



JOGGING down U.S. 17 in Shallotte last Thursday were "Run For the Children" road team members, front, from left, Kerry McKenzie, Gary Drumheller, Steve Schmidt; rear, Earl Brown and Don Long.

## Baptist Home's Relay Run Passes Through Shallotte

BY TERRY POPE

Their sneakers rhythmically pounded the hot pavement last Thursday down U.S. 17 in Shallotte, one of 155 cities in North Carolina the runners will visit on their 1,497-mile marathon relay race.

Under the theme, "Run For the Children," the statewide commemorative relay run is being held to mark the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina's 100th anniversary. The run began in Thomasville on May 28 under the direction of Wayne Drumheller, who joined the Baptist Children's Home of N.C. in 1975.

The statewide marathon follows a path through Asheville, Chimney Rock, Charlotte, Whiteville, Shallotte, Supply, Wilmington and back to Thomasville, where it is scheduled to end July 6. Gov. Jim Martin proclaimed May 19 as Baptist Children's Homes Day.

The Baptist Children's Homes of N.C. were organized to care for dependent, neglected and homeless

children; emotionally disturbed children; unwed mothers and their children and to provide related services to their relatives. "This is just to celebrate the 100th year of the Baptist Children's Home," said runner Don Long of Thomasville during a lunch break last Thursday. "It's going to be the largest relay race ever in North Carolina."

Long was one of five runners of the event's "support team" that jogged through Shallotte last Thursday. A team of support runners must fill in along the way where areas do not receive volunteer runners to help carry the baton-style capsule containing the names of children who have lived at one of the homes in the past 100 years.

In the baton is a microfiche copy of the 12,000 or more children or their families that have been helped by the homes since they were first organized, Long said. When the race is over, the sealed baton will be buried in a time capsule to be opened by a future generation.

Long was joined in the race through Shallotte by Kerry McKenzie of Cameron, Wally Grooms of Thomasville, Steve Schmidt of Birmingham, Mich., Gary Drumheller of Thomasville and Earl Brown of Fayetteville. The runners left Whiteville at 8 a.m. Thursday and stopped in Shallotte for dinner before moving on for a scheduled stop at the

Jennifer Brown Emergency Care Home for children in Supply.

They were to spend the night at the Supply Baptist Church parking lot, in a converted tractor-trailer rig that includes sleeping quarters for the runners and organizers of the race. The Baptist Brotherhood's traveling bed-on-wheels is like "sleeping in a phone booth," Long said, but is used only as backup if no one helps "put us up for the night," he added.

Throughout the state, 700 runners have signed up to help carry the baton from city to city. If anyone would like to join the race before it ends July 6, they should call toll-free, 1-800-672-1597 to sign up.

For Long and the other support team members, a Road Team Centennial Scholarship will be awarded along with the satisfaction "of being a part of the biggest run in the state," runner Wally Grooms said. "And it's for a good cause, too."

Race organizer Wayne Drumheller said Shallotte Police Officer Eddie Reynolds and Brunswick County Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. Jimmy Bryant have "been super for us," in helping to lead the runners down busy U.S. 17 last Thursday.

Volunteer runners can sign up for one, two, three, four or five mile legs of the relay, or one of the 36 designated "walk miles" around the state.

## Mt. Zion Celebrates Its 99th Anniversary

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Longwood celebrated its 99th anniversary and homecoming Sunday, June 23, with a special service that included the recognition of mothers and fathers and special members of the church.

Ms. Etherine Butler recognized the special members prior to services conducted by guest pastor Rev. James Norwood Flowers and his choir from the Shining Star Missionary Baptist Church of Seat Pleasant, Md.

Among the honored were: Lettie M. Gore, mother of the church; Sandy R. Stanley, father of the church; Deacons Lucian W. Gore, Willie J.

Thomas, Patrick H. Stanley, Collin Daniels, Tim E. Gore, Joseph Roscoe Butler, Joseph Willis Butler and Moses E. Stanley; Deaconesses Bertha Gore, Annie M. Young, Lettie R. Gore, Rosa Lee Grant, Ethel P. Gore, Osie Butler, Etherine P. Butler, Felicia Stanley and Julia Daniels; also

Ministers' wives, Laura Flowers, Lena Flowers, Etha M. Herring, and Margie Flowers; pastors Rev. M.C. Herring and Rev. James N. Flowers; also

Senior Citizens: Lettie Gore, Bertha Gore, Essie Simmons, Charlie Stanley, Sandy R. Stanley, Lucian W. Gore, George Stanley, Patrick H.

Stanley, Willie J. Thomas, Isiah Hilton, Laura Flowers, Mabel Dewey, Henry M. Daniels, Samuel Bromell, Martha Stanley, Annie M. Young, Covia Stanley, Minnie Therfeld, Roscoe Butler, Lena Flowers, Rosa Lee Grant, Elizabeth Pressley, Agnes Stanley (daughter Evelyn Stanley), Harry O. Gore, Roland L. Gore, Julia Daniels, Collin Daniels, Andrew Stevenson, Ethel Mae Flowers, Jane Bromell, Addie Mae Robinson, Lou Mina Stanley, Aurbon Stanley, Bernice Brown and Estelle Stevenson.

Called "The Second Wind Club," the following were honored for being

80 years or older and also received greetings from President Ronald Reagan: Sandy Stanley, Lucian Gore, Willie J. Thomas, Patrick H. Stanley, George Stanley, Isiah Hilton, Samuel Bromell, Jack Daniels, Bertha Gore, Ethel Mae Flowers, Sylvannia Bellamy, Lettie Gore, Essie Simmons and Charlie Stanley.

Also receiving flowers was Ms. Mildred Stevenson, who helped a stranger find her way around Brunswick County while she was taking a course at Brunswick Technical College. Student Sandra Ley presented her special person with the flowers.

Mt. Zion conducted a week of spiritual services prior to the June 23 homecoming with Deacon Joseph Butler serving as program chairperson. The program each night was as follows:

- Monday—Rev. John W. Smith, combined choir, sponsor: deacons of Mt. Zion;
- Tuesday—Rev. Samuel Stanley, choir: Pleasant Grove, sponsor: Mt. Zion senior choir;
- Wednesday—Rev. Julius Randolph, choir: Piney Grove, sponsor: Mt. Zion male chorus;
- Thursday—Rev. Dennis Frink, choir: Pleasant View, sponsor: Mt. Zion young adults; and
- Friday—Rev. Freeman Gause, choir: Cedar Grove, sponsor: Mt. Zion youth department.

A welcoming committee of Rev. Herring, S.R. Stanley, Billy Stevenson, Etherine Butler, Ellis Butler and Tania Butler greeted the group from Seat Pleasant, Md., to Longwood.

Rev. Flowers also preached an afternoon service at 4 p.m. Mt. Zion pastor Rev. Herring said that the 99th anniversary and homecoming closed this year without there being a death in the church congregation.

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES

## Baptist Union To Convene Here

The Western District Brunswick Baptist Union convenes at Gospel Center Baptist Church at Varnamtown Saturday and Sunday, June 29-30, with Rev. C.O. Blanton as moderator.

On Saturday, when the convention begins at 10 a.m., Rev. Weston Varnam is slated to speak, with Rev. Russell Hewett as alternate. Lunch will follow. Rev. Donald Hardwick, with Rev. J.D. Hewett as alternate, will present the evening message. Special music is planned by the Gospel Center church choirs.

### Mill Creek Plans Special Service

In commemoration of July 4th, the adult choir of Mill Creek Baptist Church will present a special musical program Sunday, June 30, at 11 a.m.

Directed by Mrs. Louise Willetts, the program will include a religious overview by pastor Rev. Jack Robinson. In addition, Uncle Sam will present a monologue titled, "I am the Nation." Uncle Sam's real identity will be announced at the end of the program.

The public is invited. Members have been requested to bring a covered dish lunch to be served in the church Fellowship Hall at 2:15 p.m.

Mill Creek Baptist Church is located on N.C. 87, three miles south of U.S. 17.

On Sunday, the singing convention will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., with Union churches asked to attend with groups to sing.

### Outreach Begins

Informal, interdenominational Sunday worship services will be held at the swimming pool of the Continental Motel, Sunset Beach, at 8 a.m. each Sunday through Labor Day as an outreach

ministry of the Brunswick Christian Center, Thomasboro. Wade Sutton of Ocean Isle Beach is the speaker. For more information call Randi or Pamela Moon, 579-2953.

### Film To Be Shown

The film, "The Hiding Place," which depicts the life of the late Corrie ten Boom, will be shown Sunday, June 30, at 7 p.m. at Sharon United Methodist Church near Holden Beach.

Guests are welcome. As part of the Dutch underground movement during World War II, the

ten Booms hid Jews in a secret room of their home, helping them to escape the Nazis. Taken prisoner in a Nazi raid, Corrie was sent to Ravensbruck, a concentration camp. "The Hiding Place" portrays her and her family's experiences.

### Quaker Scheduled

Rev. Lloyd T. McDonald, a Quaker minister from High Point, will lead the 11 a.m. worship service Sunday, June 30, at the Holden Beach Chapel. The interdenominational Protestant chapel, located on Rothschild Street, Holden Beach, also offers Sunday School at 10 a.m.

### On The Strand

Informal worship services sponsored by Shallotte Presbyterian Church continue each Sunday through Labor Day at 8:30 a.m. with Rev. Dan Norman at the cross west of the Ocean Isle Beach Pier. Dress is casual, bring a lawn chair.

### Mission Is Open

Sunset Beach Baptist Mission, sponsored by the Brunswick Baptist Association and the N.C. Southern Baptist Convention, holds services each Sunday at the Sunset Beach Fire Station, with Sunday School at 10 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m. Rev. W.A. Barnhill is the pastor.

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RUNNERS Gary Drumheller, left, and Wally Grooms, display the "Centennial Celebration" relay run baton that holds the names of more than 12,000 children and their families that have been helped by the Baptist Children's Homes of N.C. in its 100 years of operation.

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