of the county's drivers are 17-year-old students.

Morrison said she has not received official notification about the increased age limit, but she added that she expects the state to seek some type of exemption to allow school systems to continue using 17-year-old drivers.

"There will be a definite problem in Iredell County if the state does not get some type of extension," Morrison said, "and there are several other counties in the state that are worse off than we are."

North Carolina, operating on a continuing series of three-month extensions, has been using drivers who are younger than the federal minimum age for many years. Morrison said the state has been successful at obtaining extensions in the past mainly because of the 35 miles per hour speed limit North

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SBI Recalls Johnston's Contribution

Mooresville was reminded Aug. 22 of one of its footnotes in North Carolina history. Cyrus Conrad Johnston received renewed recognition during Raleigh ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the State Bureau of Investigation.

Johnston introduced the bill that created the SBI. A prominent local businessman, he was Mooresville mayor four years before he served in the House during the 1935 and 1937 legislative sessions. He died at 69 in 1964.

Johnston introduced House Bill No. 393 (Chapter 349—Public Laws) in February 1937 for the "establishment of a State Bureau of Investigation."

The bill was ratified by the General Assembly March 22, 1937. State Attorney General Lacy H. Thornburg and SBI Director Robert Morgan hosted the golden-anniversary celebration. In their remarks, both referred to the essential contribution of the Iredell legislator.

A native of Mooresville, Johnston was educated in local schools and at Trinity College, now Duke University. He served in the Army during World War I. Johnston was associated with his father, W.C. Johnston, and brother, W.C. Johnston Jr., in W.C. Johnston & Co., a hardware store and one of the town's pioneer businesses.



Houston, Left, Thelin Relax After School

First Days 'Perfect' For Swedish Visitor

Mooresville's first American Field Service exchange student from Sweden is having no trouble at all adjusting to her new home.

Christina Thelin, from the coast town of Lulea in cool northern Sweden, arrived in Mooresville Friday and, after a weekend trip to Asheville, started school with the rest of Mooresville's senior class Monday morning.

Thelin, 17, is staying with the Sam Houston family. Tuesday afternoon, after her second full day of school, Thelin sat down with sophomore "sister" Kourtney and talked about her first few days in Mooresville.

"I like it here, it is perfect," Thelin, who has studied English for eight years, said with a prim and proper accent. "It is better than I expected and please write down that I like my new family very much."

Thelin added that she feels comfortable in her new surroundings, but added that adjusting to all the changes will not be a quick process.

"It doesn't really feel like home, that will take some time," she said, "but so far I have not had any

problems."

Thelin's problem-free adjustment to the Houstons and Mooresville can be attributed, at least in part, to a member of the Houston family who is thousands of miles away. Heather, the oldest of the two Houston sisters, is a senior at Mooresville Senior High, but currently she's completing a summer exchange trip in Thailand.

"Heather wrote and told us to tell Christina hello for her and to make sure we give Christina plenty of time to herself in the first few days," Kourtney said Tuesday. "Heather said she was a little homesick during her first days in Thailand and she gave us some advice to help make it easier for Christina."

But there are still some things all the preparation in the world can't prevent. The local climate, at least until fall arrives, may be the biggest obstacle for Thelin to overcome.

In her town, a community of 67,000 inhabitants about 100 miles south of the Arctic Circle, 68 degrees is considered a warm summer day. Facing temperatures in the 90s and

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Sept. 7-12 Run Scheduled For Iredell County Fair

The 52nd annual Iredell County Fair will open for a six-day run Sept. 7, at 5 p.m. at the fairgrounds on U.S. 21 between Troutman and Barium Springs.

Jim Graham, North Carolina's secretary of agriculture, is expected to participate in a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 7 p.m.

The theme of this year's fair is "Agriculture - New Directions 1987."

Gates to the fairgrounds will be open Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. until midnight. On Sept. 12, the gates will open at noon.

Larry's Amusements will be on the midway with 25 rides and shows. In addition, the traditional exhibits will be on display.

Departments will vary from field and garden crops to handmade articles.

There will be exhibits by individuals and extension homemaker clubs.

Several Iredell County 4-H Clubs will have booth displays.

School children will be admitted free Sept. 8, and Sept. 9.

More than \$9,000 in prize money will go to the winners in the various competitive phases of the fair.

The fair manager is A.M. Guy of Statesville.

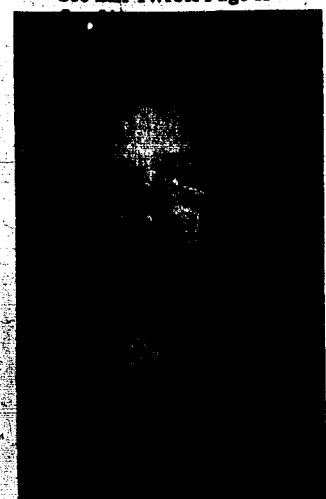
The fair, a member of the North Carolina Association of Agricultural Fairs, is approved by the N.C. Department of Agriculture.



A Thing Of Downtown Beauty And A Joy Forever

Mooresville's quarter-acre Depot Park has to be its sentimental favorite. It focuses attention on the heyday of passenger railroading and it contains a marker explaining the who and when of the town's founding. So, naturally, it was the place selected to accommodate a Vietnam memorial and a community bulletin board. Now, the small, quiet place in the center of town can be seen better and appreciated more. The Mooresville Beautification Committee has removed tall hedge on the railroad side and, with essential help from Bob Brawley of The Brawley Company, it has transformed the park into an explosion of color. This fall, Brawley said this week, he will reseed the entire park and plant ornamental Bradford pear trees.

Yours truly,
Uncle Dan



PHILIP LEFTWICH

Leftwich Resigns 4-H Post

Philip R. Leftwich, an agricultural extension service agent, who has directed the 4-H program in Iredell County for the past six years, has resigned, effective Aug. 31.

Leftwich, 30, is resigning in order to accept a teaching position at Mitchell Community College in Statesville.

Kenneth Vaughn, chairman of the county agricultural extension service, in announcing Leftwich's resignation, praised Leftwich's work with the county 4-H program and said he would begin taking applications immediately to have a successor for Leftwich as soon as possible.

In his notice of resignation, Leftwich noted that he had always wanted to teach on the college level.

"The extension service has in-

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