

THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

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District Camporee Slated

EDENTON — A District Camporee for the Roanoke-Chowan District, East Carolina Boy Scout Council, originally scheduled for the weekend of March 9 to 11 has been rescheduled for the weekend of March 16-18. This announcement was made by Andy Reilly, district commissioner.

The Camporee will begin Friday afternoon at the Jim Butler Farm near Mt. Olive Church, between Lewiston and Windsor.

"All scouts from the R-C District should be ready for a full weekend," Reilly said.

Attending will be Scouts from Hertford, Bertie and Northampton Counties.

Highlight of the weekend will be the annual Klondike Derby which will be run Saturday. This is a series of obstacles and tests which the Scouts must overcome as they race against the clock. To add some flavor to the race the Scouts will be pulling Klondike Sleds which they have already made.



SPRING HAS SPRUNG IN Northampton County. The first flowers of spring are showing up all along the roadsides and in the yards of homes throughout the county. In addition, the farmers are signaling the arrival of spring by discing their fields getting mother earth ready to give birth to another generation of crops to feed the nation.

No Verdict Yet

Dove Hunters Case Under Advisement

WILSON — Northampton's 38 dove hunters, charged with hunting over a baited field on the W. P. Morris farm south of Jackson last September 2, finally had what may have been their day in court last week.

Appearing before Federal Judge John D. Larkins Jr., in Wilson all pleaded "not guilty" and after all the evidence was presented the case was taken "under advisement." Although the judge has no particular time period in which to make his final decision it is expected that he may rule on the case within the next two weeks.

At press time a few facts were unclear. One was the story that a few of the hunters may have already paid their fines and called it quits. Another is that there were less than 38 appearing for the hearing. Originally it was

reported that 38 were charged with breaking the federal regulation. At that time 35 names were made available and the missing three were accounted for with the fact that they were minors so their names would not have been released.

The 35 originally charged and listed on the records of the Clerk of U.S. District Court in Raleigh are:

Howard E. Brewer, Wade L.

Floyd, George R. Bain III, Carson D. Thompson III, Leroy W. Wheeler, Carroll B. Robertson, Marion C. Merritt Bradford W. Smith, C. W. Bass, Hoyt E. Giles, R. R. Davis, Gray Jarman, Clinton H. Daws, William L. Daws, James F. Watson, James F. Watson Jr., Paul T. Harris, David W. Eley, R. B. Bruce, Jasper Eley, Theodore A. Buck, Roy Lowry, Joseph L. Gay, Roy F. Lowry Jr., Guy I.

McLean, George W. Story, Grant Lane, Eric Norfleet, James D. Futrell, Robert L. Bright, J. R. Foreman, J. N. White, David DeVere, James C. Wise Jr. and Graham F. Jarman Jr.

The next step for the hunters will depend on Judge Larkins' ruling. If not guilty then that's that. If guilty the next step for the hunters will be 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond.

Reflections Of One Year Past; Future

(EDITOR'S NOTE: One year ago this month Northampton County got a new

county accountant. In the year he has been in office he has been taking a course, one weekend per month, in Chapel Hill at the Institute of Government. With this behind him he will be playing an even more active roll in managing the county as an administrator. The story below is a collection of reflections of Northampton one year past and some for the future.)

By SIDNEY T. ELLEN
 County Accountant

JACKSON — Progress by a county is decided by the people of a county. We have the finest people anywhere. However, what is often considered progress by some people may be considered a step in the wrong direction by others. But progress must be measured by the benefits the majority of the people realize from it.

Allow me to list some of the things that have occurred over the last year and things that

are presently happening and finally a future outlook.

The year 1972 was a revaluation year (every eight years) and property values increased over all, providing additional revenue with its approximately 12 per cent increase over 1971. However, the budget needs were increased by \$137,713.

School needs are great everywhere and Northampton County put 45 per cent of the tax dollar to this purpose in 1971-72 Fiscal Year and increased it by one more per cent in 1972-73 Fiscal Year. (See Reflections, Page 12)

Town Hall Bid Opening Set Friday

GASTON — A special meeting has been set for Friday night by the Gaston Board of Commissioners to open bids on a new town hall construction contract.

Three bids have been received and more are expected.

The new building will be erected on the site of the present wooden tower office, which will be moved to the rear of the lot and be used for storage.

The bid meeting was set during Tuesday night's board session.

The board also approved a (See TOWN, Page 12)

Odom Guard Stabbed With Ballpoint Pen

JACKSON — James Peede of Conway, a unit guard at Odom Correctional Institute, was stabbed with a ballpoint pen last Friday by Murrell Gibbins, an inmate, according to charges preferred against Gibbins.

Peede was treated and released at Halifax Memorial Hospital in Roanoke Rapids.

According to Joe Davis, captain of the prison guards, the incident was an unprovoked attack. Gibbins was

undergoing a shower and outside interrogation when the incident occurred.

Gibbins, who is serving a five to seven year term for breaking, entering and larceny, is charged in two other warrants with assaults that occurred in a racial incident at the prison earlier in the week.

R. Sq. School Conference

RICH SQUARE — The Rich Square Elementary School will hold its second Parent-Teacher conference of the year next week (March 19-23.)

All Parents interested in the program and problems of their children are urged to attend and to invite other involved parents.

Boxcar Is Really A Boozecar

SEVERN — When workers at a Severn plant prepared to load a supposedly empty boxcar last January 13, they were, perhaps, more shocked than surprised. Upon opening the door to the car they found it filled with cases of liquor.

"An honest mistake," a railroad official said this week. "In any system cars get misplaced from time to time and this happened to be one of them."

According to an official at the plant where the booze turned up they were expecting an empty boxcar which they were going to load. Instead, two came in with the railroad requesting that they be able to leave the "extra" car on the company's siding for the weekend.

When plant workers loaded their car they prepared to enter the other car to seek scrap lumber to use in securing their load.

Upon making the discovery they reported it and shortly thereafter two members of the state ABC Board came to Severn and took control of the car. It was dispatched to the state ABC warehouse in Raleigh.

Just where it came from and how it got there is unknown, or, at least, no one is telling the newspapers the answers.

One employee at the newspaper plant where the Times-News is printed said, "If this is the type club car used on that train then I'll ride on it anytime."

Medical Auxiliary Schedules Convention And Doctor's Day

ROANOKE RAPIDS — Mrs. B. E. Stephenson of Rich Square, Mrs. T. J. Taylor and Mrs. Grace Boone of Roanoke Rapids as well as Mrs. Richard Frazier, president of the Northampton-Halifax County Medical Auxiliary, of Roanoke Rapids, will attend the Pinehurst Convention of the Woman's Auxiliary to the American Medical Association May 26 to 29.

The convention in Pinehurst is to celebrate the national Woman's Auxiliary to the American Medical Association's Golden Anniversary.

Mrs. Robert F. Beckley, 1972-73 national president will be special guest.

Mrs. Beckley, of Lock Haven, Penn., has been active in auxiliary work for many years. She was representative

for the auxiliary to the Pennsylvania Health Council.

Recently elected as vice regent of the Col. Hugh White Chapter of the D. A. R., Mrs. Beckley has been community services chairman, treasurer and currently is a board member of that organization.

Among other national organizations of which she has been a member are the AAUW, the Pennsylvania Home Economics Association Board and the American Home Economics Association.

She was the Pennsylvania delegate to the President's White House Conference on Aging and is a member of the Board of Presidents of National Organization.

A graduate of Pennsylvania State University, she is married to Robert F. Beckley, M. D., a radiologist, who was

recently elected president of the West Branch Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association.

Grace Boone, state publicity for radio and TV chairman, states that the convention will be covered on television by Bette Elliott, a television personality.

The theme for the state for 1972-73 has been "Individual Responsibility—Focus for the Future in Practical Medicine thru Health Education and Activities."

The area auxiliary is also getting ready for Doctor's

Day, March 30. On this day doctors will be honored by the Auxiliary with flowers; hospitals will receive flowers or other tokens of appreciation and honor, and flowers will be placed on the graves of the deceased doctors. This day is observed nationally and statewide as well as locally, according to Mrs. Frazier, State Doctor's Day

Chairman. On March 29, Mrs. Grace Boone and Mrs. Frazier will be guests on the Bette Elliott

(See DAY, Page 12)

In Elizabeth City

Program On Cash Grain Contracts Set Tuesday

JACKSON — Cash grain contracts — how they work, their advantages and disadvantages — will be discussed by a panel of experts at a special meeting for farmers and grain dealers Tuesday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the agricultural building at Elizabeth City.

This is one of five such seminars being conducted across the state, according to B. H. Harrell, Northampton County Extension Chairman. Harrell explained that the educational sessions are being held for farmers, handlers and others who want to learn more about selling and buying grain and soybeans by "booking" now for delivery next fall or winter.

Dr. Everett Nichols, Extension Grain Marketing Economist at North Carolina State University, is coordinating the series of seminars and will be one of the speakers. Others scheduled to appear on one or more of the programs include W. E. Lane of the N. C. Department of Agriculture, Jim Wilder of the N. C. Soybean Producers Association, John Sledge of the N. C. Farm Bureau, John Wagon of Ralston Purina, Rae Flowers of Cargill in Wilson, Flint Harding of Cargill in Fayetteville, and

Dr. Fred Sobering of NCSU. "I would urge all of our grain and soybean farmers who plan to enter into contracts this year to attend

this important seminar," Harrell said. "It's one way of realizing a greater degree of flexibility in selling your crops."

Education Board Visits Rest Of County Schools

JACKSON — Members of the Northampton County Board of Education completed the inspection tour of all 14 schools when they visited Jackson, Eastside, Rich Square, W. S. Creedy, Woodland Olney, Northampton High, Conway and Willis Hare Schools following their meeting Monday.

Chairman W. C. Connor stated that the purpose of the inspection trips was to learn what were the greatest needs of the schools and establish the priority of the needs.

Last month the board members visited Squire, Gaston, Garysburg, Gumberry, Seaboard and Coates.

Board members were particularly interested in the new green house at Northampton High School which is being used by Instructor Charles Reardon's horticulture class to produce ornamental plants to landscape the campus.

The board members, superintendent and assistant superintendent were guests of the Northampton County High School for lunch.

At the meeting the board authorized the installation of a new heating plant at the Eastside School and authorized the purchase of a Weil-McLain Model BL-1092-SF Steam trim and Honeywell controls on State Contract for \$3,449.

Also the contract of Russell H. Lyles II to teach in the county as approved and system of personnel evaluation was approved for county school professional employees.

No action was taken pertaining to a local school fund budget for 1973-74 which was presented to the Board since the members of the Board were scheduled to visit the schools.

Peanut Growers OK Assessment

JACKSON — Northampton County Peanut Growers voted Tuesday in favor of continuing assessment to finance the operation of the N. C. Peanut Growers Association.

County ASCS chairman, Ben Mann said that 97.4 per cent of

the growers favored the assessment with a vote tally of 723-19.

The amount of the assessment will be \$1 per ton or five cents per 100 pounds.

The money is used to promote production, marketing, consumption, and research in the peanut industry.

Odom Inmates Face Charges

JACKSON — A Sunday night racial incident at Odom Correctional Institute resulted in charges of assault with a deadly weapon being brought against seven inmates.

According to Donald Batton, acting superintendent of the prison camp, warrants have been issued against Fred King, James Artis, Joe Mitchell, Melton Whitaker, Murrell Gibbins, Paul Wilson and Franklin Purvis. All face single assault charges with the exception of Gibbins who is

charged with two counts to assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Inmates Joe Anthony Lloyd and Roy Mazingo sustained serious cuts about the neck in the Sunday night incident and were taken to Halifax Memorial Hospital in Roanoke Rapids for treatment. Both have been returned to the prison. A third inmate, Ronald Robertson, was injured only slightly.

Batton said the disturbance erupted in one of the dormitories.



A NEW FRONT PORCH ON THE Old County Home is attended to by Roscoe Howel, John Sledge and A. G. Berguson. Progress on the renovation of the home is going along on schedule and plans call for completion in the summer.



LOOKING OVER BLUEPRINTS FOR a portion of the county's new jail extension are (from left) Donald Jones, Thomas Gudal and Donnie Durham, all of Jones Cooling and Heating of Wilson. Below, workmen pour cement on what will be a portion of two new cells.

