

Scouting Event Is Well Attended At Bear Grass

Three Youths Awarded Eagle Scout Badges Thursday Evening

Boy Scouts and their parents were out in big numbers for the annual Parent-Scout banquet of the Washington, Martin and Tyrrell districts at the Bear Grass school last Thursday night. Approximately 300 representatives of the various Scout units enjoyed a Scout-packed program in the school auditorium following the banquet in the school cafeteria.

The program included several highlights but probably the most outstanding one was the presentation of Eagle badges by District Advancement Chairman K. P. Lindsley to three Explorer Scouts from the Bear Grass Ruritan Club Explorer Post of which Tim Malone is advisor. These three Scouts Billy Rogers, Lonnie Joe Rogers and Wayne Rawls, were recognized by the Court of Honor consisting of Mr. Lindsley; Delbert Sawyer, District Commissioner of Columbia; Wendell Peele, Williamston Kiwanis Club president; Urbin Rogers, Institutional Representative of the Williamston Lions Club; Kelly Gay, member of the Wasmarty District Committee and East Carolina Council Executive Board; C. A. Askew, Institutional Representative of the Jamesville Ruritan Club; and V. B. Hairr, Chairman of the Wasmarty District. The parents of these three Eagles, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Rogers and Mr. and Mrs. Claudie Rawls, were on the stage with their sons during the presentation. The mothers pinned on the badges.

It was pointed out that there (Continued on Page Eight)

Glee Club Concert Is Well Received

A large and appreciative audience heard the Williamston High School in its annual concert in the high school auditorium here last Thursday evening.

Under the direction of Miss Mary Wallace Foy, public school music instructor, the group presented sacred and secular numbers with skill and enthusiasm and at the close responded to calls for encores with several songs to the delight of the audience.

The program included: Alleluia by Thompson; Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones by Bourdon; The Laughing Song from "The Bat" by Johann Strauss, featuring Janice Manning as soloist; White Birches in the Rain; The Ash Grove, a Welsh Folk Song tune, by Marryott; a piano solo by Ann Darden; Some Enchanted Evening, featuring the men's chorus; I Whistle A Happy Tune, by the women's chorus.

The concert was a good by those attending, both on quality of the musical effort and as entertainment. Miss Foy and the youngsters received many compliments.

Mother Of Local Man Died In Texas Today

Mrs. W. B. Martin, mother of Mr. Walter T. Martin of Williamston, died at her home in Bay City, Texas, early today following a brief illness. She suffered a heart attack last Saturday night, a second attack this morning proving fatal.

Mr. Martin is flying from Raleigh to Bay City today.

ROUND-UP

A fairly quiet week-end was reported on the crime front in this county, according to a report filed by law enforcement officers. Five persons were arrested and detained in the county jail, two for public drunkenness, and one each for breaking and entering, assault with a deadly weapon and drunken driving.

One woman was included in the group. The ages of the five ranged from 35 to 47 years.

First Filings Reported On Political Front In County

The first tangible developments on the political front in this county were reported last Saturday when two candidates filed, one for county commissioner in the Cross Roads-Robersonville district, and the other for county surveyor. There were rumors in other places, but no filings or announcements have been reported.

Willie L. Ausbon, well-known farmer of Cross Roads, was the first to get his name on the books, according to C. D. Carstarphen, county elections board chairman. Mr. Ausbon entered the race for county commissioner from the Cross Roads-Robersonville district. Mr. Ausbon has not formally announced his candidacy, and he could not be contacted immediately for a statement. It could not be learned if Mr. Herbert L. Roebuck, incumbent, planned to announce to succeed himself.

The perennial candidate, O. B. Roberson of Robersonville, was

second to get his name on the ticket for the May 29 primary. He is out to succeed himself as county surveyor, a job that provides no office space and pays no salary. It is possible that there'll be competition for the office.

It is likely that the political pot, now that it has had a fire built under it, will rapidly reach the boiling point in the county. April 17 at 6:00 o'clock p. m. is the last moment for candidates to file for county and several of the district offices.

Raymond Rawls today announced his candidacy for sheriff. The incumbent, Sheriff M. W. Holloman, is planning to make another bid for the office and he is expected to formally announce his candidacy shortly. Mr. Rawls was formerly deputy sheriff in the county and at one time a member of the Williamston police force. More recently he has been employed by the Roanoke Chevrolet Co., and engaging in farming.

COMMISSION

In a special meeting with town officials, members of the town zoning commission are to submit a zoning plan Thursday afternoon of this week at 2:00 o'clock. The meeting is to be held in the courthouse, it was announced.

The commission, following a public hearing held on February 4, has completed its study and is expected to recommend the plan be incorporated as a town ordinance.

Members of the commission are Mrs. Edna Bondurant, and Messrs. Walter T. Martin, W. B. Gaylord, G. P. Hall and John Hutton Gurganus.

Grass - Oil Fire Reported Here

Receiving a third call in as many days, volunteer firemen battled one of their most unusual fires just off Harrell Street between Main and Ray Streets shortly before 3:00 o'clock last Saturday afternoon.

Starting as a small grass fire, it spread to the ravine beside the river rail spur and ate its way into oil-soaked ground. Oil, dumped by fillings stations, had accumulated in and beside the ditch, and when the fire reached that area, smoke belched skyward, and it was thought an oil tank was burning. One truck was driven to the scene just before the oil caught fire. A general alarm was sounded and a second truck was called out. The fire was checked before it could spread to a large sawdust pile and to thick underbrush nearby.

Special Farm Demonstration

An important farm demonstration, marking what is believed a fairly rapid change in fertilization methods, has been scheduled in this county for Tuesday of next week on the Sherrord farm near Hamilton.

Sponsored by the Standard Fertilizer Division of the Mathieson Chemical Corporation, the field demonstration will center around the use of anhydrous ammonia. Dr. J. D. Campbell, agronomist for the corporation, will be the main speaker at the demonstration, it was announced.

The demonstration will be held at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon, February 23, and the public is invited.

Martin County Boy With Bank

James Moore, a native of this county, is now serving as agricultural representative and consultant for the Planters National Bank and Trust Company, dividing his time between the bank's two branches in Plymouth and Shoskie. He is making his home in Windsor.

Moore, a graduate of Jamesville High School and N. C. State College, was associated with the soil conservation service in this county.

Norfolk Southern Sells Its Franchise To Carolina Firm

Actual Merger Of The Two Systems Effective On March 1st

Carolina Coach Company, a member of the National Trailways Bus System, completed its purchase of the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation on Monday, when the directors of the two companies met in Norfolk to make the legal transfer of the properties involved. The actual merger of Norfolk Southern's operation into the Trailways system will take place on March 1.

The Virginia and North Carolina Utility Commissions, and the Interstate Commerce Commission have approved this merger.

R. C. Hoffman, Jr., of Raleigh, president of Carolina Trailways, in commenting on the enlargement of Trailways service in the Norfolk Southern area, said: "The bus industry has found that the most effective way to serve the traveling public today is to offer a combination of good local service—like from Elizabeth City to Norfolk—and a network of long distance routes by which passengers may travel from one general area to another without changing coaches or other physical transfer. In purchasing the franchise (Continued on Page Seven)

Father Of Local Resident Passes

James Matthew Taylor, father of Mr. Jimmy B. Taylor of Williamston, died in a Leaksville hospital last Saturday morning following a heart attack suffered the day before.

He was born in Virginia 87 years ago but moved to North Carolina when quite young and made his home in Stoneville for the past sixty years. A farmer, business man and tobaccoist, he retired about 15 years ago.

Funeral services were conducted in Leaksville Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Interment was in Stoneville.

Surviving besides his son here are seven sons, Dr. L. A. Taylor of Winston-Salem, W. E. of Warsaw, G. H., Jesse W. and Lester, all of Stoneville, J. M. of Reidsville and N. D. Taylor of Winston-Salem; three daughters, Mrs. C. F. King of Stoneville, Mrs. Leon Cahill of Winston-Salem and Mrs. Frank Townes of Rocky Mount, Va.; two brothers and three sisters.

Painfully Hurt When Car Strikes Pole Here

John A. Manning, local man, suffered a painful cut on his head and bruises when his car, a 1954 Plymouth jumped the curb and struck an electric pole on North Watts Street last Thursday noon. The car was not greatly damaged, it was said. The victim was removed to a local hospital for treatment.

The driver was quoted as saying the car jumped the curb while he was cruising.

Funeral Held For Mrs. Hardison In County Saturday

Mrs. Isadella Hardison Had Been In Declining Health For Several Years

Funeral services were conducted at the home in Griffins Township last Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock for Mrs. Isadella Corey Hardison who died in a Williamston hospital at 1:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon. The service was conducted by Elder P. E. Getsinger and the Rev. W. B. Harrington, interment was in the Hardison Mill Cemetery.

In declining health for about five years, Mrs. Hardison was removed to the hospital week before last when her condition became serious. Little hope was held for her recovery.

A daughter of the late John Gray and Prudence Hardison Corey, she was born in Griffins Township 72 years ago on May 14, 1881, and spent all her life there. She was married January 28, 1900, to James Nicholson Hardison who died on December 26, 1920.

Mrs. Hardison, a splendid neighbor and a thoughtful friend to all, was a member of the Smithwick Creek Primitive Baptist Church for many years. Devoted to its cause, she was faithful in attendance and exemplified in her daily walk through life the teachings of the church. She played the role of a devoted mother, asking little for herself but sharing freely with others her earthly possessions.

Surviving are seven sons, Hubert and Ollie Hardison of Washington, D. C., Fenner Hardison of the home, Jesse David Hardison of Griffins Township, Clyde Hardison of Plymouth, John Ashley Hardison of Columbia, and Wendell Hardison of Norfolk; a daughter, Mrs. Prudy Ellis, of Griffins Township, and a sister, Mrs. Lon Griffin, also of Griffins Township.

Farm Group In Annual Meeting

The Martin County Farm Owners' group met for their annual meeting in the courthouse last Friday. The day was spent with the annual check out, and educational materials shown.

The morning was spent reviewing 1953 business as revealed by actual records kept by these farm families. This included inventories, gross cash income, net cash income, debt payment, and the systems of farming being carried out. Other items mentioned were record keeping, farm outlook, and shifts in farming.

The afternoon was spent entirely by the showing of four films as follows: "Irrigation", "Control", and "Fertilization For Better Corn Yields".

In addition to the Farm Owners' families who attended the meeting there were thirty-four Production Loan families who came in the afternoon to see the films.

Mr. T. B. Brandon, County Agent, gave a brief talk on the outlook for production and prices on farm commodities for 1954. Mr. R. W. Turner, Farm Management Specialist, from Raleigh attended the meeting, and Mr. Lee D. Hardison, and Mr. Garland H. Forbes, County Committeemen also attended the meeting.

Back Broken In Logging Accident

Linwood Wimberly, 31, was critically injured in a logging accident near Oak City about 8:00 o'clock last Thursday morning. Following first aid treatment in Dr. Wm. J. Highsmith's office at Hamilton, the victim was removed in a Biggs ambulance to Duke Hospital. Last reports stated that he was getting along as well as could be expected.

A falling tree struck and jack-knifed him, breaking his back where the vertebra and ribs join. He was paralyzed from the waist down, it was reported.

A resident of Apex, Mr. Wimberly was working with the Stacy Herndon Lumber Company.

Holding Funeral Here Today For Mrs. Tetterton

Mrs. Bertha Perry Tetterton Died Suddenly In Local Hospital Saturday

Funeral services are being conducted in the Biggs Funeral Home here on West Main Street this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Mrs. Bertha Louise Perry Tetterton who died in a local hospital a short time after suffering a heart attack last Saturday evening. The Rev. John L. Goff is conducting the rites. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

In declining health for several years, Mrs. Tetterton was apparently as well as usual and was visiting here when she suffered the attack while sitting in a car near the S and V supermarket on Washington Street about 6:00 o'clock. She was removed to the hospital where she died within a short time.

The daughter of the late Noah Thomas and Louisa Walker Perry, she was born in Griffins Township 71 years ago on April 16, 1882, and spent her early life there. She was married in 1905 to John D. Tetterton who died in '47. Following her marriage she continued to live in this county, until 1929 when the family moved to Virginia. Two years later they located in Brooklyn, returning to this county in 1947. More recently she had made her home with Mrs. Gilbert Rogerson in Bear Grass.

She was a member of the Christian Church here for many years. Surviving are an adopted son, W. M. Tetterton of Williamston; four brothers, Albert and Arthur Perry of Williamston, William Herbert Perry of Dardens, and Perlie Perry of Gadsden, Alabama.

Father Of Local Resident Passes

Mr. R. Henry Tripp, retired farmer and prominent citizen of Pitt County and father of Mrs. B. F. Baldree of Williamston, died suddenly at his home in Greenville last Thursday evening at 5:45 o'clock. Apparently in splendid health, he suffered a heart attack and died about fifteen minutes later. He was 71 years of age.

The last rites were conducted in a Greenville funeral chapel Saturday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the Rev. Mr. Alexander and the Rev. Mr. Lewis. Interment was in Greenville's Greenwood Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Baldree, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Baurée and Mr. and Mrs. Buck Willoughby were among those from Williamston who attended the funeral.

Plymouth Lawyer In Senate Race

According to a statement reaching here last week-end, Edward L. Owens, Plymouth attorney and farm operator, has entered the race for one of the two State Senate seats allotted this, the second district. He was said to have filed with the chairman of the Washington County Board of Elections and paid the entrance fee.

L. H. Ross of Washington formally announced his candidacy a short time ago.

No official announcement has been made, but it was reported that Martin B. Kellogg, Dare County attorney, is planning to enter the contest with the possibility that D. Victor Meekins, Manteo newspaper man, will also run for one of the seats.

FORUM

Plans have been completed for holding in a county-wide industrial forum in the courthouse here tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock when representatives of the Department of Conservation and Development are to be present and participate in the discussions.

Invitations are being extended to county and town officials, civic leaders and other interested citizens.

Forest Fires Sweep Sections Of County

Several Hundred Acres Burned In Bear Grass Area

Damage Will Run Into The Thousands Of Dollars, Warden Says

Their origin not definitely known, forest fires swept over two areas in this county during the past week-end, a late report stating that one had been put out and that the other was believed to be under control. The fires, the first to be reported in the county this season, were among the most costly reported in several years.

Starting near the Beaufort-Martin border last Thursday morning, the larger of the two fires swept through several hundred acres before it was finally checked on the Clayton Revels land early this week. The fire burned just about all the territory between Batts Cross Roads in Beaufort County and the Corey Cross Roads section in Bear Grass Township in this county. Fanned by strong winds, the fire jumped the road running between Corey's Cross Roads and Bear Grass, but it was checked before it burned any great distance on the north side of the road, according to reports reaching here.

Dense smoke made traffic dangerous in the territory at times, especially last Sunday afternoon when the sun was darkened by the smoke clouds.

County Forest Fire Warden Marvin Leggett was quoted as saying that the Bear Grass area fire burned valuable timberlands, that the damage will run into the thousands of dollars.

All available forest service workers and equipment were used in fighting the fires.

While the Bear Grass fire was nearing its peak Sunday afternoon a second fire broke out near Everetts, but it was brought under control before it burned over a very large area.

Minor woods fires were reported in other areas, but damage was limited, the warden said.

No rain has fallen in this area in more than three weeks, and March-like winds during the past week-end fanned the fires, making it impossible for the wardens and deputized workers to halt (Continued on Page Seven)

Recommend Clark For Scholarship

Daniel Eason Clark, Everetts boy and a senior in the Robersonville High School, has been recommended for a Morehead scholarship at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is one of six young men to get the recommendation, and will compete next month with applicants from the six other districts.

Young Clark was recommended for the scholarship by the county committee, Clarence W. Griffin, chairman.

The scholarship provides a cash consideration of \$1,250 and is renewable during each of the student's four years in college.

Supermarket Awards Television Set Here

Mrs. George H. Gurganus won the 17-inch Hallicrafter T. V. set given away last Saturday night by the S and V Super Market.

Owners and operators Stalls and VanLandingham had all their customers to register during the week and Mrs. Gurganus' name was winner when the lucky ticket was drawn at 6:30 Saturday evening.

IMPROVING

Suffering an attack more than a month ago while visiting in Asheville, Mr. W. J. Hodges, local man, is reported to be improving. He left the hospital last week and is now in the home of his son, Wm. P. Hodges, there in Asheville. He is able to be up during brief intervals. He was said to be anxious to return home, but it could not be learned when he'll be able to make the trip.

Minor Accidents Reported During Past Week-End

No One Badly Injured In Series Of Several Auto Wrecks

No one was injured seriously and property damage was reasonably small in a series of automobile accidents on the highways and streets in this county last week-end, according to reports released by police and members of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol.

To avoid striking another vehicle which he apparently was following too closely, Clyde Nicholson Boyd of Pinetown ditched a 1953 Ford and trailer in a ditch on the Angetown Road in Jamesville Township last Friday evening at 7:00 o'clock. No one was injured and property damage to the truck-trailer, belonging to W. A. Respass of Pinetown, was estimated at \$100.

Last Saturday evening at 7:00 o'clock Jeremiah Williams, colored man of Everetts, was driving a 1951 Ford east on Highway 64 and started to make a left turn into the Prison Camp road. Driving a 1950 Dodge in the same direction of 64, Rufus Gaither struck the Ford in the rear, causing about \$200 damage to each vehicle. Gaither was cited to the courts.

Robert Lee Dail, of RFD 2, Tarboro, driving toward Highway 64, started to pass a car on the Prison Camp road and lost control of his 1950 Ford. The machine went into a ditch, causing about \$200 damage. The accident was reported at 12:15 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

John M. Slade parked his 1949 Chevrolet on Martin Street in Williamston Sunday afternoon shortly after 5:00 o'clock, and Waverly Bernard Taylor of 710 Chelton Avenue, Camden, New Jersey, skidded into it with Johnnie Lee Andrew's 1941 Chevrolet. Damage to the parked car was estimated at \$150, and the loss on the other will run around \$100, Officer Chas. R. Moore said.

Apparently trying to fly around a corner, George Andrews, colored, did about \$500 damage to his 1953 Oldsmobile Monday morning at 3:00 o'clock at a dirt road intersection on Highway 903 between Gold Point and Spring Green. The machine turned over but no one was hurt, the investigating patrolman said.

Storage Building Burns Near Here

A small storage building just back of Gordon's grocery in West End and just about all the contents were destroyed by fire shortly before 4:00 o'clock last Thursday afternoon. The origin of the fire could not be determined.

In one section of the building, Glen Toler, wholesale distributor, had approximately \$2,000 worth of candy and merchandise stored. A few items were stored in another part of the small wooden structure. No insurance was carried on any of the property.

The town's fire department answered a call, but with no water supply available, firemen were only able to keep the fire from spreading. Both fire trucks were used.

Grass Fire Here On Pine Street Monday

Starting in a trash pile, fire burned over a vacant lot, corner of North Haughton and Pine Streets yesterday morning at 11:20 o'clock. Volunteer firemen were called out when the fire threatened nearby homes.

PLENTIFUL

Reporting fairly large catches during the past few days, Jamesville fishermen say herring are plentiful these days, and that the supply is exceeding the local demand.

One farmer kept a box of the Roanoke chickens overnight last week when he could find no ready sale for them. "The people are not hungry and prosperity is still with us," Merchant Luther Hugh Hardison agreed.