

outside and night lighting to a fraction of what it was. His store hours are under consideration, and may be cut back from the "every night except Saturday" that he held before Christmas.

Speed Specialists, 14513 Jefferson Davis

are not open on Sundays anymore."

The ten sets of lights that illuminate the store interior have been cut to four sets, according to Chamberlin, for a net savings of about 78 percent.

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Bennie Scarton Jr. - The Journal Messenger

Moor Green Plantation on Lucasville Road

# Historic House Is Sold

By RANDI DEIOTTE  
JM Staff Writer

One of Prince William's oldest but little-known homes, Moor Green Plantation, has been sold.

The house of Georgian architecture and its 325 surrounding acres lie adjacent to the Chevalle subdivision on Lucasville Road slightly southeast of the Town of Manassas. It has been designated as one of the county's historic landmarks on the Manassas Area Planning Map.

New owner of the plantation is Moor Green Estates Inc. The corporation's officers include William D. Wood, president of Capital Realty which is affiliated with the Century 21 chain; Edmond N. Howar, a Washington area businessman; and his wife, Mrs. Morgot Howar, who will supervise the construction and planned restoration of the home. The plantation and its acreage sold for \$250,000.

The corporation purchased the property for investment purposes, but Wood and his family plan to live in the house after it is restored. The house is in very good condition, having been

completely restored in the early 1940's by the late Mr. and Mrs. John Watson Cox.

Little is known about Moor Green's history. The land on which it stands was part of a nearly 1,000 acre tract owned by Clement Chevalle and Lewis Renon. It was built in the late 1700's. In 1838 James Hooe left it to his sister Jane who in turn willed it to her husband, Redmon Foster.

James L. Foster, one of Brentsville's first trustees, owned it in 1860 when the land had been reduced to 568 acres.

The house is said to have been used as a hospital during the Civil War, and Wood said there are bloodstains on the floor to support this theory.

The latest owner, from whom the corporation made its purchase, was Richard Wheelock of Vermont, Mrs. Cox's brother.

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Grand larcenies fill county police blotter. See A-2.

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Prince William Public Library  
Manassas, Va.

VIRGINIANA FILE  
PWC - Historic Sites  
(Moor Green)

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, including "V.P.M." and "7-2-1".

# Historic House Is Sold

Construction and restoration are scheduled to begin this month.

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The cemeteries, bare of gravestones, are to be found on the old place. One is thought to be the final resting place of Moor Green slaves; the other is thought to contain the remains of the home's former owners and possibly soldiers.

Wood said that plans are to keep the house and 20 or so acres, developing the remaining land into one to five acre mini-estates.

Restoration and construction will be performed by Charles R. Wood of Manassas, a contractor whose other projects have included the Balls Ford Industrial Park.

Plans are to modernize and restore the old plantation home. Wood said he plans to add two more bathrooms for a total of three and a wing on the right side of the house which will contain a family room, small greenhouse and a bath. Central air conditioning will be installed and the kitchen will be modernized to include the latest in convenience and labor-saving devices. Tennis courts and a swimming pool will also be constructed. Interior walls will be completely refinished, and all floors will be sanded and refinished.

New windows and new window sills will be installed, and an old storage room will be torn off to make way for the right-wing addition.

## New Year

(Continued from Page 1-A)

Heavy snows and high winds in Colorado forced cancellation of some traditional New Year's Day events, including a fireworks display planned for the top of 14,110-foot Pikes Peak.

In Philadelphia, the New Year's Day parade was canceled and 16,000 costumed Mummers sent home because of cold, drizzling rain.

## Speed Limit

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"Because of Mrs. Nixon's great interest in volunteerism and the new council, it was hoped that

Wood said overgrown boxwoods in the front of the house will have to be removed and replaced with smaller plantings which will not obscure the plantation's front.

A small tenant house on the grounds will also probably be restored. Of the plantation's original outbuildings, only a smokehouse remains. Wood said there are no plans for it at this time.

The house is one room deep. The main floor consists of a living room, a kitchen and a dining room. The kitchen has an old beamed ceiling. The living room or drawing room, as it is called, has an unusual hand-carved mantel. Every room of the house has a fireplace and wide beam pine floors.

On the second floor are two huge bedrooms. Neither has closets, as was the custom in past days, but built-in cupboards have been added in the master bedroom. Additional ones will be constructed, Wood said.

An old stairway leads to the third floor where there is one room and the house's lone

bathroom. Wood said he may turn the third floor into a studio.

The planned addition will probably be constructed of wood rather than of brick as is the original house. Wood said the brick is thought to have been brought from England as ballast for ships, and he is doubtful it can be matched.

Ghosts may lurk in the old house and its graveyards. Wood said he hasn't heard about any yet, but said it would be a "shame to have an old house like that without any ghosts."

The Woods still have a lot of exploring to do. Wood explained he has seen the plantation's interior only once, shortly before its purchase last month. As for the ghosts, he said, "I just hope they're friendly."

The Woods will probably move into the restored home late this spring. It is planned to rename it Moor Green Estates, rather than leaving it Moor Green Plantation. Wood says he has no plans to do any farming but may purchase a pony for his eight-year old daughter.

## Firms Follow Edict

(Continued from Page 1-A)

Although apologetic for not having done more, Robert Haynes of AMP auto parts certainly did his share without asking. "The only thing I've done in a conscious way is close one or two nights a week earlier," he said.

"The only thing I've done inside the store is to cut down the heat or cut the lights off," he continued, "but being in a new area, I'm trying to maintain as much of the hours that I've set up."

Still, reduced business may cause a closing of business for the auto parts dealer. "If Sunday still maintains to be so slow," he said, "and it has been for the last three or four weeks, if it persists for the next two or three weeks, I'm going to start closing on Sunday."

Major businesses in the county have held back on cutbacks for the most part, waiting word from their parent companies or an executive decision.

The First Virginia Bank, with several locations throughout Prince William

the area. "We haven't gotten any information on it," said Fred Dowell, a company vice president. "We were talking about it a month ago. We're waiting for the holding company to tell us what we can do."

Montgomery Ward, in the Mall at Manassas, has made some small steps in the direction of energy savings. "I heard about it (the governor's request) a month or so back, that it was being considered," said Bob Ware, manager of the mammoth store. "We've reduced our hours. We were open at 9:30 a.m., but now we'll be open at 10."

The store still stays open till 9:30 at night, according to Ware. "We've cut off 40 percent of the lights in the non-selling hours, and we've reduced electricity on the sales floor considerably."

"No plans to follow state direction at the present time," were reported by Grant City, in the Mall at Manassas. The Grant City store, according to a spokesman, was in the