

Restored House To Be Dedicated Saturday

Restored to what experts think is a remarkable resemblance to its original appearance, the House in the Horseshoe, also known as the Alston House, will be formally dedicated as a State Historical Site Saturday afternoon.

The dedication ceremonies will end long months of work on the part of many people. For the Moore County Historical Association, the ceremonies will be pleasant indeed: it marks the second building the association has successfully restored. The other was the Shaw House in Southern Pines.

The house and four and one half acres of surrounding property are now owned by the State as one of the Historic Sites under supervision of the State Department of Archives and History.

At the ceremonies Saturday a number of events are on the program, including the presentation of a portrait of Benjamin Williams, two-time governor of the state, who lived there from 1799 until his death.

A playlet, which will be presented by the Deep River Home Demonstration Club, is a main feature of the program. Written by Mrs. J. J. Hume of Carthage, the play depicts a typical scene that occurred at the house on many occasions, Mrs. Philip Alston, wife of the house's most famous owner and its builder, serving tea to a group of visiting ladies from the countryside. Period costumes will be worn.

Sheriff Charles McDonald, president of the historical association will preside. The restoration project has been accomplished with the help of many people. In addition to the Moore County Historical Association, other organized groups who have shown an interest and contributed help and funds are the North Carolina Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, the Private John Grady Chapter of the DAR, Sanford, and the Alfred Moore DAR Chapter and numerous individuals.

The dedication will recall the early history of the house and the day in 1781 when Colonel Philip Alston, his family and a small group of Whigs were trapped in a surprise attack by the Tory leader, David Fanning.

The house is accessible by good roads connecting with Highway 27 in Carthage where an official state marker commemorates its part in the Revolutionary War period.

Visitors will find roadway signs leading them to the dedication ceremonies.



A PORTRAIT of Governor Benjamin Williams, a resident of the restored House in the Horseshoe, will be officially presented when the house is dedicated as a state historic site Saturday afternoon. Here, the artist, William Fields of Fayetteville and New York, looks over the portrait with Mrs. Ernest Ives of Southern Pines, a prime mover in the restoration project. (Pilot photo)

Portrait of Gov. Benjamin Williams To Be Hung At Dedication Ceremony

A portrait of Benjamin Williams, two-time governor of North Carolina, will be hung in the House in the Horseshoe at formal dedication ceremonies Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m.

Governor Williams, who was governor from 1799 to 1802, and again for a term in 1808, lived in the famed house from 1799 until his death. He had acquired it from the Alston family, original owners.

The portrait was painted by William C. Fields, Cumberland County native and one of the outstanding portrait painters of the nation.

The portrait, commissioned by Mrs. Ernest Ives when she was president of the Moore County Historical Association, will be a prized possession in the house which has been restored to its Colonial dignity. When Fields began work on the portrait he discovered that the original, now hanging in the Hall of History in Raleigh, had been painted over twice in efforts to restore it.

He discovered, however, that the Hall of History had in its files negatives of photographs of the portrait taken before the last restoration, and also negatives taken before the first restoration.

He took the negatives, had photographs made, and made a complete study of the painting as it was before the restoration had been accomplished. He was not

surprised to learn that the job had been a bad one and that the portrait in the Hall of History bore little resemblance to Governor Williams.

Much of the character of the Governor and almost all of the physical resemblance had been lost, he said. "I guess artists in those days just painted people the way they thought they would look in the period the painting was done."

He added: "I felt, however, that since the portrait would hang in his home and for purely historical reasons, it should be as near like the original as possible."

The portrait, incidentally, will hang over the mantel in the paneled drawing room of the restored home. Fields spent several weeks doing "detective" work on the portrait. Even the costumes had been altered in the restorations and it was necessary for him to do a great deal of research concerning the costumes of that period in order to make it authentic.

The original painter is unknown. However, the staff of the North Carolina Museum of Art believes that several other portraits by the same painter are in existence. "This may lead, Fields thinks, to clues as to the authorship of the original."

It is possible, he believes, that the portrait was painted in Philadelphia while Williams was a

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Post Office May Be Forced To Cut Service Saturday

Would Curtail Some Delivery, Pierce Says

Unless more money is appropriated by Congress the Southern Pines post office, like thousands of others across the country, will close Saturday and future mail service will be curtailed to a great degree.

Postmaster Summerfield has requested the Congress to appropriate the additional funds before Saturday so that service will not be affected. Saturday begins a new quarter and Summerfield said that deliveries to homes and businesses would be cut off.

Local postmaster Garland Pierce said today that, should the funds not be allocated, it would mean this here:

All home and business mail delivery would be cut off on Saturday, causing a tremendous load on Monday and subsequent delays and late deliveries.

The post office would be forced to close at 1:30 p.m. each Saturday, the busiest day of the week and, again, would cause a tremendous burden on Monday.

Money orders, which Summerfield said would have to be stopped, amounted to \$365,918 here last year, from 20,000 individuals and companies. Banks and the Railway Express Agency would be faced with the task of transmitting funds for citizens, Pierce said, thus working a hardship on them.

So far as third class mail is concerned, there would be no effect locally on dispatching it, but a tremendous volume is delivered here. Summerfield said such service would go out the window if the funds weren't made available.

Added to all these problems, Pierce said, is the fact that some 50 per cent of the regular clerical employees of the post office here were laid off last year and it has had a big effect on the local office.

He also reminded patrons today that, because of a revision in the highway postoffice schedule, there will be a one-half hour later distribution of the morning mail.

Air mail service in and out of Knollwood Field will also be suspended, as it is regularly this time of year, on April 30.

Glee Clubs Will Compete Here For Picquet Cup Award

The largest number of contestants ever will compete for the coveted Charles Picquet Cup when glee clubs from seven schools sing at Weaver Auditorium Thursday night, April 11, at 8 p. m.

The annual contests, sponsored by the Sandhills Kiwanis Club, will have entries this year from Southern Pines, Pinehurst, Aberdeen, Carthage, Vass-Lakeview, Robbins, and Farm Life schools.

The Picquet Cup is perhaps the most prized possession any glee club in the county may possess. Mr Picquet started the contests many years ago. It was taken over, at his request, by the Kiwanis Club in 1950.

Dairy Barn Near Pinebluff Burns

The Silver Springs dairy barn on the outskirts of Pinebluff was completely destroyed by fire about 7:30 last night (Wednesday).

Gordon Colnett, owner of the farm, said today he was still unable to determine the cause of the fire which brought out the fire departments in Pinebluff, Aberdeen, Southern Pines and Pinehurst.

None of the cows were injured, he said, although the barn and two silos were ruined. Two calves in the barn were led to safety, as were a number of cows.

Mr. Colnett, who has owned the farm five years, said he had it inspected and it was all right at the time. He produced about 150 gallons of milk each day which was sold to Montgomery Dairies.

The building was not covered entirely by insurance.

3 Incumbents Seek To Retain Council Seats; 2 Newcomers

Council Calls For Public Meeting On Town Development

A public meeting to discuss what is being accomplished in the "balanced development" of Southern Pines has been scheduled at the library here tomorrow (Friday) at 5 p. m.

Sponsored by the Town Council, the meeting will bring together representatives from a wide variety of groups in Southern Pines concerned with promotion and development. Mayor Voit Gilmore said the meeting should be over by 6 p. m.

He said the meeting was called so that various groups and individuals working on development plans that would affect the town's future could report on progress made. "We hope that as many people as possible may attend the meeting," he said, "and learn about the ideas the groups have and, if they have any, to invoke new ideas into the thinking."

Those who have already said they would make brief reports on work their individual clubs or committees had been engaged in are John Ostrom, chairman of the Moore County Industrial Development Committee; several members of the committee from Southern Pines; Earl Hubbard, president of the Chamber of Commerce; James Baird, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce; Mrs. Claude Reams, president of the Southern Pines Garden Club; and Mrs. Ernest Ives, representing the Moore County Historical Association.

Representatives from tourist interests and other businesses will also be on hand.

Red Cross Drive Lags; Only 68 Per Cent of Quota In

The annual Red Cross campaign for members and funds in Moore County is seriously lagging, according to a report made today by Donald D. Kennedy of Southern Pines, county-wide campaign chairman.

"To date, the total for the entire county has reached only 68 per cent of the quota," he said, adding it would be necessary to continue the drive for at least two weeks longer.

Five communities have either reached or exceeded the quotas established there. Reports from several other communities have not been made at all.

Here is the breakdown on the drive to date, with the name of the community, the quota, and the percentage of the quota raised:

- Aberdeen, \$1,500, 101; Addor, \$35, no report; Bensalem, \$25, 100; Big Oak, \$20, 100; Cameron, \$200, 54; Carthage, \$800, 24; Clay Road Farms, \$35, 40; Eagle Springs, \$100, 97; Eastwood, \$35, 85; Eureka, \$30, 100; Highfalls, \$100, 75; Hillcrest, \$60, 80; Glendon, \$30, no report.
- Jackson Hamlet, \$60, no report; Jackson Springs, \$175, 80; Knollwood, \$400, 85; Lakeview, \$60, 75; Manly, \$75, no report; Niagara, \$75, 60; Parkwood, \$60, no report; Pinebluff, \$200, 50; Pinehurst, \$4,200, 77; Pleasant Hill, \$20, 100; Robbins, \$700, 40; Roseland, \$35, 101; Southern Pines, \$5,250, 68.
- Spies, \$15, no report; Taylor-town, \$200, 50; Horseshoe, \$25, no report; Union Church, \$25, 34; Vass, \$350, 47; West End, \$400, 88; Westmoore, \$70, 44; West Southern Pines, \$200, 116; and White Hill, \$55, 20.

Interest Picks Up As Deadline To File Nears

Five candidates, three of them present members, had filed for election to the Town Council at press time today.

Councilmen filing for re-election were Walter Blue, Sam Richardson and T. T. Morse. Retired General Pearson Menoher of Knollwood, an unsuccessful candidate two years ago, paid his filing fee late Wednesday afternoon.

Leland M. Daniels, local contractor, filed at 1 o'clock today, the last of the first five.

There has been much talk that a rash of candidates would file before deadline at 5 p.m. tomorrow (Friday).

Richardson, in a long statement said he felt that some members of the present council should offer themselves for re-election because "the present Council has started several major projects which I think we should feel some responsibility toward seeing through to completion."

He said that, though it was distasteful to do so, he would, if elected, make a motion that a row of cedar trees on West Pennsylvania Avenue be cut down to make way for a cement sidewalk. The present Council, at the instigation of the town's garden clubs, had requested that the trees be left intact and Council had agreed to do so.

Richardson also said he felt Councilmen should be paid for their time, "abuse and responsibility without pay," and that he would make a motion to that effect.

Blue, who received the largest

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Registration To Begin Saturday

Registration books for the forthcoming municipal elections will be open Saturday, April 6, from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m., according to Mrs. Grace Kaylor, registrar.

Registration for new voters will be held at the Fire Station on E. New Hampshire Ave.

The books will be closed Sunday, but will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., and Saturday, from 9 to 9.

New registrants must have been a resident of North Carolina for one year and of Southern Pines 30 days.

Separate books are kept for Southern Pines election and county elections, Mrs. Kaylor pointed out, and voters who have not registered specifically for a town election must do so if they wish to vote in the municipal elections.

Boosters Club To Meet, Plan 1957 Program Monday

The annual spring meeting of the Blue Knights Boosters Club will be held Monday night at the Church of Wide Fellowship.

Tentative items on the agenda for the program, which begins at 8 p.m., are the treasurer's report, a discussion of the football program, and election of officers.

J. B. Perkinson, president, said that 11-man football, which will be played in Southern Pines for the first time next season, will also be discussed, as will the program for the Boosters Club in the coming months.

The club, composed of friends and boosters of the athletic program at Southern Pines High School, has been active in raising funds for various necessities of the various teams, and building an interest in the athletic program.

Refreshments and entertainment will be provided, "both free," Perkinson said.

Members are requested to bring a friend and, if available, wear the regular badges.



REGISTRATION for the annual Homes and Garden Tour of the Southern Pines Garden Club was placed at almost 1,000, equal to any tour the club has ever sponsored. Visitors are shown here registering with Mrs. N. L. Hodgkins and Mrs. James S. Milliken at the Shaw House, tour headquarters. (Pilot photo)

Perfect Weather Greets Estimated 1,000 On Annual Home & Garden Tour

Around a thousand garden-tour started, by Mrs. James S. Milliken and Mrs. N. L. Hodgkins, and at the doors of homes the 1957 Garden Club tour the day.

In fact, with close to 900 registered and many known to have "started in the middle", or otherwise failed to get themselves written down, the number enjoying the sunny day in the homes and gardens of the tour may have exceeded the 1000 mark. The tour, this year, included Pinehurst as well as Southern Pines.

Ticket sales amounting to \$1,742 had come in as reported to The Pilot at press-time by Mrs. Claude Reams, president of the local club. Tickets were sold at the Shaw House, where the

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THE HOUSE IN THE HORSESHOE, one of Moore County's most famed landmarks, will officially become a state historic site at dedication ceremonies Saturday afternoon. The house, scene of a small skirmish between Whigs and Tories during the Revolutionary War period, has been completely restored though bullet holes from the skirmish may still be seen on the outer walls. (N. C. State News Bureau photo)