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At Pearl Harbor



W. L. (Red) WATKINS, Boatswain's Mate and Captain of anti-aircraft gun of battleship which fought at Pearl Harbor, is visiting his mother, Mrs. Myrtle Watkins.

'RED' WATKINS HERE ON VISIT

Was On Active Duty As Gun Captain At Pearl Harbor

There is at least one Macon county navy man who will "remember Pearl Harbor" because he was in the thick of the fighting, and one of the fortunate participants who came through unscathed—save for damaged ear drums.

He is W. L. (Red) Watkins, son of Mrs. Myrtle Watkins of Franklin, who has served in the Navy for four years, and now has the rank of Boatswain's Mate, and is captain of a gun crew. He is spending twenty days leave with his family here. He will return to San Francisco to active duty the end of this week. Red played on the foot ball team of 1937 at the Franklin high school.

Navy men do not disclose the names of their ships. This young man cited one instance why every care must be taken not to pass on any information that might be used by the enemy. A small local paper carried the news of the death in action at Pearl Harbor of a seaman and the name of his ship. It was one of a unit which was supposed to be in the Atlantic at that time. This knowledge was of direct benefit to the enemy.

Questioned concerning the duties of a captain of an anti-aircraft gun on a war ship, "Red" stated that one of his duties besides commanding the gun crew during an engagement, was to train naval recruits. In this work he had 47 recruits directly under his instruction and 153 indirectly, who were under petty officers, he explained.

"There are many fresh recruits only 17 years old. In training them we try to impress upon them that developing responsibility and initiative will help them to take care of themselves and so serve the navy and their country better," said the young navy man, who has so recently passed through his baptism of fire. "I was impressed with the behavior under fire of the new kids, whose service had been as short as six months; that day they became men," he added.

Recruit Downs Plans

As an example of initiative displayed in action, he told this story. "One of these recruit seamen shot down the first enemy plane of the war, without orders, using his initiative, before the ship actually got into action. He scored a direct hit and the plane came down in flames less than 100 yards from the ship. He was commended and given a medal; besides being promoted to a 3rd class gunner's mate.

While Red suggested that he be asked questions, there were many which he answered with a smile and "I can't answer that." One's voice had to be raised somewhat in speaking to him, but he was recovering his hearing. Of his own vessel he did say it was next to the Oklahoma when it went down; that his ship went out under her own steam in pursuit of the enemy.

"Before it was over, I saw the Arizona literally blown to bits—32,600 tons of her went sky high, her guns still in action in spite of the destruction of her electric system by the first bomb that struck. Sailors lined up and passed the ammunition up to the guns after the electric carriages were put out of commission, and they

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All Stars

Open Season With Franklin Hi Sunday

The Franklin All-Stars met this week and elected Ray Swanson manager and W. C. Newton assistant manager of the team. Bobby Carpenter is treasurer. They announce that the first game of the season will be played Sunday at 3 p. m. at the ball park. The game is free to all.

Civil Court In Session

The case of Kansas Stewart vs. Cary, Soper, et al., involving mining properties, has been on trial in civil court all week. Attorneys for the plaintiff are Messrs. Edwards, Gray and Stockton, and for the defendants, Messrs. Phillips, Bryson and Jones and Jones.

Men In The Service



Left: Pvt. William P. Angel, son of Mrs. Carl Angel, is stationed at the Air Base, Albuquerque, N. M. Right: Robert Saunders, son of Mrs. W. M. Saunders of Franklin, is an assistant road construction superintendent on duty in Panama.

Louis Holland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Holland of Gneiss has been home recently on a short furlough from Camp Blanding Fla. James Edward Jennings, of Cullasaja, who retired after 30 years service has been recalled. He was at home last weekend and left for an army post in Savannah.

William L. Elmore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Omer Elmore of Franklin, has recently been promoted to the rank of corporal according to an announcement by the authorities at the Air Corps Proving Grounds, Eglin Field, Fla., Corporal Elmore has been in the army since July 23, 1941.

Bobby Sanders, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanders of Rt. 4 enjoyed a short furlough from Fort Jackson with his parents recently. Bobby has been serving in the army for about two years.

John W. Corbin, son of Mrs. J. J. Corbin and the late Mr. Corbin of Cullasaja was transferred not long ago from Parris Island to Boston where he is on Coast Patrol duty with the Marine Corps. He enlisted last September. His mother who had not heard from him in three weeks received a letter the other day which read in part, "If I have to go to the war zone, don't worry; and if I don't have to go to the war zone, why worry?" Mrs. Corbin has another son, Sam, who has served 16 years with the Marine Corps. He is now at Ft. McPherson Ga., doing radio aeronautical work under Civil Service.

James H. Vinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James I. Vinson of Otto, is stationed at Camp Polk, La. He has been assigned to the Reconnaissance Company, 32nd Armored Regiment.

Robert Hawks of Aquone left for Asheville last Monday to enlist in the army.

Murphy Cannery Contracts Close May 10

Information has been received from the Cannery at Murphy by Sam Mendenhall that if there are any other farmers in Macon County who desire to contract tomato or bean acreage, they should do so by May 10th. Those who have already contracted bean acreage can secure their bean seed from the county agent's office after this closing date.

It is possible that the person who has his bean acreage contracted at a guaranteed price will be in better shape than the person who is expecting to sell to truckers who are having trouble in securing tires.

Prominent Preacher At Mount Hope Sunday

Rev. Henry Langford from Piedmont college, Demorest, Ga., will preach at Mount Hope Baptist church at 12 o'clock, Sunday, April 20.

Proclamation

CLEAN UP • PAINT UP • FIX UP
PLANT UP • GIVE JOBS

Know All Men, Women and Children
By These Presents:

THAT WHEREAS, the annual community Clean Up, Paint Up, Plant Up Campaign is being observed by the nation next week; and

WHEREAS, the campaign now being waged embraces the repairing of necessary dwellings, the painting and cleaning up of same, the cleaning and beautifying of public streets and buildings and vacant lots; the conserving of all commodities, and the planting of flower and vegetable gardens;

NOW, THEREFORE, in this time of national emergency, I, John Harrison, Mayor of the Town of Franklin, do call upon all citizens to do all possible in carrying out the above program, and do proclaim the week beginning April 27, as Paint Up, Clean Up, Plant Up Week.

John Harrison, Mayor.

Directors Chosen

By Chamber Of Commerce At Dinner Meeting

An enthusiastic meeting of about 50 members of the Franklin chamber of commerce met last Thursday evening at Panorama Court to elect a board of directors for the coming season and to make plans for the summer activities.

After a delicious dinner was enjoyed, the meeting was presided over by G. A. Jones, and R. S. Omohundro read the report of Secretary T. T. Love for 1941, which had been printed in full last fall, showing twice as many tourists served and registered as for any previous season.

The following directors were elected: Grant Zickgraf, Ben McGlamery, G. A. Jones, A. G. Cagle, Dr. J. L. Stokes, E. J. Whitmore, E. W. Long.

Prospects for the coming season were fully discussed and many valuable suggestions made to improve and enlarge the services of the chamber of commerce. It was the general opinion that this will be a good season in spite of war conditions, and that the community would unite to make the stay of the guests enjoyable after they arrived. Altogether, this was an encouraging and peppy meeting. There were a lot of good speeches made and all agreed that the organization had made a good start.

Mrs. Bateman

Dies On Burningtown At 88, Has 113 Descendants

Mrs. Matilda Elizabeth Jones Bateman, 88, died at her home in the Upper Burningtown section of Macon county about 1:30 a. m. Saturday, April 18 following an illness of three months.

She was the widow of John Bateman, Confederate veteran, who died 55 years ago, and the daughter of the late Riley and Sarah Holden Jones. Mrs. Bateman was born in Clay county and moved to the Burningtown community about 20 years ago. She was a member of Oakdale Baptist church.

Funeral services were held at Briartown Baptist church Sunday, April 19 at 3 p. m. with the Rev. H. D. Denny officiating, assisted by the Rev. Philip Passmore. Interment will be in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers were Gus Cope, Oscar Bateman, Ell Cope, George Bateman, Blaine and Eugene Cope.

Mrs. Bateman is survived by 113 descendants. They are three children, Mrs. Edith Cope and Charles L. Bateman of Franklin Route 3; and Alex Bateman of Route 2; two sisters, Mrs. Jane May of Flats and Mrs. Nancy Lunsford of Clay county; two brothers, Dick and Jack Jones of Clay county; 22 grandchildren, 70 great-grand children and 18 great-great-grandchildren.

4th Registration

For Men Between 45 - 65 Monday, April 27

Plans for the 4th Registration to be held Monday, April 27, from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m., are complete, the Local Board announces. This registration is for men between the ages of 45 and 65. Men born on or after April 28, 1877, and on or before February 16, 1897 and who have not registered in a previous registration will be required to register. The places of registrars and their assistants are as follows:

Franklin, County Court House, C. T. Bryson, chief, assistants Mrs. Eloise G. Franks, Elmer Crawford, Frank Murray, Mrs. Mavis Harris, Sam Mendenhall, Miss Elizabeth Slagle, Harley R. Cabe, Geo. R. Pattillo, Esta Mae Childers, Miss Sue Bryson, Mrs. Mary Louise Sherrill, Fred Bryson, Mrs. Meta Bryson, Mrs. Jean Burrell, Sanford Mann, Bill Bryson and Wilson Smart.

Otto, Otto School House, J. J. Mann, chief, assistants, Mrs. Arlene Hawkins, Mrs. Onnie Cabe, Mrs. Joyce Cagle, Mrs. Catherine Henry, Mrs. Blanche Keener, Mrs. Ruth Fouts, Mrs. Blanche Howard, Mrs. Myrtle Norton, Mary Helen Dills.

Highlands, Highlands School House, O. F. Sumner, chief, assistants Mrs. R. T. Abbott, Miss Nina Howard, Miss Veva Howard, Miss Lois Keener, W. H. Cobb, Miss Sarah Thompson, Miss Estelle Edwards.

Pine Grove, Pine Grove School House, Sanford Smith, chief, assistant, Mrs. Myrtle F. Keener.

Cullasaja, Salem School House, Wm. G. Crawford, chief, assistant Mrs. William G. Crawford.

Holly Springs, Holly Springs School House, R. S. Jones, chief, assistants Mrs. Gladys Vinson, Mrs. Mary S. Burd, Mrs. Frances Pattillo.

Burningtown, Burningtown School House, J. S. Conley, chief, assistants, Mrs. Marie G. Roper, Mrs. Nina T. McCoy, Mrs. Velma Conley.

West's Mill, Cowee School House, E. G. Crawford, chief, assistants Miss Mattie Brendle, Miss May McCoy, Sol Leatherman, Carr Bryson.

Scaly, Scaly School House, Miss Jessie Hurst, chief, assistants Miss Virginia Edwards.

Slagle, Slagle School House, Miss Amanda Slagle, chief, assistants Mrs. Margaret Flannagan, Mrs. Paul Carpenter, Miss Elice Slagle.

Kyle, Kyle School House, Miss Lolita Dean, chief.

Otter Creek, Otter Creek School House, Carl D. Moses, chief, assistants, Ray N. Moses, Jack Carpenter, Mrs. Fleta G. Mason.

Higdonville, Higdonville School, E. J. Carpenter, chief, assistants Miss Grace Carpenter, Mrs. Lovic

Democrats and Republicans Nominate County Tickets

For County Commissioner List Of Candidates As Filed With Board Of Elections



W. W. EDWARDS of Highlands, who has filed for county commissioner, subject to the Democratic primary.

For State Senate



EDWIN B. WHITAKER, candidate for renomination to the State Senate from the 23rd District subject to the Democratic primary.

All Voters

Must Register To Vote In May Primary

As announced last week by R. S. Jones, chairman of the Board of Elections of Macon county, only those who register on the dates set will be eligible to vote in the primary of May 30. Since there is some confusion in the minds of some, we are repeating the notice this week. The registration last fall was for the bond election held on the issuing of bonds for building a new court house. This registration is not valid for any other election.

The registration books will be open on Saturday, May 2, and will close Saturday, May 16. Challenge Day will be Saturday, May 23.

First Aid

Classes For Instructors Begin May 11

James D. Hall, of the headquarters staff of the American Red Cross, will give a Lay Instructor course of 30 hours in Franklin at the Agricultural building over a period from May 22, according to an announcement made by Chairman Harley Cabe.

These courses are being planned in North Carolina to meet the increasing demand for First Aid. Macon County chapter has been selected to be host for one of these Instructor classes and open candidates with little or no previous training. Candidates from other counties will be invited to attend.

This is an opportunity for many to make contribution to the war effort in keeping with their abilities in a field which is training workers to meet the nation's need as rapidly as possible.

ia J. Moses.

At the teachers' meeting at the Franklin high school on Saturday, April 25, the chief registrars and their assistants will be given the necessary supplies and they will be sworn in and be given final instructions.

The complete ticket of candidates who have filed for the coming primary and election with Chairman R. S. Jones of the county board of elections before the dead line last Saturday is given below:

Democratic Ticket

The following have filed subject to the Democratic primary which will be held on Saturday, May 30:

For Representative, Dr. W. A. Rogers.

For Sheriff, A. B. Slagle, Fred D. Cabe.

For Register of Deeds, C. Tom Bryson, Lake V. Shope.

For Clerk of Court, Harley R. Cabe, Frank I. Murray.

For Chairman of Board of Commissioners, Gus Leach, J. B. Elmore.

For Commissioners, W. W. Edwards, C. L. Blaine, C. A. Rogers.

For Board of Education, Frank Browning, E. B. Byrd, J. E. Cabe, Gene Crawford, Mrs. Bessie Cabe Gray, Lee Mason, C. G. Moore, J. R. Phillips.

For Surveyor, John H. Dalton.

For Coroner, G. O. Wallace.

For State Senate

Edwin B. Whitaker of Bryson City announces this week in this paper for the office of state senator for the 23rd district. Mr. Whitaker, who is the present incumbent, is a well known lawyer, of this section and ably served the district in the last session. He is seeking renomination. He was born in 1908 and was admitted to the bar in 1930. He is a member of the firm of Black and Whitaker of Bryson City.

W. W. Edwards of Highlands who announced for chairman of the Board of County Commissioners last week, filed instead for commissioner, after Gus Leach decided to file for reelection.

Republican Candidates

Several changes in the Republican ticket as announced last week were made before filing.

The ticket is as follows:

For Representative, J. H. Dean.

For Sheriff, J. P. Bradley.

For Register of Deeds, Don L. Henry.

For Clerk of Court, A. R. Higdon.

For Chairman of Board of Commissioners, W. T. Tippet.

For Commissioners, Guy Paul, M. D. Downs.

For Surveyor, J. L. Dills.

Coroner, R. Glenn Ray.

The Macon County Board of Elections consists of R. S. Jones, chairman; F. H. Potts, Democrats; and R. M. Ledford, Republican.

Saturday, April 18, was the last day for filing.

FIRES DAMAGE N'TL. FORESTS

Sabotage Charged as Fires Sweep Pisgah, And Other Forests

Fires in all the national forests in this section and the arrest by FBI agents of alleged saboteurs led to an executive order yesterday by Joseph Kircher, regional U. S. forester of Atlanta for the closing of Nantahala forest, Chatahochee in north Georgia and Cherokee in Tennessee. Pisgah forest, where fires have been raging for over a week, was closed Tuesday. The closing affects all persons except those living in the area and those whose duties take them in the forests.

James Martin and W. A. Barnes of Hiwassee, Ga., and Hugh Platt of Young Harris, Ga., employees of Fontana, are being held in the Bryson City jail, on sabotage charges of setting fires in the Nantahala forests which destroyed transmission lines and a transformer of the Nantahala Power and Light company, forest and private property estimated at \$14,000. Forest service officials state that Martin confessed to setting 23 fires in the Nantahala gorge in Cherokee county.

Fires were reported as checked on Thursday morning. In Pisgah National Forest 12,000 acres of scenic wonderland are reported burned over, with the fishing of many streams destroyed for the next five years.