

Natoma Building New Golf Course

NATOMA — Hole by hole, Natoma's golf course is taking shape. The course, now with four par-three holes, is the part-time evening project of about a half-dozen Natoma men.

According to LaVern Lyon, one of the ramrods of the project, the men decided they needed a place to hit a golf ball without having to drive to a neighboring town.

"We can't even use the football field here to hit a ball," Lyon said, since youngsters are usually romping on it.

The land, Lyon said, was bought by a local man who is speculating on the future expansion of Natoma. The owner, however, was disenchanted with the idea of keeping the weeds mowed.

Lyon said the small group offered to keep the weeds down and the land attractive if the owner would allow them to use it for a golf course. The owner agreed and the group began work.

The men spent considerable time mowing and raking the land in preparation for the fairways, Lyon said. "It has good prairie grass but the clover in it keeps coming up and needs to be mowed."

Four sand greens have been completed during the three-week-old project. The fairways range in length from 110-170 yards.

The golfers plan to continue work and, eventually, have a nine-hole course.

"We're tired of working now, though," Lyon says, "we want to play a little golf."

He says the players use the four holes "from about four

different angles" for variety. Challenge is built into the course. Lyon says the hilly terrain and narrow fairways leave little room for error and a small pond "is already paved with golf balls."

"So far, nobody has parred the four holes," he added. "A little slice and you're out of bounds."

Lyon doesn't foresee a full-fledged country club yet, but added: "The four holes we have are pretty nice. It's a place to go and play a little."

Little River Nurse Home to Open Soon

LITTLE RIVER — No official opening date has been set for Little River's new nursing home, as the final stages of completion near, but administrator Jerry Janette is now making room reservations. Tentatively there is hope that an opening can be planned for the first or second week in September, just prior to admitting new residents. In the interim there is also hope that a pilot committee will have completed the process of selecting a name.

Metal shelving, curtains and other miscellaneous items are being awaited. Their arrival will allow finishing touches to be made.

Mrs. Mildred Doll of Little River, a registered nurse, has been named director of nursing for the new home. Mrs. George Martinez will be in charge of housekeeping duties.

Airport Equipment To "Wings of Hope"

LYONS — Obsolete radio beacon equipment from the Lyons - Rice county airport is going to "Wings of Hope", an international non-denominational interfaith tax-exempt group specializing in the gratis operations of air transportation for medical missionaries in remote parts of the globe.

During the past few years the equipment was in use at the local facility it was infrequently out of operation. Recently it has been replaced by new beacon equipment that is considerably more reliable.

The equipment has been made obsolete by Federal Communication Commission regulations.

The Lyons units and some from the airport at Pratt make up various components that are going to Wings of Hope.

The fact that the units are obsolete by standards here does not mean they are useless, and George Chandler of Pratt, who has a tie here through the Chandler National Bank, has been instrumental in getting the equipment into the right hands.

As the Pratt Tribune report puts it, "The equipment will one day again serve pilots making instrument weather landings because of interest in the international organization, and the wartime memory of a South Pacific Army Air base by a Pratt banker and businessman who still files in pursuit of business interests."

Chandler was a leader in getting beacon equipment for Pratt's airport more than a decade ago, which became obsolete and was replaced, and also knew of the idle equipment here. This led to the arrangement with Wings of Hope.

Women To Portugal

LYONS — An early September trip to Portugal is on the agenda for two Rice county women.

Mrs. Hazel Stephenson of Lyons departs Sept. 5 for Lisbon, Portugal, to visit her son, Byron Rex Stephenson and his family. She will be in the company of a long-time friend of the family, Mrs. Mildred Strohm of Little River.

Stephenson is a foreign service officer with the America embassy in Lisbon where he is completing a two-year of duty. He is with the embassy's economics section, and deals with agreement on tariff and trade between the United States and Portugal.

He will return to Washington D.C. after the two-year period, where he will be with the U.S. State Department before receiving another foreign assignment.

The Stephensons' first foreign assignment was in Paraguay, where their first child, Mary Jane was born. They also have a son Michael John, who was born in Washington D.C.

Stephenson is a 1959 graduate of Lyons High School. He received his masters in political science from Kansas State University in 1966, and in addition has spent a year attending the University of Barcelona in Spain.

Bakers' Dough Rising; Wheat Deal Is Blamed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bakers, claiming wheat sales to the Soviet Union have triggered higher flour costs, say our daily bread is on the verge of going up two to three cents per loaf.

"The wheat market went ape and the Russian situation added fuel to the fire," said Richard W. Daspit, president of the American Bakers Association.

While he declined to predict flatly what might happen to bread prices, Daspit said the higher flour costs alone add one cent to the cost of producing a loaf of bread. By the time sales commissions and retail mark-ups are added, the increase to consumers could be at least two cents and perhaps three cents per loaf, the bakers say.

Large baking firms will have to seek price increases from the Price Commission but smaller and regional companies can increase prices without government approval.

Bakers claim the Soviet Union, which reportedly is buying up to 400 million bushels of wheat to make up deficits from crop losses, are responsible for much of the increase in flour costs.

Wheat in Kansas City in mid-July sold for \$1.57 per bushel. By last weekend, it was \$1.86. Flour at Kansas City sold for \$6.70 per one hundred pounds in mid-August compared with \$5.40 a year earlier. In early July—before the Soviet deal was known, it was \$5.85 per one hundred pounds.

Daspit said it cost a baker

about 23 cents last year to produce a loaf of bread. That includes, he said, a cost of about 4 cents per loaf for flour. Flour now costs about 5 cents, he said.

Profits before taxes, he said, averaged slightly more than one tenth of one cent per loaf.

"It's a low-profit business," Daspit said. "And when flour goes up so sharply, it makes one hell of a squeeze."

According to the Agriculture Department, the average retail cost of a one-pound loaf of bread—many sold today are 24 ounces—was slightly less than 25 cents in June. Farmers received about 3.6 cents of that cost with bakers and other mid-men getting the rest.

Sterling Stampede September 1 and 2

STERLING — The annual Sterling Stampede rodeo, sponsored each year by the American Legion, will be Sept. 1 and 2.

Abbyville rodeo producer Floyd Rufford will furnish stock. A parade is planned for Saturday afternoon.

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