

Annual Red Cross Fund Drive Starts In Country Today

Chairman V. J. Spivey Urging Public To Help Put Country Over Top In A Hurry

The annual Red Cross Fund Drive got under way today throughout the nation with the possibility that it will be carried over the top in record time.

Completing plans for handling the drive in this chapter, Chairman V. J. Spivey is appealing to the people of this chapter to liberally support the fund and help carry the chapter over the top in a hurry...

Of the \$3,600 quota, the people of Williamston Township are being asked to raise \$1,940,000. Twenty solicitors were named yesterday by Chairman Spivey to canvass the town, and several of them are already at work.

Many local people are being assessed very considerable amounts under the premise that there will be 100 percent participation in the drive.

Miss Ruth Manning, principal, said yesterday that the elementary school here could be counted on to support the drive.

Every district in the Martin County Chapter has been organized for the drive, and in several districts preliminary work was handled the early part of this week.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower says of the Red Cross: "During my years with our troops in Great Britain, North Africa and on the European continent, I developed a warm admiration for the friendly, understanding and highly efficient service performed by the American Red Cross for our fighting men."

"I express the earnest hope of the Army that the American public will continue its generous support of the Red Cross during 1946."

"Major hostilities have now ceased, but that does not in any way mean the end of the work of the American Red Cross."

"I wholeheartedly urge continuing full support of the worthy efforts of the American Red Cross during these critical times of readjustment from war to peace, a period which will directly influence the peace and stability of the future."

Undergoing treatment for high blood pressure in a Washington hospital for several days, Mayor John L. Hassell was reported last evening to be improving rapidly, and that he expected to return home shortly.

Richard Bynner is constructing a store and soda shop in Hamilton. Unable to get brick, the builder is using cinder blocks.

Master Randy Allen returned home Wednesday from Durham where he underwent medical attention for about a week.



Your Red Cross watches over the comforts of hospitalized veterans and service people everywhere. Help put its Fund Campaign over.

Hold Long Session Of Recorder's Court Here

DAY OF PRAYER

Members of the several religious denominations will join in the observance of the World Day of Prayer in the Methodist church here on Friday afternoon of next week at 4:00 o'clock, and an urgent call to prayer is being sounded by the religious leaders of the community.

The service will center around the theme, "The Things That Make for Peace."

World Day of Prayer has been observed by local churches since 1938, and the event next Friday is expected to establish a record for attendance.

Exorbitant Charge For Stove Repairs

According to reliable reports reaching here, self-styled experts are charging exorbitant prices for making repairs to various types of stoves in this section.

The practice, recognized by some as being worse than highway robbery, reached a climax this week when the three men placed a part in a cook stove, smeared a little lamp black on a few vulnerable spots and presented a bill for \$40.32.

Reports reaching here declared that the stove owner was placed at an undue advantage, that the repairs possibly cost more than the price paid for the stove when it was new.

Purchase Equipment For New Hamilton Theater

Projector equipment for the new theater to be built in Hamilton was purchased a few days ago by representatives of the project.

Materials have been placed on the lot but construction is not yet under way on the new movie house.

Accident Victim Continues Quite Ill In Hospital

His skull fractured when struck by a motorcycle driven by Sammy Taylor, local young man, on West Main Street last Saturday morning, Dock Kennedy, colored man, was said late yesterday to be slightly improved.

TOBACCO PLANTS

The first of the new crop of tobacco plants are up and growing fairly rapidly, farmers in several of the county townships said this week.

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Honor Students In Local Schools For The Fourth Period

Names of 138 Pupils Appear On List, Principal Sam Bundy Announces

The names of 138 pupils appear on the honor roll for the fourth report period in the local schools, Principal Sam D. Bundy announced this week.

The list follows, by grades: First Grade: Emma Jean Goddard, Peggy Moore Goddard, Ann Harrison, Mary Jean Hunt, Blanche Manning, Henry Handy, Joe Murphy, Floyd Thomas, Clayton Weston, Robert Bowen, James Gurganus, Charles Hudson, Allan Mayo Modlin, Tommie Phelps, Billy Thornton, Nancy Britton, Mary Frances Martin, Jane Peele, Betsy Riddick, Dorothy Roberson, Betsy Barnhill, Gene Copeland, Charles Edwards, Jimmy Hardison, Robert Williams, Dorothy Brown, Mary Lou Cox, Anne Gray Darden, Priscilla Gurganus, Elsie Gray Scott, Edna Taylor, Betty Taylor, and Nancy Bullock.

Second Grade: Bobby Parham, Iverson Skinner, Rudy Ward, Gerald White, Rodney Pittman, Jane Gray Biggs, Betty Carstarphen, Lilly Mae Gardner, Sandra Gardner, Sandra Margolis, Jean Nicholson, Faye Peele, Jane Barnhill, Gene Bennett, Jon Clark, Joseph Clayton, Angeline Dickerson, Virginia Hamm, Ann Holliday, Phyllis Jones, Edward Laughinghouse, Jane Manning, Vivian Pate, Annette Rogers, and Herbert Ward.

Third Grade: Frankie Everett, Doris Rogers, Janice Holliday, Robert Weston, Joyce Manning, Janice Rogers, Bobby Manning, Carl Lee Beacham, Bennie Harrison, James Pittman, Edward Rogerson, Sondra Biffapp, Jean Coltraine, Jessie Corey, Betty Martin, Jean Whichard, Lelia Mae Goff, Barbara Cherry, Barbara Everett, Melva Lee Wynne, John Dunn, and Patricia Harrison.

Fourth Grade: Anne Gresham, Patricia Wynne, Gerlene Williams, Janice Manning, Betty Helen Mobley, Turner Manning, Ralph Parker, Martha Dunn Kimball, Judith Ayers, Betty Sue Clark, David Davis, Tommy Hardison, Janet Ross, Billy Glover, and Pattie Williams.

Fifth Grade: Wadie Gardner, Jean Ward Mobley, Harrell Everette, Jr., Mary Ann Manning, and Sally Roberson.

Sixth Grade: Anne Jones and Ernest Taylor. Seventh Grade: Elizabeth Griffin, Batsy Horton, Mary C. Leggett, Ruby Savage, Harriet Ward, Bobby Clayton, John Henry Edwards, Jr., Jean Bailey, Louise Corey, Barbara Jackson, Jane King, Sarah Manning, Jean McLawhorn, and Bettie Lou Wobbleton. Eighth Grade: Rachel Chesson, Nancy Robertson, Frank Wynne, Jessic Mae Nelson, Elizabeth Whitley, Lilybet Muse, Magdalene Mizzell, Madeline Chesson, and Sadie Banks.

Firemen Galled To East Main Street Home Tuesday

Firemen were called to the home of Ethel Gorham on East Main Street here last Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock when a chimney caught fire and spilled sparks on the shingle roof. No damage was done by the fire.

THE RECORD SPEAKS

Motorists apparently went wild on Martin County highways last week when they added six accidents to the column, boosted the number of injured in highway wrecks so far this year to 16 and jumped the property damage to \$6,200. But they managed by a very, very narrow margin to steer clear of the death column which already has a big start over the figures for the corresponding period in 1945.

Drunk drivers have contributed their part, but it is fairly apparent that too many drivers are thinking about other things when they get under a steering wheel. The highway death toll in North Carolina will approximate 200 during the first two months of this year.

There is more talk about the accident record now than at any time in year, but apparently too many choose to talk about it and do nothing about it.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last, and for each year to the present time.

Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge
1945 - 6 3 0 1,400
1945 - 2 3 0 725

Comparisons To Date
1946 25 16 2 6,200
1945 10 5 0 1,655

New Owner To Convert Fair Grounds Into Residential Lots

Purchasing the fairgrounds just west of Williamston's town limits for a reported \$35,000, Mr. Jesse Whitley is planning an extensive real estate development there, the new owner stating yesterday that possibly 250 lots for home construction and several for business development could and would be made available on the approximately 35 acres of land.

While it may be possible to hold a fair there this fall, it is fairly definite that the purchase of the property marks the beginning of the end of the old Martin County fair that blossomed forth as a white elephant in the period following the close of World War I and struggled down through the years.

Immediate development plans will not materially crowd the main portion of the fair grounds, the owner explained, but from time to time additional streets will be opened to claim a greater part if not all the property.

Mr. Whitley, looking to his son,

former Major Herbert Whitley, and former Sgt. Clayton Crofton to handle the development, stated that the west fence running along the McCaskey or Slaughter House Road would be moved in a short time back about 150 feet, that the next step in the development program would call for a street approximately 300 feet from and running parallel to the Slaughter House Road. Additional streets will be opened at certain distances from time to time with a few connecting streets to be included.

A certain portion of the property fronting the main highway will be reserved for business structures about where the main gate to the grounds is now located.

The new owner does not plan to operate a fair himself, but interested parties will possibly find it available.

The Martin County Legion Post, operator of a fair there for several years, contemplated purchasing the property, but allowed its option to expire.

County Wildlife Club Organized At Meeting

Officers Elected By Nearly A Hundred Persons At Meeting

A. L. Hendren, Robersonville Man, Named President Here Tuesday Night

Meeting in the county courthouse last Tuesday night, nearly one hundred Martin hunters and fishermen and other interested citizens perfected the organization of a wildlife club and discussed, at length, plans for promoting an effective game and fish program.

Following a meeting of the special committee, the club will meet to discuss the by-laws and handle other business. During the meantime, those attending the organizational session Tuesday night are canvassing their respective townships for members.

Addressing the interested fishermen and hunters at the meeting, Ross O. Stevens, former State College professor and executive vice president of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, explained how the organization came into existence and outlined its objectives.

He pointed out that about thirty years ago, hunters and fishermen in those sections where game and fish were rapidly disappearing, attempted to do something about the scarcity, but their efforts were not very successful.

In 1924-25, the Isaac Walton League was formed, but it was short-lived," Mr. Stevens said, adding that in 1939 an attempt was made to perfect a game and fish program on a state-wide basis. Seventeen counties were organized, but the plan lost.

"Our organization was started two years ago about the time the two candidates were campaigning for governor. Both of the candidates promised the hunters and fishermen a new set-up, and those promises were made in good faith, no doubt, but they were not carried out. There was strong opposition to the new plan," the speaker declared.

"Possibly Mr. Cherry added the program when he named the committee," Stevens pointed out. "The governor's committee called hearings and a goodly number of hunters and fishermen appeared before the group, pointing out that the hunters and fishermen pay the bill and that they are entitled to a voice in how the money is spent. The hunters and fishermen at the hearing were convinced that the committee would not render a favorable report and they went to a Raleigh hotel that day and held an organizational meeting. On last March 10, an invitation was issued to fifty persons in all parts of the State to attend a second meeting in Raleigh," Stevens said, explaining that war regulations restricted attendance at that time to

REURNS



His rectorship interrupted by a call to duty in the armed forces, Rev. John W. Hardy returned today to resume his work as rector of the Church of the Advent here. The Chaplain-Major, entering the service in April, 1943, served overseas nineteen months in England's Birmingham area, and expects his discharge in about three weeks from the Army. He began his ministry here in the spring of 1939, and will end his leave of absence when he holds services Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

His friends, including many outside his denomination, welcome him back to his old duties.

Start Work On Road Project Next Week

The contractors, Suber and Company of Whitmire, S. C., are planning to start work on the Oak City-Council Store project in the upper part of the county next week, it was learned today following an inspection trip made this week by the company's superintendent, B. C. Reeves.

The contract calls for grading and surfacing of about four miles of road. It is understood that 95 working days have been allowed for completing the project.

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Receives Discharge From Army Short Time Ago

Serving in the Army Medical Corps for two and one-half years, Joseph E. Mizelle, son of Mrs. Jas. A. Roberson of this county, recently received his discharge and has joined his wife and son. During his stay in the service he crossed the Atlantic fourteen times.

FARM PLANS

Another call is being directed to the approximately 300 farmers in this county who have not signed their 1946 farm plans, the office of the county agent pointing out that April 1 will be the last day for signing under the 1946 program. It was also pointed out that any farmer who does not sign by that date will forfeit any claim to payments pledged under the 1946 program.

More than 1,300 farmers in this county have already signed the 1946 plans, it was learned this week.

County Teams Open Basketball Tourney Here On March 6th

Bear Grass Girls Enter Annual Court Event With Ten Wins To Their Credit

Climaxing a season marked by unexpected shifts in team standings, Martin County school basketball teams will open their annual tournament in the Williamston High School gymnasium Wednesday evening, March 6, Chairman Sam D. Bundy announced yesterday.

The first tourney pairings announced by the athletic committee found Oak City girls pitted against Jamesville, Robersonville against Williamston and Bear Grass against Farm Life. For the boys the pairings are, Farm Life against Jamesville, Robersonville against Williamston, and Bear Grass against Oak City.

Scheduled to run for three nights—March 6, 7 and 8—the tourney offers four games Wednesday and Thursday nights and the finals on Friday.

The Bear Grass girls, with ten victories and no defeats to their credit during regular season play, enter the tournament as heavy favorites. Jamesville and Robersonville girls have more than held their own in regular season play, but Farm Life, Oak City and Williamston, with percentages bearing heavily against them, have an up-hill fight to win if they survive the early rounds. According to the committee's report, the Jamesville girls won 7 and lost three; Robersonville won six and lost three; Farm life won three and lost six; Oak City won two and lost eight, and Williamston won one and lost nine.

The eligibility of one of the best players on the Bear Grass girls' team is being questioned, and a decision in the case, it was pointed out, can possibly alter the course of the tournament. It is not certain whether Miss Leona Rawls is playing her fourth or fifth year as a member of the Bear Grass sextet.

On the boys' card no perfect record was chalked up during regular season play, but Farm Life and Robersonville are tied for top positions with eight victories and two defeats each. The Bear Grass lads more than held their own by winning seven and losing only three. Jamesville dropped six and won four. Williamston won three and lost seven. Even though they did not break into the winning column during the regular season the Oak City lads are entering the tourney with determination, hoping to relieve the record of ten defeats.

A small admission fee will be charged, and large crowds are expected to attend all the games.

Sends Greetings To County Young Man

Recently discharged from the Navy, Charlie Bowen, son of Mrs. Jane Bowen and the late Paul Bowen, received the following letter from James Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy:

I have addressed this letter to reach you after all the formalities of your separation from active service are completed. I have done so because, without formality but as clearly as I know how to say it, I want the Navy's pride in you, which it is my privilege to express, to reach into your civil life and to remain with you always.

You have served in the greatest Navy in the world. It crushed two enemy fleets at once, receiving their surrenders only four months apart.

It brought our land-based airpower within bombing range of the enemy, and our ground armies on the beachheads of final victory.

It performed the multitude of tasks necessary to support these military operations.

No other Navy at any time has done so much. For your part in these achievements, you deserve to be proud as long as you live. The Nation which you served at a time of crisis will remember you with gratitude.

The best wishes of the Navy go with you into civilian life. Good luck!

Little Business Scheduled For Commissioners' Meeting

Other than the drawing of citizens for jury duty during the April term of superior court and the handling of routine duties, the Martin County commissioners are expected to handle very little business at their regular meeting here next Monday. As far as it could be learned no delegations will appear before the meeting in the interest of county roads.

Local All-Stars Win Over Jamesville Girls, 25-20

Williamston's girl all-star basketball team defeated the Jamesville all-star sextet in a thrilling game 25 to 20 here last Wednesday evening. The locals are playing a return game in the Jamesville gym this evening.