



West Craven Highlights

News From Along The Banks Of The Neuse



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VANCEBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

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SIX PAGES



Big Top Coming Soon

Josip Marican, hailed as "the trainers' trainer," holds court of command over a majestic confluence of cats including black-maned Nubian lions, Bengal tigers and his own genetically engineered "ligers" combined in an awesome center ring display which is a featured attraction at the upcoming appearance of Clyde

Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, the "world's largest under the big top." The circus is coming to New Bern April 7 and Havelock April 5-6. Times, locations and ticket information will be provided in next week's edition.

(Ric Carter photo)

Elizabeth II To Sail Into Washington For Tulip Festival

Elizabeth II, a lifesize replica of the early Elizabeth I which plied the coastal waters of North Carolina in the Lost Colony years, will come to the Original Washington and dock here at Havens Wharf for the Tulip Festival.

The ship will come into Washington harbor and dock at Havens Wharf on April 13 and it will remain here until April 19.

The big Elizabeth II party will be staged on Wednesday, April 13, aboard ship from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The expenses of bringing in this floating attraction are heavy,

and local business organizations have made contributions so that local people and tourists can come aboard at a lower price. The price per couple for the ship party is \$50. The Pamlico Sounds will furnish entertainment along with the Washington Community Band.

While docked in Washington, all school children in organized groups will be admitted aboard free of charge.

All Beaufort County mayors

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Strawberry Festival Plans In Full Swing, Says Board

Plans are in full swing for the sixth annual Strawberry Festival-Rescue Day slated for May 21 in Vanceboro.

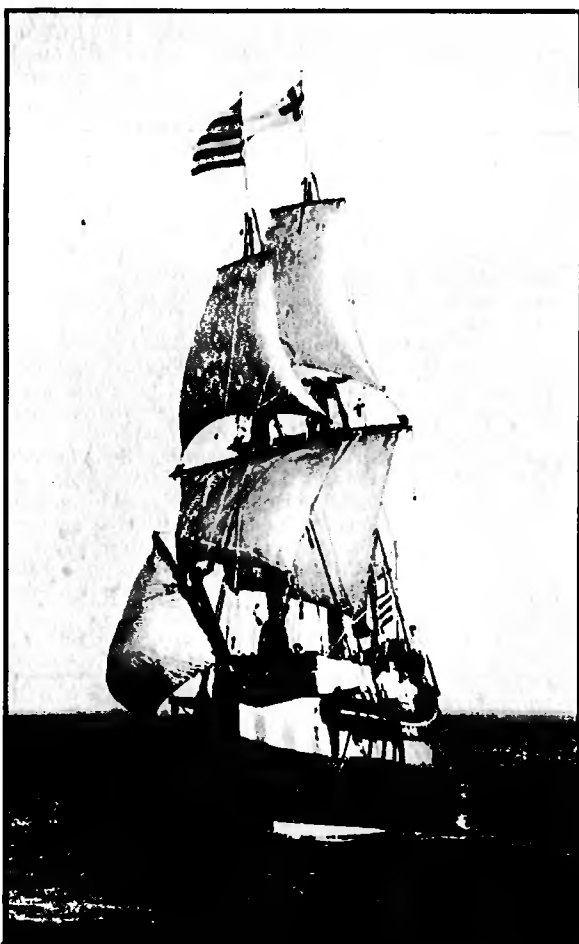
Organizers say this year's festival promises to be the best.

Following tradition, the Vanceboro Rescue Squad will sponsor its annual barbecue pork and barbecue chicken dinner. A varied schedule of entertainment is scheduled throughout the day, including a parade, bluegrass music, a rate exhibition, cloggers

and a demonstration given by the rescue squad.

In addition to the annual Craft Extravaganza, the Vanceboro Junior Woman's Club is sponsoring the first Vanceboro Strawberry Festival Race this year. Local church and civic groups are making plans for baked good booths and a bazaar. To satisfy the sweet tooth of a passerby there will be strawberry wagons, strawberry short-

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Elizabeth II under sail

Commissioners Approve Plan About Bridges

Take No Action On Request To Form Scholastic Council

Craven County commissioners were busy Monday, having over 20 items on their agendas to take care of during the day.

The commissioners heard suggestions on the John Lawson Bridge, forming a scholastic council and heard a report on planned roads improvements.

Randy Doub of Greenville, a Department of Transportation board member, told the commissioners that a feasibility study on replacing the John Lawson Bridge over the Neuse River has started.

The commissioners approved a recommendation by County Manager Tyler Harris to curtail the erratic opening of both the John Lawson Bridge and the Alfred A. Cunningham Bridge over the Trent River.

Harris' proposal increased the hours that the bridges are slated to remain open to vehicle traffic from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. with a scheduled drawbridge opening at 7:30 a.m. for any waiting pleasure craft. The current schedule for vehicle traffic is from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.

The afternoon hours would be expanded from 4:30 to 6 p.m. with one scheduled drawbridge

opening for pleasure craft at 5 p.m. The current schedule is from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Both local and state highway officials are investigating the bridge. When the bridge's drawbridge is opened for water traffic, traffic jams occur during highway traffic hours. Last summer the drawbridge jammed twice and back up traffic. On one occasion metal had to be cut from the bridge to allow it to close and permit traffic to cross.

A local task force is attempting to solved the problem from a local angle.

Vessels with a state or commercial permit, or any emergency vessels, would still have the right of way. Harris said the new hours would only affect pleasure craft. The commissioners passed the suggestion on to the state for consideration.

In another matter, New Bern's Mack Bennett requested that the county commissioners appoint a scholastic improvement council to investigate scholastic records. At a February meeting of the New Bern-Craven County Board of Education, Bennett was met

(See BRIDGES, Page 5)

'Please Eat Daisies,' And Fry Blossoms, Seed Companies Ask

As an election year, 1988 is likely to be full of flowery speeches. Several seed companies, however, are hoping that some flowery times will be going in mouths and not just coming out of them. They are marketing edible flowers.

Edible flowers are nothing new. The heads of cauliflower and broccoli are the buds of these plants. Artichokes and artichoke hearts are the buds of the artichoke plant. In the past, seed catalogs have mentioned that nasturtium leaves and petals can be a zesty addition to sandwiches and salads. Many seed catalogs carry herbs, and flowers of herbs often get eaten or used to flavor dishes just as leaves and stems of herbs do.

Certain catalogs this year have gone farther than ever in exposing their customers to the world of edible posies, though.

A new offering from Park Seed Company (Cokesbury Rd., Greenwood, S.C. 29647) is Butterblossom squash, "a bushy plant that prolifically bears large golden male blossoms perfect for culinary use." Squash blossoms may be dipped in batter and fried or stuffed and baked. Park offers free recipes especially developed for Butterblossom squash. One packet (20 seeds) of Butterblossom squash costs \$1.25. Two

packets are \$2.15.

Thompson and Morgan (P.O. Box 1308, Jackson, N.J. 08527) offers a "Flower Petal Salad." The catalog states that "by the sprinkling of selected flower petals over and amongst the salad, it is truly astonishing how much more appetizing and attractive it looks and as each flower T&M has chosen has its own individual flavours, how much more interesting and enjoyable a salad can be to eat." (Thompson and Morgan's home office is in Ipswich, East Anglia; thus the British spellings.) T&M's floral salad is a mixture of calendulas ("warm spicy flavour"), lemon mint ("honey-minty flavoured"), borage ("cucumber flavour"), johnny jump-ups ("warm, slightly apple flavour"), angel rose ("scented aromatic flavour"), and nasturtiums ("peppery flavour") all in one packet for \$1.75 or four packets for \$5.95.

Shepherd's Garden Seeds (7389 W. Zayante Rd., Felton, Calif.) has devoted two pages of its catalog exclusively to edible flowers. It offers Lemon Gem marigolds, Kablouna calendulas, chive blossoms, johnny jump-ups, nasturtiums, anise hyssop and borage. A four-page pamphlet of recipes is available to

(See DAISIES, Page 5)

History Is The Housekeeper For Homes Tour Next Month

NEW BERN — History is the housekeeper in old New Bern, and 12 prized examples of her work will be shown on the Historic Homes and Gardens Tour, April 8 and 9. The tour is expected to coincide with the peak of springtime in this peninsular town, founded in 1710, on the Neuse and Trent Rivers.

In addition to the 12 privately restored homes, selected from dozens listed in the National Register of Historic Places, other interesting landmarks, charming churches, and the gardens of Tryon Palace will welcome Homes Tour ticket holders.

The 16th annual Tryon Palace Gardener's Sunday on April 10th follow the festive Homes Tour event. The lush gardens and grounds of Tryon Palace, North Carolina's colonial capitol and governor's mansion, will be open free to the public, 10 a.m. to 5

p.m. The April 10th Gardener's Sunday honors all the gardeners and "green thumbs" who toil to add beauty to the landscape.

30,000 tulips highlight the 18th century style gardens, which are also bright with violas, azaleas, flowering cherry, quince, narcissi, and dogwood. The Tryon Palace craftsmen will delight visitors with blacksmithing, basketry, and candle-making. There will be the regular admission fees for interior tours of Tryon Palace, Stanley House, and Dixon-Stevenson House.

Visitors for the Historic Homes and Gardens Tour on April 8-9 will discover that a number of the private historic homes have not been shown before. The tour commences with the Forbes House (ca. 1760-70), and continues through Federal, Greek Revival and Victorian styles to the Anderson-Sprenger House

built in 1920.

Landmarks of particular interest are Judge Gaston's Law Office (ca. 1820), New Bern Municipal Building (ca. 1897), and the stately New Bern Academy (ca. 1809). One of the nation's earliest educational institutions, the Academy, now fully restored, is being prepared to open as a museum component of the Tryon Palace Complex in autumn, 1989. Homes Tour participants are getting a sneak preview of the building itself.

Along the route of the Historic Homes and Gardens Tour, more than a dozen special events are offered as passing delights. Free refreshments, crafts demonstrations, and musical programs are included at many of the tour sites.

Homes Tour tickets also in-

(See TOUR, Page 5)



Homes Tour

One of New Bern's outstanding Federal-style homes, the Eli Smallwood House built in 1810, contains extraordinary period woodwork. It is one of 12 privately restored homes open during

the April 8-9 New Bern Historic Homes and Gardens Tour. The tour also includes churches, other landmarks and the Tryon Palace Gardens.