

THE STATE PORT PILOT

Most of The News
All The Time

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

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BEAR HUNTING IN THE GREEN SWAMP



HUNTERS—Pictured above are Hack Smithdeal of Johnson City, Tenn., and his party of bear hunters, their jeeps, their dogs and one bear. This photo was taken at the end of the day's hunt. Smithdeal is shown at the extreme right.

Chief Owens Is Retiring From Active Service

Chief Paul A. Owens and Mrs. Owens left Friday for their home in Hendersonville, chief having received his honorable discharge from the Navy. The couple had been residing in Southport for a year and a half, Chief Owens being stationed at Fort Caswell following his return from the Philippines and several weeks of hospitalization.

Several Cases Tried In Court

Busy Docket Faced Judge W. J. McLamb And Solicitor E. J. Prevatte In Recorder's Court Here Monday

A full docket was disposed of here in Recorder's court Monday with Judge W. J. McLamb presiding and with E. J. Prevatte serving as prosecutor. The following disposition was made of cases:

Harold Taylor, drunk driving, six months on the roads, suspended on payment of a fine of \$50.00 and costs.

Rufus Jewett, drunk on highway, thirty days on roads, suspended on payment of a fine of \$10.00 and costs.

Ralph Walton, drunk and disorderly in public place, 30 days on the roads, judgment suspended on condition that defendant pay the costs and remain away from J. W. Garner's place of business for two years. Same charge and like judgment also applies to Robert Walton, Rupert Sikes, Pet Sellers and Ruth Cribb.

Leon Hill, drunk in public place, 30 days, judgment suspended on payment of a fine of \$10.00 and costs.

James A. Graham, reckless operation and improper brakes, not guilty as to reckless operation. Guilty of operating with improper brakes, fined \$10.00; fine suspended on payment of costs.

Rupert W. Jernigan, reckless operation, fined \$25.00 and costs. Lundy Monroe, drunk driving, 6 months on roads, suspended on payment of a fine of \$10.00 and costs.

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Task Force Invades Swamp In Search Of Black Bears

Ten Men, Two Jeeps And 22 Dogs Included In Outfit Which Recently Spent Several Days In Area

DECLARE BEARS ACTING FUNNY

Tennessee Men Are Veterans At This Sport And Find Forests Of Brunswick Ideal For Hunting

Bear hunting in Columbus and Brunswick counties great Green Swamp is going contrary to every rule of the sport, veteran Tennessee bear hunters who hunt every season in this many-thousand-acre lush bear territory are saying.

Hack Smithdeal, sportsman par excellence and leader of this 10-man, 22-dog, two-jeep hunting team declares that the bear are crazy.

"I've never seen the like of it," he said. "Since I started bear hunting when I was 21-year old, I've always been taught that bear eat something like human beings. They require a balanced diet. They'll eat here today for one item of their food, and tomorrow they'll move over to a neighboring range for another item. But this year, they're doing everything backwards. You can't tell where they are going to be, which direction they are going to run, and anything else you'd normally expect them to do according to a relatively fixed pattern. I've even caught them making deer runs."

Smithdeal and his party of hunters are from Johnson City, Tenn., as bear hunters they are cosmopolites. Immediately prior to their arrival in this area for their annual hunt, they had conducted a two-weeks bear hunt in the northwoods of Michigan under the auspices of the Michigan Board of Conservation and Development. There their hunt had been witnessed and photographed by writers and photographers from some of the nation's leading sports magazines. Smithdeal himself went on his first bear hunt when he was 12 years of age in his native Tennessee. Since then he has followed it as avidly as "Old Heavy."

Brother Dies In Washington

Mrs. Ormond Leggett Was On Way To See Her Brother At Walter Reid Hospital At Time Of His Death

Donald Bottorf, 20-year-old Navy man, died in the Walter Reid hospital in Washington Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock. He had just arrived there by plane from Germany to receive treatment for leukemia, with which he was recently found to be suffering while his ship was at a German port.

He was a brother of Mrs. Ormond Leggett of Southport and visited here last year following his discharge from the service and before re-enlisting. Mrs. Leggett left Sunday morning but he died before she reached the hospital. Burial is being held this afternoon with military honors at his home at Lock Haven, Pa.

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Supreme Court Grants Gause Another Trial

Shalotte Negro Charged With Murder Of H. Jim Williamson Early This Year And Was Convicted Of Crime

DEATH SENTENCE BY JUDGE PARKER

No Indication When New Trial Will Be Held, Or Whether Gause Will Be Tried In This County

The State Supreme court last week held that Judge R. Hunt Parker erred in his charge to the New Hanover jury which convicted Leon Gause of first degree murder, and this act automatically throws the case back into the courts of Brunswick county for a new trial. The next move in the case, the Shalotte negro charged with the murder of Charlie Williams, is apparently up to Solicitor Clifton Moore, of Burgaw.

Originally the case was to be heard in Brunswick. Coming up for trial at the spring term it was ruled by court officials that too much feeling existed against Gause for him to get a fair trial. Accordingly the matter was transferred to New Hanover for trial and there a jury found him guilty.

Following the verdict of guilty, Judge Parker sentenced Gause to die in the gas chamber for the crime. From this verdict an appeal was taken to the Supreme court.

If he elects to do so, it is understood that Solicitor Moore can place Gause on trial again for his life at the January term of court. Likewise either he or the negroes attorneys can again ask that the case be heard outside of Brunswick county.

P.-T. A. Xmas Party Is Held

Program Of Christmas Carols By Students Of First Three Grades Featured Monthly Meeting

The December meeting of the Southport Parent-Teacher Association Thursday night in the high school auditorium developed into an enjoyable Christmas party, featuring a program of carols by students of the first three grades, and winding up with refreshments of punch and cookies.

The devotional was conducted by the Rev. Paul H. Fields, pastor of Trinity Methodist church, who made brief but appropriate remarks about the Christmas season.

Mrs. Thelma Willis, teacher of the second grade, was in charge of the musical program, and in addition to the carols, the Christmas story from St. Luke was read by Joe Cochran, Jr.

During the business meeting the Parent-Teachers Association voted to transfer \$150.00 from the proceeds of the Halloween Carnival to the luncheon fund. It was decided to use \$20.00 for each of the first eight grades for the purchase of athletic equipment.

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OLD SENATOR AND THE NEW



LEADERS—North Carolinians were shocked Sunday to learn of the death that morning of Senator J. W. Bailey at his home in Raleigh. On the right, above, is shown William B. Umstead, who was named yesterday by Governor R. Gregg Cherry to succeed Senator Bailey.

Major Changes Made In Arrangement Of Gardens

Misses Chance At Big Buck

Roy Rabon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rabon, of Wina-bow, came home for the week end to engage in his first deer hunt in more than four years. Roy was following right in the steps of his deer-hunting father, and so it was no surprise when he quickly got back in stride at the Saturday morning hunt.

One of his duties was to place about one-half the men on the hunt on their stands. This he did in good order, then took a place himself. As the drive progressed the deer started running, and about mid-morning a fine buck headed by Roy's stand. About 35-paces away he stopped and threw his head high, and just at that moment Roy raised his double-barrel twelve and let her go—click, click!

In the excitement of his return to his best-loved sport, the Brunswick county boy had neglected to breach his gun far enough to cock it.

Johnnie, Mike and Layton Poole, three Army buddies of Roy, came down with him, and Mike Poole killed one of the two bucks that were taken during the day.

Commissioners In Session Monday

Routine Matters Disposed Of Before New Board At Their Second Regular Meeting

Members of the board of county commissioners held their second regular meeting here Monday and disposed of a number of routine matters.

The board passed a motion to forward to the State Highway Commission a recommendation for the improvement of the road from Gray's Bridge near William Blanton's to the Brown school on the Shell Point road.

Appearing before the board in behalf of this project were M. L. Galloway, A. E. Callendar, O. L. Phelps and A. B. Hale. They reported that the school bus is experiencing extreme difficulty in reversing this road, and that re-

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Attractive Doll Display Opens

Dolls Of Many Nations Are Shown In Native Costumes During Christmas Season At Arrington's In Southport

The dolls of many nations displayed in the show windows of Arrington's at Southport, all arrayed in the native customs of the various countries to which they belong, have been attracting much attention.

They portray real creative art in their many garbs and sizes, ranging from the tiny figures from Guatemala to the huge bear-skin-dressed representative from Czechoslovakia. Some of the dolls are also shown in the windows at Bianna's, next door to Arrington's.

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Churches Plan Special Music For Christmas

Four Churches of Southport Planning Special Christmas Programs, With Music Playing Leading Role

CANTATA SUNDAY NIGHT AT METHODIST

Baptists, Episcopalians And Catholics Also Planning Christmas Programs During Week

Special Christmas programs have been planned by members of four of the churches of Southport, beginning Sunday morning with an entertainment by the children of the Methodist church during the Sunday School hour.

At the Sunday evening service at Trinity Methodist church members of the choir will present a Christmas cantata, under the direction of Mrs. R. I. Mintz. The choir has been practicing for this program for several weeks, and it bids fair to be one of the outstanding events of the Christmas season.

The Sunday School of the Southport Baptist Church will present a Christmas pageant entitled "Day Star Divine" under the direction of Mrs. Jack Oliver on Christmas night. During the program there will be a special offering taken for the building fund campaign.

At St. Phillips Episcopal church in Southport a mid-night service has been planned for Christmas Eve, beginning at 11 o'clock. Either Bishop Thomas Wright or the Rev. Mortimer Glover, of St. James Episcopal church, Wilmington, will be in charge of this service.

In commemoration of the birth of the Saviour, Father Frank J. Howard, pastor of the Sacred Heart Catholic church, Southport, has announced through his assistant, Father Francis A. McCarthy, the celebration of mid-night mass for Christmas. It will be the first time in two years that mid-night mass has been offered in the Sacred Heart church.

The families Christmas carols will be sung by members of the Sacred Heart church choir preceding the other ceremonies. Several members of the other churches in Southport have generously given their services in rendering the music for the occasion. At 11:55 o'clock a few words of welcome will be extended by Father McCarthy. At midnight the holy sacrifice of the mass—which is the central act of worship in the Catholic church—will begin. The Christmas message will be delivered by Father McCarthy during the mass.

An invitation is given to all of the members of the community of Southport, regardless of denomination, to attend the mid-night service and witness perhaps for the first time the sacred action of the holy sacrifice of the mass.

Two other masses will follow later on in the morning at 10:00 and 10:30 o'clock.

Fatal Accident Sunday Evening

Pender County Youth Is Victim Of Automobile Crash At Alligator Creek Bridge In This County

Jay J. Batson, 20-year old navy man and resident of Pender county was killed in an automobile wreck on the Alligator Creek bridge Saturday night. His body was thrown from the car into the water and was not found until noon the next day. Preliminary investigation has indicated that he was killed in the wreck and not drowned.

Following the recovery of the body State Highway Patrolman C. J. Ferguson went to the James Walker hospital and served a warrant on Fred Brown, driver of the car, charging him with reckless operation, resulting in death. Brown and M. L. Walton, companions of Batson, told officers they were on their way from Wilmington to Wrightsville Beach when they overturned on the Brunswick county bridge in the opposite direction.

There is said to be evidence of drinking and that the car approached the bridge, on a curve, at high speed. The machine overturned on the bridge and Walton and Brown were carried to a Wilmington hospital in a serious condition. No trace was found of Batson following the accident until the body was located the next day. The State highway patrolmen investigating the accident expressed belief that he was killed and dancing.

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The Pilot Covers Brunswick County

NO. SIXTEEN

AAA Community Committees Are Named For 1947

Brunswick County Farmers Showed More Interest Than In Past Years In Recent Voting For Farm Program

WILL BENNETT AGAIN CHAIRMAN

Members Of Community Committees To Assist In Administering AAA Program On Farms Of This County

Annual community AAA convention was held recently in the Green Swamp area of Brunswick county, and farmers showed more interest than for many years in the selection of committees to represent their communities and assist in administering the farm program for another year. There were a total of 43 committees in the county, the number being about 43 percent more than in 1945.

The county convention was held at the county agriculture building Monday, December 9, at 10 o'clock. The delegates from various communities nominated and elected three county committees and two alternates. A list of satisfaction must have been filed at the convention as the members of the committees served for the past year.

The county committee elected for the next twelve months is as follows:

Chairman: C. O. Bennett, Freeport; vice-chairman, G. Martin Shalotte; regular members, Jackson B. Potter, Wina-bow; alternate, F. Herbert Manley Bennett, Shalotte.

The following community committees were named: West community: Chairman, Leo Brown, Leland; vice-chairman, Leo Medlin, Leland; regular members, G. Blaine Skipper, Leland; first alternate, F. L. Leland, Leland; second alternate, Leland, Leland.

East community: chairman, H. Williams, Leland; regular members, J. R. Williamson, Leland; alternate, LeRoy Lewis, Leland; second alternate, James H. Leland, Leland.

South community: Chairman, H. H. Holden, Supply; vice-chairman, C. B. McDowell, Bolivia; regular member, Roy G. Sellers, Leland; first alternate, L. L. Leland, Bolivia; second alternate, John C. Gore, Bolivia.

North community: Chairman, H. H. Holden, Supply; vice-chairman, C. B. McDowell, Bolivia; regular member, Roy G. Sellers, Leland; first alternate, L. L. Leland, Bolivia; second alternate, John B. Drew, Southport.

Southport community: Chairman, H. H. Holden, Supply; vice-chairman, C. B. McDowell, Bolivia; regular members, Hermon Smith, Leland; regular member, Mal-herbert, Southport; first alternate, F. Dillard Price, Southport; second alternate, John B. Drew, Southport.

Southport Community: Chairman, John H. Brown, Bolivia; vice chairman, Carl S. Bolivia; regular members, P. Swain, Bolivia; first alternate, D. O. Soles, Bolivia; second alternate, Elwood Clemmons, Bolivia.

Brief News Flashes

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM—Everyone is invited to attend Christmas program at Sharon Baptist church on December 24 at 7 o'clock. Featuring the program will be the Christmas cantata.

NEW DISTRIBUTING—The Fountain Oil company, of Southport, has acquired a lot of new four-thousand-gallon fuel oil tanks here for the purpose of distributing to local farmers. The distribution will be through G. E. Hubbard and Rogers.

PROPERTY CLEANING—The date for the cleaning up of the cemetery, at Ash, has been fixed. Those who have relatives or friends buried there are urged to get the above date.

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